

**'Life Goes On'**

*A Short original screenplay.*

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FADE IN.

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - FRONT ROOM - DAY

SARAH, 27, is sitting on the sofa.

She's looking up at JOHN, 28, a handsome man of Mexican descent.

And she's watching him as he's placing down a few hundred dollars onto the coffee table.

John's finished, that's all the money he brought with him.

He looks down at DANNY, one years old, who's playing with some cuddly toys on the floor by Sarah's feet.

JOHN

I want him. I need him. And I'm not going to change my mind.

SARAH

And I want to talk to you.

He shakes his head.

JOHN

No, I want my son. Nothing else.

INT. RESTARAUNT - DAY

Sarah's sitting up at a table, inside this family friendly restaurant.

Danny's sitting in a high chair next to her, eating but making mess of it.

ERIN, 28, is sitting in front of Sarah on the other side of the table. Just staring at her, intense.

ERIN

So, after that, he just left?

Sarah nods.

SARAH

It's over. The whole marriage. It's gone.

ERIN

I'm sorry.

SARAH

I need money.

ERIN

What about your dad. He sold the house about a year ago yeah. Maybe he can help. Maybe enough time has gone by for you to be able to ask for some money.

INT. RESTARAUNT - DAY

John's sitting up at a large glass topped table with his parents. DAD, 53, MOM, 57.

They're waiting for their food inside this upscale expensive restaurant.

John looks down at the table, spreads his hand out across the glass, takes in a deep breath.

JOHN

I know she wouldn't make a bad mother. She'd look after him the right way. She can see him but I need to raise him. He needs me. I'm willing to force her to give him to me if that's what it comes to. I just wanted to let you know that. But I'm hoping that it won't come to that. But if it does, I'm prepared.

INT. LAWYERS OFFICE - DAY

Sarah and John are sitting up at a huge table, they're on opposite sides of it, facing each other.

A smartly dressed LAWYER, 32, is sitting next to John.

He looks over at Sarah.

He puts a legal contract down onto the table, he then slides it across to her.

LAWYER

What is been offered in a very large sum.

She shakes her head.

SARAH

But I've not come here to sell.

EXT. CITY PARK - DAY

Erin's sitting down on the grass with Danny up in her arms.

She's feeding him, he's well behaved and looking really cute as he's really enjoying what he's been fed.

INT. JOHN'S CAR - DAY

Sarah's sitting on the backseat with John.

His car has it's own driver, and it's been driven slowly.

John reaches across to her and holds onto her hand.

JOHN

Are you ok?

She let's him keep a hold of her.

SARAH

No, and surely you know why?

JOHN

I know this is hard for you. I know you. So I know it is.

SARAH

Then stop it. You could if you want to.

He shakes his head.

JOHN

No. You need to do this.

SARAH

And if I don't want to, will you make me?

JOHN

Yes, if I have to. But I'll never try and stop you from seeing him. But this you need to do. There's no more avoiding it.

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - DAY

Sarah's lying across her bed with Danny lying down next to her.

He's sound asleep.

Sarah very slowly leans over the top of him, and very gently kisses his forehead.

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - HALLWAY - DAY

Sarah walks through the hallway, coming to her front door she opens it to Erin.

She smiles at her and calls her in silently with her hand.

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - DAY

They're standing up at the counter.

Erin's making herself a cup of coffee.

Sarah's watching on. Silence.

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - DAY

Sarah and Erin are lying across her bed together, with Danny still asleep in between them.

Erin sits up a little, whispers.

ERIN

You should think about the deal.

Sarah sits up, whispers back to her.

SARAH

Why?

ERIN

Because I think that maybe it's worth thinking about.

SARAH

Ok, but I'm still wondering why I should.

Erin nods.

INT. LAWYERS OFFICE - DAY

They're all sitting at a large glassed topped table.

Liam and Sarah on one side, John and his lawyer on the other.

The lawyer slides a large legal contract across to Sarah, she picks it up.

LAWYER

You get money. You get to see your son every fortnight. And he'll stay with you for those nights. And you also have the right to see him on birthdays and other significant holidays.

Sarah's flicking through the numerous pages of the legal contract, a little overwhelmed by it.

JONH

7.

I want you to sign. You could do it  
right now.

She shakes her head.

SARAH

Not yet.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

LIAM, 25, Sarah and John are all walking side by side along  
this busy city street.

John passes over a large envelope to Sarah.

She takes it and puts it straight into her pocket without  
even looking at it.

JOHN

I don't want Danny to be living in  
that apartment, he's better than  
that place.

LIAM

He'd be ok in that place.

John looks over at him, annoyed.

JOHN

And you know that?

Liam nods.

LIAM

He'd always be surrounded by those  
who love him.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Liam and Sarah are walking just the two of them along this  
empty city street, keeping close together.

Liam wants to put an arm around her, but he doesn't.

She's busy counting out the money that had been stuffed

inside the envelope.

He glances over at it.

LIAM

I think he still loves you.

She shakes her head, dismissing it.

SARAH

No. We're not in love, we never  
were.

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - DAY

Sarah's lying across her bed, holding onto Danny who's now wide awake and trying to play with some of his toys.

She looks down at him, keeping him in her arms, she smiles, but then starts crying.

She tries to fight it, but it's no good.

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - FRONT ROOM - DAY

Liam's sitting in the chair.

Erin's sitting in the middle of the sofa.

They look over at each other.

LIAM

So with John.

ERIN

Go on.

LIAM

What's you take on all of this?

ERIN

What do you mean?

LIAM

You never say much, so I want to

know what you think?

ERIN  
What about you?

LIAM  
I want to hate him.

ERIN  
Ok, and how's that going for you?

LIAM  
It's not. I can't. He did nothing wrong.

ERIN  
What about what he's doing now?

LIAM  
Maybe I'd be doing the very same thing as he's doing if I was him.

ERIN  
Why do you say that?

LIAM  
Sarah left him. She cheated on him. She had that plan to leave. To move to Canada. And she was taking Danny with her.

ERIN  
But she didn't.

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - DAY

Erin's washing up a few cups and plates that are in the sink. She then wipes down the counter with a wet cloth.

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - DAY

Erin's back on the bed with Sarah and Danny, both lying at either side of him, up in their sides, looking over at each other.

Danny's sound asleep.

SARAH  
I love him so much.

Erin smiles.

ERIN  
I'm sure he knows that.

SARAH  
But what if I have to let him go?

ERIN  
I'm sure he's always going to know  
that you love him no matter what  
happens.

INT. CAFÉ - DAY

Sarah's sitting with John at a small table, a cup of coffee  
each in front of them.

JOHN  
Are you going to sign?

She nods.

SARAH  
Yes. I am.

JOHN  
Thank you.

An awkward pause.

SARAH  
Why are you thanking me?

JOHN  
Because it's the right thing to do.  
You're always going to be in his  
life. But with me he's going to be  
given the best possible life there  
is.

EXT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - DAY

They're standing outside the front of her apartment.

Her front door left open Sarah hands over Danny, placing him into John's arms. She's getting emotional and starts crying.

John quickly kisses her on the lips.

JOHN

It's going to be ok.

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - DAY

Sarah and Erin are lying across the bed, spooning. Sarah's still crying.

EXT. CITY STREET - NIGHT

Sarah and Erin are walking along this empty city street, both dressed for a night out.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

They're sitting up at a small table, drinking, facing each other.

SARAH

I've been thinking about it a lot.  
Trying to work it out.

ERIN

And what did you come up with?

SARAH

School is done. Health care is done. Clothes, holiday, toys, security, it's all done. He can give Danny all of that and more. I can't.

ERIN

Yeah, god. I don't know what to say.  
But I guess you're right.

SARAH

But it's not like I'll be saying  
goodbye to him forever. I'll never  
leave him.

INT. JOHN'S HOUSE - FRONT ROOM - DAY

John's sitting with Danny on the floor inside his huge  
spacious front room, playing with him, waving some of cuddy  
toys in front of his face. Smiling and laughing.

EXT. JOHN'S HOUSE - DAY

John's putting Danny into the baby seat in the back of his  
car.

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - HALLWAY - DAY

John's standing with Sarah in her hallway, the front door  
still open behind him.

He hands over Danny, out of his arms and into Sarah's.

JOHN

Have you signed it?

SARAH

No. Not yet I haven't.

He shakes his head, angry.

JOHN

You need to do it, what the hell  
are you waiting for!

SARAH

Please don't be like this in front  
of Danny.

He takes a moment to try and lighten up his tone.

JOHN

Where's the contract, we'll do it  
now.

She shakes her head.

SARAH

I don't have it on me. I wanted someone  
to read it for me first.

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - FRONT ROOM - DAY

Sarah's sitting on the sofa with Danny and Erin.  
She has Danny still held up in her arms, playing.  
She looks across at Erin, worried.

SARAH

I don't know what he's going to do.

ERIN

Maybe he's not going to do  
anything?

SARAH

You should have seen him just  
though.

ERIN

Why?

SARAH

He's getting more and more angry  
with me for not signing after I  
said I would.

ERIN

So what can you do right now?

SARAH

Nothing.

SARAH

Then he'll wait. I know he will.

Sarah nods.

SARAH

But I feel bad for him. I'm going  
to call him.

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - DAY

Erin's lying across the bed with Danny, he's playing with a  
couple of his cuddle toys.

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - SAME TIME

John and Sarah are sitting up at the table, both staring  
down at the legal contract, Sarah's got a pen in her hand.

Sarah takes in a slow deep breath, and eventually she signs.

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NEXT

John's lying on the bed next to Erin, with Danny in his  
arms, he kisses him gently on his forehead, and whispers.

JOHN

Soon, ok. I'll see you really soon.

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - FRONT ROOM - DAY

Sarah's sitting on her sofa. Silence.

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NEXT

Sarah join Danny and Erin on her bed.

ERIN

So when he's coming for Danny?

Sarah looks up and stares at the back of his head.

SARAH

At the end of the month.

INT. CLOTHES STORE - DAY

Sarah and Erin are walking through this huge clothes store, Danny's sitting in the pram, Sarah's pushing it out in front of her.

Both girls are looking around for things to buy.

INT. HOUSE - KITCHEN - NEXT

Sarah, Erin, and Danny are all sitting around a small table for dinner, Chinese takeout food spread out in front of them.

They're all eating, enjoying it, smiling at each other.

INT. HOUSE - FRONT ROOM - NIGHT

Sarah's sitting on the only chair with Danny asleep in her arms.

Erin's sitting on the floor, looking up at her.

Sarah starts crying.

SARAH

I know that I don't have to forget.  
It won't be like that, and I won't,  
because I won't be able to. I'll  
always be there for him. But I  
hope, that this is my chance to  
improve on everything.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

John's carrying Danny off in his arms and over towards his car.

Sarah starts crying.

Erin puts an arms around her, she then rests her forehead against Sarah's, reassuring.

ERIN

You'll see him again soon, it's  
ok.

SARAH

I know.

**FADE TO BLACK**  
**THE END**