

Pregnant Teen Princess
an original screenplay by
Jennifer Chapman

Address
Phone Number
Email

FADE IN:

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO - DRESSING ROOM - DAY

Television star ARIEL WILDE (16), gets ready for the live taping of her weekly show. Her long, auburn hair is arranged in perfect waves down her back. Mermaid costumes are strewn about the room.

Her assistant and best friend, SARAH (18), who wears jeans, a t-shirt and ponytail, struggles to zip up the side of Ariel's dress.

ARIEL
Sarah, pull harder!

SARAH
Hold your breath for a sec.

Ariel takes a deep breath and holds it. The material zips up.

SARAH (CONT'D)
It seems like you've gained weight.

ARIEL
I have not!

SARAH
Like just a few pounds.

ARIEL
I can't get fat.

Looks at herself in the mirror as she turns in a circle.

SARAH
Relax.

Ariel puts a hand to her mouth and sits down on a nearby chair.

SARAH (CONT'D)
What's wrong?

ARIEL
I feel sick...

She dry heaves.

ARIEL (CONT'D)
Bring me some water, please.

Sarah gets a water bottle out of the mini fridge and hands it to Ariel.

SARAH
If you're sick, your fans will understand.

ARIEL
No. It's just a bug. Nothing I can't handle.

Ariel unzips her purse and pulls out a package of anti-nausea pills. In her hurry, the purse falls to the ground. The contents scatter.

As Sarah bends down to help gather the items, she spots a piece of paper with Ariel's handwriting.

Sarah looks closer and sees the name of an abortion clinic.

SARAH
You're pregnant?

ARIEL
You're a real Einstein, Sarah.
Congrats for figuring it out.

Ariel swallows two of the pills with some water.

SARAH
Does Jack know?

ARIEL
No, and don't you dare tell him.

SARAH
Wow. Just wow.

Ariel looks into a hand mirror and practices her signature smile.

SARAH (CONT'D)
How can you be so casual about it?

ARIEL
Because the baby isn't even a conscious being yet. It won't feel a thing.

SARAH
You should tell Jack.

ARIEL
It's my body and it's my choice.

She puts the mirror down.

ARIEL (CONT'D)
I have to get to my fans.

Ariel leaves Sarah to tidy up the room. As Sarah hangs up the last costume, Ariel's cell phone RINGS. Sarah picks it up from the vanity table and sees that it's Jack.

CUT TO:

INT. EXAM ROOM - DAY

Sarah sits in the chair and Ariel lies on the exam table.

DOCTOR

The first step we always do is an ultrasound to determine how far along you are.

MOMENTS LATER

Ariel is hooked up to the ultrasound machine. The doctor clicks a button and a strange noise fills the room.

ARIEL

What's that sound?

DOCTOR

The baby's heartbeat.

ARIEL

It has a heartbeat? At this stage?

DOCTOR

Yes. You're ten weeks along Miss Wilde. You can typically hear the heartbeat at six weeks.

Ariel looks over at Sarah.

ARIEL

It's alive, Sarah.

Sarah nods while Ariel stares straight up at the ceiling.

DOCTOR

I will give you some time to think this over. I know it's difficult.

ARIEL

Thank you.

Sarah stands next to the exam table as Ariel sits up and starts to cry. Sarah grabs some tissues from the small counter near them and hands them to her. A few minutes pass and she calms down a little.

ARIEL (CONT'D)

I'm a murderess.

SARAH
No, you're not.

ARIEL
I almost was.

CUT TO:

EXT. EXAM ROOM - DAY

JACK (17), who wears a necklace with a cross dangling from it, dressed neatly but casually in t-shirt, jacket and jeans, enters the room.

CUT TO:

INT. EXAM ROOM - DAY

Ariel stares at him in shock while Sarah looks at him with relief.

ARIEL
You told him, Sarah?

The nurse (30s), looks nervous and is right behind Jack.

NURSE
I'm sorry, he just forced his way -

SARAH
It's all right. Let's give them some privacy.

They leave.

Jack looks furious and horrified at the same time.

JACK
What the hell, Ariel! You don't tell me that you're pregnant and then you go and try to kill our kid behind my back?

ARIEL
I'm so sorry. I didn't realize that it's a real, living being. A baby.

JACK
You know how I feel about abortion yet you came here anyway.

ARIEL
I didn't go through with it though. Our baby's fine.

Jack moves close to her and stares into her eyes.

ARIEL (CONT'D)

Jeez, back off a little.

JACK

When we met, I thought there was something in you that no other girl had. I was sure of it. But it turns out I was wrong. Beneath your goody two shoes act, you're just a typical Hollywood chick. All you care about is yourself and fame.

Jack turns towards the door.

ARIEL

Please don't leave. Jack, I'll never lie to you again. I swear to God.

She starts to cry again.

JACK

Nice acting. Oscar worthy.

He leaves.

CUT TO:

EXT. EXAM ROOM - HALLWAY - DAY

Jack sees Sarah. She sits on a bench. He ignores her. She catches up to him.

SARAH

Jack. Sit down for a minute. Please.

Jack swears under his breath and sits down with her.

SARAH (CONT'D)

I know you love her.

JACK

She's like all the other girls I've known.

SARAH

I get that you're angry and hurt, but she's not like the others. It's a front.

JACK

What the freak does that mean?

SARAH

It means that she can come across as selfish and over-confident. It's what she does. If she didn't, she'd shatter like glass.

JACK

What are you trying to say?

SARAH

Her biological mother abused her when she and Ariel's dad were getting a divorce. She once left her in the woods alone for an entire day. She was only 6 years old. So yeah, she has some hang-ups.

The same nurse they saw earlier notices them. She's carrying some paperwork.

NURSE

You're waiting for Miss Wilde?

SARAH

We're giving her a little time.

NURSE

She left.

JACK

When?

NURSE

About 15 minutes ago. I checked her out myself. She said something about a show.

Sarah and Jack get up.

SARAH

Thank you.

JACK

Thanks for everything. Sorry I forced my way in earlier.

NURSE

It's understandable. Take care.

CUT TO:

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO - ON SET - DAY

Ariel faces the audience. She looks scared but determined at the same time. She tries to smile.

ARIEL

First, I want all my fans to know that I love you and I wouldn't be here without you, so thank you. Secondly, I - I'm not who you think I am. I'm going to be a teen mom.

The DIRECTOR, (30's), wears glasses and holds a script. He Hurries up to where Ariel is standing.

DIRECTOR
(whispers)
Ariel! What are you doing?

ARIEL
I'm pregnant.

The audience is silent. Ariel is shaking.

ARIEL (CONT'D)
I have to quit the show.

DIRECTOR
You can't. You have a contract.

ARIEL
I'm sorry.

DIRECTOR
No. No, no, no...

CUT TO:

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO - AUDIENCE - DAY

Sarah and Jack arrive in time to watch Ariel announce that she's going to be a mom.

JACK
I can't believe she just did that.

SARAH
Wow, her life will be so different now. Both of yours will.

JACK
I'm going to go talk to her. Thanks for everything, Sarah.

Sarah smiles at him.

CUT TO:

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO - DRESSING ROOM - DAY

Ariel is dressed in her street clothes and opens the door to leave. Jack stands in her way. She tries to move past him but he puts a hand on her arm. She pauses.

JACK
Sarah talked to me.

ARIEL
So what?

JACK
I'm sorry about what happened to
you.

ARIEL
Me too.

JACK
Listen -

ARIEL
Where's Sarah?

JACK
She's here.

ARIEL
What do you want to hear?

JACK
I want to meet the real Ariel.

ARIEL
You won't like the real me. I'm a
mess.

Ariel turns and leans against him as he holds her tight and
smooths her hair.

ARIEL (CONT'D)
I'm so, so sorry.

JACK
I know. And I didn't mean what I
said about you. You aren't typical.

He takes her hand.

JACK (CONT'D)
Let's go.

ARIEL
Yes, let's.

As they start to leave, the director runs up to them.

DIRECTOR
Wait!

They turn around.

DIRECTOR (CONT'D)
Ariel, your fans want you to do the
show.

ARIEL
I can't. I just told them -

DIRECTOR

They love you anyway. Go see for yourself.

ARIEL

I can't face them.

DIRECTOR

You can use your fame to make something good out of this. You can be an example of what not to do.

Jack and Ariel stare at him.

DIRECTOR (CONT'D)

Sorry. But you know what I mean, right?

JACK

I think he's right. You should go back out there.

ARIEL

I'm too embarrassed...

JACK

Look at it this way. Imagine some girl sitting at home watching your show. What if she's in the same position as you? It might help her to see someone else who is going through it.

ARIEL

I don't know.

JACK

Believe in yourself.

CUT TO:

EXT. TELEVISION STUDIO - DAY

Sarah, Jack and Ariel leave the studio. A REPORTER (late 20s and female) from a local entertainment channel puts a microphone in Ariel's face.

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JACK

Come on, man. Give her some space.

The reporter switches the microphone to Jack.

REPORTER

Are you the baby's father?

JACK

As a matter of fact, yes I am.

REPORTER

How do you feel about abortion? We heard that you are pro-life. Don't you think it's a woman's right to be able to choose?

JACK

I think the couple should decide. Not just the woman.

REPORTER

So you think abortion is wrong?

JACK

I didn't say that. I think that that it's a very personal choice. As for me and Ariel, we made our decision and stand by it.

Jack holds Ariel's hand tighter.

REPORTER

Let me ask you this -

SARAH

I'm sorry, but we're done with questions. Thank you.

The reporter turns back to Ariel.

REPORTER

Miss Wilde, what do you think? Is it right for you to be a role model for young girls even though you're pregnant at 16?

SARAH

I said we're done with questions. Please give them a little time.

Sarah shields them from the crowd as they are helped into a private car. The car slowly makes its way through the crowd and disappears from sight.

FADE OUT