



BEAUTY BEHOLD

BY STEVEN BURTON

email:sburton900@gmail.com

FADE IN

INT. PHOTO MONTAGE - DAY

Several photographs of the beautiful young GLORIA EVANS.

Various 8 X 10 head and body shots for acting and modeling show her charismatic allure.

INT. PHOTOGRAPY STUDIO - DAY

With various people, camera, lighting equipment, and photographer, Gloria POSES for a shoot.

INT. FILM STUDIO - DAY

With various people, cameras, lighting equipment, and director, Gloria ACTS in a scene.

She is romantic with a handsome YOUNG MAN.

They kiss.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

Gloria holds the hand of EUGENE BAKER, a handsome young man, as they walk together on a cool day.

EUGENE

I'm so happy that things are going well for you.

GLORIA

Thanks, it is so like living a dream.

EUGENE

Yes, a dream that is really happening.

GLORIA

I'm very fortunate, but have been wondering about some things. All these benefits of being young with good looks will eventually change.

EUGENE

Well sure, so take now for what it is.

GLORIA

Yes, I get that, but I just hope I'm ready to move on to other things later when the time comes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

EUGENE

You will, I have great faith in you!

GLORIA

Thanks.

They stop to affectionately kiss and then continue to walk.

INT. GLORIA'S HOME - DAY

Gloria stands before a floor length MIRROR as she primps.

A violent EARTHQUAKE hits with rumbles followed by things falling in the room.

The mirror with the wall CRASH down upon her as the glass shatters.

She is TRAPPED beneath the wall as crashes and violent rumbles continue.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Gloria lays in bed with her face covered in BANDAGES except for closed eyes and mouth.

Eugene sits beside her with concern.

Gloria slowly opens her eyes.

EUGENE

Hi honey.

GLORIA

(weakly)

Did I break the mirror?

EUGENE

No, but it got you and the whole side of the house gone.

GLORIA

Where am I? Do I have a face?

EUGENE

Oh yes, you still have a beautiful face.

GLORIA

I want to see it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

EUGENE

But, there's nothing to see right now  
because of the bandages.

GLORIA

Bandages?

EUGENE

This is temporary. You need to heal.  
Don't worry. I love you and here for  
you.

GLORIA

But, it's never going to be the same.

EUGENE

Better, I promise. But, right now you  
need to rest.

Eugene kisses Gloria and then moves away.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Gloria sleeps restlessly.

She DREAMS that Stacks of 8 X 10 headshots of Gloria are  
everywhere.

Gloria with face in in bandages intensely chops them up into  
smaller abstract pieces with a paper cutter and then throws  
them aside.

The mood swings alternate between laughter and tears.

This continues until all the pictures are cut up.

Gloria lays down among the pieces after which she falls  
asleep.

Later in the DREAM Gloria's eyes open slowly and then  
discovers the confusion that surrounds.

Gradually, she picks up various pieces and randomly puts them  
in some kind of order.

New discovery and satisfaction emerges, as she continues to  
carefully arrange the cut up images.

She paints at an easel.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Gloria sleeps more peacefully.

INT. WALL - DAY - TWO YEARS LATER

A series of wall PAINTINGS are focused upon.

They are large COLLAGE abstractions that combine fragments Of Gloria's HEADSHOTS with painted IMAGES.

The colors contrast with a dream like imagination.

INT. ART GALLERY - NIGHT

Groups of diverse people excitedly mix at a party.

A young WOMAN and a MAN converse with drinks.

MAN

What do you think of this work?

WOMAN

It's very exciting and sad.

MAN

That mirror accident in the quake changed her life.

WOMAN

You mean her looks?

MAN

Yes, they were never the same as before.

WOMAN

She must have gone through a lot. Having her physical beauty taken away.

MAN

Yes, but look at this greatness that came out of it. She seemed to have tapped into an inner expression here that she may never have discovered with only her good looks to rely on.

WOMAN

Wow, that is something to think about. The values of outer and inner beauty. What does that all mean?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MAN

Well it caused her to think about not only in this art, but she has also written about it in a book.

WOMAN

Very impressive. You just never know what surprises life will bring. Now, I'm really curious to see and meet her. Where is she?

MAN

On the other side of the room in a group.

WOMAN

There's more to this story.

MAN

Definitely.

WOMAN

As there always is.

They slowly move across the room.

FADE OUT