

FADE OUT

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. HOME STUDY - DAY

CARSON, 35, sits facing a computer screen. Chubby, unkempt. He reads from a web page on a site called "SimplyScripts."

INSERT COMPUTER SCREEN:

One paragraph is prevalent. It reads:

Two entities are saying goodbye. One entity is leaving on a 'journey' (physical or metaphysical). One or the other (but not both) know the leaving entity isn't coming back. You can't actually write, "I'm/You're/We're not coming back."

BACK TO SCENE

Carson stares for a moment and shakes his head. After a few moments, he gets up from his chair and leaves the room.

The sound of a television turned on. A football game plays in the background.

TWO DAYS LATER

Carson sits at the computer. Hair mussed, a day of stubble growth. He slurps on a soda.

INSERT COMPUTER SCREEN:

Blank, except for "FADE IN:" written in the upper corner.

BACK TO SCENE

Carson looks like he's in agony. Can't make himself type. He turns on a computer game instead.

THREE DAYS LATER

The beard is heavier now. Carson is still in the same clothes he's worn for the two previous days.

He stares at the monitor, as if he's trying to will words on to the blank page.

But nothing comes.

Carson BANGS his fists on the computer keyboard. Frustrated, he leaves the room.

A few minutes later, he brings back a couple of coffee mugs and sets them next to the computer screen.

Each mug is engraved on the side with the words "Simply Scripts" inside a roll of movie film.

He studies them, perhaps hoping for inspiration.

But nothing comes.

FOUR DAYS LATER

The mugs are gone.

Carson is now clean-shaven. His hair nicely groomed. He wears nice attire.

He faces the monitor. Smiles.

INSERT COMPUTER SCREEN

The words "FADE IN" are still the only thing on the screen. Those words are highlighted and deleted.

In their place, two words appear: FADE OUT.

The file is saved, and the computer monitor goes BLACK.