(Movie Poster)



# THE FULL MOON (TRAILER on 七月初七)

EXT. STREET - DAYTIME. Rose, walking on street.

### ROSE

(thinking to herself, V.O.)

Everyone is looking for the one.

The one and only, that is meant for no one else but us.

But the dilemma that we are facing...

Focusing on one of the guys strolling along the street.

ROSE (V.O.)

Is he the one?

Then another guy, talking on phone while walking.

ROSE (V.O.)

Is he the one?

Then another guy.

ROSE (V.O.)

Is he?

And it goes on from one guy to another and another and the screen swirls around the people on the street, then zooms out showing the bird-eye view on the surrounding area, then the states, countries and onto the Earth (as Rose continues the questions)

# ROSE (V.O.)

The one?
Is he?
The one? The one? Is he?
Is he? The one? The one??? The

INT. ROSE'S BEDROOM - NEAR MIDNGHT
Rose stares into the mirror, holding an apple on one hand and a peeling knife on the other,

# VOICE FROM BACKGROUND (V.O.)

What if, there is a way for us to look into the future and allow us to see our soul mate?

INT. LIVING ROOM - TIME IRRELEVANT

Rose looks up from the magazine.

## **ERICA**

If ones peel an apple in front of a mirror on the full moon, ones will be able to see one's destined other half.

#### ROSE

When is the next full moon?

#### SUSIE

On the 24th.

INT - ROSE'S BEDROOM - MIDIGHT.

Rose, peeling an apple in front of the mirror.

A figure begins to form on the other side of the mirror.

### ROSE

Eric???

The apple drops from a hand and blood starts to flow from finger.

EXT - FORESTED HILLSIDE - DAYTIME (FLASHBACK - IN BLACK AND WHITE)

## A BOY

We will get married when we grow up.

## A GIRL

We will get married???

#### THE BOY

Yes, we will.

We will get married so I can protect you for the rest of your life.

INT. LIVING ROOM - TIME IRRELEVANT.

BELLE, head buries between bended knees amidst the mess.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAYTIME

### A GUY

You mentioned you meet up with him recently?
It's just... not possible...
He died three years ago.

INT. A CAR - DAYTIME

A car heading towards the cross-road, a heavy-duty truck run over a red-light and crashes into the car.

DARK SCREEN - TIME IRRELEVANT

A VOICE (V.O.)

Does soulmate exist?

"THE FULL MOON"

SCRIPT BY

AURORA LEE

(MOVIE on 八月十五)

NB: I know. Don't tell the actor what to do. I tried not to, but I was stuck. So there we go.

And...

To hell with perfection

(TYPEWRITTEN on screen, alphabet by alphabet, the following)

Dedicated to

. . .

EXT. GARDEN (SOON TO BE WEDDING VENUE) - DAY

ROSE, Caucasian, in flora-printed knee-length dress and cardigan; speaks inaudibly to a guy, gesturing towards the podium in front while referring to papers on hand.

SUSIE (V.O.)

Rose, a hopeless romantic. Childhood dream is to meet and marry a prince charming and live happily ever after.

Rose approaches a couple, whom argues intensely.

SUSIE (V.O.)

However, as she grows, she kind of come to term with the fact that prince charming does not exist.

Well, at least not in the world we live in.
Realizing that her dream may never come true, she figures out her next best alternative.
To help others on their quest in living happily ever after.

The couples start to calm down after conversing (inaudible) with Rose.

On a table, Rose spreads a poster showing a wedding couple taking vows in front of the priest, with guests on chairs fanning in front of the raised podium.

The bridge-to-be smiles while the bridegroom-to-be nodding in agreement.

SUSIE (V.O.)

And there she is, a wedding planner.

EXT. BELLE'S OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

Traffic jam with car HONKS with people hustle along business hub.

INT. BELLE'S OFFICE BUILDING, CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY BELLE, Afican American, in suit and trousers; beaming a laser beam onto the projector as she gives presentation.

SUSIE (V.O.)

Belle.

One of the guys rises from his chair (the rest immediately follow suits), approaches Belle and shakes her hand.

SUSIE (V.O.)

Smart. Intelligent.

Belle smiles glowingly, mesmerizes everyone in the room.

SUSIE (V.O.)

Not to mention...

beautiful too.

INT. MATES'HOUSE, ERICA'S ROOM - TIME IRRELEVANT ERICA, American born Chinese, in sporty casual outfit; chews gum in lotus position on chair.

SUSIE (V.O.)

Erica.

Erica, maneuvering the joystick with eyes fixates on computer screen.

SUSIE (V.O.)

A hard-core gamer. Other than working ad-hoc here and there, she spends

most of her time in front of a computer.

ERICA

Argg...

Erica stares at 'GAME OVER' on the screen.

Erica stretches both hands upward, swiftly moves away from the table

Erica skips.

Erica throws her fist into the air.

Erica kicks her legs high into the air, towards a Bruce Lee poster on wall.

SUSIE (V.O.)

And working out ... the fittest among us.

INT. SUSIE'S ROOM - MORNING

SUSIE, Latino, looks into the mirror, adjusting her long-sleeves gypsy wear.

SUSIE (V.O.)

And I... am Susie.

EXT. MATES' HOUSE - MORNING

SUSIE (V.O.)

Together, we co-rented a house.

INT. MATES' HOUSE, CORRIDOR - MORNING WATER FLUSHING.

Rose, coming out from toilet, dragging her feet, ungroomed.

SUSIE

Morning.

ROSE

Morning...

EXT. MATES' HOUSE - MORNING
Susie closes the door gently behind her.

Susie breathes deeply, taking in the morning fresh air as she walks away from the house.

SUSIE (V.O.)

I love early morning.

BIRDS CHIRPING.

SUSIE (V.O.)

Being the first to greet the world. As if the world belongs to no one else but me.

An old man, across the street, walking his dog.

Both nods as their eyes meet, smiling.

EXT. SUSIE'S WORKPLACE - MORNING
Using a key, Susie unlocks the glass door.

Susie pushes the door to enter.

INT. SUSIE'S WORKPLACE - MORNING

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Susie drops the keys into her bag.

Susie removes the remote from wall, pointing the remote towards the air-con mounted on wall.

Presses a button and BLOWING sound emerges from the air-con.

Placing the remote back.

Susie switches on the stereo, sound of NATURE playing in background.

The crystal ball on the water fountain beside the receptionist desk starts rolling.

Dropping a few essential oil onto the aromatherapy burner, Susie burns the tea-light candle using a lighter.

INT. SUSIE'S WORKPLACE, CORRIDOR - MORNING
Susie opens the door to one of the rooms, looks inside the massage room, closes the door.

INT. SUSIE'S WORKPLACE, MASSAGE ROOM - MORNING Susie removes a towel from the shelves.

Susie spreads open the towel, places it atop the massage bed and smoothen it.

SUSIE (V.O.)

And I, Susie, am a masseuse.

INT. MATES' HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

TV'S NEWS ANCHOR (O.S.)

Congratulation to 328 couples, who decided to come together and get married today.

Belle peeps through face mask toward TV.

On TV screen, behind the news anchor is a crowd of couples, in wedding attire, making vows on parking lots in front of a grand church.

# TV'S NEWS ANCHOR (O.S.)

As 9 symbolized eternity in some culture, there is a belief couples who tie knot on 9 September, will be together for the rest of their life, and... beyond.

### ERICA

(laying on sofa bed, reading a book, raising both her legs up and down into the air, as if she is cycling)

- your friend is getting married today.

Rose, your friend is getting married today, is she in there???

### ROSE

(holding a magazine, eyes on TV screen)
Nah... they wanted to but her other half has
to go for a business trip, no choice, got to
postpone.

Rose still staring at TV as the news moves on to other headline.

## ERICA

Speaking about belief, it reminds me of a childhood folktale,

if one peels an apple in front of a mirror during full moon,

one will be able to see one's destined half.

# ROSE

(raises her eyebrows)

Really?

(paused)

So... when is the next full moon?

SUSIE

(without looking up from the tarot card on the low coffee table) On the  $24^{\rm th}$ .

A card flips away from Susie's hand towards Belle's direction, hitting a cup on table, swerves toward Erica.

Erica jumps up to grab the card in air; book falls aside.

Erica glances at the card, frowns, then passes the card to Susie.

Susie looks at the card, then at Erica, smiling.

SUSIE

Come.

(with Erica sitting besides)

This, is The Tower Card.

Look scary, right?

(fingers moving around symbols

in Arial Black font below, on card)

Lightning, unexpected and sudden;

striking the tower, build on

jagged mountain, whatever that is being

build upon a weak foundation,
will eventually collapse;

fire, consuming the old, at the same time providing space for the new while illuminating the surrounding darkness;

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People falling, but are they falling apart or falling into place? That, we never know; the **crown** represent power we need to let go and surrender to so as we can remain humble.

ERICA

Wow...

SUSIE

Well, there may be other interpretation...

(look into Erica's eyes)

Learning to see things from different point of view...

(placing the card on table)

is going to be a lifelong process...

INT. MATE'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT
Clock on wall showing past midnight.

On the low coffee table, Belle typing on laptop, referring to papers on hand.

Belle places the papers on floor; fumbles papers on table and floor.

Belle removes a set of papers from the piles and continues working on laptop.

Eyes fixate on the computer screen, Belle gropes for cup on table.

Pouring the content into mouth, Belle sips the last drop from cup, places it on the saucer.

GROANS while heaving herself up, Belle stretches her body.

Looking at the piles of work, Belle SIGNS, shakes her head.

Removing the cup and saucer from table, Belle walks toward the kitchen.

INT. MATES' HOUSE, KITCHEN - NIGHT

Removing a pack of 3-in-1 instant coffee, Belle pauses for a moment before placing it back.

Belle pulls out a sachet of tea.

Pushes the lid of the plastic container down, Belle returns the container to the shelves.

Places the teabag into the cup, Belle crushes and twists the tea envelop.

BELLE

(envelop into the bin)

Bingo.

Belle opens the freezer, removing a pack of lasagne.

Belle places the lasagna into the microwave, set the timer.

Belle reading the label on a cup of instant cup noodle while waiting.

The KETTLE CLICKS.

Microwaves DINGS as Belle pours the boiling water into cup.

Mitten on hand while removing the lasagna, Belle frowns when she hears COUGHING sound.

INT. MATES'HOUSE, CORRIDOR - NIGHT

BELLE

(KNOCKS GENTLY, whispers)

Rose..

Continue KNOCKING.

No response.

INT. MATES'HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT
ON A 3x5 INCHES NOTE, as per below;

Get well soon.

\*\*\*

Love from, Belle ©

(The above cursive writing are highlighted on screen in bold bright color, as Belle scribbles on the note)

Belle drops the note into a plastic bag.

INT. MATES'HOUSE, CORRIDOR - NIGHT
Belle hangs the bag onto the door knob.

INT. MATES'HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT
Belle eats the lasagna with eyes fixate on laptop screen.

Putting aside the lasagna, Belle continues her work.

Cupful of tea lying on table.

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EXT. MATES' HOUSE - MORNING

The dog raises one of its back-leg to urinate on one of the lamp posts while the old man waiting beside it.

INT. MATES' HOUSE, CORRIDOR - MORNING

Room door open, Rose, appears behind the door, looks exhausted.

ROSE

(clearing her throat)

Eh.... emmm....

Rose notices the bag hanging on doorknob.

Rose removes the bag, takes out a bottle and a note.

Rose read the written note, then at the bottle label.

ROSE

(hoarse)

Cooo.uuu..ghing sy...rup...

COUGHING as Rose walks away from her room.

EXT. MATES' HOUSE - NIGHT

Key on hand; Belle unlocks the door.

INT. MATES' HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Belle places the laptop bag on sofa.

Fumbling through handbag; Belle removes some notes.

INT. MATES'HOUSE, CORRIDOR - NIGHT

KNOCK on (Erica's) door.

INT. MATES'HOUSE, ERICA'S ROOM - NIGHT

ERICA

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Come in...

Quick glances at the door, Erica's eyes back to computer screen.

Door knob REFUSE TO TURN.

KNOCK KNOCK ...

Erica frowns, reluctantly pausing the games

Erica strides toward the door.

Turning the knob, Erica UNLOCKS and opens the door.

ERICA

Opps...

It's locked...

Looking pass Erica shoulder, Belle sees the game onscreen while Erica examines the door knob.

ERICA

(turning the door knob few times)

Strange...

I don't have the habit of locking my door.

BELLE

(reading from the 3x5 inches notes)

Promoter of electronic gadget,

waitress for fund-raising events,

baby-sitter,

assistant for tour-guiding...

(LOOK CAREFULLY AT THE NOTES)

Require a day training without pay, however meal will be provided...

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Belle passes the notes to her.

BELLE

Call them up if you are interested...

Taking the notes from Belle; staring at the notes; Erica bear-hug Belle tightly.

ERICA

Thank you, thank you, thank you, you are my life-saver...

BELLE

Alright, alright.

Remember to call soon.

The offer doesn't last forever.

Releasing Belle, Erica nods vigorously.

EXT. MATES' HOUSE - MORNING Deserted street.

BIRDS CHIRPING.

INT. MATES' HOUSE, KITCHEN - MORNING Belle pours milk into the cereal bowl.

Rushing into the kitchen, Erica grabs an empty cup.

Smiling, Belle passes the milk carton to Erica.

BELLE

Not much left, you can finish it off.

Erica returns the cup, pours the milk down her throat, grabbing a few tiny pack of cookies, throwing the carton into bin on her way out.

Susie steps back abruptly, allowing Erica to pass through the door.

SUSIE

She is early.

Belle

(flatten the milk carton) Stocktaking today.

Both smile knowingly as their eyes meet.

Belle places the flatten milk carton back to the bin.

INT. MATES' HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT Erica pauses as she opens the door.

WEEPING.

Erica frowns.

Hearing the FORCED LONG SNEEZING, Erica's head tilts backward.

The WEEPING continues.

Stepping into the living room, Erica's jaw drop.

Rose, Belle and Susie, all sitting rigidly on sofa.

Room is silence except the WEEPING sound.

On the single-seated sofa, a middle-aged Chinese lady, heavy make-up, smeared mascara, stops weeping upon seeing Erica.

ERICA

Mom???

ERICA'S MOM WAILS more loudly, wiping her eyes with a colorful cotton handkerchief.

The other girls freeze, alternate their look between themselves, Erica and her mom.

ERICA'S MOM

It's my fault. It's all my fault.

A long SNEEZES into handkerchief, wiping the nose.

Belle, reaching for the tissue box.

ERICA'S MOM

If I did not raise you like...

(takes a look at Erica)

you... (sob) would not look like
this... (sob) now....

Erica's mom WAILS OUT LOUD.

Belle nearly drops the tissue box.

ERICA

Ah...???

(looks at herself)

Like

(pause)

what?

Erica's mom stares at her.

INT. HOSPITAL, DELIVERY ROOM - DAY

(FLASHBACK IN BLACK AND WHITE, UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED IN CAPITAL LETTERS)

20 Years Ago (Big bold letters appear on screen)

ERICA'S MOM (YOUNGER) (screaming)

AAAAARRRRRRRRRRGGG.....

ERICA'S MOM (YOUNG) laid on bed, sweating profusely.

Underbody covered with blanket, concealing opened legs underneath.

THE MIDWIFE

Push...

We can see the head...

Erica's mom PANTING, inhaled deeply.

ERICA'S MOM

(SCREECHED as she exhaled)

Aaaaahhhh......

BABY CRIED out loud.

MIDWIFE's face appeared under blanket, holding a baby in hand.

Using elbow as support, Erica's mom raised her upper body.

ERICA'S MOM

What is it?

THE MIDWIFE

Congratulation.

It's a baby girl.

ERICA'S MOM

A ... GIRL???

Erica's mom dropped her body on bed, BREATHED HEAVILY, stared at ceiling.

INT. ERICA'S HOUSE, BABY ROOM - DAY
BABY ERICA covered in BABY-BLUE jumper, sleeping in a baby crib.
Slowly, the black and white galaxy pattern blanket and cover sheet changed to outer space color.

The room's black and white wallpapers to NATURE's hue with painting of a little boy swinging on tree on walls, and carpet to LIGHT-BROWN.

INT. ERICA'S HOUUSE, BABY ROOM - DAY
TODDLER ERICA in BLUE pajamas seated on floor.

Reaching out her hand, Erica grabbed a soft vehicle toy.

Erica bit, removed from mouth, stared at it then flung the vehicle aside.

Erica grabbed an air-filled hammer toy, waving it in air, repetitively hitting it on ground.

INT. ERICA'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY

ERICA(KID), in BLACK t-shirt, seated in front of a boxed-sized

TV showing Gundam animation series, toys of dinosaurs on floor.

EXT. PLAYGROUUND - DAY

KIDS MIMICKING SOUND OF GUNS (O.S.)

Bang... Bang...

Taattaraattee....

Among a group of young ladies, Erica's mom staring at kids chasing one another with toy gun in hand.

ERICA

(in cowboy outfit, sweating)

Mom...

Erica's mom removed a handkerchief from her clutch, wiping sweat off Erica's face.

INT. ERICA'S HOUSE, ERICA'S ROOM - MORNING ALARM RINGING

On bed, blanket covering a human figure underneath.

A hand appeared from underneath blanket, groping around table beside the bed.

CLICK the alarm to SILENCE it.

Slowly the hand fell off the table, hanging at bedside.

ERICA'S MOM

The sun is going down already and you still on bed.

(the cover-all blanket being abruptly pulled away, revealing Erica on bed)
WAKKEEE UPPPP....

ERICA

(cover head with pillow)

5 minutes ...

Erica's mom yanked the pillow away.

Erica's mom dragged Erica up into seating position.

Erica pried open her eyes, blinking a few times.

ERICA'S MOM

You get ready, 15 minutes.

DOOR SLAM.

Erica stared blankly ahead.

KNOB CLICK, door flung open wide.

Erica's mom, with both hands on hip, stern face.

Erica SLAPPED her own face few times, forced her eyes wide open.

Erica heaved herself from bed.

INT. ERICA'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - MORNING Erica's mom, scrubbing the washing basin.

FOOTSTEPS THUMPED.

Erica, in Super-Mario JEAN trousers over a WHITE t-shirt, rushed into the kitchen.

ERICA'S MOM

You comb your hair?

Erica ran her fingers across her short hair.

Erica grabbed the bread, nipping it in between lips.

ERICA'S MOM

Sit down.

Have proper break...

(BUS HONK)

...fast

(Erica shrugged)

Erica rushed out.

ERICA'S MOM (O.S.)

Breakfast...

Most important meal....

I told you to wake up earlier.

Sleep earlier... (fade)

EXT. ERICA'S HOUSE - MORNING

A school bus waiting outside.

Erica SLAMMED the house door, with bread between her lips.

Erica boarded the school bus.

BUS DRIVER

(looking at Erica)

Woke up late again huh...

Erica removed the bread from mouth.

ERICA

(smiling)

Morning...

The school bus departed Erica's house.

INT. MATES' LIVING ROOM - NIGHT (BACK TO THE PRESENT DAY, SCENE IN COLOR MODE) Erica squats, covering her head with both hands.

Erica raises her head, revealing her face.

Erica looks at her mom.

Rose, Belle and Susie look around awkwardly.

Erica breathes deeply, stands up, walks towards her mom.

Erica kneels down, to see her mom eyes to eyes.

ERICA

Mom...

Look at me...

Erica's mom removes the tissues from her face/eyes.

Erica's mom looks at Erica.

ERICA

Maybe you are right.

Maybe I am like this...

(waving hand up and down her body)

because... of ...

what you...

Mom CRIES OUT LOUD again.

Belle opens her mouth, wants to say something but nothing comes out.

Susie straightens her body.

Rose widens her eyes.

**ERICA** 

(raising her voice)

Mom.... Momm....

Look at me

(searching for her mom eyes)

I... am a grown up, okay...

I am a grown up now...

You keep saying growing up

mean being responsible for myself.

I remember that...

You remember?

ERICA'S MOM

(staring sorrowful at Erica)

But, you are not grown up yet...

(pause)

Wait, how that relate to...

(eyeing Erica up and down)

ERICA

Of course, it's related...

I am a grown up now,

And I am responsible for my life now.

What you did... or did not do...

How it affect me.

THAT... (index finger pointing upwards)

we never know.

But it's not important, isn't it.

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We can't turn back times and there isn't anything we can do.

And this moment, at this moment,

I like who I am and I like what I see.

Erica extends both hands out, palm wide-opened towards her mom.

ERICA

If I do not like what I see, I will change. But now (shrug)

I am OK.

Erica's mom blinks her eyes.

ERICA

(Both hands on heart)

I am OK.

(Hand extends towards her mom)

You are OK.

(Widening her arms, looking around at the rest)

We are OK.

ROSE / Belle

(At that particular moment. Susie smile and nods while...)

Rose: Yeah... / Belle: We are Ok...

ERICA'S MOM

We are...

OK???

Erica signs, squeezes herself besides her mom on sofa.

ERICA'S MOM

But...

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what people will say???

ERICA

What will people say?

You know what...

I don't care.

I don't care what people will think... or say.

People who care will accept us...

for who we are...

(space out, eyes toward upper left)

You remember Kyle, don't you?

That... (shaking her head)

is not how I want to live

ERICA

And mom, I want to

(hugs her mom tightly)

see you happy

(burying her head into her mom's shoulder)

You should make yourself happy.

EXT. MATE'S HOUSE - EVENING

Key UNLOCKS door, Erica enters the house.

DOOR SLAM.

INT. MATES' HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Light on.

Erica enters the empty living room.

Erica drops herself onto sofa.

Electric goes off and the room goes dark.

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**ERICA** 

Oh ... .

Noooo....

Sound of KEY CLINKING and BAG SHUFFLING.

Light emits from her hand-phone as Erica removes it from her bag.

Erica moves towards the TV table, pulls out the shelves and fumbles inside the drawer.

Keep pressing the button to light her hand-phone screen to aids her search.

ERICA

Torchlight...

I remember...

somewhere here ....

GROUP OF PEOPLE

Ha..ppy birthday to you...

happy birthday to you.....

Erica turns around, sees her house mates; her mom holding a birthday cake.

ERICA'S MOM

Make a wish

Erica closes her eyes, holding her hands together.

Erica opens her eyes and blows the candles.

Light on.

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ROSE

(Rose passes Erica a piece of cake on paper towel)
First piece for our birthday girl...

INT. MATES' HOUSE, DINING ROOM - EVENING

ERICA'S MOM

(chopstick releasing sweet and sour
 meat beside fried rice on plate)
Eat more...

BELLE

This ...

is better than takeaway...

ERICA

Yeah.

That's the reason I never order Chinese takeaway...

ROSE

(pour the champagne into glasses) Life is full of reasons to have fun and enjoy.

SUSIE

(looking at Rose)

And some people always manage to find reason to have a cup...

Erica laughs.

Belle shakes her head, smiling.

Rose sips to the last drop.

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ROSE

(reaching for refill)

Aah...

BELLE

At least she doesn't get drunk...

ROSE

(glass towards Belle)

Cheers...

INT. MATES' HOUSE, ERICA'S ROOM - NIGHT TIME
Erica, lying on bed, staring at ceiling.

KNOCK KNOCK.

Erica turns toward the direction of the door.

KNOCK KNOCK

Erica frowns.

ERICA

Mom, just come in.

BELLE

It's me

Belle TURNING DOOR KNOB and open the door.

Erica jumps up from her bed.

ERICA

Belle...

Belle passes Erica a box.

BELLE

Hope you like it.

ERICA

Oh, thank you. What is it?
Can I open?

BELLE

Of course you can. It's for you.

Erica opens the box.

ERICA

Wow...

INT. MATES' HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY (FLASHBACK, IN BLACK AND WHITE)
Belle putting on her shoe.

Erica sealing the sole of her old tattered running shoes, using super glue.

BELLE

Erica, it's time to get a new pair...

ERICA

(eyes fixate on her shoes)

No no no...

(shaking her head)

very comfortable...

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can't be found in shop anymore.

Belle raised her eyebrow.

BELLE

(opened the door to leave)

See ya...

ERICA

Вуе

INT. ERICA'S ROOM - NIGHT

(BACK TO THE PRESENT DAY, SCENE IN COLOR MODE)

ERICA

Belle...

Erica put on the shoes, which fit perfectly.

ERICA

(walks around)

Oh ... .

This is ooomaaaziiing...

(eyes shifted from shoes to Belle)

Thank you...

BELLE

I'm glad you like it.

ERICA

Are you kidding?

I love it...

Erica's mom enters the room, with towel on head.

BELLE

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(winks before leaving the room) Good night.

ERICA AND MOM

Goodnight.

Erica jumps and runs on the spot.

ERICA'S MOM

What you doing?

Erica stops, raises her foot.

ERICA'S MOM

A new pair?

Where you get?

ERICA

I didn't...

Angel did...

ERICA'S MOM

(rubs hair using towel)

Huh???

Erica removes the shoes; places back into box.

ERICA

Nothing...

(pointing toward the computer table)

The hair dryer is in the mid drawer

ERICA'S MOM

Haiya, I don't sleep yet.

I let it dry on its own.

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When we young, where got hairdryer? You young people comes up with things that make life better.

Erica places the box under her bed and lays herself down on bed; mimics her mom saying without any sound coming out of her mouth.

ERICA'S MOM

Where got better...

I no see life getting better...

Erica covers her head under pillow.

ERICA'S MOM

. . .

Erica's mom shakes her head, SIGN.

Erica's mom removes hair-dryer from drawer, plugs in socket.

SOUND OF HAIR DRYER.

INT. SUSIE'S ROOM - NIGHT
Susie, holding a sketch book.

EXT. PARK - DAYTIME.

(FLASHBACK IN BLACK AND WHITE)

The ice cream vendor passed an ice cream cone to the little girl.

A LADY IN RED paid for the ice cream cone.

The lady seated with the girl, savoring the ice cream, on bench, shaded under a tree.

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Ext. WALKWAY - DAY

The lady paid for the balloon.

The lady passed the balloon to the little girl.

The lady with the little girl, walking side by side, holding hand.

The lady kneeled, talk inaudibly to the little girl.

The lady walked away.

The lady turned her head back, waves goodbye; the little girl returned the wave, smiling.

The lady turned and walked away.

The little girl, holding the balloon, stood among the rushing pedestrian.

INT. SUSIE'S ROOM - NIGHT

(BACK TO THE PRESENT DAY, SCENE IN COLOR MODE)

Susie, holding the sketchbook.

Susie's finger tracing gently, along the outline of lady, in red dress, lingering on her faceless head.

EXT. TRAIN STATION - DAY Erica hugs Erica's mom.

Erica's mom pats Erica back.

ERICA'S MOM
You take good care of yourself, ok?

ERICA

I will.
You too, mom.

ERICA'S MOM

(pinching Erica's nose)

You very lucky.

You have good housemate.

ERICA

(frowning, turning face aside) No... Don't ... do that...

The TRAIN WHISTLE.

Erica's mom boards the train.

Erica's mom waves goodbye as the train leaves the platform.

Erica waves goodbye; watching the train leaving and disappearing from sight.

Erica stands staring forward, lower her gaze.

Erica turns around; walks away.

EXT. MATES' HOUSE - NIGHT

A full moon hanging on dark cloudy sky.

CAT MEOW from bushes, the SOUND OF CHASE AND RUN SHUFFLING BUSHES follows.

INT. MATE'S HOUSE, BELLE'S ROOM - NIGHT

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Rose pushes a standing mirror on wheel into Belle's room, placing it aside Belle's bed.

BELLE

(passes Rose a box)

Here you go.

ROSE

Thanks .....

Rose seats herself on Belle's bed.

Rose adjusts the mirror to face her.

Rose opens the box revealing an apple and knife.

Rose looks around the room, notices the butterflies wallpaper, then she touches the mattress with butterflies design underneath.

ROSE

You really love butterfly.

From the mirror reflection, Rose chuckles as she see Belle's pajama with butterflies print on it.

Belle light up the tea candles on floor.

BELLE

Oh, yes, I do love butterfly...

I always wonder...

How does a wormlike creature turn into something so...

different...

INT. MATES' HOUSE, SUSIE'S ROOM - NIGHT
Susie sits on floor, in front of two burning tea-light candles
on a low table.

On the table is a mirror, with an apple and a knife on each side.

TICKING, the time on clock approaches midnight.

Susie takes the knife and apple from table.

INT. MATES' HOUSE, BELLE'S ROOM - MIDNIGHT

Tea candles on floor, lining four walls; illuminating the room.

Belle sits in front of her cosmetic table, stares into the mirror.

Rose, seated on bed, with back facing Belle.

Rose picks up the knife on bed, removes the cover.

Knife touching the apple, Rose BREATH deeply.

Hand phone on bed light up, emits a BLEEP sound as the screen show 12:00.

INT. MATES' HOUSE, SUSIE'S ROOM - NIGHT Susie, holding the knife, starts peeling the apple.

EXT. MATES' HOUSE - NIGHT
Cloud drifts in front of the full moon, covering it.

Rain starts dripping.

As the wind strengthen, tree LEAVES FLUTTER.

INT. BELLE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Peeled skin hanging from the apple, ROSE alternates her gaze between apple and mirror; with Belle's image reflects on mirror.

INT SUSIE'S ROOM - MIDNIGHT Mist forms on mirror.

Slowly, a blur misty human figure starts forming on mirror.

Susie, squinting to have a clearer sight at the human form.

The WIND makes long HOWLING sound as it hits the wall.

CLINKING sound of STEEL FALLING onto the ground.

Susie, distracts, immediately turns her head toward the window.

SUSIE

Ouch...

The apple drops from Susie's hand, rolls down her thigh and hit the ground.

Blood flows from finger.

Susie put her injured finger into mouth.

INT. BELLE'S ROOM - NIGHT

On bed, staring into the mirror, Rose tilts her head.

ROSE

Eric???

Belle, distract, cut the skin off the apple.

BELLE

(turns to Rose)

Did you see anything?

ROSE

Yes.

You?

BELLE

(gazes return to mirror, disappointing) Nooo...

INT. ERICA'S ROOM - NIGHT
SNORING SOUND.

Erica, body wide open, back facing the ceiling; lying on bed.

Erica jerks; opens and closes her mouth few times; then scratches her but.

INT. MATES' HOUSE - NIGHT

The street outside, QUIET and deserted.

INT. MATES' HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Erica, sits on floor, cracks open the peanut shell, pours the peanut into the mouth, places the shell on the low table.

On the other side of the low table, Belle, working on her laptop.

Susie knitting on sofa.

Rose, place both legs over and behind her head on the floor nearby.

BELLE

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(look up from her laptop, at Rose)
You can be a yoga instructor, you know.
I can never do that.

Erica takes a look at Rose.

Erica moves away from the low table, forcing one of her legs over her head.

ERICA

(laugh at herself)

Oppss... I can't...

BELLE

So do you guys have dream while you were young?

Say...

something that you guys would love to do when you grow up?

ROSE

YES... marry a prince charming and live happily ever after.

SUSIE

I don't know

(tilting her head)

I know I have always been fascinated with the mysterious part of life and the unexplained realm of the universe...

Everyone looks at Erica.

Erica shrugs.

BELLE

Game software programmer?

After years of gaming, you probably know a lot more than most people on what make gamers like you ticks.

Erica raises her eyebrow.

BELLE

Or maybe be a karate instructor.

Just don't settle for anything that keep you sedate 9 to 5.

Nothing kill you faster than that..

Erica nods her head vigorously in agreement.

ERICA

Enough about us.

How about you, Belle?

What do you want to be when you grow up?

BELLE

Me???

I don't know

I love to help people.

As long as I am of some use to others, I quess I am content.

All turns to TV as it starts showing the movie series 'Friends', playing 'I be there for you'.

INT. A BOUTIOUE - DAY

Erica comes out from room labeled 'FOR PERSONNEL ONLY'

ERICA

(Waves to the two ladies near the cashier counter)

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Вуе

THE TWO LADIES (together)

Bye... See you...

On door, the BELL CHIMES as Erica leaves the shop.

EXT. A ROW OF SHOPHOUSE - DAY Erica, standing in front of a jewelry shop.

On display, a bracelet, with butterfly charms linked together forming the chain; with price tag displayed,

Special Offer

For a limited period only

\$398

\$198

Erica takes a deep breath; walks away.

INT. MATES' HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

TV NEWS ANCHOR

(crime scene as background)

Another lady had been found death on the Corny Street yesterday. And this had been the forth murder in merely two month...

ROSE

(as the sound of TV fades into background) Oh... not another one...

TV NEWS ANCHOR

The public, especially ladies are being advised to walk in group at night if possible, choose well-lit and crowded areas...

Erica jumps up from the sofa, in fighting posture.

**ERICA** 

If he is to meet me...

(punching)

HEEEEC...

(chopping)

HAAAAC....

(side-kicking)

YAAAAH...

SUSIE

Not everyone can do that, Erica. Given the opportunity,
I will have run for my life...

ERICA

Me too...

will choose the lesser of the two evils...

EXT. SHOPHOUSE, AVENUE - HALLOWEEN NIGHT
Youth, in Halloween costumes, SHOUTING, in drive-by cabriolet.

Susie strolls along the street.

Kids, in group, going for trick and treat.

INT. A BOOK SHOP - HALLOWEEN NIGHT Bookshop, in Halloween decoration.

Susie strolls along an aisle, scanning the books on shelves.

Susie stops as a book catches her eyes.

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Susie's hand reaches for the book; another hand reaching for the same book.

Susie averts her eyes from the book; sees a man, in Grim Reaper costume, standing beside her.

Both withdraw their hand.

SUSIE AND PETE (together)

You can have it.

Both laughs.

PETE extends his hand

PETE

Pete, nice meeting you.

SUSIE

(shakes his hand)

Susie

PETE

(pointing at her hand)

Your hand...

Susie gazes follow Pete finger towards her birthmark on hand.

PETE

Tattoo?

Susie touches the clover-shaped marking on hand.

SUSIE

Birthmark

PETE

Oh...

Birthmark... marking from previous life, if you believe in reincarnation.

SUSIE

Huh?

PETE

Two people inscribe similar body marking on their deathbed.

That marking allows both to recognize each other and continue their journey next life.

SUSIE

Really?

I didn't know that...

(averting her eyes to the right)

...is interesting...

INT. THE BOOKSHOP - HALLOWEEN NIGHT

Pete places a few books on the cashier counter.

Susie signs the credit card slip; returns it to the cashier.

Pete pushes the books, credit card on top, toward cashier.

PETE

Thanks for introducing me these..

They looks interesting.

SUSIE

Those are good.

A lot more in there.

(pointing towards the book shelves)

So much to learn yet...

SUSIE AND PETE

so little time...

Susie chuckles; Pete laughs.

SUSIE

I was thinking, maybe we can book-pool. You know...

PETE

That would be good.

CASHIER

Total would be 63.88

Pete signs and returns the receipt to the cashier; moving aside as he places credit card back into wallet, removes a name card and passes it to Susie.

SUSIE

Oh...

(taking the name card)

I don't have a name card....

PETE

(removing his handphone)

It's ok.

You can just gimme your number ...

Susie murmurs inaudibly as he presses his hand phone.

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EXT. AVENUE - NIGHT

Belle, Erica, Rose and Susie, strolling along walkway.

ERICA

Ah...

I am so full...

A piece of paper flies onto Susie's chest.

Susie takes a look at the paper.

Susie passes it to the others.

ROSE

Hey, I think we should join this.

BELLE

What is it?

SUSIE

Self-defense.

Arrives just in time...

ERICA

Self defense?

I don't need that...

ROSE

No, you don't...

We do...

Or you can teach us...

You know...

The... Heee ...

(open-hands slashing the air)

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Heee...

(alternate fist forward)

H0000....

(kicking her leg up)

All four laugh.

Susie folds and places the paper into her bag as they continue strolling.

INT. MATES' HOUSE - DAY

SIM pulls a luggage from Belle's room, heading toward main door.

EXT. MATES' HOUSE - DAY

The delivery workers, loading storage box into the van.

Sim places Belle's luggage into his car's boot.

ROSE

(hugging Belle)

Do come back visit us...

ERICA

(joining the hug)

We are going to miss you...

Susie extends her arms, patting their shoulders.

SUSIE

(as the group detaches from hug, to Belle)
Take care.

BELLE

I will...

Thank you.

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Sim opens the car's door for Belle to enter.

The three ladies, staring, as the car disappears into the corner.

ERICA

SIGH.

How are we going to live without her???

SUSIE

How are "YOU" going to live without her?

Rose chuckles and smiles.

INT. SELF DEFENCE CENTRE - NIGHT

Rose, Susie and Erica are standing among a group of ladies, circling around HULK.

Hulk looks around at the ladies.

HULK

Prevention is always the best measures. But like it or not, bad things do happen. Therefore, choose to walk on well lit and crowded area.

In the event when someone is trying to attack you,

shout 'BACK OFF'.

As LOUD as possible.

Attract attention of people nearby, hopefully, will scares the attacker off.

Hulk points at a lady.

HULK

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You

Please come out here.

The lady points at her own chest.

Hulk nods, clarifying her doubt.

The lady walks timidly toward the centre.

HULK

What would you do if someone ...

Hulk walks past the lady and slowly, he grabs the lady from behind.

The lady struggles to break free.

HULK

Squat down, bringing all your weigh with you.

The lady squats, tilting Hulk forward with her.

HULK

Sometime, this won't happen.

Especially if I am heavy and big in size.

But have no worry...

what could be done instead...

Seeing that my hand is in front.

For a while, Hulk pause to allow the others to focus on his hand.

HULK

Use one of your hands... grab one of my fingers,

The lady follow his instruction.

HULK

pull it in the opposite direction.

The lady does what was being told and Hulk slowly releases his grip on her.

HULK

Come...

One more time...

Slowly, Hulk grabs her again from the back, this time holding her neck.

HULK

This time,

reach backward, use all your strength to grab and pull my ears off my head.

The lady follows what he said.

HULK

Ouch... Alright alright...

The lady tries to rip off his ear.

HULK

Enough, enough... that's enough....

Hulk soothes his ear with palm.

HULK

(pretending someone attacking him from behind)

Or we can kick

(raising his leg, kicking backwards)
Aim at the knee, one of the vulnerable spots.

HULK

For it to works, you have to do it fast and remember it is not a time for you to be polite or showing mercy, gather all your strength to act. Last but not least, you can walk and tilt backward and trip both you and your attacker backwards,

That, hopefully, will gives you enough time

to escape.

Hulk gestures the lady to return to the group.

Hulk walks towards his bag, removed a short wood.

Flipping the wood as he return to the group, he looks at the ladies.

At Erica, he moves the woods few times towards himself, gesturing Erica to join him at the centre.

HULK

Imagine this as a knife...

As Hulk moves towards Erica, Erica swiftly moved aside, got hold of his wrist tightly causing him to loosen his grip on the wood he was holding, kicking on back of his knee for him to kneel forward.

Hulk, confounds and freezes for a moment before regaining his gesture and stands up straight.

ERICA

(howling)

No mercy...

Erica stops her side-kicking before it reaches his groin area.

At the same time which Hulk immediately back-off, turning sideway while shielding his groin with both hand.

HULK

EXCELLENCE...

The element of surprises...

Hulk turns towards the crowd, as he straightens his body.

HULK

That...

Will definitely catch your attacker offquard.

But... but....

(pointing his index finger)

not everyone can do that.

Let alone do it well.

Look for opportunity to run for your life. If that is not possible, and if the attacker is looking for only valuable,

hand it all over.

Nothing, nothing on this Earth worth more than your safety,

or your life.

Hulk turns to Erica, eyes brighten up, smiling.

HULK

And you... are...???

EXT. MATES' HOUSE, AVENUE - DAY

A bunch of flower suddenly appears, in front of Erica's face; causing her to back off.

HULK

Hi...

Erica keeps walking, leaving Hulk holding the flower, trailing behind her.

As they come near where Erica lives, Erica turns around.

ERICA

What do you want?

HULK

Accept the flower and join me for a meal, or a drink, maybe???

Erica looks around, then towards the house, then at Hulk.

ERICA

(rolls her eyes up)

Uhh....

Erica snaps the flower from Hulk.

ERICA

(ushering Hulk away)

Shoo... shoo... shoo....

HULK

How about...

... a meal or a drink???

Erica thrusts the flower back to Hulk.

HULK

Alright...

Alright...

Both arms raised, Hulk side-waggles his head as he back away.

HULK

Maybe... next time....

Next time...

ERICA

Just go....

Erica waits until Hulk disappears from the corner.

ROSE

(approaches)

Someone has an admirer.

Erica frowns, places the flower on the car roof beside.

ROSE

(takes the flowers)

Oh... What a waste...

(smelling the flower)

Неу...

Erica hurries towards home, Rose follows behind.

EXT. STREET WALKWAY - DAY

Erica, rushing with Hulk behind her.

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Suddenly, Erica turns around, nearly bumps into Hulk.

HULK

(back off)

Oppsss...

ERICA

When are you going to leave me alone?

HULK

You don't own the road, do you?

Erica opens her mouth, speechless.

Erica frowns and turns around.

As Erica turns, she squints and tilts her head to the side.

Hulk follows her gaze and sees, not far away, a couple arguing.

Sim is seen pushing Belle.

Hulk frowns, return his gaze to Erica.

HULK

You know them?

Erica nearly bumps into Hulk as she rushes toward the arguing couple.

ERICA

Belle...

The couple freezes, turns around and sees Erica.

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Erica looks at them; gently pulls Belle toward her.

Sim moves forward, wanting to snap Belle from Erica.

Hulk grabs Sim's wrist, twists his hand around and pushes him sideway.

Sim stumbles backward.

Sim backs off, nods, finger-pointing at Belle, turns around and walks away.

Sim keep turning around, looks furiously at them for few times before disappearing into crowds.

ERICA

You ok?

Erica squints at Belle, tries to remove Belle's sunglasses.

Belle turns her head sideway before Erica's hand touches her.

INT. MATE'S HOSUE, LIVING ROOM - DAY Erica walks Hulk to the door.

ERICA

Thank you.

HULK

If you.... Or they...

(points towards the living room)

... need anything, do let me know...

ERICA

Thanks...

That...

(glances quickly towards the living room)
Meant a lot to me...

Hulk nods, turns around and leaves.

Erica gently closes the door behind her.

Rose occasionally steals a look at Belle but is quick to avert her gazes away.

Susie stares at Belle directly; gets up from seat and walks away.

Without sunglasses, Belle, sits quietly with bruised left eye.

Erica stands in front of Belle, staring at Belle.

ERICA

So, when are you going to leave him?

Belle looks at Erica, seems surprised at her suggestion.

Erica raises her eyebrows.

Susie appears behind, in an unusual loud voice, which catches everyone by surprises.

SUSIE.

(passing a cold-pack to Erica)

I agree with Erica.

Belle, you have been so used to put others' need in front of yours.

It's time for you to put your own need first.

You", in front of everyone else.

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Erica places the cold-pack gently over Belle's bruises.

ROSE

We are here for you.

You can always move back, if you want.

Your room is still empty.

Belle holds the cold-pack close to her face.

Belle stares blankly into distance.

INT. BELLE'S OFFICE BUILDING, CONFERENCE ROOM - MORNING

(FLASHBACK IN BLACK AND WHITE )

THE GUY

This is Sim, representing Enigma Corporation on the coming Summer Fashion Show.

Sim nods and smiles at Belle.

THE GUY

And this is Belle, representing us in overseeing the event.

Belle extends her hand.

All proceed to their seats.

The meeting starts (people discuss inaudibly).

INT. BELLE'S OFFICE BUILDING, ELEVATOR - NOON Belle presses the 'DOWN' button on the elevator.

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SIM

Going for lunch?

BELLE

Yes

SIM

Meeting someone?

BELLE

No... Planning to grab a sandwich from the cafeteria at basement.

SIM

If you don't mind...
me joining you???

TRING. Both enters the elevator.

INT. BELLE'S OFFICE BUILDING, CAFETERIA - NOON Belle and Sim, having their lunch, talking and laughing.

INT. BELLE'S OFFICE BUILDING, CONFERENCE ROOM - NIGHT. CLOCK ON WALL SHOWING 2 O'CLOCK

Two co-workers napping.

Sim and Belle browses documents and working with laptop.

LOUD SNORE from one of the co-worker catches their attention.

Sim and Belle look at each other.

STOMACH CRUNCH.

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Sim places his hand on his abdomen.

BELLE

(whisper)

Let's go get some fresh air.

There is this great restaurant nearby, opened
24 hours, serving great tidbit.

SIM nods.

Sim put his index finger close to his mouth as both rises from their chair.

Both tiptoes out the conference room.

EXT. BELLE'S OFFICE BUILDING - NIGHT Stepping out of the building, Sim and Belle take deep breathe.

Sim and Belle smile; eyeing each other.

Sim extends his hand widely outwards.

SIM

Fresh? Air???

A garbage truck passes by.

Sim and Belle look at the garbage truck; laughing, shaking their head.

Sim and Belle stroll along the sidewalk.

INT. A SMALL COSY RESTAURANT - NIGHT The bell on the door chimes.

Sim and Belle walk in.

A YOUNG MAN & A YOUNG LADY

(together)

Welcome...

THE YOUNG MAN

Table for two?

Sim nods.

The young man brings them to a small table at the corner.

Sim points at the colorful scribbled menu on the wall.

SIM

Set meal C with coffee.

THE YOUNG MAN

That, is day time menu.

(passes them menu)

And this, is night time menu.

SIM

Mmm... toast with fruits.

And a cup of coffee.

BELLE

Salad, and warm water.

Thanks.

SIM

Ah..

Take away, a cup of warm milk, with an extra empty cup.

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Belle looks puzzles.

THE YOUNG MAN

A fruit toast and a salad.

Coffee and warm water

Take away, warm milk and an extra empty cup.

Sim nods to confirm the order.

SIM

(looks around)

This place looks nice and cozy.

Are they the owner?

Belle looks towards the young couple, shaking head.

BELLE

The restaurant belongs to an old couple.

They will only be around during day time.

Those two are just few of the students they hire to work for them.

You know, youngster, night owl...

Not much diner during this time, lots of free time for them to...

Sim's eyes follows Belle gaze towards two tables with spread out reference books and stationery.

BELLE

At the same time earning some extra pocket money...

A win-win situation...

The young man places their drinks on table.

The bell on the door chimes and a guy in suit enters the restaurant.

A YOUNG MAN & A YOUNG LADY (together)

Welcome...

BELLE

This place...
(looks around)
...calm people down.

Sim and Belle, enjoying their meal, quietly.

EXT. STREET ALLEY - NIGHT Sim and Belle, on their way back to office.

Sim turns toward an alley, bends and places the paper bag by the kittens.

BELLE

How do you know...

SIM

With care, Sim tears off the top part of the empty cup, pour the warm milk into it and places it close to the kitten.

MEOW, Sim places the kitten close to the milk.

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Sim dabs the kitten's mouth with his index and middle fingers moistened with milk.

The kitten licks his finger and follows it towards the milk.

Sim stands up, look at his wet finger, shrugs and tilts his head as he looks at Belle.

Belle removes a wet tissue from her bag, passes it to Sim.

Belle keeps looking back at the kitten as they walk away.

Sim throws the wet tissue into a garbage bin.

SIM

Don't worry.

I drop by and if they still around, will send to the animal shelter.

INT. MATE'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY
(BACK TO THE PRESENT DAY, SCENE IN COLOR MODE)

BELLE

People who are kind to even helpless animals could not possibly hurt others.

ERICA

I see him hurting you now. WE SEE HIM HURTING YOU NOW.

BELLE

He can change.

ERICA

When?

Will you live to see it?

All three, with widened eyes, staring at Erica.

ERICA

WHAT???

All three stares away.

INT. SUSIE'S ROOM - TIME IRRELEVANT
Susie, lying on bed, staring at ceiling.

Susie sits up, grabs her hand phone.

SUSIE (V.O.)

(pressing button on hand phone)

How are you?

Joining us this Friday night?

Belle, we miss you, looking forward to see you.

And please take good care of yourself.

INT. BELLE AND SIM'S LIVING ROOM - TIME IRRELEVANT

The place in a mess. Broken glasses and plates on ground.

On floor, Belle buries her face in between her leg.

The hand phone BEEPING.

Belle slowly raises her head.

Belle crawls toward and grasps her hand phone.

Belle read the SMS, clenches the hand phone close to her chest.

Belle takes a few deep breathe to calm herself down.

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BELLE (V.O.)

(pressing buttons on hand phone)

Yes, can't wait to see you guys.

Belle places the hand phone on floor by her side, looks at the messes; lost in thought.

EXT. A ROW OF SHOPHOUSE - DAYTIME Crumbles of dollars bills on display glass.

Erica pulling the dollar bills to flatten them.

Erica pushes the dollar bills to the lady in front.

THE LADY

(counting the bills)

... ninety-six, ninety-seven, one hundred and ninety-eight.

(looks at Erica, smile)

A moment, please...

The lady returns with a jewelry box; places the box into paper bag.

THE LADY

And here is your receipt.

ERICA AND THE LADY

(at the same time)

Thank you...

Erica chuckles and the lady smiles at the mere coincidence.

INT. MATES' HOUSE - EVENING

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Door bell rang, Erica went to open the door and sees Belle standing outside, holding two big grocery bags close to her body.

ERICA

(takes the grocery bag from Belle)
Come in... Come in...

Rose adjusting the flowers on dining table.

INT. MATES' KITCHEN - LATER

Erica places the grocery bag on kitchen counter.

Belle starts to refill the nearly-empty food shelves and fridge, placing a can of spaghetti sauce, a bag of frozen mixed vegetables, a pack of minced meat on the kitchen counter.

Belle turns on the tap; fills pot with water.

BELLE

(pushes the spaghetti sauce towards Erica)

Open...

Erica, using the can-opener awkwardly; smiles and shrugs at Belle.

Belle moves the pot onto stove; places some spaghetti into the pot.

BELLE

It's time for you to learn cooking.

Belle heats up the pan; pour oil and stir fry chopped onion; mince meat and mixed vegetables, then the tomato sauce.

BELLE

How about cooking me a banquet next month, for me, on my birthday???

**ERICA** 

Oh... I can order take-away.

That, at least, is edible.

(smile wryly)

I do have something for you, something much better than my cooking.

Belle waves the spatula towards Erica, gesturing her to stir the ingredient inside the pot.

SUSIE

(shouting voice off-screen, from the living room)
I am back...

Susie enters the kitchen, bringing with her a box of pizza.

INT. MATES' LIVING ROOM - LATER

Almost empty plates, with only sauce remains; on the dining table.

Pizzas leftover in the pizza box on the low coffee table.

ERICA

(pointing at the few people who jumped from plane on TV)

Maybe we should try skydiving someday.

It will be fun...

BELLE

That sounds great. We should do it.

Rose pours the beer into the champagne glass and sips the beer, without saying any words. SUSIE

(slamming the can of beer on the low table)

No...

No...

Not me....

(shaking her head vigorously)

I... am afraid...

...of cold...

And I am afraid of ...

...height...

(shaking head while pointing at TV)

BELLE

Guess what, I am leaving Sim ...

I am leaving Sim...

(pouring the beer into her mouth)

Erica raises her thumb towards Belle.

ERICA

Will support you... with All... I.. Have...

(raising both her feet and her arms, and tumbles down from sofa onto the ground)

All four laugh out loud.

Erica sits up, opens another can of beer and the ladies toasts their can together, high up in the air.

INT. MATES' HOUSE - DAYTIME

Rose pulling a luggage from her room.

ROSE

(KNOCKING ON ERICA'S ROOM)

Erica???

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Rose waits for a few moments; shrugs when there is no respond.

She takes a pen and scribbles on the POST-IT notes.

(The cursive writing below were highlighted on the screen in bold bright color, as Rose scribbles)

Will be back in a week time.

Do remember to miss me.

Lots of Love, Rose

Rose removes the note from the bundles; on her way out, sticks it onto the board labeled 'THINGS TO REMEMBER' hung on wall.

INT. ROSE'S HOUSE - MORNING

ROSE

(enters kitchen)

Morning, Mom.

Rose's mom drying her hands with the hand towel.

ROSE'S MOM

Morning.

Going somewhere?

ROSE

(raises her eyebrow)

To accompany Joan to make final preparation before her BIG DAY next week, in the afternoon.

Mmm...

Guess will walk around the town in the morning.

(shrug)

To see if there is changes around the area.

Rose kisses her mom.

ROSE

(leaving the kitchen)

See you.

EXT. ROSE'S HOMETOWN WALKWAY - DAYTIME

Rose walks along the street way, then stops in front of a grocery store, pause for a moment; pushes open the door and enters the store.

INT. A GROCERY STORE - LATER

GROCERY OWNER

(to a customer)

Thank you. Please come again.

ROSE

Uncle Sam

GROCERY OWNER

(both hug)

Rose...

ERIC

Rose? You are back. Hi, Uncle Sam...

ROSE

(startles)

Eric...

ERIC

Yes, it's Eric..

Long time no see, nice to see you...

See, I've got to run.

(swiftly turns the other way round)

Joan's wedding???

I will see you there...

INT. ROSE'S ROOM - TIME IRRELEVANT

One by one, photos of girl, then photos of teenager, being placed on bed.

Photos of two kids, then two teenagers being shuffle.

The shuffling stops at the photo of two kids, dressed up as flower girl and boy.

The girl, in white shiny satin dress, with flowers hair-band, smile shyly holding a tiny flower bouquet.

The tiny gentleman, chin up, chest out; in black suit.

EXT. GRASSLAND - EVENING TIME

(FLASHBACK, IN BLACK AND WHITE)

A small hand extended down and a small hand from below held it tightly.

The boy seated on the tree trunk pulled the girl up and got her seated beside him.

THE GIRL

(eyes wide opened, at awed at the hue of sunset surrounding them)

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Wow...

The boy looked at the girl, smile.

Both seated on tree trunk, swinging their legs and enjoying the incredible view of nature.

EXT. FOREST - DAYTIME

(FLASHBACK, IN BLACK AND WHITE)

THE BOY

You can't catch me....

You can't catch me...

The girl ran behind the boy.

The boy looked behind at the girl.

THE GIRL

(Started to pant, stopped and looked pleadingly at the boy)

Can... we... rest?

For... a... while...

THE BOY

Faster...

THE GIRL

Eric, don't...

Wait for me...

THE BOY

Faster... faster...

The boy continued to run as the girl continued asking him to slow down and wait for her.

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All of the sudden, sound of something stumbled.

The boy slowed down, looked behind.

THE BOY

Rose?

No respond.

THE BOY

(raised his voice)

ROSE?

The boy started to run towards the girl's direction.

THE BOY

(shouting)

Rose???

(he slowed down)

Answer me

(continued shouting)

Where are you?

He stopped, looked around, trying to listen for any responses, until he heard some sound.

He listened more intently.

THE GIRL

Help...

THE BOY

(trailing along the direction of the voice)

Where are you?

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THE GIRL

Here...

THE BOY

I can't see you... Keep talking...

Until he saw a girl holding onto a bunch of grass, not far down the hill.

THE BOY

Hold on tight...

I am coming down to get you ...

Slowly the boy slided downhill, testing on whatever he used for holding by pulling onto it before holding onto it, then testing each step for its rigidness before he using it as a stepping step to move downhill.

THE BOY

(extending his hand upon reaching the girl)

Come...

Give me your hand...

The girl shook her head.

THE GIRL

(sobbing)

I am...

...scare...

THE BOY

I am here...

We will be alright...

Come...

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Your hand...

With one hand still holding onto the grass, the girl extended her other hand.

THE BOY

Yes...

Slowly...

The boy held her hand tight, pulled her close and gently pushed her uphill.

The boy then climbed uphill.

THE BOY

(looked at the girl, who was still sobbing)

We are alright...

We are alright...

Come...

(grabbed the girl's hand)

Let's go home...

And...

...where is your shoe?

(noticing one of her shoe is missing)

He looked around the area but could not locate her shoe.

The boy bended down, removed one of his shoe.

THE BOY

(slipped the shoe into her foot)

Wear this..

THE GIRL

(looked at the boy)

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How about you?

THE BOY

Me?

(slapping his chest)

I will be okay.

He placed the girl's arm over his shoulder.

They walked slowly.

Both trudged carefully along the well-treaded path.

Three shoes-fitted feet with one bare-foot plodded forward.

THE GIRL

(stopped)

I don't want to walk anymore.

THE BOY

We have to continue...

We are near...

The girl shook her head and continued to cry.

THE BOY

(looked at her)

Give me back my shoe ...

The girl stopped crying, shook her head and stared at the boy, wide-eyes.

The boy kneeled; removed the shoe and put it back onto his sore and bleeding foot.

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THE BOY

(then bended down)

Come on...

And there, with both shoes on feet, the boy carried the girl on his shoulder, dragging his feet along the trodden path.

INT - CHURCH - DAYTIME
(FLASHBACK, IN BLACK AND WHITE)

THE BRIDGE

I do...

THE PRIEST

(to the groom)

And you may kiss the bridge.

The wedding couple kissed.

The crowd clapped and did a standing ovation.

The girl was holding a small bundle of flower, smiling; with the boy stood proudly beside her.

EXT - GARDEN - DAYTIME

The guests were busy congratulating the newly-wed, helping themselves with the light-meal provided, catching up with friends and relatives, and socializing.

The girl was at awed with the ceremony.

THE BOY

(holding the girl's hand)

Come...

The boy led the girl to the side, where there were not much people around.

THE BOY

Gimme your hand...

The girl held out her hand, of which the boy got hold of.

The boy removed something from his pocket, slide it onto her finger.

THE BOY

Say 'I do...'

The girl looked at the finger with kids play ring, then at the boy.

THE BOY

Say 'I do...'

THE GIRL

(reluctantly)

I... do....

THE BOY

That's it, we will get marry when we grow up

THE GIRL

We... will get marry???

THE BOY

Yes, we will.

We will get marry so I can protect you for the rest of our life.

INT. (BACK TO) ROSE'S ROOM - TIME IRRELEVANT
Rose stares at the photo of the flower girl and flower boy.

Rose places the photo on top of the bunch of photos on bed.

Rose grabs and holds the pillow onto her lap; relax onto the bed board behind.

Rose slides her body down on bed, looks towards the ceiling above, and shakes her head while smiling.

EXT. WALKWAY - DAYTIME

Erica runs uphill with Hulk trailing behind.

Erica reaches the peak of the hill, wipes the sweats off her face; smiling as she waits for Hulk to catch up.

INT. BELLE AND SIM'S PLACES - TIME IRRELEVANT Belle places her books into the box.

Belle closes the box.

Belle looks around the room.

Belle presses her lip, takes a deep breath and signs.

INT. WEDDING BANQUET - EVENING

Rose looks at the wedding couple cutting the cake on podium as the guest cheers on.

Rose walks among the guests dancing on dance floor.

ROSE (approaching)

Eric

ERIC

(turns around)

Rose

(turns towards the group)

You guys remember Rose?

FEW GUYS

(TOGETHER)

Of course we do.

ONE OF THE GUYS

Oh... How could we forget.

The one and only princess am

The one and only princess among us, who will someday marry a prince charming and live happily ever after...

Rose waves her hand, smile and blushes as the group laughed.

A lady with a boy approaches.

ERIC

(as Eric turns to them)

And this, Rose, is my wife Connie and this, my son Steven.

CONNIE

(extends her hand)

Oh... Finally I get to meet you, heard a lot about you from Eric.

ROSE

Oh...

Your... wife? And... Son???

(turn to Eric)

I didn't know you were married.

Nice.. meeting.. you...

INT. ROSE'S ROOM (HOME) - LATER

Rose throws the clutch bag aside; then drops herself onto bed.

Rose stares blankly at the ceiling.

ROSE

Full moon...

Mirror...

Destined half...

(buries her head with pillow, shouting)

Aarrggg....

Hand phone RINGING.

Rose removes the pillow; fumbles around for her clutch.

Rose removes hand phone from her clutch, press to accept the call.

ROSE

Yaaa...

SUSIE

Rose, you at home?

ROSE

Yes, I am at home.

SUSIE

(snuffle at the other side)

Rose, listen, something... happened to Belle...

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Hand trembling; slowly, Rose releases her hand phone.

Rose curls herself up on bed.

EXT. CEMETARY - DAYTIME

Belle's family members weeping, surrounded with grieving friends and relatives.

Erica eyeing at the one with the loudest sob.

Sim wiping off his tears.

SIM

OH... my soul mate. We were meant to be together, planning to get married very soon...

Rose holding Erica's wrist, whom forms a fist with her hand, breathing heavily to keep her anger under control.

A butterfly rises from the casket flower spread.

Susie eyes follows the butterfly, which flies around and hovers for a moment, directly in front at the crowd eye level.

Susie looks around the crowd, who doesn't seem to notice the butterfly; her gaze follows the butterfly trail.

INT. MATE'S HOUSE, ROSE'S ROOM - TIME IRRELEVANT
Seated on bed, Rose takes the coughing syrup from the low table beside the bed, staring at it in silence.

INT. MATE'S HOUSE, BELLE'S ROOM - TIME IRRELEVANT

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Susie sits on floor leaning on wall.

Susie lowers her head in between her arms.

INT. BELLE'S HOUSE - AFTER THE FUNERAL

(FLASHBACK IN BROWNISH HUE)

Belle's family in the living room, with friends and relatives around trying to comfort them.

Rose, Erica and Susie were standing beside; listened in when a lady asked the family.

A LADY

What happened?

What actually happened that day?

No one spoke for a moment.

BELLE'S SISTER

She was trying to save a kid.

EXT. ALONG A STREET - DAYTIME

(FLASHBACK IN BLACK AND WHITE)

A lady was holding a kid, whom held a ball in his hand.

Hand phone rang.

The lady let go of the kid's hand; searched for hand phone in handbag.

THE LADY

Hello...

The ball slipped out of the boy's hand, rolled from the walkway onto zebra-crossing across the road.

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The little boy followed the ball.

A car swiftered toward the zebra-crossing.

Belle hugged the little boy.

Both were hit by the car; hurled away from the zebra-crossing.

The lady's attention shifted from her conversation toward the accident.

The car hit (CRUSH BANG) few cars parked along the roadside.

The lady ran towards both.

Belle, head bleeding; still hugging the little boy tightly around her arms.

THE LADY

(shouting and pleading)

CALL THE AMBULANCE.

Somebody, please...

...call the ambulance...

INT. (BACK TO) BELLE'S HOUSE - AFTER THE FUNERAL (FLASHBACK IN BROWNISH HUE)

Rose, Erica and Susie looked knowingly at one another, as if something Belle would have done.

BELLE'S MOM

I believe she would not have it any other way. If given another chance, she would have done the same thing.

BELLE'S MOM

(crumbling a handkerchief, hand on chest as if trying to grab her heart)

But the driver was drunk

The driver… was… intoxicated.

(tears rolled down her distorted face)

INT. (BACK TO) MATE'S HOUSE, BELLE'S ROOM - LATER (BACK TO THE PRESENT DAY, SCENE IN COLOR MODE)

Susie raises her head, with teary eyes, breathing heavily through her mouth.

She stares at the empty room, still covered with the same butterfly wallpaper.

INT. MATES' HOUSE - TIME IRRELEVANT

Erica sits on floor, nearby the main door, beside the shoes cabinet.

With the running shoes (gifted by Belle on her birthday) on her foot, wriggling her toes within.

She sobs, lowers her head onto her knee.

EXT. VIEW OF CITY - DAY AND NIGHT TIME

The EXT.MATE HOUSE, early in the morning, the old man walking his dog, fast forward, cars driving by, zoom out from bird eyes view showing \*(refer to below) the city's daily activities as the sun goes down and the gradual lighting up of the city with the movement of the vehicles' light moving faster and faster till it turns blur and forms a continuous unbreakable line showing the traces of the city traffic; the sky lightens up as the sun comes up and the daily activities \*(refer to above) repeats itself over and over in an increasingly speed until the screen turns blur...

INT. EXPO - DAYTIME

Erica sit quietly on a chair, stare blankly into distant.

People approach the booth; Erica rises to serve them.

INT. WEDDING DRESS SHOP - DAYTIME

Rose fumbling through some papers.

Rose attention shift from the paper when the curtain is being push aside revealing the bridegroom in wedding dress behind.

INT. SUSIE'S WORKPLACE - DAYTIME

Slowly, Susie uses her elbow in applying pressure on the client's upper back.

EXT. VIEW OF CITY - DAY AND NIGHT TIME

City's daily activities \*(refer to above) in reverse order, decreasing speed zooming in mate's house surrounding then freezes at EXT. MATE HOUSE. The sky gradually turns dark as the night approaches.

INT. BAR - NIGHT TIME

Rose, sitting on the bar chair, sipping tequila.

INT. BOXING GYM - NIGHT TIME.

Erica wearing protective gloves, continually punches at the punching bag.

INT. MATE HOUSE - NIGHT TIME.

Susie is knitting.

INT. BAR - NIGHT TIME

Rose dancing on the dance floor.

INT. BOXING GYM - NIGHT TIME.

ERICA

(Erica sweating, punches the punching bag with all might, screaming)

ARRGG...

(punching bag's surface sinking in)

INT. MATE HOUSE - NIGHT TIME.

Susie pulls the knitting thread, cut it off and pull off the excess.

Susie spreads out her completed knitting.

EXT. WALKWAY - NIGHT TIME

Rose, holding a small bottle of vodka, walking among the crowd; group of friends, family, couples...

Rose looks at the building walls with light showing, with crowd shouting...

5

4

3

2

1

Crowd CHEERING, shouting HAPPY MILLENIUM/NEW YEAR ...

INT. BOXING GYM - NIGHT TIME.

Erica curling on floor, sobbing.

INT. BELLE'S ROOM - NIGHT TIME.

Susie sitting on bed, caressing a colorful butterfly shape scarf.

INT. SUSIE'S ROOM - TIME IRRELEVANT

Susie towel dry her hair on bed.

Susie stares at her hand phone; takes the hand phone from the bedside table.

Phone number browsing stops at Pete number, Susie presses DIAL.

PHONE

Hello

SUSIE

Pete?

PHONE

(silence)

•••

SUSIE

Hello...

PHONE

This is Andrew. May I know who is calling?

Susie takes a look at her hand phone, screen showing Pete name.

SUSIE

Did I dial the wrong number? Is this not Pete hand phone???

ANDREW

SILENCE...

...Actually....

Yes...

This is Pete hand phone.

But as I know, he had not been using this number for the past 3 years.

SUSIE

Oh... Really...

He gave me his name card with this number printed on it not long ago...

ANDREW

•••

May I know who is on the line?
Maybe we can find a time to meet up?

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAYTIME

Susie enters the coffee shop, looks around and sees a guy rising from a chair as their eyes meet.

ANDREW

Susie?

Susie nods.

Both shakes hand.

SUSIE

You are?

ANDREW

Andrew, Pete's twin brother, Andrew.

Susie staring at Andrew, trying to find similarity between him and Pete.

ANDREW

No... we don't look very much alike...

SUSIE

No...

(shaking her head)

Don't think I will recognize his face ...

It was Halloween and he was wearing costume...

(hand waving in front of her face)

Covering his faces and everything...

ANDREW

(pull the chair)

Please, take a seat.

The waitress approaches to take order.

SUSIE

Fresh orange juice

ANDREW

Pete...

you mentioned you meet up with him not long ago?

(paused)

I'm sorry. It's just...

(shaking his head)

It's just not possible...

He died three years ago.

Susie stares at him with disbelief.

INT. A ROOM - DAYTIME

(MEMORY FLASHBACK - BLACK AND WHITE)

Pete was standing in front of a mirror; adjusting his necktie.

A FRIEND

(popping his head into the room)

Come on, handsome, you don't want to be late on your wedding day, do you?

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PETE

(took a last look at the mirror, grabbed the jacket on bed,
 placed it over his forearm and left the room)
 COMING...

INT. A CAR - SAME DAY, LATER

LAUGHTER can be heard from the car on which Andrew was driving, with friend on the passenger seat, and Pete at the back.

Pete tapped Andrew on his back.

PETE

We promise...

...we promise we will find you your other half, very soon.

(PAUSE)

It had been 5 years.

If Claire is still around, she would have wanted you to be happy.

Not to montion a mon would be great for

Not to mention a mom would be great for George.

Andrew remained silence.

As the car approached the traffic light, the light turned green; Andrew continued the car without stopping.

From the side of the traffic, came a heavy-duty truck which crash into their car.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAYTIME

(BACK TO THE PRESENT DAY, SCENE IN COLOR MODE)

ANDREW

It had been three years, yet it felt like yesterday

SUSIE

I am...

...so sorry to hear...

ANDREW

(shakes his head, red eyes)

People say time heals.

It does not ...

... it never will.

(looks deeply into Susie eyes)

eventually we have no choice but to accept it as part of life.

Then...

...it becomes part of us...

And then...

- ... it becomes ...
- ... who we are...

As Andrew picks up the coffee on the table, Susie notices the birthmark on his left hand.

INT. A BOOK SHOP - EVENING
(MEMORY FLASHBACK - BLACK AND WHITE)

PETE

Two people would inscribe same marking, on same part of their body when they die, so they could recognize each other and continue their journey in their next life.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - (BACK TO) DAYTIME

Susie raises her hand and there it is; a similar clover birthmark on her right hand.

There they are, sitting in silent, seemingly lose in their own thought, among the crowd of customers in the coffee shop.

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EXT. SEASIDE - DAYTIME

People sunbathing on towel.

Large umbrella poles shading people; and empty chairs.

A group of teenagers playing volleyball.

Individual, families playing in water; people swimming in the sea.

A row of people pulling a kayak towards the beach; Rose, Susie and Erica among them.

EXT. SEASIDE - EVENING

Erica waves goodbye towards the group of teenagers who continued playing volleyball, to join Susie and Rose.

Susie, exhausted as she lays herself flat and lifelessly on beach towel.

Rose, lying flat on stomach, twisting and curling her body up, with both her hand holding both foot.

INT. MATES' KITCHEN - TIME IRRELEVANT

Out of nowhere, a hand approaches a bowl of pineapple.

One hand slapping causing the other hand to withdraw.

Slowly, the hand approaches the bowl again.

Another quick slapping.

ERICA

You want to help?

A young lady in gothic dress and make up shakes her head.

ERICA

(smiling)

Then don't be a big mouse...

Slowly, the young lady leaves the kitchen.

Erica smiling, shaking her head.

Erica places the cheese; layered with tomato sauce, sliced bell pepper and sauté vegetables, on top of the pizza crust.

A CLING from the oven; Erica removes the chocolate cake and places the small size pizza pan into the oven, adjusting the timing knob on the oven.

Using a table knife, she slides the knife along the side of the cake pan; places a plate on top of the cake pan.

With kitchen mitt over her hand; Erica flips the pan over, removes the pan, and leaving the cake on the plate.

Erica moves the used kitchen utensil from the counter top into the sink; returns all ingredients to places; wipes and clear out the counter top.

Erica starts cleaning the dishes in sink.

INT. MATES LIVING ROOM - AT THE SAME TIME
Rose arranges the cutlery on table, places the swan-shaped
folded-napkin on plate, adjusting the flower at the centre of
the dining table.

INT. MATES' KITCHEN - LATER

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Erica slices the cake into two layer; places a layer of cherry filling in between

Erica spreads a layer of whipping cream over the cake; placing cherry on the edge.

Erica cut off the tip of the piping bag.

Tip of piping bag being raises from the cake leaving a curly raised-tail cream behind.

Smiling with pride, Erica looks at the cake with the wording 'Celebrating Life' at the center.

EXT. IN A PLANE UP IN THE AIR - DAYTIME
A person leaps out of plane into the air below.

ROSE

(shouting)

Let me go first.

Erica nods her head vigorously.

Rose leaps out of the plane.

Erica then looks at Susie.

SUSIE

(shouting)

You first.....

ERICA

(shouting)

You sure?

Susie nods, then shakes her head.

Erica pats Susie on shoulder.

Susie approaches the door, takes a deep breath, leap out the plane.

Erica smiling chin to chin, SHOUTING as she leaps into the air.

EXT. LUSH GARDEN - DAYTIME (ON SCREEN: YEARSSS LATER)

Erica soothes the dress of a flower girl.

ERICA

(to the flower girl)

You know what to do when the bride and bridegroom arrive, don't you?

THE FLOWER GIRL

(nodding)

Me and Carol will walk in front of the bride and scatter flower petals as we walks.

ERICA

(pats girl on head)

Good girl.

Just remember the rehearsal that day and do according to what you have practiced.

Erica hugs the little girl before she run away to join the other flower girls nearby.

THE LADY

(approaches Erica)

Er...

You the one who give self-defense demonstration in Sunbright Elementary school?

ERICA

I believe so.

If there was not any other similar demonstration given there.

And you are?

THE LADY

This is my daughter.

I don't think you recognize her.

(looking at the little girl standing shyly beside her)

She attended your demo and come home telling me how you keep emphasizing the important of self-protection, which I think is just... amazing.

So, do you provide coaching somewhere?
Or you could suggest a place or club where kids like her age can join in order to learn more.

ERICA

Oh sure...

(fumbling through her cling bag)

Me and my husband run a martial art centre.

(hands her a name card)

Not in city centre thought.

We do have an association which includes a list of martial art centre around the country, you can check online

(pointing at the name card)

Not a lot of them accept young kids of her age thought.

But you can always check with them.

Or convince few more parents to send their little girls as well.

If there are enough participants, I believe most are more willing to open a class just for it.

But do go and visit the place, have a look around, speak with the instructor.

Make sure you feel comfortable in trusting your kid with them.

THE LADY

Thank you so much.

ERICA

You are most welcome.

The little girl keep turning her head to look at Erica, smiling shyly as her mom lead her away.

Rose comes up from behind.

ROSE

Why wouldn't you just ask them to come to H&E? Your Hulk & Erica Centre???

ERICA

You know our centre is far away from town and they may not live nearby.

Better if they can find a place that is closer, save the time not to mention save the environment.

ROSE

But the way that little girl looks at you, she really adore you.

Erica

I don't want her to adore me.

I would rather have her build up her selfesteem, through self-love, and have her adore herself more.

ROSE

Precisely, that makes you the perfect coach for her. She needs more than someone who teaches her how to protect herself, physically; she needs someone with the best intention for her in mind.

Rose nods at Erica with raised eyebrows, of which Erica just shrugs and smiles it off.

EXT. LUSH GARDEN - LATER All guests seated.

A middle aged guy walking the bride along the aisle towards the bridegroom waiting on podium.

CLERGY

Do you, George, take Jane as your lawfully wedded wife,

to love, cherish, through joy and sorrow, sickness and health,

and whatever challenges you may face, for as long as you both shall live?

**GEORGE** 

Yes, I do.

CLERGY

(turned to the bride)

Do you, Jane, take George as your lawfully wedded husband,

to love, cherish, through joy and sorrow, sickness and health, and whatever challenges you may face, for as long as you both shall live?

JANE

I do...

EXT. LUSH GARDEN - LATER

A FLOWER GIRL

Aunt Susie, Aunt Rose, Dad, Mom.

Hulk picks her up, kisses her cheek and leaves the ladies alone.

SUSIE

She is a healthy little girl.

ERICA

(in loose Qipao shirt and trousers)
Yes, she is. We are lucky. I was not young when I have her.

The three remains silence, watching Hulk and the little girl from afar.

Erica looks at her radiant mom, in light make-up, dancing with a Caucasian guy.

ERICA

You know, being a mom myself allow me to really relate to my own mom.

Wanting our kids to be happy by being who they are,

yet, at the same time,

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incessantly worry whether they would be accepted by their peers and the society.

ROSE

So it is important to tell them, since they are very young that people who love them...

(Susie joins and together they continues)

... will love them for who they are, no matter what.

The three ladies smile.

AN AFICAN AMERICAN LADY (approaches Rose, holding her hand) (looks around)

A joyful event.

ROSE

(looks around)

Yes, a joyful event, indeed

Rose looks into the lady's eyes lovingly; moves her face close and gently kisses the lady.

EXT. LUSH GARDEN - LATER

The bridegroom and bride approaches the group.

THE BRIDEGROOM (hugs Andrew)

Dad

THE BRIDE (kisses Susie)

Mom

## THE BRIDGEGROOM (hugs Erica)

Aunt Erica, thanks a lot for the wedding cakes.

SUSIE

(look towards a cake)

Who would have know a tomboy who had no idea how to cook even an omelet could master a 3 layer 9 inches high cake, with such stunning decoration.

Everyone laughed.

The bridge hugs Erica.

Erica holding the bride's hand.

ERICA

(pointing at her hand then Susie's)

It's... similar...

THE BRIDE

The birthmark?

Isn't it surreal?

I remember the first time I saw it on their hand, I have this feeling that we are meant to be a family.

Susie looks at Andrew and sees him looking at her. Both smile knowingly, without the need for further words.

Andrew and Susie lock their hand, then raises it to show everyone the same marking on Susie and Andrew hand.

ANDREW

This ...

(looks at the birthmark, to everyone surprise) ... I used to hate it.

Everyone holding their breathe.

## ANDREW

What???

It's a clover, a flower, what a girlish thing. If it is a skull or something, it will at

least make me feel more macho $\dots$ 

(flexing his other hand's bicep as to show off his muscle, causing everyone to laugh)

But then I love it, I love it when I realized THIS,

(raising their clasped hand higher, pointing at the birthmark on both hand)

is what bring our family together.

The group smile looking at the birthmark being shown.

On the table nearby, a butterfly hovers over a flower on the table catches Erica's attention.

Erica looks around, her eyes meet Susie's; smiling knowingly Susie returns her gaze toward the butterfly of which Erica's eyes follow suit.

The butterfly flutters around.

Erica looks at the butterfly; touching the butterfly bracelet previously bought as birthday gift intended for Belle.

The butterfly slowly rises upward towards the sky.

Up above, distant away, a butterfly-shaped iridescent cloud floating in the sky.

(TYPEWRITTEN on screen, alphabet by alphabet, the following)

. . .

we have come to love and lost.

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