

Screenplay

SCREENPLAY - ELIZABETH GREENHALGH Z3416774

"WHAT CAN I SAY?"

1. PHONE CALL

FADE IN

CLOSE UP of a telephone as JENNIFER FORD comes home through the front door. We see her hand as she presses the answering machine button.

SAMANTHA JAMES ON MESSAGE BANK

Hello Jennifer, Samantha here.
Tamara is desperate to get her princess dresses back. Give me a call and let me know when I can come by. Thanks.

Jennifer looks confused, and stops for a moment. She thinks back to yesterday with a perplexed look, and gasps as she realises that she has made a terrible mistake.

FADE OUT

2. THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY - PICK UP

TITLE - "2 DAYS AGO"

JENNIFER FORD is picking up her children from a costume party. We see her arrive at the James' house in her old, red Volvo sedan, and walk along the front path, passing the small fountain on the lawn. She is wearing only very casual clothes - jeans and a white T-shirt, her brown hair down to her shoulders. She feels slightly irritated by the ostentatious nature of the house, as she cautiously tip-toes over the sandstone path towards the double front door with a gold handle.

She knocks on the door and it is opened by SAMANTHA JAMES, who is dressed in a floral flared dress, with her blonde hair swept up into a perfect up-do. Her two daughters, a year apart, appear from behind Samantha with Samantha's daughter, Tamara. They are dressed differently from the they were when Jennifer dropped them off. They are now dressed as princesses; in lavish gowns which look quite expensive.

SAMANTHA JAMES

Oh hello there, Jennifer. You are looking very nice I see - a nice, sort of ...relaxed look! I hope you

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SAMANTHA JAMES (cont'd)
don't mind, but your girls and my
daughter were trying on some of our
costumes, and I told them they
could wear them home!

JENNIFER
Oh that's not a prob-

SAMANTHA
Of course, you'll have to bring
them back to us tomorrow. My
daughter, Tamara, couldn't go for
long without those dresses! They
are so special to her - did you
know they were handmade for her
when we went to Europe last year?
Yes... Well, I'm not going to be at
home tomorrow during the day, so
you'll have to drop them off and
just leave them on the doorstep.
That would be suitable for me.
Would that be alright? Great. Ok,
ciao for now!

Never surprised by Samantha, Jennifer ushers her two daughters along the path. They get into their car and drive away.

3. YESTERDAY - DROP OFF

TITLE - "YESTERDAY"

In a series of shots, we see the mayhem of a weekday morning as JENNIFER gets the kids ready for school. Everyone seems to be running late. It is very loud, with the noise of the morning radio, kids laughing and screaming, kettles boiling, phones ringing, and paper rustling.

Jennifer picks up two bags tied at the handles as they move out the door.

As the three of them come out the front door and walk towards their car in the driveway, we see a LONG SHOT of their house - a sweet, cream coloured house, with navy shutters and a white weather-beaten eave. The two daughters run towards the car and jump into the back seat. As she is instructing her two children in the back of the car to be quiet and do their seatbelts up, she picks up one of tied bags and throws it into the garbage bin at the gate. Checking her watch, she gets into the car, and reverses out of the driveway.

(CONTINUED)

Time passes, and we see Jennifer getting back into the car after she has dropped off her two daughters at school. Jennifer pulls up at SAMANTHA'S house to drop off the bag of costumes tied at the handle. Jennifer gets the bag from the seat next to her, walks down the front path, past the fountain, and places the bag on the front doorstep, remembering that Samantha is out. She turns and walks back down the front path towards the car, and then drives away.

Looking into the car from the windscreen, we can see her turn on the radio, and start to sing along to the song playing in a relaxed and carefree way.

CUT TO A LONG SHOT of Jennifer's house as the garbage truck comes along the road and empties her garbage bin that was out on the street. We can see the bag with the tied handle fall into the back of the truck.

CUT BACK TO JENNIFER as she continues to drive along looking carefree.

The screen FADES TO BLACK and the song comes to an end and fades out. As the screen FADES IN we can see that it is evening, and we are outside SAMANTHA'S house. SAMANTHA parks her Mercedes four-wheel-drive in the garage and walks towards the front door. We can hear her footsteps as she walks along the path in her expensive high-heels. She sees the bag left on her doorstep from Jennifer. She picks up the bag and opens the tied handles...

SAMANTHA

Oh...

Samantha looks horrified with what's inside.

FADE OUT

4. PRESENT DAY

TITLE - PRESENT DAY

The screen stays black, but we can hear JENNIFER on the phone, attempting to contact SAMANTHA.

SAMANTHA

Hello?

JENNIFER

Hi Samantha, it's Jennifer Ford here...

THE END