

EXT- AT A PARK IN THE MORNING

There are several kids ranging from 9-12 running around in a park chasing each other and laughing. Parents are chatting at a distance while watching the kids. MATT, one of the boys in the group, is seen dressed in muted and dark colors. His clothes are simple compared to the other children who are dressed in bright, expensive church clothing. MATT spots a little girl, CHRISSY standing underneath a tree under the shade. He stops playing with the other kids, and runs over to the her. He picks up a little yellow flower growing alone on a log nearby and hands it over to her. She picks the flower, sniffs it, and smiles. MATT extends his hand, she takes it and he leads her over to play with the other kids. They continue to laugh and play and chase each other. MATT catches a glimpse of CHRISSY smiling with the yellow flower now in her hair. She smile back at MATT.

INT.- IN A DARK BEDROOM

MATT all of the sudden jerks up from his bed, sitting in silence. The time on his alarm clock reads 4:14 a.m. He lays back down and turns his head to look at his alarm clock. He closes his eyes.

INT.- IN THE KITCHEN- DAY

MATT enters the kitchen and grabs a seat at the kitchen table. His mom, JANICE, is cooking on the stove. His dad, STEVE, is on the kitchen table reading the newspaper, and his sister, STEPHANIE, is sitting on the table eating cereal and browsing Instagram on her phone.

JANICE

Good morning, honey.

MATT

(Still groggy)

Morning.

STEVE

Did you make your bed?

STEPHANIE

I'm going to have to guess a big fat no.

MATT

Who asked you, anyways?

STEPHANIE
Shut up, booger.

STEVE
I'm going to ask one more time. Did
you make your bed?

MATT
No.

STEVE
March yourself back upstairs and make
your bed before you can eat breakfast.

JANICE
Everyone calm down. Here you go honey,
pancakes and bacon. You can make your
bed after breakfast.

JANICE puts a plate of pancakes and bacon in front of MATT.
He pours himself a glass of milk and begins to eat. There is
tension between everyone in the table, which is expressed by
the silence and how everyone ignores each other, all except
for JANICE who tries to make conversation.

JANICE
How did everyone sleep last night?

STEPHANIE
MATT was making noise in his sleep
again last night.

MATT
I was not!

STEPHANIE
Yeah you were. You kept laughing for
hours in your room.

STEVE
Who did you sneak in your room last
night?

MATT
No one was in my room! I was not
laughing! Leave me alone!

JANICE
Alright everyone calm down. Matt
honey, anything you want to tell us.

MATT
No, okay?

JANICE nods and continues to eat. Everyone else resumes to their activity. STEVE reading his newspaper. STEPHANIE on her cellphone, and MATT to his breakfast. JANICE watches everyone in their own world.

EXT. BACKYARD- DAY

In a flashback home video of STEPHANIE, MATT, JANICE, and STEVE are playing outside in a kiddie pool. STEPHANIE is seen splashing in the kiddie pool, while JANICE is holding baby MATT as he splashes around in the water. STEVE is holding the video camera.

INT. IN THE LIVING ROOM

MATT walks in to JANICE watching past family home videos.

JANICE
Come here, honey.

MATT walks over and sits next to JANICE. She embraces him and holds him next to her as they watch the home movies.

JANICE
You were so cute when you were a baby.
And you grew into such a handsome
young man.

In the home video, baby MATT is starting to walk.

You matured faster than most boys. I remember one time your dad's brother came to stay with us for a few weeks after him and his ex-wife Jen got separated. Remember? You were barely 6 at the time. You gave him a list of chores to do and told him that he had to earn his keep. Those were your words exactly. We didn't even know where you learned that from.

MATT and JANICE sat there in silence.

JANICE
(Obviously apologetic)
Honey, we want to take you to the
doctor again.

MATT
Mom, I'm getting better--

JANICE
I know sweetie. Your dad and I have
been talking and we decided that we
should go just one more time. Just so
we can make sure you are getting
better.

MATT
I told you I am getting better! I know
it was that man you married who wants
me gone. He wants to put me in a
hospital so he doesn't have to worry
about me every again!

JANICE
Matthew, that man is your father. You
know he loves you.

MATT
(Growing increasingly hysterical)
He doesn't love me! None of you love
me! You all just want to put me away
again! Admit it! You want me gone and
out of your lives. Maybe I should just
do you a favor and leave. Fuck, fuck,
fuck, fuck, fuck.

MATT begins to hit himself in the head and pace back and forth while screaming "fuck". JANICE tries to hold MATT and hug him as he screams to calm him down. STEVE rushes in from a different room and sees MATT screaming and hitting himself. STEVE grabs MATT and begins to drag him upstairs to his room.

JANICE
(Shouting)
Steve, that's not how the doctor told
us to handle it!

STEVE
Fuck what the doctor says. This kid is
crazy.

JANICE
He's not! He's our son!

STEVE carries MATT upstairs as he screams and holds him down so he doesn't hit himself. JANICE is screaming and crying running behind the other two. STEPHANIE is seen downstairs looking at the scene in horror. STEVE opens MATT's bedroom door.

INT. IN MATT'S ROOM

STEVE carries MATT in and props him on his bed. MATT still trying to hit himself and screaming "fuck" over and over hysterical as JANICE screaming behind the two for them to stop.

STEVE
Stop screaming! What do you want from me?

STEVE shakes MATT violently and slaps him. MATT stares back at STEVE and spits at his face.

JANICE
Stop it! Please!

STEVE gives MATT a disgusted look. He walks out of the room. JANICE tried to grab STEVE and he shakes her off as he walks out of the room.

JANICE
(Looking at MATT still crying)
Baby, please.

MATT turns around and faces the other way on his bed.

JANICE
Lord, please help our family.

JANICE walks out of the room and closes the door. MATT starts thrashing around in his bed. He lets out a loud raspy scream. He continues to scream until he finds his iPod and starts playing "Dream a Little Dream of Me" the Ella Fitzgerald version. He slowly begins to calm down and eventually closes his eyes.

EXT- AT A PARK- PARK BENCH- DAY

MATT is sitting down on the park bench holding an iPod listening to music alone swinging his legs back and forth.

CHRISSEY, still wearing the yellow flower on her hair walks up and sits next to MATT. He ignores her as she inches closer. Eventually he realizes CHRISSEY is not leaving, so he takes off his headphones.

CHRISSEY

Don't you look like you're having fun sitting here. I figured I would join in the fun.

MATT

Leave me alone.

CHRISSEY

Not with that attitude I won't.

MATT ignores her.

CHRISSEY

My name is Chrissy.

MATT continues to ignore her.

CHRISSEY

This is where you tell me your name.

MATT

Go bother someone else.

CHRISSEY

Wow, your parents must have been dark hippy Indians to name you that. How, my name is Go-Bother-Someone-Else from the Tongue-n-Cheek tribe.

MATT chuckled quietly to CHRISSEY's joke.

CHRISSEY

It lives! Does it have a name, though?

MATT

Matt.

CHRISSEY

Well, very nice to meet you, Matt. Thank you for my flower earlier. Yellow is my favorite color.

MATT

You're welcome.

CHRISSY
What are you listening to?

 MATT
 (Sarcastically)
Music.

 CHRISSY
 (Sarcastically back)
No way! Music? From an iPod? What are
those people going to think of next?

 MATT
 (Amused at CHRISSY's persistence)
My grandmother used to play a bunch of
jazz from the 50s all the time when I
spent my summers with her in Arizona.
She died a few of years back.

 CHRISSY
I'm sorry to hear she died. What
happened?

 MATT
She was old. And she smoked a lot.
Usually not a good combination. She
got cancer and just died.

MATT and CHRISSY sit in silence for a moment.

 CHRISSY
 (Not speaking remorsefully)
My Poppy died a few years ago too.
After my Gran-gran died, he started to
drink again. I think it was Sunday
after church, we found him on his bed
all purple. He smelled really bad.
There was an empty bottle of whiskey
next to his body. Doctors said he died
alcohol poisoning.

 MATT
Why are you telling me this?

 CHRISSY
To show you you're not the only one
with a sob story.

 MATT
 (Starting to get defensive)
It's not a sob story!

CHRISSY

Okay then.

They continue to sit there in silence for a bit more. MATT puts his headphones back on. At the time the sun is beginning to set. CHRISSY slides his headphones off.

MATT

Yes?

CHRISSY

I love when the sun starts to turn orange when it goes down behind that hill over there. Did you know that eventually one day the sun is going to die? It actually is going to get so big that it's going to burn up the Earth and kill us all? That's such an amazing way to die. It really puts that saying in perspective, "If I go down, I'm taking you all down with me."

MATT slowly looks at CHRISSY as if she's a tad bit crazy.

MATT

That's...kind of dark.

CHRISSY smiles.

CHRISSY

Here, come with me.

CHRISSY takes MATT's hand and they start walking past the park to some cliffs overlooking an ocean.

EXT. CLIFFS OVERLOOKING OCEAN- DUSK

MATT

It's so beautiful.

CHRISSY

I come here to think sometimes. Do you see those rocks down there? One jump from this cliff and you fall straight on those rocks. And as you lay there with your blood oozing out of your wounds, the ocean just washes it all away. And eventually it takes your body with you. It doesn't care who you are. It just swallows you whole.

MATT

Aren't you ever scared of falling and never being heard from again?

CHRISSEY

Can I tell you a secret? Sometimes I hope I do. Actually I don't think death is all that bad. Having the ocean welcome me with open arms. Sometimes I walk as close to the edge as possible and hope that part of this cliff collapses and takes me with it.

MATT

You mean, you want to kill yourself?

CHRISSEY

I don't think of it as killing myself. That is a selfish way to think. In life we are mortal, in death we are immortal. I just want the one that lasts forever.

CHRISSEY walks dangerously close to the edge of the cliff. She playfully pretends to be about to jump the cliff backwards. MATT, thinking she is about to jump, quickly grabs her, and the two of them fall backwards, MATT on his back, and CHRISSEY on top of him, facing him. She starts laughing.

MATT

(Realizing she was joking)
Sorry, I thought you were about to jump.

CHRISSEY

I'm glad I didn't.

MATT pushes her off of him. She rolls over and sits down at the edge of the cliff.

CHRISSEY

Sit with me.

MATT, a little leery of sitting at the edge of a cliff, decides to go ahead and sit next to her. CHRISSEY then proceeds to hold MATT's hand. MATT looks down at their hands, and then at CHRISSEY, and then out toward the ocean as the sun begins to set. In a dark, orange sky, CHRISSEY kisses MATT on the cheek. MATT gives a little smile, and looks down at the rocks crashing in the ocean. He looks very euphoric as if he has just made the best decision in his life.

MATT
(Whispering to himself)
And if I die before I wake, I pray the
Lord my soul to take.

MATT releases CHRISSY's hand and jumps off the cliff. CHRISSY looks at down as MATT begins to fall, but it doesn't phase her. She just smiles watching MATT get closer and closer to the rocks below.

INT.- IN MATT'S BEDROOM- DARK

MATT jerks up from bed. The alarm clock next to his bedroom read 4:14 a.m. He looks confused as to why he's in his bedroom. MATT is starting to realize he's having a recurring dream. As he lays back down on his bed, he touches his cheek where his dream girl kissed him. There is a very very dim outline of a kiss on his cheek in the reflection of a mirror in his bedroom, but only on the reflection. He turns his head over at the alarm clock, and closes his eyes.

INT. PSYCHIATRIST WAITING ROOM

MATT, STEVE, and JODY sit at a waiting room waiting for their appointment with their psychiatrist. The room is bland with wooden walls and mismatched wooden furniture. There's a water cooler with no paper cups and a big poster that reads, "A smile goes a mile." The receptionist, CASS, is behind a desk in the corner, and there are a two other people waiting to see the psychiatrist.

CASS THE RECEPTIONIST
The doctor will see you now. Please
follow me.

MATT, STEVE, and JODY follow the receptionist down a long corridor. The receptionist opens one of the many doors.

INT. PSYCHIATRIST'S OFFICE

CASS THE RECEPTIONIST
Dr. Galloway, your two o'clock is
here. The Milton's.

DR. GALLOWAY
Thank you.

DR. GALLOWAY is a psychiatrist in her late 60s. She has a calm and soothing voice, and avoids any overt facial expressions