

DECISIONS
BY SUNNY BOOKMAN

EXT. FRONT OF THE HOUSE - MORNING

KID (V.O.)

Trust, infidelity, betrayal, hypocrisy.
Well I thought I was too young to really
understand all these.

(beat)

Well, until one fateful day.

From the porch window a cab can be seen stopping in front of the house. The driver comes out of the car and walks to the rear of the car. He takes out baggage from the trunk. Some toys can be seen hanging off the baggage. He puts it on the walkway and gets back to the driver side of the car. He stands there, leaning on the driver side door, waiting.

INT. LIVING ROOM

DENNIS enters the frame with a slice of bread in his mouth, shoes in both of his hands and walking backwards drops in the sofa. He leans down to put on the shoes.

DENNIS

Lisa! I'm late. I don't have time for
breakfast.

LISA

(In a pleading tone)

Honey! I already made the breakfast, if
you're not going to eat it, at least
take it with you!

Dennis, with his shoes now on, walks towards the kitchen. As he leaves through the kitchen Lisa walks behind him with a brown bag.

EXT. REAR OF HOUSE

Dennis opens the car door and sits in the driver seat. Lisa gives him the bag and kisses goodbye. The car pulls out of the driveway with Lisa happily watching Dennis leave.

EXT. FRONT OF THE HOUSE

The cab's back door opens. A kid slowly gets out of the car. A woman kisses the kid goodbye. The cab drives away leaving the child alone on the sidewalk.

Dissolve to:

INT. BEDROOM

Lisa lies in bed, reading a magazine about raising children. A breeze gently moves the curtains of

her four post bed. Light music is playing in the background.

The doorbell rings.

Lisa is so engrossed in the magazine she doesn't notice the bell. The bell rings again. Ding, dong. Ding, dong.

Lisa, irritated, drops the magazine and gets off the bed. As she gets to the bedroom door; the bell rings again.

Ding, dong. Ding, dong.

LISA
Yes! Coming.

INT. HALLWAY

Lisa walks towards the living room. She feels as if someone is watching her from the patio window.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Lisa walks to front patio window, moves the curtain and sees a child standing in the porch.

She opens the door.

LISA
Yes dear, how can I help you?

The child silently, pulls out of her pocket a letter and hands it to Lisa. Lisa takes the letter which has Dennis' name on the envelope.

INT. FOYER

Lisa opens the door.

LISA
Come in.

The girl drags her bag into the house.

LISA
Please sit.

The kid sits on the sofa. Lisa walks towards bedroom. As Lisa walks by the kid, the girl fidgets anxiously.

INT. BEDROOM

Lisa looks at the letter and then drops it on the desk. She pulls the chair and sits staring at the

letter. Her face gradually becomes more and more tense. She takes a sip of water; picks up a letter opener & cuts the letter open and reads its contents. She drops the letter and hangs her head in disbelief.

For a moment she does not know what to do, but the very next moment she raises herself from the chair in rage and stomps towards the bedroom door.

INT. FOYER

The sound of a door slamming is heard. The child is shaken. Her nervousness has changed into fear. Lisa walks hurriedly towards the child.

LISA

You piece of shit. Get out of my house.

Lisa pulls the child by her arm with one hand and drags her suitcase with the other. Lisa pushes the girl out of the house and throws her after. She slams the door closed.

EXT.PORCH

The suitcase has fallen apart with the child's clothes and toys scattered. One of her toys sings.

SINGING TOY (V.O.)
Life is beautiful. Da, di, da.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Lisa sinks to the floor, her back pressed against the closed door with tears rolling down her face.

EXT. PORCH

The child picks up her belongings, her toy still singing. The Kid picks up the toy shuts it off and sits on the porch with her head sunk in her knees.

dissolve to black:

INT. DINING ROOM.EVENING

Dennis' car comes to stop behind the dining room patio.

The doorbell rings but no one responds. Dennis goes to the kitchen door out back. He opens the door, drops his bag and walks towards the foyer. He switches the Outside light on doesn't see anything.

He sinks into the sofa. As a car passes by, the figure of the child can be seen peeping through

the window.

Dennis bends down to remove his shoes. He notices Lisa standing in front of him.

DENNIS

(looking at Lisa while continuing to his activity)
O' You're home! I didn't see you.

Lisa's eyes are red. She tightens her fist and slams her eyes shut. When she opens them her body is trembling in anger.

LISA

(in rage)
Who the fuck is Maya?

DENNIS

(taken by surprise)
What?

As the heated argument continues, their voices fade and the CAMERA FOCUSES on the girl who is watching from outside the window. As cars come and go she fades out and in from black.

Suddenly a sound of hard slap is heard. The CAMERA FOCUSES BACK on both of them.

Dennis' hand is on his cheek.

DENNIS

Yes! I was having a relationship with Maya. But that was a long time back. And I didn't know that Maya was pregnant until our marriage.

LISA

(She cries, turns back)
You.....All this time you have been living a double life!

She walks away from the front room and slams the bedroom door shut door. At the same time Dennis notices Liz on the porch. He immediately rushes towards the door and lets Liz in. Without saying a word to her, he takes her to the guest room.

Liz appears totally helpless.

Dennis sinks back into the sofa clueless.

Fade out to black:

INT. LIVING ROOM

Lisa walks out of the bedroom with a piece of luggage. As she comes towards the front room she notices Liz is standing at the guest bedroom door.

Afraid of Lisa, Liz briskly walks back into the room.

Lisa follows her into the room.

LISA

I am very sorry for what has happened to you and for what I did to you. You don't deserve any of this. It's not your fault.

Lisa walks towards the front door, teary eyes and shaking her head in disbelief.

DENNIS

(lost)
Lisa...

Lisa continues to walk towards the door ignoring Dennis.

EXT. FRONT DOOR - NIGHT

Lisa drops her luggage by the front door. She balls up the letter and throws it to the ground. She picks up her bag to leave.

INT. LIVING ROOM

LIZ

Please don't go.

EXT. FRONT DOOR - NIGHT

Lisa is frozen at the edge of the door.

LIZ (V.O.)

In one day I understood the real meaning of these words. Beat. By evening I was grown up person. I was changed forever.

fade out to black:

THE END