

SAME TIME NEXT WEEK

Written by

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Based on a story by Sean King

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1 EXT. CITY STREET - SUNSET 1

The sun is making an exit in the sky over the charming business district of a small city.

2 EXT. BUSINESS DISTRICT SIDEWALK - EVENING 2

SARAH CONRAD is walking down the lightly trafficked sidewalk of the business district. She's a wholesomely pretty young woman in her mid-twenties, who has a winning smile and a laugh that could make even the most hard of hearts soften a little. She has headphones in and is listening to a podcast with an instructor attempting to teach her how to speak Italian.

INSTRUCTOR (O.S.)  
Hello. *Ciao.*

SARAH  
*Ciao.*

INSTRUCTOR (O.S.)  
How are you? *Come va?*

SARAH  
*Come va?*

INSTRUCTOR (O.S.)  
I am fine. *Lo sto bene.*

SARAH  
(not very convincing)  
*Lo sto bene.*

Something across the street catches her eye and she stops.

Sarah digs into her purse and pulls out a piece of paper.

3 SARAH'S POV - CONTINUOUS 3

At the top of the paper are the words "SCOTT'S BUCKET LIST" and below that is a long list of things, some of which are scratched out but many of which are not. As we scan down the page a couple of things jump out. The first item on the list reads "Open a Bookstore." That has not been crossed out. "Bungee Jump" has been crossed out as complete. One of the items circled says "Learn Italian." Just a few below that is the one she was looking for. It says "Ride a Segway Scooter."

4 EXT. BUSINESS DISTRICT SIDEWALK - CONTINUOUS 4

Sarah looks up from the paper and then looks across the street again.

5 SARAH'S POV - CONTINUOUS 5

On the other side of the street is a colorful souvenir store - the kind you'd see in the tourist area of any city with t-shirts and the like. It's called "Big Smiles Souvenirs." Out in front is a banner that reads "See the City Differently!" and under it are some "different" modes of transportation - a couple of bicycles, a motor scooter, and, most importantly, a Segway scooter. All of them have "Rent Me" signs on them.

6 EXT. BUSINESS DISTRICT SIDEWALK - CONTINUOUS 6

Sarah takes a deep breath and crosses the street.

As she does, two people come down the sidewalk Sarah was just on, heading in the opposite direction Sarah was walking.

One of them is a young woman in her late twenties named BECKY, who is very pretty.

The other is RYAN MCCORMICK, a man in his late 20s who is handsome and under normal circumstances has an easy going nature that draws people in. Right now he looks like a guy caught in a bear trap who is considering chewing off his own arm.

BECKY

So then I was like, "Hi, this lipstick is called Passion Pink, not Fuchsia Face." Right? Ryan, am I right?

Ryan has no idea if she's right or not but he nods.

RYAN

Absolutely!

BECKY

I knew you'd get me. I'm so glad we finally got a chance to go out!

RYAN

(not enthusiastic)  
Yeah, I'm sorry my schedule has been so...

BECKY

Gloria has been raving about you. She's all like, "Becky, you have to meet Ryan. He's a doctor and he's soooo nice and sooo smart and sooo handsome." I'll have to thank her tomorrow.

RYAN

Yes, I'll be having a conversation with her about this as well.

Ryan looks like he wants to die as they keep walking down the sidewalk.

7 EXT. SOUVENIR STORE - MOMENTS LATER

7

A handsome man of about Sarah's age is arranging souvenir items on a stand outside the store. His name tag tells us that his name is JEFF.

SARAH

Hi.

JEFF

(plastic smile - points at name of business)

Hi. Welcome to Big Smile Souvenirs, home of the biggest smiles in town!

(rolls his eyes)

Sorry, they make us say that. I'm Jeff, what can I do for you?

SARAH

(points at Segway)

Well, I guess I want to rent this.

JEFF

You guess? You don't sound too excited about it.

SARAH

(forced)

No, I'm *really* excited.

JEFF

Oh yeah, I can tell.

(smiling - teasing)

Is someone forcing you to do this? They're, like, holding your dog hostage and you have to go deliver the ransom on a scooter?

SARAH  
 (smiles)  
 No, I promise. I am doing this of  
 my own free will.

JEFF  
 Okay. Because the first rule Big  
 Smiles Souvenirs is "Don't Smile If  
 You Don't Mean It!"

SARAH  
 (winces)  
 Do they make you say that, too?

JEFF  
 No, I just made that one up. It  
 sounded better in my head.

They both smile. Is there a little bit of flirting going on  
 here? Maybe in both directions?

8 EXT. BUSINESS DISTRICT SIDEWALK - CONTINUOUS

8

The date continues.

BECKY  
 The restaurant is right up here.  
 You are going to love it. The  
 sangria is to die for!

Becky stops suddenly, aghast.

BECKY (CONT'D)  
 Oh, Ryan... I am so sorry. That  
 was totally insensitive of me. Are  
 you okay?

RYAN  
 (confused)  
 I'm fine. Why are you sorry?

BECKY  
 Well, Gloria told me about how your  
 wife, you know...  
 (whispers)  
 Died...  
 (normal voice)  
 I am so totally stupid.

RYAN  
 You're not... totally stupid.  
 Don't worry about it. I didn't  
 even think of it that way.

BECKY  
 You're so brave. At least your  
 wife is in a better place.

She continues on toward the restaurant. Ryan closes his eyes  
 and shakes his head as he reluctantly follows.

9 EXT. SOUVENIR STORE - CONTINUOUS

9

Jeff and Sarah continue their conversation.

JEFF  
 Okay, all I need is a credit card  
 and we'll get you going.

SARAH  
 I can do that...

Sarah pulls out her wallet out of her purse. As she does,  
 the bucket list falls out. Jeff grabs it before it goes  
 flying away in the breeze.

JEFF  
 I got it.

As he hands it back he sees words at the page - it is folded  
 in such a way so that only "BUCKET LIST" is visible. His  
 smile fades quickly.

JEFF (CONT'D)  
 Oh...

Sarah realizes what he thinks.

SARAH  
 Oh, no. No, it's not my list. No,  
 I'm fine. It's my husband's list.  
 (beat)  
 Was my husband's list.

Jeff is instantly uncomfortable - any flirting that was  
 happening is completely gone now.

JEFF  
 Got it. Sorry. I mean... I'm  
 sorry for you. Not that I feel  
 sorry, but...

There is a painful pause between them.

JEFF (CONT'D)  
 Credit card?

SARAH

Right.

She hands him the card. He turns and starts to go inside. She looks like she wants to say something - wants to get back the lightness of the interaction they were having - but she realizes it is no use. The moment has passed and he is gone. She follows him inside.

10

EXT. BUSINESS DISTRICT SIDEWALK - CONTINUOUS

10

Ryan and Becky have reached the restaurant and are about to go in.

BECKY

You know, I totally believe that spirits, like, guide us. They're around, all the time so I think your wife is, like, here with us.

RYAN

(trying to joke)  
Should I ask for a table for three?

BECKY

(confused)  
Huh?

But before he can explain his pager goes off. He looks at it and tries not to be thrilled.

RYAN

Uh-oh... I'm sorry, but I'm going to go to the ER.

BECKY

Oh, no! Is it an emergency?

RYAN

(joking)  
Well, it's the emergency room so I'm thinking there's a good chance.

BECKY

(doesn't get the joke)  
I can't believe you're a doctor. I've never met a real doctor, before. I mean, I have, of course, just not outside of like a doctor's office, you know? Do you have to carry a stethoscope all the time?

(MORE)

BECKY (CONT'D)

You know, like how a cop has to  
always carry his gun even when he's  
not on duty?

RYAN

(one more joke)

No. But I do have to keep an EKG  
machine in the trunk of my car.

BECKY

(three for three)

Really?

RYAN

(beat - wow)

I have to run. Good night.

He starts to walk away.

BECKY

When can we see each other again?

RYAN

Why don't we let the spirits guide  
us on that, okay?

BECKY

Yes! Yes, absolutely. Goodbye.  
Go save lives!

Ryan gives a thumbs up for lack of any better way to respond  
to that and practically runs off. Becky looks like she's in  
love.

11 EXT. SOUVENIR STORE - CONTINUOUS

11

Sarah is putting on a helmet as Jeff is walking her toward  
the scooter.

SARAH

(points at the scooter)

So... you're sure these things are  
safe?

JEFF

Yes. Absolutely. We haven't had  
to take anyone to the hospital yet.

Sarah doesn't look convinced.

12 EXT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT 12

Establishing shot of a modern, medium sized hospital/medical center. The Emergency Room sign points toward one of the entrances.

13 INT. EMERGENCY ROOM INTAKE AREA - NIGHT 13

The emergency room is pretty quiet with only a few non-critical patients in the waiting area. A large reception desk separates the waiting area from the curtained areas and rooms where patients are seen.

Behind the desk is GLORIA NAVARRO, a formidable woman in her mid-40s with a seen-it-all, done-it-all, don't-mess-with-me attitude. Ryan, now wearing scrubs and a white doctor's coat, walks up and scribbles some notes in a chart.

He starts to hand Gloria the chart but then pulls it back at the last second.

RYAN

So, Gloria, aren't you going to ask me how my date with Becky went?

She reaches out and grabs the chart from him.

GLORIA

(shrugs)

You're the one who said you wanted to get back out there.

RYAN

And you thought Becky was who I needed to get back out there with?

GLORIA

No. She's the war story.

RYAN

The what?

GLORIA

The war story. The story you tell about how horrible it is to be dating again. And you know who you'll tell that story to? The girl that you actually want to be out there with.

Ryan considers this for a moment.

RYAN  
 Maybe I'm not ready.

GLORIA  
 (gently)  
 There's only one way to find out.

RYAN  
 (beat - jokes it off)  
 I think you just want me to start dating again because you have a mad crush on me. But, I'm sorry, Gloria. Workplace romances never succeed.

GLORIA  
 Please. If I wanted you, you'd be mine. Just ask my husband.

Ryan leans over and kisses her on the cheek. She holds out another chart to him but he doesn't take it.

GLORIA (CONT'D)  
 One more and the board is clear.

RYAN  
 I'm off duty. Give it to Dr. Subarta.

GLORIA  
 Oh, okay. Well, if you're leaving, why don't I call Becky and tell her you can meet her for a late dinner?

Ryan sighs and takes the chart.

RYAN  
 I'm going to get you for this.

She smiles as he walks away.

14 INT. EMERGENCY ROOM CURTAIN AREA - NIGHT

14

Ryan pulls back a curtain to reveal Sarah sitting on a gurney - she is a bit disheveled and dirty, her shirt is torn a bit, and she is holding an ice pack to her wrist.

RYAN  
 Hi, I'm Doctor McCormick and you are...

SARAH

Sarah Conrad. I would shake your hand, but...

RYAN

I think Emily Post would understand. What happened?

SARAH

I got into a fight with gravity. It won.

RYAN

It usually does. How do you think I'm paying off my medical school bills? Let me take a look.

He examines her wrist, touching gently.

SARAH

Ow.

RYAN

Can you move your hand?

SARAH

Not without profanity. Is it broken?

RYAN

If it's not, it's doing a really good job of pretending like it is. Did gravity do any other damage?

SARAH

Just to my pride... and my phone.

She holds up a seriously damaged phone.

RYAN

(smiles)

Scale of one to ten, exactly how embarrassing was whatever caused this?

SARAH

Twenty-three.

RYAN

Got it. I'll just put that you tripped on a curb.

SARAH

Thank you.

RYAN

You're welcome. I'm going to send you over to x-ray. Do you want something for the pain?

SARAH

That's probably a good idea. I don't want to add ugly crying to the list of things to be embarrassed about tonight.

RYAN

(smiles)

You'll need to get a ride home. Do you want us to call someone for you?

SARAH

Maggie. My sister-in-law... slash best friend slash business partner. We're opening a bookstore together.  
(embarrassed)  
You don't care. Why am I telling you this?

RYAN

I might care. I like bookstores. Not a lot of them left.

SARAH

Which is exactly why we need one.

RYAN

Good point. Where do I find Maggie?

SARAH

She's probably still at the store with Teddy, the contractor. But she's going to freak out if the emergency room calls her. She's a worrier.

RYAN

(smiles)

I'll see if I can find you a phone. You just can't break this one.

SARAH

(shakes her head)

I'm not promising anything.

He exits and Sarah is left to consider her broken wrist.

15 EXT. BOOKSTORE - NIGHT 15

Establishing shot of a commercial building. The ground floor is an under-construction commercial space and there's a second floor apartment above it.

16 INT. BOOKSTORE - NIGHT 16

MAGGIE CONRAD, a perpetually worried woman of around 30, comes down a staircase into the construction area, lit up by harsh construction lights. Eventually it will be a bookstore, but now it's just a jumbled mess of wood, metal, half-built walls, and other work-in-progress debris.

Maggie is looking at some paperwork and is not really paying attention to anything else at first.

MAGGIE

Teddy, I'm looking at this estimate and I'm worried that if we spend this much money on bookshelves we won't be able to afford, you know, books and so I really think we should...

She looks up as TEDDY PETERS steps out from behind a partially built wall. He is a handsome man in his late 20s, who is incongruously wearing a suit in the middle of the construction zone.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

(confused)

Why are you wearing a suit?

TEDDY

Because I didn't want to do what I'm about to do in jeans and a tool belt.

MAGGIE

What are you about to do?

He gets down on one knee then reaches into his jacket pocket and pulls out a ring box. Maggie is stunned.

TEDDY

Maggie, I love you. I have since the first moment we met... right here when I came in to give you a construction bid.

(MORE)

TEDDY (CONT'D)

And I know we've only been dating for a few months, but I knew immediately that you were the person I wanted to spend the rest of my life with. So... Maggie Conrad, will you do me the honor of marrying me?

Maggie has tears in her eyes and a huge smile. She nods but says...

MAGGIE

No.

Teddy is horrified. Then Maggie is horrified as well.S

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

I mean yes! Yes, yes, yes, of course I'll marry you.

She grabs him and pulls him to his feet and they kiss.

TEDDY

You scared me to death! Why did you say no?

MAGGIE

Because I mean yes, just... not yet.

TEDDY

I didn't mean we should get married right this second.

MAGGIE

Teddy... I haven't told Sarah that we're even dating.

TEDDY

Well, maybe it's time.

MAGGIE

Teddy, we've talked about this. Sarah puts on a brave face but she's not over losing Scott. How can I say, "I'm sorry you're sad over losing the love of your life, but hey, here's this amazing great news!" I feel guilty. Is that dumb?

TEDDY

(embraces her)

No, but I think that...

Maggie's cell phone rings. She takes it out of her pocket and looks at it.

MAGGIE  
Memorial Hospital? Wait...

Worried, she holds out a finger to Teddy to say "hold on" and answers the phone.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)  
Hello? Sarah? Are you okay? You  
did what?! How did you do that?!

QUICK CUT TO:

17 INT. EMERGENCY ROOM CURTAIN AREA - NIGHT

17

Maggie is now standing in the curtain area alongside Ryan next to Sarah on the gurney who now has a fresh cast on her arm.

SARAH  
(evasive)  
Well, it's silly, really. See...  
Uh...

RYAN  
(rescuing her)  
She tripped on a curb.

Sarah smiles a bit at him in gratitude.

MAGGIE  
Well, I'm glad it's just your  
wrist. When I saw the hospital pop  
up on my phone I was like...

SARAH  
(to Ryan)  
I told you she was a worrier.

MAGGIE  
I am not!  
(beat)  
So doctor, is there anything we  
need to be worried about with her  
wrist?

RYAN  
(smiles)  
No. It's a small fracture.  
(to Sarah)  
(MORE)

RYAN (CONT'D)

You can follow up with your regular physician. The cast will be on for about four weeks. Keep it dry, don't lift anything heavy.

SARAH

Like the big stacks of books that need to go into our bookstore?

RYAN

Exactly.

SARAH

(to Maggie)

I swear I didn't do this on purpose.

MAGGIE

Uh-huh.

SARAH

(to Ryan)

Thank you again.

MAGGIE

Yes, thank you, doctor.

RYAN

It was nice meeting you.

He leaves the curtain area.

MAGGIE

Okay, let's get you home.

SARAH

I'm sorry I had to drag you all the way down here.

MAGGIE

Don't worry about it.

(beat - an obvious lie)

I wasn't doing anything special.

(beat)

So I don't understand. How did you trip on a curb?

SARAH

(beat - an obvious lie)

Clumsy I guess.

Maggie helps Sarah stand.

18 EXT. RYAN'S APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT 18

Establishing shot of Ryan's apartment building, a modern and nice complex.

19 INT. RYAN'S APARTMENT BEDROOM - NIGHT 19

Ryan comes into the sparsely furnished bedroom of his apartment carrying a back-pack and wearing a coat over his scrubs. He looks like he is already asleep as he drops the backpack, peels off his coat, kicks off his shoes, and literally falls face-first onto the bed.

He rolls over, looking up at the ceiling and then off to the side.

On the small table next to the bed is a photograph of him and woman - blonde, pretty, young - obviously in love. He looks at it for a moment and then reaches into his shirt to pull out a chain hanging around his neck - it has his wedding ring on it. He takes it off and slips the ring off the chain and then onto his ring finger.

Ritual complete, he is able to roll over and close his eyes to go to sleep.

20 EXT. BOOKSTORE - NIGHT 20

Establish the bookstore with the lights off downstairs and lights in the apartment upstairs on.

21 INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 21

Sarah's apartment is a typical efficiency unit with the main area a combo living room/dining room and a counter separating that from the kitchen. A hallway leads to the bedroom and bathroom.

Unlike Ryan's simple place, Sarah's is nothing but clutter with books, boxes, furniture, and a million other things everywhere and barely enough room for people.

Sarah is settling onto a stool at the counter while Maggie looks around the kitchen.

MAGGIE

Where's the tea kettle?

SARAH

The box on top of the refrigerator.

Maggie finds the kettle amidst the mess.

MAGGIE

You know, if you broke your wrist  
by tripping over something as  
obvious as a curb, you could wind  
up killing yourself in this place.

SARAH

(looks around)

You try getting a house full of  
stuff into a one bedroom apartment.

(waves it off)

Maybe I'll have Teddy and his crew  
haul everything to the dump. Oh  
hey, did you talk to him about the  
invoice for the shelves?

MAGGIE

Uh... we were just getting into  
that when you called from the  
hospital. But we have to do  
something. We're going way over  
budget.

SARAH

I know. Don't worry about it.

MAGGIE

How can I not worry about it?  
We'll either have a bookstore with  
no books or no shelves. Although  
maybe that's appropriate  
considering we still don't have a  
name for the place.

SARAH

Oh, I had some ideas!

Sarah finds a piece of paper among many on the counter in  
front of her. She reads from it.

SARAH (CONT'D)

A Likely Story.

Maggie grimaces.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Okay... Book on the Bright Side?  
Book Before You Leap?

MAGGIE

Sarah, seriously. Are we being crazy here? We quit our jobs at the PR company...

SARAH

We hated our jobs at the PR company.

MAGGIE

Yes, but they paid us a lot of money, which we are now just dumping into the big pit downstairs.

SARAH

Maggie, relax. I can afford it.

MAGGIE

(beat)

Scott wouldn't want you to use up all the life insurance money.

SARAH

The bookstore was his dream.

MAGGIE

I know... I introduced you two at the library where he worked, remember?

Maggie looks away, trying to mask impending tears.

SARAH

Maggie?

MAGGIE

Sorry. It just hits me every now and then. Can you believe it's been over nine months? I still think of him every single day.

Sarah reaches across the counter with her good hand and Maggie takes it.

SARAH

It's okay. So do I.

MAGGIE

Why is it that you're always comforting me? You were his wife. Shouldn't I be comforting you?

SARAH  
 (shrugs)  
 We comfort each other.

Maggie nods and puts her other hand on top of Sarah's.

22 EXT. BUSINESS DISTRICT SIDEWALK - DAY 22

Ryan is walking down the sidewalk talking on his phone.

RYAN  
 Gloria, there is no way that I am going to trust you to set me up on another blind date... Because it's been a week since the Becky debacle and I still haven't forgiven you... I'm sure your cousin Rosa is very nice, but I still don't...

He fakes static noise.

RYAN (CONT'D)  
 Oh, Gloria, I think I'm losing you. I'm heading into a tunnel. What? I can't...

He disconnects the call just as he reaches a store. It's a florist and he takes a moment to collect himself before he walks inside.

23 EXT. CEMETERY - DAY 23

Sarah is outside walking while on the phone. At first we don't realize where she is.

SARAH  
 Maggie, don't worry. Besides there's nothing we can do about it until tomorrow when the permit offices open... I'm on my way to yoga class... How am I doing yoga with a broken wrist? Carefully. I'll be back in a hour or so. I promise. I have to go. Bye.

She hangs up as she stops walking and we pull back to reveal that she is in a cemetery. She has stopped in front of a tombstone marked SCOTT CONRAD - BELOVED HUSBAND, BROTHER, AND SON.

SARAH (CONT'D)  
 Hi. Look what I did.

Sarah holds up her cast-covered wrist.

24 EXT. CEMETERY MAIN DRIVE - LATER

24

Sarah is making her way to her car, which is parked with a few others along a drive winding through the bucolic cemetery.

She reaches it just as another car is pulling up behind hers. Ryan gets out with a bouquet of flowers and they notice each other.

SARAH  
Dr. McCormick?

RYAN  
(unsure at first)  
Hi.

SARAH  
It's Sarah Conrad.

She waves her cast as they approach each other and stand between the two cars.

RYAN  
Oh, right! Hi. Still sticking with the curb story?

SARAH  
Actually, I was thinking about switching it to something more dramatic. Maybe a shark attack?

RYAN  
Oooh, that's good. Or how about a bar fight? Make yourself seem dangerous?

SARAH  
I like it.

RYAN  
How's it holding up?

SARAH  
Good. It's good. Hurts a little when I go bowling, but...

RYAN  
Yeah, use a lighter ball for a while.

SARAH  
(smiles)  
Got it.

They stand there uncomfortably for a moment.

SARAH (CONT'D)  
Those Dahlias are beautiful.

RYAN  
Thank you. Yeah. My wife loved  
these flowers.

SARAH  
I'm sorry. What was her name?

RYAN  
(surprised - but pleased)  
Harper.  
(beat)  
Nobody ever asks that.

SARAH  
I know. With me everybody is  
always, "Your husband" this and  
"Your husband" that. Like they're  
afraid if they say his name out  
loud - Scott - that I'm going to  
implode or something.

RYAN  
Exactly.

SARAH  
How long for you?

RYAN  
A little more than year. You?

SARAH  
Just over nine months. I try to  
come every Sunday. Just to talk,  
you know? Tell him whatever stupid  
stuff happened during the week.

She holds up the cast again.

RYAN  
I do the same thing. Do you ever  
catch people staring at you like  
they think you're crazy for talking  
to yourself?

SARAH

(laughs)

Thank you! Yes. Or the ones who shake their heads at you like you're being disrespectful for talking in a cemetery.

RYAN

Oh, I hate those people. Who knew that mourning had so many rules?

SARAH

Right?

She glances at her watch.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Well, I better get going. Thanks again for your help with the wrist, Dr. McCormick.

RYAN

Just doing my job. And call me Ryan.

SARAH

Ryan. Okay. Maybe I'll see you around the cemetery.

(beat)

That sounded bad.

RYAN

Better than seeing you around the emergency room.

SARAH

Good point. Bye.

She gets in her car and drives away. Ryan watches her go, considering for a moment. Then he remembers the Dahlias in his hand and heads into the cemetery.

25 EXT. HOSPITAL - DAY

25

Establishing shot of the hospital.

26 INT. EMERGENCY ROOM CURTAIN AREA - DAY

26

Ryan walks into the curtain area to join two people - ELLIE GARDNER and NATE HASTINGS. Both are in their 60s but have the energy and enthusiasm of people half their age.

She's sitting on the gurney with her ankle raised on a pillow and he's sitting in a chair holding her hand.

ELLIE

Ryan!

NATE

There he is!

Nate shakes Ryan's hand.

RYAN

Nate. Ellie.  
(looks at her ankle)  
What happened this time?

ELLIE

Donna Shempsky is what happened.

NATE

Here we go...

ELLIE

It was just supposed to be a friendly game of tennis, but she turns it into a blood sport.

NATE

These two are going to kill each other one of these days. Who knew that living in a retirement village could be so dangerous?

RYAN

Why didn't you just have one of the doctors on call here at the hospital come out to you? It's one of the benefits you get for living in that community.

ELLIE

Because you weren't on call. You were here.

NATE

Besides, the other doctors are no good. Arthur Kepnic? He used one of those other doctors and you know what happened? He died.

ELLIE

Arthur Kepnic was ninety years old.

NATE

All I know is he was alive and now he's dead.

ELLIE

(to Ryan)

Regardless, we like you. You're our doctor.

RYAN

Well, I'm honored. I don't think it's broken, but we'll get an x-ray just to make sure.

ELLIE

I don't have time for it to be broken.

Ellie holds up her hand to show off a ring.

ELLIE (CONT'D)

I have to plan a wedding!

NATE

I proposed!

ELLIE

He *finally* proposed. Three years we've been dating.

NATE

Three wonderful years.

He kisses her.

RYAN

Congratulations!

ELLIE

Thank you, Doc. We couldn't have done it without you.

NATE

She's right. You keep us ticking!

ELLIE

Do you think we're crazy? Getting married again at our age?

RYAN

Not at all.

ELLIE

(shrugs)

And so what if we are crazy? Life  
is short, you know?

Ryan does, in fact, know this - perhaps better than a lot of  
people.

27 EXT. BOOKSTORE - DAY 27

Establishing shot of the bookstore.

28 INT. BOOKSTORE - DAY 28

The bookstore is a hive of activity with several construction  
workers hammering and sawing. Teddy is at the center of it,  
wearing his hard hat, and firmly in charge. He is talking to  
one of the construction workers while he references a set of  
blue prints on a table.

TEDDY

We're going to want to run the  
conduit through here so we can get  
some extra light in that back room.

The construction worker nods and heads toward the back of the  
store just as Maggie is approaching.

MAGGIE

Teddy.

TEDDY

Maggie.

They look around to make sure no one is watching and then  
steal a quick kiss. When they talk, it is low and  
conspiratorially.

MAGGIE

I can't believe we're engaged!

TEDDY

I know. Maybe it'll be more real  
when we tell people?

MAGGIE

Teddy...

TEDDY

I know, I know. It's fine. We can  
wait.

(MORE)

TEDDY (CONT'D)

But I really want to go tell everyone I have ever met in my entire life so you may have to put a muzzle on me.

MAGGIE

(smiles)

I can think of another way to shut you up...

She puts her hand on his face and leans in to kiss him but stops when she sees Sarah coming down the stairs. Instead she yanks his head down and opens one of his eyes wide and acts as if she's inspecting it.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

I don't see anything.

TEDDY

Oh, uh... you're sure?

SARAH

What happened?

MAGGIE

(shakes her head)

He wasn't wearing his safety goggles.

TEDDY

Yeah, stupid me. Thought I got something in my eye but it's okay.

SARAH

Are you sure? Because I know a good emergency room if you need it.

TEDDY

(smiles)

No, it's all good.

(change the subject)

So hey, have you figured out a name for the place yet?

MAGGIE

Please, don't get her started.

SARAH

Okay... how about Buy the Book?  
Only B-U-Y the Book?

MAGGIE

Stop it.

SARAH  
Follow the Reader?

MAGGIE  
I'm begging you.

SARAH  
All The World's a Page?

MAGGIE  
I quit.

Maggie walks away as Sarah and Teddy laugh.

29 EXT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY 29

Establishing shot of a small, independent coffee shop in the business district of the town.

30 INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY 30

Gloria and Ryan, both wearing their hospital scrubs, are standing in line behind several other people in a coffee shop. The place is sort of like a indie version of a Starbucks, with a counter, baristas, a few chairs, and a small stage tucked into the corner.

In the background during this scene, a worker is setting up the stage and hanging a banner in the window.

Gloria and Ryan are silent for a moment and then...

GLORIA  
So my cousin Rosa...

RYAN  
No!

GLORIA  
She's beautiful and smart. Very well-traveled.

RYAN  
What aren't you telling me?

GLORIA  
Nothing.

Ryan looks at her skeptically.

GLORIA (CONT'D)

Okay, well, she may have spent a little, tiny amount of time in prison.

RYAN

There it is.

GLORIA

It wasn't for anything serious! It's a funny story, actually. There was this donkey...

RYAN

No.

GLORIA

Ryan, I hate to break it to you but you can't afford to be picky.

RYAN

Hey! I am a catch! I'm relatively good looking. I have all my own teeth.

The older woman in line in front of them looks back at him.

RYAN (CONT'D)

(to the woman)

I'm a doctor.

The woman nods and shrugs and turns back around.

GLORIA

Yeah, but...

RYAN

But what?

Gloria won't say it.

RYAN (CONT'D)

Oh... Nobody wants to date the sad widower.

GLORIA

I didn't say that.

RYAN

You didn't have to. You know, there was a patient of mine at the cemetery the other day.

The woman in front of them turns around again, a look of concern on her face. Ryan sees this.

RYAN (CONT'D)  
 (to the woman)  
 She wasn't dead.

The woman eyes him suspiciously and turns back around.

RYAN (CONT'D)  
 (to Gloria)  
 She lost her husband and it was so nice to talk to someone who got it, you know? Someone who understood what it's like.

GLORIA  
 Are you going to see her again?

RYAN  
 No. I mean maybe. It wasn't like that. It was... never mind.  
 (an excuse to end this conversation)  
 I'm going to go wash my hands.

Ryan leaves the line and Gloria tries to stop him.

GLORIA  
 Ryan...

But he is gone. Gloria obviously feels badly about what happened and it doesn't help when the woman in front of her turns around and gives her a "shame on you" look.

31 EXT. BUSINESS DISTRICT SIDEWALK - DAY 31

Sarah is walking down the sidewalk and happens to be passing the same coffee shop at that moment. The worker we saw in the background earlier has just finished putting up the sign in the window. Sarah stops when she sees what it says - "OPEN MIC NIGHT!"

Sarah opens her purse and pulls out the bucket list and a pen.

32 SARAH'S POV - CONTINUOUS 32

The pen going down the list helps us pick out the item that Sarah was looking for... it reads "BE A STAND UP COMIC AT AN OPEN MIC NIGHT."

33 EXT. BUSINESS DISTRICT SIDEWALK - CONTINUOUS 33

Sarah shakes her head and sighs, then circles the item on the list. She glances upward as if to the heavens.

SARAH

You better appreciate this.

She smiles and walks away.

34 EXT. BUSINESS DISTRICT SIDEWALK - NIGHT 34

Maggie and Teddy are walking down the sidewalk holding hands. It's a nice night for a stroll.

TEDDY

So we're agreed - next summer,  
outdoor ceremony, not a big  
wedding...

MAGGIE

But not small either.

TEDDY

Medium. A medium-sized wedding.

MAGGIE

Yes. And nothing cheesy. Nobody  
playing the harp and no cute little  
kid sprinkling flower petals down  
the aisle.

TEDDY

No to the flower girl. Roger that.  
We haven't talked honeymoon yet. I  
was thinking... what about Paris?

MAGGIE

That's what I was going to say! I  
have always wanted to go!

TEDDY

Up high!

He holds up his hand for a high-five and she smacks it.

MAGGIE

We're good at this engaged thing.

TEDDY

So you've never been to Paris?  
That surprises me for some reason.

MAGGIE

(shrugs)

Something has always gotten in the way. School, work... I was actually considering going last year and then Scott...

TEDDY

(beat)

I get it.

MAGGIE

Since then, with the bookstore and Sarah and my mom and... There's just too much to worry about.

TEDDY

Has anyone ever told you that you worry too much?

MAGGIE

(beat)

No. Never.

They have reached the coffee shop that Sarah was standing in front of earlier. The door opens as they are passing and a familiar voice is heard.

SARAH (O.S.)

So... a guy walks into a bar and says, "Ow."

Maggie stops.

MAGGIE

Is that... Sarah?

She goes into the coffee shop and Teddy follows.

35

INT. COFFEE SHOP STAGE - CONTINUOUS

35

Sarah is on the small stage with a microphone attempting to be funny. Maggie and Teddy stand in the doorway at the front of the shop to avoid being seen by her.

SARAH

See, because he walked *into* the bar. Like with his face.

There are no laughs from the audience.

SARAH (CONT'D)  
 Oooooh-kay. I was late getting  
 here tonight because there were  
 these two fish in a tank... neither  
 one knew how to drive it.

Wow, it's quiet in here.

SARAH (CONT'D)  
 It's a tank...

Sarah looks at her watch.

SARAH (CONT'D)  
 (mutters to herself.)  
 Longest five minutes of my life.

A heckler in the audience pipes up:

HECKLER (O.S.)  
 Mine, too!

Sarah smiles and nods.

SARAH  
 (deep breath)  
 So a duck walks into a pharmacy...

QUICK CUT TO:

36 INT. COFFEE SHOP DOORWAY - CONTINUOUS 36

Maggie's jaw is hanging open.

MAGGIE  
 What is she doing?

TEDDY  
 Bombing.

Maggie nods.

37 INT. COFFEE SHOP STAGE - CONTINUOUS 37

Back on stage, things haven't gotten much better for Sarah.

SARAH  
 My cousin asked me to go skydiving  
 with her, but I said no. See,  
 she's blind and I always feel bad  
 for the dog.  
 (MORE)

SARAH (CONT'D)

(beat)

Come on! That one's funny.

Nobody else seems to think so.

38 INT. COFFEE SHOP DOORWAY - CONTINUOUS 38

Maggie's is still agog.

MAGGIE

Oh, it's like a car crash. You don't want to look but you just can't not.

Teddy does look away, like it's too painful.

39 INT. COFFEE SHOP STAGE - CONTINUOUS 39

Sarah and the microphone. She is silent for a moment or two.

SARAH

I said, "Knock, knock!"

(beat)

Nothing?

Apparently not.

A light flashes signalling that her time is up.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Well, that's my time... Good night.

There is a smattering of very tepid applause as Sarah leaves the stage quickly.

40 EXT. BUSINESS DISTRICT SIDEWALK - CONTINUOUS 40

Maggie pulls Teddy out of the coffee shop and they walk quickly down the sidewalk.

TEDDY

Wait. Don't you want to...

MAGGIE

No! She can never know we were here.

TEDDY

Why not?

MAGGIE

Because she didn't tell me about it so she obviously doesn't want me to know. I can't imagine why, though. We tell each other everything.

TEDDY

(points at himself)  
Um, hi. Secret fiance?

MAGGIE

(beat)  
Almost everything. Come on. Hurry.

The hustle off down the sidewalk.

41 INT. COFFEE SHOP - CONTINUOUS

41

Sarah comes off the stage and over to the coffee bar. She leans against it and shakes her head as if to say "Thank heavens that's over."

She reaches into her pocket and pulls out Scott's bucket list and a pen, using the latter to cross off the item.

Despite how badly it went, she smiles - it's a bit melancholy. She folds up the list and puts it back in her pocket, then looks for an exit.

42 EXT. CEMETERY MAIN DRIVE - DAY

42

It's the following Sunday and Ryan is waiting by Sarah's car as she comes toward it.

RYAN

Hey.

SARAH

(pleasantly surprised)  
Hi.

RYAN

I saw your car and just thought I'd say hey.

SARAH

Well, hey to you too.

There is an pregnant pause.

RYAN

Okay, well... bye.

SARAH

Wait.

(embarrassed)

You know, it was nice talking to you last week. I mean, I kind of felt like...

RYAN

Like we understood each other?

SARAH

Yes.

RYAN

Me, too. People who haven't lost someone just get so weird when you try to talk to them about this stuff.

SARAH

And even when you do it's like you're talking a foreign language.

RYAN

I know.

(beat)

Listen, there's this place I stop at sometimes after I come to visit Harper...

SARAH

What kind of place?

RYAN

It's a pie shop and the good news is they have the best pie in the entire world.

SARAH

And what's the bad news?

RYAN

It is served by the most sarcastic waitress ever.

SARAH

Oh, well, now I have to go. The best pie and the most sarcastic waitress? What more could you want?

RYAN  
Great. Follow me?

SARAH  
Sure.

They head toward their respective cars.

43 EXT. BOOKSTORE - DAY 43

Establishing shot of the bookstore, focusing in on the apartment upstairs.

44 INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - DAY 44

Maggie comes into Sarah's apartment while talking on her cell phone. While she is speaking she is looking around on the table and the counter for the checkbook.

MAGGIE  
I just got to Sarah's... Well, Teddy, if you want a check for the electrician first thing tomorrow, I have to go where the checkbook is. I have to run a couple of errands but I should be at your place in about twenty minutes.

(beat - looks around at the mess)

Or thirty... Maybe while I'm hunting for the checkbook I'll find a clue of why Sarah thought that telling jokes in public was a good idea... I'm just kidding. I'm not going to snoop! I'll see you in a bit.

Maggie hangs up the call and then uses both hands to move around the piles of paper on the table. She finds the checkbook and holds it up victoriously.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)  
Victory!

She opens the checkbook to look at the balance.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)  
A nearly empty victory but a victory never the less.

She turns and heads for the door but then stops... lingers... looks back at the table.

Maggie thinks about it for a moment and then goes back to the table and starts looking at the papers on it.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

What is going on with you, Sarah  
Conrad?

Maggie sits to really dive in.

45 EXT. ETHEL'S PIE SHOP - DAY 45

Establishing shot of a small, simple roadside diner type restaurant with a small parking lot in front.

46 INT. ETHEL'S PIE SHOP - DAY 46

The place is little more than a lunch counter with a few stools and a couple of booths, most of which are empty. The woman behind the counter, ETHEL, is in her 40s and has a scowl that could melt steel.

Sarah and Ryan have taken a seat at the counter and are looking at the menu when Ethel walks over to them, takes a pencil out of her hair, and holds it poised over an order pad. She glares at him like he just called her bad names.

RYAN

Hi, how are you today?

When Ethel speaks, everything that comes out of her mouth is pure sarcasm. It's not her attempting to be mean, it's her attempting wry humor and not really caring if people think she's funny or not.

ETHEL

Never been better. It's like I'm  
living in a movie with cartoon  
birds. Whaddya gonna have?

SARAH

We're going to have a couple of  
pieces of pie.

ETHEL

Good thing you came to a pie shop  
then, huh?

RYAN

Do you have any specials today?

Ethel points to the big board on the wall marked "Specials."

ETHEL

No, I just write things on the big board over there for my penmanship.

SARAH

I'll have the strawberry.

RYAN

Me too. I've had it before and it's great.

ETHEL

I'll send the chef your compliments.

Ethel walks away to get the pie.

SARAH

Okay, she is the most sarcastic human being in the history of the world.

RYAN

I told you. But trust me, the pie is totally worth it.

SARAH

How did you find this place?

RYAN

Actually Harper found it. She loved little hole-in-the-wall, off-the-beaten path places. She used to say that if more than ten people had reviewed it on Yelp! she didn't want to eat there.

SARAH

See, Scott was the total opposite. He would research everything. He'd read every review, every article. He'd look at the menu online so he knew exactly what he was going to order when he got there.

RYAN

What happened if the menu wasn't up to date?

SARAH

Havoc. It never ended well.

(beat)

Don't get me wrong.

(MORE)

SARAH (CONT'D)

He loved to be spontaneous about other stuff, but not with food. He thought every meal was important and you shouldn't waste time eating something that isn't amazing.

RYAN

That's nice. Do you mind me asking how...

SARAH

Cancer. You?

RYAN

Car accident.

SARAH

(beat)

Do you think it's better to know it's coming or for it to be a total shock?

RYAN

I don't think there is a "better" in this particular situation.

Ethel comes back with two plates, each with a simple piece of strawberry pie, and places them on the counter in front of Ryan and Sarah.

SARAH

Oh, this looks delicious.

ETHEL

Yeah, I spent a lot of time on the presentation.

She walks away.

SARAH

I love her.

RYAN

Wait until you taste the pie.

They both dig in - it is obviously heaven on a plate.

48

INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - LATER

48

Maggie is sitting on the floor of Sarah's apartment going through the contents of a box when Teddy enters.

TEDDY

Maggie? Are you up here?

Maggie guiltily tries to stuff things back in the box but it's too late, she is caught.

MAGGIE

Teddy! What are you doing here?

TEDDY

Looking for you.

MAGGIE

Why? It's only been...

(looks at watch)

Two hours. Sorry!

TEDDY

You didn't answer your phone so I figured you were either in the hospital or you were snooping through Sarah's stuff. I came here first.

MAGGIE

This is terrible.

TEDDY

Yes, it's an invasion of her privacy.

MAGGIE

No! I mean it's terrible because I haven't found anything. Why was she doing stand up comedy? And the wrist. I don't think I believe the curb story.

Teddy goes and gently, but forcefully, pulls her to her feet.

TEDDY

We're leaving now.

MAGGIE

But Teddy, I need to...

TEDDY

How would you feel if Sarah went through your stuff and found your, I don't know, bridal magazines.

MAGGIE

(snorts)

I don't have any bridal magazines.

TEDDY

You don't?

MAGGIE

No.

TEDDY

(beat)

Okay, well, the point is, it's not right and we're leaving.

MAGGIE

(sighs)

Okay. But if she has joined a cult and I could've saved her by looking through her stuff, it's on your head.

Teddy shakes his head and they leave.

49

EXT. ETHEL'S PIE SHOP PARKING LOT - LATER

49

Sarah and Ryan come out of the pie shop and go to their cars, which are parked side-by-side.

SARAH

That pie was incredible. And so was Ethel! Everything you said they'd be. Thank you.

RYAN

You're welcome. It was nice talking to you again.

SARAH

It was nice to laugh. I don't know about you but I hate it how everyone expects you to be sad all the time and if you laugh it's almost like you have to feel guilty about it.

RYAN

And yet you feel like you have to put on a happy face so you're not bumming everyone out.

SARAH

Exactly. Well, we should do it again. We can form our own little support group.

RYAN

It's a deal. Same time next week?

Sarah smiles and they shake on it.

SARAH

Same time next week.

They head toward their respective cars.

THE FOLLOWING BRIEF SCENES FLOW TOGETHER LIKE A MONTAGE, AS WE GET GLIMPSES OF WHAT HAPPENS OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS...

50

INT. ETHEL'S PIE SHOP - DAY

50

Sarah and Ryan are back at the counter, this time with chocolate cream pies.

SARAH

Do you ever have to deal with people sort of discounting your loss because you're young?

RYAN

All the time. "It's better that this happened before you were too invested."

SARAH

"You have your whole life ahead of you."

RYAN

"At least you didn't have kids."

SARAH

Oh, that's the worst.

They dig into the pies.

FADE TO:

51 INT. EMERGENCY ROOM INTAKE AREA - DAY 51

Gloria is at the main desk on the phone.

GLORIA  
What happened this time?

QUICK CUT TO:

52 INT. RECREATION CENTER - DAY 52

The recreation center at Nate and Ellie's retirement village is basically just a moderately sized room that could be used for a bunch of different purposes - everything from games to bingo to line dancing, which is what has been happening if the country-western garb Nate and Ellie and the other seniors in the background are wearing is any indication. Ellie is holding up the phone so the two of them can talk.

We begin intercutting between the rec center and the hospital.

NATE  
Line dancing. My boot wanted to scoot but it couldn't quite get the boogie part.

Gloria laughs and shakes her head.

ELLIE  
Can you send Ryan out?

GLORIA  
Dr. McCormick is off today. Doctor Peters is on call.

Nate and Ellie look at one another and grimace.

NATE  
Never mind. I'll be fine.

GLORIA  
(exasperated)  
Dr. Peters did not kill Arthur Kepnic. He's a very capable physician.

ELLIE  
(shrugs)  
But he's not *our* physician.

Gloria pauses for a moment and then sighs.

GLORIA  
I'll page Ryan.

Nate and Ellie are happy now.

FADE TO:

53 INT. ETHEL'S PIE SHOP - DAY

53

Apple pie ala mode.

SARAH  
(laughing)  
You are making that up.

RYAN  
I am not.

SARAH  
You actually proposed to Harper  
with a ring inside a souffle?

RYAN  
I thought it was romantic.

SARAH  
And she swallowed the ring?

RYAN  
I swear to God.

SARAH  
You're an emergency room doctor!  
How could you not see that coming?!

They continue to laugh.

FADE TO:

54 INT. BOOKSTORE - DAY

54

They have made progress on the store. The walls are up and some of the bookcases, sans shelves, are starting to go in. Maggie and Teddy are making goo goo eyes at each other over a table saw.

MAGGIE  
Thank you again for the concert  
last night. I had so much fun.

TEDDY

So did I. I was thinking maybe we should have a band like that for our reception.

Maggie pulls back a little.

MAGGIE

(noncommittal)

Oh... sure. That would work.

TEDDY

I mean unless you want something different?

MAGGIE

I don't know. I hadn't really thought about it.

Sarah enters the room and Maggie backs away from Teddy quickly and puts on an angry glare.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

(faux-angry)

I don't care if you have to stay up all night. I want those shelves done by tomorrow!

TEDDY

(plays along)

Okay. You're the boss.

Maggie mouths "Sorry" to him while Sarah isn't looking. He smiles and nods his head to say "It's okay," but it appears that he isn't exactly happy about it.

FADE TO:

55 INT. ETHEL'S PIE SHOP - DAY

55

Cherry pie.

RYAN

So ask her.

SARAH

I'm not going to ask her! You ask her.

RYAN

I'm not the one who wants the recipe. You want it, you ask her.

She takes a deep breath and then tries to get Ethel's attention.

SARAH  
 (to Ethel)  
 Excuse me? Uh... Excuse me?

Ethel sighs and walks over to them. Her glare is so intense it might actually affect the tides.

ETHEL  
 You rang?

SARAH  
 Uh... could I possibly bother you  
 for... Uh... More napkins?

Ethel looks at her for a moment and then reaches out to put her hand on the nearby napkin dispenser, which she slowly - really slowly - moves over in front of Sarah.

SARAH (CONT'D)  
 Thank you.

ETHEL  
 My pleasure.

Ethel walks away.

RYAN  
 Napkins?

SARAH  
 I panicked!

Ryan can't help but laugh. Sarah joins in after a moment.

FADE TO:

56 INT. RECREATION CENTER - DAY

56

Nate is making a call again.

NATE  
 Hello? Hi, is this the emergency  
 room? Yeah, hi. Is Dr. McCormick  
 on call today? He is?

Nate turns and gives a thumbs up. We pull back to reveal that he is wearing workout clothes as is Ellie, who is laying in obvious pain on a yoga mat amongst other seniors and their mats.

She smiles and gives the thumbs up also.

57 INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT KITCHEN - NIGHT 57

Sarah comes into her kitchen carrying a gingerbread house with her one good hand. It isn't the nicest one ever made, but it gets the point across. She sets it down and pulls out the bucket list, scratching off "Make a Gingerbread House."

She nods, satisfied.

FADE TO:

58 INT. RYAN'S APARTMENT BEDROOM - MORNING 58

Ryan is getting his stuff together to go to work. The last thing he does before he leaves is to take the wedding band off his finger and put it back on the chain that goes around his neck - the opposite of the ritual he does when he gets home.

He smiles toward the picture of him and his wife and then leaves.

On this the montage of scenes ends and we have one last...

FADE TO:

59 EXT. ETHEL'S PIE SHOP - DAY 59

Establishing shot of the pie shop.

60 INT. ETHEL'S PIE SHOP - DAY 60

Ryan is at the counter by himself when Sarah comes in to join him.

SARAH

Hi. Sorry, I'm late. Guess what?

She holds up her arm, now without a cast.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Ta dah!!

RYAN

Has it been four weeks already?  
Congratulations.

SARAH

Thank you. It feels so good to be able to make a fist again. Makes me want to hit something.

Ethel chooses that moment to walk over with her pad.

ETHEL

I shaking in my boots. Whaddya having?

RYAN

How's the Boston Cream today?

ETHEL

Like a little slice of heaven.

RYAN

(to Sarah)

Two?

Sarah nods. Ethel rolls her eyes and walks away.

RYAN (CONT'D)

Okay, so are you ever going to tell me what really happened to your wrist?

Sarah thinks about it for a moment and then reaches into her purse. She pulls out Scott's bucket list and puts it on the counter in front of him.

SARAH

Number fifty-three.

RYAN

(reads)

Ride a Segway scooter.

(beat)

Didn't go well, huh?

SARAH

Not so much.

RYAN

You're doing all these?

SARAH

I do at least one every week. Scott wrote this when he found out he was sick, but it all happened so fast that he didn't have time to do much of it. So, I decided I'd do it for him.

RYAN

That's...

SARAH

Stupid?

RYAN

Incredible. Amazing. You bungee jumped?

SARAH

Actually I sort of bungee fell. I couldn't make myself jump so they just pushed me off the platform. I've never been so scared in my entire life.

RYAN

And you're doing all this by yourself?

SARAH

Yeah. In fact I haven't even told anyone about it.

RYAN

Not even Maggie?

SARAH

No. I feel a little badly about that. I probably should have shared it with her but I wanted something for me, you know? Something that was just between me and Scott.

RYAN

(nods)

I get it. I wish I had something like that with Harper.

Sarah instinctively reaches out to put her hand on his to comfort him. Before they have a chance to register what has happened or what it might mean, Ethel delivers the Boston Cream pies as if the plates they are on have angered her in some way. It effectively ends the moment between Sarah and Ryan.

They dig into their pie without comment.

61 EXT. BOOKSTORE - DAY 61

Establishing shot of the bookstore.

62 INT. BOOKSTORE - DAY 62

Teddy is in the bookstore by himself working on a lighting fixture when Maggie comes in.

MAGGIE

Hey. What are you doing here on a Sunday?

TEDDY

Matt is going to be here tomorrow to work on the plumbing.

MAGGIE

(points to light - smiles)  
That doesn't look like plumbing.

TEDDY

(smiles - patiently)  
The wires for the light are where the plumbing needs to go.

MAGGIE

Got it. I was just on my way to the Farmer's Market and I stopped by to see if Sarah needed anything.

TEDDY

She's not home.

MAGGIE

She's not? How long are those yoga classes? If she's even doing yoga.

TEDDY

Maggie...

MAGGIE

I know, I know, I know. Letting it go. Well, at least I got to see you.

She gives him a kiss.

TEDDY

Hey, I want to show you something.

He goes to his toolbox and pulls out a brochure, which he hands to her.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

So I was looking around and I found this place nearby. It's a botanical garden with flowers and streams and a gazebo...

MAGGIE

(not getting it)  
Okay...

TEDDY

A gazebo where they do weddings.

MAGGIE

(still not getting it)  
Okay...

TEDDY

Are you really not getting where I'm going with this?

MAGGIE

(sudden realization)  
Our wedding! Oh, yes! Yes, it's beautiful. I love it.

TEDDY

Well, here's the thing. It's a very popular place and if we want it for next summer we kind of have to book it now.

MAGGIE

Now? Oh... I don't think we're ready to do that, are we?

TEDDY

Anywhere nice is going to require advance planning. I mean, we really should talk about this.

MAGGIE

We did talk. Outdoor wedding, medium sized.

TEDDY

I think we need to get a little more specific than that.

MAGGIE

And we will. Absolutely. It's just there's so much to do with the bookstore and then there's the whole Sarah thing. We have plenty of time.

She gives him a peck on the cheek and then walks away. Teddy is definitely starting to worry now.

63

EXT. ETHEL'S PIE SHOP PARKING LOT - DAY

63

Sarah and Ryan have reached their respective cars.

RYAN

You know, if you ever need any help with stuff... On the list, I mean.

SARAH

Really?

RYAN

(shrugs)

Sure. Just not jumping out of things or off of things or anything having to do with tall places, really.

SARAH

You're afraid of heights?

RYAN

I work in an emergency room. I've seen how those kinds of things end.

SARAH

(smiles)

Got it.

RYAN

I mean, unless you don't want me to help. I'd totally understand.

SARAH

No! No, I actually think it might be fun. I just don't know which one.

RYAN

Close your eyes and point.

SARAH

Really?

RYAN

Sure. And whatever it is, we have to do it. No take backs.

She shrugs, takes the list out of her purse, closes her eyes, and points. She opens her eyes and Ryan goes to look. They both look unhappy.

RYAN (CONT'D)

(beat)

Can't we just jump off of something instead?

QUICK CUT TO:

64 INT. COFFEE SHOP - NIGHT

64

This is the same coffee shop that we saw earlier that was having an open mic night only now they are doing karaoke. Ryan and Sarah are standing on the stage, looking like they are about to pass out.

They sing a song together - something silly and fun. They start out nervously but then get into, laughing, jumping around, dancing, and thoroughly enjoying themselves.

FADE TO:

65 INT. COFFEE SHOP - LATER

65

The song winds up and there is raucous applause from the audience. Ryan and Sarah bow and then he grabs her and hugs her. We can tell from the expression on Sarah's face that this makes her a little uncomfortable. The hug ends and they leave the stage.

RYAN

That was so much fun! I mean, in a horrifically embarrassing, I will deny this ever happened, kind of way, but still fun.

SARAH

(smiles but still uncomfortable)

It was. Thank you for doing this with me.

RYAN

You're welcome. So what else is on the list that I can help with?

SARAH  
Oh, no. I don't want to inflict  
any more of this on you.

RYAN  
You didn't inflict. I offered.

SARAH  
And I appreciate it. I just  
don't... I think the rest of the  
stuff is more, you know, solo  
stuff.

Ryan pauses for a second and then nods his head.

RYAN  
Got it. I totally understand.

SARAH  
(beat)  
But we're still on for pie on  
Sunday, right?

RYAN  
Absolutely. Wouldn't miss it.

SARAH  
I'll see you next week?

RYAN  
Same time.

Sarah nods and leaves Ryan to consider what just happened.

66 EXT. BOOKSTORE - DAY 66

Establishing shot of the bookstore, focusing on the upstairs  
apartment.

67 INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - DAY 67

Sarah is seated at the table in her living room that doubles  
as a desk, surrounded by stacks of paper. Teddy knocks on  
the open front door hesitantly.

TEDDY  
Hello?

SARAH  
Hey, Teddy. Come on in.

Teddy makes his way through the mess of boxes and other stuff to get to Sarah.

TEDDY

Hi. I was looking for Maggie.

SARAH

She went to the bank. Is there something I can do for you?

TEDDY

No, that's okay. It can wait.

SARAH

Are you sure?

TEDDY

My mother used to say, most things in life can wait if you just have the patience to do it.

SARAH

Smart lady.

TEDDY

Yeah, she was.

(beat)

I better get back.

He turns to go and knocks over a box, the contents of which spill on the floor.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

Oh, man. Sorry. Sorry.

He kneels to start putting things back in the box and Sarah comes to help.

SARAH

It's okay. Don't worry about it. I keep saying I'm going to get rid of some of this stuff but I just keep not doing it.

TEDDY

(looks around)

It is a lot of stuff.

SARAH

I'm not one of those crazy hoarders, I swear.

TEDDY

Good. Because I'd hate to think I might move one of these boxes and find your cat, or something.

SARAH

(laughs)

No, just more junk.

He holds up something that came from the spilled box - it's a photograph of Sarah and a handsome man on a beach.

TEDDY

(kindly)

Doesn't look like junk to me.

Sarah smiles and takes the photograph.

SARAH

That's our honeymoon. Puerto Rico. He got so sunburned. We were supposed to go to this salsa dance lesson later in the day but he was like, "Don't touch me!"

(beat)

We never did learn...

Sarah looks at the picture for another moment and then at Teddy.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Sometimes you shouldn't wait. You might miss your chance.

Teddy nods and starts to put the rest of the stuff back in the box.

SARAH (CONT'D)

That's okay. I got it.

TEDDY

You sure?

She smiles and nods and he does the same then leaves. Sarah looks at the picture for another moment and then goes to her purse and pulls out the list. She considers it and then pulls out her phone and dials.

SARAH

Hi, Ryan? It's Sarah.

(beat)

What are you doing tonight?

QUICK CUT TO:

68

EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT

68

Sarah is standing next to her car in a parking lot. Ryan pulls up in his car and gets out, coming over to join her.

RYAN

Hey.

SARAH

Hi. Thank you for coming. I know it's not our usual Sunday.

RYAN

That's okay. What's going on?

SARAH

Well, there's something else on the bucket list that I could use some help with.

RYAN

Oh... I thought they were things you could do yourself.

SARAH

This is definitely not a solo deal. So, are you game?

RYAN

Do I have to sing?

SARAH

No.

RYAN

Tame a wild animal?

SARAH

No.

RYAN

Circus acts?

SARAH

(tilts her head)  
No, not really.

RYAN

Then I'm game.

She takes the bucket list out of her purse and then holds it out to him.

SARAH  
Number eighty-seven.

He looks at the list and then back up at her.

RYAN  
Really?

QUICK CUT TO:

69 INT. DANCE STUDIO - NIGHT 69

Several couples are lined up under a banner reading "SALSA DANCING FOR BEGINNERS."

We reveal Sarah and Ryan are among the couples. Ryan looks at her.

SARAH  
(shrugs)  
You said you were game.

RYAN  
I really need to learn to keep my  
big mouth shut.

She smiles.

70 EXT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY 70

Establishing shot of the coffee shop.

71 INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY 71

Ryan and Gloria, in their hospital scrubs, are in line in the coffee shop again. The woman that was in front of them the last time they were here is directly behind them this time.

Ryan, in his own little world, is swaying a bit, as if trying to remember dance moves. Gloria catches this.

GLORIA  
Are you dancing?

RYAN  
(scoffs)  
What? No.

GLORIA  
Yes, you are. You weren't doing it  
well, but you were dancing.

RYAN

Hey! I've got moves.

He does a little fancy footwork. The woman behind them gives a skeptical look that Ryan catches.

RYAN (CONT'D)

(to the woman)

I do!

The woman shrugs. Ryan turns back to Gloria.

GLORIA

What is going on with you?

RYAN

(sighs)

I'm taking a salsa dance class.

She laughs loudly.

RYAN (CONT'D)

Hey!

GLORIA

What made you think that was a good idea?

RYAN

I'm helping a friend.

GLORIA

A friend? Aha... does she have a name?

RYAN

Her name is Sarah.

GLORIA

Sarah? Okay. How did you meet?

RYAN

I told you. I met her at the hospital and then we ran into each other at the cemetery.

GLORIA

Oh.

(beat - carefully)

The one whose husband died...

RYAN

Yes.

GLORIA  
 (serious)  
 Ryan, you know I love you, right?

RYAN  
 (joking)  
 I know, and we have to find a way  
 to tell your husband...

The woman behind them is shocked and Ryan sees this.

RYAN (CONT'D)  
 (to the woman)  
 I'm kidding.

GLORIA  
 (pulls Ryan away)  
 I'm being serious here. I had a  
 friend a few years ago who lost her  
 husband and she met a widower in a  
 support group. They started dating  
 but eventually they figured out  
 that the fact that they had lost a  
 spouse was the only thing they had  
 in common. It broke her heart and  
 I just... I want you to be careful.

RYAN  
 (a beat of consideration)  
 I get it. But right now it's just  
 dancing... with a friend.

Before Gloria can respond to this, Ryan's pager goes off. He  
 looks at it and then shows it to Gloria.

RYAN (CONT'D)  
 Guess who?

Gloria looks at the pager and rolls her eyes.

72 EXT. RECREATION CENTER - DAY 72

Establishing shot of the recreation center.

73 INT. RECREATION CENTER - DAY 73

Ryan comes into the recreation center with his medical bag.  
 The room is empty except for Ellie and Nate, who are looking  
 around the room as if envisioning things.

RYAN  
 I got your page. What's going on?

Nate sweeps his arm to show off the empty room.

NATE  
Ryan! Whaddya think?

RYAN  
(confused)  
About what?

NATE  
The room! We're having the  
reception here.

RYAN  
Is that why you paged me? To show  
me the room?

NATE  
No, of course not. We wanted to  
show you where we're having the  
wedding, too. It's outside on the  
lawn, come on...

Ellie and Nate head toward the door but Ryan doesn't follow.

RYAN  
Ellie, Nate... we've discussed  
this. You're only supposed to page  
the on-call doctor for emergencies.

ELLIE  
Oh, but it is an emergency. My son  
Cliff... I've told you about Cliff.  
Well, he called a little while ago  
and he can't come to the wedding.  
He's got a work thing he can't get  
out of.

RYAN  
I'm sorry.

ELLIE  
What are you going to do? But  
here's the thing... Cliff was going  
to walk me down the aisle. And now  
that he can't do it, I was thinking  
about the other men in my life that  
are special enough to do that for  
me... and all I could think of was  
you.

RYAN  
(blown away)  
Really?

ELLIE

You have been so good to us.

NATE

We have always been able to count on you. Even when you were going through your own hard times, you were there for us.

ELLIE

So what do you say? You want to walk an old lady down the aisle?

RYAN

(smiles)  
I'd be honored.

ELLIE

Wonderful!

She kisses Ryan on the cheek and Nate shakes his hand.

ELLIE (CONT'D)

Okay. So we can check off one of the big things on the list.

NATE

Now if we can just check off some other big things. Flowers and the caterer and the DJ. Oh, and we haven't even thought about our first dance at the reception.

Ryan has an idea.

RYAN

You know... I may be able to help with that, too.

They are intrigued.

74 EXT. DANCE STUDIO - NIGHT 74

The dance studio is a storefront in the business district.

75 INT. DANCE STUDIO - NIGHT 75

A series of shots in the ballroom dance class:

A) Ryan and Sarah dancing

B) Ellie and Nate dancing

C) Sarah, Ellie, and Nate talking and laughing - getting to know each other

D) Ryan and Sarah dancing and laughing while Nate and Ellie watch with smiles

76 EXT. ETHEL'S PIE SHOP - NIGHT 76

Establishing shot of the pie shop.

77 INT. ETHEL'S PIE SHOP - LATER 77

Ellie and Nate are standing, getting ready to leave. Ryan and Sarah are still seated. Ethel is sitting in the corner watching a game show on a small TV.

ELLIE

Thank you again for everything!

NATE

I feel lighter on my feet already.

He does a quick shuffle to prove it.

SARAH

It was so nice to meet you both.

ELLIE

Oh you too, sweetheart. We'll see you on Thursday for the next class?

SARAH

I will be there.

ELLIE

(to Ryan)

And you! That face!

She pinches his cheek and the two of them leave.

SARAH

Okay... I want to be them when I grow up.

RYAN

Right?

SARAH

I mean, how do you get there? Happy and settled and just comfortable in your own skin.

RYAN  
Comes with age, I guess.

SARAH  
I guess. I don't know. I wonder  
if I'll ever have what they have.  
A second time! Most people don't  
even get it once.

RYAN  
They are lucky.

SARAH  
Have you tried dating yet?

RYAN  
Sort of. I don't know if you can  
call them dates. More like  
exercises in futility.

SARAH  
That bad, huh?

RYAN  
I went out with this one woman.  
(affects a Valley girl  
accent)  
Becky. She was all about healing  
energies and the spirit world. She  
was so completely sure that my dead  
wife was all around us.

SARAH  
Your wife was on the date with you?

RYAN  
Uh-huh. If she was, I hope she had  
a better time than I did.  
(beat - realization)  
Hey... I just told you my dating  
war story.

SARAH  
Your what?

RYAN  
Never mind. What about you?

SARAH  
Oh, no. No. I haven't gotten  
there yet. I sort of feel like I  
should. I think other people think  
I should, but...

RYAN

There's no schedule. You get there when you get there.

SARAH

I can't tell you how much I appreciate being able to talk like this. It's good to have that in common with someone.

Ryan considers that for a moment as Gloria's words about being careful come back to him.

78 EXT. BOOKSTORE - NIGHT 78

Establishing shot of the bookstore.

79 INT. BOOKSTORE - NIGHT 79

Maggie and Teddy are looking at the blue prints on a work table amidst the bookstore construction.

MAGGIE

I still don't see what the problem is.

TEDDY

(trying to be patient)

The problem is that you said you wanted tile in this area and so we were planning to prep the sub-floor accordingly. If you want to put carpet in there, we have to prep it in a different way.

MAGGIE

Okay, but why do we have to decide this right now? I mean, we're weeks away from the opening...

TEDDY

(getting exasperated)

If we don't put in the sub-floor we can't finish the walls which means we can't put up the bookshelves which means you're going to have a bookstore with big piles of books sitting on unfinished floors.

MAGGIE

I really should talk to Sarah about this.

TEDDY  
 (not angry, but  
 frustrated)  
 Maggie, why do you have to make  
 everything so hard? Just make a  
 decision and commit to it!

MAGGIE  
 (beat - a little taken  
 aback)  
 Why do I get the feeling you're not  
 talking about floors anymore?

TEDDY  
 I'm sorry. Listen, it's late. Why  
 don't we pick this up tomorrow...

MAGGIE  
 Are you mad at me?

TEDDY  
 No. I'm just... it's been a long  
 day. I'll see you tomorrow, okay?

He kisses her on the cheek and leaves. Maggie is confused  
 and concerned by what just happened.

80 EXT. ETHEL'S PIE SHOP PARKING LOT

80

Sarah and Ryan reach their cars and she is about to get in  
 hers.

SARAH  
 I'll see you Thursday.

RYAN  
 Okay.

He starts to get in his car but stops.

RYAN (CONT'D)  
 Sarah.

She stops getting in her car also.

SARAH  
 Yeah?

RYAN  
 What's on your bucket list?

SARAH  
(shrugs)  
I don't have one.

RYAN  
Neither do I. But I think we  
should, shouldn't we?

SARAH  
Everyone should, I guess.  
(beat)  
What would be on yours?

RYAN  
Lots of stuff. Seeing places I've  
never been. Learning stuff about  
more than just medicine.  
(beat)  
And there's one thing... I don't  
know what made me just think of  
this.

SARAH  
What is it?

RYAN  
You'll think it's stupid.

SARAH  
You and I have sang karaoke and  
danced together. We're beyond  
stupid.

RYAN  
(beat - embarrassed)  
I've never flown a kite.

SARAH  
(gasps)  
Me, either. And I have always  
wanted to!

RYAN  
Really?

SARAH  
Yes! Since I was a little girl. I  
don't know why I never have.

RYAN  
Me either.  
(more to himself)  
We have something else in common.

SARAH  
I guess we do.

RYAN  
So... Should we?

SARAH  
I think we should!

He holds out his hand.

RYAN  
To the first item on our own bucket  
lists.

She takes his hand and they shake on it.

81 EXT. BUSINESS DISTRICT SIDEWALK - NIGHT

81

Teddy is walking down the sidewalk in the business district  
lost in thought when Maggie comes running up to catch up.

MAGGIE  
Teddy! Teddy, wait...

He stops and she takes his hands, very serious.

TEDDY  
What are you...

MAGGIE  
Listen... I want the tile. I do.  
I have never wanted anything more  
in my entire life than the tile.

TEDDY  
Why do I get the feeling you're not  
talking about floors anymore?

MAGGIE  
I know you want me to tell Sarah so  
we can get on with this, but...

TEDDY  
It's not about Sarah. It's about  
you.

MAGGIE  
Me?

TEDDY

Maggie, I proposed to you almost six weeks ago and you haven't picked up one bridal magazine, you don't care what kind of band we have at the reception, you don't want to book a venue... it makes me worry that...

MAGGIE

Oh no. No, no, no. I'm the worrier, remember? That's my job. You're supposed to be the one that is focused on the goal. You're supposed to be pragmatic.

TEDDY

I think I'm being romantic... Maybe hopelessly so.

MAGGIE

Don't say that.

TEDDY

What else am I supposed to say when my fiance doesn't even want to wear her engagement ring?

MAGGIE

(beat)

So... do you want it back?

TEDDY

No. But I also don't want it sitting in a box hidden in your sock drawer.

(beat)

Do you want to give it back?

MAGGIE

No!

TEDDY

Well, then what are we going to do?

Maggie doesn't have an answer to that and so all he can do is shrug and walk away. All Maggie can do is watch him go.

THE FOLLOWING BRIEF SCENES FLOW TOGETHER LIKE A MONTAGE, AS WE GET GLIMPSES OF WHAT HAPPENS OVER THE NEXT COUPLE OF WEEKS...

82 INT. DANCE STUDIO - NIGHT

82

Ryan and Sarah are dancing. They are not great at it at this point but they still look like they are having fun. He goes to dip her and they don't even come close - they tumble to the floor and sit there for a moment.

SARAH

I don't suppose we could make people believe we did that on purpose?

RYAN

I doubt it.

SARAH

Bright side?

RYAN

Hit me.

SARAH

When we fall on our faces while flying the kites, we can blame the kites.

RYAN

I like the way you think.

He stands up and holds out his hand. She takes it and they get ready to try again.

FADE TO:

83 INT. BOOKSTORE - DAY

83

Things are moving along at the bookstore - all the shelves are in and it looks like they are about ready to start painting the walls. Maggie, and Teddy are standing at the work table where various color swatches are laid out.

MAGGIE

I thought we had decided on the yellow.

TEDDY

You did, but this but this is not yellow. This is gold.

MAGGIE

It is not gold! It's yellow.

TEDDY

I'm sorry, but this is gold. Maybe even a little orange.

MAGGIE

Are you blind? It's yellow.

Sarah comes up to join the two of them at that moment and Teddy shakes his head and takes the paint sample Maggie was referring to.

TEDDY

Fine. It's yellow.

He takes the sample and walks away. Sarah is confused and concerned.

SARAH

What was that all about?

MAGGIE

(shakes her head)

Nothing. Just a difference of opinion.

Maggie walks away in the opposite direction from Teddy.

FADE TO:

84 INT. DANCE STUDIO - NIGHT

84

It's another night and another dance lesson. Ryan and Sarah are better than last time but still shaky.

SARAH

You think we can do it?

RYAN

I think we have to try.

SARAH

Are you sure? Oh, no!!!

They go in for the dip, manage to get it for a second, but then they fall again, landing out of the shot.

RYAN (O.S.)

That one was totally not my fault!

Sarah laughs loudly.

FADE TO:

85 EXT. LAWN - AFTERNOON

85

Outside the building that houses the recreation center is an expanse of lawn - simple and relatively unadorned - but lovely in its own way. Ellie and Nate are explaining the plans to Sarah.

ELLIE

I know it doesn't look like much now, but we're going to put a gazebo over there for the vows and the aisle here and the guests over there...

SARAH

I think it'll be lovely.

NATE

And inside the recreation center we're going to have the dance floor and the DJ.

SARAH

A DJ instead of a band?

NATE

(shrugs)

We both like gangsta rap and there aren't many good cover bands.

Sarah looks at them in shock for a moment.

NATE (CONT'D)

(to Ellie)

They fall for it every time.

ELLIE

(laughing)

See if you can get her to buy that property in Florida you've been trying to unload.

Sarah smiles, realizing she's been had.

FADE TO:

86 INT. DANCE STUDIO - NIGHT

86

Still another night and yes, they're going to try again.

RYAN

We're going to get it this time.

SARAH  
I hope so because my tailbone can't  
take much more.

Ryan stops dancing and starts to walk away.

RYAN  
Okay, see now you've put pressure  
on the situation.

SARAH  
(laughing)  
I'm sorry!

He runs back and tries to dip her but it goes horribly awry  
and they fall once again just as Nate and Ellie go waltzing  
by like Fred and Ginger.

FADE TO:

87 INT. BOOKSTORE - DAY

87

Maggie enters the bookstore construction area, which is abuzz  
today with workers making good progress. She looks around  
for Teddy but he is nowhere to be seen. Sarah comes down the  
stairs into the store.

MAGGIE  
Sarah, have you seen Teddy?

SARAH  
Oh, I forgot to tell you. He's out  
sick today.

MAGGIE  
Sick?

SARAH  
Yeah. Said he wasn't feeling up to  
it. But he gave the guys  
instructions on what needed to get  
done so I don't think we need to  
worry about falling behind  
schedule.

MAGGIE  
Okay...  
(beat)  
I'm glad there's nothing to be  
worried about.

But it's pretty obvious that Maggie is worried.

FADE TO:

88 EXT. PARK - LATE AFTERNOON

88

Sarah and Ryan are standing next to each other in a park but we don't get why at first.

RYAN

Okay, it has taken us almost two weeks but we finally have an afternoon off at the same time...

SARAH

Yes.

RYAN

It's sunny.

SARAH

Check.

RYAN

Windy but not too windy.

SARAH

Check.

RYAN

I think we're ready.

SARAH

I think so, too.

RYAN

Sarah Conrad?

SARAH

Yes?

RYAN

Go fly a kite!

SARAH

Same to you.

We pull back to reveal the two of them are holding simple, but colorful kites. They step back to let the wind catch them and start releasing the string from a spool allowing the kites to start flying up into the air.

SARAH (CONT'D)  
It's working! We're doing it!

The two of them laugh and celebrate as the kites fly up into the sunset.

We end the montage with one more...

FADE TO:

89 EXT. BOOKSTORE - EVENING 89

Establishing shot of the bookstore.

90 INT. BOOKSTORE - EVENING 90

Teddy is packing stuff into a toolbox when Maggie comes in. He stops when he sees her. The tension between the two of them is palpable.

MAGGIE  
So listen, I'm going to that book fair in Portland this weekend.

TEDDY  
Right. Yeah, I remember you telling me about that.

MAGGIE  
(nervously)  
And I was wondering... maybe you'd want to come with me?

TEDDY  
I don't think I can get away.

MAGGIE  
(disappointed)  
Oh.

TEDDY  
There's so much to do here. I'll probably be working all weekend.

MAGGIE  
Got it. Okay.

TEDDY  
I'm sorry.

MAGGIE

No, don't worry about it. We'll do it some other time. Portland isn't going anywhere.

Teddy nods and picks up his toolbox. He kisses her on the cheek on his way out.

TEDDY

I'll see you tomorrow.

Teddy is almost all the way out the door when...

MAGGIE

I'm going to tell her.

Teddy stops.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

I'm going to tell Sarah that we're engaged.

TEDDY

(cautiously optimistic)  
Really?

MAGGIE

Yes. After next week.

TEDDY

(disappointed)  
What's next week?

MAGGIE

It'll be a year... since Scott died. Once we put that behind us I think she'll be ready to move on.

TEDDY

What about you? Are you going to be ready?

MAGGIE

What do you mean?

TEDDY

(shakes his head)  
Never mind. Let's talk about this when you get back from Portland.

MAGGIE

Teddy, wait. I thought this is what you wanted. Sarah is...

TEDDY

Maggie, stop. I love you, I really do, and I believe you love me. But something is keeping you from... me. Something is stopping you from being with me. And it's not Sarah.

He turns and leaves and once again, Maggie is powerless to stop him.

91 EXT. ETHEL'S PIE SHOP - DAY 91

Establishing shot of the pie shop.

92 INT. ETHEL'S PIE SHOP - DAY 92

The pie shop is empty except for the always present Ethel as Gloria comes in. She walks up to the counter and Ethel approaches.

GLORIA

Hi. I wanted to ask you about some pies.

ETHEL

Really? What a surprise. A question about pies at a pie shop.

Gloria is a little taken aback by the sarcasm but she pushes on.

GLORIA

Yeah... I'm doing a favor for some friends. Actually, they're not friends, they're patients from the hospital that I work at and for some reason I told them I would help with their wedding and...

ETHEL

Is all of this leading up to the part where you order pies soon? Because if it's not, maybe I should sit down.

GLORIA

(beat)

Is the whole sarcasm thing going to make this process any faster? Because if it's not, then maybe I should sit down.

There is a pause as they size each other up.

ETHEL  
 (nods approvingly)  
 You're funny. Not as funny as me,  
 but...

GLORIA  
 (nods also, smiling)  
 I'll let you think that because  
 you're the one with the pies.

Ethel laughs and takes out her pad to take the order.

93 EXT. BOOKSTORE - EVENING 93

Establishing shot of the bookstore, focusing on Sarah's apartment.

94 INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT - EVENING 94

Sarah is rushing to get ready to go to the big dance class - all dressed up and transferring items from her purse into a bigger bag that could contain a change of clothes - when Maggie comes in the apartment.

MAGGIE  
 Sarah, did I leave the...  
 (sees her)  
 Wow. Look at you. What are you  
 all dressed up for?

SARAH  
 (caught!)  
 Oh... I'm uh... It's a thing for  
 class.

MAGGIE  
 Your yoga class?

SARAH  
 Yes. Right. It's a... it's fancy  
 yoga.

MAGGIE  
 (skeptical)  
 Fancy yoga?

SARAH  
 Yeah. You know how they have hot  
 yoga? This is fancy yoga. You get  
 dressed up.

(MORE)

SARAH (CONT'D)

It's supposed to unite your mind and body or something. I don't know. What are you doing here? I thought you were on your way to Portland.

MAGGIE

I couldn't find the credentials for the book fair. If I don't have them I can't get in. Did I leave them here?

SARAH

I don't think so. But look around. Maybe they're here. Or maybe you left them downstairs. Ask Teddy.

MAGGIE

I can't ask Teddy.

SARAH

Why not? What's going on with you two?

MAGGIE

(caught!)  
Nothing. He... uh... He doesn't like Portland.

SARAH

(skeptical)  
Really?

MAGGIE

Yeah. Something about the rain. He just hates Portland. I can't ask him about Portland. Don't make me ask him about Portland.

SARAH

Okay. Well, look around and maybe they'll turn up. I have to go.

MAGGIE

Okay. I'll be back on Sunday.

SARAH

Travel safe.

They hug briefly and Sarah heads for the door. She looks back and sees the obviously sad Maggie.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Are you sure there's nothing you want to talk about?

MAGGIE

What do you mean?

SARAH

He hates Portland?

MAGGIE

Fancy yoga?

And we have a stand off. Both of them obviously know something is going on with the other but they both have gone so far with their own deceptions that it's almost impossible to open up at this point.

Sarah goes over to Maggie and hugs her.

SARAH

I love you.

MAGGIE

I love you.

Sarah kisses her friend on the cheek and rushes out the door. Maggie takes a deep breath to stop herself from crying and then starts looking around for the credentials.

95 EXT. DANCE STUDIO - NIGHT 95

Establishing shot of the dance studio.

96 INT. DANCE STUDIO - NIGHT 96

The class, including Ryan, Sarah, Ellie, and Nate are assembled off to the side of the main dance floor, getting ready. Sarah has is sets down the gym bag with her stuff in it and then stands next to Ryan.

SARAH

This is it.

RYAN

Yep.

SARAH

Last class.

RYAN

Final grade.

SARAH  
Last dance.

RYAN  
Last chance.

SARAH  
Don't start... no... Oh no, now  
I've got Donna Summer in my head.

RYAN  
(panicked)  
I'm sorry! Shake it off.

They try to shake off their nerves.

SARAH  
We can do this.

RYAN  
Totally.

SARAH  
We're, like, going to kill it.

RYAN  
Absolutely.

SARAH  
(beat)  
Or we're going to die trying.

RYAN  
That's a possibility.

They look terrified but take their place in the center of the dance floor.

SARAH  
Ready?

RYAN  
Ready.

Dramatic Latin ballroom music starts playing.

Ryan and Sarah do the routine they have been practicing all these weeks. They may not be ready for competition, but they are pretty good and they get better and more confident as they go. All of the people in the class, including Ellie and Nate, are impressed.

Then they come to the end... the dreaded dip... and they nail it!

The classroom erupts into applause and the Ryan pulls her back up. Their eyes lock and the moment we have been waiting for is about to happen... they are about to kiss and each of them knows it!

But then they don't. The class, led by Ellie and Nate, come up to congratulate them, pulling them apart from one another into separate little groups of well-wishers.

They each look back over their shoulder at one another.

97 EXT. BOOKSTORE - NIGHT 97

Establishing shot of the bookstore, focusing in on Sarah's apartment.

98 INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 98

Maggie is still searching around Sarah's apartment for the credentials.

Maggie goes to the table stacked high with papers and starts going through them. She drops a couple and they fall on top of, and partially into, Sarah's purse, which is sitting open on the floor.

She leans down to pick up the papers and pulls them out, looking at them. One of them is Scott's bucket list. Maggie sits down as she starts to read it, her expression growing sadder as she goes.

MAGGIE

"Be a stand up comic at an open mic night."

(beat)

Oh, Sarah...

She keeps reading the list.

99 EXT. ETHEL'S PIE SHOP - NIGHT 99

Establishing shot of the pie shop.

100 INT. ETHEL'S PIE SHOP - NIGHT 100

Ryan and Sarah are sitting in their usual place. Ethel walks over to them and does her usual stand and glare, but instead of ordering the two of them just sit there, both still a little stunned.

Ethel doesn't know what to do with that. She furrows her brow as if trying to figure them out but eventually just shrugs her shoulders and walks away.

RYAN  
Do we need to...

SARAH  
Talk?

RYAN  
Yeah.

SARAH  
Probably.

RYAN  
(shrugging it off)  
Because that was...

SARAH  
(agreeing)  
Yeah. You know, it was...

They are silent for a moment.

RYAN  
Maybe... I don't know, maybe we  
don't need to talk about it.

SARAH  
Yeah. What's to talk about?

RYAN  
Right.

There is another moment of silence, still uncomfortable.

RYAN (CONT'D)  
Should we order?

SARAH  
Yes, absolutely.

They both bury their heads in the menu.

101 EXT. ETHEL'S PIE SHOP PARKING LOT - NIGHT

101

Sarah and Ryan reach their respective cars just like always but still seem uncomfortable.

SARAH  
So I'll see you Sunday?

RYAN  
(nods)  
Same time.

They both turn to their cars but then stop as if they are having the same thought at the same moment.

They both turn around and face one another again.

RYAN (CONT'D)  
So about that thing we said we didn't need to talk about?

SARAH  
(hopeful)  
Yes?

RYAN  
I still don't think we should talk about it.

SARAH  
(a bit disappointed)  
Oh.

RYAN  
I think we should do something about it.

SARAH  
(nervous)  
Okay.

They step closer to one another and he puts his hand to her cheek, tenderly. They start to lean into each other for the kiss, but...

RYAN  
Wait.

SARAH  
What?

RYAN  
When we tell the story later of our first kiss... can we say it happened someplace more romantic than a parking lot?

SARAH  
(smiles)  
Absolutely.

They lean in and share that first kiss.

- 102 INT. ETHEL'S PIE SHOP - CONTINUOUS 102  
Ethel is wiping down the counter, grim expression fully in place. She looks up and out the window to see Ryan and Sarah kissing. Her grimace turns to a smile. She nods approvingly.
- 103 EXT. RYAN'S APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT 103  
Establishing shot of Ryan's apartment building.
- 104 INT. RYAN'S APARTMENT BEDROOM - NIGHT 104  
Ryan comes into his bedroom, smiling. He falls back onto the bed, satisfied and happy. Then he turns and sees the photos of Harper on the bedside table and the smile turns wistful.  
He sits up and picks up the photo. After looking at it for a moment, he pulls the chain with his wedding ring off his neck and removes the ring.  
This time instead of putting it back on his finger, he puts it in a small box on the bedside table. Then he puts the picture back in its place, satisfied.
- 105 EXT. BOOKSTORE - NIGHT 105  
Establishing shot of the bookstore, focusing in on Sarah's apartment.
- 106 INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 106  
Sarah is also smiling as she walks into her apartment. She moves some papers out of the way to sit down on her couch, contentedly.  
She looks around her crowded, messy apartment and all the boxes, papers, and junk scattered around. She takes a deep breath and stands and exits the room.
- 107 INT. BOOKSTORE - CONTINUOUS 107  
Sarah comes down the stairs and looks around for something specific. She sees it.

108 INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS 108

Sarah comes back into the living room with a big plastic trash can. She opens a box and starts taking things out of it, looking at it, and then throwing them into the trash can.

109 EXT. BOOKSTORE - DAY 109

Establishing shot of the bookstore, focusing in on Sarah's apartment.

110 INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - DAY 110

The next morning, Teddy walks up the stairs and into Sarah's apartment.

TEDDY

Sarah? Have you seen the...

He stops when he sees several trash cans stuffed with junk. The room is still a mess but a serious dent has been put into it. Sarah is amidst the chaos.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

Trash cans?

SARAH

Hi. Sorry, yes. I was... spring cleaning.

TEDDY

I see that.  
(beat - smiles)  
Good for you.

He turns and heads for the door but she stops him.

SARAH

Teddy?  
(beat)  
This is totally inappropriate. I recognize that. But... I'm worried about Maggie. She's... unhappy about something and I think it has something to do with you. And so, it's none of my business but she's my best friend and so that kind of makes it my business, you know?

TEDDY

You should ask her about this.

SARAH  
I have. She won't tell me. Teddy,  
please. I just want to help.

TEDDY  
(deep breath)  
Sarah... Maggie and I...

SARAH  
Oh. Oh! You two are seeing each  
other. How long has this been  
going on?

TEDDY  
Six months.

SARAH  
Six months?! So what happened?  
Did you break up with her?

TEDDY  
No... We got engaged.

SARAH  
Engaged?!

She jumps up, laughing, and hugs him.

SARAH (CONT'D)  
You're engaged?! Maggie is  
engaged?! I'm so happy for you!

TEDDY  
You are?

SARAH  
Of course I am. She's wonderful,  
you're wonderful. Why wouldn't I  
be happy?

TEDDY  
She was worried that it would make  
you sad... because of your husband.

SARAH  
What? That's...  
(beat - more to herself)  
... that's exactly why I was  
keeping secrets from her.

TEDDY  
She was going to tell you after the  
anniversary.

SARAH  
What anniversary?

TEDDY  
Of the day your husband... It's  
next weekend, right? The 23rd?

SARAH  
No, it's...

She realizes that he is right and it hits her hard.

SARAH (CONT'D)  
No... No that can't be...

She goes to the table and flips a few dates on the calendar.  
It is. All she can do is gasp and put her hand to her mouth  
to keep from bursting into tears.

TEDDY  
Sarah?

Sarah looks around the apartment and then rushes over to the  
trash cans. She starts pulling things out of them.

SARAH  
I can't get rid of this stuff. It  
was too soon. Everything was too  
soon.

TEDDY  
Sarah...

SARAH  
Just go. Please?

Teddy leaves and Sarah keeps pulling things out of the cans.

111 EXT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY 111

Establishing shot of the coffee shop.

112 INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY 112

Gloria and Ryan are once again in line at the coffee place.  
The woman we have seen before is in front of them again.  
Ryan is humming a jaunty little tune, and smiling.

GLORIA  
Has anyone ever told you that  
humming is annoying?

RYAN

No it's not.

The woman in front of them turns around and nods to say, yes it is.

RYAN (CONT'D)

Well, I'm sorry. But happy people hum.

GLORIA

Annoying people hum. Why are you happy?

RYAN

Let's just say I'll probably be having a "plus one" to Ellie and Nate's wedding next weekend.

GLORIA

Really? Cemetery girl?

RYAN

Let's not call her that, but yes. Sarah. I found out we have more in common than just our loss.

GLORIA

(not convinced)  
Okay. Good.

RYAN

Plus, I told her my war story.

GLORIA

Your what?

RYAN

My dating war story. Remember you told me that I'd tell that to the person I really wanted to be out there with?

(beat)

She's the one I want to be out there with.

Gloria doesn't respond.

RYAN (CONT'D)

Look, I know you're concerned and I love you for it. And I get it. We both have a lot of baggage and it might be too hard. But I think it's...

(MORE)

RYAN (CONT'D)

I think *she* is worth the effort.

(beat)

Be happy for me, okay?

Gloria doesn't respond again, still skeptical, but then the woman in front turns around and nods again. Gloria rolls her eyes.

GLORIA

Okay, you can hum.

He smiles and kisses her on the cheek.

113 EXT. RYAN'S APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT 113

Establishing shot of Ryan's apartment building.

114 INT. RYAN'S APARTMENT BEDROOM - NIGHT 114

Ryan gets home and does his usual discard of his stuff, which is to say most of it goes on the floor. As he heads to the bed he spies the invitation to Ellie and Nate's wedding on the bedside table. He picks it up and considers it for a moment - then picks up his phone and considers that as well.

There is some silent back and forth here that seems to imply his thought process going something like: I should call, I shouldn't call, I want to call, I don't want to scare her away, oh to heck with it, I'm calling.

He dials the phone but gets her voice mail.

SARAH (O.S.)

Hi, this is Sarah. I'm not available right now but if you'll leave a message I'll return you call as soon as possible. Thank you!

The beep prompts him.

RYAN

Hey, Sarah, it's Ryan. So you know that Ellie and Nate's wedding is next weekend, right? Of course you know that. We talked about it. They invited you and you're going. Or you said you were going. Unless you're not going. Regardless, I'm going and I was just wondering if you wanted to go? Together. Go together. To the wedding.

He shakes his head as if to say, "wow, I suck at this."

115 EXT. BOOKSTORE - NIGHT 115

Establishing shot of the bookstore, focusing in on Sarah's apartment.

116 INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 116

Sarah comes into her living room, which is now in a total state of disarray. She has her phone to her ear and is listening to the voice mail Ryan left.

RYAN (O.S.)

...To the wedding. Anyway, it's next weekend, Saturday the 23rd so let's go together. Call me. Or we can talk about it this weekend over pie. Same time? Bye.

Sarah disconnects the call and sets the phone down on the table. She picks up the calendar and sees the 23rd circled with just a single word written down - Scott.

She starts to cry.

117 EXT. CEMETERY MAIN DRIVE - DAY 117

Ryan is in his usual spot at the cemetery but Sarah is nowhere to be seen. He looks at his watch and then looks around, even though he knows she won't be there. He pulls out his phone and sends a text, then goes to get in his car.

118 INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - DAY 118

Sarah is sitting at counter with a cup of coffee, staring out the window. Her phone chimes and she looks at the text.

RYAN MCCORMICK: I haven't heard from you. I hope I didn't do something wrong but if I did, can I buy you a piece of pie to make up for it?

Sarah smiles a little but then gets serious again. She pauses for a moment and then gets up, resolutely.

119 EXT. ETHEL'S PIE SHOP - DAY 119

Establishing shot of the pie shop.

120 INT. ETHEL'S PIE SHOP - DAY

120

Ryan is sitting by himself at the counter dejectedly. Sarah comes in and slides into the seat next to him.

RYAN  
(surprised)  
Hi.

SARAH  
Hi.

RYAN  
Are you okay?

SARAH  
(shakes her head)  
No.

RYAN  
(beat)  
What's going on?

She closes her eyes for a moment, then shakes her head.

SARAH  
I can't do this. I'm not ready.

RYAN  
Sarah...

SARAH  
Do you remember what it was like the first time you realized you had gone a whole hour without thinking about Harper? And the first time you realized that you hadn't said her name out loud in days? Or the first time you realized that you were starting to forget what she looked like?

RYAN  
(beat)  
It's like your heart breaks all over again.

SARAH  
Exactly.  
(beat)  
I'm not ready. I'm sorry.

She puts her hand on his arm and then leaves without another word.

Ryan turns to say something to stop her but can't come up with the right words. He turns back to the counter and puts his head in his hands.

A moment later a plate with an extra large slice of pumpkin pie is placed in front of him gently. Ryan raises his head and sees Ethel standing there - for once she does not have a look of disdain or contempt on her face. She actually looks like she feels sorry for him.

ETHEL

On the house.

She pulls out a can of whipped cream and puts a generous portion on top of his pie.

RYAN

(smiles a little)

Thank you.

Ethel nods sympathetically and then walks away.

121 EXT. BOOKSTORE - NIGHT 121

Establishing shot of the bookstore.

122 INT. BOOKSTORE - NIGHT 122

Only one set of work lights is on, leaving the room mostly in shadows. Sarah is sitting on the floor, her back against the unfinished sales counter, when Maggie enters with a suitcase having just returned from Portland.

MAGGIE

Sarah...

Sarah doesn't respond.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

Are you okay?

Sarah shakes her head, "no."

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

Teddy called me. I'm sorry I didn't tell you...

SARAH

Don't.

MAGGIE

But, let me explain...

SARAH

You don't have to explain. I get it. Both of us have spent the last year trying to keep the sadness away from me. You were so worried that I would be sad that you kept this huge secret. And I put on a brave face because I didn't want anyone to know just how sad I really was.

MAGGIE

Sarah...

SARAH

Maggie, we're fine. I love you. And I'm really happy for you. But right now I just need to be sad for a while, okay?

Maggie pauses for a moment, tears in her eyes, and then nods and walks away.

THE FOLLOWING BRIEF SCENES FLOW TOGETHER LIKE A MONTAGE, AS WE GET GLIMPSES OF WHAT HAPPENS OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS...

123 INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

123

Gloria and Ryan are sitting at a table at the coffee shop this time.

RYAN

So that's the whole story.

GLORIA

I'm sorry.

RYAN

Aren't you going to say "I told you so?"

GLORIA

No.

(beat)

I did tell you so, but I'm not going to say it.

Ryan smiles a little.

RYAN

You love being right all the time, don't you?

GLORIA  
Not all the time.

She puts her hand on his arm in a friendly gesture of comfort.

FADE TO:

124 INT. BOOKSTORE - DAY

124

Maggie and Teddy are standing at the bottom of the stairs leading up to Sarah's apartment.

MAGGIE  
She has barely come out of her place for three days. I can't get her to talk. She just...

TEDDY  
She needs time.

MAGGIE  
But I need to...

TEDDY  
You need to stop worrying so much.

MAGGIE  
Yeah. Because I have been so good at that in the past.

Teddy nods and walks away.

FADE TO:

125 EXT. LAWN - DAY

125

Nate and Ellie are supervising as the lawn is being transformed into the wedding venue with workers setting up chairs, the altar, and more. Ryan is there with them.

ELLIE  
(to Ryan)  
And the reverend asks who gives this woman's hand, blah, blah, and you say...

RYAN  
Her family and friends gathered here today do.

NATE  
Very well done.

RYAN  
(shrugs)  
I practiced.

A man carrying a clipboard walks up to Nate and indicates that he needs a signature. Nate turns to do this while Ellie pulls Ryan aside.

ELLIE  
So, Sarah called. Said she  
couldn't make it to the wedding.  
Is everything okay with you two?

RYAN  
It's fine. She's going through a  
rough time, but I'm sure she'll be  
all right.

ELLIE  
Shame. I thought you two made a  
wonderful couple.

RYAN  
Oh, we were never a couple, really.  
Just friends.

ELLIE  
Those are the best couples.

Ellie pats him on the cheek.

FADE TO:

126 INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

126

Sarah is sitting at the counter with a laptop and headphones, listening to the Italian lessons we heard at the beginning.

INSTRUCTOR (O.S.)  
I like you. *Mi piaci.*

SARAH  
*Mi piaci.*

INSTRUCTOR (O.S.)  
I hate you. *Ti odio.*

SARAH  
*Ti odio.*

INSTRUCTOR (O.S.)  
I miss you. *Mi manchi.*

SARAH  
(beat - very personal)  
I miss you.

She takes off the headphones and looks out the window.

FADE TO:

127 INT. RYAN'S APARTMENT BEDROOM - DAY 127

We start with a focus on the invitation to Nate and Ellie's wedding as an indication that today is the big day. Then we PAN to find Ryan putting the final touches on his suit so he can go to the ceremony.

As he checks his tie in the mirror he sees the bedside table with the picture of Harper in the reflection.

He turns and goes to the table and looks at the picture for a moment, then picks up the box. He opens it and pulls out the wedding ring, thinking about it for a moment. But eventually he puts it back inside the box and puts it back down.

He heads for the door.

FADE TO:

128 INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - DAY 128

We start with a focus on the calendar that has the date of the 23rd circled with Scott's name underneath. Then we PAN to find Sarah coming out of the bedroom, putting her earrings on. She's wearing a tasteful but somber dress.

Sarah checks her hair in the mirror and spies a box in the reflection that draws her attention.

She turns and goes to it, opens it, and rummages through the contents for a moment. Finally she finds what she was looking for - the picture of her and Scott on the beach during their honeymoon. She puts it in her purse and heads for the stairs.

FADE TO:

129 EXT. LAWN - DAY

129

Ellie, holding a bouquet of flowers, is standing calmly as Ryan steps up to her.

RYAN  
Are you ready?

She smiles and nods just as the wedding march starts to play in the background.

Ryan holds out his arm and Ellie takes it just as we PULL BACK to reveal that they are standing just around the corner from the main aisle for the wedding. There are several rows of seats filled with guests, one of whom is Gloria, and the altar at the end has Nate, a reverend, a matron of honor, and a best man.

Ryan and Ellie start down the aisle.

FADE TO:

130 EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

130

Sarah is standing next to the door of her car as Maggie steps up to her.

MAGGIE  
Are you ready?

Sarah nods and we PULL BACK to reveal that they are standing alongside the drive in the cemetery where Ryan and Sarah first met.

Sarah, holding a bouquet of flowers, and Maggie start walking up the hill toward Scott's grave.

FADE TO:

131 EXT. LAWN - DAY

131

Ryan and Ellie are walking down the aisle, smiling.

132 EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

132

Sarah and Maggie are walking amongst the tombstones somberly.

133 EXT. LAWN - DAY

133

Ryan hands Ellie off to Nate at the altar.

REVEREND

Who gives this woman in marriage to  
this man?

RYAN

Her family and friends gathered  
here today do.

Ellie takes both of Ryan's hands and gives them a good  
squeeze of thanks then he goes to sit down next to Gloria.

FADE TO:

134 EXT. CEMETERY - DAY 134

Sarah and Maggie are at Scott's grave and Sarah leans down to  
put the flowers by his tombstone.

As she stands back up, Maggie takes both of her hands and  
gives them a good squeeze of comfort.

FADE TO:

135 EXT. LAWN - DAY 135

The ceremony is winding up.

REVEREND

By the power vested in me by the  
state, I now pronounce you husband  
and wife. You may kiss the bride.

Ellie and Nate kiss as the crowd, including Ryan and Gloria,  
breaks out into enthusiastic applause.

Ellie and Nate start walking down the aisle.

FADE TO:

136 EXT. LAWN - DAY 136

Sarah kisses her fingers and then touches them to the picture  
of her and Scott on their honeymoon. She then adds the  
picture to the bouquet of flowers.

Sarah joins Maggie who is standing a few feet away and they  
walk down the hill back toward the car.

We end the montage with one last:

FADE TO:

137 EXT. BOOKSTORE - DAY 137

Establishing shot of the bookstore, focusing in on Sarah's apartment.

138 INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - DAY 138

Maggie sits down at the counter while Sarah is in the kitchen making a pot of coffee.

MAGGIE

He'd be so annoyed right now.

SARAH

Who?

MAGGIE

Scott. He'd hate that we're being all serious and somber. He'd want us telling scandalous stories about all the dumb things he did.

SARAH

(beat)

Remember the bear?

Maggie bursts out laughing and Sarah joins her. Through this their laughter builds.

MAGGIE

I haven't thought of that in years!

SARAH

We were at that cabin at the lake. Double date, me and Scott and you and.... Oh what was his name?

MAGGIE

William.

SARAH

William! With the hand sanitizer every five minutes.

MAGGIE

I'm like, dude, it's the woods. There's going to be dirt.

SARAH

And Scott, Mr. Manly Man, is so terrified of every sound. "It's a raccoon! It's a bear!"

MAGGIE

"It's going to eat us!"

SARAH

So we wait until he's asleep and then we go get the bear skin rug from the living room...

MAGGIE

I have never seen a human being run that fast in my entire life.

They have dissolved into uncontrollable giggles. They slowly get themselves under control.

SARAH

Whatever happened to William?

MAGGIE

I have no idea. We were obviously not soul mates.

SARAH

(beat)

Teddy is though?

MAGGIE

(beat)

I think so. Yes. I'm sorry.

SARAH

Don't be. You aren't the only one who was keeping secrets.

Sarah goes to her purse to pull out the bucket list. She hands it to Maggie.

MAGGIE

I already knew about this. I saw it by accident last week. It really helped to explain you doing bad jokes at that open mic night a couple of months ago.

SARAH

You saw that?

MAGGIE

(nods)

Why didn't you tell me?

SARAH

The same reason you didn't tell me about Teddy. The same reason I didn't tell you about Ryan.

MAGGIE

Ryan?

SARAH

I met a guy. The doctor. The one at the ER when I broke my wrist?

MAGGIE

I remember him.

SARAH

He lost his wife and we... talked. A lot. We talked about everything. Scott, his wife, how they died, what they were like when they were alive, what it felt like to be alone. We understood each other's sadness. And I think we made each other a little less sad.

MAGGIE

It sounds like he was helping you get over Scott.

SARAH

But I'm not ready to be over him. I'm not done. We weren't done.

Sarah finally allows herself to cry and now its Maggie comforting her instead of the other way around.

139 EXT. RECREATION CENTER - NIGHT

139

Establishing shot of the recreation center.

140 INT. RECREATION CENTER - NIGHT

140

The room has been transformed into a very nice place for a reception with the DJ, the dance floor, and tables for food. Ryan is sitting at one of the tables with a melancholy smile watching Ellie and Nate dance.

Gloria comes to take a seat next to Ryan.

GLORIA

It was a nice wedding.

RYAN

Yes it was.

Ryan is looking around the room, trying to see if Sarah is there.

GLORIA

What's wrong with you?

RYAN

Nothing.

GLORIA

Ryan, I spend more time with you than I do with my own children. I know when something is wrong.

RYAN

(sighs)

Sarah.

GLORIA

Cemetery girl?

RYAN

Yes, but please stop calling her that.

GLORIA

I thought she wasn't coming.

RYAN

She's not. I just thought maybe...

GLORIA

Listen, you know I had reservations but it was good to see you happy. I could've done without the humming...

RYAN

Happy people hum!

GLORIA

Sociopaths hum!

RYAN

Well, you don't have to worry about it because I don't think I'm going to be humming anytime soon.

GLORIA

That's what I'm saying. If it's a choice between you happy and humming or you miserable and not... I'd rather that you were humming.

RYAN

Thank you.  
(beat)  
How do you feel about whistling?

GLORIA

I will break your lips.

Ellie and Nate come up to the table.

NATE

Hey, there's the man of the hour!

RYAN

I think that's you, Nate, not me.

NATE

Ah, we can both be man of the hour. Besides my work is done. You still have to give a toast.

RYAN

I do? I didn't prepare anything.

ELLIE

Don't worry about it, sweetheart. You're an ER doctor. You're good under pressure!

Nate and Ellie dance their way off while Ryan is left to try to figure out what to say in his toast.

141 EXT. BOOKSTORE - NIGHT 141

Establishing shot of the bookstore.

142 INT. BOOKSTORE - NIGHT 142

Sarah and Maggie are taking books from the counter and putting them on shelves.

SARAH

I think you're mixing the fiction with the biographies.

Maggie looks at the books.

MAGGIE

(shrugs)

Most of the biographies are about dead people. They're not going to care.

SARAH

Our customers might.

MAGGIE

We're two weeks from opening and we still don't have a name. I think they're going to care about that more.

SARAH

That's the Way the Bookie Crumbles?

MAGGIE

Stop it.

SARAH

Or... how about the Bucket List? Opening the bookstore is the number one thing on there.

Sarah is standing by the counter as she says this. The list is there and she holds it up. Maggie comes to take a look.

MAGGIE

How many of these have you done?

SARAH

A little more than half. Long ways to go to get it finished.

MAGGIE

You're not really going to do all of it, are you?

SARAH

Of course. Somebody has to.

MAGGIE

Why? I mean, don't get me wrong Sarah, I loved Scott and I would have done anything to make him happy. And I love that you want to do all of this but... this was his list. Not yours. Don't you have things you want to do?

SARAH

Of course. But I can do both. I can do things from the list and things for me at the same time.

MAGGIE

But have you? Sarah, look around. This is Scott's dream, not yours. All that stuff in boxes upstairs is your life with Scott, not yours alone. You have spent the last year surrounding yourself with nothing but Scott. Name one thing you did for yourself. Just one.

Sarah thinks about it for a moment.

SARAH

(smiles at the memory)  
I flew a kite.

MAGGIE

You did? What made you to do that?

SARAH

I always wanted to. Ever since I was a kid.

MAGGIE

No, I mean, what made you to do that *when* you did it?

SARAH

(beat - realization)  
Ryan.  
(beat - inspiration)  
I have to go.

She runs out of the bookstore but then a moment later runs back in and gives Maggie a huge bear hug. She releases her but looks her squarely in the eye.

SARAH (CONT'D)

You being in love with Teddy? That would've made Scott happy.

She kisses Maggie on the cheek and runs out again. Maggie smiles as she contemplates what Sarah has just said. She pulls out her phone.

144 INT. RECREATION CENTER - NIGHT

144

The party is in full swing. Gloria comes up to Ryan who is jotting notes on a piece of paper.

GLORIA

What are you doing?

RYAN

Trying to figure out what I'm going to say in this toast.

GLORIA

What have you got so far?

RYAN

(reads)

The bond between two people who love each other is strong, no matter how old it gets...

GLORIA

Oh no. No, no, no.

She takes the paper and tears it up.

RYAN

I know. It's terrible. I can bring a dead person back to life but I can't come up with a few things to say for a wedding toast? What is wrong with me?

GLORIA

When you're in the ER and you have to help a patient, do you have the whole thing written down? Do you know everything you're going to do?

RYAN

Of course not.

GLORIA

So how do you handle it?

RYAN

I just wait for inspiration to strike and go with my heart.

GLORIA

Sounds like a good plan for your toast.

Gloria pats him on the shoulder and walks away.

145 INT. SARAH'S CAR - NIGHT 145

Sarah is driving as quickly as she can through the Downtown area of the city we have seen before when she hears a loud pop and the car jerks.

SARAH  
What? No! No!

She steers the car to the side of the road and gets out.

146 EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS 146

Sarah gets out of the car and runs around to the passenger side to see that she has a flat tire.

SARAH  
Oh, come on! Really?

Sarah looks around as if looking for help but then she spots something. It makes her smile.

147 EXT. SOUVENIR STORE - NIGHT 147

Jeff is outside again as Sarah runs up. Jeff sees her and tries to walk away.

JEFF  
(shakes his head)  
No.

SARAH  
Oh, please, please?

JEFF  
You almost got me fired last time.  
My manager had to change the sign  
in the back to "zero days since a  
workplace accident."

SARAH  
I'm sorry. But this is really  
important. It's...

JEFF  
For your list. I get it.

SARAH  
No... It's not for the list. This  
time it's for me.

She looks at him imploringly.

148 EXT. STREET - NIGHT 148

Sarah is zooming down the street on the scooter, wearing a helmet, with a smile so big that it threatens to fall off the edges of her face. She screams a victorious "Woooooo!"

149 EXT. BOOKSTORE - NIGHT 149

Establishing shot of the bookstore.

150 INT. BOOKSTORE - NIGHT 150

Now that the bookstore is almost done, the atmosphere in the room is much less harsh than the construction lights allowed. It is softly lit and warm - a comfortable space.

Teddy comes in, looking around.

TEDDY

Maggie? Maggie, are you here? I got your...

Maggie steps out from the same place that he came from in the early scene when appeared in his suit and proposed to her. Here, she is wearing a lovely, simple dress. He sees her and is taken aback.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

...message.  
(beat - means it)  
You look beautiful.

MAGGIE

Thank you.

Maggie walks over to him and hands him the engagement ring box. He looks at it for a moment and then at her, sadly.

TEDDY

I don't understand.

MAGGIE

Have I ever told you about the time when Scott and I were little and we were convinced that we could catch Santa Claus so we laid out booby traps?

TEDDY

No.

MAGGIE

How about when we were in high school and he made *me* ask the girl he wanted to go to prom with if she'd go with him?

TEDDY

(shakes his head)

No.

MAGGIE

Or how about when he and Sarah got married, I walked him down the aisle because it's the only way I could get him to agree to walk me down the aisle at my wedding some day?

TEDDY

(heart breaks for her)

Oh... Maggie...

MAGGIE

I want you to know who Scott was. Because he was a really cool guy. And he really would've like you. And he would've been so mad at me that I almost ruined what you and I have because I didn't know how to do something as big as get married without him.

She steps away from him.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

Ask me again.

TEDDY

(confused)

Ask you?

Maggie nods toward the ring in his hand.

MAGGIE

Ask me again. Please?

Teddy smiles and gets down on one knee.

TEDDY

Maggie Conrad...

She grabs him and pulls him to his feet.

MAGGIE  
Yes, yes, yes!

They kiss.

151 EXT. RECREATION CENTER - NIGHT 151

Establishing shot of the recreation center.

152 INT. RECREATION CENTER - NIGHT 152

The music has stopped while the speeches have happened. Nate and Ellie are standing on the dance floor with microphones next to the wedding cake. People are applauding as the woman we saw as the matron of honor earlier walks off the dance floor.

ELLIE  
Thank you, Hester, for that lovely toast. I'm still going to crush you on the golf course when I get back from my honeymoon, but I appreciate the toast anyway.

The crowd laughs.

ELLIE (CONT'D)  
Okay, who's next?

NATE  
Ryan.

ELLIE  
Ryan! Of course, Ryan. The lovely young man who walked me down the aisle. Ryan, come on up.

Ryan walks up to join them on the dance floor.

ELLIE (CONT'D)  
(to the crowd)  
He's a doctor by the way. Look at that face!

She pinches his cheek as she hands him the microphone.

RYAN  
(nervously looking down)  
Hi, everyone. I'm Ryan. Uh... I met Ellie and Nate in the emergency room, which they visit way too often.

That gets a good chuckle from the room, which makes Ryan look up. As he does, the door at the back of the room opens and Sarah steps in, still wearing the helmet.

Ryan sees her and smiles, then cocks his head a bit... helmet?

Sarah smiles and then realizes she has the helmet on, so she takes it off quickly.

During the toast we cut from him giving it to Nate and Ellie appreciate it, Gloria encouraging it, and Sarah completely understanding it.

RYAN (CONT'D)

You know, I didn't really prepare anything for this toast. I was just hoping inspiration would strike.

(beat)

I lost my wife, Harper, about a year and a half ago. And after that I thought, well that's it. I had the great love of my life but now that book is closed. I'll just be alone. And I was, for a long time. But tonight, seeing Nate and Ellie getting married - Nate and Ellie who have both lost people that they loved very much and yet found love again - I'm seeing them and now I'm wondering, who decided we could only ever have one great love in our life? Because that person was wrong. You can have more than one because every love is different. It's not better or worse, greater or lesser, it's just different. Love arrives in your life when you need it most. All you have to do is be open to finding it. The book isn't closed, it's just starting the next chapter.

He raises his glass.

RYAN (CONT'D)

To Ellie and Nate's next chapter.  
And to next chapters everywhere.

Everyone raises their glass and cheers the toast as they drink and the music starts up again.

Ellie and Nate come up to thank Ryan with handshakes and kisses. Ryan tries to keep his eye on Sarah who smiles and nods her head toward the outside as if to say, "come meet me out there."

153 EXT. LAWN - NIGHT

153

The lawn where the ceremony was held is all lit up with twinkling lights softly glowing above the chairs and gazebo.

Sarah is standing at the head of the aisle, appreciating it all when Ryan comes up to join her.

RYAN

Hi.

SARAH

Hi.

RYAN

I have a very important question for you.

SARAH

Okay.

RYAN

Why were you wearing a helmet?

SARAH

(smiles)

I had another fight with gravity. Only this time I won.

RYAN

Glad to hear it.

There is a moment of silence between them but it isn't at all uncomfortable.

SARAH

That was a good toast.

RYAN

Thanks. I guess inspiration struck.

SARAH

I guess so. I'm sort of hoping it happens to me, too.

RYAN

What?

SARAH

Inspiration striking. I need to say something and I don't know how to say it...

Ryan reaches out and takes her hands.

RYAN

Just go with your heart.

Sarah smiles.

SARAH

When Scott died it took over my whole world. The bookstore, the bucket list... Even you, at first. Our conversations were all about what we lost. It was still all about Scott. And then one day I realized it had started to be about you which was scary because I thought that to let you in I had to let him go. I couldn't figure out how to make room in my heart for both of you.

RYAN

And now?

SARAH

We're never going to stop loving them. But it doesn't mean we can't love other people or be loved by other people. Think of how amazing that is. Think of how lucky we would be if we could have loves like Scott and Harper... and then have it all again.

RYAN

The book isn't closed...

SARAH

We're just starting the next chapter.

They kiss and we PULL UP to get a full appreciation of the two of them in the twinkle-light lit wedding scene.

154 INT. SARAH'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - DAY

154

Maggie, who is standing impatiently by the door. The apartment is still in chaos but there are a few more trash cans up there waiting to be filled.

MAGGIE

Sarah, hurry up! They're waiting.

Sarah rushes out of her bedroom pulling on a light jacket to go with her dress.

SARAH

I'm almost ready. Don't worry.

MAGGIE

I never worry.

SARAH

Uh-huh.

Sarah goes to the counter and picks up something in a frame.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Okay... let's go.

They head for the stairs.

155 EXT. BOOKSTORE - DAY

155

There is a small crowd of a couple dozen people gathered outside the store that includes Ryan, Teddy, Nate, Ellie, and Gloria. The building is all gussied up and ready for its debut, with a "Grand Opening" sign in the window.

The main sign above the windows is covered with a big white tarp.

A small podium with a microphone is set up in front of the crowd.

Sarah and Maggie come out of the front door and Sarah goes to the microphone.

SARAH

Hi everyone. Thank you for coming out today for our grand opening!

There is a small round of appreciative applause.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Inside there are refreshments including some really amazing pies courtesy of Ethel's Pie Shop.

Sarah points into the crowd and we reveal that even Ethel has come out for this. The crowd applauds and Ethel just grimaces and nods.

SARAH (CONT'D)

But before we open the doors, I wanted to tell you a little story.

She holds up the frame, which contains Scott's bucket list inside of it.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Once upon a time, my husband Scott wanted to open a bookstore. In fact, when he found out he was sick, he put it as the number one thing on his bucket list. He died before it could become a reality but his sister Maggie and I kept working to keep Scott's story alive. And then a funny thing happened somewhere along the way. Opening this place became my story, too.

(nods to Maggie)

Our story. A new story.

She looks at Ryan. He smiles at her.

SARAH (CONT'D)

And I can't wait to see what happens next. Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to The Next Chapter.

The cord is pulled and the tarp falls away from the sign. It reads THE NEXT CHAPTER BOOKSTORE.

The crowd applauds and everyone starts to go inside. We PAN past all of our happy folks - Gloria and Ethel heading toward the front door laughing, Ellie and Nate arm in arm and obviously very happy, Teddy and Maggie who embrace, and finally Sarah and Ryan. They kiss one more time under the bookstore sign - the next chapter has begun.

FADE TO BLACK.