

Pieces of Eva

BLACK SCREEN.

Car tires SCREECH, a teenage girl SCREAMS, a horn HONKS, metal CLASHES. A siren BLARES in the distance, gets louder. More sirens mix into this tragic sound track.

FADE IN:

EXT. FREEWAY - NIGHT: A CAR ACCIDENT

Two cars are barely distinguishable. A heart BEATS loudly over the commotion of firefighters and police officers. A 14-year-old blonde-haired girl, EVA SCHWARTZ, is pulled from the wreck. She's almost angelic, even covered in blood.

DANIELLE SCHWARTZ, her mom, manages to stand amid the shock and reaches for her daughter as the paramedics strap the girl to a stretcher. The HEART BEAT SLOWS as Eva is lifted in a waiting ambulance. As the ambulance pulls away, the HEART BEAT STOPS.

INT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT

SPENCER SCHWARTZ runs through the double doors. He wears a gray pin-stripped suit and tie, hair a mess but still painfully handsome.

SPENCER

(frantic, out of breath)

Excuse me, my daughter... Eva... I got a call... My wife ...

ER INTAKE STAFF

Sir, may I please have the patient's name?

SPENCER

Schwartz... Eva Schwartz...

Spencer scans the waiting room, spots Danielle talking to a NURSE. Spencer SPRINTS to her, HUGS her, panic still on his face.

SPENCER

Oh, Danielle! Thank God you're OK.  
Where is she?

Danielle pulls away, avoiding eye contact and fighting back tears.

DANIELLE  
(blubbering)  
... I... it... She...

A DOCTOR enters the frame, and approaches the NURSE. He whispers into the nurse's ear. She nods.

DOCTOR  
Mr. and Mrs. Schwartz? I'm Dr. Patel. Your daughter Eva has been in my care tonight.

SPENCER  
Where is she? Can I see her?

DOCTOR  
Mr. Schwartz, your daughter is in critical condition. Eva has suffered traumatic brain injury from head trauma sustained in the accident, as well as multiple fractures, extensive internal bleeding.

SPENCER  
She'll be OK, right? We can pay for the best surgeons, doctors, physical therapists... whatever she needs.

DOCTOR  
Mr. Schwartz, your daughter is fighting for her life.

Spencer turns and slams his fist against the nearby wall, drawing looks from everyone in the waiting room.

DOCTOR  
Why don't you come with me? There's a private waiting room near the ICU that may be more comfortable.

INT. ELEVATOR - CONTINUOUS

Spencer guides Danielle, still in shock, into an elevator. As the elevator door closes to a ding, the BEATING of a heart FADES IN, progressively getting louder.

CUT TO: INT. BEDROOM OF DOREEN DESANTOS

HEARTBEAT continues, getting quicker and louder. A clock next to the bed reveals it's 2am. DOREEN DESANTOS wakes abruptly.

The heart BEAT stops. The "girl next door" sweats profusely. She gets out of bed quietly, trying not to not wake her boyfriend, JON. She goes in the

BATHROOM

SHUTS the door behind her. Doreen fills a glass with tap water, sips it. Doreen looks in the mirror, miserably. She grabs a towel, dabs away the sweat. She reaches for a pill bottle, pops one in her mouth, sips more water.

DOREEN  
(deep inhale and exhale, then to herself) Breathe.

Doreen walks back into the

BEDROOM

SLIPS back into bed, waking Jon as she does. He turns on his side to face her.

JON  
Bad dream?

DOREEN  
No... For once, a good one.

JON  
Yeah?

DOREEN  
It was so real, Jon...

DREAM SEQUENCE: A radiant Doreen stands on a pristine beach. A glowing angel with golden hair appears to emerge from the water, then float across the waves and finally onto the sand. She motions for Doreen to come to her. Doreen walks to the angel, but when 20 feet away, the angel transforms into a Phoenix. The Phoenix flies high into the sky, then around Doreen playfully. Doreen watches it in wonder, then closes her eyes, takes a deep breath, and feels the wind rush around her.

DOREEN (CONT'D)  
... so real I can still smell the ocean air...

Jon sits up, turns on the light. Doreen sits up too.

JON  
This is really bothering you, isn't it?

DOREEN

The doctor said it could be months before they find a donor.

JON

It could be months, but it could be days. It's out of our control. For now, let's focus on what we CAN control: sleep.

Jon kisses her cheek, turns off the light, and then both lay back down.

DOREEN

The angel, it felt like I knew her.

JON

Dor?

DOREEN

Right. Sorry, back to sleep.

I/E. EMERGENCY TRIAGE ROOM, HOSPITAL - SAME

Spencer and Danielle walk out of Eva's room. A nurse follows.

NURSE

Why don't you two take a seat right here? Can I get you anything? Maybe some coffee? Water? Perhaps some crackers or...

SPENCER

No, thank you.

Doctor and NURSE 2 approach them.

DOCTOR

Danielle, my nurse is going to take your vitals. I know you declined medical care at the scene of the accident. But since you are here, and given the traumatic accident you were involved in tonight...

She nods her head in compliance.

NURSE 2

Mrs. Schwartz, why don't you follow me.

INT. PRIVATE HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM

Nurse 2 sets paperwork on the table, takes the stethoscope off her neck, puts it into her ears and extends her arm to Danielle's chest.

NURSE 2

OK, take a deep breath for me. Nice deep inhale and exhale.

Danielle complies. The HEART BEAT fades in LOUDLY, beats 3 times then stops. Danielle touches her forehead.

NURSE 2

Is your head bothering you, Mrs. Schwartz?

DANIELLE

A little, I mean it's fine... maybe I have a little headache.

NURSE 2

I'll let the doctor know. Give me a moment...

She turns to leave, but stops when Danielle asks:

DANIELLE

Are you a mom?

NURSE 2

I am, yes.

DANIELLE

What would you do if you were me; if Eva was your child?

CODE RED ALARM sounds. Nurse 2 looks at her watch as a notification pings.

NURSE 2

(packing up her stuff)  
Sorry, I need to attend to a patient. But to answer your question, Mrs. Schwartz: If I were you, I would pray for a miracle.

Nurse 2 exits the room and Spencer walks in. He notices the nurse forgot her folder on the table, picking it up and looking just outside the door but Nurse 2 is already gone.

INT. EVA'S HOSPITAL ROOM

Eva's pulse has flatlined, and the doctor and nurses grab a crash cart. They try to revive her. A bright flash leaves her body.

DOCTOR

Time of death, 3:33am.

INT. MIKE ASHTON'S HOUSE - SAME

MIKE ASHTON, a handsome and athletic high schooler, stands in his moonlit kitchen. He pricks his finger and lets a drop of blood fall onto a glucose meter. The time on the meter is 3:33am.

It beeps and flashes "42" with a warning noise. His dog whines curiously at the sound.

MIKE

Shit. Again?

He opens a nearby drawer, revealing a full candy stash. He tears open a bag of M&Ms and dumps them straight into his mouth. The dog uses its snout to force Mike's hand to pet him.

MIKE

Sorry I woke you, buddy. C'mon.

INT. HOSPITAL - SAME

Spencer holds up the folder so Danielle can see it: HRSA ORGAN DONATION. She abruptly jumps up, grabs the folder and hits Spencer with it.

DANIELLE

Where were you tonight?

SPENCER

A client dinner in La Jolla.

DANIELLE

Right. (making air quotes) "A client dinner."

SPENCER

You're in shock, D; I'm upset too. But if you need to do this - right here, right now - go ahead. Get it out.

DANIELLE

Oh really? Get it out? Is that what you want me to do, Spencer?

You are never home. Never make it to a parent/teacher conference. A dance recital. A soccer game.

All you care about is your job, the next important client dinner, the next big promotion, the next fancy car.

To be honest, I'm surprised you even made it here... guess we just needed an accident to be worthy of your full attention!

Spencer, stunned, puts his hands up in surrender and walks backwards toward the door.

SPENCER

I'm going to tell myself this is you in shock... because I work my ass off for you, for our family.

He goes to open the door, pauses to look at Danielle.

SPENCER (CONT'D)

If my heart wasn't shattered tonight when I got that phone call, it's officially been torn to a million little pieces.

Door clicks shut and Danielle, while pushing back tears, opens the organ donation folder and sits at the table. She flips through the folder, then reaches for a pen from her purse, signs the papers, tucks them back inside. She looks at her smartwatch. It's dead.

A GENTLE KNOCK on the door. It opens, and the DOCTOR, NURSE, and ORGAN DONATION STAFF MEMBER (ODSM) enter together, Spencer behind them. Danielle instinctively knows.

DOCTOR

I'm afraid we tried everything. I am so sorry.

DANIELLE

Can we see her?

DOCTOR

Yes, but first, you'll need to briefly speak with our organ donation staff member.

ODSM

I'm so sorry for your loss, Mr. and Mrs. Schwartz. As Dr. Patel said, I help coordinate organ donation on behalf of the hospital. I realize this is sensitive timing, but so is the harvesting of organs for donation. I have some paperwork for you to review and...

Danielle hands over the folder.

DANIELLE

Here. We consent. Excuse me...

She exits the room. Spencer follows but is stopped.

ODSM

Mr. Schwartz? I'm required to inform you that your identity will NOT be concealed unless otherwise specified... I see your wife didn't check this box.

SPENCER

(not listening)  
Yes, that's fine.

ODSM

This is a beautiful tribute to your daughter, Mr. Schwartz. Also, did you know the hospital provides grief counseling? Here is the --

INT. EVA'S HOSPITAL ROOM: DAWN

Danielle lays next to Eva, her arm wrapped around her small frame. Spencer sits on the bed, one hand on Danielle's back and the other on Eva.

DANIELLE

Remember when we found out we were pregnant? After all those treatments?

SPENCER

How could I forget?

DANIELLE

Our miracle baby... (fighting  
tears) I'm sorry for what I said,  
Spencer.

SPENCER

Shhhh... I know.

The sunrise sneaks into the hospital room. The sun kisses Eva's face, like a halo. Spencer stands, kisses Eva on the forehead. Danielle kisses Eva's cheek, then her forehead, then her cheek again, touching Eva's face as she stands. Danielle lingers and Spencer puts his arm around her.

MONTAGE:

1. Spencer sits at his desk and drinks Scotch from a bottle.
3. Danielle lays on Eva's bed, her cell phone ringing on her chest, showing 12 missed calls.
2. The nurse, morning coffee in hand, sees the newspaper in the staff room: the accident is on the front page.
3. Family and friends stand around a golden wood casket. White daffodils surround the casket.
4. Danielle remains graveside, Spencer standing a few feet behind her. It begins to rain but Danielle doesn't flinch.
5. Spencer cuts out the newspaper article about the accident, studies it sadly and tucks it into his desk drawer.
6. Danielle opens the kitchen freezer to reveal it's crammed of frozen casserole dishes. She removes one and places it in the oven. She sets the table for 3. Realizing what she did, she screams and grabs a plate, throwing it against the wall. It shatters in slow motion.

END MONTAGE.

INT. ABC AFFILIATE NEWSROOM - EARLY MORNING

DOREEN sits at her desk, prepares for the morning news. She looks flush. Her concentration is interrupted by the BEEP of her desk phone.

OPERATOR (ON SPEAKER)

DOREEN, call on line 3.

DOREEN

Thanks.

(she pushes line 3)

DOREEN DESANTOS.

LINE 3 (V.O.)

Ms. DeSantos, this is Dr. Anderson.  
Are you sitting down, because I  
have wonderful news.

(beat)

We found you a new heart.

INT. ST. JOHN'S HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - EARLY MORNING

Mike Ashton tries to stay awake in his homeroom class. His  
cell phone VIBRATES in his pocket.

He pulls it out.

MIKE'S POV, CELL PHONE: MOM.

Mike hits DECLINE. She calls again. He declines again.

TEACHER

Mike, do I need to remove that  
distraction from your hands?

MIKE

Sorry, may I use the restroom?

INT. ST. JOHN'S HIGH SCHOOL MENS BATHROOM

MIKE

(on phone)  
Hi, Mom.

MARY (ON THE PHONE)

Mike! Ahh, thank god.

MIKE

I'm in class, Mom.

MARY (ON THE PHONE)

Mike, they found a match.

MIKE

What?

MARY (ON THE PHONE)

They found a match.

MIKE

Really?

Mike rubs his forehead, in disbelief. An underclassman walks in the bathroom.

MIKE (CONT'D)

(To underclassman) They found a match!

He high fives the younger kid.

MARY (ON THE PHONE)

I'm grabbing your bag now, I'll see you at the hospital.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - MORNING

Doreen sits on a hospital bed, in a surgical gown. The door opens and a 10 year old girl, ANNABEL, runs in. Jon follows and closes the door.

ANNABEL

Mommy!

Annabel jumps onto the bed and bear hugs her.

DOREEN

Bel!

JON

Nervous?

DOREEN

A little.

They are cut off by NURSE 2, who opens the door.

NURSE 2

The O.R. is prepped for you. Are you ready?

DOREEN

As ready as I'll ever be.

JON

Say bye to Mommy, Annabel.

Annabel jumps off the bed and waves to Doreen.

ANNABEL

Bye, Mommy, can't wait to meet your new heart.

DOREEN  
Love you, Annabel. (to herself  
softly) Breathe.

Jon and Annabel wait to the side as the nurse pushes Doreen's hospital bed out of the room.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Jon and Annabel walk down the hallway. They go to turn a corner but have to wait for a hospital bed to pass. Annabel peeks at the patient, Mike, with curiosity.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE - SAME

Danielle wanders around the house, aimlessly. She wanders into

EVA'S ROOM

and sits on the bed. She picks up Eva's favorite stuffed animal, holds it close, and tries to breathe in her daughter's scent.

INT. HOSPITAL - EARLY EVENING

Jon and Annabel wait. Jon scrolls his phone, glancing too often at his watch. Annabel has paper and crayons all around her.

ANNABEL  
Look! Look what I did.

Jon glances up with half interest.

ANNABEL (CONT'D)  
I spelled my name! In cursive!

JON  
That is impressive, Annabel.

ANNABEL  
Mrs. Ackers taught us how to write  
in cursive...  
(beat)  
...like grown ups.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE - SAME

Spencer walks in the house, and pauses.

FLASHBACK. A 10-year-old EVA runs to greet him at the door.

EVA  
Daddy!

SPENCER  
Hi, honey, how was school?

EVA  
Great! Guess what? I got a perfect score on my vocabulary test. And in choir, Mr. Godfrey picked me to do a solo at tonight's choir performance.

SPENCER  
Wow, Eva! Well, you do have the voice of an angel.

EVA  
(beaming) I can't wait for you to hear it tonight.

SPENCER  
Tonight? Oh, Eva.. I have a client dinner tonight. I'm sorry, angel... I promise I'll make it up to you.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, SPENCER OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Spencer picks up a framed picture of Danielle and Eva on the beach from his office fireplace mantel.

INSERT. PICTURE

Eva and Danielle, almost identical, even years apart in age. A single tear drops onto the glass.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Spencer walks into

EVA'S ROOM

and finds Danielle asleep. She holds Eva's favorite stuffed animal in her arms. He crawls in the bed next to her.

INT. HOSPITAL - LATE AFTERNOON

Jon paces the waiting room, coffee in hand. Annabel sleeps soundly, a well-loved blanket over her.

NURSE 3  
Jon Litchfield?

JON  
Hi, yes...

NURSE 3  
Doreen is out of surgery and resting comfortably... the doctor said it was "a textbook transplant."

JON  
That's great news. Thank you.

NURSE 3  
The next 48 hours are critical... Once that window passes, we will have better insight into whether Doreen's body has accepted the transplant. But right now the doctor is optimistic she will make a full recovery.

JON  
Can we see her?

Annabel begins to stir.

NURSE 3  
Hospital policy requires that---

ANNABEL  
(stirs and rubs her eyes)  
Mommy?  
(to Jon)  
Can I see Mommy?

Nurse 3 glances at her smartwatch.

NURSE 3  
(to Jon quietly) My supervisor is on break ...

Nurse 3 looks down at the patient files in her hands. She opens Doreen's file, which shows clearly she is in room 210. Nurse 3 points discreetly to the right.

NURSE 3 (CONT'D)  
You have 15 minutes, no more.

Jon motions to Annabel to come with him, and NURSE 3 winks at Annabel as exits with Jon.

BLACK SCREEN.

A heart beat FADES IN, and gets louder and faster. It suddenly stops, and then BEATS at a normal pulse.

INT. HOSPITAL - CONTINUOUS

Jon and Annabel tiptoe into DOREEN's room. Annabel holds her drawing and sets it on the table next to the bed.

JON  
(whispering)  
Wanna give Mommy a kiss?

She nods yes, Jon lifts her up. She kisses her mom's forehead and he sets her back down.

ANNABEL  
What are these?

Annabel looks at the tubes connected from her mom to numerous machines. She goes to touch one and Jon calmly stops her hand and holds it in his.

JON  
Those are machines that tell the doctors and nurses lots of important information.

She nods, pretending to understand.

JON (CONT'D)  
Let's go, sweetheart. Mommy needs her rest.

As they walk into the HOSPITAL HALLWAY, Mike's mom, MARY, pushes him down the hall in a wheelchair, nurse at their side, to the garden. Annabel and Mike make eye contact, and she waves to him. He forces a smile.

INT. DOWNTOWN LAW FIRM OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Spencer sits at his desk. Floral arrangements and a bottle of scotch crowd the piles of papers. CHRIS RAN walks by the glass office wall. Surprised to see Spencer, he peeks in.

CHRIS RAN  
Hey, man, you shouldn't be here.

Spencer looks up, and then back down to his work.

SPENCER  
Actually, here is where I should  
be. I need the distraction...

CHRIS RAN  
OK, well... holler if you need  
anything.

INT. HOSPITAL - EARLY EVENING

Doreen rests propped in her hospital bed, watching TV. KNOCK  
on the door, and Jon WALKS IN, flowers in hand.

JON  
Hi, you're awake! How are you  
feeling?

DOREEN  
Better now that you're here.

JON  
Before I forget: I have strict  
orders from Annabel to ask if you  
liked her drawing.

DOREEN  
Please tell her yes... but remember  
the dream I told you about? The  
beach, angel-turned-Phoenix?

JON  
Mmmm-hmmmm. I do.

She holds up Annabel's drawing. It depicts her dream in  
complete detail.

EXT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE - EVENING

Spencer OPENS the garage door, revealing Danielle's car is  
gone.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Spencer walks into a dark house. Realizing he's alone, he  
goes into

## EVA'S ROOM

He TURNS ON the desk lamp, picks up a paper from the desk with a giant, red A marked on it. He removes pinned notes and pictures off her bulletin board, looking at each one. Then he begins to go through her desk drawers.

## INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, EVA'S ROOM - 3 HOURS LATER

Spencer sits on the bedroom floor, surrounded by the majority of Eva's belongings. The room is completely ransacked.

DANIELLE

Spencer? What the hell happened in here? What are you doing?

Spencer snaps back to reality. He grabs a trophy, stands, observes the mess.

SPENCER

I just wanted to ...

DANIELLE

Just wanted to what? Get acquainted with our daughter?

She grabs the trophy from his hands.

DANIELLE (CONT'D)

If only you had tried this hard when... (stops herself)

She storms off. A DOOR SLAMS in the background.

Spencer walks into the

## KITCHEN

POURS himself a scotch. A stack of unopened mail piles up on the counter. Annoyed, he pushes it aside, but something catches his eye.

SPENCER'S POV: a letter with the logo for a foundation: LifeChain. A HEART BEAT fades in.

DOREEN (V.O.)

"Dear Donor ~ While we have never met, I wanted to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your decision to donate your loved one's organs.

(MORE)

DOREEN (V.O.) (cont'd)  
 I feel like I was given a second chance at life and am forever grateful that I will be able to watch my daughter grow old. I've been touched by this experience and will never forget this act of selflessness. Forever indebted, Doreen DeSantos."

Spencer tucks the letter in his pocket, polishes his scotch.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, SPENCER'S OFFICE - LATER

SPENCER'S POV: LifeChain website, "Send a letter to organ recipients."

Spencer looks at the picture of Danielle and Eva, then opens his desk drawer. It's filled with articles about the accident, her school papers and other random items. He adds the Lifechain letter to the top.

He begins to type.

SPENCER (V.O.)  
 "Dear Organ Recipient- My daughter, Eva, was my everything. I'm honored that her memory can live on in each of you. To help preserve her memory and to commemorate her 14 years of life, I am establishing a foundation in her honor. If you are interested in..."

TITLE: "6 MONTHS LATER"

EXT. BLUFFS PARK - DAYTIME

Jon and Doreen sit on a park bench. Annabel climbs on the playground.

DOREEN  
 (reading from her phone)  
 "donating to this cause, please visit the website listed below. Together, we can ensure Eva's legacy lives on forever".

Jon... ugh. She was so young,  
 (voice trailing)... 14 years old.

JON

Dor, tragedy is something we never seek. But yes, it's very sad.

DOREEN

I can't even begin to imagine losing Annabel.

JON

She's right there (points). You have nothing to worry about.

EXT. ETERNAL PEACE CEMETERY - SAME

Mike CLOSES his jeep door, flowers in hand. He approaches an area of the cemetery where there is no green grass, but fresher soil. He places the flowers onto the headstone.

INSERT. SHOT OF HEADSTONE

KATE NOVAK

July 6, 2007 - September 29, 2024.

Beloved daughter. Faithful friend. Forever loved.

MIKE

Miss you, Kate. You'd be so proud, we finally beat Mount Carmel! Jake had a sweet pass and then Frankie ran 50-yards for the touchdown. It was hard not playing but at least I got to be on the sidelines. The only thing missing was you.

EXT. ETERNAL PEACE CEMETRY - GROUNDKEEPER AND ASSISTANT

ASSISTANT

See that kid? We need to scope him out?

GROUNDKEEPER

No, that's Mike Ashton.

ASSISTANT

The football star?

GROUNDKEEPER

Yep. Comes here every Wednesday.

EXT. ETERNAL PEACE CEMETERY, CONT'D

MIKE

Also, got an email from the donor's family. I'm having all kinds of feelings about it, but I think I'm going to write them back -- you know, just to say "Thanks?"

Mike's thoughts are interrupted by the SOUND of a lawn mower that ROARS nearby. Mike looks up and sees the cemetery groundkeeper.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Yep, I'm going to respond.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE - NIGHT

Spencer walks in, briefcase in hand. Music plays on the house speakers, the lights are on.

SPENCER

Danielle? I'm home.

DANIELLE

(voice only) In here.

INT. EVA'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Danielle tapes shut moving boxes. Eva's room is bare, just boxes remain.

SPENCER

What's this?

DANIELLE

It's been 7 months, Spencer. The daily reminder is too hard...

SPENCER

The daily reminder is what keeps me going.

DANIELLE

Spencer, today has been hard enough for me. Can we not do this right now?

SPENCER

Do this? All we do is this. These fights are exhausting.

DANIELLE

Spencer, you've been exhausting me for years.

SPENCER

That's fucking great, D.

DANIELLE

Well, now that you're here, can you help me with these boxes? I'm taking them to Goodwill first thing tomorrow.

SPENCER

That will have to wait. I'm DONE for tonight.

DANIELLE

Great!

SPENCER

Great.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, SPENCER OFFICE - ONE HOUR LATER

Spencer uses scissors to open the moving boxes. He pulls out Eva's trophy, places it on his desk. A drawing, puts it into his bottom drawer, which no longer closes because the stack of Eva papers/articles/memories is too big.

PHONE LIGHTS UP ON HIS DESK. "GMAIL" NEW MESSAGE.

INSERT. DOREEN E-MAIL

DOREEN (V.O.)

Dear Mr. Schwartz, Your letter touched me more than you'll ever know. I'd be honored to learn more about your daughter, Eva, and to volunteer in any capacity for the foundation you've created. Don't hesitate to reach out. I hope to connect with you soon.

Spencer looks at his watch: 9pm. He dials Doreen's number into his phone.

INT. ABC AFFILIATE NEWSROOM, EVENING

Doreen is on set with her team, prepping for the 10pm news.

DIRECTOR

Doreen, you've been on your feet all day. We've got it, why don't you relax until we go live?

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Happy you're back, boss.

DOREEN

Aww, thank you both. I'll be at my desk until you're ready for me.

She GRABS her ringing phone as she approaches the hallway, and answers without looking at the number.

DOREEN

All ready for sweet dreams, Bel?

SPLIT SCREEN: Doreen and Spencer

SPENCER

Um, I'm sorry, I'm trying to reach Doreen DeSantos?

DOREEN

Oh! I'm sorry. Who is this?

SPENCER

Hi, this is Spencer Schwartz.

Doreen drops her phone, catching the attention of the assistant director who begins to rush toward her. She holds her hand up to imply she's fine. She slips inside an editing bay.

INT. ABC AFFILATE NEWSROOM, EDITING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

DOREEN

Spencer Schwartz? Hi! Wow... I'm so glad you called.

SPENCER (V.O.)

Is now a good time?

DOREEN

Yes, it is.

SPENCER (V.O.)

Well, first thing's first: How are you feeling?

DOREEN

Hopeful.

EXT. UPSCALE NEIGHBORHOOD - LATE NIGHT

Spencer runs through the neighborhood and STOPS when he reaches

BLUFFS PARK.

He removes his AirPods. Waves crash below.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, SPENCER OFFICE - SAME

Printer stops and Danielle picks up paper from it. She looks around Spencer's office and notices Eva's trophy on his desk.

She approaches the desk curiously, picks up the picture of her and Eva, sets it back down.

Danielle looks down and sees the unclosed drawer. She tries to close it, with no luck. When she tries a second time, the LifeChain letter falls to the ground. She picks it up.

EXT. BLUFFS PARK - MINUTES LATER

Spencer turns around to the sound of a car screeching to an abrupt stop. He is blinded by the car's headlights, holds his hands up to block the light.

A car door slams, engine still roaring. Danielle emerges, Lifechain letter in hand.

DANIELLE  
Explain this.

SPENCER  
I was going to tell you...

DANIELLE  
When?

SPENCER  
Can we not do this here?

DANIELLE  
This letter, the fact you did this  
without me...

Spencer stays quiet, rubs his hands through his hair. Danielle waits for a response. Spencer avoids eye contact. She retreats and speeds away.

SPENCER  
Fuck.

EXT. BLUFFS PARK - LATE MORNING

Clear, beautiful Saturday morning. DOREEN and ANNABEL walk the edge of the park toward the parking lot. Annabel holds a pail, with a few seashells inside that clink together as she walks.

ANNABEL

Mommy, can I have a playdate today?

DOREEN

Not today, Bel. We've got some errands, you have dance class, and then we have a special dinner with some very special friends.

ANNABEL

Do your very special friends have a daughter, too?

DOREEN

Umm, it's complicated. But yes.

They reach their car, and Doreen opens the back door for Annabel. She hops in.

ANNABEL

(interrupting) YESSSS! Is she coming to dinner too?

Doreen shuts the doors without answering. She leans her back against the car, closes her eyes, and a HEART BEAT fades in and gets louder quickly.

DOREEN

(to herself) Breathe.

The HEART BEAT slow and then STOPS.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE - LIVING ROOM, LATE MORNING

Spencer has YouTube on the TV, with Danielle's numerous videos of Eva on the screen. He uses the remote to choose the final one. It's titled, "When I get older."

He presses the video.

INSERT: When I Get Older Video

DANIELLE (OFF CAMERA)

Alright, Eva. Let's rehearse one more time. I'm recording.

EVA  
OK, I'm ready.

DANIELLE (OFF CAMERA)  
(in an authoritative teacher voice)  
The next presenter today is Eva  
Schwartz.

EVA  
(walks into the video frame)  
When I Get Older, by Eva Schwartz  
(clears throat). When I get older,  
there are many things I hope to be.  
Whether I'm an actress on a  
Broadway stage, a vet caring for  
animals, or the owner of an  
interior designer firm, I want to  
make a positive impact on others.  
This is similar to what my dad, or  
as others call him - Spencer  
Schwartz - does. He is a lawyer and  
helps fight for the truth. He  
sometimes has to sacrifice fun for  
work, but when you love what you  
do, it doesn't feel like work - at  
least that's what ChatGPT told me.

Spencer pauses the video, wipes away tears.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Danielle lays in bed, holding Eva's stuffed animal. Spencer  
appears at the doorway, observing her.

SPENCER  
You said you got rid of everything.

DANIELLE  
Not everything. Some things are too  
special to let go.

Spencer sits on the edge of the bed, at Danielle's feet. He  
looks at her.

SPENCER  
(hesitantly)  
Which category do I fall into?

Danielle sits up, revealing a paper under the stuffed animal.  
She hands it to Spencer.

INSERT: PAPER - WHEN I GET OLDER BY EVA SCHWARTZ A+

A tear falls down his cheek, and she sits up to wipe it away.

DANIELLE

I'm sorry, Spencer. I wish we could  
rewind the clock to when Eva was  
alive, to when we when didn't argue  
all the time...

Spencer puts his finger to her lips, then lowers it. She  
kisses him passionately, and all seems forgiven as they make  
love in the daylight.

INT. LUXURY CAR - SUNSET

Quiet car. Danielle and Spencer look at peace, hands held as  
Spencer drives down Pacific Coast Highway.

DANIELLE

Are we doing the right thing?

SPENCER

I think so.

DANIELLE

No more secrets... ok?

SPENCER

No more secrets.

INT. RESTAURANT

Danielle and Spencer look nervous as they approach the  
HOSTESS.

HOSTESS

Hi! Good evening. Reservations?

SPENCER

Yes, Schwartz, party of 5.

HOSTESS

Right this way. The rest of your  
party is here.

INT. RESTAURANT - TABLE FOR 5

Doreen and Jon stand as the hostess, Spencer and Danielle  
approach.

ANNABEL  
 Mommy, are these your special  
 friends?

Spencer fixates on Annabel, who is identical to a younger  
 Eva.

ALL  
 (laughter)

SPENCER  
 And what's your name?

INT. RESTAURANT - HOURS LATER

SPENCER  
 ... and that's how this idea  
 happened. At the end of the day, I  
 just want to raise awareness of  
 organ donation. And this foundation  
 has helped me take a very dark time  
 in my life... (looking at Danielle)  
 I mean our life... and turn it into  
 something greater than ourselves.

DOREEN  
 Just incredible. You two are so  
 inspiring. So what are the next  
 steps?

SPENCER  
 Well, I have helped some very  
 important clients escape from  
 trouble, so I'm hoping to lean on  
 these types of connections to...

Doreen goes pale, and Spencer's words are drowned out by the  
 sound of a HEART BEAT. Doreen reaches for her glass of water,  
 drinks it all.

DANIELLE  
 Are you ok?

DOREEN  
 (to herself: BREATHE.)

The HEART BEAT SLOWS and then STOPS, and she nods her head  
 yes. Annabel, who had been busy drawing and coloring, looks  
 up.

ANNABEL  
 I'm tired.

JON

We should get you home... both of you.

Spencer signals to the waiter for the check.

DOREEN

I'm OK... this happens from time to time but passes quickly.

EXT. RESTAURANT- CONTINUOUS

SPENCER

(To Doreen) Take care of yourself.  
We will be in touch soon.

(Bending down to Annabel)  
Annabel, you are a lovely young lady. I hope to see you again soon.

He goes to touch her cheek but stops himself, embarrassed.  
DOREEN watches uncomfortably.

SPENCER'S CAR pulls up to the valet stand.

DANIELLE

This is us. It was nice to meet you all.

ANNABEL

Wait, I almost forgot!

She runs to Spencer and hands him a drawing.

ANNABEL (CONT'D)

I made this for you.

SPENCER

Why, thank you! I will find a special place for it.

He reaches down to hug her again, and she extends her arms.  
Without thinking, he picks her up and spins her around.

FLASHBACK.

8 year old Eva runs to her dad. He picks her up, swings her around. She giggles relentlessly.

END FLASHBACK.

Spencer realizes what he did. Embarrassed, he sets her down and gets in the car.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, SPENCER OFFICE - NEXT DAY

Spencer studies Annabel's drawing.

INSERT. DRAWING

A picture of an angel that resembles Eva, holding hands with a man that resembles himself.

Spencer takes his phone from his pocket and opens Facebook, searches for Doreen DeSantos.

INSERT. DOREEN'S FACEBOOK PROFILE. Scrolling until he sees a picture of Annabel. He takes a screenshot.

Spencer holds the screenshot next to the picture of Eva on his desk. Nearly identical.

SPENCER

I won't lose you, too.

His phone buzzes and lights up.

INSERT. GMAIL - ONE NEW MESSAGE

Spencer clicks it open.

INSERT. EMAIL

MIKE (V.O.)

Dear Schwartz Family, My name is Mike Ashton and I'm 16 years old. I received your daughter's kidneys, which saved my life because--

INT. MIKE'S HOUSE - SAME

Mike lays in bed re-reading the letter he wrote to the Schwartz family.

MIKE (V.O.)

I'm diabetic. I've suffered from the disease since I was 8 years old. I don't know what else to say but thank you.

He sets the letter down on the nightstand, turns off his light, and turns to look at Kate's framed picture.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE - SAME

Spencer becomes clammy as he reads the letter. This boy is almost the same age as Eva. He tucks the letter into the scrapbook.

As he gets up, his attention is drawn to Annabel's drawing, which glows. He shakes his head in disbelief, walks into his

BEDROOM

Where Danielle's already asleep. He undresses, crawls in bed, and rests his arm over his wife.

INT. DOREEN'S HOUSE - SAME

DOREEN stirs as she sleeps. She's having a terrible dream.

COLOR FADES TO BLACK AND WHITE: DOREEN'S DREAM.

A young Eva in despair.

EVA

Mommy!? Mommy!? Where are you?

The heart BEAT fades in, and INCREASES rapidly as the SCREAMING GETS LOUDER.

EVA (CONT'D)

I'm scared! HELP ME, MOMMY,  
PLEASE!!!

The heart BEAT pulsates LOUDLY. It stops with the BANG of a gun.

END DREAM.

DOREEN wakes and runs to

ANNABEL'S ROOM.

The little girl sleeps peacefully. DOREEN slumps in relief against the door frame. She puts her hand to her heart and closes her eyes.

DOREEN

(To herself) Breathe.

INT. MIKE'S ROOM - SAME

An exhausted Mike, still in workout gear from football practice, lays on his bed.

MARY (FROM DOWN THE HALL)  
Mike, finish your homework?

MIKE  
Yeah, finished before practice.

He closes his eyes to DREAM:

Kate appears to be in hell. She's in tattered clothes, matted hair, her face stained with mascara-marked tear drops. A massive fire burns around her. There is no way to escape.

KATE  
(screaming)  
MIIIIIIIIIIKEEEEEEE!!!!

A tornado-like wind makes the flames dance more aggressively. She tries to stay balanced against the forceful wind. Flames jump all around her.

KATE  
Mike! Why can't you help me!  
Someone... anyone... help me!!!!!!

MIKE (V.O.)  
(voice drowned by the wind)  
Kate, I'm here! Why can't you see me?! KATE!

END DREAM.

Mike's wakes to his mom, MARY, shaking him.

MARY  
Mike! Oh, sweetie. Wake up... it's just a dream.

Mike sits up, a panic in his eyes.

MIKE  
I could've helped, Kate, Mom. I should have...

Mary wraps her arms around Mike, he hugs her back. They are interrupted by his insulin meter BEEPING.

From Mike's POV:

Insulin meter reads 55.

MARY  
I'll be right back.

She exits, and he lays his head back down, staring at the ceiling. From his POV, athletic awards hang on the walls, alongside framed academic awards, and pennants of his favorite college football teams.

SOUND: COKE CAN OPENING

POV: Mary stands over Mike holding a cold coca cola. He sits.

MIKE

Thanks, Mom.

(beat)

I really thought I wouldn't have to do this anymore, you know, once I had the transplant.

MARY

Well, these dreams ... or, I guess, nightmares ... aren't helping. Have you given any more thought to the doctor's suggestion?

MIKE

Mom!

MARY

Mike, I think talking about your feelings... these dreams, nightmares.. Would be helpful.

MIKE

I don't need therapy, Mom. That's for people with REAL problems.

MARY

The loss of Kate, an organ transplant... these are both...

MIKE

I've got a lot of homework, Mom.

E/I. DOWNTOWN COURTHOUSE - MORNING

Spencer runs up the stairs of the courthouse, eager to start his new trial. He catches a glimpse of Chris Ran, but pretends not to.

As they enter the

CORRIDOR

Chris runs to catch up with Spencer.

CHRIS RAN  
Spencer!

SPENCER  
Oh... hey.. Nice to see you.

CHRIS RAN  
Feels like I haven't seen you much lately.

SPENCER  
Just really busy, you know how it is.

CHRIS RAN  
I do, I do. And Danielle? How's she doing?

SPENCER  
She's good.  
(softer)  
She's good.

CHRIS RAN  
Please give her my best.

SPENCER  
Thank you. I will.

Spencer walks away. Another LAWYER approaches Chris Ran as Spencer walks out of shot.

LAWYER  
What's gotten into him lately?

CHRIS RAN  
Not sure, but I'll find out.

EXT. DOWNTOWN COURTHOUSE - LATER

Spencer jumps in a cab, Chris Ran watches from top of stairs.

EXT. COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL - AFTERNOON

Spencer stands across the street from Annabel's school as the bell rings. He searches for Annabel.

Then he spots her: blonde hair bouncing and a big smile on her face. Spencer watches her run to the recipient of the smile, her mom. They hug, then Doreen puts Annabel's backpack on her shoulder.

TITLE: "ONE MONTH LATER"

MONTAGE:

1. Spencer buried in his work, late at night.
2. Danielle paints the walls of Eva's room a vibrant green.
3. Doreen returns to work at ABC.
4. Annabel dances. As she twirls, Eva's and Annabel's images are SUPERIMPOSED.

END MONTAGE.

EXT. BLUFFS PARK - AFTERNOON

Spencer runs and comes to a stop at the cliff lookout. He checks his watch and takes in his favorite view.

Doreen POV: As she pushes Annabel on the swing, she sees Spencer in the distance. She looks away, but it's too late.

SPENCER

Well, this is a nice surprise!

ANNABEL

Look how high I'm swinging!

DOREEN

Hi, Spencer.

SPENCER

You are practically flying,  
Annabel! (To Doreen) Do you come to  
Bluffs Park often?

DOREEN

Just passing through, and actually  
just about to leave...

ANNABEL

(interrupting)  
Mommy says your daughter is an  
angel.

SPENCER

Oh, did she? Well, I think you're  
an angel too.

DOREEN  
(forcing a laugh)  
That's sweet, Spencer. But Annabel  
and I need to be going...

ANNABEL  
But Mommy, you promised we'd play  
monkey bar tag!

DOREEN  
I'm sorry, sweetheart. Mommy has a  
full day ahead, and we need to get  
ready for...

SPENCER  
If you're busy, Doreen, I'm happy  
to stay here with her. I can bring  
her home in a little bit? After a  
game of, what'd you call it, monkey  
bar tag?

DOREEN  
That is very kind, Spencer. But you  
are a busy man. And Annabel needs  
to get ready for...

SPENCER  
... really, I don't mind.

Spencer sits on the swing next to Annabel and begins to pump  
his legs.

SPENCER  
Let's see if I can fly as high as  
you!

ANNABEL  
Catch me if you can!

Neither Spencer or Annabel pay attention to Doreen as she  
starts to speak.

DOREEN  
Annabel, you need to get ready  
for...

ANNABEL  
I know, mama.

DOREEN  
Spencer, Annabel's dad will be here  
soon.

Spencer doesn't hear her but says:

SPENCER

Sounds good. You ready to teach me  
how to play monkey bar tag?

Doreen walks away hesitantly. She watches Spencer and Annabel  
run to the monkey bars.

In the same frame, DAVID enters. He's a tough-looking ex-  
military type, with muscles bulging from a shirt a size too  
small. He looks around Bluffs Park for Doreen and Annabel,  
and is surprised to see Annabel with an unfamiliar face. He  
walks toward Annabel and Spencer at the monkey bars.

ANNABEL

Daddy!

Spencer's smile fades as he watches Annabel run to her dad.  
David picks up Annabel for a hug. He follows Annabel.

SPENCER

Hi, Spencer Schwartz.

He extends a hand to David, but David ignores it.

DAVID

My ex didn't mention Annabel would  
be here with a strange man when I  
came to pick her up.

SPENCER

Oh, this wasn't really planned, I  
literally just ran into them at the  
park and offered...

DAVID

(interrupting, and to Annabel)  
...did this man try to hurt you?

Spencer realizes that this man is very familiar. He studies  
his face carefully.

ANNABEL

No, Daddy! I know him. His daughter  
is an angel.

DAVID

What kind of bullshit is your  
mother teaching you?  
(to Spencer) And how do you know my  
daughter?

SPENCER

It's kind of a long story.

DAVID  
Make it a short one.

SPENCER  
Have we met before?

David steps back, sizing up Spencer head to toe. He shakes his head no.

DAVID  
I don't socialize with people like you. So, no...don't think so.

David puts his arm on Annabel's back.

DAVID (CONT'D)  
Ice cream?

ANNABEL  
Yesss! C'mon, Daddy!

She grabs his hand and attempts to pull him toward the parking lot.

DAVID  
(forcing a smile)  
I'll be right there.

Annabel skips ahead.

DAVID (CONT'D)  
I don't know who you are... and honestly, I don't give a shit. But stay away from my daughter. Got it?

SPENCER  
What did you say your name is?

DAVID  
(ignoring him)  
... Got it??? I don't give ANYONE a second warning.

Spencer backs away, his hands up in the air. David shakes his head, smirks, walks away.

SPENCER  
(to himself) Asshole.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - LATE EVENING

Danielle and Doreen sit at a small table in a trendy coffee shop. Every table is occupied.

Acoustic guitar plays in background. The air between them is heavy -- a sharp contrast to the lightness of the coffee shop they occupy.

DOREEN

But my ex is a truly awful human. And after the reaction he had at Bluffs Park, I felt compelled to reach out and warn you both.

DANIELLE

The gesture is appreciated, Doreen. But I'm not worried. Spencer is a strong man and deals with awful humans all the time. He will be just fine.

DOREEN

Sorry for "sounding the alarm..." Despite what I've said, I do think he's making a concentrated effort to stay on the straight and narrow -  
- for Annabel's sake.

DANIELLE

Speaking of Annabel...

She reaches into her purse, pulls out an envelope, opens it and takes out pictures inside. She slides the stack of pictures across the table to Doreen.

DANIELLE (CONT'D)

... Maybe these will help explain why Spencer is so fond of her.

Doreen's POV, flipping through pictures.

7 year old Eva in a black leotard and pink tights in dance class

10 year old Eva at Bluffs Park, sitting on a swing (present day Annabel)

14 year old Eva in cap and gown for 8th grade graduation

Doreen looks up at Danielle.

DOREEN

I finally understand.

DANIELLE

And I'm grateful for that.

DOREEN

Well, yes, the similarity between Annabel and Eva is striking... But I'm talking about the girl in my dreams...

DANIELLE

...um, OK?...

DOREEN

This might sound crazy, but sometimes Eva is in my dreams.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, KITCHEN - LATE EVENING

Spencer stops, surprised. Candlelight dinner for two.

DANIELLE

Hi! Hungry?

SPENCER

Starving! Smells great, what's the special--?

Then he sees the birthday cake, with the numbers 1 and 5 (15) on top.

SPENCER (CONT'D)

No, Danielle, we don't have to do this.

He blows out the candles.

DANIELLE

Don't think I've lost it, Spencer, but after what Doreen said, I feel like we need to celebrate...

SPENCER

Danielle, c'mon... I like Doreen, but don't you think it's a little far-fetched to say that Eva visits her in her dreams?

DANIELLE

No... I think it's a sign.

SPENCER

I don't believe in that crap.

DANIELLE

Fine. Don't believe it. But I do...  
and you were never there for her  
birthday anyway...

She re-lights the birthday candles.

DANIELLE (CONT'D)

... So, why start now?

He storms out of kitchen and into the

BEDROOM

Slams the door. From inside, he hears Danielle crying while attempting to sing "Happy Birthday". He begins to cry too, and sings with her from inside the room.

INT. DOREEN'S HOUSE - EARLY MORNING

Doreen tosses as she sleeps, waking Jon. He pushes the sweaty hair away from her forehead, and gently nudges her.

JON

(whispering)

Dor...

(quiet)

DOR...

(louder)

DOREEN!

She opens her eyes and looks at him, a certain peace in her eyes.

JON

Bad dream?

DOREEN

(groggily)

Sorry... did I wake you?

JON

Do you need some water? A cold  
washcloth?

He looks at her, worried.

DOREEN

...I'm ok. I promise. Go back to  
sleep.

She turns the other way and falls back to sleep.

TITLE: "ONE WEEK LATER"

INT. DOWNTOWN LAW FIRM OFFICE - MORNING

Spencer sits at his desk behind stacks of binders and files. He's looking through a case file when his office phone intercom BEEPS loudly.

SECRETARY (V.O.)  
Sir, Chris Ran on line 1.

SPENCER  
Thank you, but tell him I'm not in.

SECRETARY (V.O.)  
He insists it's urgent.

SPENCER  
Fine.  
(beat)  
Spencer Schwartz.

INTERCUT. CHRIS AND SPENCER

Chris Ran is in a meticulous home gym on the treadmill. He has his TABLET on the ledge of the treadmill, and slows his run to a jog to a walk as he starts talking.

INSERT. TABLET SCREEN.

Website for the Eva Schwartz Foundation.

INTERCUT. CHRIS AND SPENCER

CHRIS RAN  
Hi, it's Ran... listen, Schwartz...  
I know the past six months have  
been hell for you.

SPENCER  
You could say that.

CHRIS RAN  
Well... man, I know you've had a  
lot going on and I'm sure that it  
sometimes feels overwhelming.

SPENCER  
You could say that, too.

CHRIS RAN

So let me help you -- I came across the foundation you've started for Eva and thought...

SPENCER

(interrupting)oh, that's a very generous offer, but I'm going to hire a dedicated team to get the foundation up and running... really supercharge it...

CHRIS RAN

You know I do this pro bono on the side, right, Spencer? C'mon, it's the least I can do.

CUT TO:

CONTINUOUS: INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, SPENCER OFFICE

Spencer paces, grows visibly annoyed.

SPENCER

Like I said, thank you for the generous offer.

CUT TO:

CONTINUOUS: INT. CHRIS RAN HOME GYM

Chris steps off the treadmill and looks down at his phone. Spencer hung up on him. He picks up the tablet and closes the browser.

EXT SHOT: LUXURY SUV - LATE AFTERNOON

Spencer loosens tie, detours off highway, and subconsciously drives into DOREEN and ANNABEL's neighborhood.

EXT. COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

School bell RINGS.

SPENCER POV: Annabel emerges from the school's double doors, races down the steps, and into a man's arms.

Spencer sees the man pick her up, and in SLOW MOTION, spin her around, just as he did.

DAVID POV: SLOW MOTION spin holding Annabel. Back to reality, senses being watched and looks behind him in Spencer's direction.

SPENCER POV: David looks in his direction, and he sinks into the drivers seat discretely. When David turns away, he PULLS AWAY.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, SPENCER OFFICE - SAME

Danielle carefully sifts through papers on the desk and one falls to the ground. She bends down to pick it up and finds a large binder under the desk.

She picks up the binder, sets it on the desk, opens it. Eva's essay about Spencer is on top. The paper is more wrinkled/worn.

DANIELLE  
(softly)  
Bless his heart.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - THAT NIGHT

Spencer and Danielle sit on opposite sides of their generous couch, both scrolling their phones while "America's Most Wanted" plays in the background.

As the images and background sound play, a face on the screen catches Spencer's attention.

TV VOICE BACKGROUND:

NARRATOR  
...asking for the public's help in identifying this man, who robbed a bank in downtown Los Angeles at gunpoint. The hallmark tactics used during the heist have also been used during other brazen robberies over the past two years, but this is the first clear image captured of the suspect.

SPENCER  
WAIT! I know that guy!?! Where's the remote?

Danielle looks at him, slightly worried, mostly annoyed. She hands him the remote.

DANIELLE

You probably just saw someone in court who looked LIKE him.

SPENCER

(as he rewinds the show and pauses the screen)  
No, it's definitely him! It's HIM!

INT. DOREEN'S HOUSE - SAME

DOREEN reads in bed, Jon asleep next to her, when her phone RINGS, breaking the silence and waking Jon.

DOREEN

Hello?

SPENCER

Hi, Doreen? It's Spencer. Did I wake you? Sorry to call so late, but I wanted to make sure Annabel is okay.

DOREEN

Spencer, it's 10pm... Of course she's okay. She's been asleep for two hours. What's wrong?

SPENCER

Thank god. Listen, Doreen. Keep her away from David.

(beat, over-reacting)

Did you know he's on the Most Wanted List?

DOREEN

Spencer, what are you talking about?

EXT. DOREEN'S HOUSE - ONE HOUR LATER

Doreen and Jon wait outside on the front porch, as Danielle and Spencer pull into their driveway. They all exchange quick hugs, following Doreen inside. Spencer holds a folder.

INT. DOREEN'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Spencer hands the folder to Doreen and Jon.

SPENCER

Before we drove over, I called in a favor with a friend at the station. We picked this up on the way over, I haven't had a chance to look at everything yet.

Doreen takes it, looks at Jon nervously. Jon puts his arm around her and leans in as she opens it.

SPENCER (CONT'D)

And aside from the fact that he's wanted for crimes they have yet to even put his name to, my friend assured me David's record is anything but clean.

DOREEN

Speeding tickets, parking tickets, misdemeanor for driving without a license...

JON

We know about these offenses... and David has been working very hard to stay on the right side of the law so that he can have a relationship with Annabel.

Doreen keeps shuffling through the papers in the folder.

DOREEN

(She gasps)

Wait...

(quoting)

"Nine and a half months ago, David was arrested after killing a teenage girl in a drunk driving accident on the 5 Freeway. At the time of his arrest, his blood alcohol level was 0.18%. He was freed on a \$1 million bail, and is currently waiting to be tried."

JON

OK... didn't know about that one. But know we know why he isn't driving the red Corvette.

Danielle looks sick and RUNS to the front door. Spencer walks near Jon and Doreen and grabs the paper to look at the date. He runs after Danielle.

DOREEN

I'm lost.

Jon shrugs.

EXT. DOREEN'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Danielle sits with her arms wrapped around herself, rocking back and forth to sooth herself. Spencer is on his phone, scrolling furiously for something, until he stops.

INSERT: SPENCER'S PHONE

Newspaper article: LOCAL TEENAGER DIES IN TRAGIC DRUNK DRIVING ACCIDENT (image of red corvette entangled in an SUV, both barely distinguishable)

The date is one day off from David's arrest report.

SPENCER

I'm going to kill him.

DOREEN

Can one of you explain what's going on?

SPENCER

I'M GOING TO KILL HIM!

DANIELLE

(now crying) Spencer...

SPENCER

I'm going to FUCKING kill him!

JON

Spencer, I like you, man... but you either need to explain yourself and stop screaming or you need to leave. Annabel is sleeping and you're acting like a mad man.

DANIELLE

Spencer, we should go...

DOREEN

Danielle... Spencer... what the hell is going on?

Spencer unlocks his phone and turns it to face Doreen and Jon.

SPENCER  
He killed her.

DOREEN  
Oh my god.

DANIELLE  
My sweet Eva.

JON  
David killed Eva?

Jon looks at Doreen. She paces the driveway as the words sink in. She drops next to Danielle, wraps her arms around her.

DOREEN  
I am so so sorry.

SPENCER  
(softly, to himself)  
He killed Eva. But I won't let him  
take Annabel, too.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, BEDROOM - LATER

Spencer and Danielle are in bed. She's asleep, but he's wide awake. When he finally closes his eyes, he slips into a

DREAM.

He opens his eyes and Eva sits next to him on the side of the bed. She smiles. He sits up quickly, embraces her tightly, surprising her.

SPENCER  
Eva!

EVA  
Shhh! We don't have long. I just  
came to tell you I love you,  
Daddy... you don't need to worry  
about me.

He looks at her with sad eyes.

SPENCER  
I miss you so much, Eva. Your  
laughter, your stories, the way you  
filled our house with so much love  
and happiness. I'm sorry I was not  
the dad --

She holds her finger to her lips in a "Shhh" motion.

EVA

The love we shared is all that matters. And as far back as I can remember, you have always shown your love through your hard work to make sure all my dreams came true.

A tear rolls down Spencer's cheek..

EVA (CONT'D)

And remember, I'm with you every day. You just have to look for me. You were my angel, Daddy... and now I'm yours.

END DREAM.

Spencer sits up abruptly, jumps out of bed, looking around the room for Eva.

SPENCER

Eva? Baby?

He wakes Danielle.

DANIELLE

Spencer?

SPENCER

She was just here.

She gets out of bed, puts her hands on his back gently, and he turns to her.

DANIELLE

Who?

SPENCER

Eva.

A tear rolls down his cheek and Danielle gently wipes it away.

DANIELLE

You can talk to me...

Spencer looks up to avoid eye contact.

SPENCER

(quietly)

Was I a terrible dad?

DANIELLE

No... NO. Eva thought the world of  
you.

He looks at Danielle, leaning in to hug her. On the dresser behind them, Annabel's drawing glows in agreement.

INT. DOWNTOWN COURTHOUSE - MORNING

Full courtroom. Prosecution and defense table are occupied except noticeably empty chair at the defense table. Defense CLIENT taps foot nervously. Chris Ran sits at the opposing PROSECUTION TABLE. Clock on wall shows it's 10 minutes past the hour.

JUDGE

I'm afraid we can't wait any longer  
to call court to order...

CLIENT

Your honor, I'm 100% positive he's  
coming...

At that moment, Spencer bursts through the door and runs down the center of the room.

SPENCER

I'm terribly sorry, your Honor, I--

JUDGE

This is a court of law, Mr.  
Schwartz. Please take a seat.

Spencer pats his client's shoulder before sitting.

(fading into background)

I call to order the case of...

Spencer looks over at Chris Ran, who avoids eye contact.

INT. DOREEN'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Doreen adds a cup of sliced fruit on a carefully prepared tray of breakfast. She picks up the tray and walks down the hallway toward Annabel's room.

FADE IN: Sound of heartbeat.

Doreen stops, as the heartbeat intensifies. She takes a deep breath and hurries into

ANNABEL'S ROOM

Where DOREEN sets the tray down on the dresser, clumsily, and sits on the edge of Annabel's bed, waking her. The heartbeat slows and then STOPS.

ANNABEL  
Morning, Mommy.

DOREEN  
Morning, Bel. How about some  
breakfast in bed?

Annabel smiles and nods her head yes. She sits up. Doreen stands, picks up the tray, places it on Annabel's lap, and turns to leave.

ANNABEL  
Mommy, will you stay with me?

DOREEN  
Of course.

She pulls out Annabel's small desk chair, turns it to face the bed, and sits.

DOREEN (CONT'D)  
How did you sleep?

ANNABEL  
I had a dream I was a fairy, and I  
was flying between the trees.

Annabel's VOICE drowns out she replays Spencer's words in her head...

SPENCER (V.O.)  
He killed her... He killed her...  
He killed her...

ANNABEL  
So can I, Mommy?

Annabel smiles at DOREEN, who fakes a smile in return.

DOREEN  
I'm sorry... can you what?

ANNABEL  
Get some magic fairy dust!

DOREEN  
You have quite the imagination, my  
love.

INT. DOWNTOWN LAW FIRM OFFICE - LATER THAT DAY

From bird's eye POV, quiet office hum in background:

Spencer and his BOSS, a large man in an expensive suit, meet in his floor-to-ceiling glass window office, door shut. Nosy heads keep looking that direction, and the BOSS notices, closing the blinds for privacy.

Moments later, the door swings open and Spencer hurries out visibly upset.

INT. SPENCER'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Spencer SLAMS his car door shut.

SPENCER  
That mother fucker...

He hits the steering wheel in anger. Then, he closes his eyes and takes a few deep breaths.

SPENCER FLASHBACK: To dream of Eva visiting.

His face and body visibly relax.

KNOCK on his car window makes Spencer JUMP. Outside window is Chris Ran. Spencer lowers window.

SPENCER  
Hey, man.

CHRIS RAN  
Schwartz.

SPENCER  
It's been a day, hasn't it?

CHRIS RAN  
Sure has. The kind of day that highlights why it's also my last.

SPENCER  
Haha.

CHRIS RAN  
No, I'm serious.

SPENCER  
What the hell are you talking about, Ran?

CHRIS RAN

Sorry, man... I wanted to tell you  
but I had to wait for this case to  
close.

Spencer gets out of his car. The two now stand surrounded by  
concrete pillars of the parking garage. Chris offers his  
hand; Spencer shakes it.

CHRIS RAN (CONT'D)

You're one hell of a lawyer,  
Schwartz. In fact, with my  
retirement, I'd even venture to say  
you're the best in town.

SPENCER

Well, can't say I saw this  
coming... When I interviewed you 15  
years ago, you would have sold your  
soul to work here.

Chris smiles, shakes his head in agreement.

CHRIS RAN

True... But my heart is not in it  
anymore. And honestly, while I've  
made enough money to retire to a  
small island... this grind has  
given me way too many gray hairs  
for a guy my age.

SPENCER

So, what now?

CHRIS RAN

Well, that's the other thing I  
wanted to talk to you about.

Chris looks around, as if to make sure no one else can hear.  
Spencer notices and unlocks his car, so it beeps loudly.

SPENCER

Hop into my office.

INT. DOREEN'S HOUSE, BEDROOM

Jon opens his dresser drawer, pushes aside piles of socks and  
t-shirts to reveal a small blue jewelry box.

SHOT. JON'S POV: JEWELRY BOX

Opens it to reveal diamond engagement ring.

Jon smiles. He hears FOOTSTEPS in the hallway, snaps it shut, and quickly closes the drawer.

DOREEN peeks in.

DOREEN  
Whatcha doing in here, handsome?

JON  
Just putting away some laundry.

DOREEN  
Well... dinner is ready...

JON  
It smells amazing... be right there.

INT. SPENCER'S HOME OFFICE - LATE EVENING

Spencer listens to music streaming from his iPhone; one of Eva's favorite songs plays.

FLASHBACK.

Working late in his office, the same song blares from Eva's room. He storms into her room, where she's singing along carefree while painting her toenails.

SPENCER  
Can you turn that down? I'm prepping for a very important case, Eva.

A surprised Eva turns off the music.

EVA  
Sorry, Daddy. I thought you were out with Mom. Isn't it Friday Night Date Night?

Guilt floods over him... first for yelling, then for forgetting his standing date night with Danielle.

SPENCER  
Shit!

END FLASHBACK.

Spencer walks to the fireplace mantel and picks up a picture of Danielle and Eva.

MUSIC ABRUPTLY STOPS.

Spencer looks at her defiantly, turns it back on. He sets the picture of his two girls back down on the mantel and turns his back to Danielle.

MUSIC ABRUPTLY STOPS AGAIN.

SPENCER  
What the hell, D?

DANIELLE  
It's too loud! So loud, you could  
wake the dead!

SPENCER  
In that case, we should play it all  
day and night! Then maybe Eva would  
come back. Right?

He BLASTS the music again.

DANIELLE  
(over the music) You're an asshole.

SPENCER  
(over the music) I can't hear you!

DANIELLE  
(over the music) I'm done.  
(to herself) Done pretending.

Danielle grabs the framed picture of her and Eva, storms out. Song ends, new one starts. Spencer turns to see the picture is gone. In anger, he picks up an autographed baseball from the shelf and throws it at the diploma above his desk. Glass shatters everywhere.

INT. DOREEN'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM

Jon and Doreen are cuddled up on the couch watching a movie, Jon asleep next to her. Doreen moves his arm carefully, not to wake him.

INT. DOREEN'S HOUSE, BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Doreen opens Jon's dresser drawer, looking back to make sure she's alone. She moves clothes around and easily finds the ring box. She takes a deep breath, opens it. Her eyes widen, she closes it, carefully tucks it back away.

EXT. BLUFFS PARK - LATE AFTERNOON

Doreen, Spencer, and Annabel sit on a park bench, finishing an al fresco lunch.

ANNABEL  
Can I go swing now?

DOREEN  
Swing away, little monkey!

ANNABEL  
Yayyyyyyyy!

Spencer pulls a piece of paper from his back pocket and hands it to Doreen.

SPENCER  
I thought you might want to read this.

DOREEN POV: Lifechain letter from Mike.

DOREEN  
Wow. What an incredible story from what sounds like an incredible young man. Thank you for sharing, Spencer. Did you respond to him yet?

SPENCER  
Not yet... I guess I'm not sure what to say.

DOREEN  
Well... remember... you were once a teenage boy yourself.

SPENCER  
Yeah, well... we will see.

DOREEN  
Oh for Christ's sake. Get your phone out. Let's do it right now, I'll help you...

He gets his phone out, but they are interrupted.

CHRIS RAN  
Spencer!

SPENCER  
Hey, man! What are you doing here?

Spencer stands to shake hands with Chris. But Chris won't even look at Spencer; he keeps looking at Doreen. Doreen smiles at him.

CHRIS RAN

Your cell went straight to voicemail, so I called the office... they said I'd find you here.

Annabel returns and grabs Doreen's hand.

ANNABEL

C'mon, Mommy! Come swing with me!

Doreen stands. Spencer stops them.

SPENCER

Doreen, this is my associate, Chris Ran... Chris, this is Doreen DeSantos and her daughter, Annabel.

CHRIS RAN

The pleasure is all mine, ladies.

EXT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, DRIVEWAY - EVENING

Spencer pulls up to the house, garage open, Danielle's car trunk open. He pulls his car into the driveway as she walks out pulling two suitcases. He parks and hops out of the car.

SPENCER

What's this?

DANIELLE

I think it'd be good if we spent some time apart.

She waits for him to speak. She goes to put a suitcase in the car, but Spencer takes over, helps her put both in.

SPENCER

How much time?

Danielle shrugs.

DANIELLE

Is that all you have to say?

Spencer stands in silence. Danielle speeds away.

FADE IN: POUNDING NOISE, GROWS LOUDER OVER FLASHBACK MONTAGE FROM SPENCER POV

1. Car crash scene
2. Eva lying in hospital bed
3. Eva's vitals crashing and being declared dead
4. Meeting Doreen and Annabel
5. Spinning Annabel superimposed over Eva
6. Lifechain Foundation logo
7. Screaming match with boss
8. Shattering glass
9. Flashing police siren lights in dark night
10. Danielle holding newborn Eva

END FLASHBACK. LOUD POUNDING STOPS.

Spencer stands in the garage, now half empty, as it closes.

INT. SPENCER'S OFFICE - EARLY MORNING

Spencer sits at his desk. The normal mess is tidy, normal bourbon glass replaced with coffee mug. Spencer looks like he hasn't slept, but has wet hair from a fresh shower.

He opens his laptop.

SPENCER POV: EMAIL

"Dear Mike"

The lights flicker in the room. Spencer looks around. He turns on Spotify and hits Shuffle.

Eva's song PLAYS. Spencer takes a deep breath. He starts typing as if the words are pouring out of him.

SPENCER POV: Picks up finished letter to Mike from printer.

INT. MIKE'S BEDROOM - A FEW DAYS LATER - AFTERNOON

Mike sets his backpack on the bed, and sees an envelope on his desk. He opens it and a picture drops to the ground. He picks it up.

INSERT. PICTURE OF EVA

Mike loses expression on his face. He grabs the framed picture of Kate next to his bed, and holds the picture of Eva next to it. They are identical.

INT. COURTROOM - MORNING

Spencer stands at the front of the courtroom.

SPENCER

Your honor, I...

(beat)

My client is clearly innocent based on the inconclusive evidence presented before you. I have nothing further.

Spencer's boss, who sits in the back row, shakes his head in disappointment, then stands and leaves.

INT. DOWNTOWN LAW FIRM OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Piles of case files pile up on Spencer's desk. Spencer's laptop is open and shows the Eva Schwartz Foundation website.

INT. DOREEN'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - LATER

Doreen sits next to Danielle, who holds a phone to her ear. Danielle sets the phone down, and puts her hands to her head.

DOREEN

Still no answer?

DANIELLE

Nope... it just rings and rings...

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, SPENCER OFFICE - 30 MIN LATER

Spencer is working but his concentration is broken by the FRONT DOOR BELL.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, FRONT DOOR - CONTINUOUS

Spencer opens the front door.

DOREEN

Hi, Spencer.

SPENCER  
What a nice surprise.

DOREEN  
Can I come in?

He opens the door and motions for her to come inside.

SPENCER  
I need to tell you that Danielle is  
not here.

DOREEN  
I know.

SPENCER  
You do?

DOREEN  
I also know you have not tried, not  
once, to reach out to her. To  
answer her calls. Why?

SPENCER  
I'm sorry, but you should leave.

DOREEN  
Spencer, it's just that there are  
things you need to know...

SPENCER  
Now. Please go.

INT. LUXURY CAR

Doreen gets into the driver's seat of Danielle's car, where  
she waits with tissues in hand.

DANIELLE  
Did you tell him?

DOREEN  
No. Let's just say he was not in a  
chatty mood.

DANIELLE  
Gosh, it's killing me. Should I  
just get it over with?

DOREEN  
No, now is NOT the time. Trust me.

INT. MIKE ASHTON HOUSE - EVENING

Mike sits at the kitchen table, homework around him. But the letter from Spencer sits on top of everything, staring at him.

MIKE  
(deep sigh)

DIALS Spencer's number, RINGS. Spencer answers.

SPENCER  
Hello, Spencer Schwartz.

MIKE  
(heavy breathing)

SPENCER  
D? Is that you?

A HEART BEAT fades in slowly, greeted by a dead phone line.

MIKE  
Shit.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, HOME OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Spencer hangs up the phone. It RINGS again.

SPENCER  
Danielle! I'm answering. I'm ready to talk.

CUT TO: INT. HOME OF CHRIS RAN - CONTINUOUS

CHRIS RAN  
Hey, Schwartz... sorry to disappoint you, but it's my ugly ass, not Danielle.

SPENCER  
Sorry, dude, but now's not the best time.

CHRIS RAN  
No worries, bud... just wanted to confirm that we're still on for tomorrow.

SPENCER  
Yes... I'll see you then.

Chris hangs up. The camera PANS OUT to reveal a floor plan and logo for the foundation. Chris finishes drawing on it, blows the excess lead off, and smiles at his masterpiece.

INT. DOREEN'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - LATE EVENING

Doreen, Annabel and Danielle eat dinner together. Both Annabel and Danielle push their food around rather than eat.

DOREEN

Bel, you finish your homework?

ANNABEL

Yep.

DOREEN

(To Danielle)

Can I make you something else?

DANIELLE

This is great, thank you.

ANNABEL

Do you have to go to work tonight, Mommy?

DOREEN

Yes, sweetheart. Remember, it's my job to report the day's happenings.

ANNABEL

Ohhhh-K. Mommy, we never got that magic fairy dust. You promised.

Jon walks in, and Annabel jumps and runs to him. She squeezes him extra tight. He looks at Doreen and she shrugs, smiling at them. Danielle tears up.

JON

Hi, sweetheart. Sorry I'm late.

He leans down, Annabel still in his arms, and kisses Doreen's cheek.

DANIELLE

This was a bad idea. I'll help clean up but then I'm going to go.

Danielle takes her plate from the table to the sink, Doreen following her.

DOREEN

Don't be silly. Our home is yours.

DANIELLE

You and Jon are too kind... but  
you've already done too much.

DOREEN

I'm always here for you.

Danielle nods, hugs her, hugs Jon, and then Annabel.

DANIELLE

Bye, Annabel. I'll see you soon,  
sweetheart, OK?

INT. LUXURY CAR

Danielle sits in her car, across the street from her and  
Spencer's house. The house is dark, except for the single  
light in Spencer's office. She cries for the things she can't  
say.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, HOME OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Spencer sits at his desk, absorbed in the scrapbook.

EXT./INT. LUXURY HOTEL

MONTAGE:

1. Danielle pulls up to valet
2. She takes her single bag without help
3. Danielle walks past couples in lounge bar enjoying live  
music to check-in desk
4. Gets room key
5. In elevator, couple kissing in corner
6. Walking into hotel room, throwing bag onto bed
7. Opening room mini-fridge
8. Twisting open booze from mini-fridge
9. All bottles empty around her
10. Bathtub filled with bubbles and she gets naked and barely  
safely makes it inside

INT. HOTEL ROOM - LATER

Danielle, in hotel robe, lays in the middle of the bed and falls asleep.

DREAM.

A younger Danielle lays on a hospital bed, in the middle of labor. The camera PANS to her left hand; no ring on her wedding finger. SELECTIVE FOCUS from her P.O.V. of everything. All she can see is the nurse, telling her to push. She SCREAMS, and a baby CRIES. Danielle begins to cry, too. Later she's dressed to leave, and she signs some paperwork. A nurse comes in and takes the baby away, and Danielle leaves alone, crying. She continues to cry in present day form, as she witnesses the baby girl, all grown up, being tossed around in the wind and rain and fire of hell. She cries for help, and Danielle cries in pain because she can't help her. The young girl looks just like Eva-- but it's not, it's Kate.

END DREAM.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - SAME

Danielle wakes up in a panic. She jumps up and runs to the  
BATHROOM

Where she pukes.

EXT. BLUFFS PARK - LATE AFTERNOON

Spencer approaches Doreen and sees Chris Ran sits next to her. He stops and takes it in. Annabel plays with sidewalk chalk in front of them, but spots him.

ANNABEL

Spencer! Hey, Spencer is here!

SPENCER

Hi Doreen. Chris, what a surprise to see you here!

CHRIS RAN

Spencer, buddy, how are you?

SPENCER

I've been better.

Annabel runs over to Spencer and hugs him tightly. Chris and Doreen exchange glances. Spencer approaches the bench, sets Annabel down and motions to the bench they sit on.

SPENCER

May I?

CHRIS RAN

Of course.

Chris moves over but Doreen stands.

DOREEN

Annabel and I should get going...  
plus I know you two have business  
to chat about...

SPENCER

Oh, it's quite alright. You don't  
have to go...

CHRIS RAN

That is really thoughtful of you,  
I'll talk to you soon.

DOREEN

C'mon, Bel. Let's go, sweetie.

Chris stands up and kisses Doreen goodbye on the cheek.

CHRIS RAN

Bye.

SPENCER

Buh-bye!

Doreen and Annabel walk away, and Doreen looks back once more to catch a glimpse of Chris. They smile at each other.

SPENCER

What is this?

CHRIS RAN

I'm not sure.

SPENCER

Well... easy there, Tiger.

CHRIS RAN

Roger. So, let's get down to  
business, Schwartz. I want in on  
the Eva Schwartz Foundation.

SPENCER

Yes, you've made it very clear that you'd like to be a part of it. But what's unclear is why.

CHRIS RAN

OK, this is me being vulnerable. But my big sister, Kiera, died when she was 8... I was 6... she was on a waitlist for a kidney transplant that never came...

SPENCER

I'm sorry, Chris. I had no idea.

CHRIS RAN

Kiera's death was something our family didn't talk... it was a taboo topic. Instead, I was taught to quiet any feelings by chasing achievements, awards, titles.

SPENCER

That must have been really hard.

CHRIS RAN

Well, it worked... until it didn't. But perspective is a silver lining of getting older, isn't it?

SPENCER

It definitely explains why you're drawn to the foundation.

CHRIS RAN

I wasn't ever going to be smart enough to find a cure for her disease... but I'm savvy enough to advocate on behalf of a foundation and cause I'm passionate about. Organ donation and the beauty of matching those in need so their life is not cut short.

Spencer extends his hand; Chris shakes.

SPENCER

Let's do this... together.

## INT. THERAPIST OFFICE

Spencer sits in a waiting room, tapping his foot nervously. He looks down at his hands, then up when he hears a door open. MIKE ASHTON and his mom Mary walk out, the THERAPIST BEHIND THEM. Spencer and Mike make eye contact.

MIKE'S POV: Walk from therapist office, down hallway to outside is in slow motion, with SOUND of HEART BEAT fading in and getting LOUDER. Heart beat STOPS with BEEP of Mary's car keys.

## EXT. THERAPIST OFFICE, PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

MARY

You ok?

MIKE

Do we know that guy?

MARY

Who?

MIKE

The guy waiting in the office.

MARY

No, honey.

MIKE

It's just, I swear... Oh, never mind.

## INT. HOTEL ROOM - EVENING

Danielle picks up her mess, stopping in front of the full-length mirror on the hotel wall. She frowns at herself.

DANIELLE

You're better than this... get it together.

## INT. DOREEN'S HOUSE, ANNABEL'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Doreen lays in bed with Annabel, who cuddles up to her and she reads. Jon watches from the doorway.

DOREEN

"And they lived happily ever after.  
The end."

ANNABEL  
(soft snores)

Doreen tucks the covers over Annabel, turns off the light, and steps into the hallway. She jumps when she sees Jon.

DOREEN  
You scared me!

JON  
I'm sorry, babe... you're the best  
mom.

DOREEN  
Awww, thank you. Ready for bed?

JON  
Almost. I need to show you  
something first.

He takes her hand and leads her to the BACKYARD.

EXT. DOREEN'S HOUSE, BACKYARD - CONTINUOUS

Candles are lit all across the outdoor deck. Rose petals cover the ground. Doreen holds her hands to her mouth as she takes it all in. Jon pulls her close, and places her hands in his.

JON  
Dance with me?

They begin to dance. A gust of wind blows out most of the candles, swirling the rose petals around them.

JON (CONT'D)  
Well, that wasn't part of the  
plan... but this was. Doreen  
DeSantos, this past year has been  
the most amazing year of my life...

The back door SLIDES OPEN and ANNABEL runs outside, crying.

ANNABEL  
Mommy! There's a monster in my  
closet!

Annabel runs to Doreen for comfort. Jon is visibly annoyed.

DOREEN  
(mouths) I'm sorry.

Doreen picks up Annabel and walks back into the house. Jon looks around the patio and blows out the couple remaining lit candles.

INT. LUXURY HOTEL LOBBY - NEXT DAY

Danielle emerges in the lobby, freshly showered, better rested and looking younger than her age. She scans the lobby lounge and spots JAKE AND SUSAN NOVAK. They're a good looking couple.

She takes a deep breath. They see her at the same time, and they stand as she walks toward them. Susan and Danielle exchange hugs, followed by Danielle and Jake.

DANIELLE

First, I am so sorry. I wish we weren't meeting under these circumstances.

SUSAN

The roller coaster of grief is a ride I never wanted to be on... yet here we are.

DANIELLE

There is nothing worse than losing the heart that beats outside your chest.

SUSAN

You've been to hell and back, too. You are an incredibly strong woman, Danielle.

DANIELLE

Thank you.

JAKE

I'm still in disbelief that she's gone.

DANIELLE

So young, with so many dreams and desires yet to be fulfilled.

Susan smiles at Jake.

SUSAN

Now we know where Kate got her rose-colored perspective on life.

DANIELLE

Thank you for being the parents I  
was not ready to be. Kate was  
incredibly lucky to be a Novak.

EXT. DOWNTOWN COURTHOUSE - MORNING

Spencer walks up the courthouse stairs. His demeanor is off.

INT. DOWNTOWN LAW FIRM OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Spencer looks up when he hears a KNOCK on the door.

SPENCER

Yes?

BOSS

What's the latest on the Weissman  
case?

SPENCER

Full discovery should be to you end  
of week.

BOSS

That's a 20 million dollar case  
Schwartz. I want discovery on my  
desk by end of day.

INT. DOWNTOWN CHURCH - AFTERNOON

Danielle sits in a church pew with Susan and Jake. The  
Novak's are avid Catholics, and Danielle follows their lead.

The camera PANS each of their faces, their eyes not able to  
hide how they feel. Sunbeams peek in through the windows,  
shining vividly around Danielle.

EXT. CHURCH - AN HOUR LATER

They exit the church in the crowd, embracing the fresh air.  
Danielle puts her sunglasses on.

DANIELLE

Thank you for inviting me to join  
you.

SUSAN

I'm so glad you could come.

JAKE

We have one more stop before we head home... if you're free, we'd be honored if you'll join us.

DANIELLE

OK, where is that?

SUSAN

Kate's grave... we take her fresh flowers every Monday.

A blue butterfly flutters between them, and Danielle feels a peace she hasn't felt in over a year.

DANIELLE

Yes, of course.

EXT. ETERNAL PEACE CEMETERY - CONTINUOUS

They pull up to the cemetery and park behind Mike's white jeep. Susan hands the flowers to Danielle.

SUSAN

Would you like to?

DANIELLE

Thank you.

SUSAN

This handsome guy is Kate's boyfriend, Mike. I'll introduce you. Amazing young man... I think it could have been a forever love.

DAYDREAM.

Danielle sees Kate and Mike goofing around together. She sees late night drives, Kate waving her hands carefree with the wind in her hair. She sees them walking down the pier, Mike's arm wrapped around Kate's shoulder. She sees Mike taking off his Varsity jacket to put around Kate when she's cold because she insisted on wearing the cute outfit. And she sees Mike finding Kate on the bathroom floor of the Novak's house, trying to revive her with the drugs he knew nothing about at arms length from her delicate frame.

END DAYDREAM.

EXT. ETERNAL PEACE CEMETERY - SAME

DANIELLE

A forever love.

FLASHBACK, DANIELLE'S POV: Young Danielle, Spencer and Eva at the beach, the day Spencer's favorite picture was taken.

Danielle, Susan and Jake approach quietly, not to scare Mike, who's back is to them. He senses he's not alone, and turns to stand. A smile takes over his face as he hugs Susan and Jake.

SUSAN

Hi Mike, sweetheart. Good to see you.

MIKE

You too, Mr. and Mrs. Novak.

SUSAN

This is a very special friend of ours, Danielle Schwartz.

MIKE

Hi, Mike Ashton. It's nice to meet you.

Danielle faints.

JAKE

Help! We need to make sure she doesn't hit her head.

Susan and Mike help Jake lay Danielle safely on the ground. Jake runs to the car for a water bottle. Susan fans Danielle with her hands. Mike can't help but stare at Danielle.

MIKE

Is it something I said?

SUSAN AND JAKE

(in unison) No!

SUSAN

It's been quite the day for her.  
(to Jake) We shouldn't have brought her here.

Danielle starts to come back to her senses.

DANIELLE

Stop. Please. Thank you for bringing me here... there is no place I would rather be right now.

She sits up, both Jake and Mike helping her stand. She brushes the grass and dust off her clothing, puts her sunglasses back on, and then looks at Mike.

DANIELLE (CONT'D)

Mike... I'm sorry... what did you say your last name is?

MIKE

Ashton...?

DANIELLE

I'm Danielle Schwartz... Eva Schwartz's mom. And well, I guess you could say Kate's biological mom, too.

Mike looks to Susan and Jake, who shake their heads yes in confirmation. Mike hugs Danielle, and she kisses his forehead as if its her own son.

MIKE

I'm meeting Spencer for dinner tonight. Are you coming too?

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE - EARLY EVENING

Danielle runs inside. The house is quiet, dark, clean.

DANIELLE

Spencer! I'm home! Spenc?

She runs down the hall and into their  
BEDROOM.

DANIELLE (CONT'D)

Spencer?

She then checks his  
OFFICE.

Danielle runs into

EVA'S ROOM

It's empty too. She searches her purse, grabs her cell phone, and calls Spencer.

## SPENCER VOICEMAIL

The number you have dialed is not available. Please try your call again later.

## DANIELLE

I'm an idiot.

Danielle closes her eyes and takes a few deep breaths. She opens them and looks around the house, her heart aching for her old life. She looks at her phone, clicks voicemails.

INSERT: DANIELLE PHONE SCREEN

YOU HAVE NO NEW VOICEMAILS

She leaves, locking the front door tightly behind her.

INT. SHWARTZ HOUSE - FIVE MINUTES LATER

Spencer walks into the dark house holding two bags from the local craft store. He walks into the

LIVING ROOM

And dumps the contents onto the coffee table. He picks up the remote and turns on ESPN.

## SPENCER

The things you do for love.

He walks over to the cabinets near the TV, leans down and pulls out a box tucked way back. He returns to the couch, blows the dust off the top, removes the lid.

Inside are old pictures of Spencer and Danielle. He looks through them, smiling, setting his favorites aside.

INT. BEACHSIDE CAFE - LATE EVENING

Spencer is seated at a table just inside the cafe, and scans passerby's for Mike. Suddenly, Danielle walks by. He jumps out of his seat, follows her steps toward the cafe door.

Danielle walks in, and Spencer stands right behind the hostess stand.

## SPENCER

Danielle.

DANIELLE

Hi, Spencer. I came to join you and  
Mike for dinner, if that's OK?

Spencer extends his arms, she fights back her tears. Danielle melts in his embrace. He pulls her close, kisses her passionately.

SPENCER

I've been lost without you.

DANIELLE

Why haven't you called me?

SPENCER

I didn't feel worthy.

They are interrupted by the HOSTESS.

HOSTESS

Is Schwartz a party of 3?

SPENCER

Yes, it's now 3.

HOSTESS

Not a problem, the last guest in  
your party just arrived.

Mike steps out from behind the hostess. Danielle winks at him and smiles, as Spencer stands to shake Mike's hand.

SPENCER

It's nice to finally meet you, Mike  
Ashton.

MONTAGE:

1. Spencer, Danielle and Mike enjoy a long dinner.
2. Mike leaves, and Spencer and Danielle move to the bar for a drink until it's closing time.
3. Danielle and Spencer make love.
4. Mike meets with Spencer at Bluffs Park. They sit on the bench and Spencer hands him a book, "Law School for Dummies."
5. Doreen and Chris Ran share a flirty lunch.
6. Mike and Spencer play tennis, Danielle cheers from the sidelines,



INT. LUXURY CAR - CONTINUOUS

Spencer cell phone RINGS. Danielle's name appears on the car's dashboard.

SPENCER

Hi, my love.

DANIELLE (ON THE PHONE)

Hi Spencer. You make it home yet?

SPENCER

Not yet, but I will be soon. What's up?

DANIELLE (ON THE PHONE)

I got sidetracked running errands, so I was making sure you'd be home when Mike got to the house. I'm about 30 minutes out still.

SPENCER

Thanks for the reminder. I'll be home before he gets there. Drive safe, see you soon, D.

Spencer goes to reverse but his car gets blocked by a beat up 80s Acura MDX. A familiar face jumps out of the driver's seat, marching past Spencer's car and going straight for Doreen's front door.

SLOW MOTION: David bangs on Doreen's door. He picks up a stone from the yard and tries to throw it at the window, but he's too drunk to have any strength.

David goes to the garage, punching random codes into the keypad.

DAVID

March 27.

He punches in 0327 and the garage opens.

Spencer jumps out of his car and runs toward David, tackles him to the ground. David starts to fight back. The two men wrestle on the ground, throwing punches, and the camera PANS UP to reveal Annabel standing just above them watching, tears streaming down her face.

ANNABEL

STOP! DADDY, STOP! SPENCER, STOP!!!

Doreen runs into the garage, pulling Annabel away from the chaos.

DOREEN

What the hell has gotten into you,  
David? Why are you doing this to  
our daughter?

Annabel starts to kick David, who has Spencer in a chokehold.  
A gun falls from the back of his pants to the garage floor.

Annabel picks up the gun, and looks at it with great  
curiosity. She points it down and pulls the trigger back.

BANG!

DOREEN

(screams!)

David and Spencer freeze. David jumps to his feet, still  
swaying, while Spencer rolls on the ground in pain.

DAVID

Give that to Daddy, Annabel. C'mon.  
Give the gun to Daddy, and I will  
take you to the park... just like I  
promised.

Annabel shakes her head no.

Spencer stands, observing the tears in his clothing and the  
blood marks on his hands and shirt. Annabel runs next to him,  
standing behind him for safety.

DOREEN

David, leave now. Or I will call  
the FBI and let them know you are  
responsible for those bank  
robberies... as well as give them  
your approximate location, escape  
vehicle and license plate number.

DAVID

You said you'd never do anything to  
hurt Annabel.

DOREEN

I wanted her to have her dad in her  
life. But you know what? I realize  
that was a huge mistake.

DAVID

You stupid bitch.

David goes to punch Doreen, and she ducks. He loses his balance and slowly stands.

Annabel and Doreen run past them as Spencer instructs:

SPENCER  
Lock the door and call 9-1-1.

INT. DOREEN'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Doreen locks the garage door, grabs Annabel's hand and runs into her room. They lock the door behind them, then go into the bathroom and lock that door too.

Doreen dials 911.

OPERATOR  
9-1-1, what's your emergency?

DOREEN  
There's an armed man at my house,  
and I believe he's on the FBI's  
Most Wanted List.

EXT. DOREEN'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

GUN SHOT. Mike and Spencer stand over a slightly wounded David. Mike drops the gun, it hits the ground. Spencer grabs Mike's shirt, pulls him in for a hug. SIRENS fade into the background, get closer.

SPENCER  
How did you know I was here?

MIKE  
Because we can see each other's  
location on our phone?  
So when I got to your house and you  
didn't answer, I checked your  
location... and my instincts told  
me to get my ass over here.

SPENCER  
You... saved... my life.

MIKE  
And Eva saved mine, so I guess  
we're even now.

EXT. DOREEN'S HOUSE - MINUTES LATER

Police officers surround Doreen's house. Paramedics check on David, before taking him off by ambulance, and another team looks at Mike, Spencer, Doreen and Annabel.

POLICE OFFICER  
Who's responsible for this?

The officer holds the gun.

ANNABEL  
That fell out of my Daddy's pants.

POLICE OFFICER  
OK, and who is responsible for  
using it and the resulting injury  
incurred?

Mike's face is tense. He avoids eye contact with the police officer.

SPENCER  
I am, Officer.

INT. POLICE STATION - LATER

Spencer stands at the pay-phone and makes a collect call to Danielle. A guard watches from behind.

INTERCUT. DANIELLE AND SPENCER

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE - SAME

Danielle sits on her couch, Doreen and Annabel next to her. Her phone rings.

DANIELLE  
Yes, I'll accept the collect call.

SPENCER  
Danielle?

DANIELLE  
Spencer! Thank god you're OK! I've  
been worried sick.

SPENCER  
We can worry a little less... cause  
David is going to be behind bars  
for a very long time.

DANIELLE  
When can I pick you up?

SPENCER  
How soon can you get here?

DANIELLE  
45 minutes, max.

SPENCER  
I'd wait my whole life for you,  
Danielle Schwartz.

EXT. POLICE STATION - AN HOUR LATER

Danielle and Spencer walk out of the police station, hand in hand.

DANIELLE  
Let's get you home.

INT. MIKE'S HOUSE, BEDROOM - LATE NIGHT

Mike can't sleep and stares at his ceiling. He looks at his phone, checks Spencer's location. Police station still.

Mary KNOCKS on the door. Mike quickly turns away from the door, pretends he's asleep.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE - LATE

Spencer walks into their

BEDROOM

And falls back onto the bed. He is filthy.

DANIELLE  
You going to shower? You'll feel  
much better.

He shakes his head no. He is in pain. She comes to his side of the bed, with water and Advil.

DANIELLE (CONT'D)  
This will help.

Danielle WALKS OUT of frame as Spencer takes the pain meds. Sound of CUPBOARD and RUNNING WATER is heard. She returns with a washcloth, alcohol, Neosporin and bandages.

Danielle cleans his face, slowly traces a path along his strong facial features. The pain seems to wash off his face. She turns off the bedroom lights and gets in bed next to him.

SPENCER

Thank you.

DANIELLE

You're welcome.

SPENCER

Today, when that gun was out, my life flashed before my eyes... and every single one of my fondest memories included you.

DANIELLE

Mine would tell the same story, Spenc...

She leans over and kisses him on the cheek.

INT. DOREEN'S HOUSE, ANNABEL'S ROOM - MORNING

Doreen opens Annabel's drapes to let the sun pour in.

DOREEN

Rise and shine, Bel. We have a Father's Day Brunch in one hour... can't be late!

Annabel rolls out of bed, pulling her covers off with her.

INT. MIKE'S HOUSE, BEDROOM - SAME

Mary KNOCKS on Mike's bedroom door, then walks in. She's surprised that he's awake, his bed made.

MARY

You're up early.

MIKE

It's gonna be a good day.

She smiles at him. He finishes writing inside a card, puts it in the envelope, and seals it shut.

MARY

Are you still spending Father's Day with the Schwartz's?

MIKE

Yes! But only if that's OK with you, Mom.

MARY

Of course... yes, of course.

MIKE

Are you sure? I will cancel if you want me to stay in with you today.  
(beat) Wait, why don't you come, too?

MARY

Ohh, that's OK... but thank you for asking. (beat) Have fun.

MIKE

Thanks, Mom...

INT. MIKE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Mary watches Mike's jeep drive from her upstairs bedroom window.

EXT. DOWNTOWN HARBOR RESTAURANT - 30 MIN LATER

Mike approaches Danielle and Spencer in front of the restaurant, busy with patrons.

SPENCER

Great to see you, Mike.

MIKE

Happy Father's Day, Mr. Schwartz.

SPENCER

Please, call me Spencer.

DANIELLE

Hi, Mike; great to see you. Your mom wasn't able to join?

MIKE

Oh, she wanted to but she was in the middle of a big project. She sends her regards.

Annabel and Doreen approach the group, Annabel smiling big.

ANNABEL

Look!

She points to her mouth and two missing teeth.

SPENCER

Wow! Did the tooth fairy bring you anything for those two special teeth?

ANNABEL

I got a silver dollar!

They all laugh.

INT. DOWNTOWN HARBOR RESTAURANT - THREE HOURS LATER

The group finishes dessert and is admiring the sailboats in the harbor. Annabel and Mike read the names of sailboats in pirate accents.

MIKE

"Yes, Dear."

ANNABEL

"The General."

MIKE

"The Sea Pearl."

ANNABEL

"The Incredible Hulk."

MIKE

Oh, I almost forgot!

He reaches into his back pocket, pulls out a card, and hands it to Spencer. Annabel also hands him a card.

SPENCER

What's this?

ANNABEL

They are cards, silly goose.

SPENCER POV: Mike's card

"Happy Father's Day to a Man Who is Like a Father to Me"

SPENCER

Thank you, Mike. This means a lot.

ANNABEL

Can I help you open mine?

SPENCER

Of course.

Annabel stands next to him. He opens the envelope and hands the card to her.

ANNABEL

"Dear Uncle Spencer. Thanks for being the dad I never had. I love spending time with you cause you're goofy! I love you!

Annabel"

Spencer leans over and side hugs Annabel. She squeezes his neck.

SPENCER

I'm the lucky one.

EXT. BLUFFS PARK - NEXT DAY

Spencer runs the path, with a new sparkle in his eyes. He reaches the vista and looks out at the vast ocean. Spencer turns, sensing someone is watching him. He zips up his jacket to fight off the chill he feels down his spine.

INT. DOWNTOWN LAW OFFICE - LATE MORNING

Spencer is on his cellphone when his BOSS WALKS IN. Spencer looks up but continues his conversation.

SPENCER

That sounds great, Chris.

(beat)

Yes, I agree. We should probably break that down more, there are some things we need to finalize before we move forward.

His boss doesn't leave and instead sits down.

SPENCER (CONT'D)

Hey, sorry to cut this conversation short, but can I call you back? I just had an "urgent" situation pop up. (beat). Thank you.

He hangs up.

BOSS

What happened to the Weissman case?  
That was a slam dunk, Schwartz!

SPENCER

He was guilty, sir. No questions.  
We couldn't risk that case.

BOSS

I decide that, not you! And guess  
what? When \$20 million dollars is  
on the line, you take the damn  
risk!

SPENCER

OK, well, today I'm taking a risk.  
I QUIT.

BOSS

Spencer, you can't just quit.  
You've worked here for 25 years.

SPENCER

Well... in your words... "I decide  
that, not you."

INT. LUXURY CAR - 10 MINUTES LATER

Spencer closes the trunk, 2 boxes tucked in the back of his  
SUV. Spencer turns on the music, John Mayer's "Back to You"  
plays.

SPENCER

(singing)

"Back to you... I always come  
around... Back to you."

He drives down PCH and pulls into a plaza. A grocery store is  
in the background.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE - LATE AFTERNOON

Spencer walks in, one hand holding a grocery bag, the other a  
flower arrangement. He walks into the

KITCHEN

And sets them on the large island.

SPENCER

Hey D, I'm home!

He makes his way down the HALLWAY to their

BEDROOM

Where Danielle is tied to a chair, striped down to her bra and underwear. Her mouth is duct taped. David stands behind her, gun pointed to her head.

DAVID

You didn't really think we had our  
final goodbye, did you, Spencer?

He takes the gun and traces it from Danielle's throat all the way down her chest to between her legs.

DAVID (CONT'D)

We've had a good time this  
afternoon, haven't we, sweetheart?

Danielle trembles, tears streaming down her face. Spencer races to her, but David points the gun at him.

SPENCER

Please, don't hurt her.

DAVID

Get the fuck back, man. Don't test  
me.

Spencer steps back, reaching inside his pocket for his cell phone.

SPENCER

You won't get away with this.

DAVID

If you do that, I will blow her  
brains out.

SPENCER

What the fuck do you want, David?

DAVID

(laughing)  
Looks like you won't be saving the  
day this time.

Spencer snaps, charging David. But David is too strong and barely moves against Spencer's efforts. David laughs.

SPENCER

You fucking piece of shit!

DAVID  
(laughing)  
Is that the best you got?

Spencer spits in his face. David calmly wipes it off, then holds the gun in the air dramatically before slowly placing it back to Danielle's head.

DAVID  
You see this? I'm the one in power  
right now. Don't fuck with me, man.

SPENCER  
Is this about money, David? How  
much do you want?

DAVID  
Depends...How much you got?

MONTAGE:

1. Spencer looks at the Eva Schwartz Foundation account balance: \$450,000. He shows it to David.
2. David nods yes, puts the gun away.
3. Spencer runs to Danielle, unties her, hugs her.
4. Spencer hands a check to David, Danielle watching in the background (now in a robe).
5. David jumps in his car, speeds away.

END MONTAGE.

EXT. BLUFF PARK - GOLDEN HOUR

Chris Ran and Doreen sit close on the bench, his arm around her shoulder. KID LAUGHTER, including Annabel's, mixes with the sound of the birds and ocean waves below.

Chris looks at Doreen, who is lost in thought.

CHRIS RAN  
What are you thinking about?

DOREEN  
(she looks at him and smiles) That  
I've never felt more content than I  
do in this moment.

Chris leans in and kisses her.

Annabel sees the kiss and runs by, throwing glitter into the air over them.

ANNABEL

My magic fairy dust worked! It works!

EXT. ETERNAL PEACE CEMETERY - SUNSET

Mike places fresh flowers on Kate's headstone, then sits down.

MIKE

Sorry I didn't come by the past few weeks, Kate. Life is weird, isn't it?

(becoming more emotional)

I'm still mad at you... why did you do that? Why didn't you talk to me, or your parents, or your friends, instead of taking your own...

HEART BEAT fades in, QUICK AND LOUD. Mike holds his chest, in pain. He closes his eyes, takes a few deep breaths. The HEART BEAT slows, fades and then stops.

He drives away.

INT. ABC AFFILIATE NEWSROOM, MORNING

Doreen stands at a white board in a meeting room, as co-workers spill out chatting.

Circled on the white board: The Stories of Organ Transplant Recipients

She turns to the phone on the long table, hits SPEAKER, DIAL TONE, PRESSES numbers, RINGS.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, SPENCER'S OFFICE - SAME

Spencer sits back in his desk chair, flipping through the scrapbook of pictures he made for Danielle. His phone VIBRATES on his desk.

SPENCER

Hello?

DOREEN

Hi Spencer. How are things?

SPENCER

Well... I'm up early, enjoyed the sunrise, and fully determined to never take anything for granted ever again. How are you?

DOREEN

I love that for you. Listen, I just came out of a brainstorm session for Sweeps. And I don't know how I just thought of this... but... I'm going to produce a segment on Organ Transplants and would love to interview you and Danielle, talk about the foundation, I think it would be great exposu...

SPENCER

The foundation is done, Doreen.

DOREEN

What?!!!

SPENCER

The Eva Schwartz Foundation... it's done. Our seed money, gone.

DOREEN

Even more reason to be part of this story, Spencer. It's great publicity, and we can drive viewers to a donation page...

SPENCER

Let me talk to Danielle.

DOREEN

Want me to call and sell it to her?

SPENCER

I got it.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Spencer sets down a cup of coffee next to Danielle, sits on the bed. She stirs and opens her eyes.

SPENCER

Made you some coffee.

DANIELLE

I could get used to this.

He hands the mug to her.

SPENCER

By the way, I made this for you.

She looks at the scrapbook, unable to find words.

DANIELLE

This may be the most romantic thing  
you've ever done for me.

SPENCER

Well, this may be where it peaks.

DANIELLE

Oh, and I have this for you.

She leans over, reaches into the nightstand, and hands him  
his favorite framed photograph. He admires it.

SPENCER

My girls.

DANIELLE

So, what are we doing today, Prince  
Charming?

SPENCER

Well, that depends...

INT. ABC AFFILIATE NEWSROOM - DAY

Spencer and Danielle sit on set, a couch that's been brought  
in next to a matching chair. Bright lights create a halo  
around the couple. They get mic'ed, and Doreen hovers  
protectively close.

DOREEN

(whispering)

You two will be fabulous! You won't  
even know the cameras are there.  
Just speak from your heart, and the  
story will tell itself... Oh, ok,  
it's time!

A REPORTER walks ONTO the set. Danielle reaches for Spencer's  
hand, and he squeezes it.

DIRECTOR

And 5-4-3-2-1...

POINTS to REPORTER.

REPORTER

Today, I'm joined by Spencer and Danielle Schwartz, the loving and incredibly resilient parents of Eva Schwartz -- the beautiful 14-year-old girl who is the namesake of the Eva Schwartz Foundation.

I/E. ABC AFFILIATE NEWSROOM - LATER

Spencer and Danielle walk through the office with Doreen. People CLAP, WHISTLE, and HOOT as they pass. They exit the double doors, walk past two security guards, and step into the natural sunlight.

DOREEN

I'll see you soon?

Danielle nods, hugs her.

DANIELLE

Yes, let's plan on it.

Doreen and Spencer exchange a hug.

SPENCER

Give Annabel a hug from me... I mean, both of us.

DOREEN

I will. Thanks again for coming today. I can't wait to get this segment edited and on air. The Eva Schwartz Foundation is going to a household name.

Doreen waves as they pull away. Danielle's phone PINGS as they pull off the ABC lot.

INSERT: DANIELLE'S PHONE MESSAGE - From Doreen: Tell him today?

EXT. UPSCALE MEDITERRANEAN RESTAURANT - LUNCH TIME

Danielle and Spencer sit outside, table with a perfect view of the bluffs and sea.

WAITER

(pops champagne top) Enjoy, cheers!

SPENCER

To us.

DANIELLE  
To choosing truth. And love. And  
us, again. And again.

SPENCER  
I like that.

DANIELLE  
Cheers!

They CLINK glasses, take a sip. Danielle watches Spencer's  
face. He looks relaxed.

DANIELLE (CONT'D)  
... Spencer... there is something I  
need to tell you.

SPENCER  
OK...

DANIELLE  
I was raped.

Spencer jumps up, his face red.

SPENCER  
Fucking David, I'm going to kill  
him... for real this time.

Patrons look at them, and Danielle motions for him to stop.

DANIELLE  
Shhh! No, not David. Before I met  
you.

SPENCER  
Why have you never mentioned this?

DANIELLE  
Because it was the worst experience  
of my life. It's the reason I left  
everything I knew behind... lost  
contact with my family...

SPENCER  
That experience should NEVER have  
been yours to bare alone. Oh,  
sweetheart.

DANIELLE  
I didn't know until a few months  
later that the worst night of my  
life had also left me pregnant.

SPENCER

You had a baby?

DANIELLE

A baby girl... Kate. A year before we met. She was adopted by a wonderful couple, who I knew would love her in ways I couldn't.

Spencer pours more champagne, finishes it. He motions for the waiter, who comes over.

SPENCER

Can I get a Scotch, please?

DANIELLE

I'm sorry, Spencer... I never thought I'd speak of Kate again...

She starts crying, and Spencer kneels next to her, wrapping his arms around her.

SPENCER

Why now?

DANIELLE

Well, I lost Eva. And then I thought I lost you.

(BEAT)

And it was at our lowest point that Kate's parents found me... they thought it was only right I know.

SPENCER

Know what?

DANIELLE

That Kate died. And like Eva, she was a piece of me, too.

SPENCER

D...

DANIELLE

I understand if you're upset, Spencer, but the pain of losing...

SPENCER

(reaching for Danielle's hands)  
I choose truth. And love. And us...

DANIELLE

Thank you.

EXT. ETERNAL PEACE CEMETERY - LATER

Spencer and Danielle stand at Kate's grave, hands held. Fresh lilies sit on her grave.

SPENCER

Her parents visit here a lot?

A butterfly flutters past them, catching Danielle's attention. Spencer watches her in the sunlight.

SPENCER (CONT'D)

Should we visit Eva more?

DANIELLE

"Church" is where you make it,  
Spencer... where do you feel  
closest to her?

FLASHBACK: BLUFFS PARK. Pushing a young Eva on the swings.

SPENCER

Bluffs Park was always our special  
spot.

DANIELLE

Every Sunday morning, rain or  
shine.

He kisses her.

SPENCER

Thank you.

DANIELLE

For?

SPENCER

Always knowing what to say.

I/E. ETERNAL PEACE CEMETERY/ LUXURY CAR - CONTINUOUS

As they get into their car to leave, a jeep pulls up behind them.

SPENCER

For a second I thought that was  
Mike.

Mike gets out of the jeep and walks to their car. Spencer rolls down the window, in shock.

SPENCER

Small world seeing you here, Mike.

MIKE

Hi Spencer... hi Danielle. You told him, huh?

SPENCER

Told me what?

MIKE

About Kate.

SPENCER

Wait... this is the same Kate you talk about? Your Kate is Danielle's Kate?

DANIELLE

Pieces of Eva.

INT. DOREEN'S HOUSE - EVENING

Doreen peeks to make sure Annabel is asleep, then looks at herself in the hallway mirror. Her phone VIBRATES.

INSERT: PHONE MESSAGE: Chris Ran - I'm outside.

Doreen opens the front door, and Chris Ran stands on the other side with roses in hand. He walks in, hands her the flowers, and they kiss. Doreen kicks the door shut. In no time, they are nearly naked having sex on the couch.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Danielle, Spencer and Mike sit in the living room, laughing. Mike's insulin meter BEEPS.

MIKE

That's my cue to get going. Need to tend this... and probably do a little studying.

DANIELLE

Thanks for coming over, Mike... I know you have more exciting social activities to choose from...

MIKE

What's more exciting than hanging out with two of the nicest people I know? Thanks again for having me.

SPENCER  
 (extending his hand)  
 Mike, drive safe. We'll see you  
 soon, buddy.

Mike goes in for a hug, surprising Spencer.

INT. ABC AFFILIATE NEWSROOM - MORNING

Doreen hurries around the office, nervously.

DOREEN  
 (calling out commands)  
 Marty, get me that VO. Ted, I need  
 those CG's. Lisette- I need those  
 soundbites from the recipients. And  
 don't forget the special effects we  
 talked about.

She paces as her team works around her, looking to the sky  
 with her hands in prayer.

INT. ABC AFFILIATE NEWSROOM EDITING ROOM - AFTERNOON

Doreen sits on the edge of her seat in the dark editing bay.  
 Credits roll and she claps, then hugs everyone around her.

DOREEN  
 Be right back!

She steps OUTSIDE the door, CALLS Danielle, whose phone  
 RINGS.

DANIELLE (ON THE PHONE)  
 Hello?

DOREEN  
 Hi, Danielle. Oh my god, I just  
 left the editing bay...

DANIELLE (ON THE PHONE)  
 Is everything OK?

DOREEN  
 More than OK... You and Spencer are  
 the talk of ABC... they want to  
 highlight the Eva Schwartz  
 Foundation on ABC National News!

DANIELLE (ON THE PHONE)  
 Seriously? Wow, I don't know what  
 to say.

DOREEN  
Oh, and it airs tonight!

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE - EARLY EVENING

Spencer walks into the

KITCHEN

And finds Danielle setting the formal dining table with fine china and crystal. There are 7 settings.

SPENCER  
What's the special occasion?

DANIELLE  
Impromptu dinner party.

SPENCER  
Ohhh, let me guess who's coming.  
Let's see... seven place  
settings... you, me, Doreen,  
Annabel, Mike... who else?

DANIELLE  
OK, mister inquisitive, come be my  
sous chef... I need some extra  
hands in here.

SPENCER  
Only if I can have some sugar  
first...

Spencer begins to kiss her neck, and she laughs. The DOOR  
BELL rings.

DANIELLE  
Spencer, honey, can you get that?  
I'll finish up in here.

Spencer OPENS the front door: Doreen, Annabel and Chris Ran  
come in.

SPENCER  
Welcome, come on in! Make yourself  
at home, good to see you.

Spencer looks at Chris Ran in surprise:

CHRIS RAN  
Love your place, Schwartz... really  
nice...

He CLOSES the front door, following them into the LIVING ROOM.

SPENCER

Wait... how long has this been going on?

Spencer points from Doreen to Chris, and back; they smile and come together to hold hands.

CHRIS RAN

A few months...?

SPENCER

How did I miss that?

DANIELLE (FROM THE KITCHEN)

I knew it before they did!

They all laugh.

ANNABEL

It was my fairy dust! I asked for a daddy as nice as Spencer... and it worked!

DOREEN

The imagination of this child!

ANNABEL

Look! The news is on!

They all gather, everyone too nervous to sit.

SHOT. TV

"Welcome to ABC 7, the only place for your local news. Tonight we have an incredible story to share with you."

Suddenly the anchor stops talking, and looks confused, and then she continues.

SHOT. TV

"Sorry, we have some breaking news coming into the studio right now. There is a high-speed chase currently taking place in downtown Los Angeles..."

Doreen looks defeated.

ANNABEL

Hey! That's not nice.

DOREEN  
 Good news is not always GOOD  
 news... just the way it goes...

The DOOR BELL rings, Spencer opens the door. Mike and Mary come in.

MIKE  
 Did we miss it?

DANIELLE  
 You're just in time for dinner.  
 Who's hungry?

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, KITCHEN - LATE NIGHT

Danielle and Spencer hand dry crystal wine glasses.

SPENCER  
 You are an amazing hostess.

DANIELLE  
 Why, thank you.

SPENCER  
 I've been thinking...

She turns around, crosses her arms as she faces him.

SPENCER (CONT'D)  
 Let's sell the house. Move  
 downtown, next to Bluffs Park. Buy  
 a trendy loft.

DANIELLE  
 You are crazy, Spencer Schwartz!

SPENCER  
 Crazy about you!

Spencer picks her up and carries her into the

BEDROOM

He sets her down on the bed.

SHOT. SLOW MOTION

Danielle laughs hysterically, her head back, eyes closed, smiling.

Spencer stares at her, falling in love with her all over again.

DANIELLE  
I'm glad we chose us.

SPENCER  
Me too. In fact...

He gets down on one knee, pulls a ring from his pocket.

SPENCER  
Mrs. Danielle Schwartz... I choose  
truth. Love. And us. What do you  
say?

Spencer puts the ring on Danielle's finger, and she kisses  
him, pulls him onto the bed.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, HOME OFFICE - MORNING

Spencer scrolls his phone looking at home websites for loft  
apartments near Bluffs Park. His phone VIBRATES.

INSERT: PHONE MESSAGE - CHRIS RAN: CAN YOU CHAT?

SPENCER: SURE, WHEN?

CHRIS RAN: I'M OUTSIDE.

EXT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, CONTINUOUS

Spencer finds Chris Ran pacing.

SPENCER  
Hey, what's up?

CHRIS RAN  
Sorry to show up like this, but...

SPENCER  
What's going on, Ran?

CHRIS RAN  
I just came from the hospital.

SPENCER  
What happened?

CHRIS RAN  
It's David... He died early this  
morning.

SPENCER  
How?

CHRIS RAN  
Overdosed on prescription pills,  
whether by accident or not...

His voice trails off.

SPENCER  
How is Doreen?

CHRIS RAN  
It's been up and down... she was  
relieved, then mad, and now just  
confused.

SPENCER  
Confused about what?

CHRIS RAN  
He left a suicide note, and willed  
everything he had to Doreen. He  
didn't have many material things,  
but he has close to half a million  
dollars in cash. God only knows  
where or how he got that kind of  
money.

Spencer's stomach drops.

SPENCER  
I'm speechless.

CHRIS RAN  
That was my reaction too. But  
without hesitation Doreen knew  
exactly what she wanted to do with  
it.

SPENCER  
Is that so?

CHRIS RAN  
(reaching in his pocket)  
Here...

INSERT: Check made out to the Eva Schwartz Foundation for  
\$350,000.

SPENCER  
I can't accept this, Ran...

CHRIS RAN  
Hey... Schwartz... remember what  
happened the last time we argued?

SPENCER

No... what?

CHRIS RAN

You lost. So save your energy and accept the check. Doreen insists.

Spencer looks down at the check in disbelief.

SPENCER

Thank you.

CHRIS RAN

And I know you, Schwartz... you're a gentleman but you wanna know where that other money is going.

SPENCER

You know me too well...

CHRIS RAN

Annabel's college fund. She's set.

The men shake hands, and then embrace.

EXT. ETERNAL PEACE CEMETERY - SAME

Mike sits at Kate's grave. He leans against a nearby tree, reading a book.

Clouds begin to swarm above him.

INT. DOREEN'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Doreen and Annabel curl up together on the couch, napping...

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Spencer walks inside, Danielle waits.

SPENCER

Storm is rolling in.

DANIELLE

Was that Chris?

A flash of lightning, THUNDER. The power goes out.

SPENCER

Yes.

He holds up the check.

DANIELLE

WHAT?

SPENCER

You'll never guess what he told  
me...

INT. DOREEN'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Chris Ran walks in quietly, but Annabel JUMPS up.

CHRIS

Hi Annabel, how's Mommy feeling?

ANNABEL

Very sleepy. Want to play with me?

CHRIS RAN

Sure.

ANNABEL

OK!

She RUNS out of picture. A CRASH of thunder rumbles through the room. Annabel RUNS back in, wide-eyed, sits in Chris's lap, two dolls in hand.

CHRIS RAN

It's OK, you don't need to be  
scared.

She hands him a Barbie Doll. She holds a Ken Doll.

ANNABEL

Hey, Barbie... I'm Ken.

EXT. ETERNAL PEACE CEMETERY - CONTINUOUS

The large crack of lightning brings a heavy rain. Mike jumps up and sprints to his jeep.

MIKE

Bye, Kate!

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Spencer and Danielle lay in bed naked, he SNORES. She tiptoes out of bed, puts on a robe, and walks into the

KITCHEN

Opens the refrigerator. It's nearly empty.

STOMACH GROWLS.

EXT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, 20 MINUTES LATER

Danielle drives away in the storm.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE, BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Danielle and Spencer's phones BEEP loudly. Message flashes across the screens: URGENT WEATHER ALERT: FLASH FLOOD WARNING. STAY OFF STREETS UNLESS URGENT.

INT. LUXURY CAR - CONTINUOUS

Danielle approaches a stop sign at the bottom of the hill, which takes a sharp turn onto the coastal highway. She looks left, then right. Quickly accelerates.

As she does turns, the car hydroplanes.

SLOW MOTION: Danielle's POV: The car spins, slams into another car, then flips over the side of the road into a grassy hill.

EXT. PCH - CONTINUOUS

A car come to a stop, and a man jumps out and looks down the grassy hill. He runs back to his car and grabs his phone.

A fire truck, paramedic truck and police car arrives seconds later. OFFICER jumps out, and the man motions to where the car is. OFFICER 2 looks at the conditions around them.

At least an inch of water is on the ground, visible skid marks from the car. He looks up. A beam of light from the sky touches the ground. Officer 2 walks toward the car wreck and sees it ends at the scene of the accident.

TWO-WAY DISPATCH BEEPS.

OFFICER

This is Station 54, Officer  
07160127. 11-80, possible 10-54 at  
the corner of Blue Lantern and Del  
Prado. Fire is here. Code 9  
requested.

OPERATOR

Copy, 07160127. Approximate age of  
11-80?

OFFICER

Female, mid 40s.

OPERATOR

Copy. EMS will prep hospital for  
arrival.

DANIELLE'S P.O.V.

Danielle's EARS RING, her vision BLURRY, her body ACHES. A bright tunnel of light hovers above her, and she FLOATS away from the car wreck toward the light.

As she floats through the tunnel, her happiest memories flash before her eyes. But a glowing figure ahead gets her attention.

SHOT. END OF TUNNEL: HEART BEAT FADES IN, GETTING LOUDER AND STRONGER

It's Eva. She motions for her mom to come to her, as if she's encouraging her to finish a race.

EVA'S FLASHBACK.

25-year-old Danielle and Spencer sit poolside, only their feet in, on a summer day. He splashes her, and she screams, splashing him back. Danielle goes to push Spencer into the water, and he pulls her in with him. They resurface laughing, kiss.

END FLASHBACK.

BACK TO TUNNEL.

Eva's stops the encouraging arm motions. She makes a heart with her hands and mouths I love you, TURNS, DISAPPEARS into the night air.

HEART BEAT ABRUPTLY STOPS.

DANIELLE'S P.O.V.

Suddenly, the tunnel is gone. She feels the raindrops on her skin. She hears shouting, sirens around her.

END P.O.V.

EXT. PCH - CONTINUOUS

Officer 2 watches the beam of light retreat from the ground and disappear in a flash.

OFFICER 2  
Did you see that?

Officer looks at him, annoyed. A crowd has gathered near the scene of the accident.

OFFICER  
Maybe you can stop daydreaming and help with crowd control? So much for that requested road closure.

MIKE pushes his way to the front of the line. DOREEN somehow finds her way next to him.

MIKE  
It happens to you too?

She nods yes, and they hug.

OFFICER 2  
Is this your mom?

Mike shakes his head no, wipes away tears from his face.

OFFICER 2 (CONT'D)  
Then I'm afraid you need to leave, son.

DOREEN  
Excuse me, officer?

OFFICER 2  
Ma'am?

DOREEN  
Was the driver alone?

OFFICER 2  
This is an active crime scene, I can't provide any details.

Doreen and Mike walk away from the accident scene.

MIKE  
Wait!

He pulls his cell phone out, hits CHECK LOCATION.

INSERT: Mike's Phone Screen: Spencer - SCHWARTZ HOUSE

He presses CALL, but it goes straight to voicemail.

Doreen and him make eye contact and nod in unspoken agreement.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The lights flicker on and off again, and the power comes back on. The lights in the bedroom wake Spencer, who checks his phone for the time.

2 AM.

Spencer goes into the kitchen, opens the fridge, grabs a water bottle. When he closes it, the paper Eva wrote about him gracefully falls to the ground.

SPENCER

What in the...

LOUD BANGING, DOOR BELL

MIKE (FROM OUTSIDE) Spencer!

SPENCER! Wake up! Hurry!

He opens the door.

MIKE (CON'T)

Spencer, we don't have much time.

SPENCER

Give me a second.

INT. MIKE'S JEEP

Spencer, now dressed and wearing a rain jacket, sits in the backseat.

MIKE

Just down the street from here.

Mike fights back tears. Spencer's mouth drops open as they approach the scene.

EXT. PCH - CONTINUOUS

Spencer jumps from the Jeep before it comes to a complete stop. He runs full force toward the police barrier.

OFFICER 3

No trespassing, this is an active investigation.

SPENCER

And that injured woman is my  
wife... she needs me, damn it...  
and I need her.

OFFICER 3

Sir, your wife was just transported  
to the ER. You can meet the  
ambulance there.

EXT. HOSPITAL - 30 MINUTES LATER

Spencer walks toward the hospital, Doreen and Mike behind  
him. He looks up at the familiar building, and STOPS, TURNS  
AROUND to face his friends.

SPENCER

I don't know if I can do it.

MIKE

You are Spencer Schwartz... the man  
who can do anything.

SPENCER

The last time I was here... Eva...  
I can't lose her too.

DOREEN

She needs you right now, Spencer.  
More than she's ever needed you  
before in her life.

He takes a deep breath.

SPENCER

For love. For us.

INT. HOSPITAL - CONTINUOUS

INTENSIVE CARE UNIT.

Mike waits in the same room he waited for news of Eva in.

DOCTOR

Mr. Schwartz?

SPENCER

Yes, hi Doctor.

DOCTOR

Your wife is currently in the OR  
undergoing emergency surgery.

(MORE)

DOCTOR (cont'd)

The blunt force of the accident lacerated her left lung and sent her into respiratory failure.

SPENCER

So the emergency surgery is to repair that?

DOCTOR

Well, my team is checking for internal bleeding and running a few tests...

Opens clipboard, and scans his finger across the print.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

... but if everything checks out, she has been matched and cleared for an emergency lung transplant. You just have to consent by signing here.

Spencer signs the dotted line.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

And... between you and me, your wife must have a guardian angel. Never have I witnessed a patient match for an organ transplant within minutes of coming through these doors.

SPENCER

Thank you.

Spencer extends his hand, the doctor shakes it.

DOCTOR

She's in good hands, Mr. Schwartz.

INT. ICU WAITING ROOM - EARLY MORNING

Spencer sits wide awake in shock. Mike, Doreen, Chris Ran, Annabel, and Mary walk in, a box of donuts and coffee in hand.

MIKE

Get any sleep?

DOREEN

Eat anything?

SPENCER

I can't do anything until I know she's OK...

ANNABEL

Did you sing anything? Maybe that will help.

"You are my sunshine, my only sunshine. You make me happy when skies are gray. You'll never know dear, how much I love you. Please don't take my sunshine away."

BIRDS EYE POV. They all circle around Annabel as she sings, CLAP as she ends.

DOCTOR

Mr. Schwartz?

SPENCER

Doctor...

DOCTOR

Danielle is in ICU recovery, but the surgery and transplant were textbook perfect. You'll be able to visit her in a few hours.

SPENCER

Thank you! Thank you, Doctor!

INT. HOSPITAL - TWO DAYS LATER

Danielle wakes, her body aches. She looks around. Machines, IVs, her husband asleep in a chair next to the bed.

DANIELLE

Spencer. Pssst. Spencer!

He rushes next to her, grabs her hand, kisses it.

SPENCER

I thought I lost you.

DANIELLE

It was closer than you thought. Am I really banged up?

SPENCER

Let's put it this way... you can now "walk the talk" on both sides of the foundation.

Her eyes grow wide in disbelief. He reaches behind him, holds up Eva's stuffed animal.

SPENCER (CONT'D)

For now, let's focus on nothing but getting you better.

TITLE: "ONE YEAR LATER"

EXT. "EVA SCHWARTZ FOUNDATION" BUILDING - DAYTIME

Ribbon cutting ceremony. Small but respectable crowd gathers. Spencer and Danielle stand center, surrounded by their friends. The ABC News team takes footage. Spencer motions to Mike to stand next to him, and Danielle hands Mike the scissors.

DANIELLE

Will you do the honor?

Mike cuts the ribbon. As the ribbon falls, Doreen's baby bump becomes visible. Chris Ran stands proud next to her. As the crowd cheers, Danielle approaches a microphone podium.

DANIELLE

The Eva Schwartz Foundation started as a simple idea to honor our daughter. But it has blossomed and now represents the necessary support for those who are touched, by any degree, by organ donation and/or organ transplant. Losing our daughter, Eva, was the darkest time in my life. But the connections and friendships I cherish most stem from that tragedy. Thank you for being our guiding light as we navigate this journey.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

INT. ST. JOHN'S HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Mike closes his locker and sees a new girl, Lindsey. She smiles as she closes her locker and walks away. He impulsively runs after her.

MIKE

Hi, Mike Ashton. You new?

LINDSEY  
Hi Mike, Lindsey... yes, I just  
transferred from Lincoln Way Prep.

MIKE  
What's your next class?

Lindsey holds up her phone, scanning Mike's face as he looks  
at her schedule.

LINDSEY  
Mind walking me there?

MIKE  
I'd love to.

He offers his arm to her, and she puts her through it. The  
get lost in the crowd of students.

INT. SCHWARTZ HOUSE - SAME

Spencer works on his laptop, Danielle RUNS in.

DANIELLE  
It came!

She drops an envelope on his desk.

SPENCER POV: LifeChain Foundation.

SPENCER  
You don't want to...?

Danielle fans herself nervously in anticipation. Spencer  
opens the letter and scans it, his eyebrows furrow.

DANIELLE  
What is it?

SPENCER  
"Dear Mr. and Mrs. Schwartz-  
Thank you for reaching out to  
LifeChain. I regret to inform you  
that the family of your California-  
based organ donor opted to remain  
anonymous. For this reason, we are  
not able to reveal his or her  
identity. We understand this is not  
the update you hoped to receive and  
wish you many more years of health  
and happiness."

DANIELLE

I know what we need right now.  
"Church."

EXT. BLUFFS PARK - GOLDEN HOUR

They walk to the edge of the park, take in the vista. Spencer wraps his arm around Danielle's shoulder as sunbeams peek out from the clouds onto the ocean.

FADE OUT.

THE END.