SWEET SOUNDS

BOOKENDS 1

FADE IN

INT busy TULLAMARINE AIRPORT Melbourne, Australia, EARLY MORNING. A ROUGH MAN dressed in jeans & zippered jacket walks briskly along a corridor grasping teenage CAUGHT GIRL'S arm & pushing her ahead of him. He wears a backpack, she has no luggage & is terrified.

INT AIRPORT DESK. Parents HOLLY, 33, ETHAN 37, daughter JOSIE 5, son LIAM 8, stand in line of passengers, nudging suitcases towards the airline desk. Children are irritable & yawning.

LIAM

Mum, did you pack my beach towel?

HOLLY

Yes, it's in your bag.

JOSIE

And my bathers? All these people going Queensland too?

HOLLY

Yes Possum, & *The Nutcracker* shirt and

CAUGHT GIRL screams in a foreign language & tries to get free of his grip as ROUGH MAN & CAUGHT GIRL arrive at the line a few metres away from family but in their line of vision. ROUGH MAN muffles girl, menacingly snarls,

ROUGH MAN

Shut up.

CAUGHT GIRL quietens, trembling. Family hears, sees this. ETHAN, scanning his phone glances at the girl for a second, then resumes looking at this screen, muttering,

ETHAN

Teenagers.

HOLLY

Overbearing fathers.

LIAM

How long’s we stand her for?

ETHAN

Not long. Keep your voice down.

CAUGHT GIRL weeps. HOLLY worried. JOSIE’S POV staring at the girl, she tugs HOLLY’S skirt & points. Whispers,

JOSIE

Is that girl going to our beach? She’s got no bathers. No suitcase.

HOLLY & ETHAN look at CAUGHT GIRL then at each other, realising something is amiss with girl & man. Camera pans to high sky view through a large window. Gradually the Melbourne sky blends into the Sweet Sounds sky & down to the sea.

(End of BOOKENDS 1)

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BOOKENDS 2

FADE IN.

INT WINDOW TULLAMARINE AIRPORT, same time/day. Cont. scene. HOLLY & ETHAN look at CAUGHT GIRL & each other, concerned. ETHAN whispers to HOLLY,

ETHAN

No suitcase, she’s scared. Man hasn’t let her go a second. Different languages. Something’s wrong. Keep your eyes on them.

ETHAN'S POV. He quickly scans the terminal & spots POLICEMAN & POLICEWOMAN. He walks towards them, not too fast to draw attention.

ETHAN

Come. We think a man's abducting a girl. They're standing in line over there. Third desk. He's trying to get her on a plane.

POLICEWOMAN phones for backup. ETHAN explains as they walk swiftly to the ROUGH MAN & CAUGHT GIRL. Then ETHAN returns to his family. They overhear snatches of police: 'Let go of the girl. Come out of line. . . questions. Whatever you say can.' They catch a glimpse of her darkly bruised arm. ROUGH MAN tries to run but is caught by two BACKUP POLICEMEN. All of them walk away, ROUGH MAN is handcuffed. JOSIE'S POV: JOSIE is confused by the CAUGHT GIRL walking away with the POLICEWOMAN.

JOSIE

Mum, won't she go to our beach now?

HOLLY, relieved, teary,

Now she can go to *any* beach she wants to, Josie.

JOSIE

But Mum, she has no bathers!

FADE OUT.