# Film (Episode 3): Soul Survivors Angel-Love Power

# Rebranded to Angels-in-Training: Angel-Love Power By Debbie Johnson

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# Angels-in-Training- TV Series Episode 3 - Angel-Love Power By Debbie Johnson

## RULES for Angels in Training:

- 1. They may appear or disappear in a blaze of light, as long as the earthlings don't see this. Soft, thin light around them each time they appear, and then fades as they begin their scene.
- 2. Angels may or may not be seen or recognized by earthlings they've helped more than once per angel's or supervisor's prerogative. Audience will always recognize them.
- 3. Angels can communicate with their supervisor, SAMUEL, or anyone in heaven at anytime, though we usually don't hear these communications. If we do, they are in voiceover. If they are on earth, they may simply hear SAMUEL'S voice without seeing her, and the audience hears her voice as well. On occasion we may hear the voice of the "Boss."
- 4. Earthlings are especially prone to open up to the angels immediately, as if they are meeting a long lost friend, even if they've never seen them before. When they see them the second time, it's assured they will "spill" whatever they need to in order for the angel to be able to give advice.
- 5. Whatever talent or skill is required in the angel's temporary earthly roles; they know how to do it immediately. All knowledge or skill is simply there within their minds and bodies.

THE GROVE is the setting the angels work from in heaven or whatever you want to call that plane of existence for Souls after death. It's like a beautiful park with comfortable-looking lawn furniture, all in very light colors. It's an area of heaven, where angels-in-training live and learn. It's also always daylight, and has beautiful surroundings with river, swings and creative arts areas. More of it will

be revealed and developed with each episode, including more "heavenly" characters.

In EACH EPISODE/ film FLASHBACKS occur, to be distinguished in some way, such as with soft golden overtones, so it's obvious to the audience.

EACH EPISODE/film begins with head angel, introducing concept to audience, segments from pilot showing TANYA and JACK arguing, having car accident, walking through tunnel into the light, and talking with head angel in THE GROVE, as intro music plays and credits roll.

#### FADE IN

#### ACT A, SCENE A

Introductory Scenes of b-roll of light rays through clouds, Aboretum outside terrace with first two lines:

Jamel's Voice

Would you like to know how heaven was blessed with two new angels-in-training?

Married couple JACK and TANYA got fed up with each other and wondered if they should leave. Then they **did** get to leave; the Earth, that is.

Cut to Scene of car accident here.

Now they have eternity to learn how to love each other unconditionally.

JACK and TANYA from the back, walking into conservatory with wings sprouting while these words narrated:

Just recently, they got their training wings, and their angel education continues.

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ACT A, SCENE B

CUT to The Grove, EXT., daytime

SAMUEL TANYA JACK

JACK and TANYA show up in a flash of light where SAMUEL is relaxed, waiting for their arrival.

FX - Show some wings!:) All three of them, just for this scene.

SAMUEL

Welcome to the next level of heaven, kids!

TANYA and JACK look around, smiling

SAMUEL

I'm Samuel, and I'll be taking over your training while you get used to your wings. Any questions?

**JACK** 

Do we still get to visit earth?

TANYA

(at same time as JACK)
Are we going to get to help humans again?

SAMUEL

Well...let's see...how do you think you can serve God best?

JACK and TANYA look at each other and grin, giving each other a high five.

# Act 1 - Scene 1

CUT TO JESSICA'S HOME, (INT), Living Room and LISSA'S HOME, (INT), Bedroom, Early morning.

JESSICA - Latina-American, second generation. Bright and easily swayed by love, also very strong and sometimes sarcastic, with a silly sense of humor.

LISSA (short for NALISSA) - Russian-American, slight accent, raised mostly in U.S. since childhood. Cheerful personality. Married to KYLE. Three months pregnant with twins.

JESSICA picks up phone and starts dialing, looking very distressed, waits for answer.

LISSA Hey, JESSICA

JESSICA

(nervous, but trying to hold it together with some lightness.)

JESSICA Hi LISSA.

# Act 1 - Scene 1 - 1/2

CUT TO Half screen opens up to show LISSA still in bed, half awake.

LISSA

What's up? You sound really strange.

JESSICA

That's because I feel strange, or maybe I just am strange.

LISSA laughs knowingly.

JESSICA

(Next three words in an attempted Russian accent)

**JESSICA** 

NALISSA my darling! I feel Twilight Zone strange! I just heard some news that has me spinning.

JESSICA looks a bit queasy, holding her stomach.

JESSICA

I don't know what to do.
Would you please , por
favo'r, play hooky with me
today so we can talk?

LISSA

Well, maybe I could, but only if you quit trying to sound Russian. You're terrible at it. I've got a million things to do at work, but I'm sure they will all stay put until I return!

LISSA throws covers off, sits up and looks a bit woozy, holding her stomach (morning sickness possible!)

LISSA

I really needed an excuse to get a day off and you're the best excuse I can think of.

JESSICA

Thank you, LISSA, I owe you.

LISSA stands up and stretches, wincing as she holds her stomach again.

LISSA

Let's see if I can do you any good, first. You know I only

have half a brain right now with this double pregnancy.

JESSICA

Well, maybe two half brains will make one whole brain.
See you at the park?

LISSA Sure thing, Bye!

# Act 1 -Scene 2

CUT TO NEIGHBORHOOD PARK - EARLY AM

LISSA JESSICA

LISSA and JESSICA are walking toward a park bench as they chat, then sit down.

LISSA

So, what's the big news?

JESSICA

You remember STEFAN, who has Adult ADD and some other challenges?

LISSA (slowly)

LISSA Yeah.

JESSICA (twirling her hair around her fingers, a nervous habit)

**JESSICA** 

Well, I got a call from LILY. STEFAN moved back to Waconia, and she sees him a lot at the cafe. She says he's doing

really well, and even had a short relationship that sort of worked. I'm happy for him, but not for me. I feel so sad that he couldn't get it together with me, but he could with someone else!

## Act 1 -Scene 3

CUT TO FLASHBACK - Tennis Court, (EXT), afternoon

STEFAN - In his thirties, dark hair and eyes, very warm-looking. Has Adult ADD, plus some bi-polar or anger issues - had relationship with JESSICA two years ago.

JESSICA

JESSICA is pacing back and forth on the tennis court, looking at her watch; pacing more, then looking at her watch again.

STEFAN runs up, throws his bag down on the bench, unzips it, pulls out his tennis racket and some balls while JESSICA stands there fuming.

STEFAN appears not to notice, but goes out onto the court and looks at JESSICA expectantly.

STEFAN

Well, are we gonna hit some balls or what?

JESSICA (obviously mad)

JESSICA

Do eagles fly? I'm not going to waste the afternoon just because **you're half an hour** late.

STEFAN (putting his head down)

STEFAN Sorry.

JESSICA, still angry, serves hard, then we see them volley back and forth a few times, to use for action shots, showing JESSICA still mad, then easing up on her anger, looking more hurt than angry.

JESSICA and STEFAN sweating as they volley a few times more, then JESSICA stops and bends over as if she has a stitch in her side.

(Note for Music; Include song that expresses emotions here)

JESSICA (winded)

JESSICA

I need a break, STEFAN.

STEFAN

Sure, no problem. Let's sit for awhile.

STEFAN and JESSICA walk over to bench inside tennis court, STEFAN pulls some water bottles out of his bag and hands one to JESSICA, which she opens. He opens one himself and they both drink.

**JESSICA** 

(twirling her hair around her finger, looks frustrated, then sad, then resigned.

JESSICA

You know, STEFAN, I think I need another kind of break, too. I waited so long for you to get here today.

JESSICA

(sitting up straighter, turning and facing him more directly)

JESSICA

I was worried that you wouldn't even show up, like

the other night. I don't know if I can do this much longer.

STEFAN'S head is bent down, like he feels ashamed of himself.

JESSICA

You know I love you, and I know you love me, but it may not be enough for me. I know you're doing the best you can, considering your mental health, but this is really hurting me. It just seems like you don't care. I know that's not true, but I can't take anymore. I don't think I'll be able to keep my own sanity for long in this relationship.

I mean, even when I try to compliment you, like the other day when I said how you could get a great job in graphic design, you got mad at me! That really scares me, you know?

STEFAN
(very softly, near tears)

STEFAN I understand.

STEFAN gets up, walks over to the bench holding his tennis bag, and his sadness turns to frustration, dropping his tennis racket, water bottle, and bag in despair.

## Act 1 -Scene 4

CUT TO NEIGHBORHOOD PARK - EARLY AM, still.

JESSICA
LISSA
MOTHER and One or two PRE-SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN are playing
JESSICA and LISSA are still sitting on bench.

JESSICA (turning to face LISSA as she did STEFAN in previous scene)

JESSICA

I know there's no way I could have stayed with STEFAN then, not with his mental conditions. But it just about killed me when I had to break up with him. I love him so much.

JESSICA (pauses to gaze out at the mother and children)

**JESSICA** 

I just know he's my Soul
Mate, if there really is such
a thing. My heart ached for
weeks, maybe months.
Actually, I think it still
hurts, but I've just gotten
so used to it I don't notice
the pain anymore!

JESSICA
(pause, deep, shaky breath)

JESSICA

Well, evidently he's single again and doing great. His self-esteem seems much better, and Lily said he doesn't even act like he's got ADD or anything else! Do you know how amazing that is?

LISSA

How are his moods?

#### **JESSICA**

Lily says he seems really balanced. At least she hasn't seen anything bad, like she used to.

#### **JESSICA**

(thoughtful pause, again gazing out at mother and children playing, then climbing on play sets happily, laughing)

#### JESSICA

Lily thinks I should give him another chance. Is it possible he could be doing well enough for me to visit? You know how good his heart is. But I'm really scared!

#### LISSA

Well, who wouldn't be? If you weren't scared, I'd suspect you had a mental condition!

#### **JESSICA**

Well maybe I do! Heaven knows I should've had my head examined long ago for hanging on as long as I did. I just always thought the power of unconditional love would help him heal. STEFAN'S a really good, kind person... except when he gets frantic about things.

#### LISSA

That's the key word there, girlfriend: except! All we can do is change ourselves. It's useless to try to change a guy, even the so-called sane ones.

#### **JESSICA**

(groans, then stands up and breaths deeply)

JESSICA

Let's go get some coffee so I can clear my head.

JESSICA and LISSA get up and start walking.

# Act 1 -Scene 5

CUT TO THE GROVE

JACK TANYA SAMUEL

JACK and TANYA are sitting together in a beautiful garden setting.

SOUND of a fountain flowing nearby

TANYA

So, here we are on an eternal vacation. Lucky you! Just what you wanted, wasn't it, JACK? Some peace and quiet?

JACK

(squirming a bit in his seat from boredom)

JACK

Yeah, I know TANYA, but I'd still rather be watching football with my guys.

TANYA

You can't have it both ways, sweetheart. Let's be grateful we still have each other at least.

SAMUEL appears in a flash of light.

SAMUEL

You two need something to do and I think I have just the thing.

# Act 1 -Scene 6

CUT TO COFFEE HOUSE (ad op) (INT) - late morning

JESSICA LISSA TANYA

TANYA is walks up to table where LISSA and JESSICA are sitting, looking at menus.

TANYA Ready to order?

LISSA

TANYA

May I suggest Chai tea? It's rich in flavor, but I think it's better for you than coffee.

LISSA

That sounds great. I'll have a Grande'.

TANYA (looking at JESSICA) And for you?

JESSICA

(with a little laugh, looking at menu and twirling her hair)

JESSICA

What have you got for mental health?

TANYA

Oh, I'm definitely no expert on that one! But chocolate seems to work for me, at least temporarily. If it's just temporary insanity, chocolate's the cure!

JESSICA(chuckling)

JESSICA

You're speaking my language! Steamed hot chocolate for me with a side of chocolate fondue. Where have you been all our lives?

TANYA

Probably having my own desperate moments, but if you want to chat more, my break is about now, I think.

LISSA

Hey, why don't you join us...this is our day for adventure!

TANYA walks away to get their order:

TANYA'S VOICE
(Asking God for help, happy
to have coffee!)

TANYA brings their order with her own coffee and sits down with them.

TANYA

Are you sure this is okay?

JESSICA

Do cats chase mice?

TANYA

(laughing, but a little confused)

TANYA

I don't usually do this, but every once in a while I meet some exceptional people; I have a feeling you two fit that category.

**JESSICA** 

Thank you for the compliment! And yes, it's really okay.

JESSICA gestures, arms bent with hands up, then drops them into her lap with next comment.

**JESSICA** 

In fact, it may be necessary.

I need some really good advice right now. You might have a clear perspective, at least clearer than ours, I think. We know the story too well!

TANYA Shoot!

JESSICA

Well, three years ago I met an incredible, big hearted man from Waconia who fell in love with me just as fast as I fell in love with him.

It was instant.

But he had ADD and some other disorders, which made it really difficult for him to have relationships.

JESSICA sighs.

#### **JESSICA**

I know there are always new breakthroughs with medicine, so I guess I've never really given up on him completely.

JESSICA pauses, then turns her cup back and forth nervously while talking next:

#### **JESSICA**

Then, someone told me he was doing really well. She thought I should give him another chance. But I'm really scared. I don't know if he'll get into his freaked out moods again and get angry. He knows he always has my unconditional love. But should I try to actually contact him again? Do you have any experience that could help?

TANYA sits up straighter, breathing in and bites her lip, thinking.

#### TANYA

Well, I have experience with several boyfriends, and two husbands. What I can tell you is that men are unpredictable. I know you always hear that about women, and it's true. We all are.

TANYA gestures to herself, then to left and right respectively while talking about self, husband, grocery clerk:

TANYA

I might get angry, my husband might get angry; the grocery clerk might get angry. So what?

JESSICA, looking surprised, cocks her head to the side and opens her mouth to talk, then shuts it again.

JESSICA

Wow, you just opened my eyes to something I hadn't realized: I'm afraid of anger.

# Act 1 - Scene 7

CUT TO FLASHBACK - YOUNG JESSICA'S house (INT), KITCHEN and JESSICA'S bedroom, evening.

JESSICA'S MOTHER- Gruff, tendency to anger easily, doesn't know her own strength. Single parent.

YOUNG JESSICA - Age 12. Sensitive, small and easily wounded, tends to put people on pedestals, wants to please people, especially her mother.

JESSICA is at her desk, doing her homework, JESSICA'S MOTHER is in the kitchen looking at the dishes in the sink, then walks over to the hallway and yells:

JESSICA'S MOTHER
JESSICA, get in here and do
these dishes!

YOUNG JESSICA'S VOICE (yelling back down the hallway from her room)

YOUNG JESSICA'S VOICE

I just have to finish this homework, Mom. I'll be there in a minute.

JESSICA'S MOTHER walks down the hallway to door of JESSICA'S bedroom and leans in.

JESSICA'S MOTHER (steaming)

JESSICA'S MOTHER What did you say?

YOUNG JESSICA I said, I just have to ....

JESSICA'S FATHER walks over to JESSICA as she's speaking and stands over her with her hands curled by her side, as if she's barely controlling her anger.

YOUNG JESSICA (Getting up, obviously scared, as though this could become worse)

YOUNG JESSICA
Okay, okay, Mami (sounds almost like Mommy), I'll do
The dishes right now.

JESSICA'S MOTHER
That's more like it. And
don't you ever talk back to
me again.

YOUNG JESSICA goes into the kitchen and starts the dishes, crying.

YOUNG JESSICA (sniffling, recovering a bit, softly, to herself)

JESSICA
I didn't think I was talking back.

#### Act 1 - Scene 8

CUT TO COFEE HOUSE (ad op) (INT) - late morning

JESSICA LISSA TANYA

JESSICA looks into her coffee cup sadly.

#### **JESSICA**

I guess I just assumed everyone was afraid of anger because *I* was; I had a reason to be. But it doesn't sound like you are, TANYA. What about you, LISSA?

#### LISSA

No, I don't think I am. I just give it right back to KYLE when he yells at me. We have it out and it's done with. I know he'd never really hurt me, but then I never had a dad like your's, so I guess I didn't have any reason to fear anger.

#### JESSICA

I just realized that if someone's angry at me, it always feel like I did something wrong. I always blame myself, like I could have done better, like I wasn't perfect enough. I guess I'll just have to figure out how to let go of that.

JESSICA looks down into her cup as she says the last line above.

LISSA puts her hand on JESSICA'S shoulder, comforting her, then JESSICA looks at LISSA in gratitude.

FX - Tanya's head lights up a bit as she communes with heaven, while girls are looking at each other:

TANYA

SAMUEL (voiceover) Empower her.

TANYA

What's the best way you know?

JESSICA

Just to give it some time and kind of sleep on it. I'll try that.

TANYA

Well ladies, it's time for me to get back to work. It's been fun! Maybe I'll see you another time. Bye.

TANYA gets up and walks back behind the counter; then disappears.

**JESSICA** 

I wonder why I opened up to her so easily? I just felt like I already knew her, you know?

LISSA

Yes, you are right. She seemed familiar to me, too, but I don't know why.

# Act 1 - Scene 9

THE GROVE

TANYA JACK SAMUEL

JACK and SAMUEL are standing together by the fountain.

**JACK** 

Boy, *I'd* sure love a cup of coffee right now.

SAMUEL

You know how it works, JACK, you want it, you don't get it. You don't want it, you get it.

JACK

Okay, I don't want any coffee, I hate coffee.

SAMUEL laughs

SAMUEL

Well, it's not really like that. More like, I don't care about coffee, just Divine Love.

JACK

(snorting)

If I had some coffee I can
guarantee you I'd be feelin'
 a lot more divine love!

SAMUEL shakes his head and looks up, laughing and smiling as if to say, he's so pathetic.

TANYA appears in a flash of light.

TANYA

Well, **that** was interesting. I wonder what will happen now. I just **love** love stories!

JACK puts his arms around TANYA

JACK

Of course you do, that's why you picked me! We're the best love story ever, right?

TANYA smiles at JACK lovingly, then lets go.

TANYA walks over to bench and sits, JACK follows, CAMERA follows, while they're talking.

**JACK** 

And I see you're getting more comfortable with your angel role. You don't seem as hesitant as you used to.

TANYA

Yeah, I just get a feeling and start talking and the words just come out! The feeling is kind of like being in the "zone". Know what I mean?

JACK

Yeah, I do. It's better than any buzz I ever got on Earth!

SAMUEL looks at JACK pointedly.

JACK

Oh....I get it.

TANYA Get what?

JACK

TANYA Huh?

JACK

I'll explain later.

JACK leans forward as he speaks, and rubs his hands together lightly, warming up to his next "project".

JACK

In the meantime, let's talk about JESSICA. I have a feeling I'll be taking part in this one. That JESSICA sure had a rough mom, and I know there are worse, but...

JACK takes a deep breath, then puts his hands out in supplication as he speaks.

JACK

FX - SAMUEL appears in a flash of light.

SAMUEL

There's a good chance she will. She must already have the capacity to get over it, or your help would be useless, and we do not waste good help around here!

JACK (chuckling)

JACK

Well the pay isn't anything to write home about.

TANYA reaches out to JACK with love, no judgment.

TANYA

Oh Jack, you know by now that we're just here to serve.

Anyway, what's there to buy here even

if we did get paid?

SAMUEL

Paid? Last time....

**JACK** 

Hmmmm...You do have a point -

JACK puts his arm around TANYA and looks at her lovingly.

JACK

..and I love to serve when I
 can do it with you.

TANYA hugs him and smiles at him. SAMUEL reacts like, "Now you got it."

# Act 2 - Scene 1

CUT TO BEACH, around noon.

LISSA JESSICA

LISSA and JESSICA are walking along the beach, or along a shore of a lake, if set inland.

LISSA

Well, now that we almost have your life figured out, what about mine?

JESSICA What's happening?

LISSA

Last night KYLE insisted that
I have to keep working, even
 though I already feel the
 stress of carrying these
twins. And you know my health
isn't that good. I just don't
see how I'll have the energy
 to work now, and certainly
 not after they're born!

LISSA bends down to pick up a pretty shell. She examines it and brushes off the sand.

JESSICA

Do you think he's just scared that he won't be able to earn enough to take care of you all?

LISSA looks sadly at shell, then puts it in her pocket.

LISSA

I'm sure of it. But you want
 to know what's weird?

JESSICA (smiling)

JESSICA Always!

LISSA (shaking her head and laughing)

LISSA

You are such a freak.
What's weird is that I
figured out what it would
cost to hire a sitter while I
work, to have two cars, gas
money, insurance, clothes for
work, pre-packaged food,
someone to clean house, do
laundry etc. and guess what?

JESSICA stops to sit down on a rock or the sand and LISSA follows suit.

JESSICA

What? But I think I know the answer.

LISSA

It's about twice as much as I
 could earn! But KYLE just
 doesn't want to hear it. He
 refuses to listen!

**JESSICA** 

Okay, we know he's just panicking.

## Act 2 - Scene 2

CUT TO THE GROVE

JACK

HARRY - Golden Retriever, very friendly, well-behaved, follows orders from one source only - inner guidance, just like the other Angels-in Training.

SAMUEL

SAMUEL

Okay, Jack; it's show time!
Oh, but first, I have to
introduce you to your new
partner.

This is HARRY.

HARRY appears in a blaze of light, walks right up to JACK and licks his hand. JACK bends down to pet HARRY.

JACK

Hey HARRY, nice to meet you?
 how ya doin' big guy?

HARRY'S VOICE
I'm Great Jack!
Nice to meet you.

Let's Go!

JACK and HARRY disappear in a blaze of light.

# Act 2 - Scene 3

CUT TO THE BEACH, around 1pm

JACK HARRY HARRY'S VOICE JESSICA LISSA

JACK and HARRY appear on the beach, both with thin light around them. They run down the beach by the water.

HARRY pulls JACK over to LISSA and JESSICA who are sitting in the sand, soaking up the sun.

HARRY licks both JESSICA'S and LISSA'S hands as they reach out to pet him. They both laugh and wipe their hands on their pants.

JACK

(struggling to control the exuberant dog)

JACK

Sorry about that. HARRY loves meeting new people. That's his job!

LISSA

(laughing and happy)

LISSA

Well, at least he's happy and doing what he loves, which is more than I can say for most of us people!

JACK

Including you?

LISSA (rubbing HARRY'S back)

LISSA

Me? Oh, I'm not really doing what I love.

LISSA(to HARRY, in a special animal-love voice)

LISSA

Except petting this precious dog, that is.

LISSA (back to normal voice, but sad)

LISSA

Doing what I love right now would be **impossible**.

JACK

Hmmm. I don't believe

anything's impossible.

Why don't you tell me what it is and let's see if I can figure out a way for you to do it.

JACK has a big smile on his face, as he says:

No charge, Male challenge.

TITSSA

(smiling and thinking about it for a moment)

LISSA

Okay, that's a pretty good deal. Here's the challenge; I love to dance. And I'm pregnant with twins.

HARRY sits down heavily and gives a little whine as if to say, JACK is sunk.

HARRY'S VOICE
Hah! Good Luck with that
JACK!

JACK

(surprised, drops down on the sand beside HARRY)

JACK Oh!

LISSA and JESSICA laugh.

LISSA

Still think you can come up with a solution?

JACK

Oh yeah, I'm a guy, aren't I?

Just give me a sec.

JESSICA laughs and picks up sand, letting it sift through her fingers.

JACK pauses as he looks up, as if looking for divine quidance.

JACK

Since you love dancing so much, what do you think you could do with dancing that wouldn't require you to actually dance much?

LISSA

Oh! I could teach, right?

JACK nods encouragingly and smiles.

LISSA hesitates, thinking a bit, speaking hesitantly.

JACK nods encouragingly and smiles

LISSA

...I could teach dance lessons,
 then when the twins are old
 enough, I could start
 teaching children's ballroom

dance classes for competitions!
Ballroom dancing is pretty popular.

**JACK** 

Could you make enough if you taught part-time?

LISSA

I think so...Even if I teach just one night a week I could make about three hundred dollars!

**JESSICA** 

Wow, great idea. So, what do **you** do for a living JACK?

HARRY instantly looks up and pulls on leash so hard, JACK has to follow.

JACK

(while running to keep from losing HARRY, calling back to the LISSA and JESSICA)

JACK

Oops, gotta go!

HARRY pretends to be chasing something, running away so JACK doesn't have to answer.

JACK

(out of breath)

JACK

Thanks, Harry, I owe you one.

HARRY'S VOICE

Nothing owed, buddy. That's what I'm here for!

JACK

Hey! Have you been talking to my wife?

JESSICA (turning to LISSA and putting her hand on her arm)

JESSICA

I *love* to dance. I'll be your first student.

JESSICA gets up and starts dancing around. LISSA claps and smiles happily.

JESSICA

Now I just have to figure out how to pay for it.

LISSA

Don't worry; you can be my guinea pig. I have to practice on **someone**.

JESSICA looking dreamy while speaking:

**JESSICA** 

I just wish STEFAN were here.

He loves to dance, and we'd

make such great dance

partners. I just know it!

LISSA

Well, at least you don't sound so scared now. So what's up with all that anyway?

JESSICA (Deep sigh)

JESSICA

Heaven knows.

JESSICA and LISSA get up and walk down the beach past concession stand.

MONTAGE LISSA and JESSICA walking on beach, playing by water with ducks, etc.

# Act 2 - Scene 4

CUT TO THE GROVE

JACK We do?

SAMUEL (laughing lightly)

SAMUEL We will.

# Act 2 - Scene 5

CUT TO BEACH, LEADING TO CONCESSION STAND, (EXT), EARLY AFTERNOON

JESSICA LISSA TANYA SERVER

JESSICA (standing up and brushing sand off her shorts or pants)

JESSICA
Let's get some lunch. I can
always think better with a
fork in my hand.

LISSA (holding her hand out for JESSICA to help her get up)

LISSA You piggy.

JESSICA (pulling LISSA up from the sand)

**JESSICA** 

Yeah, you can talk trash to me now, but who's gonna be pigging out in about three months?

LISSA

Looks at JESSICA like she's thinking: That's hitting below the belt!

JESSICA looks as if she's sorry she said it. And says:

JESSICA
I'm sorry.

JESSICA and LISSA walk toward concession stand nearby.

LISSA

Let's get hot dogs! I haven't done that in ages, and they're really good here at the beach.

JESSICA

Great idea.

LISSA My treat!

LISSA and JESSICA walk up to a concession stand, order hot dogs, and pay for them. No one else is there, as it's a quiet day on the beach, weekday.

JESSICA (to server)

JESSICA

Hi there. I'll take a very well-done hot dog with nothing on it. Just pure, burned meat and a bun.

SERVER
I'll try!

JESSICA

Hmmm, and a chocolate shake for my vegetable.

SERVER (smirking)

SERVER

Sure, be right up.

LISSA (laughing)

LISSA

Vegetable? Vegetable?

**JESSICA** 

Sure, don't you know chocolate comes from a bean?

LISSA

That's true, how could I be so blind? Okay, then I'll have what she's having!

While they're waiting for their order; JESSICA is pensive, leaning on the counter, looking out at the waves. She's watching the rhythm of the sea.

LISSA

Want to tell me about it?

JESSICA

I think I'm supposed to go, LISSA, but I want to be sure, so I'm still going to sleep on it.

TANYA appears at the concession stand while the server's back is turned. JESSICA turns around and sees her. SERVER places hot dogs on counter and gives price, LISSA pays.

**JESSICA** 

Hey TANYA! Why don't you join us!

TANYA

Well aren't I lucky, seeing two fabulous new friends twice in one day!

TANYA looks up, as if thanking heaven, looking ecstatic.

TANYA

(to the SERVER, with a big smile and enthusiasm)

TANYA

# Act 2 - Scene 6

CUT TO THE GROVE

JACK HARRY

SAMUEL'S VOICE

JACK is sitting by a lovely stream petting HARRY.

JACK

There she goes again, getting whatever she wants! I go to the beach, I'm right there, but can I have a treat? No.

SAMUEL'S VOICE

You know how to get what you want, now, don't you JACK?

**JACK** 

Okay, okay, I'll let it go. See? I don't care one bit. HARRY and I will have some

CUT to hill/ park setting where JACK and HARRY play Frisbee with a halo

HARRY'S VOICE
Oh yeah, give me a three count, Jack, I'm Going in deep

# Act 2 - Scene 7

CUT TO BEACH, CONCESSION STAND AREA (EXT), EARLY AFTERNOON

TANYA JESSICA LISSA

TANYA walks over to small, round table nearby and sits down. LISSA and JESSICA are already there.

TANYA

Hey girls, good to see you again.

LISSA You, too!

TANYA - to JESSICA

TANYA

So, have you decided what to do about Waconia, yet?

JESSICA

(putting her shake down after taking a sip)

**JESSICA** 

Funny you should ask; we were just discussing that after we figured out LISSA'S life.

LISSA, putting her hot dog down as if just having taken a bite.

LISSA

**JESSICA** 

Of course I was right, aren't I always?

LISSA

Of course you are, in **your** world.

JESSICA pokes LISSA with her elbow.

TANYA

(laughs, then takes a bite of her ice cream)

TANYA

Mmm! This is good. So what did you decide to do, JESSICA?

**JESSICA** 

I decided to sleep on it.

TANYA points to JESSICA with her ice cream.

TANYA

Good idea. That works for me, but I do something a little extra special. Want to know what it is?

JESSICA

(excited, sits up and shifts in her seat)

JESSICA

Yes!

I'm desperate for any help I can get at this point. I just don't want to get hurt again.

TANYA

(softly, compassionately) moving on her bench a little, as if a bit uncomfortable having to deliver bad news.

#### TANYA

Well no one can guarantee that of course. Being human has its difficulties, but something I do helps.

I ask for divine guidance before I go to sleep on a big problem or decision. Then I have these very clear, but sometimes weird dreams.

LISSA (nudging JESSICA and giggling)

LISSA
Oh yeah, we like weird.

**JESSICA** 

My sister is like that with her dreams. I wish I could remember my dreams more and make some sense out of them.

### TANYA

It helps me to write down a question in my journal. It's kind of like a letter to God, or your subconscious, if you like that better. Then when I wake up, I make notes from my dreams and they really fit with the question! At least most of the time.

**JESSICA** 

That actually sounds like fun. I can't wait to go to sleep tonight!

#### TANYA

Well, you don't have to wait till tonight. You can always make like a cat and take a nap!

JESSICA and LISSA laugh and shake their heads as if they think that's pretty lame.

**JESSICA** 

Have you always been so brave about life?

TANYA

(laughs softly to herself)

TANYA

Who, me?

Oh, no. I had a lot of challenges overcoming my fears.

### Act 2 Scene 8

CUT TO FLASHBACK - COLLEGE or HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS, afternoon, (EXT).

YOUNG TANYA

 ${\tt JEN}$  - TANYA'S best friend, petite with red or dark hair and feisty

YOUNG TOM - Blonde, very good-looking young man, exudes confidence

 ${\tt TOM'S}$  FRIEND, JAKE - Dark hair, nice-looking, looks up to  ${\tt TOM}$ , is shy, holds back.

EXTRAS - 8-10 COLLEGE STUDENTS

YOUNG TANYA and her friend JEN are standing on the grass chatting. Both young women are wearing backpacks. YOUNG TANYA is holding a sports water bottle.

DURING ENTIRE SCENE, EXTRAS ARE WALKING PAST THEM WITH BACKPACKS ON, AND SOME ARE LOUNGING, STUDYING, READING OR TALKING WITH EACH OTHER.

YOUNG TANYA

(after taking a sip of water)

YOUNG TANYA
I really like TOM. He's got a
lot of confidence and he
seems really nice.

JEN

Yeah, and he's cute, too, like you didn't notice.

YOUNG TANYA
Oh, I noticed alright. I just didn't want you to think I was shallow.

JEN

I think it's called being human, but whatever. Let's go talk to him!

YOUNG TANYA drinks more water while JEN is talking and spits it out just after JEN'S last sentence: "Let's go talk to him"

YOUNG TANYA
Are you kidding? He scares
me. He's so sure of himself,
and he always seems to know
what he wants. Don't you
think he would have asked me
out by now if he was
interested?

JEN (picking some grass and throwing it)

JEN

He acts all confident, but maybe he's kind of scared, too. Maybe he wants to be sure you won't reject him.

Have you even acted interested?

YOUNG TANYA

YOUNG TANYA takes off her backpack and drops to the ground, sitting taylor fashion. JEN follows suit, picking at the grass next to her.

JEN

Trust me on this, TANYA, men see what's right in front of them, and it has to be flashing.

YOUNG TANYA
I have to flash him?

JEN (giggling)

JEN

No silly, you have to do something to get his attention and make sure he knows you are interested.

Like make eye contact. Then smile sweetly as if he makes you happy. But after that, you have to let him do all the work!

YOUNG TANYA
(taking a sip of water,
thinking)
Where did you learn all this?

JEN

Believe it or not, from my Mother.

YOUNG TANYA No way!

JEN

Yes, way! She snagged my dad that way and they've been

together ever since; happy, too.

YOUNG TANYA

You're right. Everyone else's parents got divorced, but yours are like titanium.

JEN

Okay, so quit yapping and let's get this over with.

YOUNG TANYA

You make it sound like a shot at the doctor's office!

JEN

It might be a shot of something, but believe me, he'll love it. You, on the other hand, are a wimp. Go drop your armor and give him a smile.

YOUNG TANYA

(taking a deep breath and looking around as if for an easy excuse to get out of it.)

YOUNG TANYA Okay, okay

TANYA gets up and walks toward TOM, who is talking with a buddy. She drops her water bottle near them. As TOM looks over at her, she makes eye contact, then smiles. TOM runs over and picks up her bottle.

YOUNG TANYA Thank you.

 $\mathtt{MOT}$ 

(obviously trying to be cool, cocks his head to the side and smiles a half smile at TANYA)

MOT

Hey, don't you have Chemistry
 with me?

YOUNG TANYA Um, yeah, I do.

TOM

Well, I just lost my lab partner. Do you have a lab partner yet?

TANYA

(shuffling her feet, looking down, blushing as she looks up again)

YOUNG TANYA No, actually, I don't.

MOT

Well, I guess we could team up if you want.

YOUNG TANYA
Sure, that would be great.
I'll see you there.

TANYA turns quickly and walks back over to JEN.

JEN

Looks like you have a date!

YOUNG TANYA
Yeah, with a beaker and a
Bunsen burner!

JEN(grinning wickedly)

JEN

Mmm..Hmm.

## Act 3 Scene 1

CUT TO THE GROVE

TANYA

JACK SAMUEL

JACK

You are so busted!

TANYA (giggling)

TANYA

Girls will be girls. Anyway,
 it worked, didn't it?

SAMUEL

Back to work angels, we've got some training to do in the world of dreams.

# Act 3 Scene 2

CUT TO JESSICA'S home, (INT), bedroom, night.

JESSICA

JESSICA lying in bed, on her back in bed, thinking of her experiences that day and her fears. She sits up, pulls a drawer open and takes out a picture of STEFAN. She looks at it for awhile, then we hear her thoughts -

JESSICA'S VOICE
"Please, God, give me a
dream with the truth about
me and STEFAN."

Her face looks thoughtful, more at peace as she takes a deep breath, lies back down in bed, then turns over onto her side.

### Act 3 Scene 4

CUT TO OR OUTDOORS IN FIELD OR UNDER TREE; EXT, EARLY EVENING IN SUMMER, SO LIGHT OUT.

The slave couple is UNDER TREE, ON GROUND, MAYBE WITH QUILT) talking while they work, he's whittling something.

JEMMA - JEMMA, African American Slave, gentle, kind and loving.

BEN - African American Slave, strong willed, but loving.

JEMMA (putting her sewing down for a moment to speak)

**JEMMA** 

Ah's sorry yer back 'as hurtin' sa bad when we 'as workin' t'day.

BEN

(stops whittling and looks up at JEMMA with a deep love in his eyes)

BEN

Oh JEMMA, if ya only knew. Thank ya for hearin' ma thoughts 'n helpin' me.

Ah loves ya.

**JEMMA** 

(smiling and looking at BEN with the same intensity of love)

JEMMA

Ah loves ya, too BEN, fo'eva 'n eva'.

BEN and JEMMA clasp hands and look into each other's eyes.

## Act 3 Scene 4 .5

CUT TO JESSICA'S HOUSE, (INT), bedroom, early morning

**JESSICA** 

JESSICA wakes up in bed, sits up and puts her hands on her face, next to her mouth, unbelieving.

JESSICA(Voiceover)

**JESSICA** 

Wow, that dream was so real!

JESSICA grabs her journal and pen from nightstand and starts writing.

# Act 3 Scene 5

CUT TO THE GROVE

JACK TANYA SAMUEL

JACK

Okay, hold the phone! Oh yeah, we don't have phones here. What was that?

TANYA

It seemed to relate to STEFAN, but how?

JACK

How'd you know that?

TANYA (smiling)

TANYA

Angel's intuition.

SAMUEL

You're right, TANYA, it does relate. Her dream was real, but it took place just a short hundred and fifty years ago. JESSICA and STEFAN were slaves in America and they were married for eternity according to an African custom - jumping the broom.

So now, in her present-day life, JESSICA feels connected to STEFAN no matter what. She's scared, but her love for him is strong. And his love for her, too, so he's trying hard to heal himself emotionally for her.

TANYA

Awww. That is so sweet.

JACK shrugs his shoulders while beginning to speak:

**JACK** 

You know I don't believe that anything is impossible...but this?

SAMUEL

JACK, you've just begun to see miracles. There are so many more to come. Your job is to help people learn unconditional love for others as well as themselves.

## Act 3 Scene 6

A. JESSICA'S HOME, (INT), living room, morning
B. SPLIT SCREEN OR CUT BACK AND FORTH: LISSA'S HOUSE (INT), kitchen, morning.

**JESSICA** 

LISSA

DORIAN - Gray cat, lap cat. Hates to get down unless it's his idea, of course.

MONTAGE OF JESSICA FIRST:

CUT TO JESSICA'S HOME, (INT), LIVING ROOM, CHAIR BY FISH TANK

JESSICA in pajamas or sleep clothing, looking in mirror in bathroom, trying to see herself as a slave, possibly, wondering.

JESSICA in sweats, sitting in chair by fish tank, looking at them, sitting back then and wondering.

JESSICA'S dressed in sweats and on the phone in her living room, petting her cat, DORIAN, which is on her lap.

### **JESSICA**

I know! Can you believe it? I just read that book about past lives and now this!

SPLIT SCREEN TO LISSA, in a robe, who is just making a cup of tea by the stove.

#### LISSA

It's amazing. I really think you have something there. It makes sense with all the things you've said you were afraid of.

#### **JESSICA**

Yea, I always thought I was being irrational, but it was just a past life fear. I know it seems really strange to talk about this, but like that book said, past lives are even in the bible, like when Elijah came back as John.

JESSICA pets DORIAN, looking thoughtful.

Now I can see why I'm so afraid of anger, and why I always feel like it's my fault. After all, as a slave, I'm just sure I got beaten every time I didn't do something perfect! So did STEFAN and all the rest of the slaves, of course.

Also,

I think something even worse happened to STEFAN back then, or BEN, that is.

LISSA

(sitting down at the
breakfast bar or a kitchen
 table with her tea)
What do you think happened?

**JESSICA** 

This is really hard for me to say, LISSA, but I really think he was killed in that life for speaking up about our conditions.

LISSA

(stirring honey poured from a plastic honey bear into her tea)

LISSA

How do you know that?

**JESSICA** 

I don't know for sure, it's
just a feeling I had when I
 woke up from the dream.
 There's something else.

LISSA(takes a sip of tea)

LISSA

What's that?

JESSICA (pacing)

JESSICA

STEFAN is really scared to speak up, to say anything at all contrary to anyone! That caused a lot of problems with us, maybe even his ADD, especially if it's related to his nervous system, because I know fear can come from nervousness.

LISSA

**JESSICA** 

I don't know. I did a little research on the internet and found out that sometimes when Africans got married back then, or what they called "jumping the broom", they married for eternity! If we really married for eternity, then maybe I have to find a way to divorce him!

LISSA

But do you want to?

**JESSICA** 

That's what confuses me the most.

LISSA

Let's get you out of the house. It's a gorgeous Saturday. We should go play some tennis.

LISSA touches her tummy

LISSA

These babies need some exercise.

JESSICA(chuckling)

JESSICA Okay Mama.

# Act 4 Scene 1

CUT TO TENNIS COURT, (EXT), morning.

JESSICA LISSA

JESSICA and LISSA are stretching, warming up:

JESSICA

So, how is my cousin treating you these days?

LISSA, with a smile, joking lightly, as she's okay for now, since her friend is the one who needs help right now:

LISSA

Oh, you mean my husband, right? The one I'm ready to kill?

JESSICA laughs and shakes her head:

JESSICA

'Ai, mi primo esta loco, but I'm not so good at understanding men, as you know!

LISSA and JESSICA take their places on the court.

LISSA serves, JESSICA misses by a long ways.

LISSA

You can do better than that, JESSICA, I'm the one who's carrying twins around!

JESSICA

(picking up the ball and hitting it back)

JESSICA

Yeah, but I'm the one whose going crazy right now.

LISSA

(easily returning the ball)

LISSA

Okay, I'll give you that.

**JESSICA** 

(hitting the ball way out of the court)

JESSICA

But I have to say, you're doing really well with the pressure on **you** right now.

LISSA

(running to get the ball)

LISSA

Well, when I think about the problem you have deciding about STEFAN, it makes my life look a whole lot easier.

**JESSICA** 

Oh really! So have you solved my problem yet?

LISSA

Not yet, but don't worry, I will. You know how much I love to fix everyone.

LISSA serves ball

## Act 4 Scene 2

CUT TO RECENT FLASHBACK LISSA'S HOUSE, (INT), night.

LISSA

KYLE - LISSA'S husband, about thirty years old, fairly good-looking blonde man a little rough-sounding to cover up his fears of being able to support his family.

LISSA and KYLE are in the kitchen. She's loading the dishwasher (or washing dishes, just finishing last rinse) while he puts some food into the refrigerator. LISSA flips up the dishwasher door, but doesn't start it. (or turns and points a sponge at KYLE).

LISSA

I have an idea. Want to hear about it?

KYLE

(hesitant, leaning against the refrigerator or counter, folds his arms in front of his chest protectively, but tries to be playful)

KYLE

Uuuuh, yes? I'm not sure I'm gonna like this. Promise me I'll like it.

LISSA

(laughing lightly as she wipes down the counters with a sponge)

LISSA

Okay, I promise, but on one condition,

LISSA

(pointing the sponge at him)

LISSA

because it will only work if you do this.

KYLE

(wary, turning his head to the side)

KYLE

What?

LISSA

Keep a completely open mind.
Let all your worries go out
 the window, okay?

KYLE

(sighing, looking up, then pretending to toss his worries out the window, or door)

KYLE

Okay, I'm ninety-nine percent there, shoot.

LISSA

(washing down the rest of the counters)

LISSA

You know how good I am at math?

KYLE

(arms tightly crossed again)

KYLE

Yeah, that's why you always balance the checkbook.

LISSA

Well, I did some calculating on what it would **cost** for me to keep working...

KYLE (interrupting)

KYLE

Uh oh.

LISSA

(throws the sponge into the sink)

LISSA

...and I found out that I could
stay home with our babies for
less money than it would cost
for me to work, even if I
earned what I used to!

KYLE

(still wary, but arms uncrossed, gesturing)

KYLE

Yeah, but maybe you can earn more now. You should check it out at least.

LISSA

Does my time as a mother of your babies really mean that little to you? You already have benefits for the whole

family with your job. It would cost us a lot of money for child care, for the new clothes I'd need for work, an extra car, gas, fast-food and prepackaged food, etc., etc, etc. Don't you see what I'm talking about? All that added expense just for me to go to work. And there might be a way for me to earn at least a little money in the evenings when you're home.

KYLE

(putting his hands in his pockets now)

KYLE
Doing what?

LISSA

(walking over to the breakfast bar or table and sitting down)

LISSA

A lot of people are taking private ballroom dance lessons. You know I could teach that in a heartbeat!

KYLE

(folding his arms over his chest again)

KYLE

I don't want you gone at
night, and I don't want you
to stop working.

LISSA (crying)

LISSA

Oh, KYLE, how can you be so narrow-minded?

KYLE

# Act 4 Scene 3

CUT TO THE GROVE

SAMUEL TANYA JACK

TANYA

Boy, do I know what that's like.

SAMUEL

What do you mean, TANYA?

JACK(taken aback)

JACK

Yeah, what do you mean?

SAMUEL gives JACK a "cool it" look.

TANYA (stretching the first word out and crossing her arms)

TANYA

Welllll,

I distinctly remember that I wanted to stay home with Brianna, and you said, "No way!"

JACK

Oh that. Well, you know, I had a lot of goals for us back then, like a new house, a new car, a swing set for the kids, vacations.... All that costs money!

TANYA

I know, but did you ever ask me what was more important to

me?

JACK

(crosses his arms in front of him just as Kyle did)

JACK

Well, did you ever bother to tell me?

SAMUEL

Okay, Angels, Let's focus on one couple at a time here. You don't want to lose those wings you just got, do you?

(pause here
Let's take a look at KYLE'S past. It might help you understand him better.

### Act 4 Scene 4

CUT TO FLASHBACK - YOUNG KYLE'S modest HOUSE, (INT), night.

YOUNG KYLE, 4- 10 years old KEITH - KYLE's father, overbearing, unfeeling. JOY- KYLE's mother, pregnant, nervous type.

YOUNG KYLE, KEITH, and JOY are sitting on the couch, while YOUNG KYLE watches TV and plays with some action toy.

KEITH

How much do we have in savings?

JOY takes deep breath and pinches her lips, stiffening in self-defense

JOY

Only about fifty dollars, I think.

JOY now leaning back in her seat as if to escape something, looking a bit scared.

JOY Why?

KEITH leans forward, resting his hands on his knees.

KEITH

You need to go back to work, JOY.

JOY holds her stomach with both hands, as if protecting her baby.

YOUNG KYLE looks scared. Looks at his Mom sadly, and with some fear, knowing she might have to be gone to work like his dad.

JOY

Oh no, KEITH, you can't mean it!

KEITH grabs his soda, as if in denial of his wife's concerns and maybe even his own, and takes a drink while JOY is talking (can will be mostly empty, last swallow)

KEITH

I do mean it. We need the money badly and now we've got another baby on the way.
Who's going to watch Kyle?

KEITH

This family will **not** be poor like my family was.

KEITH stands up and crushes his can of soda.

YOUNG KYLE looks freaked out and scoots next to his mom.

### Act 4 Scene 5

CUT BACK TO SCENE of previous night - LISSA'S HOUSE, (INT), night

#### LISSA

(taking two iced teas or other drink) out of the refrigerator and uncapping them, taking one to KYLE)

#### KYLE

You know how poor we were.
Even when mom went back to
work we barely had enough to
get by, let alone take
vacations or get new clothes
for school. I won't have my
children running around in
ragged clothes. And we'll
need a new car soon.

#### LISSA

I know your concerns, but that won't happen to us, KYLE. You need to look at this realistically. Look at what you earn, what I earn and where we can save money. We've been spending a lot on ourselves, on electronics, vacations, all kinds of things that we don't need to spend money on.

#### KYLE

(taking a sip, thinking)

### KYLE

But where are we going to get the extra we need for the kids? They aren't cheap to raise.

## LISSA

I know, love. That's why I thought of dance instruction.

KYLE (rolling his eyes)

KYLE Dream on.

LISSA looks down, hurt and disappointed, then up, determined.

# Act 4 Scene 6

CUT TO TENNIS COURT, (EXT), Sunny morning or afternoon

JACK HARRY LISSA JESSICA

JACK walks by with HARRY. LISSA and JESSICA wave at them.

LISSA
Let's take a break and go pet
HARRY!

JESSICA
Great idea. I needed a
breather anyway.

JESSICA walks over to the bench with their things, slinging a towel behind her neck and taking a drink of water. HARRY runs up to each woman and starts to lick them.

JESSICA (drying off her sweat)

JACK With Harry in the lead..

JACK

Hey girls. What's up?

HARRY goes up to girls and nudges them or something.

HARRY'S VOICE
Hey, girls, good to see you!

LISSA

(still a little winded, she gets her water bottle while talking)

LISSA

Besides that fact that I'm beating the daylights out of JESSICA?

JACK

Uh, yeah, JESSICA probably doesn't want to focus on that.

LISSA

Oh, just the usual guy stuff.

JACK

Uh oh, does that mean *all* us guys are in trouble?

LISSA

Well, maybe not HARRY.

HARRY'S VOICE Right, not me!

LISSA

Okay, and maybe not you, either. We don't know you well enough to be mad at you.

JESSICA laughs

JACK

(fakes brushing sweat off his forehead)

JACK

Phew!

So what's the problem? Since I'm not in trouble yet, maybe I can help. You know how us guys like to fix things.

LISSA (smiling)

LISSA

Oh, yeah!

Okay, you're on. See what you can do with this one. You know I'm about to have twins and my husband wants me to go back to work, even though it would be cheaper if I didn't. Go figure! Oh, and he's opposed to my teaching dance lessons at night.

**JACK** 

Huh! I thought he'd go for
 that dance instruction.
Hmmm... Let me think a minute.

HARRY lays down on the ground and rolls over on his back. JACK looks at HARRY and thinks:

JACK (VOICEOVER)
What are you trying to tell
me HARRY?

HARRY's VOICE
Isn't it obvious big guy?

JACK pauses, thinking

JACK (VOICEOVER)
Oh, cute, I get it!

JACK

Okay, the brilliant team of HARRY and JACK has done it again!

Here goes: Pretend to roll over!

JACK pauses and looks really proud of himself, crossing his arms, as JESSICA and LISSA look at him and each other as if Jack is crazy. JACK wakes up to the fact that they're confused, and looks back, holding his hands out in supplication.

**JACK** 

Don't argue with KYLE, but don't say you'll go back to work yet either. Then wait to see what happens after the babies arrive. Of course he won't expect you to work right away.

JACK starts pacing while talking

JACK

I have a feeling once he bonds with his kids and sees what a great mother you are, he won't want you to work. Guys are pretty creative, but so is God. He'll figure something out.

But you might want to get out of the house sometimes anyway. What if you started asking around and got yourself some committed students now? Maybe you could do that during the day, like on a Saturday or something, then show KYLE what's possible. How does that sound?

LISSA

You're a genius! If I wasn't married I'd kiss you!

JACK turns his head so she can kiss his cheek.

LISSA

Oh what the heck, we have a chaperone.

LISSA kisses JACK'S cheek

# Act 4 Scene 7

CUT TO THE GROVE

JACK SAMUEL TANYA

TANYA and SAMUEL are sitting when JACK returns in a blaze of light with HARRY, who runs away as soon as his leash disintegrates into particles of light.

TANYA has her arms crossed in front of her glaring at JACK.

JACK

(oblivious to TANYA'S body language)

JACK

That was fun!

TANYA

Well, exactly how much fun was it?

TANYA

(then, to SAMUEL, but with a little smile, kind of teasing)

TANYA

Just how far does this angel thing go, SAMUEL?

SAMUEL

Never fear, TANYA, he **always** has a chaperone.

**JACK** 

Hey, I didn't do anything wrong!

SAMUEL

Of course you didn't. TANYA'S just had some bad experiences in her past, but she'll learn to trust you more eventually.

TANYA looks at SAMUEL and JACK warily.

# Act 5 Scene 1

CUT TO TENNIS COURT, (EXT), still morning or afternoon

LISSA JESSICA

LISSA and JESSICA are back at their tennis game. They volley a few times, then LISSA suddenly bends over in pain.

JESSICA What's wrong, LISS?

When there's no response, JESSICA runs around net and goes to LISSA, putting her arm around her and helping her over to the bench.

LISSA is crying now.

LISSA

(Rocking back and forth on the bench)

LISSA

While LISSA talks, JESSICA nervously digs through her bag, finds her cell phone and dials 911.

JESSICA (on cell phone)

JESSICA

I need an ambulance at Lion's Park now!

# Act 5 Scene 2

CUT TO HOSPITAL ER waiting room, (INT), late morning

LISSA
JESSICA
KYLE
DOCTOR JENKINS
NURSE
EXTRAS

EXTRAS, MOM and DAUGHTER sitting in chairs, showing obvious pain or discomfort. Girl holding cloth on obviously bleeding spot with mom helping.

NURSE comes into waiting room and gets the patient who is bleeding.

JESSICA during all this is pacing in ER waiting room. Then KYLE shows up. He looks around wild with concern until he sees JESSICA, then walks quickly over to her.

KYLE

JESSICA! Where's LISSA? Is
she okay? Can I see her?

**JESSICA** 

She's still in the emergency room with the doctor. I don't really know how she is yet.

We'll just have to wait.

Let's sit.

JESSICA finds two seats together and sits. KYLE sits down, but shifts around uncomfortably in his seat.

KYLE

This is probably all my fault. I've been so hard on her lately.

JESSICA takes KYLE'S hand and looks him in the eye.

**JESSICA** 

KYLE, you cannot blame
yourself for whatever
happens. Life is just so
unpredictable. Please promise
me you will at least wait to
hear what the doctor says
before you start beating
yourself up, or I'll do it
for you!

KYLE

(scoffing, but smiling)

KYLE

Yeah, you're so tough.

JESSICA looks at KYLE as if she really will beat him up.

KYLE

(looking appropriately mock-frightened)

KYLE

Okay, okay, I'll cool it.

EXTRA(Jake) man limps in looking in a lot of pain, and sits down very carefully near door where DR. JENKINS will emerge.

DOCTOR JENKINS comes out of the ER and goes over to JESSICA, looking like he has some serious news. Both JESSICA and KYLE stand up, KYLE with hands shoved into his pockets.

KYLE

(looking really worried now)

KYLE

Is she okay, doc?

DOCTOR HAMMER Uh, are you...

JESSICA (interrupting, anxious)

**JESSICA** 

It's okay Dr. Jenkins, this
is KYLE, LISSA'S husband.

DR. JENKINS (taking a deep breath)

DR. JENKINS Okay, let's all sit down.

DR. JENKINS sits next to where KYLE was sitting, JESSICA sits on KYLE'S other side.

KYLE(as he sits)

KYLE

This doesn't sound good.

DR. JENKINS (slowly, succinctly)

DR. JENKINS

No, no, it's not that bad.

LISSA'S just fine and so are the fetuses. She'll be out in a minute. But she will really need to take it easy from now until she delivers them. What happened was Braxton-Hicks contractions, which can be quite common. But for LISSA, I think it's caused mainly by stress...

KYLE (putting his head in his hands,
 (interrupting)

KYLE

I knew it.

JESSICA puts her hand on KYLE'S shoulder, comforting him.

DR. JENKINS (keeps talking through all of the above)

DR. JENKINS

...as are most conditions; more stress than the individual can handle. Some people are more sensitive to stress than others, and there are ways to help them handle it. I recommended to LISSA that she take it easy, especially with twins due, and also take a course in stress management. We offer them here at the hospital. Also, she'll need to feel confident that she can take care of twins. That's a big job. We may be able to get you some help with that as well.

KYLE (sitting up straighter, looking right at the doctor)

KYLE

That would be great, thank you doctor.

DR. JENKINS gets up and walks back to the ER.

ER NURSE comes out to get man who had limped in.

KYLE

JESSICA, I think I've really blown it this time. I wanted LISSA to work even after the twins were born. I was so worried about money.

KYLE (snorts)

KYLE

Now we'll have even less.

KYLE is thinking about how much he loves JESSICA, thinking about how he will make it work, no matter what.

## Act 5 Scene 3

CUT TO FLASHBACK - TOWN LAKE, (EXT), SUNNY DAY, Five years previous.

LISSA - five years younger KYLE - five years younger

LISSA is sitting on the edge of the sandy area at Steiger Lake, having her lunch. She's throwing pieces of her sandwich to the birds (if we can find some stock footage of grassy area with birds eating - or do B-roll and feed them!). KYLE walks over with his lunch bag in hand.

KYLE

(indicating a space next to LISSA)

KYLE

Is this seat taken?

LISSA

No, you can sit there if you want. I've seen you here before, haven't I?

KYLE

(as he sits and arranges his lunch)

KYLE

Yes, you probably have. I'm pretty sure I've seen you, too, but you should have disappeared by now with the amount of food you give the birds. Do you leave anything for yourself?

LISSA (laughs)

LISSA

Oh yes. I eat like a horse.
At least that's what my
friends tell me. So I always
bring extra food for the
birds.

# Act 5 Scene 4

HOSPITAL ER waiting room, (INT), late morning

JESSICA LISSA KYLE JACK EXTRAS

KYLE and JESSICA are sitting together. (Set - chairs back
to back)

KYLE

LISSA was always so giving,
even to the birds. (more
softly) I've just been really
scared I can't take care of
her and our kids by myself.
It's kind of overwhelming to
have two kids at once.

JESSICA looks at KYLE curiously, as if she hasn't heard the bird story.

KYLE

I need to give now. Life is so precious. We'll make it somehow. Even if I have to get an extra job. But mostly, I think I just have to have faith.

JACK appears in a flash of light in the seat behind KYLE and JESSICA, dressed differently and looking very different than before, at beach, with beard, perhaps.

**JACK** 

KYLE turns around and looks at JACK, then JESSICA does, too. She doesn't recognize him this time, as is angel-prerogative.

**JACK** 

Just what I needed to hear today. Faith is underrated. But you know, just hearing you say that made me feel better.

KYLE

Well, I'm sure glad I could make *someone* feel better today!

JACK

Oh, I'll bet you make lots of people feel good every day.

Just think about it.

KYLE looks like he really will, then as he turns back around to face forward, LISSA comes out right then, looking worried, and JACK disappears (in flash of light, if works for edits).

KYLE gets up and rushes over to put his arm around LISSA and help her walk, as does JESSICA. They walk out the door as they're talking.

KYLE

Oh, LISSA, I'm so glad you're okay. I don't want you to worry about a thing. I'm going to take care of us, and you just forget what I said about working, okay?

LISSA looks almost shocked, then has tears in her eyes as she smiles and looks at KYLE with love in her eyes.

LISSA

(putting her arm around KYLE'S waist)

LISSA

Thank you, KYLE, thank you. I know we'll make it, I just know it. I have faith.

KYLE and JESSICA look at each other and laugh.

LISSA

What are you two laughing about? It's not funny! I'm trying to be spiritual here and you're laughing!

#### Act 5 Scene 5

LISSA'S HOUSE, (INT), Dining/Living Room Evening

KYLE LISSA

KYLE and LISSA sitting at dining table eating from take out containers.

LISSA

Thank you for getting dinner for us sweetheart.

KYLE

I have to take care of my baby.

And my babies.

KYLE touches LISSA's stomach, then grabs LISSA and starts dancing with her to some of Timotha's music playing while they do dishes. From RED, either "Radio Remix' or 'Getting to Know You' (beginning of song)

LISSA giggle, in love with KYLE again, looking into his eyes.

KYLE

You can dance well enough for both of us, so I guess you'd do pretty well as a dance instructor.

LISSA

**Now** you tell me that!

#### Act 6 Scene 1

LISSA'S HOUSE, (INT), Kitchen, Morning

JESSICA LISSA

JESSICA is finishing washing dishes in LISSA'S kitchen while she sits at the kitchen table (or breakfast bar) with a cup of tea.

JESSICA (drying her hands on a towel)

**JESSICA** 

Is there anything else I can do for you before I leave?

LISSA

I feel so guilty about you doing even what you have already. I feel like I'm being lazy, but I know it's for my own good, and my babies. Thank you, JESSICA, you're a true friend.

JESSICA

It's my pleasure. And you know I enjoy giving as much as you do, so you better let

me!

You also better tell me if there is anything else, cuz I will know if you're lying!

LISSA (holding her hands up)

LISSA

Okay, don't shoot!

LISSA (pause)

LISSA

I'm thinking, give me minute.

Okay, okay, there's one more thing.

JESSICA Anything you want!

LISSA (smiling mischievously)

LISSA Anything?

JESSICA (leaning against the counter)

**JESSICA** 

Okay, now you're scaring me.
How bad is it? Not the
garage!

LISSA (laughing lightly)

LISSA

Heaven's no!

I just want you to do something for yourself. This experience has changed me, and KYLE, too. We both realize what's most important now, and that, my friend, is love. We will do whatever it takes to keep that as our top priority. We also realized how short this life is. Even if we do get more liftetimes later; this one's still short and very precious. Who knows what will happen tomorrow?

Don't you want to do
everything in your power to
make sure you're open to the
right man for you?

I love you, and I want you to
think about going to Waconia;
just to see how STEFAN really
is. If you are supposed to be
with him, you'll know it when
you see him and talk with

him. You've been able to avoid it up to now because you've been involved with my drama. Let's get a little juice from yours, okay?

LISSA hoists herself out of the chair, goes over to JESSICA and gives her a hug

JESSICA(snorting)

**JESSICA** 

Who said you couldn't sell? Fine, I'll provide you with some first-rate entertainment featuring an idiot - that would be me - and a flake - that would be STEFAN.

LISSA (pumping her fists in the air)

LISSA

Yes! Now we're really going to have some fun!

**JESSICA** 

Correction; now **you're** going to have some fun.

### Act 6 Scene 2

CUT TO JESSICA in her art room, paint brush poised over canvas, then drops it to her lap, looking perplexed.

Then ...Small, quaint DOWNTOWN, Waconia, (EXT), early morning, just after a rain storm, but sky is clearing, rainbow will appear.

JESSICA STEFAN

JESSICA is walking down the street with arms crossed over her chest, as if to protect her heart, looking scared.

JESSICA(to herself)

JESSICA (VOICEOVER)
I must be crazy. I can't do this!
Why would I want to put myself in the line of fire again? Do I really love him that much?

JESSICA arrives at café and looks in the window. She looks to the right and left, obviously trying to find STEFAN, but doesn't. She looks around, then starts to walk away, looking relieved.

JESSICA's Voice
What am I doing here, God? Is
This really what I'm supposed
to be doing?

She stops to look at the sky, and spots a double rainbow (STOCK FOOTAGE). She catches her breath, then tears come to her eyes. As she turns to walk back the way she came, she sees a man walking toward her (STEFAN), but isn't sure who it is just yet, until he gets closer. JESSICA is dumbstruck, and can't speak.

STEFAN (pulling his head back quickly)

STEFAN

JESSICA? Is that you?

JESSICA(smiling, back to her old self)

JESSICA

Last time I checked.

STEFAN

Yeah, that's you. Haven't lost your sarcastic sense of humor, have you?

JESSICA

(stuffing her hands in her coat pockets)

**JESSICA** 

STEFAN

Yeah, I have. Want to talk about it over coffee?

**JESSICA** 

Do cows eat grass?

STEFAN

(opening the door for her, groaning)

STEFAN

Definitely you.

# Act 6 Scene 3

CUT TO CAFÉ - (INT), early morning

STEFAN and JESSICA are seated at a table with coffee cups in hand.

JESSICA

Yeah, it's me. At least I keep it clean.

JESSICA grins at STEFAN who fiddles uncomfortably with his cup. JESSICA looks down... awkward silence for about 3 seconds.

STEFAN

So, what brings you here?

JESSICA

I just wanted to see if all the rumors were true.

STEFAN What rumors?

STEFAN takes a sip of coffee and looks like the cat that just caught the mouse.

JESSICA

That you've really gotten healthier, more confident, even had a relationship for awhile.

STEFAN

Well, yeah, I did have a relationship. It's been over for a while. I think that was God's way of helping me make a transition. I needed the support while I fought my dragons. She's still a great friend, but not "the one" if you know what I mean.

STEFAN looks at JESSICA pointedly

STEFAN

And **yes**, I'm doing really well.

I have a full-time job with the city, earning good money. I have a racquetball date every other day, and I actually **keep** it.

**JESSICA** 

(putting down the cup she was about to take a sip from, sitting back in her chair, she's so blown away)

JESSICA Wow!

STEFAN

(slowly, for effect, and drawing out the first word)

STEFAN

Aaand, I was just about to do some detective work to find **you!** 

JESSICA
(blushing)

JESSICA
You were?

STEFAN

Well, yeah, what else would I do?

JESSICA leans forward, looking closely at STEFAN

**JESSICA** 

Oh my gosh! STEFAN, you sound so confident.

STEFAN laughs and sits back in his chair.

STEFAN

Hey, is that so strange?

JESSICA (deep breath, thinking, biting her lip, then nervously)

JESSICA

No, I guess not. I always knew you had it in you. But I'm still kind of scared, you know, after what happened before.

STEFAN (leaning forward again, speaking gently)

STEFAN

Yeah, I know. So I was going to arrange for you to talk to my doctor. I think you'll like what she has to say about the emotional control I

have now. I'm doing really well now, and this new diet seems to be helping. I'm not eating wheat or sugar. She says that will help me as much as the counseling.

JESSICA (leaning forward with forearms on the table)

JESSICA

I'm so happy for you. I always knew there was hope.

STEVE

Always. Isn't it you who said you have to believe?

JESSICA grins

JESSICA Busted.

STEVE (standing up)

STEFAN

I've gotta get to work now.
So, how about later? Want to
 have a big date with me
 tonight?

JESSICA (with a silly grin)

JESSICA

Do chickens lay eggs?

STEVE

You are **so** lame when you're in love.

**JESSICA** 

(Giggling, swats lightly at STEFAN's arm)

JESSICA

Who said I was in love?

STEFAN looks at JESSICA endearingly and laughs as he offers his arm to JESSICA.

JESSICA puts her arm through STEFAN's and walks out with him.

# Act 6, Scene 4

CUT TO BEACH (EXT), DAYTIME.

LISSA
JESSICA
STEFAN
KYLE
TWIN BABIES OR TODDLERS (fake)
TORY
BO
ZACK - Toddler
KIKI
JASON

LISSA, JESSICA, KIKI, and TORY are sitting at picnic table talking, with BABIES next to LISSA in double stroller that she's pushing back and forth. TORY is holding ZACK

KYLE, STEFAN, JASON, and BO are playing Frisbee in the background.

TORY

Oh, LISSA, I'm so glad everything worked out for you and KYLE.

LISSA

Thanks, TORY. That means a lot to me coming from you. I know you and ADAM went through so much to get to the great place you are now.

TORY

I know, right? And LEXIE helped me so much. I wish she could be here today.

**JESSICA** 

KIKI

Amen, sister. Let's never forget we have each other.

TORY

I couldn't agree more... and pass me the potato salad so I get some before my big brother eats it all!

KIKI (to guys)
Hey Y'all! It's time to eat!

The WOMEN all laugh and TORY digs in to the Potato Salad.

The MEN return from their game and all except BO start grabbing food from the picnic table, sitting next to their wives or standing.

BO, looking disappointed that his wife isn't there, showing in his face that he obviously adores her:

BO

What happened to my wife?

JESSICA looks around, her expression saying, "I wish I had someone to miss".

TORY bounces or plays with ZACK as she speaks:

TORY

Oh, Sharma went for a walk on the beach and left me with

ZACK to get some experience. She's helping me practice to be a mom in 7 months!

LISSA, JESSICA, and KIKI all scream and congratulate TORY. Then congratulate her as well, hollering their joy.

JASON, BO, KYLE, and STEFAN look around, as if wondering where Adam is.

**JASON** 

So where's the lucky Father?

TORY laughs and makes light of this while she speaks.

TORY

Adam's around here somewhere, probably hiding from all these babies and freaking out about how much work they are!

KYLE

Oh yeah! Especially if you get the blessing of two at once!

LISSA looks back at KYLE lovingly and she to him, then up at the sky.

LISSA

This is such a perfect day. I can't believe how gorgeous it is.

KYLE leans close to LISSA

KYLE

Not as gorgeous as you, sweetheart.

JESSICA

You two are so sappy.

EVERYONE else laughs. Improvises conversation.

JESSICA grabs STEFAN'S hand and pulls him up

**JESSICA** 

Come on, STEFAN, let's leave these lovebirds alone. I don't think I can handle much more of this sweet stuff; I'm pre-diabetic you know.

THE GROUP chuckles.

STEFAN and JESSICA go play on the swings for a moment, then walk down to beach, along the shore, still holding hands, building (MONTAGE) then walking hand in hand again, then stop.

STEFAN

I can't believe what an amazing year it's been. My web-design business is doing really well and I haven't ever been happier. Do you trust me enough to marry me and begin a family together?

JESSICA shows shock and disbelief on her face ... eyes going wide, then soft and tender.

JESSICA

Oh STEFAN, I'd be honored to be your wife. I can't even think of one funny thing to say about that.

STEFAN, taking JESSICA into his arms

STEFAN

That's good because I wouldn't hear you anyway. All I want to do right now is kiss you.

JESSICA gets a huge smile on her face and STEFAN kisses JESSICA gently

JESSICA and STEFAN look up as a double rainbow appears out of nowhere, and look at each other, astonished.

### Act 6 Scene 5

CUT TO THE GROVE

SAMUEL TANYA JACK

TANYA

Now that's what I'd call a miracle. That double rainbow was a nice effect.

SAMUEL

Get's 'em every time.
And if you stick around,
you'll see lots more
miracles.

JACK

What do you mean if we stick around, where else can we go?

SAMUEL laughs

JACK

Besides, I like it here!

SAMUEL

Break time! You two need to go on another date, but this time it will be right here in heaven.

JACK

Fine by me.

JACK takes TANYA into his arms as she looks at him lovingly.

TANYA

Wow! Dating in heaven!

**JACK** 

Isn't it **always** heaven when you're with me?

TANYA (playfully, half serious, half teasing)

TANYA

Of course it is, sweetheart!

SAMUEL

Heaven is where you find it, you know. We keep trying to convince the earthlings of that, but you know how hard it can be for them to see God's hand in the little things that can make life beautiful. Maybe we'll work on that next time.

But for now, you two can enjoy your well-earned rest in the arms of God's love.

TANYA and JACK's wings appear, spread and glow as they smile and look at each other with tenderness.

# Act 6, Scene 6

CUT TO GROVE - BEACH -TYPE AREA.

JACK TANYA SAMUEL - VOICE ONLY

JACK kisses TANYA's forehead as they appear in a lovely setting with a double rainbow in the sky.

TANYA laughs, delighted.

SAMUEL'S VOICE Nice touch, huh?

