

The Art of Valentine Love
(alternative title:
Lodged In Love for Valentine's

By Debbie Johnson

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FADE IN

STOCK FOOTAGE OF OUTSIDE OF HISTORIC HOME, 1890

Act 1 - Scene 1

CUT TO FLASHBACK (INT) - WEALTHY HOUSE, 1890, LIVING ROOM,
NIGHT

WILLIAM MCONNELL- In his twenties or thirties, strong and outdoorsy, attentive and kind, adventurous, Scottish accent.

SADIE VANDERHOFF- Same age as William, also outdoorsy and a strong, confident woman, but sensitive as well.

ELLY - maid, sweet and conspiratorial

SET and SET DESIGN: Home is set up for anytime in the 1800's

PROPMASTER: Antique valentine card will be used also in the optional scene (if produced) and in the Valentine card hunt/find scene (then framed), and the reading of it in the Valentine-dance scenes, as well as in "Optional Flashback scene" if used.

WARDROBE: 1890's casual or slightly dressy clothing.

SADIE'S dress needs a pocket.

SADIE is standing in the living room, looking anxious.

ELLY quietly leads WILLIAM into the living room, looking pleased with herself, then sneaks away.

SADIE meets WILLIAM halfway as he quietly rushes to her and grasps both of her hands. They look longingly at each other. He says the second line very tenderly, quietly.

WILLIAM

SADIE!

Happy Valentine's Day, my darlin'.

SADIE grins big and says this with heartfelt sincerity.

SADIE

Oh, WILLIAM, I'm so glad

you're here!
And Happy Valentine's Day to you.

ELLY comes back in quietly.
SADIE looks embarrassed and lets go of WILLIAM'S hands.
ELLY smiles and looks mischievously at first WILLIAM, then
SADIE, and says quietly to them both.

ELLY
You two have about ten
minutes to talk while
I distract Mrs. Vanderhoff.

ELLY looks back with playful glee as she exits quietly.

WILLIAM grabs SADIE'S hand, pulls her over to the couch,
and sits down with her, turning toward her, and they
continue holding hands through this dialogue:

WILLIAM
We must act fast, my love,
if we want to be together.

SADIE smiles a bit sadly as she looks around the room.

SADIE
I know, and I'm finally ready
to accept that this is the only way!

WILLIAM looks excited as he says this, scooting closer to
SADIE and speaking quietly.

WILLIAM
I'll meet ya' at midnight
and we can get to the
Parson's. He's ready to
marry us tonight!

SADIE looks happy, then concerned.

SADIE
Where will we go then?

WILLIAM
I know a place - not
far from here- where we

can live well and happily.
Don't worry, love, I'll
take good care of you.

SADIE

I know you will.
And we will take good care
of each other.
After all, we both know how
to forage and fish, and I'll
learn to build a cabin with you!

WILLIAM

That's the spirit, sweetheart.

ELLY pokes her head into the room, looking a little
worried.

ELLY

Psst!
You only have a
minute now!

ELLY leaves again.

WILLIAM takes a card out of his pocket (in an envelope) and
hands it to SADIE.

WILLIAM

Read this after I leave,
and I'll see ya' very soon,
sweet SADIE.
I love you so much, Miss Vanderhoff,
soon to be Mrs. McConnell!

SADIE

I love you too, Mr. McConnell!

WILLIAM kisses SADIE quickly and rushes out of the room.

SADIE pulls the card out of the envelope, and we see:

INSERT: an old-fashioned Valentine-card cover/front.

SADIE opens and reads the card and puts her hand over her
mouth, tears coming to her eyes. Then she smiles brightly

and wide, puts the card in her pocket, then rushes out of the room.

Act 1 - Scene 2

CUT TO B-ROLL OR STOCK FOOTAGE, (EXT), DAYTIME:

Medium to Large city, lovely views.

CUT TO: Closer into streets and businesses with Valentine decorations on the outside and/or in windows. People walking and looking into windows with decorations on them for Valentine's.

CUT TO (EXT TO INT) OUTDOOR-ADVENTURE STORE, DAYTIME

KIARA - Adventurous, outdoorsy, strong, compassionate, loving, and kind outwardly strong, but has a tender heart and blushes easily.

GARY - Kiara's father, energetic and fit, kind and fun-loving.

GINA - Kiara's mother, a bit harried, but laughs easily.

CUSTOMER #1 - STEPHEN

CUSTOMER #2 - JENNY

SET DECOR: Outside and inside of store have valentine decorations.

PROPS: See above and signage: *G & G's Outdoor Adventure Store*.

STEPHEN and JENNY are walking into the store from the outside view.

CUT TO (INT) Inside view of STEPHEN and JENNY walking into the store.

KIARA and GINA are standing behind a tee-shirt-display table talking quietly, as they watch the couple start to look around. KIARA grins playfully and nudges GINA as she says:

KIARA

Look, Mom, actual customers!

GINA nods and smiles a bit sadly at KIARA.

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GARY walks from the back of the store.

GINA
Miracles do happen!
Outdoor stores are not
the first choice in Valentine
gifts, right?

GINA turns to KIARA as GARY walks by GINA, giving her a quick kiss on the cheek, then looks at KIARA as she says "should."

KIARA
You want to talk with
them or should....?

GARY
I'll take care of them, honey.

GINA talks quietly to KIARA.

GINA
Oh, KIARA, if your
father wasn't such a sweet
man, I'd talk him into
closing the store.

GINA looks down, folding some tee shirts.

KIARA
I know.
Neither of us can
stand to break his heart.
But we have to do something,
and soon!

Act 1 - Scene 3

CUT TO (EXT) LARGE APARTMENT BUILDING

CUT TO (INT) KIARA'S APARTMENT, KITCHEN, MORNING

KIARA

DANI - same character from *The Art of Christmas Love*

KIARA walks into the kitchen in her robe or modest pj's looking relaxed, still a bit sleepy.

DANI is sitting at the table drinking coffee and reading something online or on her phone.

KIARA
Morning.

KIARA yawns and walks over to the coffee pot as DANI answers.

DANI
Good morning, KIARA!

KIARA laughs and takes her coffee to the table, sitting near DANI, sounding anything but excited herself, putting her chin in her hand.

KIARA
It's good to see someone
in love and excited about life.
I'm just happy we're having
a four-day weekend.

DANI picks up her coffee cup, holding it out, as in a toast.

DANI
I'll drink to that!
What are you wearing for our
Valentine getaway?

KIARA
Oh, you know me, just the
usual . . .

KIARA sits up straight, looking excited, her mouth dropping open.

KIARA
Oh, DANI! . . . My goodness.

DANI puts down her coffee cup, looking alarmed.

DANI
What? What?

KIARA
I just remembered a dream

with this gorgeous
dark-haired guy.

DANI giggles.

DANI
Do tell!

KIARA looks like she's thinking, closing her eyes for a moment, pressing her lips together, then gets a dreamy look on her face, smiling.

KIARA
He had these really warm
brown eyes, and . . .

KIARA puts her hand on her chest.

KIARA
I felt something in my heart.
And I think . . .

KIARA closes her eyes again, struggling to remember.

KIARA
I think he was giving
me a Valentine card - or -
at least we were both
looking at it.
Weird, huh?

DANI
Oh, not necessarily.
Maybe he's your person.
I know someone who asked
for a dream about who she'd
marry, and got one!
A year later, she met him
and knew it was him by
several details in the dream:
Like he was a doctor and
loved baseball!

KIARA
Huh.
I'll have to write
my dream down just

in case.

KIARA starts writing about her dream on her phone, then stops and looks up at DANI.

KIARA
And you want to know what's
weird?

DANI has her cup almost up to her mouth, then puts it down as she Says:

DANI
Always!

KIARA
Well, you know I always blush over
almost anything embarrassing or
whatever? . . .

DANI nods sympathetically.

KIARA
I remember specifically
that I didn't even blush in
this dream!

DANI
That's so cool.
You know why?
Because since I've been
with CARTER and feel
secure with him,
I'm not a klutz anymore!

KIARA
Hey, maybe that's one
way I'll know my man!

DANI
Totally.

KIARA grins and goes back to typing up her dream.

DANI stands up and takes her cup to the sink as she speaks.

DANI

Are you about ready for
our long Valentine weekend
at the lodge?

KIARA shrugs one shoulder.

KIARA
Yeah, I guess so.

DANI starts to walk out as she says this, turning back to
KIARA at the "heart attack," opening her eyes wide, and
putting her hand on her heart.

DANI
Don't sound so excited.
You might give me a heart attack.

KIARA rolls her eyes at ha, ha:

KIARA
Ha, ha.
Valentine's humor at its finest.

Act 1 - Scene 4

CUT TO (EXT) TOWN OF CRYSTAL FALLS, DOWNTOWN, DAYTIME

EXTRAS - shoppers and pedestrians, plus other cars

DANI

KIARA

Shops and whatever else are decorated for Valentine's Day.

CUT TO (INT) DANI'S CAR

DANI is driving while KIARA'S head is back, like she's
resting or sleeping. DANI pokes KIARA and laughs.

DANI
Wake up and look at this
beautiful town.
Isn't it cute?
So romantic with all
the valentine decorations!

KIARA opens her eyes and looks around.

KIARA

Yeah, it is.
Unfortunately, romance is wasted
on me at the moment.
When do we get to the country?

DANI laughs.

DANI

Soon, roomie, soon.
But I know you like the
idea of me having a romantic
weekend, right?

KIARA wakes up and grins at DANI.

KIARA

Oh, definitely!
You are getting a proposal,
my friend. And I don't
mean the power point kind!

DANI looks quickly at KIARA and grins big.

DANI

I wish.
But we've only been
together for two months!

KIARA

My great-great- oh I don't know
how many great-grands-
Sadie somebody. Anyway,
they only knew each other
a few weeks before they
married and it lasted
their whole lives!
At least you and Carter
knew each other in school, sort of.

DANI, grinning happily, is driving out of town now.

DANI

You're right.
When the heart knows, it knows.

KIARA

Oh, and *my heart* is really
dancing now, because it *knows*
that open land is just ahead.
Country, here we come!

DANI grins at KIARA, smiling and nodding her agreement as
she says:

DANI
And not a moment too soon
for me, either!

Act 1 - Scene 5

CUT TO (INT) "LODGED INN LOVE" LODGE

DANI

KIARA

CARTER - same character from *Art of Christmas Love*

TREY - same character from *Art of Christmas Love*

CLAUDIA - same character from *Art of Christmas Love*

MICHAEL - Writer, outdoorsy, friendly, but guarded

TRISHA - same character from *Art of Christmas Love*

AIDEN - same character from *Art of Christmas Love*

SET DESIGN: Lodge is decorated for Valentine's Day. Signage
somewhere inside notes the name of the lodge: *Lodged in
Love*.

CLAUDIA and TREY are behind the counter, checking in CARTER
and MICHAEL. TRISHA and AIDEN are sitting on the couch or
chairs, looking at some touristy brochures.

AIDEN
Let's do this, it
looks so cool!

TRISHA
I agree, we'll have to
visit that . . .

AIDEN jumps up as he says:

AIDEN
DANI!

I mean, MS. NADEAU.

CUT TO: DANI and KIARA walking in, pulling their small luggage on wheels.

DANI laughs.

DANI

You can still call me DANI, AIDEN.
We're not at community center art!

CUT TO: CARTER and MICHAEL turning around. CARTER walks quickly over to DANI, as he says:

CARTER

Hey, Baby. I'm so glad you could
get away for the long weekend.

CARTER gives her a big hug, and a kiss on the cheek, then looks a bit lost in her eyes, before he tears himself away as he says:

CARTER

Oh! Hey, MICHAEL, this
is my sweetheart, DANI.

CARTER gestures to KIARA.

CARTER

And this is her roommate,
KIARA.

FX - "Angels" from *Art of Christmas Love*, renew their role!
One next to MICHAEL'S shoulder, one next to KIARA'S
for the next two lines of MICHAEL.

MICHAEL holds up a hand, as in a half-hearted wave.

MICHAEL

Nice to meet you two.

MICHAEL does a slight double take, looking a bit interested, but shuts down as KIARA looks slightly interested in MICHAEL, until he says, as walks away.

MICHAEL

Well, I'm off to get some

work done.

DANI and KIARA look at each other, confused, then at CARTER, who holds up his hands in surrender.

CARTER

Hey, it wasn't *my* idea for anyone
to work this weekend.

DANI looks at CARTER with a smirk.

DANI

Smart man.

KIARA

I'm going to get us checked
in while you two love birds
smooch.

DANI smiles mischievously at CARTER.

DANI

Oh, I need to get settled
first. . . .

DANI looks back at CARTER as she walks to the check-in desk, as she says this:

DANI

. . . *then* we can do
some serious reconnecting.

CARTER laughs happily.

CARTER

No worries.
I need to talk to Michael
anyway.

AIDEN and TRISH walk over to the counter to talk to DANI while TREY looks her up on his computer.

AIDEN

DANI, are you going to
do some arts and crafts
with us this weekend?
Like maybe Valentines?

DANI looks behind the counter as she says "CLAUDIA and TREY."

DANI
As long as it's okay with
CLAUDIA and TREY.

CLAUDIA
We would love that, *cheri*!
And it's so good to see you.

AIDEN
I can't wait!

TRISHA puts her hand on DANI'S arm, saying quietly just to her.

TRISHA
Thank you for making AIDEN'S
time here always so special.

Act 1 - Scene 6

CUT TO (INT) CARTER AND MICHAEL'S GUEST ROOM, DAYTIME

CARTER
MICHAEL

MICHAEL is at a desk with his laptop open, looking at what he's written when CARTER walks into the room.
CARTER paces to the window, then back again, then turns and paces back to the window, looking conflicted.

MICHAEL turns around.

MICHAEL
Hey, man, you are
distracting my creative genius.
What's going on?

CARTER
Oh, I don't know.
Yes, I do.
Why am I so conflicted

about asking DANI to marry me?
 I mean, we are perfect for
 each other.
 But I'm worried about where
 we will live.
 She's in the city, and
 I'm in the country.
 I don't want to live in
 the city, and her clients
 for her designs are all there.

MICHAEL
 You are totally overriding your
 heart with your mind.
 Plus, before she was an artist,
 full time, she was an accountant.
 Let her do the math!

CARTER
 Ha, ha.

MICHAEL
 Okay, here's a question for you.
 Why would the universe
 bring you two back together from your
 teen years—in a miraculous
 way—then drop you like
 nothing ever happened?

CARTER runs his hands through his hair, not sounding like
 he's 100% convinced when he says:

CARTER
 Yeah, you're right.

MICHAEL grins on first line, then he turns around to get
 back to work on second part, "now let."

MICHAEL
 Of course, I am.
 Now let me get back
 to my genius.

MICHAEL goes back to typing as CARTER goes back pacing the
 floor. MICHAEL turns around again.

MICHAEL

I'll make a deal with you.
If you stop pacing, I'll let
you in on a secret that could
cure you of your misery.

CARTER stops pacing, looking curious, raising his eyebrows
in question.

MICHAEL

I'm working on something you
may be able to use.

MICHAEL leans back in his chair, grinning, crosses his
arms.

Act 1 - Scene 7

CUT TO (INT) DANI AND KIARA'S GUEST ROOM, DAYTIME

DANI

KIARA

DANI and KIARA are unpacking and hanging up/ putting away
clothes in drawers, alternately to each other.

DANI

So, I know you haven't
met Carter's friend Michael before . . .
he's cute, huh?
And . . . the exciting, mysterious
part . . .
He has dark hair and eyes like
your dream guy, right?

KIARA

Yeah, but he seems really
grouchy and self-centered.

DANI

Oh, he's just distracted
with a project right now.
Give him a chance.

KIARA snorts and pointedly changes the subject.

KIARA
So, when you and CARTER
get married, where
will you live?

DANI laughs.

DANI
Good *pivot*.
I'll let you get away
with it this time.
About where we'll live?. . .

DANI thinks, looking concerned before first line, then
looks hopeful at second line, starting to smile.

DANI
. . . I don't know. . . .

I just know I love him.
You know how that is, right?

KIARA
Huh.
I used to know.

DANI
What happened to you
was just because he
wasn't right for you.

KIARA
But how do you know
if someone *is* really
right for you?

DANI
You can't even
imagine yourself with
anyone else.
Even when they're gone.

KIARA
Well, I *know* I've
never felt *that*.
I guess Jared was too

different from me.
He was so *city*,
and I'm so country.

DANI laughs.

DANI
So why do we live in
the city, again?

KIARA blushes, then stops what she's doing, frowning a bit
and thinking.

KIARA
Hmmm.
I think it's because I'm
afraid that if I live in
the country, I won't appreciate
it as much. . .

DANI
I get that.

KIARA
. . . and, well, if my parents
store survives,
I can make more money
there!

DANI
And then we spend more, too,
right?

DANI and KIARA look at each other knowingly and laugh
lightly.

Act 2 - Scene 1

CUT TO (EXT), OUTSIDE OF LODGE, WALKING PATH, DAYTIME

KIARA
MICHAEL

KIARA is walking on the path when MICHAEL walks quickly past her, bumping her arm. KIARA frowns at him, looking offended.

MICHAEL
Oops, sorry about that
uh . . .

KIARA
Kiara.

MICHAEL looks and sounds distracted.

MICHAEL
Oh, yeah.
Well, see ya!

MICHAEL keeps walking. KIARA just shakes her head, looking as if she feels sorry for him.

CUT TO MICHAEL sitting on a bench, log, or rock, as KIARA walks past him and snickers to herself, but MICHAEL looks like he heard her, raising his eyebrows in question (to himself, KIARA is past).

Act 2 - Scene 2

CUT TO (INT), LODGE DINING ROOM, NIGHT

KIARA
MICHAEL
DANI
CARTER
AIDEN
TRISHA
VINCE - from *Art of Christmas Love*, same character
TERRA - from *Art of Christmas Love*, same character
CLAUDIA
TREY
EXTRAS - four lodge guests - family.

SET DESIGN: Dinner is on a buffet table near the kitchen door, with plates and dinner food of any kind. Flatware is on the table, as are glasses for drinks.

PROPS: see above plus pitcher and rolling cart.

KIARA, DANI, and CARTER are at first table, closest to the door. TREY, CLAUDIA, AIDEN, and TRISHA are at second table, with a fifth chair for VINCE when he comes. EXTRAS-FAMILY at a third table.

TERRA walks out of the kitchen into the dining room pushing a rolling cart of pitchers. She speaks as she walks around to each table, pouring water into the glasses. She smirks, speaking teasingly as she says: "love-bird parents"

TERRA

Tonight, we are doing
things a bit differently.
We have a buffet so that
my love-bird parents . . .

TRISHA waves her arm over to her parents, grinning.

TERRA

. . . can have a pre-valentine's
romantic dinner, too.

TREY and CLAUDIA smile sweetly at each other, looks of love, and clink their water glasses together in a toast. TERRA continues pouring water.

TERRA

. . . And anyone who wants to
help me in the kitchen
can do so anytime!

EVERYONE laughs. KIARA, DANI, and CARTER stay seated while EVERYONE else gets up and goes to the buffet table. TRISHA is at the end of the line with AIDEN in front of her.

VINCE walks in the dining room, looking around, and then walks quickly up to the buffet line behind TRISHA. She turns around and smiles widely. Then VINCE leans down and whispers in her ear.

VINCE

I'm so glad you
could make it this

weekend, TRISH.

AIDEN looks back at VINCE and TRISHA unhappily, then turns his head back to line and frowns, then begins to serve himself all as TRISHA speaks softly back to VINCE, both of them glowing with happiness.

TRISHA

Me too!

I'm just lucky that
Sasha was willing to
trade shifts with me
at the hospital.

CUT TO KIARA and DANI'S table. As they all get up and walk toward the buffet, KIARA is at the end with CARTER in front of her.

The EXTRAS are already seated and eating. TRISHA and VINCE are just finishing serving themselves and AIDEN is already walking toward their table.

MICHAEL rushes in, lining up behind KIARA.

As CARTER, KIARA, and MICHAEL are talking, DANI is serving herself, then they begin to as well, as they talk.

MICHAEL walks to the end of the line. CARTER leans out past KIARA to tell MICHAEL, teasing him:

CARTER

Hey, man, you almost
missed dinner.

KIARA glances back and smirks. MICHAEL looks slightly injured, then he says a bit defensively, with his hand on his heart on first line:

MICHAEL

I was writing!
You can't put a time
limit on creative genius.

CARTER laughs this out:

CARTER

Okay, okay, you're right.

KIARA raises her eyebrows in curiosity, looking at MICHAEL.

KIARA

So, you're a writer?

MICHAEL nods as he picks up a plate.

KIARA

And here I thought you
were just an outdoorsman
who liked sitting on rocks.

MICHAEL snorts softly.

MICHAEL

I was thinking about my
book, which is actually about
the outdoors and how to
enjoy it more.

KIARA smiles and looks excited.

KIARA

Oooh, that's something
I'll want to read!

KIARA blushes, realizing she's just kind of flirted with
MICHAEL.

CUT TO DANI, KIARA, MICHAEL, and CARTER back at their
table, eating.

DANI

MICHAEL, tell us about
the walking workshop you're
leading tomorrow morning.

MICHAEL puts his fork down and wipes his mouth with his
napkin, then smiles.

MICHAEL

You'll like it, DANI.
We're going to find
art in nature.

DANI looks excited, eyes open wide.

DANI
That's perfect!
CARTER and I are leading
a Valentine crafting
for everyone in the afternoon.
Do you think we can look
for Valentine items?

MICHAEL looks a bit doubtful.

MICHAEL
Hmmm.
Not sure what you'll find.
I'm not big on Valentine's day,
as you know, but you can
sure look, and lead that
part, if you like.

DANI
Sure! I'd love to.

KIARA looks at MICHAEL curiously.

Act 2- Scene 3

CUT TO (EXT), PATHWAY OR FIELD WITH TREES OUTSIDE LODGE,
MORNING

KIARA
MICHAEL
DANI
CARTER
TRISHA
VINCE
AIDEN
TERRA

EVERYONE is standing in a loose circle, couples together,
KIARA by MICHAEL and AIDEN by TERRA. MICHAEL is at the
trailhead or entryway to wherever they will walk.

MICHAEL
Okay, here's what we'll do.

Everyone can look for anything
in nature that makes you
feel uplifted, like art would. . . .

MICHAEL gestures toward DANI, who smiles and takes over
seamlessly:

DANI
. . . And bring back anything you
feel would fit on some kind
of Valentine art.

MICHAEL squints a bit, like he wants to make sure he gets
his viewpoint in.

MICHAEL
. . . or any art!

DANI laughs.

DANI
Of course!

AIDEN
Can we use pictures we take?

DANI
That's a *great* idea, AIDEN.

AIDEN and TERRA get out their phones and start whispering
to each other.

MICHAEL rubs his hands together and smiles. As he does,
KIARA looks at him curiously, interested and attracted to
his smile, so she smiles then, while he starts talking:

MICHAEL
Okay, Adventurers, let's get
moving!

KIARA walks quickly, moving ahead of the group. MICHAEL
follows with DANI and CARTER just behind him, or beside
him, holding hands and pointing out various things. TRISHA
and VINCE walk behind them, with VINCE'S arm around
TRISHA'S shoulders. AIDEN and TERRA are last.

TERRA is taking a picture of something and AIDEN looks disgusted at TRISHA and VINCE. TERRA stops to look at AIDEN and sees his face, laughing lightly.

TERRA
Come on, AIDEN,
it's not that bad,
is it?

AIDEN looks down and kicks a rock.

AIDEN
It's worse.

TERRA
Why?

AIDEN
Because she's trying to
replace my dad.

TERRA
Oh, AIDEN, that's not
possible. I bet she
misses him as much
as you do.

AIDEN scoffs. TERRA pulls him forward.

TERRA
Let's just find some
cool art.
Who's your Valentine for?

AIDEN
No one.
Maybe my mom.

CUT TO KIARA bending down or squatting to pick up a heart-shaped stone or piece of wood. MICHAEL walks up to her.

MICHAEL
That's pretty.

KIARA looks up at MICHAEL, brushes her hand on her pants and stands up all as she says:

KIARA
I thought you didn't do
Valentines.

MICHAEL
That doesn't mean I can't
enjoy other people doing it.

KIARA
Huh. I guess you're right.

MICHAEL grins.

MICHAEL
What every man loves to hear!

KIARA laughs, and they walk on together, but not too
closely.

CUT TO TRISHA and VINCE. VINCE points.

VINCE
Look, TRISH!

FX- stock footage of mountain bluebirds.

TRISHA sucks in a breath, excited, then grinning as she
gets out her phone talking excitedly.

TRISHA
Oh, wow.
I love mountain bluebirds!

TRISHA clicks a few photos while she talks and VINCE talks.

TRISHA
Thank you for spotting those, VINCE!

VINCE grins and takes out his phone too.

VINCE
I'm going to record
their song, if they'll
honor us with one.

VINCE swipes and clicks on some buttons and holds up his
phone and the birds start singing.

SOUND FX: Mountain bluebird song.

CUT TO DANI and CARTER, who stopped walking. DANI points out some wood or weed intertwined—two circles together—like inter-locked wedding rings.

DANI
Look CARTER!
How romantic.
I love those, maybe for my
Mom and Dad.

CARTER
Cool.

CARTER looks like he has an idea, and smiles a bit secretively, walking toward the objects to presumably either pick up or take a pic, depending on size and ease of doing that.

CUT TO AIDEN, who is looking sourly, twisting his mouth a bit, at TRISHA and VINCE, who are standing close together near the tree where they saw the bluebird.

MICHAEL walks up to AIDEN.

MICHAEL
Hey, AIDEN, can I help?

AIDEN looks confused, like how could you know anything about me?

AIDEN
You wouldn't understand.

MICHAEL
Try me.
My mom gave me
a lot of grief when
I was about your age.

AIDEN looks surprised, raising his eyebrows.

AIDEN
How did you know?

MICHEAL laughs lightly, but kindly.

MICHAEL
I recognize the look.
So, is that a new boyfriend
she has?

AIDEN looks down and scuffs his shoe a bit as he talks.

CUT TO KIARA seeing this from close by, then CUT back to
AIDEN looking dejected after he says:

AIDEN
Yeah, I guess so.

MICHAEL
Hard to take, isn't it?

AIDEN nods.

MICHAEL
So, what's the solution
for you?
Do you want your mom
to quit seeing VINCE?

AIDEN looks up in surprise.

AIDEN
No!
I just don't want
her to forget my dad.
He only died three years
ago.

MICHAEL
Have you ever felt lonely?

AIDEN looks confused, like "where's this going?"

AIDEN
Well, . . . a little, sometimes.

MICHAEL
Maybe your mom is a bit
lonely now, too.

AIDEN

But she has me!

MICHAEL

You're right, and
I bet she's really grateful
for you.

You've probably
kept her sane through all this.

One more thing.
I didn't have a dad growing
up at all.

You'd be so lucky to have
two caring men in your life,
if that happens.

AIDEN shrugs his shoulders.

AIDEN

Maybe.

MICHAEL smiles and pats AIDEN'S shoulder or back.

MICHAEL

You'll figure things out,
buddy.

In the meantime, help me
find something for some good
Valentine art, okay?

MICHAEL puts his arm around AIDEN'S shoulders.
AIDEN looks at MICHAEL in a teasing way as he says,
smiling:

AIDEN

So whose your girlfriend?

MICHAEL points at himself at the word "I."

MICHAEL

My...no, no.
I don't have a girlfriend.
Don't want a girlfriend.
This one's for my mom.

AIDEN laughs.

CUT TO: KIARA sighs, then smirks and shakes her head, walking again.

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), DANI'S GUEST ROOM, DAY

DANI

SIMONE-GRAND'MERE - from *Art of Christmas Love*, same character, on face time. She will use French words at times - noted in italics.

DANI is sitting on chair or couch in her room, on facetime with SIMONE. DANI looks concerned.

DANI

GRAND'MERE, if we ever
do get married, I don't know
how CARTER and I will work
out where to live.

SIMONE smiles lovingly at DANI, sitting back, relaxing for emphasis, and takes a deep breath.

SIMONE

How powerful do you think
love is, my *cheri*?

DANI bites her lip, looking a bit sheepish.

DANI

Oh, yeah, I forgot that.

SIMONE

If God is love, and you are
also living in love—
like you and CARTER both do—then you
know that miracles can happen, *non*?

KIARA walks into the room just as SIMONE is ending her last sentence, starting with "miracles." She calls out.

KIARA

Amen to that!
And hi SIMONE!

KIARA walks over to and flops down on the bed, as SIMONE says:

SIMONE
Hello *mon ami*.
So, DANIELLE, we will talk
again soon, yes?

DANI
You can count on it.
Love you!

SIMONE
And you know I always
love you, too.

SIMONE and DANI both close out the call.

KIARA sits up, a bit dejected-looking. DANI looks up at her in question.

KIARA
I could sure use one of
those miracles SIMONE
was talking
about.

DANI
You mean for love?

KIARA laughs out the word "No":

KIARA
No.
I've given up on that.
I need one for my parents
to keep their outdoor store.

DANI gets up and walks over to the bed, sitting next to KIARA.

DANI
Oh.

I'm sorry about that, KIARA.
 But I know you'll think
 of a way to help.
 You are so creative.

KIARA bends her head to the side, smirking at DANI.

KIARA
 Uh, I think that would
 be you!

DANI
 Yes, but so are you!
 Why do you think we're roomies?

KIARA
 Okay, you got me there.
 So tell me this:
 How can I be creative with
 Michael?

DANI
 Hah!
 I knew it!

KIARA stands up and paces a bit as she speaks.

KIARA
 Don't get excited.
 I'm not interested in him. . . .

DANI
 Mmm hmm.

KIARA scowls at DANI, then walks over to the window,
 looking down at MICHAEL who is talking with AIDEN.

KIARA
 . . . It's like this: he's so down on love.
 What kind of life is that?
 I just want to help
 him get over his fear of love.

DANI
 Oh, right.
 His fear of love.

DANI gets up and walks over to KIARA, who says this emphatically.

KIARA
Yes!

DANI becomes more serious, respecting KIARA'S thoughts.

DANI
Well, what do you think
would help him?

KIARA'S voice softens, compassionately.

KIARA
Giving him unconditional love.
From a *friend*, of course.

DANI smiles knowingly as KIRA looks out the window again.

DANI
Of course!
You sound like you're channeling
my Grand Mere.
She says unconditional love can
heal almost anything.
Now let's go eat lunch.

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), AREA OUTSIDE OF DINING ROOM, DAY
TO (INT) DINING ROOM, DAY

KIARA
MICHAEL
DANI
CARTER
CLAUDIA
TREY
VINCE
AIDEN
TRISHA
EXTRAS - family of diners from last dining scene

SET DESIGN: Tables set up with plates and cups, sandwiches in a pile on platters in the middle of each table. Bowls of chips and plates of pickles, olives, etc.

CUT TO: OUTSIDE of DINING ROOM, but interior visible a little through open doors. No one is in the dining room except CLAUDIA and TREY standing just inside the open doors. CLAUDIA looks upset and TREY pulls her into his arms, giving her a quick hug, then holding onto her, side hug, as everyone comes in. CLAUDIA still looks a bit upset, but tries to smile as TREY pulls her tight to him - all while the following occurs:

KIARA and DANI walk toward the dining room door as CARTER and MICHAEL approach from another side. They all see the hug. DANI and CARTER grab each other's hands and step to the side to chat while KIARA looks at the doorway with longing on her face as she sees CLAUDIA and TREY hugging, just as MICHAEL looks there, with a look of compassion on his face, and then KIARA, blushes as she and MICHAEL look at each other, quickly turning away and walking into the dining room, but not really together, KIARA with a blush still on her face, MICHAEL letting KIARA go first.

CUT TO: interior of dining room.

DANI and CARTER walk in and notice CLAUDIA'S upset and look at each other with sympathy on their faces.

DANI
CLAUDIA, what happened?
Are you okay?

TREY still has his arm around CLAUDIA'S shoulders, now more loosely, looking at her sympathetically.
CLAUDIA sniffs, as though she'd been crying.

CLAUDIA
I just found out that
my sister is really ill.
I don't think I can go
back to Quebec right
now, though.

DANI
Oh, I'm so sorry.

CARTER
I'm glad you have
your family here for you,
though.

CLAUDIA looks up at TREY and tries to smile a little, but
still looks sad.

CLAUDIA
So am I.

TREY looks lovingly at CLAUDIA.

TREY
And we *will* find a way
for you to visit, love.

DANI and CARTER walk into the dining room, still hand in
hand, and sit down at the table with MICHAEL and KIARA at
opposite corners.

EXTRAS and VINCE, AIDEN, and TRISHA are sitting at their
tables.

MICHAEL and KIARA are taking items from platters and bowls
to put on their plates.

CARTER
I wish we could do
something.
Do you think it's a matter
of money?
If so, I want to help.

MICHAEL
Help what?

DANI and CARTER are intent, not really hearing MICHAEL.

DANI
I know! Me too.
How can we do that
without it seeming like
charity or a loan?

MICHAEL

Help *what*?

CARTER

CLAUDIA needs to
go see her sister in
Quebec, but she can't
go right now.

MICHAEL grins and looks mischievous.

MICHAEL

Hmmmm. How can
we be sneaky?

KIARA looks at MICHAEL appreciatively, and smiles. MICHAEL
smiles back. KIARA then goes within, looking like she's
thinking hard, then opens her eyes wide and smiles.

KIARA

I have an idea.
But let's eat while
we're talking.
I'm starving!

CUT TO: After lunch.

SET DESIGN: half-sandwiches on serving platter and other
dishes low or empty.

TERRA is picking up plates, putting them on a rolling cart,
and walking toward the kitchen with it.

KIARA

So, it sounds like
we have a plan.
Let's talk to TREY
and CLAUDIA.

DANI

Maybe while we help TERRA
with the dishes?
CLAUDIA has enough to deal with.

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), KITCHEN of LODGE, DAY

DANI, CARTER, KIARA, and MICHAEL walk into the kitchen. TERRA is unloading dirty dishes, from cart, putting them onto a counter next to the sink, on the opposite side of the dishwasher side.

MICHAEL and CARTER walking toward the sink, rolling up their sleeves, and start to rinse dishes, loading them into dishwasher (MICHAEL can rinse, CARTER can load or vice versa - they can duke it out on set, ha ha).

TERRA turns to them.

TERRA
Hey, what are you guys....?

DANI and KIARA laugh.

CLAUDIA walks into the kitchen as KIARA says to TERRA: "talk to her about . . ."

KIARA
Oh, we just wanted
to give CLAUDIA a break
right now, so we can
talk to her about . . .

CLAUDIA looks surprised, but smiling when she sees MICHAEL and CARTER washing dishes. She kind of laughs out the first line.

CLAUDIA
Oh my goodness!
What's going on?

KIARA
It makes us happy to give
you a break, right guys? . . .

MICHAEL and CARTER turn from their work and smile and wave at CLAUDIA, who laughs happily.

DANI
. . . And we wanted to talk to you.
Is this a good time?

CLAUDIA

Sure, especially if my
guests are happy.

TERRA is putting away food in the background during all of
this, and she looks happy, and curious, too.

CARTER and MICHAEL both have mock-fake-intended to look
funny-smiles.

CARTER
We're happy!
We love doing dishes,
right MICHAEL?

MICHAEL
Absolutely!

CLAUDIA laughs.

CLAUDIA,
Well, then, okay!

DANI
Soooo . . . We know you're
sponsoring a Valentine's dance
at the community center,
and it's a lot of work
and expense, right?
Have you thought of
maybe doing something fun like
a raffle so you can make some
money back?

CLAUDIA'S eyebrows go up, then she smiles, looking grateful

CLAUDIA
Oh, what a *merveilleux* idea!

KIARA
We were thinking it would
also be a good marketing tool
for some of us.

MICHAEL turns around.

MICHAEL
I can promote my new book

by you raffling off signed copies.

DANI

And I can publicize my valentine
ornaments and others by giving
you some ornaments to
raffle off.

CARTER turns around.

CARTER

And what about a silent
auction for your neighbors
who may have some things
to sell?

CLAUDIA looks concerned.

CLAUDIA

But I would want to
give you and the others
the money for these items!

KIARA laughs.

KIARA

As far as your neighbors giving
you items, you can always give them
a percentage back.
But *not* for us.
This is *helping* us.
And it's really low-budget
advertising, believe me.
Even my parents agreed,
when I called them.
They want to offer some sporting
goods items, as long as you
let them ID our store.

CLAUDIA looks happy.

CLAUDIA

Of course!
I have to go tell TREY.
I'm sure he'll love the idea.

Act - Scene

CUT TO (EXT), LODGE AREA WALKING TRAIL CLOSE BY, DAY

DANI

CARTER

DANI and CARTER are walking close together along the trail.

DANI

Great idea, CARTER.
I love to walk a bit
after a good meal.

CARTER

Me, too.
And . . . I love being
in the country.
And . . . I love a beautiful
someone.

DANI looks at CARTER with love and takes his hand, smiling gratefully.

DANI

And I love *him* right back.
You know what?
I love the country too.
I wish I could live there and
still be close to the city,
where most of my business is.

CARTER

I know what you mean.
Because of our investment business,
Gavin and I have talked about that.
We're too far away right now,
but I don't want to live in the
city.

CARTER looks like he's coming up with an idea.

CARTER

Hmmmm.

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), KITCHEN OF LODGE, DAY

KIARA
MICHAEL
TERRA
CLAUDIA
TREY

TERRA is unloading the dishwasher as MICHAEL sweeps the floor at the other end of the kitchen and KIARA wipes down counters where MICHAEL is sweeping dirt into a dustpan. He stops and walks closer to her as she starts to talk.

KIARA
Hey, MICHAEL,
what turned you off to
Valentine's Day?

MICHAEL
Oh, it's a long story.
You don't want to hear it.

MICHAEL takes a deep breath and quickly changes the subject.

MICHAEL
Anyway, right now, I have to
think about my next outdoor
"walkshop."

KIARA giggles this out, smiling as she speaks, stops cleaning.

KIARA
Oh, I love that!
"Walkshop" Brilliant!

MICHAEL bows, then says this "Elvis-style."

MICHAEL
Thank you.
Thank you very much.

KIARA chuckles and shakes her head, like you are so lame.

KIARA
So, do you have any ideas
for the next one?

MICHAEL
I'm thinking something like
foraging.
Mushrooms, roots, acorns.
Things like that for survival
if anyone were to get lost or
stuck in the woods, for example.

KIARA looks excited.

KIARA
Oooh, that's perfect!
And what if we . . .

KIARA blushes here (after saying "we"). CLAUDIA and TREY
walk into the kitchen as KIARA says "CLAUDIA."

KIARA
. . . I mean
you, or CLAUDIA did a
cooking class with the results
of the forage?

CLAUDIA comes closer.

CLAUDIA
I keep hearing my name today.
I hope this is as good as
the last time!

TREY walks up and stands next to CLAUDIA, putting his arm
around her.

TREY
Oh, yes!
We love your ideas for
the Valentine's Dance.
Please tell DANI and CARTER too!

CLAUDIA
Yes, and now what is your
new inspiration?

MICHAEL
Well, what would you
think of a cooking class based
on foraging?

CLAUDIA looks at TREY mischievously.

TREY
Well, you won't believe this,
but my great, great, great Grandma
McConnell left a journal
with just such recipes!

KIARA looks at TREY curiously, leaning her head a bit to
the side, as if she heard some possible connection.

Act - Scene

CUT TO (EXT), FLASHBACK, WOODS or LAND by a CREEK or LAKE,
WARM SEASON, DAY

WILLIAM
SADIE

LOCATION MANAGER: CREEK or LAKE should be the same one as
in Mountain-Bike scene.

SET DESIGN: Tent or hand-made shelter, "homemade" stone
fire pit with fire in it. Sadie's journal is on a rock near
the fireplace, not too close, of course! :)

WARDROBE: 1890, Sadie's dress is as plain as a wealthy
woman could wear, but worn-out a bit now, must have a
pocket. William in as casual of clothing as a middle-income
man would wear, also a bit worn. She also wears a simple
wedding band, as does William.

PROPS: Same journal as TREY had, but newer-looking, pencil.

WILLIAM is crouching by a fire with an iron pan over it,
cooking fish. SADIE walks quickly, but carefully, up to
WILLIAM with duck eggs in her hands. WILLIAM turns to her,
smiling.

SADIE

William, look!
I found some duck eggs!

WILLIAM
Oh, that's wonderful, Sadie.

SADIE hands WILLIAM the eggs and picks up her journal from the rock, and pulls a pencil out of her pocket. As she's writing, WILLIAM gently puts the eggs in a safe spot.

SADIE
I have to log this in
my journal!
And new fish and herbs recipe
we made up too!

WILLIAM
I love you dearly, Mrs. McConnell
but I'm surely glad to have
something to eat besides
fish with our nuts and berries.

SADIE kneels next to WILLIAM.

SADIE
Me, too!
I never realized how much
something as simple as an egg
could inspire such gratitude in me.
I should have been more grateful
for the elegant food we had
at my first home, but you
know what?
I think I like the taste of
something new even better now!

WILLIAM cups SADIE'S cheek with his hand.

WILLIAM
That's me bonnie lass!

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), KITCHEN OF LODGE, DAY

KIARA
MICHAEL
TERRA
CLAUDIA
TREY

EVERYONE in the same position as part one of this scene,
before the flashback.

KIARA
So, you'll do the cooking class?

CLAUDIA
Yes! Of course!
You are helping us more
than you know right now,
so it is the least we can do, *non?*

Act - Scene

CUT TO (EXT), OUTDOOR PATH OF LODGE, DAY

KIARA
MICHAEL
DANI
CARTER
AIDEN

KIARA and MICHAEL are walking out the door of the lodge
with AIDEN.

AIDEN
You mean you can really
find food outside like that?

KIARA
Yup.
Easy as pie once you
learn what you can eat and
what you can't . . .

MICHAEL
. . . and animals forage it all
the time.

KIARA and MICHAEL look at each other and grin.

KIARA blushes.

AIDEN rolls his eyes at this and walks in front of them.

KIARA

Animals have that instinct.

I wish I had such good
instincts sometimes.

MICHAEL makes a funny face, like scrunching his lips down and out.

MICHAEL

That makes two of us.

KIARA laughs at his funny face.

DANI and CARTER are sitting on the bench by the trail as MICHAEL and KIARA approach. AIDEN has stopped to examine some berries or pick up an acorn.

MICHAEL

Hey, guys, want to join us
for a foraging adventure?

CARTER looks at DANI and she nods happily, and they stand up as CARTER speaks:

CARTER

Sure, that sounds great.

DANI

What are we foraging for?

KIARA

Food!

Then, after your Valentine
Craft FunShop, we'll learn
how to use the ingredients
in something for our dinner.

DANI

That sounds like a plan.
A crafty afternoon.

CARTER

What should we look for,
MICHAEL?

MICHAEL
Pine cones are one of
the easiest - we can
get the pine nuts out of them.

CUT TO: AIDEN calls over to the group, starting to bend down.

AIDEN
I found some mushrooms!

KIARA and MICHAEL speak at *exactly the same time*, as
EVERYONE walks over to where AIDEN is:

KIARA, and MICHAEL
Don't touch them!

AIDEN pulls his head back quickly, surprised, and looks and sounds disappointed and hurt.

AIDEN
I didn't know.

MICHAEL puts his hand on AIDEN'S shoulder.

MICHAEL
It's okay man, of
course you didn't know.
Most people don't, actually.
Some mushrooms can be poisonous
to the touch, even.
It's so great that you brought
this up. AIDEN, so we can teach
everyone to be careful, right?

AIDEN nods, looking mollified.

MICHAEL
One of us needs to take pictures
of the mushrooms and then look
them up online.
Do you want to do that, AIDEN?. . .

AIDEN nods, smiling, happier to be asked to do something.

MICHAEL
. . . I don't use my cell in the
great outdoors.

KIARA looks wide-eyed, happily surprised.

KIARA
Me neither!
Except for emergencies.

As MICHAEL smiles at KIARA and nods approvingly, and begins to speak, AIDEN rolls his eyes and walks back over to where he saw the mushrooms. MICHAEL stands closer to KIARA, obviously oblivious to AIDEN or the others.

MICHAEL
It's so nice to see
someone else has the same
deep respect for nature that I do.

KIARA
And my sanity!

MICHAEL laughs this out:

MICHAEL
Right!

AIDEN sounds happy as he calls out to MICHAEL and KIARA:

AIDEN
Hey, guys.
These are safe!
I love mushrooms!

KIARA chuckles happily, looking at MICHAEL, who smiles in return.

KIARA
Well, it looks like we
have at least one happy
camper.

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), LODGE, DINING ROOM, DAY

KIARA
MICHAEL
DANI
CARTER
CLAUDIA
TREY
VINCE
AIDEN
TRISH

EXTRAS - family of diners from last dining scene

SET DESIGN **and PROPS:** Dining tables set with paper or plastic coverings, craft equipment like glue, staplers, double-stick tape, and items that could make 3-D valentine art, including blank cardstock in card shapes and thicker board-like material for backing, cut into card-size or bigger. Reeds to bend, heart-shaped items from nature like leaves.

KIARA and AIDEN are next to each other at a table with DANI and CARTER sitting next to each other. KIARA has empty chair on her other side. EXTRAS FAMILY at their own table. VINCE and TRISH at a table.

DANI gestures around the tables, walking around as she speaks, ending near TRISHA.

DANI

Feel free to use
anything on the table if
you didn't find a lot of
art material in the woods.
First, please don't feel you
have to make a valentine.
But remember, there are many
people you can give one to who
aren't your sweetheart, and you
may not even really know them.
For example, your doctor or
dentist.

CARTER

Okay, dentist is stretching it!

EVERYONE laughs.

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TRISHA

And don't forget your nurse!

DANI walks over to TRISHA and while DANI'S talking, she puts her hand on TRISHA'S shoulder or gives her a quick shoulder hug, since TRISHA is sitting.

DANI

Someone please make this
woman a valentine!
She saved me last visit here.
Now let's get started.
I can't wait to see what
you all do!

EVERYONE, including DANI and CARTER, begin to work on their art, adding things to cards or backing, or just making shapes on their own.

AIDEN

Where's the printer?
Anyone know the name of the printer
I can connect to for my pics?

CUT TO: LATER IN FUNSHOP

MICHAEL walks in and looks around at what people are making, walking up to KIARA and sitting in the empty chair next to her. KIARA is working on her piece, adding flexible reed-type weed material or some such to her card by twisting it into a valentine shape.

MICHAEL

Who are you making a
valentine for?

KIARA looks up from her work at MICHAEL, who looks a little jealous, kind of shy and worried.

KIARA blushes and looks down, working again.

KIARA

Oh, just my mom and dad.
They're so worried about
the store, and I want to
show my support.

MICHAEL looks relieved, then smiles after "Oh."

MICHAEL
Oh. That's sweet.

KIARA stops working and looks at MICHAEL.

KIARA
I just wish I could do
more, you know?

MICHAEL sighs.

MICHAEL
Yeah, I totally get that
feeling. I've been there
with my mom.

KIARA
Really?

AIDEN is still working on his project, going back to pics
on his phone, but he is tuning into this conversation.

MICHEAL looks like he doesn't want to keep talking, yet he
does.

MICHAEL
I don't know why I'm
telling you this . . .

KIARA
It's okay, you don't have
to.

MICHAEL
. . . but for some reason
I just feel more comfortable
telling you than I would with
most people.

KIARA looks a bit surprised, and more confident in herself
with MICHAEL.

KIARA
Oh.

MICHAEL takes a deep breath and quiets his voice.

MICHAEL

So, my mom's heart got really
weak after my dad died.
I think literally broke her heart
when he died.
They had one of those
rare, loving marriages.
Anyway, I wanted to take
care of her. I wanted to do
anything I could to make her
get better, but I couldn't.

KIARA looks sympathetic as she puts a hand on MICHAEL'S
arm.

At the same time, AIDEN gets up to go to the printer,
looking sad and thoughtful.

KIARA

Oh, MICHAEL, I'm so sorry.

CUT TO: AIDEN giving TRISHA his art-card,

INSERT: Inside of card is a photo of the bluebirds and
underneath the photo, a quote: "The only true genius is
love." Albert Einstein

VINCE sees the bluebirds, then looks at the card *he's* been
making:

INSERT: inside of VINCE'S card has his own picture of the
bluebird.

VINCE puts it under some other paper, then picks up a new
card to make, all while TRISHA is speaking, and her
actions:

TRISHA gets up and hugs AIDEN after she speaks.

TRISHA

Oh, AIDEN, I love it!
This is very special to me
and I will keep it always.

VINCE looks up at AIDEN and smiles.

VINCE
You're a good son, AIDEN.

AIDEN looks like he might not believe VINCE.
VINCE notices, takes a deep breath, and continues.

VINCE
I know that because
your mom talks about you all the
time, very proudly.

AIDEN looks like he might not believe VINCE, but then nods
and smiles just a bit.

AIDEN
Thanks, VINCE.

CUT TO: CARTER and DANI.

DANI is sitting next to CARTER, trying to look over at his
card, which he pulls away and looks at her with wide eyes,
as if to say, "No way will you see this!"

DANI
Okay, okay.
I'm just anxious to see
what you made for me.

CARTER
How do you know it's
for you?

DANI makes a face at CARTER.

DANI
It better be!

CARTER laughs and goes back to finishing his card as
DANI stands up and talks to the whole room.

DANI
Okay everyone, we
have just about five
more minutes until they need

the dining room.
Let's all gather our stuff and
you can work on it tomorrow if
you need to.

CUT TO: KIARA working on a second card, which we see as her
free-hand drawing hearts on the cover of the card, around
some seeds (or other natural ornamentation) she had found.

DANI walks up to KIARA and sits next to her.

DANI
Who is that one for?

KIARA looks up at DANI and blushes.

KIARA
Oh, no one.
I'm just playing around.

DANI
Oh, you are so busted.
I see MICHAEL written
all over that!

KIARA
No way.
He hates Valentine's Day.

DANI puts her hands up in surrender.

DANI
Okay, okay.
Have it your way.
Maybe it's just subconscious.

KIARA frowns at DANI, then goes back to drawing.

DANI scoots her chair out, stands up, then bends down to
whisper in KIARA'S ear:

DANI
But just so you know,
you *did* blush.

KIARA blushes again.

KIARA
Well, I can tell you who
it's not for.
That guy who was such
a snob.

DANI
Oh, yeah, TREVOR.

DANI walks away.
KIARA looks a bit dejected.

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), FLASHBACK, COFFEE SHOP.

TREVOR - Confident, high tech, smart.
KIARA

TREVOR and KIARA are sitting at a table talking and
drinking coffees. KIARA is holding her cup now.

TREVOR is bouncing his leg a bit, like he's kind of ADD.

TREVOR
So, what do you
wanna do next?
I thought maybe we
could go to that new
escape-room place, you know,d
have some fun figuring it out.

KIARA puts her cup down and takes a deep breath, sighing,
like she's been through this before.

KIARA
That's a good idea, TREVOR,
but for almost anyone else.
You know I really just
like to be outdoors as
much as possible.
So I'd rather get out to
a state park and hike.
I'm like an old-fashioned
girl that way. Low-tech.

TREVOR

Well, you know, there aren't
that many old-fashioned *guys*
around.

KIARA looks sympathetically at TREVOR.

KIARA
Of course you're right.
But I don't need that many.
I just need one!

TREVOR looks surprised, like KIARA could think of something
so logical, then he nods his acceptance, looking
disappointed.

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), LODGE, DINING ROOM, DAY

KIARA
DANI
CARTER

KIARA is still sitting at her table, but everyone else has
left except DANI and CARTER who are cleaning up.

KIARA sighs and curves her mouth up on one side, like she's
kind of trying to smile as she stands up.

DANI
Hey, KIARA, want to
help us clean up?

KIARA
Oh, sure!
How can I turn down a
generous offer like that?

DANI and CARTER laugh.

Act - Scene OUTDOORS? OR in?

CUT TO (INT), LODGE, CHECK IN AREA, DAY

TREY
MICHAEL
KIARA

EXTRAS - Same family as before in dining room

In background as desired: EXTRAS Dad and kids walk into the common area, waiting a bit, DAD looking at his watch, then walk out as MOM joins them.

MICHAEL, dressed for outdoors with a small backpack on, walks up to the service desk and TREY is behind it working on the computer.

MICHAEL leans his hands on the counter, but TREY doesn't look up.

MICHAEL

Yeah, I know how easy
it is to get your head
stuck in computer-land.

TREY looks up, startled, then laughs.

TREY

Hey, sorry man.

MICHAEL

No worries.
I'm a writer. I get it!
I just wanted to see if
you still had those
mountain bikes Carter told
me about.

TREY

Oh, sure!
When do you want one?

MICHAEL

Now-ish?

TREY laughs and starts to walk around the service desk, presumably to get the bike, just as KIARA walks into the lobby, dressed for the outdoors.

KIARA

Were you just outside?
How's the weather?

MICHAEL turns around and looks surprised to see KIARA, and he seems shy and nervous here.

MICHAEL

Oh!

Uh, no, I was just
asking for a mountain bike.
. . . Hey, uh, you wouldn't
maybe be interested in going
along?
It's okay if you don't, I mean
if you just wanted to walk or
something.

KIARA blushes.

KIARA

Mountain biking actually
sounds fun.
Thanks for asking, MICHAEL.

MICHAEL looks bashful.

MICHAEL

Of course!

Act - Scene

CUT TO (EXT), ROAD LEADING AWAY FROM LODGE, DAY

KIARA

MICHAEL

KIARA and MICHAEL are on mountain bikes. KIARA now has a small backpack as well.

B-roll of a few seconds of riding.

Act - Scene

CUT TO (EXT), LAKE or CREEK, DAY

KIARA

MICHAEL

LOCATION MANAGER: CREEK or LAKE should be the same one as in Sadie and Williams scenes, bench only there for this scene, though.

PROPS: Bench

KIARA and MICHAEL are just riding into the clearing or picnic area with a bench. They get off their bikes and walk to bench, taking off their packs and sitting, breathing hard.

MICHAEL
That was a beautiful
ride up here.

KIARA
I agree.
I love the scenery around
Crystal Falls.

MICHAEL looks and speaks playfully here:

MICHAEL
But I've yet to see the
falls!

KIARA laughs.

KIARA
I think a lot of towns
were named for falls that
since then, dried up.

KIARA opens her backpack and pulls out two bottles of water as/after she speaks.

KIARA
Speaking of dried up.

KIARA hands one of the bottles to MICHAEL and opens hers as he opens his and they both drink some.

MICHAEL
Thanks, that hits the spot.

Then MICHAEL opens his pack and pulls out a package of cheese sticks, opening the package and offering some to KIARA as he speaks.

MICHAEL
Glad you thought of water.
I have the other half of the
equation.
Nothing like exertion
outdoors to make a person
hungry, too.

KIARA opens her eyes wide and her mouth, happily.

KIARA
Cheese sticks!
My fav!

KIARA bites into it as MICHAEL speaks:

MICHAEL
I got them in a gift basket
at my last book signing.

KIARA holds up her cheese stick to emphasise:

KIARA
And you're just now eating
these?
How is that possible?

MICHAEL takes one out for himself and holds it.

MICHAEL
Oh, I have many talents,
one of which is saving things
for the best time.

KIARA
I bow to your greatness.
What else have you saved?

INSERT: show the heart shapes of the chocolates as MICHAEL says, "for obvious reasons."

MICHAEL
Well, you'll be happy to know

I have some chocolate.
I didn't eat it for obvious reasons.

MICHAEL pulls out a small box of small chocolate hearts,
salted caramel flavor.

KIARA
Ooooh!
Salted caramel.

As KIARA opens the box, MICHAEL looks at her curiously.

MICHAEL
So, KIARA, since you're
single, I assume . . .

KIARA nods while she pops a chocolate heart into her mouth,
or if too big, bites into it.

KIARA
Mmmmmm.
So good!
You have to try one!

KIARA hands MICHAEL the box.

KIARA
Oops, sorry, you were saying?

MICHAEL
What made you want to
come up to this Valentine's
retreat?

KIARA sweeps her arm out toward the stream or lake.

KIARA
Oh, I'm just here for
the scenery, like this.
I couldn't resist when
Dani said she'd welcome my
company, and the room was
already paid for.
So it's a Valentine's gift *to myself*.

MICHAEL
I like that!

KIARA
What about you?

MICHAEL grins and nudges KIARA with his elbow as he says:
"Walkshops."

MICHAEL
I just came to write
and research, you know with
the "Walkshops."

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), LODGE KITCHEN, DAY

KIARA
MICHAEL
DANI
CARTER
CLAUDIA
TREY
VINCE
AIDEN
TRISH
TERRA

SET DESIGN: Large tray with foraged / forageable food,
(greens, pine nuts, shelled acorns, root vegetables,
mushrooms, berries) cutting boards and knives for six
people. One pot on the stove with water in it, one fry pan
with butter.

CLAUDIA and TREY are arranging the foraged / forageable-
type food, on a large tray.

KIARA, MICHAEL, DANI, CARTER, VINCE and TRISH aprons on,
and are in front of cutting boards with knives. Couples
together, but KIARA across from MICHAEL.

TERRA brings the tray around to everyone to pick things to
chop while CLAUDIA and TREY are speaking.

CLAUDIA

Okay, we may need to
peel the root vegetables,
but they are well-washed.

The recipe we have is
a stew, and can be made
with no seasoning at all,
because the mushrooms give
it some flavor.

AIDEN puts his fist up.

AIDEN
Yes!

CLAUDIA grins at AIDEN.

CLAUDIA
If you were camping, you could
bring some salt and seasonings,
but this ancient cookbook
doesn't specify any.

TREY
We've tried it both ways,
and I actually find the
pure flavor of the great
outdoors to be awesome.
Also, if you want to fish,
you can get salty flavor
that way too. . . . well,
if you catch any!

EVERYONE chuckles

CLAUDIA
The fry pan is for berries to be simply
sauteed in butter to bring out
the sweetness and the flavor.
Bring butter with you on your
foraging trip or camping.
It will keep a long time if
it's clarified butter.
We French know the miracle
of butter in cooking!
A bit of salt adds to that
sweetness and flavor, too.
Like salted caramel, you know?

MICHAEL looks over at KIARA who smiles at him. MICHAEL winks and KIARA blushes and looks down. MICHAEL grins to himself.

EVERYONE starts cutting.

CLAUDIA

And since dinner time is
almost here, the soup will
be our appetizer, and
the warm berries will go
on our cheesecake for dessert!

DANI

My kind of dessert!

CARTER looks mischievously at DANI.

CARTER

I'll have to remember that.

CUT TO: LATER IN SCENE, COOKING DONE.

EVERYONE has a small bowl, or paper cup, and spoon, tasting the soup/stew.

KIARA

I'm always so amazed at what
God provides in nature.
And we don't even have to
plant a seed!

MICHAEL smiles at KIARA appreciatively, nodding his agreement as he eats his soup.

MICHAEL

This is so much better
than what I make.
How is that fair!

TREY laughs.

TREY

It's a woman's touch, man.
Don't you know?
Their secret is adding love.

MICHAEL looks hurt.

MICHAEL
I add love!

KIARA looks at MICHAEL and giggles.

MICHAEL
What?
I do!

VINCE starts to put his finger in the berry sauce.
TRISH slaps his hand playfully and laughs.

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), LODGE, CARTER'S ROOM, NIGHT

DANI
CARTER
MICHAEL

DANI knocks on the door, CARTER answers. MICHAEL is working on his computer, very focused.

CARTER
Come in, Sweetie.

DANI smiles and gives CARTER a kiss on the cheek.

DANI
I just heard the sweetest
thing from GRAND MERE, and
I had to share it with you!
Because you are my hero.

CARTER looks really happy at that. MICHAEL looks back at CARTER and smirks. CARTER and DANI ignore him and walk over to a couch or love seat and sit next to each other as CARTER speaks:

CARTER
Well, you know I always
love to hear that, but why?

DANI
 You know GRAND MERE always
 has this crazy wisdom.
 She said that love can
 break a heart . . .

MICHAEL stops writing, trying to look like he's not
 listening, but he perks up, like he's paying very close
 attention.

DANI
 . . . but only love
 can heal it! . . .

MICHAEL looks deeply affected, then hopeful.

DANI
 . . . CARTER, you healed my
 heart, and I don't think I
 ever told you that.
 I'm not even as klutzy
 as I used to be!

DANI throws her hands in the air around her as she says
 that and hits the lamp next to her, knocking it over.

CARTER laughs, then whispers this to DANI.

CARTER
 Klutzy or not, I'll
 always love you.

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), LODGE, DINING ROOM, MORNING

KIARA

MICHAEL

DANI

CARTER

CLAUDIA

TREY

VINCE

AIDEN

TRISH

TERRA

EXTRAS - Same Family from other scenes

SET DESIGN: Breakfast buffet, tables same as other meals, napkins, water glasses, coffee cups, and flatware on the tables.

TERRA is walking around asking who wants coffee and pouring it. She starts with EXTRAS family who are seated with full plates and then goes to KIARA, DANI, and CARTER who have just filled their plates and are starting to sit. KIARA is next to DANI, with CARTER across from DANI.

KIARA

Oh, this smells great.
I must be hungry from
a busy dream state. . . .

DANI looks at KIARA with wide eyes and grins.

MICHAEL walks up to the table (background) with a full plate and sits as KIARA nudges DANI and says softly, but emphatically, to cut off the question she knows is coming, just as TERRA starts to talk:

KIARA

Later!

TERRA

Anyone for coffee?

DANI, KIARA, CARTER, and MICHAEL as they pick up their cups nearly together, and say at the nearly same time:

DANI	MICHAEL
Definitely.	Fill 'er up.

CARTER	KIARA
Oh, yes!	For sure!

TERRA laughs and begins to pour.

CLAUDIA and TREY come out of the kitchen just as VINCE, AIDEN, and TRISHA go to their table with full plates. TERRA walks over to them with the coffee.

TREY speaks to EVERYONE:

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TREY

We have two treats
for you today.

CLAUDIA

You can go on a treasure
hunt for an antique, very
special valentine card. The prize
is dinner for two at a very
classy restaurant. . .

TREY

. . . or if you like, you can
decorate Valentine cookies
to take to the local hospital
for the children. We'll have the kitchen
set up for it all afternoon, so
you can do both the hunt and decorating.
You don't have to go to the hospital
with us, unless you really want to.
I'm not sure how many of us
they'll let wander around, anyway!

CLAUDIA smiles at TREY, then looks at everyone.

CLAUDIA

So, do you want to hear
about the unique history of
this valentine? . . .

DANI

I do!

TRISHA

Me, too!

TREY

. . . It was actually written by one
of my direct ancestors who
founded this town.
The card has special meaning to
all of us in Crystal Falls.

CLAUDIA

. . . And the story of this couple
is very romantic.

So couples can team up to look.

TREY

Feel free to open any closet
doors - any doors not locked,
kitchen, laundry, even outbuildings!

DANI looks at CARTER and they grin at each other.

CARTER

We're in!

DANI

What are we looking for?
Like an envelope?

CLAUDIA grins as she says "You can't miss it."

CLAUDIA

No, it's actually framed.
You can't miss it!

TREY

And if you need a break
from the hunt, just come
to the kitchen anytime.
We'll have it all set up
for Valentine-cookie art.

KIARA looks disappointed.

MICHAEL notices and looks like he's thinking how to fix it.
He says to KIARA:

MICHAEL

Hey, how about we
team up as hunt-buddies?

KIARA immediately smiles and blushes, but less than normal,
and she doesn't look down or look embarrassed.

KIARA

I'd love that.

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), GUEST ROOM, BATHROOM, DANI'S, DAY

DANI

KIARA

DANI is brushing her teeth and KIARA is combing her hair or some other primping.

DANI
Okay, so spill.

KIARA looks confused.

DANI
The dream, the dream!
Did you dream about *him* again?

KIARA stops brushing her hair.

KIARA
Oh!
Yes, I *did* and I got
a better look at him.
This time we were hiking
together, so I know it's someone
who could really *get* me!

DANI puts down her toothbrush.

DANI
And you *still* don't think
it's MICHAEL?

KIARA
Uh, no!
He's totally anti-relationship.

DANI smirks happily.

DANI
Not the way he looks at
you, he's not!
That man is smitten,
mark my words.

KIARA blushes lightly.

KIARA
 Now, you sound like
 your Grand Mere.
 I would love for that
 to be true, but I have to
 be practical.

DANI
 And you know what Grand Mere
 would say about *that*, don't
 you?

KIARA adopts a French accent here:

KIARA
 Love is not planned, *cheri!*

KIARA and DANI both laugh.

DANI
 Okay, let's go hunting
 for a valentine!

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), (MONTAGE) LODGE, HALLWAY CLOSETS, KITCHEN,
 CHECK-IN AREA, DAY

KIARA
 MICHAEL
 DANI
 CARTER
 TRISHA
 VINCE

MONTAGE:

KIARA and MICHAEL are checking into a storage closet for
 the valentine, pulling towels off the shelf, then putting
 them back. When she pulls it from a higher shelf, KIARA
 accidentally bonks MICHAEL with a towel, and he retaliates
 with wash cloths. They are both laughing.

CUT TO: VINCE and TRISHA Searching through some kitchen
 cabinets, one on each end of the kitchen, quickly opening
 and closing them as they race around the kitchen, laughing.

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CUT TO: DANI and CARTER looking behind the service desk, pulling out boxes of things like lost and found items and going through them quickly, putting hats on each other or scarves as they keep digging.

Act - Scene

CUT TO (EXT), LODGE OUTDOOR STORAGE SHED, DAY

KIARA
MICHAEL
DANI
CARTER
VINCE
TRISHA

KIARA and MICHAEL are finishing looking through storage shed, lifting up larger items to look underneath, then they walk out the door as VINCE and TRISHA walk toward them.

MICHAEL and KIARA both look discouraged.

MICHAEL
I wouldn't bother.

KIARA smiles at them as VINCE and TRISHA laugh and keep walking toward shed.

KIARA
But you might have
better luck.
We're taking a break to
decorate cookies.

MICHAEL turns to KIARA

MICHAEL
But the really important question:
Do we get to eat some?

CUT TO: DANI and CARTER, leaving the lodge, pass KIARA and MICHAEL as they approach the lodge entry doors.

KIARA
Oh no.

You're not going to
the shed, are you?

DANI
Oh! Is there something
bad in there?
Like spiders?

CARTER shivers and makes a face.

MICHAEL laughs.

MICHAEL
No, no!
Just no luck there either.
This is way harder than
I thought!

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), LODGE KITCHEN, DAY

KIARA
MICHAEL
VINCE
TRISHA
AIDEN
TERRA

SET DESIGN: Counters and Islands are set with plates or
pans of heart-shaped cookies (or other valentine images),
red, pink, and white decorations: icing bottles, sparkle-
sprinkles, and any other cookie decor available.

TERRA and AIDEN are decorating, and stop to look up as
KIARA and MICHAEL walk in.

AIDEN
Welcome to cookie heaven!

KIARA and MICHAEL laugh as they walk over to their
stations, MICHAEL next to AIDEN, while TERRA talks, putting
on aprons as they also talk.

TERRA
AIDEN is my official

right hand here today,
so you two can ask either
of us for help.

KIARA

Do you have any valentine
cookies with arrows through them?

TERRA teasing.

TERRA

Oh, we might, but you have
to be very careful and sensitive
with them.
Like some people I know!

KIARA blushes a bit, but keeps her head up.

KIARA

Hmmm.

MICHAEL chuckles softly as he reaches for a cookie and
icing bottle, acting like he doesn't relate.

VINCE and TRISHA walk in just then. AIDEN looks resigned,
taking a deep breath, then trying to smile.
As TRISHA puts on an apron and VINCE joins her:

TRISHA

Great to see you're helping, AIDEN.
Have you eaten your weight
in cookies yet?

AIDEN rolls his eyes.

AIDEN

Mo-o-om!

These are for the kids
at the hospital.

AIDEN looks hopefully at TERRA.

AIDEN

But do we get to eat
a couple?

MICHAEL
Oh, yeah, that's my
question, too.

MICHAEL fist bumps AIDEN.

As she talks, TERRA grabs for a couple of cookies and gives
one to AIDEN, and one to MICHAEL.

TERRA
I won't tell if you won't.

EVERYONE laughs.

VINCE
Well, it's good to be
yourself. Personally, I happen to be
a closet cookie monster.

MICHAEL
A man after my own heart!
No pun intended.

MICHAEL and VINCE reach for cookies already decorated as
TRISHA looks at KIARA, shaking her head, but chuckling.

TRISHA
VINCE has sure taught me
that it's really okay to be
myself. I never thought I
could be myself and have
someone accept me so unconditionally!

AIDEN
Really, Mom?

TRISHA nods her head, smiling.

TRISHA
Yes, really!

AIDEN looks repentant.

AIDEN
Oh.

KIARA and MICHAEL look at each other, then look away, a bit embarrassed. But KIARA looks confidently at TRISHA.

KIARA
I love that.
That's the secret, I think.

MICHAEL looks down and nods, a bit sadly.

MICHAEL
Being able to be your
true self around someone
is priceless.

MICHAEL sighs, then sets a cookie he just finished onto a platter, then turns to KIARA, and smiles, but it's kind of a "trying to smile."

MICHAEL
So, hunt-buddy, are you
ready to win this thing?

KIARA takes her apron off as she says:

KIARA
Absolutely!

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), LODGE LIBRARY, TO SECRET CLOSET-TYPE AREA,
DAY

KIARA
MICHAEL
DANI
CARTER

SET: Small room behind bookshelves, needs to be closet size, approximately, with it's own shelf or shelves. Needs to open automatically with press of a secret "button" area behind books - not immediately visible. Also, the room has light on already

PROPMASTER: The framed antique valentine card needs to be the same one as was used in the first scene. Add some other

old/antique items including journals and photo albums, and some framed photos, including one of Sadie and William.

DANI and CARTER, walking toward the door, are about to leave the library as KIARA and MICHAEL enter.

CARTER

I wouldn't bother.
We've been here twice. . .

DANI

. . . and looked through
every nook and cranny!

CARTER and DANI walk out. KIARA looks conflicted.

KIARA

Hmmmm.
What should we do, MICHAEL?
We've looked everywhere!

While she and MICHAEL talk for the next few lines, KIARA walks up to a book shelf and pulls out a few books at a time, pushing on the wall as MICHAEL does the same.

KIARA

Unless there's some secret
room hidden behind the bookshelves!

MICHAEL chuckles.

MICHAEL

Well, it couldn't hurt to try.

MICHAEL starts looking the same way KIARA is.

KIARA

I like the way you think.
I've never grown up either.

MICHAEL

Hey, who says I haven't
grown up?
I like my animal cookies
as well as any adult!

KIARA laughs and keeps looking, as does MICHAEL.

KIARA finds a spot that seems to give a little.

KIARA
MICHAEL, MICHAEL!
Get over here!

MICHAEL turns around, eyes wide, walking toward KIARA

MICHAEL
You found something?!

KIARA
Yes!

KIARA pushes harder on the spot, but grunts as she can't move it further, so she stands aside.

KIARA
Can you get this open?

MICHAEL smiles and flexes his muscles playfully as he says:

MICHAEL
Of course I can!

MICHAEL pushes once, unsuccessful, as KIARA looks anxious, then again with success, puffing out his chest as KIARA laughs and then looks excited while the bookcase starts to move inward or outward.

MICHAEL gestures for KIARA to precede him, then goes in and puts his hand on the "door" to shut it while KIARA grabs his other arm, looking panicked, as she says:

KIARA
No, no, don't shut it!

MICHAEL
Why not?
We don't want anyone else to
get in here, do we?

KIARA grabs a handle on the "door" and tries to open it, but can't. MICHAEL tries twice and fails with KIARA looking on anxiously, her hands on her head or something.

KIARA puts her face in her hands, then looks up with tears in her eyes.

KIARA
Oh, no!

MICHAEL puts his hand on KIARA'S shoulder, looking sympathetic.

MICHAEL
What's wrong KIARA?

KIARA
Please don't judge me.

MICHAEL removes his hand.

MICHAEL
I would never!

KIARA sits and folds her legs, leaning against a wall, taking a shuddering breath.

KIARA'S voice is shaky, and she appears anxious, as she speaks from here on.

KIARA
I'm claustrophobic.

MICHAEL
Oh, that explains it.
I'm sorry about that.
If I'd known, I never
would have shut the door.

KIARA
It's okay, you didn't know.
But it makes me feel so weak
and wimpy.

KIARA sits down against a wall, putting her hands over her eyes.

MICHAEL sits next to KIARA and puts his arm around her shoulders.

MICHAEL

Hey, admitting your fear takes
a huge amount of courage
and strength of character.
I admire you for that.

KIARA
Thank you, MICHAEL.

KIARA takes a deep breath and lets it out slowly. She
sounds even more anxious and shaky with the last line:

KIARA
So . . .
What are we going to do now?
What if no one will finds us?

MICHAEL looks fiercely protective.

MICHAEL
If I have to, I'll break down
the door!

MICHAEL looks like he's thinking hard, pressing his lips
together.

MICHAEL
How long do you think you
can handle this?
I mean, dinner is in about
half an hour.
So if we don't show up,
CLAUDIA or TREY will look
for us!

KIARA looks up at MICHAEL with a worried look on her face,,
continuing with a shaky voice.

KIARA
Okay, I think I can
deal with half an hour.

MICHAEL
Would it help if we just
talked? What kind of conversation
distracts you.

KIARA

I'm a girl. . . .

MICHAEL grins.

MICHAEL
Yeah, I noticed that.

KIARA gives him a look like "quit joking!"

KIARA
. . . so, I like to talk about
anything to do with relationships.

KIARA'S voice calms here, and she looks a bit mischievous.
Her voice is less shaky.

KIARA
I know!
You could tell me your
deep dark secret about
why you hate Valentine's day!

MICHAEL looks really uncomfortable, kind of squirming, then
stands up after his line:

MICHAEL
Or . . . uh . . .
Well, you could imagine yourself
in a tent that's open to the stars!

KIARA still looks mischievous, but her voice gets a bit
shaky again. She draws out the Okay. At the end of her
line, she smiles knowingly at MICHAEL, like "gotcha!"

KIARA
Okaaaay. Great idea,
but I still need a distraction
so I'm not so anxious.

MICHAEL takes a deep breath and sounds a bit shaky himself.

MICHAEL
I guess I'll have to be as brave
as you are being right now.
But only because I trust
you not to spill this to anyone.
And I mean *anyone*, even

DANI!

KIARA holds a hand up, making the girl-scouts honor sign
(look it up online).

KIARA
Girl Scout's Honor!

MICHAEL
But maybe first we could
see if the journal is here?

KIARA snorts and smirks.

KIARA
Sure, big guy!
I'm just going to close
my eyes and pretend I'm in a
huge room while you hunt, okay?

MICHAEL
Fine by me!

MICHAEL goes to a shelf and pulls some old photo albums off
of it. Then he pulls out a framed photo of an old, 1890's
Valentine card.

MICHAEL
Look, KIARA!
This must be it!

KIARA opens her eyes and grins, then looks a bit woozy and
closes them again.

MICHAEL sits down and puts his arm around KIARA.
KIARA smiles happily at the word "sweetie."

MICHAEL
Okay, sweetie, you've earned the
right to hear this story.

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), DINING ROOM, DUSK

DANI, etc.

SET DESIGN: Buffet Dinner set up with salad and covered warming servers (? - those metal thingies?)

DANI and CARTER go up to TREY, who is bringing more plates out to the buffet table.

DANI
I'm worried about KIARA
and MICHAEL.
They should be here
for dinner by now!

CARTER
You're right.
MICHAEL would never miss
a meal that someone else
cooked!

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), LODGE-LIBRARY SECRET CLOSET-TYPE AREA, DUSK

MICHAEL
KIARA
CLAUDIA
TREY

In same position as previous secret closet scene.
MICHAEL takes a deep breath.

MICHAEL
My mom was sick with a heart
problem.
I think I might have told
you that I took care of her
for about a year.
What I didn't tell you was
at the time she got sick,
I was dating a woman I
had intended to marry.

MICHAEL pauses for another deep breath here, looking really sad.

MICHAEL

Anyway, it's a good thing
we didn't get married.

KIARA

Why?

MICHAEL

Because just about the
time my mom was doing really
poorly, it was nearly
Valentine's day. . . .
I couldn't even *think* about
buying a gift for Nicki,
let alone make reservations
at some fancy restaurant or
even celebrate anything!

KIARA

Oh, wow, that's
totally understandable.

MICHAEL

Yeah, thanks.
I was really close to my mom.
Anyway, Nickie told me that
she wouldn't keep dating a
guy who couldn't even give her
a card on Valentine's day.

KIARA puts a hand on MICHAEL'S arm, looking very
compassionate.

KIARA

You deserve so much more
than someone who can't see
what a great catch you are!

KIARA blushes.

KIARA

Oops, did I say that
out loud?

MICHAEL

You think I'm a great catch?

KIARA nods shyly, pressing her lips together.

MICHAEL

Well, you're just about
the sweetest woman I've ever
met!

MICHAEL puts his arm around KIARA and she puts her head on his shoulder and sighs. Her voice is almost back to normal.

KIARA

Well, this really helps
me feel a lot more comfy here!

MICHAEL laughs, then leans toward KIARA, about to kiss her, when the secret door opens, and they pull quickly apart.

TREY and CLAUDIA open the secret door for MICHAEL and KIARA to walk out into the library. MICHAEL urges KIARA to go ahead of him, and she walks quickly out.

CLAUDIA sees the look on KIARA'S face and hugs her.

CLAUDIA

Are you okay?

KIARA

I am now.
Thank you for finding us!

TREY laughs.

TREY

We know how good you
two are at tracking, so
there was only one place
you could be.

MICHAEL and KIARA look at each other and smile.

KIARA takes a deep breath.

KIARA

What is the secret room
for?

TREY

We keep my ancestor's
historical treasures there.

TREY walks back into the secret room and brings back a framed photo of Sadie and William sitting together in their home.

CLAUDIA
That's Sadie and William,
the town founders.
This home was originally
theirs, and we built
the lodge around it when
TREY inherited it.

MICHAEL
But if they were the town
founders, why did they want
to live out here away from
town?

TREY
Well, they loved the country
and the outdoors as much
as you two do. . .

TREY pulls a small envelope out of his pocket as he says:

TREY
. . . So it's really fitting
that you two won the prize.

KIARA
Can we read the card?

TREY
Absolutely.
We'll actually read it
tonight to everyone at the dance.
Now you two may be hungry.

KIARA looks at MICHAEL and he smiles.

MICHAEL
Always!
I'm an active guy!

TREY, CLAUDIA, and KIARA laugh.

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), KIARA and DANI'S GUEST ROOM, DAY
To: OUTDOOR STORE on FACETIME

KIARA

GINA - phone, facetime at store

WARDROBE: KIARA has on a robe, her hair in a towel or something like that.

MAKEUP: Light makeup here, as she'll be adding some.

KIARA is standing by the closet, opening the door (as she says the first line).

KIARA

Hold on a second. . . .

CUT TO GINA: (then CUT back and forth in the conversation as GINA is sitting at the counter of the quiet outdoor store. GINA raises her eyebrows, like she's curious.

CUT TO KIARA: (CUT back and forth between them now)
KIARA pulls out a possible dress for the dance, showing it to GINA.

KIARA

. . . What do you think, MOM?

GINA

That one looks great.
And, frankly, so do you!
You're actually glowing. . . .
And I don't mean blushing.

KIARA smiles happily, but kind of downplays her feelings.

KIARA

Thanks, Mom.
I feel pretty good.

GINA crosses her arms, or if better for visual, taps her finger on her lips before she speaks.

GINA
Okay, what's going on?

KIARA tosses the dress on the bed and sits somewhere.

KIARA
So how are things at
the store?

GINA sits back in her seat as she says "Ha."

GINA
Ha! Nice deflecting.
I'll let it go for now.
The store is . . .

GINA tosses her hands into the air at "Well."

GINA
Well . . . your dad is getting
a bit depressed.
I'm worried about this.

KIARA
Hey, MOM, I may have some
ideas for us, and someone
who can really help.

KIARA grins widely.

GINA moves forward again in her seat.

GINA
Oh, this is getting
way too interesting to let
you go . . .

KIARA looks at the dress and cocks her head to the side,
then puts the dress back in the closet and starts to walk
into the bathroom as she's talking. She leaves the door
open as she starts to put on makeup.

KIARA
MOM, I have to get dressed.
I promise we'll talk later!

GINA
We better!
Have fun, Sweetie!

DANI walks into the guest room, then seeing KIARA in the open bathroom door, walks over to it and leans against door jamb grinning at KIARA, arms crossed.

KIARA is still putting on makeup, but looks up at DANI'S expression and smiles at DANI.

KIARA
What?

KIARA turns to DANI, smiling and still glowing.

DANI
Well, aren't you just a
little light bulb!
You are literally glowing.

KIARA stops putting on makeup and frowns a bit Comically at DANI.

KIARA
Why does everyone keep
saying that?

KIARA starts putting on makeup again, trying not to smile.

DANI
Uh, because it's true? . . .

DANI puts one hand on her hip, looking more intently at KIARA.

DANI
. . . Okay, roomie,
what happened with Michael?

KIARA walks out of bathroom, going over to the closet and pulling out the dress again, looking it over as she talks.

KIARA
Oh, I don't think I can
really talk about it yet.

DANI

Oh, my goodness!
You didn't even blush
when you said that.

KIARA lays the dress on her bed, looking down at it at her first line, sounding like she's in a very sacred place, as DANI goes to the closet to find her own dress. DANI turns as KIARA talks, looking happily surprised at the first line. KIARA looks up at DANI at the second line:

KIARA

I think he may be the
man in my dreams, DANI.

DANI suck in a happy breath, grinning and putting her hand on her heart at KIARA'S previous line.

KIARA

I mean . . . I feel so confident when
I'm with him, so I'm not even
blushing around him so much!

DANI

Wow, that's so great!
He could really be the one.

KIARA

I hope so.

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), CRYSTAL FALLS COMMUNITY CENTER, NIGHT

KIARA

MICHAEL

DANI

CARTER

AIDEN

TRISHA

VINCE

TERRA

CLAUDIA

TREY

EXTRAS - four lodge guests - family, plus enough more to comfortably fill the room with couples and families. Dads

to dance with daughters, boys with moms or other little girls.

MUSIC: Soft background music until they start dancing, and use old-fashioned romantic tunes (or music master's choice :).

SET DESIGN:

Tables pushed to wall: some topped with tapas and valentine cookies and candies, plus wine glasses for sparkling cider, some tables with "white elephants" for silent auction as well as clipboards for services auctioned to bid on.

VINCE, TRISHA, CARTER, MICHAEL, AIDEN, and EXTRAS are milling about, signing up for bids, eating, and drinking. TERRA is checking the tables and replacing things as needed, chatting with people as she goes (improv.)

TREY and CLAUDIA, dressed up for the dance, holding hands, walk out to the dining room, look at the activity, and grin at each other. TREY speaks loudly.

TREY
Can I have everyone's
attention please?

EVERYONE quiets, stops, turns to TREY, and listens.

TREY
First, thank you for
coming, neighbors and guests.
This is our best turn out
ever for a Valentine's Dance!
Maybe we should have auctions
every year!

VINCE has his arm around TRISHA'S waist and AIDEN is on TRISH'S other side. TERRA is standing near AIDEN.

VINCE
Yes!

EVERYONE claps.
CARTER calls from nearby. MICHAEL is standing next to him.

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CARTER

Oh, you're just happy
about everything these days,
aren't you, VINCE?

EVERYONE in town knows VAUGHAN, so they laughs at this,
including AIDEN, as TERRA whispers in his ear.

TERRA

Good job getting your
head on straight, AIDEN!

AIDEN blushes.

AIDEN

Thanks, TERRA.
You helped.

AIDEN turns and looks admiringly at VINCE.

AIDEN

Everyone knows you here,
don't they?

VINCE

Oh, that's just because
I own the only sleigh,
and horses to pull it!

AIDEN

Oh, yeah, I remember from Christmas
Can I have a ride on it soon?

VINCE

Well, of course, if we get
enough snow, buddy.

DANI and KIARA walk in, all dressed up as TREY speaks (off
camera) and CARTER and MICHAEL look at them at the same
time, their jaws dropping and eyes wide with appreciation.

TREY

We're auctioning off
several wonderful items
and services.

Please keep in mind that
twenty percent of the proceeds
will go to the new children's
wing of our local hospital.

EVERYONE applauds.

DANI and KIARA walk over to MICHAEL and CARTER, standing by
them respectively, each of their beaus taking their hands,
as TREY speaks off-camera/

TREY
Just check the clipboards
for the services for auction.

CUT TO: TREY back On-Camera:

TREY
And in the meantime,
crank up the music DJ,
and let's dance!

CUT TO: TERRA says to AIDEN as she starts to walk away.

TERRA
That would be me!
DJ Terra.

AIDEN
Want some help?

TERRA
You're on!

CUT TO: DANI and CARTER. CARTER puts out his hand to DANI,
who takes it and steps into his arms as she says, "Always."

CARTER
May I have this dance,
my love?

DANI
Always!

CUT TO: EXTRAS dancing: couples, kids with adults, kids
with kids.

CUT TO: MICHAEL and KIARA

MICHAEL

KIARA, will you be my
dance partner tonight?

KIARA

I'm not such a good dancer.

MICHAEL

No worries, neither am I!

KIARA

Well, then, let's *trip*
the light fantastic, as
they say!

MICHAEL laughs and pulls KIARA into his arms.

MICHAEL

You're about as old-fashioned
as I am.

KIARA gets tears in her eyes.

KIARA

Just the way I like 'em.

CUT TO: CARTER spinning DANI around, then he smiles mischievously and faces her toward the lobby, guiding her there with his arm around her. She looks up questioningly. He just smiles and pats his pocket.

CARTER

I have to give you
your valentine!

DANI smiles up at CARTER as she says:

DANI

Oh, how sweet.

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), COMMUNITY CENTER LOBBY, NIGHT

DANI

CARTER

SET DESIGN: Valentine decor, warm atmosphere with twinkle lights and welcoming, cushy or softish furniture.

CARTER and DANI sit on a couch or chairs in the lobby after CARTER pulls a thick envelope out of his pocket, handing it to DANI, who sees cover:

INSERT: Two Heart-shaped leaves overlapping a bit, glitter on them optional, on outside cover of card, with the words: "Be Mine" in calligraphy.

DANI opens it lovingly, noticing it's really thick, looking up at CARTER questioningly . . .

INSERT: A kind of bendable twig, or long, dried prairie-type grass/reed, made into double-intertwined rings (like wedding rings on wedding cards). There is also, inside the card, a secret pocket made of a red felt heart shape at the bottom of the card (or whatever design for card you think best). On one side, the card reads (quotes just for props):

DANI reads it out loud and gets teary-eyed:

DANI

"Happy Valentine's Day, DANI.
You are the love of my life,
and I can't live without you.

No matter where we live,
I will cherish you as my best friend,
lover, confidante, and mother
of our children if you
will have me for your husband
. . . say Yes!"

DANI looks up with tears in her eyes and a happy smile, putting her hand on her heart, and then on CARTER'S.

DANI

Yes, yes!
A million times, Yes!
I love you CARTER.

CARTER pulls DANI into his arms.

CARTER
I love you, too,
my DANI-girl.

DANI pulls back a bit, looking up at CARTER, a bit concerned-looking.

DANI
But, CARTER, where will we live?
We work so far away from
each other.

CARTER sits up straighter and takes DANI'S hand, as he looks at her smiling, looking and sounding excited.

CARTER
I figured that out,
sweetheart!
Well, pending your approval
of course!

DANI laughs.

DANI
This sounds like one
of your investment deals.

CARTER softens his gaze to a loving, compassionate one.

CARTER
Well, it kind of is!
The most important one in my life.
I'm investing my whole heart
in us, in our precious family
to-come, and in our future!
How would you like to live in
the country, about half an
hour from your clients in
the city?

DANI still looks a little doubtful.

DANI
Well, of course I would
love that, but where. . .

CARTER
It's also near *my*
clients here in Crystal Falls.

DANI looks excited now.

DANI
Oh, I love Crystal Falls!
So, . . . are you saying
you have a house?

CARTER
Only if you like it.
But we can look a bit more.

DANI squeals, but softly.

DANI
You are absolutely the best!

DANI gives CARTER a quick kiss and gets teary.

CARTER
Well, that's why you're
marrying me, right?

DANI laughs through her tears.

CARTER
Now open the heart
pocket.

DANI gasps as she pulls out a diamond ring, then CARTER
puts it on her finger and she kisses him.

Act - Scene

CUT TO (INT), CRYSTAL FALLS COMMUNITY CENTER, NIGHT

KIARA
MICHAEL
DANI
CARTER
AIDEN
TRISHA
VINCE

TERRA
CLAUDIA
TREY

EXTRAS - four lodge guests - family, plus enough more to comfortably fill the room with couples and families. Dads to dance with daughters, boys with moms or other little girls.

EVERYONE is still dancing, eating and drinking, and signing bids for the silent auctions.

CUT TO: MICHAEL and KIARA as they look at the clipboards for the service auction.

MICHAEL
They did a nice job
on our service descriptions.
And it was so nice of
your parents to help out,
especially right now.

KIARA looks thoughtful.

KIARA
I think I know how
we can help them together.

MICHAEL grins and grabs KIARA'S hand.

MICHAEL
We do make a great team.
You know, I feel like I've
healed from my past, just by
you listening to me so lovingly,
even when you were scared!
How'd you do that?

KIARA
I just opened my heart to
God's love and let it
pour through me to you.
It's what I've been doing
all weekend.

MICHAEL looks dumbfounded.

MICHAEL

Wow.

KIARA hugs MICHAEL.

KIARA

I'm so glad you feel healed.
In a big way, so do I!

CUT TO: DANI and CARTER, glowing happily, walking back into the room, going to stand next to MICHAEL and KIARA as TREY begins to speak.

CUT TO: CLAUDIA and TREY. CLAUDIA is holding the antique valentine card from William to Sadie. TREY calls out.

TREY

May I have you attention
again one more time, please?

CLAUDIA

I'm going to read the
very first valentine from
William McConnell to Sadie VanDerhoff,
our town founders. . . .

TREY

And my ancestors,
The McConnells!

KIARA'S mouth drops open.

MONTAGE of EVERYONE'S reactions OR:

*OPTIONAL SCENE - FLASHBACK TO SADIE AND WILLIAM, SEE
BELOW*

END with MICHAEL and KIARA.

"My dearest Sadie,
The moment I met you on that
remote hiking trail, I knew
you were the one for me.
You are not just beautiful inside and out.
I've never met a woman so strong,
smart, and brave. with a heart of gold.
I knew it the moment I looked
into your eyes that you had
a heart of gold, and I still

see that every time.
There is no other valentine
for me.

MICHAEL and KIARA look at each other in wonder.

MICHAEL
That's amazing.
So much like us the
outdoor-enthusiasts
we are!

KIARA turns to MICHAEL looking nearly shocked.

KIARA
MICHAEL, you won't believe this!
Sadie McConnel is my grandmother!
I'm sure of it!

MICHAEL
No way! Really?

KIARA
Yes!
I've heard stories for years
about my Great, great, great
Grandma Sadie who loved the
outdoors and adventure.
I just didn't know she helped
found this town with Willam!
And . . . TREY may be related
to me!

KIARA smiles happily at MICHAEL.

KIARA
And that makes it even more
special, hearing their kind of
love. It makes my heart dance.

DANI and CARTER walk up to KIARA and MICHAEL, grinning
happily.

CARTER
We knew you two would
discover each other.

KIARA looks shocked, as does MICHAEL.

KIARA
What!?

MICHAEL
You mean this was
a setup?

CARTER and DANI laugh, and DANI puts her hand on her chest.

DANI
How else could we
get you two love-pessimists
together?

KIARA, as DANI speaks, sees the engagement ring and grabs
DANI'S left hand.

KIARA
Aha! I knew it!
How did you guys work out
where you would live?

DANI looks lovingly, proudly at CARTER.

DANI
Actually, CARTER surprised me
with a plan . . .

CARTER pats MICHAEL'S shoulder, and MICHAEL looks a bit
embarrassed at CARTER'S praise:

CARTER
And MICHAEL helped!

MICHAEL turns to CARTER, then KIARA as he says:
"beautiful."

MICHAEL
Just doing my job as best friend.
And now I see I was
paying it forward for
my beautiful date tonight!

MUSIC: Slow dance is playing, romantic tune.

KIARA glows and whispers to MICHAEL:

KIARA
I feel like my heart
is still dancing.

MICHAEL pulls KIARA into a dance-hold position as he says:

MICHAEL
Well, maybe the rest of
you should dance too.

Act - Scene

CUT TO (EXT) SAME LAKE OR STREAM as in previous scenes.

SET DESIGN: Same as previous Sadie and William lake/stream scene with tent, etc.

SADIE
WILLIAM

WARDROBE: different clothing, but still a bit worn.

SADIE and WILLIAM are looking out over the lake, hand in hand.

WILLIAM
Is this a good spot for our
new home?
Are ya' ready to
build a cabin with me,
dear one?

SADIE
Oh yes!
My dream of a handsome
Scotsman has come true.
Well, all except for the house!
But how will we build it ourselves?

WILLIAM
God will provide, love,
just as He has so far.
And he provided me the very
best wife I could ever

have imagined.
Happy Valentine's Day, sweetheart.

WILLIAM kisses SADIE.

Act - Scene

CUT BACK TO (INT), SAME DANCE SCENE, LODGE, DINING ROOM,
NIGHT

KIARA
MICHAEL
DANI
CARTER
AIDEN
TRISHA
VINCE
TERRA
CLAUDIA
TREY

EXTRAS - four lodge guests - family, plus enough more to comfortably fill the room with couples and families. Dads to dance with daughters, boys with moms or other little girls.

MUSIC: Same as previous dance scene.

SET DESIGN: Same as previous dance scene.

MICHAEL and KIARA dance (sway) in the center of the dance floor, as they talk.

MICHAEL
Will you be *my* valentine,
KIARA?

KIARA says this teasingly:

KIARA
Does that come with
an outdoor adventure guarantee?

MICHAEL laughs this out.

MICHAEL
You bet.

MICHAEL stops dancing as he looks longingly into KIARA'S face as she turns it up to him, and he kisses her.

Act - Scene

CUT TO B-ROLL OR STOCK FOOTAGE, (EXT), DAYTIME:

Medium to Large city, lovely views.

CUT TO: Closer into streets and businesses with Valentine decorations on the outside and/or in windows. People walking and looking into windows with decorations on them for Valentine's.

CUT TO: (EXT TO INT) OUTDOOR-ADVENTURE STORE, DAYTIME

KIARA

MICHAEL

GARY

GINA

CUSTOMER #1 - STEPHEN

CUSTOMER #2 - JENNY

EXTRAS - TOUR GROUP OF 5 TO 7, depending on size of van.

PROPMASTER: Same signage on storefront, and van in front of store with signage "painted" on the side: "*G & G Outdoor Adventure Tours & Walkshops.*" Brochures - three different kinds of "Walkshops," plus clipboard and sign-up sheet and/or laptop computer or notebook. Backpacks with the store title and any logo you choose. They each have items in them (not shown)- water bottle and snacks, so not too full - two backpacks.

SET DESIGN: Same as first scene in outdoor store, plus the table - see Props for this scene for items on it. See props above also for outside of store, van-part (EXT).

WARDROBE: TOUR GROUP EXTRAS are wearing backpacks bearing the same signage as is on the van silkscreened on the back or printed.

(EXT) KIARA steps out of van and waves goodbye to EXTRAS TOUR GROUP as they pile out of van and 3 EXTRAS walk in various directions, to their cars, and 4 EXTRAS walk into the store.

(INT) KIARA walks into the store and steps behind a table near a wall topped with items named in props.

EXTRAS are shopping.

GARY and GINA are behind the service desk, chatting and looking at their computer, nodding happily. Then they look up to see all the customers shopping and GARY quickly pulls GINA into a side hug, smiling happily at her, then walking around the counter to help people, taking softly in the background as:

STEPHEN and JENNY walk in and look at the table curiously. KIARA waves happily.

KIARA
Hey, STEPHEN, JENNY.
Have you heard about our
Walkshop Outdoor Tours?

STEPHEN and JENNY and both smile and look at each other quickly, grinning. Then, as JENNY speaks, they walk closer to the table.

JENNY
We saw the van, and
I can't believe it!

KIARA looks happily confused.

STEPHEN
We were just talking
last night about how cool
it would be to have a
guide for outdoor adventures
here in town. . . .

JENNY
. . . like with people we know
and can trust.

KIARA smiles big, then picks up a brochure to hand to JENNY and one for STEPHEN as she talks.

KIARA
Well, you've come to
the right place!
Here are some . . .

MICHAEL walks in just then and makes a beeline for KIARA, kissing her on the cheek and smiling at STEPHEN and JENNY.

KIARA grins at MICHAEL and keeps talking.

KIARA
I was just about to
tell you that when you sign
up for one of our workshops,
not only will you get one
of these free backpacks
with water and a snack,
you'll get a signed copy of
a famous outdoor-writer's book,
. . . plus, drum roll please,
he's one of our Walkshop guides!

KIARA gestures to MICHAEL as she says.

KIARA
And here he is in person!
This is MICHAEL.

STEPHEN
Oh, wow!
Are you the guy who
wrote that incredible
book about finding art in
nature?
I love that!

MICHAEL laughs and bows.

MICHAEL
You are too kind.

STEPHEN and JENNY walk away a bit to look at the brochures.

MICHAEL pulls KIARA in close, talking softly into her ear.

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MICHAEL
How's my valentine today?

KIARA giggles.

KIARA
MICHAEL, it's waaaay past
Valentine's day.

MICHAEL looks tenderly at KIARA.

MICHAEL
But you'll always be my
Valentine, KIARA-love.

MICHAEL kisses KIARA sweetly.

FADE OUT

***OPTIONAL SCENE while CLAUDIA reads card, or they announce
that they will read the card:**

Act - Scene

CUT TO FLASHBACK, 1890 HOME, BEDROOM, NIGHT

SADIE
WILLIAM

SET DESIGN: dressing table from 1890'S or earlier.
Valentine card is framed on the wall next to the dressing
table, so in view of camera in tight shot.

WARDROBE: 1890'S night dress for bed and robes. Her hair is
down.

PROPS: same Valentine card, framed.

While CLAUDIA is reading card, midway through it.

SADIE is sitting at the dressing table, putting down her
hairbrush, smiling up at WILLIAM, who is standing right
behind her, bending down and kissing her on the cheek.

CAMERA: Tight shot of mirror, but with framed card next to
it, (or pan from it to mirror if time) and WILLIAM in
mirror behind SADIE.

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**Synopsis for Screenplay
and
PRODUCTION DETAILS**

by Debbie Johnson

Title: *The Art of Valentine Love*

Genre: Hallmark-style Valentine Romance

Logline: Can her heart be right about the man in her dreams?

Length: 90 minutes

Note: Main location is the same lodge as in *The Art of Christmas Love*— from here forward referred to as AOCL)

Story: Involves a historic Valentine card hunt.

KIARA, an outdoor enthusiast whose parents own a downward-spiraling outdoor store, meets the author of book he's working on, *Exploring Nature's Beauty (or Art)*. He's Carter's buddy, and a guest at the lodge where Kiara and her roommate Dani are staying for Valentine's weekend. (from *The Art of Christmas Love*) to write a book, Since Michael's opposed to love, disgusted by it almost 9due to fiancée leaving him when he had to spend a year taking care of his ill, dying mother, he can easily focus on his writing (he thinks!) at the lodge during Valentine's week. Michael starts out as a curmudgeon, but shows his true heart as compassionate and helpful. KIARA seems to be very strong, but also has a tender heart and blushes easily.

Michael's best friend Carter (from *Art of Christmas Love*) invited him to the lodge since he had a free room. Carter is ready to propose to Dani (his co-star in AOCL). Their challenge is where to live and work, and how to navigate commute if needed. They also counsel Dani's friend, KIARA — who is afraid to be herself in relationships—and Michael, who avoids love due to past betrayal. Dani and Carter teach an "Outside the Box Valentine Art" workshop for any guests and show them how this art, though not necessarily cards,

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can be appreciated by any family or friends. They use items found on their nature walk with Micheal:

Michael leads a few outdoor adventures in order to get information for his book, which guests and one neighbor (Vince, from AOCL, and return guest, Trisha) sign up for,. He notes that KIARA, who signs up for all of them, is as enthusiastic about exploring the outdoors as he is. They talk a lot and run into each other at the lodge, as well as a bike ride together by "accident" sort of.

Claudia and Trey, still owners of "Lodged in Love," have hosted a Valentine-card mystery contest. The card is historic (framed), as it belonged to the town's founder, (Trey's great, great grandfather) who saved it due to his wife being the love of his life. It's hidden somewhere at the Lodge - but they don't tell guests that it's only accessible via hidden switch and in a secret chamber, about the size of a large closet. Michael gets interested in the hunt for the card. He and KIARA find it and get stuck in there. KIARA is claustrophobic, so Michael had encouraged her to overcome her fear to go in there, but now he holds her close and they talk, to keep her from panicking. He pulls her close and shares his own fears about love with her to help. This causes Michael to rethink his position on love!

Kiara and Micheal have ideas to help Kiara's parents save their store together.

Since Michael and KIARA found the valentine, they win the prize of dinner and dancing for two at a supper club in town. The two other couples join them for dinner and dancing. As they dance, then talk afterward, Michael and KIARA realize they are perfect for each other.

WGAW Registration number: 2232076
Registration Date: Nov. 1, 2023

IMPORTANT NOTES about True Experience:

1. **Kiara's prophetic dream:** This really happened to me when I asked God to give me a dream about my future husband so I would recognize him, and I got it! He was a doctor - but a natural one of some kind, into

nutrition, sitting next to me at a baseball game. I couldn't see his face, but I heard the person behind me saying, I really need some help with my diet. I asked my husband for his biz card to give her.

I asked all my friends to introduce me to doctors! A year later, at a spiritual seminar, I met my soon-to-be husband: an OMD ("Oriental Med. Dr." - Acupuncturist) who specialized in nutrition and diet!

2. Kiara's success with giving unconditional love:

This really works for me, and I actually tested it, like Kiara did with a boyfriend, then later with my husband, and they both calmed down very quickly when they were upset. I've also used it with friends and others, like in the service industry, where the clerk may be upset, and I ask if they are having a rough day, and they really open up most of the time, and seem to feel better, just because someone cares. This is a habit for me now, as much as I can as an imperfect human!

CHARACTERS :

KIARA - Adventurous, outdoorsy, strong, compassionate, loving and kind - outwardly strong, but has a tender heart and blushes easily.

DANI - same character from *The Art of Christmas Love*

CARTER - same character from *Art of Christmas Love*

TREY - same character from *Art of Christmas Love*

CLAUDIA - (French pronunciation - like "Cloudia" same character from *Art of Christmas Love*

MICHAEL - Writer, outdoorsy, friendly, but guarded

TRISHA - same character from *Art of Christmas Love*

AIDEN - same character from *Art of Christmas Love*

VINCE - from *Art of Christmas Love*, same character

TERRA - from *Art of Christmas Love*, same character

GARY - Kiara's father, energetic and fit, kind and fun-loving.

GINA - Kiara's mother, a bit harried, but laughs easily.

WILLIAM MCONNELL- In his twenties or thirties, strong and outdoorsy, attentive and kind, adventurous, Scottish accent.

SADIE VANDERHOFF- Same age as William, also outdoorsy and a strong, confident woman, but sensitive as well.

ELLY - maid, sweet and conspiratorial

LOCATIONS:

PROPS:

MAKEUP: Search "blush" - for KIARA in scenes she will need more blush :)

MAKEUP: Light makeup here, as she'll be adding some.