

The Pooh Stone

Written by

Maryanne Pope

Based on the book,
"A Widow's Awakening," by Maryanne Pope

Pink Gazelle Productions Inc.
1304 Gilley Cres
Parksville, BC
V9P 1W5
Canada
+1(778)678-4496
maryannepope@pinkgazelle.com

FADE IN

EXT. STARRY SKY - NIGHT (1975)

Music begins: "When You Wish Upon a Star" song by Cliff Edwards (just up until choir sings). POV of camera in night sky, looking down at earth. Camera slowly moves down towards earth. Song fades as people come into view.

A girl, 7, YOUNG ALEX, is lying on her back, on hood of family station wagon. ALEX'S DAD lies beside her. They are looking up at stars, hands behind heads. There is a coffee mug beside Alex's dad.

A shooting star streaks across sky.

YOUNG ALEX

(points to sky)

Dad, look! A shooting star! Should I make a wish?

ALEX'S DAD

(shrugs)

You can if you like. Not sure it'll do much good in terms of making your dreams come true, though...

Young Alex sits up and turns to look at her dad.

YOUNG ALEX

Dad!

ALEX'S DAD

Sorry, Alex...that's not my thing. Don't get me wrong...I believe in the importance of *having* a dream...and working hard to achieve it. I just don't put much faith in simply *wishing* for it to come true.

YOUNG ALEX

Oh.

Alex's dad points to sky. Alex looks up again.

ALEX'S DAD (CONT'D)

But did you know that what we see as a "star" is actually just the light that came *from* that star...a long, long time ago?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Young Alex thinks a moment.

YOUNG ALEX

Ya mean...I'm not looking at the *actual* star right now?

ALEX'S DAD

Nope...just the light that came *from* it. In other words...we're looking at the past.

YOUNG ALEX

Wow!

ALEX'S DAD

And get this...the star itself might not even *exist* anymore! It could be long gone by now.

YOUNG ALEX

What?!

ALEX'S DAD

Yup. It just depends how far away the star is. Sometimes it takes a few years for the light to reach us...and sometimes it takes a few *million* years!

YOUNG ALEX

No way!

ALEX'S DAD

(smiles)

True story. The Universe is *huge*, Alex.

Alex's dad sits up, takes a drink then lies back again.

YOUNG ALEX

What about shooting stars? Do *they* still exist?

ALEX'S DAD

Actually...shooting stars *aren't* stars. They're meteors...pieces of rock or dust that are moving through space *so* fast that when they hit the Earth's atmosphere, they heat up and glow.

YOUNG ALEX

Then why are they called stars?!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ALEX'S DAD
Because it *sounds* better.

Young Alex's face lights up and she points at sky.

YOUNG ALEX
There's another one!

ALEX'S DAD
Are you going to make a wish?

Young Alex turns to look at her dad.

YOUNG ALEX
I thought you didn't believe in wishes?

DAD
(winks)
I don't. But it can't hurt.

ALEX
Okay! Then I wish...

DAD
Don't say it out loud! Just in your head...

Alex smiles dreamily up at night sky.

ALEX (V.O.)
I wish that...when I grow up, I wanna be a writer!

REVEAL Alex's dad sad expression (Alex doesn't see).

ALEX'S DAD (V.O.)
(softly)
I wish I didn't have to leave.

MATCH CUT TO:

EXT. STARRY SKY - NIGHT (1975)

A Greek boy, 7, YOUNG SAM and SAM'S MOM are sitting on a bench in their back yard, looking up at night sky. Young Sam, excited, turns to his mom.

YOUNG SAM
Did ya make a wish?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM'S MOM

(Greek accent)

I prefer to call it a prayer, Sam.

YOUNG SAM

Kay...but did ya make one?!

SAM'S MOM

Not yet. Did you?

YOUNG SAM

Nope. Let's make one together!

SAM'S MOM

Okay!

Sam's mom smiles and puts her arm around Young Sam.

SAM'S MOM (CONT'D)

Close your eyes...

Both Sam and his mom close their eyes.

SAM'S MOM (CONT'D)

One...two...three...

YOUNG SAM (V.O.)

When I grow up...I wanna be a
police officer!

SAM'S MOM (V.O.)

(head bowed)

Please God...just keep my Sammy
happy, healthy and safe...that's
all I ask.

Sam and his mom open their eyes. Sam turns to his mom.

SAM

Can we have Kentucky Fried Chicken
for dinner?

SAM'S MOM

I hope *that* wasn't your wish!

SAM

No! But it sure would be good.

Sam's mom smiles and puts arm around Young Sam.

SAM'S MOM

Oh Yanni mou...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Song resumes: end of "When You Wish Upon a Star." Camera slowly moves up and away from Sam and his mom, into night sky. Song ends.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SKY ABOVE CLOUDS - DAY (2000)

Next song begins: *Both Sides Now* by Joni Mitchell (first 20 seconds of song is instrumental). POV of camera high in sky, looking down on fluffy clouds and blue sky. Camera slowly begins to move downwards.

SUPERIMPOSE: 25 years later

ALEX (V.O.)

I suppose you could call this a
fairy tale of sorts...

(small laugh)

...just not the kind we're used
to. But here goes...

Camera continues to move down towards clouds.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Once there was a girl and a guy...
who fell in love...got
married...and were very happy
together. He became a police
officer...his life long dream. Her
dream was to become a writer...

(small laugh)

Well...dreams are funny, aren't
they? They don't always come true
quite the way you think they will.

When camera reaches clouds, song lyrics begin. Camera continues moving slowly down right through clouds.

Camera emerges through clouds and continues down towards earth. The crowded grounds of Disneyland come into view.

Camera moves down towards Disneyland Hotel.

SUPERIMPOSE: Disneyland, Friday September 22nd, 2000

Camera moves down toward lush green lawn of hotel where an outdoor wedding has just taken place: rows of chairs with white ribbons fluttering in wind face a flower-covered archway. Bits of confetti are still on grass.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Camera goes through aisle and archway then in through front door of hotel and into foyer. Music continues.

INT. DISNEYLAND HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY (2000)

A handsome, dark-haired Greek man, adult SAM, 32, is sitting on a chair. He's wearing runners, shorts and t-shirt. A small backpack is at his feet. He holds a Disneyland map in his left hand and is studying it carefully. The thumb of his other hand is under his chin, his index finger is on his cheek and his middle finger rests below his lip.

A cute blonde woman, his wife, adult ALEX, 32, emerges from bathroom. She is wearing shorts and t-shirt and has a bundle of dress clothes in her hand. She sees Sam studying map and walks over to him.

Sam looks up and smiles. Alex hands him clothes and he stuffs them into pack then stands up. He is tall and fit. He slings pack over one shoulder and nods his head towards front door. Alex grins, grabs his hand and they head onto busy grounds of Disneyland. Song continues.

EXT. DISNEYLAND - DAY (2000)

Sam walks quickly through crowd, holding tight to Alex's hand. She is practically jogging to keep up. They pass crying children and exhausted-looking parents.

Sam suddenly stops walking so Alex does, too. She is slightly out of breath. *Both Sides Now* song fades (at 2:10, after "I've looked at love that way").

ALEX

Sheesh...what's your hurry?

SAM

We've only got one day here, so we gotta plans our moves.

ALEX

We *could* come back tomorrow...

Sam grins, tilting his head to one side.

SAM

I can't see that comin' together.

Alex laughs and playfully smacks Sam on shoulder.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX

Who am I kidding? If it wasn't for your friend's wedding, I wouldn't have got you here for *one* day, let alone two!

Sam smiles, opening up Disneyland map.

SAM

Okay...I say we start at Splash Mountain. I know how much you want to go on that. So let's go there first, get our FastPass time, then we'll go to Space Mountain.

ALEX

Okay...

Sam taps map with index finger.

SAM

And this Star Tours thing looks cool, too...

Sam looks at Alex and grabs her hand.

SAM (CONT'D)

Let's roll!

Alex laughs and they head off into crowd.

INT. SPLASH MOUNTAIN RIDE - DAY

Sam and Alex are in log car on Splash Mountain ride, moving through section where critters are singing *Zip-A-Dee-Dee-Doo-Dah*. Sam puts arm around Alex and she snuggles closer, smiling as log car floats closer to big drop.

Alex looks at Sam and he kisses her. She smiles. Their log car drops and hurtles towards pool of water at bottom. People laugh, cheer, throw hands in air.

At bottom, the log car stops at platform. Sam gets out first and offers Alex his hand. She takes it.

ALEX

Did you *feel* that?!

SAM

Did I feel *what*?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX

When we were floating at the top
 ...right before we dropped. It was
 like...*magic* or somethin'!

SAM

(grins)
 I think it's called love, silly.

ALEX

(snaps fingers)
 Right! So...what's next on the
 clipboard of fun?

Sam grins, grabs her hand and they head into crowd.

EXT. STAR TOURS RIDE - DAY

Sam and Alex walk up to Star Tours ride. The line-up is empty. Sam glances around then lifts up rope and nods for Alex to duck under. She does then Sam follows. Hand in hand, they walk quickly to entrance of ride.

INT. STAR TOURS RIDE - DAY

Mid-ride, Sam and Alex are in their seats, laughing and tilting this way and that, watching stars on screen. Ride ends, lights come up and they look at each other.

ALEX

Again!

Sam laughs. They stand up, exit ride then walk quickly through empty line-up area towards entrance. They are holding hands and smiling, happy.

FADE TO:

EXT. DISNEYLAND PARADE - DAY

Sun is lower in sky. Disneyland Parade is making it's way through the grounds. Sam and Alex stand on sidelines, near end of parade, watching and clapping as different characters walk by. Band plays medley of Disney songs.

Sam is now wearing a fuzzy blue vest over his t-shirt. Alex has on a grey Disneyland sweatshirt. Sam sees a parade character before Alex does. He grins and nudges Alex. She turns to look. She laughs at their inside joke.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

REVEAL Grumpy Dwarf in parade. Alex takes Sam's photo with Grumpy. Sam and Alex continue watching parade.

Mickey Mouse is last in parade and as he passes, several parade-watchers fall in behind him, so Sam and Alex do, too. They look at each other and laugh, walking along for a bit, hand in hand, waving at crowd.

FADE TO:

EXT. DISNEYLAND GROUNDS - NIGHT

Sam and Alex make their way through crowd. Sam stops behind a garbage can, looks around then nods.

SAM

Here...

Sam stamps his feet for emphasis.

SAM

This is it.

ALEX

Behind a garbage can?

SAM

Yeah. The guy at the hotel said the best place to watch the fireworks is in front of Sleeping Beauty's Castle...

Sam nods towards Sleeping Beauty's Castle.

SAM (CONT'D)

There's Sleeping Beauty's Castle.

Sam points to garbage can.

SAM

And *that* is so that no one can stand right in front of us.

Sam winks and taps his temple with index finger.

SAM

More than a hat rack.

Alex rolls eyes, good-naturedly. The song, *When You Wish Upon a Star*, begins (coming from Sleeping Beauty's Castle). Sam and Alex look at each other and smile. Something catches Sam's eye and he points behind Alex.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM (CONT'D)

Hey, check it out...it's the Pooh family.

Alex turns to look.

REVEAL a mom and dad, two little kids and a Grandma all wearing yellow Winnie the Pooh fuzzy jackets.

WOMAN'S VOICE (O.S.)

(over loudspeaker)

Believe...

The crowd goes quiet. Sam and Alex look towards castle.

WOMAN'S VOICE (O.S.)

(over loudspeaker)

Believe...there's magic in the air!

Sam stands on his tip toes, looking around for something.

ALEX

What are ya lookin' for?

SAM

Tinkerbell.

Alex looks at Sam, incredulous.

ALEX

You're looking for Tinkerbell?

SAM

Yeah. She signals the start of the show, 'member?

Alex throws back her head and laughs.

WOMAN'S VOICE (O.S.)

(over loudspeaker)

Believe...

Sam looks at Alex and grins, clapping his hands once.

ALEX

(puzzled)

What -

The crowd begins to OOH HH and AA HH. Sam and Alex turn to where everyone is looking.

REVEAL Tinkerbell flying across sky.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

POOH GRANDMA (O.S.)

Excuse me...

REVEAL the older woman wearing yellow Winnie the Pooh fuzzy jacket, 70, POOH GRANDMA, now standing beside Sam. She looks confused.

POOH GRANDMA

(to Sam)

I have to get by.

SAM

Oh...sure.

Sam takes a step back to make room for her to walk between him and garbage can. Alex does the same. Pooh Grandma takes a step but suddenly collapses in front of them, the back of her head hits concrete with a thud.

The fireworks begin. Sam drops to his knees and puts his ear towards Pooh Grandma's mouth, to make sure she's breathing. She is, but she is unconscious. Sam sits up and places his hand on her shoulder, comforting her. Fireworks illuminate his concerned face.

Two medics carrying a stretcher make their way through the crowd then attend to Pooh Grandma. Sam stands up and walks over to Alex, watching from a few feet away.

ALEX

Do you think she'll be okay?

SAM

I dunno...she *really* hit the back of her head hard.

ALEX

Gee...things like *that* aren't supposed to happen at the Happiest Place on Earth...

SAM

(softly)

I know.

Sam smiles and puts his arm around Alex.

SAM (CONT'D)

That wasn't on the clipboard of fun, was it?

Alex shakes her head and manages a smile.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

SAM (CONT'D)

Whaddya say to one last ride?

ALEX

Okay!

SAM

I know the perfect one...

Sam takes Alex's hand and leads her through crowd.

EXT. DISNEYLAND GROUNDS - NIGHT

A musical medley of Disney songs can be heard at King Arthur's Carrousel. As Sam and Alex walk towards it, the ALARM goes off, signaling end of ride. People climb off their horses, as next song begins: *Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah*.

Sam and Alex look at each other and grin. Excited, Alex chooses a horse and climbs on. Sam gets on horse next to hers. Alex pulls out camera, leans back and snaps Sam's photo. ALARM goes off again, signaling start of ride.

The image of the photo freezes: smiling Sam, in fuzzy blue vest, holding on to brass pole with one hand, his wedding ring visible. *Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah* song fades (after line: "I got a feeling somethin's comin' my way).

FADE TO:

INT. SAM & ALEX'S LIVING ROOM - CALGARY - DAY (2000)

Alex is pacing in living room, phone to ear. The room is bright and cozy. On the coffee table is a well-read copy of the book, "A Room of One's Own," by Virginia Woolf.

SUPERIMPOSE: Three days later, back home in Canada

ALEX

I dunno, Mom. I mean...we're both working that weekend and -

Alex stops pacing and sighs. She is facing fireplace.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Yeah...I know but -

Alex nods, impatient.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Behind her, Sam, walks down stairs into living room. His hair is wet from the shower and he is putting his gold chain necklace over his head. Their dog, Sasha (a long-haired Shepherd), follows him.

ALEX (CONT'D)
(irritated)
Okay, okay...I'll see what he says! I'll call ya later.

Alex ends call and turns around, startled to see Sam standing there.

SAM
See what I say about what?

ALEX
(rolls eyes)
My Mom wants us to have Thanksgiving dinner here.

Sam pauses a moment before speaking, calming himself.

SAM
I can't see that comin' together.

ALEX
Why not?

SAM
Because we're both working.

ALEX
Yeah but I do have the Monday off...we *could* have it then.

Sam folds arms across chest.

ALEX (CONT'D)
What?

SAM
What do you think what?

ALEX
Sam...don't start. It *is* our turn...

SAM
So? It's not convenient.

Sasha lies down, resting head on front paws, watching Sam and Alex closely.

(CONTINUED)

ALEX

Why are you being so grouchy?

SAM

Maybe because I'm tired of hearing you complain about how you don't have time to *write*...but then the second your Mom asks you do something on your day off, you don't even bat an eye.

ALEX

It's a stat holiday!

SAM

(shrugs)

So? Unpublished writers don't *get* stat holidays.

ALEX

(rolls eyes)

Oh boy...here we go.

SAM

Why can't you just say no?

ALEX

I don't wanna fight! We had *such* a good vacation...

SAM

Yeah, well...

(shrugs)

Now we're back to reality.

ALEX

Sam...

SAM

Do you even *want* to have Thanksgiving here?

ALEX

No!

SAM

Then maybe it's time you learned how to use that magic word.

ALEX

I can't *believe* we're fighting over Thanksgiving dinner...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

SAM

That's *not* what we're what
fighting about, and you know it.

Alex swallows nervously then looks at floor, fighting
back tears. Sam watches her. She lifts her head.

ALEX

I am *so* scared I'm gonna wake up
twenty years from now...and *still*
not have finished writing a book.

SAM

(nods slowly)

You're probably right about that,
Alex. Just as long as you know
that will have been *your* choice.

Alex's mouth drops open.

SAM (CONT'D)

You're the smartest person I know.
It breaks my heart to see you
running around like a chicken with
your head cut off...racing from
one distraction to the next.

ALEX

But -

Sam puts hands on Alex's shoulders and looks her in eye.

SAM

I believe in you...but until YOU
start taking your writing
seriously, nobody else ever will.

ALEX

I'm trying...

SAM

(tilts head)

Are you?

ALEX

I...I don't have time!

SAM

Then *make* time.

Sam releases his hands from Alex's shoulders.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

ALEX

When? I have to work a dumb
clerical job!

SAM

Not twenty-four seven, you don't.
What about waking up early and
writing *before* going in to work,
like you used to?

ALEX

I try...but then when my alarm
goes off, I don't wanna get up!

SAM

Then you obviously don't want it
bad enough. There are no short
cuts. You gotta do the work.

ALEX

I know! But I just wish...

Sam raises his eyebrows, waiting for her to finish.

ALEX (CONT'D)

I just wish I didn't have to work
at a stupid *job*! I wish I could
just stay home and write...

Alex grabs Virginia Woolf book from coffee table.

SAM

(groans)

I do not want to hear, AGAIN, what
Virginia Woolf has to say about
writing and money!

Alex tosses book back onto coffee table.

ALEX

Fine.

Sam folds his arms across his chest.

SAM

So let me get this straight...
you're just gonna sit around,
waiting for a pay cheque to fall
from the sky...and *then* you'll
start to write?

ALEX

No!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

Alex swallows, nervous, then holds hand to her throat.

ALEX CONT'D

I need a drink of water...

Alex turns and goes into kitchen. Sam follows her. Sasha follows him.

INT. SAM & ALEX'S KITCHEN - CALGARY (DAY) (2000)

Alex walks to cupboard and pulls out glass. With her back to Sam, she fills glass with water then takes a drink. Sam watches her.

ALEX CONT'D

(with back to Sam)

Wow..where did Disneyland Sam go?

I liked *him* a lot better!

Sam, sad, watches Alex.

SAM (V.O.)

Oh believe me...so do I.

Alex turns back to face Sam. His sad expression is gone.

SAM

(curt)

I gotta have a quick nap. Then can you drop me off at work?

Alex nods. Sam walks out of kitchen, Sasha at his heels.

EXT. POLICE STATION IN SUBURBS - CALGARY - NIGHT (2000)

A Jeep pulls up outside back door of police station. Sam, in street clothes (fuzzy blue vest and runners) gets out driver's side. He opens back door and takes duty bag out. Alex gets out passenger side. They meet in front of vehicle. Alex stands on toes and kisses Sam on lips.

ALEX

Have a good shift!

SAM

Thanks.

Sam, carrying duty bag, begins walking towards back door of police station.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX (CONT'D)

Sam?

Sam stops walking and turns around.

SAM

Yeah?

ALEX

I'm gonna get up early tomorrow
and do a bit of writing before
going in to work.

Sam doesn't say anything. He just looks at Alex a moment,
then nods slowly. Then he turns and walks towards back
door of police station.

Alex gets into driver's side of Jeep. She is about to
pull away when she glances at back door of police
station. Sam is standing there, watching her. His
expression is difficult to read.

ALEX (V.O.)

I've thought back to that moment a
thousand times...

Alex waves, cheerful. Sam manages a small smile, gives a
little wave then turns and goes inside police station.

ALEX (V.O.) CONT'D

I always wondered what he was
thinking.

Alex drives off.

INT. POLICE STATION IN SUBURBS - CALGARY - NIGHT (2000)

Sam walks down hallway. He is looking down, deep in
thought. His Sergeant, TOM, 40, stops him.

TOM

Hey...why so glum? That's not the
face of a guy who just got back
from the Happiest Place on Earth!

Sam smiles.

TOM

That's better! How was the trip?

SAM

Awesome.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Tom's cell phone rings.

TOM

Whoops! You can tell me all about
it over coffee...

Tom answers phone. A police woman, AMANDA, 30, comes out
of women's locker room. She slaps Sam on the back.

AMANDA

Welcome home!

SAM

Thanks. Hey...who ya working with
tonight?

AMANDA

(shrugs)
Dunno.

SAM

I'll grab us a car.

AMANDA

Roger that.

Sam, Amanda and Tom all file into parade room where
several other officers, including SCOTT and KURT, are
seated and chatting. Amanda is only police woman on team.

SCOTT

(cheerful)
Hey, hey...look who's back!

Sam smiles as he, Tom and Amanda take their seats.

FADE TO:

INT. SAM & ALEX'S BEDROOM - CALGARY - NIGHT (2000)

Alex is sound asleep in bed. Music begins: *All Of This Ends*
by Kevin Keller (instrumental) and plays through to
end of lunchroom scene.

SUPERIMPOSE: The next morning

The alarm clock on night table reads 4:59 a.m. The time
changes to 5:00 a.m.. Buzzer goes off.

Alex groans, rolls over and hits snooze button. Buzzer
stops. She snuggles deeper under covers.

EXT. WAREHOUSE - CALGARY - NIGHT (2000)

A man, 30, first EMPLOYEE of day, walks up to front door. To the right is a large vehicle door for forklifts, etc. There is a hole in window above vehicle door. He stops and looks up at it, suspicious. Then he continues on to front door, puts his key in lock and opens door. He hears something strange and tilts his head. He frowns, confused, and pushes a series of numbers into alarm keypad. The alarm goes into full alarm mode.

The employee backs out and closes door behind him. He reaches into pocket, pulls out cell phone and calls 9-11.

BACK TO:

INT. SAM & ALEX'S BEDROOM - CALGARY - NIGHT (2000)

Alex is still asleep in bed. The alarm clock reads 5:10 a.m.. The buzzer goes off again. Alex reaches over and hits snooze button again then closes her eyes.

BACK TO:

EXT. WAREHOUSE - CALGARY - NIGHT (2000)

POV of camera looking down on scene: A police car glides silently into parking lot. Sam gets out passenger side. Amanda gets out driver's side. They walk over to employee who is standing at edge of parking lot. Sam says something to employee, who shakes his head.

A second police car pulls up. Scott and Kurt get out and walk over to Sam, Amanda and employee. Amanda says something to the two officers.

A third police car pulls up and Tom gets out. He walks over towards Sam and Amanda and the employee. Tom asks the group a question. Sam nods.

BACK TO:

INT. SAM & ALEX'S BEDROOM - CALGARY - NIGHT (2000)

Alex is still curled up in bed, sound asleep. The clock reads 5:19 a.m.. The alarm goes off again. She rolls over, yawns and hits snooze button.

BACK TO:

EXT. WAREHOUSE - CALGARY - NIGHT (2000)

Continued POV of camera looking down on scene: Another police car pulls up and the K-9 OFFICER, male, 40, gets out. He opens back door, snaps on dog's leash and dog jumps out. K-9 officer and dog walk quickly over to group. K-9 officer looks around at each of the officers then points at Sam and says something. Sam nods.

K-9 officer, dog and Sam walk to warehouse door. The other officers stay in parking lot with employee. K-9 officer opens front door and he, Sam and dog go inside.

INT. WAREHOUSE - CALGARY - DAY (2000)

POV is now of camera from behind officers, as if following them. Interior of warehouse is dark. Alarm is still going off. The K-9 officer and his dog walk through foyer, down hallway and into a large office. Sam follows close behind. Both officers carry lit flashlights. Sam tilts his head towards his shoulder and speaks softly into his radio.

A wooden ladder leading up to mezzanine level comes into view. The K-9 officer stops, looks at Sam and nods towards ladder. Sam nods and walks towards ladder. The K-9 officer and dog continue to search ground level.

POV switches to Sam's as he begins climbing up ladder.

BACK TO:

INT. SAM & ALEX'S BEDROOM - CALGARY - NIGHT (2000)

Alex is still lying in bed, facing alarm clock. Her eyes are open. The clock reads 5:49 a.m.. The time changes to 5:50 a.m. and buzzer goes off.

Alex hits snooze then lays back on pillow, eyes open.

BACK TO:

INT. WAREHOUSE - CALGARY - DAY (2000)

Sam's POV continues: he reaches top of ladder and steps onto a 5 foot by 5 foot landing. He stands there a moment, using his flashlight to look around. His Timex watch can be seen on wrist. Behind him and on either side are storage boxes. Alarm continues.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Suggest these shots are in slow motion:

Sam looks down and sees several low-lying wires on ground in front of him. He carefully steps over wires but the surface he steps onto - a suspended false ceiling - collapses and he falls through into lunch room.

In lunch room, a chair has been left in middle of room. The back of Sam's calves hit top of chair, projecting his upper body backwards. The back of his head hits the concrete floor with a thud.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. SAM & ALEX'S BEDROOM - CALGARY - NIGHT (2000)

Alex sits up in bed, wide awake and anxious. The clock reads 5:59 a.m.. Before the alarm goes off again, she reaches over and turns it off. She breathes in and out a few times, trying to calm herself. Then she pulls back covers, gets out of bed and walks into bathroom.

She looks in mirror then looks away. She swallows, anxious. She turns on tap, fills glass and takes drink.

BACK TO:

INT. WAREHOUSE - LUNCHROOM - CALGARY - DAY (2000)

Sam is lying on his back on ground, motionless, surrounded by broken pieces of ceiling tile. His face is illuminated by neon light from nearby vending machine. His lit flashlight lays beside him. A bent chair is on it's side at his feet.

The K-9 officer and dog race into lunchroom. Alarm continues to sound. K-9 officer sees Sam and calls for help on radio. He drops to his knees, puts his ear towards Sam's mouth to see if he's breathing. He isn't.

The K-9 officer gently turns Sam's head to one side. When he see's Sam's injury, he gasps. He begins CPR and gets Sam breathing again. The dog BARKS, distraught.

Tom and Amanda race into lunchroom, followed by Kurt and Scott. Tom yells instructions at everyone. Amanda and Kurt nod and leave room. Scott drops to other side of Sam and takes over CPR. K-9 officer calms dog.

Two paramedics race into lunchroom. One paramedic takes over CPR from Scott.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The other paramedic turns Sam's head gently to one side to look at his injuries. His eyes widen. The paramedic looks up at Tom and K-9 officer. *All Of This Ends* song finishes (on a single piano note).

PARAMEDIC

You better call your Chief.

INT. SMALL PRIVATE ROOM IN HOSPITAL - CALGARY - DAY

Alex, Amanda, Kurt, Scott, K-9 officer and several of Sam's other teammates are sitting in silence. The tension is palpable. Alex is staring at the floor. Amanda has her arm around her. Tom is standing by door.

An ER NURSE, 40, walks in room, holding a clear plastic bag. She walks over to Alex and sits beside her.

ALEX

How is he?

ER NURSE

The doctor will be in shortly to give you an update. But I, uh...

(clears throat)

I wanted to give you this.

The ER nurse hands Alex plastic bag with Sam's personal effects: wallet, coins, \$20 bill, watch and gold chain. Alex takes bag and holds it up to see contents inside. Her eyes widen. She reaches into bag, pulls out Sam's watch and puts it on her wrist. ER Nurse walks to door. Alex reaches back into bag, pulls out Sam's gold chain, frowns and searches for something at bottom of bag.

ALEX

(to nurse)

Wait!

The ER nurse, now at door, turns around.

ER NURSE

Yes?

ALEX (CONT'D)

Where's his cross and Saint Jude medal?

ER NURSE

Pardon me?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX (CONT'D)

Sam's cross and Saint Jude medal!

Alex holds up Sam's gold chain.

ALEX

They were on his chain...but
they're not in the bag!

ER NURSE

Oh. I'm...not sure. I'll go ask.

ER Nurse leaves. Alex puts Sam's chain around her neck.
Another male police officer, SAM'S INSPECTOR, 50, enters
room and walks over to Alex.

INSPECTOR

(nods to plastic bag)

Alex, I am so sorry...but I'm
going to have to take that back.
It's *evidence*. I'm not sure why
they gave that to you...

Alex hesitates a moment. Everyone in room watches her but
nobody says anything. She hands plastic bag to Inspector
but keeps the watch and chain.

ALEX

When can I see him?

INSPECTOR

Very soon, I think.

ALEX

Has his family been contacted?

Tom steps forward from where he's been standing at door.

TOM

Yes. They're on their way.

ALEX

Oh boy.

Alex takes a drink of water. The ER DOCTOR, 40, comes in
and sits on the other side of Alex. Another man, 30, the
SOCIAL WORKER, follows doctor in but remains by the door.

ER DOCTOR

Alex, I'm Sam's Emerge doctor.

ALEX

How is he?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ER DOCTOR (CONT'D)

He has a very serious head injury.
He's in critical condition...but
stable for now.

ALEX

Can I see him?

ER DOCTOR

Yes. A social worker is going to
take you in...

The ER doctor looks at social worker. The expression on
the social worker's face speaks volumes. Alex nods,
stands up and follows social worker out of room.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - CALGARY - DAY

Alex and social worker walk down hallway towards to doors
of emergency room. About ten feet from the doors, Alex
stops and looks at social worker. He stops walking.

ALEX

How is he?

The social worker pauses a moment before answering.

SOCIAL WORKER

He's in rough shape.

Alex nods and bites lip. They resume walking to emergency
room doors. The social worker pushes open door for Alex.

Sam is lying on a stainless steel gurney, covered in a
white sheet from his chest down. He is breathing but
unconscious. Several tubes and wires run from his chest
and arm to an IV pole and other medical apparatus. Other
than a scrape on his elbow, he looks uninjured.

Alex races over to Sam.

ALEX

Sam!

There is no response from Sam. The only sound is soft
BEEP of monitor. The social worker remains at door,
watching Alex closely.

ALEX

Sam?

Alex leans over and kisses Sam on the lips. No reaction.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX

I love you.

The social worker walks over to Alex, puts his arm around her shoulders and gently leads her out of emergency room.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - CALGARY - DAY (2000)

Alex and social worker walk down a different hallway and round a corner where dozens of police officers line the hallway, speaking softly to each other. When Alex comes into view, the hallway goes silent. Alex and social worker walk by officers. One officer puts his hand on Alex's shoulder and gently squeezes it.

FADE TO:

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT - DAY

Alex is seated in a chair directly in front of a man, 50, the ICU DOCTOR. He is seated and their knees are touching. The ER nurse stands beside Alex with her hand on Alex's shoulder. The social worker stands on Alex's other side but slightly behind her. Tom stands by doorway. The ER doctor is beside Tom.

ICU DOCTOR

Alex, I am going to be Sam's doctor in the ICU.

Alex nods, wide-eyed.

ICU DOCTOR CONT'D

As you know, Sam has suffered a very serious brain injury. The back of his head hit the ground with such a force that his brain has hemorrhaged...still is hemorrhaging, in fact.

Alex nods, paying close attention.

ICU DOCTOR

But...because the brain is encased within the skull, it has nowhere to hemorrhage to.

The doctor takes Alex's hands and leans in.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ICU DOCTOR (CONT'D)

They did everything they could in
emergency to try and save Sam.
There's nothing more they can do.

ALEX

Are you *sure*?

The ICU doctor tilts his head, close to tears himself.

ICU DOCTOR

(softly)

Yes. I'm sorry...but for all
intents and purposes, Sam's
already gone. He'll be pronounced
legally brain dead shortly.

Alex breathes in sharply. The ER nurse puts her arm
around Alex's shoulders and squeezes gently. The social
worker takes a step closer. Tom watches carefully.

ICU DOCTOR (CONT'D)

He's on life support. And since
his condition is stable...we're
hoping you'll consider authorizing
the donation of his organs.

Alex heads drops to her chest and lets out a sob. The ER
nurse drops to one knee, comforting Alex. Alex finally
looks up. She takes a deep breath and exhales then slowly
nods. The ICU doctor squeezes her hand, visibly relieved.

ICU DOCTOR

Thank you.

ALEX

How long will I have with him?

ICU DOCTOR

All of today for sure...and likely
well into the evening. You'll be
meeting the organ transplant
coordinator shortly -

SAM'S MOM (O.S.)

(wailing)

Yanni mou! Yanni mou!

Alex's eyes widen. Everyone turns to look at hallway
where wailing is coming from.

ALEX

Uh oh.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Alex stands up and walks to door. The ICU doctor, nurse and social worker exchange concerned glances.

ICU DOCTOR

Alex?

Alex stops and turns around.

ALEX

Yeah?

ICU DOCTOR

I don't think you should be the one to tell Sam's family the news. We'll do that, okay?

ALEX

Okay.

Tom opens door for Alex.

INT. ICU UNIT HALLWAY - HOSPITAL - DAY

Alex steps out of office, followed by Tom. Sam's family is walking down hallway towards them. Sam's MOM and DAD, are in middle. Sam's brother, NICK, 30, and Sam's sister, ANGELA, 35, are holding their parents up.

SAM'S MOM

(wailing)

Yanni mou! Yanni mou!

Sam's mom races over to Alex and they hug tightly.

INT. SAM'S ICU ROOM - HOSPITAL - DAY

Sam is lying in hospital bed, hooked up to IV and other medical apparatus. Alex is sitting beside him, holding his hand, staring down at him. Tears spill down her cheeks. The only sound is soft BEEP of monitor.

SUPERIMPOSE: Intensive Care Unit, 9 a.m.

ICU NURSE (O.S.)

Were you guys just somewhere warm?

Alex looks up, surprised.

REVEAL Sam's ICU Nurse, 40, is standing by door. She is holding a box of Kleenex.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ICU NURSE (CONT'D)
(smiles kindly)
I'm Sam's ICU nurse. I noticed his
shoulders are peeling...

ICU Nurse walks towards Sam's bedside, opposite Alex.

ALEX
Yeah...we were in Disneyland. We
had an awesome time!

ICU NURSE
I'm *so* glad, Alex.

ALEX
(distraught)
Yeah, but...

Alex looks down at Sam.

ALEX
Now look what's happened!

Alex looks at ICU nurse again and shakes head.

ALEX (CONT'D)
I can't believe this...

Alex wipes her cheek with the back of her hand. ICU Nurse
holds Kleenex box out to her. Alex takes box.

ALEX (CONT'D)
We had a big fight yesterday. He
went to work mad and...and...

Alex looks down at Sam.

ICU NURSE
Alex?

ALEX
(looks up)
Yeah?

ICU NURSE
Today will probably be the most
difficult day of your life. But
it's also a very *special* time.
It's your chance to say goodbye...

Alex lets out a sob and her hand flies up to her mouth.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ICU NURSE (CONT'D)

Talk to him...tell him everything.

ALEX

But can he *hear* me?!

ICU NURSE

Well...they say hearing is the
last sense to go. But...

(holds hand to heart)

I don't think *this* kind of
communication ever ends.

Alex nods slowly then sits down and gently picks up Sam's hand. ICU nurse walks towards door. Alex looks down at Sam's hand and frowns.

ALEX

Ummmm...

ICU Nurse stops and turns around.

ALEX (CONT'D)

(looking at Sam's
hand)I *swear* it feels like he's trying
to hold my hand right now. But
that's impossible...

(looks up)

Right?

ICU NURSE

(smiles kindly)

Oh, you never know. I've seen an
awful lot of miracles in here over
the years.

ICU Nurse leaves. Alex looks down at Sam. She hesitates a moment then leans over and kisses him on the lips. There is no response from Sam. Alex sits back up.

ALEX

Why didn't you LOOK where you were
stepping?!

Sam's chest spasms slightly.

ALEX (CONT'D)

(gasps)

Oh!

Alex leans over, rests her head on his heart and places her hand on his chest. She closes her eyes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Music begins: *Breathe* by Faith Hill. Tears roll down her cheek as she slowly breathes in and out.

Series of shots:

Nick, Angela and Sam's mom and dad appear in doorway. Sam's mom sobs and her hand flies up to her mouth. Alex opens her eyes and sits up. Sam's mom and dad walk over to other side of Sam. Nick and Angela stand at foot of bed. Sam's mom kisses Sam on forehead. Sam's dad places his head on Sam's chest. Sam's chest has another small spasm. Alex and Sam's mom look at each other.

ALEX'S MOM, 70, and brother, DALE, 40, come into room. Alex's mom whispers in Sam's ear. Sam has another spasm. Alex's eyes widen. Dale puts his arm around their mom and gently lead her out of room.

Alex's other brother, HARRY, 42, and his wife, KATRINA, 42, enter room. Harry looks, wide-eyed, at Sam. Katrina hugs Alex.

ALEX'S DAD, 65, comes in, walks over to Sam and rests his hand on Sam's shoulder. Then he looks at Alex.

In between visitors, Alex rests her head on Sam's chest.

Tom and Amanda come in and say goodbye to Sam.

Other police officers, including three of Sam's recruit classmates, CHARLIE, MATT and the COWBOY, come in to pay their respects, as does the K-9 Officer.

As the day winds down, Alex looks exhausted. When the steady stream of visitors finally ends, she is resting her head on Sam's chest, eyes closed. *Breathe* song fades.

SUPERIMPOSE: 10 p.m.

The only sound is soft BEEP of monitor. Alex opens eyes but doesn't lift her head. With her index finger, she gently traces three little moles in a row on Sam's forearm. A tear rolls down her cheek. She closes eyes.

EXT. CONVERTIBLE - CALIFORNIA - NIGHT (2000) (F.B.)

Sam and Alex are in red Mustang convertible, parked at roadside pull-out, top down. Both seats are reclined. They are staring up at stars, holding hands.

SUPERIMPOSE: Two weeks earlier, California

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM

Penny for your thoughts?

Alex grins and points to Orion's Belt.

ALEX

I was just thinking how the three
stars in a row, in Orion's Belt...

Alex turns to Sam and picks up his forearm. With her
index finger, she traces the three moles on Sam's arm.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Reminds me of these...

Sam laughs and resumes looking at stars. Alex does, too.

SAM

(sings off-key)

When you wish upon a star...makes
no difference who you are...

Alex turns and looks at Sam, surprised.

ALEX

In twelve years, that's the first
time I've ever heard you sing.

SAM

(grins)

Now you know why.

ALEX

Well, don't quit your day job.

Sam and Alex resume looking up at stars, still holding
hands, relaxed and happy. A shooting star suddenly soars
across sky.

ALEX

Did you see that?!

SAM

Yup.

ALEX

Ya gonna make a wish?

SAM

(shrugs)

I'm not a big wish guy.

Alex turns to look at Sam.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ALEX

You're the one who was just
singing *When You Wish Upon a Star!*

Sam grins and winks at Alex.

ICU NURSE (V.O.)

Alex?

BACK TO:

INT. SAM'S ICU ROOM - HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Alex opens her eyes and sits up, disoriented. The ICU Nurse is standing on other side of Sam.

ALEX

(panicked)

Is it time?!

ICU NURSE

No, no...not yet.

ALEX

Oh...good. Have you found his
cross and Saint Jude medal yet?

ICU NURSE

No. But Sam has developed
pneumonia and his lungs are
filling with fluid. So they're
going to have to make an incision
in his side. I think you better
wait in the hallway, okay?

ALEX

Okay.

Alex stands up and walks out of room.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE SAM'S ICU ROOM - HOSPITAL

Alex enters hallway where some family, friends and police officers are still gathered. Dale leads her to window at end of hallway. They look out window at city lights.

DALE

How are you holding up?

ALEX

I don't think I can do this.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DALE

Yeah ya can. You already *are*.

Alex continues looking out window. Dale turns to her.

DALE (CONT'D)

I was talking with the chief
earlier today...

Alex finally turns and looks at Dale.

ALEX

And?

DALE

She said Sam was one of her stars.

ALEX

(snorts)

Was is the operative word here.

DALE

(shakes head)

No, Alex. *Star* is.

REVEAL Alex's look of surprise. ICU nurse walks up, puts her hand on Alex's arm and nods. Alex swallows, anxious, then walks back with ICU nurse towards Sam's room.

INT. SAM'S ICU ROOM - HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Alex, exhausted, is sitting beside Sam. Her head is on his chest. Her eyes are closed. "Both Sides Now" song resumes (at 2:10, with "But now it's just another show") and plays through until end of red light scene.

SUPERIMPOSE: 11:45 p.m.

ICU Nurse walks into room. She watches Alex a moment, sad, then walks over and touches Alex gently on shoulder. Alex jumps, startled. ICU Nurse says something. Alex nods, wide-eyed, then stands up and walks over to wall.

Three OR nurses, in scrubs, enter room and prepare Sam to be moved. A nurse unlocks brakes on Sam's bed. Another nurse pushes Sam's bed out of room as another nurse walks alongside Sam, pushing mobile ventilator. Alex follows.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE SAM'S ICU ROOM - HOSPITAL - NIGHT

A crowd of people still remain in hallway. Alex walks past them, following Sam's bed down hallway. People fall in behind her. She looks down at Sam and...

EXT. DISNEYLAND PARADE - DAY (2000) (F.B.)

Sam and Alex stand on sidelines, near end of parade, watching and clapping. Mickey Mouse is last in parade and as he passes, several parade-watchers fall in behind him, so Sam and Alex do, too. They look at each other and laugh, walking along, hand in hand, waving at crowd.

BACK TO:

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE OPERATING ROOM - HOSPITAL

Alex blinks and shakes head. She follows Sam right into OR, alone. The others wait in hallway.

INT. OPERATING ROOM - HOSPITAL - NIGHT

A surgeon and several nurses are prepping for surgery. When Sam's bed comes to a stop, Alex walks to his side, kisses him on lips then mouths the words "I love you."

Alex stands up straight, takes a deep breath and gives Sam one final wave. Then she turns and walks out of OR.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE OPERATING ROOM - HOSPITAL

Alex walks into hallway, where family and friends are waiting. She looks utterly exhausted. Dale steps forward, puts his arm around her and leads her down hallway.

FADE TO:

INT. SAM & ALEX'S BEDROOM - CALGARY - NIGHT

Alex is asleep in bed, facing window. She opens eyes and breathes in sharply.

REVEAL a reddish-orange light filling bedroom window.

SUPERIMPOSE: The next morning

Alex sits up and stares, stunned, at window. The reddish-orange light slowly dissipates. She looks at alarm clock.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

It reads 6:00 am. Alex lies back down and stares at window as tears fall. She closes her eyes. "Both Sides Now" song ends.

INT. SAM & ALEX'S LIVING ROOM - CALGARY - DAY

Alex, in Disneyland sweatshirt, walks down stairs into living room. She looks rough. Several flower bouquets are on coffee table. Harry is waiting at bottom of stairs, holding a coffee. Katrina is beside him.

ALEX

Morning.

HARRY

Morning.

Harry hands Alex the coffee. She takes it.

ALEX

Thanks.

HARRY

How are you doing?

Alex shrugs and tries to smile.

KATRINA

Can I get you some breakfast?

ALEX

Sure.

KATRINA

What would you like?

ALEX

Ummm...how about poached eggs?
Those were Sam's favourite...

KATRINA

You got it.

Katrina heads into kitchen. Alex walks to bay window in dining room. She takes a sip of coffee, looking out at Mountain Ash tree. The yellow leaves and red berries contrast against the blue sky. Harry joins her.

ALEX (CONT'D)

(looking out window)

I'm glad it's a nice day...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HARRY

Me, too.

In another room, the phone RINGS once then stops.

KATRINA (O.S.)

Hello? Yes...I'll get her.

Katrina comes into dining room with phone.

KATRINA

It's the organ transplant
coordinator.

Alex takes phone, anxious.

ALEX

Hello?

Phone to ear, Alex walks through kitchen.

ALEX (CONT'D)

How did it go?

Alex goes downstairs into den. She sits on couch, phone
to ear, listening carefully and nodding.

ALEX

Do you happen to know what *time*
that was?

Alex breathes in sharply.

ALEX

No...I'm okay. Go on...

Alex stands up and begins pacing, ear to phone, nodding.
She suddenly stops pacing.

ALEX

They did? *Where?*

(frowns)

But...but that's impossible! I
mean, Sam must've been moved at
least three times yesterday...how
could *no one* have seen them?

(gives little wave)

Nah...it's okay. I'll get someone
to pick them up. Thanks... Bye.

HARRY (O.S.)

Breakfast is ready, Goo...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Alex goes upstairs into kitchen.

KATRINA

Well...how did the surgery go?

ALEX

Good. They were able to donate Sam's heart, kidneys and pancreatic islets.

HARRY

Wow! That's incredible...

ALEX

For the recipients, yeah. For Sam and I...not so much.

Harry winces. Katrina carries Alex's breakfast into dining room and sets it on table. Alex sits down.

ALEX

Thanks.

Alex cuts into her poached egg but when she sees the runny yoke, she turns away. She puts fork and knife down and stares out window at Mountain Ash tree. Harry looks at Katrina, concerned. She shakes her head and holds index finger to lips.

ALEX

(to window)

We won't be having a family.

Katrina breathes in sharply. Harry's eyes widen. Alex turns away from window and looks at Katrina and Harry.

ALEX

Funny...that didn't occur to me until this morning, when I saw the red light in my bedroom window.

HARRY

What red light?

ALEX

When I woke up the first time this morning...at six am...

With her hands, Alex makes a big square with her hands.

ALEX (CONT'D)

I saw this big reddish-orange light in my window.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

HARRY

Oh.

ALEX

So I asked the organ transplant coordinator what time Sam's heart was removed.

KATRINA

And?

ALEX

Six a.m..

Harry's mouth drops open.

KATRINA

Wow.

Alex turns and looks out window again.

ALEX

(softly)

He came to say goodbye.

Harry and Katrina exchange glances.

ALEX (CONT'D)

(still looking out window)

And they finally found his cross and Saint Jude medal...

KATRINA

Where?

Alex turns to look at Katrina.

ALEX

Stuck to his back.

KATRINA

(frowns)

But that doesn't make sense! He had to have been moved at least three times yesterday. How could no one have seen them?

ALEX

(shrugs)

That's what I said.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

Harry opens his mouth to say something but the doorbell RINGS. Sasha races to door, BARKING. Alex goes to door.

Tom is on front steps. Still in uniform, he looks rough. He hands Alex a beautiful basket filled with plants.

ALEX
(surprised)
Oh...thanks.

Alex steps back to let Tom in.

TOM
How are you doing?

Alex opens her mouth to reply but phone RINGS. She sighs.

ALEX
That's been ringing off the hook.

TOM
I bet.

Alex puts basket on coffee table. Harry walks in from kitchen, holding a bouquet of flowers.

HARRY
(to Tom)
Hi.

ALEX
Harry...this is Sam's Sergeant,
Tom...

HARRY
I know. We all met at the hospital
yesterday, Goo.

ALEX
Oh...right.

TOM
(smiles)
Goo?

ALEX
That's my nick name.

Katrina walks into living room, phone in hand.

KATRINA
(to Tom)
Hi Tom. Sorry to interrupt...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

Katrina turns to Alex.

KATRINA

It's your Mom...

ALEX

I'll call her back.

TOM

No, no...take it. I'm in no rush.

Alex nods and takes phone from Katrina.

ALEX

Hi...

Alex, phone to ear, heads downstairs.

KATRINA

(to Tom)

Would you like a coffee?

TOM

No thanks. A glass of water would -

Tom's cell phone RINGS. He glances at caller display then looks at Katrina and Harry, apologetic.

TOM

Shoot. Sorry...do you mind if I take this?

KATRINA

No, no...of course not.

TOM

Thanks.

Tom answers his phone.

TOM

Tom here...

Katrina walks into kitchen. Harry stays behind in living room. Tom, phone to ear, walks towards front door.

TOM (CONT'D)

Yes, Sir...I'm here now...

EXT. SAM & ALEX'S FRONT PORCH - DAY

Tom walks out front door and stands on porch. He looks pale. He swallows and reaches up to loosen his collar.

TOM (CONT'D)

Yes, Sir...I -

Tom slumps to his knees then falls forward. His forehead hits the concrete with a THUD. His phone goes flying. Harry races out front door and kneels beside Tom. He leans his ear towards Tom's mouth to check his breathing.

Katrina, glass of water in hand, sees commotion from kitchen. She calls down to Alex.

KATRINA

ALEX! Get up here NOW!

Alex runs up stairs, phone in hand.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Tom fell. He's on the front step.

Katrina grabs phone, hangs up and calls 9-11. Alex runs to porch.

EXT. SAM & ALEX'S FRONT PORCH - DAY

Tom is now struggling to sit up, bleeding from a cut above his eye. Harry is helping him up.

ALEX

What happened?!

HARRY

He passed out.

Tom sits on top step, stunned. Alex sits beside him.

ALEX

Are you okay?

Tom drops his head into his hands and breaks into gut-wrenching, wracking sobs. His entire body shakes. Alex puts her arm around his shoulders.

TOM

I am SO sorry! Here I am, supposed to be helping YOU...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Katrina appears and hands Alex an ice pack. Alex gently holds it to Tom's forehead and looks up at birch tree.

REVEAL sun shining down through yellow leaves, fluttering in slow motion. *Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah* song begins and...

INT. DISNEYLAND - SPLASH MOUNTAIN RIDE - DAY (F.B.)

Sam and Alex are in log car on Splash Mountain ride, moving through section where critters are singing *Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah*. Sam puts arm around Alex and she snuggles closer, smiling as log car floats closer to big drop.

ALEX (V.O.)

And just like that, I was back at
Disneyland again, on the Splash
Mountain ride with Sam...

Alex tilts her head up towards Sam and he kisses her. She smiles. Their log car drops and hurtles towards pool of water at bottom. People laugh, cheer, throw hands in air.

A SIREN is heard in distance.

BACK TO:

EXT. SAM & ALEX'S FRONT PORCH - DAY

Alex is still holding ice pack to Tom's forehead, staring at birch tree. She blinks and shakes her head. Harry and Katrina are on front lawn. Sound of SIREN gets louder then stops. Ambulance pulls up.

Two paramedics get out of ambulance, grab stretcher and walk quickly up to Tom. One paramedic sits beside Tom and starts asking him questions (in background).

A police car pulls up and parks in front of ambulance. Two officers, the POLICE CHAPLAINS, get out and look around, puzzled. They race to front steps.

SHORT CHAPLAIN

What's going on?!

ALEX

Tom fell and his head.

The Chaplains look at each other then back at Alex as the paramedics load Tom onto stretcher.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SHORT CHAPLAIN

You must be Alex?

ALEX

Uh huh.

SHORT CHAPLAIN

We're the police chaplains.

ALEX

(nods slowly)

Ahhh...yes.

Tall Chaplain goes with Tom in ambulance. Short Chaplain stays behind with Alex. The ambulance pulls away. Alex, Short Chaplain, Katrina and Harry all head inside.

FADE TO:

INT. SAM & ALEX'S BEDROOM - CALGARY - DAY

Alex, in same outfit, is lying on bed, staring out window. A tear rolls down her cheek. Sasha is curled up beside her. Sunshine streams through open blinds, the leaves of birch tree flutter in front yard. There is a KNOCK at her bedroom door.

ALEX

(upset)

Yeah?

HARRY (O.S.)

Googie...it's me. Can I come in?

ALEX

Uh huh.

Harry comes in, holding a small envelope. Alex doesn't move, her back remains facing Harry.

HARRY

You okay?

ALEX

Nope.

Harry sighs and sits on edge of bed.

HARRY

An officer just dropped this off for you...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Alex turns over and looks at Harry. Her eyes are puffy. Harry hands her envelope. She sits up and opens it. Harry watches as she pulls out a small piece of paper that has something sticky-taped to it. Alex breathes in sharply.

ALEX

It's Sam's cross and Saint Jude medal...

Alex gently runs her index finger over pendants.

Harry watches as she peels pendants from paper. Then she removes Sam's gold chain from her neck, undoes clasp and puts pendants on chain. She puts necklace back on, then lies down and stares at ceiling.

ALEX (CONT'D)

(snorts)

Big help *they* turned out to be.

HARRY

Who?

Alex looks at Harry and holds up pendants.

ALEX

Jesus and Jude! They were supposed to *protect* him!

HARRY

(frowns)

Sorry...who is Jude?

ALEX

The Patron Saint of police officers!

HARRY

He is?

ALEX

Yeah.

HARRY

(hesitant)

Oh. Okay...

ALEX

What?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

HARRY

Well...it's just that...yesterday at the hospital, people were saying that Saint *Michael* is the Patron Saint of police officers.

Alex lets go of pendants and sits up in bed.

ALEX

People were talking about *saints* at the hospital yesterday?

HARRY

Yeah.

ALEX

Why?

HARRY

Because apparently yesterday was Saint Michael's Day. So when Sam went and died on the same day the police had *already* planned a mass in memory of fallen officers, people were a little freaked.

ALEX

How did I miss all this?

HARRY

(gently)

Goo, you were a little busy.

Alex sighs and lays back down again. She curls up in a ball, facing window, with her back to Harry.

HARRY

Uhh...what are you doing?

ALEX

(upset)

Thinking.

HARRY

Oh. Well...I hate to bother you but...we do have to leave soon.

Alex turns over to face him.

ALEX

(irritated)

Why?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

HARRY

(surprised)

Because we have to go the funeral
home and cemetery...remember?

ALEX

Oh...right.

REVEAL Harry's concerned expression as Alex struggles to
sit up in bed.

HARRY

You can rest a *little* longer. I'll
come get you in a few minutes.

Harry leaves, softly closing door behind him.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE ALEX'S BEDROOM - DAY (2000)

Katrina is waiting for Harry in hallway. They walk
downstairs together, speaking in hushed voices.

KATRINA

How is she?

HARRY

Not good. It's like she's trying
to...*think* her way through this.

KATRINA

Can you blame her? I don't think
any of us can fathom what she must
be feeling right now.

HARRY

But she'll *have* to feel it...at
some point.

KATRINA

She will. In her own time, Harry.

EXT. CEMETERY - CALGARY - DAY

Alex's dad, Harry, Katrina and Tom, now with bandage on
forehead, are standing in Greek section of cemetery,
chatting quietly. Nick, Angela and Alex are nearby.

ALEX

How are your mom and dad doing?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANGELA

Awful.

ALEX

I bet...

Alex takes a drink from her water bottle.

ALEX CONT'D)

Gee...I can't *believe* how much
water I'm drinking...

ANGELA

Speaking of that...my mom said you
could leave a glass of water out
for Sam's soul, if you like.

ALEX

Why?

ANGELA

(shrugs)

Apparently water has something to
do with the soul.

NICK

(clears throat)

Alex?

ALEX

Yeah?

NICK

Well...this might sound strange
but we saw something this
morning...

Nick glances around to make sure nobody else can hear.

NICK (CONT'D)

(lowers voice)

In the sky.

ALEX

The sky?

Nick nods and points to fluffy clouds in sky.

NICK

Yeah...we saw a cloud in the shape
of the first letter of his
name...only it was spelled
backwards.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ANGELA

(sheepish)

You know...like he was writing it
upside down, from the...

(points to sky)

Other side of the clouds.

Alex breathes in sharply, remembering something.

INT. AIRPORT RESTAURANT - CALGARY (2000) (F.B.)

Sam and Alex are sitting at a table, across from each other. Both have half-finished glasses of beer. A large piece of brown Kraft paper is the tablecloth and several crayons are on table. With a crayon, Sam is writing his name upside down, so that Alex can read it.

SUPERIMPOSE: Two weeks earlier, Calgary airport

Alex smiles, picks up a crayon and circles the first letter of Sam's name, dramatic, like a teacher correcting a student's spelling test.

ALEX

The first letter is backwards!

SAM

(grins)

Just makin' sure you're payin'
attention.

ALEX

Yeah, right!

An airport ANNOUNCEMENT begins on loudspeaker.

WOMAN'S VOICE (O.S.)

This is the final boarding call...

NICK (V.O.)

Alex?

BACK TO:

EXT. CEMETERY - CALGARY - DAY (2000)

Nick and Angela are staring, concerned, at Alex.

NICK

Are you okay?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX

Uhh...

A man, 50, the CEMETERY ATTENDANT, walks up to group.

CEMETERY ATTENDANT

I apologize for the wait. Have you had a chance to look around yet?

Alex shakes her head, wide-eyed.

CEMETERY ATTENDANT

Are you all right?

ALEX

(wide-eyed)

Uh huh.

CEMETERY ATTENDANT

Okay...well, in terms of choosing a plot for Sam...can I show you a few options?

Alex nods. Cemetery attendant walks to nearby empty plot. Alex follows. Nick and Angela check out another plot as Harry and Katrina look at another. Tom and Alex's dad drift over towards Alex and cemetery attendant.

CEMETERY ATTENDANT

This is one possibility...

Alex blinks rapidly, trying not to cry.

CEMETERY ATTENDANT (CONT'D)

Take your time...

The cemetery attendant walks a few steps away. Alex turns so her back is facing where Sam's headstone would be. She closes her eyes, takes a deep breath and exhales. She opens her eyes, looks to the right and gasps.

REVEAL a large yellow Winnie the Pooh carving on a headstone a few graves down, on other side of row.

Tom and Alex's dad quickly walk up to Alex.

TOM

What's wrong?

ALEX

(points to headstone)

It's Winnie the Pooh!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Tom and Alex's dad turn to look where Alex is staring.
Harry and Katrina quietly join them.

TOM

Oh yeah...okay. I see it.

Tom turns back to look at Alex.

TOM (CONT'D)

Is that significant?

ALEX

Yes! When Sam and I were at Disneyland, we were in front of Sleeping Beauty's Castle, waiting for the fireworks to begin and we were watching this cute little family...they were all wearing yellow Winnie the Pooh jackets! But then, right before the fireworks started, Pooh Grandma walked in front of us...but FELL and hit the back of her head!

Tom's eyes widen.

ALEX CONT'D)

I know! So Sam immediately knelt down to help her...and then afterwards he said to me, "Man...did that lady ever hit the back of her head *hard*."

Alex runs her hand through her hair, thinking.

ALEX (CONT'D)

That happened exactly one week before Sam fell and hit the back of *his* head...

Alex points to bandage on Tom's forehead.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Then you fell and hit *your* head...

Alex turns to look at Winnie the Pooh headstone.

ALEX (CONT'D)

(softly)

Now here we are...choosing his burial plot and it's back to Winnie the Pooh...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

TOM

Wow.

ALEX'S DAD

(softly)

But don't you know that God is
Pooh Bear?

Alex whips around to look at her dad, surprised.

ALEX

What?! Dad, I can't believe YOU
just used the G-word!

ALEX'S DAD

(smiles)

I didn't. That's a line from Jack
Kerouac's book, "On the Road." It
just struck me as rather fitting.

Alex nods slowly. She breathes in deeply and exhales.

ALEX

Well...this much I know...

Alex stamps her feet (in similar manner to Sam stamping
his feet behind garbage can at Disneyland).

ALEX (CONT'D)

This is it...this is Sam's new
home.

INT. SAM & ALEX'S LIVING ROOM - CALGARY - NIGHT

The living room is now filled with flowers. Three senior
police officers - SENIOR OFFICER #1, SENIOR OFFICER #2
and SENIOR OFFICER #3 - are seated in chairs, all in a
row in front of fireplace, facing family. Also in living
room and dining room are Alex's mom and dad, Harry,
Katrina, Ed, Dale, Tom and both Chaplains.

ALEX (V.O.)

Back at his old one, the next
audience wasn't *quite* so open to
my Disneyland observations.

SENIOR OFFICER #1

Now...in regard to the media at
Sam's funeral...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX

(frowns)

The media?

SENIOR OFFICER #1

Yes. Sam's funeral will be a public event, so we'll need to be very clear with the media, *ahead* of time, about what you do and don't want filmed...

SENIOR OFFICER #2

(to Alex)

Are you okay with the media attending Sam's interment?

Alex stares blankly at senior officer #2, embarrassed she doesn't know what the word 'interment' means.

SHORT CHAPLAIN

The interment is the grave side service, Alex.

Alex leaps out of her chair.

ALEX

WHAT?! They're gonna film Sam's casket going into the *ground*?

SENIOR OFFICER #1

No, no! No not if you don't want them to.

ALEX

I don't!

Alex sits back down.

SENIOR OFFICER #1

Okay.

SENIOR OFFICER #3

Now...about the seating arrangements...

ALEX

(shrugs)

People walk in and take their seats...how difficult can it be?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SENIOR OFFICER #3

(surprised)

Uhh...Alex, there will be police officers and other first responders from all over the country. We are expecting at least two *thousand* people.

ALEX

Oh.

SENIOR OFFICER #3

Don't worry. We'll have designated seating for family and friends.

ALEX

Okay...

SENIOR OFFICER #2

Now...there is also is the option of having the police choir sing during the service...

Alex scrunches up her nose and shakes her head.

ALEX

I can't see that comin' together.

SENIOR OFFICER #1

Oh?

ALEX

(shakes head)

Sam wasn't a big singing guy.

SENIOR OFFICER #2

Okay...no choir. Now...about the procession...

ALEX

(frowns)

The what?

SENIOR OFFICER #2

The procession.

Alex gives the officers a blank look.

SENIOR OFFICER #1

After Sam's funeral...when all the cars drive together to the cemetery...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Senior officer #1 turns over the piece of paper on his clipboard and starts sketching. Alex leans over to look at his sketch of a long car.

SENIOR OFFICER #1 (CONT'D)

This is Sam's hearse...

Senior officer #1 sketches another car behind hearse.

SENIOR OFFICER #1 (CONT'D)

And this will be the limo with you
and Sam's family...

ALEX

Uh huh...

Senior officer #1 sketches a few stick people in a row.

SENIOR OFFICER #1

And there will be police officers
and other first responders lining
the streets, saluting Sam as he
passes...

Alex gasps and jumps up. The officer stops sketching.

ALEX

It's a parade!

SENIOR OFFICER #3

(wide-eyed)

Well, kinda...yeah...but it's
called a *procession*.

ALEX

(snaps)

I know that! But Sam and I were
just in the *Disneyland* Parade! We
were walking behind Mickey Mouse,
waving to the crowd and...

Alex realizes everyone is staring at her. Harry's mouth is open. Dale's eyebrows are raised.

ALEX (CONT'D)

(quietly)

The crowd waved back.

Senior officer #2 looks at the two chaplains.

SENIOR OFFICER #3

That's uhh...that's quite
something...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

The room is silent. Alex looks as if she's going to cry. She looks at Tom. He smiles and nods, reassuring. Alex sits down again, embarrassed.

SENIOR OFFICER #2

(clears throat)

Ummm...one last thing we'd like to mention is that the police helicopter will be doing a fly-over at the cemetery...

REVEAL Alex's eyes widen in surprise.

SENIOR OFFICER #2

Is that all right?

ALEX

Uh huh.

INT. SAM & ALEX'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT - CALGARY

The three chairs, now empty, are still in front of fireplace. Alex, in same outfit, is on couch. She has Sam's pendants (still on chain around her neck) in one hand and is tapping them against her bottom lip, deep in thought. Katrina is on other end of couch. Tom is in chair. All three have cups of tea.

ALEX

I just don't understand how the happiest day of my life and the absolute *worst* happened exactly one week apart! Don't you guys find that *odd*?

KATRINA

Everything about Sam's death is odd, Alex!

ALEX

(throws hands in air)

Then why am I the only one trying to make some sort of *sense* out of these...connections?

KATRINA

Probably because you're the only one *seeing* them.

ALEX

(points to self)

But why am *I* seeing them?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KATRINA

Because *you're* the one who's been the most impacted! *You're* the one whose heart and soul has been shattered into a million pieces.

(shakes head)

It's almost like you've been...

Katrina tilts her head, thinking a moment.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Launched into some sort of...higher level of awareness and now you're able to see connections between unrelated events.

ALEX

(snorts)

Well...I didn't dare share *this* one at the meeting but you know how the police helicopter is gonna do a fly-over?

TOM

Yeah...

Alex holds up three fingers.

ALEX

Three times on our vacation, Sam nearly went up in a helicopter!

(ticks off fingers)

Once in Vegas, once in the Grand Canyon and once in San Bernardino.

TOM

Why San Bernardino?

ALEX

'Cause Sam knew a cop there who was gonna take him up in *their* police helicopter.

KATRINA

Why didn't he go?

ALEX

It was getting late...we ran out of time.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TOM
(smiles kindly)
Maybe Sam is gonna get his
helicopter ride after all?

Alex opens her mouth to reply but the doorbell RINGS.
Sasha races to front door, barking.

HARRY
I'll get it.

Harry walks to door and opens it.

HARRY (O.S.)
Hey...come on in.

Charlie, one of Sam's police recruit classmates, walks
in. He is in uniform.

CHARLIE
(to everyone)
Hey.

ALEX
Hi.

Alex walks over and gives Charlie a hug. Katrina and
Harry head into kitchen. Tom stands up.

TOM
I'm gonna head off, Alex. I'll see
you tomorrow, okay?

ALEX
Kay...thank you.

Tom nods and leaves.

CHARLIE
(to Alex)
Is this an okay time to drop by? I
won't stay long...

ALEX
No, no...it's fine. Do you want to
come in?

CHARLIE
No, no. I...uh...
(clears throat)
I just wanted to show you
something.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Alex and Charlie remain at front door. Charlie reaches into pocket and pulls out a small pin. He hands it to Alex. She takes it and looks at it closely.

CHARLIE

It's a memorial pin with Sam's badge number on it.

ALEX

It's beautiful...

CHARLIE

I hope you like it. A few of us from Sam's recruit class had it made. We wanted to do...*something*.

ALEX

Thank you.

CHARLIE

We're selling them to cops to raise money for his memorial fund. But instead of paying cash, most officers are donating their court time, so we've already raised thousands of dollars.

ALEX

Really?

CHARLIE

Yeah. And we're hoping that...

(clears throat)

When you're ready, you'll help us decide what to do with the money.

ALEX

(smiles)

I'd like that.

Charlie looks at ground a moment, uncomfortable. Then he looks at Alex again.

CHARLIE

There's something else...

ALEX

What's that?

CHARLIE

(uncomfortable)

Ummm...well...I just wanted to say that...Sam loved you very much.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

ALEX
(surprised)
Oh.

CHARLIE
He talked about you all the time.

ALEX
He did?

CHARLIE
Uh huh.
(smiles)
He even told me once how proud you
were of your perfect teeth.

Alex laughs, embarrassed. Her hand flies up to her mouth.

ALEX
He told you *that*?!

CHARLIE
Yup. He said you loved going to
the dentist because they always
complimented you on your teeth.

ALEX
(grins)
I can't believe he told you that!

Charlie looks to ground again then back at Alex.

CHARLIE
You take care, okay?

ALEX
I will. You, too.

Alex hugs Charlie. He leaves. Alex shuts door behind him.

MATCH CUT TO:

INT. LIMOUSINE - CALGARY - DAY (2000)

Outside limo window, a man's gloved hand and uniform sleeve (with snow flakes) reaches for rear door and opens it. He holds his arm out for person inside.

REVEAL Alex, in long black coat and black hat, taking arm of Tall Chaplain and stepping out of limo.

EXT. GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH - CALGARY - DAY (2000)

It is snowing heavily. Alex looks around. Dozens of police officers line steps leading up to church. Mourners stream into church. Alex turns to left and looks up.

REVEAL a media photographer on roof of nearby house. He snaps her photo. She quickly looks away.

Other family members get out of limo: Alex's mom and dad, Harry, Katrina, Dale and Ed. A hearse pulls up.

Alex holds tight to Tall Chaplain's arm and watches pallbearers lift Sam's casket out of hearse. Two police officers, Charlie and Mark, drape a large Canada flag over casket.

The drummer from police band hits a drum: BOOM.

The pallbearers begin to slowly carry casket up church steps to the beat of the drum: BOOM, BOOM, BOOM.

Alex, still gripping Tall Chaplain's arm, follows Sam's casket up steps and into church foyer. Her eyes remain fixed on Sam's casket. In the foyer, the pallbearers stop walking. The drum stops. All is silent.

The pallbearers slowly walk down aisle towards alter. Alex and Tall Chaplain follow.

FADE TO:

INT. LIMO - CALGARY - DAY (2000)

The snow has stopped, the sun is shining. Alex is now in limo with Sam's family: mom, dad, Angela, Nick and their spouses. Their limo is following Sam's hearse. Everyone is looking out windows, amazed.

REVEAL hundreds of police officers, firefighters and paramedics lining the streets. As hearse and limo pass, each person salutes.

ALEX (V.O.)

I was right. It was a little like the Disneyland Parade...only the complete *opposite* end of the emotional spectrum.

Bagpipe music begins: *Amazing Grace*.

EXT. CEMETERY - CALGARY - DAY (2000)

A police piper is playing *Amazing Grace*. A large group of mourners are standing around Sam's open grave. His casket is at the top, ready to be lowered into ground by electric pulley system. Alex stands beside Harry, holding tight to his arm, unsteady. Nick and Angela hold on to Sam's mom and dad. A GREEK PRIEST begins waving incense.

Alex watches as Sam's casket slowly begins to lower into ground. Angela steps forward and throws a rose on casket.

Sam's mom breaks free of Nick's grip and tries to throw herself onto Sam's casket. There are MURMURS from crowd. Someone pushes a button and the casket stops moving. Nick grabs his sobbing mom and gently pulls her back. Alex watches. *Amazing Grace* fades.

ALEX (V.O.)

I knew how she felt. For I, too,
wanted to go where Sam was going.

A tear rolls down Alex's cheek.

ALEX (V.O.) (CONT'D)

But I also knew it doesn't work
that way. There are no short cuts.

Sound of approaching HELICOPTER is heard. Alex looks up.

Police helicopter flies overhead.

INT. PARADE ROOM - POLICE DISTRICT OFFICE - CALGARY - DAY

Alex, Nick and Angela are seated at boardroom table along with Tom and officers from Sam's team. Alex is leaning back in chair, listening intently in Sam's thinking position (same position he was in while studying Disneyland map): thumb under chin, index finger on cheek and middle finger above lip.

SUPERIMPOSED: The next day

A male officer, the DETECTIVE, 50, stands at front of room. As he speaks, he sketches on a whiteboard. So far there is a rudimentary drawing of a warehouse with large bay door beside a smaller front door. A stick figure is in front of smaller door. The detective draws a hole in the wall above larger door.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE

...so when the first employee of the day arrived and saw a large hole in the window above the vehicle bay, that was his first clue that something was wrong...

The Detective turns around to face the room.

DETECTIVE (CONT'D)

But we now know the hole was actually made the day *before*, when another employee mistakenly drove a forklift into the window. Unfortunately, the employee the next morning wasn't aware of that...

Alex's eyes widen in surprise.

DETECTIVE (CONT'D)

So when he arrived, not only did he see a hole in the window, he also heard the alarm making a funny sound when he first opened the door. So he put two and two together, thought there might be an intruder in the building and called 9-11. Any questions so far?

Alex puts her hand up. Everyone turns to look at her.

DETECTIVE (CONT'D)

(to Alex)

Yes?

ALEX

Whaddya mean the alarm was making a funny sound?

DETECTIVE

Good question. The employee said when he first opened the door, the alarm was making a slow beep, beep, beep...as if it had just been *set*. But that doesn't make sense, so we are continuing to investigate this, Alex.

ALEX

Okay...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

The Detective turns back to face the whiteboard and resumes sketching.

DETECTIVE

So then...after the police were
dispatched to the warehouse...

FADE TO:

INT. SAM & ALEX'S BEDROOM - CALGARY - DAY

Alex, in same outfit, is lying on top of duvet, staring out window. A tear rolls over her nose. Sasha is curled up beside her. There is a KNOCK at door.

ALEX

Yeah?

ALEX'S MOM (O.S.)

It's Mom...can I come in?

ALEX

Yeah.

Alex's mom opens door. Alex doesn't move.

ALEX'S MOM

How did it go today?

ALEX

(upset)

It wasn't a break and enter, Mom.
There was no one in the
building...it was a false alarm.

Alex's mom breathes in sharply.

ALEX (CONT'D)

He gave his life protecting a
premise that didn't need
protecting.

ALEX'S MOM

Oh, Alex...

Alex turns over, weary, to face her mom.

ALEX

And according to workplace safety
legislation, there should've been
a safety railing where he fell.
His death was *totally* preventable.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Alex's mom bites her lip, shaking her head.

ALEX (CONT'D)

What am I gonna do?

ALEX'S MOM

(sighs)

Exactly what you are doing. Taking it one day at a time.

Alex's mom sits on bed. A tear rolls down Alex's cheek.

ALEX'S MOM

I am so sorry you have to go through this...

ALEX

I just feel so overwhelmed.

Alex's mom nods slowly, thinking a moment.

ALEX'S MOM

Do you remember what your favourite book was when you were really little? I mean, before your Dad left...

ALEX

No.

ALEX'S MOM

It was "The Sword and the Stone." You loved it. You had us read it to you, over and over again.

ALEX

Really?

ALEX'S MOM

Mmmm...hmmm...

ALEX

I can't even remember what it's about...

Alex's mom thinks a moment.

ALEX'S MOM

Destiny, I suppose...how even though WE may not know we are capable of handling something... when the time comes, we'll *find* the strength...or be given it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Alex's mom reaches over and gently squeezes Alex's leg.

ALEX'S MOM (CONT'D)

I've seen this in you over the last week, Alex. You're like young Arthur, learning how to pull the sword from the stone...

ALEX

(snorts)

Thanks, Mom.

ALEX'S MOM

However...also just like young Arthur, you have *time* to grow into your strength. And right now, I think what you need *most* is rest.

Alex nods. Alex's mom stands up and walks to door. But before leaving she turns around again and looks at Alex.

ALEX'S MOM

I know Sam and I didn't get along very well. But I used to be an occupational health & safety nurse, remember? And by the sounds of it, what happened to Sam should never have happened.

REVEAL Alex's look of surprise.

INT. SAM & ALEX'S LIVING ROOM - CALGARY - DAY

Alex, in different outfit, is sitting on couch, holding coffee cup. Tom, in uniform, is seated across from her. Documents are on coffee table. The Virginia Woolf book, "A Room of One's Own," is still on coffee table.

TOM

I'm sure you're aware of this but...

(clears throat)

Because Sam died in the line of duty, you're entitled to receive his salary until the year he would've retired, so...twenty-one more years. And after that, you'll receive his pension...for the rest of your life.

Alex's mouth drops open.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TOM
 (concerned)
 You're *not* aware of this?

Alex looks at Virginia Woolf book.

INT. SAM & ALEX'S LIVING ROOM - CALGARY (2000) (F.B.)

Sam and Alex are standing beside coffee table, in the middle of a heated argument.

ALEX (CONT'D)
 I just wish I didn't have to work
 at a stupid *job*! I just wish I
 could stay home and write...

Alex grabs Virginia Woolf book from coffee table.

SAM
 (groans)
 I do not want to hear, *AGAIN*, what
 Virginia Woolf has to say about
 writing and money!

Alex tosses book back onto coffee table.

ALEX
 Fine.

Sam folds his arms across his chest.

SAM
 So let me get this straight...
 you're just gonna sit around,
 waiting for a pay cheque to fall
 from the sky...and *then* you'll
 start to write?

ALEX
 No!

TOM (V.O.)
 Alex?

BACK TO:

INT. SAM & ALEX'S LIVING ROOM - CALGARY (2000)

Alex looks from Virginia Woolf book to Tom.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX

I'm sorry...what?

TOM

Are you okay?

ALEX

No.

TOM

Do you want me to come back
another time?

ALEX

No, no. It's just...
(clears throat)
A lot to take in.

TOM

I bet. Is this coming as a
surprise to you?

Alex sighs and puts cup on coffee table.

ALEX

Yeah. I mean...I'm sure Sam must
have told me at *some* point because
we talked about everything. But I
honestly don't remember...

TOM

Are you *sure* you want me to keep
going today?

ALEX

Yes. I'm fine.

Tom picks up a folder from the coffee table.

TOM

Okay...well, you'll also be
receiving a life insurance payout
through Sam's policy with the
City...plus the insurance payout
from the police union...plus a
lump sum payout from WCB.

ALEX

Oh boy...

Alex stands up and runs her hand through her hair.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TOM

Alex, you know Sam would want this
for you...

ALEX

Ummm...yeah...I guess...

Alex wanders over to window and looks out at birch tree.

ALEX (CONT'D)

But it's a bit more complicated
than that...

Alex's POV: the falling leaves transform into pay cheques
fluttering to ground.

REVEAL Alex closing her eyes then her head drops towards
her chest, ashamed. Sound of approaching helicopter is
heard. Alex's eyes fly open.

TOM (O.S.)

Told ya.

Alex whips around and looks at Tom, wide-eyed.

INT. BANK - CALGARY - DAY

A female bank representative, 30, is at desk. Dale and
Alex (different outfit) are seated facing her. Documents
are on desk. A glass of water is in front of Alex.

Bank representative reaches for a document.

BANK REPRESENTATIVE

As you know...because you and Sam
had mortgage insurance, the
remainder of your mortgage will be
paid off.

Alex nods then takes a drink of water.

BANK REPRESENTATIVE (CONT'D)

You own your home, free and clear.

The bank representative slides document towards Alex.

BANK REPRESENTATIVE (CONT'D)

I just need you to sign these...

The bank representative circles several places on forms
then Alex signs her name. Dale watches closely.

INT. CAR - CALGARY - DAY (2000)

Dale is driving, Alex is passenger. They are both quiet.
Dale parks outside Alex's back gate and turns car off.

DALE

You're awfully quiet, Goo.

ALEX

(looking out window)

It's a lot to process.

DALE

I can't even imagine...

Alex turns to look at Dale.

ALEX

Dale...have you ever heard of
Virginia Woolf's book, *A Room of
One's Own*?

DALE

(surprised)

Uhh...I think so. Why?

ALEX

Sam and I used to fight about it.

DALE

(smiles)

You guys fought over a *book*?

ALEX

Uh huh.

DALE

Why?

INT. ALEX & SAM'S LIVING ROOM - CALGARY (DAY) (F.B.)

Alex is sitting in big chair. Sam is on couch. Both have
cups of coffee and are in mid-conversation. This is a few
years earlier. Sasha, as a puppy, is curled up beside
Sam. Alex holds up Virginia Woolf book.

ALEX

Because Virginia Woolf believed
that in order for women to write
fiction *well*, they need a secure
income and a room of their own!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM

I disagree.

Sam leans over and puts his cup on coffee table.

SAM (CONT'D)

I think motivation and good habits
are way more important than
external conditions like money and
a quiet place to work.

Sam taps his temple with his index finger.

SAM

If you don't get the inside game
sorted first, all the cash in the
world isn't gonna make you write.

ALEX

But -

Sam points upstairs.

SAM

We set up that spare bedroom as
your office more than a year ago.
Why aren't you using it?

BACK TO:

INT. CAR - CALGARY - DAY (2000)

Dale nods slowly.

ALEX

And now here I am with a secure
income for the rest of my
life...AND a big fat nest-egg...

Alex points towards her home.

ALEX (CONT'D)

And an entire house that has just
been paid for!

Dales breathes in deeply then exhales.

DALE

Then I guess you know what you
best be doing in that room of
yours, Alex.

INT. ALEX'S OFFICE - CALGARY - DAY

Alex, in pajamas and wearing headphones, is sitting in front of computer, staring at screen. She takes a sip of coffee then puts cup down. She takes a deep breath, exhales slowly then begins typing.

HARRY (O.S.)
Ya want more coffee?

REVEAL Harry standing in doorway. He has a fry pan in one hand and dishrag in the other.

Alex stops typing and removes headphones.

ALEX
What?

HARRY
Sorry...I was just wondering if you wanted more coffee?

ALEX
Oh...no, thanks.

Alex starts putting her headphones on again.

HARRY
Do you mind me asking...
(clears throat)
What you're working on?

ALEX
I'm writing.

HARRY
(frowns)
About...?

ALEX
Sam's death.

HARRY
It hasn't even been *two weeks!*

Harry quickly shakes his head.

HARRY (CONT'D)
Sorry...that's not my business.
You know what you're doing.

Harry turns to leave.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX

Harry?

Harry turns around again.

HARRY

Yeah?

ALEX

(tilts head)

What does the term soul-mate mean to you?

HARRY

Awww...gee, Googie...I don't anything about that kinda stuff.

ALEX

(smiles)

That's why I'm asking you.

HARRY

(sighs)

All right. Lemmme think about it...

ALEX

Thanks.

HARRY

Breakfast will be ready in ten...is that okay? Or...

ALEX

That's perfect.

Alex picks up her timer and sets it for ten minutes. Harry watches her, hesitant.

HARRY

But after breakfast we have to go the police station...remember?

ALEX

Yup. I remember.

Alex reaches for her headphones. Harry turns to leave, but a poster on the wall catches his eye. He smiles.

REVEAL poster on wall: a 1970's style picture with the Ralph Waldon Emerson quote: "Hitch your wagon to a star."

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

HARRY (O.S.)

You still have that...

ALEX

Uh huh.

HARRY

You hitched your wagon to the right star, Alex.

ALEX

(upset)

You mean 'cause of the *money*?!

HARRY

No! Because of who he *was*! Sam took you as far as he could...

Harry nods towards Alex's computer.

HARRY

Now ya just gotta keep goin'.

Alex nods and wipes her cheek with the back of her hand. Then she puts her headphones back on and resumes typing.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Alex, Tom, Harry and the Detective are in an interrogation room. A bankers box and Sam's duty bag is on floor beside Tom. Alex is in Sam's classic thinking position, leaning back in chair, listening carefully.

DETECTIVE

(to Alex)

So...there is still some confusion as to the sound the alarm was making when the employee first opened the door.

ALEX

Oh?

DETECTIVE

He *insists* he heard a series of slow beeps...as if someone had just set it. But that, of course, is highly unlikely because there was no one in the building.

Alex nods slowly.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE (CONT'D)

We've also talked to the security company...and they are *positive* the alarm wasn't malfunctioning.

ALEX

So then how do you explain the funny-sounding alarm?

DETECTIVE

We might not be able to. Quite often during an investigation, there is one piece of the puzzle that just doesn't fit.

ALEX

(sighs)

Oh boy.

DETECTIVE

However, the security company did confirm that the alarm had, in fact, gone off *twice* earlier that night...and both times, a security guard had attended.

ALEX

(frowns)

Seriously?

DETECTIVE

Yes. And on both occasions, it was determined to be a false alarm...

(clears throat)

Likely caused by the wind going through the hole that was made by the forklift.

ALEX

(shakes head)

This is unbelievable...

Alex suddenly leans forward in her chair.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Hang on a sec....if the first employee of the day had *known* there had been two previous false alarms that night, he probably wouldn't have called 9-11, right?

DETECTIVE

Probably not...no.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ALEX

Then why wasn't he told?

DETECTIVE

That obviously wasn't company protocol. But for what it's worth...they have *has* since put up a safety railing.

ALEX

(raises eyebrows)

A little late.

DETECTIVE

I know. Occupational Health & Safety is still conducting their investigation. I'll keep you updated, okay?

ALEX

Okay. Thank you.

Detective nods and leaves.

TOM

(to Alex)

You okay?

ALEX

Nope.

Alex looks at bankers box and Sam's duty bag on floor.

ALEX (CONT'D)

(sighs)

So...what's next on the clipboard of fun?

Tom gives a little snort then lifts bankers box and places it on table.

TOM

Well...I hate to have to do this but these are the items that were in Sam's locker...

ALEX

(breathes in sharply)

Oh!

Tom places his hand gently on top of box.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

TOM

Do you want me to go through this
with you now?

ALEX

I guess...

Tom lifts lid off box. Alex stands up to see inside. Tom pulls out Sam's runners and fuzzy blue vest.

REVEAL Alex's wide-eyed reaction as she has two quick back-to-back memories of him wearing these items.

EXT. DISNEYLAND GROUNDS - NIGHT (2000) (F.B.)

Sam, in runners and fuzzy blue vest, is on horse on King Arthur's Carrousel, holding on to brass pole and smiling.

EXT. POLICE STATION IN SUBURBS - CALGARY - NIGHT (F.B.)

Sam, duty bag in hand, is standing by back door, facing street. He is wearing fuzzy blue vest and runners. His expression is difficult to read.

Alex is in Jeep, about to drive away. She glances at Sam and waves, cheerful.

Sam manages a small smile, gives a little wave then turns and goes inside police station.

BACK TO:

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Alex is now slumped in chair. She has her elbow on table and is holding her forehead. Harry stands up.

HARRY

I think that's enough for today.
We can go through this at home
another time...

Tom nods and carefully starts putting Sam's vest and runners back in box. Harry looks at Alex.

HARRY (CONT'D)

Goo...ya gotta pace yourself.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Alex nods and takes a drink of water. Tom hands Harry the box. Tom then picks up Sam's duty bag. They all leave interrogation room.

Amanda is waiting in hallway. She smiles at Alex.

AMANDA

Hey...

ALEX

Hey.

Amanda hugs Alex.

AMANDA

Alex...would you like to go for lunch with me next week? I, uhh...I'd like to tell you a bit about our shift that night...if you're okay with that?

ALEX

Yes! I'd like that. Thank you!

INT. SAM & ALEX'S BEDROOM - CALGARY - DAY

Alex, in same outfit, is standing at end of bed. Sam's duty bag and open bankers box is on bed beside Sam's blue fuzzy vest and runners. Sasha is curled up, watching Alex carefully. Alex takes a deep breath and unzips duty bag.

REVEAL item at very top: a city map, folded open.

Alex stares at map a moment then picks it up. She examines the page the map is open to - the location of Sam's fall - and breathes in sharply. Then she frowns and tilts her head, remembering something...

INT. DISNEYLAND HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY (2000) (F.B.)

SAM is in a chair, wearing runners, shorts and t-shirt. A small backpack is at his feet. He holds a Disneyland map in his left hand, studying it carefully. The thumb of his other hand is under his chin, his index finger is on his cheek and his middle finger rests below his lip.

ALEX emerges from bathroom, wearing shorts and t-shirt, carrying her dress clothes from the wedding. She walks over to Sam. He looks up from map and smiles.

BACK TO:

INT. SAM & ALEX'S BEDROOM - CALGARY - DAY

Alex is still standing by bed, holding map and deep in thought. She leaves bedroom, map in hand. Sasha follows.

INT. SAM & ALEX'S KITCHEN - DAY

Harry is making dinner. Two place settings are on kitchen table. Alex walks into kitchen, map in hand and still folded open. Harry stops what he's doing.

Alex holds up map.

ALEX

I just found Sam's map in his duty bag.

HARRY

(sighs)

So much for pacing yourself...

ALEX

Harry...it was folded open to the location where he FELL!

HARRY

Oh.

ALEX

Maybe it's a clue?

HARRY

(frowns)

A clue?

ALEX

Yes! You know...for what I'm supposed to do!

Harry shifts from one foot to the other, uncomfortable.

HARRY

Uhhh...do about *what*?

ALEX

His death!

HARRY

Ummm...don't take this the wrong way...but maybe you don't have to DO anything?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HARRY (CONT'D)

I mean, don't ya think
grieving...and writing about...all
this...is *enough*?

ALEX

(shakes head)

No. I don't actually.

HARRY

(sighs)

Okay...

Harry picks up oven mitts from counter.

HARRY (CONT'D)

Ya hungry?

ALEX

Uh huh.

HARRY

Good. Dinner's ready.

ALEX

Thanks!

Alex sits at kitchen table. Harry puts on oven mitts and
pulls a casserole from oven.

ALEX (CONT'D)

What am I gonna do when you go
home again?

Harry places casserole on kitchen table.

HARRY

Well, you won't starve. I've been
putting meals in the freezer for
ya.

ALEX

Thank you!

HARRY

You're welcome. Oh...and I have an
answer to your earlier
question...about soul-mates...

ALEX

(smiles)

Oh yeah?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Harry nods, reaches into his pocket and pulls out a coin. He tosses it in air.

HARRY

Soul-mates are...

Harry catches coin and slaps it on top of opposite hand, then lifts his hand, dramatic.

HARRY CONT'D

Opposite sides of the same coin.

Harry picks up coin from back of hand and holds it up sideways in front of Alex. Then he slowly turns coin back and forth a few times. Alex watches a moment, thinking.

ALEX

The two destiny's are connected...

Harry nods and puts coin on table. Then he dishes out a helping of casserole onto Alex's plate.

HARRY

(winks)

And you thought I was just the guy who feeds you.

INT. SAM'S PARENT'S DINING ROOM - CALGARY - DAY (2000)

Alex is having lunch with Sam's mom, dad, Nick and Angela. A bucket of Kentucky Fried Chicken is on table. There is an empty chair where Sam should be. A framed photo of Sam is the place setting. The mood is sombre. Alex's dad hands bucket of chicken to Alex.

ALEX'S DAD

(strong Greek accent)

You need to eat!

ALEX

(smiles)

Oh...don't you worry about *that*.

Alex takes another piece of chicken. Sam's dad lets out a little sob then wipes his eyes and stands up. He squeezes Alex's shoulder and leaves room, upset.

SAM'S MOM

(to Alex)

He is *so* worried about you...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX

I know.

(sighs)

How are you doing?

Sam's mom shakes her head, fighting back tears.

SAM'S MOM

This is part of God's plan,
Alex...I *have* to believe that.

Alex puts her piece of chicken down. The table is quiet.

EXT. DOG PARK - CALGARY - DAY

Alex, water bottle in hand, and her dad walk Sasha along river. Alex throws ball for Sasha and she races after it.

ALEX

So...I gather you don't believe in
the possibility of some sort of...
divine plan unfolding here?

DAD

(smiles)

That would be correct. And for the
record, I personally don't like
the word, "believe."

ALEX

Why not?

DAD

I think it can be dangerous. Just
because you *believe* in something
doesn't make it real or true.
That's what's known as the
Tinkerbell effect.

Alex stops walking.

ALEX

What?

ALEX'S DAD

The Tinkerbell effect...the idea
that if people *believe* something,
it will occur. You know...

(claps hands once)

"Clap if you believe"...

EXT. DISNEYLAND GROUNDS - NIGHT (2000) (F.B.)

Sam and Alex are in crowd, waiting for fireworks to begin. They are standing behind the garbage can in front of Sleeping Beauty's Castle.

WOMAN'S VOICE (O.S.)
(over loudspeaker)
Believe...there's magic in the
air!

Sam stands on his tip toes, looking around for something.

ALEX
What are ya lookin' for?

SAM
Tinkerbell.

Alex looks at Sam, incredulous.

ALEX
You're looking for Tinkerbell?

SAM
(shrugs)
Yeah. She signals the start of the
show, 'member?

Alex throws back her head and laughs.

WOMAN'S VOICE (O.S.)
(over loudspeaker)
Believe...

Sam looks at Alex and grins, clapping his hands once.

ALEX
(puzzled)
What -

The crowd begins to OOH HH and AA HH. Sam and Alex turn to where everyone is looking.

REVEAL Tinkerbell flying across the sky.

POOH GRANDMA (O.S.)
Excuse me...

REVEAL the older woman wearing yellow Winnie the Pooh fuzzy jacket, 70, POOH GRANDMA, now standing beside Sam. She looks confused.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

POOH GRANDMA

(to Sam)

I have to get by.

ALEX'S DAD (V.O.)

Alex?

BACK TO:

EXT. DOG PARK - CALGARY - DAY

Alex blinks, disoriented. Both her dad and Sasha are looking at her.

ALEX

I'm sorry...what?

ALEX'S DAD

Are you okay?

ALEX

Ummm...yeah.

Alex throws Sasha's ball. She and her dad resume walking.

ALEX'S DAD

You have a good head on your shoulders. Your mother did a great job raising you.

ALEX

I know. But how do you explain all the weird stuff that's gone on?

ALEX'S DAD

Such as?

ALEX CONT'D

Such as Pooh Grandma falling and hitting her head at Disneyland and then one week later, Sam falling and hitting *his* head...

Alex pulls out Sam's pendants from beneath her shirt.

ALEX

Such as Sam's cross and Saint Jude medal going missing in the hospital...

Alex lets go of pendants and motions with her hands.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX (CONT'D)

Such as...Sam and I having a big fight about me not writing because I have to work at a *job*...and then he goes to work and dies on the job, so I get his income for the rest of my life!

Alex's dad stops walking so Alex does, too.

ALEX'S DAD

Do you want my honest answer? Or one that makes you feel better?

ALEX

(sighs)

The honest one...I guess.

Alex takes a drink of water. Sasha returns with ball and drops it at Alex's feet. Alex picks up ball and throws it. Sasha races off. Alex and her dad resume walking.

ALEX'S DAD

Do you remember when you were little and we used to look up at the stars together?

ALEX

(snorts)

Yeah. You said I was wasting my time wishing on shooting stars!

ALEX'S DAD

(smiles)

That sounds about right. Anyway... you know how when you look up at the stars and see, for example, the Big Dipper?

ALEX

Yeah...

ALEX'S DAD

Well...it's not as if the stars were *designed* to be in the shape of a giant soup ladle. Rather, that just happened to be the configuration of stars that *resulted* from the expansion of the Universe...right?

ALEX

Right.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ALEX'S DAD

Kay but then someone came along...

Alex's dad points to sky and with his index finger, makes the shape of the Big Dipper.

ALEX'S DAD

And connected those dots into a meaningful pattern and called it "The Big Dipper."

Alex nods slowly. Sasha comes up and drops the ball at her feet again. Alex looks at Sasha and shakes her head.

ALEX

No. That's enough for now. You're gonna exhaust yourself.

Alex's dad smiles. Sasha picks up her ball and walks alongside Alex and her dad.

ALEX'S DAD

What I'm trying to say is...the human brain *seeks* patterns, Alex. People have been searching for meaning in their surroundings for thousands of years...it's how we make sense of our world.

ALEX

(glum)

Gee. I wish I asked for an answer that made me *feel* better.

ALEX'S DAD

(laughs)

Okay...then how about this...

Alex's dad makes air quotes with fingers.

ALEX'S DAD

"Arrange whatever pieces come your way."

Alex nods slowly, thinking about this.

ALEX

Better. Who said that?

ALEX'S DAD

Virginia Woolf.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ALEX

Really?

ALEX'S DAD (CONT'D)

Uh huh. And it seems to me that's what *you're* doing in the wake of Sam's death. You're putting bits and pieces of *his* beliefs together with your *own* beliefs and experiences...in a way that makes sense to you.

ALEX

(snorts)

In other words, I'm finding meaning where there is none.

Alex takes a drink of water.

ALEX'S DAD

So? In my humble opinion, making your own meaning is *far* more productive than merely accepting the unlikely existence of some sort of pre-determined plan.

Alex and her dad stop and sit at bench overlooking river. Sasha lies down, ball in mouth. Alex looks at river.

ALEX

Dad, I just can't get it out of my head that there *has* to be a bigger reason for Sam's tragic death...

ALEX'S DAD

Alex?

Alex turns to look at her dad.

ALEX

Yeah?

ALEX'S DAD

I'm sorry. But I *don't* think Sam's death was a tragedy. I think it was an *accident*. How YOU choose to move forward with your own life is what will determine whether it was a tragedy or not.

Alex opens her mouth and closes it again.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

ALEX'S DAD

That's probably not what you
wanted to hear either...

ALEX

No. But maybe I needed to hear it.

Alex stands up and looks at river, arms crossed across
chest. Sasha immediately gets to her feet, ball in mouth.

ALEX'S DAD

Alex...

Alex turns and looks at her dad.

ALEX

You might be right about *that*...
(points at her dad)
But what you're *not* right about,
Dad, is the use of the word...

Alex makes air quotes with her fingers.

ALEX (CONT'D)

"Accident." An accident is
something that could *not* have been
prevented...like getting hit by a
meteor. Sam's death was not an
"accident." It could've *easily*
been prevented if a safety railing
had been in place.

Alex taps her temple with index finger.

ALEX (CONT'D)

It's more than a hat rack.
When we call something an
"accident," we take away the need
for accountability.

REVEAL Alex's dad look of surprise.

Behind Alex, Sasha releases the ball from her mouth and
it rolls down riverbank into river. Alex's dad nods
towards ball, now floating away.

Alex turns, sees ball and runs down riverbank, Sasha at
her heels. At the river's edge, Alex stops and looks at
Sasha, then points at ball.

ALEX

Go get it!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

Sasha looks at ball then at Alex but doesn't go after ball. Alex groans, grabs a nearby stick and tosses stick in river, so it lands near ball. Sasha races into river.

Alex climbs back up river bank, sits on bench and takes a drink of water. Alex's dad watches Sasha in the river.

Sasha is now swimming back to riverbank, ball in mouth.

ALEX'S DAD

How did you know she would bring
back the ball...and not the stick?

ALEX

Because she loves the ball more.

ALEX'S DAD

(smiles)

I see. So she's crystal clear on
her priorities?

Alex turns to look at her dad (still looking at river).

ALEX'S DAD (CONT'D)

How is your book coming along?

ALEX

I got one sentence written.

Alex's dad finally turns and looks at Alex.

ALEX'S DAD

I've got one sentence written.

ALEX

Dad!

ALEX'S DAD

(grins)

Sorry...old habits die hard.

Alex rolls her eyes good-naturedly then stands up.

ALEX

There are just so many
distractions...

ALEX'S DAD

There always will be.

Alex's dad stands up.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

ALEX'S DAD (CONT'D)

But you're a writer now. It's your *job* to tune them out...or at least create an environment in which they're minimized.

ALEX

But my phone rings ALL the time!

ALEX'S DAD

Then turn off the ringer.

Alex's dad smiles and taps his temple with index finger. Alex laughs and they begin walking back to car.

POV of camera watching them walk away, so we hear their conversation but don't see them speaking.

ALEX'S DAD

I meant to ask...have you had a chance to read "On the Road" yet?

ALEX

Uhhh Dad...

ALEX'S DAD

Yeah?

ALEX

Been a little busy...

ALEX'S DAD

Right!

Alex reaches over and gives her dad mock punch on arm.

INT. RESTAURANT - CALGARY - DAY (2000)

Alex and Amanda (not in uniform) are seated. A large brown envelope is on table. Both have coffee and water. Alex is eating a burger. Fries are still on her plate.

AMANDA

You're a strong woman, Alex.

ALEX

(snorts)

Which seems to be requiring an *awful* lot of fuel!

AMANDA

Sam would be very proud of you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX

I hope so...

AMANDA

I know so.

Alex manages a smile and eats a fry.

AMANDA

How are you doing?

ALEX

(shrugs)

Hangin' in there...

Alex takes another bite of burger.

AMANDA

Sam told me all about Disneyland during our shift. He said you guys had a blast!

Alex nods, chewing her burger.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

And Tom mentioned you've been noticing some...connections to things that happened at Disneyland?

Alex nods and takes a drink of water.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

(smiles)

Such as the Pooh stone.

ALEX

(frowns)

The Pooh stone?

AMANDA

Yeah. The Winnie the Pooh picture...on the headstone near Sam's grave?

ALEX

Oh...I gotcha! P-O-O-H Pooh.

AMANDA

Yes! I love that story...

ALEX

You don't think I'm nuts?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

AMANDA

Nope. But whaddya think it *means*?

Alex takes another drink of water, thinking a moment.

ALEX

I think it has to do with *compassion*. 'Cause when Pooh Grandma fell and hit her head, Sam immediately knelt down to help her. Then when Sam fell and hit *his* head, the K-9 officer helped *him*. And then when Tom fell on my front porch and hit *his* head, I -

Alex gasps.

EXT. SAM & ALEX'S FRONT PORCH - DAY (2000) (F.B)

Tom is sitting on top steps, distraught. He is bleeding from a cut above his eye. Alex gently holds an ice pack to his forehead and looks up at birch tree.

REVEAL sun shining down through yellow leaves, fluttering in slow motion. *Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah* song begins and...

INT. DISNEYLAND - SPLASH MOUNTAIN RIDE - DAY (F.B.)

Sam and Alex are in log car on Splash Mountain ride, moving through section where critters are singing *Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah*. Sam puts arm around Alex and she snuggles closer, smiling as log car floats closer to big drop.

Alex tilts her head up towards Sam and he kisses her. She smiles. Their log car drops and hurtles towards pool of water at bottom. People laugh, cheer, throw hands in air.

At bottom, the log car stops at platform. Sam gets out first and offers Alex his hand. She takes it.

ALEX

Did you *feel* that?!

SAM

Did I feel *what*?

ALEX

When we were floating at the top ...right before we dropped. It was like...*magic* or somethin'!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM

(grins)

I think it's called love, silly.

AMANDA (V.O.)

Penny for your thoughts?

BACK TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - CALGARY - DAY (2000)

Alex grins and slaps hand on table.

ALEX

It's LOVE!

AMANDA

Well, yeah...that's kinda what's
behind compassion, silly.

ALEX

(snaps fingers)

Right!

(points at Amanda)

But I also think the Pooh Stone is
an example of how *connected* we all
are...

AMANDA

(nods)

Yeah...through love!

Alex nods slowly then takes a drink of water. She nods
towards envelope on table.

ALEX

So what's in there?

Amanda picks up envelope, pulls out a computer printout
and places it on table.

AMANDA

It's the call-sheet from our shift
that night. Some stuff happened
that I wanted to tell you about.Alex leans over to get a better look. Amanda runs her
index finger slowly down page until she sees a certain
time. She taps time with her finger.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Here...at 4:49...this was weird...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Amanda looks up at Alex.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

We were stopped on the side of the road and this *huge* semi barreled past us, so I made a comment about how dangerous it is, working on the road...and Sam looked at me kinda funny and said...

EXT. SIDE OF MAJOR ROAD - CALGARY - NIGHT (F.B)

Sam and Amanda are sitting in police car. Amanda is in driver's seat. There is little traffic. The car they pulled over is in front of them, illuminated by their flashing lights. Amanda is writing out ticket.

SAM

I just had deja vu.

Amanda stops writing out ticket and looks over at Sam.

AMANDA

Really?

SAM

Yeah...when that semi went by. A coupla years ago, I was doing a traffic stop on this same road and a semi came *flying* up behind me and I remember looking in the rearview mirror and thinking... "Ohh...so *this* is what it feels like right before you're gonna die."

BACK TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - CALGARY - DAY

Alex's mouth is hanging open.

ALEX

Sam said *THAT* a few hours before he actually *did* die?

AMANDA

Yes!

The waitress comes over and tops up Alex's water glass.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX
(to waitress)
Thanks.

Alex takes a big drink of water.

AMANDA
(clears throat)
And something else happened that I
thought was a bit odd...

Amanda looks at printout and runs her finger a bit
further down the page.

AMANDA
Here...just after 5:00 a.m.

Amanda looks up at Alex.

AMANDA
Sam wanted to go home.

ALEX
Home?!

AMANDA (CONT'D)
Yes! In fact, we were on the way
to your place but another call
came in, so we took it.

ALEX
(frowns)
Why would Sam want to come *home* at
five o'clock in the morn -

Alex gasps and her hand flies up to her mouth.

INT. POLICE CAR - CALGARY - NIGHT (F.B)

Sam and Amanda are in police car. Amanda is driving.
There is little traffic.

AMANDA
It's a little early to swing by
and say hello, isn't it?

SAM
She'll be up.

AMANDA
At *five* a.m.?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM

Yup. She promised she'd get up early and do some writing before going in to work.

Police radio crackles to life.

POLICE DISPATCHER (O.S.)

We've got a B&E in progress...

Sam and Amanda look at each other, grinning.

SAM

Let's roll!

Amanda immediately turns police car around and races off in different direction.

BACK TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - CALGARY - DAY (2000)

Alex is now leaned back in booth, her eyes closed.

AMANDA

You okay?

ALEX

Nope.

Alex opens her eyes and takes another big drink of water.

AMANDA

I'm sorry. I didn't mean to upset you...

ALEX

No, no. It's not *your* fault. You're just the messenger.

AMANDA

So...*did* you get up early that morning and write?

ALEX

Nope. When my alarm went off, I pushed snooze, Amanda. I didn't get outta bed till six...right around the time Sam was dying on the lunchroom floor.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Alex holds up her wrist, so that Sam's Timex is facing Amanda. Alex taps watch.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Time was up! Sam did *everything* he could to get me to take my writing seriously. But I didn't. I waited him for him to die.

AMANDA

Alex...

Alex takes last drink of water and puts empty glass down.

ALEX

What?

AMANDA

Don't be hard on yourself.

ALEX

(snorts)

It's kinda hard *not* to be.

AMANDA

Well...are you writing *now*?

ALEX

I'm trying...

The waitress fills Alex's water glass again then leaves.

AMANDA

I have never seen anybody drink so much water.

ALEX

Tell me about it! Ever since Sam died, I can't seem to get enough. I think it's a soul thing...

AMANDA

(tilts head)

How so?

ALEX

Well...it's almost like whenever my soul wants me to...pay attention to something, I get *really* thirsty...which is an awful lot these days!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Amanda nods slowly. Alex looks at printout again and runs her finger down the list of times, then stops and reads a time out loud.

ALEX (CONT'D)

5:49...

INT. WAREHOUSE - CALGARY - DAY (2000) (F.B.)

The warehouse is dark. Alarm is still going off. The K-9 officer and his dog are walking from a hallway into a large office. Sam follows close behind. Both officers carry lit flashlights. Sam tilts his head towards his shoulder and speaks softly into his radio.

SAM

With K-9.

ALEX (V.O.)

(at same time as Sam)

With K-9.

BACK TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - CALGARY - DAY (2000)

Alex, finger still on printout, is looking at Amanda.

AMANDA

That was the last thing we heard Sam say.

ALEX

(anxious)

He's a good guy, right...the K-9 officer?

AMANDA

Absolutely! Sam was in good hands, Alex. He was with people who loved him. *Everybody* did their best...you need to know that.

ALEX

I do.

AMANDA

Problem is...he should've *never* fallen in the first place.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX

Speaking of which...

Alex reaches into her purse and pulls out Sam's map, which is still folded open. She hands it to Amanda.

ALEX (CONT'D)

I found Sam's map in his duty bag. It was at the very top...folded open to the location of his fall.

Amanda frowns and closes map, so she can see front cover.

AMANDA

This isn't Sam's map. It's mine. I was wondering where it ended up...

ALEX

Oh. So...you were the one reading it that night?

AMANDA

(shakes head)

No. Sam was.

ALEX

(frowns)

But wasn't he *driving*?

AMANDA

No. I was.

ALEX

But...Sam *always* drove.

AMANDA

Not that night he didn't. In fact, he specifically asked me to drive.

ALEX

Really?

AMANDA

Yup. And he specifically asked to partner with me that night, too.

ALEX

Had you guys been partners before?

AMANDA

Nope.

Amanda leans forward towards Alex.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

AMANDA (CONT'D)

That's why I wanted to talk to you! I think Sam *chose* me to work with that night because he knew I was the one person on the team who would for SURE follow up with you.

ALEX

Why?

AMANDA

Because I'm the only police woman!

ALEX

Amanda...are you saying Sam *knew* he was gonna die that night?

AMANDA

No. I don't think *Sam* knew. But I wonder if maybe his *soul* did?

Alex leans back.

ALEX

Wow...okay.

Amanda slides printout across table over to Alex.

AMANDA

You keep that...

Amanda slides city map (folded open) over to Alex.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

That, too.

Alex nods and puts printout and map in envelope.

INT. SAM & ALEX'S KITCHEN - CALGARY - DAY

Harry is unloading dishwasher when Alex comes in back door, envelope in hand. Sasha races up and Alex pets her.

HARRY

Well? How was lunch?

Alex holds up envelope.

ALEX

I just got a play-by-play of the last hours of Sam's life.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HARRY

Oh! Are you okay?

ALEX

Yeah...I am, actually.

HARRY

Good!

Harry picks up a piece of paper from kitchen table and hands it to Alex.

HARRY CONT'D

Here are the calls that came in while you were gone.

Alex looks at list of names and her shoulders slump.

ALEX

Oh man...

HARRY

Goo, you don't have to return them all. People are just checking in.

ALEX

I know, but -

The doorbell RINGS. Sasha charges to front door, barking.

HARRY

I'll get it.

Harry nods to oven.

HARRY

Take a peek at that lasagne, will ya? I don't want it too crispy.

Harry goes to front door. Alex opens oven door.

HARRY (O.S.)

Goo!

Alex closes oven door and sighs.

INT. ALEX'S LIVING ROOM - DAY (2000)

The K-9 officer, in uniform, is standing by front door, ball cap in hand. Alex walks over but obviously doesn't recognize him. Harry returns to kitchen.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX

Hi.

K-9 OFFICER

Hi Alex...we spoke on the phone shortly after Sam's death. And we actually *did* meet briefly at his funeral, but you may not remember. I mean, there were an awful lot of people there...

(clears throat)

Anyway, I'm the K-9 officer that went in the building with Sam.

ALEX

(surprised)

Oh...hi.

K-9 OFFICER

Is this a good time?

ALEX

Yes! Of course. Come on in...

Alex sits on couch. K-9 officer sits in chair.

K-9 OFFICER

I, uhh...I wanted to thank you for that letter you wrote me.

ALEX

(smiles)

You're welcome.

K-9 OFFICER

That was...uhhh...that was the nicest thank you letter I've ever received.

K-9 officer reaches into hat and pulls out folded letter.

K-9 OFFICER (CONT'D)

(sheepish)

I even keep it in my hat...

ALEX

I *really* appreciate everything you did to try and save Sam.

K-9 officer nods and looks at floor, taking a moment to compose himself. Then he looks at Alex again.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

K-9 OFFICER (CONT'D)

I hear you're writing a book?

ALEX

Yeah. I -

Alex's phone rings. She jumps, startled.

HARRY (O.S.)

I'll get it!

ALEX

(sighs)

I'm trying to.

K-9 officer holds up letter.

K-9 OFFICER

Well, if this is what you can do
with a *letter*...then the book
you're writing is gonna move
mountains.

ALEX

Thanks! But I meant what I said. I
am so thankful you got Sam
breathing again...

K-9 officer looks down and tucks letter into hat,
blinking back tears.

K-9 OFFICER

(softly)

For all the good it did...

ALEX

But it did!

K-9 officer looks up.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Because of you, Sam was able to
donate his organs AND I got to
spend the entire day with him in
the ICU.

K-9 officer points to himself.

K-9 OFFICER

It was because of *me* that Sam
ended up IN the ICU! Alex...I *told*
him to go in the building with me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ALEX

You did?

K-9 OFFICER

Yes! When I arrived at the
warehouse...

EXT. WAREHOUSE - CALGARY - NIGHT (2000) (F.B.)

Sam is standing with the employee and the other officers
on scene: Scott, Kurt, Amanda and Tom.The K-9 officer walks with dog over to group. He quickly
looks at each officer then points at Sam.

K-9 OFFICER

You! Let's go.

Sam nods then he, K-9 officer and dog walk to warehouse.

BACK TO:

INT. ALEX'S LIVING ROOM - DAY (2000)

Alex nods, listening carefully.

K-9 OFFICER (CONT'D)

I chose Sam because he was the
best officer to clear the
building. And I knew *that*
because...

K-9 officer points at himself.

K-9 OFFICER

I was the one who trained him HOW
to search buildings...back in
recruit class!

ALEX

Oh.

K-9 officer stands up and runs his hand through his hair.

K-9 OFFICER

Sam KNEW how to do his job. And he
was *very* good at it. It wasn't *his*
fault...you need to know that.

ALEX

I know.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

K-9 OFFICER

There should have been a safety railing there.

ALEX

I know.

Alex takes a drink of water. K-9 officer looks down at his hat a moment then back at Alex.

K-9 OFFICER

There's something else...

ALEX

Okay.

K-9 OFFICER

About a month before Sam fell, the exact same thing happened to me.

ALEX

What?!

K-9 OFFICER

(nods)

One minute, I was clearing the second level of a building...and the next thing I knew, I stepped right through a false ceiling and landed on a desk, one level down.

(shrugs)

But I wasn't hurt, so I just dusted myself off and kept going.

REVEAL Alex's look of surprise.

K-9 OFFICER (CONT'D)

In other words, what happened to Sam wasn't some sort of...freak accident. We go into unsafe workplaces *all* the time.

ALEX

(sighs)

Oh boy...

The sound of an approaching helicopter is heard. K-9 officer tilts his head, listening.

K-9 OFFICER

That's us.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ALEX

How can you tell?

K-9 OFFICER

(smiles)

It's like a mother knows the cry
of her own baby.

K-9 OFFICER

(gasps)

Oh Alex...oh, I am SO sorry!

ALEX

(shakes head)

It's okay. I haven't let my heart
go there yet.

(shrugs)

You can only deal with so much at
one time, right?

K-9 OFFICER

I can't *believe* I said that.

ALEX

It's okay...honest.

K-9 officer stands up, walks to window and looks out. He
is quiet a moment.

K-9 OFFICER

Do you know the story of how we
got our police helicopter?

ALEX

No.

K-9 officer turns around and looks at Alex.

K-9 OFFICER

Do you remember the officer who
was killed a few years ago...when
he was putting down a spike belt
during a car chase?

ALEX

Yes.

K-9 officer walks back to chair and sits down.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

K-9 OFFICER

Well, after his death, his sister raised the money so the police service could buy a helicopter...so we wouldn't have to do as many dangerous ground chases.

ALEX

Really?

K-9 OFFICER

Yeah. Unfortunately...it seems to take a tragedy for positive change to come about.

Alex nods slowly, processing this.

INT. RESTAURANT - CALGARY - DAY (2000)

Alex, Charlie, Mark and the Cowboy (Sam's police recruit classmates, not in uniform) are having lunch and chatting. Everyone is drinking beer.

SUPERIMPOSE: One month later...

Alex puts her burger down and lets out a low whistle.

ALEX

Twelve thousand bucks! Wow...

CHARLIE

(grins)

Yeah wow...especially since cops are *notoriously* cheap!

MARK

(to Alex)

So...any ideas on what we should do with the moolah?

ALEX

Yes! I do, actually...

CHARLIE

Really?

ALEX

Uh huh.

COWBOY

Let's hear it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The cowboy takes a drink of beer.

ALEX

I think we should tackle the issue that led to Sam's death.

CHARLIE

How so?

ALEX

Well...Sam fell because there was no safety railing in place to warn him of the danger, right?

MARK

Right...

ALEX

But the Detective told me that the company's employees went up to that second level on a regular basis, so *they* were familiar with the danger...

MARK

Right...

ALEX

But Sam, of course, wouldn't have been. So what if we...the memorial fund...raised public awareness about the importance of making workplaces safe for *everyone*, including emergency responders?

Charlie nods slowly.

MARK

(frowns)

Kay...but *how* would we raise public awareness?

ALEX

(shrugs)

I dunno. Maybe we could make a public service announcement...you know, that airs on TV?

CHARLIE

(nods slowly)

I like it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MARK

Me too.

COWBOY

Let's get 'er done.

Cowboy raises beer bottle. The others raise theirs and clink bottles. Alex takes a sip of beer.

ALEX

Can I ask you guys something?

MARK

Sure.

Alex pulls out Sam's pendants from beneath her shirt.

ALEX

I don't know if you know this but when Sam fell, he was wearing his baptismal cross and Saint Jude medal...he always wore them to work. But then they went missing the entire time he was in hospital...and didn't show up until after his heart was removed.

The cowboy's eyes widen. Charlie shifts, uncomfortable.

MARK

And...

ALEX

And...Saint Jude is the Patron Saint of police officers! So is Saint Michael the Archangel...and Sam died on Saint Michael's Day!

CHARLIE

(wary)

Yeah...

ALEX

(shrugs)

So maybe there's...you know...something bigger going on here? I mean, maybe we're *supposed* to be doing something with Sam's Memorial Fund?

Charlie takes a drink of beer. The other two are quiet.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

CHARLIE

Well...I can't speak for these guys but *I'm* here today because Sam isn't. So if there's *something* we can do to help make sure what happened to him doesn't happen to someone else, I say we do it.

(shrugs)

It's just the right thing to do.

Mark and the cowboy nod in agreement. Alex grins and holds up Sam's pendants.

ALEX

Okay...but for the record...I wasn't *supposed* to be given Sam's personal effects that morning...

INT. SMALL PRIVATE ROOM IN HOSPITAL - CALGARY - DAY
(2000) (F.B.)

Alex reaches into plastic bag, pulls out Sam's watch and puts it on her wrist. ER Nurse walks to door. Alex reaches back into bag, pulls out Sam's gold chain, frowns and searches, frantic, for something at bottom of bag.

ALEX

(to nurse)

Wait!

The ER nurse, now at door, turns around.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Where's his cross and Saint Jude medal?

ER NURSE

Pardon me?

ALEX (CONT'D)

Sam's cross and Saint Jude medal!

Alex holds up Sam's gold chain.

ALEX

They were on his chain...but they're not in the bag!

ER NURSE

Oh. I'm not sure. I'll go ask.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ER Nurse leaves. Alex puts Sam's chain around her neck. Another male police officer, SAM'S INSPECTOR, 50, enters room and walks over to Alex.

INSPECTOR

(nods to plastic bag)

I am so sorry...but I'm going to have to take that back. It's evidence. I'm not sure why they gave that to you...

Alex hesitates a moment. Everyone in room watches her but nobody says anything. She hands plastic bag to Inspector but keeps the watch and chain.

BACK TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - CALGARY - DAY (2000)

Charlie, Mark and the Cowboy are all staring at Alex.

ALEX

If that hadn't happened, then I wouldn't have *known* Sam's pendants went missing the entire day.

Alex drops Sam's pendants back down front of shirt.

ALEX

(smiles)

Just sayin'...

Alex takes a drink of beer.

EXT. ALEX'S BACK YARD - CALGARY - NIGHT

It is a clear night, the stars are visible. Alex and her dad are sitting in reclining lawn chairs, staring up at night sky. They both have blankets and coffee mugs.

SUPERIMPOSED: Two months later

ALEX

"And tonight the stars'll be out...and don't you know that God is Pooh Bear?"

Alex's dad turns to look at Alex.

ALEX'S DAD

You read "On the Road"!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX

Yup.

(glum)

And Kerouac is *clearly* saying God doesn't exist. God is just like Winnie the Pooh..a made-up character!

ALEX'S DAD

Not necessarily. Perhaps Kerouac is implying that God exists IN our imagination...in our ability to *create* characters...

(smiles)

...or *stories*, based on connections between seemingly unrelated events.

Alex snaps her reclining chair upright.

ALEX

So you *don't* think I'm crazy?

ALEX'S DAD

No. I just think you have a very vivid imagination that was...torpedoed to the next level by an extremely traumatic event. But *because* of that, you may be closer than most to what we call "The Divine."

ALEX

Oh.

ALEX'S DAD

Many of us spend our entire *lives* looking for that kind of connection...

Alex's dad looks into his coffee cup.

ALEX'S DAD (CONT'D)

Unfortunately, we tend to look in the wrong places...like the bottom of a bottle.

Alex's dad takes a sip then leans back in chair and looks up at night sky. Alex watches him carefully.

ALEX'S DAD (CONT'D)

The stars are always out, Alex. It's *us* who can't always see them.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ALEX

Dad...what are you saying?

ALEX'S DAD

(sighs)

That maybe *I* need to have a bit more faith in things.

Alex's dad turns to look at her and smiles.

ALEX'S DAD (CONT'D)

But on a lighter note...I must say it's good to see your enthusiasm returning.

ALEX

I'm gettin' there...

ALEX'S DAD

Did you know the word enthusiasm originally meant "being at one with the energy of God?"

ALEX

(laughs)

No!

ALEX'S DAD

(smiles)

True story. It comes from the Greek word -

ALEX

(holds up hand)

Dad...

ALEX'S DAD

(smiles)

Sorry.

Alex's dad leans back again and resumes looking at stars, so Alex does, too. They are both quiet a moment.

ALEX

So...what we see as a star is actually just the light that *came* from that star a long time ago...right?

ALEX'S DAD

Right.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ALEX

But the actual star itself may or may not still exist, right?

ALEX'S DAD

Correct. But chances are very good that it does. It takes a *long* time for a star to burn out.

ALEX

Kay...but regardless of whether the original star stills exist or not, it's *light* obviously still exists...right?

Alex points to sky.

ALEX CONT'D

Because we're *seeing* it.

ALEX'S DAD

Right...

INT. SAM & ALEX'S BEDROOM - CALGARY - NIGHT (2000) (F.B.)

Alex is asleep in bed, facing window. She opens eyes and breathes in sharply.

REVEAL a reddish-orange light framing bedroom window.

Alex sits up and stares, stunned, at window. The light slowly dissipates.

BACK TO:

EXT. ALEX'S BACK YARD - CALGARY - NIGHT

Alex turns to look at her dad.

ALEX

So then who's to say a part of *us* doesn't live on after the death of our bodies?

ALEX'S DAD

(confused)

As *starlight*?

ALEX

No. Not exactly...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX'S DAD

(smiles)

I sure hope you put that
imagination of yours to good use.

ALEX

I'm trying...

Alex's dad is quiet a moment. He takes another sip.

ALEX'S DAD

Did you know I was accepted to
Oxford at one time?

Alex looks at her dad but he continues looking at stars.

ALEX

No!

ALEX'S DAD

I was. For English, of course. But
in the end, I decided not to go.

ALEX

Why?!

ALEX'S DAD

Because I thought it would be too
much work. I...uhh...
(clears throat)
I knew I had to choose between
doing the work...or drinking.

Alex's dad finally turns and looks at her.

ALEX'S DAD (CONT'D)

I think you know what I chose.

Alex nods.

ALEX'S DAD (CONT'D)

I'm not saying you're going to
follow my path, Alex. I'm saying
you have to be very careful of
allowing too many distractions to
pull you away from your writing.

ALEX

Well...I *did* turn the ringer off
my phone.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ALEX'S DAD

That's a start. But honestly, I am concerned you might be trying to take on too much with Sam's memorial fund. Workplace safety is a very complicated issue...

ALEX

(sighs)

I know you probably don't believe in the existence of soul mates, Dad. But *I* do. And I'm pretty sure Sam and I were soul mates...but not *just* in the romantic sense.

ALEX'S DAD

How so?

ALEX

Well, Harry came up with a good definition...he said soul mates are opposite sides of the same coin. In other words...our two destiny's are connected.

ALEX'S DAD

But Alex...Sam's destiny is *done*. Yours is just beginning!

ALEX

I know. But I think his death is pointing me in the direction I need to go. And I feel very strongly that I'm supposed to follow BOTH paths...writing *and* workplace safety.

ALEX'S DAD

(sighs)

Okay...but then be prepared for *both* paths to take a lot longer.

ALEX

I have time.

ALEX'S DAD

Oh...you'll be surprised how fast it goes! And there might be other things you want to do with your time...

ALEX

Such as?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ALEX'S DAD

Alex...you're only thirty-two. I know you're still very much grieving Sam's death but...

ALEX

But?

ALEX'S DAD

Well, you might fall in love again one day...maybe have a family?

Alex sighs, leans back in chair and looks up at stars. Her dad continues to look at her.

ALEX

That would be the normal thing to do, wouldn't it? That *would* be the happy Disney ending we're used to.

ALEX'S DAD

(softly)

There's a reason for that.

Alex turns and looks at her dad.

ALEX

That's also why things don't change.

REVEAL Alex's dad look of surprise.

Alex leans back and looks up at stars again.

ALEX

But you're right...I *don't* want to spend the rest of my life staring at the past...living with the memory of a man who no longer exists. I want to be happy again.

ALEX'S DAD

Good!

Alex turns and looks at her dad.

ALEX'S DAD (CONT'D)

You were *born* happy. You were the happiest kid I'd ever seen...

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY (1975) (F.B.)

Alex is dancing with her Mom, Dad, Harry and Dale. Harry and Dale are holding Alex's hands and swinging her arms as she dances, excited. A record player is playing the song, "Do You Believe in Magic?" by the Lovin' Spoonful.

BACK TO:

EXT. ALEX'S BACK YARD - CALGARY - NIGHT (2000)

Alex is smiling at her dad.

ALEX'S DAD

Just be prepared to do the work to get yourself happy again.

ALEX

Whaddya mean?

ALEX'S DAD

Happiness isn't something you wait for, Alex. After the loss you've experienced, you're going to have to work for it.

Alex nods slowly and takes a sip of hot chocolate.

ALEX'S DAD (CONT'D)

Do what you have to do in the wake of Sam's death. Learn from the past but don't get stuck there. Choose your priorities, stay true to your path, stay focused, develop good habits, pace yourself...and for Heaven's sake, deal with your demons.

ALEX

Dad...

ALEX'S DAD

Forgive my candour, Alex, but I suspect you have spent so much time and energy focusing on all the...spiritual signs and potential meaning in Sam's death partly because you don't want to feel the hurt.

Alex swallows nervously, blinking back tears.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX'S DAD (CONT'D)

But you have lost an *awful* lot.
Sam was a good man. He uhhh...
(clears throat)
He gave you what I never could.

ALEX

Dad...

ALEX'S DAD

Let me finish. You and Sam didn't
get the chance to start a family.
So I *strongly* suggest you deal
with the emotions pertaining to
that...sooner rather than later.

Alex nods, wiping a tear away.

ALEX'S DAD (CONT'D)

Trust me, pretending the pain
isn't there isn't going to make it
go away. Acknowledge the loss.
Feel the anger. *Feel* the *hurt*...
(shakes head)
Don't just push those feelings
down...or else you'll spend the
rest of your life trying to *keep*
them down.

Alex's dad takes a sip from his mug.

ALEX

(softly)

Okay.

Alex's dad sighs, leans back and looks up at stars. Alex
does the same. Alex's dad suddenly points to the sky.

ALEX'S DAD

A shooting star!

Alex looks to where he's pointing and grins.

ALEX

Don't worry...I won't ask you to
make a wish.

ALEX'S DAD

(smiles)

Too late.

EXT. CEMETERY - CALGARY - DAY (2003)

It is a beautiful autumn day. The sun is shining and yellow leaves fall gently to ground. Alex is kneeling on ground, facing Sam's headstone. Her hair is longer. There are several flower bouquets in front of headstone.

SUPERIMPOSE: September 29th, 2003...the third anniversary of Sam's death

ALEX (V.O.)

I told ya this wasn't a typical
fairy tale...

Alex smiles at Sam's headstone. She reaches over and gently touches photo on headstone.

ALEX (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Sam gave me everything he could in
life...

REVEAL photo on stone: smiling Sam, wearing blue vest and sitting on horse, on King Arthur carrousel at Disneyland.

ALEX (V.O.) (CONT'D)

And what he couldn't, he gave to
me in death.

Alex, still kneeling, turns and looks behind her.

REVEAL Alex's mom, dad, Harry, Katrina, Dale, Tom, the K-9 officer, Charlie, Mark and the cowboy, Sam's mom, dad, Nick and Angela all quietly visiting a few feet away.

ALEX (V.O.) (CONT'D)

And then a whole bunch of other
wonderful people stepped in to
help me find my way.

Alex turns back again and looks at Sam's photo.

EXT. POLICE STATION IN SUBURBS - CALGARY - NIGHT (F.B.)

Sam, duty bag in hand, is standing by back door, facing street. He is wearing blue vest and runners. His expression is difficult to read.

ALEX V/O

I think I know now what Sam was
thinking in that moment...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Alex is in Jeep, about to drive away. She glances at Sam and waves, cheerful.

SAM (V.O.)
Are you gonna get this, Alex? Are you gonna figure it out?

Sam manages a small smile.

SAM (V.O.)
Yeah...you will.

Sam gives a little wave then turns and goes inside.

CHARLIE (O.S.)
Hey...

BACK TO:

EXT. CEMETERY - CALGARY - DAY (2003)

Charlie, Mark and the cowboy are now standing behind Alex. Mark is holding a large rectangular box.

Alex stands up.

ALEX
(grins)
Hey guys...
(points at box)
What's *that*?

MARK
It's for you! It's from the police service. We thought today would be a good day to give it to you...

Mark sets box down on Sam's grave.

MARK (CONT'D)
It's heavy!

COWBOY
Go on...open it!

Alex drops to her knees and opens box. She pulls out a large commemorative sword inside a wood and glass case. She looks up at Mark, Charlie and the cowboy and smiles.

ALEX
Thank you!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX'S DAD (O.S.)

The sword and the stone.

Alex whips around.

REVEAL Alex's dad standing behind her.

ALEX

What?

Alex's dad nods towards the sword.

ALEX'S DAD

The sword...

Alex's dad nods towards Sam's headstone.

ALEX'S DAD (CONT'D)

And the stone.

(smiles)

That was your favourite book when
you were little.

Alex looks over at her mom, who is watching, and smiles.

ALEX

I know.

Alex turns back to her dad.

ALEX (CONT'D)

You *do* know this photo...

(points to Sam's
headstone)

Was taken on King Arthur's
carrousel?

ALEX'S DAD

Yup.

(smiles)

Just helping you put all the
pieces together.

Alex opens her mouth to reply but Amanda, in uniform and holding flowers, joins group. She is a bit out of breath.

AMANDA

Sorry I'm late. You are *never*
gonna believe what just happened!

ALEX

What?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Amanda holds up flowers.

AMANDA

I just went into a flower shop to buy these for Sam...

INT. FLOWER STORE - CALGARY - DAY (F.B.)

Amanda, in uniform, is standing at till. The FLORIST, 50, is wrapping her bouquet of flowers in paper.

FLORIST

What's the occasion?

AMANDA

They're for my partner's grave.

FLORIST

Oh. I'm sorry!

(tilts head)

But do you mind me asking which cemetery? It's just that my daughter is buried near a police officer...

AMANDA

(frowns)

Really?

SHOP OWNER

Mmmm...hmmm...

(smiles)

Her headstone has a Winnie the Pooh on it.

Amanda opens her mouth and closes it again.

BACK TO:

EXT. CEMETERY - CALGARY - DAY (2003)

Alex's mouth is hanging open. Amanda points to the Winnie the Pooh headstone a few graves over.

AMANDA

In a city of more than a million people...what are the *chances* of that, Alex?

Alex looks at Sam's grave and slowly smiles.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX

Pretty slim, I'd say.

The CHOPPING sound of police helicopter is heard.

POV of camera looking down, from helicopter, at Alex and others at Sam's grave as it flies over.

Alex looks up, smiles, then claps her hands once.

FADE OUT.

THE END

Credits roll. Suggest song, "I Lived," by One Republic.

Series of photos & video clips, depicting real-life people & events:

Photo of "Alex" & "Sam" on beach

Clip of "Sam" receiving police badge from Chief

Photo of "Sam" on King Arthur Carrousel at Disneyland

Photo of "Alex" (taken by media) at Sam's funeral.

Photo of "Alex" with her published book

Clip from "Sam's" Memorial Fund's Fairytale PSA ("Once there was a girl and a guy...")

Clip from Memorial Fund's Police PSA (of "Sam's" fall).

Clip from Memorial Fund's safety video of "Amanda" talking about night of "Sam's" death.

Clip from Memorial Fund's safety video of K-9 officer talking about "Sam's" death.

Clip from Memorial Fund's Picnic PSA (traffic safety).

Clip of "Alex" delivering safety presentation.

Clip of "Charlie" delivering safety presentation.