

So Many Words

By

James Redd

Copyright 2009

[jameswredd@gmail.com](mailto:jameswredd@gmail.com)

EXT. NOBLE FAMILY BACKYARD - DUSK

A nice family backyard. Green grass trimmed and edged, blue swimming pool, red plastic lawn furniture. So clean it looks unused.

KATE (V.O.)

There are so many words.

KATE NOBLE (40) comes stomping out the back door followed by BRIAN NOBLE (42). He is yelling, she is crying.

KATE (V.O.)

The dictionary lists nearly a hundred thousand.

Kate turns around and yells back at Brian, whose face turns from anger to utter confusion. Fear creeps in.

KATE (V.O.)

When we used to fight I could scarcely find words.

Brian moves toward Kate, she moves away. She walks to the fence near the playhouse and doesn't turn around even though he continues to speak.

Through the gaps in the fence she sees a young couple walking on the sidewalk.

KATE (V.O.)

So I wouldn't say anything.

Brian yells at Kate, who continues to look through the fence. The young couple are talking and laughing.

KATE (V.O.)

And eventually Brian would run out of words too.

Car headlights illuminate Kate's face in streaks of light. Brian is pacing along the fence. The young couple are right in front of Kate.

KATE (V.O.)

So many words.

As the car passes the couple, bullet holes appear in the fence in a jagged line.

KATE (V.O.)

Why are the harshest ones the easiest to say?

The young couple fall to the pavement. Kate stands still, eyes wide.

She turns around and Brian is on the ground, blood on his shirt.

KATE (V.O.)

If only we could learn to use the  
meaningful ones first, we might run  
out of time.

Kate runs over to Brian, screaming his name. He reaches out to her.

She holds his head in her lap as his mouth moves so slightly that the words cannot be made out.

KATE (V.O.)

Then it would be too late, and  
those words would die in our  
mouths.

Brian stops moving. He is dead.

KATE (V.O.)

So many words.

Kate sobs and curls herself around him, holding him.