

THE NOTE

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FADE IN:

INT. OFFICE - DAY

An office desk almost cleared of it's chattels.

BEN (46), a solemn faced business man retrieves the last of his personal items and places them neatly into a box. He drops his work keys on the desk.

BEN collects his box and walks out.

EXT. BUS STOP - DAY

BEN sits all forlorn on the bench. Intently stares into the box at a work certificate. There is a the hint of a tear.

A cheerful looking YOUNG LADY (24) in a summery dress sits at the end of the bench. She receives a cursory nod from BEN before he immediately averts his eyes to stare blankly again into the box.

The YOUNG LADY catches a few more glimpses of BEN. She reaches into her bag, finds a folded up parchment paper note.

BEN stands as the bus arrives.

As BEN walks onto the bus, the YOUNG LADY touches his shoulder and places the note into his box. She smiles.

The bus drives off with the YOUNG LADY seated back on the bus stop bench.

INT. ON THE BUS - DAY

As the bus moves on, BEN takes out the note and reads.

His facial expression changes from sadness to curiosity.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

A newer, bigger, brighter office. Very 21st century, high tech, huddle rooms, open planned.

SUPER: *SOMETIME LATER*

A contented BEN in casual clothes stands alongside his even more casually-attired NEW BOSS (35), who shows him around.

They shake hands as the NEW BOSS hands BEN his security tag.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

BEN strides along the street with a coffee in his hand. He is happier than happy.

A homeless girl, BIANCA (22), scruffy and unwashed sits on the street corner with a few plastic bags which contain her life's possessions. She holds a takeaway cup, her head bowed.

BEN glances down at BIANCA. She looks up and pushes the cup towards him. Her eyes are so sorrowful.

He hurries past.

After a few steps, BEN looks back at BIANCA. Her head is again bowed.

After a beat, BEN disappears around a street corner.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY (LATER)

As the afternoon shadows grow longer, BIANCA sleeps propped up against the building, her cup still grasped tightly in her hands.

BEN walks up and places a rolled twenty dollar note into the cup. BIANCA awakes with a start.

She looks at the money and gives him a weak smile. BEN smiles back and continues on his way.

BIANCA hurriedly grabs the twenty bucks from the cup. She realises there is a parchment paper note rolled into the money.

She shoves the money in her pocket and then studies the note.

EXT. AIRPORT - DAY

A plane comes in to land.

EXT. AIRPORT ARRIVALS - DAY

People await outside the airport arrivals.

SUPER: *SOMETIME LATER*

Out from the ARRIVALS, with duffel bag in tow, a less scruffy, much cleaner BIANCA walks. She looks around.

Her MOTHER (52) runs to give her a warm hug. Her FATHER (54) stands back.

BIANCA moves from her MOTHER's arms and looks nervously at her FATHER. He walks up slowly, smiles and embraces her.

Tears of joy fall from BIANCA's face.

EXT. SUBURBAN SHOPS - DAY

A Newsagent. Walking out is ANNA (35), slight build and impeccably dressed complete with a designer handbag. She has a scratch lottery ticket in her hand.

BIANCA passes ANNA and enters the store.

A MAN runs down the footpath. A scuffle with ANNA and within a flash she is on the ground and her handbag is gone. The MAN and handbag disappear down the street.

Blood streams from ANNA's elbow.

BIANCA runs from the store to assist. Grabs a pack of travel tissues from her purse and covers the wound. She helps ANNA to her feet, who is very dazed and upset.

BIANCA retrieves the scratch ticket on the ground.

Before she leaves she hands the scratch ticket and a parchment paper note to ANNA.

INT. NEWSAGENT - DAY

The same NEWSAGENT. ANNA walks in with a bandaged elbow.

SUPER: *SOMETIME LATER*

ANNA passes the spent lottery ticket to the AGENT (60). He examines it, taps in some digits on his computer.

He smiles, opens the till, and counts out wads of fifty dollar notes.

ANNA's face beams in delight.

INT. ANNA'S CAR - DAY

ANNA's car is stopped at the lights, in the turning lane. She is obeying the red arrow.

She is so deep in thought that she does not realise the arrow has now turned green.

A protracted horn. BEEEEEEEEEP !

She jumps with fright but before she can drive on the arrow is now back to red.

BEEEEEEEEEP. BEEEEEEP. BEEEEEEP !

She lifts her hand as an apology, but sees in the rear view mirror an ANGRY GUY (19) alighting from the P-PLATED UTE. He is mouthing off something fierce.

He walks up to her window as she frantically locks the doors.

He glares at her for a beat, then SMACKS her window and gives her the finger. Then storms off.

ANNA opens her window and waves to beckon the ANGRY GUY to come back. He stops and turns. She reaches down into the centre console and lifts the parchment paper note and passes it to the ANGRY GUY.

He looks at the note. His eyes open a little more and looks at ANNA. She smiles a little.

He scrunches up the note, throws it to the ground and again flips he the bird.

He unfortunately then takes one step back, and --

Brakes SCREEEEEEEEEECH ! THUD !

The truck has screeched to a halt exactly where the ANGRY GUY last stood.

EXT. PARK - DAY

A torn and tattered parchment note rests on the ground. I reads:

YOU HAVE BEEN CHOSEN. EMBRACE BEING LOST WHEN HEADING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. AND WHEN YOU ARE LOST NO LONGER YOU MUST CHOOSE ANOTHER. LOVE AND KINDNESS WILL ALWAYS LIVE ON. WARNING: DO NOT BREAK THE CYCLE !

FADE TO BLACK.