

GIVE ME A BODY

Screenplay by

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Inspired by the screenplay "Behind the Camera" by Derry Felton

FADE IN:

EXT. WOODS - DAY

We are in a green sunny area facing towards a woods. In the distance we can see someone walking towards us. Slowly the figure becomes more clear, it's a young woman, early twenties, slim and good looking, this is NATALIE. She walks past us and we continue to face the woods.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Natalie stands helping her MUM, who's in a wheelchair, put a top on.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Natalie sits next to her Mum feeding her a yogurt.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Mum sits watching television.

NATALIE  
I'm going to work now.

No response.

Natalie gives Mum a toilet roll.

NATALIE (CONT'D)  
If you get that feeling, just get up and go,  
okay?  
(beat)  
Remember to wipe.

Natalie kisses Mum and walks away.

INT. LANDING - LATER

Natalie knocks on a door. A few moments later it opens a young man answers, this is Ali.

Ali? NATALIE

Natalie? ALI

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Natalie sits on a bed.

Ali puts a coat on.

Two hours? ALI

Please. NATALIE

Ali walks out.

Natalie gets a laptop out her bag.

VARIOUS SHOTS:

- Natalie sets the laptop up.
- Natalie applies eyeliner.
- Natalie adds Lipstick.

INT. BEDROOM - LATER

Natalie sits in front of the laptop.

NATALIE  
Hiya.  
(beat)  
Yeah i'm good thanks, you?  
(beat)  
Yeah i'm good thanks.  
(beat)  
Nine hundred credits babe.  
(beat)  
No.

Natalie pushes her hair back.

We hear a chime.

NATALIE (CONT'D)  
(with a smile)  
Oh thank you.

Natalie stands up and begins unzip her hoodie in a sexual way.

INT. LANDING - LATER

Ali waves goodbye to Natalie. She smiles.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Natalie walks over to Mum and places a hand on her shoulder. Natalie looks down at her.

C/U of Natalie.

INT. BEDROOM - LATER

The rooms empty, but we can hear the sound of a shower.

INT. BEDROOM - LATER

Natalie helps her Mum get out of the wheelchair and into bed.

INT. BEDROOM - LATER

Natalie kisses her Mum on the head who is now in bed.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Natalie sits on a chair looking at the laptop.

CUT TO:

INT. CAM GIRL #1 BEDROOM - NIGHT

We see a CAM GIRL doing her thing.

NATALIE (V.O.)  
The bodies a natural thing.

Cam Girl #1 shows off her body.

NATALIE (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
It's useful.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Natalie in her pyjamas rolls her Mum on her side,

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Mum sits in a wheelchair, Natalie changes the bed sheets.

NATALIE (V.O.)  
But it gets less useful.

INT. LANDING - DAY

Ali opens the door.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Natalie sits on the bed she starts unbuttoning her blouse.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Mum lays on her side, Natalie watches her from behind.

Natalie closes her eyes.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

**FLASHBACK.**

Mum sits with her head in her hands in the kitchen. Natalie walks in.

Natalie looks inside the oven and pulls out burnt socks and clothes.

**END OF FLASHBACK.**

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Natalie opens her eyes, she gets up and touches the sheets. She sighs.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

C/U of a sponge meeting a naked back.

INT. BEDROOM - LATER

The sheets are being changed.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Mum sits watching the television. Natalie sits next to her, checks her watch. She gets up and passes her a toilet roll.

NATALIE  
Going to work okay?

Mum keeps watching television.

INT. LANDING - DAY

Ali lets Natalie in.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Natalie sits in front of the laptop acting sexy.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

**FLASHBACK**

Natalie reads a letter.

NATALIE (V.O.)  
I will look after you.

**END FLASHBACK**

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Natalie walks over to Mum and checks her wheelchair cushion. Natalie smiles and hugs her.

Natalie turns around only to see a urine puddle. Natalie sighs.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Natalie tries put a pad under Mum. She resists.

NATALIE  
Mum it's good for you.

Mum pushes her away.

NATALIE (CONT'D)  
Mum!

She's pushed away again.

Natalie screws up the pad and throws it on the floor.

INT. KITCHEN - LATER

Natalie holds a knife in her hand, she sighs and then places it's against her wrist. C/U of face, CUT!

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Natalie wakes up with a gasp.

Mum lays sleeping peacefully.

INT. LANDING - DAY

Ali opens the door.

NATALIE  
Hi.

ALI  
My parents are over.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

VARIOUS SHOTS:

- The sun shines beautifully through the trees.
- The sky is a lush blue.
- The trees stand proudly.

Natalie walks through the woods, she turns a corner and walks past a girl sitting on the floor with a rope around her neck.

GIRL WITH ROPE AROUND HER NECK  
Hi.

NATALIE  
Hi.

GIRL WITH ROPE AROUND HER NECK  
How're you?

NATALIE  
Okay, you?

GIRL WITH ROPE AROUND HER NECK  
Been better.  
(beat)  
Will you sit with me?

NATALIE  
Sure.



Natalie sits down.

NATALIE (CONT'D)

How did it go?

GIRL WITH ROPE AROUND HER NECK

Well, I died.

NATALIE

Why did you do it?

GIRL WITH ROPE AROUND HER NECK

I just thought this was a good tree to hang myself from.

(beat)

Just kidding. Doctors said chemical imbalance, but really I couldn't look after a baby.

NATALIE

Post natural?

GIRL WITH ROPE AROUND HER NECK

No I was raped. Gave birth to him and thought....

(beat)

I didn't want him to find out he was born due to rape.

(beat)

Nice walk?

NATALIE

Yeah.

GIRL WITH ROPE AROUND HER NECK

What you thinking?

NATALIE

About killing myself.

GIRL WITH ROPE AROUND HER NECK

Why?

NATALIE

I feel useless.

GIRL WITH ROPE AROUND HER NECK

Whys that?

NATALIE

Because I can't look after my Mum. She's ill.

(changing the subject)

Was it worth it?

GIRL WITH ROPE AROUND HER NECK

You know what? No. I've sat here for about twenty years now and I think what is he doing? What does he look like?

NATALIE

Why did you go through with it?

GIRL WITH ROPE AROUND HER NECK

I was about to change my mind and I slipped.

(beat)

Shit ain't it?

(beat)

Well I better let you go, nice talking to you.

Natalie gets up.

NATALIE

And you.

They wave goodbye to each other.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Natalie kisses Mum on the head and sits down and watches television with her.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

### **FLASHBACK**

Mum sits reading the newspaper, Natalie sits texting. The radio is on, a song starts playing they both start tapping their feet almost simultaneously.

**END FLASHBACK**

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Mum's coughing, Natalie holds a bowl under her mouth. She spits up in the bowl. Natalie strokes her shoulder. Natalie walks away, we hear more coughing. Natalie turns around.

INT. LANDING - DAY

Ali opens the door.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Natalie rolls her top slowly.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

The television is off, Natalie sits opposite Mum showing her a catalogue, pages of dresses. Natalie moves her finger across the page. Mum blinks.

NATALIE

This one?

Mum double blinks. Natalie starts moving her finger along again. Mum blinks.

NATALIE (CONT'D)

You sure?

Mum double blinks.

NATALIE (CONT'D)

Not this one?

Mum blinks. Natalie changes pages to mens clothes. She moves her finger along. Mum blinks. Natalie looks upset.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

**FLASHBACK**

Mum and Natalie sit looking at prom dresses on a laptop.

NATALIE (V.O.)  
I'll buy you something.

**END FLASHBACK**

INT. LANDING - DAY

Natalie knocks the door. Ali answers it.

ALI  
Can you come back in an hour?

Natalie nods.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Natalie walks through the woods, sunshine beaming down. She walks past a MASKED MAN leaning against a tree. Natalie stops and they look at each other.

MASKED MAN  
Hi.

NATALIE  
Hi.

Silence.

MASKED MAN  
Are you dead?

NATALIE  
No.

Silence.

NATALIE (CONT'D)  
How did you die?

MASKED MAN

Bullet.

(he holds an imaginary gun to his  
head)

Straight to the head.

Natalie sits down.

MASKED MAN (CONT'D)

Am I the first dead person you've met?

NATALIE

No. I had chat with someone the other day.

Silence.

MASKED MAN

(with a smile)

We like to talk more when were dead. Guess  
it's just easier.

(beat)

Why are you here?

NATALIE

Just thinking.

MASKED MAN

What about?

Silence.

MASKED MAN (CONT'D)

If you can't talk to a dead man who can you  
talk too?

NATALIE

My Mum, she's ill.

MASKED MAN

Do you find me scary?

NATALIE

A bit.

MASKED MAN

That's what's wrong with the living. Fear. I  
killed myself because of fear.

NATALIE

Fear of what.

MASKED MAN

Fear of being judged.

NATALIE

Why?

MASKED MAN

I had acid thrown in my face.

NATALIE

That's awful.

MASKED MAN

Not as awful as giving up.

(beat)

I'll let you go.

Natalie gets up and keeps walking. They watch each other.

INT. BEDROOM - LATER

Natalie plays with her hair.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Natalie stands at an ATM, she taps away. She looks at it confused. The card is withdrawn and put in again. Natalie presses the buttons furiously. She ejects her card and hits the machine.

INT. KITCHEN - LATER

Natalie sits and feeds Mum dinner.

## INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Mum lays on the bed looking at Natalie who sits on the side of the bed. Natalie kisses her before sliding the pillow out, it's placed gently on her face, Natalie applies pressure, Mum starts kicking about. Natalie pushes down harder. Natalie closes her eyes and takes a deep breath and... lets go. Mum is left gasping for air, Natalie walks away.

## INT. LANDING - DAY

Ali let's Natalie in.

## INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Natalie sits in front of the laptop.

NATALIE

Okay guys because I love you all, I have a special treat for you.

Natalie pulls out a vibrator, shows it off.

NATALIE (CONT'D)

Okay so to keep me using this, all you've got to do is keep paying pay ten credits okay?

Chime. Natalie smiles and switches the vibrator on. She lowers it. But smacks it down on the surface, She quickly slams the lid down and sits in silence.

CUT TO:

## EXT. WOODS - DAY

Natalie walks briskly through the woods, she turns a corner and walks past a woman dressed in FULL WINTER gear.

WINTER

Hi.

NATALIE

Please I don't want to talk to another dead person.

WINTER  
(grabbing Natalie's arm)  
Slow down your get lost.

Natalie stops, they both sit down.

WINTER (CONT'D)  
What's wrong?

NATALIE  
I tried to kill my Mum.

WINTER  
Oh dear.

NATALIE  
Oh dear?

WINTER  
The dead don't judge.

Silence.

NATALIE  
How did you die?

WINTER  
I ran away. It was freezing cold and snowing.  
And I got lost and died from hyperthermia.

NATALIE  
Your all so open.

WINTER  
(laughs)  
We don't often meet people.  
(beat)  
Why did you try and kill your Mum?

NATALIE  
She's ill.

WINTER  
Well now is the time she needs you the most.



NATALIE

I don't feel like I'm helping.

WINTER

I didn't think I was helping. My Dad had a stroke and I just couldn't see him anymore. I don't know what happened to him.

(beat)

It's much better to stay in the land of the living

(slight pause)

See things through to the end, because every ending is beautiful.

Natalie gets up.

WINTER (CONT'D)

I hope it's a long time before we see each other again.

GIRL WITH ROPE AROUND HER  
NECK (V.O.)

Me too.

MASKED MAN (V.O.)

Me too.

Natalie looks around. Winter smiles.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Natalie walks through a large area of green.

INT. BEDROOM - LATER

Mum and Natalie sit next to each other the radio on. Natalie taps her foot to the next song. Mum does as well. Natalie looks over, a smile slowly spreads across her face.

Natalie gets up, puts an arm around her neck and begins to dance with her.

INT. WOODS - DAY

We stare through the trees and look at the sun dancing on the leaves.

MUM (V.O.)

See things through to the end, because every  
ending is beautiful.

FADE OUT.

**THE END**