

MADE OF GLASS

Screenplay by
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Black screen.

FEMALE VOICE (V.O.)
Hiya mate, I've got a story for you.

TITLE: MADE OF GLASS

FADE IN:

INT. WAITING ROOM - DAY

A woman in her mid 40s, ANN, blond bobbed hair, wearing a summer dress sits on a couch in a clinical looking waiting room. She holds a cardboard box on her lap.

A RECEPTIONIST sits opposite typing on a computer.

A door opens. There now stands a woman in a professional looking outfit. This is DOCTOR SANDY, a psychologist.

SANDY
Ms. Lamb?

Ann raises her hand, gets up and walks over to Sandy.

SANDY (CONT'D)
Hi.

ANN
Hi.

Ann enters the room, the door is closed behind her.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Ann takes a seat. Sandy sits behind her desk but she can hardly be seen due to a massive folder that is on the desk.

Sandy tries to pull it open but it won't open. Sandy gets up, she smiles politely before trying to open the folder again.

ANN
Can I help?

SANDY

It's okay.

Sandy pulls at the folder, it's not budging. Time for evasive action, Sandy climbs on the desk and attempts to lift the cover open, it's lifting but it drops shut again.

Ann places her cardboard box on the floor and walks over to help Sandy.

ANN

(pointing)

You grab that side I'll get the over.

Sandy grabs one side and Ann grabs the other. It's lifting... it falls shut again.

SANDY

Gemma!

GEMMA (O.S.)

I have a bad back.

Sandy sighs and leans on the folder.

SANDY

I don't know why they just don't put the information into lots of smaller folders.

Sandy gets down.

SANDY (CONT'D)

Please, take a seat.

Ann sits down and picks up the cardboard box.

Sandy pulls her chair from behind her desk and puts it in front instead.

SANDY (CONT'D)

Took a crane to get that in.

(sweetly)

The scientists and doctors must have had a lot to say.

Ann smiles.

SANDY (CONT'D)

Perhaps you could talk me through it instead?

ANN
Okay, where from?

SANDY
Wherever you feel comfortable.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Ann sits on a bed, her legs spread apart. Two nurses are at the bottom of the bed assisting a midwife. ANN clutches a YOUNG MAN'S arm. She screams in pain.

ANN (V.O.)
I gave birth on July 17th.

We hear a slushing noise; next a baby's cry fills the room. The medics gasp and look at each other with utter shock. They scoop the crying baby up and leave the room.

The Young Man stands up.

Ann, her face covered in sweat.

ANN
Where are you going? Please don't take my baby!

The Young Man runs out the room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

We are currently in an empty living area, there's a sofa and a television everything you would expect to be in a normal living room. But what enters shot is not normal at all. We see Ann she holds a toddlers hands who looks amazed that he can walk, the Toddler kicks out for the next step. This would be normal if the Toddler had skin but it doesn't.. It is shiny and light bounces off of it.

ANN (V.O.)
When I was finally allowed to see him, it hit me straight away that he was different to other babies.

Mum and child walk around the room.

ANN (V.O.)
I called him Gary.

They walk out the room.

ANN (V.O.)
I was very surprised to hear that he was made
of glass.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Gary is being cradled, he cries, Ann attempts to sooth him by wiping a scratch on his head with a buffering pad.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Gary sits in a sand pit, he makes castles.

ANN (V.O.)
I had to be careful with Gary around other
children.

Gary slings a spade full of sand over his shoulder. It accidentally hits another toddler who looks cross and reaches out for Gary. Ann quickly swoops Gary up. Disaster avoided.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Gary sits on the kitchen surface, a tap is running next to him. Ann wets a wash cloth and tries to wipe Gary clean. Next she sprays window cleaner on him. He waves his hands about happily. Ann laughs.

INT. SUPERMARKET AISLE - DAY

Gary sits in a shopping trolley. Ann picks up a pack of sausages and places them in the trolley. She pushes the trolley down the aisle looking at food items. She puts s pack of scotch eggs into the trolley. She looks at Gary who is now holding an envelope.

ANN
What you got?

She takes the envelope and looks at it. Written on the front is "Ann and Gary".
Ann opens the envelope and reads the letter.

ANN (V.O.)

It read that there is a group for parents with
super special needs children.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTRE HALL - DAY

Ann sits down with Gary in a circle with other parents and their children. They
sit watching a Punch and Judy show.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTRE HALL - LATER

Gary sits playing with blocks with what looks like a normal little girl.

MUM

I will say your son is the most different child
we have had at the group.

ANN

Your girl looks very normal

Mum gets up and walks over to her daughter, she rummages in her daughters
dress momentarily before pulling out a tail..

ANN (CONT'D)

Oh.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTRE HALL - LATER

Parents are putting coats on their children. A few Mums try to pull a baby down
who is stuck to the wall.

ANN (V.O.)

It was amazing to discover that Gary wasn't
the only different baby where we lived.

(beat)

It was good for him because he made friends
and good for me because I had the support of
other parents.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

It's a sunny day and beautiful flowers bask in the heat. Time starts moving rapidly, flowers die, seasons change, flowers grow back again.

ANN (V.O.)

Time went so fast like it does for any mother watching her baby grow.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Gary sits at a table with some children and birthday cake, parents around them. The pictures move quickly as times continues to pass. We see Gary sitting at the foot of a Christmas tree, Gary celebrates many more Birthdays and Christmases, he is growing with every passing day. He plays video games with friends, watches television with his Mum, hovers the floor, helps bring a new sofa into the living room.

INT. SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

An adolescent Gary sits at a table answering maths problems.

ANN (V.O.)

I had a hard time with Gary going to school. When he was of the age to start school he was going to join the private group for people with differences.

SANDY (V.O.)

Yes P.G.P.D is an excellent school.

EXT. PLAYGROUND - DAY

Gary sits on the grass outside with friends talking.

ANN (V.O.)

Yes I thought so. Gary didn't want to go. He said to me it is just singling him out even more and he was right. He did go to P.G.P.D until he was in year nine though.

EXT. PLAYGROUND - DAY

A thirteen year old Gary sits playing marbles with some friends. He rolls a marble it hits another marble which then pings back at his knee. A scratch is made. Gary goes to rub it, but before he can, Ann swoops down pulls him up and drags him away from his friends.

INT. TOILET - DAY

Ann wipes Gary scratch with a buffering pad. Gary looks less then impressed.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Gary sits listening to a teacher.

TEACHER
(Talking French)
Est ce quilya...

A rubber is thrown, it's flying towards Gary's head but just before it can make impact Ann has slapped it away.

INT. SCHOOL HALL - DAY

Gary walks through the hall towards an empty seat, he sits down but looking behind him we see Ann holding the seat straight.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Ann sits drinking wine.

ANN (V.O.)
Gary banned me from escorting him at school. He told me it was embarrassing having me there because none of the other kids had their Mums or Dads there.

CUT TO:

INT. CANTEEN - DAY

A balding scary looking man slops some mash potato on a plate.

ANN (V.O.)
Sam's Dad works there I would tell him.
(beat)
Sam's Dad is paid to be there, Gary would
say.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

A lady can be seen in an office with a man.

ANN (V.O.)
Kelly's Mum works there I would tell him.
(beat)
Does she? He said.

Ann waves to the lady, she waves back. Ann walks past, the lady then unbuttons her blouse and closes the office blinds.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Ann puts the empty bottle of wine into a recycling bin.

ANN (V.O.)
I respected his wishes and from then he went
to school on his own.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Gary walks down the hallway with some friends and past a plant pot. Ann is doing an awful job of hiding. He stops and stares straight at her. Ann sighs and walks off with the potted plant.

ANN (V.O.)
Okay perhaps not straight away.

EXT. GARDEN - DAY

Ann sits in a beautiful green garden sipping on freshly made smoothies and watching daytime television.

ANN (V.O.)

It was great when I stopped going to school with Gary. Sure I still thought about him but I forgot how much I could get done in a seven hour school days.

(beat)

I started growing my own fruit in the summer and made my own smoothies. It was much healthier than drinking and I made a bit of money selling them.

CUT TO:

EXT. GARDEN - DAY

We see Ann walking Turkeys around the garden.

ANN (V.O.)

And in the Autumn and Winter I exercised Farmers Turkeys.

Ann throws a disc for one, he waddles after to try and catch it.

ANN (V.O.)

Life was pretty much perfect.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Ann sits at the table reading through piles of letters and then mountains of university prospectuses.

ANN (V.O.)

What was all this? I wondered.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Ann stares at the ceiling.

ANN (V.O.)

Gary wanted to go to uni but not where we lived but somewhere two and a half hours away instead!

Ann rolls over.

ANN (V.O.)

I didn't sleep for a while.

EXT. GARDEN - DAY

Ann is knelt down putting a lead on a turkey, she looks it in the eyes, it stares back.

ANN (V.O.)

It was from this moment I knew Gary should go wherever he wanted to.

(beat)

I don't know what it is about turkeys, perhaps it their impending death that encourages you to make up your mind because if there's something I have learnt from my years on earth you could be a turkey at Christmas.

INT. UNIVERSITY CAMPUS - DAY

Ann and Gary and more parents and children are waiting to be shown around by an overly enthusiastic tour guide

ANN (V.O.)

The main thing I remember about the tour was feeling incredibly nervous, this was shared by all the other parents. I guess it doesn't matter whether your child is made of flesh and bone or glass there is always that edge of uncertainty.

INT. HALLS OF RESIDENCE HALLWAY - DAY

Ann and Gary carry boxes into a bedroom.

EXT. CAR PARK - DAY

Ann and Gary hug.

ANN (V.O.)

It was time to let him go and be the person he wanted to be.

INT. LECTURING HALL - DAY

Gary faces a LECTURER.

LECTURER

Geography.

Gary no longer listens and instead looks around at the other students, he notices an attractive looking BLONDE GIRL, their eyes meet.

INT. HALLS OF RESIDENCE KITCHEN - NIGHT

Track around the kitchen where the students are partying. Several students pour drink from a bucket into plastic cups and down them in one. A LAD plays beer pong, he throws a ping pong ball which misses all the cups and bounces towards Gary. He catches it and throws it back.

ANN (V.O.)

We spoke everyday to start off with. He told me he was having a great time meeting new people and exploring the area.

The young Blonde from the lecture earlier sits down next to him. They look at each other.

ANN (V.O.)

He told me he had met a girl too.

INT. NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

The students are dancing around, they drink and have fun. Gary is amongst them. He dances around awkwardly trying not to get knocked over by anyone but also trying to impress the blonde.

She smiles as the strobe lights shine through him creating a vast array of brightly coloured shapes in the club. She bites her lip as a red light shines through where his heart would be and onto her heart.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

The Blonde undresses on the bed; Gary undresses, he has lipstick marks on his neck.

ANN (V.O.)
She spoke very highly of him.

Gary gets on the bed and disappears under the bedsheets with her.

EXT. FROZEN LAKE - NIGHT

Gary and the Blonde lay on the frozen water and look up at the clear starry night. The darkness seems to carry on forever. She breathes on to his cheek causing the glass to fog up. She then draws a love heart on his face. They both smile.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

We look at four empty folders that slowly become filled with paperwork.

ANN (V.O.)
We both became content with our lives. Gary
worked hard and I brought a farm. We spent
Christmas' and Birthdays together. It was
less than I liked but Gary was happy with this.
(beat)
So I was too.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Ann and Gary sit at the table, festive decorations highlight the room. Mum and Son pull a cracker. BANG!

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

A champagne bottle cork fires out. Students cheer as they pass gifts over to Gary. We see congratulation cards scattered about. Gary gives a thumbs up, he hugs his girlfriend and steps outside the club.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Gary stands at the top of a set of steps, he flicks through his mobile, finds his Mum's number and starts to text.

A group of lads walk up behind him, they tap him on the shoulder and shake his hand. One of the lads leans in for a shelfie, he pushes against Gary, who stumbles. He reaches for the stair rail but misses; he falls down the steps and smashes to pieces on impact with the pavement.

We hear the sound of shouting, followed by a blast of music. This is then followed by more screaming and shouting.

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - NIGHT

Ann sits in her pyjamas in a deathly silent room. She stares out of a window at the city lights that beam for miles.

The door opens and in walks a doctor.

DOCTOR

Ms. Lamb, could you follow me please?

Ann gets up and follows the Doctor out of the room.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

The Doctor opens a privacy curtain around a bed and there is Gary - a pile of shards .

DOCTOR

I'll leave you here for now.

Ann sits down at his bedside, reaches out and touches a smooth piece of glass. Tears start to roll down her face.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Sandy holds her hands together.

SANDY

Thank you for taking the time to tell me some information.

(beat)

Again I am sorry about the folder.

ANN

It's okay.

SANDY

Now I'm going to be straight down the line with you Ann, this is a completely new experimental procedure and it has yet to be tried which does not mean it couldn't happen it just means it's rather unlikely too happen.

ANN

Any help is very much appreciated

SANDY

Could you pass me Gary please?

Ann looks down at the shoebox before reluctantly handing it over.

SANDY (CONT'D)

Thank you.

ANN

Thank you.

Ann gets up and leaves the room.

INT. LABORATORY - DAY

Gary's is scattered across a work surface. Sandy sits putting pieces of him into piles.

INT. LABORATORY - LATER

Each pile is bagged up and taken towards a computer. Sandy grabs a red scanner off the wall and scans a bag.

SCANNER (V.O.)
Left shoulder blade.

Scans another bag.

SCANNER (V.O.)
Right hip.

Scans another bag.

SCANNER (V.O.)
Upper left cheek bone and left elbow.

Sandy tuts reopens the bag and pulls out a piece of glass.

SCANNER (V.O.)
Upper left cheek bone and left elbow.

Sandy keeps searching the bag.

INT. LABORATORY - LATER

Sandy continues looking through pieces of Gary.

SANDY (V.O.)
Hi Ann, is that you?
(beat)
It's Sandy from Families Matter.
(beat)
Yes good thanks. Now I am phoning up to see how you are?
(beat)
Good, that's great.
(beat)
He's been started, I have built him up to his right and left thighs.
(beat)
Your welcome but listen to me a sec okay?
(beat)
I'm leaving Families Matter.
(MORE)

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

(beat)

Yes I'm sorry too.

(beat)

I need to spend more time with my family.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Sandy walks into her living room and looks down at her HUSBAND and DAUGHTERS. All of them are fast asleep.

SANDY (V.O.)

It was your story really.

INT. INSECT ENCLOSURE - DAY

Sandy watches a pile of centipedes crawl around in a box. Her Husband shows their Daughters a spider, it's large and proud of itself. It jumps suddenly into it's box. The Daughters jump back. Dad gives them a reassuring hug. Sandy tries to hug them but they are too interested in Dad.

SANDY (V.O.)

I started feeling really distant from my children.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Sandy is chopping up vegetables. Her Husband sits doing a sudoku puzzle. The door opens and in run the girls. They both head straight for Dad and show him drawings they have done. Sandy looks over at them as she stirs the vegetables.

SANDY (V.O.)

I was spending a lot of time at work and on work at home.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sandy sits in bed sketching different areas of the body, the drawings are surrounded by complicated mathematical equations. She looks up and into her Daughters room. Dad is reading them a bedtime story.

INT. LABORATORY - DAY

Sandy is assembling a foot with glue and glass.

SANDY (V.O.)

Me and my husband were arguing too

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Sandy sits on the sofa, her husband sits next to her.

HUSBAND

How could I answer that?

SANDY

By saying yes.

HUSBAND

A child needs to hear it from the parent. Not from someone else.

SANDY

Do you not appreciate the job I do for people?

HUSBAND

Yes I do, it really is admirable, but Sandy you have two children of your own too love and worry about and all the other things you have to do and be as a parent.

SANDY

How can I deny other women the chance to have children?

HUSBAND

You need to put your family first sometimes and not think all the time about others.

Sandy gets up and walks out the room.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Sandy walks past the stairs, looking down at her are her two girls. She looks up at them.

SANDY
(gently)
Hey. Go back to bed.

They stare.

Husband walks out the living room.

HUSBAND
Come on girls back to bed.

They continue to stare.

HUSBAND (CONT'D)
(playfully)
I'm coming to get you!

He runs up the stairs, the girls squeal as he chases after them. Sandy watches them play.

INT. LABORATORY - DAY

Sandy scans a bag of glass.

SCANNER (V.O.)
Achilles tendon.

She scans another bag.

SCANNER (V.O.)
Ankle and spine.

She sighs.

SANDY (V.O.)
One day my daughter came to me.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Sandy lifts up her daughter and puts her on the kitchen surface.

ELDEST DAUGHTER
We learnt how babies were made today.

SANDY

Oh right.

ELDEST DAUGHTER

Yeah, shall I tell you?

SANDY

Okay.

ELDEST DAUGHTER

Well first you have a mummy and a daddy who love each other. The daddy then gets a seed and puts it in a cake.

Sandy sighs with relief.

ELDEST DAUGHTER (CONT'D)

A baby then grows in a Mummy's belly until it gets too big and the baby then climbs out the Mummy's woo woo.

SANDY

Wow.

ELDEST DAUGHTER

But every baby is beautiful and they always are.

SANDY

Every baby?

ELDEST DAUGHTER

Yeah because they come out with love and they throw it around the room and everybody has love then!

Sandy smiles and hugs her tightly. She starts crying.

ELDEST DAUGHTER (CONT'D)

Don't be sad mummy.

SANDY

I'm not sweetheart.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Ann sits on the sofa, phone held to her ear.

ANN
 (into phone)
 Thank you so much.
 (beat)
 What did you think I would say?
 (beat)
 Don't be silly.
 (beat)
 Okay, it's been lovely knowing you. Bye.

She puts the phone down. She cries.

ANN (V.O.)
 And that's the story..

EXT. FIELD - DAY

The sun shines over luscious green grass. Flowers are in full bloom all around a tombstone. Chiseled into the stone is "IN LOVING MEMORY OF GARY LAMB".

Ann is sitting in front of the tombstone.

ANN
 That story reminded me so much of you that I
 knew I could let go and remember what we
 had instead of trying to get more memories.

Ann checks her watch.

ANN (CONT'D)
 Well I have to go mate, meeting Sandy and
 her family for dinner.

She gets up touches the stone before walking away. We are left looking at a beautiful and peaceful field.

FADE OUT.

THE END