

Hereafter
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EXT. STREET - DAY

TOM(28) emerges from the local coffee shop with a takeaway cup in his hand. He's wearing a sharp grey suit. He chaotically rushes down the street forcing people to move out of his path. As he paces down the street he bumps into a stranger.

TOM
(shouting) Watch it.

Tom approaches the edge of the footpath. As he crosses the road a truck horn can be heard. He turns his head.

TOM
Oh for f....

EXT. GARDEN - AFTERNOON

The garden is overgrown and almost silent. A light breeze rustles the grass and birds tweet delicately. Tom lies in the grass, out cold. He is woken up by LILY(6), who is dressed in a white sundress with a yellow bow in her hair, shaking and poking him. Tom is startled.

LILY
Helllloooo

Tom sits up. He shoves Lily away.

TOM
Get off me, would ya.

LILY
Wanna play?

Tom laughs with amusement. He gets up and brushes some leaves off his clothes. His eyes scan the garden frantically.

TOM
(to himself) Where am I?

He begins to pace. Lily mirrors his movement, giggling. A door can be heard opening in the background. Angela, Lily's mother(37)who is dressed business casual, appears under the frame of the door.

ANGELA
Lily, dinner.

LILY

Just ten more minutes please. I made a new friend.

Angela glances around the garden confused.

ANGELA

Now what'd I tell you about lying.

LILY

Please mam.

Lily folds her arms. Angela rolls her eyes.

ANGELA

Ten minutes, that's it.

Tom walks briskly towards the top of the garden. He approaches Angela.

TOM

Hey you, tell me where the hell I am.
I'm going to be late.

Angela looks right through Tom. She closes the door.

TOM

(shouting) Rude.

Lily skips towards Tom and starts tugging his hand.

LILY

Time to play.

Tom looks in disgust and tugs his arm away.

TOM

Hey, Hey hands off the suit.

Lily begins jumping up and down and stomping her feet.

LILY

(screaming) Now!

TOM

Honestly kid its been real but I'm out of this joint, I've places to be.

Tom makes his way to the gate at the side of the garden. He

opens the gate and as he goes to walk out of it he is brought back to Lily. Tom looks confused. Again, he walks towards the gate, opens it and attempts to walk out. Again he projects back to Lily. Lily begins to laugh.

A SERIES OF SHOTS as Tom tries to escape. Tom runs at the gate. Tom puts his back against the wall as he tries to subtly sneak out of the gate. Tom tries to slowly crawl through the gate. Each time he ends back alongside Lily.

Tom looks up to the sky, falls to his knees and extends both his arms to the sky.

TOM

Ok, very funny, joke's over.

Lily places her hand on his shoulder.

LILY

So are you staying for tea?

Tom sighs and glances towards the sky.

TOM

Don't seem to have much of a choice do I?

Lily walks towards the house and Tom trails behind. Lily turns towards Tom.

LILY

So, what's your name?

EXT. PARK - DAY

People are scattered across the park. Children can be heard laughing in the distance. Lily skips along, pulling Angela by the hand. Tom trails behind. Angela stops at a bench jerking Lily back, bringing her skipping to an end.

ANGELA

Right missy, go on and enjoy yourself.

LILY

But you never play with me.

ANGELA

Sure you have your new friend Tom, why would you need me?

Angela laughs to herself, shakes her head and takes out her

Blackberry. Lily sighs and looks up at Tom. Tom forces a strained smile back at Lily. Lily makes her way to the slide, pulling Tom along. Tom looks around him. His eyes widen. He looks around briskly at the parents in the park with their children. He paces towards a woman and begins to wave his hands.

TOM

HELLOOO?

He dances in front of a man. He sticks his tongue out at a woman. Lily laughs and shakes her head. Tom sighs and leans against the slide where Lily's playing. OISIN(37) strides towards Tom laughing.

OISIN

You're wasting your time man. You'll end up driving yourself insane. I've been at this for years its no use they won't see us.

Tom stands straight.

TOM

You can see me?

OISIN

Hate to break it to you man but we're dead. Ooooo.

Oisin makes a jazz hand gesture. Tom looks confused.

TOM

Why am I still here then?

OISIN

Too good for hell and not good enough for heaven. A purgatory you could call it for the select few. You get assigned a kid and get to be their imaginary friend. Fun.

Oisin leans against the slide. Tom gulps looking worried.

TOM

And how do you know all this? What made you an expert?

OISIN

From another guy who knows a guy. His

names Greg, he's not around anymore.
Finally got his kid to stop picking
his nose.

TOM
So I'm stuck here.

OISIN
Hey it's not all bad, my kids grown on
me a bit.

Oisin points over to a boy who is eating dirt and smiles. Tom looks worried.

TOM
How long have you been here?

OISIN
Two years..

Tom looks at Oisin's child then Lily and gulps.

INT. HOME OFFICE - AFTERNOON

The door and floorboards squeak as Lily enters the room. Angela, sits at a desk typing on her computer.

LILY
Mam,we're having a tea party, please
come please.

ANGELA
(abruptly) I told you not to come in
here I'm busy. Please just go.

Tom looks at Lily concerned. Lily slams the door and runs up the stairs, passing three single photos which sit neatly on the wall. Two of Lily alone and one of her and Angela.

INT. PLAY ROOM - AFTERNOON

Toys are scattered around the floor. A round table lies in the centre of the room with four small seats. Lily pulls out a chair and gestures Tom to sit down. Tom squirms as he sits on the chair. Lily then grabs a teddy bear and places him at the table. She places a teacup in front of Tom, one in front of the bear and the third at her seat. She then takes a teapot and walks towards the bear.

LILY
Tea, sir?

She then moves her lips to the side of her face and mimics a mans voice.

LILY
(deeply) Oh yes please, m'lady.

Lily then tips over the pot pretending to pour something. She walks around the table to Tom.

LILY
And you Mr?

TOM
Sure gowan then.

Tom lifts his teacup toward Lily. Lily smiles and pretends to pour tea into Toms teacup. She then sits in her seat and raises her teacup. Tom raises his teacup to meet hers.

LILY
Cheers!

Tom pretends to slurp and Lily laughs. He looks at the teddy and then back at Lily. He tilts his head towards the teddy.

TOM
Don't suppose he has a name?

Lily smiles.

LILY
(Proudly) Snuggles.

Tom raises his eyebrows.

TOM
Snuggles..I know you're only six but come on you can do better than that. You've an imaginary friend for god's sake.

Lily looks blankly at Tom. Tom once again looks at the bear and rolls his eyes.

TOM
So Mr...Snuggles how are you doing today?

MONTAGE BEGINS

EXT. PARK - DAY

- Lily pushes Tom in a swing. Angela looks confused. Lily pushes empty swing in park.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

- Tom and Lily playing hide and seek. Lily jumps out and scares Tom as he looks for her.

INT. SITTING ROOM - EVENING

- Lily attempts to dress Tom in a tutu. Lily points at the tutu and tries to hand it to Tom. Tom shakes his head.

INT. KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

- Lily and Tom are at the dinner table. Lily gets up and takes a plate out of the press and puts it in front of Tom. She shares some of her food with him. Tom pretends to eat. Angela looks at the empty seat startled. Tom winks at Lily.

INT. PLAYROOM - DAY

- Tom sits at the table, Lily sits next to him. Tom shakes open a newspaper. Lily shakes her colouring book open. Tom licks his finger and then turns a page. Lily licks her finger and turns a page. Tom looks at Lily from the corner of his eye. He licks his finger and turns another page and Lily copies. He then puts the newspaper on the table and folds his arms. Lily mimics this movement.

- Tom folds over his legs and Lily does the same. Lily giggles. Tom makes a face at Lily and she makes one back. They both laugh.

INT. KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

- Lily's mother leaves. Tom runs to the door and looks both ways. He turns his head back and makes a gesture with his hands. Lily runs to the bin and buries her vegetables.

INT. SITTING ROOM - EVENING

- Lily attempts to dress Tom in a tutu again. Tom leans his hand on Lily's shoulder as he tries to put one of his legs in.

INT. PLAY ROOM - AFTERNOON

- Tom and Lily having a tea party. They both wear tiaras. Tom

lifts up his pinky and sips his tea. They laugh.

INT. SITTING ROOM - EVENING

- Tom and Lily both twirl in their tutus with their arms in the air.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

- Tom tells Lily a bedtime story.

MONTAGE ENDS

EXT. GARDEN - DAY

Tom and Lily are having a picnic with Mr. Snuggles. A car door shuts. They run to the gate to see who it is. A man, woman and child remove their suitcases from the boot of their car. The man, woman and child walk towards the house. The man hands the child a box labelled "Daisy's room" with a scruffy teddy bear peaking out of the top. Lily looks at Daisy and waves. Daisy smiles.

Tom and Lily step back from the gate. Lily looks at Tom excited.

LILY

Do you think she would want to have a tea party with us Tom?

TOM

We'll have to ask her won't we?

Tom and Lily smile at each other. A strong light appears. Tom squints his eyes and raises his hand to his face.

TOM

What the...

Lily looks worried.

TOM

I think its time.

Lily looks up at Tom.

LILY

It's ok if you need to go. I'll be ok.

TOM

You'll be fine you know. Keep setting

a place for me at those tea partys,
will ya?

Lily and Tom both force smiles at each other. Lily grabs Toms
hand one last time.

LILY
I think I thought of a new name for
Snuggles.

TOM
And what's that?

Tears fill Lily's eyes.

LILY
TOM.

Tom bends down on one knee beside Lily. He then opens his
arms and Lily throws her arms around him.

TOM
You be good now.

Tom stands up and skips towards the light at the back of the
garden. Lily becomes further away. Tom turns back and waves
at Lily. Tom disappears.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Tom lies on the floor. He wakes up to Jake(5) throwing slime
at him. Tom smiles and laughs.

TOM
Oh for f.....

HARD CUT TO BLACK.