

HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS

1 EXT. CAR, HIGHWAY - DAY

A blue Tesla drives down a road.

NEW ANGLE - FRONT VIEW OF CAR THROUGH WINDSHIELD

A family sits in the car listening to music as they drive. The dad is driving, his wife is sitting in the passenger seat smoking a cigarette, looking out the window. A boy about ten years old, sits behind the father. A girl about seven sits behind the mom.

DAUGHTER  
Are we almost there?  
(Impatiently)

DAD  
We'll get there soon. Asking  
doesn't make it go faster.

The daughter rolls her eyes at his lack of a real answer.

DAUGHTER  
Where are we going anyway?

DAD  
It's a surprise.  
(Excited)

The son smiles a bit behind him. The daughter shrugs, indifferent.

DAUGHTER  
Can we stop at a gas station? I  
have to pee.

DAD  
You can pee when we get there. I't  
won't be too much longer.

DAUGHTER  
But I really have to go.

MOM  
Sarah! Stop complaining.

NEW ANGLE - SARAH'S SIDE WINDOW. SHE TURNS HER HEAD AND LOOKS OUT IT. A FRUSTRATED FACE TAKES OVER.

2 EXT. PARK, STREET FAIR - DAY

The group steps out of the car to a street fair. Booth after booth with different goodies and games lined the street. A ferris wheel sat in the background.

DAD

Ahh, here we are.

Sarah pushes past her parents and starts walking towards a set of port-a potties.

DAD (CONT'D)

Sarah! Where are you going?

SARAH

You never let me pee. Remember?  
(Turning back to talk to him, but still walking backwards)

Sarah turns back around and continues onto the port-a potties. Her dad looks at the mom and son.

DAD

Well...

(Shrugging)

Should we go do the ferris wheel  
James?

JAMES

Yeah!

DAD

Alright let's go.

(A beat)

You'll wait for Sarah?

(Turning to his wife)

MOM

Yeah, yeah.

(Lighting another  
cigarette)

The dad crouches down to face James.

DAD

Alright! Let's go buddy!

James and his dad head off toward the ferris wheel. The mom takes a seat on a bench as she smokes. A minute goes by of her sitting there smoking.

NEW ANGLE - CLOSE UP OF A BEETLE WALKS ALONG THE SIDE OF THE BENCH

We follow the beetle as it walks for a second. Suddenly the mom's cigarette crushes the beetle into the bench, burning its shell.

NEW ANGLE - MOM CRUSHING THE BEETLE

MOM

Gotcha...  
(Smirking)

Sarah walks into frame, we can only see her back, but we can still see the mom's face over her shoulder. The smile is wiped off the mom's face once she notices Sarah.

SARAH

Where's dad and James?

MOM

They went to ride the ferris wheel.  
(Pulls out a stick of lip stick and a tiny mirror from her purse, starts applying lip stick in the mirror)

SARAH

What! Without me?!

MOM

You can run over there.

SARAH

Will you come with me?  
(A little nervous to go on her own)

MOM

(Puts the lipstick away, annoyed)

Fine.

She stands up and walks over to Sarah and they start walking over to the ferris wheel. As they walk there is no interaction between them. They simply walk quiet side by side. They get about 15 yards from the ferris wheel when the mom reaches into her purse to grab another cigarette.

MOM (CONT'D)

Shit.  
(Realizings she's out)  
(A beat)  
(MORE)

MOM (CONT'D)

I'm going to grab another pack of  
smokes.

(Turning away)

SARAH

What? What about the ferris wheel?

MOM

You can walk over there yourself.

The mom walks away as Sarah watches. Sarah watches as she goes into a corner store. She gulps and starts walking towards the ferris wheel. People were everywhere, overwhelming Sarah. She took about six steps forward when suddenly a lady, in her late 60s runs over and scoops Sarah up out of nowhere. The lady continues running.

NEW ANGLE - CLOSE UP OF SARAH IN THE WOMAN'S ARMS

Sarah opens her mouth to scream but thinks again and closes it. She takes a deep breath and closes her eyes as the woman continues running, carrying her.

3 INT. INSIDE OF A CAR, HIGHWAY - AFTERNOON

The woman is sitting in the drivers seat, driving down the highway. Sarah is in the back seat, confused. The woman is dressed in normal clothes, she has grey hair in a bun. She has crooked glasses. She looks a little crazy, but not dangerous.

SARAH

Where are we going?

WOMAN

(Chuckles)

We're going to your favorite place!

Sarah stayed quiet, thinking about what her favorite place actually was.

SARAH

Who are you?

WOMAN

Oh Melissa, don't be silly.

(A beat)

I'm so happy I found you! I was  
worried sick.

Sarah remained quiet, confused. A moment passes.

WOMAN (CONT'D)  
I won't let them take you away from  
me ever again.  
(a beat)  
I promise.

Sarah stays quiet.

4 EXT. PARKING LOT OF SHOPPING COMPLEX - AFTERNOON

The car pulls into a parking lot of a shopping complex. The lady steps out of the car and then opens the back door. Sarah jumps out, excited. The lady holds out her hand for Sarah to hold. Sarah looks at her hand for a moment unsure what she should do. Suddenly she grabs it.

NEW ANGLE - BIRDS EYE VIEW OF THE TWO WALKING INTO THE MALL TOGETHER.

5 INT. INSIDE THE MALL - AFTERNOON

Compilation scene of the lady walking with Sarah. They go through the lobby, up an escalator, and all around the third floor.

6 INT. INSIDE THE MALL, THIRD FLOOR - AFTERNOON

The two of them walk hand and hand on the third floor looking for the toy store. The lady notices a purse in the window of a clothing store.

WOMAN  
I'm going to take a look at that  
purse.  
(pointing it out to Sarah)

SARAH  
You're leaving me?

WOMAN  
Only for a second.  
(A beat, crouching down to  
Sarah's level)  
Don't worry Melissa, I'll never  
leave you again.  
(Serious)

The woman gets back to her feet and walks into the store. Sarah is left alone for a moment. She looks around at her surroundings. It looks like a normal mall. There are people shopping, other kids, a janitor and a mall cop. Her searching stops on the mall cop. She stares at him for a while.

He remains completely unaware. She takes a step towards him and then stops. After a couple moments pass, a hand grabs Sarah's arm from behind.

SARAH

Huh!

WOMAN

Come on Melissa. That purse was too expensive.

Sarah turns with the woman as they walk away. She gives one last glance at the mall cop who is now back turned, walking the opposite direction.

7 INT. INSIDE THE TOY STORE - DAY

Sarah and the woman walk down an aisle of the toy store, Sarah's eyes are wide in awe.

SARAH

I never got toys as a kid.

WOMAN

What do you mean Melissa? I always got you toys?

SARAH

(Smiling)

Never mind.

The two keep walking for a moment, Sarah remains in awe of everything.

WOMAN

You know what you want?

SARAH

Yeah!

(Smiling)

That one.

Sarah points to a princess doll up on the shelf.

WOMAN

Are you sure?

Sarah nods her head excited.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

Okay...

The woman grabs the princess from the tall shelf and hands it to Sarah. Sarah clutches it immediately excited.

8 INT. OUTSIDE TOY STORE, MALL - AFTERNOON

The two walk outside the toy store, Sarah gripping her toy in joy. They start walking through the mall. They begin to pass a movie theater within the mall.

SARAH

Ooo! Can we see a movie?

The woman thinks to herself for a moment.

WOMAN

Well I don't see why not?

Sarah smiles.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

What movie are we going to see?

Sarah points to a poster showing a movie called: "Snoopy Comes Home"

9 INT. MOVIE THEATER - DAY

Sarah and the woman sit next to each other in the theater watching the movie. They are silent as the movie plays. Sarah reaches over to the woman's lap and grabs a handful of popcorn out of the bucket, She eats it. About 30 seconds later she takes a sip of a giant icee. Another minute of them just watching the movie goes by.

10 INT. INSIDE WOMAN'S CAR - EVENING

The two drive down the highway, Sarah in the back seat and the woman driving. A couple moments pass of silence.

WOMAN

Dinner?

SARAH

What?

WOMAN

Should we stop and get some dinner?

(A beat)

There's a burger place coming up.

SARAH

Sure.

NEW ANGLE - CAR PULLS INTO A BURGER PLACE PARKING LOT

10 INT. BURGER RESTAURANT, BOOTH - NIGHT

Sarah and the woman sit across from each, each eating a burger. They sit quietly for a minute, just eating.

WOMAN

I'm so glad to have you back. Just wait until you see your room!

SARAH

I get my own room?

WOMAN

Of course, you remember your room!

11 INT. INSIDE A HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The viewer is looking at the inside of a cozy, clean little house. Very homey. All the sudden the front door opens and the woman and Sarah walk inside.

WOMAN

Home sweet home.

Sarah looks around her new surroundings, nervous but excited.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

You've had a long day Melissa. Let me show you your room.

Sarah smiles, gripping her princess doll.

SARAH

Okay.

12 INT. INSIDE THE HOUSE, SARAH'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The two enter Sarah's bedroom. The bedroom was pink and purple and extremely well kept. The bed had beautiful white curtains around it, as if a princess slept there.

SARAH

This is my room?!  
(Excited)



WOMAN

Just like you left it.

(a beat)

Alright, Melissa. Time for bed.

The woman tucked Sarah into the wonderful bed. Sarah gripped her princess doll tight. The woman kissed Sarah on the forehead.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

Good night... I love you.

The woman opens the bedroom door and is about to leave.

SARAH

Thanks... For everything today.

The woman smiles, turns off the lights and closes the door. Sarah grips her princess doll tight, closes her eyes and falls asleep.