

KEANU REEVES IS MY MUSE, MY SON IS A DRAGON

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Based on a true story.

Yes, really.

Magpie Nursery Rhyme

*One for sorrow,
Two for joy,
Three for a girl,
Four for a boy,
Five for silver,
Six for gold,*

*Seven for a secret
To never be told.*

INT. ANDY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

The room is a little boy's imagination gone wild. A jungle of chocolate trees drip with hissing gummy snakes. In the distance a waterfall of Christmas presents crashes down.

A WOMAN'S VOICE (V.O.)

There is a brief moment of time
between expectation and reality, when
anything and all things are possible.

Cheeky ANDY (8), Korean Australian, crew cut, leopard crawls with his Nerf gun toward an unseen enemy. His best friend SNOOPY, a beagle, wears camo gear and stalks beside him.

Andy gestures two fingers to his eyes, then Snoopy's eyes, then the door. An overladen Christmas tree in a clearing.

Andy scans the jungle. An army helicopter swoops. Heavily armed "Call of Duty" video game soldiers emerge behind Andy.

All clear. He picks at the Christmas wrapping on a bicycle.

THREE LOUD KNOCKS.

Andy freezes. The deep voice of his unseen dad.

ANDY'S DAD (O.S.)

Quiet!

Andy, dressed for Taekwondo, kicks and chops his way to the front door. Snoopy trots behind.

In front of Andy, his imaginary world.

Behind him, his reality. A bland room. Latest oversize TV. Scrappy Christmas tree.

Beside the door hangs an ARMY JACKET. Andy places a stool under the peephole. Climbs. Peers. Snoopy wags and leaps.

EXT. ENTRANCE - DAY

Reality: A SKINNY POLICEMAN nods over his shoulder at a HULKING POLICEMAN. Behind them, the blue flashing lights of a police car. His fingers count down -- Three. Two. One!

A battering ram SMASHES through the door.

INT. ENTRANCE - DAY

Andy thuds to the floor. Snoopy whimpers as he's kicked away

by the Hulking Policeman.

HULKING POLICEMAN
Get down on the ground!

Andy's dad CHRISTIAN (40s), white, clean-cut and devilishly attractive, is a man you want to believe. He throws flailing punches. Hulking Policeman pins him down.

CHRISTIAN
That's my son!

Andy bores into the concerned face of the Skinny Policeman, leaning over him.

Christian sucks for air, like a stunned fish out of water.

Andy's mum MIN (40s), Korean, blearily exits a bedroom.

Andy screams in the arms of Skinny Policeman. Fights to free himself. Reaches for Christian with both arms.

ANDY
Daaaaddy!

Min, an expressionless husk, views Andy. She turns back into the bedroom. Min closes a boot print-scarred door.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - FUTURE CHILD'S BEDROOM - DAY

Dogged optimist SUNNY (48), Sri Lankan Australian, shakes her ass. Sings and spins to a '70s song about coming home.

An eight-month BABY BUMP is tarped by a paint-covered shirt.

Sunny has black SHORT HAIR with fat purple stripes. Summer is outside the window. She tamps down a tear in faded pink wall paper.

A glimpse of a CHILD'S DRAWING beneath.

Sunny paints over the wallpaper.

THREE LOUD KNOCKS.

Sunny glances over her shoulder.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Sunny dances down the corridor. The wall screens a movie of her AID WORKER past: wild, dangerous, tinged with anarchy. Sunny peers into the front door peep hole -- POLICEWOMEN.

INT./EXT. ENTRANCE - DAY

Sunny opens the door.

Two POLICEWOMEN flank Sunny's Sri Lankan mum CARMEN (84), white, who has dementia. She's disheveled, scowling, a gray part in her black hair.

Carmen is an ad for Christmas: all in red with reindeer antlers. She wears only one red shoe.

CARMEN

I told you! I know where I live!

SUNNY

Thank you. Again. Come on Mum.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Tea surfs out of a cup in Carmen's trembling hand.

Sunny lovingly strokes Carmen's hair. Carmen inspects a vase full of Christmas decorations, the only nod to the season.

CARMEN

No tree? You're like the Grinch.
Humfp. Why haven't I heard from your
sister. Are you two fighting again?
You know you only have each other.

Sunny exhales through pursed lips. She's been here before.

SUNNY

We haven't seen her since Dad died.
You know that, Mum.

Carmen, fingering her rosary, is distracted by a MAGPIE outside the window.

CARMEN

One for sorrow.

Sunny holds Carmen's hand.

SUNNY

Two for joy.

CARMEN

I lived here with you, didn't I?

SUNNY

Yes, Mum. A long time ago.

CUT TO BLACK.

INT. CHILD'S BEDROOM - DAY

Winter rains and crashes outside the window. The room is expectant with hope: a cot, etc. Sunny (51) has LONG HAIR. She is NOT PREGNANT. She picks up a toy elephant attached to a pacifier. Rubs her cheek against it. A flash of grief.

INT. FOSTER CARER'S HOUSE - KID'S BEDROOM - DAY

Andy traces the gray rain on the window, with his finger.

A tennis ball hits him in the back of the head. He swivels toward a burly TEENAGER (14), male, white.

The Teenager hurls another tennis ball.

TEENAGER
Foster kid reject!

Andy ducks. Takes a fighting stance. The Teenager hurls another ball. Andy does elaborate, expert Taekwondo.

ANDY
Kay-AH!

Andy pins the Teenager to the floor. The door bangs open. The TEENAGER'S MOTHER (35), white, pulls Andy off her son.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - SUNNY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The sound of rain. Sunny sits up in bed, reading her laptop.

ON THE BEDSIDE TABLE: A clock reads 02:00AM. A digital photo frame: Sunny amid earthquake rubble, in a refugee camp, etc.

Post-it notes plaster the wall: *If you know where you'll be in 5 years, you've got no imagination; Thinking is overrated, etc.*

ON THE LAPTOP: Memes of "Sad Keanu" and "Grief changes shape but it never ends."

Sunny clicks on a three years old Esquire article.

Sunny is SUCKED INTO the laptop.

SUNNY
(floundering)
Whooooaaaaa!

Her butt gets stuck. Sunny is tugged into...

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

The Esquire interview. Sunny watches Keanu Reeves (52) lean back from an encroaching so-cool FAN BOY. Keanu wears his usual uniform -- black jacket, T-shirt and desert boots.

FAN BOY
Would you like to settle down?

KEANU
Nah. I'm fifty-two. It's too late to have kids.

FAN BOY
It's not too late. Look at Jagger.

Keanu chortles. Then sharply back to reality...

INT. CAFE - DAY

Sunny snaps her laptop closed. She's at a table. A sunshiny day. Music changes to a Christmas carol. Sunny gestures fingers down her throat. The BARISTA with elf ears smiles.

SUNNY
I just want the usual.

She opens a blank notebook. In the margins MAGPIES chatter.

BARISTA
Writing today?

SUNNY
Ergh. Trying to.

Sunny focuses on an empty page. Leans on one elbow. Removes a pen from her bun. Pucks her lips. P-p-p. Magpies SQUAWK in frustration. Sunny shushes them.

KEANU (V.O.)
It's too late to have kids.

Sunny chews her lip. Bows her head over her book. Writes.

SUNNY (V.O.)
Dear Keanu --

A flurry of words. SEVEN MAGPIES flutter from the pages. Perch on her shoulder, head, bench, the startled barista. They sing in mellifluous harmony.

INT. FOSTER THE FUTURE - KAILA'S OFFICE - DAY

Behind caseworker KAILA (25), white, a sunbeam with teeth, is a whiteboard labeled "FOSTER THE FUTURE MATCHES." Photos of couples are overlaid with photos of children's faces.

Kaila shuffles photos like cards. Places a dozen white future parents next to Andy's photo. Picks up Sunny's photo.

INT. CAFE - DAY

Sunny writes in her florid scrawl.

SUNNY (V.O.)

I'm almost fifty-two. Is it too late?
You talk of grief the way I feel it,
as if you're the only person in the
world who understands.

Sunny's phone vibrates -- Vrrr. VrrR. VRRRR!

ON THE PHONE: A voicemail from Foster the Future Agency.

Sunny coughs out her coffee. The magpies go berserk.

INT. JANE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Sunny's forehead is on the table.

Sunny's best friend JANE (51), a beach babe, holds Sunny's hands. A frame saying "SISTERS" suspends party girls Jane and Sunny (20s) in time.

SUNNY

Shit shit shit shit shit.

A huge rottweiler, REX, leans his chin on the table dolefully and whines. Sunny sits up. Exhales forcefully.

SUNNY (cont'd)

I said I wanted a baby. I can't keep
a relationship alive. How can I keep
a grown-ass kid alive?

JANE

You know babies turn into kids,
right? Just hear what they have to
say. What's the worst that could
happen?

SUNNY
You know me. Is that a serious
question?

INT./EXT. KAILA'S CAR - DAY (PARKED)

The car hums. Andy, in the back, scrutinizes a horror movie house. His eyes question Kaila, who has no answers.

ANDY
You got the number for Ghostbusters?

Andy squints at the second story window. The curtain shifts.

An unsmiling PALE BOY (10). Curtain drops.

Andy gasps.

KAILA
It's only temporary. But Andy, please
try to fit in this time.

Andy cocks his Nerf rifle, his face set, ready for battle.

ANDY
Okay, let's go.

INT./EXT. SUNNY'S CAR - DAY (PARKED)

A car hums in Sunny's garage. Sunny regards UNICEF boxes and a crawl space, at the back of the garage.

MEMORY HIT

In SRI LANKA, Sunny, in her UNICEF uniform, alights from a helicopter. It's surrounded by stone-faced CHILD SOLDIERS, carrying rifles. Sunny catches the deadened eyes of a BOY (10) with a gun. She smiles warmly. He grins broadly, his white teeth bright against his dark brown skin.

BACK TO SCENE

Sunny looks over her shoulder and reverses the car.

INT./EXT. CAR - DAY (MOVING)

Beach side vista. Sunny heeds her furrowed brow in the mirror. Pushes it smooth with her fingers. Exhales.

SUNNY
Just say no.

INT./EXT. CAR - DAY (PARKED)

Sunny brakes in front of a dour complex. Could be a detention center. Chain-link fence, tired play equipment.

EXT. FOSTER THE FUTURE - DAY

Sunny treads up the broken concrete path. Two empty swings start to swing as if occupied. Peels of kids' laughter.

INT. MEETING ROOM - DAY

Sunny is boxed in at the head of the table. Kaila is on one side. Her officious boss SAM (30s), female, white, is on the other. Sam opens a fat binder. Kaila's grin could break her face. Her voice is strawberry bubbles and exclamation marks.

KAILA
I know you wanted a baby! But we
thought he's Asian! And you're Asian!

SUNNY
You know Asians aren't all the same.

SAM
But you'd both tick Asian in a
survey. That's something. Just enroll
him in karate, cook some Korean food.
At least you're not vanilla.

FLASH: Sunny bangs her head on the table.

SNAPS BACK TO: Sunny starts to speak then stops. Sways back in her chair. Folds her arms. Her face says, "Hell, no."

INT./EXT. CAR - DAY (MOVING)

Sunny drives on the freeway in a daze. Rain pelts. The windscreen wipers are a noisy blur.

BEEP!!! Sunny snaps alert to an angry car horn.

She sniffs. Contains herself. She can't. She starts sobbing.

Sunny stops the car on the freeway. Cars honk. Folds her hands over the steering wheel. Keens like a wounded animal.

EXT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - FRONT YARD - DAY

Sunny peeps in the letterbox. Empty. Laughs at herself.

SUNNY

What was I thinking? Keanu Reeves,
the holy oracle.

INT. SUNNY'S BEDROOM - DAY

A slob's room. Sunny throws her clothes on her unmade bed. It's a mound of clothes, a laptop, glasses, pizza box, etc.

INT. SHOWER - DAY

The shower pummels her face like a form of punishment.

INT. SUNNY'S BEDROOM - DAY

Sunny trots stark naked into her bedroom. Gasps!

A NAKED MAN lies diagonally across the bed. The sheet barely covers him. His head and arm hang off the side of the bed.

Sunny silently ties a robe around her. Tiptoes out. Floorboards creak. He doesn't stir.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Sunny hesitates in the hallway. Peeks back into the bedroom.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Sunny edges toward the man. His face is turned to the floor.

She lies back on the floor. Caterpillars herself backward. Her face is below his.

Long black hair covers his face. It's the flaccid and drooling face of KEANU REEVES (55).

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Sunny awakens on the couch.

ON CEILING-HIGH BOOKSHELVES: A '70s photo of her Black father, white mother, little sister in front of a Kombivan in Petra; statues of couples and FERTILITY GODS; writing books; TWO WHITE TINS, one large, one small; a television.

A Keanu Reeves love scene is paused on the television. Sunny counts to ten on her fingers. Thinks. Adds two more.

SUNNY

Yep, definitely need a shag.

INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE - DAY

Therapist-slash-psychic CRYSTAL (60), Black, sits opposite Sunny in a purple chair. She holds out a packet of nuts.

CRYSTAL

Activated Brazil nuts?

SUNNY

Is that a diagnosis or a food?

Crystal cackles, a little off kilter.

CRYSTAL

You wrote to Keanu Reeves? That's crazy, even for you. And now he's naked, in your bed. Well, lucky you.

SUNNY

Are you allowed to say crazy?

CRYSTAL

I know it's been hard, losing your dad then miscarrying straight after.

Sunny shoots her a withering glare. Crystal raises her hands in surrender.

CRYSTAL (cont'd)

I come in peace. Listen, maybe Keanu is here to help your heart heal.

SUNNY

How can my heart heal when it's still breaking?

(bites her lip)

Maybe I'm too broken to love anyone.

Crystal lays her hand over Sunny's hand.

SUNNY (cont'd)
 Perhaps my sister was right. I'm
 bipolar like Mum and this is some
 sort of psychotic break.

CRYSTAL
 My diagnosis is your sister's a --

A car alarm drowns out "bitch!" then stops.

CRYSTAL (cont'd)
 There's nothing wrong with you that a
 good cry and a good --

Crystal click-clicks and winks.

CRYSTAL (cont'd)
 -- won't fix. I don't understand this
 fixation with what's real and what's
 not real.

SUNNY
 You're a therapist.

CRYSTAL
 I just feel we could all do with a
 little Keanu. Why not enjoy it?

INT. FOSTER CARE GROUP HOME - BEDROOM - DAY

Andy sleeps. On a poster behind him, Keanu sleeps beside a beagle. Andy's eyes flicker and his face contorts.

A shrill whistle. Andy sits up, groggy. Hits his head on the ceiling.

In the bunk below, a TATTOOED FOSTER KID (17), kicks Andy's bunk.

Andy watches A SURLY FOSTER KID (15), shove a FRIGHTENED FOSTER KID (10) into a wardrobe and slam the door.

Tattooed Foster Kid and Surly Foster Kid lock in on Andy.

TATTOOED FOSTER KID
 New kid, time for you to get changed.

Andy is shoved into the wardrobe. Door slams.

INT. WARDROBE - DAY

Inside the dark wardrobe, Andy turns to the other kid.

ANDY
This hotel's not to my usual
standard.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Andy and Frightened Foster Kid sit up in their twin beds. Burgers and chips wrappers are on the bedside table. A foster care WORKER (25), male, opens the door.

WORKER
How d'you like your hotel room, boys?

ANDY
It's an upgrade from the wardrobe.

WORKER
Lights out.

The puzzled Worker turns off the light. Closes the door. A night light stays on. Frightened Foster Kids starts to cry.

Andy quickens to the boy's side. The boy wraps his arms around Andy's neck.

FRIGHTENED FOSTER KID
Andy, I want to go home.

ANDY
Me too. Me too.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Sunny dumps shopping on the bench. Contemplates a sink of unwashed dishes, laundry on the kitchen floor. It's a tip.

SUNNY
Pfff. Home sweet home.

Sunny opens the fridge. On it is glimpsed a photo: Her father, DR DARREL FERNANDO (47), is a Black Clark Kent in a lab coat. Beside him is a HANGING SKELETON with a name badge "YORICK."

INT. UNIVERSITY - DARREL'S OFFICE - DAY (1970S FLASHBACK)

Darrel opens the fridge.

IN THE FRIDGE: A dissected hand and a plate of sandwiches.

Darrel offers the plate to his (unseen) daughter. Mirroring the photo, he's in a lab coat, standing with Yorick the skeleton.

DARREL
Vegemite or chili sambol?

Sunny's six-year-old hand takes the sambol sandwich.

DARREL (cont'd)
You're a terrible Australian.

SUNNY (O.S.)
Why is there a hand in your fridge?

DARREL
Well, little one, he donated his body so students can learn to be doctors who will save lives and it all goes in circles. Now he'll be reborn --

SUNNY
As a dragon!

DARREL
Don't tell your mother that or she'll make you go to church.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Sunny closes the fridge. Raises her beer to the photo.

SUNNY
Cheers Dad.

EXT. BACK YARD - DAY

Sunny does a half-pike onto the outdoor lounge set. It's next to a fertile vegetable patch amid a well-loved garden. Kookaburras laugh on the fence.

SUNNY
I guess it is kind of funny.

Sunny sits up alert. Spins around. Beside her sits Keanu. Keanu is pale and waxy, built for sun but living in shadow. His eyes are puffy, his beard patchy with errant gray hairs.

Sunny stands and screams.

SUNNY (cont'd)
You're not real.

KEANU
Yes, I am.

SUNNY
No. You're not.

KEANU
So hit me. Come on, hi --

Sunny slaps him across the face without hesitation. Hard.

KEANU (cont'd)
Ow! I thought Australians were nice.

Keanu rubs the red hand print. Sunny studies him.

SUNNY
You don't look like you do in your movies.

KEANU
You've seen them?

SUNNY
Some. Some are better than others.

Keanu clutches his chest. Drops to his knee. Face plants.

Sunny runs to him. Rolls him over. Watches his chest. Nothing! Listens over his mouth for breathing. Her eyes bug.

KEANU
YAAAAAAA!

Sunny stumbles back.

KEANU (cont'd)
Who said I couldn't act?

SUNNY
Not funny!

Keanu raises one eyebrow.

KEANU
It's a little bit funny.

A pink manila folder is on a crate. Sunny's brows knit.

KEANU (cont'd)
It was next to your laptop.

He opens the folder. Reads a page in his phone sex voice.

KEANU (cont'd)
 "Close protection." That's bodyguards
 right? The sex got my attention.

SUNNY
 Men are simple creatures.

KEANU
 I prefer uncomplicated.

"Make My Dreams" by Hall and Oates (or similar) starts up.

SUNNY
 What the --

Keanu jumps up. Offers his hand. Sunny hesitantly accepts.
 She's magically in a flowing gown. Picks it up, baffled.

Keanu spins her into --

A FLASH MOB OF KEANUS. Sunny is spun from "Bill and Ted"
 Keanu to "John Wick" Keanu. The Keanus dance in unison then
 kneel on one knee. Sunny runs across their bent knees.

MONTAGE - KEANU AS SUNNY'S FANTASY

The music continues...

-- Sunny and Keanu are clambered over by PUPPIES!

KEANU
 Puppies!

-- Sunny, arms full of groceries, is bumped by a gruff man
 who pushes past a beagle.

SUNNY
 Hey!

KEANU
 I got this.

Keanu, John Wick style, guns the man down.

-- Keanu gives Sunny a WHITE CERAMIC HEART. She's
 overwhelmed. The music gets thin and anxious as...

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY

Sunny looks down the hallway to Keanu on the lounge. She
 wears his uniform: T-shirt, jeans and a jacket. No shoes.

Three loud knocks. Sunny startles. Wipes her sweat mustache.

SUNNY
How do I look?

KEANU
Someone will always be younger, but
they will never be you.

SUNNY
When did my age become an accusation,
not a date in my passport?

KEANU
But you said -- never mind.

INT./EXT. ENTRANCE - DAY

Kaila beams at the top of the stairs, a suitcase beside her. Another winter. She's in an overcoat with a wet umbrella.

KAILA
Helloooo! We're finally here!

Andy, now TEN YEARS OLD, is partly hidden behind Kaila. Andy carries a stuffed trash bag and a Nerf gun. He peeks out. His face is open but uncertain. Sunny crouches to his level.

SUNNY
Hi, Andy.

Andy notices Sunny's HAIRY MONKEY TOES.

ANDY
You've got monkey toes.

Andy appraises Sunny, hair to toes -- She's PART MONKEY. His laughter erupts, carrying Sunny and Kaila in its lava.

INT. ANDY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Andy sits up in bed. It's difficult to get a read on him. Sunny closes a children's book and smiles warmly.

SUNNY
Shall I sing you a bedtime song?

ANDY
Depends if you can sing. You start
and then I'll decide.

Sunny chuckles. Starts to sing "That Way" by Shakira (or similar schmaltzy tearjerker).

SUNNY

(sings)

*Lay down
Lay down your head on my shoulder --*

ANDY

Yeah -- Nup.

SUNNY

A critic huh?

ANDY

I call 'em like I see 'em.

SUNNY

Do you like your room?

ANDY

It could do with some redecorating.

SUNNY

Well, we'll unpack tomorrow and go from there. Time for bed.

Trash bags bulge beside a plastic arsenal in his IKEA room.

ANDY

(staring her down)

I want to go home.

SUNNY

It's too late to go back.

ANDY

It's eight o'clock. We could be there by nine-thirty.

Sunny shifts uncomfortably.

SUNNY

This is your home now. Time for bed.

Andy's body shudders. He rocks, grabbing his knees to his chest. His eyes are wild. He wails. It's visceral.

ANDY

I can't. I can't. I can't. I can't sleep so far from home.

Andy clutches at his heart. Can't catch his breath.

INT. ANDY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sunny perches on Andy's bed, lit softly by a dragon bedside light. Andy's closed eyes flicker as if dreaming. Sunny smiles fondly, kisses his forehead. Leaves.

Andy, wide awake, follows her with his eyes. She turns off the hallway lights and closes her bedroom door.

Andy gets out his lightsaber. Tiptoes to the door. Sunny's light goes off. Andy turns on the bright blue lightsaber.

MONTAGE - ANDY EXPLORES THE HOUSE

-- Andy does Luke Skywalker moves down the hallway.

-- Stops in the living room. Snoops into every box. Picks up the ceramic heart. Drops it. Barely catches it.

ANDY
That was close!

-- Traipses past Sunny's open laptop on the dining table.

-- In the kitchen he drinks from the milk bottle.

-- Moseys back to the laptop. Bends over it. Reads.

ANDY (cont'd)
Boring!

And swigs milk. Coughs it onto the keyboard. The laptop shorts out.

Andy wheels around. Sunny plods to the fridge, half awake.

Andy screams. Sunny screams.

SUNNY
I forgot you were here.

ANDY
(points to laptop)
You made me drop the milk.

END MONTAGE

INT. ANDY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sunny tucks Andy in.

SUNNY
Stay.

ANDY
Woof!

INT. SUNNY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sunny and Keanu stare at the ceiling, brows furrowed. Together they close their eyes. Deep meditative breaths.

SUNNY
What did you say about love at first sight? You want that connection, and then you want some problems?

KEANU
Yeah, you got one for two.

ON THE BEDSIDE TABLE: A clock reads 02:00 AM. The digital photo frame: she's DANCING ON A TABLE, in a helicopter, etc.

Her body twitches. She breathes heavily. Snore. Snore. Not a cute snuffle. A snore that would send you to the couch.

Keanu sits up. Snoring stops -- then SNORE. Drool.

Keanu turns Sunny on her side. Pinches her lips together. No joy. He covers his head with a pillow.

Muffled screams. Sunny's eyes flicker. Her eyes twitch from corner to corner of the room. Something moves next to her.

She yelps.

Fighting under the covers next to her is Andy, her new son.

EXT. BUSHLAND - DAY (DREAM FLASHBACK)

Andy (8) is surrounded by burning bushland. Kangaroos leap away. Andy twists, searching the bush and shouting.

ANDY
Ethan! Ethan!

Through the trees speeds ETHAN (12), a tween Adonis. He wears an ORANGE shirt. He jumps his bike into the clearing.

EXT. SUNNY'S STREET - DAY

Andy jumps in a puddle beside Sunny's ancient unwashed car.

Sunny scans up and down the street nervously. No one.

SUNNY
We're not driving.

ANDY
Are we flying?

SUNNY
We're walking.

ANDY
I don't walk.

SUNNY
(looks at his legs)
What are those for?

ANDY
Marching yes, walking no.

Andy snarls. Sunny swivels him to their path.

SUNNY
Then march.

Sunny's head snaps back to a felt presence. Still no one.

EXT. SUBURBAN FOREST - DAY

Sunny and Andy amble through a wonderland of wooden paths and rainforest trees. Keanu dawdles behind. Sunny points out a moving lizard. Andy tilts over the wooden railing. Sunny surveys his face, flushed with wonder. Keanu joins them.

ANDY
Kaila said you're a writer. People pay you to make up stories?

SUNNY
I'm writing a memoir, before I start forgetting. I haven't sold it. Yet.

ANDY
So you're unemployed.

SUNNY
No. I'm a writer.

ANDY
Sounds like the same thing.

Keanu chortles.

SUNNY
You sound like my mother.

ANDY
You know what I wish?

SUNNY
What do you wish?

ANDY
I wish a bomb landed here and killed everyone except me and Mum and Dad.

Sunny is formulating a response when --

ANDY (cont'd)
Or just your house. 'Cause otherwise there'd be no kids to play with.

SUNNY
You want to kill me?

ANDY
No I wouldn't kill you. The bomb would kill you. Then I could go back to Mum and Dad. They had a much better house, three stories tall.

Sunny's eyebrows knit. Keanu's eyebrows jump.

SUNNY
Andy, why do you think you're living with me?

ANDY
Because, Mum works all night and they gave her parenting classes but she didn't pass the test. But if she studies harder, I know she can pass.

Sunny's mouth twitches. The trio bend over the railing, scouring the gully. The lizard scurries under a rock. The gentle swish of trees. The gurgle of the stream.

Andy steps closer to Sunny. Puts his arm around her waist.

ANDY (cont'd)
Can I call you Mum?

SUNNY
Ah, yeah, um, if you like.

Sunny consults Keanu, bewildered. He shrugs. Her arm hovers over Andy, unsure where to land. *Strange but wonderful.*

EXT. ROCK POOL - DAY

Water swirls in the local rock pool. Choppy but manageable.

ANDY
I'm a great swimmer.

SUNNY
Good. In you go then.

Andy steps into the pool. Glances back. Sucks his lips.

A freak wave surges over the rock wall. Andy loses his footing. Disappears under the foamy water. Gone.

Keanu dives into the rock pool.

Sunny rushes to the pool's edge. Another wave crashes into the pool, thrusting Andy and Keanu flailing out of the pool.

The water, like a tsunami, sucks out again. As Andy and Keanu are pulled back in --

A TALL MAN grabs Andy by the shoulder. Andy coughs. Sunny wraps him in a towel. She beholds the Tall Man's judgment.

SUNNY (cont'd)
He said he could swim.

Keanu, waving for help, is ripped out to sea.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Keanu, dripping wet, shivers in front of the heater.

Andy, tucked in a blanket, sits on the couch. Sunny is shaken. She bandages long bleeding grazes on Andy's forearm.

SUNNY
Never tell someone you can swim.

ANDY
Can I watch YouTube?

SUNNY
I don't have the internet.

ANDY
You don't have the internet?!

SUNNY
Now you're panicking? I'll sort it out tomorrow.

ANDY
 (holds up his pinky)
 Promise?!

They lock pinkies. He pins her thumb down HARD with his own.

ANDY (cont'd)
 Locked in.

SUNNY
 How about a DVD? Do you like dragons?

Sunny loads a DVD: "HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON" (or similar dragon-themed movie). Presses play.

The TV glow plays on Andy's face. The sweeping music begins. Andy leans into the fantasy.

TWEEN BOY (V.O.)
 When it seems hopeless, remember --

INT. ANDY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Andy tosses and turns as he dreams.

TWEEN BOY (V.O.)
 Somewhere in the world, there's
 dragons!

The walls and floor fall away leaving his bed floating in dark clouds. Andy and the bed free fall into...

EXT. DRAGON REALM - CASTLE - NIGHT

Andy flies, in his pajamas, on an elegant red dragon, QUEEN MINYANA, Andy's mother.

In Dragon Realm, humans and dragons are real enough to light your butt on fire. It's "HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON" brought to life, except devoid of mirth. Anger, fear and desperation rule the realm.

Shouting VILLAGERS hurl flaming torches at a stone castle. The gates clunk open. Screeching horns, like colossal talons down a chalkboard. Villagers cover their ears.

Black horses, gilded with blue steel and spikes, bear armored HULKING MEN. They gallop out of the gate, unafraid.

Villagers charge with spears and axes. Above them, their archers' arrows pepper the sky then bounce off enemy armor.

Villagers are shredded to the ground.

Andy gawks at the scene from high in the clouds. Wind blows the collar of his pajamas back. Thunder. Lightning.

From between the lightning --

Monstrous steel-blue dragons dive -- DOJOVICS!

ANDY

Dojovics!

Dojovics claw at fleeing villagers. They drop the villagers, who yell and tumble from heights.

ANDY

Get 'em Mum!

Minyana dives. Her talons pierce a Dojovic's scales.

BLUE LIGHT flashes from the wound, like police lights.

Minyana throws the Dojovic against a mountain.

Silver talons wrench Andy from Minyana. They DROP HIM.

Andy tumbles through the sky. Minyana zooms toward him.

Whop. Andy hits the ground. LIFELESS.

EXT. DRAGONIA MOUNTAIN - NIGHT

Seven glorious dragons circle around a stone altar, on which Andy lies. His chest is bare.

Minyana rips up a red dragon scale, revealing a luminous, white, pulsating heart.

Minyana's talon cleaves her heart in two as she bellows.

Miyana opens Andy's chest. She plants in half her heart.

The dragons lift their heads. Roar fire into the starless sky. A dome forms over them, pulsing with sparkling light.

Andy gasps. His eyes open -- DRAGON EYES.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - SUNNY'S BEDROOM - DAY

Andy's face is above Sunny's face as she sleeps. His trail of spit skims her face. He sucks it up.

Sunny rubs her face. Squints. Andy rumbles, face intent.

ANDY
Rrrrrrr! I'm a dragon.

INT. BOWLING ALLEY - NIGHT

Christian's face is similarly intent. Bowls a ball. Beside him is his bowling team (50s), white, male: A weasel-faced GREASY LAWYER, a Friar-tuck BALD GUY, and a GYM JUNKIE.

They wear black shirts emblazoned with FOUR LARGE MAGPIES.

BALD GUY
You think they're on to us?

CHRISTIAN
We're merely a seniors bowling team.

GYM JUNKIE
Easy!

BALD GUY
The longer you drag this out, the more attention you bring to us.

GREASY LAWYER
Your best chance is to
(air apostrophes)
"leave" Min. Let Min get custody then grab Andy and take off.

CHRISTIAN
(holds out money)
Hey Ethan, get us some beers. Get yourself one too.

Ethan (14) bites his bleeding nails. Looks at...

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Kaila is lost in thoughts of Ethan. She watches Andy through the window, playing outside.

KAILA
We can't save them all.

EXT. BACK YARD - SAME TIME

Andy, with his "Call of Duty" platoon, creep up on the enemy camp comprised of Greasy Lawyer, Bald Guy and Gym Junkie.

INTERCUT - KITCHEN/BACK YARD

Kaila and Sunny watch Andy fight the unseen enemy.

KAILA

We can't prove Christian hurt Andy, unless someone comes forward. But he was released ten years ago with strict parole conditions. He can't live or work with children. No judge will let Andy live with Christian. And Min won't leave him.

SUNNY

No family's going to come out of the woodwork?

Andy jumps off the boulder with a blood-curdling call.

KAILA

Christian's DNA test says he's not the dad. He has no claim to Andy. We tried Min's side. No one wants him.

Kaila accepts Sunny's proffered tea.

KAILA (cont'd)

You didn't want your own kids?

Sunny takes a second to compose herself.

SUNNY

Biology was never important to me. You don't own a kid, right?

KAILA

No, they own you.

Kaila watches Andy fire his Nerf gun. He waves at Kaila.

ANDY

Hey Mum!

KAILA

(waves back at Andy)
He calls everyone Mum. He doesn't really know what Mum means.

Sunny pouts.

KAILA (cont'd)
 The hearing's in six weeks. The judge will rubber stamp it and he'll be all yours. If you still want him. The honeymoon period'll be over by then.

SUNNY
 What if he doesn't want me?

INT./EXT. CAR - DAY (PARKED)

CLUNK. The car door shuts. Sunny's in the driver seat, Keanu beside her. Andy slams the back door. Sunny twists to Andy.

SUNNY
 Belt on.

ON THE CAR CLOCK: 09:00 AM

Sunny looks up at the dirty windscreen, engraved with "YOU SUK." Keanu barks out a laugh.

SUNNY (CONT'D)
 For future reference, it's spelled S-U-C-K.

She squirts it with water and turns on the wipers.

ANDY
 Knucklehead.

INT./EXT. CAR - DAY (MOVING)

The beach side vista becomes fields of identical boxes. Andy, mouth open, puffs his cheeks on the car window. Makes fart noises.

KEANU
 Do you believe in a world where anything is possible?

SUNNY
 Maybe not anything.

KEANU
 What if you're not imagining me? What if I'm imagining you?

SUNNY
 We're not in the Matrix. This is my life and you're a supporting character.

KEANU

Ouch.

SUNNY

I need a supporting character. It's a compliment.

The first freeway McDonald's comes into view.

ANDY

I want McDonald's.

SUNNY

No.

ANDY

Why not?

SUNNY

Because it's not healthy. There's some snacks in that bag beside you.

Andy investigates the cool-bag. Unlocks a container of carrot sticks. Sniffs one. With the tip of his tongue barely touches the carrot. Grimaces.

Sunny views the drama in the rear-view mirror.

ANDY

Dragons don't eat orange things.

Andy throws the carrots at her head.

KEANU

Excellent! The honeymoon's over.

Andy kicks her seat, hard.

ANDY

I'm bored. I want an iPad!

SUNNY

Look out the window. That's the iPad I had at your age.

Keanu chuckles. Sunny turns on the radio. Something upbeat.

ANDY

Turn that off.

SUNNY

When I drive I listen to music.

ANDY
Turn that off!

SUNNY
Hey!

Andy rhythmically hits his head against the window.

ANDY
Turn that off, off, off, off.

Sunny snaps off the music.

SUNNY
Okay, okay, okay.

Andy screws up his face. Lifts a butt cheek. A loud FART. Sunny covers her nose, coughing. Winds down the window.

SUNNY (cont'd)
One spark and you'd start a fire.

Andy snickers. More cookie cutter houses out the window.

Andy is quiet. Too quiet. Sunny and Keanu consult the rear-view mirror. He's out of sight.

Andy forages through Sunny's handbag. Pulls out a Sri Lankan fifty rupee note.

ANDY
I found fifty dollars!

SUNNY
That's Sri Lankan money. It's worth about twenty cents.

ANDY
I'm going to rip it up!

SUNNY
Put it back. It's sentimental.

Andy pinches his chin, thinking.

ANDY
Why did the money go to the doctor?

SUNNY
Why?

ANDY
Because it felt worthless.

Andy cracks up at his own joke. In the mirror, Sunny watches him hold his belly, laugh with his entirety.

Sunny snorts a laugh. Her face beams and softens.

Andy catches Sunny smiling in the rear view mirror.

In the mirror Sunny spies Andy. He holds up the money.

Slowly tears it down the middle. Sunny slams the brakes.

KEANU

You little mother --

A horn HONKS out "fucker." Sunny breathes in, out. Massages her temple. Keanu speaks to himself as much as to Sunny.

KEANU (cont'd)

Be thankful for the hard times. They can only make you stronger.

SUNNY

Oh, bite me.

ON THE CAR CLOCK: 10:30 AM

Andy rhythmically kicks Sunny's seat. Her white knuckles strangle the steering wheel.

ANDY

McDonald's, McDonald's, McDonald's.

The car stops at the bleak Foster the Future building.

Andy escapes the car as the handbrake comes on.

Sunny watches him tear up the concrete path.

ANDY (cont'd)

Muuuuuum!

EXT. FOSTER THE FUTURE - DAY

Kaila stands behind Min, now primly dressed and bright.

Sunny tucks her hair behind her ears, smooths her clothing. Half smiles as she falters toward Min. Catches Min's eyes.

Beside Min is the wrapped Christmas bicycle and two super-sized Nerf automatic guns wrapped in cellophane.

Andy runs to the presents not his mum. Rips the wrapping.

Min steps forward. Draws herself up to her full tiny height. Sunny holds out her hand. Min shakes her hand strongly. Min speaks in a broad Australian accent.

MIN
I'm Min, Andy's Mum. Thanks for minding him.
(crouches to Andy)
Dad will get you back with us by Mother's Day. By Mother's Day. I promise. Dad misses you so much.

Min holds up a jumbo bag of McDonald's.

MIN (cont'd)
I bought lunch.

Sunny's mouth twitches. Keanu motions: Breathe in, out.

INT. FOSTER THE FUTURE - DAY

Andy lies on the floor, playing "Call of Duty" at full volume. He slurps Coke. McDonald's detritus surrounds him. Min, Kaila and Sunny stand together awkwardly.

Andy shoots a woman in the video game. Smirks at Sunny.

ANDY
Got ya!

MIN
Good one, honey.

SUNNY
(overlapping)
Should he be playing that?

MIN
He plays that twenty-four seven. His Dad was a war hero.

Kaila glances at Sunny. Andy yells as he slays the enemy.

ANDY
Hey Mum!

SUNNY
Yes?

MIN
Yes?

ANDY
No, real Mum. Is there any more Coke?

Min hands Andy her Coke. Hugs him desperately. He pushes her off, focused on the game. Min turns to Sunny.

MIN

I made a list of things he eats,
brand of toothpaste, other stuff.

Sunny accepts Min's list. Keanu reads over her shoulder.

SUNNY

Thank you. That's helpful.
(reading)
He likes carrots. Little --

Keanu covers Sunny's mouth.

Andy kills an ANIMATED SUNNY in the video game. Animated Sunny chokes and weaves, dying like a bad stage actor.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

ANIMATED SUNNY falls back on the couch. Sits up. Looks down the hall. Andy yells like a maniac. Slams his bedroom door.

SUNNY

Reality sucks.

Keanu is (ANIMATED) JOHNNY SILVERHAND, his Cyberpunk 2077 gaming character.

JOHNNY SILVERHAND

Was it the Coke or do we need an
exorcism?

INT. ANDY'S BEDROOM - DAY

Andy turns off his devil child act. Sniggers. Launches onto his bed. Sees a rip in the wallpaper seam. Picks at it like a scab. Pulls hard. The bed shoots away from the wall.

ANDY

Wheeeee!

Andy squats. He tears a huge triangle of wallpaper.

Checks over his shoulder. *Phew!* No one. Under the tear --

A child's drawing: A Christmas tree, a family labeled "Dad, Mum, Bubby, Sooky," a BLACK SHADOW and SEVEN BIRDS.

Andy rips the wallpaper to the skirting boards. A piece of skirting shifts. Andy pulls it loose -- there's A HOLE.

Andy, his face on the floor, peers into the hole. Levers his fingers into it. Grunts.

Andy pulls out a GIRL'S DIARY with a lock and a MUSIC BOX.

Andy opens the music box. A ballerina freezes mid-pirouette.

INSIDE THE MUSIC BOX: A mood ring, a necklace with THREE MAGPIES, the diary key and 1970s photos of --

SOOKY (10) has a face made for mischief with tight black ringlets and caramel skin.

Andy unlocks SOOKY'S DIARY. A girl's laughter. He reads.

Sooky's hands REACH OUT of the diary PULLING ANDY INTO...

INT. ANDY'S BEDROOM - DAY (1970S)

Andy's room is as it was in the 1970s. Sooky, the previous occupant, pulls Andy to sit by her. She motions "Shhh."

SOOKY
(whispering)
Hi, I'm Sooky.

Sooky draws a SEVENTH BIRD on her wall art.

SOOKY (cont'd)
Seven for a secret to never be told.

SOOKY'S MUM (32), white, hangs bubblegum pink wallpaper. Sports a beehive, tight Capris pants, RED SHOES. She sings along to the transistor radio, the same upbeat song that Sunny sang. Andy's eyes close drowsily. The music darkens...

EXT. DRAGON REALM - DRAGONIA MOUNTAIN - NIGHT

CHRISTA, a powerful BLACK DRAGON, Andy's father, soars above the mountain. Dragons gaze up at his vast wings.

SWOOSH! Christa's wings, flecked with white, cut the sky. He thuds down next to his dragon throne. Settles into it. From the Medieval village below, a band and soft cheering.

Below the throne, a dozen YOUNG DRAGONS wrestle and tumble.

CHRISTA
Come!

A young ORANGE DRAGON curls up beside Christa's tail.

Minyana puts her wing protectively around a small RED DRAGON -- Andy in dragon form.

MINYANA

Andy, stay here with me.

Andy wriggles free and takes flight. Andy dives and loops low above Christa. Christa's tail flicks the Orange Dragon away as it grasps Andy. Christa pulls Andy to his belly.

CHRISTA

Come, son!

Andy checks Minyana who paces anxiously.

The fire crackles. The night bursts with stars. The Young Dragons cavort. Andy nestles into Christa.

Tearing through the blackness -- DOJOVICS!

The Dojovics breathe blue fire. MOTHER DRAGONS protect Young Dragons in their wings. Some escape.

The Orange Dragon is plucked by a Dojovic and carried away.

Christa's bright yellow dragon fire pierces the sky.

He spreads his massive wings. Takes off -- SWOOSH!

Christa claws at the Dojovic hoisting the Orange Dragon in its claws. The Orange Dragon shrieks and writhes. Christa's giant talons gore the chest of the Dojovic.

The Orange Dragon free-falls.

It hurtles, inches from the ground -- Minyana SCOOPS it up.

The ANGRY ROAR of the Dojovics as they wing away.

Christa's dragons return, huddling against their young.

Andy stands alone and apart. Minyana settles by Christa.

From nowhere, a Dojovic SWOOPS!

It SNATCHES ANDY and rockets through the sky. Andy thrashes.

ANDY

Daaaady! Daaaady!

Andy's scream continues onto...

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - ANDY'S BEDROOM - DAY

Human Andy screams and punches. He's asleep on the floor. Sooky's open diary falls under the bed.

ANDY

Let me go!

Sunny rushes in. Rocks him in her arms as his eyes open.

SUNNY

It's okay. It's okay. You are safe,
you are loved, you are safe, you are
loved. Shh, shh, shh.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Sunny and Keanu sit in front of the fire. They cradle their glasses of wine. Pensive.

SUNNY

I don't know how to help him.

KEANU

Grief isn't a disease that looks a
certain way and lasts so long. There
is no prescription to cure it.

INT. ST BASIL'S NURSING HOME - DAY

Sunny holds Andy's hand.

SUNNY

You ready?

Andy nods. They approach Carmen, seated. Carmen twists away.

SUNNY (cont'd)

Mum, this is Andy. Andy, this is my
mum. You can call her Archie.

Carmen regards Sunny. Looks Andy up and down. Turns away.

SUNNY (cont'd)

Why don't you check out those toys?

Andy scampers toward Keanu at the back of the huge space.

SUNNY (cont'd)

Mum, you wanted another grandchild.
Ta da! You've got one. One that will
come to see you. Make an effort.

Carmen ignores her.

SUNNY (cont'd)

Hello? I know you can hear me.

CARMEN

I don't have my hearing aids in.

Carmen flashes spite at Sunny, curls her lip.

CARMEN (cont'd)

That's all you care about now. No time for your mother!

SUNNY

Mum, don't I deserve to have a life?

CARMEN

Not at the cost of mine! And why do you want another woman's child?

Sunny checks over her shoulder. Andy tracks them through the gun sight of a toy gun, listening to everything.

INT./EXT. CAR - DAY (MOVING)

Sunny reverses out of the nursing home. Her face crumples. Keanu squeezes her hand. Sunny breaks down.

ANDY

Control yourself. No tears.

SUNNY

That's an awful thing to say.

ANDY

That's what Dad says.

SUNNY

It's okay to feel sad, Andy.

(gently)

How you would feel if something bad happened to you?

ANDY

I'd be tough, like Dad. I'd feel nothing.

Sunny searches Andy's hard face. He clenches his jaw.

INT. COURT HOUSE - FAMILY COURT - DAY

Christian clenches his jaw. He's suited up, on the court room stand. The JUDGE (60), white, male, presides. Christian's friend, Greasy Lawyer, stands in front of him.

CHRISTIAN

I'm the head of the School Parents
Committee and I coach kids' soccer.

Min fiddles with her necklace anxiously, in the front row.

At the complainants desk: SKINNY POLICEMAN, a POLICE LAWYER
(55), female, and a somber Kaila. Kaila catches Min's eye.

GREASY LAWYER

Mister Ward is a pillar of the local
community. He loves his son. Whilst
it's true Mister Ward disappeared
while on parole ten years ago --

JUDGE

This is family court not criminal
court.

(to Police Lawyer)

Anything final to add?

The Police Lawyer stands.

POLICE LAWYER

DNA shows Mister Ward is not the
biological father so has no claim --

Christian's face is lined with pain. The judge signals
"Stop!"

JUDGE

Mister Ward's name is on the birth
certificate. He has the right to
contest the removal of his child. We
will reconvene in --

(checks papers)

-- five weeks as planned.

The Judge bangs the gavel. Christian swaggers toward Min.

CHRISTIAN

We'll get him back, baby.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - ANDY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sunny sings "That Way" (or similar) as she strokes Andy's
hair. His eyes fight sleep.

SUNNY

(sings softly)

Hey, now

Let's just depart from the notion

That I love you too much --

Asleep at last. Sunny kisses Andy's head and leaves.

EXT. DRAGON REALM - DRAGONIA CLIFFS - NIGHT

Dragon Andy is thrown in a cage. Curled in a corner is a small PINK DRAGON -- Sooky. She lifts her chin.

SOOKY

Andy, is that you? It's me, Sooky!

Dragon Sooky launches at him, grabbing him fiercely.

SOOKY (cont'd)

I'm so happy to see you! How did we get here?

ANDY

We're dragons. This is our real world. The human world is the dream world.

Andy charges the cage door.

SOOKY

It's no use. You can't escape.

A sleek PURPLE DRAGON lands -- SUNNYENA. Sunnyena marks the SCRAWNY DOJOVIC circling above the cage.

SCRAWNY DOJOVIC

Is this one acceptable?

Sunnyena clumps up to the cage. Studies Andy. Pads around the cage, as Andy turns to keep her always in view.

SUNNY

Mmmm. He will make a fine heir.

ANDY

I'll never be your heir! My dad will come for me and then you'll be sorry!

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Sunny and Keanu pound down ice cream. Andy's dragon roar booms from the bedroom.

KEANU

That is one messed up little dude.

SUNNY

I don't know how I'm going to sleep.

TEN MINUTES LATER

Sunny snores on the couch, ice cream melting over her.

Human Andy sleepwalks past Sunny, who doesn't budge.

SERIES OF SHOTS

-- Andy scatters the neatly stacked papers on the table.

-- Andy pushes a button. The stove flares to life.

-- Andy treads over Sunny's important papers.

-- Andy clicks on the gas heater.

-- Sleeping on the couch, Sunny sniffs. She opens her eyes.

Andy looms above Sunny. He takes the pillow from under her head. Pauses. Gazes at her with vacant eyes. Turns. Leaves.

-- Andy climbs into the bath. Curles into a fetal position. Covers his head with the pillow. Sunny sits on the bath's edge. Sunny struggles to lift Andy.

INT. ANDY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sunny heaves Andy's dead weight, banging his head against door frame.

As Sunny drops him in his bed, Andy's head smacks the wall. Sunny turns to Keanu in the doorway.

SUNNY

Thanks for the help.

KEANU

You're doing fine on your own.

Andy's eyes flit under closed eyelids.

EXT. DRAGON REALM - DRAGONIA CLIFFS - NIGHT

Dragon Sooky and Dragon Andy remain trapped in the cage. Andy paces.

SOOKY

Maybe it wouldn't be so bad being her heir. You would rule her kingdom.

ANDY
I am heir to the kingdom of Christa!
We have to escape, find our way home.

Andy charges at the cage door. Nothing.

ANDY (cont'd)
Okay, time to try my dragon fire.

Andy inhales sharply. Blows out a couple of tiny sparks then puffs of smoke. He coughs.

SOOKY
You're not grown up.

ANDY
Yet.

Andy charges full pace at the cage door. Falls on his back. A couple of rocks tumble from the cliffs above.

ANDY (cont'd)
Come on! Help me!

Sooky and Andy RAM the cage door. It opens a smidgen. Sooky squeezes out. As she does --

AVALANCHE!

Bowling balls of rock rain down. Sooky pulls Andy's tail.

SOOKY
Come on!

They fret, ducking falling rocks. Sooky tugs and tugs.

SOOKY
I won't leave you!

The avalanche BURIES SOOKY.

ANDY
Noooo!

Andy sniffs at Sooky's paw, still over his tail. He nudges his snout under her limp paw.

ANDY (cont'd)
Sooky? Sooky?

Andy weeps. A shard of light falls in his eyes. He looks up. The cage bars are twisted open by the avalanche.

Andy flappers to the top of the cage. Clasps the bars. His head pokes out. All clear.

Andy flies from the cage. Hovers over Sooky's body. He picks up boulder after boulder with his mouth. It's hopeless.

A young white LIGHT FURY dragon alights. She picks a boulder off Sooky. They exchange looks. It's not over yet!

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - ANDY'S BEDROOM - DAY

Sunny pads into Andy's bedroom. He's buried by blankets. She pulls back the covers. Human Andy opens then shuts his eyes.

SUNNY

I can see you're awake.

Andy snarls.

SUNNY (cont'd)

It's a big day. First day of school.

Andy's new school uniform is laid out on his desk.

ANDY

I'm not going! And you're sitting on my Light Fury!

Sunny jumps off the bed.

SUNNY

Where?

Andy points to an empty space on top of the covers.

SUNNY (cont'd)

I can't see it. What's its name?

ANDY

She doesn't have a human name.

SUNNY

Well, she's a Light Fury so -- how about Lumière? It's French for light.

Andy cocks his head at LUMIERE, the Light Fury he clearly sees. She's guarded him from the Dragon Realm to the human realm. Lumière romps over his bed and licks his face.

ANDY

Lumière. She likes that.

SUNNY
Would Lumière go to school with you?

LATER

Rrrr! Andy gnars as he grapples with his shirt buttons.

ANDY
Why does it have to have buttons?!

Andy thrusts his chin. Puffs like he's breathing dragon fire. A couple of sparks. A puff of smoke.

ANDY (cont'd)
Hmph! I suppose you can help me.

Sunny poorly hides her smile. Squats. Buttons his shirt.

ANDY (cont'd)
Look at that. You can do buttons.

They chuckle. Andy views his undone laces.

SUNNY
You can't do laces?

ANDY
Dragons don't wear shoes.

INT./EXT. ENTRANCE - DAY

Sunny clocks her phone.

SUNNY
Plenty of time. Let's go.

Andy, biting his lip, searches her face. Sunny kneels. Puts her hands on his shoulders. Smiles encouragingly.

Andy throws up an Exorcist-like fountain of vomit.

EXT. SCHOOL - ENTRANCE - DAY

Primary school children swarm in yellow and black uniforms. They laugh and chat, clearly in cliques.

Sunny escorts Andy. Andy is dwarfed in his oversize uniform and backpack. His hat flops over his eyes.

The bell RIIINGS! Andy's hand grasps Sunny's hand. She squeezes it reassuringly.

INT. SCHOOL FOYER - DAY

Andy crouches beside Lumière whilst Sunny signs in.

ON THE SIGN-IN IPAD: Two options -- "Parent" or "Visitor."

Sunny chews her bottom lip. Wavers. Chooses "Parent."

Buzz. The door between the foyer and school office opens.

A TEACHER with funky horn-rimmed glasses opens the door.

TEACHER

Hi, Andy. Ready to meet your
classmates?

Sunny pushes Andy's hat back off his face. He's shaking. She gives him a sympathetic half-smile.

INT. MAIN CLASSROOM - DAY

A MATH TEACHER oversees thirty privileged KIDS, most white.

MATH TEACHER

The product of six and seven is --

Kids raise their hands. The Teacher looks at Andy.

MATH TEACHER (cont'd)

Andy? The product of six and seven?

ANDY

(dragon voice)

Forty?

The Math Teacher shakes her head.

ANDY (cont'd)

Am I close?

The Math Teacher stifles a laugh. Lumière cocks her head.

Queen of the Cool Nerds NEVE (10), with a RAINBOW OF HAIR extensions, giggles. She catches Andy's eye.

INT. ART CLASSROOM - DAY

A hipster ART TEACHER patrols the room as kids draw.

ART TEACHER

Your family tree has branches.

PRESTON (10), a Prince Charming type, fixes on Neve.

PRESTON
Um, yeah, like a tree.

Neve titters. She's seated next to Andy. Andy's asleep.

Preston signals his GANG of boys. Rolls up a spit ball. Shoots it through a straw. Hits Andy's face. Andy sleeps.

Neve purses her lips crossly. Elbows Andy. His eyes flash open, as the Art Teacher picks up his drawing.

ART TEACHER
Who's this?

ANDY
That's Mum, Dad. And that's Mum's old husband, my sister Chae-ry and my grandmother. But I haven't met them.

ART TEACHER
And this?

The teacher points to a gravestone with "RIP."

ANDY
That's my brother. He died in Mum's tummy. She's still sad about it.
(points to a dragon)
And that's me.

The Art Teacher puts his hand on Andy's shoulder. Andy leans his face on it. The teacher pulls his hand away sharply.

NEVE
(whispering)
You're a dragon?

Andy nods. Neve flashes Preston a look. Speaks loudly.

NEVE (cont'd)
Boys are overrated.

Lumière grins.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - DAY

Sunny and Keanu, in pajamas, will the laptop keys to move. Nup. Nothing. Nada. Jack-hammering intrudes from outside.

KEANU
Think.

SUNNY
Saying think doesn't help me think.

KEANU
Snarky. I can leave if you like.

The jack-hammering pauses.

SUNNY
Sorry. You know I can't write without you.

KEANU
How about --

Their table is TRANSPORTED INTO...

INT. A ROMANTIC RESTAURANT - DAY

Keanu leans toward Sunny. Gazes deeply into her eyes.

KEANU
When something happens to you that hasn't happened before, don't you at least have to find out what it is?

Their table REAPPEARS IN...

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - DAY

Sunny screws up her nose.

SUNNY
Ugh! I can't write romance. Everyone ends up dead or heartbroken.

They pull faces as they think.

KEANU
Choice, the problem is choice.

They wince as...

MEMORY HIT

An ultrasound glides over a pregnant belly. On the screen the baby scratches his head.

BACK TO SCENE

Jack-hammering cuts through the memory. They stare absently.

EXT. SCHOOL - SCHOOL YARD - DAY

Andy is hypnotized by a skipping rhyme.

COOL NERDS (O.S)
One for sorrow, two for joy.

Andy sits cross-legged with Neve. The COOL NERDS (10) skip: Two boys, ILUKA, Aboriginal, with a bandana and CHEZ, Black, who wears an earring, and one girl, JOY, a redhead.

COOL NERDS
(point at Neve)
Three for a girl.
(point at Andy)
Four for a boy.

<p>NEVE You should join our D and D club.</p>	<p>COOL NERDS Five for silver, six for gold.</p>
---	--

Andy is distracted by the rhyme. The chant gets louder.

<p>NEVE You know Dungeons and Dragons?</p>	<p>COOL NERDS SEVEN FOR A SECRET TO NEVER BE TOLD.</p>
--	--

ANDY
What?

NEVE
You should join Dungeons and Dragons.

Andy shrugs. Preston and his Gang stand in a circle over them.

PRESTON
Hey loser!

Andy, the Taekwondo fighter, jumps to his feet.

ANDY
I'm not a loser!

Neve jumps up to join him.

NEVE
He's a dragon!

The Gang laugh and point, distorted in slow motion.

NEVE

Run!

Andy, alert, sprints away. The Gang, at his heels, grab at him. Lumière appears. She flies beside Andy. Lumière flies up a two-story high climbing frame, a giant netted teepee.

Andy scampers up the climbing frame behind Lumière. The riot of boys are in miniature below. They hurl stones at him. Andy climbs higher. From the peak --

Andy JUMPS. As he falls he transforms into a RED DRAGON.

He's about to hit the ground! -- He spreads his wings.

SWOOP. Up he goes!

Andy's now human face beams as he spots Neve's face, whilst falling in slow motion.

NEVE (cont'd)

Aaandyyy!

Andy, a boy again, is sprawled on the ground. He screams in pain. The Art Teacher bounds up. The Gang scatters. A circle of faces bend over Andy -- Neve and the other Cool Nerds.

EXT. SRI LANKA - JUNGLE CLEARING - DAY

Sunny, in her pajamas, types in a frenzy at her dining table beside Keanu. Keanu marvels to find they're in Sri Lanka.

A second Sunny talks (unheard) to the Boy, seated. He's being examined by a doctor. His GUN is on the table.

Sunny's phone buzzes.

SUNNY

It's the school. Shit!

She jumps up. Spins around. Pats her pockets.

SUNNY (cont'd)

Keys, keys, keys.

Keanu throws her the keys.

KEANU

Clothes, clothes, clothes.

INT. SCHOOL - FOYER - DAY

Andy, his back to Sunny, hunkers in the foyer. He looks over his shoulder to Sunny's worried face. Sunny speaks but Andy hears only evil whispering. He turns, his hand in a sling.

INT. HOSPITAL - EXAMINATION ROOM - DAY

Kaila takes notes as she questions Sunny quietly.

KAILA
He jumped off a two-story climbing
frame and believes he's a dragon?

SUNNY
Yes.

KAILA
No one pushed him?

SUNNY
Just the victim of a vivid
imagination.

KAILA
Well, this is a first.

They turn to Andy. A DOCTOR plasters his arm. Lumière watches, concerned.

KAILA (cont'd)
The hearing is in four weeks, so no
more accidents please. We'll have to
interview Andy before court, check
this is still the best fit for him.

DOCTOR
(to Andy)
Did you know that a broken bone heals
back stronger?

Andy is now a red dragon with a boy's face -- a DRAGON-BOY.

ANDY
So next time my wing won't break!

SUNNY
Nooooo!

KAILA
Nooooo!

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - SUNNY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sunny's gulps red wine. Flicks through a parenting book.

SUNNY

I don't think fake it 'til you make
it is going to cut it this time.

She curls beside Keanu in bed. He puts his arm around her.
Sunny rests her head on his shoulder. She searches his face.

SUNNY (cont'd)

This is like an arranged marriage.
How do I manufacture love?

He smiles sympathetically.

KEANU

Falling in love and having a
relationship are two different
things.

SUNNY

The closer we get, the more he pulls
away, like two magnets repelling each
other.

Keanu hesitates.

KEANU

When we lose someone the laws of
cause and effect are broken. My pain
comforts me, heavy like a blanket,
compresses me into a shape so that
people can see me. Without it I am
nothing.

SUNNY

(softly)

I see you.

Sunny takes Keanu's hand. A tender moment is broken by --

A fierce DRAGON RUMBLE. Thump. The door shakes. THUMP.

Subtle flashes cross Sunny's face: fear, sadness.

KEANU

Maybe this is all he can be right
now.

Sunny exhales. Calm. Well, calmer. Her pedicured feet cross
to the door. She unlocks it.

Andy stands outside, eyes vacant. He's SLEEPWALKING again.
His wrist is in a cast. He gets into bed.

Sunny and Keanu sit in bed, Andy asleep between them. Andy mumbles in his dreams, his face wretched.

EXT. DRAGON REALM - DRAGONIA MOUNTAIN - NIGHT

Dragon Andy and Lumière struggle to fly as they carry Dragon Sooky's limp body. They land with a soft flutter.

Lumière backs away. She blinks at Andy.

Dragonia Mountain is deserted.

ANDY

I thought Mum would help me. Maybe she's working.

Lumière tilts her head.

ANDY (cont'd)

Mum's probably working and Dad's gone bowling.

Lumière blows a raspberry.

ANDY (cont'd)

Hey!

Andy flies and jumps from rock to tree. No one.

Andy flies back to Sooky. Nudges her face with his snout. Lays a paw on her chest.

ANDY (cont'd)

I'm sorry, Sooky. I thought Mum would save you.

(voice quivering)

You're my only friend.

Lumière pounces up to Andy. Cocks her head.

A tear rolls down Andy's face.

Lumière licks Andy's tear. She inspects Sooky. Leans her head on Sooky's chest. Listens for a heart beat.

Andy hangs his head and mopes away. He takes one last look over his shoulder and takes flight.

Lumière opens her mouth. A soft blue sonar wave travels from within her and into Sooky's chest.

Sooky's eyelids flutter.

Lumière sends up a flare of blue sonar.

Andy turns to see Sooky raise her head. He races back, his wings a blur. He bounces around Sooky like an excited puppy.

ANDY (cont'd)
You didn't leave me!

SOOKY
(weakly)
Andy, where is everyone?

ANDY
They're gone.

Andy speaks with false bravado, a tremor still in his voice.

ANDY (cont'd)
We have to be brave. Adjust to new circumstances. We're going to have to be each others family, for now.

Sooky closes her eyes, exhausted. Andy and Lumière curl around Sooky. Cover her with their wings. Sleep.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - SUNNY'S BEDROOM - DAY

Keanu brings Sunny a cup of tea in bed. He observes Andy.

KEANU
He looks so peaceful.

SUNNY
I know. I hate to wake him but we're due to see Mum in an hour.

Keanu grimaces.

SUNNY (cont'd)
I know she can be a dragon. But she's the only family I have left.

Andy flashes open one eye then closes it quickly.

INT. ST BASIL'S NURSING HOME - DAY

Andy and Sunny approach Carmen who slumps, depleted.

ANDY
Hi, Archie.

Carmen raises her head. Smiles broadly then --

CARMEN

What happened to your arm? Let me look at it. You poor baby.

ANDY

I'm not a baby.

Carmen strokes Andy's hair. He laps up the attention.

CARMEN

No?

ANDY

Archie, Mum said you're a dragon. Just like me.

Carmen raises her eyebrows. Sunny is distracted by a NURSE who waves. Andy whispers in Carmen's ear.

ANDY (cont'd)

Last night I went to Dragon Realm with another dragon called Sooky.

CARMEN

Sooky? Hmm. Come. Tell me everything.

Sunny focuses back on Carmen and Andy. Andy looks up.

ANDY

You can go now.

Sunny raises her hands in mock protest and backs away. She loiters out of view with Keanu. They peek around the corner, Keanu's head above hers.

Andy roars. He pokes Carmen.

ANDY (cont'd)

Come on, Archie!

Carmen roars. They bend over laughing. Then both roar again. Sunny and Keanu, in tandem, lay their hand over their heart.

SUNNY

Aaaw!

KEANU

Aaaw!

INT./EXT. CAR - DAY (MOVING)

Sunny, Andy and Keanu, pull out from the nursing home.

KEANU

Maybe we all need an inner dragon.

SUNNY

I wish you knew her before, before she started forgetting. She was full of laughter.

ANDY

She's never going be the person she was. That person is gone.

Sunny gnaws her lip.

ANDY (cont'd)

Archie said you have a sister called Jasmine. And she has a husband and three kids and a dog and a pool and a boat and even the nanny has a Tesla.

SUNNY

Yes, yes, yes.

ANDY

So why don't you see her? Even one of her old cars would be better than this hunk of junk.

Sunny exhales heavily. Keanu and Sunny silently debate.

SUNNY

My parents made me power of attorney, meaning after Dad died I controlled Mum's money. My sister didn't like that. So she won't talk to us or let us see her kids. She abandoned us.

ANDY

I'm the only kid Archie sees?

SUNNY

Which makes you extra special.

A message pings on the dashboard. A voicemail.

NEVE'S MUM (V.O.)

Hi, I'm Neve's Mum. We're having a D and D night tomorrow if you'd like to join us. Well, let me know. Bye.

Keanu watches Sunny squeal in delight. *Adorable.*

ANDY

A play date! Chair dance!

Andy chair dances. Sunny turns on the radio. "Make My Dreams" (or similar) plays.

Andy bristles but joins the dance. They chair dance with comical moves. Sunny grins at Keanu. He considers. So uncool. He can't resist.

They all sing and chair dance until --

A WHITE CAR speeds toward Andy. His eyes bug. Sunny spins the car, to take the hit.

CRASH! Her head smacks the steering wheel. Bleeding, she looks over at Andy. He's unscathed. He blurs. Sunny loses consciousness.

INT. HOSPITAL - EXAMINATION ROOM - DAY

Sunny's face has stitches. Andy blinks back tears. Sunny takes his hand.

ANDY
Will I go back into foster care?

SUNNY
Never. Here's Auntie Jane.

Jane bustles in. Sees Andy's wobbling lip. Hugs him.

JANE
Hey, you're staying with us tonight.

SUNNY
We'll get you to that D and D game.

INT. NEVE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Sunny, still banged up, hovers with PARENTS over the D and D game. Neve whispers in Andy's ear. He wears a wizard's hat.

ANDY
I unleash my psychic wind of lost memories and subconscious fears.

ILUKA
Devastating move! You'll be a Dragon Master before you know it.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - ANDY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sunny and Keanu hover over Andy. He smiles in his sleep.

EXT. DRAGON REALM - DRAGON'S WAY - NIGHT

Dragon Andy, Dragon Sooky and Lumière land by an open field. A Dragon Ball is underway. Dragons dance on foot and wing.

ANDY

Maybe someone knows where they are.

A dragon with long MULTICOLORED WEBBING down her back circles above them -- Neve.

NEVE

Andy, it's me! Neve! Look, I can fly!

The rest of the Cool Nerds are also flying dragons.

NEVE (cont'd)

I found your sister, Chae-ry!

A dazzling SILVER DRAGON, Andy's sister CHAE-RY, touches down. Chae-ry and Andy falter toward each other. Stop.

ANDY

Hi Chae-ry. I'm your brother, Andy.

Chae-ry takes a few steps. She leans down. Her snout touches Andy's snout tenderly. She wraps her silver wing around him.

CHAE-RY

I didn't know how to find you.

Andy lies his head on Chae-ry's chest. She snuffles into his ear. Lays her chin on his head. A silver tear rolls down her cheek. A tender moment.

Behind them, the Dragon Ball is in full swing. All is merriment and bliss.

Andy, Chae-ry and the Cool Nerds rock out to the DRAGON BAND, playing birds and elephants and monkey-head drums. Lumière sits, her head bobbing in time to the music.

Skulking in the shadows is a sinister BLACK DRAGON, the same species as Christa. He hisses at Andy, who turns.

Andy wanders into the shadows. The others dance, unaware. The Black Dragon drags Andy into the dark and shoves him against a boulder.

BLACK DRAGON

You've forgotten your father so soon?

ANDY

I-I-uh don't know how to find him.

BLACK DRAGON

Your father is a prisoner of the Dojovics, in the High Castle of Sunnyena, on the High Dark Plains. You must weather the psychic winds of lost memories and subconscious fears. Sooky knows the way.

From the distance, Sooky calls out for Andy.

SOOKY

Andy, Andy, where are you?

ANDY

Sooky, I'm here.

Sooky flounces up to him.

Dojovics ATTACK! They scorch the field, ablaze in blue.

A hundred dragons scatter. Dojovics crisscross the sky.

ANDY (cont'd)

I know where my father is! This --
(turns around)
He was just here!

SOOKY

We've got to fly! Now!

They take flight. They duck and weave through the chaos of fleeing dragons. Andy stops short. Scans the sky.

ANDY

Where's Chae-ry?

EXT. BEACH - ESPLANADE - DAY

Back in the human world, Human Andy is mesmerized by dragon kites. Kids run along the beach. There's an Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) fair. Soldiers and kids throw darts at balloons. POP! POP!

Andy startles and takes Sunny's hand. Sunny, Keanu and Andy stroll along the esplanade. A Snoopy doggleganger runs past.

ANDY

Snoopy!

Andy's face falls as the dog dashes into the distance.

An ARMY CADET (16), white, sells ANZAC remembrance badges.

ANDY (cont'd)
Can I buy a badge? It's ANZAC Day
tomorrow.

SUNNY
Um, sure.

Sunny hands Andy two dollars. He pays the Army Cadet.

ARMY CADET
Lest we forget.

ANDY
How could I? My dad's a war hero. He
used to --

INT. ANDY'S FORMER SCHOOL - CLASSROOM (FLASHBACK)

A rapt Andy sits amid BORED KIDS (8), in bright green
uniform. Christian, in army greens, talks animatedly.

CHRISTIAN
The army is a family. You're treated
with respect and --

A BORED KID pegs an eraser at Christian. Christian, in an
apoplectic rage, towers over the Bored Kid.

CHRISTIAN (cont'd)
You little --

EXT. ANNUAL ANZAC DAY PARADE - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Christian, in army uniform, raises Andy (8), onto his
shoulders. They parade along in the ANZAC Day march.

CHRISTIAN
-- champion!

Andy rubbernecks over heads of the army band. Behind
barricades, school kids and onlookers wave ANZAC Day flags.

Back to...

EXT. BEACH ESPLANADE - DAY

Sunny pins the ANZAC badge on Andy's shirt.

ARMY CADET
Which war?

Andy looks for the answer in the sky.

ANDY
 When Dad used to fight with Mum --
 which was all the time -- he'd say
 "it's like world war three around
 here." So --
 (to Cadet)
 World War Three.

Keanu snorts. Sunny can barely keep a straight face.

ARMY CADET
 Well, actually --

SUNNY
 (leading Andy away)
 Your dad talks at schools every year?

ANDY
 Yeah, in camo. The police asked me
 about it.

SUNNY
 (to Keanu)
 Weird.

ANDY
 Right?

ANDY (cont'd)
 Can we go to the ANZAC Day service?

SUNNY
 Ergh. It's at five A.M. Do you really
 want to go?

ANDY
 I haven't gone since they took me.

Andy twists the buttons of his shirt.

ANDY (cont'd)
 I miss my Dad.

INT. SCHOOL - CLASSROOM - DAY (PRESENT)

Skinny Policemen cuffs Christian. Kids whisper and mock.
 Christian glares. He wears army greens.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - ANDY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sunny puts a green blanket over a sleeping, shivering Andy.

EXT./INT. DRAGON REALM - CAVE - NIGHT

Dragons Andy, Sooky, Neve and the rest of the Cool Nerds, shiver in a shallow cave. Lumière is absent. Sleet rain. A pile of wood holds hopes of a fire.

Andy creates a tiny spark of breath. Then another. Nothing.

SOOKY

We need something to start the fire.

They huddle together.

ANDY

I have an idea! On the count of three dragon fire! One. Two. Three!

Sooky exhales a tiny spark. Andy lets off a ginormous fart that ignites in a composed bomb above the firewood. It crackles to life. The dragons cheer.

SOOKY

That's disgusting.

ANDY

But effective. Sooky, I know where Dad is. He's in the High Castle. You're going to take us there.

SOOKY

No!

ANDY

What do you mean no? The other dragons are probably there. I bet your mum and dad are there too!

SOOKY

No! It's a trap. Those Black Dragons they-they-they hurt little dragons. They catch them and make them slaves.

(sniffs)

My mum didn't believe me and now-now-now I-I-I have no one.

Andy folds a wing over Sooky's shuddering shoulder.

ANDY

Sooky, I need you to show me the way.
It may be a trap but together we can
do anything. We're family.

Sooky and Andy lean their foreheads together.

SOOKY

It will take us months to get there.

SERIES OF SHOTS: HUMAN ANDY'S EXTENDED RAMPAGE

It's a torturous ad for contraception -- Two months in
dragon time, ten days in Sunny's time.

-- Sunny and Keanu are half asleep at the beach ANZAC Dawn
Service. The sun reluctantly rises. The bugle plays. Andy's
hand is on his heart. Andy shoves Sunny hard in the chest.

-- Andy roars in IKEA. Wrests toys off shelves.

-- Andy kicks the inside of the front door.

-- Sunny gulps red wine.

CUT TO BLACK

-- Andy yells as he hits his cast with a hammer.

-- Andy wipes the board full of house rules.

-- Andy sniggers behind Carmen as she chases Sunny into the
elevator, shaking her walking stick.

-- Andy, at the bedroom door --

ANDY

You CU-

-- Sunny throws a bottle into a bin full of wine bottles.

CUT TO BLACK

-- Andy hits his head repeatedly against the window.

SUNNY

I'm begging you, please, stop.

-- Andy, face ravaged, reads a LETTER FROM HIS DAD.

EXT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - FRONT GARDEN - DAY

Sunny looks up at Andy, framed by his bedroom window, glowering demonically. He rhythmically bangs his head against the window.

EXT. NEIGHBOR'S DRIVEWAY - CONTINUOUS

Sunny hides behind the neighbor's wall.

INTERCUT - NEIGHBOR'S DRIVEWAY/ANDY'S BEDROOM

Andy watches Sunny disappear out of sight. Yells.

Sunny covers her ears. A JUDGY NEIGHBOR pokes her head out.

Andy becomes a dragon. SNEEZES out fire. The room burns. Dragon Andy screams in agony.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Keanu holds Sunny's hair back as she vomits. Covers his mouth with his other hand as he retches. Swallows it. He is tan, his facial hair neatly trimmed.

KEANU

Another migraine. You stressed?

Sunny shoots him a no-shit-Sherlock look.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Sunny and Keanu eat their way through a whole chocolate cake in Sunny's lap. Sunny rewinds "INSTANT FAMILY," a movie about fostering, on the TV (or similar/created movie).

ROSE BYRNE

I hate them so much.

Fast forwards.

MARK WAHLBERG

We could just... put 'em back.

Sunny and Keanu lock eyes. Sigh heavily. Keanu takes the remote. Rewinds. Plays it again.

ROSE BYRNE

I hate them so much.

INT. ANDY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Keanu watches Andy sleep. He has a bag over his shoulder.

EXT. ENTRANCE - NIGHT

Keanu watches the door slowly close behind him.

KEANU
God I'm an a --

INTERCUT - ANDY'S BEDROOM/ENTRANCE

Andy screams hysterically.

Keanu hits the front door open as it's about to shut.

Keanu races into Andy's room. Leans over Andy.

KEANU
Andy, it's okay, it's a dream.

Andy half opens his eyes. Sees a blurry figure.

ANDY
Dad?

KEANU
Go to sleep.

EXT. DRAGON REALM - SKY - NIGHT

Andy, Sooky, Neve, Iluka, Chez and Joy -- all in dragon form -- flap lethargically through the sky. Sooky yawns.

ILUKA
I'm so tired.

ANDY
It's not safe to travel in the day.

SOOKY
Look! There's an island down there.
Let's rest for a bit.

ANDY
Hmph! Okay.

They get closer. Clouds obscure their vision. They emerge beneath the clouds to find the island COVERED IN DOJOVICS.

As one, the Dojovics take to the sky. Our dragon heroes dart into the clouds. They're surrounded by dark gray cloud pillows. They flap quietly together. Sooky whispers.

SOOKY
I think we lost them.

Lightning flashes the clouds in brilliance revealing --

Six Dojovics right behind them!

Dojovic talons swipe through young dragon scales. The Dojovics toy with them, tossing Iluka from one to another. Blue Dojovic flames burn along Andy's back. He screams.

EXT. ROCKY OUTCROP - NIGHT

On a shard of rock, the young dragons are heaped one upon one another. Motionless.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - ANDY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Human Andy lies in bed, pale and sweating. Eyes flutter. Sunny pulls a thermometer from his mouth. Reads it, alarmed.

SUNNY
Little one, you have to take some
medicine to bring your fever down.

Sunny touches a spoon of medicine to his lips. He throws it.

ANDY
Don't make me take the medicine!

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Keanu lowers Andy into a cold bath. Shudders. Andy opens his eyes. Sunny sits on the bath's edge, furrowed in worry.

ANDY
It's okay. You don't have to stay.

Sunny gets into the bath in her pajamas. Shivers. She leans Andy's head on her chest.

SUNNY
I'm not going anywhere.

EXT. BACK YARD - DAY

Sunny lies motionless on the lounge. Keanu rubs her feet. The pink manila folder is beside him.

KEANU
Come on, let's get back to it.

SUNNY
I can't write with my head full of...

Sunny gestures her head exploding.

SUNNY (cont'd)
I hate him then I almost -- love him?
And now I'm terrified his dad will
turn up.

KEANU
What do the police say?

SUNNY
That predators stay in their area,
move onto other families. But what if
he drove here? Andy would just be
some kid on a milk carton.

KEANU
You have kids on milk cartons?

SUNNY
No. But I watch American TV.

KEANU
Look at me. It's going to be okay.

Sunny squints at scurrying clouds.

Christa's dragon talons reach through the clouds.

Sunny's eyes shoot open. Keanu's eyes bore into hers.

KEANU (cont'd)
I think your mum is on to something.
What if you embrace the fantasy? What
if you accept he's a dragon?

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Sunny couches amid a soft wall of pillows and cushions.

Down the hallway -- Stomp. Stomp. STOMP. ROAR!

SUNNY
 (to herself)
 My son is a dragon.

DRAGON-BOY Andy -- a red dragon body, boy face -- stomps in. Snarls. On the floor he sees a plate of chicken nuggets.

SUNNY (cont'd)
 Will you come into my dragon's lair?

Andy stomps around. Thumps his tail. Stomps off.

Sunny and Keanu listen, their eyes locked. The stomps get louder. Stomp. STOMP.

Andy stomps in. Clomps on all fours to the chicken nuggets. Looks up. Gasps!

Sunny is a PURPLE DRAGON with a human face -- a DRAGON-MUM.

Andy crawls into the lair. Lies beside Sunny. His Dragon paw flicks out and grabs the nuggets. Andy unlocks his jaw like a snake. In one swallow the nuggets are gone. He spits out the plate. It shimmies safely to the floor.

ON THE TV: "HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2" (or similar).

The cushion dragon lair transforms until the room becomes...

INT. DRAGON REALM - DRAGON CAVE - NIGHT

A dragon cave, full of golden light, holds a pool of golden water. In a pot is a GLOWING PLANT. Andy bends over it...

EXT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - BACK YARD - DAY

Andy yanks the glowing plant out of its pot. The roots fiercely HISS and flash out at Andy.

SUNNY
 Now, gently untwist the roots.

Andy gently loosens the roots in the now ordinary plant.

ANDY
 They look angry -- oh, the root of your anger!

SUNNY
 No, that's in my sister's pot.

ANDY

How come they're like that?

SUNNY

If plants don't get enough attention,
food, love, they fight to get out.

Together, Andy and Sunny plant the hissing, fighting plant in a larger pot. They sprinkle on fertilizer. Their fingers touch as they tamp down the soil.

ANDY

He's got everything he needs to grow.

SUNNY

Yes. This is our love tree.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Sunny and Keanu watch "HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2" (or similar). They are dressed in purple and gold dragon onesies, respectively. Human Andy, in a red onesie, brings Sunny a hot pack. Places it on her head.

ANDY

Does that feel better?

SUNNY

Yes.

ANDY

For me too.

Andy prances toward the fireplace. Turns to Sunny. She nods.

Andy puffs white dragon fire into the fireplace. Sunny clicks the fire remote. The fireplace crackles to life.

Andy perches on the chaise where Sunny has her legs up. Keanu reclines on the adjoining lounge.

ANDY (cont'd)

(dragon voice)

Move over.

Andy nestles into Sunny. Considers her face. A moment. He lays his head on her chest. Sunny, off guard, awkwardly raises her hands. She is about to put them around Andy --

KEANU

Best not to startle him.

Andy's ear is glued to Sunny's chest, listening. Sunny's heartbeat. Loud. Strong. Slow.

ANDY
Your heart is loud.

SUNNY
Yes -- Do you want it?

Andy lifts his head to Sunny. Gawks. Sunny is once again a DRAGON-MUM, a purple dragon with a human face.

Andy runs his hand over Sunny's purple scales. Nods.

Sunny winces. Lifts up a scale on her chest. A glowing, pulsing, purple heart. With one talon, she clefts it in two.

Andy, now a DRAGON-BOY, lifts up a red scale on his chest. Sunny plants in half her heart. Andy's heart is whole.

EXT. DRAGON REALM - ROCKY OUTCROP - NIGHT

The young dragons lie bloody and motionless. The peach and orange of the rising sun. The flap of huge dragon wings.

Soaring, hopeful music. Each dragon is picked up gently by giant talons. The sound of Andy's heartbeat. Their limp bodies are carried over a torrid sea. Andy's eyes flutter.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Keanu regards a mostly empty cutlery drawer.

KEANU
There is no spoon.

SUNNY
I can't do everything around here.

DRAGON-BOY Andy enters.

SUNNY (cont'd)
Do dragons eat pancakes?

Andy dragon-barks. Sunny stacks pancakes on a plate. Keanu leans over her shoulder to grab one. She slaps his hand.

SUNNY (cont'd)
Stop it.

Andy looks at her queerly.

SUNNY (cont'd)
This is my friend, Keanu.

ANDY
(scoffs)
You have an imaginary friend?

SUNNY
Hey! If I can accept you're a dragon,
you can accept that Keanu is real.
Hang on, I'll show you.

Sunny pulls up images of Keanu Reeves on her laptop.

ANDY
Hmmm, he looks okay I guess...

Andy scratches at his cheeks, thinking.

ANDY (cont'd)
What does he do around here then?

SUNNY
He helps me come up with ideas. When
I write, he sits right there. Or
sometimes he just watches TV.

Andy twitches his mouth, skeptical.

ANDY
Really? What does he watch then?

SUNNY
SpongeBob SquarePants whilst eating
peanut butter and honey sandwiches.
But he never does the dishes,
(casts Keanu a look)
so sometimes I get grumpy with him.

ANDY
Is he the one who leaves chocolate
wrappers under the couch? And does
those stinky farts?!

Sunny nods emphatically. Keanu punches her.

KEANU
Those are all you!

ANDY
Would he go to the dragon realm?

Keanu and Sunny grin at Andy, then each other.

KEANU

Heck, yeah.

SUNNY

(chuckles)

He'd love that. Can I come too?

EXT. ROCK POOL - DAY

Human Andy, Sunny and Keanu stand at the edge of the rock pool. It's a soup of parents and children.

Sunny pulls a red sun shirt over Andy's hair. It's evolved into an Afro. Keanu stands beside them. Sunny swirls her hand over the heads of Andy and Keanu.

SUNNY

Do you accept the magic of the water dragon?

They nod, together.

SUNNY (cont'd)

I can't hear you.

Andy and Keanu ROAR.

Sunny dives into the pool. Her purple dragon tail snakes behind her under the water. She breaks the surface.

ANDY (O.S.)

Mummy! Mummy! Mummy!

Sunny searches for the mum that belongs to that child. Twists around. Realizes it's Andy calling her.

Her face is pure joy. She laughs.

SUNNY

I'm here little one! Jump!

Andy's face shifts from fear to glee. He jumps, transforming into a DRAGON-BOY. He spreads red dragon wings. He floats in the light breeze.

Andy looks down upon Sunny's beaming face. She's his DRAGON-MUM with a purple dragon body. He drops into her arms.

They laugh giddily as they spill into the water.

Keanu dives, transforming into a GOLD DRAGON with a human face -- a DRAGON-MAN.

Andy, Sunny and Keanu swim underwater, transforming completely into dragons. The legs of adults and children are above them.

The pool transforms into a cavern. They swim into a magical world full of coral houses and underwater dragons.

EXT. BEACH - ESPLANADE - DAY

Carmen, in red shoes, and DRAGON-BOY Andy, arms around each other, overlook the beach. Sunny stands apart. They all lick ice creams.

Andy unwraps himself from Carmen. Smiles encouragingly at Sunny. Places Carmen's arm around Sunny. Carmen stiffens. Andy leans his face to Carmen's face. Licks her ice cream.

ANDY

The family that licks together sticks together.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - ANDY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Human Sunny sits on Human Andy's bed. She ties a leather necklace with a shell heart around Andy's neck.

SUNNY

Wherever you are, even in dragon realm, you will always have a piece of my heart keeping you safe. Okay?

Andy nods. Sunny takes Andy's hand and places it on her heart. She places her hand on his heart.

SUNNY (cont'd)

Repeat after me. My heart to your heart.

ANDY

My heart to your heart.

SUNNY

Now say it with me.

SUNNY

My heart to your heart.

ANDY

My heart to your heart.

Andy's hand rubs the shell heart.

INT. POLICE STATION - INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

A stark interrogation room with a few worn soft toys and faded posters. Andy, his eyes red, rubs the shell heart. Kaila sits beside him, opposite Skinny Policeman.

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

Ethan waits in the corridor outside the interrogation room. Andy exits, shaking. Ethan rises. The boys spot each other. Freeze. They embrace fiercely, eyes squeezed tight.

ANDY

Ethan!

ETHAN

Don't worry Andy, I got you. Always.

EXT./INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - ENTRANCE - DAY

Sunny opens the door. Human Andy charges in, pushing her against the wall.

ANDY

I hate you! I hate you! I hate you!

Sunny, winded, marks Kaila's drained face.

INT. ANDY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Andy sleeps in the clothes of the day. His closed eyes flit.

INT. DRAGON REALM - SUNNYENA'S CAVE - NIGHT

Dragon Sunnyena's face is an evil contortion. Her talons reach into Dragon Andy's chest. Andy pulls out of reach.

SUNNYENA

My heart to your heart.

ANDY

Let me go! How did I get here?

SUNNYENA

My Dojovics brought you here. I healed you. Look!

(looks to ceiling)

A Family reunion.

Andy looks up. His back is covered in a BURN SCAR.

SUNNY

Come on. It's Mother's Day. We can ride our bikes, have a dragon picnic.

ANDY

No!

Andy stomps back out. A RED PICNIC BASKET, with backpack straps, sits neglected by the door.

SUNNY

(to Keanu)

Well, happy Mother's Day to me.

Keanu massages her shoulders. They duck an airborne teddy.

KEANU

Mother's Day was always going to be conflicted.

SUNNY

I just wanted this one to be happy.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Human Andy rages down the hallway, naked. His automatic Nerf gun covers his crotch. Attack! Fires off rounds at Sunny.

ANDY

You're not my mother! Die! Die!

EXT. BEACH SIDE RESTAURANT - DAY

Sunny and Keanu sit outdoors. Sunny gulps a huge glass of white wine. Her phone rings. She listens. Andy shouts.

ANDY (V.O.)

You are the worst mother!

SUNNY

I'll give you some time to calm down.

Sunny hangs up. Gulps the last of her wine. The phone rings.

KEANU

Don't answer it. You can't pour from an empty glass.

ON THE PHONE: Home

She silences it.

SUNNY

I thought we turned the corner.

KEANU

Kids are a mountainous landscape. You need to use every gear.

FLASH: Keanu tears through the mountains in a shiny Porsche.

BACK TO SCENE:

SUNNY

For the last time, we are not getting a new car.

MINI-MONTAGE: THE SEARCH FOR ANDY

Sunny and Keanu enter Sunny's house. Silence. Wardrobes open. They peek under Andy's bed, into Sunny's room. Sunny's room is a portrait of a besieged single mum. Bottles of painkillers. Empty bottle of wine. Dirty wine glasses.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

The living room is a shrine to chaos. A mountain of unfolded clothes. Lounge cushions and books are strewn about.

Sunny's CERAMIC HEART is smashed on the floor.

SUNNY

That's it. I'm calling the police.

KEANU

Don't panic.

SUNNY

Saying don't panic stops no one from panicking.

KEANU

Hey, don't shoot the hostage. I'm trying to help.

Keanu draws her to him. She lays her head on his shoulder. He kisses the top of her head.

KEANU (cont'd)

It's going to be okay.

She studies Keanu's face. There is a moment between them. The room glows. Keanu kisses Sunny's head.

Andy's soft, forlorn dragon roar.

The mountain of washing shifts. Human Andy's head pokes up. His eyes are red, his nose snotty. He sniffs.

ANDY
I'm sorry. I'm sorry. I don't know
why I do that.

Sunny cradles Andy to her. He farts. LOUD.

SUNNY
Oh my Thor!

ANDY
Lumière did it!

Lumière bares her teeth. Andy laughs hysterically. Sunny escapes into her bedroom.

INT. SUNNY'S BEDROOM - DAY

Sunny closes the door. Opens her underwear drawer.

INSIDE THE DRAWER: The baby pacifier joined to a toy elephant.

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Sunny rests in a hospital bed. Her son (unseen) is swaddled in a baby blanket. Sunny smiles beatifically down at him.

SUNNY
He's beautiful, isn't he?

Jane, beside her, looks ravaged. Turns away. Silently sobs.

INT. JANE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY (FLASHBACK)

A memorial service. Sunny's friends have welling eyes, mascara-stained faces. Sunny's sister JASMINE (47), a glamazon dressed to be the center of attention, scrolls her phone, clearly bored.

Standing at the front, Jane holds Sunny's hand.

SUNNY
(voice breaking)
I do not know where all this love
will go...

Back to...

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - SUNNY'S ROOM - DAY

Sunny buries her face in the toy elephant. She sobs silently. Keanu enfolds her.

They cry raggedly, shards of grief shattering any last defenses. They sniff, their crying at a temporary end.

KEANU

Time to face the music.

Sunny smiles weakly. Opens her bedroom door. Puts on her happy face and voice. Exits.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

The sound of another loud fart. Sunny calls out.

SUNNY

That is assault with a deadly weapon.

ANDY

It was Keanu!

Andy's laughter rings as they walk down the hallway.

KEANU

So now I'm the family dog?

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Human Sunny, Keanu and Andy watch television.

ANDY

Did you really do those stunts?

Keanu jumps up. Does his martial arts moves around the room.

KEANU

I never cower in the face of danger.

Andy and Sunny jump up.

SUNNY

Kay - ah!

ANDY

KAY-AH!

They're a ball of kicking, screaming and laughing.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT (1970S)

The room is transformed into the 1970s. Sooky and Sooky's Mum kick and punch around the room, squealing and laughing.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT (SIMULTANEOUS TIMELINES)

For a few seconds, the 1970s and present co-exist.

Sooky's Mum catches Sunny's eye. Smiles gently. Picks up Sooky. Kisses and spins her.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT (PRESENT)

Sunny shakes her head.

KEANU

What's wrong?

SUNNY

I just saw a ghost.

ANDY

Yeah. It's Sooky and her family.

SUNNY

What did you say?

ANDY

Come with me.

Human Andy takes Sunny's hand and stomps to the...

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Andy drags Sunny who leads Keanu by the hand.

INT. ANDY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Andy moves the bed. The wall paper has been tamped down to hide the large tear. Andy removes the loose skirting board. He extracts the diary and music box. Hands them to Sunny.

Sunny opens the music box. Picks up a photo of Sooky, her mum and little sister. Sunny is entranced.

ANDY

That's Sooky.

Sunny twists the music box key. The ballerina pirouettes to music -- the same song that Sooky's Mum sang.

Keanu and Sunny inspect the music box. Sunny picks up the necklace of three magpies. Her gaze is far away.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Sunny and Keanu, transfixed by the blazing fireplace, drink red wine. Sentimental music plays quietly in the background.

KEANU

Places have an imprint of the past.

SUNNY

Can you escape your past?

KEANU

It helps if you don't live in it.

They're hypnotized by the flickering flames.

SUNNY

Do you believe a broken heart heals back stronger?

KEANU

I believe -- pain softens into memory and some memories remain beautiful.

(looks to Sunny)

The Japanese repair pottery with gold. They believe our breaks and repairs are our history, something beautiful, not something to disguise.

"That Way" (or similar) plays. Keanu pulls Sunny to standing.

KEANU

Dance with me.

SHAKIRA

(sings)

*I've got my baggage
And you've got yours
I know we've been damaged
Been through it all --*

Keanu wraps Sunny's hands around his neck. They slow dance.

SUNNY

What if all that binds us is pain?

KEANU

What if one night, when I dream,
you're gone?

SUNNY

I'm real. I can't be gone.

KEANU

You ever have that feeling where you're not sure if you're awake or still dreaming?

SUNNY

All. The. Time.

They waltz across the room. It magically transforms into a spacious, modern living room. Keanu wears black tie. Sunny is swathed in a princess ball gown.

Keanu presses against Sunny. His lips pause, nearly touching hers. A breath before the kiss. Audible.

INT. SUNNY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Keanu sits on the edge of the bed, shirt undone. Sunny stands. Looks into his intense face. He holds her hips.

KEANU

You're everything I want in a woman,
and everything I want in a friend.

Keanu kisses her tenderly, the way every woman wants to be kissed. A love song plays.

INT. KEANU'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Keanu sleeps on a lounge with a smile on his face. The loud drone of a vacuum. His eyes open, pupils dilated. The modern living room Sunny and Keanu danced across is this room.

KEANU

Worst timing ever.

Keanu sits up. Picks up a sketching pencil. Adds to his drawing of Sunny and Andy on the table.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - SUNNY'S BEDROOM - DAY

ON THE CLOCK: 07:00 AM. Sunny opens her eyes, face confused.

BUZZZZZZ. Andy massages his neck with her vibrator.

ANDY

I need one of these.

SUNNY
Give me that!

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

There's toast on a plate and an open jar of peanut butter. Human Andy holds the knife like a weapon. He labors to spread peanut butter, tearing holes in the bread.

ANDY
I can't do it!

Sunny gently clasps his hand.

SUNNY
It's okay. I'll do it.

She butters the toast. Andy fumbles tying his shoes.

SUNNY (cont'd)
Remember.

Sunny kneels down and ties his shoes. He pats her hair.

SUNNY
First we have the bunny. The bunny goes into the bunny hole. Tucked in tight.

ANDY
(overlapping)
First we have the bunny. The bunny goes into the bunny hole. Tucked in tight.

EXT. SCHOOL - SCHOOL YARD - DAY

Andy sits cross-legged in the playground with the Cool Nerds. They play Dungeons and Dragons. All are dragons with human faces apart from Neve, who is a wizard, and Lumière.

NEVE
What next, Dragon Master?

Andy looks up at Preston and his Gang approaching.

ANDY
The King of Ogres leads his Ogre Army against our sacred quest.

ILUKA
I cast a protection spell over us.

Neve looks over to an empty space.

NEVE
What about you Chae-ry?

Chae-ry (22), Korean, appears as a dragon with a human face.

ANDY

I didn't know she was here.

NEVE

I summoned her with a reverse psychic winds spell. So she'd remember you.

CHAE-RY

I won't forget you, little brother.

Preston approaches. Lumière growls. The Cool Nerds look up.

NEVE

I cast the Dragon's Breath spell.

ANDY

What's that?

ILUKA

Pick me! Pick me!

CHEZ

You touch someone and they get powerful dragon's breath -- acid, cold, fire, lightning or poison.

ANDY

Ice. Make me a Bewilderbeast!

Neve kisses Andy to transfer the spell. Andy gulps.

Preston, now a real OGRE with a real OGRE ARMY, advances.

ANDY (cont'd)

Dragons, let's cast a stinking cloud. For real!

They whoop and cheer. The Ogres encroach. The Dragon-Kids aim their dragon butts at the army. They blast a visible cloud of fart. The Ogre Army retches and coughs.

DRAGON-BOY Andy breathes out ice. It encloses the Ogre Army in an ice dome, trapping them in the stench.

Andy, Neve and the other Cool Nerds, now back to being kids, face Preston and the Gang, who all cover their noses.

PRESTON

That was rank. Brilliant but disgusting. I salute you.

Preston salutes. Taking his lead, the Gang salutes Andy and the Cool Nerds.

Andy and the Cool Nerds raise their hands in Victory V, jumping up and down.

EXT. SCHOOL GATE - DAY

The bell rings. Sunny and Keanu wait at the gate. Kids rush out. Andy runs out holding Neve's hand. Smacks into Sunny.

ANDY
Mum! You remember Neve. My girlfriend.

Sunny blinks. Can't speak.

KEANU
Wipe the slugs off your face.

SUNNY
Ah, uh. Hello... Neve.

ANDY
She reversed a psychic winds spell so Chae-ry would remember me and we all played together. All day.

Keanu cocks one eyebrow.

KEANU
Cheap therapy?

Sunny punches him.

KEANU (cont'd)
What?

Neve looks at Sunny queerly.

ANDY
That's Mum's friend, Keanu. I'll show you a picture. Then you can see him.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Kaila and Sunny share a pot of tea in the kitchen. Andy, seen through the window, plays war games with the Cool Nerds and NEIGHBORHOOD BOYS (10-12). Among them is KIM (11), Thai.

KAILA
Christian's awaiting sentencing for fraud. He's going to jail. That means Andy's case is clear cut. In two weeks, he'll be yours. Forever.

Andy waves at Kaila.

SUNNY (V.O)
Forever, forever, forever...

ANDY
Mum, watch me!

SUNNY
I'm watching!

ANDY
No, Kaila Mum.

INT. ANDY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sunny sits on the edge of Andy's bed with Keanu.

SUNNY
Andy, what do you think Mum means?

ANDY
Someone who gives you food and
clothes and stuff.

SUNNY
That's not what Mum means.

Sunny presses her lips together. Keanu takes Sunny's hand.

ANDY
Then what does Mum mean? Can you tell
me? I want to know.

Sunny's eyes are wet. Keanu's chin trembles.

SUNNY
Mum means -- A Mum loves you not just
with her heart but with time, without
conditions, above everything and
everyone else.

ANDY
Even when you're a pain in the butt?

SUNNY
Yes. Even when you're a pain in the
butt. Now go to sleep.

EXT. DRAGON REALM - SKY - NIGHT

Our dragon heroes fly through the night. A shooting star.

SOOKY

Make a wish.

ANDY

I wish Sunnyena wasn't our enemy.

SOOKY

What if she's trying to catch you to keep you safe?

ANDY

I can't take that chance.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Sunny watches Human Andy wage war against an unseen enemy.

INT. HALLWAY/JUNGLE WAR ZONE - DAY

Andy is in an imaginary jungle war zone. He charges up the hallway, his "Call of Duty" army behind him. Takes a "RAMBO" stance. Yells. The whole platoon fire Nerf guns at Sunny.

Sunny and Keanu stand at the other end of the hallway. They raise their hands like Neo in "THE MATRIX." The bullets stop in space then drop to the ground. Andy's jaw drops.

ANDY

You don't like guns, do you?

Sunny steps toward Andy. Kneels to his level.

SUNNY

Once I met a little boy your age. During the civil war in Sri Lanka. He said "All I own is a gun, all I know is war, all I want is peace."

ANDY

Did he surrender?

EXT. SRI LANKAN JUNGLE - DAY (FLASHBACK)

The Boy hesitates at the edge of the densest jungle. Looks over his shoulder soberly. Disappears into the jungle with other child soldiers.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY

Sunny looks into Andy's face. He wears the same expression.

SUNNY
No, he didn't have a choice.

ANDY
A soldier never surrenders.

Sunny lays her hand gently on Andy's face.

SUNNY
The best soldiers don't want war.
They want peace.

Andy considers Sunny's face. His shoulders and neck relax.
As if a decade of war might be over.

INT. COURT HOUSE - FAMILY COURT - DAY

Min is flanked by Greasy Lawyer in front of the Judge.

GREASY LAWYER
As Mister Ward is in custody, he no longer lives with Ms Jun and so their son should be returned to her.

INT./EXT. JANE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Human Andy sprawls on the floor petting Rex, the rottweiler.
He hugs Rex's neck.

JANE
I wouldn't do that.

ANDY
Dogs like me. I had a beagle called Snoopy. But I had to leave him behind when the police took me.

SUNNY
(whispering)
Andy's mum doesn't have him. I don't know where he is.

Jane clutches her heart. Keanu, Jane and Sunny sit at the dining table. Rex rolls over as Andy scratches his belly.

JANE
He seems to like you.

SUNNY
(looking at Keanu)
Yes.

ANDY
Come on Rex, outside.

The living room overlooks the lush garden. Andy and Rex barrel out of sight.

JANE
His mum could really get him back?
Where's his dad?

SUNNY
He was charged with some kind of
fraud. I don't know where he is now.

JANE
They can't get him for anything else?

SUNNY
The police will try to build a better
case. But kids don't come forward.
They're scared or can't remember.

JANE
Can't they make him remember?

Sunny exhales heavily through puffed cheeks.

SUNNY
I grew up in Mum's bipolar world. She
said, "There are two sides of the
story and the truth." And her
stories, of those skeletons in our
closet, were more marvelous than the
truth. Sometimes that's what we need.

Sunny looks out the window.

SUNNY
As for Andy's Dad, for all I know he
put the dog in the pound and fled the
country. Can you see Andy?

INT. HALLWAY - SAME TIME

Andy listens at the door with Rex. Wrings his hands.

INT./EXT. CAR - DAY (MOVING)

Sunny, Andy and Keanu pull up to Sunny's house. The Neighborhood Boys, on bicycles, charge up to the car. Kim waves as he calls out to Andy.

KIM
You up for a battle?

Andy doesn't look up.

INT./EXT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - GARAGE - DAY

The Neighborhood Boys converge outside the garage. Sunny pulls Andy's bicycle out. They peer into the garage. They bear Nerf guns and shields. A modern "Lord of the Flies."

KIM
What's behind there?

From the dark crawl space, a low moaning.

SUNNY (V.O.)
Those skeletons in our closet.

Wind reaches out with GHOSTLY HANDS. Andy's eyes bulge.

SUNNY
Storage space.

The Neighborhood Boys regroup.

ANDY
Once I was riding in the bush next to my house, where my real mum and dad live. There's kangaroos and stuff. And these boys lit a fire. And me and my best friend Ethan got trapped.

EXT. BUSHLAND - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Andy (8) and Ethan (12) watch kangaroos jumping, escaping the ring of fire. They're surrounded.

ANDY
Dad! Dad!

ETHAN
Don't call your dad!
(scans quickly)
Follow the kangaroos!

Andy checks Ethan. They're both terrified.

ETHAN (cont'd)
As fast as you can!

The boys charge headlong into the fire.

INT./EXT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - GARAGE - DAY

Andy lifts his shirt. The Neighborhood Boys circle closer.

Kim runs his hand over the scar covering Andy's back.

Sunny, holding the bicycle, watches the boys marvel. Andy removes his shirt. His back is rippled with burn scars.

KIM

It's like dragon scales.

Sunny sees Andy as he sees himself. A boy's face with the body of a dragon.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Keanu cooks chili, tasting it and adding spice.

SUNNY

Forget flowers. A man who cooks and cleans. That's a woman's fantasy.

KEANU

Can you call Andy? He was out back.

EXT. BACK YARD - DAY

Sunny peers between the trees. Calls out.

SUNNY

Andy!

She gapes at a smashed pot at her feet. The love tree WRITHES on the ground. She hurriedly replants it in the pot.

SUNNY (cont'd)

Andy!

EXT. SUNNY'S STREET - DAY

Sunny jogs down the street to the Neighborhood Boys. Before she can ask Kim --

KIM

I don't know where Andy is!

SUNNY

I can tell you're lying. Where is he?

KIM

It's not my fault. He went under the house. He said he found a dead body!

SUNNY

What? Where did he go?

KIM

He went to find his dad.

EXT. ANDY'S OLD HOUSE - DAY

Sunny dashes past the blue flashing lights of a parked police car. Scans. Skinny Policeman sits with Andy on the front steps of a dilapidated, one-story weatherboard house. It's tagged with "PEDO SCUM." Sunny hugs Andy fiercely.

SUNNY

You scared me. Are you okay?

Andy lifts his head to Sunny. Tears flow freely. Keanu sits by Andy and puts his arm around him.

SKINNY POLICEMAN

Can we talk privately?

Andy sprouts dragon ears. They twitch toward them. Skinny Policeman ushers Sunny off, but not out of dragon hearing.

SKINNY POLICEMAN (cont'd)

I'm Sargent Dojovic. I found Andy.

SUNNY

Sargent Dojovic. Dojovic?

SARGENT DOJOVIC

Yes, Dojovic. This is ah, good timing actually. I'm not supposed to tell you but we caught a break in the case. This kid Ethan came forward.

SUNNY

Ethan, his best friend?

SARGENT DOJOVIC

Yes. He identified a ring called the Magpies. You know the rhyme, "Three for a girl, four for a boy."

Andy and Keanu look up.

ANDY (V.O.)

Three for a girl --

MEMORY HIT (ANDY'S)

Christian's bowling team flank him at his bowling lane. They wear their black shirts with a "FOUR MAGPIES" logo. Christian kisses his bowling ball.

ANDY (V.O.)

Four for a boy.

ANDY (V.O.)

Five for silver,
Six for gold,
Seven for a secret
To never be told.

CHRISTIAN

Eight for a wish,
Nine for a kiss,
Ten for a bird
You must not miss.

STRIKE! Andy (8) and Ethan (12), dressed in Magpie shirts, nurse bowling balls. The men look at them like prey.

BACK TO SCENE

Andy's dragon ears twitch again.

SARGENT DOJOVIC

Andy's father is in jail for impersonating military personnel.

SUNNY

No! So he wasn't a war hero?

SARGENT DOJOVIC

He was never in the army. And now we might get him for what he did to Ethan. Andy doesn't remember anything?

SUNNY

Not that he's said.

SARGENT DOJOVIC

Maybe that's for the best. I've got kids myself. Some things are better left forgotten. I'll never understand why these women believe their men and not their kids.

SUNNY

I'll never understand her, never forgive her.

SARGENT DOJOVIC

We still haven't found Andy's biological father. That's another department.

Sunny notices Andy's twitching dragon ears. Knows he's heard every word.

The sound of a car pulling up. Sunny turns. Kaila steps out of a Foster the Future car.

INT. SUNNY'S CAR - DAY (MOVING)

Sunny and Keanu drive in silence. He squeezes her knee. She looks in the rear view mirror. The back seat is empty.

SUNNY

Who knew my soulmate would be ten years old?

INT. KAILA'S CAR - DAY (MOVING)

Kaila drives. Andy sleeps fitfully in the back seat.

EXT. DRAGON REALM - HIGH CASTLE - DAY

Andy, Sooky, Chae-ry, Lumière, Neve and the other Cool Nerds -- all now are dragons -- gingerly scale a tall cliff.

Below them, clouds are fanned by Psychic Winds.

CHAE-RY

Hurry! If we're caught in the Psychic Winds, we'll lose our memory.

Reaching the top, they peer over the ledge.

A jail, three stories high, is close ahead. Against the jail bars flap Black Dragons. Hundreds of them. Dojovics dragons circle above.

ANDY

It's okay. I've got it under control.

Andy breathes a wall of dragon ice, blocking them from the wind and the Dojovics. It creates a tunnel around them, straight to the entrance of the jail.

They shuffle down the ice corridor.

They reach a tall locked gate. The Black Dragons stir, one after another. A FAT BLACK DRAGON pads to the gate. Pauses. His eyes outline the dragon party -- his talons BURST through the bars.

Sooky lurches back as his talons clutch for her throat. Misses! The Black Dragons, en masse, hurl themselves at the cage gate. A cacophony of hisses and gnarls.

Christa, Andy's father, the heftiest of the Black Dragons by far, is curled on the floor. He lifts his head.

CHRISTA

Son?

SOOKY

I don't think we should let them out.

Christa bellows. The other dragons slink back. He rises to his full terrifying height. Christa spreads expansive black and white wings, like the wings of a magpie.

CHRISTA

Let me out, son. Now!

Andy shrinks back. Inhaling courage, he steps forward.

ANDY

You're not my father. You can't control me any more.

(steps forward)

I have the powers of the Bewilderbeast. And the Bewilderbeast controls all the other dragons.

Andy closes his eyes. Opens them to reveal the ice-blue eyes of the Bewilderbeast. Ice blue sonar waves emanate from him.

The Black Dragons screech and recoil into the furthest recesses of the jail. Christa backs away.

ANDY (cont'd)

You can't hurt me any more.

Andy's dragon crew surround him, chests puffed. Andy turns.

CHRISTA

Andy! Come back here!

They tread away, down the ice tunnel.

Andy looks over his shoulder at his father, one last time. Christa's ear-splitting roar grows softer as they depart.

The sun melts the horizon in oranges and purples. One by one the dragons take off from the cliff. They dive down to the plains, soar into the sky. Andy, the last of them, looks over his shoulder. Hesitates. He looks ahead and lifts his wings. Whoosh! He dives then soars. Free at last.

INT. A HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Andy lies in a spartan hotel room. A RESIDENTIAL CARE WORKER (30s) pokes his head in. Turns off the lights.

Andy stares at the ceiling, becoming clouds in Dragon Realm.

EXT. DRAGON REALM - SKY - NIGHT

Sunny, Keanu and Andy, all as dragons, duck and weave through the clouds.

<p>KEANU Woo hoo!</p>	<p>SUNNY (overlapping) This is amazing!</p>
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Andy spirals.

ANDY
Mum, look at me!

Back to...

INT. A HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

A fat tear rolls down Human Andy's cheek.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Sunny, her head on Keanu's shoulder, watches TV. It's a photo reel of happy times with Andy.

Three loud knocks. Sunny springs off the couch.

INT./EXT. ENTRANCE - NIGHT

As she opens the door --

SUNNY
Andy?!

A heavily pregnant POLICEWOMAN (20s), Aboriginal, and a Chubby Policeman stands at the top step.

SUNNY (cont'd)
Hello. Can I help you officers?

POLICEWOMAN

We got a complaint from Foster the Future. A child said he found a dead girl called Sooky under your house.

SUNNY

What? That's not possible.

POLICEWOMAN

Can you open the garage please?

EXT./INT. GARAGE - NIGHT

Sunny fumbles with the lock. Police lights spin in the background. She opens the garage. Judgy Neighbor pokes her head out. Sunny glances at Keanu. He shrugs.

Chubby Policeman and two OTHER POLICE file into the garage. He squeezes into the crawl space.

CHUBBY POLICEMAN

I found something.

Sunny runs her hands through her hair. Keanu peers in.

Chubby Policeman's legs extrude from the crawl space as he reverses. He gets stuck. The two Other Police tug him out. He lands on top of them, holding a wooden box. Opens it.

There's a SKELETON inside! Sunny smiles.

SUNNY

That's Yorick.

The Policewoman takes out handcuffs.

KEANU

Whoa!

SUNNY

No. I can explain. Please, come inside the house.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

The Police roam through the house, perusing rooms.

Sunny picks up the photo of her father. Points to the skeleton in the background.

SUNNY

That's Yorick. On the back of his head, in blue marker, my sister wrote Yorick when we were kids.

The Policewoman turns to the Chubby Policeman.

POLICEWOMAN

Go check it out.

She turns back to Sunny, hands on her hips.

POLICEWOMAN (cont'd)

You got any other dead bodies here?

SUNNY

Um, well...

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Sunny places her hand on the two white tins above the television.

SUNNY

These are the ashes of my father and my son. Phoenix would have been four this December.

POLICEWOMAN

I'm sorry. I um, ah, we'll go now. But we're taking -- Yorick. So sorry.

The Policewoman rests her hand on her belly. Leaves. Sunny turns to Keanu who holds her.

INT. ANDY'S BIO GRANDPARENT'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

The living room says Korean opulence. Andy looks at photos above the monstrous fireplace. Andy's biological GRANDMOTHER (70s), a severe Korean woman, stands rigidly apart from him.

ANDY

Who are they?

GRANDMOTHER

That is your grandfather, a doctor. That is your uncle, also a doctor. And his two daughters, both math prodigies.

ANDY

I'm great at math.

GRANDMOTHER

It's in your genes.

GRANDMOTHER (cont'd)

And that's Chae-ry at her second birthday. Just after your mother disappeared. We thought she was dead!

Andy scans the room, not taking the words in.

ANDY

Where's the photos of Mum?

ANDY'S GRANDMOTHER

These are family photos. Family isn't just blood. Family cares for you when you need them. She abandoned us!

INT. KAILA'S CAR - DAY (MOVING)

Andy studies Kaila.

ANDY

Mum does make her bed and she does lie in it. I don't think this grandmother likes me. Not like Archie likes me and she's a dragon.

KAILA

Well, that's not your fault.

Andy watches McDonald's pass by the window.

ANDY

Kaila, who's going to be my mum now?

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - SUNNY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sunny and Keanu lie in bed, staring at the ceiling.

KEANU

Let's get out of here.

EXT. STREETSCAPE - NIGHT

Keanu and Sunny, on a motorbike, peel through empty coastal roads. Sunny hugs Keanu, their bodies glued tightly. The sea glimmers. Keanu throttles the bike and leans low. Sunny sits up, spreads her arms wide and closes her eyes.

EXT. BEACH HEADLAND - DAY

Sunny and Keanu sit back-to-back on the headland above the rock pool. Dawn's last rays. Silent but for waves and birds.

SUNNY
This is freedom, right?

KEANU
Right.

Below them, a child squeals. Splashing. A mother laughs.

KEANU (cont'd)
The hearing's in an hour.

SUNNY
Yes. I sent his mum a photo album of our times together.

They turn toward each other by degrees as they speak.

KEANU
Will he go back to her?

SUNNY
Probably. She's not living with Christian now --

KEANU
Because he went to jail! What happens when he gets out?

SUNNY
I was a court appointed mother, that's all. I'm not his real mum.

KEANU
(takes her hand)
You're his mum in every way that matters.

Sunny and Keanu face each other. Resolved.

KEANU (cont'd)
Let's go!

INT. COURT HOUSE - FAMILY COURT - DAY

Min, seated with Sam and Kaila, turns the photo album pages: Andy swims, ties his laces, gets his Taekwondo black belt.

EXT. STREETScape - DAY

Sunny and Keanu speed, beep and weave through traffic.

INTERCUT - FAMILY COURT AND STREETScape - DAY

- A JUDGE enters. Sam, Kaila and Min rise.
- Sunny and Keanu screech to a stop at the courthouse.
- Sam addresses the judge.

SAM

Your Honor, we recommend that the child be restored to his mother or, failing that, to his biological grandparents.

- Sunny and Keanu look for signs as they jog down hallways.
- Min gapes at Sam.

INT. COURT HOUSE - FAMILY COURT - DAY

Sunny and Keanu burst into the court room. Sunny rushes to the front of the courtroom.

Min stands sharply as Sunny is stopped by a SECURITY GUARD. Keanu karate-kicks the Security Guard.

The Security Guard's shoes trip back over an electrical cord. He falls backward. Sunny steps around him.

MIN

I'd like to say something!

The Judge nods. Min points to Sunny.

MIN (cont'd)

This woman is not his mother. I am his mother.

Sunny's brow furrows. The Judge nods encouragingly to Min.

MIN (cont'd)

I never want Andy to live in that house, that house where I grew up. I know I have let Andy down, but I'm ready to be his mother now.

Min wrings her hands in the same way Andy wrings his hands.

MIN (cont'd)
 And, as his mother, I'm begging you
 to place him with the person who can
 care for him best.

Min, lip wobbling, turns to Sunny.

MIN (cont'd)
 This woman here.

Sunny and Min exchange a deep look, of grief, gratitude and
 finally compassion.

EXT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - DAY

Kaila shuffles up the driveway. Behind her, Andy waves a
 white flag. Pokes his head out. He reads Sunny's serious
 face. His face twitches anxiously. Sunny hunches down.

SUNNY
 Come on, little one. You're home now.

She holds out her hand. He clasps it then hugs her.

ANDY
 I'm sorry! I'm sorry! I'm sorry!

SUNNY
 It's okay. It's okay. Come on,
 someone wants to meet you.

Snoopy bounds into the driveway. He leaps into Andy's arms.

ANDY
 Snoopy!
 (to Sunny)
 Does he have to go back?

SUNNY
 No. This is his forever home.

INT. ANDY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sunny stands in the doorway. Watches Andy gaze at a photo,
 his eyes brimming. He looks up. Hides the photo behind him.

Sunny sits on his bed. Pulls the photo from behind Andy. A
 photo of his Mum, Min. Snoopy jumps up on the bed.

SUNNY
 Andy, you know my baby died.

Andy nods. Hugs Snoopy.

SUNNY

And I love you but I love him too.
 (voice falters)
 One child does not replace another.
 So I understand. I will never replace
 your mother. You don't have to
 choose. You have both our hearts.

INT./EXT. CAR - DAY (MOVING)

Human Andy, Archie and Snoopy sit in the back. Keanu sits in the passenger seat.

ANDY

Mum, you forgot Lumière! She's flying
 outside the window!

Sunny slams the brakes. BEEP!!! An angry car horn from behind. Sunny winds down the window.

Lumière clambers over Sunny and into the back seat.

SUNNY

Lumière, be careful!

"Make My Dreams" (or similar) plays on the radio.

Andy leans his head out the window with Lumière. His longer Afro blows back in the wind.

ANDY

Come on, Archie.

Carmen and Snoopy lean out of the other window. Andy and Carmen roar like dragons. Flames flow from their mouths.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - SUNNY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

There are two simultaneous and intersecting timelines.

Carmen, on a sleepover, sits up in Sunny's bed. She pores over photos of Sooky, clearly emotional. Sunny watches from the doorway.

Andy barrels in wearing dragon-themed underpants. Leaps.

SUNNY

St-o-o-o-p!

Andy pauses mid-air -- lands and tackles Carmen who giggles.

SUNNY (cont'd)

Be careful.

Andy produces the music box. Carmen gasps.

ANDY

See.

Carmen twists the music box key. Opens the box. Familiar music spirals out as the ballerina spins.

In the corner of the room --

Sooky's Mum spins Sooky on the spot like a ballerina.

Sooky's Mum and Carmen sing to the music. It's the song playing on the radio when Sooky's Mum was wallpapering.

Sunny and Carmen both see Sooky and Sooky's Mum, as if they're there in the room.

There is a long look of profound love between Sunny and Carmen. Andy and Lumière twirl around the room.

Andy farts.

CARMEN

Andy!

ANDY

It was Lumière!

Lumière lifts up her tail threateningly.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Andy lies beside Sunny on the lounge with Sunny's laptop. The wall is crowded with photos of them. A photo of Andy at the rock pool is centered.

ON THE LAPTOP: The "ANCESTRY DNA" website.

SUNNY

The odds of finding your sister or biological father, little one...

ANDY

But anything's possible right?

Lumière jumps on the couch and licks Andy's face.

SUNNY

It's in my nature to believe in the impossible.

KEANU

(standing)

I have had an effect on you.

Keanu sits down beside Andy and puts his arm around him.

ANDY

When I have kids what do I pass on?

SUNNY

If you have children then you'll pass on me to them. I'll be their Archie.

ANDY

But I'm not your real son. I'm not blood. Not like your baby Phoenix.

SUNNY

Hmmm. Well, I couldn't have children. So another woman gave me her egg to make Phoenix. You see, he didn't have my blood either. But he was my son.

ANDY

I'm your son the same amount as him?

SUNNY

I guess you're right -- If you have kids, you won't pass on my blood. You'll pass on the way Archie loved me, and the way I love you, to your children. And that love will carry through all the generations.

Keanu leans over Andy and kisses Sunny.

KEANU

You're breathtaking.

Andy jumps up and runs to the bathroom door. Twerks.

ANDY

I gotta poop-poop-poop.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Sunny and Keanu lie entwined on the couch. They tenderly kiss. Her phone rings. Andy races in.

ANDY

Who is it?

ON THE PHONE: St Basil's Nursing Home

SUNNY

It's Archie.

Sunny puts it on speakerphone.

ANDY

Archie! It's your favorite dragon!

Sunny, Andy and Keanu roar.

ANDY (cont'd)

Archie, you have to roar!

ALEX THE NURSE (V.O.)

Sunny? Sunny Fernando?

SUNNY

Oh hi, Alex.

(to Keanu)

It's the nurse.

(to Alex)

Can you put Mum on the phone, please?

ALEX THE NURSE (V.O.)

I'm sorry, Sunny. Your mother has just passed away.

INT. FUNERAL HOME - DAY

The funeral home is packed with Sunny's family and friends.

In the front row, Andy sits between Keanu and Jane. They hold his hand. Lumière leans her chin on Andy's knee, appraising him with big eyes.

Beside Jane is Sunny's sister. Jasmine is perfectly coiffed, in a skin-tight designer dress.

Beside Jasmine is her designer-clad family. Andy pokes his head out to glimpse his estranged family. Jasmine's youngest daughter HARPER (11) leans over. She grins at Andy, ducks out of sight, leans forward again and pulls a comical face.

Sunny stands at the lectern. Behind her --

A SLIDE SHOW OF CARMEN'S LIFE plays.

The slide show is set to the song that Sooky's Mum and Carmen sang, the song from the music box.

ON THE SLIDESHOW REEL BEHIND SUNNY:

-- Carmen, in a wedding sari, marries Darrel.

-- Carmen and Darrel are at a party: Stolen London street signs. Darrel holds a bottle of whisky aloft. Carmen DANCES ON A TABLE in a miniskirt, much like the photo of Sunny.

-- Carmen is pregnant and has a toddler on her hip. They pose in front of the house where Sunny and Andy now live.

In front of the photo reel, Sunny speaks at the lectern.

SUNNY

Carmen Fernando was called many names. Carmen by her friends, Margot by her nine brothers and sisters, Darling Girl by her husband. Her grandchildren called her Archie, the Sri Lankan word for grandmother.

Andy sniffs. His shoulders shake, holding in sobs.

SUNNY (cont'd)

But I --
(voice quaking)
I called her Mum.

JASMINE

Big sook.

Andy twists to Jasmine. She's dazzling but with a cruel mouth.

THE REEL CONTINUES BEHIND SUNNY:

The photos progress. Carmen and Darrel carry two little girls. They grow up into Sooky and her sister Bubby.

-- Sooky and Bubby pose in the same school uniform as Andy.

-- Sooky's Mum hangs pink wall paper. Sooky finishes her Christmas drawing on the wall with SEVEN BIRDS -- seven for a secret to never be told.

-- A short video exactly mirrors the drawing. In front of a Christmas tree, Sooky's mum and dad laugh.

CHILDREN CHANT (V.O.)

One for sorrow, two for joy. Three
for a girl...

Sooky and Bubby sit on their UNCLE's knee, his hand on their thighs.

REVEAL FOR ADULTS: The evil SHADOW is their Uncle! Sooky wears a THREE MAGPIES necklace -- the symbol pedophiles use to signal one another.

-- The reel continues through happier memories -- Bubby grows up to be Jasmine. And Sooky grows up to be Sunny.

Andy twigs!

Carmen/Archie and Sooky's Mum are the same person!

Sooky is Sunny when she was a little girl.

It's Sunny who's been playing with him and protecting him in the Dragon Realm and in the human world!

SUNNY

My son Andy and I live in the house where I grew up. Mum is everywhere I look.

(long exhale)

Andy has, had, a special relationship with his Archie. We saw her every weekend. She loved you very much Andy. You made our family complete.

JASMINE

(scoffs)

Family?

Jane squeezes Andy's hand. Shoots Jasmine a murderous glare.

Sunny struggles to regain her composure. She looks at Keanu who coaches her in deep breaths, in, out.

SUNNY

Sorry.

Andy stands and walks to the lectern.

He hugs Sunny. Her shoulders shudder.

ANDY

Archie was my grandmother. She was my family, not by blood but by love. Because family are the people who care for you, even when you're a pain in the butt, who don't abandon you. Ever. When I have kids, like when I'm old, like twenty-two.

A few titters from the pews.

SUNNY
Thirty-two.

ANDY
(calculates silently)
Twenty-nine. Meet you half-way.

Sunny exhales a quiet laugh.

ANDY (cont'd)
When I have kids, I'll pass on the
way Archie loved Mum and the way Mum
loves me. And that's better than
blood. That's family.

Jane and Keanu blubber. Andy's tears flow freely.

Andy gazes at Carmen's loved ones.

Carmen and Sooky's Mum stand in the aisle.

Two GIANT MAGPIES alight beside them. Two for joy.

Carmen and Sooky's Mum wave, MOUNT THE MAGPIES AND FLY AWAY.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Sunny, a shell of herself, curls on the couch beside Keanu.

ANDY (O.S.)
Mum!

Sunny doesn't respond. Numb. Eyes vacant.

ANDY (O.S.) (cont'd)
MUM!

KEANU
He's calling for you.

SUNNY
Huh?

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

"That Way" (or similar) plays on the speaker.

SUNNY
What do you want?

SHAKIRA
(sings)
*And I'm here to stay
I'm not giving up
I'm not running away
So we're gonna leave it that
way
That way.*

DRAGON-BOY Andy relaxes waist deep in a bubble bath.

ANDY
Can you wash my back?

Sunny sighs. Picks up a sponge. She slowly rubs Andy's red dragon back. He groans in child-like pleasure.

ANDY (cont'd)
My mum used to do this.

Andy looks at Sunny, a sad purple dragon with a Mum face.

As Sunny washes Andy, his red SCALES MELT into the water.

Sunny looks deeply into his searching eyes, the way you look into a baby's eyes. Strokes his face. He strokes her face.

Sunny's purple scales melt away, twirling with Andy's in a swirl of red and purple. Andy closes his eyes.

EXT. DRAGON REALM - DRAGONIA MOUNTAIN - DAY

Dragon Andy stands at the mountain's edge. The valley is peaceful. Chae-ry puts her wing around Andy.

ANDY
Will I see you again?

CHAE-RY
In the human world. One day.

Chae-ry licks Andy's forehead.

ANDY
The family that licks together sticks together.

Neve and the other Cool Nerds rumble and laugh on the plateau behind Andy. Sooky pads softly to Andy.

SOOKY
It's time to go home.

Lumière bounds up to Andy. Andy hesitates. Gazes at Lumière.

ANDY
No Lumière. You stay here now.

Lumière hangs her head. Steps toward Andy. They touch snouts. Linger.

LUMIERE
I'll always be here when you need me.

ANDY
You talk! Oh Lumière!
(voice breaking)
Thank you for protecting me.

Their necks entwine for a long moment. Chae-ry nudges Andy.

Andy steps to the ledge with Sooky and Chae-ry.

Sooky and Chae-ry take flight.

Chae-ry peels away in the other direction.

Andy looks back at Lumière. Holds her eyes. Lumière nods.

Andy takes flight. Swoosh-swoosh-swoosh. Glorious.

Lumière watches him fly away.

INT. MIN'S APARTMENT - DAY

A desolate studio apartment. Min sobs on her bed.

Min clutches a framed photo of Andy to her chest -- Andy grins and floats in his now local rock pool.

Beside her lies discarded postal packaging and a store-bought MOTHER'S DAY card.

EXT. STREET-SCAPE - DAY

Human Andy, Sunny and Keanu ride bicycles. Sunny wears a RED PICNIC BASKET backpack. Streets transform into a fantastical blend of dragon wonderland and Sydney street scape.

Andy rings his bell. Sunny and Keanu join in.

Andy races over a speed bump. His bike FLIES IN THE AIR.

INT. SUNNY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Sunny, Andy and Keanu sleep on the couch. On the table is a hand-drawn Mother's Day card and unwrapped present --

The WHITE CERAMIC HEART is repaired with gold, making the breaks beautiful.

EXT. DRAGON REALM - SKY - DAY

Andy, Sunny and Keanu are red, purple and gold dragons respectively. They ride and roll above the clouds, laughing and crisscrossing each others paths. They dive through the clouds, emerging above a bright and prosperous world.

They fly, skimming the sea. Talons graze the water.

Andy's violet heart is aglow. He lets out a great dragon's breath of violet fire, coming straight from his heart.

INT. LOS ANGELES - KEANU'S MANAGER'S OFFICE - DAY

Keanu stands at the desk of his manager's ASSISTANT. She sorts through a mountain of fan mail.

The SQUAWK of birds from the trash. Keanu rescues a letter, covered in pictures of birds. Seven magpies fly out of the letter, perching on Keanu, the desk, a lamp. He reads.

SUNNY (V.O)

There is a brief moment of time
between expectation and reality --

KEANU (V.O.)

-- when anything and all things are
possible; the breath before a kiss, a
new day, the mystery of crisp
unopened pages.

KEANU

(to Assistant)

Did this come with an address?

THE END.

