

NEVER FORGOTTEN

By

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FADE IN:

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY - 1952-2013

A 1950's mahogany console table, jammed against a freshly-painted wall.

The second-hand of a wall clock ticks loudly.

Atop the console table:

- An art-deco perpetual calender, dated 21st June 1952.
- A silver-framed black-and-white photograph takes pride of place - the church wedding of the in-love JOAN (26) and dark-haired ARTHUR (27).
- A vase of summer flowers.

The hands on the clock increase in tempo. The calender date spins forward.

The flowers wilt, the vase disappears.

Days and months pass in seconds --

As the years advance, the console table accommodates additional framed photographs:

1954: Joan proudly nurtures their new-born child, WILLIAM.

1960: A beaming Arthur, crouched behind the equally happy six-year-old William, as he prepares to blow out candles on a birthday cake.

1965: A school photograph of the 11 year-old William.

The wall repainted.

1970: Joan and Arthur in adjacent deckchairs, eating ice-cream, basked in summer sun.

1975: A long-haired William, outside church with his bride, CHERYL.

1977: An evening reception party. Arthur and Joan embraced in a kiss. A hanging banner behind displays "Happy 25th Anniversary."

The wall repainted.

1983: Proud Grandparents - Arthur and Joan cradle baby Grand-daughter KELLY.

1987: A family of smiling faces, on holiday at a caravan park - Arthur, Joan, William, Cheryl, Kelly, and a new addition, BABY MARK.

2001: Great Grandparents - The adoring figures of Arthur and Joan beside Kelly's newborn daughter ANNABELLE.

2002: A contented Arthur and Joan, wrapped in each others arms, in a Golden Wedding Anniversary heart-shaped frame.

The hour and minute hands on the clock decrease in speed, slower and slower until only the second hand moves.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT - 2013

The rhythmic tick-tock of the 1950's wall clock - 9.00pm.

Dotted between the framed photographs - Sympathy and Condolence cards, in remembrance of Arthur.

The perpetual calendar reveals the date - February 14th 2013

In a wing-back chair, beside the console table, rests a weary, aged Joan. Three filled photo albums rest on her lap.

She reaches forward, rummages a frail hand in a drawer of the console table - withdraws a crumpled black-and-white photograph.

A longing-stare at an image of past-times - a fresh-faced, blond-haired SOLDIER in 1940's khaki uniform.

She flips the photo. Scrawled in pencil on the back - "My Darling Jim, 1944."

With jittery movement she stretches for the wedding photo of herself and Arthur.

A cherished glance at the wedding photograph -

JOAN
I loved you...

Her gaze switches to the photograph of Jim -

JOAN (CONT)
But I never could forget...my first.

A teary-eyed Joan clutches both photographs tight against her chest. Eyelids close, shutting away the real-world for dreams.

FADE OUT.