

THAT'S AMORE

by

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FADE IN:

INT. TAXI - NIGHT

MAE, 30, repairs tear-smudged mascara. Her phone chimes. An alert reads: "Flight to London 10:30pm".

A sharp turn. A heart-shaped balloon smacks Mae in the face. She bats it away.

EXT. HOSPICE IN AMERICAN SUBURB - NIGHT

A sign reads: "MORRIS HOSPICE CARE." Mae stands at the entrance, balloon and suitcase in tow, unwilling to go in. As the taxi pulls away Mae chases after it. But it's gone.

INT. HOSPICE - CORRIDOR - NIGHT

At a water dispenser Mae dons plastic overshoes as makeshift gloves, drinks awkwardly. A NURSE looks at her askance.

Further along Mae gets out her phone, her anxiety growing.

Behind Mae appears NONNY, 80, an Italian-American woman in full makeup and a muumuu. Seeing Mae, Nonny's face lights up.

MAE

(into phone)

Could you pick me up an hour earlier? Yeah. Eight o'clock.

Mae turns to see Nonny tiptoe away and winces with guilt.

INT. HOSPICE - PRIVATE ROOM - NIGHT

Nonny does a crossword in bed. At the door Mae hesitates, presents the balloon.

MAE

Buon San Valentino, Nonny!

NONNY

Two-toed sloth, ends in 'u'?

MAE

Oh- hold on... uh - A unau?

NONNY

Hot dog! How's my little strunza?

A series of JUMP CUTS as discomfort gives way to delight:

NONNY (CONT'D)

-sin to make frittata without bacon-

MAE

-and you said, 'She's got noonies!'

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NONNY

-time I used Glade as hair spray-

MAE

C'mon why would I strip a Ken doll?

MAE & NONNY

We played Scrabble 'til 4am...

NONNY

Your mother lost every game.

Belly laughs. A DELIVERY BOY arrives with takeout.

NONNY (CONT'D)

I got the cannoli like you like.

They eat. Nonny puts on some Italian mandolin music. She stands, a bit wobbly, and pulls Mae to her feet.

NONNY (CONT'D)

Let's dance.

They whirl round and round.

Nonny stumbles in pain. Outside the taxi HONKS. Mae helps Nonny into bed. The wall clock TICKS loudly, strikes eight.

MAE

I... I'll just clean up real quick.

Nonny watches Mae fuss about, getting increasingly frantic.

NONNY

Mae.

Mae looks up, eyes brimming with tears. More honking. She buries herself in her grandmother's arms, sobbing.

NONNY (CONT'D)

We always want more time, but you get what you get, and I had a great run. And you are gonna have a great life in London.

Still crying Mae just nods. She kisses Nonny's cheek, taking in every detail of her face. Mae leaves.

Nonny takes a breath, looks around, picks up her crossword. Silence. Then... footsteps approach. Mae pops her head in.

MAE

I told him to come back in an hour.

Nonny beams at her.

FADE TO BLACK.