

A BETTER WAY

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INT. CORPORATE BUILDING LOBBY. MORNING

Executive workers rush through the revolving doors, stone faced, ignorant. HANNAH gracefully enters, immaculate, naturally beautiful holding a subtle smile.

EXT. JOB CENTRE. MORNING

BEN a dishevelled Prince Charming exits on to the street distressed. He screws up some documents which he throws into a bin. Pulling his hoody up he marches on.

INT. CORPORATE OFFICE. DAY

Chaos. Sharp suited men arrogantly close deals and slam down phones. One salesman clicks his fingers at a female colleague struggling with bundles of files. HANNAH dreamy at her desk stares at a framed photo of her and Ben. LARA, office drama queen, notices Hannah and ruins her moment.

LARA

He's getting another chance then?

HANNAH

Lara! Hi, yeah, he's taking me out for a surprise?

LARA

Surprise! Where, the local kebab house?

HANNAH

Oi! He said he started work again last week. Anyway I'd be happy with a bag of chips and a night in.

LARA

Yeah Right. The only job he's been good at is letting you down girl. Later's.

INT. GIFT SHOP. DAY

Ben in higher spirits stands at a cash register. The SHOP ASSISTANT pulls his glasses to his cracked face.

SHOP ASSISTANT

I'm afraid this card rejected. Do you have another card or cash?

BEN

(defeated)
No. Forget it.

Ben's eyes fall. He drags himself away, revealing a teddy and Valentines card abandoned on the counter.

INT. BEN'S FLAT. DAY

Ben slumped at the dining table with only pizza boxes and piles of washing up for company stares at his mobile dreading the phone call he knows he has to make. He eventually calls Hannah.

INT. CORPORATE OFFICE. DAY

Hannah replaces the receiver. She pulls down the photo of her and Ben and strides from her desk wiping away a tear.

INT. BEN'S FLAT. DAY

Ben with his head in his hands at the dining table catches sight of his guitar. He stares deep in thought then to the notepad.

EXT. CORPORATE LOBBY. EVENING

The lobby doors whirl into action again with departing workers. Hannah exits with Lara. They manage a few steps before noticing a crowd gathering ahead. They approach closer hearing the sound of a guitar soothing the rush hour mayhem. The crowd part revealing Ben, smart, handsome, strumming his guitar. Below him chalked into the pavement read the words 'To My Valentine'. Ben catches Hannah's gaze.

BEN

(singing)

I'm so scared of saying, its
clear my hearts not been paying
you. All that's ordinary is
forever extraordinary with you.
The words I wish I had said, all
the lines I never read to you.
So my darling, please keep me
smiling, come live in my heart
another day. So my darling I'll
keep you smiling, loving you a
better way.

INT. BEN'S LIVING ROOM. NIGHT

Ben's acoustics continue. Ben and Hannah cuddle on his couch. The room glows with candle light. Ben gently brushes Hannah's hair behind her ear and they share a sensual kiss. Ben reaches down revealing a bag of chips and half empty bottle of red wine. He puts a chip playfully in her mouth.