

Final Draft 8 Demo

LIKE FAMILY

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. GROCERY STORE PARKING LOT - EVENING

A green car pulls into a parking space. THIEDA GEE (18) steps out of the car and heads toward the store.

THIEDA (V.O.)

I started watching them when they were three and five. I had no idea what I was getting myself into.

INT. GROCERY STORE - CONTINUOUS

Thieda makes her way through the aisles to the bakery. She studies the Valentine-themed pastries behind the glass.

THIEDA (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I don't even think it took a year for Christine and Jeremy Turpin and me to get to know one another. We just kind of clicked.

Thieda picks out two little, heart-shaped cakes with red icing.

THIEDA (V.O.) (CONT'D)

The first summer I watched them full-time was filled with temper tantrums and potty training, with "That's not fair!" and pee-soaked pants.

EXT. TURPIN HOME - LATER

Thieda's green car pulls into the driveway.

Thieda knocks on the front door, boxed cakes in hand. Siblings CHRISTINE and JEREMY TURPIN (10 & 8) open the door and greet her excitedly.

THIEDA (V.O.)

Since then I've watched them grow, but from a distance. Every year I go from spending ten hours a day with them in the summers to an evening or two every few weeks during the school year.

SERIES OF SHOTS - THIEDA SPENDING TIME WITH THE KIDS

- A) MR. and MRS. TURPIN leave Thieda with Christine and Jeremy.
- B) Thieda cooks dinner while the kids argue over a board game.
- C) The trio jumps on a trampoline as the sky darkens.

THIEDA (V.O.)

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It's been five years since that first fateful night I watched them, and even though they drive me crazy, I sometimes forget I'm getting paid to watch them. They're like family now.

- D) The kids eat their Valentine cakes, sharing with Thieda.
- E) The trio snuggles on the couch, watching a movie.
- F) Christine and Jeremy, now in their pajamas, brush their teeth as Thieda looks on.

INT. CHRISTINE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Christine hands Thieda a drawing of the two of them.

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CHRISTINE  
For your room next year.

Thieda smiles and hugs the younger girl, kissing the top of her head.

INT. JEREMY'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Thieda tucks Jeremy into bed.

JEREMY

You won't forget us when you go to college next year, will you?

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Thieda's eyes sadden a bit at the thought of leaving, but she smiles.

THIEDA

Never ever.

Jeremy grins, and Thieda gives him a quick kiss on the forehead. As she leaves the room she stops in the doorway and looks back at Jeremy with a small smile. Then she flips off the light and closes the door behind her.

BLACK OUT.