A SECOND CHANCE

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A BLACK SCREEN

SUPER: "A SECOND CHANCE"

EXT./ESTAB. A HOUSE - DAY

It is a nice, sunny day. The neighborhood is quiet with the exception of the BIRDS SINGING.

SUPER: "PATERSON, NEW JERSEY"

YOUNG MAN (V.O.) Someone said: "Life is what you make it." Obviously, that person has never lived my life. What's been going on in my life, you ask? Well, I'll tell you. First, I get bad news from my ex-girlfriend.

QUICK PAN RIGHT and:

INT. SANDRA PETER'S BEDROOM - DAY

SANDRA PETERS, 18, a curvy girl with curly blonde hair breaks the fourth wall and she looks unhappy.

SANDRA Jerry, I don't know how to tell you this, but I can't be with you anymore.

PULL BACK TO REVEAL CARL MANSFIELD, 18, a tall, buff male, stands next to Sandra and he also breaks the fourth wall and he has his arm around Sandra's waist.

SANDRA (CONT'D) I have decided to go out with Carl Mansfield. I hope we can still be friends.

YOUNG MAN (V.O.) And then, I get bad news from my algebra teacher.

QUICK PAN RIGHT and:

INT. BRODY'S ALGEBRA CLASS - DAY

ALBERT BRODY, the algebra teacher at Eastside High, breaks the fourth wall as he holds up Jerry's algebra test. It has a red "F" in the right hand corner and it is circled. BRODY

Mr. Connors, you have failed yet another algebra test. One more failure and you will have to take the entire class over again...in summer school.

QUICK PAN RIGHT and:

INT. JERRY CONNORS' BEDROOM - DAY

JERRY CONNORS, 18, a tall, handsome male, who sits on his bed, breaks the fourth wall and looks really unhappy.

JERRY And with all this going on, I am really depressed...and when I'm depressed, I go to the local arcade. (he stands up, picks up his coat from off the bed and puts it on) And that's where I'm going. My parents are at work and I'm here at home alone...but I won't be for long. Like I said before: I'm going to the arcade.

Jerry leaves his bedroom.

EXT. THE CONNORS' HOME - DAY

As the front door opens, Jerry reaches inside and locks the lock on the doorknob, CLOSES the door and stands on the front porch.

As Jerry breaks the fourth wall again:

JERRY Ah, it is a nice day out. I feel so damn depressed. I wish I was dead.

Then, Jerry walks down the stairs and walks to the arcade.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. THE CITY STREETS - DAY

Jerry walks along the sidewalk and he looks toward the light across the street. It is red. Seconds later, the light turns green.

THROUGH WINDSHIELD - JERRY

Through the windshield, Jerry slowly crosses the street and as he looks toward the oncoming car, he stops mid-cross as the car speeds toward him and runs the red light, a LOUD SKID is heard as Jerry's body comes in contact with the car.

FADE TO BLACK.

EXT. THE CITY STREETS - MOMENTS LATER

Jerry lays on his back motionless. People crowd around him and multiple questions and conversations are being asked and spoken among them. They think he is dead.

Just then, a magical escalator appears without the knowledge of the citizens and Jerry's spirit magically rises up out of his comatose body and walks toward the magical escalator.

As he steps on the first step, he goes up to heaven.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. THE GATEWAY TO HEAVEN - DAY

Jerry's spirit continues to travel on the magical escalator up to heaven.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. THE TOP OF THE MAGICAL ESCALATOR - DAY

As Jerry's spirit stands at the top of the magical escalator, he looks ahead and:

THREE PEOPLE STANDING IN LINE WAITING TO BE ACCEPTED INTO HEAVEN.

BACK TO JERRY'S SPIRIT

He walks over to the people in line and stands behind a construction worker in full gear.

EXT. HEAVEN - LATER

At the head of the line, a WOMAN, 38, who wears a black dress and who is obviously dead, stands in line as the GATEKEEPER, 38, a Caucasian male, who is inside a booth, goes over her death certificate.

GATEKEEPER

Name: Sharon Manson. Place of Birth: Queens, New York. Age: Thirty-eight. Cause of Death: Caught in the crossfire of a shooting during a robbery. Time Of Death: Ten a.m. Monday morning. Pass granted.

He hands the Woman her halo and she puts it on and it is suspended over her head and walks toward the entrance to the Pearly Gates.

The next in line is a MAN, 37, an African American male in a three piece suit and walks toward the Gatekeeper. It is obvious that <u>he</u> is also dead and a knife is seen stuck in his back. The Gatekeeper goes over <u>his</u> death certificate.

GATEKEEPER (CONT'D) Name: John Lawrence. Place of Birth: Trenton, New Jersey. Age: 37. Cause of Death: Stabbed in the back in an alley. Bled out for two hours. Time Of Death: Eleven eleven a.m. Monday morning. Pass granted.

He hands the Man his halo and he puts it on and it is suspended over his head as he walks toward the entrance to the Pearly Gates.

Next, the CONSTRUCTION WORKER, 38, a husky Caucasian male, dressed in full construction gear, steps up to the Gatekeeper, who has his death certificate in his hand.

GATEKEEPER (CONT'D) Name: Fred Baxter. Place Of Birth: Baltimore, Maryland. Age: 38. Cause of Death: Fell off a seventeen story scaffold. Died instantly when body hit the ground below. Time Of Death: Twelve fifteen p.m. Friday afternoon. Pass granted.

He hands the Construction Worker his halo and he puts it on and it is suspended over his head and walks toward the entrance to the Pearly Gates.

Finally, Jerry walks toward the Gatekeeper and he stops a few inches near the Gatekeeper. As the Gatekeeper sees Jerry:

GATEKEEPER (CONT'D) Jerry Connors. Hold on just a minute. (MORE)

GATEKEEPER (CONT'D) (he goes through multiple death certificates and stops at the "C"s and he finally has found Jerry's) Hmmm. According to your death certificate, you have come to heaven due to an apparent suicide. (he looks at Jerry and vice versa - speaks calmly) With death being as morbid as it is, I can't let you enter the Pearly Gates with this type of death. I'm sorry, Jerry. (he lets out a deep sigh) Here in heaven, suicide is not welcomed here. In fact, it's considered a sin. You have to have a legitimate death to gain entrance into Heaven. Now, even though you are here because of a suicide, there is something you can do.

Jerry is concerned at this point and wonders what does the Gatekeeper wants him to do. He is no longer alive. He's in Heaven...right?

JERRY What do you want me to do?

GATEKEEPER Well, since you are here via suicide, I have a job for you.

JERRY What is it? What's the job?

GATEKEEPER

You'll be sent back to Earth as a sort of Guardian Angel. Your job will be to try and find a teenager who is thinking about attempting suicide and do your best to try to talk him or her out of it. If you succeed, you'll be able to get your life back and become mortal again.

Jerry is really interested in this particular job.

JERRY Who is the person I need to help? The Gatekeeper has the record of a would-be suicide victim. He looks at the name of the person at the top of the form as he reads some information from it.

GATEKEEPER

Her name is Susan Kaplan. She is eighteen years old and she is thinking about attempting suicide. Her boyfriend dumped her, she is failing her English class at school and she feels like she isn't getting attention from her parents because of her new baby brother.

JERRY

(in shock) Oh my goodness!

The Gatekeeper gives Jerry the form and Jerry takes it from the Gatekeeper and looks it over and then, as Jerry looks toward the Gatekeeper:

JERRY (CONT'D)

So, you're saying if I help this girl and talk her out of committing suicide, I'll get my life back? No questions asked? I'll just get it back...just like that?

GATEKEEPER

That's right...but there's a catch. You'll be doing your job on a time limit...which is twenty-four hours...but I must warn you, if you fail after the time limit has lapsed, you won't get your life back and you shall remain here in Heaven.

Jerry understands the explanation and accepts what he has to do and the consequences whether he succeeds or fails at his job as a Guardian Angel.

JERRY All right. I'll do my best.

Jerry spirit disappears and goes back to Earth.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. THE CITY STREETS - MOMENTS LATER

People are seen in a crowd. As that goes on, Jerry's spirit appears and he watches the crowd and he hears the commotion among them.

ON THE STREET

Jerry's motionless body is on the street and the COMMOTION from the concerned crowd members are heard. Moments later, the AMBULANCE SIREN is heard.

The ambulance drives to the scene of the accident. Two EMTs, a MALE EMT, aged 38, who is tall and handsome and a FEMALE EMT, 38, cute and plus-sized, get out of the ambulance and run to the back of it. They open the back doors of the ambulance and take out a gurney and they wheel the gurney toward the motionless Jerry as the crowd moves out of the way like Moses parting the Red Sea.

> MALE EMT Make way, people! Make way!

FEMALE EMT Watch out, people!

The Male EMT stands near Jerry's head and the Female EMT stands at Jerry's feet. They bend down, pick up his body and put it on the gurney. Next, the Male EMT straps Jerry's body to restrain it. Finally, he and the Female EMT wheel the gurney and Jerry's comatose body on it to the back of the ambulance, put the gurney inside it and they CLOSE its doors.

Then, they run to the front seats of the ambulance, OPEN the front doors, get inside and CLOSES the doors. Then, the ambulance's SIREN is heard as it drives to the hospital.

EXT. THE HOSPITAL - DAY

Jerry's spirit appears at the hospital's entrance and he hears the SIREN of an oncoming ambulance. As Jerry looks ahead, he sees:

The ambulance entering the hospital's parking lot and stops right in front of the hospital's entrance. As the SIREN is shut off:

The two EMTs get out of the ambulance, run to the back of it, OPEN the back doors and takes the gurney with the motionless Jerry out of it and finally, they CLOSE the doors and wheel the gurney and Jerry's restrained and motionless body into the hospital not seeing Jerry's spirit watching them in silent shock.

INT. THE HOSPITAL - DAY

As the EMTs wheel the gurney with Jerry's body strapped onto it, PAUL ANDERSON, 40, a tall man, who is one of the doctors at the hospital, and a few NURSES run over to the EMTs and the gurney as they wheel it through the hospital.

> DOCTOR ANDERSON (to the EMTs) What have we got here?

MALE EMT A hit and run. This young man has been unconscious for about fifteen, twenty minutes.

DOCTOR ANDERSON (to the nurses) Get this young man a room and check his vitals.

NURSE #1

Right away, Doctor.

As they get the unconscious Jerry into a hospital room, Jerry's spirit watches them and then, he look at the form in his hand.

JERRY'S SPIRIT

(reads aloud)
Susan Kaplan. Eighteen years of
age. Boyfriend dumped her, failed
her English class and feels that
she is not getting enough attention
from her parents because of her
baby brother.
 (looks up from the form)
Well, let me get to her house and
help her out.

Jerry's Spirit snaps his fingers and he disappears out of the hospital.

EXT./ESTAB. THE KAPLAN'S HOUSE - DAY

The neighborhood is quiet. BIRDS SINGING is heard and a car drives past the house.

INT. THE KAPLAN'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

SARAH KAPLAN, Susan's mother and wife of DAVID KAPLAN, Susan's father and Susan's husband, are seen sitting on the couch with a smnall crib next to Sarah.

THE CRIB

Inside it, ROBERT KAPLAN, the newborn baby, is silent as he moves around in the crib.

BACK TO SARAH AND DAVID

They are still on the couch together.

INT. SUSAN'S BEDROOM - DAY

SUSAN KAPLAN, a cute girl, 18, lays on her her bed with her head on her pillow and her hands behind her head, has a frown on her face and she is in saddened silence.

Seconds later, Jerry's spirit appears in her bedroom. Susan sits up and looks toward him and she is quite shocked at the mere sight of him in her bedroom.

> SUSAN Who are you?

JERRY'S SPIRIT I'm Jerry, your Guardian Angel. I have been sent here to help you.

SUSAN Help me? Help me with what?

JERRY'S SPIRIT I'm here to help you overcome your thoughts of suicide.

SUSAN Suicide? I never thought about committing suicide.

JERRY'S SPIRIT Oh no? Well, let's see about that, shall we? (he extends his right hand and Susan's form appears in it - he clears his throat and reads it aloud) Are you Susan Kaplan, age eighteen? Susan looks at Jerry's Spirit with a "How does this guy know my name and age?" look on her face as Jerry's Spirit reads her statistics aloud.

> JERRY'S SPIRIT (O.S.) (CONT'D) Your boyfriend dumped you. You failed your last English test and most importantly: You feel like you're not getting enough attention from your parents because of your baby brother.

BACK TO JERRY'S SPIRIT

He continues to read Susan's statistics on the form in his hand aloud and in a calm voice.

JERRY'S SPIRIT (CONT'D) It also says that you want to commit suicide because of all these things. (he looks toward Susan) And I, as your Guardian Angel, am here to help talk you out of suicide by taking you on a special journey.

As Susan gets up off her bed and walks toward Jerry's Spirit:

SUSAN Special journey? What do you mean?

As Susan stands next to Jerry's Spirit:

JERRY'S SPIRIT I'll tell you. (he holds his hands out and a book lands in them) I'll take you to different times in your life and you're going to see the different times that you've been depressed that led up to your thinking about committing suicide.

Jerry's Spirit shows Susan the cover of the book he is holding in his hands.

THE BOOK'S COVER

The title of the book reads: "SUSAN'S MOMENTS OF DEPRESSION".

BACK TO SUSAN AND JERRY'S SPIRIT Susan is quite baffled at this, but she does her best not to let it get to her. SUSAN Wow. That's amazing...in a weird sort of way.

JERRY'S SPIRIT (as he shifts the book in his left hand to his right) Take my hand and we'll begin the journey.

Susan agrees and takes Jerry's Spirit's hand into hers and then, the both of them magically disappear out of the bedroom.

INT. THE SCHOOL'S HALLWAY - DAY (EARLIER THAT DAY)

The hallway is filled with high school students going to their lockers and/or leaving the school. Moments later, Jerry's Spirit and Susan appear among the crowd. The crowd of students don't see them...or hear them when they talk.

> SUSAN Which point in time are we in?

JERRY'S SPIRIT We're at the point in time where your boyfriend dumped you.

Susan is not happy about having to go through this.

SUSAN Do we have to go through this?

JERRY'S SPIRIT Yes. Believe it or not, everyone has to go through bad times in their lives in order to cherish the lives that they do have.

Susan and Jerry's Spirit walk over to PAST SUSAN and PETER MACKEY, 18, Past Susan's boyfriend, or in this case, exboyfriend, and stop a few feet away from the once happy couple.

> PETER Susan, I have something to say to you.

PAST SUSAN What do you want to tell me? PETER I'm afraid that I have to break up with you.

PAST SUSAN Break up with me? Why?

PETER I'm going out with Jessica Mansfield.

PAST SUSAN (in total disbelief) You're kidding, right?

PETER I wish I was. I'm sorry I had to tell you this.

PAST SUSAN Yeah. I'm sure you are.

Jerry's Spirit and Present Susan look at each other in silence and then, they look back at the couple.

PETER I really didn't want to do this, but it seems like I had to.

PAST SUSAN Yeah. I'm glad you told me before I found out about your new relationship.

PETER Yeah. I hope we can still be friends.

PAST SUSAN Sure. We can still be friends.

PETER Okay. Take care.

PAST SUSAN

Same to you.

As Past Susan, Jerry's Spirit and Present Susan watch Peter leave, Past Susan feels a little sad and then, she begins to cry as she leaves Present Susan and Jerry's Spirit alone in the crowded hall. PRESENT SUSAN That was a low blow. I've never been so hurt in my entire life.

JERRY'S SPIRIT I know. I've gone through the same thing. My girlfriend broke my heart when she told me she was going out with another guy.

PRESENT SUSAN I went home and cried my eyes out.

JERRY'S SPIRIT I went home and kept silent.

Jerry's Spirit snaps the fingers on his right hand and he and Present Susan disappear out of the school's crowded hallway.

INT. SUSAN'S BEDROOM - DAY

Jerry's Spirit and Susan appear in the bedroom together. Susan goes and stands near her bed as she continues to look toward Jerry's Spirit.

> JERRY'S SPIRIT Well, we have seen your first situation that has led you to suicide. Would you like to go to the second?

SUSAN I might as well. I have nothing to do, anyway.

JERRY'S SPIRIT Come on over to me.

Susan goes over to Jerry's Spirit and she takes his hand in hers and they both disappear out of the bedroom.

INT. A CLASSROOM - DAY

Jerry's Spirit and Present Susan appear in a filled classroom, which happens to be an English class.

The students are sitting at their desks. Jerry's Spirit and Present Susan stand right next to the teacher's desk. Neither the teacher nor the students see Jerry's Spirit and Present Susan.

ED PULLMAN

An English teacher, 48, gets up from his seat and walks right in front of it.

PULLMAN

Okay, class.I have your tests here on my desk. You can take them as you leave. Some of you did well and some of you didn't. Remember to take your tests off my desk before you leave. Susan, I would like to see you after class.

Past Susan sits at her desk with a look of silent shock on her face. It is like her facial expression is asking, "Why does Mr. Pullman need to see me?"

The SCHOOL BELL RINGS and the students get up from their seats at their desks and they all crowd around the desk to get their tests. As they get their tests, they walk out of the classroom

Past Susan is still seated at her desk. Jerry's Spirit and Present Susan are watching what is going on with Pullman and Past Susan.

> PULLMAN (CONT'D) Susan, I've got something to tell you. (he uses a hand motion to get her to come to his desk) Come on up to my desk.

Past Susan gets up from her desk and walks over to Pullman's desk and stands in front of it. Jerry's Spirit and Present Susan look toward them.

PAST SUSAN What is it, Mr. Pullman?

PULLMAN I have your test right here. I also want to tell you... (he shows the front of Past Susan's test and shows her the big red "F" on it) ...that you have failed another test. Now, you have five more tests to take before the end of the semester. If you can do better on those tests, you might pass the class. Pullman hands the test to Past Susan and she kindly takes it from him, but deep down inside, she feels unhappy and then, she leaves the classroom in silent sadness.

Jerry's Spirit and Present Susan look at each other.

JERRY'S SPIRIT Wow. You really took that "F" to heart, didn't you?

PAST SUSAN Yeah. I tried so hard to pass that test. I guess I'm not to great in English.

JERRY'S SPIRIT I felt the same way when I failed <u>my</u> English test. I will say this: We can do better in English. If we study really hard, we can pass our English tests.

PAST SUSAN I guess we could. Deal!

Jerry's Spirit and Present Susan both shake hands and agree to do better in their English classes.

After the handshake, Present Susan takes Jerry's Spirit's hand, Jerry's Spirit snaps the fingers of his free hand and he and Present Susan disappear out of the classroom.

INT. SUSAN'S BEDROOM - DAY

Jerry's Spirit and Susan appear in the bedroom.

SUSAN We're back.

JERRY'S SPIRIT Yes, we are. Well, what did you think of the two trips we took?

SUSAN It was all right, but it still didn't make me happy.

JERRY'S SPIRIT Oh boy. I was hoping that I would help you feel a little bit better about your sad moments.

EXT. THE HALLWAY - DAY

SUSAN'S FATHER, 48, and SUSAN'S MOTHER, 48, who is carrying the baby in her arms, are at the door. It is obvious that they were listening to the weird conversation going on in their daughter's bedroom. Susan's Father KNOCKS on the door.

> SUSAN'S FATHER Susan? May we come in?

SUSAN (O.C.) Sure, Dad.

INT. SUSAN'S BEDROOM - DAY

As the DOOR OPENS, Susan's parents come in. Susan is all alone in her room.

SUSAN Hi, Dad. Hi, Mom.

SUSAN'S FATHER Uh, Susan, who were you talking to?

Susan looks at her parents with a shocked look on her face because she thinks that her father had heard her talk to Jerry's Spirit, who isn't with her anymore.

> SUSAN Uh, I was talking to...myself. You know talking to yourself is the best conversation.

EXT./ESTAB. THE HOSPITAL - DAY

The parking lot is filled with different vehicles.

INT. THE HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Jerry is in a coma and JERRY'S FATHER, 50, and JERRY'S MOTHER, 49, are standing next to each other on the right side of his hospital bed. Jerry's Spirit appears in the room and he looks toward his motionless body in the bed and his parents standing around him.

Just then, Doctor Anderson enters the room and walks over to the couple and their comatose son.

JERRY'S FATHER What's the verdict, Doctor? DOCTOR ANDERSON We took all of his vitals and they seem to be okay. Your son was involved in a hit and run accident and now, he's in a coma.

Jerry's Spirit is shocked at what the doctor said and then, he walks over to the left side of the bed and stands next to Doctor Anderson and he looks at his comatose body in the bed.

THE OPEN DOOR OF THE HOSPITAL ROOM

JACK MASON, 39, enters the hospital room looking really upset. He stops in the middle of the room and stands next to Jerry's Spirit, who he nor anyone else doesn't see.

> JACK (to the doctor and Jerry's parents) I'm sorry to intrude, but I'm here because I feel like I'm the one who caused your son to be in a coma.

JERRY'S MOTHER Excuse me, but who are you?

JACK

My name is Jack Mason. It was me who was responsible for your son's present condition. I had too much too drink and I ran a red light and hit your son as he was crossing the street. I'm so sorry for putting you, your husband and your son through this.

JERRY'S FATHER (shocked) Are you serious?

JACK

Yes, I am...but I also want to tell you that I got arrested, I was charged with a DUI and I got my driver's license suspended for five months and I've been court ordered to go to AA meetings.

JERRY'S MOTHER

Well...I'm glad you have come here and told us the truth and you have taken responsibility for your actions and our son's condition. JERRY'S FATHER That's so kind of you.

Jerry's Spirit looks at Jack and sees that Jack is really feeling guilty about his involvement in the situation. Then, he snaps his fingers and he disappears out of the hospital room.

INT. SUSAN'S BEDROOM - DAY

Susan and her parents are still in the bedroom together and her father is still asking her who she was talking to earlier as her mother, who still has Robert in her arms, continues listening to the conversation between Susan and her husband in silence.

> SUSAN'S FATHER Let me get this straight: You were talking to your guardian angel?

SUSAN Yes, Dad. I'm not kidding. I was talking to my guardian angel. He was right here in the room with me.

Moments later, Jerry's Spirit appears right next to Susan and as she looks toward him, she is surprised at his presence in the room. As she looks toward her parents:

> SUSAN (CONT'D) (as she points to Jerry's Spirit) Here he is! He's standing right next to me!

Susan's parents, look at their daughter with strange looks on their faces because they don't see or hear the person Susan is talking about.

> SUSAN'S FATHER I'm sorry, honey, but we don't see anyone standing next to you. Are you sure you're feeling okay?

SUSAN Yes, Dad. I'm fine.

JERRY'S SPIRIT

(to Susan) Tell him how you feel about your brother.

SUSAN

Correction...I'm not fine. Dad. Mom. I have a confession to make.

SUSAN'S MOTHER What is it, Susan?

SUSAN

I was a little depressed about you and Dad giving so much attention to Robert. I know he's a baby, but I feel left out of the family.

SUSAN'S FATHER

Come here, Susan.

Susan looks toward Jerry's Spirit and he looks toward her and he manually tells her to go on over to her parents and she does just that and when she is near them, her father puts a comforting hand on his daughter's shoulder.

> SUSAN'S FATHER (CONT'D) Susan, why would you think that your mother and I don't love you because of your brother? We love you both equally. I know that we haven't done anything together, but your brother needs our attention right now. Do you understand?

SUSAN Yes, I understand.

SUSAN'S MOTHER Would you like to hold Robert for a little while?

SUSAN Sure. I'd love to.

Susan's Mother gives Robert to Susan and she gently takes Robert from her mother and gently holds him in her arms. Robert makes soft sounds as Susan gently rocks him in her arms. Her parents are happy to see that their daughter is bonding with her brother.

Jerry's Spirit on the other hand, is also happy to see that Susan is bonding with her little baby brother.

GATEKEEPER (V.O.)

Well done, Jerry! You have done a great job. You have succeeded in helping Susan think twice about committing suicide. Now, go back to the hospital and get yourself out of your coma.

JERRY'S SPIRIT Okay, will do.

Jerry's Spirit disappears out of the bedroom as the family bonds with each other.

SUSAN'S FATHER Susan, how would you like to go out for dinner later tonight?

SUSAN I would love that. (she looks up at the ceiling) Thank you, Jerry, wherever you are.

JERRY'S MOTHER Your guardian angel must have bee looking out for you, huh?

SUSAN Yes, he has.

INT. THE HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Doctor Anderson, Jerry's Father and Jerry's Mother are still in the same places around the bed and the comatose Jerry is still in the bed. When Jerry's Spirit appears in the hospital room with them, he magically transports himself back into the comatose Jerry's body and then:

Jerry wakes up out of his coma slowly.

JERRY

Mom? Dad?

JERRY'S MOTHER Jerry, are you all right?

JERRY I'm fine. What am I doing in the hospital? JERRY'S FATHER You got hit by a car and you were in a coma for a little bit, but we are glad to see that you are all right.

DOCTOR ANDERSON Jerry, are you sure you're all right?

JERRY Yes, Doctor. I'm fine and dandy.

DOCTOR ANDERSON That's good. I'm glad to see that you are okay, but we are going to keep you here for a few more hours.

Jerry smiles and he is grateful that he is okay and so is Doctor Anderson and Jerry's parents.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - DAY

SUPER: "THE NEXT DAY"

Jon sits in a seat in silence. As he looks to his left, he happens to see a girl in a seat a few inches away from him. He has a look of surprise on his face because he thinks he has seen this girl somewhere before.

The girl looks at him and sees the look on his face.

MYSTERY GIRL (to Jerry) Are you okay?

JERRY Uh...yes. Yes, I am. Uh, my name is Jerry. What's yours?

MYSTERY GIRL My name is Susan.

JERRY Have we met before?

SUSAN I don't think so...but the strangest thing has happened to me.

SUSAN

My guardian angel had came to see me and helped me out with my problems and helped talk me out of suicide. I am waiting for my parents to pick me up. I just saw my therapist about my situation and my dealings with my guardian angel. (she lets out a little giggle) Weird, isn't it?

Jerry is even more shocked at this revelation.

JERRY Yes...yes, it is weird.

DOCTOR ABERNATHY, 53, a tall, curvy woman who is also a licensed therapist, enters the waiting room and stands in place.

DOCTOR ABERNATHY Jerry, it's time for your appointment.

Jerry, still deep in thought about Susan and her story, gets up from his seat.

JERRY

It was nice meeting you, Susan.

SUSAN

Likewise.

As Jerry leaves and he and Doctor Abernathy leave the waiting room:

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. DOCTOR ABERNATHY'S OFFICE - DAY

Jerry and Doctor Abernathy are sitting in their seats and they begin their session together.

> DOCTOR ABERNATHY So, Jerry. How are you doing today?

> JERRY I'm not gonna lie. My life has been filled with problems.

DOCTOR ABERNATHY Can you describe them to me?

JERRY

I'll do my best. It all started at school. My girlfriend dumped me and I had failed another English test. I felt so depressed, so I decided to go to the arcade. Everything was great until I got hit by a car.

Doctor Abernathy listens as Jerry continues the explanation MOS:

JERRY (V.O.) Well, that's the story. When I left the hospital, I told my parents that I was feeling depressed. So, we all agreed that I go see Doctor Abernathy and talk to her about my depression. You know, it really does seem like I've gotten...a second chance.

FADE TO BLACK.

SUPER: "THIS SHORT FILM HAS BEEN ABOUT THE TOPIC OF SUICIDE. IT IS A SERIOUS ISSUE AMONG INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS. IF YOU ARE AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS A MENTAL ILLNESS AND ARE THINKING ABOUT SUICIDE, THERE ARE NUMBERS YOU CAN CALL AND WEBSITES YOU CAN GO TO TO GET HELP. SOMEONE WILL BE AVAILABLE AND ARE WILLING TO LISTEN TO YOU AND ENCOURAGE YOU TO NOT GIVE UP. YES, LIFE IS DIFFICULT, BUT YOUR LIFE IS VERY PRECIOUS AND THERE ARE FOLKS WHO WILL HELP YOU SEE THAT."

SUPER: "THE WRITER OF THIS SHORT FILM CAN RELATE TO THIS STORY BECAUSE HE TRIED TO COMMIT SUICIDE WHEN HE WAS 23 YEARS OLD, BUT HE GOT HELP AND HAS BEEN DOING WELL EVER SINCE."

FADE TO BLACK.

ROLL CREDITS AND MUSIC PLAYS.

FADE OUT.