

"ONE SAVED MESSAGE"

By

Chris Messineo

Off Stage Films, LLC
293 Charnwood Road
New Providence, NJ 07974
CMessineo@OffStageFilms.com
(908) 578-5700

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

The answering machine blinks red. A hand slaps play.

ANSWERING MACHINE
One new message.

EMILY (45), a little weary, puts away groceries as she listens.

HELEN (V.O.)
It's your mother. I'm just thinking
about you today. I know you said not
to call, but I can't help it. I
worry about you. That's what mothers
do. I love you, honey. Please, call
me back.

Emily smiles softly and hits delete.

ANSWERING MACHINE
Message deleted. One saved message.

Emily stares at the machine. Slowly, she presses play.

JACK (V.O.)
Emily. Emily are you there? Did you
hear? A plane hit the building! Can
you believe it? A goddamn plane... I
hate talking to these machines.
(Emily mouths the words)
Look, don't you worry about me. I'm
going to be fine. Hug Jenny for me.
I love you. I'll see you soon.

Silence. Emily touches her face. No tears.

From the other room, the sound of JENNY (15) coming home.

As she walks into the kitchen Emily hugs her. Tightly.

JENNY
Mom. Mom? Stop it.

Emily releases her daughter.

JENNY (CONT'D)
Are you okay?

Emily thinks about this. She reaches for the answering machine.

ANSWERING MACHINE
Message deleted.

EMILY
I'm fine.