

"The Photographer"

by

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"THE PHOTOGRAPHER"

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FADE IN:

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

A little GIRL is submerged in a bathtub. Her eyes closed.

Her MOTHER knocks on the door. The girl is motionless.

Her mother bangs on the door.

The girl's eyes open underwater and she sits up.

The mother stands at the open door in a black dress.

The girl, water dripping from her face and hair, looks at her mother.

CUT TO:

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

The mother stands at her daughter's side, her hand on her shoulder.

They are surrounded by friends and family.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

The bedroom door is barely open. The girl walks slowly up to it and peers inside.

Her mother sits on the edge of the bed, weeping.

CUT TO:

INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

The two of them eat dinner in silence.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The girl lays awake in bed staring at the ceiling with the covers pulled tight around her.

CUT TO:

INT. MOTHER'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The girl wanders into her mother's room. Her mother is asleep. On the bedside table are sleeping pills.

CUT TO:

INT. FATHER'S OFFICE - NIGHT

The girl enters her father's office. There is a desk, a chair, and some shelves, but the room has been cleared of belongings and memories.

CUT TO:

INT. THE ATTIC - NIGHT

The attic is dark and filled with clutter.

A door in the floor opens and the girl's head appears.

In the corner, the girl finds some boxes labeled "John's stuff".

She opens a box and gingerly pulls out some of her father's things. There is an endless supply of camera equipment.

She finds his old camera, a classic. She turns it in her hands, admiring it.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The girl is asleep in bed, the camera at her side like a stuffed animal.

CUT TO:

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

The girl walks through her backyard, the camera in her hands.

She is searching for something.

Finally, she spies it.

She stops and kneels, carefully placing the camera to her face. She snaps the shutter.

A black and white picture. A lone bud, the first of spring, breaking through the earth.

The girl smiles.

FADE OUT.