

Mr. PooPoo Head

An Animated Feature

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EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

Open on nine year-old JULIETTE, cart-wheeling until she plops down dizzy, while her mom, FAITH, plants seedling tomato and bean plants in the garden bordering the lawn.

Juliette jumps up, grabs a child-sized rake, flips it over and sings unabashedly into it. She spies herself in the reflection of the shed window and performs to her audience of one.

JULIETTE

(singing)

You've got a hold of me,  
Don't even know your power  
I stand a hundred feet  
But I fall when I'm around you...

As Juliette adds dance moves to her performance, a MONARCH BUTTERFLY floats by, catching her attention. She drops the rake and follows the butterfly, trips over the HOSE, and winds up face first in the dirt next to Faith, crushing a seedling.

FAITH

Are you done helping, Sweetie?

Juliette looks up at her mom.

JULIETTE

I could take a break.

Faith gets up, and holds her hand out to Juliette, pulling her up.

EXT. DECK - DAY

Juliette and Faith sit, sharing a popsicle on the stairs of the back deck, looking out over the backyard. Their cat, RUSTY, crosses the yard towards them and rubs up against Juliette's leg.

JULIETTE

I am never, ever leaving here.  
Rusty and I are going to live here  
forever.

FAITH

Pinky swear?

JULIETTE

Sure!!

Juliette holds out a pinky that is blue with popsicle juice. Faith looks at it.

FAITH

How about we seal that one after  
you wash your hands?

Just then Juliette's father, SCOTT, and Scott's father, GRANDPA, appear on the deck.

SCOTT

We're back!

JULIETTE

Grandpa! I saw a monarch  
butterfly!

Juliette runs and hugs Grandpa around the legs.

GRANDPA

Lucky you! And how far do they  
migrate?

JULIETTE

Eight thousand kilometers. Every  
year!

GRANDPA

Atta girl.

FAITH

How was your game?

GRANDPA

I got a new high score.

JULIETTE

Yay Grandpa!

GRANDPA

And I almost took your dad for a  
swim!

JULIETTE

Take me next time.

SCOTT

Oh, I don't think you would want  
to swim in the pond at a golf  
course.

FAITH

Are you staying for dinner?

GRANDPA

I'm a little worn out from all the sun. I just wanted to come and say hi. Rain check?

FAITH

Always.

Grandpa turns to go, waving over his shoulder.

GRANDPA

Adios!

Faith looks at Scott.

FAITH

Everything okay?

Scott raises his eyebrows.

SCOTT

Just a little mix up between the gas and the brake.

FAITH

Oh.

SCOTT

Should I start making dinner?

FAITH

Yes, please!

JULIETTE

Is it movie night?

FAITH

It sure is, and tonight I get to choose.

JULIETTE

Nothing scary!

FAITH

Course not. I've got an oldie but a goodie in mind. One of my favorites from when I was a kid.

JULIETTE

Not black and white.

FAITH

I'm not that old!

Juliette shrugs. Old is old.

INT. TV ROOM - EVENING

Faith, Scott and Juliette sit on the couch with their dinner plates on their laps watching THE PRINCESS BRIDE, the part where Buttercup and Westley pass through the Fire Swamp with the Rodents Of Unusual Size.

Juliette sits transfixed, not eating.

Faith looks at Scott.

FAITH  
(mouths to Scott)  
Too scary?

Scott peers at Juliette and gives her a little bump with his elbow.

SCOTT  
Don't forget to eat, Pumpkin!

Juliette takes a bite but doesn't chew.

She leans in close to her mom. Faith and Scott share another look.

INT. JULIETTE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Scott tucks Juliette into bed. Juliette's eyes are wide.

JULIETTE  
Can you check under the bed for rats?

SCOTT  
There aren't any, Pumpkin.

JULIETTE  
Please!

SCOTT  
I am one hundred per cent sure.

Juliette stares at Scott until he finally breaks and looks under the bed.

SCOTT  
Just some bunnies. Dust bunnies that is. Go to sleep now, and we'll see you in the morning.

JULIETTE  
Leave my door open.

SCOTT  
OK.

JULIETTE  
And the hall light on.

SCOTT  
Ok. It was just a movie, Juliette.  
Nothing to be afraid of.

JULIETTE  
Okay.

SCOTT  
Time to go to sleep.

JULIETTE  
Good night.

Scott leaves the room, a slightly annoyed look on his face.

Juliette's eyes are still wide open.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Faith approaches a school with Juliette at her side.

An ASSISTANT stands at the doorway and shakes CHILDREN'S hands as they enter the school, while the PARENTS wait outside.

As they approach the door, Faith folds in behind Juliette in anticipation of Juliette practicing the morning routine. The assistant puts out her hand.

ASSISTANT  
Good morning, Juliette.

Juliette shakes hands.

JULIETTE  
Good morning.

ASSISTANT  
Did you have a nice weekend?

Juliette nods.

FAITH

We did, did you?

ASSTSTANT

Sure did. And it's movie night in after school club tonight Juliette.

JULIETTE

As long as it's not...

ASSISTANT

And it's...

JULIETTE

Princess Bride.

ASSISTANT

# Princess Bride!

FATTH

Oh Sweetie, you have a soccer game tonight, so you won't be able to stay.

Relief floods Juliette's face.

JULIETTE

Okay.

Juliette hugs her Mom, a little longer than normal. Faith and The Assistant share a look. Faith peels Juliette off of her.

## FAITH

Have a great day, Sweetie.

Juliette enters the school.

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - AFTERNOON

Faith rushes with Juliette, decked out in soccer gear, along the field.

Juliette's best friend SADIE, wise beyond her years and super confident, spies her.

SADTE

Juliette! Hurry up. The game is starting!

The COACH looks up and sees Juliette.

COACH

Phew! Our scorer is here! Let's go team. Out onto the field!

Faith crouches down to speak to Juliette.

FAITH

I'm going to go to the grocery store. I will be back before the game is over.

Juliette looks a little nervous.

JULIETTE

Do you have to?

FAITH

Only if we want to eat! I'll be back before you know it. Good luck out there.

SADIE

Juliette! C'mon!

Juliette turns around and runs onto the field.

The whistle blows. Sadie takes the ball at centre and kicks it to Juliette, but Juliette watches her mom leave and misses the pass.

The other team gets the ball and races past her.

SADIE

Juliette! Wake up!

JULIETTE

Sorry!

Juliette races after the ball, and looks back one more time.

She can't see Faith anywhere.

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - AFTERNOON

The team sits on the ground around the Coach.

COACH

Great game, girls. Remember though, if you don't score, you can't win. If you can practice with a friend between games, that will make all the difference. See you next week.

Sadie and Juliette sit on the grass taking off their cleats and shin-pads. A couple of slightly older BOYS walk by.



BOY 1

Did you hear about that nine-year-old girl that was kidnapped?

BOY 2

What happened?

BOY 1

She was walking home from school and someone took her.

BOY 2

No way! Did they catch him?

BOY 1

Not yet. Apparently he was wearing a reflective vest, like a crossing guard or something.

Juliette watches them walk by, stunned by what they just said. As they walk past they reveal a man changing the garbage bags in the park, wearing a reflective vest. Juliette swallows hard.

JULIETTE

Did you hear that??

Sadie wasn't paying attention.

SADIE

Hear what?

Just then Faith and Sadie's dad, RYAN, appear together. Juliette looks at her mom, shaken.

JULIETTE

You were supposed to be here before the game ended.

FAITH

Sorry, Sweetie. I ran into someone I used to work with, and we were chatting. How was the game?

SADIE

Four - nothing.

RYAN

No goals?

Sadie shrugs.

FAITH

Sadie's dad has invited you over  
to their house for dinner.

RYAN

Grilled cheese? How does that  
sound? I promise not to burn them  
like last time.

Ryan looks at Faith.

RYAN

Got a phone call and forgot I was  
cooking!

Ryan chuckles, remembering his kitchen disaster.  
Juliette's jaw quivers.

A tiny FUR-BALL WITH SPINDLY LEGS AND A HUGE MOUTH  
appears on Juliette's shoulder. He wears a soccer-like  
jersey with the name TY RANT on the front, number 9 on  
the back.

TY RANT

Don't do it!! You could get  
kidnapped on your way over to  
Sadie's house. Sadie's dad is  
always distracted. You know that.

**Only Juliette can see and hear Ty Rant.**

Juliette's eyes widen, listening to Ty Rant, deciding if  
he's right.

FAITH

Sweetie? Did you hear Sadie's dad?  
He's making your favorite meal.

TY RANT

He might burn down the kitchen. He  
said it himself, he burns things!

JULIETTE

I don't want to go.

Sadie looks at Juliette, surprised.

SADIE

We can kick the ball around in my  
back yard. We need to practice.

TY RANT

Remember when Sadie told you her  
mom saw a rat in their backyard?

JULIETTE  
I don't want to go.

FAITH  
C'mon Juliette, you've been there  
hundreds of times.

Juliette is near tears.

JULIETTE  
I don't want to go!

Faith mouths 'sorry' to Ryan.

FAITH  
Okay, Sweetie, let's go home.

Juliette looks down at her feet, avoiding eye contact  
with Sadie.

INT. CAR - AFTERNOON

Faith looks in the rear view mirror at Juliette who sits  
in the back seat and stares out the window.

FAITH  
Why didn't you want to go to  
Sadie's?

Ty Rant appears.

TY RANT  
Because it wasn't safe! That's  
why. Does she want you to get  
kidnapped? Or worse? But don't say  
anything. She won't understand.  
She'll just tell you it's fine.  
Like she always does.

Juliette continues to stare out the window.

JULIETTE  
I just didn't want to.

FAITH  
Did something happen between you  
two?

JULIETTE  
No.

Faith's brow scrunches up.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Faith approaches school with Juliette at her side and then falls in behind her, as per usual.

ASSISTANT  
Good morning, Juliette.

Juliette slides behind Faith and won't take the assistant's outstretched hand.

FAITH  
Juliette?

ASSISTANT  
How was your soccer game?

Juliette continues to hide, keeping Faith between her and the Assistant. Faith faces Juliette and crouches down.

FAITH  
What's going on, Sweetie?

JULIETTE  
I don't want to go to school today.

FAITH  
What's wrong?

JULIETTE  
I just don't want to go.

Faith sighs, puzzled.

Ty Rant appears on Juliette's shoulder, where he is whenever we see him.

TY RANT  
Tell her your stomach hurts!

JULIETTE  
My stomach hurts.

FAITH  
Was it hurting when we left the house? You didn't say anything.

JULIETTE  
No...

TY RANT  
Say yes! Say yes!

JULIETTE

Yes!

FAITH

Oh Juliette. I wish I had known.  
I have to teach a physics class in  
twenty minutes at the University.

JULIETTE

So?

FAITH

What if your teacher didn't show  
up, silly? What would you do?

TY RANT

Go home with you! Obviously.  
Happily.

Juliette just looks at Faith, speechless.

ASSISTANT

You can walk her down to the  
classroom if you want to.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Faith and Juliette approach the classroom.

The teacher, MS. KELLY, stands at the door. She glances  
from Faith to Juliette and back to Faith. Ty Rant is  
still with Juliette.

MS. KELLY

Good morning, Juliette!

Juliette stares at the floor.

FAITH

Juliette? Ms. Kelly said 'good  
morning'.

JULIETTE

(quietly)  
Good morning.

Ms. Kelly stretches out her hand to shake Juliette's,  
sees her reluctance, and raises her hand.

MS. KELLY

High five?

Juliette does the world's lamest high five and turns back to her mom.

JULIETTE

Can you please pick me up right when school ends, please? I don't want to go to after school club. I want to come home.

FAITH

I'll do my best, Sweetie.

Ty Rant's head snaps up.

TY RANT

When she says she'll 'do her best', it means 'no'.

JULIETTE

Please, Mom!?!

FAITH

I have to go, Juliette. I will come as soon as I can.

TY RANT

Sure she will.

Juliette gulps and watches her mom leave.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Juliette walks slowly into the room. Ty Rant rides on her shoulder.

TY RANT

Don't sit near the window!! The kidnappers could walk by.

Juliette zigs away from the window and near a boy sitting at table.

TY RANT

Don't sit near Ethan! He probably watched some horror movie on the weekend!!

Juliette zags away from Ethan. A girl blows her nose.

TY RANT

Don't sit near Sofia. She has a cold! You'll get sick.

Juliette zigs away from Sofia.

TY RANT

Wait! If you get sick then you can  
stay home and your mom will have  
to stay with you! Sit with Sofia,  
sit with Sofia!

As Juliette zags back towards Sofia she bumps into Ms.  
Kelly.

MS. KELLY

Are you okay, Juliette?

JULIETTE

Can you call my mom? Tell her to  
come back and get me.

MS. KELLY

Are you feeling sick?

JULIETTE

I just want my mom.

MS. KELLY

Tell you what, let's do the first  
lesson, and then we'll see how you  
feel. How does that sound?

Juliette nods reluctantly.

TY RANT

You see? No one cares how you  
feel. No one is making sure you  
are safe. Except for me.

Sadie whips into the class and bee-lines for a table near  
the window. She looks around once she sits down and sees  
Juliette sitting at the table with Sofia.

SADIE

What are you doing over there?

JULIETTE

I like it over here.

Sadie shrugs.

EXT. SCHOOL YARD - DAY

The children burst out of the school door for recess.

Ethan carries a SOCCER BALL and TEN CHILDREN head to the baseball diamond including Sadie, Juliette, Sofia, Ethan, CASSIDY and others. They are about to play a game of kick-ball -- baseball with a soccer ball.

Ethan holds the ball over his head.

ETHAN

I'm pitching!

Sadie and Juliette head to the bench on the 'hitting' team.

ETHAN

Who's up?

Sadie jumps off of the bench and raises her hand.

SADIE

Me!

Ethan rolls the ball to home plate and Sadie kicks the ball into the outfield and begins to run. She makes it all the way to third base and raises her arms in the air.

Juliette approaches the plate, shoulders slumped.

CASSIDY

Let's go Juliette!!

Ty Rant appears on her shoulder.

TY RANT

I think you are going to foul the ball.

Ethan rolls the ball. Juliette kicks it foul.

TY RANT

Told ya.

Sadie perches on third plate.

SADIE

C'mon Juliette, kick me home!

Ethan rolls the ball. Juliette kicks it foul again.

TY RANT

Yup. Could have told you that one too.

SADIE

You can do it!



TY RANT

It's too much pressure. Why is Sadie putting so much pressure on you?

Ethan rolls the ball. Juliette kicks it straight to Ethan. He throws it to Sofia on first base before Juliette even moves from home plate.

Ethan thrusts his thumb in the air.

ETHAN

You're out!

Juliette walks back to the bench, her shoulders slumped even further.

Cassidy passes her on the way to bat. He holds up his hand for a high-five but Juliette doesn't even see it.

TY RANT

You just aren't very good at kickball.

Cassidy kicks the ball into the outfield and Sadie runs home to score.

Sadie comes to the bench to high-five the team.

Juliette puts up her hand but she and Sadie don't connect.

TY RANT

Or high-fiving.

Sadie continues down the line high-fiving the rest of the team.

Sadie comes back and sits beside Juliette. She elbows Juliette gently.

SADIE

Don't worry about it.

Juliette smiles wanly.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

The students all file into the classroom after lunch. Cassidy walks behind Juliette.

CASSIDY

You'll do better next time.

JULIETTE

What?

CASSIDY

You'll do better at kick-ball.

JULIETTE

I don't think I'm going to play again.

CASSIDY

Whatever, it won't be as much fun.

Ty Rant appears.

TY RANT

What is he talking about? You're terrible. And not fun.

Sadie comes up to Juliette.

SADIE

What did Cassidy want?

JULIETTE

I don't know.

SADIE

Maybe he likes you!

JULIETTE

Shut-up!

TY RANT

Wait, what? Did she say she thinks he likes you? Why would he like you?

Juliette looks over at Cassidy who is now busy with his work.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Faith and Juliette walk down the sidewalk to their parked car.

FAITH

How was school today?

JULIETTE

You were supposed to come early.

FAITH

I came as early as I could.

JULIETTE

I don't want to be in the after school club anymore.

FAITH

But you begged me to do that.

JULIETTE

I don't want to anymore.

FAITH

Do you want me to see if Grandpa could pick you up? It's just not possible for Dad or I to get here sooner.

Ty Rant appears.

TY RANT

Grandpa mixes up the gas and the brake!!

JULIETTE

I want you to pick me up.

Faith sighs.

FAITH

What do you want for dinner tonight?

JULIETTE

Pasta.

FAITH

Again? We had it last night. What about a burrito bowl?

Ty Rant puts his hands on his hips.

TY RANT

What's wrong with having the same thing every night anyway?

JULIETTE

Pasta.

FAITH

Okay, sweetie, pasta it is.

Ty Rant raises both his arms.

TY RANT

Victory!

A faint smile on her face crosses Juliette's face.

FAITH

Your dad and I could probably use  
a carb load tonight anyway.

Faith opens the back door for Juliette and as she gets in the car, a cloud crosses Juliette's face as she understands Faith's meaning...

INT. HOUSE HALLWAY - EVENING

Scott comes down the stairs with two bags with TENNIS RACQUETS sticking out of them.

SCOTT

Faith, I have your bag for you.

FAITH (O.S.)

Thanks!

Juliette skids into the hallway, Ty Rant on her shoulder.

JULIETTE

Where are you going??

SCOTT

Where we go every Monday, Pumpkin.

TY RANT

You know, I heard about a father  
who went out to get bananas and he  
never came back. Car accident.

JULIETTE

I don't want you to go.

SCOTT

What? It's nothing new.

JULIETTE

Yeah but this week, I don't want  
you to go.

TY RANT

Crazy drivers out there.

JULIETTE

How far away is the tennis club?

SCOTT

A half hour. Why?

TY RANT

Too far. They can't get back in case of emergency.

JULIETTE

It's too far.

Just then Faith walks in.

FAITH

Crystal is five minutes away.

JULIETTE

I don't want Crystal to come.

FAITH

What? What's going on?

SCOTT

Juliette doesn't want us to go to tennis.

FAITH

Sweetie, we've been going to tennis practically since you were born and Crystal has been baby-sitting you every time we've gone. What's wrong?

TY RANT

This is the week they are leaving you and aren't coming back.

JULIETTE

I don't want you to go.

TY RANT

They are using their tennis bags as suitcases, to trick you.

The doorbell rings.

Juliette's panic is increasing. She paces.

TY RANT

Tennis is just a cover for running away. I'm telling you.

Scott lets the teenage babysitter, CRYSTAL, in and whispers something in her ear. Juliette can't hear it.

TY RANT

And now Crystal is in on the secret plan. The plan is this: They have packed their clothes in their tennis bags and they are taking off. You will never see them again.

JULIETTE

No!!

Juliette dives on Scott's sports bag, undoes the zipper, and pulls out all of Scott's tennis wear. She looks in the empty bag.

JULIETTE

Where's the rest of it?

SCOTT

What are you doing?!

TY RANT

He already put their suitcases in the car. I'm sure of it. They are tricky, these two.

JULIETTE

I don't want you to leave!!

SCOTT

(impatient)  
Juliette, stop being ridiculous.  
Crystal is here. You will be fine.

Stunned by what she sees, Crystal waves feebly to Juliette.

CRYSTAL

Hi Juliette.

Ty Rant looks a little smug.

TY RANT

You know, Crystal's probably going to leave as soon as your parents do, and you will be ALL ALONE!

JULIETTE

Go home!!!

FAITH

Juliette! What is going on?

CRYSTAL

I've got this. It will be okay.

Crystal gives Juliette a big hug.

FAITH

Are you sure?

CRYSTAL

Oh yeah, we'll do what we always do together, right Juliette? We can color, or read, or just hang out.

Juliette looks at Crystal through tears in her eyes.

TY RANT

Nobody cares.

JULIETTE

No.

Faith and Scott pick up their bags to go. They each kiss Juliette on her head, she grabs their arms and tries to get them to stay. They pry themselves off and exit, tears in their eyes.

TY RANT

I guess they love tennis more than they love you.

Juliette falls apart in Crystal's arms.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Faith and Juliette approach the school, hand in hand. Ty Rant is on Juliette's shoulder.

TY RANT

Step on a crack, break your mother's back...

Juliette's eyes widen, she was about to step on a crack when she jumps over it. She jumps over all the cracks. Faith smiles.

FAITH

I'm glad you're feeling better.  
That was a pretty rough night.

Juliette continues to hop and skip.

TY RANT

On the other hand, if she were to break her back, she would be home all the time, and you could stay with her.

Juliette stomps on a crack, then starts jumping up and down vigorously. Faith looks on, puzzled.

FAITH

Okay, let's keep moving.

They arrive at the door where the Assistant waits, hand outstretched.

ASSISTANT

Good morning, Juliette!

Juliette recoils, a repeat of the previous drop-off.

JULIETTE

Mom, I don't want to go.

TY RANT

Don't let her leave!

FAITH

What's wrong?

TY RANT

The stomach!

JULIETTE

My stomach hurts!

FAITH

Why didn't you say anything at home?

TY RANT

You forgot!

JULIETTE

I forgot!

FAITH

You forgot?

TY RANT

Yeah, that's not very convincing. It started in the car.

JULIETTE

It started in the car.



FAITH

Oh Juliette.

Juliette starts to cry. A classmate, AMIR, approaches Juliette and hugs her on his way in. The Assistant takes Juliette's hand.

ASSISTANT

C'mon Juliette. I will take you to see Ms. Kelly.

Juliette takes her hand.

Faith kisses her good-bye, both with tears in their eyes.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Juliette sits at the table away from the window with Sadie. They work quietly.

The boys at the next table talk while they work.

ETHAN

Did you know you are twice as likely to die in your own house as you are outside of it?

Juliette looks up. Ty Rant pops on Juliette's shoulder eyes wide, ears perked.

CASSIDY

I heard some guy choked on an ice cube and died in his kitchen while his wife was upstairs in the shower and couldn't hear them.

Ty Rant starts making notes.

RAPHAEL

There was a guy in England who stepped on his son's toy car, slipped and banged his head and he's been in a coma so long that his son has a kid who is the same age as he was when his dad went in the coma.

ETHAN

What about the kid who was electrocuted when they tried to get their bagel out of the toaster with a knife.

CASSIDY  
So stupid, he deserved to die!

ETHAN  
It was a girl.

CASSIDY  
Oh. Same.

Juliette looks wide-eyed over at Sadie who quietly works and ignores the boys.

JULIETTE  
Are you hearing all of this?

SADIE  
Don't listen to them.

Juliette puts her hands over her ears.

JULIETTE  
I can still hear them!

Sadie stands up.

SADIE  
C'mon, let's move to the other table.

Juliette stands up and follows her.

INT. AFTER SCHOOL ROOM - DAY

Juliette works away at a puzzle on the table when she is called.

ASSISTANT  
Juliette! Your grandpa is here to pick you up.

Juliette looks up to see her grandpa and a big smile crosses her face. She runs to him and hugs him.

JULIETTE  
Grandpa!

GRANDPA  
Your mother asked me to come and pick you up and I said 'sure!' I've got a little free time in my schedule. And they haven't taken my license away yet!

He laughs at his joke, but Ty Rant appears.

TY RANT

Should they have taken away his license? When do they do that, when you are sixty?? How old is he anyway?

JULIETTE

Grandpa, how old are you?

GRANDPA

What? How old am I? Let's see. I was forty when your dad was born and how old is he this year?

TY RANT

Seriously? We have to do math?

JULIETTE

Forty-two?

GRANDPA

That's right. So what does that make me?

TY RANT

Old.

JULIETTE

Eighty-two?

GRANDPA

Excellent. They are teaching you something here.

He winks at the Assistant.

GRANDPA

Let's get you home now.

TY RANT

Now is probably the time you want to cross your fingers.

Juliette crosses her fingers behind her back.

INT. GRANDPA'S CAR - DAY

Juliette sits stone still in the back seat as Grandpa starts the car. The radio is on LOUD. Ty Rant covers his ears.

RADIO ANNOUNCER  
...and two people are dead as a  
result of a head-on collision...

Grandpa switches off the radio.

GRANDPA  
Sorry about that, Kiddo. Little  
too loud.

JULIETTE  
Do you know where that crash was?

GRANDPA  
Where what was?

JULIETTE  
The car crash. From the radio.

GRANDPA  
Oh, no sorry, Kiddo. Wasn't  
listening.

TY RANT  
Wasn't listening??? How will he  
know where not to drive???  
Assuming he knows where to drive.

The car jerks forward.

GRANDPA  
Whoops.

TY RANT  
Whoops? Whoops? You better hold  
your breath. If you can hold it  
until the next stop sign, then you  
will be okay.

Juliette takes a deep breath in and holds it. Grandpa  
looks out the side of the car.

GRANDPA  
Kiddo, look over there at that  
gorgeous maple tree. Do you know  
what is so magical about trees?

He looks in the rear view mirror to see Juliette shaking  
her head holding her breath.

GRANDPA  
The tree lets off oxygen when they  
use sunlight to produce glucose  
from carbon dioxide.  
(MORE)

GRANDPA (CONT'D)

That tree probably makes enough  
oxygen for ten people.

Juliette's turning red when she sees a STOP SIGN out the  
front window. She's going to make it to that stop sign,  
but unexpectedly Grandpa drives straight through it.

TY RANT

We are going to die!

Juliette gulps in a breath.

JULIETTE

Grandpa, you just went through a  
stop sign!!!

GRANDPA

What? Did I? There never used to  
be a stop sign there.

TY RANT

Holding your breath is clearly not  
enough. Cross those fingers!

Juliette crosses her fingers.

TY RANT

Toes! Legs!!

Juliette crosses her legs.

TY RANT

Now hold your breath!

Juliette takes a big gulp of air.

GRANDPA

You okay back there?

Juliette nods her head.

GRANDPA

Sorry about the scare. I will be  
extra careful the rest of the way  
home.

Ty Rant has crossed his arms and legs.

TY RANT

And we are doing what we can in  
the back seat.

INT. HOUSE KITCHEN - DAY

Juliette takes the ice cubes out of the freezer, dumps them in the sink and runs water over them. Her grandfather is in the next room.

GRANDPA (O.S.)

I would love a glass of water if  
you are getting yourself one.

Juliette grabs a glass, fills one up and heads to the living room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Juliette enters with the glass and hands it to him.

GRANDPA

Thank you. Is there no ice?

TY RANT

Are you kidding me?

JULIETTE

Nope!

She turns and sees a few things on the floor. She quickly starts to pick them up.

GRANDPA

Such a good girl. Tidying up. I  
might just rest my eyes for a bit.

He puts his feet up on the ottoman and rests his head back.

Ty Rant holds up his list and gives orders like a drill sergeant.

TY RANT

Shoes!

Juliette moves the shoes her Grandpa has taken off around the side of his chair.

TY RANT

Legos!

There is an in-progress lego project on the floor, that Juliette sweeps up into a box and puts against the wall.

TY RANT

Cat toys!

Juliette zips around picking up pipe cleaners, balls and ribbons. She deposits them all behind the couch, away from everyone.

TY RANT

Back to the kitchen.

She leaves her snoring grandpa and heads out of the living room.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Juliette skids into the kitchen, Ty Rant still on her shoulder.

Juliette reaches up over the counter and unplugs the toaster, just as her mom comes in the back door with some groceries.

FAITH

Hey there, whatcha doing?

TY RANT

Saving lives.

JULIETTE

Nothing.

FAITH

Grandpa pick you up okay?

TY RANT

We are here. Barely alive, if you count that as 'okay'.

JULIETTE

Yes, but I want you come and get me.

FAITH

I'm doing my best, Sweetie.  
Where's Grandpa?

JULIETTE

Sleeping in the living room.  
(pause, then bursting  
out)

He went through a stop sign Mom!  
He's too old to be driving. He  
could have killed us both.

FAITH

Oh Juliette, I'm sure it wasn't  
that bad.

JULIETTE

It was!!

Juliette watches her mother's eyes move from her face to  
over her shoulder.

FAITH

Hi, Jack.

GRANDPA

She's right. I did go through the  
stop sign. I didn't sleep well  
last night, I should have told you  
that when you asked me to pick her  
up.

FAITH

Oh, Jack. It's okay. Everyone is  
okay. No harm done.

JULIETTE

I'm sorry, Grandpa.

GRANDPA

You have nothing to be sorry  
about, kiddo. I think I will get  
going.

FAITH

Let me walk you to your car.

Jack turns with Faith leaving Juliette standing there,  
biting her lip.

TY RANT

That doesn't feel good...

Juliette sighs.

INT. BEDROOM - EVENING

Scott fiddles with the lamp on Juliette's night table  
when she comes in from the bath with her pyjamas on.

JULIETTE

What are you doing?



SCOTT  
I got you something like I had  
when I was your age.

JULIETTE  
Really?

Scott turns on a lamp that casts a light like stars onto the ceiling.

Juliette looks at the beautiful light. She hops on the bed and she and Scott look up at the ceiling.

SCOTT  
What do you think?

JULIETTE  
I think it's beautiful.

SCOTT  
It's like camping out under the  
night sky.

Ty Rant pops onto Juliette's shoulder.

TY RANT  
That sounds dangerous.

JULIETTE  
Hmm.

SCOTT  
The universe is so huge and  
beautiful and we are so tiny. Like  
little tiny ants.

With that he tickles Juliette and she bursts out laughing.

SCOTT  
And maybe like when we watch ants  
building their homes, there is  
someone watching us, going about  
our business. All our crazy  
worries...

TY RANT  
Wait, what? Someone's watching us?  
Aliens?

Juliette stops laughing.

JULIETTE

Do you think there is someone out  
in space watching us?

SCOTT

There could be...

TY RANT

Could be???? Could?

JULIETTE

Aliens?

SCOTT

I don't think we are the only  
planet that has life in  
universe...

TY RANT

Quick! Under the covers!!

Juliette scrambles to get under her covers.

SCOTT

Juliette! It's nothing to worry  
about.

He envelopes her in a big hug and kisses her on the  
forehead.

SCOTT

Good night, Pumpkin.

Juliette peers out from under the covers.

JULIETTE

Good night, Daddy. Thanks for the  
light.

SCOTT

You're welcome.

He gets off the bed and heads for the door.

TY RANT

I am pretty sure an alien can get  
in that window...

JULIETTE

And can you close my window??

Scott nods.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Juliette tosses and turns in her bed, unable to sleep.  
Ty Rant on her pillow jumping over her as she rolls.

TY RANT

Are you sure your parents are  
still home? It's pretty quiet. I  
haven't heard them in a while.

Juliette's eyes snap open.

JULIETTE

Mom!!

Faith rushes into the room.

FAITH

What is it?!

JULIETTE

I can't sleep!

FAITH

Let me open your window.

TY RANT

Exactly what an alien or a  
kidnapper is looking for...

JULIETTE

NO!!

FAITH

Why not?

JULIETTE

I like it like this. Can you sleep  
with me?

FAITH

I can lie with you for a few  
minutes.

Faith lies down with Juliette.

JULIETTE

Can you put your hand on my  
stomach?

FAITH

Sure, Sweetie. For a few minutes,  
okay?

JULIETTE  
More than a few minutes, please!

FAITH  
Oh Juliette.

Faith puts her hand on Juliette's stomach and Juliette puts her hand on her mom's hand.

JULIETTE  
Are you mad at me?

FAITH  
I'm not mad. I have some papers to mark. It's okay, I can get up early and finish them.

Juliette's eyes drift closed. Faith watches her.

Faith tries to pull her hand away, but Juliette grips it. Faith sighs and closes her eyes.

Ty Rant starts to snore.

INT. HOUSE HALLWAY - MORNING

Juliette hesitates at the top of the stairs, Ty Rant with her. Her foot hovers over the top stair.

TY RANT  
Remember, you have to hold your breath whenever you are on the stairs. It's the only way to keep the bad stuff away.

Juliette sucks in her breath and starts down the stairs. Faith calls from downstairs.

FAITH (O.S.)  
Juliette! Breakfast!

TY RANT  
And DO NOT make the stairs creak, whatever you do.

Juliette tip-toes on the sides of the stairs.

FAITH (O.S.)  
Juliette!

As Juliette is on the last stair Faith comes into the hallway to call up the stairs. She sees Juliette.

FAITH

There you are. I wish you would answer me when I call you.

TY RANT

Keep holding your breath. You are still on the stairs. Keep holding it!

Juliette is trapped on the bottom stair, blocked by her mom.

FAITH

Juliette? Did you hear me?

Juliette nods, eyes wide, face reddening.

Faith shakes her head.

FAITH

I wish I knew what was going on inside of that head of yours.

TY RANT

Ahh. No, you don't. It's kind of a mess..

Faith turns back to the kitchen and Juliette jumps to the floor, almost falling and exhaling loudly.

TY RANT

That was close. Even though your mom got a little bit mad at you, it was worth it to protect the day.

INT. SADIE'S HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

In the midst of a birthday party, Sadie is surrounded by several GIRLS including Juliette.

She has just pulled a piece of paper out from under the couch pillow.

SADIE

"I am full of hot air, but I am no liar, I help with the chores, I am the..."

JULIETTE

The clothes dryer!

The girls all run out of the living room tripping over each other to get to the laundry room.

Sadie's mom, CHELLA, looks over at Faith.

CHELLA

Are you sure you don't want to take some time for yourself? Run some errands?

FAITH

I promised Juliette I would stay.

CHELLA

Sadie said she's having a little trouble with school?

FAITH

She's having a little trouble with everything! School, play-dates, sleeping.

CHELLA

I'm so sorry to hear that.

FAITH

As hard as it is on us, I know she's going through something that is hard for her too. I just hope we all survive it.

We pull back and see that Juliette and Ty Rant are around the corner and have heard the whole exchange.

TY RANT

Survive it?? What does she mean. Is one of us going to die?

Juliette bites her lip.

INT. JULIETTE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Faith puts Juliette to bed.

TY RANT

You know, if they fall asleep before you, you will have to protect them from intruders, fires, etc.

JULIETTE

What are you going to do now?

FAITH  
Mark some papers.

JULIETTE  
What about Dad?

Scott walks in.

SCOTT  
I'm going to bed.

TY RANT  
Oh-oh.

JULIETTE  
But are you going to read?

SCOTT  
(irritated)  
I don't know Juliette, what does  
it matter?

Juliette tenses.

TY RANT  
It matters because our lives  
depend on it!

JULIETTE  
Please just read for a while.

SCOTT  
Juliette.

JULIETTE  
Mom. Tell Dad to read or  
something.

Juliette is starting to hyperventilate a little.

She gets out of bed and starts pacing.

FAITH  
Sweetie, Dad can do what he wants.

TY RANT  
He has to stay awake!

JULIETTE  
Daddy, please!

SCOTT  
I need a little space, I'm going  
out for a drive.

JULIETTE

No! Not a drive.

SCOTT

What then Juliette? What would be okay for me to do? Can I get on my bike?

JULIETTE

Noooo. It's dark.

SCOTT

Can I go for a walk??

Juliette starts to cry.

FAITH

Hey babe. I got this. You go get some air.

SCOTT

Good night.

Juliette cries a little more.

FAITH

Back into bed, Juliette.

JULIETTE

Will you sleep with me?

FAITH

Oh Sweetie, I have papers...

JULIETTE

My stomach hurts.

FAITH

Okay, Sweetie. Just till you fall asleep ok?

Juliette nods. They lie down. Juliette closes her eyes. Faith's are wide open.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Juliette sits at her table with Sadie as Ms. Kelly moves to the front of class.



MS. KELLY

Okay class, listen up. Today we are going to start a new reading comprehension section and we'll do the first one together.

Ethan leans over to Cassidy within earshot of Juliette and Sadie.

ETHAN

Awesome! I looked in the binder yesterday - it's all natural disasters. Earthquakes, tidal waves, fires!

CASSIDY

Sweet!

Juliette's eyes widen.

MS. KELLY

So today's topic is the melting polar ice caps and rising ocean levels.

Ty Rant pops onto Juliette's shoulder. Juliette buries her head in her arms on the table while Sadie looks on.

INT. DINING ROOM - EVENING

Faith sits at the table while Scott brings in a bowl with dinner in it.

SCOTT

Juliette! Dinner is ready!

Juliette comes into the dining room wearing a life-jacket. Scott and Faith look at each other.

FAITH

Uhh. What's going on there, Sweetie?

Juliette sits down and takes a bite. Ty Rant appears.

TY RANT

Tell them why they aren't safe.

JULIETTE

Did you know the polar ice caps are melting?

SCOTT

Where did you hear that?

JULIETTE

At school. The ocean levels are rising. New York City is going to be under water soon.

FAITH

How soon?

TY RANT

Next week?

JULIETTE

Next week?

Juliette goes to take another bite but the life-jacket restricts her arm and the food falls off her fork and onto the floor.

SCOTT

That's ridiculous. Take off that life-jacket so you can sit up properly.

TY RANT

He's getting mad at you! He doesn't understand! It's not safe.

JULIETTE

No.

Just then the phone rings and Scott gets up abruptly to answer it.

JULIETTE

Is Dad mad at me?

FAITH

He's just busy at work. He's a little over-tired.

Scott comes back into the dining room.

SCOTT

Grandpa's been taken to the hospital.

FAITH

Go.

Scott kisses both of them on the forehead and leaves.

INT. JULIETTE'S ROOM - MORNING

Faith enters Juliette's room.

Juliette sleeps peacefully, snoring a little.

Faith watches Juliette for a bit. Juliette awakens.

FAITH

Good morning, Beautiful.

JULIETTE

(sleepily)

G'mornin'. Is Grandpa okay?

FAITH

He's better. We'll go visit him  
after school okay?

JULIETTE

Okay.

Ty Rant stretches and yawns.

FAITH

Your dad and I are both taking you  
to school today. We all have a  
meeting with the Principal this  
morning.

Ty Rant perks up.

TY RANT

Maybe they are finally going to  
home school you!

JULIETTE

Are you pulling me out of the  
school?

FAITH

No. Why would we do that?

JULIETTE

I'd rather be at home.

FAITH

Well, that's not possible. Sorry.

TY RANT

We'll see about that.

Faith leaves and Juliette looks a little deflated.

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY

Faith, Scott and Juliette sit with the PRINCIPAL and school NURSE.

NURSE

It's very common for children  
Juliette's age to get anxiety.

Ty Rant looks at the Nurse.

TY RANT

What's anxiety?

SCOTT

It is?

NURSE

They hear something on the radio,  
or something other kids say, and  
they realize there may be some  
dangers out there they hadn't  
previously been aware of.

SCOTT

But afraid to go to the only  
school she's ever known?

FAITH

And on play-dates she's been on  
hundreds of times?

TY RANT

It's not so much about being  
afraid as avoiding the obvious  
dangers.

PRINCIPAL

My daughter was suddenly deathly  
afraid of lightening. If there  
were clouds outside, she would not  
go out, not voluntarily.

TY RANT

Sounds reasonable.

SCOTT

What did you do?

PRINCIPAL

You have to push through. Keep up  
your routine. Eventually she  
outgrew it.

NURSE

To Juliette, the safest place is  
in your house, with you in it.

Faith reaches out and puts her hand on Juliette's arm.

FAITH

It sure is.

TY RANT

I fail to see the issue with any  
of this.

NURSE

It can be frustrating, but try to  
have patience with her.

TY RANT

Yes!!

NURSE

But you have to keep your routine,  
as hard as it feels at times.

TY RANT

No!!

SCOTT

How long will it last?

PRINCIPAL

It took my daughter a couple of  
years...

SCOTT

Years!

FAITH

What about therapy?

NURSE

It certainly wouldn't hurt. I can  
give you a list of therapists who  
deal with this sort of thing.

TY RANT

This is very confusing. What is  
'this sort of thing'? What is  
'therapy'?

Juliette looks around at everyone.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Faith and Juliette enter the hospital room to see Scott sitting by Grandpa's sleeping side. Juliette carries a homemade card.

SCOTT

Hey.

FAITH

How is he?

SCOTT

He's been sleeping on and off.

Juliette stares at her grandpa. Ty Rant pops onto her shoulder.

TY RANT

Are you sure he's sleeping? How do you know he's still breathing? Is anyone looking out for this?

Juliette reaches out her hand to touch her grandpa and squeezes his finger which startles him awake.

FAITH

Juliette! Did you just wake up your grandfather?

TY RANT

Uhh. When you say 'wake up' do you mean 'save his life'? Then yes.

Juliette nods.

GRANDPA

It's okay, Faith. I wouldn't want to miss your visit. How are you Kiddo? Still keeping that house of yours all tidy?

TY RANT

It's not easy with these two.

Ty Rant thumbs in the direction of Scott and Faith.

Juliette nods and hands him her card.

GRANDPA

Thanks, Kiddo.

FAITH

How are you feeling, Jack?

Jack opens the card and looks at it. It's a picture of him driving Juliette with a really big stop sign that says "Stop feeling sick!"

GRANDPA  
(chuckling at card)  
Never better. C'mon Kiddo, come  
sit next to me.

Juliette jumps up and sits beside him on the bed, noticing all the tubes going into him.

TY RANT  
Never better? That can't be true.  
Can it?

SCOTT  
Dad...

GRANDPA  
What? I can choose my outlook.  
It's the only choice I have. I  
can't choose what happens to this  
body of mine, but I can control my  
reaction.

FAITH  
Well said.

GRANDPA  
How about you, Kiddo? You still  
worrying up a storm?

Juliette's eyes dart from her grandfather to her parents.

GRANDPA  
You are a lot like your  
grandmother, you know?

JULIETTE  
I am?

GRANDPA  
Oh, she was a fretter. I used to  
play terrible practical jokes on  
her to distract her from her  
worries.

FAITH  
Did that work?

GRANDPA  
No. She hated it. Most of the  
time.

SCOTT

Might have been closer to all of  
the time.

Grandpa leans a little closer to Juliette.

GRANDPA

(whispers)

Your dad is a little like that  
too.

JULIETTE

He is??

SCOTT

Okay, okay. Enough with the family  
secrets.

GRANDPA

He used to hold his breath  
whenever we drove by a cemetery  
and pick up his feet over railway  
tracks.

Juliette's eyes widen. She looks at her dad.

JULIETTE

Why?

SCOTT

To ward off bad luck. Why else?

FAITH

(laughing)

Yeah, why else?

JULIETTE

Did it work?

SCOTT

No. But it made the car trips go  
faster.

JULIETTE

Are you going to be okay, Grandpa?

GRANDPA

I am going to be just fine, Kiddo.  
And so are you.

TY RANT

Okay, there it is. If he's going  
to be okay, you are going to be  
okay. Phew.



Suddenly the heart monitor attached to Jack starts to beep.

Scott and Faith look at it and then Scott runs out of the room.

Grandpa hands Juliette back the card.

GRANDPA  
Time to see the doctor.

Faith holds out her hand to Juliette.

FAITH  
Here Sweetie, get down off the bed now.

JULIETTE  
What's happening?

FAITH  
I don't know. But let's get out of the way.

A FLOOR NURSE comes running in with Scott, checks the monitor and runs back out as Juliette and Faith stand against the wall.

A DOCTOR rushes in with a portable defibrillator.

DOCTOR  
Everyone out!

Juliette and Faith exit, Juliette's card falling to the ground as she leaves.

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - DAY

Scott approaches Faith and Juliette who sit on the chairs in the waiting room.

FAITH  
How is he?

SCOTT  
He's stable.

FAITH  
That was frightening.

JULIETTE  
Was it my fault?

SCOTT

No, Pumpkin, how could it be your fault?

JULIETTE

I sat on his bed. Maybe I sat on something.

SCOTT

You didn't sit on anything. Grandpa's heart is having some trouble, that's all.

JULIETTE

Is he going to be okay?

SCOTT

We'll know more in twenty-four hours.

TY RANT

He better be. If you heard him, he said if he was okay you would be okay. So if he's not...

Juliette holds back her tears.

INT. JULIETTE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Faith closes a book with finality.

FAITH

All right. Time to go to sleep.

JULIETTE

Is it true?

FAITH

Is what true?

JULIETTE

Did Dad worry like me when he was a kid?

FAITH

That's probably a question for him when he gets home.

JULIETTE

Will you sleep with me? My stomach hurts.

Faith sighs. She has no fight.

FAITH

Sure, Sweetie. You are going to meet someone new tomorrow. To help you with your fears. Sound good?

JULIETTE

Sure.

FAITH

Close your eyes. I will count on your face.

Faith strokes softly down Juliette's nose, across her eyebrows, her cheeks.

FAITH

One, two, three, four, five, six...

Juliette's eyes slowly close.

INT. THERAPIST'S WAITING ROOM - DAY

Juliette, Scott and Faith sit in an office waiting room, Juliette swings her feet. The THERAPIST enters the waiting room.

THERAPIST

Juliette?

Juliette jumps down from her chair and looks at her parents.

FAITH

Go ahead, Sweetie. It's okay.

JULIETTE

I thought you were coming with me.

SCOTT

We'll be right here.

THERAPIST

I've already met your parents Juliette. I'm really interested in meeting you.

She smiles widely, perhaps too widely?

INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE - DAY

Juliette sits on a couch. On the table in front of her are markers and papers. Ty Rant is on high alert.

THERAPIST

Grown-ups call worries, anxiety or nervousness. A worry can be a thought that makes you scared, like... what if Mom forgets to pick me up from soccer.

TY RANT

Check.

THERAPIST

Or that fluttery, sick feeling in your stomach before school.

TY RANT

Double check.

THERAPIST

Lots of worries make sense. Like worrying about a test, or walking into a dark room.

TY RANT

Right? There could be someone under the bed.

THERAPIST

These worries encourage you to practice your spelling, or turn on the light so you don't bump into anything.

TY RANT

Sure. Bump into something. That too.

Juliette nods.

THERAPIST

But some worries don't make sense. Like monsters...

TY RANT

Have you seen a movie lately?

THERAPIST

... or disasters.

TY RANT

Oh yeah, you should try coming to school.

THERAPIST

Why don't we start with a picture of something that frightens you.

TY RANT

How about the fact that your parents have probably abandoned you to this woman in this place.

The Therapist picks up a marker and hands it to Juliette.

THERAPIST

Shall we?

JULIETTE

Are you drawing one too?

THERAPIST

I could. Would you like me to?

TY RANT

Didn't she just say 'we' were drawing? Why are you alone in here? You better go find your parents. They might be getting away.

JULIETTE

Can I go to the bathroom?

THERAPIST

Certainly. First door on your left. Do you know your left and rights?

TY RANT

Please.

Juliette nods.

She slips off the couch and picks up speed by the time she reaches the door.

INT. THERAPIST'S WAITING ROOM - DAY

Juliette bursts through the door that goes from the offices to the waiting room, looking around wildly. Her parents are not there.

TY RANT

See! I told you they were taking off. Now you are all alone. With the crazy lady.

Juliette gasps. The external door opens and her parents enter, carrying take-out coffees.

FAITH

Juliette! What's going on?

Just then the Therapist comes into the waiting room and finds Juliette.

THERAPIST

We aren't quite done yet. C'mon Juliette. If you still have to use the washroom, I'll show you where it is.

FAITH

We will be here when you are done Juliette. Right here.

Ty Rant puts his hands on his hips.

TY RANT

Because they got caught. That's why.

INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE - DAY

Juliette is drawing a picture of a car racing away with her parents in it.

THERAPIST

So let's see. What do we have here? I think this is a car with your parents in it?

Juliette nods.

TY RANT

We have what is going to happen if we don't get out of here soon.

THERAPIST

And they are leaving you behind?

TY RANT

Obviously!!

Juliette nods.

THERAPIST

So given what you know about your parents, do you think this a logical worry or one that maybe doesn't make too much sense.

TY RANT

How should I know?!?

JULIETTE

My mom might know.

THERAPIST

How about you Juliette? What do you think?

Juliette shrugs.

THERAPIST

Can you think of a time when they didn't come back?

JULIETTE

No.

THERAPIST

So do you think your worry is a sensible one?

TY RANT

Oh sure, you want look at it that way.

THERAPIST

What do you think?

JULIETTE

No.

THERAPIST

I would tend to agree with that.

TY RANT

Of course you would, but you are never there!

THERAPIST

Our thoughts create feelings, and then we act on those feelings. So the thought that your parents are going to leave, makes you afraid and then you panic and try to stop them from leaving.

TY RANT

Okay, we might be able to see that.

Juliette nods.

THERAPIST

Here is something I want you to try when you have a worry, okay? Try to think about what is really most likely, instead of what you are afraid might happen. So, it's probably really most likely that your parents love you, and want to stay living with you in the house.

TY RANT

I guess maybe they don't have anywhere else to go... that we know of.

THERAPIST

And also remember that bad things don't happen very often.

TY RANT

We need to define 'often'.

THERAPIST

And that even if something a little bit bad does happen, you can get through it. Can you give me an example of something bad that happened that you got through?

Juliette thinks.

THERAPIST

Have you ever scraped your knee, or lost a favorite stuffed animal or had a friend hurt your feelings?

Juliette nods.

TY RANT

Has she been watching you? Are there video cameras watching your whole life?

THERAPIST

Then you know what it's like to be hurt, or sad, and to get better.  
(MORE)



THERAPIST (CONT'D)

So here's what I want you to work on this week. If you have a worry, think about if your worry is logical. How does that sound?

JULIETTE

Good.

TY RANT

Ree-dic-u-lous!! But okay, sure.

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

Juliette wakes up, the sun shines, birds sing, Rusty jumps down off of the bed and leaves her room.

JULIETTE

Mom!

There is no answer.

JULIETTE

Mom!

Ty Rant appears.

TY RANT

That's it. They are gone. Wait. Apply logic. Where would they go? Ahhh.

JULIETTE

Mom!

Scott pokes his head in, toweling his head.

SCOTT

Mom had to leave early this morning. She didn't want to wake you. I'll drop you off at school.

JULIETTE

Ok.

TY RANT

So now they are leaving one at a time... interesting. Switch up the routine, keep you guessing. Clever, very clever.

EXT. SCHOOL YARD - DAY

The boys are chasing each other around. Ethan pretends a cardboard tube he has is a sword and he's on a rampage.

Sadie and Juliette kick the soccer ball back and forth.

JULIETTE

Ethan is so weird.

SADIE

What about Cassidy?

JULIETTE

Cassidy is cute.

SADIE

You like him!

JULIETTE

He's nice.

Just then Ethan comes up behind Sadie and pretend-stabs her with his cardboard sword. She dies an elaborate death.

Juliette can't believe what she's seeing - Sadie playing along.

Ethan comes toward her. She puts up her hand to keep him away.

Ty Rant appears.

JULIETTE

Don't come near me!

ETHAN

You're no fun.

JULIETTE

Dying isn't fun!!

TY RANT

Or is it? If we apply logic...

Ethan moves on. Just then Amir comes by and give Sadie a hug.

AMIR

It's okay, Juliette. I just hug you and you come back to life!

Sadie gets up.

SADIE

It's true!

JULIETTE

I don't like Ethan's games.

SADIE

You just don't like Ethan.

Juliette kicks the ball back to the newly revived Sadie.

JULIETTE

True.

TY RANT

And logical. But what does it all mean?

INT. AFTER SCHOOL ROOM - DAY

Juliette sits at a table coloring, while Ethan who sits nearby, builds a Jenga tower and then knocks it back down. He looks towards Juliette.

ETHAN

C'mon, play with me.

JULIETTE

No.

ETHAN

Why not?

JULIETTE

I don't want to.

ETHAN

You're no fun. Again.

Juliette looks up to see Scott walk in, and jumps up, puts on her backpack.

JULIETTE

My dad's here. So I can't play with you anyway.

Juliette smirks at Ethan. Scott approaches them.

SCOTT

Hi Pumpkin. Hi Ethan. Your mom called me.

(MORE)

SCOTT (CONT'D)

She's running late, so we are going to take you to our house and she'll pick you up there.

Juliette's eyes widen.

TY RANT

What???

SCOTT

Let's go.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Ethan sits in a pile of Juliette's stuff, obvious that he has pulled every activity she owns out.

Juliette watches as he holds a Barbie and dive-bombs her into a Lego tower.

ETHAN

Take that, you traitor!!

Scott walks in and sees the big mess.

SCOTT

Oh! Okay kids, how about you go outside and kick the soccer ball around.

Ethan drops the doll, crashes through the Lego pile and out the door.

Juliette looks at her dad.

JULIETTE

Do I have to?

SCOTT

Just twenty more minutes, Pumpkin.

She slumps past him.

He puts up a hand for high-fiving and she leaves him hanging.

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

Ethan and Juliette have a make shift net at the end of the yard with a shovel and a watering can.

Juliette kicks the ball right to Ethan and he catches it.

ETHAN

Okay, now it's your turn to go in net.

JULIETTE

I don't want to go in net.

ETHAN

But it's your turn.

Juliette reluctantly takes her spot.

Ethan winds up and kicks the ball hard, Juliette gets out of the way just in time. The ball goes through the make shift net and hits the fence behind them.

ETHAN

C'mon, you have to try.

JULIETTE

And you have to 'try' not to hit me in the head!

ETHAN

Use your hands.

JULIETTE

Don't kick it so hard!

ETHAN

Baby!

JULIETTE

Can't we just pass it to each other and see what number we can get to?

ETHAN

Fine...

Ethan goes and picks up the ball.

ETHAN

... if you want to play like we are in kindergarten.

Ethan tees up the ball and kicks hard.

ETHAN

One!

The ball flies over the fence and into the neighbors back yard.

JULIETTE

Ethan!

ETHAN

How do we get it back?

JULIETTE

We don't. They have a big dog. A big, angry, hungry dog.

ETHAN

I'm not afraid of dogs.

Ethan jumps up on the fence to look over. Nothing.

EXT. NEIGHBORS YARD - DAY

Ethan scrambles over the top and lands on the other side.

Juliette watches from her side, standing on the bench.

Ty Rant appears.

TY RANT

This is bad, really bad.

Ethan runs to get the ball. He grabs it and picks it up. He turns to look at Juliette.

ETHAN

See? Nothing to be afraid of. No problem!

Just then the large, snarling dog runs around the corner.

TY RANT

Oh no!!!

JULIETTE

Ethan, run!

Ethan freezes. The dog is a few feet away from him.

Juliette picks up a branch and throws it past the dog, it turns around when it hears the stick drop.

Ethan runs back to the fence.

The dog whips its head around, retracts its focus on Ethan and runs after him.

Ethan clamors up and over the fence just as the dog reaches the bottom of the fence.

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

Ethan lands with a thump on Juliette's side of the fence.

Juliette starts to giggle, Ethan looks upset and then joins in.

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

Juliette and Ethan sit on the stairs of the deck, the soccer ball beside them.

ETHAN

My dad says there is nothing to fear, except fear itself.

JULIETTE

That doesn't make any sense. Why be afraid of fear? It's trying to keep you safe.

TY RANT

Amen.

ETHAN

But it stops you from trying new things.

JULIETTE

I'm good with my old things, thanks.

Ethan looks at Juliette.

ETHAN

Do you like Cassidy?

Ty Rant practically chokes.

TY RANT

What?? Is Ethan a mind reader now?

JULIETTE

No!! Why?

ETHAN

I was just wondering.

JULIETTE

Okay. Well. Yeah. Okay.

TY RANT

Good one. Very convincing.

Ethan and Juliette sit in silence.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Scott is tucking Juliette into bed.

SCOTT

Did you have fun with Ethan?

JULIETTE

No! Please don't bring him here again.

SCOTT

Well, his mom needed some help. We might need help someday. It's nice to help each other out.

JULIETTE

What? No! I can't ever go to Ethan's.

SCOTT

Well, we'll see.

JULIETTE

What are you going to do now?

SCOTT

Your mom and I are going out to a movie.

Juliette startles and sits up.

JULIETTE

What??

SCOTT

Juliette, I'm joking. Of course we aren't going out. We are staying home. I am going to watch a movie here.

TY RANT

Not funny!

JULIETTE

Not too loud though, okay. And not a scary one.



SCOTT

(annoyed)

I'll watch whatever I want, but I  
will make sure it's not too loud.

TY RANT

He's getting mad again. Where is  
your mom?

JULIETTE

Where's Mom?

SCOTT

She's marking papers. I'm putting  
you to bed tonight.

JULIETTE

I want Mom.

SCOTT

She's busy. You've got me.

TY RANT

I think he's going to lose it!  
Better get mom.

JULIETTE

Mom!

Faith comes to the door.

FAITH

What is going on?

TY RANT

Oh-oh. She's mad too.

SCOTT

I've got this.

JULIETTE

I want Mom!

SCOTT

Juliette!

FAITH

Juliette, let's try something the  
therapist suggested, okay?

JULIETTE

Okay.

FAITH

I need you to run up and down the stairs.

TY RANT

Is she serious?

FAITH

It will help take your mind off of your worries. Want to give it a try?

TY RANT

Okay...

JULIETTE

Okay.

Juliette gets out of bed.

INT. UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

Juliette goes to the top of the stairs.

TY RANT

But don't forget you have to hold your breath on the stairs or else something bad might happen.

Juliette's eyes widen.

JULIETTE

Umm. I don't know if I can do this.

SCOTT

You can do it.

FAITH

Try, Sweetie. We all need you to try.

TY RANT

Do we though? What if your mom just slept with you? That's a good solution.

Juliette takes a big breath and runs down stairs and back up again. She lets out the breath as reaches the top.

FAITH

Good work. Nine more times!

Ty Rant's head snaps over to look at Faith.

TY RANT

What? That's insane.

Juliette does it again, holding her breath. Each time she gets to the top of stairs Ty Rant is fading a little bit more.

FAITH

You are doing great, Sweetie! One last time.

Just as Juliette starts up the stairs, the cat runs in front of her, tripping her up and she falls on her shin.

JULIETTE

Owww! Rusty!

Faith runs down to Juliette and helps her up the rest of the stairs.

FAITH

Scott! Can you get some ice for Juliette's shin?

Ty Rant reappears full force, wide-eyed like Juliette. Faith helps Juliette up the stairs.

TY RANT

You know you took some breaths on the stair there. Very bad luck.

SCOTT (O.S.)

There no ice! Why is there never any ice in this house!

TY RANT

Told you.

The phone rings.

SCOTT

I'll get it.

FAITH

I'll get the heating pad instead. Juliette, get into bed. I'll be right there.

INT. JULIETTE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Juliette crawls into bed. Outside her bedroom door, she sees her dad come up the stairs, whisper something to her mom, and then they hug.

They both come in her room with tears in their eyes. Scott sits on the bed and takes Juliette's hand.

SCOTT

I'm sorry I lost my patience.

JULIETTE

It's all right. What's going on?

SCOTT

The nurse called from the hospital.

JULIETTE

Oh. Is Grandpa okay?

SCOTT

I am going to go and have a quick visit with him. But mom will be here with you.

JULIETTE

Okay.

Scott gives her a hug.

SCOTT

I love you, Pumpkin.

JULIETTE

I love you too, Daddy.

Scott and Faith leave the room and Juliette pulls the covers over her head.

TY RANT

You know whatever is wrong is your fault because you took a breath on the stairs.

Juliette's lips quiver.

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

Juliette wakes up, the sun shines, birds sing, Rusty jumps down off of the bed and leaves her room.

FAITH (O.S.)  
Breakfast is ready!

JULIETTE  
Coming!

Juliette jumps out of bed and bolts out the door.

INT. DINING ROOM - MORNING

Juliette spies waffles with bananas and a smoothie waiting for her as her mom walks out of the dining room just as she arrives.

FAITH (O.S.)  
Enjoy!

SCOTT (O.S.)  
I'm off to work! Bye.

Juliette jumps down from the table.

INT. HOUSE HALLWAY - MORNING

Just as she arrives at the front door to say good-bye, her dad exits, she sees only his back as he waves good-bye without looking back.

JULIETTE  
(to herself)  
Hmph. He usually hugs me before he goes.

She heads dejectedly back to the dining room.

INT. DINING ROOM - MORNING

As she enters the dining room, her mom is clearing her plate and exiting out the other door.

JULIETTE  
Mom! I wasn't finished I was just saying good-bye to Dad!

Her mom keeps walking, Juliette runs after her.

JULIETTE  
Mom!

Juliette catches up and grabs her. Her mom turns slowly around. Only it's not her mom, it's an imposter, wearing a wig!

JULIETTE

Ahhhhh!

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

Juliette startles awake. Looks around. Rusty sleeps on the bed.

JULIETTE

Mom!

Faith enters.

FAITH

Good morning, Sweetie. I was just about to come in and wake you.

Faith sits on the bed beside Juliette.

FAITH

It looks like a beautiful day today.

Ty Rant appears and stretches as he wakes.

TY RANT

How do you know this is not an imposter?

Juliette grabs her mom's hair and tugs.

FAITH

Owww! Juliette, don't do that!

TY RANT

Yup, see that angry face, that's your real mom all right.

Juliette smiles.

FAITH

Why did you do that?

Juliette just shrugs.

FAITH

Every time I think we make some progress, something like that happens.

TY RANT

I don't like the sound of that.

Juliette turns away from her mom's gaze.

INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE - DAY

Juliette enters the Therapist's office and there is a little box with a ribbon around it on the table. Juliette spots it.

JULIETTE

What's this?

THERAPIST

Open it.

Juliette opens it and shakes the box upside down. Nothing falls out.

JULIETTE

There's nothing in it.

THERAPIST

Not yet. It's a worry box.

JULIETTE

What's a worry box?

THERAPIST

It's where you are going to put your worries, when it's not time to worry about them.

Ty Rant appears.

TY RANT

Excuse me? When it is ever not time to worry?

THERAPIST

I want you to set a time with your parents to discuss your worries. If a worry pops up and it's not worry-time, into the box it goes! Sound good?

TY RANT

No!!

JULIETTE

Yes.

THERAPIST

Want to decorate it now? We can  
put anything you like on it.

Juliette nods.

Ty Rant shakes his head.

INT. JULIETTE'S ROOM - DAY

Scott enters while Juliette colors on her bed.

SCOTT

Hey Pumpkin. I'm going to see  
Grandpa at the hospital. Want to  
come?

Ty Rant gasps.

TY RANT

That was scary last time. Wait  
until Grandpa gets home to visit  
him.

JULIETTE

No.

SCOTT

Are you sure?

TY RANT

You were bad luck when you were  
there. So you know, better to stay  
away.

JULIETTE

Yes.

SCOTT

Okay.

Scott gives Juliette a kiss on her cheek.

SCOTT

I'll say 'hi' for you.

JULIETTE

Okay. He's going to be okay isn't  
he?

SCOTT

I hope so, Pumpkin.



TY RANT

Hope so!?

SCOTT

He's pretty sick.

JULIETTE

I'll come next time.

SCOTT

Deal.

TY RANT

Well, we'll see about that.

Scott exits.

INT. HOUSE HALLWAY - DAY

The doorbell rings and Juliette answers the door to see Sadie. Chella waves good-bye from the car.

JULIETTE

Want to play in my room?

SADIE

Let's go to the park.

JULIETTE

I don't want to go to the park.

Faith appears around the corner.

FAITH

Hi Sadie. So glad you could come over.

Sadie shrugs.

FAITH

Do you guys want to go to the park and kick the ball around?

SADIE

Juliette doesn't want to.

FAITH

How about you try out the new badminton set we just got.

SADIE

Sounds great.

Sadie follows Faith towards to backyard while Juliette stares at them.

JULIETTE

Okay.

Juliette follows behind.

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

As Juliette and Sadie hit the birdie back and forth, Rusty winds around in Juliette's legs almost tripping her up.

JULIETTE

Rusty!

Juliette picks him up and puts him on the bench.  
Juliette holds up a hand to him.

JULIETTE

Stay!

SADIE

He's not a dog.

Rusty sits down and watches the birdie bounce back and forth.

JULIETTE

See? He's a good cat.

At the moment Rusty jumps through the air and grabs the birdie in his mouth.

SADIE

A good cat?

He jumps up on top of the fence bordering the yard with the dog in it.

JULIETTE

Rusty! Careful!

As Juliette moves towards him, Rusty startles, dropping the birdie into the neighbor's yard and jumping back into Juliette's yard.

JULIETTE

Oh no! Bad kitty! Bad kitty!

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

Juliette and Sadie stand on the bench up against the fence.

Juliette has a butterfly net in her hand. Ty Rant hangs on, on her shoulder.

JULIETTE

Hold my legs.

Juliette hoists herself up onto fence and leans over with the net trying to catch the birdie.

The scary dog approaches, barking.

SADIE

What is wrong with that dog?

Juliette waves around the net, she touches the birdie but it hops a little further away. She stretches.

TY RANT

She's gonna drop you!

JULIETTE

Sadie! Don't let go!

SADIE

Don't worry!

The dog gets closer and grabs the net. Juliette tugs a little and as the dog tugs, Sadie starts to lose her grip.

SADIE

Okay. Worry!

Sadie pulls hard, and Juliette and Sadie end up in a heap in Juliette's backyard without the birdie and net.

They giggle.

SADIE

I guess that's the end of that game.

JULIETTE

Stupid dog.

SADIE

Silly cat.

JULIETTE

I guess.

SADIE

Nice try though. You were brave.

JULIETTE

I was?

Sadie nods.

JULIETTE

Can we go back inside now?

SADIE

Sure.

TY RANT

Amen, sister!

INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Juliette and Faith sit on the couch with the worry box on the coffee table in front of them. Faith looks at her watch.

FAITH

Okay, it's 7 pm. Open the box and let's talk about all your worries.

Juliette unties one piece of string and then another and another.

FAITH

Wow, you have that locked up pretty well.

JULIETTE

That's what keeps the worries inside.

FAITH

Good job.

Juliette finally gets it open.

FAITH

Okay, great. What do you have in there today?

JULIETTE

The dog next door.

FAITH

That makes sense. That dog has a very loud bark.

JULIETTE

I'm worried about Grandpa being in the hospital.

FAITH

Yes, that is a reasonable worry.

Ty Rant appears.

TY RANT

Two for two on the worries.

FAITH

No matter what happens, your grandfather has lived life on his own terms.

TY RANT

That's not very comforting.

FAITH

Anything else?

JULIETTE

Ethan.

FAITH

What about Ethan?

JULIETTE

He watches too many scary movies and plays too many video games.

FAITH

How does that impact you?

JULIETTE

He talks about them! And pretends he is in a video game. With swords and stuff.

FAITH

How was it having him over here?

JULIETTE

Okay. For one time. But not again.

FAITH

Your dad said he was a bit of a handful.

JULIETTE

He did?

TY RANT

Three for three. Booyah!

FAITH

Yes. Do you have anything else you want to talk about?

JULIETTE

No.

FAITH

What about sleeping?

JULIETTE

What about sleeping?

FAITH

Want to try and sleep on your own tonight?

JULIETTE

I guess.

FAITH

If you do, I will make chocolate chip cookies tomorrow, how does that sound?

JULIETTE

Awesome!

FAITH

Okay, let's have dinner now.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Faith tucks Juliette in.

JULIETTE

When is Dad coming back?

FAITH

Soon. Visiting hours are almost over.

JULIETTE

What are you going to do now?

FAITH

I'm going to mark some exams.

JULIETTE

So you will be up for a while?

FAITH

Yes, I will be up for a while. I can't go to bed yet.

JULIETTE

Good.

FAITH

Good?

JULIETTE

So you will be up if someone breaks in.

FAITH

Is that what you were worried about all the time?

JULIETTE

Yes!

FAITH

And I thought you just wanted us all to go to bed at the same time.

Juliette shakes her head.

FAITH

I'll stay up. Don't you worry.

TY RANT

Ha. Easier said than done.

Just then the phone rings.

FAITH

I have to go get the phone. Good night, Sweetie.

JULIETTE

I get the cookies right?

FAITH

You sure do.

Faith leaves.

TY RANT

Okay, let's do this. Squeeze your toes.

Juliette's face scrunches up under the effort.

TY RANT  
Release. Squeeze your shins.

Juliette's face scrunches up.

TY RANT  
That's hard. Release.

Juliette exhales.

TY RANT  
Squeeze your thighs.

Juliette's face scrunches up.

Faith returns.

FAITH  
I have some bad news. Your  
grandfather passed away.

Juliette exhales.

JULIETTE  
Oh no.

Faith gives Juliette a big hug. Juliette tears up.

JULIETTE  
But there was supposed to be a  
next time.

FAITH  
I know, Sweetie. I know.

TY RANT  
Whoops.

INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE - DAY

Juliette sits on her chair. Again waving her legs while  
Ty Rant does the same.

THERAPIST  
I'm sorry to hear about your  
grandfather. That's hard.

Juliette shrugs.



THERAPIST

It's nice that he lived close by  
and you got to see a lot of him.

JULIETTE

Yeah. I didn't visit him the last  
time I could.

THERAPIST

That's okay. I'm sure he knew you  
loved him.

JULIETTE

He told me my dad worried a lot  
when he was a kid too.

THERAPIST

That's pretty common, that someone  
else in the family worried a bit  
too.

JULIETTE

My Grandma too.

THERAPIST

Well, the good thing is that we  
have figured out a lot about  
worrying since your Grandma was a  
kid. It helps a lot.

JULIETTE

She died before I was born.

THERAPIST

Does your dad tell stories about  
her?

JULIETTE

Yeah, he said she loved to cook.  
She was always feeding people. He  
likes to cook too.

THERAPIST

What about you?

JULIETTE

I guess.

THERAPIST

So look at all you have in common.  
Shall we get started?

JULIETTE

Sure.

THERAPIST

Today, we are going to practice talking back to your worries.

JULIETTE

My mom doesn't like it when I talk back.

THERAPIST

Your worry is being a bully. And it's not going to like you talking back, either. So the first thing you are going to do is to give him or her a name.

JULIETTE

Okay.

TY RANT

This should be good.

THERAPIST

What do you think is a good name for your worry?

Juliette thinks for a moment.

JULIETTE

Mr. PooPoo Head?

THERAPIST

Very nice!

TY RANT

Terrible!

THERAPIST

Now we are going to draw a picture of him.

Juliette takes the paper and markers and draws a round furry ball with little legs, arms and antennae. And a really big mouth and furrowed brows. It looks very much like Ty Rant sitting on her shoulder. Ty Rant examines the drawing.

TY RANT

Not even close! Where's my neck?

THERAPIST

Excellent. Now that we know what he looks like and his name, you can tell him what to do.

TY RANT  
What?

THERAPIST  
Tell him to 'go away'.

JULIETTE  
(feebly)  
Go away.

THERAPIST  
Louder.

Each time Juliette gets louder, Ty Rant gets a little smaller.

JULIETTE  
Go away.

TY RANT  
Hey!

THERAPIST  
Yell it.

JULIETTE  
Go away!!

TY RANT  
You need me!

THERAPIST  
That's it. What else would you  
like to say to him.

JULIETTE  
Um. You stink.

TY RANT  
Ouch.

THERAPIST  
Good.

JULIETTE  
What you are saying is garbage.  
Take it to the garbage dump!

TY RANT  
Double ouch.

THERAPIST  
Awesome!

JULIETTE

I'm not listening to you anymore!

TY RANT

You don't mean it.

THERAPIST

Perfect!

JULIETTE

You poo.

TY RANT

(sniffling)

Poo?

THERAPIST

Juliette, that is fantastic. Now, what you have to do, is every time Mr. PooPoo Head starts to tell you to worry about something, you yell one of these things at him. You can say it out loud, or in your head, but be firm.

JULIETTE

Got it.

THERAPIST

You are doing great Juliette. I am so proud of you.

TY RANT

You are never going to be able to keep this up. Mark my words.

Juliette bites her lip.

THERAPIST

You just have to be strong and fight back.

JULIETTE

Why does Mr. PooPoo Head want to bully me?

THERAPIST

You know, that is such a great question. He thinks he is helping you. He thinks he is keeping you safe. But he's not. He's stopping you from living. Your mom and dad do a pretty good job of keeping you safe, wouldn't you say?

Juliette nods.

THERAPIST

But he's drowning out their voices. I think everyone would be a little happier if he just stayed away.

TY RANT

I know someone who wouldn't be happier.

JULIETTE

Shut-up!

THERAPIST

Excuse me?

JULIETTE

Mr. PooPoo Head just said something.

THERAPIST

He's not liking this is he?

JULIETTE

Not one little bit.

INT. FUNERAL HOME - DAY

Juliette sits in the front row with Faith while Scott stands at a podium.

SCOTT

I called him my 'no bother - father'. He never wanted to be a burden to anyone. After Mom died, he took up wood-carving, joined a gourmet group, volunteered at the food bank. He may have brought a can or two home for his recipes. He always said the expiry date was just a 'suggestion'.

Funeral-goers stifle laughter at this revelation. Juliette looks around, not quite understanding what they are laughing at. Ty Rant is with her.

TY RANT

Did he eat some bad food??

SCOTT

He felt that way about his own expiry date. When he was diagnosed with cancer, he decided that he was going to live his days to their fullest. He did that, and more.

Juliette looks surprised.

TY RANT

He had cancer? Why does nobody tell you anything?

SCOTT

My dad was a proud husband, father, grandfather and friend. And I was, and am, proud to call him my father.

Scott exits the podium and sits back down beside Juliette. Juliette looks up at him.

JULIETTE

(whispering)

I'm sorry I didn't come to the hospital to see him last time.

SCOTT

(whispering)

What? Oh, that's okay, Pumpkin. It doesn't matter.

JULIETTE

(whispering)

You didn't tell me he had cancer. Why didn't you tell me?

SCOTT

(whispering)

We didn't want you to worry. You were already worrying about so many different things.

Juliette sits back in the chair.

TY RANT

Well, that's just... that's just... true, I guess. You were stick-handling a fair bit...

Juliette purses her lips.

INT. RECEPTION - DAY

Juliette stands with Faith. Sadie and Ryan approach them and give them hugs.

RYAN

So sorry for your loss. How are you doing?

FAITH

Well, it wasn't completely unexpected, but the timing always comes as a surprise, I guess.

Juliette furrows her brow.

TY RANT

So if things run in the family, then is your dad next?

Juliette coughs.

RYAN

Can we do anything for you? Would you like Juliette to come back to our place for the afternoon?

FAITH

That would be great. Juliette?

She looks down at Juliette who shakes her head.

JULIETTE

I want to stay.

Sadie looks at Juliette.

SADIE

Are you sure? My dad just finished our tree house.

TY RANT

Tree houses are extremely dangerous. There could be bugs and stuff.

JULIETTE

No, thanks.

Ryan and Faith share a look.

RYAN

We have to get going.

FAITH  
Thanks for trying.

Ryan and Sadie leave. Juliette turns to Faith.

JULIETTE  
Can we all go home now?

FAITH  
No, Sweetie. We have to stay. If  
you want to leave, we might still  
be able to catch Sadie.

Juliette shakes her head.

Faith turns as someone else gives her a hug. Juliette  
looks up at all the adults talking. Through all the din  
she hears a familiar voice.

GRANDPA (O.S.)  
Worrying about something doesn't  
stop it from happening. It just  
robs you of time you could be  
enjoying other things. Remember  
the sun is always there, even if  
there are a few clouds in front of  
it.

Juliette wanders away from Faith, trying to find the  
source of the familiar voice.

GRANDPA (O.S.)  
That's what I think anyway.

Juliette sees two MEN watching a phone that one of them  
is holding.

GRANDPA (O.S.)  
Now turn that thing off. I want  
you to try my Eggplant Parmigiana.

The man holding the phone puts it in his pocket.

MAN 1  
That was just last month.

MAN 2  
He's right though, the sun is  
always there.

Juliette stands staring at the two men.

TY RANT  
Is it? Is the sun always there?



Juliette looks around for her mom, can't see her.

TY RANT

Did your mom leave??

Then someone moves away and Juliette can see her.

TY RANT

Hey that was kind of a like a  
cloud moving so you could see the  
sun. Cool. Always there.

Juliette smiles and makes her way to her mom and hugs  
her.

INT. JULIETTE'S ROOM - DAY

Juliette walks into her room. She reacts to a smell and  
goes to the window and opens it. Ty Rant appears.

TY RANT

Better shut it. Someone could get  
in.

JULIETTE

Shut-up Mr. PooPoo Head!

TY RANT

Hey, calm down. I'm just trying to  
keep you safe.

JULIETTE

I'm tired of it. You made me stay  
home when I could have visited my  
grandpa for the last time.

TY RANT

I know what's best for you.

JULIETTE

PooPoo. I'm not listening anymore.  
La-la-la-la.

Juliette runs out of her room with her fingers in her  
ears.

For the first time, Ty Rant is not on her shoulder, but  
trails behind her.

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

Juliette runs out of the house into the backyard chased by Ty Rant running after her. He's trying his best to get back up on her shoulder while she bobs and weaves away from him.

JULIETTE

Get away!!

TY RANT

You need me.

JULIETTE

I don't want you near me, you poo!

Juliette's neighbor who has been hunched down gardening pops up and watches Juliette who continue to dodge to elude something unseen.

NEIGHBOR

Juliette! Are you okay, is there a wasp after you?

Juliette stops.

JULIETTE

No.

NEIGHBOR

Do you need any help?

JULIETTE

No thanks, I've got this.

The neighbor nods and turns back to their gardening.

TY RANT

Neighbor thinks your cray-cray...

Juliette starts running again.

JULIETTE

I don't care! Leave me alone!

EXT. STREET - DAY

Juliette runs out onto the street and up to the corner. Ty Rant follows close on her heels, but when we round the corner, we see that Juliette has spotted a beautiful monarch butterfly.

It flutters up above her, touches down on her shoulder and then up again, floating down the side-walk.

She follows it and before she knows it, she's at the park.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Juliette looks up and sees all the kids playing on the swings, slides and monkey bars.

The monarch seems to beckon her, and she follows, right up the slide, and down.

Ty Rant is not with her.

-- A LITTLE BOY comes down the slide after Juliette and she catches him and helps him off. He grabs her hand and takes her to the sand pit. His MOTHER looks on, smiles and pulls out her book.

-- The Mother and Little Boy wave good-bye to Juliette as they leave and Juliette turns and jumps on the swing.

-- A TEENAGER with a PUPPY approaches the playground and the KIDS there including Juliette surround the puppy who wiggles and licks them.

A POLICE CAR pulls up beside the park, two OFFICERS get out.

Juliette watches them approach with curiosity and realizes they are heading right to her. Ty Rant appears.

TY RANT

Oh-oh. Something bad happened.

OFFICER

Juliette?

JULIETTE

Yes?

TY RANT

Here it comes.

JULIETTE

Did something happen?

OFFICER

Yes, something happened. You went missing.

JULIETTE

I'm not missing, I'm right here.

OFFICER

Your parents are missing you.  
Let's get you home. You can ride  
in the front and turn on the siren  
if you want.

TY RANT

I don't know. It's so LOUD!

JULIETTE

Okay!

Juliette smiles. Ty Rant fades away.

EXT. STREET - DAY

The police car approaches with sirens blasting and stops  
in front of Juliette's house. Faith and Scott are on the  
sidewalk.

Juliette hops out of the car. The three of them hug.

FAITH

Sweetie, we were so worried. We  
didn't know where you were.

SCOTT

You just can't go to the park on  
your own, Pumpkin, without telling  
us.

JULIETTE

I met this little boy named Adlen.  
We played with his truck in the  
sand pit. And there was the cutest  
puppy.

Scott and Faith share a look.

FAITH

And what about Mr. PooPoo Head.  
Was he there?

JULIETTE

He didn't want me to go.

SCOTT

But you did anyway.

JULIETTE

Yeah.

FAITH

You didn't listen to him.

JULIETTE

I didn't!

FAITH

And everything was okay?

JULIETTE

It was.

Scott and Faith share a look.

SCOTT

You know what that means?

JULIETTE

What?

SCOTT

Time for ice cream!

They all high-five.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Juliette and Faith approach the school.

The Assistant holds the door open for them as if Faith is going to take Juliette right to the classroom, but this time Juliette sticks out her hand to shake.

ASSISTANT

Good morning, Juliette!

JULIETTE

Good morning.

Juliette turns and gives Faith a hug and walks in the door.

JULIETTE

Bye Mom.

FAITH

Bye Sweetie.

Faith motions wiping sweat off her brow to the assistant, who smiles.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Juliette stops to take a drink at the water fountain.

Someone joins her at one of the other spouts and they stand up at the exact same time. It's Cassidy.

Ty Rant appears. He's sweating.

CASSIDY

Ethan told me you like me. Do you like me?

Juliette does a spit take with the little bit of water left in her mouth.

JULIETTE

Nooo!!!

CASSIDY

Oh, okay. That's too bad.

Cassidy turns and walks away.

TY RANT

Good one. He'll never talk to you again. Wait, what did 'That's too bad' mean? Cassidy?

Just then Ethan walks by. Juliette scowls at him.

JULIETTE

Ethan!

ETHAN

What?

INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE - DAY

Juliette sits on the couch alone swinging her feet. Ty Rant mimics her.

THERAPIST

Do you like snow globes?

TY RANT

Who doesn't??

JULIETTE

Yes.

THERAPIST

And glitter?

TY RANT

Yuh huh!

Juliette nods.

THERAPIST

We are going to make a glitter globe today.

JULIETTE

Okay.

THERAPIST

Your mom tells me you have trouble quieting your mind before you go to sleep.

JULIETTE

Sometimes...

The therapist hands Juliette a jar with water and glitter in it.

THERAPIST

Here take a look at mine. Turn it up and down and watch all the glitter fall to the bottom.

As Juliette does this, Ty Rant stares.

TY RANT

Oooh. Pretty.

Ty Rant falls over, asleep. Juliette smiles and shakes it one more time.

JULIETTE

It's beautiful.

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

Juliette plays soccer with Sadie. Faith and Ryan watch from the side-line.

Juliette's team defends when Juliette steals the ball and passes it up to Sadie. Sadie runs with the ball when the REFEREE blows the final whistle. The team runs over to the sidelines.

COACH

Great game team! See you next week.

Juliette and Sadie skip over to Faith and Ryan.

JULIETTE  
Can I go to Sadie's?

FAITH  
As long as it's okay with Sadie's family.

Faith turns to Ryan.

RYAN  
Sure is.

Ty Rant appears.

TY RANT  
It would be better if your mom came. Just sayin'.

JULIETTE  
Can you come?

FAITH  
Tell you what. I need to get groceries and then I will come by and get you. And hang out for a bit before we go.

Juliette smiles. Faith gives her a big hug.

INT. TV ROOM - EVENING

Juliette and her parents sit on the couch with popcorn watching a movie. We see from their faces we are getting to a bit of a scary part. Juliette's arm is frozen halfway from the bowl to her mouth.

SCOTT  
You okay, Pumpkin?

JULIETTE  
Mmm-hmmm.

Ty Rant appears.

TY RANT  
I'll just stay here until the scary part is done.



The music changes, to a lighter tone. Ty Rant jumps from Juliette's shoulder onto her hand, about to steal the popcorn when she relaxes and throws the popcorn in her mouth. Ty Rant narrowly misses being thrown into her mouth and crawls back on her shoulder.

And we watch as Ty Rant fades away and Juliette keeps on eating her popcorn.

Off Faith and Scott exchanging a look and sighing in relief.

**THE END**