

Inner Self

By

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FADE IN:

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

HENRY, 8, skinny and white as a sheet.

His mother ANNA cleans the dishes.

HENRY

Mum.

ANNA

Yes dear.

HENRY

What is a lie?

ANNA

Lies are bad.

Anna leans over and points to Henry like an authoritative teacher.

ANNA

Never ever tell a lie. They only hurt people. You understand?

HENRY

Yes mum. I do.

ANNA

Always tell the truth. You hear?

HENRY

Yes mum. I will always tell the truth and be good.

Henry nods.

ANNA

That's a good boy.

Anna ruffles Henry's wild hair.

FADE OUT.

SUPER: TEN YEARS LATER

FADE IN:

INT. RESTAURANT - EVENING

Henry wears a tuxedo and waits at a circular table adorned with candles and fancy napkins. He nervously shakes his leg.

JESSICA, 19, with long blond hair, wears a red dress that drops off the shoulders.

She glides into the room.

JESSICA
Sorry I'm late.

She twirls on the spot.

JESSICA
You like?

She finishes with a curtsy.

HENRY
You're beautiful.

She sits down opposite.

JESSICA
Thanks.

HENRY
But of course you knew I'd say that.

Henry gets down on one knee.

HENRY
And here's one you didn't expect me to say.

Jessica gasps.

HENRY
Will you marry me?

Jessica nods.

JESSICA
Yes, yes I'd love to marry you.

Henry moves in to kiss Jessica.

INT. BRIDAL SHOP - DAY

THREE MONTHS LATER

JESSICA, 19, with short black hair, tries on a dress.

JESSICA

What do you think? Good, bad?

Henry takes a moment to judge her dress of choice.

HENRY

Hmmm...You're putting on a little weight.

Jessica frowns and stomps towards the changing rooms.

INT. CHURCH - DAY

THREE MONTHS LATER

Henry waits with the PRIEST as his bride slowly walks down the aisle.

Henry puffs out his cheeks and raises his eyebrows to the Priest.

HENRY (V.O.)

I can't believe how much weight she's put on.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

TWO MONTHS LATER

Jessica puts the phone down and begins to cry. Henry puts his arm around her.

HENRY

What's the matter?

JESSICA

My...my...mother's died.

HENRY (V.O.)

Thank fuck for that.

INT. WAKE - EVENING

ONE WEEK LATER

Jessica and Henry stand next to the open casket of her MOTHER.

The Priest stands on the other side of Jessica.

PRIEST
I'm sorry for your loss
Jessica. Sally will be greatly
missed.

JESSICA
Thank you father.

Henry looks away.

HENRY (V.O.)
Don't say it.

PRIEST
I'm here for you. You're not
alone.

HENRY (V.O.)
I have to, I must.

PRIEST
Your mother's a great loss to the
community.

JESSICA
Thank you.

Henry shouts out suddenly.

HENRY
I'm glad the bitch is dead.

He covers his mouth in shock.

Jessica runs out of the room crying.

EXT. DRIVE - MORNING

ONE WEEK LATER

Jessica throws a luggage bag into the back of her car.

Henry chases after her in his open dressing gown.

HENRY

Where are you going Jessica? I
haven't seen you in a week.

Jessica slams the door down.

JESSICA

What does it look like? I'm
leaving you!

Jessica opens the driver's door.

HENRY

I'm sorry! How many times have I
tried to explain myself?

INT./EXT. CAR

Jessica carefully enters the car and opens the window.

JESSICA

And I've just discovered
yesterday...I'm pregnant.

EXT. DRIVE

Henry puts his hands to his head and his mouth agape.

HENRY (V.O.)

Shit.

FADE OUT.