

IN A VISION. SLOW MOTION.

WE FOLLOW (A WOMAN) CASS, AS SHE WALKS THROUGH A TRAIN STATION. WE GET CLOSE UPS OF THINGS AROUND THAT TRAIN STATION. WE FOLLOW HER AS SHE GETS ON A TRAIN AND SITS DOWN. THE CAMERA PANS AROUND TO SHOW HER FACE.

SHOT OF A CLOCK AT 20:14 WITH FIVE SECONDS LEFT UNTIL THE MINUTE'S UP.

SHOT OF CASS'S EYES LOOKING AROUND.

ANOTHER SHOT OF THE CLOCK. IT TURNS 20:15.

SHOT FROM BEHIND CASS. A FIREBALL ENGULFS THE COMPARTMENT.

CUT TO PRESENT DAY.

CUT TO A SIDE PROFILE SHOT OF A LITTLE GIRL, LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW OF HER HOUSE.

CUT TO A BEHIND SHOT OF THE GIRL LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW. WE SEE A CAR IN THE DRIVEWAY. THE GIRL'S MOTHER STEPS OUT OF A CAR, ARRIVING HOME AFTER SERVING IN THE MILITARY.

WE FOLLOW THE GIRL AS SHE RUNS TO THE FRONT DOOR, CAPTURING HER EXCITEMENT AS SHE SEES HER MOTHER FOR THE FIRST TIME IN TWO YEARS.

The girl jumps into her mother's arms. The mother, who's limping and carrying a crutch in her left hand, nearly falls over.

MOTHER

(even though she laughs, she's clearly uncomfortable but trying not to show it)

Careful! Don't break me!

The girl looks down and sees her mother's leg. Her face falls.

GIRL

What happened to your leg?

MOTHER

Oh, this?

She lifts up her pant leg, revealing a cheap prosthetic.

MOTHER (CONT.)

This is my new leg. New and improved.

(CONTINUED)

GIRL

Really?

MOTHER

Yeah. I can't break this one. I'm invincible.

GIRL

Like a superhero?

MOTHER

Uh-huh. Exactly like. You've heard of Man of Steel? Well, I'm Woman of Titanium.

GIRL

(Giggles.) How'd it happen?

The mother freezes.

MOTHER

Well...

(the only thing she can do is lie)

I... I was fighting on the field, when all of a sudden, this dragon came along.

GIRL

Dragon!?

CUT TO A SHOT OF A TANK ROLLING ALONG.

MOTHER

Yeah, a dragon. A dragon made of metal, with huge armored plates. And it breathed fire!

CUT TO A SHOT OF A TANK FIRING.

GIRL

What did you do?

MOTHER

(Swallows.) I... I had to stop it, so I ran up to it and started firing.

Background audio of bullets firing and general war sounds.

MOTHER (CONT.)

(Haunted.) But the dragon didn't stop, so I... Jumped up on top of

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MOTHER (CONT.) (cont'd)  
it and... (Pause.) Stopped it. But,  
the problem was, it stopped so  
suddenly that I fell in front of  
it. And one of the dragon's big fat  
feet came right down and...

The girl nods.

GIRL  
But you saved the day?

MOTHER  
(She knows that no one really  
wins in war, and that overall,  
her one small sacrifice really  
didn't change anything, but  
she can't say that, so she  
lies.)  
Yeah, I did.

Awkward pause.

MOTHER (CONT.)  
Hey, why don't you show me that  
note dad left for me?

The girl nods, then runs away to get the note.

SHOT OF THE MOTHER, SITTING DOWN AND LEANING AGAINST THE  
DOORWAY, BREATHING HEAVILY.

The mother starts to lose her composure a little bit, but  
gets it back when the little girl comes back in the room.

MOTHER  
Did you read this?

The girl shakes her head.

MOTHER (CONT.)  
Good.

The mother takes the notes and puts it in her pocket.

MOTHER (CONT.)  
I'm going to do take a nap, okay.  
And when I wake up, I will make you  
some of the best cookies you've  
ever had, okay?

The girl smiles and nods.

JUMP CUT TO THE GIRL RUNNING AROUND THE HOUSE, PRETENDING TO BE A SUPERHERO.

JUMP CUT TO THE MOTHER, LAYING ON THE BED WITH THE UNOPENED LETTER NEXT TO HER. SHE IS FUMBLING WITH HER WEDDING RING.

SHOT OF AN UNOPENED BOTTLE OF PILLS ON THE BEDSIDE TABLE.

SHOT OF THE MOTHER LOOKING AT THE PILLS.

SHOT OF THE MOTHER LOOKING AT THE LETTER.

Hastily, the mother opens the letter.

PAN DOWN FROM THE TOP OF THE LETTER WHICH READS "CREDIT CARD STATEMENT" TO THE BOTTOM WHICH READS "-\$30,000"

SHOT OF THE LITTLE GIRL, STANDING IN THE DOORWAY AND WEARING A CAPE.

GIRL  
Mommy, I'm hungry.

JUMP CUT TO THE KITCHEN, WHERE ALL THE CUPBOARDS ARE OPEN, BUT THEY'RE ALL EMPTY EXCEPT FOR A BOX OF CEREAL.

MOTHER  
Is this all we have?

The girl nods.

MOTHER (CONT.)  
Is this all you've been eating?

The girl nods.

JUMP CUT TO THE TWO OF THEM HAVING DINNER (CEREAL) SITTING IN FRONT OF THE TV.

MOTHER  
Sweetheart, I need you to tell me something.

GIRL  
(Nods.)

MOTHER  
Did dad ever leave you at home while I was gone?

GIRL  
Uh-huh. A lot. Every weekend.

(CONTINUED)

MOTHER

Why didn't he call the neighbors?

GIRL

He didn't want them knowing he was gone.

MOTHER

So, you were home alone, all those times?

GIRL

Not alone. I had an imaginary friend.

MOTHER

Oh really? Who?

GIRL

Her name's Dynamo Daisy, and she's a superhero. She can fly.

MOTHER

Really?

GIRL

And shoot lasers out of her eyes. And talk to animals. She fights crime and punches bad guys in the face.

MOTHER

She sounds awesome. I bet she kicks some serious butt.

GIRL

All the butt. She's the best.

MOTHER

I bet.

The mother smiles sadly.

CUT TO LATER THAT NIGHT. THE MOTHER IS LAYING IN BED, TRYING TO GET TO SLEEP. SHE CAN'T.

WIDE SHOT OF THE BEDROOM AS SHE SITS ON THE EDGE OF HER BED.

CUT TO THE MOTHER IN THE KITCHEN, LOOKING AT A BOTTLE IN THE CUPBOARD.

CUT TO A POV SHOT FROM INSIDE THE CUPBOARD OF THE MOTHER GRABBING THE BOTTLE.

(CONTINUED)

CUTTING TO THE MOTHER SITTING DOWN AT THE TABLE AS SHE IS ABOUT TO POUR HERSELF A DRINK.

CUT TO A SHOT FROM ON TOP OF THE THE TABLE. THE CAMERA IS AT THE TOP OF A PIECE OF PAPER THAT IS BLURRED IN THE FOREGROUND. THE MOTHER POURS A DRINK IN THE BACKGROUND, BUT STOPS WHEN SHE SEES THE PAPER. WHEN SHE SEES THE PAPER, THE PAPER COMES INTO FOCUS.

SHOT OF HER LOOKING AT THE PAPER, WHICH IS A DRAWING HER DAUGHTER HAS DONE OF DYNAMO DAISY. DYNAMO DAISY HAS ONE LEG.

JUMP CUT TO THE MOM, POURING OUT THE ALCOHOL IN THE SINK.

CUT TO THE MOM, SITTING ON THE EDGE OF THE BED, DEBATING WHETHER OR NOT SHE NEEDS TO TAKE THE PILLS.

SHOT OF HER HAND WITH A PILL IN IT. FOLLOW THE PILL TO HER MOUTH.

JUMP CUT TO THE NEXT MORNING; AN OVERHEAD SHOT OF THE MOTHER SLEEPING.

The mother twitches in her sleep. She's woken up abruptly by her daughter annoying her.

MOTHER

What is it, sweetie?

The girl holds up a newspaper.

GIRL

I found a job for you.

The mother, still disturbed by her dreams, doesn't really react emotionally.

MOTHER

Thanks, sweetie.

GIRL

Can we have waffles for breakfast?

MOTHER

Yeah. You start without me, I'll be down in a minute.

JUMP CUT TO LITERALLY A MINUTE LATER. THE SMOKE ALARM HAS GONE OFF AND A SMALL FIRE HAS STARTED IN THE KITCHEN.

The waffles burn on the stove because the little girl literally put them on the stovetop and they caught on fire. The little girl screams while the mom tries to put it out without ruining their stove.

(CONTINUED)

JUMP CUT TO THE MOM AND DAUGHTER SITTING ON THE FLOOR OF THE KITCHEN, LOOKING LIKE MESSSES.

MOTHER  
Maybe we should just have ice  
cream.

The little girl smiles.

GIRLS  
Yay!

JUMP CUT TO THE MOTHER WORKING AT HER NEW JOB AS A 911 OPERATOR.

The mother is on the phone to her friend, who we never hear.

MOTHER  
Thanks for watching her, Jo.

Pause as they listen to whatever Jo has to say.

MOTHER  
You know, I can't even believe I  
got this job. I just walked in and  
they gave it to me. It was  
ridiculous, they didn't even do an  
interview. It really makes you  
think about what kind of people 911  
operators might be.  
(the phone rings)

MOTHER (CONT.)  
Got to go, sorry!

She answers the phone.

MOTHER  
911, what's your emergency?

Pause as she listens to the phone.

MOTHER  
(Alarmed.) You have **what** stuck  
**where**?

JUMP CUT TO ANOTHER CALL.

MOTHER  
Ma'am. Ma'am. Please calm down.  
There is no arsenic in your child's  
candy, ma'am. That's aspartame.  
It's two completely different  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MOTHER (cont'd)  
 things. (Pause.) Okay, no problem.  
 Have a nice day.

JUMP CUT TO ANOTHER CALL.

MOTHER  
 Sir, I'm sorry, but I can't call  
 the police because there's you  
 ordered a medium latte you got a  
 large. (Pause.) Sir, I believe  
 that's call a promotional deal.  
 (Pause.) Yeah, it actually saves  
 you money.

JUMP CUT TO THEM ANSWERING ANOTHER CALL.

MOTHER  
 911, what's --

CASS  
 Listen to me, please.

The mother freezes. She's sure she's heard that voice  
 before.

CASS (CONT.)  
 There's a bomb on the 20:15 train  
 to \_\_\_\_\_ station. It will destroy  
 anything within 50 feet of it if  
 it's not diffused in the next half  
 hour. Do you understand?

MOTHER  
 (Startled.) Y-yes, I --

Cass hangs up.

The mother shakes off her fear and quickly calls the bomb  
 squad.

MOTHER  
 I just received an anonymous tip  
 that there's a bomb on the 20:15  
 commuter train from \_\_\_\_\_ station  
 and it's going to detonate in  
 thirty minutes. (Pause while  
 nodding.) Good. Good. Great, okay.  
 Thanks. Good luck.

The mother hands up the phone. Leaning back in her chair,  
 she pauses for a moment before realizing what she has to do.  
 She quickly dials the phone again.

(CONTINUED)



MOTHER

Hey, Peg? I'm going on my lunch  
break. (Beat.) Yeah, I'll be back  
in forty-five minutes... Probably.

JUMP CUT TO THE MOTHER ARRIVING AT THE TRAIN STATION. SHE  
WALKS DOWN THE STEPS AND SEES THE SAME THING CASS SAW IN THE  
BEGINNING. SHE MAKES HER WAY TO THE TRAIN AND BOARDS,  
REALIZING THIS MIGHT MEAN SHE'S GOING TO DIE.

POV SHOT OF HER WALKING DOWN THE AISLE, TRYING TO FIND THE  
BAG AS SHE GOES. SHE RUNS RIGHT INTO OUR NEW CHARACTER,  
CASS. THEIR SKIN TOUCHES. CASS'S EYES GO WIDE.

CASS

Pardon.

MOTHER

Sorry, my ba --  
(she recognizes the voice.  
Cass also recognizes the  
voice.)

In one swift movement, the mother grabs Cass by the collar  
and drags her into either the bathroom or the space between  
cars.

MOTHER

It's you!

CASS

Sorry, do I know you?

MOTHER

Where's the bomb?

CASS

Look -- I don't know where any bomb  
is.

MOTHER

Yes, you do, you told me about it!  
Just tell me so we can find it!

CASS

(Beat.) Don't worry about finding  
it. Did you call the bomb squad?  
When

MOTHER

Yeah, I told them it was on the  
20:15 train at --

(CONTINUED)

CASS

What? They're going to think it was  
the train that leaves at 20:15!  
It's the train that *arrives* at  
20:15!

MOTHER

(Her eyes go wide.) What?

CASS

You told them it was on the wrong  
train! It's on this train! They're  
going to go to the other one!

MOTHER

How was I supposed to know that?!  
You said --

CASS

Never mind. We can find it.

MOTHER

We can't diffuse it. I don't know  
how to diffuse a bomb!

CASS

Yes, you do. You've seen people do  
it before.

MOTHER

That was... How did you know that?

CASS

It doesn't matter, the point is:  
you know how to do this.

MOTHER

How did you know that about me?

CASS

I know more about you than you know  
about yourself. Now, if we can find  
the --

MOTHER

(Scared.) Who the hell are you?

CASS

Is that really important right now?

MOTHER

Yes!

(CONTINUED)

CASS  
Fine... I'm... Psychic.

MOTHER  
(Shocked pause.) Stopping joking!  
Can't you see this is serious?

CASS  
I'm being serious, I'm psychic.

MOTHER  
(Chuckle.) Oh! If you're psychic,  
then how come you don't know where  
the bomb is?

CASS  
It doesn't work like that. And just  
to save us some time -- Yes,  
technically I can see the future,  
but only in random visions. Yes, I  
can read minds. Yes, I can find out  
someone's whole life, but only if I  
touch them. Yes, I can get psychic  
impressions from objects. No, I  
cannot fly.

The mother is wide-eyed.

MOTHER  
Well, that was direct.

CASS  
I don't like to waste time.

MOTHER  
Yeah, I can see that. What's your  
--

CASS  
Cass.

MOTHER  
That's great. Really great. My  
name's Abby.

CASS  
I know.

ABBY  
(Literally about to scream.) I know  
you know, but I'm telling you,  
because it's polite to have  
conversations out loud. So, can you  
stop reading my mind!

(CONTINUED)

CASS  
(Grudgingly.) Yes... (Mumbles.)  
Just trying to save time.

Another pause.

CASS (CONT.)  
So do you want to help me find the  
bomb, or shall we just stand here  
arguing?

ABBY  
Right... Lead the way.

Cass rolls her eyes and continues walking through the  
compartment with Abby behind her.

POV SHOT OF CASS'S AS SHE LOOKS AROUND. WE HEAR DOZENS OF  
DIFFERENT PEOPLE'S THOUGHTS. (THIS IS MY HOMAGE TO ONE OF MY  
FAVORITE GERMAN FILMS, "WINGS OF DESIRE".) FINALLY, CASS  
LOOKS IN ON A SHADY LOOKING GUY AND HIS THOUGHTS.

GUY  
"For the Lord will execute judgment  
by fire, and by His sword on all  
flesh, and those slain by the Lord  
will be many."

Cass turns around to Abby.

CASS  
(Whispers.) That's him. He has the  
bomb. I'll distract him, you find  
the bomb.

ABBY  
(Nods slowly.)

Cass turns back around.

CASS  
(At the guy.) Isaiah 66:16. Not one  
of my favorites, but it's very  
telling.

Abby grabs the guy's bag and dumps it on the floor. She  
sifts through it and finds nothing. She looks up at Cass,  
confused.

ABBY  
It's not here...

(CONTINUED)

CASS  
That's... That's not...

Cass looks up at the guy. He has the creepiest smile imaginable on his face. The actor should have fun with this. The guy takes out a lighter and starts flicking it open and closed.

GUY  
"Then I will cause your enemies to bring it into a land you do not know; for a fire has been kindled in my anger, It will burn upon you."

CASS  
Abby! He's the bomb! Get everyone out of here.

GUY  
(To the compartment.) Nobody move!

CUT TO SHOTS OF FRIGHTENED TRAIN PASSENGERS.

CUT BACK TO THE GUY.

GUY (CONT.)  
(To Cass.) And you -- you can't stop a-a-ny of this.

CASS  
You're right -- I can't. But you can. (Beat.) Noel, that's your name, isn't it?  
(no response)  
You've got a gift, Noel. How long have you been able to control fire? (Beat.) Since you were eight. That's a long time. How did it first start?

NOEL  
I--I--I started a fire at school. No -- No -- No one got hurt. They left me in the classroom, to die. But fire doesn't hurt me... Nothing hurts me.

CASS  
We both know that's not true.

Noel looks up at her sadly.

(CONTINUED)

NOEL  
Nothing hurts me...

CASS  
Is that what this is, Noel? A  
suicide?

NOEL  
I don't have to explain myself to  
you!

CASS  
Not to me, but you do to all these  
other people. They deserve to know  
what they're dying for.

Abby and Cass look at each other. Cass nudges her head at  
the clock. The clock reads 20:14. Out of the corner of her  
eye, Abby sees a fire extinguisher.

NOEL  
... If I die, I won't go to heaven.  
But if I die in a group, then...  
(Manically happy.) They might just  
let me by.

ABBY  
(Slowly.) You're going to sneak  
into heaven?

CUT TO A SHOT OF ABBY REACHING TOWARDS THE FIRE  
EXTINGUISHER, SLOWLY.

CUT TO A SHOT OF THE CLOCK, WITH 15 SECONDS LEFT TO 20:15.

NOEL  
I don't have any choice...

CUT TO THE CLOCK. FIVE SECONDS TILL 20:15.

NOEL (CONT.)  
I don't have any choice...

THE TRAIN STARTS TO SLOW. CASS LOOKS AT ABBY AND ABBY GRABS  
THE FIRE EXTINGUISHER AND SHOOTS IT AT HIM.

JUMP CUT TO LATER. THE DISASTER IS AVERTED.

OVER THE SHOULDER SHOT OF ABBY IN A PHONE BOOTH.

ABBY  
Peg, look, I'm so sorry.

CUT TO ABBY FROM THE FRONT.

(CONTINUED)

ABBY (CONT.)  
Things just got complicated and I  
got tied up, but I promise I'll --

CUT BACK TO AN OVER THE SHOULDER SHOT FROM BEHIND ABBY. WE  
SEE CASS WALKING AWAY IN THE BACKGROUND.

CUT BACK TO ABBY FRONT THE FRONT.

ABBY (CONT.)  
... Call you back.

WE FOLLOW ABBY TAKES OFF AFTER CASS.

ABBY  
(At Cass.) Hey!

Cass turns around.

ABBY  
Thank you.

Awkward silence.

ABBY  
Um... You did a good thing. You  
helped a lot of people. Thank you.  
Thank you so much.

Cass doesn't say anything.

ABBY (CONT.)  
(Beat.) I... I've heard a lot of  
people say that I'm a hero, but I  
don't think that's true. I went to  
war because I needed a job, because  
I needed money -- because I had to.  
But you, you're a real hero. You  
don't do things because you have  
to, you do things because you can.  
You're the real deal.

Cass doesn't say anything.

ABBY  
So, just... Thanks, I guess.  
(Smiles sadly.) I'll leave you  
alone now, sorry.

SHOT OF ABBY, TURNING AROUND AND STARTING TO WALK AWAY. ABBY  
ALMOST INSTANTLY TURNS BACK AROUND.

(CONTINUED)

ABBY (CONT.)

Look, I don't want to be weird, but I have something strange to ask you.

CASS

Yeah?

ABBY

Can you... Or, do you want to come back to my house and meet my daughter?

Awkward silence.

ABBY (CONT.)

It's just, she adores superheroes, and since you're a real life --

CASS

I'm not a superhero.

ABBY

Sorry to break it to you, but you are.

CASS

I'm really not -- and your daughter doesn't adore superheroes -- she adores you. You're her hero.

Abby smiles sadly.

ABBY

So, do you want to meet her, or what?

CASS

(Sigh.) Yeah, sure, why not?

JUMP CUT TO THE HALLWAY WITH THE DOOR FRAMED IN THE CENTER. THE DOOR OPENS. CASS AND ABBY WALK THROUGH. ABBY'S DAUGHTER RUNS TOWARDS THEM, LIKE THE SHOT IN THE OPENING SCENE.

ABBY

Sweetie, look who I brought! This is Cass.

GIRL

(Excited.) Hi Cassie!

Cass waves and smiles awkwardly.

(CONTINUED)



ABBY

You know what Cass is? She's a real life superhero!

GIRL

(Goes wide-eyed like a kid who has literally been given a pony made of candy.) NO WAY.

CASS

Way way. Think of something random and I'll read your mind.

Cass hums and sticks out her tongue. The girl giggles.

CASS (CONT.)

A light blue cat... Your favorite stuffed animal, Bernard the giraffe... Pink unicorns -- you know, that is my favorite color of unicorn.

The girl giggles again and Cass smiles.

JUMP CUT TO LATER. CASS AND ABBY ARE STANDING OUTSIDE.

CASS

Thanks for having me over. That was... strangely fun.

ABBY

You had a great time, just admit it.

CASS

Okay. Your daughter is adorable and your house is charming and your cooking is delicious.

ABBY

(Smiles.) I knew it. (Hesitant.) Can I ask you something?

CASS

You're going to anyway.

ABBY

(Nods.) Right... Psychic. Okay then... You stop crimes before they happen, but what about after? I mean, you're psychic. Think of all the murders you could solve, all the people you could find, all the people you could help!

(CONTINUED)

CASS

I get visions, I call the cops, the cops stop whatever it is before it happens.

ABBY

That's just what I mean, though. What about after someone's dead?

CASS

That's not my problem. Plus, what can I do -- they're already dead?

ABBY

(Passionately.) You could catch their killer. You could help more people. You can do more!

CASS

That's very practical of you. You think a lot like a soldier, you know that? You view people as numbers, statistics -- probably because it makes them easier to kill.

ABBY

(Seething.) Just... (Shakes head.) Just stop, please.

CASS

I'm right.

ABBY

Yeah... Yeah, you're right. (Trying not to punch Cass in the face.) But screw you. My husband left me \$30,000 in gambling debt, so you know what? I have to be practical, because it's the only way I'm going to keep my daughter and me alive. I do what I have to do to stay alive.

CASS

(Shrugs.) Alright.

ABBY

Al-Alright?

CASS

Yeah. You make a good point, and who am I to judge?

(CONTINUED)

ABBY

(Confused.) You're -- You're damn right.

CASS

Tell you what, you want to be really practical? Why don't we go into business together? We can solve these murders and disappearances and save these lives you speak of, and we can make some money so you can pay off your husband's ridiculous gambling debt. You can satisfy your intense need for redemption and I can show off.

ABBY

(A moment's hesitation.) Yeah, alright. We can make, like, a psychic detective agency.

CASS

(Shakes head.) Psychic stuff always gets thrown out of court. Best to just keep us private detectives and find actual, tangible evidence to back up my psychic (waves hands by head) stuff.

ABBY

(A genuinely happy smile.) Perfect.

SHOT OF THE DOOR. THE GIRL STANDS IN THE DOORFRAME.

ABBY

(Smiles.) Go back to bed, sweetie.

GIRL

(Yawns.) What're you too talking about?

CASS

I'm going to teach your mom how to be a superhero.

GIRL

(Pure joy.) Can you teach me too!

CASS

Sure. In the morning, okay?

The girl nods. Abby goes to pick her up, and by the time she gets to the door, Cass is already back to her car.

(CONTINUED)

ABBY

Hey, you don't even have my...  
number. (Mutters.) Of course she  
has my number, she's a psychic.

CASS

Call me as soon as you find  
something interesting!

SHOT OF ABBY PICKING UP HER DAUGHTER AND SHUTTING THE DOOR.  
THERE'S A SENSE OF PEACE AND HAPPINESS IN THE FRAME.