

BEYOND THE CLOUDS

Written by

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FADE IN

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

MADDISON, a sweet and meek, 8 year old girl sits at the table, eats her brownie while she does her homework.

ABIGAIL, a 12 year old going on 5 as well as 25 enters.

ABBY

Hey, loser.

She takes Maddy's brownie out of her hands.

MADDY

Hey!

Maddy attempts to grab the brownie back but it's too late. Abby shoves it in her mouth. Laughs with her mouth open.

MADDY (CONT'D)

That was mine, Abby!

She gently hits Abby. Infuriated, Abby SHOVES Maddy to the ground.

Maddy cries out.

In STORMS MOM, 50, tired, not the greatest mom. Sees Maddy on the ground. Gives Abby a death glare.

MOM

What is going on?

Teary eyed-

MADDY

Abby ate my brownie!

MOM

Abigail, how many times have I told you to keep your hands to yourself? I am so sick of this. Everyday it's the same shit!

ABBY

(defensive)

You always blame me for everything! Maddy never does anything wrong!

MOM

Go to your room!

ABBY  
She hit me too!

MOM  
I don't have time for this. There's  
so much to do and no one to help  
me. All you two do is fight!

Maddy cries. Mom huffs and puffs and scoops Maddy up in her arms.

MOM (CONT'D)  
Great, now look what you've done.

ABBY  
I want to go live with dad!

MOM  
Fine! Good luck finding him!

ABBY  
I hate you!

MOM  
Room! Now!

In defiance, Abigail storms out the back door.

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

Furious, Abby huffs and puffs. She kicks the dirt.

MEOW.

Her cat walks over.

ABBY  
Leave me alone, Lucy.

Abby shoos Lucy away.

She is so angry she doesn't know what to do with herself until- she spots her trampoline.

Jumps on the trampoline. Up and down. Faster and harder. With each jump-

ABBY (CONT'D)  
STUPID!

Jump.

ABBY (CONT'D)  
Idiots!

Jump.

ABBY (CONT'D)  
I hate you!

Jump.

ABBY (CONT'D)  
I wish you weren't my mom!

ABBY (CONT'D)  
I wish you weren't my sister.

Jump.

ABBY (CONT'D)  
I WISH I HAD A DIFFERENT FAMILY!

Just then, a storm rolls in. Thunder and lightning.

ABBY (CONT'D)  
What the-

Abby is catapulted into the sky.

INT. CLOUDS - DAY

Abby lands violently. She rolls over. Moans. Throbbing headache. She puts her hand to her head. Blood.

She looks around. Surprised at what she sees.

Bright blue and white room. She landed in the clouds.

Confused.

HARMONIA  
Abigail, lovely of you to join us.

A delicate and beautiful woman stands over Abby. HARMONIA exudes peace and love.

ABBY  
Who are you? Where's my mom? Maddy?

KISMET  
Oh, don't you worry about them. You will never have to see those horrible monsters ever again.

KISMET, a tall man in his 40's. Playful and sarcastic.

ABBY

Who are you people? What are you talking about?

KISMET

(excitedly)

I'm here to grant you your wish!

ABBY

What wish?

KISMET

What wish? Your wish to switch families, silly!

ABBY

You can do that?

KISMET

Oh, yes. When someone wishes hard enough I can grant their wish.

HARMONIA

Abby, dear, please don't listen to Kismet. I know deep down you love your family. You are just angry at-

KISMET

Oh shush! What do you know, "Miss I had a perfect childhood and everyone loved me!"

Abby giggles. This satisfies Kismet.

KISMET (CONT'D)

You don't understand people like us.

He winks at Abby. She smiles.

HARMONIA

People like you?

KISMET

Those of us who grew up unloved, unappreciated.

Abby nods in agreement but grows suspicious.

ABBY

What's the catch?

Harmonia giggles. Looks to Kismet.

Kismet caught off guard.

KISMET

The catch?

Abby nods.

ABBY

Why would you help me? What's in it for you?

HARMONIA

Yes, Kismet. Do tell...what's in it for you?

Kismet stumbles with his words.

KISMET

I uh...I mean...just your uh...(unintelligible words)

HARMONIA

Speak up Kismet, I can't quite hear you.

KISMET

Just your soul, that's all.

Abby is shocked.

ABBY

My soul?

KISMET

I mean you don't even really need it.

HARMONIA

Abby, your mom and Maddy do love you and your soul is the essence of who you are. I know deep down you love your family.

She ignores Harmonia.

ABBY

Alright, so how do we get this started?

Kismet smiles widely. Pleased with himself. He glares at Harmonia who hangs her head low in defeat.

KISMET

Come child.

He takes her hand in his and directs her to a chair in front of a large screen.

Abby is confused but complies. She sits.

The screen turns on.

A short, fat, dirty MAN in plaid stands next to a tall, scraggly WOMAN.

MARK

Hi Abby! I'm Mark and I'd love to be your new dad!

JANE

I'm his wife Jane but you can call me mom!

Jane looks over to Mark. Grabs his arm affectionately.

JANE (CONT'D)

She looks so nice and strong.

MARK

She will be great help out on the farm.

ABBY

Farm! Is this a joke?

She looks to Kismet.

KISMET

They would love you more than your hateful mother, that's for sure.

ABBY

Next!

Kismet rolls his eyes.

Clicks a button.

Jane and Mark's smiling faces replaced with-

GUSTUS, 50's, gray hair. Proper and stiff. His wife DARLA stands by his side. She is slim and dolled up. Their two children AGUSTUS, 10 and AMELIA, 12 stand beside them. All dressed in designer clothes. Obviously rich.

Abby's eyes perk up a bit.

ABBY (CONT'D)  
Okay, this could work.

Gustus and Darla look at Abby like she is a creature.

DARLA  
What is that you are wearing,  
darling?

ABBY  
Huh? Clothes.

DARLA  
Hmm.

GUSTUS  
Abigail, should you choose to live  
with us, you will no longer live  
like a peasant.

Agustus chuckles.

AMELIA  
Mother, why does that girl look so  
dirty?

DARLA  
Shhh, she's poor dear. Don't be  
rude.

Abby becomes angry.

ABBY  
I am not poor you stuck up pieces  
of-

Harmonia puts her hand on Abby's shoulder.

HARMONIA  
Okay, okay, dear.

Harmonia takes the remote from Kismet and turns it off.

HARMONIA (CONT'D)  
Abby, would you like to go home?

ABBY  
What home? You promised me a new  
family! A new home! A mom and dad  
that love me.



KISMET

Don't be fooled by Harmonia. She wants to return you to your no good mother and sister and useless father. I am the one that will deliver you to a brand new, perfect family.

ABBY

I...I...

Abby doesn't know what to do.

Harmonia holds out her hand.

HARMONIA

Abby, dear, come with me.

Just then, Kismet overturns an hour glass.

KISMET

Tick-tock dear.

HARMONIA

Kismet, stop! Stop this right now!

ABBY

What are you doing?

KISMET

I'm tired of waiting. You have two minutes to choose between the two families.

ABBY

But I can't. I don't want to live with them.

HARMONIA

Then come with me!

Harmonia urgently holds out her hands.

Kismet pushes Harmonia who vanishes behind a door.

ABBY

No!

Abby cries.

ABBY (CONT'D)

Why are you doing this?

KISMET

Listen kid, I like you, I really do  
but you're wasting my time. We had  
a deal. Your soul for a new family.

He looks to the hour glass. It's almost up.

Just then.

MOM (O.S.)

Abby! Oh, my Abigail!

Confused. Looks around.

ABBY

Mom!?

KISMET

No!

ABBY

Mom help me!

KISMET

No no no!

He shakes the hour glass. Tries to get it to go faster.

Abby runs around the room. Yells

ABBY

MOM! Mommy please help me!

The sand in the hour glass trickles down to it's last sand.

Kismet smiles but then his smile turns to horror as Abby  
disappears.

He runs to grab her. Grasps at the air.

KISMET

She's mine!

Abby's gone.

EXT. BACKYARD - EVENING

MOM

ABBY!

Abby opens her eyes. Sees her mother standing over her.

MOM (CONT'D)  
Baby are you okay?

Abby sits up. Looks around.

ABBY  
Where's Kismet? Harmonia?

MOM  
Oh my God, you have a concussion!

Abby rubs her head. She looks up. She lies on the ground besides the trampoline.

Lucy walks over and nudges on Abby. She excitedly grabs Lucy and hugs her.

Abby realizes she's home. She's relieved.

ABBY  
Mom, I'm sorry...I love you.

MOM  
Oh, Abby.

Maddy stands in the doorway, watches.

ABBY  
Get over here.

Maddy smiles and runs over.

They hug and kiss each other.

ABBY (CONT'D)  
I'm home.

FADE OUT