

THE GIRL WHOSE DAD DIED

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FADE IN:

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

For a few seconds, we watch from an aerial view of a WOMAN (20s) lying flat on her back in an empty room. Only an old rug and mirror remain. She says no words, just feels the rug under her touch. This is Elsie.

ELSIE (V/O)
People say dying is hard, the waiting
for the darkness, the uncertainty of
it all.

NAN (O/S)
ELSIE! ELSIE!

Else stand up slowly.

ELSIE (V/O)
But what if you're not the one dying?
What if you're the one looking,
waiting?

THE GIRL WHOSE DAD DIED
She appears to be snapped out of her dazed state and fixes her dress.

INT. DOWNSTAIRS - DAY

NAN is waiting at the bottom of the staircase. You can hear people talking in the next room.

NAN
ELSIE! ELSIE! PLEASE COME DOWNSTAIRS!
ELSIE!

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

We see Else staring at her reflection in the mirror her makeup is rough and a little smudged from what appears to be crying.

ELSIE
Fuck. You.

INT. DOWNSTAIRS - DAY

We watch the busyness of the people downstairs. Laying out buffet food, drinking, chatting, they all wear black. The room is dated and stuck in time, kids sit playing in the corner. Elsie bounds into the room nearly swinging round the

doorframe. People in the room stared.

ELSIE

(Kissing nan on the cheek,
reaching over her to get food
from the buffet.)

Hi Nan.

NAN

Don't you think you should speak to
some people... say hello?

ELSIE

Elsie looks out into the room, scanning and then bounds over
to the kids (under 10) sat in the corner.

(Sitting down crossed-legged on a
cushion, food in the mouth.)

Do you know what dying is?

The kids stop playing and stare at Elsie.

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KID 1
My rabbit died last year.

ELSIE

Elsie finished the sandwich and overexaggerates licking her
fingers.

Did they tell you that he'd gone to a
better place?

(To self)

I wonder what makes it better?

KID 1

(Unsure)

He went to live on the farm with my
dog.

The kid looks around to see if he can find his mum, you can
sense the atmosphere in this space is awkward.

ELSIE

(Voice is slightly louder than the
noise in the room)

And was it? Was it better than when he
lived with you?

You start to see the other adults in the room looking as Elsie speaks above everyone else.

WOMAN 1 (40S)
(Picking up her child and
muttering under her breath)
Come here

Elsie finishes off the juice in the kid's beaker, slams the beaker down and stands up.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

After Elsie has left the room and exited into the hallway, she stops in front of a unit covered in old family photos. She focuses on one of a man and a child.

ELSIE
(As she turns the photo frame down
flat, speaking to the air.)
Fuck. You

Walking towards the door Elsie quickly but messily puts her coat on.

(Muttering to herself)
Better place... Fuck that.

WE'RE LEFT WITH THE VIEW OF ELSIE WALKING OUT THE DOOR AS IT IS CLOSING BEHIND HER. WE CAN STILL HEAR THE HUSTLE AND VOICES FROM THE OTHER ROOM.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

THERE'S A TIME-LAPSE OF THE ROOM THROUGHOUT THE REST OF THE DAY UNTIL THE EVENING. THERE'S DUST IN THE AIR.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

THE LAST FEW SECONDS OF THE EMPTY ROOM. WE CAN SEE THE LIGHT FROM THE HALL OUTSIDE THROUGH THE CRACK IN THE DOOR. THE LIGHT TURNS OFF. DARKNESS.