

BLISS

A SHORT FILM

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FADE IN:

1 **INT. BATHROOM — EVENING**

FELICITY — a woman in her early thirties — sits on a toilet, with one hand stretching into the toilet between her legs.

We hear a male voice, JOHN — Felicity's boyfriend — off-screen.

JOHN (O.S.)
Felicity, how long do you have to wait?

A beat.

JOHN (O.S., CONT'D)
After you've peed on it.

FELICITY
I don't know. Go do something else. You know I can't piss if you're talking.

JOHN (O.S.)
Yea, I'm just... I've got a good feeling about this.

Felicity smiles.

JOHN (O.S., CONT'D)
It's just one of those things that you just know, you know?

FELICITY
John.

JOHN (O.S.)
I know, I know, going.

We hear John walking away. Soon after we hear the sound of Felicity urinating.

She finishes, shakes the pregnancy test and puts a cap on the end.

2 **INT. CORRIDOR — EVENING**

Felicity opens the bathroom door, which creaks, and she walks into a corridor of her four-bedroom three-floor affluent home, holding the pregnancy test wrapped in tissue.

John appears at the sound of the creaking door, and briskly

walks towards Felicity with a look of optimism on his face.

FELICITY

The box said two minutes.

Felicity and John embrace each other.

JOHN

I've got mixed feelings about that.

FELICITY

Mix... mixed feelings? About the timing?

JOHN

Like, on one hand, I want the result now. But on the other hand, I feel like it should take longer than two minutes for a piece of plastic to decide whether we're going to be bringing another human into the world.

FELICITY

It's not deciding, it's just...

JOHN

You get what I mean.

FELICITY

Yes, but you still sounded pretty stupid.

They both smile while gazing into each other's eyes.

JOHN

Is it crazy that I'm already scrolling through possible baby names in my head?

FELICITY

I've already picked out the best universities and I'm planning their wedding.

John chuckles, then he kisses Felicity's forehead.

JOHN

Even if you're not pregnant, nothing can ruin today. You're the best person I've ever known.

Felicity stares into John's eyes.

FELICITY

I love you.

JOHN

I love you back. And I *will* propose when I can find a ring good enough.

FELICITY

I know. When the stars align.

JOHN

Hey... It's actually when the forth blood moon crosses the sky.

John leans in to kiss Felicity and she smiles as their lips touch.

Felicity's phone audibly buzzes and she pulls away from their kiss, then her eyes widen.

FELICITY

It's time.

Felicity silences her phone through her pocket, then opens her palm and looks at the tissue-wrapped pregnancy test for a moment. She shoves it into John's hand and takes a step back.

FELICITY

You do it.

John's eyes light up.

JOHN

O.K.

John unceremoniously rips off the tissue and stares at the test, blank-faced.

Felicity stares at John's expression, slightly confused.

FELICITY

What is it?

John grips the pregnancy test and strides into the bathroom.

Felicity sighs.

FELICITY

It's O.K honey. Remember, nothing can ruin today.

John shrieks and runs out of the bathroom, speaking a mile a minute.

JOHN

I ran into the bathroom to check the box I didn't know what the symbol meant I told you I had a feeling about this today's our day I just knew it.

He hugs Felicity, then holds her at arms-length.

JOHN

You're pregnant.

Felicity exhales sharply then involuntarily laughs with joy.

Felicity and John celebrate with a single drawn-out kiss.

3 INT. LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

John and Felicity sit on their sofa, leaning against each other, watching the end of a show.

JOHN

Really? That's how they wrap it up?

Felicity huffs.

FELICITY

Well that was a waste of time.

Felicity gets up.

FELICITY

I'm getting a drink, do you want anything?

JOHN

No thanks.

John grabs the remote and flicks through channels.

Felicity walks to the kitchen.

4 INT. KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

Felicity hums to herself as she pours a glass of water. Her smile grows as she does so.

She stops as she hears John.

JOHN (O.S.)

Christ. Again?

5 INT. LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

Felicity briskly walks into the living room, without her glass of water.

FELICITY

What happened?

John's eyes are fixed on the screen, and Felicity's eyes soon follow.

John and Felicity's expressions shift and contort as they hear what's emanating from the screen.

REPORTER 1 (O.S.)

...discharged his weapon when responding to the call which unfortunately resulted in her death.

REPORTER 2 (O.S.)

The officer in question said he had "perceived a threat". We reached out to the police department and they provided us with body-cam footage of the incident, and still images of a weapon inside the woman's home.

FELICITY

Of fucking course she did, because shit like this keeps happening.

John scoffs.

JOHN

I can't keep watching the spin on shit like this.

John turns the T.V off.

A beat.

They both sit in silence for a moment, looking disgusted.

Felicity sighs, then her expression changes from disgust to a look of contemplation.

6 INT. DINING ROOM - EVENING

Felicity sits at the dining table, still looking contemplative. On the table in front of her is cutlery and an empty wine glass.

John places a plate of hot food in front of her and she forces a smile at him. As John moves away, her pensive

demeanour returns.

John lays down his plate of food opposite Felicity, then quickly uncorks a wine bottle and pours a generous amount in his and Felicity's glasses.

FELICITY

John.

JOHN

I know, I know. But it's just one. To celebrate.

He sits down and raises his glass towards hers. Felicity picks up her glass, clinks it against John's, then she takes a small sip of wine.

When the wine glass leaves her lips, she reveals an involuntary smile.

JOHN

Good stuff, right?

Felicity nods.

JOHN

I thought I might as well crack open the good stuff.

FELICITY

Good call. It'll be my last glass for a long while.

Felicity looks down as she places a hand over her stomach, then she looks across at John, and smiles jovially.

7 **INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT**

John lies in bed, and Felicity walks out of the *en-suite* bathroom.

JOHN

When are we going to start telling people?

Felicity climbs into bed.

FELICITY

Telling people? The doctor said we should wait for the first trimester. Give me a chance to get a bit fatter.

JOHN

I know, I know, I'm just saying. We've both wanted this for a long time... and your parents have been hounding us about a child for a while.

FELICITY

I'm tempted not to tell them. We should just visit when I'm eight months gone.

John chuckles.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

INT. LIVING ROOM – MORNING

Felicity and John are sitting on their sofa, both eating cereal.

Felicity eats a large mouthful.

FELICITY

You know what? I'm going to have another bowl. I'm eating for two now.

John replies sarcastically.

JOHN

Oh! So you're not pregnant enough to tell anyone but you are pregnant enough to double your meals now.

Felicity holds her hand to her head, feigning exhaustion.

FELICITY

Oh no. My bloated pregnant arms can't handle the task anymore. If only there was someone who could help a poor woman who's heavy with child.

Felicity puts down her cereal bowl on the coffee table, then dramatically lies down on the sofa, with her head in John's lap.

John smiles.

JOHN

I'll put up an ad to see if such a person even exists.

Felicity smiles.

JOHN

I think we should go out later to celebrate.

FELICITY

It's Saturday. Everywhere nice is already booked for the evening.

John stares at Felicity and a wry smile crosses his face.

Felicity looks at John excitedly.

FELICTY

No. Don't tease me John.

JOHN

Good thing I've got friends in high places. Called in a few favours yesterday and they moved up our reservation to tonight.

Felicity almost squeals with delight.

FELICTY

I love you almost as much as I love their food.

John mulls over the statement with an exaggerated expression.

JOHN

I'll take it.

FELICITY

Come here.

John leans toward Felicity and they share a tender kiss.

CUT TO:

SERIES OF SHOTS:

- 8 **A) INT. LIVING ROOM – MORNING**
 Felicity sits on the sofa eating more cereal, snuggled next to John.
- 9 **B) EXT. PARK – AFTERNOON**
 Felicity is recreationally running. She's wearing earphones and a slight smile as she runs.
- 10 **C) INT. BEDROOM – AFTERNOON**
 Felicity dries her hair and admires a dress that she's

laid out on her bed.

11 **D) INT. CAR – AFTERNOON**

Felicity is driving. The car reaches a red traffic light. John holds her hand, lifts it up, and kisses it. Felicity looks at John and beams a smile.

12 **E) INT. RESTAURANT – EVENING**

Felicity and John sit across from each other, laughing and talking jovially.

END OF SERIES OF SHOTS.

13 **EXT. CAR PARK – EVENING**

Felicity and John walk past an open-air car park, embracing each other as they walk, and occasionally sharing a quick kiss.

John immediately stops and his expression freezes as he looks into the car park. Felicity follows suit as she notices the scene unfold.

Two police officers stand at the far side of the car park. The officers are standing behind three teenagers who have their hands against a wall.

The teenagers are muttering under their breath as the police officers quietly talk to each other.

MALE OFFICER

I told you three to shut up.

TEENAGER 1

We didn't even do anything.

MALE OFFICER

I said shut it.

FEMALE OFFICER

You were loitering on public property.

Teenager 3 turns around.

TEENAGER 3

What? We were just walking through.

Both officers unclip their guns and rest a hand on the handle.

FEMALE OFFICER

Hands and face on the wall now!

TEENAGER 3

You want me to put my face on the wall?

MALE OFFICER

Fucking smart-ass.

The male officer walks up to Teenager 3 and pushes his face against the wall forcefully. Teenager 3 is dazed, almost slumping against the wall.

Teenager 2 turns toward the male officer abruptly, lifting one hand off the wall.

TEENAGER 2

What the hell?

The female officer draws her weapon and aims it at Teenager 2.

FEMALE OFFICER

Hands where I can see them!

Teenager 2 gestures towards the male officer.

TEENAGER 2

He can't do that.

FEMALE OFFICER

Hands on the wall now!

The male officer tackles Teenager 2 to the ground. Teenager 1 turns toward the male officer.

TEENAGER 1

You're hurting him, man. We didn't do anything.

The male officer kneels on Teenager 2, draws his weapon and points it at Teenager 1, who puts his hands in the air.

The female officer skittishly alternates her aim between Teenagers 1 and 2.

MALE OFFICER

Back away.

Teenager 1 begins to involuntarily cry, as we hear the exasperated yelps of Teenager 2.

Teenager 1 takes a step back.

TEENAGER 1

Please. Please don't kill me. I was just

saying he can't br...

JOHN

Hey!

The female officer spins around and points her weapon at John and Felicity. She then aims her weapon towards the ground.

The male officer glances over then keeps his attention on Teenager 1.

FEMALE OFFICER

Sir, ma'am. Please leave the area, it's not safe.

FELICITY

He shouldn't kneel on the kid like that.

FEMALE OFFICER

I won't repeat myself again, please leave the area!

The female officer takes a few steps toward John and Felicity.

John grabs Felicity's hand and they briskly leave.

14 **INT. CAR — EVENING**

John gets into the car and he's breathing heavily.

Felicity is in the driver's seat, forcefully gripping the steering wheel and staring forward intently.

John steadies his breathing and puts his seatbelt on, then he notices Felicity grip tighten further around the steering wheel.

John's voice is quiet.

JOHN

Felicity?

15 A beat.

Felicity doesn't respond at all, so John raises his voice slightly, sounding more desperate.

JOHN

Felicity?

Felicity snaps into reality, turns to John and loosens her

grip on the steering wheel. She looks defeated and her eyes are glassing over.

She turns back towards the windscreen and starts the car.

Felicity and John begin to drive home in absolute silence.

John stares out of the passenger-side window, while clasping his hands together, out of view.

Felicity drives with her hands tightly wound around the steering wheel as she stares straight ahead, rarely blinking.

We follow part of their uncomfortable journey home for a minute or so. Very little changes, aside from the coming and going of streetlights occasionally illuminating the car's interior.

16 **EXT. DRIVEWAY — EVENING**

Felicity parks in their residential driveway and turns off the engine.

17 **INT. CAR — EVENING**

Felicity and John continue to sit in silence.

A beat.

Felicity turns to John, and a moment later he looks back at her. They stare at each other for a few seconds, both looking morose.

Felicity places a hand over her stomach.

FELICITY

I... I don't know if we should do this.

A beat.

CUT TO BLACK.

THE END