

DIVINE INTERFERENCE

by

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(shooting script)

1 INT. BUS - NIGHT 1

The bus is illuminated by headlights of passing cars. It's crowded, mostly by college students. Sitting at the back is ABBY, 20 and alone.

CUT TO:

2 EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX - NIGHT 2

We follow Abby as she walks through the parking lot of her apartment complex and scurries up the stairs to the second level. At the top, she runs into her neighbor CHUCK.

CHUCK

Hey Abby. We're having taco night,  
you want to come over?

ABBY

Oh, no thanks. I have other plans.

Abby smiles.

CUT TO:

3 INT. ABBY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT 3

Abby's one bedroom apartment is sparsely furnished and even more sparsely decorated. She takes off her coat and kicks off her shoes.

In the kitchen she takes a cookbook from the shelf and leafs through it. All the recipes are designed for two people.

LATER:

Abby is slumped on the couch, watching TV.

CUT TO:

4 INT. ABBY'S APARTMENT (BEDROOM) - MORNING 4

Abby lies in bed staring at the ceiling. It looks as if she's been awake for a while.

CUT TO:

5 INT. ABBY'S APARTMENT - MORNING 5

Abby sits at the table, carving into a grapefruit. She's about to take a bite when she hears the door rattle. She turns to look.

The front door is tried again and opens. A girl roughly Abby's age walks in, carrying a small stack of newspapers and magazines. This is Abby's GUARDIAN ANGEL, but Abby doesn't know it yet.

The Angel takes a seat at the table and starts reading one of the papers. She appears not to have noticed Abby, but Abby has definitely noticed her.

Abby stares at her; the Angel casually looks up.

They lock eyes.

The Angel oscillates from side-to-side to see if Abby's eyes follow. They do.

GUARDIAN ANGEL

You can see me?

Abby grabs the grapefruit and holds it out like a weapon.

ABBY

Get away from me, you're crazy!

GUARDIAN ANGEL

(to self)

Finally, twenty years I've been waiting for this...

Abby throws the grapefruit at the Angel, but just when you think it'll hit her, it goes through her and bounces off the wall.

ABBY

Oh my god--

GUARDIAN ANGEL

--he doesn't like that.

Abby runs to the front door, only to open it and find the Angel waiting on the other side.

GUARDIAN ANGEL (CONT'D)

Abby, I don't think we were formally introduced.

CUT TO:

6

EXT. STREET - DAY

6

Abby periodically looks behind her as she walks to the bus stop: the Angel follows her like a lost puppy.

She tries to outrun the Angel, but the Angel catches up by simply disappearing and reappearing in front of her. Tired, Abby stops to catch her breath.

ABBY

If you're really what you say you are, shouldn't you be showing me an alternate universe where I was never born by now?

GUARDIAN ANGEL

Oh, I never learned how to do that. Hey, wanna play Uno?

The Angel takes an old Uno deck out of her coat pocket. Abby ignores the request.

ABBY

Why are you here?

GUARDIAN ANGEL

Look, if you can see me, it means you need help. The divine type.

As the Angel says this, the bus Abby was trying to catch barrels past. Abby runs after it and tries to get the driver's attention, but without any luck.

The Angel catches up to her.

ABBY

I feel better already.

CUT TO:

7 EXT. ANOTHER STREET - DAY 7

Abby walks to school with the Angel following close behind. The Angel keeps stepping on her feet, annoying Abby.

CUT TO:

8 EXT. LECTURE HALL - DAY 8

Abby finally gets to campus. Not used to walking so far, she's out of breath.

ABBY

You're never going to leave, are you?

GUARDIAN ANGEL

I've always been with you, you've just never seen me.

(aside)

That can get awkward sometimes...

ABBY

Ok. You're my divine intervention.  
So intervene.

The Angel digs her hands into her pockets and looks around.

GUARDIAN ANGEL

All right, give me time to think of  
something. In the meantime...

She takes out the Uno deck and grins, but before she can ask,  
Abby rolls her eyes and walks away.

CUT TO:

9 INT. LECTURE HALL - DAY

9

The professor drones on in front of the class. Abby sits in a  
corner, trying to pay attention. The Angel sits next to her  
reading a magazine. They fight over the arm rest. Nobody else  
seems to notice the Angel.

CUT TO:

10 EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

10

A sunny courtyard between two rows of dorms. Abby sits on the  
grass trying to study a hefty textbook. The Angel puts down  
the magazine she was reading.

GUARDIAN ANGEL

Hey, wanna see something cool?

She reaches into the air and pulls a tennis ball out of thin  
air. Abby casually glances over and returns to her book,  
unimpressed.

A GIRL talking on a cell phone walks past and sits on a  
nearby bench.

GUARDIAN ANGEL (CONT'D)

Wait, didn't you know her freshman  
year?

Abby turns to look.

ABBY

So what?

GUARDIAN ANGEL

You were friends.

ABBY

And?

GUARDIAN ANGEL  
I don't understand what happened.

ABBY  
People change.

The Angel looks at the girl again, then back at Abby.

GUARDIAN ANGEL  
I don't think you have.

ABBY  
Let's play the quiet game.

The Angel opens her mouth as if to say something, but stops.

CUT TO:

11 EXT. QUAD AREA - DAY

11

The two are seated at a table in a sea of tables. Abby eats a sandwich while the Angel reads. Occasionally, when Abby isn't looking, the Angel steals one of her fries.

ABBY  
What's it like. Up there?

The Angel takes out the Uno deck and waves it at Abby.

ABBY (CONT'D)  
Fine. One game.

The Angel smiles and begins to deal. They talk while they play.

GUARDIAN ANGEL  
Very cloudy.

ABBY  
No really.

GUARDIAN ANGEL  
There's not much to describe  
really. Why do you think I spend  
all my time here?

The Angel grabs a card.

ABBY  
Because you have nothing better to  
do?

GUARDIAN ANGEL  
You're the most interesting person  
I know Abby.

ABBY  
I'm the only person you know.

It's true.

GUARDIAN ANGEL  
You're still interesting.

When the Angel isn't looking, Abby smiles.

CUT TO:

12 EXT. BUS STOP - AFTERNOON 12

Abby and the Angel walk to the bus stop (in contrast to before, they're walking side by side).

ABBY  
So, how long have you had this...  
job?

GUARDIAN ANGEL  
Pretty much forever. There aren't  
many things to do when you're  
immortal.

A RUMBLE. It's the bus. Abby turns to look at it approaching.

ABBY  
Hey, I don't think I got your name--

Abby turns her attention back to the Angel, but she's nowhere in sight.

CUT TO:

13 INT. BUS - EVENING 13

Abby watches a nearby group of friends. Her gaze drifts out the window.

CUT TO:

14 EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX - EVENING 14

Abby walks back to her apartment. As she nears the corner, she hears a noise and stops. Abby cautiously peers up the driveway: it's Chuck fumbling with keys at his door.

Abby waits until Chuck goes into his apartment before moving from her hiding space.

CUT TO:

15 INT. ABBY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

15

Abby cooks dinner for one. On a pad of paper we see some rudimentary calculations made to change the recipe from two portions to one.

Placing a plate on the dinner table, her gaze falls on the empty seat the Angel sat in the morning: it's pushed out.

She scoots the chair in and takes a bite of the food. Abby eats for a while, then unzips her backpack. She reaches in and grabs her textbook. As she does, the Uno deck from before falls out.

Abby looks at it for a moment.

CUT TO:

16 EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX - NIGHT

16

Abby runs out of her apartment and runs into Chuck, who's taking out the trash.

ABBY

Hey Chuck.

Chuck's startled by the attention.

CHUCK

Hey, Abby.

ABBY

Do you know how to play Uno?

FADE OUT.