

High Stakes

By

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SCENE 1

INT. WALKER FAMILY KITCHEN. 11:30AM

BILL WALKER and JENNY WALKER, the parents of ANN and HARRY WALKER are standing in their kitchen. All the counter-tops are clean, there are no dishes in the sink, and overall it is clutter-free.

BILL is standing at the counter and taking \$40 out of his wallet. JENNY is holding a glass cup half full of water. Her purse is on the counter next to her.

Bill slams the money down onto the counter. He gets up from his chair and looks at Jenny.

BILL

Let's get out of here.

Jenny puts the half-empty cup into the sink, grabs her purse, and walks up to BILL. Together, they walk out of the kitchen towards the front door.

BILL

(So his kids can hear him)

We're leaving.

ANN WALKER (9 yo), who is sitting in the living room reading THE MAGIC TREEHOUSE, gets up and walks over to her parents.

HARRY WALKER (17 yo) lays on his bed in his room on the second floor with the door wide open.

JENNY

There's money for food on the counter...but I want the change this time...

ANN nods her head in acknowledgment.

BILL and JENNY start walking out of the house. JENNY goes to lock the door. She looks at ANN.

JENNY

ANN. We'll be back tonight around six.

The door closes, and HARRY slowly sits up on the edge of his bed. He picks up his cell phone which is resting on a pillow at the head of his bed and walks over to the window in his room that overlooks the driveway. HARRY watches his parents pull out of the drive way, and when they are gone, he pulls out his old flip phone and calls his friend JAKE NELSON.

(CONTINUED)

HARRY

Jake, you around? My parents are
out for the afternoon.

HARRY listens to JAKE, but JAKE's voice isn't heard through
the phone.

HARRY

(Trying not to sound upset)
Oh. Ok. Well next time man.

HARRY puts the phone in his pocket and walks away from the
window, out of his room, and down the stairs to the first
floor of the house. HARRY enters the living room. ANN is
sitting in a chair in the living room facing the TV. HARRY
walks past his sister and grabs the TV remote that's sitting
on the coffee table. HARRY turns on the TV, walks over to
the mantle, rests his arm on it, and starts flipping through
channels. ANN looks up from her book at HARRY, annoyed that
he is watching TV when she is reading. The clock above the
TV reads 11:30.

ANN

What should we do?

HARRY continues flipping through channels on the TV,
ignoring his sister.

ANN

Harry?

HARRY does not respond.

HARRY

(Still facing the TV)
Ann. I'm busy.

ANN

But...but you said you'd play with
me..

HARRY

Well I don't want to do anything
with you, Ann!

As HARRY is saying this, he turns to face ANN. His hand is
still up on the mantle, and as he turns, he knocks down an
URN holding the ashes of his GREAT GRANDMA. The URN falls to
the ground and cracks, spraying ashes all over the place.

HARRY

(Freaking out)
Oh My God.

(CONTINUED)

ANN
(Confused)
What?

HARRY
They're gonna kill me

ANN
What is it?

HARRY
(Horrorified)
(looks up at ANN) you don't know
what this is?

ANN
(Should I be freaking out
face)
NO...?

HARRY
You have to tell mom and dad you
did it.

ANN
What is it?!

HARRY
They like you better. You have to
be the one to tell them.

ANN
HARRY! WHAT IS IT?!

HARRY is on his hands and knees trying to pick up all the
broken Urn pieces. The TV is still on in the background.

HARRY
(Still picking up the pieces)
Do you remember Great-Grandma
Alice?

ANN
Yes...

HARRY
Well this (picks up some of the
ashes)...this is her...

ANN
(Points at the ashes)
So this is bad?

(CONTINUED)

HARRY
(Annoyed that she doesn't get
it but a little calmer)
Yeah. This is real bad.

SCENE 2

INT. THE WALKER KITCHEN TABLE. 12:00PM

ANN and HARRY are standing over the kitchen table looking down at the situation. On the table is a re-constructed Urn (and it looks awful), a hot glue gun, a picture of the urn printed off the internet, and a ziplock bag full of ashes, and the still in tact top of the Urn.

HARRY picks up the Urn and shakes his head.

HARRY
No way. No way.

ANN is looking at the Urn, mystified. Her eyes are red and watery.

HARRY
I need to find a way to fix this.

ANN
(Trying to catch up to HARRY)
We could try to make something?

HARRY
Out of *what*? You know I'm not the
creative type.

ANN
Doesn't your friend work at that
pottery place? We could go there.

HARRY
(shakes his head like ANN's
idea is in another language)
Fine...

HARRY and ANN leave the Kitchen. They go outside and get their bikes and bike away from their house.

SCENE 4

EXT. OUTSIDE THE POTTERY STUDIO. 2:00PM

HARRY and ANN bike up to the pottery place and try the door, but it's locked.

ANN
We could think of some stores that
might sell URNS..?

HARRY
(defeatist mentality)
Do you have any ideas?

ANN
CVS?

HARRY
No.

ANN
What about a furniture store?

HARRY
No.

ANN
(Putting on her helmet)
How about..

HARRY
(Cutting her off)
A Yard Sale!

ANN
Why?

HARRY
It's a Yard Sale! They sell
everything there.

ANN
(unsure)
They'll have old people things
there...right?

HARRY
That's *all* they'll have. But first,
we need to find one...

SCENE 5

EXT. THE STREETS. 3:30PM

Montage of HARRY and ANN biking around looking for a Yard Sale. After a quick search, they come across a poster stapled to a telephone pole. The Poster reads.

YARD SALE: 2-5

14 SOUTH BLAKE STREET

WE'RE SELLING OLD CLOTHES AND LEMONADE!

ANN

What do you think?

HARRY

Do we have any other options?

HARRY quickly begins to bike away, and ANN follows him closely in tow. The duo quickly finds the Yard sale, and they lean their bikes up against the front porch of the house. The two walk around back to find the yard sale. There are 5-10 people walking around looking at the eclectic inventory. Most of the people are teenagers.

HARRY starts looking at what the Yard sale has to offer. There is an extensive CD collection laying out on a table, and a few shirts hanging up on a keyboard stand. The stand has a piece of paper attached to it that reads:

SHIRTS ARE FOR SALE: STAND IS NOT

ANN is quietly weaving her way through people and around the tables. She spots a tie collection and a box of useless junk.

ANN and HARRY meet up in the middle of the crowd.

HARRY

You find anything?

ANN

Does this count?

ANN holds up a Bop-It and begins hitting the buttons. The Bop-It starts making noise and HARRY crinkles his nose.

Suddenly, a teenage girl walks up to the two and taps HARRY on the shoulder.

(CONTINUED)

GIRL
Is there anything I can help you
two find, or are you
just...browsing

ANN
(stepping in front of HARRY to
be closer to the girl)
Actually, we're looking for an URN.

GIRL
an URN?

ANN
(Confidently)
Yes

GIRL
(slightly confused)
Well...I'm sorry, but we *definitely*
don't have any of those. We do,
however, have some delicious
freshly mixed Summer Time Lemonade
for sale.

HARRY
Oh that's ok...we're fine.

ANN
(Looking at HARRY)
..But...

CUT TO BLACK

FADE UP

HARRY and ANN are walking back to their bikes. ANN is holding a plastic cup full with lemonade. HARRY looks frustrated.

The duo gets to their bikes and ANN finishes her lemonade. She puts the cup in the front basket of her bike along with the URN and bag of ashes. The two start walking with the bikes, not riding them.

HARRY
We're just going to have to tell
mom and dad.

ANN
They'll understand. They're not so
awful.

(CONTINUED)

HARRY
Are you kidding?

Harry gets on his bike and starts biking away from the Yard Sale. Ann quickly gets on her bike and follows him. when they pass a yellow house. One of the windows on the first floor of the house is closed, but the blinds are pulled up. Sitting right by the window sill and behind a plant is a VASE that looks like the URN HARRY broke.

ANN
(pointing at the Urn)
Harry! Do you see that?

HARRY
(Confused)
What?!

ANN runs towards the house. No cars are in the driveway, and the lights are all off. ANN goes up to the window with the Urn in it and taps the glass.

ANN
Look!

HARRY
Is that..?

ANN
YES!

ANN runs back to HARRY. When she reaches him, she looks around to see if anyone is nearby.

ANN
(under her breath)
Harry. We should steal it!

HARRY
What?! Are you crazy?

ANN
(Defending herself)
No...we just take it and run! The top of our's didn't break!

HARRY
Do you know how much trouble we could get in?

ANN
What's the worst that could happen?!

(CONTINUED)

HARRY
We go to jail...?

ANN
They wouldn't put kids in jail?

HARRY
If a kid steals something, they might.

ANN
I don't believe you! They'd know we're nice kids!

HARRY
How would they know?

ANN
They just would!

HARRY
Come on Ann. Let's go.

HARRY starts walking with his bike and ANN doesn't move. Her bike is laying on the grass in front of her.

HARRY
What are you waiting for?

ANN
Come onnnnn, Harry!

HARRY
(Frustrated)
I'm not sure you get what I'm saying. If we get...

ANN
I get what you're saying, you're just not understanding what I'm saying!

HARRY
(condescending)
Listen to the words coming out of my mouth (points to his mouth):
This is so stupid! You are crazy!

ANN starts to cry.

ANN
...I'm trying to help you!

HARRY

You just don't care as much as I
do!

ANN

You think I don't care?!

HARRY

(pissed off)

You don't! They're gonna come home
and blame me for this and you'll be
fine! Look at how they treat me!

ANN runs away from HARRY towards home. HARRY watches her run away and doesn't follow her. He spots a big rock a few feet away from him and picks it up. He throws it on the ground next to him, and it hits his foot. He screams and falls to the ground.

HARRY

(Screaming because of the
rock)

AHHHH!

HARRY is sitting on the ground frustrated. He gets up and begins limping in the direction ANN ran off in. HARRY eventually makes it to his house. The front door is wide open, and the bag of ashes and the URN top are in the doorway.

SCENE 6

EXT. THE STREETS. 4:30PM

ANN is wearing all black. She has a black beanie on and is wearing sunglasses. ANN is walking towards the house with the vase. She gets there and stands in front of the house.

CUT TO HARRY CLOSING THE FRONT DOOR.

ANN walks towards a window and tries it to see if it's open. It's not, so she tries a few more windows. All of the windows are locked, so she starts walking to the back of the house.

ANN goes to the back of the house and finds a back door, she tries it, but it's locked. She checks a few more windows and all of them are locked. ANN puts her head down and begins to walk away. However, as she's walking away, she notices one last window by the ground that leads to the basement and goes to try it. For some un-godly reason, this window is unlocked and slides open.

(CONTINUED)

CUT TO HARRY STARTING TO RUN

ANN enters the house through the basement window. The basement. She quickly looks around and sees a door. ANN walks to the door then quickly stops. (CAMERA REVEALS A TEENAGE BOY WATCHING TV IN THE ROOM NEXT DOOR. THERE IS ALSO A STAIRCASE). ANN peeks her head through the door again, and realizes the boy is asleep, and quietly walks over to the stairs. She weaves through a messy basement, careful not to step on anything.

ANN starts walking up the stairs. The door at the top of the stairs is cracked open. When she gets to the top, she suddenly stops because she hears someone up stairs. ANN hears the person walk towards the door that she is standing by.

Suzy, A teenage girl of 18 years opens the door.

CUT TO HARRY RUNNING AT FULL SPEED

CUT TO

Suzy is standing in the open door looking at her Cellphone with an earbud in one ear. She is wearing running clothes. She yells down to the boy without looking up from her phone

SUZY

Danny! I'm going out for a run!

There is no response from the sleeping DANNY, so Suzy closes the door.

PAN DOWN TO REVEAL

ANN is hiding under a pile of dirty laundry. When the door closes, ANN comes out from under the towel and looks around.

ANN waits a few seconds then opens the stairs to the basement and emerges in the Kitchen. She looks around to get her bearings, and to make sure no one else is in the kitchen.

Quietly, ANN walks through the house looking for the VASE.

ANN finds the VASE by the front window. As she gets to the window, she sees SUZY standing still in front of the house.

CUT TO SUZY

SUZY is standing in front of her house trying to remember what she forgot inside. After a few seconds of thinking, she realizes what she forgot, and turns around.

(CONTINUED)

SUZY slowly jogs back towards the house and is reaching for the front door.

CUT TO ANN

ANN is hiding against a wall right by the front door of the house and is looking outside. Suddenly, she sees HARRY running towards the house.

CUT TO HARRY

HARRY gets to the house just in time. He sees a girl standing at the front door of the house. HARRY realizes he needs to figure out a way to distract the girl so ANN can get out of the house.

HARRY looks down and notices the rock from before. He takes a few steps back, and start running, purposely tripping over the rock.

HARRY
AHHHH. Help!

SUZY, who had opened the door and was about to enter the house, turns her head and sees Harry on the ground. She quickly runs over to HARRY.

SUZY
Are you ok?!

HARRY
I don't know! I was just out for a run, and I tripped on a rock!

SUZY
You were out for a run in jeans?!

HARRY
I...uh. Yea. (he then grabs his ankle) Ahhhh...it hurts

SUZY
Let me get some ice.

HARRY
(Frantically)
Oh. No. I think...I just need to walk it off!

SUZY
(Already jogging to the front door)
Really, let me get ice.

(CONTINUED)

CUT TO

ANN grabs the urn and holds the flowers in her other hand. She looks around for something to put the flowers in. The house is immaculately clean and she can't find a vessel to store the flowers in. Finally, she spots a cardboard box lying on the floor. ANN grabs the box, and throws the flowers in it and puts the box where the vase is. Then she looks around for a way to get out of the house.

CUT TO

Suzy opens the door. She quickly runs into the kitchen and grabs ice from her freezer.

Suzy runs back out of her house to find HARRY gone. She looks around confused and then tosses the ice into her front lawn, and walks into the house. The woman stands for a second looking out the open door, then closes the door slowly, finishing off the close by lightly pushing the door with her pointer finger. When the door finally closes, the screen cuts to black.

SCENE 7

EXT. THE WALKER LIVING ROOM. 5:30PM

FADE IN ON THE LIVING ROOM CLOCK.

The clock in the living room reads 5:30PM. HARRY is holding the broken urn in one hand and the new vase in his other hand. ANN is standing next to him holding the bag of ashes and the URN top.

HARRY puts the new URN on the floor, and ANN pours the ashes back into it. ANN then puts the top on the URN and picks it up. She stands up and Hands the URN to HARRY.

HARRY puts the URN on the mantle. He looks at it for a second and straightens it out.

CUT TO BLACK

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