

Waiver/Release

By

Derek Stewart, Max Groah, and Jerod Brennen

323.863.6398
jerod.brennen@gmail.com

INT. DANCE STUDIO BACK ROOM - DAY

BLACK. Lens cap comes off of the camera.

TIFF mounts camera one on a tripod. She runs an EXTENSION CORD from the camera to an outlet.

She adjusts the camera, then turns it off.

TIFF sets up camera two. Turns it off.

INT. HOUSE - DAY

CRABTREE performs his daily routine, silent.

Brushes teeth.

Ties shoes.

Eats breakfast at kitchen table, alone.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

CRABTREE locks front door, places key under mat.

CRABTREE (V.O.)

My life has become a series of
meaningless rituals. I wake up to
an empty house. I come to home to
an empty house.

INT. DANCE STUDIO FRONT ROOM - DAY

SAMMIE stands outside the window, her face pressed to the glass, watching.

BRIDGETTE turns on her boombox. She begins to dance.

BRIDGETTE (V.O.)

When you're a kid, no one ever
tells you that dreams have a way of
not coming true.

EXT. PACKRAT COMICS - DAY

ERIC stands outside Packrat, savoring the moment.

INT. PACKRAT COMICS - DAY

ERIC upstairs, browsing new books.

ERIC downstairs, browsing long boxes.

ERIC upstairs again, watching a group of KIDS play games.

ERIC checking out at the register. DAN, the clerk, talks up the CUSTOMER in front of ERIC. When it's ERIC's turn, DAN is all business.

ERIC (V.O.)

If the truth never dies and
everything that's real decays, then
the only thing that's real is
what's recorded.

INT. DANCE STUDIO BACK ROOM - DAY

TIFF continues to setup.

She places a CHAIR, sits in it, adjusts the camera. She sets up two more chairs.

She places a table between the chairs. At each station, she places a PEN, a PAPER, and a PILL.

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

CRABTREE kneels before a gravestone. In his hand, a flower and a note.

CRABTREE (V.O.)

I don't want to do anything alone
anymore.

CRABTREE stands, walks away from the grave.

EXT. DANCE STUDIO FRONT ROOM - DAY

BRIDGETTE closes the door, locks it behind her, walks away.

BRIDGETTE (V.O.)

Practice. Discipline. Talent. It
doesn't make a difference.

INT. PACKRAT COMICS - DAY

TIME LAPSE

ERIC sits alone at a table, paging through his book.
Everyone moves around him, no one takes notice.

ERIC (V.O.)

Family? It's not a real word.
Friendship? That's not a real word.
Love? That is not a real word.

INT. DANCE STUDIO BACK ROOM - DAY

CRABTREE faces the camera.

CRABTREE

There's no one left to say goodbye
to.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

CRABTREE doesn't notice his neighbor, MARY JO, waving to him
as he climbs in his car and drives away.

INT. DANCE STUDIO BACK ROOM - DAY

ERIC faces the camera.

ERIC

When you live for fantasy, what is
your reality? These characters are
my friends. The people around me
are strangers.

INT. PACKRAT COMICS - DAY

GROTE stands in line behind ERIC, notices that ERIC bought
FRAGMENTS #1, the same book he's about to buy.

He smiles, moves to say hi, but ERIC leaves without
noticing.

INT. DANCE STUDIO BACK ROOM - DAY

BRIDGETTE faces the camera.

BRIDGETTE

You can dedicate your entire life
to a dream, but you have to wake up
some time.

EXT. DANCE STUDIO FRONT ROOM - DAY

BRIDGETTE closes the door, locks it behind her, walks away.

On the sidewalk in front of the studio, SAMMIE twirls,
imitating BRIDGETTE.

INT. DANCE STUDIO BACK ROOM - DAY

CRABTREE, ERIC, and BRIDGETTE sit in their chairs. They
exchange looks of solidarity.

BRIDGETTE reaches down, takes ERIC's hand in hers, squeezes.

CRABTREE offers a somber smile, nods.

Everyone swallows their pills.

CUT TO:

TIFF cleans up the mess. She folds two of the chairs, powers
down one of the cameras, collects the forms on the table.

She stands in front of the remaining camera and speaks into
the lens.

TIFF

My name is Denise Smith, and I took
no action to end these lives. I was
merely an observer who assisted
them by capturing their last
moments here on earth.

She sits in the one remaining chair, stares blankly at the
wall, dead inside.

TIFF

If you found this footage, it was
intended for you to see.

TIFF reaches for the camera, presses the power button.

CUT TO BLACK