

(Printed with the demonstration version of Fade In)

SERIES TITLE

Episode Title

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First Draft

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Everything Is Fine

'The Perfect Day'

All italicized scenes are 3C scenes

TEASER

INT. HOUSE - NIGHT

COLD. DARK.

It's RAINING.

We're inside of a house. The RED, BLUE, AND WHITE LIGHTS of a police car flash, blurred, through a large window to the left, but we're focused on the FRONT DOOR.

Outside is even darker than in here, except for the lights, but there's no warmth in those.

We slowly push in on the door, the sound of sirens and street sounds fade in as we get closer.

Louder.

LOUDER.

The sound of an ALARM CLOCK BEEPING mixes into this cacophony.

The DOOR OPENS.

Every sound except for the alarm clock stops, abrupt, as we look out onto an empty street.

NO POLICE CARS. NO AMBULANCE. NOTHING.

CUT TO:

OPENING

INT. ELIJAH'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - MORNING - 1C

A hand, quick and delicate, silences the loud alarm--

We see the tone INSTANTLY CHANGE FROM DARK AND COLD TO WARM AND SOFT, as if a light has been turned on before our eyes.

We follow the hand up to the face of MORGAN as she sits up in bed. She's 24, ethereal, pulled together and full of life even after just waking up.

Morgan looks over her shoulder, gazing down at ELIJAH, admiring. He's 24, peaceful, sound asleep with his arm half wrapped around her waist.

Morgan places her hand on his, careful not to wake him as she sets it down on the mattress. She gets up and tip-toes out of frame.

We hear THE SOUND OF WHISKING AND HUMMING...

KITCHEN

MORGAN'S POV:

The sounds are much clearer now as we watch EGG YOLKS BEING WHISKED in a large clear bowl. The motions are sharp and controlled.

END POV

The humming belongs to Morgan, the song "**I Got You Babe**" - **Etta James**

Her hair is now tied up in a neat bun. She pours the eggs into a pan, SIZZLING, she taps the whisk against the side of it. She turns, swift, and dances over to the stove top beside her, footsteps light against the wood floors.

She grabs the spatula to the right of the stove top and, while dancing, expertly flips two pancakes that are almost done cooking.

We're now looking at an empty plate, clean and pristine. A spoon comes down into frame, careful as Morgan shimmies the fried eggs onto one side of the plate. The pancakes follow,

being placed, delicate, onto the other side of the plate. Morgan picks at the pancakes, making slight adjustments so they lay overlapping each other.

CLOSE ON MORGAN, her face is soft but focused on the task. She smiles as she arranges the food.

Back on the plate, syrup is poured over the pancakes from a small glass pitcher. She moves it up and down, slow, until the perfect amount is covering the pancakes.

She sets down the pitcher, picks up the plate, and moves it in front of a chair sitting at the end of the island. She places a fork down next to it, then adjusts it so it's straight.

Picture perfect.

In the background, we see Elijah come down the stairs.

INT. ELIJAH'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING - 3C

Elijah enters the scene from the staircase on the right. He stands tall, confident, dressed in a beige suit. Looks very pulled together as he adjusts the cuffs and his tie.

AUDIENCE applauds and cheers.

He begins walking to the left towards the kitchen where...

Morgan looks up and smiles bright when she sees him. Excited, she runs up to meet him. He opens his arms, wrapping them around her in a loving embrace as she stands on her toes.

They kiss, short but passionate. She then gazes up at him with love-filled eyes. He returns the look.

AUDIENCE (O.S)

Awww!

MORGAN
(lovingly)
Good morning.

ELIJAH
(lovingly)
Good morning.

They enter the kitchen.

MORGAN
How did you sleep? Good?

ELIJAH

*I always sleep well with you,
Morgan. How about you? Didn't get
up too early to do all this, I
hope.*

He gestures to the plate of food as he sits down.

MORGAN

*Not at all, I know how much you
like pancakes so I thought I'd
surprise you.*

ELIJAH

(teasing)

*You surprised me yesterday too, and
the day before that, and the day
before that...*

MORGAN

*Okayyy, okay, I just like seeing
you happy! I could stop if you
want--*

ELIJAH

Woah, no no no, I didn't say that.

AUDIENCE (O.S)

Laughs.

*Elijah starts eating in an urgent manner, as if this would
be the last time he ever had this meal. The sounds aren't
loud or noticeable, but visually he looks like a lion
tearing into it's prey.*

AUDIENCE (O.S) (cont'd)

Laughs.

*Morgan leans against the island, watching him eat with a
smile on her face.*

MORGAN

*Big day today? You're wearing your
'serious business' suit.*

*Elijah wipes his face with a napkin, missing some of the
syrup around his mouth as he tries to respond.*

ELIJAH

(full mouth)

*It could be. Never know how the day
is going to go--*

MORGAN
Better to be prepared.

ELIJAH
Exactly.

Elijah checks his watch and starts to stand--

ELIJAH (cont'd)
Speaking of which, I better get going. Don't want to be late.

Morgan rushes over to the half-full plate and, like it's instinct, dumps the leftovers into the trashcan and sets it on top of the lid. She grabs the napkin before following Elijah to the door.

MORGAN
I'm sure you'll do great, Eli, you always do.

Sweet and gentle, she turns him around before he opens the door. She wipes the remaining syrup from his face, smiling up at him.

He looks down at her with a thankful expression, kisses her.

ELIJAH
Thank you, love. You always know what to say.

MORGAN
I try, now go on! I thought you didn't want to be late!

ELIJAH
It's worth it to be late if I'm late because of you.

AUDIENCE (O.S)
Awww!

Morgan looks up at him with a "oh, stop it" look, but it's not serious.

MORGAN
I love youuu.

ELIJAH
Okay, okay, I'll go.

He opens the door and as he walks out...

ELIJAH (cont'd)
*I love you too, Morgan. I'll be
back soon! Wish me luck!*

MORGAN
(laughing)
See you soon. Good luck!

She stands in the open doorway, waving, he waves back. They exchange loving looks as he walks down the walkway and towards his car parked on the curb.

She closes the door.

INT. ELIJAH'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - 1C

Morgan washes Elijah's dish in the sink. The house is a lot more quiet now. Just the sounds of the plate being scrubbed with the sponge.

She is very thorough, making sure there are no spots left whatsoever before placing it on the drying wrack beside her. When she does this, she looks over at the floor beyond the island.

We look with her.

In the sunlight, the wood looks dusty. Hard to notice unless you really looked.

CUT TO:

Music plays over the speakers in the house: **"Dream a Little Dream of Me" - The Mamas & The Papas**

Morgan runs a vacuum over the spot we were just looking at. She moves to the music, swaying and singing to herself.

She rolls the vacuum back and forth, back and forth, multiple times until the spot appears clean. We watch as she does this in the kitchen...

The living room...

The entry way...

Everywhere.

We watch from above as the vacuum is pulled out of frame, A MOP re-entering in it's place.

She repeats the same process, swinging the handle of the mop around with her as she dances. WHISTLING along to the music as it changes.

Elegant, she spins out of frame with the mop. Her dress rises and twirls with her in the most beautiful manner.

Morgan re-enters with a laundry basket full to the brim with clothes. She walks around the corner and into--

INT. ELIJAH'S HOUSE - LAUNDRY ROOM - AFTERNOON - 1C

Humming along to the song still playing over the speaker in the background, Morgan sets the wash cycle, opens the lid, and grabs the detergent.

When she pours it, she notices it's starting to get low. She sets it aside for now, then starts to load the clothes into the washer.

She closes the lid--

CUT TO:

INT. ELIJAH'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - AFTERNOON - 1C

Morgan walks over to a door just off from the living room. She goes to open it, but the door won't budge.

She looks at it, confused, as she jiggles the doorknob, pulls on it, everything she can possibly think of. But it just won't open.

Giving up, she decides to walk away from it.

She enters the kitchen and walks toward the fridge. We see a large magnetic TO-DO LIST on the door. She grabs a pen and writes on it: "Elijah - Fix basement door & check for more detergent."

Next to that is a grocery list. Morgan tears off the first sheet, looks it over, then adds 'laundry detergent' at the bottom.

CUT TO:

INT/EXT. ELIJAH'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON - 1C

Morgan grabs her purse from the hook by the door and slides the list inside it.

She opens the door. When she walks through, all humming and music are replaced with the CHIRPING OF BIRDS AND NATURAL SOUNDS, like a LAWNMOWER in the distance, CARS driving by, etc.

As soon as she closes the door and steps out onto the walk way--

JUNE (O.S.)
(excited)
Good afternoon, Morgan!

We pan and push in to a WOMAN walking down the sidewalk, now stopping in front of Morgan's walkway. This is JUNE (25, all dolled up in a plaid dress, has so much heart and soul) smiling sweet at Morgan who hurries into frame, excited. She hugs June...

MORGAN
Wonderful to see you as always,
June. How are you doing?

...and the two of them start walking down the street.

As they walk, NEIGHBORS and PEOPLE passing by warmly greet Morgan and June, but it's DIRECTED MORE AT MORGAN.

JUNE
Good as always, always good! OH!
Look at what Charles gave me this
mornin'!

She pulls back her long wavy hair revealing a GORGEOUS SAPPHIRE NECKLACE with a thin, delicate gold chain.

MORGAN
Oh my God! Junieeee! That's
stunning!

JUNE
I knooooow right?! Isn't it?
(Curious)
Speaking of which... how are you
and your hubbyyyy?

MORGAN
(swooning)
We're really good! Just-- I know I
say it a lot but everything about
him is just...perfect.

JUNE
(joking)
Awww stoppp, that's SO gross...

Morgan slaps June's shoulder, embarrassed.

JUNE (cont'd)
(laughing)
Oh my goodness, I'm just kidding!
I'm happy for you! You're like,
literally glowing.

They reach the glass doors of the GROCERY STORE.

INT. GROCERY STORE - AFTERNOON - 1C

A BELL JINGLES when Morgan and June step through.

The THREE CASHIERS (DON, JENN, and ROB), in the middle of their work, all turn around upon the sound of the door opening, smiling--

CASHIERS
Good afternoon, Morgan!

Morgan beams at their greeting and waves back while June grabs some baskets.

They go back to work, tending to the customers in line.

JUNE
(handing Morgan a
basket)
Alright, I'll circle back and find
you. Charles thought it was a good
idea to put new things on the list
so I'll probably just slow you down
tryin' to find 'em.

Morgan laughs as June hurries off, disappearing down a random isle.

Morgan pulls the list out of her purse and walks down the baking isle.

Morgan grabs flour.

Then salt...

CINDY (O.S.)
Finding everything okay, Morgan?

CINDY (40, carries herself well, the manager here and goes out of her way to be exceptional at it), stands to the left of Morgan.

We see June out of focus scurrying around in the background.

MORGAN

Yes! Thank you, Cindy. June...
might need some help though.

She points and we follow, focused on her now. She's looking at her list with an incredulous look, poking at objects on the shelves, shrugging, over dramatic--

CINDY

On it!

Cindy says before rushing over to June. We can hear the beginning of their conversation before--

CUT TO:

LAUNDRY ISLE

Morgan hums to herself as she looks through the shelves, slow and focused. She grabs a box of dryer sheets and bleach spray, puts them in the basket.

It isn't obvious, but SOMEONE IS STARING AT MORGAN from a distance. We can barely make them out in the background.

Morgan spots what she's been looking for further down the isle. As she goes to grab it, she STOPS for a second...

The person is in full focus now as Morgan notices her.

It's a GIRL, a little younger looking and has a similar likeness to Morgan. She stares, hard. It feels aggressive and invading.

Morgan, awkward, looks away from the girl and grabs a bottle of laundry detergent from the shelf, thinking it was just a coincidence.

She puts it in the basket. Curious, she looks back up to see if the girl was still there...

But instead there's an older woman looking through the shelves where the girl once stood--

JUNE

Found ya!

MORGAN
Jesus, June!

JUNE
Okay, jumpy! Anyway, you ready to go? I feel like I've been in here all day.

MORGAN
Yeah, I'm ready.

The two of them start walking towards the check out lanes.

MORGAN (cont'd)
I take it you found everything on your list?

JUNE
(rolling her eyes)
Well...Cindy did most of the work. It was like a treasure hunt, June. You're lucky Eli doesn't change much.

It's June and Morgan's turn to check out. Don smiles and starts scanning their items.

DON
Find everything okay, ladies?

JUNE
(forced)
Always do, Don!

Morgan snickered to herself, Don turns his attention to her.

DON
And how are you doing, Morgan?
Having a good day so far?

MORGAN
Yeah, it's been a good day! A very beautiful one too, the sun is so nice outside.

DON
Good to hear, good to hear!
(places last item
in bag)
You ladies have a good rest of your day now, always nice to see you!

June and Morgan grab their bags.

MORGAN

You too, Don! Have a good day.

EXT. GROCERY STORE - CONTINUOUS

They exit the grocery store and start walking back towards their homes, no clouds in the bright blue sky, when something catches Morgan's eye.

The girl, the same one from before, stands across the street a little ways down. She isn't moving, and isn't waiting to cross either.

She just...stares.