

I CAN'T THINK OF IT RIGHT NOW

by NICK ZAGONE

CHARACTERS

MARSHA

JOHN

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*[JOHN, middle-aged, sits on a living room chair, his face in a laptop.
MARSHA, also middle-aged, sits curled up the couch with a good book.
It's evening, their son has just been put to bed. There's a baby monitor on
a table between them.]*

[After a beat, Marsha looks up, to John.]

MARSHA

It was the cutest thing today, I forgot to tell you. When I picked up Timmy today from
Preschool the whole class was finger painting, ya know...?

JOHN

Really.

MARSHA

Just making a mess.

JOHN

Yeah, I bet.

MARSHA

Anyway, when I got there, Timmy had this big blue paint streak down his face. He
looked like... ya know that movie, I can't think of it right now... in Scotland...

JOHN

What movie?

MARSHA

In Scotland, with the swords...

JOHN

Highlander?

MARSHA

Uh... what's his name...

JOHN

He looked like Highlander?

MARSHA

No, no, you know--

JOHN

Highlander?

MARSHA

No! not Highlander. The other Scottish movie... uh...

JOHN

Oh, I know... Shrek.

MARSHA

No, no...

JOHN

No, no, that's not what I meant... Shakespeare right?

MARSHA

No.

JOHN

Henry 5.

MARSHA

Is that Scottish? Come on.

JOHN

Oh I know, I know, I know...

MARSHA

Yeah, with a...

JOHN

Pocahontas.

MARSHA

What? No, with, Mel Gibson!

JOHN

Mel Gibson?

MARSHA

That's it.

JOHN

He looked like Mel Gibson?

MARSHA

Yeah in the movie with the Scottish movie with the blue face paint! Battling on the, uh, moors...

JOHN

Mel Gibson, Mel Gibson, Mel Gibson...

MARSHA

Don't tell me you don't remember Mel Gibson.

JOHN

No.

MARSHA

Ya know, uh, he was the crazy guy in that one and it had all the gunfights...

JOHN

Oh yeah, yeah, yeah...

MARSHA

Ya know...

JOHN

Dirty Harry.

MARSHA

No, no.

JOHN

Paycheck?

MARSHA

What?

JOHN

Frantic! Frantic, Frantic...

MARSHA

No, no, you're thinkin' the other guy...

JOHN

In the Line of Fire?

MARSHA

No, no, no...

JOHN

That had a crazy guy with gunfights.

MARSHA

Wrong crazy guy, the other guy...

JOHN

Die Hard!

MARSHA

No, not that guy, that guy's from uh...

JOHN

Oh yeah, yeah, yeah, that's the guy from uh...

MARSHA

All the Die Hard movies and...

JOHN

Signs!

MARSHA

Yeah! No! But-- Yeah, yeah, yeah! That's the guy I'm talking about.

JOHN

Bruce Willis!

MARSHA

No, no, no... Mel Gibson!

JOHN

Here, this is ridiculous, I have the Internet right here I'll just imdb Mel Gibson.

MARSHA

Ok, good idea. God that was a good movie.

JOHN

Die Hard?

MARSHA

No, Signs.

JOHN

Here we go Internet Movie Data Base... Look up, Mel Gib... that's weird.

MARSHA

What?

JOHN

Hmm. I lost the connection. I'm getting no signal.

MARSHA

Maybe it's the aliens.

JOHN

Now... (*stern look*) you know I don't like that.

MARSHA

Big imagination... just kidding. Try your iphone.

JOHN

All right. (*reaches into pocket for iphone*) So what was the other one I was thinking with Bruce Willis, that was like Signs.

MARSHA

I don't know.

JOHN

The one with the kid who can see the ghosts?

MARSHA

Oh!

JOHN

"I see dead people."

MARSHA

Yeah, yeah, I know... Ghost.

JOHN

Ghosts, yeah...

MARSHA

No, I mean that's the title. Ghost.

JOHN

What? No.

MARSHA

No, I know, Evil Dead!

JOHN

No.

MARSHA

No, I know, The Haunting!

JOHN

No, no, no...

MARSHA

I know I know Highlander!

JOHN

Knock it off.

MARSHA

I know I was just kidding. But we're thinking about my movie now, not your movie. Anything yet?

JOHN

Once I remember my movie, I'll think about your movie. No nothing.

MARSHA

I know which one *your* talking about I just can't remember the name. The movie *I'm* talking about you don't even know what I'm talking about.

JOHN

I *don't* know what you're talking about.

MARSHA

Well that's why we got the iphone, what's wrong with that thing.

JOHN

The Sixth Sense!

MARSHA

No! That's--

JOHN

No, that's the one I was talking about, with the kid who can see ghosts.

MARSHA

Oh good, so it's working, now look up my Mel Gibson movie.

JOHN

No it's *not* working, no signal at all, I just remembered that one with my own brain.

MARSHA

Well, what's going on?

JOHN

Whoopi Goldberg.

MARSHA

What?

JOHN

Whoopi Goldberg was in the other one, who can see ghosts...

MARSHA

Ghost.

JOHN

No ghosts, GhostS. Plural.

MARSHA

No that's what it was called, the title, Ghost.

JOHN

Oh. Yeah. That's right.

MARSHA

Okay, so, here we are with Mel Gibson with the paint on his face with the Broadsword.

JOHN

Lethal Weapon!

MARSHA

No!

JOHN

No, that's the one with the crazy guy and the gunfights.

MARSHA

Oh. Yeah. So it's working?

JOHN

No.

MARSHA

Well what're we gonna do? Look, you saw this movie with me.

JOHN

I did?

MARSHA

Didn't you?

JOHN

I don't think I did because I have no idea what you're talking about.

MARSHA

It won the fricken Academy Award!

JOHN

It did?

MARSHA

Yes! Battles, blood, he has the speech ya know "blah, blah, but they can never take away our dignity!" Something like that!

JOHN

Clint Eastwood!

MARSHA

What?

JOHN

He was in Dirty Harry. That's the other guy I was thinking about. Go ahead...

MARSHA

Forget it. I'm going to the computer, the DSL. I gotta find this out or I'm getting a divorce. Your brain seems to conveniently remember every movie but the one I need to know. It's highly suspicious if you ask me. *(stops)* Ah, shoot.

JOHN

What?

[The lights start to fade... flicker... pulse...]

MARSHA

I can't go upstairs. I'll wake up uh...

JOHN

Who?

MARSHA

Our child, the boy, uh...

JOHN

Oh yeah, upstairs, in bed, yeah, uh... what's his name, my son... um... what's happening to me?

MARSHA

Tommy! No, no... oh god.

JOHN

Bobby? Nooooo!

MARSHA

You know, you know, shoot... look it up hurry!

JOHN

I can't! I can see his face... but I uh...

MARSHA

With the blue streak of paint across his uh...
Oh shit. It's the aliens.

JOHN

What? Don't. Stop it. No.

MARSHA

Oh god I... find some uh pictures or a...

JOHN

Oh yeah, the thingy on the thing, a what...?

MARSHA

What?

JOHN

Something with his name.

MARSHA

For god's sake! Check the computer!

JOHN

It doesn't... I c... I c... I can't remember...

MARSHA

We can... um... What?

JOHN

Nothing I was just uh... Yeah we can...

MARSHA

Look up...

JOHN
What?

MARSHA
Yeah... To find!

JOHN
Yeah! To find the thing that...

MARSHA
Yeah that thing that we... Left...

JOHN
Left?

MARSHA
That we didn't...

JOHN
Find out...

MARSHA
Um...

JOHN
Um...

[The lights are almost out... They hold each other.]

JOHN and MARSHA
[screaming]

Braveheart!
[Lights up full. John and Marsha cry with happiness, heavy breathing, laughing and smiling until... We hear a crying from the baby monitor, they hold their breath and... turn to look at it. Slow... out.]

BLACKOUT