

Fresh

written by

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INT. HOME - BATHROOM

STEPHEN looks at himself in the mirror. He is exhausted, rugged, and heavily bearded. He holds an electronic razor. He turns it on. The noise of the buzzer grows louder and louder until -

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK - EXT. CANYON - FLOWERS

The sound of the buzzer turns into the sound of bees buzzing, flying around yellow flowers that surround an uphill hiking path on a canyon in Malibu. Stephen and MAYA walk through the flowers, smiling, holding hands, bees buzzing. At the top, they look out towards the Pacific Ocean, surrounded by the yellow flowers and the bees. They hold each other, Maya snuggled into Stephen's beard. She runs her hand through his beard and holds his cheek as they look into each other's eyes. They kiss. The buzzing stops and -

CUT TO:

PRESENT - INT. HOME - BATHROOM

Stephen lathers shaving cream onto his trimmed beard. As he takes the first stroke of his razor -

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK - INT. HOME - LIVING ROOM

The light of the television illuminates Maya snuggled into Stephen's arms, gently stroking his beard.

CUT TO:

PRESENT - INT. HOME - BATHROOM

Stephen takes another stroke -

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK - INT. MAYA'S PARENTS' HOME - DINING ROOM

Stephen eats the dinner made by Maya's MOM as her FAMILY sits at the table. He loves it. Maya holds his hand and places her hand on Stephen's bearded cheek. They smile.

CUT TO:

PRESENT - INT. HOME - BATHROOM

Another stroke -

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK - INT. HOUSE PARTY

Maya drags Stephen onto the dance floor at a friend's house party. They dance, her sensually, him awkwardly. They laugh, as she grinds up on him and rubs her neck up against his beard.

CUT TO:

PRESENT - INT. HOME - BATHROOM

Another stroke.

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK - INT. HOME - BEDROOM

In passion, they fall onto their bed. He runs his beard across her neck.

CUT TO:

PRESENT - INT. HOME - BATHROOM

Another stroke.

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK - INT. HOME - BEDROOM (CONTINUED)

She bites his beard.

CUT TO:

PRESENT - INT. HOME - BATHROOM

Another stroke.

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK - INT. HOME - BEDROOM (CONTINUED)

He rubs his beard across her chest.

CUT TO:

PRESENT - INT. HOME - BATHROOM

Another stroke.

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK - INT. HOME - BEDROOM (CONTINUED)

His beard, between her legs.

CUT TO:

PRESENT - INT. HOME - BATHROOM

Another stroke.

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK - INT. HOME - BEDROOM (CONTINUED)

Face to face, she whispers "I love you" into his beard.

CUT TO:

PRESENT - INT. HOME - BATHROOM

Another stroke.

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK - INT. HOME - BEDROOM (CONTINUED)

They hold each other, asleep. His beard rests on her shoulder.

4.

CUT TO:

PRESENT - INT. HOME - BATHROOM

A gentler, smoother, longer stroke.

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK - INT. HOME - KITCHEN

He holds her romantically as they cook dinner. He rubs his beard on her shoulder, her neck, then places his now-wedding-ring-adorned hand on and kisses her now-pregnant belly.

CUT TO:

PRESENT - INT. HOME - BATHROOM

Another gentler, smooth, long stroke.

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK - INT. HOME - BEDROOM

Holding each other in their same position on their bed, he rubs his beard across her pregnant stomach and whispers "I love you" into her belly, to her and the baby.

VIOLENTLY CUT TO:

PRESENT - INT. HOME - BATHROOM

He nicks himself. He holds the cut, and looks into the mirror. He could sob, but he doesn't. He has one patch left to shave. Hesitantly, he takes a long stroke.

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK - INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE

They hold each other, crying, she cries into his beard.

CUT TO:

PRESENT - INT. HOME - BATHROOM

Another long stroke.

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK - INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE

He kisses her limp hand that he is holding.

CUT TO:

PRESENT - INT. HOME - BATHROOM

A stroke.

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK - INT. HOME - BEDROOM

He holds her tear-stained pillow the way he held her in the bed where they slept.

CUT TO:

PRESENT - INT. HOME - BATHROOM

One last stroke.

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK - EXT. CANYON - FLOWERS

Stephen stands at the top of the hill, surrounded by the flowers, alone. He grabs a flower, feels a petal, and cries to himself. The bees buzz.

CUT TO:

PRESENT - INT. HOME - BATHROOM

Stephen looks at himself in the mirror, beardless. He hears the cry of his baby. He goes into the baby's room, and picks the baby up from the yellow-flower adorned crib. His baby touches his freshly shaven face and stops crying. They smile.

THE END