

Screenplay Treatment

Working title: *Forever Dark*

An original screenplay by: Charlotte Leboeuf

Date: April 15th, 2016

Film genre(s): Drama, Romance

Tagline: *Can you fall in love with your eyes closed?* ✓

Concept/premise: A blind and beautiful teenage artist must deal with the consequences of her disability when she meets an unattractive boy who is convinced he isn't good enough for her. ✓

Story synopsis: In New Hampshire, Iris Wellington, a seventeen-year-old who lost her eyesight as a young child due to a serious head injury (she was in a car accident when she was six years old and became permanently blind) has never seen herself grow up. Little does she know that she is stunningly beautiful, a quality she might eventually look upon as a curse when she falls in love with unattractive teen Calvin Jones, whose gullibility and physical appearance have forever made him a target to bullies, especially due to his anger management issues (Calvin used to be a crybaby and would be taunted by his older brother, thus learning that most struggles in life can be fixed with a good fight). When Iris asks him for dinner after an awkward encounter (Iris accidentally sits on him in a public bus, thinking his seat was free), Calvin pretends to be a good-looking jock, thinking this is what she would expect him to be, considering how beautiful she is. Yet, as they fall deeper in love, Calvin vows to himself that he will reveal his true self to Iris because he feels that it is unfair to take advantage of her disability. When he tells her who he really is, Iris is hurt that he chose to shield such a big factor of who he is from her and tells Calvin that she is fine on her own and that what she needs is not an overprotective babysitter, but a boyfriend who will respect her independence. Calvin, feeling overly guilty for treating her like a child and wanting her to be with someone who deserves her, leaves a recorded farewell letter in her mailbox and leaves to never be seen again. Flash forward a few years, and Iris is still alone. She appears to stay that way forever, replaying the recording every day in a world of eternal darkness.

Visual realization: The film will feature various scenes shot from Iris' point of view, thus making part of the movie be in complete darkness (with the exception of minor shadows). Calvin will wear dark-colored clothes while he keeps his true identity from Iris. She, on the other hand, will consistently wear light and colorful clothes, except in the final scenes, when she will be alone. *Forever Dark* will have a unique soundtrack, including "Paradise" by Coldplay, "Locked Away" by R. City (feat. Adam Levine), as well as "Last Kiss" by Taylor Swift. Most scenes will be shot outdoors in beautiful New Hampshire weather. Because the movie will be set in present time, modern technology will be used abundantly. *Season?*

Statement of intent: The theme of the story is that love should be blind and that guilt does not belong in a strong relationship. This kind of plotline has been explored before, but not typically featuring teens, who are popular protagonists for the general public because adolescents continuously try to prove that they are capable of behaving like adults, especially nowadays, when teens have an increasing amount of freedom in society.

Length: 10 to 20 minutes

Audience appeal: *Forever Dark* will be a combination of the Norwegian movie *Blind* (2007) and Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* (1991). The target audience is 10 to 20 year-olds, although older adults will also appreciate the honesty of the main character, who describes her story using only four senses. Chloe Grace Moretz (Iris), a popular teen actress and Lucas Hedges (Calvin) will play the leading roles, thus attracting teens of both genders and of various ages. The movie will be rated as G (general) and will be suitable for older children and teens (who will not be traumatized by the main character's blindness) in order to appeal to a wider audience.