

BE MY MOM

By

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INT. THE ORPHANAGE ADOPT-US-KIDS/PLAYROOM - DAY

The playroom of orphanage is large and light. Some of children play around in a room, some watch cartoons on TV.

One boy ARTHUR (6, cute, dressed in t-shirt with a message I love NY on it) sits on a windowsill in a corner, drawing a picture.

The head of the orphanage ANGELINA (50s, beautiful, big and fat, dressed in suit) comes closer to Arthur. She looks at him and the picture, bowing over boy's shoulder and head.

ANGELINA

Archy, what are you drawing there?

ARTHUR

(moves his face up)

It's a letter to Santa, misses Angelina.

ANGELINA

But it's only October. Don't you think it's too early for Christmas wish list?

ARTHUR

(shakes his shoulders)

I know. But later on, Santa might be too busy with all other letters.

(pause)

So he can miss my letter and send me a toy instead.

ANGELINA

Instead of what, Archy?

ARTHUR

Instead of help me to find my mom, misses Angelina... As I asked him before.

The woman bows over his head and look at the picture, what Arthur draws.

There is a woman on it, who cares a cat on her hands. Angelina looks at the text around an image.

ANGELINA (O.S.)

Dear Santa... I am sincerely asking you this year again. I don't need any toys from you, but help me to find my mom... She is beautiful,

(MORE)

ANGELINA (O.S.) (cont'd)  
 kind and loves cats as I do... Here  
 is her picture attached... Kind  
 regard, Arthur.

The woman glances at unfolded list of a magazine, what stays  
 in front of Arthur. The picture of beautiful woman ALICE  
 (30s, beautiful, smiling, dressed in expansive dress) is on  
 it. Alice cares a cat on her hands.

ANGELINA  
 Where did you get this picture?

ARTHUR  
 I am sorry, misses Angelina, but..  
 (pause)  
 I took it out of a magazine in a  
 waiting room.

ANGELINA  
 You should not do it, but if you  
 like her... That's okay, dear.  
 (pause)  
 Just tell me, do you know who she  
 is?

ARTHUR  
 Of course.  
 (smiling happy)  
 That's my mom!

ANGELINA  
 Really? How do you know?

ARTHUR  
 Look, misses Angelina.  
 (pause)  
 She is beautiful, kind, and...  
 (pause)  
 She loves cats as I do.

Angelina smiles in silence.

INT. THE ORPHANAGE/OFFICE - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Alice stays in a front of table in dark office. She cares a  
 thick folder of documents. The man MR.DOVER (50s, big, bold,  
 dressed in a suit) looks at her with cold eyes.

The woman tries to hold herself of crying.

ALICE

But, mister Dover.

(pause)

I have every single paper in file.

(pause)

Please, give me a permission to adopt a child. I cannot live peacefully, knowing that someone really needs me.

MR.DOVER

Well, we looked through your paperwork and... yes, it's absolutely acceptable.

(pause)

But!

(pause)

According to government's rules, you have one major drawback.

(pause)

You aren't married, miss Smith!

ALICE

(crying in hopeless)

But, mister Dover.

(pause)

Please.

The man takes a deep breath and turn his head to the right. He glances to the window. The daylight comes through half-opened blinds. There is a silhouette of woman, who stays by the window.

MR.DOVER

What do you think, Angelina?

The silhouette moves forward. It's Angelina. She smiles to Alice and nod her head.

ANGELINA

Well, Alice.

(pause)

I have to ask a few questions, so it should be, you know.

(pause)

Do you realize what kind of responsibilities you're going to take?

Alice glances at Mr.Dover for a second and turn her eyes back to Angelina. She moves her face up and speak quiet, but strong.

ALICE

Yes, I do, misses Angelina.

ANGELINA

After all, Alice. A child is not for a few hours to play with. It's not a doll. It's for a life!

ALICE

I know that as well.

(pause)

I understand it deeply by my heart.

ANGELINA

Well, Alice.

(pause)

I think

(pause)

And seems to me, I am pretty sure in it.

(pause)

I think we can give you a chance to get a child.

ALICE

Really?!

Angelina looks at Mr.Dover, and nod to him in silence. The man shakes his shoulders, and nod back to her.

ANGELINA

Yes, we do.

ALICE

Thank you!

(pause, crying)

Thank you so much.

ANGELINA

When do you want to see the children to choose?

ALICE

I won't look at them.

(shakes her head negatively)

I'll take any child you give me.

(pause)

You know real parents don't choose their baby. They don't know in advance what the baby will be born.

(pause)

Beautiful or not really, healthy or sick. They love their child as well as he or she is.

(pause)  
And I want to be a real mom.

Angelina smiles to her and nod her head.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
When I can pick up my baby?

ANGELINA  
Usually, parents and children are gradually getting used to each other, talk at our community first, the take the weekend together, and then...

(pause)  
If everything is in order--

ALICE  
I want to take my child right away.  
(pause, quietly)  
If I may so, misses Angelina.

ANGELINA  
(smiles back to her)  
Of course you can, Alice.  
(pause)  
I see you are ready for that step of your life.  
(pause)  
But, please... Let me give you a little suggestion. Come back on Friday.

ALICE  
Friday? But it's--

ANGELINA  
It's one day after tomorrow.  
(pause)  
Listen to me, Alice. In one hand you'll have a time to prepare yourself for your child... for your first contact.

Alice wipes tears off her eyes and cheeks automatically.

ANGELINA (CONT'D)  
You've got me, Alice.  
(pause)  
In another hand, on Friday evening you two will have a weekend to spend together.

(pause)  
(MORE)

ANGELINA (CONT'D) (cont'd)  
 You better go now.

Alice nod to her and smiles, but cannot stop to cry happy. She turns back and walk to a door. The woman stops suddenly, and glance back. Alice smiles happy.

ALICE  
 Thank you.  
 (pause)  
 Thank you very much.  
 (pause, quietly)  
 God bless you.

INT. THE ORPHANAGE ADOPT-US-KIDS/PLAYROOM - DAY

Angelina smiles to Arthur and kiss him in a top of his head. She glances at the picture of Alice again.

ANGELINA  
 Once it's your mom, Archy.  
 (pause)  
 It completely changes the situation.

ARTHUR  
 What situation, misses Angelina?

ANGELINA  
 Come with me, Archy. I'll show you some... one.

Arthur shakes his shoulders, but stand up. He folds a picture of Alice and Santa's letter carefully, and then walk after Angelina.

They walks to an exit door, but at a same time Alice comes in. Alice and Arthur catch each other with their eyes.

Arthur cries and rush to Alice. He embraces her with his hands. The boy moves his face up and looks at Alice.

ARTHUR  
 Mommy.

ALICE  
 (crying, smiling)  
 Yes, my dear. It's me.

ARTHUR  
 Don't cry, mom. I won't hurt you.  
 (pause)  
 (MORE)

ARTHUR (cont'd)  
 I love you. I knew you'd find me.  
 (pause)  
 And I was waiting for you every  
 day... and night.

Alice cries and smiles.

EXT. THE ORPHANAGE'S PLAYGROUND - DAY

Alice walk down a road to a parked car. She carries a small  
 suit-case in one hand and Arthur's hand in another.

Arthur stops suddenly and moves his face up. Alice looks  
 down at him.

ARTHUR  
 Mom?

ALICE  
 What, Archy?

ARTHUR  
 Do you love cats?

ALICE  
 Yes, I do, dear. I have two cats at  
 my home.  
 (pause)  
 At our home, Archy.

They walk to her car, smiling to each other.

INT. THE ORPHANAGE/OFFICE - DAY

Angelina stays by the window. looking out to Alice and  
 Arthur, who walks away.

ST.MICHAEL (O.S.)  
 Heaven's office. Department of  
 children and family services. Saint  
 Michael speaking.

ANGELINA  
 Hi, Mike. How are you? This is  
 Angelina.

ST.MICHAEL (O.S.)  
 Oh, hi, Angel-lina. I'm fine. And  
 you?

ANGELINA

I am great as always.

(pause)

Please, Mike. Take a request to process. Name of a client Alice Smith. Category of a merit is the highest, giving the child happiness.

ST.MICHAEL (O.S.)

I've got it, Angel-lina.

ANGELINA

Send her a full package. Infinite happiness, mutual love, and good luck in everything. And so on... You know.

ST.MICHAEL (O.S.)

Is she married?

ANGELINA

Thank you for remind me, Mike.

(pause)

No, she is not. So, please, send her the ideal man.

ST.MICHAEL (O.S.)

Did you go against the law again, Angel-lina? There are must be two parents for adoption. And you know that.

ANGELINA

I know that, Michael. So, please, send her the ideal man.

(pause)

I gave her the child already.

ST.MICHAEL (O.S.)

Well, but... You know--

ANGELINA

Of course, I know that there are few left. I know it's a deficit.

(pause)

But please, Mike, do your best. It's an exceptional case.

ST.MICHAEL (O.S.)

All your cases are exceptional, Angel-lina.

ANGELINA  
Please, Mike.

ST.MICHAEL (O.S.)  
Alright, alright. I'll do my best.  
(pause)  
But if something goes wrong--

ANGELINA  
I believe in her.

ST.MICHAEL (O.S.)  
Is it something else I can help you  
with?

ANGELINA  
No, thank you. That's it for today.  
God bless you, Michael.

ST.MICHAEL (O.S.)  
God bless you too, Angel-lina.

Angelina turns her phone off and put it back to her pocket. She walks to a door and close it with a key. Then she pulls her jacket off and hang it on a chair's back.

The woman walks back to the window, cracking with her neck. She stands by the window, looking down at the playground.

The playground is filled with children, sunlight, and joyous shouts of kids.

Angelina smiles happy. Two huge white wings shake behind her back.

ANGELINA  
You may not believe in angels, but  
angels believe in you.

FADE OUT