

Screen Play Script - When Canaries Whistle

Thomas is distracted by the unopened file and is barely listening to Sharla.

THOMAS

Uh-yeh-no, it's probably fine...
Hey Sharla what is this?

Thomas holds the file up, Sharla looks over her shoulder and then runs over.

SHARLA

Oh crap! I must have taken it
with the letters.

She grabs the file off Thomas and goes to put it in her satchel.

SHARLA

Ugh, it's fine. If I take it back
tomorrow, and put it strait in
the file room no one will ever
know!

THOMAS

And this is why you shouldn't be
allowed in organised work places!

The saucepan starts to boil over. Sharla lounges on an arm chair in thought, looking up at the ceiling. Thomas goes over to the stove and turns the heat down.

THOMAS

Or to cook!

SHARLA

Do you think this place has
secrets?

THOMAS

Well its so old, it's falling to
pieces and I'm pretty sure
there's a blood splatter in your
hall wa-

SHARLA

Nooo not *this place*!

She turns on her side to face him.

SHARLA

I mean this place, Raviken. You
think it has secrets?

Thomas comes over to sit opposite her.

(CONTINUED)

THOMAS

Really? This? Again? Come on Sharla.

SHARLA

Okay, hear me out! I know you don't care but I found something weird in one of the filing rooms.

Thomas leans over and picks up a school timetable, from Sharla's papers, to look at. He sighs.

THOMAS

All right, what was it?

SHARLA

It was this little scratch in the wall behind some old files.

THOMAS

That doesn't mean anything...

SHARLA

No, that's not it! It said *don't forget*.

THOMAS

Probably just someone marking a space for an important file or something.

SHARLA

Hmm, I guess... But there was also this funny little drawing next to it, like a-a shield thingy with some weird animals and plants on it.

Thomas looks at her over the timetable as though he just heard something familiar.

THOMAS

Like a downward pointing arrow head?

SHARLA

Yeh...

Thomas's interest grows, he puts down the timetable.

THOMAS

Were the plants like, er, roses in the middle with the big strange animals standing either side?

Sharla sits upright.

SHARLA

Yeh! How, how the hell did you know that? Have you seen it before? But you've never been in the government building...

THOMAS

No, no, I remember seeing it in a text book one of my students had doodled in. It was Maxine Dwain's, she doodles on bloody everything.

Thomas gets a little brick phone out of his pocket. It is kept in a government issued clear case with a torn label which used to be stuck over the case opening saying "EMERGENCY USE ONLY". He takes it out of the case and he finds a slightly blurred, grainy picture he took of the doodle. Sharla takes the phone and stares intently at the photo as Thomas babbles.

THOMAS

I thought it was just something artistic, I was going to use it to recommend her for the biological diagram course. She really is percep-

SHARLA

This is so strange. What the hell is this thing? I can't really make out the details though. Do you reckon you could get this text book tomorrow?

THOMAS

Well yeh, I guess I could bu-

SHARLA

Brilliant! I'll try and get a picture of the one in the filing room as well, then we can compare!

THOMAS

Uh, sure, okay.

Thomas notices some smoke coming from the saucepan and takes his phone off Sharla. He gestures to the stove.

THOMAS

So, I think dinner's done?

SHARLA

Huh?

Sharla looks over to the stove.