

NURSE NANCY'S WONDER LOVE

SILENT MOVIE-STYLE TITLE CUE CARD – LIKE AN OLD-FASHIONED BLACK-BORDERED FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT CARD

NURSE NANCY'S WONDER LOVE

INT. LIVING ROOM. CHRISTMAS EVE – EARLY AFTERNOON

The living room has a fireplace (which is burning) with three stockings hanging on it. (Marked Mother, Father and Nancy), and an artificial Christmas tree, lit up with red lights in the corner. Instead of a star on top of the tree, there is a heavy, drooping crucifix. There is a large ticking clock on the mantelpiece. The lighting suggests mostly drawn curtains and dim winter afternoon light.

Nurse Nancy is on her knees in front of the tree, her hands pressed together in prayer in front of her face. When she finishes praying, she puts her hands over her face and sobs.

SILENT MOVIE-STYLE SCENE CUE CARD

ONE FATEFUL AFTERNOON ON CHRISTMAS EVE

INT. KITCHEN. IMMEDIATELY AFTER

The kitchen is fairly large, and on the old-fashioned side. Nurse Nancy opens the refrigerator and takes out a tray of ice cubes. She fills a pitcher with ice, and then adds cold water from the tap, making the ice cubes crack. She puts the water jug on a tray with a small glass, a drinking straw and a white linen serviette. Then she lifts the tray and walks down the hall to the staircase and slowly starts to climb.

INT. BEDROOM. IMMEDIATELY AFTER

The bedroom is dark, with curtains drawn and sparse furniture. There are flowers in a vase on the window sill, and a few get-well cards around. There are pills on the night table. Nurse Nancy's dying Father is lying motionless in bed, and her mother is seated at the foot of the bed, holding her husband's hand. She looks distraught. Nurse Nancy enters with her tray and sets it down.

MOTHER

How long can he go on like this? Should we call the priest?

NURSE NANCY

I wonder.

Nurse Nancy pours the ice-water into the glass and inserts the straw. Propping up her father, she lifts his head and touches the straw to his mouth. The old man pulls back his lips but doesn't drink. Nurse Nancy lays his head back on the pillow and wipes his brow with the serviette. Her father moans faintly. Then his eyes glaze over and he stops breathing. Nurse Nancy checks his wrist for a pulse and finds none. She puts her hand over his heart, and lays her head on his chest.

MOTHER

Has he gone to a better place?

Nurse Nancy nods to confirm his death

NURSE NANCY

I wonder.

Nurse Nancy closes her father's eyes. Then she and her mother embrace in sorrow.

SILENT MOVIE-STYLE SCENE CUE CARD

NURSE NANCY RECEIVES GENTLEMAN CALLERS

INT. BEDROOM. SHORTLY AFTER

A priest administers last rites to her father's body, which Nurse Nancy and her mother watch. When he is done, he turns to the two women and puts his hand on their shoulders.

PRIEST

May God's blessing be with you. And may He reward you for your patience and dedication.

All three leave the bedroom.

INT. FRONT HALLWAY. SHORTLY AFTER

An undertaker is putting on his coat, ready to leave.

UNDERTAKER

Again, my condolences to you both. And thank you for your hospitality. I'll see the announcement is put in the newspaper, and we can make the final funeral arrangements after Christmas.

Undertaker opens the front door.

MOTHER

Thanks so much for your help.

Undertaker leaves.

INT. LIVINGROOM. SHORTLY AFTER

Nurse Nancy and her mother are drinking tea, with the fire burning in the fireplace.

MOTHER

I was hoping your father would live long enough to share one last Christmas with us. These ornaments seem so out of place now he's gone.

Doorbell rings.

MOTHER
Who could that be?

Nurse Nancy gets up to answer the door.

NURSE NANCY
I wonder.

INT. FRONT HALLWAY. IMMEDIATELY AFTER

Nurse Nancy opens the door to a “tall, dark, handsome stranger”, carrying a black medical bag. Her mother stands behind her in the hallway.

CORONER
Hello. My name is Dr. Chad Pitt. I’m the County Coroner. It’s my task to file a report when someone – passes away – in their home.

MOTHER
Please come in, Doctor. My husband – is – upstairs.

Nurse Nancy takes the doctor’s coat and watches him as he climbs the stairs.

INT. FRONT HALLWAY. SHORTLY AFTER

The coroner stands with his coat over his arm.

MOTHER
Can you stay for a cup of tea doctor?

CORONER
I’m sorry. But I must be going.

The doctor looks directly at Nurse Nancy.

CORONER
You have a very beautiful – home. Thank you for allowing me to be your guest today. I regret that it had to be under such unfortunate circumstances. In my experience, it’s especially sad to lose a loved one during the Christmas season. It was late December when my wife passed on... But perhaps we’ll meet again on a happier occasion.

The coroner clutches Nurse Nancy’s hand in a firm handshake.

NURSE NANCY
I wonder.

The coroner puts on his coat and leaves.

SILENT MOVIE-STYLE SCENE CUE CARD

NURSE NANCY SAYS HER EVENING PRAYERS

INT. LIVINGROOM. EVENING – CHRISTMAS EVE

Nurse Nancy is kneeling and praying to the crucifix on the Christmas tree as before. There is a fire burning in the fireplace. Her mother is in the doorway of the room.

MOTHER

I'm going to bed now. It's been a long day.

Mother kisses Nurse Nancy's forehead as she continues to pray.

MOTHER

Try to get some sleep, dear.

Mother leaves the room.

Nurse Nancy continues to kneel and pray, and her prayers again end in sobs. Finally she lays down on the carpet in front of the fire, and falls asleep. The clock on the mantelpiece can be heard to tick.

SILENT MOVIE-STYLE SCENE CUE CARD

NURSE NANCY'S PRAYERS ARE ANSWERED

INT. LIVINGROOM. MIDNIGHT – CHRISTMAS EVE

The mantel clock is chiming twelve. A few embers remain in the fireplace, and the Christmas tree lights are still on. Nurse Nancy stirs in her sleep. A red blur emanating from the fireplace coalesces on the hearth into the muscular figure of a man in a red spandex suit, wearing a red Santa hat. The man looks very much like Dr. Chad Pitt. As his form takes shape, Nurse Nancy sits up and rubs her eyes.

DR. SANTA DEVIL

Hey Nurse Nancy! Call me Santa Claus! Heaven knows, I've been called far worse names. Ho Ho Ho!

The stranger reaches to help Nurse Nancy to her feet, and laughs.

DR. SANTA DEVIL

Some even say I'm quite the devil. Would you like to take a ride in my sleigh?

NURSE NANCY

I wonder.

DR. SANTA DEVIL

Come, my dear. The reindeer are waiting. Trust me. This will be a night you'll never forget.

The stranger securely grasps Nurse Nancy's hand, and together they drift through the fireplace opening and up the chimney.

EXT. ROOFTOP. IMMEDIATELY AFTER

The stranger and Nurse Nancy stand on the snow-covered roof, beside the sleigh heaped with presents, and eight reindeer in front. A light snow is falling. The stranger settles Nurse Nancy into the sleigh and then climbs in beside her. Then he commands his reindeer to fly to the next rooftop.

DR. SANTA DEVIL

To the top of the roof! To the top of the wall! Now dash away, dash away, dash away all!

The sleigh floats through the air from one house to the next, with the stranger in control.

INT. FIREPLACE STOP. EN ROUTE

The stranger sits in the blazing fire of the fireplace, filling a stocking with trinkets and candy. Nurse Nancy is standing beside him, watching, perplexed. He looks up at her and smiles, clearly enjoying the heat.

NURSE NANCY

I wonder. (Mouthing the words.)

EXT. ROOFTOP. EN ROUTE

The stranger and Nurse Nancy stand close together, facing one another. The stranger stares intently into her eyes. Then he whispers in her ear.

DR. SANTA DEVIL

There are twins living here. But the family is too poor to afford stockings for them. Would you like to help?

NURSE NANCY

I wonder.

The stranger rubs his palm over Nurse Nancy's thigh, reassuring her.

DR. SANTA DEVIL

If you would give me your panty hose, I could leave treats for both children after all. One leg for each twin.

Nurse Nancy kicks off her shoes and pulls down her pantyhose, wriggling free. While she does this, the stranger holds her waist to steady her. When her pantyhose are off, she hands them over, looking the stranger in the eyes as she surrenders them.

DR. SANTA DEVIL

Thank you for your generosity. I'm honoured that you'd surrender your personal garments to me. You can rest assured they'll be safe in my custody.

The stranger enfolds Nurse Nancy in a torrid embrace, and kisses her passionately but tenderly. Then he picks up a sack and takes Nurse Nancy's hand.

DR. SANTA DEVIL

Come my Sweet! I need you to hold your intimates steady while I fill them with my endowments. For your sake, I promise to stuff them until they overflow with my bounty.

They disappear down the chimney.

EXT. ROOFTOP TO ROOFTOP. EN ROUTE

Nurse Nancy and the stranger continue their midnight journey in a blur of movement from rooftop to rooftop, in and out of chimneys, and from one fireplace to the next.

INT. NURSE NANCY'S LIVINGROOM. SHORTLY AFTER

Nurse Nancy and the stranger materialize through the fireplace. The clock is still chiming. The stranger pats Nurse Nancy's cheek.

DR. SANTA DEVIL

Thanks little helper! You were awesome! But now I gotta fly. The elves, you know...

The stranger winks at Nurse Nancy and then gives a devil-may-care wave over his shoulder.

DR. SANTA DEVIL

Luv ya Sugarplum! Good-bye and Merry Christmas! And just wait till next year! Ho Ho Ho!

Nurse Nancy watches the stranger as he vanishes up the fireplace in a puff of red smoke. Then she lies back down on the floor.

NURSE NANCY

I wonder.

SILENT MOVIE-STYLE SCENE CUE CARD

THE LIGHT OF DAY - CHRISTMAS MORNING

INT. LIVINGROOM. CHRISTMAS MORNING

Nurse Nancy wakes up on the living room floor. Gradually she acclimatizes herself to her surroundings, as she remembers the tragedy of the day before, and realizes she has slept all night under the Christmas tree. She sits up and stretches, and starts to remember the events of the past night. With a look of confusion and surprise, she runs her hand up her leg under her skirt and wiggles her toes, realizing she is not wearing pantyhose.

SILENT MOVIE-STYLE SCENE CUE CARD

NURSE NANCY SEARCHES FOR HER UNMENTIONABLES

INT. LIVINGROOM. CHRISTMAS MORNING

Nurse Nancy begins to look around the room to see where her dainties might be.

NURSE NANCY

I wonder.

Her mother enters the room.

MOTHER

Pardon dear? Is anything wrong?

Mother approaches Nurse Nancy and looks down on her.

SILENT MOVIE-STYLE SCENE CUE CARD

NURSE NANCY DESCRIBES HER CHRISTMAS EVE ADVENTURE

MONTAGE

The events of the night before are shown in a sped-up sequence of scenes with the Dr. Santa Devil. In the scenes, the stranger's face is blurred out, and there are no shots of the panty-hose episode.

INT. LIVINGROOM. IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

MOTHER

Bestill my beating heart!

NURSE NANCY

I wonder.

SILENT MOVIE-STYLE SCENE CUE CARD

NURSE NANCY PRAYS ON AT HER CHRISTMAS SHRINE

INT. LIVINGROOM. DAY

Nurse Nancy kneels motionless with her hands clasped before the Christmas tree. The lights are still illuminated on the tree, and the three stockings are still hung by the fireplace.

SUPERIMPOSED DATES

JANUARY

...
APRIL

...
SEPTEMBER

...
DECEMBER

The dates are superimposed on Nurse Nancy's prayer scene. As each month appears, the lighting continues to get slightly darker, until the red Christmas tree lights stand out strongly in December. Also the ticking of the clock becomes louder until it starts to chime in December.

SILENT MOVIE-STYLE SCENE CUE CARD

CHRISTMAS EVE AFTERNOON – ONE YEAR LATER

INT. LIVINGROOM. CHRISTMAS EVE – NOON

As the clock finishes chiming twelve, Nurse Nancy gets up from her prayers and walks into the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN. IMMEDIATELY AFTER

Nurse Nancy pours herself a bowl of soup and a cup of tea from pots that have been warming on the stove. She puts them on a tray which already has a soup spoon, a glass of water and a napkin on it. Then she picks up the tray and leaves the room to climb the stairs.

INT. BEDROOM. IMMEDIATELY AFTER

Nurse Nancy enters the bedroom, where her mother now lies in the same bed as her father died in. Her mother is emaciated and dying of starvation. Nurse Nancy sets down the tray and places the water glass on the table beside her mother, just out of her reach. Then she composes herself in a chair facing her mother and starts eating her soup. Her mother is too weak to move, but she can smell the soup, and her piercing eyes glare at Nurse Nancy.

SILENT MOVIE-STYLE SCREEN CUE CARD

NURSE NANCY'S MOTHER SILENTLY DEMANDS ANSWERS

INT. BEDROOM. IMMEDIATELY AFTER

Mother looks at the water glass which she can't reach to drink from.

SILENT MOVIE-STYLE SCREEN CUE CARD

WHY HAVE YOU DONE THIS TO ME?

INT. BEDROOM. IMMEDIATELY AFTER

Mother looks at Nurse Nancy sipping her soup.

SILENT MOVIE-STYLE SCREEN CUE CARD

WHAT WILL BECOME OF YOU?

INT. BEDROOM. IMMEDIATELY AFTER

Nurse Nancy regards her mother from above the rim of her teacup.

NURSE NANCY

I wonder.

INT. LIVINGROOM. IMMEDIATELY AFTER

Nurse Nancy is again praying in the living room. There is a crash from upstairs. Nurse Nancy gets up to investigate.

INT. BEDROOM. IMMEDIATELY AFTER

Nurse Nancy enters. She finds her mother face up on the floor, lying in a pool of water, the drinking glass shattered in her hand. Although she appears dead, her gaze is still piercing and accusatory. Nurse Nancy quickly checks her vital signs to confirm she is dead. Then she unceremoniously heaves the corpse onto the bed and tucks it under the sheets, folding the hands on top. Then she closes her mother's accusing eyes forever. Finally she wipes the floor with one of her mother's nightdresses and picks up the pieces of glass. Then she leaves the room.

SILENT MOVIE-STYLE SCREEN CUE CARD

NURSE NANCY RECEIVES THE PRIEST AND UNDERTAKER

MONTAGE

Sped up silent sequences of the arrival of the priest, his administration of the last rites to her mother, and his departure, followed by the arrival of the undertaker, a scene in her mother's bedroom, and his departure. In all the scenes, Nurse Nancy appears to be hurrying them along.

SILENT MOVIE-STYLE SCREEN CUE CARD

NURSE NANCY WAITS FOR HER NEXT GENTLEMAN CALLER

INT. LIVINGROOM. CHRISTMAS EVE AFTERNOON

Nurse Nancy is praying as usual. The doorbell rings.

INT. FRONT HALLWAY. IMMEDIATELY AFTER

Nurse Nancy opens the door for Dr. Chad Pitt.

CORONER

Hello... Miss Nancy. I'm Dr. Chad Pitt, the coroner. I don't know if you remember me. I believe I was here just one year ago today. I'll have to... examine your mother, if you don't mind.

NURSE NANCY

I wonder.

Nurse Nancy takes his coat. The coroner climbs the stairs, as Nurse Nancy watches from below.

INT. LIVINGROOM. SHORTLY AFTER

Nurse Nancy is praying, and Dr. Chad Pitt enters the doorway of the room.

CORONER

Thank you Miss Nancy. I'll be going now. But first I wanted to say how sorry I am at your misfortune of losing both parents on Christmas Eve, and only one year apart. It must have taken tremendous patience and fortitude to care for two elderly invalids through such an extended period of suffering. I admire your devotion.

Nurse Nancy smiles.

INT. FRONT HALLWAY. IMMEDIATELY AFTER

Nurse Nancy gives the coroner his coat. He takes it and looks into her eyes.

CORONER

Your life will certainly change from here on.

Nurse Nancy watches him going down the front steps.

NURSE NANCY

I wonder.

SILENT MOVIE-STYLE SCREEN CUE CARD

NURSE NANCY SAYS HER LAST CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER

INT. LIVINGROOM. EVENING – CHRISTMAS EVE

Nurse Nancy is praying very hard, so that the knuckles on her clenched fists have turned white, and she is sweating as she kneels in front of the brightly burning fireplace. When she finishes praying, she carefully removes her pantyhose and throws them into the fire, where she watches them shrivel and sizzle. Then she stretches on the floor, enjoying her physical freedom and overall liberty. Then she shuts her eyes and curls up, ready to go to sleep.

NURSE NANCY

I wonder.

Nurse Nancy sleeps. In time lapse, the fire dies down, and the clock chimes, but Nurse Nancy doesn't wake up.

SILENT MOVIE-STYLE SCREEN CUE CARD

CHRISTMAS MORNING ARRIVES

INT. LIVINGROOM. CHRISTMAS MORNING

Nurse Nancy wakes up, blinking at the light of day, and gradually realizes where she is, and that it is Christmas morning. She looks at the brightly lit tree and scratches her head, trying to remember if anything happened during the night. As she looks around, she notices that the crucifix is missing from the top of the Christmas tree. Then she sees it sticking out of the top of her mother's stocking. She frowns and gets up to take a closer look. While there, she notices a bulge in her own Christmas stocking, and something sticking out of the top. She takes hold of it and pulls out a pair of panty hose. She laughs nervously.

NURSE NANCY

I wonder.

INT. LIVINGROOM. SHORTLY AFTER.

Nurse Nancy is drinking a cup of tea by the Christmas tree. The telephone rings and she picks it up.

CORONER

Hello. This is Dr. Chad Pitt. I know it's Christmas morning, but I'd like to come by to visit you today. If you have the time, I'd appreciate it. Would that be all right?

A look of joy comes over Nurse Nancy's face.

INT. FRONT HALLWAY. SHORTLY AFTER

Nurse Nancy stands fixing her hair in the hall mirror.

NURSE NANCY

I wonder... I wonder... I wonder... I wonder...

The doorbell rings.

SILENT MOVIE-STYLE SCREEN CUE CARD

THE END???

SILENT MOVIE-STYLE SCREEN CUE CARD

I WONDER...

THANK YOU FOR READING NURSE NANCY'S WONDER LOVE.

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AND IF YOU DECIDE TO MAKE THE MOVIE, LET ME KNOW !