

LOVE IN A LETTER

Written and directed by

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Characters:

Frank: A retired man in his 70's usually wears pyjamas, married to his wife for more than 40 years. Lives a comfortable but very habitual and uneventful life. Lately feels that he is getting older and that his health is not what it is used to be (his blood pressure is high, his knees hurt). Misses his youth.

Wife: A retired women also in her 70's (a bit younger than Frank). Satisfied with her marriage, wants Frank to be happy.

Act 1

Scene number 1 (INT, bedroom/bathroom, Day(6am), Frank wakes-up

Frank

Frank wakes up from bed, puts on his slippers and calmly walks to the bathroom, turns on the lights once he leaves the room the digital clock in the bedroom moves from 5:59 to 6:00.

Frank enters the bathroom, he brushes his teeth, and he leaves turning the lights off.

TITLE CARD: 'LOVE IN A LETTER'

Scene number 2 (INT, stairs/kitchen, Day(6:15am), Frank walking down the stairs.

Frank slowly walks down the stairs with one hand holding the hand rail.

Scene number 3

Frank (in the kitchen) prepares tea

Frank holds a pan with a firm grip cooking two separated fried eggs.

Wife

Shouts from the second floor "Frank"

Scene number 3 (INT, dining table, Day(6:40am), Eating breakfast,

Both are eating in opposite sides of the table in silence.

Scene number 4 (INT, living room, Day(noon), Wife is seen blurred reading a book

Frank

Reading a newspaper, holding with one hand a red pen circling the shows he wishes to see. besides him a stack of newspapers with red pen marks.

Wife

Reads a book on the sofa (blurred)

Scene number 5 (INT, living room, evening, watching TV

Frank

Watches TV before going to sleep. All while having a neutral expression (not excited).

Act number 2:

Frank

(o) Montage: A montage is repeated several times, showing Frank waking up, putting on his slippers (different socks), clock changes from 5:59 am to 6:00 am, brushing his teeth, Walks down the stairs holding the hand rail. Frank holds a pan with a firm grip cooking two fried eggs, Wife shouts "Frank",

reading a newspaper (wife reads a book), the pile next to him gradually increases and finally watches TV (low key lighting, the TV is the only source of light).

Cooks fried eggs, throws newspaper

Act 2 is repeated 2-4 times

Act number 3:

Scene number 6 (INT, bedroom/bathroom, morning (6am), Frank wakes-up - second time

Frank

Frank wakes up from bed, puts on his slippers and calmly walks to the bathroom, turns on the lights once he leaves the room the digital clock in the bedroom moves from 5:59 to 6:00.

Frank enters the bathroom, he brushes his teeth, and he leaves turning the lights off.

Scene number 7 (INT, stairs, morning (6:15am), Frank goes down the stairs.

Slowly walks down the stairs with one hand holding the hand rail.

Scene number 8 (INT, kitchen, morning (6:20am)

Next shot Frank grips the handle of the pan, cooking two fried eggs.

Scene number 9 (EXT, outside the house, morning (6:40am),
mysterious figure

Mysterious figure

Mysterious figure (long blonde hair), only seen blurrily
through the door's glass window.

Drops a yellow envelope through the letter plate. (Audience
are unsure who the mysterious figure is).

Scene number 10 (INT, hall/study room, morning (6:45 am)

Frank

Calmly but steadily walks in the corridor towards the door
(only his footsteps are heard), picks up the yellow envelope.
Frank opens the door but the mysterious figure is gone.
(Illustrated through eyeline match)

Frank then subtly walks down the corridor and enters the study
room.

Frank reads the letter with extreme concentration and a small
grin is conveyed.

Wife

Shouts from the second floor "Frank".

Frank

Frank hears her call, jumps in his place, places the letter back into its envelope but not fully closes it and hides it in a pile of many other similar yellow envelopes (in a box in the cardboard) and exits the room.

Once Frank exits the room a dolly-zoom on the letter, reads: 'From your secret admirer'.

Act number 4:

Scene number 11 (INT, dining table, morning (7 am)

Frank and his wife seat next to each other chatting while eating fried eggs, Frank burned them a little. Music overlaps the conversation. As both characters stare at each other and laugh.

Scene number 12 (INT, bathroom, morning (afternoon)

Frank

Goes to the bathroom adding gel to his hair and buttons a casual buttoned shirt.

Walks back downstairs faster now without holding the hand rail.

Drinks coffee now rather than tea. mowing his lawn and finally watches a movie now with his wife as both are cuddling.

Scene number 13 (INT, bathroom, morning (7am), Frank gets up late.

Act number 5:

Frank

Enters the bathroom the next day, turns the light on, brushes his teeth, puts on a casual buttoned shirt and leaves the bathroom as the clock strikes 7:00 am.

Walks down the stairs without holding the hand rail, although slower than before.

Frank holds a pan with a firm grip cooking connected two eye eggs. And makes coffee.

Wife

Shouts from the second floor "Frank"

Both are eating in opposite side of the table (flowers on the table) and are chatting to each other as music overlaps their conversation.

Frank reads a newspaper, holding with one hand a pen and circles the movies he's interested in seeing.

Frank watches TV before going to sleep.

Act number 6:

Frank

Frank enters the bathroom, he brushes his teeth now back to wearing his pyjamas,

(o) Montage: A montage is repeated several times of Frank brushing his teeth, clock changes from 5:59 am to 6:00 am. Walks down the stairs holding the hand rail. Frank holds a pan with a firm grip cooking two fried eggs, Wife shouts from the second floor "Frank". Frank is reading a newspaper but now he realises his pen is out of ink. He takes the pen and throws into the bin. (Unable to circle the shows he wishes to see).

Frank watches TV

Before turning off the lights he subtly looks at the letter plate and quickly looks away

Turns off the lights

Act number 7:

Frank

In a short shot Frank brushes his teeth the clock hits 6:00 am and Frank walks down the stairs with one hand holding the rail and another his walking cane.

The shot cuts off to:

Wife

The wife enters the bathroom at 6:30 brushes her teeth, then puts on makeup and a long blonde hair wig.

She walks outside with her hands in her pockets and drops a yellow envelope in the letter plate.

The end: The screen turns to black and the wife shouting "Frank" is heard one last time as the credits roll.

Possible ending:

Frank sees the letter, hears the wife shouting "Frank" and smiles.