

Aqua - SAMPLE
Written by
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Property of
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INT. BANQUET HALL

A table filled with folks. Laughter sneezing from every direction.

Bethany looks up from her plate, studies her father.

Neil Starns is fully engaged but she can see the beads of sweat forming over his forehead. She looks around at everyone at the table, clearly having a great time.

BETHANY (V.O.)

I knew something was wrong. And I had to do something before people caught on...

Bethany starts coughing. Coughing profusely. Coughing so much that all eyes fall onto her.

BETHANY (V.O.)

Coughing fit. I used that trick when I was a young girl to get my dad to pay attention to me... So I had to do this in a way that would get every bit of the attention.

Bethany's mother pats her on the back, rises from her seat to help her daughter.

AGNES

(to guests)
She'll be fine.
(embarrassed but
comforting Bethany,
softly but scolding)
To the ladies room -

GUEST

Allergies.

AGNES

We don't have allergies.

BETHANY

(getting up from her seat)
I'm so sorry...

As she swings out from the table, she stops, continuing to cough and falls to the floor.

BETHANY (CONT'D)

Daddy!

Starns bolts from his chair, runs around the table, picks her up from the floor.

STARNES

I got it... It's just a little
thing that happens -

She stops coughing. As her father takes her away, she studies her father.

BETHANY (V.O.)

Sweating profusely, the veins in
his neck... getting obscenely
large. Like they were about to
explode. As soon as we were out of
view, I implored him to put me
down...