

OVER WHITE

NARRATOR (V.O.)
Annalise's tea party.

FADE IN:

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

A CROWD cheers on ANNALISE as she runs through the soccer field, quickly approaching the net. The goalie, BUSTER, braces himself to catch the ball as Annalise goes to kick a goal.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Reality. Annalise kicks the ball towards Buster, who is propped up against the wall. The ball bounces off the wall and nearly knocks over a lamp on a side table.

ANNALISE
Yay! I win!

MOMMY (Annalise's mother) peeks her head into the room.

MOMMY
Alright, my little soccer star, why don't you two play outside?

ANNALISE
We can't.

She motions towards the window, there's a rainstorm outside.

ANNALISE
It's raining out.

MOMMY
Ooh, would you look at that! It's coming down pretty hard. That's a bummer. Hmm, for the sake of my furniture, how about we pick an inside friendly activity?

ANNALISE

Like what, Mommy?

MOMMY

Well, you know what I always enjoy during a rainy day? A nice cup of tea! Why not have a tea party?

Annalise gasps. What a brilliant idea!

ANNALISE

Did you hear that, Buster? A tea party! We can invite Fluffy, and Mr. Pinkie, and, Ooh! Even our new friend, Jack!

MOMMY

That's the spirit!

She picks up Annalise's soccer ball.

MOMMY

Why don't you and Buster get dressed for the party? And I'll whip up some snacks. Does that sound good to you?

Annalise grabs Buster and excitedly runs out of the room, right past Mommy.

MOMMY

I'll take that as a yes.

INT. ANNALISE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Annalise, now dressed in her tea party attire, sits at her table with Buster, who now adorns a top hat and tie.

She looks around at FLUFFY (a stuffed rabbit), MR. PINKIE (a stuffed otter), and JACK (the Jackling doll from the Zoo).

One by one, through Annalise's imagination, they come to life.

Fluffy hops towards the table, handing his invitation to Annalise.

FLUFFY

Darling! You look marvelous Annalise!

ANNALISE

Thank you, Fluffy.

Mr. Pinkie joins them, also handing over his invitation.

MR. PINKIE
I just adore tea parties!

ANNALISE
And we adore having you!

Finally, Jack joins them.

ANNALISE
Invitation?

He lifts his topcoat, revealing the invitation underneath.

JACK
Kept it there for safekeeping,
Annalise.

He hands it to her.

JACK
Now, where are the goodies?

Mommy walks in with tea and cookies. The stuffed animals have gone back to normal. She spots Annalise doing Jack's voice as she plays with him.

ANNALISE
(as Jack)
Now, where are the goodies?

MOMMY
What a party! Even Fluffy came? The gang's all here.

She smiles as she places the platter in front of them.

ANNALISE
Thank you, Mommy.

MOMMY
Now be careful, the tea's still a bit warm. I also made cookies in the shape of bears and some extra dessert, to keep on theme...

She holds up a bag of gummy bears.

MOMMY

Gummy bears!

She places them in front of Mr. Pinkie.

MOMMY

Make sure Mr. Pinkie shares with the others.

Mommy gives a playful wink to the stuffed toy.

Suddenly a CLAP OF THUNDER rumbles from outside. Annalise looks around, frightened.

ANNALISE

W-What was that!?

MOMMY

Aw, did that scare you?

ANNALISE

No! I'm not scared! Um...

She looks around for a scapegoat.

ANNALISE

Buster is! Yeah, Buster's scared.

Buster comes alive for a brief moment just to look at the camera and quickly shake his head no._

MOMMY

It's okay to be afraid, Annalise. It's just thunder. It happens all the time during rainstorms. Other than being a little too loud, it's harmless.

Another THUNDERCLAP roars in the distance.

MOMMY

Why don't you play a game to help take our minds off it? After all, what's a party without some games!?

ANNALISE

I wanna play! I wanna play!

MOMMY

Perfect.

Mommy grabs a jingle bell off Annalise's dresser.

MOMMY

It's called _Pass the Jingle._ I used to play it at every tea party I had when I was your age. It's simple. We sing the song and pass the jingle bell around the table. If you're holding the bell when the song stops, you're out.

A DING goes off in the background.

MOMMY

Ooh, I think those are the next batch of cookies. I made some extra for Daddy Paul. Why don't you and all your little friends play, while I check on the cookies.

As Mommy leaves all the stuffed animals come back to life.

ANNALISE

What do you think? Are you ready to play!?

FLUFFY

Sounds delightful!

MR. PINKIE

I love a good game!

MOMMY

Okay, ready? Begin! Above it states Mommy has already left the room.

MUSIC starts as the group sings, passing the bell around.

ALL

(singing)

PASS THE JINGLE _ROUND THE TEAPOT,
SHORT AND STOUT! IF YOU'RE HOLDING IT
RIGHT NOW, YOU_RE OUT!

Mr. Pinkie has the jingle. He gracefully steps out from the group. The game continues.

ALL

PASS THE JINGLE BACK AND FORTH, WHERE
WILL IT GO? ARE YOU HOLDING IT right
now? UH-OH!

Buster's out.

ALL
PASS THE JINGLE LEFT AND RIGHT, YOU KNOW
WHAT TO DO! WHEN THIS SONG IS OVER,
THERE'S A FINAL TWO!

Fluffy's out. Now it's down to Jack and Annalise. They toss the
jingle bell back and forth while everyone sings.

ALL
PASS THE JINGLE ONE LAST TIME, WITH A
HAPPY GRIN. LAST TO HOLD THE JINGLE?
YOU WIN!

Annalise wins! She jumps up and down with excitement while the
others clap and laugh.

ANNALISE
That was fun!

JACK
Yes! I loved that game!

Annalise starts jumping around.

ANNALISE
All this singing makes me want to dance!
Wait! I have an idea!

She runs over to her nightstand and presses play on the radio
sitting atop it. MUSIC begins to play.

ANNALISE
Let's have a talent show! We can all
show off our best dance moves! What do
you think, Buster?

She looks over to find Buster already dancing to the music.

FLUFFY
Well, Annalise, you're the host! You
do the honors! Show us how to, how do
you kids say it? Boogie woogie?

ANNALISE

Okay!

Annalise gets up and starts doing some ballet moves (nothing too fancy, the cutesy kind you find at a 4-year old's dance recital).

ANNALISE

Come on, everyone try!

All the other stuffed animals get up and join her.

Annalise looks at the camera and talks to the audience for a beat.

ANNALISE

You can try too! Join us!

Another beat as they all dance, following Annalise.

MR. PINKIE

My turn!

He takes center stage.

MR. PINKIE

This dance move reminds me of swimming
in the water! It's one of my favorite
things to do! It goes like this!

He moves his hands out, almost mimicking swimming, to the beat
of the music.

Another beat as the others follow along.

Then, Jack steps forward.

JACK

Me next! I like to kick my feet to the
music, like this!

He does a little chorus line two-step. Once again, the others
follow his lead for a beat.

Buster then steps forward, twitches his tail back and forth to
the music, they all cheer him on.

FLUFFY

How about this!?

Fluffy jumps into the center.

FLUFFY

Let's do the bunny hop! Trust me, I'm
an expert!

They all do two hops forward, one hop back, and repeat.

DADDY PAUL peeks his head into the doorway.

DADDY PAUL

I heard there were some bear shaped
cookies in here?

He smiles when he spots Annalise hopping back and forth, holding
her toys.

Mommy joins Daddy Paul in the doorway.

MOMMY

Didn't you hear? Annalise is throwing
a tea party.

DADDY PAUL

Well, my invitation must've gotten
lost in the mail.

Annalise giggles.

ANNALISE

You're always invited, Daddy Paul!
Dance with us!

Daddy Paul shoots a Mommy a look that says, "Should we?" Mommy
smiles.

CUT TO:

INT. ANNALISE'S BEDROOM - LATER

Mommy and Daddy Paul join Annalise, they're all doing the bunny
hop! The guests, which have turned back to toys, are sitting at
the table, watching.

FADE TO:

INT. ANNALISE'S BEDROOM - LATER

Annalise sits with her stuffed animals, and Mommy and Daddy Paul.

She raises a teacup.

ANNALISE

Thank you all for coming! What a fun
and silly day! I love having friends
to eat, play, and laugh together with!

Mommy and Daddy Paul raise their cups in agreement. A beat.

MOMMY

You throw an amazing party, Annalise!

DADDY PAUL

I agree!

He takes a bite from one of the cookies.

DADDY PAUL

And my compliments to the chef!

MOMMY

Wait a sec, did you hear that?

ANNALISE

No, Mommy. I don't hear anything.

MOMMY

Exactly. I think the rainstorm's over.
Let's go see!

Mommy gets up and heads towards the door, Daddy Paul and Annalise follow.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

They all gather around the window and, sure enough, it's not raining!

ANNALISE

No more rain!

MOMMY

I guess time flies when you're having
fun. We waited out the entire storm.

ANNALISE

Buster, do you know what that means?

She rushes back to her room.

INT. ANNALISE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Annalise enters.

ANNALISE

Buster! The rain is gone! We can play outside!

She finds Buster, adorning his soccer uniform, balancing the ball on his head.

ANNALISE

Hey...wait a minute.

She looks to her other toys.

ANNALISE

I think we may have enough for a full team...

A smile spreads across Annalise's face.

CUT TO:

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

Back in Annalise's imagination, Annalise sprints through the soccer field while fans cheer her name. All of her toys are running with her, each one wearing a soccer jersey with their name on it.

FANS

Annalise! Annalise!

Fluffy tries to steal the ball, but Annalise is too fast! She approaches the net and goes to kick the ball...

BACK TO:

EXT. ANNALISE'S BACKYARD - DAY

Reality. Annalise runs around the muddy yard, her toys scattered about.

Daddy Paul and Mommy watch from the doorway, cheering her on just like the fans from her daydream.

MOMMY/DADDY PAUL
Annalise! Annalise!

Annalise kicks the ball, and it bounces against the fence. She jumps up and down with excitement.

MOMMY
She shoots, she scores!

DADDY PAUL
(re: Annalise's muddy
clothes)
I don't think I've ever been to a tea
party that ended with this much mud.

Mommy giggles.

MOMMY
I guess there's a first time for
everything.

The soccer ball rolls towards Mommy's feet.

MOMMY
Just like how I'm about to score my first
goal of the game!

She runs out into the yard, joining Annalise.

DADDY PAUL
Oh, game on!

He follows her.

Final shot of everyone running around, laughing and playing. The sun shining bright in the distance as we...

FADE TO BLACK.