



**Ringling College
of Art + Design**

"BETH"

Genre: Drama

Written and Directed by Daniel Alvarez

Production Dates: September 26-September 27, 2014

Synopsis: BETH, a Mother diagnosed with bone cancer discovers her son FRANK has just been accepted to a school away from home. Ever since she became ill, Frank has been wanting to be by his mother's side. Beth Finally reveals the acceptance letter to Frank because she wants what is best for him but Frank refuses to accept the once in a lifetime offer and give up his career in baseball to take care of his mother. Beth makes a big decision that may affect herself and her relationship with her son Frank.

Character Breakdowns

Beth(Mid to late 40's) Sweet, Light-hearted, Sensitive. Once was highly motivated woman but ever since her husband's death due to a drug overdose she became depressed and distant from others. She slowly started to get back up on her feet with the help of her son Frank, which also helped their relationship grow more. Once she became better she discovered that she was diagnosed with bone cancer. Ever since then, the depression came back and she became weak physically, emotionally, and mentally. The only person she believes that keeps her alive is her one and only son Frank. All Beth has wanted is for her son to be the better man and to not follow his father's footsteps.

Frank(Early 20's) Athletic, Light-hearted, Confident, Caring. A young man with a huge passion for baseball. Wishes to become the best athlete he can be. Baseball has helped him get away from the problems he dealt with at home. Ever since his mother became sick, School and baseball became the last thing on his priority list. All he wants is for his mother to be proud of him and to accept the fact that she is his priority because he does not want to lose her.

Rob(Mid to late 40's) Confident, Overachiever, humorous. Professional college recruiter. Once used to be a baseball coach but ever since he developed joint issues, he wanted to be able to talk to people about his passions and help people become more active by getting them into sports. Believes his job can change people's lives and wants the best for students.

BETH'S SIDES:

We see a suitcase, along with a duffel bag, sitting in front of the door. Franks walks in with groceries, realizing the bags as he walks towards them, confused. Beth steps out of her room.

FRANK

Mom...what is going on?

BETH

I packed your clothes and made some breakfast to take with you. You have a flight at 1:30.

FRANK

W-why are you doing this? I can't just leave you here by yourself. The doctor said you need to be with someone until the chemo is over.

Frank attempts to walk past Beth, but Beth blocks his path.

BETH

I can't let you do this to yourself. You have been here long enough and now you need to go out there and do what is right for you.

FRANK

You have taken care of me your whole life...Why can't I do the same for you?

BETH

Frank, we both know that I'm not going to last long. You've done enough for me.

FRANK

Don't you dare say that Mom! You will get better.

BETH

Frank...please.

Frank hesitates.

FRANK

...M-MOM

BETH

I don't want to hear it...Leave.

Frank is left speechless by the tone of her voice. Beth picks up two of the bags and hands it him.

We see Frank carrying the bags as he walks over to his car and places them in the trunk. He comes back for the luggage.

BETH

Call me when you get there.

There is a pause. They embrace.

FRANK

Will you...be okay?

She doesn't respond.

Frank takes the luggage and brings it to his car. Before he gets in, he takes a good look at Beth as she stands there watching him.

BETH

I love you Frank...

Frank drives off.

FRANK'S SIDES:

BETH

Hey Frank.

FRANK

Hey...I got the Meds. How are you feeling?

Beth responds with a soft tone.

BETH

Thank you sweetie, I'm okay...could be better.

Beth pulls out the letter out of the drawer and hands it to Frank.

FRANK

Whats this?

BETH

I was so tempted to open it but I decided to wait for you.

Frank is shocked by the logo of the letter as it happens to be the logo of a university.

BETH

Go ahead...Open it.

Frank rips the envelope open with excitement and pulls out the letter. He reads it to himself.

BETH

So...whats it say?

Frank takes a while to respond.

FRANK

I...I got accepted!

Beth opens her arms wide. They embrace.

BETH

I knew you'd get accepted. I'm so proud of you.

Frank looks at the letter once more. The excitement suddenly fades away as he looks back at Beth.

FRANK

No...I can't.

BETH

What do you mean?...you wouldn't stop talking about the school and now your just going to let it go?

FRANK

I know Mom...But I have my reasons.

BETH

I...I don't understand.

Frank places the letter on top of the drawer.

FRANK

The doctor said that this dose of chemo is a bit stronger. So get as much rest as you can. Good night Mom.

Frank leaves the room with a disappointed look on his face.

Beth is left speechless. She grabs the Acceptance letter and reads through it slowly as she takes her meds. She pulls out her cell phone and dials a number that happens to be on the letter.

ROB'S SIDES:

We see FRANK looking through a brochure for a school as he is listening to a MAN next him explain. ROB (48) hands Frank some more papers.

ROB

You see, we only recruit very few people who we think deserve it. We are also offering a scholarship

Frank continues to look through the papers.

ROB

Can I also mention that we are located in Miami. For a person that lives in a small town, you would definitely enjoy it.

FRANK

What's the catch?

Rob chuckles.

ROB

We think you are the perfect person for our program.

Beth walks into the living room.

ROB

Ah! please sit down Beth, I was just telling your son how much of a star he is.

Beth smiles while she sits with them.

FRANK

I really appreciate this offer Rob, but I don't think I can do this right now.

Beth whispers to Frank.

BETH

Frank! what are you doing?

He whispers back.

FRANK

Mom, I can't.

Frank places the papers on the table.

FRANK

Is it possible if I can do this some other time?

ROB

I'm afraid not, and if you did it would probably be harder to get in. Here's what you can do, give me a call later today or tomorrow morning and let me know what your plan is.

Rob hands Frank his card and heads for the door.

ROB

Think about Frank. It was nice meeting both.

He leaves.