

(Printed with the demonstration version of Fade In)

THE END

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EXT. AIRPORT - DAY

The sky is gray and drizzling rain. DAPHNE (f, late 20s), climbs out of a cab. The driver helps her get her bags from the trunk.

INT. AIRPORT - DAY CONTINUOUS

Dragging her bags behind her, she walks through the airport. The signs with directions are written in French. A french woman speaks over the intercom. Daphne stops at an airline counter and begins to check her bag.

INT. AIRPORT - DAY

Daphne stands in line for security, slowly trudging forward.

She removes her shoes, her belt, and a gold charm bracelet, putting them into a plastic bin on the conveyor belt. She steps through the metal detector when the workers signal her and goes to collect her things.

INT. AIRPORT - DAY

Rolling one small suitcase behind her, Daphne calmly walks through the airport, casually looking around. She wears headphones with a cord, the music faintly playing through. Indiscernible sound comes from the intercom and shoes squeak and scuffle by.

To the side of the walkway, a man and woman frantically hug and kiss each other, tears streaming down their faces. Daphne blinks at them and continues walking.

INT. AIRPORT - DAY

Daphne finds an open seat at her gate and sits. The sign at the counter says: ORY to JFK.

She looks around and bounces her knee as she waits. Huffing, she pulls out her phone and starts to skip through the songs playing. An incoming call comes through from a contact named: COLETTE.

Her hand freezes and her eyebrows furrow. Slowly, she removes her headphones and brings the phone to her ear.

DAPHNE

Hello?

The other side of the phone is silent for a moment.

COLETTE (V.O.)

Hi.

She has a nice French accent. There is faint chatter from other people sitting at the gate.

COLETTE (V.O.) (cont'd)

Did you, uh, make it to your gate ok?

Daphne shifts in her seat.

DAPHNE

Yes.

COLETTE (V.O.)

Good, bien.

Daphne stares at a spot in front of her.

COLETTE (V.O.) (cont'd)

This weather is not the best for flying, no? Are you sure you want to fly today?

Colette quietly laughs. Daphne politely chuckles and goes quiet.

COLETTE (V.O.) (cont'd)

Listen. I just wanted to...you know I'm not great with, um. Do you still have that bracelet?

Daphne glances down at the gold bracelet on her wrist.

DAPHNE

Yes.

COLETTE (V.O.)

Good, bien.

They both are quiet. Daphne's eyes search around.

COLETTE (V.O.) (cont'd)

Yes...I've just been thinking about our time together.

Daphne twists the headphone cord in between her fingers.

COLETTE (V.O.) (cont'd)
Do you remember that one cab driver
who spent the whole ride to my place
telling us about his Elvis doll
collection?

Daphne smiles.

DAPHNE
Yes.

COLETTE (V.O.)
And then he tried to get us to buy
one. What a strange man, yes.

Daphne huffs out a laugh. The sound of airplanes taking off
in the distance fill the silence. A baby laughs somewhere.

COLETTE (V.O.) (cont'd)
Um, do you ever wish you could stop
time? Or hold onto a moment for a bit
longer? Sometimes I get so depressed
about this. Like all I can focus on
is missing something before it's even
over.

Daphne stops smiling. She blinks for a moment before
answering.

DAPHNE
I think it's kind of nice, knowing
that you can't. That you'll never be
able to relive it, but having
something to always remember it.

She looks at her bracelet again. Colette chuckles through
the phone.

COLETTE (V.O.)
How lucky the have memories worth
missing. I suppose.

DAPHNE
I suppose.

She smiles. Loudly, a french woman speaks over the intercom
and people around Daphne begin to stand.

DAPHNE (cont'd)
They've, um, started boarding. I have
to go.

COLETTE (V.O.)
(quietly)
You have to go.

DAPHNE
I'll see you around.

There's a pause.

COLETTE (V.O.)
See you.

Daphne slowly brings the phone down and hangs up. She sits there staring at a spot on the floor before exhaling and relaxing her shoulders a bit. Her face is blank.

INT. PLANE - EVENING

Daphne sits at the window seat of a plane. Her chin rests on her hand that's propped on the arm rest. Her headphones are in and she looks out the window. The sky is gray and cloudy, covering the view.

The plane lifts up and up until it breaks through the top of the clouds. Slowly, the setting sun is revealed, shining golden light all over the tops of the clouds. It looks like it's in slow motion.

Without moving, Daphne slowly smiles and a tear runs down her cheek.

The End.