

PERIWINKLE JONES

by

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INT. STUDY - DAY

Filtered light shines through windows that haven't been cleaned in a very long time. Built-in bookcases with dusty books. Vintage furniture and room design.

PERIWINKLE JONES (40's) sits in a worn chair by one window with spotless glass that looks out to a sidewalk and quaint city street with mature trees.

Periwinkle's of medium build with nice hands but his bulgy eyes, severe underbite and odd bone structure render him quite possibly the ugliest man you've ever seen.

He sits with steaming mug, reading wedding announcements in the newspaper. He lightly touches the wedding pictures and then he touches his own face, sad envy in his eyes.

He's distracted by several BOYS (preteen) outside on the sidewalk. They look at the house and TAUNT.

BOYS

(random)

Anybody home? Careful! It might eat you! I ain't scared of it!

Periwinkle quickly pulls the light curtain down and closes his eyes in a fervent prayer.

PERIWINKLE

(whisper)

Please. I'll do anything.

At that moment a small FAIRY materializes from within the filtered light. Periwinkle presses his head against the back of his chair in fear.

FAIRY

Anything, Periwinkle?

Periwinkle opens his mouth to speak but is unable to. The fairy waits a moment before tapping her wand impatiently in the palm of her hand. It sparks.

FAIRY (CONT'D)

Your tea is getting cold.

Periwinkle snaps out of his daze and looks at the cup and back at the fairy.

FAIRY (CONT'D)

I could go and come back another time -- perhaps...

PERIWINKLE

(squeaks)

...Don't leave. Help me.

She smiles and flits up to his face. He lowers his head as if to hide. She lifts his chin up.

FAIRY

Smile.

PERIWINKLE

It's been so long...

FAIRY

Come on, now. I'm about to change your life.

Periwinkle musters up a weak smile.

FAIRY (CONT'D)

See? Not so bad. Yes, I know just what to do with you.

PERIWINKLE

Will it -- hurt?

FAIRY

It shouldn't, dear.

She prepares her wand and Periwinkle watches it with great anticipation. She halts.

FAIRY (CONT'D)

You should know...I'll return to you in three days at which point you must decide whether or not to keep my gift.

He nods understanding and the fairy touches her wand in between his eyes. His form is enveloped within a glowing, sparking light and he appears to shrink.

EXT. BUSY FLEA MARKET - BOOTH - DAY

Next to a booth with knick-knacks is a box of puppies. They're cute and furry and only one RUNT PUPPY looks nothing like the others.

He's very small with big bulgy eyes and a severe underbite. Quite possibly the ugliest dog you've ever seen.

EMILY (6) runs up to the box of puppies with a grin. She pets them and picks up the runt puppy.

EMILY

How funny looking you are! I love
you!

She holds him close to her chest and the puppy locks eyes
with the hiding fairy, who smiles at him. He wags his tail
and licks Emily's face.