

If I had another day

Written By

Clarke Scott

Clarke.scott@gmail.com

0432 763 735

INT. APARTMENT - MORNING

A young women lies in bed.

ELLA (V.O.)

It frightens to be open, only to
hear silence.

Her face is smudged with markup.

ELLA (V.O.)

For I need to lose myself in order
to find my own way. And it's in
that darkness I see what's real,
reflected back.

EXT. CENTRE PLACE LANEWAY - AFTERNOON

We see a girl walking down a laneway. She moves through the crowd with a quiet grace.

She steps to one side of a large men wearing an oversized grey suit making certain not to bump into him.

This is Ella.

She is a tall, elegant, beautiful, with a hint of loneliness scared into her young face.

INT. APARTMENT - MORNING

She rolls onto her back.

EXT. CENTRE PLACE LANEWAY/JEWELLERS STORE - CONTINUOUS

She stops at a jewellers. Stands at a window admiring the goods on offer through the glass shopfront.

We see her flinch as she feels someone watching her from across the way.

She moves her head slightly to the right to see who it may be. Before quickly turns away again coyly.

INT. APARTMENT - MORNING

Sits up.

ELLA (V.O.)
There's knowledge in being so raw
and exposed. It's a place where
truth is revealed.

EXT. CHINATOWN RESTAURANT - EVENING

ELLA stands nervously outside a Chinese restaurant.

People walk by as she moves her weight from one leg to the other and looks up and down the street.

With her back is turned THE BOY walks up from behind.

She turns. Surprised.

She is delighted to see him but if she tries to keep this excitement hidden.

She turns towards the restaurant, points towards the front door, and then leads him inside the restaurant.

INT. APARTMENT - MORNING

Moves to the side of the bed.

ELLA (V.O.)
Truth revealed without the need of
words. (beat) Listen. Closely. Do
you hear?

INT. CHINATOWN RESTURANT - CONTINUOUS

They eat and do various things and she begins to open up even more.

INT. APARTMENT - MORNING

Stands and walks slowly to her wardrobe where she checks her phone for any messages.

EXT. FLINDER ST. STATION STEPS - AFTERNOON

ELLA sits quietly on the steps of Flinders St Stations steps.

She looks around for THE BOY – she looks to the left. Then the right. Bites her nails. Down at her feet. Back up again.

Before noticing him amongst the oncoming crowd crossing the street.

A broad smile comes over her face as she stands and walks towards the crowd with a little skip. Her excitement is less hidden this time around.

INT. APARTMENT - MORNING

She steps into the bathroom.

EXT. SWANSTON ST. BRIDGE - AFTERNOON

Playfully ELLA tried to run from THE BOY.

She runs just quick enough not get caught but slow enough to keep him interested.

She giggles as she runs, and plays with THE BOY.

INT. APARTMENT - MORNING

Takes her clothes off. Then steps into the shower.

ELLA (V.O.)

I must not retreat from the world
forever. (beat) Be in but not of, I
shall.

EXT. SWANSTON ST. BRIDGE

She leans against the railing of the bridge and looks over the railing at the water below.

THE BOY watches her closely. She feels his gaze and turns to him then smiles broadly and coyly before pointing to a boat going under the bridge.

THE BOY looks at what she is looking at and then goes back to watching her.

She play-acts the scene from Titanic with arms in the air. (Or perhaps something less obvious and cliché!)

INT. APARTMENT - MORNING

Showers. Cries. Dries her eyes.

ELLA (V.O.)

I will continue to live as you
showed me. (beat) True. Straight.
Real.

EXT. YARRA RIVER BANK - AFTERNOON

She walks to a spot in the grass and sits.

She plays with THE BOY in the grass.

We see her rolling down the hill.

INT. APARTMENT - MORNING

Makes her self a cup of tea.

EXT. PRINCESS THEATRE - EVENING

Standing outside the theatre she waits for THE BOY to arrive.

She checks her watch. Takes a few steps down the footpath.

Then her phone. Take a few steps back.

She watches other people entering the theatre.

Paces a little more...before checking her watch and phone again!

INT. APARTMENT - MORNING

Sits in the counter drinking said tea.

EXT. PALIMENT - EVENING

ELLA walks alone at night.

Her head is slumped downwards. She wears a hoodie and jacket. She is downcast physically and emotionally.

We see the city lights and the Parliament building in the background as she looks over at the theatre.

She turns and walk away.

INT. APARTMENT - MORNING

She washes her cup in the sink.

ELLA (V.O.)

I will remember the past but not
live there.

Then before abruptly. Before moving towards the front door.

EXT. SWANSTON ST. BRIDGE - NIGHT

She walks just a little quicker. Stops. Turns.

Looks around for something.

Sees someone coming. Begins to walk towards this person.
Then stops. Turns back.

INT. APARTMENT - MORNING

As she moves towards the door she notices someone of the other side. She stop. Remains silent for a moment.

ELLA (V.O.)

I will plan for the future without
you.

EXT. FLINDER ST. STATION STEPS - NIGHT

We see her sitting alone of the steps. Head low. Shoulders low. Head in hands.

She looks up. Then stands slowly. And walks off.

INT. APARTMENT - MORNING

Move forward again. Edging closer and closer to the door.

She leans in to the peep-hole see who is at the door.

ELLA (V.O.)

I will remain open. Vulnerable.

EXT. JEWELLERS STORE - NIGHT

She walks away. Down the laneway.

She does not stop. Or turn. Just keeps walking. Alone.

INT. APARTMENT - MORNING

With her eye to the peephole she realises...

ELLA (V.O.)

For while life come, (beat) love is
a choice.

who it is she moves back from the door quickly!

THE END