

A dramatic coastal scene featuring towering, layered cliffs on either side of a narrow beach. The ocean is visible with white foam from waves washing onto the shore. The sky is overcast and hazy. The overall mood is somber and majestic.

ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD

A Short Screenplay
Written by Curt James

ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD

Written by Curt James

Curt James
Email: curtjames5@yahoo.co.uk
Mobile/Cell: 07956 732028
W.G.G.B. Number: 41548031

ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD - By Curt James

FADE IN:

EXT. SEASIDE - AFTERNOON.

The late afternoon sun shines orange through waves CRASHING on the rocks in a cove. Above, there are cliffs. Everywhere is deserted. There are no seagulls. It's a little eerie.

A man is huddled up on the rocks staring into the sea. He looks worse for wear. He is MARK CHAPLIN, 35, collar length brown hair, untidy beard and casual clothes. He looks dishevelled, wet and disorientated.

He stares beyond the sea in deep thought. An air of suspense builds around him. An old woman's voice calls out a few feet away VERONICA, 80's, average, smartly dressed and glasses. She has an air of elegance about her.

VERONICA

So young man, what sunken ship did
you wash up from?

He stares at her, dazed and confused.

MARK

Errrr hi, yeah, I errr, don't know.

He looks down at his hands and feet, very disorientated.

MARK (cont'd)

I don't know how I got here. What am
I doing here?

Veronica frowns at him.

VERONICA

You don't know how you got here? Are
you on medication young man? Do I
need to call someone?

MARK

No, noooo, I'll be fine.

He takes a look at her, and frowns.

MARK (cont'd)

What are YOU doing here?

Veronica smiles.

VERONICA

I often come down here to think and be by myself. It's peaceful. I have become a bit of a hermit since my husband died.

(BEAT)

I'm Veronica.

He looks at her and nods in acknowledgement. She looks assertive, but there is something quite dark about her.

MARK

I'm errr, I'm Mark. Mark Chaplin.
Do you live around here?

She nods "yes".

VERONICA

I live on the seafront. Been here for over thirty years. I've seen some changes, I'll tell you.

Mark nods. He then checks his pockets for a mobile. He pulls it out, its wet, and dead.

MARK

SHIT!

(BEAT - LOOKS AT
VERONICA)

Errr, sorry.

VERONICA

One of those mobile thingies isn't it? Everyone seems to have one these days. People can't seem to live without them.

MARK

I think I must of banged my head or something as I can't quite remember where I was going, or what I was doing, before this.

Veronica gets up, carefully and shuffles over and sits next to him. She frowns, carefully looking all over his head.

VERONICA

Lean forward Dear--

(BEAT)

Hmmm, no, no sign of any damage.

MARK
I don't feel right.

VERONICA
Were you out partying at that club
last night? It seems to be where
everyone goes these days.

MARK
No, no, at least I don't think so.

VERONICA
I'm sure it will come back to you
shortly.

SERIES OF SHOTS:

- A) The waves crashing against the rocks.
- B) The evening sun starts to slowly go down.
- C) Moving around the cliffs.
- D) Moving to an old wooden bench.

BACK TO SCENE.

Veronica looks down and smiles.

VERONICA (cont'd)
What happened to your other shoe?

Mark looks down, he only has one trainer on.

MARK
I must have been drunk or something.
I think I'm starting to remember.

FLASHBACK - SERIES OF SHOTS:

- A) Mark and his girlfriend SAM, 30's blond and casual. Both look devastated, and both are crying in a car.
- B) Outside the car are the cliffs. It's bright and sunny.
- C) Both sit on the old wooden bench above. They hold hands.
- D) Sam is wearing a unique and distinct gold pendant necklace and chain.
- E) Both stand up and look out to the sea.

BACK TO SCENE.

Mark is in a daze.

MARK (cont'd)

I was with my girlfriend. I think, I think she left me. Oh God, why can't I remember!?

VERONICA

I'm sure it will come back to you - in time.

Mark looks upset.

MARK

I have to get back. I have to be somewhere. Somewhere - else?

Veronica smiles at him and pats his hand.

VERONICA

My boy, there is no rush, it's nice and peaceful here. You have ALL the time in the world.

Mark looks around at her, a little freaked out. She stares at him coldly. He is a little intimidated by her.

MARK

What do you mean, ALL the time in the world?

VERONICA

Look out there, nice and peaceful, not a care in the world.

Mark looks down and sees Sam's gold pendant laying on the rocks. He frowns, reaches over and picks it up.

MARK

This is Sam's, my girlfriend. What's going on here?

VERONICA

You seem sad, Mark. Is something deeply troubling you?

Mark looks down and holds the pendant close. He wells up.

MARK

[SIGHS] We, we lost our baby. Sam has terminal cancer and to be honest, both of us can't cope. I'd be lost without her.

VERONICA
And here you are, lost without her. I
am sure she isn't far.

SERIES OF SHOTS:

- A) Moving up to the cliffs above and over...
- B) Moving to the old wooden bench and along it...
- C) ...to a woman's handbag and coat, and a man's coat.
- D) Moving slowly from the bench to the cliff edge and to
Mark's other trainer.

BACK TO SCENE.

Veronica stares at him. Mark looks a little uncomfortable.

VERONICA (cont'd)
I'm sure you'll be with her shortly.

MARK
What do you mean? Look, I have to
leave. Nice talking with you. Please
be careful here yeah?

Mark turns and sees skeletal remains partially in the water,
behind him. It's wearing the same, but faded/rotten clothes
as Veronica. He jumps back in shock and looks at Veronica!

VERONICA
I live here, I can never leave. Looks
like you and me will be here a while.

She points over his shoulder to the base of the cliff,
twenty feet away. A man lays dead, smashed on the rocks.
Mark walks over and stands in shock - it's him. He's dead!

VERONICA (cont'd)
Welcome to peace and tranquillity.
Sam sent her love, she has passed on
now. The tide took her body away.

Mark looks at her in shock! A weird fog starts to move in.

MARK
WHAT!? What did you just say!?

VERONICA
Let go Mark, accept what has happened
or you'll be stuck here, like me.
I've been here over thirty years.

MARK

Is this some kind of sick joke?

VERONICA

No joke. It took me a while to realise from others that have come here that there is no escape from here, until you make peace with your past life and accept the next life.

MARK

So, if what you are saying is true, then how are you still here?

VERONICA

I want to be here, perfect for me, peace and quiet. I guess you don't.

She smiles sweetly at him, with a slight air of menace, as he sits in shock holding Sam's pendant.

VERONICA (cont'd)

Perhaps the pair of you shouldn't have jumped...hmmm?

(BEAT)

I've seen many people over the years jump to their death. You're not the first, and won't be the last.

He looks up at the cliffs, then at his smashed body.

VERONICA (cont'd)

Suicide pacts rarely end well Mark.

(BEAT)

Welcome my dear, to eternity.

Moving back as the sun goes down. Mark screams out!

MARK

SOMEBODY HELP MEEEEEE!!!!

Moving back to a sinister distant misty view as the sun starts to go down.

MARK (O.S.)

HELP MEEEEEE!!!!

FADE OUT.

END OF ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD.