# SCRIPT – PARADISE BEACH

***SCENE 1***

***BEDROOM***

***INT (DAY)***

*Jo has come through a turbulent year of living at Paradise beach. She has an older brother Max, who she loves but is often judgmental and a bore. She loves her parents but can’t live with them and get along with them. She is self centered and sometimes selfish, but ahs a big heart and generous nature with her friends. She’s determined, brave, headstrong and sometimes naïve. Andrew enters the bedroom, munching on a piece of fruit. He finds Jo packing her things into a suitcase.*

**Andrew** So, you’ve made your mind up.

**Jo** *Nods…* You were right, Andrew. I’ve only got one Father. I should make the most of whatever time he’s got left and spend it with him.

**Andrew** No need to hit the panic button. Your Dad’s not that old yet. He could be right as rain for years to come.

*Jo sees through this casual reassurance.*

**Jo** Then why is he taking those pills and why doesn’t he want Mum to know about it?

**Andrew** Yeah, right… *Munches an apple…* Does sound like a worry.

**Jo** A worry? You don’t know my Dad. If he was hit by a truck, he might admit he needed a few aspirin. I should be there to help take care of him, Andrew. He’s always done his best to look after me. *Pauses…* Maybe that’s why he’s sick…

**Andrew** The stress of raising you and Wonder Boy? Nah, don’t kid yourself.

**Jo** The stress and strain of running a business for 25 years. And he doesn’t know what to do with himself when he isn’t working. That’s why Mum was so surprised when he decided to stay up here.

*Andrew, listening, not commenting, has realised this is something she has to get off*

*her chest.*

**Jo** And what have I done? Just caused more agro by thinking about myself? That’s got to stop. *She pauses to look at Andrew…* I’m going to do the right thing for once in my life.

*Andrew holds up his hands defensively.*

**Andrew** Fine, I think what you’re doing is exactly the right thing.

**Jo** *Surprised…* You do?

**Andrew** I do. And I’m proud of you.

**Jo** Really?

**Andrew** Uh huh… *He wraps a reassuring arm around her.*

**Andrew** I just hope you’re around to look after me when I’m over the hill.

*She grins and he gives her a light, affectionate kiss. Jo is heartened. A warm*

*moment between them is felt. Andrew indicates to the suitcase.*

**Andrew** You want a hand with that?

**Jo** Thanks. *She closes is…* I just wish Sally was here so I could thank her for putting up with me.

*Andrew hefts the suitcase.*

**Andrew** Plenty of time to catch up with Sally, you’re going to your parent’s place, not the moon.

*Jo nods, accepting and considering this. She takes a final nostalgic look around the*

*bedroom, a flicker of regret is felt.*

**Jo** It’s going to be different, that’s for sure.