

Top of the World

By

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FADE IN ON:

EXT. NYC - WALL STREET - EVENING

The CROWD surges in all directions. A RELIGIOUS GROUP prays in one corner. Cars HONK crazily. It's almost like a street market - except for the SCREAMS in the air.

DANNY (20s) muscles through the crowd, holds tight to twenty-something CAITLYN'S hand. His goatee labels him "hipster." As do the piercings in her ear. She stumbles along on platform heels.

A BUSINESS MAN races past, slams Caitlyn's shoulder.

CAITLYN

Hey, fuck-wad!

DANNY

Forget it. We don't have much time!

They pass by Wall Street's Bronze Bull. Duck down an avenue. Danny pushes past another wall of humanity, running in the opposite direction. Caitlyn trips.

WATER RUSHES nearby. She looks up...

At the reflecting pools of 9/11 Memorial Plaza, bordering them on either side. Caitlyn GASPS. She wasn't expecting... this.

CAITLYN

Oh.

Danny pulls her on, towards a building - One World Trade Center. The doors are open. Danny leads Caitlyn inside.

INT. ONE WORLD TRADE CENTER

They head to the back of the lobby, past pictures of the old buildings. Caitlyn digs in retro heels.

DANNY

Come on. Don't stop!

CAITLYN

What are you doing?!

DANNY

What does it look like? Getting the elevator.

(beat)

Trust me, you don't wanna take the stairs.

Caitlyn glares.

CAITLYN

You know what I mean.

DANNY

I told you I wanted to go somewhere special for our date. I'm not gonna let it end here.

CAITLYN

(sarcastic)

Oh, it's gonna end, all right. With a really, really big bang.

Danny punches the elevator "up" button. He looks into her eyes. In his face: longing. And regret.

DANNY

I've been trying to get you to go out with me for six months. Then, finally, you say yes.

CAITLYN

But...

DANNY

The world's about to end. Don't you wanna see the fireworks?

CAITLYN

(beat)

Did I mention I'm afraid of heights?

The elevator DINGS. The doors open. Danny steps inside.

DANNY

Come on, Caitlyn. Whaddya say? I've reserved the best seat in the house.

He kisses her on the cheek. Caitlyn finally smiles. Takes his hand.

FINAL FADE OUT: