

Birthday  
A one page screenplay

    By

    Michelle Golder

2011

17 Broad Lane  
Haslingfield, CAMBS CB23 1JF

michellegolder@gmail.com  
07913 989254

EXT. A STREET IN ENFIELD, EVENING

Katie, 9, hides behind a fence. She looks up the street, then down at a stamped letter in her hands, addressed: Robert Degby, Dubbai [sic]. Distant sound of rioting.

KATIE [V.O]

Dear Dad, I have to post this before mum gets home because she won't let me out there is riots today *again*. Did you see on telly? We did. Mum said we might see some of our neighbours but they was all wearin' hoodies so I couldn't tell. I saw people *stealing*. They was taking TV's and I saw them at a shop where there is smartphones which I would really like one for my birthday but mum can't afford it. Hint hint. Then I could text you.

Katie darts out and starts running down the street.

KATIE [V.O]

Is there riots in Dubai? Mum says you are there. She said riots are because of government cuts and so No Wonder but Nan said Don't You Dare. Mum got angry.

Katie reaches the post box and puts her letter inside. As she does so, we hear rioters approaching. She looks up as a group runs around the corner.

KATIE [V.O]

Please come on my birthday even if you can't afford a smartphone either.

Some young men run past. One shoves a box into her arms.

TOUGH GUY

Present for ya!

The men run off as Katie looks at the box - it's a pink smartphone. From O.S. we hear a voice.

KATIE'S MUM [O.S]

Katie!

Katie looks up. Her mother is at the corner. They look at each other. Katie's mouth moves soundlessly: Mum.

KATIE [V.O]

Love and kisses, Katie.

ENDS