

Virginia Aldridge Outline  
- 2/26/89 "Beauty and the  
Beast"

"WISHES AND DREAMS"  
(working title)

ACT ONE

1/ PARK ENTRANCE. Cathy and Vincent. Cathy invites him to a special dinner she is preparing. An evening just for them.

2/ CATHY'S APARTMENT. Saturday. Late afternoon. Dinner's cooking... all preparations are ready on the balcony... Cathy's dress is laid out on the bed. Cathy is in the shower when the phone rings. She gets out too late to answer it, but the machine is on. She plays back the message. "It's Beth..Beth Simmons. I know it's been a while. Do you remember? I hope so...I'd really like to come see you. I'll call back... wishes and dreams."  
Beth... A name Cathy instantly remembers. She smiles as she plays the message back again, remembering...

3/ FLASHBACK: Summer camp. The woods by the lake. Beth is 13 and beautiful, easing the transition into adolescence. Cathy is a young 12, still lagging in childhood, shy and somewhat insecure. The night sky blankets them with stars. Hushed voices. Beth's last summer at camp. She's moving soon. Cathy's very sad. She's known Beth all her life, doesn't know what she'll do without her. All the more reason for the oath, the secret and the dare, Beth urges. They prick their fingers... Wherever they go, whatever they do, friends forever... They press their fingers together and whisper "in wishes and dreams." Then they must each tell a secret. Beth: Her first kiss. Cathy: How she always wanted to be Beth. And the dare: swim naked in the lake. Two moonlit silhouettes slip into the icy water. Flashlights. Camp counselors. The girls giggle as they scramble from the lake, grab their clothes and duck into the woods.

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4/ CATHY'S APARTMENT. Later. Cathy is just getting dressed when there is a knock at the door. It's Beth. No longer the beautiful girl Cathy remembered but now pale and drawn, an air of desperation about her. Beth knows Cathy didn't expect her, she just had nowhere else to go. Cathy, of course, can't turn her away. Beth has a hard luck story...bad marriage, destructive relationships. Somehow she just kept thinking of Cathy. She's so tired. She has a splitting headache. She's been ill. Cathy settles her on the couch and goes to see what medicine she has. From the bedroom, Cathy checks the balcony. Vincent is there. She waves him away. He ducks back and Cathy goes to the medicine chest. Beth, in Cathy's absence, gets up (suddenly not so sick) and checks out the livingroom. She goes through Cathy's purse looking for money. Hearing Cathy return, she puts the purse down and lies back on the couch.

From the balcony, Vincent sees this.

Cathy returns with something for Beth's headache. Then Cathy says she has to go out for just a few minutes. Beth smiles... when Cathy comes back, maybe some hot lemon juice with honey like Cathy's mother always used to make, remember? Yes, Cathy remembers a bit pensively...that always did seem to cure everything didn't it...

5/ CATHY'S SUB BASEMENT. Tunnel entrance. W/Vincent. Cathy's sorry about the dinner. Beth just showed up and she's in trouble. Her childhood confidant, her best friend. The one who understood her pain when her mother died. She must help her. She owes her a great deal. Vincent understands... the memories, the ties. Cathy must be there for her. He doesn't tell her what he saw Beth doing. He watches Cathy go with concern.

## ACT TWO

1/ CATHY'S APARTMENT. The middle of the night. Beth is up, pacing the room. She gets some pills from her bag (downers) and takes them. Cathy, hearing Beth, gets up and comes in. Beth can't sleep. Cathy gets them some wine and they sit on the couch together, under the blanket and talk, like when they were little and Beth slept over...

2/ FLASHBACK. Cathy's bedroom. Night. Cathy and Beth are in bed. A flashlight illuminates a book as they read aloud a steamy passage from a romantic novel. Cathy's father comes to the door and looks in. The girls hide the book and flashlight as Charles suggests they settle down and get some sleep. Giggling, the girls agree. After Charles goes, the girls pull the covers over their heads and we HEAR their whispered voices as they continue reading...

3/ CATHY'S APARTMENT. The present. Cathy and Beth laugh as they remember. They talk more. Beth asks about the book on the coffee table from Vincent and who he is. Beth thinks Cathy's got it all... her job with the DA, the romance. Cathy reassures. Beth was the one with all the promise. It's still there; she just has to find it again. Beth seems comforted. She can sleep now. Before Cathy goes back to bed, she brings out a dress for Beth to wear in the morning. A change of clothes couldn't hurt. Cathy gets back into bed, sleep overcoming her concern.

4/ CATHY'S APARTMENT. Morning. Cathy overslept. She gets up to find Beth gone. Several of Cathy's dresses are strewn on the couch. Her purse is not where she left it. Cathy looks in her purse and finds \$50.00 is missing. Cathy is stunned as she realizes that Beth not only went through her closet, but her purse as well.

5/ CATHY AND VINCENT. Cathy expresses her hurt, her sense of betrayal. Vincent feels Cathy should confront Beth, but Cathy doesn't know where she is, has no idea where to look for her and she has no time, she's late for work as it is.

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6/ CATHY'S OFFICE. Cathy is very apologetic to Joe for missing their meeting on a new case. Joe seems surprised. Didn't Cathy get his message? He spoke to her house guest, Beth, early this morning and told her the meeting was postponed. No, Cathy didn't get the message.

Joe leaves. No harm done. Cathy looks up and sees Beth standing there, in Cathy's dress, very 'up,' full of explanations. She left without telling Cathy because Cathy was asleep; they were up so late she turned off Cathy's alarm so she could rest and the dress didn't fit so she just picked out another one. After she left, she realized Cathy might not understand so she waited outside the offices until she saw Cathy come in so she could explain. Cathy's not placated; she's angry. First Beth disappears without so much as a note... then she turns off Cathy's alarm, answers the phone without even writing down the message, goes through her closet and there's \$50 missing from her purse. Beth swears she knows nothing about the money, but Cathy presses and Beth gets defensive. All right she took it, so what. It's just \$50. She had to have some money to get a cab, look for a job. She'll pay it back. Cathy's torn. Beth is her friend, but this doesn't seem to be working. Perhaps Beth should stay at a hotel for a few days. Cathy will pay for it. Beth plays the martyr a bit, but seems to accept this. She'll just go get her things and she'll be gone.

7/ CATHY'S APARTMENT. Cathy comes home, tired, a bit depressed. She's surprised to see Beth's things are still in the living room. She walks to the bedroom and sees Beth lying on the bathroom floor. Cathy rushes to her. Beth is unconscious, an empty bottle of pills on the floor beside her.

## ACT THREE

1/ HOSPITAL. Cathy and Doctor. Cathy's full of remorse. She shouldn't have gotten angry. Beth has no one else to turn to. The Doctor tells Cathy they pumped Beth's stomach, ran some tests. She'll be alright. There was cocaine in her system and she took sleeping pills, but not enough to kill her... which is not uncommon, a device for attention, but a serious warning. She must have known Cathy would be home soon. Cathy's reluctant to believe this. The Doctor insists Beth is a very sick woman. It was a cry for help.. professional help. The best thing Cathy can do for Beth is to get her to agree to a treatment program. He recommends one.

2/ CATHY'S APARTMENT. Beth now is resting in Cathy's bed. Cathy sits beside her. Beth is so sorry and apologetic. She insists she's learned her lesson. Just a few days rest and she promises she'll go for help. She confesses she took the money because she owed a man for drugs and he threatened her. Cathy insists Beth should have told her; she could have helped. Beth didn't want Cathy to know. She's so glad Cathy's not angry anymore...that they're still friends.

3/ TUNNEL ENTRANCE. Cathy and Vincent. She only has a few minutes. She can't leave Beth for long, but she had to see him. It's hard for them both. No time together. Vincent can't come to the balcony. Cathy tells him about what happened with Beth, how confident she is that Beth will get help soon. Vincent understands Cathy's loyalty, but he's concerned... cautions her. Beth may be beyond Cathy's help.

4/ CATHY'S APARTMENT. Next day. Cathy comes home from work to find Beth up and around. Still a little weak but a day's rest has helped so much. She's straightened up the apartment a little and made dinner for Cathy...to show her appreciation. Cathy can't help but be moved by this effort.

5/ VINCENT AND FATHER. Talk re: Cathy and Beth. Vincent deeply disturbed. Not just that he and Cathy have no time together, but that Beth is taking over Cathy's life and Cathy doesn't seem to see this. He sees Beth working her way ever more deeply into Cathy's life. He's afraid Cathy's loyalty is blinding her to this. He can't protect her from everything. There are some lessons Cathy must learn for herself.

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6/ CATHY'S APARTMENT. Night. Cathy, on the couch, tosses in her sleep, echoing voices...a young girl crying...

7/ FLASHBACK Young Cathy distraught, crying, missing her mother. Beth holding her, reassuring. She'll always have Beth, no matter what...friends forever. PHONE RINGING.

8/ CATHY'S APARTMENT. The present. Cathy stirs on the couch as the phone rings. She groggily grabs for it, glancing at the clock. 2:00 A.M. It's Beth. She needs help. Cathy doesn't understand. Where did she go in the middle of the night. Beth is desperate, tearful. Please come.

9/ SEEDY DOWNTOWN BAR. Cathy finds Beth and a coke dealer, Nash, and cronies. Beth begs Cathy for money to pay him. Cathy refuses. Nash has some of Cathy's jewelry (which Beth obviously took) and he knows there must be more where that came from. The cronies come after Cathy. Cathy tries to get Beth to her car. (INTERCUT with Vincent alerted to Cathy's danger). The cronies give chase. Nash grabs Beth. Beth tells Cathy to get away but Cathy won't go without her. The cronies slash Cathy's tires. Now neither of them are going anywhere.

1/ Sequence: SEEDY DOWNTOWN BAR. (Continuous) Cathy and Beth fighting to get free. INTERCUT: Vincent racing through the tunnels and streets as Beth breaks free and runs down the alley leaving Cathy alone to defend herself.

Vincent leaps from the shadows to Cathy's aid, killing her attackers.

2/ CATHY'S APARTMENT. Next afternoon. Cathy's at home when Beth shows up, contrite, bringing Cathy a present. This time it doesn't work. Cathy knows the depths to which Beth will go.....how she has abused their friendship, used Cathy and the memories that were so precious to her. Beth is despondent. She readily admits all this, but insists she was too needy, too sick. If Cathy would just stand by her, she'll prove to her how wrong she is. She begs Cathy. Cathy desperately wants to believe her, but she can't let herself. She doesn't believe Beth wants help. And if she does, Cathy just can't do it anymore. She's not helping Beth by letting her stay. She has to leave...now. Beth is tearful, needy. Please. She thought friendship was forever... Cathy cuts her off. It won't work this time. Deeply hurt...a wounded dove, she agrees. Just one phone call first. She calls and her conversation sounds like the message she left for Cathy that first day. "Hi. It's been so long. Just thought I'd come by and see you..." It's on to the next one. Still manipulating, she drops the present on the table...This is for everything you've done for me... And she goes. Cathy, spent and shaken, slumps back on the couch. DISSOLVE TO:

3/ CATHY'S APARTMENT. 4:00 A.M. Cathy sleeps. PHONE RINGS. Cathy wakes and instinctively starts to get the phone, but stops herself as the answering machine picks up the message...a desperate plea for help from Beth. Cathy lies in bed, fighting the urge to grab the phone, tears welling in her eyes as VOICES from their childhood (flashbacks) filter back to her..."wherever we go, whatever we do, friends forever...in wishes and dreams..... "

CATHY'S BALCONY. Cathy and Vincent