

SCRIPT TITLE

Written by

Name of First Writer

Based on, If Any

Address
Phone Number

INT. DARK EASTERN CAVE ENTRANCE - DAY

On an early January morning, RYAN (26), is equipped with a headlamp as well as bulky winter clothes. With a pickax, he mines through stones.

RYAN
(disappointed)
No this won't work...

Ryan moves further into the cave going to the next mining spot. Checking his watch; it reads 10:07AM. Suddenly, someone else bumps into him.

COWORKER
Hey man, watch where you're going-
(gasp)
Wait a minute, Ryan? Thought you
were taking the day off?

RYAN
Oh- Hey...James, I didn't expect to
see you on this side of the cave.

JAMES
Well I didn't expect to see you at
all. What are you doin' here?

RYAN
I'm actually not working a full
shift. I'm here looking for
something for Abigail.

James shrugs and shakes his head at Ryan.

JAMES
Alright man, you do you. I'll catch
you later.
(smirks)
Don't be late to your little date.

After a beat, James adjusts his backpack and headlamp. He walks off to another portion of the cave past Ryan, his light growing fainter as he goes deeper into the cave. Ryan turns his head to the right, his handlamp revealing some more stones. With a pickaxe, he begins chipping away at them.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. DARK EASTERN CAVE - LATER

Ryan adjusts his headlamp to maximum brightness, and looks towards a purple glimmer he spots.

He begins chipping away at the stone's surroundings, breaking it free. Holding it in his hand, he turns it to reveal a beautiful ray of colors inside the stone.

RYAN

This perfect to give to her!

Quickly, Ryan checks his watch. It reads 12:14PM.

RYAN

And I've made good time, too.

Ryan turns around to make his way back to the entrance when the whole cave suddenly begins to SHAKE. He shields his eyes from the downfall. As the dust settles, Ryan looks up. The exit is blocked with heavy rock debris and snow.

RYAN

Tell me you're joking...

Ryan walks over to the barricade and tries to remove rocks and snow by hand, but barely makes a dent. He rummages through his work bag frantically looking for something to use. Ryan gets a call from his wife Abigail. He answers.

RYAN

(on the phone, stammers)
Heeey, babe! What's up?

ABAGAIL

(over the phone)
Hey honey, I just wanted to let you know I got called into work today. I know- we both requested off.

RYAN

Oh dang... Hey it's ok, we can always plan another date next week. In fact I kind of--

ABAGAIL

No, no. It's only for an hour or so- they just need me to pick up some paperwork. I'm not gonna cancel our plans because of work. It's our anniversary after all!

Ryan pauses and feels his stomach sink. He grimaces at the thought of telling Abigail the truth.

RYAN

(hesitant)
Yeah, no I agree. So we're still on for this afternoon?

ABAGAIL

You bet. 4:00pm on the dot.

Suddenly the cave SHAKES again, and rocks from the ceiling fall down beside Ryan. He quickly grabs his bag and tries to get out of the way, still holding the phone to his ear.

ABAGAIL

Babe? Are you ok?

RYAN

Yeah! I'm fine, I just uh, tripped over some cords. You know me, always being a clutz. [NERVOUS LAUGHTER]

ABAGAIL

[CHUCKLES] Sounds like you. Well, I got to get to work real quick. I'll see you in about 3 hours! Love you.

RYAN

(sheepishly)

I love you too. See you soon.

The call ends as Ryan is sitting on the cold cave floor. He looks around at his surroundings and SIGHS. He pulls out the stone he found earlier. It shines in array of purple and blue hues. Reminded of Abigail, he realizes this is no time to take pity on himself. Grabbing a power tool from his bag, he walks over to the barricade and begins DRILLING. Making little progress, he stops for a moment and lets the dust settle.

RYAN

This is going to take me forever to get through!

He turns to another side of the cave, and attempts to mine an exit there. Ryan strikes three times, and on the third strike a rock from above falls and hits his headlamp. The light shuts off and Ryan is left in the darkness.

RYAN

Great.

He takes off the headlamp and rubs his face, visibly stressed. Beat. A small hint of light appears in Ryan's peripheral vision to his left. He turns to look and sees a narrow crawlspace, with light at the end of the tunnel. Hopeful, he gets down on his stomach and slithers through the tunnel. Ryan <GROANS> as he makes his way through.

RYAN
(stressed)
Please let this be the exit.

INT. DARK CAVE UNKNOWN - AFTERNOON

After reaching the end of the tunnel, Ryan gets up and brushes himself off. Looking around, he notices the light he saw is now gone. Confused, he uses his phone light to illuminate the area. His phone grows dim and suddenly reads, LOW BATTERY. 15% remaining. The lock-screen also shows it's 3:50PM.

RYAN
Can this day get any worse?

Suddenly, a voice responds to Ryan's rhetorical comment.

JAMES
I don't know, you tell me.

RYAN
(startled, confused)
James?

Emerging from the depths of the cave, James walks up to Ryan, his headlamp lighting up Ryan and his surroundings.

JAMES
Not sure why you're still here man,
shouldn't you be at your date?

RYAN
I'm trapped dude, my exit got
blocked by an avalanche.

JAMES
That does sound like it would make
it hard to leave.

RYAN
(sarcastic)
No shit dude.

Growing more anxious and desperate to get out, Ryan gestures up ahead behind James.

RYAN
Is it not blocked up there?

JAMES
No, it's not. I can show you the
way. Follow me.

James leads Ryan up through the cave towards an opening.

EXT. WEST CAVE ENTRANCE - AFTERNOON

Ryan and James emerge outside of the cave. Melted snow and icicles drip down off the ceiling of the cave. Ryan checks his watch. 4:45pm. His phone is also completely dead.

RYAN

Oh God, Abigail is probably
freaking out! I have to go man.

JAMES

Actually, there's no need to go
far...

James gestures to his right with his eyes. Ryan, disheveled and confused, looks over. Abigail is standing outside with a concerned look. They lock eyes and Abigail takes off running towards Ryan. Immediately, they embrace each other in a hug.

ABAGAIL

I was so worried about you! I'm so
glad you're ok...

The embrace breaks and Abigail looks at Ryan.

ABAGAIL (CONT'D)

But don't ever do that again. I
don't care what day of the year it
is.

RYAN

I'm sorry, I know I should have
told you. But I have something for
you...

Ryan reaches for his pocket and pulls out the purple stone. He places it in Abigail's hand.

RYAN

Happy 5 year anniversary, Abigail.
I love you.

Abigail, stunned, admires the stone. Smiling, she looks up at Ryan and kisses him.

FADE TO BLACK.

