

WRITING EXAMPLE DELIVER US MARS - Opening Cinematic

LENGTH 2 pages

DELIVERY Cinematic

GENRE Sci-fi, drama

SUMMARY

This scene sets the stage for our main character and her family. Early signs of Kathy's personality are shown through her room's description, her actions during the scene, and her interaction with her father.

SHOWCASED ELEMENTS

Linear cinematic writing, character exposition, dialogue.

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INT. JOHANSON HOUSE / KATHY'S ROOM - DAY

A ceiling plastered with plastic glow in the dark stars. Next to it hangs a globe shaped lamp, coloured red-orange and detailed to look like Mars.

A child makes thruster noises, and a toy rocket slowly drifts past. *We are witnessing the world through the eyes of this little girl.* Guided by hand, she flies the little space ship across the fake stars and planet.

MISSION CONTROL (O.S.)
Moonbear 1, this is ground control.
Mission is a go. Do you copy? Earth
to Kathy, come in.

Mission Control's voice blends into a man's voice. A hand waves into our vision.

ISAAC (O.S.)
Hello? Earth to Kathy?

We look down from the ceiling; straight into the loving and warm eyes of ISAAC JOHANSON (40yo, classic dad-figure with his cardigan and glasses). He's holding something behind his back as a surprise.

As he reaches out to our vision, we CUT TO:

KATHY JOHANSON, she's a 6-7 years old, with bright mischievous eyes - *loveable trouble in a small sized package.* Isaac lifts a full-vision scuba mask off of her face.

ISAAC (CONT'D)
Hey, little explorer.

YOUNG KATHY
Hey.

ISAAC
It wasn't easy but I finally got you a new one. But before I give it to you, you have to promise you'll take care of him. Alright?

YOUNG KATHY
Okay.

ISAAC
Better than the ones you destroyed.
Promise?

YOUNG KATHY

I promise!

With a hint in his smile that shows he doesn't believe a word she's saying, he hands her Moonbear; a *stuffed animal toy with a space helmet*.

Kathy DROPS the rocket in her hands and takes the bear.

ISAAC

A Moonbear for my moonbear.

Father and daughter share a look, filled with love, when CLAIRE JOHANSON (in this instance 18yo, with a certain dry but warm 'matter of fact'-ness in her eyes) rushes to Kathy's door.

CLAIRE

(to Kathy)

Almost ready, sis! Give me five minutes to get into my wetsuit.

She runs back to her own room on the opposite side of the hallway. Isaac walks over as she rummages through her room like a tornado (off-screen).

ISAAC

Don't overdo it, honey. School and work never stops, so please pace yourself.

CLAIRE

I know, I know, I just lost track of time. Plus, the subject matter was just really fascinating.

Isaac chuckles, giving an understanding nod.

ISAAC

(to himself)

Like father, like daughter, I guess...

He looks at Kathy.

ISAAC (CONT'D)

So, moonbear? Are you going to take good care of this one?

YOUNG KATHY

Yes.

Isaac gauges her mischievous smile before he walks off as Kathy delightedly inspects the new Moonbear.

Kathy leaves her room.