



Written and Directed by
Alexandra Peck

Produced by Lauren Gural

15 minutes

Spring 2012

Tagline

How can he reach a compromise if he can't even reach the cookie jar?

Brief Description

In the winter of 1963, an eight-year-old boy – the product of a motherless home – returns home from school one afternoon to find his estranged parent sitting on the sofa. A custody battle has taken place, and now the boy must leave his father to live with his mother. Struggling with unfavorable circumstances and the loss of control in his own life, the boy finds solitude in a girl his age guised as a stuffed puppy. Together, the pair plots to run away from home.



Grace makes herself at home, despite having walked out on her family.

Project Synopsis

One winter afternoon in 1963, eight-year-old Theo returns home from school to find his estranged mother sitting on the couch. Up until this point, Theo has been brought up by his father, Ted. A custody battle has

recently taken place, and Theo must move to California to live with the mother he has never known. In order to win him over, Grace hands Theo a stuffed puppy, which Theo reluctantly accepts, and he brings the puppy to his room while he collects his belongings.

He places the puppy on his dresser and packs away his toys. Just as he is finishing up, the stuffed puppy appears to talk to him. Anny, a schoolmate of his who has developed a crush on Theo, has followed him home and witnessed some of the events. She is outside his window, but Theo is unaware. Anny – or the puppy to Theo – explains that Theo and his mother should make a “coppermise” – that way everyone will be happy and he will not have to move as far away. Anny suggests that if Theo moves to the backyard, it will be like a camping trip, so she tells Theo to meet her out back. Anny reaches in the window and grabs the puppy and Theo meets the duo in the yard.

Anny tries to console Theo by gifting him a homemade card, but Theo is not so accepting of this gift. He throws the card on the ground and kicks the stuffed puppy. There is nothing left for him to do, so he must face the inevitable.

Theo’s bags are all packed and it is time for him to leave. His father says his goodbye and Grace packs up the car. Theo climbs into the back seat and looks out the window. He waves goodbye to both Ted and Anny, who has waited around to say goodbye. Ted finds the stuffed puppy in the grass, where Theo had kicked it, just as they are pulling away.

Key Personnel

Alexandra Peck (Writer/Director)

Alexandra Peck is a senior undergraduate Film and Media Arts student at Temple University and recipient of the Benjamin Lazaroff Memorial Scholarship. Her production experience expands from a variety of projects, notably as producer of Diamond Screen Film Festival 2011 Best Narrative *Good Day, Harvey Schnitzel* and as co-producer and production coordinator of Sundance Award winning director Rodney Evans’ second feature film *The Happy Sad*. Additionally, Alexandra extends her filmmaking interest to web-based media in the prequel web series, *Harvey Schnitzel, Time Traveler* while undergoing her first directorial experience in her thesis film.

Lauren Gural (Producer)

Lauren is currently a senior Film & Media Arts major at Temple University. Her focus is on both producing and writing. Lauren is currently in pre-production of a web-based comedy series that she is writing and producing. She is also the co-Director of the REELGirls! High School Film Workshop. She has also interned at many film festivals, including the Cannes International Film Festival.

Emily Sullivan (Co-Producer)

As an expected graduate of Temple University's Communications Program in the spring of 2012, Emily Sullivan is excited about the future ahead. It has been Emily's passion for the arts that has driven her throughout her college career, teaching at and performing with various dance organizations in the area. Currently Emily is furthering her communications education outside of the classroom as a Resource Development intern at the Boys & Girls Club of Philadelphia and Communications & Marketing intern at the Arts & Business Council. Although this is her first time producing a film, she is excited about the project at hand and anticipates the positive response future audiences will undoubtedly have to "Coppermise".

Adrian Sierkowski (Cinematographer)

Adrian Sierkowski is a Philadelphia based Director of Photography and alumnus of Temple University. He entered the business at age ten, sweeping floors and running errands while assisting his father, Ed "Edski," Sierkowski a Chief Lighting Technician on set. Since then he has been honing his skills on Indie Features, Short Narrative, Music Video, and Documentary Projects. His style is often naturalistic, often eschewing the "typical" rules of cinematography for a subtler look. Currently, he teaches a cinematography course at a small film-oriented program while he continues to shoot locally, nationally, and worldwide.

Lenore Romas (Production Designer)

Lenore Romas is a production designer, graphic designer, and color corrector, and has developed a strong portfolio displaying her eye for color, composition, and detail in each of these varied fields. Lenore has worked on the set of nearly 2-dozen independent short films and videos, honing her craft as Production Designer, Set Decorator, and Costume Designer, and has more recently begun working in the post-production field of color correction. Upon her recent graduation from Temple University's Film & Media Arts program, Lenore advanced to the position of Senior Graphic Designer at a Philadelphia-based design and technology firm, *Defined Clarity*, where she focuses in web design, print design, and usability.



With the puppy by their sides, Theo and Anny try to escape the inevitable.

Credits

Cast

Theo
VINCENT CROCILLA

Anny
BOBBI-JO MCCORMICK

Ted
MICHAEL BROUSSARD

Grace
AIME WEIN

Crew

Written & Directed by
ALEXANDRA PECK

Produced By
LAUREN GURAL

Co-Producers
LUKE MARRON
EMILY SULLIVAN

Cinematographer
ADRIAN SIERKOWSKI

Assistant Director
DAVID FRASER

Production Designer
LENORE ROMAS

Hair & Make-Up
ANNIE FOGARTY

Sound
BRAD MOORE

Assistant Camera
ANNIE BYDLON

Grip and Still Photographer
ETHAN SACCHI

Data and Editor
JASON PEARLMAN

Gaffer
CHRIS SCOTT
GINGER ELIAS