

A low-angle shot of a person's legs and feet standing on a paved path. The person is wearing dark trousers and white sneakers. They are holding a large bouquet of flowers, including red and white blooms. To the left of the path is a patch of green grass. The scene is brightly lit, casting a shadow of the person onto the path.

SOMEWHERE  
VERY NEAR





In this tender story of connection between the dead and their loved ones,  
Jace and Bryan welcome newly passed Lina to the cemetery.  
Can they help her find a way to connect to her sister?



# SYNOPSIS

We are in a cemetery, following an unlikely trio:

Jace, 60s, serene and calm; Bryan, full of 13-year-old energy; Lina, an angry and sullen teen.

Jace points out the peacefulness of the place, Bryan bebops, enjoying the Neil Gaiman aspects, and Lina, arms crossed, wants to be anywhere but here.

Suddenly Bryan's energy changes and he becomes very still, and in the distance we see a woman approach a grave. He watches her intently, then turns to Lina and winks. He joins the woman and blows in her hair. She laughs and says, "Oh Bryan, my son! I still miss you so much!"

Lina is now alert: "Wait, we can communicate with them?"

Jace explains yes, gently, it can be a lot for them. It's a matter of finding what they will recognize – for her boys, she'd always send a starling, and they knew she was near.

Lina's sister, Sarah, arrives to put flowers on Lina's grave. Lina tries to find the right thing, but Sarah doesn't see. Finally Lina puts together two white petals in the shape of a heart and Sarah gasps in recognition, immediately pouring her heart out to her sister as Lina laughs.

We fly away from the cemetery, into heaven, leaving them to connect on the ground.

## FROM WRITER/DIRECTOR RACHEL FOWLER:



Whether you believe in an afterlife or not, the love we feel and connections we've shared are not lost, they exist in our neural pathways, they are etched into the fabric of our hearts, into who we are. In grief, we are all looking for comfort.

We are seeking solace, a way to make sense of the world now with a gaping hole.

Finding ways to stay connected with our “no-shows” is at the heart of this film.

My work as a grief and loss coach has taught me that this is what most of my clients are looking for – how to live with the loss, and take forward the love and strength they garnered from their relationship with their loved one.

I ask – what signs are our loved ones sending us, and how can we open our awareness to their love?

The title SOMEWHERE VERY NEAR comes from Henry Scott Holland's famous poem:

“What is this death but a negligible accident?  
Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight?  
I am but waiting for you, for an interval,  
Somewhere very near,  
Just round the corner.  
All is well.  
Nothing is hurt; nothing is lost.  
One brief moment and all will be as it was before.  
How we shall laugh at the trouble of parting when we meet again!”

**WATCH RACHEL PERFORM IT HERE**





WRITER/DIRECTOR  
RACHEL FOWLER

PRODUCER  
REBECCA DEL TUFO



RACHEL FOWLER is an American award-winning Actor/Director/Writer living in London. Her first short film, STILLNESS, is wrapping up its festival fun, having screened in over 28 festivals world-wide, and winning 13 awards, including Best Director at the Soho Independent London Film Festival and Best Narrative Short at the Middlebury New Filmmaker Festival.

REBECCA DEL TUFO is a producer and programmer. A former solicitor, she set up, ran and programmed independent cinema Saffron Screen in Essex, and is co-founder and director of ScreenCraft Works, supporting under-represented people in production and post-production roles with international mentoring, talks and networking. Her film work also includes aspects of production, distribution and exhibition. Her production company Blue Dress Films is currently producing three short films.

# TIME LINE

Pre-Production May/June 2024



Shoot July 2024



Post-Production  
August/September 2024



Film Festivals December 2024



School Launch January 2025





After a festival run, we will offer SOMEWHERE VERY NEAR to schools and organizations in conjunction with an age-appropriate workshop led by Rachel (or another grief coach), and explore these concepts gently, using creativity.

We've partnered with John Adams, activist and former President of the National Association of Funeral Directors, who recently petitioned Parliament to include bereavement in the national curriculum, in this endeavor.

RACHEL FOWLER  
rachelfowlerfilmmaker@gmail.com  
07400 432908

REBECCA DEL TUFO  
deltuforebecca@gmail.com  
07717 353358