

OPENING NIGHT

[Excerpt from *Stupid* by Elle Coe]

EXT. MOVIE THEATER NIGHT

With all the glitz and glamour of any big budget film, The Exceptionally Good Movie (EGM) studio has outdone itself in preparing for their newest release. Kristof, (60s) a serious historian and the film's director is waiting along the side of the theater for the start of his premier, when a young girl with long blonde pony tail bounces up.

JENNA

Hi! Isn't this so exciting?

KRISTOF

Who are you?

JENNA

I'm your new star!

KRISTOF

You're my what?

JENNA

I'm Jenna. Your new star. EGM sent me to help make your premiere a success!

KRISTOF

But you're not even in the film.

JENNA

That's ok. Don't worry. They added some scenes in. Do you like my outfit?

He gazes from the sparkling tiara, to the pink ruffled blouse and skirt ensemble, complete with pink purse, tights, and matching glitter make-up.

KRISTOF

What?

JENNA

The wardrobe department thought it would go great with the new title!

KRISTOF

New title?

JENNA

Yea, haven't you seen it out there? You should see the awesome promo posters they did to go with it. I personally love the pink unicorns. They go great with my shoes. Did you see my shoes?

Just then EMILY, Kristof's assistant, runs up.

EMILY  
(breathless)  
Kristof there was nothing I could  
do! Please believe me. I just found  
out 10 minutes ago.

Emily comes to a sudden stop when she sees Jenna and, more importantly, Jenna's outfit.

EMILY (CONT'D)  
Who's this? Pretty 'n Pink Barbie?  
That premiere's down the street  
sweetheart.

KRISTOF  
Em, meet Jenna, the new star of what  
used to be our film.

Jenna gives Emily a smirk and grabs Kristof's arm to accompany him.

JENNA  
I really think we should greet the  
crowd together don't you?

KRISTOF  
(to Jenna)  
My movie title is supposed to be  
George Washington: Man of Integrity.

JENNA  
Well, I don't know the whole deal.  
But I gotta go check my make-up.  
I'll be right back.

EMILY  
(whispering after she  
has left)  
The studio added another rule. All  
movies must have a princess in it.  
They said it would appeal more to  
the younger market, pre-teen girls  
to be exact, and that's where the  
real money is.

KRISTOF  
Princess? Em they can't be serious?  
I wanted to show the character and  
wisdom of the founder of our country.  
An artistic piece filled with depth,  
insight.

EMILY  
I know. It's me remember? Not Pink  
Barbie.

JENNA

(Calling cheerily)

Ok! I'm back let's go. Oh can't you hear the screaming?

She bounds out ahead around the corner of the building as massive screams erupt from the roped off sidelines. Kristof and Emily follow her to see Jenna waving to a huge crowd - most of them pre-teen girls.

In agony Kristof looks up to read the Marquee. There, amidst blazing lights, the title reads: GEORGIE AND THE PRINCESS: PEOPLE OF INTEREST with huge parade-sized balloon stars and unicorns on either side. Kristof grasps his chest as Jenna bounces back to them.

JENNA (CONT'D)

Don't ya love the title, especially the people of interest part? It really works, so trendy ya know? We're gonna make a fortune!

EMILY

(to Kristof)

Want me to kill her? It won't be the first Barbie I've disposed of.

KRISTOF

But we don't even have a princess anywhere in my film. Not anywhere.

EMILY

You do now.

JENNA

Did you see the posters? I love the sparkling rainbow they have going over the flag. And didn't I tell you the unicorns would be stunning? They're one of those eye thingys, if ya look at it right they gallop! Really adds that fantasy element.

KRISTOF

I don't think the founders of our country were thinking of unicorns when they fought for our independence.

Jenna stops her smiling and waving for a brief moment, concerned.

JENNA

Well, what were they thinking of?

KRISTOF

Freedom. Freedom from oppression.

JENNA

Huh. Well I still think the unicorns  
add something.

Jenna skips off to personally greet the crowd.

He walks blindly past the large crowd. That's when upbeat  
pop music blasts from the theater's outdoor speakers. Kristof  
notices a limo has pulled up and amidst wild screams three  
attractive teen guys step out.

KRISTOF

No army band?

EMILY

I'm afraid not.

KRISTOF

I scheduled them. They were supposed  
to play a grand patriotic tribute.

The teen trio now poses for pictures. Fans shout and sing  
along with the lyrics. Kristof shakes his head. Jenna  
bounces back over.

JENNA

How did you manage it? I mean The  
Jonas Brothers! Can you maybe take  
me over and introduce me?

EMILY

You're on your own sister.

Jenna pouts for a moment, then moves determinedly away.

KRISTOF

Is this their music?

EMILY

Fraid so. You're listening to the  
movie's new theme song.

KRISTOF

Nothing will surprise me now. I'm  
leaving.

EMILY

You can't leave. You have  
obligations. EGM won't like it.

KRISTOF

It's obvious to me that George  
Washington has left the building.  
I'm just following in his footsteps.

EMILY

But you know how strict EGM is,  
what'll I say when they look for  
you? When they want you for photos?

Kristof gives her a steady look, letting the absurdity of  
their surroundings set in. Just then a perky clown runs up  
and hands them each a pink, iridescent unicorn shaped balloon.

KRISTOF

Do you really think they're going to  
notice?

FADE OUT