

Etch a Sketch

written by

Brenna Hughes

FADE IN:

EXT. JACK'S YARD - DAY

We see a teen boy taping a homemade sign titled YARD SALE to an old card table outside his house. This boy is JACK. The table is covered with miscellaneous items like old toys and DVDs.

As he is taping the sign, we see JACK'S MOM approach the table carrying a visibly heavy box filled with old books. When she reaches the table, she plops the box down on the grass next to Jack.

JACK'S MOM

Oh, the sign looks great honey!

JACK

Thanks Mom, do you need help with anything else?

JACK'S MOM

As a matter of fact, I do. Could you take a quick trip up to the attic and look for some more junk we can sell?

JACK

Sure thing.

Jack heads into the house.

INT. ATTIC

Jack turns on the light to reveal a slew of cobwebs in front of his face. He wipes them away and begins looking through boxes trying to spot more items for the neighborhood yard sale.

As he's looking through one box in the back of the attic, he finds an old Etch a Sketch covered in dust. He has never seen one before, so he taps on the screen like it's a phone, and nothing happens.

He starts playing around with the nobs and eventually figures out that it's used to draw on.

Jack sits on the old creaky floor of the attic and gets to work on his first drawing. For whatever reason, his mind immediately goes to drawing a teddy bear.

He takes his time, still figuring out how to use the buttons. When he finishes the drawing, he gazes at it, very pleased with his work.

He looks up from the Etch a Sketch and sees the teddy bear he just drew has appeared in the attic! He is startled and confused by this.

He shakes the Etch a Sketch, which erases the drawing, and the teddy bear disappears.

Jack thinks about what he wants to draw next. He's always wanted a dog, so he decides to draw a nice, fluffy golden retriever.

He finishes the drawing, and the seemingly sweet golden retriever appears in front of him. But, before he can even think about petting the dog, it starts barking and growling at him ferociously.

Frightened, Jack quickly shakes the Etch a Sketch in order to erase the scary dog.

Jack thinks about how he can use this to his personal advantage. Of course his mind immediately goes to drawing himself a GIRLFRIEND.

He gets to work on a drawing of a beautiful girl with long hair, big eyes, and a perfect nose. When he's finished with the drawing, he looks up.

The girl of his dreams appears right in front of him, and she looks exactly how he pictured her.

There is some awkward silence while she is just standing in front of him in the attic.

JACK

Ummm, hi. Nice to meet you?

GIRLFRIEND

HI JACK! I can't believe we finally found each other! I LOVE YOU SO MUCH!

The girlfriend runs over and hugs Jack super tight. Jack is startled and annoyed by this.

JACK

Ok, let's just chill out a little bit. You wanna...go on a date or something?

GIRLFRIEND

YES OF COURSE!! We should go out  
to eat somewhere.

JACK'S MOM

Ok sounds good. Where do you want  
to go out to eat?

GIRLFRIEND

Ummmmm I don't know! You pick!

JACK'S MOM

Ok, how about Panera?

GIRLFRIEND

No.

JACK

Pizza Hut?

GIRLFRIEND

No.

JACK

MacDonald's??

GIRLFRIEND

Hmmm...No.

JACK

ALRIGHT I can't take this  
anymore.

Jack shakes the Etch a Sketch and erases his drawing of the girlfriend, and she disappears from the attic.

Jack is visibly very frustrated by the whole experience with the Etch a Sketch and wonders why everything went so wrong. Just then, we hear his Mom yell up to him from downstairs.

JACK'S MOM (O.S.)

Jack, hurry up! The yard sale is  
starting!

JACK

Coming Mom!

Jack grabs a box of old toys to bring outside for the yard sale. He looks at the Etch a Sketch for a moment and places it in the box. He heads for the door of the attic and turns off the light as he's leaving.

EXT. JACK'S YARD - DAY

Jack joins his Mom outside at their yard sale display with the box of toys in hand.

He places the box by the table and sits in the folding chair next to his Mom, who seems frustrated with him.

JACK'S MOM

What took you so long? I thought you got lost up there or something.

JACK

Just got carried away looking at the old toys I guess.

JACK'S MOM

Did you find anything worth selling?

Jack peers over at the open box he just brought down from the attic, the Etch a Sketch laying at the top.

JACK

Yea, I found some good stuff.

JACK'S MOM

Oh, good. I'm gonna go inside real quick and grab my purse. I'll be right back.

Jack's Mom leaves him stranded at the table.

Just then, a young boy with a mean look on his face approaches Jack. He scopes out all the items, then gives Jack a dirty look.

RUDE KID

What is all this garbage?

Jack is startled by the boy's attitude.

JACK

Um, these are some of my old toys. Any catch your eye?

RUDE KID

Ha! You think I'm gonna pay money for any of this junk? Yea right. Where's all the good stuff?

As Jack is being insulted by the boy, he gets an idea. He reaches into the cardboard box next to him and pulls out the Etch a Sketch.

JACK

Well, I do have this super old  
toy I'm trying to get rid of.  
Hey, you know what, it's all  
yours. Free of charge.

The rude kid looks him up and down, confused why he would be given a free toy. He rips the Etch a Sketch out of Jack's hands.

RUDE KID

Whatever. I bet the stupid thing  
doesn't even work.

JACK

Oh trust me, it works.

The rude kid rolls his eyes and walks off with the Etch a Sketch in hand.

Jack smiles to himself and sits back down at the yard sale table.

FADE OUT.