

The Golden Ticket

By Jen Herrmann

FADE IN:

INT. HOMEROOM - DAY

Heather barely makes it into homeroom just as the bell rings and takes her seat in the back, near the desk of her TEACHER. He dresses in a tight black sweater and a black beret and speaks in a dramatic, abstracted voice.

TEACHER

Where's your ticket Heather?

HEATHER

What?

TEACHER

The golden ticket! You were late yesterday. Didn't they give you one?

HEATHER

I thought nobody kept track of those.

TEACHER

EEEEHHHHRRRRR wrong! Negative! Fallaciousnessissy! You think you can just come walking in here without it? You don't want detention, you get me that ticket.

The bell rings and students begin to file out. Heather, looking confused, gets up and leaves her seat with the rest of the class.

TEACHER (CONT'D)

And Heather

Heather turns back to look at him.

TEACHER (CONT'D)

You get one more detention, and you don't graduate.

He smiles maliciously, and she looks anxious and walks out.

EXT. HALLWAY

Heather opens her locker and begins to search inside of it, opening books and rifling through her backpack. She finds nothing.

Heather's friend, CASSIE, calls to her from down the hallway.

CASSIE
Heather, let's go!

MONTAGE--HEATHER SEARCHES FOR THE GOLDEN TICKET

--Heather sits at a lab table in physics class while MR. FISKE gives notes up at the board, along the lines of "Therefore, special relativity proves that aliens have the fountain of youth." She is rifling through her purse and pockets. Mr. Fiske turns and speaks to her and she looks apologetic. He turns back to the board and she is hit on the head by a crumpled, yellow piece of paper. Thrilled, she opens it up to see that it only says "Call me: 508-968-2848". Disappointed, she looks up to see where it came from and her eyes rest on a pimply GEEK wearing glasses and a tie, trying to smile devilishly.

--Heather stands at the attendance desk, arguing with the secretary and pointing to the pad. The secretary shakes her head. Heather slams the desk and walks out.

--Heather walks down a crowded hallway and spots some yellow in someone's back pocket. She grabs for it and pulls it out, discovering that it is a slice of cheddar cheese. The guy in front of her turns around, looks menacing for a moment, then snatches the cheese back, stuffs it in his mouth, and sprints away.

--Heather walks across the front of the cafeteria during lunch while a girl walks past, having just left the snack bar. The girl carries a yellow-orange bag, which Heather grabs at. The girl turns and slaps her, then struts off.

--Heather spots a yellow slip under a crack in a door, and it is caught by an entering foot and carried across the floor into the room before the door shuts. Heather goes to enter, then sees it is the boys bathroom. The geek pops up behind her and she points him in. He returns with the slip. She grabs it and runs, while he calls after her.

INT. HOMEROOM

The teacher sits at his desk, completely engrossed in a volume of poetry in front of him and acting it out energetically.

TEACHER
And all for a peanut-butter
sandwich--

Heather bursts in waving the slip.

HEATHER
I have--oh, sorry.

She walks over and hands it to him.

HEATHER (CONT'D)
Here it is.

He takes it.

TEACHER
Hmm...
(Beat.)
Looks good. But Heather,

The bell rings.

TEACHER (CONT'D)
You're late for class.

He smiles again and she looks exasperated.

FADE OUT.