

LEONARDO

by

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INT. IN THE BEDROOM - Day

It is daytime, light is streaming through the window of a typical girl's bedroom with a bed, desk, chest, chair, and shelf unit filled with books, stuffed animals, and photos. Decorating the walls is a bulletin board, a peace sign poster, and a large picture of a girl. Three girls, dressed in jeans and t-shirts, looking at the computer on the desk. Two of the girls are jockeying for the position. The other one is typing. Then she stops and turns around to look up at the other girls.

ANGLE TO

JUDY

I can't believe it. Bill Gates, the head of Microsoft, bought one of Leonardo da Vinci notebooks for 30 million.

ANGLE TO

CAROL

WOW! You mean the artist we learned about in school.

ANGLE TO

ANN

The one who was born in 1452 during the Renaissance in Italy.

Carol takes the picture off the wall and put it in front of her face.

ANGLE TO

CAROL

The one that painted the Mona Lisa and the Last Supper.

TWO SHOT

ANN

What was in the 500 year old notebooks that was so valuable? A punch of artsy sketches?

JUDY

No. Don't you remember. Da Vinci was also a great scientist. He studied lots of things from stars to all kinds of fossils. He wrote down his ideas and

experiments. He then illustrated them to make them clear.

WIDER ANGLE

Carol makes a paper airplane and flies it around the room.

CAROL

He invented lots of things. He had ideas for the first airplane and submarine.

ANGLE TO

Ann takes a letter opener from Judy's desk, points it towards herself, and moves her hand from her head to her stomach slicing herself in half. She even turns her head sideways, sticks out her tongue and pretends to be dead.

ANN

I remember now. He cut up the human body and drew pictures of our insides. He wanted to learn how our bodies worked.

TWO SHOT

Judy turns back to the computer. She looks at the screen. Carol puts the picture back on the wall and leans over her shoulder.

OVER THE SHOULDER SHOT

JUDY

It says here that half of his notebooks were lost. Two miraculously were found in the Madrid library in 1966. I bet one of those was bought by Mr. Gates.

CAROL

What did he do with it?

JUDY

He donated it to the Seattle Art Museum.

WIDE ANGLE

Carol leaves the computer and moves to the center of the bedroom. Ann joins her. Carol and Ann jumping up and down, then start dancing gleefully around the room.

ANN

Maybe we can find the other lost notebooks and sell them to Bill Gates for millions of dollars.

JANE

Then we can retire from school and watch TV all day.

JUDY

Great idea!

INT. THE TOWN LIBRARY - Day

The girls walking through the stacks of books. They look in all directions.

WIDE ANGLE

ANN

Are you crazy? Do you really think we can find Leonardo Da Vinci's notebooks in our town library.

JUDY

It has an section for old books doesn't it.

Girls stop at the old book section. They start looking at the old books.

ANN

Here's a Boy Scout Handbook from 1900.

CAROL

Here is a Nancy Drew Mystery from 1924.

ANN

Old books means about 50 to 100 years ago not 500 years ago.

JUDY

Keep looking. Maybe it was misplaced. Only look at real old covers.

CUT TO

JUDY
(sadly)

We looked enough. It's not here.

ANN
Did you really expect it to be? You
have to go great big library, like the
one in New York City.

JUDY
(enthusiastically)

Great idea!

INT. IN NEW YORK CITY LIBRARY

MOVING SHOT

Girls walking through the stacks in the ancient book section. A guard starts to follow them very closely with a mean expression on his face. Girls stop. Camera moves in. Ann turns toward the camera.

ANGLE TO

ANN
(annoyed)

Why is that guard following us?

Girls turn back to each with each with their back to the guard.

THREE SHOT

CAROL
He wants to make sure we don't take
anything.

JUDY
Ignore him. We have permission to be
here.

ANN
Maybe he is not a guard, just dressed
like one.

JUDY
Don't be silly.

ANN

Where's his name tag?

CAROL

Maybe he left it at home.

CUT TO

Girls are looking the book covers. They stoop and then stand on their toes.

JUDY

I don't know where to begin since the library computer didn't list any books or notebooks written by da Vinci.

CAROL

Maybe because there aren't any.

JUDY

That's the whole point. The notebooks are lost. No one knows they're here.

CAROL

Or most likely not here.

ANN

We came all this way so let's take a look. There's not that many ancient books in this section so it won't take us long.

CAROL

Okay, let's start at the first stack and quickly look at every book. If we split up it will go even faster.

Ann looks in the direction of the guard.

ANN

Not on your life. That creepy guard is too close for comfort.

JUDY

We'll stick together. Let's go.

CUT TO

Guard sneaking up on the girls. Ann whirls around and screams. Carol and Judy raise their hands motioning to him to stop.

GUARD

Quiet! I might have to ask you to leave.

ANN

Then don't sneak up on us. Keep your distance. Please.

GUARD

What are you looking for?

JUDY

Are you a librarian?

GUARD

No, but I know these books very well.

JUDY

I don't think you can help us. We are almost done and will leave very soon.

ANN

And please stay away from us or we will speak to the person in charge of security.

The guard backs away, but lingers at the end of the row. The girls keep looking up at him. Carol takes a book from the shelf and tries to remain calm.

CAROL

(calmly)

Don't show any excitement or the guard will notice.

JUDY

(excitedly)

Why?! What did you find?

CAROL

(equally excited)

Look! Notebook of Leonardo da Vinci filed under Music.

Ann can't contain herself. She hugs Carol and Judy.

ANN

I don't believe it.

JUDY

Remember the guard. Don't show any emotion. Look, it's even written backwards from right to left because da Vinci was left-handed. You have to hold it up to a mirror to read it.

CAROL

I have a mirror with me. Let's bring the notebook to the table and try to read it.

ANN

Do you think we made a great discovery?
And make millions?

JUDY

I don't know about the millions because the notebook obviously belongs to the library.

CAROL

It's still a mystery that it was not in the computer.

While the girls are whispering and carefully turning the pages of the book, the guard rushes up to them and tries to grab the book. The girls push him away. A chase ensues with the girls racing wildly through the stacks, passing the book back and forth, and screaming.

GUARD

Give me that book.

JUDY

You can't have it.

JUDY, ANN, CAROL

Help, Help. Somebody help us!

INT. IN THE HEAD LIBRARIAN'S OFFICE

The librarian is shaking the girls hands and patting them on the back. Then she walks back to her desk and picks up some papers.

WIDE ANGLE

LIBRARIAN

You are real heros. It turns out that Jim Smith, the guard that attacked you, is not an employee of the library.

ANGLE TO

ANN

(knowingly)

See, I told you.

ANGLE TO

LIBRARIAN

After being questioned by the police, he broke down and confessed that he is part of a ring of book thieves who steal antique books and then sell them to collectors and rare bookstores.

ANGLE TO

CAROL

Who deleted the da Vinci Notebook from the computer?

ANGLE TO

LIBRARIAN

Jim Smith did. Being part of the security force, he found out the password and very easily deleted it.

TWO SHOT

CAROL

If it wasn't for us, you would have never discovered the Notebook was stolen.

LIBRARIAN

That's right.

ANN

Now you can sell it for millions.

LIBRARIAN

Not exactly. This book is a reproduction of an existing notebook. It's probably worth quite a few thousand dollars since it was printed 150 years ago, but not millions.

ANN

Thousands of dollars is still a lot of money.

LIBRARIAN

Yes, it is. We thank you and so does the New York City Police Department. We would like to give you a reward. Also there are reporters waiting to interview you. You can stay here and use my office.

CAROL

Wow, we are famous. We might appear on TV. And in People magazine. We should e-mail all our fiends

ANN

I wonder what the reward will be.

JUDY

We should keep looking. We might find the lost notebooks yet.

Ann and Carol throw up their hands and shake their heads.

ANN, CAROL

Oh, No!