

**Between The Lines & Spaces of...
Ken Steorts'**

-Saturn-

Barton Green

DRAFT 1-A

A VISIBLE MEDIA GROUP PRODUCTION

1 EXT. MISSISSIPPI RIVER BANK - NIGHT

1

We see the moon reflected in the current of the river. A rock is tossed in, causing ripples to appear around the reflection.

GIRL (O.C.)
You're day dreamin' Ken. And as
usual you're runnin' late. The sun
went down a few hours ago.

Camera reveals a young couple on an old bridge, over looking the Mississippi.

KEN
I'll get another job - if that's
what you're worried about. But
they're not dreams. They're
plans... Not my plans... His.

He points up to the night sky.

GIRL
Who'dya mean? The Man In The Moon?

KEN
You know Who I mean.

GIRL
KNOW?! How could I possibly know?
I've seen evidence of....NOTHING.
You're out of a job - Which puts
all OUR plans on hold - You have no
interest in going to school... All
you can you think about is starting
a band, writing music and....GOD?
I don't understand all this faith
stuff... It's hard to believe what
you can't see.

KEN
There was a time when the stars,
the planets, this bridge -even you
and me ..did not exist. Back then
all of this ...every sun, every
moon - right down to the rings
around Saturn - all just dreams...
a plan.

GIRL
Right now Saturn rings seem more
tangible than any ring from you.

Awkward Silence...

KEN
Those rings...They must look
amazing through a telescope. Wonder
what are they made of?

GIRL
I don't... I've never actually -

KEN
Me neither.

Ken tosses another rock into the water. The ripple of rings
around the moon's reflection BECOME...

MATCH DISSOLVE TO:

2 INT. KEN'S VEHICLE - CITY STREET - NIGHT 2

...a set of bright headlights, reflected in the side mirror.

SUPER: "SIX MONTHS LATER"

The blast of an impatient car horn wakes Ken from his
'daydream'. Snapping out of it, he sees the traffic light has
turned green. He shifts the vehicle into gear and drives on.

Checking his watch.

KEN
Late...as usual.

As he drives, he scrounges through items piled in the front
passenger's seat: WORK SCHEDULES (for 2 different jobs)
SCHOOL BOOKS, NOTE BOOKS.. He finally discovers what he's
looking for sticking out of his BIBLE, like a book marker...
A FLYER- directions to the night's Bible study/concert.

Holding the hand-drawn FLYER up to catch the reflection of
the headlights behind him, Ken tries to follow the printed
MAP and drive.

KEN
Four more blocks... Then.. turn..

3 INT. SUBURBAN RESIDENCE - LARGE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 3

Although the furniture has been moved to accommodate the
steady arrival of guests, the room is still recognizable as
an enormous family room. Near the fire place, a makeshift
platform is being set up by members of the band...

BANDMATE #1
Where's Steorts?

BANDMATE #2
The guy's workin' two jobs, plus
school... He'll be here.

BANDMATE #1
(joking)
And you know this...how?

#2 smiles, hands #1 (the same) FLYER promoting the night's event:

CLOSE UP: **This week: "Faith & The On-going Purposes of God"**
Featuring --FINGER PAINT

MATCH CUT TO:

4 INT. KEN'S VEHICLE - CITY STREET - NIGHT 4

KEN'S POV: We see the flyer's map studied by Ken as he drives. He drops the paper just in time for us all to SEE of another traffic light --JUST AHEAD!

HE SLAMS ON THE BRAKES.

As he stops, his eye catches sight of the MOON and the just emerging STARS.

...and as the CAR idles at the light, He...

FLASHES BACK TO:

5 EXT. MISSISSIPPI RIVER BANK - NIGHT 5

(dreamy recollection)....ripples around the moon's river refraction.

KEN (O.S.)
...They're not dreams. They're plans... Not my plans... His.

GIRL (O.S.)
...It's hard to believe what you can't see.

6 INT. KEN'S VEHICLE - CITY STREET - NIGHT 6

POV: We see Ken's face, looking through the vehicle window, up at the Moon..

KEN (TO HIMSELF)
Wait a second!-- Saturn has rings.
How do I KNOW that's true? Why do I believe they exist? Because NASA says so...

FLASH TO:

7 EXT. MISSISSIPPI RIVER BANK - NIGHT 7

GIRL (O.S.)
*Saturn rings seem more tangible
than any ring from you.*

FLASH TO:

8 INT. KEN'S VEHICLE - CITY STREET - NIGHT 8

Ken leans out the window for a better look at the night sky.

KEN (TO HIMSELF)
If we can believe what's out there,
though we never bother to look...

FLASH TO:

9 EXT. MISSISSIPPI RIVER BANK - NIGHT 9

GIRL O.S.)
(DREAMY ECHO)
I don't... I've never actually -

FLASH TO:

10 INT. KEN'S VEHICLE - CITY STREET - NIGHT 10

KEN (TO HIMSELF)
..Why do never bother to believe...

As he pull his head back into vehicle his hand lands on
THE BIBLE.. He picks it up and looks at it.

KEN (TO HIMSELF)
...what's right...here.

We see that 'EUREKA' moment on his face as a notion hits
him.. He immediately starts scrounging around the front seat
for pen and paper.

11 INT. SUBURBAN RESIDENCE - LARGE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 11

WE see the BIBLE STUDY, already in progress, and standing
before the crowded room is the speaker...

SPEAKER
So...basically...What is this
intangible something we call FAITH?

12 INT. KEN'S VEHICLE - CITY STREET - NIGHT 12

We SEE Ken frantically scrounging around the front seat, as
we HEAR the speaker continue..

SPEAKER (O.C.)
It is the essence of what we know
in our hearts...

Having snapped up a scrap of paper from his school books, Ken fumbles around through the junk pile searching for a PEN...

SPEAKER (O.S.)
...but haven't seen - yet.

His eye catches sight of his prize and (AFTER A BEAT) he snatches up the pen....and begins to write, frantically.

We see what he is writing;

KEN (TO HIMSELF)
Saturn has a ring around it

The traffic light changes. Ken drives... still writing.

*You can never see it with your eyes
Saturn has a ring around it
Many moons know this to be true*

13 EXT. SUBURBAN RESIDENCE - NIGHT 13

We see the moon looming over the house where the Bible Study continues.. and the interior lights through the windows, revealing the crowd inside.

14 INT. SUBURBAN RESIDENCE - LARGE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 14

The large gathering sits mesmerized by the speaker.

SPEAKER
Faith is... living blind in a
sighted world.

15 INT. KEN'S VEHICLE - CITY STREET - NIGHT 15

As Ken struggles to scribble down the words, he drives oblivious to the dangerous traffic around him. We see him accomplish some hair-raising close calls and near misses while writing/driving...

KEN (OUT LOUD)
*Heaven has a ring around it
The angels sing a song over you*

16 INT. SUBURBAN RESIDENCE - LARGE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 16

SPEAKER
Faith is... living sighted in a
blind world.

17 EXT. CITY STREET - NIGHT 17

We see the irritation of passing drivers, and hear angry car horns, while....

18 INT. SUBURBAN RESIDENCE - LARGE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 18

BANDMATES #1 and #2 glance at each other. #1 points to his watch. #2 gestures "patience"

19 INT. KEN'S VEHICLE - CITY STREET - NIGHT 19

...Ken drives on, submerged in his lyrical world.

KEN (OUT LOUD)

*Heaven has a ring around it,
If you don't see it,
know that it's true*

20 INT. SUBURBAN RESIDENCE - LARGE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 20

In F/G we see the speaker,

SPEAKER

Seeing isn't believing...It is the
ones who believe that truly see.

In the B/G, THRU THE WINDOW, we see Ken pulling to the curb.

21 INT. KEN'S VEHICLE - IN FRONT BIBLE STUDY HOUSE - NIGHT 21

Ken finishes up the final lyric and sits back amazed, exhausted. Almost at the point of tears, he looks out the vehicle window, up to the moon hanging over the house.

FLASH TO:

22 EXT. MISSISSIPPI RIVER BANK - NIGHT 22

GIRL (O.S.)

All you can you think about is
starting a band, writing music
and....GOD? I don't understand all
this faith stuff... It's hard to
believe what you can't see.

KEN (O.S.)

...They're not dreams. They're
plans... Not my plans... His.

23 INT. SUBURBAN RESIDENCE - LARGE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 23

SPEAKER

When Jesus invited Peter to take a
stroll on the water...

24 INT. KEN'S VEHICLE - IN FRONT BIBLE STUDY HOUSE - NIGHT 24

We see a new resolve on Ken's face. Holding the lyrics in his hand, he opens the driver's door and swings one foot out.

SPEAKER (CONT'D)
...Peter, without hesitation, threw
his leg over the side of the boat
like he was actually going some
where... that's faith...

25 INT. SUBURBAN RESIDENCE - LARGE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 25

In F/G BANDMATE #1 looks at his watch...

Rack focus - in B/G we see Ken walk into the house. Bandmate #2 playfully elbows #1 pointing towards the door.

BANDMATE #2
(winking, whisper)
Oh Ye of little faith...

BANDMATE #1
(whisper)
Never doubted it for a second.

Bandmate #1 hands Ken his guitar. As he starts to sit ...

MATCH CUT TO:

26 INT. RECORDING STUDIO - 26

..Ken leans back against a stool.

Camera pulls to reveal a room full of studio musicians, including a few the recognizable faces from SKILLET --all huddled around their record producer.

PRODUCER
I know its hard to believe, but all
we need is one more song to
complete your first CD...Okay,
who's got it?

As camera pans the group, everyone looks dazed, spent -out of ideas. A beat AFTER Ken enters the frame he seems to hit on an idea, and reaches into his guitar case for something.

CLOSE ON:

...a small crumpled piece of paper. As he unfolds the page and places it on a nearby music stand, we get an even closer look ...and recognize Ken's handwriting....

Ken starts to strum the intro of "SATURN"...

The studio goes quiet. The mood shifts even more when he starts to sing the first verse...

KEN (SINGING)

I ask Him 'when will I be free?'
He said "I am
Asking Him, 'When will I change?'
He said, 'No matter now,
no matter now '

We see in the faces of Ken's band mates and producer a sense of recognition.. They have obviously found the song they needed.

CAMERA PANS to KEN singing.

DISSOLVE TO:

27 INT. COLLEGE DORM - BATHROOM - NIGHT 27

Camera fades up on CLOSE UP of a CD PLAYER/RADIO. WE hear Ken now familiar fully produced version of the song blaring over the speakers.

Camera pulls from Radio speakers to reveal a GIRL'S DORM BATHROOM, candles are flickering everywhere, on the sink, around the bath tub, on the window mantle. Eventually camera focuses on a YOUNG FEMALE STUDENT sitting on the floor, next to the toilet, in tears.

On closer inspection we see she is clutching a "DEAR JANE" Letter (referring to "broken dreams, discarded plans") and in the other hand is a RING.

Despondent, she gazes at the ring, then tosses it into the toilet... forming circular ripples in the water.

With her ring hand free, she reaches for a bottle of serious pills. In her delirium she spills them out onto the tile floor ...a few of them roll across the floor near the radio.

Crawling across the floor she tries to pick up all the strays, but as she grapples for the pills next to the radio, her shaking hand pauses...debates a moment, then decides to reach for the volume control instead.

Laying on the floor she listens, as Ken sings...

KEN (SINGING)

You ask Him 'How can You be real?
He said, 'You'll be'

We see the recognition in her tortured face

Knowing Him how you do Now He says,
'Rest in this, rest in this'

We see all the pills thrown into the water

*Heaven has a ring around it
The angels sing a song over you*

We see her wipe her eyes and smile...

MATCH CUT TO:

28 EXT. MISSISSIPPI RIVER BANK - BRIGHT DAY 28

Ken with same expression, CAMERA PULLS to reveal Ken, his wife and kids all standing on the same bridge (or river bank) ...the whole family has a rock...which they all toss into the river at the same time...

Causing ripples around the reflected SUN.

KEN VOICE (SINGING)
*Heaven has a ring around you
If you don't see it,
know that it's true*

THE RIPPLES SHIMMER....

FADE TO WHITE