

WILLIE AND HARRISON

WRITTEN BY SANDRA MAYER

TITLE CARD - 15 MONTHS AGO

EXT. NEW YORK STREETS - DAY

A large, belligerent group of PROTESTORS are waving placards and chanting slogans condemning the abuse of blacks by white police.

In front of the mass of people is TRAVIS(25) who is shouting through a bullhorn, leading the very hostile crowd.

TRAVIS
WE'RE SICK OF THE WAY THAT THEY
TREAT OUR PEOPLE! IN OUR CHURCHES!

PROTESTOR ONE
YEAH, IN OUR CHURCHES!

TRAVIS
IN OUR STREETS!

CROWD
IN THE STREETS!

TRAVIS
IN OUR HOMES!

PROTESTOR TWO
OUR HOMES! LEAVE US ALONE IN OUR
HOMES!

TRAVIS
IS IT FAIR?

CROWD
NO!

TRAVIS
IS IT FAIR?

The crowd screams back.

CROWD
NO!

A line of POLICEMEN stand facing the crowd.

(CONTINUED)

TRAVIS
ARE YOU GOING TO LET THEM TREAT US,
TREAT OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS LIKE
DOGS ANYMORE!

CROWD
NO! NO! NO!

TRAVIS
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT,
BROTHERS? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO
ABOUT IT, SISTERS?

The menacing crowd surges forward.

TRAVIS
IS VIOLENCE THE ANSWER?

CROWD
YES!

TRAVIS
YES! YES? I.SAY.NO!

Travis gestures to the police.

TRAVIS
I.SAY.NO! WHAT SAY YOU?

Travis points at the police.

TRAVIS
YOU.SAY.YES!

The incensed crowd breaks free and rushes towards the police. The police, in response, run towards the maddened crowd.

The crowd sweeps past Travis and as the police and the crowd meet, terrible fighting takes place. Travis stands alone for a second until he sees a POLICEMAN bearing down on him. He drops the bullhorn down onto the ground and raises his fists prepared to fight.

The policeman's baton swings a bruising arc and the crushing blow smashes into Travis's head splitting it open. He falls, mortally wounded, to the ground.

There is the flash of a camera and Travis's death by a white policeman is captured forever.

TITLE CARD - PRESENT DAY

EXT. CENTRAL PARK NEW YORK - DAY

It is a typical day in Central Park. The park is packed with people ranging from fitness enthusiasts, families, elderly, tourists, workers eating lunch, courting couples, school children, laughing children, babies in prams, grandparents with young children, walking groups and tour groups, to the lonely and the homeless. Happy families are visiting the zoo, children playing on playgrounds, artists painting on easels, buskers, children eating ice creams, and homeless people sleeping on benches.

INT. WILLIE'S APARTMENT - MORNING

WILLIE (62), in his lonely small apartment, puts on his police uniform. While looking at his reflection in the bathroom mirror he smooths down his hair with Bryll Creme and then straightens his collar.

WILLIE

You're getting old, old man.

He shrugs at his reflection then turns off the bathroom light.

INT. WILLIE'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Willie picks up his battered briefcase from a chair and then swipes up his keys from the sideboard. On the sideboard is a faded photo of his wife, JASLENE, holding their baby son, TRAVIS. Also an old, yellowed, faded newspaper article of Travis's death lying down on the dusty shelf.

The front door closes and there is the sound of a key turned in a lock.

INT. POLICE PRECINCT - MID MORNING

Willie, with his jacket tossed over the back of his chair, sits behind a desk that is piled high with papers and an outdated computer monitor. Sighing heavily, reaches for a paper from a large pile and after glancing at it, he signs it with a flourish then places it on top of an even larger pile. He wipes the back of his hand across his forehead then looks up at the oversized clock on the far wall. It's second hand slowly clicks over to make the time 12 o'clock.

Willie slowly gets up from his chair, stretches out his back then slides on his suit jacket and shuffles through the maze of desks to the elevator.

EXT. CENTRAL PARK NEW YORK - LUNCHTIME

The park is teeming with families playing in the playgrounds, the lawns are full of picnic blankets and park benches are occupied by workers sitting, eating their lunches.

Willie sits down on a park bench underneath a shady oak tree that overlooks a popular playground. He takes off his shoes and socks and wiggles his feet in the freshly cut grass. He opens up his brown paper bag and extracts his favorite sandwich, corned beef on rye with pickles. He eats the sandwich and sips the soda looking hopefully at the parents and children playing on the playground.

His eyes are constantly moving, searching for something or someone. He very, very slowly eats the sandwich dragging out the time that he spends at the park.

When he finally finishes his sandwich he reluctantly puts on his shoes and socks. He gathers his rubbish and leaves the park to go back to his clerical job at the precinct.

EXT. PRECINCT - LUNCHTIME

Willie exits the park and throws his rubbish in a trash can. Beside the can sits SHEILA, a homeless woman. Willie pulls his wallet out of his pants pocket and gives her a ten dollar note.

WILLIE

There you go love. You have a good day now.

SHEILA

God bless you Willie. See you tomorrow?

WILLIE

You sure will, Sheila.

Willie walks to the precinct and is swallowed up by its imposing doors.

EXT. CENTRAL PARK NEW YORK - LUNCHTIME

It is autumn and leaves are blowing into drifts at the park's edges. Willie walks to the park bench underneath the oak tree. He takes off his shoes and socks, kicks the dried up leaves at his feet then opens up his sandwich. He gingerly takes a bite of the curried egg and lettuce and grimaces at its taste. He sips his soda and looks around around at the families visiting the playground. He eyes keep

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sweeping the area, waiting, watching for something. He wraps his sandwich back up and sits back wiggling his bare toes in the grass. After a while he checks his watch. Sighing at the time, he puts his shoes and socks back on and makes his way back to his workplace.

EXT. PRECINCT - LUNCHTIME

Sheila is sitting next to the trash can outside the precinct. Willie goes up to her and hands her his partially eaten sandwich.

WILLIE

There you go Sheila, your favorite.

SHEILA

You didn't just buy that for me did you Willie?

WILLIE

No Sheila, see?

Willie unwraps the sandwich to show Sheila that he had taken a bite from it.

WILLIE

I just wasn't hungry.

SHEILA

God bless you Willie.

WILLIE

And God bless you too Sheila.

EXT. CENTRAL PARK NEW YORK - LUNCHTIME

It is winter and bitterly cold. A light sprinkling of snow is falling and everyone is wrapped up in their winter gear. Even with the cold weather, families still visit the park. Adults brush the snow off the swings and slides, and the children squeal as they play. On the lawn it looks like the park has been invaded by an army of snowmen of all shapes and sizes and they are joined by a group of energetic TEENAGERS who are successfully adding to the army's flanks.

Willie, wearing a winter coat, gloves and a warm hat brushes the snow off the park bench. He has a spare coat with him which he lays down on the bench to insulate him from the cold wet wood. He places his takeaway mug full of hot soup beside him on the bench. He takes off his gloves and blows warm air on his cold hands. He wraps his hands around the warm mug, sipping at the hot liquid watching the families and children playing in the park.

When his soup is gone. Willie slowly packs up and despondently leaves the park.

EXT. PRECINCT - LUNCHTIME

Sheila is again sitting near the trash can. She is wrapped up in an old coat and blanket. Willie walks up to her and gives her a shaky smile.

WILLIE

Hi Sheila.

SHEILA

Hi Willie.

WILLIE

I found this coat in the park, it doesn't have any name in it. Do you need it?

SHEILA

Thanks Willie, I don't need it but I know of someone at the shelter who does. Can I take it for them?

WILLIE

Sure Sheila, here.

Willie hands her the coat.

SHEILA

So, they weren't there again today?

WILLIE

No, not today.

SHEILA

Never mind Willie. They'll come, you just have to be patient.

WILLIE

Thanks Sheila, I'll try to be.

(beat)

Try to keep warm won't you?

SHEILA

God bless you Willie.

EXT. CENTRAL PARK NEW YORK - LUNCHTIME

It is spring and all of the trees and flowers are blooming. It is an uncharacteristically warm day and there are lots of children and their families in the park.

Willie, in his uniform, walks over to the park bench. He follows his routine of taking off his shoes and socks and wiggling his bare feet in the grass. He opens up his corned beef and pickle sandwich and cracks open his soda.

He has just taken his first bite when a family, walking over to the swings, catches his eye. He sits up straight and smiles with delight when he recognizes them. A young woman, ELSPETH, pushes a stroller that holds her daughter, MICA (13 months), towards the playground. Her son, HARRISON (5), runs along-side.

Harrison is talking really fast and is tripping over his words. Willie can barely understand him. Mica, points at the swings, screams and strains against the stroller's restraints.

Harrison leaves his mother's side and starts to climb up the jungle gym.

Willie, with his sandwich forgotten, sits forward on the bench and takes in the family scene. He is particularly thrilled at how quickly Harrison climbs up the ladder and traverses the rope bridge without fear.

HARRISON

Mom, Mom look at me.

Elsbeth is trying to free a squirming Mica from her stroller.

ELSPETH

That's great, hon.

Elsbeth glances up at him.

ELSPETH

Harrison, be careful!

Harrison runs fast along the bridge causing it to sway back and forth.

HARRISON

Look at me. Mom? Look at me.

Elsbeth finally unstraps Mica from the stroller and hand-in-hand they walk together to the swings.

(CONTINUED)

ELSPETH

Yes, okay, okay, I'm coming.

Willie looks on, smiling at Harrison and Mica's antics until his watch beeps. He glances at it and winces when he sees it's time to go back to work.

While keeping an eye on the family, he slowly puts on his shoes and socks, collects his sandwich and reluctantly leaves the park.

EXT. PRECINCT - LUNCHTIME

Willie is practically skipping down the pathway towards his work. When he reaches Sheila, he pulls a twenty dollar note from his wallet and hands it to her with a spontaneous kiss on her cheek.

SHEILA

You're in a happy mood. Were they there today?

WILLIE

Yes, and it was wonderful. God bless the world Sheila.

SHEILA

God bless you Willie.

EXT. CENTRAL PARK NEW YORK - LUNCHTIME

Willie hurriedly walks down the path to the bench under the oak tree. He just has time to take off his shoes and socks and unwrap his sandwich when he sees them. Harrison is running towards the playground and Mica strains at the belts of her stroller. Harrison has on a Superman outfit complete with boots and cape. He climbs right to the top of the gym.

HARRISON

Hey Mom, look. I'm Supermannnnn.....

He jumps off and makes a diving roll onto the bark at the base.

Willie gasps in horror as Harrison jumps, but then grins with delight as he completes his roll without injury.

ELSPETH

Harrison, STOP!

(beat)

For goodness sake, you're going to break your neck. Don't do that again!

(CONTINUED)

The family play for a while. Willie is enraptured with Harrison's daring and his skills in climbing all over the jungle gym.

Harrison stops right at the top of the rope climb and looks out over the park.

HARRISON

Look Mom, I can see everything.
There's the zoo and there's the
gardens...

Elsbeth is playing in the sand pit with Mica.

HARRISON

I can even see that old man sitting
over there on the bench.

Elsbeth looks around.

ELSPETH

Which old man?

Harrison points.

HARRISON

That one. Over there. In the police
uniform. I know, I'll go and show
him my Superman outfit.

Harrison starts climbing down. Elspeth looks over at Willie sitting on the bench. She takes in his rapt attention on her children.

ELSPETH

God dammit!

She sighs in resignation.

ELSPETH

Harrison, wait right here and watch
your sister while I go over to see
if it's okay for you to visit.
Alright?

HARRISON

Okay, Mom.

Elsbeth gets up and dusts off her hands. She walks over to confront Willie.

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ELSPETH

What on earth are you doing here, Willie? You know that Travis wouldn't have liked it.

WILLIE

I...I just wanted to see them.

ELSPETH

But Travis...

(beat)

he, he told me *never* to let you see them. I promised him. You know very well that he didn't want anything to do with you and that included the children. He hated that you are a copper, he said that you were a hypocrite. He didn't like what you stood for, your ideals, your views, you...

WILLIE

Well, I didn't condone his choices either, Elspeth, but that didn't stop me loving him. It didn't stop me loving you or my grandchildren.

ELSPETH

He wouldn't like it.

WILLIE

Travis is dead, Elspeth. What he liked or wanted doesn't matter anymore.

ELSPETH

It does to me.

WILLIE

Does it? Really? Did you agree with everything that he stood for? Everything that he believed in?

(beat)

Everything that he died for?

ELSPETH

(quietly)

Yes.

WILLIE

No you didn't, love. Not everything. Not the most important thing. Not family.

(CONTINUED)

Elsbeth turns to look at her children. Harrison waves to her. She waves back.

WILLIE

I just want to see my grandchildren, Elspeth. I just want to talk to them. Don't begrudge me a relationship with them for ideals that tore our family apart. Please. Let me.

Elsbeth looks at Willie. She stares into his pleading eyes, she notes his hands shaking in anticipation and his worried demeanor. She knows that he is scared that she'll say no, and that will be the end. Elspeth sighs.

ELSPETH

Okay, but there's a couple of conditions.

Willie is wary but hopeful. He will accept anything to see his grandchildren.

WILLIE

Of course.

ELSPETH

You can only see them here. Here at this bench and only if they want to visit with you. There is to be no hugging or stuff. You are not to make times with them for them to meet you. You are not to come over to our place and you are not to invite them to yours. If you happen to be here when we come to the park, okay, but no other time. Is that agreeable to you?

WILLIE

But?

ELSPETH

Is that agreeable to you?

WILLIE

Yes. Okay. Yes.

Elsbeth starts to walk away but stops and turns back to him.

ELSPETH

And you must never, and I mean never, reveal that you are their

(MORE)

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ELSPETH (cont'd)
grandfather. You can become a friend but that's it. I can't...I can't allow that. I promised...I promised Travis that I wouldn't tell them that you were their grandfather. As far as they know you are dead, dead to them just as you were dead to him.

Elspeth turns her back on Willie and walks back to her children.

HARRISON
Can I go Mommy, can I show the old man my outfit?

Harrison is jumping up and down in anticipation and excitement. Elspeth looks back at Willie and nods.

ELSPETH
Okay love. But you've only got five minutes and then we'll be going home.

Harrison runs off straight to Willie.

HARRISON
Okaaayyy, Mommmm.

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

Willie watches in anticipation as Harrison comes charging straight for him. Willie opens up his arms as if to receive a hug from him, but quickly drops them to his sides when he remembers Elspeth's conditions. He looks contritely at Elspeth's narrowed expression. Harrison screams to a stop before Willie. He stands up straight with his chest thrust out and his hands on his hips, in a classic Superman pose.

HARRISON
Guess who I am?

Willie pretends not to know. He rubs his chin as if in thought.

WILLIE
Spiderman?

HARRISON
No. Guess again.

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE

Uh. Iron Man?

HARRISON

No, silly. One last try.

WILLIE

Wonder Woman?

Harrison laughs out loud.

HARRISON

No silly, she's a girl and I'm a boy. Look at the 'S' on my chest. It means that I am Superman.

WILLIE

Really, it does? Silly me. Well, hello Superman, would you like to sit down?

HARRISON

No. I'm going to fly around the world and save people from the baddies.

Harrison sweeps around and around the park bench his arms opened up wide like a plane.

HARRISON

Zoom, zoom, zoom.

WILLIE

You go really fast.

HARRISON

Yep, Superman can ffffllyyyy.

Harrison eventually stops running around the bench and flops down next to Willie.

WILLIE

So, are all the baddies gone?

HARRISON

Yep, Superman chased them all away. Hey, are you here everyday?

WILLIE

Yes. I always have my lunch here.

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HARRISON

Great, 'cause Superman likes to visit.

Elspeth picks up Mica from the sand and starts strapping her into the stroller.

ELSPETH

HARRISON, TIME TO GO!

WILLIE

Is that your name, Harrison? I thought it was Superman?

Harrison leans forward and puts his finger to his lips as in a shushing motion.

HARRISON

That's my regular name, like Clarke Kent. It's a secret, don't tell anyone.

ELSPETH

HARRISON!

WILLIE

I won't, but your Mom's calling so you better go.

HARRISON

Okay, hey? What's your name?

WILLIE

It's Willie, Willie Johnson.

HARRISON

Willie. Cool. Hey, our name is Johnson too. How cool's that? See ya tomorrow Willie.

Harrison starts to run back to his mother and sister, his arms out like he is flying. Willie, with a huge grin on his face watches him run away.

WILLIE

See you tomorrow, Superman.

EXT. PRECINCT - LUNCHTIME

Willie is in a dream as he walks past Sheila on the way back to the precinct.

SHEILA
Willie? Willie? Hey, WILLIE?

Willie snaps out of his happy daze.

WILLIE
Oh, Sheila. It was wonderful. She is going to let me see them, my daughter-in-law. Isn't that fantastic.

SHEILA
That's great Willie. I'm happy for you. God bless you Willie.

WILLIE
God bless Elspeth, Sheila.

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

Willie has just unwrapped his sandwich when he sees Elspeth and the children. He sits there in anticipation wondering whether Harrison or even Mica would join him on the bench.

HARRISON
Hey, Willie?

Willie waves a greeting.

HARRISON
Mom, can I go and show Willie my Superman action figure.

Elspeth looks at Willie. She sees the eagerness in his eyes. She sighs.

ELSPETH
Sure. But don't be long.

HARRISON
Wheeeee.

Harrison runs over to Willie and shoves his Superman figurine right up into his face.

HARRISON
Look Willie, look!

(CONTINUED)

Willie carefully pushes the figure back a bit so he can look at it.

HARRISON
Isn't it great?

WILLIE
Gee wiz, Harrison it's great. Is it new?

HARRISON
Yep. Mom got it for me yesterday, isn't it super? Look Superman's arms move and everything. His coat flies out and even his boots come off. See?

Harrison starts to take off the figurine's boots. Willie stops him.

WILLIE
Leave them on, bud. You don't want to lose them?

HARRISON
Okay, Willie.
(beat)
Hey, whatcha eating?

WILLIE
A sandwich.

HARRISON
What kind?

WILLIE
Corned beef with pickles on rye bread.

HARRISON
Hey, that's my favorite, but don't like pickles. Mom makes it with ketchup instead. Hey, do you like ketchup? Mica doesn't. She cries when Mom puts it on her sandwich by mistake. Don't 'cha think Mica's too small to eat sandwiches? I think so, but Mom doesn't, but she cuts off the crust so maybe it's okay. Her favorite is jelly. I don't like jelly, except cherry. Sounds funny don't it, cherry jelly, cherry jelly. Is that a soda?

(CONTINUED)

Willie is a bit stunned at Harrison's conversation but tries to keep up.

WILLIE

Uh, yeah. Do you like soda?

Harrison ponders that question for a second.

HARRISON

Um, not sure. Maybe. I'm not allowed soda. Mom says it's not good for you. I've got to have water or juice. But not orange juice, I don't like that. It's got to be apple. Yep, apple juice is the best. Do you like apple juice?

WILLIE

Yes I do, Harrison. What about Superman does he drink juice like you?

Harrison jumps up from the bench.

HARRISON

No, he only likes coffee. Coffee, coffee that's a funny word, hey Willie?

Harrison runs around the bench holding his figurine as if Superman is flying.

HARRISON

Superman likes coffee, coffee, coffee. Ha, that word is funny. Coffee, coffee...

ELSPETH

HARRISON, COME AND PLAY!

HARRISON

OKAY, MOM! Hey Willie, come over and watch me play. I can climb really high.

WILLIE

Sorry, bud, but I can't.

HARRISON

Why not?

Willie rubs his knee pretending that it's sore.

WILLIE

See, I've got a sore knee, so I'll just have to sit and watch you from here. Okay?

HARRISON

Okay, Willie. I'll wave to you from the top.

WILLIE

Can't wait.

Harrison runs over to the jungle gym. He climbs up the rope ladder with one hand, as Superman is clutched tightly in the other. When he reaches the top he waves.

HARRISON

HEY, WILLIE? LOOK AT ME!

Willie waves back.

Willie watches Elspeth and the children play. His watch beeps but he clicks it off. After a while Elspeth picks up Mica and restrains her in the stroller.

ELSPETH

Okay Harrison. Time to go.

HARRISON

Aw, Mom?

ELSPETH

No arguments, young man. We can come back tomorrow but Mica is tired.

Harrison starts to climb down.

HARRISON

Okay Mom. Can I go and say goodbye to Willie.

ELSPETH

No. Not today, son. Just give him a wave.

Harrison enthusiastically waves goodbye to Willie.

HARRISON

SEE YA, WILLIE!

Willie waves back.

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE
See you, Harrison.

INT. WILLIE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Willie pulls an old shoe box down from the cupboard. He places it on the table and sits down and starts to rifle through it. He pulls a few photos out of the box. The first two are of his late wife, JASLENE, playing with baby Travis. The next photo is of Travis (9), dressed up in a New York Jets Uniform. The last photo he pulls out is a photo of Travis and Elspeth on their wedding day. They are dressed as hippies, long hair, free flowing clothes, no shoes, and flowers in Elspeth's hair. They look very much in love.

Willie sighs. He puts down the photos and reaches in and digs out some old New York Jets trading cards that belonged to Travis. He flips through the cards then places them on the table. He puts the photos back into the box and returns it to the shelf.

EXT. PRECINCT - LUNCHTIME

Willie stops next to Sheila on the way to the park.

WILLIE
Hey, Sheila? Look what I found for my grandson.

He shows her the trading cards.

SHEILA
They're great Willie. He'll love those. Were they your son's?

WILLIE
Yep. I've been hanging on to them. You sure Harrison will like them?

SHEILA
He sure will, Willie.

EXT. PARK BENCH - LUNCHTIME

Willie is sitting on the bench eagerly waiting for the family to show up. He's so eager that he has forgotten about his lunch and taking off his shoes. His eyes continually scan for them the whole time.

Minute after minute passes and there is no sign of Elspeth or the children. Eventually Willie's watch alarm beeps. He gives up and despondently leaves the park.

EXT. PARK BENCH - LUNCHTIME

Willie is back on the bench. He is eating his sandwich and his toes are wiggling in the fresh grass.

HARRISON
WILLIE, WILLIE?

Harrison sprints up to him and flops down on the park bench beside Willie. He flaps a hand drawn picture in Willie's face.

HARRISON
Look Willie. A picture. Look
there's our park bench and look,
there's you and me sitting on it.

Willie takes a look at the crude stick figure drawing. He smiles at Harrison's efforts.

HARRISON
Look, I've even put a bandage
around your knee as it's sore. We
are wearing hats. Do you wear hats
Willie? Cause Mom, makes me wear a
hat *all the time* and I hate it.
Except for those hats that have a
flat brim. Do ya know that they
won't let me play at kindy unless I
have a hat? Mom forgot it once and
I had to sit inside the whole time
and watch the other kids play. It
was soooooo boring.

WILLIE
Yes, I wear hats, Harrison and that
is a great picture. Did you draw it
at home?

HARRISON
No, at kindy.

WILLIE
I didn't see you yesterday
Harrison. Were you at kindy?

HARRISON
No, Mica was sick so Mom kept us
home.

WILLIE
Is she okay now?

Elsbeth and Mica are playing in the sand in the playground.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON

Yep. Hey, whatcha got there?

WILLIE

Trading cards for the New York Jets. Do you know who they are?

HARRISON

Yeah, they play football on the T.V.

WILLIE

Well these cards, they used to belong to your f....I mean to my son. I thought that you would like them.

HARRISON

Gee, thanks Willie. But won't your son miss them?

WILLIE

No bud, he won't and I'm sure that he would have wanted you to have them.

HARRISON

Cool. Why would your son want me to have them, Willie? Won't he miss them?

WILLIE

No Harrison, he's gone...gone up to heaven, but I'm sure that he would have wanted me to give them to someone who likes The Jets, so why not you?

Harrison starts to look through them.

HARRISON

Hey, they're great.

Willie looks over at Elspeth and Mica.

WILLIE

How's your mother? Is she happy?

HARRISON

I don't know. Some times she gets real cross like when Mica doesn't eat her food and throws it all over the floor. Mom really gets mad

(MORE)

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HARRISON (cont'd)
then. She says 'Stop it Mica, you
are giving me more work to do.'

WILLIE
So, your Mom has a job?

HARRISON
Yeah, when Mica and I are at kindy
Mom puts on her apron and goes to
work.
Hey, Willie. Do you work?

WILLIE
Yes. I work in the police building.

Willie points towards the precinct.

WILLIE
Just over there.

HARRISON
Hey, do you know that Superman has
a job?

WILLIE
Does he?

HARRISON
Yep, he saves the world. Just like
my dad did.

WILLIE
How did your dad save the world,
Harrison?

HARRISON
Mom told me that he was in the
army. He was a de...decarated

WILLIE
Decorated?

HARRISON
Yep, a decarated soldier. He saved
people like Superman does. Then Mom
said that when he got home he
wanted to help the people from our
neighborhood.

WILLIE
Do you remember much else?

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON

No, but Mom said that he was a hero.

(beat)

Hey Willie, are you decarated too?

Willie and Harrison both look up when Elspeth calls out.

ELSPETH

HARRISON! TIME TO GO!

HARRISON

OKAY, MOM!

(beat)

See you tomorrow Willie.

Harrison jumps up off the bench and runs to his mother.

WILLIE

Yes, bud. See you tomorrow.

INT. ELSPETH'S APARTMENT - VERY EARLY MORNING

The sun has not yet risen but Elspeth is awake sitting up in her bed with a scrapbook of newspaper clippings opened up beside her. The room is filled with shadows that the dull lamp light cannot dispel. Elspeth is crying as she looks at the newspaper article about the protest march. Harrison stands sleepily at Elspeth's door.

HARRISON

Momma? Whatcha looking at?

Elspeth hurriedly wipes at her eyes to rub away the tears and closes the scrapbook.

ELSPETH

Nothing love.

(beat)

Why are you awake?

Harrison yawns and rubs his eyes.

HARRISON

I couldn't sleep.

Elspeth pats the bed beside her.

ELSPETH

Come here, poppet.

Harrison crawls into her bed. He opens the scrapbook to the newspaper article. He recognizes his father in the front of the crowd.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON
Is that Dad?

ELSPETH
Yes.

HARRISON
Why's his photo in the paper?

ELSPETH
'Cause, he was honorable.

HARRISON
What does honorable mean?

ELSPETH
He stood up for what he believed
in. He wouldn't let his fellows
down.

HARRISON
Is that why he's in the photo?

Elsbeth starts to sob quietly.

ELSPETH
Yes, son. He wanted to stop the
abuse of the police against the
people in our community.

HARRISON
I don't understand, Momma.

Elsbeth closes up the scrapbook and slips it down onto the
floor. She snuggles down into the bed with Harrison.

ELSPETH
Never mind love. It's difficult to
explain. Your Daddy...

Elsbeth chokes back a sob.

ELSPETH
Your Daddy...
(beat)
Just remember that your Daddy was a
wonderful caring man, sometimes too
caring for his own good...and, he
loved us very much.

HARRISON
Even Mica?

ELSPETH

Yes, even Mica.

HARRISON

I want to be like Daddy when I grow up. But I don't know why he had to die.

ELSPETH

Nobody really understands what happened honey but hopefully it may become clearer when you're older.

(beat)

Okay now. Time for sleep.

Harrison closes his eyes and snuggles into her.

HARRISON

I miss daddy.

Elsbeth kisses him on the head.

ELSPETH

Me too.

EXT. PARK BENCH - LUNCHTIME

Willie is waiting for Harrison. He has just unwrapped his sandwich when Harrison shuffles up to the bench. He sits down quietly beside Willie.

WILLIE

What's wrong, bud?

HARRISON

My Daddy died.

Willie sees that Harrison is on the verge of tears. When he looks over at Elspeth he can see that she is sitting staring off into space while Mica plays at her feet.

WILLIE

(under his breath)

Yes, today is the day.

He turns back to Harrison.

WILLIE

Do you want to talk about it?

Harrison nods.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON
Why do people have to die?

WILLIE
Well, I think that it's something
to do with God's plan.

Harrison looks at Willie in confusion.

HARRISON
Why would God want to take away my
daddy?

WILLIE
I don't think that God meant to
take away your Daddy. But...

HARRISON
Then why did the policeman hit him
so hard?

WILLIE
'Cause
(beat)
I don't know what to tell you, son.

Willie pauses and sighs heavily.

WILLIE
What has your Mom told you?

HARRISON
Not much. Just that he was
honor...honorbbly.

WILLIE
Honorable, yeah, he was honorable,
(under his breath)
and stupid.

HARRISON
Is there a heaven?

WILLIE
A heaven? Um...what do you think?

HARRISON
Don't know. The preacher at church
says that there is a heaven and
it's really nice and only the good
people get to go there. He also
said that there is a place called
hell and all of the rotten, bad

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON (cont'd)
people who don't confess their sins
go there. Do you think that the bad
policeman will go to hell?

WILLIE
I'm not really sure, Son. But I'm
positive that there is a heaven. In
my heart I like to think that my
darling wife is in heaven watching
down on me just as your Daddy is
watching down on you, but as for
hell...I'm not sure that one
exists.

HARRISON
But then where do the bad people
go?

WILLIE
I don't necessarily think that
there are any bad people. I think
that people are just bad 'cause of
their circumstances and the choices
they made. When they die they
change and they become pure then
all is forgiven.

HARRISON
So, everybody goes to heaven?
Wouldn't it be, you know, crowded
and stuff? Won't they, like, need
lots of bathrooms?

WILLIE
I don't think that people's bodies
go there, so they won't need
bathrooms. Just their souls so it
wouldn't be crowded.

HARRISON
So, Daddy would be in heaven.
(beat)
I miss him, Willie.

ELSPETH
HARRISON, COME HERE!

Harrison runs over to his mother.

WILLIE
Me too, Harrison. Me too.

EXT. PARK BENCH - LUNCHTIME

Willie is offering Harrison a cookie from his opened packet.

HARRISON
Thanks, Willie.

Willie watches Mica play in the sand.

WILLIE
Hey, Harrison? Do you think that
Mica might want to visit with me
sometimes?

Harrison shrugs. He drops cookie crumbs on his tee-shirt.

WILLIE
Do you think that you can ask her?

HARRISON
Nah, she's been naughty. She pulled
the head off my Superman doll.

WILLIE
Why did she do that?

HARRISON
'Cause she's a girl and she has
no...no...respect for my things.
She's got her own things to break,
why break mine?
(beat)
Why are girls so awful, Willie?
They're mean and yucky. I hate 'em.

WILLIE
You don't mean that. Not all girls
are mean. Surely there are nice
ones at your kindy?

HARRISON
No way! They're just as bad or
worse. They cry all the time and
they take my stuff and the teacher
doesn't notice. The other day
Colleen took the book I was reading
from me and she yanked it so hard
that she ripped the page. Then she
didn't want it 'cause it was torn,
so she dropped it down on the
ground in front of me. Before I
could say anything the teacher had
seen the ripped page and went mad
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON (cont'd)
at me and it wasn't even my fault.
She wouldn't listen when I tried to
tell her what happened. I got in
trouble and had to sit in the
naughty corner.

(beat)
I hate the naughty corner.

WILLIE
That's not fair.

HARRISON
Girls get away with murder. Don't
they?

WILLIE
You're so right son. Here, have a
cookie. Cookies fix everything.

Harrison smiles and selects another from the packet.

EXT. PARK BENCH - LUNCHTIME

Harrison wearing a new Iron Man costume, sneaks up behind
Willie who's sitting on the bench.

HARRISON
Boo!

WILLIE
Good Lord!

Willie turns to look.

WILLIE
Who's that?

HARRISON
It's me, Iron Man.

WILLIE
Iron Man? What happened to
Superman?

Harrison runs around the bench and holds out his gloved hand
as if to shoot his laser.

HARRISON
Oh, Willie! Superman's yesterday's
dude. Iron Man's today's guy.

Harrison makes laser sounds while he pretends to shoot the
trees and grass.

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE

Well, sit down Iron Man and tell me about your day.

Harrison sits, but keeps pointing his arm and making laser sounds.

HARRISON

It was okay, I guess.

WILLIE

Just okay?

HARRISON

Yeah.

WILLIE

Why?

Harrison stops shooting and looks down at his feet.

HARRISON

'Cause I don't have any grandparents.

WILLIE

I don't understand, what's that have to do with today?

HARRISON

Well, it was grandparents day at kindy today. We were supposed to bring our grandparents to play with us. Colleen had all four of her grandparents there, Aisha had her two grand-mom's and I had... no-one.

WILLIE

Oh.

HARRISON

They had games and stuff all set up. Great ones too. Things that you could do with your granddad or grandma like build sandcastles in the sand tray, painting easels with glittery paint and they had they real cool building blocks out too. But 'cause the grandparents were there my friends didn't want to play with me.

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE
That's too bad, Son.

Harrison looks wistfully up at Willie.

HARRISON
I wish you were my Granddad.

Harrison jumps up from the bench and runs towards his mother and sister at the playground pointing his laser, pretending to shoot the trees and grass as he runs off.

WILLIE
I am, Harrison, I am. I just wish I could tell you.

TITLE CARD - 5 YEARS LATER

EXT. PRECINCT - MORNING

Sheila is sitting beside the trash can outside the precinct. Willie (67), walks up to her. He is dressed casually in a sports coat and pants. He is wearing a jaunty hat on his head.

SHEILA
Lookin' good, Willie.

WILLIE
Thanks Sheila.

SHEILA
First day of retirement? How does it feel?

Willie does a little skip and dance on the sidewalk.

WILLIE
It feels great. I can spend as much time as I want with Harrison and Mica. Well, as much time as Elspeth allows me.

SHEILA
Well, go and have fun with them. God bless you Willie.

Willie tips his hat at her.

WILLIE
You too, Sheila.

EXT. CENTRAL PARK NEW YORK - DAY

Willie is waiting, not so patiently, on the park bench for the family to show up. Eventually he sees Mica (6), running ahead of her mother, running straight for the swings. Harrison (10), is slowly walking behind his mother playing with a smartphone.

MICA

Mom, I'm going to climb up real high today. Can you watch me? Pleeeassse?

ELSPETH

Sure, honey. Just be careful okay. Don't climb too high.

MICA

Oh, Mom. It's fine. Just stand there, THERE, at the bottom.

Elsbeth goes to stand in the precise spot.

MICA

Now, don't move.

Elsbeth looks around for Harrison. He is standing still, playing with the phone.

ELSPETH

HARRISON, HURRY UP!

Harrison shuffles towards the park bench.

He plops down next to Willie.

WILLIE

What have you got there, Son?

HARRISON

A game.

WILLIE

Don't you want to play on the playground with your sister?

HARRISON

Nah. Playgrounds are for little kids.

WILLIE

Doesn't Mica want you to play with her?

(CONTINUED)

Harrison shrugs.

WILLIE
So, what's the game?

HARRISON
BMX racing.

Willie takes a deep breath. It's like getting blood from a stone trying to get any information out of Harrison.

WILLIE
So, what do you have to do?

HARRISON
Race.

WILLIE
Race?

HARRISON
Yeah, race. On bikes.

Willie watches Harrison play his game for a while, but keeps his eye on Mica and her climbing abilities.

Eventually Harrison loses and he puts down the cell.

HARRISON
Hey, you look different.

WILLIE
Yeah?

HARRISON
What's with the hat?

WILLIE
Well, I've retired so I don't have to go to work anymore. So I can wear whatever I want.

HARRISON
So, you don't have to wear the police uniform anymore?

WILLIE
Nope, and I can stay here as long as I want.

HARRISON
Cool.

(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON (cont'd)

Listen, it's my birthday next Saturday and Mom's taking us to to have flapjacks. Do you want to come?

WILLIE

Um...

HARRISON

Well, I thought, since you're now retired, that you can...

WILLIE

Um, well...

Willie is torn, he desperately wants to go to Harrison's birthday party but he knows that Elspeth wouldn't allow it.

HARRISON

But if you can't?

WILLIE

I would love to be there but...uh...I have another engagement. Sorry.

HARRISON

That's okay.

WILLIE

But, I will see you when you visit the park.

HARRISON

Sure, sure, but school is starting again we can only come here on weekends and that's only when Mom's not working.

WILLIE

That's okay, Son. I'll be here everyday just in case your Mom brings you or Mica.

MICA

HARRISON, HARRISON, COME HERE!

HARRISON

OKAY!

(beat)

Sorry Willie, got to go.

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE

That's okay. Go and play with your sister.

HARRISON

Oh, do I have to?

WILLIE

Yes you do. Your mom called you.

HARRISON

Okay then. See ya, Willie.

WILLIE

See you, Son.

EXT. PARK BENCH - MORNING

It is winter and Willie is rugged up in a huge coat. His hands are covered by worn gloves and he has a woolen hat on his head. A thick scarf is wrapped around his neck. He is sitting on the bench reading an old paperback.

He glances at the school kids as they walk past, waiting for a glimpse of Harrison or Mica.

Harrison, almost unrecognizable with his hat pulled low and his thick coat, is walking ahead of a bunch of rowdy OLDER BOYS. The boys are whispering among themselves and shoving each other forward towards Harrison until one bully speaks out.

BULLY ONE

Hey you?

Harrison does not hear him. He is absorbed in his game and has ear buds lodged in his ears.

BULLY ONE

HEY YOU?

His yelling grabs Willie's attention.

When Harrison doesn't respond. The boys take off in a jog and surround him.

BULLY ONE

Hey you? I was talkin' to you.

Harrison stops and looks up at them. He pulls out his ear buds.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON

What?

BULLY ONE

I was talkin' to you. Didn't your Momma teach you not to ignore people.

BULLY TWO

Yeah. Are you ignorant?

The first boy starts to shove Harrison around.

BULLY ONE

Or are you just stupid?

He knocks Harrison's hat to the ground and when he leans over to pick it up he gets shoved into the snow. Snow clings to his clothes, hair, eyebrows and eyelashes.

All of the boys point and laugh.

BULLY ONE

Now you're white, ignorant and stupid.

When Willie sees that it is Harrison who has been knocked to the ground, he yells and struggles up off the park bench to confront them. He waves his book around when he yells.

WILLIE

HEY, YOU...BASTARDS. LEAVE HIM ALONE!

He starts shuffling towards the group.

The boys turn towards him.

BULLY TWO

HOW ABOUT YA LEAVE IT ALONE, OLD MAN. THIS ISN'T ABOUT YOU!

WILLIE

YEAH, WELL, PUSHING AN INNOCENT KID ONTO THE GROUND AND MAKING FUN OF HIM, IS MY BUSINESS!

BULLY ONE

OH, SHOVE OFF GRANDPA!

Willie picks up his speed and brandishes his book at them.

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE
YEAH, MAKE ME. YOU BASTARDS!

BULLY TWO
Hey, we don't need no shit. Let's
go.

Willie is almost at the group.

The boys confront Harrison again.

BULLY ONE
Yeah, we don't need no shit from
you, hey, arse wipe?

The boys pick up some snow and shove it down Harrison's
collar then run off laughing.

Willie reaches Harrison and helps him up off the ground.

WILLIE
You okay?

Harrison brushes the snow off his coat and tries to dislodge
it from inside his collar.

HARRISON
Yeah, Willie. I think so.

Willie looks around for Elspeth and Mica.

WILLIE
Where's your Mom?

HARRISON
Mica's sick so Mom has to stay home
and look after her. I told her I
would be okay to go to school on my
own, but...

Harrison shrugs.

WILLIE
You're okay.
(beat)
Come on now, I'll walk with you to
the edge of the park.

They start walking off.

WILLIE
Did you know those kids?

HARRISON

Yeah.

(beat)

The big one, he lives in our apartment complex. He's mean.

WILLIE

Yeah. I can see that.

They walk for a while.

HARRISON

Did you ever get picked on Willie? Were kids, back when you were my age, mean?

WILLIE

Yeah, some of the kids were. Everyone gets picked on, Harrison. Either in the school yard or in the board room.

HARRISON

Did you ever get bullied, Willie?

WILLIE

Sure did. There was this big bloke in my school, he looked just like that bruiser who knocked you down. He picked on all of the kids, not just me. He was big and mean. But he was very stupid.

HARRISON

What did you do about it?

WILLIE

Well, when I was a bit older than you I learned how to box.

HARRISON

And you took care of him?

WILLIE

Well, I never had to fight him but knowing how gave me the confidence to stand up to him when he picked on someone who couldn't.

HARRISON

Do you think that my Dad ever got bullied?

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE

I would say so, son.

HARRISON

Mom says that fighting's not the answer. She said that Dad went off to war to fight bullies in Afghanistan but even that didn't make a difference. He came back...different, she said. Not the way he was.

(beat)

She said that war changes people.

WILLIE

Your Mom's right, Son. It does change people and mainly not for the better.

HARRISON

You didn't go, did you Willie?

WILLIE

No, Son, but I knew of someone who served.

HARRISON

And was he different?

WILLIE

Yes, before he left he was respectful, he respected authority he was...so eager...eager to serve for his country. But things must have happened, over there, he came back, changed. He started to rebel against authority. He turned to the complete opposite of what he was before. It's not that he went bad, you understand, it's just that he was like a completely opposite version of the man I knew before he went off to war.

(beat)

He must have experienced terrible things to have changed so much.

(beat)

But I didn't understand what happened to him. I didn't know. I never could have imagined.

(beat)

He never told me about what it was like. What he went through. I was

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE (cont'd)
ignorant of his reasons, of the changes that he went through and of his pain.

(beat)

Harrison, your Mom is right. War changes people but it also changes the ones left at home. The ones that have to try to understand and to cope with what the person went through and what they are going through now that they are back.

(beat)

I couldn't, I didn't know how. I didn't know what to do and now he's gone.

HARRISON

Was he your Son, Willie?

WILLIE

Yes, and I regret every harsh word. I regret every action. I regret every wasted minute since he's been gone.

HARRISON

That's sad Willie.

WILLIE

What are you going to do about those bullies, Son?

HARRISON

Not sure, Mom won't let me fight but maybe I'll talk to her about learning boxing like you did.

WILLIE

Learning how to protect yourself so you don't have to.

HARRISON

Yeah.

(beat)

Reckon she'll go for that, Willie?

WILLIE

Don't know, Son. I just don't know.

HARRISON

But it wouldn't hurt to ask, hey Willie?

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE

No, Son. It wouldn't. Just don't be too disappointed if she says no.

HARRISON

Okay, Willie.

Harrison and Willie companionably walk off to the edge of the park.

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

It's the weekend and there are lots of families playing in the park. Mica is on the playground while Harrison is visiting with Willie.

WILLIE

How's Mica going? Is she happy?

Harrison shrugs.

WILLIE

Do you ever think Harrison, that she might want to come over to meet me? I would love to talk to her.

HARRISON

Why, Willie? Isn't it just good, you and me?

WILLIE

Yes, of course. I love talking to you but I also think I might like talking to Mica too. Do you think that you could ask her for me?

HARRISON

Do I have to?

WILLIE

No, you don't. It's up to you but I would really love to meet her. Could you please at least try?

Harrison sighs.

HARRISON

I suppose so.

Harrison gets up off the bench and slowly, hesitantly walks over to where Mica's playing. Elspeth looks up from her cell and listens in on their conversation.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON

Hey Mica? Do you want to come over to meet Willie?

MICA

Who?

HARRISON

You know, my friend, Willie.

Mica nods in Willie's direction.

MICA

You mean that weird old man?

HARRISON

Yeah, but he's not weird, he's nice.

MICA

No way.

HARRISON

Come on Mica. He wants to meet you.

MICA

I don't want to meet that smelly old man.

Mica looks at Willie.

MICA

Why do you want to sit with him anyways? He's old.

HARRISON

Yeah, so, but he's my friend. He listens to me.

MICA

I don't want to be friends with an old man.

HARRISON

Why not? He's nice.

Mica turns her back on Willie.

MICA

He doesn't look like a normal old man. From here he looks wrinkly and...uh, strange and...he wears funny looking hats and

(CONTINUED)

(beat)

I just don't want to be his friend.

Harrison is perturbed at her reaction.

HARRISON

Fine, then. Be like that. He just wanted to meet you and say hello.

Mica crosses her arms across her chest.

MICA

Well, I don't want to. So you can just run back to that silly old man and talk to him yourself. I don't want to have any part of him.

HARRISON

Fine.

MICA

Fine.

Harrison walks slowly back to Willie, he knows that Willie will be upset as he wanted to get to know Mica. But inside he is grateful, for he wants to keep his friendship with Willie all to himself. He didn't want to share him with Mica. He thinks to himself finally he has someone he can count on as being his own.

WILLIE

So?

HARRISON

She doesn't want to meet you, Willie.

Willie's face drops.

HARRISON

I'm sorry, Willie.

WILLIE

That's okay, Son. We can visit all by ourselves.

HARRISON

Yeah, we don't need Mica.

Willie heaves a big sigh, then smiles at Harrison.

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE

No, I suppose we don't.

Harrison smiles back.

TITLE CARD - 2 YEARS LATER

EXT. CENTRAL PARK NEW YORK - MORNING

It is summer and Willie (69), slowly wanders over to his park bench. He is looking older and shabbier. He slowly sits down. He looks around at the playground but it is too early as there are no children visiting yet. He watches a few joggers go past and sees a group of elderly citizens perform Tai Chi in the distance. Out of his pocket he pulls out a weather-beaten novel and a dried up bread roll. He places the book down beside him. He looks up into the oak tree and whistles. A few birds chirp back. He whistles again and a couple of birds fly down near his feet.

WILLIE

Here you go my old friends.

He starts to pull off small crumbs of bread, tossing them to the birds. With every toss, more and more birds flock down trying to catch a crumb.

WILLIE

Hungry today aren't you?

One courageous bird hops up onto his knee. Willie slowly pulls off a crumb and feeds it to him.

WILLIE

Looks like everyone is hungry today? Here, have the last crumb.

He feeds the last piece of bread to the bird and when it realizes that there isn't anymore, flies away.

The birds scatter when a pair of joggers go past. Willie sighs heavily at the empty playground and picks up his book and settles in to read.

EXT. CENTRAL PARK NEW YORK - MORNING

It is late summer and Willie is looking frailer. His clothes are starting to fray and his shoes are worn down. Willie tries to reach down to his feet to take off his shoes but struggles to reach them. He gives up and just sits back. He notices some school children on the way to school. He carefully studies their faces but is disappointed when he doesn't recognize Harrison or Mica.

After all of the school children pass, he leans back and dozes on the bench.

INT. ELSPETH'S KITCHEN - MORNING

Elsbeth is serving up breakfast. Mica(8), is sitting at the table. Harrison (12), enters the room with his new gaming device.

HARRISON

Mom, when are we going back to the park? I need to see Willie.

ELSPETH

Not today, Harrison. I've got to work.

HARRISON

But Mom, we haven't been for ages and I want to go and show him my new game.

(beat)

Come on Mom, please?

ELSPETH

Not today Harrison. I just haven't got time.

HARRISON

But Mom.

(beat)

Mica wants to go.

MICA

No I don't. I don't want to go and see that stinky old man.

HARRISON

He's not stinky.

MICA

Yes he is.

HARRISON

NO, HE'S, NOT!

MICA

YES, HE, IS!

HARRISON

HOW WOULD YOU KNOW, YOU'VE NEVER BEEN NEAR HIM!

(CONTINUED)

ELSPETH
CHILDREN! ENOUGH!
(beat)
Mica? Do you want to go and play in
the park?

Mica squints at Harrison as he silently pleads behind his
mother's back.

MICA
Um.

When her Mother's back is turned she mouths to Harrison.

MICA
You owe me one.

Harrison grudgingly nods okay.

ELSPETH
Mica?

MICA
Yeah, okay. I would like to go to
the park.

HARRISON
YIPPEE!

Elsbeth sighs heavily.

ELSPETH
Okay then. Just for a short while
though and young man?

HARRISON
Yeah, Mom?

ELSPETH
For getting your sister to agree
with you, you have to take her turn
drying up the dishes.

HARRISON
Okay, I'll do them tonight.

ELSPETH
No, not just tonight, the rest of
the week.

Mica grins with glee. Harrison groans.

HARRISON

Oh, Mom!

ELSPETH

Harrison!

HARRISON

Oh, okay. I'll do them.

EXT. CENTRAL PARK NEW YORK - DAY

It is a cold autumn day and the wind is blowing the fallen leaves into drifts. Willie sits huddled on the park bench, his fingers with arthritic swollen knuckles, shakily grip his paperback.

He jumps when Harrison, suddenly plops down beside him.

HARRISON

Hey, Willie. Look what I've got?

Harrison pulls out his cell and loads up a game.

HARRISON

This is the latest game. Check it out. Look, you select this and then you can choose the team you want to be on, then the colors that you want. I might choose blue, I always seem to win when I'm the blue team. Then you set up your base, but I already have one saved. See. You need to gather gold, iron and wood to build weapons but you also got to have farmers to grow food to keep your troops fed.

Willie looks a bit stunned. He hasn't seen Harrison in a long time. He feigns interest in the game but he is actually studying Harrison and absorbing each and every detail of him.

HARRISON

I'm playing against the red team and the yellow team. The yellow team is really strong and their troops are *wicked*. You need to make up a strategy. I think that I will try to knock out the yellow team first so that they can't build up too many troops, if they do they'll wipe the red team and me out.

(CONTINUED)

Willie tries to have a conversation with the distracted Harrison.

WILLIE

It's great to see you, Harrison. I haven't seen you in a long time.

HARRISON

Yeah, Willie. Hey, look at that? I'm sure the computer is cheating. How can the yellow team have so many soldiers already? They must have unlimited iron and gold...

WILLIE

How's your mom and sister?

HARRISON

They're good. Though Mica's a pain again. They're over there.

Harrison distractedly points at the playground. Willie looks over. Elspeth has her back to him playing on her cell phone while Mica climbs up the jungle gym.

WILLIE

Why aren't you in school?

Harrison looks at him like he's lost it.

HARRISON

Today's Sunday, Willie. We don't go to school on Sundays.

Willie shakes his head. He'd forgotten what day it was, he's been sitting on the bench, waiting, for so long he's lost track of time.

WILLIE

Oh, silly me. I forgot.

HARRISON

Hey, check this out?

Willie peers at the small screen. He tries to shade his eyes to see it better but he cannot see it very well.

WILLIE

See what?

(beat)

Can you hold it up higher Harrison?

Harrison moves the game up off his lap by an inch.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON

See what I'm going to do next? I'll select these planes and I'm going to fly them right into the yellow's base. Watch!

(beat)

See them go?

WILLIE

Uh huh.

Harrison jumps up and down on his seat so Willie has no chance of seeing them.

HARRISON

Yeah. They smashed them Willie, they smashed them.

Harrison jumps up from the bench and runs off to his mother.

HARRISON

Hey Mom, I smashed them!

Elsbeth looks up as Harrison runs towards her. She turns back to see Willie looking forlornly at Harrison.

ELSPETH

That's great, love. Are you ready to go now?

HARRISON

Yes Mom.

(beat)

COME ON MICA, LETS GO!

As the family leaves the park Elspeth glances back at Willie. She sees him hunched over, fiddling with his paperback, an lonely old man.

INT. ELSPETH'S KITCHEN - MORNING

Harrison and Mica are at the table eating breakfast. Elspeth is spooning freshly made soup into a plastic container.

ELSPETH

I thought that we might go to the park today.

MICA

Oh, Mom. It's cold. I don't want to go.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON
Hey, that's great.

ELSPETH
It's not that cold.

MICA
Yes it is.

ELSPETH
Well, wear that new coat I got for
you.

MICA
Do we have to?

HARRISON
Oh, suck it up Mica. It's not that
cold.

ELSPETH
HARRISON, LANGUAGE!
(beat)
And we are all going young lady,
cold or not.

Elsbeth places the container of soup into a thermal bag.

ELSPETH
Come on, finish your lunch. We'll
go to the library on the way and
borrow some new books to read
tonight.

MICA
Can I get four books?

ELSPETH
Yes, as long as you don't whine.

Harrison scoops up the last of his breakfast and shoves it
into his mouth.

With his mouth full, he gets up and drops his plate into the
sink.

HARRISON
Come on, let's go.

EXT. CENTRAL PARK NEW YORK - LATE AFTERNOON

In the park the last family is collecting their belongings from a blanket next to the playground. With the cold autumn wind, Willie has been freezing all day. He tries to flex his cold sore fingers but they are stiff and swollen.

He becomes aware of a family walking towards the playground.

Elsbeth, with a takeaway container in her hand crouches down next to Mica.

ELSPETH

Mica. Can you please take take this container of soup to Willie?

Mica crosses her arms and shakes her head.

HARRISON

I'll take it.

ELSPETH

Thank you Harrison, but I would like Mica to take it.

MICA

I don't want to!

ELSPETH

Why not?

MICA

I don't like him. He's old and he wears funny clothes.

HARRISON

His clothes aren't funny and you don't even know whether you like him or not, you've never even met him.

Harrison reaches for the container.

HARRISON

I'll take it Mom, since Miss Stubborn is being such a pain.

Elsbeth hands the container over to Harrison.

ELSPETH

Thank you, Son.

(beat)

We'll be over here for a while if you want to visit. But not too

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ELSPETH (cont'd)
long, okay, Willie must be cold
sitting there.

Harrison hurries over with the container of soup.

EXT. PARK BENCH - LATE AFTERNOON

Harrison sits down beside Willie.

HARRISON
Here, Willie. Here's some soup,
it's Mom's Chicken and Veggie one.
It's really nice.

Harrison hands over the container to Willie.

Willie takes the container.

WILLIE
Thank you, Harrison and can you
please thank your Mother for me.

HARRISON
Sure.
(beat)
Oh, I forgot!

Harrison digs into his coat pocket and takes out a plastic
spoon.

HARRISON
Here's a spoon.

Willie takes the spoon and shakily places both onto the
bench beside him.

Harrison frowns at him.

HARRISON
Aren't you going to have some,
Willie?

WILLIE
Oh, yeah, sure. Sorry.

He picks up the container and struggles to open up the lid.

Harrison takes it from him.

HARRISON
Here. I'll open it for you.

(CONTINUED)

Harrison opens up the lid and hands back the open container to Willie. Willie rests it on his knee. After picking up the spoon he shakily dips it into the soup and raises some up to his nose. He smells the wonderful scent then blows on it to cool it. He tentatively sips at the liquid.

WILLIE

It's wonderful. The best soup I've ever eaten. Please thank your Mom.

HARRISON

Okay, Willie.

Harrison glances over at Elspeth and Mica. Mica is climbing the jungle gym while Elspeth has her arms wrapped around herself trying to keep warm.

HARRISON

Are you going home now, Willie?

WILLIE

Very soon, Harrison.

HARRISON

Don't you get cold and lonely sitting here all day Willie?

WILLIE

I get cold sometimes, but I'm never lonely.

Willie points up into the trees.

WILLIE

The birds are my friends and they visit me.

HARRISON

Do you come here every day? Even if we are not coming?

Willie shrugs.

WILLIE

Sure. Don't have much else to do.

HARRISON

Do you have any friends, Willie? My friends and I are watching the game this weekend. Will you see the game? It's the playoffs and I bet the Jets will win this year.

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE

I suppose so...

HARRISON

Did you see that last game, it was a bit of a riot with that player getting suspended. What was his name?

WILLIE

Not sure...sorry, I missed it.

HARRISON

Anyway, he will be back for the final game of the season...

Willie looks up at Elspeth.

WILLIE

Harrison, it looks like your Mom's cold so shouldn't you go and take her home?

Willie has another spoonful of soup.

HARRISON

Yeah, I suppose so.

Harrison hesitates like he wants to say something to Willie. He watches Willie eat the soup. He shrugs, then gets up off the bench.

HARRISON

Okay. See ya soon, Willie.

WILLIE

See you soon, Harrison, and thanks again for the soup.

As Harrison runs off, Willie catches Elspeth's eye and nods his head in thanks.

Elspeth nods her head in return.

The family walk off.

Willie closes up the half full container of soup. He stretches then slowly gets up off the bench. He unsteadily wanders through the park in the opposite direction from the family until he reaches a familiar trash can outside the old precinct.

EXT. PRECINCT - EARLY EVENING

Sheila is just getting up from her usual perch beside the trash can when Willie shuffles up.

Willie reaches out and taps Sheila on the arm.

WILLIE

Hey Sheila.

SHEILA

Hey, Willie. I haven't seen you in a long time.

Willie hands over the soup to Sheila.

WILLIE

Here's some soup for you Sheila, Chicken and Vegetables, homemade, from Elspeth.

SHEILA

Bless you Willie. Looks good, you sure you don't want it?

WILLIE

No, I've had enough Sheila, there was too much for me, so you enjoy it.

SHEILA

God bless you, Willie.

Willie shuffles off into the night.

INT. WILLIE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

There are packing boxes all around the apartment. Most are labelled with a charities name. Willie shuffles through them to the kitchen. He opens up the fridge. He peers into its empty cavern but all he can see is a jar of cherry jelly. Willie picks up the jar and shuffles over to a drawer and selects a spoon. He shuffles into the lounge room and sits down on a well worn recliner. After picking up the remote and turning on the television he settles in his chair. After struggling with the jelly lid, he finally gets it open. He sits there eating the jelly straight from the jar. After three spoonfuls he puts the jar and spoon down. He watches the television until he falls asleep.

INT. WILLIE'S APARTMENT - MORNING

A loud banging on the front door wakes Willie up from his sleep on the couch.
He struggles up off the chair.

WILLIE
Alright, alright, I'm coming.

Willie opens up the door to his building superintendent, HARRY, and two REMOVAL MEN.

HARRY
It's time to go Willie. These guys are here to pick up your stuff.

Willie nods and opens up the door wide.

HARRY
I'm sorry that it has to be like this Willie.

WILLIE
It's okay, Harry. It's not your fault.

HARRY
You know I tried the best I could, don't you?

WILLIE
It's my fault, Harry. I just wasn't paying at much attention to the markets as I could have. Before I knew it most of my investments had just disappeared.

HARRY
Do you have any left over, Willie?

The removal men are passing them by taking all of the boxes and furniture out of the apartment.

WILLIE
I've got a couple of dollars left. I'm going to give them to the shelter and they will find me a bed.

The superintendent reaches into his back pocket and pulls out his wallet. He holds out some notes to Willie.

(CONTINUED)

HARRY

Here, Willie. You grab a good meal
on the way, okay?

Willie shakes his head.

WILLIE

No, I couldn't, Harry.

Harry, pushes the money into Willie's hand.

HARRY

No, you take it. You've been a
great tenant and I wish I could
give you more.

WILLIE

If you're sure?

HARRY

Yep, drop the key in to the office
on your way out, okay?

WILLIE

Okay.

HARRY

Have a great life, Willie. Take
care of yourself.

Harry leaves and Willie just stands there watching the men
taking away his furniture and his life.

INT. WILLIE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Willie is standing in an empty room. All that is left is a
small cardboard box with a few of his personal items which
include the old shoe box. He pulls his apartment key out of
his pocket and turns it over a couple of times in his hand.
He reaches down and picks up the box from the floor. At the
front door he looks back at the empty room. He sighs and
pulls the door closed behind him.

EXT. PARK BENCH - MORNING

Willie puts his box down beside the park bench. A few birds,
expecting a feed of bread crumbs, fly down to land near
Willie's feet.

WILLIE

Sorry, guys. I've got nothing for
you today. You'll have to wait
until tomorrow.

(CONTINUED)

When the birds realize that there is no food they fly off one-by-one.

Willie sits there for a while, watching the playground and the people go by. Eventually he nods off.

EXT. CITY STREETS - DAY

It is the anniversary of the protest march where Travis was killed by the policeman. PROTESTORS have swarmed the city street bringing traffic to a standstill. They are chanting and waving placards. Some are screaming their views to the curious ONLOOKERS that line the street.

The POLICE are carefully watching the protestors but as the crowd comes closer they become restless and overly wary.

Elsbeth, Mica and Harrison are dashing along the sidewalk, late for school.

Mica looks wide-eyed at the protestors.

MICA

Momma, what are they doing?

Elsbeth drags Mica along, not wanting to be caught up in the same situation that took her husband years ago.

ELSPETH

Nothing. Now come on, or you'll be late for school.

Harrison stops dead in his tracks, causing Elsbeth and Mica to skid to a stop.

HARRISON

It's a protest. What are they protesting about Mom?

ELSPETH

It's nothing. Nothing that you need to be late for school for. Now come on or we'll be late.

There is a break in the crowd.

ELSPETH

Here. We'll cross here.

Elsbeth drags the kids through the gap out onto the road right in front of a WOMAN PROTESTOR who is waving a placard with a blown up news article photo depicting Travis's death. Harrison pulls away from Elsbeth.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON
MOM! STOP! LOOK!
(beat)
THAT'S DAD! HOW CAN THAT WOMAN HAVE
A PHOTO OF DAD?

ELSPETH
Harrison. Come on. COME ON!

The crowd surges forward and swallows up Harrison.

ELSPETH
Harrison! HARRISON! HARRISON!

HARRISON
MOM! MOM! MOOOMMMMM!

Harrison is pulled away by the crowd. Elspeth, clutching Mica pushes her way through the crowd trying to find him.

ELSPETH
HARRISON! HARRISON!

Mica starts crying.

MICA
HARRISON!

Elspeth looks up to see a line of heavily armed policemen striding down the road towards them.

ELSPETH
OH NO!

Elspeth drags Mica towards the side of the road, pushing and shoving people out of their way. There is a loud neigh and six MOUNTED OFFICERS on their large beasts canter past almost knocking them over. They dive to the curb to get out of the horses' way.

Onlookers help Elspeth and Mica up. Elspeth dashes back out onto the road screaming out Harrison's name.

ELSPETH
HARRISON! HARRISON! HARRISON!

Harrison is still being swept forward by the protesting crowd. He stumbles and almost falls numerous times but the pressure of the bodies around him keep him upright. He is frightened, crying, unable to break himself free from the overwhelming press of bodies around him.

(CONTINUED)

Suddenly there is a break in the crowd in front of him. It is as if the world slows down. All Harrison can now see is the line of police, as if in slow motion, bearing down on the protestors, down on him. Harrison is terrified. He can't escape, he cannot tear his eyes away from the line of policemen.

In his terror his mind flashes to the scene depicted in the newspaper picture of his father lying dead on the ground, with a policeman standing over him.

HARRISON
NO! NO! NO! NO!

A hand reaches through the crowd and grasps Harrison by the jacket. He is hauled out through the protestors. He is dragged through the line of people at the side of the street.

Harrison fights to get free.

HARRISON
NO! NO! NO!

WILLIE
HARRISON! HARRISON! STOP! IT'S ME!
WILLIE!

Harrison, doesn't recognize Willie at first. All he wants to do is get away.

HARRISON
NO! NO! LET ME GO!

WILLIE
Shush, shush. It's okay now. It's me, Willie. Shush. You're safe.

Willie hugs him close.

HARRISON
Willie?

WILLIE
Yes, Son. You're safe now.

Elsbeth and Mica dash through the crowd to them.

ELSPETH
Oh, my God, Harrison. Are you alright?

She drops down and gathers him close in her arms.

(CONTINUED)

Willie looks around at the ugly scene. The police have nearly reached the protestors.

Willie grabs Elspeth's arm.

WILLIE

Quickly, we've got to get out of here.

Elspeth looks up and recognizes the danger. She nods to him. Willie sweeps his arms around them and leads them away from the chaos.

EXT. CENTRAL PARK NEW YORK - DAY

WILLIE

Here.

He leads them to a park bench just inside the perimeter of the park.

Elspeth and the children sit down on the bench. Willie anxiously hovers in front of them.

WILLIE

Are you all okay?

Mica is crying, leaning into her mother. Elspeth is shaken. Harrison is distressed.

ELSPETH

Shush, Mica. It's alright. Shush.

(beat)

Harrison, are you okay, love.

Harrison nods.

WILLIE

You're sure? It was a dangerous place to be, Harrison. What were you thinking?

Harrison hiccups his tears away.

HARRISON

Sorry, Willie. They just...I couldn't find Mom and...there, there were so many of them...

ELSPETH

Shush now, Harrison. It's alright. Willie, it was my fault. I should have kept them home today...I

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ELSPETH (cont'd)
should have realized that on this date, the anniversary...that the people of the neighborhood, their memories are just as strong as mine still are. It's just...

She gathers Mica and Harrison in close.

ELSPETH
It was not as if I forgot...I just didn't want to make a big deal, a big fuss.

WILLIE
The passions still run as strong as they were all that time ago. In fact, it seems that with every instance of blacks being victimized by police, whether warranted or not, the fire still runs hot and it still runs deep. It doesn't take much to set people off.

ELSPETH
I know. I was just hoping...

WILLIE
Elspeth, they will never forget. Just like you and I will never forget. You lost a wonderful husband that you loved, and I lost a s...

Willie glanced at the children.

WILLIE
I lost someone that I deeply cared about.

ELSPETH
I know, I know.
(beat)
Willie, listen I'm not going to take the kids to school now. Let's grab a coffee, my treat, and go to your park bench and sit awhile and watch the kids play.

Willie's craggy face splits open into the widest smile.

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE

I would like that very much
Elspeth.

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

Willie is waiting somewhat anxiously on the park bench.

He nervously stands when he spots Elspeth approaching with
the coffees.

He waits for Elspeth to sit before he sits down beside her.

ELSPETH

Here.

She hands him his coffee.

WILLIE

Thanks.

They both take a sip.

They sit in an uncomfortable silence watching the families
play in the park.

Elspeth sighs heavily.

ELSPETH

I really didn't want to remember
that incident all those years ago
all over again. I am sick of being
reminded year after year of
Travis's death. Those protesters,
they bring up the past, the dark
thoughts. All I want to do is just
forget.

WILLIE

Forget Travis?

ELSPETH

Forget Travis! No that's not what I
meant. I just want us to move
forward with our lives, but every
year I just get hauled back, back
into the awful memories. I'd rather
be reminded of the good times, the
times of laughter and love. The
times of happiness and being
carefree. Not to be dragged down
each year by anger and guilt.

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE

Guilt? Elspeth there is nothing for you to feel guilty about. It was all me. I'm the one that should feel guilty.

ELSPETH

Do you? Do you feel guilty Willie?

WILLIE

Yes.

(beat)

It is all my fault. I should have explained, I should have stood up for the rights of my neighbors more often. I know that there was prejudice in the force, even in my own precinct. But I just accepted it, I just wanted to fit in, to prove that I was the same as them. I turned a blind eye. It wasn't everyone, I know that. It was just a couple of rotten eggs that turned the whole situation south. But that didn't stop Travis.

(beat)

He did what I couldn't do. He stood up for his neighbors, he stood up for his friends, he stood up for you and the children. He even stood up for me even while I was not standing up for him.

(beat)

Don't feel guilty Elspeth, there was nothing that you could have done. Both you and I know how stubborn he was, how full of righteousness...

ELSPETH

I don't feel guilty for that, that's why I loved him. I feel guilty for my kids.

(beat)

They're all I have, Willie, all that I have left of Travis and I can't...I can't talk about him to them. I feel lost, even more now than just after he was taken from us and each year it gets worse. Will this feeling of loss, this pain ever go away?

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE

It won't, it won't ever go away.
I'm sorry Elspeth, but hear me when
I say that our feelings of loss
won't ever leave us but they will
fade until it is just our distant
memories that keep our loss alive.

They remain sitting on the bench drinking their coffees,
watching the children on the playground.

EXT. PARK BENCH - MORNING

Willie is sitting on the bench feeding the birds which
scatter when Harrison runs up. Elspeth and Mica are walking
towards the swings.

HARRISON

Willie, Willie?

WILLIE

Good morning Harrison, you are up
bright and early today. How did
sleep last night after yesterday?

HARRISON

Oh, okay I guess but I woke up real
early just knowing something.

WILLIE

What?

HARRISON

Well, the other day at school we
had to get up in front of the class
and say what we wanted to be when
we got older, and I didn't know
what to say. Well now I do. I want
to be like Dad and help people.

WILLIE

What do you mean? Join the army?

HARRISON

Yes, no. I'm not sure about that
bit yet but I do know that I want
to help people. I was watching the
news last night and people on the
T.V were talking about Dad and how
he stood up for people's rights.
How he helped the people in his
neighborhood. I want to do that
too.

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE

Um.

HARRISON

But I just don't want to help people like us, I want to help everyone.

WILLIE

Well, that's very ambitious. How do you think that you are going to do that?

HARRISON

I'm not sure yet. But there are many sad people in the world and I want to help them.

WILLIE

Sad, sad like who?

HARRISON

Like Mom. She was crying last night, and I think it was about Dad. I just want to be able to say something to make her feel better. I went to her room and gave her a big fat cuddle and she just held me really tight. Eventually she stopped crying and thanked me for being there with her. So that's what I think that I want to do, something like that.

WILLIE

Maybe what you mean is a career as a counselor, a grief counselor.

HARRISON

What's that?

WILLIE

Somebody who's being trained how to help people when they are hurting. Someone who has felt their pain or who can understand and empathize with it and either offer advice or direct them to someone who can help. Someone who helps others by taking some of their pain, some of their worries and taking them onto their own shoulders, easing the burden of others.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON

That's it! That's what I want to do!

WILLIE

Well, that's commendable Harrison, but there is plenty of time yet for you to make a decision.

HARRISON

Nope, that's it. That's what I want to be, a counselor.

Harrison jumps up and runs off towards his mom.

HARRISON

MOM, MOM! THAT'S WHAT I WANT OT DO WHEN I GET OLDER. I WANT TO BE A COUNSELOR.

Willie watches Harrison run off to his mother.

WILLIE

You have to be a special man to want to help with people's pain.

Harrison gives quick hugs to Elspeth and then Mica.

WILLIE

Maybe you've got it in you after all.

TITLE CARD - 3 YEARS LATER

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

Willie (77), is asleep, lying down on the bench.

HARRISON

Hey, Willie? Is that you? Wake up?

Harrison (15), shakes Willie awake.

HARRISON

Hey, Willie. Willie!

Willie finally comes out of his slumber. He slowly sits up on the bench.

WILLIE

What?

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON

Willie. Wake up. It's me. Harrison.

Willie rubs the sleep out of his eyes.

WILLIE

Harrison? Is it really you? It's been so long.

HARRISON

Yeah, it's me.

(beat)

Why are you sleeping on the bench, Willie?

WILLIE

Oh, must have dozed off. Sometimes I get tired.

(beat)

Gee you've gotten really tall, Son.

Willie squints up at Harrison.

WILLIE

Sit down and tell me, how's your Mom? How's Mica?

Harrison sits down next to Willie. He looks angry.

HARRISON

That's why I'm here. Mom's got a new boyfriend.

WILLIE

Oh.

HARRISON

And it looks like they are getting serious.

WILLIE

Really? A boyfriend, hum. What's his name?

HARRISON

Jefferson.

WILLIE

Jefferson, like the president. Is he nice?

Harrison shrugs.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON

I suppose so.

WILLIE

Is he your Mom's first boyfriend?

(beat)

Even after all of these years?

HARRISON

Yeah, I think so.

WILLIE

She's never had anyone else over...I mean, you haven't met any other gentleman callers?

HARRISON

No. She's gone out a couple of times with her girlfriends and we've had to stay with Mrs Fredrickson next door, but she's never introduced us to anyone. But why, Willie? What's so special about this guy?

WILLIE

I'm not sure, Son, but lets talk about it a bit more. Tell me what you know about Jefferson?

HARRISON

Mom says that he's a lawyer. She said that he works in the DA's office in Harlem.

WILLIE

And, how did they meet?

HARRISON

Mom said that he was one of Dad's old friends.

WILLIE

From the Army?

HARRISON

No, I don't think so. Maybe, after the Army. Mom said that he was in the same protest march as Dad...you know...when he was killed.

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE

So, he's a man with principles.

Harrison shrugs.

WILLIE

And, what does Mica think of him?

HARRISON

Oh, she just loves him. He brings her gifts and stuff and treats her like a little princess.

WILLIE

And, does he bring you things as well?

HARRISON

Sure....But I don't ask for them. Not like Mica.

Harrison crosses his arms in front of his chest. Then releases them and shrugs.

HARRISON

Well, not all of them.

Willie chuckles.

WILLIE

Does he treat your Mother okay?

HARRISON

Yes, I suppose so. He brings her flowers all the time.

WILLIE

Is she happy when he is around?

Harrison nods.

WILLIE

So, your Mom's happy, and your sister likes him. So what's making you so angry?

Harrison shrugs.

WILLIE

Something about him or their relationship must be making you angry, Son.

(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE (cont'd)

You came here to talk to me about it. So, spit it out. What's going on?

HARRISON

Oh, I don't know Willie. Isn't Mom too old to have a boyfriend?

Willie chuckles.

WILLIE

I don't think that there is an age limit on that, Harrison.

HARRISON

But, it's just been us three since Dad got killed. I suppose I...

WILLIE

Thought that it would be that way forever? That no one would ever replace your Dad?

HARRISON

Yeah, maybe.

WILLIE

Harrison, you're what, fifteen now, right?

Harrison nods.

WILLIE

You can't tell me that there isn't a special girl in your classes at school that you like? Or that you haven't thought about becoming boyfriend/girlfriend with?

Harrison blushes.

WILLIE

Come, on. There is, isn't there?

HARRISON

Yeah.

WILLIE

And, does this girl like you back, do you think?

Harrison shrugs.

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE

Harrison?

HARRISON

Yeah, I suppose so. There's
Melanie, she's nice, not like some
of the other girls.

WILLIE

Do you think she would like to
become your girlfriend?

HARRISON

Suppose so.

WILLIE

Some people may think that at
fifteen you are a bit young to have
a girlfriend.

HARRISON

Maybe, but I don't care what they
think.

WILLIE

Really, so the idea of you having a
girlfriend at your young age is
different that your Mom having a
boyfriend at her age?

HARRISON

Yeah, cause she's old.

WILLIE

She is really not that old, look at
me!

Harrison squints at Willie.

HARRISON

Do you have a girlfriend Willie?

Willie laughs.

WILLIE

No, no, of course not. Who would
have me, and I don't need a
girlfriend.

HARRISON

Why?

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE
I still have my wife.

Harrison looks around.

HARRISON
Is she here? I've never seen her.

WILLIE
No, Son. She passed away many, many
years ago, but I still have her
here.

Willie taps at his chest.

WILLIE
She is still in my heart.

HARRISON
Oh.

WILLIE
I love her, loved her so much that
I never wanted anyone else. She was
the one for me. Forever.

Willie drifts off daydreaming.

INT. WILLIE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Willie and Jaslene (early 30s) are in their lounge room, in
each other arms, dancing to a record playing a slow tune.

WILLIE
Jaslene?

JASLENE
Hmm.

WILLIE
You are my everything.

JASLENE
And you are mine.

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

HARRISON
Willie, Willie!

Harrison shakes Willie out of his daydream.

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE

Humph.

HARRISON

Willie?

WILLIE

Oh, yes Son.

HARRISON

What were you thinking about?

WILLIE

Nothing Son, just old times.

(beat)

When you get a girlfriend make sure that you bring her here to the park so that I can see her. You don't have to introduce me, I just want to see whether she is just as pretty as my Jaslene. Okay?

HARRISON

Okay Willie.

WILLIE

And your Mom, don't you think it's time that your Mom started seeing someone? It's been a long time since your Daddy died?

HARRISON

If you say so. But I'm not sure about it.

WILLIE

Give your Mom a break, Son. It's time she found someone else to love.

HARRISON

Humph.

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

Willie, with a dog-eared book laying open on his stomach, leans back on the park bench looking off into space. He sits up imagining he sees Jaslene and himself (age 30s), walking slowly through the park to the play ground. They are indistinctly talking. They stop and Jaslene sits on the swing while Willie pushes her.

Willie smiles at the memory.

(CONTINUED)

Eventually, Willie realizes that it is not Jaslene and himself that are at the swings, but Harrison and his girlfriend MELANIE.

Harrison turns and gives a quick wave. Willie raises his hand and acknowledges Harrison.

Harrison slows down the swing until it stops and she hops off. They slowly walk past the park bench so that Willie can have a good look at Melanie without her noticing.

When Harrison looks back one last time, Willie gives him a huge smile and a thumbs up in approval of his choice of girlfriend.

TITLE CARD - 3 YEARS LATER

INT. HOMELESS SHELTER - MORNING

Willie is sitting on his bed putting on his old shoes getting ready for another day sitting on the park bench.

He rifles through his tiny but precious collection of ratty old novels until he digs one out of the bottom of the small pile.

Sheila, stops beside him.

SHEILA

You're not going to the park again?

WILLIE

Yeah, I am.

SHEILA

You know that they won't be there, right?

WILLIE

Probably not.

SHEILA

What makes you think that they will be there? They're all grown up now. They don't have time to go to the park. It's been, what, six months? A year?

WILLIE

Three years. It's been three years, but I haven't given up hope. They'll come. One day they'll be there and I don't want to miss any chance that I have of seeing them.

(CONTINUED)

He pulls a half eaten stale roll from his pocket and shows it to Sheila.

WILLIE

Anyway, the birds need their morning feed and I like watching the kids play on the playground.

Willie unsteadily gets to his feet.

WILLIE

Anyway, today might be the day.

SHEILA

God bless you Willie.

EXT. CENTRAL PARK NEW YORK - MORNING

Willie shuffles through the park on his way to the park bench.

He falters to a stop when he sees that there is someone sitting in his regular spot on the bench.

He can't believe it. Who would have the hide to sit on his bench.

He angrily shuffles forward, waving his arms around.

WILLIE

YOU THERE, GET OFF THAT BENCH! IT'S MINE! GET OFF! GET OFF!

EXT. PARK BENCH - MORNING

Harrison slowly gets up off the bench and with his hands shoved in his pockets and with a contrite look on his face, he tentatively smiles at Willie.

Willie finally recognizes him and he stops, in disbelief.

WILLIE

Harrison, Harrison, is that you?

Harrison nods.

WILLIE

Oh my God, Son, it's been too long. Give old Willie a hug.

Harrison, who is now taller than withered old Willie, grips the old man's hand and pulls him into a hug.

(CONTINUED)

Harrison notices how frail Willie has become and motions for them to take a seat.

Willie can't believe his eyes, he stares at Harrison in wonder, not really believing that he is there sitting on his old park bench.

WILLIE

Tell me about yourself? Mica, how is she doing? She must be a young lady now, and your mother? Did she marry that bloke she was seeing? Can't for the life of me remember his name?

HARRISON

Jefferson.

WILLIE

That's it. Jefferson, like the president.

HARRISON

Yes, she did marry him and they now live in Cleveland. He got promoted down there and Mom wanted to get away from Harlem and all of the memories. Mica too, she's attending senior school and loving it. She's just as much of a pain as she was when we were little.

WILLIE

But you stayed here?

HARRISON

Yeah. New York is my home. I didn't want to leave.

Harrison looks sheepish, then he blushes.

HARRISON

I got engaged.

WILLIE

Really, that's fantastic! Anyone I would know?

Willie looks down at himself, he notices his dirty coat, old tattered shoes and he rubs his hand over his five days growth.

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE

Of course not. Look at me. She wouldn't know someone like me.

HARRISON

In fact, she does know of you. It's Melanie, the same girl that I brought to the park all those years ago. After I brought her to the playground that day I explained who you were and what you meant to me. She wanted to come back and have a look, so the next day we came back. You didn't see us, you were sleeping, but she said that you looked nice and that you had a kind face.

(beat)

She ribs me about you every so often, and whether I have visited you. She makes me feel guilty.

WILLIE

But not guilty enough?

Harrison sheepishly answers.

HARRISON

No, not until now. I just...just...I am sorry. I just wanted to share our news.

WILLIE

That's wonderful Harrison. Congratulations, I hope that you will be as happy in your lives as I was with my beautiful wife, Jaslene.

They pause. The birds up in the tree start chirping, looking for their morning meal. Willie reaches into his pocket and pulls out the bread roll. He tears away small pieces and tosses them onto the ground. The hungry birds swoop down to pick at the crumbs.

Harrison watches the birds peck at the bread.

HARRISON

What do you do with yourself? Do you still come here everyday?

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE

Oh, this and that. Got to feed these hungry scavengers every day, they depend on me for their morning feed.

HARRISON

Where do you live?

WILLIE

Here and there. I have a kind of permanent cot down at the shelter. My friends are there, the guys and gals who run the place are nice to us. Get a hot meal a few times a week.

Willie, tries to smile.

WILLIE

It's all good.

(beat)

Actually can't wait to get back there tonight and stick you right in Sheila's face. She ribbed me just this morning that I wouldn't see you.

Willie grabbed Harrison's hand and gives it a quick squeeze.

WILLIE

And now I have.

Willie looks over at the playground.

WILLIE

That day that I saw you and Melanie here, at the playground. At first I thought I was seeing myself with Jaslene.

HARRISON

What was she like? Your wife?

WILLIE

Oh, she was beautiful. She was calm, generous, loving.

Willie sighs.

WILLIE

She was always so patient with me.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON

Why?

WILLIE

Well, I was a copper when I was younger, and it was really difficult back then to be a black copper in a white station. Things were not great.

Willie shrugs.

WILLIE

That was just the way it was back then. Had to fight tooth and nail to prove to my fellow officers that I was just as good, and fairer than all the other cops in the precinct. I had a few bad days.

(beat)

In fact, most of the days were bad, but when I went home, with Jaslene waiting there for me, those bad days just seemed to disappear, fade into a old memory. She made home seem like heaven. Then when she gave me a son, all seemed complete.

HARRISON

That's right. You had a son. He was in the army wasn't he? Just like my Dad.

Willie swallows.

WILLIE

Yeah, that's right. I remember you mentioning that. Yeah, well he was just like me. Poor Jaslene, then she had to put up with the both of us. Stubborn as mules, wanting to save the world in our own way. But I knew that she wouldn't have wanted it any other way.

HARRISON

She passed away, didn't she?

Willie nods. He has tears in his eyes. He crumbles up the last piece of bread roll and throws it onto the ground for the birds.

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE

I was lost when she died.

HARRISON

You still miss her?

WILLIE

Each and every day.

Willie mentally shakes himself and changes the subject.

WILLIE

Enough about me. What about you?
You have a job?

HARRISON

Yep, I am training to be a grief
counselor.

WILLIE

Really? You stuck with it? That's
what you told me you wanted to be
when you were, what...twelve or was
it thirteen. You remembered, and
never changed your mind?

HARRISON

No. Mom calls me stubborn, just
like my dad. Once I talked to you
about that, I made up my mind and
focused my efforts into that area.
That's all I ever wanted to do, so
here I am, training in the only
career that I ever wanted.

WILLIE

What about the army, like your Dad?
Didn't you want to follow in his
footsteps?

HARRISON

No. I never wanted to create pain,
and that's what I think that
soldiers ultimately do. Yes they
follow orders, and they do great
stuff to help keep our world safe,
but ultimately someone always gets
hurt. Either the enemy, a fellow
soldier, or even their loved ones
that they leave behind. No, I want
to help people get over their
grief, not cause more.

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE

Well good for you. Obviously you enjoy it?

HARRISON

Yes.

Harrison looks at his wristwatch.

HARRISON

Listen Willie, my lunch break is nearly over and I've got to go, but I will come back often. I've left you alone too long. Is that okay with you?

Willie nods, he has tears in his eyes.

WILLIE

I would like that.

Harrison gets up from the bench.

HARRISON

Next time I want to hear about how you proposed to Jaslene. So, no more sad stories, okay. Just happy memories from now on. Okay? How's that?

WILLIE

That's great Son. I'll try to dig out a photo to show you of our wedding day.

HARRISON

That would be great, Willie. See you soon, okay?

Willie nods again. He roughly wipes tears away from his craggy face while watching Harrison walk away.

WILLIE

That would be great, Grandson.

EXT. PARK BENCH - LUNCHTIME

Willie and Harrison are sitting on the park bench indistinctly talking. They look as though they are enjoying each others company.

Harrison pulls out some sandwiches, he checks that he has the correct one, corned beef and pickle on rye, and hands it to Willie.

Willie unwraps it, and takes a huge bite, he has a look of absolute relish on his face.

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

Willie is showing Harrison some old wedding photos.

HARRISON

So that was you?

(beat)

You must have been young. Oh my God, you wore a hat, on your wedding day? Surely not?

WILLIE

I was the epitome of fashion on my wedding day. Jaslene thought I looked handsome.

HARRISON

Was she blind?

Willie pretends to swat Harrison with the photo.

WILLIE

That's enough cheek from you, young man. Remember you are getting married soon and I bet that the suit you wear will not be fashionable fifty years later.

HARRISON

Willie, I don't think that hat was ever in fashion.

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

Willie and Harrison are sipping on coffees that Harrison bought. There are little kids happily squealing in the distance while playing on the playground.

Harrison puts down his coffee and digs into his pocket. he pulls out the New York Jets trading cards that Willie gave him long ago.

HARRISON

Remember these Willie?

Willie shakily puts down his coffee and takes the cards. He flips through them.

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE

You kept them?

HARRISON

I would never have lost them. They meant so much to me because you told me that they were your sons, and I knew that they meant a lot to you.

WILLIE

They do, did. Uh...they must have meant a lot to you as well for you to keep them all of these years.

Willie hands them back.

WILLIE

Keep them safe and give them to your son one day.

Harrison acts in mock disgust.

HARRISON

What New York Jet Cards? No way, he is going to be a Nicks fan.

Willie pretends to be angry.

WILLIE

GET OFF MY BENCH!

They both laugh.

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

Willie and Harrison are eating sandwiches and watching the children play on the playground.

WILLIE

So, you got that promotion at work?

HARRISON

Yep, I am now working with dispersed families. It's really sad to see how many families are torn apart either by adoption, divorce, abuse or death. It really affects the whole family group, not just the children and their parents but also aunts, uncles, cousins and grandparents. The whole family structure is challenged.

(CONTINUED)

(beat)

I am counseling a young man who was adopted out as a child. He wanted to meet his birth mother and after 10 years of looking, he finally found her only to have her pass away from a car accident the day after they met. He was devastated. Imagine, his hopes being built up and to finally meet his birth mother thinking that they could have time, years even, to catch up and share their lives. Getting to know each other, only to have that new found hope torn from him the next day. It was horrible, but knowing that he did meet her, for even a short moment, gave him some kind of solace.

Willie was quiet for a time.

WILLIE

Do you still grieve Harrison? Do you miss your dad?

HARRISON

Yes and no. Sometimes I think that you cannot miss what you've never had.

(beat)

Yes, I do miss him. I wish that he could have made better choices. I wish that he hadn't died. Mom, explained to me that even though he rallied for his community he didn't have to put himself in the firing line. But as she explained, that was how he was. That was the choice that he made and he paid for it. In fact, we all paid for it, Mom especially, year after year.

(beat)

I suppose we have all been carrying this grief around with us for so long. It seems to have become normal...normal to feel this way..this sadness. I understand it a bit better now. I am happy for Mom that she has now been able to put it all behind her as best that she can. But there is something else that I have missed a lot more

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON (cont'd)
and didn't realize it until
recently.

WILLIE
And what's that Son?

HARRISON
I miss having a grandfather. There
were plenty of times that I could
have used some sage advice while I
was growing up. Especially when I
couldn't go to Mom.

Harrison takes Willie's hand.

HARRISON
But this past few months I have
come to realize that you have acted
like my grandfather. You've put up
with me when I was just a kid in my
Superman suit. You gave me advice
when I asked for it. You never
blamed anyone for anything, and you
have been here, at this park bench,
available for me whenever I needed
you for the whole of my life. So in
retrospect, I haven't missed having
a grandfather, for you, Willie have
acted like my grandfather from the
first day I met you.

Willie squeezes his hand.

WILLIE
I...

Willie swallows back his confession that he is actually his
grandfather.

WILLIE
I have been honored, Son.

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

It is a cold and windy day and Willie is quite sick. He is
coughing into an old handkerchief when Harrison meets him
for lunch. Harrison goes to hand Willie his sandwich.

HARRISON
Here you go Willie.

Willie coughs again. Harrison looks at him with concern.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON
What's wrong Willie?

WILLIE
Sorry Son, I'm just not myself
today. You eat that, I'm just not
hungry.

Willie blows his nose and loudly coughs.

WILLIE
If it's okay with you I'll just
mosey on home today and go back to
bed.

HARRISON
Sure, that's okay Willie.

Willie shakily gets up from the bench. He uses Harrison's
shoulder for support, Harrison helps him and lets Willie
lean on him for a moment until he is steady on his feet.

HARRISON
Here lean on me and I'll walk you
home.

WILLIE
No, no.

Willie shakes Harrison off.

WILLIE
I'll be fine. Don't you worry, I'll
be good tomorrow. You sit back
down...eat your lunch, you only
have a short time before your get
back to work.

Harrison starts to protest.

HARRISON
No, I'll....

WILLIE
No, I'll be fine. I insist.

HARRISON
But...

WILLIE
LET ME BE.
(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

WILLIE (cont'd)
I'll be fine Son, I'll be fine, I
promise. Sit, eat your lunch. I'll
see you tomorrow.

Willie stumbles off, leaving Harrison staring at him open mouthed.

Harrison watches Willie stumble off then when he is certain that Willie won't see him, he follows him through the park all the way to the shelter.

From a short distance, Harrison watches as Willie greets Sheila at the door then wanders into the building.

Harrison darts across the street and peers into buildings windows to see Willie climbing the stairs.

INT. HOMELESS SHELTER - MORNING

Harrison enters the shelter and he wanders around the rooms looking at the resident's quarters and kitchen until he is approached by Sheila.

SHEILA
What are you doing? You don't
belong here.

HARRISON
Do all of the residents live here
permanently? I mean, do some of
them live here all of the time and
not just for a night or two?

SHEILA
There are about twenty of us that
live here all of the time. The rest
come and go. Why?

HARRISON
Just wondering. Hey, do you know
Willie?

SHEILA
Yeah, Willie is a good friend, why?
(beat)
I know, you're his grandson,
Harry...Harrison, that's right
isn't it? You're him?

HARRISON
No, I'm not his grandson.

(CONTINUED)

SHEILA

That's what your mamma told ya, but you're his grandson all right, William Johnson's grandson. Your daddy was Willie's son. But you knew that. You trying to confuse me, aren't you?

HARRISON

No, no you've got it wrong. Willie is just a friend, an old friend of mine.

SHEILA

No, I'm never wrong. You're him.

Harrison is confused, he turns to leave.

HARRISON

No, you're mistaken. He's just a friend, an old friend.

Harrison rushes out of the building.

Sheila mutters as Harrison leaves.

SHEILA

I'm never wrong. God bless you, Willie's Grandson.

INT. HARRISON'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Harrison is at his computer searching the Births, Deaths and Marriages site for information. He searches up his father's birth certificate and is shocked to see that William and Jaslene Johnson are listed as his father's parents, just as Sheila told him. He prints out the certificate.

HARRISON

Oh my God! She was telling the truth. Willie is my grandfather. Mom never told me, she said that she didn't know Willie.

(beat)

Everything she said was a lie.

Harrison's hand shakes with anger when he picks up the phone and calls Elspeth.

INT. ELSPETH'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

ELSPETH

Hello?

INT. HARRISON'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

HARRISON

Why didn't you tell me that Willie
was my grandfather?

INT. ELSPETH'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

ELSPETH

I...

INT. HARRISON'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

HARRISON

For all of these years he was just
a stranger that I talked to in the
park. A stranger that you allowed
me to have a semi relationship
with. And you knew...didn't you?
You knew that he was my grandfather
and you didn't tell me. Why not?
Does Mica know?

INT. ELSPETH'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

ELSPETH

Harrison.

INT. HARRISON'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

HARRISON

She doesn't, does she? Why Mom,
why? We could have years together,
we could have had a meaningful
relationship, celebrated birthdays,
thanksgivings, Christmases
together...as a family. Tell me
Mom, WHY!

INT. ELSPETH'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

ELSPETH

Harrison, please!

INT. HARRISON'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

HARRISON
Why, Mom? Why?

INT. ELSPETH'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

ELSPETH
Your dad, it was all about your dad. He didn't want you to have any contact with him. I was just following his wishes, I allowed Willie to visit with you at the park. It was...it was all I could do.

INT. HARRISON'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

HARRISON
That's rubbish Mom. Dad was dead, he had no say in it. It was all you, you could have allowed me, us, to have a grandparent and you didn't. I suppose you also forbade Willie from ever letting us know? And he just followed your decrees, didn't he?

INT. ELSPETH'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

ELSPETH
Oh, son, it wasn't Willie's fault, he understood my terms...it was all that I could allow...all that I could bear, knowing that I was breaking your father's dying wish that you were never to have any contact with your grandfather.

INT. HARRISON'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

HARRISON
That's not good enough, Mom. THAT'S JUST BULLSHIT!
(beat)
All that wasted time.

Harrison hangs up on Elspeth.

INT. ELSPETH'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

ELSPETH
I'm so sorry, Son.

EXT. PARK BENCH - LUNCHTIME

Harrison, with his folded father's birth certificate sticking out of his top pocket, waits for Willie. He has a packed lunch beside him on the bench. He keeps looking at his watch, but Willie doesn't show. Eventually he gets up and goes back to work.

EXT. PARK BENCH - LUNCHTIME

It is the next day and again Harrison is waiting for Willie. Harrison is getting agitated, he keeps shuffling around on the bench, changing positions every few seconds. He takes out the birth certificate from his pocket and looks at it, folds it back up and places it back into his pocket. He waits and waits for Willie, but when he doesn't show he reluctantly leaves.

EXT. PARK BENCH - LUNCHTIME

It is now the third day and again there is no sign of Willie. Harrison paces the ground in front of the park bench, he is getting extremely anxious and concerned.

HARRISON
Damn! If he isn't here tomorrow, I
will have to go to him.

EXT. CENTRAL PARK NEW YORK - LUNCHTIME

Harrison rushes through the park. He is late for his usual meeting time with Willie. He checks his watch and pats the pocket that contains the birth certificate, making sure that the precious document is still there.

HARRISON
Damn! Damn! I'm late.

EXT. PARK BENCH - LUNCHTIME

From a distance, Harrison sees a familiar figure sitting on the park bench. He picks his pace up and plucks the birth certificate from his pocket and holds it tightly in his hand. He calls out to Willie.

HARRISON
WILLIE! WILLIE?

(CONTINUED)

He comes to an abrupt stop at the bench and flops down beside his grandfather.

HARRISON
Willie. Hey, Willie?

Willie is hunched over as though he is asleep. Harrison gently tries to wake him.

HARRISON
Willie? Willie?

When Willie doesn't move, Harrison realizes that Willie has passed away. In his anguish he doesn't accept it. He's lost him just when he found him.

HARRISON
No, NO! Willie wake up. It's me,
your grandson.
(beat)
Not now. Not just when I have found
you.
(beat)
Look...look here, I have Dad's
birth certificate. It says that you
are my grandfather.

Willie's body starts to tip towards Harrison. He catches it and then cradles it in his arms.

HARRISON
Oh Willie, you were the grandfather
that I always wanted. The one I
always had but never knew it. If
only I had known. I would have
spent more time with you, visited
you, spent Christmas and
Thanksgiving with you. All that
time wasted. It's my fault, I could
have, should have guessed. My
fault...my fault.

Harrison kisses his grandfathers head.

HARRISON
I love you Grandad.

Harrison, with tears flowing down his face, sits there holding Willie's body.

EXT. HOMELESS SHELTER - MORNING

Harrison and Melanie pull up outside the shelter. They unload two boxes overflowing with second hand books.

INT. HOMELESS SHELTER - MORNING

Inside the shelter Harrison and Melanie are handing out the books when Harrison spots Sheila. He hands her a couple of novels. Sheila nods her thanks, then when Harrison goes to move away she catches his arm to stop him.

She reaches down beside her and picks up Willie's old shoe box. She hands it over to Harrison.

SHEILA

This was his.

Harrison opens the box and peers inside to see Willie and Jaslene's wedding photo.

SHEILA

He wanted to tell you. All those years, keeping that secret was a burden to him. He wanted to tell you, to be there for you, but he couldn't. He stayed there, sitting on the park bench waiting, just waiting for any chance to see you.

HARRISON

I know.

SHEILA

He really did love you.

HARRISON

And I loved him too.

Sheila places a hand on Harrison's shoulder.

SHEILA

God bless you, Harrison.

TITLE CARD - 18 MONTHS LATER

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

Harrison and Melanie walk through the park with their newborn son in his pram. They stop to sit on Willie's park bench. They sit for a awhile holding hands, watching the children and families play on the playground.

(CONTINUED)

After a while they get up and walk away revealing that the park bench has been freshly painted and fixed to the back is a small plaque.

The plaque depicts the New York Jets insignia and the words.

WILLIE'S BENCH. FOR ALL OF THE TIMES YOU
HAVE LISTENED TO ME, HELPED ME AND LOVED ME FROM THIS PARK
BENCH. IN LOVING MEMORY, YOUR GRANDSON, HARRISON.