

Ethan and Ronnie and Wilbert

by

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INT. APARTMENT BEDROOM - NIGHT

We hear *Ring of Fire* by Johnny Cash. ETHAN, 21, and RONNIE, 23, sit at opposite sides of a couch, staring off at the space in front of them.

Ethan is a tall and lanky quirky type --he wears glasses and a graphic tee. Ronnie appears more mature and put together -- she wears a sweater and a pair of slacks. They're both actors by trade.

Ronnie is on the verge of angry tears. Ethan wears a look of saddened guilt. Slowly, Ethan attempts to look over at Ronnie with pleading eyes. Ronnie, sensing him, shoots him an incensed glare.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Ronnie, with a duffel bag in hand, runs around the apartment frantically gathering Ethan's belongings: his t-shirts, pants, comic books, posters, puppets, and a cat in the hat suit. Ethan runs behind her, pleading for her to stop and to be more cautious with his belongings.

Alone, Ronnie begins to clear out a closet of Ethan's jackets. She closes the closet door to reveal Ethan behind it, holding his puppet WILBERT. Wilbert lays its head on Ronnie's shoulder as a peace sign. Ronnie is stone-faced.

INT. APARTMENT HALLWAY - NIGHT

Ethan stands in the doorway of the apartment, helpless. Ronnie begins to throw his duffel bags at him, some jackets, some objects, some comic books, the cat in the hat suit, and finally Wilbert -first its body, then its head.

The door slams in his face.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

We hear *Walkin After Midnight* by Patsy Cline. Ethan struggles to carry his belongings on a street corner. He slumps on the ground, defeated, allowing the items to scatter around him.

He looks around at his surroundings and down the street. Slowly, he gets up and heads over to a bush, unzips his pants, and begins to pee.

He comes back to the street corner to find a MAN waiting by his stuff with a gun pointed at him through a jacket pocket. Frightened, Ethan raises his hands above his head.

EXT. STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Ethan walks down the dark street naked, alone, and with no belongings.

He stops to sit on the edge of the sidewalk. He's shivering and on the verge of tears. He gazes around at the empty street. Suddenly, something catches his eye. He runs over to a bush to find his cat in the hat suit and Wilbert's head.

EXT. STREET - SOME MORE MOMENTS LATER

Ethan, in his cat in the hat suit, walks down the middle of the damp street with Wilbert's head.

INT. APARTMENT KITCHEN - NIGHT

Ronnie pours herself a cup of water. She sighs and takes a sip. She proceeds to rip down Ethan's headshots on the wall.

She relaxes by the window, sitting at the dining table.

INT. LAUNDROMAT - NIGHT

Ethan wanders into a laundromat. *I Walk the Line* by Johnny Cash plays. He walks around the place, sitting in a drier, watching clothes wash, and laying on top of rumbling machines with Wilbert.

INT. APARTMENT BEDROOM - NIGHT

Ronnie lays down in bed with a sigh of relief, staring up at the ceiling. She glances around the room and spots a picture of her and Ethan on the nightstand. Smiling sadly, she picks it up to reveal a framed picture of a puppet behind it.

Angrily, she throws both photos across the room. After a moment, she begins to laugh to herself.

INT. WING IT RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Ethan drinks a milkshake from one of its two straws in a booth by a window. Sitting across from him is Wilbert -his head is propped up on the table. Ethan gives Wilbert a sad look and then stares off out the window.

EXT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Ronnie sits on the front stoop of the apartment building, smoking a joint. She exhales smoke into the cold night air. Surveying her surroundings, she spots something on the

ground.

She walks over to pick it up --it's Wilbert's body. Ronnie dusts it off.

EXT STREET - NIGHT

Ronnie runs down the street, Wilbert's body in hand, in search of Ethan. We hear *Good Hearted Woman* by Willie Nelson.

EXT. WING IT - NIGHT

Ronnie marches past Wing It, briefly glancing through its large front window. Realizing she just saw Ethan, she marches back and enters.

INT. WING IT RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Ronnie walks up to Ethan's booth. He looks up at her with sad puppy-dog eyes. She sits across from him, next to Wilbert's head. Pursing her lips, she produces Wilbert's body and slides it across the table to Ethan.

Smiling weakly, Ethan moves the milkshake to the center of the table and offers Ronnie the other straw.

INT. LAUNDROMAT - NIGHT

Ronnie, Wilbert's head, and Ethan sit on the floor watching Wilbert's body spin in a washing machine while drinking a milkshake. *I Got You Babe* by Sonny and Cher plays.

Cut to black.