

Chasing Gods Scene 2- 2 Person scene

DEIDRA sits on the porch. OLIVIA enters into the house.

ELIJAH

How in the hell do you listen with your fingertips?

SANDRA

What?

ELIJAH

Last time I was here, you told me to listen with my finger tips.

SANDRA

Elijah, I was high. God only knows what I was talking about.

Beat.

ELIJAH

With all that's happening, I'm in a weird place with God right now.

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SANDRA

I've never felt a stronger connection with her.

ELIJAH

Her?

SANDRA

I didn't stutter. I know God is a black woman.

OLIVIA enters the porch holding hair oil and a brush. She goes over and begins to grease her mom's scalp.

ELIJAH

People wear God like clothes. If it fits, looks and feels good on them, then they're okay.

I'm not okay, Sandra. God doesn't feel good to me right now.

OLIVIA hums this little light of mine.

ELIJAH

Two funerals within thirty days. I don't think I can ever get used to this although it's been happening since I was five years old... You always think you have more time... You don't spend those extra moments with the ones you love most. You don't answer the phone when your best friend calls because you think he will always be one phone call away.

ELIJAH tries to hold in the tears.

ELIJAH

I keep listening to the last voicemail Tye left me. Don't even know why. Maybe I'm searching for answers. Maybe I'm trying to heal parts of myself that I don't even know are broken. I called him back as soon as I heard about the shooting. I don't know how many times. And the phone just... kept... ringing. And after every ring, I said a prayer to God. I prayed for time. I prayed to hear Tye's voice. But the phone... the phone just kept on... Even now when the phone rings I hope that it's him and it breaks my heart. Because the voice I prayed to hear will never be on the other side.

Beat.

SANDRA

Have you talked to your family?

ELIJAH

Not really. Talking is not our strong suit.

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SANDRA

Well you need too. With all that you're keeping inside, one day you're gonna explode.

ELIJAH

It's all so fucked up, Sandra.

SANDRA

I know, but you have to realize that Tye's time was up. So was Pops. Cherish the good memories you shared instead of wallowing in the bad ones.

ELIJAH

Am I not supposed to grieve?

SANDRA

Grieving is not thinking about all the things you didn't do while your love one was alive.

That's guilt. Two totally different things. Keep your head up. You hear me?

Beat. ELIJAH takes this in.

ELIJAH

Do you know how powerful you would be if you actually took some of your own advice?

SANDRA

No one ever takes their own advice. Do you think Oprah sits back reading her own books?

ELIJAH

Yeah. I do actually... Are you happy here in Orlando?

SANDRA

Only person happy in Orlando is Mickey Mouse.

ELIJAH

Then why don't you leave?

SANDRA

And go where, Elijah?

ELIJAH

College in Cali. Grad school in London. Life spent traveling the world... Don't get stuck here. Seems like I've lived my entire life with people who were stuck. The only person who seemed to be truly free was Pops.

SANDRA

You know, you remind me a lot of him. He was sexier though.

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ELIJAH

Cut it out.

SANDRA

What? You know I like older men.

ELIJAH

Actually, I don't know what you like anymore.

SANDRA

I like long walks on the beach with romantic sunsets. And going to the movies of course.

SANDRA smokes. ELIJAH sees his a part of his heart staring back at him. Beat.

ELIJAH

We should go to the movies before I leave. I mean, really go.

SANDRA

Elijah? Are you asking me out on a date?

ELIJAH

Maybe I am... You're a really awesome person, Sandra.

SANDRA

Oh yeah? And what makes me so awesome?

ELIJAH

Everything about you is awesome to me.

SANDRA

Well, you're pretty awesome yourself.

They stare at each other and begin to slowly lean

in for a kiss. Just as their lips are about to touch,

SANDRA puts her finger to his lips, pushing

him away.

SANDRA

Sike your mind. Make your booty shine.

ELIJAH

Aw man.

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SANDRA laughs.

SANDRA

Elijah, we're way past that point. I don't go backwards. And you ask a girl out after a wedding not a funeral. Get it together.

ELIJAH

Hey, you can't blame a guy for trying.

They laugh together. It feels good.

ELIJAH

We really could have been something special.

SANDRA

We are something special, big head... What do you want to see at the movies?

ELIJAH

I don't know. I'm sure we can find something.

SANDRA

Yeah. I'm sure we can.

SANDRA holds ELIJAH'S hand. OLIVIA

continues to put oil in her mom's hair. The lights fade.