

INT. HOME- NIGHT

Dennis (78), Mary (39), and Parker (17) all sit at the dinner table. The house is very nice and well decorated, suggesting wealth.

DENNIS

(to Parker)

So how was your first day back at school champ?

PARKER

It was actually pretty fun. It's nice to see all my friends again. Oh and there was an admission guy from UCLA on campus so I talked to him about applying.

DENNIS

You don't want to go to college right away. Take a year. See the world.

MARY

Dad, medical schools are very competitive. I think it's best for Parker to start college as soon as he can. He'll have time to travel later.

Dennis laughs.

DENNIS

Yeah, that's what I told myself too.

PARKER

I can always study abroad in college.

DENNIS

I've got plenty of money kid you know that. I could pay for you to see every darn continent. All you have to do is bring back pictures.

MARY

It's only his first day back. Parker why don't you just take some time to think about it.

Mary turns to Dennis.

MARY (CONT'D)  
How was your day, dad?

DENNIS  
Eh, same old thing. Watched the  
tube mostly.

An alarm on Dennis's watch goes off. Mary starts to stand.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
I got it sweetheart. Good for me to  
get moving once in a while right?

He stands and hobbles over to the counter, then takes his medicine. As he puts it down, he sees a tall black FIGURE standing in the corner. Dennis looks at it for a moment, then goes back to the dinner table.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
I'm actually pretty tired. I think  
I'm gonna turn in early.

MARY  
You feeling ok?

DENNIS  
I'm fine Mary.

He smiles.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
Just old.

Dennis walks away.

INT. DENNIS'S BEDROOM- NIGHT

Dennis lies alone in a bed clearly made for two people. Pictures of him and his WIFE adorn the nightstand.

Dennis turns over. The Figure is standing in the corner.

DENNIS  
Are you ever gonna do anything?

The figure stands motionless.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
Get out of here. Leave me alone.

Nothing.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
If you're going to do something,  
just do it.

Nothing.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
Fine.

Dennis rolls over and closes his eyes.

INT. DENNIS'S BEDROOM- DAY

Dennis wakes up slowly. The Figure is still in the corner.

INT. KITCHEN- DAY

Dennis walks in. He sees a note on the fridge reading "Had to go to work and didn't want to wake you! There's food in the pantry. Call if you need anything."

Dennis makes himself a bowl of cereal.

INT. LIVING ROOM- DAY

Dennis sits in front of the TV. He is watching travel shows.

The figure is in the corner. Dennis looks at it.

DENNIS  
I know what you want. I'm not  
coming with you.

The figure does nothing.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
I've got a hell of a lot left to do  
on this Earth and by God I'm doing  
it before I go.

Nothing.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
Why are you here anyway. To scare  
me? To warn me?

Nothing. Dennis continues watching TV.

INT. DENNIS'S BEDROOM- DAY

Dennis is looking at a travel log. A few states and a small part of China are marked on the map. Everything else is blank. The figure is in the corner.

Dennis sets the travel log aside and pulls out a photo album. Pictures show him and his wife happily together. Dennis smiles slightly, but is clearly sad.

Dennis holds a photo toward the figure.

DENNIS  
Do you remember her?

Nothing.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
You should. Sweetest thing on God's  
great Earth.

Dennis stares at the photo.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
Till you took her from me.  
(beat)  
Do you feel remorse? Do you realize  
what you're doing when you take  
people from this world?

Nothing.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
Answer me god damn it! Do you know  
the pain you've caused me!

Dennis puts the photo back in the album and closes it.

He throws the album at the figure. It hits him and falls to the floor. The figure doesn't move.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
What do I have to do to get rid of  
you.

Dennis sits on his bed and tries not to cry.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
Can you tell me how I go. I figure  
it'll be my heart. But maybe you'll  
surprise me.

Nothing.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
Will I get to see my wife?

Nothing.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
Say something damn it!

The Figure STEPS toward Dennis. He becomes terrified.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
What are you doing?

The figure steps closer. Dennis steps back.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
No. No!

The figure steps closer.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
No not yet! I haven't seen the  
Pyramids, or the Himalayas!

Closer.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
I haven't even seen my grandson  
graduate!

Closer. Dennis is backed into a corner.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
Give me one more year please. Just  
to see all the things I've missed.

Closer.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
A month! I can say my goodbyes.  
Spend some time in Europe.

Closer.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
A day! Just give me a day! Let me  
see Mary and Parker before I go.

The figure steps right up into Dennis's face. Dennis yells and falls to the floor, the figure looming over him. Dennis grabs his chest in pain.

Mary enters.

MARY  
Oh, my god, dad!

She runs right past the figure to her father. Dennis blacks out.

INT. DENNIS'S BEDROOM- DAY

Dennis wakes up. Mary and Parker are at his bedside.

Dennis tries to sit up. Mary stands and has him sit down.

DENNIS  
What happened?

Mary is trying not to cry.

MARY  
Your heart is failing. The doctor's said there's nothing we can do but make you comfortable.

Dennis looks to the corner. The figure is there.

DENNIS  
Could you give me a moment please.

Mary and Parker leave the room.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
So that's it huh. This is when I go.

Nothing.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
You know every summer for the past five years I've planned a trip to Prague. Guess I'll never get to go now.

The figure walks over to Dennis's bedside and sits, as if listening to his words.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
Are you going to hurt me?

Beat. The figure shakes its head "no."

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
What will I see on the other side?

Nothing.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
I guess I'll find out. It'll be an  
adventure right?

The figure shakes its head "yes." Dennis smiles.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
Mary, Parker, come in here please.

Mary and Parker enter. The figure rises from his seat as Mary  
takes it. She and Parker sit by Dennis.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
How was school Parker?

PARKER  
Fine.

DENNIS  
Hey, I know you'll be the greatest  
doctor ever someday. But take a  
year. Live your life for a little  
bit.

Dennis puts his hand on Parker's.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
No matter what you end up doing,  
I'm so proud of you.

Parker holds back tears.

PARKER  
Thanks grandpa.

Dennis turns to Mary.

DENNIS  
Thank you for caring for me. You're  
my whole world Mary.

Mary cries.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
Don't be sad sweetheart.

Dennis rests his head on his pillow and closes his eyes.

DENNIS (CONT'D)  
I'm going to see your mother.

Mary and Parker both cry.

The figure walks up to the bedside. He puts one arm around Dennis, helping him up the way a mother lifts a fallen child.

Dennis and the figure walk out of the room together.

CUT TO BLACK