

The Accident

By:

Rachael Harbourne

INT. GARAGE - DAY

A young child, about 6 years old, runs out into the garage and climbs onto his bright red tricycle. He rings the bell a few times, a signal for his mom to open the garage door. As it slowly opens, grinding and creaking with age, the boy rides out into the driveway. His mother appears at the entrance of the garage.

MOTHER

Be careful sweetie! Don't ride in
the middle of the road, and be home
before sunset!

She turns and walks back inside as the garage door closes behind her.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY

The boy is riding down the street, humming the tune to TWINKLE TWINKLE LITTLE STAR. Red and yellow leaves are scattered across the ground, crunching under the child's bicycle as he pedals along.

Every now and again, he rings the little bell perched on top of the right handle bar.

EXT. STREET - DAY

The focus is on the back wheels of a black sports car, its engine revving loudly as it speeds down the street.

One of the car windows is open, and loud rock music can be heard just over the sound of the engine.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD

The focus is on the back wheels of the tricycle, slowly spinning around. A single yellow leaf is stuck to one of the wheels. A little black basket sits on the bar in between the wheels. A mini license plate sits in the center of the basket, reading RDRUNNR. A golden teddy bear sits inside the basket.

EXT. STREET

The car can be heard in the distance, and the leaves are trembling on the ground. The revving gets louder and the

(CONTINUED)

leaves fly up in a flurry as the car speeds past, rounding a turn and disappearing out of view.

The focus stays a second longer on the street as the leaves settle back into place on the deserted road, the sound of the engine slowly fading off in the distance.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD

The leaves crunch under the wheels of the bike. The boy sees a large pile of leaves at the edge of the street and rides over to them.

Pedaling a little faster, he races over to the leaves. One of the wheels catches on a rock and jostles the bike, but the boy barely notices. He bursts through the pile, giggling as the leaves fly up around him and float back down like giant autumn snowflakes.

He looks behind him to see how big of a mess he made and gasps as he sees his teddy bear laying on the ground in the middle of the road

The boy quickly stops, clumsily gets off his bike and runs over to retrieve it. He picks it up and starts wiping the dirt from the bear. As he hugs it to him, he looks up, and inhales sharply, fear etched across his face.

INT. CAR

The focus is inside the car. There are two people in it, a man driving, and a woman sitting in the passenger seat. As they speed along, the man takes his eyes off the road and looks down at his phone to read the directions.

WOMAN

Johnny look out!

The woman screams as JOHNNY quickly looks up and grabs the steering wheel with both hands, swerving out of the way. The car veers off the road and into the forest.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD

The little boy giggles as his mom bends down to pick him, a small smile on her face as she softly reprimands him.

(CONTINUED)

MOTHER

Jackson, what did I tell you about
being in the middle of the road
when you're riding by yourself?

JACKSON

(sheepishly)
Sorry mommy.

MOTHER

It's okay baby. Now c'mon, it's
getting dark. Let's go home.

She walks over to the tricycle and places him gently back on it, setting his bear back in the basket. She walks alongside him as pedals home, excitedly telling her about the pile of leaves he rode through. She laughs

EXT. STREET

A car horn is heard blaring out over the deserted road. Neither of the passengers have emerged from the car.

A deer is seen to be standing in the middle of the road, looking curiously at the accident. It turns its head away from the car and looks forward, slowly blinking its big, brown eyes.

Suddenly, the deer darts off to the other side of the road, disappearing into the forest.

The focus is on an empty road, the car horn softly fading out as the screen fades to black.