

WAITING FOR TOMORROW

Written by

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FADE IN.

INT. HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

DANNY (6) sits on the sofa watching cartoons on television with the volume turned down low. He has a melancholic look as the glow of the T.V. lights up his face. MICHAEL (30) appears at the door and glances in. He is surprised to see Danny. He enters.

MICHAEL

Hey, what are you doing up so late?  
You should be in bed.

Danny looks up at him with no emotion. Michael looks back sorrowful.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Can't sleep, huh?

Danny shakes his head. Michael sits next to him.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Are you worried about tomorrow?

Danny nods. Michael puts his arm around Danny and pulls him in close.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

There's no need to be worried. I know it's not going to be easy, but there'll be plenty of people around to get you through it. You'll see lots of family members you haven't seen in a long time. And you never know, if you're lucky they might have even brought you a present.

Michael smiles at Danny. Danny forces a smile back.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

You just need to be brave, but know that whatever happens, I'll always be proud of you.

Danny hangs his head.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Hey, it's not that late. Why don't we watch one of your cartoons together before going to bed?

Danny cracks a smile and nods his head. He snuggles into Michael's chest getting himself cosy. They sit and watch the television.

INT. HOUSE, BEDROOM - NIGHT

The room is lit only by a bedside lamp. Danny climbs into bed. Michael pulls the duvet over him and tucks him in. He sits on the bed next to Danny.

MICHAEL

Now you try and get some sleep,  
you've got a big day tomorrow and I  
don't want you causing your mother  
problems because you're lazing  
about in bed.

Michael grins. Danny smiles back.

DANNY

I love you, Dad.

MICHAEL

I love you too, son.

Michael kisses Danny on the forehead.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Good night.

Michael switches off the lamp. He walks over to the door and stops. He turns to look at Danny and smiles before heading out the room pulling the door closed behind him.

INT. HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY

Danny sits on the sofa quietly, staring at the floor. He is wearing a black suit and tie. JULIE (29) stands at the door wearing a black dress.

JULIE

Hey, are you ready?

Danny turns to her and nods. Julie extends her hand.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

Danny stands on the porch next to Julie holding her hand. They stare at the road as a black car pulls up outside followed by a hearse. A funeral wreath in the back displaying the word 'DADDY'.

Danny takes a deep breath.

FADE OUT.