

I WOULDN'T TOUCH THAT

Written by

Meik V. Fischer

Copyright (c) 2021 - This screenplay may not be used or reproduced for any purpose including educational purposes without the expressed written permission of the author.

Contact: meikf@gmx.com

BLACK

The sound of ocean surf and seagulls. Nature's maritime symphony.

EXT. OCEAN BEACH - DAY

Restless waves sparkle like a billion pearls in the late autumn sun.

A small crab scurries over pebbles and sand. The incoming waves tug at its thin legs.

It hurries along and finds refuge in a clump of ugly brown seaweed.

Our little friend takes a peek out of his hideout. All clear? Go.

It dashes out in search of something tasty...

...and gets smashed by a big rock.

ALFIE (O.S.)

Boom! And the asteroid slams into Earth, wiping out all life on the planet.

ALFIE (12), looks up from his brutal extinction simulation.

ALFIE

Hey, Lia! Come look. I just crushed something.

LIA (10) pops through some weeds high enough to tickle her nose.

LIA

What?

ALFIE

Come look.

Lia arrives and Alfie wrestles the big rock off his kill...

...and reveals our mushed pal. A leg still twitches.

LIA

Ew. It's still moving.

ALFIE
Nah, that's just nerves or something.
Like with chickens when their heads
get cut off. Come on, let's see what
else we can find.

The kids head up the beach.

And crabby's leg stops twitching.

EXT. OCEAN BEACH - DAY

Alfie picks up a stick and pokes at a tangled mess littered
with garbage and dead fish.

Lia looks back from where they came. A breeze lets her hair
dance.

LIA
Shouldn't we head back? If Mom wakes
up and we're not in the car...

ALFIE
Why? She's hurt and needs the rest.
We sneaked out to do her a favor,
remember? So, stop worrying.

Alfie moves on to another clump of washed up growth.

Lia gathers some pebbles and starts to toss them into the
restless sea.

LIA
Hey, why does Mommy think we'll be
safer when we're in Alaska?

Alfie pauses with his seaweed examination.

ALFIE
Something about less people. She
thinks that the invasion might not
have been so bad there.

LIA
Do you think she's right?

ALFIE
I dunno. I guess.

LIA
(unconvinced)
Okay.

Alfie continues to poke around.

ALFIE
Don't worry about it. We'll see
what's going on when we get there.

Lia tosses her last pebble. Plunk. Now what? She lets her gaze wander.

And something catches her eye.

LIA
Hey, look. What's that?

ALFIE
What?

Alfie follows her gaze.

A flock of seagulls dance above something big that rests in a mess of seaweed and junk, its saggy dorsal fin a weeping witness to this tragic end.

Alfie's eyes almost fall out of his head.

ALFIE (cont'd)
Oh, man. That's a big one. Come on.

The siblings dash towards their discovery.

EXT. OCEAN BEACH - MOMENTS LATER

Both kids stand there in awe of their find.

ALFIE
Wow. Jackpot.

LIA
What is it?

ALFIE
I think it's an orca.

The killer whale is tangled up in debris and kelp. Moisture glistens on its skin.

A dead milky eye stares back at us.

Then a stick pokes it.

ALFIE (O.S.)
This is so cool.

LIA (O.S.)
More like gross. What do you think
happened to it?

ALFIE (O.S.)
I don't know. Maybe it just got too
old or something.

Alfie steps around the carcass and his jaw drops.

ALFIE
Holy crap.

LIA
What? What is it?

Lia joins her brother.

LIA (cont'd)
Holy crap.

There's a red swollen area on its torso, almost translucent
in the middle. And something's moving in there.

LIA (cont'd)
I take it back. This is gross.

Alfie's face lights up.

ALFIE
Are you kidding? This is awesome.

He takes a step closer and raises his stick. Lia grabs his
arm.

LIA
Alfie don't. You shouldn't poke that.

ALFIE
Why not?

LIA
Because it's moving. Something's in
there. Alive.

ALFIE
Yeah, so? I wanna see it. Now let me
go.

He pulls himself free. But Lia doesn't give up.

LIA
What if that's what killed it?

Alfie gives his sister a condescending look.

ALFIE

Then I'll smack it back into the ocean with this stick. Quit being a chicken. Besides, I won't even touch it.

LIA

I still think it's a bad idea, Alfie.

ALFIE

And I don't care what you think. Now shut up.

The dead mammal has his full attention now.

Lia takes a few steps back and looks down the beach. There's no reasoning with her stupid brother. Where's mommy when you need her?

We follow her gaze and take in the view of rolling waves and a littered shore.

LIA

Hey, Alfie?

Alfie rolls his eyes.

ALFIE

What now?

LIA

Where are all the birds?

ALFIE

What? What do you mean where are all the birds? They're all over the place.

But he can't spot a single one.

ALFIE (cont'd)

Huh. They were here just a few minutes ago. Screaming and crapping all over the place.

LIA

Yeah, I know. So where did they all go?

Alfie shrugs.

ALFIE
I don't know. Probably off to find
food somewhere else. I really don't
care.

Lia's not okay with this.

LIA
Come on, Alfie. This feels weird. We
should get back to the car.

ALFIE
Could you quit complaining? You're so
annoying sometimes.

LIA
(hurt)
Hey. I'm not annoying. I'm just-

ALFIE
Yes, you are. You're always whining
about something. Can you just shut up
for once? I wanna see what this is
and then we'll go back to that stupid
car.

LIA
(pouty)
I'm not whining. And I'm not
annoying.

ALFIE
Sure. Whatever.

He hunkers down near the carcass.

ALFIE (cont'd)
Now leave me alone.

Lia has had enough.

LIA
Fine. Do whatever you want. I'm going
back. Just-just don't touch that.

Alfie watches her stomp off.

ALFIE
(mimicking Lia)
Just don't touch that.

He stares at that weird shit on the orca.

ALFIE (cont'd)
Like I don't have a stick.

Something in there moves again. It swirls around and around.
Alfie tilts his head, curious and amazed. Almost hypnotized.
Lia hurries up over a small dune and pushes through some high brush. She pops out near...

INT./EXT. SUV - DAY

A dirty beat up SUV.

ALISON (late 30s) is napping behind the wheel and wears a makeshift bandage on her waist. There's some dried blood on it.

Lia opens the rear door. She slides in and shuts the door as quietly as she can.

Alison's eyes flutter open. She's still half asleep.

ALISON
(drowsy)
Hey, Sweetie. You two alright?

LIA
No, not really. Something weird's going on. And Alfie's a big jerk.

ALISON
Well, you two got to get along, okay?
I just need a few more minutes. We'll be on our way soon.

And she drifts off again.

Lia stares out the window with an uneasy look on her face. This doesn't feel right at all.

EXT. OCEAN BEACH - DAY

Alfie's crouched near the orca.

The end of his stick hovers near that swirling translucent area.

ALFIE (O.S.)
Come on. Come on.

His stick moves closer. Contact. But doesn't make a dent.
Just a test poke.

Whatever is in there, it's more agitated now.

Alfie is pleased. A sadistic smile spreads across his face.
Oh, this is gonna be so cool.

He pulls back his stick. And stabs it home.

SPLAT! The whole thing explodes and a puss-like liquid flies
all over the place.

Alfie is sprayed from head to toe and lands on his butt.

ALFIE
(spits)
Ugh! What the hell.

Some goop slides off his face as he looks around at this
mess.

And his jaw drops again.

ALFIE (cont'd)
Holy crap.

A small CREATURE lies on the sand, near the exploded wound.
It resembles a sleek young, pale green cat. But without
eyes, ears or fur.

An alien creature the size of a small four month old kitten.
But with razor sharp teeth and claw-like fingers.

And Alfie's intrigued. He leans in for a closer look.

The creature lifts its blind head and hisses at him.

ALFIE (cont'd)
What the hell are you?

Alfie moves his stick closer, ready to poke this thing.

It snarls. And grabs the stick.

ALFIE (O.S.)
Hey, let go.

Alfie jumps up and swings the stick. But the creature just
hangs on tight.

ALFIE
I said let go.

It snarls at him again. Make me, Human.

ALFIE (cont'd)
Oh, okay. Okay.

The kid aims for the ocean.

ALFIE (cont'd)
Let's see if you can swim.

Alfie winds up for a big throw.

And in one swift move the creature hops onto his arm

ALFIE (cont'd)
Hey.

Alfie drops the stick. He grabs the critter and pulls.

ALFIE (cont'd)
Get off me.

It hisses at him.

And sinks its claws deeper into his arm.

ALFIE (cont'd)
Ow! Let me go.

He pulls with more desperation. But the beast just holds on tight. And tilts its creepy blind face to size Alfie up.

Does it look bigger now? Alfie's scared shitless. He looks around. And spots a good-sized rock.

He grabs it. If he can't shake this critter off, he's gonna bash it off.

ALFIE (cont'd)
Okay. Okay. The hard way then.

He raises the rock. And the creature jumps onto his face.

Alfie screams and drops the rock like a hot potato. He whips his hands up and tries to tear the creature off his face.

But its claws sink deeper into his flesh. Alfie screams again.

And the sound of his terrified voice echos up and down an empty beach.

INT./EXT. BEAT UP SUV - DAY

Lia's head leans against the window. She's lost in thought. From somewhere in the distance we hear Alfie's terrified scream.

She pops up. And with almost a whisper.

LIA

Alfie?

She looks around the car. Her eyes rest on Alison. Still asleep.

She throws another glance at that empty space next to her. Alfie's a jerk, but she'd rather have him here with her now.

She turns back to the window. No, this is definitely not good.

A frightened Lia stares out at us and we rise up to a...

BIRD'S EYE VIEW

And notice the car's parked near a cruddy two-lane road.

Small creatures dart across the pavement. There's a swarm of movement in the surrounding vegetation.

And not far up that cruddy road lies a decaying city.

EXT. ABANDONED CITY - DAY

Filthy and deserted buildings. Broken windows stare blindly at dead, traffic-choked streets. Leftovers of a once thriving world.

A sound of snarling and hissing joins us in this scene of desolation. Just a few voices. Then more. They grow louder. And louder.

And then they are many. The sound of legion.

FADE OUT