

THE TENACIOUS WILLIE O'REE

Written by

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Based on true events.

INT. BOSTON GARDEN - EVENING

Pan through a bench of battered hockey players, all wearing the yellow "B". One player stands out amongst the rest: WILLIE O'REE, black, one lazy eye.

The fans behind the bench are becoming restless.

FAN

Go back to the south, O'Ree!

Willie looks up to the scoreboard. There's 2:35 left in the third period. Bruins are down 3-2.

He takes a swig of water, sprays some on his face. He hands the bottle to his WINGER sitting next to him. His line-mate ignores the gesture and takes a different bottle.

The COACH taps Willie on the back and the three of them erupt over the boards and on to the ice.

Montreal is on the attack but Willie intercepts a pass, sending the Bruins up ice.

The opposing defender muscled him to the boards. The impact of the hit ECHOES through the stadium. A scrum ensues.

Four players, including Willie, jostle for the puck. The Montreal player intentionally clubs Willie in the face with the butt-end of his stick.

Willie looks to the REF who doesn't so much as reach for his whistle.

With both arms tied, Willie kicks the puck out to his CENTER MAN in the open wing. Then, he rolls off the defender and heads for the net.

The Boston puck handler is diverted away from the goal by the other defenseman, leaving Willie all alone.

He SLAMS his stick on the ice-- that's "pass the damn puck" in hockey-speak.

The Center Man looks for another option. There's none. His other Winger is still behind the play. He saucers the pass to Willie.

Willie roofs the puck in the top corner as a flash of bulbs flicker from the stands.

The crowd goes wild, Willie's line-mates nearly tackle him with excitement. He's bought himself five seconds of acceptance.