WEE WILLIE WINKIE
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FADE IN.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Quiet suburbia. Rows of bungalows illuminated by the orange glow of the street lights.

WILLIAM (40's) tip toes across the front garden of one house. His gaunt features and pale skin give him a ghostly look, and he wears only a near transparent white nightgown.

Silently he ascends the front steps and on to the porch. Sneaking to the window he peers in.

THROUGH WINDOW

A portly middle aged MAN sits in a worn armchair and reads from a sports paper.

A young GIRL sits crossed legged, a few feet from a large TV, and watches a cartoon.

WILLIAM (V.O.)

(whispers)

It's past eight o'clock, it's past eight o'clock.

BACK TO SCENE

William moves away from the window and down off the porch. His nightgown dances in the light wind.

He creeps across the neighbouring garden and up the steps of the porch and peers through the window.

THROUGH WINDOW

A teenage BOY quivers in the corner as his FATHER beats down on him with his belt.

The MOTHER, with a black eye and bloodied lip, keeps her distance.

WILLIAM (V.O.)

(whispers)

It's past eight o'clock.

He taps on the window, distracting the aggressor, and gives the victim opportunity to scurry away.

WILLIAM (V.O.)

(whispers)

It's past eight o'clock, it's past eight o'clock.

BACK TO SCENE

William makes his retreat and on to the next house. Again he peers through the front window.

THROUGH WINDOW

A COUPLE snuggle together in front of the television. All seems quiet and calm.

WILLIAM (V.O.) (whispers)
Are all the children in their beds?

BACK TO SCENE - CONTINUOUS

William sneaks off the porch and bounces on tip toes round the side of the house, giddy with joy.

The rear window curtains are open and he peers in.

THROUGH WINDOW

A young BOY sleeps in a single bed.

The window slowly slides open and William crawls inside.

He hovers over the bed and drops his nightgown.

FADE OUT.