

LAST WILL

Written by

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FADE IN.

INT. WILL'S HOUSE - OFFICE - DAY

Neat, clean, a home office where everything is in its place. Desk, filing cabinet, small bookcase, all worn. Nameplate on desk says--WILL.

Sitting at the desk, WILL, 70, lean and white-haired, wearing glasses. Worn shirt, faded jeans, he uses a pocket knife to slit open an envelope. He unfolds a letter. At the top in big, bold letters--

NOTICE OF TAX INCREASE

Will takes a few seconds to read the letter. He reaches for a file folder labeled--**DUE**. He adds the letter to the dozen already in the folder. He drops the empty envelope in the waste basket. He stands, stretches, and shuffles away.

INT. WILL'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Will sips coffee and reads the newspaper. The kitchen is as clean and neat and dated as the office. He turns the last page and faces a full-page ad for Viagra. Will chuckles. He folds the paper before he stands. Grabbing his coffee, he shuffles away.

INT. WILL'S HOUSE - OFFICE - DAY

Will pulls open a file cabinet drawer and walks his finger along the folders. He pulls out a folder labeled--**LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT**. He places the file on top the cabinet and continues to search. He pulls out another labeled--**INSURANCE**--and lays atop the first.

INT. WILL'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY

The room is like the others, neat and clean.

Will sits on the bed and pulls open the nightstand drawer. From the drawer he removes a revolver and a box of cartridges. He breaks open the revolver to check the cylinders, all loaded. He pushes the cylinders back in place and puts everything on the bed before he closes the drawer.

Grabbing the revolver and box he goes to the bureau. On top, a large photo of his late wife. She looks 50 in the photo, younger and pretty. He picks up the photo and smiles.

INT. WILL'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Will places the revolver, cartridges, and photo on the table with the file folders he pulled from the office. He looks around.

INT. WILL'S HOUSE - HALL - DAY

Will looks at a family tree of photos on the wall. He and his wife are side by side. Below them are photos of their 2 children. Below them are the photos of Will's 5 grandchildren.

He touches each photo in turn, starting with his wife. His fingers linger on the youngest grandchild, a little girl.

INT. WILL'S HOUSE - OFFICE - DAY

Will grabs the **DUE** file off the desk.

INT. WILL'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Will adds the **DUE** file to the others. He picks up all the files, the revolver, and the cartridges.

INT. WILL'S GARAGE - CAR - DAY

Will climbs inside his old car and lays the items from the kitchen on the seat. He stares at the garage door a moment before he starts the engine. A moment more before he pushes the remote control. The door slides up to reveal a waning day. He puts the car in gear and drives out.

EXT WILL'S HOUSE - EVENING

Will stops the car in the drive. The house sits by itself, no neighbors, perhaps an old farmhouse. Will climbs out of the car, reenters the garage, and the garage door lowers.

INT. WILL'S HOUSE - OFFICE - EVENING

Will empties a cabinet drawer. He opens each file and places it on a desk already bedecked with open files and piles of paper. There is no way to make this neat.

Will starts to straighten the piles but stops and chuckles. With a wry smile, he picks up a single page and lets it fall to the wooden floor. He stares at it a moment before he picks it up and lays it atop the rest.

INT. WILL'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - EVENING

Will takes the newspaper off the kitchen table.

INT. WILL'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - EVENING

Will balls a newspaper page and places it carefully under the drapes where it joins several other paper balls. He steps back. Paper balls lie under all the drapes.

INT. WILL'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - EVENING

Will pours two inches of bourbon into a crystal tumbler before he replaces the bottle in a cabinet. He takes a single sip and leaves, tumbler in hand.

INT. WILL'S HOUSE - FAMILY ROOM - EVENING

Will, tumbler in hand, stands before the fireplace with its mantel clock TICKING away. He touches the clock before he to pulls a lighter from the wood basket. He flicks the lighter to make sure it works.

INT. WILL'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - EVENING

Will, tumbler in hand, lights the paper balls one by one. By the time he's finished half the drapes are burning fast and bright.

EXT. WILL'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - EVENING

Will stands next to his car, watching flames lick at the windows. He sips whiskey as he watches the house burn.

He finishes the last of the bourbon and looks at the tumbler before he opens the car door and places it on the floor. He grabs the photo of his late wife and closes the car door.

He studies the photo a moment before he kisses it. Holding it against his heart, he calmly strides back inside the burning house.

FADE OUT.