

EXT. FRONT PORCH- DAY

MIKEY (12)an African American boy sits by his old red bike on the bottom steps of his blue and white suburban house. He ties his shoe.

PEOPLE (O.S.)  
Happy Birthday to you. Happy  
Birthday to you. Happy--

FLASHBACK

INT. DINNING ROOM- NIGHT

Mikey sits in a dark Dinning room. A white frosted cake filled with candles on it is right in front of him. He is sourounded by family memebbers.

PEOPLE (CONT'D)  
--Birthday dear Mikey. Happy  
Birthday to you!

DAD (47) stands right behind Mikey with his arm around MOM (47).

DAD  
Now blow those candles out and make  
a wish.

Mikey blows the candles out. Everyone claps. The lights go back on.

DAD  
Here we have a present for you.

Dad wheels in an old rusted red bike with a bow on it. A surprised Mikey gets out of his seat, and goes by his Dad and his bike.

MIKEY  
What's this?

DAD  
It's your new bike. Here come look  
at this. I've had it since I was  
little.

MIKEY  
No.

(CONTINUED)

DAD  
What's wrong?

MIKEY  
But that's not the bike I wanted.  
I'm going to get beat up if I ride  
that.

DAD  
I know it's a little rusty but we  
can fix it up together.

MIKEY  
I ask for one thing, and only one  
thing. You can't even get that  
right.

MOM  
Why don't you just try it out. I'm  
sure you will like this one.

DAD  
You know what your right. You asked  
for a new bike and I gave you an  
old one. I'm sorry. It's just that  
I can't afford the new bike you  
wanted right now but this one is  
just as good. Give it a try.

MIKEY  
I hate you. You can't get anything  
right.

Mikey leaves the dinning room.

FADE OUT:

TITLE: THE BIKE

INT. FUNERAL HOME- DAY

FADE IN:

Mikey has tears in his eyes. He is dressed in a suit and tie. He sits in a funeral home. Mikey looks at a funeral pamphlet of his Dad. The pamphlet has a picture of Dad on the front and it reads "In Celebration of the life of Evan Turner Beloved Husband and Father."

Mikey looks back down at the funeral pamphlet. His eye's are watery

END FLASHBACK

EXT. FRONT PORCH- DAY

Mikey's eye's are watery. He wipes his eyes.

MICHALA (5)an African American girl comes from the backyard with her pink bike. Mikey notices that Michala's shoelace is untied and motions for her to come to him.

Mikey grabs Michala's foot and begins to tie it.

MIKEY

Make a teepee. Come inside. Pull down tight so we can hide. Around the mountain... here we go!Here's my arrow. Here's my bow.

MICHALA

Thank you Mikey!

MIKEY

Yeah well, you ready to go for that ride around the block?

Michala nods her head. They both get on their bikes and head down the block.

EXT. SIDEWALK- SECONDS LATER

Mikey and Michala ride their bikes. Mikey sees two boys at the end of the block cross the street, stop and point at Mikey and Michala. As Mikey and Michala get to the end of the block the two tall African American teenagers JAMAL (16)and ERICK (15) dressed in baggy clothes stand and wave for Mikey and Michala to come closer.

JAMAL

Yo, whats going on kid?

MIKEY

Nothing much.

JAMAL

That's cool, that's cool. Hey you gotta really nice bike.

MIKEY

Thanks.

MICHALA

Mikey. Do you think you could tie my shoe for me again.

Mikey looks down and sees that her shoelace is untied.

(CONTINUED)

MIKEY

Sure.

Mikey gets off his bike and puts the kick stand up. He bends over and ties Michala's shoe.

MICHALA

Could you sing that song again?

MIKEY

Maybe some other time.

Jamal moves towards Mikey's bike and puts his hands on the handle bar. Mikey stands up. Erick tugs on Mikey's jacket.

ERICK

Yo that's a nice jacket. Where you get it?

MIKEY

The store.

JAMAL

You live on this block?

MIKEY

Yeah. Where you guys from?

ERICK

From the city right off of Maddison.

JAMAL

This is a really nice bike. You think I could ride it?

Mikey steps closer and puts his hand on the seat of the bike.

MIKEY

I don't know, I kinda want to go home now.

Jamal pulls the bike closer to him.

JAMAL

Come on man. I just want to take it to the corner and back.

MIKEY

I wanna go home now, and I just don't want you to steal it.

Jamal and Erick laugh.

(CONTINUED)

JAMAL

Whatcha mean steal it? I ain't gonna steal it. This is a piece of shit anyway. If I wanted to I could buy like five bikes right now.

Jamal gets on Mikey's bike.

JAMAL (CONT)

Plus my friend is here. You really think I'm gonna ditch him?

MIKEY

I don't know. I guess not.

JAMAL

Jeeze man, quit being so fucking up tight about everything. Relax.

Jamal smiles and takes off down the sidewalk. He heads halfway down the side walk.

He turns around and goes in the street. He heads back towards Mikey, Michala, and Erick. Jamal laughs.

JAMAL

Sucka!

MIKEY

Hey...hey!

ERICK

Yeah, he's not coming back with yo bike.

Mikey looks up at Erick and then back at Jamal who continues to laugh.

MIKEY

Hey! Stop thief!

Mikey turns towards Michala.

MIKEY

Michala run home now!

Michala drops her bike and runs down the sidewalk.

Mikey runs after Jamal.

ERICK

Go.Go.Go.Go!

Mikey runs through a backyard to cut off Jamal.

EXT. APARTMENT BACKYARD-SECONDS LATER

Mikey jumps onto a picnic table, and jumps over the fence.

EXT. STREET- MOMENTS LATER

Mikey gets right behind Jamal.

MIKEY

Stop!

He catches up with Jamal in the middle of the street. Jamal rides harder and just misses Mikey and a car who is stopped in front of a stop sign. Mikey jumps out of the way of the car and runs over a parked one.

EXT. SIDEWALK- CONTINUED

Jamal moves the chase onto the sidewalk. Jamal laughs.

DIANE (47) in gardening clothes and a sunflower hat, waters her flowers.

MIKEY

Help! He stole my bike!

Diane looks at Mikey, and then continues to water the flowers. Mikey still right behind Jamal.

Jamal takes a hard turn down at the end of the block and bumps into DAVID (48) and they fall over. Jamal picks up the bike and continues down the sidewalk.

Mikey catches up with Jamal and grabs onto his shirt. Jamal stops and pushes Mikey to the ground. Jamal laughs and continues down the sidewalk.

Mikey gets up and runs. Mikey out of breath gives up and breaks down in tears. Mikey looks and sees Jamal is out of sight. He looks around for anyone.

EXT. STREET-SECONDS LATER

JOAN (65) dressed in her blue Sunday church dress pulls up in a blue Cadillac. Mikey runs over towards the car.

MIKEY

Please help me!

(CONTINUED)

JOAN  
Whats wrong sweetie?

MIKEY  
This kid stole my bike!

JOAN  
Oh no!

MIKEY  
I know where he's planning on  
going. I just need help cutting him  
off. Please help me before it's to  
late.

Joan thinks.

JOAN  
Ok jump in. I'll help.

Mikey looks down the street then back at the car. Mikey runs  
then jumps in the front passenger seat of the car.

INT. BLUE CADILLAC- SECONDS LATER

Mikey in the front seat of the car. Buckles his seatbelt.

JOAN  
You know my bicycle was stolen from  
me when I was little.

MIKEY  
Please hurry if you go down  
Maddison street we can cut him off.

Joan drives off.

MIKEY  
I can't lose this bike.

Tree's and cars pass by as a sad tired Mikey stares out the  
side window. Mikey looks at the clock. It reads three  
o'clock.

INT. BLUE CADILLAC- FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER

Clock reads 3:15pm. Mikey looks up at Joan.

JOAN  
I don't know if we are going to  
find him. We've been driving up and  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

JOAN (cont'd)  
down the street for a while. How  
about I take you home now?

MIKEY  
Please don't quit on me.

Joan looks at Mikey

MIKEY (CONT'D)  
Please. Let's just try one more  
thing. The police station is right  
up ahead maybe they can help me.

JOAN  
Ok, I'll take you to the police.

Mikey looks back out the window as the car turns off of  
Maddison street.

JOAN  
Here we are.

Erick runs by the car as Joan pulls off of Maddison street.

MIKEY  
Wait! That's him! He was with the  
guy who stole my bike.

EXT. POLICE STATION PARKING LOT- SECONDS  
LATER

Mikey jumps out of the parked car and runs to the front of  
the station where he last saw Erick.

JOAN  
Wait!

EXT. POLICE STATION FRONT SECONDS  
LATER

Jamal stands in front of the police station with the bike  
inbetween his legs. Erick tries to get on back of the bike  
where the pegs should be.

Mikey runs stops and notices Erick as he tries to get on the  
back of the bike.

Mikey runs and grabs Erick by the arm and pulls him towards  
the station.

(CONTINUED)

MIKEY

Stop! You're coming with me to the police!

Jamal hops off the bike and throws it down on the ground. Then grabs Erick's other hand.

JAMAL

Here, take it, take it, take it!

Mikey lets go of Erick and jumps on the bike. Jamal and Erick take off.

MIKEY

You better run. And don't you come back!

Jamal and Erick halfway down the block. Jamal stops and turns around and sees Mikey as he holds his bike.

Jamal smirks. Erick stops and turns around.

ERICK

Come on man lets go!

Jamal looks at Erick as Erick continues to run. Jamal looks back at Mikey who is in tears while he holds his bike. Jamal smirks and then runs towards Erick.

INT. POLICE STATION- LATER

OFFICER JIM (33) sits at his desk. Mikey sits across from him with his bike.

OFFICER JIM

Were still waiting for your mother to show up, but can I get you something?

MIKEY

No I'm fine thank you.

Pause.

OFFICER JIM

So let me get this straight. The kid stole your bike. You chased him down for a few blocks. You jumped into a strangers car not fearing you could of been kidnapped. Why did you jump in the car?

(CONTINUED)

MIKEY

I don't know. I guess I was thinking that she's old and I could out run her if I needed to.

Officer Jim laughs.

OFFICER JIM

"She's old." Yeah true, but you should never get into a strangers car no matter what they look like.

MIKEY

Yeah I know. I just wanted my bike back.

OFFICER JIM

Well we got the two kids who stole your bike.

Officer Jim looks at a piece of paper on the desk.

OFFICER JIM

Jamal and Erick. Yeah I bet these are the two who do the majority of the damage around here.

MIKEY

Really?

OFFICER JIM

Yeah we just never been able to prove that they stole any of the bikes. By the time someone reports it they've sold it all ready.

Mikey looks out the office window and sees Jamal and Erick on a wooden bench with their faces down. Three parents stand beside both of the boys as they yell at them. Two by Erick one by Jamal.

Erick cries as he gets yelled at. Jamal has two tears go down his face as his father is more livid as Jamal takes more of the punishment from his father JAMAL SR. (35).

JAMAL SR.

Boy have you lost your mind!? Do you not know how sick your mother is! She does not need to hear about how her son is getting arrested for stealing a bike! She is dying and do you want this to be the last thing she remembers?

(CONTINUED)

OFFICER JIM (CONT'D)

Well when your mother gets here I  
assume she will want to press  
charges. Let me just go get started  
on some of the paper work.

Mikey looks back at Officer Jim.

DAD (O.S.)

Mikey... Mikey... Mi--

FLASHBACK

INT. BEDROOM- NIGHT

Mikey in the same clothes as his birthday party. He is in  
his bedroom, and he sits on a chair in front of his desk.

DAD(CONT'D)

--Key.

Mikey looks back at his Dad. He sees his dad as he stands  
between the doorway.

Mikey looks remorseful.

MIKEY

Yeah dad.

DAD

I just wanted to say that I forgive  
you for what you said downstairs.  
And I'm sorry about the bike.

MIKEY

No dad. I'm sorry about what I said  
It's just that-

DAD

It's ok Mikey. Tomorrow we can go  
to the store and get the bike you  
want.

MIKEY

Dad. I think I'll try out your old  
bike. I think I might like it.

DAD

Ok. I hope you do.

Dad starts to leave.

(CONTINUED)

MIKEY

Dad. Why do you forgive me when I didn't even apologize?

DAD

People make mistakes and people need to learn from those mistakes. I won't always be here to teach you. If you know that a person's sorry you don't need to punish them. You need to acknowledge what they did, and know what they did was wrong. You should always be able to forgive no matter what happens.

Mikey ponders.

END FLASHBACK

INT. POLICE STATION- LATER

Continued from earlier.

OFFICER JIM (CONT'D)

Well when your mother gets here I assume she will want to press charges. Let me just go get started on some of the paper work.

MIKEY

I don't want to press any charges.

Mikey looks at Jamal as he struggles to hold back the tears. Jamal's father takes off his belt and threatens to hit him with it.

Jamal looks up at Mikey. They make eye contact. Jamal breaks down and cries harder.

JAMAL (WHISPERS)

I'm sorry.

Mikey nods his head.

END