

THE OUTLANDS

EVAN MURPHY AUDITION SIDE

INT. MAKESHIFT SHELTER - NIGHT

EVAN, a rough and tumble fourteen year old paces in the small space. Candlelight flickers on his tattered adolescent face.

The air is thick with tension, and so is Evan. He rehearses the argument he plans to have with his best friend.

EVAN

You know what, Danny boy? You seriously get on my nerves sometimes, you know that?

(beat)

I mean... Here you are, all about your high and mighty ideals like you're some sort of saint or somethin'. Hope... Change... Love... Peace.. For real?

(beat)

Seriously... Take a look around and get with reality, bro!

Evan pauses, he wrestles with his feelings for a moment.

EVAN (CONT'D)

Like, I get it, Okay? You want the world to be all rainbows and unicorns. Who wouldn't.

(beat)

Newsflash! We ain't in Neverland, and this ain't no Disney movie that ends all happily every after.

He begins to pace again, overwhelmed by emotion.

EVAN (CONT'D)

You ever think that maybe there's a reason I'm always trailing you? All I ever seem to do is save you from all the hot messes you get yourself into.

(beat)

You think I risk my neck just for kicks?

(beat)

Nah... I do it... Because for some messed-up reason, you're about the only shred of good in this screwed up mess.

Evan pushes through the tears that well up in his eyes.

EVAN (CONT'D)

And one day... It's gonna' be that good in you that gets you killed. And I ain't losing another friend, okay?

He wipes the tears from his cheeks and regains his composure.

EVAN (CONT'D)

You want to keep up this stupid crusade of yours?

(beat)

Fine... Go ahead, then. But don't expect me to sit back and watch as you throw your life away.

(beat)

I've already seen enough pain and death to last me. And I sure as hell do't want to add your name to that list.

Evan sits and runs his fingers through his dirty hair. Looks upward.

EVAN (CONT'D)

Why... Why can't you just... I dunno. Chill for a sec? Think about what's at stake here. You're not the only one with something to lose.

(beat)

We're all barely hanging on, just trying to make it through another day. And I can't, for the life of me, figure out why you're acting so damn selfish.

(beat)

There are other people in this group besides you if you haven't already figured that out.

He pauses to collect his thoughts.

EVAN (CONT'D)

I'm asking you... As your best friend. Be careful... Cause' if you keep going down this path, I'm scared you won't make it back. And you're gonna' bring us with you.

(beat)

And that's not something I'm gonna' carry with me.