

ME! ME! ME! ME! ME! ME! ME!

A Short Play

by

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CAST: WALTER, 7, a kid
MAN, shopper
WOMAN, shopper

TIME: Summer, a while back, closing time

PLACE: A curb outside a shopping mall.

A fading sunset, car headlights sweep across an expanse of curb in front of an locked entrance to J.C. Penny. The sweeping lights reveal WALTER, 7, playing with Hot Wheel cars on the curb. Sounds of cars honking, a tire squeal. The florescent parking lot lamps buzz with electricity and swarming summer mosquitoes, moths.

WALTER

(singing)

Me and my car
Vroom, vroom
Me and my car
Errrrr crash!
Driving on the road
Driving on the road
Errrrr crash!
Me and my car

*A sweeping headlight. He looks up.
Headlight disappears.*

WALTER (CONT'D)

(makes gear-grinding sound)

Uhhhhhhh, uhhhhhh, uhhhhhhh Look out! Look out for the cliff! Get out of the way!!

(explosion noise, then singing)

Me in my car
Vroom, vroom
Me in my car
Errrrr crash!

Another sweeping headlight. He looks up. Headlight disappears.

WALTER silently plays with his cars, humming his song. A man and woman approach carrying shopping bags.

WOMAN

Then she said I'd have to wait because it was on back order.

MAN

That stinks.

WOMAN

But then I said I'm not paying for it now.

MAN

Ah, this mall stinks.

WOMAN

So I got the manager. Some young high school kid.

MAN

Jesus. Typical.

WOMAN

She says the same thing to me. Can you believe it?

MAN

Ain't minimum wage great. Where's the car?

WOMAN

We came in this way.

MAN

No we didn't. The other one.

WOMAN

I thought it was this one. By the Brazier Queen

MAN

No, it was the Sunoco.

WOMAN

It was the Brazier Queen.

MAN

The Sunoco. We got gas.

WOMAN

Maybe you mean the Shell.

MAN

Shit. We came out the wrong one.

PAUSE. They notice WALTER.

MAN (CONT'D)
Hey kid. Which side's the Sunoco?

WALTER
(pointing)
Over there.

MAN
Shit. Let's go. Thanks, kid.

WOMAN
Wait. He's sitting there by himself.

MAN
Just waiting for a ride.

WOMAN
By himself like that?

MAN
Yeah, yeah. Come on, these bags are getting heavy.

WOMAN
Hold on.
(to WALTER)
Hey there. You waiting for someone?

WALTER
I don't know.

WOMAN
You with your mom or your dad?

WALTER
My mom.

WOMAN
Where is she?

WALTER
I don't know.

WOMAN
You don't know where your mom is?

MAN
She's probably looking for her car. Let's go.

WOMAN
Was she with you?

WALTER
Yep.

MAN

The stores are closed now.

WALTER

I was in the toy section. These are my cars. See. I got drag racer and this souped up Chevy and this weird bubble car.

WOMAN

You don't where your mother is?

WALTER

She's around.

MAN

Julie, we're going to miss my show.

WOMAN

Hold on.

(to WALTER)

Where is she?

WALTER

I don't know.

WOMAN

What's your name?

WALTER

Walter. Walter Denning.

WOMAN

Hey, Walter. My name is Julie and this is Tom.

WALTER

My brother's name is Tom.

MAN

Yeah? A good name.

WALTER

I think it's stupid.

MAN

Let's go. The kid's mom is getting the car.

WOMAN

Is your mom just getting the car?

WALTER

I don't know.

WOMAN
Are you here by yourself?

WALTER
No.

WOMAN
Who's with you?

WALTER
You are. And him.

MAN
Great.

WOMAN
I mean, is your mother with you?

WALTER
Mom was shopping and then I went to look at the toys and then I was playing with the toys and then the store closed and I came out here. She shops for clothes and I don't like clothes.

MAN
So your mom is not with you?

WALTER
I don't know. Look at this bubble car.

MAN
Great. He's lost.

WALTER
I'm not lost. My mom will pick me up.

WOMAN
Oh, so maybe she is just getting her car.

MAN
See, I told you. Can we go?

WOMAN
Maybe we should wait until she comes.

MAN
What? Come on, he's fine. I'll miss my show.

WOMAN
Is your mother getting the car?

WALTER
I don't know. She left.

Wonder what happens next?

For a copy of the full script, email me at:

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Thanks!