

Final Draft 8 Demo

IN THE CHASE

Written by

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Final Draft 8 Demo
Based on, If Any

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EXT. LAKE

A lake. Early morning light slowly filters through thick cloud and a bleak fog, bleaching the scene from a dull brown to a sombre grey. On the surface of the lake and some distance out there's a small boat, on it there are two figures. 12 year old Alfie and his 40 year old dad sit at either ends of the small boat staring despondently over fishing rods and out to their sherbet orange floats which are undisturbed, say for the gentle caressing of the currents flowing beneath them. Set in the north-east, both characters speak with mild north-east accents.

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IN BOAT.

DAD

So, how's big school going then? As scary as you thought it'd be?

ALFIE

Nahh, it's alright. I'm in different classes to all my friends though. And some of the teachers are really strict and scary.

DAD

Yeah? Well your mam tells me you've made some new friends, though. That's good.

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ALFIE

Yeah there's a few. Sam's the best, he's dead funny. I sit with him in science; you should meet him some time.

DAD

Aye son, maybe. Well what about girls then? Any catching your eye?

Alfie grins and then looks back out to the float which is undisturbed.

Hah! I knew it! Well son, don't worry, I know you won't want to talk to me about that. But you know you can. Nothing's changed.

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ALFIE

Yeah, I know. Don't worry. So what about you then, you made any new...friends?

DAD

Nah. Been doing a lot of fishing. It's not really the time for all that.

ALFIE

Mam has.

DAD

Aye, well it's not the time for me. Your mother has been lucky and found Paul, you still getting on with him? Good. But I'm not there yet, y'see. I don't want you worrying about me, Sunshine. I'm absolutely fine. I've got you, and me and your mam still get on. I've got a lot of work coming up and I've been loving my fishing. So aside from anything else I suppose I haven't really got the time for that right now.

ALFIE

But like, if you were going to. Like - if you were going to start something like that with someone. Like, how would you sort of... start?

DAD

Well, it's like fishing really. If there's somebody that you care enough about catching- and you do have to care enough, you can end up taking pretty big risks and looking a right dickhead. But if you're sure then you just put yourself out there and see if they're drawn to you... then if they decide to take the chance on you too you've got to reel them in. Hope your line is strong enough that they don't just break away. Cos that does happen-

Dad's float bobs erratically up and down. Father and son jump to their feet, father fights the fish and reels it in, son lifts the net ready to land. During the exciting struggle, the dark, dreary landscape transforms by filtering morning light into a vibrant scene. Droplets of water thrown in all directions by the struggle appear as iridescent as fireworks as the fresh light dances and splits through them, casting beautiful coloured rays. The two land the fish. Dad unhooks, examines and then kisses it. After a time places it back in the water and watches it swim off.

DAD (CONT'D)

But one thing you really have to remember, if they do get away, is that no matter how old you are... there'll always be more out there.