

A Dollar Script

Revision 3

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Revision 3

1 EXT. STREETS (BRICK WALL) DAY

A homeless man disheveled sits on the ground and pulls out a sign and a cup. He holds his hand out towards people. *

HOMELESS MAN
Can you spare some change.

People walk by as if they don't see him.

HOMELESS MAN
(Humble voice)
Please, can you spare a dollar.... *
Anything? *

The man acts like he is getting something out of his pocket and keeps walking. *

More people walk by.

2 EXT. STREET (DOWNTOWN AREA) DAY

Multiple people try to distract themselves while walking by.

HOMELESS MAN
(picks up his cup and shakes
it)
Any change you can spare. I'm very
hungry.

The woman clutches her purse, brings it close to her, and keeps walking.

RANDOM WOMAN *
I don't have anything.

The man continues to walk down the street.

The homeless man continues to watch everyone walk by him.

3 EXT. STREETS (RANDOM BUILDING) - DAY

He continues to hold the cup out to the public. People just constantly walk by him.

He gets up and take his duffle bag and cart to another part of town.

4 EXT. PARK DAY

We find the homeless man sitting on a bench with his cup in his hand and looking tired. He digs in his pocket and pulls out a bottle of whiskey. He looks around and sees a man from a distance and he calmly puts away the bottle and picks up the sign. *

The man gets closer.

HOMELESS MAN
Can you spare a dollar?

The man digs into his pockets.

MAN
Na I don't have anything. Sorry man.

He starts to walk away.

HOMELESS MAN
Please sir anything will help.

The man stops and turns around

MAN
I don't have anything.

HOMELESS MAN
(questionably/philosophically)
There will always be a moment in someone's life that can change their whole view on the world.

MAN
What?

HOMELESS MAN
People only think about themselves and don't want to help others cuz they don't receive anything in return.

MAN
Do you really think that?

HOMELESS MAN
you just proved it. Since I don't have anything to offer and you act as if you don't have anything on you.

(CONTINUED)

MAN

Not true I help people all of the time.

HOMELESS MAN

But do you expect to receive something in return?

The man looks toward in another direction.

HOMELESS MAN

(He looks toward the sky)
You know what I have always thought?

short silence

HOMELESS MAN (CONT'D)

It takes one good deed at a time to change the world ya know. It would act as a ripple effect and goodness would be passed down from person to person.

The man sits down on the bench near the homeless man.

MAN

People's lives are going to change even if people help them or not.

HOMELESS MAN

True, but it's the help of others that determines if it's going to be positive or negative.

Short silence and the Man thinks.

MAN

I never thought of it in that way.

HOMELESS MAN

Most people don't, that's why I have decided to make you an offer.

The homeless man leans towards the man

HOMELESS MAN (CONT'D)

If you decide to help me in exchange I will tell you my story.

MAN

What do you mean?

(CONTINUED)

HOMELESS MAN

For a dollar I will tell you how I ended up this way.

MAN

How will that help me?

HOMELESS MAN

Nobody realizes that everyone has an interesting story of how they ended up where they are and sometimes just listening can be a major help to the world. Plus do you have anything to do?

MAN

No..... not right now.

HOMELESS MAN

Just listen and you may learn something.

The man goes in his pocket and pulls out an old dollar bill and places it inside of his cup.

HOMELESS MAN

Well to start off my name is Robert Morris, I.....

The man cuts him off.

MALIK

Sorry to cut you off but my name is Malik. It's nice to meet you Robert.

They shake hands.

ROBERT

I haven't been called Robert in years, but it's nice to meet you to.

HOMELESS MAN

But it all started when I had lost my job with the company I had been working with for years.

*
*
*

FADE TO

5 OMIT

6 OMIT

6A OMIT

7 INT. APARTMENT - EVENING

Robert walks into the apartment with a box full of his office supplies and a newspaper in his arm. *

He places the newspaper on the table takes a glass and pours himself a drink. *

He sits back on the couch and starts looking for jobs.

CUT TO

7A EXT. PARK - DAY

ROBERT

At that point I had enough money to pay my rent and buy food but I thought things would get better. *

You didn't have anything saved up? *

ROBERT

I never thought that far ahead. I was a live in the moment type of guy.

CUT BACK TO

8 INT. APARTMENT - EVENING

Robert grabs a few envelopes off of the table and looks at them.

ROBERT (V.O)

I worked random small jobs to pay off a few bills. The worst part was that I falling behind on rent. *

He places the bills back on the table next to a glass of whiskey. *

The phone rings and the answer machine picks it up.

(CONTINUED)

BILL COLLECTOR

This message is for Robert Morris.
We have been trying to reach you or
a few weeks now and if payments are
not made on your outstanding bill
we will be forced to take legal
action. Have a nice day.

Robert drinks the rest of the whiskey and puts on his coat
and goes toward the door.

9 EXT. STREETS - EVENING

Robert leaves a store with a paper bag in his hand. *

He walks the streets drinking from out the bag and watching
people.

CUT TO

10 EXT. STORE - DAY

ROBERT (V.O)

I was so desperate I would take any
job no matter what the pay was. *

Robert passes out flyers outside of the store. *

CUT TO

11 EXT. PARK - DAY

Malik interrupts the story again.

MALIK

So what about your family?

ROBERT

My family is pretty much non
existent.

MALIK

(regretfully)

I'm sorry about that.

CUT TO

12 INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Robert walks to his apartment door and sees a notice on his door.

He grabs the notice.

ROBERT (V.O)

When I got to my apartment I found
a notice on my door for my
eviction.

Robert unlocks his door and goes into the apartment.

CUT TO

13 INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Robert looks around and starts going through his possessions.

ROBERT (V.O)

All I could think of was pawning
some of my stuff. *

Robert searches all around his apartment for different items he could sell.

He places them in a box and walks out of the door.

Then he walks back into the apartment with cash and a bottle of liquor.

ROBERT (V.O)

Then the alcohol started to take
over my life. I was so far behind
on rent and pretty much screwed I'd
figure I would drink to my hearts
content and not care any more. *

Robert is throwing back drinks constantly in the apartment with nothing else to do.

FADE OUT

14 EXT. PARK - DAY

Robert is sitting in leaning forward position and so is Malik.

(CONTINUED)

ROBERT

Ya know eventually after drinking so much the days just began to run together. I Didn't care about what day or time it was, all I wanted was to drink.

CUT TO

15 EXT. STREETS - DAY

Not feeling good and hung over Robert walks the streets with nothing to do.

ROBERT (V.O)

Eventually after so much it starts to seem as if you have 2 different personalities. A part of me started getting tired of the way that I was living.

ROBERT

(yelling to himself)
O MY GOD MY HEAD HURTS. This can't go on any longer.

Robert continues to walk the streets and comes across a light pole in front of a building that has a AA meeting sign on it

ROBERT (V.O)

That afternoon I must have received a sign from GOD cause I came across a random AA sign.

Robert takes the poster off of the pole and stares at the poster.

15A INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - NIGHT

WOMAN

After my boyfriend left me I became very depressed and alcohol was the only comfort.

Robert sits in the room actively listening to people's stories and thoughts.

ROBERT (V.O)

I never knew what to expect being in AA and I was nervous that
(MORE)

*
*
*
*
*
*
*

(CONTINUED)

ROBERT (V.O) (cont'd)
everyone would judge me from the
beginning.

AA HOST
I see that we have a new face in
the room.

Every turns and looks at Robert.

AA HOST (CONT'D)
Please stand up and tell us your
name.

Robert stands up and looks at the crowd nervously.

ROBERT
ummm.. I don't know what to say.

AA HOST
Just tell us your name and what you
are here for.

ROBERT
OK. Well my name is Robert.

The Crowd cuts him off.

CROWD
Hi Robert.

ROBERT
I am here because I think i'm an
alcoholic.

The crowd claps for him.

AA HOST
Welcome, you are in a safe
environment here and you can tell
us anything.

Robert looks at the group and smiles.

AA HOST (CONT'D)
Lets give Robert another hand.

The crowd claps.

FADE OUT

16 EXT. STREETS - NIGHT

ROBERT (V.O)
Going to AA opened my whole world
and I became so much happier.

Robert walks out of the community center where the AA meeting was held.

ROBERT (V.O)
But that happiness wouldn't last
long.

CUT TO

17 INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Robert is in the house with the moon light shining on his face drinking a glass of whiskey.

ROBERT (V.O)
Next thing you know I was back
where I started. Still no job and
drinking constantly.

*
*

18 INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Robert comes walking up to his apartment door and the door won't unlock.

ROBERT (V.O)
Weeks had passed and the landlord
finally decided to kick me out.

*
*

Robert starts walking back down the hall way.

ROBERT (CONT'D)
Luckily I had a duffle bag of some
of my stuff with me and that's all
I could keep.

CUT TO

19 EXT. STREETS - EVENING

Robert sits on the streets with nothing to do curled up and trying to stay warm with his possessions by his side.

(CONTINUED)

ROBERT (V.O)

Everything didn't kick in till a few days later how bad everything had gotten and that threw me into depression.

ROBERT (V.O)

So with my last bit of cash I bought my 2 best friends.

*

CUT TO

20 EXT. LIQUOR STORE - EVENING

Robert exit the liquor store with two bottles in his hand. He opens a bottle and takes a drink.

21 EXT. PARK - DAY

ROBERT

Ever since than I have scrapping stuff together to survive. But I still have my good friends.

*

Robert takes out the bottle of whiskey and takes a swig from the bottle.

MALIK

If liquor was the one of the causes of you being in the situation now, why do you continue to drink.

ROBERT

It passes the time and keeps me warm during these cold nights.

Robert looks down at the ground not proud of what he has become.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

I can say that I'm not proud of what I have become or what I have done but I do know imma get back on my feet no matter what.

*

*

MALIK

I heard someone say that the people that the ones who are crazy enough to think that they can change the world. Are the ones that do. You remind me of one of those people.

(CONTINUED)

Malik goes into his wallet and pulls out a business card from his wallet and looks at it.

MALIK

Do you remember what you said earlier?

HOMELESS MAN

About what?

MALIK

About the one good deed can change the world.

HOMELESS MAN

Yea

MALIK

Do you really believe in that?

HOMELESS MAN

Yea, it has been proven over the hundreds of years.

MALIK

Imma take your word for it.

short silence from both of them.

MALIK

Here take this card and meet me at this address tomorrow around 1. I may have something for you.

Malik stands up in front of Robert.

ROBERT

God bless you brotha.

MALIK

Don't think anything of it. Thanks for the story.

Malik continues his walk down the pathway Robert looks at the card.

HOMELESS MAN

(In a louder voice)

You know one of the crazy things that I have learned from everything.

(CONTINUED)

MALIK

What?

Malik stop and partially turns around.

HOMELESS MAN (CONT'D)

It's only after you lost everything
your free to do anything.

THE END