

# THE MISSING PIECE

The Original Stageplay



**CHRISTIAN PLAYWRIGHT**

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## Sample Script



## Act I - Scene I

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### LIGHTS UP

*Asher and Tommy onstage (SL) playing basketball [shooting hoops]*

**TOMMY:** Hey, man. When are we gonna finish that tree house?

**ASHER:** Well, if we could get all the stuff we need, we could probably finish it this weekend.

**TOMMY:** This weekend huh? Didn't you have things to do for Miss Sweetiepie.

**ASHER:** Yeah, I do. But that ain't gonna take me all day.

*They shoot a few more hoops.*

**TOMMY:** By the way...this church thing...you really serious about it?

*Pause. Asher considers as he makes another basket.*

**ASHER:** Yeah...I think God is calling me into something big.

**TOMMY:** I wish I felt what you feel.

**ASHER:** It ain't always about feelings, bro.

**TOMMY:** So you say. I still don't get this whole thing about the existence of God.

**ASHER:** It's not so hard to believe if you stop to think about it.

**TOMMY:** Well then. Maybe I don't want to think about it. I'm seeing what them kinda thinking does to you, man. I ain't sure I want that.

**ASHER:** What has it done to me?

**TOMMY:** You don't have fun anymore. All you focus on is teaching that VBF class.

**ASHER:** It's VBS...Vacation Bible School. And besides, teaching is a gift. I don't see myself doing anything else.

**TOMMY:** You don't do anything else. I sure miss my best friend.

**ASHER:** I'm still here, Tommy.

**TOMMY:** Yeah...but you don't think for yourself anymore. You're different.

**ASHER:** I'm better.

**TOMMY:** Difference of opinions.

**ASHER:** Why are we even having this conversation?

**TOMMY:** What!! I can't talk to you about anything anymore?

**ASHER:** I didn't say that.

**TOMMY:** Maybe not in so many words.

**ASHER:** Alright, boss. You win.

**TOMMY:** And while we're on the topic of things we don't discuss anymore...

**ASHER:** No! No! No!

**TOMMY:** Aww c'mon.

**ASHER:** No!

**TOMMY:** Fine. One day you will talk about it.

**ASHER:** Yeah, maybe, but not today.

*Asher makes rings around Tommy with the basketball and shoots a hoop as...*

**LIGHTS FADE**

## Act I - Scene II

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### LIGHTS UP

*Grandma is busy knitting.*

*Asher enters the apartment and throws down his gear.*

**ASHER:** Hey, grandma.

**LIZ:** Hey there, little fella. Where you coming from at this hour?

**ASHER:** Down the road shooting some hoops with Tommy.

**LIZ:** Did you remember to stop at the grocery store and pick up those few items for your grandma?

**ASHER:** Yes mam I did.

*Asher holds up a bag and places it on a nearby counter.*

**LIZ:** Good boy. *(pause)* Asher come here a minute.

*Asher hesitates before going to sit near his grandma.*

**LIZ:** I need to talk to you about something.

**ASHER:** Grandma...

**LIZ:** I know it's a sore topic for you...but you at least need to know what's happening with the funeral arrangements.

**ASHER:** No, grandma...I don't. I really don't care. I don't even think I will be going to the funeral so can we not talk about this right now.

**LIZ:** How long will you run?

**ASHER:** As long as I can.

**LIZ:** Asher...

**ASHER:** Grandma, please. I was having a good day.

*Asher exits.*

*Grandma stops knitting for a beat.*

*Enter Bishop Leighton Jones.*

**BISHOP:** Hey there, Sweetiepie.

**LIZ:** *(with a distracted look on her face)* Hey, bishop.

**BISHOP:** Yeah, I'm happy to see you too.

**LIZ:** Oh, you ain't the cause of my long face this morning, bishop...it's...

**BISHOP:** Asher.

**LIZ:** Yes sir.

**BISHOP:** These young ones really know how to get to ya these days don't they?

**LIZ:** I just wish I could get him to understand that there are some things you just can't run from.

**BISHOP:** Like God's calling on your life?

**LIZ:** Like the death of your parents.

**BISHOP:** Yeah, that too. It's a lesson we all have to learn sooner or later. Don't worry.

**LIZ:** I can't help but worry.

**BISHOP:** Yeah, I know. *(pause)* This may be a bad time, but I actually came over to talk to Asher.

**LIZ:** Why?

**BISHOP:** Thing is, I see a lot of potential in him. He's already teaching a VBS class so I was wondering if he wanted to take on the responsibility of Youth Director.

**LIZ:** He's only fourteen years old and, besides, his mother just died. Can't it wait?

**BISHOP:** Asher is a very bright and smart young man. I think he could handle it.

**LIZ:** Well, you can try to talk to him. See what he says.

**BISHOP:** Maybe I could try to talk to him about the things he doesn't want to talk about.

**LIZ:** You could try that too...but expect the worst.

**BISHOP:** I always do.

**LIZ:** I'll go get him.

*Liz puts away her knitting needles and exits.*

*Asher can be heard sobbing.*

**LIZ (V.O.):** I'm sorry, Asher.

**ASHER (V.O.):** I don't feel anything, grandma. I don't miss my parents. Why don't I feel anything?

**LIZ (V.O.):** There's someone here to talk to you. I think he could explain it better than I can.

**ASHER (V.O.):** Who is here grandma?

**LIZ (V.O.):** Bishop Jones. Will you talk to him, dear? He sure wants to talk to you.

**ASHER (V.O.):** Okay.

*They enter the apartment where Bishop is waiting.*

**BISHOP:** Hey there, Asher.

**ASHER:** Hello, sir. *(wiping a tear from his eyes).*

**BISHOP:** Can I talk to you a minute? Have some things I want to discuss with you.

*Grandma leaves.*

**BISHOP:** How you holding up?

**ASHER:** I'm fine, sir.

**BISHOP:** Good. You're a promising young man, Asher.... Kids your age are usually very....lost, but you have a solid foundation on which you can become anything you want. Now I know ya got things thinking about...and some things you don't want to talk about...but your future depends on how you handle the different situations you face in life.

**ASHER:** I think I know that.

**BISHOP:** Good. So, can we talk about your mother?

**ASHER:** She's dead. What's there to talk about?

**BISHOP:** Do you know how she died?

**ASHER:** Drugs, of course. She and my old man couldn't kick the habit.

**BISHOP:** She didn't die of drugs. She struggled with the addiction, yes, but the cancer got her...not drugs.

**ASHER:** She had cancer?

**BISHOP:** Yeah...fought it for years.

**ASHER:** I didn't know that.

**BISHOP:** How do you feel, Asher?

**ASHER:** I don't feel anything, sir.

**BISHOP:** Are you suppressing your feelings, son?

**ASHER:** How can I suppress what is not there?

**BISHOP:** Okay, Let's talk about your father.

**ASHER:** Let's NOT.

**BISHOP:** What do you feel now?

**ASHER:** Can we talk about something else, please?

**BISHOP:** You can't run from your feelings forever.

**ASHER:** Why does everyone think I'm running? I'm not running. I simply just don't want to talk about it.

**BISHOP:** So you say.

**ASHER:** You're really starting to annoy me, sir.

**BISHOP:** Well, then, I wouldn't want to do that now would I.

*Pause.*

*Silence.*

**BISHOP:** How would you like to take charge of the youth arm of the church?

**ASHER:** You mean, become Youth Director?

**BISHOP:** Yes, the post is yours if you want it.

**ASHER** (*excited*): Wow...yeah, I think I can do that. I have so many ideas...yeah; I will give it a try.

**BISHOP:** Good. We'll talk again very soon.

**ASHER:** Not really looking forward to it...but... (*on a different note*) Thank you, sir.

**BISHOP:** No prob.

*Bishop exits.*

*Grandma comes out with two glasses of lemonade. She looks around for the bishop.*

**LIZ:** Where's the bishop?

**ASHER:** He just left.

**LIZ:** Oh my. I made him a glass of lemonade.

**ASHER:** Don't worry. I'll take care of it for him.

*Grandma smiles as Asher takes both glasses.*

**LIZ:** Are you okay?

**ASHER:** Getting better every day, ma'am. My life couldn't possibly get any worse.

*Grandma knows enough about life to restrain her response. Asher drinks one glass of lemonade and exits with the other in his hand as*

**LIGHTS FADE**

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