

Pi
By
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28 Plays Later

Day 11

February 11, 2018

ACT I

SCENE 1

LIGHTS UP ON A PARK BENCH. BIRDS ARE HEARD IN THE BACKGROUND WITH THE OCCASIONAL CHILD'S LAUGH. LARRY, A CLEAN SHAVEN GENTLEMAN IN HIS 80S, SITS QUIETLY.

AFTER A FEW MOMENTS, PETE, A SCRUFFIER MAN, ALSO IN HIS 80S ENTERS.

LARRY: Good afternoon, Peter.

PETE: Pete.

LARRY: I'm sorry. Yes. Pete.

PETE: Hey.

LARRY: Beautiful day we're having, no?

PETE: Yeah, I guess. If you like sunshine and birds.

LARRY: We do.

PETE: I guess you're right about that.

LARRY: We do this every day.

PETE: Not EVERY day.

LARRY: Fair, holidays and funerals withstanding.

PETE: And those weird days when you... you know.

LARRY: The weird days when I'm afraid to come out?

PETE: Yeah, the days we don't talk about.

LARRY: Well, we're talking about them now it seems, no?

PETE: Yeah, I guess.

LARRY: I'm sorry.

PETE: Sorry about what?

LARRY: Sorry about being afraid sometimes. I never know why.

PETE: Life happens. Shit happens.

LARRY: But I feel bad about it.

PETE: Well don't.

LARRY: That's easy for you to say.

PETE: You could just call.

LARRY: I think not.

PETE: Why? It's easy.

LARRY: I don't like these new fangled phone things.

PETE: Send a text.

LARRY: God no!

PETE: It's easier than you think it is.

LARRY: I'm sure you are right, but something just seems...

PETE: We should stop resisting change.

LARRY IS SILENT.

PETE: What now?

LARRY: You know what now. Don't tell me otherwise.

PETE: I'll show you how to do it. It's easy.

LARRY: I don't doubt you.

PETE: Then?

LARRY: Do I really have to say it out loud?

PETE: We both know that you do, Larry.

LARRY: No.

PETE: It doesn't change a single thing.

LARRY: It changes every single thing, because if I admit...

PETE: If you admit?

LARRY: If I admit it then that makes it real.

PETE: And if you don't admit it then what happens?

LARRY: Things could change.

PETE: Things always change. We can't stop change.

LARRY: I can try, can't I?

PETE: No.

LARRY IS SILENT.

PETE: We both know what is.

LARRY: I have been denying this for years, Peter.

PETE: It's Pete.

LARRY IS SILENT.

PETE: Look, I'm sorry. I shouldn't make you do it.

LARRY: No, you shouldn't. It makes me afraid.

PETE: Is that why you...

LARRY: Don't come out? Yeah. I'm afraid I'll say it.

PETE: I'm sorry I started.

LARRY: You didn't know, Peter.

PETE: It's Pete. And I didn't.

LARRY: But now you do, and it's changed things, see?

PETE: It hasn't.

LARRY: You feel bad.

PETE IS SILENT.

LARRY: Now it's your turn to be broody.

PETE: Is that what you're doing? I never knew.

LARRY: HA!

PETE: We've been doing this how long?

LARRY: Since June of seventy.

PETE IS SILENT.

LARRY: That's a damn long time, no?

PETE: Damn long.

LARRY: I haven't spoken of it... nearly fifty years.

PETE: Did it hurt? Please say no.

LARRY: Can't remember.

PETE IS SILENT.

LARRY: Fine. I can remember. Hurt like hell, Peter.

PETE: You are the only one who calls me Peter.

LARRY: I know it annoys you to no end... Peter.

PETE: How come you never told me it hurt?

LARRY: I didn't want you to be afraid.

PETE: I'm not.

LARRY: You would have been then, though. I think.

PETE IS SILENT.

LARRY: Maybe I'm wrong.

PETE: You are probably right.

LARRY: Then, sure. But not now. You're stronger now.

PETE: Maybe not.

LARRY: I should just say it.

PETE: Maybe you shouldn't.

LARRY: What could it hurt?

PETE: Me. Us.

LARRY: Us?

PETE: Yes.

LARRY: Is there still an us to hurt, Peter?

PETE IS SILENT.

LARRY: You are my best friend, Peter.

PETE: I know. And you were mine, Larry.

LARRY: Ah. It's already started to change, hasn't it Peter?

PETE: Yeah. I'm sorry that I pushed the issue.

LARRY: Don't worry.

PETE: Okay.

LARRY: It had to happen.

PETE: Did it? Did it really? I don't know.

LARRY IS SILENT.

PETE: I think about you nearly every day, Larry.

LARRY: And on the days you don't?

PETE: I blame you for it.

LARRY: So?

PETE: That's not fair.

LARRY: I'm dead.

PETE: DON'T! Can't you see what's happening here, Larry?

LARRY: I'm dead.

PETE: I miss you.

BLACKOUT.

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06286 20899 86280 34825 34211 70679 82148
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