

WHERE THE WATER MEETS THE SAND

By
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28 Plays Later 2019

Day 1

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ACT I

SCENE 1

THE SOUND OF THE OCEAN IS HEARD BEFORE:

LIGHTS UP - THE BEACH - DAY

AN OLD WOMAN AND A BOY STAND HAND IN HAND
IN SILENCE, LOOKING OUT AT THE WATER. THEY
ARE DRESSED FOR TRAVEL AND LOOK SLIGHTLY
WORSE FOR WEAR.

BOY: It's nothing like I imagined, Nana.

OLD WOMAN: Oh? How so?

BOY: I thought... I thought it would be more like our lake.
Gentle. Quiet. Green. But this seems angry and loud
and grey.

OLD WOMAN: Are you afraid?

BOY: No. Just concerned.

OLD WOMAN: For him?

BOY: Yes.

OLD WOMAN: He wouldn't want you to be worried, you know.

BOY: I know. But he's not here.

OLD WOMAN: That is true. For now.

THE TWO STAND IN SILENCE FOR A MOMENT.

BOY: Do you really think he is coming back?

THE OLD WOMAN SHRUGS.

BOY: Aren't YOU worried?

OLD WOMAN: No.

BOY: Why?

OLD WOMAN: Because he is smart. And capable. And cunning. And he is no fool.

BOY: Oh.

OLD WOMAN: And he has you to come back to.

BOY: Why does THAT matter?

OLD WOMAN: A parent's love transcends everything. Fear, sadness, conflict... nothing can stop a parent from loving their child unconditionally. Not even death.

BOY: But how...

OLD WOMAN: When you have children, you will understand. Just know that your father's love for you is just as strong as my love for him, and my mother's love for me, stretching back in a chain to the beginning of time -- when the first man and first woman had the first child. That is how we are all connected.

BOY: Is that how the ancestors keep watch over us?

OLD WOMAN: It is. Love binds them to us no matter where we are. And no matter where they are in heaven or Earth.

BOY: Is that why we're here?

OLD WOMAN: It is. You know your father's words. You know what he said.

BOY: "When the fighting's done and over
And a calm replaces fear
When the heavens in their wisdom
Whisper words into her ear
Travel west until you find it
Travel safely hand in hand
There you'll find me waiting for you
Where the water meets the sand."

OLD WOMAN: That's right. And the words came to me with the last
 crescent moon. So I knew it was time. And here we are.

BOY: But where is he?

OLD WOMAN: Patience. Nothing is precise. We have just arrived.
 Give him time.

BOY: I will.

THE TWO KEEP HOLDING HANDS AND WATCH THE
WATER WHILE TWO SOLDIERS WITH SHIELD AND
SPEAR CLIMB OVER A DUNE AND APPROACH THE
SURF. THEY STOP RIGHT NEXT TO THE OLD WOMAN
AND BOY.

SOLDIER 1: Just be patient.

SOLDIER 2 & BOY: (together) I can't wait any longer.

SOLDIER 1 & O.W.: (together) You don't have a choice.

S2 & BOY: (together) We can go looking...

S1 & O.W.: (together) THIS is the time and place. Don't rush it.

BOY AND SOLDIER 2 SIGH IN UNISON.

SOLDIER 2: The house was burned to the ground. The fields salted.
 Where would they have gone?

SOLDIER 1: It doesn't matter. They know to come here. You've been
 saying that for weeks. Let's go back to camp. We will
 come back in the morning, bright and early.

WITH A DEFEATED SLUMP TO HIS SHOULDERS,
SOLDIER 2 FOLLOWS SOLDIER 1 AWAY AND OFF
STAGE.

THERE IS A LONG PAUSE.

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LIGHTS FADE TO BLACK.