

**TOBY**

**By**

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**1. INT. SUBURBAN LIVING ROOM. DAY 1.**

TRENT, mid-30's, is sitting on his couch watching motor sports on TV on a Saturday afternoon - his wife SANDRAH, early 30's, is vacuuming, and their three year old son TOBY is playing in his room

Trent hears the vacuum cleaner and gives Sandrah an annoyed look

SANDRAH

Oh come on - as if this sounds any different to the sounds they're making

TRENT

I can't hear the commentary

**2. INT. TOBY'S BEDROOM. DAY 2.**

Toby is sitting on his floor pushing toy dinosaurs into one another - we can hear the cars and vacuum cleaner softly in the background

**3. INT. LIVING ROOM. DAY 3.**

Sandrah continues vacuuming

SANDRAH

Of course if you wanted to help me we'd get this over and done quicker

Trent nods - no - and leans forward in to watch the TV closer

**4. INT. TOBY'S BEDROOM. DAY 4.**

Toby stops playing with one of the dinosaurs and looks bored - he notices a plastic cricket bat and plastic ball - and looks at it - then gets up quickly

**5. INT. LIVING ROOM. DAY 5.**

Trent is still watching the TV - Toby runs up to him enthusiastically - Sandrah watches

TOBY  
Cricket Daddy - cricket -  
let's play cricket

TRENT  
No I'm busy

TOBY  
Please Daddy

TRENT  
No

Toby watches Trent for a little bit more, slightly upset  
and then walks away back to his room

Sandrah turns off the vacuum cleaner

SANDRAH  
Is that really worth that  
much more to you than your  
son?

TRENT  
What?

SANDRAH  
He just asked you to play  
with him

TRENT  
I'm watching this

SANDRAH  
But you're always doing  
something

TRENT  
...I just want some time to  
myself

SANDRAH  
When was the last time you  
did anything with him?

TRENT  
Look just let me watch this

SANDRAH  
Is that really worth more to  
you than your son?

TRENT

What...no - it's not about  
this - just....leave me  
alone

SANDRAH

Well when do you ever do  
anything with him - when do  
you take him to the park? I  
always do that.....and he  
notices you know.....he's  
asked me why are you always  
too busy to do anything with  
him

TRENT

Ohr god just leave me alone

**6. INT. LIVING ROOM AND TOP OF STAIRS. DAY 6.**

Trent gets up and walks past Sandrah and walks down their stairs to under the house.

**7. INT. BOTTOM OF STAIRS. DAY 7.**

He pauses at the bottom of the stairs, sighs, and then walks into his mancave

**8. INT. TRENT'S MANCAVE. DAY 8.**

He walks past shelves full of plastic storage tubs, and sits at a seat next to his desk. His desk is covered in tools, books about cars and mechanics and various bits of racing paraphernalia.

His arms are folded and he breathes out heavily, and stares down to the ground vacantly. After a while he breaks out of it and shakes his head, looking around for relief, but finds none.

His gaze drifts back to the boxes, and he looks at one melancholically - after a while he leans forward and puts it on his knee.

He opens the lid and looks in - a quiet look of exasperation on his face, with a pained smile.

He reaches in and pulls out a very stained and beaten up toy Triceratops - We hear a child's giggle and then the voice of a 4 year old Trent

4 YEAR OLD TRENT (V/O)  
And this is 'ceratops - he  
fights T-Rex

He reaches in again and pulls out an envelope - he opens it and pulls out some Weet-bix cards - and we are immediately transformed to 1986 and a six year old Trent holding the letter in his living room - he hears his mother's voice

**9. INT. TRENT'S CHILDHOOD LIVING ROOM. DAY**

**9.**

PATRICIA  
Dad's home

Trent's father STUART comes in - his mother PATRICIA meets him at the door

PATRICIA  
Hi honey - have a good day?

STUART  
Not really, doesn't matter  
though

Young Trent runs up to him

TRENT  
Dad! Dad! I got the whole  
set now - they took my swaps  
- I've got all the Cavalcade  
of Cars now

Stuart looks at him and walks on

STUART  
There's just not enough  
hours in the day to...

TRENT  
Dad Dad look at this

STUART  
Not now son

Young Trent just stares at him

**10. INT. TRENT'S BEDROOM. MORNING.****10.**

Cross fade to Trent's seventh birthday - in the morning before school - he is surrounded by his parents and some open presents with wrapping paper lying around - he opens a box and pulls out a large red model racing car

YOUNG TRENT

Wow! This is it!

STUART

Did you get him that? - you should have asked me.....what did you get him that for, how much was it? Anyway I've got to hurry - have a good day son - happy birthday

**11. EXT. TRENT'S CHILDHOOD HOUSE. DAY****11.**

Cut to Young Trent playing with the toy car on the driveway one afternoon - Stuart pulls in in their Falcon - Young Trent grabs the toy car and quickly gets out of the way

STUART

(Shouting from in the car)  
Get off the driveway

The car pulls up and Stuart gets out

STUART

How many times have I told you not to play on the driveway

YOUNG TRENT

I was waiting for you - do you want to roll the car with me?

STUART

No - and stop asking me

**12. INT. HALLYWAY. NIGHT****12.**

Cut to that night - Trent's parents door is shut - they are arguing - Young Trent is sitting out in the hallway, listening - holding the toy car - visibly upset

STUART

It's not the same...you're the one who wanted him - I never wanted kids - I told you I didn't - I told you.....right from the beginning I told you.....now there's no bloody time for us - it's always doing things with him - and getting school stuff ready and making lunches and family trips - that's all you're interested in now - you're not like you used to be you don't do anything with me - if I knew you were going to turn out like this I never would have married you or never would have had him - when do we get some time for just us? Just you and me - how it used to be?

Young Trent is hanging his head down, crying - we see his POV of the red car - cross fade to the car in Trent's hand now

**13. INT. MAN CAVE. AFTERNOON**

**13.**

Trent is in a trance, staring at the car - eyes teared up - after a while he shakes his head and looks around - suddenly aware of Toby standing next to him, tugging at his leg

TOBY

Why don't you want to play with me?

Trent is momentarily lost for words

TRENT

You know what.....I do

He pulls Toby forward and hugs him, after a while he lets go and holds him in front of him

TRENT

What do you want to do  
first? Cricket? Go to the  
park? Play dinosaurs?

Toby notices the car

TOBY

I want to play with  
this....with you Daddy

Trent drops his head down, nodding, trying to hold back  
the tears

**14. EXT. BACKYARD. DAY**

**14.**

They walk out together to the backyard - and sit on a  
path to roll the car back and forth - Sandrah looks on  
from a window, smiling