

WAITING FOR GOD

Written by

M.A. Williams

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EXT. BANK OVERLOOKING THE CHURCH - DAY

From the top of the bank overlooking a church and the town below, MICHAEL O'GRADY emerges slowly and struggling for breath. Stopping to compose himself, he looks up to find FATHER DAMIEN O'GRADY sitting on a bench, smoking and looking pensively into the distance. As he spots Michael, he takes a long drag of his cigarette and stubs it out with his heel.

MICHAEL

Those things will kill you, you know.

Father Damien rolls his eyes and directs his gaze skyward.

FATHER DAMIEN

That was the idea...

(beat)

I guess God had other plans. For all of us.

Michael takes a seat beside him.

MICHAEL

Shouldn't you be down there?

Michael nods down towards the church, where a massive crowd has filled the car park.

FATHER DAMIEN

For what? Confession? I think we're a little beyond "Five Hail Marys".

MICHAEL

Questioning your calling, Father?

FATHER DAMIEN

Don't be glib, brother. It's not becoming.

Michael offers a wry smile.

FATHER DAMIEN (CONT'D)

I'm just not sure I can offer people anything at this point.

MICHAEL

Shouldn't that be up to them?

FATHER DAMIEN

Maybe. I've spent years telling people to "walk the right path", to "live God's words", and in the end none of it matters.

(MORE)

FATHER DAMIEN (CONT'D)

In the end, the faithful and the
faithless reap the same reward. It
just feels a bit - I don't know -
futile?

MICHAEL

How can having faith be futile? If
believing in something - anything -
gives hope to someone, then surely
that's worthwhile?

FATHER DAMIEN

I never understood why you left the
seminary.

MICHAEL

They wouldn't let girls in...

Father Damien smiles.

FATHER DAMIEN

It's just... I don't know - the
idea of eternal salvation seems a
bit far-fetched in the face of,
(beat)
Well - you know...

Michael places a hand on Father Damien's shoulder as a low
rumble begins.

MICHAEL

I guess we're about to find out.

Both men bow their heads in silent prayer as the impact wave
hits.

CUT TO BLACK.