

Sleep

by

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JOSHUA IS SITTING IN CLASSROOM. DESK IN FRONT OF HIS IS EMPTY. FLASHES BETWEEN IMAGES OF MALIKE SITTING THERE AND THE DESK BEING EMPTY.

FLASHBACK:

MALIKE turns to JOSHUA and offers him chips

SCHOOL:

JOSHUA stares at desk pensively. Camera pans down on chip wrapper that is on the ground.

BUS:

JOSHUA steps onto the bus and sits down. He takes the wrapper out of his pocket and examines it in his hand. He puts it back into his pocket and leans against the window and sighs. He closes eyes and there is a sound of a door slamming

HOUSE:

JOSHUA enters house, takes off shoes and heads downstairs into T.V. room. He drops the wrapper onto the table next to an obscured photograph. He takes off his jacket and drapes himself across the couch. He turns the T.V. on and watches He stares off deep in thought then closes his eyes.

A HAZY DREAM SEQUENCE. JOSHUA ENTERS THE CAFETERIA AND SMILES. CAMERA PANS TO MALIKE WHO IS SEATED WITH HIS BACK TURNED. JOSHUA APPROACHES AND SITS BESIDE HIM, HE BEGINS SPEAKING WITH HIM AND THEN LAUGHS. MALIKE DAPS HIM UP-

TO BEDROOM:

JOSHUA sits up in bed abruptly panting. He looks around and shakes his head in defeat. He lies back down and looks up to the ceiling deep in thought. He closes his eyes and exhales.

DREAM:

JOSHUA is back in his seat at the cafe. He looks around for MALIKE only to see he is gone. The Cafeteria door closes as MALIKE slips out. He turns and follows him hurriedly. He opens the door then-

TO BEDROOM:

JOSHUA opens his eyes and takes a second to realize where he is. He begins thrashing in his bed. He stops and examines his hand deep in thought. Rolls over in bed and shuts eyes tight.

DREAM:

MALIKE is standing at the end of the hall, JOSHUA begins running after her. No matter how much he runs, he doesn't seem to make any distance. He looks down at his feet and when he looks back up he is standing before him-

TO BEDROOM:

His eyes open slowly and he sits up. He gets up and goes to pour himself a glass of water. On his way back down he passes by a photograph of him and MALIKE whose face is obscured. He picks up the photo and sits down to look at it.

FLASHBACK:

JOSHUA AND MALIKE are posing for a picture. RUBEN snaps photo and passes picture to MALIKE.

TO BEDROOM:

JOSHUA smiles sadly, puts photo down and holds his head in his hands. He reluctantly resumes his nap.

DREAM:

Ominous music. JOSHUA wanders through empty halls, MALIKE is nowhere to be seen. He exits the building and approaches the highway. He is terrified but keeps walking nonetheless. MALIKE is standing on the sidewalk ready to cross the street. JOSHUA rushes towards him, but as he steps into the street. The loud blaring of a horn is heard. JOSHUA shuts his eyes unable to look. Screen goes black

FIELD DREAM:

JOSHUA is laying on the grass with his eyes still closed, he opens his eyes slowly. MALIKE stands over him, his memorial is sitting on the grass behind him. JOSHUA sits up and stares in awe. MALIKE helps him up. JOSHUA becomes overcome by emotion and doesn't let go of hand, afraid to let go. It takes a moment as MALIKE communicates with his face that he has to let go. JOSHUA finally loosens his grip and MALIKE walks away past his memorial. JOSHUA sighs and closes his eyes finally accepting the loss.

TO BEDROOM:

JOSHUA awakes in bedroom in tears. He looks over to the picture of him and MALIKE, they are together smiling. He looks up at the ceiling pensively then smiles. He closes his eyes now ready to go to sleep.

THE END