

Every Little Hurricane

Written by

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Adapted from

Every Little Hurricane

From

The Lone Ranger And Tonto Fistfight In Heaven

By

Sherman Alexie

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A TITLE APPEARS:

Every Little Hurricane

FADE IN

EXT. LAS VEGAS - DAY

Las Vegas Is. The sky is blue, the sun is shining. Assorted vehicles travel up and down the streets. The assorted beeps and rumble of traffic can be heard. People walk in and out of the assorted casinos and other buildings.

EXT. SAN FRANCISCO - DAY

The Transamerica Pyramid is quite obvious. Streets also have assorted vehicles in motion, people walking about. People comment on cell phones and talk to each other as traffic is heard going by

EXT. WASHINGTON D.C. - AFTERNOON

The sky is grey to black as an absolute downpour drenches the National Mall. Trees wobble back and forth. Wind is screaming as walls of raindrops spray across pavement. The few pedestrians actually out scurry frantically for the nearest shelter.

EXT. ST. LOUIS - AFTERNOON

Wind is an earsplitting roar. The sky is nearly black. The Gateway Arch keeps shifting slightly, shifting back, shifting again. Near the base of the arch, buildings no longer have intact windows. The wind lifts a car of people and tumbles it into a second story building, throwing people out through the shattering car windows. A woman runs out of a doorway, and is immediately scooped up by the wind and slammed into a wall.

EXT. NEW YORK - AFTERNOON

Distant explosions can be heard as they merge in with the overall howl of the ongoing wind. The Brooklyn Bridge can be seen, cables flexing as the storm rips past them.

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Cars slide sideways into each other. On an elevated freeway, a gas truck lifts off the pavement, tumbles end over end through the air, the cargo of gasoline detonating as the truck slams into the lower floors of skyscraper that has already lost most of its windows.

INT. VICTOR'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

---All house locations are Victor's house, where locations elsewhere will be stated as elsewhere.

Music, not wind, is blaring as VICTOR, nine years old, is in mid tumble out of his bed, and then hits the floor.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

ADOLPH and ARNOLD have faced off against each other, one tall and heavy, the other short, muscular. Many other Indians can be seen in the kitchen, in the doorways, through the doorways in the next rooms.

ADOLPH
(Yells)
Goddamn it.

INT. VICTOR'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

A title appears:

Spokane Indian Reservation

New Year's Morning, 1976

Victor looks up at the ceiling as the yelling only just carries over the volume of the music.

ADOLPH (O.S.)
(yelling)
You ain't shit, you fucking apple.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Adolph and Arnold charge towards each other, brawling more than coherently combatting, ricocheting off of cabinets as other Indians get out of the way

INT. VICTOR'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

There is a loud thud from above as Victor continues to watch over his head. The music stops, and there is complete silence. Victor flinches. Victor's Father yells, with such volume that the walls of the house shake.

VICTOR'S FATHER (O.S.)
(Yells)
What the fuck's going on?

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

VICTOR'S MOTHER peers in from the kitchen.

VICTOR'S MOTHER
Adolph and Arnold are fighting
again.

VICTOR'S FATHER
(Yells)
Well, tell them to get their
goddamn asses out of my house.

INT. VICTOR'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

VICTOR'S MOTHER (O.S.)
They already left. They're
fighting out in the yard.

Victor gets up off the floor, runs to his window and peers out over the snow covering the ground. Through the window he sees Arnold and Adolph slugging each other with such force that they had to be in love. The only sound that can be heard is footsteps overhead as the party upstairs moves to the windows, steps onto the front porch to watch the battle.

As the fight continues and Arnold and Adolph grow bloody and tired, Victor pulls the strings of his pajama bottoms tighter. He squeezes his hands into fists and presses his face tightly against the glass.

SOMEBODY AT UPSTAIRS WINDOW (O.S.)
(Yells)
They're going to kill each other.

EXT. VICTOR'S HOUSE - NIGHT

As Arnold and Adolph continue to fight as people from the party are watching from the porch, through the windows. Victor peers out from his basement bedroom window.

Adolph soon has the best of Arnold and tries to drown him in the snow. Adolph holds Arnold down, as Arnold flails his arms, uselessly.

And then Adolph lets Arnold loose, pulls him to his feet.

INT. VICTOR'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Victor continues to watch as Arnold and Adolph both stand, facing each other.

They start to yell again, unintelligible and unintelligent.

INT. VIEW OF TV - DAY

The party volume grows as other voices from upstairs are added.

On the screen, there is aerial footage of a totally destroyed neighborhood, with one building on fire. A caption underneath the footage reads MASSIVE HURRICANE DAMAGE

ASSORTED PARTY GOERS (O.S.)

They gonna keep fighting?

Nah, they're done.

They're still at it!

The video footage continues with a shot of a single house that has already undergone massive damage. Masses of rain blast horizontally past the camera view. Smoke is trailing out of upper windows of the house. A refrigerator cartwheels through the air past the camera as there is a flash of light in the house's upper floor windows. The walls of the lower floor of the house bulge, the lower floor windows explode out with columns of fire. As the upper floor then lifts and starts to tumble out of the view of the camera, the lower floor disintegrates into tumbling, flaming chunks.

ASSORTED PARTY GOERS (CONT'D)

What'd they do? He's bleeding! What happened?

Got a broken nose there, for sure

Eh, Indian health will fix it

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ASSORTED PARTY GOERS (CONT'D)

Hey, dummies, lay off.
Etc.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Everything is seen in black and white.

The only people are Victor's Father, Victor's Mother, and VICTOR-AGE FIVE.

Victor-Age Five is watching from the door of the kitchen.

In the corner of the living room is a near ceiling height tree. Assorted branches have a string of lights, two or three ornamental bulbs, and a scattering of pictures of people, hung from branches by dental floss through holes punched in the tops of the pictures.

Under the tree is just a couple of blobs of sap from the trunk of the tree.

Victor's Father is standing in the middle of the living room, crying. Tears keep running down his face.

VICTOR'S MOTHER

But we've got each other.

Under the tree is just a couple of blobs of sap from the trunk of the tree.

Victor's Father continues to cry. Tear's keep cascading down his face and drip off. Victor-Age Five watches as the tears freeze, drop to the ground, and shatter, shatter again, shatter again.

EXT. GROCERY STORE - DAY

The parking lot is mostly empty as the front windows of the store all shatter at once under a blasting wall of rain. An airborne car bounces across the roof. Displays inside can be seen suddenly ricocheting about as a second airborne car bounces from the parking lot and spins end over end and through the shattered window frames.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Everything is in color, but as anything moves, there is a trailing blur.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Victor's Father continues to cry. Victor-Age Five is standing on a chair right in front of him. Victor-Age Five is holding up a box that the tears are falling into. The box finishes filling.

A chair is sitting in front of Victor's Father as Victor-Aged Five is sitting on the floor, wrapping the box in Sunday comics. When the wrapping is finished, Victor-Age Five gets up and takes the box to Victor's Mother, gives it to her.

INT. VICTOR'S PARENT'S BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

Everything is seen in black and white.

Victor's Father is standing in the bedroom as Victor stands in the shadowed corridor, watching through the doorway.

Victor's Father is holding his wallet, and opens it. It is empty. He shakes his head, bewildered. He closes the wallet and puts it into his pocket.

After a moment, he pulls the wallet out and opens it. It is empty. He shakes his head, bewildered. He closes the wallet and puts it back into his pocket.

After a moment, he pulls the wallet out and opens it again. It is empty. He shakes his head, bewildered. He closes the wallet and puts back it into his pocket.

Again, after a moment, he pulls the wallet out and opens it. It is empty.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Everything is in color, but as anything moves, there is a trailing blur.

Victor is seated at a table, watching his mother. Victor's Mother opens the cupboards, and they are empty. As she then reaches into cupboards, she pulls out ingredients.

She is then mixing ingredients in a bowl.

She is then at the stove, frying, and pulls a piece of fry bread out of a put. She turns and adds it to a pile of more fry bread sitting on a plate.

INT. VICTOR'S BEDROOM - DAY

Everything is in color, but as anything moves, there is a trailing blur.

Victor's mother reaches into a closet and pulls out a bandanna, and then as she shifts slightly, shakes it slightly, it extends, unfolds, a leading edge drops towards the ground, and she finishes a turn with the blanket draped from one hand.

EXT. MOTHER'S KITCHEN RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Everything is in color, but as anything moves, there is a trailing blur.

The windows glow with light as waves of rain wash down the street. A car skids into a street lamp as another car flips over onto its back in the wind, then slides down the street past the restaurant. Lightning cracks across the sky and Victor and his family can be seen in the restaurant, sitting far off, away from the windows. The second car shifts away from the streetlight and then also goes tumbling down the street.

INT. MOTHER'S KITCHEN RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Victor and his parents are sitting at a table near a wall. On the table a tablecloth, tableware, plates, a centerpiece. They're looking at menus.

VICTOR'S FATHER
Soup. I want a bowl of soup.

INT. MOTHER'S KITCHEN RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Everything is in black and white, and as anything moves, there is a trailing blur. Wind howls from the outside.

Victor and his parents are sitting at a table near a window. The table now only has a couple of pots on it as water drips down from the roof. Around the table are other pots and some buckets, as more rain drips down from the roof. As Victor is sitting in his chair, rain drips onto his head.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Everything is seen in black and white.

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CONTINUED:

Several cupboard doors are open. The cupboard shelves are empty. Victor is watching from the living room as Victor's Father is sitting at the table with a glass and a bottle of vodka. Victor's Father looks at the glass, then drinks from the bottle.

EXT. FOREST - AFTERNOON

The trees in the forest wave back and forth as rain and wind deafeningly blast through the forest. There is a bright flash of lightning as a bolt hits a large tree, hits again, and the tree shatters in a ball of fire, the upper branches ripped off into the surrounding forest.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Everything is seen in black and white.

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away.

Victor's Father lowers the bottle back to the table, stretches, settles into the chair.

EXT. POWWOW - AFTERNOON

Everything is seen in black and white.

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away.

Rain spills across the ground. Victor-Aged Five watches as some Indians walk over to an old Indian who is lying face down on the ground, a bottle of tequila near one hand, his face in a puddle created by a tire track. The Indians turn the old man onto his side, one of them checks for a pulse. Water dribbles out of the old man's mouth as the Indian checking for a pulse finally shakes his head.

EXT. VICTOR'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away.

The snow on the ground is still as Arnold and Adolph walk back to the house, arms linked.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The living room is packed full of Indians who have now gone back to assorted random conversations, now that Arnold and Adolph have stopped fighting.

EXT. VICTOR'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away. Arnold and Adolph start up the steps to the front porch.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The living room is so packed full of people that when the front door swings open, SOMEONE steps out of the way while continuing to talk to SOMEONE ELSE. Arnold and Adolph walk through the doorway.

The absolute screaming howl of the wind and rain follow them through the door and into the room. The conversations of the party blend into the rain and the wind, and the volume just goes up even further.

INT. VICTOR'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Victor is lying flat on his bed, looking up at the ceiling. The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away. The ceiling of the room drops a few inches down towards Victor.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away. Victor's Father turns towards the front door, and then as he starts to shrink, everything shifts to black and white.

EXT. SPOKANE BUS STOP - DAY

Everything is seen in black and white.

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

VICTOR'S FATHER AS CHILD is standing at a bus stop with VICTOR'S GRANDFATHER. SOME MAN does a double take when he realizes they're there, and spits on VICTOR'S GRANDFATHER.

INT. VICTOR'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Victor is lying flat on his bed, looking up at the ceiling.

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away, the voices of the party blending in with the wind and rain.

The ceiling of the room is several feet lower than the last time, and it drops down a few inches closer towards Victor.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away, the voices of the party blending in with the wind and rain.

Victor's mother turns and suddenly holds still, and everything shifts to black and white.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Everything is seen in black and white. The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away. There is a howl from a newly born baby that blends into the wind and rain.

A NURSE turns to a DOCTOR.

NURSE

It's a boy!

DOCTOR

Wonderful. And now she won't have to worry about any more children. Nurse, now prepare her for the sterilization, and we'll get that little thing taken care of.

INT. VICTOR'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Victor is lying flat on his bed, looking up at the ceiling.

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away, the voices of the party blending in with the wind and rain.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The ceiling of the room is another foot or so than the last time and again, the ceiling of the room drops down a few inches closer towards Victor.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Arnold and Adolph have drifted to different parts of the room as they talk to different people.

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away.

One then looks back towards the other and everything shifts to black and white as he starts to shrink.

INT. ARNOLD AND ADOLPH'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Everything is seen in black and white.

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away.

ARNOLD AS CHILD and ADOLPH AS CHILD look at each other.

ADOLPH AS CHILD
Did you hide the crackers?

INT. VICTOR'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Victor is lying flat on his bed, looking up at the ceiling.

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away, the voices of the party blending in with the wind and rain.

The ceiling of the room is an additional foot or so lower than before, and again it drops down another few inches closer towards Victor.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away, the voices of the party blending in with the wind and rain.

SOME WOMAN is looking across the room in one direction as she shifts through the crowd in a different direction and brushes against Someone Else. Some Woman stares into infinity as she turns black and white and flinches back in the direction she came from, then stands still and slowly faces back to color to match everyone else in the room.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Someone Else leans over towards a table, grabs a bottle of vodka and refills a cup he's holding, then guzzles the vodka from the cup as he waves the bottle back down towards the table.

INT. VICTOR'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Victor is lying flat on his bed, looking up at the ceiling.

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away, the voices of the party blending in with the wind and rain.

The ceiling is now only about a foot away from Victor, and now it drops down another few inches closer towards him. With this last shift, he slides out of the bed and scurries for the door.

EXT. SAN FRANCISCO, FISHERMAN'S WHARF - DAY

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away, the voices of the party blending in with the wind and rain.

Rain is blasting horizontally as several buildings of Ghirardelli Square are trailing smoke through shattered windows. A bus is on its side and scraping along the ground, pushed by the wind. A car goes cartwheeling along past the square and crashes into a wall of The Cannery.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away, the voices of the party blending in with the wind and rain.

Victor is in a corner just past a cluster of people, tears dripping down his cheeks. He wipes his face. Adolph steps from between a couple of people.

ADOLPH
Ya-hey, little nephew.

VICTOR
Hello, Uncle.

Victor gives Adolph a hug, and then coughs.

VICTOR (CONT'D)
Where's my dad?

ADOLPH
Over there.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Adolph waves vaguely towards the kitchen.

Victor steps into the crowd, and tears start dripping down his face again. He steps one way and then another through the maze of all the bodies of all the party goers.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away, the voices of the party blending in with the wind and rain.

Victor's Aunt NEZZY is standing and talking with someone as victor steps up beside her.

VICTOR
Where are they?

NEZZY
Who?

VICTOR
Mom and Dad.

Nezzy points towards the bedroom.

INT. VICTOR'S PARENT'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away, the voices of the party blending in with the wind and rain.

Victor steps through the doorway, tears streaming down his face. He wipes his face again. His parents are passed out on the bed.

Victor climbs up on the bed and lies down between them. His mother and father breathe deep, nearly choking alcoholic snores. They are sweating. He kisses his mother's neck, kisses his father's forearm. He settles back down between them and closes his eyes.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away, the voices of the party blending in with the wind and rain.

Several Indians are seated on the stairs, talking. Suddenly they scatter as Nezzy comes crashing down the stairs.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NEZZY
 (yells)
 OW! Fuck.

She looks at her oddly bent arm.

NEZZY (CONT'D)
 Ow. I think I broke my arm.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away, the voices of the party blending in with the wind and rain.

EUGENE BOYD grabs a bouncing basketball.

EUGENE BOYD
 I got it!!

He spins and goes crashing into the kitchen door and breaks a hinge.

JAMES MANY HORSES is sitting in a corner, and watches Eugene disappear past the door.

JAMES MANY HORSES
 Oops . . so, What do you get when
 you cross a Chickasaw, a
 Pottowottomie, and a Paiute?

Someone and Someone Else are leaning against the walls on either side of James, both with bottles. Someone looks at James.

SOMEONE
 What?

JAMES MANY HORSES
 Chicken-pot-pie.

SOMEONE
 Heard that one.

JAMES MANY HORSES
 What's five feet by five feet by
 thirty feet?

SOMEONE ELSE
 Ok, what?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JAMES MANY HORSES
Pueblo grand entry.

SOMEONE
Oh, Shit.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away, the voices of the party blending in with the wind and rain.

LESTER FALLS APART is passed out on top of the stove. Eugene staggers over to the stove and announces in general.

EUGENE BOYD
Hey, watch this!

He turns the burners on high. There is a pause. Lester's eyes open Really Quickly

LESTER FALLS APART
OW!!!!

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away, the voices of the party blending in with the wind and rain.

JAMES MANY HORSES
What do you call a Sioux guy out walking his dog?

Someone Else looks at Someone.

SOMEONE ELSE
What?

JAMES MANY HORSES
Vegetarian. And What do you call a Cheyenne guy with two dogs? A Rancher!

SOMEONE AND SOMEONE ELSE
(In unison)
Oh, Shit!!!!!!

Someone and Someone Else lean over and grab James by the arms and yank him out of his chair.

EXT. VICTOR'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The snow is still and basically motionless as the wind and rain continue to howl, the rain pounding away, the voices of the party blending in with the wind and rain. James sails off the porch and lands in a snowdrift. He sprawls, shifts, shakes his head and sits for a moment.

JAMES MANY HORSES

How do you get one hundred Indians
to yell Oh, shit?

(pause)

Say Bingo.

Lester hops off the porch and pointedly drops into the snow, butt first

EXT. BERKELEY, DOWNTOWN - DAY

The rain just pours straight down into the street. Several inches of water are sloshing across Shattuck Avenue, continuing to pour into the Bart station. Windows of all the buildings are shattered. One building is on fire, smoke pouring into the sky. There is a flash of lightning, and then thunder booms down the street.

EXT. VICTOR'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The snow is still and basically motionless as the wind and rain continue to howl, but are starting to fade, the rain now just coming down, the voices of the party blending in with the wind and rain.

A mass of people from the party are spilled out over the lawn and the snow, some dancing, a couple of pairs fighting their way through the dancers. A pair of dancers are having sex standing up. One of the fighters staggers into and through another couple.

INT. VICTOR'S PARENT'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

An all out downpour can be heard, mixing in with all the voices. There is a distant booming of thunder with the howl of wind.

Victor lies between his parents, his parents still sprawled across the bed. Victor licks his index finger and raises it into the air to test the wind.

The sound of the wind fades, the rain eases up a bit.

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CONTINUED:

Victor puts one hand on his mother's stomach and the other on his father's.

Victor closes his eyes, falls asleep

FADE TO BLACK

The wind and rain fade to silence.