

LEO

Written by

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FADE IN:

Clouds are moving on a blue, seemingly endless space.

Some of them slowly emerge into... animals: A rabbit, a sheep, a salamander and an elephant.

INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - MORNING (APRIL 3)

LEO, a 6 year old kid with pigment spots all over his body, dark hair and even darker eyes, but a bright imagination, rests his elbow on the window shelf and looks at the cloudy sky, fascinated.

A DUMP NOISE IS AUDIBLE

The animals QUICKLY form into clouds again...

Leo turns around. Behind him stands... an 8 year old GIRL with ginger hair and blue eyes, which are surrounded by huge red glasses. She hastily tries to pack her bag: Presses in some clothes, books and a teddy bear, slightly annoyed.

The room they're in looks rather empty and loveless: Two large windows, three beds and a white wall embellish the paleness. No sight of toys...

Leo's look is still on the girl. BOOM. Their eyes meet. Girl tries to smile, but is immediately overshadowed by Leo's sad, disappointed face. SADNESS.

Leo goes to Girl and hugs her. Girl's face: Sad compassion. Leo's face: Pale. Almost frustrated.

Girl turns around and takes a cardboard box... which she puts in Leo's bewildered open hands.

Leo's face turns... into a face that sees light beyond the tunnel.

Girl shuffles Leo's hair, takes her two messy bags, which she can just carry, and moves to the door. Leo doesn't move a bit and carefully watches her. She opens the door, leaves a smile, and rushes out... before

THE DOOR SHUTS

BOOM. Leo looks at the door. Frozen.

A beat.

Leo turns back into his body. He leaves the box on the floor and rushes to the window. Leo's POV: A man, a woman and Girl leaving the orphanage, happily.

Leo's face: Thoughtful.

CUT TO BLACK.

INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE, AFTERNOON (APRIL 3)

Leo opens a cardboard box, which lays on the bedroom floor. Inside the box are crayons, felt-tip pens, sheets of paper, a scissor and tape. Leo's face displays happiness.

Leo rummages in the box and quickly spreads out everything on the floor. He takes a sheet of paper when he notices... a blue crayon with a tape full of glossy stickers. Leo's face turns into a quiet smile.

A beat.

Leo takes the crayon and starts to paint. He draws a man and a woman, with Girl in the middle, holding hands. Leo smiles, takes the finished drawing, and puts it onto the wall with tape. Next to the drawing: Drawings of an elephant, a rabbit, a salamander and a sheep

INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - NIGHT (APRIL 3)

Leo lays his hands on the window shelf, crossed, and looks at the sky. He sees... a woman, a man and... himself in the middle. The man and the woman get closer, take Leo's hand and let him jump around. Happiness.

Leo's eyes turn really bright.

INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - MORNING (APRIL 4)

Sunbeams shine on the face of Leo, which, topless, stands in front of a big mirror. Leo smiles and starts to pose and feel like a superhero.

Leo compares two shirts to each other in front of the mirror.

With a shirt on, he combs through his hair, until it sits. He tries different mimics... happy, cute, sad, serious and angry. The last one beckons Leo a smile.

VOICES are audible.

Leo, ecstatic, jumps up and runs to the door. He stops

shortly before... to adjust his hairline one last time. He puts his ear on the door.

BOOM. A BIG DOOR SHUTS. LAUGHTER.

Leo quickly runs to the window... and sees a man, a woman and a boy leaving the orphanage in joy. Leo's face shows pale disappointment, his hair turns messy.

A beat.

Leo looks out the window when SUDDENLY... a small pebble, on his eye level, hits his window. He looks around. BOOM. Another pebble hits his window. And another. And another...

LAUGHING CHILDREN ARE AUDIBLE.

Leo, afraid, sits down under the window and, involuntarily, listens to the pebbles hitting his window. He presses his hands onto his ears and tries to distract himself.

THUNDER AND RAIN IS AUDIBLE.

INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - DAY (APRIL 4)

It is raining.

Leo sits on the floor and draws, heroes animals and landscapes with trees. His face is kinda irritated and he uses the crayon with way too much pressure.

SUDDENLY, a sheet of paper slides under Leo's bedroom door. Leo, interested, takes the sheet of paper, unfolds it and looks at it...

SHOCK. Leo's face turns pale... before turning angry, crumpling the paper and throwing it into his basket.

INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - AFTERNOON (APRIL 4)

Leo stands in front of a mirror, topless. All of his pigment spots are clearly visible.

THUNDER NOISES.

His pigment spots turn into... evil creatures, moving around his skin. He scratches all around his body and tries to slap them.

A beat.

The evil creatures are moving around...

He puts on a long sleeve shirt and tries to cover all spots on his body.

INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - EVENING (APRIL 4)

Leo stands in front of a wall calender. The calender says APRIL in big, bold letters. Three days are crossed out.

Leo with all of his power and a red crayon in his hand, crosses out the 4th day...

BOOM. His crayon breaks.

A beat.

Leo lowers his head and looks at the piece of the red crayon: It is lying on a superhero drawing of Leo.

A tear falls down on the paper.

Leo's POV: Blurry Vision.

Another tear falls down. And two more.

INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - AFTERNOON (JUNE 25)

The wall calender has June 25th crossed out. The trees are green. Warm.

The room looks as usual, withome sheets of paper lying on the floor. The wall has some paintings of a boy with light brown, flawless skin. Some paintings of Leo with pigment spots look modified that you don't see the spots anymore.

INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - AFTERNOON (SEPTEMBER 14)

The wall calender has September 14th crossed out. The trees are orange and are already missing some leaves. Between hot and cold.

The room looks messy: More sheets of paper, some crumpled, some folded in half, are lying on the floor. The wall has some new paintings of a boy with pigment spots, which look like monsters. The drawing style looks aggressive and lacks detail.

INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - AFTERNOON (NOVEMBER 6)

The wall calender has November 6th crossed out. The trees are almost leavless. Cold.

The room looks even more messy: More sheets of paper, most of them crumpled, some even ripped apart, are lying on the floor... as well as some completely crossed out pages of the calender. The wall is still the same.

INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - MORNING (NOVEMBER 22)

Leo, in a long sleeve pullover, lies on the floor, in an embryo pose, sleeping. Sunbeams hit his face... and Leo slowly opens his eyes.

Leo, lying, looks up and sees... the cloudy sky. He goes to the window, opens it and looks outside: The clouds look white and fluffy and are moving slowly.

CUT TO:

INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - MORNING (NOVEMBER 22)

Slowly moving clouds on a dark background

Leo stands in front of the mirror and looks at his half-naked body: Clouds are moving slowly. His head is tilted down.

Leo looks up and...

CUT TO:

INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - MORNING (NOVEMBER 23)

... sees a leaf, lying on his window shelf, moving with the wind. He opens the window and looks at the leaf: It is yellow-red and has bright white spots. He takes the leaf...

CUT TO:

INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - MORNING (NOVEMBER 23)

... and puts it in a box. He closes the box.

Darkness.

CUT TO:

INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - MORNING (NOVEMBER 24)

Leo opens his eyes. He stands at the fully open window and smells the cold air. It is snowy outside.

He looks on the floor... and recognices some snowless spots. Leo looks at his arm. His spots appear whiter than ever, when suddenly, a small Leo rolls a big snowball into the middle of the spot...

Leo has a bright smile on his face.

... puts a smaller ball on the big one and tries to put a small one on top when

SUDDENLY

The ball falls down.

Leo's face: Insightful.

CUT TO:

INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - EVENING (NOVEMBER 24)

Leo sits on the floor, with a tilted head, and draws himself building a snowman, with a man and a woman holding the top snowball.

He looks at his body: His pigment spots are clearly visible.

Leo takes a light brown color and draws pigment spots on the body. He smiles.

INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - EVENING (NOVEMBER 29)

Leo with a sheet of paper in his hands, stands in front of his big wall: The wall is full of paintings, most of them aggressively drawn, unfinished and with flawless surfaces... and when not, the flaws are monsters or some other bad creatures.

Leo quickly tears certain sheets of paper down the wall. Some drawings stay on the wall: A drawing of him with a family, of a salamander and landscapes. The drawing of him as a superhero is almost torn apart. He takes a sticky tape and fixes the spot.

Leo smiles.

INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - MORNING (NOVEMBER 30)

Leo is holding a roll of tape and sticks a drawing of him with pigment spots on the wall.

We see a wall full of drawings of animals, clouds, families and him with pigment spots.

KNOCK KNOCK

Leo looks at the door. A letter is lying in front of it when

SUDDENLY Flaschback

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INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - MORNING (APRIL 2)

Girl with letter on her hands. Leo stands in the background. She stares at it for a second before... screaming and jumping around. She runs to Leo and hugs him with all her power.

Girl's face: Sad compassion. Leo's face: Pale. Almost frustrated.

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INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - MORNING (NOVEMBER 30)

Leo face turns brighter than the sun. He jumps up, runs to the door and picks up the letter. The letter has LEO printed on it. Leo starts to jump around in joy.

INT. LEO'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - MORNING (DECEMBER 2)

Leo is hastily packing his things. His bin is full of paper. The wall is empty, except for one drawing: The fixed drawing of Leo as a superhero. Leo takes the drawing and looks at it...

KNOCKING ON THE DOOR

Leo still looks at the drawing... and carefully packs it into his bag.

He closes the bag, takes a last look into the room, opens the door and leaves the room.

INT. KIDS BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - MORNING (DECEMBER 2)

Kid's POV: Leo, timidly, a man and a woman, happily, walk away from the orphanage.

KID, an 7-year old kid with brown hair, caucasian skin and green eyes, looks out of the window and watches Leo.

Kid's face: Disappointed.

CUT TO BLACK.

THE END.