

Scénario

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE-MORNING

NOAH, a thin ten year old black boy is lying face down in the grass his bag next to him. He holds a straw in his left hand and seems very concentrated on something he is watching. Just in front of him, a grass-hopper is motionless on a blade of grass. Noah's face is all sweaty. He carefully moves the straw to the bug.

NOAH
(whispering to himself)
Here we are, come on little buddy
or whatever you are, don't be
scared.

A police siren in the distance. Noah turns his head left and right. The bug flies away.

NOAH
Crap!

Noah stands up and starts running across the field. Second police siren. Noah takes a look behind him, and then starts running faster.

INT. POLICE CAR-CONTINUOUS

The car is parked next to a field. Inside of it, two police officers are waiting patiently eating cookies. Through the windshield: Noah running in the field. One of the police officers takes a handheld transceiver in a hurry.

POLICE OFFICER
(talking in the handheld
transceiver with his mouth
full)
We've got the kid.

EXT. ROAD-CONTINUOUS

Noah is running as fast as he can. Behind him the police car is getting closer and closer and finally gets to him. As the car is moving right next to Noah, one of the police officers opens his window to talk to him.

POLICE OFFICER
Hey kid, there's no point in
running anymore. Just get in the
car.

INT. POLICE CAR-CONTINUOUS

Noah is sitting in the back seat, looking outside. Through the window, the landscape scrolls.

The title "DID YOU SAY CANADA" appears on the screen.

EXT. NOAH'S HOUSE-CONTINUOUS

The police car parks in front of the gate of the modest house.

INT. NOAH'S HOUSE-CONTINUOUS

In the living room, Noah is sitting on an armchair in front of his mom and dad, both sitting on the couch; GRAND-PA is sitting apart in a flower pot.

NOAH'S MOTHER

It can't go on Noah. Your father and I are... are getting tired of your behavior. Something has changed. Do you understand?

NOAH

(quietly)
Yes mom, I do.

NOAH'S FATHER

You promised Noah.

Noah looks down.

NOAH'S FATHER

I'm talking to you.

Noah looks his father in the eyes.

NOAH'S FATHER

Now, what have I told you about promises?

NOAH

(quietly)
Never... never make promises I'm not sure I can keep.

NOAH'S FATHER

Exactly. Never make promises you're not sure you can keep. And what did you do?

(CONTINUED)

Noah looks down again.

NOAH
I just...

NOAH'S FATHER
Look at me!

Again, Noah looks his father in the eyes.

NOAH
I just wanted to catch the
grasshopper.

Near the couch, grandpa in the flower pot. He winks at Noah.
Nobody notices except for Noah.

NOAH'S MOTHER
(to her husband)
Honey, grand-pa sat in the flower
pot again.

NOAH'S FATHER
(to grand-pa)
Dad...
(to his wife)
By the way, another bottle of
scotch is missing.

NOAH'S MOTHER
(to her husband)
Did you hide the key?

NOAH'S FATHER
I did, but bottles still disappear
for some reason.

NOAH'S MOTHER
(to Noah)
Well, we're going to have to take
you to DR. PETROVSKY again.

NOAH
Please mom...

NOAH'S FATHER
It's not an option Noah.

NOAH
But he's a quack mom.

(CONTINUED)

NOAH'S MOTHER
He's cheap.

NOAH
He's a part-time psychiatrist...

NOAH'S FATHER
Quit it right away Noah.

No reactions. Grand-pa, still sitting in the pot, is holding a doll and is combing its hair, a smile on his face.

NOAH'S FATHER
Do we have a deal?

Noah's father reaches out his hand to Noah.

NOAH'S FATHER
Come on, let's shake on it.

After a quick hesitation, Noah puts his hand in his father's.

NOAH
Could I still go to JEFF's on the weekends?

NOAH'S FATHER
I don't see why not.