

WILLIE THE LEO

by

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INT. BUTTERCUP DINER — OAKLAND, CA —AFTERNOON

August 3, 2016, **MONI** and **KASIAA** are having lunch. Moni notices an elderly man sitting alone at the diner's counter.

MONI

Hey, you see the old man at the counter, over to the left?

KASIAA

Yeah, what about him?

MONI

He looks so sad, I wonder if he's okay.

KASIAA

There you go; you're so corny, Monica Lyne! Always caring for the world.

MONI

You know I have a soft spot for elderly people. Hum, the staff seems to know him, maybe he's a regular here. Maybe if I pay for his meal, he'll feel better.

KASIAA

Why don't you just eat your food and leave him alone? Maybe he doesn't want to be bothered.

Buttercup Diner staff comes forward with a candled dessert and heads to the elderly man wishing him a happy birthday.

MONI

You see how he perked up? He seemed sorta reserved but I can tell that he is touched by their thoughtfulness. Awe!!! I wanna say happy birthday!

Buttercup Diner staff stand around elderly man while he allow the candle to burn longer than usual, taking in the moment. Moni and Kasiaa ask their waiter who is the elderly man with the birthday.

BUTTERCUP WAITER

Oh you mean Willie? Yeah, he comes by every other day. His wife died a couple of weeks ago and we are trying to uplift his spirits. Plus he hasn't been eating well lately so we try to take care of him.

One of the waiters walks up to Willie and encourages him to blow out his candle. He finally blows out the candle; the staff cheers. Willie gives a slight smile. After the staff walks off, Willie's smile widens in private.

MONI

Looks like the Leo has been welcomed to a new pride.

END