

Free Scenes for Teens – Under a Midsummer Moon (two males)

It is July 20, 1969 – the night of the moon landing. David was supposed to be in the park to watch the moon landing but died in Viet Nam a few weeks before he was supposed to come home. Prior to this scene, David and Russell had a fight. Russell is an anti-war protester whose brother is in jail for refusing to sign up for the draft. At the start of the scene, David is alone with some of his brother's precious belongings. Russell watches unseen by David.

DAVID

Sam – just so you know – it's been really lousy here, you know. I was mad at you, and now everyone's gathering to watch the moon landing in the park. And you were supposed to be here. Home. Safe. Watching it with me. I was counting the days until your discharge. You were so close ... and I don't know how to get through the days – except by switching myself off – you know? And I don't think I can switch my life back on – because the switch – it's crumbled and I can't gather the pieces up...

RUSSELL

Hey.

DAVID

Hey, yourself.

RUSSELL

I can be a jerk – sometimes.

DAVID

Yeah. You can. Me, too. Sometimes. Not this time but sometimes.

RUSSELL

I – never knew anyone who went, you know? Everyone I know's in college. Avoiding. For now.

DAVID

I'm going – going to follow in my brother's footsteps.

RUSSELL

Is that a good idea? Isn't one loss enough?

DAVID

I'll – take care.

RUSSELL

I – never heard another point of view. I thought everyone was against the war. The soldiers, well they never really had a face that I knew, you know?

DAVID

No.

RUSSELL

Yeah. Well, just so you know, I'm sorry. That's all. Sorry for what I said. Sorry about your brother. Just – sorry. Especially for being a jerk.

DAVID

Won't change a thing.

RUSSELL

Maybe. Maybe not. But I'll listen better. One side screams something. Then the other side screams something. Not a lot of listening going on.

DAVID

No.

RUSSELL

And things have changed. You put a face on a soldier. Made it personal.

DAVID

That's something, I guess.

RUSSELL

Yeah, something. I – wish I knew him. (*Takes out a crumpled photo of his brother, Alan.*) This is Alan. He was editor of the school newspaper. Went from high school graduation to jail. The same day. For avoiding the draft. You should, you know, talk about Sam and let people know him.

DAVID

I – can't.

RUSSELL

Can I see? His photo again?

*(DAVID hands him a photo.)*

DAVID

Here. This was from his Boy Scout uniform. He became an eagle scout. I was going to bury this in the park – try to put him – or maybe me – at rest. But I can't. It feels wrong.

RUSSELL

He tried to do the right thing.

DAVID

Always. He was supposed to be here. Tonight – we had plans.

RUSSELL

So take him. Bring the photo, the scarf, whatever you have and bring him to the meadow.

DAVID

I'd be kidding myself. I know he's not here.

RUSSELL

It's huge, big world out there. Filled with the unknown. Who's to say he won't be at your side? Come on ... what will it hurt.

*(DAVID gathers his brother's belongings and exits with RUSSELL.)*