

FADE IN:

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

An OLD MAN, dressed in a black suit, sits at a park bench feeding the birds. Before him is a street lined with parked cars.

A parking meter shifts its indicator from yellow to red.

A PARKING ATTENDANT arrives and the birds all take flight.

INT. FUNERAL HOME - LATER THAT DAY

Old Man is at his wife's funeral.

Disembodied voices offer condolences to the reactionless expression on Old Man's face.

A child chases another child round a piece of furniture, giggling.

A woman's hand reveals an engagement ring to the sound of much cooing.

A man tosses the car keys to his teenaged son.

Life is already going on.

INT. OLD MAN'S LIVING ROOM - LATER THAT DAY

Old Man sits at home, alone.

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

Old Man sits at park bench feeding the birds.

EXT. PARK BENCH - LATER THAT DAY

Old Man sits at park bench feeding the birds.

Parking Attendant arrives, writes a ticket for an expired meter and places it under the car's windshield wiper.

EXT. PARK BENCH - LATER THAT DAY

Old Man sits at park bench reading the paper.

A couple arrives to find they have a ticket.

MAN

I told you we had to hurry.

WOMAN

Right, because I didn't tell you three times to put more money in the meter.

MAN

I put enough money in, you were just being slow.

WOMAN

Well I guess you can put the fifty cents you saved on the meter towards your ticket.

MAN

My ticket? Don't you mean...

Their argument continues inside the car where we can no longer hear them. As they pull away, Old Man lowers his paper from his face.

EXT. STREET - LATER THAT DAY

Old Man is walking home along a street lined with parked cars. In the distance Old Man can see Parking Attendant heading in the direction towards him.

Old Man glances a parking meter and sees that it is expired. He passes it by.

Old Man returns to the expired meter. He deposits a coin and the meter changes from red to yellow. He watches as Parking Attendant approaches.

Old Man deposits three more quarters.

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

Old Man sits at park bench feeding the birds.

Parking Attendant walks by checking meters. None are expired.

EXT. PARK BENCH - LATER THAT DAY

Old Man sits at park bench feeding the birds.

A business man runs to his car checking his watch and cursing. He is surprised to find no ticket on his windshield and a fully charged meter. He adjusts his tie and calmly walks back in the direction he came.

EXT. PARK BENCH - LATER THAT DAY

Old Man sits at park bench reading the paper.

Parking Attendant arrives from opposite direction and sees there are still no expired meters. He eyes Old Man, hidden behind his paper.

Parking Attendant carries on down the road. Old Man lowers his paper from his face.

EXT. STREET - LATER THAT DAY

Old Man is depositing coins into a parking meter.

Parking Attendant appears.

PARKING ATTENDANT
What do you think you're doing?

Old Man does not look at Parking Attendant. Does not respond.

PARKING ATTENDANT
Can you hear me, old man? I know
what you're up to and it's time for
you to stop now, ok?

Old Man continues to ignore Parking Attendant.

PARKING ATTENDANT
(as he is walking away)
I've got my eye on you.

Old Man remains stationary for a moment, then walks on.

INT. OLD MAN'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Old Man puts the last of a set of tools into a large duffel bag and zips it closed. He pulls a black ski mask over his face.

EXT. PARK BENCH - LATER THAT NIGHT

Old Man arrives at the row of parking meters in front of the park bench wearing all black and a ski mask, carrying a large duffel bag. He drops the duffel bag.

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

START OLD MAN POV.

Old Man sits at park bench reading the paper. The sound of footsteps can be heard approaching, then stopping.

PARKING ATTENDANT (O.C.)

Very funny.

Parking Attendant pulls the paper down from Old Man's face.

PARKING ATTENDANT

You think you're helping people but you're not. You're not helping anyone but yourself. Now I suggest you find a new hobby. Or there will be consequences.

As Parking Attendant walks away he reveals the row of parking meters along the street, all decorated with streamers, each with a helium balloon tied on that reads: FREE PARKING.

END OLD MAN POV.

Old Man sits at park bench, his paper crumpled down before him. He adjusts his paper and continues to read.

EXT. PARK BENCH - LATER THAT NIGHT

Old Man arrives at the row of parking meters in front of the park bench wearing all black and a ski mask, carrying a large duffel bag.

INT. OLD MAN'S LIVING ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

Old Man is standing in the middle of his living room. The sound of a POLICE SIREN starts then stops, its red and blue lights flashing against the walls of the room.

At Old Man's feet are a pile of sawed off parking meters.

INT. POLICE STATION - LATER THAT NIGHT

Old Man is sat on a bench in cuffs. An officer appears before him.

OFFICER

You know you're in a lot of trouble, right?

INT. JAIL CELL - LATER THAT NIGHT

Old Man is sat on a bench in a cell. A variety of unseemly individuals occupy the long row of neighbouring cells.

INT. POLICE STATION - THE NEXT MORNING

Parking Attendant approaches the front desk. He hands the officer on duty a coffee.

PARKING ATTENDANT

Thanks for all your help with this. He give you much trouble?

OFFICER

No, he was pretty quiet.

PARKING ATTENDANT

Frightened I'd imagine. I mean, the guy means well. He just doesn't get it. Hopefully this scared some sense into him.

OFFICER

You wanna see him?

PARKING ATTENDANT

Sure.

INT. JAIL CELL - CONTINUED

Parking Attendant arrives outside Old Man's cell.

PARKING ATTENDANT

I told you there would be
consequences.

Old Man is sat on the bench, his eyes closed. Parking Attendant tries a key from a large set in the lock but it's the wrong key.

PARKING ATTENDANT

Good news, though. I talked to the
judge and you're looking at a slap
on the wrist.

Old Man remains stationary on the bench with his eyes closed. Parking Attendant tries another key.

PARKING ATTENDANT

Old man. You awake? I said you're
off the hook. (after another failed
key attempt) Dammit. (walking away)
Hey which key did you say this was,
again?

Old man remains stationary on the bench with his eyes close.

EXT. PARK BENCH - SAME

A parking meter's indicator changes from yellow to red.

FADE OUT.