

revised "Willow" (313111)

HALLELUJAH

"Pilot"

(4th Draft)

2/22/11

15.

W/ New 2nd Scene

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. CRACKED KETTLE DINER - NIGHT

We're CLOSE ON a child's hand gently tapping his fingers.

REVEAL Matthew seated at a table, staring into space as his hand quietly taps out a rhythm only he can hear.

In a WIDE SHOT we see a busy diner. Gideon sits by himself at a table. Willow crosses to him, bill in hand.

→ WILLOW  
Anything else?

GIDEON  
Thanks. I'm good. Keep the change.

Gideon hands her cash. Willow starts to go, then stops.

WILLOW  
This is a hundred dollar bill.

GIDEON  
Well, you deserve a big tip. You're a good waitress.

WILLOW  
I forgot your toast and spilled coffee on your boots. What is this?

GIDEON  
Honestly? I wanted to do something nice for you.

WILLOW  
Why?

GIDEON  
I've been away at school for a few years. You probably don't remember me.

WILLOW  
I remember you, Gideon.

GIDEON  
See, I wasn't sure. When I first came in, you were pretty cold to me.

HALLELUJAH

(CONTINUED)

4 PAGES

1/4

WILLOW

That's 'cause I remember you.

Willow goes to the cash register. Gideon rises and follows.

GIDEON

Guess I deserve that. I was never very nice to you and your friends.

WILLOW

You were quarterback of the football team. We were giggly freshman girls. You had every right to make fun of us.

GIDEON

Still, I could've been nicer.

WILLOW

I'm sure we've both grown up a lot since then.

GIDEON

So... you don't hate me?

WILLOW

No. I do not hate you.

GIDEON

Do you not hate me enough to go out with me?

Willow stops counting out bills and looks up at him. She is both surprised and intrigued, but before she can answer...

RUTH

Everything okay here, Willow?

WILLOW

Oh, yeah. I was just telling this gentleman he gave me a hundred dollar bill by mistake.

(handing money)

Hope you come again.

GIDEON

Oh, you can count on it.

Gideon grins and crosses off. As Willow watches him go...

RUTH

That's Del Roman's son, isn't it? I wish he wouldn't come around here.

(CONTINUED)

2/4

revised 2nd "willow"  
scene (3/3/11)

We're ON an expensive DRESS in a shop window.

REVEAL Willow as she stares longingly at the dress.

MAN'S VOICE (O.C.)

→ It's late.

Startled, Willow turns to see Gideon in his convertible, idling by the curb.

GIDEON

Don't you know there's dangerous characters lurking in alleyways?

WILLOW

I'm more worried about the ones who drive convertibles.

GIDEON

Now that hurts my feelings. And here I was, about to offer you a ride home.

WILLOW

That's sweet, but I like walking after work. Thanks, anyway.

Willow turns and starts walking away. Gideon thinks quickly, and jumps out of his convertible. Willow sees him.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

GIDEON

Gentlemen don't let defenseless females walk alone in the dark.

WILLOW

I'm not defenseless. I got mace in my purse and a knife in my pocket.

GIDEON

Oh.

(then)

So if I tried to kiss you...

WILLOW

... I'd use the knife.

Gideon peers at Willow until she smiles. He then laughs.

(CONTINUED)

3/4

GIDEON

I keep wondering why you're so mean. Only explanation I can come up with is that you like me.

WILLOW

Maybe I do. It doesn't matter. You know, I can't date you.

GIDEON

'Cause of our fathers? All that stuff happened before we were born.

WILLOW

My father could've been a rich man. I understand why he's still upset.

GIDEON

But why should he keep you from living your life? If you ask me, I think he's just being petty.

Willow stops and faces Gideon.

WILLOW

You are not allowed to criticize my father. He's the best man I know. I will honor him anyway I can. And if that means having nothing to do with your family, then so be it.

GIDEON

Why are you getting mad at me? It's not my fault your father can't afford to buy you nice dresses.

Willow stares at Gideon, hurt. Gideon realizes his mistake.

GIDEON (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. I didn't mean that.

WILLOW

I don't think you better come 'round the diner anymore. I really don't.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

I think you better go.

Willow turns and exits. As Gideon watches her go, we...

414