

Rolling Through Life

by

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FADE IN:

EXT. THE BIKE SHOP - PARKING LOT - DAY

Driving around the parking lot, KEN, 28, looks for an open DISABLED PARKING spot for his van. One by one, Ken looks at the vehicle and then to the license plate or placard hanging from the rear view mirror for each taken spot. Each has the required disabled symbol. The last one, nearest the store has no disabled license plate or placard hanging. Ken drives around and is forced to take an open spot in the parking lot. Ken exits the van in a wheelchair and places a spare wheelchair wheel on his lap and rolls to the Bike Shop. As he rolls up the parking lot ramp between the two disabled parking spots, a WOMAN, talking on her cell phone, walks briskly around Ken and to her car parked illegally and rudely in the first disabled parking spot. The Woman looks at Ken and motions to her watch to signify that she's in a hurry. She quickly jumps in her car and drives away. Ken finishes going up the ramp and rolls to the Bike Shop.

EXT. THE BIKE SHOP - ENTRY - DAY

Ken reaches for the door, but the spare wheel stops him short of the door handle. He looks around and sets the wheel down leaning it up against a pole behind him. Ken turns, grabs the door handle and rolls backward to open the door. The back of Ken's wheelchair BUMPS the spare wheel and it rolls into the parking lot. Ken immediately releases the door handle and chases after the wheel in the parking lot.

EXT. THE BIKE SHOP - PARKING LOT - DAY

Rolling down the parking lot ramp and hidden by the car still parked on his right side, Ken quickly rolls into the parking lot. A CAR screeches to a halt nearly hitting Ken. Ken comes to a stop, looks at the DRIVER, waves and remembers why he's there. He quickly rolls after his wheel. The wheel has more of a lead as Ken rolls behind the parked cars. The wheel makes it to the street and rolls across.

EXT. STREET CORNER - DAY

Ken rolls up to the intersection crosswalk waiting for the light to change. Ken looks at the wheel as speeding traffic passes. The wheel continues on the other side of the street. The light changes and Ken is stopped by the pedestrians jumping in front of him to cross the street. Ken looks around them as the wheel rolling out of sight. Ken gets halfway across the street when the light changes and traffic honk their horns at him. He finally makes it across the street only to be hampered by more pedestrians gathered at the corner to cross in the opposite direction. Instead of trying to fight and squeeze by the crowd Ken rolls down the street next to the sidewalk and around parked cars.

EXT. STREET #2 - DAY

Ken rolls around a parked car. He catches a glimpse of the wheel as it once again rolls out of sight. Picking up the pace, Ken continues down the street facing traffic. As he races around another parked car the car door opens and Ken nearly runs into it. Ken rolls around the door and a car swerves out of the way nearly hitting him. Without missing a beat, Ken quickly rolls down to the next intersection.

EXT. STREET INTERSECTION #2 - DAY

Ken looks in all directions and doesn't see the wheel. Ken picks a street and confidently rolls that way.

EXT. STREET #3 - DAY

Half-way down the street Ken encounters several CHILDREN playing. Ken stops, looks for the wheel and decides to play with the children. None of the children look strange or ask questions to Ken and his wheelchair. A MOTHER steps outside, notices Ken and yells for the children to come inside. As most of the children obey, one little CHILD turns back around and runs to Ken. The child stops, looks at Ken, touches his rear wheel and points down the street. Ken smiles and pats the child's head. The child smiles.. The Mother yells again and the child turns and runs back home. Ken rolls down to the end of the street.

EXT. STREET INTERSECTION #3 - DAY

Ken looks and finds the spare wheel rolling on a paved jogging trail in a Park across the street. Ken rolls to the Park and into the grass to get to the wheel. His front wheels on the wheelchair sink in the thick grass stopping any progress. Ken moves back and forth to get unstuck. Unable to move he looks at the wheel on the trail among the joggers, bicyclists and those roller blading. Ken again pops up on his large rear wheels and while balancing he backs up to the sidewalk. He lets down the front wheels and chases after the wheel.

EXT. PARK - PARKING LOT - DAY

Ken crosses through the parking lot and down to the jogging trail.

EXT. PARK - JOGGING TRAIL - DAY

Ken darts between the joggers, bicyclists and those rolling blading. His point of view, at eye level is nothing but, waists, groins and rear ends. Ken focuses on getting around those on the trail and to the wheel. In a small clearing of people, he spots the wheel. Ken rushes after it. His front wheels hit an unlevel crack in the jogging trail. It stops his wheelchair and his forward motion throws him out of his wheelchair.

Ken lays on the trail with his wheelchair upside down beside him. A couple of JOGGERS, turn his chair over and help him back into it. Ken thanks the Joggers with handshakes.

Ken continues after the wheel but as he reaches the end of the trail, it meets another street and the wheel has once again disappeared. Ken crosses the street.

EXT. STREET #4 - DAY

Ken rolls searching for the wheel. He spots a Cafe on the street corner. Ken enters the Cafe.

INT. CAFE - DAY

Ken sits at a table near the open outside patio sipping a lemonade. Ken rubs his fatigued shoulders and arms. Three BEAUTIFUL WOMEN, walk to Ken's table and sit

down. They playfully flirt with Ken and ask about his disability. Ken explains the story of his spinal cord injury using his hands gesturing of the accident. Inspired the women give sympathetic looks and hugs. They continue their playful flirting. The woman sitting on Ken's right pays particular attention to him. They continue to have fun. The women stand to leave.

Ken asks for a pen and paper from the woman on his right. She pulls it out of her purse and hands it to Ken. The women try to pull her away. He writes his name and phone number and hands it back to her.

The women head for the door. Ken watches as they continue their playful manner and the woman crumples his phone number and throws it in the trash as they exit the door.

Ken shakes his head, takes another drink from his lemonade. He gazes out the open patio. The wheel rolls by. Ken rushes out through the patio but is hindered by the closeness of the tables. Ken pushes the empty chairs and tables aside and asks those seated to pardon him as he gets through the patio. Ken makes it to the street and chases after the wheel.

EXT. STREET #5 - DAY

Ken rolls around the PEDESTRIANS. He is stopped behind several MEN in soccer uniforms kicking a ball around. Ken tries to get around but is stopped when one of the men jump in front of him to kick the ball. Ken moves to the far right. The soccer ball gets by the man who stepped in front of Ken. The ball rolls to a stop at Ken's feet stationary on the wheelchair foot rests.

Everyone freezes at the awkward moment. Ken reaches down and picks up the soccer ball. He looks around and throws the ball high right above himself. The ball makes it up and comes straight down. Ken head butts the ball right back to the men. They all clap as Ken smiles and rolls between them to chase after the wheel. The men get back to kicking the ball down the sidewalk to each other.

Ken quickly but cautiously watches the sidewalk and avoids uneven cracks and debris that might cause another fall out of his wheelchair. Ken rolls and rolls but once again the wheel has disappeared.

Ken reaches another street intersection and looks all directions but no sight of the wheel. Dejected, Ken takes a deep breath and rolls down the street to the left. Ken rolls slowly out of sight.

EXT. THE BIKE SHOP - PARKING LOT - DAY

Ken rolls pass his van and up the parking lot ramp between the disabled parking spots. A car pulls into the vacant disabled parking spot. Ken looks at the regular license plate without a disable symbol and then to the rear view mirror at the missing disabled placard. He makes eye contact with the DRIVER. The Driver apologetically smiles and backs out of the parking spot. Ken rolls up the Bike Shop's door.

EXT. THE BIKE SHOP - ENTRY - DAY

Ken takes a deep breath and reaches for the door handle. Fatigued his arm falls and he rubs his shoulders and arms.

Suddenly the spare wheel rolls up to Ken. Ken stops rubbing his arms, smiles and picks up the wheel. He sets the wheel on his lap and again reaches for the door handle, but is stopped inches from it by the wheel. He looks around to where he can set the wheel. Two WOMEN come up from the right side and opens the door for Ken. Ken makes eye contact with the woman holding the door. She smiles. Ken smiles and thanks the woman. They maintain eye contact for as long as possible as he rolls into the Bike Shop. The two women go crazy as they rush to get inside before the other to be with Ken. Through the glass door we see the women connect with Ken.

FADE OUT:

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