

THE COIN

Written by

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FADE IN

EXT. STREET - DAY

(This is set in the early
1930s in Chicago)

BOBBY FLANAGAN, 30, lean and well-groomed, pinstripe suit, neat fedora, playfully flips a silver dollar. It is a beautiful day, with plenty of people out enjoying the fresh air.

Bobby falls face first on the sidewalk when he misses the curb. He looks up, he sees his coin roll away.

The coin rolls down the sidewalk and onto the gutter.

Horrified, Bobby gets up and chases after the coin. He bumps and jostles his way through down the busy sidewalk.

The coin slows and teeters on the edge of the curb.

Bobby dives to grab the coin, but bumps it into the street in his attempt to recover it.

It bounces into traffic, is missed by several cars, and then hits the wheel of a truck, which sends the coin into the air.

Bobby watches the coin sail above his head, then ricochet off several girders of the L Train.

Bobby's head follows the path of the coin.

As if it were in a pinball machine, the coin bounces, rolls, and spins its way down the support structure of the L to the sidewalk, where it promptly rolls through the open door of Vincenzo's Bakery.

Bobby hesitates a moment, swallows hard, and screws up his courage as he strides into the bakery.

INT. VINCENZO'S BAKERY - DAY

The bakery is in full swing with dozen people in the small bakery. VINCENZO MAGRI, 53, plump and jovial, excitedly greets customers from behind the counter. He waves his flour covered hands at THE KID, 9, who walks in the door.

The coin winds a serpentine through the feet of the customers in the bakery and under a stand labeled "Fresh Buns."

Bobby pops his head in the doorway and looks from side to side in search of his coin. He sees the coin, and makes his way toward the stand.

He is blocked by a large woman trying to exit the shop. They dance back and forth, trying to get out of each other's way.

Bobby steps out of her way, taking off his hat and bowing in an act of graciousness.

The KID spots the coin, eyes wide. He smiles.

Bobby heads into the bakery, only to be stopped by a mother leading a seemingly never ending train of kids. He waits impatiently for them to pass by, his anxiety growing with each passing child.

The Kid looks around. No one else sees the coin.

Bobby sees the Kid, and ducks under the nearest stand, and quickly crawls toward the coin.

The Kid does likewise, not seeing Bobby until they both reach for the coin at the same time.

The kid reaches the coin first, with Bobby's hand on top of his.

Their eyes meet. The Kid squints at Bobby, and Bobby returns the squint with serious determination.

The Kid puts his other hand over Bobby's hand, and Bobby responds with his hand on top. The kid takes his hand from under Bobby's hands and places it firmly on top of Bobby's. Bobby responds likewise.

The Kid again takes his hand from the bottom of the pile and places it on top, and Bobby continues to respond. They respond to each hand with increased determination. They wildly swat at each other's hands.

Vincenzo sees the bun stand bounce up and down. Puzzled, he looks at it, and it continues to bounce and shake. The sign "FRESH BUNS" falls to the floor.

The stand gives a large heave, and then stops. Vincenzo scratches his head as he scrutinizes the scene.

The coin bounces up from under the stand, bounces off the counter, whizzes past Vincenzo and into the kitchen.

There is a sudden avalanche of buns as the stand gives one last spasm of movement.

The Kid scrambles out from under the bun stand in pursuit of the coin.

Vincenzo shakes his head with a half-smile.

Bobby emerges from under the stand, looking a bit disheveled but determined, quickly dusts off his coat, and then charges into the kitchen after The Kid.

Vincenzo does a double take, then storms into the kitchen after Bobby and the Kid.

INT. VINCENZO'S KITCHEN - DAY

The coin bounces into the kitchen, then up onto a counter, coming to rest on a freshly baked loaf of bread.

The Kid runs into the kitchen, looking up and down, side to side, and skids to a halt when he spots the coin. He turns toward the coin.

Bobby burst into the kitchen, and seeing The Kid, tackles him right as he is reaching for the coin.

Vincenzo enters the kitchen, and sees Bobby and The Kid on the floor, stomps over to them, and picks them both up by the scruff on the neck.

Bobby's scowl melts as he sees that Vincenzo is angry. He gesticulates wildly at The Kid, and then points at the coin.

The Kid tries to take a swing at Bobby, but can't reach him. He sticks his bottom lip out and folds his arm in a huff.

Vincenzo sets them both down slowly, and gestures toward the pile of buns on the floor.

The Kid and Bobby look at the buns, then at each other, then at Vincenzo.

The Kid makes a plea by cowering from Vincenzo.

Vincenzo glares at Bobby.

Bobby grins sheepishly, but the grin wilts under Vincenzo's burning eyes. Then his eyes, widen, and raising his right index finger.

Bobby takes the coin from the loaf, he offers it to Vincenzo, and indicates that he and The Kid will take care of the buns.

Vincenzo looks at him doubtfully, then takes the coin. He bites the coin, then inspects it. He smiles and gestures for Bobby and the Kid to proceed to the buns.

EXT. STREET OUTSIDE VINCENZO'S BAKERY - DAY

Bobby and The Kid sit on the curb, smiles on their faces, and spread butter on to buns then devour them. Next to them is a basket full of buns, a lump of butter, and a jar of jelly.

Bobby winks at The Kid and The Kid gives him the "okay" sign.

Both eat happily.

FADE TO BLACK.