Scene 1

The Sandlot

I Have a Dream

I'm a dreamer, and I dream a dream...
Scene 1

Martin: No sirs! My daddy says you shouldn't fight like that! I was on your team last time, Wallace. I'll play for Clark today. That's fair.

Scene 2

The Ebenezer Baptist Church

Narrator: Martin's father was pastor of the church. They called him Daddy King.

Daddy King: Just as the Good Book says, we must love our neighbors as ourselves—whether black or white, whether young or old.

Scene 3

The Neighborhood Grocery Store

Narrator: Clark and Wallace's parents owned a store across from Martin's house.

Narrator: Martin didn't know, but Lorraine and Viola were right about him. Someday he'd be known as the Reverend Martin Luther King, just like his father. But there would be some hard lessons along the way.

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Scene 4

THE CONNER HOUSE

Narrator:
The next time Martin went to the sandlot to play, no one was there. He ran to the Conner’s house and knocked on the door.

Martin: Where are your boys, Mrs. Conner?

Mrs. Conner:
They’re sick in bed. They’re . . . they’re nervous. She says it’s because they’re getting too old to be playing ball with people who aren’t their color.

Narrator:
Martin could see past Mrs. Conner into the house. Clark and Wallace were standing in the shadows, their faces were pale. They were looking at Martin with pity.

Martin: Why are you crying, Martin?

Mrs. King: Why are you crying, Martin?

Martin: Mrs. Conner says that her boys can’t play ball with me anymore. She says it’s because I’m colored.

Mrs. King: Some folks don’t like people who are different. They say it’s because they’re getting too old to play ball with people who aren’t their color.

Martin: Mrs. Conner says that her boys can’t play ball anymore. They’re getting too old to play ball with boys who aren’t their color.

Mrs. King: I’m sorry. It was bound to happen sooner or later.

Narrator:
Martin went to the sandlot to play, no one was there. He ran to the grocer’s house and knocked on the door.

Martin: Where are your boys, Mrs. Conner?

Mrs. Conner:
They’re sick in bed. They’re nervous. She says it’s because they’re getting too old to be playing ball with people who aren’t their color.

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Mrs. King: Some folks don’t like people who are different. They say it’s because they’re getting too old to play ball with boys who aren’t their color.

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Martin: Mrs. Conner says that her boys can’t play ball anymore. They’re getting too old to play ball with boys who aren’t their color.

Mrs. King: I’m sorry. It was bound to happen sooner or later.
Mrs. King: There are laws that allow them to discriminate against us.

Narrator: Mrs. King was talking about Jim Crow laws. These laws made it legal for white people to treat black people unfairly.

Martin: Well, someone needs to do something about it.

Mrs. King: Yes, Martin. Someone needs to do something.

Scene 6

THE SANDLOT

Narrator: Someday Martin would do something about Jim Crow laws. But back when he was a boy, he just wanted to play ball.

Clark: Hey, look, it’s Martin!

Wallace: Don’t talk to him. Remember what Pa said.

Clark: Sorry, Martin. We could use a shortstop.

Pa said: Don’t talk to him. Remember what Pa said.

Martin: Well, some people just want to do some people things about it.

Adult Martin: Hey, look, it’s Martin.

Wallace: Hey, look, it’s Martin.

Adult Martin: Sorry, Martin. We could use a shortstop.

Pa said: But we need to stand up for what’s right.

Adult Martin: Hey, look, it’s Martin.

Narrator: someday Martin would do something about Jim Crow laws.

Scene 7

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Narrator: Years after Martin was told he couldn’t play ball, he would preach to more than 200,000 people of every race and color in Washington, D.C.

Adult Martin: I have a dream that this nation will one day . . . live out the true meaning of its creed: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.”

Narrator: Over the years, Martin would be arrested many times for standing up for peace and his beliefs.

Adult Martin: This will be a day when all God’s children will sing with new meaning, “let freedom ring.”

Narrator: Yet through it all, Martin would be beaten, stabbed, and spit upon. He would be shamed, studied, and still chosen.

Adult Martin: When we allow freedom to ring . . . we will be able to speed up that day when all God’s children can join hands and sing . . . “Free at last, Free at last, Great God Almighty, we’re free at last!”

The End