

Audio Description Transcript:

Springtime, Washington, 1965

Written and read by Eleanor Margolies

In this colour photograph in portrait format, a white policeman sits on a white Harley Davidson motorbike, facing to the right. The bike is in a grassy meadow beside a cherry tree covered in pink blossom.

The police officer is a white man in his forties and wears a round, cream-coloured helmet with a logo on the front and a black peak. His uniform is black with brass buttons on the jacket and a pale grey stripe down the side of the trouser leg, and black knee-high leather boots. He carries a pistol in a holster on his right hip. The officer seems relaxed as he sits with the motorbike tilted away from us, his near foot on the running board, the other presumably on the ground on the other side, and one hand on the handlebar, the other loosely folded on his knee. He looks off to the right with perhaps a slight smile.

The motorbike is long – a metre and a half between the wheels - and has cream mudguards, body and handlebar grips that match the officer's helmet, with decals that read 'Harley Davidson Duo Glide'. The intricate systems of chrome and aluminium tubes and suspension forks are on display. A flat, black rectangular box on the parcel rack with an aerial is presumably a police radio.

Behind, and framing the policeman, the branches of a cherry tree are laden with pale pink and white blossom against a pale sky. The blossom entirely fills the upper half of the image, with slender dark branches shooting up through it at

diagonals. Further trees and the grass of the meadow extend into the distance, with a blurred rectangle to the left perhaps a distant skyscraper.