

**CLICK**

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(Note - all ages are referenced from 2006)

FADE IN

STATIC. Pull back to reveal the static is on a...

TELEVISION SCREEN. Pull back further to reveal...

MICHAEL NEWMAN, 38, a likeable guy, sleeping ON A COUCH, using a stuffed animal as a pillow, in...

The family den of a lived in, middle-class home IN THE SUBURBS OF NEW YORK. MORNING.

Michael's in white dress shirt and boxer shorts, surrounded by a mess of large blueprints, crumpled papers, two empty Twinkie boxes and other tell-tale signs of an all nighter.

His two children, BEN, 7, and SAMANTHA, 4, tiptoe in. Ben eyes the Twinkie box on the couch next to his Dad. He cautiously reaches his hand into the box. It's empty.

MICHAEL

Boo!

The kids jump scared then laugh. Michael hugs them.

SAMANTHA

We thought you were sleeping, daddy!

MICHAEL

How can a man sleep with two psychotic Twinkie-nappers roaming around?

(thinking)

Actually, why don't you guys throw these boxes out so your mom doesn't yell at me for eating junk food again.

\*  
\*  
\*

As the kids collect the Twinkie boxes...

MICHAEL

Hang on, I got one more...

Michael leans over and pulls a crushed Twinkie box out from under him. As he's handing it to Ben, he shakes it and realizes there's one more inside.

MICHAEL

Hold it now...

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

Michael pulls out a crushed Twinkie and begins carefully unwrapping it as the kids go into the kitchen with the boxes.

Enter DONNA NEWMAN, 31, his wife, a down-to-earth beauty in T-shirt and pajamas.

DONNA

If anyone can bring that Twinkie back to life, it's you, Dr. Hostess.

MICHAEL

I'm sorry. I was working all night and I got hungry.

\*  
\*

SAMANTHA

Can we watch Dragon Tales, Daddy?

MICHAEL

Sure, Samantha.

DONNA

You should eat a real breakfast.

\*  
\*

Donna goes to make breakfast. MICHAEL picks up a remote control, tries to turn on the TV - the ceiling fan turns on.

\*

SAMANTHA

That's the ceiling fan, Daddy.

THERE'S TWO OTHER REMOTES ON THE TABLE. HE tries another one - a toy car zooms by.

BEN

That's my race car.

He tries the third one.

2 OMITTED

2

3 EXT. MICHAEL'S HOUSE - MORNING

3

QUICK CUT OUTSIDE - THE GARAGE DOOR OPENS

4 INT. MICHAEL'S FAMILY DEN - MORNING

4

\*

DONNA

(from kitchen)

I think you just opened the garage.

\*

(CONTINUED)

MICHAEL

I know! I want to park the race car in there!

The kids giggle. Samantha picks up the right remote and instantly turns on Dragon Tales.

MICHAEL

Whatever happened to the good old days, when you pulled a knob and on came the boobtube?

BEN

The O'Doyles got a universal remote control. One clicker controls everything. Makes life a lot easier for people like you.

MICHAEL

Well, whoopdeedoo for the O'Doyles. Can the O'Doyles do this?

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

Michael whistles "Shave a Haircut? The kids laugh hysterically. He gathers his papers, starts heading for the stairs. Samantha whispers to Donna.

DONNA

I don't know. Ask your father.

MICHAEL

Ask me what?

SAMANTHA

Do you think you'll have time to finish building the treehouse ever?

BEN

Yeah, Dad, it's kinda been halfway done for two months now.

We cut out the window and see the halfway done treehouse with "Top Sekret", painted on it.

\*  
\*

MICHAEL

Yeah, I'll get to it. It's just I got a lot of things going on at work and unfortunately work comes first.

\*  
\*

Samantha looks disappointed but Ben takes this to heart. Donna pulls Michael aside.

(CONTINUED)

DONNA

Michael, I know you're going to make partner this year.

\*

MICHAEL

I better.

\*

\*

DONNA

But if you don't take a little time off, you're going to lose your mind and shoot all your co-workers. And then they might not want to be partners with you anymore.

\*

\*

MICHAEL

Depends on how good these designs are... and which co-workers I shoot.

BEN

Hey look at Sundance wrestling his duck.

\*

We see Sundance a golden retriever humping his stuffed duck.

MICHAEL

That's not wrestling, that's ...something you shouldn't know about for another ten to thirty years. (pointing to Ben) Ten for you. And thirty for you.

Michael points to Samantha then grabs the duck.

\*

MICHAEL

Get a room.

\*

\*

Michael throws the duck in the closet. Sundance goes in there too. Michael shuts the closet door then runs upstairs.

\*

\*

A5 EXT. MICHAELS HOUSE - DAY

A5

Michael is quickly kissing Donna goodbye on his front stoop. She's trying to give him a to go plate of egg whites and tomatoes.

\*

\*

\*

MICHAEL

I can't eat eggwhites and drive at the same time, hon. You eat em.

\*

\*

\*

DONNA

Well, at least take an apple.

\*

\*

(CONTINUED)

A5 CONTINUED:

A5

Donna hands him a juicy apple

\*

MICHAEL

Ok. Thank you. I gotta get a move on.

\*

\*

\*

DONNA

Alright. I'll see you tonight at the swim meet.

\*

MICHAEL

Swim meet? Oh yeah. I gotta go to that?

\*

\*

Off Donna's look.

\*

MICHAEL

Just kidding. I'll be there.

\*

\*

DONNA

Love ya, Michael.

MICHAEL

Forever and ever, Babe.

Michael runs towards his old Chevy Impala. Next door, KEVIN O'DOYLE, a little red-headed kid about Ben's age, rides his bike in his own driveway. The O'Doyle's house is a little nicer, and there's a Cadillac XLR in the driveway.

\*

KEVIN

Mr. Newman!

MICHAEL

Kevin O'Doyle, always a pleasure.

KEVIN

What kind of stereo you got in that piece of shit?

MICHAEL

You know, Kevin, I don't even know.

KEVIN

My father's stereo is a Bose.

MICHAEL

Your father's stereo blows? That's too bad.

KEVIN

No I said...!

(CONTINUED)

A5 CONTINUED: (2)

A5

But Michael has already pulled away. Kevin mutters to himself "That's not what I said."

5 EXT. AMMER & PARTNERS ARCHITECTURE BUILDING - DAY 5

Tilt down from mid-town skyscrapers to reveal Michael running into the lobby of his office building.

6 INT. AMMER & PARTNERS - COMMON AREA - DAY (MINUTES LATER) 6

Michael enters from the elevator, out of breath. He runs past a long row of gorgeous assistants at their desks to his own assistant, ALICE, 30's.

ALICE

Good morning, Mr. Newman.

MICHAEL

Is it good, Alice? I was stuck in traffic for an hour.

ALICE

Yeah. The meeting already started.

MICHAEL

Then it's really not a "good" morning, is it?

ALICE

Can I go to the bathroom?

MICHAEL

I told you; you don't have to ask me! Just go!

Michael runs off. So does Alice.

7 INT. AMMER & PARTNERS - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY 7  
(A MINUTE LATER)

A SMALL SCALE MODEL OF A RESTAURANT sits on the table. Seated are Michael's boss, MR. Ammer, 45, goofy looking but filled with arrogance, and Prince Habeeboo, 50, Middle Eastern accent, proper and his entourage.

AMMER

...and the interesting part, Prince Habeeboo, is that the building codes in Manhattan will allow us to-

Michael bursts into the room.

(CONTINUED)

MICHAEL

Sorry I'm late! Some moron in a red Lamborghini parked in my spot.

PRINCE HABEEBOO

Prince Habeeboo drive red Lamborghini!

MICHAEL

This was more of a peach, orangy, Lamborghini. Not really red at all. Not yours, someone elses.

\*  
\*

PRINCE HABEEBOO

This is one of your partners?

\*

AMMER

Actually, Michael is just an associate but he's one of our brightest young architects - Do you want to walk his majesty through our design concept, Michael?

\*

MICHAEL

With pleasure. Prince Haboobee...

\*

PRINCE HABEEBOO

Habeeboo!

\*  
\*

MICHAEL

I mean Habeeboo. When Mr. Ammer here explained to me the type of man you are, a visionary, I said to myself "let's smash the mold and redefine elegance".

\*  
\*  
\*

ON THE MODEL - Michael points, displaying various features.

MICHAEL

So here at the entrance of your restaurant, your customers will walk into a magnificent atrium, which features a fifty foot indoor waterfall...

PRINCE HABEEBOO

Where is bar?

MICHAEL

Right here, Prince. Now the waterfall is powered by-

(CONTINUED)



PRINCE HABEEBOO  
Make bar longer.

MICHAEL  
Longer? Okay, I guess we could cut  
back the atrium a little and...

PRINCE HABEEBOO  
No atrium. Just make long bar for  
Prince Habeeboo.

MICHAEL  
Really? OK.

PRINCE HABEEBOO  
And put big drain in floor. For  
wet T-shirt contest.

AMMER  
The boob water's got to go  
someplace, Michael. Let's run with  
it and see what it looks like with  
no atrium.

Ammer REACHES INTO THE MODEL AND YANKS OUT THE TINY ATRIUM.  
MICHAEL'S SHOCKED. THEN Ammer PULLS OUT A PEN AND JAMS THE  
PEN INTO THE FLOOR OF THE MODEL - MAKING A HOLE.

PRINCE HABEEBOO  
I love it! It's simply awesome.

MICHAEL  
So basically, you want us to build  
you an Arabian Hooters?

PRINCE HABEEBOO  
(upset)  
How dare you compare Prince  
Habeeboo's Bikini Hut restaurant to  
this Hooters!

AMMER  
This idea has nothing to do with  
Hooters, Michael. It's like the  
opposite of Hooters.

MICHAEL  
Of course. I meant no disrespect,  
Prince Heebjeebees.

AMMER  
Hubba Bubba!

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (3)

7

PRINCE HABEEBOO

Habeeboo!

MICHAEL

Habeeboo, sorry. We'll make this work. I promise.

Ammer and the Prince smile. Michael fakes one too.

8 INT. AMMER & PARTNERS - AMMER'S OFFICE - DAY (A BIT LATER) 8 \*

Ammer and Michael enter Ammer's office. \*

AMMER

I hope that atrium idea didn't take you long to configure.

MICHAEL

There'll be other Junes in my life. \*

AMMER

Right, onward and upward.  
(pointing out the window)  
See that parking garage over on 56th? A major Japanese venture capital firm wants to knock it down and build a luxury hotel.

MICHAEL

We got the commission?

AMMER

Not yet. I just need someone to be come up with a design proposal. Intrigued?

MICHAEL

Oh my g-d yes. I'll get on it the second me and the family get back from our Fourth of July vacation. \*

AMMER

You going to the Hamptons? I've got a little compound out there. \*

MICHAEL

The Hamptons are a little pricey for the Newmans. Actually, we're going pop a tent upstate and rough it for the weekend. \*

(CONTINUED)

AMMER

Sounds like a party. So have a great Fourth with the kids. Relax. Bond. I'll put Swardson on it.

MICHAEL

Swardson? Can't it wait three days-

AMMER

These guys can't wait for their fish to cook; they're not going to wait for your Grizzly Adams family jamboree to be over.

MICHAEL

I guess I can talk to my wife.

AMMER

Great. Now I'll see you for drinks tonight with Prince Humana Humana.

\*

MICHAEL

Drinks? Actually my kids' swim meet is tonight.

\*

(off Ammer's look)

... I'm just messing with you.

AMMER

(laughing)

Six sharp at Hooter's. Now I'm messing with you..

9 EXT. TOWN POOL - DUSK

9

It's a festive gathering as many families are watching the town 8 to 10 yr. Old swim league compete. Around the well-lit pool are cheering parents, while the teenagers are hanging back in the shadows, goofing around.

Michael runs up late. He almost stops at a "Mister Softee" ice cream truck parked in the field nearby, but thinks better of it and continues to the pool.

Michael SPOTS DONNA, who's standing on a bench cheering, an empty spot next to her. She's with Samantha, and Michael's parents - TED and FRAN NEWMAN, 60s.

DONNA/SAMANTHA/TED/FRAN

Go, Ben! You can do it! Way to go Ben! Etc...

(CONTINUED)

MICHAEL SEES THE RACE IS ALMOST OVER, AND HURRIES UP NEXT TO DONNA AND BEGINS CHEERING ALONG like he's been there the whole time. Donna gives him a dirty look.

DONNA  
Where were you? This is the last heat.

MICHAEL  
I was here the whole time. I was in the back.

Donna obviously doesn't believe him. The race ends, and Michael rushes over to Lane Two to see Ben.

MICHAEL  
Good job! Way to swim, Ben!

An ASIAN KID who looks nothing like Ben pops out of the water, initially smiling but then instantly annoyed.

ASIAN KID  
You're not my dad!

MICHAEL  
As far as you know.

The kids real parents look at Michael upset.

MICHAEL  
I'm just playing. It's all good.

The parents aren't amused. Michael looks over to Lane Eight, where another kid is just now struggling to finish. It's Ben. Donna, Ted and Fran are there to greet him.

DONNA  
Honey, you were so great!

TED  
You had the smoothest stroke out there by far.

BEN  
Really, Grandpa?

Ben smiles. Michael walks over.

MICHAEL  
Yeah, are you half dolphin or something? That was incredible.

(CONTINUED)

BEN  
 (getting out of the pool)  
 You just got here, Dad. I saw you.

MICHAEL  
 Get out of town. I saw you kicking  
 and stroking... you were there and  
 you swam to here! Doin the butter-  
 breast-flyback. \*

Samantha rolls her eyes.

DONNA  
 (to Ben)  
 Well, the nice thing is Daddy was  
 here in time to see you finish.

BEN  
 He didn't see me finish. He was  
 hanging out with Ping Woo for some  
 reason.

Ben gestures to the Asian Kid, who is pointing at Michael as  
 he talks to his dad.

MICHAEL  
 I thought he was drowning!

VOICE (BILL) O.C.  
 Hey, nobody drowns in my pool.

The voice is coming from BILL, Ben's swimming coach, a really  
 nice guy. All he's wearing is a revealing Speedo and a  
 whistle. He extends a hand to Michael. \*

BILL  
 Bill Herlihy. Ben's swim coach.  
 You must be Dad. \*

MICHAEL  
 (shaking hands)  
 Michael Speedo... I mean Michael  
 Newman.

Bill turns to Ben.

BILL  
 Great progress, big Ben. But  
 remember: right arm out, head turns  
 left, left arm out...

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED: (3)

9

BEN

...head turns right. I know. I just forgot at the end.

BILL

Well, you master that, with your power, people are gonna think you're half dolphin or something.

Ben brightens a little. Donna smiles.

MICHAEL

I said the same line, got nothing.

Michael gets a call, Donna stops smiling.

10 EXT. TOWN POOL - NIGHT

10

ON BEN'S BLISSFUL FACE DEVOURING ICE CREAM. REVEAL DONNA watching Ben, concerned. The family is sitting on a bench near the ice cream truck. MICHAEL IS BACK ON HIS CELL PHONE ALSO CHOWING AN ICE CREAM. \*

FRAN

An ice cream for dinner? That is just not healthy at Michael's age. \*

DONNA

Everything Michael is doing lately is unhealthy for him. \*

Samantha hears this and looks concerned. \*

MICHAEL

(on the phone) \*

So I'm thinking about something for the Japanese with alot of water features, very soothing--

Boom! A group of laughing teenagers nearby set off a firecracker. Michael is shocked at first, then is back on the phone.

MICHAEL

Wow, that scared the hell out of me...No, just a firecracker. Anyways, the key to me is the lobby...

SAMANTHA

Dad... Dad... Dad...

(CONTINUED)

Everyone glares at Michael who's still blabbing on his business call.

SAMANTHA

Dad, how much longer are you gonna live?

MICHAEL

(into phone)  
Uh, one minute?

Samantha bursts into tears.

SAMANTHA

ONE MINUTE! DADDY IS GONNA DIE IN ONE MINUTE! NOOO!

MICHAEL

(very gentle)  
No Samantha, I'm not gonna die.  
I'm gonna live till I'm two hundred years old. We have plenty of time together. Stop crying.

\*  
\*

SAMANTHA

(stops crying)  
That's better.

BOOM! Another firecracker. Michael instantly turns to the teenagers, ferocious.

MICHAEL

DAMMIT! HOW 'BOUT I SHOVE THEM FIRECRACKERS UP YOUR ASS?!

Samantha runs back to the rest of the family, scared. Michael gets back on the phone as Fran comforts her.

\*

FRAN

It's okay, sweetie. Daddy just ate too many crab-apples today.

Ted notices that Ben is sneaking bites of Fran's ice cream.

\*

TED

Hey Ben, where'd ya learn to eat like that? Stop eating Grandmas ice cream and let me show you a trick. Michael, can I borrow a quarter?

\*  
\*

Michael indicates "just a second" to his father.

\*

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED: (2)

10

DONNA  
(handing him a quarter)  
Here you go, Ted.

TED  
Your father used to love this.  
Okay, see how hard this quarter is?  
Touch it. Hard as a rock, right?

Everyone touches it, taps it on the bench.

TED  
Now your grandma won't let me eat  
ice cream with my diabetes. But  
this looks like a tasty quarter.

TED BITES DOWN HARD ON THE QUARTER! Reveal... HE'S BITTEN  
THE QUARTER IN HALF! The kids are amazed. [Note: this is  
an actual, common magic trick]

TED  
Now blow on it.

The kids blow on the remaining half of quarter and...  
THE WHOLE QUARTER MAGICALLY REAPPEARS! He hands it to the  
kids, who examine it.

SAMANTHA  
How did you do that, grandpa?

TED  
A magician never reveals his  
secrets. Your father still doesn't  
know how I do it. Do you, son?

MICHAEL  
(annoyed, covering phone)  
Dad, give me a second here.

TED  
(playful)  
You think you're a big shot with  
your fancy cell phone? You're not  
too big for me. I used to lift him  
with one hand. I can still do it.

TED STANDS and PLAYFULLY GRABS MICHAEL FROM BEHIND. WITH  
SOME EFFORT, HE LIFTS MICHAEL A FEW INCHES OFF THE GROUND.  
Donna, Fran and the kids laugh. Michael tries to keep  
talking normally, while gesturing at his father to drop him.

TED DROPS HIM.

(CONTINUED)



TED  
Sixty-two years old and I can lift  
him up like he was three.

BEN  
Daddy, can you lift me up?

Michael doesn't hear him. He's finally finishing his call.

MICHAEL  
(on phone)  
Of course... It'll be done, I  
promise... right-o, sir. Good  
night.

He hangs up. Looks at his family and exhales. BOOM! The  
teenager didn't throw away the firecracker in time and his  
hand and ear get blasted. \*

MICHAEL  
THAT'S WHAT YOU GET, MORON!!  
STUPID!! PUNK!! HERE, ICE YOUR  
HAND! \*

Michael throws his ice cream at him. \*

Ping Woo who is eating with his family looks nervous.

11 INT. MICHAEL'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM AREA - LATER THAT NIGHT 11 \*

Donna, wearing an Indian feather in her hair, is walking down  
the stairs. \*

DONNA  
Good night, you two cowboys. \*

BEN & SAMANTHA (O.C.)  
Good night, Pocahontas. \*

Michael works on the couch. He coughs and slugs some cough  
syrup. \*

DONNA  
Honey, are you getting sick?

MICHAEL  
I don't got time to be sick. I need  
to watch this documentary on Asian  
architecture.

(CONTINUED)

DONNA

Well, you gotta rest sometime, sweetheart. Besides, all the little woodland creatures will laugh at you if you collapse putting the tent up this weekend.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

MICHAEL

Oh man, I forgot to tell you. The camping trip is gonna have to be postponed. I got to finish this design by Tuesday or I'm off the project.

DONNA

But the kid's have been talking about camping with you all year.

MICHAEL

You think I don't know that? But what am I supposed to. Every choice I make, everything I do, disappoints somebody.

Donna takes off her feather.

\*

DONNA

So maybe make sure you don't keep disappointing the wrong people...

\*  
\*

MICHAEL

Look, what do you want from me? I'm not hanging out in bars or gambling or hitting on chicks. All I'm doing is working my ass off so my family can have a better life than I ever dreamed of when I was growing up. But in order for that to happen, I got to watch this stinkin show.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

Michael punches a few buttons on one of the remotes and a toy helicopter zooms into his head.

MICHAEL

Oww! Piece of crap! The O'Doyles have a universal remote and we're gonna have one, too!

He gets up and leaves. Donna looks nervous for him. So does Sundance.

\*  
\*

12 EXT. STREET - NEAR SHOPPING AREA - NIGHT 12

Michael drives looking for a store that is open. He's eating drive-thru fries.

13 EXT. SHOPPING AREA - BED, BATH & BEYOND - NIGHT 13

Michael gets out of his car, still eating his fries. The only store that's still open is "Bed, Bath & Beyond". He heads thattaway.

14 INT. BED, BATH & BEYOND - NIGHT 14

Michael walks over to a TEENAGER he assumes is an employee.

MICHAEL

Excuse me, do you guys got any universal remote controls?

TEENAGER

You mean, like for shower curtains, or bath mats?

MICHAEL

No, for televisions.

TEENAGER

Hmmm... I don't think so. Maybe for blankets.

MICHAEL

You have a remote control for blankets?

TEENAGER

No. But we do have lots of blankets. And towels. You want some towels?

MICHAEL

No, just a TV remote control.

TEENAGER

Sorry, dude. I don't even work here. I'm just waiting for my friend. Good luck, though.

MICHAEL

Are you kidding me?.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

TEENAGER

Uh.. actually yes. I don't have any friends. I'm kinda just hanging out. You want to get a slice of pizza or something?

Michael just walks away.

CUT TO:

15 INT. BED, BATH & BEYOND - NIGHT (A MINUTE LATER)

15

Michael is looking around the store. All he sees are bed and bath supplies.

MICHAEL

Bed... Bath... Bed... Bed...  
Bath...

He sees a small sign over a doorway in the rear of the store.

BEYOND.

Michael shrugs, heads towards the doorway then walks in.

16 INT. BED, BATH & BEYOND - BEYOND SECTION - NIGHT

16

Michael walks down a long, spooky-ish hallway. Blue sparks illuminate the far end. We hear a Muzak version of someone singing "Be Anything, But Be Mine."

At the end of the hall is a darkened storeroom. An older employee is sitting at a work bench in the middle, making a key.

MICHAEL

Excuse me, sir. Can you help me out? I'm lookin for a universal remote?

The employee, a gent named MORTY, turns around and we realize it was him singing the Muzak. He sees Michael and stops singing.

MORTY

Something stinks. Like stale french fries.

MICHAEL

Oh, that's probably me.

(CONTINUED)

MORTY

You know fast food shortens your  
life. \*

MICHAEL

The way the rest of my life is  
lookin right now that might not be  
such a bad thing. \*

MORTY

Oh. So you're married? \*

MICHAEL

(laughs) \*

Yeah. Are you? \*

MORTY

To my work. Want some of my french  
fries? \*

Morty holds up some fries of his own. They both share another  
laugh. \*

MORTY

You're lookin for a universal  
remote control? \*

MICHAEL

Yes, just one device to do it all.  
Make my life easier, quicker, not  
so damn complicated. \*

MORTY

O.K. I'm not supposed to do this,  
but you seem like a good guy.

MICHAEL

Hey, somebody finally noticed.

MORTY

I'm gonna show you a remote we just  
got in that's probably the most  
advanced piece of technology we  
have in this place.

MICHAEL

Is it tough to use? Cause I'm not  
too swift with the modern gizmos.

(CONTINUED)

MORTY

That's the beauty of it. It does it all and still a gadget dummy like you or me can use it no problem.

MICHAEL

That sounds sweet.

MORTY

It is sweet. The latest, greatest universal remote. Not even on the market yet.

MICHAEL

I guess the O'Doyles remote can bite my advanced technological ass then.

MORTY

I don't know the O'Doyles but they can bite it hard. Come in the back with me.

Morty leads Michael past rows and rows of products, stacked high to the ceiling.

MICHAEL

This is really cool of you. What's your name anyways?

MORTY

You can call me Morty.

MICHAEL

Morty, I'm Michael Newman.

MORTY

Michael Newman, I'm about to rock your world.

Morty unlocks a door marked "Way Beyond".

A17 INT. BED, BATH & BEYOND - WAY BEYOND - NIGHT

A17

It has the same shelving as the other room. Only no products except one. An unwrapped slightly glowing remote, sitting by itself. Michael doesn't know what to make of it.

MORTY takes the remote and holds it in front of Michael. It looks like an extra cool TIVO remote.

(CONTINUED)

A17 CONTINUED:

A17

MICHAEL

That's it?

MORTY

Yes, sir. Brand new. No one else  
in the world has one.

MICHAEL

Does it come with directions?

MORTY

Not necessary. Just point and  
click and eventually it will  
program itself.

MICHAEL

Wow. I don't exactly have money to  
burn. How much for this thing?

MORTY

Lucky for you, it's not in the  
barcode system yet so I'm gonna  
have to just give it to you.

MICHAEL

(quizzically)

What's the catch? You expect me to  
kiss you back here or something?  
Cause whiteboy don't play that.

MORTY

Neither do I, Michael.

MICHAEL

Then why are you hooking me up like  
this? \*

MORTY

Cause good guys need a break every  
once and a while. \*

Morty hands Michael the remote, puts his arm around Michael  
and starts walking him out.

MORTY

The only thing you need to know  
Michael, this item is non-  
returnable.

MICHAEL

Why would I wanna return something  
I'm getting for free?

(CONTINUED)

A17 CONTINUED: (2)

A17

Morty laughs.

MICHAEL

Thanks alot. I guess I'll see ya  
around.

MORTY

Sounds good.

Michael is a little confused but leaves with the remote excited. Morty watches him go with a smile and starts singing again.

17 INT. MICHAEL'S FAMILY DEN - NIGHT (LATER)

17

Michael enters coughing his ass off. He chugs some cough syrup. He looks at a Twinkie box. Shakes his head. Then has a Yodel instead. Then he plops down on the couch with his new remote. He presses a button on the remote and the TV goes on. Another button and the Japanese documentary begins to play. He smiles.

MICHAEL

Look at that! I can turn my own TV  
on. I'm a freakin whiz kid.

He picks up a pad and starts making notes. Donna comes downstairs. We hear the show in the background.

DONNA

I talked to the kids. They are  
being very understanding about not  
going camping this weekend. I told  
em they can have a sleep over  
instead.

MICHAEL

OK, good. Thank you for being cool  
about this.

DONNA

But can I ask you something? After  
you do all this work and become a  
big player at your company, do you  
really think you're gonna have more  
time for us? Or will things get  
even more out of control?

Michael exhales and presses pause on the Japanese travel show. Although he keeps looking straight at the TV. He doesn't see that he has paused Donna.

(CONTINUED)



17 CONTINUED:

17

MICHAEL

I've said this now a million times,  
 Donna, but I guess I'll say it  
 again. When I get to that place  
 and become a boss, a millionaire, a  
 bigshot, the first thing I'm gonna  
 do is hire a bunch of idiots just  
 like me now, to do all my work for  
 me. Then you, me, and the kids can  
 hang out whenever the hell we want.  
 So give it a little time and we can  
 all live happily ever after.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

Michael looks up at Frozen Donna.

MICHAEL

Sorry, I didn't mean to stun you.  
 I just wanted you to know I need  
 your support. Now go to sleep. I  
 love ya.

And with that, he UN-PAUSES the TV and begins watching again.  
 Donna UN-PAUSES too. She didn't hear any of what Michael  
 said.

DONNA

Think about it , Michael.

She heads upstairs.

18 INT. MICHAEL'S FAMILY DEN - NIGHT (LATER)

18

A clock reads "2:30 A.M." Michael is working at his desk.  
 He hears a BARK. Startled, he turns to see Sundance nearby.  
 Sundance barks again.

MICHAEL

Shhh! You're going to wake  
 everyone.

Sundance BARKS AGAIN - LOUDER.

MICHAEL

You gotta make doo doo again? What  
 do you got irritable dog bowel  
 syndrome?

\*  
\*  
\*

Sundance keeps barking. At wit's end, MICHAEL LOOKS AT THE  
 REMOTE on the desk. He picks it up, points at the dog.

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

18

MICHAEL

Just hold it in for five minutes -  
and turn the freakin volume down!

\*

Desperate, Michael CLICKS THE VOLUME BUTTON DOWN A FEW TIMES -  
THE VOLUME OF THE DOG LOWERS. Suddenly, the room is quiet.  
Sundance is still barking but almost no sound is coming out  
of his mouth. MICHAEL is SHOCKED.

MICHAEL

Whoa...

HE RAISES THE VOLUME CONTROL - Sundance's loud again.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

I guess when you combine large  
quantities of cough medicine and  
yodels you get ACID.

\*  
\*  
\*

Sundance doesn't stop barking.

19 EXT. MICHAEL'S FRONT YARD - NIGHT

19

Michael opens the door.

MICHAEL

Alright already, go do your thing.

Sundance goes outside and starts sniffing. Michael is  
examining the remote extra close as he waits for Sundance to  
shit. Sundance keeps sniffing and moving on.

MICHAEL

Today, sniffy longdroppings.

Michael gets an idea. He puts his finger on the Fast Forward  
button, looks at Sundance, looks at the button, then presses  
it. Sundance sniffs around the yard in fast motion to three  
different spots sniffing, then stops at the birdbath and does  
a super quick shit.

20 INT. MICHAEL'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

20

Sundance zooms past Michael into the kitchen and starts  
humping the duck in Fast Forward.

Freaked out Michael presses stop. Sundance stops and falls  
asleep next to the duck..

Michael drops the remote on the table, backs away and runs  
upstairs baffled.

\*

21 INT. MICHAEL'S KITCHEN - THE NEXT MORNING

21

Donna is cooking breakfast and talking to her chatty best friend, Janine, a GORGEOUS BLONDE.

JANINE

In the short run, yes plastic surgery is a hassle. But 6 months later, I have a face and body that's gonna get me to places I want to be. My mother, typical, says it's too risky a procedure. And this is sick and twisted to say but I just think the old witch can't deal with me being so much prettier than she is...

\*

DONNA

Maybe she's just genuinely worried about her daughter. If Samantha wanted her cheek bones shaved down, I'd freak out, too.

JANINE

I just think they're too Slavic. You should get some work done too and maybe Michael might hang out with you once in a while.

Michael enters, dressed for work, exhausted.

JANINE

Morning, Mikey. You're looking very crappy.

MICHAEL

Morning, Janine. You're looking very Slavic.

Janine quickly covers her cheeks.

JANINE

You're just jealous because Donna and I are going to the gym and all the guys will be hitting on us.

DONNA

Michael knows he's my one and only.

MICHAEL

Forever and ever, babe.

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED:

21

Donna gives Michael a kiss on the forehead and some juice.

JANINE

Oh my g-d.

(starting to cry)

I want that so bad. A husband to  
kiss and love and give juice to.

MICHAEL

You've already cheated on three  
different husbands with their  
brothers. You must not want it that  
bad.

JANINE

You know way too much about me. I  
should have never done that Montel  
Williams show. \*

Janine cries even louder. Donna gives Michael a look. Here  
comes some babbling. \*

JANINE

I was desperate for companionship.  
My husbands all abandoned me  
emotionally!

MICHAEL

They went to work. You had sex  
with their unemployed brothers.  
You're a horny slob.

DONNA

Michael!  
(to Janine)  
OK, sweetie. Calm it down.

JANINE

(really upset)

It's not my fault! I've had self-  
esteem issues since I was a kid! I  
had a bunny named Pepper, and I  
loved him, and I petted him...

Michael can't take this dumbness anymore. As Janine keeps  
babbling, Michael looks at the remote. Did the volume thing  
really work last night? Only one way to find out.

Michael slowly grabs the remote and presses MUTE. Silence.  
Michael is stunned. The girls keep talking melodramatically  
and no sound is heard. Finally Janine walks out of the room  
to collect herself.

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED: (2)

21

Donna looks at Michael and asks him a question. Michael can't hear it. He quickly presses mute again.

MICHAEL  
I'm sorry. What was that?

DONNA  
She has so many problems. Why'd you have to be so mean?

MICHAEL  
I don't know. Whoa. Hello. I gotta go.

\*

Michael runs out baffled again.

A22 EXT. MICHAEL'S HOUSE - FRONT YARD - DAY

A22

Kevin O'Doyle is showing off his new AIBO ROBOT DOG. It's barking and moving like a real dog. Ben and Samantha look on in amazement. Michael is running into his car.

BEN  
Dad, did you see Kevin's new robot dog? Isn't it awesome?

MICHAEL  
(distracted)  
Yeah, very nice.

KEVIN  
Very nice? This things worth more than your car.

Michael backs his car up over the dog.

MICHAEL  
Not anymore it ain't.

Michael peels off.

KEVIN  
ROBODOG!!!!

We see the Robodog head hanging off and barking a new disturbing sound.

22 INT. BED, BATH & BEYOND - BEYOND SECTION - DAY

22

Michael finds Morty in the back room.

(CONTINUED)

MICHAEL

Is this some sort of reality show?  
Because you guys got me. Where's  
the cameras?

(looking around at  
imaginary hidden cameras)

You got me. I'm an idiot. Have  
your laugh America.

MORTY

Nobody is laughing at you, Michael.  
You wanted a universal remote.  
That remote controls your universe.

MICHAEL

(to imaginary hidden  
cameras)

Okay. But what's controlling my  
dance skills.

Michael starts dancing for the security cameras and continues  
laughing as if to say "you got me."

MORTY

Michael, just hit "menu."

MICHAEL

The menu on the remote?

MORTY

No, the menu at the Red Lobster.  
Yes, on the remote.

Michael hits MENU. Suddenly, they're in front of a...

A23 DVD MENU SCREEN WORLD - ENTITLED "MICHAEL NEWMAN'S A23  
UNIVERSE" (NOTE: THE MENU SCREEN FILLS THE FRAME. MICHAEL  
AND MORTY STAND IN FRONT OF IT - HALF THE SIZE OF THE MENU)

Pictures from Michael's life float around - like any cool DVD  
menu except about Michael. We see the following options:

PLAY, CHAPTERS, MAKING OF, COMMENTARY, CREDITS

MICHAEL

Whoa! What is this?

MORTY

Your life menu.

MICHAEL

There's a "Commentary" on my life?

(CONTINUED)

A23 CONTINUED:

A23

MORTY

It's chock-full of goodies.

Michael, curious, clicks on "COMMENTARY."

23 INT. AMMER &amp; PARTNERS - MODEL MAKING ROOM - DAY

23

\*

Morty and Michael stand in the same position in frame as they were a second ago. But now they're in Michael's office.

MORTY

This is last Tuesday.

Michael turns, sees himself, LAST TUESDAY MICHAEL, at his desk, working on a model. Suddenly we hear...

\*

ALEC BALDWIN V.O.

Michael was eagerly awaiting the arrival of his lunch order...

MICHAEL

Is that Alec Baldwin's voice?

Alice walks in and places a cheeseburger with fries in front of Last Tuesday Michael.

ALEC BALDWIN V.O.

But his anticipation quickly turned into dismay as he realized Alice had brought him a cheeseburger, instead of a hamburger as he requested...

We see Last Tuesday Michael mouth a string of obscenities.

MORTY

Alec does a lot of voice-over work.

CLOSEUP on Last Tuesday Michael, deep in thought

ALEC BALDWIN V.O. (CONT'D)

Michael considered demanding that Alice scrape the cheese off, but decided not to, fearing that Alice might spit in or otherwise defile the burger in some manner.

CLOSE UP on Alice, with a sly smile.

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED:

23

ALEC BALDWIN V.O.  
A wise decision, for that is  
exactly what Alice was planning to  
do.

A24 CONCERNED, MICHAEL HITS MENU AND WE POP BACK TO THE MENU A24  
SCREEN. MICHAEL SELECTS "THE MAKING OF."

B24 INT. YOUNG TED & YOUNG FRAN'S BEDROOM (1968) - NIGHT B24 \*

MICHAEL AND MORTY STAND NEXT TO BED. WE SEE THE EDGE OF THE  
BED ROCKING AND HEAR O.C. SQUEAKY BED SOUNDS AND MOTHERLY  
MOANS.

MICHAEL  
Where are we?  
(noticing the bed)  
Mom? Dad? Oh my G-d.

MORTY  
They're making you.

YOUNG FRAN O.C.  
Theodore, just finish so we can eat  
already.

YOUNG TED O.C.  
You want to hurry this up? Tell me  
you're a stewardess and I'm a pilot  
and it'll be over in five seconds.

MICHAEL  
No more! Change the channel!

Michael quickly LUNGES FOR THE REMOTE.

24 BLACK

24

Morty and MICHAEL stand in limbo. MICHAEL LOOKS TO MORTY.

MICHAEL  
I can't see. What happened? Where  
are we? \*

MORTY  
You hit the fast forward button. I  
believe we're sometime after the  
conception.

In center of the black, we suddenly see a LIGHT. The LIGHT  
grows wider, brighter, until we begin to see...

(CONTINUED)



24 CONTINUED:

24

A DOCTOR IN SURGICAL GARB peering in at us.

DOCTOR

You're almost there, Mrs. Newman.  
Keep on pushing. And here she is.  
It's a girl.

25 INT. HOSPITAL ROOM (1968) - DAY

25 \*

Michael and Morty are now standing in the room watching the doctor hold the new baby.

YOUNG TED

We have a daughter, Fran. We have  
a daughter.

DOCTOR

Wait a minute. I'm sorry. It might  
be a son.

YOUNG FRAN

What do you mean might be?

DOCTOR

Maybe that's a penis.

YOUNG TED

That's not a schmekel. That's too  
small for a schmekel. That's a  
mole.

YOUNG FRAN

Let me see that.

Doctor holds him up.

YOUNG FRAN

Wait, move him a little closer.

The Doctor brings the baby right next to her face.

YOUNG FRAN

That's a tiny shmeckel. WE HAVE A  
BOY!

\*

Ted, Fran, and the Doctor celebrate.

MORTY

Your mother must have some super  
powered eyesight cause I didn't see  
a thing.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

MICHAEL

Oh hardee har. Let's get outta here.

Michael presses the button which takes them back to...

26 DVD MENU WORLD - CONTINUOUS

26

MICHAEL

I can't believe this. I can go to any part of my past and experience it again...

Michael stares at a completely frozen Morty.

MICHAEL

Oh man, what did I do now?

Morty stops pretending to be frozen and lunges forward.

MORTY

Gotcha!

Michael grabs his heart as Morty laughs his ass off.

MORTY

Look it's simple. Think of a time and a place. Hit rewind, you're there.

MICHAEL

Wow. Okay. Uh...

Michael looks at the remote, closes his eyes and HITS REWIND.

27 EXT. LAKESIDE CAMPGROUND (1976) - DAY

27

Michael and Morty are standing beside an open field at a lakeside campground. Michael looks around, amazed.

MICHAEL

Oh man! Lake Winnepasauki...

10 YR. OLD MICHAEL is getting ready to go out for a pass in the middle of a nerf football game.

MICHAEL

Hey! That's me! Can he see us? I mean, can I see myself?

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED:

27

MORTY

No. The past is the past. It's  
just like watching a movie. See?

MORTY kicks his foot through 10 yr. Old Michael's butt - it  
passes through him like a ghost. Young Michael doesn't react  
at all.

The ball is snapped and little Michael goes out for a pass.

MICHAEL

Go little me! Go!!

The ball is thrown and little Michael makes a diving catch.  
Touchdown!

Old Michael turns to Morty.

MICHAEL

Not a bad catch for a little moron,  
huh?.

MORTY

Nice hands.

Cut to 30 year old Fran in front of a battered green tent.

FRAN @30

Michael, dinner is almost ready.  
Invite your friends if you want to.

10 YR. OLD MICHAEL

Ok, mom.

KID

Or we can eat at my family's  
Winnebago and watch Three's  
Company?

All the kids scream "yeah" and run off to an awesome 1976  
Winnebago. In fact all the campsites have trailers or pop-  
ups in them - except the Newmans.

Young Michael flops himself down on a picnic table, where his  
mom - is frying some Dinty Moore over an old Coleman camping  
stove.

10 YR. OLD MICHAEL

Mom, why can't we camp in an RV  
like every other family?

Michael's 30 YEAR OLD DAD emerges from the tent.

(CONTINUED)

TED @30

You call that "camping"? How can you get close to nature sleeping in a tin can like that?

10 YR. OLD MICHAEL

Can't we at least get a new tent. This one smells like farts.

FRAN @30

Why waste money like that?. This tent got your grandfather through the Korean war. It can take a lickin and keep on tickin.

Ted hugs Fran from behind.

TED @30

Yeah, we put some pretty good wear and tear on this baby when we were newlyweds.

Fran and Ted giggle naughtily as little Michael and Older Michael make identical grossed out faces. Mortys' face looks aroused.

Then Fran shakes her head no as little Michael was about to grab a Hostess cupcake.

FRAN @30

Not yet, sweetie. It'll taste better after you eat your dinner.

10 YR. OLD MICHAEL

But I'm starving!

TED @30

Me too, kiddo. In fact, I could eat almost anything. Even this.

Ted holds up a QUARTER. 10 yr. Old Michael looks at him oddly. TED BITES THE QUARTER IN HALF - his magic trick. Little Michael looks amazed. Ted chews, pretending he's eating the quarter and scoops up impressed little Michael.

MORTY

How the hell did he do that?

MICHAEL

It's a trick coin you buy in a magic shop. I just couldn't let him know I knew that.

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED: (3)

27

We see Ted enjoying showing off for his son. Fran is smiling at the both of them.

MICHAEL

Look how happy he was.

MORTY

That's sweet. Now I gotta get back to work so hit "play".

Michael hits the PLAY button.

28 INT. BED, BATH &amp; BEYOND - BEYOND SECTION - DAY

28

Michael is shaken up by all this. He immediately starts eating a Twinkie he had in his pocket.

MICHAEL

I'm baffled right now. I can rule the world with this thing if I wanted to! Ha! Ha! Ha!

MORTY

Simmer down, Michael. It's a very powerful device. Use it with caution.

(hands Michael card)

And if you have any questions, call me.

Michael looks a little nervous.

29 EXT. STREET (BY WORK) - DAY

29

Michael is stuck waiting for a red light behind a lot of traffic. He hits the horn.

MICHAEL

C'mon, move it.

He picks up the remote off the seat. CLOSE ON - He runs his finger over the fast forward button. But remembering Morty's words, he puts the remote down and just sits in traffic like a normal person.

MICHAEL

Easy, baby. Use it with caution. \*

A30 INT. AMMER &amp; PARTNERS BUILDING - MAIN LOBBY - DAY

A30

Michael runs in and sees his friendly security guard. The guard has a terrible stutter.

(CONTINUED)

A30 CONTINUED:

A30

## STUTTERING GUARD

M.. M..m..orning...MMMr..  
 Nnnn..eew.mman..hhhhow bbbout  
 th..ththose M.m...m...mets...?

\*

Throughout the guards stutter Michael has been eyeballing his fast forward button.

30 INT. AMMER &amp; PARTNERS - ELEVATOR - DAY

30

Michael runs through the lobby of his office building then jumps into an elevator with a sour OLD LADY in a wheelchair and her JAMAICAN NURSE. He notices that every floor has been pushed. As the elevator ascends, they bicker.

## OLD LADY

Why did you take me here?

## JAMAICAN NURSE

You have a doctor's appointment.

## OLD LADY

That quack doesn't know his ass from his elbow. Why did you push all the buttons?

## JAMAICAN NURSE

You did that, Mrs. Durst.

## OLD LADY

Liar. Give me back my earrings.

## JAMAICAN NURSE

I didn't steal any of your jewelry, Mrs. Durst.

## OLD LADY

And I know you're trying to kill me, too. You and your Chinese boyfriend.

## JAMAICAN NURSE

He's not my boyfriend, he's the mailman. And he's Samoan...

It's really uncomfortable. The old lady starts to cry and fart. Michael grips the remote. CLOSE on the fast forward button. Again he doesn't push. He puts it away.

31 INT. AMMER & PARTNERS - AMMER'S OFFICE - DAY 31

HUGE, SUMPTUOUS CORNER OFFICE. Ammer's at his desk with TWO BEAUTIFUL ASSISTANTS - Stacy, LINDA. They're talking. Ammer is dressed for the weekend.

AMMER

No, Linda, if I had to choose,  
Stacy gets the nicest feet award.

\*  
\*

LINDA smiles, Stacy frowns. Michael enters.

AMMER

Michael! I'm heading out to the  
Hamptons in a few minutes, but I'm  
counting on you. This hotel project  
is a big fish. Reel it in for me  
and "howdy partner."

Ammer gives a dramatic salute. Michael's surprised. Stacey and Linda give little salutes too.

AMMER

Then maybe you can buy an air  
conditioning system for your pop  
tent."

Ammer laughs. The girls laugh. FED UP, MICHAEL PULLS OUT HIS REMOTE, hits "PAUSE." EVERYONE FREEZES.

MICHAEL

YES!

(to frozen Ammer)

That's the last time you make a  
fool of me without payback! Now I  
have time to think of a comeback!

Michael paces. He lies on the couch, trying to think.

MICHAEL

Okay, think, think... got it.

Michael gets back into position, hits "PLAY." The scene comes back to life. Michael proudly delivers his come-back.

MICHAEL

Mr. Ammer, off my case, gorilla  
face.

No one laughs. It's uncomfortable for a beat.

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED:

31

AMMER

... anything else, Michael?

Michael hits PAUSE again - FREEZES the scene.

MICHAEL

Yeah, I've got something else!  
Die, you bastard!! YOU SUCK! \*

MICHAEL UN-PAUSES and immediately returns to being nice.

MICHAEL

(meekly)

No, I'm good. Have a nice weekend.

Michael starts to go. Ammer's intercom goes off...

INTERCOM

Oh, Mr. Ammer, Jill just called.  
Her cat is sick so she can't make  
it to the Hamptons.

AMMER

What? She doesn't even have a cat.  
I'm gonna be by myself on the  
fourth of July?

STACY

We could go.

AMMER

I don't think you girls are ready  
for weekends. Let's just keep our  
funny business in the city.

The girls frown.

MICHAEL

If you need female companionship  
this weekend, my wife's friend,  
Janine is always lookin for a good  
time. \*

AMMER

Really? What's she like?

MICHAEL

Oh man, she'll destroy you.

Ammer smiles. So does Michael. Linda too. Linda just stares  
at her mannish feet. Alice knocks on the door. \*

(CONTINUED)



31 CONTINUED: (2)

31

ALICE

Sorry to interrupt but this is kind  
of important.

She hands Michael a note which he unfolds and it reads. "Can I go to the Bathroom"? Alice looks at Michael pleadingly.

A32 EXT. MICHAEL'S HOUSE - FRONT YARD - LATE AFTERNOON

A32

\*

Ben and his neighbor Kevin O'Doyle are having a baseball catch. It's clear Kevin is an athlete and Ben isn't. Michael gets out of his car in the driveway, walks towards the front door and watches Ben drop an easy one.

\*

KEVIN

Dude, you suck so bad!

BEN

Do not. (to Michael) Hey, Dad.

MICHAEL

Hey, Buddy. Playing some catch.

KEVIN

Actually we're playing some "drop"  
cause Ben hasn't caught one yet.

Michael sees Ben just threw the ball to Kevin. He hits pause while the ball is midair. Michael then lowers Kevin's glove from being in the right position to catch it, hits unpaue, the ball hits Kevin in the head.

MICHAEL

You're a regular Derek Jeter, too.  
Huh, Kevin.

Ben laughs as Kevin just rubs his head.

32 INT. MICHAEL'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

32

Michael enters the house, Sundance greets him. Donna is on the phone.

\*

DONNA

(on the phone)

...I think she should have gotten  
voted off but did you see her Kate  
Spade handbag? It was gorgeous.  
Hold on Fran. Let me say hi to your  
son.

(covering the phone)

(more)

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED:

32

DONNA (cont'd)  
I told your parents they should  
come for dinner. I thought it would  
be fun for them to be here for the  
sleepover.

Michael puts an imaginary gun to his head then pulls the  
trigger.

DONNA  
(back on phone)  
Sorry. So, great. We'll see you  
guys later and Michael said he  
might even grace us with his  
presence at dinner.

Donna hangs up. Michael stares at Donna. Frustrated.

DONNA  
It's not gonna kill you to eat with  
your family, sweetie.

Donna pulls some plates out of the cupboard. MICHAEL LOOKS  
AT SAMANTHA AND HER TWO FRIENDS WHO ARE RUNNING AROUND  
SCREAMING AND SQUIRTING EACH OTHER WITH WATER PISTOLS...

MICHAEL  
(to himself)  
I can't take two hours of this.

C.U. CHAPTER BUTTONS - Michael hits the FORWARD chapter  
button. Immediately, we...

JUMP CUT TO:

33 INT. MICHAEL'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT (TWENTY MINUTES LATER) 33

A PAUSED, FROZEN IMAGE OF... MICHAEL's parents walking into  
the house. Donna is kissing Fran on the cheek. Ben and Kevin  
are hugging Ted. The three little girls are mid jump on the  
couch. Michael stands to the side with the remote, looking  
at the image.

MICHAEL  
Oh, cool. I can skip chapters.

Once again, he hits the FORWARD CHAPTER BUTTON.

JUMP CUT TO:

34 INT. MICHAEL'S DINING ROOM - NIGHT

34

A SERIES OF FROZEN SHOTS

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED:

34

NEXT: The entire family and sleepover crew are paused as they eat. EVERYONE IS MID-CHEW - faces contorted. Michael hits FORWARD CHAPTER.

NEXT: Everyone is done except Ben and Michael who are each on their 4th piece of Chicken.

MICHAEL

Come on, Benny! Don't be like me.

NEXT: The little girls are amazed watching Ted do his quarter trick. Kevin's food is airborne. Fran is trying to settle Kevin down. Donna is holding the chicken platter away from an upset arm extended Ben.

A35 INT. MICHAEL'S BASEMENT - NIGHT

A35

Next; Michael is in the basement, alone at his desk.

MICHAEL

Wow. I'm alone in my basement working.

C.U. Remote - Michael hits "play". Everything returns to normal speed. Ted and Fran walk in.

TED

We're hitting the road, Mike. It was good to see you.

MICHAEL

Yeah it was. My schmekel is bigger now that I'm older. Just so you and mom know.

\*

FRAN

Well, it couldn't have gotten any smaller.

(to Ted)

Ready to fly, Captain?

TED

Yes, I am, stewardess. Just make sure you bring me a bag of salty peanuts.

They start walking out.

MICHAEL

(calling after them)

I know what you guys are talking about and it's sick.

(CONTINUED)

A35 CONTINUED:

A35

Ted and Fran look a little embarrassed. As they leave, Donna enters.

DONNA  
See? Was that so bad?

MICHAEL  
No. It was fun. \*

DONNA  
Good for you. Now can you watch the gang for ten minutes while I clean up?

MICHAEL  
I got so much to do here, Donna.

DONNA  
You've got stuff to do? I got ghost stories, charades, the dishes and then I gotta sew the duck's head back on for Sundance.

Sundance sits sadly next to a decapitated duck.

MICHAEL  
Oh c'mon! I wish I had time to do that stuff. \*

DONNA  
Gimme a break Michael. You're a big boy. You set your own priorities...

MICHAEL  
(pulls out the remote)  
Honey, I love you, but we've had this argument a hundred times.

Michael hits the regular "FF" button. FAST FORWARD to...

AN HOUR LATER

Michael is still in the basement, but DONNA IS GONE.

He looks confused and exits.

35 OMITTED

35

36 INT. MICHAEL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT (A MOMENT LATER)

36

Donna is in bed. Michael peeks in, sees her.

(CONTINUED)

MICHAEL

Cool. Skipped a whole fight.

Suddenly, Donna turns to him, still awake.

DONNA

Hey, babe. I can't sleep. I feel bad that we keep arguing.

Michael walks over, sits down.

MICHAEL

I know, sweetie. I'm sorry. I love you.

\*

He kisses her.

MICHAEL

Damn, you smell good.

He smells her neck.

DONNA

Michael, we can't. The sleep over will catch us.

MICHAEL

They're all passed out. Even my high pitched wheezing won't wake those fools up.

DONNA

Well, you can try and coax me into it.

MICHAEL

I have so much work left for tonight. Can't we just do it??

DONNA

No, we can't just do it. Seduce me, sweetheart.

Donna fakes a hard to get pose. Michael surreptitiously looks at the wall clock. It's late. He slyly reaches for the remote, hits "FF." FAST FORWARD EFFECT...

Three MINUTES LATER

They're lying back. Michael looks satisfied. Donna doesn't.

(CONTINUED)

MICHAEL  
Wow. We did it?

DONNA  
Well, you did.

MICHAEL  
I'm sorry. I didn't want the whole  
thing to go that fast.

DONNA  
I don't think anybody did.

MICHAEL  
I'll get you next time.

DONNA  
Lookin forward to it. So, we're  
good for tomorrow?

MICHAEL  
What are you talking about?

DONNA  
At dinner. You said we could go to  
lunch tomorrow and pick out your  
dad's birthday gift.

MICHAEL  
(lost)  
Oh, yeah. Dads' gift. Right.

Michael gives her a kiss and exits.

37 INT. MICHAEL'S HOUSE - NIGHT (A FEW MINUTES LATER) 37

Michael looks at Morty's card as he dials the phone.

MICHAEL  
Hey Morty, it's Michael Newman. I  
need to talk to you.

There is a knock on the door.

MICHAEL  
Hang on, someone's at the door.

Michael opens door. Morty is standing there.

MORTY  
Hello, Michael.

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED:

37

MICHAEL

Where'd you come from?

MORTY

You don't want to know. What can I help you with?

MICHAEL

Let's take a walk.

38 EXT. MICHAEL'S STREET - NIGHT

38

Michael with Morty, mid-conversation. Michael wears a bathrobe and workboots and blows his nose into a hanky. \*

MORTY

It's simple. You must have been on autopilot. That's what happens to you when you fast forward. I'll show you.

Morty hits "REWIND" on the remote. REWIND EFFECT...

39 INT. MICHAEL'S DINING ROOM - NIGHT (EARLIER THAT NIGHT) 39

Morty, Michael appear next to the table. Everyone's talking. "Rewound Michael" quietly eats his food - almost robotic.

MORTY

See? That's you on autopilot. The lights are on, but nobody's home. The remote lets your mind skip around, but your body actually stays put for all the boring stuff.

At the table, Donna turns to Rewound Michael, whispers.

DONNA

Honey, we should go to lunch tomorrow and get your dad a birthday gift.

Rewound Michael nods. Donna turns back to the kids.

MICHAEL

She did tell me. So on autopilot I'm still having conversations?

MORTY

You're not going to be the life of the party, but yes. Everyone goes on autopilot now and then.

(more)

(CONTINUED)

MORTY (cont'd)

The only difference is, now you've got a nifty remote to help you decide when.

MICHAEL

This thing is the best.

Morty watches rewind Donna pour a glass of ice tea for Samantha.

MORTY

By the way your wife is absolutely gorgeous.

MICHAEL

Thanks.

MORTY

Perfect face. Tight rockin body.

MICHAEL

Easy, Morty.

MORTY

Amazing that she fell for a shlub like you.

MICHAEL

Shlub? Well this shlub always got the chicks. You wanna see what a stud I used to be.

MORTY

Sure. Hit me.

MICHAEL

(pulls out remote)

Rewind to all the ladies I made it with before I met Donna.

Behind Michael and Morty the scene changes to a slide montage of girls' head-shots on the side with various backgrounds: pillow, ceiling, grass, car back seat, men's room floor. They are not the hottest group of women you have ever seen. The last girl is Coraci in a wig, cross-eyed with a big mole on his/her face. Michael hits stop.

\*  
\*



A41 EXT. MICHAEL'S STREET - NIGHT

A41

MORTY

Sometimes it's better to keep  
certain memories just in your head.

MICHAEL

Word up. Goodnight, Morty.

MORTY

Goodnight, Michael.

Michael and Morty go their separate ways. Michael stops in front of his house having a coughing fit.

MICHAEL

Dammit! I don't want to deal with  
being sick and having to work all  
weekend.

\*

Michael looks at the remote.

MICHAEL

Fast forward me 'til I'm all  
better.

Michael hits fast forward.

41 OMITTED

41

42 INT. MICHAEL'S BEDROOM - MONDAY

42

Michael wakes up in his bed and inhales - his nose is clear.

MICHAEL

I'm all better? Yes! No more  
mucus!!

He stands up on the bed and jumps up and down, thrilled. Ben and Samantha are watching from the hallway.

MICHAEL

Whoooo! I skipped an entire cold!  
(kisses the remote)  
I love you, little buddy.

The kids giggle harder.

SAMANTHA

Dad is losing it.

(CONTINUED)

42 CONTINUED:

42

MICHAEL  
 (sudden realization)  
 Geez, I don't remember doing a  
 thing this weekend!

\*

Michael jumps down from the bed and sees a thick folder  
 marked "Watsuhita."

MICHAEL  
 (smiling)  
 But I guess I did.

Donna is brushing her teeth in the bathroom.

DONNA  
 Bad news, sweetie. There's no hot  
 water.

MICHAEL  
 Oh man, I gotta shower.

DONNA  
 You're gonna freeze your bun buns  
 off.

MICHAEL  
 (smiles again to himself)  
 It's all good.

Michael again grabs the remote hits "FF." FAST FORWARD  
 EFFECT TO...

43 INT. MICHAEL'S KITCHEN - DAY (TWENTY MINUTES LATER)

43

Michael finds himself in the kitchen, freshly showered, in a  
 suit, eating a Cupcake. He looks at himself, amazed. The  
 kids are eating and watching Dragon Tales together.

\*

MICHAEL  
 Yes. The boredom of sickness,  
 showering and getting dressed is  
 now a thing of the past.

SAMANTHA  
 Whatever you say, Daddy?

MICHAEL  
 Just watch your toons and have a  
 great day with your mom, little  
 girl.

Michael gives Samantha a bunch of kisses.

(CONTINUED)



45 EXT. STREET/NY SUBURBIA - DAY 45

Michael comes to a stop at the same red light he always does. Loads of traffic. In the car next to him is a LOSER GUY singing along passionately to "Play That Funky Music, White Boy". Michael lowers the volume on it with the clicker. Still sitting in traffic he presses fast forward and...

\*

A46 OMITTED A46 \*

46 EXT. AMMER & PARTNERS - ROOFTOP PARKING LOT - DAY 46

Michael's parked in his spot.

MICHAEL

That's what I'm talking about.

(then, to himself, looking  
in rear view mirror)

Looking a little pale there, buddy.

He points the remote at himself. COLOR CONTROLS APPEAR. He scrolls through the spectrum, trying different colors. AS HE SCROLLS - HIS SKIN CHANGES DIFFERENT VIVID COLORS.

MICHAEL

(turns purple)

I look like Barney.

(starts singing)

I love you! You love me!

Michael turns and sees a purple Alice staring at him from her car next to him.

ALICE

"We're a happy family." I love that song!

MICHAEL

Great Alice, I'll see ya inside.

Alice nods quickly and gets going. Michael hits a few more buttons his skin gets a little darker.

MICHAEL

Nice tan, studboy.

He admires his tan, then exits towards the building.

A47 INT. AMMER & PARTNERS BUILDING - MAIN LOBBY - DAY A47

The stuttering guard is there to greet Michael.

(CONTINUED)

A47 CONTINUED:

A47

STUTTERING GUARD  
 Hey, mmmmmr. Nnnnewman, ddiid ddid  
 ddid...

Michael hits fast forward.

STUTTERING GUARD  
 Didd..diidd..ddiidd

The stuttering continues. Michael hits fast forward again.

STUTTERING GUARD  
 Ddiidd yyyou sssee Pppedro ppitch  
 lllast nnnite.

MICHAEL  
 I'm a Yankee fan, Roy.

STUTTERING GUARD  
 Ooh, wwwell.. Wwwell

MICHAEL  
 Gotta go.

Michael leaves the stuttering guard still stammering.

47 INT. AMMER & PARTNERS - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY  
 (A MOMENT LATER)

47

Packed with employees. Michael enters. Ammer grabs him and pulls him aside.

AMMER  
 Did you finish?

MICHAEL  
 Um, I think so.

Michael quickly shuffles through some papers.

MICHAEL  
 (seeing it for the first  
 time)  
 River in the lobby. Right here.  
 Actually it looks pretty good.

AMMER  
 Where'd you find the time to get  
 the tan?

MICHAEL  
 I can do it all, sir.

(CONTINUED)

Michael sits and Ammer steps to a podium in the front of the room.

AMMER

Alright, take a chill pill, gang.  
As you know state regulations  
require that all our employees  
attend a seminar on sexual  
harassment. So let's get it on.  
Oops, that sounded pretty sexy  
right there. I guess you've all  
just been harassed.

As Ammer drones on, Michael slyly takes out the remote and points it at Ammer and hits a button.

ON AMMER - over his image, the words...NORMAL, WIDE, PANORAMA. Michael chooses wide screen. Ammer looks extra wide and short. Ammer's gestures look very little person like. Michael laughs and hits another button. The words...

"BALANCE/MONO/SURROUND SOUND" appear. Michael selects "BALANCE". The words "RIGHT/LEFT" appear. Michael experiments, THROWING AMMER'S VOICE TO THE LEFT, THEN RIGHT. After that, Michael selects "MONO" and maxes out the treble. Ammer's voice becomes THIN AND TINNY and lollipop kids like. After that, Michael selects "SURROUND SOUND" Suddenly EVERYTHING GETS A BIT LOUDER, MORE DEFINED. Michael hears:

LOUD TAPPING. REVEAL THE SOURCE OF THE TAPPING IS A CO-WORKER TAPPING HIS FINGERS ON THE DESK. Then he hears:

LOUD SCRAPING. REVEAL THE SOURCE OF THE SCRAPING IS ANOTHER CO-WORKER PICKING HIS NOSE. Then...

Michael is startled by a tremendous FART AND LAUGHS, DISGUSTED. It sounds like an EXPLOSION. Michael covers his ears, shuts off SURROUND SOUND, and HITS PAUSE. THEY ALL FREEZE.

MICHAEL

Alright. Who did it?

He examines all the faces, until he gets to a MEEK GIRL IN THE CORNER. She has guilt and embarrassment on her face.

MICHAEL

Mimi from accounting. It's always  
the quiet ones.

(then, re: remote)

Oh, this will be fun!

(CONTINUED)

Michael points the remote at Ammer, hits a button.

AMMER

Hand on the fanny? No go. This could be misinterpreted as...

(new voice overdubbed slightly out of sync in Spanish)

...un ademán sexual que estaría prohibido, por supuesto, en esta oficina...

MICHAEL

(laughing to himself)

...muy comico.

(realizes he just spoke Spanish in odd voice)

Dios Mio! Incredible!

Everyone turns to Michael.

AMMER

¿Algún problema, Miguel?

MICHAEL

No, ninguno. Lo siento. Por favor, siga con su maravillosa conferencia.

Everyone turns back to Ammer, who continues. Michael looks at the remote and hits another button.

EVERYTHING GOES SILENT - A CLOSED CAPTIONING BOX appears. WE HEAR NOTHING BUT READ THE WORDS APPEARING IN THE BOX UNDER AMMER.

AMMER

(in closed captioning box)

...So basically, hands off big guy, unless you're absolutely sure she's asking for it.

PEOPLE IN THE ROOM LAUGH POLITELY at Ammer's joke. We see closed captioning boxes appear under everyone.

EVERYONE

(closed caption boxes)

Forced Laughter... Fake Chuckles...

The meeting is over. People begin exiting the room. Michael looks down, sees he has his own closed captioning box.

(CONTINUED)

47 CONTINUED: (3)

47

MICHAEL  
 (in closed captioned box)  
 Let me shut this sucker off.

Michael hits buttons, trying to turn off the close-captions.  
 NOTHING HAPPENS.

MICHAEL  
 (closed caption box)  
 Damn! How do you do this?  
 (to himself)  
 Are you #\*\$#ing kidding me.  
 (he sees the "Curse edit".  
 Tries a "Fuck")  
 #\$\$%&%.  
 (on purpose, tentatively)  
 Mother#\$\$ing #\$\$\$sucker. Grab my  
 #\$\$ and %\$&\* it up your sweet #@#.

He looks over, sees Alice is looking at him, serious. He presses another button.

ALEC BALDWIN V.O.  
 Michael assumed from Alice's grave look that he had offended her with his crude language. But appearances can be deceiving, for Alice was secretly aroused by this rough talk.

Alice smiles a little. Michael is weirded out.

48 EXT. RESTAURANT - THAT NIGHT

48

Michael finds himself at a dinner table in midst of Ammer and several Japanese EXECs who are all drinking booze and looking at their menus.

WATSUHITA HEAD EXECUTIVE  
 I don't know about you Americans but to me there is no doubt Ichiro is the greatest of all time.

MICHAEL  
 Yeah, Ichiro is incredible but you gotta admit you can always count on Matsui.

AMMER  
 Well, if you guys love Ichiro and Matsui so much, let's order them both. I'll eat anything.

(CONTINUED)





EXECUTIVE #2

True that.. Stupid proposal make me want to take sword and chop my own dick off.

EXECUTIVE #1

River in lobby! People not in lobby to fish, they there to get keys and shit.

EXECUTIVE #3

And what about foolish idea of building shaped like pyramid?

EXECUTIVE #2

We want more rooms to rent out. Not gay pyramid! How freakin elevator work anyway?

Michael looks crushed.

WATSUHITA HEAD EXECUTIVE

Silence!

(smashes fist on table)

No order dessert! Must leave here quickly so we have time for many jello shots with Prince Haboobee!

EXECUTIVE #2

Habeeboo!

The executives all agree. Ammer returns, stops next to Michael.

AMMER

Okay, Michael. Save us.

The execs come back and sit down.

MICHAEL

(winks at Ammer)

Hey fellas, before we order, let me tell you a little more about our proposal. I was just looking at our design and I gotta say, I don't think it's what you are all about. In fact, let's start over.

Michael rips the proposal in half. Ammer is stunned. The Japanese are now interested.

(CONTINUED)

MICHAEL

Let's face it who needs a river in the lobby? What are people gonna kayak to their rooms?

This gets a huge laugh from the execs. Ammer laughs along.

MICHAEL

We need to concentrate on building as many rooms as possible, thereby squashing our breakeven.

The execs all look at each other impressed.

MICHAEL

And the whole pyramid shaped thing? I don't know even how the damn elevators would work anyway. You'd have to hand out ladders to your guests.

The execs start nodding and smiling. Ammer happily nods along.

MICHAEL

Let's just keep the plans simple, forget the little niceties, and maximize our revenue.

The Japanese low five each other. Two actually bump chests.

MICHAEL

Look, I'm begging ya to give us the account and your trust right now. That way we can get the hell outta this dump and start doing jello shots till this guy pukes up a lung!

The ancient Japanese man Michael points at gives thumbs up. \*  
The other Japanese men leap to their feet and applaud.  
Michael bows. Ammer is stunned.

49 INT. MICHAEL'S LIVING ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT 49

Michael comes into the house in a great mood.

MICHAEL

(calling out)

Yo yo yo, the king is home! \*

No one is there. He runs upstairs.



52 CONTINUED:

52

BEN

Dad can we go ride them?

MICHAEL

A little late night cycling would  
be ok. Just stay in the driveway.Before Donna can protest the kids are barrelling out the  
door.

53 EXT. MICHAEL'S HOUSE - NIGHT

53

The kids run out and hop on their bikes. Kevin O'Doyle looks  
out his window impressed while petting his taped back  
together Robodog.

54 INT. MICHAEL'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT (CONT'D)

54

Michael hands Donna a box.

MICHAEL

Don't worry. I didn't forget about  
my honey. It's not a bike or a  
cowboy hat, but I think you'll dig  
it.Donna excitedly opens the box and pulls out a Kate Spade  
handbag.

DONNA

Oh, Michael, it's beautiful.

MICHAEL

So I did ok?

Donna nods emotionally. Michael pulls out a huge cigar.

MICHAEL

I got myself a celebratory cigar,  
too.

DONNA

What are we celebrating?

MICHAEL

We're healthy, we have a great  
family, I'm the newest partner at  
Ammer & Associates...

DONNA

You're kidding. Congratulations!

(CONTINUED)

54 CONTINUED:

54

MICHAEL

I single handedly landed the  
Watsuhita account tonight. Ammer  
almost shit himself.

DONNA

I knew today was gonna be a great  
day when I heard our song on the  
radio this morning...

MICHAEL

We have a song?

DONNA

The song that was playing during  
our first kiss. You're kidding me  
right?

Michael quickly covers.

MICHAEL

Of course, our song...

He pulls out the remote, QUICKLY PAUSES - THE SCENE FREEZES.  
Then he hits REWIND. REWIND EFFECT...

55 INT. NYC BAR - NIGHT (1993)

55 \*

YOUNGER MICHAEL and YOUNGER DONNA (wearing a green sweater)  
are shooting pool at a bar. "Linger" by the Cranberries is  
playing on the jukebox. Younger Michael is writing something  
on a napkin. He hands it to a younger Donna; she reads it:  
"First Kiss Time?" She writes back, "Will you still love me  
in the morning?" He writes back, "Forever and ever, Babe."  
Michael watches younger Donna nervously give younger Michael  
their first kiss. A younger Janine, who's also at the bar  
watching in a spiked mohawk and a safety-pinned together  
"DON'T HAVE A COW, MAN" Bart Simpson t-shirt sees the kiss  
and gives an over the top girly clap. Michael nods to  
himself, hits a button on the remote.

\*

BACK TO:

56 INT. MICHAEL'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

56

Donna is paused - Michael UN-PAUSES her.

MICHAEL

(resuming, to Donna)

"Linger!" by the Cranberries was  
playing during our first juicy  
kiss!

(more)

(CONTINUED)

56 CONTINUED:

56

MICHAEL (cont'd)

G-d you looked gorgeous that night  
in that green sweater you were  
wearing.

DONNA

You even remember what I was  
wearing?

MICHAEL

Sure. I even remember what Janine  
was wearing and she scared me even  
then.

\*

Donna tears up. Things are good.

A57 EXT. NEW YORK SKYLINE - MORNING

A57

Push into Ammer & Partners skyscraper rooftop - through the  
window we see Michael exiting the elevator.

57 INT. AMMER & PARTNERS - AMMER'S OFFICE - DAY  
(THE NEXT DAY)

57

One of Ammer's gorgeous assistants, Stacey, shows Michael in.  
Ammer is eating his salad.

STACEY

Right this way, Michael.

AMMER

My new star! Congratulations, Big  
guy.

\*

MICHAEL

I'm just glad it worked out so  
great, Mr. Ammer.

\*

\*

AMMER

You really knocked it out of the  
park last night. Now just draw up  
the construction documents. If  
Watsuhita commits the bulk of their  
funds - I'm lookin at my new  
partner.

Michael is stunned.

MICHAEL

I thought I was already your new  
partner.

(CONTINUED)

AMMER

Whoa, cowboy. I said land Watsuhita and you'll get promoted. I didn't mean right this second. You want the magic key to the big boys crapper, keep turnin up the juice.

MICHAEL

I don't need to take a magic juicy crap. I just want to be partner already. It could take me months to draw up those documents. \*

AMMER

Great.

Michael is devastated.

AMMER

By the way, I never told you I hung out with your friend Janine this weekend.

Michael presses PAUSE.

MICHAEL

I hope she's doing your brother right now, you double-talking cheesy sack of shit.

Michael smacks Ammer hard three times in the face presses UN-PAUSE. Ammer holds his face.

AMMER

Wow. I just got a big headache. Anyways, we really connected. And she's so effin hot! I can't thank you enough.

Michael presses PAUSE.

MICHAEL

(muttering to himself)  
You know how you can thank me? By eating one of these. \*

Michael stands on the desk in front of Ammer. Turns around, sticks his ass in Ammer's face and lets out a huge fart right in his face. He quickly jumps back off the desk, back to his position. UN-PAUSE.

(CONTINUED)



57 CONTINUED: (2)

57

AMMER

Anyways, the sooner you get back to work, the sooner you'll be partnerized.

(makes a face)

I taste shit. Stacey! Did you put shit in my lunch? Staaaccyyyyy!

Stacey looks confused and scared. Michael is still steaming.

A58 EXT. MICHAEL'S HOUSE/ESTABLISHING - FROM BACKYARD- NIGHT A58

58 INT. MICHAEL'S FAMILY DEN - NIGHT 58

Michael, still angry, is at a desk working on construction documents. Ben and Samantha walk in, very serious, carrying a bunch of papers.

BEN

Dad? We have some designs for you.

MICHAEL

Uh, now's not a good time, Ben.

SAMANTHA

But maybe they can help you finish quicker.

MICHAEL

Fine, fine, let me have a look at them.

Michael looks over the designs. He starts correcting them with a red marker.

MICHAEL

This hallway's too narrow... ceiling should be lower... stairway placement makes no sense... and the playroom made of pizza? Are you on crack or something?

Ben looks like he's about to cry. Michael turns to Samantha.

MICHAEL

Next.

SAMANTHA

Never mind.

Samantha crumples up her design for a house made of pickles, throws it in the trash and runs away.

(CONTINUED)

Donna has been watching this from the doorway.

DONNA

Have you lost your mind, Michael?  
He's seven years old. If he wants  
to make a playroom made of pizza,  
why not?

MICHAEL

Well, maybe it's time for him to  
grow up and get off fantasy island.  
(to Ben)  
Life ain't about "being creative",  
boy. It's about playing it safe,  
kissing ass, and making a bunch of  
talentless schmucks money in hopes  
that one day they'll throw you a  
stinkin bone to ease their  
conscience.

Ben is taking this all in. Donna finally realizes.

DONNA

They didn't make you a partner did  
they?

Michael too embarrassed to look up, just shakes his head.

DONNA

Look, I know you're feeling awful  
now, but we'll get through this.

MICHAEL

That's all I do! Get through  
things! When is it gonna end?!

Michael storms outside.

A59-60 OMITTED

A59-60

A61 EXT. MICHAEL'S HOUSE - NIGHT

A61

Michael is leaning on his car at the end of his driveway,  
smoking his big cigar, deep in thought.

He's staring at the gleaming Winnebago next door in the  
O'Doyle's driveway.

KEVIN

Pretty sweet, eh?

(CONTINUED)



A61 CONTINUED: (2)

A61

MORTY

Michael, the real question is, have you considered the consequences of the thing you're thinking about doing?

MICHAEL

What "thing"?

MORTY

Don't play dumb. The thing. Obtaining the partnership. It's so close you can taste it. Just a button push away.

\*  
\*

MICHAEL

I know. Are you telling me I shouldn't skip that far ahead?

\*  
\*

MORTY

It's your life. What you do with the remote is your decision...I'm just saying, remember that leprechaun. The one from the cereal. He's always chasing that pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, but when all the chips are counted, it's just cereal, Michael.

\*  
\*  
  
  
  
\*  
\*

MICHAEL

I have no idea what that meant.

MORTY

(grabs abdomen, pained expression)  
That's it: no more fish tacos.  
(as he runs back to the Winnebago)  
It's your life, Michael.

\*

Morty enters the Winnebago and shuts the door behind him. Michael thinks for a beat, extinguishes the cigar and walks toward the front door.

\*

B61 EXT. NEWMAN'S FRONT PORCH - NIGHT

B61

\*

What he hears OFF SCREEN stops him in his tracks.

BEN (O.C.)

No fair! I don't want to return my bike!

(CONTINUED)

B61 CONTINUED:

B61

DONNA (O.C.)  
We have to, honey.

SAMANTHA (O.C.)  
But Daddy gave them to us.

DONNA (O.C.)  
Cause he loves you. But  
unfortunately there was a mix up at  
daddy's work and we just need to  
bring the bikes back for now.

BEN (O.C.)  
But I already told Kevin O'Doyle I  
got a new bike!

Michael is devastated. He takes the remote out of his jacket  
pocket and looks at it.

DONNA (O.C.)  
Well, we can paint my old bike and  
make it look new.

BEN (O.C.)  
That's a girl's bike! All the kids  
will make fun of me...

DONNA (O.C.)  
We don't have any other choice,  
guys.

This kills Michael. He can't help himself. Closes his eyes.

MICHAEL  
I can't take this... Fast forward  
me to my promotion.

HE PRESSES THE FAST FORWARD button. FAST FORWARD EFFECT...

61 INT. AMMER & PARTNERS - COMMON AREA (2007) - DAY  
(ONE YEAR LATER)

61

Michael finds himself in an OFFICE PARTY, holding a champagne  
glass. Michael looks around, confused. Ammer is giving a  
toast.

AMMER (+1YR)  
To Michael Newman. A partner I'll  
be proud to watch tinkle next to my  
urinal.

(CONTINUED)

Stacey and Linda share a cringing look. Everyone raises a glass.

MICHAEL @39

Uh, okay, cheers, great. I promise I won't let you down.

People pat Michael on the back. Ammer walks over.

AMMER (+1YR)

How does it feel, killer?

MICHAEL @39

So far it feels uh...pretty awesome.

AMMER (+1YR)

Well, you earned it. Not only for the Watsuhita project, but for helping pick up the slack now that I've been spending so much time with my special lady.

Janine walks up and kisses Ammer. He puts his arm around her.

MICHAEL @39

You guys are still going out? What's it been, two, three months?

They laugh.

JANINE (+1YR)

The first few months was easy. That one year hump was the tough part.

AMMER (+1YR)

Her "inappropriate" weekend in Cabo with my brother was a potential speed bump. But Dr. Bergman helped us work past it. How is he working out for you and Donna?

Michael doesn't understand.

JANINE (+1YR) (TO AMMER)

Oh, come on! It's none of our business! Let's let Michael bask in his glory.

They leave. Michael looks around, panicked.

(CONTINUED)

61 CONTINUED: (2)

61

MICHAEL @39

It took over a year for that  
bastard to promote me.

(realizing)

What the hell did I miss?

Michael runs off. He pushes through the crowd. KIRSTEN, a  
cute 23 year old woman, approaches Michael.

KIRSTEN

Did you need something, Mr. Newman?

MICHAEL @39

I have to find my wife.

KIRSTEN

Should I get her on the phone?

MICHAEL @39

Who are you?

KIRSTEN

Kirsten. Your assistant?

MICHAEL @39

Kirsten? What happened to Alice?

KIRSTEN

She works in accounting now. She  
couldn't handle your hours.

(lowers voice)

And she prefers to be called  
"Alan", now, remember?

CUT TO ALICE, on the other side of the room, now a man, with  
a goatee and a three piece suit. She's laughing in a really  
deep voice at what her (his) new boss is saying. Then she  
catches Michael's eye and looks scared.

Michael backs away, confused.

He runs into his office.

62 INT. AMMER &amp; PARTNERS - MICHAEL'S CORNER OFFICE - DAY 62

Michael picks up the phone and DIALS. He turns to his  
window...

MICHAEL'S POV of... THE FINISHED WATSUHITA HOTEL: We pan up  
and see Prince Habeeboo's Bikini Hut (with a flashing neon  
bikini girl sign) on the top floor.

(CONTINUED)

62 CONTINUED:

62

A bunch of sheiks are chasing bikini clad woman. One Sheik runs into a pole. He turns away, disgusted.

DONNA (O.C.)

Hello?

MICHAEL @39

Donna?

DONNA (O.C.)

How's your party going?

MICHAEL @39

A little out of control, actually. \*

DONNA (O.C.)

So I'm guessing you're going to be late for our session with Doctor Bergman again?

Michael finally understands and collapses on a chair. He massages his eyes.

MICHAEL @39

No, I'll be there. Can you give me Dr. Bergman's address again... I think I lost it.

63 INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE - AN HOUR AND A HALF LATER - DAY 63 \*

Michael and Donna sit on a couch talking to DR. BERGMAN (Sid Ganis) who is smoking a pipe.

DONNA @32

And I feel like Michael's making no effort to connect with me at all.

MICHAEL @39

I couldn't help it. I was on autopilot.

DONNA @32

Autopilot? More like auto-zombie.

DR. BERGMAN

Good one, Donna.

MICHAEL @39

Hey, a doctor's not supposed to say "good one, Donna"!

(to Donna)

Who is this big mouth. Can't you and I just talk?

(CONTINUED)



63 CONTINUED:

63

DONNA @32

There is no talking to you! You're never home to talk to! And if you are you're just staring off into space.

MICHAEL @39

I don't want too! Dammit! That's just the way autopilot is!!!

Suddenly, FAST FORWARD EFFECT...

64 INT. MICHAEL'S KITCHEN - DUSK

64 \*

Michael finds himself sitting at dinner with his family. Samantha's hair is longer. Ben's hair is shorter and he's a little bit chubbier. \*

MICHAEL @39

(confused)

What happened? I didn't even touch the remote.

DONNA @32

(to Michael)

What remote? You're gonna start watching TV at dinner now?

SAMANTHA @5

Oh! Can we?

MICHAEL @39

(getting his bearings)

Ben! Sam! Gimme a hug.

(he hugs them)

I didn't know my promotion would take so long. I'm so sorry. \*

Donna looks at Michael, confused - as are Ben and Sam.

MICHAEL @39 (CONT'D)

Tell you what, if we're done eating, how 'bout we all sit down and watch Dragon Tales together?

SAMANTHA @5

Dragon Tales is for babies, Dad. I'll pick out a movie.

BEN @8

No, it's my turn to pick it.

(CONTINUED)

The kids run off, fighting about which movie to watch.

MICHAEL @39  
I missed the whole Dragon Tales  
era?

Suddenly, Michael is startled when a Papillion (tiny dog) appears out from under the couch with a Twinkie in his mouth and starts running around the living room! \*

MICHAEL @39  
Hey! Hey! Put that Twinkie down  
you half a rat! Get over here! \*

DONNA @32  
So you've been hiding your junk  
food! Don't be mad at Peanut cause  
he busted you. \*

MICHAEL @39 (CONT'D)  
Who's Peanut? Where's Sundance?

DONNA @32  
Shh! Don't mention Sundance! The  
kids finally stopped crying.

MICHAEL @39  
Oh, G-d. What do you mean? He died?

Michael starts to get sad. Even some tears.

MICHAEL @39 (CONT'D)  
(crying)  
Oh! No! Noooo! But he was so cute  
with the kids and the cowboy hat  
and the duck and the humping. \*

DONNA @32  
You held it in so long and now  
you're finally letting yourself  
feel it.

MICHAEL @39  
What have I done? I missed so much. \*

Donna feels sorry for him and starts comforting him.

DONNA @32  
It's okay, it's okay.

(CONTINUED)

MICHAEL @39

I swear to G-d, I'll make it up to you, Donna. I love you. Do you still love me?

DONNA @32

(lowers her eyes)  
Oh, Michael. It's been...  
(sighs)  
I'm so confused...

Michael realizes this is serious.

MICHAEL @39

Please, Donna, give me another chance. I swear I'll change.

She doesn't say anything. She just hugs Michael harder. Then they notice Peanut humping Sundance's duck.

MICHAEL @39

Didn't take the duck long to get over Sundance.

\*  
\*  
\*

DONNA @32

I know this sounds a little deviant, but that's kind of turning me on.

MICHAEL @39

Wow, you saying you're turned on by a dog humping a stuffed animal just turned me on.

Donna giggles. Michael goes in for a kiss and suddenly...  
FAST FORWARD EFFECT!

65 INT. MICHAEL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT (A FEW MINUTES LATER)

65

Michael is once again lying next to Donna. They've obviously just finished having sex. Once again, she's irritated and unsatisfied.

MICHAEL @39

Oh Noooo!  
(off Donna's angry look)  
It's not my fault! It jumped on its own! I didn't even hit the button!

DONNA @32

Not even close.

(CONTINUED)

65 CONTINUED:

65

MICHAEL @39

Don't be mad at me. I just got to go... walk this off.

He runs out of the room. Donna hits the pillow annoyed.

66 INT. MICHAEL'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

66

Michael runs in, holding the remote and grabbing the phone. Out of nowhere Morty appears.

MORTY

Yesss--

Michael jumps scared out of his mind and breaks a table.

DONNA @32 (O.C.)

Michael?

MICHAEL @39

I'm alright!

They both whisper the next conversation.

MICHAEL @39

How'd you get in here?

MORTY

I had a feeling you wanted to see me.

MICHAEL @39

(re: remote)

Well, you were right. I'm freaking out. This thing is broken. It keeps fast-forwarding on its own.

MORTY

Michael, that's not a malfunction. It's a feature. It's just using its memory to execute your preferences.

MICHAEL @39

It remembers stuff about me?

MORTY

Of course it does. It's an advanced piece of equipment, like TIVO. You could call it... Me-vo.

(CONTINUED)

MICHAEL @39

But I only fast forwarded through sex once. I didn't mean to skip it forever. I love sex!

MORTY

Correct me if I'm wrong, but you fast forwarded through an entire year. That's alot of sex. Put it all together that's like thirty minutes worth for you.

MICHAEL @39

So everything I fast forwarded so far, it's gonna do it on it's own now?

MORTY

Pretty much. No more showering. No more traffic. No more arguing. No more peeing on the rug.

MICHAEL @39

When did I pee on the rug?

MORTY

I'm not talking to you.

Morty points at Peanut, who is peeing on the rug.

MORTY

No more peeing on the rug!

Peanut looks ashamed.

MICHAEL @39

You know what? This is bad. I can't lose any more time. I'm deactivating my service!

Michael hands the remote to Morty.

Then Michael stops, shocked. He looks in his hand and he's surprised to see that he's HOLDING THE REMOTE AGAIN. Peanut is watching this and is also baffled.

MICHAEL @39

What's this?

Michael throws the remote in the trash. IMMEDIATELY, it appears back in his hand.

(CONTINUED)

Michael opens the front door, throws it out and makes two fists. He looks at his crotch - we see a REMOTE SHAPED LUMP. Peanut's jaw drops.

MORTY

Hey, is that a remote in your pocket or are you just hap--

MICHAEL @39

Not funny!

Michael starts to TAKE OFF HIS PANTS.

MORTY

I wouldn't do that if I were you. There's only one place left for it to pop up.

THIS REGISTERS. MICHAEL looks at Peanut who covers his dog eyes, and QUICKLY ZIPS BACK UP.

MORTY

I told you: this item is non-returnable. Think of it this way. Most people lose 2 to 5 remotes a year. You never have to worry about that. 'Til we meet again.

Morty exits. Michael puts the remote on the coffee table and stares at it.

67 INT. MICHAEL'S BEDROOM - THE NEXT MORNING

67

Donna and Michael are waking up.

DONNA @32

Morning, Sweetie. You want to shower first?

MICHAEL @39

No, I don't want to shower. If I shower, I'm gonna fast forward and who knows how long I'm gonna fast forward for? I'm gonna rough it today. Like in the Old West.

Michael gets up, puts on his bathrobe and slippers, starts out.

MICHAEL @39

Ok. I'm going to work.

(CONTINUED)

67 CONTINUED:

67

DONNA @32

Like that?

MICHAEL @39

OK! Stay calm! We can't argue. If we argue. Zzzziiippp. Off I go. So I'm wrong. You're right. And I love you so much. See ya tonight at dinner. All of us. The kids, mom and dad, nice and early.

He's going to kiss her on the lips, but thinks better of it and goes for the forehead.

MICHAEL @39

I'm sorry. No lips. I just can't risk a zziippp. Bye Bye.

Donna is confused.

68 EXT. NEW YORK CITY - BROOKLYN BRIDGE - DAY 68

Heavy traffic. After a beat, we see Michael @39, still in his bathrobe and slippers - not in a car, but on Donna's bike \* crossing the Brooklyn Bridge passing traffic unimpeded.

A69 INT. AMMER &amp; PARTNERS BUILDING - MAIN LOBBY - DAY A69

Michael @39, still in his bathrobe and slippers, tries to sneak past the stuttering guard.

STUTTERING GUARD

Hey M-mm-M--Mist..

MICHAEL @39

Please stop talking.

Stuttering guard nods his head ok. Michael gets past him.

69 INT. AMMER &amp; PARTNERS - COMMON AREA - LATER THAT DAY 69

By the elevators. In the far right corner, we see the...

FIRE EXIT DOOR crack open. Michael, disheveled in his bathrobe, peers in, then makes a bee-line to his office.

70 INT. AMMER & PARTNERS - MICHAEL'S CORNER OFFICE - DAY 70  
(CONTINUOUS)

Michael enters relieved. Ammer is sitting in Michael's chair.

(CONTINUED)

AMMER (+1YR)

Your first day as partner and you show up in a freakin bathrobe ?

MICHAEL @39

Yes, John, I did.

(a beat)

Because as a partner of this firm I need to lead by example. It's time we stop wasting energy with all the corporate brown-nosing, and trying to look better than the next guy, and focus on what really matters -- the work!

Ammer lets this soak in. Then takes his tie off.

AMMER (+1YR)

Inspired stuff, Michael. Life changing. And speaking of life changing I need to talk to you about something, or actually someone. Janine.

MICHAEL @39

Is everything okay?

AMMER (+1YR)

Posolutely.

Ammer looks out the window, in a reflective mood.

AMMER (+1YR)

I mean, the sex is great. A little loud for my taste, but that's my neighbor's problem. Yet honestly, our connection goes way deeper than that. Michael, Janine and I decided to slow our lives down, drop out of the rat race and move to Morroco. Eric Lamensoff is going to take over day to day responsibilities for me, so I'll need you to take his job.

MICHAEL @39

But he's the head of the whole international department. I've only been a partner for one day.

(CONTINUED)



70 CONTINUED: (2)

70

AMMER (+1YR)

So? Every account you work on has turned into gold. The way you've been going, it wouldn't surprise me if one day you woke up and found yourself our CEO.

Michael can't believe it.

MICHAEL @39

I would love that...

Suddenly... HIGH SPEED FAST FORWARD EFFECT!

71 INT. MICHAEL'S APARTMENT (2016) - NIGHT  
(NINE YEARS LATER)

71

Dark. Michael's sleeping in bed, his face covered by sheets. The phone rings. Michael hits a button next to his bed and AMMER appears on the videophone screen. Michael remains in the shadow and we just hear his voice off screen.

MICHAEL @48(FAT) (O.S.)

Michael Newman...

AMMER (+10YRS)

Word up, big guy! Long time no speak!

MICHAEL @48(FAT) (O.S.)

What happened?

AMMER (+10YRS,)

It's John Ammer. Your bossy boss. What time is it there?

MICHAEL @48(FAT)

I don't know... Dawnish...

AMMER (+10YRS)

I always get it wrong! It's five hours later here! This Moroccan sun really fried my mind!

(laughs)

Dammit! Or shaba-bulu, as the natives say! Anyhoo, big news... Eric Lamensoff killed himself.

\*

MICHAEL @48(FAT)

He who?

(CONTINUED)

AMMER (+10YRS)  
So, congratulations, dude! You're  
the new CEO of Ammer & Associates.

MICHAEL @48(FAT)  
No way.

AMMER (+10YRS)  
Janine, would you put some clothes  
on in front of the camel?

We hear horny camel noises.

JANINE (+10YRS, V.O.)  
Wow, his hump is swelling up.

AMMER (+10YRS)  
(back to Michael)  
Listen, I gotta go. Just call me  
when you get to the office.  
(one last yell at Janine)  
Oh my g-d look at that thing.  
Janine, get in the tent! Run!

He hangs up, reaches over and hits a SWITCH - LIGHTS COME ON  
and BLINDS OPEN revealing a snow covered Manhattan skyline.  
He gets out of bed. REVEAL... MICHAEL'S FULL BODY, IN  
UNDERWEAR HE'S ENORMOUS -- A MASS OF ROLLING FAT.

He disappears into the bathroom. And five seconds later...

MICHAEL @48(FAT)  
AAAYYYYEEYYYYEE!!!

Michael waddles/runs out. He touches his body, terrified.

MICHAEL @48(FAT) (CONT'D)  
Oh my g-d! I'm a fat guy!

Michael puts his arms out and jiggles tricep flab. \*

MICHAEL @48 \*  
I look like my grandmother! \*

A girl emerges from the sheets - It's Stacey, in a nightie.  
MICHAEL RECOILS quickly and breaks a glass wall. Then Linda  
also emerges.

MICHAEL @48(FAT) (CONT'D)  
Where the hell am I? What are you  
guys doing here? And how did I  
become a hippo?

(CONTINUED)

71 CONTINUED: (2)

71

STACEY  
You're in your apartment.

LINDA  
We're here to have sex with you.

STACEY  
And you're a hippo cause you eat  
like a hippo.

LINDA  
If a hippo ate pizza, Twinkies and  
hamburgers twenty four-seven.

REVEAL BURGERS, TWINKIES, AND A PIZZA BOX ON THE NIGHT STAND.

MICHAEL @48(FAT)  
What do you mean my apartment? I  
have a house with my wife.

STACEY  
Not for long!

The girls giggle.

LINDA  
Now come back to bed, papa bear.

MICHAEL @48(FAT)  
No, I can't. It's wrong. I'll crush  
you both.

Alice/Alan pops out from under the sheets, her beard now a  
grayer goatee.

ALICE/ALAN(40'S)  
Enough with the talking. I got  
some morning wood I need to burn!

Michael looks scared.

MICHAEL @48(FAT)  
I gotta get out of here. Where's  
that remote?

He looks on a nearby nightstand and then notices all three  
girls pointing at him...

THE REMOTE IS WEDGED BETWEEN TWO FAT FOLDS IN HIS SIDE.

MICHAEL @48(FAT)  
Good 1-rd, I'm a blob.

(CONTINUED)

71 CONTINUED: (3)

71

He DIGS OUT THE REMOTE and pushes a button. FAST FORWARD EFFECT...

72 INT. MICHAEL'S APARTMENT - UNDERGROUND PARKING LOT - DAY 72 \*

Michael is in the parking lot at his new apartment building in the city. (a red headed guy is the valet). \*

MICHAEL @48(FAT)  
Where's my car?

PARKING ATTENDANT  
She'll be right around, Mr. Newman.

MICHAEL @48 \*  
Did you just call me fatty? \*

PARKING ATTENDANT \*  
No, sir. \*

MICHAEL @48 \*  
Wait a minute. Do I know you? \*

PARKING ATTENDANT \*  
Yeah, I'm Kevin O'Doyle. You're ex \*  
neighbor and now parking attendant. \*  
Here's your car, sir. \*

Another ATTENDANT pulls up in A NEVER BEFORE SEEN "Cadillac". \*

MICHAEL @48(FAT) \*  
Ooh, now fatty has a Caddy. How's \*  
that make you feel, Kevin? \*

PARKING ATTENDANT \*  
Resentful, sir. \*

The other attendant opens the car door for Michael and heaps \*  
of fast food garbage spills out. Michael jumps in and \*  
continues to hand trash out to the attendant, but takes back \*  
a box of MINI DONUTS.

WITH GREAT DIFFICULTY, HE PULLS HIS SEAT BELT AROUND HIS BIG GUT. He loses his breath. Almost in tears...

MICHAEL @48(FAT) (CONT'D)  
That's it! I'm going on a diet!

He looks at the box of mini-doughnuts. He closes his eyes. He looks back at the box. He turns away, struggling. Then he grabs the remote.

(CONTINUED)

72 CONTINUED:

72

MICHAEL @48(FAT) (CONT'D)  
 Dammit! Just fast forward to the  
 end of my diet.

73 EXT. KFC PARKING LOT - MICHAEL'S CAR - TWO MINUTES LATER 73

Michael sits in his car, GORGING ON KFC CHICKEN AND MINI-DOUGHNUTS. He stops to breathe, face full of grease. Looks at his watch.

MICHAEL @48(FAT)  
 Two minutes. Nice willpower, fat  
 ass.

74 EXT. MICHAEL'S HOUSE (2016) - DUSK 74 \*

Michael drives up to his snow covered house, parks. Finishes some fried clams. He puts his key in the lock. It turns. He breathes a sigh of relief. He enters.

75 INT. MICHAEL'S HOUSE - DUSK - CONTINUOUS 75 \*

Michael enters. Ben is there -- NOW PLAYED BY A DIFFERENT, OLDER ACTOR. He's A CHUBBY 17, eating chips, watching TV.

MICHAEL @48(FAT)  
 Ben, is that you?

BEN @17  
 Hey, Dad.

MICHAEL @48(FAT)  
 My G-d, you got so big! Look at  
 you!

BEN @17  
 (annoyed)  
 Look who's talking, Free Willie.  
 Thanks for the self esteem boost.

Ben GRABS A BOX OF Twinkies, angrily EXITS.

MICHAEL @48(FAT)  
 (calls after Ben)  
 I didn't mean big-fat. I meant  
 you've grown. Ben, get back here!  
 And bring the Twinkies! I mean,  
 I'm sorry!

No answer. Samantha comes down the stairs, now a pretty teenager.

(CONTINUED)

75 CONTINUED:

75

SAMANTHA @14  
 Would you stop shouting, Dad? It's  
 so embarrassing.  
 (then, yells upstairs)  
 Mom! I'm going to Derick's house. \*

Samantha passes him. Starts to exit.

MICHAEL @48(FAT)  
 Sammy? Look at you! You're like a  
 woman already! Is that a bra you're  
 wearing?

SAMANTHA @14  
 Oh. My. G-d. I can't believe you  
 just said that. I'm so leaving  
 right now.

MICHAEL @48(FAT)  
 Hold up, Samantha. Who's this  
 Derick person? \*

SAMANTHA @14  
 Duh. My boyfriend, the hottest guy  
 in school. Hello? \*

MICHAEL @48  
 Oh, he's gonna be real hot when I  
 burn down his house. Now go back  
 upstairs and put on some clothes.

SAMANTHA @14  
 Why are you so mean to me!!!!

Samantha runs upstairs. Suddenly, A BIG SHEEPDOG WALKS PAST.

MICHAEL @48(FAT)(CONT'D)  
 (seeing the dog)  
 Now Peanut's dead? What is this,  
 the place where dogs go to die?

The sheepdog starts humping the duck.

MICHAEL @48(FAT)(CONT'D)  
 Yet the legacy of duck humping  
 continues...Where's Donna? \*

Michael heads off to look. The sheepdog follows him. \*

76 EXT. NEWMAN HOUSE - BACKYARD - DUSK 76 \*

Donna is knocking down icicles off the roof. \*

(CONTINUED)

76 CONTINUED:

76

MICHAEL @48(FAT)(CONT'D)  
Donna! There you are!!

He runs to her hugs her tightly. She's surprised.

MICHAEL @48(FAT)(CONT'D)  
We've lost control of the kids.  
There was a bearded lady in my bed  
this morning. I'm so scared.

Donna gently extricates herself from Michael's hug as Bill  
comes out the back door.

BILL(+10YRS)  
Knock knock, gang.

Bill gives her a kiss on the lips. Michael's shocked.

DONNA @41  
Hi, darling.

Bill sees Michael.

BILL (+10YRS)  
Hey, Mike.

MICHAEL @48(FAT)  
What's going on here?

BILL (+10YRS)  
Well, Donna and I are about to head  
out for some hot chocolate. You  
want us to bring you back one?

Michael looks at them. Then...

MICHAEL @48(FAT)  
You're cheatin on me? With Aquaman?

BILL (+10YRS)  
Time out, Mike. I thought we were  
past this?

He grabs Bill and starts choking him.

MICHAEL @48(FAT)  
You don't mess with another man's  
wife!

Donna runs over and starts hitting Michael, trying to stop  
the choking.

(CONTINUED)

DONNA @41  
 Stop it, Michael! It was your  
 decision to move out! SO STAY OUT!

MICHAEL @48(FAT)  
 You cheated on me! You ruined our  
 family!

DONNA @41  
 How dare you say that! Go away! I  
 hate you! \*

MICHAEL @48(FAT)  
 (remembering)  
 No, Donna, stop! We can't argue!

Michael hits pause. Donna is frozen. He stares at her  
 thoughtfully. As he does he catches sight of the half done  
 tree house, now weathered and beaten. \*

MICHAEL @48(FAT)  
 (bitter to himself)  
 I hate you too, you jackass.  
 (to the sky)  
 Why did you do this to me,  
 Morty?!!! \*

Morty's sitting in a lawn chair petting the paused sheepdog. \*

MORTY  
 You did this to yourself, Michael.

MICHAEL @48(FAT)  
 I didn't want to miss all that  
 time! I wanted to be with my  
 family!

MORTY  
 Look, the remote goes by your  
 behavior. Every time you had a  
 conflict between work and home,  
 work won. I mean c'mon, you can lie  
 to your wife. You can even lie to  
 yourself. But you can't lie to the  
 remote. The remote is lie proof. \*

Michael looks defeated.

MORTY (CONT'D)  
 Hey, you can't change what already  
 happened.  
 (more)

(CONTINUED)



76 CONTINUED: (3)

76

MORTY (CONT'D)

But you're still a relatively young man. You can win Donna back.

\*  
\*

MICHAEL @48(FAT)

Well then, that's what I'm gonna do right now.

MORTY

Give it a shot, tubs.

Michael pulls out a pen and some scrap paper from his pocket. We can't see what he's writing. \*

He finishes, and re-takes his original position. Just as he's about to hit unpaue, he kisses Donna then kicks Bill in the balls. Then he hits unpaue. Bill doubles over in pain as Donna begins pounding on Michaels chest.

DONNA @41

I hate you! I hate you! I hate you!

MICHAEL @48(FAT)

Please. Stop it, Donna. I wrote you a-- \*

Sensing Donna is upset the sheepdog jumps on Michael, knocking him backwards. His head hits a table with a sickening thud. FAST FORWARD EFFECT... \*

77 INT. HOSPITAL ROOM (2022) - DAY (SIX YEARS LATER)

77

Michael's in bed. He looks around. We see his POV. His body is not fat.

MICHAEL @54

Where'd the fat go? Oh thank you, it was all just a dream. A terrible, terrible, dream.

DONNA @47 (O.S.)

What's that, Michael? You had a bad dream?

We cut wide to see Donna by his side with a SHORT HAIRCUT. Michael is even older.

MICHAEL @54

(coming to)

Huh? I cracked my head because of a sheepdog, right?

(CONTINUED)

DONNA @47

(confused, then)

Oh yeah. Shaggy the miracle dog. If he hadn't knocked you on your noggin, you wouldn't have had that CatScan that found the cancer before it spread too far.

MICHAEL @54

(devastated)

That's why I'm skinny again? Cause I have cancer?

DONNA @47

You 'had' cancer and you were the only person in the world to gain weight during chemo. That's probably what caused your heart attack.

MICHAEL @54

Heart attack?

DONNA @47

I thought they weened you off the morphine.

Michael still looks confused.

DONNA @47 (CONT'D)

Let's see Mr. Junk food, since the head injury you haven't been healthy a full day. You fought off cancer, two heart attacks, a bleeding ulcer, got your kidney stones and gallbladder removed, and then broke your ribs rolling over in your sleep one night which finally convinced you to do this liposuction. \*

MICHAEL @54

(fearing the worst)

Wait... when exactly did I hit my head? \*

DONNA @47

What was it, like, six years ago?

Michael sees the remote and mutters to himself. \*

(CONTINUED)

77 CONTINUED: (2)

77

MICHAEL @54

You skipped me through being sick. \*

DONNA @47 (CONT'D)

Well, I just wanted to make sure you were doing OK before you checked out, which apparently you're not. I'm gonna tell them to cut down on your painkillers.

MICHAEL @54

You are so good to me, Donna.

(looks down)

At least this liposuction worked out OK.

Michael LIFTS HIS SHIRT. REVEAL THAT HIS STOMACH IS THIN - EXCEPT FOR ONE LONG EXTRA FLAP OF SKIN DROOPING DOWN FROM HIS OTHERWISE FLAT STOMACH. HE GRABS IT.

MICHAEL @54

(flapping the skin)

What the hell is this?

DONNA @47

Loose skin. One more tummy tuck should take care of it.

Michael continues to FLAP HIS FLAP, fascinated.

DONNA @47 (CONT'D)

Having fun there?

(he stops, then)

Don't stop for me. I need to go.

Bill's waiting for me downstairs.

MICHAEL @54

You're still with the Speedo Torpedo? What happened to forever and ever.

Donna is about to insult him, but stops herself.

DONNA @47

Michael, you know I'm trying to have a civil relationship with you, for the kids' sake. I want to be friends, but I can't do that if...

(noticing)

Would you stop flapping that thing!

(CONTINUED)

77 CONTINUED: (3)

77

Reveal Michael still absentmindedly playing with his flap.  
He stops.

MICHAEL @54

Oh, sorry.

DONNA @47

Thank you. Look, Bill's my  
husband. Please learn to accept  
that. Now I really have to go.

She heads out. Michael sits up.

MICHAEL @54

Husband? Donna, wait! Nurse!  
Somebody!

78 OMITTED

78

79 INT. NEWMAN ARCHITECTURE - COMMON AREA (2022) - DAY  
(A MOMENT LATER)

79

Busy. The office looks richer - they've obviously been quite  
successful. We see an elevator open. Michael gets off. The  
first thing he notices is a new sign in the lobby that  
features his name... "Newman Architecture."

MICHAEL @54

(miserable to himself)  
All your dreams came true huh  
bigshot?

As Michael enters, several employees walk past him.

EMPLOYEES

Good to see you, Mr. Newman... Hi,  
Mr. Newman...

Michael politely nods to everyone. An older, but still trying  
hard to be sexy, Stacey approaches.

STACEY

Mr. Newman. Your son was looking  
for you.

Michael is surprised to hear his son is there. He spots a  
FAT GUY from behind.

MICHAEL @54

Ben?

The guy turns around - it's not Ben.

(CONTINUED)

79 CONTINUED:

79

FAT GUY  
Ignatius, sir. But I'll change my  
name to Ben if that'll help you not  
fire me.

MICHAEL @54  
G-d, I must be a dick.

FAT GUY  
Big time, sir.

Then, from behind him, he hears...

BEN @23 (O.C.)  
Dad?

Michael turns around and sees...

BEN -- MID-TWENTIES, A CORPORATE SHARK. HE'S THIN AND FIT.

MICHAEL @54  
Oh my God... You look great! Your  
entire ass is gone!

Michael examines him, touches his face. People are looking.  
Ben's embarrassed.

BEN @23  
Dad, why don't we talk about my ass  
in my office?

He leads Michael away to the...

80 INT. NEWMAN ARCHITECTURE - BEN'S OFFICE(2022) - DAY 80  
(A MOMENT LATER)

It's Michael's former office - large, sumptuous. We see a  
small MODEL of a building on Ben's desk.

MICHAEL @54  
My old office! I can't believe you  
became an architect. \*

BEN @23  
(confused)  
Mom said you were still a little  
loopy. \*

MICHAEL @54  
No, no. I'm fine. How did you get  
so thin, buddy?  
(more)

(CONTINUED)

80 CONTINUED:

80

MICHAEL @54 (cont'd)

The old staple treatment? You wanna have a flap fight?

BEN @23

No, I'm still working out with Bill five times a week.

MICHAEL @54

Oh, right. Old Breaststroke Billy. \*

Michael notices a FAMILY PICTURE - FEATURING MICHAEL, DONNA, BEN, AND A BLONDE GIRL. He picks it up.

MICHAEL @54 (CONT'D)

Hey, there you are with mom and I. Who's this sexy chick? Your lady?

BEN @23

Your daughter, Samantha. Remember her?

MICHAEL @54

(covering his mistake)

I'm kidding. I know. Man, she's beautiful.

INTERCOM V.O.

Ben, your girlfriend is on line one. She wants to know about dinner.

BEN @23

Tell her I can't tonight. I have loads of stuff to finish up here. (to Michael)

Look, I actually need to get ready for my next meeting so...

MICHAEL @54

I'm sorry. I'll leave you alone. \*

Michael starts out. He turns back....

MICHAEL @54 (CONT'D)

Hey, we should get together soon. I want to take the whole family out for ice cream. Your mom won't come but Grandpa and Grandma and Sam and you and your girlfriend. That would be nice.

Ben leaves his desk and approaches, concerned.

(CONTINUED)

80 CONTINUED: (2)

80

BEN @23

Grandpa? I knew something was wrong  
with you today. Sit. Drink some  
water.

MICHAEL @54

Why? What's going on?  
(realizing)  
Where's my father?

BEN @23

Grandpa died, Dad. He died a while  
back now.

Michael's shocked. Ben gets some water.

MICHAEL @54

What, what happened to him?

BEN @23

Nothing. He was just... old.  
That's life, you know. You're  
born, you live, you die.  
(calling to his assistant)  
Susie, push my next meeting!

MICHAEL @54

No, I'm fine. Go to your meeting.

BEN @23

But, Dad, you're not--

MICHAEL @54

I'm okay. I just got a little  
dizzy. You go ahead. Really.

BEN @23

... alright, but call if you need  
me okay?

Michael nods and exits.

81 EXT. BROOKLYN CEMETERY - LATER THAT DAY

81

Michael is standing before HIS FATHER'S HEADSTONE, serious.  
He takes out the remote and presses "REWIND." Nothing  
happens. He presses it again. Nothing.

MORTY O.C.

It won't take you there.

Morty shows up behind him.

(CONTINUED)

81 CONTINUED:

81

MICHAEL @54

Where?

MORTY

To the moment he died. You weren't there.

MICHAEL @54

Of course I wasn't. Well, just take me to the last time I saw him.

\*

He hits "REWIND." REWIND EFFECT...

82 INT. AMMER & PARTNERS - MICHAEL'S OFFICE - DAY  
(A YEAR EARLIER)

82

Michael finds himself in the corner of his office. He sees himself - REWOUND "autopilot" MICHAEL @53 - working at his desk.

SLIGHTLY YOUNGER ADULT BEN enters.

BEN @22

Dad, sorry to bug you, but can you look at my shopping mall design again? I mean,  
(lays plans on his desk)  
...this one's cheaper, but my first design has a much better aesthetic flow...

REWOUND MICHAEL @53(QUICKLY)

No. The cheaper one. I have to finish this e-mail.

BEN @22

Yeah, you're right. Cheaper is better.

REWOUND MICHAEL's already on the computer. Ben looks at him, upset.

MICHAEL @54

(to Rewound Michael)  
Freakin' tight-wad hack boss.  
(to Ben)  
It's a good idea, Ben.

TED NEWMAN, much older, pokes his head into the office.

TED @77

Surprise!

(CONTINUED)



REWOUND MICHAEL doesn't even look up.

BEN @22  
Hey, Grandpa.

Ted and Ben hug and kiss. Rewound Michael remains on the computer. Michael approaches his father, looks at him - amazed to see him looking so old. He tries to touch his face - his hand goes through him. Ted walks up to REWOUND MICHAEL.

TED @77  
Your Mom's playing bridge with her friends tonight. I thought maybe you, me and Ben could have a boy's night out.

REWOUND MICHAEL @53  
(distracted by computer)  
Can't.

TED @77  
Come on. You guys have to eat sometime.

REWOUND MICHAEL holds up a finger, "one minute," and keeps typing. Ben feels bad.

BEN @22  
I can go--

Ted won't have it. He takes out a quarter to entice Michael.

TED @77  
Michael, how 'bout if I show you how I do my quarter trick? I'll show you the secret.

REWOUND MICHAEL @53  
No, Dad.

TED @77  
But don't you want to know how I-

REWOUND MICHAEL @53  
I know how you do the stupid trick! I've always known! Now can I do my work!

We see the shock on Ted's face in reaction to Michael's thoughtless admission.

(CONTINUED)

82 CONTINUED: (2)

82

MICHAEL @54  
 (watching, to himself)  
 You jackass.

Ben looks away, avoiding Ted's eyes. Ted is broken, but tries to hide it with a smile.

TED @77  
 (realizing)  
 You always knew how ...  
 (watching Michael working,  
 he swallows his pain)  
 ... Okay, guys. Sorry to barge in.

Ted affectionately pats Rewound Michael's head.

TED @77 (CONT'D)  
 I love you, son.

Rewound Michael keeps working. Ted exits. Michael hits PAUSE. SCENE FREEZES. He hits REWIND. The SCENE REWINDS a few moments before Ted exits. Michael stops, hits PLAY.

TED @77 (CONT'D)  
 I love you, son.

Michael REWINDS again to watch him once more.

TED @77 (CONT'D)  
 I love you, son.

He PAUSES him again. Michael stares at him, getting close...

MICHAEL @54  
 I love you too, Dad.

He gives his father's image a kiss on the cheek.

83 EXT. BROOKLYN CEMETERY - PRESENT (2022) - DAY

83

Michael's back by his father's grave, remote in hand. He takes out a quarter, looks at it. He places it on the headstone.

MORTY  
 I'm sorry about your father.  
 Taking him wasn't something I  
 wanted to do.

MICHAEL @54  
 What do ya mean taking him?

(CONTINUED)

83 CONTINUED:

83

MORTY

I'm an angel, Michael.

MICHAEL @54

Oh really? I thought an angel is supposed to be kind and loving. Not a dirty son of a bitch that tricks people into wasting their lives and takes their dad away forever.

MORTY

I'm the angel of death, Michael. I was just doing my job.

Michael stares at Morty, shocked, absorbing this.

MORTY (CONT'D)

Your Dad. It was his time.

MICHAEL @54

YOU BASTARD!

Michael charges Morty and goes to tackle him, but Morty disappears into the ground. He reappears behind him. Michael backs away scared.

MICHAEL @54 (CONT'D)

Alright, you had your fun. Now leave me alone!

Michael pulls out the remote.

MICHAEL @54 (CONT'D)

Take me to a good place.

MICHAEL hits "FF." FAST FORWARD EFFECT...

84 EXT. WEDDING VENUE (2029) - NIGHT

84

Michael opens his eyes, discovers that he's wearing a TUXEDO. He looks around - he's at an elegant affair at the foot of the Brooklyn Bridge. The Manhattan skyline glitters in the distance.

ON THE TUXEDO-CLAD BAND - they finish playing a number. Polite applause. A BAND LEADER steps up to a microphone.

BAND LEADER

Thank you so much. And now everybody, it's Mr. Newman's turn to say a few words.

(CONTINUED)

A SPOTLIGHT HITS MICHAEL. He's lost, confused. They hand him a mic. Applause, then, silence. Beat, then.

MICHAEL @61  
 (no idea where he is)  
 Uh, yeah. It's great to be here at  
 this... event tonight... or  
 morning.. celebrating, Uh,  
 honoring, or commemorating...  
 (moving on)  
 In any event, I'd like to offer a  
 toast to... a general toast for  
 this...

Michael spots a nearby WEDDING CAKE.

MICHAEL @61  
 Wedding! Yes. Got it!  
 (more restrained)  
 Where's that groom? Don't be shy!  
 Where are you?

Everyone laughs. Ben waves.

MICHAEL @61  
 Ben!? Oh my G-d!  
 (realizing)  
 It's my son's wedding. I didn't  
 miss it.  
 (thrilled)  
 This is so great! Who's the lucky  
 girl, son?

Laughter. THE WOMAN NEXT TO BEN WAVES. She's very wholesome, sweet and nice looking.

JULIE (BEN'S WIFE)  
 Funny, Mr. Newman!

MICHAEL @61  
 You're beautiful. I swear guys, I'm  
 going to stay here for the entire  
 wedding! I'm staying in this place  
 and nobody's going to stop me, you  
 hear that?

PEOPLE LAUGH, BUT MICHAEL'S SERIOUS.

MICHAEL @61  
 And I'm going to enjoy this day!  
 Every second of it!  
 (more)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MICHAEL @61 (cont'd)  
Dance and eat cake and hang with my  
old friends and relatives...  
(to a nearby older man)  
Like you! You...  
(unsure who the guy is)  
... friend or relative. Great to  
see you. And...  
(to nearby woman with hat)  
... her! Yellow hat lady!  
(then, to another woman)  
Aunt Peggy, is that you? My G-d,  
you got old!

Aunt Peggy gives him the fongule sign. An older Alice/Alan  
who's in between an older Stacey and Linda, smokes a cigar  
and pounds the table with laughter.

MICHAEL @61  
(uneasy)  
I'm just playing. She knows that.

MEANWHILE, Michael SPOTS FRAN, his mom, IN THE CROWD. She's  
older. And very much alone. He's stricken.

MICHAEL @61  
(quickly)  
Anyways, Ben's wife, welcome to the  
family. I love you. I love you all.

Michael hurries off the stage to Fran. Everyone applauds.  
The BAND STARTS PLAYING. Michael makes a beeline to his  
mother, grabs her in a huge hug, and holds on.

MICHAEL @61  
Mom!

Fran's surprised.

FRAN @79  
Oh! Hello Michael. How's my good  
boy?

MICHAEL @61  
(he keeps hugging her)  
You're the best, mom. I want you to  
know I know I that.

FRAN @79  
Oh, Michael. Your father would  
have loved to be here.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MICHAEL @61

More than anyone. I'm just so happy  
you are.

\*

He wipes his tears, and gives her a kiss on the cheek. Then he notices Donna dancing nearby - he's excited. Then he sees that she's dancing with Bill. He's annoyed. Suddenly... a Gavin McCloud bald Ammer and Janine (whose chest now reaches her belly button) with several kids step into his field of vision. They're all in tie-dye clothes with tambourines.

JANINE (+23YRS)

Classic speech, Michael!

AMMER (+23YRS)

Kalah Hoolah Niya, Michael, which means blessings be upon you, soul-friend.

All their kids start chanting Kalah Hoolah Niya as the Ammer clan dances away. As they move away we hear...

JANINE V.O.

Hey, is that your brother.

AMMER V.O.

No! And stay away from him.

Then Donna and Bill dance up to Michael.

DONNA @54

Michael, that was really sweet, what you said up there.

MICHAEL @61

Thanks, Donna. Ben's wife seems like a nice girl.

We see Ben and Julie feeding each other champagne and laughing.

DONNA @54

I think she's wonderful, Mike.

\*

BILL

Definite keeper.

\*

\*

The band at the wedding starts playing "Linger" by the Cranberries. Donna looks at Michael about to say that's our song but then shakes it off.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

MICHAEL @61

Hey uh, Bill, since it is our son's wedding, mind if I dance with my ex-wife for a minute?

BILL (+23YRS)

Just have her back by midnight.

They all laugh. Michael sneakily hits pause. He pulls Bills' pants down revealing a Speedo, then hits un-pause and continues laughing. Bill notices his pants down, stops laughing and scoots away pulling up his pants embarrassed and confused. Michael dances with Donna.

MICHAEL @61

So, Donna...

DONNA @54

So, Michael...

MICHAEL @61

Are you happy?

DONNA @54

Well, our son just got married. Of course I'm happy.

MICHAEL @61

Not about that. About where our lives ended up?

DONNA @54

(smiling)

Ended? It's not over yet.

Michael nods ruefully. Then he notices something.

MICHAEL @61

Check out your man over there, dancing with that hot mama. You better watch yourself.

Bill is dancing with an incredibly hot girl with big cleavage. As she twirls around, we see it's Samantha.

DONNA @54

Yeah, at least we made good looking kids.

MICHAEL @61

That's Samantha?!?

(calling out)

(more)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

MICHAEL @61 (cont'd)  
Put on a sweater! What are you  
doing?

Samantha and Bill dance over.

SAMANTHA @27  
What's with you?

MICHAEL @61  
I'm sorry. I guess I'm still not  
used to seeing you... all grown up.

SAMANTHA @27  
If that's you're way of telling me  
I look pretty, then thank you.

BILL (+23YRS)  
Hey, Sam. I think the cake's  
coming out?

SAMANTHA @27  
Okay, dad. Race you there.

Michael watches Samantha run away laughing with Bill. He is  
devastated.

MICHAEL @61  
(to himself, re: Sam)  
Dad?

DONNA @54  
(to Michael)  
Michael are you OK? You don't look  
good.

He puts his hand to his chest. He starts breathing heavily.

MICHAEL @61  
I'm fine. My chest just feels a  
little tight and...

Michael looks woozy. He notices... \*

85 MORTY, IN A TUX, CONDUCTING THE BAND WITH BUBBLES FLYING 85 \*  
EVERYWHERE. HE TURNS TO MICHAEL AND SHRUGS... WE SLOWLY FADE \*  
TO BLACK

86 INT. HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT 86

Michael is in a hospital bed hooked up to lots of tubes. A  
DOCTOR AND NURSE MAKE A NOTE ON HIS CHART AND EXIT.

(CONTINUED)



On Michael's face. WHISTLING IS HEARD. Michael opens his eyes. MORTY IS THERE, CHECKING MICHAEL'S CHART.

MORTY

Wow. One dance and you pop an artery.

MICHAEL @61

Did you come here to take me now?

MORTY

I wish, but that triple bypass works pretty well. Amazing what they can do today. It's really freed up a lot of my time.

MICHAEL @61

I can't believe you made me waste my entire life.

MORTY

I didn't make you do anything. You were fast-forwarding through your life long before you ever met me. You lived the life you chose, big shot.

MICHAEL @61

This is not the life I wanted, Morty.

Morty takes the remote, hits "Menu." WE POP TO THE...

A87 MENU SCREEN WORLD

A87

MORTY AND MICHAEL ARE IN FRONT OF IT (MICHAEL'S STILL IN THE HOSPITAL BED). MORTY SELECTS "CREDITS" AND WE READ...

PRODUCED, WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY

MICHAEL NEWMAN

MICHAEL STARES AT THE WORDS.

MORTY

Looks like it is.

Morty hits "PLAY."

B87 INT. HOSPITAL - INTENSIVE CARE UNIT - LATER THAT NIGHT B87

Michael's shaken. Morty is beside the bed, looking at him.  
He takes pity on him.

MORTY

Just relax, stay in bed for a few  
weeks, cut out the french fries and  
maybe you can enjoy your golden  
years. Now I've got some business  
in intensive care to take care of.

\*

\*

Morty puts the remote in his pocket and exits. Ben and  
Samantha enter, walking right through Morty. They obviously  
can't see him.

SAMANTHA @27

Hey, you're up! How you feeling?

Ben and Samantha grab Michaels hand.

MICHAEL @61

So good to see you guys.

\*

BEN @30

The doctor says you're going to be  
alright, but you gotta really take  
it easy.

\*

MICHAEL @61

Sorry I ruined your wedding.

BEN @30

Stop. Just rest. We came back up  
because mom forgot her bag...  
(picks up a nearby bag)  
... everyone's waiting downstairs.

MICHAEL @61

You guys all visited me. That's so  
nice.

SAMANTHA @27

"Visited you?" We've been  
terrorizing the whole hospital for  
two days, making sure these doctors  
and nurses stay on their toes.

BEN @30

Samantha actually bit your  
cardiologist. She's been here 36  
hours straight.

(CONTINUED)

B87 CONTINUED:

B87

Michael notices that Samantha's still in her bridesmaid's dress.

MICHAEL @61  
36 hours? Why'd you do that?

Samantha looks confused by this question.

SAMANTHA @27  
Cause you're my father.

MICHAEL @61  
I thought Bill's your father.

SAMANTHA @27  
I got two fathers - And one of em  
promised me he was gonna live till  
he was two hundred? You remember?

MICHAEL @61  
Like it was yesterday, little girl.

Before it can get to emotional.

BEN @30  
Hey, you both gotta get some sleep  
and I gotta get to the airport.

MICHAEL @61  
Oh, that's right. Your honeymoon.

BEN @30  
I just canceled the honeymoon. I  
got a call from Toronto a half hour  
ago. The Kensington deal might be  
falling through so I gotta go up  
and do some damage control.

MICHAEL @61  
No! You can't do that to your  
wife...

BEN @30  
Julie and I will go to Italy some  
other time. It's no big deal.

MICHAEL @61  
(suddenly upset)  
It is a--

MICHAEL COUGHS, weak, unable to finish his sentence.

(CONTINUED)

B87 CONTINUED: (2)

B87

BEN @30

Relax. She gets it. Keeping the  
business going is more important.  
Now we should really go. \*

Ben and Samantha turn to exit. Michael tries to yell, but he  
can't.

MICHAEL @61

Ben... B-

Michael chokes on his last word. He tries to call out again -  
but nothing comes out. His strength gone, Michael lies back \*  
in bed, out of breath. He closes his eyes for a beat. His  
breathing settles down. Silence. Beat - HIS EYES OPEN.  
Determined.

With one tremendous push, MICHAEL strains to get out of bed,  
but VARIOUS I.V. TUBES are attached to him and pull him back.

MICHAEL @61

Get this crap off me!

A MALE NURSE enters.

MALE NURSE

Hey! You need to calm down, buddy.

MICHAEL @61

I have to see my son.

MALE NURSE

You're not going anywhere.

The male nurse pulls out a needle to tranquilize him.

MICHAEL @61

Hey, look. It's Colin Farrell.

MALE NURSE

Where?!?

He excitedly turns around to look. Michael pushes the needle  
into the male nurse. He passes out goofily .

Michael BEGINS TO RIP HIS I.V. TUBES OUT.

MORTY O.C.

Michael...

Michael turns to see MORTY IS NOW IN THE ROOM.

(CONTINUED)

B87 CONTINUED: (3)

B87

MORTY

... those machines are keeping you  
alive.

MICHAEL @61

I gotta talk to my son.

Michael rips out the last tube, pushes himself up and  
forward, past Morty.

87 INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

87

The hallway is empty - middle of the night. Michael's  
moving, but it's obviously a struggle. He presses forward,  
one hand on his chest - the pain worsening with each step.

We begin to hear a faint... HEARTBEAT. Michael presses on.  
He passes Morty who we reveal is now in the hallway.

MORTY

Michael, I'm warning you, you can't-

MICHAEL @61

Get outta my way!

Michael walks through him, his breathing getting heavier and  
more unsteady. The heartbeat is getting LOUDER.

A nearby elevator opens - empty. Michael gets on. Doors  
close.

88 INT. HOSPITAL ELEVATOR - (CONTINUOUS)

88

Michael hits a button. He's sweating, holding his chest,  
trying to catch his breath. The elevator door quickly opens.  
Morty is there.

MORTY

Just sit down and someone will find  
you and take you back to your room.

Michael staggers out of the elevator past him, into the...

89 INT. HOSPITAL LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

89

Michael heads down the hall towards THE FRONT ENTRANCE...

MORTY

(after him)  
Michael, stop!

(CONTINUED)

89 CONTINUED:

89

Michael continues on. He's sweating more profusely and his HEARTBEAT IS GROWING MORE ERRATIC, LOUDER.

Michael looks back, sees Morty following. He pushes himself through the...

LOBBY DOORS

90 EXT. HOSPITAL ENTRANCE (2029) - NIGHT

90

It's dark, rainy. Michael stands outside. Down the block, he notices...

BEN who's waving towards an approaching car. MICHAEL'S FAMILY IS IN THE CAR. Michael starts moving towards him...

MICHAEL @61

Ben!

But Michael's voice is fragile and weak. Ben can't hear him.

Suddenly, Michael stops, shocked to see...

MORTY! MORTY IS NOW WEARING A LONG BLACK CLOAK AND HOLDING UP HIS ARMS, BLOCKING HIS PATH! HE IS LARGER, FORBIDDING, AND HAS AN UNEARTHLY GLOW. HE FINALLY LOOKS LIKE THE ANGEL OF DEATH.

MORTY

STOP!

MICHAEL @61

No...

Morty reaches behind him, pulls out and brandishes a...

HUGE SHARP ANGEL OF DEATH SICKLE

MORTY

You want the sickle?

Morty SWIPES THE SICKLE AT MICHAEL - WHO BARELY AVOIDS IT!

MICHAEL MAKES ONE LAST MAD DASH PAST MORTY AND TOWARDS BEN!

MORTY TURNS AND THROWS HIS SICKLE...

THE SICKLE FLIES OVER MICHAEL and LANDS IN The ground in front of him! THWING! The HANDLE STICKS UP, QUIVERING.

MICHAEL TRIPS OVER THE HANDLE AND FALLS FLAT ON HIS FACE! OOMPH! He's hurt.

(CONTINUED)

Michael is lying on the wet concrete ground, in pain, sweating. He turns back to see... Morty approaching him.

He looks back towards Ben, who is now getting into the car.

And with his one last ounce of strength, Michael shouts...

MICHAEL @61

(loud)

BEN!

ON BEN turning around, finally hearing Michael.

BEN'S POV OF MICHAEL - he doesn't see Morty - just his Dad, lying on the concrete, reaching towards him. \*

BEN @30

Dad?

Ben begins to rush back to Michael.

We see Morty approaching Michael from behind.

Michael is focused on Ben, who now RUSHES UP TO HIM.

BEN @30

Dad, what are you doing...?  
SOMEONE HELP! HELP!

Michael tries to talk, but HE CAN'T FORM WORDS. He's dying.  
THE HEARTBEAT IS FAST AND LOUD!

BEN @30

SOMEONE, PLEASE!

We see MICHAEL'S FAMILY GETTING OUT OF THE CAR AND RUSHING TOWARDS THEM. Morty bends down beside Michael.

MORTY

I tried to warn you, Michael.

Michael looks at Ben and says...

MICHAEL @61

Ben...f-f-f-f-f...

Michael can't form words, completely depleted. Donna @54, Samantha @27, Julie, and BILL (+23Yrs) have arrived.

Michael takes a beat, looks Ben in the eyes and with a small smile, he manages to say, in a faint voice...

(CONTINUED)

MICHAEL @61  
Family always comes first...

Ben hears him. He looks at his new wife. He understands.

MICHAEL @61  
And Ben...

BEN @30  
Yeah, Dad?

MICHAEL @61  
The room made of pizza. Great  
idea...

Ben nods and smiles. Michael looks at Samantha and blows a  
kiss. Through tears Samantha blows one back. Michael looks at  
Bill. Bill looks back expectantly. Michael gives him the  
finger. Then waves it off and gives Bill the "OK" sign. Bill  
smiles. Then Michael looks at Donna. He doesn't know how to  
express himself. He turns to Morty.

MICHAEL  
The note.

MORTY  
(looking like himself  
again with tears in his  
eyes)  
Check your pocket.

Michael reaches into his chest pocket, pulls out the old  
weathered note and holds it out. Donna takes it. It reads  
"Will you still love me in the morning?" Donna's eyes fill up  
with tears.

DONNA @54  
Forever and ever, babe.

Michael smiles. Morty lays his hand on Michael's hand. THE  
HEARTBEAT STOPS... SILENCE.

FADE TO BLACK.

MICHAEL IS YOUNG AGAIN - AND WE PULL OUT TO SEE THAT'S HE'S  
LYING ON A WHITE SOFT SPACE. Michael looks around. A Muzak  
version of "My Way" is playing.

MICHAEL  
Where am I?

(CONTINUED)



91 CONTINUED:

91

TEENAGER (O.S.)  
You're in Bed, Bath & Beyond, sir.

Michael sits up and realizes he's lying in a big white display bed. The TEENAGER from earlier is there.

TEENAGER  
I don't think you're allowed to lay in these beds... but I do sometimes.

MICHAEL  
I'm back in the store!

Michael CATCHES SIGHT OF HIS REFLECTION IN A MIRROR.

MICHAEL  
I'm young again!

TEENAGE EMPLOYEE  
Not really sir. I'm young. You're pretty much on the back nine.

MICHAEL  
Not even close, buddy. I'm just teeing off.

He hugs the astonished Teenager and runs out.

92 EXT. SHOPPING AREA - BED, BATH & BEYOND - NIGHT  
(A MOMENT LATER)

92

Michael runs outside, looks around. He sees his OLD BATTERED Chevette parked where he left it.

MICHAEL  
(delighted)  
My crappy car! Yes!

He jumps in, peels out. He pulls up to a...

A93 EXT. STOPLIGHT - MOMENTS LATER - NIGHT

A93

It's red. Michael pulls up, thrilled.

MICHAEL  
(happy)  
Yes, I'm waiting at a red light!  
I'm bored out of my mind and I love it!

(CONTINUED)

A93 CONTINUED:

A93

A car pulls up next to Michael blaring "Play that Funky Music." It's the same guy as before and he sings along passionately with the music. This time Michael joins in.

93 OMITTED

93

94 INT. MICHAEL'S HOUSE - NIGHT (LATER)

94

Michael enters. No one is around. All asleep. Michael grabs a BIG POT from the KITCHEN and grabs a SPOON.

HE BANGS ON THE POT! CLANG! CLANG! CLANG!

Then Michael excitedly throws off his jacket and shoes and... HE SITS DOWN AT HIS DESK, PRETENDING TO WORK. He looks extremely serious. A beat passes. Then...

DONNA ENTERS, RUBBING HER EYES, OBVIOUSLY JUST WOKEN UP.

DONNA

What the heck is going on?

MICHAEL

(extremely annoyed)

Do you mind? I'm trying to concentrate! Here I am, killing myself, staying up all night, trying to plan our activities for our fourth of July camping trip and you just can't let me think!

DONNA

You want to think? Fine! Think about...What did you just say?

She pauses, confused.

MICHAEL

You heard me! And if you keep giving me attitude, I'll just have to skip work for a year and plan 10 more vacations.

DONNA

Did you try smoking crack tonight?

Michael finally breaks, happily smiling and hugging her.

MICHAEL

No, sweetie.

(hugs her, kisses her)

You were right the whole time.

(more)

(CONTINUED)

\*

MICHAEL (cont'd)

It don't matter if we live in the  
Hamptons or on skid row. As long as  
I got you guys, I'm the richest man  
in the world. I love you, Donna,  
and I want to be with you and the  
kids every waking moment and dream  
about you as I sleep. But if you  
ever even look at Ben's swim coach,  
I'll have to kill you.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

Donna laughs, confused. Ben and Samantha enter, in pajamas.

MICHAEL

Kids, get over here.  
(scoops them up, kisses)  
Ben, we start working out tomorrow,  
six am sharp.

BEN

Okay, dad.

MICHAEL

Samantha, even though you're gonna  
be the hottest chick alive one day,  
I want you to still work on the  
brain. Tomorrow I teach you to  
read. Now go put on a sweater, and  
don't ever take it off.

SAMANTHA

Okay, Dad.

Samantha and Ben runs upstairs.

MICHAEL

And let's invite my parents to come  
camping too, and tell them to bring  
the old fart tent. Oh and when we  
get back, even if I have the  
Malaysian flu, I am finishing that  
treehouse!

\*

(sees the dog enter)

Sundance! I got a gift for you!

Michael opens the door. An English Bulldog runs in wearing a  
pink ribbon around her neck.

MICHAEL

Time for you to start doing it with  
the real thing. Life is short;  
enjoy it!

(CONTINUED)

The two dogs run together in slow-motion... and both start humping the duck.

MICHAEL  
(confused)  
I thought it was a girl. The pet store guy told me it was a girl.

Donna looks at the new Michael.

DONNA  
You sleeping downstairs tonight?

MICHAEL  
Nope. Because it's Fourth of July. And to celebrate, I'm going to slow things down and make sure you are a very happy, satisfied woman. \*

DONNA  
But you know it isn't the Fourth of July. It's only the second.

MICHAEL  
Even better. Happy second of July.

Michael puts on Sundance's cowboy hat. She loves it. \*

DONNA  
I think I like this holiday. I better change into my Pocahontas costume. See you upstairs? \*

MICHAEL  
I'll bring the duck.

Donna exits. Michael heads to the kitchen.

MICHAEL  
(to himself)  
Let me just call my dad. \*

95 INT MICHAEL'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

95 \*

Michael runs in to use the phone. As he turns around HE JUMPS BACK, STARTLED. \*

MICHAEL  
AH! \*

REVEAL... \*

(CONTINUED)

THE UNIVERSAL REMOTE sitting on the counter. A thin RED GIFT RIBBON is wrapped around it. Michael fearfully approaches it. He spots a SMALL CARD UNDERNEATH. He gently slides it out, not touching the remote. He reads it.

*"Dear Michael, Relax. This one only works on the TV. - Morty"*

Michael puts the card down, thinking. He looks at the remote. Then looks up and sees Morty, eating from an ice cream container.

MICHAEL  
Morty?

MORTY  
Hi ya, Michael.

MICHAEL  
What are you doing here?

MORTY  
I am doing what I do best.

MICHAEL  
But you...I went back to my life,  
didn't I?

Morty slowly shakes his head no.

MORTY  
You can't change the past, Michael.  
This is your future.

MICHAEL  
This isn't the future. The kids are  
young. Donna's young. I'm young...

MORTY  
So it would appear....

Michael takes his time, slowly coming to a realization.

MICHAEL  
What do you mean? Is this  
all...heaven?

MORTY  
Your version of it, anyway.

(CONTINUED)

MICHAEL

No, no way. It was a dream. The whole thing. I learned all my lessons and now I get to have a happy ending.

Michael starts ranting around the room.

MICHAEL

We're not in heaven. This is my kitchen... and that's my dishwasher... and these are my plates...

Michael flings open a cabinet. He's shocked to see nothing but Twinkies. He opens another one. Boxes and boxes of Twinkies. He opens the refrigerator. Twinkies. We go close on the box and it reads NO SUGAR! NO CALORIES! NOTHING BUT VITAMINS!

He slumps down in a kitchen chair stunned.

MICHAEL

Either there was a big sale on Twinkies... or I'm dead.

MORTY

(nodding)

They don't sell those kind of Twinkies at Shop Rite, pal.

MICHAEL

How's my family doing?

MORTY

Everybody's pretty sad now cause you're gone, but long-term prospects for happiness are excellent. In a year and a half Samantha's going to change her major to psychology, and eventually set up a practice on the Upper West Side. She's going to help a lot of people, Michael.

MICHAEL

Of course she is. She's the most caring kid I ever met. Does she meet a nice guy?

(CONTINUED)

MORTY

Yep, about five minutes after she finally takes off the sweater.

MICHAEL

Did Ben--

MORTY

Honeymooning as we speak. He's gonna be happy, too. His youngest son will be kind of a pain in the keister, but will eventually grow up to play third base for the Seattle Mariners, so it'll even out in the end.

MICHAEL

And Donna?

MORTY

She's with a man who treats her like gold. He actually wears a black Speedo everyday to honor your memory.

Michael just smiles.

MICHAEL

Well, then it is a happy ending. Cause all I ever wanted was for my family to be happy.

MORTY

I told you, you were a good guy, Michael.

(stands)

So, I guess this is it for us, kid. You're out of my jurisdiction now. Enjoy eternity.

MICHAEL

(smiling)

Morty, I'm not gonna miss you.

MORTY

Nobody does.

Morty nods, smiles, spreads his huge angel wings and flies up through the open kitchen ceiling into the heavenly sky above.

MICHAEL picks up the remote looks at it, then throws it in the garbage. HE RUNS UPSTAIRS TO HIS FAMILY.

(CONTINUED)

95 CONTINUED: (4)

95

MICHAEL  
Who's in the mood for a pillow  
fight?

Donna and the kids holler in excitement.

DISSOLVE TO:

96 EXT. MICHAEL'S BACKYARD/HEAVEN - SUNSET

96

Michael and Ted are building the jungle gym and having the  
time of their lives.

MICHAEL  
Dad?

TED  
Yeah, Michael.

MICHAEL  
Are you just in my imagination now,  
or is that really you?

TED  
It's really me, kiddo.

MICHAEL  
Wow. So this is your heaven, too.

TED  
No. Very nice, but not my heaven.  
I'm just visiting.

We hear a whistle. Michael and Ted look up to see:

FRAN IN A SEXY STEWARDESS OUTFIT STANDING ON THE STEPS OF A  
1970'S TWA AIRPLANE.

FRAN  
Captain? You're needed in the  
cockpit.

TED  
(to Michael)  
I'm going back over to my heaven  
for ten minutes.

Ted hops out of the tree house and miraculously lands on the  
airplane set in his pilot suit.

\*  
\*  
\*

(CONTINUED)



TED  
Are we clear for take off,  
Stewardess?

\*  
\*  
\*

FRAN  
Come over here let me check with  
the tower.

\*

They disappear into the cockpit. Michael shakes his head,  
smiles, then goes back to work.

\*

MUSIC UP. ROLL CREDITS.

As we pull back...

MORTY WALKS INTO FRAME - not in the scene, but in the  
foreground - LOOKING AT THE CREDITS.

MORTY  
(turning to camera)  
This is going to take forever.

MORTY takes out A remote, points it at the credits... THE  
CREDITS START ROLLING FASTER and the music speeds up. Morty  
smiles, exits. When the credits eventually finish... Morty  
steps back in and turns to camera.

MORTY  
See you later. Hopefully a lot  
later.

He points the REMOTE at us, hits "OFF" - BLACK.

THE END