

I HATE YOU, DAD

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Revisions
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SUPER: NEW JERSEY - 1984

INT. GRADE SCHOOL - MORNING

13 YEAR OLD DONNY stands with his BUDDIES at his locker. He pulls out TWO CONCERT TICKETS -- the Buddies ADMIRE them.

13 YEAR OLD DONNY
Read em and weep. Springsteen at
the Meadowlands. Third row. I
bagged a lot of groceries to get
these. Now all I need is a date.

Donny looks across the hall: A group of GIGGLING GIRLS talk by their lockers. The boys evaluate them.

BUDDY
You should take Jolene, man. I bet
she'd let you feel her up.

13 YEAR OLD DONNY
Jolene has an Andy Gibb backpack.
This is The Boss. Get serious.
Ugh, I think I'm just not into
girls anymore.
(off his Buddies' SHOCK)
I'm into women.

Donny NODS toward the end of the hall -- they TURN --

SLOW-MOTION: The sea of kids PARTS -- in STRUTS the hottest teacher of the 1980s, MARY MCGARRICLE.

Buddy SHIVERS -- then covers his crotch with an "A-TEAM" FOLDER. Donny SMILES coolly, steps forward.

13 YEAR OLD DONNY (CONT'D)
Hey Mary, you're lookin smokin hot
today. I've got two tickets to
Springsteen this weekend, you in?

MARY MCGARRICLE
(incredulous)
It's "Miss McGarricle," Donny. And
I appreciate the offer, but I think
you're a little young for me.

13 YEAR OLD DONNY
C'mon, I've seen the way you look
at me in my gym shorts. It's okay.
Let yourself have this.

He kisses his bicep.

MARY MCGARRICLE

Quite a swagger you have there,
young man. But I'm your teacher,
not your girlfriend.

13 YEAR OLD DONNY

Whoa, whoa, Miss McGarricle, who
said anything about "girlfriend?"
Let's just start with a summer
fling - a couple of HJ's, rock the
wild thang, no expectations - see
where it goes. Don't get all psycho
on me right away.

His Buddies LAUGH -- Mary McGarricle's PISSED.

MARY MCGARRICLE

If by "HJ's" you mean "handjobs," I
usually only give *handjobs* to guys
that've gone through puberty.

DONNY'S BUDDIES

Ooooooh!/Burned!/She knows what it
means!

13 YEAR OLD DONNY

(goes red, embarrassed)
Oh yeah? Well...um...
(PULLS down his shorts
just enough)
What time should I pick you up!?

Donny laughs but no one else does. Mary McGarricle is pissed.
His laughter dies down as he realizes he went too far...

INT. MARY MCGARRICLE'S CLASSROOM - AFTER SCHOOL

Donny sits at a desk, the only student in the classroom. Mary
McGarricle GRADES A PAPER at her desk. Donny enters -- she
doesn't look up, she just keeps writing. Donny DROPS the
blinds on the door window.

13 YEAR OLD DONNY

Can I go to the bathroom?

MARY MCGARRICLE

No! No talking in detention, Mr.
Levine.

13 YEAR OLD DONNY

I'm sorry for what I did, okay? I
promise I won't do it again.

MARY MCGARRICLE
What were your intentions? What
were you trying to do? Impress your
friends by mocking the teacher?

13 YEAR OLD DONNY
(shy)
I guess I just...wanted to look
cool, I dunno.

MARY MCGARRICLE
And you think it's cool to hit on
me.

13 YEAR OLD DONNY
I guess it was a stupid thing to
do.

MARY MCGARRICLE
Was it?

13 YEAR OLD DONNY
Huh?

MARY MCGARRICLE
Well, are you attracted me or not?

13 YEAR OLD DONNY
No! I mean, you know, I guess.
Enough.

MARY MCGARRICLE
A real man doesn't say something
unless he can back it up.

13 YEAR OLD DONNY
(confused)
Okay...

MARY MCGARRICLE
It's like that commercial: "Where's
the beef?" Do you know that
commerical, Donny?

13 YEAR OLD DONNY
Uhhh, yeah.

MARY MCGARRICLE
So then I'm asking you...

She pulls down the shade blocking the window to the hallway.

MARY MCGARRICLE
Where's the beef?

13 YEAR OLD DONNY
Ah...ahh...I dunno.

She goes over and sits right next to him.

MARY MCGARRICLE
You're in a lot of trouble, Donny.

13 YEAR OLD DONNY
(scared like a kid)
Wait, you're not gonna call my dad,
are you? He'll kick my ass.
Seriously. C'mon, I was just
kidding around.

MARY MCGARRICLE
So you *don't* want me?

13 YEAR OLD DONNY
What? No. I mean, yeah. I'm not
sure what I'm supposed to say here.

Mary leans in closer to him.

MARY MCGARRICLE
I've been watching you for a long
time. You may have the pubic mound
of a thirteen-year-old, but I can
see in your eyes that you have a
soul of a man...

13 YEAR OLD DONNY
(insanely nervous)
Maybe because I'm wearing contacts?

MARY MCGARRICLE
(whispering)
I graded your paper...

She shows him the PAPER she was "grading", hands it to him:
it's COVERED in junior high style LOVE DOODLES (Mary+Donny 4
Ever; hearts; etc.). Donny's eyes WIDEN. She LETS DOWN HER
HAIR.

13 YEAR OLD DONNY
Ohmigod, is this happening?

MARY MCGARRICLE
Oh it's happening, Donny. Right
now.

She puts a HAND through his hair -- he RAMBLES nervously.

13 YEAR OLD DONNY
 Okay, yeah, awesome. I'm totally
 in. But, um, so how do you wanna do
 it? I mean - I've made love before -
 a lot...of ways. How should we
 start? Just go straight to
 handjobs, or --

She puts a FINGER to his lips. She takes her glasses off.

13 YEAR OLD DONNY
 Oh...actually do you mind keeping
 the glasses on?

She puts the glasses back on. Leans in.

His voice cracks --

13 YEAR OLD DONNY (CONT'D)
 I'm - a virgin.

MARY MCGARRICLE
 Don't worry. I'm not.

HER LIPS APPROACH HIS LIPS--

13 YEAR OLD DONNY
 ...teach me everything...

SMASH CUT TO:

"HOT FOR TEACHER" by Van Halen kicks in. CREDITS begin over
 the following MONTAGE:

--STREET: Donny speeds down a suburban street on his bicycle,
 arrives at Mary's house, runs to the back.

--MARY'S BACKYARD: Mary's waiting for Donny in her STEAMING
 HOT TUB. Donny approaches, slo-mo, a four-pack of BARTLES &
 JAYMES wine coolers in hand.

--CLASSROOM: Mary and Donny sneak secret looks to each other
 in class.

--DRIVE-IN: Mary pulls into a drive-in movie, buys a ticket,
 then sneaks Donny out of the trunk of her car.

--DRIVE-IN: *Star Trek III: The Search for Spock* is on the
 screen. Mary's car windows are completely fogged up.

--TEMPLE: Donny chants his torah portion, his proud father
 MARV by his side. In the back, Mary shows up, taking off her
 coat to reveal a HOT DRESS.

--TEMPLE: Later at the bar mitzvah, Donny opens Mary's gift: It's a game cartridge of FROGGER. Under the cartridge is her second gift: "Joy of Sex"

--TEACHER'S LOUNGE: The FOOTBALL COACH is flirting with Mary. She turns away and THROWS UP in the waste basket.

--CLASSROOM: Mary can no longer hide her pregnant belly. The PRINCIPAL interrupts the class and asks to speak with her.

--SCHOOL ENTRANCE: THE COPS handcuff Mary and take her away, kicking and screaming. Donny watches, the SCHOOL MONITOR holding him back.

A SERIES OF OVERLAPPING SOUND-BYTES AND IMAGES:

--NEWS FOOTAGE of the same scene of Mary getting taken away.

NEWS ANCHOR (V.O.)
Mary Beth McGarricle, a middle school teacher was arrested on suspicion of an improper relationship with a thirteen year old student...

--WOMAN ON THE STREET INTERVIEW

WOMAN ON STREET
...this is what we pay our teachers to do? What happened to teaching math? What about science? What about English? What about history? Do I need to go on? What about French? What about gym?

--DIFFERENT NEWS FOOTAGE - COURTROOM:

Mary rises for her sentencing...

NEWS ANCHOR 2 (V.O.)
...was found guilty today on fifteen counts of statutory rape...

--MAN-ON-STREET INTERVIEW:

GUY ON STREET
...don't know 'bout you, but this is every thirteen year-old boy's fantasy as far as I'm concerned. End of story. Where was she when I was 13? End of story...

--SCHOOL YARD - Kids listen to their Walkmans before school starts.

HOWARD STERN (V.O.)
So Robin, turns out Mary the Sex
Teacher's going to the big house
for thirty years.

ROBIN QUIVERS (V.O.)
Serves her right.

HOWARD STERN (V.O.)
(sexual)
Oh man what I would do to her...

--COURTROOM - The JUDGE addresses Mary, Donny and Marv.

JUDGE
...furthermore, the court grants
custody of the unborn child to
Donny Levine's father, Marvin
Levine, until Donny is 18, at which
time, he will assume full custody.

Marv SLAPS Donny on the back of the head.

MARV
What part of "If you're gonna dip
your donkey you slap on a raincoat"
don't you understand?

Flashbulbs go off. The crowd erupts in chatter.

HOWARD STERN (V.O.)
So hot girl 29 years old, locked up
in there... how soon till she goes
full-on lesbo?

ROBIN QUIVERS (V.O.)
Can we finish the news?

HOWARD STERN (V.O.)
One day? A week? Ohh, girl on
girl...

Reporters descend as the bailiff pulls Mary away. She turns
back toward the courtroom.

MARY MCGARRICLE
TAKE CARE OF OUR SON, DONNY!

"Hot for Teacher" and CREDITS continue...

--ANGLE ON Marv holding the little BABY.

--REVEAL Marv in the wings of a TV STUDIO, the MORTON DOWNEY JR. SHOW is already in progress. The audience is up on their feet yelling and screaming.

AUDIENCE MEMBER

Donny! You the man! You're my hero!

--SALLY JESSY RAPHAEL SHOW

SALLY JESSE

What's it like being a father at 14?

DONNY

It's cool I guess.

--DONNY ON VARIOUS 80'S LOW-BROW TALK SHOWS (Thicke of the Night, Al Goldstein, Robin Byrd, Joe Franklin)

--BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN CONCERT: Donny is swarmed by fans wanting his autograph.

--TRIVIAL PURSUIT COMMERCIAL: A family playing "Trivial Pursuit"

MOM

Arts & Literature!

SON

Who chronicled his private lessons in the 1985 book "Head in the Class?"

MOM

Donny Levine!

--DONNY'S SECOND BOOK RELEASE PARTY - at Grandpa's, the NYC Italian Restaurant. Donny and *Munsters* star "GRANDPA" AL LEWIS pose for pictures with an enlarged cover of the new book: "EXTRA CREDIT: MORE OF THE DONNY LEVINE STORY"

--A CLIP FROM A MADE-FOR-TV MOVIE, about Donny's story. Starring Ian Ziering from "90210" as Donny, and Heather Thomas ("Fall Guy") as Miss McGarricle.

--DONNY'S HOUSE - Marv is changing the (now two year old) baby's diaper, an annoyed look on his face. He glances at the TV in the other room, and sees:

--WWF WRESTLING SHOW: HULK HOGAN fights SUPERFLY SNUKA. Superfly has Hulk in a headlock, then from out of nowhere, DONNY ENTERS THE RING and sneaks up behind Snuka and HITS him in the back of the head with a folding chair.

Hulk spins around and PINS Snuka for a three count. He then PICKS UP Donny over his head. Everyone chants "DONNY, DONNY".

As "Hot for Teacher" comes to at triumphant END, Donny raises his arms in the air and SOAKS IN THE ADORATION OF THE MASSES...

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. NEW JERSEY - DAY

CLOSE ON DONNY, NOW 39 YEARS OLD. Warn, tied, unshaven, out of shape.

He sits on a folding chair, in tight jeans, nursing a Schlitz wide mouth. A long, quiet, awkward, sad moment.

PULL OUT TO REVEAL a shitty lot full of hot tubs: "DONNY LEVINE'S HOT FOR TEACHER USED HOT TUBS".

A COUPLE walks by, scanning the place, confused.

DONNY

We're open, we're open!

WIFE

Oh, that's okay. We're just taking a peek.

DONNY

Hey, hey, wait! Listen. I know what you're thinking. You're thinking, "*Oh my God, it's Donny Levine.*" Yes, I was one of Morton Downey Jr.'s most intriguing people of 1985. I'm not saying, I'm just saying. But that's not the reason you should buy this hot tub.

He hands them a copy of his BOOK.

DONNY (CONT'D)

And, this signed copy of my second novel, that's my gift to you just for stopping by.

HUSBAND

That's okay.

DONNY

It's a gift. No charge. It's a pretty serious potential eBay gem.

The couple examines the book, glances at the back...

WIFE

No thanks.

DONNY (CONT'D)

Look this isn't about me, or my novel. This is about you becoming the proud owner of a brand new used hot tub! Look at this Whirlington. Nothing holds up as good this baby. Eight dual core jets; three speeds...

(caresses the paint)

Baby blue splatter celebration finish. This baby is mint!

WIFE

(inspecting the tub)

Is that a blood stain?

DONNY

Yeah. No. Possibly. Probably. Who can say?

HUSBAND

Uh...we're really not interested.

They start to walk away.

DONNY

Wait, wait, please buy a hot tub. Lemme bottom line it for you. I'm having serious personal problems. I owe the IRS a lot of money.

HUSBAND

(walking faster)

Sorry.

WIFE

And thank you for the book.

DONNY

You know, Ian Ziering played me in a movie of the week. You know, Steve Sanders from 90210? We still hang out socially. Fine. I don't need you. Who do you hang out with from 90210? I'm guessing none of them!

EXT. 1-800 LAWYERS - ESTABLISHING - DAY

A strip-mall law office.

DONNY (O.S.)
What'd the IRS say, Craig?

INT. 1-800-LAWYERS - SAME

Donny sits across from his crappy lawyer, CRAIG (40's).

DONNY
Are they taking my hot tub
dealership?

CRAIG
Uh, yes...and. It's "yes, and" kind
of thing.

DONNY
(deep breath)
Okay, "Yes and...???"

CRAIG
...and three years in prison.

DONNY
Three years!? You son of a bitch.

CRAIG
You haven't paid taxes since '94.

DONNY
I thought they were taking it out
automatically. Did you even tell
them that?

CRAIG
I told them that's what you
thought, and they didn't care. But
there is some good news. If you can
pay off the interest, they'll
suspend the sentence. For now.

DONNY
Okay, okay. There you go. What're
we talking? Throw it at me --

CRAIG
\$43,346.

Donny THROWS his chair against the wall.

DONNY

I thought you were gonna say like
300 bucks!

CRAIG

And...you only have til Monday to
come up with the cash. Wait,
actually, I got that totally
wrong...my mistake.

DONNY

Okay thank god, I thought so...

CRAIG

Monday's Memorial Day, so you have
a whole extra day. You don't need
the money till Tuesday.

DONNY

Oh, then it's fine, that'll gimme
time to sell my DIAMOND
LAMBORGHINI!

Donny KICKS the wall -- his entire leg goes THROUGH the cheap
wood panelling. He awkwardly STRUGGLES to free himself.

CRAIG

I'm assuming you're kidding about
the diamond Lamborghini, right?
Because if you're not, and you do
have one to sell, it would be
helpful.

Donny stares at him, fuming, his foot still stuck in the
wall.

CRAIG

You are kidding. It was a joke.
Okay. So by Tuesday. The 43 grand.

DONNY

I have three dollars in my pocket,
Craig. There's no way in hell.

CRAIG

What about your family? Is there
anyone you can call?

DONNY

No, no one I'm really in touch
with...

Donny thinks to himself...

INT. DONNY'S HOUSE - FLASHBACK - 1989

Marv (Donny's dad) sits at the breakfast table, with a cake and candles. Donny's son HAN (now 4) is drawing on the wall. Donny (18) stumbles in, hungover. He sees the cake.

MARV

There he is! The birthday boy!

Donny sits at the table, confused.

18 YEAR OLD DONNY

You never do anything for my birthday.

MARV

Oh son, I've been planning this one for years. You're eighteen today! And you know what that means, don't you? Starting today, the little boy--your son--is legally YOUR responsibility, not mine.

18 YEAR OLD DONNY

Oh, shit.

MARV

And it's a true win-win for me, Donny, because starting today, MY son is no longer MY responsibility, because he's eighteen years old.

18 YEAR OLD DONNY

Are you kicking me out?

MARV

No, no, no. That would be totally irresponsible. You know, like impregnating your teacher, for example.

Marv gets up and picks up several BAGS that he's already packed.

MARV

So this is your house now. Make sure you pay the rent each month. All the bills, everything you need, it's all in here for you.
(hands him a binder)
So good luck, have a blast, keep it real...

Marv KISSES the little boy.

MARV
...Grandpa loves you.

Marv goes outside.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE HOUSE - CONTINUOUS - FLASHBACK - 1989

Donny follows Marv outside as he packs up the car.

DONNY
Where are you going?

MARV
Dunno. Some place tropical, Costa Rica maybe. Gonna start a Tiki Bar or something. But you got more important things to worry about now that you're an adult. Time to man up! I'll write you guys a postcard if I get a chance.

Don's now in the driver's seat. He ZOOMS off. Han comes up to Donny.

HAN
Daddy, I made poo poo on the toaster.

A look of FEAR on Donny's face.

INT. 1-800-LAWYERS - BACK TO PRESENT

CRAIG
Talk about tough love. What about your son?

DONNY
Nah, he's... I dunno where he is, either.

INT. DONNY'S HOUSE - NIGHT FLASHBACK - 2003

The house is a disastrous mess. Donny (now 32) comes in after a night of partying. He's with a TRASHY GIRL.

TRASHY GIRL
Hey wait, you said Ian Ziering was gonna be here?

32 YEAR OLD DONNY
He'll probably be here later.

She sees a bunch of CAKE and CANDLES on the living room coffee table.

TRASHY GIRL

Is it somebody's birthday?

32 YEAR OLD DONNY

Not that I know of.

Trashy Girl picks a NOTE up off the table and read it aloud:

TRASHY GIRL

"Dear Dad, you probably didn't know it was my 18th birthday. But it was, so I moved out. Thanks for very little! P.S. You're a dick." Hmm. (then) So do you want to doink on the couch or on your waterbed?

32 YEAR OLD DONNY

I dunno.

TRASHY GIRL

Either way I'm ready to doink. But let's doink before I pass out.

INT. 1-800-LAWYERS - BACK TO PRESENT

CRAIG

Mmm. That's tough. So tell me the truth. Be honest. Did you doink her or not?

DONNY

I'm screwed! I don't want to go to jail.

CRAIG

I get it. Jail--almost by design--sucks. There must be some way for you to get some money in a pinch.

INT. "MAURY" PRODUCTION OFFICE - LATER THAT DAY

Donny in a (now too tight and rumpled) pastel shirt, approaches the receptionist.

DONNY

Hey baby. Yeah, it's me. Let's get that out of the way. So is Janice around? Just let her know I'm here.

RECEPTIONIST

Who?

DONNY

Janice? Maury's producer?

RECEPTIONIST

If you're talking about Janice Gerber, she passed away around five years ago.

DONNY

Oh...bummer. So who books the guests then? Because I'd like to offer Maury an *exclusive* one-hour interview with me for the low, low price of 43 thousand--

RECEPTIONIST

Wait a minute, are you Donny Levine?

DONNY

Yeah, that's right. Took you a second to recognize the face huh?

RECEPTIONIST

No, it's funny, we have your picture right here with this little note saying you, under no circumstances, are allowed to be on the show.

DONNY

Can I see that?

She gives him a slip of paper. He reads it over.

DONNY

That's pretty...unambiguous.

EXT. MONTEL TV STUDIO - DAY

Donny waits outside until MONTEL WILLIAMS leaves the building, heading for his limo.

DONNY

Montel! Montel! It's Donny Levine! How about an exclusive--

MONTEL

--Sorry my brother you're like an old piece of bread.

He jumps in the limo, then cracks the window open.

MONTEL

Stale.

Donny watches the limo drive away.

INT. UPPER EAST SIDE APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Donny hits a button marked "Raphael".

SALLY JESSY (ON INTERCOM)

Hello?

DONNY

Hey Sally Jessy, it's me, Donny
Levine.

SALLY JESSY (ON INTERCOM)

Go away.

DONNY

I've got more stories to tell on
your show. I never talked about the
time Miss McGaricle and I did it in
the nurse's office, right that
table thing with the deli paper on
it.

SALLY JESSY (ON INTERCOM)

I'm not talking to you, Donny! For
one thing you gave me hepatitis C,
and for another thing I haven't
been on TV for eight years.

Beat.

DONNY

Well can I just come up? I'm so
tired.

Beat.

The door BUZZES, letting him inside.

INT. SALLY JESSY'S APARTMENT - LATER

Donny is in a robe with an embroidered "Sally Jessy Raphael"
logo, flipping the channels on TV. In the bathroom we can see
the SILLOUETTE of Sally Jessy taking a shower.

As he flips to ABC Family Channel, something catches his eye. It's the made-for-tv movie starring Ian Ziering. We see a short bit of it:

IAN ZIERING (AS DONNY)
You're scared, I'm scared, we're
all scared. But you know what they
say, "Once you go young, you never
have so much fun." Who cares what
the world thinks? Treat yourself.

HEATHER THOMAS (AS MARY)
I *am* scared. Because it's so wrong.
But I'm only human. Teach
me...everything.

As he watches Ian and Heather kiss, Donny yells to the bathroom.

DONNY
Hey SJR - I gotta bolt. Gotta catch
up with an old friend.

Donny quickly starts getting dressed. Sally yells from the shower.

SALLY JESSY (O.S.)
We're both adults, Donny. You don't
have to make excuses. You know
where my buzzer is...and you seem
to know where my G-spot is too!

EXT. SHITTY MOTEL ROOM - LATER

Donny PACES outside a shitty motel room, nervous. He takes a deep breath, then KNOCKS. IAN ZIERING (44, unshaven, briefs) answers, NOT HAPPY to see Donny. TENSE SILENCE. Then --

DONNY
Whaazzzuuuuuup?
(Ziering nods defiantly)
Hey, Ziering! What's the low down
my brotha-from-anotha-mutha! Long
time no see!

ZIERING
Yeah, I stopped talking to you
because you slept with my mom.

DONNY
Oh, did she tell you? I was hoping
to keep that under wraps because I
knew you'd be pissed.
(MORE)

DONNY (cont'd)
You're pissed right? I thought you
were just busy with stuff.

Ziering tries to SLAM the door -- Donny CATCHES it!

DONNY (CONT'D)
Come on! You're really gonna let
that end a twenty year friendship?
It was one time in 1992! Listen
dude, I'm in real trouble. I need
money. Fast.

Ziering just stares, disgusted.

DONNY
Oh, c'mon, Ziering! You've got that
sweet 90210 cash!

ZIERING
That money's long gone. I live in
this motel, man. I work at the ice
rink! I deep-fry chicken nuggets.

He tries to PUSH the door shut -- Donny HOLDS it open.

DONNY
Come on, man! Tramps like us "baby
we were born to run!"

ZIERING
Yeah, well...I'm not into
Springsteen anymore --

SHOCKED, Donny PUNCHES him in the face.

DONNY
I really need the money dude!

Ziering PUNCHES Donny back.

ZIERING
That's for my mom!

Ziering SLAMS the door.

EXT. STRIP CLUB - NIGHT

Now very late at night, Donny pulls up in his '88 Fiero to a
rundown strip club. The sign says: "CLASSY RICK'S NAKED LADY
EMPORIUM" and a smaller sign beneath that says "NOW SERVING
SUNDAY BRUNCH"

Before he gets out of the car, he FLIPS DOWN THE VISOR --
REVEAL an old PHOTO: YOUNG DONNY and his YOUNG SON (CHUBBY as
a kid) smiling.

INT. CLASSY RICK'S - MOMENTS LATER

The most depressing strip club/breakfast buffet on earth.

DEEP VOICED DJ (O.C.)
Coming to the the stage, give it up
for Natalie gettin' down down and
dirty to "Key Largo!"

A STRIPPER IN AN ARM CAST dances the pole clumsily.

Donny gets a nonchalant sexless lap dance from CHAMPALE (50,
worn, Jersey smoker's voice). They talk casually throughout,
like she's his shrink.

DONNY
What did I do with my life,
Champale?

CHAMPALE
Don, honey, everything happens for
a reason. You're gonna be okay.

DONNY
Really? I'm about to turn 40, I
live at the Y, and the only thing
I'm good at is being Donny Levine.
But no one wants to pay for the
Donny Levine story anymore.
(sighs)
I guess there's always gonna be a
younger, better looking kid...who
got fucked by his teacher.

She pats his shoulder, sympathetic. Donny picks up the NEW
YORK TIMES.

DONNY
What are you doing with the Times?
The Post has a way better sports
section.

CHAMPALE
Sorry, I'm addicted to the
crossword.

DONNY
I guess better that than being
addicted to heroin, huh?

CHAMPALE
(under breath)
Yeah, well or both.

Then something in the paper catches his eye.

DONNY (CONT'D)
Holy shit.

CHAMPALE
What?

DONNY
It's my son.

CHAMPALE
Oh my god, really? Are you sure
it's him?

DONNY
It's only been eight years. He's
lost a ton of weight...but that's
him.

CHAMPALE
(takes it, reads)
"Todd Peterson to wed Stacey
Hayward this Sunday at The
Waldorf." Todd Peterson?

DONNY
He changed his name! Why? What was
wrong with his real name?

CHAMPALE
"Peterson, an up-and-coming
financial executive at Hayward
Industries, was orphaned at age
nine, when both his parents died in
a horrific explosion." Ooh. Sorry,
sweetie.

DONNY
That's not true! I didn't explode!

CHAMPALE
Donny this could be a blessing in
disguise! Your son's getting
married. Go and reconcile with him,
be honest about your situation, and
I bet he helps you out.

DONNY
I just don't see him doing that.
And to be honest, I'd be much more
comfortable coming up with some
kind of lie to get the money...

EXT. OUTSIDE THE CLUB - MOMENTS LATER

Donny dials his cell phone...

INT. MONTEL WILLIAMS APARTMENT - INTERCUT

MONTEL answers the phone.

MONTEL WILLIAMS
Hello? Who's this?

DONNY
Here's the pitch: All three of us,
mother, father and son, interviewed
together, live from Jersey State
Prison. Fresh right?

MONTEL WILLIAMS
Who's this?

DONNY
Donny Levine!

MONTEL WILLIAMS
I have to admit I'm intrigued. But
your son, he's up for doing this?

DONNY
Oh yeah. He's...pumped.

Donny stares again at the NY Times Wedding announcement. Todd
and Stacey in a posed photo. Todd with an UNEASY, AWKWARD
SMILE.

CUT TO:

EXT. MANHATTAN - UPPER EAST SIDE TOWNHOUSE - SAME

CLOSE ON TODD (25) with the same uneasy awkward smile,
looking at himself in the mirror, in his walk-in
closet/dressing area.

TODD
(nervous)
Natural. Relaxed. Big weekend.
(MORE)

TODD (cont'd)
Just keep it together. Just don't
be yourself.

He pops a Xanax, then takes out a SPARE PAIR OF UNDERWEAR
from a drawer and puts it in his inside jacket pocket.

Todd pulls a shirt from his OCD CLOSET (suffocatingly neat,
color-coded, etc.) as STACEY (24, attractive) SKIPS in,
practically singing.

STACEY
How excited are you right now!?

TODD
I'd say off the charts, or, like,
right at the edge of the charts.

She shows him the New York Times announcement.

TODD (CONT'D)
Wow. I just - I still don't get why
we did this. Who announces their
wedding? I feel like that only
happens on "Sex and the City".

STACEY
It's the cover of the Memorial Day
weekend wedding section. Forget us,
this is huge for my mother.
(no response)
C'mon, look how great we look...

TODD
(examines the photo)
Yeah...I guess we look good, but...

STACEY
(kisses his cheek)
We look like your typical perfect
happy couple! I always dreamed
about opening up the paper and
seeing my wedding announcement.

TODD
I just - I mean, this thing's got
our names, and our picture and
everything. I just don't want
people knowing how to...find us.

STACEY
How to *find us*? What? Did you take
your Xanax today?

TODD

Yes.

STACEY

Did you have your spare underpants?
I know that makes you feel secure.

TODD

There are weirder things then
carrying an extra pair for an
emergency.

STACEY

Like what?

TODD

There's a guy at my office, he
NEVER eats bread.

STACEY

What, is he on a no-carb diet?

TODD

I don't know...

The INTERCOM buzzes.

STACEY

That's my parents with the wedding
coordinator.

TODD

How many times do we have to meet
with the wedding coordinator? He
rubs me the wrong way.

STACEY

Listen, we're lucky to have
Antonio. He's the the best. His
waiting list is over a year long,
and without my mom pulling strings
we would have never gotten him.

TODD

Okay, okay. I do want this weekend
to be perfect.

STACEY

Stop worrying. We're gonna have the
best wedding ever.

She heads downstairs.

STACEY (O.S.)
Coming...!

Todd examines the article, concerned.

 TODD
 (assuring himself)
He doesn't read the Times. He reads
the Post. He's not gonna see this.
It's fine.

INT. TOWNHOUSE - FOYER - MOMENTS LATER

Todd comes downstairs to greet Stacey's mother HELEN (40's, well dressed) and her quiet, balding father GERALD (40's).

 HELEN
There's the groom! Who's "Mister-
New-York-Times"??

 TODD
That's me! Good to see you Mrs.
Hayward.

 HELEN
Todd I'm not gonna tell you again.
When we're at the office, I'm Mrs.
Hayward. But as your mother-in-law
to be, I prefer "Helen."

 GERALD
And of course you can always call
me Gerald. I don't have an office.

 HELEN
He doesn't want an office. He knows
damn well I'd give him a job if he
wanted it. He's too proud.

 GERALD
 (resigned)
I'm a house husband.

 TODD
So where's Antonio?

Out of the bathroom comes ANTONIO, the wedding coordinator, in an oversized Knicks jersey, baseball cap and goatee. He speaks with a HEAVY LONG ISLAND ACCENT:

ANTONIO

Oooh boy. Don't anybody go in there
for a few minutes. (then) Hey
anybody listen to Stern today?

All shake their heads no.

ANTONIO

Oh, you missed a good one. You guys
gotta listen to Stern. "Ba ba
booie! Fla fla flo-ham!" Nothing?
Nobody? Not a Stern crowd, huh?

STACEY

So Antonio, I had this thought this
morning - how incredible would it
be if when everyone walked into the
church, we'd have those amazing
"Black Bat" flowers, like we saw in
Thailand.

HELEN

Honey, those are very rare. It
would take weeks to get something
like that--

ANTONIO

Hold on!

Antonio pulls out his Blackberry and taps away for a few
seconds.

ANTONIO

Okay... I got you 40 Southeast
Asian *Tacca Chantrieri* "Black Bat"
flowers. They'll be at the church,
2pm on Sunday. Crunch time, MY
TIME! Boo-yah!!!

STACEY

God, he's good.

ANTONIO

(checking Blackberry)
Your brother's landing in an hour,
go pick him up.

HELEN

Oh right, we should go.

ANTONIO

I'm gonna get your house ready for the most undeniably awesome cocktail party any bride has ever seen. Gonna knock this shit out of the park.

INT. TODD'S MERCEDES - DRIVING - DAY

Helen is on the phone yammering away, as Gerald drives. Todd and Stacy are in the back seat, WHISPERING to each other.

TODD

Great. I'm sweating like Meatloaf over here.

(sings)

"I would do anything for love..."

STACEY

I don't know why you're always so nervous around my parents. They love you.

TODD

Are you sure? Even your mom?

STACEY

Yes I'm sure. You're a big reason her company makes money. She's just protective, you know? I'm her baby girl.

TODD

I feel like when she looks at me, she doesn't see a CPA, she just sees is my penis going into your vagina.

STACEY

Todd!

TODD

I'm just a nice, normal guy, right?

STACEY

I wouldn't be marrying you if you weren't a nice... normal... handsome... sweet (KISSES HIM) guy.
(then)
Wow you really are pretty clammy.

INT. LA GUARDIA AIRPORT - ARRIVALS AREA

Helen, Gerald, Todd and Stacey scan the crowd waiting for Stacey's brother.

TODD

I can't believe it's been three years and I'm just meeting your brother now.

STACEY

Well the one time he was on leave long enough to come visit, you were away at your Fat Camp reunion.

Stacey notices her mom is CHOKED UP.

STACEY

Aww, Mom, are you crying already?

HELEN

My baby's getting married. This is a big moment in a mother's life.

(to Todd)

Sorry honey, I know this whole thing must be bittersweet for you.

TODD

Why?

HELEN

You know...because of your parents.

TODD

Oh, no, please, don't worry. It was a long time ago.

HELEN

Well, I know they'll be smiling down from heaven all weekend.

TODD

(fake chokes up)

Yeah. They woulda loved all this.

Helen HUGS him. Todd SMILES.

HELEN

We're all the family you need.

STACEY

(clapping)

There he is! Troy!

Emerging from the crowd of tourists is TROY (26), super muscular, buzz cut, in MARINE CORPS SERVICE UNIFORM.

Stacey, Gerald and Helen all run to greet him, hugging him. Todd twirls Stacey around.

TODD
Hey Stacey, Mom, Dad.

HELEN
Welcome home, son.

STACEY
Troy, this is my fiancé, Todd.

Todd MAKES A HUGE SALUTE to Troy. Troy doesn't salute back.

TROY
Are you a soldier?

TODD
No.

TROY
Are you a sailor?

TODD
No.

TROY
Are you a pilot?

TODD
No.

TROY
Are you or are you not in the armed forces?

TODD
No, no, I'm a certified public-

TROY
-then I'd prefer you get your fingers away from your forehead, shake my hand like the civilian that you are, and say "thank you and God bless."

TODD
(shaking his hand)
Thank you and God bless.

TROY
Welcome to the family, Todd.

Troy wipes Todd's sweat off his hand.

TROY
Your hand is dank.

INT. TOWNHOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Preparations are happening for the cocktail party. Antonio talks to Todd and Stacey.

ANTONIO
Listen I don't want yous guys to worry 'bout nothin' okay? Gonna be off the hook!

TODD
Okay are you sure?

ANTONIO
Todd! What did I tell you? What's my motto?

TODD
Stick with you and you'll have us farting through silk.

ANTONIO
(as he heads to kitchen)
That's right. That's my guy! Babba-booie! No worries! Perfect weekend.

TODD
Okie doke. Who wants a drink?
Gerald - what can I get you?

GERALD
A reason to get up in the morning?
Just kidding of course. I'll have a scotch if you have it.

TODD
Comin' up. How about you, Troy?
What's your poison?

Troy walks over to Todd and speaks quietly to him.

TROY
(intense)
You listen to me, Civilian. My sister's everything to me.
(MORE)

TROY (cont'd)

If you ever lie to her, or do anything to hurt her, I will take my government issued service pistol, and shoot you with it.

TODD

Okay, got it.

TROY

Okay. I'll have a sea breeze.

TODD

And Mrs. Hayward - Mrs. Helen - Hayward. (deep breath) HELEN! I've got your two fingers of Rose's Limejuice and soda water.

HELEN

The kid knows my drink! Stacey - marry this man!

Everyone chuckles.

STACEY

Good idea, Mom! I think I will!

Bigger laugh.

TODD

How about on Sunday?

HUGE laugh.

TROY

I'll admit, Todd, you got me with that one.

The DOORBELL rings.

TODD

(trying a little too hard)
Let me get that, family! Starting Sunday, that is!

Todd laughs as he scurries out of the room.

INT. FOYER - CONTINUOUS

Todd answers the door. It's Donny. The smile (and the color) immediately drains from Todd's face.

DONNY

Whazzzup?

TODD
What the fuck are you doing here?

DONNY
(suddenly grave)
Your mother is sick.

TODD
I don't have a mother.

DONNY
Well the mother you don't have has
got a terminal... chronic...
illness disease. And her last
request, is to see her son Han this
one time.

TODD
My name is Todd Peterson, and you
are not part of my life, and I hate
you.

DONNY
Is that any way to talk to your
father?

Stacey comes over Donny.

STACEY
Hey, who's this?

DONNY (CONT'D)
Wow. You must be Stacey. Whazzzup!

STACEY
And you must be...

DONNY
Donny.
(off her silence)
Han's never even mentioned me?

STACEY
Who's Han?

DONNY
(annoyed)
Oh, I mean, *Todd*.

STACEY
I don't remember a Donny...

DONNY

Wait, where are my manners?
 Congratulations! I don't have my
 wedding gift with me right now, but
 I'm making you guys a mixtape.

Helen comes over.

HELEN

Hello, I don't you. I'm Helen,
 Stacey's mother.

DONNY (CONT'D)

Donny Levine. Todd's dad.

Helen looks at Todd CONFUSED.

HELEN

I thought your parents were dead.

TODD

(covers poorly)

No, they are. So dead. He's
 hilarious. "My dad." This is my
 old friend from the...

(can't think of anything)

Whazzzzuup!? We're trying to bring
 that back. It's been out of the
 zietgeist for too long....
 whazzzupp...

He grabs Donny's hand and tries to fake an elaborate SCRIPTED
 HANDSHAKE. Donny doesn't cooperate, upset by the lie.

TODD (CONT'D)

See, we've got this joke where he
 tells people he's my dad...and it's
 hilarious cause my parents actually
 died. In that explosion.

HELEN

That doesn't sound funny.

TODD

Well, yeah, you had to be there.

HELEN

...at the explosion?

TODD

No, at the inception of the joke -
 Donny, I can't believe you made it!
 (PATs him on the back)
 Yes! YES!

(MORE)

TODD (cont'd)
 (PATS HIM HARDER)
 What? You need a drink? OKAY! Come to the bar! I never know how to mix his drinks properly, so he's gonna come help me!

DONNY
 I'll have a drink! Open bar, I assume, right?

AT THE BAR

Donny and Todd approach the bar, separating from the group. They yell at each other in a LOUD WHISPER THROUGHOUT.

TODD (CONT'D)
 You have to leave. Get out of my house!

DONNY
 Why do you keep telling everyone I exploded!?

TODD
 I WISH YOU DID EXPLODE!

DONNY
 (hurt)
 ...God. Really? But...you're not even the least bit excited to have your dad here for your special weekend?

TODD
 You're not my dad!

DONNY
 I am your dad! You are the direct result of who-knows-which-one of fifteen hot screw sessions I had with my teacher.

Todd GRABS his arm.

TODD
 Listen to me: She'll call off the wedding if she finds out I've been lying. And I'm just barely starting to win her family over. Please. Just be my "friend?" I've never asked you for anything.

DONNY

That's not true. You've asked me
for thousands of things.

TODD

(getting louder)

But you never came through on any
of them!

DONNY

(staring down, then)

Well played.

Helen, Gerald, Stacey and Troy come over to the bar.

STACEY

Hey what is this, a bar room brawl,
or what?

TROY

Do we have a situation here?

TODD

Sorry. I was just so excited cause
he told me he couldn't make it, and
then he's here. But that's so him.
Classic him. Oh...him.

GERALD

Aren't you gonna introduce us?

TODD

Of course, this my future father-in-
law, Gerald; and of course Troy,
one of our great heroes out there
on the front lines.

DONNY

Oh...

Donny starts to SALUTE Troy, Todd slams his hand down.

TODD

But don't salute him--in case you
didn't know that - just say "God
bless."

(awkward beat)

Troy, this is my old friend, Donny.

DONNY

Best friend.

STACEY

Your best friend?

TODD
(forced to play along)
Yeah.

Todd PUNCHES Donny in the arm, HARD.

DONNY
Ow!!!

STACEY
Todd?

TODD
No yeah, "Best friend." We have
this funny thing where we always
punch each other, as a joke!

DONNY
That's right! That's what these
best best friends...DO!

Donny PUNCHES Todd, even HARDER.

TODD
(trying to hide the pain)
Ahh...yeah!!! Yep, yep.

STACEY
I surprised I never heard about
this "best friend"...

TODD
You remember the stories I told you
about all those times we had?

Donny hits him AGAIN.

TODD
Ahh! Out of turn! Good one my
buddy!

STACEY
I don't recall any mention of him,
Todd?

TODD
Yeah...we met when...

DONNY
-- I saved his life.

STACEY
What? Really?

TODD
Well, more metaphorically --

DONNY
It was one of those subway deals.
He dropped his burrito on the
tracks, and when he went to grab
it, the train was coming. I pushed
him outta the way. We've been best
friends ever since.

Everyone is really blown away.

HELEN
Wow. That's so brave.

DONNY
It wasn't really me. It was
something working through me....

STACEY
Oh my god. Todd, I can't believe
you never told me this story.

TODD
(glares at Donny)
Yeah, well...it was a little
embarrassing that I would go onto
the *subway tracks* to pick up a
burrito.

TROY
Why didn't you just get another
burrito?

TODD
I know. That's one of the many
parts of that story that's pretty
hard to believe.

STACEY
(to Donny)
I guess this weekend woulda never
happened without you. Well, I'm so
glad you're here. Where are you
staying?

DONNY
I'll probably head over to the Y.

STACEY

No no no. Absolutely not. You can sleep on the pull-out couch in Todd's study. No arguments. We won't take no for an answer.

DONNY

Then I have to say yes!

Todd's eyes WIDEN with fear.

TODD

Ohh that's AWESOME!

Todd PUNCHES Donny, super hard, in the kidney. Donny falls to the floor.

DONNY

(wind knocked out of him)

Ah, ah, oh!!! Good times!

STACEY

Jesus, Todd...

TODD

No, no, it's our thing. Best friends!

From the floor, Donny PUNCHES Todd in the groin. Now both writhing in pain:

DONNY

(with great effort)

Best friends.

TODD

(in pain)

Best friends!

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Now the cocktail party is in full swing. About thirty people, including some of Stacey's bridesmaids, some work people, etc.

Gerald brings over her GRANDMA DELORES to meet Donny.

GERALD

I want you to meet my mother, Delores. Donny is Todd's best friend!

DONNY

(kissing her on the hand)

I'm enchanted!

GRANDMA DELORES
Oh, what a gentleman!

Antonio comes over to Donny.

ANTONIO
Wait a minute, get outta here!
You're Donny friggin' Levine!
(to group)
Remember that kid that got his
teacher prego in Newark?
(to Donny)
Man, you were a god to me and my
friends. She was so hot, bro.

People start gathering around Donny.

DONNY
Thanks. It's great to meet a fan.
Here, have a copy of my first
novel.

He hands him an autographed copy of "HEAD IN THE CLASS."

DONNY
I came up with the title myself.
It's like "Head of the Class", but,
you know...BJs.

ANTONIO
Yeah, yeah, yeah. It's play of
words. It's classic! So whatever
happened to your kid?

DONNY
(GLARES at Todd)
Him? Oh he went crazy. He's in a
padded cell somewhere in Europe.

ANTONIO
Oh, shit.

DONNY
Ehh, he was always a little
tweaked, so...

TODD
Okay! So, Donny probably needs
another drink. Come over to the bar
with me.

DONNY
I'm good.

ANTONIO

You know, I got close once. Mrs. Weiss, freshman geometry. I think she woulda done it, too. I just didn't know how to make the move.

DONNY

That's where a lot of guys get tripped up. I just grabbed her and said, "Miss McGarricle, the student has become the teacher. Of sex."

Todd's blood is boiling.

DONNY

My third novel was actually gonna be a 'How-To' book, but the publishers wouldn't release it. Something about "encouraging child molestation".

Todd just DROPS his head, defeated.

GERALD

Man, I woulda killed to bang my 8th grade teacher. Mrs. Cohn. Biology. I used to dream about dissecting her with my penis. True story. It's weird what's going on upstairs when you hit puberty.

Another guy, PHIL, chimes in.

PHIL

I know. I stole the librarian's glasses to wear them while I masturbated. What's that about?

GRANDMA DELORES

I gave my 8th grade gym teacher a hand job in his Studebaker.

GERALD

Mom!

LATER:

Now Donny's surrounded by another group of guests. They're RAPT.

DONNY

So I see the train coming, and I just - I don't know, something takes over, right? I jump off the platform - BAM! Both my legs break.

GUEST

Jesus.

DONNY

Yeah. But, I'm so hopped up on adrenaline, I'm walkin' on my two broken legs! Not easy!

TODD

Doesn't sound easy. Or even plausible!

Todd looks around, amazed that they're all buying this.

LATER:

Todd talks with Stacey and Helen.

TODD (CONT'D)

So, Mrs. Hayward, Helen, I was thinking that if we hedged our ad sales position by-

HELEN

-Todd, take a night off, okay? This weekend I'm not your boss.

(to Stacey)

You're marrying a real workaholic.

STACEY

(smiles suggestively)

Isn't that what you want in a VP in charge of Finance, though?

HELEN

(laughs)

She's tough. Alright, listen, it's not final, but if all goes well this weekend, I do see you moving up the ladder very soon. A guy with a stable family's much less likely to go off the deep end?

TODD

Well...stable normal family... that's my middle name.

HELEN

Well, then, assuming nothing goes wrong, I'd say it's looking pretty good for you.

Helen WINKS, TOASTS Todd -- Stacey SMILES AT TODD EXCITEDLY.
They see Donny walk by.

HELEN

I'm gonna introduce Donny to the guys on the executive committee!

TODD

No!!

HELEN

What's the matter?

TODD

I'm saying like, "No..WAY! That's a great idea."

HELEN

Donny, come say hi to my associates.

She brings Donny over to a group of THREE SERIOUS LOOKING
OLDER MEN. Todd SWIGS his champagne hard.

HELEN

Donny, this is Earl, Glenn and Glenn. I call them my "three wise men" -- they're the motor that runs Hayward Industries.

DONNY

Whaazzzzuuuuuuuuuuuuup!

A LONG pregnant beat...Todd thinks he's dead...then --

HELEN

Is that back? I've been dying for that to come back. Whaaaazzzuup!

EARL

Whaaaazzzzuuuuup!

GLENN 1

(laughs)
Whaaaazzzzuuup!

HELEN/DONNY/GLENN/EARL/GLENN

Whaaaazzzzuuuuup!

Troy, Gerald, Stacey and Antonio, join in.

EVERYONE
Whaaaaazzzuuuup!

GRANDMA DELORES
Whaaaaazzzuuuup!

Todd rolls his eyes, DOWNS his champagne, then --

TODD
Whaaaaazzzuuuuuup!

They look at him, AWKWARD -- he was too LATE, and BAD at it.

KITCHEN - LATER

Donny finds Todd in the kitchen, BINGE EATING.

DONNY
Whoa, "piggy boy" is back! That's
the son I remember!

TODD
I HATE YOU!

DONNY
I feel like I'm coming through for
you right now and all you're doing
is hitting me with negativity.

TODD
You're ruining my life out there!

DONNY
Are we at the same party? They're
literally toasting to me.

TODD
Why don't you tell them some REAL
stories? Like the one about when
you fell asleep driving me to
school!

DONNY
We didn't even get in an accident!

TODD
Yes we did!

DONNY
But nobody got hurt.

TODD

You smashed into a bus! Three people went to the hospital!

DONNY

Did you or did you not get to school?

TODD

I did not!

DONNY

I thought you did. There was a lot of chaos that day.

TODD

Maybe you could just say something really important came up at work and you gotta go.

DONNY

(hurt)

Wow, you really want me gone that bad, Han?

TODD

You can't call me that! My name's Todd Peterson now. Todd.

DONNY

Why "Todd"? You coulda changed it to anything, and you chose "Todd Peterson?" It's so...normal.

TODD

I WANNA BE NORMAL! --

DONNY

You are normal.

TODD

No, Don, my life is approaching normal for the first time ever, okay? And the fact that I could put anything together - between near constant trips to therapy - is remarkable. But, I'd really like to marry Stacey before she realizes I'm from a family of circus freaks and that she could do way better. So, what's your plan? You stay here and ruin my life, or are you gonna help me for the first time in my life, and leave?

Beat.

DONNY
I'm gonna stay here AND help you
for the first time.

LATER:

Now a small BAND is PLAYING. Donny DANCES with Helen and Stacey, the HIT OF THE PARTY! Donny DIPS Helen playfully -- she BLUSHES, loving it.

Stacey gives a BIG THUMBS UP to Todd, who drinks and STEWS in the corner. He gives her an annoyed THUMBS UP back, just as Gerald DANCES by.

GERALD
Donny's classic, man! I wish I had
a best friend like that.

LATER:

Gerald is toasting Stacey, CHOKED UP.

GERALD (CONT'D)
...and on Sunday I'll give my baby
girl away to the new man in her
life. Stace, of all the things I've
ever been, Daddy's by far the best.
And anyone who's ever been Daddy,
knows exactly what I mean.

Donny's touched.

STACEY
I love you, Daddy!

Donny watches Gerald and Stacey HUG. Donny flashes a PEACE SIGN to Todd. Todd returns with THE FINGER.

STACEY (CONT'D)
I just had the best idea! Donny,
you can be Todd's best man!

TODD
What? No! Phil's my best man.

STACEY
I don't think he'll mind stepping
aside. Phil?

PHIL
No not at all. It's fine, really.
It's not like we're close... you
should have your best friend. The
whole thing with the burrito, and--

TODD
Oh yeah, that's right. Have we told
that story yet tonight?

DONNY
(jumping up)
I'll do it!!

Everyone cheers. Todd PUNCHES Donny. Everyone loves it.

PHIL
Ha!! That's their thing!

INT. TODD'S HOME OFFICE - LATER THAT NIGHT - PARTY IS OVER

Todd brings Donny into the study.

TODD
So here's your room. It's a pull-
out couch. Good night.

DONNY
You guys wouldn't happen to have a
waterbed in the house? I haven't
slept on a mattress in 15 years.

TODD
Wow. So, you've figured out a way
to be creepy even while you sleep.

Donny takes his shirt off, his pants and throws everything on
the floor, until he's just in his underwear.

TODD
And how's this place already such a
mess? You've been here fifteen
seconds. If you're gonna stay under
my roof, you're gonna keep this
room clean.

DONNY
(like an insolent teen)
God! I'll do it tomorrow.

Stacey enters with bedding.

STACEY

Todd you forgot to give Donny his sheets and stuff.

DONNY

Thanks, Stacey. And, hey, I want you to know how much this weekend means to me. *Nothing* could pull me away from here. Literally.

(smiles at Todd)

These are the weekends that make up the years of our lives.

Todd rolls his eyes at the idiocy -- Stacey eats it up.

STACEY

Awww, that's so sweet.

Topless sweaty Donny HUGS Stacey.

STACEY

Oh! I'm getting a hug! Great.

DONNY

Stacey you know what I could really use? A glass of warm milk.

STACEY

...okay.

She leaves. Donny goes through his garbage bag, smelling t-shirts. Todd sighs.

TODD

Why are you here, Don? Money? You heard I'm doing well, you thought you could show up after *eight* years, and I'd give you a hand out? You want money? I'll give you money. I'll write you a check.

DONNY

How *dare* you? I don't want your money! I came here to tell you about your sick mother, and your family graciously invited me to be a part of your wonderful festivities, and how much money did you have in mind?

TODD

(pulling out his check book)

(MORE)

TODD (cont'd)
Here. I'll give you...a thousand
bucks.

DONNY
(mumbling...under his
breath)
That's not nearly enough.

TODD
What?

DONNY
I said I'm here because your mother
is sick! It really offends me that
you'd think I'd come here looking
for money. If anything the son
should be asking the dad for money.

TODD
You're not my dad.

DONNY
Of course I'm your dad. I raised
you! I taught you shit!

TODD
Oh yeah, like what? I don't even
know how to ride a bike. You know
how embarrassing that is?

DONNY
C'mon, why don't you just try
calling me "Dad?" See how it
feels.

TODD
Listen, *Don*, not sure if you
remember, but you were the worst
dad ever.

DONNY
C'mon, I did a pretty decent job.

TODD
Really? You wanna check in on the
progress of your pretty decent job?

Todd grabs TEN SYRINGES from the desk, SHOWS them to Donny.

DONNY
...Oh, no. You're a junkie?

TODD

It's insulin. I'm diabetic! Cause you used to let me eat cake for breakfast. Just one of the great souvenirs of childhood obesity. You destroyed my metabolism, man. I only eat a thousand calories a day now. That's like half a sandwich and seven carrots!

DONNY

You do look amazing though...

TODD

Yeah, I have to work out like Madonna!

DONNY

A lot of people *enjoy* working out!

TODD

Oh, well, do a lotta people enjoy having a 17 inch Eddie Vedder tattoo on their back?!

Todd PULLS his shirt off and turns to reveal he does in fact have an EDDIE VEDDER covering his entire back.

DONNY

YOU BEGGED ME FOR THAT THING!

TODD

I WAS THIRTEEN! YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO SAY NO! --

Stacey enters with the glass of warm milk.

STACEY

Warm milk...

She see Todd and Donny (both shirtless) in each other's faces, and breathing heavy.

STACEY

...is everything okay?

TODD

Awesome, just showing Donny my ink.

STACEY

Ugh, I hate that thing.

DONNY
Nah, it's great. All the cool kids
are doin' it...

Donny turns to reveal a huge, faded TATTOO OF SPRINGSTEEN.

DONNY
The Boss.

STACEY
Wow. You guys are so alike.
(looks at them sideways)
You even kinda look alike. Has
anyone ever told you that?

TODD DONNY
No. All the time.

STACEY
...Right.

She hands Donny the milk, a little suspicious, and LEAVES.

Donny's CELL PHONE RINGS. Donny sees it's Montel Williams
calling. He answers, turning his tattooed back to Todd.

DONNY
Montel!
(then catching himself)
Uh...Montel...Lebowitz. My uh...
orthodontist. How's everything
going with the big, uh, "braces"
appointment? ... Whazzat? ... Oh
yeah, don't worry about my teeth.
My teeth'll be there. You just make
sure you got my braces. Okay.
Latah!

Donny hangs up.

DONNY
You know who that was?

TODD
Your orthodontist?

DONNY
Yep. So I mentioned your Mom's sick
right?

TODD
Yes you did.

DONNY

Well, they don't know how long she's got and...I told her you'd come visit her. I shoulda asked you before I got her hopes up, but I stupidly thought you'd wanna see her one last time...

TODD

(long beat, affected)
Really?

DONNY

Yeah. Saturday's the last time she can have visitors before her big surgery on Sunday.

TODD

(incredulous/annoyed)
So, you want me to go see my dying mother in prison, for the first time in twenty years, the day before my wedding?

DONNY

Hey, I just thought you should know. Maybe part of me hoped we could go together. I get it though. You've got a better family now.

Donny drinks some of his milk.

DONNY

Listen I'm beat. Do you mind hitting the light?

Todd hesitates, then FLICKS OFF the light and walks out.

INT. TODD'S BEDROOM - LATER

Todd sits at the end of the bed, staring at an OLD PHOTO: 4 YEAR OLD TODD and YOUNG DONNY smile with Mary McGarricle (who's behind a GLASS PRISON PARTITION), an ODD family photo.

Stacey comes to the doorway -- Todd hides the picture.

STACEY

What's going on with you, Todd? You were acting strangely tonight.

TODD

Nothing. I'm sorry. I just--Doesn't part of you just wanna go down to City Hall tomorrow and just get married two days early without telling anyone?

STACEY

...No, that sounds terrible. I want you to just stop acting weird, Because I want this. Our perfect wedding, our perfect life together. Just like my parents have.

TODD

No, I know. Me too. I'm kidding.
(changes the subject)
So...Troy....my new brother-in-law?
He's a pretty serious dude.

STACEY

You just gotta get to know him,
under the surface he's a little
pussycat.

She starts KISSING his neck.

TODD

To me he's less of a pussycat and
more of a ...pussycat with a gun.

She smiles, then STRADDLES him, unbuttons his pants, his eyes roll back.

STACEY

Todd, you and I are getting married
in two days. Troy's being just
protective of his little sister.

STACEY

Hey, look who's standing at
attention.

TODD

Whatever you do, don't salute it,
just shake its hand like the
civilian that you are.

INT. TODD'S HOME OFFICE - NIGHT

Donny snoops around Todd's office, still in his underwear.

DONNY

Can't sleep...gotta rub one out.

He turns on Todd's COMPUTER. The monitor comes up, asking for a PASSWORD.

DONNY

Oh, god. How am I supposed to--

He rifles through magazines and books on Todd's desk, looking for anything with a picture on it. First *The Economist* and *Business Week*.

DONNY

No go.

Then he finds a Brooks Brothers Catalog.

DONNY

Come on! Any woman...

Finally he finds a copy of *MacWorld*. He flips to the back, finds a quarter page ad for a computer mail-order company, with a tiny picture of a reasonably attractive phone operator in a sleeveless shirt. The caption says "Call me and order today!"

DONNY

Okay. Beggars can't be choosers.
We'll make it work.

He brings the magazine over the the couch, grabs some tissue and lies down and puts his hands in his underwear, as we...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. TODD'S HOME OFFICE - THE NEXT MORNING

As the sun streams in the window, Donny's asleep, the *MacWorld* still on his chest, his hand still in his underwear. He opens his eyes, very groggy. Looks around and sees Stacey's GRANDMA DELORES is standing there, just looking at him.

DONNY

(casually)

Good morning Delores.

GRANDMA DELORES

Good morning, Donny. You sleep okay?

DONNY

I'd give it a C-plus. I'm used to sleeping on a waterbed.

GRANDMA DELORES

Well come down, got my famous Granny D pancakes and they're getting cold!

DONNY

Sounds good! Let me just clean up shop and I'll see you down there.

INT. TODD'S BATHROOM - LATER

Donny walks toward Todd's bathroom.

DONNY

Yo, can I borrow some toothpaste, man? And a tooth brush? And do you have any Axe body spray --

He walks in as Todd is standing in front of the mirror, SHADING IN HIS ABS WITH BROWN CHARCOAL.

DONNY

Are you drawing in abs?

TODD

I'm shading, okay? Just a little enhancing what's already there.

DONNY

Who's even gonna see that?

TODD

What if I'm in a car accident?

DONNY

That's really weird, dude.

TODD

Yeah, it *is* weird, Don. I wonder why I have such horrible body image issues...

DONNY

Why you looking at me?

QUICK SERIES OF FLASHBACKS:

--SIDEWALK: 8 YEAR OLD TODD puts his HANDPRINTS in WET CEMENT. 22 YEAR OLD DONNY approaches with a stick.

22 YEAR OLD DONNY
I'll write your name for you.

Donny writes BIG BLOCK LETTERS: "FAT".

8 YEAR OLD TODD
That's not my name!

22 YEAR OLD DONNY
Should be.

--FISHING BOAT: 24-year-old Donny and FRIENDS (including 28-year-old ZIERING) drink and fish.

24 YEAR OLD DONNY
Hey, Chunk, do the Truffle Shuffle
for us. C'mon, one time. I'll give
you a beer...

Ten-year-old Todd (chubby) pulls up his shirt, does Chunk's
DANCE from "Goonies". Everyone LAUGHS!

28 YEAR OLD ZIERING
Baby Ruuuuuuuth!

--ICE RINK: 15-year-old Todd talks nervously to a GIRL and
her FRIENDS. Suddenly Donny runs up and YANKS DOWN TODD'S
PANTS. The girls and Donny LAUGH. Donny HI-FIVES Ziering.

24 YEAR OLD DONNY
What up, "fat"!?

15-year-old Todd SHAKES HIS HEAD in disbelief.

BACK TO PRESENT, TODD'S BATHROOM:

Adult Todd, shaking his head in disbelief.

TODD
I...hate you.

DONNY
Wow. I was just...messing with you.
I didn't realize it would have
legit long term effects.

TODD
It did. Here --
(gives him toothpaste)
I don't have Axe body spray cause
I'm not a douchebag. Go get ready.
(MORE)

TODD (cont'd)
We gotta meet everyone at the church for the rehearsal 'cause somehow, you're the best man, remember? Yay!

DONNY
(beat, sincere)
Yeah, well, I'm...sorry about all that, Han.

TODD
My name is TODD!

INT. TODD'S BEDROOM - LATER

Donny comes into Todd's room, wearing his same ratty t-shirt and jeans.

TODD
No, no, no. We're going to church, not Kenny Rogers Roasters. You're not wearing a t-shirt. Put on a tie.

Todd grabs a shirt and tie from his closet.

DONNY
First off, you can't tell me what to do. I'm the dad. And second, I've literally never worn a tie. It's a 39 year streak.

TODD
(GRABS Donny by the shirt)
PUT ON A TIE AND COMB YOUR HAIR!

DONNY
I'LL NEVER SELLOUT!

They WRESTLE clumsily -- then SEPARATE. Todd SIGHS DEEPLY.

TODD
A hundred bucks.

CUT TO:

INT. TODD'S BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

He TIES Donny's tie ANGRILY (like a Dad tying his son's tie).

TODD
How are you still alive? You have
the skills of a 12 year old.

Todd CINCHES it tight -- Donny PULLS at it -- they WRESTLE
for control of the tie.

DONNY
It's too tight!

TODD
It's supposed to be tight!

DONNY
I CAN'T BREATHE!

TODD
GOOD!

INT. TODD'S MERCEDES - LATER

Todd drives, Donny's in shotgun, in shirt and tie. They stare
ahead, SILENT. The stereo PLAYS "Your Body Is A
Wonderland"...Donny CRINGES.

DONNY
...What is this?

TODD
John Mayer.

DONNY
...It sounds like what Phil Collins
would put on before he makes love
to Richard Marx.

TODD
Yeah, well, he's sold about 30
million records, so, you don't know
what you're talking about.

DONNY
God, sometimes I can't believe you
came outta my penis. I've got two
words for you: Spring. Steen.
Listen to him.

TODD
I actually have heard Springsteen.
It was playing in our house 24/7
from the day I was born till I left
home.

DONNY

Maybe you heard him, but you never really *listened* to him. Cause if you had, you'd be blasting it right now. Do me a favor. Do *yourself* a favor. Really listen to just one song.

Donny hands Todd a CASSETTE TAPE marked "Springsteen Intro Mix."

TODD

Do you just carry that around with you all the time?

DONNY

You never know when you're gonna have to save lives.

Todd takes the tape and kinda BANGS it against his stereo.

TODD

Oh, wait, that's right, I left my tape player in 1987. I'll go back in my DeLorean and get it for you. And while I'm there, I'll pick you up another pair of those jeans.

INT. MAGNIFICENT CHURCH - LATER

Todd anxiously stares up at a HUGE BLOODY CRUCIFIX above the altar.

An ANGRY PRIEST (50) prepares to address the WEDDING PARTY, who stand silently in rigid formation for the rehearsal. Antonio watches from the side.

Donny looks up at the crucifix and whispers to Todd.

DONNY

That's one dead hippie.

Todd shushes him.

ANGRY PRIEST

(CLEARS his throat)

Todd and Stacey are making a commitment to each other for all eternity. It's the single most important decision of their lives --

Todd EXHALES LOUDLY -- everyone looks at him.

TODD

Sorry.

Donny registers Todd's anxiety as the Priest continues.

ANGRY PRIEST

So, is it too much to ask that you act respectfully on Sunday? Hey, I get it, it's Manhattan out there. Everyone's having sex and lattes, God's a big joke and I'm an idiot for not having HBO. But while you're in my church, you will respect Jesus.

(Todd SWALLOWS hard)

No giggling, no gum chewing, and no phones. You can text your coke dealer when you get home, okay? And when the ceremony's over, no clapping.

DONNY

Is this a funeral or a funeral?

ANGRY PRIEST

Best man, is that a real question?

DONNY

No, I was just kidding. You know, cause you're so serious. I just - Happy occasion, right?

The Priest just continues, annoyed.

ANGRY PRIEST

Okay, so, on Sunday, the choir will begin, you'll come down the aisle, pause at the altar, genuflect, then move to where you're standing right now. Everyone got that?

Donny raises his hand -- the Priest looks at him, annoyed.

DONNY

Sorry, just wanna be clear, though. So, by genuflect, you mean 'think about how great it is that they're getting married', right?

ANGRY PRIEST

No...by "genuflect," I mean bow to one knee and make the signal of the cross.

DONNY

Right. Got it. So, should Todd and I do that too, though?

ANGRY PRIEST

What do you mean?

TODD

Wait, Don --

DONNY

Cause we're Jewish.

Everyone's STUNNED. Donny doesn't know why.

DONNY (CONT'D)

I mean, I don't care. I'm a team player on this thing. What do we do here? (making sign of the cross)
Up, down, left, right? Isn't that how you guys do the thing?

Everyone LOOKS at Todd -- he LAUGHS NERVOUSLY.

TODD

Donny, I'm not Jewish. I'm Catholic, remember?

DONNY

What?

(tries to recover)

Oh, yeah...right. I always get those two mixed up.

TODD

Okay, thanks Father. So, we'll just catch you on Sunday, then?

ANGRY PRIEST

(suspicious)

You know, I can't marry you in my church if you haven't been baptized.

TODD

No worries.

ANGRY PRIEST

No worries, you've been baptized?

STACEY

Yes, of course he has. He's Catholic, Father. Right, Todd?

TODD
Totally. Almost too Catholic.
...not that that's possible.

ANGRY PRIEST
When was your last communion?

TODD
(laughing/stalling)
"When was my last communion?" Is
this guy kidding? Stacey do you
hear this? He's asking when my last
communion was. Now *that's* funny. I
mean, Jay Leno might want to step
aside and let this guy do the
jokes! Ha... "When was your last
communion."

ANGRY PRIEST
What is communion?

TODD
You know.

ANGRY PRIEST
Yes, I *do* know.

TODD
It's...like a dance ritual...

Priest stares, head shaking.

TODD
...in the backyard...of God. In
God's backyard.
(beat)
Metaphorically.
(beat)
It's open to interpretation.

Off the Angry Priest's ANGRY LOOK --

EXT. OUTSIDE THE CHURCH - LATER

Donny, Troy, and the parents stand to the side as Stacey and
Todd ARGUE.

TODD
I just -- You told me how important
it was to your family that you
married Catholic, so I just kinda
went with it.

STACEY
You mean you lied.

TODD
Yes...but out of love. It was a
love lie. Like faking an orgasm.

STACEY
We've got three hundred people
coming here the day after tomorrow.

STACEY
You'll just have to convert. He can
baptize you right before the
ceremony. They did it at my cousin
Jodie's wedding.

TODD
Wait, convert, like convert, like
convert my religion?

STACEY
What? You're willing to lie about
being Catholic but you're not
willing to actually convert?

TODD
No, of course I am, it's just kind
of a major decision, you know...I'm
good with Catholicism, basically,
BUT...there's the whole abstinence
education thing which is just
really irresponsible. And they
don't let gay guys be gay? That's
just stupid. And, *pro-life*?

STACEY
You want to have a political
debate? Now? Two days before our
wedding?

DONNY
He's got a point about the gay
stuff though. I mean, I'm straight,
but those little guys should be
allowed to do their thing.

STACEY
(GLARES at Donny, then)
Well, Todd, if you wanna marry me
on Sunday, you have to convert.

Stacey gets in a taxi with her family.

HELEN
(to Todd)
You're really disappointing me
Todd.

TODD
Helen...

HELEN
Mrs. Hayward is fine.

STACEY
Mom, Dad, Troy...that makes four.
I guess you guys get your own cab.

Before getting in the cab, Troy WHISPERS into Todd's ear.

TROY
Ask me how many men I've killed in
combat.

TODD
How many men have you killed in
combat.

TROY
(whispering even quieter)
...six.

He jumps in the cab and they're off, leaving a terrified Todd
alone with Donny.

DONNY
I'm sorry man, but you didn't give
me a handbook with all the things
you're lying about, you know? And
who lies about being Jewish? Even
just from a business standpoint,
you're leaving a ton of clients on
the table.

TODD
God, am I really gonna be Catholic?

DONNY
It seems to be making that priest
pretty happy.

TODD
Yeah, and he's like the most
Catholic you can be. You'd think
being that close to God would put
him in a better mood.

DONNY
Well, he's not allowed have sex.

TODD
He's not even allowed to jerk off,
I don't think.

DONNY
Can you imagine the orgasm built up
in his pants? It would be just like
a beam of pure energy.

TODD
Pure energy, mixed with old man
priest semen.

They LAUGH together, for the first time in a decade.

TODD
Yeah, this is ridiculous. I'm not
converting. No way. No way. No way.

INT. TUX SHOP - LATER

A TAILOR fits Donny and Todd for TUXES.

TODD
(into phone:)
Okay, okay, okay. I'll convert.
No, Stacey, I'm not lying about
about anything else. I promise.
Alright, I love you. Hello?

Todd hangs up.

DONNY
I was thinking, what if instead of
"whipped cream", they called it
"pussy whipped cream"...

TODD
She's not really wrong on this,
Don. I lied.

DONNY
No, Todd, I wasn't thinking about
the way you let your fiancé cut
your balls off. It was a completely
separate thought I was having about
whether they should call whipped
cream "pussy-whipped cream."

TODD

Everything's falling apart.
Surprisingly, since about the time
you showed up.

DONNY

Hey, I don't care if you're Jewish
or not. I mean, the Holocaust, but
whatever. Why are you trying so
hard to turn yourself into someone
that you're not?

TODD

Because, you see, in an adult
relationship, you make sacrifices
for each other. It's not always
about you.

DONNY

Okay. Fine.

TAILOR

(re Donny's pants)
How's this?

DONNY

Let's go a little tighter.
(long beat, then)
So, T...have you thought any more
about going out to see your mom
tomorrow? I'd love a wingman.

TODD

I barely remember her. We stopped
visiting her when I was four.

DONNY

My guidance counselor thought that
having a long distance relationship
with an inmate was affecting my
grades.

(to Tailor re: pants)
C'mon, man, don't be shy.

TODD

I can't believe she's been in jail
this whole time. Can you imagine
being locked up in in a cell like
that?

DONNY

I'm doing everything I possibly can
to avoid imagining that.

TODD
Well, I don't know. Why don't you
just go with Ziering or something?

DONNY
We had a falling out. I fucked his
Mom.

TODD
I know how he feels.

TAILOR
(to Donny)
...Are you sure you want these so
tight in the seat?

TODD
Whoa, those are way too tight. It's
a tux, not a wet-suit.

DONNY
I could go even tighter.

TODD
You should just be a grown-up, and
go apologize to Ziering. Be the
bigger man.

DONNY
It's complicated.

TODD
You know what? I will go to the
prison with you tomorrow.

DONNY
Really? Wow.

TODD
(re: the tight pants)
Don, I can literally see the rim of
your penis.

DONNY
Barely.

A shot of Donny's crotch - like a penis in shrink wrap.

DONNY (CONT'D)
Tell me where it says showing a
little peen doesn't go a long way?

TODD

Don! I NEED TO YOU BLEND IN! You promised me!

DONNY

Fine, take 'em out a little. But you're letting the terrorists win.

The Tailor releases the seat a bit.

TAILOR

Okay, let's see you two.

Todd and Donny look in the mirror, side by side in their tuxes. Donny puts his arm around Todd. Todd shakes it off.

EXT. MAGNOLIA BAKERY - LATER

Todd and Donny wait in an insanely long line outside the famous tiny bakery.

DONNY

This line is for cupcakes? What're they made of, blowjobs?

Some PATRONS look at Donny oddly.

TODD

Stacey loves them, and it's my go-to apology gift. Stacey would rather eat a Magnolia red velvet than have me eat her out.

DONNY

God, I hate Manhattan.

TODD

(re the line)

Come on, come on!

Todd covers his face, BREATHES HEAVILY, a mini panic attack.

DONNY

Wow, for a guy that's supposed to be having the happiest weekend of his life, my fatherly vibes are sensing that something's wrong. Maybe a little father/son talk? Hit me.

TODD

It's a stressful weekend, okay? And you're not helping.

DONNY
 YES! I knew something was wrong!
 Who's the shitty dad, now!? YEAH!
 (off Todd/everyone's LOOK)
 Sorry.

Todd can't help but smile a bit. They finally reach the counter.

MAGNOLIA CLERK
 Next?

TODD
 We'll take a dozen red velvets.

MAGNOLIA CLERK
 That'll be \$31.55.

Donny makes a ridiculously fake "attempt" to find his wallet, patting all over his body. Todd just watches him -- which forces Donny to keep the charade going for a while.

TODD
 Alright, Alligator Arms, take it
 easy, I got it.

DONNY
 What? I was legitimately looking
 for my wallet.

They get the cupcakes and make their way out.

EXT. BLEECKER STREET - CONTINUOUS

DONNY
 Here's my advice. Father to son...

TODD
 Didn't ask for it.

DONNY
 I'm givin' it to you anyway...

TODD
 You're not my father.

DONNY
 Okay here it is: Stop shading your
 abs.

TODD
 And here's some son-to-father
 advice: Stop giving me advice.

DONNY
 (takes a bite)
 THIS IS THE WORST CUPCAKE I'VE EVER
 HAD IN MY LIFE!

INT. TODD AND STACEY'S ROOM - DAY

Todd and Donny walks in to find Stacey looking at her wedding dress with Antonio, Helen and some girlfriends.

TODD
 Stacey...

STACEY
 Close your eyes! You're not allowed
 to see the dress!

She puts the dress away.

TODD
 Listen, I a few things to say. One,
 I got red velvet cupcakes for
 everyone.

STACEY (O.S.)
 From where?

TODD
 Magnolia.

HELEN
 That place is THE BEST. THE. BEST.

Helen grabs a cupcake and passes some to the others.

TODD
 Number two, I'm really psyched to
 be Catholic.
 (whispers, aside)
 I even stopped masturbating. And
 three, I'm sorry I lied. And I
 won't do it again. And I love you.

STACEY
 (whispering)
 I love you too, Todd, but this is
 our wedding. And ever since your
 friend Donny showed up, you're
 being really strange.

TODD
 I'm sorry, everything's fine now.

STACEY

I just can't deal with anymore surprises, okay?

TODD

No more surprises.

They kiss, and turn to the group.

ANTONIO

Okay people. I don't bust your balls here, but your bachelorette party bus gets here in an hour you gotta do your hair. Helen, it's a night out, not a bridge game, lose the pants suit. Doll yourself, chop suey, let's go.

Antonio takes Donny and Todd aside.

ANTONIO

And you two - big bachelor night starts in T-minus twenty minutes.

DONNY

Bachelor party tonight! Now you're speaking my lingo. Titties, booze, drugs...

TODD

No, I'm not into that kind of stuff, so Stacey set up a really cool evening for all the guys tonight. Should be pretty much full-on off-the-hook.

CUT TO:

INT. NICKEL MEN'S SPA - NIGHT

An ultra modern, sleek spa lobby. The bachelor party walks in (Donny, Todd, Gerald, Troy, Phil and Antonio). They are greeted by MRS. RAVENSDALE (50), in a white labcoat.

MRS. RAVENSDALE

Good evening gentlemen, I'm Mrs. Ravensdale. Welcome to your bachelor party package at the Nickel Spa for Men! We'll get you set up in plush robes, then a full evening of massage, skin and nail treatments, refreshing private or communal showering.

(MORE)

MRS. RAVENSDALE (cont'd)
Then we'll be sending you home with
samples of our house-made lavender
scrub!

DONNY
Saaaayyy... what the fuck?

ANTONIO
(to Donny)
I didn't plan this, Stacey did.
Different strokes for different
folks.

DONNY
What folks? This is a bachelor
party?

TODD
Stacey thought we'd enjoy having
time to chill and mellow.

PHIL
I for one have been working like a
dog all week and am ready to be
PAMPERED!

A SERVER comes by with a tray of drinks.

DONNY
Okay there we go, let's get this
party going.

Donny takes a drink, which has a cucumber slice floating at
the top. He takes a sip. Then SPITS it back into glass.

DONNY
What is this? Water and a cucumber
in here...smells like an air
freshener or a flower--what IS
this? And why in God's name are we
drinking water at a bachelor party?

MRS. RAVENSDALE
It's water infused with cucumber,
rose pedals and harvest sandlewood.

DONNY
Well it tastes like puke-infused
with shit.

INT. MESSAGE ROOM - LATER

Donny's getting massaged by a female masseuse.

MASSEUSE
Okay turn over.

DONNY
Okay, now you're talking. How much
for the full package?

MASSEUSE
\$150 extra.

DONNY
Ooh that's steep.

MASSEUSE
It includes scalp treatment,
reflexology--

DONNY
--no baby, how much is it gonna
cost me to get Mrs. Kringle down to
the South Pole?

MASSEUSE
Sorry?

DONNY
To jerk me off! How much does it
cost?

TODD (O.S.)
Donny! This isn't a brothel!

REVEAL THAT TODD AND ALL THE OTHERS are getting massages in
this same room. Gerald and Troy look at Donny suspiciously.

DONNY
Come on! This is bullshit!

INT. NAIL CARE ROOM - LATER

The six guys are sitting in a circle, all wearing white robes
and getting MANICURES and PEDICURES.

Troy is STARING DAGGERS at Todd.

TODD
What? Did I do something wrong?

TROY
I don't know. You tell me.

TODD
No, I didn't.

TROY

We'll see.

PHIL

(to manicurist)

I've been growing my toenails for three weeks waiting for this. Go to town, sister!

DONNY

So then we're done and we actually go out and drink, right?

TODD

No. We have the rehearsal dinner tomorrow night and we all want to be in good shape for it.

DONNY

Okay then I can officially say this is the worst bachelor party--wait a minute. This is not a party, this is six guys getting their nails done on a Friday night. What happened?

MRS. RAVENSDALE

Five minutes till everyone gets their choice of two kinds of chocolate!!

GERALD

Ooh!

DONNY

Guys, I'm the best man at this wedding, and I'm the groom's oldest friend, and I'm putting my foot down! My soft, exfoliated food down, and saying this will not do! This is Todd's bachelor party. He'll never have this again. We need to go out and have a good time like real guys!

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

The guys are getting into the limo.

TODD

Okay, so, where should we go? Stacey's friend Rob promotes at Bungalow 8 and Cliche.

(MORE)

TODD (cont'd)
We could probably get a table and
bottle service.

DONNY
We could also probably run over our
penises with cars. Just get in, I'm
in charge. We're going a place
where the only cucumbers they have
are your fuckin' dicks!
(to the driver)
Go to the Lincoln Tunnel!

MUSIC KICKS IN...

EXT. MANHATTAN SKYLINE - NIGHT

As we pull AWAY from the lights of Manhattan, the limo
emerges from the Lincoln Tunnel into New Jersey.

EXT. CLASSY RICK'S NAKED LADY EMPORIUM - NIGHT

A couple of guys are BEATING each other up in the parking
lot. Another guy is THROWING UP into a dumpster. A woman is
standing right at the entrance, under a bright light,
SHOOTING UP.

The limo pulls up.

DONNY
Now we're talking. Too bad it's not
Sunday morning -- they got eggs.

INT. CLASSY RICK'S NAKED LADY EMPORIUM - NIGHT

The group comes in. Other than a few guys passed out at the
bar, it's pretty much empty.

TODD
No, Don. No way. This will ruin me
with Stacey's family--

GERALD
--Todd, relax. This gonna be great.
And you know that what happens at
the bachelor party stays at the
bachelor party. Right Troy?

TROY
I'm human. I enjoy nudity.

Champale comes over.

CHAMPALE

Donny! You brought a group, we're gonna treat you good!

DONNY

Thanks Champale!

CHAMPALE

(re Todd)

And you must be Donny's-

DONNY

-friend. This is my friend Todd, remember I saved his life?

They exchange a look.

CHAMPALE

Oh, yeah, sure, yeah. Oh and you brought a military man. What's your name soldier?

TROY

Troy Hayward, Private First Class
US Marine Corps.

CHAMPALE

Mmm, mmm, mmm! That sounded like a whole lotta words to me. You must be a *general* or somethin'!

DONNY

And this is--.

CHAMPALE

--you're the father-in-law to be. You know how I can tell? You're old.

GERALD

Very good!

PHIL

I'm Phil. I was the best man until Donny showed up.

CHAMPALE

That's too bad for you. As a consolation prize you'll be getting extra looks at my pussy tonight.

PHIL

Hey! I guess when one door closes, another one opens, huh?

CHAMPALE

Let's get you boys to the VIP
executive suite.

She takes them four feet away, to six chairs around a table
near the one little stage.

INT. STRIP CLUB - A BIT LATER

All the guys are sitting at the table with drinks. Champale
is doing her strip show on the stage. Donny brings over six
beers.

DONNY

This is called "Budweiser". It's
water infused with alcohol and
beer.

Antonio gets up to talk to Donny.

ANTONIO

Dude, this place is AWESOME!

DONNY

I know, right?

ANTONIO

I'm so goddamn busy with weddings
these days I don't get to go out to
the places I like anymore.

DONNY

Well soak it in! You're a cool
dude, Antonio. I gotta admit, I
kind of thought all wedding
planners were gay.

ANTONIO

Oh, I'm totally gay.

DONNY

No, like literally homosexual.

ANTONIO

Yeah, right, I am.

DONNY

No shit! Really?

ANTONIO

All shapes and sizes, dawg. Hey can
I just be an annoying fan for a
second?

DONNY

No such thing. Donny Levine fans are the best in the world. Without the fans, I'd be just another schmo that nobody cares about.

ANTONIO

Okay so my partner Eric and I, we've always had this thing. We each have one "celebrity screw" -- the one guy we can cheat with, if we ever get the chance. And for like two weeks, back in the 80s, for me, it was you!

DONNY

So who's your "celebrity screw" now?

ANTONIO

Zac Efron. And Eric's is Borat.

DONNY

Boy you guys have been together a long time.

ANTONIO

I try not to think about my age.

DONNY

God how do you do it? Everytime I get a girlfriend, I end up wanting to screw anybody else.

ANTONIO

If you want to get deep, tight, like for real real, there's no substitute to really spending the time together, really hanging out, just the two of yours.

Donny's LOOKING OVER AT TODD, Phil and Troy who are watching Gerald get a lapdance from Champale. Todd looks uncomfortable.

ANTONIO

(handing him a card)

So listen, here's my private number. If you ever need anything-- like dinner reservations, like you wanna go to Luger's, get a steak?

DONNY
Luger's? That's a tough table to
get.

ANTONIO
Who the hell do you think you're
talking to? Look, anything you
need, anything you can think of. I
can get, in a heartbeat. That's
what I do.

EXT. CLASSY RICK'S NAKED LADY EMPORIUM - NIGHT

Antonio's getting Gerald, Troy and Phil back into the limo.

ANTONIO
Okay, night's over. Gotta be bright
and bushy tomorrow, let's go...

Antonio gives Donny a thumbs up, gets in and the limo SPEEDS
OFF.

INT. CLASSY RICK'S NAKED LADY EMPORIUM - CONTINUOUS

Donny's at the table alone. Todd comes out of the bathroom.

TODD
Hey where'd everyone go?

DONNY
They took off. I thought it'd be
good to have a little time with
just the best man and the groom.

TODD
Really? Can't we go home?

DONNY
No, I gotta give you your wedding
present.

TODD
You got me a present.

DONNY
When I heard that John Mayer in
your car, I realized, it's my
fault! So, I'm gonna do something I
shoulda done a long time ago.

He grabs an ARMFUL OF CASSETTES from his bag.

DONNY (CONT'D)

So a lot of people have the wrong idea about Springsteen. They think of him as Bon Jovi or something and that makes me BARELY ABLE TO KEEP IT TOGETHER! You're talking about the guy that wrote Thunder Road, man, watch your mouth! That really should be your first wedding dance - it's embarrassing that it's not, but, I get it, no one's ever *played* you The Boss. So here we go...

He looks through his tapes.

DONNY

There's so many ways into this. I could hit you with Nebraska - by the time it was over you'd kill yourself cause you spent so much of your life not listening to it. Greetings; Darkness; The Wild, The Innocent - You're gonna wanna be buried with all of them, but --

He holds one tape up up...

DONNY

Born To Run. When my Laser Tag franchise went under and you were eating all the money I had left... this is the only thing that stroked my hair and said, "Shhhhhh." I went through every album, really thought about it. And then it hit me:

He holds up THE RIVER.

DONNY

The River. The year you ran away - not that it was a big deal or anything - but, I wore out three copies of this tape. Fact: The River is about everybody's life ever. That's what The Boss does best. He writes about your life. Literally.

Todd laughs, puts up his hands in surrender. Donny NODS to the DJ in the booth.

DONNY (CONT'D)

The River popped my cherry, now it's gonna pop yours.
(MORE)

DONNY (CONT'D)

The Levine boys have always been lone eagles. But, tonight, we're not alone...

DEEP VOICED DJ (V.O.)

Steppin' up the stage once again, Champale, this one's for Todd and Donny...It's the Boss, with "Two Hearts."

The HEROIC intro to "TWO HEARTS" BEGINS. Champale dances wildly. Donny holds his beer out for a TOAST. Todd smiles. They TOUCH CANS as the song EXPLODES into a MONTAGE:

--ALLEY: They shotgun beers. Todd's explodes in his face. Donny laughs, then teaches him. Todd tries again, success!

--TODD AND DONNY'S OLD HOUSE: They toast to the house, then look at the sidewalk: Todd's old HANDPRINTS and the engraved name "FAT". Donny shrugs. Todd PUNCHES him. Donny punches back, lovingly. They laugh.

--FRONT DRIVEWAY of their old house. They play BASKETBALL, one-on-one, vigorous, yelling, pushing. The CURRENT OWNER of the house comes out with a BAT and chases them away.

--SIDEWALK: Donny spots a KID'S BIKE. CUT TO: Donny HOLDS the seat as Todd now rides the bike. Donny then lets go. Todd wobbles then BANGS into a parked car.

--PORN SHOP: They're watching a display video at a porn shop. Donny uses the video as a tool to explain to Todd the ins-and-outs of raunchy sex.

--BATHROOM: Donny and Todd have a "swordfight" at a urinal, their streams criss-crossing back and forth.

--BOARDWALK: They walk past all the closed-down rides and booths.

SPRINGSTEEN

"TWO HEARTS ARE BETTER THAN ONE!"

EXT. ZIERING'S MOTEL - NIGHT

"Two Hearts" FADES DOWN as Todd pulls a reluctant Donny to the door. Donny doesn't wanna knock. Todd knocks. Ziering answers then tries to SLAM the door. Todd holds it open.

TODD

Wait!

Todd elbows Donny, who finally speaks.

DONNY

So, I'm really sorry I had anal with your Mom. At the time I didn't think that counted as sex, but either way I really am sorry.

ZIERING

I appreciate that. Water under the bridge.

TODD

So I'm getting married.

ZIERING

I read the Times.

TODD

You're like my uncle! I need you at my wedding!

ZIERING

All you had to do was ask, my boy. Uncle Ian will be there with bells on.

DONNY

Hey, we have a head start on you, but do you have any desire to get really really wasted?

ZIERING

More than life itself. And by the way I think I might be the one with the head start.

Reveal in Ziering's right hand is a half-empty bottle of whiskey. They laugh as "Two Hearts" MONTAGE KICKS BACK IN...

--BOARDWALK: The drink beer on the boardwalk, getting sloppy drunk as they try to walk. Todd bumps into a DOUCHEBAG who's with another douchebag and two girls. Douchebag GLARES at Todd.

Donny DECKS the douchebag. Ziering DECKS his Douchebag 2. Donny turns and HITS ON the Douchebags' GIRLS. Todd yanks down Donny's pants. They all laugh.

--BOARDED UP HOT TUB LOT: Ziering and Donny have sex with the two girls in empty hot tubs. Nearby Todd smiles as he flips through Donny's novel. He stares at the back cover photo of a young Donny, amazed at what a kid Donny was back then.

--BEACH: The three of them run into the ocean with just their tighty-whities, yelling, laughing.

EXT. BEACH - DAWN

"Two Hearts" FADES. The sun rises as Donny and Todd CRASH onto the sand.

Ziering finishes one last beer before PASSING OUT.

TODD

Can I tell you something, you can't tell anyone? Especially Stacey?

(Donny locks his lips)

I hate my job. I don't wanna be a VP. Some days I think about losing Helen's money so she has to fire me.

DONNY

Then quit. I can teach you that.

TODD

Don't you see I'm trying to be not like you?

Then Donny LOOKS at Todd, gets PENSIVE, SERIOUS.

DONNY

I gotta tell you something Todd. I'm a bad guy.

TODD

No you're not, man. You just weren't ready to be a dad. You were young.

Ziering awakens for a moment...

ZIERING

You guys ready to party or what!?!?
HEY DONNY STAY WAY FROM MY MOM OR
I'LL--

...and passes out again.

INT. TODD'S HOME OFFICE - LATER

They stand at Donny's door, awkwardly, like the end of a really great first date. Both still really drunk.

DONNY

So...classic night. I had a great time, Todd.

TODD
Yeah. Me too.

They stand there awkwardly, not sure how to end it.

TODD (CONT'D)
So...good night, Don.

DONNY
(smiles)
How 'bout, "Good night, Dad"? I
mean, you could just see how it
feels...

TODD
(laughs, smiles)
Good night, Don.

DONNY
Too soon. I get it. That's cool.

Todd leaves. Donny FLOPS on the bed, smiling.

INT. HOME OFFICE - SAME

Todd leans against the door, smiling the same smile.

INT. BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Todd stumbles into the bedroom. He goes into the closet/dressing area to take off his clothes. Sees the WEDDING DRESS. He goes to HUG the wedding dress.

TODD
(drunk)
Oh...my beautiful bride...dance
with me?

Todd then PUKES ALL OVER THE WEDDING DRESS.

TODD
I'll clean that up later...gotta
sleep.

INT. HOME OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Donny undresses to his briefs, throwing his clothes on the floor. Then rethinks - he picks up his clothes, and cleans up the room.

GRANDMA DELORES (O.S.)
Just finised your novel.

Startled, Donny turns to see Grandma Delores standing there in her nightgown, his novel in her hand.

DONNY
Oh hi, Grandma Delores!

GRANDMA DELORES
I was particularly intrigued by the passage on page 37.

DONNY
Yeah that part's pretty sweet, right? The stuff about my dick?

GRANDMA DELORES
(moving closer to him)
I've got a sinking suspicion that this novel's based on your real life.

DONNY
(downplaying)
Well it's really exaggerated. It's not like I just hook up with any woman who's way older than me.

GRANDMA DELORES
(points to his crotch)
We'll have to see about that. Take it out. Lemme see it.

DONNY
Yeah, I don't know...

GRANDMA DELORES
Let me make this clear. If you don't, I'll say you did. But if you do, I'll say you didn't.

DONNY
Wow that's...that...

GRANDMA DELORES
Just relax...

Grandma Delores opens his pants (off camera) and KNEELS DOWN out of frame.

GRANDMA DELORES (O.S.)
Oooh...Your writing doesn't do you justice.

Donny smiles. Uncomfortable, but proud.

EXT. TODD & STACEY'S TOWNHOUSE - EARLY MORNING

A lone JOGGER passes by the house. Kids walk to school.

Suddenly, a SHRILL SCREAM ERUPTS from the house. People on the street look up.

STACEY (O.S.)
 AHHHHHH!! OH MY GOD!!

INT. TODD & STACEY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

The scream WAKES TODD UP from a deep slumber.

Stacey runs in YELLING, holding her DRESS!

TODD
 What happened?

STACEY
 My dress!!!

Todd thinks back...REMEMBERS, then Donny, in Grandma's robe, RUSHES in making frantic KARATE MOVES.

DONNY
 AAAHHHH!
 (looks around, beat)
 Whoa, sorry. I thought someone was
 killing Stacey. What's going on?

STACEY
 (to Todd)
 I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU PUKED ON MY
 WEDDING DRESS!

TODD
 Whoa, whoa. No, Stace. I'm sorry,
 but, it was-

DONNY
 (covers for Todd)
 -a huge mistake. I was so drunk and-
 -I stumbled into your closet--and I
 booted all over your lovely gown.
 I'm really, really sorry.

STACEY
 DON'T THEY HAVE SCHOOLS IN YOUR
 TRAILER PARK!?

TODD
(surprised by her anger)
Stace, relax. I mean, it was
clearly an accident, and he --

STACEY
WHO'S SIDE ARE YOU ON, TODD!!?

ZIERING sprints in the room, nude, weilding a LAMP...

ZIERING
Who's getting killed?!

...then realizes everything's okay.

ZIERING
Oh sorry. You...must be the bride.
(uncomfortable beat)
Whaazzzuuuuuup?

STACEY
(so confused)
Steve Sanders?

ZIERING
Thanks. Yeah. The real name's Ian
Ziering. I could sign something for
you if you want or...

STACEY
(to Todd)
Why is Steve Sanders cupping his
penis in my bedroom right now?

TODD
Um...he's...

ZIERING
(thinking he's smooth)
I'm his uncle.

STACEY
What?!

TODD
He's like an uncle...figure.

STACEY
So...you never mentioned to me that
Ian Ziering is like an uncle figure
to you?

TODD
Did I not?

STACEY

I thought we said no more lies!

TODD

Well, this was more of an omission.

Antonio comes into the room. Takes in the situation for a few beats.

STACEY

Antonio--my dress. Donny was drunk and-

ANTONIO

-I don't want to know. We have a wedding in 36 hours. The dress...
(he taps his blackberry)
...will be cleaned and perfect by the morning, so don't worry about that. I got this covered. Crunch time, my time! Booyah! All you gotta do, Stacey, is go to yoga, take some deep breaths, and be dressed for the rehearsal dinner by six o'clock.

Antonio throws the dress in a plastic bag.

ANTONIO

Todd and Donny you just make sure you're washed, dressed and sober by tonight. And Ian Ziering, I don't know why you're here, and I don't need to know. But I'm a big fan.

STACEY

(to Todd)

When I get back, can you please be the normal Todd from three days ago?

Stacey and Antonio LEAVE.

ZIERING

She reminds me of a young Shannon Doherty.

Grandma Delores comes in the room, now fully dressed and put together.

GRANDMA DELORES

Who wants pancakes?
(looking at Donny)
And morning sausage?

INT. BREAKFAST ROOM - LATER

Ziering, Todd and Donny eat pancakes and sausage.

ZIERING

Mmm! Great flapjacks.

GRANDMA DELORES

You boys enjoy, I'm gonna go upstairs and brush my teeth.

She goes, sneaking a brush of her hand across Donny's back.

TODD

Hey, we gotta hurry if we're gonna make it to the prison.

DONNY

What? You still wanna go?

TODD

As long as we get back in time for the rehearsal dinner.

DONNY

You sure, though?

TODD

Yeah. Might be my last chance to see her.

ZIERING

Hey you guys mind if I opt out of this family trip?

DONNY

Uh, yeah you weren't really invited anyway so that works out perfectly.

ZIERING

Cool!

INT. TODD'S MERCEDES - LATER

Todd drives with Donny.

DONNY

8 years, man? 8 years? Didn't you miss me at all? Was I that bad?

TODD

(long beat, sighs)
It wasn't you...only.
(MORE)

TODD (cont'd)
I just got tired of getting called
Rape Baby all the time, you know?

DONNY
Yeah, I'm tired of getting called
Donny Levine all the time, I guess.

TODD
You're not so bad.

DONNY
We had some good times when you
were young, right? I snuck you into
R-rated movies...bought you beer...
when I realized you were never
gonna lose your virginity on your
own, I got you that prostitute.

TODD
I was fourteen!

DONNY
Better late than never.

TODD
Face it, you were a terrible dad,
but you were pretty cool older
brother. And thanks for taking me
out last night.

DONNY
Hey, what're friends for? Or
brothers, or fathers - or whatever
we are. What're they for?

TODD
When you showed up, I was sure you
just wanted money. But--I can't
believe I'm saying this--I'm really
glad you're gonna be at my wedding
tomorrow.

Donny's SO TOUCHED. Thinks, then changes his mind:

DONNY
You know what? Forget the prison.
Let's blow it off. Are there any
good mini-golf courses around here?

TODD
What? I thought this was really
important to you.

DONNY

No, I changed my mind. I don't
wanna go. She'll probably survive.

TODD

We're here already. We gotta do
this. It's the right thing to do.

Donny looks out the window, SO CONFLICTED, as they pull into
the lot of the "NEW JERSEY STATE WOMEN'S PENITENTIARY".

INT. JERSEY STATE PRISON - ENTRANCE AREA - LATER

They wait for the VISITORS DOOR to open. They're both
nervous. Donny looks around anxiously.

DONNY

Todd. I - I'm sorry.

TODD

I know. I'm sorry too. I shouldn't
have just run out on you like that.

Todd HUGS him clumsily. Donny's SO TOUCHED. The DOOR OPENS.
Todd walks into the VISITORS ROOM. Donny trails, hesitantly.

INT. VISITING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

SLOW-MOTION: The sea of guards PARTS -- in struts the hottest
over-50 prisoner, MARY MCGARRICLE, now 53 and worse for the
wear.

MARY MCGARRICLE

Wow, Donny. What happened to you?

DONNY

What do you mean?

MARY MCGARRICLE

You look...old. You used to be so
cute.

DONNY

It's been twenty years. I'm older.

MARY MCGARRICLE

Yeah, it's not doing it for me.
(to Todd)
So, you're my son?

TODD

Hi.

MARY MCGARRICLE
Looks like I survived the explosion.

TODD
Oh, you saw that?

MARY MCGARRICLE
You don't think we get the Times in here? (then) You know, I didn't know if I'd ever see you again. Crazy, you've got my ears. You really are my son.

TODD
So I know you're sick and everything but just curious, what possessed to pork a seventh grader?

MARY MCGARRICLE
At the time he was really cute. At the time.

DONNY
(offended)
Hey!

MARY MCGARRICLE
And obviously I was pretty scrambled upstairs. And why are you saying I'm sick? Do I look pale?

MONTEL WILLIAMS (O.S.)
(quietly)
It must be quite a shocker to be face to face with the woman who gave birth to you after all these years, huh?

Reveal MONTEL WILLIAMS is sitting right next to them, microphone in hand. In the corner is a CAMERA CREW.

TODD
What the hell is going on?!

DONNY
Montel! What a weird coincidence.

MONTEL WILLIAMS
Can you describe what you're feeling?

Todd jumps up, furious.

TODD
What is this?

DONNY
(whispers to Todd)
Before you get mad. I'm getting
fifty grand out of this. 43 and
change goes to the IRS and the
other seven - that's all for you!
What do you think?

TODD
I - I can't believe you...
(re: Mary)
Is - Is she even dying?

DONNY
(trying to make a joke)
Dying to know where the junior high
kids hang out!

No response from anyone. Todd STORMS OUT. Donny CHASES AFTER.

INT. PRISON ENTRANCE - CONTINUOUS

Donny catches up to Todd.

TODD
Wow. I'm actually impressed. This
is an amazing new low for you.

DONNY
They would only pay big if it was
the whole family. But, I set this
up before me and you started, you
know...loving each other again --

TODD
I NEVER LOVED YOU! I BLEW YOU UP!!

DONNY
I'm in a lot of trouble, okay? If I
don't get the money, I'm going to
jail for three years.

TODD
So you thought you could ambush me
with Montel and a camera crew and
suddenly I'd be like "oh sure,
let's do an interview!"

DONNY

-I DIDN'T REALLY THINK IT THROUGH,
OKAY?! I DON'T WANNA GO TO PRISON!
(to the a passing INMATE)
No offense.

INMATE

None taken.

TODD

Every minute I've been in this
world I've been fighting against
you trying to destroy me. I can't
believe I entertained the idea of --
(stops himself)
Really, can you spend just one day
not trying to ruin my life?!

DONNY

Yeah, well, you ruined my life!
Don't you think I had dreams!? If
you weren't born I probably woulda
been a pro baseball player. That's
what I was planning to do! But,
yay! It's a baby! WHAT A BLESSING!
Was I supposed to just put my whole
life aside for you!?

TODD

YES! It's called parenting! How do
you live with yourself?

DONNY

How do you live with yourself? Oh
that's right, you don't. You leave
your birth-family, make up a fake
boring name... "Todd Peterson"
jesus! You talk to me about lying?
Your whole existence is a lie!

TODD

GOD, I WISH YOU WEREN'T MY DAD!

DONNY

I wish I wasn't your dad! Then I
could kick your ass and NOT GET
ARRESTED FOR CHILD ABUSE!

Todd KICKS Donny -- Donny CATCHES his leg and PULLS him down.
They roll around WRESTLING. Todd gets on top, CHOKES Donny.

DONNY
 (can't breathe)
 It's - a really - big moment when
 you beat up your dad for the first
 time. Con - congratulations.

TODD
 YOU'RE... NOT... MY... DAD!

The Guard TASERS them -- they SEIZURE apart, SHIVER IN PAIN!

TODD I'm dying!
 Oh my god that hurts!

Montel comes into the room. Todd recovers, CRAWLS to the door.

DONNY
 Todd, I'm sorry! You have to
 forgive me!

TODD
 Get out of my life. I never want to
 see you again.

Todd LEAVES. Montel kneels down to Donny, still on the floor,
 in pain.

MONTEL WILLIAMS
 Must be tough to hear that from
 your boy huh? "Get out of my
 life... never want to see you
 again?"

DONNY
 Yeah.

MONTEL WILLIAMS
 Well that goes double for me,
 motherfucker.
 (to crew)
 Pack it up, guys!

INT. TAVERN ON THE GREEN - THAT NIGHT

The formal REHEARSAL DINNER is in progress. Helen, dressed to
 the nines, stands a microphone and addresses the large crowd.

HELEN
 Ladies and gentlemen it's been a
 long road that lead us to this
 blessed weekend. And the weekend
 itself has had its little dramas.
 (MORE)

HELEN (cont'd)

I understand the bride and groom
had a minor tiff this morning, but
that's all worked out.

STACEY

Nothing some red velvet cupcakes
couldn't solve!

TODD

As long as they're from Magnolia!

ANTONIO

(to himself)

They're not that good. They're
cupcakes.

HELEN

So now we welcome Todd Peterson to
the Hayward family. And I'm here to
announce, a day early, that Todd is
also going to be a more prominent
member of the Hayward *Media*
family...as he begins his new post
as Vice President in charge of
finance.

Applause.

HELEN

To Todd & Stacey: Hopefully by
paying Todd more money, I'll be
lending Stacey *less money!*

Hugh laughs.

HELEN

Sorry kids, I had to do it! So now
for a few words from Todd's best
man!

Phil comes up to the mic.

PHIL

Thank you Mrs. Hayword. I'm sort of
the David Lee Roth of best men: I
had the gig, lost it, then got it
back again! Anyhoo. I really don't
know Todd all that well, but he
seems like a real good guy...

EXT. TAVERN ON THE GREEN - CONTINUOUS

Donny and Ian Ziering are watching the rehearsal dinner through the window, sitting on a DUMPSTER in the parking lot.

DONNY

I blew it, Ian. He'll never forgive me.

IAN ZIERING

Come on man, he's your son. He'll come around.

DONNY

You know what? I just want him to be happy. Maybe it's better I'm not at the wedding to screw that up too.

IAN ZIERING

This isn't a healthy way to deal with your pain. Let's go do some blow.

DONNY

Nah I don't do that stuff anymore.

Beat.

DONNY

Why do you have some?

IAN ZIERING

No, I was hoping you did.

DONNY

Let's just stay. Even if I can't be in there with him, I just want to watch.

IAN ZIERING

That's cool. (beat) Did I ask you if you had any blow?

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. TAVERN ON THE GREEN - LATER

The rehearsal dinner group is pouring out of the restaurant.

STACEY

(to various guests)

Good night! See you tomorrow! Get home safe!

TODD

I'm pretty spent. We got a great room at the Waldorf with a big jacuzzi tub. I'm gonna head over there and crash out!

TROY

Uh, I don't think so.

TODD

You don't think so?

TROY

Common custom is for bride and groom to be separate the night before the wedding. Antonio?

ANTONIO

That's the custom. Bad juju to sleep in the same room the night before. Don't worry you'll be together every night till your dead. Arrright?

AT THE DUMPSTER, Ian and Donny are watching this, able to hear the conversation.

IAN ZIERING

There you go, this is your chance!

DONNY

I told you, he won't talk to me.

IAN ZIERING

No, you gotta talk to Stacey.

DONNY

Huh?

IAN ZIERING

Listen, during the rehearsal period of Dancing With The Stars, I'm hanging out in the green room one day with John Ratzenberger, Joey Fatone and Leeza Gibbons. And Ratzenberger's like, "I don't want to do this, I'm not a dancer, I'm quitting." We couldn't convince him. He wouldn't listen to reason.

(MORE)

IAN ZIERING (cont'd)

But then Fatone, you know what he did? That crazy SOB went and talked to Ratz's wife. Tells the WIFE how much we all want him to stay. Next day, John Ratzenberger walks in the door, dance shoes on, it's like he's a regular Baryshnikov now-

DONNY

-what's your point?

IAN ZIERING

My point is: talk to Stacey. Win her over. *She'll* convince Todd to take you back. "Talk to the wife, you're in for life."

INT. WALDORF HOTEL - LATER

Donny goes up to the reception desk.

DONNY

Hi I'm Todd Peterson, what room is my fiancé in again?

RECEPTION GUY

Checking...3214.

DONNY

Thank you so much.

INT. 32ND FLOOR - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Donny walks down the hall from the elevator.

DONNY

(to himself)

"Talk to the wife, in for life..."

He arrives at room 3214. He's about to knock, but stops himself when he hears Stacey MOANING:

STACEY

Oh, yes! Go, like that! I'm so close! I'm coming!

DONNY

Oh my god. I don't think that's Todd.

He looks around. Sees the room next door is being cleaned.

INT. ROOM NEXT DOOR TO STACEY'S - SAME

He goes in room, sees the CLEANING WOMAN

CLEANING WOMAN

Sir?

DONNY

Hi, don't mind me, I'm just...

EXT. BALCONY - SAME

Donny goes out to the balcony, and LEANS his body across to the the other balcony but can't quite get himself far enough to see what's going on.

He catches his breath. Looks down thirty-two floors to the ground. Finally decides, the hell with it and JUMPS ACROSS TO STACEY'S BALCONY.

He gets up and opens the sliding balcony doors just enough to see Stacey full-on FUCKING HER BROTHER TROY.

STACEY

Oh, yeah, Troy. Come on! Ram me!

TROY

Ahh, ohh, ahh.

DONNY

(to himself)

Eewwww!!!!

INT. STACEY'S HOTEL ROOM - SAME

Donny bursts in the room.

DONNY

So! I hope I'm not interrupting anything.

Stacy and Troy jump up.

DONNY

I was coming here to ask for your help, but, now, wow! Just wow!

STACEY

Look, Donny. You don't understand the situation. And it's none of your business.

DONNY

I can't believe what I'm seeing here. You're cheating on Todd... with your brother...

STACEY

Listen, I love Todd. And we're gonna be married and have a great life together. And yes, I have sex with my brother from time to time. But he's almost never in town. And we'd decided that once I was married it would stop. This was our last time.

TROY

You don't understand. Being a Marine is so stressful.

STACEY

(off Donny's astonishment)
Hey. Nobody's perfect. You're certainly one to judge another person's sexual behavior.

DONNY

No, no, no, he's your brother!

STACEY

...and who's it harming, exactly?
It's just sex. Todd is my life partner, Troy is my booty-brother.

DONNY

(heading for the door)
I'm going to talk to Todd.

STACEY

Stop!

DONNY

All Todd wants is to have a normal life. And I can 100% say that what you two are doing is NOT normal.

TROY

(crying)
Oh God, I'm mortified.

STACEY

Troy, not helpful! Take a jacuzzi.
(to Donny)
You're really gonna ruin this for him?

(MORE)

STACEY (cont'd)
I make him happy, and I'm gonna
keep making him happy. He doesn't
need to know about any of this.

Donny opens the door to leave.

STACEY (CONT'D)
How much do you want? I can give
you \$100,000. That's all I have in
my own account.

Donny watches as she grabs her CHECKBOOK, writes a CHECK.

STACEY (CONT'D)
I'm writing you a check and dating
it for Tuesday.
(hands him the check)
You keep your mouth shut, disappear
forever, and everybody wins.

DONNY
Except Todd.

STACEY
Are you kidding? Todd gets
everything he wants. Unless you
ruin it for him.

Donny looks at the check. Troy, now in the jacuzzi, starts
the NOISY JETS.

EXT. CLASSY RICK'S NAKED LADY EMPORIUM - NEXT MORNING

The sun is up on the morning of the wedding.

INT. CLASSY RICK'S NAKED LADY EMPORIUM - SAME

Donny picks at a plate of stale breakfast, using the stripper
stage as a table. REAL ROCK BOTTOM. We hear the booming voice
of the unseen DEEP VOICED DJ over the PA system.

DEEP VOICED DJ (O.S.)
Get ready gents, coming onto the
floor in just a few short minutes,
the splendiferous... CHAMPALE.

Donny looks around, noting he's the only one there.

DEEP VOICED DJ (O.S.)
How you holdin' up, Donny? I'll be
honest with you, you've looked
better.

DONNY
Been a rough couple of days.

DEEP VOICED DJ (O.S.)
Preachin' to the choir my man.
Welcome to my world, welcome to my
world.

Donny sulks as he eats his eggs.

INT. TODD'S BATHROOM - SAME

Todd finishes brushing his teeth, then pulls out his CHARCOAL
getting ready to shade his abs. Then thinks for a second, and
THROWS the charcoal away.

STACEY (V.O.)
Todd?

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Stacey's coming up the stairs with her overnight bag.

TODD
Hey, how was your last night alone?

STACEY
Boring. I missed you. Ready for the
big day.

TODD
Hey, I was thinking about our first
dance. Have you ever heard "Thunder
Road?" It's-

STACEY
-we're not having our first dance
as a married couple to Bon Jovi.

TODD
It's not Bon Jovi, it's
Springsteen.

STACEY
Same difference. "Your Body Is A
Wonderland" is our song.

TODD
It's more *your* song, though...

STACEY
Let's not get into a fight on our wedding day? There's been enough drama this weekend.

TODD
You're right. Sorry about Donny and everything...

STACEY
I know he's an old friend of yours, but he seems to be a bad influence on you.

TODD
Yeah, I suppose he is.

STACEY
So for the good of our marriage, and our future together, I want you to promise me you'll never talk to him again. Okay?

TODD
...okay.

STACEY
Good.

She KISSES him.

STACEY
Now, let's get you to the church and turn you into a Catholic, and a husband!

INT. CLASSY RICK'S NAKED LADY EMPORIUM - SAME

Donny still eating his eggs. Champale comes in, taking off her coat.

CHAMPALE
(frantic)
Sorry, sorry, my grandson's birthday party today, one of the ones you can't miss, the big 3-0...

DEEP VOICED DJ
There she is, gents! And
now...without further ado...the
splendiferous *CHAMPALE*!

She starts DANCING in front of Donny.

CHAMPALE
Hey aren't you supposed to be at
your son's wedding?

DONNY
I sorta got dis-invited.

Champale gives a compassionate "I'm listening" look while she
gyrates on the stage.

DONNY (CONT'D)
He's marrying her for all the wrong
reasons. He's so desperate to be
normal that he's forgotten who he
really is! I blew it with my only
son, and now he's never gonna talk
to me again.

CHAMPALE
So he didn't give you the money?

DONNY
No, but his fiancé did. She offered
me a hundred grand to keep quiet
about how she's been having sex
with her brother.

CHAMPALE
Oy!

DEEP VOICED DJ (O.S.)
Oh yeah, the last taboo. Been
there, my friend. We've all been
there. Keepin' it in the family.

CHAMPALE
What kind of man does she think you
are? Thinkin' your gonna put your
own selfish needs before your
son's?

DONNY
I took the money.

CHAMPALE
Oh, Donny.

DONNY

But I had to! I can't go to jail,
right?

CHAMPALE

The real question is: Donny, are
you gonna be a dick? Or are you
gonna be a Dad?

He leans back and thinks...THEN --

EXT. CLASSY RICK'S BACON AND LEGGS - LATER

"BORN TO RUN" EXPLODES as Donny SPRINTS to his Fiero. He
yells back to Champale.

DONNY

The wedding's in twenty minutes! I
can make it if I haul ass!

He SLIDES across the hood, gets in and PEELS OUT of the lot.

INT. TODD'S BEDROOM - LATER

"Born To Run" CUTS OUT as Todd puts on his tux -- Donny's
BOOK catches his eye. He KNOCKS it off the table -- it lands
OPEN. He looks closer at the DEDICATION on the first page:

*To Han: "Every father has dreams
and schemes for his own kid/
And dreaming it ain't been
declaired no capital crime."
--Bruce Springsteen*

Todd smiles.

INT. DONNY'S FIERO - LATER

"Born To Run" REIGNITES as Donny struggles to put on his TUX
while driving. He SCREAMS ALONG to the song.

SPRINGSTEEN/DONNY

I GOTTA KNOW HOW IT FEELS...
I WANNA KNOW IF LOVE IS WILD, I
WANNA KNOW IF LOVE IS REAL!

INT. CHURCH - LATER

"Born to Run" CUTS OUT again -- the CHURCH CHOIR PLAYS as the WEDDING PARTY makes their way down the aisle (Todd, Stacey, Phil, the MAID OF HONOR, Gerald and Helen.)

INT. DONNY'S FIERO - NEW JERSEY ROAD - LATER

Donny RACING to the Church. Checks his watch--he just might make it.

THEN right at the moment of the BREAKDOWN in the song, the CASSETTE of "Born To Run" starts WARBLING.

DONNY
(banging the cassette
player)
Come on, come on! Don't you die on
me, Bruce! Not today!

No luck. The tape just hisses and warbles to a stop. Donny PULLS over to the side. He pulls out the cassette - a tangle of loose tape.

He throws open the glove compartment, fishes a PENCIL out, and quickly, expertly REPAIRS the cassette. He puts it back in and the song kicks back in, just as Springsteen counts off...

SPRINGSTEEN
One! Two! Three! Four!

...kicking us back into the song.

SPRINGSTEEN
*THE HIGHWAY'S JAMMED WITH BROKEN
HEROES ON A LAST CHANCE POWER
DRIVE!*

And CRASH!!! Donny was so psyched he didn't see he was driving into a ROAD CONSTRUCTION site and he bottomed out his car into a huge DITCH, totalling it. Smoke hisses from the hood. He's fucked.

He thinks for a minute, then remembers something. Pulls out ANTONIO'S BUSINESS CARD. Dials his phone.

DONNY
Hey it's Donny Levine. Remember you
said you could get me anything I
want?

INT. BACK OF CHURCH - INTERCUT

Antonio on the phone.

ANTONIO
What do you need *bubelah*?

DONNY
A ride. I'm on the Jersey side of
the Lincoln Tunnel.

Antonio taps on his Blackberry.

ANTONIO
Done.

EXT. CONTRUCTION SITE - SAME

DONNY
Thanks, man. The sooner the better-
At that moment a LIMO pulls up and screeches to a halt.

LIMO DRIVER
Donny Levine? Get in.

INT. CHURCH - LATER

Stacey and Todd stand on the altar. Todd anxiously looks up
at the HUGE CRUCIFIX.

ANGRY PRIEST
Family is the most important thing
in the world. Because without it,
life has no meaning.

Todd looks to the EMPTY GROOM'S SIDE OF THE CHURCH, sad.

ANGRY PRIEST
But before your two families become
one, it's time for Todd to join an
even bigger family. Jesus' family.

TODD
(exhales)
Oh, Christ.

Priest, annoyed, grabs Todd's head.

ANGRY PRIEST
I'm going to dunk your face in this
basin of holy water. When you
emerge, you will be saved.

The Priest guides Todd's face toward a small BASIN OF WATER.
Todd RESISTS a bit. Priest GUIDES STRONGER. An AWKWARD TUG OF
WAR, then...

The CHURCH DOORS BURST OPEN! Everyone TURNS--it's Ian
Ziering.

ZIERING
"Ohmigod, is that Ian Ziering?"
Yes it is. Thank you. Thank you.

ANGRY PRIEST
SIT DOWN!

Everyone turns back around as Ziering quietly ushers in:
MARY McGARRICLE, in handcuffs with a U.S. MARSHALL; MARV
LEVINE (now mid-60s), and SALLY JESSIE RAPHAEL. They sit on
the groom's side. Todd's facing away so he doesn't see them
there.

HELEN
(whispering to Gerald)
Who the hell are those people?

GERALD
(whispering)
Let's see... Ian Ziering...Sally
Jessie Raphael...don't know the
other two.

HELEN
What are they doing here?

GERALD
That I don't know.

EXT. MANHATTAN STREETS/CHURCH - DAY

"Born To Run" COMES BACK IN. The limo races to the church and
stops right in front. Donny jumps out.

INT. CHURCH - SAME

ANGRY PRIEST
...and do you, Todd Peterson, take
Stacey to be your lawfully wedded
wife?

DONNY (O.S.)
 -YOU DON'T!!

Everyone TURNS to see Donny standing there, out of breath.

STACEY
 God dammit.
 (to Todd)
 Yes you do.
 (to Priest)
 He does.

DONNY
 He doesn't!

TODD
 Donny, don't!

Todd notices Mary, Marv, Sally and Ian.

IAN ZIERING
 (whispering to Todd)
 I got your mom a furlough. I
 thought you might want to have your
 family here.

TODD
 (whispering to Ziering)
 I don't!

DONNY
 Todd, I'm so sorry for everything
 I've done this weekend, and in the
 past. And I'm even more sorry for
 the things I *didn't* do.

GRANDMA
 (aside to Phil)
 I know one thing he "didn't" do
 yesterday. Hello, whole tube of
 Crest...

DONNY
 I always chose myself over you, but
 now I'm here and say I don't care
 what happens to me, I don't care if
 I get beaten daily by a group of
 skinheads from Cell Block D, just
 because I'm happen to be a Jew.
 None of it matters, as long as I
 know I've done everything I can to
 save you from making a huge
 mistake. You can't marry this
 woman!

TODD

Why not?

DONNY

Among other reasons, you shouldn't marry someone just to escape your past, or because you hate me. You shouldn't marry anyone until you own up to YOU really ARE!

SALLY JESSY

(to Marv)

He and I bootie-call each other from time to time.

HELEN

Troy, will you get that lunatic out of here?

TROY

With pleasure, Mother.

Troy GRABS Donny by the arm and starts to PULL HIM out of the room.

TROY

(whispers to Donny)

She can cancel that check, you know.

DONNY

I don't want the check! (RIPS UP THE CHECK) I don't want the money! I just want to be back in your life, Todd!

HELEN

(to Priest)

Sorry about all this Father. Please continue.

STACEY

(to Todd)

Just ignore him. Look at me.

(to Priest)

Let's go.

(to Todd)

Remember, our future. Our life.

Todd isn't listening, just watching Donny being pulled away.

TODD

WAIT!! Let him stay!

HELEN

That disruptive lunatic is not part
of this wedding!

TODD

Yes he is. That disruptive lunatic
is *my* dad!

GASPS from the crowd.

ANTONIO

No SHIT!!

TODD

My parents didn't die in an
explosion. I've been living a lie
for the last eight years! As self-
obsessed, delusional and pathetic
as he is, for better or for worse,
Donny Levine is my father!

DONNY

(gushing with pride)
He called me Dad!

TODD

And that incarcerated pedophile,
with the pouty lips, is my mother.
I'm not Todd Peterson. There is no
such person! My name is Han Solo
Levine!

MARV

(to Sally)
Donny was really into Star Wars.

TODD

And I'm the product of statutory
rape. I'm not a normal guy. And I'm
okay with that.

MARY MCGARRICLE

That chutzpa, that comes from me.

TODD

I'm sorry I lied to all of you.
Mrs. Hayward, you'll have my
resignation in the morning. And
Stacey I know you wanted a normal
husband and a perfect future, I
wish I was that guy, but I'm not.

STACEY

(whispering)

Todd we can still get married.
We're more alike than you think.
I've been sleeping Troy for years!
That's really screwed up, right?

(to Priest)

So father, can we continue here?

TODD

Nah, I think I need a little time
with my family.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE CHURCH - LATER

Donny, Todd, Ian Ziering and Marv hug Mary goodbye.

MARY MCGARRICLE

Christmas 2017, my place. You're
all invited. Is it a date?

MARV

We're Jewish.

MARY MCGARRICLE

Great then you won't have other
plans.

TODD

Actually, I'm newly Catholic.

She gets on the prison bus with the guard.

TODD

We'll come visit, Mom!

MARY MCGARRICLE

(to Driver)

Would you mind going across 95th?
There's a great little skateboard
park there, with these sweaty
shirtless boys....

The bus DRIVES AWAY. The four guys walk down the street.
Music begins...

DONNY

So Dad, where have you been?

MARV

Eh, the Costa Rica thing didn't
work out. I actually live about a
mile away from you in Jersey.

(MORE)

MARV (cont'd)
 Been meaning to call you for years.
 Then I ran into Ziering over at
 MegaPorn, we swapped our numbers,
 and here I am!

DONNY
 I'm just glad you made it. Good to
 see you, Dad.

MARV
 Hey...family's family.

IAN ZIERING
 Anybody wanna get a beer?

TODD
 I don't have any plans.

EXT. JERSEY BOARDWALK - LATE AFTERNOON

The four guys sit on the beach, their shirts off, eating hot
 dogs and drinking beers.

TODD
 Look Dad, I got some cash saved up,
 I can take care of this IRS thing
 for you, keep you out of jail.

DONNY
 Thank you Han. You make a father
 proud. You're a good son.

TODD
 And you are, hands down, the worst
 dad ever.

Donny holds up his beer.

DONNY
 Whatta ya gonna do?

They laugh and toast, as we PULL back behind them, revealing
 Todd's Eddie Vedder tattoo, Donny's Bruce Springsteen tattoo,
 and Marv's FRANK SINATRA tattoo.

The music comes up...

SINATRA
*THAT'S LIFE/THAT'S WHAT ALL THE
 PEOPLE SAY....*

Fade Out.