

# **STEP BROTHERS**

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INT. LARGE HOTEL BALLROOM --- DAY

There is a medical conference in progress. Roughly 200 Doctors and Professionals listen on as a Doctor in suit and tie, DR. ROBERT DOBACK, 62, conducts a power point presentation on new hearing aids. \*

DR. ROBERT DOBACK

...the RTI cochlear implant is the state of the art hearing aid due to it's magnetic processor. The sound quality for the patient is digital and in multiple bands. But the most exciting new development is the BTE case which fits over the ear... \*

He meets eyes with a woman in the third row. She is NANCY HUFF, 60. She is attractive and clearly intelligent. She gives a smile back to Robert who suddenly becomes a tad self conscious. \*

DR. ROBERT DOBACK

...this eliminates the need for...uh... a signal connector...um...I mean processor... which... \*

He looks at her again. She looks away and smiles and then looks up.

DR. ROBERT DOBACK

Um...I'm terribly sorry. I seem to have lost my place. This never happens to me. Let's go to the next slide.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - ONE HOUR LATER

MUSIC: AN ART TATUM JAZZ PIANO TUNE

Nancy and Robert are furiously kissing and undressing each other. They fall onto the bed and then the floor. They speak fast and breathy to each other.

ROBERT

My name is Robert. I play racquet ball and I collect coins and I love Korean food...

NANCY

Ohh! I love Korean food! My name is Nancy! I try and go up to wine country three times a year. The last man I made love to was named Ben and he had a beard and he was an eighth grade Spanish teacher...

ROBERT

My favorite film of all time is the Dirty Dozen...

NANCY

Oh my god, I love Lee Marvin!

ROBERT

Let's make love in the shower!

NANCY

Yes to what you just said!!

They kiss and roll and slide towards the shower...

CUT TO:

INT. WEDDING RECEPTION - FOUR MONTHS LATER

Music: The band finishes out the Art Tatum song we've been listening to.

Robert and Nancy come out of a kiss, everyone cheers, they of course, are now just married, perched at the head of a dais. Robert clinks a glass, he and Nancy stand.

ROBERT

I just want to welcome all of you to what has become one of the greatest days of my life.

Ooos and aahs from the guests in attendance.

NANCY

It really is a perfect day. Except for the shrimp.

\*  
\*

ROBERT

Let me raise a glass to my son Dale. Honey, Dale and I welcome you into our home with open arms.

\*

We see DALE DOBACK, 40, Robert's son, sulking at one of the tables.

NANCY

Today really is about family and  
creating new family and new  
love...oh, I'm going to cry...As  
you know my oldest son Derek  
couldn't be here because of an  
important fishing trip. But I've  
just learned we're going to have an  
addition to our new family. And no,  
I'm not pregnant.

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

Laughter

ROBERT

I was worried for a second!

\*  
\*

NANCY

My youngest son Brennan was  
supposed to be moving into his own  
place but he was recently let go  
from his job at Petsmart. So  
Brennan will be living with us!

\*  
  
\*  
\*

BRENNAN HUFF, 39, storms out as well. Purposely knocking over  
a center piece.

BRENNAN

Thanks for telling the whole world  
Mom!

NANCY

Ok, I guess I wasn't supposed to  
mention the Petsmart firing. I  
didn't know that.

ROBERT

(to Nancy, off mic)  
Brennan's going to be living with  
us? Why didn't you tell me this  
before?

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

NANCY

Robert please.  
(and then to everyone)  
How about some fun music! Let's  
dance!

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

The band takes their cue as Latin jazz kicks in. We see  
Brennan staring at Dale from outside the banquet hall window.  
Dale sees him and immediately Brennan walks away.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD-MORNING

Latin jazz continues as a Moving van wipes across frame followed by a Volvo station wagon.

INT. VOLVO

Nancy drives while Brennan sits in the back seat. Beat of silence.

NANCY  
Someone is pretty quiet back there.  
Are you nervous?

BRENNAN  
I'm not going to call him dad.

NANCY  
Brennan you're 39 years-old, I  
would not expect you to call him  
dad.

BRENNAN  
Well I'm not going too. Ever! Even  
if there's a fire!

INT. ROBERT AND DALE'S HOUSE-CONTINUOUS

Robert and Dale sit at the kitchen table of their upper-middle class home. They eat cereal.

DALE  
We're men, Dad. We fart. We talk  
about pussy. We go on river boat  
gambling trips. We make our own  
beef jerky. And now that's all  
wrecked!

ROBERT  
We have literally never done one of  
those things you just listed.

DALE  
And now we never will! Doesn't that  
make you sad?

\*  
\*  
\*  
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\*

INT. VOLVO

Another long beat of silence. Brennan is staring out the window.

NANCY

What if you and Dale get along great?

BRENNAN

(without looking at her) THAT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN!!!

INT. ROBERT AND DALE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN

Robert is cleaning up. Dale is not helping at all.

DALE

Alright here's a scenario for you. What if Nancy sees me coming out of the shower and decides to come on to me. I'm looking good, still a little wet with the V of hair going from my chest to my ball hair and she says, "Oh my god I've had the older one, now I want the younger version". And she grabs my thing.

ROBERT

(slams the dishes in the sink)  
Shut the fuck up! And put some clothes on, they'll be here soon.

\*  
\*

EXT. ROBERT AND DALE'S HOUSE

Giant moving truck pulling into frame. The car pulls up behind the truck. Robert runs out the front door to greet Nancy. The movers start to unload the truck. Dale stands in the door jam holding, not even lifting, a ten pound hand weight while eating a bagel. Their house is a nice three bedroom suburban slightly upper middle class home.

ROBERT

There you are. You look so cute in your moving clothes. How was it?

\*

NANCY

Oh fine, the movers did everything.

ROBERT  
Where's Brennan?

NANCY  
He's still in the car. It was a rough drive. He had Burger King and that stuff is laced with sugar and the trans-fats. He just doesn't react to it well. (looks up) Hi Dale.

DALE  
Hi Mom! Mommy...I mean mom-mommy-mother...Nancy.

Moving gets underway. Robert and Nancy go inside the house. We see the Volvo just parked on the street. Dale looks on, half-lifting his weight. Finally Brennan gets out and walks to the beginning of the front walkway, facing Dale. They stare at each other for a beat.

BRENNAN  
Hey.

DALE  
Hey.

BRENNAN  
I'm Brennan.

DALE  
I'm Dale.

Beat.

DALE  
I guess we're stepbrothers

MUSIC kicks in: "She" by Greenday

## TITLE: STEPBROTHERS

They stand there for another beat and then Brennan gets shy and bolts back to the car, jumps in it, burns rubber and takes off.



EXT. ROBERT AND DALE'S HOUSE - LATER THAT DAY

We see movers still moving furniture into the house, Brennan pulls back up in the car, gets out and stands there looking at the house. Dale comes running out the front door, stops and looks at Brennan. They are like two elks staring each down. Suddenly, Brennan bolts back in the car and takes off.

EXT. ROBERT AND DALE'S HOUSE - EVEN LATER

The movers are finishing with a few items when Brennan pulls up again and gets out of the car. Dale once again comes out of the house and looks at Brennan. They have the same stand-off. Brennan after a beat gets back in the car and drives off.

INT. HOUSE - NIGHT

Robert is setting the table for dinner while Nancy cooks and Dale watches The Real Laguna Beach on TV. Dale sees through the main window of the living room that Brennan has parked across the street and is staring at the house.

DALE  
Brennan's back.

NANCY  
He must be starving by now...

Nancy goes to the door.

NANCY  
Brennan, honey! Why don't you come in?

BRENNAN  
No!

NANCY  
I'm making chicken nuggets!

BRENNAN  
Which kind?

NANCY  
The kind with the crunchy skin!

BRENNAN  
But with the dark meat?

NANCY  
No, the white meat and the crunchy  
skin!

Beat.

BRENNAN  
Okay!

Brennan jogs towards the door.

INT. DINING ROOM --- TWENTY MINUTES LATER

The whole family is seated for dinner. Dale and Brennan sit  
at opposite ends of the table.

NANCY  
So Brennan while you were driving  
around today, Dale told me he's  
really into Kung Fu. And I told him  
that you're really into Kung Fu as  
well.

BRENNAN  
I have a green belt.

DALE  
I don't believe in belts. But I  
once killed a doberman pincher with  
my bare hands.

ROBERT  
That's not true Dale. Don't be  
ridiculous.

Beat.

ROBERT  
Dale has a pretty good head for  
business. He's hit a dry spell  
recently when it comes to  
employment, which is why he's been  
staying with me for the past five  
to ten years.

NANCY  
What have you been working on  
recently Dale?

DALE

I manage a baseball team. Fantasy league. And I do a lot of large bulk sales.

ROBERT

He's been mostly taking apart our second car and selling it part by part on Ebay.

DALE

It's a 96 Mercury Zephyr. The blue book is 3600 but when you sell it part by part you're looking at 4000 easy. Plus I've really been working on getting my cholesterol down.

ROBERT

That's not really a business venture. But what about you Brennan? I know you worked at PetSmart recently.

BRENNAN

That's right Mr. Dobak.

ROBERT

Please call me Robert.

BRENNAN

I worked at PetSmart for two months. Before that I worked at CVS for four months. Before that I worked at Costco for three months. Before that I worked at Walmart for two months. Before that I worked at Sam Goody's records for three weeks. Before that I worked at Blockbuster video for two and a half months. Before that Barnes and Nobles for four months. That was a good job. Before that I worked at Boston Market for three months. Before that I worked Home Depot for four months.

NANCY

Ok that's enough, Brennan.

BRENNAN

Before that I worked at Sharper Image for two months.

(MORE)

BRENNAN (cont'd)  
Before that I worked at Wahoo's  
Fish Tacos for nine days-

NANCY  
Brennan I said stop!

BRENNAN  
Before that I worked at-

NANCY  
Stop! Stop it!

ROBERT  
Jesus Nancy!

NANCY  
I'm sorry. (beat) Brennan's real  
talent is that he's a very gifted  
singer.

BRENNAN  
It's true. I'm really, really good.

DALE  
How good?

BRENNAN  
Like really, really good.

DALE  
Like as good as Rod Stewart?

BRENNAN  
Yes, definitely as good as Rod  
Stewart.

ROBERT  
Oh. Well I look forward to hearing  
you sing. \*

NANCY  
The only trick is, Brennan is very  
selective about who he sings in  
front of. I'm his mother and I've  
only heard him sing twice.

DALE  
I'm a pretty good singer too. And  
I'll sing right now. (singing) HOLD  
ME CLOSER TINY DANCER-

BRENNAN  
That's cute. I remember when I had  
my first beer.

DALE

That doesn't make any sense!

ROBERT

Alright both of you back off. Now the sleeping arrangements are going to be a little different. Dale refused to give up his office/drumroom. So Brennan you're going to be sharing a room with Dale. But seeing how the both of you will be getting jobs soon and getting your own places, it's not going to matter. Dale why don't you show Brennan where he can put his stuff.

BRENNAN

Good night Mom. Good night Mr. Dobak!

Dale reluctantly leads Brennan to their room. \*

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Dale carries a couple of Brennan's bags as they stop in front of a room. \*

DALE \*

Before I show you our room, I want you to look in here. \*

INT. "OFFICE" - CONTINUOUS \*

This is a sparse room with foam padding on the walls, a shitty drumset, a DJ mixer and turntables, and some weights.

DALE

Ok here's the deal. See this room? This is my office and my beat laboratory. This is the one rule of the house. Don't ever, ever, touch my fucking drumset. Do you understand? There I said it nice and cool and calm and polite. Everything is casual.

BRENNAN

I gotta tell you. There's nothing cool or calm or casual about anything you just said.

DALE

Ok. So I so see you're making this  
hard. Let me turn up the volume.  
Don't ever touch my fucking  
drumset. Don't fucking touch it!  
Don't fucking touch it! And if you  
think you're going to be all sneaky  
and cool and try to touch it when  
I'm not around, I will know!

BRENNAN

Look, I get it!

DALE

Good.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. NANCY AND ROBERT'S BEDROOM- THAT NIGHT

Robert is in bed reading a big non-fiction book on Middle  
Eastern history as Nancy enters and gets under the covers.

NANCY

I think they're still feeling each  
other out...

ROBERT

What's that?

NANCY

Dale and Brennan. I just checked on  
them. I think it's a feeling out  
process.

ROBERT

So I've been meaning to ask you...  
what happened with Brennan? I mean,  
your other son Derek is quite  
successful...

NANCY

Believe me I've tried to figure it  
out. Certainly when Peter and I  
split it was hard for him. But I  
think it's more than that.  
Brennan's always thought that he  
could pursue something and be great  
right away and then when he's not  
he quits. I think that's why he  
doesn't sing in public.

(MORE)

NANCY (cont'd)

I remember one time Brennan  
convinced everyone he was going to  
be on this TV show called American  
Gladiators. Have you ever heard of  
it?

ROBERT

I'm familiar with the program. Yes.

We see quick flashbacks of the story Nancy is telling.

NANCY

He told everyone in town that it  
was a done deal but two minutes  
into the try out he pulled his quad  
muscle and was on the ground crying  
louder than I've ever heard anyone  
cry. For months after that the  
whole town would call him Nitro and  
dump trash on our front lawn. We  
finally had to move to a different  
township.

ROBERT

They don't mess around on American  
Gladiator. If you walk in there  
like a boy scout you will get your  
ass handed to you. Brennan should  
have known that.

NANCY

Well what about Dale? I mean let's  
face it...

ROBERT

Dale's going to be fine. If  
anything he sometimes tends to  
coast off of my success. He's  
always asking me why he can't join  
the family business.

NANCY

But you're a medical Doctor.

ROBERT

I've explained that to him. But he  
always just says "It's all about  
who you know."

NANCY

Well maybe this fresh start will  
get them going.

ROBERT

I love you. I swear, you have such  
a spirit.

He kisses her and turns out the light.

EXT. HOUSE - THE NEXT MORNING

Nancy pulling out in her Volvo. Robert and Dale leaving in  
Robert's Audi. Brennan says goodbye from the front door.

BRENNAN

Goodbye Mom. Goodbye Mr. Dobak. I'm  
just gonna read through the want  
ads.

As soon as the cars pull away Brennan runs into the house and  
up the stairs to the drum set.

EXT. DOWNTOWN OFFICE BUILDING- LATER

Robert drops Dale off in front of the building. Dale  
confidently gets out of car with briefcase and bounds up the  
concrete steps to the front.

EXT. TALC PHARMACEUTICALS - PARKING GARAGE - SAME TIME

Nancy is pulling into her parking spot.

INT. OFFICE/DRUM ROOM - SAME TIME

Brennan is hammering away at Dale's drum set. Playing as hard  
as he can. He doesn't really know how to play.

INT. EXAMINING ROOM - AN HOUR LATER

Robert is with patient, checking a new fangled hearing aid  
with a diagnostic instrument.

INT. SLEEK OFFICE - SAME TIME

Dale is seated across from BARRY, 28, a slick financial  
analyst.

BARRY

You've got some very intriguing  
items on your resume Dale.



DALE

I thank you for that Barry.

BARRY

I think it's great that you operate a "Beat Laboratory". I also see here that you enjoy "kicking back and takin it breezy." What exactly does that mean?

DALE

It's just how I do it. I take things breezy and try not to get crazy. I thought it would be good if my resume showed some of my personality.

BARRY

Ok, regardless. You need to have an MBA to even be considered for this position.

DALE

Oh that's a typo. I have one.

BARRY

That's a pretty serious omission. So where did you get your MBA from?

DALE

Pretty small, little commuter school. You've never heard of it, not in a million years.

BARRY

Well you have to tell me.

Beat.

DALE

University of Michigan.

BARRY

Get the fuck out of my office. Seriously dude, get out of here.

CUT TO:

EXT. COMMUTER TRAIN STATION - LATE AFTERNOON

Dale is getting off the train and beginning to walk.

INT. FRONT DOOR

Dale walks in to see Brennan laying on the couch, watching the View. He quickly buttons up his pants.

DALE

Hey.

BRENNAN

Hey.

DALE

Were you masturbating to the View?

BRENNAN

Yeah. Just to the young one.

DALE

Oh. I'm gonna go hit the skins.

Dale walks up the stairs and Brennan goes back to watching tv.

INT. "OFFICE"

Dale checks his drum set to see if anything is out of place. We see quick cuts of the drumsticks resting on the snare drum, the base pedal, the crash cymbal and then quick cut back to the drumsticks. Close-up on the drumsticks. Closer on one of the sticks, where we notice a notch in the head of the stick.

CLOSE-UP OF DALE'S FEET

Running down the stairs.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Brennan is on the couch, flipping through the channels, eating a fruit roll-up

DALE

Hey man. Did you touch my drumset?

BRENNAN

What? No, of course not.

Dale stands there for a beat, while Brennan flips through the channels.

DALE

It looks like someone touched my drumset.

BRENNAN

Oh, cause I didn't touch it.

Another beat.

DALE

Did you touch my drumset?

BRENNAN

I said no!

DALE

Did you...touch...my drumset?!

Brennan does not respond. He keeps flipping through the channels. Dale grabs him, violently.

DALE

Hey!! Did you touch my drumset?!!

BRENNAN

Get the hell off me!

DALE

I know you touched my drumset! The left stick is out of place. I keep a mental image where those sticks are when I leave the house and the left one was moved.

Brennan scrambles up off the couch. They both square off.

BRENNAN

You are fucking crazy man! You are out of your mind! I haven't been within a 100 feet of that drumset all day!

DALE

Fuck you Brennan! You played my drumset and I wanna hear your mouth admit it!

BRENNAN

If you don't get outta my face  
right now, I'll go Michael Dudakoff  
on your ass!!

\*

DALE

Swear on your mother's soul that  
you did not touch my drumset!

BRENNAN

I don't have to swear to shit!

DALE

That's cause you touched my  
drumset, you fuck nad!

\*

Brennan starts to run up the stairs.

DALE

Where you going?

BRENNAN

Now I'm gonna touch your drumset!  
I'm gonna put my ballsack on that  
drumset!

DALE

I'll fucking stab you if you do  
that! I swear to God! I SWEAR TO  
GOD!!!!!!

INT. "OFFICE" - CONTINUOUS

Brennan bursts into the room and starts to take his pants  
off. Proceeds to rub his ballsack on the drum kit.

BRENNAN

Oooo yeah. There we go. Don't wanna  
miss a spot. Jon Bonham's playing  
Moby Dick for real!!!

Dale bursts into the room, half crying.

DALE

Noooo! Get the fuck off.  
Aaaraggahh!!!

\*

Dale tackles him and they just begin brawling amidst the  
drumset.

CUT TO:

## INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Nancy is seated at a conference table with three other pharmaceutical reps, going over sales packets.

NANCY

The place is called L'Grange over on Olive and right now they have their fall tasting menu and it...is...absolutely...delicious. They music however is so loud, it's disconcerting. That's the only thing.

INTERCOM (V.O.)

Nancy call on line seven.

NANCY

Thank you, Miles.

She pick up the phone.

NANCY

Hello. Hi Jules. What? Really? Oh my god, no, thank you for calling.

Hangs up the phone.

NANCY

That was my neighbor. Apparently there's some kind of incident going on at my house.

## INT. LIVING ROOM

Brennan and Dale roll down the stairs and land in the living room. They immediately stand and start punching each other. Dale slams Brennan into the dry wall, making a sizable indentation. There is also now a ferocious, barking German Shepherd at the front window, trying to get into the house. \*

DALE

You fuckin' fucker!!

BRENNAN

I'm gonna douse that drumset in shit and piss!!

DALE

Just admit you played it!

BRENNAN

I'll never admit it!! Never!!!

Brennan flings Dale across a coffee table and then makes a break for it out the front door.

EXT. HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Brennan runs out the front door and the German Shepherd immediately starts nipping at his legs. This stops Brennan in his tracks which allows Dale to catch up to him. They resume throwing punches at each other, while the dog barks at them. \*

DALE

Don't ever touch my drumset!

BRENNAN

Shut your fuckin mouth!

Nancy pulls up in her car.

NANCY

What is going on?!

She gets out of her car and runs up to the fight.

NANCY

Stop this! Please stop!

She tries to break up the fight and the German Shepherd attacks her. \*

NANCY

Oh my god! Help me!

BRENNAN

Mom!!

Dale keeps fighting Brennan.

CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL OFFICE

Robert is talking to a fellow DOCTOR, 48.

ROBERT

It is the best risotto I have ever had.

DOCTOR

And the name of the place is  
L'Grange?

ROBERT

Yes, L'Grange. I'm not going to lie  
to you, it's not cheap and the  
music is alarmingly loud.

His phone rings.

ROBERT

Hello. Okay, you're going to have  
to stop screaming. No, do you  
understand I can't understand you  
when you scream Nancy! What?! I'm  
coming right away.

He hangs up the phone.

ROBERT

I'm sorry Jeffery, apparently there  
is a savage fight going on in my  
house between my son and stepson  
and I have to leave right away. And  
please can you refrain from telling  
anyone about this?

DOCTOR

You mean about L'Grange?

ROBERT

No! About my son and stepson!

DOCTOR

Oh, of course Robert.

EXT. HOUSE, FRONT LAWN

Dale has a baseball bat. Brennan has golf club as they  
continue to try to hit each other. Six other dogs have joined  
the fracas as twelve neighbors, in groups of two and three  
all watch. Nancy is spraying the dogs with a hose and  
screaming. After a moment of this, Robert pulls up and runs  
out of his car.

NANCY

Please stop!! Oh honey thank god!  
They're like animals!

ROBERT  
What is going on! For Christ's  
sake, Dale! Brennan! Let's cut the  
shit! Cut the shit!! Do you hear  
me?!

They're not listening at all and continue to fight.

DALE  
Did you touch my drumset?!

BRENNAN  
You fuckin weirdo!

ROBERT  
Cut the shit!

They simultaneously swing and connect with each other's  
skulls. Knocking the other one out and both falling to the  
ground at the same time. We IRIS OUT as we hear Nancy's  
voice.

NANCY (V.O.)  
Why? Why?

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE - NIGHTFALL

Brennan and Dale both sit with tv trays, their heads wrapped  
up with ice packs watching Game Show Network.

CU OF FULL FRAME TV

The tv goes to black as Robert steps in front.

DALE  
Hey what are you doing dad?

ROBERT  
Okay, here's the deal. Number one,  
you're gonna fix the fuckin' damage  
to the drywall, right away! That's  
the first thing. No questions.  
Number two: you have eight weeks to  
get a job and find an apartment. No  
screwing around. No extra time.  
That's that!



DALE

Dad why are you talking to me like that? I'm your son.

ROBERT

What I saw today was the worst behavior, by two grown adults, that I have ever witnessed.

NANCY

We are not joking around guys. This is not a stand-up comedy routine. I watched two wild animals out there. Brennan I know how wonderful you can be. And Dale your father has told me, what a gentle, kind soul you are. He told me how you carved that special wooden flute and you used to play it, when you were little. But today I was looking at two werewolves. And over what? Whether someone did or did not touch a drumset. Do you hear how that sounds?

BRENNAN

Mother I agree, it sounds crazy. But for the record, I did not touch the drumset.

DALE

You rubbed your nuts on my drumset.

BRENNAN

I'm going to punch you in the concussion.

ROBERT

Ok that's that! No tv for a week!

BRENNAN AND DALE

What?!

NANCY

Nope guys! You really pushed our buttons. The remote stays in Robert's wall safe! And that's it!

DALE

This fuckin sucks!

NANCY

I suggest you both get ready for bed. Brennan, your brother Derek is coming over tomorrow night with his family and I don't want you tired and cranky.

\*

DALE

This house is a fuckin' prison!!

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS - 2 AM THAT NIGHT

MUSIC: DREAMY VIBES

We pan across Nancy and Robert asleep in their bedroom and continue panning through the walls over to Brennan and Dale who each sleep in separate single beds in the same room.

Brennan gets up out of bed. We can tell from his half closed eyes and clumsy manner that he is sleep walking. He walks out of the room.

INT. UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Brennan sleep walks in the hallway making faint groaning sounds as he paces back and forth aimlessly. Then we see Dale there also pacing back and forth. He too is sleep walking.

INT. KITCHEN - A MINUTE LATER

We see the dark empty kitchen lit only by moonlight. After a beat Dale enters clumsily and goes towards the fridge. He opens it and finds a half pound of turkey cold cuts. He binge eats the turkey with grunting sounds all while still asleep.

Then Brennan walks in and starts to fumble in the cabinets for a coffee mug. He then begins grinding coffee beans, pouring the grinds into the mug, motioning like his sipping and then dumping them on the ground, over and over again.

Dale is done with the cold cuts and now reaches for a bottle of soy sauce, which he begins guzzling. Brennan is in the foreground of the shot walking in tight circles.

DALE

Umphrfff. Spaceshuttle.

BRENNAN

I'm gonna catch Aunt Carol. Aunt  
Carol is so fast!

\*  
\*

CUT TO:

INT. DALE AND BRENNAN'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Dale and Brennan are fast asleep in their beds, mouths open while Dale holds a loaf of bread, his mouth is smeared with mustard. Both of them are snoring hard.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Nancy enters freshly dressed for work, followed by Robert.

NANCY

I don't know if he ever got back to  
him- Oh no!

ROBERT

Dale must have left the back door  
open, raccoons got in.

NANCY

Actually, Brennan was probably  
sleep walking. He hasn't done it in  
quite awhile. It must have been the  
change in surroundings.

ROBERT

Dale sleep walks too.

NANCY

You've got to be kidding me!

ROBERT

No, he's done it for years. He  
doesn't usually make a mess like  
this.

NANCY

I think I'm gonna cry. Look at this  
kitchen.

ROBERT

I'm going to talk to Scotty about  
getting these guys medicated.

INT. GUYS BEDROOM - LATER THAT MORNING

Both guys are still asleep, snoring. We hear the alarm, you get the sense it's been beeping for a long time. The clock reads 11:20. Finally Dale stirs and shuts it off.

BRENNAN

Oh no!

DALE

What?

BRENNAN

My brother Derek is coming tonight  
with his family.

CUT TO:

INT. DEREK'S CAR

We see DEREK, Brennan's brother, he's a very handsome, George Clooney-looking type guy, driving a Mercedes SUV. Sitting next to him is his wife, ALICE, 39, a quiet yet attractive brunette. In the back seat are their three perfect children TOMMY, 12, TREVOR, 10 and TIFFANY, 8. They are all singing Guns n' Roses, "Sweet Child of Mine". They sing this in perfect a capella with each family member having a specific solo or harmony. \*

ALL

SHE'S GOTTA SMILE THAT IT SEEMS TO  
ME  
THAT REMINDS OF ME, OF CHILDHOOD  
MEMORIES

DEREK AND ALICE

WHERE EVERYTHING  
WAS AS FRESH AS THE BRIGHTEST BLUE  
SKY

DEREK

That's you Trevor! Come in strong,  
don't come in flat!

TREVOR

NOW AND THEN WHEN I SEE HER FACE  
SHE TAKES ME AWAY TO THAT SPECIAL  
PLACE

DEREK

Nice!

TREVOR  
AND IF I STARED TOO LONG  
I'D PROBABLY BREAK DOWN AND CRY

DEREK  
Chorus!

KIDS  
SWEET CHILD O' MINE

TIFFANY  
SWEET CHILD O' MINE

DEREK  
Tommy you're the oldest, I'm  
counting on you! Sing!

TOMMY  
SHE'S GOT EYES OF THE BLUEST SKIES  
AS IF THEY THOUGHT OF RAIN  
I HATE TO LOOK INTO THOSE EYES  
AND SEE AN OUNCE OF PAIN

DEREK  
Nice vibrato Alice go!

\*

ALICE  
HER HAIR REMINDS ME  
OF A WARM SAFE PLACE  
WHERE AS A CHILD I'D HIDE  
AND PRAY FOR THE THUNDER  
AND THE RAIN  
TO QUIETLY PASS ME BY

DEREK  
No....no....Jesus, god  
no!...terrible.....Derek's  
got to save it with the solo

Derek starts to do a air guitar solo of the song and almost  
loses control of the car.

ALL  
Ahhh

DEREK  
Back to the chorus!

ALL  
OH-OH-OH-OHHH SWEET CHILD O' MINE!

EXT. HOUSE - DUSK

The Mercedes SUV pulls into the driveway of the house. Nancy comes running out followed by Robert. Dale is peaking out the front door.

NANCY

They're here! Oh Derek, honey, so good to see you. Hi Alice!

Derek hugs Nancy. Nancy hugs all of her grandchildren.

INT. DINING ROOM - HOUR LATER

Everyone is seated at the table, minus Brennan. All the children are eating with perfect table manners. Robert has just finished a story.

ROBERT

And I told him, you're a congressman and you're about to be indicted, you might be better off without a hearing aid.

Everyone laughs.

DEREK

That's hilarious Robert. You are a gifted storyteller.

ROBERT

Why thank you Derek. People do enjoy hearing that one.

NANCY

We were so sad that you guys couldn't come to the wedding.

ROBERT

We completely understand Derek. You were busy fishing right? With Mark Cuban?

DEREK

Well not just Mark Cuban, but Ralph Lauren, Pat Riley and super-chef Bobby Flay.

ROBERT

That's impressive. God that's impressive.

DEREK

Yeah it went real well. We were down in the southern part of the Gulf, fishing Bonita. Robert, you ever been to the southern part of the Gulf, when the Bonita run?

ROBERT

No, but I've always wanted to. It's supposed to be amazing.

DEREK

Amazing is not the word.

DALE

Are Bonita big fish?

ROBERT

Dale don't interrupt the man while he tells a story.

DEREK

No that's fine Robert. Yes it's what's called a trophy fish. So they're big. But now I forget where my story was going.

ROBERT

Dammit Dale!

NANCY

He was just asking a question.

DEREK

Hey don't be mad at Dale for wrecking the story. Truth is, you can read it in next month's issue of Esquire. I typed it up on my laptop as soon as it happened and sent it in.

ROBERT

Dammit you're impressive! I can't stop looking at you!

DEREK

By the way, where's my lil' bro, Brennan?

NANCY

He's not feeling well.

TREVOR  
I hate uncle Brennan.

ALICE  
Trevor don't speak about Uncle Brennan that way.

DEREK  
It's alright Alice. This is the real world. Let him express himself. So Dale, you obviously have a very impressive father-

We see that Robert is smiling like an idiot.

ROBERT  
(to himself) Come on.

DEREK  
What do you do?

DALE  
Well where would you like me to start?

DEREK  
How about with how you earn your primary wage?

DALE  
I'll tell you what I do. (thinking of it as he goes along) I'm a...professional...body builder....and..trainer..of show...horses...incorporated.

ROBERT  
Dale's unemployed!

DALE  
Dad!

ROBERT  
Well it's the truth. Doesn't mean he's not without talents. He's done some wonderful drawings. There's one of them on the fridge over there. But right now we're just hoping and praying that he can get a job somewhere, maybe at a car wash or the airport. Get himself into a one-bedroom apartment and out of the house.



DALE  
You know, fuck you dad!

Dale gets up and storms out.

TIFFANY  
Fuck you Dale!

ALICE  
Tiffany!

DEREK  
Babe he started it. I never mind my  
children finishing it.

Robert tries to cover the awkwardness.

ROBERT  
Don't worry about Dale, he'll be  
fine. So Derek, I gotta ask you,  
have you been to Cuba?

CUT TO:

EXT. BACKYARD - CONTINUOUS

Dale walks across the backyard to a tree fort in the  
backyard.

INT. TREE FORT

Dale comes climbing up into the fort, already seated in there  
is Brennan, reading an old playboy magazine to the light of a  
Coleman lantern.

DALE  
Hey.

BRENNAN  
Hey.

Dale climbs up, grabs a Playboy and sits.

DALE  
You were right about your brother.

BRENNAN  
Yep. He's a dick. You got a pretty  
great collection.

DALE  
Thanks man.

INT. KITCHEN - TWENTY MINUTES LATER

Robert and Nancy are cleaning up the dishes.

ROBERT  
I have to tell you Nancy, Derek is one hell of a guy. What should I call him? Stepson? Or should I just call him son?

NANCY  
You just call him Derek. Okay?  
That's all you have to call him.

EXT. BACKYARD - CONTINUOUS

Brennan and Dale are still looking at Playboys. Dale hands Brennan one.

DALE  
Here check this one out. It has that lady from Law and Order, Special Victims Unit. It has those black and white, arty photos but she shows tons of bush.

BRENNAN  
Cool.

Derek pops up through the floor hatch.

DEREK  
What's up faggot! You're not going to come down and say hi to me?

BRENNAN  
Hey Derek.

DEREK  
I like your guys set up here. This is ridonkulus! Now let me get this straight. Dale you're forty years old and Brennan you're thirty-nine. And both of you are sitting in a tree fort, reading playboys? This is actually happening?

The guys say nothing.

DEREK

Great. I just want to be clear about that.

\*

DALE

What's your problem man?

DEREK

I don't have a problem. In fact, I have the opposite of a problem. I made five hundred fifty K last year. I run my own business selling and leasing executive helicopters. Last month I bought Sandler's original microphone from The Wedding Singer, on Ebay, for twenty-two thousand dollars. I waited until the last second and then doubled the bid.

BRENNAN

Why didn't you just bid a little higher than the last bid?

DEREK

Shut up. Look, mom made me come up here and offer both of you jobs. I'll be honest, I don't want to do this, at all. You guys gross me out. But I figure what the heck, it might be fun having two clowns like you around the office.

BRENNAN

No way.

DEREK

That's cool. That's cool with me. I don't care. It's amazing how little I care. Truth is I smoked a jay in the car about two minutes ago, so I'm a little spacey. (starts to rap) I GET SPACEY... I'M ALL LACEY... I GO TO MACEY'S WITH MY GIRL... STACEY...

He stops and Brennan and Dale are just looking at him.

DEREK

You both wanna hit me don't you? I love it. Go ahead. Punch me right in the face. What?

(MORE)

DEREK (cont'd)  
Are you just going to sit there on  
your vaginas and do nothing? I'm  
asking you to punch me in the f-

Dale punches Derek in the face hard. Derek falls from the  
tree fort a good ten feet and hits the ground hard.

DEREK  
Ahhhh.... My shoulder... ahhhh...

Brennan turns to Dale. He's amazed and impressed.

BRENNAN  
That was awesome.

CUT TO:

EXT. DRIVEWAY

Derek and the family are loading up in the car.

ROBERT  
Derek I have to say, it was an  
absolute pleasure to finally get to  
meet you.

DEREK  
The pleasure was all mine, Robert.

Robert gives Derek a warm embrace that goes on little too  
long.

NANCY  
All right Robert that's enough.

Brennan is saying goodbye to the kids.

BRENNAN  
How's your singing going Tiffany?

TIFFANY  
Good. My friends and I like to sing  
to Christina Aguilera and dance  
around the room.

BRENNAN  
She has a tough vocal range. Here,  
I got this for you.

He hands her some sheet music.

BRENNAN

It's the sheet music for Elton  
John's "I'm Still Standing". Why  
don't you learn it and we can sing  
it together next time you come  
back.

\*

TIFFANY

Thanks Uncle Brennan.

\*

Dale stands by the front door watching everyone leaving when  
as if out of nowhere, Alice comes up to Dale and speaks very  
rapidly, in hushed tones, right into his face.

ALICE

Hello I'm Alice, Derek's  
wife, is it true that you  
struck Derek in the face and  
he fell from the tree house  
because that's the most  
incredible thing I've ever  
heard, I want you to know  
that tonight I'm going to  
pleasure myself to the image  
of you doing that to Derek,  
you have the most brave eyes,  
eyes like a lion, I just want  
to lie in your mane all day  
and yet you seem sad at the  
same time, you know there's  
this charge between us and I  
can picture us making love  
and growing old together and  
with Derek I never picture us  
growing old, but with you I  
picture us growing old and  
living in New England and  
learning how to refurbish  
antique boats and I write a  
spy novel, that's ridiculous,  
but here's the thing, I'm not  
wearing panties and here's my  
cell phone number and-

DALE

Hi, I'm-  
.....Yeah.....  
Thank you.....Oh my  
God.....  
.....  
.....No, stop-

She kisses him on the lips and gives Dale her number and  
leaves hurriedly.

DEREK

Alice! Come on! The interstate  
becomes a knot in ten minutes!

ALICE

I'm coming honey!

She trots off to the car leaving Dale stunned and aroused.  
Brennan walks back up towards Dale.

BRENNAN  
Hey Dale.

DALE  
Huh?! What's going on?

DALE  
Do you want to see something cool?  
If you do then be up in our bedroom  
in five minutes.

SMASH CUT TO:

MUSIC CUE: "SEVEN NATION ARMY" - WHITE STRIPES

INT. DALE AND BRENNAN'S BEDROOM - FIVE MINUTES LATER

Close-up of an ornate samurai sword being unsheathed. We pull out to see Brennan holding the sword.

BRENNAN  
Pretty fuckin' cool, huh?

DALE  
Wow that is a fuckin' nice sword.

BRENNAN  
I have to say when I met you, I never thought that we'd be on terms where I felt comfortable showing you my samurai sword. But thanks for sticking up for me with Derek.

DALE  
No problem.

BRENNAN  
You see that black smudge on the blade.

DALE  
Yeah.

BRENNAN  
That's Bill Cosby's fuckin' autograph.

DALE

Why do you have Bill Cosby's  
autograph on a martial arts weapon?

BRENNAN

Because I happened to bump into him  
and all I had on me was this  
samurai sword. And your not going  
to not, get Cosby's autograph.  
Right?

DALE

I would've done the exact same  
thing. Now do you want to see  
something fuckin' cool?

BRENNAN

Of course.

Dale reaches under his bed and flips up his mattress to  
reveal a cache of, literally, 500 fireworks. Roman candles,  
bottle rockets, cones, M-80's, everything.

DALE

Check it.

BRENNAN

Holy Santa Claus shit.

DALE

You know it. Once a year I borrow  
my dad's car, drive down to Mehico,  
stock up and then come July 4th,  
guess who's front yard every kid in  
the neighborhood wants to hang out  
in. Mine.

BRENNAN

I can't believe the first couple of  
days I'm living here, I'm walking  
around thinking I've got a dick for  
a step-brother. And secretly,  
you're cool as shit.

Dale points to his face.

DALE

See this fuckin' thing right here?  
It's called a fuckin' poker face.

ROBERT (O.C.)  
Will you please stop cursing so  
much up there. We can hear it  
through the vents.

DALE  
Sorry dad!

ROBERT (O.C.)  
We know you're trying to be tough  
in front of each other. But please  
give it a rest!

DALE  
Alright!!

BRENNAN  
Okay these fireworks are cool. But  
do you want to see something  
really, really cool?

DALE  
I think it's been established  
pretty clearly that I like to see  
cool shit. I mean stuff.

CLOSE-UP ON BLACK CASE

Brennan undoing latches and slowly lifts the top to reveal...

BRENNAN  
Check it out. Movie-quality  
Chewbacca mask. This is good enough  
that George Lucas signed a document  
saying that he would have used it  
in the first Star Wars.

DALE  
Fuck yeah!

BRENNAN  
The jaw actually moves.

DALE  
Alright, alright, I've got a good  
one. Turn off the lights.

BRENNAN  
Why?

DALE  
Just turn em off.



Brennan turns off the lights. In the darkness we hear Dale say...

DALE

Here put this on.

We see through Brennan's POV that he's looking through night vision goggles. Dale has them on as well.

DALE

Night fuckin vision goggles.

BRENNAN

Oh my god I just came! Can you imagine if we had these when we were twelve.

DALE

Guess what, it's even better. We got these when we were forty.

BRENNAN

Alright I'm turning on the lights cause I have the best thing ever.

Brennan turns on the lights, scrambles under his bed and pulls out a poster tube.

BRENNAN

Mint condition and I'm talking  
mint: Nelly Furtado concert poster.

\*

Dale is not saying anything.

BRENNAN

What's wrong?

DALE

That's not quite as cool as the other things.

BRENNAN

Yeah you're right. I guess I'm out of cool stuff.

DALE

Well I'm not, check this out.

Dale takes the lid of big plastic container. He starts stacking plastic cup on the dresser.

DALE

Ben Affleck, Bruce Willis, I got the other guy, I got the colonel. That's right, the entire Burger King Armageddon collectible cup series. Except for one.

\*

\*

Beat. Brennan looks at him.

DALE

Not cool either, right? Well then I'm out of cool stuff too. Oh wait, no I'm not! Does a big, ceramic boot full of pennies sound cool?

BRENNAN

No not cool.

DALE

Ok, I'm definitely done. Hey I've got an idea, let's go down to the kitchen and make a big, ice cream creation.

BRENNAN

Yeah, cool.

DALE

Let's go.

They both tear out of the room and run down the stairs.

MUSIC CUE: "YOU MAKE MY DREAMS COME TRUE" - HALL AND OATES

CU OF FEET RUNNING DOWN THE STAIRS

INT. KITCHEN - MINUTES LATER

Dale and Brennan throw nuts, cherries, whip cream and a ton of ice cream into a bowl with peanut butter and graded cheese. They both laugh when they put the cheese on.

CU OF FEET RUNNING UP AND DOWN THE STAIRS

Robert and Nancy are in bed, hearing the footsteps.

ROBERT

What's going on?

INT. LIVING ROOM - TWENTY MINUTES LATER

Brennan is holding a board and Dale breaks it with his foot. Brennan then takes a shot at a board and breaks it with his head. They both react very excitedly.

CU OF FEET RUNNING UP AND DOWN THE STAIRS

Back to Robert and Nancy in bed.

NANCY

I think they're starting to like  
each other.

INT. BATHROOM - TWENTY MINUTES LATER

Dale and Brennan are both in the bathroom with a tape measure, measuring penis size and holding up the results.

CU OF FEET RUNNING ACROSS THE LIVING ROOM FLOOR

They sit and watch "Over the Top" with Sylvester Stallone. Sly pins his opponent in the championship arm wrestle, the guys pump their fists like idiots while they eat their ice cream creation. \*

INT. ROBERT AND NANCY'S BEDROOM

The door flies open, Brennan and Dale nervously stand in the doorway.

ROBERT

Guys what the hell is going on?

BRENNAN

Mom? Mr. Dobak? Dale and I were  
just wondering-

ROBERT

Please stop calling me Mr. Dobak.

BRENNAN

Ok. Mom? Dobak? Dale and I have  
been thinking that it would be  
prudent to- \*

DALE  
(interrupting) Can we turn our beds  
into bunkbeds??!!!

NANCY  
Why are you guys so sweaty?

DALE  
Please say yes. We've already  
figured out how to do this. The  
beds match up perfectly.

BRENNAN  
It would give us more space in our  
room, to do activities.

DALE  
Please say yes!

ROBERT  
You don't need permission from us  
to build bunk beds. You're grown  
men. You can do what you want.

They stand there staring at them.

NANCY  
Yes, you can turn your beds into  
bunk beds.

DALE  
Yes, I knew it!!

BRENNAN  
Sweet! Mom, Mr. Dobak, you're not  
going to regret this! You're going  
to see, we're going to get so many  
activities done!

DALE  
This is the funnest night ever!

BRENNAN  
I'm so glad we moved in here.

They bolt out of the room.

HALL AND OATES, KICKS BACK IN

CUT TO:

## INT. DALE AND BRENNAN'S BEDROOM

Quick cuts of (1) Dale and Brennan lifting the beds together, (2) they hammer the posts together, (3) they both jump on the top bunk which immediately splinters and breaks, they fall to the ground.

BRENNAN

Aaargagh!!! My fuckinnn arm!!!!

We see Brennan's arm is scraped.

DALE

Oh Shit! Oh shit! It's bad!

\*

BRENNAN

Mom! Mom! Mom!

## INT. ROBERT AND NANCY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dale comes running in.

DALE

Dad! Nancy! It's bad. It's so fucking bad. There's blood everywhere! The bunk beds were a terrible idea. It's so fucking bad!

## INT. DALE AND BRENNAN'S BEDROOM - SECONDS LATER

Robert, Nancy and Dale come running back into the bedroom. Brennan is thrashing around on the floor.

BRENNAN

Ahhhh! My arm!! It hurts so bad! I don't wanna lose my arm! It hit a main artery!! I'm certain!! Ahahahah!!

Robert and Nancy just stand there.

DALE

Do something! Do something!

Slowly Brennan stops thrashing and everyone is silent. Brennan and Dale are both just breathing kind of hard.

ROBERT  
(very calm)  
Brennan is it okay if I look at  
your arm?

BRENNAN  
Yeah, okay.

ROBERT  
How would you describe that  
Brennan?

BRENNAN  
Not so bad.

ROBERT  
Okay you know what I think  
happened? You both had close to two  
gallons of ice cream. You did a lot  
of running around. Dale did you  
guys watch Over the Top?

DALE  
Yes.

ROBERT  
How many times?

DALE  
Twice.

ROBERT  
See where this is going?

DALE  
Yeah.

ROBERT  
You guys just got over-excited. Now  
why don't we clean this mess up and  
we can all go to bed.

NANCY  
Does that sound okay?

DALE AND BRENNAN  
Yes.

CUT TO:

## INT. ROBERT AND NANCY'S BEDROOM

Robert and Nancy are going back to bed.

NANCY

Well the good news is, it looks like they're becoming friends. What do you think Robert?

ROBERT

Honestly, I'm really fucking tired of talking about them.

NANCY

What has gotten into you? \*

ROBERT

I'm just sick of everything being about our two grown sons. We were supposed to have sex tonight and instead we're talking about Dale and Brennan! \*

NANCY

Fine. If that's what you want, let's just stop talking and have sex. Come on then! \*

ROBERT

That's really fucking romantic Nancy. Forget it. I'm going to sleep. If I'm lucky maybe I'll have a wet dream to Reba McIntyre! \*

Robert rolls over. \*

NANCY

You can be really nasty. Do you know that? \*

## INT. DALE AND BRENNAN'S BEDROOM - 4 AM

Both the boys are sleeping extremely hard. After a beat, Brennan slowly gets up, walks out the door. Then Dale gets up, walks out the door.

MUSIC CUE: CHIMEY VIBES

INT. ROBERT'S AUDI - FIVE MINUTES LATER

They guys are "sleep driving" a car. We see it's going really slow and hugging the side of the road. They pull into a convenience store, park the car sideways across three spaces.

CUT TO:

INT. CONVENIENCE STORE - CONTINUOUS

We see from the security cam: The store is empty, except for a DOMINICAN CLERK, 23, behind the counter. Dale and Brennan march in like zombies. Brennan "sleep" reads some magazines, kinda of making a mess of them. Dale makes a bee-line for the refrigerated case.

CLERK

Hey man, are you in your underwear?

Dale opens a carton of milk and starts to chug it, most of the milk spills down the front of his pajamas.

CLERK

Hey, no, no, no, no. We don't do that.

Clerk starts walking over to him. Brennan is putting stuff into the microwave. Dale then starts ripping into cheese packs. The clerk tries to grab him and Dale pounds on him, like some weird robot-machine. Immediately Brennan runs over to Dale's defense, in doing so, Brennan pushes over a whole aisle of stuff. The clerk fights back a little beat, but is beaten down by both guys. The guys make a dash for the front of the store, grabbing bags of chips, ripping them open and half eating the contents.

INT. CAR - TEN MINUTES LATER

The guys are driving home but we see that now they're just cutting across the front lawns of the neighborhood houses. Driving over front lawn after front lawn, fences, hedges, parallel to the road. They "sleep sing" to a song on the radio, "Two Tickets to Paradise" by Eddie Money.

DALE AND BRENNAN

Twahh taggss tahh paaadaaaa... dah  
gah....

CUT TO:



EXT. HOUSE - SUN COMING UP

Pan down to see Robert's Audi, mud caked on the tires, shrubs sticking out of it, as it is parked across the front lawn.

INT. KITCHEN - A FEW HOURS LATER

Nancy is making eggs. Dale and Brennan are seated at the kitchen table while Robert pours a cup of coffee. The tiny kitchen TV is on in the background playing the local news.

TV ANCHOR (SOT)

....authorities are calling the convenience store assailants the "zombie attackers" because of their drugged out demeanor. If you have any information on these men please...

We see grainy security cam footage of Dale and Brennan attacking the Clerk but it's impossible to make them out.

DALE

I feel so rested. Mom can I have some milk?

BRENNAN

That was a great night's sleep. And Mr. Dobak it turned out my arm healed up nicely.

ROBERT

We determined that last night.

NANCY

So what are your plans for today?

BRENNAN

We thought we'd play around with Dale's drum set and DJ equipment and then make some cheese steaks and then take a nap and then watch Jim Rome on ESPN and then, since we're all adults here, I was going to spend some time in the tree fort with the Playboys and my body..

Robert puts pieces of paper in front of Dale and Robert.

ROBERT

Actually I've got your day right here. Dale you've got five job interviews with three financial houses, a muffler shop and a party planning business.

DALE

What the hell is this?

ROBERT

And Brennan, you have four job interviews. One of them is for an assistant manager position at a Best Buy and another is an entry level job at a respected Sporting Goods supplier.

BRENNAN

Your not my real Dad!

★

NANCY

Brennan, he's trying to help.

ROBERT

Now you both listen to me. You now have less than eight weeks to find jobs and then you are out of here. So go put on suits and act like adults and get a damn job!

They're silent. Slowly Brennan starts to cry.

ROBERT

Okay...easy Brennan...

BRENNAN

I'm alright...I'm alright...it's just a lot and you kinda raised your voice.

★

DALE

I'm used to you dad, but you do come off harsh.

NANCY

There is a better way to do this Robert.

ROBERT

Aw Jesus. I'm sorry Brennan.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE - LATER THAT DAY

BOSS sits behind desk. Dale and Brennan sit across from him in tuxedos.

BOSS

Apparently there's been a misunderstanding. We're only looking to fill one position. Why are there two of you?

DALE

As you are probably well aware, market research is showing this new trend in corporate America in which companies are now hiring two people for one position.

BOSS

I've never heard anything remotely close to that.

DALE

Look if you want to look at the data, we brought plenty of documents.

BOSS

I'd love too.

DALE

Great let me get it for you.

Everyone sits and stares at each other. Finally Dale starts to rummage in his briefcase.

DALE

Oh it's here somewhere. Found it.

Dale reaches out of the briefcase and gives the guy a middle finger. Dale quickly runs out of the office, leaving Brennan just sitting there.

DALE

Let's book!

Beat as Brennan just sits there.

\*

BRENNAN

So I went to six colleges over the course of three years.  
(MORE)

BRENNAN (cont'd)  
I'm pretty good with people. I  
speak a little bit of Spanish.

BOSS  
Why don't you just leave.

INT. ANOTHER OFFICE - AN HOUR LATER

A HUMAN RESOURCES WOMAN is interviewing the guys, but now  
Dale is seated behind Brennan.

HR WOMAN  
Well Brennan, you've certainly had  
a lot of jobs.

BRENNAN  
Well Human Resources lady-

HR WOMAN  
It's Pam. And in future interviews  
you should try to remember the name  
of the person who is conducting the  
interview.

BRENNAN  
I'm sorry. Ok, Pan what I'm all  
about is-

HR WOMAN  
It's Pam.

BRENNAN  
Are you saying Pan or Pam?

HR WOMAN  
Pam. And who is this gentleman  
sitting behind you?

DALE  
Excuse, Ms. Lady. I'm Dale,  
Brennan's step-brother. I'm here  
for moral support and if there  
happened to be another position  
opening up, I am available.

HR WOMAN  
There isn't another position  
available.

DALE  
Also if I can step in and maybe  
moderate this Pam/Pan confusion.  
What is your last name, please?

HR WOMAN

Gringe.

BRENNAN

Really? Your name is Pan Gringe?

HR WOMAN

Please get out of my office. We're done with this interview.

INT. ANOTHER OFFICE - AN HOUR LATER

This time Dale is seated in front, Brennan stands behind him. They are talking to GUY, in suspenders and tie.

GUY

It says here you graduated from Cal State Bakersfield with a degree in business administration and then there is a long gap in your employment history. And your only reference is from a "Pan Gringe" which you've hand written on the resume.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

DALE

What do you say we turn the tables here a little bit and I, interview, you?

GUY

Ok, that is sometimes a useful exercise. Fire away.

DALE

What college, if any, did you go to?

GUY

I actually graduated from Washington State and I got my master's from UCLA.

DALE

How do I know you're not lying?

GUY

Both degrees are hanging right there on the wall.

BRENNAN

Those could be forgeries.

GUY  
Well they're not.

DALE  
Have you ever smoked crack cocaine?

GUY  
No. I have not.

DALE  
How much was your salary last year?

GUY  
I'm not comfortable answering that.

DALE  
I see this is going to be a  
difficult interview. Brennan any  
questions?

BRENNAN  
Yeah. One big one off the top of my  
head, where'd you get the big, fat,  
giant attitude? Cause it is wearin'  
thin!

GUY  
Ok guys. I think that's it.

DALE  
Well I don't know how you're end of  
the interview went. But from our  
end, we were not impressed.

GUY  
You know at first I got a kick out  
of you guys, but now I need you to  
just get out!! Get out!!!

INT. SPORTING GOODS OFFICE - AN HOUR LATER

A MANAGER, 51, of a Sporting Goods chain is seated across  
from Brennan and Dale reading their resumes.

## MANAGER

I can't believe I'm about to say this but it turns out we've got two positions available and I must say I'm getting a kick out of the tuxedos, you guys seem like you have a lot of energy, little short on experience but sometimes you just need to roll the dice. So with that, I want to say welcome-

At that moment the longest, high pitched fart you have ever heard, is unleashed.

## DALE

(whispering) I'm sorry. I thought it was going to be silent.

The manager just stares at them.

## BRENNAN

Should we go?

## MANAGER

I think that would be best.

CUT TO:

## EXT. STREET

Dale and Brennan get off the bus, they're tuxedos are now rumpled. Dale unlocks his bike that was chained to a stop sign. He gets on and slowly pedals next to Brennan, who just walks.

## DALE

Today doesn't surprise me. We're not nine-to-five guys. Do you think Einstein ever turned in a resume? Hell no!

## BRENNAN

God we were so close. Why did you have to fart?

## DALE

That fart may have been the best thing that ever happened to us! Besides I really couldn't hold it and I thought it was going to be silent.

Dale pedals for a beat.

DALE

Brennan what are you really good at?

BRENNAN

Singing. I'm a world class singer.

DALE

How good is that.

BRENNAN

I'm probably one of the top three hundred singers in the world.

DALE

See! Right there! That's an amazing skill. Now what am I good at? I can shred on the drums. I'm a top notch DJ and I'm a marketing whiz. So put all that together and what do you have?

BRENNAN

Um I don't know.

DALE

Wait what time is it?

BRENNAN

4:30

DALE

Oh, we shouldn't go down Whitworth.

BRENNAN

Why, it's the quickest way home.

DALE

Alright there's this guy Chris Gardoki, he's 13, he's an eighth grader at Lane Tree middle school. He's been in my face a couple of times. I just don't want the hassle. Let's go the long way.

\*

\*

BRENNAN

I'm not going down Cutler. That's like an hour longer. Did you say he's 13?



DALE

Yeah. Let's go down Cutler.

BRENNAN

No, he's a kid! We'll be fine.

DALE

Oh man...

EXT. LANE TREE MIDDLE SCHOOL - MINUTES LATER

They now have walked to a section of the street that has a park/schoolyard, where 50 kids are hanging out. Brennan and Dale come strolling by.

DALE

I don't know about this.

CHRIS GARDOKI, a big 13-year-old, is doing pull-ups on the monkey bars wearing a Polo, short sleeve shirt. An odd-looking RED HEAD kid, steps into frame.

RED HEADED KID

Hey Chris. Fag alert ten o'clock.

Chris swings off the bars and lands next to the kid.

CHRIS

Oh my god. Is that Dale Dobak?  
Let's make him eat dogshit.

RED HEADED KID

Yeah.

All the kids start making ape sounds, jumping up and down. Chris starts punching the air like a boxer. Dale stops in his tracks.

BRENNAN

Dale what are you doing? They're kids. This is a public street. We are going to walk down it.

Chris and the whole pack of kids start walking towards them.

CHRIS

Hey fagstick. Long time no see. Is that your boyfriend? Is that your butt buddy? Did you guys just come from doing it? Answer me!

DALE

No he's not my butt buddy! We just came from job interviews. Now leave us alone!

CHRIS

Does butt buddy have a name?

BRENNAN

My name is Brennan Huff and as a younger person, you should show me, an adult, some respect.

RED HEADED KID

Hey how's this for respect? You come over here in your faggy tuxedo and lick this white dogshit or I'm gonna plow into your nose with my fist!

BRENNAN

Look I'm twice your size and there is no way that I'm licking dogshit.

DALE

I'll lick the dogshit if you leave him alone.

BRENNAN

Dale! You're not licking dogshit! This is ridiculous! These are kids!

Before we have any idea what's going on, the red-headed kid punches Brennan right in the nose.

BRENNAN

Ahhh! My nose!!!

Three other kids jump on Brennan. All making ape noises. Chris Gardoki goes after Dale with a karate kick. The kids circle around as Dale and Brennan fight the kids. It's a pretty even match.

CUT TO:

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE, LANE TREE MIDDLE SCHOOL - TWENTY MINUTES LATER

Dale, Brennan, Chris Gardoki and the red-headed kid sit across from the PRINCIPAL. Dale has a black eye. Brennan has a bloody nose.

PRINCIPAL

Here at Lane Tree we believe that our students should uphold a certain degree and standard of conduct. So when I witnessed the type of behavior that took place today..I'm sorry who are you two?

DALE

I'm Dale Dobak, sir.

BRENNAN

Brennan Huff.

PRINCIPAL

How old are you?

DALE

I'm 40.

BRENNAN

I'm 39. And as for proper conduct, I'd like to point out that Chris Gardoki over here said that my mom must have a "fag-gina", cause all that ever came out of it was fags like me.

\*  
\*  
\*  
  
\*

PRINCIPAL

(to Brennan)

Watch the language young man or sir. Now I want you both off the school grounds immediately. Do you have a means of transportation?

\*  
\*  
\*

DALE

No the kids took apart my bike and threw it up on the roof.

Chris Gardoki and the red-headed kid high five.

PRINCIPAL

Alright, then I'm calling your parents.

CUT TO:

INT. NANCY'S CAR

Dale and Brennan are in the back seat.

NANCY

So maybe you don't go down that way anymore. You know, maybe you take the long way home.

BRENNAN

That's what I think we're going to do, is take the long way home.

DALE

How mad is dad?

NANCY

He's pretty mad. He's mad that you took his tuxedos. He's mad about the interviews. I guess one of the people you talked to was a friend of his and said something about a big fart or something. I'm sure they were exaggerating. He's also not so happy about getting a call from a junior high principal. Think about it. All that stuff kinda adds up.

DALE

Nancy we did nothing wrong.

BRENNAN

Can we get pizza tonight?

NANCY

I was actually going to cook a piece of fish.

BRENNAN

Maybe Dale and I will get pizza.

NANCY

So Robert and I were talking and maybe both of you should be talking to someone professionally.

BRENNAN

What are talking about?

NANCY

You know, a therapist.

DALE

No-no-no-no, uh-uh. I'm not letting those psychos into my head.

(MORE)

DALE (cont'd)

Did you see what they did to  
Michael Jackson? They only way I'll  
do it, is for a hundred dollars.

\*  
\*  
\*

NANCY

Well I'm afraid this is non-  
negotiable. You've got less than  
two months to find jobs and frankly  
I think you should take any help  
you can get.

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

BRENNAN

This is fucked up!!

\*  
\*

NANCY

Brennan! Where did you learn to  
talk like that?!

\*  
\*  
\*

BRENNAN

From you!

\*  
\*

CUT TO:

\*

INT. DALE AND BRENNAN'S BEDROOM - THAT NIGHT

Dale and Brennan both lay in their beds staring at the  
ceiling.

DALE

With your talent and my brains it's  
the perfect idea.

BRENNAN

I love it. And it'll get Mom and  
Mr. Dobak off of our backs about  
getting jobs.

DALE

We'll need investors. Big  
investors.

BRENNAN

We can put together a whole  
presentation. Really blow them  
away. The money will pour in. Man,  
this idea just feels right.

DALE

But here's the thing, if we're  
going to start a huge multi-  
national entertainment company, I'm  
going to have to hear you sing.

BRENNAN

Can't you just trust me that I'm really good?

DALE

Just one song, so I know what kind of voice you have.

BRENNAN

Okay, fine. (clears throat) Wow, I'm just going to do this. Ahh Jesus, my heart is pounding.  
PEOPLE ARE TALKING, TALKING ABOUT PEOPLE  
I HEAR THEM WHISPER, YOU WON'T BELIEVE IT  
THEY THINK WE'RE LOVERS, KEPT UNDER COVERS  
I JUST IGNORE IT, BUT THEY KEEP SAYING  
WE LAUGH JUST A LITTLE TOO LOUD  
WE STAND JUST A LITTLE TOO CLOSE  
WE STARE JUST A LITTLE TOO LONG  
MAYBE THEY'RE SEEING SOMETHING WE DON'T DARLIN  
LET'S GIVE THEM SOMETHIN' TO TALK ABOUT  
LET'S GIVE THEM SOMETHIN' TO TALK ABOUT,  
HOW ABOUT LOVE, LOVE, LOVE  
OH-OH-OH COME ON SCOOBY BOP DO DOP DIG IT  
So anyway I don't know-I wasn't warmed up-I didn't want to wake up Robert and Nancy-I also don't have a back-up band-plus my throat's sore-plus other things-it's just something to get you in the ballpark-let me go again.

DALE

Okay. You gotta know, what I'm about to say, I'm not just some guy. I play drums. I make beats. You've got a gift from God. That's one of the three greatest voices I've ever heard. Brennan I can't even make eye contact with you right now.

BRENNAN

Seriously, do not fuck with me. Are you being serious?

DALE

Brennan it's me, Dale. You're good,  
end of discussion. First thing  
tomorrow we should start working on  
our investor presentation. We're  
going to need the right event to  
really uncork this thing.

BRENNAN

It's crazy how right this feels.

DALE

And I will not rest until Chris  
Gardoki and that weird red-headed  
kid turn on the radio and hear our  
music and say, "We were wrong for  
trying to make them lick white dog  
shit cause their music is so cool  
that we can't handle it!"

BRENNAN

Amen step-brother. Amen.

They high-five.

CUT TO:

INT. DALE'S THERAPIST'S OFFICE - DAY

Dale is seated across from a male THERAPIST, 42. They are  
quiet. Dale fidgets.

INT. BRENNAN'S THERAPIST'S OFFICE - DAY

Brennan is seated across from a female therapist DENISE, 35.  
They are quiet. Brennan fidgets.

INT. DALE'S THERAPIST'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

THERAPIST

So how are you doing today Dale?

DALE

(super defensive)

How are you doing today?

INT. BRENNAN'S THERAPIST'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

DENISE

So I thought we would start with  
talking about your parents divorce.

BRENNAN

Ok.

DENISE

How old were you?

BRENNAN

I was fifteen.

DENISE

That must have been very hard for  
you.

Beat.

BRENNAN

I...love you.

INT. DALE'S THERAPIST - TWENTY MINUTES LATER

THERAPIST

Sure it's not been easy. I've been  
divorced. I have some unreconciled  
issues with my father. And those  
have led to some anger issues. I've  
been honest with you. Now will you  
be honest with me!

DALE

Oh my God! You are seriously messed  
up! Are you gay?

INT. BRENNAN'S THERAPIST'S OFFICE - SAME TIME

DENISE

What feelings do you have about  
that time after your Father left.

BRENNAN

I just really, really want to kiss  
your neck right now. It's the  
prettiest neck I've ever seen.



DENISE

Mr. Huff please, I think you're experiencing a lot of emotions and you're confusing my compassion with love. It's very common with patients.

BRENNAN

I'm experiencing one feeling and that's the feeling you get when you look at a woman who's beauty is so exquisite that it makes you want to carve her image out of ice or wood. Preferably redwood. Using a chain saw.

DENISE

I think this session is over.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUBURBAN STEAKHOUSE - THAT NIGHT

We see a parking lot full of cars. It is a semi-upscale steak restaurant off of the highway, RJ Posner's Steak and Fine Dining.

INT. BACK BANQUET ROOM - CONTINUOUS

A big birthday celebration for Derek is taking place. We see a huge banner that say, "Happy B-day Derek, You're so Money!", with helicopters on each side of it. Derek and his wife Alice are there, along with about a dozen guys from work, all in crisp white shirts and expensive ties. Robert and Nancy are there close to Derek. Dale and Brennan sit at the far end of the giant table, both are eating a lot of bread. Waitresses are bringing in platters of jumbo shrimp and Caesar salads. Derek is opening a gift.

DEREK

Oh yeah! Oh yeah! Calloway three-wood. So I can bomb it down the fairway. Thanks TJ.

TJ

You Da Man Derek!!

NANCY

What were Dale and Brennan up too with my digital camera all day?

ROBERT

Some big project. I'm beginning to think they're really bad for each other.

NANCY

I don't agree. You know how they say, "three steps forward, two steps back"? Maybe they're in the two steps back phase?

ROBERT

I think you're fooling yourself.

NANCY

Don't ever talk to me like that, Robert. I am a grown woman and I am not "fooling" myself.

Derek leans in.

DEREK

How's it going gang? Sounds like some marital discord. Robert if I can give you some advice, just say, "yes dear" to everything and plead the fifth.

Robert and Derek laugh really hard.

NANCY

Fuck you Robert!

We are the cling-cling of knife against a glass and see Dale standing, as if to make a toast. Brennan is behind him setting up a slide projector.

DALE

If I can have your attention. For those of you who don't know me, my name is Dale Dobak. I'm Robert's son. Bear with me, I tend to speak a little fast and too loud, when I'm passionate about a subject!

DEREK

What are you doing?

DALE

Please shut up! And I know it's your birthday, but Brennan and I just need seven minutes of your time for this exciting presentation. I have had the wait staff lock the doors to the banquet room, so that everyone in this room can have absolute focus. Brennan go!

Lights go out and a slide is shown on the wall with a crudely drawn logo that says, "PRESTIGE ENTERTAINMENT". We hear a bad synth beat playing on a boom box, Dale and Brennan both speak into mics.

BRENNAN

London....Tokyo....Zurich....Denver  
....Brussels...Cairo....Beijing....  
Paris.....Denver...

Slides progress: (in each photo the guys are deadly serious) photo of Dale playing his drums with black gloves on and a headset; photo Dale and Brennan holding up champagne glasses in the backyard, both wear black t-shirts; photo of Brennan standing next to a poster of a tiger; photo of Dale and Brennan wearing sunglasses and posing next to Robert's Audi. \*

DALE

Prestige entertainment. The first word in entertainment. President of operations Dale Dobak. President of talent coordination Brennan Huff. Investors? Possibly you...

The whole room groans.

VOICE

Fuck that.

BRENNAN

Geneva...Istanbul...Hawaii...  
Orlando.

More slides come across. Photo of a question mark.

DALE

But what is Prestige Entertainment?  
Music.

Photo of Brennan singing way too hard while Dale plays drums.

DALE  
Event planning.

Photo of Dale holding a tray with some glasses on it and Brennan pointing as to where to go.

DALE  
Management.

Photo of Dale and Brennan talking on cell phones, each wearing sunglasses.

DALE  
Security.

Photo of Brennan with samurai sword, Dale with fireworks. Both striking aggressive poses in their bedroom.

DALE  
Personal training and diet advisement.

Photo of Dale lifting weights and Brennan holding a head of lettuce and a carrot to camera.

DALE  
And finally celebrities.

Photo is clearly taken off the tv of Tom Cruise in Mission Impossible.

DALE  
But what is the future?

Photo of the word "FUTURE".

DALE  
And the future is...

DALE AND BRENNAN  
UP TO YOU!!!

Lights go up.

DALE  
What we need you to do is open up your checkbooks and write a check for a minimum by-in of ten thousand dollars. Imagine if Coca-Cola came to your door, a hundred years ago and made the same offer.  
(MORE)

DALE (cont'd)  
 Alright, I see that no one is  
 taking out their checkbooks. TAKE  
 OUT YOUR CHECKBOOKS!!!

DEREK  
 You know what I think the freak  
 show is over guys.

At that moment, the doors to the banquet room burst open. The  
 MANAGER and some of the wait staff come in.

MANAGER  
 What's going on in here? I just had  
 to break the locks to get in here.

CUT TO:

EXT. STEAKHOUSE PARKING LOT - FIVE MINUTES LATER

DALE  
 I can't tell how that went. What's  
 was your sense?

BRENNAN  
 I thought it was good but I think  
 the problem is people don't travel  
 with their checkbooks.

DALE  
 Oh that's it! We've got to do  
 credit cards.

BRENNAN  
 Oh man, it's late. I better call  
 Denise. We've got a date Thursday  
 at her office at 11am for an hour.

\*  
 \*  
 \*

Brennan walks back into the restaurant. Dale mutters to  
 himself.

DALE  
 Credit cards...Duh...

Alice, Derek's wife, walks right up to Dale.

ALICE  
 You were amazing! I want you to do  
 what you did in that banquet room,  
 inside of me!

DALE  
 Oh my god!

She starts pushing him back into the hedge. She reaches down, undoes his pants and begins straddling him.

ALICE

Fuck me with the energy of Prestige Entertainment, I want you to know that if Derek were find out about this he would literally kill you, he killed a man in Salt Lake City that I had an affair with, he got off because he knew the sheriff-he always gets to know the sheriff or law enforcement of whatever city we're living in that way he has one free killing.

They both reach climax, as a family walks by.

FATHER

What is going on over there?

ALICE

Mind your own business! My husband is choking. I was giving him the Heimlich.

DALE

That's right! I'm her husband and I'm choking. She's giving me the Heimlich. That's a lovely jacket!

The family leaves.

ALICE

I have to get back inside, remember, Derek will kill you and get away with it, if he finds out.

She scurries away.

CUT TO:

INT. ROBERT'S CAR - TWENTY MINUTES LATER

Robert is driving, Nancy is in the passenger seat. The guys sit in the back. Dale is still in shock from his encounter with Alice.

ROBERT

Humiliating is what it was.  
Absolutely humiliating.  
(MORE)

ROBERT (cont'd)

Asking people to invest money at a birthday party?! I'm just glad Derek had the grace to handle it well and save the evening by purchasing everyone those classy RJ Posner's satin jackets.

NANCY

Honestly guys, we just wish you would talk to us about these ideas before you act on them. These are not good ideas. Soliciting people for money at a birthday party? Going to job interviews as a team? Fighting 13 year olds? Questionable ideas.

BRENNAN

You're a questionable idea!

ROBERT

Hey watch that mouth!  
(noticing Dale's quiet)  
Dale what's wrong?

DALE

What?

ROBERT

Why are you so quiet? We're talking about what happened at Derek's birthday party.

DALE

Oh, I think it went great. Alice said she thought it was fantastic.

NANCY

When were you talking to Alice?

DALE

What? No not Alice...Alan. You know the guy with the beard and sunglasses.

ROBERT

There wasn't anyone with a beard and sunglasses at the party. I would have noticed someone like that.

DALE

Well it was someone. Look are you guys going to invest or not?

(MORE)

DALE (cont'd)  
Because Brennan and I have a dream  
and a talent.

The car is now pulling into the driveway of the house.

ROBERT  
We're not investing one dime.

DALE  
First you wouldn't let me join the  
family business and now this!

\*  
\*

The conversation continues as they exit the car and walk to  
the front door.

ROBERT  
I'm a fucking Doctor!! And this  
business idea of yours is half  
baked!

\*  
\*  
\*

DALE  
You don't get us! Because we're  
young and hip!

ROBERT  
I hate to break it to you, but your  
both forty!

DALE  
We're on the streets, day in and  
day out, putting in the man-hours  
needed, so that we have our finger  
on the pulse of what's going down!

ROBERT  
You're on the streets? What are you  
talking about?

BRENNAN  
You're a poser!

NANCY  
Brennan!

ROBERT  
I'm a poser!! I'm a poser!! I'm a  
doctor of medicine!!

BRENNAN  
You dig around in people's dirty  
ears! We make beautiful music!!



INT. HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The conversation continues through the front door and into the living room.

NANCY  
Brennan! Stop it!

ROBERT  
This morning I put a hearing aid in a nine-year-old girls ear, so that she could hear for the first time! You clowns haven't produced one note of music!!

NANCY  
Everyone please calm down!!

BRENNAN  
You're full of shit Robert! And here's the thing, you better sit down right now and write us a check for ten thousand dollars to Prestige Entertainment! Or I'll shove a hearing aid up your ass so you can listen to the sound of your own shit!!

DALE  
(not knowing what to do with the adrenaline)  
Awww!!! Alice!!

\*  
\*

We hear Robert yells the loudest anyone has yelled in the entire movie.

ROBERT  
THAT...IS..ITTTT!!

NANCY  
Oh my lord!

ROBERT  
YOU ARE GOING TO GET A SPANKING!!  
THIS SHOULD HAVE BEEN DONE A LONG  
TIME AGO!! AND I'M GOING TO DO IT!!

Robert awkwardly grabs Brennan, who resists. He pulls him and then tackles him to the couch.

NANCY  
Stop it! Stop it!

ROBERT  
YOU ARE GETTING SPANKED TONIGHT!!

BRENNAN  
Mommy! Mommy!

ROBERT  
DALE YOU ARE NEXT! DO YOU  
UNDERSTAND ME?!

DALE  
Yes sir!

Robert rights himself and begins spanking Brennan.

ROBERT  
CERTAIN...BEHAVIOR...IS...UNACCEPTABLE  
...IS...THAT...UNDERSTOOD!!

BRENNAN  
Yes!! Yes!!

Nancy tries to come over and pull Robert off of Brennan.

NANCY  
Robert stop this!!

Then Dale tries to pull Nancy off of Robert.

DALE  
Don't you hurt my dad! You weird  
lady!

Dale shoves Nancy off of Robert. Robert continues to spank  
Brennan. Nancy smashes a vase off of Dale's head.

DALE  
Ow!! Oh my god, my head! My goddamn  
fucking head has opened up!

BRENNAN  
What did you do to my ass!!

ROBERT  
What did you do to my son!????

NANCY  
Ahhhhhhh! Fuck! I don't like to  
curse!

CUT TO:

\*

\*

EXT. OFFICE COMPLEX - TWO DAYS LATER

Suburban office complex.

INT. BRENNAN'S THERAPIST'S OFFICE

Brennan is seated across from his therapist, Denise. There are a dozen different bouquets of flowers in the room. Some with balloons, some with stuffed animals...

DENISE

So is there anything going on in your life right now that you'd like to talk about?

BRENNAN

Nope. I'm good. Did you get the flowers I sent?

DENISE

You know that I did, they're all around us right now. Now let's get back to the events of the other night...

BRENNAN

Did you used to play field hockey?

DENISE

Yes. Why?

BRENNAN

Because you have very sexy, slightly athletic legs.

DENISE

Brennan let's be really clear about something. You and I, will never be in a relationship. Never.

BRENNAN

Why do you have a boyfriend?

DENISE

No. I mean, I'm not going to answer that.

BRENNAN

Ok, so you don't. What if we did something like this, I give you foot rubs and make you dinner every night this week. And if at the end of the week, you do not have any feelings for me, I walk away for good.

DENISE

No, that's not going to happen.

BRENNAN

Ok fine. How about this? The next rainy day, we rent your three, all time favorite movies, make sangria and popcorn, and hold hands. Once again, end of the day, if you have no feelings, I leave.

DENISE

Well that actually sounds like a lot of fun but no.

BRENNAN

Why do you keep saying no?

DENISE

Here's why. Because the third sentence you said to me was "I love you". You don't even know who I am. You're in love with an idea. And that's off putting and it's not respectful and it's a way to avoid doing real work on yourself.

BRENNAN

You don't think I know who you are?

DENISE

No Brennan! I don't think you do!

BRENNAN

You Dr. Denise Breckstein. You're thirty-four years old and you work in suite 211 at the Gorshin Medical Plaza. When you first set-up your office you were really excited about it. But now it seems drab and depressing to you. You're tired of always being the stable one in the relationship.

(MORE)

BRENNAN (cont'd)

You want someone who will leave  
silly messages on your cell phone,  
for no reason. Someone who will  
hide your underwear to make you  
late for work. At the same time you  
don't want to have to be  
embarrassed about your snorting  
laugh or the fact that you're way,  
way too ticklish, or that you still  
love frosted-covered pop tarts. But  
most importantly you want someone  
who, for a change, will listen to  
all that you have to say.

Long beat as she just stares at him.

DENISE

I don't like this. You have to go.  
This session is over.

BRENNAN

Ok I'll leave. And I'm sorry if I  
made you feel uncomfortable.  
However, if you're just faking it  
and secretly you're just really  
excited about what I said, then I  
think that would go against  
everything you talk about in here  
about expressing yourself.

Beat. Then they both kiss furiously.

DENISE

Oh my God...You are such a mess...  
and you make me so hot...

BRENNAN

I don't even have a checking  
account and I'm 39!

DENISE

Ohhh!!!

BRENNAN

I haven't been to the dentist in  
eight years!!

Denise pulls away.

DENISE

Stop! These walls are thin. Come to  
my house tonight. Here's my number.

BRENNAN

You'll have to pick me up. I don't  
have a car.

DENISE

You're driving me crazy!

She kisses him again.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET OF SACRAMENTO - NIGHT

MUSIC: WINTER WONDERLAND

We pan past houses with elaborate Christmas lights up. It is Christmas time. Occasionally we see a close-up of a smiling lawn reindeer or a waving Santa Clause. It is a very cheery time.

EXT. DALE AND BRENNAN'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

We see Dale and Brennan's house. They have some Christmas lights up.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Nancy and Dale are hanging ornaments on the Christmas tree while Robert reads a magazine on the couch.

DALE

The tree looks great Mom. Really  
tasteful.

NANCY

Why thank you Dale. And I have to  
say, except for the time you stole  
money from my purse, you have been  
a joy these past few weeks.

Brennan comes in eating a roll.

NANCY

Brennan did you get the message  
Denise called?

BRENNAN

Yup. She's taking me out to dinner  
for New Year's.

ROBERT  
Unbelievable.

\*  
\*

NANCY  
Brennan's always had lovely  
girlfriends. I have to say.

\*  
\*  
\*

DALE  
So Mom? Dad? Would it be cool if  
Dale and I were allowed to open one  
present each, since it is Christmas  
Eve?

\*  
\*

BRENNAN  
Oh yeah! Can we, please, please,  
please?

\*

NANCY  
I don't know. Robert what do you  
think?

ROBERT  
I don't give a shit. You're grown  
men, it's up to you. You can open  
up every present under the tree if  
you want!

NANCY  
I think what you're father is  
trying to say is that you can make  
your own choices.

DALE  
So can we open one or not?

BRENNAN  
It would just be so we would have  
something to play with tonight and  
then we would get tired and go to  
bed.

Robert is just staring at them.

ROBERT  
I don't think I'm being clear  
enough.  
I...don't...give....a....fuck. You  
are grown men. You can take all  
your presents, open them all up,  
and throw them in the damn sewer.  
And if you ask me to leave cookies  
for Santa Claus, I swear I'm gonna  
punch you in the mouth.

\*  
\*  
\*

Dale and Brennan just stare at him.

NANCY

Go ahead.

DALE AND BRENNAN

Yes!!!

They run over and tear into two presents like wild animals.

ROBERT

I'm going down to the Cheesecake  
Factory for a drink.

NANCY

Robert, it's Christmas Eve.

Robert grabs his jacket and leaves.

DALE

Oh my God! Hulk hands that make a  
smashing sound when you punch!!

BRENNAN

A 100% rawhide wallet!! How come  
Dale got the Hulk Hands! That's  
bullshit!

CUT TO:

INT. NANCY AND ROBERT'S BEDROOM- MIDNIGHT

Nancy is reading a book on Jackie Kennedy as Robert enters.

NANCY

You reek of cheesecake and scotch.

ROBERT

You know tonight down at the  
Cheesecake Factory is the happiest  
I've been in months.

NANCY

Then I feel very sorry for you.

ROBERT

I love you Nancy. But I think we  
have to face the fact that this  
isn't working.

NANCY

Well what are you suggesting?



Just then their bedroom door bursts open and Brennan and Dale stagger in, in their pajamas, clearly sleepwalking.

ROBERT  
Oh sweet Jesus!

NANCY  
It's alright, they're sleepwalking.

The two guys stand in place, swaying and making odd noises, as they seemingly "stare" at Robert and Nancy. Just like that they turn around and walk out of the room.

ROBERT  
Boy that is weird! I will never get used to that.

NANCY  
It is definitely disconcerting, but there is nothing you can really do about it.

Suddenly Brennan comes back with a armful of presents and tosses them on the bed.

ROBERT  
What the hell?!

He's immediately followed by Dale who also has presents and tosses them on the bed.

NANCY  
Remember don't wake them.

The guys keep coming back with presents but they're now just walking into the room and hurling them.

ROBERT  
Are you sure we can't wake them?

NANCY  
I'm telling you they could do real harm to themselves or others if you attempt to wake them!

ROBERT  
It's just bizarre.

NANCY  
I know it is.

We now see the front of the Christmas tree being forced through the bedroom door.

ROBERT  
Jesus the Christmas tree!

NANCY  
Ahhh!

ROBERT  
Be quiet!

They both carry the Christmas tree into the room and throw it. They pause and have a "conversation"

DALE  
Ammbbbrkkknik. Juhhnm

BRENNAN  
Ahhhsbssmmmmmm!!

DALE  
Gorphahiffkm!!

BRENNAN  
No!

They storm out, leaving the room littered with debris.

Long beat.

ROBERT  
I'll put the tree back.

CUT TO:

EXT. HOUSE - CHRISTMAS DAY

It's late afternoon. Around 4pm. We see Derek's SUV in the driveway.

MUSIC: HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Robert, Nancy, Dale and Brennan are joined by Derek, Alice and their two children for Christmas dinner. There is a big turkey on the well appointed table and everyone is eating and talking.

DEREK  
So I told him, I don't care if you are A-Rod. This chopper leases for eight grand a day. Now go work on hitting your curve ball. Dude was dumb founded.

Robert laughs hard.

ROBERT

That's too good... too good!

BRENNAN

You didn't say that Derek.

DEREK

Shut up Brennan.

★

ALICE

If you'll excuse me I have to go in the other room to check my hair.

DEREK

You'll have to pardon my weird wife.

Alice leaves quickly. Dale looks at her plate and we see that she has shaped her food to read "Please meet me in the living room my love." Dale quickly messes it up.

DALE

I have to get some more gravy.

NANCY

There's gravy on the table.

DALE

Shush Nancy! I'm going to get bread.

Dale goes through the kitchen door.

NANCY

What did I do to deserve that?

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

We follow Dale and he walk-runs through the kitchen and out the back door and around the front to the door and into the living room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Instantly Alice pulls Dale up against her and they begin having sex against the wall with Alice's back to Dale and her dress hiked up.

ALICE  
I felt like I was waiting for  
years.

DALE  
This has to stop. This is dangerous  
and frightening.

INT. DINING ROOM --- SAME TIME

The rest of the family is eating.

TOMMY  
..and Santa gave me the AbMaster  
4000 and one thousand dollars in  
fresh minted fifty dollar bills.

ROBERT  
That's quite a bit of money for a  
young man like yourself.

TOMMY  
Or not a lot of money for a young  
man like myself, depending on how  
you look at it.

All of the sudden there is rhythmic banging against the wall.

NANCY  
What's that sound?

Suddenly the dining room door bursts open. It's Dale and Alice, they are still engaged in intercourse, but Dale is behind Alice and they are still relatively clothed. Alice is slightly hunched over and Dale has his hands on her shoulders. The kids have their backs to this.

DALE  
-no not against the door! Oh hey!

NANCY  
What are you guys doing?

DALE  
Alice was trying to move an extra  
chair into the dining room and her  
back went out.

ALICE  
Yes my back went out and Dale is  
trying to help me.

NANCY

We don't need an extra chair. There are plenty of chairs.

\*  
\*

ALICE

Mine wasn't comfortable. Ohhh!!!

Beat as they stand there.

DALE

Anyway what's going on? What are you guys talking about?

ROBERT

Dammit Dale just sit down.

DALE

Ok, we'll just put the chair back.

The awkwardly inch back out the door.

DALE

We'll be right back.

They exit.

ROBERT

So Tiffany what did you get for Christmas?

The bumping starts again.

TIFFANY

I got my navel pierced and lunch with Deborah Norville.

\*

DALE (O.C.)

Watch out! Stay away from the door.

Dale and Alice push through the door again.

DALE

Hey are you all still talking in here?

NANCY

Alice is your back still bothering you? Because I have some Doan's back pills.

ALICE

I'm fine, thank you Nancy. We're almost done moving this chair.

BRENNAN

I can help you if you want Dale?

DALE

No!!!

ALICE

Ohhh!!

DEREK

What is wrong with you?!

ALICE

We're great, I'll be right back.

They leave again.

INT. LIVING ROOM - SECONDS LATER

They stop having sex. Alice gives Dale a check.

DALE

We've gotta stop this!!

ALICE

That was the most fantastic,  
wonderful thing ever! Here I got  
you a check for Prestige  
Entertainment, I got it directly  
out of Derek's personal account.

INT. DINING ROOM - THIRTY MINUTES LATER

We see close-up of coffee dripping into a coffee maker. Pull  
out to see dessert has been served. The kids are in the other  
room playing with toys. Derek is in the middle of a story.

DEREK

Everyone at the office is tiptoeing  
around the subject, so I march  
right up to the guy and say, "Hey  
Derek Huff, nice to meet you, what  
do you want to be called? Colored,  
negro or black?" He says black, I  
say, there, done. A week later, I  
get a letter in the mail saying  
we're being sued and this black  
fellow has quit. Now I ask you,  
what did I do wrong?

NANCY

That's completely inappropriate  
Derek.

ROBERT

I don't know Nancy. It is really  
hard nowadays with all these  
labels.

NANCY

Well be that as it may, we have  
something we'd like to talk about.

ROBERT

Are you going to do this now?

NANCY

I think we should, everyone's here.

BRENNAN

Did you sneak out and get me Hulk  
hands?

NANCY

No Brennan, I didn't get you  
fuckin' Hulk hands!!!!

DALE

What's going on?

ROBERT

Nancy and I have been talking.  
Things have been pretty rough  
between us, I know we hide it well.  
We've just come to a decision that  
at this point in our lives, we  
can't keep living like this.

NANCY

What Robert is trying to say is  
that we're getting a divorce.

Everyone just looks at each other. Brennan and Dale both  
begin to sob.

BRENNAN

Don't do this!

DALE

No!! No!!

DEREK

You know what, it's what you have to do. Ask Alice, I called this a week ago.

BRENNAN

Why!! Why is this happening??

DALE AND BRENNAN

Was it us?! It's our fault! We did this!!

NANCY

That's the main thing Robert and I talked about. We don't want you two to feel like you're to blame.

DALE

What can we do to fix it!?

ALICE

Dale, honey? Are you alright?

DEREK

Why are you calling him honey?

NANCY

I can't stress this enough. It's not your fault!

ROBERT

Ah the hell with this! It is your fault. It's directly your fault! The reason we're breaking up is because of you two dip shits!!

Brennan and Dale explode with wailing.

DALE AND BRENNAN

Ahhh!! Ohhh!! Mommy!! Daddy!!

DEREK

Yikes, this is gruesome.

ROBERT

Alright here is what's happening. We're moving out and putting the house up for sale. However long it takes to sell it, that's your time to find an apartment and jobs. I'm moving in with my friend Jack Handle. Nancy found a townhouse in the city. And that's that.



DEREK

You know Robert, I've got my real estate license, I could sell this place for you at two-thirds commission.

ROBERT

Well that makes it real easy. Thank you Derek.

The boys sob as Nancy starts clearing the table and slowly everyone goes to the living room.

MUSIC CUE: GREEN DAY "PARADISE"

MONTAGE

- 1) For sale sign being put on the front lawn with a smiling picture of Derek Huff on it.
- 2) movers come in and move all the furniture out.
- 3) Nancy hugging Dale and Brennan good-bye, then driving off.
- 4) Robert hugging Dale and Brennan good bye, then driving off.
- 5) Chris Gardoki and the weird Redhead ride by on their bikes, Dale and Brennan run into the house.
- 6) Shots of several rooms that are empty, except for folding lawn chairs.
- 7) Last shot is their room packed with stuff, in the center is a fort made from a blanket with a flashlight on inside. We push on inside.

INT. BLANKET FORT - CONTINUOUS

\*

They do the entire scene with a flashlight lighting up their faces.

DALE

It's just you and me bro. And then there were two.

BRENNAN

I'm so scared Dale. What are we going to do? What are we going to do!!??

DALE

Shhh. One thing I know for sure is we are not going to leave this house. This is my house! You know what they say in football when a home team defends it's field? "Not in my house!"

BRENNAN

So we don't leave this house. We make sure Derek can't sell it?

DALE

Exactly.

BRENNAN

What about Chris Gardoki and the weird redheaded kid? I don't want to lick white dog crap! I don't want to do it!

DALE

That may happen at some point, but right now we gotta strap it down and go into Rambo-ninja-mode! Now say it with me! Not in my house!

BRENNAN

Not in my house!

DALE

No you put the emphasis on the wrong word. Not in my house!

BRENNAN

Not in my house!

DALE

Just say the whole thing strong. Not in my house!

BRENNAN

I don't think I get it. I mean I get the whole concept of what you're saying, I just can't say the phrase right.

DALE

Ok that's fine. So we refuse to leave the house. And then, most importantly, we've got to get mom and dad back together.

\*

\*

BRENNAN

What do we do for money?

DALE

That's taken care of.

Dale hands Brennan Alice's crumpled check.

DALE

Alice came through for Prestige Entertainment with a check for ten grand.

BRENNAN

Holy shit!

DALE

So we can use this for food and supplies and other essentials. And to bank roll our master plan.

\*

BRENNAN

We're gonna be okay.

DALE

Damn right we're going to be okay. Not in my house!

BRENNAN

No! Not there! In that place!

CUT TO:

\*

EXT. HOUSE - TWO DAYS LATER

\*

Derek is showing the house to a young couple, KATHY, 28 and JIM, 28. They walk up to the front door.

\*

\*

DEREK

As you can see you got a nice big front lawn, beautiful colonial entry and great neighborhood. Let me just get this door open.

\*

\*

\*

\*

\*

KATHY

It's beautiful. What do you think Jim?

\*

\*

\*

JIM

It is really nice. I'm getting a good feeling from this one, Kathy.

\*

\*

\*

They enter into the house and find Dale there, cradling Brennan, wrapped up in a shower curtain, holding himself as stiff as a board, as if he's a dead body.

DALE

Can't you people give me some privacy!! He just died last night!!

KATHY

Oh my god!!

JIM

We are so sorry

They run out of the house. Derek just stands there. Dale and Brennan stand up.

DEREK

You fuckers just cost me a sale.

BRENNAN

That was the whole idea, now wasn't it Derek?

Derek turns and stands in the doorway.

DEREK

I'm going to have to take this up a notch.

He closes the door and leaves.

DALE

We're going to have to get mom and dad back together fast.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - DAY

Brennan and Dale stand on the street across from Nancy's office building. Dale has a cell phone ready to dial.

BRENNAN

Hold on...she's not there yet...

We see Nancy through her third story window walk into her office and sit behind her desk.

BRENNAN

Okay, now!

Dale presses send. \*

INT. NANCY'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS \*

The phone rings in Nancy's office. She picks it up. \*

NANCY  
Hello, Nancy Huff speaking. \*

DALE (O.C.)  
(doing a mild impression  
of Robert)  
Hello Nancy. It's Robert. \*

NANCY  
Hello Robert? This connection is  
terrible. I can barely hear you. \*

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS \*

Brennan is right up against Dale's head so he can hear. We  
cut back and forth throughout the conversation. \*

DALE  
It doesn't matter. Because the real  
connection I want is between us. \*

NANCY  
What? \*

DALE  
I miss you sweetie. I miss the way  
you touch me. \*

BRENNAN  
(whispering)  
Hey! That's my Mother! \*

DALE  
(whispering back to  
Brennan)  
This is how married couples talk. \*

NANCY  
Who is this? \*

DALE  
It's Robert. And we made a mistake  
breaking up. I'm so hard right now.  
Will you stroke my shaft? \*

BRENNAN  
Fucking stop it!

NANCY  
Brennan?

Dale hangs up.

BRENNAN  
You just asked my Mom to stroke  
your shaft!

DALE  
Grow the hell up! I'm sure your Mom  
stroked my Dad's shaft a hundred  
times.

BRENNAN  
Nooooo!!!

Brennan tackles Dale on the street and they fight.

Nancy watches from her office window shaking her head sadly.

DALE  
Shit! She can see us!

BRENNAN  
Book!

They run down the street. Nancy is now on the phone.

NANCY  
They just called me pretending to  
be you... I know...I bet you they  
haven't even left the house yet...

CUT TO:

EXT. DALE AND BRENNAN'S HOUSE - THREE DAYS LATER

We see Denise in her Honda pulling up to the house. She gets  
out and walks up to the front door. She knocks and Brennan  
steps out closing the door behind him.

BRENNAN  
Oh my God, I'm so glad you came!

He gives her a kiss.

DENISE

Brennan where have you been? You haven't called in a week.

BRENNAN

I was scared.

DENISE

Why were you scared?

BRENNAN

Because I think part of the reason you spend time with me is because I'm messed up.

DENISE

Of course. I've been nothing but up front about that.

BRENNAN

Well now I'm taking care of myself. I'm living in my own home and things are going really well. And I guess I thought you wouldn't want to be around me anymore.

DENISE

Brennan, I want nothing but the best for you. If you're doing well that makes me happy.

BRENNAN

Oh thank God. I was worried I was doing too well...

DENISE

Don't worry. Now can I see your place? I'm excited for you.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Denise walks into the house to find that it is a wreck. There are literally stacks of a hundred Domino's pizza boxes everywhere in the living room, a flat screen TV with hash on it, dirty clothes and a couple of For Sale signs laying on the floor. In the dining room a batting cage has been set up and Dale is in it naked and taking cuts.

DALE

Hey! Brennan was right! You are hot!

DENISE  
(in shock)  
Oh my God...

Brennan lights up a cigarette.

BRENNAN  
I took up smoking. Doesn't it make  
me look cool?

DENISE  
Why are there so many empty pizza  
boxes?

BRENNAN  
Most of the boxes are full. We just  
ordered this many so we didn't have  
to keep calling.

Dale walks over, still naked, holding a piece a pizza.

DALE  
Hey Brennan? I figured it out. We  
can clean our clothes in the  
neighbors' pool at night.

BRENNAN  
Denise this is my stepbrother Dale.

DALE  
Hey nice to meet you. Look I can  
put a robe or towel on if you're  
uncomfortable but if you're fine  
with it, I'm definitely cool with  
it.

DENISE  
I should go... I'm going to  
leave...

She walks out the front door. Brennan follows.

DENISE  
I am such an idiot... I'm such a  
fucking idiot...

BRENNAN  
What's going on?



DENISE

Brennan, someday you're going to  
take a leap and I'll be very  
excited to talk to that person that  
you become. But until that point, I  
can't see you anymore. I'm sorry.

Denise gets into her car and drives off.

BRENNAN

Denise! Denise!!

Dale comes walking out naked.

DALE

Let her go bro.

BRENNAN

Maybe we should just leave the  
house and go get jobs...

DALE

Hey! Hey! We have got to stay  
focused! Once we get Mom and Dad  
back together everything will go  
back to being the way it was.

BRENNAN

Really?

DALE

Of course. Now say it...

BRENNAN

(fired up again)  
Not in the house!!

CUT TO:

INT. NANCY'S OFFICE - THE NEXT DAY

MUSIC: PLUCKY STRINGS

Nancy is walking down the hallway of her office talking to a  
CO-WORKER.

NANCY

If the Doctors are complaining  
about the size of the sample stands  
then just leave the samples without  
the stands.

Her Assistant runs up to her.

ASSISTANT

Nancy, Francine wants to meet you for dinner tonight at Georgio's to discuss the new Renomax line.

NANCY

Ahh Francine drives me nuts! We talked for three hours yesterday about that.

ASSISTANT

I expressed that, Nancy but she wants to meet for dinner.

NANCY

Okay, fine then.

ASSISTANT

She's a real bitch, isn't she?

NANCY

Hey that's not professional.

ASSISTANT

I'm sorry, I thought we were speaking freely.

INT. ROBERT'S EXAMINING ROOM - THAT SAME DAY

Robert is performing a hearing test on a patient.

ROBERT

Is that louder or softer? Sir? Sir?

Robert's Receptionist peaks in the door.

RECEPTIONIST

Dr. Doback? Am I interrupting?

ROBERT

No I don't think he can hear me at all.

RECEPTIONIST

Dr. Kalane called and wants to meet you for dinner tonight. He said it's about you heading the department at the University Hospital.

ROBERT

Really?

RECEPTIONIST

I'm sorry to interrupt.

ROBERT

No, you're not interrupting at all,  
that's huge news. Plus, I think Mr.  
Devlin is suffering from total  
hearing loss.

The receptionist leaves and Robert turns to the patient.

ROBERT

Hey! Hey! Horse cock!... I  
shouldn't do that...

INT. BRENNAN AND DALE'S LIVING ROOM - THAT DAY

Brennan and Dale are there with two neighbors. MRS. LAWSON,  
71 and MR. WEEDLE, 81. Dale is handing them boxes of old  
pizza as payment.

MRS. LAWSON

Well you were right Dale. Talking  
on the phone and doing make believe  
voices was a lot of fun.

MR. WEEDLE

I just don't understand why this  
Dr. Kalane couldn't call your  
father himself.

DALE

Well he just couldn't and the best  
part is you get pizza to take home.

MRS. LAWSON

Hmmm fresh pizza.

BRENNAN

No it's not Mrs. Lawson.

DALE

Shhhh!!!

MR. WEEDLE

It was fun to do funny voices, I  
think my friend Carol would get a  
kick out of it. Do you know Carol?  
(MORE)

MR. WEEDLE (cont'd)  
Carol Mongh? She's on the local news.

DALE  
Oh is she your neighbor?

MR. WEEDLE  
No, she's on the news. She does the four o'clock and the six o'clock news. I talk to her every night, on the tv. \*

DALE  
Oh, well thanks for helping us. \*

MR. WEEDLE  
She's wonderful. She's smart, funny, has a real twinkle in her eye. She's a nip. I don't know what the terms are these days. She's from Vietnam.

BRENNAN  
She's Vietnamese. \*

MR. WEEDLE  
No, that doesn't sound right. She's a nip. Anyway, my son Nathan and his family moved to Dallas and she's my best friend. (secretly) I even snuck a kiss in the other night.

DALE  
So you kissed the television set.

MR. WEEDLE  
No, I kissed her. On the lips. Oh I've said too much.

BRENNAN  
I think I'm going to cry.

DALE  
Well thanks again. Why don't you guys head home.

MRS. LAWSON  
Last week I fell down in my kitchen and I didn't get up for two days. My cat licked my face and I pretended to be a baby.

BRENNAN

This was a bad idea.

DALE

Shut up Brennan. We'll see you guys later, have a nice evening.

He ushers them out the door.

BRENNAN

Now I feel really sad.

DALE

Dude our plan is working! Mom and dad are going to have dinner tonight! Don't go all soft on me. Now let's go wash our clothes in the pool, eat some pizza and take a few cuts in the batting cage to get ready.

\*

\*

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. GEORGIO'S RESTAURANT - THAT NIGHT

We see a quaint Italian restaurant in downtown Sacramento.

INT. RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

Robert walks into the restaurant and goes up to the HOSTESS.

ROBERT

Hello, Dr. Robert Doback. I'm here for dinner with Dr. Kalane.

HOSTESS

Let me check...

She looks at her reservation list and then smiles slyly.

HOSTESS

Oh yes, I see it's a very special evening for you.

ROBERT

How do you know that?

\*

She leads him through the restaurant towards the back corner. There we find Nancy already seated at the table.

ROBERT

Oh no.

HOSTESS

Enjoy your dinner...

The Hostess leaves as Robert stands there awkwardly.

NANCY

Dale and Brennan.

ROBERT

It had to be. I gotta say I'm impressed.

NANCY

Well what should we do?

ROBERT

Well I'm actually hungry.

NANCY

I'm fine with it if you are.

Robert sits down.

ROBERT

So how was your day?

MONTAGE: MUSIC: ART TATUM PIANO

Shots of Robert and Nancy enjoying dinner, laughing, selecting a bottle of wine, having what appears to be a great time.

NANCY

... and it turned out she wasn't pregnant at all but had just had a nasty spider bite.

ROBERT

...Ha, ha, ha...

Brennan and Dale enter the restaurant. Dale is playing guitar and Brennan is singing loudly and carrying a dozen roses.

DALE

Ladies and Gentlemen! Tonight,  
Prestige Entertainment, in  
conjunction with Don King  
Productions, presents a Night of  
Love!

MUSIC: TONIGHT I CELEBRATE MY LOVE FOR YOU

BRENNAN  
TONIGHT I CELEBRATE MY LOVE FOR YOU  
IT SEEMS THE NATURAL THING TO DO

NANCY  
Oh no.

They come walking towards Nancy and Robert's table.

BRENNAN  
TONIGHT NO ONE'S GONNA FIND US  
WE'LL LEAVE THE WORLD BEHIND US

DALE AND BRENNAN  
WHEN I MAKE LOVE TO YOU

They are now right in front of their table.

BRENNAN  
TONIGHT ROBERT CELEBRATES HIS LOVE  
FOR NANCY  
LET'S HOPE THEY'LL GET BACK  
TOGETHER SO THEIR SONS CAN HAVE A  
HOME WITH CLEAN LAUNDRY!

\*  
\*  
\*

MALE RESTAURANT PATRON  
Shut up! You suck!

\*  
\*

BRENNAN  
Okay... that kind of stung...  
Ummm...I might cry...I told you I  
didn't want to sing Dale!

\*  
\*  
\*

DALE  
Don't listen to him. You sound  
great. Keep going!  
(continues singing)  
TONIGHT I CELEBRATE MY LOVE FOR YOU

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

BRENNAN  
Let's just move to the last part,  
okay?

\*  
\*

DALE  
Okay. Go!

\*  
\*

Dale keeps strumming as Brennan takes out some crumpled  
notebook paper.

\*  
\*

BRENNAN

Mom. I know that you love Robert.  
And to remind you, here's a page  
from your diary.

NANCY

Brennan, don't.

BRENNAN

"Today was a tough one. Robert  
didn't want to have sex again. He  
acted like it was because he was  
tired but I think it's either his  
anti-depressants or the fact that  
he's just plain old and cannot  
achieve consistent erections  
anymore. But despite this, I still  
love him" Do you hear that Robert?  
She loves you.

ROBERT

I'm leaving.

Dale pushes his Dad back down. And then filling around the  
table and entering from different points of the restaurant  
are Nancy's assistant, Robert's receptionist, Alice, Dr.  
Kalane, Mr. Weedle and Mrs. Lawson.

DALE

Do you see how much people want you  
together? Because...  
TONIGHT NANCY AND ROBERT WILL GET  
BACK TOGETHER...

Songs ends.

BRENNAN

All of the people from your life  
came here tonight just to tell you  
that they think it's crazy you two  
aren't together.

DR. KALANE

Actually I was told there was a  
medical emergency.

NANCY'S ASSISTANT

They told me you needed your cell  
phone charger.

MR. WEEDLE

Is Carol Mongh here?



BRENNAN

Well?

ROBERT

Well what?

BRENNAN

Are you getting back together?

ROBERT

Absolutely not! That's not how life works. You don't lie to people, read pages from their diary and expect two people to get back together.

\*  
\*

NANCY

I mean holy toledo! Come on guys, if this were in a movie it would be too much.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - NIGHT

Dale and Brennan are walking down the street. Brennan is holding the guitar and Dale is on his bike.

DALE

Damn we got really close.

BRENNAN

I don't know, Robert was pretty direct about how they felt.

\*

Beat.

DALE

Ok here's my idea for the next plan. We call them up and say we're porno directors for the elderly and we tell them we think they're hot. And if they'll do our movie we pay them \$10 million each. They have sex and realize that they're still in love and we're all back together.

BRENNAN

That is crazy, dumb and gross.

DALE

You know what, you're crazy, dumb  
and gross.

\*

Dale shoves Brennan. Brennan looks up.

BRENNAN

Oh no.

They look up to see their house with a sheriff's car in front of it, with flashing lights. Two deputies are putting a padlock on the front door. Derek and one of his jackass friends are standing in front of the house smirking.

DEREK

Well if it isn't Captain Dick  
licker and his sidekick Sgt. Meat  
curtain! Guess what? I just put you  
in lockdown!

BRENNAN

You can't do this. That's our  
house!

DEREK

No see it's not your house. It's  
Dr. Robert Dobak's house and the  
sheriff happens to agree with me.

CUT TO:

EXT. HOUSE - NEXT MORNING

Sun is rising up over the neighborhood.

EXT. BACKYARD

We push in on the tree fort to reveal that Dale and Brennan are jammed in there, sleeping.

BRENNAN

Dale, wake up! Hey!

DALE

Ow my back! My whole lower half is  
asleep.

BRENNAN

I'm starving man. How much money do  
we have left of the Prestige  
Entertainment/Alice money?

DALE

Let's see, we spent two thousand dollars on pizza, four thousand on the flat screen, two thousand on the batting cage, then a thousand on miscellaneous and then the last thousand I just flat out, lost. I have no idea where it is.

BRENNAN

You lost a thousand dollars? How?

DALE

Well I got all the money in thousand dollar bills which was really fuckin cool and I think what happened was, I thought it was a single and I tipped the pizza guy with it.

BRENNAN

That's why he gave us all those breadsticks. Man, how are we gonna get food?

DALE

Is this crazy? Do we eat dog food until we get back on our feet?

BRENNAN

You can get through anything with a little bottle of Tabasco.

\*

The tree fort begins creaking and moaning.

\*

BRENNAN

Uh-oh.

We see the entire tree fort fall from the tree to the ground and smash apart leaving Brennan and Dale strewn across the back lawn.

BRENNAN

Oooohhhh...are you alright?

DALE

Yeah. I guess...

BRENNAN

I think we should call Mom and Dad.

DALE  
No! Then they'll think we don't  
know how to take care of ourselves.  
Listen, I think we can get more  
money from Alice...

Dale gets us and dusts himself off.

DALE  
We're kind of lovers.

BRENNAN  
What?

DALE  
Do you remember Christmas dinner  
when we kept trying to bring the  
chair in?

BRENNAN  
Yeah.

DALE  
We were making it happen while we  
were talking to you.

BRENNAN  
Holy shit dude! You laid my  
brother's wife! You laid her!

DALE  
That's not how you use the word  
"laid." It's not a verb.

BRENNAN  
I guess I'm not mad. I just felt  
like I should be. Truth is Derek  
cheats on her like crazy.

DALE  
Alice believes in me. Hell, she  
believes in us. She may be our only  
hope.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. DEREK'S HOUSE - AN HOUR LATER

Big McMansion with Derek and Alice's car and a red Porshe' in  
the front driveway.

INT. DEREK'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The doorbell rings it chimes with "Eye of the Tiger" and Alice answers the door. Dale and Brennan are there.

DALE  
We need your help Alice.

ALICE  
You should have called.

BRENNAN  
Hi Alice.

ALICE  
Come in.

They enter and in the living room sit Derek, Robert and Nancy.

DALE  
Mom! Dad!

NANCY  
Hello boys.

BRENNAN  
What are you doing here together?

ROBERT  
We were sort of expecting you to show up here after Derek called the Sheriff.

NANCY  
Listen guys... relationships are tricky.

ROBERT  
They are. There's an ebb and flow to the way people feel about each other. Love is a constant but sometimes it can get obscured.

BRENNAN  
What does that mean?

DALE  
Are you pregnant Nancy?

DEREK

Hey fuck sticks! They've been together all along.

BRENNAN

Wha? You two were never divorced?

ROBERT

Absolutely not. Nancy is the love of my life. We were trying to create...what's the word?

NANCY

Change. Positive change.

ROBERT

Basically we thought that if you two thought we were split up and there was no home, that maybe you'd go out on your own.

NANCY

But you didn't.

ROBERT

You two hung in there and stood up for what you believed in, like I've never seen. Unfortunately, what you believe in, is not working and living off your parents.

NANCY

Robert.

ROBERT

I don't say it in judgement. It's just a fact.

DALE AND BRENNAN

Thank you... It was hard...etc.

NANCY

So basically we're moving back into the house.

ROBERT

I've learned to accept that you two are just special. That you will never be full functioning adults. Heck, it could be a lot worse. There are some parents out there who have kids with down syndrome or who are addicted to crystal meth.

BRENNAN

Yeah, we're not so bad!

DALE

So that's it? We're going to be a family again?

NANCY

Yes. We're a family again.

BRENNAN

Dale it all worked!

DALE

I knew it would.

They all have some sort of group hug. Alice joins in the hug.

ALICE

This is beautiful.

ROBERT

We just need you guys to sign some paperwork to make it all official.  
(yelling off camera) Bradley why don't you come out here!

The door to the study opens up and a man in a suit, BRADLEY, 52, enters with a woman behind him, carrying some papers.

NANCY

This is Bradley Asher, Robert's attorney. Basically you'll be signing some papers that will make you our legal dependents.

BRADLEY

How are you boys today? Are you going to ride in a car and get ice cream? Ice cream is yummy!

ROBERT

Bradley! They're not like that!

BRADLEY

Oh. My apologies. What we have here is a standard form of dependency. This will give your parents control of your financial assets, power of attorney, also responsibility for all medical care. Basically it's the same kind of form you would see for a child in a vegetative state.

DALE

Why do we have to sign this?

BRADLEY

It's going to help Nancy and Robert with their taxes and make it easier for them to care for you.

BRENNAN

Score! So in other words, we're making out like bandits!

BRADLEY

Sure, I guess you are. I've never heard it expressed that way, in fact, most of the time people signing these types of documents can't speak.

BRENNAN

Where do I sign?

BRADLEY

Just in these fourteen places, starting here. And there. Initial here.

Brennan is furiously signing the documents.

DALE

Can we slow down here?

ROBERT

Actually the sooner we get these signed, the sooner we can get ice cream!

BRENNAN

Yes! I wish I could write with both hands!

Dale is watching this with uneasiness. He looks over at Alice who is looking at him.

BRENNAN

Done! Get going Dale! Let's go!

DALE

I don't think I want to do this.

BRENNAN

Why are you being weird? This is it, we won.



DALE

This feels wrong Brennan.

BRENNAN

What are you talking about? This is everything we wanted. We get to live at home. Mom and dad are back together. Come on.

DALE

I don't know. It just seems for the first time... pathetic.

BRENNAN

So you're not going to sign this?

DALE

No, I don't think I'm going to. Hey Derek, remember a long time ago, in the tree fort, you offered me a job?

DEREK

Yeah.

DALE

I think I want that job.

DEREK

You know it's a shitty job and I hate you and because I hate you, I'm going to bust your balls everyday?

\*

DALE

Yeah, I think that's going to be okay.

BRENNAN

What are you doing Dale? We hate Derek.

DALE

I think you should take a job too.

BRENNAN

I don't know who I'm talking to anymore. All I know is I'm going to get some ice cream with my mom and dad. Later I'll probably light off some fireworks, have some pudding and start drawing pictures of the new tree fort, for the backyard.

(MORE)

\*

BRENNAN (cont'd)

That's the real world Dale!! What you're talking about is crazy land!

DALE

It may be, but there's a part of me saying I've gotta do this! I feel alone, terrified and yet at the same time, I've never felt more alive!

Alice runs up to Dale and starts kissing him.

ALICE

My god you're magnificent! I must have you! \*

DEREK

Hey! Alice what the fuck?!!

ALICE

Oh, I'm sorry, it's these diet pills I'm on. \*

CUT TO:

EXT. DEREK'S HOUSE

MUSIC: "Don't Cry Out Loud" MELISSA MANCHESTER \*

We see Brennan's face pressed up against the back windshield of Robert and Nancy's car, as it pulls out of the driveway. Brennan is doing a silent yell behind the glass. Dale stands on the front lawn watching them pull away.

CUT TO:

MONTAGE

1) Shot of hazmat crew cleaning out the house of pizza boxes and trash with Robert, Nancy and Brennan watching on. 2) Dale is with a realtor who is showing him a studio apartment 3) Brennan plays Dale's drums and then slams the sticks down and walks away 4) Dale sits at a desk in a tiny cubicle, at a giant office, filling out W2 form. Derek walks in, looks at the W2 form, tears it up and makes him fill out another one 5) Brennan puts on eye shadow and paints his pinky finger black. We see that he is going Goth 6) Dale is having a beer with a couple co-workers, they are all laughing, he seems awkward. Then Dale says something, they all laugh, Dale seems to loosen up. 10) Brennan, wearing all goth clothes and make-up, stands on the front lawn. \*

Chris Gardoki and the weird red-head ride by on their bikes. Brennan chases them and they are now afraid of him.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE - TWO MONTHS LATER

Dale sits across from RANDY, 28, a mid-level manager at Derek's company.

RANDY

I gotta tell you when you set foot in this place we were all laughin' behind your back. Derek even said, "I'm hiring this guy for shits and giggles. He's a freak and he's probably gonna quit after a week." But you've hung in there.

DALE

Thanks Randy.

RANDY

And just the other day, I overheard the bossman say, "I gotta give it up, pussyboy turned out to be a half-decent shit shoveler."

\*

DALE

It's been a good two months.

RANDY

Here's what's going on. Derek has decided to throw some actual, real responsibility your way. Little thing called the Catalina wine mixer, it's our marquee event every year. We get all the heavy hitters, I'm talking Raytheon, GE, Northrup, all coming out, looking to be wined and dined, mostly wined, so we can tell them about our leasing options on our helicopters. It's a big deal. It's the fuckin' Catalina wine mixer.

DALE

Ok. So what would be my responsibilities Randy?

RANDY

We'll first off you gotta make sure there is enough wine and food for sixty to one hundred people. And then there's the music. We got to make sure there is a live musical act that flat out nails it. Let me just give you an idea of what you're up against. Last year we had Donna Abdul, Paula Abdul's mother and she brought it. She brought every bit of it.

DALE

Paula Abdul's mom is a singer?

RANDY

Yes. Do you own a radio? Specifically a ham radio, because that's how she broadcasts her shit?!!

DALE

I think I'm getting the idea.

RANDY

You better be. It's the Catalina wine mixer and it is the big leagues. You're gonna have to have a big ol' pair of hairy, veiny balls to get through this one.

Randy just stares at Dale, breathing a little to hard.

DALE

Is there a problem Randy?

RANDY

It's the Catalina wine mixer!!! You nail this or you're gone! Simple as that. I'm gonna be breathing up your ass the whole way. So guess what hombre, if you know a world class singer, now is the time to make that phone call!

CUT TO:

INT. DALE AND BRENNAN'S BEDROOM

Brennan is now full goth, eye shadow, painted fingernails, earrings, black lipstick and a tuxedo t-shirt.

He lies on his bed listening to the Cure, "Boys Don't Cry".  
Nancy peaks into the room holding a cordless phone.

NANCY

Would you turn down that music!?  
Brennan?! Brennan!?

Finally Brennan gets up and turns down the music.

BRENNAN

What mom!?

NANCY

What has gotten into you? With the  
music and the hair and make-up?

BRENNAN

Can't you see!? I've gone goth  
because I feel sad inside!!

NANCY

Well I'm very sorry that you feel  
sad inside, but your stepbrother  
Dale is on the phone and he would  
like to talk to you.

She hands him the phone and walks out.

BRENNAN

Hello.

DALE

Hey bro. I don't have a lot of time  
so I'm going to make this real  
simple. I need your help. I need  
the best singer in the world.

BRENNAN

Sorry... I'm busy.

DALE

Brennan, it's okay if you're  
scared. I'm scared too.

BRENNAN

I'm not scared! And besides, don't  
you remember what that guy yelled  
at me at the restaurant with Mom  
and Dad? I suck! So leave me alone!

Brennan hangs up the phone, turns up the Cure and instantly  
starts crying.

DISSOLVE TO:

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

EXT. CATALINA ISLAND - DAY

It's a gorgeous day off Catalina Island. Sailboats cut through the waves as we push in.

EXT. CATALINA CASINO - CONTINUOUS

We see the landmark Catalina Casino right on the water's edge. There's a medium sized function going on. About sixty businessmen mill about in shirts and ties drinking wine and eating hors d'oeuvres. A small four piece band plays some Chuck Mangione, "Feels So Good" with organ, bass, trumpet and drums. Dale is in the middle of it with huge pit stains looking very nervous. A banner hangs over the function that says, "STEEL RAVEN EXECUTIVE HELICOPTERS" \*

MUSIC: Feels So Good

ORGAN PLAYER

Come on everyone! That's it! Huh-huh! Come on everyone! My name's Gavin! Come on everyone!

Dale's Manager Randy comes up to him.

DALE

Hey Randy. It's going pretty good, huh?

RANDY

You know what, you've got a real problem with your band. Food and wine is not bad, but this band blows. The organ player won't stop saying, "Come on everyone".

ORGAN PLAYER

Come on everyone! Let's go!

DALE

I don't think it's that big a deal.

At that moment Derek walks up.

DEREK

What the fuck's wrong with the music?! That guy won't stop saying, "Come on everyone"! I got clients leaving the wine mixer, left and right.

(MORE)

DEREK (cont'd)

If you don't fix this in the next  
ten seconds, you're fired Dale!

Dale runs over to the singer. People are starting to leave.

ORGAN PLAYER

Hey where's everyone going? Come on  
everybody!

DALE

Hey! Can you stop saying, "Come on  
everybody"! People are starting to  
leave.

ORGAN PLAYER

No can do. People like to be  
included in on the journey. Besides  
it's my signature move.

Randy pulls the plug on the band and steps on the stage.

RANDY

I'm sorry everyone, we're having  
some technical difficulties with  
the music! We're going to fix it  
right away!

ORGAN PLAYER

Come on man!

Derek shows up and gets in Dale's face.

DEREK

I knew we shouldn't have give you  
this responsibility. You're just a  
big baby! I knew we shouldn't have  
hired you!

RANDY

It's the fuckin' Catalina Wine  
Mixer!

DALE

It doesn't seem that bad. Let me go  
find a boom box or something.

DEREK

(mocking) "Let me go find a boom  
box or something"! No! It's done!  
You've screwed up the Catalina Wine  
Mixer! I don't hear any music,  
you're fired!!

We now hear Brennan's voice o.c.

BRENNAN (O.C.)  
 TURNAROUND, EVERY NOW AND THEN I  
 GET A LITTLE BIT LONELY AND YOU'RE  
 NEVER COMING ROUND

We see Brennan in a billowing white cotton shirt, black leather pants, neatly trimmed five o'clock shadow and sandals. We've never seen him like this before, he looks good and is very confident.

BRENNAN  
 TURNAROUND, EVERY NOW AND THEN I  
 GET A LITTLE BIT TIRED OF LISTENING  
 TO THE SOUND OF MY TEARS

DEREK  
 What the hell is he doing?

DALE  
 He's singing. And it's beautiful!

Brennan is walking through the crowd, he strokes a woman's cheek.

BRENNAN  
 TURNAROUND BRIGHT EYES,  
 EVERY NOW AND THEN I FALL APART

Drums kick in and we see that Dale is playing. People are filing back in.

BRENNAN  
 I NEED YOU NOW TONIGHT AND I NEED  
 YOU MORE THAN EVER

Rest of the band starts to kick in.

BRENNAN  
 AND IF YOU ONLY HOLD ME TIGHT WE'LL  
 BE HOLDING ON

DALE  
 FOREVER

BRENNAN  
 TOGETHER WE CAN TAKE IT TO THE END  
 OF THE LINE YOUR LOVE IS LIKE A  
 SHADOW ON ME ALL OF THE TIME

DALE  
 All OF THE TIME



BRENNAN  
 I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO AND I'M  
 ALWAYS IN THE DARK WE'RE LIVING IN  
 A POWDER KEG AND GIVING OFF SPARKS

DALE  
 GIVING OFF SPARKS

BRENNAN  
 I REALLY NEED YOU TONIGHT FOREVER'S  
 GONNA START TONIGHT FOREVER'S GONNA  
 START TONIGHT

Dale steps out from the drums to the front of stage with Brennan.

BRENNAN AND DALE  
 (harmony)  
 ONCE UPON A TIME I WAS FALLING IN  
 LOVE BUT NOW I'M ONLY FALLING APART  
 THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO A TOTAL  
 ECLIPSE OF THE HEART

BRENNAN  
 ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WAS LIGHT IN  
 MY LIFE BUT NOW THERE'S ONLY LOVE  
 IN THE DARK NOTHING I CAN SAY A  
 TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE HEART

DALE  
 TURN AROUND BRIGHT EYES

Brennan finishes with an insane note that is either great or awful, depending on your upbringing.

BRENNAN  
 ECLIPSE OF THE HEART!!!

Dale hugs Brennan.

We see that everyone has returned to the wine mixer, including hotel staff and extra boats have pulled up to the water's edge. A guy with a Raytheon name tag starts applauding. Then another from GE, Bechtel, Northrup, Carlyle Group, etc. all start applauding.

DALE  
 You saved me!

BRENNAN  
 No brother, we saved us!

CROWD  
Encore! More! That was fantastic!

ORGAN PLAYER  
Come on everyone!

Derek hops up on stage.

DEREK  
You did good Dale. People are  
leasing helicopters like crazy.

DALE  
Thanks but what about Brennan?

BRENNAN  
Dale don't-

DEREK  
What about him? One song doesn't  
make up for forty years of being a  
freak.

DALE  
You know what? I've been wanting to  
do this since I started working for  
you.

He winds up to punch him but instead Brennan punches him  
really hard in the arm.

DEREK  
Ow! That hurt. You used the  
knuckle! Get out of here! Both of  
you!

Dale and Brennan walk away.

BRENNAN  
That felt good but I wish we could  
have made him lick white dog crap.

Denise walks up to Brennan.

DENISE  
That was the bravest thing I have  
ever seen.

BRENNAN  
Denise? I can't believe you came.

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

DENISE

I figured I'd hide in the back of the crowd in case you did something fucked up. But that was... that was great.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

She kisses him lightly on the lips.

\*

BRENNAN

I hate to be rude but my Step Bro and I need some time.

\*  
\*  
\*

DENISE

I completely understand. I'll call you later.

\*  
\*  
\*

CUT TO:

EXT. DECK OF LARGE COMMUTER BOAT - SUNSET

Dale and Brennan are standing on the outside deck, near the front of the boat. It's probably too choppy to be standing out there and the guys are having to speak pretty loudly over the wind.

DALE

That really means a lot to me what you did out there. I know that couldn't have been easy for you. Do you mind me asking? What made you do it?

BRENNAN

I was just laying in our room and I looked at your empty bed, and I thought if you can't break out and take a risk for your stepbrother, then who can you take a risk for?

A DECK HAND, 25, calls out at them.

DECK HAND

Guys!! You can be out there. That section is off limits for the general public! Don't want to have to say it again!

Dale and Brennan both give him a thumbs up and keep talking.

BRENNAN

What do we do now? You've lost your job.

DALE

Doesn't matter. What happened today was special. We've both taken important steps.

BRENNAN

You know it's true. I feel like I can do anything! In fact, I was thinking, you know how it's a huge pain to make dinner reservations? What if we created a service, where people call us and tell us what time they want to have dinner and how many are in their party, and we take it from there?

DALE

But isn't that exactly what you do when you make a dinner reservation yourself?

BRENNAN

No, think about it. You're leaving out some steps, that we would eliminate-

The boat hits a huge wave and pitched both guys overboard.

DALE AND BRENNAN

Aawwww!!

The boat hits a siren and starts to turn around.

BOAT LOUDSPEAKER (O.C.)

MAN OVERBOARD! MAN OVERBOARD!

INT. SHIP - FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER

Dale and Brennan are both wrapped up in blankets, drinking mugs of coffee.

DECK HAND

I told you guys no less than three times that you were not supposed to be standing out there!

DALE

You absolutely did and we did not listen and we are sorry for it.

DECK HAND

I tell you this much, you are lucky  
to be alive.

They sit there shivering, sipping their coffee.

DALE

Can I ask you something? And you  
can be honest. I don't care  
anymore. But did you touch my drum  
set when you first moved in?

BRENNAN

Honestly? No. I did not.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. NANCY AND ROBERT'S HOUSE - CHRISTMAS A YEAR LATER

The house is decorated with lights, looks very festive.

INT. DINING ROOM

A big Christmas dinner is going on. Seated around the table  
are Robert and Nancy; Derek and Alice, Trevor, Tiffany and  
Tommy; Dale is in a police uniform; and Brennan sits next to  
Denise.

\*

DEREK

So our hover craft is cutting  
across the Everglades. And I'm  
there with former NFL coach, Jimmy  
Johnson, Geraldo Rivera, and Tia  
Carrera, and all of a sudden we  
look ahead-

DALE

Yeah, yeah that's great Derek. You  
know what happened to us yesterday?  
A bank robbery!

THE KIDS

Oooo!!! Tell us about that, uncle  
Dale!!

ROBERT

Wow. That sounds exciting Dale!

DALE

Well it was pretty intense. But we got in there and it turns out it was a false alarm, but I did get to draw my gun. I told someone to freeze...who later turned out to work at the bank.

THE KIDS

Wow! That's so cool.

NANCY

What about you Brennan? We're so excited about your engagement party!

DENISE

I know Nancy, I got your five messages yesterday.

NANCY

If you need help with anything, don't hesitate to call.

BRENNAN

Well I have some other news. You all know how I flew out to St. Louis for the American Idol audition and it turned out I was way too old. And some guys took my luggage and things got really scary.

ROBERT

Sure we remember, it got real hairy out there. Those guys called themselves the St. Lunatics had circled you, brandishing box cutters?

BRENNAN

Well do you remember the guy who saved me? The guy who stepped into the alley and said, "Hey leave him alone! He's part of my dogpound!" That man was Randy Jackson and we got to talking. And I sang for him, which he asked me not to do, but I did anyway. I don't know if you remember a group called the Thompson Twins. They were gigantic. I mean bigger than the Beatles.

(MORE)

BRENNAN (cont'd)

They might be doing a cruise ship  
tour and there is a chance that I  
could sing backup for them.

Everyone applauds.

ROBERT

That's outstanding!

NANCY

Brennan I knew it! I knew it!

DEREK

Thompson Twins are pretty cool.  
Maybe we'll look into going on that  
cruise.

We start to pull out on the scene as everyone talks and eats  
and laughs.

ALICE

This chair is really bad for my  
back. Dale can you help me get  
another one?

DALE

Uh yeah, sure.

FADE OUT

