THAT '90S SHOW

"That '90s Pilot"

Story By

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Teleplay By

Gregg Mettler

COLD OPENING

FADE IN:

INT. ERIC'S CAR - DAY

A 1992 V.W. JETTA CRUISES THROUGH THE WISCONSIN COUNTRYSIDE ON A BEAUTIFUL SUMMER AFTERNOON. BIG STAR'S "IN THE STREET" PLAYS ON THE RADIO.

INSIDE THE CAR WE FIND THE DRIVER, **ERIC FORMAN**, NOW MID 30s, THOROUGHLY ENJOYING THE SONG. THEN, A NEW VOICE: THAT SPECIAL KIND OF DRAMATIC EXASPERATION THAT CAN ONLY COME FROM A TEENAGE GIRL...

LEIA (O.S.)

Dad, can I please change this song? It's so old.

REVEAL <u>LEIA FORMAN</u> RIDING SHOTGUN. SHE'S TALL, COLTISH AND ADORABLY AWKWARD - WITH ALL THE 14-YEAR-OLD FEELINGS AND THE NOSE RING.

ERIC

Hands off the classic rock. And what's with you? You used to love my music.

LEIA

Yeah, because I was strapped down in a car seat. It was basically a hostage situation.

ERIC

Okay, cranky-pants, here's a question. What's bugging you?

LEIA

(LEANS HEAD BACK, GROANS) Why do you always want to talk to me?

ERIC

Cause I guess I love you?

LEIA

It's just, it's kinda lame spending Fourth of July weekend at my grandparents' house.

ERIC

We do it every year. It's a tradition.

LEIA

Well, it's lame. And every time I see grandma she tells me I've gotten prettier and I know she's lying.

ERIC

No she's not. You're beautiful.

LEIA

Dad, I've got a mirror - that you had to raise a foot this year cause I couldn't see my head anymore. I'm basically a giraffe in a flannel shirt.

ERIC TAKES THIS IN AS THEY DRIVE FOR A BEAT.

LEIA (CONT'D)

My turn to ask you something.

How old were you when you first had sex?

ERIC

I know what you're doing. Trying to make me squirm so I stop bugging you and let you play your music? Not gonna work. (RE: HIMSELF) Cool dad, squirm proof. I was seventeen.

LEIA

Was it with mom?

ERIC

(INAUDIBLE) Mmmmehhh. Wait, where is this coming from? Is there a boy? (THEN) Is it condom time?

LEIA

You keep me busy every day after school. Where am I supposed to get pregnant? Debate club?

ERIC

Those debate club guys are literally being trained to talk you into doing things.

LEIA

If it was your first time having sex, how did you know what to do?

ERIC

Never watch Last Tango in Paris.

LEIA LOOKS AT HER NOSE RING IN THE MIRROR.

ERIC (CONT'D)

Why did you have to get that nose ring yesterday? Grandma and grandpa are going to freak out.

LEIA

I just wanted to try something for once.

ERIC

They sell cigarettes at the mall. You couldn't try that?

LEIA

Funny. (THEN) It's not even real,
it's a magnet.

ERIC

Then what's the point?

LEIA

(DUH) To bother you.

ERIC

We've arrived at that age, huh?

Yay. (THEN) Look, I know you're

programmed to hate me right now,

but I'm always here if you want to

talk.

LEIA

(TINY SMILE) I know.

THEY DRIVE FOR A MOMENT WITH THE MUSIC PLAYING.

LEIA (CONT'D)

So the first time, did mom like

it?

ERIC

Okay, put on whatever song you want.

LEIA CRANKS TOO MUCH JOY'S "SUSQUEHANNA HAT COMPANY" AS ERIC'S V.W. SPEEDS BY A FAMILIAR SIGN...

WELCOME TO POINT PLACE, WISCONSIN

Chyron: July 3, 1995

DISSOLVE TO:

MAIN TITLES!

SCENE A

FADE IN:

INT. FORMAN HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

THE FAMILIAR HOUSE HAS UNDERGONE A MAKE-OVER BUT STILL FEELS MIDWESTERN AND COZY. RED FORMAN (COMFORTABLE 60S) SITS IN HIS NEW ARM CHAIR READING THE PAPER. KITTY FORMAN (60S, SAME HAIR - IF IT AIN'T BROKE?) FLUFFS THE PILLOWS ON THE COUCH. SHE ARRIVES AT RED'S SIDE.

KITTY

Lean forward for a sec. I want to give you a fluff.

RED LOOKS UP AT HER WITH A SMIRK.

RED

Eric and Leia will be here any second. Are you sure we have time for that?

KITTY

I meant your pillow, Mr. Forman.

I'll fluff you when they leave.

RED SMILES. THERE'S A KNOCK.

KITTY (CONT'D)

They're here!

KITTY HURRIES TO THE DOOR AND OPENS IT TO SEE ERIC AND LEIA.

KITTY (CONT'D)

My baby boy!

ERIC

Hey, mo--.

KITTY YANKS HIM INTO A TIGHT HUG.

RED

Kitty, don't crush the boy. He's got those dainty little bird bones.

ERIC

Nice to see you, too, dad. (THEN)
Okay, mom. Kinda weird that you're
smelling my hair.

KITTY

I haven't seen you since Christmas so I will hug like I need to hug and you're fine with it.

LEIA STEPS IN.

LEIA

Hey grandma, hey grandpa.

KITTY/RED

Leia! / Hey, kiddo.

KITTY AND RED HUG LEIA.

KITTY

My goodness, you sure sprouted up.

And you get more beautiful every

time I see you.

LEIA

(EYES ERIC) Thanks, grandma.

RED

What's that thing in your nose?

It looks like a fishing accident.

ERIC

(TO LEIA) See what you did.

KITTY

Well, I love it. It doesn't bother me at all. (LAUGHS, THEN TO LEIA)

You must be starving, honey. Come on, I'll fix you a nice grilled nose ring.

RED

How do you get through the airport with that thing?

ERIC/LEIA

Take it out. / I'm taking it out.

CUT TO:

SCENE B

INT. FORMAN HOUSE - KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

THREE GENERATIONS OF FORMANS ARE FINISHING LUNCH. LEIA HAS REMOVED THE NOSE RING.

KITTY

We are going to have so much fun this weekend. We'll grill weenies, watch fireworks from the driveway. Oh, and I rented your favorite movie, The Little Mermaid.

ERIC

She's not really into that anymore, mom. Our little mermaid got her period.

RED/LEIA

Ah God, Eric./Ah God, Dad.

KITTY PLACES SOME COOKIES ON THE TABLE.

KITTY

I'm sorry Donna couldn't make it this year.

LEIA

Mom went to Florida to visit with Grandpa Bob and his third wife.

ERIC

Barbie. Her name's Barbie.

KITTY

(TO ERIC) Well, I'm just glad you're here.

KITTY HUGS HIM WITH ONE ARM AND CAN'T HELP BUT TAKE ANOTHER SNIFF OF HIS HAIR.

ERIC

Still weird, mom. (THEN) And I go back to work next week. The university asked me to teach the summer session because my course is pretty popular.

RED

The Religion of Star Wars. This country's going to lose the next war.

ERIC

Not if it's an intergalactic battle between good and evil.

RED ROLLS HIS EYES.

KITTY

Leia, I hear you're going to basketball camp next week. You know, when I was a girl if you picked up a basketball, people thought you were a lesbian. But it's 1995, times have changed.

TETA

Yeah, dad signed me up for that camp because he thinks I don't have any friends.

RED

Do you have any friends?

LEIA

My options are limited. There's the clarinet section, the debate club and I have a lab partner who doesn't really speak English.

ERIC

Okay, you're making yourself sound sad.

KITTY

I'm sure you'll meet some new friends at basketball camp.

There'll be a lot of girls like you.

LEIA

Yeah, freakishly tall.

LEIA GETS UP AND EXITS TO THE DRIVEWAY.

ERIC

Sorry, she's been a little moody lately.

KITTY

Fourteen's a tough age. She's changing, trying to figure out who she is...

RED

I blame the bras. They turn 'em mean.

KITTY

That's true. Have you ever had one on? All day? For the rest of your life?

ERIC

I'll give her some space and then we'll talk later. Her feelings are important to me.

RED LAUGHS.

ERIC (CONT'D)

Laugh all you want but I'm doing this teenage thing my way. And I'm going to stand behind her no matter what.

RED

That's a good idea, son. Because when you stand behind your kids, it's easier to--

ERIC/RED/KITTY

Put your foot in their ass.

ERIC

Yeah, we got it.

CUT TO:

SCENE C

EXT. FORMAN DRIVEWAY - DAY

LEIA IS SHOOTING BASKETS WHEN SHE HEARS SOMEONE NEARBY BELTING THE LYRICS TO <u>VERUCA SALT'S</u>
"SEETHER." NO ACCOMPANYING MUSIC, JUST THE VOICE OF A GIRL WHO'S REALLY GOING FOR IT.

GIRL'S VOICE (O.S.)

(SINGS) I try to keep her on a short leash! I try to calm her down! I try to ram her into the ground, yeah!

CURIOUS, LEIA HEADS OFF IN THE DIRECTION OF DONNA'S OLD HOUSE TO INVESTIGATE.

RESET TO:

EXT. RUNCK BACKYARD/INT. GWEN'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

LEIA PEERS INTO A BEDROOM WINDOW AND DISCOVERS <u>GWEN</u>
<u>RUNCK</u> (14, INDEPENDENT, ORIGINAL), HEADPHONES OVER
HER PURPLE HAIR, SINGING AND THRASHING.

GWEN'S ROOM IS A SHRINE TO FEMALE ROCK. THE WORDS "RIOT GURRRL" ARE SPELLED OUT ABOVE HER BED IN MIDDLE-FINGER STICKERS.

GWEN

(SINGS) Can't fight the seether, I can't see her till I'm foaming at the mouth!

UNAWARE OF LEIA, GWEN SHUFFLES OUT OF HER ROOM. LEIA LINGERS FOR A MOMENT, SMILING, THEN TURNS TO LEAVE AND GWEN IS RIGHT THERE IN HER FACE!

GWEN (CONT'D)

What are you doing, weirdo?

LEIA

(STAMMERS) Oh, I was, I heard you

singing. My grandparents-- Red,

Kitty--

GWEN

Red Kitty? Are you on drugs?

LEIA

(CRINGES) Forget it, sorry.

LEIA TURNS TO LEAVE, THEN DECIDES TO GO FOR BROKE.

LEIA (CONT'D)

Unless you want to hear the new

Alanis Morisette CD.

THIS STOPS GWEN COLD.

GWEN

That's sold-out everywhere,

nobody's got it.

LEIA

I've got it.

GWEN

Now. Go get it now.

CUT TO:

SCENE D

INT. RUNCK HOUSE - GWEN'S BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

"ALL I REALLY WANT" PLAYS AS GWEN AND LEIA TALK. GWEN FLIPS THROUGH LEIA'S CD CASE.

GWEN

So this was your mom's old room and your dad lived next door... I bet they boned in here every chance they got. (POINTS) Like over there, on there, up against that. (OFF LEIA'S LOOK) Sorry, I kinda love making people uncomfortable.

LEIA

You're really good at it. Wait, so how long have you lived here?

GWEN

Like a month. My mom rented this place when we lost our house across town.

LEIA

Geez, how'd it happen?

GWEN

It's so Jerry Springer. My mom works in the ticket office for the Point Place Muskies.

LEIA

The baseball team?

GWEN

I love my mom, but she has a thing for minor league man-boys in tight pants. She worked her way through the infield. First base, that's my brother's dad. She skipped second, he was too short. And third base is my dad. But he couldn't hit a curveball so he got traded and that's how we lost the house.

LEIA

Wow, that's a lot. (THEN, NOTICING) I don't think there's a U in Riot Grrrl.

GWEN

Yeah, I screwed that up. I'd fix it but the whole point is to piss people off.

LEIA

(EMPHATIC) Yes. I need to be doing more of that.

GWEN

Anyway, tell me about Chicago. Who do you hang out with?

LEIA

Me? Um, I'm sporty but I'm also kinda nerdy and I'm in the band...

GWEN

Wait. A band or the band.

LEIA

The band.

GWEN

(GRIMACES) Ooo.

LEIA

Basically, I'm extremely not

popular. At all.

LEIA BRACES FOR GWEN'S REACTION.

GWEN

Good. Popular people suck.

LEIA BRIGHTENS, SHE'S FINALLY FOUND A KINDRED SPIRIT.

LEIA

They really do. This is going to

sound so dorky, but can we be

friends?

GWEN

Yes it did. And yes we can.

BY NOW, "YOU OUGHTA KNOW" HAS COME ON.

GWEN (CONT'D)

(RE: MUSIC) Oh, this part's dope.

LEIA

I know, right? She's so pissed.

GWEN CRANKS IT AND THE GIRLS START TO DANCE AND SING. JUST THEN, GWEN'S BROTHER NATE RUNCK (16, YOUNG JOHNNY KNOXVILLE) ENTERS IN NOTHING BUT HIS BOXERS, WITH SHAVING CREAM ON HIS CHEST.

NATE

Damn it, Gwen! I'm trying to shave and your crappy vagina music is bumming me out!

NATE LOWERS THE MUSIC, SHOOTS GWEN A DIRTY LOOK AND LEAVES. GWEN CALLS AFTER HIM.

GWEN

Oh yeah, Nate? Me and my new friend are gonna start a band and call it Crappy Vagina!

NATE (O.S.)

That's stupid!

GWEN

(TO LEIA, RE: NATE) Older brother. He's okay. He's got a van and he lets me in it. And when some jock hassles me, he says, "Hey jackass, don't rag on my sister. I do that."

LEIA

Aw, that's nice.

GWEN

Watch this.

GWEN CRANKS THE MUSIC BACK UP.

NATE

(O.S.) Dammit, Gwen!

CUT TO:

SCENE E

INT. FORMAN HOUSE - KITCHEN - THE NEXT DAY

RED AND KITTY ARE PEELING EGGS.

RED

I can never get these things to peel.

KITTY

Here, Red, lemme show you.

KITTY REACHES OVER AND PUTS HER HANDS ON HIS.

RED

You smell good.

KITTY

Oh, it's the Hellmann's.

HE NUZZLES THE SIDE OF HER NECK.

KITTY (CONT'D)

You naughty, naughty man.

ERIC ENTERS FROM THE LIVING ROOM AND SEES THIS.

ERIC

Really, guys?

KITTY

I think it's healthy that your

father and I are still

affectionate at our age.

ERIC SHUDDERS. LEIA STICKS HER HEAD IN FROM THE DRIVEWAY.

LEIA

Later, guys.

ERIC MOVES TO HER.

ERIC

No, stay, we're making deviled eggs. (THEN, SOTTO) Do not leave me alone with them, they're making me uncomfortable.

TETA

But Gwen invited me to hang out next door.

ERIC

Who's Gwen?

KITTY

A new family just moved in. She must be that little girl with the combat boots. I nearly backed over her with the car. If it wasn't for the purple hair, I never would have seen her.

ERIC

Are her parents home?

LEIA

No, but her older brother is.

RED

(ENJOYING IT) That's gotta make you feel good, son.

ERIC IS WORRIED BUT WANTS TO BE A COOL DAD.

ERIC

Okay, I trust you. But no drinking, and make sure you're back in time for the fireworks.

KITTY

And grilled weenies.

LEIA

I'll try.

ERIC

Okay, to quote Master Yoda...

RED

Aw geez.

ERIC

...Do. Or do not. There is no try.

LEIA

(EXASPERATED) I'll try.

LEIA TURNS AND LEAVES.

ERIC

Hold up--

ERIC GOES TO FOLLOW HER, KITTY STOPS HIM.

KITTY

Honey, honey, let me talk to her.

KITTY FOLLOWS AFTER LEIA. ERIC TURNS BACK TO RED.

RED

Life gets ugly when your kids start to think.

CUT TO:

SCENE H

EXT. FORMAN DRIVEWAY - CONTINUOUS

LEIA'S ON HER WAY TO GWEN'S. KITTY STOPS HER.

KITTY

Hang on, sweetie.

LEIA

He makes me crazy.

KITTY

I've known your dad his whole life. He came out of me worried.

(THEN) It's perfectly natural to spread your wings. Just try not to hit him in the face with them. Now go have some fun.

LEIA

Thanks, grandma. You know, you're pretty fly.

KITTY

Fly?

LEIA

It means you're cool.

LEIA HEADS OFF. KITTY TURNS AND SWAGGERS BACK TO THE SLIDING DOOR WHERE RED IS WAITING.

RED

Everything okay?

KITTY

Of course, Red, everything's fly.

CUT TO:

SCENE J

INT. RUNCK HOUSE - BASEMENT - AFTERNOON

THIS BASEMENT IS CRAMPED AND CLUTTERED WITH A LOW CEILING, A TINY TV AND A DRIPPING WATER HEATER.

LEIA AND GWEN ARE PLAYING UNO WITH GWEN'S FRIEND **OZZIE** (14, COMPACT AND INSIGHTFUL WITH A FRIENDLY FACE). OZZIE PLACES TWO CARDS ON THE TABLE.

OZZIE

Uno.

GWEN

Dude, you can only drop one card.

That's the rules.

OZZIE

I don't do rules.

GWEN

Ozzie and I met last year in

detention. Tell her what you did.

OZZIE

I milked a guy.

LEIA

Oh. (THEN) Wait, what?

OZZIE

In the cafeteria. He was being a homophobic douchebag to me so I dumped my milk on his head.

GWEN

(FIST BUMPS HIM) Love me some Ozzie.

OZZIE

I did my time, still not sorry.

JUST THEN, NATE COMES IN OVERJOYED WITH HIS GIRLFRIEND <u>NISHA</u> (15, PREPPY). NATE'S BEST FRIEND <u>JAY</u> (15, LANKY AND CUTE) IS RIGHT BEHIND THEM HOLDING A CAMCORDER.

NATE

You guys are not going to believe what just happened!

JAY

Dude, wait, I want to get this on video. Say it over there next to the water heater, it looks gritty.

NATE

Cool, should I take my shirt off?

EVERYONE

No.

JAY RAISES HIS CAMCORDER TO HIS EYE AND WE GO TO $\underline{\text{HIS}}$ CAMERA'S POV AS HE FRAMES NATE AND NISHA.

NISHA

Nate, I'm in the National Honor Society. I can't just do felonies.

NATE

Nisha, baby, I'm sure at the most it's a misdemeanor.

NISHA

Why am I with you?

NATE

(FLEXES ARMS) "Bi"s and "tri"s,

baby.

NISHA

(IT'S TRUE) Yeah.

SHE KISSES HIM. JAY ZOOMS IN ON THEM.

NATE

(STILL IN THE KISS, TO CAMERA) Are

you getting this?

NISHA PUSHES THE CAMERA AWAY AND JAY'S LENS FINDS LEIA.

JAY

Ooh, new girl.

LEIA IS SURPISED BY THE ATTENTION BUT ALSO A BIT INTRIGUED.

LEIA

Uh, hi.

JAY

I'm Jay...

FROM <u>JAY'S POV</u> WE SEE HIM HEAD TOWARD LEIA. THEN, THE SHOT JERKS AND CRASHES AS IF THE CAMERA FELL.

JAY (CONT'D)

Dammit!

WE RETURN TO <u>STANDARD ANGLES</u> AND SEE THAT JAY JUST TOOK A HEADER ON THE COFFEE TABLE.

OZZIE

(TO GWEN) He's always so stupid

cute.

JAY RECOVERS AND MOVES TO LEIA.

GWEN

(TO JAY) This is Leia. She's visiting her grandparents next door.

JAY

Hi, so, like...

IN A LAME ATTEMPT TO LOOK SEXY AND CASUAL, JAY WRAPS BOTH HANDS AROUND A PIPE IN THE CEILING WHICH IS PIPING HOT!

JAY (CONT'D)

Hahhhh! Hot. Pipe! (BACK TO COOL

VOICE) So, Leia, huh?

OZZIE

(ASIDE TO GWEN) Watch, he's going to do it again.

JAY

Mind if I call you Princess?

HE GRABS THE PIPE AGAIN.

JAY (CONT'D)

Hahhh!

LEIA LAUGHS - HE'S A CUTIE. NATE MOVES TO JAY.

NATE

Bro, if you're done scamming on the new girl--

JAY

I'm not scamming. She's, like, a person. I want to know her soul.

LEIA

Thank you. (ASIDE TO GWEN) What does that mean?

GWEN

Don't be alarmed. He flirts with cats.

NATE

Can I tell my epic story now? So we were just chilling in my van...

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. NATE'S VAN - PARKING LOT - EARLIER (FLASHBACK)

NATE, JAY AND NISHA ARE SITTING IN NATE'S ANCIENT WOOD-PANNELED VAN (WITH MISMATCHED DOOR) DRINKING SLURPEES AND LISTENING TO THE RADIO.

NISHA

Why does he always get to sit up front? I'm your girlfriend.

NATE

Sorry, baby. He called shotgun first. Be faster.

JUST THEN, A LARGE DUMB GUY, WADE, KNOCKS ON NATE'S WINDOW.

WADE

Hey, are you here to pick up the keg from Mama's Discount Liquors?

NATE AND JAY LOCK EYES.

NATE/JAY

Yes.

WADE

And you prepaid, right?

NATE/JAY

Yes.

ALL THREE KIDS SIT VERY STILL IN DISBELIEF AS WADE LOADS THE KEG INTO THE BACK OF THE VAN.

WADE

Happy 4th!

NATE AND JAY SHARE A LOOK LIKE "DID THAT JUST HAPPEN?" AS WE:

FLASH FORWARD TO:

INT. RUNCK HOUSE - BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

THE GANG IS AS THEY WERE. NISHA LOOKS WORRIED.

NISHA

Seriously, I can't have a stolen keg on my permanent record.

NATE

Baby, we didn't do anything wrong. Like, what if that dude gave us a lion? We'd get to keep the lion, right?

NISHA LOOKS PUZZLED. NEARBY, LEIA, GWEN AND OZZIE HAVE A SIDE-BAR.

LEIA

They seem kind of mismatched.

OZZIE

They make total sense. Preppy academic dates future inmate.

(MORE)

OZZIE (CONT'D)

She secretly resents all the pressure from her parents to be perfect so she plays with fire, hoping to get burned. It's riveting.

BACK ON NATE AND NISHA, MID-CONVERSATION:

NISHA

My parents think I'm handing out flags at the veterans' home. If they ever found out about this they'd go ballistic.

NATE

Yeah, they do not like me.

NISHA

Oh, they can't stand you. They talk about it all the time. (EVIL GRIN) Let's tap that keg and get stupid.

NATE STOPS COLD AND THE EXCITEMENT DRAINS.

NATE

Oh no. We don't have a tap. And without a tap the beer is trapped.

GWEN

Aww, you're crying.

NATE

(CHOKED UP) A little.

SCENE K

EXT. FORMAN DRIVEWAY - LATER

ERIC IS HELPING RED SET UP THE BARBECUE. ERIC LOOKS OVER AT GWEN'S HOUSE.

ERIC

That house is too quiet. I'm going over there.

RED

No you're not. Don't humiliate
her. Every kid wants to be cool. I
always tried not to barge in on
you and your dumbass friends no
matter what I heard. Or smelled.

ERIC

Yes, Dad, my friends always used to say, "That Red sure is cool."

RED

Leia is trying to figure out who she is. How do you think she's going to feel when there's a knock at the door and it's you. Don't be that dad.

ERTC

But I so wanna be that dad.

RED

Get in the house.

CUT TO:

SCENE L

INT. RUNCK HOUSE - BASEMENT - LATER
EVERYONE'S BUMMED OUT.

LEIA

Wait, why can't someone just go back to Mama's and get a tap?

JAY

We've all tried to buy from her. (DEAD SERIOUS) She's a beast.

NATE SITS UP, SUDDENLY REINVIGORATED.

NATE

I got it! What if we got a gun?

(OFF GROANS) Not for anything

dangerous, just to blow a hole in

the keg.

GWEN

Before we go with my brother's really excellent gun idea, what if Leia went to buy the tap?

ALL EYES TURN TO LEIA.

OZZIE

Yeah, Mama doesn't know you.

NATE

And you're tall, like over-21 tall.

JAY

And your eyes are crazy pretty which won't really help but it's something I noticed.

LEIA

Thanks, but this is a little out of my comfort zone. Like, I never returned "Super Fudge" to the school library and just saying that makes me have to nervous-pee.

GWEN

Here's the thing about comfort zones: if you stay in one your whole life you're not really living.

NISHA

Stop pressuring her, Gwen. You sound like a coke dealer from an after school special.

GWEN

Thanks, that's what I was going for.

LEIA

You know what? I'll do it.

EVERYONE TURNS BACK TO LEIA.

NATE

Alright! New girl is sick.

GWEN

To the van!

JAY

Shotgun!

NISHA

(FRUSTRATED) Come on!

NATE

Neesh, you gotta want it.

THEY ALL GET UP TO LEAVE. OZZIE STOPS THEM.

OZZIE

Pause. We're tripping if we think
Mama will sell to this flanneledout baby-face with a cheap nose
ring from Claire's.

LEIA

I expected a better burn from a gay man.

OZZIE

I didn't get a lot of sleep last night.

GWEN

Hey, I got a great idea that Mama will never see coming.

MUSIC CUE: JANE'S ADDICTION'S "BEEN CAUGHT STEALING"

THE DOGS BARKING AND THE OPENING CHORDS BRIDGE US INTO:

SCENE M

INT. MAMA'S LIQUORS - LATER

A LOW ANGLE SHOT OF LEIA WALKING INTO THE STORE IN A LOOSE FITTING, RED FLORAL PRINT DRESS. IT'S STUFFED TO MAKE HER LOOK PREGNANT!

WE BEGIN A SHOT-FOR-SHOT RE-CREATION OF THE ICONIC MUSIC VIDEO FOR "BEEN CAUGHT STEALING" WITH OUR KIDS PLAYING THE ROLES.

JUST LIKE IN THE ORIGINAL VIDEO (WATCH IT, YOU'LL SEE WHAT WE'RE GOING FOR) WE SEE:

- -SHOTS OF LEIA STUFFING A PILLOW UP HER DRESS.
- -SHOTS OF ORNERY $\underline{\mathsf{MAMA}}$ BEHIND THE COUNTER LOOKING SUSPICIOUS.
- -OZZIE WITH FISHNET HOSE OVER HIS FACE.
- -GWEN, NATE, JAY AND NISHA PEERING INTO SECURITY CAMERAS AND STROLLING IN THE AISLES.

AFTER ABOUT A MINUTE OF THIS 90S AWESOMENESS, WE SETTLE BACK INTO <u>STANDARD ANGLES</u> AS "BEEN CAUGHT STEALING" TRANSFORMS INTO A <u>MUZAK VERSION</u> THAT'S PLAYING IN THE QUIET STORE.

BEHIND THE COUNTER, MAMA EYEBALLS GWEN AND OZZIE, WHO LOITER OVER BY A CHIP RACK. MAMA'S SON WADE IS NEARBY EATING A GIANT SLIM JIM.

MAMA

(TO KIDS) I'm watching you kids.

Go keep an eye on them, Wade.

WADE

Cripers, mom, I'm on break.

WADE GOES BACK TO MUNCHING HIS SLIM JIM. "PREGNANT" LEIA ARRIVES AT THE COUNTER WITH THE TAP WEARING A CROSS BODY PURSE. MAMA SIZES HER UP.

MAMA

You sure you wanna be drinking in your condition, hon?

LEIA

Oh, it's for my husband. He got a keg for the baby shower.

MAMA

Yeah, I married that guy. That'll be thirty-nine fifty.

WITH HER HEART POUNDING, LEIA ROTATES HER PURSE TO THE FRONT OF HER BODY, TAKES OUT TWO TWENTIES AND OFFERS THEM TO MAMA.

MAMA (CONT'D)

I'm no lady doctor, but I think something's wrong with the baby.

LEIA LOOKS DOWN TO SEE THE PILLOW UNDER HER DRESS IS NOW SIDEWAYS! MAMA REACHES OVER AND PULLS IT OUT.

MAMA (CONT'D)

I've had it with you little bastards! I'm calling the cops.

MAMA PICKS UP THE PHONE. SOMETHING COMES OVER LEIA AND SHE STARTS SPEAKING IN A DEEP, CONFIDENT TONE.

LEIA

Put. The phone. Down.

MAMA

Shut up.

LEIA

Fine, call the cops. And when they get here you can explain why you gave a keg to a bunch of kids.

MAMA

It was a mistake.

LEIA

The courts are full of people who made mistakes.

MAMA

It wasn't my fault. Wade's the one's gonna be in trouble.

WADE

Mom, I'm too pretty to go to jail.

LEIA

(TO MAMA) Maybe you lose your liquor license, maybe Wade goes to jail? Or, maybe you sell me the tap and we all have a nice July 4th.

MAMA HANGS UP THE PHONE, THE WIND OUT OF HER SAILS.

MAMA

You got a lot of balls, missy.

LEIA

Debate club, bitch.

LEIA PLUNKS MONEY ON THE COUNTER AND EXITS WITH THE TAP.

CUT TO:

SCENE P

INT. NATE'S VAN - MOMENTS LATER

NATE, JAY AND NISHA ARE IN THE VAN AS GWEN, OZZIE AND LEIA PILE IN WITH THE TAP. EVERYONE IS JOYOUS. LEIA IS IN A WIDE-EYED STATE OF SHOCK.

GWEN

She got it!

OZZIE

I had no faith, but she got it! It was badass.

JAY

(TO LEIA) You're so amazing!

JAY SPONTANEOUSLY GIVES HER A QUICK KISS. LEIA SMILES, THEN LURCHES FORWARD AND VOMITS.

OZZIE

Nice, bro. You made her puke.

NISHA

(LOOKING DOWN) My new Keds.

NATE LOOKS BACK AT THE MESS.

NATE

Totally worth it, let's party!

NATE STARTS THE VAN, GWEN CRANKS THE RADIO.

MUSIC CUE: NAUGHTY BY NATURE'S "HIP HOP HOORAY"

EVERYONE

This ain't got shit to do with shampoo, but watch your head 'n shoulder.

THE MUSIC BRIDGES US INTO:

SCENE Q

INT. RUNCK HOUSE - BASEMENT - LATER

WITH "HIP HOP HOORAY" BUMPING AND THE KEG TAPPED, WE OPEN ON A <u>CAMCORDER SHOT</u> OF OZZIE RAPPING ALONG WITH VIN ROCK AND TREACH.

OZZIE

Brother older bold enough to fold ya, yo I told ya. A raid afraid of what I made and played it, plus a funky fit. So save your flips and tricks for that music and the monkey bit.

NISHA TAKES THE NEXT VERSE.

NISHA

Triggers from the Grilltown

Illtown, some ask how it feels

now. The deal is that we're real

so we're still 'round.

GWEN BRINGS IT HOME.

GWEN

Don't lamp with a freestyle phantom, ain't trying to be handsome. Shrinking what you're thinking cause I'm vamping. I live and die for Hip Hop, this is Hip Hop for today I give props to hiphop so--

EVERYONE

Hip hop hooray, hey, ho, hey, ho,

hey, ho...

THE CAMERA FINDS LEIA, DANCING, BEAMING, SURROUNDED BY HER NEW FRIENDS.

LEIA

Does it get any better than this?

NATE

I can take my shirt off!

EVERYONE

No!

NATE

Can't stop a runaway train!

NATE RIPS HIS SHIRT OFF. EVERYONE LAUGHS AND CONTINUES TO PARTY AS WE:

CUT TO:

SCENE R

INT. FORMAN HOUSE - KITCHEN - SIMULTANEOUS

ERIC IS AT THE SLIDING DOOR LISTENING TO THE MUSIC BLASTING FROM GWEN'S HOUSE. RED SITS, HAVING A WEENIE WHILE KITTY OPENS A BOTTLE OF WINE.

ERIC

That music is really loud.

RED

Yeah, it's always loud over there.

It's like living next to the dog pound.

ERIC

I know it's not cool for me to go over there, but she should be here for the weenies. Mom, help me out on this.

KITTY OFFERS ERIC A GLASS OF WINE.

KITTY

Here, have some mommy water.

RED

Let it go, son. Sit down. (SOMBER VOICE) You're one of us now.

RED AND KITTY LAUGH. ERIC TAKES A NERVOUS SIP OF WINE.

ERTC

I hope she doesn't do anything too crazy.

SMASH TO:

SCENE T

EXT. WATER TOWER - NIGHT

THE GANG SITS WATCHING THE FIREWORKS, THE GLOW ACROSS THEIR FACES.

LEIA

Wow, these fireworks are so close I can feel the heat on my face.

WE FIND NATE AND NISHA SITTING CLOSE.

NATE

It's so nice to spend the 4th with you, baby.

NISHA

Please stop calling me baby. It diminishes me.

NATE

Sorry, baby.

NISHA

Okay, try going three sentences without saying the word baby.

NATE

(COUNTS ON FINGERS) Okay. Here goes. I can do this.

NISHA

I love you.

THEY KISS. OZZIE TAKES THIS IN.

OZZIE

Aw, personal growth. With tongues. NEARBY, JAY HAS HIS CAMCORDER ON LEIA.

LEIA

What are you doing?

JAY

You're leaving tomorrow and I just want an image of you I can look at when I need to.

GWEN LEANS ACROSS LEIA AND PUSHES THE CAMERA DOWN.

GWEN

I know you think that's romantic but it screams chainsaw.

JAY

Sorry, I don't know what I'm doing.

LEIA

That's okay, I think you're sweet.

JAY SMILES. LEIA TURNS TO GWEN.

LEIA (CONT'D)

(SOTTO) He's sweet, right?

GWEN

Oh, yeah.

THE GIRLS LOOK OUT OVER POINT PLACE.

LEIA

This is the weirdest thing I've ever done.

GWEN

I'm surprised, you're pretty weird.

LEIA

Yup. I don't wanna leave tomorrow.

GWEN

Then don't. Stay for the summer.

LEIA

Yeah, like my dad would let me.

GWEN

When my parents split up, the school shrink basically told me everything was going to suck forever. And I was like, nope, not this girl. So I went home, bleached my hair over the washing machine, cut up my jeans and decided this is my life and it's never going to suck.

LEIA

Wow.

GWEN

Will I have daddy issues in ten years? Absolutely. But for now, I'm living every day for me.

LEIA LETS THIS LAND. WE GO BACK TO OZZIE, WHO'S WATCHING NATE AND NISHA MAKE-OUT.

OZZIE

(LOOKS AT WATCH) Four minutes and eighteen seconds. (SIGH) I need to be kissed like that.

DISSOLVE TO:

SCENE U

EXT. FORMAN DRIVEWAY - NIGHT - SIMULTANEOUS

RED, KITTY AND ERIC SIT IN LAWNCHAIRS.

KITTY

Fireworks are so romantic.

KITTY REACHES ACROSS ERIC AND TAKES RED'S HAND.

ERIC

(SEPARATES THEIR HANDS) No.

LEIA WALKS UP, DETERMINED, HOLDING A RED SOLO CUP.

LEIA

Hi, dad.

ERIC

Where have you been? First the weenies, then the fireworks. I guess family means nothing.

LEIA

You always wanna talk, so let's talk.

ERIC

Is that a beer?

LEIA

(TURNS OVER EMPTY CUP) It was.

ERIC

You drank that whole thing?

LEIA

No, I spilled most of it coming down the water tower.

ERIC

The water tower?!

KITTY

(TO LEIA) Honey, stop talking.

LEIA

No, grandma. (TO ERIC) I don't want to go to basketball camp. I want to stay in Point Place for the summer. I might even cut up my jeans, dye my hair, who knows? The important thing is, this is my life and I'm done letting it suck.

ERIC

This doesn't sound like you. Was this Gwen's idea?

LEIA

...No.

ERIC

Is there a boy?

LEIA

...No.

ERIC

Look, I can tell you're all excited, but I'm not leaving you here with "a Gwen" so forget it.

ERIC TURNS TO WALK AWAY.

LEIA

Don't you walk away from me.

ERIC TURNS BACK SLOWLY.

RED

(GRINNING) These are my kind of fireworks.

LEIA

Look, what's the big deal? Grandma and grandpa can watch me.

ERIC

I grew up here, they are <u>not</u> the best watchers.

LEIA

Dad, you always talk about the amazing times you had with your friends. I want friends. I want amazing.

ERIC

It wasn't all amazing. A lot of it hurt and I don't want you to go through that.

LEIA

But you did and you're fine.
What's wrong with me wanting to be like you?

ERIC THINKS ABOUT THIS FOR A MOMENT, BUT IT ALL FEELS TOO DANGEROUS.

ERIC

We're done. Go pack your bag.

LEIA

I'm not getting in that car tomorrow!

LEIA EXITS INTO THE KITCHEN IN A HUFF.

ERIC

(SHOUTS AFTER HER) You're getting in that car tomorrow or my foot is getting in your ass!

ERIC WINCES AS THE WORDS LEAVE HIS LIPS. HE TURNS SLOWLY BACK TO RED AND KITTY.

KITTY

Oh, Eric...

ERIC COLLAPSES INTO HIS LAWNCHAIR.

ERIC

I study Star Wars my entire life and at the moment of truth, I turn into my evil father.

RED

Yeah, payback's a bitch, ain't it?

RED LAUGHS AND PATS ERIC ON THE BACK.

KITTY

For what it's worth, we're open to Leia staying for a while.

RED

We are?

KITTY

Yes, we are. I love having kids in the house. It makes me happy.

RED

Dear God.

ERIC

The worst part is I should be treasuring this time but I can't wait for it to end.

KITTY PULLS HIM CLOSE.

KITTY

Aw, honey. It ends when you die. SHE TAKES A LONG, DEEP SNIFF OF ERIC'S HAIR AS WE:

DISSOLVE TO:

SCENE V

INT. FORMAN BASEMENT - LATER THAT NIGHT

IT LOOKS LIKE WE REMEMBER BUT NOW IT'S FURNISHED WITH THE LIVING ROOM FURNITURE FROM THE '70S.

LEIA SITS BY HERSELF LISTENING TO THE SMASHING PUMPKINS' COVER OF FLEETWOOD MAC'S "LANDSLIDE." ERIC COMES DOWN THE STAIRS AND JOINS HER ON THE COUCH.

ERIC

When I was your age, I pretty much lived down here. We'd kill time, play music, do... other things.

(LOOKS AROUND) I was sitting on those steps when I fell in love with your mom.

LEIA

Dad, is this going somewhere or is it one of those midlife breakdowns?

ERIC

I think you should stay. For the summer.

LEIA

What? For real?

ERIC

Yeah. It's going to be scary for me, but if anyone deserves some amazing, it's you. Oh, and mom said she's fine with it too.

(MORE)

ERIC (CONT'D)

And then she hung up because

Barbie got her tongue caught in a
beer bottle.

LEIA

(EMOTIONAL) Oh my God, dad, thank you. I'm sorry I was so bitchy.

ERIC

You were surprisingly good at it.

(SWEET) But you're good at everything.

ERIC TAKES IN HIS BEAUTIFUL DAUGHTER AND HUGS HER.

ERIC (CONT'D)

I'm going to miss you, lady.

I love you so much.

HE CAN'T HELP BUT TAKE A SNIFF OF HER HAIR.

LEIA

Are you smelling my hair?

ERIC

No, that would be weird.

THEY SEPARATE. THERE'S A BEAT AS "LANDSLIDE" PLAYS.

ERIC (CONT'D)

This is a cool cover of this song.

TETA

This is a cover?

ERIC

Okay, teachable moment - if it's good, it came from the '70s.

SCENE W

INT. FORMAN KITCHEN - THE NEXT MORNING

RED, KITTY AND LEIA SAY THEIR GOODBYES TO ERIC.

KITTY

Drive safe, honey. And no matter what face your father's making behind me, he'll get over it.

RED

I really won't.

ERIC

Leia, pay attention, this is very important. I want you to hang out with your new friends in grandpa's basement as much as possible.

RED

No. No, no, no, no, no.

KITTY

The boy's right. Our house is the safest place for her.

ERIC

Yes. Yes, mom.

RED STARES HIM DOWN.

ERIC (CONT'D)

Payback for payback. (SMIRKS, THEN) Love you, bye.

ERIC EXITS.

KITTY

I need to make a shopping list, your friends are going to want snacks...

RED

Don't feed them, Kitty. That's how it started the first time.

KITTY

...RingDings, lots of potato chips, and those Mexican things with the red dip.

RED CAN ONLY SHAKE HIS HEAD. JUST THEN, JAY ENTERS FROM THE DRIVEWAY IN SHORTS AND A TANK TOP.

JAY

Hey, Leia, we're all going to the lake today if you want to come.

LEIA

Cool, yeah, totally.

JAY SEES RED.

JAY

You must be Red.

RED

I must be Mr. Forman.

KITTY

And I'm Mrs. Forman... you look familiar.

JAY

I'm Jay. Jay Kelso.

RED

No. No, no, no, no, no.

THERE'S A KNOCK ON THE SLIDING DOOR. WE REVEAL MICHAEL KELSO (30S) WAVING AND SMILING. HE MOTIONS FOR RED TO SLIDE THE DOOR OPEN. RED INDULGES HIM.

KELSO

Burn!!!

KELSO STEPS INTO THE KITCHEN.

KELSO (CONT'D)

(TO LEIA AND JAY) You two have fun at the lake. And kids, if you're gonna jump off the cliff, do it naked. It's all coming off anyway when you hit the water.

LEIA AND JAY EXIT AS KELSO MOVES TO KITTY.

KITTY

Hello, Michael.

KELSO

Get in here, beautiful.

HE LIFTS KITTY INTO A SPINNING HUG AND SETS HER DOWN.

KITTY

Well, that felt... toned and warm.

KELSO

(MOVES TO RED) So, Red, we need to talk about your granddaughter's intentions with my boy.

KELSO CRACKS HIMSELF UP. RED LOOKS BACK STONE-FACED.

KELSO (CONT'D)

I'm just playing. Come on, let's hug it out.

RED

You can hug it right back out that door.

WITH THAT, **JACKIE BURKHART (30S)** COMES IN FROM THE DRIVEWAY. SHE'S IN A PRETTY WHITE DRESS.

JACKIE

Michael, we are going to be late.

KELSO

Damn, Jackie, give me a minute to enjoy this. That vein on Red's forehead is about to explode.

JACKIE

Gross, I don't want old-guy blood all over my wedding dress.

RED

You're getting married?

JACKIE

Re-married.

KELSO

It's our second remarriage. But this one's definitely gonna stick.

KITTY

(TO JACKIE, RE: DRESS) White, honey? Really?

JACKIE

It's before Labor Day. And if people think it's the first time I get better gifts. FYI, we're registered at Bloomingdale's.

(THEN) Let's go, Michael.

KELSO

Okay, God. (TO RED) Later, Red. Bye-bye, you.

KELSO GIVES KITTY A PLAYFUL POKE.

KITTY

Oh my.

THEY EXIT. RED SLOWLY TURNS TO KITTY.

KITTY (CONT'D)

Fine, I didn't have <u>all</u> the information. But let's make the best of it. I'm going to head to the market. I haven't been down the snack aisle in years!

KITTY GRABS HER THINGS AND LEAVES. RED STARES OFF.

RED

(QUIETLY) Shit.

FADE OUT.

TAG

INT. FORMAN HOUSE - BASEMENT - LATER

LEIA SHOWS THE GANG THE FORMAN BASEMENT FOR THE FIRST TIME.

LEIA

...so my grandma said we can hang out here as much as we want.

EVERYONE IS ABSOLUTELY BLOWN AWAY.

NISHA

(TO NATE) You could fit three of your basements in this basement.

NATE

That sounds like a lot of work,
Neesh. Let's just use this
basement.

THE KIDS FAN OUT TO EXPLORE. GWEN AND OZZIE SIT ON THE COUCH.

GWEN

I love this old furniture.

OZZIE

Me too. It's so retro-sexual.

JAY OPENS THE FREEZER.

JAY

Popsicles! Who wants one?

HE TAKES ONE OUT BUT IT'S ATTACHED TO THE REST AND THEY ALL STREAM ONTO THE FLOOR.

JAY (CONT'D)

Dammit, they're all attached.

NATE RETURNS FROM THE BACK WITH A DUSTY MILK CRATE FULL OF COOL RELICS: A TURNTABLE, A FEW FADED ALBUMS AND A BEAT-UP CANDYLAND.

NATE

Check out all this old stuff.

OZZIE OPENS THE CANDYLAND AND FINDS A CRUMPLED BROWN BAG. HE AND GWEN LOOK INSIDE AND SMILE.

GWEN

Is that what I think it is?

OZZIE

It's 4:20 up in here, bitches.

NATE SINKS INTO RED'S OLD ARMCHAIR.

NATE

I am never leaving.

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW