

THE GABRIELS

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COLD OPEN

INT. GABRIEL HOUSE - MORNING

KEN GABRIEL (40s, child-like, devilish energy) sits at the table while his wife GAIL (the more mature of the two, but barely) scrambles to get breakfast on the table.

The doorbell RINGS.

GAIL
(alarmed)
Who's that?

KEN
(annoyed)
Probably another welcome gift.

GAIL
These people are relentless.

ANNA (15, cute yet sharp with an awkward edge) and JOSH (12, oblivious to social cues) sit down at the table.

ANNA
Is somebody going to get the door?

KEN
And have to make small talk with a neighbor?
(with disgust)
"The trees on our street are a hundred years old?! Tell me more!"

JOSH
It might be another pie.

KEN
What happens after the pie?

Josh is confused.

KEN (CONT'D)
Empty pie plate. They'll expect us to bring it back to them, washed. Just like that, we have to see them again. It's a trap.

GAIL
Not to mention they'll expect us to bake them something in return. Everybody's keeping score.

KEN
(nodding)
Pie for a pie.

The doorbell RINGS again. Ken shakes his head, growing more and more annoyed.

KEN (CONT'D)
They're like friendship zombies.
They keep coming at you no matter
what you throw at them.

ANNA
So you bake a pie. It's not that
big a deal.

KEN
Pies lead to dinner invites and
barbecues. Next thing you know
you're watching slideshows of other
people's vacations. Why would I
water down quality family time like
that?

The doorbell RINGS again.

Josh peeks through the peephole.

JOSH
Large woman with pie.

GAIL
It's probably Bonnie.

KEN
Alright. Nobody panic. We need a
plan.

JOSH
(excited)
Mace her through the mail slot?

GAIL
Something without assault.

ANNA
(exasperated)
Why can't we just be normal?

KEN
(inspired)
I got it.

EXT. GABRIEL HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

BONNIE KLABUNDE (sweet, mid-western, Caucasian, heavy set, 40s) stands on the doorstep holding a pie.

Behind her, the Gabriel family car SQUEALS out of the garage in reverse, and PEELS OFF down the street.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONEINT. GABRIEL HOUSE - MORNING

The pie sits in the center of the kitchen table. The Gabriels stare at it like it's a bomb.

KEN

Who leaves a pie on a doorstep?
What's wrong with these people?

GAIL

Should we eat it?

KEN

What's the point? Every bite will
taste like social obligation.

Ken tosses it onto the counter, where there's already a pile of "welcome" pies.

KEN (CONT'D)

Shoot me if I ever let myself go
like that.

JOSH

Head or chest?

ANNA

He was kidding, you retard.

GAIL

Your brother's not retarded. He's
just a little too literal
sometimes.

KEN

Can we get back to the pies please?
These neighbors are trying to trap
us in an endless friendship spiral,
not to mention give us diabetes.
Did you see that woman?

GAIL

Bonnie *does* seem to have put on
weight even since we moved here.

JOSH

What do you think she weighs now?
Over two hundred?

KEN

Two-twenty.

GAIL
Women don't weigh as much as you
think.

KEN
Okay, I'll guess she's two hundred
on the dot.

Ken grabs a small leather-bound book from the shelf.

JOSH
The Book of Wagers?

KEN
Yep. This is a perfect family bet.
You ready, Josh?

JOSH
Put me down for two-ten.

Ken records Josh's guess.

KEN
Gail, Anna, what do you think?

ANNA
I'm not betting on Bonnie's weight.
I like the Klabundes.

JOSH
Anna has a crush on Peter Klabunde!

ANNA
I barely know him.

GAIL
Let's keep it that way. We see
enough of that family as is.

KEN
Ladies, I need your wagers.

GAIL
Count me out.

ANNA
Plus how can you even bet on this
if you're never going to know her
actual weight?

Ken thinks about it.

KEN
Never. Say. Never.

EXT. MIDWESTERN SCHOOL - DAY

Reveal the school is heavily decorated for Homecoming.

INT. SCHOOL - CAFETERIA - DAY

The tables are filled with students in various cliques joking around, playing music for each other, demonstrating PDA, etc.

Meanwhile Anna eats lunch by herself, reading a book, occasionally looking up at the fun other people are having.

Suddenly she is approached by PETER KLABUNDE (clean cut, mixed race).

PETER

Hey, Anna. Did you guys get the pie my mom brought over?

Peter sits next to her.

ANNA

Yes. Delicious. The whole neighborhood has been so welcoming.

PETER

Cool. So are you going to Homecoming?

ANNA

I don't know yet. Hopefully.

PETER

I was wondering...
(working up courage)
...would you like to go to Homecoming with me?

She mulls it over.

ANNA

Um... Sure. That would be nice.

PETER

That's great! I was a little nervous about asking you cause...

Peter is unsure whether to continue.

PETER (CONT'D)

Never mind.

ANNA

What?

PETER

Does your family have something
against my family?

ANNA

No. Not at all.

PETER

It's just, your parents never say
hi to us when we're in the yard.

ANNA

My parents hate waving.

PETER

(taken aback)
Really?

ANNA

(shrugging)
They think it's phony.

Peter sneezes.

ANNA (CONT'D)

See you in Hell.

PETER

Huh?

ANNA

Sorry. It's this thing we say in my
family instead of "God bless you."

Peter sneezes again.

ANNA (CONT'D)

See you in Hell.

(beat)

I'm really sorry. It's a reflex at
this point.

INT. - SCHOOL - 6TH GRADE CLASS - DAY

Josh sits in class while his TEACHER addresses the students.

TEACHER

Today we're going to talk about
Columbus...

As she goes to pull down a map, the metal cannister falls off the wall and knocks the teacher out cold.

The class is stunned, except for Josh, who HOWLS in laughter.

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE RECEPTION - AFTERNOON

Josh is seated outside the principal's office next to his parents. They are not pleased.

GAIL

Your father and I don't appreciate getting called to the principal's office.

KEN

What's wrong with you?

JOSH

But dad. It was funny. It's not like she died.

KEN

Of course it was funny. You can't laugh at everything that's funny.

GAIL

Sometimes you have to bottle it up.

KEN

This is my fault. I never taught him the difference between an inside laugh and an outside laugh.

JOSH

What's an inside laugh?

KEN

We'll go over it later it.

GAIL

For now, just try not to laugh when people get hurt.

KEN

You know what? This has nothing to do with laughing at an injured teacher. This is about Facebook. Klabunde tried to friend me the other day.

GAIL

And you declined?

KEN
 (nodding)
 He probably thinks it was racially motivated.

GAIL
 Why would he think that?

KEN
 Because...
 (hushed tone)
 He's from Africa America.

GAIL
 That's ridiculous. This has nothing to do with Facebook.

KEN
 Don't be so naive.

The RECEPTIONIST approaches them.

RECEPTIONIST
 Principal Klabunde will see you now.

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Ken and Gail sit in front of the school principal, TOM KLABUNDE (African American, straight-laced, churchy smile).

TOM
 I heard Bonnie left you folks a pie this morning.

GAIL
 So delicious. Listen, about Josh....

Ken puts his arm on Gail.

KEN
 I'll handle this.

Ken turns to Tom.

KEN (CONT'D)
 Let me explain something to you about my Facebook philosophy.

GAIL
 Drop it. Tom doesn't care that you didn't accept his friend request.

TOM

She's right. That's not why we're here.

(beat)

But just out of curiosity, why didn't you accept my request?

Ken gives Gail an "I told you so" look.

KEN

Because we're not friends. You seem like a nice fellow, but we're *not friends*.

TOM

We could be. Let's start on Facebook and see where it goes.

KEN

I have six Facebook friends: my wife, my children, my mother, my cousin, and Dockers.

TOM

The pants?

GAIL

He's obsessed with Dockers. Obsessed.

TOM

Interesting. Listen about Josh. He seems to have some social difficulties here at school. He hasn't made any friends. He doesn't really understand how to talk to other people. And I don't think he's using deodorant.

GAIL

(to Ken)

Who does that sound like?

Ken sniffs his pits.

KEN

I'm good.

GAIL

The rest is you.

TOM

I notice your whole family doesn't socialize all that much.

KEN
Of course not. Waste of time.

GAIL
We like our family time.

TOM
Family time is great. But
sometimes it's good to make
friends.

KEN
I've tried that a couple times. It
didn't take. Then I decided the
best way to make friends is to
actually *make* them. That's why I
had kids.

TOM
(intrigued)
I see.

KEN
But the clock is ticking. Before
you know, they'll grow up, move
out, and it'll just be me and the
wife sitting around talking about
soup.

Gail turns to Tom.

GAIL
This is what he does. He gets very
into stuff. Borderline compulsive.
Whether it's a brand of pants, or a
family tradition--

KEN
You love our Gabriel Family
Traditions!

GAIL
I do. Most of them.
(back to Tom)
But sometimes he takes things a
little too far.

KEN
Look, my family never did stuff
together. I don't want to be like
that.

(MORE)

KEN (CONT'D)

I would rather just have fun with my wife and kids than have to share them with boring strangers. I don't see how that's compulsive.

Gail nods at Tom.

TOM

Listen, we're hosting a little neighborhood picnic this weekend. You guys might actually enjoy it.

Ken looks at Gail with dread.

INT. WOMEN'S CLOTHING STORE - DAY

Anna comes out of a dressing room wearing a fancy dress and models it for Gail.

GAIL

So how into this Klabunde kid are you?

ANNA

He's okay. But everybody else has dates already, so....

GAIL

I get it. You want to fit in. I was your age once too.

(beat)

Now about sex...

ANNA

(embarrassed)

Mom!

GAIL

I know it feels good. Just don't get pregnant.

ANNA

Mom!!!

GAIL

I get the temptation. Multiracial babies are simply exquisite. I just don't think we could handle that much of Tom and Bonnie. The birthdays, the joint holidays, they're just too friendly for us.

ANNA
Why are we so weird?

GAIL
We're not *that* weird.

ANNA
It's only a matter of time before
we alienate everyone in town and
nobody's parents let them hang out
with me. It'll be Menomonee Falls
all over again.

INT. GABRIEL HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Ken is sitting down across from Josh. Ken has his iPad handy.

KEN
Here's how it's gonna work. I show
you an image and you tell me if
it's an outside laugh or an inside
laugh.

JOSH
Got it.

Ken holds up the iPad.

KEN
Monkey dressed as waiter.

JOSH
Outside laugh.

KEN
Nailed it.

Ken changes the image.

KEN (CONT'D)
Monkey dressed as Hitler.

JOSH
Can we come back to Hitler? That
one always confuses me.

KEN
Hitler's tricky.

Gail and Anna come home.

KEN (CONT'D)
How did dress shopping go?

Anna, clearly upset, ignores Ken and goes straight upstairs.
Ken turns to Gail.

KEN (CONT'D)
What's wrong?

GAIL
Menomonee Falls.

INT. KEN & GAIL'S BEDROOM

Gail gets ready for bed as Ken tries to read.

GAIL
Maybe we should go to that picnic tomorrow.

KEN
I thought the four of us could go out on the pond.

GAIL
We'll have plenty of time to use the pond. We should do something with the community.

KEN
Since when do you care about the community?

GAIL
We've moved the kids around a bunch now. Burned through a lot of towns.

KEN
(fondly reminiscing)
Yeah. Good times.

GAIL
We promised Anna we weren't gonna move again.

KEN
That was your idea. I don't like promises. They're phony.

GAIL
Not if you keep them.

Ken rolls his eyes.

GAIL (CONT'D)

We *both* promised we'd stay in the same place until she's finished school. That means getting to know people, even if it kills us. The picnic could be a good start.

Ken thinks about it. He gets an idea.

KEN

Well, if we do go, maybe I can get a couple in beers in Bonnie and get lucky.

GAIL

Excuse me.

KEN

Get her to admit her weight. Two hundred, baby!

GAIL

She's more like one-eighty.

Ken raises an eyebrow.

KEN

Is this an official bet?

Gail knows it's wrong to bet, but... she can't help herself.

GAIL

(excited)

I know I can win this.

Ken pulls out the Book of Wagers and records Gail's bet.

KEN

And. You. Are... in the book.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWOEXT. PARK - DAY

The Gabriels get out of their family car and head towards the picnic.

ANNA

I really appreciate you guys coming.

GAIL

I actually think this could be good for us.

JOSH

How is this good?

GAIL

Maybe I can recruit some patients.

ANNA

Mom, you can't try to rope these people into therapy. They're here to have a good time.

GAIL

I need the business. Until your father goes back to work, I'm the only breadwinner.

KEN

I have bigger fish to fry. I'm hoping to get Bonnie's digits, and I don't mean her phone number.

GAIL

Hon, you're getting carried away again.

ANNA

Dad, you cannot ask Bonnie her weight! I'm going to homecoming with her son.

KEN

Relax. I'm gonna play it cool.

GAIL

We should mingle. Maybe we'll find some people we actually like.

KEN

I like you guys. Let's mingle with each other. Follow any sports, Josh?

GAIL

This does not count as mingling.

ANNA

I'll go find Peter. Mom you should say hello to Bonnie.

Gail and Anna head off.

KEN

Well, I guess I should go find Tom.

JOSH

What should I do?

KEN

I don't know. Go find one of your friends.

Josh looks at Ken confused. Ken remembers that Josh has no friends.

KEN (CONT'D)

Right. Just don't set anything on fire.

Josh nods in agreement as Ken heads off.

Josh, now alone, notices a game of musical chairs being rustled up by a FRIENDLY NEIGHBOR holding a giant stuffed squirrel (the high school team mascot). There are already a large group of small kids signed up to play.

FRIENDLY NEIGHBOR

(calling out)

2 minutes until musical chairs.
Come on kids, winner gets this
giant stuffed "Sammy the Squirrel"

Josh approaches the neighbor.

JOSH

Is it okay if I play?

FRIENDLY NEIGHBOR

You're a little big for musical
chairs, don't you think?

JOSH
(not getting it)
I can fit in the chairs just fine.

The neighbor stares at Josh for a beat, then shrugs and invites him into the circle.

MEANWHILE

Anna catches up to Peter, who's surprised to see her.

PETER
You came?

ANNA
My whole family's here.

PETER
Neighborhood get-togethers are my family's favorite tradition -- after holidays of course.

ANNA
Us too. We love holidays.

PETER
What's your favorite? Mine's Halloween.

ANNA
We don't do Halloween. I think my favorite would have to be Ash Monday.

PETER
Ash Monday?

ANNA
You guys don't celebrate Ash Monday?

PETER
No.

Anna starts to realize that this may be a Gabriel-only holiday.

ANNA
Never mind.

PETER
What is it?

ANNA

(embarrassed)

The first Monday in January we take all the Holiday Cards people have sent us and we burn them in the fireplace.

PETER

Why?

ANNA

My dad likes to make a ceremony out of it where he holds up the card and he goes through all the grievances he has with that family. Sometimes it's that somebody took a parking spot. Sometime he's just mad at their turtlenecks. Then he throws it into the fire and we all yell, "BURN. BURN. BURN."

Anna realizes Peter is taken aback.

ANNA (CONT'D)

It's really weird. Right?

PETER

I wouldn't say weird. Your family is...

(searching for the word)

...interesting.

BACK TO:

MUSICAL CHAIRS

Josh is playing musical chairs very aggressively with the smaller children. He body checks a kid sending him to the ground.

MEANWHILE

Ken and Gail eat lunch with Tom and Bonnie.

BONNIE

I want a second bowl of chili, but I really shouldn't.

Ken and Gail exchange glances.

KEN

Why is that? Has something recently given you a reality check? If so, be specific.

BONNIE

I just want to eat a little healthier.

TOM

Go for it babe. It's the Neighborhood Picnic.

KEN

Trying to fatten her up for sex, I see.

(with admiration)

Your culture fascinates me.

Gail shudders at Ken's inappropriateness.

GAIL

You know, Bonnie, if you're eating more than normal, maybe there's a reason. Menopause? Grief?

BONNIE

My father did pass away last April.

GAIL

It's good to talk about it.

BONNIE

I talk to Tom, and God.

GAIL

But sometimes it's good to talk to a professional. For those nights when you can still smell your dad's pipe smoke wafting into the room. You become a scared little girl again. You start thinking about swallowing that bottle of pills in the medicine cabinet so you can feel your daddy holding you in his big strong arms one last time.

Bonnie wipes a tear from her eye.

GAIL (CONT'D)

That's when you need a professional. Here's my card.

Gail hands Bonnie her business card.

KEN

Have you guys heard about the formula to find your maximum ice luge speed?

(MORE)

KEN (CONT'D)

It's your weight divided by three,
plus fifteen. What's your speed,
Bonnie?

Bonnie is still reeling from Gail's hard sell.

TOM

Let's do me! I'm one-seventy, so
divided by three is...

Bonnie sees somebody she knows across the picnic.

BONNIE

I'm so glad Dr. Barr could make it!

Ken turns and sees DR. BARR (60s, respectable) making a plate
of food.

KEN

That's your doctor?

BONNIE

For our whole family.

Ken jumps up from the table.

BACK TO:

MUSICAL CHAIRS

When the music stops, Josh elbows a kid to the ground. Some
concerned parents are starting to gather around.

MEANWHILE

Ken introduces himself to DR. BARR.

DR. BARR

You just bought a home on the pond,
right? My wife and I live a few
houses down from you. Just built a
new pier. You know, instead of
cedar, I decided to use--

KEN

That's great. So listen, I'm
helping the Klabundes install a
hammock on their porch and I'm
gonna need to know how much each of
them weigh, especially Bonnie.

DR. BARR

I'm sorry, that would violate
doctor-patient confidentiality.

KEN

Perhaps my friend Mr. Hamilton
could change your mind.

Ken slips a twenty into Dr. Barr's breast pocket.

DR. BARR

Are you trying to bribe me?

Ken dangles a glossy coupon in front of the doctor's pocket.

KEN

Dockers coupon?

BACK TO:

MUSICAL CHAIRS

It's down to the last few kids. There's a crowd gathered around. Josh knocks down a sweet little girl in a dress - drawing BOOS and JEERS from angry adults.

Ken and Gail find each other amidst the scene Josh has created.

KEN (CONT'D)

I think we should get out of here.

GAIL

Before they lynch us.

INT. GABRIEL FAMILY CAR - A FEW MINUTES LATER

Ken drives the family home. Josh has the giant stuffed squirrel on his lap.

GAIL

That was fun.

ANNA

Really? Did you have fun making
Bonnie cry?

GAIL

Did I make her cry or did I *help*
her cry? Big difference. She
needed it.

Ken enjoys that Gail is being reprimanded.

KEN

You can't bring her anywhere.

ANNA

And what about you? You tried to bribe the neighborhood doctor.

KEN

I just tried to get him a good deal on khakis.

ANNA

And monkey boy over here -- as if his stench isn't bad enough -- has to go and beat up a bunch of kids half his size.

JOSH

Dad always says, "win by any means necessary."

GAIL

He wasn't being literal.

KEN

Yes, I was.

GAIL

I just hope we didn't mess anything up with you and Peter.

Anna holds in a smile.

ANNA

No. It's cool. Peter thinks we're interesting.

KEN

He didn't happen to mention how much his mother weighs, did he?

ANNA

(sarcastic)

It didn't come up.

KEN

Peter would never admit that his mom is two bills, anyway.

ANNA

She's not two hundred! She's one-ninety at most.

Ken gleefully pulls out his Book of Wagers.

KEN

You're in the book.

ANNA

That was not a bet. Erase it.

KEN

Ah but there is no erasing from the Book of Wagers.

ANNA

Why not?

KEN

The book has been in the family seven generations. Gabriels have been writing down their bets in here for over a hundred and fifty years. So don't ask me about erasing a bet, ask your dead ancestors.

ANNA

You bought the book at K-mart last summer.

KEN

The rules are the rules.

INT. GABRIEL HOUSE - A LITTLE LATER

Ken looks around furtively as he makes a secret phone call.

KEN

(into phone)

Hey Tom. The fam and I had such a good time today at the picnic and doggone it, we don't want the fun to end. Would you guys be interested in coming over later for a little dessert on the boat?

(beat)

Great, we'll see you at nine.

Ken hangs up. Josh enters and looks at his dad curiously.

JOSH

What was that?

KEN

That bet is being settled tonight.

Josh smiles.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE**INT. KITCHEN - EVENING**

The family is in the kitchen together.

ANNA
(confused)
You invited them over? You never
invite anyone over. Ever.

KEN
I thought it might be fun to take
them out on the pond.

GAIL
Your dad's trying. You should
encourage him.

KEN
Yeah. Encourage me.

ANNA
(still distrustful)
Okay... I guess.

KEN
Son, I need you to help me get the
boat ready.

GAIL
(to Ken, re: Josh)
Just make sure he puts on some
deodorant.

KEN
(doesn't care)
Sure, whatever.

EXT. DOCK - NIGHT

Ken and Josh lift cinder blocks into their boat.

JOSH
What are we doing?

KEN
We are going to turn this boat into
a scale.

With each block, the boat sinks a little lower in the water.
Josh makes tick marks on the side of the boat with a marker.

KEN (CONT'D)

Each tick mark represents ten pounds. Knowing how much the four of us weigh, I've set the other seats as controls. So if we get Bonnie to sit here...

Ken points to a seat.

KEN (CONT'D)

We can determine her weight within ten pounds based on how much the boat sinks into the water.

Josh smiles proudly.

PRE-LAP of the Gabriel's doorbell RINGING.

INT GABRIEL'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The Klabundes arrive. Everyone exchanges niceties.

TOM

This is so nice that we're finally getting to know each other. After all, we may need to plan a wedding someday.

Gail is panicked.

GAIL

(scrambling)
The Gabriel family tree is a mess.
(hushed tone)
We have a bit of a midget problem.

The Klabundes aren't sure what to make of this.

INT. KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

As Gail and Ken prep dessert together, Ken hums gleefully.

GAIL

What's going on?

Ken can't contain himself.

KEN

We're settling the Bonnie bet.

GAIL

How?

KEN

On the boat. Josh and I made a scale.

GAIL

Oh my god. That genius.
(suddenly realizing)
But we can't.

KEN

We have to. Thirty years from now, these will be priceless memories for the kids.
(nostalgic)
Remember that time Dad made us weigh the neighbor? He was the greatest.

Gail is torn. She knows it's funny. She knows its wrong.

GAIL

You can't do this. This dance is really important to Anna.

KEN

It's too late Gail. The train has left the station. The pass codes have been entered.
(beat)
We just need to make sure she sits in the right seat.

GAIL

So the train hasn't left the station?

KEN

Technically, no.

EXT. DOCK - NIGHT

As everyone boards the boat, Ken tries to control the seating from his seat behind the steering wheel.

KEN

Bonnie why don't you sit in the back corner? That's where the nicest breeze is.

GAIL

(firmly)
No, Bonnie sit next to me up here.

KEN
(equally firm)
No Gail. She's our guest. She
needs to sit where the nice breeze
is.

GAIL
(through her teeth)
It's chilly out Ken. She doesn't
need a breeze.

BONNIE
I'll just sit over here.

Bonnie sits down in the non-scale seat. Ken hangs his head, defeated. Josh comes over to Ken looking to console him about their loss.

JOSH
You tried.

Then Ken gets a waft of Josh's body odor, and gets an idea.

KEN
(motioning with his hand)
Go sit next to Bonnie. Now.

As Josh plants himself next to Bonnie, and she immediately notices the smell.

JOSH
Hey, Mrs. Klabunde.

Ken motions for Josh to lift his arms in the air. Josh follows along, intensifying the odor. She tries breathing off to the side. She tries covering her mouth. It's no use.

BONNIE
You know what? It is a little warm
out. Maybe I will move to that
breezier seat.

KEN
That's a great idea.

Bonnie moves to the other side of the boat. Gail gets up to block Bonnie, and Ken gets up to block Gail.

GAIL
Get out of my way.

KEN
You're not ruining this for me. I
need this.

As Bonnie settles in the scale-seat, Josh peeks over the side of the boat and counts the tick marks.

Anna watches with confusion as her parents tussle.

ANNA

Is anybody steering the boat?

We see the boat is veering towards a dock. Dr. Barr sits on the dock fishing. With the Gabriels' boat heading right for him, Dr. Barr dives off his dock to safety.

Peter lunges for the steering wheel, but it's too late. The boat CRASHES into Dr. Barr's dock. Wood splinters as the Gabriels' boat grinds to a stop.

KEN

(to Josh)

Did we get it?

JOSH

We got it.

Dr. Barr climbs to shore.

DR. BARR

My new dock!

Ken turns to him.

KEN

Oh hey, Dr. Barr. Could you take a look at a rash for me? I think I may need some ointment.

EXT. GABRIEL'S HOUSE - LATER

The Klabundes are saying goodbye to the Gabriels.

BONNIE

This was interesting.

GAIL

So sorry. We aren't normally so reckless on the water.

Bonnie and Tom leave the house. Peter lingers to say good night to Anna.

ANNA

What time you want to pick me up tomorrow?

PETER

I don't think the dance is such a good idea anymore.

ANNA

(caught off guard)
Because of the boat crash?

PETER

No. Because you guys weighed my mom.

Peter hands her the Book of Wagers.

PETER (CONT'D)

Your dad dropped this.

Anna is shocked, mortified. She looks back at Ken.

ANNA

You didn't...

KEN

The good news is you won.

JOSH

Yeah, congrats.

Peter leaves. Anna runs upstairs angrily.

JOSH (CONT'D)

Sore winner.

INT. ANNA'S BEDROOM - THE NEXT NIGHT

Anna is sitting at her computer, head phones on, sullen. Her Homecoming dress is on the floor. Ken enters.

KEN

This is your first win since *Birth Mark or Burn Victim*.
(nostalgic)
Now that was a bet.

Anna doesn't respond.

KEN (CONT'D)

You don't want to be at that dance tonight. Moving your body rhythmically to music is one of the most nonsensical things humans do.

Ken "dances" by mockingly bending his knees.

ANNA
Please leave.

KEN
Anna--

ANNA
I said, leave.

Ken knows he's in trouble.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Ken walks in and finds Gail on the phone...

GAIL
Are you sure Mrs. Schultz? With a
husband who travels that much, I'd
be paranoid if I were you. He
could have a whole other family
somewhere. Good to talk to
somebody.
(beat)
Alright then.

Gail hangs up.

KEN
(genuinely hurting)
She still won't talk to me.

GAIL
I hope your little bet was worth
it.

KEN
It's like they say, if you weigh
the bull sometimes you get the
horns.

GAIL
She's the only one in her class not
going to that dance.

Ken thinks about it. He feels badly until...

KEN
I got it.

PRE-LAP SIREN

EXT. SCHOOL - NIGHT

The high school is surrounded by emergency vehicles.

Next to the front door of the school sits a lone backpack.

A BOMB SQUAD, wearing haz-mat suits, operate a remote controlled bomb-diffusing robot. They steer it toward the backpack.

BOMB SQUAD CAPTAIN
Building is clear. Proceed to
unzip target alpha-one.

The robotic device slowly unzips the backpack.

BOMB SQUAD CAPTAIN (CONT'D)
Do we have an image?

A couple of TECHS analyze a video screen.

TECH 1
Image up.

TECH 2
It looks likes baked goods. Pies I
believe.

REVEAL Ken parked in his car across the street, watching the whole scene from behind dark sunglasses. He drives off, a sly smile on his face.

INT. GABRIEL HOUSE - NIGHT

Ken and Gail do crosswords in bed. Anna enters, alarmed.

ANNA
The news says there was a bomb
threat at the high school.

KEN
Yeah. They had to cancel the whole
thing. Turns out you weren't the
only one who didn't go.

Anna looks at Ken suspiciously.

ANNA
You didn't have anything to do with
this, did you?

Ken shrugs coyly.

KEN

The less you know the better.

Anna rolls her eyes at her dad, but we can tell she's amused.

ANNA

Can I be honest with you?

KEN

You're relieved because you didn't really want to go to that dance?

Anna gives Ken a hug.

ANNA

Thanks dad.

Anna exits. Ken turns to Gail.

KEN

Today it's a stupid dance, what's next? Sleepovers? Team sports? How much more torture will we have to endure?

GAIL

You're probably going to have to deal with people not named Gabriel, every now and then.

KEN

I'm sure we'll find ways to amuse ourselves.

Gail shakes her head -- she knows Ken is a lost cause.

GAIL

We're not gonna last a year here, are we?

KEN

(intrigued)

That's an interesting question.

Ken digs around in the night stand drawer.

KEN (CONT'D)

Where's the Book of Wagers?

END OF ACT THREE

TAG**INT. GABRIEL HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT**

Ken is sitting down across from Josh. Ken has his iPad handy. They are back to the "inside laugh/outside laugh" lessons.

KEN

Amputee.

JOSH

That's a tough one.

(unsure)

Inside laugh?

KEN

Excellent. You're really getting the hang of this. Now I'm just gonna make a slight adjustment here.

Ken changes the image again and holds it up for Josh.

KEN (CONT'D)

Double amputee.

Josh is really perplexed. His wheels start turning.

JOSH

If amputee is inside laugh, then double amputee is a double negative, so... outside laugh?

KEN

We'll keep working on it.

END OF SHOW