

ORDINARY PEOPLE

Written by

Alvin Sargent

From the novel by

Judith Guest

Full Film Transcript by Pierre Gautard

[Main Credits]

1 EXT. BEAUTIFUL COUNTRYSIDE, SMALL TOWN DAY

1

of a Small beautiful country town in the fall, on the shore
great lake. Close in on school. [Music: Canon in D by
Pachelbel, and angel voices singing then:]

CHOIR

(OS: young male voices)
In the silence of our souls,
O Lord, we contemplate Thy peace

2 INT. SCHOOL HALL, CHOIR DAY

2

know Students' choir rehearsing Canon in D by Pachelbel (not
originally written with lyrics). Among many, Conrad is
singing. He is just behind Jeannine Pratt. They don't
each other yet.

CHOIR

(girls and boys
together)
Free from all the world's desires
Free of fear and all anxiety
Ooooh. Ooooh
Ooooh. Ooooh
Alleluia
Alleluia

Sing Alleluia!

[Close in on Conrad]

3 **3 INT. CONRAD'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Conrad suddenly wakes up from nightmare

4 **4 INT. THEATER PLAY - ON STAGE - NIGHT**

breakfast A man of fifty is holding his wife's hand over the
table.

MAN

Do you know we've made love one
hundred and thirteen times?

We hear laughter (numerous).

MAN (cont'd)

I figured it out on my Bowmar
calculator.

(CONTINUED)

5.
4 **4 CONTINUED:**

stage Laughter again. The man and the woman are two actors on
of the local theater. A very conventional play. The set
represents an average American kitchen. A man and a
woman are having coffee. Man is holding woman's hand.

We gradually discover the audience of the theater.

MAN (cont'd)

To know someone that well is a
wonderful thing.

Pause

MAN (cont'd)

Two lumps?

Calvin
to

[close in on two couples in the audience] Beth and
and their friends. The women are amused, the men trying
keep awake.

WOMAN

No, one.

MAN

So I don't know everything about
you. I don't know your favorite
movie stars. I can't remember the
name of your favorite perfume. I
have racked my brain and I can't
remember.

WOMAN

That's funny. It's "My Sin."

Audience laughs, Alvin wakes up and behaves. Gives a
conventional smile to his wife Beth.

MAN

But I do know, in the last twenty
four years, that I have never been
out of love with you.

5 **EXT. THEATER NIGHT**

5

The four of them come out of the theater. The women walk
together in front, men behind.

CALVIN

Well, did we like it?

FRIEND'S WIFE

I loved it.

BETH

Bev Walsh was wonderful.

(CONTINUED)

6.

5

5 CONTINUED:

FRIEND'S WIFE

I liked them all.

CALVIN

It was funny.

FRIEND

It was a comedy. Wasn't it?
Essentially?

FRIEND'S WIFE

Well let's face it: Clyde Banner's
getting fat.

BETH

Yes.

FRIEND'S WIFE

He should never turn profile.

CALVIN

Most of us shouldn't turn profile.

6

6 INT. CAR. COUNTRY ROAD NIGHT

Calvin seems stunned.

BETH

What was it you were you thinking
about?

CALVIN

When?

up

Calvin gives his wife a conventional smile. She cuddles
against him, but it is cold.

7

7 INT. JARRETT'S HOME. NIGHT

Car enters garage.

open

[car door Alarm On] / [car door Alarm Off] as car doors
and close.

bedroom

Beth goes upstairs and directly into her bedroom. Calvin notices this, then notices the light under his son's door. He knocks.

8

8 INT. CONRAD'S BEDROOM NIGHT

reading.

Conrad is lying on his stomach, on his bed, thinking. He composes himself, grabs his book as if he had been

CONRAD

Yeah?

(CONTINUED)

7.

8

8 CONTINUED:

Calvin opens the door, but does not enter the room, respecting his son's privacy:

CALVIN

You okay?

CONRAD

Mmm, mm. Yeah.
How was the show?

Calvin shrugs, as if to say "so and so..."

CALVIN

Mmmh. Trouble sleeping?

CONRAD

No.

CALVIN

You're sure?

CONRAD

Mm-hmm.

CALVIN

Burning the midnight oil?

CONRAD

Yeah.

CALVIN

Okay.

Pause

CALVIN (cont'd)

You thought about calling that doctor?

CONRAD

No.

CALVIN

Well, the month's up. I think we should stick to the plan.

CONRAD

The plan was if I needed to call him.

CALVIN

Yeah. Okay. Don't worry about it. Get some sleep. By the way, I am working on those Michigan State tickets.

(CONTINUED)

8.

8 **CONTINUED:**

8

CONRAD

Okay.

Calvin closes the door. Conrad reflects, then shuts off light.

9 **INT. PARENTS' BEDROOM NIGHT**

9

Calvin shuts off bedside lamp. Then kisses Beth. They embrace.

(CONTINUED)

9.
14

14 CONTINUED:

BETH

Yes. She'll talk to John.
Where's Conrad? This'll get
cold.

CALVIN

Con!

15

15 INT. CONRAD'S BEDROOM MORNING

Conrad's sitting on his bed.

CALVIN

(OS, downstairs)
(to Beth)

Will you drop those suits at the
cleaners for me?

BETH

They won't be back by Saturday.

16

16 INT. KITCHEN MORNING

Beth still preparing breakfast.

CALVIN

That's okay. Connie!

Calvin goes to the stairs and calls upstairs.

CALVIN (cont'd)

Conrad!

17

17 INT. CONRAD'S BEDROOM MORNING

CONRAD

I'll be right there!

18

18 INT. KITCHEN MORNING

the

Calvin sits back at table. Conrad finally appears at
bottom of the stairs.

CALVIN

Here he is!

CONRAD

Morning.

BETH

Morning.

CONRAD

Morning.

(CONTINUED)

10.

18 CONTINUED:

18

CALVIN

Did you sleep?

CONRAD

Yeah.

CALVIN

Hungry?

CONRAD

(wondering)

Uh...uh... hungry, uh?

Beth slides a French toast onto Conrad's plate.

BETH

It's French toast. It's your
favorite.

CALVIN

Yeah.

CONRAD

Uh... I'm not really hungry.

CALVIN

Breakfast, pal, remember? Main meal. Energy!

Beth comes and takes away Calvin's plate right away.

BETH

You're not hungry, you're not hungry!

Beth takes away the food and goes to throw it away.

CALVIN

Wait a minute, Beth, Hang on. He's gonna eat it. Come on.

(to Conrad)

It's French toast.

toast
Beth pushes the toast in the sink's grinder. French disappears.

BETH

There's fresh fruit for you when you get home from school later.

Grinding noise of disposal.

CALVIN

What are you doing? What are you doing?

(CONTINUED)

11.

18 CONTINUED:

18

BETH

You can't save French toast.

BETH (cont'd)

Listen, I've got to run. I'm

playing at nine. Will you please
call Mr. Herman about the shutters?
I can't get anywhere with that man.

Beth exits.

CALVIN

You have to charm Mr. Herman. Did
you charm him?

(to Conrad)

You have to eat, Con. We just
want you keep on getting
stronger.

CONRAD

Dad, I'm not hungry.

CALVIN

Are you okay?

CONRAD

Yeah. I got to go. Lazenby's
picking me up.

Calvin is strangely overenthusiastic.

CALVIN

Oh. Is he? Great!

CONRAD

Why is it great?

CALVIN

Well. I don't see the old gang much
anymore. I miss them. Bring them
around... Phil, Don, and Dick Van
Buren. We'll play some touch
football on the lawn.

CONRAD

See you later.

Exit Conrad. Calvin resumes eating, reflects, then :

CALVIN

Con!

But his son is gone.

19

19 EXT. JARRETT'S HOME MORNING

driving,
is at

Calvin walks up the alley to the street. [Horn honks]
Lazenby's car stops, with music playing. Lazenby is
Stillman is with him in the front and Dickie van Buren
the back.

LAZENBY

(to Stillman)
It's called flake.

Conrad just stands there, waiting.

DICKIE VAN BUREN

Come on, Jarrett! We're late,
let's go!

LAZENBY

Jarrett. Come on!

Conrad gets in the car.

20

20 INT. LAZENBY'S CAR MORNING

STILLMAN

Uh, we're late 'cause little
Dickie's mom had to pack his lunch.

DICKIE VAN BUREN

Christ, Stillman! You guys were
late at my house. I been up all
night studying for this poly-sci
exam.

STILLMAN

That guy wants a goddamn personal
analysis of it all.
How do you make sense of that
crap, anyway?

LAZENBY

You read the crap!

DICKIE VAN BUREN

Oh, shit! When was the last time
you read something?

STILLMAN

Yeah. Right! We swim our ass
everyday, when are we supposed to
study, uh?.

LAZENBY

I swim and I study.

(CONTINUED)

13.

20 CONTINUED:

20

STILLMAN

Get a sense of reality, Lazenby.
(to Conrad))
What you reading?

DICKIE VAN BUREN

(to Lazenby and
Stillman)
Meditation!

CONRAD

Hardy.

DICKIE VAN BUREN

You guys tried meditation?

STILLMAN

Meditation?

LAZENBY

It's just like thinking, Stillman.
No, I don't do it too often.

STILLMAN

(to Conrad)
Ain't that junior English? You got
all junior classes this year? They
didn't pass you on anything?

LAZENBY

Stillman, you know they don't

pass you on... breathing in that
dump if you don't take the final.

DICKIE VAN BUREN

Hey, man, get something on that
radio, really. You know, I gotta
study.

Conrad stares at the barrier, then away.

DICKIE VAN BUREN (cont'd)

Get something lighter for your
head.

Car stops at railroad crossing.

DICKIE VAN BUREN (cont'd)

(OS)

I hope it's a long train. I've
got to get the stuff down. I'm
gonna flunk this test.

LAZENBY

We're going to be late.

(CONTINUED)

14.

20 **CONTINUED:**

20

zoetrope Train passes, Conrad stares through it and as in a
sees glimpses of a graveyard.

.../...

Car slows down near school.

LAZENBY (cont'd)

Does my hair look like shit,
doesn't it?

DICKIE VAN BUREN

Yeah.

LAZENBY

Yes, it looks like shit. Thanks.

STILLMAN

Hey, hey, hey! Hey, there's Pratt.

DICKIE VAN BUREN

Look at that ass!

STILLMAN

Let me out, I need a jump.

LAZENBY

No dirty stuff out of the window.

DICKIE VAN BUREN

No dirty stuff?

(to Janine, outside)

Pratt! You have nice ...knees!

Conrad looks at Jeannine seriously.

STILLMAN

Hey. Interested in something.
Jarrett?

She looks back.

21 **SCHOOL MORNING**
21

A crowd of students entering school.

22 **INT. SCHOOL, CLASSROOM MORNING**
22

Female Conrad seems to be day-dreaming, looking outside.
Jude in literature teacher questions about the character of
the story of *Jude the Obscure*, written by Thomas Hardy.

TEACHER

How about we discuss some theory,
here? Conrad, what's your theory on
Jude Fawley? Conrad?

(CONTINUED)

22

22 CONTINUED:

Conrad comes back to it

TEACHER (cont'd)
What's your theory on Jude Fawley?

CONRAD
Uh...

TEACHER
Do you think he was powerless in
the grip of circumstances... or
could he have helped himself?

CONRAD
I don't... Uh...Powerless? I guess he
thought he was, yeah.

JOEL
The guy was a real jerk. He was
hung up on what was the moral thing
to do. It didn't make any sense.

TEACHER
I think that's a little too easy,
Joel. Paul? What do you think?

PAUL
I found the book hard to follow. I
couldn't figure it out.

23

23 EXT. SCHOOL STADIUM DAY

Conrad eats on a bleacher, reflecting, looking at some
students training.

24

24 INT. SCHOOL CORRIDOR. PHONE BOOTH - DAY

[Telephone Rings OS]

Conrad is calling Dr Berger.

DR BERGER
(OS)
Hello?

CONRAD

Hello.

DR BERGER

Hello?

CONRAD

Uh, Dr. Berger?

(CONTINUED)

16.

24 CONTINUED:

24

DR BERGER

(OS on phone)

Yes?

CONRAD

Hi. This is Conrad Jarrett calling.

DR BERGER

Who?

CONRAD

Conrad Jarrett!
Dr. Crawford at Hillsboro
Hospital gave me your number...
and...

DR BERGER

Oh, yes! I'm with a patient now.
Can you call back at two
fifteen?

CONRAD

I don't think I'll be free.

DR BERGER

Then give me your number. I'll call
you tonite. Hello? Hello?

CONRAD

Uh, that's OK, I'll try to call you
back. Thanks.

Conrad hangs up.

25 **INT. SWIMMING POOL DAY**

Conrad with goggles, ready to jump. Swimming training session. Conrad and six others dive. They swim in their lanes.

COACH SALAN

Go!
OK, Come on, now! Move it, you guys! Move it! Keep it going! Keep it going! Keep it going! Come on! Keep plugging! Plugging! Use those legs! Use those legs! Lazenby, get with it! Jarrett, keep your head down! Work it out there! Work it! Come on, now! Come on! Push off! Get your head down. Jarrett! Come on! Keep it up! Keep it going! Dig! Dig! Dig in there! Come on! Get at it! Push on. Jarrett! Push on!

17.

26 **INT. SWIMMING POOL, LOCKER ROOM - DAY**

Conrad slams his locker's door

27 **INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT**

BETH

Was he actually a client of yours?

CALVIN

Well. Regionally.

BETH

It's too bad.

CALVIN

I mean.. it's tragic. Really. Look at him now. He's lost everything.

BETH

Fish too dry?

CALVIN

It's not too dry.

BETH

They have a new mechanic at C&S.

CALVIN

What happened to little Harry?

BETH

I don't know. I think he took a job
in Skokie. Anyway, this new
mechanic is so ...awkward.

(to Conrad)

Is that shirt ripped?

Leave it on the table in the
hallway.

CALVIN

That girl from the hospital, the
one you painted with, she was from
Skokie, wasn't she?

CONRAD

Uh, uh.

CALVIN

What was her name?

CONRAD

Karen.

(CONTINUED)

18.

27 CONTINUED:

27

CALVIN

Sharon?

CONRAD

Karen!

CALVIN

Karen.

BETH

Conrad, do you want me to sign you up for round robin at the club?

CONRAD

I haven't played in a year.

BETH

Well, don't you think it's time to start?

Silence

BETH (cont'd)

Also, Calvin, we have to go to the Murrays on saturday, I couldn't get out of it, it's Clark's birthday. I bought him that book on wine.

CALVIN

(aside)

Good god, not the Murrays...

28

28 INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Conrad is twisting in his bed under a nightmare

EXT. NIGHTMARE. STORM on LAKE - NIGHT

small

Conrad and Buck are fighting against the storm in their sailboat

CONRAD

Lift the rope off Bucky!

29

29 INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Conrad is twisting in his bed under his nightmare

EXT. NIGHTMARE. STORM on LAKE - NIGHT

small

Conrad and Buck are fighting against the storm in their sailboat

BUCK

We're going in!

19.

30 30 **INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Conrad is twisting in his bed under his nightmare

EXT. STORM on LAKE - NIGHT (NIGHTMARE)

overturned Buck is overboard swimming, trying to cling at the
small sailboat

CONRAD

(OS)

Give me your hand!

31 31 **INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Conrad is twisting in his bed under his nightmare

EXT. STORM on LAKE - NIGHT (NIGHTMARE)

sailboat Conrad is clingin at the keel of the overturned

CONRAD

Bucky!

32 32 **INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Conrad is twisting in his bed under his nightmare and
muttering in his sleep.

CONRAD

Fuck! Fuck! Ha...

33 33 **EXT. DR BERGER'S OFFICE BUILDING. STREET. DAY**

He Conrad, sitting on a bench, looks at Dr Berger's office
windows on the other side of street, hesitating to go.

finally crosses the street and enters building.

34 **34 INT. DR BERGER'S OFFICE BUILDING. LIFT DAY**
34

Berger: Conrad, kind of terrified, rehearses his meeting Dr.

CONRAD

Oh, hi. How are you? /.../ Oh. I'm
fine /.../ Couldn't be better,
really. Oh, terrific, yeah.

35 **35 INT. DR. BERGER'S CORRIDOR - DAY**
35

Conrad sees « Dr Berger » on a bell. He rings but
another door opens behind him. Dr Berger motions him to come
in.

DR BERGER

Ha! Hi! Come in. It's OK, they all
do that.

(CONTINUED)

20.
35 **35 CONTINUED:**

INT. Dr. BERGER'S OFFICE - DAY

Dr BERGER (cont'd)

Jarrett?

Conrad nods.

Dr BERGER (cont'd)

Come in. Sit down.

Dr Berger is fixing an amplifier

Dr BERGER (cont'd)

I just have to... wire some...
volume.

Music suddenly blares. Dr Berger stops it.

Dr BERGER (cont'd)
Ah... sorry. Sit down! You've had
trouble finding the place?

CONRAD

Not yet.

Dr Berger gives him a second look. Telephone Rings. Dr
Berger sits at his desk, looks up file.

DR BERGER

Hmm... Jarrett. How long since
you've been out of the hospital?

CONRAD

A month and a half.

DR BERGER

Feeling depressed?

CONRAD

No.

DR BERGER

On stage?

CONRAD

Pardon me?

DR BERGER

People nervous... treating you
like you're ...a dangerous character?

CONRAD

Yeah. I guess a little.

DR BERGER

Are you?

(CONTINUED)

35

35 CONTINUED:

21.

CONRAD

I don't know.

Dr Berger sits at table, looks up another file.

DR BERGER

How long were you in the hospital?

CONRAD

Four months.

DR BERGER

What did you do?

CONRAD

I tried to off myself. Isn't it down there?

DR BERGER

It doesn't say what your method was.

CONRAD

Double-edged Super Blue.

DR BERGER

Oh.

Dr Berger closes file

Dr BERGER (cont'd)

So how does it feel being home?
Everybody's glad to see you?

CONRAD

Yeah.

DR BERGER

Friends?

CONRAD

Yeah.

DR BERGER

OK?

CONRAD

Yeah.

DR BERGER

Everything...

CONRAD

Yeah.

(CONTINUED)

22 .

35 CONTINUED :

35

DR BERGER

You're back in school?
Everything okay at school?
Teachers?

CONRAD

Yeah.

DR BERGER

No problems?

CONRAD

Uh-uh.

DR BERGER

So why are you here?

Pause

CONRAD

Uh... I'd like to be more in
control, I guess.

DR BERGER

Why?

CONRAD

So people can quit worrying about
me.

DR BERGER

Who's worried about you?

CONRAD

My father, mostly. This is his
idea.

DR BERGER

What about your mother? Isn't she
worried about you, too?

CONRAD

I don't know, listen. You... You're a friend of Dr Crawford, so you're probably all right, but I'll be straight with you, I don't like this already.

DR BERGER

Well, as long as you're straight.

CONRAD

What do you know about me? Have you talked to Crawford?

(CONTINUED)

23.

35 CONTINUED:

35

DR BERGER

Yes. He called me on the phone. He told me your name and... he told me to look for you. And, uh... he said you had a brother who died. A... boating accident, wasn't it? Want to tell me about it?

Silence

Dr BERGER (cont'd)

Well I suppose you talked this over with Crawford at the hospital. Right?

CONRAD

Right.

Conrad nods.

DR BERGER

How did that go?

CONRAD

It didn't change anything.

DR BERGER

Why do you want to change?

CONRAD

I told you, I'd like to be more in control.

DR BERGER

Why?

CONRAD

I told you, so people can quit worrying about me.

DR BERGER

Well. I'll tell you something. I'll be straight with you, okay? I'm not big on control. But it's your money.

CONRAD

So to speak.

DR BERGER

So to speak.
Okay...

Dr Berger picks up his diary.

(CONTINUED)

24.

35 CONTINUED:

35

Dr BERGER (cont'd)

How's Tuesdays... and Fridays?
Same time.

CONRAD

Twice... a week?

DR BERGER

Well. Control's a tough nut.

CONRAD

I've got swim practice every night.

DR BERGER

Well. That's a problem. How do we solve that?

CONRAD

Guess I'll have to skip practice twice a week, and come here.

DR BERGER

Well. It's up to you.

CONRAD

I don't like being here. I got to tell you I don't like being here at all.

Dr Berger nods.

DR BERGER

Mm-mmm.

36 INT. DINING ROOM NIGHT

36

a
Calvin
sitting

Beth tidies up some napkins, neatly tied up in rolls in a drawer which she closes (CU). She is in the kitchen, speaks to her from the dining room table. Conrad is there too, looking at his father.

CALVIN (OS)

I saw Mort Swain. His sister died.

BETH

The one from Idaho?

CALVIN

The one with the restaurant.

BETH

Did she die in Idaho?

CALVIN

I guess so. Why?

(CONTINUED)

25.

36 CONTINUED:

36

BETH

You said she was always traveling.
I just... wondered if she died in
Idaho.

CALVIN

I don't know. Maybe she died in
Idaho. Maybe Kansas City.

then Conrad laughs. Calvin too. Calvin is first surprised,
pleased by his son's reaction.

CONRAD

I went to see Dr. Berger.

In the kitchen, Beth stops and listens.

CALVIN

Berger?

CONRAD

Yeah.

CALVIN

Did you?

CONRAD

Yeah.

CALVIN

Good! You didn't say anything.
Good!

CONRAD

I went.

CALVIN

When?

CONRAD

Today.

Beth comes closer

BETH

I didn't know you made an appointment.

CALVIN

How did it go?

CONRAD

If it's too much money, I don't have to go. It's not necessary...

(CONTINUED)

26.

36 CONTINUED:

36

CALVIN

(enthusiastic)

Don't worry about the money, it's okay.

CONRAD

Well it's 50 \$ an hour. Twice a week.

CALVIN

Ah, it's okay. And it is necessary. What did you talk about?

CONRAD

Not much.

CALVIN

What about your schedule? Will that be all right?

CONRAD

Well, it'll cut into swim practice.

BETH

Where's his office?

CONRAD

Highland Park.

37 **37 INT. SWIMMING POOL, POOLSIDE - DAY**

COACH SALAN

(screaming at a swimmer)
Keep that head straight Genthe! I
don't want to tell you again!

Conrad is standing in front of him shivering from cold.

COACH SALAN (cont'd)

(to Conrad)

Now, this is what I see.
I see you yawning, I see you
come late. I don't see you
having any fun out there. Are you
getting enough sleep?

CONRAD

Yeah.

COACH SALAN

Well, are you having fun out there?

CONRAD

Fun?

(CONTINUED)

27.

37

37 CONTINUED:

COACH SALAN

There's no point if you're not
having fun. Right?

CONRAD

Yeah. I guess so.

COACH SALAN

You guess so...? Are you on
medication, Jarrett? Tranquilizers?
Anything?

CONRAD

No. No, sir.

COACH SALAN

Did I ask you if they gave you shock out there?

CONRAD

Yeah.

COACH SALAN

Yeah what?

CONRAD

Yeah. You asked me. Yeah, they did.

COACH SALAN

Don't look at us, Lazenby! Get your ass in the water! Look at the bottom of the pool! You know, I'm no doctor, Jarrett. I would never have let them put electricity in my head.

38 EXT. SWIMMING POOL CORRIDOR DAY

38

Students coming out of the pool. Lazenby and Dickie, followed by Conrad and Stillman

DICKIE VAN BUREN

God that Salan! He's such a picky bastard! He drives me nuts!

STILLMAN

Everybody drives you nuts.

STILLMAN (cont'd)

Don and Fenetch look good, don't you think, Jarrett?

CONRAD

They look very good.

(CONTINUED)

28.

38 CONTINUED:

38

DICKIE VAN BUREN

Hey, Con, is he giving you a hard time?

LAZENBY

He gives everybody a hard time, Dickie.

JEANNINE'S FRIEND

You guys don't want a clarinet, do you?

STILLMAN

Yeah, Van Buren wants a clarinet.

DICKIE VAN BUREN

I don't need a clarinet. Who's selling it?

JEANNINE'S FRIEND

My brother. He needs a motorcycle.

DICKIE VAN BUREN

Uh, uh... I need a new pair of shoes.

STILLMAN

You need a new personality.

stand

Dickie Van Buren and Stillman leave. Conrad and Lazenby in front of Jeannine and her friend.

JEANNINE

(points at Jarrett)
You, you stand behind me in the choir.

CONRAD

Oh? I do? You do? Is that you?

JEANNINE

You have a lot of energy.

CONRAD

I do?

JEANNINE

Yeah. I mean, That's good. My name's Jeannine Pratt.

CONRAD

Nice. Hi!

JEANNINE'S FRIEND

You're Conrad Jarrett, remember?

(CONTINUED)

29.

38 CONTINUED:

38

CONRAD

Right. Hum. Yeah. Um. Bye.

JEANNINE

Bye-bye.

LAZENBY

"You've got a lot of energy."

39 INT. JARRETT'S HOUSE, ENTRANCE - NIGHT

39

apples

Halloween : Beth opens door with a plate of candied ready. Outside, five kids screaming.

CHILDREN (OS)

Trick or treat!

BETH

You're the scariest ghost I've ever seen! And the tiger and the witch... You all look just wonderful. Take an apple.

CHILDREN

Thank you.

BETH

There you go. Be careful.

CHILDREN

Thank you Mrs Jarrett, bye.

BETH

Good-bye.

Children's laughs. Beth closes the door.

BETH (cont'd)

The Cabbots. Little Julie's first
time. God, she's so cute!

40 **EXT. JARRETT'S HOUSE NIGHT**

The children run away, laughing.

CHILDREN

Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha!

BETH (OS)

Know what I've been thinking?

41 **INT. JARRETT'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM NIGHT**

41 Calvin is lying back on the couch. Beth is by his side,
and talks to him seducingly.

(CONTINUED)

30.
41 **41 CONTINUED:**

CALVIN

Mmm?

BETH

That Christmas in London would be
like something out of Dickens.
We've never done that before,
right? Christmas in London?

CALVIN

Maybe we shouldn't plan to go away right now.

BETH

Yes, we talked about that. We decided on that.

CALVIN

Yeah. I know we talked about it, but the more I talk about it, the more the timing doesn't seem right.

BETH

(interrupting)
Calvin, we've always gone away at Christmas time.

CALVIN

I know.

BETH

I think... I think it would be good for him too. Isn't it time we got back to normal?

CALVIN

He's just started with this doctor.

BETH

Alright, so he'll miss three weeks. Why interrupt it?

BETH (cont'd)

Because I want to get away! I think we all should. It's important.

CALVIN

No. If he doesn't go through with this now, he might change his mind.

BETH

Alright then if he changes his mind, maybe it's not something that was right for him to do.

(CONTINUED)

31.

41

41 CONTINUED:

CALVIN

You talked to him about it? Does he want to go to London?

BETH

I don't think he knows what he wants to do.

42

42 EXT. JARRETT'S HOUSE DAY

enters

Beth arrives in alley with car, takes out shopping, house.

43

43 INT. JARRETT'S HOUSE, BEDROOM'S LANDING DAY

Conrad's
then
next door
She

Beth goes upstairs with her shopping, knocks on door. No answer. She enters in an authoritarian way, comes out and closes the door. She then goes to the on the landing (Buck's bedroom), stops in front of it. hesitates, then enters.

44

44 INT. JARRETT'S HOUSE, BUCK'S BEDROOM DAY

silent.
sits on

Beth slowly enters Buck's abandoned bedroom, all Everything has stayed like it was. Beth looks around, bed. Stares at photos, prizes and objects. It's like a museum.

45

45 EXT. JARRETT'S HOUSE DAY

Conrad arrives on foot.

46

46 INT. JARRETT'S HOUSE, BUCK'S BEDROOM DAY

on bed. Beth in Buck's abandoned bedroom, all silent, sitting

Conrad appears at door, Beth is startled.

BETH

HA!

CONRAD

Oh, I'm sorry.

BETH

Don't do that!

CONRAD

I'm sorry, I...

BETH

Ha. I didn't think you were here

CONRAD

I'm sorry, I just got in. I didn't...
I didn't know you were here.

(CONTINUED)

32.

46 CONTINUED:

46

BETH

I didn't play golf, today. It's too cold.

CONRAD

How's your golf game?

BETH

I didn't play.

CONRAD

Oh... It did get colder today.

BETH

No, I mean, ...for the year it's colder.

CONRAD

Yeah.

Beth leaves Buck's bedroom.

47 **INT. JARRETT'S HOUSE, LANDING DAY**

BETH

Weren't you swimming today?

CONRAD

Uh-huh. Sorry I scared you.

BETH

How'd it go?

CONRAD

Good. I swam well, today.

BETH

Good.

CONRAD

Yeah.

Personaly I think I could swim
the 50 if my timing got...

He leans back against a wardrobe. Beth sees it.

BETH

Off.

CONRAD

...my timing got better.
I'm a just a little... a little
off with my... my timing.

BETH

Well, you have to work at that.

(CONTINUED)

33.

47 **CONTINUED:**

47

CONRAD

Yeah. Oh, I got seventy four on a

trig quiz.

BETH

Seventy four? Gee, I was awful at trig.

CONRAD

Oh? Did you...? You took Trig?

Beth stares, trying to remember.

BETH

Wait a minute... Did I take trig? That's... - uh...? I bought you two shirts. They're on your bed.

Conrad just Beth enters parents' bedroom and closes the door.
stands there, paralyzed.

48 **INT. CAR NIGHT**

Beth and Calvin are going to the Murray's birthday party,
Calvin is driving.

CALVIN

Who's gonna be there?

BETH

Well. The Murrays of course, and the Gunthers, and the Caines, and... the good old us.

CALVIN

Why don't we just go to the movies instead?

BETH

Don't be negative.

CALVIN

That's not negative. That's unpredictable.
Come on. Let's really go to the movies.

BETH

Okay.

she is

Calvin smiles, thinking she agrees, not understanding
taking this as a joke.

CALVIN

Really?

(CONTINUED)

34.

48 CONTINUED:

48

BETH

Okay. Yeah. Come on. Let's go.
What's our excuse?

CALVIN

Beth wanted to go to the movies?

BETH

Good. Very good.

She laughs strangely.

49

49 EXT. MURRAY'S HOUSE NIGHT

The car is arriving at the Murrays' house, we see in
background

BETH

All right now, smile.

And remember, not too many martinis.

50

50 INT. MURRAY'S HOUSE NIGHT

smiles,

Gladyce the maid goes open the door. Beth enters all
followed by Calvin.

BETH

Hello Gladyce. Will you put that
with the rest of them?

stairs

Several guests. Beth sees Mrs Murray coming down the eyes wide open, showing off.

BETH (cont'd)
Oh, look, we're in time for the grand entrance!

MRS MURRAY
Hello! Look who's here! Three blocks away and the last to arrive.

They kiss.

MRS MURRAY (cont'd)
Come on in.

Clark

While going to the dining room, they meet their host, Murray a thin blond man.

BETH
Clark! Happy birthday! You look wonderful for a 75-year-old!

BETH (cont'd)
Is that new?

(CONTINUED)

35.

50 **CONTINUED:**

50

MRS MURRAY
Yes. It is. Do you like it?

BETH
You did the mousse?
It turned out well?

CALVIN
Hey. Partner. How are you?

#2

wives.

Calvin meets his business associate Ray Hanley, and Man (red tie striped cream, wearing glasses), and their

RAY HANLEY

Hey, pal!

Woman #1 Calvin kisses Ray's wife. Beth is with two women :
grey with dark hair (in green), the other, Woman #2, with
hair (in orange).

BETH

Hi there.

WOMAN #1

Hi. Beth.

BETH

Good to see you, and where were you
at the lunch last week?

Man #3 is giving Clark Murray some financial advice

MAN #3

Call your bank and borrow the
money.

MURRAY

I was thinking of going public.

MAN #3

I wouldn't do that, I wouldn't
do it now...

MURRAY

Why not?

MAN #3

...because the market's low.

Beth is talking to Woman #2 (with grey hair, orange
dress)

BETH

Your hair looks wonderful. It's
shorter, isn't it? I like that.

Man #2 is telling a joke to two women

(CONTINUED)

36.

50 CONTINUED:

50

MAN #2

I said: "Would you please put out your cigar?" and he says: "Huh?". I said: "Would you put out your cigar?", he says: "Huh?". I said: "Would you please put out your cigar?", he says: " I don't have another one!"

The two women laugh.

BETH

Good to see you! You look beautiful. As ever.

MAN #4

(full grey hair)
It's a macho factor. When these kids are at school, they just think they've got to walk on the edge of danger.

Beth joins the two women and man #2 :

BETH

What are these hushed tones all about?

WOMAN #

He just told the funniest joke!

Calvin laughs with two male guests. MAN #4 (with grey hair) passes him

MAN #4

I'm not talking to you.

CALVIN

Why?

Woman #2 with grey hair (in orange) is sitting on a couch talking to other guests

WOMAN #2

Obviously, you know, I have my
fingers crossed on this merger.

Man #3 and Clark Murray are still talking financial
advice.

MURRAY

When can we have lunch?

MAN #3

Great. Fill me in the office, I
have no idea of my schedule, but
I'm free almost everyday.

(CONTINUED)

37.

50 **CONTINUED:**

50

wearing

Calvin talks with Man #2 (red tie striped cream,
glasses)

MAN #2

I ran into Billy white. Bob Mc
Lean's leaving Coles and Johnson.

CALVIN

Where is he going?

MAN #2

He doesn't know.

CALVIN

Jesus.

Beth is laughing, adressing MAN #4 (with grey hair)

BETH

No. You didn't. You're so mean.
Isn't he the meanest man you've
met?

A guest, Man #5, talks golf with a woman.

MAN #5

When a ball is in play, if a

player, his partner, their
equipment or their caddies
accidentally move it...

Birthday cake comes in with candles (CU)

GUESTS

He's a jolly good fellow
For he's a jolly good fellow
Won't regret, can't forget
What we did for love

They
of
sits

Beth and other women and gathered around the piano.
are a little drunk are singing a little false.
Annie, a guest with red blouse, is sitting on the steps
the stairs, eating out of her plate. Calvin comes and
next to her.

CALVIN

Hi. Annie. What's your boy up to
these days?

ANNIE

Oh. Who knows? They won't tell.
How's Conrad doing?

CALVIN

He's great. Just great.

(CONTINUED)

38.

50 CONTINUED:

50

ANNIE

I asked Donald, and he says they
haven't talked much. I said maybe
he's a little self-conscious.

Calvin

A woman in green going upstairs, drunk, trips over

CALVIN

Oh!

Calvin laughs. The woman goes upstairs.

CALVIN (cont'd)

No, no. No. No. He's...

Beth, not far, listens.

CALVIN (cont'd)

There's a doctor in Highland Park... that he sees a couple of times a week. That kinda cuts into his social life.

Beth, still.

CALVIN (cont'd)

He's great. Just great.

ANNIE

Really? Is he still having some problems?

CALVIN

Oh, no, no. Nothing like that. No, no, just somebody to talk to... that's all. Kind of polish off the rough edges, that's all.

Beth joins in, to cut him off.

BETH

How are you. Darling? Is he falling asleep on you, yet?

ANNIE

Nah. He's great.

CALVIN

(Mimicking "Mr.
Wonderful")

Mr. Great. That's me!

51 INT. CAR NIGHT

51

Beth looks uptight and scornful. Calvin notices it.

(CONTINUED)

39.

51 CONTINUED:

51

CALVIN

Hey?

BETH

You drink too much at parties,
Calvin.

CALVIN

I'm not drunk.

BETH

Why did you tell Annie Marshall
that Conrad is seeing a
psychiatrist?

CALVIN

I dunno. Why not?

BETH

Well for one thing, I don't think
people hear that kind of thing very
easily.

CALVIN

Come on, for most people, it's a
status symbol, right up there with
going to Europe.

BETH

Well, I thought your blurting it
out like that was in very bad
taste...

CALVIN

I did not think it was that...

BETH

Not to mention a violation of
privacy!

CALVIN

Whose privacy?

Beth is strangely vehement.

BETH

Our privacy! The family's privacy!
I think it is a very private
matter.

Calvin sighs.

INT. Dr. BERGER'S OFFICE DAY

Conrad sits in an armchair, very nervous, scratching
his leg.

(CONTINUED)

40.

51 CONTINUED:

51

CONRAD

So what do I do... tell you my
dreams?

DR BERGER

I don't hold much stock in dreams.

CONRAD

What kind of a psychiatrist are
you? They all believe in dreams.

DR BERGER

Really? What's happening?
What's going on?

CONRAD

I just feel... I feel so...

DR BERGER

What?

CONRAD

Jumpy. I don't know.

DR BERGER

Look. Kiddo... I lied. I do
believe in dreams. Only sometimes I

want to know what's happening when you're awake. Come on, something's bugging you, making you nervous. You're making me nervous.

CONRAD

Maybe I need a tranquilizer.

DR BERGER

Tranquilizer?

CONRAD

Yeah.

What do you think?

DR BERGER

I think you came in here looking like something out of The Body Snatchers. It's not my impression that you need a tranquilizer.

Conrad notices a cube on the table.

CONRAD

What is this?

DR BERGER

Clock.

(CONTINUED)

41.

51 CONTINUED:

51

CONRAD

Oh, I see. So you get to tell the time, but I can't. Is that it?

DR BERGER

Mmm, mmm.

CONRAD

So you know when the hour's up?

DR BERGER

Right.

CONRAD

Fifty minutes, fifty five minutes?
What is it?

Dr Berger doesn't answer.

CONRAD (cont'd)

Maybe... Maybe I don't want to swim anymore. You know, I mean my timing is for shit. You know, he's got two guys that swim the fifty, they're better than me, and...

DR BERGER

Ha, ha.

CONRAD

They're a bunch of boring ass jocks.

DR BERGER

Ha, ha.

CONRAD

And him... I can't stand him. He's a tight ass son of a bitch!

DR BERGER

Ah, ah?... Have you ever thought about quitting?

CONRAD

Are you telling me to?

DR BERGER

No.

CONRAD

It wouldn't look good.

DR BERGER

Forget about how it looks! How does it feel?

(CONTINUED)

CONRAD

How does it feel? How does it feel?

DR BERGER

Yes!

CONRAD

How does it feel?!

DR BERGER

Yes! How does it feel?

CONRAD

It's the same thing that happened last year... It's the same damn thing I did last year.

DR BERGER

Are you the same person you were last year?

CONRAD

I don't know!

DR BERGER

That's why you need a tranquilizer?

CONRAD

You tell me!

DR BERGER

No. It's up to you!

CONRAD

Fifty bucks an hour, can't you decide if I should have a pill or not? I mean, you're a doctor, I'm supposed to feel better! Right?

DR BERGER

Not necessarily.

Conrad reflects.

Dr BERGER (cont'd)

How is it with your friends? Is it getting any easier?

CONRAD

No. It's still hard.

DR BERGER

Is anyplace easy?

CONRAD

The hospital was.

(CONTINUED)

43.

51 CONTINUED:

51

DR BERGER

It was? Why?

CONRAD

Because nobody hid anything there.

DR BERGER

Was there anyone there you could talk to?

CONRAD

Uh-huh.

DR BERGER

I mean, besides Dr. Crawford?

CONRAD

Uh-huh.

52 INT. RESTAURANT DAY

52

blinds

Conrad is sitting, reflecting. A young woman's hand
him for a second : Karen has arrived.

CONRAD

Whoa!

KAREN

Hi!

CONRAD

Hey, Karen! Hi! How are you?

KAREN

Good. Real good.

CONRAD

Sit down. Please.

KAREN

Thank you.

CONRAD

Wow.

Long Pause. They laugh.

KAREN

When did you get back?

CONRAD

Uh... The end of August.

KAREN

God...

(CONTINUED)

44 .

52 CONTINUED:

52

CONRAD

It's great to see you.

KAREN

Oh, you too. Listen. I am not gonna be able to stay a real long time. I've got a meeting over at school. Drama Club meeting. We're doing "A Thousand Clowns" this year. You know it? Anyway. We're going so crazy trying to get it together. I am secretary this year too.

CONRAD

Don't let me hang you up.

KAREN

No. Oh, no, you're not hanging me up! No, I really wanted to see you. I didn't know quite what to expect, though... I mean, you sounded...uh, you sounded sort of funny on the phone.

CONRAD

(interrupting)

No, no, I wasn't. It was just a gray day, that's all. Kind of... But everything's great, I'm back in school, I am on the swim team, and...

KAREN

Oh. You're swimming? Terrific, Conrad! That's... That's really wonderful.

CONRAD

We haven't had any meets yet. I could end up on the bench all year, but...

KAREN

Come on, you'll do great. I'll bet your folks are real proud of you.

CONRAD

Yeah, yeah.

WAITER

What can I get you guys?

CONRAD

You're hungry, at all?

(CONTINUED)

45.

52 CONTINUED:

52

KAREN

Uh... I just want a coke.

CONRAD

Uh... two cokes, please.

KAREN

You think we offended him?

CONRAD

Something I said? Definitely a low self-image day.

KAREN

So. Uh...

CONRAD

- Are you...

KAREN

- What did...

CONRAD

I can't believe how beautiful
really wanted
you look.

KAREN

You know what I
to...

CONRAD

You really look beautiful.

KAREN

So do you.

CONRAD

Do you miss it?

KAREN

Miss what?

CONRAD

The hospital.

KAREN

No.

Waiter brings two cokes

KAREN (cont'd)

Thank you.

CONRAD

You don't miss it? At all? Nothing?
Nothing about it?

KAREN

No.

CONRAD

You don't miss Leo's corny jokes?

(CONTINUED)

46.

52 **CONTINUED:**

52

Pause. She looks at him sternly.

KAREN

Are you seeing a doctor?

CONRAD

Yeah. I'm seeing a doctor. Are you?

KAREN

Uh... Uh, well, Dr. Crawford gave me a name, and I went for a while. But uh... I dunno. It just didn't work for me, I guess. He just kept telling me all the things I already knew, and, uh... finally, I decided... the only one who can help me is myself. At least, that's what my dad says. I don't mean it's not right for you, Conrad. I mean I think that if it's something you want to do, that's what you should be doing.

CONRAD

Well, ya, I don't know how long I'll keep it up. I sorta got shoved into it.

Pause

KAREN

Your hair grew in.

CONRAD

Oh, yes. That was such a dumb thing to do.

KAREN

I like it.

CONRAD

You do?

KAREN

Yeah!

CONRAD

I don't know, I just... Uh...
I miss it sometimes, the
hospital.
Really do.

KAREN

Things have to change. You know?

(CONTINUED)

47.

52 **CONTINUED:**

52

CONRAD

But that's where we had the laughs.

KAREN

But that was a hospital. This is
the real world.

CONRAD

Yeah, yeah, I... you're sure right.

Pause

KAREN

I really have to go. I'm sorry. I
have a meeting over at the school.
Drama Club meeting. We're doing "A
Thousand Clowns".

CONRAD

I know, you told me.

KAREN

Did I?

CONRAD

Yeah.

KAREN

I better hurry. Don't wanna be late.

CONRAD

Thanks for seeing me.

He clears his throat.

KAREN

Conrad? Let's have a great Christmas! Okay? Let's have... a great year. Let's have the best year of our whole lives, OK? We can, you know. This could be the best year ever.

CONRAD

Yeah... Yeah.

KAREN

Yeah!

She gets up

KAREN (cont'd)

Mmm... Will you call me?

(CONTINUED)

48 .

52 CONTINUED :

52

CONRAD

Yeah...

KAREN

You mean it?

CONRAD

Yep!

KAREN

You. Uh... You look good. Conrad.

CONRAD

Yeah.

KAREN

Bye.

CONRAD

Bye-bye.

She leaves. Then stops a few steps away, and shouts :

KAREN

Hey!

A customer is startled.

KAREN (cont'd)

Would you cheer up?

Conrad sits there with a strange feeling of
embarrassment,
reflecting.

53 **53** **EXT. JARRETT'S HOUSE. GARDEN DAY**

Conrad From inside, Beth stares outside in the garden where
is lying on a chaise lounge. She comes out.

BETH

It's cold out here. You should put
that on, or do you want a sweater?

CONRAD

Do I need one?

know Beth is taken off guard by Conrad's reaction, doesn't
what to do.

BETH

What are you doing?

CONRAD

Nothing. Thinking.

(CONTINUED)

49.

53 CONTINUED:

53

BETH

About what?

CONRAD

Not about anything.

BETH

Your hair is starting to grow out.
It's looking... looking better.

Pause

CONRAD

I was thinking about the pigeon...
You know the one that used to hang
around the garage. How it used to
get on top of your car, and he take
off when you pulled out of the
driveway.

BETH

Oh. Yeah, I remember. I remember
how scared I used to get... That
whosssshhhh! Flap, flap, flap,
flap!... Every time I started the
car.

CONRAD

Yeah. That was the closest we ever
came to having a pet. You remember
Buck asked you, he tried to talk
you into... getting a dog. Do you
remember that?
He said. "How about it, if it's
the size of a little football?"

BETH

You know. Uh... That animal next
door, that Pepper or Pippin,
whatever its name is...

CONRAD

Pippin. Pippin. Pippin!

BETH

He's not a very friendly dog... I...
I don't care what Mr. McGreary
says.

CONRAD

that dog
backyard, I
out...

- What he really wanted was a
retriever. It was down the
street for sale. That's what
he wanted. A retriever.

BETH

- Everytime time
comes into this
try to get him

(CONTINUED)

50.
53

53 CONTINUED:

CONRAD

(he barks)
Arf! Arf! Arf!

it. Beth stops in her tracks, startled, but doesn't show

BETH

Put that on if you're gonna stay
out here, okay?

inside. Conrad stays alone a while and stares. Then goes

54

54 INT. JARRETT'S HOUSE. DINING ROOM DAY

busy Conrad enters hesitantly, back from garden. Beth is
dressing up the table.

CONRAD

Can I help?

BETH

Help what? Oh, you mean with this?
No.

CONRAD

I will.

BETH

(casually)
No, I tell you what you can do
though. You can go upstairs to that
room of yours and clean out the
closet.

CONRAD

Mom...

BETH

Okay? Because it really is a mess.

telephone
suddenly

They stand there, facing each other, uptight. The
rings. Beth goes over to it, picks it up, seems
delighted.

BETH (cont'd)

Hello. /.../
Oh, hi! /.../
Yeah, , no, I didn't get there. I
was swamped with work. How did it
go? /.../
No, no, I'm not doing anything,
just getting ready for dinner.
Uh-huh.

Beth laughs to a gossip. Conrad is devastated.

(CONTINUED)

51.

54 **CONTINUED:**

54

BETH (cont'd)

Did she really?

Beth laughs again.

[echo effect to get into Flashback]

55 **EXT. JARRETT'S HOUSE, GARDEN DAY**

Beth is laughing at Buck story. She is lying leisurely on a mattress on the lawn. Buck is standing, telling his story.

BUCK

Oh anyway, Mary Ann Ramon started to just scream, just cry, right? It was crazy. We got so drunk that we couldn't talk to each other. It was the last day... the last day of school.

A younger Conrad, sitting aside, is listening too, amused.

BUCK (cont'd)

We walked out of the building in the middle of the class!

Conrad laughs. Beth laughs.

BETH

Oh, Bucky!

Beth laughs.

56 **INT. JARRETT'S HOUSE, DINING ROOM - DAY**

Beth laughs. Conrad stares at Beth laughing on the phone. The gossip gets too funny.

BETH

No. Stop!

Beth laughs.

INT. Dr. BERGER'S OFFICE EVENING

DR BERGER

What do you expect from her?

CONRAD

We just don't connect.

DR BERGER

Why not?

CONRAD

I don't know. We just don't.

(CONTINUED)

56

56 CONTINUED:

52.

Silence

DR BERGER

What are you thinking?

CONRAD

That I jack off a lot.

DR BERGER

So what else is new? Does it help?

CONRAD

For a minute.

Silence

DR BERGER

What now?

CONRAD

John Boy.

DR BERGER

Who?

CONRAD

You know, in "The Waltons". John Boy?

DR BERGER

Yeah. What about him?

CONRAD

My father came into my room and he didn't know what to say.
This is right after Buck died.
And he came over and sat on the bed next to me, put his arm around my shoulder. We just sat there.
I remember I was watching his shoe.
And thinking...
Cos his shoe was turned over on its side.
I was thinking: "He's so uptight, it's gonna crack off."

Dr Berger listens carefully.

CONRAD (cont'd)
And I knew I should have felt something.
But I didn't know what to feel.
I kept thinking what they say on TV, you know, stuff like:
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

53.

56 **CONTINUED:**

56

CONRAD (cont'd)
"Oh, no, noo! Ooh, My god!"
But I didn't say that... because I didn't feel sad...
so much as...

Conrad sighs.

DR BERGER

So much as what?

CONRAD

I dunno. I kept thinking that John Boy would've said something...about the way he felt, you know.
Something.

DR BERGER

What would John Boy have said?

CONRAD

I don't know.

DR BERGER

Come on.

Conrad seems lost. Dr Berger is on to something.

Dr BERGER (cont'd)

Come on.

CONRAD

Come on what?

DR BERGER

Don't hold back.

Silence

57 **EXT. CITY BUSINESS CENTER DAY**

57

at

Calvin walks with his business partner Ray Hanley (seen
the party).

RAY HANLEY

Well. At least she's an
improvement. She doesn't crack gum
in your face. That's what you get
when your partner does the hiring
and firing.

CALVIN

Oh, I'm sorry. That's my fault.
I just can never seem to tell
anybody that they're not making
it.

(CONTINUED)

54.

57 **CONTINUED:**

57

RAY HANLEY

Hold, hold it. Wait a minute.
That's not the problem.
Where are you?

CALVIN

What?

RAY HANLEY

I've been losing you these days.

CALVIN

Oh, I'm sorry.

RAY HANLEY

That's okay. That's okay. You off
the track?

CALVIN

Huh?

They laugh.

RAY HANLEY

Come on. I've known you for twenty
years. You think I can't tell when
something's wrong? How's Connie?

CALVIN

Connie's all right. He is. He's
okay.

RAY HANLEY

Look, I am sorry, it's none of my
business, but I think you worry too
much. You've been on the rack about
him long enough. You're making it a
habit. You've gotta let him go
sometime.

CALVIN

I'm not on the rack about him.

RAY HANLEY

The thing about it is, in a year
he'll be gone. Off to Michigan or
Harvard or wherever in the hell he
gets it in his head he wants to go.
Maybe he'll decide to take a tour
of Europe for a year and not even
go to school at all. Who knows?

CALVIN

I can't argue with "Who knows."

(CONTINUED)

55.

57 CONTINUED:

57

RAY HANLEY

I'm just try giving you the benefit of my experience.

CALVIN

Thanks.

RAY HANLEY

With Valerie, it's more than her living away from home... She's gone. Got her own friends, her own life. She breezes in ...for a couple of days on vacations, but... I don't know, maybe girls are different. Or maybe she was too aware of what was happening between Nance and me. But they leave... And all that worrying doesn't amount to a hill of crap. It's just wasted energy.

Calvin is troubled.

58

58 INT. COMMUTER TRAIN NIGHT

Going home on the commuter, Calvin is thoughtful. He remembers his sons when they were kids.

59

59 INT. JARRETT'S DINING ROOM - DAY

YOUNG CONRAD

Give me back my sweater! Come on, it's my sweater!

YOUNG BUCK

Possession is nine tenths...

CALVIN

Hang on!

YOUNG BUCK

Dad, what's possession?

YOUNG CONRAD

Give it to me!

YOUNG BUCK

I can't, it's already on me.

CALVIN

Wait, hang on! Whose sweater is it?

YOUNG CONRAD

It's my sweater!

(CONTINUED)

56.

59 CONTINUED:

59

YOUNG BUCK

OK! Alright! I'll give it back to you... as long as you give me back my hockey stick and my skis.

YOUNG CONRAD

All right.

Calvin laughs

CALVIN

That's fair!

In the commuter train Calvin also remembers...

60 INT. JARRETT'S HOME. LANDING NIGHT

60

Calvin knocks violently on Conrad's bedroom door

CALVIN

Conrad! Conrad!

BETH

What is it?

61 **EXT. JARRETT'S HOME. STREET NIGHT**

Conrad is taken away on a stretcher into an ambulance.

AMBULANCE MAN

Watch your back. Cuts are vertical.
He really meant business.

have WS on Beth, hand on mouth, astonished. Beth and Conrad
overheard.

AMBULANCE MAN (cont'd)

Let's go.

62 **INT. COMMUTER TRAIN NIGHT**

CONDUCTOR

Lake Forest is next. Lake Forest.

Calvin realizes he has to get off.

63 **INT. SWIMMING POOL NIGHT**

is Another training session at the swimming pool. Conrad
and heavily swimming in his lane, although he looks tired
at bored, not really fit for training. He stops, exhausted
discussing the end of a row, looks at his friends happily
office by the side of the pool, then at coach Salan in his
reflects. glass booth overlooking the swimming pool. Conrad

57.

booth

Coach Salan is sermoning Conrad in his office glass overlooking the swimming pool.

COACH SALAN

What it is you want?
I don't know what else to do for you.

CONRAD

I'm not asking you for anything.

COACH SALAN

You gotta be kidding me. I don't get it. I excuse you from practice twice a week so you can see some shrink. I work with you every damn night at your convenience. What the hell more am I supposed to do for you?

CONRAD

Nothing.

COACH SALAN

Bright kid like you, everything going for you. See, I don't get it. Why do you wanna keep messing up your life?

CONRAD

I don't think that ...that quitting swimming will mess up my life. I... I really don't.

COACH SALAN

Okay. Okay. Now, this is it.

CONRAD

Yeah.

COACH SALAN

You're a big kid now.

CONRAD

Uh, uh.

COACH SALAN

Actions have consequences.

CONRAD

Okay!

(CONTINUED)

58.

64 CONTINUED:

64

COACH SALAN

I'm not taking you back again.
You'll remember that?

CONRAD

I won't ask you to ...sir.

Conrad stands up and leaves. Coach Salan is
disappointed.

65 INT. LOCKER ROOM NIGHT

65

[Laughter]

Conrad tidies his closet. Lazenby comes to him.

LAZENBY

What happened? You all right?

CONRAD

Yeah.

LAZENBY

Salan says you quit the swim
team.

CONRAD

Yeah.

LAZENBY

Why?

CONRAD

I don't know. I felt like it was a
bore.

LAZENBY

That's not a real reason!

CONRAD

Well, that's the way it is.

LAZENBY

So what's going on?

CONRAD

Nothing.

LAZENBY

What happened?

CONRAD

Nothing.

LAZENBY

Connie, come on, talk to me.

(CONTINUED)

59.

65 CONTINUED:

65

CONRAD

Nothing. Swimming's a bore. That's all.

LAZENBY

Well listen, I talked to Salan...

CONRAD

Well, quit talking to people! Okay?

LAZENBY

Holy shit! Yeah. Sure. Fuck you.
Jarrett.

Lazenby walks away to the others, waiting. They leave.

STILLMAN

Ooh! Ohh!

LAZENBY

Shut up. Leave it alone.

STILLMAN

I told you. The guy's a flake.

locker's
They laugh. Conrad, angry with himself, slams his
door.

66 INT. DR BERGER'S OFFICE EVENING

66

in
Conrad reclining on couch. Dr Berger washes his hands
background room, then comes in.

DR BERGER

So, what did your dad say about it?

CONRAD

I haven't told him yet.

DR BERGER

How come?

CONRAD

I don't know. The timing isn't
right, you know. He sweats
everything so much, he'll just get
worried about it.

DR BERGER

Can you tell your mother?

CONRAD

My mother? My mother and I don't
connect. Don't you listen? I told
you that.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

60.

66 CONTINUED:

66

CONRAD (cont'd)

What do people have in common with
mothers anyway? It's all surface

junk. You know: "Clean your room,
brush your teeth, get good grades,
nah, nah, nah, veh..."
Hey, look, I'm just wasting money
today. I am not gonna feel
anything. I'm sorry.

DR BERGER

No. Sorry's out. Come on,
something's on your mind.

CONRAD

What time is it?

DR BERGER

No, no, never mind the time.
There's time. Look. Remember the
contract? Control? Maybe there's
some connection between control and
uh... what do we call it? - lack
of feeling? Mmm?

CONRAD

I said I feel things.

DR BERGER

When?

CONRAD

Ah, God... Come on.

DR BERGER

When?

CONRAD

Sometimes. I don't know.

DR BERGER

Come on, come on, Jarrett, I
thought you didn't like to fool
around.

CONRAD

I don't? I'm not.

DR BERGER

Like to play games, do you?

CONRAD

I don't!

DR BERGER

So?

(CONTINUED)

61.

66 CONTINUED:

66

CONRAD

What do you want?

DR BERGER

I'll tell you what I want. I want you to leave "I don't know" out there on the table with the magazines. Okay?

CONRAD

Yeah, and if I don't have an answer you want me to make one up?

DR BERGER

Yeah. That would be nice. Make one up. Right now. About how there's no feelings in there.

CONRAD

I said I have feelings.

DR BERGER

Oh! Now you have, now you don't! Get it together, Jarrett.

CONRAD

Why you hassle me? Why are you trying to make me mad?

DR BERGER

Are you mad?

CONRAD

No!

DR BERGER

Oh, cut the shit! You're mad! You're mad as hell! You don't like

being pushed.
So why don't you do something
about it!

CONRAD

What?

DR BERGER

Tell me to fuck off! I don't know.

CONRAD

Well, fuck off! No. No, I can't, I
can't do this.

DR BERGER

Why not?

(CONTINUED)

66

66 CONTINUED:

62.

CONRAD

I can't...

DR BERGER

Why not?

CONRAD

I can't do this. It takes too much
energy to get mad!

DR BERGER

Do you know how much energy it
takes to hold it back?

CONRAD

When I let myself feel low, I feel
as lousy.

DR BERGER

Oh! I beg your pardon! I never
promised you a rose garden...

CONRAD

Fuck you. Berger!

DR BERGER

What?

CONRAD

Fuck you.

DR BERGER

Yeah?

CONRAD

Fuck you!

DR BERGER

That's it!

CONRAD

Jesus, you're really weird! What about you? What do you feel, huh? Do you jack off or jerk off? Whatever you call it?

DR BERGER

What do you think?

CONRAD

(shouts at him)

What do I think? I think you married your fat lady... and you goona over fuck the daylights out of her!

(CONTINUED)

63.

66 CONTINUED:

66

DR BERGER

Sounds good to me.

CONRAD

Ah! Ha! Ha...

Conrad falls on the couch, out of breath.

DR BERGER

A little advice about feeling,
kiddo... Don't expect it always to
tickle.

67 **INT. GRANDPARENTS' LIVING ROOM DAY**

pose in Beth, Grandfather (Beth's father), Conrad and Calvin
to front of Grandmother (Beth's mother) aiming her camera
take a photo. Grandfather is very excited and noisy.

GRANDFATHER

GRANDMOTHER

to Ha! Ha! Mother do you know
quiet. how to aim that thing?

Be quiet. I have
concentrate. Be

GRANDFATHER

GRANDMOTHER

Okay. Good. Is it in focus?
to take the
Dad, will
there. Will
there?

Smile. Smile.
Okay, now I want
three young ones.
you get out of
you get out of

GRANDFATHER

Oh, all right, all right.

GRANDMOTHER

And be quiet. Be quiet. Be quiet.
Conrad. Where are you?

GRANDFATHER

Connie!

GRANDMOTHER

Connie.

GRANDFATHER

Over in the middle between your
mother and father.

CALVIN

That's good.

GRANDMOTHER

That's great. All right, smile everybody.

(CONTINUED)

64.

67 CONTINUED:

67

GRANDFATHER

GRANDMOTHER

you be quiet?
smile!

You're taller than your
mother is! Really!

Quiet! Will
All right,

GRANDFATHER

GRANDMOTHER

Wonderful. OK,
Cal and Beth.

This is beautiful. Hold it
now I
level, would you?

Shut up!
want to take
OK?

GRANDFATHER

GRANDMOTHER

it!

Great! Sure. Oh, come on. You
can do better than that.

Oh, hooooold

GRANDFATHER

Ohhh!

CALVIN

Connie. I want one of Connie and
his mother.

BETH

No, I tell you what. Let's get the
three men in there, and I'll take a
picture of you.

CALVIN

Connie, move in a little closer to

your mother. Okay... prize
winner...

GRANDFATHER

Yeah. That's great.

CALVIN

Portrait...

GRANDFATHER

It's great.

BETH

Do it.

CALVIN

Page one, Lake Forrester...

GRANDFATHER

GRANDMOTHER

Ain't it mother?
marvellous. I love

Yes. It's
it.

Calvin clicks but it doesn't work, the camera wasn't
cocked.

CALVIN (cont'd)

Shoot, I didn't cock it.

(CONTINUED)

65.

67 CONTINUED:

67

BETH

Calvin...

CALVIN

Hold it. Connie, smile!

BETH

Calvin!

CALVIN

Just a second, smile!

BETH

Calvin, give me the camera.

CALVIN

No, I didn't get it yet , Beth.

BETH

Come on, give me the camera.

CONRAD

Dad, give her the camera.

CALVIN

I want a really good picture of the two of you, OK?

BETH

No but I really want a shot of the three of you men. Give me the camera, Calvin. Please...

CALVIN

Not until I get a picture of the two of you.

BETH

Cal?

CONRAD

(shouts)

GIVE-HER-THE-GODDAMN-CAMERA!

hands

Calvin is startled. Conrad sits in an armchair. Calvin the camera to Beth. They exchange places.

BETH

Smile.

Beth takes a photo of Calvin.

BETH (cont'd)

Who's hungry? I'll make the sandwiches.

(CONTINUED)

66.

67

67 CONTINUED:

Beth leaves for the kitchen, leaving the camera to her mother.

68

68 INT. GRANDPARENTS' KITCHEN DAY

Beth

[plate crashes]. We follow the grandmother going to the kitchen to see what's happening. With her, we discover kneeling, picking up a broken plate on the ground.

GRANDMOTHER

Beth?!

BETH

I think it can be saved.

the

Beth gets up, goes to the table and starts preparing sandwiches.

BETH (cont'd)

That was dumb. It was just so dumb. I don't think he's happy in school.

GRANDMOTHER

Have you talked to his teachers?

BETH

I don't think people want to be with him. He provokes people.

GRANDMOTHER

Well. / Why don't you do this? / It's an awkward age.

BETH

Thank you.

GRANDMOTHER

Maybe he needs a change. Are you sure he's eating enough?

BETH

Yes, Mother, of course.

GRANDMOTHER

I think he'll be all right - if you're firm with him, mmm?

BETH

I think maybe he should go away to school. I just don't know how to deal with him any more.

GRANDMOTHER

Who would make that decision?

(CONTINUED)

67.

68 CONTINUED:

68

BETH

I don't know. I suppose this doctor he's seeing.

GRANDMOTHER

What sort of doctor... would make that decision for you?

BETH

A psychiatrist.

GRANDMOTHER

I thought we were all finished with that.

BETH

No...

GRANDMOTHER

What's his name?

BETH

Berger.

GRANDMOTHER

Jewish doctor?

BETH

I dunno, I suppose he's Jewish.
Maybe just German.

GRANDMOTHER

What does Cal say about all this?

puts Beth shows her mother the two pieces of the plate and
them together.

BETH

You know, I think this can be
saved. It's a nice clean break.

69 **69 INT. SCHOOL EVENING**

The choir is rehearsing.

CHOIR

Alleluia, Amen. Amen. Alleluia,
Amen. Aaaaaamen.
(final)

CONDUCTOR

Okay. Altos, that last "E" natural
could be just a little higher.
Officers, don't forget your
meeting tonight. That's it.

(CONTINUED)

68.
69 **69 CONTINUED:**

Choir breaks. Jeannine looks at Conrad.

70 **70 INT. SCHOOL CORRIDOR EVENING**

Jeannine in school corridor still singing.

JEANNINE

Mmm mm mmm, Mmm mm mmm, Mmm mmm
Mmm mm mmm.

and
to
was

Jeannine stops to drink some water at the tap of the fountain. Conrad see her when he is already too near, has almost his coat on. Seeing an opportunity to talk her, he steps back, takes off his coat while she is not looking, then passes her, putting on his coat as if he naturally on his way out.

GIRLS

Hi. Jeannine!

Jeannine notices Conrad passing by.

JEANNINE

You are really a terrific tenor.

CONRAD

Oh...

JEANNINE

In fact. You should be doing the solo in that Russian thing.

CONRAD

Ha, no. I...

JEANNINE

No. I'm serious. You really sing well. I'm getting to know your voice.

CONRAD

Yeah?

JEANNINE

Yeah!

CONRAD

How can you hear me sing if you're singing?

JEANNINE

Well... I don't always sing. Sometimes I just listen.

CONRAD

Oh?

(CONTINUED)

69.

70 CONTINUED:

70

JEANNINE

For instance, Marcia Blair can't sing a note.

CONRAD

Uh, uh...

JEANNINE

Janet Fox only mouths the words and never sings.

CONRAD

Ha, ha? Ha, a detective?

JEANNINE

Yeah...

71 EXT. PARK EVENING

71

JEANNINE

Do you like Vivaldi?

CONRAD

Uh...

JEANNINE

Telemann?

CONRAD

Telemann? Um...

JEANNINE

What kind of music do you like?

CONRAD

Oh. Uh... Modern jazz. I like. Folk rock. Spoon on a glass.

JEANNINE

Spoon on a ...glass?

Conrad laughs.

JEANNINE (cont'd)
Oh, you mean like ...tablespoon?
Oh, dear! Why do I ask dumb
questions? I'm just showing off.
Why is it so hard... the first
time you talk to somebody?

Conrad shrugs.

CONRAD
Mmmm. You make it look easy.

Jeannine is touched.

(CONTINUED)

70.

71 **CONTINUED:**

71

JEANNINE

Really?

Jeannine looks at him, then:

JEANNINE (cont'd)
Oh, that's my bus, I got to go!

her She runs and gets into the bus. Conrad follows and see
gets into the bus.

JEANNINE (cont'd)
I'll see you later!
And you're really a terrific
tenor!

CONRAD
(singing like a tenor)
Ah. You're just saying that?

Bus goes away.

CONRAD (cont'd)
Alleluia! Alleluia!

72 72 **EXT. PARK EVENING**
72

Conrad goes home through park.

CONRAD

Alleluia! Ah ha, ha, ha, ha, ha,
ha, ha. Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha,
ha, ha, ha, alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

73 73 **INT. CONRAD'S BEDROOM EVENING**
73

Conrad enters his room still singing in a low voice.

CONRAD

Alleluia!

He browses quickly through a pocket book, finds the
piece of paper inserted in it, picks up phone and dials the
number written on the paper

KAREN'S MOTHER

Hello?

CONRAD

Hello. Is Karen there?

KAREN'S MOTHER

Who's calling, please?

(CONTINUED)

71.
73 73 **CONTINUED:**
73

CONRAD

It's a friend of hers from
Hillsboro?

KAREN'S MOTHER

Oh... Well, she's ...not home from

school yet.

CONRAD

Oh. Um...Hmm. Just tell her I called. This is Conrad. Calling. Just tell her I called and I'm feeling great, and I just wanted to talk to her.

KAREN'S MOTHER

Yes. I will.

CONRAD

OK. Thank you.

KAREN'S MOTHER

Good bye.

then
writes it
Conrad walks nervously around to and fro for a while
looks up into directory. He finds Jeannine number,
down "Pratt 5556719", then picks up the phone.

CONRAD

All right

but
Conrad hangs up, and rehearses what he is going to say,
he is yet too shy to call.

CONRAD (cont'd)

Hello. Jeannine. This is Conrad.

Hello. Jeannine, this is Conrad.

Hello. Jeannine. This is Conrad.

Conrad. Conrad? What a dumb name.

Hello. Jeannine. This is Bill.

Uuuuurgh!

Conrad takes courage and dials Jeannine number.

JEANNINE

Hello?

CONRAD

Hello. This is... Hello, this is Conrad calling. Jarrett?

JEANNINE

Oh...

(realizing, more
enthusiastic)

Oh. Hi!

(CONTINUED)

72.

73 CONTINUED:

73

CONRAD

Hi. Listen. I was... I was wondering if maybe you'd like...to go out sometime?

JEANNINE

You mean, with you? Like on a date?

CONRAD

Well, yeah, we wouldn't have to call it a real date. We could fake it sort of, to see how it goes..

Jeannine laughs.

JEANNINE

That was dumb. Forget it. Just forget it. Now start over.

CONRAD

Hi, this is Conrad Jarrett...

JEANNINE

(interrupting))
I'd love to. When?

Conrad laughs.

74

74 EXT. STREET JARRETT'S HOME DAY

with

[Happy music] Calvin and Conrad happily come back home with a Christmas tree on top of car.

75

75 INT. JARRETT'S LIVING ROOM DAY

decorated.

Christmas tree standing in living room ready to be

here. Bet silently comes in. Calvin finally notices she is

CALVIN

I didn't see you there. What do you think?

BETH

(cold)
Fine.

CALVIN

Rawlins used to have such great Scotch pines. And they all look like skeletons this year.

Conrad comes in with a box of christmas tree decorations

CONRAD

Hi. What do you think?

(CONTINUED)

73.

75 **CONTINUED:**

75

BETH

(cold)
Very nice.

Conrad and Calvin stop at the tone of her voice.

CALVIN

What's wrong?

BETH

(cold)
Why don't you ask him what's wrong? Maybe you won't have to hear it from Carol Lazenby.

CALVIN

Hear what?

CONRAD

Dad, I quit the swim team.

CALVIN

What?

BETH

Carol thought I knew. Cos why wouldn't I? It happened over a month ago.

CALVIN

Quit? When? Where have you been every night?

CONRAD

Nowhere. Around. The library mostly.

CALVIN

Why didn't you tell us, Connie?

CONRAD

I don't know, I didn't think it mattered.

CALVIN

What do you mean? Why wouldn't it matter? Of course it matters. And...

BETH

(interrupting)
No, that was meant for me, Calvin.

CALVIN

What was meant for you?

(CONTINUED)

74 .

75 CONTINUED :

75

BETH

It's really important to try to hurt me. Isn't it?

CONRAD

Don't you have that backwards?

BETH

Oh? And how do I hurt you? By embarrassing you in front of a friend? Poor Beth! She has no idea what her son is up to! He lies and she believes every word of it.

CONRAD

I didn't lie!

BETH

You did! You lied everytime you came into this house at 6:30 ! If it's starting all over again, the lying, the covering up, the disappearing for hours, I will not stand for it! I can't stand it! I really can't!

CONRAD

Well don't then! Go to Europe!

CALVIN

Connie! Now, Connie! Connie!...

CONRAD

Cos the only reason she cares, the only reason she gives a fuck about it...

CALVIN

Connie!...

CONRAD

...is because someone else knew about it first!

CALVIN

Just stop it, Connie! ...

CONRAD

No! You tell her to stop it! You never tell her a godamn thing! And I know why she never came to the hospital, she's busy going to goddamn Spain and... goddamn Portugal! Why should she care if I'm hung up by the balls out there?

(CONTINUED)

75.

75 CONTINUED:

75

BETH

Maybe this is how they sit around
and talk at the hospital, but we're
not at the hospital now.

CONRAD

You never came to the hospital!

CALVIN

How do you know she never came?
You know she came but she had the
flu and couldn't come inside, but
she came.

CONRAD

Yeah! She wouldn't have had any flu
if Buck was in the hospital!
She would have come if Buck was
in the hospital!

BETH

Buck never would've been in the
hospital!

Conrad takes his head between his hands and runs
upstairs.

CALVIN

That's enough! That is enough!

BETH

I won't do it again. I really won't
do it.

CALVIN

What in hell has happened?

Upstairs, Conrad's bedroom door slams.

CALVIN (cont'd)

Somebody better go up there.

BETH

Ah! Oh, god, that's the pattern, isn't it? He walks all over us and then you go up and apologize to him.

CALVIN

I am not going to apologize...

BETH

Yes of course you are! You always do! You've been apologizing to him ever since he got home from the hospital, only you don't see it!

(CONTINUED)

76.

75 **CONTINUED:**

75

CALVIN

I am not apologizing. I'm trying to goddamn understand him!

BETH

Don't talk to me that way. Don't you talk to me the way he talks to you!

CALVIN

Beth. Let's not fight. Okay? No fighting. Okay? Please. Let's go upstairs.

Calvin goes, but Beth doesn't, and turns away.

76 **INT. CONRAD'S BEDROOM EVENING**

76

Conrad is

Calvin enters Conrad's bedroom and closes the door.

lying on his stomach, feeling all crooked. His voice is muffled by his head between his arms.

CALVIN

I want to talk to you.

CONRAD

I need to sleep.

CALVIN

In a minute...

CONRAD

I didn't mean it. I didn't mean any of it. I am sorry. Please don't be mad.

CALVIN

I'm not mad ! I'm just trying to figure out what happened down there.

CONRAD

I don't know what happened! I am sorry about it all. I am sorry about the whole thing. What I said, I didn't mean it. Just please tell her. Tell her I'm sorry, will you?

CALVIN

Why don't you tell her?

CONRAD

Oh, God, no, I can't! Don't you see? I can't talk to her!

(CONTINUED)

77.

76 CONTINUED:

76

CALVIN

Why not?

CONRAD

Ha! Because it doesn't change anything. It doesn't change the way she looks at me.

CALVIN

She was upset, Conrad. Your mother was hurt because you quit the swim team. I don't understand it myself.

CONRAD

I don't mean just now. Don't you see? I don't mean just today.

CALVIN

What then? Explain it to me.

CONRAD

Ha! I can't! Everything is German pudding with you , dad. You don't see things!

CALVIN

What things?

Conrad sighs.

CALVIN (cont'd)

What things? Please, I want you to tell me.

CONRAD

That she hates me! Can't you see that?

CALVIN

Your mother doesn't hate you, Conrad?

CONRAD

All right, all right. You're right. She doesn't. Please leave me alone, now.

Silence. Then Calvin stands up and goes to the door.

CALVIN

What about this Dr. Berger? Do you think he's helping you?

CONRAD

Don't blame it on Burger, it's not his fault!

(CONTINUED)

78.

76 CONTINUED:

76

Calvin opens the door.

CALVIN

I'll be downstairs if you need me.

arm

Exit Calvin. Conrad remains lying on his back with his
over his eyes.

INT. Dr. BERGER'S OFFICE EVENING

DR BERGER

Tuesday you felt great. You bought
a Christmas tree, it was all hunky-
dory. Okay?

CONRAD

You're the doctor.

DR BERGER

Don't take refuge in one-liners
like "You're the doctor". Okay?
Because that pisses me off.

CONRAD

Okay. Okay.

DR BERGER

So everything was fine till you had
the fight with your mother, then
everything was lousy.

CONRAD

Yeah, but I don't blame her. I
mean, she's got... She's got her
reasons. It's impossible after all
the shit I've pulled!

DR BERGER

What shit have you pulled? Hey!
Remember! I'm talking proportion
here. Now, what shit?

Conrad sighs.

DR BERGER (cont'd)
Come on. You must be able to come
up with at least one example.
And don't give me "I tried to
kill myself", that's old turkey.
What have you done lately?

CONRAD

Lately?

DR BERGER

Uh, uh.

(CONTINUED)

79.

76 CONTINUED:

76

CONRAD

Hey, come on, if you... Listen,
I'm never gonna be forgiven for
that. Never! You know, you can't
get it out, you know, all the blood
in her towels, in her rug.
Everything had to be pitched.
Even the tiles in the bathroom
had to be regouted. Christ, she
fired the godamn maid because she
couldn't dust the living room
right. If you think I'm gonna
forgive... - that she's gonna
forgive me...

he Conrad stops. Dr. Berger looks at Conrad to signal him
Freudian just said something: Conrad realizes he just made a
slip, looks at him,

DR BERGER

What?

Conrad stands up, reflects, looks outside window.

CONRAD

I think I just figured something
out.

DR BERGER

What?

CONRAD

Who it is who can't forgive who...

DR BERGER

Well a real problem... a real problem has a real solution.

CONRAD

I've heard this all before.

DR BERGER

Doesn't make it any less true.

CONRAD

I'm so tired.

DR BERGER

Yeah, well... that's a hell of a secret you've been keeping on yourself.

CONRAD

So what do I do now?

(CONTINUED)

80.

76 CONTINUED:

76

DR BERGER

Recognize her limitations.

CONRAD

You mean, like she can't love me?

DR BERGER

Oh, kiddo, no. Like she can't love you enough. Like don't blame her for not loving you more than she's able.

CONRAD

But she loves my father. I know she loved my brother. It's me!

DR BERGER

Ha! Now we're back to the rotten kid routine! She can't love you because you're unlovable. Where does that leave your dad? How come he loves you? You're a rottenkid, doesn't he know that?

CONRAD

That's different. He feels responsible. Besides, he loves everybody.

DR BERGER

Ho, I get it! The guy's got no taste! He loves you, but he's wrong.
Look... maybe she just can't express it the way you'd like her to. Maybe she's just afraid to show you what she feels.

CONRAD

What do you mean?

DR BERGER

I mean there's someone besides your mother you've got to forgive.

CONRAD

You mean me?

Conrad is wondering.

CONRAD (cont'd)

For trying to off myself?
Don't you sit there and stare at me. What for?

(CONTINUED)

DR BERGER

Why don't you give yourself a break? Let yourself off the hook?

CONRAD

What did I do?

No answer.

CONRAD (cont'd)

What did I do?

DR BERGER

We'll talk about it on Thursday.

CONRAD

Come on!

DR BERGER

Time's up.

CONRAD

What do you mean? You're gonna pull the plug... Come on! What did I do?

DR BERGER

Come on, Con. You know the rules.

CONRAD

Rules? What rules? Can't I have a few minutes?

DR BERGER

You think about it. Just think about it.

Silence

CONRAD

Jesus!

Conrad is out of breath.

Calvin and Friend are jogging in sportswear. Calvin's

explains a stock market deal he made.

FRIEND

Say. After going to a new high, it falls to 112 1/4 and then rallies on good volume. I shoot an order to buy 4000 at the market. If I get the 4000 shares at 113 3/4, I know something's wrong.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

82.

77 **CONTINUED:**

77

FRIEND (cont'd)

But suppose the order to buy the 4000 shares I put in at the price of 113 3/4, I get 2000 at 114, 500 at 114 1/4, and the rest on the way up, so the last 500 shares I pay 115 1/2, then I know I'm right. I'm going to peel off here.

Friend leaves Calvin and runs toward his home.

CALVIN

OK.

FRIEND

I'll see you, Cal.

CALVIN

See you later.

Now Calvin is running through the park alone. Different voices are echoing off screen.

FRIEND

(OS)

Suppose the order to buy 4000 at 113 3/4...

BETH

(OS)

He walks all over us and you go up there and apologize to him...

FRIEND

(OS)

500 at 114...

CONRAD

(OS)

It's all German pudding with you,
dad, you don't see things.

BETH

(OS)

You've been apologizing to him ever
since he came home from the
hospital. And you just don't see
that!

CONRAD

(OS)

Tell her to stop it! You never tell
her a godamn thing!

BETH

(OS)

Buck never would have been in the
hospital!

(CONTINUED)

83.

77 CONTINUED:

77

CONRAD

(OS)

She hates me! Can't you see that?

Calvin trips, and falls in dead leaves. He sits up,
thoughtfull.

CALVIN

(OS)

I want to be clear.

INT. Dr. BERGER'S OFFICE EVENING

Calvin laughs nervously, all smiles.

DR BERGER

(OS)

That's good.

CALVIN

In the car, I was thinking: "be clear.". I suppose that's what psychiatry's about. Being precise and clear. And honest, of course. I'll level with you. I'm not a great believer in psychiatry.

DR BERGER

Okay.

CALVIN

I know what happens here is only between you and him, and...I like that, I respect that. And...he's better, I can see that. I am not trying to put you down, I just don't believe in psychiatry as a panacea for everybody.

DR BERGER

Neither do I.

Calvin laughs.

CALVIN

I wish I knew what the hell I was doing here.

DR BERGER

Well, you said you... thought you could shed some light on some things. What did you mean by that?

(CONTINUED)

84.

77 **CONTINUED:**

77

CALVIN

I don't know actually, I'm not

sure, I think I meant in terms of Conrad. You see, I knew something was wrong even before he tried to... to kill himself. But I thought that... It's clear that he's very smart. He's been an "A" student ever since he started school, and naturally I thought that ...intelligent people could work out their own problems.

DR BERGER

But you still feel responsible?

CALVIN

Yeah, sure I do. It's hard not to. It was luck. It was just luck that I happened to be there when he tried it. I could have been at a meeting. We both could've been away. It was luck!

DR BERGER

You think of yourself as a lucky man, then?

CALVIN

No! No. No. I used to. I used to think... that I was a lucky person... before... the "accident".
Mmm, I guess the whole of life is nothing but an accident, is it?
What happens to you. I should do with it.

DR BERGER

That sounds more like the philosophy of a drifter than a tax attorney.

CALVIN

Yeah. Maybe, maybe I am drifting a little. I can see myself, ...and I can see the two of them drifting away from me, and I just stand there watching.

DR BERGER

What would you want to do about that?

CALVIN

Something. I gotta do something
about it. I don't know what.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

85.

77 **CONTINUED:**

77

CALVIN (cont'd)

I feel like I'm sitting on a fence,
and I don't like it.

DR BERGER

And you see them as on ...opposite
sides of this fence?

CALVIN

Yeah... No. I don't know. I see her
not being able to forgive him.

DR BERGER

For what?

CALVIN

Oh, I don't know exactly. Being too
much like her. People always think
that she and Buck are... were
...were alike. But it's really she
and Conrad. They were the only two
that didn't cry at the funeral, you
know? It's not easy for me to admit
this but, uh... she didn't...
His mother doesn't show him a
great deal of affection. I'm not
trying to put her down in any way
at all. She is a wonderful woman,
huh...

DR BERGER

Did she give Buck much affection to
...Buck?

CALVIN

Oh, god, yes, she loved Buck!
Bucky got so much... I think what
she felt for him was special. You
know, he was her first-born.
That's not unusual, is it?

DR BERGER

And you?

CALVIN

Me? I loved Buck.

DR BERGER

What I mean is, your wife's affection.

CALVIN

For me you mean?

DR BERGER

Yes.

(CONTINUED)

86.

77 CONTINUED:

77

CALVIN

Mmm. She's very... No. There's no problem with her for me. We've been... We've been married nearly twenty one years. Everybody loves Beth. But, huh... for Conrad, - it's been difficult. He didn't talk about that? We don't know what happens here. It doesn't come up. I guess that's what it is. It's private here. Isn't it?

DR BERGER

Mm-hmm. Very private.

CALVIN

I think I know why I came here. I think I came here to talk about myself.

DR BERGER

Okay. Why don't we?

78 78 **INT. JARRETT'S HOME. GARAGE NIGHT**

Calvin sits in the dark in his car behind the wheel,
not
looking too happy. Door to garage opens and Beth
appears.

BETH

Hi!

Calvin slowly opens the door. Car Buzzer Alarm. Calvin
heavily comes out.

BETH (cont'd)

Calvin?

[Buzzing Continues]

BETH (cont'd)

What's the matter?

Calvin heavily comes out of the car, and finally closes
door.
Buzzing stops.

CALVIN

This will sound strange.

What I'm gonna to say will sound strange.

BETH

What happened?

Come inside.

(CONTINUED)

87.

78 **CONTINUED:**

78

CALVIN

Could we talk about Buck's funeral?

BETH

What?

CALVIN

I know it'll seem trivial, but it's on my mind, or has been, and I'd just like to talk about it.

BETH

Why?

CALVIN

When I was getting dressed for Buck's funeral, I was...

BETH

Calvin, what's the matter with you?

CALVIN

Just let me get it off my chest, OK?

BETH

What could getting dressed for Buck's funeral possibly have to do with anything right now?

CALVIN

I was wearing a blue shirt. And you said: - Wear a white shirt and the other shoes!
It was nothing at the time. But it's always seemed to stay with me. And I, for some reason, been thinking about it and it suddenly occurred to me what difference did it make what I wore at Buck's funeral?

BETH

Ha, ha.

Beth retreats inside the house to the kitchen.

CALVIN

Just hear me out, Beth! It won't hurt you to listen!

BETH

I won't listen to that! No one in their right mind would listen to that.

(CONTINUED)

88.

78 CONTINUED:

78

CALVIN

I just want to talk about something
I always remembered.

BETH

Why do you want to remind me of it?

CALVIN

Because I've always wondered, in
some needling way, what it mattered
what I wore. I was crazy that day.
We were going to our son's funeral.
And you were worried about what I
wore on my feet. I'm sure it
sounds like nothing to you, but
it sticks with me and I just
wanted to ...tell you about it.

She comes to him and takes him into her arms.

BETH

It's all right.

79 INT. MALL DAY

79

Two stairways, one going down, one up, cross each other
in the middle space of the mall. On the one going down is
Beth,
Caroll, Beth's friend, is on the other. They have to
shout.

CAROLL

Beth! Beth! Hi! How are you?

BETH

Caroll! I'm fine. How are you?

CAROLL

I haven't seen you!

BETH

I know. I'm so busy. I promise I'll call you soon and we'll have lunch.

CAROLL

Right!

BETH

How's Brad? Give him my love.

CAROLL

Fabulous! Is everything okay?

Beth gestures to the crowd in the mall.

BETH

Isn't this madness? It gets worse every year!

(CONTINUED)

89.

79 CONTINUED:

79

Good-bye!

CAROLL

Good-bye!

80

80 INT. MALL SHOP DAY

Beth is spacing, seemingly gazing at a dress.

SALESWOMAN

May I show you this in your size?

BETH

What?

SALESWOMAN

May I show you this dress in your size?

BETH

Oh... No, no. No. Thanks.

81 81 INT. MALL DINER DAY

Beth and Conrad are having lunch at a table in the
diner.
Beth is summing up the birthday presents she bought.

BETH

We've got Bennett's, and Grant's
and Foley's. Ha, Conrad should get
something for my mother and father.
He's not supposed to get
something for his doctor, is he?

CALVIN

I don't think so. I think we should
go see him, Beth. - Dr. Berger.

Beth laughs.

BETH

What?

CALVIN

I think we could all go and see him
together.

BETH

Why?

CALVIN

He thinks it's a good idea.

(CONTINUED)

90.

81

81 CONTINUED:

BETH

Ho... He thinks it's a good idea?
What does he know about me, about
this family? I've never even met
him.

CALVIN

Exactly. That's the point.
Wouldn't it be easier if we all
talked about it? In the open.

BETH

About what? What are we gonna talk
about? Don't try to change me,
Calvin. I don't want anymore
changes in my life. For God's sake,
hasn't enough happened? Let's just
hold on to what we've got!

CALVIN

Darling, that is what this is for.
Maybe you'll get a surprise.

BETH

I don't want any surprises.
I know I'm not perfect. And if I
can't go around hugging everybody
all the time the way you do, then
I'm sorry.

CALVIN

I am not asking you to be perfect,
you're missing the point.

BETH

I don't want to see any doctors or
counselors. I am me. This is my
family. And if we have problems,
then we will solve those problems
in the privacy of our own home, not
by running to some kind of
specialist everytime something goes
wrong...

WAITRESS

(interrupting)
Are you folks ready to order?

CALVIN

Huh, no... Could you give me a
couple of minutes, please?

WAITRESS

Sure.

(CONTINUED)

91.

81 CONTINUED:

81

BETH

...running to experts every time something goes wrong.

Silence

BETH (cont'd)

I know you mean well. I want this to be a nice Christmas.

CALVIN

I do too. I want all of them to be nice Christmases

BETH

We need time together, Calvin. You and I. We have to get away. New Years'. We can spend some time in Houston with my brother and Audrey. You know, play a little golf. Relax.

Calvin seems doubtful. Beth goes softly.

BETH (cont'd)

I have already talked to Mother about it, and Conrad can stay with them. Please don't worry about it. Please, for his sake, don't indulge him. We need time together. Okay?

CALVIN

Okay. Okay.

Beth takes his hand but it seems almost like a handshake.

BETH

I love you.

CALVIN

I love you, too.

Beth stares at him.

BETH

Let's just give things time. Okay?

Calvin doesn't say anything.

82 **82 EXT. JEANNINE'S HOME EVENING NIGHT**

Conrad came to pick her up, they both come out. Conrad fetches his car keys while she closes her door.

(CONTINUED)

92.
82 **82 CONTINUED:**

JEANNINE

Conrad?

CONRAD

Hmm?

JEANNINE

I don't bowl. I mean, I'm a horrible bowler.

CONRAD

Oh, that's all right.

JEANNINE

Yeah. Well...

Conrad wants to open the door on her side.

JEANNINE (cont'd)

I got it. That's OK. Thing is, I'm a funny bowler.

CONRAD

Well, listen. We don't have to go bowling if you'd rather not, I'm not a bowling nut or anything. How

funny are you?

JEANNINE

On a scale from one to ten? ...
About a ten.

CONRAD

Hoo, that's pretty funny. Hey,
well, listen, I promise you won't
look silly.

JEANNINE

Guarantee it?

CONRAD

Guarantee it.

They get into the car.

83 **83 INT. BOWLING ALLEY NIGHT.**

Jeannine enters frame looking very focused, ball in
hand.
Conrad looks. She shoots but the ball drops and goes
into
the gutter to the end. Conrad does not react. The
skittles
are intact.

84 **84 INT. DINER NIGHT.**

Jeannine is eating a hamburger.

(CONTINUED)

93.
84 **84 CONTINUED:**

JEANNINE

Can you ever break the ball?

CONRAD

Can't break the ball, can't break
the floor, can't break anything in

a bowling alley. And that's what I like about bowling alleys. Can't even break the record.

Jeannine giggles with laughing eyes.

CONRAD (cont'd)

Anyway...

JEANNINE

Hmm? What?

CONRAD

Just "anyway", it's a conversation starter.

JEANNINE

Catchy!

CONRAD

You like it?

JEANNINE

Mmm, mmm.

CONRAD

I thought it'd get to you. I've been working on it all day.

Jeannine laughs, then:

JEANNINE

Do you think people are punished for the things they do?

CONRAD

You mean by God?

JEANNINE

Yeah.

CONRAD

Mmm, I don't believe in God.

JEANNINE

Not at all?

CONRAD

No. Well, it's not a question of degree. Either you do or you don't.

(CONTINUED)

94 .

84 CONTINUED :

84

JEANNINE

I believe in God.

CONRAD

So you're afraid he'll punish you
for something you did?

JEANNINE

I've done a lot of things I'm
ashamed of.

CONRAD

Yeah? So have I.

She looks up at him, then at his wrists.

JEANNINE

Did it hurt?

CONRAD

No, I dunno, I don't remember
really.

JEANNINE

You don't want to talk about it?

CONRAD

Ah, I don't know... I've never
really talked about it.
To doctors, but not to anyone else.
You're the first who's asked.

JEANNINE

Why did you do it?

CONRAD

Uh... I don't know. It was like...
falling into a hole.
It was like falling into a hole,
and it keeps getting bigger and
bigger, .and you can't get out,
and then, .all of a sudden, it's
inside...and you're the hole, and

you're trapped, and it's all over. Something like that. And it's not really scary, except it is when you think back on it. 'Cause you know what you were feeling stange and new...

A group of noisy students enter the Diner.

STUDENTS

(singing and horsing around)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

95.

84 **CONTINUED:**

84

STUDENTS (cont'd)

Like McDonald's can, nobody can do it. Like McDonald's can, you deserve a break today. So get up and get away!

The manager tries to calm them down. A student comes to Conrad's table and steals some fries.

STUDENT

Hey. Jarrett. How you doing? How about some fries?

Some students grab Jeannine and dance around, put a Mac donald's hat on her head. She laughs.

JEANNINE

What are you doing?

The manager pushes them towards the exit.

STUDENT

Hey, what's your problem? Lighten up!

MANAGER

Hey. I don't like your attitude.

Going out, a student pulls the manager's ear. Jeannine

that. laughs, a bit stupidly. Conrad notices it. She sees

85 **85 INT. CAR NIGHT**
85

he was Conrad drives sadly. He is disappointed and acts as if sulking. Jeannine tries to make it up.

JEANNINE
Energetic. Those guys.

CONRAD
(not believing)
Yeah, they were pretty funny.

JEANNINE
No...

CONRAD
What? You thought they were funny?

JEANNINE
No. I...

Silence

JEANNINE (cont'd)
I'm sorry, I...

(CONTINUED)

96.
85 **85 CONTINUED:**

CONRAD
What for?

JEANNINE
Anyway...

Conrad Conrad does not find this funny. Finally car stops.
sighs.

JEANNINE (cont'd)
Do you want to talk?

CONRAD
About what?

JEANNINE
Are you okay?

CONRAD
Yeah. Yeah, I'm fine. Uh... I'll
give you a call.

JEANNINE
Will you? I want you to.

CONRAD
Sure.

JEANNINE
Well... Guess I'll see you in
choir.

CONRAD
Okay. Yeah. Thanks.

JEANNINE
Okay.

CONRAD
I mean. Good night. Good night.

JEANNINE
Good night.

Jeannine leaves the car.

86 INT. JET DAY

both are
Beth is all smiles, she succeeded with Calvin. They
playing with their earphone

CALVIN
Seven.

BETH
Yes... It's not even plugged in.

(CONTINUED)

97.

86 CONTINUED:

86

Stewardess' voice in loudspeaker.

STEWARDESS

In preparation for our landing in
Houston, observe the fasten seat
belt sign.....

87

87 EXT. JET DAY

Jet lands on Huston's airport runway.

STEWARDESS

.....and please no smoking until well
inside the terminal. Thank you.

88

88 EXT. HUSTON GOLF AFTERNOON

Calvin,
drinks

hesitating

Golf ball being wished out of sight by a club. Beth,
Ward (Beth's brother) and his wife Audrey, are having
sitting at a table on a golf course under a parasol.
WARD lifts his golf club and demonstrates a clumsy
swing, and how it misses.

WARD

Watch this. Pessimistic golfer.
Pessimistic golfer.

Ward arms his club as if to strike, then stops.

WARD (cont'd)

Oh. Damn!

They laugh.

WARD (cont'd)

Are we two up? Two?

GOLF PLAYER

(OS)

Two!

WARD

All right. Let's hustle up. We're close here.

CALVIN

I'll never get over how flat it is here. I'll never get over...

WARD

I know it's flat, but we decided to teach you to love it.

(CONTINUED)

98.

88 CONTINUED:

88

AUDREY

He is trying to get everybody to move down here.

BETH

Really?

AUDREY

Gosh, you guys, it's so good to see you. You look tired. Cal.

CALVIN

Airplane scotch.

BETH

Would you tell me why it is I am still hungry?

WARD

'Cause you're in Texas, girl. When we get done, we'll get you home. Get ya some steaks on the barbecue. Audrey will put together her famous salad.

BETH

With baked potatoe and sour cream,
too, uh? How long has he had that
drawl?

AUDREY

Ever since we joined the country
club.

89 INT. SWIMMING POOL - NIGHT

89

bleachers,
the
watch the
audience,
Revolver fires upwards. Swimmers dive. It's a swimming
competition. Conrad is sitting on one of the top
fully dressed, uneasy, while down there, by the side of
pool, his friends, in swimming trunks and wet hair,
race. Lazenby sees him, Conrad looks down. In the
everyone is shouting for his team.

.../...

empty
pool,
Now the competition is finished. The swimming pool is
and silent, except for someone sweeping the side of the
and Conrad sitting still, reflecting, looking around.

90 EXT. SWIMMING POOL EXIT - NIGHT

90

if he
The group comes out of the pool. Conrad at the back, as
wasn't part of it.

(CONTINUED)

99.

90 CONTINUED:

90

LAZENBY

I am glad you can laugh about it,
cos' it sure as hell wasn't
funny.

Come on, we weren't that bad.

STILLMAN

Let's face it, we stunk.

I don't know how you can listen
to that lecture on Buck Jarrett
one more time.

I know he is the world's greatest
swimmer, but it bugs the hell
outa me when he does that.

LAZENBY

Stillman, cut it.

STILLMAN

Think he's ever gonna stop kissing
the guy's picture?

LAZENBY

Stillman, shut the hell up, would
you? Hey, con, you want a ride?

CONRAD

Oh. No. Thanks.

LAZENBY

We sure could've used you today,
buddy.

CONRAD

Oh, no, I don't think so.

LAZENBY

Yeah... I don't think anybody
could've helped us today.

STILLMAN

How's it going, Jarrett? I hear you
got eyes for Pratt these days. You
in her pants yet?

CONRAD

Hey, do me a favor, Stillman, try
not to be such a prick.

STILLMAN

You're the prick. Guys like you
walk around like you're king shit.

You give me a goddamn pain in the
ass, you think we owe you...

(CONTINUED)

100.

90 CONTINUED:

90

They fall
hitting.
others

Conrad hits him hard with a jab, then jumps on him.
in the plastic bags of the disposal, Conrad still
Lazenby tries to stop him. Conrad pushes him away. Two
students take hold of Conrad and pull him away, two
with Stillman.

LAZENBY

Come on! Connie. Come on! Cool it,
Jarrett! Connie! Connie. That's
enough.

STUDENTS

No, Stillman, no! No!

STILLMAN

Let go! Let go!

LAZENBY

It's all right! He's crazy! Just
calm down, uh?

STILLMAN

You're crazy! You're crazy! You
know that?

Conrad walks back to his car

STILLMAN (cont'd)

Send him back where he came from!

OTHERS

Now, now, it's over. It's over.

STILLMAN

All right! Shit!

Stillman hits a garbage bag.

91 91 **INT. CAR NIGHT**

Conrad opens the door and sits down in his car. Lazenby comes, opens the door and hands Conrad his hat.

LAZENBY

Here's your hat.

Lazenby comes in and sits.

LAZENBY (cont'd)

You want to talk? The guy's a nothing. He's a zero upstairs. You used to know that about him, Con. Ever since fourth grade, you've known it.

(CONTINUED)

101.

91 91 **CONTINUED:**

91

CONRAD

So?

LAZENBY

So you just make yourself look stupid when you let him get to you like that!

CONRAD

So I look stupid, is that it?

LAZENBY

No, it isn't. What is it with you? Huh? I don't know why you want to be in this alone? You know, I miss him too. Connie, the three of us were best friends!

CONRAD

I can't help it, it hurts too much
to be around you. I gotta go.

Lazenby looks at him, then opens the door and goes out.

LAZENBY

Yeah. Okay.

Conrad remains alone and touches the horn by accident.

92 **INT. GRANDPARENTS' HOME, STAIRS & LANDING NIGHT**
92

Conrad gets home, climbs upstairs directly to his room,
and
bedroom
closes the door. His grandmother hears him, opens her
door, closes it.

93 **INT. CONRAD'S BEDROOM NIGHT**
93

Conrad reflects for a short time, then goes down to...

94 **INT. KITCHEN NIGHT**
94

Conrad enters the kitchen, takes something in the
fridge,
goes to the phone to make a call. He dials.

KAREN'S MOTHER (OS)

Hello?

CONRAD

Hello. Is Karen there?

KAREN'S MOTHER (OS)

She...uh... Ah!... Bill?

KAREN'S FATHER (OS)

Hello.

(CONTINUED)

94

94 CONTINUED:

CONRAD

Yes, hello. Is Karen there? This is
Conrad Jarrett, calling. I'm a
friend of hers.

KAREN'S FATHER

Karen's...

CONRAD

I called...

KAREN'S FATHER

Karen's dead.

CONRAD

What? What?

KAREN'S FATHER

She killed herself.

shock.

Karen's father hangs up. Conrad suffocates under the

He hears Karen's voice.

KAREN

(OS)

Let's have the best Christmas ever.

95

95 INT. BATHROOM NIGHT

Conrad rushes into the bathroom

CONRAD

Ha!

96

96 INT. RESTAURANT DAY

[Very short flashback on Karen]

KAREN

We can. You know.

97

97 INT. BATHROOM NIGHT

sitting
under

Conrad has rushed into the bathroom where he ends up
on the toilet and grabbing the washbowl, out of breath

the shock.

KAREN

(OS)

We could have the best year of our whole lives.

Conrad opens tap, water flows.

98
98 **EXT. LAKE NIGHT**

[Flashback to the boat accident on the lake] Conrad yells at Buck (who is holding tight the rope maintaining the sail up) to have him get the sail down;

(CONTINUED)

103.
98 **CONTINUED:**
98

helm) to but Buck is stubborn and asks Conrad (who is at the will maintain starboard course.[The result of opposites overturn the small boat]. Waves of water

CONRAD

Get the sail down! Get it down!

BUCK

I can't hold it! Keep it starboard!

99
99 **INT. KITCHEN NIGHT**

Conrad stares at himself in the mirror

100
100 **EXT. LAKE NIGHT**

CONRAD

Get the sail down! Get it down!

BUCK

Keep it starboard!

101 101 INT. BATHROOM NIGHT
101

Conrad takes water in his hands...

102 102 EXT. LAKE NIGHT
102

BUCK

Go for it!

CONRAD

I am trying! I can't! Let it out!

103 103 INT. BATHROOM NIGHT
103

Conrad stares at the water in his hands

104 104 EXT. LAKE NIGHT
104

CONRAD

Let it out!

BUCK

Just keep it starboard!

CONRAD

I can't!

Boat overturns.

CONRAD (cont'd)

Ahh!

BUCK

Ahh!

104.

105 105 INT. STAIRS NIGHT
105

Conrad rushes downstairs with his coat.

106 106 EXT. LAKE NIGHT
106

Conrad comes out from underwater, taking air in.

CONRAD

Aaah!

107 **INT. STAIRS NIGHT**
107

Conrad rushes downstairs with his coat.

108 **EXT. LAKE NIGHT**
108

CONRAD

Bucky!

BUCK

Give me your hand!

CONRAD

Here!

109 **EXT. HOUSE NIGHT**
109

Conrad rushes out of the house.

110 **EXT. LAKE NIGHT**
110

The boys are holding each other's hands over the overturned boat's hull.

BUCK

We screwed up this time, Buddy!
Dad's gonna haul ass over this!

CONRAD

It ain't so goddamned funny!

111 **EXT. STREET NIGHT**
111

Conrad rushes.

112 **EXT. LAKE NIGHT**
112

BUCK

Just don't let go!

CONRAD

I won't, honest to God!

BUCK

Everything gonna be okay!

105.

113

113 EXT. STREET NIGHT

Conrad rushes.

114

114 EXT. LAKE NIGHT

BUCK

Hang on. Brother!

hold on
make it
somehow

But Buck's wet hand slips away. Buck tries to gain the curved slippery surface of the hull, but he can't and disappears into the water, while Conrad manages to hold on.

CONRAD

Stay with me! Stay with me!
Stay with me! Bucky! Where are
you?

Buck disappears into water.

115

115 EXT. STREET NIGHT

Conrad rushes.

116

116 EXT. LAKE NIGHT

CONRAD

Bucky!

117

117 EXT. STREET NIGHT

Conrad rushes.

118 **118 EXT. LAKE NIGHT**
118

Conrad holds on firmly to keel of boat

CONRAD

Bucky!

119 **119 EXT. STREET NIGHT**
119

Conrad rushes.

120 **120 EXT. LAKE NIGHT**
120

Conrad holds on firmly to keel of boat

CONRAD

Buck!

121 **121 EXT. STREET NIGHT**
121

Conrad rushes.

106.

122 **122 EXT. LAKE NIGHT**
122

Conrad holds on firmly to keel of boat

CONRAD

Buck!

123 **123 STREET NIGHT**
123

Conrad runs, gets to a phone booth, calls Dr Berger,
out of breath.

DR BERGER

(OS, drowsy)

Hello?

CONRAD

This is Conrad!

DR BERGER

What's going on?

CONRAD

I need to see you!

DR BERGER

What time is it?

CONRAD

I don't know!

DR BERGER

Where are you?

CONRAD

I... I don't know!

DR BERGER

All right. Listen to me. Get to the office somehow, and I'll meet you there.

CONRAD

Okay.

124 **124 INT. DR BERGER'S OFFICE LIFT & CORRIDOR NIGHT**
124

Dr Berger comes out of the lift and finds Conrad waiting in the dark corridor, in a state of emotional shock.

DR BERGER

Oh, good. You're here.

CONRAD

Something happened...

(CONTINUED)

107.

124 **124 CONTINUED:**

124

Dr Berger fiddles for his keys in the dark to open his office's door.

DR BERGER

Just wait, just hold on...

CONRAD

I need... I need...

DR BERGER

Just wait till we get inside...

Dr Berger finally opens the door. They enter.

DR BERGER (cont'd)

There...

125 INT. DR BERGER'S OFFICE

Dr Berger enters the dark office

DR BERGER

Shit. You'd think they'd assume there'd be an emergency now and then?!

DR BERGER (cont'd)

Don't take it off. Just sit down.

Conrad cries.

CONRAD

Something happened!

DR BERGER

What?

CONRAD

It's...

DR BERGER

It's what?

CONRAD

Oh. God! I need something.

DR BERGER

What do you need? Tell me!

CONRAD

It just keeps coming! I can't... I can't make it stop!

DR BERGER

Don't try.

(CONTINUED)

108.

125 CONTINUED:

125

CONRAD

I gotta... I gotta... I gotta get off the hook for it. I gotta get off the hook!

DR BERGER

For what?

CONRAD

For what I did!

DR BERGER

What did you do?

CONRAD

What I did to him!

DR BERGER

What did you do?

CONRAD

It's something... It's something... Don't you see? It's gotta be somebody's fault or there's no godamm point!

DR BERGER

Point? What point? It happened!

CONRAD

No, no... Oh, no. I don't mean that. It's that... It's just that... Buck, Bucky, I didn't mean it!

126 126 EXT. LAKE NIGHT
126

Flash of Buck in storm.

127 127 INT. DR BERGER'S OFFICE
127

CONRAD

Bucky, I didn't mean it!

128 128 EXT. LAKE NIGHT
128

Flash of Buck in storm.

129 129 INT. DR BERGER'S OFFICE
129

CONRAD

Bucky!

(CONTINUED)

109.
129 129 CONTINUED:
129

DR BERGER

I know that, it wasn't your fault.

CONRAD

But it was: you said. "Get the sail
down!" ...

130 130 EXT. LAKE NIGHT
130

Flash on both hands of Conrad holding tight the rudder

CONRAD

...and I couldn't!

Flash of Conrad holding Buck's hand.

CONRAD

(OS)

"Hang on!"...

137 **INT. DR BERGER'S OFFICE**

CONRAD

..."Hang on!", and then you let go!

138 **EXT. LAKE NIGHT**

Flash : hands separating

139 **INT. DR BERGER'S OFFICE**

CONRAD

Why'd you let go?

DR BERGER

Because I got tired!

CONRAD

Yeah? Well. Screw you, you jerk!

Conrad breaks down and cries.

DR BERGER

It hurts to be mad at him, doesn't it?

CONRAD

Yeah. He just wasn't careful. He just wouldn't care. He didn't see how a bad thing might happen.

DR BERGER

Bad things happen even when people are careful.

CONRAD

We were screwing around out there, we should've come in when it started to look bad.

DR BERGER

OK, so you made a mistake.

CONRAD

Why did he let go? Why?

(CONTINUED)

111.

139 CONTINUED:

139

DR BERGER

Maybe you were stronger. Did it ever occur to you that you might have been stronger?

Conrad comes out of it and stares at him.

DR BERGER (cont'd)

How long you gonna punish yourself?
When you gonna quit?

CONRAD

Oh, God, I'd like to quit.

DR BERGER

Why don't you?

CONRAD

It's not easy. It's not that easy.
God... I loved him.

DR BERGER

I know.

Dr Berger takes off his coat, sits down. Calvin
cries.

DR BERGER (cont'd)

What happened? You said something
happened. What started all this?

Calvin stutters with pain and cries.

CONRAD

Ka-ren. She killed herself! I just

found out she's dead.

DR BERGER

Jesus.

CONRAD

And she was fine, she was OK.

DR BERGER

No. She wasn't.

CONRAD

She was! She was! She told me! She said she was...

DR BERGER

What?

CONRAD

She was busy, she was feeling good and she...

(CONTINUED)

112.

139 CONTINUED:

139

DR BERGER

And what?

Conrad cries.

DR BERGER (cont'd)

What?

CONRAD

I just wish I'd known...I could've done something.

DR BERGER

You saw her once and now you' want to take her on too?

CONRAD

No!

DR BERGER

No?

CONRAD

No. I just...

DR BERGER

What?

CONRAD

That isn't it. I... I feel bad about this, I feel really bad about this. And just let me feel bad about this!

DR BERGER

Okay. Listen. I feel bad about it too.

CONRAD

Why do things have to happen to people? It isn't fair.

DR BERGER

You're right. It isn't fair.

CONRAD

You just do one wrong thing... and...

DR BERGER

Um-hmm.
And what was the one wrong thing you did?

113.

140 **EXT. LAKE NIGHT**

140

Flash of Conrad looking around in the water for Buck.

CONRAD

(OS)

Haaa...

141 **INT. DR BERGER'S OFFICE**

141

DR BERGER

You know.

Conrad looks at him and cries and sighs.

142 **EXT. LAKE NIGHT**

Flash of Conrad getting back on hull and clutching to
the keel.

CONRAD

(OS)

Haaa...

143 **INT. DR BERGER'S OFFICE**

Conrad stares at Dr Berger.

CONRAD

Haaa...

DR BERGER

You know.

144 **EXT. LAKE NIGHT**

Flash of Conrad clutching to the keel.

CONRAD

(OS)

Haaa...

145 **INT. DR BERGER'S OFFICE**

Conrad stares at Dr Berger.

CONRAD

I hung on. I stayed with the boat.

DR BERGER

Exactly.

Conrad cries.

CONRAD

It doesn't feel good.

DR BERGER

It is good. Believe me.

CONRAD

How do you know?

DR BERGER

Because I'm your friend.

(CONTINUED)

115.

149 CONTINUED:

149

Conrad is out of breath.

CONRAD

I don't know what I would've
done...if you hadn't been here.
You're really my friend?

DR BERGER

I am. Count on it.

Conrad falls into Dr Berger's arms, crying.

150

150 EXT. JEANNINE'S HOME EARLY MORNING

home,
to

Jeannine opens her curtains, sees Conrad, outside her
walking to and fro. She puts on a jacket and comes out
him.

CONRAD

Hi. I was gonna call but I didn't
want to wake anyone.

JEANNINE

Might have been easier...

CONRAD

Listen, I want to say something about the other night. I mean I liked being with you but I didn't like myself.

JEANNINE

Conrad. I was stupid. That was dumb of me to laugh and it was my fault. I just didn't know what to do. I was embarrassed.

CONRAD

Really? You were embarrassed?

JEANNINE

Yes. When those boys came in, it was awful and awkward. That's what I do when I get embarrassed. I laugh.

CONRAD

But they were all right. They were just up and they were having a good time, and I let them get in the way of what was happening. It was dumb. It was dumb. I've been doing lots of dumb things lately. I just didn't know whether or not you were being straight with me.

(CONTINUED)

116.

150 CONTINUED:

150

Jeannine is moved, she extends her hand to him then
put it to her heart.

CONRAD (cont'd)

Yeah?

Jeannine nods.

CONRAD (cont'd)

Anyway, I'd like to try it again. I

thought it worked out okay. Well,
except for the bowling.

his Jeannine laughs, looks down, then looks up straight in
eyes.

JEANNINE

Yes.

CONRAD

Yes?

Jeannine nods.

JEANNINE

Yes.

Conrad is moved.

CONRAD

Uh... Are you going to school?

JEANNINE

No, not on Sunday.

Conrad realizes. Laughs.

JEANNINE (cont'd)

Have you eaten?

CONRAD

No. I haven't.

JEANNINE

Do you want some breakfast?

Conrad nods. She smiles at him.

CONRAD

Okay.

They go up the steps and Jeannine opens the screen
door.

JEANNINE

Mom!

(CU) Golf ball falls into hole.

WARD

Oh !...

BETH

All right. How about that?

CALVIN

Boy, oh, boy.

Beth is beaming from her success at golf.

BETH

Oh, I do love that.

CALVIN

Oh, these holes sure do love you.
Oh boy, oh boy.

BETH

We should spend more time playing
golf together, you know that?
Maybe our next vacation, strictly
golf. Pinehurst, Myrtle Beach...

CALVIN

Pinehurst would be nice. I think
Connie would like Pinehurst.

She pulls back and looks at him.

BETH

Do you do that deliberately or is
it just a reflex?

CALVIN

Well, you said "vacation", so I
just assumed you meant him too.

BETH

I'm surprised you haven't felt the
need to call him since we've been
here.

CALVIN

I was gonna call him tonight.

BETH

(to Ward and Audrey)
Hey, could we have a little drink
before we head back?

(CONTINUED)

118.

151 CONTINUED:

151

WARD

Drink, yes. Little, no.

(to Calvin)

What'd you get? Cal, what'd you
get?

CALVIN

(to Ward)

Six.

(to Beth)

Let's finish this.

BETH

What?

CALVIN

What you started.

BETH

What I started?

CALVIN

What you started.

BETH

Ha! There's no point discussing it.

CALVIN

I think there is a point.

BETH

He controls you even when you are
two thousand miles away.

CALVIN

He isn't the problem.

BETH

Isn't he?

CALVIN

No, he isn't. Let's talk about what's really bothering you.

BETH

No, no. Let's talk about what's bothering you. Cos' that's what you want, isn't it?

CALVIN

Jesus, what have I done to make you so angry with me?

(CONTINUED)

119.

151 CONTINUED:

151

BETH

It's not what you've done, it's what you think I've done. You blame me for the whole thing.

CALVIN

Can't you see anything except in terms of how it affects you?

BETH

No! I can't! And neither can you, and neither can anybody else! Only maybe I'm just a little more honest about it!

CALVIN

Well, stop being so godamn honest, and start being a little generous! And start thinking about him for a while!

BETH

I don't know what he expects from

me. I never have known.

CALVIN

Well, I'll tell you what he expects!

BETH

What? He wants me to throw my arms around him everytime he passes an exam? Well, I can't do it! I cannot respond when someone says: "Here, I just did this great thing. Love me.". I can't!

CALVIN

All he wants... All he wants is to know you don't hate him. That's it.

BETH

Hate him? My God! How could I hate him? Mothers don't hate their sons! Is that what he told you? Do you see how you accept what he says with no questions, and you can't do the same thing to me, can you?

CALVIN

I just try to keep this family together...

(CONTINUED)

120.

151 CONTINUED:

151

BETH

(she shouts)

I don't know what everyone wants from me anymore!

AUDREY

Beth, nobody wants anything from you.

WARD

Beth, listen. We all just want...
Cal, Con, everybody, we just want
you to be happy.

BETH

Happy?

WARD

Yes.

BETH

Ward, you tell me the definition of
happy, uh? But first, you better
make sure that your kids are good
and safe, that no one's fallen off
a horse, or been hit by a car, or
drowned in that swimming pool
you're so proud of! And then you
come to me and tell me how to be
happy!

stand She leaves. Calvin follows. Ward and his wife just
there.

152 INT. JET DAY

152

closes Beth stares away from Calvin, as in a void. She sighs,
Beth her eyes; Calvin turns away from the window, looks at
and remembers...

twice] When they were happily dancing... [to and fro

Calvin in his plane seat, reflects.

153 INT. LIVING ROOM NIGHT

153

Beth checks a pile of mail. Conrad comes in.

CONRAD

I think I'm gonna turn in.
Dinner was good.
Really good.

CALVIN

It's pretty early. You tired?

(CONTINUED)

121.
153

153 CONTINUED:

CONRAD

Yeah. It was kind of a rough week.

CALVIN

I hope your grandmother wasn't too tough on you?

CONRAD

No. She was fine. I'm glad you're back.

Conrad gives his mother a hug, but she is like made of stone.
Calvin sees it.

CONRAD (cont'd)

Good night.

Beth remains transfixed as if she didn't know what it was all about. Calvin sees it.

154
154 **INT. BEDROOM NIGHT**

Beth is not sleeping, she looks up, sees her husband wrinkled pillow, but he is not in bed. She looks at the time, gets up, puts on a robe.

155
155 **INT. STAIRS NIGHT**

Beth goes downstairs, tying up her robe. She stops, hearing someone sobbing in the dark, in the dining room.

156
156 **INT. DINING ROOM NIGHT**

Beth enters the dining room in the dark.

BETH

Calvin?

head in

Calvin is sitting at table in the dark, sobbing, his
his hands.

BETH (cont'd)

Why are you crying?

Calvin doesn't answer.

BETH (cont'd)

Can I, uh... Can I get you
something?

Calvin mutters in a very low voice.

CALVIN

I don't...

(CONTINUED)

122.

156 CONTINUED:

156

BETH

What did you say?

Calvin sits back in his chair.

BETH (cont'd)

Calvin. What did you say?

Calvin produces a very deep sigh.

BETH (cont'd)

Tell me.

Calvin looks up at her with a sad expression.

CALVIN

You are beautiful. And you are

unpredictable. But you're so cautious. You're determined, Beth. But you know something? You're not strong. And I don't know if you're really giving. Beth is looking at him not knowing what this is about.

CALVIN (cont'd)
Tell me something. Do you love me?
Do you really love me?

BETH
I feel the way I've always felt about you.

Calvin is disappointed by the answer, but not surprised, just sad.

CALVIN
We would've been all right, if there hadn't been any ...mess. But you can't handle mess. You need everything neat and ...easy.
I don't know. Maybe you can't love anybody. It was so much Buck. And Buck died, it was as if you buried all your love with him, and I don't understand that. I just don't know.

Calvin sighs.

CALVIN (cont'd)
Maybe it wasn't even Buck.
Maybe it was just you.
Maybe, finally, it was the best of you that you buried.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

123.

156 **CONTINUED:**

156

CALVIN (cont'd)
But whatever it was, I don't know who you are.

I don't know what we've been
playing at.
So I was crying.

Calvin is overcome by sadness

CALVIN (cont'd)
't know if I love you anymore. And
I don't know what I am going to do
without that.

Beth does not know what to say or do. She turns away
and goes upstairs.

157 **INT. BEDROOM NIGHT**

Beth enters, kind of reflects, then goes open a
closet, takes out some luggage. A sudden burst of emotion overcomes
her, she cries but does not seem to identify the emotion,
then restrains it.

158 **INT. CONRAD'S BEDROOM DAWN**

In his bed Conrad is not sleeping. He hears the door
of the house close, then someone walking outside on the
gravel. He gets up, go look out of the window. Outside, a taxi
leaves. He goes downstairs.

159 **INT. STAIRS DAWN**

Conrad goes downstairs, curious. Looks around, sees
nobody.

160 **EXT. GARDEN DAWN**

From inside, Conrad finally sees his father in the
garden, reflecting. Patches of snow. Conrad puts on his coat
over his pyjamas, and joins him.

CONRAD

Dad?

CALVIN

The yard looks smaller without leaves.

CONRAD

Dad? What happened?

CALVIN

Your mother's going away for a while.

CONRAD

Where? Why?

(CONTINUED)

124.

160 CONTINUED:

160

CALVIN

Back to Houston.
Then I... I don't know.

CONRAD

Why? What... I know why. It's me.
Isn't it?

CALVIN

No.

CONRAD

Yeah, it is. It's my fault.

CALVIN

Don't do that! Don't do that to yourself! It's nobody's fault! Things happen in this world, people don't always have answers for them, you know.

Calvin sits down.

CALVIN (cont'd)

I don't know why I'm yelling at you for...

CONRAD

No, that's right! You're right! You ought to do that more often.

CALVIN

Oh, yeah?

CONRAD

Yeah, yeah, Haul my ass a little, you know. Get after me. The way you used to for him.

CALVIN

Oh, he needed it. You didn't. You were always so hard on yourself, I never had the heart.

CONRAD

Oh, Dad. Don't.

CALVIN

No, it's the truth. I... I never worried about you. I just wasn't listening.

CONRAD

Well, I wasn't putting out many signals then. I don't think you could have done anything.

(CONTINUED)

125.

160 CONTINUED:

160

CALVIN

No, no, no, I should ...I should've got a handle on it somehow.

CONRAD

You know, I used to figure you had a handle for everything. You knew it all.

Calvin looks at him and laughs briefly at himself.

CONRAD (cont'd)

I know that wasn't fair but you always made us feel like everything was gonna be all right. I thought about that a lot lately. I really admire you for it.

Calvin is moved.

CALVIN

Well, don't admire people too much. They'll disappoint you sometimes.

CONRAD

I'm not disappointed.
I love you.

Calvin looks at him, cries and takes him in his arms.

CALVIN

I love you too.

They hug each other.

[Camera pulls back / Canon in D by Pachelbel]

Credits roll.

THE END