

ACT ONE

SCENE A

FADE IN:

INT. GARAGE - DAY (DAY 1)

(DAVE, LARRY, BOY SINGER, JESUS FREAK EXTRAS)

DAVE ENTERS TO FIND LARRY WITH A BUNCH OF COOL LOOKING KIDS.
THEY HAVE INSTRUMENTS OUT AND THEY'RE REHEARSING.

LARRY

Hey, Dad.

DAVE

Hey, you. (TO BAND) All of you's.

(THEN) What's going on here?

LARRY

I joined a band! We're playing a
music festival next weekend!

INT. CONFESSIONAL SPACE

(DAVE)

DAVE

My son's in a band with a bunch of
cool kids? Alright! Sex, drugs, and
rock and roll!

BACK TO SCENE

LARRY

Wanna hear our tunes?

DAVE

Sure!

LARRY

And a one... and a two...

LARRY AND THE BAND START PLAYING. DAVE SMILES.

BOY SINGER

DID YOU FEEL THE PEOPLE TREMBLE / HOW
THEIR FAITHFUL SPIRITS SOARED / WHEN
THE KIDS BEGAN TO SING OF / JESUS
CHRIST, THE WAY-COOL LORD.

DAVE'S SMILE MORPHS INTO BARELY CONCEALED TERROR.

INT. CONFSSIONAL SPACE

(DAVE)

DAVE

Wait a minute...

MUSIC UP: "ONE OF THESE THINGS IS NOT LIKE THE OTHER" FROM
SESAME STREET.

SYMBOLS REPRESENTING THE FOLLOWING POP ON THE SCREEN AS DAVE
CONSIDERS EACH ONE:

DAVE (CONT'D)

Sex, drugs, rock and roll... and
Jesus?!

BACK TO SCENE

THE BAND STOPS PLAYING. LARRY LOOKS AT DAVE EXPECTANTLY.

LARRY

So... what do you think?

DAVE

(FAKE SMILE) It's good. Real good.

(THEN) Little question... do you guys
know anything... oh... normal?
Like... "Smoke On The Water?"

BOY SINGER

We know, "Our Lord Walks On Water."

LARRY

And a one... and a two...

THEY PLAY, DAVE FORCES A SMILE, AND WE:

CUT TO:

SCENE B

INT. KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER (DAY 1)
(DAVE, VICKY, LARRY, BOY SINGER)

DAVE ENTERS. VICKY IS THERE.

DAVE

Do you know what's going on in the
garage?

VICKY

Oh, yeah, I forgot to tell you,
Larry's in a band.

DAVE

Yeah, a band of Jesus freaks!

VICKY

Dave, what's the problem here?
Larry's in with a crowd that doesn't
steal, cut school, or have pre-martial
sex.

DAVE

Like I said... freaks!

WE HEAR THE KIDS SINGING FROM THE GARAGE.

BOY SINGER (O.S.)

SALVA-A-ATION! / THE LORD IS OUR SALVA-
A-TION...

DAVE

(HOLDING HIS HANDS OVER HIS EARS)

Oy!!! Shut up!!!

(MORE)

DAVE (CONT'D)

(THEN TO VICKY) When you and I were kids, we were delinquents! How did our chromosomes mingle together and create something that sings about Jesus?

VICKY

Well, kids from good families go wrong all the time. So now a kid from a bad family went good. Jesus does work in mysterious ways, Dave.

DAVE

Well, I wish he'd stop it!

VICKY

Gee, this doesn't possibly have anything to do with you being Jewish, does it?

DAVE

No. (THEN) Of course it does!

VICKY

But you're not observant!

DAVE

I know! I've set an example! Why can't he just be Jewish and act like he's nothing? That's what I do, and it's working! And I'm not prejudiced.

(MORE)

DAVE (CONT'D)

If Larry wants to be Christian and act like he's nothing, I'm fine with that, too!

VICKY

How can you take the fact that one of our kids might be exploring his spirituality and turn it into a bad thing?

DAVE

It's my gift? (THEN) Look, I watch the news, this is how it starts! First you sing about Jesus, then you move to a compound where a weirdo convinces you to give him all your money and marries you off to a twelve year old, next thing you know, you're drinking a lovely cocktail of kool-aid and arsenic!

LARRY POKES HIS HEAD IN.

LARRY

(TO DAVE) So... you were the first "outsider" to hear the band. What did you think?

DAVE

You kicked ass! (PROPERLY BEEPED)

Shit, I mean, butt! I mean... rock
on, Christian Soldier!

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SCENE D

FADE IN:

INT. KITCHEN - LATER (DAY 1)
(DAVE, MIKE, KENNY)

DAVE ENTERS TO FIND MIKE, EATING FROM A BAG OF TRAIL MIX...
PICKING OUT THE PIECES HE LIKES WITH A SPOON, LIKE STEPHEN
ENGEL DOES.

DAVE

Hey... why haven't you cleaned out the
garage like you were supposed to?

MIKE

I got a little bogged down.

DAVE

Bogged down? You're eating trail mix
with a spoon.

DAVE GRABS THE TRAIL MIX FROM MIKE, LOOKS AT IT.

DAVE (CONT'D)

And you picked out the good parts!
All that's left is peanuts and dried
pineapple! (THEN) Get in the garage,
and clean it up!

MIKE

Fine... (ANNOYED) God...

DAVE

What was that? Did you just take the
Lord's name in vain?

MIKE

(DUH) Yeah.

DAVE

Oh. Okay, good. Keep that up.

DAVE EXITS. MIKE SIGHS, STARTS TO CROSS TO GARAGE. KENNY ENTERS.

KENNY

Hey, Mike.

MIKE

Hey. (THEN) I keep forgetting you came out of the closet and got kicked out of your house and you live here now. It's so weird.

KENNY

Thank you?

MIKE

I meant, it's weird that my folks took you in. Frankly, I didn't think they had it in them to, you know, help someone.

KENNY

Yes, they've certainly done an impressive job of hiding their inner Good Samaritans. (THEN) I wish I could think of a way to let them know how grateful I am.

MIKE

(LIGHT BULB) Well, and I'm just spit-
balling here, my folks have been
having trouble finding someone to
clean out the garage.

KENNY

You really think they'd like it if I
did that?

MIKE

I know for a fact it's something
they've been waiting for quite awhile.

KENNY

You're a good guy, Mike.

MIKE

Thanks. (THEN) Watch out for the rat
traps.

KENNY PONDERES THIS AS WE:

CUT TO:

SCENE E

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER (DAY 1)
(DAVE, VICKY, LARRY, KENNY)

DAVE AND VICKY ARE WATCHING TV.

VICKY

Have you noticed that Kenny's been acting weird?

DAVE

Vick, if the freaks in a freak show went on strike, that kid could be a one-man union buster. You're going to have to be more specific than that.

VICKY

He's acting like he's fine, but that's impossible given everything he's gone through. I can tell, he's crying on the inside.

DAVE

Good! That's where he should cry. That's where I've been crying for the last 40 years, it hasn't hurt me any.

VICKY

No, it's hurt everyone around you.

DAVE

That's okay with me. The point is, it's not hurting Kenny. It's certainly not hurting his appetite.

(MORE)

DAVE (CONT'D)

The kid's eating us out of house and home! I'm convinced he's playing hide the salami with the actual salami.

VICKY

Dave! We need to be sensitive to Kenny and help him. He needs some positive parental influence and stable, sensitive adults that he can open up to. Who better than us?

DAVE THINKS ABOUT THIS.

DAVE

Anybody?

A BEAT LATER, KENNY ENTERS.

VICKY

Hey, Kenny! Come grab a seat.

KENNY SITS DOWN BETWEEN VICKY AND A RELUCTANT DAVE.

VICKY (CONT'D)

So, tell us... how ya doin'?

KENNY

Great.

BEHIND KENNY'S BACK, VICKY MOUTHS, "HE'S COVERING!" DAVE MOUTHS BACK, "WHAT?"

KENNY (CONT'D)

Better than great, in fact, because there's a Judy Garland marathon on television tonight and I want to catch up on all the gay stuff I've missed while I've been in the closet.

DAVE

Okay! Have fun with that. (OFF VICKY'S LOOK) No? Not done yet?

VICKY

But how are you feeling... you know... deep down inside?

KENNY

Hungry?

DAVE

Again? (THEN) Will you excuse us, Kenny?

DAVE PULLS VICKY ASIDE.

DAVE (CONT'D)

(SOTTO) Look, I've had enough of this soul searching and probing. You heard him, everything's okay. We should be more concerned about Larry of Nazareth -- a kid that actually came out of you, remember?

VICKY

Kenny not admitting to how bad he
feels just proves how upset he is.

DAVE

What? If him acting like he's not
upset means he really is upset, how do
we know when he's not upset anymore?

VICKY THINKS A BEAT, THEN:

VICKY

I don't know! I didn't get to watch
the entire "Oprah." (THEN) But I do
have an idea on how to make him feel
at home enough here to open up to us.

DAVE

To you. You.

VICKY CROSSES BACK TO KENNY.

VICKY

Kenny... how do you feel about your
room in the basement?

KENNY

It's a tad musty, and once an hour the
water heater in the corner sounds like
it's being raped. But it's better
than living out on the streets.

DAVE

You tell her, Kenny. What a great
attitude this kid's got!

VICKY

What if we fixed it up together?

KENNY

But you've already done so much for
me.

VICKY

It's our pleasure, Kenny. Right,
Dave?

DAVE

Yeah. It's a thrill.

KENNY

Your family is like a godsend. (THEN,
LOOKING AT HIS WATCH) Ooo. It's
almost time for the Judython. (OFF
THEIR LOOKS) Did you know Judy
Garland is a big gay icon?

DAVE

Yeah, even I knew that. What, did
that closet you were in have sound-
proofing?

CUT TO:

SCENE H

INT. GARAGE - A LITTLE LATER (DAY 1)
(DAVE, LARRY, CHRISTIE)

LARRY IS NOODLING AROUND ON HIS KEYBOARD. DAVE ENTERS.

DAVE

Cool tunes, dude.

LARRY

Thanks!

DAVE

So, Larry... crazy question, kind of rolling around in my head... why did you get involved with this band?

LARRY

They asked me to fill in -- they lost their keyboardist at the last second.

DAVE

I'm guessing he didn't OD, huh?
(THEN) So, it's not because you, like, believe in Jesus now?

LARRY

What? No! I just like these kids and the band is fun.

DAVE

So... you're not a Jesus freak, you just think hanging out with hardcore Christian kids who never get into any trouble is... fun?

LARRY

Right!

AN UNCOMFORTABLE BEAT. THERE'S A KNOCK ON THE DOOR. LARRY ANSWERS IT. IT'S CHRISTIE, A BEAUTIFUL JESUS FREAK WITH A BIG ASS CROSS AROUND HER NECK.

CHRISTIE

Hi, Larry... I think I left my book bag in your garage.

LARRY

Oh. Okay... (THEN) Dad, this is Christy. She's our band manager.

CHRISTIE PUTS HER HAND OUT TO DAVE.

CHRISTIE

Nice to meet you, Mr. Gold.

DAVE

(FIXATED ON CROSS) Uh-huh...

LARRY

Isn't she great?

THEY SHAKE HANDS. DAVE LOOKS AT LARRY...

DAVE'S POV: LARRY, MOON-FACED, WITH CARTOON HEARTS AND LITTLE BIRDS FLYING AROUND HIS HEAD. A CARTOON CUPID JESUS SHOOTS LARRY IN THE HEART WITH A LOVE ARROW. LARRY SMILES AND SIGHS.

INT. CONFESSIONAL SPACE

(DAVE)

DAVE

Holy crap! Larry's being seduced into Christianity by the Whore of Babylon!

(THEN) Maybe not Babylon.

(MORE)

DAVE (CONT'D)

I don't know. Who are the big whores
in the new testament?

CUT TO:

SCENE J

INT. DAVE AND VICKY'S BEDROOM - THAT NIGHT (DAY 1)
(DAVE, VICKY)

DAVE ENTERS. VICKY IS USING AN ABACUS TO FIGURE OUT THE FAMILY'S TAXES TO SHOW THAT SHE'S NOT JUST A COOK.

DAVE

This Christian crap is escalating all over the place! Not only is Larry in the band, he wants to get into this chick Christy's parochial skirt!

VICKY

That's Catholic, Dave.

DAVE

Whatever! The point is, with this girl screwing with his head and his... lower than his head... I don't think this is all just going to go away.

VICKY

Yes it is. I did the same thing when I was his age, except the guy I liked was into the Grateful Dead, not Jesus.

(MORE)

VICKY (CONT'D)

So, I schlepped out to the Meadowlands for a fakakta Dead concert that lasted all night long, got puked on by a girl tripping her brains out, and sang "Brown-Eyed Woman" at the top of my lungs while trying to stop creepy hippies from taking my top off! Now I couldn't tell you the lyrics to "Brown-eyed Woman" if you put a gun to my head.

DAVE

That guy was me!!!!!!!!!! And you married me!!!!

VICKY

It was? Wow, maybe I was the girl tripping her brains out...

DAVE

And now, Larry's falling for a girl who's tripping her brains out on Jesus and she wants to slip him a tab! At least when you and I got married it was just because you got pregnant because you were easy!

VICKY

You left out stoned.

DAVE

And these Christian broads aren't easy, because of that whole Virgin Mary business! They got pictures of her everywhere like she's some kind of saint!

VICKY

Again, that's Catholicism, and she is a saint!

DAVE

Why?! What did she ever do besides you know, not have sex with her own husband, the poor schmuck?! I don't even know his name, that's how much credit he got, dragging her ass all over the desert on a donkey! It wasn't even his own kid -- now that guy's the saint! For all we know Mary could've been a total pill about everything else in her life. But because she could say "no" better than any other girl in the world, for that, every idiot and his brother calls a news van out to their house when they think they see her face in a piece of toast!

VICKY

Oh my god! Stop talking before the ground splits open and our house gets sucked down straight to hell! You're talking about the Virgin Mary, Dave!

DAVE

Exactly! That's the kind of girl Christy is! Marriage is the only way Larry can get into her pants.

VICKY

That's what you're sending us to eternal damnation over? That our sixteen year-old son is going to marry a girl he met last week? That's crazy!

DAVE

Is it, Vicky? I married you.

VICKY

What???!!!!

DAVE

You wanted my Jewish ass!!!! I could've gone out with Shelly Nussbaum but you... you seduced me with your white ankle socks and that cute little cross you used to wear and the eggnog!

(MORE)

DAVE (CONT'D)

You Christian girls are worse than Nazis! At least with Nazis, we knew to run and hide. You Christian girls are loving us Jews out of existence!

VICKY

If you don't calm down I'm calling a doctor. Or a priest. Someone!
Larry's not getting married. That's just insane! And if Larry did get into this "Christian crap" would that be so bad?

DAVE

Yes! Because I already have nothing in common with him! At least when he goes go on and on about the sci-fi stuff at dinner I can kind of go, "Oh yeah, beam me up, Scotty" and not eat in total, uncomfortable silence, which is not good for my digestion, by the way. If he starts going all "Jesus-y" he's just going to get farther away from me!

VICKY

So what are you going to do? Ban him from dating her? That'll only make him like her more.

DAVE

You have a point. My mother didn't
think I should go out with you and,
well, here we are.

DAVE HAS A "WHAT AM GOING TO DO?" LOOK ON HIS FACE AS WE:

CUT TO:

SCENE J

INT. LIVING ROOM - THE NEXT DAY (DAY 2)
(VICKY, HILLARY, KENNY)

VICKY AND HILLARY ARE WITH KENNY. KENNY SIPS ON A CUP OF HOT COCOA.

KENNY

This is really good, Mrs. Gold. You know what else is good? Judy's performance in "A Star Is Born." Who knew?

VICKY PLOPS DOWN A BAG IN FRONT OF KENNY FILLED WITH DECORATOR STUFF.

VICKY

So... while I was at work, I threw together some ideas for your room and went over it with Hillary.

HILLARY PUTS AN ARM AROUND KENNY.

HILLARY

Yeah, you know, us girls have to stick together!

THEY ALL LAUGH.

KENNY

I love this estrogen-infused banter!
I didn't know being gay could be so much fun!

VICKY HAS LAID THE SWATCHES OUT IN FRONT OF KENNY, AND THEN WAITS, EXPECTANTLY, FOR HIS OVERJOYED REACTION.

KENNY (CONT'D)

(UNSURE) Hmmmm...

HILLARY

Hmmmm?

KENNY

Hmmmm...

VICKY

Is that a "wow, I can't believe how gorgeous 'hmmmm'," or a 'hmmmm' that's disguised as an 'ew'?

KENNY

Well, I wouldn't say, "ew."

VICKY

Well, what would you say?

KENNY

I'm sure it's very nice... to some people. I'm just not so into the whole retro-future thing. But if I was into that, the things you've put together would be perfect!

VICKY

(COVERING HER DISAPPOINTMENT) Oh.

Well... that's not the only idea we have.

VICKY PULLS OUT ANOTHER BUNCH OF PICTURES AND SWATCHES, AND DISPLAYS THEM WITH GUSTO.

VICKY (CONT'D)

Pretty great, huh?

KENNY

Hmmmm...

VICKY

Again with the "hmmmm."

KENNY

No, no. I... what's the word?

INT. CONFSSIONAL SPACE
(KENNY)

KENNY

Hate? Loath? Despise?

BACK TO SCENE

KENNY (CONT'D)

... Like this one. It's very Holland
in the seventies.

HILLARY

How would you know? You were born in
1990 and you've never left Long
Island!

KENNY

I went to Albany once.

VICKY

Look, Kenny, you don't have to pretend
to like it. That's what this whole
time in your life is about. You don't
have to pretend at all anymore.

(MORE)

VICKY (CONT'D)

Besides, I'm a professional, I know
when someone doesn't like something.

KENNY

How can you tell?

VICKY

Because when people like things, they
don't make a face like they have a
doody in their pants.

KENNY

Wow, you are a pro.

VICKY

That's right. And that's why I'm
going to crack this nut if it's the
last thing I do.

KENNY

Thanks, Mrs. G. You're the best.

KENNY EXITS.

HILLARY

Hey, I know someone who's your
biological child who hasn't had their
room re-decorated since they got their
period.

VICKY

Hillary, I have to focus on Kenny
right now, he needs me. But maybe
somewhere down the road, we'll think
about re-doing your room.

HILLARY

Thanks, Mom, you're the best! (RE:
SWATCHES) But when we do my room, for
the record, all of these ideas suck.

CUT TO:

SCENE K

INT. KITCHEN - LATER (DAY 2)
(DAVE, LARRY)

LARRY HAS A PAD AND PEN. HE'S TRYING TO WRITE A NEW SONG FOR THE BAND. DAVE ENTERS.

LARRY

(SINGING) ... YOU CAN LOVE HIM AND YOU
DON'T NEED ANY VISAS... VISAS...

DAVE

(SITS NEXT TO LARRY) Sounds good.

LARRY

Really? It's tough to find words that
rhyme with Jesus.

DAVE

Yeah, that's why most of your poets
are Jewish.

LARRY

(CONFUSED) I don't think that's true.

DAVE

Anyway, can I talk to you about
something?

LARRY

Sure.

DAVE

(TAKES A BREATH, THEN) Okay, here's
the thing...

(MORE)

DAVE (CONT'D)

when I try to get someone to buy an insurance policy, there's a laundry list of things I need to do to make the sale. It's mostly boring, awful crap I hate, but it's worth it, because in the end, I know I'm going to get a commission check. See where I'm going here?

LARRY

Uh, you're trying to talk me out of being an insurance salesman when I grow up?

DAVE

No! I'm saying that this thing with Christy, it's kind of the same, but there's one big difference. You're going through all this Christian-being-nice-and-polite hooey, but Christy's never going to give you that commission check, if you know what I mean.

LARRY

Yeah, I think I get your carefully chosen "commission check" means "sex" analogy.

DAVE

You're smart, you.

LARRY

I'm not doing all of this just to be with Christy.

DAVE

I know you think you're not, but trust me, you are. The problem is, you're going to have to become a different person to be with her. That's her plan. And you shouldn't let this girl change you, because I like you just the way you are.

INT. CONFSSIONAL SPACE

(DAVE)

DAVE

Well, actually, I think he's already a total reject and this can only make it worse, but that doesn't sound fatherly.

BACK TO SCENE

LARRY

I'm not changing, Dad. I'm just trying to figure out, you know, life.

DAVE

It's not that complicated, Larry.

LARRY

Maybe for you it's not.

DAVE

What's that supposed to mean?

LARRY

How do I put this... when you feel depressed, Dad, you have a glass of beer. When you feel confused, you have a glass of beer. Beer wears off. Then what do you have?

DAVE

A hangover. Big deal.

LARRY

Forget it, you don't understand.

DAVE

Oh, I understand. I understand you're pouring yourself a glass of Jesus, is that it? You believe in Jesus now?

LARRY

No. But he had some interesting philosophies. I'm just exploring them, and I thought maybe I could even share them with you. Is that so bad?

DAVE

I have another thought, Larry: How 'bout you pour yourself a glass of Moses? Remember him?

(MORE)

DAVE (CONT'D)

He parted water, I'd say that's almost as nifty as walking on it. What's the matter with him?

LARRY

Nothing... but if Judaism is so great, why don't you practice it?

DAVE

I do practice it!

LARRY

Really? What temple teaches you to eat ribs while you watch porn?

DAVE

I'm ultra-ultra reformed, okay?!
That's the beautiful thing about being Jewish! You're always Jewish whether you practice it a little, or a lot. Even if you change your last name, or get a nose job!

LARRY

Yeah, well, whatever kind of Jewish you are, it just doesn't seem to be giving you any... peace.

DAVE

How the hell can you say I'm not peaceful?

LARRY

Gee, I don't know, the cursing, the
drinking, the yelling, the fighting...

DAVE

Hey! Don't knock my hobbies! At
least I'm not like your little friend
Christy shoving her big cross into
other people's faces and being holier-
than-thou!

LARRY

That is so not true! I can't believe
I stuck up for you when Christy said
you were going to hell.

DAVE

See! Trust me, you're going to regret
looking down your nose at me like this
when you finally figure out your
friend Christy has a "Do not Disturb"
sign hanging from her panties! Until
then, I don't want to hear about
Christy or Christianity or any of it!
(RE: THE ROOM) This whole downstairs
section of the house is a Jewish zone!
You can go to your room and be
Christian up there!

LARRY

(HEADING UP THE STAIRS) You're
unbelievable!

DAVE

And do me a favor! If you become born
again, make sure it's as someone
else's kid!

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SCENE 1

FADE IN:

INT. GARAGE - THE NEXT MORNING (DAY 3)
(DAVE, MIKE, KENNY)

MIKE ENTERS TO SEE KENNY PUTTING THE FINISHING TOUCHES ON A WAX JOB OF DAVE'S CAR.

MIKE

What are you doing?

KENNY

After I cleaned up the garage, your dad's car looked "dowdy." And your parents have done so much for me...

MIKE

Does my Dad know you did this?

KENNY

No, but I thought he'd appreciate it.

MIKE

We all do. Especially me. (THEN)
Boy, you really worked hard on this.
Why don't you go inside make us a pitcher of iced tea, maybe a little snack, and I'll join you in a bit.

KENNY

Thanks, Mike. God, I can't believe how nice everyone is being to me.

KENNY EXITS. A BEAT LATER, DAVE ENTERS, AND MIKE QUICKLY GRABS THE RAG KENNY WAS WAXING WITH AND PRETENDS TO BE WORKING HIS ASS OFF.

DAVE

Wow, Mike, first you clean the garage -- it looks great, by the way -- now you're waxing my car?

MIKE

Well, I just wanted to give a little something back. I'm following your shining example of taking in Kenny. It feels good to be selfless.

DAVE INSPECTS THE JOB MIKE'S DONE. HE GRABS A BILL OUT OF HIS WALLET AND HANDS IT TO HIM.

DAVE

Well, great job. Here's twenty bucks.

MIKE

This is not about money. But I don't want to insult you, so I'll take it.

DAVE

You're a good kid, you.

MIKE SMILES ANGELICALLY AND TAKES THE MONEY.

INT. CONFESSIONAL SPACE
(MIKE)

MIKE

Sweet! I wonder if there are any other weird gay kids we can get to come live with us!

CUT TO:

SCENE M

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER THAT AFTERNOON (DAY 3)
(DAVE, VICKY, LARRY, CHRISTY, JUDY, JIMMY)

LARRY IS WITH CHRISTY AND HER PARENTS, MAGGIE AND JIMMY.
VICKY ENTERS WITH SOME SNACKS. SHE PUTS THE TRAY DOWN ON THE
COFFEE TABLE.

VICKY

This is so nice. I've been saying to
Larry, when are we going to get a
chance to meet Christy's parents? I'm
just sorry Dave couldn't be here to
see how normal you guys are. (BEAT)
I mean how nice. (RE: SNACKS)
Please, dig in.

EVERYONE SITS DOWN.

LARRY

Shouldn't we say grace?

JIMMY

Larry, why don't you do it?

LARRY

Okay.

THEY HOLDS HANDS AND BOWS THEIR HEADS.

LARRY (CONT'D)

Um... Bless us, O Lord, and these
miniature strudels, which we are about
to receive from your bounty. Through
Christ our Lord. And Pepperidge
Farms. Amen.

EVERYONE LOOKS UP.

WE REVEAL: A SHOCKED-LOOKING DAVE, GOLF CLUBS OVER HIS SHOULDER, WHO HAS WALKED IN DURING LARRY'S PRAYER.

LARRY (CONT'D)

Oh. Um... Hi, Dad. These are
Christy's parents.

DAVE

What's the hell's going on here? Why
didn't I know about this? (TO MAGGIE
AND JIMMY) What are you two trying to
do to my family?

VICKY

Oh, no. Dave, you were out playing
golf and --

DAVE

So, what, Larry, you didn't want
Christy's parents to meet me? Well,
folks, sorry I crashed the Jesus-Fest!
Maybe I can run upstairs, put on a
turtleneck and some slacks, grab my
pipe and come join the fun!

LARRY

Dad, it's not like that!

VICKY

Dave, relax!

DAVE

Relax? That's what they said to my people when they were trying to get them to go into the showers!

VICKY

(SOTTO, SHRINKING INTO HER CHAIR) Oy gevalt.

DAVE

(TO JIMMY AND MAGGIE) I don't know if two are aware of it, but, yes, I am a card-carrying Jew. And by card-carrying, I mean my Costco membership, because Jews love a good deal! Hey, anyone want to play a nice rousing game of spin the Dreidel?! I better stand back, though -- you need room to spin a Dreidel, and I don't want my big Jew nose getting in the way!

AN AWKWARD BEAT.

MAGGIE

Well, look at the time. It was lovely meeting you, but we have a thing we need to go to. Christy, grab your purse.

DAVE

Oh, I'm sorry, did I offend you?!

(RE: HIS WATCH) Whoops, sorry, time to pray! Barchoo-atcha-adanoos, Ela-hee-hee barry manilow ha-o-lump...

JIMMY

Dave, I don't know where you got this idea, but we don't have any problem with Jewish people.

MAGGIE

We eat at Jerry's deli twice a week. They have the best Matzo ball soup in town.

DAVE

Then why did you exclude me from this little get-together! Answer me that!

VICKY

Dave! None of this was planned! They were picking up Christy, and I invited them to stay a bit!

DAVE

Oh. Well. (THEN) Nice to meet you, Dave Gold.

LARRY

I can't believe you!

DAVE

Look, Larry, I --

LARRY

You know what? You're right, Dad, I was glad you weren't here! But not because you're Jewish! I didn't want you here because... you're you! When you're not walking around yelling and screaming and sucking whatever joy there is right out of the room, you're belching and farting and watching the Playboy channel! You make me wish I was adopted so I could go and find my real father!

MAGGIE

Again, we really do need to skedaddle.

LARRY

No, no, you don't have to leave! I really think there is a good chance he's not my real father! My mother is a huge flirt!

VICKY

Larry!

JIMMY

(TO VICKY) Thank you for the snacks, they were delicious.

MAGGIE

Come on, Christy.

CHRISTY GIVES LARRY A SAD LOOK "GOODBYE." SHE AND HER PARENTS EXIT. LARRY IS CLEARLY DEVASTATED.

DAVE

(TO LARRY) Look, you might not see it right now, but trust me, this is all for the best. People should stay with their own kind. I'm sure Christy's parents are very nice, but we're not. Oh, and the Matzo ball soup at Jerry's Deli? It's awful.

LARRY STARES DAGGERS AT DAVE FOR A BEAT, THEN EXITS UPSTAIRS.

CUT TO:

SCENE P

INT. KITCHEN - LATER (DAY 3)
(VICKY, MIKE, KENNY)

VICKY HAS LAID OUT ANOTHER SET OF IDEAS FOR KENNY, WHO LOOKS AT THEM LISTLESSLY.

KENNY

Hmmm...

VICKY

Kenny!

KENNY

What?

VICKY

How can you not like anything I show you? You think just because you came out of the closet five minutes ago that makes you some sort of expert on decorating?!

KENNY

Frankly, yes.

VICKY

I'm a professional, godammit! I did the Kiplinger house that was featured in the "affordable but adorable" section of "The Long Island Bi-Weekly Free Newspaper!"

KENNY

Why is this so important to you?

VICKY

Because I want to brighten up the dark
and confusing time you're going
through right now! The only problem
with that, besides you hating my
taste, is that you seem to be just
fine!

KENNY

Yes. Because I know this isn't
permanent. Unless... do you know
something I don't?

VICKY

What are you talking about?

KENNY

My parents didn't tell you they're
never going to take me back, did they?

VICKY

What? No, they haven't told me
anything, I haven't even spoken to
them.

KENNY

Well, then, we don't need to decorate
because I won't need to be here that
long. Because any day now, my family
is going to change their minds and let
me come back!

(MORE)

KENNY (CONT'D)

Even though they haven't taken any of
my calls, and they refuse to speak to
me, and...

A BEAT. KENNY STARTS WELLING UP. VICKY GIVES HIM A MOTHERLY
HUG.

VICKY

That's right, let it out...

KENNY CRIES ON VICKY'S SHOULDER. MIKE ENTERS AND SEES THIS
TABLEAU. HE STARES FOR A FEW BEATS, THEN, BREAKING DOWN WITH
GUILT...

MIKE

Okay, okay! I took credit for Kenny
for cleaning the garage and waxing
Dad's car! I'm sorry, I'm sorry!

HE RUNS INTO BOTH OF THEIR ARMS, CRYING. A BEAT LATER, DAVE
CROSSES THROUGH ON HIS WAY UPSTAIRS.

DAVE

(GIVES VICKY THE THUMBS-UP) Huh, you
got two of them crying. Good for you
honey!

CUT TO:

SCENE Q

INT. LARRY'S ROOM - LATER (DAY 3)
(DAVE, VICKY, HILLARY)

LARRY IS IN HIS ROOM, READING. DAVE KNOCKS AND ENTERS.

DAVE

Look, in hindsight, I can see I went a little nutso back there with your friend and her parents. I just have very strong feelings about this stuff.

LARRY

I know.

DAVE

So... have you talked to Christy?

LARRY

Yeah. Her parents have forbid her from going out with me.

DAVE

Because of me, huh?

LARRY

Partially. But also, Christy's parents didn't like the way I spoke back to you. That whole "honor thy mother and father" thing? They take that seriously.

DAVE

Hey, my guys came up with that, right? See, we got some good stuff too.

LARRY LAUGHS.

DAVE (CONT'D)

Wow. I already got you laughing about this. That's good.

LARRY

Well, Jesus did say... (READING FROM THE BIBLE) "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." I forgive you, Dad.

DAVE

Whoa whoa whoa -- Christy's out of the picture, how come we're not back to sort of casually believing in some kind of God, and leaving it at that?

LARRY

I already told you, I wasn't into this stuff because of Christy. I really like it.

DAVE

But-But your mother doesn't know anything about the Grateful Dead anymore, and it's not supposed to turn out this way!

LARRY

What are you talking about?

DAVE

What are you talking about?! Are you
telling me you believe in Jesus now?

LARRY DOESN'T ANSWER, BUT WE CAN TELL BY THE LOOK ON LARRY'S
FACE THAT THIS TIME, THE ANSWER IS... YES.

INT. CONFSSIONAL SPACE

(DAVE)

DAVE

Holy crap! He actually believes in
Jesus! For real! I got to punish
him! Wait, how can I punish him for
believing in Jesus?! I can't! Oh,
man! This kid is good!

END OF ACT THREE