

ACT ONE

INT. DUNPHY HOME - LUKE'S BEDROOM - MORNING

CLAIRE DUNPHY struggles to get Luke out of bed, yanking his covers off.

CLAIRE
Luke, get up.

LUKE DUNPHY moans, barely moving. He yanks the covers back over his head.

LUKE
I don't wanna go!

ALEX DUNPHY, already dressed, saunters in and leans close to Luke.

ALEX
I'm sure Vanessa misses you.

Luke sits up quickly.

CLAIRE
Oh, did you finally make some new friends?

INT. CAMP - LUNCHROOM - DAY - PAST

Luke, holding a tray of food, timidly approaches a table of giggling girls, eating.

LUKE
Um, Vanessa?

They stare at him. VANESSA MATHIESON raises an eyebrow at Luke's interruption.

VANESSA
Yes?

LUKE

I, uh, was wondering if you'd like to
uh, have lunch?

VANESSA

That's what we're doing, genius.

Vanessa turns back to the group, laughing.

INT. CAMERON & MITCHELL'S DUPLEX - LIVING ROOM - DAY

MITCHELL PRITCHETT listens intently to CAMERON TUCKER's
excited babble. LILY TUCKER-PRITCHETT sits in Mitchell's
lap.

Cameron stands next to an easel holding a poster with a
diagram of their backyard.

CAMERON

...and then I'll finish with fireworks
and a humming of 'the concord hymn' by
Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Cameron collapses his pointer and smiles broadly to Mitchell.

MITCHELL

Um, do you think this is a bit much
for a family barbecue?

CAMERON

Absolutely not. What kind of world is
Lily growing up in if we don't truly
embrace our gay independence?

MITCHELL

The founding fathers weren't gay.

CAMERON

That we know of.

EXT. TUCKER FAMILY HOME - BACKYARD - DAY - PAST

A young Cameron, dressed as Benjamin Franklin, signs a piece
of parchment with a large feather quill. After he finishes,
his family explodes with applause.

CAMERON (V.O.)

Independence Day has always been such
an important holiday to me and my
family.

INTERVIEW -- CAMERON

CAMERON

It's definitely what brought our love
of theater to life.

INT. CAMERON & MITCHELL'S DUPLEX - LIVING ROOM - DAY

CAMERON

And guess what? Ta da!

Cameron pulls a white wig out of a box.

CAMERON (CONT'D)

Guess who gets to be John Adams?

MITCHELL

How about I just work the grill?

INT. DUNPHY HOME - KITCHEN - DAY

Claire frantically throws food on the table as PHIL DUNPHY enters. Alex, Luke and HALEY DUNPHY eat breakfast.

CLAIRE

Alright, camp is only a half day today
so I'll pick the two of you up at
noon.

ALEX

Did you know that 70% of serial
killers were forced to go to summer
camp?

Everyone immediately stares at Luke, who smells his sock,
makes a sour face, and puts it on anyway.

CLAIRE

I'll take my chances.

They resume eating.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)

Haley, you'll come with me to run
errands.

Haley rolls her eyes.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)

Phil?

PHIL

Oh...yes, camp. I have wonderful
memories of camp.

(MORE)

PHIL (CONT'D)

I met my best friend to this day, at camp. These are good times. Enjoy them.

INTERVIEW -- PHIL

PHIL

I actually never went to regular camp. It was space camp.

(beat)

And it was awe-some!

INT. DUNPHY HOME - KITCHEN - DAY

The family as before.

CLAIRE

Phil, be dressed and ready to go by 12:30.

PHIL

Sure thing, honey.

INT. JAY & GLORIA'S HOME - KITCHEN - DAY

GLORIA PRITCHETT stirs a pot on the stove.

GLORIA

Manny, let's -- !

MANNY DELGADO enters.

MANNY

Good morning.

GLORIA

There you are. Claire will be here any minute.

MANNY

Have you seen my light gray sweater? It's supposed to be chilly until about eleven.

GLORIA

Yes, it's in the hall closet. Here, try this.

Gloria offers a spoon of stew to Manny. He tastes it and makes a face.

GLORIA (CONT'D)

What? It's no good?

MANNY

It's missing something.

GLORIA

Not everyone enjoys spicy food so I had to leave some things out.

MANNY

I don't think you should sacrifice authentic Latin flavor for the sake of weak palettes.

GLORIA

Si, but I want everyone to enjoy it.

INTERVIEW -- JAY & GLORIA

GLORIA

The truth is it gives me the -- the burning.

JAY

Heartburn. It gives her the heartburn.

GLORIA

So I can't have the spices, but it's worth it. Right?

JAY

Absolutely.

Silence.

JAY (CONT'D)

We haven't told him about the baby yet.

GLORIA

We decided to keep it between us for a little while longer.

INT. PRITCHETT FAMILY HOME - KITCHEN - DAY

Gloria exits the kitchen. Manny approaches the stove. Making sure the coast is clear, he adds random spices to the pot.

SFX: doorbell

GLORIA (O.S.)

Manny!

Startled, Manny drops the entire bottle of cayenne pepper into the pot.

GLORIA (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Let's go!

INT. CLAIRE'S CAR - DAY

Haley drives Luke, Alex and Manny to camp. Claire is in the passenger seat. They stop at a light.

HALEY

Okay, which way now?

CLAIRE

Really? You've driven to camp for six weeks now. How is it you still don't know where you're --

Haley's cell phone rings.

HALEY

Hello? Hi, --

CLAIRE

No! No talking and driving!

HALEY

How am I supposed to know where I'm going if my friends can't tell me!

INT. JAY & GLORIA'S HOME - KITCHEN - DAY

JAY PRITCHETT sniffs Gloria's dish for the barbecue. He makes a face as Gloria enters.

GLORIA

What?

JAY

Where's the meat?

GLORIA

I put meat in there! What are you talking about?

Jay fishes out a limp piece of meat: turkey bacon.

JAY

What the hell's this?

GLORIA

I used turkey bacon.

JAY

That's just not natural. There's no bacon on a turkey. Where are the huge chunks of sausage? I love that stuff.

GLORIA

I know, but this will be better. I'm trying to eat a little bit healthier.

JAY

But what does that have to do with me?

GLORIA

Oh, I see.

JAY

Now, hold on.

Gloria storms out.

JAY (CONT'D)

That's not what I meant!

INTERVIEW -- JAY

JAY

My ex-wife ate any and everything she wanted while she was pregnant with Mitchell and Claire. And they turned out just fine - for the most part.

INT. PRITCHETT FAMILY HOME - KITCHEN - DAY

Jay tiptoes to the fridge, digs toward the back and comes out victorious with two packs of sausage.

JAY (V.O.)

But I don't think that has anything to do with eating meat.

GLORIA (O.S.)

Jay!

Jay jumps, hiding the sausage behind his back. He's caught.

GLORIA (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Stir the pot so it doesn't steeck!

JAY

Sure, honey! No problem!

Jay hums as he tears into the packs of meat.

EXT. CAMERON & MITCHELL'S DUPLEX - BACKYARD - DAY

Cameron unloads several large props from a delivery truck. Mitchell barely lends a hand.

MITCHELL
You know, I think all of this might be too much --

Cameron turns, eyeing Mitchell accusingly.

CAMERON
-- for Lily. I think it might scare her a little.

They both glance at Lily, coloring at an outdoor table. She's wearing the white wig from earlier.

CAMERON (CONT'D)
Really, Mitchell?

Cameron stares him down.

MITCHELL
What?

CAMERON
(reciting)
'Yet through all the gloom I can see the rays of ravishing light and glory. I can see that the end is more than worth all the means.'

Mitchell rolls his eyes, defeated.

MITCHELL
(unenthusiastic)
Okay, Mr. Adams, where do you want the cannon?

EXT. CAMP - DAY

Luke, Alex and Manny climb out of the car. Manny joins his friends, leaving Luke and Alex behind.

CLAIRE
Have a really great morning! I love you!

Alex immediately stomps off into the crowd. Luke begins to walk away.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)
Oh, and Luke?

He turns back.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)

Make some new friends honey! Oh, and
invite that girl you like to the
barbecue, Vanessa! Don't be shy!
You're a great boy! Remember, I love
you!

A mortified Luke turns away from the car, only to find
Vanessa and her friends laughing at him.

END ACT ONE