

I'M NOT YOUR FRIEND

"Pilot"

written by

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REVISED STUDIO DRAFT
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COLD OPENING

FADE IN:

INT. BURNS KITCHEN - NIGHT (DAY 1)

IT'S A BURNS FAMILY MEETING. KATE (13), TEDDY (10), AND EMME (6) WAIT EXPECTANTLY IN FRONT OF THEIR PARENTS, ADAM (40s, MASCULINE, OLD SCHOOL) AND ANDI (30s, SMART, ADORABLE).

ANDI

Okay, family meeting! Everybody ready?

(NO RESPONSE) Great, so Daddy and I
have some news --

ADAM

Andi, if I might interject?

ANDI

Sure.

ADAM

Kate, put your phone away; Emme, don't
pick your nose; Teddy, stop fondling
yourself.

TEDDY

I wasn't --

ADAM

You had both hands in your pants,
moving around like you were making
origami down there. (TO ANDI) Okay, go
ahead.

ANDI

Thank you, Adam. Anyway --

ADAM

Sorry, one more thing. (TO KIDS) Kids,
I was against this from the beginning,
so whatever happens it's Mommy's
fault. (TO ANDI) Take it away, hon.

ANDI

(TO ADAM WITH A LOOK) Anyway (TO KIDS
WITH A SMILE) along with summer being
over and school starting back up
tomorrow, there's another change
happening in our family.

KATE

Are you getting a divorce?

EMME

(EXCITED) We're getting a horse!

ANDI

Nobody's getting a divorce. Or a
horse.

(MORE)

ANDI (CONT'D)

No, what's happening is, I'm going back to work, so Daddy will be watching you -- taking you to school, helping you with your homework, stuff like that.

ADAM

Right, I'll still be working, but since I'm a contractor I'm my own boss so I'll be able to work my schedule around you guys.

KATE

Why can't we just have a nanny? Georgia has a nanny who takes her to R rated movies.

ADAM

That's a good question. When I was working and Mommy was home, I said we didn't need a nanny and apparently said other things that I regret about how any idiot could take care of kids. So no nanny.

EMME

(TO ANDI) Why are you going to work?

ANDI

Because Daddy loves me and he wants me to be happy, even if no one else is.

(MORE)

ANDI (CONT'D)

All you need to know is, Daddy's in
charge now.

A BEAT AS THE KIDS TAKE THIS IN, THEN:

TEDDY/KATE/EMME

Yay!!!/Daddy fun times!!!/I love you,
Daddy!

THEY RUSH IN AND HUG HIM. HE IS MOVED.

ADAM

Aw. You guys. We're gonna have so much
fun.

EMME

Can we get a puppy?

ADAM

Sure.

ANDI

No!

ADAM

No.

TEDDY

Well, which is it?

ADAM

Ask your mother. Later, not now. Do it
when I'm not around.

THE KIDS HEAD OFF.

KATE

(AS SHE GOES) Love you, Daddy.

ADAM

(TO ANDI) She's the best.

ANDI

Yeah, you're gonna want to keep an eye on that one. She can be tough, you know? She's thirteen, lot of hormones.

ADAM

Hormones? That's got two words in it I don't want to associate with my daughter: whore and --

ANDI

I know what the words are. What's the matter, you worried you can't hack it?

ADAM

Oh, I can hack it. The question is, do I want to hack it?

ANDI

Too late, you already agreed and got your reward.

ADAM

Yeah, well, that "reward" was too short.

ANDI

Whose fault was that?

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ADAM

Mine, for marrying somebody too good
looking. If I would've gone uggo, I'd
be living like a king.

ANDI

Gross and thank you.

FADE OUT.

END OF COLD OPENING

ACT ONE

SCENE A

FADE IN:

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - MORNING (DAY 2)

IT'S THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL -- KIDS AND PARENTS CROWD THE HALLWAY. KATE AND TEDDY RUN OFF AS ADAM, HOLDING EMME'S HAND, MAKES HIS WAY THROUGH. EMME LOOKS VERY SERIOUS AND STOPS.

EMME

Daddy?

ADAM SQUATS DOWN TO EMME'S HEIGHT.

ADAM

Yeah, butterbean?

EMME

I'm worried about Kindergarten.

ADAM

(SWEETLY) Aw, honey. You should be worried. Kids are mean and they'll hurt your feelings for no reason. But just know if you ever feel uncomfortable, start swinging. A punch in the face can be a wonderful thing.

THIS PLEASES EMME IMMENSELY.

EMME

Okay, thanks Daddy!

EMME RUNS INTO HER KINDERGARTEN ROOM AS ADAM, FEELING GOOD ABOUT HIS TALK, HEADS FOR THE EXIT DOOR. JUST AS HE REACHES IT, MRS. WANNAMAKER (50, LOOKS LIKE MARY POPPINS) ENTERS AND CLOSES THE DOOR BEHIND HER. SHE STANDS IN FRONT OF IT SO ADAM CAN'T LEAVE AND SHAKES A CAN FULL OF PENNIES (LIKE YOU WOULD DO TO A CAT) TO GET THE CROWD TO QUIET DOWN. MEANWHILE ADAM IS TRYING TO FIGURE OUT A WAY AROUND HER TO GET THE HELL OUT.

MRS. WANNAMAKER

Hello kindergarten parents! I'm Mrs. Wannamaker, your child's lead teacher. I'd like to welcome all of you to the Kindergarten Parent Mingle.

ADAM

(TO HIMSELF, PAINED) What??

MRS. WANNAMAKER

Now has anyone seen Mrs. Burns? Is Mrs. Burns here?

ADAM RELUCTANTLY RAISES HIS HAND.

ADAM

You must be talking about my wife. I'm Adam -- uh, Mr. Burns.

MRS. WANNAMAKER

Oh, good. Mr. Burns, your wife graciously volunteered to be our room parent and there are just a few --

ADAM

Oh, listen, she's not going to be able to do that. She decided to go back to work, so --

MRS. WANNAMAKER

Well, that's wonderful for her. So I'll just pencil you in --

ADAM

Whoa, hey, I'd love to but --

ADAM BECOMES ACUTELY AWARE THAT EVERYONE IS WATCHING THEM.

ADAM (CONT'D)

I have a job, too, see, so -- please
stop writing my name down -- I don't
think that's going to work out.

MRS. WANNAMAKER LAUGHS LIKE HE SAID SOMETHING FUNNY.

MRS. WANNAMAKER

What a wonderful group, I can't wait
to meet every one of you! (NOT SO
FRIENDLY) Mr. Burns, I'd like to see
you after the mingle.

EVERYONE STARES AT ADAM; HE HANGS HIS HEAD LIKE A KID IN
TROUBLE.

CUT TO:

ACT ONE

SCENE B

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER (DAY 2)

ADAM, STUCK IN THE MINGLE, LOOKS AROUND AND SEES...ANOTHER DAD! SWEET. HE HEADS OVER TO LOWELL (32, THIN, INTELLECTUAL).

ADAM

Hey, looks like you got stuck in here too, huh? I'm Adam.

LOWELL

Lowell, I'm a stay-at-home Dad. Four years now and it hasn't changed me at all. (LICKS HIS THUMB AND MOVES TO WIPE A SPOT ON ADAM'S CHEEK) You have a little --

ADAM

(PUSHES HIS HAND AWAY) Whoa, hey! I'm going to say it changed you.

LOWELL

Sorry, I'm a little revved up. I just can't believe they're not introducing any foreign language in kindergarten. How can our children compete in a global economy without fluency in a second language?

ADAM

You know this school is free, right? Free stuff's usually not that great.

(MORE)

ADAM (CONT'D)

I mean, water's free but beer you
gotta pay for, know what I'm saying?

LOWELL

Beer. So great to connect on a
masculine level again. I invited our
mailman in for a beer several times.
Then for some reason he changed his
route.

ADAM

(A BEAT, THEN) Where are the regular
moms?

ADAM LOOKS AROUND, SEES MARIE (34, FRAZZLED) ALL ALONE EATING
CHEETOS FROM A BAG.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Cheetos. That's a good sign.

ADAM CROSSES TO HER.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Hey, how many of those you got left?

MARIE

Why?

ADAM

If you got three or less I won't
bother you, but if you got more than
three it's customary to offer one.

MARIE LAUGHS, OFFERS HIM A CHEETO WHICH HE TAKES.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Adam Burns.

MARIE

Seriously? Marie Faldanado. My oldest kid Casey's in Teddy's class. We've met like ten times already. I've had dinner at your house.

ADAM

See, this is why I don't like to mingle. Oh, I remember your husband. Good guy, what's he up to these day?

MARIE

Sleeping with my cousin. Any more questions?

ADAM

Yeah, about a million.

MARIE

Hey, did Teddy get invited to Brady's birthday party?

ADAM

Yeah. I thought it was gonna be a drop-off but they made me stay and hold the pinata. I got hit on the head with the broomstick. So I said that's it, off with the blindfolds. Handed the kid the broomstick, he looked right at me and hit me on the head again. Name's Jordan. Write it down, you'll see him in handcuffs one day.

MARIE

Casey didn't get invited. It's happened before with other parties. Something's up.

ADAM

Oh. Yeah, we had Casey over last year and, uh... yeah, Casey.

MARIE

What?

ADAM

You really want to know?

MARIE

I'm asking aren't I?

ADAM

He was kind of an a-hole.

MARIE

What?

ADAM

Yeah, you know, my kid says, I got a Hot Wheel, Casey says, I got a hundred Hot Wheels and then asks why we're poor. Stuff like that.

MARIE

I can't believe you called my child that word.

ADAM

You said you wanted to know!

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MARIE STALKS AWAY.

ADAM (CONT'D)

(CALLS AFTER) All kids are a-holes!

THE HALLWAY GOES QUIET.

ADAM (CONT'D)

(STILL TRYING TO FIX IT) Or maybe he's
just acting out because your husband's
sleeping with your cousin!

EVERYBODY'S LOOKING AT HIM.

ADAM (CONT'D)

(TO CROWD) My wife went back to work,
this is not my fault.

CUT TO:

ACT ONE

SCENE C

INT. MRS. WANNAMAKER'S CLASSROOM - MOMENTS LATER (DAY 2)

ADAM SITS ACROSS FROM MRS. WANNAMAKER'S DESK.

MRS. WANNAMAKER

...and we try to make up for a lack of funding with parent volunteers. Think of the children. There's not a thing I wouldn't do for them and I know you feel the same way.

ADAM

Nope.

MRS. WANNAMAKER

(FRUSTRATED) You don't understand. I spent all summer trying to find someone, anyone -- look, nobody wants to be room parent, but your wife took it on, and now you have to do it.

ADAM

No can do, Mrs. Wannamaker.

MRS. WANNAMAKER

That's a shame. (THEN) It would also be a shame if I don't teach your daughter to read.

ADAM CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT HE JUST HEARD.

ADAM

What are you saying?

MRS. WANNAMAKER

I'm sorry, did you say something?

ADAM

No, you said something.

MRS. WANNAMAKER

I said what a shame.

ADAM

No, you said something after that.

MRS. WANNAMAKER

I don't think so.

ADAM

(A BEAT; HATES THIS) Okay, I'll do it.

MRS. WANNAMAKER

Wonderful! (HANDS HIM A STACK OF PAPERS) Here's the class list, email list, allergy list, approved snack list, class event calendar, approved vendors list, and reimbursement forms. Your first event is tomorrow's Ice Cream Sundae Fun Day party at ten am. Please be here at nine to set up.

ADAM LOOKS FROM THE PAPERS TO MRS. WANNAMAKER.

ADAM

You're a piece of work, Wannamaker.

MRS. WANNAMAKER

I do what I have to, Burns.

CUT TO:

ACT ONE

SCENE D

STOCK SHOT: EXT. HOSPITAL

INT. HOSPITAL LAB - LATER (DAY 2)

ANDI SITS NERVOUSLY AT HER DESK WEARING A WHITE LAB COAT AND TRYING TO LOOK PROFESSIONAL. A CO-WORKER, DARRYL, APPROACHES PUSHING A CART LOADED FULL OF TESTING SAMPLES.

DARRYL

Hey, how goes the first day?

ANDI

Good! I think. I don't know. It's been
a long time since I --

DARRYL

Great, great. Got some samples for
you, need the results by five.

HE GRABS THE ENTIRE CARTFUL OF SAMPLES IN HIS ARMS AND DUMPS THEM ON ANDI'S DESK. HE HEADS OFF, LEAVING ANDI STARING AGHAST AT THE MOUNTAIN OF WORK.

ANDI

By five... today??

HER PHONE RINGS, SHE ANSWERS.

INTERCUT WITH:

EXT. JOB-SITE - LATER (DAY 2)

ADAM IS ON HIS PHONE; HE HAS PLANS LAID OUT ON THE HOOD OF HIS TRUCK; BEHIND HIM IS A HOUSE BEING FRAMED.

ADAM

(INTO PHONE) How come you didn't tell
me you were room mom?

ANDI

Oh, honey, I forgot.

ADAM

You forgot? Well guess who's room mom
now? Me!

ANDI

(TRYING NOT TO LAUGH) Oh no, that's
terrible. (NOT SUCCEEDING) Hold on, I
have to take a call....

ANDI PUTS HIM ON HOLD, HAS A GOOD LAUGH, PUTS HIM BACK ON.

ANDI (CONT'D)

Sorry about that.

ADAM

Were you laughing at me?

ANDI

Yes. Very hard.

ADAM

Nice. How's work?

ANDI

Well, I'm not room mom.

ADAM

Okay, I'm done talking to you.

ANDI

I understand. I love you.

ADAM

I love you, too.

END INTERCUT.

ADAM HANGS UP; REVEAL SHORTY (28, JOLLY) IS STANDING NEXT TO HIM, HOLDING A NAIL GUN.

SHORTY

My kid has a doctor's appointment so I gotta pick him up from school.

ADAM

Can't your wife do it?

SHORTY

She's on a business trip.

ADAM

Of course she is. Let me ask you a question, Shorty -- if I paid you more, not saying I could, but if I did, would she stay home?

SHORTY

No, she likes to work.

ADAM

My wife does too!

SHORTY

I don't get it, man. I was born to sit on my ass.

ADAM

We all were! (RE: HOUSE) I gotta get these walls up so we can dick off inside without anybody seeing us.

ADAM TAKES THE NAIL GUN AND HEADS TOWARD THE HOUSE.

CUT TO:

ACT ONE

SCENE E

INT. ADAM'S TRUCK - AFTERNOON - (DAY 2)

THE KIDS PILE INTO THE CAR AT AFTER SCHOOL PICK-UP. AS THEY START OFF...

ADAM

Hey guys, how was school?

TEDDY/KATE/EMME

I'm hungry./And thirsty./Me too.

ADAM

(LOOKS AROUND CAR WHILE HE DRIVES) Uh,
I didn't -- I don't have anything.

TEDDY

What?!

KATE

I'm appalled.

ADAM

It's a ten minute drive.

EMME

Mommy always had snacks and fresh icy
cold waters every day.

KATE

I guess it's because she loves us.

ADAM

Hey go easy, it's me, Daddy fun times,
remember?

(MORE)

ACT ONE

SCENE H

INT. ADAM'S TRUCK - MOMENTS LATER (DAY 2)

ADAM PULLS INTO THE DRIVEWAY. AS SOON AS HE PUTS THE TRUCK INTO PARK, THE KIDS BAIL OUT AND RUN INSIDE. ADAM TURNS AROUND AND LOOKS INTO THE BACKSEAT -- IT'S A FRIGGING MESS. SOCKS, SHOES, PAPERS, PENCILS, CRAP EVERYWHERE.

ADAM

What the...?

ADAM SIGHS, STARTS CLEANING IT UP.

CUT TO:

ACT ONE

SCENE J

INT. BURNS HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER (DAY 2)

ADAM WALKS IN, ARMS FULL OF CRAP, AND SEES THE SNAIL TRIAL OF JUNK HIS KIDS DROPPED WHEN THEY WALKED IN THE HOUSE -- SWEATSHIRTS, MORE SOCKS, BACKPACKS, BOOKS...UNDERWEAR??

ADAM

(PICKS UP UNDERWEAR; DISAPPOINTED)

Teddy.

ADAM LOOKS AT THE THREE HOOKS ON THE WALL WITH EACH KID'S NAME ON IT; THEY'RE ABOUT A FOOT AWAY FROM WHERE THE BACKPACKS HAVE BEEN DROPPED ON THE FLOOR. HE PICKS THE BACKPACKS UP AND FOLLOWS THE TRAIL OF MORE JUNK TO THE FAMILY ROOM WHERE ALL THREE KIDS ARE SPRAWLED OUT, HEADPHONES ON, DEEP INTO DIFFERENT TECHNOLOGIES.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Hey. (NO RESPONSE) Hey!! Since when do we ignore Daddy? That's not cool!

Guys!

STILL NO RESPONSE. HE GRABS THE PINK WHISTLE ATTACHED TO EMME'S BACKPACK AND PUTS IT TO HIS LIPS.

ADAM (CONT'D)

(GROSS) Uch. (THEN) I don't care.

HE BLOWS THE WHISTLE.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Headphones off! Everybody line up!

KATE

What?

ADAM

Line up, 1, 2, 3. I can't believe I have to explain a line to you.

KATE, TEDDY, AND EMME LINE UP IN FRONT OF HIM.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Why did you just dump all your stuff
everywhere?

KATE SHRUGS.

TEDDY

We always do.

ADAM

Who cleans it up?

EMME

Mommy.

ADAM

And she's not upset about that?

KATE

I don't know.

CAMERA ON ADAM THROUGH FOLLOWING WHILE HE PACES...

ADAM

You don't know, huh? Well, from now on
you're going to clean out the car
before you get out. You're going to
hang your backpacks up. You're going
to keep your shoes and socks on until
you get to your room, then you're
going to put your socks in the hamper,
not on the floor, and you'll put your
shoes in the closet, not on the floor.

ADAM CATCHES HIS REFLECTION IN A WALL MIRROR AND LIKES HOW HE LOOKS LAYING DOWN THE LAW. HE GIVES HIMSELF A PLEASED SMILE, THEN GETS STERN AGAIN:

ADAM (CONT'D)

And you're going to get your own icy
water and snacks and when you're done,
you'll clean that up, too. That's how
it's gonna be around here! Any
questions?

ADAM LOOKS AT THE KIDS; REVEAL THEY ALL HAVE THEIR HEADPHONES ON AND ARE BACK INTO THEIR TECHNOLOGY, OBLIVIOUS TO WHAT HE SAID.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Well I got one. What the hell happened
to my life?

TEDDY

Ooh, Daddy said a bad word.

ADAM

Sure, that you heard.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SCENE K

FADE IN:

INT. BURNS HOUSE - THAT EVENING (DAY 2)

ADAM IS AGGRESSIVELY CLEANING THE LIVING ROOM, ANGRILY MUTTERING TO HIMSELF AS HE STRAIGHTENS THE COUCH. SOMETHING CATCHES HIS EYE ON A CUSHION.

ADAM

Gum?! Who puts gum on the couch and
just leaves it?!

ADAM LOOKS AROUND, SEES NOBODY'S WATCHING, FLIPS THE CUSHION OVER SO THE GUM IS HIDDEN. ANDI ENTERS, SHE LOOKS BEAT.

ANDI

Phew, what a day.

ADAM

Oh no. No ma'am. You do NOT get to do
that. I had (EXHAUSTED) 'what a day'.
You had (JAZZ HANDS, BROADWAY) What a
day!

ANDI

Actually, it was kind of incredible. I
mean at first I was freaking out
because, you know, I've been home for
thirteen years and I thought maybe I
just can't do it anymore. But I could.
I was so good the other guys were
like, hey slow down, Brown-noser! They
were just kidding, they love me.

ADAM

Sounds like it.

ANDI

It's like it's awakened a whole part
of me that I was afraid was dead. I
just... I have to thank you for
letting me do this.

ADAM

Yeah, that's great. I want out.

ANDI

What? What happened?

ADAM

It was awful. Those people in there?
Awful.

ANDI

Okay, I don't think any of us expected
this to be easy, but you've been given
a great gift. The gift of time with
your children.

ADAM

You're going to have to do better than
that.

ANDI

Look, we can't go back! What's it
gonna take, name your price!

ADAM

I'm just not all the time guy, okay?
I'm Daddy fun times. I'm like Johnny
Cash. I fly in, play the prison,
everybody loves me, and then I'm outta
there. I don't want to be the warden.

ANDI

Well, I don't want to be the warden,
either. It's not like I'm so great at
it.

ADAM

No kidding. Teddy? Never not touching
his penis. Did you ever say to him,
hey man stop grabbing your penis? I
don't think so. I gave you three
perfect babies and, as far as I can
tell, you ruined them.

ANDI

I think you mean, we ruined them.

ADAM

Uh-uh, you've been in charge. The
person who cares most wins the fight
and ever since Katie was two weeks old
and you lost it because I gave her
four ounces of milk instead of six --

ANDI

Well no baby can sleep on four ounces!
That was madness!

ADAM

Whatever it was, you've been in the
driver's seat. I was just riding
shotgun.

ANDI

Oh, I gotta call bullshit on that. It
doesn't matter where you're sitting in
the car, you still know where you're
going and how you got there.

ADAM

Really? How do we get to my Aunt
Karen's house from here?

ANDI

What? I don't know. You always drive.

ADAM

Aha!

ANDI

Don't "aha" me. Whatever. Bottom line
is no matter what happened before
you're driving (GESTURES ALL AROUND
HER) this whole thing now.

ADAM

Yeah? Well guess what? I'm taking my hands off the wheel, I'm opening the car door and I'm rolling out.

KATE, TEDDY AND EMME ENTER, CROSS TO ANDI.

TEDDY

Mommy, can we talk to you (POINTEDLY, TO ADAM) alone?

ANDI

Anything you want to say to me you can say in front of Daddy.

KATE

Fine. We don't want Daddy to stay at home anymore.

ADAM

What?

TEDDY

Yeah, too much yelling.

EMME

And no snacks.

KATE

We had to line up. In a line!

THE KIDS MAKE SAD FACES AT ANDI.

ANDI

Well... (RELUCTANTLY) I guess if everybody is so unhappy --

ADAM

Hold on, you're going to let them fire me? I don't get fired. I have a ninety percent customer satisfaction rate. I have a plaque from the county! (TO KIDS) Okay, new plan. I'm staying and you're gonna shape up.

ANDI

Wait, but you just said --

ADAM

I know what I said but then they said what they said and now I'm saying other stuff. (TO KIDS) And I'll tell you something else: I don't care how much you don't like me, because I'm not your friend, I'm your Dad. I'm the warden! Now scam.

THE KIDS RUN OUT.

ADAM (CONT'D)

I'm going to need you behind me on this.

ANDI

A hundred percent, whatever you need.

ADAM

We're gonna turn this thing around, and here's what I'm gonna do...

ANDI

I'm excited.

ADAM

I'm gonna ban computers.

ANDI

That'll never work. (OFF HIS LOOK) You
want to play Uno and Barbies all day?
That's a punishment for you.

ADAM

Fine, I'll ground them.

ANDI

See above.

ADAM

Well what's left?

ANDI

Convince your husband to let you go
back to work?

ADAM

Oh, you're very funny. I see why
everybody at work hates you. (THEN)
You know what, Captain Von Trapp had
the right idea because before that nun
lady showed up, those kids were ON
POINT. I never realized The Sound of
Music was a tragedy until today.

CUT TO:

ACT TWO

SCENE 1

INT. CLASSROOM - THE NEXT MORNING (DAY 3)

ADAM UNPACKS ICE CREAM SUNDAE SUPPLIES IN THE EMPTY CLASSROOM. LOWELL ENTERS.

LOWELL

Hey, I volunteered to be your assistant today. I hope you don't mind, I'm just finding myself very drawn to your alpha male energy.

ADAM

Don't say stuff like that, Lowell.
It's weird.

LOWELL

Noted.

THROUGH THE OPEN DOORWAY TO THE CLASSROOM, ADAM SEES MARIE. SHE SPOTS HIM AND MAKES A BEELINE FOR HIM. OH SHIT. ADAM RUNS OVER AND TRIES TO QUICKLY SHUT THE DOOR BUT IT'S GOT AIR HINGES SO EVEN THOUGH HE SHOVES AND PULLS ON IT WITH ALL HIS MIGHT, IT ONLY VERY SLOWLY EASES CLOSED. MARIE SLIPS THROUGH.

MARIE

What the hell? Are you trying to hide from me?

ADAM

What? No. A little. Look, I'm sorry about yesterday. Who am I to say anything? I mean, Ted? Chronic masturbator. Kid loves his no-nos. So
I --

MARIE

No, I actually wanted to thank you.
I've asked those other moms about a million times if there's anything going on with Casey and they always say "no, no, he's fantastic" and then never invite him anywhere. At least now I can do something about it.

LOWELL

Aw, look at you two, knocking down walls, reaffirming our humanity, our essential aloneness in the face of --

AS HE PUTS HIS ARMS AROUND MARIE AND ADAM:

MARIE

Never touch me, freak.

LOWELL

Noted.

MRS WANNAMAKER ENTERS.

MRS. WANNAMAKER

Oh my, this looks very exciting. Ice cream sundae fun day!

ADAM

Yeah, about that. They just started, they haven't even learned anything yet. What have they done to earn ice cream and marshmallows and hot fudge?

(MORE)

ADAM (CONT'D)

Nothing. I'm taking back the hot
fudge. Hot fudge is for winners.

MRS. WANNAMAKER

Every day of their young lives, their
innocence and thirst for knowledge
inspires us all. Isn't that worth an
ice cream sundae?

ADAM

Not with fudge.

MRS. WANNAMAKER

Mr. Burns, do we need to have a little
talk in the hall?

ADAM RELUCTANTLY PUTS THE FUDGE BACK DOWN.

ADAM

No, we don't need that, Mrs.
Wannamaker.

MRS. WANNAMAKER

Great. See you later!

SHE EXITS.

ADAM

Not if I see you first.

HE LOOKS UP TO SEE THE DOOR ONCE AGAIN IS TOO SLOW AND MRS.
WANNAMAKER IS STANDING THERE GLARING AT HIM AS THE DOOR
SLOWLY CLOSES.

ADAM (CONT'D)

I hate that door. I hate this party. I
want to go back to work.

LOWELL

(TO ADAM) I know being a primary caregiver is stressful. But think of the rewards. The bonding, the love.

ADAM

There's no love. It's me yelling and them ignoring. I really thought I knew my kids but these are not the same kids I saw when I got home at night. When I walked in they smelled good and they covered me with hugs and kisses -- I haven't gotten a single hug or kiss since this whole thing started!

MARIE

Well yeah, you were getting the greatest hits.

ADAM

(REALIZES) Yeah. And now it's all deep cuts. The drum solos, the bass player sings a song...

LOWELL

Their little sister ruins their new leggings. (OFF THEIR LOOKS) I'm sorry, I can't do metaphors. I'm too literal. I can't see the forest for the trees. (THEN, PLEASED) Oh, I did it!

ADAM

All I want 'em to do is hang up a backpack, and I got nothing. I run a crew of twenty guys. I can get Big Joe to come in and lay tile on Friday when I know he's been drinking all night. But that's easy, I pay him. Big Joe's addicted to lottery scratchers, and he knows he can't play without a paycheck.

LOWELL

Oh my god I got it, which is so exciting, that never happens to me. Get your kids addicted to scratchers!

ADAM

What? I don't have time to get them addicted to something and then take it away. I need solutions now. (TO MARIE)
How do you get your kids to behave?

MARIE

Don't ask me, I'm the Mom of the a-hole.

CUT TO:

ACT TWO

SCENE M

EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT - THAT AFTERNOON (DAY 3)

ADAM AND THE KIDS ARE WALKING TOWARD THE CAR AFTER SCHOOL. AS THEY REACH THE CAR...

ADAM

Guys, we need to talk.

TEDDY

You want us to line up?

ADAM

No. Although we are in a parking lot so yes, against the car. I've been thinking, we should be a TEAM. Team Burns, right? And I really think if I explain what I need your help on, then you'll do it because you're good kids. So can you guys help Daddy?

KATE

Yeah, sure, Daddy. We love you.

ADAM

Alright! Go Team Burns! Oh and I brought snacks -- and lottery scratchers!

EMME

Wow!

ADAM

I know! Score one for Team Burns!

I'M NOT YOUR FRIEND
"Pilot" 1/21/2016

39.

AS ADAM GOES AROUND TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE CAR TO STRAP
EMME INTO HER CAR SEAT, KATE AND TEDDY EXCHANGE VICTORIOUS
SMILES.

TEDDY

Lottery scratchers?

KATE

We own him now.

CUT TO:

ACT TWO

SCENE P

INT. ADAM'S TRUCK - JUST LATER (DAY 3)

ADAM PULLS INTO THE GARAGE. AS THE KIDS UNSTRAP THEMSELVES AND QUICKLY PILE OUT:

ADAM

Don't forget what we talked about.

Whatever you bring in, you take out.

This family only works if we're a
team!

AND THEY'RE GONE. HE TURNS AROUND TO CHECK OUT THE BACKSEAT. JUST LIKE BEFORE IT'S FULL OF CRUMBS, EMPTY JUICE BOXES AND SCRATCHERS. HE SIGHS AND GETS OUT OF THE TRUCK.

CUT TO:

ACT TWO

SCENE R

INT. BURNS HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER (DAY 3)

ADAM WALKS IN AND JUST LIKE BEFORE IS CONFRONTED WITH A MESS. HE FOLLOWS THE TRAIL OF BACKPACKS, SHOES, ETC. INTO THE LIVING ROOM AND FINDS HIS KIDS ONCE AGAIN SPRAWLED AROUND INTO THEIR DEVICES. ADAM IS ABOUT TO START YELLING, THEN SUDDENLY REALIZES SOMETHING...

ADAM

(SMILES) My little junkies.

HE HURRIES TO THE TABLE, PICKS UP HIS IPAD AND TYPES ON IT. THEN HE SITS BACK AND WAITS. SUDDENLY KATE AND TEDDY JUMP UP, SHAKEN TO THEIR VERY CORES.

KATE

We can't get online!

TEDDY

Nothing works! What's happening?!

KATE

Is it the wifi? Is the wifi out?

AT THAT MOMENT EMME RACES IN CARRYING HER IPAD.

EMME

WWIIIIIIIIFFFFFIIIIIII!

ADAM

(AT PEACE) The wifi is fine.

KATE

Then what, what's happening??

ADAM

I'll tell you what's happening. It's called a rolling wifi password.

(MORE)

ADAM (CONT'D)

It's kind of based on an idea from a friend of mine, although when he said it, it sounded stupid. Every day the password will change. And until your chores get done, you won't get your fix -- the new password. Yeah. Who owns who now?

KATE

Chores??

TEDDY

What are our chores???

ADAM POINTS TO A DUSTY, NEGLECTED CHORE CHART IN THE CORNER WITH A FEW DAYS OF STARS FOR EACH KID AND THEN NOTHING.

ADAM

Pick your clothes up off the floor, put your backpacks where they're supposed to be, and keep your hands out of your pants.

KATE

Oh my God, we're like slaves!!!

EMME

What's happened to my life??

TEDDY

At least ease us in, maybe today is just explaining it and then tomorrow we can --

ADAM

I know you're unhappy. But I'm sorry,
I don't want to raise a-holes. The
reason there are so many jerks in the
world is because too many parents
don't want to deal with this right
here. But it's my job. 'Cause if you
behave out in the world the way you
behave here, no one will ever date you
or marry you or, most importantly,
hire you so you can earn some money
and get out of my house. So I think
it's worth it. Now, my chores are
done. So I have the password. If
you'll excuse me.

HE PICKS UP HIS IPAD AND STARTS SURFING THE WEB...

CUT TO:

ACT TWO

SCENE S

INT. BURNS HOUSE - EVENING (DAY 3)

ADAM SITS ENJOYING A BEER IN THE IMMACULATE LIVING ROOM. BACKPACKS ARE ON HOOKS. THERE ARE NO CLOTHES ON THE FLOOR, NO KIDS IN SIGHT. ANDI ENTERS FROM WORK.

ANDI

Hey, what's happening? No crying, no tantrums, no kids' snail trail, I barely recognize the place.

ADAM

What's happening is, Daddy won. And I didn't yell at them. I outwitted them. Like the Roadrunner.

ANDI

Wow. This might be the most attractive you've ever been.

ADAM

I agree.

THEY KISS AS THE KIDS ENTER.

KATE

Daddy, we want to say we're sorry. We were super inconsiderate.

TEDDY

And spoiled.

KATE

Yeah. Super spoiled. And we're lucky to get to spend so much time with our dad. A lot of kids don't get that chance.

EMME

We love you, Daddy.

ADAM IS TOTAL MUSH. HE OPENS HIS ARMS AND THE KIDS ALL PILE ON TOP OF HIM FOR HUGE HUGS.

ADAM

I love you guys too! This is what it's all about!

ADAM'S IN HEAVEN. KATE NUDGES EMME.

EMME

(IN HER CUTIEST CUTE VOICE) Daddy?

ADAM

Yes, butterbean?

EMME

Can I have a puppy?

A BEAT. KATE AND TEDDY LOOK AT EACH OTHER -- WAS IT ENOUGH?

ADAM

Ah, come on, I'm not that easy.

KATE

(CAN'T BELIEVE IT) What?

ADAM

You can't just hug and kiss me and expect to get your way. No puppy.

THE KIDS LOOK BUMMED.

ANDI

Aw. I think they really mean it. Maybe
we should think about a puppy.

THE KIDS IMMEDIATELY DISENGAGE FROM ADAM AND RUN TO ANDI,
COVERING HER WITH HUGS AND KISSES.

KATE/TEDDY/EMME

Yay!/You're the best!/Mommy fun times!

ADAM

Hey, what happened here?

ANDI

(SHRUGS) Everybody loves Johnny Cash.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

TAG

INT. MRS. WANNAMAKER'S CLASSROOM - DAY (DAY 4)

ADAM ENTERS WEARING A BACKPACK; THE CLASSROOM IS EMPTY EXCEPT FOR MRS. WANNAMAKER WHO IS ERASING THE BOARD.

MRS. WANNAMAKER

You're a little early for pickup, Mr.
Burns, the kids are still on the
playground.

ADAM

That's okay, I don't mind waiting. I'm
all about the children.

MRS. WANNAMAKER

That's the spirit, Mr. Burns!

SHE EXITS. AS SOON AS SHE DOES, ADAM WHIPS BOLTCUTTERS OUT OF HIS BACKPACK AND QUICKLY SNIPS THE MECHANISM AT THE TOP OF THE DOOR. HE PUSHES THE DOOR; IT SLAMS SHUT.

SATISFIED WITH A JOB WELL DONE, ADAM EXITS.

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW