

Two Tents

"Pilot"

written by

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INT. FUNERAL HOME OFFICE - DAY

C.U. on an OLD SHITTY PRINTER ejecting a flyer: "GEORGE KEDROWSKI, BELOVED PATRIARCH" with a crappily-xeroxed picture of the dead man, four times per page.

INT. FUNERAL HOME OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

C.U. on scissors haphazardly cutting the paper into four quadrants.

INT. FUNERAL HOME CHAPEL - CONTINUOUS

C.U. on the slim stack of tiny funeral announcements placed next to a dusty silk bouquet on the funeral home's entry table.

INT. FUNERAL HOME CHAPEL - DAY

The KEDROWSKIS trickle into the discount, nondenominational chapel, while the FUNERAL DIRECTOR waits anxiously in the not-a-nave.

GREG (41) is first. Crew cut, wearing his finest polo shirt. He blots nascent tears with his fist. TOBY (34) trails behind, wearing a brand-new motorcycle suit, moving with all the grace of Robocop.

GREG

(re: the flyers)

Did you make Dad Funeral Trading Cards?

TOBY

They charge per page.

GREG

You could've at least shelled out for color.

TOBY

We all know what he looked like.

Toby drops into a pew and struggles to unzip his Moto suit. Greg genuflects, then slips in across the aisle.

ANDREA (44) is next to enter, wearing a smart, conservative pantsuit. She slides next to Greg.

ANDREA

Sorry hon, traffic out of Boston was a nightmare.

ANDREA
 (re: the flyer photo)
 Is this a QR code?

SASHA (30) girl boss glam and member of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe, is next in. She starts a boisterous greeting just as the FUNERAL DIRECTOR begins to speak.

SASHA Hey Kedrowskis!!-- FUNERAL DIRECTOR --Is this everyone?

Sasha hushes and slides in behind Greg and Andrea.

GREG
 Just another minute.

SASHA
 Is this it?

GREG
 Who else would there be?

SASHA
 It's just. Yeesh.

ANDREA
 Where's your dad?

SASHA
 He insisted on walking.

The Funeral Director checks his watch.

FUNERAL DIRECTOR
 We have another viewing at--

JOSH (39), pansexual, polyamorous heartthrob, swaggers in, TWO HOTTIES (AMARANTH and KENDRICK) in tow. He's going for "sexily disheveled" but just looks hungover.

The hotties grab the pew in the back. Josh slides in behind Toby and squeezes his shoulder.

JOSH
 Whoa you been working out?

TOBY
 It's an armored jacket.

JOSH
 Nice.
 (to Greg)
 You crying, man?

Greg blots his eyes and shakes his head.

ANDREA

Don't shame your brother for having emotions.

JOSH

I'm not shaming him for having emotions. I'm shaming him for having *that* emotion in *this* situation.

ANDREA

Your father died.

TOBY

Couldn't have happened to a nicer guy.

FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Are we ready?

Greg gives the nod. An ASSISTANT wheels out a GURNEY with a body beneath a sheet.

SASHA

You didn't even buy a casket?

TOBY

What, so they can burn it?

The assistant lowers the sheet, revealing GEORGE KEDROWSKI. Unembalmed, un-made up. Just a dead guy on a gurney.

FUNERAL DIRECTOR

We'll leave you to say your goodbyes.

Checks his watch.

FUNERAL DIRECTOR

You have four minutes.

He exits, leaving the family.

JOSH

Are we supposed to... touch him or something?

TOBY

What, to make sure?

JOSH

I dunno. To say goodbye?

SASHA

I'm good.

JOSH
I'm just saying he's going to be a
bag of ashes in an hour.

TOBY
Then you do it.

JOSH
Doesn't feel consensual.

Greg approaches the gurney. Reaches for his father's hand. Just as he's about to make contact TOBY SHOUTS. Greg jumps. Sasha and Josh laugh. Andrea is not amused.

Greg cuffs Toby on the head and returns to his seat, stifling his own laughter.

JOSH
How'd he feel?

GREG
He felt dead.

TOBY
That's a relief.

The Funeral Director reenters.

FUNERAL DIRECTOR
Alright everyone, thank you-- GOOD
LORD!

He jumps at the sight of MARK (47), who's entered the chapel looking like a Sasquatch, carrying a walking stick and a camping backpack. The HOTTIES turn and jump too.

GREG
Thank you Reverend-- er-- my man.
We're good here.

The Kedrowskis stand to exit. The brothers greet Mark with shoulder pats and hugs, and head for the door.

JOSH
Hey Big Brother.

GREG
You missed the whole thing.

MARK
This isn't really my scene.

TOBY
 You don't know what you're
 missing, man. I'm hitting up two
 more next weekend.

They exit just as a new GRIEVING FAMILY enters. A woman WAILS
 and leans on her friend.

JOSH
 Eesh. What's her problem?

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

The Kedrowski brothers, Andrea, and Sasha stand in the funeral
 home parking lot, deciding what's next. The Hotties hover
 nearby.

JOSH
 So is there like a will reading or
 something?

GREG
 Jesus, Josh.

JOSH
 I'm not expecting anything. I'm
 just wondering if Dad had...
 anything.

GREG
 What you think he was sitting on
 some secret stash while living off
 government checks?

JOSH
 Would that be so out of character
 for this family?

TOBY
 He only had two months left on his
 insurance. It's good he checked
 out when he did.

ANDREA
 Really, Toby?

GREG
 Come on, man.

TOBY
 I'm just saying. Dad died broke.
 Big surprise.

ANDREA
 I think your brother is just
 asking for a little sensitivity.

TOBY

I'm sorry which one of my brothers
wiped poop off dad's balls for the
past year? Was it you--?

The group starts arguing, overlapping and interrupting.

TOBY

Or was it you?

ANDREA

Okay Toby you made your
point.

JOSH

Real mature, Bro.

SASHA

Gross, Uncle Toby.

TOBY

These are the realities of
the human body, I'm sorry
you find them so detestable.

GREG

Excuse me, who had groceries
delivered every week? I kept
him fed and alive.

TOBY

(To Josh)

Especially you, considering
how much you enjoy the human
body.

JOSH

Are you slut shaming me?
You've cheated on every wife
you've had.

TOBY

At least it was one at a
time.

JOSH

That's your moral high
ground? No threesomes?

GREG

I took him to doctor's
appointments. I bought fresh
clothes for him. The shirt
he was wearing in there, I
bought that for him.

TOBY

Well I hope you didn't like
it too much because it's
literally being burned right
now.

SASHA

Okay fam I think we just
need to take a beat and calm
down...

ANDREA

(to Josh's Hotties)
I am so sorry, we're not
usually like this. I'm
Andrea, and this is--

GREG

Don't bother, we're never
going to see them again.

KENDRICK

Excuse me?

AMARANTH

Josh, Kendrick and I have a really
good thing going and maybe you
should focus on your own family.

During the melee, Mark has removed his pack and pulled out a
BULLWHIP. Expressionless, he waits for the right moment. Then
CRACK!!!

The Kedrowskis fall silent.

 TOBY
What the fuck.

 JOSH
Mark Kedrowski. I am impressed.

 MARK
It's a bullwhip.

 JOSH
It's a single tail.

 GREG
Do you have to make everything
sexual?

 JOSH
It's a whip. It's already sexual.

 GREG
Zorro?

 JOSH
Catwoman.

Fair point.

 SASHA
 (to Mark)
Dad, did you bring your copy of
the will?

 MARK
I don't get mail.

 SASHA
You do get mail. You just don't
check your mail.
 (deep sigh)
Fine.

She digs through her chic briefcase.

 ANDREA
What is that?

 SASHA
Grandpa's will.

 GREG
Is that a Netflix DVD sleeve?

JOSH
They still have those?

TOBY
Netflix made DVDs?

JOSH
What's the movie?

SASHA
Westward Ho.

Toby and Josh snicker. Greg reads.

GREG
"Boys, donate my things to the Elk Club. You get Two Tents. Good luck."

TOBY
Anyone else think that last bit sounded a little menacing?

JOSH
Two Tents? What the hell is that?

Sasha googles it on her phone.

ANDREA
Is it some sort of pun?

JOSH
Cool, so we inherited wordplay.

TOBY
Maybe it's like, two actual tents. Like some moldy shit he held onto from the army. One last, "screw you, boys!"

MARK
Sounds like Dad.

SASHA
(found it)
"Camp Two Tents." It's like ninety minutes away.

GREG
Was it that camp Dad took us to forever ago?

TOBY
I don't remember that.

MARK
You weren't born yet. North a ways, past Winnepesaukee.

JOSH
Oh right, with the lake and the slide.

GREG
Yeah, it was the one vacation I remember Mom and Dad happy.

ANDREA
Your father owned a campground? Why?

GREG
Beats me.

TOBY
Nice to know Dad spent our inheritance on fly fishing.

GREG
There was never going to be an inheritance.

TOBY
Ten bucks says it's a shithole.

GREG
No bet.

MARK
No bet.

JOSH
Okay. So, we gonna check it out?

TOBY
And skip out on our wake reservation at Sizzler?

ANDREA
We pulled the kids out of school for the rest of the week...

SASHA
And I just got dumped so...

ANDREA
Sorry, honey.

SASHA
Whatever. He was boring.

JOSH
Great! So, road trip?

EXT. NEW HAMPSHIRE HIGHWAY - DAY

A caravan of Kedrowskis led by Greg in his MINIVAN, followed by Sasha in her TESLA and Toby bringing up the rear on his brand-new CROTCH ROCKET he can't shift.

INT. GREG'S MINIVAN - CONTINUOUS

ANDREA
(reviewing her calendar)
I'll be back in Boston Tuesday through Friday. I've got to prep Robert for his reelection campaign press conference.

GREG
Could you maybe take a Concord-based job? This commute to Massachusetts--

ANDREA
It's only an hour from Manchester.

GREG
Tabatha's LaCrosse game is on Friday.

ANDREA
I've got it on the calendar.

GREG
You'll be late.

ANDREA
I'll leave early.

GREG
Boston traffic--

TABATHA (11) looks up from her cellphone.

TABATHA
You're always late!

ANDREA
I always get there.

GREG
You missed her only goal last time.

ANDREA
But I always get there.

INT. SASHA'S TESLA - CONTINUOUS

Josh sits in the passenger seat. His sweeties are in the back, canoodling.

SASHA

Can you please tell your models to not splooge on the leather?

JOSH

You heard my niece. No splooging.

KENDRICK

Yes, Daddy.

AMARANTH

Aw man!

JOSH

Speaking of, where's your dad?

SASHA

Gross. And hitchhiking. I gave him a head start. We'll grab him around the corner.

JOSH

What if someone else picked him up already?

Sasha grins. Yeah right.

EXT. HIGHWAY - CONTINUOUS

Toby struggles on his motorcycle. He stalls out. Restarts. Almost drops it. Finally gets it going, takes a turn too fast, almost drops it. Etc.

INT. TESLA - CONTINUOUS

SASHA

And here we go.

She pulls alongside Mark.

JOSH

Hey Brother. Come on.

Sasha shakes her head. That won't work.

JOSH

Hey Stranger. Where ya headed?

MARK

North a ways.

JOSH

Hop in.

Sasha pops the trunk. While Mark is stowing his things...

JOSH

How long has he been like this?

SASHA

Since Mom died.

JOSH

Your mom died like nine months ago. What's his deal?

SASHA

He's gotten into, like, survivalism I guess?

JOSH

Like, camping?

SASHA

Like eating bugs.

JOSH

Oh I've done that. There's this fabulous cantina in Tulum that rims its margaritas with ground up ants.

KENDRICK

Tuluuuuum!

AMARANTH

Tuluuuuum!

INT. MINIVAN - CONTINUOUS

ANDREA

(into her cellphone)

We're going to need the interview questions at least forty-eight hours in advance... He's the governor, of course we can... That's just standard, Marshall. Well call them back and don't let them go until they send them over. No I'm not going to do-- Marshall? Hello?

Call dropped.

ANDREA

Please tell me we're close.

From the back seat TRAVIS (9) and TABATHA GROAN.

TRAVIS
Mooom the internet isn't working.

ANDREA
Because we're deep in Hicksville,
sweetheart. Play one of your
offline games.

GREG
Or admire the beautiful scenery.

TRAVIS
Cows are boring.

TABATHA
And their farts are killing the
planet.

ANDREA
(off Greg's look)
They go to your school.

GREG
I teach athletics, not the
consequences of cow farts.

INT. TESLA - CONTINUOUS

Mark is wedged between the now disconcerted hotties. He's rummaging through a cardboard box.

SASHA
Dad. Whatcha doing back there?

MARK
Nothing.

JOSH
You are clearly doing something.

Mark continues working.

JOSH
What's he doing, Amaranth?

AMARANTH
I mean, I don't want to get
involved in any family drama--

KENDRICK
He's got a plastic bag of dirt.

AMARANTH
And he's, like, playing with it.

SASHA

Dad. No.

JOSH

In the car, Mark? You're playing
with Dad's ashes *in the car?*!

The hotties gasp and try to move away.

SASHA

Not my leather seats!

MARK

There's a metal tag I need to
remove from the bag.

SASHA

Eew! No!

JOSH

Can you just save this for later?

MARK

Why?

JOSH

I don't know, because my beautiful
partners are both visibly
distressed watching you root
through our father's remains?

SASHA

And my seeeeats!

MARK

I got Dad under my fingernails.

SASHA

Please stop being so morbid.

KENDRICK

This is so twisted.

AMARANTH

I need some air.

Amaranth OPENS HER WINDOW and ashes SWIRL AROUND THE CAR.
Amaranth screams, Kendrick tries to open his door.

JOSH

Pull over! Pull over!

EXT. NEW HAMPSHIRE HIGHWAY SHOULDER - DAY

ASHES COVER the five Tesla occupants. Kendrick cleans Amaranth's face with his scarf as she weeps. Toby pulls up.

 TOBY
What's going on?

 JOSH
 (to Mark)
Give me that.

Josh grabs the box of ashes, digs out the medallion and CHUCKS IT into the woods.

 MARK
That's not how you do that.

 JOSH
It's done.

 KENDRICK
No, we're done.
 (to Toby)
What's your Venmo?

 TOBY
What?

 KENDRICK
Nevermind, I've got it.

Kendrick types into his phone. Toby's phone "cha-chings".

 TOBY
 (at his phone)
Holy crap.

Agog, he hands Kendrick the MOTORCYCLE KEYS. Kendrick types more on his phone and Toby's phone cha-chings again. Toby hands over the HELMET.

Kendrick grabs Josh's face and KISSES him hard.

 KENDRICK
Don't text us. We've moved on.

Kendrick and Amaranth do a synchronized dismissive hair flip. They mount the motorcycle and ride away.

 SASHA
Did that guy just buy your
motorcycle?

Toby holds up his phone for Sasha. Her eyes widen.

JOSH
Damn. Coachella's gonna be awkward
this year.

TOBY
Why didn't you pay for a casket if
you were sleeping with a rich
dude?

JOSH
Money's not herpes. You can't get
it just by sleeping with someone
who has it.

MARK
You'd be the world's first
bisexual billionaire.

JOSH
Eh, I have my suspicions about
Warren Buffet.

TOBY
You probably do have herpes at
least.

JOSH
No shame in my game, Brother.

They head back to the car.

SASHA
Melinda Gates is at least a little
bi, right?

JOSH
Oh for sure.

INT. MANUFACTURED HOME - CAMP TWO TENTS - DAY

An 80's-model manufactured house, linoleum and "wood" paneling.
A BROCHURE RACK near the entrance highlights local attractions
and oddities, including a DATED FLYER for Two Tents reading
"TOO TENSE? COME TO TWO TENTS!"

KATIE (28), FilAm and uptight, works in the home office and
sees the Kedrowskis pull into the dirt parking area.

KATIE
Mom, we have customers!

EXT. PARKING AREA - CONTINUOUS

The Kedrowskis mill around the dirt lot.

GREG

This does feel familiar.

SASHA

I think Grandpa took me to a powwow here when I was a kid.

TOBY

Our dad took you to a powwow? I never got to go to a powwow.

SASHA

You can just go to a powwow.

TOBY

Nah, I'd be afraid of making an ass of myself.

GREG

You definitely would.

Josh references the TWO GIANT STUCCO TEEPEES at the entrance.

JOSH

Speaking of Toby, that's racist, right?

TOBY

Hey!

SASHA

Eh. The region's wrong but the painting's not bad.

GREG

(re: the teepee painting)
Is that deer smoking a pipe?

Sasha nods. Yep, accurate.

KEVIN NAVARRO (24, Black), oddly well-dressed for a campground attendant, jogs up.

KEVIN

Welcome to Camp Two Tents! Are you interested in booking?

GREG

This is going to sound weird but--

MARILYN NAVARRO (62, a Filipina Mrs. Claus, just the hint of a long lost accent) rushes from the house to the Kedrowskis. She pulls Mark into a HUG, weeping into his chest. Then she moves to the next and the next, slathering them with maternal love and condolences.

MARILYN

Oh you sweet boys. Oh you poor boys.

KATIE comes running out next.

KATIE

Mom, what are you doing? Who are these people?

MARILYN

Katie, Kevin. I'd like you to meet your brothers.

Stunned faces all around.

EXT. TWO TENTS PICNIC AREA - DAY

The two families sit around picnic tables. Greg's kids play in the LAKE in the BG.

MARILYN

I was tired of the city. We used to come here when Katie was a baby. So when it went on the market, we bought it.

JOSH

Nice to know I had to strip through college so Dad could buy a love nest.

GREG

That's not why you stripped.

JOSH

Excuse me for liking a little affection to go with my fat stacks.

MARK

How often was he here?

MARILYN

One or two weeks a month.

GREG

All those business trips...

JOSH
So you knew about us?

MARILYN
He was so proud of you boys. But I
knew that home wasn't so nice,
with your mom and the drinking.

TOBY
Did he tell you how she drank
because he was never around?

GREG
That's not entirely true.

TOBY
He left her to raise four boys
alone!

JOSH
It's not like he helped when he
was there.

TOBY
Are you seriously siding with
Dad's side chick?

ANDREA
Okay Toby, there's no need--

Toby scoffs and storms off. Kevin follows.

MARILYN
He tried to be a good father.

KATIE
He was a good father.

MARILYN
Baby girl, this isn't about you.

KATIE
Of course it is! Papa left OUR
HOME to four complete strangers!
At least one of whom is kind of a
prick.

MARILYN
Language!

MARK
"Papa?"

JOSH
She's right, he is kind of a
prick.

GREG
We all are.

MARK
Speak for yourself.

JOSH
We were we all raised by the same
shitty parents.

MARILYN
(softer)
Language.

JOSH
Crummy parents. None of us gets to
take the high ground here.

MARK
And let's not forget, we left Toby
alone with them.

GREG
That wasn't by design.

JOSH
Course not, just turning eighteen
and escaping.

MARK
But I'm sure it didn't feel that
way to our twelve-year-old baby
brother.

JOSH
Having to navigate that shitshow
alone...

ANDREA
Marilyn, what can we do here?

KATIE
You can give us the campground
back.

GREG
Well it was never really yours to
begin with.

KATIE

Excuse me?! Papa taught me how to swim in that lake!

JOSH

Dad taught you how to swim?

MARK

Did he just, throw you in, or...?

KATIE

He literally held me in his arms and taught me.

SASHA

Are we sure this is the same George Kedrowski?

MARILYN

I would buy it back from you but we spent all our money on your Daddy's nursing home.

GREG

Well that's a missing piece.

KATIE

Yeah because you guys didn't help.

JOSH

Some of us couldn't help.

ANDREA

We helped. Elder care is just obscenely expensive.

MARILYN

We had to put off a lot of planned repairs when Papa got sick.

MARK

Like what?

SASHA

Dad--

MARILYN

Leaky roofs, new pavers. The dock is sagging. The kitchen walk-in doesn't keep anything cold...

KATIE

Summer is right around the corner
and we've got bookings, but we're
still not turning much of a
profit.

MARILYN

We want to expand but to do that
we'd need more pit toilets and
another well...

Mark takes in the property with new eyes, gears turning.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Toby is fighting with his busted vape pen.

KEVIN

Hey, Brother. You okay?

TOBY

I'm not your brother.

KEVIN

Technically--

TOBY

I don't give a shit about
technically! I am full up on
brothers. Applications are closed.

KEVIN

I know what it's like to be the
baby of the family.

TOBY

Don't do that.

KEVIN

And I also know that Papa could be
kind of a jerk.

Now Toby's listening.

KEVIN

I think he was just harder on us
boys.

TOBY

I mean, you're not even, forgive
me pointing out the obvious but--

KEVIN

Yeah, I'm adopted. But, hey, at least I know he wanted me. Katie wasn't planned.

Toby shudders at the thought of his father having sex.

TOBY

I was an afterthought too. When Mom got drunk she'd say Dad wanted to abort me.

KEVIN

Ouch.

TOBY

I never believed her. But then she also used to say that Dad had a secret second family. So...

A tense beat.

KEVIN

Is that tobacco or--

Toby tentatively shakes his head.

KEVIN

Come with me.

EXT. LAKESHORE - DAY

Josh, Mark, and Greg skip stones. Greg is shockingly good.

JOSH

It is really nice here.

GREG

You wanna give up your Bushwick flophouse for this?

JOSH

It's an influencer incubator co-op in Greenpoint. And they kicked me out for giving half the residents chlamydia.

(off their looks)

I was the one who told them! Because I get tested regularly, like a gentleman. When was the last time you two were tested?

GREG
I'm married.

MARK
I'm celibate.

JOSH
Whatever. I'm over New York.

GREG
You mean New York is over you.

MARK
What are you saying?

JOSH
I don't know! It's surprisingly
gorgeous here! And apparently it's
ours.

GREG
Except for the issue of the
current owners.

JOSH
We're the current owners. They're
technically our tenants.

MARK
And technically our family.

GREG
Yeah, I'm going to need to see
some proof of that.

MARK
(to Josh)
You get paid to wear expensive
clothes. Why would you give that
up to chop wood?

JOSH
I don't know! Why did you trade
deodorant for pressed sawdust?

MARK
My wife died after five years of
agony, after which nothing about
modern life made any sense
anymore.

JOSH
Okay fair point.
I, too, am experiencing an
existential crisis of sorts.

GREG

They stopped making your favorite brand of spray tan?

JOSH

That's not even funny because spray tans are so ridiculously retro. I wouldn't expect you to understand that. But beauty trends in general have less meaning since I've become unemployable.

GREG

C'mon man.

JOSH

After Dandelion dumped me I started eating carbs again, just to, like, cope. And I gained some weight. My clients fired me and my agents dropped me. I've got nothing. I'm a middle-aged male model with a paunch. I don't exactly have a lot of runway here, no pun intended.

MARK

So?

JOSH

So, why not make a go of it? Sasha showed me the website. It's terrible and they have zero social media presence.

GREG

Yeah, but they hate us.

JOSH

The *daughter* hates us.

MARK

Yeah, Marilyn is a peach. Way nicer than our actual mom.

GREG

Bro.

JOSH

He's right. Marilyn seems cool. I get what Dad saw in her.

GREG

So you want me to quit my athletic director job at a nice private school to move cinderblocks?

MARK

The basketball court needs resurfacing first.

JOSH

And then you could bring in the sports camps.

MARK

Kevin and Katie combined look like they weigh two hundred pounds soaking wet. They could probably could use some brawn around here.

JOSH

The Kedrowskis are good for one thing, it's true.

GREG

I don't know. This all feels weird. Why would Dad leave us this place?

MARK

He didn't leave it to us. He brought us to it.

JOSH

One last "screw you?"

MARK

Or one first and only "I'm sorry?"

GREG

(Considering)

What about Toby? He'll never go for it.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Kevin leads Toby down a rugged trail, then opens the door to a GREENHOUSE revealing a modest but healthy MARIJUANA CROP.

TOBY

(like seeing God)

It's beautiful.

KEVIN

And it's ours.

TOBY
It's yours.

 KEVIN
Well. We're family.

EXT. LAKESHORE - DAY

Toby and Kevin lay on the dock, feet dangling in the water, stoned and happy.

 TOBY
It is so peaceful here.

 KEVIN
Wait until you see the stars.

Greg, Mark, and Josh happen upon them.

 TOBY
Oh!! Heeeey. Oh, my brothers are here. All my brothers are here!

 GREG
Ooooookay.

 TOBY
Being here, guys. I, like, I feel like I understand Dad more, you know?

 JOSH
I don't think Dad would understand you, but okay.

 TOBY
Do you remember when Dad took us go kart riding at the place in Vermont?

 MARK
That was Uncle Fred.

 JOSH
They were both there.

 GREG
Dad took work calls in the lobby. Fred was the one who raced with us.

 TOBY
Oh yeah.

KEVIN

Papa took us to New York once at
Christmastime, to see the tree.

(beat)

He was pretty grumpy about it the
whole time, though.

MARK

That was Dad.

GREG

He only knew how to parent using
objects.

KEVIN

Pardon?

JOSH

Oh yeah. One day when I was like
thirteen, I came home to find a
stick of deodorant just sitting on
my dresser. No note, no context.
Just an implied, "Son, you stink."

TOBY

You probably did.

JOSH

I'm sure I did! But still.

GREG

When I started sleeping with my
first girlfriend, a box of condoms
just magically appeared on my bed.

MARK

When I got really into Bruce Lee,
one day a stack of Karate
magazines appeared on the coffee
table.

When I asked him about them, he
just left the room.

The guys chuckle, a collective reminiscence.

KEVIN

He never like, beat you, or
anything, did he?

TOBY

Nah. That would mean touching us.
He never touched us.

MARK

He threatened us with a belt a bunch.

GREG

Dad ascribed to the John Wayne school of parenting: neglect, stoicism...

JOSH

...Shame, compulsory masculinity...

MARK

...Tough love, suck it up...

TOBY

He called me "sissy" a lot.

Muttered assent from all the guys.

KEVIN

Did you ever meet his father?

MARK

I did. That guy made Dad look like a golden retriever puppy. God, what a monster. It's a miracle Dad survived into adulthood.

Another silent understanding.

GREG

Was he happy here at least?

KEVIN

You know he wasn't a warm man. But he did love the heck out of Mom. And he doted on Katie in his way. I don't know. I think this place helped him feel comfortable in his own skin at least. Which I guess is a big deal, for a man who grew up the way he did.

The men silently admire the slanting sun across the water, each releasing a tiny bit of resentment they've held against their father.

In the distance, they watch Marilyn show Sasha and Andrea around, while Katie plays with the kids by the water. It's all just a tiny bit idyllic.

TOBY

Ooh ooh ooh! I have a great idea!

EXT. LAKESHORE - DUSK

The Kedrowskis and Navarros stand together on the lakeshore. Mark reaches into his backpack and pulls out the BOX OF ASHES.

MARK

Does anyone want to say anything?

A bit of hesitation, then:

SASHA

Bye Grandpa, thanks for raising a great dad.

Mark wraps his arm around Sasha's shoulders.

JOSH

We didn't understand each other.
And we didn't like each other. But
I'm sorry you're gone.

GREG

I'll miss you, Pops.

TABATHA AND TREVOR

Bye Grandpa.

TOBY

How about you, Mark?

Mark shakes his head.

ANDREA

Marilyn, Katie, Kevin? Anything to add?

MARILYN

I loved you very much, and now you are dead. Goodbye darling.

Katie just shakes her head, crying.

KEVIN

George Kedrowski was a complicated man, who still somehow managed to craft a life rich with love and beauty. May we all be so lucky.

With that, Mark places the box on the water and pushes it gently. It barely moves. He uses his foot to try to nudge it further. No luck.

TOBY

Should we get a stick or---

SASHA
The breeze is--

JOSH
Maybe just--

Mark takes off his shoes and wades into the water, taking the box and gently tossing it further. The family stands watching, waiting for it to sink, but....

SASHA
Isn't it supposed to dissolve?

GREG
It's cardboard, not Alka Seltzer.

Toby chucks a rock at the box. It grazes it but the box still floats.

JOSH
That's a bit--

Greg throws a bigger rock and nails it squarely on the lid.

JOSH
Alright, that's what we're doing now.

Andrea ushers the kids away.

ANDREA
We'll meet you at the car.

MARILYN
Would you like to stay for dinner?
I've got a pot roast cooking.
Plenty for everyone.

SASHA
That sounds really good.

Marilyn, Sasha, Kevin, Katie, Andrea and the kids head up towards the house.

The boys keep throwing rocks. The box remains undefeated.

INT. NAVARRO HOUSE - EVENING

The combined families pass dishes around folding tables, all eleven members crammed tightly into the tiny dining room. There's a tenuous warmth and contentment.

Outside the window, the box still floats in the darkening lake.

TABATHA

Is Grandpa just going to float
like that forever?

ANDREA

No honey, he'll sink eventually.

The family shares appreciations for the meal and start finding
a familial rhythm.

EXT. LAKE - NIGHT

Mark strips naked on the lakeshore and silently wades into the
chilly water. He takes the BOX, still floating, and walks it
deeper into the water. With reverence, Mark gently pulls the
box beneath the water.

MARK

(in a whisper)
Bye, Dad.

The lake is still and beautiful. In the distance we hear the
family laughing around the dinner table.

FADE OUT