

"POSSUM KINGDOM"

Original screenplay by
Hank Slaughter

It is the funeral of Andrew Knighton Sr. An urn is on a stand in front of the altar. In the front row are two of his three sons, ANDREW Jr. (43) and BARRY (37). Andrew's wife, NATALIE (42), and their son, TREY (11) are also seated. Andrew gets up to speak. As he takes his place and turns to face the mourners, we see the third son, CODY (29), enter at the back of the church. Andrew gives him a dirty look and shakes his head. Cody smiles meekly, shrugs and take a seat in the back. Andrew consults his note cards.

ANDREW

Hello. Most of you already know me but, I'm Andrew Knighton Jr. On behalf of my brothers, Barry and Cody, I'd like to thank all of you for coming out today to pay your respects to my father. I'm sure he would be very grateful and, considering he was a lawyer, he might even be surprised at the turnout..

There are polite chuckles.

ANDREW

Some of you only knew Pop as a successful attorney, but he was more than that at home. He was hard but fair. He taught me the value of hard work. He made sure my brother Barry got the best coaching available and that led him to a Major League team. After Mom died, he raised Cody on his own...which was no easy chore.

More chuckles.

ANDREW

So I guess he would be happy knowing his family and friends are all happy and healthy and here to see him off.

Andrew steps down from the podium lays a hand on the urn.

ANDREW

Goodbye, Pop. Say hi to Mom for us.

Andrew goes back to his seat in the front row. Natalie pats his hand and he gives her a little smile. The pastor takes the podium.

(CONT.)

1 CONTINUED:

1

PASTOR

Thank you, Andy. I'm sure your father is standing beside your mother, Olivia, today and looking down with pride. Would anyone else care to say a few words or share a memory of Andrew?

Andrew looks over to Barry who just smiles and gives him a thumbs up. Then Andrew looks over his shoulder to the back of the room and makes eye contact with Cody. Cody points to himself and silently mouths "Me?" then shakes his head.

PASTOR

Then if everyone will please stand and turn in your hymnal to number 268, we will sing the last verse and chorus.

Everyone stands with their hymnal as the organ begins to play. The pastor leads the way out of the church as an altar boy follows with the urn. Everyone is singing and watching as the family peels out of the front row and slowly follows.

EVERYONE

When Christ shall come with shout
of acclamation.
And take me home-what joy will fill
my heart.
Then I shall bow in humble
adoration
And there proclaim, My God, how
great thou art
Then sings my soul, my savior God
to Thee
How great Thou art! How great Thou
art!
Then sings my soul, my savior God
to Thee
How great Thou art! How great Thou
art!

As they are all singing, we

DISSOLVE TO:

2 **EXT - CHURCH - DAY**

2

Mourners are milling about outside after the service. Some come over to Andrew and Natalie to pay respects and offer

(CONT.)

2 CONTINUED:

2

condolences. The pastor eventually makes his way over to Andrew as well.

ANDREW

Thank you, Father. It was a very nice service.

PASTOR

Andy; so glad I got to see you again before I retire next month. Wish it was under different circumstances, of course.

ANDREW

I know. You remember my wife, Natalie, don't you? And our son, Trey.

The pastor shakes hands with Natalie.

NATALIE

Hello, Father.

PASTOR

Of course I remember! A pleasure Natalie. And Trey! Short for Andrew the third, I take it?

NATALIE

Exactly.

PASTOR

I haven't seen you since your christening. That's been what? At least ten years now. And how are you, young man?

TREY

Fine.

ANDREW

Trey!

Trey glances at his father and stands up straight. He offers his hand to the Pastor.

TREY

I'm fine, sir. Thank you.

The Pastor bends to shake Trey's hand.

(CONT.)

PASTOR

Very nice to meet you, Trey. I'm very sorry about your grandfather.

TREY

Thank you.

PASTOR

And how old are you now?

TREY

Eleven, sir.

PASTOR

You know; I met your father when he was about your age. You're the spitting image of him. I'm sure you will grow up to be a fine man just like him.

TREY

Yes, sir.

Barry approaches the group. Barry is a former professional baseball player. A knee injury ended his career early just as he was breaking into the Majors. Now he coaches at his former high school but still manages to keep fit. He comes up from behind and puts his arm around Andrew.

BARRY

Hey, big brother! Father.

ANDREW

Barry.

Barry shakes hands with the pastor and gives Natalie a quick peck on the cheek.

NATALIE

Hi, Barry! How was the drive from Abilene?

BARRY

Not bad. Looked like most of the traffic was going the other way.

NATALIE

Oh good.

(CONT.)

BARRY

Sorry I didn't get a chance to visit before the service. Wanted to make sure all of the arrangements were covered.

PASTOR

Speaking of which, I need to run up to my office. Please excuse me?

NATALIE

Of course. But we will see you at the house later? You have the address.

PASTOR

I wouldn't miss it.

The Pastor hurries away. Andrew turns to Barry.

ANDREW

Thank you for handling all of this. I've been swamped at work. Just let me know what I owe you.

BARRY

We can talk about it later.

NATALIE

Yes, Andrew. This isn't the right time.

ANDREW

I'm just saying he should let me know. Whenever. It's not like I'm going to write him a check right now.

CODY

(OC)

You still write checks?

Cody has come up behind Andrew without being noticed by the others. Cody dropped out of school early to pursue a music career but hasn't been able to make a breakthrough just yet. Still getting small gigs here and there though. He looks like he slept in the suit he is wearing, no tie, and is holding a motorcycle helmet. His long hair and jewelry give off a definite rock and roll vibe.

(CONT.)

2 CONTINUED: (4)

2

CODY

Who writes checks anymore, bro? You never heard of PayPal?

ANDREW

Bro?

CODY

Yeah, bro. As in short for "brother".

Barry gives his Cody a brotherly hug.

BARRY

Yeah, but you sound like a frat boy, "bro". You're thirty years old.

CODY

I'm 29.

BARRY

OK; almost 30.

CODY

Still younger than you, Franken-barry.

TREY

Are you my Uncle Cody?

Cody squats down to Trey's level.

CODY

Why, yes I am, little man. And I bet you are Andrew the third. Or is it Andy?

NATALIE

It's Trey.

CODY

Trey? Clever. I see what you did there. You're dad was Andy when we were kids.

TREY

Are you a rock star? That's what Mom told me.

(CONT.)

2 CONTINUED: (5)

2

Andrew and Cody both look at Natalie. They speak in unison but with much different tones.

ANDREW AND CODY

Really?

NATALIE

No. I said he used to be a musician in a rock band.

TREY

Cool!

CODY

Well, sort of. I'm still a musician. Just not in a band anymore. I'm a solo act now. Just me and my guitar.

TREY

Oh.

Trey seems disappointed. Cody drops to his knees and mimes playing a killer guitar solo.

CODY

But I can still rock and roll, baby! Woo!

Trey laughs but a few other guests turn and look at Cody's little show with stern looks.

ANDREW

Cody! Get up! This is a funeral. Show some respect.

Barry offers his hand to help Cody to his feet.

CODY

Oh, Andy; lighten up.

Barry is still holding Cody's hand and looks him in the eye with a quick shake of his head.

BARRY

Bro...don't. Not today.

Cody looks at Andrew but says nothing. He bends over to wipe the dirt from his knees.

(CONT.)

2 CONTINUED: (6)

2

NATALIE

Well, we're all going back to our house. You boys can "lighten up" there. Barry; you've been there before?

BARRY

Yes.

CODY

Where is it?

BARRY

Allen. I'll text you the address.

CODY

OK but gimme your phone. I got a new number.

Barry hands the phone to Cody who starts to program his number into it. Natalie is trailing Andrew who appears to not be able to get out of there fast enough.

NATALIE

OK. We'll see you all there.

3 INT - ANDREW'S HOUSE - DAY

3

Pop's wake. There is a variety of food dishes gathered on the dining room table and several older friends of Pop's in the living room, standing about with drinks and snacks. Natalie, ever the good hostess, moves among them. She comes back to the kitchen with some empty dishes for the sink as Andrew is opening a bottle of wine.

ANDREW

It's like he never grew up.

NATALIE

Oh my god; are we still having this conversation?

ANDREW

What?

NATALIE

Andrew. Let it go. He's not hurting anyone.

(CONT.)

3 CONTINUED:

3

Natalie takes the bottle from Andrew and starts to refill a couple of glasses.

ANDREW

He's 30 years old--

NATALIE

He's 29.

ANDREW

Whatever. 29 years old and he's still pissing his life away with no job, no family, no future.

Andrew turns and looks out of the kitchen window. Barry is playing catch with Trey and Cody is watching from a lawn chair with his guitar and a beer.

NATALIE

He has a job. Just not an office.

ANDREW

A job? Playing guitar for tips in dive bars up and down Interstate 35 is not a real job.

NATALIE

Is he paying his own way?

ANDREW

I don't know. I suppose so.

NATALIE

Has he ever asked you for money?

ANDREW

No, but--

NATALIE

Then he has a job. Leave him alone.

ANDREW

But it's so frustrating every time I see him. He was always the smartest kid I knew.

NATALIE

Oh, really?

(CONT.)

3 CONTINUED: (2)

3

ANDREW

If you tell him I said that, I'll deny it. But he could be so much more. He could literally do anything he wants.

NATALIE

Maybe this IS what he wants. Ever think of that?

Natalie leaves with the wine.

4 **EXT - ANDREW'S BACK YARD - DAY**

4

Barry is showing Trey how to grip and throw a change-up. Cody is sitting in a lawn chair, picking his guitar with a couple of empty beer bottles on the ground.

BARRY

See, these two fingers make like an "OK" sign on the side of the ball. That's why it's called a "circle change". It comes out of your hand like this.

TREY

But if it's slower, isn't it easier to hit?

BARRY

Only if the batter knows it's coming. But if he thinks it's a fastball, he'll start swinging too soon and be out in front of it and off balance before the ball even gets there.

TREY

Oh, OK.

BARRY

So your motion should be just like your throwing a fastball, exactly the same. But if you grip the ball like this, it will go slower and break away from lefties.

TREY

Cool!

(CONT.)

4 CONTINUED:

4

CODY

Hey, Barry; weren't you an
outfielder?

BARRY

Yeah. So?

CODY

So what do you know about pitching?

BARRY

Three of the pitchers I've coached
have since been drafted and are
playing pro ball right now so I
must know a little something. You
play the guitar, right?

CODY

And?

BARRY

And you know how a piano works?

Cody thinks for a moment and nods.

CODY

OK. Well played, Care Bear.

TREY

Uncle Barry; can you teach me a
curveball too?

BARRY

Sure.

ANDREW

No.

Andrew has come out to the yard.

BARRY

What?

ANDREW

Trey, your arm is too young.
Throwing a curveball is bad for
your elbow. You need to be a little
older when your arm is stronger.

(CONT.)

4 CONTINUED: (2)

4

CODY

Every party has to have a pooper.

TREY

Really?

BARRY

Actually, Trey, he's kinda right. You are a little young. Give it a couple of years. When your arm's a little stronger.

CODY

And drink your milk!

TREY

OK. But the change-up is OK, right.

BARRY

You bet!

TREY

Cool! I'm gonna go practice.

Trey trots off around the side of the house with the ball and his mitt. Andrew goes back inside and Barry follows.

5 **INT - ANDREW'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS**

5

Andrew and Barry come in through the back door. There are still a few guests visiting with each other. MR. and MRS. STARNE (late 60s) approach Barry.

MR. STARNE

Hi, Barry. Jack and Janet Starne.

BARRY

Of course, I remember you, Mr. Starne. Mrs. Starne. How are you?

MR. STARNE

Fine, thanks. Enjoying our retirement.

MRS. STARNE

How are you holding up, hon?

(CONT.)

5 CONTINUED:

5

BARRY

I'm good. You know Pop was sick for a long time. It's tough but not a total shock.

MR. STARNE

Sure, sure.

MRS. STARNE

Is your wife here? We'd love to meet her.

BARRY

No, I'm sorry. We're divorced. About eight years now.

MRS. STARNE

I'm sorry. I had no idea.

BARRY

It's fine.

MR. STARNE

Well, you know how your father was. He never really talked much about his family life. He was all business.

BARRY

Yes, sir.

MR. STARNE

You know, I was his partner for almost 25 years before I found out his son played Major League baseball.

BARRY

It was just one game. Not a big deal.

MR. STARNE

Well, if it was me, I would have been bragging to anyone who would listen.

MRS. STARNE

It was so nice to see you again. And again, we're so sorry for your loss. Your father was a fine man.

(CONT.)

5 CONTINUED: (2)

5

BARRY

Thank you again.

Barry stands and watches the Starnes walk away.

DISSOLVE TO:

6 **EXT - ANDREW'S BACK YARD - NIGHT**

6

Andrew comes out to find Cody swinging in a hammock. Andrew carries three beers and passes one to Cody.

CODY

So I assume all your guests have bailed on you?

ANDREW

It wasn't exactly a party, Cody. Most just showed up with a casserole to pay their respects. Would it have killed you to be a little more social?

CODY

Sorry. I'm not a casserole kind of guy.

ANDREW

That's not what I meant and you know it.

He looks around the yard still holding the other beer.

ANDREW

Where's Barry?

CODY

He walked around that way a few minutes ago.

Cody point around the side of the house where Trey had run off to earlier. Andrew steps that way and looks around the corner. Not seeing anything, he returns and sits in the lawn chair.

ANDREW

So...where are you staying?

(CONT.)

6 CONTINUED:

6

CODY

Tonight? Hadn't thought about it. I'm headed down to Austin and crashing at a friend's place for a while. Said he could get me some gigs down there.

ANDREW

Well, Natalie already made up the guest room so you're welcome to it.

CODY

Sure, I guess. Thanks.

ANDREW

No problem.

The two brothers sit in an awkward silence. After a bit, Barry returns carrying fishing poles, a tackle box, and a plastic tub of old fishing gear. He's wearing an old fishing hat sideways.

BARRY

Hey, look what I found in the shed. I didn't know you kept all this stuff.

ANDREW

I just haven't gotten around to getting rid of it yet. I've got new gear in the boat.

BARRY

This is all of Pop's old stuff. You can't get rid of it.

ANDREW

You're welcome to keep any of that old crap.

CODY

Oh, then I call dibs on that hat!

BARRY

This stuff is still good. Look at these lures. Hey, Cody; remember this one?

CODY

Is that the one you hooked me with.

(CONT.)

6 CONTINUED: (2)

6

BARRY

That was Andy.

ANDREW

No. That was Pop.

CODY

Well, somebody hooked me with it.
The one time I got to go to PK with
you guys and I end up in the ER
getting stitches.

Cody snatches the hat off of Barry's head and puts it on.

BARRY

Hey!

CODY

What? I called dibs.

The two of them are rooting through the gear while Andrew
watches.

NATALIE

You should do it again.

The brothers look over and see that Natalie has been
watching them from the porch.

ANDREW

What?

NATALIE

Do it again.

CODY

Do what again? Hook me with a lure?

BARRY

There's an idea.

NATALIE

No, Cody. Go to Possum Kingdom
again.

CODY

Why?

(CONT.)

NATALIE

Go fishing. Relax. Catch up with your brothers. When was the last time you guys just hung out together? Just the three of you.

CODY

Man, I haven't been to PK in forever.

BARRY

Andy? Andrew? Come on. What do you say? Just us guys. We all went there with Pop at one time or another but only once with all three of us at the same time.

CODY

And that was the only time I ever went.

Andrew looks at Natalie.

ANDREW

PK? Really?

NATALIE

Why not? You've finally got that boat you always wanted.

BARRY

Really? When was the last time you put it in the water.

ANDREW

Her.

BARRY

What?

ANDREW

Put HER in the water. Boats are always "her".

BARRY

OK, fine. When was the last time you put HER in water? Come on. I bet we can even get the same cabin.

(CONT.)

6 CONTINUED: (4)

6

CODY

I'm in.

NATALIE

Honey; you've been so stressed out lately, you're stressing ME out. You need a break and you haven't taken the boat out in a year. Trey's already going camping with the Claytons next weekend so you need to go and let me take a spa day.

CODY

Boom!

BARRY

Well, if we're gonna get that cabin for this weekend, or any cabin for that matter, we need to book it now.

ANDREW

OK, fine. I'm in.

Barry has his smart phone out and it already starting to make the arrangements.

CODY

Sweet! I haven't even seen your boat yet.

ANDREW

Well, that's because you haven't been around. It's just like Pop's, but bigger motor.

CODY

Nice!

Barry has pulled up a cabin rental website on his phone.

BARRY

There's one cabin left.

CODY

Book it, Strawberry!

Barry presses a button on his phone.

(CONT.)

6 CONTINUED: (5)

6

BARRY

Done. Three days and four nights.
We can check in after 3 on Friday.

ANDREW

OK, but if we're doing this, we're
not taking all of this old crap.
C'mon, I'll show you what I got.

Andrew leads his brothers around the side of the house.
Natalie watches them walk away, smiles, and goes back
inside.

7 INT - ANDREW'S OFFICE - EVENING

7

Things are wrapping up for the weekend. BECKY, Andrew's lead
paralegal is going around the office making sure everything
is turned off, logging off the computer, and making sure
files are put away. She has her cell phone on speaker and is
talking to Andrew.

BECKY

YOU are taking a vacation? OK, who
is this and what did you do with
Mr. Knighton?

8 INT - ANDREW'S TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

8

Andrew is driving and towing his boat. He is still in his
shirt and tie. He is also on his speakerphone and talking to
Becky. The shots go back and forth between the two of them
during the conversation.

ANDREW

Ha ha. Very funny, Becky. And it's
not a vacation. It's just a three
day weekend. Now please make sure
those motions for the Shepherd case
get filed first thing Monday
morning.

BECKY

I will.

ANDREW

And check with Mr. Lee about that
settlement offer. I want to settle
before the statute of limitations
runs out.

(CONT.)

BECKY

Will do.

ANDREW

I have my cell phone in case you need me.

BECKY

Of course you do.

ANDREW

Although I'm not sure what kind of cell coverage I'll get at the lake.

BECKY

Mr. Knighton...

ANDREW

We should have WiFi in the cabin though.

BECKY

Mr. Knighton...

ANDREW

I'll see if there's a land line and email you with the number.

BECKY

Sir!

The phone beeps indicating another incoming call. He looks at the screen but just lists an unknown number, no name.

ANDREW

Hold on, Becky. I have another call.

He presses a button.

ANDREW

Knighton.

CODY

(phone)

Bro! Let's go! Waiting on you!

ANDREW

Cody?

(CONT.)

8 CONTINUED: (2)

8

CODY

(phone)

Yes! And Pooh Barry's already here too. Where are you?

ANDREW

Who's number is this?

CODY

(phone)

Mine. I told you I got a new number.

ANDREW

So this is your cell? You've got good signal?

CODY

(phone)

Yes. Four bars. Now where are you? More importantly; where's the boat?

ANDREW

About 20 minutes out. You guys meet me at the boat ramp and we can get her in the water before dark.

CODY

(phone)

OK. But hurry up. Use that skinny pedal on the right.

Andrew presses a button and goes back to Becky's call.

ANDREW

Becky? I'm back. Sorry. Where were we?

BECKY

Mr. Knighton; please just relax. Don't worry; the office is covered.

Andrew takes a deep breath and smiles to himself.

ANDREW

You're right. Natalie said the same thing. I'll try to relax.

BECKY

Good. Now go. Have a good weekend.

(CONT.)

8 CONTINUED: (3)

8

ANDREW

Thank you, Becky. You too.

Andrew ends the call just as he is turning onto a side road with a sign pointing to "Possum Kingdom Lake."

9 **EXT - BOAT RAMP - EVENING**

9

The sun is setting on the lake. Cody and Barry have been waiting in Barry's car and get out as Andrew pulls up and turns to get the boat trailer lined up with the ramp. Cody waves at Andrew and taps his wrist. Andrew replies by jerking his thumb as if to say "get back there". Cody jumps in the boat as Barry guides Andrew back down the ramp and into the water. The three work in total unison without a word to perfectly launch the boat. They have done this many times in the past with their father so no words are needed. Andrew pulls the trailer out and parks it while Cody drives the boat around to one of the slips. Barry, riding in the back of the truck hops out to help Andrew unhitch the trailer.

BARRY

A little over-dressed, don't ya think?

ANDREW

I came straight from the office.

BARRY

And you're still this late getting here?

ANDREW

Hey, some of us don't get summers off.

BARRY

I still say you work too hard.

Cody comes jogging up from the boat slips but goes to Barry's car and reaches into the back seat. Andrew sees him.

ANDREW

Hey, at least I work.

Cody comes walking up with a beer that he got from the cooler in Barry's back seat. Andrew points to the beer.

(CONT.)

9 CONTINUED:

9

ANDREW

Already?

CODY

What? I parked the boat,
Polar-Barry's driving back to the
cabin, and it's after 5.

BARRY

We're in cabin number 8. Back up
the main road and take the first
right. You'll see it.

ANDREW

OK. Meet you there.

Andrew gets back in his truck and drives away. The others
turn to walk back to Barry's car.

CODY

Is it just me or is he a little
over-dressed?

10 **EXT - CABIN - NIGHT**

10

Barry is grilling burgers while Andrew and Cody are sitting
on the porch. They are both engrossed in their phones,
Andrew is reading and Cody is playing a game.

BARRY

So Cody; you've been kinda out of
touch lately. Where you been?

Cody does not hear him and continues playing.

BARRY

Cody?

No reply. Barry turns around and sees them.

BARRY

CODY!

Cody loses a level on his game.

CODY

Ahh, crap! (looks up) What? Did you
say something?

(CONT.)

10 CONTINUED:

10

BARRY

Geez! Both of you are pathetic.
Andy; c'mon. You're supposed to be
taking a break from work.

The burgers are done and Barry takes them to the table where
all of the fixings have already been laid out.

ANDREW

This isn't work.

CODY

Angry Birds or Candy Crush?

ANDREW

Neither.

CODY

Then it's work.

Andrew and Cody get up and go to the table to make their
burgers.

BARRY

You're one to talk. You had no idea
I was even talking to you.

CODY

What were you talking about? Was it
interesting?

BARRY

I was talking about you.

CODY

Oh, so it was interesting.

BARRY

Where have you've been for the last
year or so?

ANDREW

Yeah, Cody; where have they had you
locked up.

CODY

I wasn't locked up, counselor. I
was...off the grid.

(CONT.)

ANDREW

What is that supposed to mean?

CODY

Sort of on a hiatus. I was staying at a commune in Utah. Very quiet and serene. No distractions.

ANDREW

And by distractions you mean a job?

CODY

I didn't need a job. None of us did. We were completely self-sufficient. Everyone pitched in, grew our own food. Made our own clothes. I even made this shirt.

BARRY

Communes are still a thing?

CODY

Oh yeah. It was great. And it wasn't like what you're thinking, Andy.

ANDREW

Oh really? And what am I thinking?

CODY

That it was a bunch of hippies smoking pot all day and having free love orgies.

ANDREW

That's not what I was thinking.

CODY

Actually, no drugs were even allowed there. Not even pot. And there were all kinds of people there. Doctors, artists, a priest, a couple of cops, even a lawyer.

ANDREW

Really?

CODY

Yep. You should look into it.

(CONT.)

10 CONTINUED: (3)

10

ANDREW

(laughing)

No thanks! This little trip with you two is about as off the grid as I need to get.

BARRY

Well, at least they didn't turn you into a vegetarian.

CODY

Oh, they did. But I stopped at a diner on the way to the funeral and smelled bacon again. That was the end of that.

Then in unison.

ALL THREE

Hmmmm...bacon!

They all laugh as the mood is starting to lighten.

DISSOLVE TO:

11 INT - CABIN - MONTAGE

11

Finishing the delicious burgers. Barry takes a bow.

Andrew accepts a beer from Cody.

They clear the table and play cards.

Cody pulls out a bottle of tequila. Shots all around.

Cody gets caught cheating. Laughing and throwing cards.

More beers and shots.

All three cell phones on a side table. One shows a low battery warning and another has missed calls.

DISSOLVE TO:

12 INT - CABIN - CONTINUOUS

12

Very late. The brothers are sprawled and slouched around the room. Cody has his guitar and is plucking a melody.

(CONT.)

12 CONTINUED:

12

BARRY

Hey, weren't you playing that at Andy's house? What song is that?

CODY

Just something I'm working on.

BARRY

Yeah, but what's the song? Have I heard it before?

CODY

I doubt it. I just wrote it.

BARRY

Oh, it's an original?

CODY

Yeah.

Andrew sits up.

ANDREW

Wait. You wrote it?

CODY

Yes.

BARRY

You wrote that?

CODY

Yes.

ANDREW

You wrote a song? The whole song?

CODY

Yes. I've written a lot of songs. Why do you sound so surprised?

ANDREW

I just thought you played covers.

CODY

That's just to pay the bills while I try to sell some of my original stuff.

(CONT.)

12 CONTINUED: (2)

12

BARRY

Sold anything yet?

CODY

No. Not yet.

ANDREW

Not good enough?

CODY

It is. But the music business is not that easy. There's a lot of luck involved.

ANDREW

So how long are you just gonna wait to get lucky? Geez.

Andrew gets up and staggers to the bathroom. Cody watches him walk out and then sits up straight with his guitar. He closes his eyes and starts to play and sing an amazingly beautiful song. Barry sits up as Andrew comes back in and they both watch and listen in awe. By the end of it, Andrew and Barry are staring at him in disbelief.

ANDREW

(whispering)

Wow...

13 INT - CABIN - EARLY MORNING

13

It's quiet and still on the lake. Beautiful clear blue sky overhead. Birds chirping in the trees and other animals just starting their day. In the cabin, Barry is already up and making breakfast sandwiches. Cody enters. He's dressed but still looking half asleep.

CODY

Coffee. I smell coffee.

BARRY

Fresh pot over there. Didn't know how you guys like your coffee so there's creamer in the fridge and sugar next to the pot.

CODY

I take mine like my ex: hot, dark, and bitter.

(CONT.)

13 CONTINUED:

13

BARRY

Ha! Here top me off. Your ex,
Kathy? I liked her.

CODY

Oh no. Kathy was like three ex's
ago.

Cody goes to the pot and fills both cups. He takes out a small whiskey flask hidden from Barry and adds a shot to his own cup.

CODY

What's cookin', Franken-barry?

BARRY

Egg sandwiches. Just like Mom used
to make.

CODY

Really? I don't remember.

BARRY

You were probably too young. She
would make these on Saturday
mornings for me and Andy. We
thought it was so cool because we
could eat them in front of the TV.

CODY

Just eggs and cheese?

BARRY

Egg, a slice of cheese, and mayo on
toast. The key is make the toast
first so it's not too hot to hold
but the inside is still warm. Here.

He hands a plate with a sandwich to Cody. Cody takes a bite and talks with his mouth full.

CODY

Hmmm, thanks. You're going to make
someone a wonderful wife someday.

Andrew enters with a terrible hangover.

ANDREW

Oh, my god. What is that smell?

(CONT.)

13 CONTINUED: (2)

13

CODY
Coffee's over there.

ANDREW
Not the coffee. That.

He points to the stove where Barry is cooking.

BARRY
Egg sandwiches.

CODY
Just like Mom used to make.

Cody holds the sandwich up to Andrew's face. Andrew winces and backs away.

BARRY
You OK, Andy?

Andrew plops into a chair.

ANDREW
We drank way too much last night.

CODY
What do you mean "we"? Unless you got a drunk mouse in your pocket. Cause me and Barry are fine.

ANDREW
What was I thinking doing shots like that?

Barry brings the other two plates to the table and sets one in front of Andrew. Andrew pushes it away.

BARRY
When was the last time you did shots?

ANDREW
Spring break.

BARRY
That was two months ago.

ANDREW
No. At SMU. My senior year.

(CONT.)

13 CONTINUED: (3)

13

CODY
(laughing)
Holy crap! That's like twenty years ago!

ANDREW
Don't remind me. Oh shit...

Andrew suddenly jumps up and runs to the bathroom, slamming the door.

BARRY
Oh, he's going to be lots of fun on the boat today.

Cody has finished his sandwich. He pulls Andrew's plate over and takes a bite of his.

BARRY
Dude!

CODY
What? We'll split it.

14 **EXT - CABIN - DAY**

14

Cody and Andrew are loading their fishing gear into the back of Andrew's truck. Cody loads a cooler into the bed and makes a point to loudly slam the tailgate shut, causing Andrew to wince and give him a dirty look. Cody shrugs in a mock apology. Barry comes out of the cabin.

BARRY
Hey guys; did anyone bring bait?

Cody points at his motorcycle parked next to the cabin.

CODY
Sure. I always keep extra worms in my saddlebags.

ANDREW
We've got lures in the tackle box. C'mon.

BARRY
No. We need live bait. You know that.

(CONT.)

14 CONTINUED:

14

CODY

Well?

BARRY

You guys go ahead and launch the boat. I'll make a bait run and meet you there.

Cody checks the cooler.

CODY

And get beer.

ANDREW

Get some Gatorade and Alka-Selzer too.

BARRY

OK.

Barry goes to his car while Andrew and Cody get into the truck.

CODY

What some people will do to avoid unloading the truck.

15 INT - BAIT SHOP - DAY

15

Barry comes in the door. There are several other people in the shop stocking up on supplies. The shop's walls are covered with photos of fishermen and women posing with their catches. Several newspaper clippings with pictures and stories about Possum Kingdom Lake are framed and hung among these as well. Barry starts browsing around and looking at the live bait. The shop owner, CYNTHIA, is helping another customer. Cynthia is pushing 70 but still quite attractive. She is lean and fit and moves with the grace and confidence of someone half her age. She looks up at Barry.

CYNTHIA

Be right with you, sweetie.

BARRY

No worries.

Barry goes over to the other side of the shop and gets beer, a bottle of Gatorade, and a packet of Alka-Selzer tablets. He turns to go back towards the bait tanks and stops short when he sees a picture on the wall. The picture looks quite

(CONT.)

15 CONTINUED:

15

old and taken on a boat dock. A younger and very striking Cynthia is helping a handsome man hold up a string of freshly caught fish. They are both smiling. He leans in to get a closer look when Cynthia quietly walks over. She looks at him and at the picture he is examining so closely.

CYNTHIA

You're Barry Knighton, aren't you?

BARRY

What? Yes. How did you...? Is that my dad in that picture?

CYNTHIA

Yes, it is. And that's me. That was a good day. Your father used to bring you boys down here every summer until your Mom died.

BARRY

I remember lots of trips. But I don't remember this picture.

CYNTHIA

Your brother took it. Andy Jr. He must have been about 8 or 9. You were probably too little to remember. How is your father? It's been years.

BARRY

He passed away last week.

CYNTHIA

Oh my god. I am so sorry.

BARRY

It's OK. You didn't know.

There is an awkward silence for a moment.

CYNTHIA

So what brings you out to PK after all this time?

BARRY

A little fishing trip with the brothers.

(CONT.)

15 CONTINUED: (2)

15

CYNTHIA

And you need bait, of course.

She turns and leads Barry to the live bait tanks.

BARRY

How did you recognize me?

CYNTHIA

Really? Every baseball fan in Texas remembers Barry Knighton's "mad dash" from first base?

She points to a framed newspaper clipping on the wall. Barry goes to look closer and sees the picture of his one Major League appearance. In the clipping, he is sliding safe into home under the headline, "Knighton's Mad Dash".

BARRY

Wow. You kept this? I don't even have this.

CYNTHIA

Well, I always felt like I sorta knew you. I bet your father sure was proud.

BARRY

I don't know. I guess. It was just one game. We never really talked about it.

CYNTHIA

So what's the prey today?

BARRY

I'm sorry. The what?

CYNTHIA

The prey? What are you fishing for?

BARRY

Oh, we're taking the boat out so I would assume bass.

Cynthia goes to one of the tanks and starts collecting some bait into a small container.

(CONT.)

15 CONTINUED: (3)

15

CYNTHIA

Gotcha. This is what you boys need right here. It stinks a little but it works. Trust me.

BARRY

You're the expert.

CYNTHIA

You said "brothers". Is Little Cody with you too? Anyone else?

BARRY

No. Just the three of us.

CYNTHIA

Little Cody. My goodness. He must be 30 years old by now.

BARRY

29.

CYNTHIA

My word.

BARRY

I'm sorry. I didn't get your name.

CYNTHIA

Cynthia.

16 **EXT - ANDREW'S BASS BOAT - DAY**

16

The brothers on the boat, fishing. Barry and Andrew chatting up front while Cody sits at the back with a beer.

ANDREW

Cynthia?

BARRY

That's what she said. She remembered Pop real well. And you too.

ANDREW

Yeah. I kinda remember her.

(CONT.)

16 CONTINUED:

16

BARRY

You even took a picture of her and Pop holding up some fish together. She said you were about 8 or 9.

ANDREW

Well, I don't remember that. It must have been someone else.

BARRY

Who else would be taking Pop's picture?

ANDREW

I'm telling you; I don't remember.

BARRY

OK. Fine. Forget it.

The three of them continue to fish in silence. Andrew hears something and feels the boat rocking a little. He looks over and sees Cody, with earbuds in and eyes closed, holding his rod like a guitar and reeling in his line like he's strumming it.

ANDREW

Cody. What are you doing?

Cody doesn't hear him and keeps playing his imaginary guitar. Andrew tries again, louder.

ANDREW

Cody...Cody!

BARRY

Shh! Are you trying to scare all the fish away?

ANDREW

What the hell is he doing?

Barry watches Cody for second and shrugs.

BARRY

I don't know. "Freebird"?

Andrew tosses an empty beer can towards Cody to get his attention. Cody looks around and takes out his earbuds.

(CONT.)

CODY

What's up?

ANDREW

What the hell are you doing?

CODY

Fishing. Same as you.

ANDREW

Not the same as me. You're doing it wrong.

CODY

Wrong?

ANDREW

Yes. Jacking around with your reel like that. You're making the hook bounce all over the place. And you're rocking the boat. Probably scaring away everything in sight.

CODY

And what should I be doing, Captain Ahab?

ANDREW

It's a slow reel. Fool the fish into taking the bait. See?

Andrew is slowly reeling his line.

CODY

OK, I guess if that works for you. I'm more of a rock n roll fisherman.

Cody stands up and really turns on the guitar act, "strumming" his reel and humming the guitar riff from "Smoke On The Water". Andrew just rolls his eyes. In the middle of his riff, Cody almost falls down when his rod jerk suddenly.

CODY

Oh, crap!

ANDREW

See? Keep screwing around and I'm gonna laugh at you when you fall out of the boat.

(CONT.)

16 CONTINUED: (3)

16

CODY

No, I got one!

ANDREW

What?!

BARRY

Holy crap! A big one too!

We see the fish, jumping and fighting as Cody reels it in. Barry grabs the net and helps Cody land it.

CODY

Ha ha! Who's doing it wrong now, smartass!?

BARRY

Holy crap! Cynthia wasn't kidding about this bait.

Andrew is still. Just watching as his brothers bring in Cody's catch.

DISSOLVE TO:

17 **EXT - POP'S BOAT - DAY**

17

FLASHBACK

YOUNG ANDY, 8 years old, and POP are fishing. Pop is mid-30s, fit and handsome. He is slowly reeling in his line. When he gets it in, he gets ready to cast it out again. He looks over his shoulder and sees Andy reeling his as fast as he can. Pop puts his rod and reel down.

POP

Whoa, whoa, whoa! Andy! What are you doing?

YOUNG ANDY

Reeling in my line. Look how fast it goes.

He reels it all the way in, fast.

POP

Andy, stop. That's not how you do it.

(CONT.)

17 CONTINUED:

17

YOUNG ANDY

Why not?

POP

Because it's just not.

YOUNG ANDY

But why?

POP

Because you need to reel slow.

Andy casts his line out and starts reeling fast again.

YOUNG ANDY

But I like to go fast. It makes cool waves in the water.

Pop laughs.

POP

Son, we're not here to make waves; where here to catch fish. And you're not--

Andy's line suddenly jerks.

YOUNG ANDY

Pop! I got one!

POP

No, you don't.

The line jerks again. Andy start reeling it in.

YOUNG ANDY

I do, I do! Look!

Pop follows his line and we see a large bass jump out of the water with Andy's hook in it's mouth. Pop jumps up to grab the net.

POP

Holy crap!

YOUNG ANDY

What do I do?

(CONT.)

17 CONTINUED: (2)

17

POP

Keep reeling him in. Not too fast
or you'll break the line.

Young Andy starts reeling the fish in slowly.

YOUNG ANDY

Like this?

POP

Yes, son. That's good. Just get him
close to the boat and I'll grab him
with the net.

Andy continues to work the reel, pulling the big fish closer
and closer to the boat. Pop reaches down with the net and
pulls in the catch. Pop gets the hook out and holds it up to
admire it.

POP

Good job, son!

YOUNG ANDY

Wow! I'm gonna get another one.

Andy quickly cast his line out again and starts reeling
fast. Pop puts the fresh catch in the cooler.

POP

Andy, stop. That's too fast.

YOUNG ANDY

But it worked before.

POP

That's because you had stopped
reeling, remember? Now watch.

Pop casts his line out and slowly works the reel, bringing
his line in nice and slow. Andy watches him until he's sure
that Pop isn't looking. Then he starts reeling fast again.

POP

See? If you go too fast, you scare
them. Go slow and they think your
lure is just another bug.

Andy's line jerks again.

(CONT.)

17 CONTINUED: (3)

17

YOUNG ANDY

Pop!

Pop turns and sees that Andy is reeling in another one.

POP

See? I told you. Go slow. Good job, son. Wow, we're gonna eat good tonight.

18 **EXT - BOAT DOCK - DAY**

18

Young Andy and Pop are slowly pulling up to the dock. A young Cynthia is walking down and waving from the dock.

POP

OK, Andy. Pull us in.

Andy grabs onto a line on the dock and pulls the boat closer.

YOUNG ANDY

Got it, Pop.

POP

Good job. Tie us off.

Andrew jumps out of the boat and ties it to the dock.

YOUNG ANDY

Look, Pop. I used a cleat hitch.

POP

And that's a good one too, son.

Cynthia comes down and inspects the knot.

CYNTHIA

It sure is, Andy. Have you been practicing?

YOUNG ANDY

Yes, ma'am. Gonna be testing for my sailing merit badge when we get home.

CYNTHIA

Well, if that knot is any indication, you should do just fine.

(CONT.)

18 CONTINUED:

18

YOUNG ANDY

Thank you, Miss Cynthia.

She turns to the Pop.

CYNTHIA

And how did you do, Captain.

POP

We did great. That new live bait
you gave us really did the trick.
Look at this haul.

He holds up a line with three good-sized fish hanging from
it.

CYNTHIA

Wow! We need a picture of this
catch for the wall of fame.

Cynthia takes out a small camera from her pocket and Pop and
Andy pose with the fish for a picture.

POP

Now one with you.

CYNTHIA

Me?

POP

Sure. It was your bait. Andy; take
our picture.

Andy and Cynthia trade places. She hands the camera to Andy
and grabs one end of the line as Pop grabs the other end and
they hold up the day's catch horizontally. Andy snaps the
picture that Barry saw in the store.

POP

OK, sailor. You remember what I
taught you about getting the boat
ready to shut down?

YOUNG ANDY

Yes, sir.

POP

OK, I'll leave it to you. I need to
run inside for a bit. I'll be right
back, OK.

(CONT.)

YOUNG ANDY

OK. Don't worry, Pop. I got it.

POP

I know you do, son.

Pop follows Cynthia up the dock and into the boat house. Andy goes about the business of packing up the boat. Putting the fish in the cooler, stowing away the fishing gear, collecting the trash, etc. Once all of that is done, he picks up the trash bag and takes it back up the dock to the trash can. He slowly walks up to the boat house and can hear Cynthia giggling. He peeks in and just catches a glimpse of Pop's hand on Cynthia's thigh before jumping back quickly.

YOUNG ANDY

Uh...Pop?

Pop quickly pokes his head out of the door and looks at Andy. Then he steps out, blocking the door.

POP

Hey! You done already?

YOUNG ANDY

Yes, sir.

POP

Everything packed away so it doesn't fly out on the way home?

YOUNG ANDY

Yes sir.

POP

Trash?

YOUNG ANDY

Dumped it in there.

He points to the trash bin as Miss Cynthia comes out, her hair just a little mussed.

POP

OK then; let's go get the trailer.
Did you thank Miss Cynthia?

YOUNG ANDY

Thank you, Miss Cynthia. I had a lot of fun.

(CONT.)

18 CONTINUED: (3)

18

CYNTHIA

Any time, Andy. You and your dad are always welcome here. But you need to bring your little brother next time.

YOUNG ANDY

Yes ma'am.

POP

OK, let's go.

Andy turns and starts walking towards where the truck and trailer are parked. He looks back and sees Cynthia touching Pop's face as he turns to leave.

DISSOLVE TO:

19 **EXT - ANDREW'S BASS BOAT - DAY**

19

PRESENT DAY

Barry and Cody are unhooking Cody's big catch and trying to put it in the holding tank.

CODY

Hey, Old Man; you wanna give us a hand over here? Open the tank.

Andrew snaps back to reality and moves to get the tank open. There are two other fish in there and this one gets added to the days haul.

CODY

OK, my monster should actually count as two. And Andy already got one. So guess who gets to clean 'em?

Andrew and Cody both point at Barry.

CODY

Boom!

BARRY

Shit.

Cody grabs three beers out of the cooler and passes them out.

(CONT.)

19 CONTINUED:

19

CODY

But if you think about it, it's probably a good thing 'cause you know I would screw it up and Andy probably doesn't even remember how.

ANDREW

Hey! I was cleaning these fish before you were born. There may be a lot of things I don't remember but cleaning fish isn't one of them.

BARRY

Fine. They're all yours then.

ANDREW

Oh, no no no. A bet's a bet.

Andrew moves forward to get in the driver's seat and starts up the boat.

CODY

And Barry; I like mine seared with just a little bit of olive oil.

Andrew hits the throttle causing Cody to fall back into his seat, laughing but without spilling his beer.

We see the boat skimming across the water. Each of the brothers just enjoying the ride, the wind in their hair, and lost in their own thoughts.

20 INT - CABIN - EVENING

20

Barry is grilling the day's catch. We can see Andrew outside, pacing and talking on his cell phone. At the water's edge, we see Cody attempting to skip rocks on the lake and failing. Andrew ends his call and looks up. Barry holds up a plate to signal him that dinner is ready. Andrew waves back and calls out.

ANDREW

Cody! Let's eat!

Cody tries one more throw and fails again. He turns and walks back up to the cabin. He and Andrew come in together as Barry is putting a platter of fish filets on the table.

(CONT.)

20 CONTINUED:

20

BARRY

Cody! Grab that cole slaw out of the fridge.

Cody goes to the fridge and takes out a tub of cole slaw and a beer.

ANDREW

Damn, Barry. You can't catch fish to save your life but you sure can cook 'em!

CODY

I told him he was going to make someone a great wife one day.

BARRY

And I told you to kiss my ass.

ANDREW

Where did you get the cole slaw?

BARRY

At the bait store. Miss Cynthia recommended it.

CODY

Miss Cynthia?

BARRY

She owns the store. Been there for for years. She even knew Pop.

CODY

Look at you making friends with the locals. Gonna run for mayor?

BARRY

Hey, she recognized me.

CODY

As what?

BARRY

As a ball player.

CODY

Ha! A ball player? You made one lucky play and that was like a thousand years ago.

(CONT.)

20 CONTINUED: (2)

20

BARRY

Well, she knew who I was and even had my picture on the wall.

ANDREW

She what?

BARRY

I know. Weird, right? But yeah; small newspaper clipping. In a frame and everything. Said she remembers the play like it was yesterday.

DISSOLVE TO:

21 **EXT - BASEBALL STADIUM - NIGHT - TELEVISION POV**

21

FLASHBACK

We are watching the baseball game and over this we hear the television COMMENTATOR and COLOR MAN describing the action as the game unfolds.

COMMENTATOR

Well, here we are. Bottom of the ninth and the Rangers and Angels all tied up, 3-3. The last game of the season and it looks like young Barry Knighton will finally make his Major League debut.

COLOR MAN

Yes, Dave. This Knighton kid is just 19 but he's really been lighting up double A Frisco all year, hitting .388 for the season. Not a lot of pop in the bat, just 4 homers, but lead the league in extra base hits.

COMMENTATOR

Yes, and a lot of that is due to his speed. The Rangers are really high on him and we may get a chance to see some of that speed as he comes on to pinch run for Trevino.

(CONT.)

21 CONTINUED:

21

COLOR MAN

You know the butterflies have got to be getting to him.

COMMENTATOR

And with that, here's Dale Wilson stepping to the plate. Wilson is 2 for 3 tonight with a walk in the fifth. And he takes the first pitch looking. Strike one.

COLOR MAN

That was a slider, down and away. Good pitch but he needs to keep an eye on Knighton at first.

COMMENTATOR

And right on cue, there's the throw to first. Keeping him honest.

COLOR MAN

Yeah. A little "welcome to the Show, kid. Now get dirty."

COMMENTATOR

Welch dealing again. In the dirt. One-one.

COLOR MAN

Another slider. That seems to be his go-to pitch here in the bottom of the ninth.

COMMENTATOR

Knighton with good speed at first represents the go-ahead run.

COLOR MAN

Welch has been hammering that outside corner since he came on in the sixth. Wilson should be looking for something to drive here.

COMMENTATOR

Knighton goes! The pitch. Ground ball to right from Wilson.

COLOR MAN

Wilson doing a good job going the opposite way to move the runner.

(CONT.)

21 CONTINUED: (2)

21

COMMENTATOR

Knighton rounding second. He'll
cruise into third easily as
Hernandez fields it.

COLOR MAN

He's not stopping, Dave!

COMMENTATOR

Knighton rounding third! Here comes
the throw from Hernandez! Knighton
head first and safe at home! A walk
off win for the Rangers on the last
day of the season!

COLOR MAN

The throw from Hernandez was high
and maybe a little late. I don't
think he was expecting the rookie
to test his arm.

COMMENTATOR

No, Hernandez lined up to make a
routine throw to third

COLOR MAN

Knighton actually ran through the
stop sign at third.

COMMENTATOR

Wow! What a great way to end the
season. Young Barry Knighton on his
Major League debut with a mad dash,
scoring from first on a single to
right.

COLOR MAN

Are you kidding me?

22 INT - THEIR BOYHOOD HOME - NIGHT

22

YOUNG CODY, 11 years old, has been watching the game on TV.
He is very excited, jumping and cheering as he watches his
big brother score the winning run. He looks back at Pop. Pop
is disheveled and snoozing in his recliner.

YOUNG CODY

Pop! Pop! Oh my god! Did you see
that?

(CONT.)

22 CONTINUED:

22

Pop wakes with a start.

POP

Cody! Dammit! What are you yelling about, boy?

YOUNG CODY

Barry scored! We won! We won!

Pop leans forward in his chair, obviously drunk, to get a closer look at the TV. Cody is doing a victory dance and Pop leans over and smacks him.

POP

What are you so excited about. He didn't do a damn thing.

YOUNG CODY

What? Pop, he scored. Look; it's a walk-off. Rangers win!

POP

Dumb luck. He didn't hit. He didn't pitch. He didn't catch. He didn't do shit. Look, the coach even told him to stop at third and he didn't even do that.

YOUNG CODY

But Pop...

Pop smacks him again.

POP

Don't talk back! He didn't pay attention to his coaches like I always told him to. Cocky little shit just got lucky.

Pop gets up out of his chair, dropping his whiskey flask on the floor, and staggers to the bathroom. Cody picks it up.

DISSOLVE TO:

23 INT - CABIN - EVENING

23

PRESENT DAY

The brothers are sitting around the table having dinner.

(CONT.)

BARRY

Lucky?

CODY

That's what Pop always said.
Anytime anyone mentioned that play,
he would always say all you did was
run fast and anyone can do that.

Barry is furious.

BARRY

You know how hard it is to make it
to a major league roster?!

CODY

Can't be all that hard if you made
it.

ANDREW

Cody!

CODY

What? Pop was right. You never
swung a bat or caught a ball. You
walked out there one time and ran
fast. Woopy-freaking-doo! You were
always the fastest kid on the block
anyway. If I had your wheels, that
could have been me.

Barry stands up.

BARRY

You think so?

CODY

Hell, yeah.

BARRY

Alright. Bring your ass outside.

Barry storms out and Cody slowly gets to his feet.

CODY

I'm not racing you. My feet hurt.

BARRY

(from outside)
Just get out here.

24 **EXT - CABIN - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS**

24

Barry has walked down to the road and is gathering rocks. Cody comes out followed by Andrew. They stop and look at Barry.

BARRY
Come here, Cody.

Cody warily goes down to Barry. Barry gives Cody a rock and points to traffic sign about 30 yards away.

BARRY
Hit it.

CODY
What?

BARRY
Hit that sign. With the rock.

CODY
Why?

BARRY
Apparently, anyone can do it,
right?

Barry turns and fires a rock, hitting the sign dead center with a loud clang.

BARRY
No real skill needed.

He throws another. Clang!

BARRY
No need to work my butt off for
years, right?

Another rock. Same result.

BARRY
Just dumb luck that I even got to
sit in a major league dugout, huh?

He throws again and hits the sign. Then he slowly turns and looks at Cody who has been watching this demonstration with his mouth open. Barry steps closer to Cody and takes the first rock out of his hand.

(CONT.)

24 CONTINUED:

24

BARRY

Then I need to go to Vegas because
it looks like I'm the luckiest son
of a bitch on this lake.

He turns and throws, hitting the sign again, and walks back up to the cabin. Cody looks at Andrew who just smiles, shakes his head, and follows Barry. Cody watches the two of them go back inside then reaches down and picks up a rock. He throws at the sign but doesn't even come close.

DISSOLVE TO:

25 **EXT - CABIN - DAY**

25

Next morning. Another beautiful day by the lake. Andrew breaks the morning stillness and comes out of the cabin with fishing gear. He turns and calls back into the cabin.

ANDREW

Would you just trust me on this
one?

Barry follows Andrew out, also carrying his gear.

BARRY

I'm just saying, you went to all of
the trouble to tow it down here,
why fish from the bank?

ANDREW

Because that's where the best
catfish are. Cody! Hurry up!

BARRY

We can't drive there?

Andrew laughs.

ANDREW

Drive? No, we can't drive. Geez,
for a professional athlete, you
sure have gotten lazy.

BARRY

I wasn't an athlete; I was a ball
player. Besides, I'm retired.

Andrew stops and looks back towards the cabin.

(CONT.)

25 CONTINUED:

25

ANDREW

Cody!! Let's go! I'm not waiting on you!

He turns and continues to walk, Barry catching up.

ANDREW

You did wake him up, right?

BARRY

Yes. I saw him getting coffee and I told him where you said we were going. He'll catch up.

ANDREW

He better.

Cody comes rushing out of the cabin. He has a small back pack on and carries a tackle box as he runs to catch up with his brothers.

26 **EXT - LAKE SHORE - DAY**

26

Andrew and Barry are walking along a trail and they hear Cody running up behind them.

CODY

Hey! Wait up!

ANDREW

I told you I wasn't waiting on you.

Cody catches up and they stop as he drops the tackle box and tries to catch his breath with his hands on his knees.

CODY

Yeah? Well...I'm here now. So; where are we going and why the hell are we walking?

BARRY

That's what I said.

ANDREW

Because there's a little cove just up ahead that has the best catfishing. The water's too shallow for the boat and it's too far away from the road to drive.

(CONT.)

CODY

How did you find out about it?

ANDREW

Miss Cynthia brought me and Pop out here once.

BARRY

I thought you didn't remember her.

ANDREW

No, I said I didn't remember taking that picture. I remember her.

CODY

Spoken like a true lawyer.

ANDREW

Shut up. Come on. Pick up your gear and let's go. If we get there too late, they stop biting.

CODY

Like they're on a time clock?

BARRY

Cody; where's your pole?

CODY

My what?

BARRY

Your rod. Your fishing pole.

ANDREW

Are you kidding me?

CODY

Crap. I left it in the cabin.

BARRY

How did you plan to fish today without a fishing pole?

CODY

I...I don't know. I just forgot.

Andrew goes to Cody and starts pulling his backpack off.

(CONT.)

ANDREW

Forgot? What's all this then?

CODY

I can run back and get it. Just wait here.

ANDREW

I told you I'm not waiting on you. Now what the hell is in here?

Andrew has opened Cody's pack and pulls out a plastic bag full of ice and beer. He dumps it on the ground.

CODY

Hey!

ANDREW

Can't remember to take a fishing pole fishing, but you remember the beer. No wonder you're such a loser.

CODY

Fuck you, Andy!

Cody lunges at Andrew and the two start wrestling. Andrew is bigger and easily handles Cody, pushing him to the ground.

BARRY

Andy; come on, man!

ANDREW

No! This little shit never knew how good he had it. All that damn talent and he's wasted it. With this shit!

Andrew has found the whiskey flask and holds it up.

CODY

Give that back.

ANDREW

Why? It's not even 9am and you're already trying to get hammered.

CODY

Give it back, asshole!

(CONT.)

BARRY

Andy, just give it back. What's the big deal?

ANDREW

The big deal is that we came out here in Pop's memory and maybe do some fishing; not get hammered by noon. He can do that at home. Wherever home is.

CODY

Why the hell not? That's what Pop used to do every day after Mom died.

BARRY

He did?

ANDREW

You think I don't know that? And believe me, it started long before Mom died.

BARRY

What are you talking about?

ANDREW

Barry; you were always the good kid. You could do no wrong in Pop's eyes. The baseball stud. You never really knew Pop because you never really pissed him off.

CODY

You don't know shit, Andy. You guys left home and after Mom died, it was just me and Pop. Smacking me around every damn day until I got big enough to hit him back and move out.

BARRY

Hey, I got spanked a couple of times but Pop never really hit me.

ANDREW

Of course not! Wouldn't want to injure the star centerfielder. You
(MORE)

(CONT.)

26 CONTINUED: (4)

26

ANDREW (cont'd)
were gonna be his meal ticket. He
had me around for that.

CODY
He never hit you either. Not like
he hit me.

ANDREW
Oh really? You know what this is?

Andrew lifts up his pants leg to show an old but very nasty
scar on his calf.

BARRY
That's where you fell off the
swing.

ANDREW
Ha! That's what Mom told you. No,
little brother; that's the mark a
belt buckle leaves when you don't
hold on to the belt tight enough.

Barry and Cody stare at the scar, stunned. It's suddenly
very quiet. After a moment, Cody gets to his feet and holds
out his hand.

CODY
Give it back, Andy.

Andrew turns and throws it into the lake.

BARRY
Shit, Andy.

CODY
You dick! That was Pop's.

ANDREW
Well, it's pretty shallow out
there. So you can go fish for that
or come fishing with us. Your
choice.

Andrew marches off up the trail. Cody watches him for a
moment then starts to wade out into the lake. Barry is stuck
in the middle. After thinking about it, he finally turns and
follows after Andrew.

27 **EXT - CATFISH COVE - DAY**

27

Andrew arrives at the fishing spot and starts to drop his gear. Barry arrives a minute or so behind him.

BARRY

That really was a dick move, Andy.

ANDREW

The flask? He's lucky I don't have your arm.

BARRY

What did that prove?

ANDREW

He needs to get his shit together. And I'm sick of his whining and blaming his crap life on Pop.

BARRY

Crap life? Just because he doesn't have the corner office like you?

ANDREW

Barry; no. It's not about that. That song he wrote. The one he played the other night. You heard it. It's brilliant, right?

BARRY

Yes.

ANDREW

And we're not just saying that because he's our little brother. It really was good. But if he doesn't take it seriously and put in the work and hustle and practice, nobody's ever going to hear it. Nobody that matters anyway.

BARRY

He said he was gigging.

ANDREW

He's playing cover tunes in dive bars for drunk rednecks. He needs to get straight, get an agent, go to Nashville. Something. I don't care that he wants to be a musician

(MORE)

(CONT.)

27 CONTINUED:

27

ANDREW (cont'd)
or a songwriter or a minstrel,
whatever. But if that's what he's
going to do, then do it. It's
called "show business", not "show
hobby". You must know what I'm
talking about.

BARRY
Why me?

ANDREW
Because it's the same with sports.
You had crazy natural ability but
you didn't just sit around in the
back yard playing catch. You went
out and worked and practiced and
went to camps. You busted your ass.

BARRY
I guess so.

ANDREW
And when I tell people about my kid
brother playing in the majors and I
brag about your mad dash in the
bottom of the ninth, I have never
once used the word "luck". You
earned that.

Barry is stunned.

BARRY
You brag about me?

ANDREW
Yes. I still have your baseball
card on my desk.

BARRY
Really?

ANDREW
Yes. And you didn't have to throw
rocks at a sign to prove anything.
I know how hard you worked. I never
could play ball like you, so my job
to keep Pop off your back. How do
you think you got away with so much
crap when you were a kid?

(CONT.)

27 CONTINUED: (2)

27

BARRY

I just figured Pop never knew.

ANDREW

Oh, come on. He was a drunk but he wasn't stupid.

DISSOLVE TO:

28 INT - THEIR BOYHOOD HOME - DAY

28

FLASHBACK

YOUNG BARRY, 12 years old, is in his room, packing his baseball gear in his bag. We hear a horn honk outside.

POP

(OC)

Barry! Hurry up. They're here.

YOUNG BARRY

I heard them. I'm coming.

Barry zips up the bag and rushes downstairs. Pop is waiting by the front door. There is a van at the curb with other young ballplayers. The side of the van says "All-Star Baseball Camp". Barry stops at the door and Pop looks at him.

POP

I'm sorry I can't go to camp with you this year, but your mom...

YOUNG BARRY

I know. It's OK, Pop.

POP

But we want you to go. She insisted on it. She doesn't want you moping around the house just because she's sick.

YOUNG BARRY

Pop...is Mom gonna be OK?

POP

Don't you worry about that.

(CONT.)

28 CONTINUED:

28

YOUNG BARRY

But maybe I should stay home this year. I can help out around the house.

The van honks again.

POP

I said don't worry. Besides it's too late to back out now. They're waiting on you.

Pop leans out the door and yells out to the van.

POP

Hold on! Be right there!

YOUNG BARRY

I kinda feel bad leaving you here.

POP

It's OK. Andy Jr. is here to help out and little Cody won't be any trouble at all. You just go and have a good camp. Work hard and pay attention to the coaches, OK?

Barry doesn't answer. He is looking down at his shoes and trying not to cry.

POP

Hey; look at me.

Barry slowly looks up at him.

POP

I said, work hard and pay attention. Do what the coaches tell you. OK?

Barry slowly looks up.

POP

OK?!

YOUNG BARRY

OK, Pop.

(CONT.)

28 CONTINUED: (2)

28

POP

Good. And remember what I taught you; line up with the bag and come in on a sac fly.

YOUNG BARRY

Yes, sir.

POP

And what else?

YOUNG BARRY

Always hit the cut-off man.

POP

Ha! There ya go! Now go get 'em, son! I'll see you next week.

Barry runs out to the van.

29 **EXT - THEIR BOYHOOD HOME - CONTINUOUS**

29

Barry gets to the van and tosses in his bag. He hears Pop shouting and turns to see Pop going back into the house.

POP

Andy! Get down here! What the hell is all this!?

The front door slams and Barry stares at it. We can still hear muffled shouting from inside the house. The VAN DRIVER honks again.

VAN DRIVER

Hey! Knighton! Let's go!

YOUNG BARRY

Oh, sorry.

Barry turns, jumps in the van and slams the sliding door shut.

DISSOLVE TO:

30 **INT - CABIN - EARLY MORNING**

30

Next day. Barry is up making breakfast again as Cody comes in. He takes a deep whiff and smiles at Barry. Barry smiles back.

(CONT.)

30 CONTINUED:

30

BARRY AND CODY

(in unison)

Hmmm...bacon!

Cody grabs the coffee pot and looks at Barry's cup.

CODY

Refill?

BARRY

Yeah.

Cody refills Barry cup and then pours one for himself.

CODY

Where's Andy?

Barry points out the window and we see Andrew outside on his cell phone, pacing back and forth. Cody goes to the window and looks at Andrew on the phone.

CODY

Geez! He's supposed to be on vacation. I don't get him.

BARRY

What don't you get?

CODY

Work, work, work. As long as I can remember, that was all he cared about.

BARRY

He doesn't do it because he likes it.

CODY

Then why do it?

BARRY

Because he's good at it. He wasn't naturally good at any sports or music, but he's a damn good lawyer.

CODY

Meaning he makes good money?
There's more to life than that.

(CONT.)

BARRY

True. But Pop never cut him any slack. Really made him work for everything. So now it's a habit.

CODY

Hey, Pop never gave me anything either. Other than a knock on the head 'cause he was drunk all the time.

BARRY

Pop was no walk in the park when he was sober either. I only managed to stay under the radar because Andy covered for me and Pop just wanted me to play ball. But Andy took his fair share of lumps too so don't blame Pop.

CODY

Blame Pop? For what?

BARRY

For anything. Your drinking. Your career. Or lack of one.

CODY

I can't live that nine to five office life.

BARRY

I don't think he expects you to.

CODY

Then what the hell does he want?

BARRY

He doesn't care what you do as long as you take it seriously. You wanna be a songwriter, fine. Be a songwriter. Act like a professional and quit doing it half-assed and then partying like your a friggin' rock star. If it's worth doing, it's worth doing it right.

CODY

Now you sound like Pop.

(CONT.)

BARRY

That doesn't mean I'm wrong. Look; playing ball was just that: playing. But I worked my butt off to be good at it. A trade and the wrong injury at the wrong time kinda ended that for me. I had no control over those things. But it all lead me to coaching now and I'm loving it. But that all started because I was serious about it. It was my job.

Cody goes back to the window, looking out at Andrew still on the phone.

CODY

Hey; I always wondered something. Why did you run through that stop sign?

BARRY

What?

CODY

On your "mad dash". The third base coach was telling you to stop at third but you didn't even slow down. A good throw would have nailed you at the plate.

BARRY

You mean a perfect throw. I figured it was a safe bet. And turns out I was right.

CODY

Pretty cocky, weren't you?

BARRY

Not really. It goes back to what I was saying about hard work. I used to stay up late studying the other team. One thing I knew was that, sooner or later, my speed was going to come in handy. When I came on, I knew if I got a good jump, I could make it to third on a single. But I also knew Hernandez was in right

(MORE)

(CONT.)

BARRY (cont'd)

field and he was lazy and had an average arm. So when Wilson singled to right, I knew Hernandez was just gonna be lolly-gagging to the ball and was going to make a lazy throw to third.

CODY

And you had this all figured out?

BARRY

Well, not a first. But before I rounded second, I had made up my mind to go home. I didn't even look at the third base coach. I figured I needed to do something to get the manager's attention. It was the last game of the season.

CODY

Wasn't the coach pissed?

BARRY

Oh, no; they all loved it.

CODY

Really?

BARRY

Yep. All the coaches loved it. And the GM loved it so much he traded me to Minnesota. And then I got hurt. Then I got sent down. And then I got released. And... well, here we are.

CODY

Yep. Here we are.

Cody refills his coffee cup. He starts to put the pot back but then reaches up and grabs a second cup and fills that one too. He puts the coffee pot back and heads outside. Barry calls after him.

BARRY

Two minutes!

31 **EXT - CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS**

31

Cody walks out to where Andrew is on the phone with Becky. Cody hands Andrew the cup of coffee. Andrew takes it without looking.

CODY
Work, work, work.

Andrew looks at Cody, grins, and silently mouths "thanks". Cody raises his cup in a mock toast and looks out at the lake. Andrew continues his conversation on the phone.

ANDREW
OK. I need to be there today.

32 **INT - ANDREW'S OFFICE - DAY**

32

Becky is on the phone with Andrew. We cut back and forth between the two during their conversation.

BECKY
No, you don't.

ANDREW
Yes, I do.

BECKY
Sir, I'll take care of it.

ANDREW
Becky, you know how he is. He's going to need to see me in person today or I'll be in chambers tomorrow.

BECKY
I can explain that you are unavailable and argue the motion on your behalf.

ANDREW
Then why did you call me?

There is no reply as Becky just sighs.

ANDREW
Exactly. Listen, I can be in the office by two. Check with the court and see if the judge is free after that.

(CONT.)

32 CONTINUED:

32

BECKY

Yes, sir. And what if he's not available.

ANDREW

I don't know, but at least I made the effort.

BECKY

OK.

ANDREW

Thanks, Becky. Call me if anything else comes up.

BECKY

Yes, sir. Drive safe.

Andrew ends the call and sighs as he too looks out across the lake. He and Cody stand in silence for a moment, just enjoying the peaceful quiet morning.

CODY

No rest for the wicked, huh?

Andrew doesn't answer, taking a moment to enjoy the peace and quiet as he looks across the still water.

ANDREW

I could get used to this.

CODY

You staying for breakfast?

ANDREW

Hell, yeah. I can smell it from here.

CODY

Cool. I'm about fished out anyway.

ANDREW

Really?

CODY

Yeah. Actually, I never much cared for fishing. I do like it out here though. And the cabin's paid for until tomorrow so I'll probably hang around.

(CONT.)

32 CONTINUED: (2)

32

ANDREW

You could still fish without the boat. I'll leave you some gear.

CODY

Actually, I was thinking I should get some work done. On my songwriting. I've got a notebook with a bunch of ideas but I need to sit down and really make something out of them.

They turn to head back to the cabin.

ANDREW

Work, work, work.

33 INT - CABIN - EARLY MORNING - CONTINUOUS

33

Andrew and Cody come back inside as Barry is putting the food on the table. They all sit.

ANDREW

Hey, Barry; I meant to say it before, but thanks for doing all of the cooking.

BARRY

I only did it because I know you two suck at it. I wasn't doing you any favors.

Andrew throws a biscuit at Barry who catches it with one hand, the coffee pot in his other.

BARRY

Ha! You need a refill?

ANDREW

Sure.

BARRY

Cody?

Cody has taken out the flask that Andrew threw in the lake. He starts unscrewing the cap.

(CONT.)

CODY

Just need to refill this bad boy.
And yes, it took me an hour and a
half to fish it out of the damn
lake. Jackass.

ANDREW

Dammit, Cody!

CODY

What?

Cody reaches across the table and grabs the orange juice and starts filling up the flask. He looks at the other brothers with a grin.

CODY

Ha!

Cody finishes filling the flask, takes a drink from it and then screws the cap back on and starts digging into the breakfast.

ANDREW

No vodka to go with that?

CODY

Nope.

BARRY

So what was up with that phone
call?

ANDREW

Oh yeah. I'm gonna have to take off
after breakfast. There's a judge
who doesn't particularly like me
and is insisting that I be there to
file a motion in person. My
paralegal is trying to get me a
slot this afternoon.

BARRY

Damn, I was hoping for another day
on the boat.

ANDREW

Me too. Really I was. But it's not
like we can't do this again, right?
We've got all summer.

(CONT.)

33 CONTINUED: (2)

33

BARRY

Very true.

ANDREW

Can you guys give me a hand with the boat after breakfast?

BARRY

Sure.

ANDREW

Cody?

Cody is busy devouring his breakfast and looks up.

CODY

Hmmm...bacon.

34 **EXT - BOAT RAMP - DAY**

34

Andrew backs his trailer down the boat ramp as Barry guides him. Cody drives the boat towards the ramp as the trailer sinks into the water. He expertly maneuvers the boat towards the submerged trailer. Then, like they did while launching the boat, the three brothers work in perfect silent unison to get the boat back on the trailer.

Andrew gets out of the truck and goes back to the trailer where Barry and Cody are finishing up securing the boat.

ANDREW

Thanks, guys. Sorry I have to head back.

BARRY

It's all good.

CODY

Yeah. At least we got you to chill out for a couple of days.

ANDREW

Well, there's a three-day weekend in a couple of weeks. Let's do it again, but better.

BARRY

Yes! And bring the family next time. You can teach Trey how to fish.

(CONT.)

34 CONTINUED:

34

CODY

You mean I can teach him how to fish.

Andrew pulls Cody to him for a hug.

ANDREW

Don't get cocky, little brother.

CODY

Too late.

Andrew gives Barry a hug too then pulls a card out of his pocket and hands it to Cody.

ANDREW

Listen; if you're ready to get serious about your song writing, you need to copyright your work. This guy can help you out with that.

Cody looks at the card.

CODY

Andrew Knighton? Why do I know that name?

ANDREW

On the back, smartass. Call him. He's a friend of mine.

CODY

I will. Thank you.

ANDREW

OK, I gotta roll if I'm going to get to court by 2. See you both back here in a couple of weeks.

BARRY

You got it. Bye, Andy.

CODY

Later, Counselor!

With a wave, Andrew gets back in the truck and pulls away. The other two stand and watch before Barry turns to Cody.

(CONT.)

34 CONTINUED: (2)

34

BARRY

I think I'm gonna head back too.

CODY

Yeah, I saw you were already packed up.

BARRY

Not much point without the boat.

CODY

I gonna hang around.

BARRY

And fish?

CODY

No. I do need to start taking my writing seriously and the cabin's paid for for another day. No use wasting all of this peace and quiet.

BARRY

Well, hop in and I'll give you a ride to your bike.

CODY

Alright.

35 INT - BARRY'S CAR - DAY

35

Barry and Cody are driving around to the other side of the boat slips.

BARRY

So when will you be back down my way.

CODY

I don't know. I'll see if I can get a gig down there.

BARRY

You don't need a gig, Cody. Just come on down.

CODY

OK, but on one condition.

(CONT.)

35 CONTINUED:

35

BARRY

What's that?

CODY

We go to a ball game.

BARRY

Deal.

CODY

Yes!!

Cody starts singing

CODY

Take me out to the ball game. Take
me out with the crowd!

Barry joins in for the rest of the song.

BARRY AND CODY

Buy me some peanuts and
Cracker-Jacks.
I don't care if I ever get back.
For it's root, root, root for the
home team.
If they don't win it's a shame!
Cause it's one; two; three strikes
you're out
At the old ball game!!The car has stopped next to where Cody's motorcycle is
parked. They laugh. Then after a moment:

CODY

You were flat, by the way.

Cody gets out of the car.

36 **EXT - BOAT DOCK - DAY - CONTINUOUS**

36

Barry and Cody get out of Barry's car and Barry walks around
it.

BARRY

You be careful on that thing.

Cody points at Barry's car.

(CONT.)

36 CONTINUED:

36

CODY

You be careful in THAT thing.

Barry chuckles and gives Cody a hug.

BARRY

Call me when you get to Austin.

CODY

I will. See ya, Care Bear.

BARRY

See ya, Cody.

Barry gets back in and drives off with a wave.

37 **EXT - BAIT SHOP - DAY**

37

Cody is on his motorcycle and passes the bait shop on his way back to the cabin. He slows to a stop on the shoulder and looks back at it. Then he turns around and goes back. He pulls into a parking place, shuts off the bike and goes inside.

38 **INT - BAIT SHOP - DAY - CONTINUOUS**

38

Cody walks in and looks around. Cynthia calls from behind the counter.

CYNTHIA

Can I help you, sweetie?

CODY

No, I'm good. Thanks. Just looking around.

CYNTHIA

Well, if you need any help with the bait tank you just holler.

CODY

OK, thanks.

Cody slowly wanders around the store, looking at all of the pictures on the wall. He stops at the cooler and starts to pull out a six pack of beer. He pauses for a moment then puts it back. He goes to another cooler and grabs a six pack of ginger ale. He continues his examination of all of the pictures until he sees the old one of Pop with Cynthia on the dock. He looks at it closely then looks over at Cynthia

(CONT.)

38 CONTINUED:

38

then back to the picture. He continues to browse until he finds the newspaper clipping with the story and picture of Barry's "mad dash". He looks at it for a long time as we hear the voices echoing in his head.

COLOR MAN

He's not stopping, Dave!

COMMENTATOR

Knighton rounding third! Here comes the throw from Hernandez! Knighton head first and safe at home!

POP

Dumb luck.

COLOR MAN

He actually ran through the stop sign at third.

POP

He didn't do a damn thing.

COLOR MAN

Are you kidding me?

POP

He was lucky.

As Pop's voice fades away, Cody chuckles to himself and shakes his head.

CODY

Yeah, right. Lucky, my ass.

Cody takes the ginger ale to the check out. Cynthia comes over to ring him up.

CYNTHIA

Is that all?

CODY

Yes, I think so.

CYNTHIA

That'll be \$5.26

Cody pulls some wadded up bills out of his pocket and hands Cynthia six dollars. Cynthia hands him back his change and looks at him curiously..

(CONT.)

CYNTHIA

You look familiar. Have you been in here before?

CODY

Maybe. My name's Cody.

CYNTHIA

Oh my god. Cody Knighton?

CODY

Yes, ma'am.

CYNTHIA

I knew your father and your two older brothers. Never got to meet you though. Y'all stopped coming out here some 25 years ago. And now I see you and Barry on the same weekend.

CODY

Yes ma'am. Andy was here too but he just left.

CYNTHIA

Sorry I missed him. And I was so sorry to hear about your father.

CODY

Thank you.

CYNTHIA

Well, it sure is good to finally meet you, Cody. I'm Cynthia, by the way.

CODY

I kinda figured that. Nice to meet you too.

CYNTHIA

Are you headed home too? Where is home for you?

CODY

No. We have the cabin for another night so I'll head to Austin in the morning.

(CONT.)

38 CONTINUED: (3)

38

CYNTHIA

Well, you come by and see me before
you leave.

CODY

OK. But I think we're gonna be
coming out here more often now.

CYNTHIA

Oh good! It'll be nice to catch up
with you boys.

CODY

Yes ma'am. See you later.

CYNTHIA

Bye, Cody. I'm looking forward to
it.

39 **EXT - BOAT DOCK - DAY**

39

Cody comes walking out to his bike and slips the ginger ale
into one of the saddlebags while taking out Pop's old hat
that Barry found in the shed. He starts up the bike and just
sits for a moment, looking around and taking in the lake and
the view. He puts on the hat, puts the bike in gear, and
takes off back up the road towards the cabin.

--END--