

WHAT COMES NEXT

by

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FADE IN:

EXT. AUGUSTA NATIONAL GOLF COURSE 18TH HOLE - DAY

KEVIN MC CANN (49) stands over his ball on the last hole of Augusta National Golf Course. A large crowd stands silently behind ropes. Kevin putts. The ball travels across the green and rolls effortlessly into the cup. The crowd goes wild. Kevin's reaction is classy- a combination of gratitude and joy.

EXT. PUTTING GREEN - DAY

Kevin walks through the caddies and players shaking hands.

ANNOUNCER #1 (O.S.)

What an amazing comeback for Kevin McCann, winner of the 2012 Masters.

ANNOUNCER #2 (O.S.)

If you had asked me at the beginning of the week to pick the winner, I wouldn't have guessed this in a million years.

EXT. FAIRWAY BLEACHERS - DAY

Kevin strides through the cheering crowd purposefully toward his beautiful wife, ELIZABETH MCCANN (49). They embrace for a long time. They kiss.

INT. CLUBHOUSE PRESS CONFERENCE - DAY

Kevin is wearing the green jacket at a podium. Golf officials are all around him. He is in the middle of his acceptance speech.

KEVIN

Everybody's got a dream-- and somebody's gotta fund it...

Laughter.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

I can't thank my sponsors at the Gigantic Golf Corporation enough for their unwavering support... because I wouldn't be here today without them.

Applause.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEVIN (CONT'D)

I'd like to say something to my family, and especially my extraordinary wife Elizabeth. I know all these years have been hard on us. Sometimes it seemed like I should give up. But you never asked me to do that. You have no idea how much I love you and how grateful I am to be sharing my life with you.

Applause.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

And I'm in such a good mood, I'd like to send a special thank you to my father in Pennsylvania who is probably not even watching this on television because he doesn't like golf.

Laughter.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Thanks for giving me good eye-hand coordination, Dad.

Applause.

The sound of a CAR HORN blasting interrupts the applause and jolts Kevin into reality.

CUT TO:

INT. SUV - DAY

Kevin is stopped at a green traffic light daydreaming. He pulls into the intersection as the light turns yellow. The car in back of him pulls around him and cuts him off, making road rage hand gestures.

EXT. PUTTING GREEN - DAY

Kevin stands over his ball. In the background are two other PROFESSIONAL GOLFERS, three CADDIES and a few SPECTATORS. It's a California landscape. The caddies are wearing smocks screen printed, "PGA Qualifying Tournament."

Kevin goes through his pre-shot routine. Just as he prepares to putt, the spacey voice of his friend TODD echoes in his mind.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TODD (O.S.)
 Before you putt say, "Hole, I give
 my ball to you."

Kevin steps back from the ball. He repeats his pre-shot routine. Just as he seems ready, he is interrupted by a different voice in his head with an Indian (Deepak Chopra) accent.

VOICE (O.S.)
 "Hole, I give my ball to you."

Kevin steps back from the ball again. He closes his eyes. He takes a breath and exhales.

Kevin opens his eyes and addresses the ball without hesitation. He putts.

EXTREME CLOSE UP of the rolling ball heading toward the hole.

KEVIN (O.S.)
 HoleIGiveMyBalltoYou, HoleIGiveMy
 Balltoyou, HoleIGiveMyBalltoYou.
 Come on you little bastard, go in
 the friggin' hole.

The ball rides the lip of the cup and stops two inches away. Someone in the small crowd GROANS.

EXT. PUTTING GREEN - DAY

Kevin takes the long walk to tap his ball into the cup. He hands his putter to his caddy. The caddy speaks, but Kevin hears only garbled sounds.

KEVIN'S CADDY
 WHA WHA WHA WHA BLAH BLAH BLAH...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. KEVIN'S MIND - DAYDREAM

A GOLF OFFICIAL in a golf cart races up to Kevin, hitting him with the golf cart, knocking him over. The players, caddies and spectators laugh and point at Kevin lying on the ground. The Golf Official gets out of the cart, looming over Kevin, and extends his hand. Kevin obediently takes his wallet out of his pocket and pulls out last year's PGA Tour card and hands it to him. The Golf Official tries to rip it in half, but it's plastic like a credit card, so he can't tear it up. The golf official throws the card on the ground and takes out a revolver and shoots holes through the card.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He gets back in the cart and zooms off, almost running over Kevin lying on the ground. The sound of laughter is roaring in Kevin's ears.

CUT TO:

EXT. CART PATH - DAY

Kevin is walking up the cart path toward the clubhouse. TODD HANTSON (48) catches up to him. He puts his hand on Kevin's shoulder.

TODD

I think "The Universe" has put you right where you belong.

Kevin ignores him and walks toward the clubhouse.

INT. CLUBHOUSE LOBBY - DAY

TODD (CONT'D)

Personally, I'd rather play the Nationwide than the PGA Tour.

INT. MEN'S LOCKER ROOM - DAY

They enter an exclusive locker room. Kevin opens a cedar lined locker to get his street shoes. Todd goes to the sink.

TODD (CONT'D)

On the Nationwide you can work on your game. The crowds are different. There's less pressure.

KEVIN

Less money.

TODD

Lotsa guys make a good living on the Nationwide.

KEVIN

(under his breath)

Those guys don't know the meaning of the words good living.

TODD

When we play in Scranton, I'm gonna take you up to Honesdale. There's a retreat near there where we can do yoga and meditate. They make great vegetarian food.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Kevin shoots him a dirty look.

TODD (CONT'D)

Trust me- meditation will do wonders for your putting. And when we golf in California, I'll introduce you to my guru. He's helped more guys--

Interrupting Todd.

KEVIN

Scranton is practically in my Dad's back yard.

Kevin spits out the word "Scranton."

TODD

Maybe he'll come watch the tournament.

KEVIN

And break his perfect record?

TODD

Well, he doesn't like to travel.

Interrupting Todd again.

KEVIN

I'm not going to golf in Scranton, Todd. I'm never going to meditate or do yoga with you. And I'm not doing Monday qualifiers to play on the Nationwide Tour.

Kevin exits the locker room.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

The Caddies are standing with the golf clubs by Kevin and Todd's cars, waiting to be paid.

TODD

If you're not going to play the Nationwide, what are you going to do?

Kevin and his caddy make eye contact.

KEVIN

I'll play the European Tour. Maybe Asia.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Kevin's caddy puts the clubs in the trunk. Kevin takes a briefcase out of his immaculately clean trunk, pulls out a pre-written check and hands it to him. Todd fumbles for his checkbook amid the trash of his trunk and starts to write a check.

TODD

I'm going to post-date this check.
Don't cash it until Monday, OK
brother?

TODD'S CADDY

No worries.

The caddies exit. Kevin and Todd shake hands.

KEVIN

Congratulations on your Tour card.
Send me a postcard from Scranton.

TODD

Send me a postcard from England...
or Singapore. You think Elizabeth
will go for you playing overseas?
That's a lot more expensive than
the Nationwide.

KEVIN

Elizabeth doesn't tell me how to
manage my career. See you back in
Albuquerque.

TODD

Next year, we should carpool, huh?
Reduce our carbon footprint.

Kevin gives Todd a non-committal wave and gets in his car.

INT. PROFESSOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Elizabeth and her bookish colleague CATHY DUNN (45) are looking out the window of Cathy's office at a New Mexico university campus. Elizabeth looks through binoculars. Cathy is taking pictures with a digital camera.

ELIZABETH

They're HUGE!

CATHY

Largest birds in North America.
There are less than two hundred of
them left in the wild.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ELIZABETH

I've never seen whooping cranes on campus before.

CATHY

They fly from Idaho to New Mexico at this time of the year.

ELIZABETH

But why did they stop on campus?

CATHY

I don't know. Maybe the juvenile is tired of flying.

Cathy takes the binoculars back and hands Elizabeth the camera.

EXT. CAMPUS - DAY

Three whooping cranes standing on a campus quad.

INT. PROFESSOR'S OFFICE - DAY

CATHY (CONT'D)

There should be four of them. That's the male and female with their baby. Whooping Cranes mate for life. They both sat on that egg. They both raise their young.

ELIZABETH

You have such a cool job.

CATHY

There's one more female in Idaho. She should be with them. I hope she didn't hit a power line.

ELIZABETH

How does that whooping crane get her mate to raise the kids equally? What does she know that I don't?

CATHY

How did Kevin do at Q-School?

ELIZABETH

He didn't call.

CATHY

Does that mean bad news?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ELIZABETH

I hope not.

CATHY

So, what happens if he doesn't get a Tour card? I know nothing about golf.

Elizabeth ignores the question and points into the sky.

ELIZABETH

I think I see the other female.

CATHY

Where?

Cathy drops the binoculars and looks up.

CATHY (CONT'D)

Oh, my God. She's OK. That's her!

Elizabeth puts her arm around Cathy's shoulder.

EXT. SKY - DAY

A huge white and black Whooping Crane flies gracefully through the air and prepares to join the other three cranes.

ELIZABETH (O.S.)

It's OK, Mommy. Your baby's fine.

CUT TO:

INT. MOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Kevin is lying on the bed of a cheap looking motel room in his boxer shorts dialing his cellphone.

INT. KEVIN AND ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Elizabeth is wearing a camisole and pajama bottoms. She is wearing reading glasses while working on her laptop. She retrieves her ringing cellphone from her purse.

ELIZABETH

My love.

KEVIN

It is I.

ELIZABETH

Where are you?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEVIN

Arizona. I'm too tired to keep driving.

ELIZABETH

How did it go?

KEVIN

Badly.

ELIZABETH

Did you get a Nationwide card?

KEVIN

No.

ELIZABETH

What are you going to do?

KEVIN

I don't want to talk about golf right now, my love. Tell me what you're doing. How was your day?

ELIZABETH

Four whooping cranes landed on campus today. In the middle of the quad.

KEVIN

What's a whooping crane?

ELIZABETH

It's the biggest bird in North America. They're almost extinct.

KEVIN

What are you wearing?

ELIZABETH

Don't you want to hear about the whooping cranes?

KEVIN

I'd rather think about what you're wearing.

ELIZABETH

My red silky camisole. And the fleece pajama bottoms.

KEVIN

They're soft. But not really sexy.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ELIZABETH

What would you like me to wear
around the house? Fishnets and
high heels?

KEVIN

Yes, please.

ELIZABETH

So, what are you wearing?

KEVIN

Boxer shorts.

ELIZABETH

Hmm. Well, I've got news for you--
they're not soft-- and they're not
sexy, either.

KEVIN

Do that again. Make that sound.

ELIZABETH

Hmmmm, what sound?

KEVIN

That one.

ELIZABETH

Hmmmmmm? Why don't they have
lingerie stores for men? Victor's
Little Secret.

KEVIN

Victor's Big Secret, honey. Keep
making that sound.

ELIZABETH

Hmmmmmm.

KEVIN

If I was there, I would take your
face in my hands, and I would kiss
your lips so softly.

ELIZABETH

Uhm hmm...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

KEVIN

And I would take your lower lip
between my lips and I would tug on
it, kissing and nibbling your
mouth, and I would kiss your neck
and slowly move my mouth down to
your beautiful, wondrous breasts,
licking your skin every inch of the
way.

ELIZABETH

And what would I be doing?

KEVIN

You would be making that sound...

There is a LOUD KNOCK on Elizabeth's bedroom door.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE KEVIN & ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

DANNY (10) is knocking at his mother's bedroom door.

DANNY

Mom? Can I come in?

INT. KEVIN AND ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

ELIZABETH

Not right now, honey, what do you
need?

DANNY (O.S.)

I want to say good night.

ELIZABETH

OK, honey, good night.

DANNY (O.S.)

No, I want you to come to my room
and say good night. Are you talking
to Dad?

ELIZABETH

OK, Danny, I'll be there in a
couple of minutes.

DANNY (O.S.)

Are you talking to Dad?

ELIZABETH

Just go to your room, I'll be there
in a couple of minutes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

To Kevin.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)
We have to soundproof this room.

KEVIN
I know. It's a big project. I'll
get to it. I promise.

ELIZABETH
Could we at least get some kind of
soundproofed door?

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE KEVIN & ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Danny is sitting on the floor listening, his ear on the door.

DANNY
Are you talking to Dad, Mom? I want
to talk to him.

INT. KEVIN AND ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

ELIZABETH
Danny wants to say hi.

KEVIN
Tell him to go to his room.

ELIZABETH
I already did that. He wants to
talk to you.

KEVIN
Tell him I said to go to his room.

ELIZABETH
Your Dad said to go to your room.
He'll see you tomorrow.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE KEVIN & ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

DANNY
O.K. Mom. Good night.

Danny doesn't move.

INT. KEVIN AND ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

ELIZABETH
(whispering)
Should I go open the door?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEVIN (O.S)

No.

ELIZABETH

But, I think he's still listening.

KEVIN

Of course he's still listening.

ELIZABETH

So, I should go open the door.

KEVIN

No. I'll have a little "Man to Boy" talk with him tomorrow.

ELIZABETH

So, we should stop.

KEVIN

Hell no, he can't hear me, I'm in Arizona.

ELIZABETH

But, he can hear me, I'm six feet away from the door.

KEVIN

You're just laughing, honey.

ELIZABETH

Oh really, what do I have to laugh about?

KEVIN

Because you love dirty Limmericks.

Elizabeth laughs.

ELIZABETH

I don't know any dirty Limmericks.

KEVIN

Sure you do. "There once was a man from Nantucket."

ELIZABETH

I don't like that dirty Limmerick, Kevin.

KEVIN

Which one do you like?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ELIZABETH
I don't like any dirty Limericks.

KEVIN
You have something against the
Irish?

ELIZABETH
I think the Irish wrote poems other
than dirty Limericks.

KEVIN
Like what?

ELIZABETH
Have you ever heard of Dylan
Thomas? "Do not go gentle into that
good night? Rage, rage against the
dying of the light."

KEVIN
Oh, honey, was he from Nantucket?

Kevin ejaculates off screen.

ELIZABETH
Did you come?

KEVIN
Oh, God, Yes.

Elizabeth continues to laugh.

INT HALLWAY OUTSIDE KEVIN & ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Danny still has his ear pressed to the door.

INT. KEVIN AND ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

ELIZABETH
(whispering)
What time will you be home from
Nantucket?

KEVIN
Not soon enough, my love.

ELIZABETH
I'll see you tomorrow. Drive
careful.

KEVIN
I love you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Elizabeth walks to the door and flings it open. Danny falls onto her bedroom floor.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE KEVIN & ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

ELIZABETH

You are so busted, you loser.

INT. KEVIN & ELIZABETH'S KITCHEN - 7:30 a.m.

Elizabeth is making eggs. Kevin walks in the door carrying his suitcase and drops it by the washing machine.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

What are you doing here?

KEVIN

I woke up in the middle of the night with this overpowering desire to see you. To tell you something.

Kevin takes her face in his hands and kisses her very sweetly. They hug and giggle.

ELIZABETH

What is it?

KEVIN (CONT'D)

I wrote this brilliant Limmerick and I wanted you to be the first one to hear it.

ELIZABETH

I don't have time for dirty Limmericks. Are you hungry?

KEVIN

Starving.

Elizabeth and Kevin are kissing when ZACK(15) and Danny enter the kitchen for breakfast. The boys are dressed for school.

ZACK

Will you guys stop making out? It's gross to watch old people do that.

DANNY

How was Q School?

Danny hugs his father.

KEVIN

I didn't learn a thing.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ZACK

Did you get a card?

KEVIN

No.

ZACK

Wow! Does that suck or what?

KEVIN

Go eat in the dining room. Now.

Elizabeth dumps some eggs on Zack's plate. He exits.

DANNY

Will you drive me to school?

KEVIN

I've been driving all night, Danny.

Danny makes a pouting face.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Go eat in the dining room with
Zack. I want to talk to your Mom.

Elizabeth hands Danny a plate. He looks at it and doesn't
move.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

I will pick you up from school,
Danny, but we're going to have a
talk about respecting your parent's
privacy.

DANNY

Can we go putting?

KEVIN

Maybe. Depends on how our talk
goes.

Danny exits the kitchen. Elizabeth hands Kevin some
scrambled eggs. He refuses them.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

You eat those, honey. I'll make my
own.

Kevin repetitively cracks half a dozen eggs into a bowl.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ELIZABETH

If you eat all those eggs, you
won't live to play the Senior Tour.

KEVIN

I've decided to qualify for the
European Tour.

Kevin beats his eggs loudly.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

To play on the Nationwide, I'd
actually have to play in Monday
qualifiers. I'd rather play Europe
or Asia, again.

ELIZABETH

That so expensive.

KEVIN

I kicked ass in Asia. I think I
won more money there than in
Europe.

ELIZABETH

You'd be halfway around the world.

KEVIN

It's not like I'm going to work on
the space shuttle.

ELIZABETH

(deadpan)

Do you have sponsors who will pay
for it?

KEVIN

I'll pay my own expenses if I have
to.

ELIZABETH

What if I don't agree?

KEVIN

What do you mean?

ELIZABETH

What if I said you can't spend the
money?

Kevin is speechless.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

I don't want you to spend the last of our savings golfing in Europe, Kevin. I mean, we're almost out of money.

KEVIN

No we're not. We have a million dollars at least.

ELIZABETH

In retirement accounts. College trust funds.

KEVIN

Right.

ELIZABETH

We can't spend that.

KEVIN

I can't golf without money, Elizabeth. If I have to use my past winnings to keep my career going, that's what I have to do.

Elizabeth stares at him for a few moments. She stands up, leaves her eggs unfinished on the table and exits the kitchen.

INT. PROFESSOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Cathy is sitting at her desk. Elizabeth enters.

ELIZABETH

Are the cranes still here?

CATHY

Nope.

ELIZABETH

Fuck.

CATHY

Hey bird lover, what's up with you?

ELIZABETH

Next time you get all depressed because you forgot to get married and have children, remember me in this moment.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CATHY

Why?

ELIZABETH

I am the Chairman of the Women's Studies Department and I have the most 1950's marriage of any woman on this campus.

CATHY

I thought you and Kevin had a great relationship.

ELIZABETH

Our relationship is great. Our marriage is crazy. My husband is gone half the year. He's not making any money and he's about to blow the last of our savings golfing in Europe. No woman in her right mind would let her husband do that. But I will! Mrs. Feminist Fraud of the Year.

CATHY

Betsy- half the women on this campus would crawl over broken glass backwards for miles just to watch your husband get out of the shower once.

ELIZABETH

Be serious.

CATHY

I am serious.

ELIZABETH

You think all women are as pathetic as I am?

CATHY

Absolutely. So, did you mean that? You guys are running out of money? I thought you were rich.

ELIZABETH

We were rich. All we have left are retirement accounts and college trust funds which he shouldn't even think of spending.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CATHY

I thought he had sponsors who gave him money?

ELIZABETH

Not for a while.

CATHY

So, what comes next?

ELIZABETH

Isn't that a Stephen Dobyns poem, What Comes Next?

CATHY

I wouldn't know.

ELIZABETH

What comes next? Kevin runs out of money in Europe. He either finds a sponsor, wins a tournament or he quits golf.

A moment of silence.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

And the moment I say that I feel guilty. But, I'm right. Right?

CATHY

Wow. So that's what it's like to be married, huh?

CUT TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

Kevin is sitting by himself in a fancy restaurant with a glass of water in front of him.

The WAITER walks over to Kevin's table.

WAITER

Excuse me, sir, are you going to be ordering?

Kevin looks at the time on his cellphone.

KEVIN

I just have to make a phone call.

The waiter walks away.

INT. EXECUTIVE OFFICE - DAY

MINDY
Executive Office.

KEVIN (O.S.)
This is Kevin McCann. Is this
Mindy?

MINDY
Oh, hi Kevin. How are you?

KEVIN
I'm in L.A. for the day and I was
supposed to meet Greer for lunch.
He hasn't arrived.

MINDY
Hold on just a sec, Kev, let me
check.

Mindy walks into her boss's office. GREER WILLIAMS (65) an
L.A. cool exec is sitting behind his desk.

MINDY (CONT'D)
Aren't you supposed to be having
lunch with Kevin McCann?

GREER
I told him yes, but I told you to
cancel. He's on my "no-lunch" list.

MINDY
You did not tell me he's on your
"no lunch" list.

GREER
He just wants money. Tell him I'm
out of the country for six months.

MINDY
I like Kevin. I'm not going to lie
to him.

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

Kevin sits on hold. Waiting.

MINDY(O.S.)
I'm so sorry Kevin, something came
up- Greer forgot to tell me to call
you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEVIN
Oh. Can I reschedule?

INT. EXECUTIVE OFFICE - DAY

MINDY
I'm sorry, I'll have to get back to
you. He's going out of the country
for , like, six months.

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

Kevin gets up from the table. He walks past the waiter
without making eye contact.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

INSERT GRAPHIC -- "THREE MONTHS LATER"

Kevin is lying on a bed in an American business hotel room.
He is watching the golf channel. The phone rings.

KEVIN
Hello.

INT. HOTEL LOBBY - NIGHT

TODD
Congratulations Mr. McCann, you
made your first Monday qualifier on
the Nationwide Tour! Come
celebrate.

Todd is on the hotel lobby phone by the front desk. He is
with ADAM (28) and DAVE (29) two young golfers who are
flirting with the FEMALE FRONT DESK CLERK.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

KEVIN
Nah.

TODD
Why didn't you go to Europe? Last
time I talked to you, you were all
set to qualify.

KEVIN
I didn't want to come home from
Europe and find out I was divorced.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TODD

Gabe Swanson is having a Bar-B-Que at his RV. Everybody will be there. Come have dinner with us. It's what makes the Nationwide so much fun.

KEVIN

Hanging out with the God Squad is fun?

TODD

It's not an outreach thing. It's a Bar-B-Que.

KEVIN

It's a Bar-B-Que until somebody starts singing Koom Buy Yah.

TODD

It's just dinner, Kevin.

KEVIN

It's never just dinner, Todd. It's always the last supper.

INT. RENTAL CAR - NIGHT

Kevin and Todd are in the front seat, Dave and Adam in back.

KEVIN

Do you think Gabe knows anything about faith healing? Maybe he could do a laying on of hands to improve my putting.

TODD

Are you going to behave yourself tonight?

To Dave and Adam in the back seat.

TODD (CONT'D)

Kevin is an atheist evangelist. Preaching the lack of God to the faithful.

DAVE

You don't like the Swansons?

KEVIN

I love the Swansons. Gabe and Lori are the perfect PGA couple.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEVIN (CONT'D)

She caddies for him. The whole family goes on tour. They home school the kids in the RV. The only thing I don't like about Gabe is that he's never heard of the First Amendment.

DAVE

What do you mean?

KEVIN

I have a Constitutional right to burn in hell.

ADAM

I've been studying Buddhism. I meditate every day. It helps my golf game.

KEVIN

Did Todd tell you to say that? He paid you money to say that to me.

TODD

No, I'm telling you, Kevin, golf is a spiritual game. Everybody's got their own personal connection to the Divine.

KEVIN

Well, I belong to the Church of Sam Snead.

EXT. GOLF CLUB PARKING LOT - NIGHT

There are about five Recreational Vehicles (RV's) parked in a corner of the golf course parking lot. A bunch of people are standing around having a Bar-b-que, mostly MALE GOLFERS, a few WIVES and CHILDREN. There are propane lamps in the parking lot to provide heat.

Kevin and Todd are sitting in canvas chairs with the hosts GABRIEL (35) and LORI (33). Adam and Dave are standing by the food table eating chips out of a bowl and drinking bottles of beer.

KEVIN

So, my buddy Todd here gives me this idiotic piece of advice from a book called "Golf for Enlightenment..."

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TODD

Did you even read the book? It's a great book...

KEVIN

...which was written by Deepak Chopra who never entered a PGA Tournament in his life. And every time I went to putt at Q-school, I kept hearing Deepak Chopra saying, "Hole, I give my ball to you."

DAVE

(Indian accent)

"Hole, I give my ball to you."

KEVIN

Exactly.

DAVE

(a little drunk)

That's scary, that you could forget how to putt.

KEVIN

I haven't forgotten how to putt, junior. I just need to empty my mind of all the garbage advice like "Hole I give my ball to you."

ADAM

Eastern religions believe when you empty the mind you achieve oneness with God.

GABE

I feel the presence of Jesus every time I putt. I thank him for all the gifts he's given me. I think of Jesus before every swing I take, Kevin.

There's a deadly silence.

DAVE

(slurred speech)

I carry a St. Victor medal in my golf bag.

TODD

St. Victor?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DAVE

The patron saint of cabinetmakers.

TODD

How does that help your golf game?

DAVE

He also protects against lightning strikes. There's no patron saint of golf and I like the sound of his name. Victor. Victory.

ADAM

I don't think a professional golfer has ever been struck by lightning, Dave. Only amateurs.

DAVE

Are you dissing my saint?

Kevin stands up abruptly.

KEVIN

Alright, I'm going to catch a ride back with Todd. You're leaving, right? Thanks for your hospitality Lori. Good luck tomorrow, Gabe.

They shake hands.

GABE

Good luck to you, too, Kevin. I'll say a little prayer for your concentration.

KEVIN

Would you pray that I win the tournament?

GABE

How about I pray that you do your best?

EXT. GOLF COURSE - DAY

CLOSE UP of a squirrel in a tree sitting on a limb as if it is watching the golf tournament.

SQUIRREL POV -- Kevin and Todd are standing around the putting green. There are THREE CADDIES and many SPECTATORS.

Gabe moves forward to putt. His ball is near the edge of the green, on the fairway grass.

EXT. PUTTING GREEN - DAY

GABE'S CADDY

You could use the 3 wood from here,
instead of the putter.

GABE

I was thinking that, too.

He takes the 3 wood from the caddy and looks at the line from in back of the ball. Gabe hits a putting stroke and watches the ball go straight for the hole and plop in.

GABE (CONT'D)

(whispers)

Thank you, Jesus.

Cheers and applause from the crowd. Kevin takes his putter from his Caddy.

EXT. TREE LIMB - DAY

SQUIRREL POV -- ZOOM IN on a second squirrel on the fairway moving purposefully toward the green, closing in on Kevin. The squirrel in the tree starts to make loud, chattering noises.

EXT. FAIRWAY - DAY

A YOUNG BOY with a video camera is standing on a grassy knoll near the green. ZOOM IN on little Abraham Zapruder videotaping Kevin as he assesses his putt.

EXT. TREE - DAY

SQUIRREL POV -- Kevin is moving around the green as the squirrel on the ground moves closer and closer, charging and stopping until it reaches the putting green six feet from Kevin's shoes.

EXT. FAIRWAY - DAY

CLOSE UP of SPECTATOR #1, an older, overweight white male wearing sun glasses. He whispers to the person next to him.

SPECTATOR #1

That squirrel ain't right.

EXT. PUTTING GREEN - DAY

Kevin looks over his shoulder in the direction of the loud chattering noise coming from the squirrel in the tree and suddenly notices a RABID SQUIRREL a few feet from him shaking and foaming at the mouth like a heroin junkie.

The squirrel charges toward Kevin. He runs away from it in a circle on the putting green. The squirrel chases after him. Kevin finally stomps his feet and makes a loud growling noise.

KEVIN

Go! Shooo!

The squirrel runs a few feet away, stops, turns around and looks straight at Kevin. He walks slowly toward him like a gunslinger in a spaghetti western.

Kevin raises his putter and growls again.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Get outta here! Go!

The squirrel stops and looks at Kevin. Kevin looks back at the squirrel. Suddenly, the squirrel lunges at him. Kevin swings his putter in a circle in front of himself and the squirrel runs away but it turns back around and charges Kevin again.

Kevin raises his putter over his head and brings it down on the squirrel's body. He does this three times quickly, gouging holes in putting green until he finally kills the squirrel.

EXT. FAIRWAY - DAY

CLOSE UP of young Abraham Zapruder catching the whole thing on video. Mouth wide open like Munch's "The Scream."

EXT. PUTTING GREEN - DAY

Kevin stops swinging. His khakis are splattered with blood. Kevin looks at his putter covered with blood and hair. He throws his head back and shakes his bloody putter at the sky.

KEVIN

WHY ARE YOU PUNISHING ME???? WHAT
HAVE I DONE?

INSERT -- VIDEO CAMERA SCREEN

Grainy video footage on the boy's camera of Kevin's blood specked face as he starts to laugh.

KEVIN

I must be the first golfer in the history of professional golf to be attacked by a rabid squirrel.

EXT. FAIRWAY - DAY

The crowd's stunned reaction. A spectator shouts at Kevin.

SPECTATOR #2

What's so funny about killing a poor defenseless animal?

KEVIN

It was rabid.

SPECTATOR #2

It was running away from you and you lunged at it!

KEVIN

It was foaming at the mouth.

SPECTATOR #3

Maybe he just ate some grass- or fertilizer!

KEVIN

But it was shaking-- and--

SPECTATOR #4

Maybe he was hungry.

The spectator with the sunglasses comes to Kevin defense.

SPECTATOR #1

Will you people get a life? That squirrel was foaming at the mouth and chasing him! It was rabid.

SPECTATOR #4

It was just being friendly.

EXT. PUTTING GREEN - DAY

The other golfers and caddies crowd protectively around Kevin.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEVIN'S CADDY takes the bloody putter out of Kevin's hand and begins to wipe it with a towel. Lori pulls out some hand sanitizer from Gabe's golf bag.

LORI

Put your hands out, killer. You don't want to take chances with rabies.

Gabe, Todd and the caddies make ad lib jokes about Kevin's swing technique, what endorsements he might get from Scotty Cameron over how well his putter worked as a murder weapon. They all pass the hand sanitizer around and rub it on their hands. It looks a little like a circle jerk from a distance.

A GOLF OFFICIAL drives up to the scene in a golf cart.

He looks disapprovingly at the torn up putting green and says into his radio:

GOLF OFFICIAL

Ranger to Base. We got major turf damage- Some golfer whacked a squirrel on the fifth hole. There's blood contamination, too.

In the background, clearly visible, a golf cart carrying a local NEWS CAMERAMAN drives up the cart path. A REPORTER gets out of the cart and starts talking to the crowd.

GOLF OFFICIAL (CONT'D)

Better get a greens keeper out here ASAP. Over.

He pronounces it "Ay-sap."

KEVIN

My ball is missing.

SPECTATOR #3 (O.S.)

It's over here. You kicked it when you lunged at that squirrel.

The spectator throws the ball in Kevin's direction. It almost hits him.

EXT. CART PATH - DAY

The FATHER of young Abraham Zapruder is talking to the News Reporter who is watching the playback on the boy's mini-DV camera screen.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FATHER

And my son caught the whole thing
on video.

NEWS REPORTER

We want to buy this tape from you.

FATHER

How much?

EXT. PUTTING GREEN - DAY

GOLF OFFICIAL

Penalty stroke for moving your
ball.

KEVIN

Don't you think these are unusual
circumstances?

GOLF OFFICIAL

You kicked your ball. I don't care
why.

Kevin's Caddy appears with the cleaned putter. He hands it to
Kevin wordlessly. It is bent.

GABE

Hey Kevin, do you want to use my
putter for this hole?

Kevin looks at his bent putter.

KEVIN

It's a penalty stroke to use
someone else's putter. I don't
think I can afford it, but thanks
anyway.

Kevin tries to bend the putter back and it breaks off in his
hand.

Lori fishes a roll of duct tape out of Gabe's golf bag and
hands it to Kevin. He takes it in amazement.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

I'm not even going to ask why you
have duct tape in your bag, Lori,
but I love you for it.

LORI

Always be prepared.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

As Kevin is trying to repair his putter with the duct tape, Gabe lays his hand on Kevin's shoulder.

GABE

God isn't punishing you, Kevin . He loves you. Even when bad things happen to you, remember that God loves you.

KEVIN

I don't believe in God.

GABE

Then who were you yelling at in the sky?

KEVIN

I was yelling at the "Golf Gods."
It was a joke.

GABE

Well, the real God loves you, Kevin. And I'll keep praying for you until you know that in your heart.

Kevin inspects the taped putter. He watches the GREENSKEEPER put the bloody carcass of the squirrel into a garbage bag. As Kevin steps forward to repair the marks he gouged in the green, he makes eye contact with the disapproving crowd.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. KEVIN'S MIND - DAYDREAM

The squirrel is now a HUGE MONSTER, like Goliath in the David and Goliath story from the Bible. Kevin is an incredibly small human, surrounded by a hostile crowd. He is dressed only in a loincloth, bare chested, and he has a quiver slung over his back. In the quiver are a few golf clubs- a putter, a 3 iron, and a sand wedge.

The Squirrel Monster roars. Foamy slime pours out of its mouth.

Kevin whips the 3 iron out of his quiver, drops a golf ball on the ground and swings. The ball hits the squirrel right in the groin. Hard.

The Squirrel roars in pain and holds his crotch.

SUBTITLE: "OOOOOOOOH, MY NUTS."

Kevin hits another ball with the 3 iron, which hits the squirrel in exactly the same spot. The squirrel drops to his knees, still holding his crotch.

Kevin takes the sand wedge out of his quiver and hits another ball. This time it pops up in the air and hits the squirrel right between the eyes. The squirrel begins to fall like the statue of a deposed dictator. Kevin tries to get out of the way, but the giant dead squirrel lands right on top of him. Only Kevin's twitching feet stick out from the squirrel's carcass. The crowd applauds, polite golf applause.

CUT TO:

INT. - OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE BAR - NIGHT

Kevin and Todd are sitting at the bar. Kevin drinks a pint of beer. He has beer foam on his lip. Todd has a soda. They stare at the TV which is tuned to a local news channel.

TODD

Here it is.

To the FEMALE BARTENDER

TODD (CONT'D)

Could you turn that up?

INSERT TV SET --(NEWS REPORT)

A reporter stands outdoors at the golf course.

NEWS REPORTER

...a story about a squirrel who was a little bit too curious about the world of professional golf. Watch out squirrels: this is what happens when you interrupt someone's putting.

Video footage of Kevin beating the hell out of the squirrel.

NEWS REPORTER'S VOICE

There are some who think Mr. McCann may have been acting in self defense.

CLOSE-UP of Spectator #1

SPECTATOR #1

That squirrel was rabid.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NEWS REPORTER'S VOICE
And some who think not.

A two-shot of Spectators #2 and #3.

SPECTATOR #2
Poor little thing was hungry.

SPECTATOR #3
It was just being friendly.

NEWS REPORTER'S VOICE
No one was more confused by the
incident than Mr. McCann himself.

Video footage of Kevin yelling into the sky.

KEVIN
"Why are you punishing me? What
have I done?"

News Reporter standing by the green.

NEWS REPORTER
While we can't confirm if God was
punishing Mr. McCann, our sources
tell us that no rodent in North
America has ever tested positive
for rabies. The top scorer in
today's round of golf--

INT. - OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE BAR - NIGHT

Todd motions for the bartender to come over to them.

TODD
I don't drink alcohol. But, if my
buddy wants a shot, I'm buying.

KEVIN
No thanks, Todd, I'm done.

BARTENDER
I love squirrels. They're so cute
the way they hold their little
hands.

KEVIN
They're not so cute when they're
rabid.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BARTENDER

Are you sure there was something wrong with it?

KEVIN

Do I look like the kind of guy who would kill a cute little squirrel for no reason?

BARTENDER

Anybody can be a killer.

Kevin's cellphone rings. He looks at the number.

KEVIN

It's my sponsor.

Kevin answers the phone.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Hi Mike.

VOICE (O.S.)

Kevin, how are you? Listen, about that news report of you and the squirrel-- I'm sure it seemed like the right thing to do at the time but... it's not an image we can afford to have for the Gigantic Golf Corporation. I mean, you were wearing our hat when you killed that squirrel. We don't want to send a message that we endorse cruelty to animals. We're awfully sorry Kevin, I know we've had a long relationship, we've been there for you since the beginning, but we have no choice. We have to cancel your sponsorship. Kevin? Kevin?

Kevin hangs up.

KEVIN

I just lost my sponsor.

TODD

You can't fill a cup that's full.

KEVIN

What?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TODD

You can't put anything in a closed fist, Kevin.

KEVIN

I never know what the fuck you're talking about.

Todd writes a phone number on a bar coaster.

TODD

I can see the universe at work in your life, Kevin. But you need help to understand why all this is happening to you. I'd like to be the one to help you, but I think you need someone with more stature than me. Than I. Or is it me? This is my guru's phone number. I know he can help you. He's not just my spiritual guide. This guy gave me a lot of money. To golf. He saved my game.

KEVIN

Why didn't you say that before? You think he'd sponsor me?

TODD

You can't ask him for money. You have to accept his spiritual guidance and have faith that the money will flow to you.

Todd slides the coaster toward Kevin. Kevin looks at it.

TODD (CONT'D)

When the student is ready, the teacher appears.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Kevin is laying on the bed in his boxer shorts staring at the ceiling. The coaster is on the nightstand. He leans over to turn off the light and throws the coaster in the trash. He lays in the darkness.

There is a soft knock at the door. Kevin turns on the light and gets out of bed. He walks over to the closed door.

KEVIN

Who is it?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TODD

Kevin, it's me. Let me in.

Kevin opens the door. Todd is standing there in his pajamas holding his laptop.

TODD (CONT'D)

You're never going to believe what I found on the internet.

KEVIN

What?

Todd walks past him into the room.

TODD

Why don't we ever share a room? We're both broke. We should share a room next time.

KEVIN

Tell me what you found on the internet.

TODD

A Dictionary of Symbolism for Animals. What do you think the squirrel represents?

KEVIN

Oh, for God's sake Todd.

TODD

What does the squirrel do?

KEVIN

Ruin people's careers. Destroy civilization. Piss in your attic. What?

TODD

They gather nuts!

KEVIN

So?

TODD

That symbolizes saving for the future! You were attacked by the animal that symbolizes the importance of having a nest egg. Don't you think that's amazing?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TODD (CONT'D)

The squirrel is focused on the material. Not the spiritual. And so are you.

KEVIN

Are you trying to make me feel better? Cause you're not.

TODD

I found a power animal for you to counterbalance the squirrel energy.

Todd puts the computer on the night stand and notices the trash can by Kevin's bed. He sees the coaster with the guru's phone number and takes it out of the trash.

TODD (CONT'D)

Why did you throw this away?

KEVIN

I really do appreciate everything you're trying to do for me, Todd. I really do. All the emotional support. The pep talks. You're a really good friend.

TODD

But you threw this away.

KEVIN

I'm never gonna call your guru. Even if he has more money than Bill Gates. I can't pretend to believe in all this spiritual bullshit. I just don't.

TODD

Suit yourself.

He goes to the door.

KEVIN

Aren't you gonna tell me my power animal?

Todd exits the room and slams the door.

Kevin walks out in the hallway after him.

EXT. HOTEL HALLWAY - NIGHT

KEVIN

What's my power animal?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TODD
What do you care?

KEVIN
I want to know.

Todd stops in the elevator bank.

TODD
Why? You don't believe in all this
spiritual bullshit.

KEVIN
Because I keep seeing that stupid
squirrel.

Kevin imitates the squirrel. He shakes and sticks his
tongue out, crosses his eyes, puts his hands in front of his
face, making crazy chattering squirrel noises.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
I'd like to replace that image with
something else. What's my power
animal?

TODD
The crane.

KEVIN
The whooping crane?

TODD
Any crane.

KEVIN
What does the crane symbolize?

TODD
Vigilance, intelligence. The
ability to enter into higher
states.

KEVIN
Interesting coincidence.

TODD
What?

Todd gets in the elevator.

KEVIN
Elizabeth saw a bunch of whooping
cranes on campus this year.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KEVIN (CONT'D)

She's going to Bosque Del Apache over spring break with the boys to see them.

TODD

There are no coincidences.

The elevator doors close.

INT. AIRCRAFT - COACH CLASS - SUNSET

Kevin is seated on the aisle. The FLIGHT ATTENDANT is picking up trash from the passengers. Kevin hands her his cup, napkin, snack wrapper. Their eyes meet.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT

You're a golfer, aren't you?

KEVIN

Yes.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT

I saw you on TV. That squirrel... thing.

KEVIN

It wasn't the highlight of my career.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT

We all feel like that sometimes.

KEVIN

Like life is a rabid squirrel and we have to kill it with our putter?

FLIGHT ATTENDANT

No. Like God is punishing us. You reminded me of Job in the Bible, yelling into the sky, "Why are you punishing me?" It was the most authentic emotion I've ever seen in a sporting event.

KEVIN

Oh that. I don't believe in God. It was a joke.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT

Oh, I don't think so. It looked real to me.

She shakes her head and walks away.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEVIN
It was a joke.

INT. AIRCRAFT - COACH CLASS - NIGHT

Kevin is sleeping in his seat.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. PUTTING GREEN - DREAM - DAY

Kevin hits a putt. It doesn't go in the hole. He picks up the ball and puts it back where it was.

KEVIN
Hey, guys, I'm going to take a mulligan on this putt.

WIDE SHOT of players around a green, caddies, a golf official. It's a tournament.

TODD
You can't take a mulligan on a putt, Kevin.

KEVIN
Oh, come on. Just this once.

GOLF OFFICIAL
There are no mulligans in professional golf.

GABE
Wait guys. Let's appeal this to a higher authority.

EXT. BUNKER - DAY

JESUS is sitting on the ground in the bunker, surrounded by squirrels. There is a squirrel on his shoulder. He is doodling in the sand with his finger.

GABE
Jesus.

JESUS
Yes, Gabe.

GABE
The Rules of Golf say that Kevin can't take a mulligan on a putt. Especially in a tournament.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GABE (CONT'D)

Would you tell Kevin there are no mulligans in professional golf?

JESUS

Who among you wouldn't like a second chance sometimes? Let he who is without sin cast the first ball.

Somebody throws a golf ball at Jesus. Then about a hundred golf balls are hurled at him.

GOLF OFFICIAL

Get out of the bunker, Jesus.
You're ruining the game.

CUT TO:

INT. AIRCRAFT - COACH CLASS - NIGHT

Kevin wakes up. He unbuckles his seat belt and walks toward the rear of the aircraft.

INT. AIRCRAFT - GALLEY

Kevin tests the lavatory door which is locked. Flight Attendant #1 and FLIGHT ATTENDANT #2 are making coffee. Kevin touches Flight Attendant #1 on the sleeve.

KEVIN

Excuse me.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT #1

What can I get you?

KEVIN

Nothing. You know, that thing you heard me say on TV?

FLIGHT ATTENDANT #1

Why is God punishing me?

KEVIN

Right. I want you to understand why I said it.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT #1

OK.

KEVIN

Some people have this attitude that Golf is more than a sport.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Like it's some kind of spiritual experience. And no other sport compares to it. There are players who think when they make a good shot, that they've connected with "The Divine."

FLIGHT ATTENDANT #1

I've seen lots of athletes thank God when they perform well.

KEVIN

That's different. They're thanking the God they go to church to worship. In golf, there are Golf Gods. They're more like Greek Gods: capricious, whimsical, (pause) psychotic. They love you one hole. They hate you the next.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT #1

Uh huh.

KEVIN

So, when I said, "Why are you punishing me?" I was shouting at the "Golf Gods." It was a joke.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT #1

I think you believe that God is punishing you.

KEVIN

But I don't believe in God.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT #1

That's what you think.

The Flight Attendant turns around in the galley and faces away from Kevin. A PASSENGER exits the lavatory.

Kevin is about to go in the lavatory when a KID cuts him off. The flight attendant's backs are turned in the galley so they don't realize he is still standing there.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT #2

My ex-husband was obsessed with golf. It ruined our marriage.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT #1

How?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

FLIGHT ATTENDENT #2

It was like an addiction. All he wanted to do was golf. I took lessons- so we could spend time together. I couldn't hit the ball and he hated golfing with me. And then he had an affair with my instructor.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT #1

I'm so sorry.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT #2

The only thing I know about my next husband is that he will NOT be a golfer.

The Flight Attendants turn around during this last line. Kevin makes uncomfortable eye contact, gives them a lame little "wave" as he waits by the lavatory. The kid exits the lavatory and hits Kevin right between the eyes with the door. He ducks into the lavatory holding his head.

INT. SYNAGOGUE LOBBY - NIGHT

Elizabeth and THE RABBI are having a little conversation as it's her turn to say good night.

RABBI

Bring the boys next time.

ELIZABETH

My oldest is an atheist like his Dad. Like my Dad.

RABBI

It's better to drag them to services when they're young so they have something to return to after they're done rebelling.

ELIZABETH

Zack would never come.

RABBI

You're his mother. If you bring him, he has to come.

EXT. SYNAGOGUE PARKING LOT - NIGHT

A really good looking guy, ROBERT (55) catches up with Elizabeth in the parking lot outside the synagogue.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ROBERT
Hi Elizabeth.

ELIZABETH
Oh, hello Robert, I'm in a hurry.
I have to pick Kevin up at the
airport.

ROBERT
I saw the squirrel thing on the
golf channel.

ELIZABETH
Poor Kevin. This is the last thing
he needs now.

Elizabeth is at the driver's side door of the Subaru.

ROBERT
See you tomorrow.

He touches her shoulder affectionately, but not sexually.
She pats his hand and makes eye contact at close range.

ELIZABETH
See you tomorrow.

INT. AIRPORT BAGGAGE CLAIM - NIGHT

Elizabeth is talking to Kevin on her cellphone.

ELIZABETH
I see you. I'm walking past the
limousine counter. Do you see me?

KEVIN
There you are.

They hang up. They walk toward each other and break into
huge smiles. They hug with affection.

ELIZABETH
You were on the Golf Channel.

KEVIN
At least it wasn't on CNN.

ELIZABETH
It'll live forever on YouTube.

KEVIN
Thanks for your support.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ELIZABETH

It's that kind of story, Kevin.
Like being struck by lightning.
But weirder.

EXT. AIRPORT PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Kevin is putting his bags into the back of the Subaru.

KEVIN

Mind if I drive your car?

Elizabeth hands him the keys. He takes her hand and draws it to his lips and kisses the back of it.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

I won't tell the other women's
studies professors how submissive
you are.

ELIZABETH

And I won't tell People for the
Ethical Treatment of Animals where
you live.

KEVIN

Only because you live there, too,
my love.

INT. SUBARU - NIGHT

KEVIN

What were you doing at the
synagogue?

ELIZABETH

I was at a meeting.

KEVIN

What kind?

ELIZABETH

People For the Ethical Treatment of
Animals.

KEVIN

Will you stop?

ELIZABETH

I went to Temple services.

KEVIN

Why?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ELIZABETH

It gets me out of the house on
Friday nights.

KEVIN

Are you converting to Judaism?

ELIZABETH

I don't have to convert, Kevin, my
father was Jewish.

KEVIN

But your mother wasn't. And your
father was an atheist. I don't
think they'll take you, honey.

ELIZABETH

Sometimes I go to the Episcopal
Church on Sunday mornings.

KEVIN

Why?

ELIZABETH

I've been trying out a bunch of
churches this year. Unitarian,
Unity.

KEVIN

Not the Moonies, Betsy.

ELIZABETH

That's the Unification Church.

KEVIN

That's what you just said.

ELIZABETH

No, I said Unitarian or Unity
Churches.

KEVIN

What's a Unity Church?

ELIZABETH

It's a positive thinking church.
Your thoughts create your life,
that kind of thing. I go there to
make myself feel good.

Kevin pulls the car into their driveway and parks. He
touches her face.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KEVIN

You don't feel good, Elizabeth?

ELIZABETH

It's not easy being married to a golfer.

KEVIN

We have the best marriage of anybody I know.

ELIZABETH

We spend half the year apart. You live like a bachelor and a married man. I'm a wife and a single mother. I'm tired of spending so much time alone.

Elizabeth opens her door and gets out. Kevin follows her. She gets his suitcase from the back of the station wagon. He gets his golf clubs. They walk toward the house.

EXT. PATIO - NIGHT

Kevin takes the suitcase out of her hand and puts it down. He kisses her.

KEVIN

What can I do to make you feel better?

ELIZABETH

Come to my therapist with me tomorrow.

KEVIN

Your therapist? Since when do you have a therapist? How much does that cost?

ELIZABETH

I've been going for about a year and it's covered by my insurance.

Elizabeth opens the back door and enters the house.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Danny is sitting at the kitchen table.

ELIZABETH

What are you doing up?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DANNY

Zack told me Dad was coming home.

Kevin puts his clubs and the suitcase down. Danny gives him a hug hello.

KEVIN

Your mother's right. You need to go to bed.

DANNY

Will you drive me to school in the morning?

KEVIN

We'll see. I'll come to your room in a minute, OK?

Danny exits.

Kevin opens up his suitcase and starts throwing dirty laundry into the washing machine.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

So, did your therapist tell you to divorce me? That's what they do, you know.

ELIZABETH

Don't jump to conclusions, Kevin. Just come with me tomorrow.

KEVIN

I don't believe in therapy.

ELIZABETH

I think you'd like Robert. He's a golfer.

KEVIN

Robert? Shouldn't a feminist go to a woman?

ELIZABETH

I met him at the synagogue. I was going to look for a woman, but I'm getting a lot out of listening to a man's perspective.

KEVIN

Really. What time is the appointment with Robert?

INT. KEVIN AND ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM - DAY

Kevin is in work clothes, covered with sheetrock dust. He has moved all the furniture to the center of the room and covered it with sheets. He is ripping out the sheetrock and throwing it out the window into garbage cans.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - DAY

Elizabeth drives up in the Subaru. She sees the garbage cans, hears the demolition sounds coming from inside.

INT. KEVIN AND ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM

Elizabeth appears in the doorway. She is stunned.

ELIZABETH
What are you doing?

KEVIN
You said you wanted the bedroom
soundproofed.

ELIZABETH
I didn't say I wanted it done this
week. How are we going to pay for
this?

KEVIN
I put it on the Home Depot credit
card. It had a zero balance.

ELIZABETH
That card has a 20% interest rate.

KEVIN
Isn't it time to go see Robert?

ELIZABETH
By the time you shower, we'll be
late. If you didn't want to go,
you should have--

KEVIN
I'll go like this. (pause) Does
Robert have a dress code? Let's
go.

INT. THERAPIST OFFICE - DAY

Kevin and Elizabeth are seated on a couch. Kevin has changed his shirt and pants, but his hair is still disheveled and full of sheetrock dust. He is staring straight into space.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ROBERT

Money is the number one thing that married couples fight about, Kevin. It is probably the most difficult aspect of marriage. You and Elizabeth have had a very unusual financial situation up to this point. Almost unlimited abundance.

Kevin says nothing.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Do you understand why Elizabeth isn't willing to take money out of your retirement and college funds? Can you put yourself in her shoes?

Kevin turns to his wife.

KEVIN

I'll wait for you in the car, Betsy. I can't do this. I'm sorry.

Kevin exits the room.

ROBERT

How do you think that went?

Elizabeth sighs.

EXT. PROFESSIONAL BLDG PARKING LOT - DAY

Kevin is sitting in the driver's seat of the Subaru.

As Elizabeth approaches the car Kevin turns over the ignition.

Elizabeth gets in the passenger side.

INT. SUBARU - DAY

Kevin backs out of the parking spot too quickly. He switches from reverse to forward and peels out of the parking lot.

EXT. FREEWAY - DAY

Kevin pulls onto the freeway and immediately gets in the passing lane and starts passing the other cars at a high rate of speed.

Elizabeth holds on to door handle but says nothing.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Kevin cuts across four lanes of traffic to get off at the exit ramp for their house.

EXT DRIVEWAY - KEVIN AND ELIZABETH'S HOUSE - DAY

Kevin pulls into their driveway and brings the car to a sudden halt. He gets out of the car and leaves Elizabeth's keys in the ignition.

INT. KEVIN AND ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM - DAY

Kevin has changed into his work clothes.

Elizabeth appears in the doorway. She enters the bedroom and shuts the door.

ELIZABETH

Kevin--

Kevin takes the claw hammer and begins to pull nails out of the 2 x 4 studs.

KEVIN

What?

ELIZABETH

I don't want to fight about money. We just don't have enough for you to keep touring.

KEVIN

I know exactly how much money we have, Elizabeth. We have a million dollars in retirement and college funds.

ELIZABETH

There are penalties for using that money. I won't give it to you.

KEVIN

It's not your gift, Elizabeth. It's MY MONEY. OUR savings came from MY GOLF WINNINGS.

ELIZABETH

I know.

KEVIN

We can get a home equity loan or refinance the mortgage if you don't want to touch those funds. We have equity in the house.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ELIZABETH

I don't want to go deeper in debt, either. If you had a business that was losing money, would you hold on to it like this?

KEVIN

Golf is not a job, Elizabeth. Golf is who I am. It's been my identity since I was a boy. You're asking me to give up the most important thing in my life.

Kevin rips a nail out of the stud for emphasis and the head comes off the hammer and stays stuck in the stud. The wooden handle of the hammer hits Kevin between the eyes- right where the door of the lavatory hit him on the airplane.

ELIZABETH

(softly)

I thought your wife and children might be the most important thing in your life and golf was your job. Thanks for setting me straight.

Elizabeth exits the bedroom and slams the door.

EXT. DRIVING RANGE- SUNSET

Kevin is hitting his irons methodically. Danny is hitting balls with his kid-sized irons right next to him. Neither one speaks.

INT. SUV - NIGHT

Danny is sleeping in the back seat. The sound of a ball being struck punctuates his breathing.

EXT. DESERT - NIGHT

Kevin is now hitting balls in the middle of the desert off a portable mat. There is a canvas bag full of balls next to him. He has placed a flashlight perpendicular to the tee to illuminate his ball. The only sound is the metallic PING of a driver sending golf balls deep into the night.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEW CONSTRUCTION HOUSE - POCONO MOUNTAINS PA - DAY

KEVIN MCCANN, SR. (70) aka BUD, is operating a huge well-drilling rig that makes a deafening noise as it bores into the earth.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The rig has "McCann Well Drilling" painted on the side. There is a second huge truck carrying the steel casing for the well. It's April, chilly, no leaves on the trees.

Bud has one ASSISTANT WELL-DRILLER (21) working with him doing the hard manual labor on the ground.

Scene opens at the moment they strike water. Water gushes out of the ground, making a mess of both the dirt and Bud's Assistant.

FLASH FORWARD -- Hours later, Bud's Assistant is putting the "cap" on the well. Bud is standing with the homeowner who is writing a check.

HOMEOWNER

Do you watch golf?

Homeowner has an outer-borough New York accent.

BUD

Nope.

HOMEOWNER

There's a golfer named Kevin McCann. The guy killed a squirrel with his putter right in the middle of a tournament. It was hilarious.

Bud doesn't say a word.

HOMEOWNER (CONT'D)

I just mentioned it because you have the same name. Kevin McCann.

BUD

I go by "Bud."

Bud carefully inspects the check after the homeowner hands it to him.

HOMEOWNER

Well, thanks for drilling the well, Bud.

BUD

Thanks for your business.

Bud and his assistant walk away from the customer back to the trucks.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BUD (CONT'D)

If I was on TV every time I killed
a god damned squirrel, I'd be more
famous than Oprah.

CUT TO:

INT. GOLF CART - DAY

Kevin is driving a golf cart as fast as it will go at a golf club in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Todd is in the passenger seat.

TODD

Do you think your father will give
you the money?

KEVIN

I've never asked him for a dime. He
should give it to me. I'm an only
child.

EXT. FAIRWAY - 2ND HOLE - DAY

Todd's ball lands on the green far from the hole. Kevin's ball overshoots the green and lands on the back side.

TODD

I'm closest to the pin.

EXT. PUTTING GREEN - 2ND HOLE - DAY

Kevin takes his sand wedge and chips his ball gently onto the green and it rolls right into the hole.

KEVIN

YES! Where's that little kid with
the video camera NOW?

TODD

Good comeback. That's a birdie.

Todd putts. His ball breaks and rolls within 1 inch of the hole. He taps it in.

TODD (CONT'D)

Par. Your hole.

INT. GOLF CART - DAY

Kevin is driving the cart like a little race car.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TODD

What's plan B if he doesn't give you the money?

KEVIN

Betsy has to agree to refinance the house and take out a loan.

TODD

What's Plan C?

KEVIN

Plan C is convincing Betsy to take some money out of Danny's college fund.

TODD

Think she'll do it?

KEVIN

He's only ten years old. I have eight years to make it back.

Kevin hits the brakes of the golf cart a little too abruptly and they squeal. They get out of the cart.

EXT. TEE - 3RD HOLE - DAY

TODD

I guess Plan D is for Divorce. You'll get half the marital assets.

Kevin hits his driver and the ball slices into the other fairway.

KEVIN

Look what you did to me with your negativity. I haven't given up on my father yet. Try to think some good thoughts for me, OK, Mr. Positive Affirmation? Plan A: Kevin is going to get a loan from his father.

CUT TO:

INT. ELIZABETH'S HOME OFFICE - NIGHT

Kevin is at Elizabeth's desk, hand on the phone. He picks up the handset and dials.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEVIN

Hi Dad, it's me. I hope I didn't call too late. So, how ya doin?
(pause) I thought you didn't follow golf? I'm sure people will forget about it by the summer.
(pause) Yeah, I know they can't get rabies. (pause) I'm no veterinarian but there was definitely something wrong with that squirrel. (pause) It was a joke. I was yelling at the "golf gods." Listen, I'm playing something called the Nationwide Tour this year. (pause) No, it's still the PGA, just a different tour. (pause) A little less prize money. (pause) No, Tiger Woods is on the PGA Tour. (quick pause) He's the top player in the world, Dad I don't compare myself to him. So, anyway, I'll be playing a tournament in Scranton. Outside of Scranton. Yeah. The second week of June. I thought I'd give you a couple months notice. Maybe we could spend a day together. (pause) Or just dinner, that would be fine. (pause) Well, listen, I don't want to keep you up. I have your cellphone number, we'll talk in a month or so and nail down a date, OK? Take care, Dad. Don't work too hard. (pause) Well, it is work. I know it doesn't look like work, but touring is grueling- - there's no glamour. OK. Gotta go. Bye Dad.

Kevin hangs up the phone and exhales loudly.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

I'm so hosed.

INT. KEVIN & ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM - DAY

Elizabeth appears in the doorway in her pajamas. Kevin is watching the golf channel on TV in bed in his pajamas. There is unfinished sheetrock on the bedroom walls, which are freshly spackled. There is spackling dust everywhere and the furniture is still covered with sheets.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEVIN

Morning. You need to get ready for church?

ELIZABETH

No, I went to temple on Friday. I only do one service a weekend. What time are you leaving?

KEVIN

Todd's picking me up at 1 o'clock.

Elizabeth starts to take a sheet off her dresser. She coughs from the dust.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

I'll have this place vacuumed and cleaned up before I leave.

ELIZABETH

I think we'll paint the bedroom walls while you're gone.

KEVIN

I'll do it, you don't have to.

Zack walks past in his pajamas.

ZACK

Morning Mom. Hi Dad.

Elizabeth calls to Zack as he walks by.

ELIZABETH

I need you to help me paint the bedroom this month, Zack.

ZACK (O.S)

That's child labor, Mom. If this was Malaysia, you'd be protesting that kind of thing.

KEVIN

(yelling)

Unpaid, child labor, Zack. In Malaysia you'd get a dollar a day. But, you're gonna do it for free! Do you hear me?

Danny comes in the bedroom and jumps in bed with his Dad.

DANNY

Is the bedroom really soundproofed?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KEVIN
You want proof?

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE KEVIN & ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM - DAY

Kevin and Elizabeth and Zack are standing outside the brand new bedroom door which looks almost like an exterior door. There is even a threshold on the floor to make an airtight door seal. Danny is inside the room. The door is open.

KEVIN
When I shut the door, shout at the top of your lungs. Go in there and shout with him, Zack.

ZACK
This is gay.

KEVIN
OK, fine, then go inside and tell me what you hear when I shout at you.

Kevin pulls the door shut.

INT. KEVIN & ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM - DAY

Danny jumps on the bed like a trampoline. He shouts at the top of his lungs. Zack hangs back and watches.

DANNY
Hey Mom and Dad, can you hear me?

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE KEVIN & ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM

There is a muffled noise that is obviously a human voice. Elizabeth's reaction is one of amazement. She even puts her ear to the door. Kevin looks proud of himself.

KEVIN
Should I call you while I'm on Tour?

ELIZABETH
What kind of question is that?

KEVIN
You've been sleeping on the couch.

ELIZABETH
Well the frigging bedroom is full of sheetrock dust.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEVIN

That's why you were sleeping on the couch?

ELIZABETH

Duh.

Zack opens the door.

ZACK

He was shouting.

KEVIN

We could barely hear him.

ZACK

It's your turn to shout.

Zack shuts the door.

ELIZABETH

We love you!

KEVIN

Who are the best kids in Albuquerque?

ELIZABETH

Who are the best kids in New Mexico?

INT. KEVIN & ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM - DAY

Danny and Zack both jump on the bed, screaming.

ZACK

This is my parent's bed. This is where the old people fuuuuuuuuck!

Zack makes gyrating motions with his hips. Danny is laughing hysterically.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE KEVIN & ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM

ELIZABETH

When are you coming home?

KEVIN

I have three tournaments in a row. I'll fly back the end of April, beginning of May for a week.

They look at each other.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Can we test out the soundproofing
before I go?

ELIZABETH

What about the boys?

Kevin opens the door and catches them both jumping on the bed making gyrating sex motions with their hips.

KEVIN

Skatepark.

EXT. SKATEPARK - DAY

Kevin drops Danny and Zack off at the skatepark. He hands them some breakfast bars and peels out of the parking lot in his SUV.

INT. KEVIN AND ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM - DAY

Kevin and Elizabeth are making love.

FLASH FORWARD-- Kevin and Elizabeth lying in bed, very intimately, gently resting in each other's arms.

ELIZABETH

Todd's going to be here soon. I'll
go get the boys.

KEVIN

Don't go yet.

Kevin tightens his arms around her body and holds her close. He inhales.

ELIZABETH

Don't bring up money. Or Golf.

He exhales.

KEVIN

We have to talk at some point.

ELIZABETH

We'll just fight.

KEVIN

I can't be anything but a golfer.

ELIZABETH

And I can't give you money from our
trust funds.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

They look into each other's eyes. Then they kiss. He pulls her on top of his torso and smacks her fanny. Hard.

KEVIN
Home equity loan?

She pulls him around on top of her and smacks his fanny hard.

ELIZABETH
I don't want to borrow any more
money, Kevin. You have to have some
equity in your house.

KEVIN
You're right.

ELIZABETH
I am?

KEVIN
We can't talk about this.

MONTAGE:

EXT. KEVIN'S DRIVEWAY - DAY

Kevin and Todd getting in the car and saying goodbye to Elizabeth and the boys.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - DAY

Kevin hitting a series of drives down different fairways.

Kevin missing a putt.

CLOSE UP of a squirrel holding a nut.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

Kevin emptying his wallet of credit card receipts.

INT. AIRPORT CHECK IN COUNTER - DAY

Kevin and Todd shlepping their luggage and golf clubs through an airport.

EXT. AIRPORT - DAY

Commercial airplane taking off.

EXT. AIRPORT - DAY

Commercial airplane landing.

INSERT -- MAP OF THE UNITED STATES

Map of the United States highlighted to show the Tour locations that Kevin and Todd have played in two months.

EXT. LOOKOUT - SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA - SUNSET

Establishing shot from a lookout on Route 307 in the hills overlooking the city of Scranton, Pennsylvania

INT. HOTEL - NIGHT

Kevin is lying on a double bed in a room with two double beds. He dials his cellphone.

KEVIN

Hi Dad, it's Kevin. Dad? Can you hear me?

Kevin moves over to the window and opens the drapes.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Can you hear me now?

INT. BUD'S HOUSE - WORKSHOP

Bud is making a wooden carving for the handle of a rifle.

BUD

Yep, I can hear you.

KEVIN

I can meet you tomorrow.

BUD

What time are you done?

KEVIN

I didn't make the cut. I'm free all day.

BUD

Make it 7 a.m. We'll have breakfast.

KEVIN

Sure. Are we eating at the house or going to the diner?

BUD

Diner. Come to the house, first. Don't be late.

INT. BUD'S HOUSE - BEDROOM

Bud is throwing work clothes to Kevin, who is dressed in khakis and a golf shirt.

BUD
Wear these.

INT. DINER - DAY

Bud and Kevin are having breakfast at a country diner.

KEVIN
So, how often does Jeff skip work?

BUD
Never done it before. I'll pay you \$150 a day.

KEVIN
You're paying me?

BUD
That's what having a job is all about. You work, you get paid.

KEVIN
Do you want to know how much money I won when I played the Asian tour in the 90's?

BUD
Was that when you missed your mother's funeral?

KEVIN
As I remember it, you wouldn't wait one day for me to win the tournament and fly home from Singapore. So you had the funeral without me.

BUD
You should have flown home right away.

KEVIN
If I didn't finish- and win- I wouldn't have gotten paid. I had a family to support, you know.

Bud eats in silence.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Where are we working today?

BUD

Buck Hill.

KEVIN

Buck Hill! Are you crazy? I can't go to Buck Hill and dig a well!

BUD

Why not?

KEVIN

It's a golf club.

BUD

So?

KEVIN

I'm a PGA professional. I'm here on Tour.

BUD

Don't worry, nobody will see you. The lot is in the woods.

Kevin starts to laugh. He throws his head back and laughs.

BUD (CONT'D)

What's so funny? Huh?

Kevin just shakes his head and rubs his eyes.

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - BUCK HILL GOLF CLUB - DAY

Bud is driving the well drilling truck. Kevin is following in the truck carrying the steel casing. The trucks are driving down a two lane road. They pass a rustic but charming golf club.

DISSOLVE TO:

FLASHBACK -- KEVIN AS A YOUNG BOY (5), at the golf club by the putting green.

BUD AS A YOUNG MAN (26), in work clothes, inspecting a well in the background. THE GOLF CLUB PRESIDENT is with Bud.

Young Kevin is transfixed by the putting green. He walks over to it and pets it like a kitten.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ROY HARBINGER (45) walks over to young Kevin. Roy is carrying a short putter and a ball. He drops the ball on the turf and hands the putter to Kevin.

Kevin takes the putter and swings. The very first ball goes in the hole. He is ecstatic. Roy slaps him on the back.

Young Kevin continues to sink putts to Roy's amazement.

CUT TO:

EXT. CONSTRUCTION SITE- BUCK HILL - DAY

The trucks park at a construction lot in the middle of an incredible profusion of pale pink mountain laurel bushes in full bloom.

Kevin jumps down from his truck and takes a deep breath.

KEVIN

Oh my God, that smell. I forgot
how good it smells here.

A couple of squirrels jump across the construction site in front of Bud as he walks toward the building contractor.

BUD

(to the squirrels)
Watch out for him. He's a killer.

Kevin sits down on the front bumper of the rig, watching the squirrels and listening to the birds.

Bud returns holding a drawing.

KEVIN

Is the septic already in?

BUD

Nope.

KEVIN

Is that the septic design?

BUD

Yep.

KEVIN

Where are they putting it? How
deep are the wells here?

BUD

Two hundred feet.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEVIN

Did a surveyor mark the setbacks already?

BUD

You talk like a well driller.

KEVIN

I drilled a lot of wells with you before I started golfing. I haven't forgotten everything.

BUD

If you took over the business, you wouldn't have to worry about money.

Kevin stands up and takes the drawing from his father and spreads it out so they can look at it.

KEVIN

Tell me what you need me to do.

FLASH FORWARD -- Hours later, Kevin is sitting on the front bumper of the rig. His face, shoes, pants and shirt are covered with mud. He looks weirdly peaceful. Bud comes over to him carrying the clipboard.

BUD

Alright, let's get out of here.

Kevin doesn't move.

KEVIN

You know, Dad. I forgot how satisfying this is. I can't tell you how proud I am that we came here today with this huge machine-- and drilled hundreds of feet into the earth to bring clean water to this house, for this family, forever. Thanks for bringing me to work with you. I mean it. I enjoyed this.

BUD

You're awful sentimental about digging a well. You got a fatal disease or something?

Kevin laughs.

KEVIN

No. Let's go.

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - BUCK HILL GOLF CLUB - DAY

The trucks are driving past the golf club again, Kevin first, Bud following. There is an old man on the putting green.

INT. WELL CASING TRUCK - DAY

KEVIN

Oh my God, that's Roy Harbinger!

Kevin hits the brakes and pulls his truck over to the side of the road. He runs across the road and walks briskly toward the putting green. His father pulls the rig in back of Kevin's parked truck.

EXT. PUTTING GREEN - DAY

KEVIN

Roy! Roy! It's Kevin. Kevin McCann.

The old man turns to look at him. His face lights up when he realizes who it is.

ROY

Kevin! Kevin! I can't believe it's you. I've been thinking of you so much. Don't tell me you gave up golf?

Kevin looks down at his muddy work clothes and laughs.

KEVIN

No. I'm playing the Nationwide in Scranton. I came to visit my Dad and he put me to work.

They laugh. Bud honks the horn on the rig a little too long. Roy waves. Kevin shoots his Dad a dirty look.

ROY

I'd walk over and say hello to your Dad, but I'm not too steady on my feet.

KEVIN

Don't worry about it. I'll say hello for you.

ROY

I saw you kill that squirrel on TV.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEVIN

You and everybody else.

ROY

He deserved it.

KEVIN

I thought so too.

ROY

I hit a turkey with a golf cart once. Felt terrible about it.

Bud honks the horn again.

KEVIN

Listen, Roy, I don't know if I ever really thanked you for everything you did for me when I was a kid. You changed my life. You made me who I am. Do you know that?

ROY

Kevin. What you said when you killed that squirrel... God is not punishing you. You'll never get back on top if you think like that. You have to have faith not fear.

KEVIN

Thank you for believing I can get back on top, Roy. I do have faith in myself-

ROY

No, you have to have faith in something MORE than yourself, Kevin. God's forgiveness is certain but you have to forgive yourself first.

The horn on the rig blows again. Kevin shoots Bud another look.

KEVIN

Roy, I have to go or he's just going to keep honking that horn. Can I visit you sometime?

ROY

I would like that very much. I'm the only Harbinger in the phone book.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Roy reaches inside his pocket and presses something into Kevin's hand.

ROY (CONT'D)

This is my St. Victor medal. I want you to have it.

KEVIN

St. Victor who protects against lightning strikes?

ROY

That's right.

KEVIN

I couldn't take your medal, Roy. What if you got hit by lightning?

ROY

Not a bad way for an old golfer to go. Take it- something to remember me by.

Kevin takes the medal and puts it in his pocket. The horn honks one last time.

KEVIN

I could never forget you, Roy. Thank you.

They hug. Kevin turns and walks back toward the rig. Roy yells after him.

ROY

God loves you, Kevin.

Kevin waves at Roy and climbs inside the rig to confront his father.

INT. WELL DRILLING RIG - DAY

KEVIN

I can't believe after twenty-five years you couldn't give me five minutes with him.

Bud makes a "snorting" noise. Clears his throat.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

I wouldn't be a professional golfer if I hadn't met him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BUD
Maybe it's time to get a real job.

KEVIN
Wouldn't you, once in your life,
like to be proud of me?

BUD
I'd be proud of you if you took
responsibility for your wife and
children.

KEVIN
Elizabeth can take care of herself.

BUD
And you, too, apparently.

EXT. RIG - DAY

Kevin jumps out of his father's rig, slams the door and walks toward the other truck. He smiles and waves when he sees Roy watching him.

EXT. BUD'S HOUSE - DAY

Kevin is back in his golf shirt and khakis, standing next to the rental car with his father. Bud is counting \$150 in cash.

BUD
You did a good job today, Kevin.

KEVIN
You don't have to pay me.

BUD
Yes, I do. You earned it.

Kevin puts the money in his pocket. He opens his mouth, but no words come out.

BUD (CONT'D)
What? You got something to say.
What is it?

KEVIN
Nothing. I'll see you, Dad.

BUD
So long. Don't be a stranger.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

They shake hands. Bud walks toward the house and turns around.

BUD (CONT'D)

You know, Kevin, when you were making all that money golfing, I had to give it to you. I said to your mother, "He proved me wrong with this golf thing." But, things have changed. You have to know when to cut your losses. Sometimes perseverance is just pride. And not the good kind of pride.

Bud walks into his house.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Kevin is lying on the bed. He dials his cellphone, and remembers to get up and go to the chair by the window.

INT. ELIZABETH'S HOME OFFICE - NIGHT

ELIZABETH

Hi Kevin.

INTERCUT BETWEEN HOTEL ROOM AND HOME OFFICE

KEVIN

You used to answer the phone, "My love."

ELIZABETH

I was just reading something, I didn't know it was you. How's your Dad?

KEVIN

He made me dig a well with him. Paid me \$150.

ELIZABETH

No.

KEVIN

It was kind of fun in a "once-every-twenty-five years" sort of way. What are you reading?

ELIZABETH

A poem.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEVIN

Would you read it to me?

ELIZABETH

It's long. And depressing.

KEVIN

I want to listen to your voice.
What's it called?

ELIZABETH

I thought it was called "What Comes Next," but it's called "How to Like It." By Stephen Dobyns.

KEVIN

Sounds racy.

ELIZABETH

Kevin. You are not going to jerk off while I read this poem.

KEVIN

Elizabeth. I would never do such a thing. Read to me, my love.

ELIZABETH

"These are the first days of fall.
The wind at evening smells of roads still to be traveled, while the sound of leaves blowing across the lawns is like an unsettled feeling in the blood..."

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Shot of leaves blowing across a lawn in the dark.

ELIZABETH (O.S.)

...the desire to get in a car and just keep driving.

Shot of a car parked at the curb.

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

A man and a dog descend their front steps.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

CLOSE UP of Kevin's legs and the goofiest shaggy dog in the world walking down the steps of an old house.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ELIZABETH (O.S.)

The dog says, Let's go downtown and
get crazy drunk.

CLOSE UP of the dog's face mouthing those words, moving his
lips like the Taco Bell dog.

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

Let's tip over all the trash cans
we can find. This is how dogs deal
with the prospect of change.

INT. KEVIN'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

CLOSE UP of Kevin listening to the poem.

ELIZABETH (O.S.)

But, in his sense of the season,
the man is struck by the
oppressiveness of his past, how his
memories which were shifting and
fluid have grown more solid. The
dog says, Let's pick up some girls
and just rip off their clothes.
Let's dig holes everywhere.

EXT. BACK YARD- NIGHT

CLOSE UP of the dog's rear end, its head buried in the ground
while its front paws dig furiously.

ELIZABETH (O.S.)

Above his house, the man notices
wisps of cloud crossing the face of
the moon. Like in a movie, he says
to himself, a movie about a person
leaving on a journey.

INT. KEVIN'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Kevin interrupts her.

KEVIN

Not a journey, Betsy. I'm sick of
traveling.

ELIZABETH (O.S.)

OK, I'll skip to the end of the
poem. It's my favorite part.

KEVIN

Do they die a horrible death?

INT. ELIZABETH'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

ELIZABETH

They're at home staring into the refrigerator.

KEVIN

That's more like it. There should be more poems about people staring into refrigerators.

ELIZABETH

OK. "The dog says, Let's just go back inside. Let's not do anything tonight. So they walk back up the sidewalk to the front steps. How is it possible to want so many things and still want nothing? The man wants to sleep and wants to hit his head again and again against a wall.

INT. KEVIN'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

CLOSE UP of Kevin listening to her voice on the phone.

ELIZABETH (O.S.)

Why is it all so difficult? But the dog says, Let's go make a sandwich. Let's make the tallest sandwich anyone's ever seen. And that's where the man's wife finds him...

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Shot of Kevin and the dog staring into a refrigerator.

ELIZABETH (O.S.)

...staring into the refrigerator as if into the place where the answers are kept- The ones telling why you get up in the morning and how it's possible to sleep at night, answers to what comes next and how to like it.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

KEVIN

Yeah, that's definitely not a poem you could jerk off to.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ELIZABETH

I like the talking dog.

KEVIN

What comes next, Betsy? My love. My partner. My biggest supporter. Are we going to get a divorce and split the assets? Would that make you happy?

ELIZABETH

I never said I wanted a divorce.

KEVIN

But, you're not happy. You don't want me traveling half the year. You don't want me to golf anymore. What kind of marriage would we have if I stopped golfing for you? Do you think we'd continue to love each other after that?

ELIZABETH

I'd love you, but I guess you couldn't love me, is that what you're saying?

KEVIN

I'd love you. But, I'd resent you, wouldn't I? How long does it take for resentment to destroy love? I don't know how we can resolve this.

ELIZABETH

Neither do I.

There is a long pause.

KEVIN

Good night my love.

ELIZABETH

Good night, Kevin.

INT. TOURNAMENT CLUBHOUSE - MORNING

Golfers are milling about having free coffee and continental breakfast items.

Todd walks up to Kevin as he's staring at the Danish, lost in thought.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TODD

Hey Kevin, how'd it go with your Dad?

KEVIN

You win. What's the guru's phone number?

TODD

Gimme your cellphone. I'm gonna program this sucker right in here.

Todd punches numbers into Kevin's phone.

TODD (CONT'D)

Your Dad turned you down?

KEVIN

I never even asked.

TODD

What happened?

KEVIN

He said things like, "Get a real job." And I said things like, "Why can't you accept me for who I am?"

TODD

Nothing like visiting your parents to make you feel like a twelve-year old.

Kevin and Todd walk to a table and sit down.

KEVIN

How did you meet this... guy? I can't use the word guru. Does he have a name?

TODD

Bob.

KEVIN

Shouldn't it be Baba? Baba ganoush. What's his last name?

TODD

You need to cultivate a little more respect if you want this man to give you money. I can't tell you his last name.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KEVIN

How do you know him?

TODD

Remember when I was a drunk?

KEVIN

You drove your car into my living room.

TODD

And I'll pay you back someday--

KEVIN

Forget it, I don't even own that house anymore-- yes, I remember when you were a drunk.

TODD

I disappeared for a year. I told you I went to rehab?

KEVIN

Yeah.

TODD

I lived at Bob's estate in California and helped him build a golf course for his wife. She sucked at golf-- so he built her a course where she'd never have to hold up another foursome.

KEVIN

What a guy.

TODD

Bob's wife died of a heart attack last year, Kevin. He's taking it pretty hard.

KEVIN

Sorry.

TODD

Anyway, he sobered me up and paid my expenses when I went back on Tour. He saved my life.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

KEVIN

OK. Bob gets points for that. But, I don't need an AA sponsor, I need money. How much money can I ask Bob for?

TODD

You can't ask him for money. He knows your situation. We've talked about you. He told me when you were ready, he would fly you to California to golf with him one night.

KEVIN

Night?

TODD

Night time feels more spiritual than daytime. Nothing exposes a man's soul like the game of golf. It's like being naked when you golf in the dark.

KEVIN

Is he going to molest me on the back nine? Just tell me now.

The Swanson family is sitting down to breakfast across from Kevin and Todd. They bow their heads to say a prayer before they eat. Todd stands up to leave.

TODD

It was the most amazing spiritual experience of my life. It opened my eyes to the world beyond the known world. He changed the way I think on a golf course.

KEVIN

I'd rather he just molest me.

TODD

I do have one bit of advice, Kevin. Do NOT disrespect Bob if he does your astrology chart. He asked me for your birth time and place. I think he's gonna do your chart.

KEVIN

How do you know my time of birth?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

TODD
Elizabeth gave it to me.

KEVIN
Thanks for the warning.

Todd gets up to leave and Kevin extends his hand.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
Hey Todd. Thanks for being my
friend.

Instead of shaking hands, Todd gives Kevin an awkward hug that lasts a little too long. He exits. Gabe and Lori wave at Kevin standing by himself. He waves back.

INT. ZACK'S ROOM - NIGHT

Zack and Danny are in Zack's bedroom at the computer playing a video game.

DANNY
Let's see if Dad made the cut.

ZACK
Danny, he didn't make the cut two
days ago.

DANNY
We should call him and cheer him
up.

ZACK
We don't cheer him up. We make him
feel guilty.

DANNY
How do you know that?

ZACK
I'm fifteen.

Elizabeth appears in the doorway.

ELIZABETH
Are you guys ready to go?

ZACK AND DANNY
Do we have to? It's Friday night.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ELIZABETH

Yes, you have to. I want you to broaden your cultural horizons and say a little prayer for your father.

DANNY

Why? What's wrong with him?

ELIZABETH

Nothing's wrong, honey. We just want him to golf his best tonight.

INT. AIRPORT - TAXI AND LIMOSINE AREA - NIGHT

A good looking young man in golf attire is holding a sign that says "McCann." Kevin walks up to him.

KEVIN

I'm Kevin McCann.

JASON

I know! I recognized you from TV. I'm Jason.

KEVIN

The squirrel thing.

JASON

No, no, I knew who you were before that. I love golf.

KEVIN

Good.

JASON

Uncle Bob thinks that squirrel is the best thing that ever happened to you.

KEVIN

He's your uncle?

JASON

He and my Dad are brothers. We live in Detroit. I just come here in the summer.

KEVIN

Jason- do a lot of professional golfers come here to golf with your uncle in the middle of the night?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JASON

I can't say.

KEVIN

This is kind of weird, don't you think? I mean, I have no idea who your uncle is. Shouldn't I have heard of him?

Jason smiles the broad, sincere smile of Midwesterners.

JASON

It's a bit of a ride to the house. If you want to claim your luggage, I'll go get the car.

EXT. SEASIDE MANSION - NIGHT

A limo pulls up to a magnificent mansion overlooking the ocean. Jason opens a limo door and Kevin steps out onto the driveway. Jason puts Kevin's clubs and suitcase on a golf cart trailing a little wagon/trailer.

KEVIN

Beautiful golf club.

JASON

This is Uncle Bob's house. Your cottage is near the bluff. There's no road- we'll have to take the cart.

EXT. SEASIDE COTTAGE - NIGHT

The golf cart arrives at a seaside cottage overlooking a bluff. You can hear the waves crashing on the beach below.

INT. SEASIDE COTTAGE - NIGHT

Jason puts Kevin's bag inside the room.

JASON

I'll clean your clubs for you before you golf.

KEVIN

Lemme just grab the putter.

Kevin takes money out of his pocket. He has a \$1 bill and three \$20's.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Do you have change for a \$20?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JASON

Tipping isn't necessary. Tee time is at midnight. I'll pick you up at a quarter til.

Jason leaves. Kevin takes out his cellphone. It says NO SERVICE. He looks inside the fridge and sees bottled water, a fruit plate, and protein bars. He unwraps a chocolate protein bar and takes a bite. He goes over to the bed and picks up a book on the night stand called, "Golf in the Kingdom."

There is a knock at the door. Kevin answers it, mouth full, holding the book.

JASON (CONT'D)

I'm sorry I forgot to ask. Would you like me to order a massage therapist for you?

No response from Kevin, mouth full of protein bar.

JASON (CONT'D)

A massage before you golf, Kevin?

Kevin shrugs his shoulders, swallows hard.

JASON (CONT'D)

That's a great book.

Jason points to "Golf in the Kingdom" in Kevin's hand.

KEVIN

Am I supposed to read it?

JASON

Wouldn't hurt. Would you like the massage?

Kevin shrugs.

INT. SEASIDE COTTAGE - NIGHT

Kevin is getting his shoulders deep-rubbed on a massage table in his room by a beautiful young Asian woman.

FLASH FORWARD -- Kevin is waiting in the chair, wearing his windbreaker and cap reading "Golf in the Kingdom." The clock says 11:44. There is a knock at the door.

INT. SYNAGOGUE- FOYER - NIGHT

Elizabeth, Zack and Danny are waiting in line to say good night to the Rabbi.

ELIZABETH
Rabbi Weisser, these are my sons,
Zack and Danny.

RABBI
Welcome, Zack. Hello Danny. Hope
to see you boys again.

The boys walk away quickly, and the Rabbi gives a "thumbs up" to Elizabeth.

Robert comes over to Elizabeth as they are opening the door to leave.

ROBERT
Are these your boys, Elizabeth?

ELIZABETH
Hello, Robert. Zack and Danny, say
hello to my friend, Robert.

ZACK AND DANNY
Hi.

ROBERT
Are you boys golfers?

They both shrug and continue walking out the door.

ELIZABETH
Danny golfs with his Dad. Zack is
a snowboarder.

EXT. PARKING LOT - SYNAGOGUE - NIGHT

The boys continue walking toward the car ahead of their mother and Robert.

ZACK
Mom, can we please swing by
McDonald's? I'm hungry.

ELIZABETH
We have leftovers in the fridge.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ZACK

I don't want leftovers. I want a double cheeseburger. I have my own money.

DANNY

No fair, I don't have any money, Mom, will you buy me a cheeseburger?

ELIZABETH

I don't want you to get in the habit of eating junk food.

ZACK

I want a double cheeseburger. It's protein.

ELIZABETH

Lower your voice. Eating meat and cheese isn't kosher.

ZACK

We go to temple once and suddenly we're kosher?

ELIZABETH

Have some respect. We're at a synagogue.

ROBERT

At least ask for a hamburger.

DANNY

I'll have a hamburger, Mom. Will you buy me a hamburger?

ZACK

I want a double cheeseburger. It's only a dollar.

ELIZABETH

No.

ZACK

But, what if I believe in Jesus, Mom, can I have a cheeseburger then? A Jesus burger.

DANNY

Can I have a Jesus burger, too?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Elizabeth opens the car doors with the remote control. It chirps.

ELIZABETH

Both of you get in the car. Now.

Zack gets in front, Danny in back.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

(to Robert)

Were you like that as a boy?

ROBERT

All boys are like that. I'm going up to Carson National Forest tomorrow with a bunch of people to hike and shout affirmations. Do you want to come?

ELIZABETH

Shout affirmations?

ROBERT

It's totally silly but it's fun. There's a natural amphitheater with an echo. It started as a joke, but now it's become a pilgrimage.

ELIZABETH

I'd love to go on a hike. I might pass on the affirmation.

ROBERT

No way, everybody has to yell something. Bring the boys.

ELIZABETH

OK, we'll see.

Robert opens the car door for Elizabeth and pops his head in to talk to the boys.

ROBERT

Stay away from those cheeseburgers, boys. Meat and cheese makes you fart.

CUT TO:

EXT. SEASIDE MANSION - NIGHT

There is a little fog as Kevin and Jason drive past the main house in the golf cart equipped with two sets of clubs.

EXT. SEASIDE BLUFF - NIGHT

A tall figure stands on the bluff overlooking the ocean, silhouetted by the lights of a golf cart, looking out to sea. He is wearing a cap and a windbreaker. Kevin and Jason drive up.

BOB (62) turns around. He extends his hand to Kevin with a smile.

BOB

Thanks for coming, Kevin. Bob.

Kevin shakes his hand.

KEVIN

Thanks for bringing me here, Bob.
Your hospitality has been
incredible.

BOB

My pleasure.

Bob gets in the driver's side of his golf cart and motions for Kevin to join him.

EXT. CART PATH - NIGHT

Jason follows Bob and Kevin in his golf cart, carrying their clubs. Kevin turns around to look.

INT. GOLF CART - NIGHT

KEVIN

This is the first time my caddy has
had his own golf cart.

BOB

Jason will alert the media if we
fall off the cliff out here in the
fog.

EXT. FIRST TEE - BOB'S GOLF COURSE - NIGHT

Bob parks the cart. Kevin instinctively walks to his bag of clubs in the back of Jason's cart. He waits for an instruction from Bob. Kevin looks at Jason, who is watching his Uncle Bob with a vacant look on his face. Bob walks to the rear of his golf cart. Where the clubs usually go there's a cabinet. Bob opens it up.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

It's a full bar with 18 different bottles of single malt Scotch from the west coast of Scotland (the whisky coast.) Talisker, Ben Nevis, Tobermory, Oban, Bunnahabhain, Isle of Jura, Kilchoman, Bowmore, Isle of Arran, Laphroaig, Lagavulin, Glengyle, Ardbeg, Bruichladdich, Caol Ila, Springbank, Longrow, Hazelburn.

BOB

What's your poison, Kevin? Want a drink, Jason?

Jason shakes his head. Kevin can't hide his surprise.

KEVIN

Oh, I, uh... go ahead Bob. I'm fine.

BOB

You don't drink Scotch?

KEVIN

I never drink when I golf- but you go ahead.

Bob picks up a Laphroaig and pours it over ice. He drinks the glass of Scotch in one gulp and pours himself another one. Jason and Kevin exchange a look. Jason gets back in his golf cart and picks up a magazine and flips through it mechanically.

BOB

This isn't a tournament. We're not even going to keep score. Have a drink.

KEVIN

Golf is how I make my living. I never drink and play. It's different for pros, I guess.

BOB

Golf is how you used to make your living. (pause.) Right? You haven't made money in a while.

Bob walks to the tee to set up his drive.

KEVIN

I'm not throwing in the towel, Bob. That's why I'm here.

Bob tees off. He has a beautiful swing. His ball sails into the night.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Nice swing. How far is it to the green?

BOB

Thanks. 490 yards, straight out. What kind of therapy are you in, Kevin?

KEVIN

You mean for my golf?

Kevin takes his driver and walk to the tee to set up.

BOB

No, for your head.

KEVIN

I've never been in therapy. I think it's bullshit.

BOB

Good for you. I think it's bullshit, too.

Kevin hits his drive. His swing- the swing of a professional- is so different than Bob's. His ball rockets off the tee.

BOB (CONT'D)

I'll drink to that. Great shot.

Bob finishes his second Scotch and pours himself a third- switching to Bowmore.

KEVIN

I thought you were Todd's sponsor.

BOB

I was.

KEVIN

A sponsor can drink?

BOB

(enthusiastically)

No! This is my relapse. Much to my nephew's horror, right Jason?

Bob raises his glass to Jason who turns around and shrugs and bobs his head, obviously unsure of what to say or do. They get in the golf carts and drive off in search of their balls. Bob is driving in the lead. Jason follows at a safe distance.

INT. BOB'S GOLF CART - NIGHT

KEVIN

Sorry. It's none of my business.

BOB

Nothing to be sorry about. I highly recommend relapsing.

KEVIN

Why's that?

BOB

It's honest. It's an admission of human frailty. Beware the lure of perfectionism, Kevin. Nothing is more boring than a perfectionist. Trying too hard can ruin your game, you know.

KEVIN

Are you saying that drinking will bring my game back?

BOB

Not necessarily. I'm not sure why you lost your game in the first place.

EXT. FAIRWAY - BOB'S GOLF COURSE - NIGHT

Bob stops his cart abruptly and jumps out. He obviously enjoys unsafe cart driving. Jason comes over and hands them each a million candle watt searchlight. They start to look for their balls. The course is amazingly illuminated by their searchlights.

BOB

What do you think, Kevin? What's your problem? Why is god punishing you?

KEVIN

God isn't punishing me- that was a joke. My problem is money.

BOB

The love of money?

Bob shines the searchlight in Kevin's face. He covers his eyes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEVIN

No. Worrying about money. Put that thing down.

Bob puts the searchlight down and continues scanning for their balls.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

After I had a wife and kids to support, I started caring about winning. I needed the money to support them. When I was young, I didn't even think about the money. I just made it.

Kevin finds his ball in the middle of the fairway. Bob's ball is in the rough on the right side.

BOB

(yelling)

So you blame your children for your bad golf game?

KEVIN

(yelling back)

Of course not, I'm not that big of an asshole. My first bad year gave me the yips. It was a slow descent after that. I stopped feeling like myself. I've become an alien in my own body.

BOB

(yelling)

Why don't you just give up golf?

KEVIN

(yelling)

I am not a quitter. I have never been a quitter. I am not going to let this problem beat me.

Kevin hits his ball toward the green. He lunges a little. It's not a great shot. Bob hits his from the rough and walks over to Kevin.

BOB

How can you become a winner again?

KEVIN

I need a sponsor to take off the financial pressure.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BOB

What if you can't find a sponsor?

KEVIN

I guess I'll wind up a divorced man.

They walk back toward the golf cart.

BOB

Your wife would divorce you if you weren't a golfer?

KEVIN

No. I put my winnings in revocable trust funds. I'm still a millionaire, Bob. My wife won't let me touch my money. If we got divorced, I'd get half of it.

Silence. Bob stops walking.

BOB

You would divorce your wife to get money to keep golfing?

KEVIN

If I have no other options, yes. You can't golf without money, Bob.

BOB

Everybody's got a dream and somebody's got to fund it.

KEVIN

Sometimes you've got to fund yourself.

Bob walks over to his booze cabinet and pours himself a fourth Scotch, a Bruichladdich. He looks over at Jason who is flipping through a soft porn magazine.

BOB

Don't you get a hard on when you look at those magazines?

Bob sucks down his Scotch.

VALET

It keeps me awake. Do you want to ride with me? Kevin can drive the other cart.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

BOB
No. I'm fine.

Bob gets in the driver's side of the cart and puts his scotch in the cup holder. Kevin gets in and looks at him, then back at Jason. Bob drives off. Jason follows.

EXT. CART PATH - BOB'S GOLF COURSE- NIGHT

The golf carts approach an enormous fenced in enclosure with telephone poles and nets. It looks like driving range.

INT. GOLF CART - NIGHT

KEVIN
Is there a driving range in the middle of the course?

Bob stops the cart, his usual abrupt stop, but first he sucks down his Scotch so it doesn't spill.

BOB
That's a whooping crane enclosure. We have a couple of captive cranes. They breed and we release them to the wild. Then we get a few more.

He shines the searchlight in that direction.

KEVIN
How does the whooping crane connect you to your higher self?

BOB
What?

KEVIN
Todd said the crane symbolizes connecting to a higher consciousness. I have no idea what that means.

BOB
Neither do I. All they symbolize to me is spending a fortune.

KEVIN
Then why do you keep them?

BOB
The kid who designed this course was from Texas.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BOB (CONT'D)

Most of the whooping cranes go there in the winter. He convinced my wife Carol the whooping crane could be wiped out by a single oil spill or a hurricane on the Texas coast. So, she talked me into putting this huge, ugly thing in the middle of her golf course to save the whooping crane from extinction. I keep them for her.

KEVIN

Well, that's kind of ... noble, isn't it? You and Carol were environmentalists. Can I see them? I've never seen a whooping crane.

BOB

No. We're not supposed to go near the damn things.

KEVIN

You don't seem to like your crane enclosure.

BOB

I was golfing out here one day and the male came over to the fence and freaked out. I thought he was angry at me for keeping him in there. Taking away his freedom. Turns out, they have a very strange courtship dance.

KEVIN

So, he's OK in there?

BOB

As OK as a caged bird can be.

EXT. OCEANSIDE GREEN - BOB'S GOLF COURSE - NIGHT

Bob stops the cart near the green. They get out and start to search for their balls.

BOB

You know what I think your real problem is, Kevin. It's not money. It's deeper than that. It's in your stars. Did you know you were born on Karl Marx's birthday?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEVIN

I'm not a Marxist, Bob. I'm a golfer, for chrissakes it's the sport of the capitalist.

Kevin finds his ball and chips it up onto the green.

BOB

One of Karl Marx's children died of malnutrition because they were so poor. He wanted to change the world, but he ignored his own family's welfare.

KEVIN

My kids aren't starving, Bob.

BOB

Marx was obsessed with work.

Bob chips his ball onto the green.

KEVIN

I'm sure Karl Marx's kids didn't have laptops, snowboards and cellphones.

BOB

You're obsessed with what you do for work, too. Work is your identity.

KEVIN

I think that's true for most people.

BOB

Do you love your wife?

KEVIN

More than you can imagine.

BOB

No man who loved his wife would divorce her to keep playing golf.

Bob and Kevin get their putters from the bags. Bob refills his drink- his fifth, a Lagavulin, and joins Kevin on the green.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KEVIN

No wife who loved her husband would ask him to give up the thing he was born to do. I can't give up golf for anyone, not even the woman I love. You're farther from the pin.

Jason tends the flag. Bob putts and misses. Kevin putts and his ball goes in the hole.

BOB

Nice putt.

KEVIN

Thanks.

Bob putts and misses again. He three putts and it goes in.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

My birdie, your bogey.

BOB

We're not keeping score.

KEVIN

Sorry. Reflex. What comes next?

Bob looks toward the ocean and delivers the next lines like he's channeling them.

BOB

I've decided not to give you any money. I think you need to give up golf. The only way to keep something is to give it up. That's a spiritual truth- one you need to learn, Kevin.

KEVIN

If you love something, let it go. If it comes back, it's yours. If it doesn't, it never was.

Bob makes eye contact with Kevin.

BOB

You understand.

KEVIN

I read that on a dish towel at a truckstop in Indiana.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Bob stares toward the ocean for a long time. He walks to the cart and gets behind the wheel.

BOB
Get in.

KEVIN
I think I should drive.

BOB
I'm fine. Get in.

Kevin sits down in the cart.

INT. GOLF CART - NIGHT

KEVIN
Bob, If you're not going to fund me, why the fuck did you bring me all the way out here?

Bob puts his right hand up in the "brother" handshake position.

BOB
Give me your hand Kevin.

Kevin grasps his hand. Bob looks into his eyes.

BOB (CONT'D)
Have you ever seen "Thelma and Louise?"

KEVIN
Yeah.

Bob punches the accelerator of the golf cart which is pointed toward the cliff and starts to drive for it. He howls like a banshee. Kevin tries to pull away, he punches Bob but he doesn't let go. Kevin jumps out of the moving golf cart and is running beside it but Bob is still holding his right hand. Finally, Bob lets go of Kevin's hand and does a U-Turn right before the bluff. He drives over to the edge of the bluff where Kevin is panting, head down, hands on his knees. Bob gets out of the cart and matter of factly walks back to his bar to pour himself his sixth drink, an Ardberg. Jason races over in his cart, gets out, speechless as usual.

EXT. SEASIDE BLUFF - NIGHT

BOB
I've been watching your career, Kevin.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BOB (CONT'D)

I think I can help you get your game back. I'm going to give you the greatest gift of all. Something that will change your life and give you peace of mind. I'm going to give you the tool to bring your game back. And it isn't money.

KEVIN

You almost killed me you fucking idiot!

BOB

I wouldn't have driven over the cliff. By the way, did you see your life flash before your eyes? Were you thinking about your next golf tournament when you jumped out of the cart?

KEVIN

Fuck you.

BOB

Have a drink.

KEVIN

Fuck you.

JASON

Can I have a Laphroig, Uncle Bob?

BOB

Pour one for Kevin, too.

JASON

Kevin?

Jason raises the bottle of Laphroig. Kevin nods yes. Jason hands Kevin a glass and he chugs it, turns around and starts to walk back toward his cottage. Bob yells after him.

BOB

Where are you going?

KEVIN

Home.

BOB

Not until I give you the secret to get your game back.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KEVIN
Fuck you, Bob.

BOB
I'll give you ten thousand dollars
if you come back here right now.

Kevin stops walking and turns around.

KEVIN
Twenty.

BOB
Ten.

KEVIN
Fifteen thousand. You almost killed
me.

BOB
Ten. You should pay me for that
lesson.

KEVIN
I'm not moving from this spot for
less than twelve thousand dollars.

BOB
Ten. Final offer.

KEVIN
You want to teach me "the Secret,"
you come here.

Bob drives over in the cart. Jason follows.

EXT. FAIRWAY - BOB'S GOLF COURSE- NIGHT

KEVIN
What's the secret?

BOB
Sit down.

KEVIN
Why?

BOB
(gently)
Sit down, Kevin. Please.

Kevin sits down on the fairway and looks up at Bob.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BOB (CONT'D)

All right. I'm going to teach you to meditate.

Kevin lays down and starts to laugh hysterically.

KEVIN

Can I have another Scotch, Jason?

JASON

What kind?

KEVIN

Who cares?

Jason pours a Laphroig and hands it to Kevin. Bob gets out of the cart and stands next to Kevin.

BOB

I'm going to give you a mantra. I want you to close your eyes and silently repeat this sound over and over.

KEVIN

When do I get my twenty thousand bucks?

BOB

Ten. When we get back to the house.

KEVIN

Tonight. Cash.

BOB

Fine. Now repeat after me: Shhhhh-WEEEEEE'.

KEVIN

Shhhhh - WEEEE'????

There is a rumble of thunder. They look up at the sky.

BOB

It's a powerful word. "Sh" calms the mind and helps you concentrate. "We" reminds you that you are not alone. That the ego is an illusion. It's Sanskrit.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KEVIN

Bullshit. You made that up. But,
for ten thousand bucks, Sh- WEE it
is.

Kevin downs his drink, hands the glass to Jason and closes his eyes. He silently repeats "Sh- WEE" but his lips are moving.

BOB

Don't move your lips. Concentrate
on your breathing. In and out.
When you have a thought, get rid of
it. Try to think about nothing.

Kevin continues to meditate. Bob walks over to Jason's cart and takes his Titanium lightweight driver out of his golf bag. He tiptoes over to Kevin. He holds the club at the top of his backswing. He waggles in the air a few times, looks at Jason and winks, then swings the driver right between Kevin's eyes. Kevin flies back in pain holding his left eye. He rolls in pain on the grass.

KEVIN

OH MY GOD! Whyyyyyyyyyy?

BOB

Go home to your wife. Send me the
bill for the doctor.

KEVIN

You sadistic FUCK!!!

Jason wets a towel with Evian water and ice cubes from the bar. He runs over and holds it on Kevin's eye.

JASON

Maybe I should drive him to the
emergency room.

BOB

Sure.

A few drops of rain fall. Kevin staggers in pain, lead by Jason to the golf cart. Bob puts his driver in his golf bag and takes the bag off Jason's cart, as if he's going to walk a few holes.

BOB (CONT'D)

Someday you'll look back and
realize this is the best thing that
ever happened to you, Kevin.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

As Bob walks toward the next tee, Kevin lunges for his golf club bag and takes out the sand wedge, raising it above his head. He chases after Bob who runs away. Bob grabs a golf club out of his bag, throws the bag on the ground at Kevin's feet and raises his club in self defense. They face off, circling each other with the bag on the ground between them.

KEVIN

What gives you the right???

BOB

Because I can see what you need!
AND YOU CAN'T!

Bob and Kevin are standing with their arms in the air, poised to lunge at each other, when a single bolt of lightning SLAMS out of the sky and hits Bob's golf club. Jason and Kevin watch as Bob is blown sideways by the force of the lightning.

The lightning is followed by THUNDER and a downpour of RAIN.

Jason runs over and looks down at Bob. He checks for a pulse. Another lightening bolt strikes nearby. Jason jumps back. More thunder. Jason walks back to his uncle's body. Kevin comes over holding the towel on his eye. Jason kneels down next to the body and listens for breath. He looks at Kevin with tears in his eyes.

KEVIN

Let's go to the house and get help,
Jason. There's nothing we can do.

Jason takes something from Bob's breast pocket and puts it in his own windbreaker pocket. He and Kevin drive off.

INT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Kevin is sitting alone in an examination bay at an emergency room. His eye is huge and swollen with blood. His nose is also bruised and broken. There is a perfect dot of dried blood between his eyes.

CLOSE UP of his palm. He is holding the St. Victor medal that Roy gave him.

A sexy young Indian doctor with an American accent breezes into the exam bay. Kevin conceals the medal in his pocket.

DR. PATEL

OK, for a guy who took a direct hit
between the eyes with a golf club,
you're pretty lucky.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEVIN

How so?

DR. PATEL

He basically missed. The flat part of the driver must have hit the eye. It's swollen and bruised. You do have a broken nose. Might want to consider plastic surgery when everything heals. I'll give you some pain meds. And you have a slight concussion.

KEVIN

Do I have to stay here? I live in New Mexico.

DR. PATEL

I would recommend staying for observation.

KEVIN

But, you can't make me stay, right? I could fly on a plane and see a doctor at home.

DR. PATEL

You do have to give a statement to the police.

KEVIN

The police? He got struck by lightning.

DR. PATEL

He assaulted you. The nephew said you were running after him with a golf club.

KEVIN

I never hit him. He got struck by lightning.

DR. PATEL

How far away were you when he was struck?

KEVIN

From here to the wall.

DR. PATEL

Holding a golf club in the air - like a lightning rod.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KEVIN

So to speak.

DR. PATEL

The God's must love you Mr. McCann.

KEVIN

I have a black eye, a broken nose,
no sponsor, no money and I have to
give up golf. Somehow, I don't feel
like a lucky guy.

The doctor touches Kevin between the eyes wiping off the dot
of dried blood.

DR. PATEL

Try to see it differently. From
where I stand, you're a walking
miracle.

The doctor leaves Kevin alone. He sits staring at the St.
Victor's medal.

EXT. SEASIDE COTTAGE - SUNRISE

Jason is putting Kevin's things into the trunk of a
limousine. Suddenly, there is a shadow on the ground
followed by two giant birds who land gracefully on the grass.
It's the whooping cranes.

JASON

The lightening must have ripped a
hole in the enclosure. They flew
out but, they're still hanging
around. Kinda cool to see them
free.

KEVIN

If they stay, you can call them Bob
and Carol.

Jason hands Kevin a rain splattered sealed manila envelope.

JASON

Take this. You deserve it after
last night.

Kevin opens the rain spotted envelope and removes the
contents.

CLOSE UP of a check for \$100,000 made out to Kevin.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Kevin walks to the bluff and stands for a moment. He lets the check go in the breeze and it floats down the bluff to the sea. He dials his cellphone.

EXT. CARSON NATIONAL FOREST - ECHO AMPHITHEATER - DAY

Elizabeth, Danny, Zack, Robert and a GROUP OF HIKERS are in a huge amphitheater carved out of the red rock of Northern New Mexico. They are taking turns shouting "affirmations" into the echo.

HIKER

Menopause is not a disease!

ROBERT

That's a negative. Don't say "not."

HIKER

I am a healthy 50-year old woman!

Zack and Danny roll their eyes.

ROBERT

Use fewer words. The echo is better that way.

HIKER

I'M STILL SEXY!

Everyone is laughing. Elizabeth's cellphone rings in her backpack. She fishes it out and sees Kevin's name on the display.

ELIZABETH

Hello Kevin.

EXT. OCEAN BLUFF - DAY

KEVIN

Elizabeth. Oh, God, Elizabeth, what can I say to you? I love you more than golf. That sounds really stupid. I'm so sorry Betsy, I was wrong about the money, it's not mine, it's ours. Golf is not my life. It's a job. Who cares that I can't golf like I used to. It's not important. (pause) Yes it is. It is important. But, I don't want to lose you. You're the most important thing in my life.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KEVIN (CONT'D)

I love you so much. I would never
divorce you for money. Can you
forgive me?

EXT. ECHO AMPHITHEATER - DAY

ELIZABETH

Are you there, Kevin?

EXT. OCEAN BLUFF - DAY

KEVIN

Elizabeth. Can you hear me?

Kevin shouts at the top of his lungs into the phone.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

ELIZABETH!

Kevin looks at his cellphone. It says "NO SERVICE."

EXT. ECHO AMPHITHEATER - DAY

ELIZABETH

Honey, I can't hear you.

She shouts and the word YOU echoes in the amphitheater.

EXT. OCEAN BLUFF - DAY

Kevin stands at the edge of the bluff and hurls his cellphone
into the ocean. He watches it fall, then turns around with
his black eye bulging. The ocean stretches out into the
distance behind him. Freeze on the image.

FADE OUT.