INT. DMV - AFTERNOON

AHMED, WILL, SAM and LEE. Sit in the waiting line, on their phones and almost dozing off. AHMED lays asleep, while LEE and SAM take turns trying to balance their phones atop his nose. Suddenly, their name is called.

DMV LADY

125?

Ahmed snaps out of his sleep, causing Lee's phone to tumble off of his nose. All four of the friends stand up, and step over to the lady being the counter.

DMV LADY

Will Myers?

WILL

That's me.

DMV LADY looks at Will & Co, then back to her computer.

DMV LADY

Are you <u>all</u> Will Meyers?

SAM

No ma'am. We're just his friends.

LEE

It's a big day for him, and we just COULDN'T miss it.

DMV LADY

I'm not sure I can let all of you through.

AHMED

Miss, we'll be on our best behavior.

The DMV LADY looks them up and down for a short while. The three extras stand around awkwardly.

DMV LADY

Fine. But any mischief from ANY of you guys and Will's gonna have to come get his license again. Understood?

ALL 4

Understood.

Scene cuts to WILL getting his photo taken. Behind the

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photographer, the other three make obscene gestures behind the camera. To combat the urge to laugh, Will puts on a mask of no emotion. The camera flashes, and the man shows the 4 Will's license.

LEE

Yeesh.

WILL

Whaddaya mean 'Yeesh'?

LEE

I mean, it's not great. It looks like a mug shot.

WILL

I mean, I think it's okay. Sam, you're good with asthetics and shit, what do you think?

SAM

It looks like a picture you'd see next to the headline 'man kills five'

WILL

Alright, that was no help.

AHMED

Relax Will, it could be a lot worse. Trust me, I know.

AHMED pulls out his passport. On the front, a form of Arabic writing can be seen.

AHMED

Afghani passport. It's not ideal, but if you ever want to go to Mauritania I'm your man.

SAM

Well I think we've got our next trip sorted. What else says 'paradise' like a Government Mandated "Do Not Travel"?

TEST ADMINISTRATOR

125? Your eye test is ready.

WILL

Alright, let's get this over with.

INT. DMV EYE TEST - 5 MINUTES LATER

WILL is taking the eyesight test. Behind him, all three sit and watch.

TEST ADMINISTRATOR

Just tell me when you see the red balloon.

WILL

Not yet, I only see a barn.

TEST ADMINISTRATOR

That's okay. Just concentrate.

WILL shifts in his seat and presses his face further into the tester. As he concentrates harder, AHMED reaches over and tickles him. Will jumps, and all 3 laugh. Even the administrator cracks a smile. Will spins around in his chair.

WTT.T.

Who did that?

All 3 shrug, and WILL returns to the test. Behind the test, the DMV LADY flashes the group a glare.

TEST ADMINISTRATOR

Do you see it now?

WILL

The barn, right?

TEST ADMINISTRATOR

(Losing Patience)

No, the red balloon. You should be able to see it clearly through the lens.

The other three begin to giggle at Will's poor display. Sensing the abuse he's coming under paired with the growing impatience of the employee, Will decides to think fast.

 \mathtt{WILL}

Ohh, the BALLOON. I thought you meant the DOUBLOON.

LEE

The fuck kind of license did you think you were getting, license to navigate the high seas?

The TEST ADMINISTRATOR turns to LEE, and points a finger to him.

TEST ADMINISTRATOR

(Sternly)

Language.

As LEE withdraws slightly, the TEST ADMINISTRATOR overlooks her test results.

TEST ADMINISTRATOR

Now that we have everything, you're all set to get your license. Welcome to the first day of the rest of your life.

The lady gives WILL his license. The group begins to leave.

TEST ADMINISTRATOR

And Will?

WILL

Yeah?

TEST ADMINISTRATOR

Remember your restrictions. Only one other person in the car with you, and no driving after midnight. So that means no 'going out' with these guys, or at least no going out until you get them off. Do I make myself clear?

WILL

Yes ma'am

AHMED

Of course.

LEE

Loud and clear.

SAM

Crystal.

The group nods and asks like they understand, but as they look at each other smiles begin to grow on their faces.

Queue Title Sequence.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE DMV - 10 MINUTES LATER

License in hand, WILL & Co. walk out of the DMV triumphantly to their ride back home - WILL'S MOM.

LEE

So where are we going tonight?

WILL

Tonight?

AHMED

(Mimicking Will)

ToNiGhT? Bro, one of us has our license now. Of course we're going out.

LEE

I already asked my parents, so I have a free night.

SAM

Same here.

AHMED

I'll ask my parents at about 11PM, that way they have some time to think about it.

AHMED smiles, and the group laughs. From his wallet, WILL takes out his drivers license and looks at it again.

WILL

Well guys, this is it. Unabridged freedom.

All four stop outside WILL'S MOM'S car. WILL'S MOM waves at WILL.

WILL

Well, almost unabridged freedom.

INT. WILL'S BASEMENT - 30 MINUTES LATER

All four friends sit in a circle on some couches in the basement.

AHMED

Okay, so Seattle's out of the picture. What about Tacoma?

WILL

I still have trouble stopping at the stop line, and you want me to drive to Tacoma? Let's just get dinner or something.

SAM

We could just bike and get dinner. It needs to be the next step. Something we could ONLY do with a car.

WTT.T.

I just got my license 30 minutes ago, still have my restrictions, and I haven't even asked my mom. For now, this looks like a pretty small step.

SAM

You haven't asked your mom? I asked two days in advance. I'm free ALL night.

AHMED

Even I decided I WASN'T going to ask two days in advance. Why would you wait so long to ask?

WILL

I don't know, it's just she gets weird about these things... she did all this research on my license and is kinda paranoid about my restrictions and the whole 'dangers of the road' thing.

SAM

Will, don't panic. Nobody gives a shit about your restrictions. They're not even enforced THAT hard. Like having the license itself. And most stop signs. And the speed limit? Holy shit, maybe she is right.

AHMED

It's fine, man, just say you're going with one of us.

SAM

Or just going by yourself, we'll just walk down the block or something and you can pick us up.

LEE

I'm still confused. Why can't we go to Seattle?

WILL

Because we live in fucking Olympia. Olympia Washington! That's like a two hour drive.

LEE

Okay? We just leave right now.

WILL

It's 4:30 in the afternoon. Why don't we stay local?

LEE

But staying local sucks. We all hate it here.

WILL

Well excuse me if my first trip with my brand new license isn't a FOUR HOUR FUCKING CRUSADE!

WILL'S MOM

(From Upstairs)

Wiiiiiilllll? Can you come up here?

WILL

Sorry, mom. One second.

INT. WILL'S KITCHEN - 10 SECONDS LATER

WILL'S MOM

William H. Meyers. What kind of language was that?

WILL

Mom, I was just...

WILL'S MOM

You were what? Spewing that filth for all your friends to hear? Do they use that kind of language too??

 \mathtt{WILL}

Mom, we're teenagers now, it's not like we don'-

As WILL begins to talk, WILL'S MOM reaches into the sink and

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pulls out a bar of soap

WILL

Oh, mom. Please, I only swore once. It won't happen again

WILL'S MOM

That's what you said last time. Wash it.

Will gingerly takes the bar of soap and rubs his hands to get the suds and put them onto his tongue. He begins to wash his mouth out.

WILL'S MOM

You call that washing? I need to see some soap action.

Will reluctantly begins to move the soap into his mouth and wash out his tongue.

INT. WILL'S BASEMENT - SAME TIME

Lee, Sam, and Ahmed sit around in Will's basement. Sam is scribbling something on his phone, while Ahmed and Lee lay sprawled across a couch. Lee sits up and sighs.

LEE

Are we really just going to drive around town?

AHMED

Why not? It'll be fun. The night is finally in our hands.

LEE

In our hands to do what? Eat Wendy's in a parking lot? Go to Target?

SAM

Sure. I mean, we don't even do that now. We just sit in the basement and listen to stories about that time you broke a lightbulb jacking off.

LEE

I didn't break it, it just burned out right at my climax. I think I believe in god now.

Sam rolls his eyes, and then returns to scribbling on his

phone.

AHMED

What're you drawing, Sam?

SAM

It's a picture of Lexie. Her birthday's coming up, and I'm making her a portrait for my gift.

Lee snorts.

 $_{
m LEE}$

Gay.

SAM

(Sarcastically)

How gay must I be to make a heartfelt gift for my girlfriend?

LEE

Why don't you just buy her something?

SAM

None of us have jobs, Lee. Tell me, what did you do to get money for tonight?

LEE

I asked my parents to borrow \$20. How about you?

SAM

I got \$15.

AHMED

I have to break a \$50 bill, but I have a \$20 budget.

SAM

See? We're all broke. That's just life.

Just then, Will comes down the stairs, wiping his mouth off.

WILL

You guys ready?

SAM

Yes, please. Let's get this night going.

WILL

You two other guys good?

Ahmed and Lee nod to Will.

WILL

Okay, so my mom's a little pissed at me, but I think I'll be fine. Lee and Sam, just say that you guys are going to walk home. Just walk a block down, and I'll pick you guys up.

LEE

Fine, fine. Let's just leave.

The four walk up the stairs and into Will's Kitchen.

INT. WILL'S KITCHEN - IMMEDIATELY AFTER

Will's Mom stands at the kitchen sink, washing her hands with the soap that Will was washing his mouth out with. Will shudders.

WILL

Hey, mom. I'm going out with Ahmed, are you alright with that?

Will's Mom looks reluctant to allow him to leave considering his earlier outburst, but can't really shut him down in front of all of his friends.

WILL'S MOM

Sure. Just be home by 10:30.

WILL

Of course.

WILL'S MOM

Will, I'm serious. No later than 10:30

WILL

(Embarrased)

You don't need to tell me twice, mom, I've got it.

WILL'S MOM

(Turning to Lee and Sam) What about you two? Any plans for the night?

SAM

I have an art class at the university.

LEE

(With confidence)

Same here.

Sam gives Lee a side-eyed look. Lee would never sign up for an art class in a million years.

WILL'S MOM

Really?

SAM

Yeah, uh, he's really interested in art.

Sam looks at Lee. An idea pops into his head.

SAM

(As if he's had an epiphany)
Oh yeah! Lee, tell her about that one piece, the one you've been working on.

LEE

(Fake straining to remember)
There are just so many, Sam. Which one are you talking about?

SAM

That one contemporary piece modeled after Picasso's blue period, the one you titled 'The Homosexual in Me'?

Ahmed and Will both have to take drastic measure to stop themselves laughing hysterically.

WILL'S MOM

Really, Lee? I had no idea you were going through something like that. How long until its done?

LEE

Probably a few weeks at least.

SAM

Well, the class only has a few days left...

LEE

Well, I'm working on it outside of the

class. It'll probably be a few more weeks before it's complete.

AHMED

So brave Lee, so brave.

LEE

Shut up.

Lee walks past everyone and towards the door.

WILL

(Confused)

I, uh, guess we're leaving now. Bye mom.

Will, Sam, and Ahmed head out of the door, and Will stops to close the door.

WILL'S MOM

And Will?

WILL

Yeah?

WILL'S MOM

10:30.

WILL

10:45?

WILL'S MOM

William. Ten Thirty

WILL

10:30. You got it. Fine.

Will gingerly closes the door behind him.

INT. WILL'S MOM'S CAR - 2 MINUTES LATER

WILL and AHMED pull over one block away from WILL'S HOUSE to pick up LEE and SAM. Upon trying to pull over, WILL pulls over too far. Trying to correct, he backs up and tries again, this time trying to get closer to the curb before rolling right over the curb, and then onto the street. Laughing, SAM and LEE both get in.

SAM

That's a good start.

WILL

Shut up.

WILL shifts his car from 'Park' to 'Drive' and accelerates quickly.

AHMED

Stop sign, Will. Stop sign, stop sign, stop sign!

Will looks up and realizes they're hurtling towards a stop sign. Frantically, he slams on the brakes, stopping them just before the intersection.

SAM

(Again, sarcastically)
That's an even better start.

WILL

Shut up.

Will makes a right turn

WILL

Where are we even going, anyways?

LEE

Let's go to a big ass party.

AHMED

We live in Olympia Washington, not the American Pie cinematic universe. Where would we even go to a party?

LEE

The University?

AHMED

Lee, look at us. Do you really think college kids are going to let all of us into their party?

LEE

They might.

AHMED

So when we pull up in our friend's mom's car that Will will undoubtedly NOT know how to parallel park -

WILL

Unfair. My instructor gave me a 'needs work'.

AHMED

Same thing. Like I was saying, after Will swings in and out of his parking spot, holding up traffic one or two blocks back, we will inevitably go down the street and park in a Wendy's because they have vertical parking that Will can still <u>barely</u> get first try.

WILL

Ahmed, we get it. We don't need a play by pla-

Ahmed holds up his hand to silence Will.

AHMED

Will. I'm on a roll here. After we leave the Wendy's and walk up to the door of the party, some stereotypical frat boy will answer the door. He will be taller than us, he will be more attractive than us, and he will have easily seen more girls naked in the last month than all of us combined,

LEE

Not me.

AHMED

A crippling porn addiction doesn't count, Lee.

LEE

(To himself)

You said 'seen', so...

AHMED

We'll stand there, being flustered out of our minds at the idea of talking to someone with a significantly higher social status than all of us, taking turns nudging each other to say something. After an excruciating thirty seconds of not wanting to initiate a conversation, I will finally take the reigns and say we

heard there was a party here. The guy will look us up and down for a while and then finally point at me and say 'you can come in'. I'll make it look like the decision is a hard one (it isn't), but for the sake of your feelings I'll act for one second like I might choose you guys over the party. However, after my ten seconds of sympathy I will leave you guys and have the time of my life at a college party.

SAM

That's a completely unrealistic story.

WILL

Yeah, I could've parallel parked on the street.

SAM

No, about who gets let in. There's no way they'd pick you and not me.

AHMED

How so?

SAM

Well first of all, I'm cooler than you.

AHMED

No you're not.

SAM

Ahmed, I have a <u>girlfriend</u>. I have convinced a girl to stay with me for a period of time longer than science class.

AHMED

So what? I could get a girlfriend if I wanted.

SAM

Are you talking to any girls right now?

AHMED

Yeah.

SAM

Are you lying?

AHMED

No.

SAM

What's her name, then?

AHMED

Shannon. Shannon Kingsley.

SAM

(Feigning Confusion)

Hmmm. That seems awfully familiar. Are you sure she isn't the real estate agent on the billboard you're looking at?

Out the window, a billboard shows a picture of an attractive realtor named Shannon Kingsley.

AHMED

How'd you know?

SAM

We live in Olympia, not Manhattan. I've driven through here so many times that bill board is imprinted into my brain.

SAM looks out of the front window of the car.

SAM

Will, that's a red light.

The car continues to travel at the same speed. Will is distracted by something.

AHMED

(More urgently)

Will, that's a red light!

Will finally looks up and slams on the brakes, causing all four of them to launch forward in their seats. After a second, they all sit upright.

WILL

Sorry, I was looking at the billboard.

LEE

She IS a milf though.

SAM

Of course she is.

INT. WILL'S CAR - 10 MINUTES LATER

Inside Will's car, all is quiet. Ahmed looks out of the window, and Sam and Lee sit on their phones. Will signals and gets into the right lane.

AHMED

You're turning here?

WILL

Uh, yeah?

SAM

Didn't we already turn right here?

WILL

Uh, yeah?

SAM

Then why are we turning here again?

WILL

I don't know, all we're doing is just driving around Olympia saying nothing. I've seen the milf billboard like three times already.

AHMED

So what are we going to do?

LEE

I thought we were just gonna let the night take us where it wants.

WILL

As we just figured out, we live in Olympia, not Las Vegas. The night isn't taking us anywhere any time soon. Plus it's like 5:30 in the afternoon.

SAM

Are you guys hungry? We could go get some dinner.

AHMED

Yeah, I could eat.

LEE

Isn't it a little bit early to eat?

WILL

I'd much rather eat than just drive around aimlessly. You guys alright if we go get dinner?

Around the car, everyone nods. Acknowledging this, Will makes a right turn.

LEE

Wait, why are you turning?

WILL

I'm going to Wendy's.

SAM

Wendy's? Why are we going to Wendy's?

WILL

Because I like Wendy's. They have good burgers.

AHMED

I agree with Will, they have an above average burger.

LEE

While I do think their burgers are alright, I'm gonna have to side with Sam. Something about their square burgers makes me think of Geometry class. I don't want to eat a burger and think about doing base times height on it.

AHMED

HIS vote is really going to be the deciding factor?

SAM

Hey, it's two two. No Wendy's.

WILL

So what do we do if we tie? Just keep doing restaurants until we hit a three to one vote?

AHMED

Seems like it. What's next?

INT. WILL'S CAR - 30 MINUTES LATER

In the car, there's obviously an air of frustration. Will looks extremely bored at the wheel, and Lee has his window open and the wind in his face.

AHMED

Okay, so we went 2-2 on Mexican, Indian, Chicken, Burgers, Quote Unquote "Anything Asian", and every single fast food restaurant in a 10 mile radius.

WILL

I'd also like to add that I'm down a quarter tank of gas, so can we just pick something?

LEE

What about a sit down restaurant?

SAM

No offense, Lee, but in public areas you don't realize how loud you're speaking. You're like a broadcaster of vulgarity. Remember when you told us that fake story at lunch about that time you scraped your whole arm? Anna Richards threw up, and she was TWO TABLES away from us.

LEE

It wasn't my fault the school lunch was baked ziti.

AHMED

But it WAS your fault that you told us about how your skin peeled off.

LEE

It didn't peel off. It was shredded off. And then filled with puss. It's like you didn't put enough cheese on the pizza and then cooked it.

At this point, Lee is speaking at a much higher volume than he started. He's almost yelling. Next to them, a middle aged woman pulls up with her window rolled slightly down. Hearing Lee's story, she begins to look nauseous. Not realizing it, he continues on.

LEE

At one point all of the puss had sort of semi-encrusted itself around the bloody shreds of my skin into a yellow, brownish, slightly reddish mound of congealed fluids.

Everyone else in the car begins to look a little bit queasy. In the other car, the woman quickly hooks a u-turn into the other lane, speeding away from the group.

SAM

(Slightly nauseous)

How is somebody with a 2.1 GPA so good at vivid descriptions of injuries?

LEE

That's not even the worst one. When I fell of a tree in fi-

WILL

Nope. No more stories, guys. Food. Where. Now.

AHMED

We have LITERALLY voted 2-2 or less on every restaurant in this town.

WILL

Should we vote again?

AHMED

No. No more voting. I need to eat.

 $_{
m LEE}$

Where are we going to eat though?

SAM

What if we had a competition for it?

Everyone around the car except Sam groans.

SAM

What?

AHMED

You always try to make us do these big elaborate 'events' that you think will

be fun but end up being lame.

SAM

When?

AHMED

Last summer. We played 'Capture the Flag' on our bikes and Lee ran into tat tree with the flag?

LEE

My chest was bruised so bad that-

The entire car yells at LEE to stop.

SAM

Obviously five-mile capture the flag was a bad idea, but let's be real here. Do any of you guys have a better idea?

LEE

We've done EVERY restaurant?

AHMED

Everything EXCEPT Arby's

SAM

Oh, shit, let's just go to Arby's.

WILL

I'm good with that.

All four look around the car, before bursting into hysteric laughter. When the laughing calms down, they look around again.

SAM

So can we do what I'm suggesting?

The group looks around and nods with grudging acceptance.

AHMED

Fine, fine. But if this turns into a repeat of capture the flag, you're never having a say in group votes again.

SAM

Fine. Turn right here, Will.

Will turns right, and the group drives off.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - 15 MINUTES LATER

The four stand outside of the elementary school they went to as kids.

AHMED

What are we doing here again?

SAM

Remember when we went here? Like how we became friends?

WILL

Of course. Our parents all worked past when we were dismissed so we'd all play after school until they picked us up.

SAM

Do you guys remember what we did the first day we met?

AHMED

We said hi?

SAM

No. Well, yeah I guess we did say hi but we did something else.

The other three don't seem to remember.

SAM

We had a race around the school to see who was the fastest.

LEE

Why does that matter?

SAM

That's the challenge. A race.

LEE

But who cares about the whole school thing and shit?

SAM

I don't know, I just thought it'd be cool to race where it all started, since we're taking a big step forward

in our friendship.

AHMED

Yeah, we went from sitting in Will's basement doing nothing to sitting in Will's car doing nothing!

SAM

Well we're doing something now, so shut up. Line up by the school sign.

The group goes and lines up in a horizontal line.

SAM

Okay. Once around the school, and then winner gets to pick. We start on 'Go', alright?

LEE

Why around the school? Can't we just go forward and back?

SAM

Because it's sentimental, dumbass. This is a huge place for our friendship.

LEE

Gay.

SAM

Really funny, Lee. How gay am I to-GO!

Sam tears down the field, getting a head start. Quickly, Will tears after him. Lee and Ahmed, getting tied up with the abrupt start, take off after Will. After quickly realizing Will and Sam are already too far ahead, they both try to beat each other, jostling and tripping one another for fun.

CUT TO FINAL LEG OF RUN

EXT. OUTSIDE OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - 1 MINUTE LATER

In the final 100 meters, Will and Sam are still neck and neck. Ahmed and Lee are nowhere to be seen.

Sam, still slightly in the lead puts all of his remaining energy into leaping across the line, winning him the race. Will struggles roughly after, breathing heavily.

WILL

(In between breaths)

Holy shit... too much sitting... side cramp... like baby in lung... unfair

WILL collapses to the ground, catching his breath.

SAM

What do you mean unfair?

Will doesn't respond, and instead opts to catch his breath on the ground. Sam stands for a second, satisfied with himself. Around the corner, Lee and Ahmed turn into the final stretch. Instead of racing, they seem to be chasing each other and laughing. As they approach the finish line, Ahmed tackles Lee, and they fall to the ground laughing. After they calm down, they get up.

LEE

Who won?

SAM

I did. Taco Bell it is, bitches.

Lee seems alright with the decision, but Ahmed groans.

AHMED

Taco Bell? Really?

Will lays on the ground, still breathing heavily.

WILL

Not... fair...

SAM

How is it not fair? You guys agreed to this.

Will sits up a little, and his breath levels

WILL

Why do you get to pick the event? We all know you're the best runner here.

AHMED

He's right. Also you didn't give us a good countdown.

SAM

Do you guys want to race again?

WILL

No. Please, God no.

AHMED

I've got an idea. What if we all get an event. That way, we can all have the same advantage Sam had. The person who wins the most challenges chooses dinner.

SAM

You really don't want Taco Bell, do you?

AHMED

I'm just saying, I think it should be fair.

SAM

I get a point for this though, right.

WILL

Sure. Sam 1, Us 0.

LEE

Okay, so what do we do next?

WILL

I've got an idea.

EXT. WATERSHED PARK - 15 MINUTES LATER

The group stands in front of a medium sized tree in Watershed Park, a large central park in Olympia.

LEE

Why are we at a tree?

AHMED

Nah, I remember this tree. It's from that nature trip we went on in seventh grade.

WILL

This was the first time I had gotten in trouble in my life.

LEE

Ohh, shit. Ohhhh Shit! This was when we ditched the field trip.

SAM

Yeah, and we sat in a tree for three hours while everybody else thought we were lost.

AHMED

You have to admit it was a pretty fucking funny three hours though.

WILL

Yeah, like when Ahmed fell out of the tree and had to hide behind the trunk.

The group laughs.

AHMED

Because they were about to call a fucking search party! I didn't want to be the one to get caught. What about when Will realized we were going to get caught and started to cry?

Everyone but Will laughs again.

WILL

You know how my mom is, man. I actually thought I would be grounded for years.

AHMED

I guess, but it doesn't beat when Sam sit on that branch stub.

At this point, everyone is laughing pretty hard.

SAM

Shut the hell up. There was no entry made. No entry, I tell you.

Everyone continues to laugh

LEE

Or, or, or when I threw that sharp branch at that kid and he started crying

Lee starts to laugh hysterically, but everyone stops laughing.

AHMED

Didn't he start bleeding?

WILL

I think they called an ambulance, Lee.

LEE

Whatever. What are we doing here?

WILL

We're going to climb to the top of this tree, just like we did in Seventh Grade. First one up wins.

AHMED

So we're really going with the sentimental aspect, huh?

WILL

I don't know, I just felt like it. I like Sam's idea of thinking about our past. It's cool.

LEE

Ga-

WILL

Lee, shut the fuck up.

Will swings up into the tree and begins to climb.

LEE

Are we going to line up, or how are we going to start?

Will continues to climb up the tree.

WILL

We started ten seconds ago, bitch.

As Will starts to climb the tree faster. Quickly, the group tries to catch up to him. Lee scrambles up the tree quickly, catching up to Will with Ahmed close behind him. Sam struggles to get up the tree.

As the group scrambles farther up the tree, they get more aggressive. They push and jostle with each other, each trying to get an inch over the one another. At the bottom, Sam struggle gingerly to get up the tree. All around the tree, branches snap and fall to the ground.

Nearing the top, the three besides Sam are neck and neck. Lee tries to leap and grab the top, but ends up tumbling down the tree before catching himself, knocking Sam off balance. Sam

falls down, falling onto the same branch stub he allegedly made contact on a few years ago. From the look on his face, one can only assume entry was made.

At the top, Will and Ahmed still struggle to make it up to the final branch. They both fumble with the branches before turning to fumbling with each other, trying to stop them from reaching it instead of reach it themselves. Ahmed shoves Will, sending him almost toppling off of the tree. However, Will is able to flail his arms and catch his balance. Terrified at what he almost did to his friend, Ahmed stops and grabs him.

AHMED

Holy shit, I'm so sorry Will. I didn't mean to.

Will breathes heavily for a second, before looking at Ahmed and quickly touching the top of the tree. He grins at Ahmed.

WITIT

I win.

AHMED

Dude, what the fuck?

WILL

You push me off of a tree, I cheap shot you for a win. Evens.

AHMED

But-

WILL

Ahmed. You almost pushed me off of a fucking tree for a vote on which fast food place we eat at. I'm brushing past this for you. Just move on.

Ahmed is taken aback for a second.

AHMED

Um, sure. Where are Lee and Sam?

WILL

I think Sam was in last and Lee took a pretty hard tumble. I didn't hear any screaming or anything, so I think they're good.

Will and Ahmed look down. Sam and Lee sit on one of the lower

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branches, with twigs in hand.

AHMED

You guys goo-

LEE

Shhhhh! I'm gonna bean this lady and her dog.

Will and Ahmed quickly scramble down the tree to stop any guerilla warfare from ensuing.

AHMED

Lee, Stop it! Remember the Ambulance.

LEE

I still think you're making that up.

The group dismounts the tree. In the aftermath, most of the tree's branches are snapped and wilting, making it almost unrecognizable.

AHMED

Damn. We fucked that tree up.

SAM

Are we sure it was the tree from last time?

WILL

No clue. Could be. I just picked a tree in the general area that field trip was.

SAM

That's sort of all our fault.

AHMED

Yeah...

LEE

Can we leave? I've got an idea for my event.

Dismissively, everyone says "Yeah, sure" before walking away from the tree. Sam rubs his backside, and a large branch falls from the top of the tree.

INT. WILL'S CAR - 15 MINUTES LATER

The four are at the university campus, outside of a party.

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Will desperately backs in and out of a parking spot, miserably failing to parallel park.

LEE

No, it's Mirror to Gas Slot.

WILL

You don't even have your Temps, Lee!

SAM

You're still way off the curb.

WILL

Fuck it.

Will pulls out of the spot and speeds over to a gas station, where he parks.

AHMED

What are we doing at Evergreen?

LEE

My challenge.

AHMED

So are we all gonna race or something?

LEE

No. You're gonna go ask to get in to that party.

AHMED

But isn't there something we-

LEE

Nope. You're gonna go ask. If you get in, you get to pick where we eat.

AHMED

If I get in, I'm staying to party.

LEE

Fine. Just put your money where your wallet is.

SAM

I don't think that-

 $_{
m LEE}$

Just do it, Ahmed.

The group walk over to a fraternity where an obvious party is taking place. Ahmed looks back at the group, and then ascends up the steps. About halfway up, he stops and looks back at his friends. Gingerly, he continues, as if he's scared of what's behind the front door.

As he approaches the door, a raises his hand to knock, puts it down, and then raises it again. Suddenly, he turns around and quickly walks down the stairs and past the group, who wait at the base.

LEE

Well, well.

AHMED

Shut up.

LEE

Guess you-

AHMED

I said shut the fuck up.

LEE

It's just you sounded so confident.

AHMED

Lee, when will you take a hint! Shut the fuck up! So what, I didn't get into a college party but at least I walked up those stairs. You never would've even gotten close, just like you every girl you've ever talked to. Have you ever been on a date with a girl? All you do is spout misogyny and vulgarity for everyone to hear! Honestly, I don't even know why we hang out with you, all I have to do is comment on a women's cleavage and spout a swear word every five minutes and you're basically replaced.

Lee is slightly taken aback. Ahmed face holds steady, but after Lee's reaction you can see his anger fade momentarily as it's replaced with sympathy. However, he quickly returns to pure anger.

LEE

Do you think I love being like this? Do you think LOVE being the off the radar of every single girl at out

school? I'm a failure, Ahmed, you know that. You guys were the first friends I ever had! It's not like I didn't want friends, do you know how hard I tried to make them? Do you know how sad it is for a kindergartener to not be able to make other kindergarteners laugh? What it's like to tell a knock knock joke to literal five year old children and get crickets? I know it doesn't paint me in the best light, but when I say that vulgar shit you guys LAUGH. You guys make me feel like I'm an important friend. When you say things like how easy it would be for you to get into a party, it makes me wonder if you would actually leave us for a party. I love this friend group, and I couldn't imagine it without any one of us. I guess we didn't all feel the same.

Lee turns around and walks past Will and Sam, who have both been awkwardly watching the spectacle unfold.

LEE (CONTD.)

Just take me home, Will.

SAM

Wait, just like that? I'm hungry.

LEE

Just get something here. I lost my appetite.

Will looks at Ahmed, who shrugs. Lee is far off in the distance now. Slowly, the rest of the group follows him.

INT. WILL'S CAR - LATER

The group sit awkwardly in the car. Ahmed looks wistfully out of the window, thinking about something. Lee draws something in the fog on the window.

SAM

What're you drawing, Lee?

AHMED

(Angrily)

Me fucking Ahmed's mom.

Everyone, even Will, looks over to the window to see Lee really is drawing that. Will and Sam both start to laugh. Even though Ahmed sits in angry silence, he smiles too.

SAM

Holy shit, I'm so hungry. Can you just go to the next restaurant? I genuinely don't care what it is.

WILL

You really want to do that?

SAM

Yes! I'll eat anything.

Will pulls over to at an Arby's. From the car, multiple groans can be heard.

INT. ARBY'S - EVENING

The group walks into an Arby's. Will stays back with Lee and Ahmed, while Sam goes ahead to order. Not wanting to stay with Ahmed, Lee heads off to the bathroom.

SAM (OFF SCREEN)

You guys got burgers here? *beat* Fuck.

WILL

You want anything, Ahmed?

AHMED

I'll get some curly fries or something, whatever is edible here.

WTTıTı

I'm hungry, but I'm not <u>Arby's</u> hungry. I'll eat some of your fries or something.

Ahmed seems a little distracted at something over Will's head.

WILL

Ahmed. You good?

AHMED

Look behind you.

WILL

I can't do that. That's weird.

AHMED

Come look at this thing on my phone, then.

Ahmed pulls out his phone, as Will comes over to look. Pretending to look at Ahmed's phone, they both look over at a table of two girls.

AHMED

Did they just look at us?

WILL

I don't know, did they?

AHMED

I think they did. Or at least one of them. The cute one, with the red hair. On the right.

Will's stomach suddenly grumbles violently.

WILL

Oh, shit. I'm Arby's hungry. You want me to get some fries, or anything?

AHMED

(Clearly distracted)

Uh, nah. Yeah. Whatever. Actually, yeah. Thanks.

Will gives Ahmed a look, before turning around to go order with Sam. Suddenly, the RED HAIRED GIRL gets up and starts to walk over to Ahmed.

RED HAIRED GIRL

Hey!

AHMED

Hey. I mean, hi. I mean, what's up. I'm Ahmed.

RED HAIRED GIRL

Ahmed? Is that like, Indian or something?

AHMED

No, it's Afghanistani but you were really close.

The red haired girl laughs.

RED HAIRED GIRL

Sorry, I'm bad with maps and stuff like that. I'm Jessica, by the way.

AHMED

It's all good, Jessica. I am too.

JESSICA

I am pretty good at math, though.

AHMED

Uh, Math?

JESSICA

Are you good at math?

AHMED

Kinda. Not like a nerd or anythig. I
mean, kinda.

JESSICA

Well then this isn't too hard of a question. What do you get when you you and me?

Ahmed looks around nervously. Behind Jessica, he sees Lee out of the bathroom, watching the spectacle unfold. When Jessica asks him about them being together, Lee's spirit drops a little more.

AHMED

(Suddenly)

I have a girlfriend.

JESSICA

You do?

AHMED

Yeah, I do.

Ahmed looks around for a name to give his fake girlfriend.

AHMED

Uhh, Lee-ann. Leeanne, my girlfriend.

JESSICA

Really?

AHMED

Yeah, sorry. My friend here doesn't, though.

Lee looks up at Ahmed, as if to say 'Me?'. Ahmed looks over at him and gives him a smile. Jessica turns around to see Lee.

LEE

'Sup. I'm Lee.

JESSICA

Uh, hello, I'm Jessica.

The pair continue to talk awkwardly, until an actual conversation begins to blossom. Ahmed then walks outside to join Will and Sam.

SAM

What's going on in there?

AHMED

I set Lee up with that girl. I felt bad.

SAM

You felt bad, so you passed up a golden opportunity?

AHMED

Yeah. I was kind of a dick, honestly. He deserves it. Plus, her friend is way hotter.

The three look at Jessica's friend eating inside. She's pretty hot. Suddenly, Lee turns away from Jessica and walks out to the group, leaving Jessica confused.

WILL

What happened?

LEE

She's not my type.

AHMED

Not your type?

LEE

Nah, not really. I'm into Sarah. From science class? She's my lab partner.

AHMED

(Furiously)

What the f- What? Why would you do that? I set you up, man! I set you up!

I was the bigger man.

LEE

Next time, be the bigger man with a girl who's my type.

Ahmed continues to try to sputter something out, before completely giving up, and starting to walk towards Lee. Lee backpedals, laughing?

LEE

You think you can catch this? After our little race?

AHMED

Come here, dumbass.

Ahmed begins to chase Lee around the parking lot, like they did at the elementary school, laughing the whole way. Will and Sam begin to eat their Arby's.

SAM

(Looking at his meal) This fuckin' sucks.

WILL

It really does.

Fade to black.