

7th Heaven

"You Take The High Road"

Written by

Jeffrey Rodgers

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SEVENTH HEAVEN

"You Take the High Road"

PROLOGUE

FADE IN:

DAY ONE

1 EXT. KINKIRK HOUSE - ESTABLISHING - DAY 1

2 INT. KINKIRK KITCHEN - DAY 2

LUCY is still in her pajamas. She's looking in the refrigerator for something. The phone RINGS. She answers.

LUCY
Hello?

INTERCUT:

3 INT. RUTHIE'S DORM ROOM - DAY 3

It's RUTHIE.

RUTHIE
Is he crazy? He thinks he can just
come over here and drag me back?
What is wrong with him?

Lucy considers.

LUCY
I'm sorry, who is this?

RUTHIE
What do you mean, who is this?

LUCY
Ruthie?

RUTHIE
Yes, who did you think? I got an
email from Dad telling me he's coming
over here. He's coming to Scotland.
He's gone completely insane. He
can't afford to just come over here
so he's coming for some reason, and
if the reason is to drag me home,
I've got news for him, I'm not coming
home. I have a life. I have friends.
I have a job. I love it here. He
can't do this to me. You can't let
him.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

3

Lucy reacts.

LUCY

He emailed you when?

RUTHIE

I don't know. I never read his emails when they come in, they're always full of stupid stuff like advice.

LUCY

Well, maybe he just really wants to see you. You were supposed to come home at Thanksgiving, then you made it Christmas. Maybe he couldn't wait that long to see you.

RUTHIE

Why not?

LUCY

I don't know. Because he misses you?

RUTHIE

Yeah well, I miss all of you. But not enough to leave here. You have to stop him.

LUCY

I don't know if I can.

RUTHIE

You have to. Pleeeeease.

LUCY

Ruthie, if he misses you that much and he really wants to see you and he's already on the way there, then I don't know what you want me to do about it.

RUTHIE

What kind of a sister are you? You're supposed to be there for me when I need you. I need you to stop him. You know Mom won't. They have one mind.

LUCY

Did you try to call him, or Mom?

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED: (2)

3

RUTHIE

I can't get either one of them on the phone. The home phone, the cell phones. They're not answering.

KEVIN walks in the back door with SAM and DAVID who have duffel bags.

SAM

Hello.

DAVID

Good morning.

They keep walking. Kevin looks at Lucy.

KEVIN

Your mom decided to go with your dad to Scotland, so the boys are going to hang out with us for a few days.

Ruthie overheard that on the other end of the phone.

RUTHIE

No, no not the two of them. That means it's not a visit, it's a kidnapping. And they're not taking me back with them. I'm not going to be here. I'm not. I'll run away!

Ruthie hangs up. Lucy hangs up.

FADE OUT.

END OF PROLOGUE

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

4 EXT. KINKIRK HOUSE - ESTABLISHING - DAY 4

5 INT. KINKIRK KITCHEN - DAY 5

MUSIC is Scottish and public domain like: "Oh, ye'll take the high road, and I'll take the low road, an' I'll be in Scotland afore ye; but me and my true love will never meet again, on the bonnie, bonnie banks of Loch Lomond."

UNDER CREDITS: Kevin is at the kitchen table with the boys, SAVANNAH, too. They're all drawing or coloring maps and marking them with stickers of airplanes going and coming from Scotland to California. END CREDITS. Lucy enters.

LUCY
Could I see you for just a minute?

KEVIN
Sure.

He follows her into the living room.

6 INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY 6

Lucy and Kevin enter, she turns to face him.

LUCY
I knew Dad was thinking of going to Scotland to see Ruthie, I didn't know the two of them were going, and today? When did they decide that? I've been waiting for him to talk to me for almost a week now.

Her cell phone RINGS. Lucy picks it up.

LUCY
Hello?

INTERCUT:

7 INT. SANDY'S APARTMENT - DAY 7

It's SANDY.

SANDY
You have to help me. I have to get out of this relationship with Daniel. I don't know what I was thinking. What was I thinking? He's so weird.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SANDY (CONT'D)

And so serious. And so... I don't know. I can't stand him, and yet I told him I'm in love with him. Why did I do that? I'm not in love with him. I don't want anything to do with him.

LUCY

(to Sandy, but staring
at Kevin)

I want to talk to you, but I can't right now, I have to call you back, and don't rush into any decisions, maybe you're just having a bad day, maybe I'm just having a bad day. I'm not sure yet. I'll call you back.

She hangs up, looks at Kevin.

LUCY

Kevin?

Kevin sighs.

KEVIN

Your dad'll talk to you too when he gets back. He wants to talk to all of us when he gets back.

LUCY

Too? What do you mean too?

Kevin looks at her. She looks at him. Lucy is picking up on Kevin's mood. He has something terrible to say, and she knows it.

KEVIN

Luce, I have to tell you something, and I don't know if this is the best time, but we need to talk.

LUCY

From the sound of your voice, I don't know if I want to talk. I don't know if I ever want to talk to you again. And if I'm going to hear something bad about my dad, I want to hear it from him.

KEVIN

Luce, this is difficult enough. Please, don't make it any more difficult than it already is.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (2)

7

She snaps.

LUCY

How do you know something about my dad that I don't know? When did he tell you? And why you? Why not me?

Kevin shrugs.

KEVIN

He just can't, he can't tell you. He can't tell any of you, not yet anyway.

LUCY

But he can tell you?

KEVIN

Don't you see, Luce, that's because as close as we are, I'm not as close to him as you are. Your father --

Lucy puts up her hand to stop him.

LUCY

No. He doesn't want to tell me, I don't want to know.

KEVIN

He wants you to know.

Lucy looks at him.

LUCY

He told you to tell me?

KEVIN

Yeah, Luce, he asked me to tell you.

LUCY

And when, when were you going to tell me?

KEVIN

He asked me to wait until they got out of town, and well, they just left, just minutes ago, and I'm telling you, if you'll let me.

Lucy reacts.

LUCY

My mom agreed to this plan?

(CONTINUED)

KEVIN

She didn't want any added drama. She's not looking forward to the trip, but she didn't want him going alone.

LUCY

Oh, I see. I'd be "added drama."

KEVIN

She wasn't talking about you. She was talking about the two of you, you and your dad. You know how much he loves you. He just can't bring himself to tell you what's going on.

LUCY

Has he told Matt or Mary or Simon?

KEVIN

No, he wants to get Ruthie home, and he wants to get everyone together. So actually, you're the first of the children to know, when you're ready for me to tell you.

Lucy is in shock.

LUCY

Kevin, you can't just start off my day by giving me bad news that's not even your news to give. I have to go to work. I can't know whatever this is right now. It's a terrible time to tell me anything bad, the worst possible time. And I don't like surprises.

KEVIN

I'm sorry.

LUCY

I have meetings and counseling sessions and people to deal with and... And I have to feed the dogs and I have a hair appointment after work and I have to... call Sandy back.

KEVIN

Come on, Luce, we're going to have to be grown-ups here.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (4)

7

LUCY
I'm not a grown-up? You're not a grown-up. Hiding things and... then trying to just drop them on me. Just... let's just... Forget you said anything. Yeah. I'm just going to forget you said anything. And you forget my dad told you anything. Just... forget it.

And she walks off, leaving Kevin wondering what the heck that reaction was. He follows her into the kitchen.

8 INT. KINKIRK KITCHEN - DAY

8

Kevin looks at her.

LUCY
I have to get down to the church, so have a nice day.

KEVIN
So you're just going to go to work?

LUCY
Yep.

KEVIN
You can do that?

LUCY
I'm fine.

KEVIN
Could we just go outside and --

LUCY
(cuts him off)
Uh uh. Don't. Don't say anything to me.

The boys exchange a glance.

LUCY
Bye, guys. Bye, Savannah.

And she's out. Kevin watches her go, then turns back.

DAVID
Women, huh?

Kevin smiles.

KEVIN
And by that, you mean...?

(CONTINUED)

SAM

Girls.

KEVIN

Yeah. Look guys, I've heard you say that before, and I don't know where you got it, but let me explain something. That's my girl, that's my daughter, that's Savannah, and I love her, and I love your sister Lucy. Girls are wonderful, women are wonderful, and I don't have any problem with girls or women. They're the best things in life.

Enter JANE and MARGARET with duffel bags.

JANE

Lucy said to talk to you. Unless you have a problem with us, we thought we'd stay over here.

Margaret looks at him, nervously waiting for an answer.

DAVID

No, he doesn't have any problem with girls or women.

SAM

They're the best things in life.

JANE

Things? We're things? We're not things. Where'd you get that, that we're things?

SAM

Kevin said it, not me.

KEVIN

Stay over here? At our house?

SAM

They can stay with us in our room.

DAVID

Yeah, we don't have a problem with girls or women either.

MARGARET

Thanks.

KEVIN

Why would you stay here? You have the garage apartment.

(CONTINUED)

JANE

Yeah, but, you know, the Camdens
took off.

He looks at her, as if to explain.

MARGARET

No one home.

KEVIN

What difference does that make?

JANE

Probably none if you have a gun and
you're a former police officer, or
if you're a black belt in karate
and have some nunchucks or...

MARGARET

Or if you're dead already.

KEVIN

What are you talking about? It's
safe over there.

JANE

What makes you think that?

KEVIN

It's a safe neighborhood.

JANE

I think we covered that. It's a
safe neighborhood if you're you. We
can't stay in the garage of an empty
house. That's like squatting in a
vacant building.

KEVIN

The garage apartment is practically
in our backyard.

JANE

Would you listen to yourself, are
you going to put us in danger to
prove a point?

(notices the children)

What are you guys drawing? Maps? I
love maps.

KEVIN

Great. Let me show you something.

He draws a box.

(CONTINUED)

KEVIN

Here's the garage apartment.

Then he draws a bigger box.

KEVIN

Here's my backyard.

He draws another box.

KEVIN

Here's my house.

He points to the map.

KEVIN

House. Garage apartment.

Jane takes Kevin's map, picks up one of the kids' maps.

JANE

Yeah, but according to this map,
the garage apartment is the same
distance from your house as Scotland
is from California. Scotland.
California. Garage apartment. House.

Margaret smiles, nods in agreement. Kevin gives up.

KEVIN

I have to talk to Lucy.

DAVID

She's not talking to you.

JANE

Why isn't she talking to you?

Kevin looks at them, they know he can't say anything. Margaret and Jane look at each other, they look at Kevin.

JANE

I think we all just need to be with
family right now.

Margaret nods. They head out down the hall with their bags. Kevin watches them go, he's getting the idea that something is up, however Sam and David seem quite pleased.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

9 EXT. GLENOAK COMMUNITY CHURCH - ESTABLISHING - DAY 9

10 INT. CHURCH OFFICE - DAY 10

Lucy is unloading her briefcase. She sits down at the desk. She looks at the photos on the desk. Matt and Sarah and the twins. Mary and Carlos and Charlie and the twins. Simon. Ruthie. Lucy when she was little. Lucy now, in her minister robes. Kevin. Lucy and Kevin and Savannah. A picture of Eric and Annie.

LUCY
(mutters)
You could have told me.

She starts to tear up, but is still just a bit angry. The phone RINGS. She sniffles and answers.

LUCY
Yeah? I mean hello.

INTERCUT:

11 INT. SANDY'S APARTMENT - DAY 11

It's Sandy.

SANDY
Lucy?

LUCY
Oh hi, Sandy, I was going to call you, I just got... distracted.

SANDY
I hate to bother you, but I just can't see Daniel another day. Only I'm going to have to because he's in practically every class I'm taking. I am so stupid. He is a total dork. And I don't know how to get rid of him. I have no experience getting rid of guys. Guys always get rid of me, or they did when I was sleeping with them. But believe me, I'm not sleeping with this one. Ever.

LUCY
No, of course not.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED:

11

SANDY

Maybe I should just get it over
with and sleep with Martin again,
I'll probably end up doing that
anyway.

LUCY

How did you jump to that conclusion?

SANDY

I don't know, I'm desperate.

At this point, T BONE enters.

T BONE

Hey, Luce, just thought I'd drop in
to see how --

Lucy puts her finger up, indicates just a second, turning
aside.

LUCY

(into phone)

Sandy, you're making this more
difficult than it is, just tell
Daniel in a nice way that you don't
want to see him any more.

SANDY

I'm trying, but he doesn't want to
hear it.

T BONE

I can see you're busy with some
important relationship issues, I
can wait.

LUCY

(into phone)

Well, sometimes you just have to
say what you have to say whether
the person wants to hear it or not,
and really, there has to be a way
to say you don't want to see him
any more that he understands.

She looks at T Bone.

LUCY

I'm going to be a while.

T BONE

Did Kev get a chance to talk to
you?

(CONTINUED)

SANDY

I did. I said, "Daniel, I'm sorry,
but I don't want to see you any
more." Just like that. Point blank.
And then he kissed me and told me...

(mimics him)

Don't be so afraid to be in love.
Ugh. I really can't stand him.

LUCY

Sometimes people just can't hear
the truth, sometimes they just can't
deal with it.

T BONE

So you did talk to Kev this morning
after Mom and Dad left?

(off her look)

That's Reverend and Mrs. Camden, to
me.

SANDY

Are you there? What do I do?

LUCY

Make him hear you.

SANDY

How?

LUCY

Well, sometimes actions speak louder
than words. Do something that says
you don't want to see him any more.

SANDY

Like...?

LUCY

I'm sorry, I have someone in my
office so I'm going to let you figure
out that one, okay?

SANDY

Okay. Thanks, Lucy.

And she hangs up.

T BONE

Sandy, huh?

LUCY

What are you doing here, T Bone?
You're going to be late for school.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED: (3)

11

T BONE

Eh, what am I going to learn today?
How important is it that I be there?

LUCY

Very important. I think your
counselor mentioned to my dad that
you've been out a lot this year,
and this year just started. And I
don't think my dad would like it if
he knew that the day he left town,
you ditched school.

T BONE

Isn't real life experience much
more valuable than any school? Isn't
life a school in itself? A tough
school? School of hard knocks?

LUCY

Either tell me what you want or
just go to school.

T BONE

To be honest, it's a teacher work
day. I just like to imagine myself
so bold that I would lie, ditch
school and come to your rescue.

LUCY

Uh, my rescue?

T BONE

I just wanted to see you and make
sure you were okay. I know your mom
and dad leaving to fetch young Ruthie
was rather spur of the moment, and
that might have prompted a difficult
conversation with your husband and...
I thought you might need my
assistance.

LUCY

You thought wrong.

T BONE

I could answer the phone? Take
messages? Drive you? Don't forget
I'm a licensed driver.

LUCY

With a fake license. I just don't
feel like having anyone else around
today, okay? So please, just go.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED: (4)

11

T BONE

Maybe I could hang out until lunch?

LUCY

No. I'm busy, I'm working.

T BONE

How can you work? Unless... you and Kevin didn't talk? I just assumed that you would.

She looks at him.

LUCY

T Bone, whether my husband and I talked to each other before I came to work today or any other day is really a personal matter between Kevin and me, okay?

T BONE

As always, you are absolutely right.

He just nods and backs out of the room. Her cell phone RINGS, she picks it up.

LUCY

Ruthie?

INTERCUT:

12 INT. RUTHIE'S DORM ROOM - DAY

12

It's Ruthie.

RUTHIE

Did you get to him? Did you talk to Dad?

LUCY

No, I did not talk to Dad. But I did try to call him, and his cell phone is off, and Mom's cell phone is off, so I think they're probably on their way.

RUTHIE

Nooooo, please. They can't be.

Lucy shakes her head.

(CONTINUED)

LUCY

Look, you don't know why they're coming, I don't even know why they're coming, they just decided to take off, okay?

RUTHIE

And you let them?

LUCY

I didn't have anything to do with it. They're our parents, they do what they want.

RUTHIE

What about me? When do I get to do what I want?

LUCY

Ruthie, they let you stay in Scotland this semester. You were supposed to come home at the end of the summer. I think they've been pretty generous in letting you do what you want.

RUTHIE

Generous? You paid for it, you and Kevin.

LUCY

That doesn't make any difference.

RUTHIE

Yes, it does. If anyone gets to come over here, it should be you and Kevin. I don't care if you and Kevin come over here, I don't want Mom and Dad over here.

LUCY

You know, I think maybe you have been away too long. You're starting to sound like a brat. And let me tell you something, little sister, when Mom and Dad get there, you act as if you're happy to see them.

RUTHIE

Why?

LUCY

Because! Because they're your parents. Because they're your mom and dad and you should be grateful to have a mother and a father.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: (2)

12

RUTHIE

Yeah, well, I'm not right now, okay?
They just want to ruin my life.

And she hangs up. Lucy shakes her head, disgusted, looks at the book on her desk, *For the Love of Family*, and throws it. She hears a CRASH behind her. The book went through the stained glass window. Oops.

DISSOLVE TO:

13 EXT. KINKIRK HOUSE - ESTABLISHING - DAY

13

14 INT. KINKIRK KITCHEN - DAY

14

Kevin is making sandwiches when T Bone enters and has the book, *For the Love of Family*, in his hand.

T BONE

I was struck leaving the church, so rather than return this to Lucy at her office, I thought I'd drop it off here.

KEVIN

Lucy threw that at you?

T BONE

Not intentionally, I don't believe she would hit me in the head with a book intentionally, but she did toss it through her office window. Did you tell her or not?

KEVIN

Or not. She didn't want to hear it. She said it's not a good time.

T BONE

Oh. As usual, she's right. Sort of. There's never a good time for bad news.

Jane and Margaret enter. T Bone looks at Kevin.

T BONE

What are they doing here?

JANE

We're staying here while the Camdens are out of town.

(CONTINUED)

T BONE

And what, I'm staying all by myself in the house alone? You guys aren't going to be out in the garage apartment?

KEVIN

That hasn't been determined yet.

T BONE

Either way, I get the dog, right? I'm not staying in the house without the dog.

KEVIN

You've been living in an empty church without a dog.

T BONE

That's different. That's a church, this is a house, a big house.

KEVIN

Not bigger than the church.

T BONE

Lonelier than the church.

Kevin looks at him.

T BONE

A church is a house of God, and God's always home, whereas the Camdens aren't.

Kevin looks at him, looks at Jane and Margaret.

KEVIN

The three of you want to tell me what you're up to, or rather, who you're expecting? I'm not buying that you're all scared. Unless suddenly you have reason to be scared.

They all react, what? Come on.

KEVIN

What happened to the three of you? You seemed so independent and obnoxious when we met you, now suddenly you're afraid of your own shadows.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED: (2)

14

MARGARET
(insulted)
I haven't changed.

KEVIN
You know what I mean. You two were
living in a car. You weren't scared
living in a car.

JANE
Yeah, because if someone came up to
the car in the middle of the night
and tried to break in, I could just
drive away.

MARGARET
That happened. More than once.

KEVIN
Not buying it.

T BONE
The problem is actually more
philosophical. We suddenly feel
insecure without the Camdens here,
and we're facing...
(looks around)
...the possibility of a loss and
that leaves us feeling extremely
vulnerable.

KEVIN
You're lying. And you. And you.

They all look at each other.

KEVIN
So would you like to be interrogated
together or individually?

T Bone and Margaret look at Jane. Jane reacts.

JANE
Oh, thanks a lot.

KEVIN
Who's after you?

She looks at Kevin.

JANE
No one.

T BONE
Liar.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED: (3)

14

JANE

Don't even think about it.

KEVIN

Think about it, 'cause you all need
a place to stay, a place close to
me apparently. So who's after you?

Kevin looks at Jane, waiting for an answer.

MARGARET

Her husband.

Kevin reacts.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

15 EXT. GLENOAK COMMUNITY CHURCH - ESTABLISHING - DAY 15
16 INT. CHURCH OFFICE - DAY/INT. RUTHIE'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT 16

Lucy is looking up glaziers in the yellow pages. Her cell phone RINGS. Lucy looks at it. It's Ruthie. She picks up.

LUCY

Unless you're calling to say you've changed your mind about Mom and Dad then don't even waste my time.

RUTHIE

Please, please don't let them do this. Don't let them force me to go home. Please, Lucy, please talk to them.

LUCY

No.

RUTHIE

You don't understand. This is my life we're talking about. It's not your life. It's not you. It's me. I'm happy being away from home. I'm happy being halfway across the world, far away from the church and Dad and a school where Matt and Mary and Simon and you went. I'm not the preacher's kid any more. I'm just Ruthie Camden. You know how great it is just to be Ruthie Camden without anyone knowing I'm a preacher's kid? I love it here. I'm a normal girl here. I just want to be normal.

LUCY

Normal is completely overrated. And quit whining about being the preacher's kid. What's wrong with being the preacher's kid? There are a lot worse things to be. Maybe you'd like to be the daughter of a... a... bad person.

RUTHIE

I'm out of minutes on my phone card. Thanks a lot for your help, Sis.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

RUTHIE (CONT'D)

Obviously you don't even know what being a minister is about. Haven't you noticed? Dad is always helping people. You're supposed to help people, even if they're related to you. If you can't handle it, why don't you get out of the ministry?

And she slams down the phone, leaving Lucy angry and hurt. Using the church phone, Lucy slowly dials the international number for Ruthie. Ruthie picks up.

RUTHIE

Yeah?

LUCY

Okay, that was a low blow, but I get it. You need help. You need help so that you can just live your life without any disturbances. You don't want to be disturbed. Well, I hate to tell you this Ruthie, but I have a feeling that we're all about to be disturbed in a very big way, and that could be why Mom and Dad are coming to see you or ask you to come home.

RUTHIE

What? Lucy?

No answer. The phone is dead. Ruthie starts looking for a charger. A GUY sticks his head in the room.

GUY

Hey, we missed you tonight.

RUTHIE

(while looking for a
phone charger)

I've got problems, my parents are coming over here practically unannounced, and I have no idea of what they want unless they want me to go back home with them. And then my sister said something cryptic about our entire family being disturbed, not mentally disturbed, which they probably are but just disturbed like bothered. And then this stupid cheap phone went dead and I can't find the charger!

He thinks a second while she continues to look, then:

(CONTINUED)

GUY

When my parents came to visit, they
came to tell me that they were
getting divorced.

Ruthie reacts.

RUTHIE

My parents would never get divorced.

GUY

That's what we all say.

She looks at him, then frantically looks for the charger.
She dials.

RUTHIE

Hey, Matt, it's Ruthie. Do you know
anything about Mom and Dad getting
a divorce? They're on their way
over here. They're coming all the
way to Scotland. That's the only
thing it could be. Could you call
me as soon as you get this message,
please?

She hangs up, then dials.

RUTHIE

Hey, Mary, it's Ruthie from Scotland.
I'm still in Scotland, but I think
Mom and Dad are coming to get me,
and even worse, I think it's because
they're getting a divorce. Did they
tell you? I know Mom's been spending
a lot of time there but I didn't
know it was because they're splitting
up, I thought it was because she
wanted to be with you and the babies.
Could you call me, please?

She hangs up, then dials.

RUTHIE

Simon, hey it's Ruthie. Did you
know Mom and Dad are splitting up?
Could you call me, please? It's
urgent. Where are you? Don't ignore
this call or I'll be really angry
with you. Okay. Well. That's it.
I'm a long way from home and I can't
get anyone to give me any
information. Call me.

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED: (3)

16

And she hangs up. She settles into the mess that is her bed, then starts again, dials.

RUTHIE
Matt, come on, pick up, it's me and
I'm running out of...

The phone goes dead.

RUTHIE
...phone minutes.

She scrambles around to find another phone card.

DISSOLVE TO:

17 INT. KINKIRK KITCHEN - DAY

17

Kevin looks at Jane.

KEVIN
Why did you marry him?

JANE
Why does anyone marry anyone?

KEVIN
Oh, I don't know, because they're
in love and want to be with the
other person for the rest of their
lives?

She smiles.

JANE
That's insane. No one gets married
for that any more. People don't
spend their whole lives together.
People change. Things change. I
changed.

KEVIN
How long have you been married?

She looks at her watch.

JANE
About... Three weeks.

KEVIN
You changed in three weeks?

JANE
It happens. I thought I liked him.
I don't.

(CONTINUED)

KEVIN

Like?

JANE

Okay, I like him, but I can't be with this guy for the rest of my life. I married Jack because I had no place to go, no job, no money.

KEVIN

And you cared nothing at all about him?

JANE

Not exactly. I cared, for a time, a short time.

KEVIN

Where does he work? He's not a drug dealer or something is he?

She laughs.

JANE

No.

KEVIN

So what does he do for a living?

JANE

He's in the Army.

Kevin shakes his head.

KEVIN

The Army? Oh, now I'm getting it. You married him for the benefits.

JANE

Lots of women are doing it.

KEVIN

That doesn't make it right.

JANE

I know. So I'm not taking anything, anything at all. I just want out.

KEVIN

So how upset is he?

JANE

Pretty upset.

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED: (2)

17

KEVIN

Call him. Tell him to come over.
Let's get this straightened out.

She looks at him.

JANE

I'm not going to call him.

KEVIN

Yeah, you are going to call him.

She looks at him, rolls her eyes.

JANE

If I can hide out just a couple
more weeks, he'll be leaving to go
to the Middle East.

KEVIN

You're not going to let this guy go
off to serve our country without
resolving this, are you?

JANE

He'll forget all about it once he
gets there.

KEVIN

Maybe, or maybe it's all he'll think
about. No, you're calling him.

JANE

I'm not calling him.

Kevin looks at her, she's kidding right? She thinks she can
win this argument?

18 INT. SANDY'S APARTMENT - DAY

18

MARTIN and Sandy are looking at each other.

MARTIN

So what made you change your mind?

SANDY

I don't know, I just did.

MARTIN

That's great.

SANDY

Is it?

His phone RINGS. He looks at it.

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

18

MARTIN
It's Ruthie.

He answers.

MARTIN
Hello?

INTERCUT:

19 INT. RUTHIE'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

19

Ruthie is on the phone.

RUTHIE
Martin, hi, how are you? Have you
seen my parents lately, either of
them?

MARTIN
Hi. Are you in Scotland?

RUTHIE
Yeah, but I don't know for how long.
So have you, have you seen them,
together?

MARTIN
What time is it there?

She looks at her watch.

RUTHIE
About nine. So have you? Have you
seen them? Have you been over at
our house lately?

MARTIN
No, I've been kind of busy with
school and Sandy and Aaron and
everything. I'm at Sandy's right
now.

RUTHIE
Oh. Well, maybe she's seen them.
Ask her... No, they'd tell you before
they'd tell her. Do you know if
they're getting a divorce? My mom
and dad?

He laughs.

MARTIN
A divorce? Your parents?

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED:

19

Sandy gasps.

SANDY

No way.

MARTIN

Well, your dad has been acting kind of strange.

RUTHIE

Strange in what way?

MARTIN

I don't know, he just seems like he has something on his mind. He doesn't seem to be listening.

RUTHIE

I think they're on their way here to tell me that they're getting divorced and they want me to come home.

MARTIN

Oh man, I hope not.

RUTHIE

Yeah, I hope not, too. I love it here.

He reacts, then:

MARTIN

I know Lucy said that she had to go back home and face something, something going on with your dad, but I didn't think it was that...

SANDY

No, it can't be.

RUTHIE

Alright, well, maybe one of my brothers or sisters will call me back.

MARTIN

Did you talk to talk to Lucy?

RUTHIE

I'm not talking to her right now. Okay, I have to go. Tell Sandy I said hello. And tell her I have a boyfriend. Bye.

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED: (2)

19

She hangs up. Martin looks at Sandy.

MARTIN

You think the Camdens...? Nah.

SANDY

I don't know, I hope not. I'll call Lucy. We were going to call her anyway, right?

MARTIN

I don't know if you should do that or not. I mean, if her parents are getting divorced, she's probably not going to want to marry us right now.

SANDY

I was hoping that she would.

MARTIN

Me too.

They look at each other and then awkwardly kiss, just a little peck. He smiles.

MARTIN

Ruthie said to tell you she has a boyfriend.

She smiles.

SANDY

She's always going to have a crush on you, but I can live with that.

He smiles.

MARTIN

So when should we... get married?

SANDY

I don't know. As soon as possible, I guess.

MARTIN

I'd really like to have my best friend, this guy from high school, Mac, I'd like to have him as my best man.

SANDY

I thought maybe we should invite our dads to be the witnesses. Shouldn't we invite our dads?

(CONTINUED)

MARTIN

I don't know, if we invite our dads, then I feel like we have to invite the Camdens, and it seems like a bad time to invite them to a wedding even if they're just going through some problems or something. And then who knows, maybe Simon would want to come, and then maybe you'd change your mind, and well, let's just make it us, and then you invite a friend and I'll invite a friend.

SANDY

Okay.

MARTIN

But not Daniel.

SANDY

No. Definitely not.

MARTIN

Okay, so... next weekend.

SANDY

Okay.

MARTIN

Alright.

And then they look at each other. And right here and now they should call it off, but they're not going to.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

20 EXT. KINKIRK HOUSE - ESTABLISHING - NIGHT 20

21 INT. KINKIRK KITCHEN - NIGHT 21

Lucy enters. Jane rushes to the door.

JANE
Thank God you're home.

LUCY
Yeah, I had a hair appointment.

T BONE
Nice.

LUCY
Thank you.

T BONE
Well, I think it looks more than
nice, it looks beautiful.

LUCY
Thank you. And look, I'm sorry if I
was rude to you today.

T BONE
No, not at all, if anything, it was
rude of me to come to your office
without giving you proper notice.

Kevin enters.

KEVIN
In case you haven't figured it out
yet, they want something.

JANE
Can we stay here? Please.

Margaret nods.

T BONE
Tell her.

LUCY
Tell me what?

KEVIN
Jane's married, they're hiding from
her husband.

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED:

21

LUCY
You're married?

T BONE
Can you believe that?

MARGARET
Surprise.

KEVIN
Go away, I want to talk to my wife.

They exit down the hall.

T BONE
Don't worry. Take your time. I'll
keep an eye on them.

The three exit. Kevin looks at Lucy.

KEVIN
Savannah fell asleep early and so
did the boys. They're sleeping on
the floor in the nursery so Jane
and Margaret can camp out in the
guest room, and T Bone can sleep on
the couch. Or we can send them
packing and let them go back to the
garage apartment and your parents'
house, up to you. I don't think
this guy is any real threat.

LUCY
Who is she married to?

KEVIN
A soldier. A private in the Army.
She married him for the benefits
but then she took a look at the
housing situation and decided it's
not for her.

LUCY
Did she know this guy?

KEVIN
Met him at a bar.

LUCY
Were they drunk when they got
married?

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED: (2)

21

KEVIN

Oh, I'd say some partying was
definitely involved, he just finished
basic.

(then)

Your hair looks nice.

LUCY

(smiles)

Thanks.

KEVIN

I'm sorry about --

(then)

This morning.

LUCY

I'm sorry about --

(then)

This morning.

Then they walk to each other and hug.

KEVIN

It's not your fault.

LUCY

It's not your fault.

They break.

LUCY

No, it is my fault. I've been hiding
behind Teen Lucy, afraid to come
out and be an adult, and you're
right, we're going to have to be
adults. We are adults. I'm an adult.
I've got a husband and a daughter
and a family and work, I have real
work to do, and I really don't like
it when I run away from
responsibility.

KEVIN

You're not running away from
responsibility, you're running away
from being hurt. I know how much
you've been hurt this year, and I
really hate seeing you hurt more.

She sits down at the table.

LUCY

I think I'm only beginning to realize
what my dad's been doing all these
years.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

LUCY (CONT'D)

I mean today, we've got three teenagers in the house that we don't know who all need help and at the same time, I've got my sister Ruthie calling from Scotland claiming that Dad and Mom are ruining her life and blaming me for not being able to do anything about it, and then I've got our friend Sandy calling to say that she has to get out of a relationship with this guy, Daniel, because she can't stand him, and that doesn't seem like much of a real problem to me, but it's such a big problem to her that I have to make it important. And this is what my dad has been doing for thirty years, balancing family and friends and strangers, and all the while, quietly, relentlessly inspiring everyone to just do the right thing. And isn't that what I'm supposed to be doing, moving people toward good? Getting people to do the right thing?

Kevin looks at her.

LUCY

Is he dying, Kevin?

Kevin takes her hand.

KEVIN

He's got an enlarged heart, and it's a dangerous condition that the doctors can't do anything about.

Lucy takes a deep breath.

LUCY

So he can't just live with an enlarged heart?

KEVIN

You can, but it seems that his condition is pretty extreme. They don't know what really caused it, sometimes it just happens, sometimes when people have had other heart surgeries. And in this case, it seems that it just got really dangerous in a short period of time.

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED: (4)

21

LUCY

How much time are they saying he
has?

KEVIN

Six months to a year, but they don't
know.

LUCY

Yeah, they don't know.

A phone RINGS. Kevin takes out his cell phone, looks at it.

KEVIN

It's Matt.

LUCY

Matt?

The kitchen phone RINGS. Lucy crosses to get it. It stops
ringing. All the while, Kevin is listening to Matt, looking
concerned. Lucy's phone RINGS, she takes out her phone.

LUCY

It's Mary.

She answers.

LUCY

Mary?

She listens. It's not good. T Bone enters with a phone.

T BONE

Hey, it's your brother Simon.

Lucy takes the phone from him. He exits.

LUCY

Simon, I'm on the other line with
Mary. Are you okay? What?

KEVIN

Hold on, I don't know where you got
that, but...

KEVIN/LUCY

(into three different
phones)

They're not getting a divorce.

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED: (5)

21

LUCY
(into the home phone)
I have another call, maybe it's
Ruthie, I'll call you right back,
promise. And no one's getting a
divorce.

She hangs up the cell phone, clicks over to the other phone.

LUCY
Ruthie?

INTERCUT:

22 INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

22

ERIC is on the phone.

ERIC
No, it's me. How are you?

LUCY
Dad? Are you in Scotland?

ERIC
We're in New York. The flight doesn't
leave for another hour. We just
took the afternoon and went to
Central Park and had a picnic, it
was great. I just wanted to call
you and say hello, say goodnight to
the boys.

LUCY
(to Kevin)
It's Dad. He wants to say goodnight
to Sam and David.

Kevin exits.

LUCY
Dad...

ERIC
Yeah?

LUCY
I know, Dad.

He doesn't say anything.

LUCY
And you know what? Doctors don't
know everything.

(CONTINUED)

He kind of laughs through his tears.

ERIC

Yeah, that's just what your mother said.

LUCY

And I'm sorry that you're going through this, but you're not alone. We love you. We all love you, and we're here for you. I'm here for you. I'm all grown up now. I'm an adult. I'm stronger than you know. I can do whatever you need me to do.

ERIC

Thanks, Lucy.

LUCY

Oh. Speaking of which, you may need me to call Ruthie. She somehow got the idea that you and Mom are coming over there to give her some bad news and the bad news is you're getting divorced. She's called everyone in the family.

ERIC

A divorce? Us?

LUCY

I'll try to reach her before you guys get there.

ERIC

Or, maybe we should let her think that for now. The cat is on the roof theory.

LUCY

I beg your pardon?

ERIC

It's an old joke. A guy calls home from vacation and his brother answers and says, "Hey, your cat died." And the brother says, "Well, you can't just tell me something horrible like that, you have to break it to me gently.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ERIC (CONT'D)

You have to say something like the cat was on the roof, and it was chasing a bird, and it slipped and fell, but you took it to the vet, and the next time I call you say the vet says sorry but it doesn't look good for the cat and the next time I call you say the cat died peacefully in its sleep." And the brother says, "Okay, sorry, I get it." And the other brother on vacation says, "So how's Grandma?" And his brother says, "She's on the roof chasing a bird."

Lucy laughs through her tears.

LUCY

Dad.

ERIC

Luce, everything is going to be fine, no matter what happens.

LUCY

I believe that.

ERIC

Good. And you get that I'm not just telling you an old joke.

LUCY

Yeah, I get it. I'm not going to blurt out anything to anyone, I'll help you tell them in whatever way you want to tell them. But I hope you're not going to fly around the world making phone calls from airports. I want to be with you, lean on me Dad, okay? I'll be there for you.

Eric wipes away his tears. She turns. There's Kevin with the boys.

LUCY

(cheerfully)

Want to say goodnight to the boys?

ERIC

Yeah, I do.

She hands the phone to them. She and Kevin walk down the hall a bit.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED: (3)

22

KEVIN

How is he?

She looks at him.

LUCY

He's on the roof. But he's not going
anywhere if I can help it.

Kevin reacts. She keeps walking.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

| | | |
|----|---|----|
| 23 | EXT. KINKIRK HOUSE - ESTABLISHING - NIGHT | 23 |
| 24 | INT. KEVIN'S AND LUCY'S ROOM - NIGHT/RUTHIE'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT | 24 |

Lucy is on the phone with Ruthie.

LUCY
So technically, the semester is over and you're just hanging out having a good time?

RUTHIE
Hey, this exchange program is competitive. This is like a university. I've been working really hard. I deserve a break.

LUCY
Yeah, you sound like you need a break. And why not take a break here in Glenoak with your family? You were going to have to come home sometime anyway.

RUTHIE
Yeah, but I wanted a few weeks to travel around, maybe go to Paris.

LUCY
Paris? Are you back with the French guy?

RUTHIE
No, we're just friends. That doesn't mean I can't go to Paris.

LUCY
Just wondering. Where were you going to get the money to go to Paris?

RUTHIE
I don't need that much money. I was going to use my living expenses.

LUCY
The money Mom and Dad are sending you to live on while you're in classes at school?

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED:

24

RUTHIE

I'm not asking for any more money
than they'd be sending me anyway.

LUCY

Ruthie, when Mom and Dad find out
you didn't tell them the semester
is already over, they're not going
to be too happy with you.

RUTHIE

Well, they wouldn't have found out
if you had stopped them from coming
over here.

LUCY

So if or when you get caught lying,
it's my fault?

RUTHIE

No, but it's not my fault. And you
lie, too. You know why they're coming
over here, and you didn't tell me
so I jumped to the wrong conclusion.
What made them jump on a plane and
come over here?

LUCY

I don't know what made them jump on
a plane and come over there. I was
surprised by that, too, but I know
Dad hasn't been himself lately, and
he hasn't been feeling well.

RUTHIE

Sounds like he's himself to me.

LUCY

Ruthie, come on, give the man a
break.

RUTHIE

What? He's a control freak, he can't
stand it that I'm out of his reach
for a few months.

Lucy sighs.

25 INT. KINKIRK LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

25

From T Bone's P.O.V. as he tiptoes past the living room:
Kevin is sitting in a chair with his arms folded. Jane is
talking to a good looking MAN IN UNIFORM.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

JANE

It wouldn't be fair to you, for me
to be married to you but not really
married to you, just to get the
benefits. It was a stupid and selfish
thing to do and you deserve better,
you deserve a lot better...

KEVIN

Goodnight, T Bone.

He moves on.

26 INT. GUEST ROOM - NIGHT

26

T Bone enters. Margaret is on an air mattress. The dogs are
on the bed, all three of them, SAMSON, DELILAH and HAPPY.

T BONE

Wouldn't you be more comfortable on
the bed?

She looks at him, nods her head yes. He takes another look.

T BONE

I'll tell Kevin.

MARGARET

Thanks.

T BONE

Here's your ice cream.

She takes it.

MARGARET

Thanks.

T BONE

You don't have a husband, do you?

She just looks at him, shakes her head no.

T BONE

Someday you will.

MARGARET

No thanks.

T BONE

Man, when you start talking, I have
a feeling that a lot is going to
come out.

(CONTINUED)

MARGARET

I don't really have much to say.

T BONE

I bet. It's always the quiet ones
who have the really big secrets.
Come on, just tell me one big secret.
One.

MARGARET

Okay. But you can't tell anyone.

He's interested.

T BONE

Okay, who's it a secret about?

MARGARET

You.

T BONE

Me?

She nods.

T BONE

You know something about me that I
don't know?

MARGARET

Yeah.

He waits.

MARGARET

I wouldn't tell you, but I think
it's so unfair.

T BONE

Unfair how?

MARGARET

Jane called your mother?

T BONE

What?

MARGARET

Yeah, I think she's coming to see
you.

T Bone reacts.

27 INT. KEVIN'S AND LUCY'S ROOM - NIGHT/INT. RUTHIE'S DORM ROOM -27
NIGHT

Lucy and Ruthie are still on the phone.

RUTHIE

So is he sick or not?

LUCY

I think he wants to get everyone together and tell us what's going on. That's probably why he wants you home, so maybe you can just give the guy a break and be happy to see him. And Mom. It's a long way to travel for both of them, and completely unnecessary since you're technically not in classes and should be here anyway.

RUTHIE

Yeah, alright, I can be happy to see them, but if he needs heart surgery or something, it's not like I can do anything for him if I'm there.

LUCY

You can do something, just being here, that's doing something.

RUTHIE

He doesn't need me there, and I don't want to just sit around watching him be sick. He'll be fine. He's had heart surgery before.

LUCY

That's... that's incredibly selfish, don't you think?

RUTHIE

It's incredibly selfish of him to make me come home. And I think once he gets here and sees how great it is, he'll agree with me.

Lucy shakes her head.

LUCY

Once you see him and remember who he is and what he's done for you, maybe you'll be more inclined to come back here for a while where we miss you and need you.

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED:

27

RUTHIE

Hey, don't try to make me feel
guilty. It's not going to work.

LUCY

Who are you?

RUTHIE

I told you. I'm not the preacher's
kid any more. I'm me. I'm Ruthie
Camden.

Lucy just shakes her head.

FADE OUT.

TO BE CONTINUED