

EXT. UPSTATE NEW YORK COUNTRY-SIDE - DAY

Crisp autumn morning. Colorful trees. Little traffic as a status-symbol type four-door sports car moves along an upstate New York highway.

EVAN (V.O.)
...around 8:00, but you really
don't need to come, Jack.
Seriously.

JACK (V.O.)
No, I want to come, but you said
it'd be this weekend. I can't just-

EVAN (V.O.)
It's not a big deal, Jack. I just
had a dentist appointment cancel on
me, so I thought I'd get a couple
day's head start.

SFX: BEEP of an incoming call.

JACK (V.O.)
I gotta go, but you're not the only
one with a life, man.

EVAN
Wait, Jack-

JACK
No, man. It's my sponsor. I gotta
take this!

EVAN
Just take the train up on Saturday.
I'll pick you up...hello?

SFX: CLICK of a disconnected call.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. EVAN'S CAR - DAY

EVAN (40) clean-cut, is driving. His perky wife, JULIE (late 30's), rides shotgun. Evan's younger brother, JACK (late 30's) more haggard than his brother, is in the backseat next to Julie's friend, ELISHA (30's).

JULIE
You look good, Jack. Are you-

JACK
Why thank you, Julie. You're
looking just swell, too.

EVAN
Here we go.

JACK
What? You don't think she looks
good, man?

Evan doesn't take the bait. Focuses on the road.

Jack notices Elisha snicker.

JACK (CONT'D)
(nursing a coffee)
So, Elisha, what do you do?

ELISHA
I answer phones for a law office.

JACK
Oh, cool.

ELISHA
Yeah, not really, but it's good
money. The city is so expensive.
What about you? What do you do?

JULIE
Yeah, Jack. Catch us up. Are
you...I mean, have you gotten a job
now that you're-

JACK
What? Not drunk?

EVAN
She didn't say that, dude.

JULIE
I didn't say that. Back in
town is all I meant.

JACK
Ah, yes, back in town from my
vacation.
(to Elisha)
If you ever get the chance to visit
the exotic and picturesque
backwoods of Kentucky, you *must*
check out the New Horizons
facility. They have these amazing
meetings with lots of crying and
yelling-

EVAN

Come on, man.

JACK

What? It's a PSA for Julie's pal. If you're looking for uncomfortable beds with over-sharing roommates and zero privacy, you don't wanna miss this place. Though, I will say it was impossible to get a decent vodka tonic.

EVAN

Seriously, man-

JACK

(to Elisha)

Oh, and fun fact: you can't leave.

Evan turns, trying to face his brother in the back seat.

EVAN

Knock it off, Jack. I mean it.

JACK

Is that supposed to scare me-

JULIE

Evan!!

SFX: A car horn BLARES.

Evan's car has drifted into the next lane and almost hits another car.

Screams and Chaos: Evan whirls around, over-corrects the wheel sending the car into a series of terrifying fishtails. Jack and Elisha are tossed around the back seat.

Finally the car steadies back into its lane.

A tense, you-almost-died silence lingers for a moment, then:

EVAN

Sorry. You guys okay back there?

ELISHA

I'm all right.

Jack just nods.

JULIE

Can we stop somewhere? I just need to get out for a minute.

ELISHA

Yeah, I have to pee.

JACK

Well, I don't...*anymore.*