

MARTY

Moving to Raleigh, as soon as they sell.

REG

They should make a bumper sticker. Buffalo: Love it and leave it.

MARTY

What happened? This used to be a great town.

REG

It will be again. You know the saying: The grass is always greener.

MARTY

What grass? We got contaminated brownfield.

(THEY are gone. JERRY storms up to TEDDY SLAUGHTER and PAM's front door and bangs on it. He has a sheaf of legal looking papers. PAM opens the door.)

JERRY

(At once)

START

So what's all this about a deadline and you having sole custody? That wasn't the deal, Pam.

PAM

If you want joint custody, Jerry, you're going to have to pay your share. Seven hundred dollars a month. That was the deal. You've been in arrears since it started.

JERRY

I'm on the unemployment line in case you haven't heard!

PAM

Then get a job. I'll give you a job.

JERRY

Nine-fifty an hour in the Black Hole of fucking Calcutta. No thank you.

PAM

It's not the Black Hole of Calcutta and I'll thank you to stop using that kind of language when you're here.

JERRY

Niagara Estates, I'm very impressed!

PAM

Nathan comes home from you talking like a sailor.

JERRY

Pam, have you ever met a sailor?

PAM

ddy doesn't appreciate it either.

JERRY

at wuss! Where is he?

PAM

ight inside.

JERRY

orking on his stamp collection?

PAM

ine. Whatever. If you want to go off and play your games, you do that, Jerry. But
om now on Nathan's going to have two parents.

JERRY

hat would be your stud lover. And abracadabra and here he is. Hello, Teddy.

(TEDDY has appeared at the doorway, next to PAM.)

PAM

The court will decide who Nath's parents are.

JERRY

No, it won't. Nathan's yours and he's mine and he's fuck all to do with him.

TEDDY

As if you've ever given a damn.

PAM

Jerry, Nathan doesn't even like staying at your place. He says it's a mess and he's
cold all the time.

JERRY

We have fun. Where is he? Up in his room?

(He yells up to the bedroom windows.)

Hey, Nath! We have a good time together, don't we, son?

PAM

Jerry, don't.

JERRY

Is he home? Don't we, Nath? Tell em. Please.

(No one comes to the window.)

He can't hear me through all your double glazed windows, Teddy.

PAM

(Gently)

He can hear. END

TEDDY

Actually they're triple glazed, Jerry.

PAM

Don't, Teddy. I want you to have your time with Nath, Jerry, but I want you to keep our agreement, too.

(She goes into the house.)

JERRY

This is fucked. I'm his dad and you, you're nobody.

TEDDY

I've asked Pam to marry me. If she says yes, this business of child support becomes rather academic, doesn't it? So long, Jerry.

(He shuts the door on him.)

JERRY

Nobody!

(Looks up at the window again. Then, with forced cheerfulness.)

So long, son. See you soon.

TRANSITION

#4b - Power Jog

Orchestra

(A city park. A COUPLE power walks by as NATHAN jogs into view. He has his school things in his knapsack.)

NATHAN

Come on, dad, catch up! I don't have all morning.

(An exhausted JERRY jogs into view.)

JERRY

Why do we have to run so fast?

NATHAN

It's called exercise.

JERRY

(Winded)

Dave's the one you should be yelling at. We left him back at the 7-11.