

DRUNKEN PRAWN

by

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FADE IN:

INT. DAVE'S BASEMENT - DAY

DAVE WILLIAMS, early-40's, handsome, slightly overweight, listens to upbeat music on his headphones while running on a treadmill in his basement. He sweats profusely. While running, Dave views a muted television on a table across from the treadmill. Dave holds a remote control in one hand and changes the channel to a local news channel doing the weather forecast. Throughout the forecast, the channel cuts to outside shots showing the effects of a heavy snowstorm occurring throughout Michigan. Dave shakes his head.

DAVE  
(muttering to  
himself)  
Only in Michigan can you have a  
blizzard in late March.

Dave exits the treadmill and starts doing arm curls. He changes the channel and views another local channel doing a similar weather forecast. Dave continues to shake his head.

INT. DAVE'S UPSTAIRS BEDROOM - DAY

Dave is out of the shower and dressed. He slips on his suit coat and starts going downstairs when he notices that his cute 13-year-old daughter, AMY, is awake and playing on her computer in her bedroom. Dave nudges her door fully open.

DAVE  
Hey, what are you doing up?

AMY  
I'm chatting with Trish and Jen.  
They're kind of mad at me because  
I'm skipping school today.

DAVE  
(sarcastic)  
Think they'll survive?

AMY  
Dad, stop.

DAVE  
You're missing one day... You  
know, I could drop you off at  
school for a couple of hours.

AMY  
No thanks!

DAVE  
Packed?

AMY  
Yes.

DAVE  
(looks out window)  
You know school might be cancelled  
today.  
(Amy ignores him  
as she types)  
Amy? You there?

AMY  
Huh?

DAVE  
Never mind.

Dave walks downstairs and sees his wife, SUSAN, early-40's attractive, reading the paper while eyeing the local news channel.

DAVE  
Any flight delays?

SUSAN  
Not yet. But after two it's gonna  
get real bad.

DAVE  
We'll be fine.

SUSAN  
I still don't understand why  
you're going in.

DAVE  
Just want to make sure  
everything's covered.  
(looks out window)  
Why do we live in Michigan?

SUSAN  
Go now and get back by ten. Drive  
carefully. Love you.

DAVE  
Love you too.

Dave kisses Susan on the cheek and leaves through the kitchen entrance into the garage. He comes back inside the house and Susan looks up at him.

SUSAN  
(irritated)  
What are you doing?

DAVE  
I forgot my coffee.

Dave looks around the kitchen. He spots his coffee on the counter and grabs it.

DAVE  
Seriously, why do we live here?

SUSAN  
Go!

Dave leaves again.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Dave sits with his boss, Jim Carlson, handsome, fit, mid-50's.

JIM  
You all set?

DAVE  
Oh yeah.

JIM  
Grand Cayman in the midst of a Michigan snowstorm. Nice.

DAVE  
(smiling)  
Hard to take, huh?

JIM  
Well, you deserve it. Susan and Amy excited?

DAVE  
Very.

JIM  
Everything covered?

DAVE

Yep.

Jim and Dave both get up at the same time. Jim shakes Dave's hand.

JIM

Have a safe trip and try not to think about work too much.

DAVE

Thanks, I won't.

Dave walks out of the office and down the hallway and enters another office where PATRICK, late-20's and KIM, late-20's are laughing.

DAVE

Working hard?

PATRICK

Hey, you forgot to tell us what hotel you're staying at, you know, in case we have to get in touch with you.

DAVE

(joking)

Can't remember. I think it's some independent hotel. Just call me on my cell phone if you need me.

KIM

You said you're not bringing your cell phone.

DAVE

I'm not, but don't let it stop you from calling it.

PATRICK

Two weeks is too long. You should really consider making it a long weekend.

DAVE

Really? I just told Jim everything was covered. I'll tell him I was wrong and you're really not up for the task.

KIM

Any special things planned?

DAVE  
Just maximum mudslides.

PATRICK  
Going to work out every day?

DAVE  
Oh yeah. Burn off the blubber so I  
can put it right back on.

PATRICK  
You know how many calories are in  
a mudslide? About ten thousand.

DAVE  
You know why I won't care? Because  
I'll be drinking mudslides.

KIM  
You better leave now while the  
going's good.

DAVE  
Thanks guys. I know I'm in good  
hands. Cheers!

Dave walks to his office, grabs his overcoat and scarf and  
leaves the building.

EXT. OFFICE PARKING LOT - DAY

Dave scrapes the snow off his car. He gets in his car,  
shivering.

DAVE  
(slowly to himself)  
This sucks so bad.

Dave places a CD in his radio and a Beach Boys song starts  
to play. Dave drives off with a smile on his face as the  
heavy snow continues to fall.

INT. INSIDE AIRPLANE - DAY

Dave, Susan and AMY sit in First Class on an airplane as  
they head towards Grand Cayman for vacation.

DAVE  
(eyes closed)  
Four long years I've waited for  
this.

SUSAN  
Can't wait to get to the beach.

DAVE  
Maybe the bags under my eyes will  
finally disappear

The FLIGHT ATTENDANT brings drinks to them. Dave nods in appreciation.

AMY  
You said I could ask for anything  
I want for my birthday.

DAVE  
I don't think I said that exactly.

SUSAN  
Oh yes you did. I heard it.

AMY  
Thanks mom. Well? Can I get  
anything I want for my birthday?

DAVE  
I'm thinking about it and it's a  
problem because it's getting in  
the way of me thinking about the  
twenty mudslides I'm going to  
drink when I get on the beach.

Dave opens a bag of pretzels and starts eating them.

SUSAN  
Good role model for your daughter.

AMY  
What's a mudslide?

DAVE  
It's a fitness drink for men in  
their forties.

AMY  
Liar.

DAVE  
(eyes closed and  
ignoring Amy)  
I'll be sweating Kahlua and  
Baileys when I jog on the beach.

SUSAN

Amy, ask him now. We got him at a weak moment.

AMY

Dad, I want to go jet skiing when we get to the hotel.

DAVE

You won't be able to get in a full day today. But all day tomorrow, okay?

AMY

All day dad?

DAVE

Sure, we're on vacation.

AMY

That was easy.

INT. HOTEL RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Dave, Susan and Amy eat dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DAVE

How's that pizza going down?

AMY

Good. How's that shrimp cocktail going down?

DAVE

They call em prawn here for whatever reason. Want to try one?

AMY

Not really.

DAVE

Oh give it a try teenager.

Amy grabs a prawn and dips it in the cocktail sauce. She takes a small bite and put the prawn down.

AMY

Not bad. Tastes a little rubbery.

DAVE

That's why they're so good.



SUSAN

They look bigger than shrimp.  
What's the difference between a  
prawn and a shrimp?

DAVE

No clue, just bigger shrimp, I  
think.

SUSAN

It's good that they're de-veined.

AMY

Huh?

DAVE

Nothing... Yeah, I think prawn are  
big shrimp, that's all.

AMY

Big shrimp ...funny...and those  
weird hump backs.

SUSAN

Shrimp are bottom feeders.

DAVE

Thanks...

AMY

(disgusted)

Gross! Why didn't you tell me that  
before I ate it?

The WAITER serves Dave a mudslide and gives him the check.

DAVE

It's no big deal Amy.  
(changing subject)  
So what's the plan for the night?

SUSAN

I'm going to braid her hair for a  
birthday present.

AMY

Yes!

DAVE

Will you braid me later?

Susan ignores Dave as he signs the check.

DAVE

Do you mind if I hang in the  
lounge while you guys braid each  
other?

SUSAN

Go for it.

INT. HOTEL LOUNGE - NIGHT

Dave, slightly drunk, is in the hotel lounge on the Karaoke stage. He stands behind a stool. In one hand is a Mudslide and in the other is a microphone. Dave nods to the DJ. The MUSIC comes on. The song is LOVE IN THE FIRST DEGREE by Alabama. No one in the lounge pays attention as he sings the first verse.

DAVE

(slight slur)

I once thought of love as a prison  
A place I didn't want to be  
So long ago I made a decision  
To be footloose and fancy free  
But you came and I was so tempted  
To gamble on love just one time  
I never thought that I would get  
caught  
It seemed like a perfect crime

Dave realizes no one is paying attention and starts doing a clumsy cowboy dance shuffle. He puts his drink on the stool and puts one hand in his front pocket as he shuffles. The lounge crowd continues to ignore him as he sings the Chorus.

DAVE

(louder, with more  
emotion)

Baby, you left me defenseless  
I've only got one plea  
Lock me away inside of your love  
And throw away the key  
I'm guilty of love in the first  
degree

Dave looks up and sees Susan and Amy in the back of the lounge with freshly braided hair staring at Dave in amusement. Dave signals for them to sit at his table which is right next to the stage. Dave stares and sings at Susan as she approaches. He uses exaggerated hand motions as he acts out the words in the second verse. Susan and Amy laugh as Dave sings. The crowd begins to enjoy Dave's performance.

DAVE

I thought it would be so simple  
 Like a thousand times before  
 I take what I wanted and just walk  
 away  
 But I never made it to the door  
 Now babe I'm not begging for mercy  
 Go ahead and throw the book at me  
 If loving you's a crime  
 I know that I'm as guilty as a man  
 can be

Right as Susan and Amy are about to sit down, Dave motions them to join him on stage. They both shake their heads. Dave gives them a glance they can't refuse and they join him. Dave hands them each a microphone. Dave belts out the Chorus with emotion as he sings to Susan and Amy. During the chorus, he clumsily hands his drink to Amy who then hands it to Susan. With his free hand he puts his hand over heart and sings.

DAVE

Baby, you left me defenseless  
 I've only got one plea  
 Lock me away inside of your love  
 And throw away the key  
 I'm guilty of love in the first  
 degree

(Dave eyes Amy and  
 Susan to sing  
 part of the  
 Chorus, which  
 they sing  
 together)

Love in the first degree

(Dave solo)

Oh yeah, oh yeah

Dave sings the Chorus again with arms around Susan and Amy who are on both side of him. The crowd enjoys the performance.

DAVE  
 (emotional and  
 animated)  
 Baby, you left me defenseless  
 I've only got one plea  
 Lock me away inside of your love  
 And throw away the key  
 I'm guilty of love in the first  
 degree

As the songs fades out, Dave alternates the remaining lines with Susan and Amy. They're all smiling and having a great time.

DAVE, SUSAN AND AMY  
 (singing and  
 smiling)  
 Love in the first degree oh yea  
 Love in the first degree  
 Love in the first degree oh yea  
 Love in the first degree  
 Love in the first degree  
 Love in the first degree

The crowd applauds generously. Dave, Susan and Amy walk off the stage.

AMY  
 That was fun!

SUSAN  
 So how many mudslides have you  
 had?

DAVE  
 Four or six.

AMY  
 Are you drunk?

DAVE  
 No honey. I'm in mudslide heaven.  
 (to Susan)  
 Still have time to braid my hair?

EXT. BEACH - DAY

Dave sits in a chair with a baseball hat over his eyes drinking a Bloody Mary. Susan and Amy wear matching bathing suits.

SUSAN  
(teasing)  
So how's that head doing?

DAVE  
(soft)  
Okay.

AMY  
Dad, you were drunk last night,  
weren't you?

DAVE  
Allegedly.  
(changing subject)  
I thought you guys were going jet  
skiing.

AMY  
We are. And I'm going to kick  
mom's butt in a race.

DAVE  
(soft)  
Honey, sorry, but you can't ride  
solo. You're too young. You're  
going to have to ride shotgun with  
mom.

Dave looks down and sips his drink, anticipating Amy's  
reaction.

AMY  
That stinks!

SUSAN  
We'll go fast, I promise.

AMY  
I was really hoping...

SUSAN  
You're probably fall off a few  
times.

AMY  
But...

SUSAN  
Amy, every minute we stand here  
arguing cuts into our jet skiing  
time.

AMY  
(calms down)  
Okay...cool. Let's go.

DAVE  
Susie, be careful.

SUSAN  
(slight smile)  
No, you be careful.  
(looking out at  
ocean)  
Looks like smooth butter out  
there. See you in a while.

DAVE  
Really, be careful.

Dave watches Susan and Amy walk toward the jet ski rental booth. TWO GUYS in their early 20's with great physiques walk by Dave. He looks at them and then looks down at his own stomach. He pinches one of his flab rolls, shrugs his shoulders, sips his Bloody Mary and pulls his hat over his eyes.

INT. JET SKI RENTAL BOOTH - DAY

LOUIS  
Hello, I'm Louis. Have you been  
on a jet ski before?

SUSAN  
Many times.

LOUIS  
Good. Please don't go out more  
than two hundred yards. There are  
some red markers out there. Please  
do not go past them.

AMY  
No problem Louis.

LOUIS  
What's your name?

AMY  
Amy.

LOUIS

Amy, hold tight onto your mom,  
okay? And if you fall off, your  
life jacket will keep you afloat.

AMY

I don't need a life jacket. I'm on  
the swim team.

LOUIS

No, you have to keep your life  
jacket on at all times, okay Amy?

AMY

No problem Louis.

LOUIS

(smiling)

Good. Thank you. You two all set  
to have fun?

SUSAN

Yep. Giddy-up.

Susan mounts the jet ski. Amy gets on behind her and they take off. Dave can hear their faint laughter from ashore as they ride through the waves. Dave lifts his hat up, looks out, smiles, and places the hat back over his eyes.

EXT. OCEAN - DAY

Susan and Amy are having a great time. They are going back and forth between the beach and the markers. They laugh as they speed through the water.

From nowhere, a large object appearing to be a whale enters the picture. No one on the beach notices. Susan and Amy SCREAM but only Dave hears them. Dave looks up, startled, focusing his eyes on them.

Amy jumps off the back of the jet ski. Susan drives the jet ski right into the whale's mouth and gets swallowed. Amy screams and starts swimming towards shore. Dave hears the screams, yells at the LIFEGUARDS for help and runs toward the ocean to rescue them.

Three lifeguards jump into the water and swim towards Amy as Susan is nowhere in sight. One lifeguard gets to Amy first and he and Dave start bringing her back to the shore.

DAVE  
(panic)  
Where's mom? Where's mom?

AMY  
Inside the whale!

Dave looks frantically at the lifeguard.

DAVE  
(to lifeguard)  
Take her back to the shore!

Dave swims to where the other two lifeguards are searching for Susan.

DAVE  
Anything?

LIFEGUARD #1  
Nothing. We'll keep diving.

DAVE  
Did you see the whale?

LIFEGUARD #2  
(confused)  
No.

DAVE  
Look for the whale! Look for the  
whale! The whale swallowed my  
wife!

The lifeguards look at each other, confused.

DAVE  
It's a big ass whale. I saw it  
with my own eyes. Keep diving!

Dave and the lifeguards continue to dive. They all surface at the same time, out of breath. Out from underneath the surface, 30 feet away, the jet ski surfaces. The three of them swim towards the jet ski and start diving beneath it. THREE OTHER LIFEGUARDS on a rescue boat arrive and also assist in the dive. Dave looks towards the shore and sees Amy talking to EMERGENCY RESCUE PERSONNEL. Dave makes another dive.

The five divers and Dave are all out of breath as they surface together.



AMY  
(Screaming and  
pointing to sky)  
Dad!

Dave snaps his head towards Amy and then looks up into the sky.

From out of the sky, Susan's body lands on top of Lifeguard #2. Susan groans and makes eye contact with Dave.

SUSAN  
(muttering)  
U...U...U....Moby.

Susan, still in her life jacket, falls limp and dies.

DAVE  
(Screaming)  
No! No! No! Susie! Susie!

Lifeguard #3 attempts CPR on Susan.

LIFEGUARD #2  
(pointing)  
Look!

Approximately 300 feet away, one of the lifeguards spots bubbles on the surface. The bubbles then disappear.

LIFEGUARD #2  
Where are those bubbles from?

DAVE  
From the whale, stupid! Keep  
working on Susie.

The lifeguards continue to resuscitate Susan to no avail.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM OF ROYAL CAYMAN ISLANDS POLICE - DAY

Dave and Amy, both distraught, sit in a large conference room of the Royal Cayman Islands Police Department with COMMISSIONER DARRYL EVANS, SERGEANT STEVEN STEINKAMP and Lifeguard #2, who is now wearing a sling on his arm.

AMY  
(softly)  
Have they found the whale yet?

COMMISSIONER EVANS

No sightings with our aerial search.

DAVE

Nothing?

SERGEANT STEINKAMP

No whales. No sharks. Not even any dolphins.

AMY

You think a dolphin swallowed my mom?

COMMISSIONER EVANS

No honey. Sergeant Steinkamp was just making a point.

SERGEANT STEINKAMP

No one knows for sure what happened.

AMY

We do. A whale swallowed my mom and then spit her out  
 (Dave buries his  
 head in his hands)  
 She didn't drown.

DAVE

(serious)

You believe us, right? Right?

COMMISSIONER EVANS

(looks down)

No one on the beach saw anything.

Dave looks around the table and stares at the lifeguard.

DAVE

Hey! You were there! You saw the bubbles. It was a whale, right?

LIFEGUARD #2

I didn't see a whale sir, just bubbles.

DAVE

But my wife landed on you. How'd that happen?

LIFEGUARD #2

I don't know sir.

AMY

(screaming)

Liar! The whale spit my mom out  
and she landed on you.

LIFEGUARD #2

I just saw bubbles.

DAVE

(Stands up, angry)

She landed on you and broke your  
arm!

LIFEGUARD #2

I know. I know. Maybe she was  
propelled from the ocean bottom.

DAVE

(sarcastic)

Really? Like from an underground  
volcano?

LIFEGUARD #2

Well...maybe

DAVE

(still angry)

You've got to be kidding...

LIFEGUARD #2

Well, you know...anything is  
poss...

SERGEANT STEINKAMP

(matter of fact)

The medical examiner has ruled it  
a drowning. There was no whale  
DNA.

DAVE

(knowing it sounds  
ridiculous)

Of course not because she was cast  
right out of the stomach after it  
swallowed her!

SERGEANT STEINKAMP

(shakes his head)

No whale DNA on the jet ski  
either.

DAVE  
(still angry)  
She was alive when she hit the water! She even spoke before she died. How is that a drowning?

AMY  
(surprised)  
What did mom say?

DAVE  
(sensitive)  
I'll tell you later honey.

COMMISSIONER EVANS  
We'll be telling the media it was a drowning.

Dave stares at Evans and considers the remark in a long pause.

DAVE  
I get it. Tourism. Well, we know what we saw and Mr. Baywatch over there knows too.

The lifeguard looks down and shakes his head slowly. Amy stands up and joins Dave who is still standing.

COMMISSIONER EVANS  
(ignoring Dave)  
Mr. Williams, the media is waiting for you outside.

DAVE  
I'm not talking to them.

COMMISSIONER EVANS  
That's a wise decision Mr. Williams.

Dave puts his arm around Amy and they leave the conference room together. Evans, Steinkamp and the lifeguard all look at each with blank expressions.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE POLICE DEPARTMENT - DAY

THREE REPORTERS with CAMERA CREWS await them outside the building. They approach Dave and Amy as they exit.

REPORTER #1

Mr. Williams, may we have a brief moment with you?

DAVE

Please...I've just lost my wife and my daughter has just lost her mother...we're not ready to talk to anyone right now.

REPORTER #2

Mr. Williams, you can clear up some of the rumors surrounding your wife's accident.

DAVE

It was more than just an accident.

REPORTER #3

Just five minutes and we'll be done. Promise.

Dave looks at Amy. She shrugs her shoulders.

REPORTER #2

Take your time.

DAVE

(methodical and slow)

Amy and Susan were jet skiing. I was on the beach, napping. They were having a ball. I could hear them laughing from the beach. Out of nowhere, Amy and Susan started screaming. No one heard them I guess, except me. I looked up...and...I looked up...and...

REPORTER #2

(sensitive)

It's okay Mr. Williams, take your time.

AMY

(continuing, slowly)

We were screaming because a whale attacked our jet ski. It came right on us and opened its mouth... I jumped off at the last minute but my mom kept going and drove right into the whale's

(MORE)

AMY (cont'd)  
 mouth.  
 (reporters  
 exchange glances)  
 The whale lifted up and the jet  
 ski fell out of its mouth... and  
 then... and then...I heard a big  
 gulp...the whale swallowed my mom.

The reporters are stunned. Dave puts his arm around Amy.

DAVE  
 I saw the whole thing from the  
 beach.

REPORTER #1  
 Did the lifeguards see the whale?

DAVE  
 (bothered)  
 Apparently not.

REPORTER #3  
 What happened next?

DAVE  
 We rescued Amy but we lost Susie.

REPORTER #2  
 We've been told that your wife was  
 alive when you found her?

DAVE  
 (getting more  
 uncomfortable)  
 That's right. She spoke to me.

REPORTER #2  
 (sensitive)  
 Can you tell us what she said Mr.  
 Williams?  
 (Dave hesitates)

REPORTER #2  
 We're almost done Mr. Williams.  
 Can you tell us what she said?

DAVE  
 She said, "Moby"!

Amy snaps her head up and glances at Dave in horror.

REPORTER #1  
 Moby?

DAVE  
(softly)  
Yes, like the whale, Moby Dick.

Amy looks back and forth between her dad and the reporters, hoping to find an answer to this nightmare. She finally looks to the ground in sadness.

After a long pause considering Dave's answer, the reporters exchange glances again and are now on the verge of laughter.

REPORTER #2  
But if the whale swallowed your  
mom, how was it that she was  
alive?

DAVE  
(frustrated)  
She was expelled!

REPORTER #2  
(serious)  
Through the whale's blow hole?

DAVE  
(stares at  
reporter)  
No, through its mouth.

Dave grabs Amy by the arm and they walk towards their rental car. Amy enters the passenger side of the car. Dave is just about to get into his car and he looks back towards the reporters who are all talking to each other with smiles on their faces. One of the reporters bends over in laughter. With a sad expression, Dave gets in his car and they drive away.

INT. CHURCH - DAY

A small group of people, all relatives of Dave and Amy, are in a church attending Susan's funeral. Dave and Amy stand at the casket. An attendant closes the casket. Dave and Amy have no emotion. They turn around to face the small group, Dave mouths, "Thank you." Some of the relatives are crying. Others are talking amongst themselves. Dave and Amy follow the casket as it is wheeled out of the church.

DAVE  
It's just you and me now.

AMY  
I miss mom already.

DAVE

Me too.

AMY

I wish the whale ate me instead.

DAVE

Amy please. It's not your fault.  
If anything...

AMY

I just had to go jet skiing....  
mom would be here right now if  
I...

DAVE

Honey, please, you know that's not  
the reason. That whale...never  
mind...I'm sick of talking about  
that stupid whale.

AMY

Me too. No one believes us. Even  
our own asshole relatives don't  
even believe us. This sucks.

Dave looks at Amy surprised as he has never heard her use  
profanity before.

AMY

(changing subject)

I can't wait to go back to school  
tomorrow.

DAVE

I think it will be good for  
you...I think.

EXT. AMY'S SCHOOL - DAY

Dave and Amy drive up to the main entrance of the school.

DAVE

Will you be okay honey?

AMY

I'll be fine dad.

DAVE

Amy, most of the kids probably saw  
us on the news. Kids can be so  
cruel...



AMY

Dad, I'll be fine. You need to get to work.

DAVE

Love you.

AMY

Love you too.

Amy gets out of the car. As she approaches the school, kids start to walk towards her. Dave watches cautiously. Amy starts exchanging hugs with some of the girls. Dave spots two other boys, SCOTT and BRONSON, both 13, smiling deviously at Amy. Scott and Bronson start walking towards Amy. Dave gets out of the car and starts walking quickly towards Amy who quickly turns towards Dave.

AMY

Dad, go! You're embarrassing me!

Dave stops and stares at Bronson and Scott.

DAVE

I just uh... I just um...

AMY

Go!

DAVE

Okay honey. Sorry.

Dave gives one more glance to Bronson and Scott and returns to his car. He watches Amy enter the school. He looks in the mirror and his eyes are welled up. He composes himself, starts his car and heads to work.

INT. SCHOOL HOMEROOM CLASS - DAY

Amy sits at her desk in Homeroom. On the chalkboard at the front of the class it is written WHAT DID YOU DO ON SPRING BREAK? MS. ARKER, early 30's, attractive enters the classroom and looks at the class. She looks at Amy and smiles.

MS. ARKER

Hello everybody. Welcome back from Spring break. Today's going to be an easy day as long as you all participate.

Ms. Arker points at the chalkboard.

MS. ARKER  
Who wants to go first?

Amy raises her hand.

MS. ARKER  
Amy, we know you had a rough go  
over break and it's okay, you  
don't need to talk about it at  
this time.

AMY  
I already told the story six times  
today and maybe if I tell the  
class, I won't have to tell it  
anymore.

MS. ARKER  
I see. Well it's up to you Amy.

Amy walks to the front of the class and turns around facing  
the students.

AMY  
Ten days ago, my mother was  
killed.

Some of the students GASP and others just stare at Amy.

AMY  
She was killed by a whale.

Some GIGGLES from the students.

AMY  
My mom and I went jet skiing on my  
birthday. A whale attacked my mom  
and swallowed her...  
(more gasps)  
and then the whale puked her out.

Ms. Arker approaches Amy and Amy puts her hand up.

AMY  
When the whale puked her out, she  
landed on a lifeguard and broke  
his arm.

More GIGGLES from students. Scott begins to laugh out loud.

AMY

I know it seems funny and you probably think I'm lying but my dad saw the whale too.

Bronson looks at Scott and they both laugh out loud together. Amy ignores them.

AMY

When my mom landed on the lifeguard, she spoke her final words to my dad. So even though the news companies said my mom drowned, she really didn't.

MS. ARKER

Okay Amy, there's no need to go further.

AMY

I just want to finish so I don't have to tell this stupid story again.

MS. ARKER

(softly)

Okay honey. Go ahead.

SCOTT

(sarcastic)

What did your mom say?

AMY

She said a whale swallowed her, a whale named Moby Dick.

The entire class erupts in laughter. Scott high fives Bronson. Amy's face reddens. She gives the finger to Scott and walks back to her desk and sits down.

INT. INSIDE SCHOOL CAFETERIA - DAY

Amy sits at a lunch table in the school's cafeteria with a sad look on her face as two of her friends, JEN and TRISH, both 13, listen intently as they try to comfort her.

JEN

We missed ya girlfriend.

AMY

Thanks.

TRISH

It hasn't been the same since  
you've been gone.

AMY

I missed you guys too.

JEN

How's your dad doin'?

AMY

Okay... he cries a lot and yells a  
lot in his sleep but he's doing  
alright, I guess.

TRISH

My mom and dad have both left  
messages...

AMY

He'll call them when he's ready.  
He's just trying to chill right  
now. Me too.

KALIE, 13, approaches the table with her food tray and sits  
down with the group. Amy looks up at her.

JEN

Amy, this is Kalie, she's cool.  
She's been hanging with us since  
you've been gone.

KALIE

Hey.

AMY

Hey.

KALIE

Sorry about your mom. Horrible.  
What a way to spend Spring break.

AMY

It was my birthday too. I still  
feel numb.

JEN

We would've come to the funeral  
but I guess your dad only wanted  
relatives to come.

AMY

I know. It's hard to explain over and over and over again what happened, even to our stupid relatives.

TRISH

We heard homeroom was pretty brutal, huh?

AMY

Scott and Bronson are assholes.

TRISH

What did happen? You and your mom were jet skiing, right?

AMY

Do you promise this is the last time I have to talk about it?

TRISH

Promise.

AMY

(painfully, slowly)  
Yeah, it was great ...no waves...sunny...warm water...We were having so much fun... and then we saw it.

JEN

The shark attacked your mom, right?

AMY

No.

TRISH

Huh? We thought your mom got attacked from a shark.

AMY

(slowly)  
Not a shark, a whale. A big ass whale swallowed my mom. It's like she drove the jet ski right into its mouth. I jumped off at the last minute.

JEN

Wow.

AMY

A big whale. Probably a blue whale  
or a sperm whale. She drove right  
inside it.

Scott and Bronson sit at another table and make hand motions  
simulating how the whale ate Amy's mom. Scott opens up his  
hands in a "V" shape and Bronson throws candy into the "V"  
and Scott closes his hands as if his hands are swallowing  
Amy's mother. Scott re-opens his hands and the candy shoots  
out and lands on the floor. Amy sees this and looks down,  
sad.

JEN

They're assholes Amy. They're  
cruel assholes.

AMY

I know.

KALIE

(sincerely)

I never heard of sharks, sorry, I  
mean whales, ever eating people  
before. I know they bite people  
but not swallow people.

AMY

Doesn't happen often. The jet ski  
scared it.

JEN

Did she try to miss the whale?

AMY

Yeah, my mom drove into the side  
part of his mouth and then the  
whale swung back the other way and  
swallowed her. The jet ski was  
still hanging out of its mouth.

(half laughing)

My ass hole uncle said my mom  
should have zigged when the whale  
zagged.

TRISH

(crying)

Amy, this is so horrible. I'm so  
sorry.

AMY

Thanks.

(Looks down at her  
(MORE)

AMY (cont'd)  
 sandwich, sadly,  
 crying)  
 I can't eat tuna fish anymore. I  
 hate tuna fish. I hate all fish.

JEN  
 (crying, hugging  
 Amy)  
 We're here for you girlfriend.

AMY  
 I wish you could have been there  
 for the funeral, stupid uncles and  
 cousins asking the same questions  
 over and over again...  
 (mocking voice)  
 How did she die?...Are you sure it  
 wasn't a shark?... Is it true the  
 whale's name was Moby?...If the  
 whale ate her, how come you have  
 the body?...Did she get shot out  
 of the blow hole?... Stupid,  
 stupid, questions.

TRISH  
 Did she come out the blow hole?

AMY  
 (slightly  
 irritated)  
 No, through its mouth.

KALIE  
 Whoaa, just like the biblical  
 story Jonah.

AMY  
 Exactly. See? It's not so crazy,  
 is it?

The girls reflect on the wild story they have just heard and  
 and take turns hugging and comforting Amy. The kids in the  
 cafeteria stare at the girls and Jen gives them the finger.

INT. LOBBY OF PSYCHIATRIST OFFICE - DAY

DAVE, distraught, stares sadly at Amy while waiting to go  
 into the office. Amy stares at the fish in the aquarium.

DAVE  
 (concerned)  
 How ya doin?

AMY

I don't think this is going to help. I'm still mad and you're still mad. So what's she going to do?

DAVE

These doctors are trained in helping people get through rough times. Amy, we're going through rough times.

AMY

Dad, you're worse than I am. At least I'm not yelling in my sleep.

DAVE

In my dreams...I just a...I wish I could have helped.

AMY

Mom drove right into the whale's mouth. What could you have done, pull her out of the whale's stomach?

DAVE

I don't know Amy. I don't know.

The PHONE RINGS and the office RECEPTIONIST whispers into the phone.

RECEPTIONIST

Dr. Sharon will see you now.

Dave and Amy rise from the couch. Amy approaches the aquarium and stares intently at the fish. DR. SHARON, mid-40's, attractive, opens the office door and greets them.

DR. SHARON

Hello David. Hello Amy. Come on in.

Amy continues to stare at the aquarium.

DAVE

(puts arm around  
AMY)

Come on sweetie. Let's go.



INT. DR. SHARON'S OFFICE - DAY

Dave and Amy sit on a comfortable couch and Dr. Sharon sits on a chair across from them.

DR. SHARON  
I'm so pleased we could finally  
get together.

DAVE  
We just weren't ready yet. But  
we're going to give it our best,  
right honey?

AMY  
I guess.

DR. SHARON  
(to Amy)  
Your dad told me you went back to  
school today.

AMY  
I did. I was teased about mom.

DR. SHARON  
What did they do?

AMY  
Some boys kept saying that my mom  
was eaten by a shark.

DR. SHARON  
(softly)  
Amy, honey, she was.

Dave buries his head in his hands anticipating Amy's  
reaction.

AMY  
(angry)  
It was a whale! Is this how you're  
going to help us? You don't even  
know how she died? This is  
absolute bullshit!

DR. SHARON  
(confused)  
Dave, Amy, I'm sorry. I got my  
facts mixed up.

AMY

Get your facts straight. Even some of my asshole classmates know it's a whale and you don't.

DAVE

(softly)

Amy please, she's trying to help.

AMY

And she wasn't eaten. She was SWALLOWED!

DR. SHARON

I'm sorry Amy.

AMY

(angry)

And I bet you think she was blown out of the whale's blow hole too, right?

Dave puts his hand up to try to prevent Dr. Sharon from responding but it's too late.

DR. SHARON

Wasn't she?

AMY

Uuuuuuhhhhhh! Worthless! Let's go dad.

DAVE

Amy, Amy, calm down.

DR. SHARON

(approaching Amy)

Amy, please, I'm sorry. Please let me start over. It won't happen again. Promise.

Amy finally calms down. She shakes her head and shrugs her shoulders and puts her head down.

DAVE

(changing subject)

I'm also concerned about Amy's eating. She's avoiding food.

AMY

(interrupting)

Not true dad. I'm avoiding fish, okay? I hate frickin fish. Dr. Sharon, is that okay?

DR. SHARON

You certainly don't have to eat just fish to be healthy. But hatred of fish could lead to hatred of other things.

AMY

You mean like, hatred of psychiatrists?

DR. SHARON

Amy, do you want to kill fish?

AMY

Only if I have to eat em.

DR. SHARON

(changing subject)

Amy, are you up for a challenge?

AMY

(shrugs shoulders again)

DR. SHARON

Before we meet again. I want your dad to take you to a seafood restaurant. Write down how you feel when you see other people eat fish meals, okay?

AMY

I guess.

DR. SHARON

This will be a good first step.

DAVE

We'll give it a try.

INT. OFFICE LOBBY - DAY

Dave and Amy enter the lobby from Dr. Sharon's office. Dave speaks softly with Dr. Sharon as Amy walks toward the aquarium. Amy places her arm in the aquarium, grabs a gold

fish and throws it against the wall. The receptionist bolts out of her chair and picks up the squirming gold fish from the floor and places it back into the aquarium.

AMY

Tough little bastard. I'm impressed.

INT. DAVE'S CAR - DAY

Dave and Amy drive home from Dr. Sharon's office.

DAVE

(softly)

Amy, what was the deal with that fish?

AMY

I saw that little bastard picking on the smaller fish and I wanted to teach it a lesson.

DAVE

Amy, they're fish. Fish eat other fish.

AMY

Not that one. If I see it doing again, I'm going to flush it down Dr. Sharon's toilet so it can go to fish heaven, that little shit fish.

DAVE

(sensitive)

I think it's time we talk about your language.

AMY

What, it's not hurting anything. Do you think I hurt the fish's feelings? Aawww, poor baby fish.

DAVE

Amy, Amy, please, give it a rest.

AMY

I'll make you a deal. I'll only swear at fish, okay?

DAVE

Ummm ...

AMY  
Deal. Bastard fish.

DAVE  
(yelling)  
Amy!

Amy smiles as she looks out the car window.

EXT. DAVE'S HOME - NIGHT

DAVE  
Why don't you go up and try  
catching up a bit on homework and  
then shower before bed.

AMY  
I'm going to take a bath.

DAVE  
Ummm... okay... you normally take  
showers.

AMY  
Well, I need a bath. My arm is  
filthy after reaching into that  
fish tank.

Dave stares at Amy wondering if she is up to something.

DAVE  
Go take your bath.

Amy walks upstairs. Dave opens the cupboard and takes out a plastic bag. He opens the refrigerator and opens a container with tuna fish. Dave scrapes the contents into the bag. He eyes containers of shrimp cocktail sauce and tarter sauce and puts in the bag. He opens a different cupboard and puts Gold Fish snacks in the bag. Dave hears the BATH WATER TURNED ON by Amy and gets a look of concern on his face.

INT. DAVE'S CAR - DAY

The next morning. Dave drives Amy to school.

DAVE  
Have you thought about what Dr.  
Sharon said?

AMY

Yeah, her advice is stupid. Going to a restaurant and see what people order, how stupid is that?

DAVE

She's a very good doctor Amy. Let's give it a try, okay?

AMY

Well, I'm not going to a seafood place.

DAVE

How about if we go to a Chinese restaurant that serves some seafood dishes? You can order Almond Chicken and you can bring Jen and Trish too.

AMY

I'm not bringing a stupid notepad.

DAVE

(ignoring Amy)

We'll go tomorrow night, ask the girls, okay?

AMY

No prob daddio.

DAVE

(smiling)

That's good. Last thing, will you be okay with the kids in school today? What about those two boys?

AMY

Yeah, if they give me any shit, I am going to kick them in the nuts and tell them to F-Off. I mean if they give me any crap. Sorry dad.

DAVE

How bout no confrontation, okay?

AMY

Can't say yes, can't say no, can only say maybe.

DAVE

(Smiling again)

Good, funny girl. Got your key?

AMY

Yep.

DAVE

No problem with coming home on the bus?

AMY

None.

DAVE

Good. Call me when you get home.

AMY

Will do.

DAVE

Love you.

AMY

Me too.

Dave pulls up to the school. Amy gets out of the car, starts to walk away and turns back towards Dave and waives. Dave waives back and waits until she enters the building.

INT. SCHOOL - DAY

Scott and Bronson wait in the hallway as Amy enters the building.

SCOTT

Hi Moby Dick Junior.

AMY

Hi Moby Dickless.

BRONSON

Oooh, good one.

AMY

Don't you guys have anything else to do?

SCOTT

That story about your mom is a lie. No one gets eaten by whales.

AMY

Really? Do some research asshole.

BRONSON

If she was eaten, how come she wasn't eaten? She drowned, deal with it.

Kids start to gather around. Jen and Trish break through the crowd and stand next to Amy.

JEN

Bronson, shut up.

SCOTT

We just want to know the truth. There aren't any whales near Grand Cayman. You made the whole thing up just to get attention.

AMY

My dad saw the whale too, dickhead.

SCOTT

Then your dad is just as nuts as you are.

AMY

Shut up Scott.

BRONSON

No one saw the whale, not even the lifeguards. And the jet ski was hanging out of the whale's mouth like a toothpick. . . yeah, right.

AMY

You guys are assholes.

JEN

(interrupting)

Hey, why don't you and Scott go make out.

BRONSON

We're not gay like you, lesbo.

JEN

Really? Scott said when you make out with him, it's like kissing a polluted waterfall.

The girls start to laugh. Scott and Bronson look at each other, embarrassed. Both walk away in different directions.



AMY  
(to Jen)  
Thanks.

JEN  
I love screwing with their heads.

Amy, Jen and Trish walk to class, smiling

INT. REAL CHINA RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Dave, Amy, Jen and Trish enter an authentic Chinese restaurant. Many of the walls have built-in aquariums with fish including lobsters, crab and shellfish. Near the kitchen and behind a glass partition, fresh, large fish lay on ice waiting to be chosen by patrons to eat. The group follows a CHINESE Maitre'D to their table. Amy looks at the meals being served to patrons as she proceeds through the dining room. The Maitre'D leaves the menus on the table.

CHINESE MAITRE'D  
First time here?

DAVE  
Yes, we wanted to try something different.

AMY  
Do you have Almond Chicken here?

CHINESE MAITRE'D  
Yes and we also have authentic Chinese dishes. Ask the waiter about our Drunken Prawn. Enjoy.

DAVE  
Thanks.

JEN  
Mr. Williams, what's Drunken Prawn?

DAVE  
Ummm, not really sure. Prawn is like a shrimp, usually bigger. But I don't know what they mean by Drunken Prawn.

AMY  
Well, if it's fish, I'm sure not in the hell going to eat it.

DAVE  
Amy, the mouth, please.

AMY  
Sorry.

TRISH  
Mr. Williams, this place is cool.  
Thanks for taking us.

JEN  
Yeah, thanks.

DAVE  
Your welcome. I'm glad you're  
here for Amy.

AMY  
Good, because they're staying  
overnight tonight.

DAVE  
Is that a question or a statement?

AMY  
Please dad.

DAVE  
I guess.

The WAITER approaches the table.

AMY  
Three almond chickens and a Merlot  
for the old man.

DAVE  
(half smiling)  
Slow down there  
(to waiter)  
Hi. How are you?

WAITER  
Very good, thank you sir. Welcome  
to Real China. I understand you've  
never dined here before.

AMY  
You are correct sir! No fish food  
for me today.

WAITER

May I tell you about our specials?  
All authentic Chinese cuisine.

AMY

What's Drunken Prawn?

WAITER

It's our house specialty. And you  
can all share it as an appetizer.

AMY

Well, what is it Mr. Waiter?

DAVE

Amy, cool it.  
(to waiter)  
Sorry.

WAITER

Drunken Prawn is prepared at table  
side. Our chef personally cooks  
it for you. The prawn are alive  
when they come out and then we  
marinate them with Chinese herbs,  
grill them, steam them and serve  
them fresh. Delicious. Our most  
popular dish.

AMY

You mean you kill them in front of  
us? That sounds fun. Do it!

DAVE

(annoyed at Amy)  
We need a few minutes to think  
about this.

WAITER

Well, how about if I take your  
drink orders while you review the  
menu?

DAVE

Perfect. If you could get a  
pitcher of soda for the girls and  
I will have a Pinot Noir.

AMY

Make that a pitcher of Red Bull or  
Mountain Dew.

DAVE

A pitcher of Sprite would be great.

AMY

Awww.

WAITER

Yes sir. However, we have no Pinot Noir. Only Great Wall, authentic Chinese red wine.

AMY

Get him the red stuff, bub.

The girls laugh. The waiter takes the order and leaves. Dave grabs Amy's arm.

DAVE

(whispers)

What are you doing? Quit showing off.

AMY

Just having fun, sorry.

(changing subject)

Hey dad, let's order some Drunken Prawn for an appetizer. Sounds great.

DAVE

Are you going to eat any?

AMY

No, I don't eat fish, remember? I just want to see them get cooked.

DAVE

Jen or Trish, will you try one?

JEN

Sure.

TRISH

I'll give it a try.

The waiter returns with the drinks.

DAVE

I think we'll try the prawn for an appetizer. And if you could give us a few more minutes for our main meals.

WAITER

No problem sir. Take your time.

DAVE

(to the girls)

So what's new at school?

AMY

I'm the big news at school.  
Everyone's talking about me. They  
make fun of you too.

DAVE

Wonderful.

TRISH

(trying to help)

We have a big swim meet tomorrow.

DAVE

Oh, that's right. Thanks for  
reminding me. So...who's the  
fastest swimmer of you three?

(They all look at  
Jen)

Good for you.

AMY

I can hold my breath the longest  
though.

DAVE

(Dave points to  
kitchen)

Here we go.

The chef wheels a cart out of the kitchen towards their table. Approximately 20 live prawn are squirming and moving around in a big bowl. Dave is nervous and the girls start giggling as the cart approaches.

CHEF

You've ordered Drunken Prawn?

AMY

(again)

You are correct sir!

Amy stands up and grabs one of the prawn out of the bowl and puts it in her hand.

WAITER

Little girl, you need to put that back. They're marinated and ready to be grilled.

AMY

I just want to pet it for a second.

(staring at it  
intently)

This is the ugliest thing I've ever seen in my life but yet cute in some weird way.

(talking to the  
prawn)

You have about fifteen seconds left until you enter prawn heaven, you ugly piece of shit.

DAVE

(stands up, angry)

Amy, put the prawn in the bowl and sit down. Amy, put the prawn back.

Amy tosses the prawn into the bowl.

DAVE

(to waiter)

Sorry.

WAITER

Are we ready to begin?

AMY

Do it!

CHEF

(demonstrating as  
he speaks)

We start out by removing the prawn from the bowl and place in the pan. We then use alcohol, sometimes cooking wine, sometimes liquor, to grill the prawn.

The waiter dowses the prawn who continue to squirm. Dave and the girls stare intently at the pan, anticipating. The waiter lights the liquid and the prawn are burned alive and they make SLIGHT SCREAMING NOISES. Dave is uncomfortable. Jen and Trish make screams and half-giggles while Amy has a big, almost satanic smile, on her face.

CHEF

The last step is to drown them,  
just in case they're still alive  
by putting them in this steamer,  
plus it cleans them up a bit. And  
then you can peel the skin off  
them and eat them.

The girls continue to giggle while Amy starts to laugh out of control. The Chef is unsure what to do. He places the steamer on the table and leaves. MR. YEE, the manager of the restaurant walks toward the table. Dave has a look of panic on his face.

INT. DAVE'S HOME - NIGHT

The girls are still laughing as they enter the house. They run upstairs as Dave walks towards the kitchen.

AMY

Dad, don't forget about the swim  
meet tomorrow.

DAVE

What time is it again?

AMY

It's at one. Don't be late.

DAVE

Okay, keep it quiet up there.

Jen and Trish watch television as Amy turns on her computer and does Google searches on prawns. Amy's search eventually leads her to a video of a prawn swimming along the ocean floor. Amy starts to move her arms in the same manner as the prawn and nods her head. She then looks down at her hands and moves her fingers to resemble the claw of a prawn. She smiles and increases her concentration on the video.

AMY

These prawns are tough little  
bastards. Guess what? They're  
bottom feeders. They eat other  
fish feces and anything else that  
just happens to drop in their  
mouths. That's hilarious. Crap  
eaters. And you know what?

(the girls ignore  
her)

Whales eat prawn. Whales dive deep  
and they eat prawn. Why can't

(MORE)

AMY (cont'd)

whales pick on somebody their own size? If I was a prawn, no whale would ever eat me. I'd kick its ass. Bully bastards.

JEN

What?

AMY

(to herself)

Prawn are Crust..Crustache.. Crustaceans. They're insects with shells. How gross! Why do people eat these things? But boy are they strong. I like these guys. So what if they're ugly. All these big bad fish try to eat them and these prawn, they fight back.. Good for you prawns!

TRISH

Huh?

AMY

Nothing. You know what? They spend all day sleeping in the mud and then at night, they start moving along the ocean floor. That's when all those tough guy fisherman and stupid ass whales try to catch them. Wow, these prawn are survivors.

Amy continues to do Google searches on prawn. She ignores Jen and Trish as she concentrates on the information obtained from the searches.

Downstairs, Dave pours a glass of wine, walks to the den, turns on the television and flicks through the channels with the remote control. After a short time, he turns off the television. Dave walks to the book shelf and pulls out a Children's version of the Bible. He turns to the pages relating to the story of Jonah. He looks at some of the illustrations which show Jonah inside the whale's body and then later after Jonah is expelled. Dave returns the book to the book shelf and gets out an adult Bible and turns to the story of Jonah and begins reading. After a few minutes he becomes somber and closes his eyes and eventually falls asleep.



INT. HIGH SCHOOL POOL - DAY

Two school teams gather for a swim meet. Dave arrives as one of the races begins. He walks up the bleachers and sits next to Trish's parents, GREG and PATTY SEGER, mid-40's.

GREG

Dave, it's great seeing you again.

DAVE

Thanks.

PATTY

How are you doing, Dave?

DAVE

I'm hanging in there, barely.

PATTY

I know you and Amy have had a rough go.

GREG

We tried calling you a few times. We wanted to attend the services.

DAVE

I know you did and I appreciate that. We decided to keep it private because of the circumstances... Hey, Trish has been great for Amy. So thanks, thank you very much... So how's the meet going?

PATTY

Not so well. We've lost every race so far. Amy's up next. Breast stroke, right?

Dave is distracted as he spots Amy talking to her swim coach, MR. KAYE in a very serious conversation. Her arm motions become animated as she attempts to make her point. Mr. Kaye shakes his head in disagreement and Amy stomps her foot and walks to the platform.

PATTY

(again)

Breast stroke, right?

DAVE

Right, sorry. Trying to figure out what Amy's up to.

The swimmers mount their platform. The starter FIRES his pistol and the girls dive in the water. After five yards, the girls surface and begin the breast stroke, except Amy. Amy stays submerged moving quickly along the pool floor in a manner resembling a prawn being swept along the ocean floor. Dave starts getting concerned because Amy hasn't surfaced. Amy is ten yards ahead of all the swimmers. She finally surfaces at the end of the pool, takes a deep breath, goes under again and swims back towards the other end of the pool. Dave gets out of his seat and starts walking towards the pool, confused. Amy surfaces at the end of the pool and is the winner as she beat all the other girls by fifteen yards. Her teammates gather around Amy to congratulate her. Amy smiles until an official walks over to her and disqualifies her because of her unorthodox swimming stroke. Amy gives the official the finger. Mr. Kaye rushes to Amy and signals Dave to come over.

MR. KAYE

Mr. Williams, Amy is disqualified for the race and we have to suspend her from the team because of her unsportsmanlike behavior.

AMY

(to Mr. Kaye)

Thanks for your support, numb nuts. And by the way, the official is an asshole. I bet his daughter swims on the other team.

DAVE

Amy, you can't behave like this. It's disrespectful. You need to apologize to Mr. Kaye and the official... right now!

AMY

Bullshit! Let's blow this pop stand.

DAVE

Amy! I'm sorry Mr. Kaye.

MR. KAYE

I understand Mr. Williams.

Dave looks up into the stands at Greg and Patty. Greg signals Dave to call them. Dave nods his head.

DAVE

Let's go Amy.

AMY  
(unfazed)  
I'm hungry. Can we stop for pizza?

Dave is distraught and is nearing his breaking point.

INT. CAR - DAY

DAVE  
Amy, this is getting bad. I'm so  
worried honey. I'm losing you.

AMY  
(proudly)  
No you're not dad. I'm fine. Did  
you see how fast I swam? I used  
the prawn technique. I scooted  
along the floor like a race car  
driver. I kicked their asses,  
didn't I dad?

DAVE  
Amy, I can't take this language  
anymore. It's not funny and it's  
not you.

AMY  
I'll work on it dad.  
(changing subject)  
You gotta admit dad, I was fast,  
wasn't I?

DAVE  
(small smile)  
Yes.

AMY  
People don't understand how strong  
prawn are. They can rip apart  
most other fish. Of course,  
they're a bit small to deal with  
whales.

DAVE  
Right.

AMY  
You'd never think they'd be so  
strong, because they eat fish crap  
all day long.

DAVE

Amy! Please!

AMY

Sorry dad. Do you know what the difference is between a prawn and a shrimp?

DAVE

What?

AMY

About one gill.

Amy laughs hysterically as Dave glances at her in confusion.

AMY

And guess what else?

DAVE

(hesitant)

What?

AMY

Prawn legs are bigger than shrimp legs but the shrimp's pair of pinchers, you know those claw things, are bigger. But the good news is that the prawn's second pair of pinchers is bigger than the shrimp's second pair. So the prawn wins. Game over.

Dave pulls the car in the driveway and stares at Amy. Amy exits the car and walks with a hump back resembling a the shape of a shrimp being served as a shrimp cocktail. Dave looks at her sadly, closes his eyes and walks toward the house.

DAVE

Amy, your posture.

AMY

(smiling)

I'm just a little tired from the meet.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Dave sits in his office with his head laying on his desk. Jim enters.

JIM  
Dave, you alright?

DAVE  
No.

JIM  
You look wiped out.

DAVE  
I am. Jim, I think I need some more time off. If this is a problem...

JIM  
Is it Amy?

DAVE  
Yes, she's a mess and I'm a mess. Her personality is changing.

JIM  
How so?

DAVE  
She is obsessed with prawns. She's acting like a prawn.

JIM  
Prawn? You mean, shrimp?

DAVE  
Well yeah, sort of, there is a difference. Amy's a walking encyclopedia on prawn and could tell you the difference in great detail.

JIM  
I'm sorry bud, I'm a bit confused.

DAVE  
Don't worry, so am I.

JIM  
Are you guys still going to counselling?

DAVE  
Yes. We're going again later today. Amy's out of control. She swears at everyone. She's obviously angry and feels a  
(MORE)

DAVE (cont'd)  
tremendous amount of guilt about  
Susan's death.

JIM  
Why?

DAVE  
She feels that if she hadn't  
pressured us to go jet skiing,  
that Susan would be here today.

JIM  
That's sad. How horrible. Take  
as much time as you need.

DAVE  
Thanks Jim. Patrick and Kim are  
doing great handling everuthing.

JIM  
I know. They're doing great. They  
have a great mentor Dave.

DAVE  
Thanks Jim.

Jim approaches Dave and gives him a hug. Dave closes his eyes and tries to stop himself from welling up. Dave leaves Jim's office and walks to the OFFICE RECEPTIONIST.

DAVE  
Hi.

OFFICE RECEPTIONIST  
Hi Dave.

DAVE  
Did Patrick and Kim sign out for  
lunch yet?

OFFICE RECEPTIONIST  
About ten minutes ago. They went  
to Charlies.

DAVE  
Thanks.

INT. CHARLIE'S RESTAURANT - DAY

The HOST leads Dave to Patrick and Kim's table. They both stand and hug Dave. Dave sits down. The host leaves the menu on the table.

DAVE  
Too late to join you?

PATRICK  
No, not at all. We just got our  
salad and we split an appetizer.

Dave looks down and sees one last shrimp hanging on the side of a shrimp cocktail glass. He gets a nauseous expression on his face.

KIM  
You okay? Here, Dave, have the  
last one.

Kim dips the shrimp in cocktail sauce and attempts to hand it to Dave.

DAVE  
(loud)  
No!

Dave pushes Kim's army away. Patrons near Dave's table look up. Kim and Patrick look at each other, confused.

DAVE  
(soft)  
Sorry. No thanks.

KIM  
Dave, I'm sorry. You love shrimp  
cocktail.

DAVE  
That was before.  
(awkward silence)

PATRICK  
What's going on Dave?

DAVE  
I'm just not ready to come back  
yet. I feel horrible about this.

KIM  
Is it Amy?

DAVE  
Both of us. We're just not  
ourselves yet. We miss Susan so  
much. She was so wonderful with  
Amy and I'm failing miserably.

A WAITER approaches.

WAITER  
Will you be joining them for  
lunch?

DAVE  
Yes, I'll get something quick.  
What's your soup today?

WAITER  
Clam Chowder.

Dave closes his eyes. Patrick and Kim exchange glances.

DAVE  
Can I get just Chowder?

WAITER  
Pardon?

DAVE  
You know, just get the potatoes  
and the soup but no clams.

WAITER  
No, I'm sorry sir. We also have  
Seafood Bisque.

Dave's nauseous look worsens.

DAVE  
Um, instead I'll have a Caesar  
Salad...Wait, wait, wait, does it  
have anchovies on it?

WAITER  
They're ground in to flavor the  
dressing.

DAVE  
Well then, okay, okay, um I'll  
just have the Caesar Salad with no  
Caesar dressing but instead bring  
some french dressing on the side.  
And a coke.

WAITER  
Got it.

Patrick and Amy stare at Dave as they witness this bizarre conversation.



DAVE  
Welcome to three minutes of my  
world. So you guys can cover for  
me, right?

INT. DR. SHARON'S OFFICE - DAY

Dave and Amy sit across Dr. Sharon in her office. Dave is  
pale and tired looking. Amy is alert.

DR. SHARON  
So Amy, how was your week?

AMY  
Excellent.

DR. SHARON  
Dave?

DAVE  
Long. My boss has given me some  
time off so I can be here for Amy.

AMY  
I'm fine dad.

DAVE  
No Amy, you're not.

DR. SHARON  
Tell me about last week.

Amy looks down at her hands and shapes her fingers into  
claws.

DAVE  
(bitter)  
Based on your recommendation, Amy  
experienced some seafood last  
week. In fact, it was an  
authentic Chinese dish called  
Drunken Prawn. The chef came out  
and lit some live prawn on fire,  
drowned them and served them to  
Amy and her friends.

DR. SHARON  
I didn't say to...

AMY  
It was great.

DAVE

Amy is now obsessed with prawn.  
Ask her a question, any question  
about prawn...

AMY

Prawn are tough little bastards.  
All those big fish pick on them.  
They all want to eat em. The  
prawn try to defend themselves but  
they're so, so small. And you know  
who are the biggest ass holes of  
all? It's a tie between the  
fishermen who drag their stupid  
nets along the ocean floor and  
huge whales who have nothing else  
to do. You'd think whales could  
eat sharks or something, but no,  
they have to go after helpless  
prawns. Whales are bully assholes.  
Some day I hope I have a chance to  
see one, eyeball to eyeball, and  
I'll kick that whale's ass. Wimps!

Dave looks at Dr. Sharon for her reaction.

DR. SHARON

So you like prawn?

AMY

(shrugs shoulder)

I guess. They're cool. Even  
though they're bottom feeders,  
they're also survivors.

DR. SHARON

Any you don't like whales.

AMY

Whales are pussies. They pick on  
the helpless.

DR. SHARON

Is it because of what one did to  
your mom?

AMY

(ignoring question)

You know what I want to do when I grow up? I want to go to Japan and become a Japanese whaler. And when some Green Peace boat comes my way to protect the whale, I'll blow the boat out of the water.

Dave is startled with this answer.

DR. SHARON

Amy, would you mind going out to the lobby for a few minutes so I can speak to your dad in private?

AMY

No prob.

Amy walks out of the office and into the lobby. She walks towards the aquarium and the receptionist bolts out of her chair.

AMY

Don't worry toots, I won't hurt Flipper.

Amy bends over slightly and puts a hump in her back. She then stares at the aquarium and shapes her fingers into prawn claws.

Dave and Dr. Sharon resume their conversation.

DR. SHARON

Dave, Amy is suffering tremendous guilt about her mom's death.

DAVE

I think so too but it's coming out in weird ways. She is profane. She's having problems in school. I don't know if I should yell at her or just let her do anything she wants to get through the grieving.

DR. SHARON

You do need to speak up when she misbehaves. Unfortunately, there is no right way or wrong way to grieve.

DAVE

What about her impersonating a prawn? At her swim meet, she swam on the bottom of a pool like a prawn being vacuumed along the ocean floor. It was surreal.

DR. SHARON

Quite frankly, I haven't seen that type of behavior before. She is somehow relating to a prawn because of its vulnerability to whales. She identifies with prawns and in a way, she is acting out a connection with her mom whom she obviously misses very much. Being like a prawn brings her closer to mom.

DAVE

You mean because they can both be eaten by whales?

DR. SHARON

Exactly.

DAVE

(getting angry)

This is the biggest crock of shit. What do you recommend we do next, have a prawn party? Your last recommendation worked out so well.

DR. SHARON

A change of pace, somewhere relaxing. Why don't you take her to the zoo?

Dave stares at her in disbelief not knowing if she is serious or not. She is serious.

DAVE

I don't know. That makes me nervous.

DR. SHARON

The weather's getting real nice. Just make sure she goes with someone she respects.

DAVE

Maybe I'll have her grandpa and  
grandma take her. They are great  
with Amy, very soothing influence.

DR. SHARON

Sounds like a great idea.

EXT. ZOO - DAY

Amy is at the zoo with her GRANDFATHER, late-60's and  
GRANDMOTHER, late-60's. Amy holds her grandfather's hand as  
they walk through the main gate.

AMY

Let's go to the aquarium first.

GRANDMOTHER

No honey, that's in the middle of  
the exhibits. It's early. We have  
time to see all the exhibits, I  
promise.

AMY

Okay... I'm starving.

GRANDFATHER

Grandpa will buy you a hot dog in  
a little bit.

AMY

And fries?

GRANDFATHER

Sure honey.

AMY

And an ice cream?

GRANDMOTHER

Amy, we just got here.

GRANDFATHER

(whispers to Amy)

I will if you don't tell Grandma.

Amy smiles as she visits the various exhibits. They are  
approaching the giraffe exhibit and Amy stares at a giraffe  
eating leaves from a tree. Amy sees an elderly man sitting  
on a park bench just about to take a bite out of a hot dog.  
Amy grabs the hot dog out of his hand and runs toward the

giraffe. She throws the hot dog at the giraffe and hits it in the neck splattering mustard all over. The giraffe, unfazed, continues to eat the leaves. Amy's grandparents are in a panic. They grab her hand, apologize to the elderly man and take Amy to a park bench in an less populated area of the zoo and make her sit down.

GRANDFATHER

(upset)

Amy, what has gotten into you?

GRANDMOTHER

(out of breath)

You stole that hot dog right out of that man's hands.

AMY

You snooze, you lose.

GRANDMOTHER

Amy!

AMY

I told you I was hungry.

GRANDFATHER

You didn't even eat it!

AMY

I was about to when I saw that big ass giraffe eating the leaves. Spoiled, lazy giraffe. Doesn't climb a tree. No, it just raises its neck and eats. Lazy, lazy, lazy.

GRANDMOTHER

Amy, it's a giraffe, a very gentle animal. They just happen to have long necks. Don't hate them just because they're big. They've never done anything to you. Amy, they're harmless.

AMY

People used to say whales were harmless too and that's obviously a lie. A giraffe would probably eat me too if I gave it a chance.

GRANDFATHER

Amy, we have to leave before we get kicked out.

AMY  
 (screaming)  
 I'm not leaving until we see the  
 aquarium! You promised!

GRANDFATHER  
 You promise to behave?  
 (Amy nods)  
 No more shenanigans?

AMY  
 Promise.

They walk to the entrance of the aquarium. Amy slouches in her walk giving the appearance of having a hump back.

GRANDMOTHER  
 Amy, your posture. Straighten up.  
 (Amy ignores her)

AMY  
 (entering the  
 aquarium)  
 This is going to fun.

Amy is mesmerized and stares at all of the fish with a huge smile on her face. Her grandparents are relieved. Amy starts moving her fingers into a claw like structure. There are many different types of fish swimming in the tank, large and small. Amy spots some prawn scooting along the bottom of the tank. Her smile expands. A large swordfish swoops down on one of the prawn and nudges it. Amy's expression turns into horror.

AMY  
 (screaming)  
 Hey, cut that out!

GRANDFATHER  
 Amy, calm down.

The swordfish attempts to pick up the prawn but backs off when the prawn tries to claw it.

AMY  
 Hey!

Amy takes three steps backwards and then runs full speed towards the tank, jumps up and and climbs the glass to the top of the tank. She dives into the tank. Amy swims towards the bottom of the tank and finds the swordfish that was nudging the prawn. Amy starts punching the swordfish in the

side and finally lets it go. She then swims to the surface. Grandfather and grandmother are horrified and scream for help. A crowd gathers. One of the zoo attendants jumps in the tank and rescues Amy.

INT. ZOO SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

Grandfather and grandmother sit on a couch holding hands with a distraught look on their face. Amy sits with a towel around her facing a heavy set SECURITY MAN. Amy has a contented look on her face.

SECURITY MAN

In fifty years, nothing like this has ever happened. We have two options. We can call the police and have you arrested or we can ban you for life. What's it going to be?

AMY

Ban me for life. Your zoo sucks anyway. You don't protect the innocent.

SECURITY MAN

Don't think I won't call the police little girl. You put yourself and other people in grave danger. And for what it's worth, you could have drowned.

AMY

I'm on the swim team tubby.

SECURITY MAN

Keep pushing me.

AMY

Awww. big bad security man need the police to help him? It must be tough to live in fear of a thirteen year old girl.

Grandfather and grandmother look at each other horrified.

GRANDFATHER

I'm sorry. This will never happen again. If an elderly man complains about a hot dog incident, please take this and buy him another one. It's the least we can do.



Grandfather gives the security man a five dollar bill. He and grandmother grab Amy's hand and leave the office.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Dave and Amy sit at the kitchen table. Dave is very sad and exhausted. Amy appears normal and alert.

DAVE

You threw a hot dog at a giraffe?  
You punched a swordfish? I can't  
take much more.

AMY

Don't worry dad. I'm starting to  
feel better, really. The end's in  
sight.

DAVE

(concerned)

What does that mean?

AMY

I won't stress you out anymore,  
okay dad?

DAVE

Why did you do this Amy? Grandpa  
and grandpa almost had heart  
attacks?

AMY

I don't like bullies and I was  
teaching them a lesson.

DAVE

Giraffes are harmless.

AMY

Say that to those innocent leaves.

DAVE

And you punched a swordfish?

AMY

It was more like a pummeling.

Dave buries his head in his hands and closes his eyes.

DAVE

(softly)

Okay Amy... No more, please?

AMY  
(ignoring Dave)  
Oh dad, I almost forgot to tell  
you, I have a great idea.

DAVE  
What's that honey?

AMY  
You know how we really didn't have  
a vacation in Grand Cayman?

DAVE  
(suspicious)  
Yes.

AMY  
I was thinking that since Uncle  
John and Aunt Mary never made the  
funeral that we could visit them  
in Florida. I think it would be  
great for us. I think I would  
even try to go in the ocean again.

DAVE  
I don't think I like this idea.

AMY  
Dad, really. I'm starting to feel  
a little better and really would  
like to go in the ocean again. No  
jet skiing, promise.

DAVE  
(confused)  
I don't know Amy. I don't think  
this is a good idea. I think it's  
too soon. I have to talk to Dr.  
Sharon about this.

AMY  
Yeah, she gives such great advice.

DAVE  
Amy, please. Stop!

AMY  
Maybe we could do it next week,  
make it a long weekend, just two  
or three days, that's all.

DAVE

I'll think about it. And I will ask Dr. Sharon.

(changes subject)

By the way, we're going to church tomorrow.

AMY

No way. I'm not going

DAVE

I don't need any crap right now Amy. We're going. Pastor Black told me he has something very special for us.

AMY

Dad, please...

DAVE

We're going.

INT. CHURCH - DAY

Dave and Amy, both slightly hesitant, enter the church sanctuary. They are immediately greeted by many of the congregation who smile, shake hands and even hug Dave and Amy. PASTOR BLACK, 50's, handsome, approaches Dave and Amy.

PASTOR BLACK

Dave, Amy, welcome back. We missed you.

DAVE

Thank you.

PASTOR BLACK

I have a very special service planned for you, so let's get started.

The congregation sits as Pastor Black walks to the front of the church. He turns around and faces the congregation.

PASTOR BLACK

Before we start service today, I wanted to make an announcement. We are so pleased that Dave and Amy have come back to our family.

We missed them just as we deeply miss Susan.

(MORE)

PASTOR BLACK (cont'd)

(Dave nods)

Dave and Amy have experienced Hell on Earth and we want to do everything we can to them get through this rough period.

Dave, Amy, we are here for you.

(Dave nods again.)

For over a month, they have experienced a true tragedy. They lost the love of their lives, Susan, a beautiful wife and loving mother.

(Dave and Amy start to get uncomfortable)

For over a month, they have been humiliated by so many insensitive people who mocked the circumstances of Susan's passing. Dave, Amy, we believe you and we love you. Take comfort in that. And lastly, as a special gift, this service is dedicated to you.

With respect and love, and to demonstrate how the Bible's truth is often reflected in our daily lives, my sermon will be based on our first reading today, the story of Jonah. Let's begin our service.

Dave and Amy look at each other, panicked. They bolt out of their seats and quickly exit the church. The congregation and Pastor Black exchange confused glances.

INT. DAVE'S CAR - DAY

DAVE

We're going to lunch.

AMY

Dad, it's ten o'clock.

DAVE

Sliders. I need sliders.

AMY

I'm not even hungry.

DAVE

Sliders.

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

Dave and Amy sit at a table in a fast food diner. A WAITRESS approaches.

WAITRESS

Hello.

DAVE

Hi. Is it too early for lunch?

WAITRESS

We serve the entire menu all day long.

DAVE

Perfect. We know what we want and we're in a little rush. Amy?

AMY

I'll have a hot dog with mustard, french fries and a...dad, can I have a Mountain Dew?

DAVE

Go for it.

AMY

(smiles)

And a Mountain Dew.

DAVE

I will have a cheeseburger with everything with extra grilled onions and pickles on the cheeseburger. Then I want a side plate of extra pickles and grilled onions. I want chili cheese fries and a side plate of extra chili with melted cheese on it. And a coke. You can do this, right?

WAITRESS

We can cook anything here.

DAVE

Good, and again, if you could tell the chef..the cook... we're in a hurry, I would appreciate it.

WAITRESS

No problem.

The waitress turns from the table and heads towards the kitchen. Amy is amused with Dave's behavior.

AMY

We're not in a rush.

DAVE

I'm in a rush. I'm in a rush to eat.

AMY

(amused)

You okay dad?

DAVE

Jonah. I can't believe he was going to do a sermon about Jonah.

AMY

It's kind of funny.

DAVE

(laughs)

I guess it is, the more I think about it.

(feeling guilty)

I'll give him a call later.

AMY

I wouldn't worry about it.

DAVE

Amy, if I don't call him and explain, we may not be welcome back for a long, long, time.

AMY

Good. I don't want to go.

DAVE

(serious)

Amy, do you still believe in ...

AMY

I don't know. I don't want to talk about it.

DAVE

Amy, we need help. We're falling apart. I thought church might help us spiritually.

AMY

I'm doing fine dad.

DAVE

(sarcastic)

Really. The girl who punches a giraffe and pummels a swordfish is doing fine?

AMY

I feel pretty good.

DAVE

(frustrated)

Really? Your acting like a prawn. What is it about this humpback and claw thing? And you're swimming? Oh my God!

AMY

It's relaxing for me. At least I'm not gorging on sliders.

DAVE

(smiles)

Good one. But really Amy, why do you do it?

AMY

I think prawn are cool dad, okay? Plus, it scares the hell out of the boys at school.

DAVE

Amy, language. Scaring boys leads to nowhere.

AMY

It's not all boys dad. Just the fat ass bullies.

DAVE

Amy! Your language is really starting to piss me off. You've got to cut this shit out.

Amy laughs as Dave realizes what he said.

DAVE

(shakes his head)

Amy, you need to...we need to get our act together.

AMY  
Okay dad, I'll try.

DAVE  
Really Amy? Really?

AMY  
(changing subject)  
Yes. We're still going to Florida,  
right?

DAVE  
I'll check with Dr. Sharon.

AMY  
She's a lonely loser.

The waitress brings the food. Dave closes his eyes in anticipation.

DAVE  
God works in mysterious way. From  
church to sliders in thirty easy  
minutes.

AMY  
Sure dad. Pass the mustard.

Without thinking, Dave passes the mustard and then looks at Amy to make sure she puts it on her hot dog. Dave and Amy begin eating with their heads down.

DAVE  
Cheers.

AMY  
Cheers.

DAVE  
(Heads still down  
as they eat)  
Want to talk about boys some more?

AMY  
No.

INT. DAVE'S DEN - NIGHT

Dave sits in his den, sips wine and flicks through channels with his remote control. He is distraught. He closes his eyes and has a flash back of Susan's death. He opens his



eyes and rubs his face. He continues to flick through channels. One of the channels he stops at is a documentary showing a submarine cruising at the bottom of the ocean. He has no reaction and flicks to a different channel.

Dave gets up and walks to his desk, sits down and starts typing on his computer. A Whale web site is displayed. Dave clicks on Diet of Whales and reads for a few seconds. He then clicks on Types of Whales and starts to see images of different species. He quickly looks at small whales and clicks to the next image. He then starts looking at larger whales and spends more time viewing each image before clicking onto the next one - Grey Whale, Humpback Whale, Blue Whale. He clicks on the image of a Sperm Whale. Dave closes his eyes and attempts to juxtapose the Sperm Whale's image with the image of the whale that swallowed Susan. He opens his eyes and continues to stare at the Sperm Whale.

INT. DAVE'S KITCHEN - DAY

Dave sits at the kitchen table, sips coffee and reads a newspaper. Dave picks up a phone and calls Sergeant Steinkamp in Grand Cayman (INTERCUT PHONE SEQUENCE).

DAVE

Hello Sergeant, Dave Williams here.

SERGEANT STEINKAMP

Hello Mr. Williams. And how are you sir?

DAVE

Not bad.

SERGEANT STEINKAMP

And how is your daughter Amy doing?

DAVE

Not well.

SERGEANT STEINKAMP

I am sorry to hear sir. What can I do for you?

DAVE

I was wondering if there have been any developments?

SERGEANT STEINKAMP

Such as?

DAVE  
Any further sightings of whales in  
the area?

SERGEANT STEINKAMP  
No sightings at all Mr. Williams.

DAVE  
No sperm whales?

SERGEANT STEINKAMP  
No.

DAVE  
How about sharks?

SERGEANT STEINKAMP  
No sir.

DAVE  
(sarcastic)  
Any underground volcanoes?

SERGEANT STEINKAMP  
(soft)  
No.

DAVE  
Anything?

SERGEANT STEINKAMP  
No.

DAVE  
Has David Hasselhoff come clean  
yet or is he still working on his  
tan?

SERGEANT STEINKAMP  
(ignoring question)  
There were no whales, Mr. Williams

DAVE  
So, how do you explain my wife's  
death then?

SERGEANT STEINKAMP  
The medical examiner ruled it a  
drowning.

DAVE  
She drowned after she spoke! She  
said "Moby." What did she drown  
(MORE)

DAVE (cont'd)  
on, her saliva? Explain that to  
me!

SERGEANT STEINKAMP  
I can't.

DAVE  
Everybody thinks me and my  
daughter are insane!

SERGEANT STEINKAMP  
I'm sorry for your loss Mr.  
Williams.

DAVE  
(long pause)  
Okay.  
(hangs up phone)

Dave takes a small piece of paper out of his pocket, looks  
at it and dials another number. LINDY, late-20's,  
attractive, answers the phone. (INTERCUT PHONE SEQUENCE)

LINDY  
Hello, this is Lindy.

DAVE  
Hi. Is this the International  
Whale Preservation Society?

LINDY  
Sure is. How may I help you?

DAVE  
Are you one of the scientists  
there?

LINDY  
Sure am.

DAVE  
You sound awful young.

LINDY  
Got my P-H-D from Berkeley a year  
ago.

DAVE  
Sounds good. I need your help. I  
need to get documented evidence  
that whales eat humans.

LINDY

Ummm...

DAVE

You have research on that, right?

LINDY

Not really, no. There have been incidents where whales have drowned humans by knocking into their boats but no cases where whales have eaten humans.

DAVE

But you'd agree that under the right circumstances a whale could eat a human, right?

LINDY

No sir. Whales typically eat fish.

DAVE

I've read that killer whales sometimes eat other killer whales.

LINDY

That's true but killer whales are too small to ingest a human.

DAVE

But what about a blue whale? They're huge.

LINDY

True, but they eat small fish, krill.

DAVE

Like prawn?

LINDY

Exactly.

DAVE

But what if a Blue Whale was minding its own business and got scared and opened its mouth and a person on a jet ski drove right in, is that possible?

LINDY

I doubt it sir.

DAVE

But it's not impossible under the right circumstances, right?

LINDY

Highly unlikely, near impossible, but yes it is possible. However, if it did occur, the whale would immediately expel it.

DAVE

(excited)

Exactly Lindy, exactly! Thank you Lindy. That you very much!

Dave hangs up the phone with a big smile on his face.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Amy walks down the hallway with a hump back posture. Scott and Bronson approach her.

SCOTT

How you doing, prawnee?

BRONSON

My mom was wondering if you'd be available to clean the bottom of our pool this summer.

AMY

Hilarious.

SCOTT

Hey, hump back girl, good job about your expulsion from the swim team.

Amy continues to ignore them as other students gather around.

BRONSON

Heard you're growing claws.

Amy attempts to walk past them and Scott moves directly into her path and puts his face close to hers.

SCOTT

Don't you ever embarrass us again or I'll throw you in the ocean as whale bate, just like your mom.

Amy's face turns red. She looks down and moves her fingers into a claw structure. She trips Scott who falls onto the floor. Amy picks Scott up by the back of the pants and pulls her arm backward like a bowler. She then drags Scott along the floor and releases him like a bowling ball. Scott knocks a bunch of boys over. One boy is still standing.

AMY

(to Bronson)

Hey come here asshole. I want to see if I can get a spare.

Bronson starts walking backwards quickly away from Amy, scared. Amy approaches Scott who is still on the floor. Amy puts her foot on his neck. Scott grunts.

AMY

If you or your asshole buddy bug me anymore, I will rip your face off and have it for lunch. Get it?

(Scott grunts)

Get it?

SCOTT

Yes!

As the boys get up, Amy turns the other way and walks down the hallway with a smile on her face. She straightens up her posture.

INT. SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

Amy sits inattentively in her math class. With a smile on her face, she sketches a large prawn eating two small boys. She lifts up the drawing and shows it to Trish and Jen who both laugh. Amy's teacher, Mr. BERG, continues to lecture as Amy sketches. At the end of the class Mr. Berg signals Amy to approach him.

MR. BERG

Amy, Mr. Armstrong wants you to see him during your homeroom today.

AMY

No problem.

INT. SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY

Mr. ARMSTRONG, the school Principal, sits in his office across from Amy.

MR. ARMSTRONG

Amy, there's a rumor going around the school that you bowled down some boys earlier today.

AMY

Mr. Armstrong, that's not a rumor. It's the truth. I did miss knocking over one of those boys though, maybe I'll get him next time.

MR. ARMSTRONG

Why did you do that?

AMY

They were picking on me about my mom for about the twenty fifth time and I got sick of it. So I nailed those guys.

MR. ARMSTRONG

You know that's not how we deal with problems here.

Amy looks up and notices a picture of Mr. Armstrong holding a big fish. She jumps out of her seat, startling Mr. Armstrong, and approaches the picture to get a closer look.

AMY

You catch that?

MR. ARMSTRONG

(smiling)

You bet I did. I got it stuffed and it's mounted on my mantle.

AMY

Cool. Swordfish, right? I bet it's four feet long.

MR. ARMSTRONG

Forty six inches to be exact.

AMY

I nailed a swordfish the other day.

MR. ARMSTRONG

(surprised)

Amy, that's great. I didn't know you went deep sea fishing.

AMY

I didn't. I hopped into the aquarium tank at the zoo, spotted the mother, and pummeled the hell out of it. It was awesome.

Mr. Armstrong is confused, stunned and speechless.

AMY

It was picking on a prawn and I kicked its butt.

MR. ARMSTRONG

(still confused)

Whoa. I don't know what to say... Let's get back to the reason you're here. Fighting is not tolerated at this school. I'm giving you the benefit of the doubt this time, but if it happens again, you'll be suspended for three days.

AMY

(uninterested)

No problem. Are we done?

MR. ARMSTRONG

Yes.

AMY

You gonna call my dad?

MR. ARMSTRONG

Should I?

AMY

No, he is under a lot of stress. This will set him off. It won't happen again, promise.

MR. ARMSTRONG

I'm going to hold you to this.

AMY

That's fine. And by the way, thanks for nailing that swordfish. It got what it deserved.



MR. ARMSTRONG  
(unsure what to  
say)

Okay Amy. Have a good rest of the  
day.

AMY  
Toodles.

EXT. OUTSIDE SCHOOL BUILDING - DAY

Amy, Trish, Jen and Kalie gather outside the school  
building.

TRISH  
Are you suspended?

AMY  
No.

JEN  
Did he call your dad?

AMY  
No.

TRISH  
You got off easy.

AMY  
I think Mr. Armstrong felt sorry  
for me. Plus, I think Mr.  
Armstrong was glad I kicked their  
asses.

KALIE  
You think so? He gets mad when  
people fight.

AMY  
I didn't fight anyone. I just  
scared the hell out of them.

TRISH  
You're our hero.

JEN  
How's your back feeling?

AMY  
Fine, why?

JEN

You're walking with a hump back.  
So it must hurt, huh?

AMY

Not really. It actually feels  
good, very natural.

KALIE

People say you're trying to  
imitate a shrimp cocktail. And no  
one understands why you make your  
hand into a claw.

AMY

What do they know? They're  
assholes.

(changing subject)

Hey, let's go get some pizza.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Dave sits in a restaurant with Greg and Patty Seger.

DAVE

Thank you for inviting me. I  
really needed to get out.

PATTY

We're here for you.

GREG

What can we do to help?

DAVE

You guys and Trish have been  
great. Unfortunately, Amy is  
getting worse. She misses her mom  
so bad.

GREG

You've had a rough go...

DAVE

And Amy's behavior is out of  
control.

PATTY

Apparently she beat up some boys  
today at school.

DAVE  
 (defeated)  
 I'm afraid to ask what happened.

PATTY  
 Some boys were picking on her.

DAVE  
 (sarcastic)  
 Wonderful.  
 (smiling)  
 I do have to admit she doesn't  
 take crap from anybody. Before  
 Susan passed, she was so timid.

GREG  
 Counselling going okay?

DAVE  
 Not yet. The psychiatrist doesn't  
 have a lot of experience dealing  
 with people who act like prawns.

GREG  
 We don't understand that prawn  
 thing either.

DAVE  
 Me either. One things for sure, I  
 don't think I'll be ordering  
 shrimp cocktail anymore. Do you  
 know what shrimp eat?

Greg and Patty look at each other, stunned.

DAVE  
 They eat fish shit. And if it's  
 not available, they'll scrape  
 their tentacles across the ocean  
 floor and if anything looks yummy,  
 they'll eat it.  
 (loud)  
 Why in the hell would anyone in  
 their right mind eat one of these  
 bottom feeders?

Dave realizes he is losing it. He looks at Greg and Patty  
 who are trying to hide their embarrassment.

DAVE  
 Sorry, this is all I've been  
 living the last six weeks. All I  
 ever dream about are prawn and  
 (MORE)

DAVE (cont'd)  
 whales, nothing else. I see Susan  
 being swallowed by Moby over and  
 over again. And then I see her  
 being shot out of it's mouth like  
 a cannon... just like the  
 circus...it's just crazy. Did I  
 ever tell you that when Susan  
 landed on the lifeguard, she  
 separated the lifeguard's  
 shoulder? Yeah, he had to go to  
 the hospital and get X-rayed.  
 Sometimes I wonder if this is all  
 one perverted nightmare. My  
 daughter is becoming a frickin  
 prawn. Who uses that word "prawn"  
 anyway?. Do you guys say prawn? I  
 bet you say shrimp. Most people  
 say shrimp. Whoever orders a prawn  
 cocktail? Maybe in Grand Cayman  
 but not in America. And Drunken  
 Prawn? Forget about it.

Dave realizes his rambling is incoherent and irrational and  
 stops talking. He looks down, embarrassed.

DAVE  
 I'm really sorry. I can't take  
 much more. I'm really sorry.

Greg and Patty move their chairs closer to Dave to comfort  
 him. A tear drops down Dave's face. Greg turns back briefly  
 to glance at his own plate which contains six shells and  
 tails from the shrimp cocktail he ate before Dave's tirade.

INT. DR. SHARON'S OFFICE - DAY

Dave is receiving counselling without Amy.

DR. SHARON  
 How goes it?

DAVE  
 Terrible. I'm losing Amy.

DR. SHARON  
 She's grieving.

DAVE  
 No one grieves like this. How many  
 people do you know who think  
 they're a prawn?

DR. SHARON

I'm going to give you a name of some other counsellors that may be better suited for this. I think Amy needs more than I can offer.

DAVE

I agree. Your recommendations haven't turned out so well. Amy's banned from the zoo for life.

DR. SHARON

(stunned)

Why, what happened?

DAVE

(stunned)

She jumped in the fish tank and pummelled a swordfish.

DR. SHARON

Why?

DAVE

Because it was picking on a prawn. This is what I've been living with.

DR. SHARON

I'm so sorry.

DAVE

My parents almost had heart attacks.

DR. SHARON

That's horrible.

DAVE

And then she almost picked a fight with a three hundred pound security guard.

DR. SHARON

Oh my gosh... This really is getting serious. Please call one of these other counsellors and get her in quickly.

DAVE

I will.

DR. SHARON

Again, I am sorry...Let's talk about you for a few minutes. Now that time has passed, has there been further clarity in how Susan passed?

DAVE

(bothered)

What do you mean?

DR. SHARON

As you look back, do you view the circumstances of Susan's passing any differently?

DAVE

(upset)

You mean, do I still think Susan was swallowed by a whale?

DR. SHARON

Yes.

DAVE

No. Nothing has changed.

DR. SHARON

(calm)

Dave, could there be any other reasonable explanation of what happened?

DAVE

I don't think so.

DR. SHARON

One thing that Amy said that has always troubled me. She said Susan drove right into the whale's mouth, almost as if it was intentional.

DAVE

Yeah, maybe the whale had some sort of vacuum effect when it inhaled and sucked her into his stomach.

DR. SHARON

That might explain it.

DAVE

(calm)

It was a whale, okay? It was a whale.

DR. SHARON

Okay, Dave.

DAVE

One last thing. Amy's been bugging me for us to go on a long weekend to visit some relatives since our Grand Cayman vacation was cut short. What do you think?

DR. SHARON

Is she comfortable with these relatives?

DAVE

Oh yeah. In fact, two of her cousins are right around her age. She gets along with them great.

DR. SHARON

I don't really see any harm in this.

DAVE

One thing though. She says she really wants to go in the ocean and that makes me nervous.

DR. SHARON

I understand that. Just keep an eye on her. She's a great swimmer, right?

DAVE

(hesitant, smiles)

Right, especially when she swims like a prawn.

DR. SHARON

(smiling)

I think she'll be fine. Some new surroundings for a few days may help a bit.

(gets up)

Let me get you the numbers of those other counsellors.

DAVE

That would be great, thanks.

INT. REAL CHINA RESTAURANT - DAY

Amy enters Real China Restaurant and approaches the HOSTESS.

AMY

Hello, I would like to speak to  
the manager, Mr. Yee.

HOSTESS

Do you want to order carry out?

AMY

Yes, but I also need to talk to  
Mr. Yee. It's private.

INT. MR. YEE'S OFFICE - DAY

Amy sits across Mr. Yee with a very serious look on her  
face. He is amused.

AMY

Do you remember who I am?

MR. YEE

Of course I do little girl. You  
and your friends caused problems  
few weeks ago. Many of our  
patrons were upset.

AMY

My name is Amy and I would like to  
work for you, you know, in your  
restaurant.

MR. YEE

(smiling)

You are much too young. How old  
are you? Twelve?

AMY

Thirteen.

MR. YEE

No, too young. Come back in two  
years and maybe I can hire you.



AMY

I like this place. You got great fish here. I could feed the fish.

MR. YEE

(smiling)

No need for that. They don't live long because someone always eat them.

AMY

(bothered)

I could even clean some of the tanks. No one wants to do that job. I'm a great swimmer.

MR. YEE

(confused)

No come back in two years.

AMY

Mr. Yee, before I go, can I at least get a tour of your restaurant? I love this place. I want to see where you keep all the prawn.

MR. YEE

Not a good idea little girl.

AMY

(correcting him)

My name is Amy.

MR. YEE

Not good idea Amy. Chef's are working with hot water, preparing dishes for tonight.

AMY

Well, that's exactly what I want to see. I want to see how you prepare all your shrimp and prawn dishes.

MR. YEE

No. It's best you leave now. We're real busy.

AMY

Just give me two more minutes and I promise I'll leave...Mr. Yee, how many prawn and shrimp do you have here?

MR. YEE

Thousands. We get fresh fish daily. Prawn are still alive and in the tanks. The shrimp are cleaned and already on ice. Prawn are alive for Drunken Prawn.

AMY

Huh?

MR. YEE

You know. we don't kill the Prawn until we serve Drunken Prawn. They must be alive first or patrons won't eat them. Shrimp are cleaned. They are already out of its shell and vein removed. Ready to eat. Very popular, both shrimp and prawn. As you know, Drunken Prawn is a delicacy of Real China.

AMY

Why do you take the shrimp's vein out?

MR. YEE

Vein is the shrimp's digestive tract. It's that thin black line that runs along the shrimp's back. Americans don't like eating the vein. Say it's too gritty.

AMY

You mean, there's crap in that vein?

MR. YEE

Little girl, please...

AMY

One last question? The shrimp are served with their heads off? Just their body and tail.

MR. YEE

Exactly right. Perfect for our shrimp dishes and shrimp cocktail.

AMY

So someone cuts off their heads?

MR. YEE

Fish store does. The same day we get them. Still fresh.

AMY

(angry)

You shouldn't be chopping off their heads. That's cruel. And then with prawn, you burn them alive and drown them.

MR. YEE

That's right. Chinese delicacy. Little girl, time to go. We're very busy here.

AMY

(getting upset)

Why do you torture these harmless fish?

MR. YEE

It's no different than when you eat beef, pork or chicken. Animals have to die for you to eat them. Fish die too. It's not all prawn. We serve Salmon, Tuna and many other kinds of fish. Not just prawn.

AMY

Do you enjoy killing the fish?

MR. YEE

You must leave now?

AMY

(ignoring Mr. Yee)

Do you serve whale?

MR. YEE

No, against the law plus whale too blubbery.

AMY

(screams)

Hypocrite!

MR. YEE

Your time is up. You leave now  
little girl.

AMY

I will after I get my takeout...I  
bet you eat the black vein, don't  
you? Asshole!

MR. YEE

Go now!

INT. REAL CHINA HOSTESS STAND - DAY

Amy gets a small carry out bag from the hostess and looks  
inside.

AMY

They're still on ice, right?

HOSTESS

Yes.

AMY

Good.

Amy puts the carry out bag in her purse and leaves.

EXT. HOME OF JOHN WILLIAMS IN FLORIDA - DAY

It is a beautiful and sunny day in Florida. Dave sits in a  
chair on the back patio of the home of his brother, JOHN  
WILLIAMS, late-30's, handsome and his wife, MARY WILLIAMS,  
late-30's, attractive. In their pool, Amy swims with her  
cousins, KATY, 14 and Caroline, 12. The girls are having a  
great time, swimming and splashing each other. Dave is  
smiling as he watches Amy enjoy herself. Dave, John and  
Mary are drinking wine.

DAVE

This is so great.

JOHN WILLIAMS

Not hard to take, is it? As I  
remember, it's a lot like Michigan  
weather.

DAVE

Ha ha... Seriously, I haven't seen Amy smile in a very long time. Thanks guys for letting us come down here.

MARY WILLIAMS

You don't need to thank us. We're so sorry we didn't make it to Michigan for the funeral. John was en route to China when we got the news...

DAVE

I know...I know...it's all behind us now so don't worry about it. It's just nice to be in such great surroundings.

JOHN WILLIAMS

I haven't been a good brother.

DAVE

Guys, please, let's just relax and have a few drinks. I really do need to relax.

JOHN WILLIAMS

(changing subject)

So, we're still on for the beach tomorrow, right?

DAVE

Absolutely. Amy would kill me if we didn't go to the beach.

(embarrassed)

Wrong choice of words. We're really looking forward to it.

MARY WILLIAMS

(looking at the girls)

They really do get along together.

DAVE

(serious)

Have the girls said anything about Amy's behavior?

MARY WILLIAMS

Not a word. She seems very normal to me Dave.

DAVE

Really?

JOHN WILLIAMS

Yes Dave, she's fine. She seems to have a sense of peace about her.

DAVE

You have no idea how good that makes me feel.

The front DOORBELL RINGS. A PIZZA DELIVERY BOY holds two pizzas and two bags of bread sticks in his hands. Mary gets up to get the pizza.

JOHN WILLIAMS

(loud)

Girls, the pizza's here.

AMY

(yells)

Yes!

The girls get out of the pool and dry themselves off. They run to the picnic table and sit down as Susan brings the pizza to them.

DAVE

(whispers)

John, there isn't any seafood on the pizza, is there?

JOHN WILLIAMS

No. Just cheese and pepperoni.

DAVE

Good, that's a relief.

JOHN WILLIAMS

Why?

DAVE

No reason. Let's get some slices.

EXT. BEACH IN FLORIDA - DAY

Dave, John, Mary and the three girls are at the beach. It is a beautiful, sunny day. Dave sits next to John and Mary in matching lounge chairs taking in the sun. He is relaxed and happy. The girls are throwing a Frisbee to each other and having a great time. Amy runs up to Dave.

AMY

Dad, you told me to let you know when I go in to the ocean. Dad, I'm going into the ocean.

DAVE

Okay, not deep.

AMY

I'm on the swim team, remember?

DAVE

Amy, please don't start. Not to deep, okay?

AMY

Okay.

Amy grabs a small beach bag and brings it in the water with her to collect sea shells. Katy and Caroline join her and do the same. Dave nods his head, content. After filling her bag with sea shells, Amy dumps the bag on a beach blanket. Amy walks up to Dave.

AMY

Dad, everything is going to be fine, okay?

(Dave nods)

Really, I feel really good being here.

DAVE

Good.

Amy walks back to her blanket and takes out another bag that's labeled REAL CHINA on the outside. Amy tries to hide the bag from her dad's view as she brings it out in the ocean with her. Amy starts swimming on her back, holding the bag above the surface with one hand. Dave looks out at her briefly and then puts his hat over his eyes.

Amy takes out the contents of the bag. They are six shrimp cocktail. She places the shrimp on her stomach and continues to swim on her back. Amy closes her eyes and starts to SCREAM.

AMY

Eat me Moby! Eat me Moby!

Dave's head shoots up in horror. He stands up. Amy continues to scream. Dave runs to Amy.

DAVE

Amy! Amy!

Amy starts to cry.

AMY

I miss mom! I miss mom! Why  
didn't Moby eat me instead? I  
miss mom!

Dave breaks down crying. He and Amy are arm-in-arm and crying hysterically. John, Mary, Katy and Caroline run to them and hug them. Dave looks up to the sky.

DAVE

Enough! I can't take it any more.  
Enough! God, please, no more!

INT. AIRPLANE - DAY

Dave is pale and looks lovingly at his daughter who sleeps in the airplane chair next to him. He shakes his head.

DAVE

(whispers)

Amy, poor Amy. Why did such a  
horrible thing happen to such a  
nice girl?

Amy opens eyes and looks at Dave.

AMY

(soft)

Dad, did you say something?

DAVE

No. Go back to sleep honey.

INT. DAVE'S DEN - NIGHT

Back in Michigan, Dave sits in a chair and watches television. He flicks through the channels with his remote control. He looks distraught. Amy lays in a balled up position on the couch next to him. She is sound asleep and covered with a blanket. Dave flicks to a news channel and sees a reporter talking about a recently christened submarine. There is a video of this new, state of the art, attack submarine. On the screen, the program flashes the name of the new submarine - USS MOBY.

Dave stares at the submarine. Could it be? Is he dreaming?



DAVE  
 (whispers)  
 Amy. Amy.

She is sound asleep and doesn't wake up.

DAVE  
 (louder)  
 Amy. Amy.

Amy opens her eyes and looks at dad.

AMY  
 (soft)  
 What dad?

DAVE  
 Amy, look!  
 (points at  
 television)  
 USS Moby. A new sub called USS  
 Moby. Amy, look closely. Could it  
 be? Oh my God, Amy could this  
 be...

Amy stares at the television. After a few seconds, a silent  
 tear washes down her face. Dave continues to stare at the  
 television.

INT. DAVE'S KITCHEN - DAY

Dave dials phone number of the US Department of Navy. The  
 NAVY OPERATOR answers the phone. (INTERCUT PHONE SEQUENCE)

NAVY OPERATOR  
 Department of Navy.

DAVE  
 Admiral Weston's office please.

NAVY OPERATOR  
 May I ask who is calling please?

DAVE  
 Sure, David Williams.

NAVY OPERATOR  
 Please hold.

Dave is on hold for an extended period and is starting to  
 become impatient.

NAVY OPERATOR

Mr. Williams. May I ask the nature of your call?

DAVE

No you may not. Please get the Admiral on the line.

NAVY OPERATOR

Please hold.

Dave is getting upset.

NAVY OPERATOR

Mr. Williams. Admiral Weston is in a meeting. May I take a message?

DAVE

(calm)

Sure, here's my message. Tell him it's regarding a freak accident near Grand Cayman. And if he doesn't respond to me in the next thirty seconds, tell him that a gentleman by the name of Bob Woodward will be giving him a call.

Dave is on hold for ten seconds and he taps his fingers, confident.

ADMIRAL CHARLES WESTON

Mr. Williams. How may I help you sir?

DAVE

(confident)

Admiral, I have a little matter I'd like to discuss with you in person...

INT. OFFICE OF US NAVY - DAY

US Secretary of the Navy, ADMIRAL CHARLES WESTON, mid-60's and three NAVY LAWYERS in dark suits sit around a conference room with Dave and Amy.

ADMIRAL CHARLES WESTON

(sincere)

Mr. William, Amy, The United States of America owes you an apology.

DAVE

(bothered)

It would have been nice to hear that from you a couple of months ago.

ADMIRAL CHARLES WESTON

Please accept our condolences.

DAVE

That's it? Please accept our condolences?

ADMIRAL CHARLES WESTON

We will explain everything.

DAVE

(upset)

For two months, we have been ridiculed and humiliated. My daughter has suffered irreparable harm because of you. Condolences don't mean anything. I want you to answer me, where were you guys two months ago?

ADMIRAL CHARLES WESTON

Two months ago, we almost lost an entire submarine crew. They were conducting tests on our new attack sub, "The USS Moby." These were the first of many tests scheduled. Obviously, for national security reasons we don't broadcast our intentions to the world.

Although most of the systems and equipment on this submarine were state of the art, you never know how they'll perform until tested out at sea.

Our first day of tests...

DAVE

I really don't need you to chronicle the history of the world. What's the bottom line here? What happened to my wife?

ADMIRAL CHARLES WESTON

Please, let me finish. I think it will be helpful for you and Amy to  
(MORE)

ADMIRAL CHARLES WESTON (cont'd)  
hear all the facts.

Our first week of tests everything went well. We were very pleased with the performance. Then on Friday March 24th, tragedy hit the submarine. We lost all systems as well as the back up systems.

Once the sub encountered problems, the crew attempted to surface and even planned for an emergency evacuation.

Due to the strong tide, the sub was drawn into shallow waters and came very close to the coast of Grand Cayman. The systems would restore and then fail, restore and then failed, an intermittent problem that lasted eighteen hours.

Its crisis point was reached when the sub was breached and went on its side. This is when we encountered the regrettable situation with your wife.

(points to flip  
chart)

This is the sub on its side. It's laying on the bottom of the ocean. But as you can imagine, while it is on its side, it is very difficult to maneuver. This was further complicated by the shallow water.

(flips page)

To extricate the sub, we had to repeatedly attempt to surface and submerge the sub. In order to surface a sub, you do it by blowing high-pressure air from the ballast tanks. See here?

(points to ballast  
tank)

This is where the ballast tank is, normally at the bottom of the sub. But when the sub is on its side, the ballast tank is now raised and closer to the surface.

To continue, as the air  
(MORE)

ADMIRAL CHARLES WESTON (cont'd)  
replaces the seawater in the ballast tanks, the submarine becomes lighter, causing it to rise to the surface.

In essence, the air in the tanks blows the water out of the ship forcing it to rise.

AMY  
You mean my mom was killed because she was blown out of a ballast tank?

ADMIRAL CHARLES WESTON  
I'm afraid so honey.

DAVE  
How did she get in the ballast tank to begin with?

ADMIRAL CHARLES WESTON  
The converse occurred. Amy and your wife approached the sub right as it was trying to submerge. So when the sub opened up its ballast tanks to take on water, that was when your wife entered the tank. Here is a picture of an opened tank.

He flips the chart and points at the open tank. Dave and Amy stare at the chart. The sub, on its side with an open ballast tank, resembled a large, gray whale with its mouth wide open. Amy starts to cry and Dave comforts her. A tear runs down Dave's face.

DAVE  
We've seen enough. I have one other question, how did my wife know the sub was the USS Moby? There are no I-D marks on the outside of the sub.

ADMIRAL CHARLES WESTON  
We thought you might ask that. On all attack subs, the inside of the ballast tanks are marked with the name of the sub. When your wife was inside the ballast tank, she must have read the markings during those brief moments. See here? Look real closely.

Dave and Amy lean forward and look closely at the flip chart. In small print on the ballast tank there is a marking - USS MOBY. Amy continues to cry and Dave puts his arm around her.

DAVE

Did you guys see us on the news?  
Couldn't you have called? Look  
what you've done to my daughter.

ADMIRAL CHARLES WESTON

We are deeply sorry.

DAVE

Okay, I understand what happened.  
Now, what are you going to do for  
us now? We've gone through hell  
and back.

One of three lawyers hands Dave an envelope. Dave opens the envelope. Inside is a letter and midway through the letter in bold print Dave eyes the settlement amount - Ten Million Dollars. Dave takes a pen out of his pocket and scratches out Ten Million and writes Thirty Million. Dave hands the letter to Admiral Weston and nods. The Admiral hands the letter back to the attorney.

DAVE

I want the money wired in my  
account by the end of day today.  
And I have one other request.

ADMIRAL CHARLES WESTON

Anything.

DAVE

With all of the connections of the  
US government, I would hope you  
could...

EXT. SEA WORLD - DAY

Dave, Amy, Trish and Jen are at Sea World visiting all of the exhibits. They are having a great time as they stroll throughout the park. Three men approach Amy and take her back stage at the killer whale exhibit. Dave signals to her that it is okay. Dave, Trish and Jen walk up to the bleachers and take their seat. Amy then appears in the water with a killer whale, riding on its back. Amy waives to the crowd. She spots Dave, blows him a kiss and mouths "I love you." A tear drops down Dave's face. He looks down at his wedding ring and nods his head.

FADE OUT.