NUMBER TWO ECSTASY A SHORT FILM

by

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FADE IN:

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

It is 3:00 in the morning. DAVE, mid-40's, is on the phone with a plumber. He is stressed. His wife, SUE, holds her head over the kitchen sink as if she is just about to throw up. Dave's oldest son, THOMAS, 16, sits on a chair, rocking back and forth. Dave's daughter, AMY, 13, is pacing and holding her hand over her mouth. Dave's youngest son, JACK, 5, walks and splashes the water seeping under the bathroom door.

DAVE

(Tense, desperate) Can you come out now?

PLUMBER

(tired, groggy)
It's three o'clock man.

DAVE

Your ad says twenty-four seven.

PLUMBER

What's the problem?

DAVE

Our toilet is cracked. Water is flooding our house. My entire family has the flu and they're throwing up and crapping every five minutes. I need a new toilet, ASAP!

PLUMBER

I don't have a toilet with me. You'll have to wait until Depot opens up, which is seven, only four hours from now.

DAVE

That's too long! Don't any of your plumber buddies have a spare?

Jack jumps in the toilet water seeping from the bathroom and the splashes hit Dave in the face.

PLUMBER

I'm not waking them up man. Not part of the program.

Listen, I'm desperate here. If I see another floating turd, I'm going to jump. You must be able to get a toilet!

PLUMBER

I gotta used one.

DAVE

You're killing me!

PLUMBER

It's a prototype, not even patented yet. My buddy's an inventor and he's hoping to get someone to test it.

DAVE

Did he use it?

PLUMBER

Just a couple of times to make sure everything was okay. To be honest, I used it too. It's state of the art, man.

DAVE

Okay, bring it now!

Sue starts heaving in the sink. Jack starts making fart noises as if he is about to unload.

PLUMBER

Hey, one last thing. This toilet was designed for the elderly and handicapped. It's got a built in fan, hand rails, adjustable bowl and an extra padded seat. It even has a receptacle to contain methane, state of the art, truly high tech, man. Smell-free and best of all, you'll feel great when you're done.

DAVE

Spray it down and bring it over ... Now!

PLUMBER

Keep your shirt on. It'll cost you

. . .

Now!

Dave looks over at Thomas who is doing deep breathing almost hyperventilating. Amy slowly jogs in place. Sue holds her nose and closes her eyes. Jack lowers his head to the water on the floor and blows bubbles.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

The plumber opens the bathroom door and comes out.

PLUMBER

All set, take a look.

The toilet is huge. A retractable step is in front, a hand rail is on both sides. A heavily padded cushion is on the seat. There are three buttons on one of the rails. The family gathers around the toilet.

DAVE

This a prototype? It looks like a mutant wheelchair.

PLUMBER

(ignoring Dave)

Yep, my buddy hopes to get a patent and ship a lot of them to nursing homes and hospitals. It's high tech man. Everything at your fingertips. Plus, you'll feel great after you use it. Takes all the pressure away. Want me to demonstrate?

DAVE

(sarcastically)

No, you've done so much already. We're all set. Thanks for coming by.

Sue pushes every one out of the bathroom and closes the door. She makes heaving noises and then flushes the toilet. The built in fan makes a WHIRLING sound then SILENCE. The door opens and she has a smile on her face and a healthy glow.

SUE

(smiling)

I feel great.

Really?

SUE

Yes. First, I upchucked, which felt good, then I hopped on that beast and had the best diarrhea of my life. I feel reinvigorated! I feel hydrated! I feel awesome!

DAVE

(skeptical)

Really?

SUE

Yep, I'm going into work later. (shouting)

Who's next? Amy, give it a whirl.

Amy walks in the bathroom and closes the door. The toilet FLUSHES and the fan WHIRLS. Amy leaves the bathroom looking spectacular.

AMY

Let's go out for breakfast! I'll even order runny eggs. I feel great! Oh yeah, dad, what is the methane button for? Am I supposed to push it?

DAVE

Did you?

AMY

Yes.

DAVE

I guess it's okay then.

SUE

Jack, your turn.

DAVE

You may want to go in there with him. He may drown in that thing.

Sue and Jack enter the bathroom together. Prolonged silence. Jack opens the door with a beaming smile.

JACK

I didn't even poop dad. All I did was sit on it for a while and I'm not sick any more.

Thomas enters the bathroom.

THOMAS

Out of the way little man. (closes door)

Thomas starts to sing an upbeat song. The fan WHIRLS, the toilet FLUSHES and Thomas opens the door. He walks toward Dave.

THOMAS

Not only do I feel better, my complexion has cleared up, my athlete's foot is gone and my B-O has turned to cologne. Dad, what is going on here? I'm calling my friends.

EXT. FRONT OF HOUSE - DAY

Dave pulls his car into the driveway. He gets out of the car. There are 50 teenagers, male and female, standing in line to enter the house. Dave rushes into the house.

SUE

Sue, Thomas, Amy, what is going on here?

Sue comes out of the kitchen and walks towards the bathroom carrying a case of toilet paper.

THOMAS

We're making some good cash here dad. My friends' complexions have been clearing up and Rick and Joe no longer have S-T-D rashes.

Dave looks toward the living room where six of the teenagers who have used the bathroom are now sitting. All of them are smiling. Rick and Joe point to their crotches and give Dave a "thumbs up."

THOMAS

Are they supposed to push the methane button when they're done?

DAVE

I'm not sure. How much are you charging for them?

THOMAS

Twenty five bucks per load.

I want you to raise it to fifty bucks, got it? And if they complain, send them home.

Thomas walks toward the teenagers in line and tells them that the price has gone up. There is some mumbling and complaining but they all stay in line.

SUE

This could pay for college.

DAVE

We may want to consider keeping it open, 24-7. I wonder if I need a permit for this.

SUE

What do you think is happening here?

DAVE

Obviously, that toilet has some magical qualities. It may even have the cure for cancer for all I know.

THOMAS

(Shouting)

Dad, the t-v news guys are here and want to interview you.

Dave walks outside to be interviewed by reporters.

EXT. FRONT OF HOUSE - DAY

Five reporters gather around Dave and put microphones near his face.

REPORTER #1

Mr. Williams, tell us about this toilet.

DAVE

Got it installed last night. The plumber said it was state of the art but I didn't know it could cure all ailments too.

REPORTER #2

How do you explain it?

I'm not a scientist or a doctor, but I think the built in fan sucks the ailment out of the people that sit on it.

REPORTER #1

Sounds ridiculous.

DAVE

Well, do you want to give it a try? Are you suffering from any ailments today?

REPORTER #1

I've battled with diverticulitis and hemoroids.

DAVE

Well, go ahead and use it then.

The reporters enter the house with cameras in tow. A teenager opens the bathroom door looking refreshed. The cameras zoom in on the toilet.

REPORTER #1

You sure?

DAVE

Absolutely, have at it.

The reporter closes the door. There is MOANING noises followed by happy singing. The toilet FLUSHES and the fan WHIRLS. The reporter opens the bathroom door.

REPORTER #1

I feel like a new person. I haven't felt this good in years. I feel about ten pounds less, no stomach pain and most of all, no oids. Wow!

DAVE

Told you!

The reporters all start clamoring and trying to get in the bathroom.

DAVE

Please, one at a time.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Sue hangs up the phone and signals with a head movement for Dave to come to her.

DAVE

What's up?

SUE

I just got off the phone with John Goodman, you know the guy from Roseanne. He is in town promoting some movie and just saw the interview with you on t-v. He is coming over now. He is going to pay us five thousand dollars cash to use the toilet.

DAVE

Wow, okay. We'll make sure we give him some privacy.

EXT. FRONT OF HOUSE - DAY

The line into the house stretches around the block. Police are directing traffic. Ambulance paramedics are wheeling people on gurneys toward the house. A large limousine pulls up to the house. John Goodman steps out, waives and enters the house.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

John hands Dave the cash. Dave clears the house so John has complete privacy. John enters the bathroom and closes the door.

DAVE

Good luck!

JOHN GOODMAN

(from bathroom)

Thanks man!

EXT. FRONT OF HOUSE - DAY

All in line gather in front of the house waiting for John Goodman to come out. A large EXPLOSION occurs and the house goes up in flames.

I guess I should have asked the plumber how that damn methane button works.

FADE OUT.