

EXT. LAWN OUTSIDE AN ART MUSEUM.

MATTHEW

You know, uh. I've enjoyed hanging out recently.

DANNY

Yeah, me too. You know, I've wanted to apologize for a long time.

MATTHEW

For what?

DANNY

I'm pissed at myself because when Dad kicked me outta the house, and I moved back in with my mom, you really made an effort to hang out and I feel like I blew you off, I feel like I fucked that up. I think it's really my fault we're not close.

Danny goes to Matthew, and gives him a big hug.

DANNY

It's hard to be around Dad, and your mom at that time, they were both so critical, and I was just failing.

MATTHEW

We should go back in. For our toasts.

DANNY

Are you disappointed in me?

MATTHEW

What? No! No.

DANNY

I know Dad is, but I also thought maybe also you were critical of me, for quitting piano and...

MATTHEW

No. No. You were my big brother. I looked up to you.

DANNY

I quit because it was my protest, okay?

MATTHEW

Okay. Like McEnroe.

DANNY

And also because it was like walking barefoot through broken glass to get a milkshake. I love the milkshake, but my feet were bleeding.

MATTHEW

I can understand that.

DANNY

Can you? Because my feeling about you is you can't. It's not your fault. But, like Dad, you make me feel really bad about myself.

MATTHEW

I'm sorry.

DANNY

I said it's not your fault.

MATTHEW

Okay, let's go.

DANNY

Can I ask you somethin'?

MATTHEW

What?!

DANNY

A few years ago, when Karen and I had you over to our house when you were in town, I didn't hear from

(MORE)

DANNY (CONT'D)

you afterwards, maybe it's because Karen and I insulted you in some way, or Karen had maybe too much grappa?

MATTHEW

No, it was nice. I went back to L.A. I don't know.

DANNY

Were you bored? Most people find us interesting enough. We've had no complaints.

MATTHEW

It's nothing like that. It's just life. It's not more than that.

DANNY

Well, even in life, you can make an effort. Write an email on one of your phones! You say you feel guilt but-

MATTHEW

-I'm here now! I'm in fucking Rhinebeck. I was just in Pittsfield. I've been here.

DANNY

It shouldn't have come to that! And if Dad survives, you'll go back to L.A. and I'll be taking care of him for a very long time!

MATTHEW

We'll all help out.

DANNY

No, we won't all. It'll be me and Jean. And mainly me.

MATTHEW

I'll come more often.

DANNY

You made your priorities clear.

MATTHEW

I'm tired of apologizing for doing well!

DANNY

Ptolemy always asked me why you never talked Dad's work up to your wealthy clients. He says you could be really helpful. It's all about perception. Dad's a good artist, you know. There's no reason he's not as well known as L.J.!

MATTHEW

Maybe it's not my responsibility to help Dad, maybe that.

DANNY

No, it's what you do.

MATTHEW

And also, maybe he's not so great. Maybe he's undiscovered for a reason, maybe that. Truth is, we don't know Danny, because we were brainwashed.

DANNY

Why are you so angry at him, anyways? He loves everything you do.

MATTHEW

Oh, does he? He doesn't tell me that.

DANNY

He tells me! I should be the one who's angry at him! I should hate him...for treating me and Jean like second-class citizens!

MATTHEW

Then why don't you? You should. Listen, you and Jean are gonna get some money. We got a great deal on the house and all the art, and I'm gonna give you both my share. It doesn't make up for everything, but you guys really deserve this.

DANNY

Dad said this was a family discussion. Wait, did this happen already?

MATTHEW

Yes, it's done.

DANNY

No, he...he told me we'd decide together! And you do this when he can't say anything? He told me, Matt! You weren't there!

MATTHEW

If we didn't do something we'd be spending the next few years throwing his work into dumpsters. This way we get something for it.

DANNY

I don't care about the money. That house! That work means something to me!

MATTHEW

You should embrace this. I should be the one who cares. I grew up there, it's my house. I should care.

DANNY

Then why don't you?

MATTHEW

Because I don't know. You're probably right, I should care, but this makes sense.

DANNY

How could you do this to him? Who could even dream up such a plan?

MATTHEW

Me! It's what I do for a living.

Danny pushes Matthew a few yards back, really hard. Matthew walks back up to Danny, pushes him back.

DANNY

Ptolemy says you guys make yourself indispensable to vulnerable rich people.

MATTHEW

Why don't you tell me more about my business, Danny. I really wanna know what you, or Dad or fucking Ptolemy thinks about what I do every day for a living.

Matthew pushes Danny back. Matthew walks back toward the museum. Danny pushes Matthew in the back. Matthew turns around, Danny kicks Matthew in the shin.

MATTHEW

Ow! You kicked me in the shin! I was disappointed in you for quitting piano.

Cat fight, they squabble, swipe at each other.

MATTHEW

What the fuck is wrong with you? I know it's hard! It's hard for all of us! Get it together!

DANNY

You are doing with Tony just what
Dad did with me and Jean!

Matthew slaps Danny, Danny slaps back, they end up on the
ground, scuffle. Wrestle.

End scene.