

CAMPING

"Pilot"

Written by

Jenni Konner & Lena Dunham

Based on the show "Camping" by Julia Davis

2nd Writers' Draft 12/04/17

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S101

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CHARACTERS

CAST

George

Judith

Joe

Carleen

Kathryn

Walt

Miguel

Jandice

GUEST CAST (in order of appearance)

Man

Sol

Ollie

Orvis

Nan

Harry

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SETS

INTERIORS

Prius (D)

Audi (D)

Volvo (D)

Someone Else's Empty Tent (D)

Kathryn and Walt's Tent (N)

EXTERIORS

California Highway (D)

Gas Station (D)

Campsite Entrance (D)

Campsite (D)

Sign (D)

Silver Bullet Trailer (D)

Campgrounds (D)

Tent Area (D/N)

Picnic Table (D/N)

Fire (N)

Lakeside (D)

EXT. CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY - DAY

A beautiful spring day as we venture beyond Los Angeles and into the surrounding countryside. Cars, not too many, whizzing along. The sun is shining. Heaven. Unless you're inside of the...

INT. PRIUS - DAY

GEORGE, a messy Jew with a mis-buttoned shirt and his wife JUDITH, a pretty, chic black woman who he clearly lucked out in getting to marry him, drive along.

JUDITH

I have to pee, my sweetness.

GEORGE

Here.

He offers a cupped hand.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

Just do it. Do your thang, girl.
Bless me.

She laughs.

JUDITH

(antsy)
Please pull over, George.

EXT. GAS STATION - DAY

Judith opens the door and hops out, leaning in to give George a kiss.

GEORGE

See you in a second, baby cakes. Or else I'm comin' in.

JUDITH

At a certain point your interest in watching me pee becomes both tragic and revolting.

She walks toward the bathroom. George notices a MAN looking vaguely in his direction, though possibly not at all.

GEORGE

Hey, sir, will you come here a moment?

The man, confused, looks around then approaches.

GEORGE (CONT'D)
I saw you staring.

MAN
Me?

GEORGE
Yeah, you. What, have you never
seen an interracial couple before?

MAN
I, uh, no I was just--

GEORGE
(seething)
That's my wife, sir. She is black.
I am white.

MAN
I didn't even notice, I--

GEORGE
Cuz lemme guess. You don't see
color, right? Everyone is just a
person to you, right? WRONG. Wrong,
sir. You're a racist. Now can you
get that through your ignorant
fucking skull? Can you wrap your
head around that beautiful fact?
Now go suck an egg, get lost, I
hate the sight of you.

The man walks away as Judith returns.

JUDITH
Ready to roll?

GEORGE
Always ready with you, my babe.

INT. AUDI - DAY

JOE, 40's, business-dude casual with a slight edge, sits in the passenger seat. His girlfriend CARLEEN, 30's, a meek figure with too-long hair (her vibe is very "1970s teen who likes ponies) in an odd vintage summer dress, drives. In the backseat his daughter SOL, 15, half-Asian and so fucking angry, is listening to Hole's "Live Through This" loud enough that everyone can hear despite her headphones.

CARLEEN

Did I tell you I found rainbow
angora at the knitting store? It's,
like, my dream wool. I'm just so
happy, Joe.

JOE

About the wool?

CARLEEN

The wool. The colors of the wool.
And the chance to get away with
you, my special one.

JOE

This is the eighth time you've told
me. It doesn't mean anything if you
keep on telling me. Say "I love
you" once a week or something. Make
it special.

CARLEEN

But I didn't say I love you.

JOE

I can feel it.

She winces.

CARLEEN

I think I'm going to start with a
dress. With the new wool. I know
it's ambitious but heck, my online
tutor thinks I'm ready and it's
always been a dream of mine. It's
going to have puffed sleeves and a
train, almost like a...

(shyly)

A wedding dress. You know? Joe?

(beat)

Joe?

Joe is asleep, face against the window, drool accumulating on
the glass.

SOL

I counted. He sleeps about nineteen
hours a day. Like, that's more than
a sloth.

EXT. CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY - DAY

A navy blue Volvo speeds along the road.

INT. VOLVO - DAY

KATHRYN, early 40s, a mom who spends as much time on her bob as she does on lunch, well put together in hiking chic, sits in the passenger seat, hopelessly adjusting the radio which is not getting a signal out here in the boonies. Her kind but put-upon husband WALT drives. Their two small sons, OLLIE (8) and ORVIS (5), sit in the back seat, watching screens with headphones on. Kathryn shuts off the radio, annoyed.

KATHRYN

Is it too much to ask for some popular music? Just a simple popular music station? Dang.

WALT

How about I just sing?
(singing)
Here we go a-glamping, a-glamping,
a-glamping--

KATHRYN

It's not glamping, Walter. I've told you that a hundred times.

WALT

Okay, then.
(then)
Here we go a-camping, a-camping, a-camping--

KATHRYN

Well, it's not really camping either. It's not as fancy as glamping really, but not as rough and tumble as camping. It's got *nuance*.

WALT

Well, I don't know if I can squeeze all those lyrics in, Katty.
(he tries)
We aren't campiiing, because it's more glamorous than thaaat, but we aren't glaaamping, because it's more rough and tuuumble.

KATHRYN

Please stop. You don't have to sing, okay? Silence and just fine.
(beat)
I mean, unless you want to. It's your birthday weekend.

WALT

Awww, it sure is. And you've organized something pretty special, my lovie. You know, a lot of people are scared of 45? But I think that I was made to be 45. 45 is my number. I mean, I carried a briefcase to pre-school. Am I where I thought I'd be at forty? In some ways yes, in some ways no. But isn't life all about taking a detour and winding up somewhere better? Now you're just gonna' have to come to love this old bag a' bones. I'm not the sexy macho man you met at your cousin's funeral, Katty. I'm a daddio now.

He starts singing "When I'm Sixty-Four" by the Beatles. Kathryn looks miserable. She can't take it anymore.

KATHRYN

You're 45! You're not 64, you're forty-five.

Beat.

WALT

(quietly hurt)
The song's just about getting older.

EXT. CAMPSITE - ENTRANCE - DAY

Kathryn and Walt's Volvo pulls into the entrance of the campsite. A rustic sign reads WELCOME TO BROWN BEAR LAKE with signs pointing towards reception, tents, the bathrooms etc.

INT. VOLVO - SAME TIME

Kathryn grabs Walt's hand on the wheel.

KATHRYN

Stop the car, Walt!

WALT

But we haven't reached check-in, my lovie.

KATHRYN

I need a boomerang with the sign.
This is content I can't miss out
on.

WALT

(used to this)
Oh, got it, got it. Of course.

He pulls over and they get out.

EXT. SIGN - MOMENTS LATER

Kathryn stands in front of the sign.

KATHRYN

Grab my phone from my bag?

WALT

I'll just do it on my phone then
text it to you.

KATHRYN

I have no idea what kind of service
we're going to have, though--

WALT

Well, then you wouldn't be able to
post it anyway. If you can't text,
you can't post.

KATHRYN

(firm)
Get my phone please, Walt.

WALT

iPhone or Galaxy?

KATHRYN

You know I gram with the iPhone, I
call with the Galaxy.

WALT

On it.

KATHRYN

Okay, I'm going to do a little jump
and you should catch me on the up
motion. Like this.

She jumps. At the top of her jump she yells:

KATHRYN (CONT'D)

Now!

WALT

Okay, you want the boys in it?

KATHRYN

(confused)

No.

TITLE CARD: CAMPING

EXT. SILVER BULLET TRAILER - MOMENTS LATER

The car pulls in front of a trailer that says RECEPTION in vinyl letters on the side, with one E missing.

KATHRYN

I thought it would be more of a rustic lodge type check-in. Like a cabin energy. Like shouldn't there be a stuffed antelope or, I don't know, something else stuffed?

OLLIE

Like a stuffed Ninjago!

WALT

Well, you know what they say: who cares where you check in as long as you can check oocut. Vacation, lovie. I have my away message on, my assistant Kiteri is fielding my calls and I can feel my blood pressure going down already.

KATHRYN

But did you remember your blood pressure medication?

WALT

Indubitably.

KATHRYN

Orvis, Ollie, I want you to stay in the car with daddy while I handle this situation.

WALT

(under his breath)

Let's save the word situation for real situations.

KATHRYN
 (under her breath)
 Please do not police my language.

WALT
 (even quieter)
 Of course. Never, lovie.

ORVIS
 Could we play frisbee?

KATHRYN
 You know we don't let *anything* fly
 through the air without mommy on
 the lookout.

OLLIE
 Dad, what's the altitude here?

KATHRYN
 Don't answer him. He'll get
 panicky.

Kathryn exits the car as we hear Walt talking sweetly to his
 sons.

WALT
 When we're all checked in you're
 gonna see all kinds of new things:
 new rocks, new trees, new animals.

OLLIE
 Bears? Mom said bears.

WALT
 Yes, but only sweet bears. Honey
 bears. The kinds of bears that give
 you kisses all over your face!

The boys giggle.

Kathryn approaches the front door and knocks. A woman, NAN,
 answers. She has long salt and pepper hair and a t-shirt that
 says I HAVE AN STD: IT'S CALLED KIDS and no pants or
 underwear. She's clearly just waking up.

NAN
 Yup.

KATHRYN
 (briefly horrified then
 back to business)
 Hi, I'm Kathryn Siddall-Bauers.
 (MORE)

KATHRYN (CONT'D)

My husband Walt Bauers and I are checking in-- party of 8, 6 adults 2 children, 4 nights at the Groupon rate?

NAN

Hi, yeah, we weren't expecting y'all til' later.

KATHRYN

Well, check-in is noon and it's noon.

NAN

(dazed)

I guess it is... noon... come to think of it.

KATHRYN

(nodding to her t-shirt)

Are your kids on the property? Ollie and Orvis love to play, you know, within reason.

NAN

(confused)

We don't have kids. Harry!? Harry!?

A long silent moment as HARRY, a very tall woman, comes to the door. She is bedecked in turquoise jewelry and has a sort of Elvis-y blonde pompadour.

HARRY

I see you've met my beautiful wife.

Her hand travels down Nan's back to her ass, which she gives a little slap. Nan wanders back into the darkness of the trailer.

KATHRYN

Hi, I'm Kathryn Siddall-Bauers. My husband Walt Bauers and I are checking in- party of 8, 6 adults 2 children, 4 nights at the Groupon rate?

HARRY

I like your hairstyle.

Beat.

KATHRYN

Thank you.

(beat)

Same... to you.

Beat.

HARRY

Great, yes, we're all ready for ya. Your tents are set up, the bathroom is pretty clearly located with a big sign that reads EL BAÑO. The hot water isn't the most certain prospect, so if you need me to boil you a bath, just come up and knock with four hours notice. We have your hot plates, dishes and fly swatter in the green shed and you'll find extra kerosene there as well.

KATHRYN

Kerosene??

HARRY

(to Nan)

Honey, where's the kerosene?

NAN (O.S.)

(yelling)

We switched to batteries, lover. Three years ago. There's batteries in the shed.

HARRY

That right there is definitely my lover. The definition of, in fact.

Beat.

KATHRYN

So where do we park?

HARRY

You can drive down to the site, unload and then park back up here.

KATHRYN

Thank you very much. Do you need me to sign anything?

HARRY

(playful)

Not unless you're famous.

(MORE)

HARRY (CONT'D)

(beat)

Are you? Famous? We don't watch
much TV.

KATHRYN

(earnest)

I have a fairly popular Instagram
but it's really for other working
moms and women living with chronic
pain.

HARRY

So, you're gonna need this pellet
gun. In case of bears.

KATHRYN

Bears? Live bears?

HARRY

We hardly ever see them. It's just
to scare them away. Nan, pass daddy
the gun?

Nan brings a large BB gun and hands it to her wife with a
sensual kiss.

KATHRYN

Oh, we don't believe in guns. We're
really fine.

HARRY

You don't believe in guns? Like you
don't think they exist? Because
they do exist. And I am holding
one.

KATHRYN

No, we don't like them. And we have
children. So, no thank you.

HARRY

Really, they're just BBs. Harmless.
Look. Come on, Nan, give it to me.

Nan takes the gun and casually shoots Harry in the leg, who
flinches but is fine.

HARRY (CONT'D)

See? Not so bad at all.

KATHRYN

(horrified)

We have to get going. Our guests
are going to be arriving soon.

HARRY

Okay. Any issues don't hesitate to knock. If I'm out, I always come back.

Long beat.

HARRY (CONT'D)

Eventually.

(beat)

Sometimes I stay out. For a long time.

(beat)

By the way, should you need entertainment, my beautiful wife plays quite the guitar solo.

KATHRYN

That's great to know.

INT. VOLVO - MOMENTS LATER

Walt and the boys are playing HEADS UP on Walt's phone. Walt holds the game up to his head. He's BONO and they're giving him clues.

WALT

Am I an... alligator?

OLLIE

I don't know what you are!

ORVIS

You wear cool sunglasses!

WALT

So then I'm just daddy! I'm your cool cat daddy!

Kathryn opens the car door abruptly.

KATHRYN

Okay, parking is up here so we'll need to take all our materials down to the site using your father's man power.

EXT. CAMPSITE - DAY

A wide shot of Walt carrying a mess of suitcases as Kathryn charges ahead and the boys run and zig-zag.

EXT. CAMPGROUNDS - TENT AREA - DAY

A wide, grassy area set up with canvas tents. It really is idyllic. Kathryn fusses with a tent. The kids kick a ball in the background. Walt enters with all of their luggage.

KATHRYN

Oh my god, where have you been?

WALT

I'd say it was more than 1/3 of a mile from the car, but I'm not exactly Google Maps over here.

KATHRYN

Put those down, Walt, I need your help getting some mattresses out of the other tents.

WALT

What?

KATHRYN

Just come on.

Walt drops the bags and they run to another tent.

INT. SOMEONE ELSE'S EMPTY TENT - CONTINUOUS

Kathryn pokes her head in and she grabs two flimsy mattresses, handing them out to Walt who is outside the tent. Walt grabs the mattresses. Kathryn crawls back out and stares at Walt.

KATHRYN

Why are you standing there? Go, Walt!

WALT

I'm sorry. I do not understand what is happening.

KATHRYN

Oh my god, you are so *slow*. I need these mattresses for my back. You know hard surfaces wreak havoc on my pelvic floor.

WALT

But we already have our own mattresses. Four, one for each member of our family.

KATHRYN

They're not even mattresses,
they're more like pallets. I'd call
them pallets.

WALT

But what will the other people use?

KATHRYN

Do want me to have a dysfunctional
pelvic floor for the whole of your
birthday weekend? Is that what you
want?

WALT

No, of course not, lovie.

KATHRYN

Then hurry before the others get
here! Go!

Walt woefully drags the mattresses across the yard and into
their tent. He swipes past the kids who may have witnessed
this entire conversation.

KATHRYN (CONT'D)

(squatting down to kid
level)

Hi, guys. This isn't mommy
stealing. It seems like it might be
but it's not.

OLLIE

Then what is it?

KATHRYN

It's for mommy's pelvic floor.

OLLIE

What's a pelvic floor?

KATHRYN

It's the muscles in my pelvis that
control my sphincter and the
opening of my vaginal--

Orvis emerges with the BB gun. Points it at his father.

KATHRYN (CONT'D)

Where did you get that!?

ORVIS

It was here when I got here! I
guess it's for the bears.

KATHRYN

Oh, Christ on a cracker. Put that
DOWN. Do not aim a gun at your
father.

Carleen appears, runs up to meet them. She is carrying a
wrapped gift.

CARLEEN

Hi! Hi hi hi, lovely.

KATHRYN

I asked you to come early to help
me set up.

CARLEEN

I'm sorry, we got a little lost--

KATHRYN

You know what mom always said about
you. You'd fall down an elevator
shaft if there was something shiny
at the bottom. Did you Venmo me the
money yet?

Walt emerges from the tent.

CARLEEN

There he is! Happy birthday,
Walter. Oh, it's just so exciting
that you were born!

WALT

Aw, shucks. Come here, Carleen.

They hug. Carleen hands him the gift. Kathryn snatches it.

KATHRYN

Oh, that's so sweet of you. Okay,
I'll just put it in the tent for
designated present opening time,
which will be... at a time that I
designate.

Kathryn takes the present and goes into the tent.

WALT

She's always got a plan, my Katty.

CARLEEN

She sure does. Whereas these days I
can barely seem to remember
anything. Like, my glasses.

(MORE)

CARLEEN (CONT'D)

I left them at a rest stop. You're sort of just a mushy shape to me right now.

Kathryn re-emerges.

KATHRYN

So, where's Joe? Let me guess, he's "stuck at the office."

CARLEEN

No, he's coming. They're just getting things from the car.

WALT

Oh, good, I'll go help.
(singing to himself)
Hoofin' ittt.

KATHRYN

Sorry, did you say "they"?

CARLEEN

Oh, yes! Sorry. Turns out Joe has Sol this weekend so she's... with us.

KATHRYN

What? No. I'm sorry that's not going to work for me?

WALT

Aw, come on.

KATHRYN

Nope. Sorry. It's no children allowed.

Carleen looks over at Kathryn and Walt's children playing.

CARLEEN

Look. I know you said that in the manual you sent but Sol's fifteen now and her mother had to... well, she had to check into a mental hospital? So she's with us and--

KATHRYN

I understand what you're saying, but I just can't make it work. No, no, nope.

WALT

Oh, come on Kath, I'm sure we can figure this out.

KATHRYN

No, we can't figure it out. The rule is no children. What if everyone just brought their children? What then?

CARLEEN

You brought your children.

KATHRYN

Yes, because it's Walt's birthday so of course his children are going to come. Are you insane?

CARLEEN

We try not to say insane around Sol. It's a pretty ableist--

KATHRYN

I know you like to join the latest "language trends" but I won't be shamed on my own camping trip. I won't be shamed or defied.

Walt returns.

WALT

What's going on here, sexy sisters?

KATHRYN

Ew.

CARLEEN

We had to bring Sol, and I guess there isn't room, so unfortunately we're going to have to leave...

KATHRYN

(shrugging)

I mean, read the e-vite top to bottom. Those weren't simply suggestions. I'm sure I'll see you back in LA soon.

CARLEEN

I left your gift, Walt. It's a water bottle made of smoky quartz.

Carleen looks stricken and turns around to go.

WALT
 (gathering his strength)
 No, Kath, no. To have Sol stay
 is... well, it's my birthday wish.

CARLEEN
 Plus, we have a whole extra tent?

KATHRYN
 What tent? Who is "we?"

CARLEEN
 I mean, since Miguel and Margaret
 aren't coming.

KATHRYN
What? Since when?

Sol approaches and Joe follows behind.

WALT
 There they are!
 (German accent)
 Velcome to zee cahmps.

KATHRYN
 What tent? Where are Miguel and
 Margaret?

JOE
 Oh, shit. Nobody told you?

CARLEEN
 Have you not spoken to Margaret?

KATHRYN
 I mean, not directly. She liked one
 of my Instagrams.

JOE
 It's done. She left him. She's
 fucking a waiter at 9021Pho. Happy
 fuckin' birthday.

SOL
 Dad, that was my ukulele you
 dropped! Ugh, I want to go home so
 hard.

Sol glares at her father and ducks into a tent.

KATHRYN

How could you not call me the minute- the *minute*- you heard this information?

CARLEEN

It's private. It's hers to share.

KATHRYN

What a stupid thing to say, Carleen.

WALT

Why don't we all get comfortable?

Kathryn starts to storm around, randomly organizing items around the campfire.

KATHRYN

Well, I'm very sorry for them and this is a tragedy, but I sure hope they don't think they can get away with not paying. Because this is an equal split between four couples. And I don't think any of us want to cover them with the economy being such a piece of shit right now.

CARLEEN

The economy is getting better, I thought. We re-mortgaged at a very good--

JOE

Do you have to narrate every little thing, Carleen? It's like living with David fucking Attenborough, am I right?

He looks around for affirmation, then puts his hands on his knees and vomits lightly onto the ground.

CARLEEN

Oh, god! Oh, Joe! I know, this news is hard on all of us.

JOE

I'm fine, I'm fine. Just a little carsick.

WALT

Country roads take me home.

Joe vomits again.

INT. WALT AND KATHRYN'S TENT - DAY

Kathryn is setting her things up: eye mask, two books about female healing including one called "Crones and Queens: Archetypes of Aging," a few gossip magazines, a basket of organic beauty products and her suitcase open and full of perfectly folded athleisure clothing. Her sons wrestle on their mattresses as Walt lies back.

WALT

Pret-ty comfy.

KATHRYN

I cannot believe Margaret didn't call me. I'm the person people call. People come to me with their most complex issues. They trust me.

WALT

Well, lovie, you were planning this whole trip and I'm sure she just wanted to give you the space to do that. And by the way, it's wonderful.

KATHRYN

No, it's not. These aren't even mattresses. They're pallets. Pallets on the ground. It's like we're Mary and Joseph.

WALT

I hear they didn't have much sex either.

He touches her lower back. She swats at him.

GEORGE (O.S.)

Hello? Mi amigos?

EXT. TENT AREA - MOMENTS LATER

Kathryn emerges, followed by Walt. George is standing with his arms open. Judith stands beside him.

GEORGE

Brother!

WALT

Brother!

GEORGE

My brother!

WALT

My brother!

The two men embrace warmly.

GEORGE

You're forty-five, you old piece a' shit.

WALT

Hey, you're not too far behind me, you old piece a' shit.

They high five and hug again.

JUDITH

Hi Kathryn.

KATHRYN

Hello, Judith.

There's a long beat before Judith leans in for a hug. As Judith attempts to pull away, Kathryn holds her there and whispers:

KATHRYN (CONT'D)

Listen, I know we're not in the greatest place right now and that much of that can be attributed, potentially, to my possible actions. But I also want you to know that I'm genuinely positive we can restore some balance during the course of this trip and I also want to make it clear how much of what I was going through was hormonal and that I am now on different bio-identical hormones. You're here to support Walt and that's wonderful but by the end of this I think we'll be supporting each other.

Judith pulls away.

JUDITH

Kathryn, not now.

Kathryn pulls her back.

KATHRYN

(whispering even more quietly)

(MORE)

KATHRYN (CONT'D)

And I also want to say I actually can't even remember how this all started which to me seems like a great sign because it couldn't be that big a deal if I can't remember at all. And I have a great memory.

At the picnic table in the center of the circle of tents, Walt and George are drinking beers and laughing like teens.

GEORGE

You old motherfucker!

WALT

You old...
(he looks at Kathryn,
scared)
Mother... Fucker...

JUDITH

Wow, this is going to be fun.

KATHRYN

Well, it may not be fun. It may not be fun at all. I have something horrible to tell everyone.

(deep breath)

Margaret has left Miguel. For a waiter.

WALT

At 9021Pho. They have quite good pho, actually. I Seamless from there a lot. I guess I'm going to have to stop now.

Judith does not look shocked.

JUDITH

I'm going to get settled in, okay?

KATHRYN

Wait. Did you already know, too?

JUDITH

You know, Margaret ended up telling me at Christmas. I think she was really going through it and--

KATHRYN

She told you at Christmas?

JUDITH

Yes but don't worry, I didn't even meet him until her birthday.

KATHRYN

You've met him!?

JUDITH

I really want to put my things away, Kathryn.

Judith crawls into the tent while Kathryn stares behind her.

JUDITH (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Does every tent have just one mattress?

CARLEEN (O.S.)

(cheerfully)

Ours has zero mattresses!

KATHRYN

George, Judith, please set the table while I process this.

EXT. PICNIC TABLE - EARLY EVENING

To the tune of "Young, Dumb and Broke" by Khalid, George and Judith lay out paper plates, napkins, and plastic knives and forks.

JUDITH

The knife and fork go on the other side, you savage.

GEORGE

You're the savage!

JUDITH

How am I the savage?

GEORGE

Well for starters you're not wearing any pants.

He abruptly pantses her.

JUDITH

(laughing)

No, you fucking jerkwad!

She pulls her pants back up. He chases her around the table and onto the open grass. They start wrestling.

Kathryn appears with a large tray of uncooked meat and looks at them, dismayed.

KATHRYN
(under her breath)
Well, fine then.

She starts to set the table herself.

EXT. TENT AREA - EARLY EVENING

The group: Kathryn, Walt, Judith, George, Joe, Carleen all sit around a table. Kathryn has created a kids table nearby on top of a suitcase where Ollie, Orvis and Sol eat. Sol looks miserable while the boys thumb wrestle. Walt gets up and down to man the grill.

GEORGE
This is an A-1 delicious meal, man.
You're like George Foreman on that
thing.

JUDITH
Really so good, Walt, thank you.

JOE
(to Carleen)
You want to pass the ketchup or are
you planning on guzzling it all
down?

CARLEEN
Sorry, I--

JOE
(sharply)
Don't be sorry. I'm so fucking sick
of being apologized to.

KATHRYN
Are you sure you don't want some
cold and flu medicine, Joe? You
look pretty... sweaty. And pale.
And jaundiced. I have both drowsy
and non-drowsy formulas.

JOE
Nope, nope. It's probably my
fuckin' allergies anyway.

CARLEEN
He's allergic to a lot... Dust...
Artichokes.

JOE

That's two things. I'm allergic to two things.

CARLEEN

I'm sorry.

He glares.

CARLEEN (CONT'D)

I'm gonna check on Sol.

Carleen heads over to the kids table. We hear Sol talking to the little boys.

SOL

So, do you guys even know what bestiality is or what?

Back to the adults table.

KATHRYN

So, I want to say that I am now ready to forgive you all for not telling me about Miguel, Margaret and the Pho waiter. You made mistakes, but we all make mistakes, all the time. So I just want us all to forget that they ever existed or were ever our friends and let's just all move forward with a positive attitude and just really have a great time celebrating Walt.

GEORGE

Yeah, I gotta say, I really didn't see that one coming. Their wedding was so much fun. The Michael Jackson impersonator!

WALT

She's a nice lady, Margaret. Really warm and such a fine cook.

KATHRYN

I mean, if you like middle-eastern food, which I can't eat because I'm on a strict bladder diet.

JUDITH

(politely)
What kind of diet is a bladder diet?

KATHRYN

I'm trying to restore the protective coating on the walls of my bladder. It's not clear how I lost it but the radiating pain from any trace of spice is... Let's just say you wouldn't be standing right now if you felt what I feel. My pain tolerance is beyond impressive.

JOE

Margaret was so out of his fuckin' league anyway. I mean, it's like she finally woke up from a stupor and was like: "oh shit, I'm hot." Am I right, my men?

Walt and George ignore him. He is not their man.

JUDITH

Well, we can't see behind anyone's bedroom doors, now can we?

JOE

And what fortune cookie did you read that on?

GEORGE

She's right. We don't see anyone else's struggle. It's not some simple equation, like who's more attractive or who's wealthier-- I mean, Judith's more attractive than I am. And wealthier.

KATHRYN

Are you managing that store yet, Judith?

JUDITH

Assistant managing.

KATHRYN

We all have to start somewhere. I wasn't verified on Instagram for almost three years.

(beat)

The trauma for the kids, though. Horrific. And Assia was already very challenging.

JOE

Sometimes a split is the right thing. Sol is better than ever since her mother and I called it quits.

SOL

(calling out)

I'm not better! Mom's still bipolar and you still suck dicks.

Close on Carleen and Sol.

SOL (CONT'D)

What the fuck is wrong with dad?

CARLEEN

He's having allergies.

SOL

I have allergies and I'm, like, still a very sweet person.

Kathryn approaches the kids table.

KATHRYN

(to her sons)

Did everyone eat all their meat?

WALT

(calling out)

They had double meat! Strong boys.

GEORGE

I'm a strong boy too.

JUDITH

(lovingly)

You are a strong boy.

CARLEEN

(calling to Joe)

Can I borrow your jacket?

JOE

No.

KATHRYN

I have an extra fleece if you remember to return it ASAP. I can lend it to you if you wear deodorant without aluminum.

WALT
Oh, man, I'm getting tired.

KATHRYN
No, you're not.

EXT. FIRE - NIGHT

The group (minus kids) sits around the fire. The guys, except Joe, are in the middle of a laughing fit.

GEORGE
And you remember the song, right?
The dorm song?

JOE
I didn't know you yet and I fuckin'
have that song stuck in my head
forever.

WALT
Shall we?

Walt begins to hum, then George starts the song, which is a round.

GEORGE
Those Orville boys are a funny
bunch! What some call pussy they
call LUNCH!

Walt sings. They clap for themselves.

KATHRYN
Ew.

JUDITH
Yeah, I don't love it.

CARLEEN
But you know what I do love?
Friendships that last. Through
thick and thin. I do wish Miguel
was here. For all your sakes.
(beat)
You know, so you could at least do
the full round.

JOE
Carleen, go get my nicotine gum
from the car?

INT. KATHRYN AND WALT'S TENT - NIGHT

Ollie and Orvis sleep peacefully while Walt reads a Dean Koontz book and Kathryn looks through a binder labeled "CAMPING TRIP." Walt, in a separate sleeping bag from his wife, worms his sleeping bag towards her.

KATHRYN

Walter, what?

WALT

Huddling for warmth? Isn't that what they say to do?

KATHRYN

But I'm not cold.

Walt sighs.

KATHRYN (CONT'D)

What? I'm getting tomorrow in order, honey.

WALT

(his version of seductive)
I know you. You already have tomorrow in order.

KATHRYN

I need to run it in my head one more time and--

WALT

Please just put down the binder, Kathryn.

She does and he kisses her urgently.

KATHRYN

Thank you, honey.

She turns back to her reading. He reaches a hand in her sleeping bag and she scoots away.

KATHRYN (CONT'D)

Walt, no. The boys.

WALT

Those kids sleep like logs.

KATHRYN

And you know I'm just not... It's not comfortable for me. I'm healing.

(MORE)

KATHRYN (CONT'D)

I have so much inflammation in my body since the surgery and I'm working so hard with my doctors to reduce it but--

She seems genuinely distressed. This topic is scary and painful for her.

WALT

But a certain point we have to discuss the fact that it was five years ago.

KATHRYN

You can't put a clock on someone else's healing, Walt. It's already taking all of my energy to be present, to be a mother, to keep the blog up, to run the early menopause support group, to get fresh meals to your mom, to--

WALT

I know. I get it. I know the list.

KATHRYN

Don't snap at me. Please. I need your empathy.

WALT

And you have it, lovie. You have it always.

He rolls back over, defeated.

KATHRYN

(guilty now)

Do you want me to use my hand?

WALT

It's alright.

Kathryn puts on her eye-mask and turns out the lights. A beat. A loud noise: an engine in the distance then a loud crash closer to the tent.

KATHRYN

Walt? Walt!? What the hell was that noise?

WALT

I'm sure it was just a tree-branch or a 'coon.

KATHRYN

A coon!?

WALT

A raccoon.

KATHRYN

That's no coon, sir. Grab the pellet gun! Grab it now.

WALT

I don't want to touch it.

KATHRYN

Fine. Give it to me. Just another thing I have to handle.

EXT. TENT AREA - NIGHT

Kathryn climbs out, clutching the gun. She hears a rustling and grits her teeth like a frontier woman, ready to go. From the bushes, two figures emerge and Kathryn unleashes a torrent of BBs. A high-pitched scream. Everyone runs out of their tents with flashlights, yelling, their flashlights crossing.

KATHRYN

I've shot a bear! I've gone and done it!

CARLEEN

Oh, lord, a bear.

JOE

Fuck, who gave Kathryn a gun?

More screaming.

GEORGE

I do not see a bear!

JUDITH

Who's screaming? That's a human woman screaming.

MIGUEL

It's me!

GEORGE

I'm screaming!

SOL

This is SO ANNOYING!

OLLIE

Mommy, is the bear dead?

WALT

We don't know yet, honey. We don't know. We hope he's just relaxed.

Finally, in the chaos, a flashlight settles on a human body.

WALT (CONT'D)

Okay, that's not a bear. That's... Miguel?

KATHRYN

Miguel and Margaret! I've shot Miguel and Margaret! Someone please help me, I've shot my divorced friends!

She goes closer, revealing MIGUEL, early 40s, in hipster gear. He's holding hands with a gorgeous companion, early 50s, JANDICE. They are both on the ground dotted with blood.

ORVIS

(confused)

That's not Margaret.

KATHRYN

Then who the hell did I shoot?

JANDICE

(smiling)

Hi, Kathryn, I'm Jandice.

(beat, oddly calm)

Wow. This hurts like a motherfucker.

EXT. TENT AREA - NIGHT

Mere moments after Kathryn has shot Miguel and Jandice. Miguel knocks back some hard liquor as Harry removes a smattering of BBs from his naked hip. There is still a pretty chaotic vibe. The rest stand around and watch. Most look upset. Sol is pretty thrilled.

HARRY

Nan, pass the thread?

Her wife passes her a needle and thread.

KATHRYN

You're using a button quality needle and thread?

NAN

A thread is a thread is a thread. A
needle is a needle is a--

KATHRYN

I get it. I get it.

JANDICE

Oh, I'm not worried. I'm just so
glad that I don't have to go to a
hospital. Those are the really
scary places. They make you sick.

KATHRYN

This is why I refused the gun when
you handed it to me.

HARRY

But what if they had been bears?

KATHRYN

But they weren't.

Jandice pulls up her skirt really high revealing her
underpants-less upper thigh.

CARLEEN

Oh, gosh, bears?

Joe seems slightly transfixed by Jandice.

JOE

Even if there were bears, I think I
could handle them.

CARLEEN

How?

JOE

Just don't worry about it.

HARRY

Okay, this is going to smart a
tiny.

JANDICE

Oh, it's not so bad.

MIGUEL

Owww, motherfuckin' fuck shit, that
is very, very, very painful in my
skin area.

Jandice leans over and kisses him.

JANDICE
Be brave, babe.

JOE
Tall order for that one.

Joe laughs a little too hard.

JUDITH
I don't think I can watch. Does
anyone want something to drink?

GEORGE
I would love something.

JUDITH
Great, can you get me a red, love?

GEORGE
Yup.

SOL
I'll have a beer.

CARLEEN
No you won't. You're 15.

SOL
My parents are both drug addicts so
why not skip all the rest?

CARLEEN
Sol, I wish I could say yes, but
that wouldn't be very mature of me.

SOL
Fine. Can I do some stitches?

Harry hands her the thread.

HARRY
Yeah, man.

KATHRYN
What? No. She's not a doctor.

HARRY
Me neither.

KATHRYN
Well I'm sorry, I really am,
Jandice. I cannot believe this
happened on my watch.

JANDICE

Don't blame yourself. Even though
you shot us, it's not your fault.

MIGUEL

Well, it's a little her fault.

KATHRYN

You surprised us all!
(beat)
Which is lovely...

EXT. PICNIC TABLE - MORNING

Kathryn is unboxing an array of pastries and scones while Walt makes bacon and eggs on a hot plate. Judith and George, in cute matching pajamas, drink orange juice at the table. Joe looks like someone beat him with a stick, pale and broken, while Carleen takes teensy -- admittedly irritating -- bites of a pastry.

GEORGE

What a nice spread, you guys.

WALT

Kathryn packed so much food you
wouldn't believe, and she bear-
proofed it all. She is quite. A.
Lady.

JUDITH

And just getting away, unplugging,
is super healthy for all of us in
such a fast-paced world.

KATHRYN

I thought you were an assistant
manager.
(then)
Judith, let's do a quick pic for my
Insta.

JUDITH

That's okay.

KATHRYN

Walt, grab my phone? Let's do it by
the grill. Like, I'll grab the
tongs and you're smelling the bacon
and--

JUDITH

Really, no.

Jandice and Miguel emerge from their tent, sleepy. She wears a slip dress and he's dressed like a too-cool 22-year-old.

MIGUEL

Hey, hey, hey! What a beautiful morning.

JANDICE

And that bacon smells amazing, Walt. May I call you that? Walt?

She smiles at him. He smiles back bashfully.

WALT

Everyone does because that is my name. How are the ole' battle wounds?

She lifts her skirt to show her upper thigh. Again no underwear. The men can't help but look.

JANDICE

Barely there. I used a poultice made of reishi mushroom and sage and that really takes down the swelling.

KATHRYN

We only have about seven minutes left for breakfast.

MIGUEL

We'll have to chow down then.

Jandice and Miguel sit.

GEORGE

Anyone want some coffee?

JANDICE

Coffee coffee coffee! You don't wanna meet this cunt without her cawfee.

(she giggles)

That's how they say it in New York.

CARLEEN

So, I think we'd all be so happy to know: how did you two meet?

MIGUEL

Oh, yeah, of course, this is a funny story.

JANDICE

Don't oversell it! It's not, like, LOL funny. It's more, like, weird funny.

MIGUEL

So, after the divorce--

KATHRYN

You're not divorced yet.

MIGUEL

Okay, the separation.

KATHRYN

Three weeks ago.

MIGUEL

(ignoring her)

I was willing to try anything. I was in such a dark place that there was nothing I wouldn't do. So I see this ad in the back of LA Weekly for energy healing. And I'm like: "fuck it, my energy needs to be healed." So I show up at this weird rave at this loft in Koreatown.

JANDICE

And it was my rave! At my loft!

JOE

(bored)

Great story.

MIGUEL

She's DJing so she's really focused--

JUDITH

What kind of music do you spin? Rock? R & B?

WALT

Country?

JANDICE

It's actually a lot of my own electronic beats.

MIGUEL

She has tons of synths. She's synth-crazy.

(MORE)

MIGUEL (CONT'D)

So anyway, I'm already in such a weird headspace and this guy offers me ketamine and I'm like "fine, great, let's put that up my nose."

JANDICE

He'd never done ketamine before.

MIGUEL

And I was not ready for the effects. So I wander all over, looking for a place to lie down, and finally I find a bed and I just pass out.

JANDICE

And that was my bed!

MIGUEL

In the morning I wake up with my arms around her, covered in glitter, and we haven't spent a night apart since.

JUDITH

So you're a DJ? That's awesome.

JANDICE

DJ. Reiki healer. I do some modeling for figure drawing classes.

MIGUEL

Her proportions are ideal.

JANDICE

He just means technically. I have the ideal technical proportions.

MIGUEL

She's so modest. If any of you need reiki, she's here. She also did some muscle testing on me. Like, it turns out the vitamins I was taking were really hurting my emotional growth. Jandice taught me that not all vitamins are good.

JANDICE

Nuh-uh. They can actually be bad. We can get what we need purely from food.

KATHRYN

Well, vitamins actually saved my life. I don't know if Miguel told you that I had a hysterectomy...

WALT

Right after our son Ollie was born. It was tough.

KATHRYN

(gazing at her son)

He took my uterus and both ovaries but it was worth it.

JANDICE

I'm sorry to hear that. Have you ever tried any pelvic floor work? I know a man, Mattiew, who will do an internal release for you that--

KATHRYN

I don't think you understand what kind of situation I'm dealing with. An "internal release" could probably kill me.

She grabs a pile of pink papers.

KATHRYN (CONT'D)

Okay, so our itineraries for our day. We have a big day of geoding ahead of us.

JANDICE

Geoding? Who could geode when we have this magical place, this lake?

JUDITH

Swimming does sound amazing.

KATHRYN

That's planned for tomorrow.

WALT

Wouldn't hurt to take a dip now, would it?

Kathryn looks like it would, in fact, hurt.

EXT. LAKESIDE - DAY

Everyone from the camp walks down in their bathing suits.

A montage of the gang swimming, having fun, splashing each other joyfully and with abandon as "Band on the Run" by Wings plays. Even Kathryn is smiling, loving her sons, arms around Walt's neck.

Jandice appears, walking toward the water.

MIGUEL

Come on in, the water's warm!

Jandice strips fully naked and starts running toward the water.

JANDICE

Woo hooo!!!!

They all stare after in shock. Close on all of their faces as they take it all in. Finally, Kathryn screams.

THE END

