

George, mid-70's, is working underneath his 1967 Ford Shelby Mustang. All we see are his orthopedic shoes sticking out from under the car. All we hear are a series of grunts, noises of frustration, and the occasional metal tool hitting the ground.

At the end of the driveway, a Prius pulls up and stops. We see expensive male loafer shoes emerge from the car. The Prius drives off, leaving the man - Mike, 40's - standing there.

CU: On Mike's face as he watches George work on the car. It is a look of pity and frustration.

Mike walks toward George.

MIKE

Dad. Dad. Dad!

George drops another wrench, makes another series of grunts, and wheels himself out from under the car.

GEORGE

Oh, son. I didn't hear you pull up.

MIKE

Angela dropped me off. In the Prius.

GEORGE

What?

MIKE

(a bit louder)

Angela dropped me off in the Prius.

GEORGE

Oh, the computer on wheels. Right.

MIKE

Look, Dad, you said you weren't going to work on this anymore.

GEORGE

I know, I know.

MIKE

It'll be safe in my garage and when Jacob gets older, I'm sure he'll love to work on it. You gotta let it go Dad.

(CONTINUED)

GEORGE

I know, I know.

(pause)

You know I met your mother the same year I got this car.

MIKE

I know, Dad.

GEORGE

If you could have seen us cruising around...

George walks around the car, both admiring and inspecting it. The camera follows him.

MIKE

I miss Mom too.

(pause)

Nathan has a baseball game this afternoon, so I don't really have a lot of time. Just give me the keys, ok? It will be fast and painless, just like pulling off a Band-Aid.

GEORGE

(offended)

Like a what?

MIKE

Like a... look, Dad, it's just going to be in my garage. You can come see it anytime you want.

GEORGE

No, I won't be able to see it anytime I want. I'll have to wait for the old people shuttle. I'll have to wait until all the old people are dropped off at their old people doctor's appointments. I'll have to wait for all the slow and incompetent drivers.

MIKE

The drivers at Sunset are not incompetent.

GEORGE

Yes, they are. I'm just going to be another old person that they drug up with crazy pills.

(CONTINUED)

MIKE

Dad, how many times do we have to go over this?! Sunset Hills is a retirement community. It's for active... seniors. They have all those activities.

GEORGE

I don't want activities, I want my car.

The camera finally stops at the front of the car. We see the front right headlight is badly dented. The entire area is scraped and crushed. The result from a recent minor accident.

MIKE

Well, Dad, you can't keep the car. You can't run it off the road again.

GEORGE

I didn't run it off the road, Mike! It was a goddamned accident. I'm allowed to make mistakes, that's allowed.

MIKE

Look, your whole identity is not this car. It's not such a big deal, ok? So please, can I have the keys?

George thinks a long time. He finally reaches in his pocket for the keys. He hands them to Mike.

GEORGE

How about one last joy ride?

2

INT. DRIVING IN CAR

2

Mike drives the car along a country road. He's not happy about it. George on the other hand is having a great time. He lets the wind from the open window hit his face and smiles.

GEORGE

You know it won't hurt you to go a little faster.

MIKE

I'm going the speed limit.

(CONTINUED)

GEORGE

Open her up. No one is out here.

Mike says nothing and maintains his speed.

George pulls out an 8-track tape from the center console, further annoying Mike in the process. He puts it into the player. The Beach Boys' "This Car of Mine" begins to play. Mike rolls his eyes.

Both sit in silence for the rest of the ride. Mike fuming, while George takes it all in.

3

EXT. LAKE

3

The two sit in the parked car by a lake.

Mike is busy texting on his phone, telling his wife he won't make it to Nathan's game.

MIKE

Alright, you've seen it. Want me to take a picture with my phone for you or something?

GEORGE

No that's nonsense. Just give me one more minute.

George stares out into the lake. You can see all the happy memories streaming across his face.

Suddenly George jumps out of the car and starts running toward the lake. As he's running he starts stripping off clothes. We hear a loud splash as he jumps in.

MIKE

Dad? Dad! Dad, stop! Dad, what are you doing?!

Mike runs after him, but remains on dry land.

GEORGE

Whew! Oh this feels amazing Mike, get in!

MIKE

Dad, what are you doing?

GEORGE

Enjoying my last day of freedom, son. Now take your clothes off and get in.

(CONTINUED)

MIKE  
I'm not getting in there.

GEORGE  
As your Dad, I order you to live a  
little. Get in.

Mike takes off his expensive shoes and socks. He slowly  
walks into the water then stops.

MIKE  
There. Is this good?

GEORGE  
Doesn't it feel great?

MIKE  
Sure.

George swims out further into the lake.

MIKE  
That's far enough Dad.

Suddenly George starts flailing around. He looks like he's  
drowning.

GEORGE  
Help! Help!

MIKE  
Dad! Dad!

Mike has no choice. He runs into the water fully-clothed and  
swims out toward his sinking father.

Finally he reaches George, at which point George stands up  
and begins to laugh.

GEORGE  
Gotcha!

MIKE  
Not funny.

GEORGE  
Yes, it is. See, now, doesn't this  
feel great?

MIKE  
(splashing water at him)  
That was seriously not funny Dad!  
(finally letting go)  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MIKE (cont'd)  
But yes, it feels good.

Mike leans back into the water. He lets his body float.  
George floats too.

MIKE  
This is not your last day of  
freedom. We can come back here  
whenever you want.

GEORGE  
If you say so.

The two just float there for awhile.

4 INT. DRIVING IN CAR

4

The two drive home in thoughtful silence, soaking wet. This time George is driving. He drives a little fast, but Mike doesn't mind. Mike lets the wind from the open window hit his face and smiles. George smiles too.

5 EXT. GARAGE / DRIVEWAY

5

The car pulls into the driveway and stops.

GEORGE  
Hey Mike, do me a favor and run  
inside in the linen closet and, uh,  
grab a few towels.

MIKE  
(laughs)  
Uh, yeah, good idea.

Mike runs inside the house through the garage door.

George takes one last final moment with his car.

Mike comes back out with a stack of towels.

Together, they dry off the car seats. Mike wrings out his shirt and the bottom of his pants, and tries in vain to dry off his destroyed cell phone. He wraps a dry towel around the driver's seat.

George wraps a colorful beach towel around his body.

He hands the keys to Mike.

(CONTINUED)

GEORGE  
Take good care of her.

MIKE  
I will.

GEORGE  
Get that headlight fixed. And don't  
run it off the road again.

MIKE  
(smiling)  
I won't.  
(pause)  
Thanks Dad.

Mike gets in the car, starts it, and backs out of the driveway.

Still wrapped in his colorful towel, George waves and watches it go.

6 INT. DRIVING IN CAR

6

Mike drives along a suburban road. He comes to a stoplight and a Prius pulls up beside him. Mike looks over and kindly waves at the middle-aged man driving it. Mike revs his engine and smiles at the other driver. He revs it again. The light turns green and he jolts ahead. He lets out a yell and drives off into the sunset.

THE END