It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia "Mac's Dad Comes Out"

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COLD OPEN

TITLE: 11:30 AM

TITLE: On a Wednesday

TITLE: Philadelphia, PA

OVER TITLES:

DENNIS

10 grand is insane! It's ludicrous!

INT. PAROLE HEARING COURTROOM - DAY

DENNIS, DEE, MAC and CHARLIE sit on a wooden bench in a row wearing their versions of formal attire.

MAC

God's children are priceless, Dennis!

DENNIS

Wrong, Mac! The Bible is practically a people pricing playbook!

DEE

Ha, say that ten times fast...practically a people pricing playbook...practically a people pricing playbook...practically...

Dee continues, overly annunciating.

MAC

(praying upward)
Oh God, please don't smite my best friend Dennis, he knows not of your divine wisdom. Our Father, who art...

CHARLIE

...particularly a person spicy cook...specifically a sheep dicing book...

By this point, Mac, Charlie, and Dee are all rambling on.

FRANK sits down, conspicuously smoking a hash vaporizer pen.

FRANK

What the hell is goin' on?

DEE

Dennis won't shut up about the sign we saw on the way over here, about the \$10,000 fine for hitting a construction worker.

DENNIS

No reasonable man would pay above two grand.

FRANK

Especially for the guy holding the STOP/GO sign. No one stops anyways.

DENNIS

That's the idea, Frank. It should be a tiered pricing system based on years of experience, skills, physical prowess.

CHARLIE

How many rats they can bash before feeling bad about it. I'm up to seventeen.

DENNIS

Now, would I pay a couple grand for the opportunity to ram the ole' Range Rover into a middleaged man on the side of the road holding a red octagon on a stick? Of course I would. Who wouldn't.

DEE

Jesus Christ.

MAC

(praying upward)
You can smite the bird for that one.

FRANK

Eh, I've done more for cheaper.

DENNIS

But to be forced to pay 10 grand if I accidentally end a cheap life? It's a crime!

MAC

Doesn't all this talk of putting a price on a human life remind you of something terrible? Something America should be ashamed of?

DENNIS

Uh...the bail system.

DEE

Healthcare system.

CHARLIE

The military.

FRANK

Human trafficking.

DEE

Life insurance industry.

CHARLIE

Pro sports.

FRANK

'Nam.

DENNIS

The dark web.

MAC

Slavery!

Dennis, Frank, Dee and Charlie casually remember slavery.

Three parole board members (JANET - woman, age 42; EUNICE - woman, age 86; CHUCK - man, age 59) take their places while LUTHER, MAC's dad, is escorted in by the BAILIFF.

MAC (CONT'D)

Everyone shut the hell up, it's starting. Focus.

EUNICE

Let us begin the parole hearing for Mr. Luther McDonald. Mr. McDonald, please read your prepared opening statement.

MAC

(whispering)

Now guys, remember. We're here to make sure my dad does not get out of prison.

Luther stands. Clears his throat.

LUTHER

(reading)
My name is Luther McDonald.

(beat)

I'm gay.

CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES

TITLE: "Mac's Dad Comes Out"

TITLE: "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia"

END COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

INT. PAROLE HEARING COURTROOM - DAY

Luther gives his opening statement to the parole board members.

LUTHER

For much of my life, I was angry. Angry at my parents for abandoning me. I was angry with myself for not being a better father, a better husband. Angry at God for making me gay in a homophobic world.

The gang whispers loudly while Luther continues giving his opening statement in the background.

DENNIS

Good for Mr. Mac.

FRANK

Admirable.

DEE

Brave for a tough guy like that to be so comfortable with his sexuality.

MAC

I don't believe it.

DENNIS

Uh, not that hard to believe Mac. Charlie's mom saw your dad bang a dude named Eduardo.

MAC

That was a dominance bang and you know it!

CHARLIE

C'mon man, you had to bring that up? The nightmares were finally turning into dreams.

FRANK

And Mac's mom is the textbook definition of man-face.

MAC

You take that back! My mom is a beautiful angel!

DENNIS

Your mom is a human cigarette with the mouth and face of a sailor!

DEE

There's no way Luther gets denied parole now.

MAC

What, why?

DEE

Nowadays, people will do anything to avoid looking homophobic.

FRANK

Well, I think it's homophobic to not punish gay criminals the same way we punish normal criminals.

CHARLIE

Whoa Frank. Can't say "normal" like that bud. We talked about this.

Frank dismisses Charlie.

DENNIS

If they want to look really tolerant, they'll punish Luther even more now that he's gay. It's kind of like affirmative action. Give him more prison time than what straight, white men get. That is progress.

MAC

Alright everybody shut up. My dad's doing this just so he can get out of prison and kill me for being gay!

CHARLIE

What, just because your dad's gay, he's a murderer now?

MAC

No, he's a murderer because he has murdered people!

Luther pauses, waiting for the gang to stop making noise.

LUTHER

And that's why I think I should be sentenced to time served and reenter society as a productive citizen. Thank you.

MAC

Objection, your honor! My dad's a homophobic liar!
(to Luther)

Sorry Dad.

CHUCK

First of all, we aren't judges. Second, this isn't a traditional trial that you see on Law & Order SVU.

DEE

Great show.

DENNIS

Gets a lot wrong about sexually motivated crimes, though.

CHUCK

And third of all! You'll have your chance to speak during the victim portion.

MAC

Oh. Well, uh, can we take five? It's an emergency.

JANET

And what's the nature of this emergency?

MAC

Uh...well...

(whispers to gang)
Little help here guys...

FRANK

Dee here is on her period. And if she doesn't plug up soon, it's gonna be a bloodbath.

JANET

Ugh, been there. Let's take a ten minute break.

INT. FEDERAL BUILDING LOBBY - DAY

The gang stands in the crowded lobby.

MAC

(hyperventilating)

He took my gay card. Guys he took my gay card!

CHARLIE

He took your only card Mac. Face it man, you're cardless. Uno. Go fish.

Frank's head is in a cloud of weed SMOKE.

FRANK

This is great! I can finally cash in on Gay Convicts United!
Luther's gonna make us a tax-free fortune!

DEE

Ha, Frank's so high he's speaking more nonsense than usual.

DENNIS

Actually Dee, even with his brain bathing in hash oil, he's more brilliant than you ever have been or ever will be.

FRANK

I made a couple phony nonprofits to avoid paying taxes on my Wolf Cola money. One of 'em is called Gay Convicts United. The plan was to wait for Mac to get caught committing a felony.

DENNIS

Or we'd frame him.

FRANK

Then after he served a few years, Mac would qualify to be our patsy gay convict recipient of a scholarship or some other bullshit way for us to get the money without paying any taxes.

DEE

That is a weirdly specific scheme.

DENNIS

Yeah. Specifically awesome.

Dennis and Frank high five each other.

MAC

You guys were gonna have me sent to prison to avoid paying taxes?!

DENNIS

Calm down, we'd have given you a cut. Plus, what better place to explore your sexuality than prison, right? That's how you kill two birds with one stone.

CHARLIE

If Frank gets anywhere near a bird it's gonna get stoned for sure. That's against bird law my friend.

DEE

Ohhhhh I get it. With Luther possibly getting paroled today, combined with his love of crime and dudes-

MAC

Shut up Dee! If my dad gets out he's gonna kill me and Charlie for sure! Once he has a taste for blood, he'll slaughter the rest of you just for fun.

FRANK

He won't after we give him a chunk of the gay convict money.

CHARLIE

Yeah! Mac, see, they got us covered.

FRANK

Well...

CHARLIE

Dude!?

FRANK

I'm sorry Charlie! If we have to pay Luther enough to forget about all of the things you and Mac did to land him in prison, then the scheme won't be profitable.

DENNIS

Every life's got a price, gentlemen. We just can't afford ya.

CHARLIE

So you guys are just gonna let Mac's dad kill us? Mac, what are we gonna do man?!

DENNIS

This all is sounding like a personal problem that we don't need to hear about. Dee, guessing you're on the side of not getting brutally murdered?

DEE

Yep.

MAC

You goddamn sons of bitches!

Charlie and Mac walk off.

DENNIS

Well this just got a whole lot more fun. Frank, give me that hash pen.

Dennis takes a huge hit and blows it up into the air, then passes the hash pen to Dee. Everyone else in the crowded lobby gives them dirty looks.

INT. FEDERAL BUILDING SEATING AREA - DAY

Charlie and Mac find empty seats in the crowded waiting area and sit down.

MAC

Alright Charlie, just you and me buddy. Our lives depend on keeping my dad in prison. We gotta come up with some kind of plan here.

Normally as the brains of the operation, I'd come up with a plan like, super quick, but this has been a really emotional day for me, so...

Ummm, sure...ah. I brought this glue along.

Charlie pulls a BOTTLE OF GLUE from his pocket.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

If I glue your dad's shoes to the floor, he can't leave and kill us.

MAC

He could just take his shoes off.

CHARLIE

Ah. Touche.

MAC

Ok, no problem. Got that one out of your system. No bad ideas. Safe space. Keep 'em comin'.

CHARLIE

What if I glue his shoes to the floor and his feet to the shoes?

MAC

No glue, Charlie!

CHARLIE

Alright, alright. Geez. Thought this was a safe space.

They ponder for a moment in silence.

MAC

I got it! What if we get my dad to commit another crime here today, then he'll get more prison time.

CHARLIE

It's no glue shoes, but I think it could work. What crime though?

MAC

Well he's got a history of violence, so how about we get some poor schmuck to pick a fight with him. If I know my dad, he'll go apeshit and beat the crap out of anyone who's asking for it.

And if you don't know your dad as well as you think, he'll make out with him. Is that a crime?

MAC

Not anymore, fortunately. But not so long ago, my gay ancestors were often arrested and even killed for kissing another man in public.

CHARLIE

We have come such a long way.

MAC

Totally. Now, what douchebag looks like they're ready to get their ass whooped?

Mac and Charlie scan the room looking for a candidate. Charlie spots a tough, facially tattooed GANG MEMBER, points him out to Mac, and they both head over to talk to him.

MAC (CONT'D)

Hello there, sir. Am I correct in assuming that you are no stranger to physical altercations?

GANG MEMBER

What?

CHARLIE

Are you the type of dude who throws down?

The gang member stands up, intimidating.

GANG MEMBER

You're about to find out if you don't step the fuck back.

Charlie and Mac delightedly look at each other, confirming they've found their candidate, and take one large step backwards.

MAC

He's perfect, Charlie. Nice find.

I know a scary dude when I see one.

GANG MEMBER

Are you asking to be permanently disfigured?

MAC

No no, no need for that. We are just here to give you a heads up. You see, we overheard someone here today calling you a pussy, saying you couldn't even beat Stephen Hawking in a fight.

GANG MEMBER

Who's Stephen Hawking?

MAC

Mmm, darn. Did not expect you to not know who that is. That insult is useless if you don't-

CHARLIE

They said you couldn't beat Terry Shivo in a fight.

MAC

Now I don't know who that is.

CHARLIE

Doesn't matter if you know, just that he knows.

(to gang member)
Do you know who Terry Shivo is?

GANG MEMBER

No.

CHARLIE

Whatever, we heard this guy say that you couldn't beat up a person who is really easy to beat up, ok?

GANG MEMBER

(riled up)

Where can I find this asshole?

MAC

He's in the hearing room at the moment. His name's Luther McDonald.

The gang member's eyes go wide. Flustered.

GANG MEMBER

Oh, Luther said that? Th-that's cool. I don't want no beef with Luther.

The gang member quickly sits down, paranoid. Looking around.

MAC

God dammit!

The bailiff peeks out of the hearing room.

BAILIFF

The hearing for Mr. McDonald will resume in one minute.

MAC

Alright Charlie, keep brainstorming. We need a plan, fast.

Charlie clumsily closes and hides the glue bottle.

CHARLIE

Brainstorming what?

MAC

Brainstorming crimes my dad can commit before his hearing ends!

CHARLIE

Oh yeah.

MAC

Your glue addiction's gonna kill us both, man.

Mac and Charlie head back to the hearing room.

INT. PAROLE HEARING ROOM - WITNESS STAND - DAY

Luther sits in the witness seat calmly answering questions from the board members, facing partially to the parole board and partially to the gallery, where MAC and CHARLIE sit on one side, while Dennis, Dee and Frank sit on the other.

Luther stares directly at Mac, never blinking and with a smirk on his face. Mac can't help but stare back.

JANET

Mr. McDonald - please tell us, in your own words, the nature of your crimes that led to your current incarceration.

LUTHER

I stole things and hurt people.

JANET

Would you care to elaborate, Mr. McDonald?

LUTHER

Talking about my crimes overwhelms me with shame and regret. As part of my rehabilitation, I've put those terrible things behind me.

CHUCK

Very well, Mr. McDonald. Let's move on. Please describe your time of incarceration. How has it been? What have you done to occupy your time?

INT. PAROLE HEARING COURTROOM - AUDIENCE - CONTINUOUS

Luther answers questions in the background. Dennis, Dee and Frank, red-eyed and way too stoned for the situation (for any situation, really), whisper amongst themselves while proceedings continue in the background.

DENNIS

So how much to not kill the guy, but, but just, you know, like run into him enough to hurt him real bad?

FRANK

Well, I'd have to call my guy, but no more than...a hundred bucks?

DEE

Is your guy Cricket, Frank?

FRANK

Yup.

DENNIS

That'll be pocket-change once Mac gets out of prison for cutting the breaks on that public bus.

DEE

Wh-what? I thought we were getting gay Mr. Mac out of jail today and don't need gay regular Mac anymore.

DENNIS

(disappointed)

Oh yeah...right. I should probably make a few phone calls.

FRANK

So the plan to get Luther out is to manipulate the board members into doing what we want, right?

DENNIS

Obviously. Classic plan. Never fails.

DEE

I don't know guys, sounds predictable and overdone. What if we-

DENNIS

You're out of your element, Dee. Plus, I've already caught the geriatric board member undressing me through her bifocals. I'll charm the granny panties right off of her.

FRANK

I saw the other board broad is drinking a Wolf Cola, so I'll work her from that angle.

DEE

And of course I'll use my pow-

DENNIS

We only need two of them for a majority, so yeah yeah Dee, knock yourself out.

Chuck clears his throat aggressively to get the guys to be quiet.

EUNICE

(to Luther)

If you were to be released, what would you do once back in society?

LUTHER

I would get a job and live as normal a life as possible.

CHUCK

And what inspired you, Mr. McDonald, to come out of the proverbial closet at this point in your life?

LUTHER

My son. My proud gay son. He inspired me to accept me for who I am - a proud gay father.

MAC

Oh my god Charlie, did you hear that? My dad's proud of me!

CHARLIE

Uh, I think he's just proud of being gay, not proud of being your dad.

MAC

(yelling and interrupting)
I'm proud of you too, dad!

Luther slyly smiles back at Mac.

JANET

Uh, that concludes this portion of the proceedings. We shall take a short recess before we hear from Mr. McDonald's victims.

The board members leave through the back of the hearing room. Luther is escorted out by the bailiff.

CHARLIE

Dude, what the hell was that?!

MAC

I'm sorry. I blacked out when I thought my dad was proud of me. It just felt so good when he said-

CHARLIE

No Mac, no! Your dad is a psycho who's wanted to kill us for years. Remember, we have to do whatever it takes to keep your dad in prison.

MAC

But-

CHARLIE

No, say it with me man. My dad doesn't love me.

MAC

Psh, you don't know-

CHARLIE

Say it! My dad doesn't love me.

MAC

My dad doesn't love me...yet.

Charlie slaps Mac across the face and looks intensely into his eyes.

CHARLIE

My dad doesn't love me.

MAC

(holding back tears)
My dad...doesn't love...me.

CHARLIE

One more time.

MAC

My dad doesn't love me.

CHARLIE

Again.

MAC

My dad doesn't love me!

CHARLIE

Again!

MAC

My dad doesn't love me! My dad doesn't love me! My dad doesn't love me!

Mac breaks down into a fit of tears. Charlie calmly consoles him.

INT. PAROLE HEARING COURTROOM AUDIENCE - CONTINUOUS

Dennis, Dee and Frank are still sitting together in the parole room audience.

FRANK

Alright, now's our chance. Everybody remember what to do? I'm gonna pull some Leo inception type shit on the Wolf Cola chick.

DENNIS

And I'm gonna sexually manipulate the old lady.

DEE

And I'm gonna-

Dennis and Frank stand up and leave.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

EXT. FEDERAL BUILDING - DAY

Janet stands outside smoking a cigarette and drinking a Wolf Cola. Frank walks up and stands near her, smoking his hash pen.

FRANK

Hello, miss. I noticed that you're enjoying a tasty, refreshing Wolf Cola.

JANET

Ugh yeah. And I'm smoking. It's embarrassing. I'm just so stressed out. Haven't been sleeping much.

FRANK

I see. What's got you all messed up? Surely not that delectable Wolf Cola. Legally speaking, anyways.

JANET

My father's dying of cancer. Truth is, he was a shitty father. Don't know why I'm so upset about it. My therapist would probably say something about not living up to his expectations or something along those lines.

FRANK

Wanna know what I think?

JANET

Who are-

FRANK

As a father myself, I always wish my daughter Dee would've lashed out a little more to prove me wrong. Real rebellious stuff like doing porn or getting high at work.

Frank offers the hash pen to Janet.

JANET

Uh...I'm not so sure about that.

FRANK

C'mon, you only have a little time left to really stick it to your old man. It'll also mellow you out, help ya sleep. Like the saying goes - you'll be killing birds while getting stoned.

JANET

You know what? Screw it. And screw him. Gimme that thing.

Janet takes a solid rip off the hash pen, coughs and hands it back to FRANK, who also takes a hit.

INT. FEDERAL BUILDING - OUTSIDE HANDICAPPED BATHROOM - DAY

Dennis loiters outside a handicapped bathroom.

Eunice comes out of the bathroom, struggling to manage the heavy bathroom door with her walker. Dennis watches her struggle for an uncomfortably long period of time until she finally gets past the door.

DENNIS

Why hello there young lady! What's an angel like you doing in a hellhole like this?

EUNICE

Are you some kind of cream puff?

DENNIS

A what?

EUNICE

Are you some kind of cream puff?

DENNIS

A cream puff? Uh, haha, well...I'm sweet and full of cream. Would you care for a taste?

EUNICE

Queers like you are why this country is crumbling.

DENNIS

Whoa! You're a...ok then.

EUNICE

If it were up to me, I'd put you all away.

(MORE)

EUNICE (CONT'D)

Like that fairy up for parole. Punishment in this life, and the next.

DENNIS

Wow. Curveball. Kinda wish Frank had taken this one. But I can work with this.

EUNICE

Huh?

DENNIS

I was agreeing! These sinners deserve what's coming to 'em!

EUNICE

Amen.

DENNIS

Amen! And you know, Jesus spoke to me in a dream the other night and bestowed upon me a divine message of utmost importance that he told me to deliver to you, personally.

Dennis squats down and gently holds Eunice's hand. She listens intently.

DENNIS (CONT'D)

Sending these "cream puffs" to prison actually makes them happy. It's like the Garden of Eden, where the "fruit" isn't forbidden. Adam and "Steve" get to do whatever they want with each other in there.

EUNICE

Ah...

DENNIS

What would really make Jesus happy would be to let all of the gay sinners out of prison, where society can make their life a living hell, until they go to actual hell.

EUNICE

Praise Jesus for sending you to help purify his kingdom on Earth.

DENNIS

Yeah...yeah. So you need to let Mr. McDonald out of prison today. For Jesus.

Eunice nods in agreement.

EXT. FEDERAL BUILDING - DAY

Frank and Janet stand outside sharing the hash pen.

JANET

You know...you know...you're right.

FRANK

Damn right I'm right.

JANET

I've spent my, like, entire career punishing bad men because I wish I could punish my crappy father.

Janet takes a rip off the hash pen.

JANET (CONT'D)

I'm a terrible person.

FRANK

Yeah. Haha! So am I! But it's never too late to start righting your wrongs.

JANET

But how? How did you do it?

FRANK

Do what?

JANET

Makeup for all the shitty things you did?

FRANK

Ah oh...um, well, I reconnected with my kids, for example.

JANET

That's beautiful. So you're saying I should reconnect with my father before he passes?

FRANK

No, sounds like a waste of time since he's a goner soon anyway. But - you could forgive a man's mistakes today my paroling that gay convict in there.

JANET

Uh, no...no, no no...I have to be objective in there. It's the law.

FRANK

Were you objective when you let your daddy issues cloud your judgement with who knows how many prisoners in the past?

Frank extends the hash pen to Janet. She grabs it and thinks deeply while taking another hit.

INT. PAROLE HEARING COURTROOM AUDIENCE - DAY

Mac and Charlie sit in the gallery, eyes scanning the room.

MAC

Ok, ok, ok, how about this. There's a decent chance he's got drugs up his butt right now, right? We tell a guard to search him - boom, back to prison.

CHARLIE

Most of what he's taught you has been drug-in-butt related. Worth a shot.

MAC

That and it's the only decent plan we've come up with so far that doesn't involve glue.

CHARLIE

I still think glueing his shoes would-

Dee sits down next to them.

DEE

You're not gonna believe what I just-

Shhhh, no! No! We have to focus, Dee, and don't care what stupid plan you guys have going on.

DEE

Oh really? So, you wouldn't want to know a way for Mac's dad to commit another crime today and get more prison time?

MAC

How the hell did you know that was our plan?

DEE

Not only are you idiots predictable and uncreative, but you have no concept of how sound carries in public spaces.

MAC

Well spit it out, bird, or I'll bash your head with a stone!

DEE

I did some Googling-

CHARLIE

Eww, gross!

DEE

No, I- whatever. I learned on the internet that lying in a parole hearing is punishable by up to two years, even more if you've got a criminal record.

MAC

Holy shit, that's amazing!

DEE

Right. So all you gotta do is prove to the parole board that Luther is lying about something.

MAC

Like that he's not really gay!

DEE

Well, that might be tough, because many signs point to him actually being gay. But sure.

Wait though Dee, aren't you not gonna get a cut of the gay convict money if we win?

DEE

I expect Frank and Dennis to screw me over anyway.

MAC

I don't understand what you want out of this, Dee. People don't do stuff out of the goodness of their hearts.

CHARLIE

I am very confused by Dee's motivations right now. Women are mysterious and I don't know what they want.

DEE

All I want is some free entertainment. Budget's tight so I canceled my cable and internet.

MAC

You mean you're going to derive pleasure from watching a normal day in the judicial system with real human lives in the balance? That's disgusting.

CHARLIE

Pretty trashy, Dee. Now Mac, how are we going to trap your dad in a lie?

MAC

Not sure yet, but with all of the The People's Court and Judge Judy we watch, should be a piece of cake.

INT. PAROLE HEARING COURTROOM - DAY

The board members and Luther are at their official positions. The gang's together in the gallery waiting for the proceedings to continue.

CHUCK

Alright, everyone please be seated as we begin the most important portion of any parole hearing - listening to the victims. This will be an opportunity for those negatively impacted by Mr.
McDonald to say their piece and answer the board's questions.

EUNICE

Our first scheduled witness is Mrs. McDonald.

CUT TO:

TITLE: Victim #1: Mrs. Mac

INT. PAROLE HEARING COURTROOM - DAY

MRS. MAC sits at the witness stand, struggling to stay still with obvious nicotine patches over her arms and neck. The GANG sits together in a row in the gallery.

CHARLIE

(whispering)

I didn't know your mom was here.

MAC

(whispering)

That's because she's been outside loading her body with cigarettes. Doctor said if she goes more than fifteen minutes without one, she'll die of shock.

CHUCK

Thank you Mrs. McDonald for coming today. Would you like to share any prepared remarks?

Mrs. Mac holds up a piece of paper, clears her throat.

MRS. MAC

No.

EUNICE

Ok. Now, Mrs. McDonald, could you please describe how Mr. McDonald has treated you in the past?

MRS. MAC

He left me alone.

JANET

That's terrible Mrs. McDonald, must have been hard for-

MRS. MAC

I like being alone!

JANET

Oh, uh...so do you think Mr. McDonald should stay in prison?

MRS. MAC

I don't care.

Mrs. Mac coughs aggressively while getting up and walking out of the hearing room.

JANET

Hmm. Well, that was interesting. Time for our next victim. Haha whoops, that sounded evil - "next victim".

CHUCK

Ms. Caldwell, are you feeling alright?

JANET

Snug as a bug in a rug, chief. Let's bring up the next victim.

Janet holds back childish laughter.

EUNICE

Our next scheduled victim to address the board is Mr. Charlie Kelly, represented in these proceedings by a... knuckle Jack?

CUT TO:

TITLE: Victim #2: Charlie Kelly (represented by Uncle Jack)

INT. PAROLE HEARING COURTROOM - DAY

UNCLE JACK sits uncomfortably close to Charlie on the single witness chair.

UNCLE JACK

Mr. Kelly was traumatized by Mr. McDonald on multiple occasions and lives in constant fear that Mr. McDonald will be free to use those big, strong, calloused hands to choke the quote unquote "life pulse" out of him.

Uncle Jack turns to Charlie, so close their faces are almost touching. Uncle Jack stares at him for a moment, then sniffs Charlie's hair. Charlie jerks his head away, trying to get as far away without leaving the witness chair.

CHUCK

Mr. Kelly, what did Mr. McDonald do to you, exactly, to warrant such fear?

Charlie whispers his response into Uncle Jack's ear.

UNCLE JACK

Mr. Kelly was coerced into smuggling drugs up his butt and threatened repeatedly. And at one point, Mr. Kelly faked his own death to hide from Mr. McDonald.

JANET

But Mr. McDonald has never physically harmed you? It's this sagittarius's opinion that Mr. Kelly needs to stop being a little whiny baby. I mean, everyone in this room is guilty of some mild harassment, amiright?

Chuck and Eunice look at Janet, speechless and concerned.

JANET (CONT'D)

Uh, but that's neither queer - I
mean here - nor there.

(reading)

Mr. Kelly, why do you think Mr. McDonald should or should not be released at this time, given his time already served and good behavior up to this point?

Charlie whispers his response into Uncle Jack's ear.

UNCLE JACK

Mr. Kelly feels that Luther is a stranger to himself and others that should be kept behind Lars for the rest of his life.

(now speaking for himself)
And isn't that what life's all
about? To be free to sexually
experiment with a man named Lars,
or with anyone else for that
matter, no matter how young the
boy may be.

Charlie frustratingly whispers into Uncle Jack's ear.

UNCLE JACK (CONT'D)
I misheard Mr. Kelly's previous response, so please strike that from the record.

CHUCK

There is no recor- anyways, do you have any final remarks?

UNCLE JACK

I just want Mr. McDonald to know that I am legally obligated to be here and relay my client's comments. But I have nothing against him and if he gets released I would love to take some photos of those meat mittens and-

CHARLIE

Uncle Jack! What the hell?! Luther is a liar! He's not proud of Mac, that's absurd. No one is! According to law, he should be charged with lying to the parole board, right Uncle Jack?

UNCLE JACK

I have no idea.

CHUCK

Mr. Kelly, this board has no reason to question the validity of Mr. McDonald's comments here today. Yes, it is true that lying to the board would be a felony, but we see no evidence of that at this time.

Luther smiles at Charlie, who pauses, then reluctantly heads back to the gallery and sits with the gang. Uncle Jack tries to join them but is pushed away by Mac and Charlie.

EUNICE

The final victim to give remarks is Mr. Ronald McDonald.

The entire room laughs.

CUT TO:

TITLE: Victim #3: Ronald McDonald.

INT. PAROLE HEARING COURTROOM - DAY

Mac reads from his prepared remarks in the witness seat, struggling to get through it while constantly looking up at Luther.

MAC

My dad is a mean man. He scares me. He has been in prison most of my life and does not understand me. And now that I am openly gay, he hates me even more. I think he should stay in prison, forever.

LUTHER

I don't hate you, son.

CHUCK

Mr. McDonald, you are not allowed to speak at this time.

JANET

No no, let them speak. This is some good Jerry Springer breakthrough type stuff.

MAC

But you walked away when I showed you I was gay. You've always resented me because deep down you always knew...

LUTHER

No, that's not true.

Mac looks to Charlie who gives a proud affirmative fist pump.

MAC

And now you're lying about loving me and being gay just to get brownie points from the board and get let out of prison!

LUTHER

I was so hard on you because you reminded me of myself and how I wasn't brave enough to show the world who I really am.

MAC

Psh, no that- that's just more lies.

LUTHER

And I know how tough the world is, especially on gay young men. I had to make you strong and prepare you for a hard life.

MAC

Really?

LUTHER

Yes, son.

JANET

(crying)

It's so beautiful. I wish my father loved me that much.

MAC

So, you love me then, dad?

LUTHER

Yes.

MAC

So say it. Say "I love you, son."

LUTHER

Well, I...

Luther looks around the hearing room, speechless and killing time. Dennis, Dee, Frank and Charlie are on the edge of their seats.

Chuck is exhausted by how all this is going, but accepts it and waits for Luther's response. Eunice is disgusted. Janet eagerly awaits, living vicariously through this moment.

LUTHER (CONT'D)

I...love-

A POLICE OFFICER carrying a duffle bag bursts through the back doors of the hearing room. Everything in the room halts and focuses on the police officer.

POLICE OFFICER

Is there a Mr. Luther McDonald here?

CHUCK

He's right here. Is Mr. McDonald in some sort of trouble?

POLICE OFFICER

Yes. We have reason to believe that Mr. McDonald hasn't been entirely truthful here today.

Everyone in the room gasps. The police officer walks through the hearing room and stops right in front of Luther, who sits in a chair in the parolee section.

LUTHER

Officer, I-

POLICE OFFICER

Quiet. We've heard enough nonsense from you today. You've been a bad, bad man Mr. McDonald. And you need to be punished.

The police officer quickly pulls a boombox out of his duffle bag and starts playing loud dance music. He rips his shirt and pants off and starts grinding on Luther.

CHUCK

What the hell is going on here!

Janet is very excited by the sexy, half-naked cop. Eunice crosses herself and starts praying, head down.

LUTHER

Ew, get the hell off of me freak!

Luther, disgusted, pushes the police officer (STRIPPER) away and stands up to try and get away from him. But Luther falls when trying to step back because his shoes are stuck to the floor.

CHARLIE

Glue shoes, bitch!

MAC

And he said freak! See, he's not really gay!

INT. PAROLE HEARING ROOM - DAY

Luther stands handcuffed without shoes on and manned by the bailiff. His shoes are still glued to the floor where he was sitting before.

The stripper packs up his things, now in just a cop hat and thong.

CHUCK

I don't know what the hell is going on here today and frankly just want to go home at this point. Clearly Mr. McDonald has not been truthful today, which as we all know is a minimum two year sentence, possibly more given his criminal background.

JANET

C'mon Chuck! Give the guy a break!

CHUCK

"Give the guy a break"...? Are you high right now?

JANET

Yes? What's high even mean? Maybe you're low, Chuck.

The stripper starts leaving and running down the aisle of the gallery, stopping by Dee. The entire room is disrupted by their exchange.

STRIPPER

Hey, I did my thing. Where's the sixty bucks?

DEE

Excellent work, my friend. Here ya go.

Dee hands the stripper a wad of cash, and he scurries out.

DENNIS

What the hell, Dee. You hired a goddamn stripper?

MAC

Diabolical, Dee! You tricked my dad into proving that he's not actually gay! That's some Dennis level shit.

DEE

Well, you know...I really just did it for the drama. Didn't matter much how it turned out. Ya can't see that shit on TV.

FRANK

You bitch!

CHARLIE

I actually see way crazier stuff on TV all the time.

The gang starts talking loudly over each other, naming shows and movies they've seen on TV comparable to the stuff that just went down.

CHUCK

Fuck it.

(looking at Eunice)
Eunice, do you have anything to
add before we end this hearing?

EUNICE

I hope you all rot in hell.

CHUCK

Okie Dokie then. Parole denied!

This breaks the GANG from their crazy TV conversation. Mac and Charlie high-five and celebrate. Dee tries to get in on the celebration with no luck. Frank and Dennis are pissed.

The parole board members all funnel out. Luther, escorted by the bailiff, gets to around where the gang is sitting. Stops and resists going any further.

LUTHER

Frank! We planned this months ago! You were supposed to keep these idiots as far away from this hearing as possible!

FRANK

What the hell are y- oh, shit! I forgot I had the idea of getting Luther out for Gay Convicts United already! Haha! Goddamnit!

DENNIS

Wow, Frank. If you weren't such a sack of shit, I'd start worrying that your brain is dying.

CHARLIE

Mmm, you know...my bad, too. Frank told me that plan like seven times, it just slipped my mind.

MAC

Dad, dad! You were about to say something before we got interrupted by Dee's stripper.

LUTHER

I don't know what you're talking about son. What I do know, is not only am I gonna pay you and Charlie a visit when I'm out, but Frank and Dee here, too. I'll be seeing ya.

The bailiff finally starts pulling Luther away and out of the hearing room.

LUTHER (CONT'D)

I'll be seeing ya!

Luther stares with his wide, crazy eyes back at the gang until he's gone.

MAC

Hmm, guess we'll never know if he loves me. Or if he's gay.

CHARLIE

He doesn't.

DEE

And definitely at least a quarter gay.

DENNIS

Anyone wanna go hit Cricket with the car? Frank's buying.

The gang all nod casually and head out of the hearing room, debating a reasonable price for hitting Rickety Cricket with Dennis' car.