

# Big Time

"Creep"  
(Pilot)

Written by  
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**ACT ONE**

EXT. HOUSE - KING'S COURT

It's a traditional two-story in Camelot Lakes, a housing development in the distant ex-burbs of Chicago. About a decade old based on the size of the trees, Camelot Lakes is a quiet family-oriented community where--

A U.S. Postal truck ZOOMS by filled with SCREAMING BOYS.

THROUGH THE WINDSHIELD, we see the truck is driven by LUKE, a surprisingly clean-cut 12-year-old delinquent. Four smaller boys stand next to him, SQUEALING and hanging on for dear life. The smallest of these boys is HUGH, 11, a husky kid with wild red hair and a perpetually terrified look who now looks more terrified than usual.

HUGH (V.O.)

In June, Luke took us for a ride in his dad's mail truck.

Luke executes a hard sustained right, nearly throwing his passengers out of the open cab.

OVERHEAD - The truck circumnavigates the cul de sac at high speed. The back door flies open and packages spill out.

HUGH (V.O.) (CONT'D)

He got grounded forever.

EXT. HOUSE - KING'S COURT

The same house, with the same boys petting a deer.

HUGH (V.O.)

Then in July, we found a live deer out in Bog Woods.

The doe is nuzzling ZAYN, 11, a dark, curly locked Adonis adored by mothers and daughters subdivision-wide.

HUGH (V.O.) (CONT'D)

She kind of fell in love with Zayn.

The others pet the doe while TED, a skinny, gangly, jangly, oddly off boy, stands behind the deer and appears as if he is about to stick his finger in it. The front door opens and JOSIE, Hugh's tiny spitfire of a mom, bursts out, YELLING and SHOOING the deer away.

HUGH (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Ted and Wesley and me all got Lyme Disease.

EXT. WRIGLEY FIELD BLEACHERS - DAY

Ted's handsome, metrosexual dad, HOWARD RAND, sits with the four boys, all holding souvenir bats.

HUGH (V.O.)

And in August, Ted's Dad took us to the city for a Cub's game.

Everybody jumps to their feet. Hugh, sitting in the middle, looks alarmed.

HUGH (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I almost caught an A-Rod home run ball.

Hugh puts out his hands, turning his head away. At the last second, an OBESE BLEACHER BUM plows over Hugh from behind, knocking him out of frame.

The Bum raises the ball over his head in triumph. The other boys start BEATING the bum with their souvenir bats as Hugh stumbles to his feet. Ted's dad starts pulling the boys off the bum, but not in a terrible hurry.

EXT. FORT - LATE AFTERNOON

A swell fort, on stilts, with siding, shingles, screens, etc. (A few yards beyond the fort, we can see "Lake Excalibur.")

HUGH (V.O.)

It was our last summer as boys.

INT. FORT

Luke, hunched over in a fort he has clearly outgrown, presides over this meeting with an authoritarian air.

LUKE

Tomorrow, we become men!

He raises a can of Old Milwaukee.

LUKE (CONT'D)

To Junior High!

He POPS the tab, and beer SPRAYS everywhere.

THEME BREAK (15 SECONDS, NO TITLE OR CREDITS)

The boys swagger down a suburban sidewalk to PETER GABRIEL'S "BIG TIME." Luke leads, with Wesley at his side, grimly aping his steps. Behind them, antsy Ted pirouettes and does kung-fu moves. Zayn strolls alongside Hugh, who struggles to keep up.

EPISODE TITLE CARD:

Chapter One

"Creep"

HUGH (V.O.)

These are the true adventures of Hugh Dugan, before he cured asthma and reinvented rock and roll.

INT. FORT

Beer sprinkles four LAUGHING 11-year-old boys. To Luke's right is his viciously freckled, orthodontic minion, WESLEY, with the high scratchy voice of a cartoon rodent.

WESLEY

Junior high!

TED

Boob school!

Luke SLURPS the brew and hands it to Wesley. Wesley SLURPS exactly the same way. He passes the can across to Zayn on the opposite bench. Zayn raises the can to his lips and appears to drink, but doesn't swallow. He passes the can to Hugh.

Hugh smiles at the beer like it's an unfortunate blind date.

HUGH (V.O.)

I know I'm almost 12 and everything. But so far I've been clean and sober.

INSERT

Hugh eats dinner at the breakfast nook. His Dad, BRENDAN offers him a can of beer.

HUGH (V.O.)

My dad offered me a sip of his once...

Hugh's mom is serving mashed potatoes out of a pot. She matter-of-factly WHACKS Hugh's dad upside the head with a heaping, steaming serving spoon. He drops the beer.

HUGH (V.O.) (CONT'D)

My mom vetoed that.

BACK TO SCENE

As Zayn looks on with concern, Hugh slowly raises the can.

HUGH (V.O.)

I hope I don't throw up too much.

CLOSE ON Hugh's sweaty lips. The can reaches them, but is suddenly snatched away.

Zayn holds the beer can away from his body, playacting disgust. (In the b.g., Hugh is visibly relieved)

ZAYN

This is warm. Who drinks warm beer?

Another hand reaches in and grabs the can from Zayn.

TED

Ted.

LUKE

Hey, a hand for Ted? Starting tomorrow, he walks with us. No more little bus.

Ted raises both hands to accept the accolades.

TED

I'm officially functional!

Luke leads the APPLAUSE. Ted claps most of all. Then he grins as he removes a Crazy Straw from his back pocket.

ZAYN

No, Ted.

HUGH (V.O.)

Since he was seven, Ted's been training himself to drink through his nose. He believes this will earn him the Nobel Prize.

TED

(tapping straw between eyes)  
It's all about the sinai.

Ted sticks the straw up a nostril. He presses his unused nostril closed with a single finger, and concentrates like a weight lifter before a 500-lb clean-and-jerk. Ted closes his eyes, and drinks deeply. Beer loops up the straw. Copious amounts of beer SPRAY OUT of Ted's mouth, mostly on Wesley.

HUGH (V.O.)

That's what usually happens.

Everybody but Wesley LAUGHS.

WESLEY  
You retard!

Ted responds with dignity, beer streaming out his nose.

TED  
I'm not retarded. I may be gifted. That's  
the minority opinion.

WESLEY  
I can't go home, smelling like beer snot!

HUGH  
(aside to Zayn)  
Better than you usually smell.

Zayn chuckles. As is their custom, he repeats it, louder.

ZAYN  
Better than you usually smell.

Everybody LAUGHS. Zayn pats Hugh on the shoulder. Hugh beams.  
Wesley glowers.

There's a RAPID KNOCK on the door of the fort. Ted PANICS,  
and sits on the beer can. It makes a WET CRUNCH.

The door swings open. It's SYLVIA, Ted's bombshell of an  
older sister. Ted covers his chest coquettishly, apparently  
in imitation.

TED  
Privacy!

SYLVIA  
(exasperated)  
Why don't you answer your phone?

TED  
It's up your butt.

SYLVIA  
(flatly)  
Dinner's in twenty minutes.  
(sniffs)  
And you'd better brush your teeth.

Sylvia starts to turn away, but notices:

SYLVIA (CONT'D)  
(big smile)  
Hi, Zayn!

ZAYN  
 (cute and cool)  
 Syl.

Sylvia twirls and works her exit. The boys watch her sashay away THROUGH THE DOOR FRAME.

HUGH (V.O.)  
 Sylvia Rand is like a legend. When she was nine, all her adult teeth fell out, and she grew a third set of teeth.

REVERSE ANGLE shows Sylvia from the front, smiling like she knows all the boys are drooling through the door frame.

HUGH (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 She started having puberty when she was ten, and now she's thirteen and completely done.

FROM INSIDE, the door CLOSES. Ted's goofy face pops in.

TED  
 I saw them!

INSERT

Ted, his back against the wall, next to a doorway. He holds a cellphone open against his chest, poised to take a picture.

HUGH (V.O.)  
 Besides drinking through his nose, Ted has one other major goal in life...

Ted opens the door, and slips inside as steam billows out.

HUGH (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 ...to see his sister's breasts.

A beat later, Ted is hustled out, by his Dad, ED, who is wearing only shaving cream.

CUT TO:

Ted kneels on the ground, trying to slide a mirror under a doorway, but it won't fit. The door suddenly opens, right into his face. Sylvia, in her pajamas, sees him on the floor clutching his bloody nose, and peevishly steps over him.

CUT TO:

HUGH (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 But then, last night...

Ted wanders down the same hallway, obliviously sucking on a popsicle. He glances as he passes a partially open door. He freezes.

TED'S POV -- Sylvia talks on her phone as she peels off her T-Shirt. She bends over to unhook her bra and...

CLOSE ON TED'S AWESTRUCK FACE

TED  
(with great import)  
They were... as... long... as... pencils.

INT. FORT

Luke, Wesley and Hugh and both confused and curious.

LUKE  
Pencils?

TED  
Full length pencils.

HUGH  
How much did they weigh, approximately?

Ted responds by rapidly yanking his cheek in and out, producing a SQUICK-SQUICK-SQUICK SOUND, the meaning of which should be clear to much of the audience.

Luke and Wesley CRACK UP. Hugh looks confused.

HUGH (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Must be something... sexy.

Hugh CHUCKLES UNCONVINCINGLY, then notices Zayn isn't laughing. He stops.

ZAYN  
Cut it out, Ted. I mean, geezes, looking at your sister naked. That's gross.

Wesley sees his payback opening.

WESLEY  
Maybe if it was your sister.

Wesley CACKLES with such self-satisfaction that he doesn't even notice as Zayn calmly stands and delivers a devastating knuckle punch into the meat of Wesley's thigh.

Wesley grabs his leg and topples over into Luke's lap in silent agony. Distracted, Luke slides away, letting Wesley's grimacing face CLUNK onto the wooden bench.

LUKE  
We gotta see those things.

ZAYN  
(realizing)  
Oh. No, we don't.

LUKE  
We are not going to junior high without  
having seen some boobage. It's an  
admission requirement.

HUGH (V.O.)  
(worried)  
I didn't get that letter.

ZAYN  
(shaking head)  
Luke--

LUKE  
(ignoring Zayn, to Ted)  
When does your sister get undressed?

TED  
Every night.

LUKE  
(annoyed)  
No, Ted. What time does she go to bed?

TED  
Ten-thirty. Usually.

Luke smiles.

LUKE  
Boys...  
(crouches for added emphasis)  
Tonight, we creep.

**END ACT ONE**

## ACT TWO

EXT. FORT/BACK YARD/FRONT YARD

Luke leads the boys out of the fort through the backyard: Wesley walking off his Charlie horse; Ted, weaving for no reason; then Hugh and Zayn.

LUKE

Meet back at the fort at oh-nine-thirty hours. We creep at oh-ten-hundred.

HUGH (V.O.)

Two of Luke's brothers are Marines and so was his Dad. His whole family talks like that.

Luke reaches the side of the attached garage. He feels a drain pipe, determining its suitability for the mission.

LUKE

We'll scale the north face...

HUGH

(aside to Zayn)  
West.

ZAYN

That's west.

LUKE

Maybe a little northwest.

HUGH (V.O.)

About 20 degrees southwest.

They continue into the front yard, where Luke steps on one of two skateboards "parked" next to the driveway.

LUKE

Everyone in night camouflage. Dark earth colors. And until you hear from me, maintain radio silence.

HUGH (V.O.)

This is gonna be one kick-ass creep!

ZAYN

I'm sorry. Creeping is... creepy.

HUGH (V.O.)

(on the other hand)  
It is kinda creepy.

Luke idly works the curb on his board, doing kicks and jumps. Wesley joins him, with more concentration and less grace.

LUKE  
Never stopped you before.

ZAYN  
That was last summer. We were kids.

In the b.g., Ted STOMPS a bug.

ZAYN (CONT'D)  
Aren't we a little old to be climbing on roofs, and just to see some boobs? You can look on the internet.

LUKE  
This is live.

WESLEY  
(affecting "smooth" voice)  
Live, bodacious ta-tas!

HUGH (V.O.)  
Wesley watches Cinemax when his mom's at work.

ZAYN  
C'mon, guys, we're going to junior high tomorrow! There's gonna be plenty of that to go around.

LUKE  
Easy for you to say.

WESLEY  
(practically spitting)  
Megan De-Groo-oot.

Zayn looks to Hugh, as if he betrayed a confidence.

HUGH  
(defensive)  
It's on her blog.

INSERT

Miss DeGroot's blog page, unfortunately titled, "MEGAN'S LOG." It features unicorn art, a mood of "Womanly" and a top entry with the headline "TOUCHED BY AN ANGEL," along with a blurry picture of Zayn. The page is playing Beth Orton's 'TOUCH ME WITH YOUR LOVE.'

BACK TO SCENE

ZAYN

I still think it's uncool.

LUKE

Then it's a good thing you're not in charge.

Zayn stares hard at Luke.

LUKE (CONT'D)

(sarastic)

Okay. Duh-mocracy. Who wants to see Ted's sister's boobs?

TED

(raising hand)

Ted!

WESLEY

Ted's sister's boobs!

Wesley raises his hand to high five Luke, but Luke doesn't pivot his hand, forcing Wesley to reach awkwardly around Luke's front to SLAP his unresponsive palm.

Luke turns to Hugh. Hugh grimaces.

HUGH (V.O.)

Zayn was my first friend.

INSERT

THREE-YEAR-OLD HUGH AND ZAYN play on Hugh's front lawn, his very pregnant mom sitting on the stoop with a glass of wine.

HUGH (V.O.) (CONT'D)

We grew up right next door. Luke and Wesley lived down the street.

ROTATE down the cul de sac, skipping exactly one house, to show YOUNG LUKE AND WESLEY on Luke's front lawn. Luke has Wesley pinned with his knees, and is about to punch him when Luke's long-suffering mother pulls him off.

ZIP PAN back to Hugh's lawn. The boys stare as, in the f.g., a naked boy streaks across frame, chased by a Ted's mother.

HUGH (V.O.) (CONT'D)

And my mom didn't let me play with Ted at first.

CUT TO:

The EIGHT-YEAR-OLD GANG walks to school, in a near perfect match to the theme break from earlier.

HUGH (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 We didn't really all start hanging until  
 Luke's second year of third grade.

BACK TO SCENE

Hugh blinks. Luke face pops in from the right.

LUKE  
Hugh. Boobs: yes or no?

Hugh SWALLOWS.

INSERT

Three-year-old Hugh flails face down in a wading pool.

HUGH (V.O.)  
 Zayn's saved my life so many times.

Three-year-old Zayn pulls Hugh out by the hair.

CUT TO:

A HUGE GIRL has 8-year-old Hugh in a headlock and is randomly punching him. 8-year-old Zayn steps in and smiles at the girl. Smitten, she releases Hugh and he drops out of frame.

CUT TO:

ON SCREEN, THE ARBITER is pinned down by a horde of BRUTES. It looks bad. But then THE MASTER CHIEF steps in, and starts wasting those mofos.

REVERSE ANGLE shows Hugh and Zayn playing Halo together, Hugh glancing at Zayn with a look that looks a lot like love.

BACK TO SCENE

Hugh is faced with a Sophie's Choice.

HUGH (V.O.)  
 But also, I've never seen boobs in  
 person.

HUGH (CONT'D)  
 (brave little man)  
 I kind of... agree with Zayn.

Zayn smiles at Hugh, a little sadly, recognizing the sacrifice. Luke, however, goes batshit.

LUKE

Great! Then why don't you two butt-buddies have fun staying home together, licking each others' butts?

HUGH (V.O.)

(alarmed)

The fag card! More powerful than the puss card, more deadly than a throat punch.

Zayn just shrugs.

ZAYN

Whatev.

Hugh looks over at Zayn, confused, but then sees something even more troubling.

EXT. HUGH'S HOUSE - FRONT STOOP

Hugh's mom steps outside.

BACK TO SCENE

Hugh opens his mouth, but it's too late.

EXT. HUGH'S HOUSE - FRONT STOOP

Hugh's mom hog-calls him home.

JOSIE

EUUUU-GEEEEEE-EEE-EEE-EE-EE-ENNNN!

Hugh slumps, waits for the inevitable:

WESLEY

Dinner, Piggy! <assorted snorts>

Zayn moves toward Wesley suddenly. Wesley slips on his board; it squirts out behind him SKITTERING into the street.

ZAYN

(ever so casual)

I gotta go too. Come on, Hugh.

WOMAN'S VOICE(O.C.)

Teddy!

Ted's mother, NIKKI RAND, is at the front door, exasperated.

TED'S MOTHER

Didn't your sister just tell you to come in?

Ted crouches on the sidewalk, staring at many squashed bugs.

TED

No.

Ted's mom shakes her head, and then suddenly smiles.

TED'S MOTHER

Hi, Zayn!

ZAYN

Hey, Mrs. Rand!

Zayn smiles and waves as he saunters away, Hugh at his side.

TRACKING ZAYN AND HUGH as they cross the street. Behind them, Luke makes OBSCENE LICKING SOUNDS. Wesley retrieves his board and JOINS IN. Zayn gestures to them behind his back.

HUGH

So... this is our last big night.

ZAYN

Yeah. So?

HUGH

I'm just saying, last night of the summer, it'd be fun to... do something...

In the b.g. Luke gives up and walks off, Wesley at his heels.

ZAYN

You want to go on this creep?

HUGH

I'm just... saying. Something.

ZAYN

(getting annoyed)  
Then why don't you go? I'm not stopping you.

HUGH

I wasn't... I mean, we... agreed.

ZAYN

(brittle)  
You go. I'll be fun. For you.

Zayn trots up to his house. Hugh faces a dilemma.

HUGH (V.O.)

Best friendship or female nudity?

ON HUGH'S MOM

JOSIE

No, you are not "having a meeting" at your fort tonight.

INT. HUGH'S HOUSE - EAT-IN KITCHEN

Hugh eats dinner with his family: dad Brendan, 35, roguishly handsome, shoulder-length locks, happy-go-lucky with a generally ramshackle quality; mom Josie, 30, a tiny dynamo, bright red hair, who treats motherhood as the underpaid service job it is; NUALA, 9, Hugh's much more popular sister; and THE BABY, 6 months, whose given but unspoken name is Malachy. (Brendan and Josie are Irish immigrants whose accents become more pronounced when they become emotional.)

JOSIE

It's a school night. Summer's over, Mister Fort Meeting.

BRENDAN

(lightening the mood)  
What are you fellas still doing hanging out in that fort anyway?

Josie studiously picks at her food.

JOSIE

At least they're safe now, thank God.

INSERT

A ramshackle, patchwork fort leans precariously.

HUGH (V.O.)

My dad helped us build our last fort.

The fort promptly collapses to the sound of SCREAMING BOYS.

CUT TO:

The boys watch as handsome, successful ED LUCAS, 40, single-handedly builds the current fort with casual chic attire.

HUGH (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Ted's dad had plans and shingles and everything.

Ted bounces up, offering to help. Ed makes him sit back down.

CUT TO:

Brendan, cigarette in mouth, pushes 8-year-old HUGH down the street in a basic I-frame go-cart. They are joined by Ted, driving a classic box-car racer, pushed by a far more athletic Ed Lucas.

HUGH (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Ted's dad is real handy.

BACK TO SCENE

This isn't the first time Ted's Dad has come up, apparently.

BRENDAN

Well, he's an architect now, isn't he?  
But what I'm saying Hugh is, aren't you  
boys a little old for forts, soldiers and  
all? You're going into the Junior High.  
You should be thinking about girls.

JOSIE

He most certainly should not be thinking  
about girls, and if he is, he has another  
think coming; and what's more if you get  
one of these girls pregnant, she isn't  
coming to live at this house. I'm making  
plenty of babies here on my own.

NUALA

Don't worry, Mom. No girl is gonna wanna  
make Hugh's baby.

BRENDAN

(chuckling)

Oh, I don't know about that.

(patting son on back)

I don't know about that at all.

Josie shoots him an absolutely chilling look.

INT. HUGH'S HOUSE - HIS BEDROOM - NIGHT

Hugh, in pajamas, sits on his bed, playing SOMETHING  
INDECIPHERABLE on his acoustic guitar. Hugh's dad slips in  
next to him and takes the guitar. He plays the same FAMILIAR  
RIFF brilliantly

BRENDAN

(sings)

HAS HE LOST HIS MIND?/CAN HE SEE OR IS HE  
BLIND?

Remembering his assignment, Brendan stops playing.

BRENDAN (CONT'D)  
Y'know, we opened for Ozzie. Isle of Man.

HUGH (V.O.)  
I know.

BRENDAN  
He was one crazy...  
(catching self)  
...bastard. So... I was wondering if you  
had any... questions? About boys... and  
girls... and their parts and such?

HUGH  
(a beat, then)  
What do boobs feel like?

BRENDAN  
Well now, that depends. Listen, could you  
just tell your ma that we talked?

Hugh nods. Brendan kisses his forehead, whispers in his ear.

BRENDAN (CONT'D)  
Like heaven.

Hugh's Dad turns out the light as he exits. Hugh waits a moment, then pulls his Macbook from under his pillow.

He goes on iChat. He types.

ON SCREEN -- UDOG: Zayn, you up?

Hugh waits, nervously. DING! He reads:

ON SCREEN -- LUKE1521: LETS CREAP!!

Hugh grimaces. He reaches into his bedside table, and removes an inhaler. He closes the Macbook.

In the dark, we hear the anxious sounds of BRONCHODILATION.

**END ACT TWO**

**ACT THREE**

INT. HUGH'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Hugh's door opens and he slips out. He's wearing brown corduroys, a black Paul Frank "Bone Julius" T-Shirt (monkey skull and crossbones), and a oversized bomber hunting cap. He can't seem to decide whether to crouch or stand against the wall. He crouches walks against the wall.

INT. STAIRS

Hugh considers the best approach. He decides to crawls on his belly down the stairs face first.

INT. LIVING ROOM

In the b.g. we see Hugh surfing down the stairs on his belly, out of control.

At the bottom of the stairs, he looks up in panic, to see if he's been detected.

Over the back of the couch, THE DAILY SHOW plays on the TV. Nobody is sitting on the couch, though.

Hugh starts to crawl toward the front door; he hears something and turns. From the back of the couch come WET MOUTH SOUNDS and HEAVY BREATHING.

BRENDAN (O.C.)  
I love ya, Josie.

JOSIE (O.C.)  
(affectionate admonishment)  
Shush you.

Hugh is stricken.

HUGH (V.O.)  
Not again!

He quickly changes direction and crouch runs out of the room.

EXT. FORT - NIGHT

It is dimly lit inside. A chunky shadow crosses the yard.

INT. FORT

Hugh opens the door. Luke and Wesley are crouched around a portable lamp, facing away. They both turn. Both of their faces are blackened. Luke looks like Kurtz from "Apocalypse Now." Wesley looks like Jolson from "A Jazz Singer."

LUKE  
You're late. Put this on.

Luke smears a thick black paste across Hugh's forehead and down one cheek.

LUKE (CONT'D)  
(annoyed)  
And--

Luke smears the paste across the white monkey skull and crossbones on Hugh's T-shirt.

HUGH  
That's my first day shirt!

Luke dips his fingers in the tin and smears more around Hugh's face.

LUKE  
You should've followed orders.

HUGH  
What is this stuff?

LUKE  
Shoe polish.

HUGH  
How are we supposed to get this off?!

LUKE  
Bleach.

Hugh's concerned look turns to terror as the fort door OPENS.

TWO RED EYES float in the dark. The unseen beast SNARLS.  
Wesley grabs Luke's arm.

Ted leaps through the door wearing night vision goggles.

TED  
(dramatically placing product)  
I am the Night Cougar!

Luke shrugs Wesley off him. He frowns at Ted.

LUKE  
Why do you always get the cool crap?

HUGH  
He's got the cool dad.

TED  
And the best doctors!

BIP-BIP-BIP. Luke's watch alarm goes off.

LUKE  
Let's move.

HUGH  
Wait. Zayn...

Luke steps past Hugh and starts out the door.

LUKE  
He's not coming.

WESLEY  
(as he passes Hugh)  
He's not in the fort anymore.

Hugh is left all alone.

EXT. BACKYARD

The boys creep across the yard, Hugh running to catch up, to a cover of "NIGHT MOVES" by Joss Stone or Martha Wainright or somebody else cool. Music continues over:

EXT. TED'S HOUSE - DRAINPIPE

Luke urgently gesticulates as Ted hops on the drainpipe and scurries up like a monkey. Luke follows, quite ably, and then Wesley, less ably but getting the job done. When Wesley reaches the top, Luke has to help him over the eave.

Hugh takes hold of the pipe and starts up. It's hard. After two or three effortful shimmies, Hugh and the MUSIC STOP.

HUGH (V.O.)  
This used to be easier.

INSERT

In a doctor's office, Hugh stands defenseless in underpants, as his mother discusses him with A HOT FEMALE DOCTOR.

JOSIE  
It's that sugar swill he drinks. I've told him, you're gonna end up fat and childless like your Aunt Peg...

BACK TO SCENE

Hugh shimmies again, and looks up. It's a long way. Wesley hovers over the edge, nervously looking back over his shoulder.

WESLEY  
Hurry up! It's happening.

Thus motivated, Hugh GRUNTS and SHIMMIES.

EXT. TED'S HOUSE - ROOF

With GREAT EFFORT, Hugh grabs the edge and pulls his eyes above roof level. He sees Luke and Ted crawling along the narrow slanted roof running under the second story windows toward the other end of the house.

Wesley grabs the shoulder of Hugh's t-shirt and yanks it up, CHOKING Hugh quite a bit. He lets go after a few seconds.

WESLEY  
You're too fat.

Wesley crawls away to join the others.

Hugh hangs in there like the kitten in that poster. He glances down. It's about 1,000 feet down. His eyes gaze mournfully over the edge of the roof.

HUGH (V.O.)  
So this is how I die.

EXT. TED'S HOUSE - OTHER END OF ROOF

Luke and Ted peer in a window as Wesley joins them.

THROUGH THE WINDOW they see Sylvia on the bed, talking on the phone, wearing incredibly unsexy pajamas.

LUKE  
(whisper)  
She's already in her pajamas.

TED  
(regular voice)  
Yeah, she puts them on after dinner.

LUKE  
(urgent whisper)  
You said ten-thirty!

TED

(very matter-of-fact)

You asked when she goes to bed. Not when she puts on her pajamas. Those are different things.

LUKE

(furious whisper)

We've missed the crucial undressing window! What were you thinking? She's not going to put on her pajamas again!

TED

Maybe she'll spill something on them.

LUKE

(whispers, shaking head)

This is hopeless.

He nevertheless returns his gaze to the window.

EXT. TED'S HOUSE - PART OF ROOF WITH HUGH HANGING OFF IT

Hugh uses ALL HIS STRENGTH to get an elbow on the roof. He does it! He tries to swing the other elbow up. He misses, and in the process, causes the established elbow to slip off. Barely his eyes are visible above the roof line.

ON HUGH'S FACE

HUGH (V.O.)

It's all flashing before my eyes...

INSERT

Ozzy Osbourne's cover of the Beatles' "IN MY LIFE" plays over misty watercolored slow-mo memories of...

Eight-year-old Zayn hitting a home run.

11-year-old Zayn in a school hallway, surrounded by girls.

ONE-YEAR-OLD ZAYN taking his first steps on the grass, as ONE-YEAR-OLD HUGH crawls behind him.

11-year-old Zayn, laughing and raising his hand to deliver a high-five.

BACK TO SCENE

Hugh realizes:

HUGH (V.O.)

It's not even my life!

HUGH'S HANDHOLD slips to three fingers.

HIS SAD BLACKENED FACE sinks out of frame.

HUGH (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Maybe I'll just be crippled.

HUGH'S AMAZED BLACKENED FACE rises back up into frame.

EXT. TED'S HOUSE - ROOF

Hugh is lifted up and pushed onto the roof. A moment later, Zayn pulls himself over the eave.

Hugh looks into Zayn's face, beyond grateful.

HUGH (V.O.)  
What do you say at a time like this?

ZAYN  
(smiles, whispers)  
Let's go see some boobs.

They begin crawling along the roof. As they pass by the first window...

ZAYN (CONT'D)  
Whoa.

Hugh looks THROUGH THE WINDOW. Ted's Mom stands by the bed, taking off her top. She has her daughter's figure, only MILFier. She's talking to someone o.c., Ted's Dad presumably.

Hugh's face presses to the glass and Zayn urgently signals to the others.

ZAYN (CONT'D)  
(hushed)  
Mrs. Rand!

Ted looks distressed. Wesley bolts past him.

Luke and Wesley arrive rather quickly. THROUGH THE WINDOW they see Ted's mom slipping off her capri pants.

TED (O.C.)  
Nobody look!

Ted arrives in a dither. He glances through the window. His Mom, her back completely to the boys, unhooks her bra.

TED (CONT'D)  
(panicked)  
Stop looking! Nobody get boners!

WESLEY  
 (grinning)  
 Too late.

Ted furiously flails at Wesley's crotch. Wesley loses his footing, and falls, grabbing Luke's leg in the process. Luke pulls Ted and Zayn with him.

INT. TED'S HOUSE - HIS PARENT'S BEDROOM

Ted's mom hears something, and glances out the window (holding bra to her chest.)

Nobody there.

She shrugs and turns away as she drops the bra.

EXT. TED'S HOUSE - ROOF

All the boys are hanging off the roof to some degree, except for Wesley, who is completely off, clutching desperately onto Luke's pant leg. He tries to claw his way up the leg.

Luke starts slipping, and tries to kick Wesley off his leg. Wesley lets go with one hand, swinging free.

A small hand grabs his wrist. It's Hugh, leaning over the gutter.

Wesley looks back with an expression of mild disgust.

Zayn pulls Hugh up by the waist, and grabs Wesley's other arm, hoisting him onto the roof.

The boys lie on their backs on the roof, PANTING.

WESLEY  
 Thanks, Zayn. You're back in the fort.

ZAYN  
 Oh, thanks, Wesley. Okay, "fort," how about we call it a night, before we get into real trouble, or get killed?

LUKE (O.C.)  
Negative

Luke is at the window. Wesley pops up to look, followed by Hugh, who can't help himself.

Ted's Mom faces away from the window in a diaphanous nightgown equipped with network-safe panties. Her bare back is spectacularly visible through the sheer material. And her o.c. conversation seems to have become more animated.

LUKE (CONT'D)  
She's got to turn around eventually.

TED  
(weakly)  
Please don't look.

The boys glom onto the window like adolescent lampreys.

Inside, Ted's mom gets even more animated. Ted's dad appears in the bathroom door, toothbrush in his mouth. He's wearing only black bikini briefs.

Ted opens his mouth to scream. Luke puts his hand over Ted's mouth.

Ted's dad, looking annoying, starts across the room.

HUGH (V.O.)  
Based on his angle of approach...

Ted's Mom starts to turn.

The boys are transfixed.

As Ted's mom's breasts swing toward them:

TED  
<strangled shriek>

Ted's dad's head whipsaws toward the window.

TED'S DAD'S POV -- Four bug-eyed, black-faced boys and Zayn stare back through the window, mouth agape. They grab at each other trying to escape, and fall out of frame into the dark.

**END ACT THREE**

## ACT FOUR

ON HUGH

His face rubbed raw, but still stained from the shoe polish.

INT. HUGH'S HOUSE - HIS BEDROOM - VERY LATE

Hugh's father sits at his bedside, trying hard to look stern.

BRENDAN

I'm talking to you now because your mother was afraid she might have to go to jail for what she would do to you.

(softer)

You do know you're all lucky you're not dead, or crippled?

Hugh sort of nods. He's plainly terrified. Brendan SIGHS.

BRENDAN (CONT'D)

I'm going to contradict myself now. Not the first time, right? I know you're gonna be a teenager soon, if you're not already, but son, you don't have to grow up all at once, yes? You can be a kid as long as you feel like a kid. And when you do grow up, you need to know that being a man isn't all about the boobs. Though those are very nice.

A SOUND from the doorway. It's Hugh's Mom, standing in the light, her arms crossed.

JOSIE

Good night, you little creep.

HUGH

Good night, Mom.

JOSIE

(gruffly)

Love you.

She walks off. Hugh's dad gets up to leave.

HUGH

Dad?

His dad turns.

HUGH (CONT'D)

Could you kiss me good night?

His dad warmly kisses him on the forehead.

BRENDAN  
Your punishment will be announced  
tomorrow.

EXT. KING'S COURT - MORNING

The front door opens. Hugh emerges, looking, somehow, more worldly. He takes a DEEP BREATH.

ZAYN (O.C.)  
Hugh!

Zayn crosses from his yard to Hugh's. They meet up and start down the street.

HUGH  
Lost my computer for two weeks. What'd  
you get?

ZAYN  
I have to decide.

HUGH  
That sucks.

ZAYN  
(a beat, then)  
Hey, so: Junior High.

HUGH  
Yeah.

ZAYN  
You scared?

HUGH  
Naw.

ZAYN  
I am.

HUGH (V.O.)  
Uh oh.

EXT. LUKE'S HOUSE - FRONT STOOP

LUKE'S FATHER answers the door. His generally military bearing is enhanced by the postal uniform he is wearing, and diminished by the fact that it's the summer shorts version.

LUKE'S FATHER  
Luke's confined to quarters.

HUGH  
He's grounded from school?

ZAYN  
Can he come out after school?

LUKE'S FATHER  
No.

HUGH  
When can he come out?

LUKE'S FATHER  
Never. He's never coming out again.

Luke's dad CLOSES the door. Hugh and Zayn walk toward the street. The door to the house next to Luke's opens.

WESLEY  
Guys! Wait up!

Wesley runs to join them. They don't slow down for him. (Like Hugh, his face shows traces of shoe polish.)

WELSEY  
(re: Luke)  
Grounded forever?

ZAYN  
He'll be out by lunch.

HUGH  
What'd you get?

WESLEY  
My mom was at work.

They walk onto Ted's driveway. The door opens and Sylvia sashays out. Hugh is terrified. She walks up to the boys, looking pissed but also really working it.

SYLVIA  
Ted is helping his dad with a project.  
He'll drive him to school later.

She turns to address Zayn specifically, her expression turning subtly from irritated to playfully irritated.

SYLVIA (CONT'D)  
And if you wanted to see my tits, you should have just asked.

WESLEY  
Can we see your tits?

Sylvia SLAPS Wesley hard, pivots and wiggles away.

SYLVIA  
(calling over shoulder)  
See you at school, Zayn!

The boys hear SOMETHING LOUD. They turn and look into Ted's backyard.

Ted is sitting dutifully watching his father take a SLEDGEHAMMER to the fort.

MUSIC: RADIOHEAD'S CREEP, COVERED BY CHRISSIE HYNDE.

The boys watch as Ted's dad TAKES OUT one of the stilts to the fort, and the whole thing CRASHES to the ground.

After a moment, they start to walk to school. Zayn and Hugh walk side by side on the walk, forcing Wesley to walk behind them or in the grass.

HUGH  
Aren't we getting a little old for forts?  
I mean, we should be thinking about  
girls...

ZAYN  
Yeah. They're already thinking about us.

Zayn nods up ahead. Two SIXTH GRADE GIRLS glance back in their direction and GIGGLE.

Hugh is once again gripped with the perpetual terror of adolescence.

STING: "HI, THERE," SAYS PETER GABRIEL, THEN INTO "BIG TIME."

**END OF SHOW**