SEINFELD

"The Parking Garage"

Written by

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FIRST DRAFT
July 15, 1991
ACT ONE

SCENE A

INT. ESCALATOR -

GOING DOWN TO A GARAGE. IN SINGLE FILE: GEORGE, JERRY AND ELAINE, WHO'S CARRYING A PLASTIC BAG WITH GOLDFISH, AND KRAMER WHO'S HAVING A ROUGH TIME WITH A LARGE, HEAVY BOX.

GEORGE

One left...What a joke.

KRAMER

You can have this one.

GEORGE

No, that's not enough BTUs for my living room...That was a complete waste of time.

ELAINE

Hey, I didn't get one either.

JERRY

Why do I always have the feeling that everybody's doing something better than me on Saturday afternoons?

ELAINE

This is what people do.
JERRY

No they don't. They're out on some big picnic. They're cooking burgers. They're making out on blankets. They're not at some mall in Jersey watching their friends trying to find the world's cheapest air-conditioner.

THEY GET OFF THE ESCALATOR AND HEAD FOR THE CAR.

CUT TO:
ACT ONE

SCENE B

INT. PARKING GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

JERRY, GEORGE, ELAINE AND KRAMER.

GEORGE

You should see what my father used to go through before he bought a car. He'd go from state to state. He was away for weeks at a time. It was like he was running for president and he was going through the primaries. We'd get phone calls from motels in New Hampshire.

ELAINE

So we took a little ride. What's the big deal?

GEORGE

Well at least you accomplished something. You got fish.

JERRY

Big accomplishment.
GEORGE

Fish. what do they do?

ELAINE

What do you do?

KRAMER

(RE: CAR)

It's this way.

GEORGE

What time is it?

JERRY

Five o'clock.

GEORGE

Always late. Always late.

JERRY

You're not late.

GEORGE

I told them to meet me in front of my building at six-fifteen.

ELAINE

Who?
GEORGE

My parents. It's their anniversary.
I'm taking them out to dinner and a show tonight. You think we'll hit traffic?

JERRY

Of course we'll hit traffic. It's rush hour.

ELAINE

Isn't it going the other way?

JERRY

There is no other way in new york.
Everybody goes every way all the time.

ELAINE

But it's saturday.

JERRY

You got the picnic and burger traffic.

GEORGE

I always get myself in this position.
Can't be on time. Gotta rush.

KRAMER STOPS AND LOOKS AROUND.
ELAINE

What's the matter?

HE MUMBLES SOMETHING AND CONTINUES WALKING.

JERRY

I have to go to the bathroom. Why do they hide the bathroom in these malls?

KRAMER STUMBLES WITH THE AIR-CONDITIONER.

JERRY

You want me to help you with that?

KRAMER

No, no, I got it.

AND HE STUMBLES AGAIN. JERRY SPOTS A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN.

JERRY

(TO GEORGE, RE: WOMAN)

What do you think, georgie boy?

GEORGE

Did I need that pointed out for me? What is that going to do for me? How does that help me, to see her? I'm trying to live my life. Don't show me that.
KRAMER

If you like her, go talk to her.

GEORGE

Yeah, right. I'll just go up and say, "hi, how ya' doing? Would you like a glass of white wine?"

JERRY

Before you got within twenty feet of this woman, she'd have her finger on the mace button. She's like an expensive car with one of those motion-sensor force field alarms. Any sudden movement in the area could set her off.

KRAMER

She's fat.

ELAINE

Oh she's fat?

KRAMER STOPS AGAIN, CONFUSED.

ELAINE

What?
JERRY
Where's the car?

KRAMER
I thought it was here.

GEORGE
You don't know where we parked?

KRAMER LOOKS AROUND, THEN RESUMES WALKING. THEY FOLLOW.

GEORGE
Oh, this is great.

KRAMER
Blue-one. I thought it was blue-one.

JERRY
I thought it was green. I remember seeing green.

ELAINE
I didn't pay attention.

GEORGE
This is just what I need.

ELAINE
I'm sure it's right around here.
KRAMER

It looks familiar. I remember the elevator.

GEORGE

There's elevators all over! It all looks the same.

JERRY

It's over there. I know where it is.

NOW JERRY TAKES THE LEAD AND THE OTHERS FOLLOW.

ELAINE

It's black, right?

KRAMER

Dark blue.

GEORGE

(MUMBLING)

You come to a parking lot, you write it down. How hard is that?

JERRY

There it is!...No, no that's a Toyota.

THEY STOP...
KRAMER

Hmmm...I thought it was...

KRAMER

Didn't we come in over there?

JERRY

I thought it was over there.

FROM THERE P.O.V. THE CAMERA DOES A THREE SIXTY AND WE GET A SENSE OF HOW ENORMOUS THIS PLACE IS, THEN:

ELAINE

How long can fish live in one of these plastic bags?

KRAMER

About two hours.

ELAINE

(SHE LOOKS AT HER WATCH)

You'd better find this car.

GEORGE

It's this way...

AND THEY TAKE OFF AGAIN, PAIRING OFF: GEORGE & ELAINE WITH KRAMER & JERRY BEHIND THEM.

JERRY

I really have to go to the bathroom.
KRAMER

Why don't you go behind one of these cars?

JERRY SHOOTS HIM A LOOK.

KRAMER

Why? nobody's around.

JERRY

I'll wait.

KRAMER

You know when you hold it in like that you can cause a lot of damage to your bladder. That's what happens to truck drivers. They hold it in all the time. Eventually it starts coming out involuntarily.

JERRY

Alright.

KRAMER

Jerry, are you aware that adult diapers are a six hundred million dollar a year industry?
JERRY

Maybe I should just go anytime I get the urge like you...Wherever I am. There's too much urinary freedom in this society. I'm proud to hold it in. It builds character.

ANGLE ON ELAINE AND GEORGE...

ELAINE

(RE: CAR)

There it is!...No that's not it.

A CAR SCREECHES AROUND A CURVE, ELAINE IS UNNERVED.

ELAINE

Hey, watch it. ...Did you see that car? Maniac. can you explain something to me? I got six questions wrong on my drivers test. that's the maximum. I read the book, I'm a college graduate. this is a country where fifty percent of its high school students can't locate europe on a map. how are they all passing that test? It's a mystery.
GEORGE

...six wrong?

ELAINE

Those school zones are a killer.

JERRY

(TO KRAMER, RE: BOX)

Will you let me help you with that?

KRAMER

I'm gonna put it down behind that car.

HE DOES SO.

JERRY

You're not worried somebody's gonna pee on it?

KRAMER

(TO GEORGE)

Pink eleven. Remember that.

GEORGE

Oh I got it.

(TO JERRY)

That I'm supposed to remember.

(MORE)
GEORGE (CONT'D)

Where the car is, that's insignificant.

ELAINE
(LOOKING AT FISH)
I think they're laboring.

KRAMER

Look at this place. It's huge...

GEORGE

I can tell you this. If I am not in front of my house at six-fifteen, when my parents get there, they will put me on an aggravation installment plan that will compound with interest for decades.

JERRY

Parents never forget a foul-up. I once left a jacket on the bus when I was fourteen. Last week I'm flying to Chicago to do a show, "make sure you hang on to your jacket."
GEORGE

Where the hell is this car, kramer?

KRAMER

It's got to be here.

ELAINE

Why are they using so many colors? And the numbers go up to forty.

JERRY

Maybe it's not on this level.

GEORGE

What?

JERRY

There are four different levels. Maybe we're on the wrong level. How long was the escalator ride up?

ELAINE

It felt like a couple of levels.

JERRY

You should always carry a pad and pen.
GEORGE
I can't carry a pen. I'm afraid I'll puncture my scrotum.

KRAMER
I have a pen.

THEY REACT...

JERRY
Where was the bathroom in this mall? There are six-hundred stores, I didn't see one bathroom. What is this, like a joke? They finished building the mall and they go, "oh my god, we forgot the bathrooms."

MOTHER (O.C.)
Don't you dare talk to me like that! You hear me?

ELAINE
Look at that woman.

SHE'S HITTING HER BOY ON THE BACK OF HIS HEAD.
MOTHER
I told you! I don't care! You'll have to wait.

GEORGE
(TO WOMAN)
Hey, is that necessary?

MOTHER
(TO GEORGE)
Why don't you mind your own business?

GEORGE
I think hitting a defenseless child is my business.

KID
(TO GEORGE)
You're ugly.

GEORGE
...what?

KID
You're ugly.

GEORGE
You are!
KID
You are!

THE KID GETS IN THE CAR. GEORGE IS STUNNED.

GEORGE
I should've hit the little son-of-a-bitch. I can't stand kids. Adults think it's so wonderful how honest kids are. I don't need that kind of honesty. I'll take a deceptive adult over an honest kid any day.

KRAMER
(RE: CAR)
I found it!

ELAINE
He's got it.

KRAMER
Oh...no.

JERRY
Alright, that's it. From now on no more calling out they found it, unless we're sitting in it. Okay?
ELAINE

Jerry, look at my fish.

JERRY HOLDS UP THE BAG AND HITS IT WITH HIS FINGER.

JERRY

His eyes look a little cloudy.

GEORGE

Oh are they gonna be furious.

JERRY

Who's got the tickets?

GEORGE

I do.

(TO KRAMER)

I thought you knew this mall. You said you'd been here before!

KRAMER

It was easy the last time.

ELAINE

My fish are dying right in front of me! We have to get someone to drive us around the parking lot to help us look for the car.
JERRY

No one's going to do that.

ELAINE SPOTS A FORTY-ISH, STYLISH COUPLE WALKING TO THEIR CAR.

ELAINE

Excuse me, we can't seem to find our car. I was wondering if it would be possible if you're not in a hurry, to drive us around the garage for five minutes so we can look.

MAN #1

(HOLDING HIS HANDS UP)

...sorry.

ELAINE

Five minutes.

MAN #1

Can't do it.

ELAINE

We're not wilding.

THEY LEAVE. SHE APPROACHES TWO GIRLS - EARLY TWENTIES, MALL KIDS.
ELAINE
Excuse me - I can't seem to find my car - do you think you could drive me...

THEY START LAUGHING.

ELAINE
Oh that's funny? Is that funny? Well tell me if you think this is funny: these fish are dying! They're gasping for oxygen right now! They'll be floating in an hour. Is that funny too?

THEY IGNORE HER AND KEEP LAUGHING. CUT TO JERRY AND KRAMER.

JERRY
Those are really ugly sneakers. Where did you get those?

KRAMER
Right here at the mall.

BACK TO ELAINE, SEEKING OUT A MAN WITH A BEARD.

ELAINE
Excuse me...

HE IGNORES HER AND KEEPS WALKING.
ELAINE

Sorry to have disturbed you. Terribly sorry. But the fish will be dead. You do know that. They can't live in plastic. That's not me talking, that's science.

CUT TO JERRY AND KRAMER.

JERRY

It's amazing how shopping makes me have to go. All I have to do is walk into a department store and it's like some kind of horse laxative just kicked in.

KRAMER

You drank a whole bottle of water.

JERRY

I know.

KRAMER

So why don't you just go?

JERRY

No I can't.
KRAMER

Don't you get tired of following rules?

JERRY

You think I'm too cautious?

KRAMER

Why be uncomfortable if you don't have to? It's organic.

JERRY

Organic. so is oprah winfrey.

KRAMER

It'll take you ten seconds.

HE NUDGES JERRY.

JERRY

Okay, okay. I'll be right back.

WE STAY WITH JERRY AS HE WALKS TO THE BACK OF A CAR, LOOKS AROUND LIKE SUPERMAN, THEN LETS FLY. HE FINISHES, ZIPS UP, THEN TURNS AND SEES A SECURITY GUARD STARING AT HIM WITH HIS ARMS FOLDED.

SECURITY GUARD

Okay, let's go. Come with me.

JERRY

But...
SECURITY GUARD

Come on.

JERRY

(STARTS TO LEAVE, TO HIMSELF)

...Kramer

END OF ACT ONE
ACT TWO
SCENE C

INT. SECURITY GUARD'S OFFICE -

A SMALL ROOM WITH A DESK AND A CHAIR. JERRY PLEADS FOR HIS RELEASE.

JERRY
I've had this condition since I was eleven! I've been in and out of hospitals my whole life. I have no control over it. Doctors have told me that when I feel it, the best thing to do is just release it. Otherwise, I could die.

SECURITY GUARD
Well you're still not allowed.

JERRY
Do you hear what I'm saying to you?! I'm telling you that if I don't go, I could die. Die. is it worth dying for?

SECURITY GUARD
That's up to you.
JERRY
So you don't care if I die.

SECURITY GUARD
What I care about is the sanitary condition of the parking facility.

JERRY
It was life and death.

SECURITY GUARD
Uh huh.

JERRY
Oh I'm lying. Why would I do it unless I was in mortal danger? I know it's against the law.

SECURITY GUARD
I don't know.

JERRY
Because I could get uromysitisis poisoning and die. That's why!...Do you think I enjoy living like this?...The shame, the humiliation...

(MORE)
JERRY (CONT'D)

You know I have been issued a public urination pass by the city because of my condition. Unfortunately my little brother ran out of the house with it this morning. Him and his friends are probably peeing all over the place.

You want to call the department of social services? Oh, it's saturday. They're closed today. My luck.

SECURITY GUARD

You can tell the police all about it.

CUT TO:
ACT TWO

SCENE D

INT. PARKING GARAGE -

GEORGE, KRAMER, AND ELAINE.

KRAMER

(CALLING OUT)

Jerry!

ELAINE

Jerry!

GEORGE

Unbelievable, I'm never gonna get out of here. The guy goes to pee, he never comes back. It's like a science fiction story.

ELAINE

Maybe he went to one of the other levels. I'll go look for him.

GEORGE

Oh now you're gonna go?

ELAINE

I'll be back in five minutes.
GEORGE

If you go now, I know what's gonna happen. We'll find the car, Jerry will show up, and then we'll never find you.

ELAINE

No, no, I'll be back.

SHE LEAVES.

GEORGE

Oh what's the difference? We'll all be dead eventually.

KRAMER

Does that bother you?

GEORGE

Yeah, it bothers me. Doesn't it bother you?

KRAMER

Not at all.

GEORGE

See now that bothers me even more than dying bothers me, cause it's people

(MORE)
GEORGE (CONT'D)

like you who live to be a hundred and twenty because you're not bothered by it. How could it not bother you?

KRAMER

I once saw this thing on T.V. with people who are terminally ill. and they all believed the secret of life is just to live every moment.

GEORGE

Yeah, yeah. I've heard that. Meanwhile I'm here with you in a parking garage, what am I supposed to do?

CUT TO:
INT. SECURITY OFFICE -

JERRY AND THE SECURITY GUARD.

JERRY

First of all you don't even know technically that I went. That's for starters. I mean I could've been pouring a bottle of water out there. You don't know.

SECURITY GUARD

I know what you did.

JERRY

Oh really, do you? Well it just so happens that I did pour water out. I had a bottle of very tepid water and I poured it out. And I could see how you made a mistake, because pouring water out sounds very much like a person urinating. And you know when you think about it it's really quite an amusing case of mistaken identity.

(MORE)
JERRY (CONT'D)

That's all it is.

SECURITY GUARD

Yeah I'm sure.

JERRY

You know this is not the first time this has happened to me. I always carry water because of my condition. It dehydrates me. It's a vicious cycle.

CUT TO:
INT. PARKING GARAGE -

ELAINE, LOOKING FOR JERRY. SHE'S TALKING TO AN OLDER BLACK MAN ABOUT TO GET IN HIS CAR.

ELAINE

And now he's gone. I'm sure he's looking for the car. Five minutes, that's all. I just want to find him.

MAN #1

I can't do it.

ELAINE

But why? Why can't you do it?

MAN #1

I can't.

ELAINE

No, see that's not a reason you can't. You just don't want to.

MAN #1

That's right.
ELAINE

But why? Why don't you want to?

MAN #1

I don't know.

ELAINE

But wouldn't you get any satisfaction out of helping someone out?

MAN #1

No, I wouldn't.

CUT TO:
ACT TWO

SCENE G

INT. SECURITY SHACK -

JERRY

(A NEW TACK)

Alright, alright. I want to apologize. I was frightened, I said crazy things. I obviously offended you. I insulted your intelligence. The uromysitis, the water bottle...I made it all up, and now...I'm going to tell you the truth. Today my father and mother are celebrating their fiftieth, well I'm jumping ahead here, their forty-seventh wedding anniversary. We made arrangements to spend the evening together. They are supposed to be in front of my building at six-fifteen. What I haven't told you, or anyone else for that matter, is that my father's been in a Red Chinese prison for the past fourteen years.

CUT TO:
INT. PARKING GARAGE -

GEORGE AND KRAMER, STILL LOOKING FOR THE CAR.

KRAMER

The guy's got a fat fetish. Spector
never dates a woman under two hundred-
fifty pounds.

GEORGE

(NOT INTERESTED)

Really.

KRAMER

What does he do with all that fat?
Does he just jump up and down on it?
Does he gouge it like Killer Kowalski?

GEORGE

Who's Killer Kowalski?

KRAMER

He was a wrestler. He would grab hold
of someone's stomach and just squeeze
it until they gave.
GEORGE

I've gotta go to the bathroom.

KRAMER

So go.

GEORGE

Here?

KRAMER

(SHAKING HIS HEAD)

You and Jerry.

GEORGE WALKS OUT OF THE FRAME AS KRAMER CONTINUES TO SCAN THE GARAGE. CUT TO GEORGE FINISHING UP. HE ZIPS UP, THEN TURNS, STARTLED. CUT TO THE SAME SECURITY GUARD, ARMS FOLDED, STARING AT HIM.

CUT TO:
INT. SECURITY OFFICE –

GEORGE BEING LED IN BY THE SECURITY GUARD.

GEORGE

Don't you believe me? It's their fiftieth anniversary. You know this is gonna kill him. You're aware of that. Kill him. On the biggest night of his life...

SECURITY GUARD

Oh your folks have an anniversary today too?

NOW GEORGE SPOTS JERRY.

SECURITY GUARD

(TO GEORGE)

Was he also in a Red Chinese prison?

GEORGE

(TO JERRY, SOMewhat IMPRESSED)

A Red Chinese prison?

CUT TO:
ACT TWO

SCENE K

INT. PARKING GARAGE -

KRAMER, WANDERING AIMLESSLY.

KRAMER

George! George!

CUT TO:
ACT TWO
SCENE I

INT. PARKING GARAGE -

ELAINE

Jerry!

THEN SHE CHECKS HER FISH...

DISSOLVE TO:
INT. PARKING GARAGE –

JERRY AND GEORGE ARE BACK IN THE GARAGE EACH HOLDING THEIR SUMMONS.

JERRY

Well what happened was my father was staying in the home of one of Red China's great military leaders, General Chang, who by the way came up with the recipe for General Chang's chicken. You know, the one with the red peppers and orange peel at szechuan gardens?

GEORGE

Sure, I have it all the time. Very spicy.

JERRY

Well General Chang was a very flamboyant man. A complete failure as a general, but a helluva cook.
ELAINE (O.C.)

Jerry!

JERRY

Elaine?!

ELAINE (O.C.)

Jerry! over here...

NOW THEY SPOT HER.

ELAINE

Where have you been?

JERRY

I was arrested for urinating.

GEORGE

(PROUDLY)

Me too.

ELAINE

You what?

JERRY

I have uromysitis. It's very serious you know.

ELAINE

Look at my fish...

JERRY EXAMINES IT...
ELAINE

Is he...

JERRY

No, but he's not looking good...

ELAINE TURNS TO TWO HUGE BODY BUILDERS IN WORKOUT WEAR...

ELAINE

(DESPERATE)

Please, we can't find our car. Please drive us around the parking lot to find our car. My fish are dying.

MAN #2

Can't do it.

ELAINE

I can see not caring what happens to us, we're human. But what about the fish? The fish?

MAN #3

Sorry.

THEY KEEP WALKING.
ELAINE
That's right, go. Go home to your
dumbells. Work on your pecs. I'm
really impressed.

THEY LOOK BACK AT HER.

ELAINE
That's right you heard me. You got a
problem with that?

GEORGE
Elaine, shut-up.

JERRY
Hey, where's Kramer?

GEORGE
I don't know.

(TO ELAINE)

Where's Kramer?

ELAINE
I thought he was with you.

GEORGE
See, I knew it. I knew this was gonna
happen...

HE LOOKS AT JERRY'S WATCH AND THROWS HIS HANDS UP.
GEORGE
Look at the time, that's it.

ELAINE
Have we looked over there? Have we checked that side?

GEORGE
We came in over there!

ELAINE
We didn't come in over there!

JERRY
Where's Kramer?

JERRY SEES THE ATTRACTIVE WOMAN THEY TALKED ABOUT EARLIER, AMY.

JERRY
Hey George, there she is again. ...

GEORGE
So what do you want me to do?

JERRY
Ask her to drive us around. There's your opening.
GEORGE

That is an opening.

GEORGE TENTATIVELY APPROACHES HER...

GEORGE

Excuse me...I really... What's happened is that my friend forgot where he parked and if you're not in a big hurry, we'd really appreciate it if...

AMY

Oh sure, I'll drive you around.

GEORGE

You will?

AMY

Sure.

GEORGE WAVES FOR JERRY AND ELAINE.

GEORGE

Thanks a lot. I'm really late. My parents are waiting in front of my building and we're stuck here.
AMY

I wouldn't want to get lost in here.
It smells like a toilet. People are such animals.

GEORGE

Yeah, right.

JERRY

Filthy pigs.

THEY ALL GET IN THE CAR.

GEORGE

It's a blue Honda...

AMY

This has happened to me too. It's very frustrating.

ELAINE

Hi, I'm Elaine.

JERRY

Jerry.

AMY

Hello.
ELAINE

It's very nice of you to do this. I've asked several people and they wouldn't even answer me.

AMY

I'm happy to do it.

(TO GEORGE)

I'm Amy.

GEORGE

Hi Amy, I'm George.

GEORGE TURNS TO THE BACK SEAT AND GIVES AND GIVE A, "HOW BOUT THIS?" LOOK.

DISSOLVE TO:
ACT TWO

SCENE N

INT. PARKING GARAGE - MINUTES LATER

LONG SHOT OF CAR - THE BRAKES SQUEAL AND THE CAR COMES TO AN ABRUPT STOP, THEN GEORGE, ELAINE, AND JERRY GET OUT.

GEORGE

(TALKING IN PASSENGER WINDOW)

I Didn't mean anything by it. I don't even know L. Ron Hubbard! I didn't know you were...

SHE PULLS OUT, LEAVING RUBBER, THEN:

GEORGE

...with that group.

ELAINE

(SHOUTING TO AMY)

What about my fish?

JERRY

Boy, those Scientologists. They can be pretty sensitive.

ELAINE

I'll say.

THEY TURN TO GEORGE, WHO'S GAPING AT SOMETHING.
ELAINE

What is it?

THEY DISCOVER WHAT HE'S STARING AT:

ELAINE

The car!

JERRY

The car!

GEORGE

The car!

ELAINE

We found it. I can't believe it!

THEY WALK TO IT...SUDDENLY GEORGE STOPS.

GEORGE

Kramer, Kramer's not here...I knew it.

I knew it! I knew this would happen.

(SCREAMING)

Kramer! Kramer!

JERRY

Kramer!

THEY ALL SLUMP AGAINST THE CAR. ELAINE HOLDS UP HER FISH...

DISSOLVE TO:
ACT TWO

SCENE P

INT. PARKING GARAGE - ONE HOUR LATER

SAME SHOT - BUT NO FISH. IN THE DISTANCE WE CAN MAKE OUT KRAMER STRUGGLING WITH THE AIR-CONDITIONER. JERRY TAPS ELAINE WITH HIS ELBOW. ELAINE TAPS GEORGE. WE STAY ON KRAMER AS HE GETS CLOSER.

JERRY

Kramer.

KRAMER

Jerry?

JERRY

Yeah, over here.

AS KRAMER APPROACHES:

KRAMER

Boy I had a helluva time finding that air-conditioner. I looked everywhere. I completely forgot where I hid it. You know where it was?

GEORGE

Pink eleven.
KRAMER
Right! Pink eleven. I could've used you.

GEORGE
Sometimes it's good to have a pencil to write these things down.

THEY GET IN THE CAR.

KRAMER
What time is it?

GEORGE
Seven forty-five.

KRAMER
Well at least there's no traffic.

GEORGE
Right.

KRAMER
What time does that play start?

GEORGE
Eight o'clock.
KRAMER

That might be a problem.

(To Elaine)

Where's your little bag of...

Jerry indicates he shouldn't pursue that.

KRAMER

Oh..

(Takes out parking stub)

Boy this garage is going to cost a fortune. You know how long we were here?

Silence. He starts up the car and as they head out...

Fade out.

End of act two

End of episode