

# FATHER AND SON

(a scene for 2 actors)

by

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EXT. PORCH - DAY

Son sits relaxed, chatting on his phone

SON

Sure. Yeah, that sounds good.  
I'll -- okay, see you Saturday.

He hangs up.

Father appears, standing behind him.

FATHER

Was that your friend? Ricky?

SON

Yeah, we're hooking up Saturday  
for this...thing.

FATHER

Is that what they call it now?  
Hooking up?

This is both disturbing and mildly humorous.

SON

No, that would be 'get with'.

FATHER

Excuse me?

Father's tone is too serious. Humor falls off the menu.  
Son turns to face him.

SON

Did you have a question for me?  
Or is that your version of 'don't  
ask don't tell?'

FATHER

My 'version' would be the King  
James. And I'd direct you to  
Leviticus.

SON

I know what it says. And I'm  
concerned that you feel the need  
to do this dance. Are you that  
afraid of my answer?

No reply

SON (CONT'D)

Alright, let's try the Socratic route. At what point does your relationship with Christ become more important than your relationship with your own son?

FATHER

At what point is my son in direct defiance of scripture?

SON

At no point. At least not in this. Do you not know me? Like, at all??

FATHER

I'd like to think I do.

SON

Then trust in that. Have faith.

FATHER

Faith is not the question.

SON

It is if you can't voice a better one. I'm not. Ricky may be. And neither fact is going to change our friendship.

FATHER

It's a slippery slope, son.

Son laughs.

SON

Okay, that's a disturbing image. Which should be reassuring to you.

Father doesn't laugh.

SON (CONT'D)

Look, you know I'm not as 'old testament' as you, but -

FATHER

Matthew's pretty clear.

Son gets to his feet.

SON

No, dad. Actually he's pretty vague. But I'll tell you where he's very clear.

He starts walking toward the porch steps.

SON (CONT'D)

When he says "judge not...". So that's the one I'm gonna run with.