

## **Title: The Boat**

### ***Intro:***

Grace is arguing about homework at school with Adam and Joan, who finds a wallet full of money. After chasing down the person who lost the wallet, a Captain the officer hands her some money to do a job, It's God and he wants her to build a boat. Joan complains about not ever being asked to save the world...

Joan: Oh, excuse me. Excuse me, captain. Hi. Uh, is that your wallet?

Captain: I was just heading in there to report it missing.

Joan: Oh, good.

Captain: Nice to find someone so honest.

Joan: Ok.

Captain: A reward is in order.

Joan: Oh. Oh, no. I support the troops.

Captain: I insist.

Joan: Oh, that's way too much.

Captain: That's exactly the right amount for what I'm about to ask you to do.

Joan: God joined the army?

God: Navy. It's thematic. I want you to build a boat.

Joan: What's with all the make-work projects? I mean, apply for a job, do better in school, play chess. All these annoying, bogus assignments instead of doing something really big, like, you know, saving the world.

God: Last time I asked someone to build a boat, it turned out to be something really big, like, you know, saving the world.

Joan: Look, I have a really hard A.P. Chem test coming up. I don't even have a boyfriend. Why couldn't you ask me to get a boyfriend? Oh. "Build a boat," he says. Ok. Um, how big? Exxon valdez? Should I plan for a lot of rain? I don't know how to build a boat! Unbelievable.

### ***Episode Guide:***

Will takes Kevin to a wheel basketball court and introduces him to a friend "Bear" who is also in a wheelchair and plays basketball. Kevin doesn't seem to interested and says goodbye to Will who leaves. Kevin sits out a round and watches a number of able bodies guys playing, daydreams about the day where he could get up and shoot basketball and decides to leave the court without playing.

Joan and Helen walk through a lumberyard looking for wood for a boat, Joan hands over some money and argues with the man who served her about the kind of wood she needs. Helen questions Joan about her reasons, and is wondering if Joan is crazy, Joan tells her she isn't.

Will and the police arrive at a murder investigation where a police officer has been shot, the police officer's partner Eddie arrives at the scene and asks to be in on the investigation, he's rather angry. Will doesn't want the inspector to jump into thinking that this was a pattern or copycat killer as another police had been killed a week ago.

Joan starts to look through the plans to build a boat.

Will interviews the dead officer's wife, she speaks about just giving her husband a good camera and Will tells her that they'll put this as a high priority. The inspector wants to put together a task force to catch a serial killer. Will announces to the whole force that he doesn't want a task force yet, that he doesn't want any assumptions to be made yet and wants them all to be looking for every single piece of evidence. Will's challenged by angry police, but stands his ground and says that unless there is proof given he won't be setting up a taskforce.

Joan's now busy sawing and cutting and making her boat, Luke's berating her as he reads the instructions telling her that she's making the wrong measurements and that it won't work. Helen arrives home without Kevin wondering where he is, and is still wondering about Joan's mental state, but still is ok with the boat building. Joan puts all the pieces to her boat together, most pieces seem to fit.

Will and Helen are talking about where Kevin was, and Kevin turns up at the door and argues with the parents and wheels off.

During post-dinner cleanup Will and Helen are wondering about Joan's sanity and are talking about work and life, how it was supposed to get better after the move. Helen says that she needs to see something good, something that says that the Girardis will be ok.

In the shed Joan and Luke are putting the boat together, with each piece Luke is surprised that they fit claiming that it should never have worked like that. Joan is excited that everything's working, she's on a roll.

Kevin is in bed and Will enters to have a conversation with him about life, Kevin says that he's sick of names like slugger, sport as they don't fit

anymore, Kevin doesn't seem interested at all and has a go at Will for how he's trying and doesn't want to be seen as he used to be.

Joan closes her bedroom door and turns on the radio to hear God's voice on the radio. Joan speaks to God about how she's found a gift today that she didn't think that she had and wonders if she can trade...

God: All righty. Our next caller is Joan from Arcadia. "hello, Joan. Uh, Joan?"

Joan: Who, me? [loads of feedback]

God: Whoa! Turn down that radio, Joan. Ha ha ha ha. Uh, thank you, Joan, and thanks for joining us on chat lines. What's your question?

Joan: You'll answer questions?

God: If I can.

Joan: Well, recently-- just today, in fact, I found out that I had this incredible talent I never knew I had before.

God: Well, go on.

Joan: Don't get me wrong. I love it. It's just... the wrong talent.

God: Uh, what would be the right talent?

Joan: Um, say... making things better between people I love.

God: What's your question?

Joan: Can I trade?

God: Sometimes one talent is all talents. Everything that rises must converge. You're doing great work, Joan. Important work! Be thankful for what you can do. Don't just trade it away. And don't let anyone talk you out of it, no matter how reasonable they sound

Joan: So... no tradesies?

God: Thanks for calling, Joan. Moving on to Corrina, who has love problems.

The next day Will walks to his car to find that it was graffittied with the words "You're Next" and calls his police force to the parking lot.

Luke comes home and tells Joan that the counselor knows that she's been skipping school and tells her that she needs to go. Meanwhile Kevin finds his old photos and scrapbook and becomes upset, burning them on the fireplace

Will has a go at all the police about the graffiti suggesting that one of the police officers had left the paint on his car and that he is not pleased. He tells them to be cops and to stop screwing around. Will is still not going to set up a task group and is challenged by the inspector about how people view his refusal to set up the task force.

The inspector comes in and tells Will that he's found someone who has information on the first killer, Will interrogates the man and finds a name and address for the person who killed the first police man, he'd heard the guy praying for forgiveness for killing the first officer.

Joan goes to Price's office and is berated by him for skipping school, Joan confesses to building a boat and Price has a go at her confidence telling her that she had no aptitude for building or design, Joan says that he's wrong and talks excitedly about her boat and tries to convince him about the importance for the boat. Price tells her that the boat may look like a boat but it will not float, because she is a student not a boat builder.

At the police station the suspected murderer is interrogated, he doesn't confess to the murder.

Helen finds the burnt scrapbook and talks with Kevin about how this will hurt his father. Kevin shares his hatred of the memories that his father has, that he isn't that person anymore and that he thinks that Will wants to live through him.

Will interrogates the suspect who then confesses to the murder of the first police officer, placing him in a cross to speed his way to the Lord, but the second one he says he didn't do because he didn't cross his legs that way. Will gets him to write the word's "You're Next" onto a piece of paper, the text doesn't match, Will then leaves the office sure that he killed the first officer and not the second.

Joan's still building the boat, but her mojo has been shot, she's frustrated and throws wood to the ground. Adam comes to visit her and she tells him that she's lost her mojo and mentions Mr Price's name. Adam tells her that she shouldn't have talked to Mr Price, that he once told Price that he could play any instrument, Price sets him in front of a piano and he really played the piano for him, and that after he finished he couldn't play a thing... Somewhere Price has a coffin full of miraculous things that young people could do before he stole it from them... Adam leaves.

Will comes home and talks to Helen about work, as he does Helen backs him up telling him that she's sure that he's right and she trusts him to do the right thing. As they talk Will has an epiphany and asks Helen what her first question would be if he died on the job, Helen's response makes him smile, he then asks another question then decides that he needs to go to the office because the officer's wife asked the wrong questions. As he leaves Helen hands him the burnt scrap book and tells him to go to the police station first, he chooses to see Kevin instead.

Will approaches Kevin about the burnt book, telling him that the book is full of pictures of his son, Kevin says that he's not what that kid was going to become, Will is at a loss. Will says that he'd like Kevin to grow up and do something, take an interest in something that they can talk about, Kevin, still upset says that they obviously won't have anything to talk about for a while. Will walks out upset.

At the book store Adam asks Joan about her boat and why it's important to her, he tells her that he understands lots of things. Joan almost shares her secret with him but is interrupted by a woman in the store who turns out to be God. God tells Joan that she shouldn't have let Price talk her out of the project, and says that the thing about fear is that it doesn't leave any space for anything else. God tells her that she can tell Adam, but that it's a burden that Joan doesn't know if Adam can carry yet, and that perhaps she might need to take on some of his burdens. Joan then decides not to share Adam the secret and sends him home.

In the station Will questions the wife of the second officer about their marriage and asks if she'd had an affair, to which she says there was. He asks for a name, and who broke the relationship off, she eventually names the police officer's partner, Eddie.

Eddie is then taken into custody by the other police in the station, Will looks on and closes the door.

Back at home Kevin goes to the shed to smoke and finds Joan's boat, he looks at the plans and laughs. Will arrives home and joins Kevin who is now taking apart the boat, he asks him what he is doing and Kevin asks what Joan was thinking. As Will looks at the plans Kevin and him start talking about the things that they'll need to do with the boat to make it work, as they do Helen and Joan look on from outside, Helen smiles and walks off, Joan says "cool" and the scene fades out.

***God Appears as:***

A Navy officer

A radio voice

An old lady in the book store