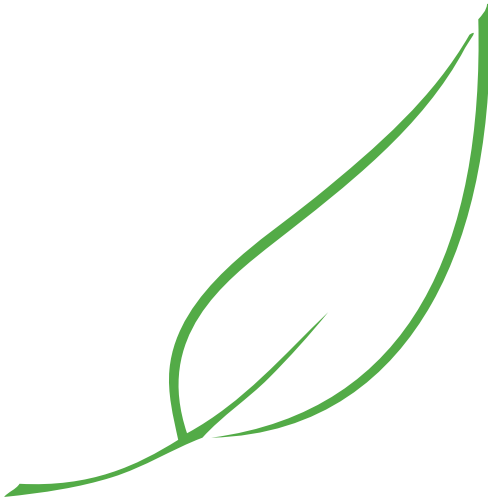


Clutch

By Michael Weems



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SYNOPSIS: The open road is a sight of beauty to a teenager like Matt. Freedom, girls, late nights, and a freshly minted driver's license. Matt's excitement fades when his anticipated Porsche is actually his father's beat up old car and the news that his new found freedom will come with responsibility.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(2 male)

TIM (m) 50's. Been around the block a few times
– nobody's fool. *(51 lines)*

MATT (m) Teens. Nervous. *(50 lines)*

SETTING: Tim's car.

PRODUCTION NOTES: The car can be implied simply by two chairs and a standalone or mimed steering wheel.

AT RISE: *TIM and MATT are in a car together. MATT is learning to drive. TIM sits back and enjoys this.*

TIM: What'd I say?

MATT: Hands at ten and two.

TIM: What else?

MATT: The clutch should be engaged gently, not kicked.

TIM: Turn signals?

MATT: They're for idiots. Dad, I've got all this. Come on.

TIM: Eyes on the road.

MATT: Drivers Education, done. Got my license. Drove myself over to Danny's house –

TIM: That was your Mom's permission, not mine. And her station wagon, which you aren't driving again. You want a car, all we've got for you is stick. It's good for you to learn anyways. They don't make Porsche's in automatic.

MATT: I'M GETTING A PORSCHE!?

TIM: Matt –

MATT: Ten and two, easy on the clutch, eyes on the road.... am I getting a Porsche?

TIM: No, I just noticed those posters on your bedroom wall. You're getting my '83 Nissan pickup truck.

MATT: The rust –

TIM: The rust builds character.

MATT: You can hear it coming from a mile away!

TIM: It'll be your 'thing'.

MATT: I don't want a thing. I want a sports car.

TIM: So do I. However, you've got a sibling coming next fall, so I've got to cut corners...again.

Beat.

MATT: Why are you revealing this to me while I'm driving a broken down pick up? Do you want me to crash?

TIM: Did I not tell you this?

MATT: NO!

TIM: Surprise! Your old man still has it in him.

MATT: Ew! Geez, shut up about that, ok?



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CLUTCH

by Michael Weems.

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