

SECOND DRAFT

INT. HOME DURING EARLY AMERICAN DAYS - NIGHT

A family (DAD, MOM, BROTHER, SISTER) sit shivering.

MOM

Who would have thought the winter
of 1627 in Jamestown would be so
cold and long!

*

SISTER

Papa, we're so hungry! We've eaten
all of the crops, and winter isn't
even half over.

*

DAD

Kids, I'm sorry to say this, but
life in the new world isn't easy.
And I'm going to have to do
something very difficult.

BROTHER

Oh no but Papa, we already lost
Spot, our dog, last year!

*

DAD

I know. I don't want to do this.
But I have to do what is necessary
to keep this family alive.

Dad takes a deep breath.

DAD

Goldy. Let's go for a walk.

Dad picks up a goldfish and a shotgun.

*

SISTER

Wait, Father, why are you taking
the goldfish out back?

*

MOTHER

Please, don't make this harder than
it has to be. Death is never easy.

BROTHER

No, we know that Father, it's just.
We have another dog? Why kill the
goldfish?

*

DAD

Do you want me to kill Buddy? Goldy
has lived a long life, and it's his
turn.

SISTER

No, of course, Papa, we don't want you to kill Buddy, we want you to have prepared better for the winter. It's just, seems kind of bizarre to kill a goldfish.

*

MOTHER

Why would that be weird? People eat fish all the time!

BROTHER

Yeah, like trout and salmon, not domestic fan tailed goldfish!

DAD

Why are you doing this son? I'm just trying to put food on the table for my family.

*

SISTER

Father, we're fully on board with that, it sucks but it needs to happen it's just, there isn't a ton of meat on the goldfish.

*

MOTHER

Stop making this so difficult! It's all we have to eat!

BROTHER

No it's not Papa, we literally have a cow out back! Why wouldn't we eat that first?

*

DAD

So you mean to say you don't want milk then?

SISTER

Yeah if it means surviving! We need food!

MOTHER

We've been feeding Goldy so much of our food, it's time for him to give back to us!

BROTHER

We give him like 3 flakes every other day! What are you talking about? The cow eats more than this family combined!

DAD

Just let me do what I need to do!

SISTER

Also - Papa are you going to shoot
the goldfish? *

MOTHER

Well he isn't going to drown it, is
he?

BROTHER

Father - it's just the bullet is
bigger than the fish. If you shoot
it, it'll explode. *

DAD

Explode into a nice big meal for my
family!

SISTER

Oh Father this is crazy! *

MOTHER

You're just acting crazy because
you're hungry!

DAD

It's time. I just need to get this
over with.

He walks out back and shoots the goldfish.

He reenters holding a shattered carcass of the goldfish.

Awkward silence.

DAD

Hey Buddy, Let's go for a walk. *

BLACKOUT