

MAMA

5:32 a.m. Time for the Watsons to get a move on!

Joey enters pushing a huge cooler large enough to hide a body.

JOEY

What's all in here, Mama. It's so heavy.

MAMA

Fried chicken and soda pop, potato salad, sandwiches...ice, enough fruit for three days. COME ON DANIEL! 5:33. I swear your father would be late for his own funeral.

JOEY

HIS FUNERAL...? IS DADDY LEAVING?

MAMA

Not today if he gets a move on it.

(Yelling upstairs)

5:34. What are you people doing up there? Daniel!

Daniel, are you and the boys ready? And don't forget your pillows.

Mama exits mumbling her checklist. Joey follows behind.

LIGHTS SHIFT UPSTAIRS TO

Byron and Kenny who look out at us through empty frames that act as mirrors.

START

KENNY

I thought you said you were going to make a break for it.

BYRON

How was I going to do that when those two people you call parents made me sleep on the floor in their room? Wonder who snitched.

KENNY

Why don't you just apologize, Byron? Then you wouldn't have to go to Alabama and stay with Grandma Sands. She must be mean 'cause Mama says she makes you tow the line.

BYRON

I'll fix 'em. I'm not saying one single word the whole trip. Show 'em how it feels to be shut out. Actually, I may not speak the entire summer, show 'em all.

KENNY

Not talk for the whole summer???

BYRON

Yeah. I'm on a silent strike. Watch. And if you say anything, I'll jack your little snitch behind up.

As Dad appears, eavesdrops,

KENNY

I won't. But Byron, aren't you scared?

BYRON

Even if I am what good would it do?

STOP

Dad enters with shavers and shaving cream

DAD

Looks like all the Watson warriors need a shave this morning.

KENNY

Shave?

Both boys excited. Byron of course tries to act like he isn't.

DAD

Ya'll done your morning shaves already?

KENNY

Yes sir.

Dad applies shaving cream to all of their faces. Kenny ecstatic. Byron takes annoyance.

DAD

You two just shave the cream, not the skin... That's what good looking young men do. Isn't that right By?