

Consequences

Introduction

Sometimes we don't find trouble, trouble finds us. This scene takes place in the family car after DAD has just bailed SON out of jail.

- 1 DAD: I don't know what to say. The only thing I can think
2 of is: Why did you do it?
3 SON: I don't know.
4 DAD: "I don't know" is not an answer, Junior! I just had to
5 bail my only son out of jail because he just participated
6 in an armed robbery! I need an answer!
7 SON: Dad, I didn't do anything. I was just in the car!
8 DAD: It makes no difference. *It makes no difference!* In the
9 eyes of the law, you're just as guilty as that thug,
10 Maleak, with the gun.
11 SON: I didn't know, Dad. I didn't know. OK? I'm sorry, I
12 goofed.
13 DAD: That's an understatement! Do you know how much
14 trouble you're in? You're sixteen-years-old and charged
15 with armed robbery! Do you know they can certify you as
16 an adult? You may go away to prison — and I'm not
17 talking juvie — I'm talking big-time, grown-up, adult
18 prison! And *I know* you don't want to go there!
19 SON: I know, Dad, I know.
20 DAD: No, you don't! *No, you don't. And your mamma?*
21 Whadya gonna tell her, huh? And your scholarship
22 chances? Poof! You can kiss them good-bye. I can just
23 about guarantee you that. And your car? Bye-bye. It cost
24 a lot of money to get a lawyer.
25 SON: *OK, Dad! I get it! I get it! OK?* How many times do I

- 1 have to say it?
2 DAD: As many times as it takes for you to explain to me
3 how you got mixed up in this!
4 SON: I don't know ... I just wanted to fit in ... I didn't know
5 nothin' like that was going to happen. Honest. We was
6 just cruising around when Deirre all of a sudden pulled
7 into this parking lot and Maleak jumped out! And before
8 I knew it, he was back in the car and everybody was
9 screaming and hollering and we were speeding away,
10 and then the next thing I knew, there was cop cars and
11 sirens and they had guns pointed at us. *(Begins to cry.)*
12 And it was scary, Dad, so scary. I thought I was gonna
13 die! *(SON sobs. After a moment, DAD reaches over and*
14 *squeezes SON on the shoulder.)*
15 DAD: OK. We're going to get through this, OK? Whatever it
16 takes. We'll get through it.