New Cheese Script

written by

Edwin Ryan

FADE IN:

INT. TV ROOM - DAY

The room is dark as night. The walls are pitch black and there are no lights.

The camera is focused on a kid in the middle of the frame. He is wearing a gray sweatshirt who we can only see from the shoulders up. He looks embarrassed, ashamed, and nervous. He speaks with a voice that occasionally breaks because of his nerves and he sounds unsure of himself. This is BART. Bart talks at the camera as he speaks.

BART

So-uh... I've been clean for 3 months now.

Bart tries to force a smile and optimism, but continues to sound unsure of himself. His confidence is unconvincing.

BART (CONT'D)

It feels good, you know? I just got out of rehab, actually. It's refreshing to not feel anxious all the time. It doesn't own me anymore.

The camera cuts to the same shot set up again.

BART (CONT'D)

My name is Bart and-uh... I'm addicted to cheese.

The camera cuts to the same shot set up again.

BART (CONT'D)

It all started as most things do, on a family trip to Wisconsin. We went to some cheese factory and there were these cheese farmers or something there handing out samples. So I did the polite thing and ate it. I felt this release that I never felt before. It was Wisconsin cheddar, a fine piece of cheese, you know. Then it just took off uncontrollably from there. When we got home, all I could think about was when I would get cheese next. I would go around the lunch room and steal the cheese off of people's burgers and pizza. One day it got out hand and I ended up beating up a few people for their cheese, so I got put in rehab. But now I'm out and doing well.

INT. BART'S HOUSE - DAY

Bart is sitting in a chair reading a book and wearing the same outfit as before. The doorbell RINGS and Bart looks confused, but gets up to answer it anyway.

Bart opens the door and we see a kid smiling and leaning against the door frame like he owns the place. He is wearing a bright Hawaiian shirt that obviously contrast with Bart's dull attire. This is MAX.

MAX

Barty!

Max hugs Bart.

MAX (CONT'D)

Glad your back buddy!

Max begins to walk in the house even though he wasn't invited in. Bart is still at the door with a confused look, but closes it and goes over to sit with Max. Bart ignores Max's enthusiasm.

BART

How'd you know I'm out? I haven't told anyone.

MAX

Denise texted me.

BART

You mean my mom?

MAX

Yeah, Denise.

There's an awkward silence. Max shakes off the silence.

MAX (CONT'D)

Barty, I've got something to cheer you up. You're gonna love this. I'm going to Mouse's house later for the Super Bowl. I think you should come, it'd be good for you. Nice and safe.

BART

But, what about my whole... situation?

MAX

That's the beauty of it, there'll be no cheese because Mouse's sister is lactose intolerant. Like I said, nice and safe.

Bart begins to become more comfortable with the idea.

BART

Yeah, OK. I guess I could give it a try.

EXT. MOUSE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Bart and Max are standing outside of Mouses's house. Max has a feeling of excitement and energy. Bart looks glum and hesitant, as he is still not entirely sure he has made the right decision.

BART

I don't know about this, Max, I don't think I'm ready.

MAX

Of course you are! Look, you're a tough guy and besides there won't be any cheese. I'll be with you the whole time.

Max knocks on the door. The door opens and there is a boy with a cheesehead on his head and wearing Green Bay Packers gear. He is towering over the other two boys, but looks like he might not know the difference between Georgia the country and Georgia the state. His face immediately transforms into a smile once he sees who they are. This is MOUSE.

MOUSE

No way! He's back from rehab!

Bart is frozen, staring directly at the cheesehead. Max realizes what Bart is thinking.

MAX

Dude, you couldn't have gone without the cheesehead?

MOUSE

Why?

Max motions to Bart.

MOUSE (CONT'D)

Ohhhh. Yeah sorry, man I completely forgot. I can take it-Max's confidence echoes in Bart's head.

MAX (V.O.)

"You're a tough guy...I'll be with you the whole time...Barty, you're gonna love this...Nice and safe...No cheese."

Bart musters up the strength and lifts his shoulders.

BART

No, it's fine. I'm OK. Now, let's have some fun!

INT. MOUSE'S HOUSE

The boys are watching the game together. They are wearing Green Bay Packers gear and sitting on a couch together facing the TV.

MONTAGE: BART WATCHING THE GAME

--Bart jumps up and down with everyone when there's a touchdown.

--Bart's on the edge of his seat and there's a bad play and he and everyone else react and then he smiles.

--Bart and Max make eye contact and Max smiles at him and Bart smiles back.

END MONTAGE

We see the boys sitting on the couch in the same position as before.

MAX

Alright, halftime! Who's hungry?

MOUSE

You know my answer.

BART

I'm starved, I haven't eaten since this morning cuz of my meds.

MAX

Mouse, what have you got?

MOUSE

Mom bought chicken tendies!

MAX

Alright, I'll make them I don't know if I trust Mouse with an appliance bigger than an abacus.

MOUSE

Ooo, who's kissing who?

Max ignores Mouse's comment and leaves the room.

MOUSE (CONT'D)

Do I get a kiss? Who's getting kissed? I'm confused.

INT. MOUSE'S KITCHEN

Max is humming to himself as he opens the freezer and takes out the chicken. He takes out the bag and the camera zooms in on the packaging. It says "Cheesey Chicken Tenders." Max doesn't notice and continues to ignorantly put the chicken in the oven.

INT. MOUSE'S LIVING ROOM

Bart is trying to explain what an abacus is to Mouse.

BART

No it's like a calculator.

MOUSE

Why would I kiss a calculator? You know I'm dating Jenny, wouldn't that make her mad?

Bart laughs.

INT. MOUSE'S KITCHEN

Max continues to hum as he puts the chicken package away in the freezer. He then puts the chicken in the oven and walks out of the kitchen.

EXT. MOUSE'S HOUSE

We see the outside of the house to show the passage of time.

INT. MOUSE'S LIVING ROOM

Mouse and Bart are sitting on the couch watching the game. Max comes into the room holding the chicken.

MAX

Who's ready to eat?

Max sets the plate of chicken down on the table. Mouse and Bart both reach for some. Mouse aggressively shoves Bart out of the way to grab one. Bart gives Mouse a look and grabs one after him.

MOUSE

Oh sweet this is the cheesey kind! We never get these because my sister's lactose and toler-

Max realizes what's going on and immediately jumps up. Bart is ignorant to what is going on and is about to take his first fateful bite of chicken.

MAX

(yelling)

BART! NOOO!

Bart takes a bite of the chicken and immediately tastes the cheese. He looks as if he's under hypnosis and oblivious to the world around him as he continues to chew his first bite of cheese in 3 months.

We now begin to see the room through Bart's eyes. Everything begins to turn yellow and into cheese. He has just entered into a cheese euphoria. Slow music plays in the background as Bart looks around his cheese paradise in silent wonder.

One piece of cheese catches his eye and he slowly moves toward it. It is at eye-level with him and he grabs it with both of his hands and moves in to kiss it. As Bart continues to move in to kiss the cheese, we hear a faint yelling in the background. Bart kisses the cheese and the yelling becomes more clear.

MAX (CONT'D)

(yelling)

BART! What are you doing?!

Bart snaps out of his trance and we see that he didn't actually kiss the cheese. He realizes he kissed Mouse.

MOUSE

(blushing)

Well there's my kiss.

Bart stands like stone as he in shock.

INT. TV ROOM - DAY

We see the same dark room that we saw when we first met Bart. He looks as if he has lost all confidence in himself and is wearing the same dark clothing he wore at the beginning.

BART

(to the camera)

My name is Bart, and uh-I've been clean for a day now. It all started when...

FADE OUT.