

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In the scene titled INTERVENTION, some of the language is lifted from the website for Passages Malibu Alcohol/Drug Rehab, [www.passagesmalibu.com](http://www.passagesmalibu.com).

## SYNOPSIS

The O'Mallery's have gathered in their local park to share some barbecue and straight talk with their sister Barbara, whose spiral of drugs and recklessness has forced her siblings to stage an open-air intervention. But the event becomes raucous and unpredictable as familial stereotypes collide with hard realities, and racial politics slam up against the stories we tell—and maybe even believe—about who we were and who we've become.

**JAMES T**

## ACT ONE

### ZIPPITY BOOM.

*JAMES T, a 40/50ish [REDACTED] Man, stands speaking on a Cellphone.*

**START**

**JAMES T:**

This is the thing that I don't seem to understand. **WHY?** On god's green earth. Do we still give a damn? No... No... No... No- Because its not about that. You wanna make it about that. But it ain't gonna be about that as long as I'm here. **And I'm here.** Now you gat me out here this morning at the ass crack of dawn to secure this place so I'm **here...** And we know she's a fool. We know that she gonna get up in here and act the plum fool... Of course she gonna be liquored up. Liquored up. Cracked up. Something Up'd. She will be Up'd on something. You know that. I know that. And that's the problem. **Why do we give a damn anymore?...** This is not about Mama. Mama didn't give a damn when she was livin' and now that she's dead everybody wanna bring her back up out

the grave to say what the hell she would do if she was here. She ain't here. She Dead. And she didn't give a damn about Barbara's bullshit so don't try and make it out like she would give a damn now. She Dead. Let the heifa stay dead... Taking it easy? What? Who the hell are **you** talking about? I'm talking about **Barbara**. Zippity Boom. Our sister. Remember her? She don't know from no gatdamn "taking it easy". She gat two modes. **Zippity. Boom.** Ain't shit in between. Ain't no zippity do dah. When she taste liquor. She go **Zippity. Boom!** Period. I know it. You know it. And any fool who knows anything about Barbara knows it. See ya'll wanna sit back today and act like we a normal gatdamn family. We ain't no normal gatdamn family and we ain't never been no normal gatdamn family but all of a sudden ya'll read a book or see a tv show and ya'll wanna **gather** up and act like we a normal gatdamn family. Zippity Boom is gonna walk up in here and act out her head- Barbara don't give a damn about us all being here. Why should she give a damn about that? And how you gonna keep liquor away from Barbara?- **She wake up High!!!** Zippity Boom will roll up in here and it will be a **Wrap**. We might as well draw three gatdamn circles pitch a tent and hand out tickets because when ZIPPITY BOOM rolls up into this heah park its gonna be the Greatest Show on the muthafuckin Earth.

*He looks off.*

**END**

**JAMES T:**

Is that you riding up?

*He waves.*

Yeah... this me waving.

*He clicks his Phone off. Goes to a Cooler and takes out a Beer and Drinks.*

*Soon. LILLIE ANNE comes on stage. She is 50/60 and White.*

**LILLIE ANNE:**

Hey there.

*JAMES T says nothing. He just stares at her and continues drinking his beer.*

**LILLIE ANNE:**

What?... Do these shorts make me look fat?

**JAMES T:**

Naw, yo' fat makes you look fat.

**LILLIE ANNE:**

Shut up James T and come help me-

**JAMES T:**

Don't shut up James T and come help me **nuthin**. Lillie Anne, I been tellin you for the last month that I didn't want to be here today so I'm not planning to help do **nuthin**.

**LILLIE ANNE:**

You are here and I need your help may get up and help me bring some of this stuff up here so we can start decoratin-

**JAMES T:**

Decoratin'?