

# Role of Shelby

10 pgs

~~CODY~~

~~IT CLUCK.~~

~~TIM SMILES WELWLY. TIM ENTERS. CODY RUNS TO HIM.~~

START  
SCI  
→

TIM

Hey, how's my boy?

TIM GRABS CODY AND MAKES A FART SOUND ON CODY'S CHEEK WHICH MAKES BOTH HIM AND CODY LAUGH.

TIM (CONT'D)

Wonder how old he'll be before he gets tired of that?

SHELBY

How old are you? (SMILES; KISSES TIM)

How was your day?

TIM

You ready for this? I met with the president of Penn Institute.

SHELBY

Waddell Perry?? How did that happen?

TIM

Actually, he wanted to meet me. He wants a football team.

SHELBY

(SCOFFS) At Penn Institute??

TIM

And he wants me to be the head coach.

SHELBY

Of Penn Institute?! Oh my god, Tim?!

That's a fabulous school!

1/10

TIM

I know.

SHELBY

(A BIG KISS) Oh, I'm so proud of you! You've always wanted to coach at the next level. And it would be your own program. We always thought when you moved up we'd have to move away. But we love our house. I love my job. It sounds kind of perfect!

TIM

(SMILES) And they'd like me to ask Dad to be my head assistant.

SHELBY

(DEAD) Hayden would be living here?

TIM

Well, not here. Well, here at first I guess, 'til he got his own place. But yeah. He'd be around. All the time.

SHELBY

It would be like Christmas *every day*. Him always trying to control everything. Always trying to make Cody into the little boy he thinks he should be. (THEN) But it's a great opportunity, isn't it?

TIM ACKNOWLEDGES IT IS.

2/10

SHELBY (CONT'D)

So put that stuff aside. How would you feel about him working for you?

TIM

How would he feel about it? There's no question he could help me. And I think coming here could be good for him, you know? With Mom gone now

SHELBY

(SYMPATHIZING) Yeah

TIM

But I'd want this to be my program and if he was here I don't know if it ever could be.

SHELBY

That would be my program, wouldn't it?

TIM

~~That would be my program, wouldn't it?~~ I'd have to lay down ground rules. Make it clear if he came it'd be to help, not to take over.

SHELBY

And not to help with Cody.

TIM

Right.

SHELBY

You think you could do that?

3/10

TIM

Make it clear? To most people.

SHE GIVES HIM AN EMPATHETIC LOOK.

SHELBY

Well, we always say children are happier with parameters. Maybe your father's the same. He can be child-like. (OFF TIM'S WAN SMILE) Whatever you decide should be what you want and not what anybody else wants.

TIM

(NODS) I think I'd like to have him here. ~~not just for his help. I feel I'm ready for this and if I'm right, I'd like him to see it.~~ (SHE

UNDERSTANDS) I'm going to call him.

SHE GIVES HIM AN AFFECTIONATE PAT; TURNS TO CODY AS TIM AUTO DIALS HAYDEN.

SHELBY

What do you say we take a bath?

TIM

Before I call? (REALIZING) Oh.

SHELBY THROWS HIM A LOOK AS SHE LEADS CODY TO THE STAIRS.

CUT TO:

4/10

~~SHELBY~~

~~for me.~~

TIM SMILES; HEADS TO THE FRONT DOOR. THERE'S A KNOCK BEFORE HE CAN GET THERE. HE OPENS IT TO REVEAL HAYDEN, SMILING AND CLEAN SHAVEN, HAIR CUT, HIS SUITCASES AND A DUFFEL IN HAND.

**START  
SC II** →

HAYDEN

Surprise!

TIM

Dad?!

SHELBY

(FROM THE KITCHEN) Hayden??

TIM

You said you'd be here for dinner.

HAYDEN

I will be!

HAYDEN LAUGHS; HUGS TIM AS SHELBY COMES IN.

SHELBY

Why am I surprised?

HAYDEN

(AN AWKWARD HUG) Hey, Shel.

SHELBY

-- by. You drove straight through, didn't you?

HAYDEN

~~No, I stopped in South Road.~~

~~Actually, they stopped me.~~

~~(MORE)~~

Cont...

5/10

~~HAYDEN (CONT'D)~~

~~But when they saw who I was they tore  
up my ticket and insisted on buying me  
a piece of pie and a cup of coffee!~~

~~HAYDEN LAUGHS.~~ CODY COMES RUNNING IN.



HAYDEN (CONT'D)

Hey, there's my Cody man!

HAYDEN GRABS HIM AND MAKES A FART SOUND ON HIS CHEEK WHICH  
MAKES BOTH HE AND CODY LAUGH.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

He never gets tired of that.

SHELBY

Well, he is a Fox.

TIM GIVES HER A LOOK. HAYDEN LETS GO AND CODY RUNS BACK TO  
THE KITCHEN.

~~HAYDEN~~

~~But she's a little better every time  
I see it.~~

SHELBY

Thanks.



Cont...

~~HAYDEN  
Of course, maybe it looks better this  
time 'cause I know I'm not leaving!  
(LAUGHS) I'm kidding.  
NOW TIM AND SHELBY CAN LAUGH. TIM AND HAYDEN'S LAUGHS ARE  
ODDLY SIMILAR.  
TIM  
I was on my way to the office. You  
want to come with me or get some rest?~~

6/10

~~HAYDEN~~~~No, Tim. Let's go.~~

CODY RUNS BACK IN WITH LITTLE SCAMP AND SHOWS IT TO HAYDEN,  
WHO FORCES A SMILE. TIM'S DREADING THIS.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

→ Hey, what's that? Is that a doll?

TIM

Yeah, Little Scamp Michael. He's  
popular with little boys. Let's go.

HAYDEN

Well, wait, I brought him something  
that's popular with little boys, too.

HE REACHES IN HIS DUFFEL AND PULLS OUT A SOFT RED RUBBER  
SOCCER-SIZE BALL. SHELBY AND TIM EXCHANGE LOOKS.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

Oh c'mon, it's not like I brought him  
candy or a pistol.

TIM

I know. You brought him a ball, which  
you always bring him even though you  
know he's not interested.

HAYDEN

You weren't interested at first either  
but look at you now. Don't you think  
we ought to keep checking?

TIM

You promised you wouldn't start.

7/10

HAYDEN

I'm not, but how can a boy his age  
still not be interested in balls?

SHELBY

(INCREDULOUS) He's three, Hayden!

HAYDEN

I had a ball in my crib! And a bat!

SHELBY

That was good parenting.

HAYDEN

I don't think it hurt me any.

TIM

We are not going to push him, Dad.

HAYDEN

If we don't push him a little he may  
grow up with no balls at all!

TIM

(WITH A LOOK TO SHELBY) As much as  
you want Cody interested in the stuff  
you think he should be interested in,  
you need to realize he may never be  
interested in that stuff.

HAYDEN

~~Don't say that!~~ Are you telling me he  
was interested in Little Tramp?

SHELBY

Scamp.

8/10



HAYDEN

Scamp, Tramp, I don't care what you call him. ~~Are you telling me you took Cody to a toy store, showed him all the squirt guns and the shotguns and the balls and bows and arrows and I picked out a little boy toy??~~

SHELBY

(STIFFENING) Actually, my mother gave him that. And he loves it. (THEN) But you know what? Kids change fast. Maybe he'll love the ball now. Give it to him and see. That's reasonable.

HAYDEN

That's all I'm trying to be. ~~Maybe he's just not into all the fun things he can do with a ball. If he's still not interested I'll drop it~~

TIM GESTURES FOR HAYDEN TO GO AHEAD.

~~HAYDEN (CONT'D)~~

~~Cody, this is for you. Just like Christmas, huh? (OFF TIM AND SHELBY'S LOOKS) Watch this.~~

HAYDEN BOUNCES THE BALL. NO REACTION FROM CODY.

~~HAYDEN (CONT'D)~~

Watch this.

HAYDEN TOSSES IT IN THE AIR. NOTHING. LAUGHS NERVOUSLY.

9/10

~~HAYDEN (CONT'D)~~

~~HE~~  
HE ROLLS THE BALL TO CODY. IT BOUNCES OFF HIM. HAYDEN'S  
DEFLATED. BUT THEN CODY PICKS IT UP.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

 (EXCITED) Hey, look! He's taking it!

CODY SETS IT BACK DOWN AND SITS ON IT.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

I think you should have him tested.

SHELBY

(PLEASED) Hayden, admit it! You know  
nothing about child development.

HAYDEN

Then how did Tim turn out so great?  
You think that was an accident?

SHELBY

No, I think that was Christine. (OFF  
HAYDEN) ~~Boys and girls are basically  
still babies at three. Cody won't  
really start to develop for another  
year.~~

~~HAYDEN~~

~~Yeah, well, if that's true then I got  
here just in time.~~

**END**

FADE OUT:

~~END OF ACT ONE~~

10/10