

Title: NEW YORKLAHOMA

Credit: Created by Tiger Taylor

Format: Half-Hour Single-Cam Comedy

INT./EXT. SEQUOYAH ELEMENTARY - MORNING (1994)

Pickup trucks idle in line. Dust hangs in the air.

A SILVER LINCOLN TOWN CAR glides in — quiet, immaculate.

ADULT TIGER (V.O.)

When my dad moved us from New York to Oklahoma, he brought very little with him.

Just his pride... and a strong opinion about cars.

Papa steps out. Jacket sharp. Shoes polished.

Parents stare.

PAPA

What is this, a tractor parade?

MAIN TITLE: NEW YORKLAHOMA

INT. RENTAL HOUSE - DAY

Boxes everywhere.

Papa stands in the middle of the room.

PAPA

It's nice.

Beat.

PAPA

Like a man who wears jeans to a funeral.

TIGER (12)

That's not a thing.

PAPA

It's Oklahoma. Anything's a thing.

TIGER

What if kids make fun of how I talk?

Papa kneels.

PAPA

Then they're wrong.

A KNOCK.

NEIGHBOR

Just wanted to welcome y'all.

PAPA

Why?

NEIGHBOR

Because you moved in?

PAPA

Bold.

NEIGHBOR

If you need anything, we're right over there.

PAPA

In New York, that's surveillance.

NEIGHBOR

Well... welcome.

TIGER

See? Nice.

PAPA

Too nice.

I'll allow it.

INT. MORGAN'S BAKERY - DAY

Papa studies the display.

PAPA

What's this?

CLERK

Our cookie.

PAPA

That's not a cookie.

CLERK

Chocolate on one side, vanilla on the other.

PAPA

That's a halfmoon cookie.

CLERK

We just call it a cookie.

PAPA

Nothing's a halfmoon unless it comes from New York.

That's balance. That's discipline.

EXT. BAKERY - CONTINUOUS

Papa bites the cookie.

PAPA

I'll eat it.

I just want it documented this isn't right.

ADULT TIGER (V.O.)

My dad never complained loudly.

He just made sure history remembered he was disappointed.

INT. TULSA DINER - MORNING

WAITRESS

What can I get you?

PAPA

Coffee. Black.

And a pop.

WAITRESS

A what?

PAPA

A pop.

WAITRESS

We have Coke.

PAPA

That's a brand.

TIGER

Soda.

PAPA

Don't translate me.

WAITRESS sets down a drink.

PAPA

This is orange.

WAITRESS

Fanta.

PAPA

I wanted brown confidence.

WAITRESS

I can switch—

PAPA

No.

I'll drink it unhappy.

EXT. MIDDLE SCHOOL - DAY

Papa straightens Tiger's collar.

PAPA

Stand up straight.

Look people in the eye.

Don't apologize unless you hit someone with your car.

TIGER

I'm twelve.

PAPA

Even better. No excuses.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - EVENING

Papa wipes the Lincoln.

TIGER

Everyone's dads have trucks.

PAPA

And?

TIGER

They say trucks are manly.

PAPA

This car doesn't shout.

It shows up.

That's class.

TIGER

I think I like it here.

PAPA

Good.

I'm still not saying "y'all."

EXT. DRIVEWAY - NIGHT

A NEIGHBOR pulls up in a massive pickup.

NEIGHBOR

Wanna take her for a spin?

Papa climbs in, struggling.

PAPA

This is not a vehicle.

This is a leadership test.

The engine ROARS.

PAPA

...it's loud.

TIGER

You love it.

PAPA

I respect it.

From a distance.

FADE OUT.