

# EPISODE TWO

## A Promise Made

### MICHAEL STEWART

### JAMES' FATHER

Michael's character appears in 9 of the 10 episodes. His relationship with James is rocky, primarily because Michael is a self-employed record/concert producer who is working 24/7 and has little time for James. This scene displays their conflict which is resolved later in a later episode.

### Scene E2-6 "Goodnight Dad"

**MICHAEL**

I thought we could talk.

**JAMES**

About what?

**MICHAEL**

About your life?

**JAMES**

My life is fine.

**MICHAEL**

With your mother gone off on her foreign ministry work, I'm the only parent you've got around here. I need to know what you are up to.

**JAMES**

I'm going to school and then I'm going to college. What else is there to know?

**MICHAEL**

If your mother calls me, I've got to tell her more than that.

**JAMES**

If she really cared she would still be here.

**MICHAEL**

You know that's not true.

**JAMES**

It's true! What am I to her?

**MICHAEL**

You are her son, and she loves you.

**JAMES**

Yeah, well she has a funny way of showing it.

**MICHAEL**

We both love you. I know I'm not the greatest father.

**JAMES**

Why? Because you are never around and once a year you ask about my life? Yeah, I guess that would qualify you as a lousy dad.

**MICHAEL**

Look, I've got to work all the time. I don't have any choice. We are almost broke. I don't get paid for organizing concert tours until the concert begins and the money starts coming in. This is a rough life. I know I'm always on edge. Being a record producer does that to you. It doesn't mean I don't love you.

**JAMES**

(Pauses as he considers what his dad just said)

Yeah, well that's o.k. I guess.

(He turns to go back upstairs.)

**MICHAEL**

I love you.

**JAMES**

Yeah, well right. Try saying it when you are sober.

**MICHAEL**

(Under his breath)

Damn it!