

Grandma Dearest
by
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COLD OPEN

FADE IN:

INT./EXT. KITCHEN/BACKYARD - DAY

CAMPBELL (13, WITTY, SMART, AND SOCIALLY CONSCIOUS, BUT NOT IMMUNE TO SELF DOUBT AND TEEN ANGST) WALKS DOWN THE KITCHEN STAIRS. SHE SLOWS WHEN SHE SEES HER MOM, SARAH (40, CARRIES THE WEIGHT OF PROTECTING HER FAMILY), AND HER DAD, TREVOR, (40S, BLUE COLLAR, EVEN-TEMPERED) ARE AT THE TABLE, TRYING TO CALM CAMPBELL'S YOUNGER BROTHER, JACOB (9, SENSITIVE, ANXIETY-RIDDEN). JACOB STARES AT HIS BOWL OF CEREAL, UPSET.

JACOB

There are pesticides in this cereal.

You gave me poison cereal.

SARAH

I'm so sorry, sweetie. I didn't know.

TREVOR

It was one article on the Internet.

Jacob, you've been eating this for years, and you're fine. And look--

TREVOR TAKES THE CEREAL BOX AND READS OVER THE INGREDIENTS.

TREVOR (CONT'D)

Maltodextrin, tripotassium phosphate --

I mean, there's all kinds of stuff in here we don't know what it does.

JACOB

Ohmygod ohmygod ohmygod.

SARAH

Want me to drive you to the hospital?

TREVOR

The hospital?

SARAH

Yeah, we can sit in the parking lot
and wait it out for a couple hours, so
if anything bad happens we can get
help right away.

CAMPBELL CAN'T HELP BUT LAUGH A LITTLE AT HER MOM'S IDEA.

TREVOR

(RE: LAUGH) Yeah, I'm kinda with that.

CAMPBELL

No, Mom, it's a good idea. I mean, the
cornerstone of any doctor/patient
relationship is trust, and that idea
proves you clearly know your patient.

SARAH

Thank you, Campbell. I appreciate the
attempt.

JUST THEN, CAMPBELL'S COUSIN, GARRETT (9, HYPERACTIVE BALL OF
JOY AND INNOCENCE) BURSTS INTO THE HOUSE THROUGH THE SIDE
DOOR WEARING NOTHING BUT TIGHTY WHITIES. CAMPBELL'S
UNCLE/SARAH'S OLDER BROTHER, NICK (40S, OVERLY POSITIVITY TO
MASK HIS INSECURITIES), CHASES AFTER HIS NEARLY NAKED SON.

NICK

It's time to get dressed!

GARRETT

Never!

NICK

(TO OTHERS) This is our fun game!

NICK FORCES A LAUGH AND CHASES GARRETT UPSTAIRS.

TREVOR

(TO SARAH) I'm so happy we let your
brother move into the guest house.

CAMPBELL GETS A TEXT AND LIGHTS UP.

CAMPBELL

No way. Unbelievable.

SARAH

What? What?

CAMPBELL

Okay, well you know how after the oil
spill, my Environmental Club put
posters up all over school to raise
money to clean the sound?

SARAH

So proud of my baby activist saving
the world.

CAMPBELL

(CALM DOWN) We've raised sixty-four
dollars.

SARAH

That's amazing!

CAMPBELL

No, that's terrible.

SARAH

That is pretty bad, yes. I thought we
were excited.

CAMPBELL

We are, stay with me here. MacKenzie and MacKayla AKA "The Macs" AKA the most popular girls in school, saw the posters and decided to join the club.

SARAH

(LESS EXCITED) Oh. Okay!

CAMPBELL

Not done. MacKenzie told her dad about our club's fundraiser, and I guess it inspired him to host his own big Save the Sound fundraiser at their house tomorrow for all his business friends.

SARAH

That's amazing!

CAMPBELL

Still not done. And MacKenzie just invited me to go!

SARAH'S QUIET, CLEARLY NOT THRILLED WITH THIS NEWS.

CAMPBELL (CONT'D)

Hello? This is when you say something!

JUST THEN, GARRETT AND NICK BOLT BACK IN -- THIS TIME FROM THE LIVING ROOM, STARTLING CAMPBELL WHO'S NEAR THE ENTRYWAY.

CAMPBELL (CONT'D)

Whoa!

NICK

How about my little man's energy!

NICK CHASES GARRETT BACK UP THE KITCHEN STAIRS AGAIN.

CAMPBELL

Okay, lovin' our new house, but note to self on the two staircases: anyone can come from anywhere.

JACOB

And there's something seriously wrong with Garrett. (THEN, NERVOUS) Do you think it's from eating this cereal?

SARAH

Uncle Nick and Garrett have been through so much. We've been fortunate, and now we have the extra space. And we're always there for family.

CAMPBELL

Always. So by default that means you are there for me going to MacKenzie's. (OFF LOOK) What? By default -- that's an air tight argument. What do you have against MacKenzie and MacKayla?

SARAH

You mean the two girls who refer to themselves as "The Macs"? Aren't they just image-driven, spoiled rich kids?

CAMPBELL

They have some good qualities.

SARAH

Like what?

CAMPBELL

I don't know, like wanting to hang out
with me. Let's not overthink it.

CAMPBELL PAUSES WHEN GARRETT RUNS BACK THROUGH FROM THE
LIVING ROOM. THIS TIME NICK CHASES WITH A CLEAR LIMP.

NICK

Tweaked a hammy. Love my little man's
perseverance!

NICK STRUGGLES BACK UP THE STAIRS. CAMPBELL CONTINUES.

CAMPBELL

So I can go to MacKenzie's, right?

SARAH

I just don't think it's a good idea.

CAMPBELL

Seriously? But I backed you on taking
Jacob to the hospital for -- I don't
know -- spontaneous Fruity Flakes
combustion? And that was the worst
idea ever!

SARAH

Ouch. This escalated fast. Since when
do you even care about being popular?

CAMPBELL

Since when do you get to control who
I'm friends with? Dad, help me out
here!

SARAH

Trevor, why is our baby going crazy?!

TREVOR

Maybe it's her hormones?

CAMPBELL AND SARAH SUDDENLY BOTH GANG UP AGAINST TREVOR.

CAMPBELL/SARAH

Ew!/Why would you say that?!

CAMPBELL

Don't talk about my hormones, it's
weird.

SARAH

Sweetie, never ever let a man tell you
your hormones are making you crazy.
That's their insecurities, not yours.

CAMPBELL

Thanks, Mom.

EVEN IN FIGHTING, THERE'S LOVE BETWEEN DAUGHTER AND MOTHER.
THEY BOTH GIVE SIDE-EYE ONCE MORE TO TREVOR.

TREVOR

Hey, you coulda let me stay out of it.

GARRETT RUNS BACK THROUGH, BUT THIS TIME NICK CATCHES HIM. HE
HOLDS HIM UP INTO THE AIR, PLAYFULLY VICTORIOUS.

NICK

Ah-ha! Breakfast time!

NICK PRETENDS TO EAT GARRETT, WHO WIGGLES AND GIGGLES.

GARRETT

Stop! Stop! (THEN, NOTICING) There's
an old lady climbing over the fence.

NICK

I'm not falling for that one again.

CAMPBELL

(LOOKING OUT WINDOW) Is that Grandma?

THIS GETS SARAH AND NICK'S ATTENTION. (NICK INSTINCTIVELY DROPS GARRETT TO THE FLOOR TO LOOK OUT THE WINDOW.)

SARAH

NICK

(UPSET) Mom?

(EXCITED) Mom?

WE NOW SEE IN THE BACKYARD, AN OLDER WOMAN IS AWKWARDLY STRADDLING THE FENCE. FINALLY, SHE FALLS ONTO THE LAWN. SHE STANDS, TAKES A MIRROR AND BLUSH OUT OF HER PURSE, AND BLOTCHES A DIRT SPOT. THIS IS BARBARA (60S, SELF-ABSORBED, OUT OF TOUCH BUT SOMEHOW ALWAYS RIGHT).

BARBARA FINALLY LOOKS UP TO SEE THE WHOLE FAMILY NOW OUTSIDE WATCHING HER. SHE DOESN'T MISS A BEAT.

BARBARA

Well? Is no one going to give Grandma
a hug?

OFF THE FAMILY'S LOOKS (SARAH UNHAPPY, NICK THRILLED, THE KIDS CONFUSED), WE...

CUT TO TITLES.

SCENE AINT. LIVING ROOM - A LITTLE LATER

THE FAMILY'S NOW GATHERED WITH BARBARA. WE'LL TRACK CAMPBELL WATCHING IT ALL, INTRIGUED WITH HER ESTRANGED GRANDMA. BARBARA WALKS AROUND, TAKING IN THE NICE HOUSE. SARAH'S NOT PLEASED BUT STAYS OVERLY UPBEAT IN FRONT OF THE KIDS.

SARAH

This is just so unexpected. You. Here.
Climbin' fences. (LAUGHS, THEN) Why?

BARBARA

It's been an absolutely devastating couple of days since Henry's passing. I've felt so lost. (RE: ARMOIRE) Is this Restoration Hardware? (THEN) But then I remembered Nick emailed his address here and invited me any time.

NICK

You get my emails? You never respond.

BARBARA

I'm trying to tell my story, dear.

NICK

Sorry.

BARBARA

So I decided I'd visit and escape the pain. My husband died far too soon.

SARAH

Husband four. And wasn't he, like, 90?

BARBARA

Yes, but I only met him when he was
87. And love is love.

NICK

That's beautiful.

BARBARA

Speaking of, where's Katherine?

NICK

Katherine...left me last year.

BARBARA

Oh, honey. That makes sense.

SARAH

Why didn't you knock?

BARBARA

Would you have answered?

SARAH

(LYING FOR KIDS' SAKE) Of course.

BARBARA

Well, I didn't want to bother you.

SARAH

So instead you trespassed.

BARBARA

I don't know why you're so stuck on
this. It was one fence. (THEN, RE:
GARRETT) This boy is naked. (THEN) And
my neck is stiff from the fall. You
should be thankful I'm not suing.

CAMPBELL

Wait, are you extorting us?

SARAH

Cam, you don't need to get involved.

CAMPBELL

Oh, so now you're controlling
everything I say too?

SARAH BITES HER TONGUE. BARBARA WALKS OVER.

BARBARA

My darling Campbell. Look at you all
grown up and knowing what extortion
is. It was just a joke. You used to
laugh at my jokes when you were eight.

CAMPBELL

I'm thirteen now. So I guess I've aged
better than your humor. Where have you
been anyway?

BARBARA

I've been living. Sorry I couldn't
take you along. I see you could use
some loosening up.

CAMPBELL

Maybe I could borrow your ivory
bracelet. Nothing says care-free like
dead elephant around your wrist.

BARBARA

You are a joy.

THEY SIZE EACH OTHER UP WITH LOOKS. NEITHER BACKS DOWN. MEANWHILE, JACOB PULLS OUT A CELL PHONE AND TEXTS SOMETHING. SARAH AND TREVOR'S PHONES BOTH BUZZ AND THEY CHECK THEM.

SARAH

No, you won't be late for school.

JACOB TEXTS AGAIN. THEY READ.

TREVOR

Yes, she is your blood relative.

BARBARA

What's happening right now?

SARAH

Jacob gets anxious talking in front of people he's not comfortable around. So he texts. (RE: TEXT, TO JACOB) Don't be embarrassed. It makes you special.

BARBARA

Well, it only enables him if you lie to him. (OFF SARAH'S LOOK) Okay, I feel I've overstayed my welcome. I'll be in the backyard at Nick's house.

NICK

Great! I-- (SEES SARAH EYING HIM) -- actually don't think I have space.

BARBARA

Oh. I see. Then I will see myself out. Should I use the door or the fence?

AND WE...

CUT TO:

SCENE BINT. CAMPBELL'S ROOM - NIGHT

CAMPBELL'S IN SLEEPWEAR, LOOKING OUT HER WINDOW. SARAH ENTERS.

SARAH

So this has been an eventful day, huh?

(NO RESPONSE) Well, goodnight. (THEN)

Okay, I hate this, you and I never fight. Please don't be angry with me.

CAMPBELL

Well, I am. I just wanna hang out with new people. You know, expand my social circle to fill out an actual circle.

But you don't trust me.

SARAH

Of course I trust you. You and I are best friends, right?

CAMPBELL

Yes. We are. Do you not see anything wrong with that?

SARAH

Do you? Don't answer that, I couldn't handle it. Look Cam, you and those girls are different. And I just don't want them trying to change you or take advantage of you.

CAMPBELL

So it's impossible for them to like me for me? Pep talk of the year, Mom.

SARAH

It's impossible not to like you because you're the best. But I've known people like them and they're way too into themselves to notice.

CAMPBELL

Ohhh, I see. Like Grandma.

SARAH

What? Nooooo. What? She's...swell.

CAMPBELL

I think you think you hide how much you hate her, but it's pretty obvious. You must love that she never visits.

SARAH

I don't hate her. Honestly, I would love nothing more than if your grandma wanted to be part of this family.

CAMPBELL

Oh. Swell. She's back at Uncle Nick's.

SARAH

Are you kidding?! (LOOKS OUT WINDOW)

Ugh, Nick, you mother sucker upper.

CAMPBELL ENJOYS THIS -- A SMALL BIT OF REVENGE. AND WE...

CUT TO:

SCENE CINT. GUEST HOUSE - NIGHT

BARBARA SIMILARLY LOOKS OUT A WINDOW TOWARD THE MAIN HOUSE, BARELY PAYING ATTENTION TO NICK WHO'S TALKING HER EAR OFF, MAKING UP FOR LOST TIME.

NICK

And Garrett loves going to school with his cousins now. Oh, and he's really taken to playing the recorder. You should hear him play, his teacher says he's by far the loudest one in class.

BARBARA

How do they afford this place? Sarah's a public defender and Trevor went to trade school.

NICK

He expanded his company. Have you seen ads for T Constantine Construction?

BARBARA

T Constantine Construction? I think I had them turn Henry's office into an oxygen salon. That's his company?

NICK

I mean, his name is Trevor Constantine, he's in construction-- Nevermind. Anyway, Sarah's become a judge. How cool is that?

BARBARA

(DOING MATH IN HEAD) Yes, yes, she's great at judging people -- do you know if he's taken the company public?

NICK

Um, I'm not sure. But they've been huge for us with this guest house. Turns out a guidance counselor salary is a wee underwhelming when raising a son solo. Some of my students make more at their summer jobs, maybe I should have them counsel me. (LAUGHS HARD, THEN) We're in trouble.

BARBARA

That's wonderful, dear. (THEN) I feel like Sarah and I got off on the wrong foot with the whole trespassing thing. I should go talk to her.

AND WE...

CUT TO:

SCENE DINT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

BARBARA SNEAKS IN THROUGH THE KITCHEN DOOR, BUT STOPS WHEN SHE SEES A BLACK MAN REACHING INSIDE A KITCHEN CABINET. BARBARA GRABS A CAN OF COOKING SPRAY OFF THE COUNTER.

BARBARA

Hey you!

THE MAN TURNS AND BARBARA SPRAYS HIM IN THE EYES. THE MAN RECOILS.

MAN

Ow! Wait, Mom? Is that you?

BARBARA TAKES A CLOSER LOOK.

BARBARA

Russell?

HER OTHER SON, RUSSELL (LATE 20S, BLACK, EASY-GOING, GOOD-NATURED BUT NO PUSHOVER), NODS.

RUSSELL

Yes. Geez, what is that? Canola?

BARBARA

(CHECKS CAN) Soybean.

BARBARA GETS SOME PAPER TOWELS AND DABS HIS EYES.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

Let me help. My baby boy. Next time,
close your eyes faster.

SARAH AND TREVOR RUN DOWNSTAIRS, FOLLOWED BY CAMPBELL.

SARAH

What happened?

TREVOR

Everyone okay?

RUSSELL

I got soybean'd.

SARAH

Mom, why are you in here?

BARBARA

I thought I was saving you from being robbed. No need to thank me.

SARAH

Russell has a key. He's my brother and he's welcome in this house any time he wants.

BARBARA

I'm surprised you're so close after he destroyed our family.

SARAH

How's it his fault you had an affair?

BARBARA

Well your father would've never known if he had just come out white.

NICK BARGES THROUGH THE SIDE DOOR, LIMPING AND OUT OF BREATH.

NICK

Everyone okay?! Heard scream.

Retweaked the hammy. Here now.

NICK BENDS OVER IN PAIN. BARBARA PATS HIM GENTLY.

BARBARA

And you would've been too late.

NICK'S UPSET WITH HIMSELF FOR DISAPPOINTING HIS MOTHER.

CAMPBELL

Grandma racially profiled Uncle Russell. And it's, like, still happening.

NICK

Wait, you didn't recognize your own son? My 23 and Me account said we're at higher risk for cognitive diseases. That's why I email you Sudoku puzzles every week, to keep your mind sharp. And I know you get my emails--

BARBARA

Stop it, I'm fully aware of what's happening right now. Unfortunately.

RUSSELL

I just came by to return the mixer. We needed it for the breakfast rush.

BARBARA

(UNIMPRESSED) So you still work at your dad's diner?

RUSSELL

Hey, I'm an artist in that kitchen. Every order is a canvas and the ingredients are my brush.

BARBARA

Pretty fancy way of saying "Here's your bacon and eggs."

SARAH

And thus concludes our family reunion.

BARBARA

Actually, now that we're in this situation, I must say, I'm concerned about your children's well being. I hope you have someone to protect them from (RE: RUSSELL) criminals.

RUSSELL

(SHOWING IT AS PROOF) Key.

BARBARA

(CALM DOWN) Metaphor.

CAMPBELL

I mean, she saw all the protests, right?

BARBARA

If you'd like, I could stay around, help watch the kids here.

UPON HEARING THIS, CAMPBELL PERKS UP, SENSING AN OPPORTUNITY.

SARAH

I don't think so. It wouldn't be good for Jacob. Trevor and I won't force our son to have to text everything he says in his own house.

TREVOR

Well, that is something we need to work on anyway.

SARAH

(SOTTO TO TREVOR) Can you please support me here? Just say I'm right or I'm pretty or anything useful?

TREVOR

Say you're pretty?

SARAH

Yeah, whatever. Just be on Team Sarah.

CAMPBELL

I want her to stay.

SARAH

What? Really? Even after witnessing the last two minutes?

CAMPBELL

I know, this whole thing was one step away from getting turned into Ava DuVerney's next movie. But it's been so long since Grandma's been here. I want to at least know her.

BARBARA

And I you. Henry's death has really put life in perspective.

RUSSELL

I thought his name was Alvin.

NICK

Third husband was Alvin. Good guy,
never met him.

CAMPBELL

See? She wants to be part of the
family. C'mon, can't she even stay for
a couple days? I'll be here too. And
you said you trust me.

SARAH

I do, but...

CAMPBELL

So then let me handle her, she'll
totally be my responsibility.

BARBARA

Okay, I'm not a dog.

CAMPBELL

Please, Mom? I don't want to fight
anymore either.

SARAH CLEARLY WANTS TO MEND THE TENSION WITH HER DAUGHTER.
SHE LOOKS AT CAMPBELL, BARBARA AND NICK'S HOPEFUL FACES. THEN
TO TREVOR. HE SHRUGS. HER CALL.

SARAH

Fine. A couple days. (OFF CHEERS) I'll
get an emergency contact list started.

AND WE...

CUT TO:

SCENE EINT. KITCHEN - THE NEXT MORNING

SARAH PREPS THE KIDS' LUNCHES WHEN BARBARA ENTERS.

BARBARA

I am ready for my trial run.

SARAH

Nope. Just visit. You have definitely not earned a trial run. Ever since you and dad divorced, you only come when it's convenient or beneficial or your Bikram Yoga instructor needs a kidney.

BARBARA

I couldn't lose Bodhi, he led my favorite class. What was the harm in asking Nick to see if he was a match?

SIMILAR TO THE OPENING SCENE, GARRETT SUDDENLY BURSTS IN FROM THE SIDE DOOR IN NOTHING BUT UNDERWEAR, BEING CHASED BY NICK.

NICK

It's time to get dressed!

GARRETT

Never!

THEY RUN UPSTAIRS. BARBARA REACTS, SARAH DOESN'T EVEN FLINCH.

SARAH

I put together directions. Couple headlines -- no candy for Garrett, he has enough energy as is.

(MORE)

SARAH (CONT'D)

And please don't bring up cereal with Jacob, it's a very sensitive topic right now. I've bolded their favorite activities and italicized--

BARBARA

Honey, I got this. C'mon, even you have to admit, we had some pretty good times when you were growing up.

GARRETT RUNS IN FROM THE LIVING ROOM ENTRYWAY AND BACK UP THE KITCHEN STAIRS, FOLLOWED BY NICK.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

Remember when you were fourteen and we snuck into the casino?

THIS STOPS NICK IN HIS TRACKS. HE TURNS BACK, JEALOUS.

NICK

You did? Why wasn't I there?

BARBARA

I'm sure I had a good reason. (TO SARAH) You were skeptical, but by the end we were having a great time.

SARAH

That's because you spiked my Orangina with champagne! (THEN) Okay, this is a bad idea. I'm pulling the plug.

REVEAL: CAMPBELL COMING IN.

CAMPBELL

Pulling the plug on what?

SARAH, NOT WANTING TO UPSET HER DAUGHTER, GETS FLUSTERED.

SARAH

On your grandma... I mean, not pulling the plug on your grandma, I highly doubt I'd even be the person asked to make that call-- nevermind, no plugs are being pulled, everything's fine, someone else just talk!

NICK

(TO BARBARA) Next time you go to Foxwoods, take me. I'll drink anything you want.

AND WE...

CUT TO:

SCENE HINT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

BARBARA SITS, CRINGING AS GARRETT PERFORMS A "SONG" ON HIS RECORDER. HE BLASTS HIGH PITCHED NOTES WITH NO RHYTHM.

BARBARA

Is there an end to this song?

GARRETT SHRUGS AS HE KEEPS PLAYING.

ANGLE ON: CAMPBELL WALKS DOWNSTAIRS, TEXTING ON HER PHONE, UNTIL SHE GETS TO JACOB WHO SITS ON A STEP, WATCHING BARBARA.

CAMPBELL

What are you doing?

JACOB

What'd you do? Why'd you ask for Grandma to stay? She's unsettling.

CAMPBELL

Yeah, she's a walking "Okay, Boomer" hashtag. But she's also my best chance to get to MacKenzie's house tonight.

BARBARA TALKS LOUDLY OVER THE RECORDER.

BARBARA

Alright! Okay! There's a hidden stash of candy in the kitchen cabinet!

UPON HEARING THERE'S CANDY, GARRETT IMMEDIATELY STOPS PLAYING AND RUNS TO THE KITCHEN.

CAMPBELL

(TO JACOB) Just try talking to her.

JACOB NERVOUSLY STANDS AND APPROACHES BARBARA. SHE SEES HIM.

BARBARA

So what's your deal with cereal?

JACOB FREEZES, THEN RUNS UPSTAIRS. BARBARA SHAKES HER HEAD.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

This is why China's taking over.

CAMPBELL LAUGHS.

CAMPBELL

Lighthearted banter of an oppressive government. Good one, Grandma.

BARBARA

You need to work on your fake laugh. You're pushing too hard.

CAMPBELL

That's great advice. Thank you for your wise counsel.

BARBARA

Okay, spill it. What do you want from me? I know you didn't beg your mom to let me stay just so you could get to know your elephant murdering grandma.

CAMPBELL

I-- I mean-- Well, what about you? You didn't suddenly realize the one thing your life was missing was fourth grade recorder concerts. Why are you actually here?

BARBARA

And now you're deflecting. What are you hiding?

CAMPBELL

And now you're deflecting. What are you hiding? We can do this all day.

BARBARA CONSIDERS CAMPBELL, IMPRESSED WITH HER GRANDDAUGHTER STANDING HER GROUND.

BARBARA

Fine, I'll play. I have nowhere else to go. Henry never changed his will. Everything he owns went to his kids. The mansion, all his money...

CAMPBELL

Oh. Sorry.

BARBARA

That's okay. I spent so much of it while he was alive.

CAMPBELL APPRECIATES BARBARA'S HONESTY, AND DECIDES TO RETURN IT.

CAMPBELL

Okay, well, I wanted you to take me to this thing my mom won't let me go to. She doesn't like the girls there just 'cause they're popular.

BARBARA

Sounds like their best asset. You're a teenager, what else even matters?

CAMPBELL

Well, grades, gun control, human rights, the HPV vaccine -- but yeah. She doesn't get how hard it all is. Or how easy it can be to feel invisible sometimes. Which now she's doing too by completely ignoring my point of view.

BARBARA

I get it. Women my age get no respect. Society's already dug our graves. You saw, my own son's trying to prescribe me Sudoku puzzles because he thinks I'm losing my mind.

CAMPBELL

Yeah, he was definitely off on what was actually going on last night.

BARBARA

We can't wait around for people to respect us. We've gotta find ways to make sure they respect us. You need to be friends with those girls.

CAMPBELL

So you'll take me?

BARBARA

No. I'm on thin ice with your mom as it is. If there's any chance she'll let me stay--

CAMPBELL

Ohhhh, that's why you're here. You have no money and you want her to be your sugar daughter.

BARBARA

When you say it like that, it sounds so crass.

CAMPBELL REALIZES SHE HAS A NEW ANGLE.

CAMPBELL

You know, this thing tonight is a big fundraiser. With big donors.

BARBARA

Is that so...?

CAMPBELL

So so...

BARBARA

Your mom doesn't get to decide who your friends are. I say we go.

CAMPBELL

Really?! Thank you! I gotta text The Macs.

CAMPBELL IMMEDIATELY GOES TO TEXT THE NEWS. BUT HER DEMEANOR CHANGES WHEN SHE NOTICES SOMETHING ON HER PHONE.

CAMPBELL (CONT'D)

Wait... My mom secretly downloaded a tracking app on my phone?! I can't believe her!

BARBARA

No respect. Oh well, you can just "forget" your phone here.

CAMPBELL

We also have a front door camera that alerts her any time there's movement. And now we know she's watching...

BARBARA

So she'll know if you leave and she's tracking your phone. I like a challenge. (THINKS, THEN) What's the number to your uncle's diner?

CAMPBELL PULLS IT UP IN HER PHONE FOR BARBARA, WHO CALLS.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

(INTO PHONE) Hello, I'd like a hundred assorted pies to go. (BEAT) That's right. One hundred. I'll pick them up tonight. (BEAT) You're the diner, figure it out.

BARBARA HANGS UP. CAMPBELL LAUGHS AT THE ABSURDITY.

CAMPBELL

What was that for?

BARBARA

Give it a minute. (THEN) So, tell me about these new friends of yours.

CAMPBELL

Well, they have...passed me in the hallway on occasion. But now they're gonna join my Environmental Club.

BARBARA

I thought you said they were popular.

CAMPBELL

They are.

BARBARA

But then you said environmental club.

CAMPBELL

I did. It's totally cool to care about the environment now. You know, 'cause global warming's gonna, like, destroy everything.

BARBARA

Okay, calm down. That's the next generation's problem.

CAMPBELL

I am the next generation.

BARBARA'S PHONE RINGS. SHE GIVES CAMPBELL A "HOLD ON" FINGER, PICKS IT UP AND PUTS IT ON SPEAKER SO CAMPBELL CAN HEAR.

BARBARA

Hello?

SARAH (ON PHONE)

Hey, mom. It's Sarah.

BARBARA

So nice for you to check in.

SARAH (ON PHONE)

No, Russell called freaking out about some big order he just got and said he needs my mixer again. I keep telling him I'll just buy him another mixer. Anyway, I don't love you driving the kids around, but no one else is available to bring it over.

BARBARA

Darling, it would be my honor.

BARBARA HANGS UP, STANDS, AND AS SHE WALKS TO THE KITCHEN:

BARBARA (CONT'D)

Your mom has requested we leave the house.

CAMPBELL

(IMPRESSED) Amazing.

BARBARA COMES BACK OUT WITH THE MIXER AND HEADS TO THE DOOR.

BARBARA

Come on, we gotta go accidentally forget your phone at the diner.

CAMPBELL

Wait, what about Jacob and Garrett?

BARBARA

Oh. Right. (THEN) C'mon, boys! We're leaving!

GARRETT RUNS IN. JACOB COMES MORE TENTATIVELY.

GARRETT

We're going to the zoo!

BARBARA

What? Has anyone brought up the zoo today? (TO JACOB) I need your phone.

JACOB STARTS TYPING IN HIS PHONE, BUT SHE TAKES IT FROM HIM.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

(READING) "No." (THEN) I assume you were in the middle of typing "No problem."

SHE PUTS JACOB'S PHONE HIGH UP ON A SHELF WHERE HE CAN'T REACH IT.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

She's probably tracking this one too.

JACOB LOOKS AT CAMPBELL WITH PLEADING EYES.

CAMPBELL

He kind of needs his phone to communicate.

BARBARA

Funny, because I thought he had a mouth and vocal chords. Let's go.

BARBARA HEADS OUT, FOLLOWED BY THE KIDS, AND WE...

CUT TO:

SCENE JINT. DINER - LATER

RUSSELL RACES TO PREP PIE INGREDIENTS AS GARRETT WALKS IN HOLDING THE HEAVY MIXER IN HIS ARMS.

GARRETT

I got it! I got it! I'm dropping it!

RUSSELL

Whoa, buddy.

RUSSELL TAKES THE MIXER. BARBARA, CAMPBELL AND JACOB ENTER.

BARBARA

You should feed that kid candy all the time. He can carry his own weight.

RUSSELL

You guys good?

BARBARA

We're doing very well, thank you.

RUSSELL

Ok. (AGAIN TO CAMPBELL) You guys good?

CAMPBELL

(A LITTLE NERVOUS) Yeah, fine. I'm just gonna...go over there and text with my phone that I have right here.

AS CAMPBELL WALKS OFF, BARBARA CALLS AFTER:

BARBARA

That was a very specific announcement.

(THEN, TO RUSSELL) I see Sarah's gotten in your head about me.

RUSSELL

I think my own head's got it covered.
Even with you not being around much
when I was growing up.

BARBARA

I was there for the big stuff.

RUSSELL

Like when you slept through my high
school graduation? Or when you crashed
the afterparty?

BARBARA

If this is all some attempt to blame
me for you ending up in this diner--

RUSSELL

Nah, I'm not even upset. You not being
around made me way less screwed up
than Sarah and Nick.

BARBARA

(DEFLECTING) Don't you have a bunch of
pies you have to make?

RUSSELL

Ugh, a hundred pies. Who needs a
hundred pies in one night?

RUSSELL RUSHES INTO THE BACK KITCHEN. BARBARA CALLS AFTER.

BARBARA

I thought you're an artist. Consider
this your greatest masterpiece!

BARBARA NOTICES CAMPBELL IS SITTING ON A DINER STOOL, AWKWARDLY SHIFTING AROUND, WITH HER PHONE HALFWAY OUT OF HER BACK PANTS POCKET.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

CAMPBELL

My mom'll never believe I just forgot my phone here. It's gotta look like it dropped out accidentally. (TO PHONE)
C'mon. Fall out. The Macs are waiting!

BARBARA

Just place it on the ground.

CAMPBELL THRUSTS HARD TO GET THE PHONE TO NATURALLY FALL OUT.

CAMPBELL

I'm trying!

BARBARA

No, you're giving that stool a lap dance.

FINALLY, THE PHONE POPS OUT OF HER POCKET AND DROPS TO THE GROUND. AFTER ALL THAT WORK, IT'S SIMPLY FACE DOWN ON THE FLOOR.

CAMPBELL

Yeah, I guess I could've just put it like that.

AND WE...

CUT TO:

SCENE KEXT. BACK YARD - ENTRANCE/FOOD TRUCK - NIGHT

BARBARA, CAMPBELL AND THE BOYS ENTER THE BACK YARD WHERE A FOOD TRUCK IS STATIONED. IT'S A CARNIVAL THEME. (WE WON'T SEE MOST OF IT, BUT WE'LL HEAR RIDES/GAMES/MUSIC OFF SCREEN.)

GARRETT

Whoa, it's a whole carnival!

(NOTICING, TO JACOB) Why don't you ever have Ferris Wheels at your house?

BARBARA

This is perfect. "Wealthy Casual" is so much easier to spot. Just look for Hawaiian shirts. The louder the colors, the more in liquid assets.

A BANNER READS: "MIDWAY OIL COMPANY CARES: SAVE THE SOUND!"

CAMPBELL

Wait-- Midway Oil Company's doing this? But they're the ones responsible for the oil spill. (REALIZING) So this is all just a publicity stunt to make them look like they're solving the problem they created...

BARBARA

There's oil execs here? I see hot pink hibiscus in our near future.

BARBARA WALKS OFF, ASSESSING THE CROWD. GARRETT AND JACOB FOLLOW. CAMPBELL STAYS BEHIND, DISAPPOINTED.

CUT TO:

SCENE 1EXT. BACK YARD (CARNIVAL GAMES) - LATER

BARBARA WALKS BY A SECTION OF CARNIVAL GAMES (A BASKETBALL SHOT GAME, A RING TOSS, AND A DUNK TANK). A GUY IN A HAWAIIAN SHIRT PASSES AND SHE PERKS UP, READY TO TALK, WHEN:

GARRETT

Hawaiian shirt! You're rich!

THE GUY EYES THEM WEIRDLY AS HE PASSES. BARBARA TURNS, ANNOYED, REALIZING THAT THE BOYS HAVE FOLLOWED HER.

BARBARA

I see you have your dad's subtlety.

BARBARA NOTICES THE DUNK TANK AND APPROACHES THE ATTENDANT.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

My grandsons would like to go in your dunk tank.

GARRETT

Yes!

GARRETT IMMEDIATELY CLIMBS INTO THE DUNK CAGE AND ONTO THE SEAT. BUT JACOB STAYS WHERE HE IS AND SHAKES HIS HEAD "NO".

DUNK TANK ATTENDANT

Uh, I don't think he does.

BARBARA

It's three feet of water, you'll be fine. (STILL NOTHING) Okay, if you don't want to go in there, you just have to tell me. With your words.

JACOB GATHERS HIS COURAGE AND WE THINK HE'S ACTUALLY GOING TO SPEAK... BUT THEN HIS SHOULDERS SLUMP. HE CAN'T DO IT.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

Up you go then.

JACOB SADLY CLIMBS ONTO THE SEAT. BARBARA SNEAKS THE ATTENDANT MONEY.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

If you could just let 'em play in there until I get back.

BARBARA WALKS OFF AND SURVEYS THE SCENE. BEHIND HER, A FEW PEOPLE LINE UP TO THROW A BALL AT THE DUNK TANK TARGET. THE FIRST PERSON HITS IT, RELEASING THE DUNK TANK SEAT AND SENDING GARRETT AND JACOB SPLASHING INTO THE WATER.

GARRETT EXCITEDLY CLIMBS BACK UP THE LADDER AND HOPS BACK ONTO THE SEAT. JACOB TRIES TO ESCAPE THE TANK BUT THE ATTENDANT -- UNDER BARBARA'S DIRECTION -- PICKS HIM UP AND PLACES HIM BACK ON THE SEAT TOO. THE NEXT PERSON IN LINE THROWS THE BALL AND HITS THE TARGET, SENDING GARRETT AND JACOB RIGHT BACK INTO THE WATER...

BARBARA SEES AN OLDER MAN IN A HAWAIIAN SHIRT AND "ACCIDENTALLY" BUMPS INTO HIM.

HAWAIIAN SHIRT MAN

Oh, I'm sorry, Miss.

BARBARA

No, no, my fault. Do you work out?

That felt like walking into a brick wall.

THE MAN SMILES. AS THEY SETTLE IN TO TALK...

CUT TO:

SCENE MEXT. BACK YARD (ENTRANCE/FOOD TRUCK) - LATER

CAMPBELL'S STILL ALONE AND UPSET WHEN POPULAR GIRLS MACKENZIE AND MACKAYLA WALK UP. CAMPBELL IMMEDIATELY FORCES A SMILE.

MACKENZIE

There you are, Campbell! You are Campbell, right? I get you confused with that girl with the glasses.

CAMPBELL

Well, I'm here and I don't have glasses, so...mystery solved! Hey, MacKenzie and MacKayla!

MACKAYLA

Um, our name is "The Macs."

CAMPBELL

Oh, like even when I'm addressing you directly? Cool, cool, stayin' true to the brand. (THEN) So, The Macs... (SPECIFYING) Kenzie. I thought you said this was your dad's fundraiser.

MACKENZIE

Yeah, he works for Midway Oil. Daddy says if we raise enough money tonight, they'll give him a huge bonus. And then I get an exotic horse!

MACKAYLA

Or unicorn if they're real.

MACKENZIE

So I thought you could tell everyone here the environmental stuff to butter them up, then I'll ask 'em to pay up.

CAMPBELL

That's why you invited me? To help you land a fancy horse.

MACKAYLA

(FINGERS CROSSED) Or unicorn.

MACKENZIE

I mean, I'll totally let you ride her.

CAMPBELL

But Midway Oil's only donating money so people will forget it was their fault. Do you know how many animals have been tortured by this spill? Seriously, put a seashell to your ear, now all you can hear is their screams.

MACKENZIE

Yasss, just like that. Make them cry.

I knew you were cool.

MACKAYLA

I'm so psyched you're not that girl with the glasses.

CAMPBELL FORCES A SMALL SMILE. THE MACS WALK OFF, LEAVING HER SPINNING. CAMPBELL'S NOT PROUD, BUT THEIR ACCEPTANCE IS ADDICTING. SO SHE FOLLOWS.

CUT TO:

SCENE PEXT. BACK YARD (CARNIVAL GAMES) - LATER

BARBARA FLIRTS WITH HAWAIIAN SHIRT MAN AS THE BOYS CONTINUE TO BE DUNKED OVER AND OVER IN THE BACKGROUND.

HAWAIIAN SHIRT MAN

It's the critics and their lies about
how oil causes all these problems.

BARBARA

I would say it solves all the
problems.

HAWAIIAN SHIRT MAN

Yes! See? You shouldn't have to run an
oil company to know that.

BARBARA

That's why you have a Fiji island and
they don't.

JUST THEN, CAMPBELL AND THE MACS PASS THROUGH. CLEARLY
CAMPBELL MESSED UP AND THEY'RE UPSET. BARBARA LISTENS IN.

CAMPBELL

I know I screwed up. I'm so sorry.

MACKENZIE

You did. And you should be. You
totally insulted Daddy's friends.

CAMPBELL

I honestly had no idea they'd be so
offended by the term "electric car."

(THEN, DESPERATE) But I get it now.

(MORE)

CAMPBELL (CONT'D)

They're just big dumb batteries with wheels. And why solve global warming anyway? I mean -- longer summers!

MACKAYLA

Whoa. Not cool, Campbell. Global warming's legit bad.

CAMPBELL

I know, why did I say that--

MACKENZIE

(EPIPHANY) Stop. I just figured out what we can do in Environmental Club to help solve global warming. We need to get Leonardo DiCaprio to give us a shout out on Cameo!

MACKAYLA/CAMPBELL

Yes!/That is...what you'd think we should do!

THEY CROSS OFF. BARBARA DOESN'T LIKE WHAT SHE'S OVERHEARD.

HAWAIIAN SHIRT MAN

...and so I said, I have three words for you, pal: statute of limitations--

BARBARA

Hold that thought, I'm very interested in the things you're saying.

BARBARA LEAVES TO FOLLOW CAMPBELL, AND WE...

CUT TO:

SCENE REXT. BACK YARD (ENTRANCE/FOOD TRUCK) - MOMENTS LATER

CAMPBELL FOLLOWS THE MACS WHEN BARBARA CATCHES UP AND SPINS HER AROUND.

CAMPBELL

What?

BARBARA

I just saw your little performance.

It's one thing to use those girls for your benefit. It's another to sell yourself out for their approval.

CAMPBELL

I know. But if I take a stand against The Macs, it'll be social suicide. I'll be completely forgotten.

BARBARA

If you let those girls dictate who you are, you've forgotten yourself already. You're better than that.

CAMPBELL

Maybe I'm not.

BARBARA

Hey, you've already stood up to me.

It's annoying, but I respect it.

CAMPBELL

Yeah, well I wish I could be like you and not care at all what people think.

(MORE)

CAMPBELL (CONT'D)

I mean, you don't even care that you abandoned your own family, you just do what you want. It's kinda brutal. But it's also impressive.

BARBARA TAKES A BEAT. THIS SEEMS TO AFFECT HER.

BARBARA

Actually, the last time I visited, your mom asked me not to come again.

CAMPBELL

What? Why?

BARBARA

Who can even remember these things when so much wine is involved.

CAMPBELL

So you just caved and listened to her?

BARBARA

Well, she's not all wrong about me. I tried to be a mom, but I never fit the mold. Sue me for not pretending to give a crap about their school dioramas. Or their birthdays. I did care, though, in my own way. But it seemed easier on everyone if I simply stayed away.

CAMPBELL

That's kinda sad.

BARBARA

Eh, I'm a stiff drink to handle.

CAMPBELL

Well, I coulda used you more.

THIS FEELS LIKE A REAL CONNECTION. BUT THE MOMENT'S BROKEN WHEN CAMPBELL SEES THE MACS AT THE FOOD TRUCK.

CAMPBELL (CONT'D)

Oh no, The Macs are taking food selfies! If I'm not tagged in that post then this was all for nothing!

CAMPBELL HURRIES OFF TOWARD THE MACS. BARBARA LOOKS ON, THEIR TALK STILL RESONATING. HAWAIIAN SHIRT MAN WALKS UP.

HAWAIIAN SHIRT MAN

There you are. You ran off without leaving a glass slipper.

BARBARA

How big is your private jet?

HAWAIIAN SHIRT MAN

Well, it has a regulation-sized bowling lane, so... bigger than that.

BARBARA

(RESIGNED) Oh, Clark. I'll never forget what we almost had.

THE MAN IS CONFUSED. BARBARA STEPS UP ONTO A CHAIR AT ONE OF THE FOOD TRUCK TABLES AND ADDRESSES EVERYONE.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

You all want to Save the Sound? I have an idea: down with oil!

(MORE)

BARBARA (CONT'D)

(TO CLARK) Seriously, if this isn't a dealbreaker, let's keep talking.

BUT CLARK SCOFFS AT HER SUDDEN OIL PROTEST AND WALKS OFF.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

Worth a shot. (THEN, TO ALL) Ferris Wheels and food trucks can't fool us, Midway Oil. Turtles are dead because of you! Or whales or something. And we're not gonna take it anymore!

ANGLE ON: CAMPBELL'S WITH THE MACS, BUT SHE WATCHES BARBARA. THEY MAKE EYE CONTACT. BARBARA'S CHALLENGING HER.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

This ain't no drill, oil spills kill!

This ain't no drill, oil spills kill!

AS SHE CONTINUES HER CHANT, CAMPBELL NOTICES MACKENZIE IS NOW RECORDING BARBARA WITH HER PHONE.

CAMPBELL

Are you gonna post this?

MACKENZIE

Definitely.

CAMPBELL

Because it's what's right?

MACKENZIE

Because it's hilarious.

CAMPBELL KNOWS SHE'LL NEVER FIT IN WITH THESE GIRLS. FINALLY, SHE STEELS HERSELF AND LEAVES THE MACS TO APPROACH BARBARA.

MACKAYLA

Is she gonna tip her chair over?

CAMPBELL STANDS ON A CHAIR AND JOINS BARBARA IN THE CHANT.

BARBARA/CAMPBELL

This ain't no drill, oil spills kill!

This ain't no drill, oil spills kill!

AT FIRST SELF-CONSCIOUS, CAMPBELL REALIZES THIS ISN'T SO BAD AND EMBRACES THE MOMENT. AS THEY CONTINUE TO CHANT, A SECURITY GUARD APPROACHES.

SECURITY GUARD

Ladies, I gotta escort you out.

CAMPBELL

Yeah, you do!

BARBARA AND CAMPBELL LAUGH, ENJOYING THE MOMENT TOGETHER, AS THEY STEP DOWN AND ARE ESCORTED OUT BY THE SECURITY GUARD. BUT BEFORE THEY EXIT, SARAH SUDDENLY RUSHES INTO THE EVENT.

CAMPBELL (CONT'D)

Mom?

SARAH

So you are here. Where are the boys?

BARBARA

They're perfectly fine. I paid a guy to keep them inside a cage of water.

SARAH

What?!

AS SARAH RUNS OFF TO FIND THEM, BARBARA LOOKS TO CAMPBELL:

BARBARA

I'm glad she said something. I keep forgetting about them.

CAMPBELL CAN'T HELP BUT LAUGH, ENJOYING THE MOMENT. AND WE...

CUT TO:

SCENE 5INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

BARBARA AND CAMPBELL SIT ON THE COUCH WHILE SARAH PACES, STILL UPSET. NICK, TREVOR, JACOB AND GARRETT ARE THERE TOO.

SARAH

I trusted you, Campbell.

CAMPBELL

You tracked my phone.

SARAH

(RE: BARBARA) Well I don't trust her!

BARBARA

How did you find us? The kids forgot their phones before we got there.

NICK

I...put a tracker on your phone too.

BARBARA

Nick? Wow. Betrayed by my own son.

NICK

No, no, it's just you're getting older, and after your Russell confusion -- I wanna be able to find you if you ever forget where you are.

BARBARA

Okay, that is so much worse.

CAMPBELL

Mom, I'm sorry. But things aren't all perfect for me. It was an opportunity--

BARBARA

For me. I was looking for potential suitors. The truth is, Henry left me nothing. But I shouldn't have dragged you all into my problems. I'm sorry.

CAMPBELL OFFERS A THANK YOU SMILE TO HER GRANDMA.

SARAH/NICK

Ridiculous./So brave.

CAMPBELL

And I'm done with The Macs.

SARAH

You are?

CAMPBELL

Grandma's right. I can't worry what they think. Even if MacKenzie posts that video of us and seals my social pariah fate. I gotta be true to me.

SARAH

Oh. Good. I mean, that's exactly what I've said. In a slightly more parental way. (THEN) But what about Jacob? She forced him into a dunk tank. He's terrified of water.

JACOB TEXTS. SARAH AND TREVOR READ THEIR PHONES.

TREVOR

(RE: TEXT) He says after a while it actually got kind of fun.

SARAH

Because he was dunked in water fifty times, he wasn't thinking straight. I believe it's called "war crimes".

JACOB TEXTS SOMETHING ELSE. TREVOR NOTICES, SURPRISED AT WHAT IT SAYS, AND NUDGES SARAH TO LOOK.

SARAH (CONT'D)

What? (THEN, READS) "I think I want to talk to Grandma someday soon..."

EVERYONE REACTS TO JACOB'S PERSONAL GROWTH WITH "THAT'S AMAZING"/"I'M SO PROUD OF YOU" ETC. -- EXCEPT FOR BARBARA.

BARBARA

Seriously? We're supposed to celebrate him texting you that maybe someday he wants to talk to me?

TREVOR

(TO SARAH) She's awful. But effective.

AS SARAH CONSIDERS, RUSSELL ENTERS THE HOUSE WITH CAMPBELL'S PHONE. HE'S IN A DAZE, STILL IN THE FOG OF WAR.

RUSSELL

I made so many pies...

RUSSELL DROPS INTO A CHAIR NEAR CAMPBELL, EXHAUSTED.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)

Apple. Cherry. Blueberry crumble...

CAMPBELL, GUILTY, REACHES OVER AND DELICATELY TAKES HER PHONE OUT OF HIS HAND.

CAMPBELL

I'm so sorry, Uncle Russell. Thank you for your service...

RUSSELL

Coconut cream. Another coconut cream.

Another coconut cream...

CAMPBELL SCROLLS THROUGH HER PHONE.

CAMPBELL

Yup, she tagged me in her post with a crying laughing face. (PERKS UP) But kids aren't laughing. They're calling me a total Greta Thunberg. Now MacKenzie says she was in on it. She's pretending to be friends with me!

BARBARA/SARAH

She'd be so lucky./Yeah, she wishes.

SARAH AND BARBARA LOOK AT EACH OTHER, RECOGNIZING A RARE MOMENT WHEN THEY'RE ACTUALLY ON THE SAME PAGE.

RUSSELL

Pecan. Pumpkin. Pinto beans which was a mistake but I had to push through...

SARAH

Cam, I know I can get overprotective. I just don't want you getting hurt.

CAMPBELL

But I will get hurt, Mom. Middle school sucks.

SARAH

Well, I swore to myself a long time ago I would never abandon my kids.

CAMPBELL

Grandma didn't abandon me either. Even after you told her to stay away from the family all these years.

THE FAMILY REACTS TO HEARING THIS. EVEN RUSSELL SNAPS BACK.

RUSSELL

That is cold. Ice cream pie cold...

SARAH

Hold on. All I had said was if she's not willing to be a real part of this family, maybe she shouldn't be part of this family at all. And maybe I didn't use the word "maybe".

TREVOR

Oh, Sar. You are so pretty right now.

NICK

Wait, is that why Mom never emails me back? Because you forbid her to?

BARBARA

Yes. That is why.

SARAH

How am I suddenly the bad guy here?

BARBARA

You're not. You were just protecting your family. I admit I wasn't the greatest mother. But the silver lining is it made you a pretty damn good one.

SARAH

Well...thank you.

SARAH'S TAKEN ABACK BY THE GENUINE COMPLIMENT. NICK'S JEALOUS SHE GOT THE COMPLIMENT HE'S YEARNED FOR HIS ENTIRE LIFE.

NICK

That looks like it felt amazing.

CAMPBELL

So can Grandma live here? Like, for real? She has nowhere to go. And it's like you say: we're always there for family.

SARAH

Okay, can you stop using all my words against me?

SARAH LOOKS AROUND, KNOWING SHE'S LOST HER LEVERAGE. SHE'S EVEN WARMED SLIGHTLY TO BARBARA HERSELF. SHE LOOKS TO TREVOR WHO SHRUGS. AGAIN HER CALL.

SARAH (CONT'D)

I...I guess...if this is really where she wants to be.

BARBARA

I think it sounds wonderful. (A NICE MOMENT, THEN) Let's celebrate!

RUSSELL

Anyone want pie?

AS THE FAMILY HAPPILY APPROVES, WE...

CUT TO:

SCENE TINT. KITCHEN - THE NEXT MORNING

CAMPBELL COMES DOWN TO SEE HER FAMILY WITH THE NEW ADDITION --
BARBARA -- SIPPING COFFEE AT THE TABLE. SHE SMILES.

CAMPBELL

Good morning.

SARAH

Morning, sweetie. Okay, what does
everyone want for breakfast?

SARAH OPENS THE FRIDGE TO REVEAL IT'S PACKED WITH PIES.

SARAH (CONT'D)

We have... (LOOKING THROUGH) Rhubarb.
Mississippi Mud. Peach with -- is that
corned beef hash? Sweet potato...

TREVOR

Why have we never thought of breakfast
pie?

SARAH

Because we've never had to buy a
hundred pies from an unclaimed order
to keep Russell and the diner afloat.

BARBARA

He made a hundred pies and I never
even gave him a name or a credit card.

SARAH

Hey, sometimes you just get lost in
the art.

THE TWO ACTUALLY SHARE A LAUGH OVER THIS.

CAMPBELL

Aww, you love each other.

SARAH ROLLS HER EYES AND SHAKES HER HEAD. JUST THEN, AS WE'VE SEEN TWICE BEFORE, GARRETT BURSTS IN FROM THE SIDE DOOR IN NOTHING BUT UNDERWEAR, BEING CHASED BY NICK.

NICK

It's time to get dressed!

GARRETT

Never--

BUT THIS TIME, BEFORE GARRETT REACHES THE STAIRS, BARBARA STEALTHILY EXTENDS A FOOT, TRIPPING HIM AND SENDING HIM DOWN HARD.

SARAH

What the-- Did you just trip him?

BARBARA

He has to learn it's dangerous to run in a house.

SARAH

You can't just trip a child!

BARBARA

SARAH (CONT'D)

You and your Gen X rules.

(OVERLAPPING) And don't call it a Gen X rule, it's an all time rule!

SARAH AND BARBARA ARGUE THEIR RESPECTIVE POINTS OVER ONE ANOTHER AS CAMPBELL LAUGHS, ENTERTAINED BY WHAT WE ALL KNOW IS JUST THE BEGINNING OF MANY MORE DISAGREEMENTS. AND WE...

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW