

# Everybody Hates Chris

“Everybody Hates Funerals”

Episode 017

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Everybody Hates Chris  
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"Everybody Hates Funerals"  
Cast List

JULIUS .....TERRY CREWS  
ROCHELLE..... TICHINA ARNOLD  
CHRIS..... TYLER WILLIAMS  
DREW..... TEQUAN RICHMOND  
TONYA..... IMANI HAKIM  
GREG..... VINCENT MARTELLA  
CARUSO ..... TRAVIS FLORY  
ADULT CHRIS .....CHRIS ROCK

MRS. MORELLO..... JACQUELINE MAZARELLA  
MR. HARRIS.....ANTONIO FARGAS  
JEROME ..... KEVONTAY JACKSON  
RISKY..... MIKE ESTIME  
GENE.....  
MAXINE.....  
MICHAEL .....  
CHARLOTTE.....  
AUNT MOUSEY.....  
*FUNERAL DIRECTOR*.....  
MONAY .....  
TEENAGE ROCHELLE .....  
**\*WHITE MOTHER**.....

Everybody Hates Chris  
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Sets List

INTERIORS

HOUSE

- LIVING ROOM
- DINING ROOM
- KITCHEN
- HALLWAY
- FRONT DOOR
- BOYS' BEDROOM
- PARENTS' BEDROOM

CORLEONE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

- CLASSROOM

LIMOUSINE

FUNERAL HOME

CHAPEL

\*TEENAGE ROCHELLE'S

BEDROOM

\*ANOTHER FAMILY'S HOUSE

EXTERIORS

STREET

VARICK STREET

CORLEONE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

OMITTED

GENE'S HOUSE

COLD OPEN

1 INT. BOYS' BEDROOM - DAY (D-1) 1

CHRIS reads the newspaper as ROCHELLE enters with a yo-yo.

ROCHELLE

Chris! How many times do I have to  
tell you, quit leaving this damn yo-  
yo on the floor. You trying to  
kill me?

\*  
\*  
\*

CHRIS

I forgot where I left it.

She tosses the yo-yo at him as she walks off.

\*

ROCHELLE

Will you remember when I fall down  
the stairs and break my neck?

\*  
\*  
\*

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

Sometimes it felt like all my  
mother did was yell at everybody.

2 INT. KITCHEN - LIMBO 2

TONYA holds the refrigerator door open as Rochelle yells.

ROCHELLE

Tonya! Close that door. Are you  
trying to freeze the whole house?

3 INT. LIVING ROOM - LIMBO 3

DREW is watching a VERY LOUD TV as Rochelle enters.

\*

ROCHELLE

Drew! Turn that mess down. Are  
you trying to make everybody deaf?

4 INT. FRONT DOOR - LIMBO 4

JULIUS enters from work, Rochelle is oiling hinges in the  
door.

\*  
\*

ROCHELLE

Julius! I thought I told you to  
oil these hinges? Do I have to do  
everything around here?

\*

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)  
And when I say my mother yelled at  
everybody, I mean everybody.

\*

5 INT. PARENTS' BEDROOM - LIMBO

5

Rochelle stands in front of a mirror.

ROCHELLE  
Rochelle, what did I tell me? Are  
you trying to drive me crazy?

\*

\*

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)  
But there was one person who always  
put my mother in a good mood...

6 INT. FRONT DOOR - LATER (D-1)

6

Rochelle opens the door to GENE, 60s.

\*

ROCHELLE  
Daddy!!!

\*

\*

Rochelle gives him a big hug and kiss.

\*

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)  
My mother loved her daddy. And we  
did, too.

\*

\*

\*

ROCHELLE  
(worried)  
Where's mama?

\*

\*

\*

GENE  
I left her at home.

\*

\*

Rochelle is excited again.

\*

a7 INT. LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER (D-1)

a7

As Gene comes around the corner and the kids race to him.

\*

\*

7 INT. DINING ROOM - LATER (D-1)

7

The whole family is sitting at the table eating soul food.

\*

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)  
My grandfather was a great  
storyteller.

GENE

He didn't think I was playing after  
I smacked him with that brick!

Everybody laughs.

GENE

And to this day, whenever I go in  
there my food is free.

JULIUS

Gene, tell the kids about the time  
you tried to teach Rochelle to  
drive.

\*  
\*  
\*

8 EXT. STREET - DAY - FLASHBACK - 1966 8

Gene rides with TEENAGE ROCHELLE, then -- BAM! She hits a  
car.

\*  
\*

GENE

We ain't got no insurance. Run!

Gene and Rochelle hop out of the car and run.

\*

9 BACK TO SCENE - INT. DINING ROOM (D-1) 9

Everybody laughs.

DREW

Did they catch you?

\*  
\*

GENE

They would have if I didn't smack  
them with that brick.

Laughter. Rochelle gives Gene a piece of corn bread.

\*

DREW

Hey, Granddad, you got any good  
jokes?

\*

GENE

You know I do. Knock-knock.

CHRIS

Who's there?

GENE

Pass me those pork chops.

\*

DREW

Pass me those pork chops, who? \*

GENE

Boy, that ain't the joke. I want  
some pork chops. \*

Drew passes him the food. \*

TONYA

What's the rest of the joke,  
Granddad?

Gene takes a bite. \*

GENE

Damn this is good. Okay, knock-  
knock. \*

CHRIS

Who's there? \*

GENE

Give me some salt... \*

Tonya passes the salt. Gene salts as he eats. \*

TONYA

Who's there, Grandpa?

GENE

Oh, yeah. Knock-knock. \*

CHRIS

Who's there?! \*

Gene clutches his chest. He screams in agony. \*

GENE

Help me!! \*

CHRIS

Help me who? \*

GENE

No!! I'm dying. \*

ROCHELLE

I'm dying who? \*

GENE

No fool!! I'm - having - a - heart \*

-- \*

TONYA

You're having a heart who?

Finally he falls into his plate, dead. BLOOMP!

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

I never did find out who was there.

\*  
\*  
\*

10-11 OMITTED

10-11

END OF COLD OPEN



ACT ONE

12 INT. DINING ROOM - MORNING (D-2) 12

The kids and Julius sit around the table. The mood is somber as they eat. \*

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

My grandfather passing away was the first time I had to deal with a death in the family. I didn't know how to react. I guess my mother didn't either, because instead of doing this... \*

13 INT. LIVING ROOM - LIMBO 13

Rochelle is hysterical. She holds up big pork chop. \*

ROCHELLE

(melodramatic)

Why, Daddy, why?! You know I loved you, Daddy! Whyyyyyyyyy?!

14 BACK TO SCENE - INT. DINING ROOM (D-2) 14

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

She did this...

ROCHELLE

Good morning!

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

I hadn't seen her this happy since they invented biscuits in a can. \*

Rochelle brings in a bowl of eggs, pleasant as can be. Everyone eyes her curiously. \*

JULIUS

I can't believe your father is gone. \*

TONYA

I can't believe he never finished that joke.

CHRIS

I'm never eating pork chops again.

DREW

I can't believe he died sitting  
right here.

\*

Rochelle eats happily. Chris watches her.

ROCHELLE

Well, everybody has to die  
someplace. Now, eat your eggs.

\*

TONYA

I hate eggs. Can I have cereal?

ROCHELLE

Sure, Tonya. No problem.

Chris eyes Rochelle.

\*

DREW

Do we have to go to school today?

\*

\*

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

Usually the only death that could  
keep us out of school was our own.

\*

ROCHELLE

(sweetly)

Not if you don't want to.

DREW

Cool!

\*

Chris eyes Rochelle.

\*

ROCHELLE

You want to stay home, Chris?

CHRIS

No. I have a quiz today.

\*

\*

JULIUS

Can I stay home, too?

\*

\*

ROCHELLE

Sure.

\*

\*

Chris's eyes get big.

\*

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

I didn't know what was wrong with  
my mother, but at that moment all I  
could think of doing was this...

\*

\*

\*

\*

a15 INT. DINING ROOM - FANTASY (D-2) a15 \*

Chris grabs his mother by the collar. He smacks her twice. \*

CHRIS \*  
Snap out of it, woman!!! \*

b15 BACK TO SCENE - INT. DINING ROOM (D-2) b15 \*

JULIUS \*  
I'm just kidding. \*

ROCHELLE \*  
Oh, have a nice day! \*

She gets up and walks out. Off Julius's look. \*

15-20 OMITTED 15-20 \*

21 EXT. CORLEONE JUNIOR HIGH - LATER (D-2) 21 \*

Chris and GREG sit on the steps as STUDENTS pass. \*

GREG \*  
Man, your grandfather died. That's \*  
rough. I had a parakeet that died \*  
and I cried for three weeks.

CHRIS \*  
Yeah, everybody's crying a lot, \*  
except my mother. She's just \*  
acting strange.

GREG \*  
You mean strange like...

a22 EXT. STREET - LIMBO a22

Rochelle stands on the street corner accosting PASSERSBY. \*  
She's wearing a raincoat over a duck suit, hopping on one \*  
foot, wearing one red boot and holding a chicken. \*

ROCHELLE \*  
(yelling)  
There's a TV in my head! There's a \*  
TV in my head! Change the channel! \*  
There's a TV in my head!

b22 BACK TO SCENE - EXT. CORLEONE JUNIOR HIGH (D-2)

b22

Chris looks at Greg like he's nuts. \*

CHRIS

No... She's just been really nice. \*

BELL RINGS. They head in.

22 INT. CLASSROOM - A LITTLE LATER (D-2)

22

MRS. MORELLO reads at her desk as Greg and Chris whisper during the quiz.

GREG

So were you guys close?

CHRIS

Yeah, he was my grandfather.

Mrs. Morello eyes Chris.

MRS. MORELLO

Chris, why don't you stand up and tell the rest of the class what you're discussing with Gregory?

Chris stands hesitantly. \*

CHRIS

My grandfather died.

MRS. MORELLO

Chris, that's not funny. \*

GREG

He's telling the truth.

MRS. MORELLO

Oh, Chris.

CHRIS

You believe *him*?

MRS. MORELLO

Of course.

CHRIS

And not *me*?

MRS. MORELLO

(sympathetic)

Well Chris, your grandfather died.  
You might say anything. What are  
you even doing here? Bring me your  
paper. Don't worry about the test.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

Chris approaches her with the paper and she takes it.

\*

CHRIS

Really?

\*

MRS. MORELLO

Really. You're excused.

\*

As Chris exits;

\*

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

I was glad I hadn't lied and said  
he died earlier.

\*  
\*

23 INT. FRONT DOOR - DAY (D-2)

23

Rochelle opens the door to her mother, MAXINE, an attractive  
woman in her late 50's, who barges in.

ROCHELLE

Mama.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

That's my grandmother, Maxine. She  
was the only woman who could out-  
snob my mother.

a24 INT. STREET - FLASHBACK

a24

Rochelle and Maxine are going shopping. Rochelle has on a  
leather coat.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

ROCHELLE

Mama, you like this coat? It's  
leather.

\*  
\*  
\*

Maxine touches it.

\*

MAXINE

It feels cheap. Feel mine. That's  
Italian leather.

\*  
\*  
\*

b24 BACK TO SCENE - INT. FRONT DOOR (D-2) b24 \*

MICHAEL enters behind Maxine carrying the luggage. \*

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)  
My Uncle Michael was almost forty  
and never had a job. He put the  
"um" in "bum." \*

MICHAEL  
Hey, Sis. Good to see you. Y'all  
got something to eat? \*

Behind Michael is Rochelle's weeping sister, CHARLOTTE, late-  
twenties. She enters crying and clings to Rochelle. \*

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)  
That's my Aunt Charlotte, but we  
call her Grievy because we only saw  
her at funerals. No birthdays, no  
weddings, just funerals. \*

MAXINE  
Grievy, stop crying. \*

Maxine pulls Charlotte off of Rochelle and pushes her into  
the house. Rochelle's AUNT MOUSEY, sixties, enters quietly. \*

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)  
That's Aunt Mousey. We called her  
that because she talked like a  
mouse and she only spoke when  
spoken directly to. \*

ROCHELLE  
Hi, Aunt Mousey. How you doing?

AUNT MOUSEY  
(mouse-like)  
Fine. \*

24 INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER (D-2) 24 \*

Julius enters with Drew and Tonya. They each give Maxine  
hugs. AD-LIB hellos. \*

TEENAGE ROCHELLE  
I'm gonna take Michael and  
Charlotte upstairs and get them  
situated. Come on, Mousey... \*

Aunt Mousey sits in a chair with her coat on. \*

AUNT MOUSEY

I'm fine.

As they exit.

MAXINE

Julius, shouldn't you be at work?

JULIUS

You know I'm on my way. Those people ain't going to be happy until they work me to death. I just came to say hi real quick. How are you?

MAXINE

I'm doing okay, I guess. Gene and I were married for forty years.

JULIUS

I hope Rochelle and me make it that long.

MAXINE

The way she keeps this house, I'm surprised you haven't left already.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

My grandmother always criticized everything my mother did...

a25 INT. ROCHELLE'S BEDROOM - FLASHBACK - 1970

a25

A YOUNGER MAXINE awakens a TEENAGE ROCHELLE, who is in bed.

MAXINE

Get up, Rochelle, it's time for you to go to work.

ROCHELLE

Mama, I'm sleeping.

MAXINE

You call that sleeping!

b25 BACK TO SCENE - INT. LIVING ROOM (D-2)

b25

Julius quickly changes subjects.

JULIUS

Well, if there's anything I can do--

MAXINE

I'll let you know because heaven  
only knows I can't count on  
Rochelle to make toast.

\*  
\*  
\*

REVEAL Rochelle.

\*

ROCHELLE

What? You want some toast? I'll  
get it...

(beat)

Honey. You want anything special  
for dinner?

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

JULIUS

Anything but pork chops.

\*  
\*

25 OMITTED

25 \*

26 OMITTED

26 \*

27 EXT. CORLEONE JUNIOR HIGH - AFTER SCHOOL (D-2)

27 \*

Chris exits the school with Greg. They AD-LIB good-byes.  
CARUSO and his BOYS step into Chris' path.

\*

CARUSO

Hey, Shaft, that's too bad about  
your grandpa. Sorry.

\*  
\*

CHRIS

Really?

CARUSO

Yeah. I mean, who's going to teach  
you how to tap dance now?

\*  
\*  
\*

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

Caruso was the only guy I ever met  
who'd give you an apology and a  
foot in the ass at the same time.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

Caruso and his boys walk off. Off Chris' look.

\*

28 INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER (D-2)

28

Michael is eating. In the background, Chris sits with Maxine  
at the dining table.

\*  
\*



ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

At home, even though my mother  
seemed to be keeping it together,  
the house was falling apart...

Michael pulls off his SOCKS and throws them on the floor. He  
puts his feet up on the coffee table. Rochelle notices, but  
doesn't say a word. Mousey sits quietly with her coat on.

MICHAEL

Rochelle... can you change to  
channel four?...

ROCHELLE

No problem.

She does. Chris watches quietly.

a29 INT. DINING ROOM - A LITTLE LATER (D-2)

a29

Maxine is at the table with Rochelle and Chris. She's  
looking at brochures.

MAXINE

Rochelle, why are you still using  
this old dinette set? You could at  
least get matching chairs. You  
need to help me pick out a casket.

ROCHELLE

I will.

MAXINE

Bring me some iced tea.

Rochelle does.

29 INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS (D-2)

29

Charlotte is in the kitchen crying on the phone, the  
refrigerator door is wide open just like it was with Tonya  
earlier. Rochelle notices but doesn't say a word. She gets  
some iced tea for Maxine. She also pulls out a box of  
Chocolate turtles. She walks out to the dining room.

30 INT. DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS (D-2)

30

Rochelle puts the tea on the table then steps on something.

ROCHELLE

Dammit!!!!

CHRIS

What?

She bends down and picks up his yo-yo.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

You ever had the feeling you were  
about to get smacked upside the  
head with a yo-yo?

ROCHELLE

Here, baby. Be careful.

CHRIS

You're not mad?

ROCHELLE

(chipper)

No. Why would I be mad?

She walks off.

MAXINE

This tea tastes funny. Is this  
fresh brewed or from the jar?

Chris gets up to follow Rochelle.

CHRIS

I think it's fresh brewed.

MAXINE

Tastes like it's from the jar.

Chris exits the dining room to the hallway.

31 INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS (D-2)

31

Rochelle is on the steps eating turtles. Chris sits beside  
her.

ROCHELLE

Hey baby, want a turtle?

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

When my mother offered me a turtle,  
I knew something was wrong. The  
last time somebody ate one of her  
turtles, this happened...

32 INT. LIVING ROOM - FLASHBACK 32

Julius, Chris, Drew and Tonya are lined up as Rochelle stalks up and down the line holding an empty box of turtles.

ROCHELLE

Let me smell your breath.

Julius cowers.

33 BACK TO SCENE - INT. HALLWAY (D-2) 33

Rochelle takes a big bite, mumbling how good it is to herself. \*

CHRIS

No, that's okay. You need anything, Mom? \*

ROCHELLE

I'm fine. You sure you don't want a turtle? \*

Chris hugs her.

ROCHELLE

What was that for?

CHRIS

Just want you to know I love you.

Chris heads in as Rochelle takes a big bite of a turtle.

a34 INT. LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER (D-2) a34 \*

Chris heads into the house and sees Michael on the couch. \*

b34 INT. KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER (D-2) b34 \*

Chris walks in and sees Charlotte on the phone, crying. \*

c34 INT. LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER (D-2) c34 \*

Chris sees Aunt Mousey in the corner with her coat on. \*

d34 INT. DINING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER (D-2) d34 \*

Chris sees Maxine sitting at the dining room table. \*

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

Since my mother wasn't being  
herself, I decided to pick up the  
slack the best way I knew how.

\*  
\*

34 INT. KITCHEN - LATER (D-2) 34

Chris washes the dishes.

35 INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER (D-2) 35

Chris tells Drew and Tonya to make their beds. Rochelle  
walks by eating turtles.

\*  
\*

36 INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER (D-2) 36

Chris picks things up off the floor. Makes Michael take his  
feet off the table. Rochelle walks by eating turtles,  
smiling.

\*  
\*  
\*

37 INT. DINING ROOM - EVENING (N-2) 37

Chris brings dinner out to the table. Rochelle has a plate  
full of turtles.

\*  
\*

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

As bad as she felt, I didn't know  
it was about to get worse.

\*  
\*  
\*

MAXINE

Chris, pass me the tea, baby.

\*  
\*

He does. She pours, tastes... makes a face.

\*

MAXINE

Ugh. Rochelle, can't you make a  
decent glass of iced tea?

\*  
\*  
\*

CHRIS

Can't you just leave her alone?  
It's iced tea. What difference  
does it make where it's from? If  
you're thirsty, drink it. If  
you're not, don't.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

Chris continues to eat. EVERYONE at the table is staring at  
him. Chris looks up.

\*  
\*

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

Uh-oh.

\*  
\*

MAXINE

Rochelle. Are you just going to  
sit there and let that boy talk to  
me like that?

(to Chris)

Don't you know I'll knock you into  
another family?

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

a38 INT. ANOTHER FAMILY'S HOUSE - LIMBO

a38

Chris sits with a WHITE FAMILY.

\*  
\*

WHITE MOTHER

Who are you?

\*  
\*

CHRIS

You don't want to know.

\*  
\*

WHITE MOTHER

Well can you at least pass the  
butter?

\*  
\*  
\*

Chris passes the butter.

\*

END OF ACT

\*

ACT TWO

b38 INT. BOYS' BEDROOM - NIGHT (N-2)

b38

Drew is asleep. Chris is sitting up reading a comic book.  
Julius enters. He sits on Chris' bed.

JULIUS

Hey, man.

CHRIS

Hey.

JULIUS

I heard what happened.

CHRIS

I wasn't trying to be disrespectful  
to Grandma. I just don't see how  
come Mom keeps letting everybody do  
what they're doing.

JULIUS

She's hurt, Chris. And your  
grandmother is too. I know you want  
to protect your mother, but trust  
me, you don't want to get between  
the two of them. You're not going  
to win that one.

CHRIS

So what should I do?

JULIUS

Don't do anything. Things will  
work out.

38 INT. FUNERAL HOME - THE NEXT DAY (D-3)

38

The family and extended family sits at a desk with the  
FUNERAL DIRECTOR.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

You can't really believe you're  
getting married until you buy a  
wedding dress and you can't really  
believe somebody is dead until you  
buy a casket.

FUNERAL DIRECTOR

(to Maxine)

I'm really sorry about your loss.

MAXINE

Don't lie. You're not sorry.  
That's how you get paid. The only  
thing you're sorry about is that I  
didn't die with him.

\*

FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Well, we have several models.

\*

He flips through the pages of a brochure, (perhaps placing  
little model caskets on the desk in front of them).

\*

\*

FUNERAL DIRECTOR

This one over here is our top of  
the line model. It's made of  
Mahogany, silk lining over goose  
down bedding and a night light.

\*

\*

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

I guess that's in case the dead  
want to read.

Charlotte cries louder.

\*

ROCHELLE

Mama, what do you think about the  
blue one?

\*

MAXINE

I don't like it. It's a coffin not  
an Oldsmobile.

\*

She points to the top of the line model.

MAXINE

I like this one.

\*

\*

JULIUS

Maxine, that's a lot of money.

FUNERAL DIRECTOR

We do have payment plans.

\*

JULIUS

Can we put it in my father-in-law's  
name?

\*

\*

\*

FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Well...

\*

\*

JULIUS

I didn't think so.

\*

\*

ROCHELLE

Whatever you want to do, Mama.

\*  
\*

JULIUS

Rochelle, even if we split this  
five ways, that's a lot of money.

\*

MAXINE

Who said we were splitting it?

JULIUS

I just assumed that we'd all chip  
in. It is your husband.

\*  
\*

MICHAEL

Here, I want to help out.

He hands Julius a card.

\*

JULIUS

What's this?

\*

MICHAEL

It's a baseball card. Al Oliver.  
He played for Pittsburg. A  
lifetime three-thirty hitter.  
That's going to be worth thousands  
of dollars someday.

JULIUS

*How much is it worth now?*

MICHAEL

At least twenty-five cents.

CHARLOTTE

I've got forty dollars saved up.

AUNT MOUSEY

(mouse-like)

I have some quarters.

\*

MAXINE

(loud, to Julius)

Your father deserves to be buried  
with dignity. Who the hell are you  
to tell me I can't do that?

\*

EVERYONE ARGUES. It just seems to be getting noisier and  
noisier. Everyone is calling out to Rochelle.

\*  
\*

MAXINE

Fine. Get whatever the hell you  
want. Come on!

\*  
\*  
\*



Rochelle is left sitting alone at the desk. \*

ROCHELLE \*

We'll take the blue one. My father  
liked blue. \*

FUNERAL DIRECTOR \*

That's a fine choice. Can I  
interest you in a headstone? \*

a39-41 OMITTED.

a39-41 \*

a42 INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT (N-3)

a42 \*

Where there was conversation before with the family and  
extended family, now no one is talking. Rochelle is not  
there. \*

MAXINE \*

Pass the tea, please. \*

Chris looks up. Says nothing. He passes the tea. Maxine is  
sitting in Rochelle's seat. \*

b42 INT. PARENTS' BEDROOM - SAME TIME (N-3)

b42 \*

Rochelle sits on her bed eating turtles with a PHOTO OF GENE  
lying by her. \*

Gene sits down next to her. (Note: he is not a spirit). \*

GENE \*

I always hated that picture.  
Looked like I was smacked in the  
head with a brick. \*

ROCHELLE \*

Hey, Daddy. Want a turtle? \*

GENE \*

No thanks. How you holding up,  
baby? \*

ROCHELLE \*

I don't know. Mama's getting on my  
nerves. \*

GENE \*

She does that. She got on my  
nerves all the time. Listen... \*

(MORE) \*

GENE (cont'd)  
just because I'm dead, don't you  
let her push you around, okay?  
Smack her with a brick if you have  
to.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

ROCHELLE  
Okay. I love you, Daddy.

\*  
\*

GENE  
I love you, too. Hey, let me get  
one of them turtles.

\*  
\*  
\*

42 EXT. VARICK STREET - DAY (D-4)

42

\*

The family and the extended family exit the house dressed for  
the funeral, but no one is talking.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)  
By the day of the funeral, there  
was still one thing left to fight  
over...

\*  
\*  
\*

A LIMOUSINE pulls up in front of the house.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)  
Who gets to ride in the limo.

All the family members rush the door, then fight and bicker  
to get in. Rochelle manages to get in with Maxine right  
behind her.

\*  
\*

43 INT. LIMOUSINE - CONTINUOUS (D-4)

43

\*

Rochelle and Maxine settle into their seats.

\*

REVEAL MONAY, a party girl, with TWO SEXY FRIENDS. They are  
dressed for a party, not a funeral.

\*  
\*

MAXINE  
Who are you? What are you doing in  
here?

\*  
\*  
\*

MONAY  
I'm Monay. That's Aisha. That's  
Kiki. We just saw the limo and  
hopped in. Where y'all going?

\*  
\*  
\*

ROCHELLE  
To a funeral.

\*

MONAY  
I'm sorry. Who died?

\*  
\*

MAXINE

My husband.

MONAY

Oh. When y'all come back, if y'all  
not using the limo, can we take it  
to the club?

Rochelle and Maxine look at each other. Rochelle considers,  
then.

ROCHELLE

Okay.

Maxine looks at Rochelle like she has lost her mind.

aa44 EXT. VARICK STREET - MOMENTS LATER (D-4)

aa44

The limo pulls off leaving the girls standing on the curb.

a44 INT. DINING ROOM - LATER (D-4)

a44

(Formerly scene 50)

Chris and Michael are standing by a table full of food. MR.  
HARRIS, JEROME, and RISKY are among the guests. Julius and  
Rochelle enter the room.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

The only thing more crowded than a  
limo before the funeral, is your  
house after the funeral.

MR. HARRIS

Hey, I brought you all some  
bologna, some salami and I made  
some Sloppers for you. They're in  
the kitchen.

Julius and Rochelle hug Mr. Harris. Risky comes over.

RISKY

That was a beautiful ceremony.  
Next time somebody dies let me  
know, I'll get you a deal on a  
casket.

Julius gives him the "shut up" face.

ANGLE ON: Chris as Jerome approaches.

JEROME

Little dude from across the street,  
here you go.

He hands Chris several dollars and some change.

CHRIS

What's this for?

JEROME

I robbed your grandfather a few  
times. I didn't know you knew him.

CHRIS

Thanks...

Greg enters. \*

CHRIS

Hey, what are you doing here?

GREG

My dad dropped me off to pay my  
respects. He had to go to work.  
(to Rochelle) \*  
Sorry about your dad. \*

Suddenly the room is quiet and everyone is looking at Chris,  
Greg and Rochelle.

MICHAEL

Mama! Come look. Chris has a  
white friend.

Maxine works her way to the front of the crowd around Greg  
and Chris.

MAXINE

Oh... that's so sweet.  
(to Greg)  
You know his grandfather never  
liked white people. He sure would  
be proud.

They all gather around Greg and start taking pictures with  
him. \*

44-47 OMITTED

44-47 \*

48 BACK TO SCENE - INT. LIVING ROOM (D-4)

48 \*

The guests begin to leave. AD-LIB good-bye's all around. \*

MR. HARRIS

It was a beautiful service. Hey,  
have Chris stop by the store. We  
got a new video game. I have some  
free tokens for him.

JEROME

Little dude from across the street,  
you stay up now. How you feel?

CHRIS

I'm okay.

JEROME

Cool... Can I hold a dollar?

Chris pays him.

More AD-LIB good-bye's. Finally every one is gone.

MAXINE

I'm glad they are gone. People get  
on my nerves. How they come to a  
funeral dressed like that? And who  
wrote that eulogy? That man was  
throwing around compliments like he  
was talking about Nelson Mandela.

ROCHELLE

I thought the service was nice.

MAXINE

You would. And I thought I told  
you to put Gene in his gray suit.

JULIUS

The gray suit was too small.

Michael takes his socks off and throws them on the floor. He  
plops down on the couch.

MICHAEL

Rochelle, can you heat up some of  
that macaroni for me?

Mousey sits in a corner with her coat on.

ROCHELLE

Sure.

She exits toward the kitchen.

a49 INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS (D-4)

a49

Charlotte is back on the phone, crying. The refrigerator is open. Rochelle says nothing. She looks through the fridge and pulls out her turtles. She opens the box and all of the turtles are gone.

ROCHELLE

Grievy...

CHARLOTTE

Huh?

ROCHELLE

Did you eat my turtles?

CHARLOTTE

(sniffle)

No...

b49 INT. DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS (D-4)

b49

Rochelle enters holding the empty box.

ROCHELLE

Who ate my turtles?!

MAXINE

Oh. Is that what you call those things? I ate them, but they were nasty. What's in those things anyway?

Rochelle is about to blow.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

I can't even tell you what that look says. If I said it, the show would get fined by the FCC.

JULIUS

Baby...

CHRIS

Mom...

ROCHELLE

Stay out of this.

MAXINE

You got something to say?

ROCHELLE

(calmly)

Yes I do. I am sick of you. Ever since you got here, all you've done is complain. You don't like my turtles, why'd you eat them? Just because Daddy died doesn't mean you can come in my house, talk about me and my family. I'm tired of this. Michael, pick up your socks and get your feet off my table before smack the jam out of your toes. Laying up like I'm your mama. And Grievy, if you don't stop all that damn crying, I'm gonna give you something to cry about. It ain't that damn sad. And Aunt Mousey, take off that damn coat!! You been acting like you're going to leave ever since you got here.

(to Maxine)

And don't you threaten my child again. He is my son, if anybody is going to knock him into somebody else's family, it's going to be me.

MAXINE

Is that all?

ROCHELLE

No. Julius, go get me some turtles. I'm going to bed.

She gets up and leaves the room. Julius follows her out.

49 INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS (D-4)

49

JULIUS

Hey, I'm proud of you.

ROCHELLE

For what?

JULIUS

Standing up to your mother like that.

ROCHELLE

Then why do I feel so guilty about it?

JULIUS  
She's your mother.  
(beat)  
You had me worried.

\*  
\*  
\*

ROCHELLE  
Why?

\*  
\*

JULIUS  
I thought you were about to smack  
her with brick.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

50 OMITTED

50

51 INT. PARENTS' BEDROOM - LATER (D-4)

51

Julius is getting dressed for work when Tonya enters.

JULIUS  
Hey, baby.

TONYA  
Daddy, do you have to go to work?

JULIUS  
Yeah, baby. You know that.

TONYA  
Even if you're going to die?

JULIUS  
Who said I was going to die?

TONYA  
You did. You said those people  
weren't gone be happy until they  
worked you to death.

JULIUS  
Honey, I was kidding. I didn't  
mean it.

TONYA  
Oh.

JULIUS  
Then I'll tell you what. Why don't  
I call in sick tonight and stay  
home with you? Would that make you  
feel better?



TONYA

Yeah.

JULIUS

Okay. Hand me the phone.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

My Dad called in sick in front of her, but as soon as Tonya went to sleep he took his ass to work.

A happy Tonya gives Julius the phone.

52 INT. LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME (D-4)

52

Michael, Charlotte and Aunt Mousey approach Rochelle.

MICHAEL

Sis, we gone head on out now. You tell Julius to hold onto that baseball card.

ROCHELLE

I'm glad you guys could come down.

CHARLOTTE

No, you're not, but we appreciate you putting up with us.

ROCHELLE

Grievy, you finally stopped crying.

\*

CHARLOTTE

I'm empty. See you at the next funeral.

ROCHELLE

Aunt Mousey, I'm glad you could make it. It was nice to have someone here from Daddy's side of the family.

AUNT MOUSEY

(mouse-like)

No problem. I love you. See you at Christmas.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

Mousey came to Christmas and we didn't know until New Year's Eve.

53 INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER (D-4)

53

Rochelle sits with Maxine.

MAXINE

So did he say anything before he died?

ROCHELLE

Who, Daddy? \*

MAXINE

No, Martin Luther King. Yes, your father. Did he mention me?

ROCHELLE

No. He just wanted more pork chops.

ADULT CHRIS (V.O.)

I know what you're thinking, she should have lied to her. But actually, the truth was better.

MAXINE

Figures. \*  
(beat) \*  
I'm sorry about... about \*  
everything. \*

ROCHELLE

I know. It's okay.

Chris enters. \*

MAXINE

Come here, baby.

CHRIS

I'm sorry if I was rude.

MAXINE

You were just standing up for your mama. That was a good thing to do. \*  
You take care baby. \*

She kisses them both and she heads out. \*

a54 INT. KITCHEN - LATER THAT DAY (D-4)

a54

Rochelle is washing dishes as Chris enters with a few cups.

CHRIS  
I think this is the last of it.

ROCHELLE  
Thank you, Chris.

Chris starts to exit.

ROCHELLE  
Oh, wait. I just thought of a  
story about your grandfather.

b54 EXT. CHAPEL - FLASHBACK b54 \*

Rochelle and Julius are about to get in the limo after their  
wedding. Gene is in a tuxedo. \*

GENE  
Now, if Julius don't act right...

Gene lifts a brick.

c54 BACK TO SCENE - INT. KITCHEN (D-4) c54

Rochelle and Chris are laughing.

CHRIS  
I'm going to miss him, Mom.

ROCHELLE  
Me too, Chris. Me too.

Chris heads out. We stay with him. \*

ROCHELLE (O.S.)  
Boy! Get in here and pick up this  
yo-yo! My daddy is dead, you  
trying to kill me, too! \*

Chris smiles. He turns and heads back. \*

END OF SHOW \*