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Growing Up Fisher

“Desk/Job”

Written by

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Directed by

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SHOOTING DRAFT

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Growing Up Fisher

Shooting Draft
January 17, 2014

CAST LIST

MEL	J.K. Simmons	
JOYCE	Jenna Elfman	
HENRY	Eli Baker	
KATIE	Ava Deluca-Verley	
RUNYEN	Lance Lim	
ADULT HENRY (V.O.)	Jason Bateman	
GLEN	Bill Fagerbakke	
JANICE	Carla Jimenez	
SLOAN	Matt Glave	
ANTHONY	Logan Miller	
CLERK (TRICIA)	Aloma Wright	*
GUY	TBD	
JUDGE	TBD	
BETH	Jean Villepique	*
DEREK	Bashir Gavriel	*
SECURITY GUARD	TBD	
LOUDSPEAKER (O.S.)	TBD	

Growing Up Fisher

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SET LIST

INTERIORS

IKENBERRY

PICK UP AREA

RETURNS DEPT

NEAR RETURNS DEPT

JOYCE'S HOUSE

LIVING ROOM

FOYER

MEL'S APARTMENT

APARTMENT HALLWAY

MEL'S OFFICE BUILDING - HALLWAY

MEL'S LAW OFFICE

KITCHEN

MEL'S OFFICE

MEL'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - (FB1)

COURTROOM

EXTERIORS

IKENBERRY

ACT ONE

INT. IKENBERRY - PICK UP AREA - DAY (D1)

1

HENRY and KATIE are with JOYCE, who is holding a receipt and talking to a CLERK, who types away at a computer. As me about "I am a blind attorney."

1 CLERK

Yeah, sorry. Looks like we won't have any of the *Flarkenstik* desks for three weeks.

2 JOYCE

That's a *Flarken* long time. How is a desk that's guaranteed in stock not in stock?

3 CLERK

Honey, I'm sorry. Here's what I think you should do. Go up to the second floor--

4 JOYCE

Okay--

5 CLERK

Buy a bed, and get up on the right side of it.

6 JOYCE

(gasps, hurt)

You know what? Just for that, I am going to write a strongly-worded email, sleep on it, and in the morning if I'm still angry send it to your boss. Hm.

MEL swoops in.

7 MEL

Joyce. Step aside.

8 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)

Being blind made my dad extra sensitive to unfairness in life...

9 JOYCE

Mel, I can handle this.

Mel steps in front of her anyway. Henry joins him.

10 MEL

(to Joyce)

Receipt please.

11 JOYCE
(handing it over)
Just... don't make a scene.

12 MEL
There won't be a scene. Unless they
don't give us what we deserve.
(then, to Henry)
Name?

13 HENRY
(reading clerk's nametag)
Tricia.

14 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)
*Being a lawyer made him
argumentative...*

15 MEL
Tricia, I'm gonna need to speak with a
manager.

16 CLERK
Sir, I can help you.

17 MEL
Can you give us the desk we already
paid for?

18 CLERK
No.

19 MEL
Then you can't help me.

20 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)
*Put them together, and this clerk
didn't stand a chance.*

21 MEL
Look Trish, you're clearly a delight.
But you don't want to deal with the
guy I'm about to become.

The clerk looks to Henry. Henry shakes his head: "You don't want any of this."

22 CLERK
Anton!

The clerk quickly crosses to get a manager. Katie shakes her head in disbelief and turns to Joyce.

23 KATIE
Once again, Superman swoops in and
fixes everything.

24 JOYCE
Probably one of the reasons Lois Lane
divorced him.

25 KATIE
I don't think they were married.

26 JOYCE
I don't think you're picking up what
I'm putting down.

EXT. IKENBERRY - MOMENTS LATER (D1)

2

TWO GUYS load a huge box into Joyce's car as Mel, Joyce,
Katie and Henry look on, eating Swedish meatballs, satisfied.

27 KATIE
Upgraded to a bigger desk for the same
price.

28 HENRY
(mouth full)
And we got a free plate of Swedish
meatballs. Boom! We got Mel-evated.

29 MEL
See that, a good argument that's well-
delivered always yields results. I
hope they're teaching you that on the
debate team, Henry.
(off Henry's eating)
And to not talk with your mouth full.

Joyce talks to one of the skinny guys loading her car.

30 JOYCE
Thanks, Anton. And I'm sorry, he didn't
mean half the things he said. I know
that still leaves quite a few things.

31 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)
*Mom was like "FEMA." Cleaning up after
Hurricane Mel.*

Joyce pulls a ten-dollar bill out of her purse.

32 JOYCE
Here's a little something.

33 MEL (O.S.)
Don't force the desk in, ya maniac!
Sounds like you're forcing it!

She immediately fishes out a twenty.

34 JOYCE
Here's a bigger something.

MAIN TITLES: "GROWING UP FISHER"

INT. JOYCE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM/FOYER - NEXT MORNING (D2) 3

Joyce is halfway through assembling the desk, looking at the complicated instructions.

35 JOYCE
Step forty-six. Use the L-shaped
wrench thingy to tighten the drawer
doohickey. Okey dokey. Easy peasy.

Joyce tries this and the drawer slides out and falls apart.

36 JOYCE (CONT'D)
Son of a bitchy.

She looks over to see KATIE and ANTHONY (in his football practice gear) acting all lovey-dovey in the foyer.

37 ANTHONY
Gummy Bear. I love your smile.

38 KATIE
Aw, Grizzly Bear. I love your eyes.

39 ANTHONY
Yeah, they're awesome.

40 JOYCE
Gummy, Grizzly? I could use a couple
paws over here.

41 ANTHONY
Can't. I gotta get to practice.
(then)
Listen, babe. I can't go to that movie
this afternoon.

42 KATIE
Aw, really? I already bought the
tickets.

43 JOYCE
(holding up drawer)
Did it! I put a drawer together.
(MORE)

JOYCE (CONT'D)

I am woman, hear me drawer.

(then)

Another great one. I gotta start jotting these down.

44 ANTHONY

(to Katie)

Yeah, my Nana's in town and we have to have a boring family get-together.

45 KATIE

I get it. I have to help my mother put a desk together, so I know all about boring family obligations.

46 JOYCE

I'm right here.

Katie and Anthony kiss and he exits. Katie closes the door, and sits by Joyce, who's tightening a screw.

47 KATIE

Why don't you just get Dad to call the furniture place and yell them into free assembly?

48 JOYCE

A - I can do this on my own. And B - Don't just sit there... help me.

INT. MEL'S APARTMENT - MORNING (D2)

4

CLOSE ON: a cereal bowl of blue milk. We widen to reveal Henry, in his pajamas, lounging on the couch eating cereal.

49 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)

Blue milk. The magical result of mixing three different sugary cereals...

HENRY'S POV: he lifts the bowl to drink the blue milk. The bowl almost fills the frame.

50 HENRY

Mmmm. So sweet.

51 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)

...and the cornerstone of the perfect day off from school.

HENRY'S POV: he lowers the bowl to see Mel standing there, a disapproving look on his face.

52 MEL
This is the plan for your day off?
Vegging at home, watching TV, slurping
cereal?

53 HENRY
Not in that order.

54 MEL
Why don't we just hand China the keys
to our country?

INT. APARTMENT HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER (D2)

5

A still-pajama-ed Henry walks a ready-for-work Mel and Elvis
out to catch a cab.

55 MEL
Remember, only answer the door if it's
Runyen. And you guys keep off the web,
no surfing for things your body tells
you it wants to look at, but I'm
telling you not to.

They run into PRINCIPAL SLOAN.

56 HENRY
Hey, Principal Sloan.

57 SLOAN
Ah-ah-ah, in this hallway I'm not your
Principal, I'm your Principal.
(then)
And as your pal, I was disappointed to
hear you quit the debate team.

58 MEL
(shocked)
Whoa, whoa, whoa. You quit debate?

Henry panics and gestures for Sloan to please stop talking.

59 SLOAN
Son, are you flashing gang signs at me?

60 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)
*I wasn't flashing gang signs, but my
day off was about to get shot in a
drive-by.*

INT. JOYCE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME (D2)

6

Joyce and Katie have finished assembling the desk. Katie
wheels over the desk chair. Joyce plops down into it.

61 JOYCE

Okay, time for a little test drive.
(pantomimes as she talks)
Type type type... answer important
phone call... look out window
pensively... file file file.

62 KATIE

Do you love it?

63 JOYCE

I really do. I mean, it's bigger than
I wanted but... bigger's better, right?

64 KATIE

You hate it.

65 JOYCE

I really do. But I'm sure I'll get
used to its super awkward large
drawers that are stupid and ugly but
whatever it's fine.

66 KATIE

(takes out cell phone)
I'm calling Dad. I'll get him to
return it.

67 JOYCE

(grabs Katie's phone)
No, wait.
(noticing)
God, I love your case.
(back on track)
What makes you think I can't return it
myself?

68 KATIE

'Cause you're terrible at
confrontation.

69 JOYCE

No, I'm not!

70 KATIE

(confrontational)
Yes, you are!

71 JOYCE

You know what, I don't want to argue
with you.
(then)
Oh, I see your point.
(then)
But you know what?
(MORE)

JOYCE (CONT'D)

I'm gonna get better at it. Starting with this desk. And you know what the best part is? Since Anthony ditched you for his Nana... you get to come with me.

INT. APARTMENT HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER (D2)

7

Back with Mel, Henry and Sloan.

72 MEL

I just don't understand why you quit debate. You love the Opinionaters.

73 HENRY

Yeah, I loved playing with blocks, too. You grow out of things.

74 SLOAN

Probably had something to do with losing his last tournament. He got destroyed up there.

75 HENRY

Destroyed? I came in second.

76 MEL

There are only two sides.

(then)

Henry, you don't succeed in this world by quitting. Every setback is an opportunity to better yourself. How do you think I became a lawyer with my own firm?

(gets an idea)

That's it. Slap on some khakis. I'm taking you to work with me.

77 HENRY

But Dad, I was gonna--

78 MEL

Bup bup! You're gonna see what hard work and determination can get you.

79 HENRY

Fine, I'll get dressed.

80 SLOAN

I see my work here is done.

(then)

How great is it I live across the hall?

81 HENRY
(stomping off)
So great.
(muttering)
I'm changing our wifi password, you
thief.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. MEL'S OFFICE BUILDING - HALLWAY - LATER (D2) 8

An upbeat Mel and a less than enthusiastic Henry walk down the hallway.

82 MEL
Ready for the best day of your life?

83 HENRY
I was. Now I'm just ready to follow you around at work.

They pass a sign that reads, "Fisher, Fisher, Jordan & Hart Attorneys at Law." Mel reaches for the entrance door and...

INT. MEL'S LAW OFFICE - CONTINUOUS (D2) 9

...As they enter, Mel interacts with Henry and various employees, never breaking stride, a la "The West Wing."

84 MEL
The world isn't going to stand still and wait for you, Henry.

85 BETH
Morning, Mr. Fisher.

86 MEL
Morning, Beth. You sound happy. Did someone finally go blond?

She giggles: she did indeed!

87 MEL (CONT'D)
(back to Henry)
The world is alive with people doing, creating, building...
(sniffing the air)
Smoking. Put that out!

A sheepish smoker puts out his cigarette as DEREK, the water delivery guy, steps up.

88 DEREK
What's up, Mr. F?

Mel holds out his fist for a bump. Derek bumps it.

89 MEL
Have a good one, Derek.
(aside to Henry)
Derek's delivering water bottles to save up for medical school.
(MORE)

MEL (CONT'D)

He isn't sitting on the couch slurping blue milk. Or any milk. He's lactose intolerant.

90 DEREK

If I take pills, I can eat a small scoop of ice cream.

They get to outside Mel's office, where JANICE greets them.

91 JANICE

Hi, Henry.

(then)

Mel, Yamamoto is holding on line one, still no verdict in the Kosakowski trial.

(putting pen in his hand)

And I need your signature on Camden Steel.

92 MEL

Did I start the letter politely and end with vague threats?

93 JANICE

You did.

94 MEL

I'm the best.

(signs, then to Henry)

While I grab this call, you look around and take in the sweet smell of success.

(sniffs)

And microwave popcorn.

Janice hands Mel a cup of coffee as he crosses into his office. Glen crosses up with an order form.

95 GLEN

Janice! Carly's school is having a raffle. Grand Prize is a trip for two to Las Vegas to see Cirque du Soleil's "Lurve." How many tickets you in for?

96 JANICE

Let me see. How about none?

97 GLEN

Come on, at Christmas, you bought like four rolls of Henry's stupid wrapping paper to support his debate team.

98 HENRY

I sold more rolls than anyone else and won an Xbox, that I should be playing right now.

Henry falls into a chair to take a breather. Mel pops back out of his office, on the move again.

99 MEL

Henry, come on! Clock's ticking.

Henry jumps back up and races after his dad.

INT. IKENBERRY - RETURNS DEPT - SAME TIME (D2)

10

A CROWD waits in a holding area with their return items. The crowd parts for Joyce and Katie who appear with a giant semi-assembled desk bungee-corded to a cart.

100 JOYCE

Wow, it's packed. This is like a Swedish Furniture refugee camp.

101 KATIE

Do you really need a desk? Can't you just use the kitchen table? We never use it for eating.

102 JOYCE

No! No, we're doing this.

(then, noticing)

Awww. There's *Flarkenstik*. That's the desk I wanted. Hey, cutie.

Joyce waves at a display, which includes a bright pink desk.

103 JOYCE (CONT'D)

Look at it sitting there. With its super cute drawers and just the right sizey-ness.

104 KATIE

It's so you. I can totally imagine it covered with half-written papers, weeks of unopened mail and lists of stuff you're never really going to do.

105 JOYCE

I know, right? It shouldn't be on display if it's not in stock. What a desk tease.

Joyce takes a number from the ticket dispenser.

106 JOYCE (CONT'D)
312?! Well, maybe they're close.

107 LOUDSPEAKER (O.S.)
Now serving number three...

They wait for the rest of the number. It doesn't come.

108 JOYCE
Well, I'm sure they have a bunch of
windows open.

They look over and see that only one window is open.

109 JOYCE (CONT'D)
Okay... I'm having a hard time
thinking of something positive to say.
(then)
Ooh, look. Ice cream cones for a buck.
Let's go get twenty.

110 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)
*While Mom was heading to the
cafeteria, I was stuck in class at the
University of Mel.*

INT. MEL'S LAW OFFICE - KITCHEN - LATER (D2)

11

Mel is making an argument to someone we don't see.

111 MEL
...And in closing, these are the
policies that your company has put
forth, which I have honored, therefore
we've entered into a contract, albeit
verbal, and I intend to hold you to
it.

REVEAL: Mel is talking to a PIZZA DELIVERY GUY holding a
large pie while Henry looks at his watch.

112 MEL (CONT'D)
This pie arrived in thirty-two
minutes, so free pizza.

The guy hands Henry the pizza and exits. In the b.g. Glen
attempts to load a heavy jug onto the water dispenser.

113 MEL (CONT'D)
See, you never give up.
(then)
Unless you're Glen. In which case,
move over.

Mel swoops in, feels for the jug and smoothly places it on the water cooler without spilling a drop. Henry shakes his head. Is there nothing this guy can't do?

114 GLEN
(sheepish)
I could have done that myself, but I tweaked my back while water rafting. Well, swimming. Well, getting out of the tub.
(admitting)
Okay, I sneezed when I woke up.

INT. MEL'S LAW OFFICE - MEL'S OFFICE - LATER (D2)

12

Henry and RUNYEN (wearing pajamas with a blazer over it) sit on Mel's couch. Runyen eats the pizza.

115 HENRY
Pajamas and a blazer?

116 RUNYEN
You texted me a last minute location change, and I made it work. Business casual. Eat your pizza.

117 HENRY
I'm not hungry. My dad brought me here 'cause he wanted to teach me a lesson. Well, lesson learned: There's nothing he can't do.

118 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)
People think it's hard to grow up with a dad that's blind. It is, but not for the reasons you might think...

INT. MEL'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - FLASHBACK (FB1)

13

Mel works on his laptop, listening (at double speed) to a recording of a deposition. Henry enters from his room.

119 HENRY
I have so much homework. I'm never going to finish it all.

120 MEL
I went to law school blind.

121 HENRY
(turns back to his room)
Sorry to have troubled you.

INT. MEL'S LAW OFFICE - MEL'S OFFICE - BACK TO PRESENT (D2) 14

Henry and Runyen as they were.

122 HENRY
What's the point of trying if I'm
never going to be able to even come
close to that?

123 RUNYEN
All I'm hearing is, you're not going
to finish that pizza.

On Runyen grabbing Henry's pizza...

INT. IKENBERRY - NEAR RETURNS DEPT - LATER (D2) 15

Joyce and Katie walk back to their cart licking ice cream
cones. Joyce accidentally drops hers.

124 JOYCE
Aw man. I mean, it was my third ice
cream but still.

Katie glances at her phone and gasps.

125 KATIE
Holy crap! Anthony's friend Fat
Anthony posted pics of them on
Instagram. He's not with his Nana.
He's at a Dodgers game!

126 JOYCE
That little jerk! What are you going
to do?

127 KATIE
Nothing. I mean, what can I do?

128 JOYCE
Bust him! You read me the riot act for
singing in the car. You can't call a
boyfriend out for lying to your face?!

They arrive back at their cart with the desk bungeed to it.
Joyce picks up her receipt, but looks around for something.

129 JOYCE (CONT'D)
Oh no. No no no. Someone stole our
number! 321, I put it down right here!

130 KATIE
Mom, no one took it. Maybe it just
blew away.

131 JOYCE

Oh yeah, it's the jet stream from
kitchen and dining.

(then)

Someone stole my number. I have been
burgled at Ikenberry.

People turn and stare at Joyce.

132 JOYCE (CONT'D)

If your dad were here, he'd have the
universe tripping over itself to bring
him a desk! I can't take it anymore!

(realizing)

So, you know what? I'm going to do
exactly what he does!

133 KATIE

Create embarrassing drama?

134 JOYCE

You betcha. I'm going to stake out the
area, wait for my number to be called
and confront the ticket thief.

(then, inspired)

And you know what you're doing while
I'm doing that?

135 KATIE

(hopeful)

Getting a soft pretzel?

136 JOYCE

No, calling Anthony and busting his
little, lying behind.

(off Katie's hesitance)

...Or I guess we could get Dad to do
it for you.

On Katie's open mouth shock.

INT. MEL'S LAW OFFICE - KITCHEN - LATER (D2)

16

Mel is getting a cup of coffee as Glen removes the jug of
water from the dispenser, spilling some as he does. Through
the door at the dining room table, we see Henry just sitting
around, holding a pencil under his nose like a mustache and
staring at framed photos of Mel shaking hands with important
people.

137 GLEN

So he quit debate. Big deal.
Kids quit stuff. I turned out okay and
I quit track, I quit choir, I quit
karate--

138 MEL
You didn't quit, they kicked you out of karate. Literally. Dad had to take you to the emergency room.

139 GLEN
Sensei Denise sent me flowers.

Glen grabs a new, full water bottle and attempts to place it on the dispenser.

140 MEL
You know I brought Henry here to inspire him. But it doesn't seem to be working.
(then, re: water noise)
What are you doing? We need a new water bottle already?

141 GLEN
No. I'm proving I can do it myself.

Glen heaves the bottle onto the cooler without spilling any and does a victory dance really close to Mel's face.

142 GLEN (CONT'D)
And I can! In your face! You cannot see it, but I'm in your face!

143 MEL
Really? It's that important that you have a win?

144 GLEN
(doing the "cabbage patch")
Yeah! In your face! I'm doing that thing, like after a touchdown!

145 MEL
Wait, that's a great idea. Henry lost his confidence after one bad debate. All he needs is a win to get his mojo back.

146 GLEN
(proud)
I'm full of good ideas.

Glen bends down to pull the cup out of the side cup dispenser, but then grimaces.

147 GLEN (CONT'D)
Oh, God. There goes my back again.

INT. IKENBERRY - NEAR RETURNS DEPT - LATER (D2)

17

Katie and Joyce are as we left them.

148 KATIE

I can't confront Anthony. 'Cause he'll be like,

(as Anthony, annoyed)

"Are you checking up on me?" And I'll be like,

(as whiny girl)

"You lied to me." And everyone at school will be like,

(judge-y)

"Drama." I don't want to be that girl.

149 JOYCE

What girl? The girl that's brave enough to confront her boyfriend when he plays her? Yeah, I know the urban lingo. Well, guess what? You are that girl. I like that girl. And I'm going to be the adult version of that girl. We're not allowing ourselves be to be "dissed" anymore.

150 KATIE

(smiles, turning)

"Dissed" is very nineties, but I like what you're saying. And you know what? I'm in. And you're on.

They high-five and get a little electric shock.

151 KATIE / JOYCE

Ow! / Yowza!

152 KATIE

Got a little shock there.

153 JOYCE

You know what that is? Girl Power! We will not take less than we deserve! It ends here. It ends now. It ends at Ikenberry!

SECURITY GUARD walks over.

154 SECURITY GUARD

Ma'am, can you keep it down?

155 JOYCE

Sorry. Yep.

INT. MEL'S LAW OFFICE - KITCHEN - SAME (D2)

18

Mel and Henry each grab a soda. Glen is mid-sales pitch with a FEW OFFICE WORKERS who look trapped.

156 GLEN

You're buying a chance to win front row tickets to the world's premiere French Canadian acrobatics show. When one of those twirling idiots falls and breaks their legs, you'll be close enough to touch 'em.

157 MEL

Oh God, Glen, are you still at this?

158 GLEN

Every parent has to sell twenty raffle tickets.

159 MEL

This is now officially a distraction.

(sotto, to Henry)

Henry, you're a good salesman. Help me out here. If you can get your Uncle to twenty tickets, I'll have you back in pajamas and on the couch before you can say blue milk.

160 HENRY

Really? Awesome!

Henry springs into action, stepping up to Glen.

161 HENRY (CONT'D)

Uncle Glen, you're going about this the wrong way. Gimme your phone.

Henry holds up the phone up so everyone can see.

162 HENRY (CONT'D)

Folks, this is my cousin Carly. Cute, huh? Born with two left feet. Couldn't kick a soccer ball if you glued it to her leg. This girl has been mocked, she's been humiliated, she's even been booed. Basically, the girl's a joke.

163 GLEN

Hey--

164 HENRY

And you know where she goes to feel safe? The same place outcasts have turned for centuries. The theater.

(MORE)

HENRY (CONT'D)

And that's exactly what the proceeds from these tickets are going to help build.

165 BETH

(holding up a five)

I played Medea in eighth grade.

Henry tears off five tickets and takes the money.

166 HENRY

Yeah, you did.

(then)

By buying these raffle tickets, you're standing up for all the uncoordinated children of the world.

167 GLEN

Preach.

168 HENRY

(big finish)

You're giving them a place to feel safe. And isn't that what we're all looking for? Love, acceptance and a safe place to be ourselves.

People applaud and gather around to buy tickets.

169 GLEN

Also, it'll keep the misfits like Carly from getting in the athletic kids' way.

Henry hands Glen the tickets and coolly starts to exit.

170 MEL

Well done, Henry. Let's go put you in a cab. You've earned it.

171 HENRY

No, you know what? I think I'll stay.

Henry smiles and exits to the hallway, high-fiving people.

172 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)

Yeah, it was just selling raffle tickets, but I remember walking out of that kitchen feeling five feet tall. Like maybe stepping out of my dad's shadow wasn't impossible.

173 HENRY

Uhp, forgot my drink.

Henry doubles back and outside the kitchen door hears Mel still talking about him. Henry smiles as he listens.

174 MEL (O.S.)
How great was the kid?
(then)
Thanks for playing along, guys. Henry
needed a win. I'll pay for all the
tickets.

On Henry, gut-punched...

175 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)
Annnd back to four foot eight.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. IKENBERRY - RETURNS DEPT - LATER (D2)

19

A pumped up Joyce looks around the returns department, sizing up potential number thieves.

176 KATIE
Who do you think the ticket thief is?

177 JOYCE
Gotta be weight belt guy. He should get his ass kicked just for wearing that in public.
(then)
Are you calling Anthony?

178 KATIE
(takes out phone, pumped up)
Watch me dial!

179 JOYCE
Ooh, how about Grandma over there? She looks shifty. I am not buying that crucifix.

180 KATIE
(re: phone)
It's ringing.

181 JOYCE
Don't let him sweet talk his way out of this. He lied to you.

Katie nods as Anthony's face appears on her phone. He is in a car.

182 ANTHONY (ON FACETIME)
Hey, Gummy Bear.

183 KATIE
Don't Gummy Bear me! I know you were at the Dodgers game! Fat Anthony put you on Instagram!

184 ANTHONY (ON FACETIME)
(turns to O.S. buddy)
Dude!
(then, to Katie)
Katie, what's the big deal? We can go to that movie anytime. I'm still your Grizzly Bear.

Joyce senses Katie's uncertainty and grabs her hand. They get a little shock and react surprised.

185 KATIE

The big deal is you lied! You're a lying liar and I'm not going to let someone disrespect me like that!

186 JOYCE

You go, Gummy!

INT. MEL'S LAW OFFICE - MEL'S OFFICE - LATER (D2)

20

Henry dejectedly spins in his Dad's office chair.

187 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)

Humiliation is defined as the painful loss of pride, self-respect or dignity. Check, check and check.

Mel enters.

188 MEL

There he is! The latest raffle total: forty-four tickets and counting.

Glen enters excitedly.

189 GLEN

Jury's back in the Kosakowski trial. I guess after your killer closing argument, they didn't need much time.
(then, to Henry)
You picked the right day to be here, kiddo. You get to see your dad in action.

190 MEL

It'll be fun. You can shadow me.

191 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)

Of course, all I heard was, "You can be in my shadow."

Mel and Elvis stride out purposefully with Glen. Henry follows, but he's dizzy from the chair and stumbles.

INT. IKENBERRY - RETURNS DEPARTMENT - LATER (D2)

21

Katie is still on the phone with Anthony as Joyce stands by supportively. Some people can't help but watch.

192 KATIE (ON PHONE)

I need to be with someone who respects me. Lying is unacceptable.

193 JOYCE

Nice. Preach, girl.

194 KATIE (ON PHONE)
No, we can't talk about this later.
Know why? There's not gonna be one.

195 JOYCE
Okay, easy does it, pump the brakes--

196 KATIE (ON PHONE)
'Cause you know what I'm learning,
Anthony? You are not a long-term
prospect. We're over. Gummy Bear out!

Katie hangs up. A woman watching golf-claps. A beat while
this sinks in.

197 JOYCE
Whoa, a breakup. Did not see that
coming.

198 KATIE
I was inspired by my mother's new
found kickass-ness and it just felt
right. No settling.
(then)
Whoo! This is such a rush. No wonder
Dad likes doing it!

Katie hugs Joyce. Joyce loves it but tries to keep her cool.

199 LOUDSPEAKER (O.S.)
Number 321.

Both immediately break the hug and turn to face returns.

200 JOYCE
Ooo, our number!

201 KATIE
And now it's your turn.

They watch as a HIPPIE-ISH GUY saunters up to the counter.

202 JOYCE
There he is. Okay. I can do this. I
can do this.

Joyce starts to walk up to him... but quickly retreats.

203 JOYCE (CONT'D)
I can't do this. I don't have the
ability to do what your father does.
He has the advantage of not having to
see the people he's confronting.

204 KATIE

Joyce, you can do this and you will.
Your whole life has been leading up to
this moment. It starts here, it starts
now, it starts at Ikenberry!

On Joyce, with renewed energy, walking forward...

INT. COURTROOM - LATER (D2)

22

Superhero music plays as the court room doors open and Mel
and Elvis march in with Glen and Henry in tow in slow motion.

205 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)

*I had always heard stories of my dad's
exploits in court, but until that day,
I had never seen him in action...*

206 MEL

Sit here, Henry. I'll be up front.

Henry watches Mel stride to the plaintiff's desk. He shakes
his client's hand, sets down his briefcase, and expertly
clicks it open with an echo-y CLACK.

207 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)

*And even though I was still stinging
from the raffle ticket incident, it was
amazing to see Dad in his element...*

Henry, now wide-eyed, watches as his dad prepares. Mel passes
a file to Glen, accepts a handshake from the bailiff and
whispers something that makes the client chuckle.

208 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)

*...And I couldn't help but get caught
up in the moment.*

Mel looks back over the bar toward Henry.

209 MEL

How we doing, son?

210 HENRY

(in awe)
Great.

211 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)

As Dad was getting warmed up...

INT. IKENBERRY - RETURNS DEPT - LATER (D2)

23

Joyce approaches the HIPPIE-ISH GUY who stole her number.

212 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)
...Mom was going full force.

213 JOYCE
Hey, cargo pants and pony tail. You stole my number!

214 KATIE
(to herself)
Whoa, right out of the gate.

215 GUY
(pleasantly)
Are you talking to me?

216 JOYCE
I sure am, Lady Hair. What kind of animal steals someone else's number?!

Joyce realizes people are starting to stare, but this only emboldens her.

217 GUY
Uh, ma'am, you got the wrong guy.

218 JOYCE
Really? Check your pockets. Check your hundreds of pockets.
(grabbing ticket)
Oh, wait, no need. Here it is.

219 GUY
Hey!

220 JOYCE
Yep, 321! That's my number!

ANGLE ON: Katie proudly watches Joyce... until she notices something stuck to her mom's ass. ZOOM IN: on Joyce's derriere, revealing her ticket-- Number 312!

221 KATIE
Oh, God!

INT. COURTROOM - LATER (D2)

24

As the jury finds their seats, Mel turns to Henry.

222 MEL
Here we go.

The bailiff collects a slip of paper from the head juror and passes it to the judge.

223 JUDGE

In the case of Kosakowski versus
Equity Construction, the jury finds in
favor of the defendant.

224 MEL

Wait, what?

The other side congratulates each other. Henry is shocked.

225 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)

Wait, what?

226 MEL

(standing)

Your honor, we're moving for an
immediate motion for judgement
notwithstanding the verdict.

227 JUDGE

You have no grounds. The court has
ruled.

228 MEL

Give me five minutes to poll the jury--

229 JUDGE

You've taken up enough of this court's
time, Mr. Fisher.

230 MEL

Your honor--

231 JUDGE

One more word out of you, and I'll
hold you in contempt. Court is
adjourned!

The judge bangs her gavel. On Henry's shocked face...

232 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)

*I don't know if justice was served,
but Dad sure was.*

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

INT. IKENBERRY - RETURNS DEPT - LATER (D2)

25

Joyce is still yelling at the guy in returns. Katie is looking on worried.

233 JOYCE

I may look like a pretty lady you can take advantage of, but that's just because I'm having a good hair day!

234 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)

Mom was discovering she could be confrontational.

235 JOYCE

You're a bully who thinks he can take another person's ticket without consequences and you're having a bad hair life.

(to Katie, proud)

Huh?

236 KATIE

(sotto)

Good one. Listen, wasn't our number 312?

237 JOYCE

No, it was 321...

(back to Guy, boldly)

...and this man stole it!

238 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)

Turns out she should have been confronting the back of her pants.

Katie gently plucks the ticket off her mother's behind and shows it to her. Joyce is struck speechless.

239 KATIE

Remember that shock we got before? I think it might've been static cling.

She turns back to the guy and hands him his ticket back.

240 JOYCE

(delicately)

So this would be yours.

(then)

And you know, I'm coming around on the cargo pants. It's really like having sixteen purses.

(to Katie)

(MORE)

JOYCE (CONT'D)

You know, on second thought, I don't think this desk is that bad.

241 KATIE

I kinda love it. Should we...

242 JOYCE

Get the hell out of here? Let's.

They grab their cart and quickly cross out. They pass the display of the original desk Joyce wanted. Katie stops.

243 JOYCE (CONT'D)

Don't stop, do not stop, or I will be leaving you here.

Katie gestures towards the floor model: "Dare we?" Joyce considers, then nods: "We dare."

244 JOYCE (CONT'D)

(to the old desk)

I will be leaving you here.

They check to make sure the coast is clear, then scurry up on the riser, each grabbing an end of the desk. They struggle as they carry it out.

245 JOYCE (CONT'D)

(straining)

Girl Power!

INT. MEL'S APARTMENT - LATER (D2)

26

Mel and Henry sit on the couch after a long day at work. Mel drinks a beer, Henry drinks a juice box.

246 MEL

I feel like I let you down.

247 HENRY

How?

248 MEL

I took you to work to inspire you, but after what happened in court...

249 HENRY

Are you kidding? That was awesome!

250 MEL

Wow, that's kinda... mean.

251 HENRY

Dad, you took me to work today to show me what success looks like, but instead you taught me it's okay to fail.

252 MEL

Well, I wouldn't say fail. I mean, most cases that go to trial--

253 HENRY

No, na-na-no. You fell flat on your face. At your job. I didn't know that was possible. I mean, you succeed at everything. And sometimes it sucks to be the son of that.

254 MEL

(sinking in)

Wait, is that why you quit debate? You didn't think you could live up to me?

255 HENRY

Well, you are kind of a superhero. And you probably never needed your dad to set up a whole raffle ticket scam just to make you feel like you could succeed.

256 MEL

You knew?

257 HENRY

Yep.

258 MEL

Well, did you also know that I didn't have to pay for a single ticket? Your sales pitch was so impressive that everyone paid for themselves.

259 HENRY

Really?

260 MEL

Yeah, except for Bernadette. She thinks Cirque du Soleil is the devil's gymnastics.

(then)

Henry, I will always be proud of whatever you do, as long as you try your best. Do you understand that?

261 HENRY
Yeah, totally. Like, you tried your
best today, but you got destroyed--

262 MEL
I'm gonna find a way to appeal that
case, so yeah, that'll probably end up
in the win column, too.
(then)
Am I sensing an eye roll from you?

Henry rolls his eyes and smiles.

263 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)
*It was easier for me to look up to Dad
now that his pedestal was a little
lower...*

INT. JOYCE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATER (N2)

27

Joyce and Henry sit on the sofa.

264 JOYCE
(excited)
Tell me again, tell me again what the
judge said.

265 HENRY
(imitating judge)
One more word out of you, and I'll
hold you in contempt.

Joyce and Henry laugh at his impression.

266 ADULT HENRY (V.O.)
*And for Mom, she now knew if she
didn't like that pedestal she could
return it for something she really
wanted.*

267 MEL (O.S.)
Joyce, you got the right damn desk.
Now help us carry it in!

Widen to REVEAL Mel and Katie are trying and failing to
navigate the new desk through the doorway. Joyce and Henry
cross over and help them.

268 MEL (CONT'D)
If it can't fit through a door, how
were you able to jam the desk into the
back of your car?

269 KATIE
Girl Power.

270 JOYCE
And adrenaline. We were being chased
by security.

They get the desk into place. Joyce stands back and takes it
in.

271 JOYCE (CONT'D)
You know what? Now that I see it in
the house, I'm not so sure.

272 MEL/HENRY/KATIE
You're keeping it!/No way!/We cannot
go back there!

As the family joyfully squabbles, we...

END OF SHOW