

**UNTITLED DANA KLEIN PROJECT**

Pilot

Dana Klein

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COLD OPEN

INT. MATT AND ELLEN'S HOUSE - DAY

NEUROTIC WORKING MOM ELLEN, HUSBAND MATT (RESPONSIBLE, CAUTIOUS), DAUGHTER FRANKIE (10, A BEAST) AND SON OLIVER (5, QUIRKY) ARE SQUEEZED TOGETHER ON THE COUCH. ELLEN HAS HER ARM EXTENDED AND IS TRYING TO TAKE A FAMILY SELFIE.

ELLEN

Okay, a little closer and look lovingly at each other.

FRANKIE

I hate this.

RESIGNED, MATT GIVES ELLEN HIS "LOVING" FACE, WHICH IS VERY FEMININE. LIKE A GIRL ABOUT TO CRY.

ELLEN

Lovingly but like you still have a penis.

OLIVER MAKES A CLUCKING SOUND.

FRANKIE

Stop. Clucking!

OLIVER KEEPS CLUCKING.

MATT

Can't we just do some natural shots?

ELLEN

Of them playing on the ipad, you grading papers and me eating cookie dough? No thanks. (THEN) Now everyone laugh. (OFF SILENCE) Laugh and you can watch TV.

THEY LAUGH ON CUE AND ELLEN SNAPS THE PHOTO.

**INSERT SHOT: FAMILY PHOTO.** A SUCCESS. THEY ALL LOOK HAPPY AND LIKE THEY LOVE EACH OTHER. BACK TO:

LIVE ACTION. EVERYONE PULLS AWAY, GETS UP FROM THE COUCH.

FRANKIE

I get to pick the show.

SHE HEADS UPSTAIRS AND HE FOLLOWS AFTER.

OLIVER

Nooooooooo!

ELLEN UPLOADS THE PHOTO.

ELLEN

(TYPING) Hashtag-family-love.

MATT

You're better than this.

ELLEN

Amy started a blog, Matt. Their amazing summer adventures in Asia. In one picture, our niece and nephew are riding on each other's shoulders in a rice paddy. Riding on each other's shoulders! I can't compete with that!

MATT

Yet you insist on trying...

ELLEN

And it looks like she lost more weight. Those thirty pounds were all I had on her! Now I have nothing!

MATT

Honey, did it ever occur to you that  
her pictures are staged?

ELLEN

Why would she stage pictures?

MATT

Why would we?!

ELLEN

You think? Huh. Maybe... (RE: PHONE)  
I mean, look at this one: Kids-love-  
soba-noodles-with-ginger-broccoli.

**INSERT SHOT: INSTAGRAM PHOTO.** JACK (HANDSOME, RULE BREAKER, RISK TAKER), AMY (TYPE A PERFECTIONIST), PIPPA (8, BEAUTIFUL, KIND) AND HOLDEN (5, BRILLIANT, WELL ADJUSTED) ARE SMILING AND GIVING THUMBS-UPS FOR THE CAMERA WHILE TAKING BIG BITES OF HEALTHY BROWN NOODLES WITH GREENS.

ELLEN (V.O.)

What kid loves soba noodles with  
ginger broccoli?

THE PHOTO COMES TO LIFE AND WE FIND OURSELVES...

INT. JACK AND AMY'S KITCHEN - SAME TIME

REAL LIFE IS JUST AS IT IS DEPICTED IN THE PHOTO AS PIPPA AND HOLDEN DEVOUR THE NOODLES. AMY SMILES AT JACK, PLEASED WITH THEIR PERFECT KIDS AND THEIR PERFECT LIFE.

JACK

I love you.

AMY

I love you, too.

FADE OUT.

END OF COLD OPEN

SCENE A

FADE IN:

INT. MATT AND ELLEN'S HOUSE - THE NEXT DAY

ELLEN, MATT, FRANKIE, OLIVER, JACK, PIPPA, HOLDEN, ANITA (LATE 60S, PASSIVE AGGRESSIVE HYPOCHONDRIAC, WEARS A KAFTAN) AND IRA (LATE 60, INAPPROPRIATE, CLOSED-MINDED) ARE AT THE TABLE, WHICH IS COVERED BY BAGS OF TAKE-OUT. AMY'S IN THE KITCHEN. FRANKIE PILES HER PLATE WITH CHICKEN. OLIVER CLUCKS EVERY NOW AND THEN.

JACK

So how was everyone's summer?

ANITA

Oh, you know, I can't complain.

IRA

And three, two--

ANITA

Living with Fibromyalgia is hell on earth. My friends are dropping dead like flies around me. It's just a matter of time before we all get diagnosed with the big C.

BEAT.

MATT

Ours was pretty good.

FRANKIE IS STILL PILING HER PLATE WITH FOOD.

ELLEN

Frankie, it's so nice of you to make a big plate for all the cousins to share.

FRANKIE

This is for me. So I don't have to  
get up again.

SHE TAKES ANOTHER DRUMSTICK AND PASSES THE BAG TO HOLDEN AS  
AMY APPROACHES WITH FOUR STAINLESS STEEL CONTAINERS AND BARKS  
SOMETHING IN **CHINESE**. HOLDEN PUTS THE BAG OF CHICKEN DOWN.

ELLEN

You brought your own food?

AMY

You'd be shocked at all the stuff they  
put in the chicken from those places.  
Hormones, pesticides, arsenic...

MATT, ANITA AND IRA EYE THEIR CHICKEN. FRANKIE CHOWS ON.

ANITA

I want Amy's food.

ELLEN

(FIRMLY) The chicken's fine, Anita.

AS AMY MAKES HER WAY AROUND THE TABLE...

IRA

Amy, I think you lost even more  
weight.

AMY

Thank you. I'm still not as skinny as  
Ellen though.

MATT

Actually I think skinnier.

EVERYONE LOOKS BACK AND FORTH FROM AMY TO ELLEN AND AD LIBS  
AGREEMENT.

AMY

Yeah, now that I really look, I guess  
I am.

SHE TAKES A SEAT NEXT TO ELLEN.

ELLEN

(FROZEN SMILE) So is everyone excited  
for the first day of school tomorrow?

HOLDEN/PIPPA

Super excited. Very much so.

FRANKIE

(MOUTH TOTALLY FULL) No.

OLIVER DOESN'T LOOK UP- HE'S BUSY DRAWING A CIRCLE OVER AND  
OVER WITH HIS FORK AND CLUCKING.

IRA

Oliver, why do you keep doing that?

OBLIVIOUS, OLIVER KEEPS CLUCKING.

MATT

(NO BIG DEAL) He's going through a  
phase where he likes to cluck.

AMY

Kids and their phases. Holden's in  
one where he won't stop reading.

JACK

And Pippa's obsessed with giving her  
toys away to poor kids.

PIPPA

I just have so much and they have so little.

ELLEN

Anyway, the pediatrician said it has nothing to do with us, so that's a relief.

ELLEN NOTICES THAT AMY IS LOOKING AT THE BASKET OF FRENCH FRIES.

ANITA

So which one of my wonderful daughters-in-law can take me to my mammogram?

ELLEN

Oh, no, my (MUMBLES) fell.

SHE DISAPPEARS TO "LOOK" UNDER THE TABLE.

AMY

Of course I'll take you, Mom. The important question is, what are we doing Friday?

ELLEN

(REAPPEARING) What's Friday?

AMY

Mom and Dad's anniversary.

ELLEN

(HAD NO IDEA) Of course!

AMY

Forty years.

ELLEN

(OVERLAPPING) --Orty years!



ELLEN DISCREETLY MOVES THE FRIES CLOSER TO AMY.

IRA

Feels like eighty.

ANITA

No gifts this year. We just want a nice dinner with all of you.

MATT

We might actually have two things to celebrate. I got some pretty exciting news...

MATT HEARS THE TAP-TAP-TAP FROM JACK'S TEXTING.

MATT (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, are we interrupting your texting?

JACK DOESN'T HEAR HIM, KEEPS TAP-TAP-TAPPING AWAY.

MATT (CONT'D)

Okay. Frankie, drum-roll please...

OBLIVIOUS TO WHAT ELLEN DID, AMY MOVES THE FRIES AWAY. ELLEN DISCREETLY MOVES THEM BACK.

FRANKIE

Why are you so embarrassing?

MATT

Or not. Just as exciting without the drum roll. I have it on a very reliable source that the Dean is going to call tomorrow to tell me I have--

OBLIVIOUS TO THE INTERRUPTION, JACK LOOKS UP FROM HIS PHONE WHERE HE JUST GOT THE NEWS...

JACK

(TO AMY) We can get into the house  
tomorrow night. (TO OTHERS) We found  
a house we love and we want you guys  
to see it!

ANITA/IRA/ELLEN

How wonderful! Great news! You're  
moving?

AMY

We're looking.

SHE MOVES THE BASKET OF FRIES AWAY AGAIN.

MATT

...Tenure. I'm getting tenure.

ELLEN MOVES THEM BACK, AND WE...

CUT TO:

SCENE B

INT. MATT AND ELLEN'S BEDROOM - THAT NIGHT

A TREADMILL WITH CLOTHES HANGING FROM THE SIDE-RAILS. ELLEN IS IN BED, FROWNING OVER TWO DRAWINGS. MATT ENTERS, UPSET.

MATT

The neighbor's dog took a crap on our lawn again! I'm send another e-mail. And this time, I am not signing it "Warmly," I am signing it "Sincerely."

ELLEN

(HOLDS UP STICK FIGURE) This one's our son's. (HOLDS UP MASTERPIECE) And this one's our nephew's.

MATT

(ENCOURAGED) Hey, Oliver's down to three arms per person. Unless, (LOOKS CLOSER) Oh, God, that's a penis.

ELLEN

Amy's Instagram isn't staged. Her Instagram is her life! Uck, why couldn't your brother have married your obese, bald cousin, Dena?

MATT

Because Dena married Connie.

ELLEN

She did? I don't think we sent anything...

MATT

Amy sent something from all of us.

ELLEN

Of course she did! Cause she's soooo helpful. She already asked which days she could pick the kids up from school.

MATT

Helping us with childcare and taking my mother to her mammogram? What a monster.

ELLEN

And now that school's starting I'm gonna have to see her every day! And School Amy's the worst Amy. Her PTA, her projects, her perfect lunches...

MATT

I wonder... is it possible she annoys you so much because you feel guilty you don't have time to do all the stuff she does and her helpfulness is a constant reminder of where you think you fall short?

BEAT. IT'S EXACTLY THAT.

ELLEN

Nope. She's just annoying.

CUT TO:

SCENE C

INT. PRESCHOOL - THE NEXT MORNING

TWO CONTINGENTS HERE: THE WORKING MOMS, DRESSED FOR THE OFFICE AND IN A RUSH TO GET THERE, AND THE STAY-AT-HOME MOMS, LINGERING, IN EXERCISE GEAR. THE KIDS ALL PLAY EXCEPT FOR OLIVER WHO IS HANGING FROM ELLEN'S BODY, CLUCKING LIKE CRAZY.

OLIVER

Don't go.

ELLEN

I have to go.

OLIVER

Don't go.

MORE CLUCKING. AMY POPS UP OUT OF NOWHERE.

AMY

Oliver, teacher Brenda just found a ladybug and she wants you to hold it.

OLIVER IMMEDIATELY LETS GO OF ELLEN AND RACES OFF.

ELLEN

(CALLS OFF) Love you, Ollie! (THEN, DESPITE HERSELF) Thanks.

AMY

Don't forget to write in the book that Oliver's coming home with me, k?

ELLEN

(DEFENSIVE) I know about the book, Amy. (THEN) I just don't know where it is.

AMY

By the PTA folder. (THEN TO SOME STAY-AT-HOME MOMS) Guys, reminder to sign up for the bake sale. Bake sale reminder, everyone...

ELLEN

Why didn't you ask me to sign up for the bake sale.

AMY

Oh. Cause... that's not your thing.

ELLEN

That's 'cause you never ask.

AMY

I sent three e-mails and there's a sign up sheet by the door.

ELLEN

Mm hmm, okay, well I'd like to bring something so what do you need?

AMY

How about brownies?

ELLEN

Perfect.

AMY

They have to be nut free. And gluten free. And dairy free. You know what, why don't you just bring napkins?

ELLEN

How bout I bring napkins and brownies?

AMY

Really? Okay, great.

ELLEN

Great!

AMY

Oh, and you can't buy the brownies in a supermarket because they might be processed in a facility with nuts.

ELLEN

(NO TURNING BACK NOW) So I'll bake!

AS ELLEN REALIZES SHE HAS FUCKED HERSELF...

CUT TO:

SCENE D

INT. HOME FOR SALE - FOYER - THAT EVENING

A REALTOR, SHELLY, HAS JUST TAKEN JACK, AMY, MATT, ELLEN, ANITA AND IRA ON A TOUR OF A VERY, VERY NICE HOUSE. MATT AND ELLEN MOUTH TO EACH OTHER "OH MY GOD" "THIS IS SO NICE." ELLEN IS NERVOUS EATING FROM A PACKAGE OF RAISINETTES.

REALTOR

...And here we are back to the foyer.

(THEN) I'll give you guys some time to talk.

SHE CROSSES OFF.

JACK

So what do you guys think?

ANITA

It's the nicest home I've ever seen.

IRA

Can you afford this, Jack?

JACK

Compared to Santa Monica, this is actually twice the house for half the money.

MATT

Half the money?! This is half the money? How much money is there?!

ELLEN

Matt! (THEN) But seriously, how much?

AMY

(PLEASED) We had a very good year.



ELLEN HOLDS OUT HER BOX OF CANDY.

ELLEN

(SMILING) Raisinette?

AMY SHAKES HER HEAD NO. MATT RUBS HIS FOREHEAD.

JACK

Are you okay?

MATT

Why wouldn't I be okay?

JACK

I don't know but you don't look okay.

MATT

I'm great. I have a little happiness  
headache from how happy I am for you.

SFX: MATT'S PHONE RINGS.

MATT (CONT'D)

(CHECKS CALLER ID, SUDDENLY ELATED)

It's the Dean! The Dean who's calling  
about my tenure. Aha!

JACK

I'm going to make an offer on the  
house.

MATT CROSSES AWAY TO TAKE THE CALL AS JACK AND AMY CROSS TO  
FIND THE REALTOR.

MATT

JACK

(INTO PHONE) Hello, Dean!

Shelly, great news!

IRA, ANITA AND ELLEN ARE LEFT.

IRA

Know what I love most about this place? It's in a gated community. (SITS DOWN) And a white security guard. That's how you know you made it.

ANITA

You're a Neanderthal, Ira. We're all immigrants.

HE TAKES OUT A BINACA BREATH SPRAY, GOES TO SPRAY IT IN HIS MOUTH AND DROPS IT.

IRA

Crap.

ELLEN

Oh, here, let me...

ELLEN BENDS TO PICK IT UP, COMING FACE-TO-FACE WITH... IRA'S (PIXILATED) PENIS POKING OUT OF HIS SHORTS. SHE FREEZES, HORRIFIED, AND WE...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SCENE E

FADE IN:

INT. MATT AND ELLEN'S HOUSE - LATER

ELLEN THROWS BAKING INGREDIENTS INTO A BOWL. MATT PACES.

ELLEN

Half a penis and a smushed ball! I am not being dramatic when I say this is going to haunt me til the day I die.

MATT

I didn't get tenure.

ELLEN

What? Why didn't you say something?

MATT

Cause I didn't feel like discussing my failure in my brother's new mansion. Where there's an echo. So I'd have to hear it over and over.

ELLEN

What happened?

MATT

Budget cuts. All of a sudden the Medical school is more important than Ethical studies!

ELLEN

I'm sorry, Honey. What a terrible, terrible day.

MATT

And what about that house? How well must Jack do?

ELLEN

Apparently really friggin' well!

MATT

You know what his first investment was? Lululemon. Because he had a girlfriend named Lulu and he likes lemons! (THEN) Why are you baking?

ELLEN

Cause one kid's throat closed two years ago and now no one's allowed to shop at the supermarket! (RE: BOWL) I think I once used this as a nut bowl--

MATT

I was better at school, sports... I went to Princeton. He barely got into college. And then barely got out. Six years for a degree in hotel management...

ELLEN

(DUMPS BOWL) I'm starting again. Last thing I need is some kid to have a mild allergic reaction that could be treated with a teaspoon of Benadryl.

CUT TO:

SCENE H

INT. JACK AND AMY'S BEDROOM - SAME TIME

AMY HOLDS THE PLANK POSITION IN BED. JACK HANGS UP HIS CELL.

JACK

Another couple bid on the house.

AMY

What? Who?

JACK

(SHRUGS) The realtor says it's gonna  
come down to who the owners like  
better. She thinks we should write a  
letter.

AMY

(SNAPS INTO ACTION) A letter's a great  
idea! (OPENS LAPTOP) We're so  
impressive. Multilingual,  
philanthropic, Harvard-educated...

JACK

That's all you.

AMY

(PROUD OF HERSELF) Yeah.

AS SHE EXCITEDLY TYPES, WE...

CUT TO:

SCENE J

INT. MATT AND ELLEN'S BEDROOM - A LITTLE LATER

ELLEN IS PUTTING ON CREAM. MATT IS IN BED, STILL RANTING.

MATT

...I just don't understand how we got here. Jack's not the successful one, I'm the successful one!

ELLEN

You were when I married you! I could have had him- I met both of you at that bar.

MATT

But now it's like up is down and down is up-- He has a better job, better kids, a better--

ELLEN

Careful.

MATT

I was gonna say "house".

ELLEN

So you do think they have better kids?

MATT

I mean ours are okay, but theirs listen to them. In Chinese and in English!

ELLEN

Listen, I chose you. And I will not be proven wrong! You must be better at some things.

MATT

I'm a better person...

ELLEN WAVES HIM OFF- THAT DOESN'T COUNT. SHE THINKS.

ELLEN

I bet your better at sex. We have great sex.

MATT

We do have great sex.

THEY LOOK AT EACH OTHER FOR A BEAT, CONSIDERING IT.

ELLEN

It's not date night, but I did finish my book...

SHE SMILES AND DISAPPEARS UNDER THE COVERS. AFTER A BEAT.

ELLEN (CONT'D)

You are your father's son. (THEN, QUIET) I wish I didn't know that.

INTERNAL DISSOLVE  
TO:

LATER. MATT AND ELLEN ARE HAVING NOT SO GREAT SEX.

ELLEN (CONT'D)

Ow. Pivot.

AS A UNIT THEY ADJUST POSITIONS AS **JACK AND AMY'S BEDROOM** SLIDES INTO FRAME FROM THE RIGHT, SO WE ARE **SPLIT SCREEN:**

INT. MATT AND ELLEN'S BEDROOM/INT. JACK AND AMY'S BEDROOM

MATT AND ELLEN HAVE TAME, MARRIED, MISSIONARY SEX. JACK AND AMY, BOTH DRIPPING WITH SWEAT, HAVE SEXY PORN STAR SEX. AMY DOES A SPLIT ON TOP OF JACK.

ELLEN (CONT'D)

AMY

Did we tape Homeland?

Yes, yes, yes!

We angle on the clock: 10:00 and flip forward to 10:03. Both couples collapse against their respective pillows, breathing hard.

MATT

JACK

I'll get a towel.

Want to go again?

ELLEN (CONT'D)

Would you get some ice cream, too?

AS ELLEN TURNS ON THE TV AND AMY ATTACKS JACK, WE...

CUT TO:



SCENE K

INT. PRESCHOOL - THE NEXT DAY

ELLEN ENTERS, HOLDING THE BROWNIES AND SOME NAPKINS. WIDEN TO REVEAL: OLIVER IS HANGING FROM HER WAIST, CLUCKING.

OLIVER

Don't go.

ELLEN SEES AMY AND MAKES A BEE-LINE OVER, DRAGGING OLIVER.

ELLEN

Here are the brownies! (TO OTHERS,  
WAY TOO PROUD) I made brownies.

Brownie anyone? Homemade brownie?

ELLEN HOLDS OUT HER BROWNIES, WHICH ACTUALLY LOOK REALLY **DISGUSTING**, FOR EVERYONE TO SEE.

AMY

(TAKING THEM) Thank you.

ELLEN

Absolutely. I'd like to be more  
involved this year so let me know how--

ALL OF A SUDDEN THERE'S A RUMBLE OF WORKING MOMS HEADING FOR THE DOOR. ONE OF THEM MAKES EYE CONTACT WITH ELLEN.

WORKING MOM

(SOTTO) The sign up board is out! Go  
or you'll get stuck on a committee!

A STAY-AT-HOME MOM HOLDS A GIANT POSTER SIGN UP BOARD.

ELLEN

Oliver, get off of me!

ELLEN PRIES HIM OFF AND JOINS THE WORKING MOMS HEADING OUT.

CUT TO:

SCENE M

INT. MATT AND ELLEN'S HOUSE - THAT NIGHT

ELLEN IS FACEBOOK STALKING AMY. MATT ENTERS, EXCITED, HOLDING A BRIEFCASE.

MATT

What's up?

ELLEN

My brownies were not well received, I had to fire someone at work, and look what Amy packed for Pippa and Holden's lunch today. Shrimp "unfried" rice with homemade fruit leather and dye-free cupcakes. Fuck her.

MATT

Don't worry about any of that. Honey, things are looking up for us!

ELLEN

(EXCITED) They are?

MATT

Yep. Jack isn't the only one who can get rich quick.

ELLEN

(MORE EXCITED) He's not?

MATT

(WITH GREAT IMPORT) I have an idea for an App. (THEN) You can't tell anyone until I have it patented, but...

(MORE)

MATT (CONT'D)

okay, imagine if there was an App  
where you could describe any situation  
and it told you the ethical thing to  
do!

ELLEN DOESN'T RESPOND.

MATT (CONT'D)

An App that told you the ethical---

ELLEN

Isn't that basically Dear Abby?

MATT

(STILL TRYING) I could call it "Dear  
Appy!"

ELLEN

What else you got? Anything?!

THE DOORBELL RINGS. MATT FROWNS AND HEADS OVER.

MATT

We're not buying, donating or paying  
for the curb to be painted.

JACK (O.S.)

Open the door.

MATT DOES. JACK AND AMY ARE THERE.

JACK (CONT'D)

It looks like a horse took a dump on  
your walkway.

MATT

(FROWNING PAST JACK) It's the neighbor's Great Dane. Third time.  
(TO ELLEN) You believe this guy? I might have to contact our block captain.

ELLEN

You are the block captain.

MATT

Right...

JACK

I need to borrow your tux. I can't find mine and the owners of the house invited us to a charity event.

ELLEN

That's nice. What's it for?

JACK

Can't remember 'cause I don't care but by the end of the night, the house'll be ours.

JACK HEADS UPSTAIRS. MATT FOLLOWS.

ELLEN

Hi.

AMY

Hi. Listen, I have a huge favor to ask.

(MORE)

AMY (CONT'D)

The charity thing overlaps with mom's  
mammogram on Thursday, so I was  
wondering if maybe you could take her?

BEAT. AMY HAS NEVER ASKED ELLEN FOR HELP BEFORE.

ELLEN

You need my help.

AMY

You'd be a total life-saver.

ELLEN

(PLEASED) A total life saver... Yes,  
I think I could do that for you.

IT'S FINALLY ELLEN'S TIME TO SHINE. OFF HER DELIGHT, WE...

CUT TO:

SCENE P

INT. BLACK TIE CHARITY EVENT - THURSDAY EVENING

GUESTS AND SOME SEVERELY HANDICAPPED, WHEELCHAIR-BOUND HONOREES MILL ABOUT. AN AFRICAN AMERICAN WAITER IS THERE. JACK AND AMY HAVE ONE PURPOSE:

JACK

(TO PASSING GUESTS) Have you seen  
Michael and Linda Kramer?

AMY

Kramers? Anyone? Michael and Linda?

JACK

(TO WAITER) Could I get that Whiskey?  
And do you know Michael and Linda  
Kramer?

AN ATTRACTIVE, TYPE-A COUPLE, CHRIS AND SALLY, APPROACHES.

CHRIS

We're looking for Michael and Linda  
Kramer. We're trying to buy--

AMY

Our house?

SALLY

Did you just say "our" house?

AMY

No.

A BEAT AS THE COUPLES TAKE EACH OTHER IN THEN FRANTICALLY SEPARATE IN A RUSH TO SEE WHO CAN FIND THE KRAMERS FIRST.

CUT TO:

SCENE R

INT. MAMMOGRAM HALLWAY / INT. X-RAY ROOM - SAME

ELLEN IS WATCHING ANITA AND THE MAMMOGRAM TECH THROUGH THE LITTLE WINDOW. ANITA WEARS A MEDICAL GOWN. ANITA WAVES. ELLEN SMILES AND WAVES BACK.

ELLEN

Hi.

THE TECH WAVES. ODD. ELLEN WAVES BACK. BOTH ANITA AND THE TECH KEEP WAVING.

ELLEN (CONT'D)

(WAVING) Hello, weirdos.

ELLEN THEN REALIZES THEY AREN'T WAVING "HI" THEY ARE WAVING "COME IN." CONFUSED, SHE CROSSES INTO THE X-RAY ROOM.

ANITA

Ellen, we need your help.

ELLEN

Everyone needs my help lately.

Whaddya need? Water? Snacks? I am  
at your service.

TECHNICIAN

I need you to help manipulate your  
mother's breast between the plates.

ELLEN

I'm sorry?

TECHNICIAN

They're incredibly large and I slammed  
my hand in my car door this morning.

ANITA

And with the Fibromyalgia I'm useless.  
Would you mind?

ELLEN

Um... okay.

ELLEN COMES CLOSER. THE TECHNICIAN HANDS HER THE LEAD APRON AND ELLEN PUTS IT ON AS IF PREPARING FOR HER EXECUTION. SHE THEN AWKWARDLY PUSHES ONE OF ANITA'S BOOBS INTO THE THING AND PULLS HER HAND BACK.

TECHNICIAN

Oh, you're going to have to get it in there a lot better than that. Cup the bottom of the breast...

ELLEN CLOSES HER EYES AND DOES AS INSTRUCTED.

TECHNICIAN (CONT'D)

And stretch the tissue. Now flatten... Don't forget the side-boob. And make sure the nipple's in there... the nipple's not in... nope... Ellen, compress the nipple.

ANITA

It actually feels kind of nice...

ELLEN DROPS THE BOOB AND STEPS BACK.

TECHNICIAN

Okay, let's start this again.

ON ELLEN'S DREAD, HORROR, AND ALL THINGS TERRIBLE, WE...

CUT TO:



SCENE 5

INT. BLACK TIE CHARITY EVENT - A LITTLE LATER

MEANWHILE, AMY IS LAUGHING AND SOCIALIZING. JACK SPOTS CHRIS TALKING TO AN OLDER COUPLE. HE STARTS TO HEAD OVER BUT GETS STUCK BEHIND TWO SLOW MOVING WHEELCHAIRS.

JACK

C'mon, wheels up, wheels up.

JACK GENTLY PUSHES THE WHEELCHAIRS TO CLEAR A PATH BUT BY THE TIME HE GETS THERE CHRIS AND THE KRAMERS ARE GONE. HE SIGHS AS THE WAITER APPROACHES, AGAIN WITHOUT HIS DRINK.

JACK (CONT'D)

Whiskey. Rocks. My God, do you work here or are you one of them?

JACK MOTIONS TO SOME DROOLING, SPASTIC HONOREES.

WAITER (O.S.)

Whiskey, Sir?

BEHIND JACK, THE WAITER FROM BEFORE HOLDS HIS DRINK. BOTH MEN ARE 60S, TALL, BLACK, AND WEARING SIMILAR SUITS. A LOVELY BLACK WOMAN STANDS BESIDE THE FIRST MAN. JACK TRIES TO SMILE THRU THE AWKWARDNESS. CHRIS AND SALLY APPROACH.

CHRIS

Michael and Linda Kramer, this is...  
Sorry, I didn't catch your name.

JACK

It doesn't matter.

AMY APPROACHES.

AMY

I can't find them anywhere. (TO MR. KRAMER) May I have a Merlot, please?

CUT TO:

SCENE T

INT. PRESCHOOL - THE NEXT MORNING

ELLEN HEADS TO THE DOOR, HAVING JUST DROPPED OLIVER OFF.

OLIVER (O.S.)

Don't go!

ELLEN WINCES. AS SHE'S ABOUT TO EXIT, AMY ENTERS, CARRYING TWO BASKETS. HOLDEN RUSHES IN HAPPILY AND FINDS FRIENDS.

AMY

Hey, how was the mammogram?

ELLEN

Not what I expected. How was the charity?

AMY

Same. (THEN) I made a reservation at Gotham for diner tonight.

ELLEN

Gotham? That's, like, really fancy. What's wrong with Hugo's?

AMY

It's their fortieth anniversary and we're not even getting them gifts. Hugo's serves ice cream in a batter's helmet.

ELLEN

(YUM) Yeah.

A STAY-AT-HOME MOM TAPS ELLEN.

STAY-AT-HOME MOM

Ellen, I'm so excited you signed up  
for the Halloween party!

ELLEN

I didn't sign up for the Halloween  
party.

AMY MOTIONS TO THE GIANT POSTER SIGN UP BOARD. ON IT ARE THE  
NAMES OF VARIOUS COMMITTEES, WITH SIGN UP SPACES UNDER EACH.

AMY

I signed you up! You said you wanted  
to be more involved and Halloween's  
the best committee so I wanted to make  
sure you got a spot.

ELLEN

(FROZEN SMILE) Thank you...

AMY SMILES AND CROSSES OFF WITH HER BASKETS.

STAY-AT-HOME MOM

I already invited you to join our  
Pinterest page. I must've pinned two  
hundred things! (CHECKS PHONE) Two  
hundred one. (THEN) Take a look and  
we'll regroup at our first meeting.

SHE EXITS. ONCE SHE'S GONE, ELLEN FINDS HER NAME ON THE SIGN  
UP BOARD AND STARTS FURIOUSLY ERASING. AFTER A BEAT,

AMY (O.S.)

What are you doing?

ELLEN FREEZES THEN SLOWLY TURNS TO FIND AMY STANDING THERE.

AMY (CONT'D)

You're not doing Halloween?

ELLEN

No. Because... (CAN'T THINK OF A GOOD REASON) I... want to do the fundraiser! And Yearbook. And community service.

ELLEN SCRIBBLES HER NAME IN ALL THREE SPOTS.

AMY

Ellen! Those are the hardest committees! And if I do Halloween, then... (CHECKS BOARD) every committee has enough volunteers.

AMY STARTS TO GATHER UP THE BOARD.

ELLEN

(PANICKED) What're you doing?!  
Where're you going?!

AMY

Thank you so much, Ellen. Now we just need to roll up our sleeves and get to work!

AMY CROSSES OFF WITH THE BOARD. ELLEN IS SENTENCED TO THREE COMMITTEES. THE WORKING MOM FROM BEFORE, HAVING WITNESSED EVERYTHING, SHAKES HER HEAD IN DISGUST. AND WE...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SCENE W

FADE IN:

EXT. MATT AND ELLEN'S BACKYARD - SAME TIME

MATT AND JACK ARE STRETCHING, ABOUT TO GO FOR A JOG.

MATT

...And it's called Dear Appy.

JACK DOESN'T RESPOND.

MATT (CONT'D)

It's an App that--

JACK

I heard. I just don't think it's good. (RE: GRASS) Dude, you have to start cleaning up after your dog.

MATT

We don't have a dog. Have you ever seen a dog over here? I told you, it's the neighbors' dog. And I swear to God the next time I see Tom Golding I'm going to shove my sneaker right up his-- (NOTICES NEIGHBOR OVER THE HEDGE, WAVES) Hey, Tom! Catch the game last night? Hoo-boy!

JACK SHAKES HIS HEAD. PATHETIC.

CUT TO:

SCENE X

INT. GOTHAM RESTAURANT - THAT NIGHT

UPSCALE. ALL TEN STANLEYS ARE SEATED. FRANKIE AND OLIVER ARE ON IPADS. FRANKIE IS ALSO EATING BREAD.

ANITA

...And the doctor said I had very--  
what kind of breasts do I have, Ellen?

ELLEN

(BUMMED) Lumpy.

ANITA

(REALIZING) You know, I feel a draft  
here. Should we switch tables?

EVERYONE

No.

ANITA FROWNS AND DRAPES HER NAPKIN OVER HER SHOULDERS. AMY SAYS SOMETHING IN **CHINESE** AND PIPPA AND HOLDEN PUT THEIR NAPKINS AROUND THEIR GRANDMOTHER'S SHOULDERS. ELLEN MOVES THE **BREAD BASKET** CLOSER TO AMY.

FRANKIE

(RE: IPAD) Mom, it's in the red. Do  
you have the charger?

PANICKED, ELLEN REALIZES SHE DOES NOT.

FRANKIE (CONT'D)

It died. What am I supposed to do  
now?

ELLEN

(CALM, SMILING) It's totally fine.  
You guys can share. (URGENT WHISPER)  
Behave, please, I beg you!

AMY HOLDS OUT A WRAPPED GIFT TO IRA AND ANITA.

AMY

Happy Anniversary, you guys.

MATT AND ELLEN REACT AS ANITA TAKES THE GIFT AND OPENS THE CARD. SHE AND IRA READ THE CARD SILENTLY. AS THEY DO, ANITA TAKES AMY'S HAND AND SQUEEZES.

MATT

(SOTTO) I thought they said no gifts?

ELLEN

(SOTTO, FURIOUS) They did.

FINALLY, ANITA AND IRA FINISH READING. WITH TEARS IN HER EYES,

ANITA

Thank you, Sweetheart.

IRA

Very nice, Amy.

AMY BEAMS AS ANITA OPENS THE GIFT. IT'S...

ANITA

A photo of the ten of us!

ELLEN MOVES THE BREAD CLOSER TO AMY.

MATT

I don't remember taking that picture.

ELLEN

Me, either.

JACK

We didn't have one of all of us so Amy photo-shopped you guys in.

ELLEN

It's a terrible picture of me.

AMY

Is it?

MATT

Yes. And how come Jack looks so much taller than me?

ANITA

I love it.

ANITA PUTS IT IN HER BAG AND THEN LOOKS AT MATT AND ELLEN.

MATT

We honored the no gifts request.

ANITA

(DISAPPOINTED) Oh. Okay.

ELLEN

(STANDING) But I would like to raise a glass. Forty years of marriage, sons and daughters who love you, wonderful grandchildren--

FRANKIE

(GRABBING IPAD) Give it!

OLIVER

I hate you!

ELLEN

...Cheers.

SHE SITS.



JACK

(TO MATT) By the way, I took care of your problem with the neighbor.

MATT

What? Why? Oh, god, you didn't yell at him, did you? I don't want a whole awkward thing. (THEN) It's actually a great ethical dilemma for my App. What is the best way to handle your neighbors when--

JACK

I took a dump on their lawn.

BEAT.

MATT

What?

JACK

With certain people, sending an e-mail-- or in your case, three-- doesn't work. You have to make a big gesture. And leave that gesture right outside their front door. After digesting a wheel of Brie.

MATT

I honestly don't know what to say.  
(TO ANITA AND IRA) This is your son.  
Someone who--

BUT IRA ISN'T PAYING ATTENTION. HE'S WATCHING THE MAITRE'D LEAD A MUSLIM FAMILY TO THE NEXT TABLE.

ANITA

Be good, Ira.

IRA

I didn't say anything.

ELLEN, WHO HAS BEEN SEETHING BEHIND HER MENU, LEANS OVER TO AMY.

ELLEN

(SOTTO) Why didn't you tell me you were getting a gift?

AMY

(SOTTO) I just decided last minute.

ELLEN

(SOTTO) I doubt that. I *see* you, Amy. The surprise gift, this restaurant... we can't afford this.

AMY

(SOTTO) Why didn't you say something?

ELLEN

I said it was too fancy! Everyone knows fancy is code for expensive!

JACK

No worries, tonight is our treat.

MATT

Absolutely not. That's not necessary.

ELLEN

But very nice.

JACK

I'm happy to do it. It's nothing.

MATT

You're not paying. In fact, we'll  
pay.

ELLEN LETS OUT A GASP.

JACK

Stop it, I'm paying.

MATT

No you're not.

JACK

I'm paying and that's the end of it!

ELLEN

You heard him! That's the end of it!

IRA

What do you suppose is in that bag?

IRA MOTIONS TO A GYM BAG BELONGING TO THE MUSLIM FAMILY.

ANITA

(RE: CEILING) There it is. I knew it.

We're right under a vent.

SHE SHIVERS. OLIVER STARTS CLUCKING.

AMY

Can you please ask him to cluck a  
little quieter?

ELLEN

Oh I'm sorry not everyone has perfect kids who speak Chinese and don't cluck!

AMY

What's your problem, Ellen?

ELLEN

I don't know, maybe the fact that I'm on the three most time-sucking committees at school, or that I've seen both my in-laws naked this week--

OLIVER

(TO FRANKIE) Give it back!

FRANKIE

Get off!

ELLEN

--Or have kids that can't behave for two seconds! (THEN) That's it!  
Nobody gets the iPad!

SHE GRABS THE IPAD. OLIVER STARTS SOBBING. PIPPA AND HOLDEN LOOK TERRIFIED.

MATT

(TO JACK) You're just thrilled you're doing so well, aren't you?

JACK

What?

MATT

You act like it's no big deal but I think you've been waiting your whole life for this day. You're just sooooo happy for yourself, aren't you?

JACK

Yeah. I am. The question is, why aren't you happy for me?

MATT

(NOT AT ALL HAPPY) I am happy for you!

ELLEN MOVES THE BREAD, WHICH AMY MUST HAVE MOVED, BACK.

JACK

No, you're not. Cause it's no longer "Matt, Matt, Matt." "Perfect Matt." "Why can't you be more like Matt?"

ELLEN

(TO AMY) It's true. Matt was better. And he used to be very handsome.

MATT

Thank you, Honey.

AMY

Well Jack's better now.

JACK

Thank you, Honey.

MATT

(TO JACK) I'm sorry, it must have been  
sooo hard growing up with an older  
brother who did everything for you.

JACK

What did you do for me?

MATT

Everything! Cleaned our room, mowed  
the lawn, I walked Chance all the  
time.

JACK

You liked walking him!

MATT

No, I didn't!

JACK

Then why'd you do it?

MATT

Cause I'm responsible and you're lazy!

JACK

Maybe. Or maybe I'm smart and you're  
a sucker.

THIS HANGS IN THE AIR. THEN, FURIOUS, MATT PINCHES JACK.

JACK (CONT'D)

Don't pinch me!

JACK PINCHES MATT BACK. THEY PINCH, POKE, AND INDIAN BURN  
EACH OTHER UNTIL MATT TACKLES JACK. THEY LAND ON THE TABLE.

ELLEN

Get him, Honey!

ANITA

Boys! Stop this now!

IRA

I'm having a flashback to our  
thirtieth.

MATT PINS JACK ON HIS BACK.

ELLEN

Yeah! (TO AMY) In your face!

...AND GATHERS A LOOGIE.

COLLEGE STUDENT (O.S.)

Professor Stanley?

ON ALL FOURS ON TOP OF HIS BROTHER, MATT TURNS TO SEE A  
COLLEGE STUDENT SITTING WITH HIS FAMILY.

MATT

(AFFABLE) Hello, Jeffrey. Looking  
forward to reading your essay!

MATT TURNS BACK TO JACK, NARROWS HIS EYES, AND LET'S THE  
LOOGIE FALL.

CUT TO:

SCENE Y

INT. MATT AND ELLEN'S HOUSE - THE NEXT DAY

THE FOOTBALL GAME IS ON. THE KIDS ARE PLAYING. ANITA IS KNITTING. JACK SITS. MATT COMES OVER AND HANDS HIM A BEER, SITS DOWN.

MATT

I wasn't expecting you to open your mouth.

JACK

That scream was ill-timed.

THEY SHARE A LOOK OF TRUCE.

MATT

So, tenure huh?

MATT SHOULD PROBABLY TELL HIM THE TRUTH...

MATT (CONT'D)

(BEAT) Yep.

JACK

No more annoying parking tickets to deal with.

MATT

That's diplomatic immunity.

JACK

Well, still.

\*

THEY CLINK BEERS AND WE ANGLE ON: ELLEN AND AMY SETTING THE TABLE. SUDDENLY, AMY DROPS THE PLATE SHE'S HOLDING.

\*

AMY

(WHISPER GASPS) Oh, God!



ELLEN

What?

AMY SWALLOWS HARD AND GESTURES TO IRA. HIS PENIS IS HANGING OUT OF HIS SHORTS.

ELLEN (CONT'D)

Old news. Saw it the other day.

AMY

It's so--

ELLEN

--Big, I know. Surprising, right?

AMY

Does Matt have that?

ELLEN

Not exactly. Does Jack?

AMY

I mean, Jack's fine--

ELLEN

(QUICKLY) So is Matt. Matt's fine, too.

AMY

Well now we know why Anita said giving birth was so easy.

THEY LOOK AT ANITA, OBLIVIOUS, KNITTING.

ELLEN

Like throwing a pencil down a hallway.

THEY BOTH LAUGH, GROSSED OUT.

ELLEN (CONT'D)

Listen, I'm sorry about last night.  
I've been trying to be someone I'm not  
and I guess it caught up with me. I  
don't even go to the Fundraiser and  
now I'm in charge of the Fundraiser.  
But it's not your fault I--

AMY

(BLURTS) I didn't tell you I was  
getting a gift on purpose!

ELLEN

What?

AMY EYES THE BOWL OF POTATO CHIPS ON THE TABLE.

AMY

I'm sorry! I just... sometimes I need  
to be... well... if you're as on top  
of everything, if you really can "have  
it all" then... why aren't I working?

ELLEN

So... you need me to be a bad mom and  
daughter-in-law so you feel justified  
in your choice not to work?

AMY

Kinda. I'm sorry!

AMY TAKES A CHIP AND EATS IT.

ELLEN

You know you could just get a job.  
You went to Harvard business school.  
You could get a great job.

NOW THAT AMY HAS TASTED ONE CHIP, SHE CAN'T STOP.

AMY

That sounds like a lot of work.

ELLEN

Well, yes, it is work.

AMY

But exercise. And hair appointments.

SHE WRINKLES HER NOSE, REALLY GOING TO TOWN ON THE CHIPS NOW.

ELLEN

Okay, here's what's gonna happen. I  
will be a total disaster area for an  
entire week. And in return, you are  
going to use your power as PTA person  
to get me off of those committees.  
And you're going to go tell Ira  
he's... out.

AMY

How does one tell one's father-in-law  
his penis is hanging out?

MATT HAS APPROACHED TO RECYCLE HIS EMPTY BEER.

MATT

Who wishes they had Dear Appy now?

AMY GRABS A HANDFUL OF CHIPS AND CROSSES OFF. ELLEN TAKES IN OLIVER AND FRANKIE PLAYING (WHILE CLUCKING AND EATING). PIPPA AND HOLDEN JOYLESSLY PLAY CHESS. JACK IS ON THE PHONE.

ELLEN

You know what I think? We're better  
in a lot of ways.

MATT

For sure. And we have a house.

ELLEN

Yeah we do!

MATT AND ELLEN HIGH FIVE AS JACK PUTS DOWN HIS PHONE.

JACK

That other couple's loan wasn't  
approved. We got the house!

AMY WIPES POTATO CHIP DUST FROM HER FACE AND RACES OVER. SHE, PIPPA, HOLDEN AND JACK JUMP UP AND DOWN IN A FAMILY HUG. AMY TAKES OUT HER PHONE AND TAKES A FAMILY SELFIE. WE FREEZE AS THIS SCENE BECOMES AN INSTAGRAM PHOTO WITH THE CHYRON #BLESSEDFAMILY. AND WE...

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW