Pizza > Eyesight

by

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FADE IN:

INT: BRUCE'S PARENT'S BEDROOM - DAY

BRUCE QUICK is 25, and is wearing a blindfold, and racing themed pyjamas. He is lying face up, on his PARENT'S double bed, with his arms and legs spread out. His MOTHER (50) and FATHER (50) are in typical clothing for their ages, but are also wearing caps with the name 'Bruce Quick' on them. The room is well lit, and an old fashioned phone, connected by a wire, is in the corner of the room. On the neighbouring desk, is an unopened pizza box.

MRS. QUICK

Hello, Br...

BRUCE QUICK Look mum, I know what you're going to say...

MRS. QUICK (warmly) That you're an idiot, who's invaded your parent's bedroom?

BRUCE QUICK

Yes.

MR. QUICK That's my boy, very perceptive... Only joking!

MR. QUICK pats his SON'S shoulder.

MRS. QUICK (with a smile) I just don't understand, Brucey... Why did you try and perform laser eye surgery with a laser pen?

BRUCE tosses and turns.

BRUCE QUICK Because I thought it would save money, alright?!

MR. QUICK Who's idea was it? Was it from your rivals? We can get justice for you, boy!

BRUCE QUICK

No...

MR. QUICK

Who then??

BRUCE QUICK It was my idea! Just drop it! What am I going to do, dad?

MR. QUICK Why did you do both eyes? Didn't going blind in one eye serve as a warning?

BRUCE QUICK What do you want me to say? Yes?

MR. QUICK It would make me feel better. Anyway, look on the bright side... You know how I always told you to eat healthy? Now you don't have to...

BRUCE QUICK

Why not?

MR. QUICK (with a forced smile) Because you already are a vegetable!

BRUCE QUICK Dad, for God's sake!!

MRS. QUICK

Your father's just saying there's one less thing to worry about. That's all.

BRUCE QUICK Just like I don't have to worry about going to the opticians, or moving about anywhere. Lucky me.

MRS. QUICK Stop being so negative! There are millions of people who would love to be in your shoes!

BRUCE QUICK I see. Who?

MRS. QUICK

Um...

MRS. QUICK scratches his head, and furrows his brow.

MR. QUICK ... People with no shoes!

MRS. QUICK Thanks, hubby.

MR. QUICK

No probs.

BRUCE QUICK My life is over, and all you can do is joke?!

MRS. QUICK gives BRUCE a hug.

MRS. QUICK Oh, Brucey! Of course it's not over!

BRUCE QUICK Really? How so?

MR. QUICK

MRS. QUICK (awkwardly) Bleblebleb....

MR. QUICK No, no, wait. Your life definitely isn't over. You could walk dogs for a living. Imagine that; the wind in your hair, the sun on your face...

BRUCE QUICK That sounds really boring.

MRS. QUICK You could start your own vlog; you're already famous...

BRUCE QUICK And what would I talk about? How much I hate staying in bed, all day?

MRS. QUICK Don't be so morbid. You could say how much you love staying in bed all day.

BRUCE QUICK I think that's worse. Hang on a second!

MR. QUICK

What?

BRUCE QUICK Drag racing! BRUCE QUICK All I would have to do is go straight. ..

MR. QUICK That's true I guess, but your opponents would have a significant advantage over you. And still... Drag racing? No one cares. Who's ever seen a drag race? No one.

BRUCE QUICK You're right. Everything's over!

BRUSE faces the mattress, puts his pillow of his head and starts to cry.

MRS. QUICK Oh, God, hubs, I hate seeing him like this.

MR. QUICK I know. You were right to bring the pizza.

MRS. QUICK opens the takeaway box and picks up a slice, with ham and pineapple on it. Food in hand, she pulls off BRUCE'S pillow.

MRS. QUICK (sweetly) Brucey.... Look u-up...

BRUCE QUICK Oh, God, why?

MRS. QUICK (whispering) Trust me!

BRUCE faces the ceiling, and MRS. QUICK dangles pizza above her SON'S face. She then drags it across his nose to his mouth.

MRS. QUICK

Mmmm!

BRUCE QUICK Oh, it's Hawaiian. I do like Hawaiian. ..

MRS. QUICK There's a good boy! Open wide.

BRUCE gobbles up the pizza.

MR. QUICK I bet you could get used to this, huh, boy! BRUCE QUICK No, I couldn't... MR. QUICK Oh, right. MRS. QUICK Hang on a second! BRUCE QUICK What? MRS. QUICK You know lots about Formula 1, right? BRUCE QUICK Yes, I do. MRS. QUICK So... BRUCE QUICK I should be happy? MRS. QUICK No. So you can answer the phone for Formula 1! BRUCE QUICK The phone for Formula 1? MRS. QUICK Yes, there must be one, right? BRUCE QUICK Umm... Maybe that's a real thing. You mean answering the phone for viewer enquiries? I guess I could do that... Maybe people would like to talk to one of the fastest racers in the world... But what if my old boss thinks I'm an idiot?

MRS. QUICK Oh, son! Why would he think that?

BRUCE QUICK I blinded myself with a laser pen, twice. There is a long silence.

BRUCE QUICK Get the phone book for me, will you?

MR. QUICK Don't worry, I know his number.

MR. QUICK dials the number for BRUCE'S BOSS. He is 50, and has a posh voice. It is heard on speaker phone.

BRUCE'S BOSS

Hello?

MR. QUICK Hello, Mr. Page! It's about Bruce Quick...

BRUCE'S BOSS You're his father, right?

MR. QUICK

That's me...

BRUCE'S BOSS If you're phoning me to try and get Bruce's job back, you're wasting your time.

MR. QUICK No, no, of course not. Say... How do you feel about answering questions from annoying people like me?

BRUCE'S BOSS Not great. Why?

MR. QUICK Bruce can do that for you!

BRUCE'S BOSS He's offering to be my secretary?

MR. QUICK He'll be the fastest damn secretary you ever had!

BRUCE'S BOSS But he's blind...

MR. QUICK Doesn't matter, he could take calls...

BRUCE'S BOSS He shone a laser pen in both his eyes, for Christ's sake... MR. QUICK That wasn't a dodgy act of masochism, or anything, he was trying to perform surgery.

BRUCE'S BOSS

Errr....

MR. QUICK Go on. You know it makes sense...

BRUCE'S BOSS You sure?

MR. QUICK Ok, it doesn't make complete sense, but it's an interesting thought.

BRUCE'S BOSS ... I think you might be right. Can I speak to Bruce?

MR. QUICK

Definitely.

The FATHER hands the phone to his SON, as the latter sits up on the bed.

BRUCE QUICK

Hello?

BRUCE'S BOSS Hello! Sorry about the eyes...

BRUCE QUICK It's ok. There's always pizza.

BRUCE smiles roughly where his MOTHER is standing. The latter eats some of it.

BRUCE'S BOSS That's an admirable attitude.

BRUCE QUICK So can I be your assistant?

BRUCE'S BOSS

Ummm

BRUCE QUICK

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BRUCE'S BOSS

Errr....

MRS. QUICK Oh, the tension!

BRUCE'S BOSS Errr.... Yes, you can! A world famous racer taking calls? That's a great business idea!

MRS. QUICK

Hooray!

BRUCE QUICK Oh, that's great news!

BRUCE'S BOSS It'll be nice to see you, again.

BRUCE QUICK It would be nice to see you, again!

BRUCE'S BOSS Yeah, I bet. It's good to joke, isn't it.

BRUCE QUICK Well, sometimes there's a limit.

BRUCE'S BOSS You refering to your father?

BRUCE QUICK

Yeah.

BRUCE'S BOSS Thought so. I'll leave you catch up with each other.

BRUCE QUICK Thank you so much, bye...

MRS. QUICK Well, how about that then!

MR. QUICK

Cool!

BRUCE QUICK It's not that cool, I'm still blind.

MR. QUICK

Yeah, that does suck. Never mind though, in around 6 months, you'll have gotten over your sightlessness.

BRUCE QUICK How do you know?

MR. QUICK

That's how long it takes someone to return to normal after some kind of serious mishap. That's a fact from QI.

BRUCE QUICK

Really?

MR. QUICK

I think so. Sometimes I just make things up. In the meantime, I'll keep loading you with pizza. The time will fly by!

BRUCE QUICK Pizza makes everything ok.