

WHY ME?

"PILOT"

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FADE IN:

INT. COURT HALLWAY -DAY

A MAN CURTIS SMALLS, BLACK, 40'S IS EXITING OUT OF THE COURT ROOM, WITH HIS FEMALE LAWYER FOLLOWING BEHIND HIM

CURTIS  
(UPSET)

Man, how did you allows this to  
happen to me?

LAWYER  
(UNSYMPATHETIC)

You broke the law Curtis,  
that's how this happened.

CURTIS

C,mon, you know what I did wasn't  
that serious. It's not like I  
cause any major damage.

LAWYER

Curtis, you manipulated under aged  
girls into having sex with you.

CURTIS

Hell, they said they were 18.

LAWYER

And if I said its gonna snow in  
July... would you believe that?

CURTIS

Maybe!

THE LAWYER SHAKES HER HEAD IN DISBELIEF

LAWYER

I don't understand you, you're a nice looking guy. Why would you be pulling schemes like this?

CURTIS

The reason is cause some women scheme guys outta money...  
(SMILING)

...I just scheme them outta sex.

LAWYER

(TO HERSELF)

Oh god, why did I have to be this man's lawyer.  
(TO CURTIS)

OK, look the courts say you have to stay with a relative or a responsible person for the remaining of your house arrest. Is there anyone you can stay with?

CURTIS

I know one person who I think I might could stay with. But it's a long shot.

LAWYER

Well make it a good shot. Who's the Relative?

CURTIS

My sister, Susan Clark.

LAWYER

Great, OK, I gotta another case coming up. Send me over her contact information and I'll get in touch with her.

CURTIS

To be honest, If anything, I rather stay with you.

LAWYER

You wouldn't last one second with me.

CURTIS

And why is that?

LAWYER

Well, to simply put it. I have a nice house, a nice car and a nice job. Now why would I throw all of that away just because I tried to strangle you to death.

(SMILING)

Have a nice day!

(SHE EXITS)

CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES SFX TELEPHONE RING

INT. CURTIS BEDROOM -MORNING

CURTIS IS ENJOYING A NICE SLEEP WITH THE COVERS OVER HIS HEAD. THEN THE PHONE RINGS

CURTIS  
(GROGGY)

Go away, come back when someone's  
home.

THE PHONE STILL KEEPS RINGING, UNTIL HE FINALLY ANSWERS IT

CURTIS

Hello?

INTERCUT CONVERSATION:

THE PERSON ON THE OTHER END IS HIS SISTER SUSAN CLARK, LATE  
40'S. SHE HAS A NO NONSENSE, STERN ATTITUDE ABOUT HER.

SUSAN

Wake up and get you're self  
together. Half the day is gone, you  
lazy, half of life  
sad sack.

CURTIS IS PERKING UP A LITTLE

CURTIS

What? Who is this?

SUSAN

Boy, you don't reconize you're own  
sister's voice?

HE'S AT FULL ATTENTION NOW

CURTIS

Oh hey, what's up?

SUSAN

It was going great until I got the  
call from your lawyer saying you  
have to stay with me. Boy, why do

you keep getting yourself into  
these situations?

CURTIS

Bad influences, now what time I'm  
expected to start my prison term with  
you?

SUSAN

Whoa, calm down fast track. I  
didn't agree to anything. I'm just  
calling you, cause I found out  
what's going on.

CURTIS

Ah, come on Susan. Don't do this to me  
now.

SUSAN

Tell me Curtis, why should I do  
anything for you?

CURTIS

Are you insinuating that I've done  
something to you?

SUSAN

Curtis, you hardly call here  
and the last time you came over  
you were so pissy drunk, that you  
went straight upstairs and THREW  
UP.

CURTIS

OK, and what's so wrong with that?

SUSAN

You threw up in my bedroom.

CURTIS  
(SHRUGS IT OFF)

OH! I thought it was the bathroom.

SUSAN

Look, I'm not gonna beat around the bush. I was contacted by the courts about you staying with me. You're such a mess, even our own mother won't put up with your shenanigans. So my question is—why me?

CURTIS

You're the only one I know who's the closest thing to a warden. Besides If I don't do this, the courts is gonna toss my ass, IN THE JOINT.  
(PONDERING THE THOUGHT)

Which doesn't seem that awful now that I think of it.

SUSAN

Well then, it's settled, you take the three hots and a cot and I'll see you when you get out.

CURTIS

Wait, wait.. alright already,  
what do I have to do?

SUSAN

When you come here you will obey by my  
rules, simply as that.

CURTIS  
(COVERING THE PHONE,  
SILENTLY)

DAMN!!!

CURTIS

Alright, is Saturday a good day for me  
to move my stuff in?

SUSAN

Yeah I guess.

CURTIS

Oh, do you have a truck that I can  
move my stuff?

SUSAN

Wait, you mean to tell me you  
don't have access to a truck?

CURTIS

I figure you could rent me...

(SFX A CLICK SOUND THEN DIAL TONE)

CURTIS

Hello? Did she just hang up..

Hello, hello.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM -AFTERNOON

THREE GUYS AND CURTIS ARE HELPING MOVING THE BOXES INTO THE HOUSE. SUSAN COMES OUT OF THE KITCHEN. SHE STOPS HIM

SUSAN

Are you almost done?

CURTIS

We just got started.

SUSAN

Well, how long will this procedure  
take?

CURTIS

It shouldn't be much more longer.  
Unless you want these boxes to  
grow legs and walk themselves into  
you're house.

SUSAN

You know, I'm not pleased with  
this. I finally got Maya outta the  
house...

SHE CUTS HIM A LOOK OF DISGUST

SUSAN

...now I got you.

CURTIS

Thanks for the love and support  
sis. Can't wait for this to be  
over, then I'm outta here.

SUSAN

By that time, I'll be old and  
fragile- you bum.

SHE ENTERS BACK TO THE HOUSE AS HE SILENT MIMICS HER. ONE OF  
THE MOVERS COMES OVER TO HIM

MOVER

Man, she doesn't like you too much.

CURTIS

Yeah, and that's why I can't wait  
to move back to my apartment,  
so I don't have ta deal wit that.

THE MOVER STILL LOOKING IN HER DIRECTION

MOVER

I gotta say for an older lady,  
she does have a firm ass  
on her.

CURTIS CUTS HIM A SERIOUS LOOK

CURTIS

Just grab the damn boxes, man.

THE MOVER GRABS A BOX AND EXITS

CURTIS

And don't be looking at her ass  
either.

CUT TO:

INT. CURTIS BEDROOM -DAY

CURTIS IS UNPACKING HIS THINGS. SUSAN ENTERS INTO HIS ROOM

SUSAN

OK- lets go over this, someone will be  
checking up on you from the  
courts to see how things are  
going. Also they want to see if  
you're behaving yourself while on  
this house arrest. The rules that I  
have is don't make my house a pig sty,  
obey and not to have a bunch of your  
goofy friends or your women's running  
in and out of here.

CURTIS

All I have to do is be on my best  
behavior and I'm out and back to  
my real life again.

SUSAN

Is that what you call a life that  
got you here? A life of goofing  
off and not being serious about  
you're future?

CURTIS

What do you know about me, all you know is that I messed up and that all you want to do is criticize my life. I don't need that.

SUSAN

Let's get one thing straight, don't ever come off to me like that in my house. Another thing- that life you so-called had, got you here in the first place. You're future is what you need to be thinking about.

HE TURNS HIS BACK TO HER UNGRATEFULLY, WHILE STILL UNPACKING HIS THINGS

SUSAN

I'm heading out to the store...

SHE HANDS HIM A PIECE OF PAPER

SUSAN

...Here's my cell number in case you need me.

SHE KISSES HIM ON THE CHEEK AND EXITS. HE STANDS THERE THINKING LOOKING AT THE PAPER

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN -STILL DAY

CURTIS ENTERS THE KITCHEN, GOES OVER TO THE FRIDGE TO SEE WHAT'S TO EAT

CURTIS  
(TO HIMSELF)

With all these vegetables she's  
eating, I not surprised, she's  
hasn't grown into a tree yet.

HE WALKS OVER TO THE CABINETS, LOOKS IN AND HAS A DISGUST  
LOOK ON HIS FACE

CURTIS

No snacks either, even communions  
have better food than this.

HE PULLS OUT HER NUMBER THEN CALLS ON HIS CELL

ONE-SIDED CONVERSATION:

CURTIS

Hello?  
(BEAT)

Hey, when you left, you didn't ask  
me what I like to eat.  
(BEAT)

No, I don't like that.  
(BEAT)

No, I don't like that either,  
before you left why didn't you ask  
me?

(BEAT)

OK, well can you pick me up a  
greasy cheese steak, some good  
lobster meat and a...

WE HEAR A CLICK AGAIN WITH THE DIAL TONE. HE HANGS UP

CURTIS  
(TO HIMSELF)

Damn, why she keeps doing that?

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM

CURTIS WALKS AROUND CHECKING OUT THE PICTURES AND OTHER THINGS AS WELL. JUST THEN THE DOORBELL RINGS, HE GOES TO OPEN IT AND STANDING THERE IS MAYA 30 WITH HER 13 YR OLD SON MITCHELL. MAYA WAS STUNNED AND SURPRISED

MAYA

Oh my god, Uncle Curtis, how have  
you been?

THEY GIVE EACH OTHER A GOOD HUG, THEN THEY ENTER.

CURTIS

I'm good, look at you. I remember  
you were such a small fry. Now  
you're a grown woman with a son.  
Time does fly.

MAYA

Yeah, this is my son Mitchell.  
Say hello to you're Uncle Curtis.

MITCHELL IS DRESSED CAUSAL WHO TALKS LIKE A HIP HOP ARTIST WITH HIS CAP ON BACKWARDS

MITCHELL

Yo, what up man?

THEY SLAP HANDS

CURTIS

Ah, I see you got some flava little  
man.

MAYA

So what have you been up too? Last  
time I saw you, you were...  
(CONFUSED)

Wait, what were you doing?

CURTIS

I haven't been up to too  
much-  
(MUMBLING)

except trouble. But you're looking  
good, you must have a good man taking  
care of you?

MAYA

No, I mean, I did, until he started  
messaging up.

CURTIS

What was he doing, cheating,  
beating on you, I mean what?

MAYA

Both, Uncle Curtis I couldn't take  
it anymore. So I decided to get  
out and take Mitchell with me.

CURTIS

Oh wow, I'm sorry to hear that. I  
didn't know it was that bad. I thought  
it be the other way around. I heard  
about you're little knock out record  
you had back in the day.

THEY LAUGH

MAYA

Hey is mom around?

CURTIS

Naw, she stepped out to get some groceries for the house. Do you need me to call her?

MAYA

No, that's OK. I got some time to wait. So what brings you over?

CURTIS

If I told you, you wouldn't believe me. Plus it's a long story.

MAYA

Go ahead, I got time.

CURTIS

OK, Well it started like this...

FADE OUT.

(SUPER: TELLING HIS STORY)

FADE IN:

CURTIS

...And that's why the courts placed me here.

MAYA

Wow, I didn't know you were so reckless.

CURTIS

Yea, me neither.

SUSAN ENTERS THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR STRUGGLING WITH  
SOMESHOPPING BAGS, LOOKING EXHAUSTED. CURTIS LOOKS AT HER.

CURTIS

You need any help -sis?

SUSAN

No- take a picture of me as I  
struggle with these bags.

CURTIS

I'm sorry, where are my manners.

CURTIS GOES OVER TO HER AND GRABS THE LIGHTEST BAG AND WALKS  
OFF

SUSAN

CURTIS!!

(HE COMES BACK AND GRABS MOST OF THE BAGS THEN EXITS. SUSAN  
THEN GOES OVER TO THE SOFA AND COLLAPSE)

MAYA

Momma, are you OK? You need a  
drink?

SUSAN

(WINDED)

Yes baby, thank you.

SHE GOES INTO THE KITCHEN. SHE ENTERS WITH A GLASS OF  
WATER.SHE GETS HER BREATH BACK AS SHE SIPS ON THE WATER

SUSAN

I'm good now, thank you sweetie. So  
what brings you here?

MAYA

To be honest momma- me and Carlyle are getting a divorce. Mom, that man is abusive to me. It got to the point where I had to just take Mitchell and leave him the house. I just couldn't take it anymore.

SUSAN

I'm sorry to hear that baby. I thought you too were having a wonderful time together.

I thought you were gonna get married next year. How long has this been going on?

MAYA

We've have been going through this on and off for two years now. I can't marry someone like that. I'm sorry I kept it away from you, it's just that I didn't want you to worry. Mom, I was hearing about Curtis's situation.

SUSAN

Yeah- I wasn't up for it, but the courts told me about it cause they couldn't found no other person for him to stay with.

So now I'm stuck with him.

CURTIS AND MITCHELL ENTERS THE ROOM

SUSAN

(HAPPY)

Mitchell, get ya butt over here and  
give your grandmother some love.

HE RUNS OVER TO HER

SUSAN

How have you been? And take that  
hat off in my house.

SHE TAKES IT OFF AS THEY HUG

MITCHELL

Good- grandma, can I watch some  
cable upstairs in you're room?

SUSAN

Yes you may.

(HE EXITS AS SHE LOOKS TO CURTIS)

SUSAN

Now Curtis did you lock my car up?

CURTIS

(CONFUSED)

I'm sorry, we must be on another  
planet. You ask for me to take the  
bags into the kitchen.

SUSAN

Don't get smart man- yes or no?

CURTIS

Lock up car? With what keys?

SUSAN

Just go lock my car up, we ain't  
living in Mayberry.

SHE TOSSES HIM HER KEYS

CURTIS

(MUMBLING)

I'll do it, but I ain't no mind  
reader, you gotta tell me these  
things or tomorrow you won't have  
no car to lock up.

SUSAN LOOKS AT HIM AS HE EXITS

SUSAN

What?

MAYA

Mom, I was thinking with my job  
having a convention in Los Angeles. I  
was thinking maybe you should come  
with me.

SUSAN

Oh honey- I don't know. I got this  
thing with Curtis and the courts.

MAYA

Come on mom please- it'll be  
relaxing. Plus when was the last

time you treated yourself to  
anything good?

SUSAN

When I watch a good ol fashion  
court series.

MAYA

Mom, it's only for a weekend. You  
don't have to spend a dime. It's  
already been taken care of.

SUSAN

And who's gonna look after  
Mitchell?

MAYA

That's easy, you're new roommate.

SUSAN

Are you insane, hell that boy needs  
someone to look after him.

MAYA

Can't you contact the courts and  
let them know?

SUSAN

Maya, this situation I'm in is not  
that simple. They need someone to  
watch him to make sure he abides by  
the law.

MAYA

Alright, how about this. You tell them you have a very sick relative in LA who needs looking after for the weekend. I'm sure they buy it.

SUSAN

So what if they call me and we are in a loud, crowded room, and they ask me, what's all that noise going on in the background?

What am I supposed to say?

MAYA

Tell them, we are in a hospital and that a lot of people have just started dropping dead.

SUSAN

(STUNNED)

Girl, you are horrible.

CURTIS ENTERS.

CURTIS

Wow, I didn't know that jawn runs so smooth. You got a nice ride there, Sis.

SUSAN

Wait, I know you didn't take my car for a joyride?

CURTIS  
(SMIRK ON HIS FACE)

Maybe!

MAYA

Curtis, mom got something to tell  
you.

SUSAN

Why I gotta tell him?

CURTIS

What's going on?

HE SITS ON THE SOFA, AS SUSAN CUTS MAYA A DIRTY LOOK

SUSAN

I need you to do something for us.

CURTIS

Oh, really now.

SUSAN

I need you to look after Mitchell,  
while me and Maya go to her job  
convention for the weekend.

CURTIS

And where's this convention taking  
place?

SUSAN

It's in Los Angeles.

CURTIS

Wait- you wanna run that by me  
again? Los Angeles- why can't you

take him with you? I'm not good at watching kids.

SUSAN

Well, that settles it, can't go.

MAYA

Calm down Curtis, he'll be fine. We'll leave you a contract number and you have my mother's cell plus I'll give you mine.

CURTIS

You know the courts ain't going for that.

SUSAN

I thought of all that and it will be taken care of. Look, it's Maya's job and she really wanted me to go.

CURTIS

(TO MAYA)

Well, why couldn't you ask you're sister to go instead.

MAYA

Marina is always so busy to spend time with the family. And also she lives in New York. Please Curtis, it's only for the weekend.

CURTIS

You're telling me I gotta watch this kid, while you two go to a convention outta state. What kind of convention is it?

MAYA

It's for the advertising company I work for, they need every able person they have. So could you please watch him while were gone?

(CURTIS LOOKS AT THE BOTH OF THEM)

CURTIS

I don't know what to do with this kid. I've never baby-sat anyone before. I've always been the babysittee.

(MAYA IS GIVING HIM A "PLEASE HELP ME OUT" PITIFUL LOOK)

MAYA

Please, uncle Curtis.

CURTIS

Alright I guess I'm in, I mean what choice do I have?

SUSAN

None really!

CURTIS

Thanks for having my back Susan.

MAYA  
(EXCITED)

Oh Thank you, thank you.

SHE HUGS HIM AND GIVES HIM A KISS ON THE CHEEK.

MAYA  
We leave tomorrow which is Friday  
morning, and we won't return until  
Sunday evening.

CURTIS  
Alright, but let's say we're playing  
hide and seek, and he while he's  
hiding a huge nasty ass creature eats  
him all up, then what? How am I going  
to explain that.

SUSAN  
Just like you made up that crazy  
scenario, make up a way it  
doesn't happen. But I do have to  
  
set some more rules down for you.  
They are simple, if you lose my  
grandson or mess up my place. You will  
come up MISSING, remember I'm a  
retired judge.  
(SINISTER)

I can make it happen.

(SUSAN AND MAYA EXITS, MITCHELL ENTERS THE ROOM)

MITCHELL

So, did mom and grand mom tell you  
the news?

CURTIS  
(UNHAPPY)

Yeah, I was informed.

MITCHELL

I guess we're going to be chillin  
Together ol' head?

CURTIS

First of all I'm not you're  
ol'head. Second your gonna have to  
listen to me. Now go watch some  
cartoons or play some video games  
or get into some trouble, so then  
I can put you into foster care.

MITCHELL

I thought you were cool?

CURTIS

I was- until I had you for the  
weekend.

MITCHELL

Yo shut up man, you stupid.

CURTIS LOOKS AT HIM LIKE- WHO YOU TALKING TOO

CURTIS

Wait, you just didn't tell me to  
shut up.

MITCHELL

Yeah, I did and you can go (BLEEP)  
yourself too.

CURTIS IS NOW SHOCKED

CURTIS

YO, where did you learn to talk  
like that? You little micro  
midget. Guess were gonna have a  
colorful weekend- aren't we?

MITCHELL

Keep talking punk and I'll get you  
in trouble.

CURTIS GETS IN HIS FACE

CURTIS

I like to see you do it.

MITCHELL YELLS INTO THE OTHER ROOM

MITCHELL

Mom, quick, Curtis says he gonna beat  
me up.

CURTIS QUICKLY AND GRABS HIM BY THE NECK AS MAYA RUSHES IN

MAYA

What's going on?

CURTIS

Nothing, I think he was choking or  
something.

CURTIS ACTS LIKE HE WAS PATTING HIM ON HIS BACK. MAYA GOES  
OVER TO MITCHELL

MAYA

Are you alright honey?

MITCHELL

Yeah I'm OK.

MAYA

You too get along now. Me and  
your grand mom are going over our  
plans.

SHE PATS HIM ON HIS HEAD, THEN EXITS AGAIN. CURTIS STILL HAS  
HIS HAND AROUND THE BACK OF HIS NECK- ONLY THIS TIME  
SQUEEZING HARDER WITH A DERANGED SMILE ON HIS FACE. MITCHELL  
IS CHOKING AND SQUIRMING WHILE TRYING TO BREAK FREE

CUT TO:

DREAM SEQUENCE - INT. CURTIS BEDROOM -DAY

CURTIS IS PLAYING HIS VIDEO GAME AND IS REALLY INTO THE GAME.  
MITCHELL WALKS BY THE DOOR WAY AND SEES THIS

CURTIS  
(TO HIMSELF)

No, don't get caught there. MOVE.

MITCHELL ENTERS THE ROOM

MITCHELL

What ya playing?

CURTIS BRIEFLY LOOKS AT HIM AND THEN BACK TO HIS GAME

CURTIS

You see what I'm playing.

MITCHELL

Can I play?

CURTIS

Get out of here Mitchell. You're  
breaking my concentration.

MITCHELL

But I wanna play.

CURTIS

Go!

WITH IN A FEW SECONDS MITCHELL SNATCHES THE CONTROLLER OUT OF  
CURTIS'S HANDS AND THEN TAKES OFF RUNNING. CURTIS IS SITTING  
THERE LIKE I DON'T BELIEVE WHAT JUST HAPPEN

CURTIS

(TO HIMSELF)

I know he didn't do what I thought  
he just did.

CURTIS GOES AFTER HIM, CHASES HIM ALL THROUGH THE HOUSE. HE  
FINALLY CATCHES UP TO HIM

CURTIS

I want you to say hello to an old  
fashion whooping.

(MITCHELL SPITS AT CURTIS)

CURTIS

Ah the hell with this.

AS CURTIS IS ABOUT TO PULL OUT HIS BELT. THE COPS BUST  
THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR

POLICE

Freeze child molester.

MITCHELL BREAKS FREE AS CURTIS IS CONFUSED ABOUT WHAT IS  
HAPPENING

CURTIS  
(CALMLY)

No, officers, you got it all wrong. I  
was just....

CURTIS STARTS TO WALK TOWARDS THEM, WHEN THE COP SHOOTS SOME  
TASER VAULTS INTO CURTIS. HE SHAKING AND TWITCHING VERY FAST

DREAM SEQUENCE  
ENDED

CURTIS WAKES UP QUICKLY FEELING ALL OVER HIS BODY. HE THEN  
REALIZES IT WAS A NIGHTMARE

CURTIS  
(TO HIMSELF)

Damn, this kid is a worst nightmare  
than FREDDY KRUEGER.

CUT TO:

INT. CURTIS BEDROOM -EARLY MORNING

SUSAN ENTERS THE ROOM AND AWAKES CURTIS

SUSAN

Curtis, c'mon get up. My and Maya  
are ready to leave out.

CURTIS

What time is it?

SUSAN

It's 6am.

CURTIS

Naw, leave at 10- I'll be up then.

SUSAN

No, you're up now.

SHE SNATCHES THE COVERS OFF OF HIM. HE SITS ON THE SIDE OF  
THE BED

CURTIS

You know the more I think about it, the  
army would have been a better place to  
watch me on house arrest.

SUSAN

I don't so, the sergeant would have  
committed suicide or shot you. Now you  
got 5 minutes to get you're butt  
downstairs.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

MAYA AND SUSAN ARE PACKED WITH THERE ROLLING LUGGAGE

SUSAN

Well everything is packed and we're  
ready to get on the plane.

MITCHELL GOES OVER TO HIS MOTHER

MAYA

Now I want you to listen to Curtis,  
he's in charge, you hear me?

MITCHELL SHAKES HIS HEAD YES

MAYA

If you're good, mommy will bring  
you something back. Now give mommy  
a kiss.

HE KISSES HER ON THE CHEEK AS SHE DOES THE SAME FOR HIM. HE  
KISSES HIS GRAND MOM TOO. SUSAN THEN WALKS OVER TO CURTIS

CURTIS

No thanks, I'm cool on the kissing  
part.

SUSAN

Just remember what I said.

SUSAN GETS BEHIND MAYA AND MOUTHS THE WORD MISSING, WITH A  
CUTTING THE THROAT GESTURE. SHE GRABS HER LUGGAGE AND EXITS.  
MAYA HUGS CURTIS.

CURTIS

Be safe on you're flight, and make  
sure grumpy grannie behaves  
herself.

MAYA LAUGHS AS SHE EXITS AS WELL. HE SHUTS THE DOOR, THEN  
LOOKS DOWN AT MITCHELL. MITCHELL HAS A SAD LOOK ON HIS FACE

MITCHELL

I'm sorry Curtis.

HE GOES OVER TO HUG HIM. CURTIS FEELS BAD AND SYMPATHETIC FOR  
HIM. CURTIS EMBRACES HIM

CURTIS

Hey now, it's all good. Let's just  
get along OK?

MITCHELL SHAKES HIS HEAD YES

FADE OUT.

SUPER: " LATER THAT DAY"

FADE IN:

INT. LIVING ROOM

WE SEE CURTIS LYING THERE WITH COMFORT ON HIS FACE- RELAXING.  
JUST AS CURTIS IS GETTING COMFORTABLE, MITCHELL COMES IN AND  
TURNS ON THE TV SORTA LOUD. WHICH WOKE UP CURTIS

CURTIS

Yo- Mitchell, can you turn that  
down some, or watch it in another  
room.

CLOSE UP ON CURTIS FACE WHILE RESTING. WE HEAR THE VOLUME OF  
THE TV GETS LOUDER. CURTIS IS AWAKE BY SURPRISE

CURTIS

Yo- son, what's wrong with you?

MITCHELL ACTS LIKE HE DOESN'T HEAR HIM

CURTIS

Mitchell, turn that down.

STILL NO RESPONSE

CURTIS  
(FORCEFULLY)

Turn it down!

NOTHING- HE SEES THIS IS NOT WORKING.

CURTIS

You lucky my bladder is calling the  
toilet.

SO HE EXITS UP TO THE BATHROOM

INT. BATHROOM -DAY

CURTIS WALKS OVER TO THE TOILET, WHEN HE SEES NO TOILET PAPER  
AVAILABLE

CURTIS

Great!

HE LOOKS AROUND AGAIN, THEN SUDDENLY HAPPENS TO LOOK UP AND  
WE SEE SOME WET TISSUE FALL FROM THE CEILING AND SMACKS HIM  
ON THE FACE. CURTIS IS STANDING THERE IN COMPLETE DISBELIEF.  
CURTIS ENTERS BACK DOWNSTAIRS

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM

HE WALKS OVER TO THE TV AND TURNS IT OFF, THEN WALKS OVER AND STANDS IN FRONT OF MITCHELL, WITH THE WET PAPER STILL ON HIS FACE

CURTIS

Do you see this?

MITCHELL JUST LOOKS AT HIM

CURTIS

Well, what do you say about this?

MITCHELL

I say you got some wet toilet paper on you're face.

CURTIS

Yeah, and guess who's responsible for it?

MITCHELL

I don't know, but when you find out, let me know. Now can you step aside so I can finish watching my show.

CURTIS HAS HAD IT. CURTIS WIPES THE WET PAPER OFF HIS FACE

CURTIS

What is going to happen is that you're gonna get off you're butt and go into time out and think about what you just done. I've been patient with you, but I see you like to try me. Now get up and go.

MITCHELL DOESN'T BUDGE

CURTIS  
(STERN)

Go now!

MITCHELL FINALLY DOES WHAT HE'S TOLD WITH AN ANGRY POUTING LOOK ON HIS FACE. AS HE'S LEAVING CURTIS SITS BACK ON THE SOFA AND TURNS ON THE TV. MITCHELL WALKS UP BEHIND HIM

MITCHELL

Curtis, how long is my time out?

CURTIS DOESN'T LOOK BACK AT HIM

CURTIS

For as long as I think you learned  
you're lesson.

MITCHELL

How long is that?

CURTIS

I don't know. Now go!

MITCHELL IS ABOUT TO LEAVE THE ROOM, WHEN HE GRABS A PILLOW OFF A CHAIR. HE QUIETLY TIP-TOES OVER TO THE SOFA AND BOPS CURTIS ACROSS THE FACE. THEN RUNS ON

CURTIS

Damn this kid.

HE THEN PROCEEDS TO CHASE AFTER HIM

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. INSIDE OF AIRPLANE - MORNING

MAYA AND SUSAN ARE SITTING THEMSELVES ON THE PLANE. ONLY THEY ARE SEATED IN DIFFERENT SEATING AREAS. MAYA IS SEATED RIGHT BEHIND HER MOTHER

SUSAN

How come I couldn't get the seat  
next to you?

MAYA

It was my fault, sorry.  
I booked this flight at the last  
minute.

SUSAN

Why would you do that?

MAYA

Mom, I'm lucky I got you to come  
with me on this flight. Getting  
you out the house is like pulling  
teeth with you.

SUSAN

You know I don't like to go out.  
Too many criminals out there. I  
should know, I put half of them  
away.

MAYA

Just enjoy the flight, you have  
nothing to worry about.

SUSAN

How long is this flight?

MAYA

I'm guessing two and a half hours.  
Read a book, take a nap- before  
you know it, it'll all be over.

SUSAN

Sure hope so, I'm just worried  
about what might go on at home.

MAYA

Don't worry momma, all will be  
fine, just relax.

SUSAN

Yeah I guess you're right. I'll try to  
enjoy this flight.

MAYA LEANS BACK IN HER CHAIR AND PUTS HER EAR BUDS IN. SUSAN  
GETS SITUATED WHEN A YOUNG WOMAN IN HER EARLY 20'S HAS A SEAT  
NEXT TO HER. SHE HAS A SERVICE CAT WITH HER. SUSAN NOTICES  
THIS

SUSAN

Oh dear, I'm sorry, but no cats are  
allowed on this flight.

YOUNG WOMAN

Oh it's OK, this is my service  
animal. She keeps me calm while I'm  
flying.

SUSAN

They allow this type of thing to  
happen?

YOUNG WOMAN

Oh for sure, as long as you have  
you're medical papers to show, you  
should be fine.

SUSAN

Show me then.

YOUNG WOMAN

Uh?

SUSAN

Nothing, so this cat of yours calms  
you down in panicking situation?

YOUNG WOMAN

That's right.

SUSAN

OK, now what if this cat gets too  
excited? How do you handle it?

YOUNG WOMAN

Oh you don't have to worry about  
little Mitzi, she be fine. Would  
you like to pet her?

SUSAN

No, I'll keep my hands in plain  
view site, thank you.

THE YOUNG WOMAN STILL HAPPY GO LUCKY AS SHE PUTS HER EAR BUDS  
IN WHILE PLAYING ON HER PHONE. SUSAN GETS BACK INTO HER RELAX  
POSITION, SHUTTING HER EYES. ONLY SHE OPENS ONE EYE AND  
WATCHES THE CAT

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. INSIDE OF AIRPLANE - CONTINUOUS

CLOSE UP ON SUSAN'S FACE. SUDDENLY SOMETHING WAKES HER UP.

SHE HAS A CONFUSED FROWN ON HER FACE. SHE SMILES SOMETHING  
AWFUL

SUSAN

Excuse me, what is that smell?

SHE LOOKS TO THE YOUNG WOMAN NEXT TO HER

SUSAN

Excuse me sweetie, but do you smell  
that?

THE WOMAN TOOK OUT HER EAR BUDS

YOUNG WOMAN

What was what?

SUSAN

That stinky smell honey, you don't  
smell that?

THE YOUNG WOMAN SNIFFS THE AIR AND FINALLY REALIZE WHAT IT IS

YOUNG WOMAN

Oh I'm sorry about that,  
it's Mitzi, she's just passing  
gas. She does when she gets  
excited.

SUSAN

I thought you said you're cat  
doesn't get excited.

YOUNG WOMAN

sually she doesn't.

SUSAN GOES INTO A SHOCKED, DIGESTING LOOK ON HER FACE. THE  
CAT LETS ANOTHER ONE OUT

SUSAN

OH GOD dear, you're cat really  
stinks.

SUSAN COVERS UP HER NOSE AND MOUTH. NOW THE PLANE IS GIVING  
OFF TURBULENCE BY SHAKING RIGOROUSLY. THE CAT NOW IS HISSING  
AND PACING ON BOTH OF THERE LAPS. SUSAN IS TERRIFIED AT THIS  
POINT

YOUNG WOMAN

This almost never happens.

SUSAN  
(TERRIFIED)

Can you please get you're cat.

THE CAT IS STILL PACING AND HISSING ACROSS THEIR LAPS. ONCE IN THE WOMAN IN THE WOMAN'S LAP, THE CAT TURNS TO SUSAN AND PUKES UP A HAIRBALL IN HER LAP. SUSAN NOW IS HORRIFIED AND SURPRISED WHAT THE CAT DID. SUSAN STARTS SOBBING, NOW THE PLANE HAS STOPPED WITH TURBULENCE. MAYA LEANS FORWARD

MAYA

Mom, are you OK?

SUSAN TURNS TO HER WITH A PETTY LOOK ON HER FACE

SUSAN

NO!

MAYA LOOKS DOWN IN HER LAP

MAYA  
(SURPRISED, BUT CALM)

OH!

CUT TO:

INT. SUSAN'S KITCHEN - SAME DAY

CURTIS IS IN THE KITCHEN MAKING TWO SANDWICHES. MITCHELL ENTERS

MITCHELL

Uncle Curtis, can I come out of  
time out?

CURTIS

Do you think you learned you're  
lesson?

MITCHELL

Man, I've been in time out for  
three hours.

CURTIS LOOKING AT HIS PHONE

CURTIS

Well I'll be damn, I guess you have  
learned you're lesson. I made some  
sandwiches, you hungry?

MITCHELL

For three hours, wouldn't you be?

CURTIS

Don't get smart, grab one.

MITCHELL

Thanks, hey uncle Curtis, can I  
take my food into the living room?

CURTIS

All I ask is that make sure you be  
careful not to mess up or drop  
anything in there. I don't have no  
money for Queen Elizabeth's  
cleaning bill.

MITCHELL

Bet!

MITCHELL TAKES HIS PLATE OF FOOD AND EXITS. THE KITCHEN PHONE  
RINGS. CURTIS LOOKS AT IT.

CURTIS

Oh smack, who has one of these  
today.

INTERCUT TELEPHONE CONVERSATION:

(HE ANSWERS IT)

CURTIS

Hello?

INT. AIRPORT - SAME TIME

MAYA

Hey, how's everything going?

CURTIS

Fine, what's up? How's the flight?

MAYA

A little turbulence happened.

But all is well.

SUSAN IS SITTING BEHIND HER LISTENING, MAKING HER COMMENTS BE KNOWN

SUSAN

(YELLING)

The hell it was.

CURTIS

(CONFUSED)

Who was that?

MAYA

That's just mom, she didn't enjoy  
the flight.

SUSAN

If I see that little girl again.

I'm gonna choke her and that  
damn cat.

CURTIS

What's this about a cat?

MAYA

Nothing, pay her no mind. How are you and Mitchell doing?

CURTIS

Oh, we had a eventful day.

SUSAN

(TO MAYA)

Ask him is my house still clean and nothing better be wrong with my grandson. Tell him to remember the word- MISSING.

CURTIS

Tell her to chill, do a crossword puzzle like little old lady should do. Are ya'll almost there?

MAYA

No, were at the Chicago airport, changing planes cause the other flight got delayed, so we're heading back home.

CURTIS

Oh wow, won't that mess up you're job?

MAYA

Not really, I called and let them know what happened, they'll understand. Not much I can do at this point.

CURTIS

I guess you're right.

MAYA

Oh look Curtis we gotta board our next flight. We'll see you in a little bit.

CURTIS

Just be safe getting back, and conform with the wicked witch she has nothing to worry about.

MAYA

(LAUGHING)

OK, bye.

CURTIS

Bye!

THEY HANG UP. CURTIS GOES BACK TO PREPARING HIS SANDWICH,  
SECONDS LATER THE DOORBELL RINGS

CURTIS

Now who could this be?

HE YELLS OUT TO MITCHELL

CURTIS

Hey Mitchell, can you get the door?

MITCHELL

(O.S)

Yeah

CURTIS ENTERS INTO THE LIVING ROOM

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

MITCHELL ENTERS THE LIVING ROOM AND OPENS THE DOOR. A MAN IS STANDING THERE SMILING AT HIM. IT'S CARLYLE 30'S, TALL WITH SORT OF A CHUBBY BUILD TO HIM, THAT'S HIS FATHER

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN -CONTINUOUS

CURTIS IS FINISHED MAKING HIS SANDWICH, AND WONDERING WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE LIVING ROOM

CURTIS  
(YELLING OUT)

Yo Mitchell, who's at the door?

HE GETS NO RESPONSE

CURTIS

Hey Mitchell, what's up?

AGAIN NOTHING, SO HE HAS TO INVESTIGATE THE MATTER. HE EXITS THE KITCHEN. NOW ENTERS THE LIVING ROOM

INT. LIVING ROOM

CURTIS WALKS OVER TO THE DOOR AND SURPRISES TO SEE IT'S WIDE OPEN AND THE TV STILL ON, BUT NO MITCHELL IN SIGHT. HE THINKS MITCHELL IS HIDING, SO HE CHECKS BEHIND THE SOFA AND OTHER POSSIBLE HIDING SPOTS

CURTIS

Come out, come out where ever  
you're hiding gremlin. Look we can  
play hide and seek later.

CURTIS LOOKS AGAIN AT THE FRONT DOOR

CURTIS  
(TO HIMSELF)

I see this wants me to head  
straight to the slammer messin' around  
with him.

HE GOES OVER TO THE DOOR. HE CALLS HIS NAME AGAIN

CURTIS  
Yo Mitchell, hey Mitch, I'm not  
coming out there. So the joke's on  
you.

STILL NO ANSWER

CURTIS  
Where the hell could this kid have  
gone?

SUDDENLY THE HOUSE PHONES RINGS AGAIN. CURTIS SHUTS THE DOOR,  
THEN ANSWERS THE PHONE IN THE LIVING ROOM

INTERCUT CONVERSATION:

CURTIS  
Hello?

CARLYLE  
Yeah, who this?

CURTIS  
No, who are you? You called here,  
man.

CARLYLE  
Does Susan lived there?

CURTIS

Yeah, she does- who are you?

CARLYLE

Do you know Maya?

CURTIS

What is this how to guess 20 questions, man? Get to the point, what do you want?

CARLYLE

My point is I got Mitchell.

CURTIS

OK and can you bring him back so his grandmother doesn't murder me soon.

CARLYLE

He's not coming back homie, I...

CURTIS

Wait, hold up man, if you're holding him for some type of reason, you can keep him cause I don't have any money to hook you up with. Plus that kid been a pain in my ass all day.

CARLYLE

Look, you don't understand. I'm his father and I'm keeping him with me.

CURTIS

Cool, well all you had to do was invite yourself over and I could have you pack up his things. You do know you're a lifesaver.

THE OTHER LINE CLICKS

CURTIS

Hey, hold on man, it's my other line.

CURTIS CLICKS OVER

DIFFERENT INTERCUT CONVERSATION:

IT'S MAYA ON THE OTHER LINE

CURTIS

Hello?

MAYA

Oh Curtis, I'm gonna let you know this. If Mitchell's father tries to come back, don't let him in to see Mitchell.

CURTIS IS MAKING A FACE LIKE "WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME THAT EARLIER". BUT STILL KEEPING HIS COOL

CURTIS

Sure, no problem.

MAYA

Thanks, see ya'll soon, Bye.

CURTIS TAKES A BIG SWALLOW -GULP!

CURTIS

Bye!

HE CLICKS BACK OVER

CURTIS

Yo homie, you gotta bring that boy  
back here.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

CURTIS IS ANXIOUSLY LOOKING OUT THE BLINDS THROUGH THE  
WINDOW, WAITING FOR SOMEBODY

CURTIS  
(TO HIMSELF)

Good there here.

HE GOES AND ANSWERS THE DOOR. IT'S MITCHELL AND HIS FATHER  
CARLYLE. THEY ENTER THE LIVING ROOM AND HAVE A SEAT

CURTIS

I'm glad you bought him back, cause if  
you didn't.... By any chance you ever  
heard of the TV series- MISSING  
PERSONS.

CARLYLE LOOKS CONFUSED ON THAT ONE

CARLYLE

Hey, I wasn't trying to cause any  
trouble. It's just that I've  
hadn't seen my boy in awhile.

CURTIS

Look, let discuss this.  
(TO MITCHELL)

Hey Mitchell, let me holla at ya  
dad, go and try out my new video  
game.

MITCHELL  
(EXCITED)

You sure?

CURTIS

Yea

HE EXITS QUICKLY. THE GUYS HAVE A SEAT.

CURTIS

I know you and Maya are going  
through some things, which is none of  
my business. But she is my niece and  
they are family. So I don't want to  
see no harm come to them.

CARLYLE

Hey, I'm not trying to bring harm  
to them. Me and Maya....

CURTIS

I heard already, and I don't  
appreciate what your doing to her.

CARLYLE

Look, she's my wife... So you need to-

CURTIS

No, I don't need to nothing.  
Let me tell you something, just  
cause you are having an argument

with her. Doesn't give you the right to abuse her like that. What if someone did that to you're mother or sister, how would you feel?

CARLYLE

Someone did, we called him Dad.

CURTIS

Hey, look I'm sorry you had to go through that in you're family. But that's not gonna down with my mine. If you need help, their are plenty of places that can help you with something like that. See, I seen cats like you before man, you just need the help.

CARLYLE STANDS UP

CARLYLE

Look, I don't need some lecture from some two bit dude who don't know me.

CURTIS STANDS UP TOO

CURTIS

Ok, what I will suggest is that you need to get going, cause as of now you're not welcome to come by

here. Not until you get yourself  
some help.

CARLYLE

Look, what you gonna do is give me  
my son.

CURTIS

No, what I'm going to do is give  
you a good ass whooping if you  
don't roll out. The choice is  
yours.

CARLYLE PONDERES IT OVER, THEN DECIDES TO EXIT. MITCHELL COMES  
DOWN AND SITS ON THE SOFA AND CURTIS JOINS HIM

MITCHELL

Where did my dad go Curtis?

CURTIS

He had to take care of something  
and realize he couldn't have you  
with him at this moment.

MITCHELL

So why did he come through here?

CURTIS

Cause he loves you, and he wants to do  
right for you and you're  
mother. That's why he's gonna take  
care of some business.

MITCHELL

You think I'll see him again?

CURTIS

I'm quite sure you will. So here is the main question I needed to ask you, what have we learned from our lesson today?

MITCHELL

Learned not to be such a butthead.

(CURTIS PONDER THAT THOUGHT FOR A MINUTE)

CURTIS

Ok, I could go with that. But what I was talking about was respecting people and their things, right.

MITCHELL

Yeah, I get what you're saying.

CURTIS

You see Mitchell I wasn't a good guy too. That's why I gotta live in this dungeon of hell.

MITCHELL

What do you mean?

CURTIS

What I mean is the reason why I'm staying here.

MITCHELL

What did you do?

CURTIS

I broken the law, and when you  
break the law you gotta pay the  
consequences. See you could in up  
in jail for not obeying the law.

MITCHELL

Well if you broke the law, why are  
you staying here?

CURTIS  
(LOOKING AROUND)

Well, I'm still trying to figure  
that one out. All I can say is do good  
things in life and trouble  
will not find you.

MITCHELL

I understand Uncle Curtis, and I  
will do my best to behave.

CURTIS

I'm glad to hear that, cause you  
know you wouldn't pull this crap  
with you're grand mom or mom.

MITCHELL SHAKES HIS HEAD

CURTIS

So we good little man?

MITCHELL

Yeah we good.

THEY SLAP HANDS AND EMBRACE IN A HUG

MITCHELL

Hey Uncle Curtis, wanna play tag?

CURTIS

Yeah I'm down.

MITCHELL

Let me get something to drink from  
the kitchen, then we can start.

CURTIS

OK!

MITCHELL GETS UP AND ACTS LIKE HE'S GOING TO THE KITCHEN. HE  
QUIETLY GRABS A CHAIR PILLOW, SNEAKS BEHIND CURTIS AND BOPS  
HIM ACROSS THE FACE WITH IT

MITCHELL

(YELLS)

Tag! You're it.

HE THEN RUNS OFF INTO THE KITCHEN

CURTIS

Jesus, why me!

HE THEN TAKES OFF INTO THE KITCHEN AFTER HIM. HE EXIT THE  
FRAME

AND WE:

THE END!