

DUNCANVILLE

"The Parents Aren't All Right"

Written by

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**ACT ONE**

**INT. OAKDALE HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY**

DUNCAN walks up to MIA at her locker, slicking his hair back like a greaser.

DUNCAN

Sup, Mia. You catch me at the game last night?

**QUICK FLASHBACK TO:** Last night's Oakdale High baseball game. A BASEBALL soars into the stands, conking Duncan on the head.

DUNCAN (CONT'D)

Ack!

The impact knocks him into the arms of a WOMAN... a woman who looks nothing like Mia.

**BACK TO PRESENT:** Duncan smiles dreamily.

DUNCAN (CONT'D)

Your armpits smelled like leather.

Mia <SNIFFS> her pit before shutting her locker.

MIA

Hmmm, wasn't me. Thanks to Papa Mom's, I always smell like pepperoni. Besides, I don't have time for baseball games. Or *any* high school games.

They walk down the hall to class.

MIA (CONT'D)

<SIGHS> We're growing up, Duncan, and with growing up comes tons of responsibilities.

DUNCAN

(confused)

Respon... responsabibiddies?

MIA

(counting on her fingers)

Work, extracurriculars, volunteering... the list never ends! Gone are the days of being carefree.

DUNCAN

Oh yeah. I'm always busy... with...  
stuff. Busy stuff. You know the  
kind of stuff I'm talking about.

MIA

Riiight. Must be nice having no  
worries. Don't ever change.

She gives a small smile before heading to class.

DUNCAN

(slowly, to himself)

Does Mia think I'm not responsible?

REVEAL COACH WALTERS. He heard the whole thing.

COACH WALTERS

It's not just her, Carrot Top.

**INT. HARRIS HOME - KITCHEN - LATER**

The HARRIS FAMILY chows down on dinner. ANNIE hones in on  
Duncan, who's barely touched his plate.

ANNIE

Duncan, honey, is everything okay?  
You kept your food on the plate  
this time.

Duncan scratches his head, fork full of food.

DUNCAN

Do you think I'm raspoonible, Mom?

ANNIE

(correcting him)

Responsible. And of course I do,  
Dunkie.

She picks food out of his hair, tossing it into her mouth.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

(chewing)

And delicious too!

DUNCAN

Mom...

JACK

You're a Harris, Dunker!  
Responsibility runs in our jeans.

(MORE)

JACK (CONT'D)

(beat)

Er, overalls.

Duncan takes notice of Jack's PLUMBING OVERALLS. Like *really* notices them.

DUNCAN

Huh. You're right, Dad. A uniform  
*would* make me look respwanabul.

JACK

(tearing up)

I promised myself I wouldn't cry  
when this day came. I said, "Jack,  
you'd better not cry." But gosh  
darnit, the waterworks are  
starting. Annie, you filming this??

ANNIE

Way ahead of you.

Annie's PHONE is locked and loaded. She gives a thumbs up.

JACK

Duncan. My son. My beautiful baby  
boy. Are you saying you're ready to  
join... <CHOKES UP> the family  
business?

Everyone stares at Duncan in anticipation.

DUNCAN

Me? A plumber?  
(suddenly disgusted)  
God no.

Jack buries his head in Annie's shoulder and <SOBS>.

DUNCAN (CONT'D)

(daydreaming)

But imagine all the *other* uniforms  
I could wear...

**ENTER DUNCAN'S FANTASY:** Duncan strolls through Oakdale as  
different uniforms <POP> onto him (e.g. firefighter, doctor,  
dominatrix, French clown, barista, mortician, etc.).

He waddles up to Mia, weighed down by 10+ layers of clothing.

MIA

Oh, Duncan! You're so responsible  
when you're smothered in cloth.

DUNCAN  
Tell me about it.

He goes to dip her when they're both absorbed into his clothing like a BLACKHOLE.

**BACK TO PRESENT:** Duncan <GASPS> for air, having faceplanted in his food.

DUNCAN (CONT'D)  
Gotta get a uniform!

As Duncan rushes out, Annie's "mom" optimism takes hold.

ANNIE  
At least he got the food in his mouth this time!

**INT. HARRIS HOME - KITCHEN - LATER**

After dinner, Annie handwashes a KNIFE while listening to a TRUE CRIME PODCAST.

NARRATOR (V.O.)  
She was your average, middle-aged white woman, married with three kids. But all it took was one wrong move, and *SLASH!* She stabbed them all to death!

KIMBERLY (O.S.)  
Hey, Mom?

Annie <YELPS>, spinning around.

ANNIE  
(re: knife in hand)  
I wasn't gonna stab you! I swear!

KIMBERLY  
Oh, I know. You wouldn't last a day in prison.  
(beat)  
Can you take me to Claire's after school tomorrow? We need to study for our French final.

ANNIE  
Since when do you know French?

KIMBERLY  
I don't... That's why I'm studying. Can you take me?

ANNIE  
Alright, but I want you home for  
dinner.

Annie mindlessly waves the knife in the air.

KIMBERLY  
Are you threatening me?

Disgusted, she tosses it in the sink. <KER-PLUNK>!

ANNIE  
No. Of course not!  
(beat, scared)  
But you should go. Just in case.

Kimberly runs out of the room.

ANNIE (CONT'D)  
(to herself)  
Maybe I should lay off the  
podcasts. I think they're starting  
to mess with me.

JING (O.S.)  
Mommy?

Annie grabs a PIZZA CUTTER.

ANNIE  
Who said that?!

**INT. JACK AND ANNIE'S BATHROOM - LATER**

As Jack and Annie <BRUSH> their teeth, they vent to each other about their kids.

ANNIE  
(while brushing)  
No one gets that excited about  
French... apart from the French.

JACK  
(while brushing)  
And who isn't *thrilled* by about  
what they might find snaking a  
drain?

ANNIE  
(while brushing)  
It's unnatural.

JACK  
(while brushing)  
It's disgusting.

They <SPIT> into the sink at the same time.

ANNIE / JACK  
I think they're hiding something...

Their eyes widen. Jinx!

**INT. JACK AND ANNIE'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER**

Jack and Annie climb into bed.

ANNIE  
What do we do, Jack? Tail them  
after school?

JACK  
Catfish them on social?

ANNIE  
Hack into their DMs?

They ponder these horrible ideas. Jack <SIGHS>.

JACK  
Oh, Annie. We know we can't do any  
of those things...

ANNIE  
Oh we can... but probably  
shouldn't.

They share a look. What now?

JACK  
I guess there's only one thing we  
can do.

ANNIE  
No. Don't say it, Jack. My heart  
can't take it.

Jack mouths the word "*Nothing*." Annie's eyes flutter.

JACK  
We've grown as parents, Annie.  
Maybe it's time to let our kids  
grow too... *without* our meddling.

ANNIE  
But I pride myself on meddling.  
It's my best quality!

Jack stares her down until finally, she relents.

ANNIE (CONT'D)  
<SIGHS> Maybe you're right. Maybe  
it's time our babies blossom on  
their own.

**INT. CAMPER - NEXT DAY**

Duncan casually plays video games with WOLF, BEX, and YANGZI.

DUNCAN  
Who knew getting a uniform would be  
so easy?

REVEAL his "uniform" -- he's dressed as a SEXY MALE NURSE  
(i.e. that slutty Halloween costume no one buys).

DUNCAN (CONT'D)  
Bring on the rascondiddlies!

BEX  
Pretty sure that's not how any of  
that works.

Duncan's fighter punches Bex's right in the gut.

DUNCAN  
My fist begs to differ.

Yangzi's fighter delivers several blows to Duncan's head.

YANGZI  
Well my foot says you're lazy.

CLOSE UP AND SLO-MO on the fighter's shoes: "Ya lazy!"

One final kick to the skull, and Duncan's fighter drops DEAD.  
"YOU LOSE" flashes on screen.

DUNCAN  
Ugh!!

He chucks his controller at the TV, <BREAKING> it.

BEX / WOLF / YANGZI  
<VARIOUS "WTF" REACTIONS>



WOLF

That's the fifth TV you've trashed.  
Not cool.

DUNCAN

You know what else isn't cool? Not  
being taken seriously.

BEX

Have you looked at yourself today?  
Like actually looked at yourself?

YANGZI

Just work for your dad, dude, and  
save us the trouble.

DUNCAN

I can't be a plumber, Yangzi. They  
literally touch poop. I don't wanna  
touch poop!

(beat)

<SIGHS> But if I don't find some  
ripondadles soon, Mia won't think  
I'm worth her time.

BEX

Oh, is *that* what this whole thing's  
about? Impressing Mia? You could  
just apply at Papa Mom's and--

Duncan grabs Bex by the shoulders, pulls her in close. His  
hot <BREATH> tickles her nose.

DUNCAN

(accusatory)

You been holding out on me?

BEX

What? Of course not! She *just*  
mentioned it today at school.

Duncan pushes past his friends, knocking over their gaming  
console. <CRASH>! It lies in PIECES on the floor.

YANGZI / BEX / WOLF

<VARIOUS "WTF" REACTIONS>

**EXT. CLAIRE'S HOUSE - NEXT DAY**

Throughout the scene, we intercut between ANNIE'S CAR and  
CLAIRE'S HOME.

**POV THROUGH BINOCULARS:** From her car, Annie watches Kimberly and CLAIRE enter the house.

ANNIE (O.S.)  
In you go, girls. Nice and easy.

**ON JING IN THE BACKSEAT:** Through the window, Jing sees a BABY SKUNK waddling through the grass.

JING  
Ooh, Mommy! Mommy! Can I play with the kitty?

ANNIE  
(not listening)  
Sure, whatever you want, Jing.  
Mommy doesn't meddle.

**ON KIMBERLY AND CLAIRE:** Annie watches the girls make their way through the house.

ANNIE (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Claire's parents should really think about investing in some curtains.

**ON JING:** She hops out of the car, laser focused on the skunk. SPEEDING CARS swerve to miss her.

JING  
<EXCITED GIGGLES>

**ON KIMBERLY AND CLAIRE:** They finally reach Claire's BEDROOM.

ANNIE (O.S.)  
Okay, moment of truth. What are you really up to? Browsing the black market? Dealing crack smoke? *What is it?*

Annie ZOOMS IN on their phone screens to find... a bunch of SELFIES. Lots and lots of filtered, emoji-stamped selfies.

Annie slowly lowers the binoculars, defeated.

ANNIE (CONT'D)  
Crap. Was Jack actually right? I hate when Jack's right...

Annie turns the key, ready to drive off.

ANNIE (CONT'D)  
Alright, Jing. If Daddy asks where we were, what do we say?

But the rear view mirror shows an EMPTY CAR SEAT.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

Jing?!

**ON JING:** She stands victorious on the hood of a CRASHED CAR, holding the skunk up in the air like newborn Simba.

JING

Look, Mommy! I got a--AAAHHHHHHH!!

<FRRRRRT>! The skunk <SPRAYS> Jing in the face.

**INT. PAPA MOM'S - DAY**

Duncan walks up to Mia at the counter, slicking his hair back like a greaser.

DUNCAN

Sup, Mia. You catch me in the back alley just now?

**QUICK FLASHBACK TO:** Minutes ago in an alley behind Papa Mom's. Duncan searches for the front door when he trips over a HOMELESS WOMAN--

Mia's frantic waving brings Duncan **BACK TO PRESENT.**

MIA

I've been here the whole time. You do remember what I look like, right?

DUNCAN

Pfffft, yeah. Of course.  
(studies her a beat)  
You know, I'm actually in talks to work here.

MIA

Seriously? That'd be awesome!

DUNCAN

As in, I'm here to have talks to talk about working here.

MIA

Oh... so you're *not* working here?

DUNCAN

(confused)  
Does talking about it count?

A HAIRY ARM suddenly grabs Duncan by the shoulder.

JACK  
(coolly nodding)  
Sup, Dunks. Mi-Mi.

Mia furrows her brow.

DUNCAN  
(through clenched teeth)  
Dad... what are you doing here?

JACK  
Happened to be in the 'hood,  
thought I'd grab din din for the  
fambam.

DUNCAN  
<GROANS>

MIA  
What can I get for you, Mr. Harris?

JACK  
Two pepps, please.  
(beat, explaining)  
Plumber code for pepperoni.

Duncan rolls his eyes as Mia goes to grab the order.

JACK (CONT'D)  
(to Duncan)  
Speaking of plumbing, it's actually  
how I landed your mom.

DUNCAN  
(interest piqued)  
... Really?

JACK  
No. But it would've worked. Watch  
this.  
(to Mia)  
Hey, Mia. Which do you prefer:  
jeans or overalls?

Startled, Mia spills some SAUCE on her shirt.

MIA  
Right now, overalls. Pizza sauce  
doesn't come out...  
(hands over boxes)  
<SIGHS> Here you go.

JACK  
Thanks, Mia. Catch you cool cats  
later!

Jack heads toward the exit, but Duncan rushes to catch up.

DUNCAN  
Whoa, Dad, hold up a sec. You  
wouldn't happen to, uh, have an  
extra pair of overalls, would you?

JACK  
(tearing up)  
Are you... are you saying... ?

DUNCAN  
<SIGHS> Yes. My answer is yes.

Jack throws the PIZZA BOXES on the ground, hugs his son.

JACK  
<EMOTIONAL CRYING>

DUNCAN  
Aw man... kinda wanted to eat that.

**INT. KIMBERLY'S ROOM - LATER**

The room is faintly lit by Kimberly's OPEN LAPTOP. Annie walks past, then doubles back. Tempted.

ANNIE  
(to self)  
No, Annie. Kimberly's laptop is off  
limits. I'm better than that.

Resolute, she leaves. Then literal seconds later--

ANNIE (CONT'D)  
<LAUGHING> No I'm not!

--she dives for the laptop.

**ON SCREEN:** A wall of text. Some vile. Some even blurred.

ANNIE (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Huh? What's thi--? What am I  
looking at?  
(beat, reading)  
"Erotic fan... fiction?"

Then, Annie sees the kicker. This smut is penned by none  
other than "w!tchb!tch69."

ANNIE (CONT'D)  
<HORRIFIED GASP> Kimberly?

As she reads, the scene **COMES TO LIFE IN HER IMAGINATION.**

ANNIE (V.O.)  
(reading)  
*"Luke took Chelsea's hands in his, pressing them against his broad, hairy chest. 'Do you feel that? That's the beat of a thousand years of yearning for you.' He slowly slides her hands down to his nether region, gently wrapping them around his giant--"*

**JOLTED BACK TO PRESENT:** Annie tosses the laptop.

ANNIE  
Waaahh!

But her curiosity gets the better of her. She slinks over to the upside-down laptop, picks it up, and keeps reading.

ANNIE (CONT'D)  
Oooh.

**INT. JACK AND ANNIE'S ROOM - LATER**

Jack <KNOCKS> on the bathroom door.

JACK  
Duncan, doing okay in there?

DUNCAN (O.S.)  
(muffled)  
No! Don't come in here!

JACK  
Come in? Okay, if you say so!

Jack barges in, stopping dead in his tracks.

JACK (CONT'D)  
<AWE-FILLED GASP> You're beautiful!

Duncan stares at himself in the mirror, horrified. The HANDSTICHED OVERALLS he wears are a violent affront to God.

**END OF ACT ONE**

**ACT TWO****INT./EXT. OAKDALE - VARIOUS - DAY/NIGHT**

In a series of QUICK CUTS, Annie discretely reads Kimberly's smutty fanfiction.

**AT WORK:** Instead of logging traffic violations, she reads on her COMPUTER.

As she goes to clock out, she scrubs her search history. Or, at least, that's what she *thinks* she's doing. Instead, she accidentally blasts out the link to her COWORKERS.

COWORKERS

"What is this filth?" / "My eyes!"  
/ "Luke's a pervert!"

One coworker, however, nods in satisfaction.

COWORKER #1

Now this is what I'm talking about!

**AT CHURCH:** MRS. TRAMER gives a moving speech at the pulpit.

MRS. TRAMER

(tearful)

And that's when I knew... my sweet  
Catward Scissorpaws had finally  
come to Jesus.

CONGREGATION

Amen.

The PASTOR then takes the pulpit.

PASTOR

Thank you for sharing such a  
touching story, Mrs. Tramer. Now,  
would anyone else like to share how  
they come to Jesus?

Hidden behind some SCRIPTURES, Annie reads on her PHONE.

PASTOR (CONT'D)

How about you, Annie?

ANNIE

Huh? What?

PASTOR

Aroused by the good word?

Annie <SLAMS> the book shut, <CRUSHING> her phone inside.

ANNIE

(nervous)

N-nope! Luke is-- I mean, God is good...

(sensually)

So very, very good.

CONGREGATION

Amen.

**AT HOME IN BED:** Annie reads on her TABLET. Jack cozies up to her, kisses her neck.

JACK

(seductively)

The kids are in bed, and the good candle's lit. Let's disco boogie, mama.

ANNIE

(distracted)

Not tonight, Jack. Rain check?

JACK

What could be more tantalizing than boogieing with your daddy?

He tries to sneak a peek at the tablet, but she stuffs it under her pillow.

ANNIE

Oh, what do you know? Suddenly, I'm pooped. Goodnight!

She turns off the lights. Moments later, Jack's nearly blinded by a GLOW from underneath the sheets.

JACK

(annoyed)

The tablet's *really* bright, Annie.

ANNIE

<PRETEND SNORING>

**INT./EXT. HARRIS HOME - NEXT DAY**

Jack opens the front door, eyes bloodshot from a sleepless night. He <YAWNS>, rubs his face.



JACK  
(to himself)  
I've gotta teach Annie how to dim  
the screen. I can't handle another  
night being blinded like that.

DUNCAN (O.S.)  
Same.

Duncan struts down the stairs in nothing but UNDERWEAR,  
blinding Jack.

JACK  
Good God, Duncan! Where's your  
uniform?!

DUNCAN  
Not on this hot bod, that's for  
sure.

Jack spots the overalls draped on a HOUSE PLANT.

JACK  
(getting emotional)  
I made that uniform for you. With  
these two hands.

DUNCAN  
Sorry, Dad, but nothing will make  
me put that thing back on.

JACK  
(angry)  
Fine. You'll just have to explain  
to Helen why you're naked.

Jack snatches the overalls, darts out the door. His words  
take a beat to sink in.

DUNCAN  
Helen... Diggins? Wait, wait! I'll  
put it on. *I'll put it on!!*

He sprints out after Jack.

**INT. HELEN'S HOME - MOMENTS LATER**

HELEN DIGGINS opens the door, quickly pulling Jack and Duncan  
(who's back in uniform) inside.

HELEN DIGGINS  
Thank God you're here. Hurricane  
Helen isn't stopping anytime soon.  
(MORE)

HELEN DIGGINS (CONT'D)

(beat)

Nice uniform, Duncan.

Water <RUSHES> down the staircase like a Slip 'N' Slide. Jack tosses Duncan a pair of mismatched GALOSHES.

JACK

Put these on.

DUNCAN

More crap to wear?!

He jams his feet into them, tearing through the shoes.

DUNCAN (CONT'D)

Dad, these don't fit.

JACK

Up you go!

Jack shoves Duncan up the stairs, but the current is too strong. They slip and slide all over the place.

Meanwhile, Helen casually wades through, barefoot.

HELEN DIGGINS

(off their looks)

It's not my first rodeo.

**INT. HELEN'S BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER**

Jack and Duncan take in the flooded bathroom, ripped straight out of *The Shape of Water*.

JACK

(at a loss)

What... happened?

Helen points to the broken SHOWER HEAD <GUSHING> water.

HELEN DIGGINS

(eyes narrowing)

Matt Muenster.

**QUICK FLASHBACK TO:** Helen stands in a line of hopefuls at HAL'S HARDWARE SUPPLY.

HELEN DIGGINS (V.O.)

It all started when I auditioned for the critically-ignored home improvement show *Bath Crashers*.

DUNCAN (V.O.)  
The what crashers?

HELEN DIGGINS (V.O.)  
Exactly.

Host MATT MUENSTER approaches Helen to review a PICTURE of her busted-up bathroom.

HELEN DIGGINS (V.O.)  
I was a shoo-in for the show. He'd never seen a worse bathroom in his entire life.

Matt nods in approval. She's in.

HELEN DIGGINS (V.O.)  
But after I won his favor, he crashed something that *wasn't* a bath...

As he walks away, he slips on a PUDDLE OF WINE, fracturing his ass. REVEAL Helen victoriously guzzling from a WINE BOTTLE, spilling everywhere.

MATCH CUT TO:

**PRESENT:** Helen guzzles from another WINE BOTTLE, spilling everywhere. Jack turns to Duncan, serious business style.

JACK  
Alright, Duncan. Remember your training.

DUNCAN  
But I don't have any training.

JACK  
Good, 'cause you're about to solo blossom this ish.

DUNCAN  
What does *any* of that mean?

Jack shoves him into the bathroom. Duncan takes one last <BREATH> before swimming towards the hole.

JACK  
Just think like a plumber and plug that hole!

HELEN DIGGINS  
(drinks)  
Mmmm. Better than *Bath Crashers*.

Realizing the HOLE is roughly the size of his hand, he reaches through, his fingers brushing up against a PIPE.

DUNCAN  
(underwater gurgling)  
I got it!

He forms a fist, then <PUNCHES> it.

<KA-BOOM>! WATER FILLS THE ENTIRE SCREEN!

WIPE TO:

**INT. JACK'S TRUCK - LATER**

**POV THROUGH REAR VIEW MIRROR:** PARAMEDICS load Helen Diggins onto a STRETCHER.

JACK  
You had one job, Duncan. One.

DUNCAN (O.S.)  
Maybe if you trained me, Helen  
wouldn't be going to the hospital.

REVEAL Duncan sitting in the TRUCK BED, sopping wet.  
Completely traumatized.

DUNCAN (CONT'D)  
Do I have to sit out here? It's  
freezing!

JACK  
I can't take any chances. Who's to  
say you wouldn't send Ace Van Rose  
to the hospital too?

DUNCAN  
Your truck? Does this hunk of junk  
mean more to you than the son you  
just waterboarded?

JACK  
(correcting him)  
*Almost* waterboarded. And Ace Van  
Rose is as much a part of the  
family as you are.

Jack lovingly pats the dashboard.

JACK (CONT'D)  
Why, without her, I wouldn't be  
able to call myself a plumber.

DUNCAN  
(turning malicious)  
Oh, is that so?

**INT. HARRIS HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY**

Jing patiently waits outside a BLANKET FORT. Kimberly walks by, does a double take.

KIMBERLY  
I think you're supposed to play  
*inside* the fort, Jing.

JING  
(sadly)  
Oh, this isn't my fort.

ANNIE (O.S.)  
<GIGGLES>

JING  
Mommy said to wait until she was  
done. That was this morning.

KIMBERLY  
(horrified)  
Have you been waiting here all day?

Kimberly pokes her head into the fort. The floor is covered in LOOSE SNACKS and TRASH. And it REEKS.

Curled up in a corner, Annie retracts from the light,  
<HISSING> like a feral creature.

KIMBERLY (CONT'D)  
Mom?! What are you doing in here?

She spots the tablet before Annie shoves it down her shirt.

ANNIE  
(demonic)  
LEAVE ME TO MY TRANSGRESSIONS.  
(clears throat)  
Oh, uh, just tidying up!

KIMBERLY  
(points at Annie's boobs)  
Give it to me.

ANNIE  
NO!!! <ANIMAL GROWLS>

KIMBERLY  
<SCARED YELP>

Annie <BURSTS> out of the fort, skittering upstairs on all fours. Jing and Kimberly are terrified.

KIMBERLY (CONT'D)  
That *isn't* Mom.

Jing ducks into the fort. Seconds later, she emerges with the scared baby skunk from earlier.

JING  
Don't worry, Stinky. I won't let Mommy eat you.

**INT. CAMPER - LATER**

Wolf looks at a HEADSHOT of Jack's truck, decked out in 80's Rock n' Roll attire and a GIANT BLONDE MULLET.

WOLF  
(nodding)  
I'll steal your dad's truck.

DUNCAN  
Yes! You da man, Wolf!

Bex and Yangzi share a look.

BEX  
Why can't you just quit?

DUNCAN  
You don't know what that man's put me through. What I've seen. What I've *done*. He has to pay.

Duncan's eyes glaze over, lost in traumatic flashbacks. Wolf's hand on his shoulder brings him back to the present.

WOLF  
Don't worry. I was born to steal this truck.

**INT. KIMBERLY'S ROOM - LATER**

Kimberly types on her laptop, <STARTLING> when she sees Annie leering from the doorway.

KIMBERLY  
Mom! How long have you been there?

ANNIE  
(spacey)  
Oh, uhh. Not long. Not long at all.

Annie scratches her arm. <SNORTS>. She needs a "hit."

ANNIE (CONT'D)  
Sorry about all that stuff earlier.  
It's that time of the month, you  
know how it goes. Being a woman and  
all. With womanly feelings.

KIMBERLY  
Don't tell me about it.

ANNIE  
You, uh, working on something? Some  
kind of document? Report? A script?

Kimberly shuts her laptop.

KIMBERLY  
Not anymore.

ANNIE  
Oh come on! You can tell me. I'm  
great at keeping secrets.

KIMBERLY  
Like the one on your tablet?

Annie goes silent.

KIMBERLY (CONT'D)  
That's what I thought.

Kimberly brushes past Annie, laptop tucked under her arm.  
Annie watches her go, visibly SWEATING from every crevice.

ANNIE  
(to herself)  
I need that smut!

**EXT. HARRIS HOME - NIGHT**

It's the middle of the night. Everyone's asleep.

Except for Wolf, who monkey-crawls toward Ace Van Rose parked  
in the driveway. He pulls out the KEYS but stops himself.

WOLF  
Too easy.

He chucks them into a nearby bush, then <SMASHES> the truck window with his bare fist.

WOLF (CONT'D)

Nice.

He climbs in, pushing past the BROKEN GLASS. He ducks under the steering wheel to <HOTWIRE> the truck.

Within seconds, the engine <PURRS>. He drives off, but not without taking out Helen's MAILBOX first.

WOLF (CONT'D)

<HOWLS> The Wolf's still got it!

**INT. DUNCAN'S ROOM - NEXT MORNING**

Duncan rolls out of bed. Literally. <THUD>.

DUNCAN

Ow.

He rushes to the window like a kid at Christmas. To his delight, the truck is GONE.

DUNCAN (CONT'D)

(quietly, to self)

Yes!

JACK (O.S.)

Oh no, no, no, no, no!

Jack <BARGES> in, disheveled and out of sorts.

JACK (CONT'D)

Duncan, she's gone!

DUNCAN

(playing dumb)

Gone? Who's gone?

JACK

Ace Van Rose! We've been ROBBED...  
and on our busiest day!

DUNCAN

(mock sadness)

Well shoot, Dad. Sounds like we  
can't work. Bummer.

Jack puffs out his chest, putting on a brave face.



JACK

Oh, no. We're going to work.  
(teary eyed)  
It's what Ace would've wanted.

DUNCAN

... How? I thought you said without her, you weren't a plumber.

JACK

I'm not... until our insurance kicks in, and I replace her. In the meantime, we'll have to make do with Gene Simmons.  
(off Duncan's look)  
Your mom's car?

DUNCAN

Huh?

JACK

I know. Terrible name, but it is what it is.

Duncan's "foolproof" plan is quickly unraveling. He's lost whatever upper hand he thought he had.

DUNCAN

(stuttering)  
But the truck... you said without it... no work??

JACK

Oh come on, Duncan. Any plumber worth his wrench has a backup plan. That's Plumbing 101. Didn't I teach you *anything*?

DUNCAN

(annoyed)  
No. No you didn't...

**INT. JACK AND ANNIE'S ROOM - LATER**

Annie doom refreshes her tablet like her life depends on it. And at this point, maybe it does...

ANNIE

Smut. Smut. Smut. Smut.

Now it's Kimberly's turn to leer in the doorway.

KIMBERLY  
Mom? I think I've finally figured  
out what's going on.

Annie chucks the tablet into the HAMPER.

ANNIE  
Kimberly! Wha-what could possibly  
be going on for you to figure out??

KIMBERLY  
<SIGHS> I never thought we'd need  
to have this conversation, but I'm  
gonna be the bigger person here.

Annie <GULPS>. Uh oh. Here it comes.

KIMBERLY (CONT'D)  
You're into "bush," aren't you?

ANNIE  
George? I told you, Kimberly, it  
was just a phase. I was pregnant.  
It was a whole thing!

KIMBERLY  
No, not that Bush. The other one.  
You know...

Kimberly pantomimes <SMOKING>.

ANNIE  
<RELIEVED LAUGH> Oh, no, no, no!  
I'm not on drugs.  
(a beat)  
Wait, how do you know about "bush?"

KIMBERLY  
That's... not important. If it's  
not "bush," then what are you  
hiding?

At that moment, Kimberly spots the tablet in the hamper. She  
makes a run for it, but Annie tackles her to the ground.

ANNIE / KIMBERLY  
<TUSSLING EFFORTS>

Kimberly finally wrenches the tablet away from her mom.  
Victory! Then she sees what's on the screen...

ANNIE  
Whatever you think you just saw,  
you didn't.

KIMBERLY  
(stone cold)  
How long.

ANNIE  
I can explain.

KIMBERLY  
*How long??*

ANNIE  
(dragging it out)  
Uhh... umm... a couple of days?

Kimberly drops the tablet, face beet red. She rushes out of the room without another word.

Annie snatches back her precious tablet, checking for damage. Then, she refreshes the page again. Still nothing.

ANNIE (CONT'D)  
(sadly to self)  
Worth a shot.

**END OF ACT TWO**

**ACT THREE****INT. CAMPER - DAY**

Duncan barges in, out of breath, his jacket on backwards. He barricades the door before hiding under the table.

DUNCAN  
<SHIVERING IN TERROR>

REVEAL Wolf bathing in the sink, unfazed.

WOLF  
Little privacy?

DUNCAN  
(covering eyes)  
Dude, are you naked?!

WOLF  
Why wouldn't I be?

Wolf climbs out, <DRYING> himself off like a dog before sliding into an OVERSIZED T-SHIRT.

WOLF (CONT'D)  
I moved in, remember? Someone has to Duncan-proof this place. You break a lot of stuff.

DUNCAN  
Pfffft, no I don't.

Duncan goes to stand but <SMACKS> his head into the table, knocking a brand new GAMING CONSOLE to the floor...

Only for it to land on a perfectly placed CUSHION. Wolf shoots Duncan a look. See?

DUNCAN (CONT'D)  
Dude, you gotta un-steal that truck. My dad's lost his damn mind!

WOLF  
No can do. Already sold it.

DUNCAN  
What? When?!

WOLF  
After I stole it.  
(off Duncan's look)  
(MORE)

WOLF (CONT'D)

Buuut I might be able to get it back. If you give me \$500.

Duncan empties his pockets. Chewed gum, fast food receipts, and 27 bucks, all in ones.

DUNCAN

Is this enough?

WOLF

(thinking it over)

Throw in your scooter, and the truck's yours.

DUNCAN

Mia? No way, Jose!

WOLF

I said your scooter.

DUNCAN

I know.

A beat.

WOLF

That's weird, dude.

DUNCAN

<SIGHS> If I give you Mia, you promise I'll get the truck back?

WOLF

I'm a man of my word.

They fist bump on it.

DUNCAN

So this is what responsibility feels like.

**INT. JACK AND ANNIE'S ROOM - LATER**

Jack stares longingly at the 80's headshot of Ace Van Rose.

JACK

<DEEP SIGH>

Annie walks in, wringing her hands.

ANNIE

Jack, I have to come clean. I've been keeping a secret...

JACK

(nervous)

Is it the good kind of secret?  
Please tell me it's good, Annie. I  
need some good news right now.

ANNIE

I did what we said we wouldn't do.  
*I meddled.*

JACK

No! Your best trait!

ANNIE

I couldn't help myself! That's when  
I discovered Kimberly writes...  
erotic fanfiction.

(beat)

*And I'm addicted to it.*

JACK

Oh. So, what is that, exactly? Is  
it like her diary or... ?

ANNIE

I wish it was, Jack. I've seen  
things a mother never should. And  
now she hates me for it.

JACK

(rubbing his neck)

Well, if we're being honest with  
each other, I also kinda sorta did  
a teeny tiny bit of meddling  
myself. Bad news: our son's a  
terrible plumber. He doesn't know a  
hand auger from a strap wrench! Can  
you believe that?

ANNIE

(straight faced)

Yes. What are either of those  
things??

JACK

Not you too, Annie! <SIGHS> No one  
appreciates what I do around here.  
No one but Ace...

ANNIE

What do we do now?

But they already know the answer. Jack mouths "Nothing"  
again. Annie <SIGHS>.

ANNIE (CONT'D)  
Okay... but before that, there is  
one thing we have to do.

**INT. JING'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER**

Jack and Annie poke their heads in. Jing plays on the floor,  
her back to them.

ANNIE  
Jing, honey, can we come in?

JING  
Stinky, did you hear something?

Stinky <MISTS> the air, the skunk equivalent of "F You."

JING (CONT'D)  
(nodding)  
Me either.

JACK  
What the hell is a skunk doing in  
here?!

But Annie nudges him to shut up.

ANNIE  
Your father and I got so caught up  
in giving attention to the wrong  
kids, we forgot about the little  
girl who needs us the most.  
(beat, thinking)  
Er, not that there's anything wrong  
with your brother and sister, of  
course. Although Duncan... Duncan's  
a different story.  
(beat, thinking)  
Wait, what am I saying? Everyone  
forget everything that just came  
out of my mouth!

JACK  
What your mother *means* to say is  
we're really sorry and want to make  
it up to you. Let us be your  
Stinkys. Minus the stench.  
(plugs nose)  
Good God...

JING  
Do you mean it?

ANNIE  
Of course we do.

Jing gives them both a big hug. Sweet family bonding moment.

JACK  
(re: skunk)  
We're not keeping it, are we?

ANNIE  
Of course we're not.

**EXT. THE DOCKS - NIGHT**

Duncan pulls up on his SCOOTER. From the shadows, a HOODED FIGURE emerges. Parked next to him is Ace Van Rose.

DUNCAN  
Can I say goodbye first?

The Figure <GRUNTS>, which Duncan takes as a yes.

DUNCAN (CONT'D)  
(to scooter)  
Mia, I'm sorry I let you down. I  
didn't mean for it to come to this.

Duncan struggles to hold back his tears. The moment is absolutely heart-wrenching.

DUNCAN (CONT'D)  
But I have to make things right by  
my Dad. Ace Van Rose wasn't mine to  
give away... but you are.

With trembling hands, Duncan hands the Figure his scooter.

DUNCAN (CONT'D)  
(bad French accent)  
Farewell, my cherry.

But even the Figure is consumed by emotion, shaking from silent <SOBS>. His hood then slips to reveal--

DUNCAN (CONT'D)  
Wolf?!

WOLF  
(emotional)  
This was gonna be a teaching  
moment. But instead, you taught me.  
About the power of love.



DUNCAN

I did?

WOLF

You can have this back.

Wolf hands back the scooter.

WOLF (CONT'D)

Just stop breaking things in the  
camper, okay?

(blows his nose)

Now go. Make things right.

**INT. JACK AND ANNIE'S ROOM - MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT**

Jack and Annie are asleep, but Jack can't help but stir.

Then, from outside, <LOUD HONKING> SHAKES THE ENTIRE HOUSE.

KIMBERLY (O.S.)

What's going on?!

JING (O.S.)

Are we having an earthquake?!

Jack springs out of bed, euphoric.

JACK

It's *her*.

**EXT. HARRIS HOME - MOMENTS LATER**

The Harris family rushes outside to find Duncan and--

JACK

Ace Van Rose!

Jack embraces the truck. Duncan <SIGHS>.

DUNCAN

Dad, I have to come clean. I've  
been keeping a secret...

JACK

You read Kimberly's fanfiction too?

DUNCAN

No. What?

(awkward beat)

I had Wolf steal your truck after  
what went down at Helen's.

JACK  
(face falling)  
You did what now?

DUNCAN  
But it just made things so much worse. I messed up. Big time. I should've realized Ace means to you what Mia means to me.  
(off Jack's look)  
My scooter. And my friend. Both Mias mean a lot.

Jack's silence is palpable. Anger? Sadness? We can't tell.

JACK  
(emotionless)  
You're fired.

DUNCAN  
I... understand. And gladly accept.

He goes to leave, but Jack holds him back.

JACK  
Since I've *fired* you, you're owed a severance package. Company policy.

DUNCAN  
(smiling)  
Thanks, Dad.

They embrace.

JACK  
You're also grounded for the rest of the year.

DUNCAN  
(shrugging)  
Makes sense.

As they head inside, arm-in-arm, Jing follows.

JING  
Have you seen Stinky?

Duncan looks at Jack.

JACK  
Don't ask.

This leaves Annie and Kimberly, alone for the first time since the "incident."

KIMBERLY  
(awkward)  
Mom.

ANNIE  
Hey.

KIMBERLY  
It's really, *really* weird you read  
my fanfiction.  
(beat)  
But a small part of me was glad to  
hear it. It's not like I don't want  
you in my life. I'm just afraid of  
what you'll think when you see who  
I really am.

Annie takes her daughter's hand, squeezing it tight.

ANNIE  
Honey... I could never think less  
of my amazing, talented girl. I'm  
sorry I meddled. Your business is  
yours and yours alone; I'll try to  
respect that.

KIMBERLY  
Thanks. You know, if you're  
interested, I might need a beta  
reader for the next chapter I'm  
working on--

ANNIE  
Yes! One million percent yes!

Surprised, Kimberly <LAUGHS>. Annie pulls her in for a hug.

**INT. OAKDALE HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY**

This time, Mia walks up to Duncan at his locker.

MIA  
Sup, Duncan. How's work life  
treating ya?

DUNCAN  
I'm, uh, back to regular Duncan for  
now. Being responsible was a little  
too much... what's the word?

MIA  
Responsibility?

DUNCAN

Yeah, that. Maybe one day I'll be cool and grown up like you, but I'm okay being a kid for now.

MIA

Honestly? Don't rush it. Being a kid rules!

DUNCAN

Really?

MIA

Yeah! Don't worry about me or anybody else, Duncan. You do you.

She touches his chest. His heart flutters.

MIA (CONT'D)

I'll catch ya later, Duncan-ator.

As she walks away, Coach Walters nods at Duncan. Proud.

COACH WALTERS

Way to own it, Shaun White.

**END OF ACT THREE**

END TAGINT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Annie and Kimberly sit at Helen's bedside. Kimberly reads from Annie's tablet.

KIMBERLY

(reading)

"That was when Chelsea knew exactly where Luke should stick it."

She sets the tablet aside.

KIMBERLY (CONT'D)

And that's the end of chapter 42.

HELEN DIGGINS

(clapping)

Oh, I *love* our daily reading sessions!

ANNIE

So do we, Helen. And the fact you chose not to sue. We really, *really* love that.

HELEN DIGGINS

(to Kimberly)

You're so bright and well-spoken for a girl your age. How do you do it? What's your inspiration?

KIMBERLY

(sweetly)

My mom.

ANNIE

Awwwww.

Kimberly and Annie share a heartfelt smile. Helen nods.

HELEN DIGGINS

Mmmm. Better than *Bath Crashers*.

END OF SHOW