NIGHT OF THE LIVING DAD

"Pilot"

written by

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COLD OPEN

FADE IN:

<u>INT. BAR - NIGHT</u> (PAT, VALENTINA, MURPH, ZOMBIES, EXTRAS)

PAT MULLINS (LATE 60S, WHITE, OVERWEIGHT, NEWLY SPIRITUAL BUT FILLED WITH REGRET) SITS DRINKING A BEER IN A MOSTLY EMPTY DIVE BAR. HE TALKS TO THE BARTENDER, VALENTINA (30S, LATINA - ACERBIC, BLUNT, AND HAS A NUMBER OF TATTOOS).

PAT

...And look, I know my ex wife doesn't want me at her mother's funeral, but I just want to pay my respects. In person.

VALENTINA

The wake is open to the public, right?

It's not like they're gonna have an armed guard there to stop you.

PAT

You don't know my ex wife.

VALENTINA

Who cares? You gotta do you, Pat. If it makes you feel better, do it. If your family doesn't like it, that's on them.

PAT

(NODS) They don't pay you enough. You should be making a therapist's salary!

VALENTINA

You can always leave a bigger tip.

PAT

And you're funny!

AS SHE SHOOTS HIM A LOOK, A REGULAR, MURPH (40S, SWEATY, DAD-BOD), RUNS IN.

MURPH

(PANIC) Zombies! Freakin' zombies!

PAT

(TO VALENTINA) Did he say "zombies"?

VALENTINA

Murph, how many times have I told you --

if you're drunk, I can't serve you.

MURPH

But Valentina! ZOMBI--

BEFORE MURPH CAN FINISH, AN <u>OLD MAN ZOMBIE RUNS IN</u> AND **CHOMPS** INTO HIS NECK AS **BLOOD** DRIPS DOWN.

PAT

Holy crap!

THE ZOMBIE DROPS MURPH AS BLOOD DRIPS FROM ITS MOUTH, THEN...

SFX: CLICK OF SHOTGUN

PAT LOOKS BACK AND SEES VALENTINA HOLDING A SHOTGUN. SHE FIRES!

SFX: BOOM! SHOTGUN BLAST

FROM <u>OFF-SCREEN</u>: **BLOOD FLIES IN**, SPLATTERING ALL OVER PAT. A BEAT, AND THEN MURPH GETS UP -- HE'S **A ZOMBIE**.

VALENTINA

Everybody out! We're closed!

AS VALENTINA AIMS AT ZOMBIE MURPH, PAT AND OTHER PATRONS TRY TO EXIT, AVOIDING THE ZOMBIE. AS SHE SHOOTS ZOMBIE MURPH, BLOOD SPLATTERS ALL OVER THE SCREEN, CREATING THE MAIN TITLES: "NIGHT OF THE LIVING DAD."

FADE OUT:

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

SCENE A

FADE IN:

INT. FUNERAL HOME - REPOSING ROOM #1 - NIGHT
(MIRIAM, MIKE, EMMA, CALVIN, ISAAC, GRANDMA)

MIRIAM FAZIO, (LATE 60S, ITALIAN AMERICAN, BITTER AND DEMANDING) PRAYS BY HER DEAD MOM'S OPEN CASKET. HER SON, MIKE, (LATE 30S, MAN-CHILD IN DENIAL) AND DAUGHTER, EMMA (LATE 20S, LEVEL-HEADED MEDIATOR) STAND BEHIND HER CHECKING THEIR PHONES AND WHISPERING.

MIKE

(WHISPERS TO EMMA) Hey Emma, did you get this text from Dad?

EMMA

(WHISPERS) Is he really coming?

MIKE

He better not. Unless he wants to end up in a casket like grandma!

EMMA CHUCKLES A BIT, THEN MIRIAM TURNS TO BOTH OF THEM!

MIRIAM

Hey! You two could at least pay some respect by getting off your damn phones!

MIRIAM TURNS BACK. AS MIKE AND EMMA PUT THEIR PHONES DOWN, THEIR <u>VERY PREGNANT SISTER</u>, <u>SARA</u> (MID 30S, UPPERCLASS CONSERVATIVE WITH MIDWEST CHARM), <u>ENTERS</u>.

SARA

(SOTTO, UPBEAT) Hey, Emma. You have to tell me where you got that dress. You know, for after I (RE: STOMACH) pop.

(MORE)

SARA (CONT'D)

(THEN, NASTY) Michael, can't believe you actually showed up.

MIKE

(SOTTO, DEFENSIVE) Why? You should be the one who's embarrassed, Sara. Having your husband fight your fights for you... Where is he anyway?

SARA

Nick has an important work emergency!

MIKE

Sounds like we should start calling him "No-Show Nick." He doesn't care at all about this family.

SARA

Oh, like you do?

MIKE

Hey, I'm here, aren't I?

SARA

Yeah. Which is shocking, since you never do anything for anybody but yourself!

EMMA

Enough! Can't you two just keep pretending everything's cool for a bit longer? You know, for Mom and Grandma.

SFX: SARA'S PHONE BUZZES

MIRIAM TURNS A LITTLE. EVERYONE FREEZES. SHE TURNS BACK. THEN:

MIKE

(SOTTO) Oh, come on, Emma, we know

you're just worried about what your

boyfriend's family thinks?

EMMA

So? Why is that bad? Can we just not

be crazy for once?

<u>CALVIN DAVIS</u> (LATE 20S, BLACK, LEARNING TO BE SELF-CONFIDENT) ENTERS, PUTS HIS ARM AROUND EMMA AND KISSES HER CHEEK.

CALVIN

Hey, babe. (THEN) So... Dad's freaking

out. Y'all gonna roll soon?

EMMA MOTIONS TO HER MOM WHO STILL PRAYS. CALVIN ROLLS HIS EYES AND GRABS A SEAT OFF TO THE SIDE AND LOOKS AT HIS PHONE.

SFX: SARA'S PHONE BUZZES

MIRIAM STANDS UP AND TURNS TO HER FAMILY.

MTRTAM

(ANNOYED) What's going on now?!

SARA/EMMA/MIKE

("CAUGHT") What? / Nothing. / It's Sara.

MIRIAM

The buzzing? What's with the buzzing?

SARA

Oh. It is my phone. Nick was texting.

He doesn't think he's gonna make it.

MIKE

See? He doesn't care about family, Ma.

MOM GLARES AT SARA, THEN...

SARA

(THRU GRITTED TEETH) I'll call him. See what the hold up is...

AS SHE EXITS, SARA GLARES AT MIKE. HE SMIRKS BACK.

MIRIAM

You know, your grandma knew family was most important. She was the only reason I was okay after your father left us.

MIKE

(SOTTO, TO EMMA) Yeah, I guess we didn't help at all.

MTRTAM

Hey! Your grandma was a saint! She didn't deserve this disease! You know who deserves to die all alone?

MIKE/EMMA

MIRIAM (CONT'D)

(MOUTHING ALONG) Your father! Your father!

MIRIAM (CONT'D)

He ruined this entire family with his selfishness and having to win every battle. That's why I'm glad you and Sara got over that dumb e-mail argument,
Michael. Your grandma would be so happy to see you guys getting along again.

MIKE

Oh yeah, me and Sara are great...

THE FUNERAL DIRECTOR, <u>ISAAC DAVIS</u> (60S, BLACK, CRITICAL, SNARKY), <u>ENTERS</u> LOOKING AT HIS WATCH IN EXAGGERATED WAY.

ISAAC

Well, well, look at the time. The funeral ended over two hours ago. And while I'd like to be nice about this...

(ANGRY) I'm over it! Get the hell out!

MIRIAM GASPS AND HER KIDS REACT SHOCKED. A BEAT, THEN...

EMMA

Calvin?!

CALVIN

What? (THEN, OFF HER GLARE) Dad... Can we give 'em, like, a few more minutes? (THEN, OFF HIS GLARE) Please. I mean, c'mon, it's my girlfriend's family.

ISAAC

So? They're taking too long. This is imposing! I'm being imposed upon!

MIRIAM

Can I at least say goodbye to my Mom one last time?

ISAAC

Seriously? You're gonna see her again in the morning. I mean it's not like she's going anywhere? (OFF LOOKS, THEN, SHAKES HEAD) Fine. I guess I have something to pray for now, too.

AS MIRIAM KNEELS IN FRONT OF GRANDMA'S CASKET TO PRAY AND ISAAC KNEELS IN FRONT OF A CROSS AND PRAYS, AS WE...

SCENE B

INT. FUNERAL HOME - LOBBY
(PAT, MIRIAM, MIKE, SARA, EMMA, NICK, CALVIN, ISAAC, JADA)

SARA PACES AND FUMES INTO HER PHONE!

SARA

(INTO CELL, FUMES) Seriously, Nick?!

You're not making my grandma's funeral?

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. NASA LAB - HALLWAY
(NICK)

A SWEATY, <u>NICK KIMINSKI</u> (MID 30S, WHITE, FIT, CONSERVATIVE, WELL-INTENTIONED) WEARS EARBUDS AND HOLDS A GUN AT THE READY AS HE STOPS IN FRONT OF A CLOSED DOOR. SMOKE BILLOWS AROUND.

SFX: LIGHTS BLINK IN AND OUT IN THE B.G.

NICK

Yeah, it's not looking good, babe.

SARA

But I need you, Nick. My family--

NICK

Sucks. I know. But I'm head of security -- being here is my responsibility.

SARA

(POINTED) So me and the baby <u>aren't</u> your responsibility?

NICK

You are! Totally! But if I can contain this problem at NASA, then we'll all be safe. Including you and the baby. SARA

What's going on that's so important?

NICK

It's classified.

SARA

No. You don't get to say that. I'm your pregnant wife! I want answers!

NICK

(SIGHS, THEN) Look, something went wrong at the lab during some experimental testing. People died.

SARA

OMG, that's terrible! (THEN) But what can you do if they're already dead?

NICK

Well, that's where it gets weird. Some of them came back to life and started showing signs of cannibalism.

SARA

What? Are you saying there are Zombies?

NICK

Not zombies. Just people accidentally killed by an experiment who've reanimated and now crave human flesh.

(THEN) Okay, yes, zombies.

SARA

ZOMBIES?! FLIPPING ZOMBIES??!!!

NICK

But that's why I have to contain this -to prevent a zombie apocalypse!

SARA

Oh, now it's a zombie apocalypse?!!!

NICK

You'll be okay. Lock the doors. Maybe board up the windows. I'll be there soon.

SARA

You better be! Because I will never let you forget you left your pregnant wife to die during the zombie apocalypse!

NICK

I won't let that happen. I love you.

NICK HANGS UP, KICKS OPEN THE DOOR, AND EXITS LIKE A BADASS.

END INTERCUT.

SARA'S DEVASTATED AS EVERYONE ELSE ENTERS.

MIRIAM

What's going on? Nick not making it?

SARA

No. He's stuck at work because NASA accidentally created zombies!

MTRTAM

What? Zombies?! Gimme a break

CALVIN

I knew zombies were real! (TO EMMA)

Didn't I tell you zombies were real?

EMMA NODS AS THE OTHERS CONTINUE TO REACT TO THIS NEWS.

ISAAC

Zombies aren't real, son!

MIKE

Yeah, but you have to appreciate how far Nick's willing to go with his lies.

SARA

Nick wouldn't lie to me! If he says zombies are real, then they're real!

MIRIAM

Whatever. Either way, I'm going home.

ISAAC

My prayer's answered! The Lord \underline{is} real! MIRIAM OPENS THE DOOR TO REVEAL \underline{PAT} MULLINS (GUY FROM BAR).

MIRIAM

(STARTLED, SCREAMS) AHHHHH!

SHE STARTS HITTING PAT WITH HER PURSE!

EMMA

Mom, what are you doing? That's not a zombie -- (RE: PAT) that's Dad!

MTRTAM

(STILL HITTING PAT) I know!

SARA AND EMMA PULL HER BACK.

PAT

So you heard about the zombies, huh?

Is it on the news?

SARA

Not yet. Nick told us. It started with some experiment at NASA.

ISAAC

You've all lost your damn minds!

ISAAC IS PUSHING THEM ALL OUT THE DOOR WHEN <u>JADA DAVIS</u>, ISAAC'S WIFE (50S, BLACK, COMPASSIONATE TO A FAULT), RUNS IN **SCREAMING** FROM DOWN THE HALL.

JADA

Ahhhhhhh! Mr. Stencil came back to life!

ISAAC

You sure you didn't see, like, a shadow? (OFF HER GLARE, THEN) What? Just asking.

CALVIN

See, Dad? Zombies are real!

JADA

Wait. You all knew about zombies and left me downstairs to do makeup on a bunch of dead bodies?!

ISAAC

My bad, honey. It's just so hard to trust white people.

PAT

We should board up the windows and doors. Then wait for an "all-clear."

ISAAC

Oh, no! Like hell you're staying here during a zombie apocalypse!

JADA LIGHTLY SMACKS HIS ARM.

JADA

You can't kick Calvin's girlfriend and her family out during a zombie apocalypse!

ISAAC

Okay. Calvin, break up with Emma.

CALVIN/EMMA

What?!

JADA

Isaac! (THEN) He's joking! Of course you can all stay.

THEY REACT HAPPILY AS ISAAC SHAKES HIS HEAD AND TURNS TO CALVIN.

ISAAC

This is all your fault for dating a white girl, Calvin.

AS CALVIN THROWS HIS HANDS UP AS IF TO SAY "WHAT?", WE...

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SCENE C

FADE IN:

<u>INT. FUNERAL HOME - LOUNGE - LATER THAT NIGHT</u> (MIRIAM, SARA, EMMA, JADA)

THERE'S A SMALL FRIDGE, AN OLD, TINY STOVETOP OVEN, AND A GIANT COFFEE URN IN A LOUNGE AREA WITH COUCHES AND CHAIRS. JADA MAKES COFFEE AS MIRIAM PACES. EMMA SITS, CHECKING HER PHONE.

MIRIAM

We were having a great funeral until your father showed up spewing that Zombie crap! I want him out!

EMMA

Mom, we already knew about the zombies and Grandma was dead. And she still is. Calvin poked her with a stick to check.

MIRIAM

Doesn't matter. I still want him gone.

JADA

No. It's my house and I say he can stay. Everyone is welcome. It's the Christian thing to do. I saw you praying, are you not Christian?

MIRIAM STARES DAGGERS AT JADA, UNNERVING HER, AS SARA ENTERS.

SARA

(SPIRALING) Nick's not answering any of my calls or texts! What if he's dead?!

(MORE)

SARA (CONT'D)

I don't make enough money as a teacher to be a single mom!

MIRIAM

I'm sure he's fine. It's all fine. If it were really out of hand, there'd be some kind of news alert.

EMMA

Yeah, maybe it's already contai-
SFX: EVERYONE'S PHONE DINGS WITH EMERGENCY ALERT

THEY ALL CHECK THEIR PHONES. SARA IS CLEARLY WORRIED.

EMMA (CONT'D)

(OFF PHONE) ... "There's an emergency zombie alert for the greater Cleveland area. Yes, Zombies. Seriously. Board up windows and doors. Stay inside."

SARA

This sucks! Why won't he answer?! (THEN)

And how do I have to pee again?

SARA RUNS OUT.

JADA

Okay, how about we do something positive to pass the time -- like cook?

MIRIAM

Oh, I'm Italian so I must like cooking?

JADA

I was actually thinking because you're a woman. But either works for me.

EMMA

Sounds like a good idea. What do you say, Ma? It'll keep your mind off Dad.

MIRIAM

(DISGUSTED) Your father... It's like I can smell him in here!

JADA

Maybe cooking will kill that smell.

MIRIAM

The only thing I want to kill is him!

JADA SHOOTS EMMA A CONCERNED LOOK. EMMA MOUTHS "SORRY" BACK.

EMMA

Hey, Ma, you stay here and I'll go see if I can get Dad to... smell less.

AS EMMA GOES, JADA NERVOUSLY PULLS HER ASIDE.

JADA

(SOTTO) You're just going to leave me alone? With her?

EMMA SHRUGS AND EXITS. JADA TURNS AND SEES MIRIAM WITH A KNIFE.

MIRIAM

(EXAMINING KNIFE) So what are we cooking?

JADA

Definitely nothing that necessitates a knife, that's for sure.

AS JADA CAREFULLY DISARMS MIRIAM, WE...

CUT TO:

SCENE D

<u>INT. FUNERAL HOME - REPOSING ROOM #2</u> (PAT, MIKE, CALVIN, ISAAC)

ISAAC AND CALVIN FINISH HANDING A HAMMER, NAILS, AND SOME OLD BROKEN CASKETS PIECES TO MIKE AND PAT IN THE MOSTLY EMPTY ROOM.

ISAAC

...And try not to ruin the trim or wall. After this zombie thing is over,

I'm guessing we'll be pretty busy and I want the place looking perfect!

PAT

Don't worry, I'll do most of the work.

Mike will just be standing here getting
me tools and holding the nails.

MIKE

(UPBEAT) Just like when I was a kid!

PAT

(SHOOTS HIM A LOOK) Sadly, yes.

ISAAC

That is sad. I taught my kid to do everything so I can just sit there and drink! C'mon, Calvin, my Manhattan ain't gonna mix itself!

CALVIN

(HEAD DOWN, SIGHS) Yes, Dad.

ISAAC AND CALVIN EXIT AS MIKE GRABS SOME BOARDS AND FOLLOWS PAT TO A WINDOW. AS THEY NAIL BOARDS UP...

MIKE

Thanks for coming to warn us about the zombie apocalypse.

PAT

I mean, you're my kids. I had to try and save you. I know we don't really all talk anymore, but I love you guys.

MIKE

(TOUCHED) Yeah... But you should have been clearer in your texts. Saying "whatever you do, don't leave, I'm coming to save you" was... weird.

PAT

Weirder than saying there's zombies?
THEY BOTH LAUGH, THEN...

PAT (CONT'D)

So... you apologize to your sister yet?

MIKE

("PFFT") No. Sara knows I'm right. I just want her to admit she was wrong!

PAT

So you didn't do anything wrong?

MIKE

I said I went too far, but she won't admit any fault! Any!

PAT

But did you apologize?

MIKE LOOKS DOWN AT THE FLOOR.

PAT (CONT'D)

Mike, you're her older brother. Time to step up and finally act like an adult.

You know, when I was at the bar, I saw a zombie bite into some drunk's fat neck and that guy turn into a zombie and then get his head shot off right in front of me.

MIKE

That explains the blood-stained clothes.

PAT

(NODS) And as I watched the ensuing chaos, I thought the world might actually be ending. And I immediately wanted to be with all of you. Maybe even try to make things right. At the very least, pay my respects to your grandma and apologize to your mom.

MIKE

I get that... (THEN) I mean, it's not like I want be in this argument forever. It's just... Sara's hard to talk to!

PAT

Harder than talking to your mother?

MIKE

Yeah... yours is harder.

CUT TO:

SCENE E

INT. FUNERAL HOME - BATHROOM
(SARA, NICK)

SARA LOOKS INTO THE MIRROR, GRIMACING AS SHE HAS CONTRACTIONS.

SARA

Come on, Nick, answer the damn phone!

NICK (O.S.)

Hey, Mama-Bear! Go for Papa-Bear!

INTERCUT WITH:

<u>INT. NASA LAB - SAME TIME</u> (SARA, NICK, RAJ, KIANA)

NICK, WEARING EARBUDS AND HOLDING A GUN, OPENS A DOOR FOR A DOCTOR, RAJ (30S, INDIAN, TECHNICAL AND AWKWARD) AND AN ASTRONAUT, KIANA (30S, ASIAN, DETERMINED AND INDEPENDENT).

SARA

Finally! How's it going?

NICK

(FEIGNING POSITIVITY) Actually, it's--

SARA

Uh-huh, that's great, I'm having

contractions! Get your ass back here!

NICK

Okay, but it's a little crazy, and--

NICK'S POV: WE SEE ZOMBIES ROAMING THROUGH A LAB ON FIRE!

SARA

You better make it out of there alive or so help me god, I'll come down there and kill you myself! Get back here! Now!

SHE HANGS UP. END INTERCUT.

NICK

I'm gonna be a Dad! Like, soon! We gotta go!

RAJ

But the vials! They might save lives!

RAJ POINTS TO THE VIALS NEAR A ZOMBIE INFESTED AREA.

KIANA

(TOUGH) I'll get 'em!

NICK

No! There's too many zombies!

KIANA WAVES NICK OFF. SHE STARTS PUSHING ZOMBIES OVER, AND MANAGES TO GRAB THE VIALS. AS SHE SMILES AND STARTS BACK, A ZOMBIE ON THE GROUND TRIPS HER! AS MORE ZOMBIES CROWD AROUND HER...

KIANA

AHHH!

RAJ

Oh my god! We have to save her!

NICK

("ACTION HERO") It's over for her! I'm

saving you! And my family! Let's roll!

(THEN, CALLS OUT, "MY BAD") Sorry, Kiana!

AS KIANA STRUGGLES AND SCREAMS, NICK PULLS RAJ OUT THE DOOR JUST AS ZOMBIES RUSH THEM, AND WE...

CUT TO:

SCENE H

<u>INT. FUNERAL HOME - BATHROOM HALLWAY</u> (MIKE, SARA, EMMA, CALVIN)

MIKE STOPS SARA AS SHE EXITS THE BATHROOM.

MIKE

I've been looking all over for you!

SARA

(ANNOYED) Sorry, I've been having some pregnancy issues. So what do you want? To argue some more?

MIKE

No. (THEN) What are we even fighting about? Some dumb e-mail?

SARA

I agree. A lot of things were said that didn't need to be.

MIKE

I'm glad you think that way.

THEY STARE AT EACH A LONG BEAT, NOBODY SAYING ANYTHING.

SARA

So are you going to apologizes or what?

MTKE

Oh. I thought you realized that the argument was dumb and unnecessary.

SARA

It was. You attacked me and my husband.

MIKE

Right. But you started it by calling me a "selfish child" in the first e-mail.

SARA

Well, yeah, because you <u>are</u>! (OFF HIS GASP) Whatever. I'm not here for your hurt feelings, Michael. Apologize and get over it, or get out of my way.

MIKE

Hold on... I'll apologize if you do.

SARA

(SIGHS) You don't get it, do you? Just move. I've gotta pee again.

SARA NERVOUSLY PUSHES PAST MIKE AND GOES BACK INTO THE BATHROOM, LEAVING HIM DUMBFOUNDED AS EMMA ENTERS.

EMMA

Hey, Mike, have you seen Dad?

MIKE

Yeah. He's in the empty reposing room.

EMMA

No, he's not.

MIKE REACTS CONFUSED AS CALVIN ENTERS HOLDING AN EMPTY GLASS.

CALVIN

Hey guys, what's up?

EMMA

Hey, Calvin. My dad with you and your dad?

CALVIN

Nah. Haven't seen him.

EMMA

Hmm. (THEN) So how's it going with you?

CALVIN

Well, getting my dad another Manhattan.

And you know, doing all the work while
he criticizes me. So... pretty normal.

EMMA

You know, you could tell him to make his own drink. You don't have to do everything he says.

CALVIN

(SHRUGS) Eh. Whatever. It's easier than arguing. Besides, at least he says I'm good at this.

CALVIN EXITS AS EMMA WATCHS HIM GO, BUMMED.

MIKE

Okay, so if Dad's not with them, and not with me, then he's...

MIKE/EMMA

(EYES WIDE) With grandma!

EMMA

Oh my god, Mom'll kill him!

THEY IMMEDIATELY RUN OFF, AND WE...

CUT TO:

SCENE J

INT. FUNERAL HOME - REPOSING ROOM #1
(PAT, MIRIAM, MIKE, SARA, EMMA, CALVIN, ISAAC, JADA, GRANDMA)
PAT STANDS OVER GRANDMA'S CASKET, APOLOGIZING.

PAT

(TO GRANDMA, EARNEST) Mrs. Fazio, I'm sorry we lost you. Even though you never liked me, you tried to make my family's life better any way you could. I'm eternally grateful for your help...

MIKE AND EMMA RUN IN, BUT BEFORE EMMA CAN SPEAK, MIKE COVERS HER MOUTH. THEY WATCH AS PAT CONTINUES.

PAT (CONT'D)

...and forever sorry I wasn't a better husband to your daughter. Not sure how it happened, but it seemed like we were always fighting. And those battles became wars. And I regret how I fought back. I hope you're finally getting some much needed peace and—

MIKE

(CLEARS THROAT) Uh, Dad?
PAT TURNS, EYES SLIGHTLY WATERY.

PAT

Yeah? Hey...

EMMA

What the hell are you doing?!

PAT

I came in to board up windows. And then, you know, wanted to pay my respects.

EMMA

Great, but if Mom sees you, we'll be paying you respects! And she could be anywhere right now. You gotta get out!

AS THEY START TO EXIT, THEY STOP WHEN THEY HEAR...

MIRIAM (O.S.)

I just want to see how Mom's doing.

EMMA, MIKE, AND PAT ALL STOP IN THEIR TRACKS, EYES WIDE.

SARA (O.S.)

Why? She's not doing anything.

MIKE MOTIONS FOR PAT TO HIDE. AS HE SCRAMBLES FOR A PLACE, FINALLY HIDING BEHIND A CURTAIN, MIRIAM AND SARA ENTER. MIKE AND EMMA TRY TO ACT CASUAL, BUT LOOK ANYTHING BUT.

MIRIAM

(TO MIKE & EMMA) What are you two doing in here?

MIRIAM APPROACHES GRANDMA'S CASKET.

MIKE

Just... seeing how grandma's doing?

EMMA

Yeah, in case she needs anything.

MTRTAM

See, Sara? They were checking on $\frac{is}{i}$ normal.

SARA ROLLS HER EYES. A BEAT, AND MIRIAM SNIFFS.

MIRIAM (CONT'D)

Do you guys smell that?

THEY ALL SNIFF.

MIKE

(SMILES) Oh yeah, they must use the same carpet cleaner as the strip clubs. (OFF

LOOKS) I've been to bachelor parties...

MIRIAM

No. I know that smell. It's your father!

Well, he's not in here. That's for sure!

MIKE

Yeah, let's go look for him.

MIRIAM

No. He's close. (SNIFFS) He's right--MIRIAM PULLS THE CURTAIN BACK, REVEALING PAT.

MIRIAM (CONT'D)

What the hell are you doing?! (THEN, TO KIDS) Did you all know he was here?

MIKE/EMMA

(RELUCTANT) Yes...

SARA

I didn't! It was just them, Ma!

MIKE

Oh, screw you, Sara!

SARA

No, screw you! I shouldn't have even pretended to be okay with you -- because I'm not! You suck!

MIRIAM

What?! You two never made up?! I can't believe this! Grandma would be so sad if she weren't dead!

SARA

MTRTAM

Are you really that surprised Michael didn't apologize?! I mean, he's arguing with a pregnant lady!

MIKE THROWS HIS HANDS UP, BUT MIRIAM ANGRILY TURNS TO PAT INSTEAD!

YOU! This is all your fault! You ruined our marriage, the kids, my mother's funeral, and now you've ruined your own daughter's pregnancy!

MIRIAM RUSHES PAT. THE KIDS QUICKLY REACT, STRUGGLING TO HOLD HER.

Mom! / Stop! / Damn, she's strong!

CALVIN, ISAAC, AND JADA ENTER AND TAKE IN THE COMMOTION.

SARA/MIKE/EMMA

JADA

Now what? One of you a zombie?

EVERYONE STOPS, TRYING TO ACT NORMAL AS THE DAVIS FAMILY GIVES THEM JUDGING LOOKS.

EMMA

No. Sorry. We're not zombies. Just a family skirmish. But we're good now.

A BEAT, THEN SARA'S WATER BREAKS. EVERYONE STOPS, NOT SURE WHAT TO DO.

SARA

OMG, I think my water just broke!

ISAAC

I hope so -- otherwise, you just

pissed on my floor!

SARA

What do I do? I'm not supposed to have the baby for another two weeks! And Nick isn't here! Could this get any worse?!

SUDDENLY, GRANDMA, NOW A ZOMBIE, SITS UP IN HER CASKET.

GRANDMA

(GRUNTS) AGGGGHHHHH!

GRANDMA JUMPS OUT OF THE CASKET AND THEY ALL SCREAM AND RUN OUT. AS THEY EXIT AND SHUT THE DOOR ON ZOMBIE GRANDMA...

ISAAC

I really don't like your girlfriend's family, Calvin.

AND WE...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SCENE K

FADE IN:

<u>INT. FUNERAL HOME - LOBBY - LATER</u> (MIRIAM, MIKE, SARA, EMMA, CALVIN, NICK, ISAAC, JADA)

AS CALVIN AND MIKE BLOCK THE DOOR GRANDMA POUNDS ON, EVERYONE ELSE SURROUNDS AN UPSET AND SWEATY SARA, WHO SITS IN AN OFFICE CHAIR.

MIRIAM

C'mon, Sara. Just push!

SARA

I am not having this baby without Nick!

JADA

Honey, don't make this harder on yourself. Start pushing.

TSAAC

Plus, he could be dead. (OFF THEIR STARES) Anyway, if she's not going to push, maybe we turn our attention to the zombie grandma breaking down the door.

MIRIAM

Wait! What if there's a cure? Maybe Grandma will be okay?

EMMA

Ma, Grandma is not okay. She's a zombie!

GRANDMA POUNDS ON THE DOOR, GROWLING FROM THE OTHER SIDE.

CALVIN

And I think she wants to eat us!

JADA

Agreed. The old lady zombie goes down.

The question is, who's going to do it?

A BEAT AS EVERYONE LOOKS AT EACH OTHER.

SARA

(GRIMACES) Ooooowwwww!

WORRIED, MIKE COMES TO HER. SHE PUSHES HIM OFF.

SARA (CONT'D)

No, I want Nick!

MIKE

I know. But this baby's coming whether Nick is here or not, so your stuck with your big brother. And yes, I've been a selfish prick. I'm sorry. Now, please, just let me help you.

SARA SMILES AT MIKE AND HE SMILES BACK. A BEAT, THEN...

SFX: POUNDING ON THE DOOR

EMMA LOOKS OUT THE DOOR PEEPHOLE AND TURNS BACK EXCITED.

EMMA

It's Nick!

SARA

Oh, thank god! (THEN) Move, Michael!

ISAAC

Hold on. He could be a zombie. Calvin, the door.

THEY HEAD TO THE FRONT DOOR. ISAAC GETS READY TO SWING AS CALVIN MOVES FURNITURE AND THEN OPENS THE DOOR LATCH TO REVEAL: NICK, CARRYING RAJ -- WHOSE LEG IS INJURED.

ISAAC (CONT'D)

Are you a zombie?

NICK

No, I'm Sara's husband. Nick. We haven't met yet. And this is the Doc. He's hurt.

RAJ

Just an injured leg. Not a zombie. Oh,

I'm getting ahead of myself, my name's-
SARA HAPPILY ROLLS IN ON HER CHAIR AS NICK HANDS OFF RAJ.

SARA

Nick, you're here! Thank god!

NICK

Nothing could stop me. I'm here for you.

Now and forever. Whatever you need.

SARA

Good! Because I'm having the baby. Now!

NICK

Like, now now? (FADING) Oh boy...

NICK PASSES OUT, HARD, ONTO THE FLOOR. AS THEY CROWD AROUND HIM:

RAJ

Zombies, no problem. But one mention of fatherhood? Boom, the floor. Parenting, am I right? (THEN, SADLY) Am I? I don't know. I'm devastatingly single.

CUT TO:

SCENE L

INT. FUNERAL HOME - LOBBY
(PAT, MIRIAM, MIKE, SARA, EMMA, NICK, CALVIN, ISAAC, JADA, RAJ,
GRANDMA)

EVERYONE HUDDLED AROUND NICK AS HE FINALLY COMES TO.

NICK

Oh man, my head is killing me. I just hear pounding.

JADA

Yeah, we all do. It's the grandma zombie in the other room and she's feisty!

NICK TRIES TO STAND UP, BUT HE'S WOBBLY.

NICK

I'll take care of it. (SLIPS) Whoa.

SARA

Honey!

HE REGAINS HIS FOOTING.

NICK

I'm fine. (THEN, PULLS OUT GUN) So where's the zombie?

SARA

Nick, you're not going in there! You need to help me deliver this baby!

NICK

Don't worry, this shouldn't take long.

NICK STARTS TO MOVE STUFF FROM THE DOOR, BUT MIKE STOPS HIM.

MIKE

You need to help my sister. I'll do it.

MIRIAM

Michael, you can't kill grandma!

MIKE

Look, Nick is in no condition to do this. Plus, my sister and nephew need a good dad to be there for them. I got it.

NICK

(TOUCHED) You think I'll be a good dad? (OFF HIS NOD) Thanks, Mike.

NICK HANDS MIKE HIS GUN.

MIKE

Hey, I shouldn't have attacked you for trying to help my sister. That's what you should do. And I should have done what an older brother should and not lashed out like a child. I'm sorry.

HE SMILES TO BOTH OF THEM. SARA GRIMACES, BUT FORCES A SMILE.

SARA

Thank you. (GRIMACE, THEN) I'm trying to smile... I'm just in so much pain.

RAJ

RAJ ENTERS IN SCRUBS WITH GLOVES ON.

Okay, let's deliver this apocalypse baby!

SARA

Can we not call it an apocalypse baby?

ISAAC

Hey, not in here, huh? Use the bathroom.

NICK

Copy. Let's go, babe. Doc, follow me.

RAJ

You know my name, right? It's Raj.

RAJ SIGHS AND FOLLOWS NICK AS HE WHEELS SARA TO THE BATHROOM.

MIKE

Okay, (RE: GUN) only three shots left.

I hope I learned something playing

"Call of Duty."

MIRIAM

Michael, you can't do this -- it's

Grandma! She loved you!

MIKE

I know. But that's exactly why I have

to do it, Ma. Grandma deserves peace.

EMMA

Mike's right. Plus, Grandma would feel

terrible if she killed and ate all of us.

MTRTAM

I still think if we gave her your

father, she'd be fine.

MIKE

Mom, you gotta let the dad stuff go.

MIRIAM

When he leaves or dies, I will!

ZOMBIE GRANDMA'S ARM COMES BURSTING THROUGH THE DOOR!

ISAAC

Okay, now or never. (TO MIKE) You ready?

(THEN) Calvin, the door?

CALVIN

I guess. Apparently, it's what I do now.

ANNOYED, CALVIN MOVES ITEMS AWAY FROM THE DOOR AND OPENS IT.

MIKE EXITS TO THE OTHER ROOM AS CALVIN QUICKLY CLOSES THE DOOR
AND STANDS AGAINST IT WITH SOME OTHERS, LISTENING INTENTLY.

SFX: YELLING, RUMBLING (O.S.)

MIKE (O.S.)

Stay still, Grandma! Damn. (THEN) Ahhh!

SFX: GUNSHOT (O.S.)

MIRIAM

So did he do it or not?

SFX: GUNSHOT (O.S.)

EMMA

I think so.

SFX: TUMBLING AND OBJECTS FALLING/BREAKING (O.S.)

JADA

Maybe not.

PAT RUNS IN.

PAT

What's going on?

MIRIAM

Get out of here!

SFX: GUNSHOT (O.S.)

CALVIN

That was the last shot!

SILENCE. THEN, SUDDENLY, POUNDING ON THE DOOR. THEY JUMP BACK.

ISAAC

Who is it?

MIKE (O.S.)

Not Zombie Grandma! Open the door!

THEY DO AND MIKE EXITS, MOURNFULLY.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Sorry, Mom. But Grandma's dead. Again.

MIRIAM

I want to see her.

MIKE

No. You don't.

MIRIAM STARTS CRYING, PUSHES PAST HIM, AND RUNS TO GRANDMA.

RESET TO:

INT. FUNERAL HOME - REPOSING ROOM #1 - CONTINUOUS

MIRIAM LOOKS AT GRANDMA, BUT QUICKLY TURNS BACK TO MIKE, UPSET!

MIRIAM

Oh my god, she looks terrible!

MIKE

Well, yeah! I shot her!

BEHIND MIRIAM, ZOMBIE GRANDMA SITS UP -- REVEALING JUST THE RIGHT SIDE OF HER HEAD IS BLOWN OUT, BUT HER BRAIN IS FINE!

PAT

He missed the brain! Look out!

PAT RUNS AND PUSHES MIRIAM TO THE SIDE, THEN KNOCKS GRANDMA BACK BEHIND A COUCH, WHERE SHE CAN'T BE SEEN. THE OTHERS ENTER.

MIRIAM

Get him, Mom! Get him!

EMMA

("NO!") Mom?!

MIRIAM SHRUGS.

SARA

Be careful, Dad!

PAT

Sorry about this, Mrs. Fazio.

PAT STOMPS ON HER HEAD O.S. BLOOD SHOOTS UP FROM BEHIND THE COUCH.

ISAAC

She ain't coming back from that!

EVERYONE REACTS GROSSED OUT OR HAPPY.

MTRTAM

(TO PAT) How could you?! I hate you

now more than ever!

AS MIRIAM RUNS OUT, CRYING...

PAT

(CALLING AFTER) I was just trying to

save you! Us! I'm sorry for

everything! (THEN) Damn it.

ISAAC

(SHAKES HEAD) Y'all cleaning that up.

Calvin, get 'em the mop and bucket.

AS CALVIN PUTS HIS HEAD DOWN AND EXITS, WE...

CUT TO:

SCENE M

INT. FUNERAL HOME - LOUNGE - MUCH LATER
(MIRIAM, MIKE, SARA, EMMA, NICK, CALVIN, ISAAC, JADA, BABY)

SARA SITS HOLDING THE BABY NEXT TO NICK. EVERYONE ELSE LOOKS ON.

SARA

After all the craziness, this little guy made today great.

MIRIAM

I can't believe this little angel came into the world the same day Mom left.

EMMA

Yeah. And now you're a grandma, Mom.

MIRIAM

(BLUSHES) I guess I am. That sounds nice.

NICK

You wanna hold the baby... Grandma?

MIRIAM SMILES AND NICK PASSES THE BABY TO HER.

MIRIAM

Oh my god. What a miracle! He's so precious! (THEN) Don't let your father see the baby! He'll ruin him, too!

SARA

Mom, Dad would be here now if he wasn't cleaning the mess upstairs with Raj.

MIRIAM

(UPSET) Well, I've warned you!

MIRIAM HANDS THE BABY BACK AS EMMA PULLS ISAAC AND CALVIN ASIDE.

EMMA

Mr. Davis, just wanted to apologize for my family. We <u>are</u> a little nuts. But we're not always like this. Honestly, it all comes from a place of love. Extreme, crazy love, but still, love. We appreciate you letting us crash here.

ISAAC

Look, Emma, my son likes you, so I have to put up with you. And you seem fine, I guess. But your family? Pass.

EMMA

(HURT) I was just trying to be nice.

EMMA TEARS UP AND WALKS OFF TO HER FAMILY AS CALVIN APPROACHES.

CALVIN

Emma, wait? (THEN) What the hell, Dad?
You might think you can treat me like
that, but you definitely don't get to
talk to Emma that way. You're not even
trying. With her, her family, or me.
Next time you want a drink, get it your
damn self!

ISAAC SHOOTS HIM A LOOK: "REALLY?" AS CALVIN STARTS OFF...

ISAAC

(CALLING AFTER) All right, all right.

Damn. I see you, Calvin. Okay. Respect.

CALVIN REACTS -- "THAT WORKED" AS HE WALKS OVER TO EMMA AND PUTS HIS ARM AROUND HER. ISAAC LOOK AT HIS EMPTY DRINKN AS <u>JADA</u> ENTERS WITH A TRAY OF COOKIES, PLACING THEM ON THE COUNTER.

JADA

Cookies! Get 'em while they're warm!

AS JADA PUTS THE PLATE DOWN, MIRIAM GRABS A COOKIE AND EATS IT.

MIRIAM

(TO JADA) You and I make a good team!

JADA

(FEIGNS LAUGHTER) Do we?

JADA CROSSES OFF AS MIKE ENTERS HOLDING A SMALL CASKET.

MIKE

(RE: CASKET) Hey Sara and Nick, I

found a bed for the baby!

SARA

OMG, that's so sad. But kinda cute.

HE HANDS IT TO HER AND SHE PLACES THE BABY INSIDE THE CASKET.

EVERYONE

(RE: BABY) Awwww.

MIKE

He'd even look cute if he were dead.

SARA

(SMACKS HIM) Don't say that! But yes.

Yes, he would.

AS THEY ALL FAWN OVER THE BABY, WE...

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

TAG

FADE IN:

<u>INT. FUNERAL HOME - LOBBY - LATER THAT NIGHT</u> (PAT, ISAAC, JADA, RAJ, VALENTINA, KIANA)

SFX: POUNDING

<u>CLOSE ON:</u> THE DOOR AS <u>PAT</u> REMOVES THE LATCH AND <u>OPENS IT TO</u> REVEAL: VALENTINA, THE BARTENDER FROM EARLIER, IN SHOCK.

PAT

Valentina? You're alive!

VALENTINA

Me? I'm more surprised that you're still kicking Pat.

PAT

Yeah. Wait. How'd you find me? (BEAT)

And why? (THEN) Do we have a thing?

VALENTINA

No. She told me to come here.

AS VALENTINA HELPS THE BLOODY AND BRUISED $\underline{\text{KIANA}}$ INTO THE DOORWAY, $\underline{\text{RAJ}}$ ENTERS.

RAJ

Kiana?! How...?

KIANA

(WEAKLY) I got the vials!

KIANA THEN **PASSES OUT** IN VALENTINA'S ARMS. AS THE OTHERS HELP BRING HER IN, ISAAC AND JADA ENTER FROM THE STAIRWELL.

ISAAC

Oh, no. Nuh-uh. We're all full up!

PAT

But we know them! And they need help.

JADA

It's okay. Come in, come in.

AS THEY ENTER AND DISPERSE, ISAAC SHAKES HIS HEAD AT HIS WIFE.

ISAAC

When did you turn into Mother Teresa?

JADA

It's the right thing to do, Isaac.

ISAAC

You know, one of them could be a zombie?!

JADA

Sure. But what's one more when there's a

basement morgue full of them?

ISAAC

(REALIZES, THEN) Aw, damn it.

Tomorrow's gonna suck, too.

AS ISAAC LOWERS HIS HEAD AND HEADS BACK UPSTAIRS, WE...

- THE CAMERA DOES A STYLIZED ZOOM PAST THEM DOWN THE HALLWAY TO THE WELL BARRICADED BASEMENT DOOR...
- WHICH IT ZOOMS THROUGH AND DOWN THE STAIRS WHERE...
- WE SEE A FEW ZOMBIES MILL ABOUT. ONE BITES INTO THE NECK OF A DEAD BODY ON A GURNEY AND AS BLOOD SQUIRTS OUT ALL OVER THE CAMERA, WE...

FADE OUT:

END OF SHOW