

DRAMA ALERT

Abraham Tadesse

Debby, Susan, Kyle, and Mitch

KYLE and MITCH walk through the door of a home and into the living room.

KYLE
I appreciate you coming to meet my parents. I just hope it's not too weird.

MITCH
Weird? Why would it be weird?

KYLE
Well, they're just a little much, and I'm just a little self-conscious.

MITCH
(Concerned)
Please don't tell me this is because your moms are lesbians and you think I care-

KYLE
What?! No- what? No! It's just that they're, well-

KYLE is cut off mid sentence to his mothers, DEBBY and SUSAN coming through the kitchen and into the living room. They both stop short of hugging KYLE and MITCH and throw their arms wide.

DEBBY & SUSAN
(Both)
WELL HI YOU TWO!

KYLE
(Sheepishly)
Hi Moms!

DEBBY and SUSAN appear to look like they're going to greet KYLE, but as he moves closer in, they push him to the side and crowd around MITCH.

DEBBY
We have heard nothing about you.

SUSAN
Literally, not a peep, I almost grabbed my gun I was so so scared.

DEBBY
(Feigning a scared voice)
Who's that at the door, is that Satan? No thank you!

SUSAN

Son, what on earth are you doing on the floor, get up from there.

DEBBY and SUSAN both laugh.

KYLE picks himself off the floor.

KYLE

Guys, we made plans for this dinner like a month ago.

DEBBY

Honey I am so sorry, my memories been a bit foggy since that dog barked at me.

MITCH

Oh my goodness.

DEBBY

The doctor said to keep an eye on things, but regardless pray for me.

SUSAN

So sad.

KYLE

(Annoyed)

Alright, umm, ca we eat? We're a bit hungry from the drive up.

DEBBY

Of course, come on in, come on in!

DEBBY, SUSAN, KYLE, and MITCH head into the dining room and sit.

SUSAN

Alright love bugs, how was the trip up?

KYLE

It was fine, little bit of traffic but-

DEBBY

Oh my Lord, Kyle don't do that it it's so unsafe.

KYLE

Well we didn't really have a choice. It's traffic.

SUSAN
 Last week we hit traffic, remember
 Debby? We hit traffic and because
 of my alopecia I was like 'we can't
 do this', so we just left the car.

MITCH
 You left the car ob the street?

DEBBY
 Highway dear.

KYLE
 Ok, where's the car now?

DEBBY
 Kyle, can you stop fretting on us,
 please? We wanna hear about you and
 this lovely, day I say, future
 daughter-in-law?

DEBBY and SUSAN start giggling and laughing. KYLE is slightly
 annoyed, MITCH is smiling and being polite.

SUSAN
 Mitch, honey, you haven't touched
 your pop tarts, you allergic?

MITCH
 No, I'm fine I was just finishing
 my side of mini-Twix. I had a
 little snack on the road-

DEBBY's fork clatters.

SUSAN
 It's alright Debby.

MITCH
 What's wrong?

DEBBY
 You can't just snack willy-nilly,
 it's dangerous.

KYLE
 What?

DEBBY
 We choked on a Chick-O-Stick in
 '92, haven't been the same since.

MITCH
 You both choked on it?

SUSAN
It was a Lady & the Tramp themed
date night at the VFW.

DEBBY
I chocked the worst though, doctors
couldn't get enough of me.

SUSAN
If memory serves me right, they
said you had the healthiest throat
they'd ever seen. I think they
actually pronounced me dead at the
seen if I recall-

KYLE
(annoyed)
They did not pronounce you dead.

SUSAN
Not verbally, but it was in their
eyes like 'oh shoot, this ones
gonna be a ghost soon!'

KYLE
Ok, ok.

DEBBY
Kyle, you are so dramatic sometimes
I swear.

SUSAN
(To MITCH)
Now, y'all got any fun plans coming
up?

MITCH
Actually we're planning a trip.

SUSAN
Oh do tell!

MITCH
Well, we're thinking about Spain
next spring-

DEBBY and SUSAN drop their forks loudly on their plates. They
mutter, "oh my God", "no", "this can't be happening", etc.
SUSAN stands up from her chair and grips the back of it.

DEBBY
(Quietly)
Did you say, Spain?

MITCH
Yeah, next spring-

SUSAN
Hispania?

KYLE
(Annoyed)
Yes.

SUSAN
(To DEBBY)
Tell 'em.

MITCH
Tell us what?

DEBBY
That's where we were taken.

MITCH
Taken?

DEBBY
Like the documentary with Liam
Neeson.

KYLE
You were not taken.

SUSAN
He's right, so sorry - we were
took'en, thank you dear-

DEBBY
I almost lost my breath when he
said "can I take your bags up to
your room", almost died.

SUSAN
No I was gonna die, you were fine.

KYLE
NO, NONE OF THIS HAPPENED, ON THIS
PLANE OF EXISTENCE.

DEBBY
(To MITCH)
Looks like somebody should've
"taken" there chill pills today, ok
I'll stop.

KYLE
(Sighs)
Oh my God.

MITCH

It sounds like it was a bellhop
that was trying to help with your
bags.

SUSAN

No, you're just a little slow dear,
that's how they get ya.

DEBBY

Come to think of it, I don't think
I've been right since Spain. Maybe
it has to do with that curse I got
infected with.

MITCH

You were what?

SUSAN

We were in China hanging about and
we just couldn't stop coughing so
we came back home.

KYLE

Guys.

SUSAN

When was that dear?

DEBBY

2019? That's right.

MITCH is looking concerned.

KYLE

YOU DIDN'T BRING COVID19 TO THE
UNITED STATES, YOU WERE IN DALLAS
WHEN IT ALL STARTED, I WAS WITH
YOU.

SUSAN

Son, these little angry outbursts
are so unlike you - is it the Zika?

KYLE

YOU'VE NEVER HAD ZIKA!

DEBBY

I'm just asking, can't a mom just
ask questions?

SUSAN

It's probably the internet that's
doing it to his brain. Son you
really need to be careful on there.

DEBBY
That's right the only places we get
our news from is Twitter.

SUSAN
(To DEBBY)
Debby, let's not dead-name.

DEBBY
Hand to God, my apologies.

KYLE
You can't deadname a website.

MITCH
I think maybe you can?

KYLE
NO, YOU CAN'T!

SUSAN
(To all)
Chill pill, were you at?

SUSAN and DEBBY laugh and MITCH chuckles a bit. KYLE slams hand
on dinner table and a tense quiet follows.

A beat.

KYLE
(To SUSAN, quietly)
How are classes?

SUSAN
(Sheepishly)
They're fine.

KYLE
I'm sorry for my outburst. Please,
tell us about it.

SUSAN
You sure?

KYLE
Yes.

SUSAN
I dropped out.

KYLE
What? Why?

SUSAN
The school had rabies.

KYLE
The people had rabies?

SUSAN
Practically, yeah sure.

A beat.

KYLE
Give me a little more.

SUSAN
I saw a dead bird in the parking
lot and just U-turned right outta
there-

DEBBY
At least there's a cure for rabies,
I found a heroin needle, literally
in my foot the other week.

MITCH
What?

DEBBY
Literally, I was dead as a
doornail, doctors kicked me out
cause I was the deadest thing
they'd ever seen. See, I still got
it.

DEBBY pulls out the "needle".

KYLE
THAT'S A BREAD STICK!

DEBBY
Well, I don't know about that,
InfoWars says otherwise.

KYLE
It is clearly a bread stick.

SUSAN
(To MITCH)
He is so dramatic.

DEBBY
(To MITCH)
Riddle me this - why parts of Sandy
Hook were faked, no wrong answers
dear.

KYLE

(Sighs)

I hate that this happens, every time. I love both a lot, but the stories and things you say are so untrue it's hard to talk to you sometimes. I just want to have a normal family.b

DEBBY and SUSAN look at one another.

MITCH

(To KYLE)

Babe, your moms love you and they're like all parents - a little kooky and filled with a lot more love. They might exaggerate a bit, but they're just being their complete selves around you because you're family.

SUSAN and DEBBY look at one another, holds hands and looks at MITCH.

KYLE

You're right. I'm sorry moms - ya'll are eccentric, but that's why I love you both.

DEBBY

Oh, almost forgot to mention we just got back from Florida.

MITCH

Oh yeah? Doing what?

SUSAN

We were picked to run the CIA.

DEBBY

No, honey, he said I ran the Army, you ran the Navy

KYLE

NOOOOOOO!!!!!!

END