

THE CURIOUS WARMJOYS OF PRENTISS LANE

by

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Based on the short story

Special Delivery for Mrs. Jones

By

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FADE IN:

1 EXT. ANY NEIGHBORHOOD USA - DAY 1

Shade trees line the sidewalks. Neatly kept laws stretch for miles in front of pastel colored homes.

We arrive at 818 PRENTISS LANE, a lovely home with a large bay window.

We slow zoom into bay window to find...

2 INT. 818 PRENTISS LANE - LIVING ROOM - DAY 2

JENNA and her twin brother JAXSON lye on their tummies staring intensely at the CHESS BOARD.

A beat.

Jaxson does a phoney sneeze, causing a few pieces to move.

FREEZE FRAME

NARRATOR

Meet Jenna and her twin brother Jaxson. They play chess everyday...and everyday the game ends up just like this...

ACTION

JENNA

Jax you are cheating again!!!!!!

Jenna knocks over the rest of the pieces.

JAXSON

No I wasn't.

JENNA

Ah! You elephant butt! You were cheating. You always cheat. I saw you knock over those pieces because you know you were going to lose. Loser!

The pair stand up for a face off.

JAXSON

You know what mom says about name calling.

JENNA

She's not here Jax. No one is here to baby you.

JAXSON

I'll still tell. And you're grounded! No ipod. No TV. Isn't American Idol coming on tonight?

Jaxson raises an eye brow.

Jenna thinks twice about pounding him in into the rug, she's almost five inches taller than her brother.

In a huff Jenna throws herself back on the sofa, arms crossed, face wrinkled up tight.

JAXSON (CONT'D)

That's it...have a seat cry baby quitter.

JENNA

Twelve-year-old-bed-wetter!

Jaxson leaps at his sister on the coach, she gets out the way just in time. Jaxson hits the floor.

She sits on Jaxson's back as he squirms face down.

JAXSON

Get up Miss Piggy!

JENNA

Temper-teeeemper Jax.

Jaxson furious struggles to get free from under his sister.

He struggles hard, flapping his arms like a crazed bird.

JENNA (CONT'D)

Claribel!!! Would you please come and get Jax he's taking a fit agaaain!

CLARIBEL (40's) Latina enters wiping her hands on her apron.

CLARIBEL

Shil-dren pleese. No mas fighting. Pleese. Whenjever jew play that game you fight. No mas. Comprende?

Claribel pulls Jenna off her brother, then picks up the chess pieces off the floor.

CLARIBEL (CONT'D)

Jew are too old for dis! Jew are almost teen-agers, verda? Thirteen in four days. Jew must learn to solve your problemas, wit no fighting.

Jaxson still lies face down on the floor.

JAXSON

I am sorry Claribel.

CLARIBEL

Jew need to say sorry to you hermana.

JAXSON  
But she started it!

CLARIBEL  
Adios mios!

Claribel throws up her hands in defeat she leaves the room.

JENNA  
Jaxson she's upset. You should have just apologized to me. Turd!

JAXSON  
Shut up Jen!

JENNA  
What-eeeeever!

Jenna takes a seat by the window.

JENNA (CONT'D)  
I hate no TV days.

JAXSON  
TV is ruining the minds of children.

JENNA  
No true for all kids, cause Mom said she dropped you--

Jenna spots something outside, she stops short.

JENNA (CONT'D)  
Hey Jax look.

JAXSON  
Don't bother me while I am moping  
Jennavese Marcella Warmjoy.

JENNA  
I am serious boogah. Come here now and look at this!

JAXSON  
Oh, yeah like I am really gonna come over there now. I can feel the love, just fine from right here.

JENNA  
I'm sorry. Now come over here and look at this man sitting in the taxi outside the house.

A MALE FIGURE with DARK GLASSES sits in the back of a YELLOW TAXI. He looks up at the house, staring straight at Jenna.

Male gets out, taxi BEEPS.

Male Figure tries to convince CABBY to wait.

Cabby refuses and almost pulls of before Male figure gets back in.

4

INT. 818 PRENTISS - LIVING ROOM

4

JENNA

That was weird. That guy was headed toward the house then got back into his cab.

JAXSON

Who knows and who cares Nancy Drew.

JENNA

Nancy Drew?

JAXSON

If you read you would know who I am talking about.

JENNA

Mom didn't say she was expecting anybody, right? The Lumpkins are on vacation, soooo I'm sure he wasn't here for them.

JAXSON

Jenna who cares?

JENNA

Mom's security guy said if we see anything odd, don't dismiss it. I wish you could have seen him.

Jaxson groans.

A beat.

JENNA (CONT'D)

Stop moping. I didn't mean it, when I called you a twelve-year-old bed wetter.

Jaxson groans.

JAXSON

Churn the dagger deeper why don't you.

JENNA

Grow up Jax, it's not that bad.

JAXSON  
 You try being too small for your age,  
 companion-less-- However highly  
 intelligent...bed-wetter on the verge of  
 a pubescent break DOWN!

Jaxson rolls over.

JAXSON (CONT'D)  
 Leave me. I have a few gripes to make  
 with God.

JENNA  
 Ryyyyyyyyght!

Jenna cheerily walks out of the room.

JAXSON  
 (Screaming at the universe)  
 Nobody cares. Not even my twin sister!

Jaxson lays there mumbling to himself incoherently.

5 INT. 818 PRENTISS - LIVING ROOM - LATER 5

Jaxson sits in front of the couch with BUBBA (13) playing  
 a VIDEO game.

Jenna runs down the stairs to front door.

JENNA  
 Didn't you hear the doorbell dumbbells?

She opens the door.

A UPS GUY stands in the doorway with FLOWERS.

FREEZE FRAME

NARRATOR  
 Meet Tyrone Stannis. Has delivered  
 precious cargo in every urban area in  
 Boston. He developed the stammor and  
 twitch after Jenna gave him her ferret to  
 hold while she signed for a package.  
 Tyrone freaked, who knew he had mortal  
 fear of Fuzzy the ferret. This is his  
 first week back on the job.

ACTION

6 INT./EXT. 818 PRENTISS - FRONT DOOR 6

TYRONE, the UPS guy keeps looking up like something is  
 going to fall on his head.

Jenna smirks, then tries her hardest to look serious.

JENNA  
Hi?

TYRONE  
Where-where-where's the-dah la, la, lady?  
Mah-mah-mah er ah...Wa, Warmjoy.

JENNA  
You wait right here I'll go get--

TYRONE  
No! Just sign. Quick!

JENNA  
Fine, geez. Where's the fire!?

Jenna takes the CLIPBOARD.

TYRONE  
D-dah, Di- Did you say, Fah-fah-fah.  
Fire?

Tyrone sniffs like a gerbil on speed. He snatches the board from Jenna and shoves the flowers at Jenna.

He pulls out cell phone and hurries down the stairs.

TYRONE (CONT'D)  
Dah, Dah. Doctor Sharpton please...em-em-em-em-emergency.

JENNA  
See you around!

Tyrone, never turns around, he looks as if he is swatting at bees as he hurries down the sidewalk.

Jenna closes the door with her foot.

7 INT. 818 PRENTISS - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER 7

Jaxson and Bubba play a video game.

JENNA  
Someone sent mom flowers.

JAXSON  
Great another loving relationship for you to sabotage.

JENNA  
Mom didn't love Trevor. Trevor loved himself. Besides he had chest hair. Ilk!

Jenna gags at the thought of it.

JENNA (CONT'D)  
Let's see who sent these.

JAXSON  
Should I power up people search. Get this  
guy's credit report, criminal record,  
high-school transcript, driving record  
and previous marriages..

JENNA  
The usual.

BUBBA  
If you get his IP address I'll check his  
surfing history.

JAXSON  
Works for me.

Jaxson and Bubba walk over to Jenna.

JENNA  
Oh look, they didn't seal the card.

INSERT CARD:

I know you are busy. I tried calling your office but keep  
getting put on hold. I want to say I am sorry for how I  
acted. But can we talk face to face? Please call me at  
671-555-1117, ext 222. It's important that we talk this  
through. We used to be so close. Love, D

JAXSON  
Let me see it.

Jaxson grabs it, Bubba looks over his shoulder.

JENNA  
Love, D. Hummm? David, Dennis,  
Darren...Darryl. Mom hasn't mentioned a D  
name.

JAXSON  
Doesn't sound like a man in love with  
mom. That or he's going about it all  
wrong way. There's no conspiracy, Mom  
isn't hiding a boyfriend.

JENNA  
Mom is hiding something. I can feel it.

JAXSON  
She's too busy running her campaign for a  
boyfriend, she's even too busy to spend  
time with us.

JENNA  
A woman finds time for love.

JAXSON  
Yeah, and how the heck would you know!

Claribel enters.

CLARIBEL  
Who was that at the door?

Jenna slips the Card in her pocket and hands the flowers to Claribel.

JENNA  
For you.

CLARIBEL  
Oh. Tank-you. But. It's not my burh-day.  
No?

Claribel searches the flowers for a card.

CLARIBEL (CONT'D)  
No card? Who are jay from?

JENNA  
They are from us Senora Claribel. Jax and I want to say sorry for fighting.

JAXSON  
From who!?

JENNA  
Jaxson! Just let Claribel enjoy them. I accepted your apology. He said sorry Senora Claribel.

CLARIBEL  
Bien. I am happy. You are so sweet. I can't believe jew are going to be thirt-teen. I remember when jew momma and pappa brought you home. You poppa he would be proud. Jew are so smart Senore Jaxson. And you? Muy bonita and bery-bery feisty like you Papa and jew momma.

Claribel smells the flowers and walks into the kitchen.

JAXSON  
Your ass is grass when mom sees those flowers and Claribel tells her we bought them. I'm broke, so we either stole money or we are lying.

BUBBA  
Your mom is like a human lie detector.

8 INT. DINNER TABLE - NIGHT

8

Claribel, Jenna and Jaxson eat DINNER. The flower arrangement sits in the middle of the table.

CLARIBEL  
Why jew you want me to put dem in my room?

JENNA  
Well because we wanted you to enjoy them.  
You know Mom has allergies...

CLARIBEL  
I called your Mom to tell her that you  
bought me flowers, she was so surprised.

Jaxson mouths the words: "I told you!"

Jenna rolls her eyes at him.

JENNA  
Claribel I was wondering does Mom have  
any new friends we should know about?

CLARIBEL  
Amigos? Why jew ask?

JENNA  
Just curious.

JAXSON  
Real smooth Nancy Drew.

Jenna mouths the words: "Shut up!"

9

INT. 818 PRENTISS - FRONT DOOR

9

MRS. KIMBERLY WARMJOY enters on a CELL PHONE. She has  
BRIEF and some PAPERS that she juggles as she talks.  
Jaxson runs over, gives her a hug.

JAXSON  
Hey Mom!

Mrs. Warmjoy winks at him.

MRS. WARMJOY  
(into phone)  
Yeah...that's not going to work. New  
York? Call Avery and have him change  
that. Yeah. Okay.

Mrs. Warmjoy walks into the dining room drops her stuff.

She kisses Jenna on the forehead, Jenna smiles.

MRS. WARMJOY (CONT'D)  
I just got home. Let me call you in an  
hour.

JENNA  
Hi Mom!

MRS. WARMJOY  
Hi Jixy. Who got voted off Idol?

JENNA  
Oh, it was so bad...

MRS. WARMJOY  
Nice flowers.

Mrs. Warmjoy looks at her daughter.

Jenna tries to look innocent.

MRS. WARMJOY (CONT'D)  
We'll talk after dinner.

Mrs. Warmjoy sits and makes a plate, starts to eat.

CLARIBEL  
Aren't they beautiful.

MRS. WARMJOY  
Very nice Claribel. It was very sweet of Jixy and Jax. I wonder where they learned to be so thoughtful.

JAXSON  
Actually Jeh-

Jenna kicks Jaxson under the table.

JENNA  
You taught us Mom.

MRS. WARMJOY  
Did I? Didn't I also teach you to tell the truth.

Mrs. Warmjoy's cell phone rings.

Jenna and Jaxson share a look.

MRS. WARMJOY (CONT'D)  
(into phone)  
Hello this is Kimberly. Yeah. That's it!?  
No. Press him for more....I know for a fact the last candidate got more air time.

She looks at Jenna.

MRS. WARMJOY (CONT'D)  
(Into Jenna)  
Well? Didn't I?  
(Into phone)  
Yeah. I'm still here. Robert confirmed that? Huh? Let me get my paper work.

Mrs. Warmjoy leaves the table digs paperwork out of her brief and walks into her office.

10 INT. 818 PRENTISS - OFFICE 10

Mrs. Warmjoy dips back out of her office.

Jenna! MRS. WARMJOY

Yeah? JENNA (O.S.)

I'm not finish with you. MRS. WARMJOY

Okaaaaay. JENNA (O.S.)

11 INT. 818 PRENTISS - DINNER TABLE 11

Jenna looks concerned, while Jaxson grins from ear to ear.

12 EXT. SIDE WALK - NEXT DAY - AFTERNOON 12

Jenna, Jaxson and Bubba walk home from school. They all carry BOOKBAGS. Jaxson wears ROLLER SNEAKERS and carries a HOCKEY STICK. Bubba pushes a BIKE and Jenna carries a TENNIS RACQUET.

JAXSON  
I'm just saying. I wish I had your luck. If mom remembers your dead meat. But she won't. She even forgot my baseball game last week.

JENNA  
No you are the lucky one. Mom lets you get away with murder! She knew it was me...didn't even think for a second it was her precious angel Jax.

JAXSON  
Not my style. I am smarter. Only you would say you gave Claribel flowers and you're broke.

JENNA  
I could have borrowed the money.

JAXSON  
Better get your story straight or Mom is never going to reinstate your allowance.

JENNA  
Maybe you gave me the money.

Jaxson stops short. Starts to cry.

JAXSON

Mom, Jenna beat me up and took the money to buy the flowers for Claribel. I was soooo scared, waaaah.

He cries hard.

JENNA

Creep.

He snaps out of it, grins at Jenna.

JAXSON

Go ahead. I dare you to tell her I gave you money or was in anyway involved in your scheme to ruin her love life.

BUBBA

Jenna, I used reverse look up and found the address of the number in the card.

JENNA

Thanks Bubba, you recognize what's at stake here.

BUBBA

Getting rid of boyfriends is easy. Guys run the minute I call them Dad and ask about sex. My dad's girlfriends, that gets a little tricky. I found that a plus size bra, it gotta be big...planted in my dad's room under the pillow...and their history!

A beat.

BUBBA (CONT'D)

Although one woman kept taking them, she wasn't a plus size...I'm not sure why.

A long beat. Jaxson and Jenna stare at Bubba.

JENNA

Oooookay. What about you cry-baby-Jack. Any intel?

13

EXT. 818 PRENTISS LANE - LATER

13

The trio arrive at Jenna and Jaxson's house.

A BIKE MESSENGER peers in the front window.

JAXSON

There are laws against peeping dude.

Bike Messenger turns around.

MESSENGER

You live here dog?

JAXSON  
Yeah but I don't use the doggie-door.

JENNA  
I'll sign for it.

Jenna signs the CLIP BOARD.

Messenger hands her an ENVELOPE, stands there.

A long beat.

JAXSON  
What?

MESSENGER  
This is how I make my living dog. Judging  
by the digs, you ain't doing too bad. How  
about a tip?

14 EXT./INT. 818 PRENTISS - FRONT DOOR 14

Jenna, Bubba walk inside. Jaxson stands at the door.

JAXSON  
Don't buy waterfront property, beach  
erosion is at a all time high.

Jaxson slams the door.

15 INT. 818 PRENTISS - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER 15

Jenna and Bubba check the writing on the package against  
the card that came with the flowers.

BUBBA  
Same writing.

JENNA  
Same guy. I'm gonna open it.

JAXSON  
Jenna. Not a good idea. We can't seal it  
back once you open it.

He snatches the envelope and tries to run.

Jenna trips him, the ENVELOPE flies in the air and lands  
on a Bible.

The trio stare at the envelope.

CLOSE UP:

15 Envelope on BIBLE. 15

Jaxson scrambles for the package.

JAXSON (CONT'D)  
 Jenna it's an omen. Leave it alone.

Jenna snatches the envelope holding it above her head.

Jaxson tries to get it.

FREEZE FRAME

NARRATOR  
 What are the chances Jaxson can stop his  
 sister from opening their mom's mail. And  
 ah where's Claribel when Jaxson needs  
 her...

ACTION

JENNA  
 Mom doesn't know about the first note,  
 she's not expecting this one.

Jenna gets the envelope open.

They don't notice the NOTE drift to the floor.

Jenna and Jaxson stare at the PHOTO.

A long beat.

BUBBA  
 What?

JENNA  
 That looks like our mom, but?

She turns the picture over.

INSERT BACK OF PHOTO:

"Our wedding day, July 7, 1955."

JAXSON  
 But that can't be Mom she wasn't born  
 until 1961.

JENNA  
 That's all he sent.

The trio scan the floor and spot the note.

Bubba grabs it, reads it.

BUBBA  
 I have come along way to see you. I hope  
 you find it in your heart to forgive me.  
 You didn't call but I want to try one  
 more time to see you. Can you meet me  
 tomorrow at 3:00 PM? I can come to your  
 office. Here is a picture I am sure you  
 remember.

Ah man!  
JAXSON

What?  
JENNA AND BUBBA

JAXSON  
I have a trig exam tomorrow. But more importantly. This guy is going to mom's office and she has no idea he's coming.

16 INT. 818 PRENTISS - OFFICE - LATER

16

The trio crowd around a COMPUTER.

JAXSON  
I really need to study.

Jaxson gets up.

JENNA  
If you leave now I will pummel you.

Jaxson sits back down.

JENNA (CONT'D)  
Got to map-quest and type in the address  
Bubba got from reverse look up.

JAXSON  
Bubba can do it for you. You don't need me.

JENNA  
Type. Turd.

BUBBA  
I don't mind Jenna.

Jaxson types.

JENNA  
It's bad enough if we get caught Bubba,  
but if you get in trouble too. Mom would  
really kill me.

JAXSON  
The address is Dalton street downtown.  
The Harbourwinds Hotel.

JENNA  
Okay. We need a plan.

DOLLY back, reduce audio.

The trio AD LIB a plan to keep the mystery man from going to their moms office.

17 INT. 818 PRENTISS - OFFICE - THREE HOURS LATER 17

Bubba is asleep in a chair. Jaxson dozing sits with TRIG-BOOKS piled in his lap.

Jenna types on the COMPUTER.

Claribel enters, she is dressed up.

CLARIBEL  
Hello?

JENNA  
Hello Senora Claribel. Wow you look nice.

CLARIBEL  
Gracias Senorita. I got my hair done this afternoon. I had a date with Davion.

JENNA  
Davion?

CLARIBEL  
Jes. Did you get my note?

JENNA  
No. But we were fine.

CLARIBEL  
It is late, si. Tell your friend Senore John it is time to go home.

JENNA  
Okay I will.

Claribel moves trig-books from Jaxson's lap, helps him up.

JAXSON  
Sin, times, opposite, hypotenuse, adjacent tax, tan of the right angle sine curve a plus b equals...huh?

CLARIBEL  
Time for bed. Come let's go. You should be getting ready too Senorita Jenna.

Jaxson is Delirious.

JAXSON  
No what's the plan? Multiply the note for mom times the trouble we are...

CLARIBEL  
Que?

18 INT. SCHOOL - BACK DOOR - DAY 18

Jenna creeps out the door.

BUBBA  
Jenna!

Jenna spins around startled.

Bubba runs up.

JENNA  
(whispering)  
You scared me to death. What are you  
doing here?

BUBBA  
I'm cutting too.

JENNA  
Bubba, no. I can't let you.

Just then two TEACHERS walk down the hall.

Jenna and Bubba quickly creep out door and gently close  
it behind them.

19 INT. SCHOOL - BACK DOOR 19

CLOSE UP

Door clicks shut.

One of the teacher's notices the door, walks over to it  
and opens it.

20 EXT. SCHOOL - PARKING LOT 20

TEACHER'S POV:

Scans the parking lot. It's empty.

21 INT. SCHOOL - HALLWAY 21

Teacher closes door tight.

TEACHER  
That was weird. I could have sworn...

22 EXT. SCHOOL - BACK DOOR 22

Jenna and Bubba stand against the wall, they exhale and  
exchange a look.

BUBBA  
That was close.

The pair tare-off running through the parking lot.

23

EXT. SCHOOL - PARKING LOT

23

JAXSON  
Jenna over here!

The pair huddle down low behind a car next to Jaxson.

JAXSON (CONT'D)  
What took you so long?

JENNA  
I was trying to ditch Bubba and we almost  
got busted.

JAXSON  
Glad to have you aboard brah.

The boys knock fist.

Jenna rolls her eyes.

JENNA  
You bring the cell phone?

JAXSON  
You owe me big for this one. I have to  
tutor Big Beulah for a week. She smells  
like rubber tires and Obsession, for men.

JENNA  
Suck it up Warmjoy. It's all for a good  
cause.

The trio pop up, peak over the car to check if coast is  
clear.

Then run out of the lot and down the street.

24

INT. DORCHESTER GRILL - LATER

24

The trio sit at table.

The Waitress walks over.

WAITRESS  
No school today?

The trio freezes.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)  
It's cool I'm not gonna like call  
somebody. Unless you don't have money.

Jenna and Jaxson look at each other.

JENNA  
Well...

BUBBA  
I got money.

Bubba pulls out a wad of BILLS.

Jaxson is amazed.

JENNA  
Glad to have you aboard brah.

They knock fists.

BUBBA  
Can you give us a few moments to look at the menu.

WAITRESS  
Anything you say big spender.

JAXSON  
Where did you get all that money from?

BUBBA  
Bribe money. My mom's boyfriends. She only dates bankers.

A beat.

JAXSON  
Okay. Well then I'll have the burger and fries. With the triple chocolate shake. And...

JENNA  
We are not here to eat.

BUBBA  
It's cool. I'll pay for it.

JENNA  
We have to call the hotel room.

A beat.

JENNA (CONT'D)  
Did you bring the script?

JAXSON  
Are we gonna be back in time to take my trig exam?

JENNA  
What do you think?

JAXSON  
I hate trig anyway.

JENNA  
You got an A in it, that's not hate. Okay  
let me hear it.

JAXSON  
Eh em.

Jaxson tries to change his voice.

JAXSON (CONT'D)  
This is Mrs. Warmjoy's assistant. She  
can't meet today at her office. She has a  
meeting with her coach.

JENNA  
What sport does mom play? Kick ball? You  
turd.

JAXSON  
Don't call me that!

JENNA  
Besides you sound like Ann Nicole Smith.  
"Trim-spa Baby."

JAXSON  
Well you do it then.

BUBBA  
Let's ask the waitress to do it.

25 INT. DORCHESTER GRILL - LATER

25

The Waitress sits at the table with them.

WAITRESS  
...for twenty bucks you just want me to  
leave this message?

JENNA  
Yeah. That's it.

WAITRESS  
Should I use an accent or something.

JAXSON  
No, your accent is fine.

Waitress dials the CELL PHONE.

WAITRESS  
It's ringing.

A beat.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)  
 (Into phone)  
 Room 222. I don't know.

A beat.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)  
 What's his last name?

The trio shrug.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)  
 (Into phone)  
 I don't know his last name. When I met  
 him the club last night he didn't his  
 last name. He just said to call him. Why  
 you acting like he's your man or  
 something...

The trio share a look of concern.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)  
 She's transferring me.

The trio smile.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)  
 (Into phone)  
 Hello?

A beat.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)  
 It's him!

The trio scramble for script.

JENNA  
 Here read it.

WAITRESS  
 Oh. Hi. I am. The assistant of Mrs.  
 Warmjoy. She wants you to meet her at the  
 Grill Restaurant today at three o'clock  
 instead of the office, she is very busy  
 because she was hanging at the club last  
 night.

Jaxson grabs the phone.

JAXSON  
 Stick to the script. Twenty bucks?

Waitress nods.

WAITRESS  
 Um. You still there? Oh and wear a red  
 carnation if you are cute.

Waitress hangs up.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)  
How was that? I added the red flower  
thing, nice touch huh?

JENNA  
Great. Thanks.

WAITRESS  
That was fun, you got more calls to make?

26 INT. DORCHESTER GRILL - LATER 26

The trio are stuffed, empty plates sit in front of them.  
Waitress walks over.

WAITRESS  
Still no show huh? I can call again.

JAXSON  
That's okay.

WAITRESS  
Suit yourself.

Waitress starts to clear PLATES from the table.  
Just then a MAN enters, he takes off his SUNGLASSES.  
TRIOS POV:

We can see him from the back.  
He walks to the HOSTESS and asks her a question.  
He checks his watch.

INSERT:

CLOSE UP of clock it's 4:00 p.m.

We see Man ask if he can walk around the restaurant to see  
if someone is waiting for him.

He walks toward the trio, they duck under the table.

27 INT. DORCHESTER GRILL - HOSTESS STAND 27

MAN  
Thanks, I don't see her.

HOSTESS  
I guess you're in trouble.

MAN  
You don't know the half of it.

The Man walks toward the door.

28 INT. DORCHESTER GRILL - TABLE 28

Bubba peaks over the table.

BUBBA  
Hey he's leaving!

The trio run out the door.

The Hostess sees them and runs after them.

29 EXT. DORCHESTER GRILL - PARKING LOT 29

Man walks toward his TAXI.

MAN  
Thanks for waiting probably didn't even  
show up.

The trio runs toward the Man.

The Hostess runs behind the trio.

HOSTESS  
Ah, no you don't you hooligans! Now I am  
going to call your parents.

JAXSON  
We think this guy was at our house.

Just then the Man turns around.

HOSTESS  
This band of thieves say they know you.

MAN  
I was here to meet my daughter.

HOSTESS  
Alright back inside Bonnie and Clyde  
and...Clyde.

The trio are lead to back into the restaurant.

The Man gets walks back to his Taxi.

Jenna breaks free, does an end around the Hostess.

JENNA  
Let's go!

JAXSON  
Jenna, Bubba has money.

The Man stops in his tracks.

He turns.

MAN  
Jennavese Marcella Warmjoy?

Jenna freezes.

JAXSON  
How do you know my sister's name?

MAN  
You must be Jaxson Luther.

WAITRESS  
You know these check dodgers?

MAN  
Yes. They are my grandchildren.

FREEZE FRAME

NARRATOR  
If you have just joined us. Jenna and Jaxson have dragged their friend Bubba along to meet their mother's boyfriend. Who turns out to be their grandfather? Is that right. What's your script say. Yeah I am reading from the final draft. I thought I was narrating one of those Star Wars prequels. Luke I am your father...

ACTION

The Man walks toward Jenna, Jaxson steps in front of his sister, Bubba joins him.

JAXSON  
Step back Jenna. We don't know this guy.

MAN  
What's your name?

BUBBA  
Don't worry about that.

MAN  
Don't be afraid I'm not going to hurt you.

WAITRESS  
I love a family reunion as much as the next chick, but who is going to pay this fifty dollar check?

BUBBA  
Fifty dollars? We gave you twenty.

MAN  
I'll pay the check.

JAXSON  
No that's okay my mom will take care of  
it.

Jenna nudges Jaxson.

JENNA  
How the heck we gonna explain all of  
this??

A long beat.

MAN  
How is your mom, Kim?

JENNA  
Mom hasn't mentioned you.

MAN  
Does she still have that bible with the  
drawing of an angel in side?

JAXSON  
Yeah.

MAN  
I gave that to her on her first birthday.

JENNA  
She gave it to me. She said someone  
special gave it to her.

30 INT. DORCHESTER GRILL - TABLE - LATER

30

Jenna, Jaxson, Bubba and the man sit at a table laughing  
and talking.

NARRATOR  
The guy actually turned out to be their  
grandfather. Jaxson Whitcomb. He lost  
contact with their mom when she moved to  
Haiti to run a clinic with their Dad.  
Grandpa Whitcomb explained that his anger  
got the best of him. Kimberly had always  
been independent, but he was worried that  
the work was too dangerous for a woman  
with children to live in Haiti. Grandpa  
Whitcomb told his daughter if she went  
he'd never talk to her again. And Grandpa  
didn't know that their dad, Warren had  
died six years ago. The news made him  
very sad.

JENNA  
...yeah, how did you find us?

GRANDPA WHITCOMB  
I drive a tractor trailer and I saw Kim's  
campaign commercial at a truck stop in  
Worcester.

JAXSON  
A tractor trailer!?! Cool!

GRANDPA WHITCOMB  
Sure do, I own my own rig.

BUBBA  
Can we ride in it?

GRANDPA WHITCOMB  
Sure you can Bubba, long as it's okay  
with your mom.

JENNA  
I know this seems silly, but we thought  
the notes were from a new boyfriend that  
mom was hiding from us.

GRANDPA WHITCOMB  
The wedding picture must have really been  
confusing.

JAXSON  
That was you and grandma?

GRANDPA WHITCOMB  
Genevise Kimberly Whitcomb.

JENNA  
Mom never says, but how did she die?

GRANDPA WHITCOMB  
It was many, many years ago. Your momma  
was just a baby. Was just me and her from  
the start. She's stubborn, just like her  
momma...She loved your dad so much. I was  
a little sore about that. He was taking  
my baby girl.

He smiles to himself.

GRANDPA WHITCOMB (CONT'D)  
Your momma...doesn't know I've been  
trying to see her?

JENNA  
No. I'm sorry grandpa. I feel awful--

GRANDPA WHITCOMB  
No matter, I got to see you both again  
and meet your friend. That's enough.

JAXSON  
There's no way we can explain meeting you  
with out getting into trouble. Mom always  
knows when we're lying.

GRANDPA WHITCOMB  
She get's that from your grandma can spot  
a lie, a mile away. I'm headed out Sunday  
for Texas.

(MORE)

GRANDPA WHITCOMB (CONT'D)  
 I'll be back in about a month and I'll  
 send another note...but this time let  
 your momma open it.

The trio smile in agreement.

Jenna twists her mouth to the side.

JAXSON  
 What?

JENNA  
 Shhhh...I am trying to think.

JAXSON  
 Oh, that's why you have that painful look  
 on your face.

JENNA  
 Funny ha-ha.

BUBBA  
 It is your birthday tomorrow. Maybe he  
 can come to the party?

31 INT. 818 PRENTISS LANE - SATURDAY - AFTERNOON

31

The house is DECORATED for a party. KIDS from school mill  
 around, chatting.

Mrs. Warmjoy walks around refilling SNACK BOWLS, she has  
 a cordless phone cradled under her neck.

MRS. WARMJOY  
 Hi Kathy. Yup. Yeah I got your message  
 thanks for leaving your home number. Did  
 you need to talk to Jenna? Oh? Really,  
 humm? But they signed in at home room? I  
 didn't write a note... Thanks. I'll see  
 you on Monday. Oh, no bother, I wanna be  
 there.

Mrs. Warmjoy searches and finds Jenna chatting with her  
 THREE GIRLFRIENDS, she hugs Jenna close.

Jenna senses trouble.

MRS. WARMJOY (CONT'D)  
 Hi Jayla, Kayla and Amber

GIRLS IN UNISON  
 Hi Mrs. Warmjoy.

MRS. WARMJOY  
 Can I borrow Jenna for a second.

Mrs. Warmjoy, takes Jenna to the kitchen.

MRS. WARMJOY (CONT'D)  
 Trig exam, cutting school, a forged note  
 and I haven't forgotten about Claribel's  
 flowers? Anything sound familiar?

Jenna is about to speak when the phone RINGS and Several  
 GIRLS come screaming into the kitchen.

GIRLS IN UNISON  
 Billy Pope is here. Billy is at your  
 party!! Auggggg!

The Girls swarm Jenna giggling and screaming.

Mrs. Warmjoy gives her the look.

Jenna shrugs.

Mrs. Warmjoy mouths: "Later young lady."

MRS. WARMJOY  
 Hello? Hi. Thank you. I know I can't  
 believe it myself. Thirteen, yup.

32

INT. 818 PRENTISS - DINNER TABLE - LATER

32

A BIRTHDAY CAKE with GIFTS fill the table.

PARTY GUEST stand around,, ready to sing "Happy  
 Birthday."

Mrs. Warmjoy and Claribel look on.

JAXSON  
 Before we sing happy birthday to me and  
 my sister. I'd like to say that I really  
 appreciate you all coming. Thank you  
 Claribel for another great party. You  
 have known us since we were born. Also to  
 another person who has know us since we  
 were born our mom.

The room laughs.

JAXSON (CONT'D)  
 It's been hard since Dad died, and I see  
 Mom that you are working hard to become  
 the next Senator. And be our mom. You  
 tell us to be honest. You tell us all the  
 time to love your family and that family  
 is important. And me and Jenna don't  
 always listen. But after this week we  
 realize why you have worked so hard to  
 make us close.

A long beat.

JAXSON (CONT'D)  
 Surprise mom.

Jenna walks in with Grandpa Whitcomb.

Mrs. Warmjoy is speechless.

FREEZE FRAME

NARRATOR

Are you thinking what I am thinking?  
Jenna and Jaxson are some brave souls.  
They are gonna risk getting into a heap-  
pah of trouble to reunite their mom and  
grandfather. But Mrs. Warmjoy doesn't  
look to happy. Let's see how this goes  
down. Press play.

ACTION

A very long beat.

Mrs. Warmjoy does not move.

The Party Guests stare between Mrs. Warmjoy and Grandpa  
Whitcomb confused.

They start to whisper AD LIB.

JENNA

It's Grandpa Whit--

MRS. WARMJOY

I know who it is Jenna.

GRANDPA WHITCOMB

Maybe this was a bad idea. I'll go so you  
can enjoy the rest of your party.

Grandpa Whitcomb walks out the front door.

Jenna starts to cry.

Jaxson runs to the door.

JAXSON

I still wanna take that ride!

Jaxson closes the door.

Jenna through tears.

JENNA

The party is over. Thank you for coming.

The party goers grab their things and begin to leave.

Mrs. Warmjoy sits at the table, her head in her hands.

Jaxson walks over to her.

JAXSON

She hugs him.

MRS. WARMJOY  
I never expected that you rascal.

JAXSON  
I'm sorry we didn't mean to hurt you. I thought if I ever had a chance too see dad again. No matter what it cost. I'd want to see him. I don't got a chance like this mom.

A beat.

Mrs. Warmjoy hugs her son, wipes tears and races for the door.

33 EXT. SIDE WALK 33

Grandpa Whitcomb opens the TAXI door.

34 INT./EXT. 818 PRENTISS - FRONT DOOR 34

MRS. WARMJOY  
Daddy!

Grandpa Whitcomb stops short.

35 EXT. SIDE WALK 35

Mrs. Warmjoy runs into his arms.

He bear hugs her, lifting her off her feet.

The party-goers applaud.

36 EXT. SIDE WALK - MOMENTS LATER 36

Mrs. Warmjoy and Grandpa Whitcomb walk toward the house.

37 INT./EXT. DOORWAY 37

Claribel with Jenna and Jaxson under each arm smile from ear to ear.

CLARIBEL  
Good to see jew again Mr. Whitcomb. Come in I'll find something for you to eat.

Claribel leads Grandpa Whitcomb inside.

Jenna and Jaxson sandwich their mom.

38

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

38

GRANDPA WHITCOMB

Well thank you for dinner. I should get going.

JENNA

Ah grandpa stay just a little longer.

MRS. WARMJOY

Yeah Dad.

GRANDPA WHITCOMB

You sure?

CLARIBEL

I can set up the guest room.

MRS. WARMJOY

Good idea. We have a lot of catching up to do.

GRANDPA WHITCOMB

Kimmy I am so sorry that I...

MRS. WARMJOY

It's in the past Dad. Please it's a happy day. My babies turned thirteen. I get the surprise of my life. My cell phone hasn't rang in like five hours. Wait. Where is my phone?

Jenna avoids eye contact.

JAXSON

Mom. We didn't sing happy birthday?

MRS. WARMJOY

That's right, huh?

The group walks to the table.

Claribel lights the CANDLES.

The group sings.

Jenna pulls Jaxson close, she kisses him on the cheek.

JENNA

Happy birthday Jax.

Jaxson smiles.

Grandpa Whitcomb kisses his daughter on the forehead.

The pair blow out the candles.

They cut the cake, eat and talk.

DOLLY BACK SLOW

NARRATOR

Grandpa Whitcomb pasted his daughter's campaign poster on the side of his rig, he campaigned from Florida to Seattle and he even got other truckers to join him. At the end of Senator Kimberly Warmjoy's term in office, Jenna's allowance will kick back in...and she'll be off punishment just in time to attend senior prom. Well, there you have it. Jenna and Jaxson Warmjoy learned why their mom never wanted them to fight...

FADE OUT