

Merry Freaking Christmas  
an original screenplay by  
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FADE IN:

INT. TV STUDIO - DAY

On a sound stage, a TV commercial is being filmed. A mother and her eight-year-old daughter are having a touching moment in the kitchen. The director and crew are just off stage.

MOM

I'm so proud of you, sweetheart.

DAUGHTER

I love you so much, mommy.

The mom goes to the freezer and pulls out an ice cream bar.

MOM

I think you've earned a Gordon's ice cream bar.

The mom hands the excited girl the ice cream bar. The girl takes a bite of it.

DAUGHTER

Yummy! You're the best, mom!

MOM

No, Gordon's is!

The daughter takes another bite.

DAUGHTER

You're a close second though.

The mom and the girl laugh and then hug.

DIRECTOR

Cut!

The mid thirties actress, LISA WRIGHT, storms over to the director. The young actress is right on her tail.

LISA

I can't work with this ki-

YOUNG ACTRESS

-I can't work with this lady!

LISA

What the fuck?

The director gets between the two.

YOUNG ACTRESS

Bad word! Bad word!

LISA  
I know a lot more of them, you little  
brat.

DIRECTOR  
Everybody relax.

YOUNG ACTRESS  
See what I'm saying! She's dead  
behind the eyes!

Lisa takes a cigarette out of her pocket and lights it.

DIRECTOR  
There's no smoking on the set, Lisa.

YOUNG ACTRESS  
My asthma is getting bad.

The girl starts wheezing.

LISA  
She's faking.

YOUNG ACTRESS  
No, I'm acting. Maybe you should  
try it some time?

Lisa gives the little girl the finger.

YOUNG ACTRESS (CONT'D)  
Obscene gesture! Obscene gesture!

DIRECTOR  
Everybody relax.

LISA  
Let me tell you something little  
lady. Twenty years from now you're  
gonna be a washed up kid actor with  
a drug problem.

YOUNG ACTRESS  
And you're going to be dead from old  
age.

LISA  
I'm not that old.

YOUNG ACTRESS  
Why all the Botox then?

LISA  
I don't use Botox.

YOUNG ACTRESS  
Why can't you smile then?

Lisa puts out her cigarette on the floor.

LISA  
Because I'm never happy!

YOUNG ACTRESS  
You need a shrink.

LISA  
I hate kid actors.

YOUNG ACTRESS  
That's good because we hate you.

Lisa turns to the director.

LISA  
I should be making movies not  
commercials with two bit directors  
and asthmatic five-year-olds.

DIRECTOR  
Okay, then, you're fired!

The crew claps.

YOUNG ACTRESS  
Ding dong the witch is dead.

DIRECTOR  
Nice Wizard of Oz reference.

The director high fives the girl.

LISA  
Here's one from Die Hard. Yippie  
kayey mother fuckers!

YOUNG ACTRESS  
That makes no sense.

Lisa storms off the set.

The director gets another ice cream bar and hands it to the girl.

DIRECTOR  
Here, you earned it.

The girl hands it back to the director.

YOUNG ACTRESS  
I hate these fucking things!

INT. LISA'S AGENT'S OFFICE - DAY

Lisa sits down as her agent, JIMMY DYKES, combs his slicked back hair.

LISA  
You look like a weasel.

JIMMY  
You look like an aging unemployed actress.

LISA  
That's because my agent sucks.

JIMMY  
None of my other clients are complaining.

LISA  
That's because they can't read or write.

Jimmy puts his comb in his desk and looks in a hand mirror.

JIMMY  
Pat Riley, eat your heart out.

LISA  
He would, if it were 1986.

Jimmy puts his feet up on his desk.

JIMMY  
I have good news.

LISA  
Are you dying?

JIMMY  
That wouldn't be good news.

LISA  
Depends who you are.

Lisa flashes a wicked grin.

JIMMY  
I may have gotten you an audition for the lead in a blockbuster Christmas movie!

LISA  
Awesome! I'm perfect for a  
heartwarming Christmas movie. What's  
it called?

JIMMY  
I hate Christmas.

LISA  
Wow, I really am perfect for the  
role.

JIMMY  
You're perfect for the first two-  
thirds of the movie. The last part,  
not so much.

LISA  
Great, let me guess, there's a kid  
and a happy ending?

JIMMY  
Yes.

LISA  
Who the hell wants to see a Christmas  
movie with a kid and a happy ending?

JIMMY  
Everybody.

Lisa leans back in her chair and tries to put her legs up on  
Jimmy's desk, too. She falls off her chair.

LISA  
Shit!

JIMMY  
Graceful as ever, I see.

Lisa sits back down.

LISA  
So when do I audition?

JIMMY  
Not so fast, Grace Kelly.

LISA  
What?

JIMMY  
The director is scared of your  
reputation.

LISA  
I'm America's sweetheart.

JIMMY  
You don't work well with kids.

LISA  
So not true.

JIMMY  
You once told a five-year-old actor  
that there was no Santa Claus.

LISA  
No, I didn't. I told the little  
bastard that Santa wasn't going to  
bring him any presents this year.

JIMMY  
Oh, that's much better.

LISA  
He stole my credit cards and bought  
ten thousand dollars worth of Legos  
on Amazon.

JIMMY  
There are some demands the Director  
has.

Lisa gets up and starts to leave.

LISA  
Nice seeing you.

JIMMY  
The role pays twenty million!

Lisa sits back down.

LISA  
I just turned over an accommodating  
new leaf.

JIMMY  
The audition is in a month.

LISA  
What do I have to do?

JIMMY  
There's a new program my nephew runs  
where you can adopt a foster kid for  
a month.

Lisa gets up again and starts to leave.

LISA

Never!

JIMMY

There's going to be a sequel every other year.

Lisa sits back down.

LISA

When do I meet my kid?

JIMMY

My nephew's a real sweet kid. He doesn't have a dishonest bone in his body.

LISA

The black sheep of your family.

JIMMY

Exactly. He would never let you temporarily adopt a kid if he knew you were just doing it to get a movie role.

LISA

Luckily, I'm a brilliant actress.

JIMMY

It'll be perfect. If you get the kid, you'll have him or her for the Christmas holiday.

LISA

Oh, joy to the freaking world.

JIMMY

I'll set up an appointment for you with my nephew.

EXT. KIDS PLACE ENTERTAINMENT - DAY

Lisa smokes a cigarette outside. Hundreds of kids are screaming and having fun inside.

LISA

I've already got a splitting headache.

Jimmy comes along.

JIMMY

What the hell are you doing?



LISA  
I'm playing tennis.

Jimmy grabs the cigarette out of Lisa's mouth, throws it on the ground, and steps on it.

JIMMY  
My nephew's inside there with your kid. If he sees you smoking, you're finished. You said you could quit. You smell like a chimney.

Lisa picks up the smashed cigarette and tries to smoke it.

LISA  
I can quit whenever I want. I'm just nervous. Why the hell did we have to meet at this place?

JIMMY  
It's a place where kid-loving people bring their kids to have fun.

Some little kids and their parents walk past Lisa and Jimmy on their way in. A little boy with snot running down his face looks at Lisa.

LISA  
The place is a germ factory.

JIMMY  
Relax, it's not that bad.

Lisa and Jimmy walk into the packed building. A little girl walks over to Lisa.

LITTLE GIRL  
Hi, lady.

LISA  
Don't you know you're not supposed to talk to strangers. Go away.

LITTLE GIRL  
Ok.

The little girl smiles at Lisa and throws up on her shoes.

LISA  
What the hell's wrong with you? These are Louie Vuitton's.

The little girl runs away crying.

JIMMY  
This is going well.

LISA  
They're five hundred dollar shoes.

JIMMY  
Look on the bright side. Now, you  
smell like puke instead of cigarette  
smoke.

LISA  
I'll never be able to sell them on  
Let Go now.

JIMMY  
Relax.

Jimmy takes out his handkerchief and wipes off Lisa's shoes.

LISA  
At least we finally found something  
you're good at.

JIMMY  
I think I see my nephew, John, over  
there.

Jimmy throws his handkerchief out. He and Lisa walk over to  
Jimmy's nephew, JOHN, a strait-laced guy who's sitting at a  
table with a cute little girl named LILY, a whip smart,  
sarcastic quick witted piece of work.

JOHN  
Uncle Jimmy, how great to see you!

JIMMY  
Nice to see you again, Bobby.

JOHN  
You mean John.

JIMMY  
Of course, I do. This is Lisa.

John shakes Lisa's hand.

JOHN  
And, Lisa, this adorable little girl  
is Lily.

Lily stands up.

LILY  
You smell like puke.

LISA  
You look like puke.

JOHN  
What?

JIMMY  
Just a little joke. Lisa loves to  
kid with kids.

Screaming kids go running by.

LISA  
Does anybody else smell burnt toast?

JOHN  
Why don't we all sit down?

Lily jumps on Lisa's lap and hugs her. Lisa raises her hands  
in the air like a cop just told her to put her hands up.

LILY  
What are those lines on your face?  
How old are you?

LISA  
How 'bout you sit in your own chair.

Lisa picks up Lily and plops her down on a chair.

JOHN  
As you can see, Lily isn't shy.

LILY  
Are you an actress?

LISA  
Yes!

LILY  
How come I've never heard of you?

LISA  
Because I'm not in Barney.

LILY  
Are you serious? I'm seven-years-  
old. I don't watch Barney anymore.

JIMMY  
I could have got her in that.

LISA  
See, it's his fault you never heard  
of me. I'm sure John has though.

JOHN

Can't say that I have. I don't really follow show business. It's so seedy and shallow, no offense.

LISA

Oh, boy, you're one of those.

JIMMY

I can't get enough of the sleaze!

JOHN

I'm sorry I shouldn't have said that.

LISA

Damn, right, you shouldn't have.

JOHN

Don't worry. I don't have to like you personally to give you a kid.

LISA

Finally, some good news.

A lady walks by dragging her two screaming kids.

LILY

Can we get back to me, people?

JOHN

Good idea.

LILY

I want to go play in the ball pit.

LISA

What are you telling me for?

LILY

You have to come over and watch me.

LISA

Why?

LILY

So I don't get kidnapped. Is this one for real?

JOHN

Just so you know, Lily has a vivid imagination.

LISA

Great.

LILY  
Haven't you people ever seen America's  
Most Wanted?

JIMMY  
Many of my clients have played murder  
victims on that show.

Lily grabs Lisa and pulls her off her chair.

LILY  
To the ball pits!

LISA  
It's a dream come true.

Lily and Lisa walk away.

JOHN  
Uncle Jimmy are you sure Lisa wants  
to be a foster parent for a month?  
She doesn't seem to like kids.

JIMMY  
Oh, that's just her gruff exterior.  
She loves kids, especially orphans.  
She was one herself so it's a cause  
near and dear to her heart.

JOHN  
Oh that's so nice. How come she  
didn't tell me?

JIMMY  
She doesn't like to talk about it.  
She'll even deny it if you asked.  
It's a repressed memory.

JOHN  
Ok, I won't say anything.

JIMMY  
You'll see, she's gonna be a great  
foster parent.

JOHN  
I'd love for Lily to have a great  
Christmas for once before she gets  
older.

JIMMY  
That seals the deal. Lisa is a  
Christmas freak! She loves it more  
than anybody I've ever met.

JOHN

I would have never guessed that.

JIMMY

It's another one of the things she doesn't like to talk about.

JOHN

Gotcha! I'm starting to like her more.

JIMMY

She's a lot more likeable when she's not around.

INT. KIDS PLACE ENTERTAINMENT BALL PIT. - CONTINUOUS

Lily and Lisa walk up to the ball pit, which is filled with screaming kids.

LILY

Don't you just love it here?

LISA

I think this is what Vietnam must have been like.

A little girl runs into Lisa.

LISA (CONT'D)

Watch where you're going!

The girl wipes snot away from her nose with her right hand and extends it to Lisa.

LITTLE GIRL

I'm sorry, lady.

LISA

Yeah, I'm not touching you Typhoid Mary.

LITTLE GIRL

I like you. You look like my grandma.

LISA

Get the fuck out of here!

The girl runs off.

LILY

That seemed a little harsh.

LISA

I'm thirty-five.

LILY  
Wow, I didn't know it was that bad.

LISA  
Go jump in the God damn balls.

LILY  
You're a piece of work.

LISA  
So are you.

Lily jumps into the ball pit. A little boy comes up to Lisa.

LITTLE BOY  
I don't feel good.

LISA  
I don't care.

The boy throws up on Lisa's shoes.

LISA (CONT'D)  
I'm burning these things when I get home.

INT. KIDS PLACE ENTERTAINMENT - CONTINUOUS

Lisa comes back from the ball pit with a girl.

JOHN  
Who's this?

LISA  
The kid.

JIMMY  
Boy, how fast kids change these days.

JOHN  
That's not Lily.

LISA  
I'm pretty sure it is.

Lily comes walking over.

LILY  
You might want to invest in some glasses, grandma.

A panicked mother comes over to the table.

MOTHER  
What are you doing with my child?

She grabs her kid.

JOHN

Sorry, ma'am. Just a little mix up.

LILY

This is not a kidnapping. She's an actress.

MOTHER

Oh, I understand.

LISA

What the hell does that mean?

The lady walks away with her kid. Lily and Lisa sit down.

JIMMY

You two look like you're getting along just fine.

LILY

She doesn't even know what I look like.

LISA

They all look the same to me.

LILY

That's racist.

LISA

You're white. Now, who doesn't know what she looks like.

JOHN

You two might actually be perfect for each other. What do you think Lily?

LILY

I'm an orphan who doesn't have any toys. What are you going to do about that?

LISA

I'm not an ATM machine.

JIMMY

She'll buy you lots of toys. Just wait till Christmas comes!

LISA

Yes, I will buy you toys.



Lily jumps up onto Lisa's lap and wipes away snot on the back of her hand and hugs Lisa.

LILY  
I love you, mommy.

LISA  
I hope you can get hand sanitizer in bulk.

JOHN  
I'll go over your application with my colleagues.

JIMMY  
Fantastic!

LISA  
When will I know if I get the little angel?

JOHN  
In two days come to my office and we'll make our decision.

LISA  
Great, are we done here? I need to go for a smoke.

Lisa gets up from the table.

JOHN  
You smoke? That's a deal breaker.

JIMMY  
She smokes meats not cigarettes.  
You know ribs, pork, brisket.

LISA  
Yes, I'm from Memphis. I won a couple of competitions.

LILY  
You're so weird.

INT. JOHNS OFFICE - DAY

Lisa comes with Jimmy to John's office.

JOHN  
Have a seat, guys.

JIMMY  
Thank you, Bobby.

Lisa and Jimmy sit down.

JOHN  
It's John, Uncle Jimmy.

LISA  
Don't feel bad; he sometimes calls  
me "Bobby," too.

JOHN  
So, we have made a decision.

JIMMY  
Lisa's so excited--right, Lisa

Jimmy elbows Lisa.

LISA  
Yes, I haven't been this excited  
since yesterday.

JOHN  
I have a few reservations.

LISA  
Bull shit!

JOHN  
Swearing in front of Lily would be  
one.

LISA  
Are you fucking kidding me.

JIMMY  
She doesn't swear much.

LISA  
Hardly fucking ever.

Jimmy wipes sweat from his forehead.

JOHN  
Also, and, I mean no offense, you  
are an actress.

LISA  
So?

JIMMY  
She's barely an actress. She's not  
even that good.

LISA  
What's wrong with being an actress?

JOHN

Nothing per say. I just don't like  
you're line of work. It's so sleazy.

LISA

Don't worry I don't hang out with  
Lindsay Lohan anymore.

JOHN

I didn't mean to offend you.

LISA

I don't mean to offend you but you're  
kind of an obnoxious goody two shoes.

JOHN

If I give you Lily, I will have to  
make unannounced visits to your house.

LISA

I'll make sure I don't leave my crack  
out then.

JIMMY

Can't even count how many times  
Charlie Sheen said that to me!

JOHN

I deserved that. Here's what I'm  
thinking. How 'bout we try a one  
week trial period.

LISA

I like it!

JIMMY

But, she'd prefer three.

LISA

Shut up!

JOHN

Tomorrow's the first of December.  
You could have Lily for Christmas.  
I know how big a Christmas fanatic  
you are.

LISA

What? I kinda like the first half  
of the Grinch movie.

Jimmy kicks Lisa in the leg.

JIMMY

Don't be ashamed, Lisa. I told him  
how much you love Christmas.

LISA

Oh, yeah. I love the baby Jesus.

John takes some papers out of his desk drawer.

JOHN

I'm gonna take a gamble on you.

LISA

Great, I love to gamble.

JOHN

Look over these papers, and then if  
everything is satisfactory, you can  
sign on the bottom.

Lisa grabs the papers and signs them without looking at them.

JOHN (CONT'D)

You didn't read them.

LISA

I agree to everything. I'm easy,  
plus I need to get home I've got a  
pig to smoke.

JOHN

Congratulations! You have Lily for  
a month.

LISA

Who?

JOHN

Lily, the seven year old girl you  
just agreed to be a foster parent  
for.

LISA

Oh, yeah, I forgot all about her.

JIMMY

She's always joking around.

JOHN

I'm going out on a limb for you.

LISA

I won't let you down.

JOHN

Ok.

JIMMY

I love you, Bobby.

INT. JOHN'S OFFICE - DAY

Lisa comes waltzing in. Lily is there with three suitcases.

JOHN

You're two hours late!

LISA

I'm an actress, that's being early for me.

LILY

I'm hungry. My little bones are weak.

LISA

Does she really need three suitcases full of stuff for one month?

LILY

I have an extensive wardrobe.

JOHN

And, like a hundred stuffed animals.

Lily tries to pick up a suitcase but it's too heavy.

LILY

I'm feeling faint. I think I might be having the big one.

JOHN

Her favorite show is Sanford and Son.

LISA

So, can we go?

LILY

To the toy store?

JOHN

Yes, you're all set.

Lisa picks up a suitcase. John gets another.

LISA

You can carry the other little one.

Lily puts out her hand like a claw.

LILY  
Not with my arthritis!

LISA  
Great, I have a six-year-old Fred G.  
Sanford moving in with me.

Lisa grabs the other suitcase and struggles to the car.  
John and Lily follow.

LILY  
This car sucks. I thought you were  
a successful actress.

LISA  
Things have been slow lately. That's  
why I need you.

JOHN  
What do you mean?

LISA  
Um...I just mean I have tons of free  
time for Lily because-

LILY  
-Your career is in the crapper.

LISA  
Exactly.

John and Lisa put Lily's suitcases in the trunk. John buckles  
Lily into the back seat and gives her a fist bump.

JOHN  
Have a great month!

LILY  
I already miss you.

John pats Lily on the head.

JOHN  
Don't worry I'll be checking in on  
you guys all the time.

LISA  
You really don't have to. We'll be  
fine.

JOHN  
Sorry, that's the rules. Maybe you'll  
even come to like my visits?

LISA  
Don't flatter yourself.

LILY  
I can't remember what food tastes  
like.

LISA  
I guess we better get going.

Lisa gets in the car.

JOHN  
Bye!

Lisa and Lily drive off.

EXT. NOTHING BUT GREEN'S RESTAURANT PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

Lisa and Lily get out of the car.

LILY  
This isn't In And Out Burger.

LISA  
It's healthy food. I'm very health  
conscious.

Lisa lights a cigarette.

LILY  
You're not supposed to do that.  
John wouldn't like that.

LISA  
He's not going to find out about it.  
It's the last one I'll have anyway.

Lily coughs.

LILY  
My asthma is starting to flare up.

LISA  
Oh, for Christ's sake.

Lisa throw the cigarette on the ground and steps on it.

LISA (CONT'D)  
Happy, now?

Lisa drags Lily into the restaurant.

INT. NOTHING BUT GREENS RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

Lisa and Lily go up to the counter to order. A worker waits on them.

LISA  
Lucky it's not crowded.

LILY  
I guess seaweed isn't too popular  
for lunch.

LISA  
Quit complaining. What do you want?

LILY  
A bacon cheeseburger.

WORKER  
I'd kill for one of those right now.

LISA  
We'll have two number sevens.

WORKER  
Cheese fries would hit the spot,  
too.

LILY  
I think you're drooling, lady.

WORKER  
Top it off with a milk shake.

LISA  
You're not helping.

WORKER  
I'm sorry. I can't eat another celery  
stick for lunch.

The lady takes off her apron and heads to the door.

LISA  
Where are you going?

WORKER  
Five Guys.

LILY  
Can I come?

The lady leaves. Lisa and Lily get their order and sit down.  
Lisa hands Lily her lunch.



LISA  
You're gonna love this.

LILY  
It looks like somebody's lawn.

Lisa starts to eat.

LISA  
See, delicious. Try it.

Lily takes a big fork full of her lunch and puts it in her mouth.

LISA (CONT'D)  
See, I told you.

Lily chews and chews before she gives up and lets all the chewed up food fall out of her mouth back onto her plate.

LILY  
It needs ketchup.

LISA  
That's disgusting.

LILY  
That's why I spit it out.

LISA  
Stop being a baby.

LILY  
I'm seven. I want a Happy Meal.

LISA  
Grow up.

LILY  
I would if I could get some real food to eat.

EXT. LISA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Lisa unlocks the door, and she and Lily walk inside.

INT. LISA'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

LISA  
How do you like it?

LILY  
This is the biggest closet I've ever been in.

LISA  
It's my apartment.

Lily wanders into the bedroom.

LILY  
Is this my room?

Lisa points to the couch in the middle of the apartment.

LISA  
No, it's mine. You get the couch in  
the living room.

LILY  
This sucks.

LISA  
Life sucks. Get used to it. I gotta  
have a smoke. I'll be on the balcony.

Lisa slides open the door, goes out on the balcony and starts  
to smoke. Lily comes over to the door.

LILY  
You're not supposed to do that.

LISA  
I don't care.

LILY  
You eat weeds for lunch and then  
smoke cigarettes after. My skull  
hasn't completely hardened, yet, and  
even I know that's stupid.

LISA  
Did you ever think they cancel each  
other out?

LILY  
No, I'm not a dummy, like you, dummy.

LISA  
I am not gonna be Lamont!

LILY  
Yeah, your mustache isn't as thick  
as his. Plus, I've seen some of  
your work. You don't have the range  
to play Lamont. You're an Aunt Esther  
at best.

Lisa puts her hand over her upper lip.

LISA  
Just go away and let me be.

LILY  
I'm gonna tell on you.

LISA  
You want to be a snitch.

LILY  
I'm not getting emphysema from your  
second hand smoke.

LISA  
That's why I'm smoking on the deck.

LILY  
I can still feel it in my lungs.

Lily fakes coughing.

LISA  
If you tell John, he'll take you  
back.

LILY  
That would be the best thing to ever  
happen to me.

Lily closes the sliding door and locks it.

LISA  
You open this door right now.

LILY  
Why do you even want me?

LISA  
I don't want you. I just need you.

LILY  
For what?

LISA  
So I can get the part of a lifetime.

LILY  
What?

Lisa bangs on the glass.

LISA  
If I spend a month learning how to  
deal with you, they'll give me the  
(MORE)

LISA (CONT'D)  
part I've always wanted and I'll be  
crazy rich. Now, open the door.

LILY  
You suck. I'm telling John.

LISA  
You can't.

LILY  
What's it worth to you?

LISA  
Are you trying to bribe me?

LILY  
I'm going to go over to the phone.

Lily walks over to the phone and picks it up.

LISA  
What do you want?

LILY  
The bedroom's mine.

LISA  
Fine. Now, let me in.

LILY  
I want real food three times a day.

LISA  
Okay, now put the phone down.

Lily puts the phone down and walks back to the door.

LILY  
I'm still waiting on the new toys,  
too.

LISA  
The bedroom, all the junk food you  
can shove down your throat, and new  
toys. I get to smoke on the deck,  
too.

LILY  
Deal!

LISA  
Not a word to John about any of this!

Lily unlocks the glass sliding door. Lisa opens it.

LILY  
Get your crap out of my room.

Lisa puts out her cigarette and walks back inside.

LISA  
You'd make a good nazi.

INT. LISA'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Lisa takes the last of her stuff out of her room and dumps it by the couch. Lily takes all her stuff out of the suitcases and puts it in Lisa's room.

LISA  
Are you happy?

LILY  
For now.

LISA  
Great, now go to bed.

LILY  
It's three PM.

LISA  
I can't catch a break.

INT. LISA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Bags of toys and groceries are everywhere as Lily and Lisa eat dinner. Lily devours a bacon cheeseburger, fries and a milk shake. Lisa has kale and tofu and a green drink.

LILY  
This is so good. How's that rubber thing?

LISA  
It's just as good as your dinner.

Lily puts some fries in her mouth. Ketchup runs down her chin.

LILY  
These fries are amazing. I think they triple fry them. Want to try them?

Lisa gnaws on some tofu

LISA  
Shut up!

Lily takes a big sip of her milk shake.

LILY  
Oh, this shake is awesome. What's  
in that green thing you're drinking?

LISA  
Tons of delicious vegetables.

Lisa holds her nose as she takes a sip.

LILY  
I think I know why you're always in  
a bad mood.

LISA  
Really, Dr Freud.

LILY  
I think you're always hungry.

LISA  
No, I'm just a jerk.

LILY  
I know that. Everybody knows that,  
but I think you might be a hungry  
jerk, too, which is a deadly  
combination.

Lily takes the last bite of her hamburger.

LILY (CONT'D)  
That's what food must taste like in  
heaven.

Lisa holds her nose and downs the rest of her drink.

LISA  
What time does school start for you  
tomorrow?

LILY  
My school's off in December.

LISA  
What kind of school is off all  
December?

LILY  
Orphan school.

LISA  
You orphans are so lucky.

LILY  
That's what everybody says.

LISA  
Really?

LILY  
No.

LISA  
What am I supposed to do with you  
all day?

LILY  
Take care of me, feed me, and  
entertain me. Sometimes, I have  
accidents and you have to wipe my  
butt.

LISA  
I better get this part!

LILY  
We gotta go see Santa tomorrow at  
the mall.

LISA  
Why?

LILY  
So I can tell him all the things I  
want for Christmas. What planet are  
you from?

Lisa looks at the bags of new toys around her apartment.

LISA  
I just got you everything.

LILY  
That's just the cheap stuff. I know  
you can't afford the good toys because  
of the career being in the crapper  
thing.

LISA  
I need a cigarette. I'm going on  
the balcony.

Lisa starts to walk away.

LILY  
Enjoy the poison sticks.

LISA

I will!

LILY

You better because you're not gonna live that long, dummy.

LISA

Only thirty more days to go.

INT. SHOPPING MALL - DAY

Lisa and Lily are walking around. Lisa wears sunglasses and a baseball cap so nobody will recognize her.

LILY

Aren't you gonna hold my hand?

LISA

No.

LILY

But what if somebody tries to kidnap me?

LISA

Don't flatter yourself. Nobody wants to kidnap you.

LILY

What? You don't think I'm kidnap worthy?

LISA

No, you're a bacteria covered, snot producing machine with an attitude.

LILY

You're crazy! I'm very kidnapable.

LISA

In your dreams.

LILY

I'm a pretty, white girl. The whole country would be riveted by my kidnapping. The only thing that would be better than that would be if I fell down a well.

LISA

What an ego on you.

LILY

Time for Cinnabon.



Lily drags Lisa into Cinnabon.

INT. SHOPPING MALL - CONTINUOUS

Lily and Lisa come out of Cinnabon.

LILY

That hit the spot. How was that  
celery stick you brought with you?

LISA

I'll let you know when I'm done.  
Ninety percent of it is still stuck  
in my teeth.

LILY

Let's go in the toy store.

LISA

No, I bought you a ton of toys  
yesterday, and we're here for you to  
tell Santa what you want for  
Christmas, not buy you more crap.

LILY

I need to get my friends Christmas  
gifts.

LISA

I'm sure they have everything already.

LILY

They're orphans.

LISA

See, they have each other. That's  
the best gift of all.

LILY

I hope I don't slip and tell John  
about your whole scheme when he comes  
to visit.

LISA

We had a deal.

LILY

Consider this an addendum.

LISA

I've got the only seven year old  
orphan in the freaking world who  
knows what addendum means.

Lisa and Lily go in the Toy Store.

Lisa and Lily come out of the toy store with bags of toys.

LILY

This is a fantastic day. Now, let's go see Santa!

LISA

Great, let's have that fat bastard deal with you for a few minutes. I could use a break.'

Lily and Lisa go over to Santa wearing a purple hat. Santa ignores Lily and slobbers all over Lisa.

SANTA

My, oh my, aren't you a pretty young lady. Would you like to sit on Santa's lap?

LISA

I will kick you in your roasted chestnuts, Kris Kringle!

SANTA

Is that you, Lisa?

LISA

Mark?

SANTA

I always knew you'd come back to me.

LISA

I'm gonna kick your cheating ass!

Lisa puts down her bag and attacks Santa.

LILY

This is the most disappointing visit to Santa ever.

INT. LISA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Lisa sits down on the couch which is her bed now.

LISA

Crazy day. I'm exhausted.

LILY

It was nice of the mall policeman to let you off with only a warning.

LISA

Go to bed, it's ten o'clock.

Lily runs to the couch, sits down, and turns on the television before Lisa can lay down.

LILY  
Perfect timing.

LISA  
Go to bed! Nothing good's on.

LILY  
Babadada babadada.

LISA  
No, anything but Sanford and Son.

LILY  
Too late dummy.

LISA  
What did I do to deserve this, God.

They start to watch.

LILY  
This is one of the episodes when  
Fred is away, and Grady moves in  
with Lamont.

LISA  
Tough break, no Fred. Now, you can  
go to bed.

LILY  
Actually, these episodes are  
surprisingly good. I love Grady.

LISA  
Maybe Grady can come over and take  
over for me?

LILY  
His real name is Whitman Mayo, and  
he's dead. Way to bring a good time  
to a screeching halt.

LISA  
How do you know this stuff?

LILY  
Ever heard of the Internet, Grandma.  
It's where they have pictures of you  
kissing Big Foot.

LISA  
You say one bad thing in TV Guide  
about the Pacific Northwest.

LILY  
Quiet, I'm trying to watch.

Lisa balls up into the fetal position.

INT. LISA'S AGENT'S OFFICE - DAY

Lisa and Lily sit down with Jimmy.

JIMMY  
Glad to see the kid is still alive.

LILY  
I'm pretty happy about that myself.

Lisa squirms in her chair.

LISA  
My back is killing me from that stupid  
couch.

JIMMY  
You have never looked older.

LILY  
Oh, you should have seen her  
yesterday. It was much worse.

JIMMY  
Why are you sleeping on the couch?

LISA  
She knows. She's an up-and-,coming  
extortionist

JIMMY  
What?

LILY  
I know about your scheme, Mr. Magoo.

LISA  
I give her my room, ten thousand  
dollars worth of toys, and all the  
food she can shove down her gullet,  
which is an amazing amount by the  
way, and she doesn't tell your nephew.

LILY  
Thank you. Kobiashi is my hero.

JIMMY

Has my beloved nephew, what's his name, come for a visit yet?

LISA

No, that's the only thing that has gone right so far.

LILY

She's still smoking, and she's hitting the Ripple pretty hard, too.

LISA

One glass of wine a day is healthy.

LILY

She beat the crap out of Santa.

JIMMY

I have to say, you're doing better than I thought you would do.

LILY

Are you wacky on the junk?

LISA

Isn't she delightful?

Jimmy pulls out two scripts from his desk.

JIMMY

It'll all be worth it when you get this part.

Jimmy hands Lisa one of the scripts.

LISA

Great, I need to learn my lines before the big audition.

JIMMY

Can she, R-E-A-D?

LILY

Y-ES, she can.

Jimmy hands Lily the other script.

JIMMY

She can read the part of the little girl. You guys can rehearse together.

LILY

What's in it for me?

LISA  
What do you want now?

LILY  
The biggest Christmas tree they have  
for sale and twenty bucks from Jerry  
Maguire over there.

LISA  
I'm allergic to pine needles.

LILY  
Suck it up. I'm allergic to your  
smoke.

LISA  
I smoke outside.

LILY  
You smell like a chimney. It makes  
me want to puke.

LISA  
Fine! Pay her.

Jimmy gets his wallet and takes out a bill.

JIMMY  
I only have a fifty.

LILY  
That'll do just fine.

Jimmy hands Lily the money.

LISA  
She's already made more money than  
me this month.

LILY  
I'm bored, let's go Christmas Tree  
shopping!

INT. LISA'S APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Lisa and Lily and a man from the Christmas tree shop drag a  
huge tree into Lisa's apartment. It barely fits through the  
door. Lisa sneezes multiple times.

LISA  
Are you happy now? There are two  
thousand year old Redwoods smaller  
than this one.

The man helps Lisa and Lily put the enormous tree in a stand and stands it up for them. It smooshes up against the ceiling.

LISA (CONT'D)  
Thank you for your help, sir.

TREE MAN  
My pleasure.

He holds out his hand.

LISA  
Oh, geeze, I don't have any cash on me.

LILY  
She's such an embarrassment.

Lily takes her fifty dollar bill out of her pocket and hands it to the man.

LILY (CONT'D)  
Merry Christmas, fine sir.

TREE MAN  
You are a little angel.

LISA  
I need a cigarette.

The tree man walks out of the apartment leaving the door open. Lisa goes out on the porch to smoke and Lily turns on the TV.

LISA (CONT'D)  
This day can't go much worse.

Lisa turns around and John is standing right in front of her. Lily is next to him. She throws the cigarette off the porch.

JOHN  
What the hell are you doing?

LISA  
I just found this old cigarette on the porch and was throwing it out because I don't smoke.

Smoke comes out of her mouth.

JOHN  
I should have never trusted you.  
I'll be taking Lily back now.

LILY  
But I love it here.

JOHN AND LISA  
What?

LILY  
You can't take me away. We're going  
to have the greatest Christmas ever.  
It was the only cigarette she smoked  
since I've been here.

LISA  
I was just a little stressed about  
Christmas. If you give me another  
chance it won't happen again. I  
promise.

LILY  
Look at the tree we got.

Lily grabs John by the hand and takes him over to the tree.

JOHN  
It's a beauty.

LISA  
It's a little smaller than I usually  
get, but it will do.

LILY  
Please give her another chance.

JOHN  
I'm going to come over every day to  
see if you're smoking.

LISA  
That's great. No problem. Can't  
wait to see you.

JOHN  
Ok, last chance.

LILY  
Yea!

LISA  
Thank you.

JOHN  
By the way, Lily, how's school going?

Lisa and Lily look at each other.



LILY  
It's going so great.

LISA  
It sure is.

JOHN  
Great. See you tomorrow.

John walks out of the apartment.

LISA  
Orphans don't have school in December!

LILY  
I just threw that at the wall and  
hoped it would stick. I didn't think  
you would be that stupid.

LISA  
Well, I am.

LILY  
You sure are. Now, go get me all  
your cigarettes so we can flush them  
down the toilet.

LISA  
I hate you.

INT. LISA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Lisa is asleep on the couch. Lily comes in and jumps on  
her.

LISA  
Earthquake!

Lisa pushes Lily off the couch.

LILY  
What happened to you since yesterday?

LISA  
Oh my God, I need a cigarette. I  
think I'm dying.

LILY  
I don't think you can die from  
quitting smoking.

LISA  
Go away and let me die in peace.

LILY  
Can I have all your stuff then?

LISA  
You're the devil, aren't you. I  
knew I shouldn't have stopped going  
to church. I'm sorry, God.

LILY  
I'm hungry; make me breakfast.

LISA  
Don't talk about food. My stomach  
can't handle it.

LILY  
Maybe you should have a glass of  
that green crap you're always  
drinking.

LISA  
I'm gonna puke.

Lisa runs to the bathroom and throws up.

LILY  
Okay, maybe not.

Lisa comes out of the bathroom a few minutes later.

LISA  
I can't make it. It's been twelve  
hours since I had my last cigarette.  
I didn't even go that long when I  
had my appendix out.

LILY  
You're probably too weak minded to  
quit. Now, how about that breakfast.

Lisa runs back to the bathroom and pukes.

LILY (CONT'D)  
I guess I'll have to make breakfast.

Lily goes into the kitchen and takes a piece of left over  
pizza out of the fridge and starts eating it. Lisa comes  
out of the bathroom.

LISA  
You have to be the only kid in the  
world who likes anchovies.

LILY  
Want a bite?

LISA  
I'll get my own breakfast.

LILY  
I think you're out of kale.

LISA  
I'm going to lie down.

LILY  
You just got up.

LISA  
Can't you go play by the train tracks  
or something?

Lisa goes to the couch and lays down. Lily follows her.

LILY  
So I hear quitting smoking is kinda  
hard.

LISA  
You really want to die today?

LILY  
I'm pretty sure if one of us is going  
to die today it's gonna be you.

LISA  
I'm not that lucky.

LILY  
I know what will cheer you up.

Lily grabs the TV remote control.

LISA  
Don't you put Sanford and Son on.

LILY  
Luckily, it's a marathon today.

Lisa pulls the covers over her head.

INT. LISA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Lisa still is on the couch a few hours later when the doorbell  
rings. Lily is playing with her toys.

LISA  
Get the door.

LILY  
I'm a guest not a butler.

Lisa pulls herself off the couch and opens the door. John is standing there and comes in. Lily comes over.

JOHN  
Wow, you really did quit smoking.

LILY  
Doesn't she look terrible!

LISA  
See, I told you it was no problem.

LILY  
She even stopped crying an hour ago.

JOHN  
Have you eaten anything today.

LISA  
No, do you have any cigarettes?

JOHN  
You're not allowed to smoke anymore.

LISA  
I could eat them though, right? You didn't say anything about not eating them.

JOHN  
Let's go in the kitchen, crazy, and sit down.

John, Lisa, and Lily go to the kitchen and sit down.

LISA  
Maybe I should eat something?

JOHN  
Great!

LISA  
Go fuck yourself!

LILY  
She screams random curse words every twenty minutes or so.

JOHN  
You can't swear in front of Lily.

LISA  
I'm not allowed to do anything I like anymore.

Lisa sneezes three times.

JOHN  
God bless you.

LISA  
Go fuck yourself.

LILY  
They're coming closer together now.

JOHN  
Let me get you some food.

John opens the refrigerator.

LILY  
Hers is all the green stuff.

LISA  
I don't need to eat that healthy  
crap anymore now that I welcome the  
relief of sweet, sweet death.

LILY  
At least her outlook is better than  
this morning.

LISA  
Just take all the good stuff out.  
Start with the leftover pizza.

LILY  
That's mine.

LISA  
Really?

LILY  
But, I will share since you're  
probably dying and all.

John takes out the food. Lisa starts devouring the pizza.

JOHN  
I remember seeing a wolverine eat  
like that when I was in Michigan  
once.

LILY  
It's like watching a National  
Geographic special.

LISA  
I need something else now.

JOHN  
I saw some ice cream in the freezer.

LISA  
Does that have nicotine in it?

JOHN  
I don't think so.

LILY  
I finished it this morning, anyway.

JOHN  
You let her have ice cream for  
breakfast?

LISA  
Sorry, I was busy licking the inside  
of my purse this morning hoping to  
get some cigarette residue.

JOHN  
Oh, that reminds me. I brought you  
some nicotine gum.

Lisa leaps up off her chair and gives John a hug.

LILY  
This is getting sadder by the minute.

John gives her the gum. Lisa furiously puts wads of it in  
her mouth. Then, she sits down and tries to chew the massive  
amount of gum she shoved into her face.

JOHN  
I can't say this has been one of my  
normal welfare visits.

LISA  
You can go now.

JOHN  
I'll be back tomorrow.

John gets up and goes out the door.

LILY  
That went smoothly.

Lisa tries to swear but she can't because of all the gum in  
her mouth,

LISA  
I dront griv a frunck.

INT. LISA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Lisa and Lily are having cheeseburgers for lunch.

LILY

Aren't you happy to be eating human food?

LISA

It's all I got now that I'm a former smoker. Three full days and counting.

LILY

You're welcome by the way.

LISA

Are you serious?

LILY

If it wasn't for me you'd still be sucking on those cancer sticks and eating a horse's diet.

LISA

Now, I'm miserable and fat because of you.

LILY

You always were miserable. The fat is on me though.

LISA

I'm being ridiculous. I haven't gained any weight, right?

LILY

Have you seen your butt lately? I don't think you could fit into Jennifer Lopez's pants now.

LISA

You're such a delightful human being.

LILY

Takes one to know one.

LISA

Good thing I do yoga to keep calm.

LILY

Sitting Native American style and eating potato chips isn't yoga.

LISA

At least I'm not an orphan.

LILY  
Low blow fatso.

LISA  
You're right, I'm sorry.

LILY  
We need to decorate the Christmas  
tree. It's only three weeks till  
the big day.

Lily looks up at the sky.

LILY (CONT'D)  
God bless you, Santa.

LISA  
Suck up.

Lily gets up.

LILY  
Where do you keep your Christmas  
ornaments?

LISA  
Right next to my Oscar.

LILY  
You don't have Christmas ornaments?

LISA  
You couldn't even believe that for a  
second. I'm pretty good.

LILY  
I've seen some of your crap. You're  
no Redd Foxx.

LISA  
You'll just have to find some stuff  
around here to decorate the tree  
with.

LILY  
Fine!

Lily walks into the bathroom and comes out with two rolls of  
toilet paper and brings them over to the tree. Lisa comes  
over.

LISA  
What's that for?



LILY  
To wrap around the tree to look like  
snow.

Lily hands Lisa the toilet paper.

LISA  
This is the softest toilet paper  
they make. I'm not wasting it.

LILY  
I'm an orphan.

LISA  
Fine.

Lisa and Lily wrap the tree in toilet paper.

LILY  
It looks pretty good.

LISA  
Better than I thought it would.

LILY  
I'll be right back. I gotta use the  
bathroom.

Lily runs to the bathroom and closes the door. After a minute  
she opens the door and sticks her head out.

LILY (CONT'D)  
We're out of toilet paper.

LISA  
Hold on.

Lisa unwraps some from the Christmas tree and brings it over  
to Lily.

LILY  
Shoulda seen that coming.

The doorbell rings. Lisa goes over and opens it. John comes  
in.

JOHN  
Did somebody break in and vandalize  
your tree?

Lily comes out of the bathroom.

LISA  
Funny boy.

JOHN  
This is no good.

LILY  
The actress hates Christmas.

LISA  
I'm right here.

JOHN  
I will be back in an hour. Don't go  
anywhere.

LISA  
Two visits in one day. This really  
is the most wonderful time of year.

LILY  
Nice sarcasm.

John hurries out of the apartment.

INT. LISA'S APARTMENT - DAY

One hour later John rings the doorbell. Lisa is on the couch  
eating potato chips.

LILY  
I'll get the door. I don't want to  
interrupt your yoga session.

Lily opens the door. John has two big boxes of Christmas  
ornaments and brings them in. Lily jumps up and down with  
excitement.

LISA  
Where did you get all that crap?

JOHN  
I'm a Christmas lover. This is some  
of my overflow.

LISA  
That's weird.

JOHN  
Yeah, I'm the weird one? Help me  
get this toilet paper off the tree  
so we can do this right.

Lily and John start taking the toilet paper off the tree.

LISA  
Be careful with that. It's expensive.

John and Lily start taking the ornaments out of the box and start hanging them on the tree.

JOHN  
Aren't you gonna join in?

LISA  
It does kinda look like fun.

Lisa joins in.

LILY  
This is gonna be the best Christmas  
ever!

LISA  
You need higher standards.

Lisa, John and Lily finish decorating the tree with John's beautiful ornaments.

JOHN  
Wow, it looks awesome!

LISA  
I can't believe that's the same tree.

LILY  
Santa's gonna put so many presents  
under it.

Lily looks at the sky.

LILY (CONT'D)  
I love you big guy.

JOHN  
Wow, I can't believe how late it is.

LILY  
I'm starving.

LISA  
Me, too. Where's the cookie dough?

JOHN  
How 'bout we go out for dinner?

LISA  
You want to have dinner with me?

JOHN  
And Lily.

LISA  
But you understand I'll be there,  
too.

JOHN  
I think I could stomach it, just  
this once.

LISA  
You're paying, right? This kid is  
bleeding me dry.

JOHN  
I'm paying.

LILY  
You can probably write it off as a  
business expense.

JOHN  
How do you even know about that?

LISA  
It was an episode of Sanford and  
Son.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Lisa, Lily, and John sit down at their table. Lily looks  
around.

LILY  
Isn't that waiter the mean Santa you  
beat up?

JOHN  
You beat up Santa?

LILY  
He had it coming.

LISA  
Oh, no! That's him.

JOHN  
The Santa?

LISA  
And my ex, Mark. Let's get out of  
here before he sees me.

LILY  
Too late, he's coming over here.

Lisa's ex-boyfriend starts walking towards their table.

LISA  
New plan. You're my fiance and we're  
adopting Lily.

JOHN  
What?

Lisa lunges towards John and kisses him just as her ex-boyfriend arrives. John freezes.

MARK  
Excuse me, Sir, is this woman  
assaulting you? She has a history  
of violence.

LILY  
Yeah, she kicked your butt.

LISA  
This is my fiance, a-hole.

LILY  
I know what that means.

MARK  
Everybody knows what a fiance is  
brat.

LILY  
I meant a-hole, genius.

LISA  
And this is the adorable tyke that  
we're adopting.

LILY  
I love you, mommy and daddy. Can I  
please have my allowance?

John just stares ahead.

LISA  
Quiet, little cherub.

LILY  
You promised, mother.

LISA  
Shut up.

LILY  
Okay, I have so many things to tell  
mean Santa then.

LISA  
You're right. Here's your allowance.

Lisa gets a twenty dollar bill out of her purse and gives it to Lily.

LILY  
That's only half what I normally  
get.

Lisa gets another twenty dollars out of her purse and gives it to Lily.

LISA  
(to Mark)  
This reminds me of our entire  
relationship.

MARK  
Is you're fiance a mute?

John comes to.

JOHN  
No, I'm just exhausted from all the  
sex. Right, dear?

LISA  
Not in front of the child, baby.

LILY  
They're always smooching. It's gross.

MARK  
This is a joke, right? You hate  
kids more than anything in the world.

JOHN  
You hate kids?

LILY  
She loves me and daddy, mean Santa,  
deal with it.

LISA  
I've grown so much as a person since  
I dumped you. It's like having an  
untalented, lazy fungus removed.

MARK  
You look fat.

LILY  
You shouldn't make fun of the obese,  
mean Santa.

LISA  
It's okay. I gained a few pounds  
since I quit smoking.

MARK  
You quit smoking?

JOHN  
She did it for me and Lily.

LISA  
I want to live a long time now that  
I'm not with you.

MARK  
It won't last.

LILY  
Cut her some slack, mean Santa.

MARK  
Stop calling me, mean Santa. I'm an  
actor and writer.

LISA  
Are you going to take our order or  
do I have to call the manager over?

MARK  
We're all out of tofu.

LILY  
She doesn't eat that crap anymore.  
How do you think she got so fat?

LISA  
I only gained a couple pounds.

JOHN  
I love her fat.

LISA  
Like three pounds.

LILY  
We're getting her Jenny Craig for  
Christmas.

MARK  
I wasted three years of my life going  
to every health food store and  
restaurant with you.

LISA  
I'll have the chicken fried steak  
and fries.

JOHN  
I'll have the same.

LILY  
Me, too.

MARK  
Fine, I hope you all choke on it.

Mark goes to place the order.

LILY  
You know he's gonna spit in our food.

LISA  
Lets go to KFC.

JOHN  
Great. Can we get a divorce now?

LISA  
Lets see who's behind the counter at  
the Colonel's first.

Lisa, John, and Lily leave the restaurant.

INT. OUTSIDE LISA'S APARTMENT DOOR - NIGHT

Lisa, and John carrying a sleeping Lily, go to her apartment.

INT. LISA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

John carries Lily into Lisa's room. Then, he comes out.

JOHN  
That's a nice bedroom you have.

LISA  
I miss it.

JOHN  
It's really great how you gave it up  
for Lily.

LISA  
What can I say, I'm a giver.

JOHN  
You guys seem to be getting along  
well.



LISA  
You sound surprised.

JOHN  
I am.

LISA  
I guess I didn't make a great first  
impression or third or fourth either.

JOHN  
You're sixth impression wasn't that  
great either.

LISA  
Why'd you give me Lily then, funny  
boy?

JOHN  
Desperation.

LISA  
Nice.

JOHN  
But, now you're proving me wrong.

LISA  
Are you starting to actually like  
me, a foul-mouthed actress?

JOHN  
At least, you're not a Kardashian.

LISA  
I've been waiting my whole life for  
a compliment like that.

JOHN  
I guess I should be going. It was a  
lot of fun tonight. Especially when  
you stuck your tongue down my throat.

LISA  
That was acting.

JOHN  
I can still taste the residue from  
your last cigarette.

LILY  
Oh, God, I'm sorry.

JOHN  
You're really good at it.

LISA  
Kissing?

JOHN  
No, acting.

LISA  
When I kiss someone for real, it's  
awesome, buddy.

JOHN  
Prove it.

LISA  
No.

JOHN  
That's what I thought.

LISA  
I guess I can't have my integrity  
challenged like that.

Lisa kisses John.

JOHN  
I stand corrected.

LISA  
You can leave now.

JOHN  
K.O.

LISA  
I think you mean okay.

JOHN  
Good night.

LISA  
Yes, it was.

John Leaves

INT. LISA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Lisa is asleep on the couch. Lily comes over and wakes her  
up.

LISA  
It's three o'clock in the morning.

LILY  
I had a bad dream.

LISA  
I think I'm having one, too.

LILY  
Get up and comfort me.

Lisa sits up. Lily sits next to her.

LISA  
Monsters aren't real.

LILY  
I'm seven, not an idiot.

LISA  
What's wrong then?

LILY  
I miss my mom.

LISA  
What are you doing to me? We have a deal. I give you stuff, you pretend to like me. That's it.

LILY  
Do you have a mom?

LISA  
Unfortunately.

LILY  
How come she never comes over?

LISA  
Don't say that. She's like a witch, she'll be coming here now.

LILY  
Don't you want her to come?

LISA  
No, I do not.

LILY  
Because she's as mean as you?

LISA  
Exactly, now go to bed.

LILY  
My mom was really nice, I think. I can't really remember her.

LISA

My mom had me acting when I was two.

LILY

Lucky.

LISA

Not lucky. I never got to be a normal kid.

LILY

Is that why you hate us so much?

LISA

What are you, my shrink?

LILY

No, that would be an impossible job.

LISA

By the way, I don't hate you that much.

LILY

That's the sentence every little kid dreams of hearing.

LISA

Good talk. How 'bout you go to bed now.

LILY

I think I want to sleep with you tonight because I'm sad.

LISA

Fine, at least I'll get to sleep in my own bed.

LILY

No, we'll sleep in here on the couch. I don't want you in my room. Privacy's a big thing with me.

Lily lays down on the couch next to Lisa.

LISA

You're crazy.

LILY

Quiet, I'm trying to sleep.

INT. LISA'S APARTMENT - DAY

The doorbell rings. Lisa opens the door and gets a package from the UPS man. She closes the door with her butt but it doesn't close all the way. She doesn't notice it.

LILY  
What's in the box?

LISA  
Just a bunch of crap I ordered.

LILY  
Is it for me? Christmas is just a week away.

LISA  
Anything you get is up to Santa.  
I'm not getting you squat.

LILY  
That's a lovely Christmas sentiment.

Lisa gets her scripts and hands one to Lily.

LISA  
Time to rehearse.

LILY  
No.

LISA  
Santa's watching.

LILY  
You get me with that every time.

Lily takes a script from Lisa.

LISA  
Let's go to the big scene near the end of the movie on page ninety.

Lily and Lisa start reading their parts.

LISA (CONT'D)  
(reading her part)  
You know how much I love you, Cindy.

LILY  
I'm not feeling that from you.

LISA  
Are you giving me acting tips?

LILY  
You're too wooden. You need to emote.

LISA  
You don't even know what emote means.

LILY  
Neither do you apparently.

LISA  
Just read your lines.

INT. OUTSIDE LISA'S APARTMENT DOOR - CONTINUOUS

An older woman, DORIS, approaches the slightly open door and hears Lisa and Lily. She doesn't go in, she just listens.

INT. LISA'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

LILY  
(reading the script)  
I love you so much, mommy.

LISA  
(reading her part)  
You are the greatest thing that has  
ever happened to me, baby. I am so  
happy I adopted you.

The door opens. The older woman comes in.

LISA (CONT'D)  
Mom!

LILY  
Grandma!

LISA  
No!

Lily runs over to Lisa's stunned mom, Doris, and gives her a big hug.

LILY  
You were right. Your mom is a witch.

DORIS  
You couldn't even tell me you adopted  
a girl.

LISA  
Relax, Mom. We're just rehearsing  
for a part I'm up for.

DORIS  
You're not emoting enough.

LILY  
Thank you.

LISA  
Nice to see you too, Mom.

LILY  
Did you bring me any hard candies,  
Grandma.

LISA  
She's not your grandma.

DORIS  
Who is this adorable little girl?

LISA  
She's a foster kid I took in for a  
month because I need to practice at  
being a...

LILY  
...human being.

DORIS  
That's great. I always wanted to  
have a cute little girl.

LISA  
You did, Mom.

LILY  
What are you getting me for Christmas,  
Grandma?

LISA  
Nothing, she's not your grandma.

DORIS  
I am till she goes back. It's the  
least you could do for a grandchild,  
son-in-law less, old lady.

LILY  
You're so nice, Grandma. I can't  
believe you're her mom.

LISA  
I've died and gone to hell.

LILY  
Has she always been so melodramatic?

DORIS  
Since the day she was born.

LILY  
Did she tell you about her new  
boyfriend?

LISA  
I don't have a new boyfriend.

LILY  
She kissed him twice. Once for an  
act and once for real.

LISA  
You little spy.

DORIS  
Am I gonna meet him before the  
wedding?

LISA  
There's not going to be any weddings.  
As soon as Lily goes back after  
Christmas, I'll probably never see  
him again.

LILY  
She's in denial. She's gonna marry  
him and adopt me forever.

LISA  
Not for all the money in the world.

LILY  
I hate you mother. You suck.

Lily runs to her room and slams the door shut.

DORIS  
She takes after you.

LISA  
Delightful visit as always, Mom.

EXT. CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL - NIGHT

Lisa, John, and Lily walk around the Christmas Festival.  
There are Santas everywhere. Lily wears a Santa hat.

LILY  
This place is so awesome!



LISA  
I'm usually the biggest Grinch, but  
even I am enjoying this.

Lisa takes Lily's Santa's hat and puts it on.

JOHN  
It's like the end of the Grinch movie.

LILY  
She only watches the first half of  
Christmas movies. The happy endings  
bring her down.

LISA  
Now, that I'm thinking about it,  
maybe It's a Wonderful Life isn't a  
Stephen King movie.

JOHN  
You have a lot of second half of  
Christmas movies to catch up on.

LISA  
Let's have a second half only  
Christmas movie marathon tomorrow!

LILY  
I think you might have Denge Fever.

JOHN  
That's a great idea.

LILY  
Can I go on that ride over there?

LISA  
Sure.

Lisa hands Lily a ticket and Lily goes over to the ride.  
John and Lisa watch.

JOHN  
I did not see this night coming when  
I gave you Lily.

LISA  
You really didn't like me, did you?

JOHN  
In my defense, nobody did.

LISA  
And now?

JOHN

I'm a pretty big fan now.

John kisses Lisa. Lily goes by on the ride. Lisa and John wave at her.

LISA

Are we still going to see each other after Lily goes back after Christmas?

JOHN

I'm hoping so.

LISA

I can't believe I'm saying this, but I'm really going to miss her.

JOHN

She really likes you. You don't have to give her up, you know

LISA

That's just because I give her everything she wants. That's not sustainable long term. I'm not mom material.

JOHN

Well, I'll bet you learned a few things, at least.

LISA

Are you kidding, my knowledge of Sanford and Son is extensive now.

Lily comes running over.

LILY

Did you see me on the ride?

LISA

Yes, it was awesome.

LILY

No, you didn't, I saw you guys smooching.

JOHN

Only for a second.

LILY

I could have been kidnapped in that second.

LISA  
Keep dreaming.

LILY  
You'll see one day. My kidnapability  
is off the charts.

LISA  
You're cute, I'll give you that.

Lisa puts the Santa hat back on Lily's head.

LILY  
Are we going to that restaurant you  
told me about last night now?

LISA  
Yes.

JOHN  
Are you sure none of your ex-  
boyfriends are gonna be there?

LISA  
Yes, the rest of them are in jail.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Lisa, Lily, and John walk into the restaurant and go up to  
the Maitre D.

LISA  
Hi, we have a reservation for seven  
o'clock under Lisa.

MAITRE D  
Yes, the other member of your party  
is already seated.

The Matre D starts to lead them to their table.

LISA  
There is no other member.

LILY  
Grandma!

LISA  
Oh, crap!

Lily runs over to Lisa's mother who is sitting at their table  
and jumps in her lap.

LILY

Surprise, I invited grandma. I stole you're phone when you were sleeping and invited her. You snore like an asthmatic elephant, by the way.

DORIS

She's done that since she was three.

LISA

Hi, Mom. What a great surprise?

DORIS

Is this my future son-in-law?

LISA

No! Are you freaking crazy?

JOHN

That was harsh. I'm John. So nice to meet you.

LISA

We're just friends.

LILY

They were sucking face while I was riding Dumbo a few minutes ago.

LISA

That sentence has probably never been uttered before.

Lisa, John, and Lily sit down.

LISA (CONT'D)

Mother, you need to use the bathroom?

DORIS

Don't worry, I'm rocking Depends tonight.

LISA

Let's go!

Lisa and her mother go to the bathroom.

DORIS

Oh, I like him! I knew you'd do something right, eventually.

LISA

He doesn't know I took in Lily so I could get ready for my audition.

DORIS

Even when you do something right,  
you do it wrong.

LISA

Words every daughter dreams of  
hearing. If he finds out, he'll  
take Lily back and never speak to me  
again.

DORIS

You really like Lily, and, John,  
too.

LISA

I do not!

DORIS

Sorry, you're not that good of an  
actress.

LISA

Just don't say anything. Just  
embarrass me like a normal visit.

DORIS

You're slouching and your shoes are  
atrocious. Didn't you learn anything  
from me?

LISA

Thanks, Mom.

DORIS

My pleasure.

Lisa and her Mom rejoin John and Lily at their table.

LILY

Did you have fun in the bathroom?

DORIS

Not since Nicholas Cage stopped  
talking to me.

LISA

She was too crazy for him.

JOHN

I always wondered what his limit  
was.

LISA

Now you know, it's my mom.

LILY

Grandma, you must come to our second half of Christmas movies marathon, on Christmas Eve.

DORIS

My daughter hates Christmas movies.

LILY

We're changing everything about her, so she'll be likable.

LISA

She can't come. She always spends Christmas Eve at the Indian Casino.

DORIS

Remember the year you threw up on the craps table after sipping my complementary egg nog.

JOHN

Were you like, in high school then?

LISA

No, that would be pre-school.

DORIS

Good times.

LILY

Please come to our Christmas Eve party.

LISA

Not a good idea.

DORIS

Good news! I was banned from the casino for counting cards and making terroristic threats. I can come!

LILY

Hooray!

DORIS

As long as we don't watch Die Hard.

JOHN

Because you don't consider it a Christmas movie?

LISA

She had an incident with Bruce Willis when I was a kid, auditioning for one of his movies.

DORIS

All's I told him was that he should man you and lose the toupee.

LISA

And, you did also shoot him with a prop gun at close range.

DORIS

I learned that prop guns can cause flesh wounds that day.

JOHN

This is gonna be so fun.

LILY

You can bring all my Christmas presents over then.

DORIS

How do you feel about Home Depot gift cards?

LILY

I've always wanted a circular saw.

LISA

Toys, Mom, just toys.

DORIS

Anything for my granddaughter.

LISA

She's not your granddaughter.

LILY

God love you, Grandma!

INT. LISA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Lily and Lisa set up the apartment for they're Christmas Eve movie party.

LILY

I can't believe it's Christmas Eve already!

LISA

I have to say this is the most excited I've ever been for Christmas.

LILY  
I've completely transformed you.  
You're a decent human being now.

LISA  
Relax, Oprah.

Lily sets up all the Christmas dvds.

LILY  
Do you think Santa will know where  
to find me this year?

LISA  
He better because I'm not getting  
you anything.

LILY  
Decent might have been a little  
strong.

LISA  
I can't wait till John and my mom  
get here. Wow, that's a weird  
sentence.

LILY  
You love John.

LISA  
Shut up.

LILY  
You love him so much.

LISA  
I like him somewhat.

LILY  
You love me, too.

LISA  
What an ego on you.

LILY  
Are we gonna move to a big house  
when you marry him and adopt me?  
I've always wanted a backyard.

LISA  
What do you need a backyard for?

LILY  
So I have somewhere to ride my alpaca.



LISA  
You're so freaking weird.

Lisa throws a Santa hat at Lilly.

LILY  
I think you're weird, too.

LISA  
I have to get ready for my audition  
now.

INT. LISA'S AGENT'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

John stops by with some presents for his uncle.

JIMMY  
What's all this?

JOHN  
Christmas presents for you.

John puts the presents on Jimmy's desk and sits down.

JIMMY  
But I didn't get you anything.

JOHN  
You introduced me to the woman I  
love.

JIMMY  
I never introduced you to Shakira.

JOHN  
That's the woman you love.

JIMMY  
Oh, right. Who did I introduce you  
to?

JOHN  
Lisa.

JIMMY  
Lisa who?

JOHN  
Wright.

JIMMY  
And you love her?

JOHN  
Yes.

JIMMY  
This is a Christmas miracle.

JOHN  
I can't thank you enough.

JIMMY  
And to think that the whole thing  
was my idea from the start.

JOHN  
What idea?

JIMMY  
You know, to foster parent a kid for  
a month so she could do research for  
her big audition.

JOHN  
What are you talking about?

JIMMY  
Oh, right, that was a secret.

JOHN  
Are you saying the only reason lisa  
took Lily was because of an audition?

JIMMY  
Is that bad?

JOHN  
Everything is a big lie.

JIMMY  
Do I get to keep the presents?

JOHN  
I gotta go.

John gets up and leaves.

INT. LISA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Lisa and Lily are sitting around.

LILY  
Are you nervous about your audition?

LISA  
I could definitely throw up.

LILY  
You know what's good for that,  
sardines.

LISA  
Oh, God. I'll be so glad when the  
audition is over.

LILY  
It's a good thing we rehearsed so  
much.

LISA  
You really helped me these past few  
weeks. You have no idea.

LILY  
I'm the best.

LISA  
We better get going. Not a good  
idea to be late.

Someone knocks hard on the front door. Lisa goes to answer  
it. John comes barging in.

JOHN  
Un freaking believable!

LILY  
Trouble!

LISA  
What's wrong?

JOHN  
This whole thing was an act.

LISA  
It's not how it looks.

JOHN  
You mean the only reason you signed  
up to take Lily wasn't because you  
wanted to use her to get the part of  
a lifetime?

LISA  
Okay, it is how it looks.

LILY  
Don't blame her, she's an actress!  
She's morally bankrupt; she can't  
help it.

LISA  
Please give me another chance. I've  
completely changed from who I was  
when I first got Lily.

JOHN

What page of the script is that from?

LISA

It's not from the script, exactly.

LILY

Yes, the girl's name in the movie is Lilah. I'm Lily. Huge difference. Let's get ready for our second half of Christmas movies marathon!

John knocks the Christmas dvds off the coffee table.

LISA

I'm so sorry.

JOHN

I don't want to hear it. Pack up your stuff, Lily, you're coming back with me.

LISA

You can't do that. It's Christmas Eve.

LILY

I don't want to go. I love it here.

LISA

And, I love having her.

JOHN

Like you care. You're a professional liar. I can't believe I fell for your crap. What a sucker I am.

LISA

I really like you, that was no act.

LILY

She does. She's always yelling out your name in her sleep.

LISA

Too much information.

LILY

I'm trying my best. I don't have much to work with here.

JOHN

Spare me the act. God only knows what other lies you told me.

LILY

You probably should tell him about school.

JOHN

What about school?

LISA

She hasn't exactly had perfect attendance since I've had her.

JOHN

It just gets better and better. How many days has she missed?

LISA

All of them.

JOHN

I'm gonna get fired because of you.

LILY

Don't blame her about school. I blackmailed her.

JOHN

You even have Lily brainwashed.

LILY

No, she doesn't. She's not anywhere smart enough to pull that off.

LISA

Thank you.

LILY

See, she thought that was a compliment.

JOHN

Was that even your mother or was it a character actress? Nobody's that crazy.

LILY

Don't talk about my grandma that way. She's real. How do you think this one over here got so screwed up?

JOHN

Let's go, Lily, start packing up your stuff.

LISA  
You can't do this.

LILY  
You're being the Grinch.

LISA  
Who I now know wasn't the good guy  
in the movie until the end.

JOHN  
I'm not going to ask you again, Lily.

Lily starts packing up her stuff.

LISA  
Please don't take her back. I love  
her. I really do.

LILY  
She's making an emotional  
breakthrough. She's not dead behind  
the eyes anymore.

John claps his hands.

JOHN  
Brilliant performance.

LISA  
I'm a terrible person, but you're  
being an ass.

JOHN  
Don't you have an audition to go to?

LISA  
I don't care about that anymore. I  
won't go.

JOHN  
Spare me. Let's go Lily.

LILY  
I haven't packed up most of my stuff,  
yet.

JOHN  
We'll get them another time.

John grabs Lily by the arm. Lily doesn't budge.

LISA  
(crying)  
Don't do this, please.

John starts pulling Lily.

LILY  
I don't want to go. I hate you,  
John.

JOHN  
I have to do what's best for you.

LISA  
I'm so sorry, Lily.

JOHN  
Goodbye forever.

John drags Lily out the door.

LISA  
Merry Freaking Christmas.

Lisa falls on the couch distraught.

Lisa's mother comes in.

DORIS  
Why's my future son-in-law dragging  
my granddaughter out of the building?

LISA  
Everything's ruined, Mom. He took  
her back because he found out what a  
terrible person I really am.

DORIS  
He was going to find that out  
eventually. Let's go to that  
audition.

LISA  
I'm not going.

DORIS  
The hell you're not. I'll carry you  
there kicking and screaming if I  
have to.

LISA  
Just like when I was eight. No wonder  
I'm so screwed up.

DORIS  
Come on. Let's go.

INT. ORPHAN HOUSE - DAY

Lily lies on her bed. John comes into the room.

JOHN

Hey, Lily.

LILY

I'm asleep go away.

JOHN

I bet you're pretty mad at me right now?

LILY

Yeah, you suck rocks. You ruined my life.

JOHN

I had to take you back from Lisa. She lied to me the whole time.

LILY

She was gonna adopt me, marry you, and we were going to get a big house, with a huge backyard for my alpaca.

JOHN

It was all a lie. Wait, why do you have an alpaca?

LILY

Because I'm quirky, just like Lisa. Which is why you love us both.

JOHN

Why don't you get up and come to the Christmas party with the other kids?

Lily throws a candy cane at John.

LILY

Christmas is ruined.

JOHN

Wow, you really whipped that sucker.

LILY

Lisa taught me how to throw candy canes at Grinchs.

JOHN

I should have figured that out.



LILY

She taught me everything. I know how much to tip a blackjack dealer when you win big.

JOHN

How much?

LILY

Two percent up to ten grand, a-hole. She taught me a-hole was better than saying, "Go fuck yourself!" to mean Grinchs.

JOHN

I see that.

LILY

(crying)

She taught me how to cry on demand like a real actress.

JOHN

That is impressive.

LILY

(crying)

I'm not doing it now, a-hole.

JOHN

I'm sorry. This whole thing is my fault.

LILY

No kidding, genius.

JOHN

Just come with me to the party. We have a Santa.

LILY

That's just the fat janitor. I'm not an idiot. The real Santa doesn't know where to find me now because of you.

JOHN

Alright, I'll just leave you alone. I never wanted to hurt you.

John starts to walk away. Lily whips another candy cane at him.

LILY

Too late for that, a-hole.

After John leaves Lily crawls out the window and disappears.

INT. MOVIE SET - DAY

Lisa and her mom arrive for the audition.

LISA  
This is so stupid. Who auditions on  
Christmas Eve?

DORIS  
You do, that's who. Now, stay  
focused.

The director, Deter Whillhelm, comes to meet Lisa.

DIRECTOR  
I want to say nice to see you, but  
I'm on a no lying kick.

LISA  
Me, too. You got fat, Derrick.

DETER  
My name's Deter Whillhelm.

LISA  
No, your name is Derrick Wilson.  
You're from Pasadena not Munich.

DETER  
Did you bring your infamous mother  
with you? You're like fifty.

LISA  
I'm thirty-five, asshole.

DETER  
Oh, that's right, you just look fifty.

DORIS  
I like you, Deter. You have spunk.  
What are you doing this evening?

LISA  
Oh my God!

DETER  
Seriously, it's Christmas Eve. I've  
got plans.

DORIS

Your loss.

DETER

You're not going to shoot me now,  
are you?

LISA

I would like to shoot both of you  
stupid mother fu....

The little girl who would star in the movie opposite Lisa  
comes over.

DETER

Ok, let's get this audition from  
hell over with. I can't believe the  
producers want you to audition for  
this part.

GIRL

Hi, I'm Cindy.

Lisa hugs Cindy.

LISA

Hi, you're so beautiful, I love you.  
Do you want to come home with me?

Cindy pulls away.

CINDY

Is this in the script?

LISA

Sorry, I was thinking of another  
part I rehearsed for.

DORIS

You got this.

DIRECTOR

Take it from page ninety-five, the  
biggest scene in the movie. Action!

LISA

(crying)

I missed you so much. I'm so sorry  
for all the things I did.

CINDY

It's okay. Do you really like me or  
was it all an act?

LISA

(crying)

I was a miserable, unhappy person before I met you. Then, I became so happy. Now, without you again, I'm miserable. I love you so much, Lily.

Lisa hugs Cindy.

DIRECTOR

Cut. Wow! That was incredible, Lisa.

Lisa continues to hug Cindy.

DIRECTOR

I'm stunned. The girl's name in the movie is Lilah not Lily, but who cares. That was brilliant.

CINDY

You can let go of me now.

Lisa lets go of Cindy.

DIRECTOR

The part's yours. I had no clue you had that kind of range.

DORIS

I taught her everything she knows.

Lisa hugs her mom.

LISA

Are we done here? I've gotta go.

DIRECTOR

Uh, yeah, sure, I guess. I thought we could do a few more lines first.

DORIS

That's the same thing Nicky Cage used to say to me.

DIRECTOR

Why do you have to go?

LISA

It's Christmas Eve for God sakes! Mom, you get an Uber. I've gotta go.

Lisa runs off the set.

DORIS

So, Dieter, how 'bout you give me a  
lift home?

INT. ORPHAN HOUSE - NIGHT

The orphan house is all decked out in Christmas decorations. Kids wearing Santa hats are everywhere having fun. John is there. Then, Lisa comes flying in.

JOHN

I assume you got the part.

LISA

I did get the part, and it's the  
role of a lifetime--sequels every  
Christmas. Millions of dollars.  
They film in beautiful Vancouver for  
four months a year.

JOHN

I guess your evil plan worked out.

LISA

It did. Your uncle is a genius.

JOHN

Did you come here to rub it in?

LISA

No, I came here to tell you I'm going  
to turn down the part.

JOHN

What? Are you crazy?

LISA

Everything I always thought I wanted  
I don't want anymore. I love Lily;  
I want to adopt her. Please forgive  
me.

JOHN

You're an insane actress, you know  
that?

LISA

And, I'm crazy in love with you too.

Lisa kissed John as all the little kids and people stare at them.

JOHN

I love you, too, even though you're nothing but trouble. I can't live without you.

LISA

Fair warning, my crazy mom is part of the deal, too.

JOHN

I'm gonna need a full time shrink.

LISA

You needed that anyway.

Lisa hugs John.

JOHN

Ow!

John rubs his back.

LISA

Are you hurt?

JOHN

No, I just took a couple of wicked candy canes to the back. I think I have a scar already.

John lifts up the back of his shirt.

LISA

Yeah, that's on me. I taught Lily a few things I shouldn't have.

JOHN

At least, she knows how much to tip a blackjack dealer.

LISA

Where is she?

JOHN

She's in her room. She'll be really happy to be going to your apartment for Christmas.

LISA

Is that okay?

JOHN

A girl should be with her mother on Christmas.

LISA  
Don't tell her I'm going to adopt  
her. I want that to be a surprise  
tomorrow.

JOHN  
Let's go.

Lisa and John run to Lily's room.

LISA  
She's not here!

The window is open.

A little boy comes walking by.

JOHN  
Have you seen Lily?

BOY  
No, but she said before that she had  
to go to the mall to tell Santa's  
helper that she was going to be here  
for Christmas.

LISA  
Oh, crap!

JOHN  
Come on, we have to get to the mall.

INT. SHOPPING MALL - CONTINUOUS

Lily walks around the mall looking for a Santa. There aren't  
many people there. She stops a fat guy in a red shirt.

LILY  
Are you one of Santa's helpers?

FAT GUY  
Do I look like Santa?

LILY  
No, he's a lot trimmer than you.

FAT GUY  
Go away and find your mother.

LILY  
She's dead. Merry Christmas to you  
too, fatso.

Lily keeps walking around. She spots a Santa wearing a purple  
hat and goes up to him.

LILY (CONT'D)

Hey, Santa, I need to tell you that I've had a change of address.

SANTA

Go away, brat, I'm off the clock.

LILY

Hey, you're the loser Lisa used to date.

MARK

Perfect, just what I need. Where is she anyway?

LILY

I'm not with her anymore.

MARK

Lucky you. She's probably thrilled to be rid of you.

Lily kicks Mark in the shin.

LILY

She loves me, a-hole.

MARK

I see she's taught you a few things.

LILY

She would be distraught if she knew I had run away from the orphanage.

MARK

No, she wouldn't. She's probably at the casino, smoking a carton of cigarettes, right now.

LILY

Lot you know. She cried when John took me away.

MARK

Is that her new boyfriend?

LILY

Yeah, she likes him a lot better than you.

MARK

She really cried?

LILY

Uncontrollably.



MARK

You just made my Christmas, brat.

LILY

You want to know what really would upset her?

MARK

What's that, smart ass?

LILY

She's terrified of someone kidnapping me. It would freak her out.

MARK

What kind of idiot would kidnap you?

LILY

I think you're just the idiot for the job.

MARK

What do you get out of this?

LILY

I get to get back at her for screwing up everything. Also, at long last I'll be vindicated in my belief that I'm highly kidnapable.

MARK

Well, I have nothing better to do on Christmas Eve.

LILY

That's not a shock, guy.

MARK

I don't want to go to jail for this though.

LILY

I'll tell everybody I showed up at your house on my own.

MARK

Alright, I'm in. Best Christmas ever!

LILY

You make me sad, dude.

MARK

Let's go to my apartment.

LILY  
Can we get a pizza for dinner? I'm  
starving.

Lily and Mark leave the mall.

INT. MARKS APARTMENT - NIGHT

Mark and Lily come in. The apartment is small and messy.

LILY  
This place is exactly how I pictured  
it.

MARK  
Whatever, brat, thanks.

LILY  
Not a compliment, guy. I need to  
use the bathroom. How 'bout you get  
moving on that pizza.

MARK  
Will that shut you up?

LILY  
No, but you don't want to see me  
when I'm hangry.

MARK  
Fine, I'll go get a pizza down the  
street. Don't touch any of my  
valuables while I'm gone.

LILY  
Is that a 2018 Knicks autographed  
basketball over there?

MARK  
Yes.

LILY  
I just get sadder and sadder the  
more I find out about you.

Mark starts to leave the apartment but comes back in to  
pick up a purse like bag to take with him.

INT. SHOPPING MALL - NIGHT

Lisa and John frantically search the almost deserted mall.

LISA  
I don't see her anywhere.

JOHN

Let's go ask that guy over there if  
he's seen her.

Lisa and John go over to the overweight man in a red shirt.

LISA

Excuse me, sir, have you seen a seven  
year old girl waking around here by  
herself?

FAT GUY

The sarcastic one with the attitude?

JOHN

Yes, we're looking for her.

FAT GUY

Why?

LISA

Because we want to get her back.

FAT GUY

Why?

LISA

Did she call you fat?

FAT GUY

She said I was fatter than Santa.

JOHN

We're sorry.

LISA

Did you see where she went?

FAT GUY

I'm trying to get my ten thousand  
steps a day in, you know.

JOHN

Good for you.

LISA

Listen to me you fat bastard, my  
daughter is missing.

JOHN

She takes after her mom.

FAT GUY

I saw her leaving the mall with a  
Santa who had a purple Santa hat.

LISA  
Oh my God! It's my ex-boyfriend,  
Mark. We gotta go.

JOHN  
Thank you for your help, sir.

LISA  
Yes, Merry Christmas. Try to lay  
off the egg nog. It's not worth it.

Lisa and John take off.

INT. MARKS APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Lily has her feet up on the kitchen table. Mark comes in  
with a pizza.

LILY  
What took so long? It's almost New  
Year's Eve.

Mark puts the pizza on the table, throws his bag on the couch,  
and knocks Lily's feet off the table.

LILY (CONT'D)  
Nice man purse.

MARK  
Just eat and shut up.

Lily opens the pizza box.

LILY  
What's on here?

MARK  
Pineapple.

LILY  
Are you insane, man?

MARK  
I like pineapple on my pizza.

Mark takes a piece and starts eating it.

LILY  
Oh my God, you're a psychopath!

MARK  
I'm getting tired of you, brat.

LILY

This has been fun, but I think I  
want to go home now.

Lily gets up from her chair. Mark grabs her and pulls her  
back on the chair.

MARK

You're not going anywhere, brat.

LILY

Wait, are you really kidnapping me?

MARK

Guess so. That would really upset  
Lisa, for some reason.

LILY

First off, thank you. You've made a  
little girl's dream come true on  
Christmas Eve, but I'm leaving, crazy  
man.

Lily gets up and starts running to the door. Mark goes after  
her and grabs her arm. Lily pulls it back.

LILY (CONT'D)

Watch it, sucker!

MARK

What are you gonna do about it?

EXT. MARKS APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Lisa and John run up to the apartment building. They hear  
screaming.

LISA

That sounds like a little girl  
screaming!

(O.S.)

Help! Help! Get this monster away  
from me!

JOHN

Let's go!

Lisa and John run as fast as they can to Mark's front door.

(O.S.)

Somebody help me! Please!

Lisa tries to open the door but it's locked.

LISA

Kick it in!

John kicks in the front door. Lisa and John charge into the room, only to see Lily beating Mark, who is in the fetal position, with his man purse.

LILY

Take that, you old fish-eyed fool!

Lily smacks him again with his purse.

MARK

Get this maniac off me!

Lily hits him one more time with the purse.

LILY

Take that, you old heathen! The truth will set you free!

JOHN

What's she doing?

LISA

She's going all Aunt Esther on his ass!

Lily runs over and jumps into Lisa's arms.

LILY

He was really kidnapping me.

LISA

I'm so happy for you.

JOHN

Dreams really do come true.

MARK

Get out of my apartment before I call the police!

LISA

We do need to get home, it's getting late, and you know Santa's going to be coming.

LILY

You mean I can stay with you for Christmas?

LISA

What do you think, John?

JOHN  
Sounds good to me.

LISA  
Let's get out of here.

Lisa, Lily and John start to leave. Mark gets up and sits down at the kitchen table. Lily goes up to him.

LILY  
Hey, guy, Merry Christmas!

She takes a piece of pineapple pizza and hands it to him.

MARK  
Thanks, kid.

LILY  
Seriously though, fella, pineapple on pizza is disturbing.

INT. LISA'S APARTMENT - DAY

It's Christmas morning. Lily is unwrapping all her presents with Lisa. New toys are everywhere. John and Doris are there, too.

LILY  
This is the greatest Christmas ever!

JOHN  
Santa really came through this year.

LISA  
I'll say. Open another present.

Lily unwraps another present and then looks up at the ceiling.

LILY  
Santa, you know me so well.

JOHN  
What is it?

LILY  
It's the whole series of Sanford and Son on DVD!

LISA  
Awesome!

Lily looks up at the ceiling again.

LILY  
You da man, Santa!

DORIS  
Open my present, Lily.

Lily runs over to Doris and gives her a big hug. Then, she opens her present.

LILY  
Oh, cool, power tools!

LISA  
What?

DORIS  
Relax, they're not real. What kind of grandma do you take me for?

LILY  
I love you, grandma!

Doris winks at Lily and whispers.

DORIS  
Practice with these and I'll get you the real ones next year.

LISA  
I heard that.

JOHN  
Me, too.

The doorbell rings.

LILY  
I'll get it.

Lily runs to the door and opens it. Mark is there.

LISA (O.S.)  
Who is it?

LILY  
It's my abductor.

MARK  
I just came by to bring you a present and to thank Lisa.

Mark hands Lily a present and comes in. Lisa gets up.

LILY  
Thanks, guy, you're alright.



MARK

Don't worry. It's not anything  
autographed by the Knicks.

Lily opens her present. It's a gift certificate for pizza.

LILY

Awesome, thanks. I love pizza!

MARK

You don't have to get pineapple ever  
again.

LISA

That's so nice of you, Mark.

MARK

I got a call from Dieter last night.  
He told me you recommended me for an  
audition in his new Christmas movie.

LISA

There's a couple parts I thought you  
were perfect for in the movie.

LILY

I forgot all about the audition.  
Did you get the part?

LISA

No, I was rejected.

LILY

But you were so good.

LISA

That's show business, right, Mom?

DORIS

She completely butchered the audition.

JOHN

Even I heard you were terrible and I  
don't know anybody in show biz.

LISA

Why don't you stay for Christmas  
breakfast, Mark?

Mark sits down. Lily opens her last present from Santa.

LILY

I'm all done opening presents.

JOHN  
That took a lot of stamina.

LILY  
I really am exhausted.

LISA  
There's one more present. This one's  
from me.

Lisa hands Lily a box.

LILY  
I thought you said you weren't getting  
me anything for Christmas?

LISA  
I made one exception. Open it!

Lily opens the box and takes out adoption papers.

LILY  
Really? You want to be my mom forever?

LISA  
If you'll have me?

Lily runs over to Lisa and jumps in her arms.

LILY  
I guess you'll do.

LISA  
I love you, Lily.

LILY  
I love you, Mom.

One year later.

INT. KIDS PLACE ENTERTAINMENT - DAY

Kids are swarming all over the place having fun. A pregnant  
Lisa, her mom, John and Lily are there.

LISA  
I can't believe we really own this  
place.

JOHN  
Me, neither.

LILY  
My mom and dad are so cool.

DORIS

You're married and you own a kids  
entertainment center. Didn't see  
that coming a year ago.

LILY

I'm still waiting on my alpaca.

LISA

Your little brother is kicking.

Lily puts her hands on Lisa's belly.

LILY

I can't wait to meet you little  
Lamont.

Lisa shakes her head and gives Lily a big hug.

The end.





















