

LIVIN' ON A PRAYER
"Family Dysfunctions"

Written

&

Created

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LIVING ON A PRAYER

#1 "Family Dysfunctions"

TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING -- ESTABLISHING -- DAY

To establish the building.

INT. APARTMENT -- LIVING ROOM -- DAY

The place is a mess. The rug looks like it hasn't been vacuumed in months. Dishes... dust... clutter.

SETH is pacing back and forth on the floor as he talks on the phone.

SETH
(into phone)
I can do that.
(beat)
I can do that too.

Seth checks his watch.

SETH (CONT'D)
(into phone)
How about this afternoon... say two o'clock?
(beat)
Great, see you then.

Seth hangs up the phone... excited...

SETH (CONT'D)
Mom, Mom!!

Seth runs into...

INT. APARTMENT -- BEDROOM -- DAY

Just as dirty... clothes everywhere. Seth comes in to find LINDA hunched behind her bed... hiding.

SETH
Mom, what are you doing?

LINDA
I'm hiding...

Seth reacts... been down this road before.

SETH
Hiding from what?

LINDA
The evil genie.

Seth reacts...

SETH
Mom, you didn't take your medication
again, what's wrong with you?

Linda starts to slowly stand up, agitated.

LINDA
I don't need my medication.

Seth moves towards the dresser and picks up a medication
bottle.

SETH
Yes you do.

LINDA
No I don't... I don't work until
Monday.

SETH
Mom... you need to take your medicine
even if you're....

LINDA
Watch out!!

Linda picks up a nicknack and throws it at an invisible
creature.

Seth reacts.

SETH
What was that!?

LINDA
The genie...

Linda pulls Seth behind the bed with her....

LINDA (CONT'D)
It's going to get you, don't let it
get you....

Seth opens the pill bottle and takes out two pills.

SETH
Mom, just take this.

LINDA
I don't need it.

SETH

Yes you do...

LINDA

No I don't.

Linda smacks the pill bottle out of Seth's hands... knocking the pills onto the floor. She then gets up and leaves the room on a run.

SETH

Mom, these pills cost a lot of money.

Seth starts to pick up the pills and tries to replace them back into the bottle.

SETH (CONT'D)

Mom... I actually have a job interview today, please don't ruin it for me.

She screams o.c. and runs back into the room and into the closet. She closes the door behind her. On Seth's reaction.

FADE OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. HOUSE -- BEDROOM -- AFTERNOON

The alarm clock reads 1:30PM. ANDY is in his bed, half asleep. His cell phone rings. Andy picks it up.

ANDY
(into phone)
Hello?

INT. ROOM -- AFTERNOON

NICHOLE is sitting on a couch as she talks into the phone.

NICHOLE
(into phone)
Hay, are you still sleeping?

INT. HOUSE -- BEDROOM -- AFTERNOON

ANDY
(into phone)
Yeah.

INTERCUT AS NEEDED:

NICHOLE
(into phone)
You lazy person, you.

ANDY
(into phone)
Hay, it feels good to sleep in for once, all right?

NICHOLE
(into phone)
Because the pressure is off?

ANDY
(into phone)
Yeah.

NICHOLE
(into phone)
You know Rom thinks you're going to beg him for your job back.

This wakes Andy right up. He sits up, throws his legs over the side of the bed.

ANDY

(into phone)

Fat chance!! After what he did to me? I wouldn't ask him for the time of day. Who the hell does he think he is?

NICHOLE

(into phone)

So no regrets, huh?

Andy gets up and heads out into:

INT. HOUSE -- KITCHEN -- AFTERNOON (CONTINUE INTERCUT)

Where he crosses the room and turns on the coffee pot.

ANDY

(into phone)

No. I thought I would. I thought I would wake up after all of it and freak out, or have a nervous breakdown or something. But no. I feel a hundred times better.

NICHOLE

(into phone)

That's good.

Andy looks over some bills on the counter.

ANDY

(into phone)

I'm still worried about what I'm going to do. But for right now I feel free. Like a weight has been lifted off of me.

NICHOLE

(into phone)

Hay.

ANDY

(into phone)

What?

NICHOLE

(into phone)

We should hang out tonight?

ANDY

(into phone)

And go where? I can't spend my money foolishly you know. Especially now.

NICHOLE

(into phone)

I don't know, let's go to Mrs. Firly's Subs. You can get a twelve inch sub there for like six bucks.

ANDY

(into phone)

Okay, I can live with that. That shouldn't break me.

NICHOLE

(into phone)

Okay, see you at seven?

ANDY

(into phone)

Seven it is.

Andy hangs up. He pours himself some coffee. Sips. He moves into the:

INT. HOUSE -- LIVING ROOM -- AFTERNOON

Andy sits at his drawing table and starts to look over his work. Notably there is a lot more drawings than the last time.

The phone RINGS again. Andy checks to see who it is. He reacts answers it.

ANDY

(into phone)

Hello, Seth.

INT. CAR -- MOVING -- AFTERNOON

Seth driving and talking on the phone.

SETH

(into phone)

Hay, guess where I'm going?

INT. HOUSE -- LIVING ROOM -- AFTERNOON

ANDY

(into phone)

Where?

INTERCUT AS NEEDED:

SETH

(into phone)

I have a job interview.

Andy perks up.

ANDY
(into phone)
Really?

SETH
(into phone)
You know that cell phone booth at
the mall?

ANDY
(into phone)
You're going to sell cell phones?

SETH
(into phone)
Looks like it. It sounded pretty
good on the phone.

ANDY
(into phone)
Well good luck.

SETH
(into phone)
Hay, if this works out, I got your
back until you find another job.

Andy reacts... not liking this... but.

ANDY
(into phone)
We'll see about that.

SETH
(into phone)
Shut up, yes I will, and don't argue
with me.

Andy stays quiet....

SETH (CONT'D)
(into phone)
Andy... hello?!

ANDY
(into phone)
Yeah, I'm here....

The back door opens and MADELINE ENTERS with a bunch of empty
boxes.

MADELINE
Hello.

Andy reacts...

ANDY
(into phone)
Hay Seth, I gotta go, Madeline just
walked in.

SETH
(into phone)
Okay, I'll call you later when I
have the job.

ANDY
(into phone)
Don't jinx yourself.

SETH
(into phone)
Okay, bye.

Andy hangs up.

END INTERCUT.

MADELINE
Did you start packing yet?

Andy reacts...

ANDY
What?

MADELINE
You know you're not staying here,
right?

ANDY
That was the plan.

Madeline reacts... getting agitated.

MADELINE
How?

Andy looks around... dumb question.

ANDY
By not moving...

MADELINE
You quit your job, remember?

ANDY
Yeah.

MADELINE
So how do you think you can afford
this place?

ANDY

This 'place' happens to be the 'place' where we grew up.

MADELINE

Yeah?

ANDY

So why not? The mortgage has been paid for almost ten years now. The house is ours.

MADELINE

Right, ours, and I say we sell it.

ANDY

And where am I suppose to go?

MADELINE

You're the one who had to quit your job, now you expect to mooch off of me?

Andy gets up, mad now... spills his coffee.

ANDY

No, Madeline, who would think you would be there for your family, who would think that?

MADELINE

I'm always there for my family.

ANDY

Really? Where were you for the past six years while Mom was getting sicker and sicker, huh?

MADELINE

Building a life! It's not my fault you decided to stay at home with mommy.

ANDY

I put my life on hold for mom while you were out building a life.

Madeline reacts...

MADELINE

Look, part of Matt's and my retirement hinges on selling this place and I'm not going to change that for you.

ANDY

You're only doing this for the money?

Madeline gives him a silent yes.

ANDY (CONT'D)

You're going to sell Mom's house and throw me out on the street just to line your pocket? That's just like you.

Andy leaves for the...

INT. HOUSE -- KITCHEN -- AFTERNOON

Andy goes for the paper towels. Madeline follows.

ANDY

I can't believe you're doing this? Now. We berried Mom just three days ago, three days!

MADELINE

If you had a job I wouldn't...

ANDY

Yeah right! Yeah right! Some how I have a hard time believing that.

Andy goes back into the:

INT. HOUSE -- LIVING ROOM -- AFTERNOON

Andy starts to wipe up the drawing table. Madeline follows.

MADELINE

I told you to find another job before quitting, it's not my fault you didn't listen to me.

ANDY

How was I supposed to look for another job while the first job was eating up all my time? Can you tell me that? Between working for a job that keeps lousy hours, coming home, taking care of mom. How was I supposed to do that? How?

MADELINE

I did it. I found plenty of jobs while I was working full time.

ANDY

YOU weren't taking care of a SICK WOMAN!! You bailed on us, remember? Of course now that money is involved it's amazing how quickly you come back into the picture.

Andy stops...

ANDY (CONT'D)

That's not why you pushed to pull
the plug on Mom, is it?

Madeline reacts...

MADELINE

Of course not. I pulled the plug on
Mom because I didn't want her to
suffer any longer.

Andy finishes cleaning up the spill. He EXITS to throw away
the used paper towels.

While he's gone Madeline starts looking through his drawings.

MADELINE (CONT'D)

You know, these aren't that bad,
Andy.

Andy makes his way back in.

ANDY

Oh yeah?

MADELINE

Yeah. You've improved, a lot.

ANDY

You remember when I made Mom that
Christmas card?

MADELINE

You mean the one with the South Park
characters?

ANDY

Yeah.

MADELINE

If I remember correctly, Mom didn't
like that one.

ANDY

(in female voice)

If you think my eight year old boy
is going to talk to me like that you
have another thing coming.

Madeline laughs.

MADELINE

Well they are pretty fowled mouthed.

ANDY
That's the joke.

Madeline puts the drawings down.

MADELINE
You can't hold on to these memories
for ever you know?

ANDY
I'm not holding onto memories. I'm
holding onto the only asset I have.

MADELINE
That's just the thing, you don't
have it.

Andy reacts...

ANDY
Why are you trying to take it away
from me?

MADELINE
Because I know you can't handle it.

ANDY
How do you know? I have learned
some survival skills you know?

Madeline shakes her head as she moves into the:

INT. HOUSE -- KITCHEN -- AFTERNOON

She picks up a box and moves back to the:

INT. HOUSE -- LIVING ROOM -- AFTERNOON

Where she goes to a bookcase and starts removing books and
placing them into the box.

ANDY
What are you doing?

MADELINE
You're going, if you like it or not.

ANDY
You didn't listen to me, you never...

MADELINE
You don't listen to me. You can't
handle this place!!

ANDY

I can handle it a whole lot easier than an apartment. At least here if I don't pay the light bill the power gets shut off. They don't evict you.

MADELINE

And the property tax?

ANDY

I have a few months before that comes in.

Madeline is done with one shelf and moves on to another.

MADELINE

It might take a few months to sell the house.

ANDY

I'll have a job by then.

MADELINE

You don't know that. Haven't you heard the news lately. Good luck.

ANDY

I'll find a job. I have an excellent resume and a great work history. I'll find a job.

Madeline stops.

MADELINE

Don't you think your putting a little too much confidence into yourself?

Andy reacts...

ANDY

Somebody has to.

Madeline resumes packing. Andy takes away the box.

MADELINE

Give me that back.

ANDY

YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW IF YOU HAVE THE HOUSE YET.

MADELINE

It was decided many years ago that the house and what's inside of it, will go to both of us. Fifty fifty.

ANDY

Ah, Mom revised the will, two years ago. Remember? When we set up that family meeting.

(beat, remembering)

The one that you blew off. That's right, you didn't know because you blew off the meeting.

Andy starts to think, stepping out of the conversation. Madeline reacts, taking the box back... resumes packing.

MADELINE

If you were there than you should know if she changed the will.

ANDY

She only announced that she was changing the will. She asked me a bunch of questions but...

Beat of thinking. Andy's wheels are starting to turn.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Of course now that I realize that. I should find out if you even had the power of attorney to pull Mom's plug in the first place. In fact I don't think you did.

Andy sits down almost in shock. Madeline stops and turns to look at him.

MADELINE

What are you talking about? Of course I was her power of attorney. Plus, I was her emergency contact in the hospital computer.

ANDY

No, I was...

Madeline reacts...

MADELINE

No, I was....

Andy reads her reaction...

MADELINE (CONT'D)

Why would you be?

ANDY

Because Mom didn't appreciate the idea of you abandoning us.

(MORE)

ANDY (CONT'D)

Thus the reason why she started changing things. Because I was here dealing with the stuff and you weren't. Remember, you got married and didn't even tell us for three years. She didn't even know she was a grandmother until two years after your daughter was born. She was hospitalized twice, in the hospital you worked at, and you never showed up to see her.

MADELINE

I was busy building a life.

ANDY

And all she wanted was to be apart of that life.

Madeline stops and decides to ignore him. She continues packing. Andy thinks quietly.

Beat... Andy makes a connection.

ANDY (CONT'D)

You changed the emergency contact in the computers.

Madeline reacts... covering it up.

MADELINE

I don't have the authority...

ANDY

You're a charge nurse!!! Everything in that hospital is computerized. You could've changed her records on the sixth floor while she was lying on her bed on the third floor.

Madeline stops...

MADELINE

You're reaching...

Andy stands up and heads over to the drawing table to get his phone.

ANDY

Really? Maybe I should call the hospital and find out.

MADELINE

And what is that going to tell you?

ANDY

I know the day she was admitted my name was the emergency contact. I know, I was there. I put it there.

Andy starts to dial.

MADELINE

What if you find out that I did change it?

Andy hangs up... she admitted it... at least to him she did.

ANDY

My big question becomes why?

Madeline inhales to speak... but.

ANDY (CONT'D)

But I already know why. Because you can't stand not being in control. That's why you disappeared for six years like you did. Because you found something else to control. Your husband. That spineless jellyfish you married. The wedding that mom and I didn't know anything about.

Madeline reacts... wants to talk... but...

ANDY (CONT'D)

And when you found out that Mom was on her death bed, your last living parent, you reacted just like any daughter would. You wanted to be involved. But when you found out that you were no where in the paperwork you couldn't handle that. Since your definition of being involved means being in control.

Andy starts to get angry as he puts the pieces of the puzzle together.

ANDY (CONT'D)

You couldn't handle the fact that your little brother had more control over the situation than you did. That's why you rushed to pull the plug on Mom. Because you wanted to make the choice before I found out that it was my choice to make!!!

MADELINE

It was our choice to make!!

ANDY

NOW YOU SAY THAT, AFTER IT'S ALL SAID AND DONE. YOU WEREN'T HERE!!! You disappeared!! You weren't here to set up her insulin. To get her medications, to answer her questions. To take her to her doctors appointments. You weren't here to deal with her hallucinations because her blood sugar was too high. I WAS... It was my choice to decide if I had more fight in me. If I had enough. NOT YOURS!! And Mom knew that. But you couldn't bare the idea that your mother was dyeing and all you could do was watch. You HAD to take control of the situation. So you pushed it to "keep" me in my place. To make sure I "understood" that you were in control. Because that's Madeline. Always in control.

Madeline stays quiet....

ANDY (CONT'D)

Well you're not in control anymore. Get out.

MADELINE

This is our house...

ANDY

The will doesn't come out until next Friday, until then this is still 'Mom's' house and my residency is here, not yours, so get out or I'm calling the cops...

Madeline looks back at him... sees the seriousness in his eyes. She heads for the...

INT. HOUSE -- KITCHEN -- AFTERNOON

Where she heads for the door.

MADELINE

You'll be hearing from my attorney.

ANDY

When I find out that I had power of attorney, and I'm pretty sure that I did, I suggest you leave me and this house alone unless you want a call from an attorney.

Madeline gestures towards the pile of unpaid bills on the counter.

MADLINE

Good luck affording one...

And Madeline EXITS.

On Andy's reaction.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. HOUSE -- ESTABLISHING -- EVENING

Establishing the house.

INT. HOUSE -- KITCHEN -- EVENING

Seth is finishing cooking up some burgers. Andy is sitting at the table.

SETH

So let me get this straight. Your Mom gave you power of attorney except she never told you.

ANDY

Right.

SETH

So when Madeline gave the order to pull the plug it was actually your choice. Except you didn't know it.

ANDY

Right.

Seth removes the paddies from the skillet and finishes assembling the burgers on the counter on two plates.

SETH

But why wouldn't she tell you?

ANDY

Well, either she did and I didn't hear her or wasn't paying attention. Or she didn't tell me and just assumed that I knew. But I do remember her saying something about changing it. And I do know she changed something, and there was nothing else going on at the time to cause the change to be something else. So common sense says that it probably was my decision.

Seth puts the plates on the table, one in front of Andy. Seth sits and eats.

SETH

Do you think Madeline knew about it?

ANDY

I don't see how. She was out of the loop at the time.

(MORE)

ANDY (CONT'D)
Which is another reason why I think
it was really my decision.

Andy notably doesn't eat, rather he leafs through the mail.

ANDY (CONT'D)
So? When do you start?

SETH
Tomorrow. I'm a new salesman.

ANDY
Ahh. Those guys at the mall who
keeps harassing you to change your
cell phone carrier.

SETH
That's me.

Andy continues leafing through the mail... Seth notices
he's not eating.

SETH (CONT'D)
Why aren't you eating your burger?

Andy gets up and heads for the stairs.

ANDY
I'm going out with Nichole tonight.

SETH
Ahh, your girlfriend.

ANDY
No, not my girlfriend.

Before Andy is out of view:

SETH
Hay.

Andy stops.

SETH (CONT'D)
Don't worry, now that I'm working I
can help you out some.

Andy reacts...

ANDY
I'm more worried about that.

SETH
What, you can't accept help from a
friend?

ANDY

If I do this on my own and I fail,
then I'm only bringing myself down.
If I get help and then I fail I'm
not just hurting myself anymore.
That's what I can't accept.

SETH

I know you pretty well, Andy, you'll
be okay.

Andy reacts... not convinced.

SETH (CONT'D)

And you want to know something else?

ANDY

What?

SETH

I'm eating your burger.

Seth grabs Andy's plate. On Andy's reaction.

EXT. STREET -- NIGHT

Andy's van drives by.

INT. VAN -- MOVING -- NIGHT

Andy driving, Nichole passenger.

ANDY

So where are we going to eat?

NICHOLE

Mrs. Firly's, remember?

ANDY

Oh yeah.

NICHOLE

So, what's up, Andy?

ANDY

Seth got a job now.

NICHOLE

Really? How long is that going to
last?

ANDY

I don't know. Until the next life
lesson crosses his path.

ANGLE -- THROUGH WINDSHIELD

The van drives by a store.

ANDY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Hey I applied there two days ago.

BACK TO SCENE

NICHOLE
And?

ANDY
And I don't know. They say they're hiring but when you call them they say next week, next week, next week.

Nichole reacts.

ANDY (CONT'D)
The truth is, I don't know if I want a job.

NICHOLE
But you need one.

EXT. MRS. FIRLY'S SUBS -- NIGHT

ANGLE THROUGH THE WINDSHIELD as the van DRIVES INTO FRAME.

As Andy speaks he pulls into a parking space and parks.

ANDY
Yeah, but I'm getting pretty sick of my bosses using the economy as an excuse to treat me like shit. I'm a little scared of getting stuck again at some job that's going to spit in my face.

NICHOLE
Trust me, Rom is the worse of the worse. You can easily get better than him. You can't get much worse.

As Andy shuts the engine off and starts to climb out:

ANDY
I hope so.

EXT. MRS. FIRLY'S SUBS -- NIGHT

Andy and Nichole leave the van and enter the sub shop.

INT. MRS. FIRLY'S SUBS -- NIGHT

Various N.D. customers already in line. Behind the counter is SEAN. He is making subs, working his way down the line of people.

Andy and Nichole get in line.

ANDY

How's the baby?

NICHOLE

She's fine. Greg is a jerk. He keeps fighting me about this child support thing.

ANDY

He doesn't want to pay?

NICHOLE

Nope. But I keep telling him that unless he starts helping me out more with Kayla's needs I'm going to have to find other ways.

The line moves along.

ANDY

You didn't make this child by myself... he needs to take responsibility for his half.

NICHOLE

Right. Especially since I can't do it alone.

Andy reacts... agrees.

They look down the line. They're almost next.

NICHOLE (CONT'D)

Still looking for a boyfriend?

They're next.

ANDY

I....
(continuous)

Sean and Andy make eye contact.

ANDY (CONT'D)

...wasn't.

Nichole and Sean react.

CUT TO:

EXT. MRS. FIRLY'S SUBS -- NIGHT

Andy and Nichole are sitting at an outside table eating their subs.

NICHOLE

So I bought these blouses from the Good Will Store. Four blouses and they only cost me seven buck!!

While Nichole is talking Andy is looking through the window staring at Sean.

NICHOLE (CONT'D)

So I get home and I try on some of these blouses and my Mom comes up to me and goes 'where did you get those!!' That's not from my side of the family.

Sean looks up and notices Andy. Andy quickly looks away.

NICHOLE (CONT'D)

Andy, did you hear anything I just said?

Andy... busted... trying to cover up...

ANDY

Yeah, you were trying on blouses.

NICHOLE

And?

Andy is still trying to cover...

ANDY

And you found one that you liked.

NICHOLE

No...

Andy glances back up to Sean and catches Sean also looking. He quickly looks away. They both like at each other and neither one wants to admit it... or take the chance. Realizing this Andy now avoids looking his way.

NICHOLE (CONT'D)

If you like him why don't you talk to him?

ANDY

No. I can't. I don't even know if he's gay.

Nichole looks herself.

NICHOLE

I think he is...

ANDY

Why do you think that?

Andy looks in Sean's direction and catches him looking at Andy.

Andy looks back to Nichole. Nichole reacts.... she was right.

NICHOLE

Go talk to him.

ANDY

I can't. What am I going to say?
Hi I'm unemployed.

NICHOLE

You always cut yourself short. What's
the worse that can happen?

ANDY

He could say no.

NICHOLE

And then you're right back to where
you're started. So what.

Andy thinks... he looks back to Sean. Andy looks around...
Nichole... Sean... his sub... Finally he stands up.

ANDY

Okay. What the hell.

And goes into the sub shop.

INT. MRS. FIRLY'S SUBS -- NIGHT

Sean's back is turned. Andy slowly walks up to the counter...
nervous.

ANDY

Excuse me.

Sean turns and notices Andy. He reacts... nervous.

SEAN

Hi...

ANDY

Hi. What's your name?

Sean starts to turn red.

SEAN

Sean... Yours?

ANDY

Andy.

Reactions... that was easy.

ANDY (CONT'D)

You wanna...

Andy's cell phone RINGS... he reacts before looking at the caller id and frowns... He answers it.

ANDY (CONT'D)

(into phone)

Hello?

(beat)

You okay?

(beat)

I'm on my way.

Andy is now on a mission. He turns and looks like he's leaving. Sean is disappointed. But Andy stops next to the door and removes a napkin from the dispenser. He writes on it and returns to the counter. He hands the napkin to Sean.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Here, call me sometime... I gotta go, it's an emergency.

SEAN

Okay.

ANDY

Sorry...

Andy EXITS. Sean watches him go, he holds the number like a trophy.

EXT. MRS. FIRLY'S SUBS -- NIGHT

Andy heads for the van.

ANDY

We gotta go.

Nichole follows surprised.

NICHOLE

Why? Did he turn you down?

ANDY

Seth got beat up.

NICHOLE

Oh my God. By who?

ANDY

His Mom.

Nichole reacts...

CUT TO:

EXT. HOSPITAL -- NIGHT

The van pulls into the parking lot and comes to a stop in front of the doors where Seth was standing... Waiting. Seth climbs into the van.

Seth has his arm in a sling and cuts on his lip and forehead along with a black eye.

INT. VAN -- PARKED -- NIGHT

ANDY

What happened?

SETH

My mom isn't taking her meds again...

Andy and Nichole reacts...

ANDY

...And she had a schizophrenic episode.

SETH

Right. She thought I was an evil genie.

NICHOLE

Where is she now?

SETH

Arrested. The neighbors called the cops.

ANDY

You were lucky.

Seth nods, agrees.

SETH

She got me by total surprise. I didn't even see it coming.

Andy reacts... he starts to drive...

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING -- ESTABLISHING -- NIGHT

The van pulls up and parks.

INT. VAN -- PARKED -- NIGHT

SETH

I don't know what I'm going to do.

ANDY

About?

SETH

Mom isn't going to come home for a while. They didn't let her go last time for almost a year.

ANDY

Where did you go last time?

SETH

With my grandfather.

ANDY

And he passed away last year.

SETH

Yeah...

Andy reacts... he's concerned but doesn't like to be.

ANDY

(regretfully)

You want to stay over tonight?

SETH

Yeah. If you don't mind?

ANDY

Go and pack. I'm going to take Nichole home. I'll be back in fifteen minutes.

SETH

Okay.

Seth climbs out and slides the rear door shut.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING -- NIGHT

Andy drives off.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING #2 -- NIGHT

The van pulls up in front and parks.

INT. VAN -- PARKED -- NIGHT

NICHOLE

I have an idea.

ANDY

What's that?

NICHOLE

Why doesn't Seth move in with you?

ANDY

What?

NICHOLE

Why not? He's got a job now, he can't handle that apartment by himself, and you can't handle that house by yourself. You two need each other right now.

ANDY

He's annoying.

NICHOLE

He likes you...

ANDY

He eats my food.

NICHOLE

So?

ANDY

I can't stand him.

NICHOLE

You two are best friends...

ANDY

He doesn't know I'm gay...

Nichole reacts...

NICHOLE

You didn't tell him?

ANDY

No.

NICHOLE

Why not?

Andy thinks....

ANDY

I don't know, I guess it didn't cross my mind. I usually tell people who it applies to. It doesn't apply to him.

NICHOLE

You told me.

ANDY

No, I came out to you. It was a necessary step.

(MORE)

ANDY (CONT'D)

It was part of coming to peace with it. Now I find it easier to just tell the people that matter if they know. Less hassles that way.

NICHOLE

But Seth is your best friend...

ANDY

You said that, not me.

Nichole reacts...

ANDY (CONT'D)

Good night, Nichole.

NICHOLE

Andy.

ANDY

Night....

Nichole climbs out.

NICHOLE

I'll call you tomorrow.

ANDY

Okay.

Nichole closes the door. Andy drives off.

EXT. STREET -- NIGHT

The van drives by.

INT. VAN -- MOVING -- NIGHT

Andy drives....

EXT. HOUSE -- NIGHT

The van pulls into the driveway.

INT. HOUSE -- KITCHEN -- NIGHT

DARK... Andy and Seth opens the door and walk in. Andy turns the LIGHT ON. Seth immediately starts to climb the stairs.

Andy thinks and turns to Seth.

ANDY

Hay.

Seth stops.

ANDY (CONT'D)
You wanna stay here?

Seth reacts... holds up his bag.

SETH
That's what I'm doing.

ANDY
No, I mean...

Seth reacts... doesn't know what to say.

ANDY (CONT'D)
I think it would be a good idea. It
would help both of us.

Seth reacts still not sure.

ANDY (CONT'D)
We can talk about it tomorrow.

Seth reacts and climbs the stairs.... On Andy's reaction...

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

THE END.