

LARRY/SCOTT #1

(LARRY watches Wheel of Fortune while SCOTT bounds in, searching through the fridge.)

LARRY

We got in some good steaks at the store so we're having that for dinner.

SCOTT

Awesome - thanks, Dad!

LARRY

(to TV)

Moron! You don't need to buy the vowel. Damn, these people are stupid.

SCOTT

You should be a contestant.

(Scott sits next to him, puts his feet up on the coffee table. During the following exchange: Larry kicks Scott's feet off. Scott puts his feet back on. It's playful - almost like two frat bro's.)

LARRY

Yeah right, with what free time? Gotta feed the bottomless teenage pit and Robbie's out for a week at the store, so I'm gonna be bagging groceries. I haven't done that all day since I was eight and your great grandpa was still running the place.

SCOTT

Aw man, I wish I could help out. It's the best geometric challenge there is. Screw the SAT, they should make everyone bag groceries, then you can really know how people think.

LARRY

You're in a good mood today.

SCOTT

Uppers.

LARRY

(serious)

Scott.

SCOTT

We have to have a sense of humor, right? You said that's how we're gonna get through it.

LARRY

(to TV)

Idiot! Idiot! United Parcel Service, not Pencil!

(MORE)

LARRY (CONT'D)

(to Scott)

Why wouldn't you be helping out at the store?

SCOTT

School play season, Pop. And this year, I was thinking of -

LARRY

I heard about what Mr. Powell wants to do this year.

SCOTT

Yeah, it's kinda wild. But it could be a lot of fun. I'm nervous as hell about this, but I was thinking of -

LARRY

A little too wild, if you ask me.

SCOTT

No, it's the "School version." I mean, doesn't that already sound like it's Annie or something?

LARRY

Annie?

SCOTT

The red headed kid?

LARRY

Oooh, yeah. Your Mom made me watch that with you on TV.

SCOTT

Sunday November 7, 1999. You couldn't use football as an excuse 'cause the Cowboys played Monday night that week. And we lost. What a crappy season.

LARRY

(breathes, then)

Son, I think it's better if you sat this one out this year.

SCOTT

The show? Why?

LARRY

I just don't like it, that's all.

SCOTT

Why?

LARRY

There's just something not right about it.

SCOTT

Like the fact it kinda falls apart in the second act?

LARRY

They just need to pick something that's more right for the school.

SCOTT

You're overreacting. The show's fun, got some upbeat songs -

LARRY

So do a lot of other shows, right?

SCOTT

Yeah, but this one's got something I can actually do in it -

LARRY

You want to be in it?

SCOTT

That's what I've been trying to tell you. One of the leads is a dork who carries around a film camera. Sound like anyone you know?

LARRY

I don't want you doing the show. And that's it.

SCOTT

That's it? What? "I'm the mommy, that's why"?

LARRY

I told you NOT to talk about your mother.

SCOTT

It's a figure of speech!

LARRY

(to the TV)

Letter to the Editor! Thank you! Finally.

SCOTT

That's it? No discussion? Just your house, your rules.

LARRY

Son, I don't ask a lot of you, but this one thing is important to me.

SCOTT

Why?

LARRY

I said it's important, and that should be enough for you.

SCOTT

Mom might have been a lot of things, but she always explained herself.

LARRY

Don't confuse lying and making excuses with explaining yourself.

SCOTT

Fine, I get it. You don't want me doing the show.

LARRY

I really don't.

SCOTT

K. You're the Dad.

(on his way out)

Call me when dinner's ready.

LARRY

So we're good here?

SCOTT

Aces.

(re: TV)

Final round.

(SCOTT exits.)

LARRY/SCOTT 2

LARRY

I get a call today from Mr. Powell saying I have to sign a permission slip so you can be in the show.

SCOTT

I was -

LARRY

I'm talking. I told Mr. Powell that I didn't know what he was talking about since I was sure my son didn't try out for the show.

SCOTT

I did it because -

LARRY

I don't want to pull the Dad card here, but hell, Scott. Did I not make myself clear?

SCOTT

What is so wrong with the show?

LARRY

This is not about the show. This is about you lying to me. You made a promise to me and you broke it.

SCOTT

But if you knew -

LARRY

We already had this discussion.

SCOTT

No, YOU already had this discussion. I don't think I got to be a part of it.

LARRY

But you made a choice - a choice to say "Screw you, Dad. I'm gonna do what I want."

SCOTT

This show means a lot to me.

LARRY

I told Mr. Powell, I'm sorry, but Scott won't be available to come to rehearsals because he has to work at my store.

SCOTT

You're punishing me?

You'll get paid.

LARRY

SCOTT

I -