

ABOUT SCHMIDT

(Kitchen - Jeannie making sandwiches. Warren at table)

JEANNIE

Mayonnaise or mustard?

WARREN

I like both.

JEANNIE

Okay.

WARREN

And don't toast the bread too much, I don't like my bread very toasted. And I'll have some of those barbecue potato chips. Not the plain ones. The plain ones are your mother's, the barbecue ones are mine. In fact... you and Randall can take those plain ones. They'll just go to waste here; I won't eat 'em. Maybe you can eat them on the plane.

JEANNIE

Fine.

WARREN

So good to see ya! I sure wish you didn't have to get back so soon. Can't you take a few days more? Couldn't you just tell 'em at work? I mean... they'd understand. Heck. Who's gonna take care of me?

(Jeannie brings Warren his sandwich)

JEANNIE

Here's your sandwich.

WARREN

Ah, wonderful. Just wonderful.

JEANNIE

You know, Dad. You're gonna have to get used to taking care of yourself.

WARREN

I know. I know.

JEANNIE

You might have to hire a maid.

WARREN

A maid? Oh, no. I'll be all right. I don't need the extra expense.

JEANNIE

At least for a few weeks... while you're dealing with this.

WARREN

Well, that's why I'm asking you to stay and help me out.

JEANNIE

Dad, I told you. I wish I could. But I can't. I've got too much going on. And even if I could get more time off... I've got the wedding, that's a full time job.

WARREN

Now that you mention it, honey. I think... that, uh... you... should consider postponing it.

JEANNIE

Postpone the wedding? We can't do that, it's all set.

WARREN

I'm just saying you might wanna take this opportunity to... re-think things. That's all.

JEANNIE

But... everyone's invited, and RSVP'd and everything.

WARREN

They'd understand, I mean... Out of respect for your mother. She would have approved.

JEANNIE

Mom wouldn't want us to change anything.

WARREN

The thing is, Jeannie... Your mother and I... spoke a number of times very seriously about you and Randall.

JEANNIE

And what did she say?

WARREN

Just that she loved you and she wanted you to be very happy, and... Maybe this thing with Randall, well... She just... wanted to be sure you weren't gonna have any regrets, that's all. So you might wanna... keep your options open.

JEANNIE

But she helped us pick the date. And I was on the phone with her almost every day... planning it, and ordering things. I really don't know what you are talking about. I don't think mom would want us to change...

WARREN

All right! All Right! Okay, have it your way, you know best, you and your mother. *(beat)* Good sandwich.

JEANNIE

Dad... What did you get such a cheap casket?

WARREN

What?

JEANNIE

I could tell you got the cheapest casket. Everybody could.

WARREN

That's not true. That's not true! I specifically did not choose, as you say, the cheapest casket. There was one less expensive, which they showed to me and I refused it.

JEANNIE

You mean a pine box?

WARREN

I don't remember what it was made out of.

JEANNIE

She waited on you hand and foot. Couldn't you have splurged on her just once?

WARREN

Hey, hey, hey! Once? What are you talking about? What about that Winnebago out there? What do you call that? That is an expensive vehicle. I didn't want to get it, but I did. That was your mother's idea.

JEANNIE

She told me that she had to pay for like half of it. She said she had to sell some of her stock or something to pay for it.

WARREN

That was her decision! I was willing to go as far as the Mini-Winy. But no! She had to have the Adventurer. She wanted to whole 'shebang'! What was I supposed to do? Tell her she couldn't? I was her money. No, no, no. You can't take me to task on that one. Uh-uh, no sir.

(Randall calls from the foyer)

RANDALL

Hey!!!

JEANNIE

In here, Randall.

(Randall enters)

RANDALL
30 minute warning! You better get packed.

WARREN
Goodbye Randall.