

INT. MORGAN'S HOUSE - DAY

MORGAN

Hey Jimmy.

JIM

Hey Morgan.

MORGAN

How are ya? How was your drive?

JIM

Oh it was fine. Yeah. It's two hours. It's uh. I can do it in one sitting.

MORGAN

Well come on in. Can I get you something?

JIM

Oh I'm fine. Actually a big glass of water would be great.

MORGAN

Sure. So it's all settled? How was it?

JIM

It was tough. Lotta people were there. Everybody was askin' for ya. Not like they were being rude they just miss seein' you and Jeff and the kids. They've grown up.

MORGAN

They have. I heard that would happen. With Peyton, he's at practice, I just wanna put a brick on his head and keep him that same size forever.

JIM

It's a good age.

MORGAN

So you got your appeal comin' up? That's good news.

JIM

Yeah. My attorney has it all figured out. She wants me to attack Roz's character moving forward. The problems with everyting.

(MORE)

JIM (CONT'D)

I've been forthwith keepin' all of that. I didn't want to make her out to be some kind of a, a b word in front of a judge. But now I'm thinkin' I shoulda just been honest that my wife in fact, in this case, specifically, is probably the biggest one of them all. (Morgan hands him coffee) Thank you so much. So we're just doin' that until the fifth. Tweakin' it everyday, makin' it perfect. I'm takin' some time off. Captain's asked me to uh, um. It's a mess, Morgan. Whole thing's a mess.

MORGAN

Did you hear about when mom had to back out of a conservatory?

JIM

Say that - no.

MORGAN

Mom had her knee happen earlier in the year, and Britney Ray had just taken over at the ballet, or I think it was around then that they had come to her to do Swan Lake. And she'd done it in the 90s. Actually I think it was seeing that show that made her want to be a dancer. Papa took her. She was just a kid. Anyhow, they wanted her for it. For Odette? The princess role? And it was just for the Tulane Conservatory you know, it was no big deal or nothin' but she went through three rounds of callbacks before she finally admitted that she'd had the surgery, and that workin' so hard and doin' those rehearsals was the real reason she ruined her knee. She couldn't do it anymore. That's why she taught from the chair.

JIM

When was that?

MORGAN

It woulda been after the storm. 2006, 2007?

JIM

God. I have no memory of that.
Where was - was I at the academy?

MORGAN

Oh she never told anybody. I had to hear about it from Britney last week. I mean, can you imagine? She was drivin' an hour every night to kill her knee because she couldn't admit to anyone that she wasn't up to it. She was sneaky like that. That's how I lost her. Anyway.

JIM

What was it like? Growin' up with her as a mom? As a daughter, I mean. You feel like, as a girl, growin' up with a mom was enough?

MORGAN

It was fine. Everybody wants two parents. I got no more tears for that hardly. You two didn't have the pressure to be successful. Ya'll were already doin' well. And I know we talked about this at the barbecue, but, I just never got the feeling that she ever really approved of me.

JIM

Yeah. Yeah I remember hearing you say that. I remember driving home and I was thinkin' about what that would look like. A parent who doesn't approve of their child. But, I mean, she never acted like that to you so I don't know where that comes from.

MORGAN

I mean, Jeff and I started so quick and she was there to help with the boys and everything, but she didn't come to half the birthday parties she did for Crystal.

JIM

Oh don't, I mean, ya'll live out here.

MORGAN

Well I would have gone and picked her up. We built that room for her at the top of the stairs and she only used it but the one time. She gave you mama's earrings and you cant even wear 'em. I don't know. You got money?

JIM

What? Oh yeah, no, that's go on with what you're sayin'.

MORGAN

I can't do this right now. I got this stupid meeting in an hour and I gotta get ready for it. I'm gonna get all worked up.

JIM

I've caught you at a bad time.

MORGAN

No it's okay! We'll have dinner later and I just got a bunch of breakfast stuff for tomorrow.

JIM

It's fine. I just wanted to see how you guys were doin'.

MORGAN

Jimmy stay. You wouldn't have driven all the way out here if you weren't gonna stay you would've called.

JIM

It's alright I'll call next time.

MORGAN

Jimmy don't be difficult.

JIM

My middle name, isn't it? Let's do that phone call sometime soon. I'm lookin' forward to it.

MORGAN

Yeah. I mean I guess. You want a to go cup?

