00:59:47.29 [SUPER SCRIPT] Anything But Christmas // Producer cut # 5 - Locked // Sept 7, 2012 01:00:43.06 [JOHN] This time, you're going to lose. [ZACHARY] You think? [JOHN] Are you ready, set GO! GO! GO! 01:00:54.29 [JOHN] (CONT'D) You win again! Every time. You win I unload. [ZACHARY] It's okay, I'll help. 01:01:00.15 [JOHN] It's getting cold. [ZACHARY] Yeah, you think it's going to snow for Christmas? 01:01:05.01 [JOHN] Yeah. No. I don't know. We'll get that later. [ZACHARY] Are you going to dress up as Santa? [JOHN] NO! I mean, I'm not so good at... [ZACHARY] Dad always did. He used to love Christmas. But not as much as Mom. 01:01:23.10 [JOHN] That's not fair, I can't grab you. [GRACE] I just want you for your groceries. [ZACHARY] Mom's crazy about Christmas. [GRACE] Hey, you know the deal, we don't talk about it until December. On the counter, please. [JOHN] Me or the groceries? 01:01:36.18 [ZACHARY] It's December tomorrow, and then just 25 days. Can John be Santa Claus? [JOHN] No way, I mean, that is just like so dumb. [GRACE] Playing Santa is dumb?

01:01:44.04

[JOHN]

I didn't say that, I just... I've got more stuff to get.

01:01:50.26

[ZACHARY]

Did I say the wrong thing? I told him Dad that used to dress up as Santa.

01:01:55.13

[GRACE]

No, honey, talking about your dad is never wrong. John is just, he's a writer, he's got all these things buzzing around in his head. It's why he falls down a lot.

01:02:04.12

[ZACHARY]

And drops stuff.

[GRACE]

And trips over the front step.

[ZACHARY]

No, he just does that to let me win.

[GRACE]

Oh, you think so?

01:02:22.16

[GRACE] (CONT'D)

We have decided that you would look good as Santa.

01:02:24.22

[JOHN]

Nobody looks good as Santa. Grown men dressed in red coats and white fluff, and those stupid boots and that ridiculous hat. I mean, what is attractive about a bright red nose? I mean, why do we it year after year, and it's everywhere, like on every street corner, it's like a plague of fat red men with rosacea...

01:02:46.28

[ZACHARY]

You're funny!

01:02:50.20

[GRACE]

I put a surprise in the closet for Zach. And be careful how you joke about Christmas, we take it seriously.

[JOHN]

Why?

01:02:57.05

[GRACE]

Why? Because it's like the biggest thing that happened when I was a kid. Wasn't it for you?

[JOHN]

Yeah... It was big.

[GRACE]

And I also, I like to make it extra especially huge for Zach, you know. Make up for...

01:03:10.20

[JOHN]

For his Dad not being here.

01:03:14.02 [GRACE]

Yeah. But you're gonna be here. And that makes me very happy. [JOHN] I love you. [GRACE] Good. 01:03:28.26 [GRACE] (CONT'D) Okay, John's first Christmas. Do you think he'll fit in? [ZACHARY] Sure. But we're not supposed to talk about it. 01:03:35.13 [GRACE] Oh, that's right. My bad. Until tomorrow when we can. Oh yeah, because it'll be December!!! The month, of you know what! Uh-huh, yeah, funky monkey! Yeah, good times. 01:04:00.03 SANTA IN CLOSET "Merry Christmas" [JOHN] Whoa!! 01:04:26.02 [JOHN] Morning, Faith. How are you. [FAITH] Yeah, the apartment is a nightmare, the kids upstairs, the home improvement downstairs, I have complained repeatedly. It's actually a wonder that I get any sleep at all. Can you take that... 01:04:37.21 [JOHN] Oh no, take it away. I'm allergic! [FAITH] To what, Christmas? [JOHN] Yeah. No, tinsel. That attracts dust. [FAITH] Right, okay. Yeah... 01:04:50.22 [JOHN] Whoa! That is really... 01:04:52.10 [FAITH] What is the matter with you? This if for the top of the tree, Grace is going to love this. It's... Is that coffee? Is there coffee on? [JOHN] Is that really a good idea?

[FAITH]

Are you being judgemental?

01:05:03.11

[JOHN]

I'll get you some coffee.

[FAITH]

No, no, you won't, because you don't know how I take it. Nobody actually understands how I take it, it's the same problem at work, which is why I'm now going to have to stop what I'm doing and go get it myself.

01:05:13.04

[JOHN] Okay, okay, calm down...

[FAITH]

Nobody tells me to calm down!

01:05:18.18

[JOHN]

Bad day, huh?

[FAITH]

Are you really going to pretend to be interested in my day?

[JOHN]

Faith, I try.

[FAITH]

Well, why bother?

[JOHN]

Because I love your sister.

01:05:27.10

[FAITH]

Is that official? Are you part of the furniture now? 'Cause if you are you should probably know that we always have the perfect family Christmas. It's a madhouse. She invites anybody, waifs, strays, the broke, the homeless, complete strangers, total loser. She really makes such a big deal out of it.

01:05:49.17

[JOHN]

I've been meaning, I wanted to ask you about that...

[FAITH]

Yeah.

[JOHN]

Like how...

01:05:52.26

[ZACHARY]

Aunt Faith, Charlie Smythe is here.

[FAITH]

Oh no, no, no, I cannot stand that man. You're actually an improvement on that man. Zach, honey, can you tell your mother that I say hello and ask her to give me my blue jacket back? She's always taking things and I'm never getting them back, and it's really annoying. Can you leave...

01:06:25.20

[CHARLIE]

Faith, darling!

[FAITH]

Oh, I've got to go, Charlie. Next time!

[CHARLIE] Oh, shame. Zachary, dear boy, Where is your lovely Mother? [ZACHARY] I'll go get her. 01:06:39.23 [CHARLIE] So... John isn't it? [JOHN] M'hmm. [CHARLIE] Yes. Where are you living now? 01:06:46.12 [JOHN] I've been living here three months, why does that always surprise you? [CHARLIE] Yes, yes, of course. And how's business? Journalist, aren't you? [JOHN] Novelist, and no, I'm not published yet. 01:06:59.13 [CHARLIE] Gracey pacey pudding and pie! You look good enough to eat. [JOHN] It's the coat. Faith was here, she's looking for it. [GRACE] I know, I hid. 01:07:09.15 [CHARLIE] Well it makes you look very sexy, doesn't it, Zach? 01:07:13.25 [GRACE] Charlie, and it's so good to see you, but we're actually getting ready to leave. Oh, just popped in to tell you I have a load of Christmas trees, saving the biggest for you, just like always. 01:07:23.11 [GRACE] That's so sweet, Charlie, but the tree is actually John's department now and he has already chosen one. [JOHN] I have? Yes, I have. And it's, it's a really big one. [CHARLIE] That's a shame. I have whole plantation, just bought a few more acres of woodland for the estate. [JOHN] Charlie, are you rich, or very rich? 01:07:42.04 [CHARLIE] Stinking rich actually. Inherited most of it, but you know how it is. You get money, you have money, you

money, you get money. You get the girls too. They love all that.

01:07:52.19 [JOHN]

I got the girl. And, you know, my tree, it's big enough... [GRACE] Charlie, you know, we really are in a rush, so... [CHARLIE] Righto. But Gracie pie, you simply must come by for tea. Juliette is redecorating the guest wing, she needs your advice. 01:08:08.02 [GRACE] I would love to, Charlie. Okay, bye. [CHARLIE] Cheerio! 01:08:14.05 [JOHN] Is that a wig? [GRACE] I never got close enough to find out. So did you really get a tree? [JOHN] Of course not. 01:08:20.06 [GRACE] Oh, well you better hurry or I might just have to get Charlie's... [JOHN] "Yes, Gracey pie..." I gotta ask, that guy, I mean, how did you... 01:08:28.01 [GRACE] Oh, I know. Yes, it was a year after Jose died and I needed a break, so he took Zach and I on a vacation. I actually could have been his third wife. [JOHN] You would have been stinking rich. [GRACE] Especially after the divorce. Yeah, Charlie, he's a hopeless case. Will never find the right woman. So, are you ready? We really are going somewhere. [JOHN] Where? 01:08:53.11 [GRACE] Well, it is the thirtieth and we thought you might want to join us? [JOHN] Oh... 01:09:16.06 [ZACHARY] Grandma! [EMILIA] Zachary! Come give me a kiss.

01:09:21.20

[EMILIA] (CONTD)

You brought him?

[JOHN]

Good afternoon, Mrs. Rodriquez.

01:09:25.09

[ZACHARY]

Is that alright?

[EMILIA]

Of course. Good afternoon, Mr. Brooking. Zachary, why don't you show him, hmm?

ZACH

Okay, come on.

01:09:37.23

[EMILIA]

Is this a good idea?

[GRACE]

It was Zachary's idea, which makes it a good one. Do you really not like him, or do you just pretend not to?

01:09:47.02

[GRACE] (CONT'D)

No one is going to take the place of Jose in my heart. But it's not about me, and it's not about you. It's about Zachary. He needs a man to look up to. And John is, well, he's kind and he's caring, and they like each other a lot.

01:10:05.06

[EMILIA]

Well, I suppose he's better than Charlie.

01:10:12.02

[ZACHARY]

They gave my Dad a special stone. He was a Doctor in Africa. He was treating refugees.

01:10:18.15

[JOHN] (READING)

"In memory of Doctor Jose Rodriguez, who gave his life that others might live."

[ZACHARY]

Yeah. Some soldiers attacked his hospital he was working at. He could have escaped, but he stayed with his patients. He saved their lives.

[JOHN]

He was a hero.

01:10:32.26

[ZACHARY]

Yeah. And every week he was away he sent me a video.

01:10:40.18

[ZACHARY] (CONT'D)

I always play one here.

01:10:41.02

JOSE (ON SCREEN)

Hey Zachary, how you doing? It's a couple weeks 'til Christmas, are you excited? Thomas, come say hello to my boy.

01:10:50.12

[ZACHARY]

That's Sergeant Thomas. He did security at the hospital he was working at. He's my Dad's best friend.

01:10:54.06

[THOMAS] (ON SCREEN)

Your Dad's doing a great job, the people all love him out here, man. You should be real proud.

01:11:00.11

[ZACHARY]

That's what helped mom after... he died.

01:11:04.24

JOSE (ON SCREEN)

You know I won't be there for this Christmas...

01:11:05.09

[JOHN]

It's an honour, Zach. It's an honour to be here with you and your Dad.

01:11:09.13

JOSE (ON SCREEN)

I chose some presents for you with mom, some seriously good stuff...

01:11:12.18

[ZACHARY]

Are you and Mom gonna get married?

[JOHN]

What? I don't know. What would he say about that?

01:11:20.01

JOSE (ON SCREEN)

Your Mom is the best woman in the world, and all I want for Christmas is for her to be happy. And you too, Son. I love you both, so much.

01:11:33.08

[ZACHARY]

I think he'd like you. I do, and Grandma says I'm a lot like him. Can you take me to the toy store after this? I need to make a Christmas list.

01:11:42.15

[JOHN]

Sure, let's do that.

[ZACHARY]

Excellent!

01:11:59.02

[JOHN]

Thank you for bringing me here. Is she okay with it?

[GRACE] Nothing I can't handle. I've asked her to stay for Christmas and I'm inviting Faith too. I hope that's okay? [JOHN] Sure. My two best friends. 01:12:22.25 [10 SECONDS / COMMERCIAL BLACK] 01:12:37.03 [JOHN] The first Santa of the season is always a bit of a shock, hey? 01:12:43.28 [ZACHARY] Come on! Look, there's an elf! 01:12:46.20 [JOHN] Okay, Zach, you go in. You get started on your wish list. I'll be right behind, okay? [ZACHARY] Okay! 01:12:56.19 [ZACHARY] Come on, John! Hurry! 01:13:15.13 [JOHN] Alright, okay, back off. I'm going in. 01:13:24.27 [GRACE] Ah! First Christmas card. 01:13:29.17 [EMILIA] You know, this is your house, you can do exactly what you want... 01:13:33.16 [GRACE] Yes, John is staying here. It is our first Christmas together, and you know how important that is to me. Isn't that what you wanted to ask? [EMILIA] Actually, no! 01:13:43.14 [GRACE] (ON PHONE) Hello, this is Grace. (a beat) Oh you have? (a beat) Say that again? 01:13:50.06 [GRACE] (CONT'D)

Oh. Okay. (a beat) Yes, can I call you back? (a beat) Thank you. Sorry about that.

01:14:05.09

[EMILIA]

I was going to say, why don't you take it a little easier this Christmas. You always get so anxious about it. I mean I understand why but...

01:14:12.16

[EMILIA] (CONT'D)

Grace, what's wrong?

[GRACE]

Nothing. Nothing is wrong.

[EMILIA]

You don't have to tell me, but don't lie to me.

01:14:23.25

[ZACHARY]

Hi Mom, Grandma, I got the list, I'm going to make copies of it!

[GRACE]

Great idea, honey.

01:14:33.21

[JOHN]

Is he gone?

[GRACE]

Yes, how did it go at the store?

[JOHN]

It was a nightmare. A recurring one. But I managed to sneak these into the car when he wasn't looking.

01:14:42.24

[JOHN] (CONT'D)

This one's a Zyklon Tri-blaster.

[GRACE]

You got him a gun? That's not what Christmas is about.

[JOHN]

He's a kid, he doesn't know what it's about. I don't even know what it's about.

[GRACE]

Okay, would you stop saying things like that? It's not a joke any more.

01:14:53.29

[JOHN]

No it's not a joke, that's what I've been trying to... Grace, I've got like this serious problem with Chr... With the seasonal festive, noel, yuletide thing. So serious that I think maybe I'm gonna go away for the holidays.

01:15:09.11

[GRACE]

What?

[JOHN]

I've got all this much work to do, and I'm not good here.

01:15:15.00

[GRACE]

Now you listen to me. In this house, there is nothing more important than Christmas, absolutely nothing. It is a totally and completely wonderful time, and you do not have the option tof thinking otherwise. From

now until Christmas this is going to be Happy House, and everybody in it will be very, very happy. And I don't wanna hear any more whining from you, not even for a second! Do you understand me?

01:15:37.23 [JOHN]

Grace please... Sweetheart... Honey?

01:15:46.08

[EMILIA]

You're an idiot.

[JOHN]

You're not usually so blunt. What is it about December 25th? It's like we want it to be perfect, and then when it's not it's, it's like the whole world collapses in chaos. It's ridiculous.

01:15:59.25

[JOHN] (CONT'D)

Is there something going on here? Some secret I should know about you?

[EMILIA]

You are the one with secrets. You prefer to spend Christmas with your parents?

01:16:08.02

[JOHN]

No, no way.

01:16:09.27

[EMILIA]

Why not, are they in jail? All this time you have been fooling around with my daughter-in-law, how come she never met your parents, huh? And how come you hate Christmas? That seems "ridiculous" to me. You are the one with secrets.

01:16:30.17

[GRACE] (ON PHONE)

Yes, but you said it was a routine blood test. I didn't think pregnancy was a part of routine. (a beat) Alright but is there, is there any chance that it could be a false positive?

01:16:47.14

[GRACE] (CONT'D)

No, yes, congratulations to me. Okay. (a beat) Thank you.

01:17:13.24

[JOHN]

Are you sure you're not overdoing it?

[GRACE]

Ha-ha, not funny. Christmas gets closer every day and we have so much to do. Did you get the tree? [JOHN]

Yeah, it's huge. I could have been pulled over...

01:17:25.23

[GRACE]

Well, get a saw and cut the bottom off. We use the long branches for decorations, and the short ones for wreaths.

01:17:29.12 [JOHN]

Wait, you already have a tree.

01:17:31.01 [GRACE]

No, that's the fake one. But in the shed we have a tinsel one, you'll need to get that one out. And then upstairs in the attack we have the sparkly one. Yeah, Zach will help you with that. Oh, and we have ornaments up there too, and in the garage is the sleigh, the crib, and the lawn inflatables. Priorities, we do all the inside lights first, and then the outside lights last.

01:17:48.16 [JOHN]

Right.

01:17:51.15 [GRACE] Get the saw! [JOHN] Right.

01:18:13.15 [JOHN]

It's too big, it's too big.

[GRACE]

Alright, well then trim it. What's wrong with your hands?

[JOHN]

Sap, it's sticking to my hands, I'm getting a rash from the needles.

[GRACE]

Okay, okay. Put some gloves on. And then get the base out of the shed. Did you order the turkey?

[JOHN]

No, I'm gonna do that as soon as I get this...

01:18:26.18

[GRACE]

Oh no, no, the big ones always go first. Okay, never mind, I'll do it myself.

[JOHN]

The big ones? Those cost a lot of money.

[GRACE]

This is Christmas, we don't think about money.

[JOHN]

Hah! It seems to me that's all...

[GRACE]

Don't! Hush it and keep it hushed. I don't want to hear jokes right now.

[JOHN]

I wasn't making a joke right now I..

[GRACE]

Hush!

01:18:42.08 [JOHN]

I wasn't making a joke.

01:18:50.13

[GRACE] (GHOSTY VOICE)

...upstairs in the attack we have the sparkly one. Yeah, Zach will help you with that. Oh, and we have ornaments up there too, and then in the garage we have the sleigh, the crib, and the lawn inflatables...

01:18:58.13

[JOHN]

I don't believe it.

[ZACHARY]

I know, isn't it great?

01:19:04.26

[ZACHARY] (CONT'D)

There are the outdoor lights. Where are the indoor ones?

01:19:11.10

[ZACHARY] (CONT'D)

Oh careful with that one. It's a Christmas village.

[JOHN]

What?

[ZACHARY]

To put around the base of the tree.

01:19:17.06

[ZACHARY] (CONT'D)

Careful! Don't drop it!

01:19:21.22

[GRACE]

Zach, look what I got you. Something special this year.

PLASTIC SANTA

Merry Christmas!

01:19:25.22

[JOHN]

Aghh!

01:19:31.16

[GRACE]

What is the matter with you? Come on, you're wasting time. Chop, chop!

[ZACHARY]

Well, we lost a few decorations. But we found the lights!

01:19:46.18

[JOHN]

Grace, what is wrong with you?

[GRACE]

You! What is wrong with you?

[JOHN]

Nothing.

01:19:58.00

[JOHN] (CONT'D)

Actually, there is something wrong. The whole seasonal, festive, noel, yuletide thing. My shrink says that I have a phobia with Chr... He says that I should be taking a holiday from the holiday. I know that sounds weird, and I thought maybe I could cope.

01:20:27.05

[GRACE]

Did you say something?

01:20:32.01

[GRACE]

Are you sure you wired it right?

[JOHN]

There's a wrong way? They're fine.

01:20:43.06

[GRACE]

Now it's ruined! John, I need you to focus. We are behind schedule.

[JOHN]

Schedule?

[GRACE]

Yes! What is wrong with you? Most people would enjoy all of this.

[JOHN]

I haven't said a word!

[GRACE]

You don't have to, I can hear what you're thinking.

01:20:57.01

[JOHN]

Then cover your ears.

[GRACE]

You know, you need to get with the spirit of Christmas. Either hush up and suck it up, or get out and don't come back!

01:21:08.18

[JOHN]

What did you say?

[GRACE]

I knew it, I knew that you didn't understand what Christmas is about.

01:21:14.03

[JOHN]

Oh yeah, I do. It's about usually sensible people turning into complete idiots. It's about insane extravagance, consumer madness, and the mindless pursuit of tasteless garbage. All it does is break up families, spike the suicide rate, give heart attacks to people from stress, and hernias from carrying really big gifts to ungrateful kids who just wind up wailing because they want more.

01:21:44.27

[JOHN] (CONT'D)

You know what? I hate Santa Claus and I hate elves, and I hate reindeer, and I hate jingle bells, and I hate baubles, and I hate ticky tacky! And if you can't see that's what all this nonsense is about, then you are not the person I thought you were, and I don't wanna live in this house for one minute longer!

01:22:16.04 [GRACE] Where are you are going? [JOHN] Staying with my parents will be better than this. [GRACE] Oh, so they do exist? 01:22:21.19 [ZACHARY] Is John leaving? [GRACE] We had an argument like adults do. I think maybe I've been a little snappy. I maybe pushed him too hard. [ZACHARY] But, he'll be back for Christmas, won't he? [GRACE] I don't think he likes it. [ZACHARY] I thought that was a joke. I mean, who doesn't like Christmas? 01:22:46.02 [10 SECONDS / COMMERCIAL BLACK] 01:23:04.25 [HARRY] Door! **AGNES** I'm not deaf! Why do you never get the door? [HARRY] Because I am busy and what else do you have to do? It's not going to be one of my friends, is it? 01:23:17.16 **AGNES** Well that's for sure. 01:23:25.09 **AGNES** I'm coming, I'm coming! 01:23:30.21 **AGNES** John? [JOHN] Hi Mom. **AGNES** Harry, it's John! [HARRY] So what's wrong? [JOHN] Something has to be wrong? Can I come in or not? **AGNES** Of course you can, of course you can! Don't listen to your father. [HARRY]

He never did before, why start now?

AGNES We weren't expecting you. Especially not at this time of year. 01:23:52.14 [HARRY] I hear you're living with some Hispanic woman. Rodriguez. [JOHN] It's her married name. [HARRY] She's a married Hispanic woman? [JOHN] Oh please... [HARRY] I got nothing against Hispanics. **AGNES** No, it's just women you hate. 01:24:06.00 [JOHN] It doesn't matter anyway because I just left her. And I left my wallet there too. Maybe I could borrow a hundred bucks, stay in a motel? [HARRY] So, you still haven't sold your novel? [JOHN] I have to finish it first, I was hoping maybe I could work on it here. Of course you can! Use your old room. He's in the house thirty seconds. Why can't you leave him alone? 01:24:28.10 [HARRY] Well if you hadn't left him alone for so long he might have made something of himself! AGNES What, like you did? 01:24:36.11 [HARRY] Dinner's at eight, John, if your Mother can be bothered to cook it. When did I ever not cook it? And how much help do I get from you? 01:25:06.11 [JOHN] Charlene! [CHARLENE] Are you gonna turn into a frog now?

[JOHN]

[JOHN]

[CHARLENE]

What are you doing here?

They called me over. I guess they thought you might be needing me, now you're single again.

01:25:18.10 [CHARLENE] Fortunately I am too. Single. I dumped the jerk. How's it coming? Oh it's okay, it's coming okay. [CHARLENE] I know, you never could work over Christmas. I always understood that. Well, come on, it's dinner time. 01:25:30.23 [JOHN] No it's, it's really late. There's no... 01:25:35.20 [HARRY] He's always late. When I eat late I don't sleep well. She knows it. **AGNES** It's good to see you, Charlene. I'm sorry about your man. [CHARLENE] It's no loss. I wanted marriage, he didn't. I wanted babies, he didn't, end of story. **AGNES** Isn't that why you broke up with John? 01:25:54.20 [JOHN] Mom! [HARRY] You want babies with him? [JOHN] Dad! [HARRY] Well it's about time you did. A man of your age... [CHARLENE] Oh Mr. Brooking, I'm sure you sewed a few wild oats in your days, before you met this wonderful lady. **AGNES** Not just before. [HARRY] What is that supposed to mean? 01:26:10.08 [CHARLENE] Is there someone coming up the drive? [HARRY] What kind of damn fool comes visiting at this time of night? [JOHN] I'll check. 01:26:22.21 [JOHN] (CONT'D) Oh no, it can't be... It's... it's... Charlene! [CHARLENE] Oh no, it's not me, honey, I'm already here.

No, you can't be here! It's Grace! It's my girlfriend. She can't see you here, you gotta go, right now.

[CHARLENE] I beg your pardon. [JOHN] She's coming in, she can't see you. 01:26:41.08 **AGNES** You're asking Charlene to leave because your ex is coming... [JOHN] Please, she wouldn't understand. Please, I'll do anything. Come on, let's go, let's go! Come on! 01:26:50.29 [CHARLENE] Alright, okay. I'll go. [JOHN] No, no, no, not that way. This way, out the back door. I'll make this up to you, I promise. [HARRY] Now, wait a minute, Charlene. John broke up with this woman. Stay right where you are. [CHARLENE] No, it's fine. Back door. 01:27:05.18 [CHARLENE]

Tomorrow morning. That's when you make it up to me. Meet me in the garage, in the back, just like we used to do.

[JOHN]

Sure, whatever, go! go!

01:27:13.19

[HARRY]

You mind telling me why you are doing this?

[JOHN]

Because I love her. Okay?

01:27:23.14

[JOHN] (CONT'D)

Grace. Hi.

[GRACE]

John.

[JOHN]

Come in. That's my father Harry and that's my mother Agnes.

[GRACE]

How do you do.

[JOHN]

How did you know where to come find me?

01:27:40.14

[GRACE]

Charlie Smythe. He used to know you, Mr. Brooking. And then you're just the other side of town... You left your phone and your wallet. And I've packed your things, they're in my car if you wanna come and get them.

01:27:53.28

[JOHN]

No, no, no! I want you to stay, I want you to say the night. Yeah, why don't you stay the night? Mom, can Grace stay the night?

AGNES

Sure. She can use your room, you move into the office.

[JOHN]

It's okay, mom, Grace and I can share a room.

AGNES

No you can't. This is an old-fashioned kind of house. Separate bedrooms, if you don't mind.

[GRACE]

Of course.

01:28:14.27

AGNES

If it's good enough for your father, it's good enough for you.

[GRACE]

I'll just call Emilia and have her take care of Zach.

AGNES

Later. Dinner's getting cold.

[JOHN]

Come in, sit down.

01:28:32.08

[GRACE]

Oh, there's a place already set.

[JOHN]

Yeah, they always do that.

AGNES

We used to have a maid, but he argues with them all, so I get to do the cooking.

01:28:42.08

[HARRY]

Well, if you weren't so damn lazy, we wouldn't need a maid in the first place.

AGNES

I hope it's not cold.

[HARRY]

It always is.

[GRACE]

Charlie says that you were in politics?

[HARRY]

For a while. Waste of time.

AGNES

You were the one who wasted it.

[HARRY]

I would have been fine with a little support.

AGNES

I thought that's why you had all those nineteen year old interns with the short skirts.

01:29:12.13

[JOHN]

There goes another one. Can we just have a truce during dinner?

[GRACE]

So are you in business now, Mr. Brooking?

I know what it is...

[HARRY] Lawyer. My father's company. I hate it. **AGNES** You hated him. [HARRY] It's natural to hate your father. That's why I got out. I got elected too. 01:29:34.17 **AGNES** For a while. He never gets along with anybody. So now he's trapped in the family business. At least it paid for John's fancy college. Lot of use that was. You know he never had a job. **AGNES** He worked at the publishers. [HARRY] They went broke. **AGNES** Then at the library. [HARRY] That wasn't a job. [GRACE] This is lovely, thank you. 01:30:01.11 [HARRY] No it's not, she's a lousy cook. **AGNES** I would offer you wine, but he's even worse when he's drunk. [HARRY] Funny. If this is a serious thing you have with my son, how come we've never met you? [GRACE] I thought he was ashamed of me. [JOHN] No! **AGNES** No. He was ashamed of us. He always has been. 01:30:36.04 [HARRY] Anyone bring a saw? 01:30:38.24 **AGNES** What are you looking for? [HARRY] What? **AGNES** What are you looking for? [HARRY] None of your business! 01:30:49.14 **AGNES**

01:30:51.21

[JOHN]

What an evening. That's my dad's pyjamas. It's so cold in this place, in every way.

[GRACE]

They're trapped in it, aren't they? It must be awful for them. They just can't escape it.

[JOHN]

That's why I had to. This is like the worst time of year.

[GRACE]

John, about my behaviour, lately... It's not just that I go nuts over Christmas. I found out...

01:31:25.26

[JOHN]

No, don't apologize. No, I'm the one with the problem, and you don't know the half of it. Every year my father would dress up in a Santa Claus suit, for a week. He thought it was funny. And then He'd get drunk. And the drunker he got the meaner he got. When I was thirteen, I ran away from home.

01:31:45.04

[GRACE]

But you came back?

[JOHN]

No. I stayed with friends and relatives. But every year in the holidays, they insisted I come back and I dreaded it. It was like a punishment. The fighting, and the arguing, and the slamming doors and smashing china. So ever since then I've had this like phobia about, about... about X-mas.

01:32:10.21

[GRACE]

Oh my Gosh, you can't even say it. (a beat) I understand.

[JOHN]

You do?

[GRACE]

Yeah. So you know what, let's get some rest and we'll talk about this tomorrow. And work it out. I think.

[JOHN]

I think so too. Good night.

01:32:38.18

[GRACE]

Good night.

01:32:45.21

[JOHN]

I'd do anything for you Grace. Anything but...

[GRACE]

Anything but Christmas.

01:32:55.13

[10 SECONDS / COMMERCIAL BLACK]

01:33:26.14

[JOHN]

Oh, it's you.

[HARRY]

Yeah, it's my house.

01:34:02.28 [JOHN]

Charlene, this is really, really awkward. [CHARLENE] No, it's just like old times... [JOHN] It's like an icebox in here. [CHARLENE] Remember how we used to steam up those windows? Here, let me get you warm. [JOHN] Listen, you have to go. 01:34:17.04 [CHARLENE] Why, did you make up? [JOHN] No, not exactly. Charlene, I've always thought of you as just a really, really great friend. [CHARLENE] We were a lot more than that. [JOHN] Yeah, and I like you, you know, I really like you but... 01:34:37.12 [GRACE] Good morning, Mr. Brooking. 01:34:40.03 [HARRY] Are you going? [GRACE] Yes. [HARRY] Is he leaving with you? [GRACE] I don't know. [HARRY] You love him, or what? [GRACE] I don't mean to be disrespectful, but that is not your business. [HARRY] Well, that is disrespectful. He's in the garage, out the kitchen. 01:35:14.26 [CHARLENE] John, I understand. You're terrified of commitment. With a family like this, who wouldn't be? Yeah, but I thought maybe like there's a chance. If I could just get over this whole... x-mas thing. [CHARLENE] Well, why don't you just come, come stay with me for a little bit. We can work things out. Charlene, I'm going to work things out with Grace.

AGNES What the...

01:35:35.29 [JOHN] Oh! Oh! Oh! [CHARLENE] Oh no, quick, take them off! Take them off! 01:35:45.26 [JOHN] No. Oh no. 01:35:47.04 [CHARLENE] I was going to give you this. [JOHN] No! Grace! 01:35:59.28 [JOHN] (CONT'D) What is wrong with you? [CHARLENE] You can't go out like that, you're gonna freeze to death. 01:36:06.03 [GRACE] Goodbye, Mr. Brooking. 01:36:09.11 [HARRY] Good riddance. 01:36:12.27 [JOHN] Grace? Grace! 01:36:16.23 [HARRY] She went upstairs. 01:36:24.02 [JOHN] Grace? No, Grace! 01:36:29.18 [JOHN] Grace! 01:36:35.04 [JOHN] Mom! 01:36:40.18

01:36:44.05 [JOHN]

Grace! Grace, it's not what you think!

01:36:46.20

[GRACE]

At least I know now why you don't want to spend your time with us.

[JOHN]

You're not going to believe this...

[GRACE]

You're a writer, John, you'll come up with a great story.

[JOHN]

I probably wouldn't either...

01:36:54.22

[GRACE]

It wasn't gonna work anyway. Anything but Christmas? Christmas is everything and a relationship that doesn't understand that isn't worth having. You won't see Zach or me ever again, I won't take your calls, and if you come to the house, I will have you arrested.

01:37:21.03

[CHARLENE]

Oh, you'll get over this, John. Now we can get back to doing what we used to do. We can go hiking, or sailing, or mountaineering,. We can go on a vacation in Saudi Arabia. They don't do Christmas there, why should we? Right?

01:37:46.21

[JOHN]

Zach?

[ZACHARY]

Hi, John. Everything okay?

01:37:50.08

[JOHN]

No, actually, your Mom and I, we had a bit of a misunderstanding and I'm not supposed to see her anymore and I'm not supposed to come and see you. But she didn't say anything about the internet. So I thought maybe, I don't know, you could... I've gotta see her, okay. I have to explain things to her.

01:38:05.06

[ZACHARY]

It sounds like you need an intermediate.

[JOHN]

A what?

[ZACHARY]

What is it, a meditator?

[JOHN]

A mediator?

[ZACHARY]

Yeah. It's okay, I'll go get grandma.

[JOHN]

No! No, we don't want to bother her.

[ZACHARY]

Okay, what about Aunt Faith? She's come to stay.

01:38:18.27 [JOHN] Yeah, you know, I don't think that's a good idea either. [GRACE] I'm home! [ZACHARY] Mom's home. I've got to go. I'll call you later. It's okay, I have a plan! [JOHN] Zach? 01:38:32.19 [ZACHARY] Aunt Faith, can you please take me to the mall later? I want to get a Christmas present for Mom. [FAITH] Good idea, so do I. 01:38:40.23 [FAITH] There. 01:38:57.24 [ZACHARY] How was it, Mom? [GRACE] Everything is going to be fine, Zach. [ZACHARY] Mom, you don't need to protect me. I like John a lot, but if you don't, I understand. [GRACE] Don't you want a father? Brothers and sisters, a real family? [ZACHARY] Only if it makes you happy too. As long we're all together for Christmas, everything will just be fine. 01:39:26.06 [GRACE] Your grandson is amazing. [EMILIA] No, it's not my business, but are you sure you want to lose this guy? [FAITH] So, how did it go? [GRACE] Done. It's over. 01:39:39.10 [FAITH] Oh, good. Sorry, it's bad. It's bad but it's good. Really. [GRACE] I drove him away. He doesn't do Christmas. [EMILIA] Maybe you do it too much. [GRACE] You know why that is. [EMILIA]

But he doesn't. Why don't you...

[GRACE] He has another woman. [FAITH] Oh no. 01:39:59.06 [EMILIA] Well, that settles it. And I was actually beginning to like him. [FAITH] I've actually never met a man that I liked, including him. But I didn't really figure him for a womanizer. [GRACE] Faith, I'm pregnant. 01:40:14.02 [FAITH] What! (a beat) Well, that's wonderful. Oh my god, no it's not, it's terrible. Is it his? Yeah, sorry, no of course it 's his. But does he know? No of course, why would you tell him? 01:40:25.21 [GRACE] I was going to tell him, as a Christmas present. Now I'm going to have two kids without a father. Well that's okay. I mean, honestly, what kind of father would he have been anyways? [GRACE] He would be a wonderful father. 01:40:38.11 [FAITH] Yeah, no you're right. He would have been a good father. But what kind of husband would he have been? [GRACE] Faith, just be quiet. [FAITH] Don't tell me to be quiet! Nobody tells me to be quiet! 01:40:57.04 [FAITH] (CONT'D) I apologize. Goodness. Okay. Do you actually love this idiot? [GRACE] I thought so. [FAITH] Well then he is an idiot. I mean, doesn't he know that? 01:41:07.27 [GRACE] I never told him. [FAITH] You never... [GRACE] I just couldn't bring myself to say it after Jose. Maybe that's why he went elsewhere.

[FAITH]

Grace, just tell him. Tell him about the... thing.

[GRACE]

And then he leaves this other woman because I'm pregnant, and he leaves me after he done feeling guilty? No. No. It's over.

01:41:35.04 [FAITH] Right.

01:41:38.04

[10 SECONDS / COMMERCIAL BLACK]

01:41:48.20

[FAITH]

Come on Zachary, let's go.

[ZACHARY]

I'll meet you at the car, Aunt Faith, just a couple of minutes.

[FAITH]

Okay.

01:41:56.12

[ZACHARY] (ON PHONE)

Target approaching intercept, over.

01:41:58.14

[JOHN] (ON PHONE)

Great. Thanks for this, Zach. Over.

[ZACHARY] (ON PHONE)

Target in position. Execute!

01:42:06.18

[JOHN]

Faith?

01:42:08.00

[JOHN] (CONT'D)

Faith, I know we haven't always got on, but I want you to know...

[FAITH]

Get away from me! Go away!

[JOHN]

Are you having a baby?

[FAITH]

No! My sis... niece... my nephew. My nephew is having a baby.

[JOHN]

Zach is nine years old.

[FAITH]

I've got another one. A secret one, in Australia. How dare you approach me! Get away from me right now.

Go back to your fancy woman.

[JOHN]

Faith, there's no...

[FAITH]

There is nothing you have to say that I want to hear.

01:42:28.25

[FAITH]

Zachary! Get in now!

Did she tell you that?

[JOHN] No, she never...

01:42:35.29 [JOHN] Baby booties! 01:42:45.19 [JOHN] Faith, get out of the car. 01:42:52.21 [FAITH] Now you listen to me... [JOHN] Is Grace having a baby? [FAITH] No. I did not, I did not tell you that. Absolutely not. [JOHN] I'm coming home right now. [FAITH] No! 01:43:00.20 [FAITH] (CON'T) Look, If you go back to her now, she's never rally going to believe you want to. She's going to think it's because of the... the thing. If she knows that you know, she's never going to really know. You know that! 01:43:11.03 [FAITH] (CONT'D) And she'll kill me if she thinks I told you. You say anything, I'm going to kill you after she kills me. You got it? 01:43:20.19 [FAITH] (CONT'D) And another thing, how dare you take up with another woman? After all she's been through, you creap. Just stay away! Zachary, get in the car! 01:44:05.16 [CHARLENE] Are you going to come in? I baked some cookies. 01:44:08.24 [JOHN] I've ruined everything. My whole life. I'm headed for misery, just like them in there. 01:44:17.24 [CHARLENE] Not with me, you wouldn't be. John, I just ... I don't want to spend another Christmas all alone ... I love her. I thought she loved me. 01:44:29.15 [CHARLENE]

[CHARLENE]

So she doesn't. If she did, she would say something, why wouldn't she?

[JOHN]

She's pregnant. Grace is pregnant. I love her, she's having my baby, and I can't even talk to her.

01:44:45.06

[CHARLENE]

Oh. I didn't know that. I guess I did a bad thing. You really love her?

01:44:59.14

[JOHN]

Completely.

[CHARLENE]

Okay.

01:45:04.07

[JOHN] (CONT'D)

Okay. Well then come on, pick yourself up. You'd be crazy to let yourself go, and even crazier to let her go. John, if you want to get her back, you're going to have to do anything. Anything. Even Christmas.

01:45:27.02

[JOHN]

Mrs Rodriguez... Emilia...

[EMILIA]

You louse! Get away from here or she will get a restraining order.

[JOHN]

I am not having an affair.

[EMILIA]

A pervert like you is probably having two or three.

[JOHN]

I love Grace, Mrs. Rodriguez. I know you don't want to believe that...

[EMILIA]

The thought of it makes me sick.

01:45:42.08

[JOHN]

Okay, yeah, you know what, I am a little weird because I don't do the whole seasonal, noel, festive, yuletide event, and otherwise none of this would have happened. But I need her, she doesn't need me, but your grandson, he needs a father. And I love them both. Can you help me. I've just got to talk to her.

01:45:57.25

[EMILIA]

You want me, to ask her, to talk to you?

[JOHN]

You're my last hope.

[EMILIA]

Then you must be desperate.

[JOHN]

I am. Can't you see I am?

01:46:10.07 [EMILIA]

I can't help you. When my son died, she grieved. But I didn't grieve, I was too angry. I even said some terrible things, blamed her. She never rejected me because I'm Zachary's Grandma. But now she won't listen to a word I say, and with good reason.

01:46:31.27

[JOHN]

I won't even let me get near her.

01:46:36.05

[EMILIA]

She'll be at the cemetery.

[JOHN]

No, she won't. She only goes there on the last day of the month.

[EMILIA]

Today is the twenty-first of December. She will be there.

01:46:59.07

[JOHN]

Sergeant Thomas?

[THOMAS]

Just Thomas, now. Do I know you?

[JOHN]

I saw you in a video with Jose.

[THOMAS]

Well, any friend of Jose's is a friend of mine. What's your name?

[JOHN]

John Brooking.

01:47:14.08

[THOMAS]

Nice to meet you, John.

[JOHN]

I was hoping to find Grace here.

[THOMAS]

She will be. See you at the grave?

01:47:29.04

[JOHN]

Grave?

01:47:39.23

[THOMAS]

I had to leave him.

01:47:43.14

[THOMAS] (CONT'D)

The hospital was almost surrounded. I took the nurses and the patients who could walk, but he wouldn't abandon the rest. He barricaded the doors.

01:47:55.03

[THOMAS] (CONT'D)

And the rebels broke through just as we got back. Shot him before running away. He saved his patients but... How do you know Jose?

[JOHN]

I never actually met him.

01:48:12.25

[THOMAS]

What?

[JOHN]

It's Grace I know. I don't know why did she never mention the grave? Why doesn't Zach come here?

[THOMAS]

You don't know that? What, does Grace know you are here?

[JOHN]

We got into an argument and I'm not allowed in the house. But I really have to talk to her.

01:48:28.09

[THOMAS]

Let me get this straight. Are you stalking my best friend's widow?

[JOHN]

I have to see her.

[THOMAS]

Does she want to see you?

[JOHN]

No, I don't think so.

[THOMAS]

Well, then I suggest you be getting your ass out of here then.

[JOHN]

No, look no. I'm not a stalker, no. I love her.

01:48:41.29

[THOMAS]

She's coming. Take cover over there, I'll talk with her. If she wants to see you, fine. If not, I am going to pick you up and throw you a very long way. Now go!

01:49:00.06

[THOMAS]

Grace, it's so good to see you.

[GRACE]

I can't believe it's been a year since we were here. And you drive 6 hours to be here.

[THOMAS]

And three years since we were first here. Does time heal?

[GRACE]

A little. Grief can be let go.

[THOMAS]

True that. How's my man Zachary doing?

01:49:20.17

[GRACE]

Oh he's so good.

[THOMAS]

Great kid.

[GRACE]

Are you seeing anyone?

[THOMAS]

No, single. Haven't found miss right. Yet. How about you?

01:49:30.09

[GRACE]

There was someone. But I'm not looking to fill Jose's shoes.

01:49:39.04

[GRACE] (CONT'D)

Thomas, there's somebody hiding behind that truck.

[THOMAS]

Yes, there is.

01:49:47.29

[THOMAS] (CONT'D)

She wants to talk to you. I can't imagine why.

01:49:58.12

[GRACE]

I owe you an explanation.

[JOHN]

You don't owe me anything.

[GRACE]

I have never brought Zach here. Not yet. I didn't want him to find out...

01:50:08.27

[GRACE] (CONT'D)

Jose was shot on December 15th. I found out the same day. But he didn't die until six days later, on December 21st.

01:50:22.02

[GRACE] (CONT'D)

Zach was so looking forward to Christmas, I didn't want to ruin it, and every other Christmas in his life by telling him. So I kept it secret, from him, Faith, even Emilia. I told them that Jose was in the bush, unable to be contacted. And I just spent Christmas smiling, pretending.

01:50:52.03

[JOHN]

That must have been hell.

01:50:55.14

[GRACE]

They brought Jose's body came back on December 30th and that's when I had to tell them. You and I are not so different.

01:51:07.24

[GRACE] (CONT'D)

For you Christmas is about arguments and bitterness. For me it's about grief and despair. You escape it, deny it and I am desperate to celebrate every moment, make everything okay so that maybe Zachary won't miss his dad so much.

01:51:27.27

[JOHN]

Grace, I love you...

[GRACE]

John, please. I don't want to hear. I can't love you. I can't love any man. And a man who can't even do Christmas, there's no way.

01:51:42.13

[JOHN]

Maybe I could. Maybe I can get over this phobia thing. Maybe then I could be with you and with Zach. It worked for that guy in the dickens book, the guy with the humbug?

01:51:52.25

[GRACE]

Scrooge?

[JOHN]

Yeah, right. He got another chance. He looked at the mistakes of his past, he saw his future. Please?

01:52:01.24

[JOHN] (CONT'D)

Look, even if we're not going to be together anymore, can I at least come for the holidays with you and Zach? I love that kid, and I think he likes me, right?

[GRACE]

He misses you.

[JOHN]

I'll just be a house guest. Please?

[GRACE]

If you can really do Christmas, you can come. And then after the holiday, you leave.

[JOHN]

Thank you.

01:52:25.11

[GRACE]

Now go. I want to be alone.

01:52:36.17

[10 SECONDS / COMMERCIAL BLACK]

01:53:03.09

PLASTIC SANTA

Merry Christmas!

01:53:05.06

[CHARLIE]

Gracey pacey, pudding and... Oh... I thought you and Grace had broken up.

[JOHN]

And you came right over to get some pudding and pie?

[CHARLIE]

Not exactly. You see, I broke up too, with Juliette. So Grace invited me to stay for Christmas.

[JOHN]

You're staying here?

[CHARLIE]

Well, you know how generous Grace is. She's being kind to the ex-boyfriend.

[PLASTIC SANTA] Merry Christmas!

[JOHN] You are not the ex. I am the ex. You are the ex-ex. As long as we get that, we're going to get along fine, okay buddy? 01:53:31.04 PLASTIC SANTA Merry Christmas! 01:53:33.09 [EMILIA] What are you doing here? [JOHN] No, it's okay. She... [FAITH] Oh my God. Shall I call the cops? [JOHN] No, no! Look she knows that I'm here. [ZACHARY] John, are you back, did it work out? [JOHN] No, Zach, no. I'm just here as a guest. I'm a house guest. [ZACHARY] You mean, like Charlie? [JOHN] Yes. Yeah, exactly like Charlie. And I'm here to celebrate the holidays season, the whole seasonal, festive, noel, yuletide thing! X. X-X. X-mas. 01:54:01.19 [EMILIA] The woman is insane, and so are the pair of you. Zachary, come to the kitchen with me, now. 01:54:11.11 [CHARLIE] Well, I'd love a cup of tea. [FAITH] So go make one. [CHARLIE] Righto. [PLASTIC SANTA] Merry Christmas! 01:54:18.09 [FAITH] Did you... [JOHN] No. She doesn't know that I know. [FAITH] Good. Keep it that way. 01:54:27.26

01:54:28.19 [JOHN]

I can do this. I CAN do this! [PLASTIC SANTA]

Merry Chris... 01:54:57.04 [GRACE] Charlie, you shouldn't have. Oh my god... [CHARLIE] First one for you... 01:55:22.22 [GRACE] Oh my gosh. 01:55:48.29 [ZACHARY] Good morning, John. What are you going to be doing today? I do know, what do we do on the day before the main day? [ZACHARY] Christmas eve? We just wait around for Christmas day I guess. Oh and we do carol singing. [JOHN] Oh yeah? Yeah, I won't be doing that. 01:56:02.00 [FAITH] John, I couldn't sleep all night. Are you certain that the lights on the roof are safe? [JOHN] I think so. 01:56:07.05 [FAITH] You think so? That could be a public liability, they're calling for snow, I mean, have you considered the extra weight? Is the roof even insured? The risk of electrocution... Oh! 01:56:19.09 [THOMAS] Guess who's coming to dinner? [ZACHARY] Sergeant Thomas! 01:56:22.27 [THOMAS] Hey Zach! How you doing little man? You're not so little anymore, what are you feeding him? [GRACE] Thomas, I'm so glad you came to join us! [THOMAS] Are you kidding? I wouldn't have missed it. I hope you've got room for me. [GRACE] Of course we do. [THOMAS] Oh great.

01:56:36.21 [THOMAS] Wow! You don't take this seriously at all, do you? 01:56:43.09 [GRACE] John, you are going to move in with Charlie. [JOHN] With Charlie? [GRACE] Thomas, this is Charlie. [THOMAS] Charlie. [CHARLIE] Thomas [GRACE] And then you've met John. [THOMAS] Uh-huh. And you must be Faith. I've heard so much about you. Oh come on, we're past that. Christmas hug for Faith! 01:57:02.26 [GRACE] She needs it. Okay, so hey, how about breakfast? Yeah? [THOMAS] Sounds good. [EMILIA] Come and eat! I'm so happy to see you... 01:57:08.08 [CHARLIE] Smashing! Breakfast... 01:57:18.03 [ZACHARY] Ho-ho-ho! 01:57:20.29 [JOHN] It's very nice, why don't we put that in a closet somewhere. [ZACHARY] Look, I know this isn't easy for you. Christmas and all. But mom hasn't been treating you special as she used to, so... [JOHN] Your Mom's being great, but maybe we should just put that away. [ZACHARY] I didn't want to ask Sergeant Thomas, too small for him anyways, and Charlie really wants to wear it, but I thought it should be you. [JOHN] Me? [ZACHARY] You see... It was my Dad's and nobody's ever worn it since he did. I think it would fit you.

01:57:53.16 [EMILIA] It's because you've got lots of red in there. That looks nice there, that's good. Oh, thank you. 01:57:59.12 [GRACE] How's the house coming along? [EMILIA] It's coming beautifully, look! Look at the train! Oh my goodness... That costume, is that..? 01:58:07.24 [ZACHARY] It was my idea! Now we have a real live Santa, just like before! 01:58:12.22 [THOMAS] I think you need a little padding there partner. 01:58:15.06 [CHARLIE] Well, now we're all gathered, let's do some practice. 01:58:20.00 [GRACE] Wow! Are you okay? [JOHN] I couldn't do the beard. [GRACE] I'll help you. 01:58:31.21 [GRACE] Wait, okay. Over, there we go. You know you're going to have to wear this tonight for carolling. [JOHN] Oh no, I can't... [GRACE] We join in every year for charity. [JOHN] Carols. For sure. 01:58:45.26 ALL (SINGING) We wish you a Merry Christmas, We wish you a Merry Christmas, We wish you a Merry Christmas And a Happy New Year. 01:58:56.09 [CHARLIE] John, could you take the beard off and give us the chorus? One-two... 01:59:01.09 [JOHN] (SINGING)

We wish you a merry C....We wish you a merry... mas We wish you a merry... X-mas

(he speaks the next line) and a Happy New Year, alright?

02:00:26.11 [GRACE]

Thank you, Faith. How was your walk?

[CHARLIE] X-mas? You make it sound like a disease. [JOHN] I've got a problem, I'm dealing with get there. [CHARLIE] Well until you do, just mouth it. 01:59:19.23 [FAITH] Grace, do not ever make me to drive to that mall again, so much traffic, I couldn't even get near it. And every single one of those drivers, a complete lunatic! 01:59:27.10 [CHARLIE] Never mind all that! Come practice, we're carolling tonight. [FAITH] Carol singing? Are you out of your mind? In the middle of the night, in the freezing cold, collecting money from total strangers. I'm a magnet for every gangster and hoodlum and mugger for miles around. And, and you with a nine year old boy, are you seriously going to... 01:59:44.02 [THOMAS] Faith, be quiet. 01:59:48.08 [THOMAS] (CONT'D) Nobody is going to hurt you because I'll be right there beside you. Now, you want to go for a walk? [FAITH] What? [THOMAS] To the mall. You want to the mall? [GRACE] It's like a couple of miles away. [THOMAS] That's right. 02:00:04.03 [THOMAS] You coming? 02:00:15.29 [ZACHARY] Whoa! 02:00:18.21 [GRACE] Oh, casualty. [JOHN] Look, I can do this. Look, I can do it!

02:00:29.13 [FAITH]

Just a walk, just an ordinary walk. It was a walk.

02:00:40.21 [GRACE] Can somebody get that? 02:00:44.25 [JOHN] (ANSWERING PHONE) Rodriguez residence. [CHARLENE] (ON PHONE) Yes hello, can I speak with Grace Rodriguez please? My name is Charlene Davis. [JOHN] (ON PHONE) No! No, you can't! Wrong number! [CHARLENE] (ON PHONE) John, is that you? [JOHN] (ON PHONE) No it isn't. You can't call here. [GRACE] What's going on over here? Give me the phone. 02:01:05.06 [GRACE] (ON PHONE) Hello? [CHARLENE] I would like to speak with Grace Rodriquez, please. I didn't ask her to call. I don't know why she's... [GRACE] (ON PHONE) Yes it's me. 02:01:11.03 [CHARLENE] (ON PHONE) There's something that you need to know. [GRACE] No, I do not want to know anything about... [CHARLENE] The whole scene in the garage... 02:01:18.16 [ZACHARY] Are you okay? [JOHN] Oh sure. Your Mum's just talking to an old friend of mine. [ZACHARY] Well that's good thing, isn't it? [JOHN] No, it's going to ruin everything! 02:01:28.14 [ZACHARY] Cut the phone line! [JOHN]

Should have thought of that before but it's too late. Sometimes, Zach, your fate is decided for you. You try and intervene and, you know, you just makes it worse.

[ZACHARY]

Bull!

[JOHN]

I beg your pardon.

[ZACHARY]

I didn't work this hard and come this far for you to just give up. Get up!

02:01:50.05

[GRACE] (ON PHONE)

Okay. Good. Bye.

02:01:53.20

[JOHN]

I don't know how she got this number.

[GRACE]

Were you together a long time?

[JOHN]

Yes, for a while. What did she say?

[GRACE]

I told her the truth, that you and I aren't together anymore. So that option is open, if you want.

[JOHN]

I don't want!

02:02:13.07

[JOHN] (CONT'D)

Can't we go somewhere to talk?

02:02:19.20

[GRACE]

There is nowhere to go. It's a full house. And there's nothing to talk about because that's in the past, right?

[JOHN]

Right.

02:02:34.21

[10 SECONDS / COMMERCIAL BLACK]

02:02:53.01

[GRACE]

Okay everybody, big houses means big contributions.

[JOHN]

Grace, what are we doing here?

[GRACE]

We're going to start with this one, and work our way down the block.

02:03:03.06

[JOHN]

Are you serious? This is my parents' house.

[GRACE]

We're here to spread joy. I can't think of a house that needs more joy than this one. Come on!

02:03:10.03 ALL (SINGING) Please bring us a figgy pudding, please bring us a figgy pudding, please bring us a figgy pudding right here. We won't go until we get some, we won't go until we get some, we won't go until we get some... 02:03:23.07 [HARRY] Go! Get off my property, don't come back. 02:03:32.27 AGNES I'm sorry. We just don't do Christmas. 02:03:39.22 [THOMAS] Well, win some lose some, you lose some. Next house! 02:03:49.18 [GRACE] I'm so sorry. Maybe that wasn't such a good idea. [JOHN] Not one of your best. [GRACE] I know that this is hard for you. I don't care. I'll do anything, Grace. I'll even wear this really, really uncomfortable beard. 02:04:12.01 [JOHN] I love you, Grace. I know you don't want to hear that. It's obvious you don't know how to respond to it. 02:04:21.10 [GRACE] Come on. 02:04:38.05 [CHARLIE] Well, I'm ready to tuck in. [JOHN] So it's three to a bed. [CHARLIE] That is Mr. Pongo. I'll go this side, you go that side, he goes in the middle. Alright? Well, he better not get fresh. If he does, I'll smack you both. 02:05:13.08 [JOHN] Shhh... [GRACE]

It's okay. I'll do it for you. Just go to sleep.

Hi. Oh, no I've got to, I have to finish Zach's stocking...

```
02:05:31.11
[GRACE]
Merry Christmas.
[JOHN]
Yeah.
02:06:29.29
[ZACHARY]
Come on, come on, come on! You've got to get up! Come on, come one, it's Christmas! Get up, get up you
guys! Go!
02:06:36.02
[CHARLIE]
Good heavens!
02:06:54.00`.10
[ZACHARY]
Snow man, you've got to build a snow man!
[JOHN]
Snow man.
02:07:11.01
[THOMAS]
It can't be his real hair.
[JOHN]
It is now. He paid good money at the bad wig shop.
02:07:21.11
[CHARLIE]
Take this
                !
02:07:29.21
[THOMAS]
The dark man has come to see the queen.
02:07:37.08
[GRACE]
Okay, everybody... Yeah, enjoy!
02:07:44.25
[GRACE]
Emilia!
[EMILIA]
A woman can get tired of black.
[CHARLIE]
Champagne! I brought some, just waiting for an excuse.
[THOMAS]
Well, you look fantastic! Would you like my other knee?
[EMILIA]
No!
02:07:56.12
[JOHN]
I'll get it.
```

```
[GRACE]
Thank you.
02:08:01.10
[JOHN]
Oh no! Charlene, please, you have to go!
[GRACE]
No, she doesn't.
[JOHN]
What?
[GRACE]
Everybody, this is Charlene. Zach, help her with her coat?
02:08:16.26
[ZACHARY]
This is my grandma...
[JOHN]
Why are you doing this?
[GRACE]
She's alone at Christmas. Alone. So I invited her here.
02:08:26.20
[GRACE] (CONT'D)
You make yourself at home.
02:08:27.29
[ZACHARY]
Oh, and this is Charlie.
02:08:30.09
[CHARLENE]
Hi.
[CHARLIE]
Charlie?
[CHARLENE]
Charlene.
[CHARLIE]
No, no, Charlie.
[CHARLENE]
No, I'm Charlene.
[CHARLIE]
Oh I see, Charlie, Charlene. Well, the other way round of course.
02:08:46.04
[CHARLENE]
Oh, you're Char...
[CHARLIE]
Ignore me, I'm English, totally you know... I still drive on the wrong side of the road sometimes. That's
how I got the bump in the car.
[CHARLENE]
The one outside? The Classic?
[CHARLIE]
You like cars?
```

[CHARLENE] Daddy was a race mechanic. [CHARLIE] I've got tons ... 02:09:06.27 [GRACE] You're going to hate this. You know, we haven't shared a room since we were kids... [FAITH] It's okay, I'll come in with you. 02:09:15.09 [GRACE] You will? [FAITH] Sure. And I love you. Does that sound alright? [GRACE] Yes. I love you too. [FAITH] Great. 02:09:30.01 [CHARLENE] Oh, I love antiques. [CHARLIE] You should see my place, it's loaded with them. Well, the house here is. The place in Monaco is all modern. [CHARLENE] Monaco? You have a in Monaco? [JOHN] But, Charlene, he snores. [CHARLENE] Oh, do you? My first boyfriend did that. You know how I cured it? 02:09:51.17 [CHARLIE] Really? Did that work? Can't wait to try that! Say, do you like champagne? [CHARLENE] I adore champagne. [CHARLIE] Come along then. 02:10:10.13 [JOHN] Grace. [GRACE] I'm really busy right now. [JOHN] This is it. It's here. The big day. [GRACE] Right. [JOHN] You should enjoy it. Can't you stop for a minute?

02:10:19.23

[GRACE]

No, I can't. John, please. There's nothing that you can do. When I was a kid, Christmas was magic. We had Mom and Dad, and everything was warm and safe, nothing bad would happen, and I would just be happy forever. I want that for Zachary. And, and me? Well, I... this time of year, I just hurt a little.

02:10:47.03

[JOHN]

For him?

[GRACE]

For the man I lost, for the life I lost, the, the family I could have had.

[JOHN]

So you should let it out.

[GRACE]

I can't allow myself to. That's why I fill my house with tinsel and invite people over and...

02:11:02.29

[JOHN]

And it works. I've seen things here I can't believe. I've done things I've never done, even as a kid. I share, and I care, and I give, and I risk, and I join and I enjoy it. I could never do that. I never had to.

02:11:22.11

[GRACE]

John, you've always been the good guy.

IJOHN

You make magic, Grace, for everybody, especially for me. Can't I share some of it with you?

<doorbell ringing>

02:11:34.29

[GRACE]

What on earth is that?

[JOHN]

No more house guests, okay, we don't have room.

02:11:44.27

[10 SECONDS / COMMERCIAL BLACK]

02:11:55.13

[GRACE]

What's going on?

[CHARLENE]

John, it's your mother.

[JOHN]

Oh no...

AGNES

John! I can't stand it anymore, I've left him. We had such an argument, worse than ever. That's it, I am done, I am finished with him. You're going to have to look after me now.

02:12:11.09

[JOHN]

What do you want me to do? This isn't my house.

AGNES I don't know, take me to a motel. [GRACE] No, you'll stay here. **AGNES** Oh, no, I couldn't possibly... [GRACE] (CONT'D) End of discussion, my house is yours, you will stay with us. 02:12:24.04 **AGNES** That's very kind. [JOHN] Grace, you can't be serious? [EMILIA] Emilia Rodriguez, how do you do. **AGNES** Agnes Brooking. [EMILIA] Do you want coffee, or a drink, or one in the other? [JOHN] Just the coffee. [EMILIA] You shut up. **AGNES** He's right, I probably shouldn't drink. 02:12:38.18 [GRACE] Zach, your room... [THOMAS] No way. I'll take the sofa. [GRACE] Thank you. 02:12:45.03 **AGNES** Oh my goodness, look at all these decorations. [ZACHARY] It's Christmas. **AGNES** Well, I know that, but... [GRACE] This is my son Zachary. We do all this for him. **AGNES** You mean you go to all this trouble..? [JOHN] I wish you had done the same for me. [GRACE] John! 02:13:01.12 **AGNES**

Oh! It's him. He's come to get me.

[HARRY] (O.S.) Open up! Right now!

AGNES Please, don't open the door. [JOHN] Okay, I'll do it. He's my Dad, I'm responsible. 02:13:09.21 [GRACE] Not you, that's not going to help. [THOMAS] I'll handle it. [GRACE] No, not you either. Just everybody stay put! This is my house. Stand down, gentlemen, she's tougher than both of you. 02:13:18.18 [HARRY] Open up! Open up! Right... My wife's in there? [GRACE] So is your son. [HARRY] I don't care about him, just get her out here. [GRACE] She's left you. [HARRY] She wouldn't dare leave me. I gave her everything she's got, him too, the un...grateful... [GRACE] You were mean to her. [HARRY] Mean? The world is mean. She's had long enough to get used to that. You were mean to John, too. When you sent me to the garage, you knew what I would find. 02:13:49.13 [HARRY] Don't you lecture me, woman! I know what this is. All this, hah, cozy Christmas crap. Christmas is a lie, it builds your hopes up every year. You think maybe this year will be different, but it's always been the same. 02:14:11.12 AGNES He's going to explode. I've seen it before. Somebody should get out there and help her. [FAITH] No, wait.

My... son? What kind of a son is he? Ran away from me first chance he had. He never understood. He's damned lucky, compared to what my Dad did to me. Just get her out here. I got to talk with her...

02:14:44.11

[GRACE]

[HARRY]

[HARRY] (CONT'D)

What are you doing? Let go of me.

You can change. Your son did.

[GRACE]

They can love you, if you let them.

02:14:50.04

[THOMAS]

Well, I sure wouldn't have tried that.

[HARRY]

It's too late. All too late.

[GRACE]

No, no, it's not. Just give it a chance Mr. Brooking. Start over.

[HARRY]

I'd better go.

[GRACE]

No, no, Agnes is waiting. Come inside. Please, Mr. Brooking.

02:15:31.27

[HARRY]

Agnes, I came to bring you home.

[GRACE]

No, you came to stay. You're going back to that house. You two will have to share your room.

AGNES

We don't share...

02:15:39.21

[GRACE]

Yes you do. Yes, this is also an old-fashioned house, and married couples, they stay together. If you argue, I am not going to throw you out, no, I'm just going to hit you with something. So do you think you two can get along?

02:15:54.11

[HARRY]

I guess we can try.

[GRACE]

Very good.

[HARRY]

What the heck is this place

[CHARLIE]

This is paradise, old chap. Welcome to paradise.

02:16:06.06

[ZACHARY]

Hi Mr. Brooking, would you like to see some of the gifts I got? This one is a Zyklon Tri- blaster. It shoots precise amounts of water at long distance with excellent accuracy.

[HARRY]

Is that right?

[ZACHARY]

Yeah, come on, I'll show you!

02:16:18.03

AGNES

I guess we're staying.

02:16:21.22

[JOHN]

Are you kidding me? It's hard enough to be in the same house with the woman I love who rejects me, but now I got your ex-ex boyfriend, my ex-girlfriend, your sister who disapproves of me, your mother-in-law who despises me, an ex-soldier who thinks I'm a cupcake, and now we got both of my parents, in whose presence I find it hard to even to breathe. Am I just some kind of stooge for your amusement? Or are you by any chance making it impossible for me to stay?

02:16:46.14

[GRACE]

Maybe I am. Or maybe you still just don't get it.

[JOHN]

Just don't get what?

[GRACE]

Christmas.

02:17:14.06

[ZACHARY]

You okay?

[JOHN]

Just keeping my head down. You?

[ZACHARY]

Sometimes it's kinda hard. I kind of feel sad. You know.

[JOHN]

Because Dad's not here?

[ZACHARY]

Yeah. But I've got to keep smiling because of Mom and Grandma. They don't talk about him, have you noticed? Not at Christmas.

02:17:41.03

[JOHN]

Zach, they think of him all the time.

02:17:48.00

[ZACHARY]

It's not going to work out, you and mom, is it?

02:17:54.07

[JOHN]

I don't think so.

[ZACHARY]

Not such a great Christmas, after all.

[JOHN]

No, hey, you're wrong. This might be the first, the first one that I've ever enjoyed. Go talk to your Grandma about your Dad. I think she'd like that.

02:18:19.22

[ZACHARY]

Okay.

02:18:46.17

[GRACE]

Okay, I think we're ready. Bring them in.

02:18:53.02 [10 SECONDS / COMMERCIAL BLACK]

02:19:02.13 [EMILIA]

There you are, yes.

02:19:22.04

[GRACE]

John, can you do us the honours?

[JOHN]

Tonight I can do anything.

02:19:42.24

[CHARLENE]

Can you say envelope again?

02:19:49.19

AGNES

Don't say that.

[HARRY]

Damn it, if it's wrong for me to say what I feel, what am I supposed to say?

AGNES

You're supposed to behave like a grown-up, not some obstinate ass.

[HARRY]

And calling me names is this going to solve things, is it? What's the matter with you?

02:20:06.07

AGNES

You are the matter with me, you always have been, why I ever, ever said yes when you asked me to...

[HARRY]

Blame me for everything like you always do!

02:20:21.13

[GRACE]

Zachary!

[JOHN]

I'm responsible.

[HARRY]

What?

[JOHN]

I told him to do it. I've wanted to do that ever since my childhood, I just never had the courage.

02:20:30.20

[HARRY]

Young man.

[ZACHARY]

Sir?

02:20:41.23

[HARRY]

Reload. It's going to be hard learning new ways. But if we forget ourselves again, you be sure to use that thing. I apologize. 02:20:57.20 [HARRY] (CONT'D) Agnes. I'm sorry. 02:21:15.04 [GRACE] Thank you. I take all the credit. Oh, you're welcome honey. We just have to wait 'til it cools down before we can dig in. 02:21:31.14 [GRACE] Talk amongst yourselves until it's ready. 02:21:37.19 [CHARLIE] Charlene. 02:21:40.21 [CHARLIE] Charlene! 02:21:44.18 [CHARLIE] (CONT'D) Charlene, I... [CHARLENE] Yes? [CHARLIE] I wear a wig! [CHARLENE] I adore bald men. 02:21:57.03 [EMILIA] So. Won't be needing that any more. [GRACE] Charlie, you look great. [CHARLIE] I polish up rather well. [CHARLENE] Oh, I can't wait to do that. 02:22:10.13 [JOHN] I propose a toast. But to what?

[HARRY]
To the future.

[CHARLIE] To love. [FAITH] To the world.

[THOMAS]

To peace.

[JOHN]

Yeah, those are all good. But I'd like to propose a toast to Jose Rodriguez. The hero who I never met, who should be here today with his wife and with his son. To Jose Rodriguez!

02:22:42.00

ALL

Jose Rodriguez.

[GRACE]

To daddy.

02:22:49.09

[JOHN]

No, Jose won't be here to love Grace, to show Zach how to play ball, to comfort Emilia as she grows older. But I am here, and I want to do be able to do all that. I know I am never going to take Jose's place in your heart, but I want my own place in there. So, Grace, I want you to be my wife.

02:23:24.18

[GRACE]

I cannot believe that you're asking me in front of everybody here like this. Are you trying to ruin Christmas?

02:23:30.09

[JOHN]

I never knew what it meant before you showed me. And I want to share it with you and with Zach, and with all our future children. And I want to share in the love of it, and the grief of it, and the good, and the bad, for the rest of our lives.

02:23:48.01

[JOHN] (CONT'D)

And one day, when our children have children, I want to sit at the end of the table, right where my parents are sitting right now, and I want to remember you just like you are now and know that I made the best decision of my life, on the best day of the year. But it's your decision too. So I'm going to go outside and I'll wait for your answer.

02:24:20.21

[GRACE]

I'm sorry. He knows the answer to this. I'm going to go outside and straighten it out.

02:24:34.07

[HARRY]

If I were you I'd be scared. Scared he might turn out to be like his father. Well, he's not me, and I'm glad, because he'd be a damn sight better husband than I've ever been.

02:24:49.28

AGNES

You know, sometimes a woman gives her heart, and sometimes a man takes it. Let him take it. I know he will look after it.

02:25:01.25

[FAITH]

I think that Christmas is a time of forgiveness.

[GRACE]

No, that was a misunderstanding, there's nothing to forgive John for.

02:25:09.10

[FAITH]

Oh no, I don't mean that. I meant you need to forgive yourself. What happened to you, to Jose, it wasn't your fault. You deserve to be happy. I mean, we all do. Even me. Right?

[CHARLIE]

Since we're all chipping in... I didn't believe in love at first sight. Well, until it happened to me. Well, that's why I was very so jealous of John because it was obvious that from the moment you met... you loved him.

02:25:42.12

[CHARLENE]

I don't know you, Grace, but I do know John. At least I did. Most women marry a man, and then they try to change him. That was my plan. But you performed a miracle. You changed him first. So why not marry him?

02:26:05.16

[THOMAS]

I know what you want. You and Zach want Jose, but you can't have what you want. John will always think he's second best, unless you tell him different. But what he's done tonight is braver than anything I ever did, so I reckon he can deal with that. Maybe you should ask Jose. What do you think he would say?

02:26:35.23

[EMILIA]

I know he would say yes. He always said yes to life and it's time you did the same.

02:26:45.06

[EMILIA] (CONT'D)

What does it matter what any of us think? We're not important. But you are, Zachary. What do you think?

02:27:08.27

[JOHN]

Snowing again.

[GRACE]

Yeah.

02:27:16.06

[GRACE] (CONT'D)

Everybody told me to say no.

[JOHN]

Then they are all wrong.

[GRACE]

How many kids do you want?

[JOHN]

How many rooms do you have?

[GRACE]

I'm pregnant.

02:27:30.23

[JOHN]

I know. Faith let it slip, she didn't mean to. And I didn't want to say anything because I didn't want you to think that was the only reason I came back. I think it's the most beautiful thing in the world. But that's not the reason why I want you to say yes to me.

02:27:48.20

[GRACE]

Why should I say yes?

02:27:51.16

[JOHN]

Because it is freezing, and I have been out in the cold my whole life, and now I want to come inside, with you.

[GRACE]

That in there, it's really what you want?

IJOHN

It still scares me, but yeah. I want that in there. And I want that in here. That's really scary.

02:28:27.21

[GRACE]

And if I say no?

02:28:30.14

[JOHN]

My bags are in the car, I drive away.

02:28:39.16

[GRACE]

I lied. They all told me to say yes. Including Emilia.

[JOHN]

Wow! And Zach?

[GRACE]

Zach said that you would be the best Dad in the whole world.

02:28:59.19

[JOHN]

I'll settle for second best. Can you?

02:29:17.13

[GRACE]

I won't settle for second best, and John never will be.

02:29:27.29

[GRACE]

I love you.

[JOHN]

Good.

02:29:34.03

[EMILIA]

Zachary, don't look.

02:29:38.26

[THOMAS]

Now, you take a good long look, kid. Because that right there, that's what Christmas is about. Love. And family. Come on.

02:29:51.11

[JOHN]

Merry...

[GRACE]

What?

[JOHN]

Merry Christmas.

[GRACE]

What?

02:30:16.23

[JOHN]

I want to wish everybody a very Merry Christmas!

02:30:25.24

ALL

Merry Christmas!

[END]