

MOVING ON

Written by

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EXT. SUBURBAN ROAD - LATE AFTERNOON

A CAR passes the frame.

INT. CAR - LATE AFTERNOON

DUCK, 17, is driving with ANNIE, 15, sitting in the passenger seat. Duck is wearing an obnoxiously-bright yellow athletic t-shirt and shorts that do not match. Annie is wearing an old t-shirt and running shorts and is controlling the radio while giving Duck driving directions.

DUCK

I have been thinking about these cookies we are about to eat for weeks. I wonder what she's making for dinner.

ANNIE

I'm her favorite grandchild, so she is going to make pot roast.

DUCK

Fine, as long as she's been baking all day, dinner won't matter.

The car pulls into a long driveway. In front of the house, is a For Sale sign.

ANNIE

What the...

DUCK

She wouldn't sell the house Grandpa built. This is a mistake.

ANNIE

I couldn't even imagine Nana packing or wanting to move.

As they pull out of the car, NANA, 73, comes running out of the house. She is wearing bright red lipstick, aqua earrings, and a valor sweat suit. Her hair is styled with gel. Annie and Duck exchange looks.

NANA

There my favorite people are! Come give me a hug.

Duck and Annie hesitantly lean in for a hug.

NANA

Where are your bags? I'll take them.

The three of them walk inside.

INT. RANCH-STYLED HOME LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Nana puts their bags down and looks at her grandchildren and smiles.

NANA

Oh, you two must be hungry.

Annie sighs relief of recognition.

ANNIE

Yes! I was betting Duck that you made your pot roast and cookies for us. I've been dreaming about it for weeks.

NANA

Even better! I bought these cool dips and ordered some sushi for us. I don't really use the kitchen much anymore. My new place barely has a kitchen.

DUCK

What new place? What is going on? You're not really selling this place are you?

NANA

Of course I am, you saw the sign. Don't tell me they haven't taught you to read in that city school of yours?

DUCK

But when? Why?

NANA

Wait till you see this new place. It's a cool loft right next to those new shops and restaurants. You guys will absolutely love it. I need your guys help. It'll be such a fun summer project for us.

Annie and Duck are quiet.

NANA

Well, why don't you two go unpack  
while I take the sushi out?

Annie and Duck pick up their bags and walk towards their  
room.

INT. ANNIE AND DUCK'S GUEST ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Once they get on in their room, they sit on their beds and  
stare at each other.

ANNIE

What is happening? This is my home.  
I don't want her to move.

DUCK

How could she do this? I don't  
understand. I can't picture her  
living anywhere else. What would  
Grandpa think if he was here?

Annie gets up and looks out the window.

ANNIE

The barn! Our forts we made! We  
will never see those again. Just  
think, other kids will destroy them  
and use the barn.

DUCK

Ha remember the time we found those  
old skis in the barn and we were so  
proud of ourselves, but when we  
lifted them up there was a family  
of mice and you cried for the rest  
of the day?

ANNIE

Shut up. Remember the time you  
found that tire and tried making a  
tire swing with a piece of string  
you got from the garbage?

DUCK

Remember when we spent that entire  
summer pretending the woods was an  
isolated island we had to live on  
after a plane crash?

ANNIE

Or that time your leg got caught in  
the basement's sun pump?

DUCK

Ya, you made a song about it and made all the cousins afraid of it.

ANNIE

Wow. I can't believe this will all be gone. I kind of always imagined bringing my kids to the forts one day, or I don't know maybe even getting married by the barn.

DUCK

Grandpa would be devastated if he knew she was selling it. He gave himself to this house. How could she just so quickly remove him from her life. He's only been gone a year.

ANNIE

Well maybe the house won't sell.

DUCK

It is pretty dated.

ANNIE

What if we make sure the house doesn't sell?

DUCK

What do you mean?

DUCK

Nana will need our help, I say we secretly help as little as possible.

ANNIE

She will thank us for it, she just thinks she wants to get rid of the memories, but I know she will regret it.

INT. LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Home Decorating show is playing as Annie and Duck walk in with their breakfast.

NANA

Good morning my chickadees.

ANNIE

Good morning Nana. Are we going to garden today?

NANA

No. I am not putting one more dollar in this house. I just want it to be someone else's problem. I'm actually going to an acting class downtown-I'm already booked a Medical Alert commercial, my agent wants more. Oh, actually before I forget, I was going to ask you guys if you can put an ad online for an open house Sunday. Put it from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Duck and Annie exchange a look.

DUCK

Of course Nana. We will handle it. Don't worry.

EXT. NANA'S FRONT LAWN - SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Nana stands outside her house alone. She looks at her watch which reads 1:45 p.m. She sighs, walks over and takes down the open-house sign and walks inside.

DUCK

Well, maybe everything happens for a reason.

NANA

I don't know, I just thought at least one person would come look at it. You sent the ad right?

DUCK

What? Yeah..

ANNIE

Of course Nana, we put the ad everywhere.

NANA

You know what? We probably need pictures! Yeah! I'll have this young hunk that took my head shots come over and take some pictures. Will you guys add those photos and make a new ad?

ANNIE

What a perfect idea.

NANA

You're the best my love.

INT. ANNIE AND DUCK'S ROOM - LATER THAT WEEK

Annie and Duck sit at the computer. They are googling haunted house photos.

DUCK

Wait so you're not using any of these professional pictures? Just the ones from the internet?

ANNIE

We should get some pictures of hoarder's homes along with the ugly wallpaper ones.

DUCK

Wow. Okay this is perfect. I feel bad that she will waste another Sunday if no one shows up.

ANNIE

Who knows? Maybe some people are looking for bug invested, hoarder houses with 70's carpets.

Duck then clicks submit and the false-ad goes live.

EXT. NANA'S FRONT LAWN - THE NEXT SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Nana is standing outside her lawn again next to the open house sign, this time with big balloons. She looks down at her watch, 1:52 p.m. Annie and Duck walk outside.

ANNIE

No one showed up again? Wow. That must mean something. Too bad.

NANA

Maybe you are right. Actually you know what's funny, my friend at my improv workshop said she saw the ad for the open house. Weird thing is, something must have been wrong with her computer because she said the house was unlivable and was built on top of an old dump.

ANNIE

Woah so weird.

NANA

I can't believe you too. I am not that old. I know you're not happy about the move, but I am telling you it is the best thing for all of us.

DUCK

I'm so sorry Nana. We were being childish.

NANA

Yes, cut the crap. I'm hiring a realtor. He will be here next week. I signed you both up to volunteer next weekend cleaning old sets so you will be out of his hair.

Annie looks over at Duck mad as Nana walks back inside.

DUCK

Well, we tried. It probably isn't that big of a deal we will take lots of pictures to help with the memories.

ANNIE

Are you serious? I can't believe I am related to such a weak, beta-male.

DUCK

Annie, I think we should stop and actually help her.

ANNIE

We are helping her. Don't tell me you actually want to never have a summer here with Nana again.

DUCK

Fine. You are so bossy for being the youngest cousin.

INT. LIVING ROOM - EARLY SATURDAY EVENING

NANA

I just got off the phone with Harriet's son who is a realtor.

(MORE)



NANA (CONT'D)

He said the house will sell in no time. He will be here tomorrow morning, so keep your room clean.

DUCK

Oh, good.

Duck and Annie get up and head to their room.

ANNIE

We need to step it up now. We can't prevent people from coming anymore, now we just have to make them not want to stay.

EXT. NANA'S FRONT LAWN- THE NEXT SUNDAY AFTERNOON

MARK, 40, The realtor, pulls up with a attractive, young couple, A PREGNANT WOMAN, 28, and MAN, 34, wearing matching pastels, get out of the car.

WOMAN

Oh honey look at this curb appeal. I love the windows out front.

MAN

I have a good feeling about this place. Thanks for finding this Mark.

The three of them enter the house. Duck and Annie are seen climbing through a window with a garbage bag of things.

INT. NANA'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

WOMAN

Oh, I love the open-concept.

There is a beeping in the house.

MARK

That is just be a detector. Ignore and let me show you a room that would be perfect for a nursery.

MAN

Oh this would be a perfect man cave. This house feels very good. What is that noise?

MARK

I'm sure it's nothing. Let's go look at the basement, it's perfect for your home-gym you wanted.

The three head into the basement.

INT. NANA'S BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

Down surrounding the sun pump is caution tape surrounding the corner. There is a plaque that says, "Daniel 1995-2008, RIP." There are pictures of Duck as a kid surrounding the hole. Dozens of stuffed animals, candles, and American flags are placed next to the plaque. The rest of the basement is filled with different vases and pictures of very old people and religious items.

WOMAN

(blood-curling scream)

The three people stare stunned. The woman is trembling reaching for her husbands chest. Duck pops out wearing tattered clothes.

DUCK

Please ma'am, I ask you to be more quiet. My loved ones are here resting, they do not like to be disturbed. Sshhh I think you are waking up great-great grandmother.

Annie is hiding behind the furnace holding in her laugh.

WOMAN

Get my the hell out of here!

She grabs her stomach and turns around to run back up the stairs.

MARK

Wait, no this is a misunderstanding!

The three fight each other to get up the stairs.

MAN

How could you show us a place like this? A house with a family burial ground.

The couple race towards the front door. They grab their things and head out to leave. As they open the door there is a GROUP OF 10 PEOPLE in all black cloaks, holding brooms and candles holding a possum and turtle.

BLACK CLOAKED GUEST 1  
Hi, we are here for the witches of  
Western-Pennsylvania annual  
sacrifices. We saw the flier.

The woman squeals and buckles at the knees. The man and Mark  
drag her out and drive away very quickly.

INT. NANA'S BEDROOM - LATER THAT EVENING

Nana is in bed crying. She looks small and tired. Her new  
clothes are folded up. Duck and Annie walked in.

ANNIE  
Nana are you okay?

NANA  
Oh hi sweetie. I am fine. The  
showing today was a disaster, but I  
know you already know that.

Nana stares at Annie and Duck, with intense, makeup-less  
eyes.

NANA  
Well you got what you wanted. I  
won't move. I don't care anymore. I  
will be the Nana you want me to be  
and will stay here and just cook  
for you once a year.

DUCK  
Nana, we didn't mean it like that.

NANA  
Forget it. Let's just enjoy our  
summer. I expect you two to be up  
bright and early tomorrow morning  
to help me pack-up my new place. I  
now need to put that one on the  
market.

ANNIE  
I'm sorry Nana. Of course we will  
help you.

NANA  
It was a fun idea, but who am I  
kidding? I can't have a new  
beginning. A new house won't  
distract myself from missing your  
grandfather.

Annie looks down, doesn't make eye contact with either.

Annie and Duck leave her room.

ANNIE

What have we done?

DUCK

We are just going to go tomorrow and help pack it up and this whole thing will be behind us. We thought this was the right thing to do, but I don't know.

ANNIE

Okay. Well at least we can finish making the trail way in the woods like we planned this summer.

DUCK

Yeah, I guess.

EXT. NANA'S NEW APARTMENT DOWNTOWN - MORNING

NANA

Well, lets get this over with.

They enter the downtown loft. It is modern with a bar and room for entertaining. They begin moving boxes.

DUCK

See, there probably wouldn't have been enough room for all of us anyway.

NANA

Well it is different. Which is what I wanted. I needed to find myself and move away.

They head down the hall to a staircase. They get up there and there was a huge room setup almost identical to the room they grew up in at the old house. There are pictures of them and a new tv.

ANNIE

Woah.

NANA

This was the first room I had setup. I needed to make sure my favorite people were taken care of.

ANNIE

This is beautiful. I can't believe it thanks so much. I had no idea.

Annie goes to turn on a shiny, big television. Nana's commercial is on.

DUCK

Look at you Nana. I can't believe you are in a real commercial.

NANA

Oh brother. Yeah, that was my first and last.

ANNIE

What happened to all your auditions?

NANA

It's a far drive from where I live, plus I want to spend time with you guys while I can.

Nana gets up and goes back downstairs to continue packing.

ANNIE

What have we done?

DUCK

Crap. We should listened to her or at least given the new place a chance.

ANNIE

For a dying person in a commercial, she sure had a spark.

DUCK

We can still make this right.

Annie and Duck run downstairs to find Nana.

DUCK

Nana. We need to tell you something.

ANNIE

It's all our fault. We didn't want you to move but now we do. We should never have interfered. We just want you to be happy.

DUCK

We are so sorry. Please forgive us.  
Please.

NANA

Honey, I know. I understand where you guys were coming from. I wasn't mad, because after your grandfather died, I would never thought of leaving. But now, everywhere I turned I was reminded of how much I miss my husband. I wanted to be near friends and people. I didn't realize at first how upset it would make you guys. I never meant to hurt you.

DUCK

Nana, seriously stop. We were wrong.

ANNIE

I want you to move. What if we promise to help you? Would you reconsider moving?

NANA

You don't think it's a mistake?

ANNIE

No, I could totally see myself hanging here and watching bridal shows with you.

NANA

It could be a new adventure for all of us.

They hug.

EXT. NANA'S FRONT LAWN - A MONTH LATER

A sold sign is in front of the home. The moving truck is being filled by Annie and Duck. The truck is closed and it drives off.

FADE TO BLACK.