

FADE IN:

1

INT. APARTMENT- DAY

1

A skinny young boy, DANNY, sits upside down in the middle of the couch dangling his head off the edge. He hangs tightly

The room is completely empty except for the couch and a tv stand. A few boxes lay scattered around. The cries of LEO, Danny's 1 year old brother, drown out the sounds of the streets below the apartment.

HELLEN is 31 years old she's a wirey type of skinny with short black hair and tattoos completely covering her arms. She hasn't bothered to clean the baby vomit off her shirt yet still sports a thick layer of make-up.

Hellen bounces up and down trying to calm Leo.

HELLEN

Danny, please its time to get dressed.

Danny slips off the couch on to the floor. Danny defeatedly rolls over on to his back lets out an anxious SIGH.

HELLEN

Two stickers if you can be ready in ten minutes!

Danny picks his head up and shoots his mother a skeptical look.

DANNY

Three

HELLEN

Ok. Fine three.

2

EXT. APARTMENT -DAY

2

A little boy in a faded Cubs t-shirt, CLAY, stands at the foot of the stairs with his mother. BONNIE is 45 years old She has long wavy grey hair and is dressed in a flowing purple sundress with a yellow patterned shawl draped around her shoulders.

A window above Bonnie and Clay flies open. Hellen her head out and gives a wave.

HELLEN

We'll be right down!

(CONTINUED)

Hellen and her sons burst out the door. Hellen is now dressed in a servers uniform and has one arm around Leo and the other tightly clinging to Danny.

HELLEN

Thank you so much for doing this  
Bonnie.

BONNIE

Anytime dear. Danny, this is Clay!  
Say hello my love.

CLAY

Hi.

Danny stares blankly at Clay and tries to step behind Hellen who gives him a gentle push forward.

BONNIE

Don't worry sweet heart! We don't  
bite.

HELLEN

He's a bit nervous..

Danny turns to his mother and motions for her to bend down. She gives him an exasperated look but bends her knees to meet his gaze.

DANNY

No.

HELLEN

Danny, we talked about this. I will  
walk you tomorrow. This is all a part  
of our new routine.

DANNY

You suck.

BONNIE

Is everything alright dear? We  
should get going soon.

Hellen stands up straight and gives Danny a quick kiss on the top of his head. Danny turns away and wipes away her kiss with disgust.

HELLEN

Everything is fine! Have fun boys.  
Danny be good!

Hellen walks to her car in front of their building and begins buckling Leo in. To Danny's horror, Bonnie firmly takes his hand and begins walking.

BONNIE

This is going to be such fun!

3

EXT. STREET - DAY

3

BONNIE

You know boys when I was your age I used to walk with my neighbor Theresa to school. To this day I still pick up the phone and give her a holler.

CLAY

Mom, please.

Bonnie gives Clay a strained look.

BONNIE

Danny, Clay just adores baseball. Really any sport! Do you like baseball?

Sports are dumb.

CLAY

You're dumb.

BONNIE

Clay, please.

Clay rolls his eyes at his mother.

BONNIE

Clay take a three-two-one.

Clay pauses and in a huff looks at his mother than looks at Danny. He stomps his feet and Bonnie puts a hand on his shoulder.

Clay pauses for a minute and takes a few deep breaths

CLAY

Sorry

BONNIE

Thank you Clay.

They round the corner and arrive at the front of school.

BONNIE

Danny, if you need anything you can  
ask Clay. We are here for you.  
Right Clay?

CLAY

yea sure.

Clay walks towards the entrance. Danny lingers for a moment  
then follows his lead.

BONNIE

Bye sweeties!

Clay and Danny disappear inside.

4

EXT. PLAYGROUND -DAY

4

A Bell RINGS. A flood of children squeeze out the doors and  
run towards the playground. Danny straggles behind.

Clay and a group of other boys play wall ball on the side of  
the building. Danny sits down on the steps of the play  
structure and pulls out a folder filled with un-used  
stickers and begins organizing them.

Clay misses the ball and it rolls past him towards Danny.  
Danny unmoving lets the ball stop at his feet. Unbothered he  
continues to shuffle through his folder

FRIEND 1

Hey! Our ball?!

Danny looks up for a second then back down at his stickers.  
Clay walks over to retrieve the ball. Clay's friends join  
him.

FRIEND 1

Hey are you deaf or something?!

Danny still doesn't respond.

FRIEND 2

He's not deaf. He's stupid.

FRIEND 3

What is wrong with him.

JAKE

Yea Clay what's wrong with him.  
Isn't this your friend?

Clay nervously glances at Danny then at his friends.

(CONTINUED)

CLAY

He's not my friend. He's just my  
slow neighbor.

Clay passes the ball to friend 2 then leans forward and  
grabs the folder from Danny. Danny doesn't flinch he  
continues to stare into his down at his where his folder  
once laid.

CLAY

See.

Clay's friends let out malicious laughter. Finished taunting  
Danny, Clay and his friends turn to return to their game.  
Danny looks up, he is finally able to conjure up a rebuttal.

DANNY

Hey Clay.

Clay spins around.

DANNY

At least I don't suck at wall ball.

FRIENDS

OHHHHHHHH

Clay hands off the folder to friend 1. Friend 2 pass the  
ball back to Clay.

CLAY

Oh yea? let's see it.

Danny stands up slightly hesitant but eager to prove himself  
right and joins the other boy.

Clay starts off with the first serve. Danny catches it and  
low balls it back to the wall. Clay returns it. Danny misses  
and the ball rolls past him.

CLAY

Ha! I win!

In a spark of fury Danny leaps up and tackles Clay to the  
ground. He pins Clay underneath him and as he does a crowd  
begins to gather around them. The crowd chants "Fight!" over  
and over.

Clay lets out a sharp scream and a teacher runs over.

5 INT. PRINCIPLES OFFICE - DAY

5

Danny sits his arms crossed gazing at the floor. PRINCIPLE JUDY is a rather large woman who has squeezed herself into an ill fitting suit, sits across from Danny.

PRINCIPLE JUDY

Danny, we need to discuss what happened. Can you please tell me what happened today?

Danny silently gives a quick shake of his head.

PRINCIPLE JUDY

Ok, well then Danny we're going to need to contact a parent or guardian.

She picks up the phone and presses a button.

PRINCIPLE JUDY

Hi. Karen, can you please pull Danny's file up... yes that one...uh huh yes only the contact sheet.

Principle Judy then puts the phone back down.

DANNY

My dad.

PRINCIPLE JUDY

Pardon?

DANNY

My dad. Call my Dad.

6 INT. HALLWAY -DAY

6

Danny sits in the middle of an empty row of chairs outside the principles door.

Hellen rounds the corner still dressed in her servers uniform.

HELLEN

lets go.

DANNY

No. I'm not going with you.

(CONTINUED)

HELLEN  
Enough Danny.

DANNY  
Why are you even here?

HELLEN  
Danny I'm sorry.

DANNY  
You're not.

HELLEN  
He's not coming.

Danny turns his back to her and lets out a huff. Hellen bends down to Danny's level and gives him a gentle nudge.

HELLEN  
I have stickers. We can even get some new ones.

Danny gets up and walks away from his mother.

DANNY  
Stickers are for babies. I'll be in the car.

As he turns to walk away. Bonnie and Clay exit the principle's office.

HELLEN  
Bonnie!

BONNIE  
Oh hello.

HELLEN  
I'm so sorry.

BONNIE  
No. No, don't worry about it.

Hellen relaxes her shoulders drop as she lets out a sigh of relief

HELLEN  
Boy will be boys right. I'll see you tomorrow morning?

BONNIE  
Oh no Hellen...sweetie he attacked my Clay. I think it would be best  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

BONNIE (cont'd)  
if they didn't spend anymore time  
together.

HELLEN  
Are you kidding me?

BONNIE  
Its not personal but this my son. I  
need to protect him from danger.

HELLEN  
You can't be serious. This was his  
first day at a new school Bonnie.  
Its not that unexpected that he  
would act out. They're just kids  
they'll get over it.

Hellen is now standing directly in front of Bonnie when she  
notices that Clay is holding Danny's folder.

HELLEN  
Is that..?

Clay tries to inch behind his mother. Hellen shoots Danny an  
understanding look.

HELLEN  
That is not yours!

BONNIE  
Please don't talk to my son in that  
tone.

HELLEN  
Fuck you lady.

Hellen snatches the folder from Clay. She grabs Danny's hand  
and storms out.

7 EXT. SCHOOL- DAY

7

Hellen and Danny emerge from the doors to the front of the  
door. Hellen is bee-lines to her car before Danny tugs her  
hand.

DANNY  
Mom.

HELLEN  
What?

Danny pulls a sticker out and gives it to her.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

9.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END