

INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING

A young man, DAVID, 16, mostly calm and confident, sits alone in the living room. He looks around at the art on the wall-Asian art, swords, weapons, and antique artifacts.

A young woman, MARLA enters, Asian girl with a sweet face, 16, his girlfriend. She is dressed nicely but right now a complete nervous wreck.

MARLA

Now I've gotta warn you. My family is kinda...scary sometimes. Please don't be afraid of them!

DAVID

What are you talking about!

MARLA

I just hope they like you.

DAVID

They'll love me. And I'll love them. I know how to act in front of parents. Don't worry.

MARLA

But you don't understand! Just, please don't let my dad scare you away, okay? My whole family is crazy.
(to herself)
Maybe this was a bad idea...

DAVID

Marla, don't say that. I'm ready for this next step with you. I love you.

She is comforted by this and they share a kiss. Her little brother KEVIN, 10, Asian kid who loves his video games and anime, interrupts them.

KEVIN

EWWW! Mom! Marla's kissing her "boyfriend!"

Marla simply puts up her fist as a threat to her brother, who screams and scurries away.

A woman's voice calls from the other room.

MOM (V.O.)

Dinner's almost ready! Come and get a seat!

David and Marla hold hands, brace themselves, and enter the dining room together.

INT. DINING ROOM - EVENING

Marla's MOM, a lovely Asian woman with a pleasant face, early 40's, is finishing in the kitchen and setting the table. Marla presents David.

MARLA

Mom, this is my boyfriend, David.

MOTHER

(Doesn't look up from
her work)

Hello.

DAVID

Nice to meet you, Mrs. Shon.

David puts out his hand and Mom, noticing this, awkwardly shakes it with a slight bow.

MOTHER

So you're the boyfriend, huh? Sit
down.

They sit down at the table. Kevin tries to steal Marla's seat but she pushes him out of the way.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

Dinner's ready! Get out here now
before it gets cold!

There is a long pause as everyone at the table awaits the last person to arrive.

Suddenly DAD enters the room, stiff all over, late 40's, with a stern cold face. He looks intimidating and over-protective. David stands up with a goofy smile, his hand extended.

DAVID

Hello Mr. Shon. I'm David Smith.
Nice to finally meet you.

Dad sizes David up. He's not impressed. He grunts.

Dad sits down and Marla pulls David back to his seat.

MOTHER

Let's pray.

They all close their eyes and mom says her prayer aloud.

David peeks open to see Kevin sneak in some food, except he flips around on his chair to stick his finger in the dessert and then flips back without making a sound.

Kevin puts his finger over his lips and returns to his praying position.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

Amen.

EVERYONE ELSE

Amen.

The dinner begins.

Mom looks into her cup.

MOM

Kevin, you didn't get ice for us tonight.

Kevin lowers his head and goes into the kitchen. He pulls out a big block of ice, places it on the table, and CRACK! Chops it into pieces.

He comes back to the table with a bowl of ice for everyone to share.

MOM (CONT'D)

Thank you.

(To David)

Ice?

Dad grabs the bread and steps back. He throws it up the air and grabs a sword found on the side.

He slices every which way while the bread is in midair. The slices fall perfectly onto the plate.

Marla is so embarrassed but David watches in awe. Marla looks to David desperately. Everyone eats quietly.

MOM (CONT'D)

So David, what college will you be attending after you graduate?

DAVID

Well, I'll probably start off at a community college to save money first.

Mom almost chokes at the words "community college."

DAVID (CONT'D)

Then I can figure out what I want to do with my life before I head off to get a degree in something.

Mom and dad share a look.

DAD

Grades?

DAVID
Oh, I'm a Senior.

DAD
No, your grades.

DAVID
Oh, um. I'd say pretty average.

DAD
Average? Marla, you're straight
A's, right?

MARLA
Dad, so what?. David's really good
at a lot of things. He--

Dad grunts a disregard to his daughter.

MOM
Can someone pass the kimchi?

David tries to look at what "kimchi" is. Dad grabs the plate and tosses it like a frisbee to Mom who catches it one-handed and serves herself.

Kevin is using his hands to eat his food.

DAD
Kevin! Knife!

Dad throws a huge knife and fork at Kevin who catches it reluctantly and uses it cut up his meat.

DAVID
(whispering to Marla)
What does your family do again?

Marla covers her face with her hands in embarrassment. She can't stand it anymore.

MARLA (CONT'D)
STOP! GOD! Do we have to do this
every time we have guests here? Mom!

Marla stands up and bangs on the table, momentarily distracting Mom, who accidentally knocks her cup over. David with lightning speed does an arial kick and catches it with the tips of his fingers.

Everyone stares at David, struck in awe, especially Marla.

Dad breaks out into a huge smile.

DAD
David! Welcome to the family!

Everyone smiles but Marla, who stares at David incredulously. Dad pats David on the back and sits him closer. David winks at Marla but she rolls her eyes in disgust.

The meal continues with everyone chatting it up except Marla who crosses her arms.

END.