

Modern Family

"Presidency"

by
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ACT ONE

INT. PHIL AND CLAIRE'S STAIRWAY - DAY

Claire and Haley at the foot of the stairs.

CLAIRE
Haley, you're not going on a weekend
get-away.

HALEY
Why not?

CLAIRE
Because you're a teenager.

HALEY
You use to go to weekend getaways all
the time.

CLAIRE
I said no.

HALEY
Why don't you want me to have fun?

CLAIRE
How do you know weekends getaways are
fun?

Phil, out of breath, rushes in. Haley heads upstairs.

PHIL
Claire, Claire.

CLAIRE
What happened, what's wrong?

PHIL
Bernie's house went into foreclosure.

CLAIRE
Bernie Woods? Are you serious?

PHIL
Yes.

CLAIRE
Oh my god!

PHIL
I know.

Alex walks down the stairs.

ALEX
Who's Bernie Woods?

PHIL AND CLAIRE
(with rising excitement)
The president of the neighborhood
association.

CLAIRE
(to Phil)
You know what this means don't you?

PHIL
Of course.

ALEX
What does it mean?

CLAIRE
I'm gonna be president of the
neighborhood association.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWOINT. PHIL AND CLAIRE'S KITCHEN - DAY

CLAIRE

I can't believe I'm gonna be a president!

ALEX

Don't you have to run first?

PHIL

You're gonna make a great president.

ALEX

She has to run first!

CLAIRE

(to Phil)

You think? I think so, too. First thing I'll do when I'm in office: get rid of the streets security lights.

PHIL

Great idea.

CLAIRE

I'll tell you what, there will be no more lights shining into our room all night long. And then I'll get rid of that "cleaning up the park day."

ALEX

It's one day of volunteering!

PHIL

(to Claire)

God, I love you.

He kisses her.

CLAIRE

Claire Dunphy: President.

PHIL

I'm campaign manager right? We need balloons, lots of balloons.

CLAIRE

No balloons.

PHIL

But The People love balloons!

CLAIRE

We don't need balloons.

PHIL
That's what Al Gore said.

CLAIRE
Phil, no one else is running.

PHIL
As campaign manager, I am advising you
to strongly consider balloons.

ALEX
So what's your agenda gonna be?

CLAIRE
Didn't you hear what I just said?

ALEX
That's your agenda? Getting rid of
security lights?

CLAIRE
They keeping us up at night! How do
you expect me to rule with no sleep?

ALEX
And you want to cancel the one day a
month people get together to clean up
the park.

CLAIRE
Alex, I'm tired of feeling bad because
I don't go.

INTERVIEW --PHIL AND CLAIRE

PHIL
I am very proud of Claire.

ALEX
(O.S.)
She hasn't won yet.

PHIL
Last time Claire ran for office,
people wrote "not Claire" on the
ballot.

CLAIRE
It was a joke.

PHIL
Can you imagine how embarrassing this
must have been? Anyone else would have
been too ashamed to even take the
trash out after such humiliation, but
not my Claire.

CLAIRE
Someone had to take the trash out.

PHIL
(to camera)
It's not my fault the smell of trash tickles my gag reflex.

CLAIRE
I know, I know.

PHIL
So, anyway, my Claire was very courageous because it was very embarrassing, it's all I'm trying to say. So, I've decided to make sure this doesn't happen again. Claire has very good chance of winning.

CLAIRE
No one else is running, I mean come on! I can't be that bad.

PHIL
That's why I am starting a "skill exchange program" to spread the word about your candidacy.

CLAIRE
Please don't.

PHIL
You're welcome.

INT. MITCHELL AND CAMERON'S CONDO - DAY

Cameron is playing with Lily. Mitchell storms in.

MITCHELL
Cam, cam...

CAMERON
Mitchell.

MITCHELL
Guess what?

CAMERON
You guess what!

MITCHELL
You go first.

CAMERON
Guess what Lily did today?

MITCHELL
(Disappointed)
Oh! Okay.

CAMERON
Guess. Guess.

MITCHELL
She walked.

CAMERON
How do you know?

MITCHELL
I guessed.

CAMERON
Couldn't you guess something else?

MITCHELL
I don't know, that's what I guessed.
So what did she do?

CAMERON
Never mind. So what's your news?

MITCHELL
Guess.

CAMERON
No, I wouldn't do that to you!

MITCHELL
(With rising excitement)
You will not believe this. My boss
asked me to play on the firm's
baseball team.

CAMERON
You guys have a baseball team?

MITCHELL
Yes!

CAMERON
Are you sure it's not softball?

MITCHELL
I don't know. I'm so excited. I've
never been picked to play on any teams
before.

CAMERON
I know, I know, you've told me all
about it.

MITCHELL
This has always been my dream.

CAMERON
I know, I know.

MITCHELL
I'm gonna show everyone in that office, how good of a ball player I am.

INTERVIEW -- CAMERON

Cameron's trying to hide that he's upset. He can't say a word, all he does is shrug his shoulders and sucks his teeth.

Behind him, Mitchell is singing to Lily.

MITCHELL (O.S.)
Daddy's gonna be a jo-ock, daddy's gonna be a jo-ock.

INT. PHIL AND CLAIRE'S KITCHEN - DAY

Alex sitting at the counter doing homework.

CLAIRE
(to Alex)
Would you be more inclined to vote for me if I wore my hair up or down?

ALEX
I would be more inclined to vote for you if I liked your agenda.

CLAIRE
Okay, let's say you like my agenda, what do you think about my hair?

Claire puts her hair up.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)
What does this mean to you, "no way, too psycho?"

ALEX
I don't know.

Claire lets her hair down.

CLAIRE
How'bout this? Do you trust me more now?

ALEX
I don't now!

Luke and Phil walk in.

LUKE
What about pigtails?

PHIL
Yes, pigtails. Good idea. I'd vote for you then.

CLAIRE
You're voting for me regardless, right?

PHIL
Yes, of course. I'm the campaign manager, but if you had pigtails, I'm voting for you so much more.

LUKE
Our student president was elected because she had pigtails, and because she promised free lunches and every other Friday off to anyone who voted for her.

ALEX
Yeah, and now she's being bullied because she lied.

PHIL
Good for her.

CLAIRE
Phil! No, not good for her. It's bad for her. She shouldn't have lied,
(matter of fact)
she doesn't deserve to be bullied.
(to Phil)
Why can't you say that?
(to the kids)
Honesty is very important.

PHIL
Not in elections, it's not.

LUKE
So what are you going to promise people?

CLAIRE
Whatever they want to hear.

LUKE
But...

CLAIRE
Luke, I'm not gonna get bullied.

LUKE

Why not?

Haley, walks in.

HALEY

Because old people don't get bullied.

CLAIRE

Because I'll be honest and truthful.

INT. JAY AND GLORIA'S HOUSE - DAY

Jay enters, Gloria reading a magazine on the sofa.

GLORIA

Hey baby. How are you?

JAY

Gloria, you will be happy to know that I've decided to learn Espanol.

GLORIA

Oh Jay, this is great... This makes me so happy!

INTERVIEW -- JAY

JAY

I've decided to learn Spanish for two reasons. One, because I want to understand what her family says about me and two because I love my wife.

INT. JAY AND GLORIA'S HOUSE - DAY

GLORIA

Oh, Jay, I can't wait to teach you Spanish again.

JAY

Well, I've decided to learn with Rosetta Stone.

GLORIA

Why? Why don't you want me to teach you?

JAY

No, no, this time I'm doing it with Rosetta. No man wants to learn things from his wife. I'd like to think that you'd be the one learning things from me.

INTERVIEW -- GLORIA

GLORIA

I don't understand why he doesn't want me to teach him. I am an excellent teacher.

INT. JAY AND GLORIA'S HOUSE - PAST

Gloria holding a fork.

GLORIA

Jay, are you doing it on purpose? Because it sounds to me like you are doing it on purpose.

(yelling)

This is a "horca, a HORCA..." It's not complicated, why can't you remember, that?

She holds a spoon.

GLORIA (CONT'D)

What about this, do you know what this is?

JAY

A spoon.

GLORIA

I know this is a spoon, Jay, but what is it in Espanol, Jay?

Gloria throws her arms in the sky and walks away.

INT. PHIL AND CLAIRE'S ATTIC - DAY

Luke is wearing one of Phil old suits. The suit looks way too small on Luke.

LUKE

I feel ridiculous.

ALEX

You are ridiculous.

CLAIRE

You look great. It was your father's first communion suit.

LUKE

Dad was a communist?

CLAIRE

Never mind. Just don't get it dirty.

(to Haley)

Try this.

HALEY

You want me to wear a sheet?

CLAIRE

It's a dress Haley.

HALEY

It's so long.

CLAIRE

It's meant to cover your knees.

HALEY

What's wrong with my knees?

CLAIRE

I don't want to be distracted by your bare knees while I'm campaigning.

Phil arrives, covered in ashes, he sees the suit on his son.

PHIL

Oh my god, my first suit. I lost my virgi...

CLAIRE

First communion. You wore that suit on your first communion.

PHIL

Right, right. That's right, it was my first communion.

LUKE

(respond to Phil)

Cool. I'm gonna wear it all the time.

CLAIRE

Phil, you wear this.
(realizing Phil's dirty)
What's wrong with you?

PHIL

Mrs. Strock's chimney.

Claire seems confused.

PHIL (CONT'D)

Skills exchange program. While I was there, I got her to vote for you. Booya!

CLAIRE

I'm the only one running.

PHIL

Not anymore.

CLAIRE

What?

PHIL

There is another candidate.

CLAIRE

That's impossible. Who?

PHIL

Some lawyer who just moved across the street.

CLAIRE

What?

PHIL

You have nothing to worry about, I will continue to mow lawns, bake cookies, paint houses, whatever it takes, because that's what a good campaign manager does, honey.

CLAIRE

I can't believe it. This is my race, my race, not some lawyer's race!

HALEY

Great. So you don't have to run now.

CLAIRE

Haley, you're wearing the sheets, the dress, you're wearing the dress.

Claire storms out.

INT. MITCHELL AND CAMERON'S BATHROOM - DAY

Mitchell in front of the mirror practicing a jock-like behavior.

MITCHELL

I'm gonna be team captain.

He points both index fingers at the mirror, winks at himself, turns to exit, hits the bathroom door, hurts himself but holds back crying when he sees that Cameron saw the entire thing. Cameron walks away shaking his head in disapproval.

INT. JAY AND GLORIA'S KITCHEN - DAY

Gloria stands in the middle of her kitchen, all the cabinets and drawers are open. Manny enters.

MANNY

Mom, are you okay?

GLORIA
Yes, Manny, I'm fine.

MANNY
Why are all the drawers open then?

GLORIA
I am airing them out, Manny.

MANNY
Why?

GLORIA
Because Manny, sometimes drawers need to be aired out!

MANNY
Okay. Okay. They need me to be aired out. Right. I forgot.

He exits. Gloria leans against the counter.

GLORIA
Rosetta, Rosetta, who is this Rosetta?

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - EVENING

The Dunphy's family sitting on stage. Claire is flipping through her notes.

PHIL
Claire, don't be nervous.

CLAIRE
I'm not nervous.

PHIL
You're gonna be great.

CLAIRE
Stop it.

PHIL
What?

CLAIRE
You're making me nervous!

PHIL
Don't be nervous, there's no need to be nervous.

CLAIRE
Phil!
(to Luke)
Luke, don't touch the suit.

LUKE

It's itching.

CLAIRE

I don't care.

(then)

I'm just gonna get started.

PHIL

You should wait for your opponent.

CLAIRE

I'm ready now.

Claire gets up and walks to the podium. Crowd noise.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)

(to the crowd)

Hi. I'm Claire Dunphy,

(to her family)

Get up.

Haley trips over her dress. The crowd quiets down.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)

(to the crowd)

Hi, I'm Claire Dunphy. Hello, I'm
 Claire Dunphy. This is my family, we
 live in the khaki-grey house around
 the corner, the one with the crazy
 Halloween decorations, it's a 2 story
 house, we have 2 cars.

PHIL

This isn't AA, Claire, get to it.

CLAIRE

I'm Claire Dunphy and I'm running for
 president.

Phil and the kids applaud, no one else does, they stop abruptly.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)

I know my opponent isn't here yet, but
 I think we should get started. First
 of all, let me tell you why I want to
 become president of our wonderful
 neighborhood. I don't want to spend
 too much time talking about my
 opponent or why he's not here, I just
 think that it's crazy that he's not
 here. But enough said. How rude of him
 not to show up? Just rude.

(then)

Plain old rude.

She looks at her notes, takes a deep breath before continuing.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)
 Who does he think he is not to show up? What kinda person doesn't show up? Is he too good for us?

NEIGHBOR 1 (O.S.)
 What's your agenda?

Claire raises her thumb a la Bill Clinton.

CLAIRE
 I'm glad you asked. Tree trimming. We're gonna get all these trees at the same height, make our streets look pretty, three feet tall all around.

The crowd objects.

NEIGHBOR 1 (O.S.)
 That's too short!

CLAIRE
 Fine, four feet tall, but that's my last offer. Now to the serious stuff. When I'm president, I'll get rid of all the security lights.

Uproar from the crowd.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)
 All we're doing is providing criminals with a perfectly lit crime area.

She looks at her cards, raises her head back up and says.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)
 Any questions?

NEIGHBOR 1
 Don't you think that removing the lights would only be more inviting to criminals?

CLAIRE
 (ignoring the question)
 Good. Second point of my campaign. I want to start a "get your weekend back" program.

The crowd applauds.

No more cleaning up the park on Saturdays!

The crowd boos.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)

The park can clean itself up. No more volunteering, we need to respect ourselves as a people and stop doing stuff for free, which brings me to my last point. My father always told me: "Get rewards for your efforts," so everyone in my office, that includes the secretary and the accountant are to receive payments for service rendered.

NEIGHBOR 1

The association doesn't have any money.

CLAIRE

I am aware, I am aware, and you know what I say to that: "Line of Credit!"

INT. JAY AND GLORIA'S HOUSE - DAY

Jay on his computer in his office.

ROSETTA

Hola, como esta?

JAY

Hola, como esta?

Gloria is listening behind the office door.

ROSETTA

Me gusta su pantalones.

GLORIA

I like your pants!

Gloria storms in the office. Jay is surprised, she finds nothing suspicious so she feigns interests in a piece of paper on the printer. Jay can tell what's bothering her.

JAY

Gloria.

GLORIA

I'm fine, Jay.

JAY

Would you like to meet Rosetta?

GLORIA

I am dying to meet her.

INT. JAY AND GLORIA'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Gloria sitting on Jay's lap at the desk.

Hola. ROSETTA

Hola. JAY

SFX: COMPUTER. Positive check mark sound.

JAY (CONT'D)
See, every time I pronounce the word
correctly, I get to move to the next
word.

Uno. ROSETTA

Uno. JAY

The computer makes a positive check mark sound.

Oh! I am so proud of you. GLORIA

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - DAY

Claire is finishing up her speech.

CLAIRE
I want to thank you all for coming.
Vote for me and you won't be
disappointed.

A woman, WOMAN 1, rushes in the community center.

WOMAN 1
Mrs. Storck had a fire in her house.

The crowd is shocked.

NEIGHBOR 1 (O.S.)
Oh my god, is she okay?

WOMAN 1
She's fine. A Good Samaritan who
happened to be walking by saw the
flames, jumped through the window and
saved her.

NEIGHBOR 1 (O.S.)
Who was it?

WOMAN 1
Some guy named Dupont..

NEIGHBOR 2
That's the other candidate.

Cheers from the crowd.

CROWD
(cheering)
Dupont, Dupont...

CLAIRE
Actually, I just thought about it and
your trees can be as high as you want
them to be, it's okay.

CROWD
(cheering)
Dupont! Dupont! Dupont!

CLAIRE
(panicked)
Also, everyone gets Fridays off. And
free lunches.

EXT. SOFTBALL FIELD - DAY

Mitchell is stretching, Cameron is nervously rocking Lily's
stroller.

MITCHELL
Don't rock her so hard, you're gonna
make her nauseous.

CAMERON
She likes being nauseous.

MITCHELL
You didn't have to come you know.

CAMERON
Oh! I wanted to come, it's your first
practice, I came to give you my full
support.

MITCHELL
It's just practice with the guys, you
know, nothing serious.

Cameron sees something in a distance, his jaw drops.

CAMERON
Oh my!

MITCHELL
What?

Mitchell turns to see what Cameron's looking at.

MITCHELL (CONT'D)

Oh my god!

Camera reveals a team of hard core looking women heading towards Mitchell and Cameron, they wear the same jersey as Mitchell. They surround Mitchell, all of them are bigger and taller than him.

TEAM PLAYER 1

Which one of you's Mitchell?

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREEINT. PHIL AND CLAIRE'S HOUSE - EVENING

Returning from the community center.

CLAIRE
So what did you think of my speech?
It was good right?

PHIL
Well, let's just say that the other
candidate saving that old bat from her
burning house, didn't really do you
any good.

CLAIRE
I know! Talk about terrible timing!
But what about my speech, what did you
think?

HALEY
Mom, it was awful.

PHIL
Haley! Don't be rude. Your mother
raised you better than that.
(to Claire)
I think what Haley's trying to say is
that you didn't really come across as
being very nice.

HALEY
Yes, mom, and people like nice people.

CLAIRE
You're grounded.

HALEY
What?

Haley exits.

PHIL
Claire, if you want to win this; just
be nice.

INT. JAY AND GLORIA'S HOUSE - DAY

Gloria is watching TV, but Jay and Rosetta's voices are
bothering her.

ROSETTA (O.S.)
Quiero un sandwich.

Jay says the word sandwich with an American accent.

JAY
Quiero un sandwich.

SFX: COMPUTER. Negative gong sound.

JAY (CONT'D)
Quiero un sandwich.

SFX: COMPUTER. Negative gong sound.

JAY (CONT'D)
Quiero un sandwich.

SFX: COMPUTER. Negative gong sound.

Gloria turns the TV louder.

JAY (CONT'D)
Quiero un sandwich.

SFX: COMPUTER. Negative gong sound.

Gloria is annoyed.

INTERVIEW - PHIL

Phil sitting on sofa.

PHIL
If Claire wants to win this election,
all she needs to do, is show these
people the Claire I know.

CLAIRE (O.S.)
(screaming)
Haley, come here.

Phil smiling uncomfortably at camera.

SFX: PHONE

CLAIRE (O.S.) (CONT'D)
(screaming)
Haley, you come right here, right now.
(on the phone. Overly nice)
Hello, Dunphy's residence.

PHIL
This Claire.

INT. JAY AND GLORIA'S HOUSE - DAY

Gloria still watching TV, growing ever more annoyed. Manny enters.

JAY (O.S.)
QUIERO un SANDWICH!

SFX: COMPUTER. Negative gong sound.

MANNY

Mom.

GLORIA

I know, baby, I know.

INT. PHIL AND CLAIRE'S HOUSE - DAY

Phil is on the phone. Claire is standing next to him.

PHIL

No, I didn't, no I didn't. Okay, well, I did, but she asked me to start a fire... How was I supposed to know it was only a decorative chimney,
(then)

As a matter of fact, it was very hard to clean, and for a fake chimney, it was very dirty.

He hangs up.

PHIL (CONT'D)

(to Claire)

I don't think Mrs. Storck's gonna vote for you.

Alex walks downstairs.

CLAIRE

Alex, what are you doing?

ALEX

I was about to do some research on how to...

CLAIRE

Good, you're coming with me.

ALEX

Where?

CLAIRE

We're going door to door to hand out these flyers.

ALEX

But, mom.

CLAIRE

You can study later. Remember, your studies aren't going anywhere.

ALEX

What?

CLAIRE
I mean, you can always study later.

LUKE
I'll go with you.

ALEX
Good, take him.

CLAIRE
Alex, I wish you'd go out more.

ALEX
And hand out flyers, thanks mom.

Alex exits.

CLAIRE
Alright, Luke, let's go.

LUKE
I made a sign for you.

Claire turns to Luke wearing a sandwich board hanging over his shoulders.

CLAIRE
Oh, sweetie.
(reading the sign)
Vote for my mom or you're dead. That's so sweet...But, you can't wear this.

LUKE
Why not?

CLAIRE
That's not how you spell dead.

INT. JAY AND GLORIA'S HOUSE - DAY

Jay, Gloria and Manny over the computer, yelling at it.

JAY
Queiro un Sandwich.

SFX: COMPUTER. Negative gong sound.

MANNY
Sandwich.

SFX: COMPUTER. Negative gong sound.

GLORIA
Sandwich.

SFX: COMPUTER. Negative gong sound.

GLORIA (CONT'D)
Sandwich. Sandwich. Sandwich.

SFX: COMPUTER. Negative gong sound.

JAY
Sandwich.

SFX: COMPUTER. Negative gong sound.

INT. PHIL AND CLAIRE'S BACK YARD - DAY

Phil is greeting people.

PHIL
Hi, welcome, welcome to our humble
abode. Make yourselves comfortable,
Claire is around somewhere, passing
food around, you know, being nice, as
she always is.

Claire, tray in hand is talking to an OLDER WOMAN, other
people are listening.

CLAIRE
Well, you know, I would love nothing
more but to be president of our
neighborhood association, I know this
neighborhood inside out. I love this
neighborhood.

HALEY
Hi mom.

CLAIRE
Haley. This is my oldest daughter,
Haley.

HALEY
Hi.

OLDER WOMAN
You are so precious.

HALEY
So mom. What have you decided about my
weekend getaway. Can I go?

CLAIRE
Can you pass these cupcakes around
dear?

Claire hands Haley the tray.

OLDER WOMAN
(to Haley)
Where are you going?

HALEY

I would like to go camping, but my mother doesn't want me too.

CLAIRE

It's far.

HALEY

No, it's not.

CLAIRE

The nights are cold.

HALEY

I'll bring a sweater.

OLDER WOMAN

You like camping?

HALEY

I love nature.

CLAIRE

Haley, pass the cupcakes, please.

HALEY

I love nature so much but my mother doesn't let me appreciate it.

OLDER WOMAN

That's too bad.

HALEY

I know.

CLAIRE

Well... Life's hard.

OLDER WOMAN

Listen sweetie. I understand what you're going through.

CLAIRE

It's okay really.

OLDER WOMAN

(to Claire)

No, no, wait.

HALEY

(to Claire)

Mom, please, don't interrupt.

OLDER WOMAN

My friends and I go camping every year, as a matter of fact, we are going this weekend. Why don't you come with us?

Haley is stunned.

CLAIRE

That sounds like a great idea.

HALEY

Mom.

CLAIRE

(to Haley)

You're going to have such a great time with these ladies!!!

HALEY

But mom.

CLAIRE

(to the Older Lady)

When should I drop her off?

(To Haley)

You're going to have ball.

OLDER WOMAN

(Sharing a secret with Haley)

We always go skinny dipping at least once or twice...

At the other end of the yard, a man screams.

YOUNG MAN

Let me go. Let me go.

PHIL

I'm sorry, I thought you were choking.

YOUNG MAN

Are you serious?

PHIL

(to the crowd)

I thought he was choking.

Taking the tray from Haley.

CLAIRE

Cupcake anyone?

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD - DAY

Mitchell is sitting on the bench feeling pretty sorry for himself.

CAMERON
Mitchell, pull yourself together.

MITCHELL
I'm chopped liver.

CAMERON
No, you're not. Remember, you're the man that makes this co-ed team possible. Without you there is no team.

MITCHELL
(gaining confidence)
Yes. They need me.

CAMERON
Yes they do.

MITCHELL
I can do this.

CAMERON
Yes you can. You go out there and show them what this little body of yours can do.

MITCHELL
I can do it.

CAMERON
That's the spirit.

Mitchell runs on the field. Cameron waves him goodbye.

CAMERON (CONT'D)
I loved you.

MITCHELL (O.S.)
(screaming)
Hey, there's no tackling in softball.

INT. JAY AND GLORIA'S HOUSE - DAY

SFX: COMPUTER. Negative gong sound.

JAY
(yelling)
Sandwich.

Gloria lunges at the computer.

JAY (CONT'D)
Not the computer.

She backs off.

GLORIA
 (to herself)
 What am I doing with my life? What am
 I doing with my life?
 (to Jay)
 Jay, you better eat something before
 you go to Columbia because with this
 accent you're never gonna get
 anything.

She storms out.

EXT. PHIL AND CLAIRE'S BACK YARD - DAY

JERRY the neighbor stops by.

JERRY
 Hey Phil.

PHIL
 Jerry, thanks for coming.

JERRY
 When are you gonna stop by and fix the
 window you repaired yesterday?

PHIL
 Are you gonna vote for Claire?

JERRY
 Are you gonna fix my window?

PHIL
 Yes.

JERRY
 Okay then, I'll vote for her.

PHIL
 Can you ask other neighbors to vote
 for her as well?

JERRY
 Are you gonna fix their windows too?

PHIL
 Come on man.

Jerry leaves.

Enter Mr. DUPONT and his wife.

PHIL (CONT'D)
 Hi, I'm Phil Dunphy. Are you going to
 vote for my wife, cause we only have a
 few cupcakes left?

The wife takes a cupcake.

DUPONT
No, I don't think so.

Phil takes the cupcake back from her hand, puts it on the tray and gives the tray to Luke.

PHIL
Why not?

DUPONT
I think I'll vote for myself.

A crowd has gathered around them.

PHIL
Hmm, hmm, so you're the one who saves old ladies from burning houses.

DUPONT
That's right.

PHIL
I see. Well, nothing's burning here, so you can be on your way.

CLAIRE
Phil! Let's be nice. He's my opponent but we can be cordial. They can still come in.

DUPONT
Well, we just came to let you guys know that I'm pretty sure your trees are taller than the association height limit.

PHIL
No, they're not.

NEIGHBOR 1 (O.S.)
I think Dupont's right. Those trees do look way too tall.

NEIGHBOR 2 (O.S.)
Trim them down.

PHIL
Hey, hey, hey, nobody's cutting anything down.

NEIGHBOR 2 (O.S.)
Oh, I see. Because you're running for president you get to have trees as tall as you want?

CLAIRE
 No, not at all, we'll cut the trees,
 if they need to be cut, but we're not
 doing it now.

NEIGHBOR 2 (O.S.)
 Why not?

CLAIRE
 (screaming)
 Cause we're here to have a good time!

NEIGHBOR 1
 Trim the trees.

CLAIRE
 (to Phil)
 What should we do?

PHIL
 Well, tree height was an important
 point of your campaign.

CLAIRE
 I wasn't talking about our trees.

NEIGHBOR 1
 Trim the trees, show us you care about
 our neighborhood.

PHIL
 Oh, we care, we care so much that
 we'll cut the *whole entire* tree down.

CLAIRE
 Phil? No, don't.

PHIL
 (whispering to Claire)
 Don't worry, they're all former
 hippies, they won't let me cut it
 down.
 (To the crowd)
 Someone give me a saw.

Cheers from the crowd.

CLAIRE
 Phil!

PHIL
 I got this.
 (to the crowd)
 Alright, this is it, I'm cutting it
 down. This is it...

He waits but no one stops him, Phil ends up cutting the whole

tree as Claire looks at him do it. People cheer as the tree falls. Claire's cell phone rings, she answers it.

CLAIRE

Hello. Cameron. Cameron, what happened? What? What are you saying? Cameron, stop crying, stop crying, breath.

(then)

Oh my god. We'll be right there.

(She hangs up)

Phil! Kids!

INT. HOSPITAL - MOMENTS LATER

The Dunphys, and the Pritchett-Delgados rush in at the same time. Jay yells at the receptionist.

JAY

Where is my son?

RECEPTIONIST

Who's your son?

JAY

Mitchell.

CLAIRE

Dad, over here.

They all run into Mitchell's room. Mitchell laying on a bed, is horrified to see his entire family.

MITCHELL

You called them?

CAMERON

Oh! Here you are, you guys! I didn't know what to do? You guys, it was awful.

JAY

Son, how are you?

MITCHELL

I'm fine. I'm fine.

CLAIRE

What happened? How are you? Cameron said you were...

CAMERON

I was so scared you guys,
(starts crying)
So scared. I thought I had lost him.

MITCHELL
I sprained my ankle.

CLAIRE
That's it.

MITCHELL
It's very painful.

CLAIRE
Seriously, that's it.

CAMERON
He won't be able to play for the rest
of the season, Claire.

GLORIA
Cameron said you were gonna die, did
you get even close to dying?

CAMERON
From where I was sitting, it looked
like he was gonna die.

JAY
I can't believe you called us for a
sprained ankle.

CAMERON
I was scared, Jay. I was scared.

GLORIA
Cameron, Jay said the word sandwich
correctly for the first time in a day.
He was done with that lesson but
because of your phone call, he didn't
save the lesson. We're going to have
to listen to it all over again!

CAMERON
Oh, I'm sorry Gloria, I'm sorry that
our injury isn't up to your standard.

GLORIA
(yelling at Cameron)
Sandwich!

JAY
Gloria, Manny, let's go.

CLAIRE
Mitch, which ankle did you sprained?

MITCHELL
The right one.

Pressing on the right ankle.

CLAIRE
Which one? This one?

Mitchell screams in pain.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOURINT. PHIL AND CLAIRE'S BACKYARD - EVENING

PHIL

Are you upset you're not gonna be president?

CLAIRE

Actually, I'm kinda glad.

PHIL

Really?

CLAIRE

I just wanted to win.

PHIL

You're not mad that we couldn't be there to accept your victory and that the Dupont guy was nominated instead of you?

CLAIRE

No. I don't think I would have enjoyed being a president.

PHIL

So Mitchell sprained his ankle in perfect time.

CLAIRE

He did.

PHIL

It would have been nice to get rid of the security lights though.

CLAIRE

What security lights?

Claire takes the softball and throws it at the security light.

INT. JAY AND GLORIA'S KITCHEN - DAY

JAY

El pesce nadar.

GLORIA

Yes, Jay, that's very good. The fish swims... My grand mother is going to be very happy when you tell her that the fish swims...

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW