

Cordelia

By

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1. INTRO OF DELIA'S FATHER - PARENT'S RURAL HOUSE

INT. NIGHT TIME IN THE ATTIC

Dolly: The father is working with the wood.

2. INTRO OF DELIA'S MOTHER - PARENT'S RURAL HOUSE

INT. NIGHT TIME IN THE KITCHEN

Dolly: The mother is baking in the kitchen. She sets the timer and then makes a phone call.

3. DELIA WORKS OVERTIME AND HER MOTHER CALLS - OFFICE

INT. NIGHT TIME IN THE OFFICE.

ALL THE LIGHTS ARE OFF EXCEPT DELIA'S DESK.

She's working alone by herself. She has her sleeves rolled up, and her hair is a bit messy.

Her cell phone rings. Delia puts it on speaker.

She looks at an object and doodles when she's on the phone.

DELIA

Hey, Mom. What's going on?

THE MOTHER

Nothing. Just calling to see how your new apartment is.

DELIA

It's good. Yeah, um. Everything's settled.

THE MOTHER

That's good. So when will you come back and visit then? You don't have to wait til holidays to come home, you know?

DELIA

Um, I'm not sure, yet. Work has been pretty busy lately.

THE MOTHER

Oh, speaking of which, your dad wants an update on that position you applied for. He thinks you need

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

THE MOTHER (cont'd)
to be more aggressive in the
company. It's good for you...

Delia stops doodling in the middle of her mom's conversation. It's a chair she draws. She cuts her mom off with an impatient sigh.

DELIA
Oh, come on! I'm being aggressive,
ok? I'm just...(breath) I just .. I
just don't know if this is what I
want or what Dad wants.

THE MOTHER
Well, maybe you should talk to your
dad.

As Delia puts away the file, she accidentally pushes off a pile of papers and feels frustrated.

DELIA
Oh, no.

THE MOTHER
What was that? Are you alright?

DELIA
I'm fine. (impatient) It was just
some books that I don't know where
to put yet.

THE MOTHER
Did you need dad to make you a
bookshelf? Hold on, I'll let you
talk to him.

DELIA
No, no. Not now. I have to go, Mom.
Gotta clean up the mess. I'll talk
to you later, ok? Bye.

4. DELIA CLEANS HERSELF UP - RESTROOM

INT. DAYTIME IN THE RESTROOM.

Standing in front of the mirror, Delia wears the same outfit as the previous night but the hair is up.

She puts on a blazer and make up.

5. DELIA NOTICES A FEMALE CO-WORKER ON THE WAY TO HER SUPERVISOR, GRANT'S OFFICE - HALLWAY

INT. DAYTIME IN THE HALLWAY

Delia is walking from the restroom to Grant's office.

As she approaches the door, she notices a female co-worker just walking out from his office.

6. CONVERSATION WITH GRANT - GRANT'S OFFICE

INT. DAYTIME IN THE GRANT'S OFFICE

Delia knocks on the door.

DELIA
(Clear her throat.) It's me.
(pause) Delia.

GRANT
Hey, Delia. Come on in.

Delia comes in and hands him the file she was working on last night.

Grant glances through it quickly.

GRANT
Well done. Thank you, Delia. You know you didn't have to do this before you leave.

DELIA
I know. I wanted to anyway. (no eye contacts as she talks)

GRANT
Oh, and um... sorry that you didn't get the position. We just thought that Natasha is more um... (looking for the phrase) aggressive, and we need people like her.

DELIA
Yeah. No worries.

GRANT
But the company still wants to keep you. So if you ever change your mind...Just let me know.

(CONTINUED)

DELIA

Yeah.

7. DELIA PACKS HER BELONGINGS - DELIA'S DESK

INT. DAYTIME IN THE OFFICE

She comes back to her desk and packs her belongings into a box, including her name tag that says, "Cordelia Mitchell, Associate Attorney."

8. DELIA COMES HOME AND RECEIVES "THE CALL" - DELIA'S APARTMENT

INT. DAYTIME AT DELIA'S APARTMENT FILLED WITH A PILE OF UNPACKED BOXES.

She sits on the floor leaning against the window and checks her cell phone.

A VOICE MAIL FROM GRANT SAYS, "HEY, IT'S GRANT. I FORGOT TO TELL YOU THAT YOU LEFT SOME BOOKS IN MY APARTMENT, BUT I'LL LEAVE THEM IN THE LOBBY FOR YOU TO PICK UP. OK. TAKE CARE."

Delia tosses the phone to the side with frustration and lies on the carpet.

She opens her eyes wide, and they fill with tears. (tears of anger)

The phone rings.

Delia immediately sits up and picks up the phone.

DELIA

Hello?

THE MOTHER

Hello, Delia.

DELIA

Oh, Mom. What's up? (disappointed)

THE MOTHER

Not much. Your dad's just wondering if you need furniture for the new apartment.

DELIA

No, I'm fine. I don't need anything here. (slightly impatient)

(CONTINUED)

THE MOTHER

(Not really listening to Delia and she interrupts)

Well, why don't you talk to him?
Hang on a second. I'll go get him.

DELIA

(Tries to cut her mom off)

No no, it's fine, Mom. Mom?
(frustrated)

The mother puts down the phone and walks upstairs.

9A. THE MOTHER WANTS DELIA TO TALK TO HER FATHER - KITCHEN

INT. SUN SET/LATE AFTERNOON IN THE KITCHEN

(This scene will be cross cut with the previous one)

The mother is in the kitchen talking with Delia on the phone.

THE MOTHER

Hello, Delia.

DELIA

Oh, Mom. What's up? (disappointed)

THE MOTHER

Mot much. Your dad's just wondering if you need furniture for the new apartment.

DELIA

No, I'm fine. I don't need anything here. (slightly impatient)

THE MOTHER

(Not really listening to Delia and she interrupts)

Well, why don't you talk to him?
Hang on a second. I'll go get him.

She puts down the phone and walks upstairs.

The mother calls the father's name as she walks.

(CONTINUED)

THE MOTHER

Peter. Peter! Delia's on the phone.
She wants to talk to you.

9B. THE FATHER HAS A STROKE - ATTIC

INT. SUN SET/LATE AFTERNOON IN THE ATTIC - THE FATHER'S
WORKROOM

The father is drafting in the workroom as the mother slowly
walks upstairs.

The pencil rolls and falls on the floor. The father kneels
down to reach it.

The father suddenly stands up and feels a sharp pain in his
head.

He looks up, in pain, holding his head and then collapses to
the floor.

10 A. DELIA AND HER MOTHER TAKE TURNS WATCHING OVER THE
FATHER FOR A WHILE - HOSPITAL

INT. DAY TIME - NIGHT TIME IN THE HOSPITAL ROOM

The father is unconscious in bed. doctor, Delia and her
mother come in and out of the sickroom.

10 B. DELIA'S FREAKY DREAM OF HER FATHER WHEN SHE'S LITTLE -
HOSPITAL

INT. DAY TIME IN THE HOSPITAL ROOM

Delia walks into her father's sick room with a cup of coffee
in her hand.

She stops at the door and finds her father missing in the
bed.

THE FATHER

Did I or did not tell you this can
only move diagonally?

She looks to the side of the room.

She sees her father is playing chess with a little girl with
a red hair.

She is confused.

11. DELIA FINDS HER FATHER WAKING UP - HOSPITAL ROOM

INT. DAYTIME IN THE HOSPITAL ROOM

Delia wakes up next to her father's bed and realizes that it was a dream.

She takes her phone out from the pocket and goes to the "recent call list" and selects "Grant."

She presses the button and puts the phone next to her ear.

The message goes: The number you dialed is no longer in service. The number you dialed is no longer in service...

The message keeps repeating in her head and agitates Delia.

Suddenly the father wakes up.

THE FATHER

Excuse me, Miss. Where am I?

Delia turns around looking at her father in surprise.

12. DOCTOR REPORTS THE FATHER'S CONDITION TO DELIA AND HER MOTHER - HOSPITAL, OUTSIDE THE SICKROOM

INT. DAYTIME OUTSIDE THE FATHER'S SICKROOM

The doctor, the mother and Delia are standing outside the hospital room.

DOCTOR

Besides the weakness in his right arm and leg, your husband is doing pretty well. (sounds positive) But, he seems to be having trouble with his memory, at this point. As you see, he can't remember his relationship with you and Delia. It doesn't happen often to stroke patients. But when he had the stroke, he collapsed, hitting his head on the ground, which caused the concussion. The loss of his memory is temporary. Family companionship definitely helps. If everything goes well, he should be able to go home in a couple of months.

Delia notices her mother looking at her father through the door thoughtfully.

13. DELIA AND HER MOTHER BRING THE FATHER HOME - PARENT'S HOUSE

INT. DAYTIME AT THE FRONT DOOR

The father is holding a walker.

The mother tries to help, but she has luggages in her hands.

Delia helps her father walk into the house.

14. THE MOTHER GOES GROCERY SHOPPING AND ASKS DELIA TO TAKE CARE OF HER FATHER - LIVING ROOM

INT. MORNING IN THE LIVING ROOM

The TV is on. The mother is feeding the father soup.

Delia sits in another chair with a book in her hand.

The father makes loud noises while eating his soup.

Delia observes her father from behind her book, and then she looks over at the dining table, recalling her childhood.
(Scenel5 will be inserted at this point.)

The mother grabs her shopping bag and keys.

THE MOTHER

Delia. Delia! I'm going to get some groceries. Can you check your dad's blood pressure later? And um... try to chat with him, ok? I'll be back soon.

The mother walks away as she talks.

15. DELIA'S CHILDHOOD MEMORY, HAVING DINNER WITH HER PARENTS - DINING ROOM

INT. DINNER TIME IN THE DINING ROOM

(This scene will be inserted into the previous one)

The pendant lamp makes a spot light on the dining table and darkens the surrounding.

It almost looks like an interrogation room.

Delia is eating soup while her parents are having a conversation.

(CONTINUED)

THE FATHER

I'm going to the warehouse tomorrow.

THE MOTHER

But, Peter! Tomorrow is Delia's graduation ceremony! (disappointed)

THE FATHER

(annoyed, raised voice) Its' not like I have choice, alright?!

The mother is shocked. Delia peaks at her parents for a second and continue eating her soup.

THE FATHER

How are we gonna afford it, if we want to put her through college, huh? You think I enjoy this? You think I like working so much?

Delia makes noises as she eats her soup.

The father stares at Delia and slaps the table.

THE FATHER

Cordelia! (furious)

16. DELIA CHECKS HER FATHER'S BLOOD PRESSURE - LIVING ROOM

INT. DAYTIME IN THE LIVING ROOM

Delia is checking her father blood pressure while the father is watching the TV show.

She browses the TV show, but the fire place next to the TV draws her attention.

17. DELIA CAN'T FALL BACK TO SLEEP - DELIA'S BEDROOM

INT. (A FEW DAYS LATER) DAWN IN DELIA'S BEDROOM

It's dim out. The snow on the ground reflects a slightly bluish light.

Delia dreams about the the flaming fire burning in the fire place and wakes herself up.

She gets up from her bed and takes out a small box from the closet.

(CONTINUED)

She looks inside the box thoughtfully and recalls her childhood memory. (Insert scene 18)

She puts it down and goes into her father's workroom.

18. DELIA'S CHILDHOOD MEMORY, PLAYING CHESS WITH HER FATHER
- LIVING ROOM

INT. DAYTIME IN THE LIVING ROOM

Little Delia is playing chess with her father.

THE FATHER

Did I or did I not tell you that
this can only move diagonally...
(harshly)

Little Delia looks extremely tense. She steals some of the chess pieces when nobody is around and throws them into the fireplace.

The father is furious when he finds the remaining chess pieces in the fire place.

19. THE FATHER HEARS THE NOISE AND WAKES UP - MASTER BEDROOM
(The scene will be inserted to the next one.)

INT. DAWN IN THE MASTER BEDROOM

Meanwhile, the father hears the noise, gets up from his bed, and comes up to the workroom.

20. DELIA SNEAKS INTO HER FATHER'S WORK ROOM - ATTIC

INT. DAWN IN THE WORKROOM

Delia goes up to the attic slowly.

She looks around and sees a lot of broken furniture in the workroom.

The chess set on her father's working table catches Delia's eyes.

She looks at it so carefully that she doesn't notice that her father is in the attic.

THE FATHER

Would you play a round with me?

Delia is shocked, so she drops the chess piece.

DELIA

No. I'm not interested in chess.

Delia tries to walk away.

The father picks up the chess piece and hands it to Delia.

THE FATHER

Please. Just one. This is the first thing that seems familiar to me in a while.

Delia and her father are now playing chess.

THE FATHER

Smart move!

Delia smiles.

DELIA

You know, this is supposed to be your workroom and you didn't like people to drop in. So, this is my first time up here in a long time.

THE FATHER

Oh yeah? What do you think?

DELIA

It's weird that you keep so many pieces of furniture here, and most of them are broken. Why do you still keep them?

THE FATHER

I don't know. Guess I'm proud of everything I made. (chuckles) They don't always work out the way I plan, but I invest myself in them. So, each of them is one of a kind.

Delia looks at one of the broken chairs as the father talks, and then she glances at the draft on the table.

DELIA

What's this supposed to be?

The father scrutinizes the draft.

(CONTINUED)

THE FATHER

Should be a shelf, but I don't know why there aren't any measurements on it.

DELIA

Do you still remember how to build furniture? I think you should finish this piece. (excited) Who knows it might help you with your memory. Here. I can help you.

The father looks interested.

21. DELIA AND HER FATHER BUY MATERIAL FOR THE SHELF - LUMBER YARD

INT. MORNING IN LUMBER YARD

Delia and her father are purchasing the wood.

Delia is reading a woodworkers' brochure.

The shop assistant comes over.

SHOP ASSISTANT FROM LUMBER YARD

Oh sorry, we don't have oak in the stock at least not the size you want.

THE FATHER

(disappointed) Oh, ok then. Thank you.

DELIA

Is there a specific reason that you want to use oak?

THE FATHER

I don't remember. I typically like oak because it's durable and it has beautiful grain.

DELIA

How about pine? It's not as strong as oak, but it's soft and easier to work with, especially for small furniture. As for the finish, we can stain it. What do you think?

(CONTINUED)

THE FATHER
(The idea doesn't sound so bad
to the father.)
Well then, we'll use pine.

22. DELIA AND HER FATHER ARE BUILDING THE FURNITURE - ATTIC

INT. AFTERNOON IN THE WORKROOM

Delia and her father are putting the pieces together.

THE FATHER
So, what did you do before you came
home?

DELIA
What do you mean?

THE FATHER
You're a bright girl. You must have
a career or something you want to
do, right?

DELIA
I was a lawyer.

THE FATHER
Impressive! And?

DELIA
I left the job because of the guy I
dated in the same office. But the
fact is, I didn't like what I did
there. I'm thinking of going back
to school to learn something that I
really have the passion for, like
art and design. But I know, being a
designer isn't exactly a great job.
At least you and Mom wouldn't think
so.

THE FATHER
Well, it's up to you. But, I'm
telling you. Other people can make
decisions for your life, but, at
the end, you are the one who
experiences it, right? (pauses and
look at Delia) Now, let me see
which color you chose for this
piece.

(CONTINUED)

DELIA

It's a neutral, but see here. I changed a bit of your draft and tilted the bottom. See if you like it.

The father looks at the colored draft and smiles.

THE FATHER

Now, I think you should put this in your portfolio.

23. DELIA WAKES UP EARLY IN THE MORNING TO BUY WOOD STAIN - DELIA'S BEDROOM

INT. A SUNNY MORNING IN DELIA'S ROOM

Delia wakes up with an alarm clock.

She gets dressed and goes to Home Depot.

24. DELIA BUYS WOOD STAIN - LUMBER YARD

INT. DAYTIME IN HOME DEPOT

An employee hands her a can of mixed stain.

25. THE FATHER REGAINS HIS MEMORY - ATTIC

INT. DAYTIME IN THE WORKROOM

The father marks his measurements with a pencil.

The pencil rolls and falls to the floor.

As he kneels down to pick up the pencil, he finds another pencil on the floor.

He looks at the pencil thoughtfully and starts to regain his memory.

He goes to his desk and takes out a picture frame from the drawer.

It's a picture of Delia and her mother at Delia's graduation.

26A. THE MOTHER FINDS DELIA COMES HOME EXCITEDLY - KITCHEN

INT. LATE AFTERNOON IN THE KITCHEN

The mother is cleaning the kitchen and then she sees Delia comes home with two buckets of wood stain.

DELIA

Hey Mom, where's Dad?

THE MOTHER

Up stairs working on the shelf.

Delia runs up stair to her father's workroom excitedly.

The mother looks at her walking away.

26B. DELIA IS EXCITED TO WORK WITH HER FATHER, BUT THE FATHER REGAINS HIS MEMORY - ATTIC

INT. SUNSET IN FATHER'S WORKROOM

The father is sitting at the desk looking at the picture frame.

Delia comes into the workroom abruptly, interrupting her father's thought.

The father puts down the picture and turns to Delia.

THE FATHER

Cordelia?

Delia stops at the stair and loses the excitement on her face.

DELIA

Dad? (Pause) You.. remember me?

THE FATHER

Yes. I think so.

DELIA

That's great! (Joyful) I'll tell Mom.

THE FATHER

No, not now. I need to be quiet for a second.

(CONTINUED)

DELIA

Ok. (Loses her smile again)

Delia stands at the top of the stairs with the buckets in her hands.

(She doesn't know what to do. Yet, she is not ready to leave her father alone. Delia wants to know whether the friendship she built with her father still remains.)

DELIA

Oh, by the way. I got the stain.
I'm sure it's going to turn out well. (Excitement, try to cheer him up.)

THE FATHER

Just leave them there for now.

DELIA

Oh. Ok. (Disappointed)

Delia puts the buckets down on the floor and walks away.

27A. DELIA TAKES OFF - DELIA'S BEDROOM

INT. SUNSET IN DELIA'S BEDROOM

Delia looks at the inside of the box she found in the closet. Inside the box, there are remaining pieces from the chess set she burned when she was little. Meanwhile, the mother walks by the door and sees the box.

Delia takes out her clothes from the closet and begins packing.

27B. THE MOTHER KNOW THAT DELIA IS UPSET AND FINDS THE CHESS - OUTSIDE OF DELIA'S ROOM

INT. SUNSET OUTSIDE OF DELIA'S ROOM

The mother walks by the door and sees the box that Delia is holding, but she leaves her alone without saying anything.

28A. DELIA RETURNS TO THE CITY AND STARTS A NEW LIFE - INSTITUTION, CLASSROOM

INT. DAYTIME IN THE INSTITUTION

Delia is in class, working on her project.

The class ends. She packs her school bag and leaves.

28B. THE FATHER FINALLY SHARES WITH THE MOTHER - ATTIC

INT. DAYTIME IN THE ATTIC

The father is painting the shelf, but he is not really paying attention in what he's doing.

The mother comes from his back.

She shows the father the box with the burn chess pieces.

THE MOTHER

Peter, I want to show you something
I found in Delia's room. See? She
respects you a lot, you know?

THE FATHER

But, what I really want is for her
to know me and love me not only as
a father but also as a friend.

The mother puts her hand on the father's shoulder.

29. DELIA COMES TO GRANT'S APARTMENT - OUTSIDE THE BUILDING

EXT. DAYTIME ON THE STREET

Delia is walking on the street and then entering a building.

30. THE SECURITY GUARD RETURNS THE BOOKS TO DELIA - LOBBY -
FRONT DESK

INT. DAYTIME IN THE LOBBY OF THE LAW FIRM

As Delia arrives at the lobby, the security guard stands up and greets her.

SECURITY GUARD

Hello, Ms. Mitchell.

DELIA

Hello. Um, I'm here to pick up some
stuff from Grant.

SECURITY GUARD

Oh, the books.

The security guard hands her a box of books.

(CONTINUED)

SECURITY GUARD

Here.

DELIA

Thank you.

Delia glances inside the box as she accepts it and then leaves the building.

SECURITY GUARD

No problem. Take care.

31. BACK TO HER APARTMENT, RECEIVES DAD'S PACKAGE - HALLWAY

INT. DAYTIME IN THE HALLWAY

Delia is on her way back to her apartment with the box in her arms.

As Delia walks toward the door, she notices a package waiting at the door.

She opens it. Inside the package is a portfolio along with a note says, "Cordelia, I bought a portfolio for you to fill it. -Dad."

She opens the portfolio and sees the a picture of the book shelf she made with her father.

Delia pushes aside the foam peanuts and takes a look of the bookshelf.

32. DELIA FILLS THE BOOK SHELF - DELIA'S APARTMENT

INT. DAYTIME IN DELIA'S APARTMENT

Delia places the shelf right next to the fireplace and fills it with books.

She finds a note among the books says:

Delia,

I'm sorry for the way things turned out between us. Hope we can still be friends.

My new cell: XXX-XXX-XXXX

Grant

Delia smiles as she reads it. She gently tosses the note away and then sits in the chair.

She takes a sip of tea and looks out the window.