

FRESH OFF THE BOAT
"DON'T PASS GO"

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

EDDIE and his FRIENDS watch a basketball game on TV. They all jump up from the couch in response to one of the player's moves. They toss the basketball between them, mimicking the players on the screen.

The TV stand wobbles with their rowdy movements. A leg on the stand is loose.

As a player misses the basket on the TV, Eddie throws the basketball in the air.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

JESSICA combs through bills at the kitchen table, stressed. Louis finishes putting away leftover dinner in the fridge.

JESSICA

This heat wave is killing us,
Louis. It was one-hundred-and-two
yesterday. Do you know what this is
doing to our power bill?

Jessica hands the bill to Louis.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

We didn't need AC growing up. We
took the heat and were happy. We
can just use the fans.

Jessica stops at a flyer for BASKETBALL CAMP.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

And look at this! Five-hundred
dollars a day for this camp? It's
ridiculous!

Louis steps behind her to look the flyer over.

LOUIS

I think this could be good for
Eddie. You know how much he loves
basketball; wouldn't it be great
for him to learn how to play?

JESSICA

You don't need camp to learn
basketball. All you need is
crumpled paper and a trash can.

LOUIS
 Oh, come on, Jess. I would've loved
 to go to sports camp as a kid. What
 could go wrong?

A startling CRASH is heard from the living room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Eddie and friends lift the TV up from the floor. The screen is smashed, wires pulled out the back. The TV stand lays on the floor beside it. They stare at it in horror.

Louis and Jessica rush in and stop at the dining room doorway. The basketball rolls by their feet.

OPENING CREDITS.

INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

LOUIS enters the front door, the broken TV in his arms. Jessica and EVAN search through the pantry closet, focused but grungy.

LOUIS
 Well, I have some good news and
 some bad news.

Louis sets the TV down on the dining room table. Evan pops his head out of the closet.

EVAN
 Is the good news that you found the
 fans? My hair is starting to frizz
 in here.

JESSICA
 Try under the jalapenos.

Evan nods, disappears into the closet. Jessica fans herself, stepping aside.

JESSICA (CONT'D)
 What did they say about the TV?

She looks at the broken TV, offended.

JESSICA (CONT'D)
 They call this "fixing it?!" Who
 did you talk to? I'll go straight
 down there and I'll--

LOUIS
 They couldn't fix it. They said it
 was beyond repair. But, the good
 news is--

Louis holds up an advertisement for K-Mart. It's a brand new television, modeled 1996.

LOUIS (CONT'D)
 I found this on sale! It just came
 out last month.

Jessica is unimpressed. Louis brings the ad closer to her.

LOUIS (CONT'D)
 Look at that sleek design, and how
 big that screen is! Jessica, this
 is the television of the future!

INT. PANTRY CLOSET - DAY

Louis and Jessica can be heard talking outside. Evan, on his hands and knees, pulls out cans upon cans of beans from the bottom shelf, searching desperately for the fans.

JESSICA (O.S.)
 Look at these bills, Louis. We
 can't afford a new TV right now.

LOUIS (O.S.)
 That's not too bad--

JESSICA (O.S.)
 That doesn't include the mortgage.
 Besides, we need to be teaching the
 kids the value of money.

He creates a hole and reaches in the back. Evan pulls out a large, dusty, MONOPOLY game.

INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

Evan steps out of the closet, Monopoly board in hand.

JESSICA
 It's not like it grows on trees.

The board game lid falls open. Monopoly money flies out. Jessica and Louis notice, a moment of excitement.

JESSICA (CONT'D)
 Where did all that money come from?

Evan holds up the game. Louis lights up, takes it from Evan to get a good look.

LOUIS
Monopoly! Oh, I used to play this
all the time as a kid.

Louis sets up the game on the dining room table, counting pieces. Evan picks up the fallen cash.

LOUIS (CONT'D)
It's all still here!

He checks under the instruction packet, pulls out a half-eaten candy bar gone stale.

LOUIS (CONT'D)
Right where I left you.

Louis turns to Jessica, who has returned to rummaging around the closet for the fans.

LOUIS (CONT'D)
Hey, Jessica, let's play a game.

Jessica looks at the game in distaste.

JESSICA
Oh, no. I'm fine.

LOUIS
Come on, it'll be a great
opportunity to teach the kids about
money.

Evan looks up at Jessica with pleading eyes.

EVAN
Please, mom?

Jessica hesitates. Louis mimics Evan's expression. She looks between their eager, pleading faces.

JESSICA
Fine. One game.

Louis high fives Evan, the boys set up the game. Jessica takes a seat, bored.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Eddie and EMERY sit on the couch. Emery reads a newspaper, Eddie lays back, eyes closed.

EMERY

"--They won in a close call, with Lakers one-hundred-and-nineteen to one-hundred-and-three. Crowds were impressed with--"

As Emery reads, Eddie pretends to reenact some of the game.

GRANDMA rolls her wheelchair into the room. Attached to the arm of her wheelchair is a little battery operated fan.

GRANDMA

(in Chinese)

What are you doing?

Emery shuts the newspaper.

EMERY

We're watching TV.

Grandma looks to the empty spot on the TV stand, then back to her grandchildren.

GRANDMA

(in Chinese)

The heat's worse than I thought.

Grandma wheels away. Eddie sits up, frustrated.

EDDIE

Man, I can't do this anymore. No TV, no allowance, I can't even go to basketball camp!

EMERY

You could try earning money another way.

EDDIE

Like what? Babysitting? I don't want to change diapers all day. I'm not that desperate.

Emery flips through the business section in the newspaper.

EMERY

Lawn mowing?

EDDIE

It's too hot out.

EMERY

Lemonade stand?

EDDIE

Lemonade?

Emery sets the newspaper down, grabs a notepad and pen from the coffee table.

EMERY

Yeah. I could help you set it up.
We'll need lemons, some water, some
sugar--

Emery jots notes down. Eddie glances outside at the neighbor's lemon trees.

INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

Jessica sits across from Evan and Louis, the Monopoly game set up in front of them. It's very early on in the game. Evan rolls the dice, moves his piece. It lands on one of the properties.

LOUIS

Alright, that'll be...

Louis looks at his property card.

LOUIS (CONT'D)

Twenty-two dollars.

Evan looks through his cash, hands it to Louis. Jessica watches the exchange, intense.

JESSICA

Why do you owe him money?

EVAN

He bought the space, so we have to
give him money whenever he lands on
it.

Jessica sits up in realization, the cogs turning in her head.

JESSICA

Wait. So you pay rent every time
you land on another player's
property?

LOUIS

Yep. And it's your turn.

Louis passes Jessica the dice. She rolls. Her piece lands on Boardwalk.

JESSICA
I'll take it.

Jessica and Louis make the exchange.

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

Louis and Evan trudge over in their pajamas, exhausted.

LOUIS
Your mom really got us good last
night.

EVAN
Who knew she would get both
Boardwalk and Park Place on the
first turn?

Louis opens the fridge. Several colorful sticky notes coat every item inside. He takes out the milk. A bright pink sticky note reads "RENT" with "\$3" beneath it.

EVAN (CONT'D)
Dad?

Evan holds up a box of Lucky Charms also marked with a "RENT" sticky note.

Louis looks toward the oven, microwave, and fruit basket. Each have their own individual sticky notes for "RENT". Evan checks the silverware drawer, sink, and peanutbutter. It's the same.

Upon further inspection, everything in the kitchen is marked.

EVAN (CONT'D)
Did a landlord break in last night?

Jessica enters, a fresh pad of sticky notes in one hand and a sharpie in the other.

JESSICA
Good morning.

LOUIS
What is this?

JESSICA
It's our new savings plan.

Jessica scribbles a "RENT" note down on her sticky pad and sticks it to one of the island stools.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

You know, that Monopoly is a really good game. It's simple. Everyone pays me rent for using stuff in the house, and I put it in a savings fund for the kids.

LOUIS

I like the idea behind it, but...

EVAN

Don't you think you're going a little far?

Evan reaches for a spoon. Jessica puts a sticky note on it.

JESSICA

You'll thank me when you're older.

LOUIS

Well, some of this stuff is ours. You know. Team effort and all of that.

JESSICA

Oh, I know.

Jessica scribbles a "DISCOUNT FOR L." Underneath the fridge rent.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

You'll get a discount and it'll go towards our retirement.

LOUIS

Yay...

JESSICA

Oh! I have to get the living room.

Jessica exits. Louis and Evan share a look of unease.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY

MONTAGE:

--Eddie offers a cup of lemonade to a jogging HONEY. She accepts.

--Emery rollerblades to follow a man and his dog. He offers lemonade to both the man and then the dog.

EXT. NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE - NIGHT

--Eddie cuts off neighbor's hoses. Emery assists in plugging their yard sprinklers.

--Emery shakes down lemons from a neighbor's lemon tree. Eddie stands watch. A DOG BARKS, the boys grab their stash and flee.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY

--Eddie baits some overheated kids trying to cool in the shade in their yard with lemonade, but won't give them any until they give him cash.

--Emery gives some lemonade to a woman driving her car, then a bottle of lemonade to her infant in the back.

END MONTAGE.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

A makeshift stand consisting of milk crates, a boombox, and a spray paint makes up the lemonade stand in Eddie's front yard. A long line of neighborhood kids wait in front for their lemonade.

EDDIE

Here you go.

Eddie hands a kid the last lemonade. He checks over the pitcher.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Sorry guys, all gone. Come back tomorrow!

Kids GROAN, they leave.

Eddie sits back, pleased, counting his cash.

Emery enters, tired, sets down a laundry basket full of lemons onto the ground.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Emery, this is the best idea you've ever had.

EMERY

Thanks. I just hope the neighbors don't miss these too much.

Eddie finishes calculating, sets the money aside.

EMERY (CONT'D)
How much did we make?

EDDIE
Let's just say I'm halfway to going
to basketball camp.

EMERY
Alright!

Eddie looks over the money, thinking.

EDDIE
You know, if we keep this up, I bet
we could buy mom a whole new TV,
too.

Enter JACK, a blond 9-year-old in a business suit. He
approaches the lemonade stand, displeased.

Eddie waves him off.

EDDIE (CONT'D)
Sorry kid, we're closed for the
day. If you come again real early
tomorrow though, we'll hook you up.

JACK
I won't be requiring any "hooking
up".

Jack holds out a business card: "JACK YULER'S LEMONADE
EMPORIUM." Emery takes it, both brothers inspect it.

JACK (CONT'D)
You mustn't have heard, but I'm the
official lemonade supplier of the
neighborhood. Name's Jack Yuler.
I'll forgive you this one time, but
I trust I won't be seeing you out
here again.

Eddie and Emery LAUGH.

EDDIE
That's cute, kid, but you don't own
a monopoly on lemonade. It's
America.

EMERY
Let's just run our businesses our
own ways, okay?

He hands back the business card. Jack takes it back, pissed.

JACK

I see. I'd hoped you two would be smarter. I'll be seeing you. Very. Very. Soon.

Jack exits. Eddie and Emery look at each other, RESUME LAUGHING.

Jack stops a little down the street, spots some KIDS drinking their lemonade.

JACK (CONT'D)

I wouldn't drink that if I were you.

The kids look down at the drink, back up to Jack. They cluster toward him.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Louis arrives home from work, exhausted. He is about to sit down, but finds a "RENT" sticker on it.

The former price "\$5" has been crossed out and "\$10" replaces it. The sticky notes on everything else in the living room has doubled in price as well.

Evan enters, equally exhausted, decked out in cleaning gear (gloves, mask, apron, the whole she-bang). Louis looks him over.

LOUIS

What happened to you?

Evan points accusingly at a "RENT" sticker.

EVAN

That is what happened to me. I already put my allowance this week into the savings, so I've been making up rent with chores.

Evan drops a hairball on the floor.

EVAN (CONT'D)

This came from your bathroom. I recommend seeing your stylist about hair shedding.

Louis touches his hair, checking.

LOUIS
You know what? This is ridiculous.

EVAN
It's okay, dad. It happens to
everybody when they get old.

Louis exits. Evan sighs, picks up the hairball.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Louis strides in.

LOUIS
Jessica, we need to talk.

Jessica scribbles down "RENT" notes on the kitchen table. She is SURROUNDED by brightly colored sticky notes, all with "RENT" on them.

JESSICA
One second. I need to finish
preparing for the garage.

LOUIS
This has gotten way out of hand. I
get you think you're doing what's
best for the kids, but--

JESSICA
I am doing what's best.

LOUIS
--but this whole Monopoly-rent-
binge needs to end. Evan shouldn't
have to give up his allowance to
eat cereal, and I shouldn't need to
put money away for reading a book.

Jessica rises, SIGHS, approaches Louis.

JESSICA
Louis, my parents never taught me
to save up, I had to learn on my
own. The less I spent on silly
things the more I would be able to
spend on you and the kids now. I
want to teach the importance of
that to our kids.

LOUIS
But is this really the way to go
about it?

Louis gestures to Evan.

LOUIS (CONT'D)
He looks like he walked out of a
nuclear windex factory.

JESSICA
(to Evan)
Did you finish cleaning the
bathrooms already?

EVAN
I even scrubbed away the grime
between the shower tiles.

Jessica grabs a pad of sticky notes and a sharpie from the
table.

JESSICA
Perfect! A nicer location always
strikes a higher price.

Jessica exits upstairs.

LOUIS
(calls after)
Jessica--

Evan puts a hand on Louis's arm. Louis SIGHS.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

Emery and Eddie wait outside, several pitches of lemonade
filled up on their stand.

EDDIE
Where is everyone?

As Eddie scans the street, he sees TRENT riding his bike.
Eddie waves to him.

EDDIE (CONT'D)
Trent! Yo, Trent!

Trent spots him, tries to turn away, uncomfortable.

EDDIE (CONT'D)
Trent! TRENT!

Trent awkwardly walks up to the lemonade stand, uncomfortable
LAUGHTER.

TRENT
Hey, guys...

Emery pours a cup of lemonade, offers it to Trent. Trent refuses.

TRENT (CONT'D)
Oh, no thanks...

EDDIE
What's wrong? Aren't you thirsty?

EMERY
It's like, one-hundred degrees out here.

TRENT
Yeah, I mean, I'm parched.

Eddie takes the cup, offers it to Trent, forceful.

EDDIE
Then drink up.

Trent glances between Emery and Eddie, his hand shaking as he takes the lemonade. He struggles to lift it up to his lips, but at the last moment throws it on the ground, sweating.

EDDIE (CONT'D)
What'd you do that for?!

TRENT
I can't! I can't drink it!

EMERY
Why not?

TRENT
Everyone's saying that your lemonade is really piss.

Eddie and Emery stare at him, disgusted and astounded.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE - DAY

Jack's lemonade stand is nicely built, with real word and printed labels on the cups, pitchers, and sign. A stack of business cards sits by his little register. KIDS flood his yard.

The brothers approach with Trent, furious. Jack smiles when they reach the front, pours a glass of lemonade.

JACK

Ah, boys, nice to see you again.
Here to try my famous lemonade?

EDDIE

We don't want your stupid lemonade!
How could you spread a rumor like
that about us, dog?

EMERY

Yeah! We were only trying to sell
some lemonade.

Trent glances between them, visibly uncomfortable. He exits.
The crowd of kids around them glance at Eddie and Emery,
uncomfortable. They WHISPER amongst themselves.

JACK

I warned you-- I'm the official
lemonade supplier. You said to let
us run our businesses our ways,
didn't you? This is how I run mine.

EDDIE

You dirty--

JACK

Watch it.

Eddie and Jack glare at each other. Emery tugs Eddie's arm.

EMERY

Come on, Eddie. Let's go.

Eddie shakes him off.

EDDIE

You know what? You're right.

Eddie looks around, speaks louder to catch the kids'
attention.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

I guess I'll just have a party at
MY lemonade stand, all by myself!

Kids WHISPER. Jack LAUGHS.

JACK

That's what you're offering? A
party?

Realizing that he's losing their attention,

EDDIE
By myself-- and Shaq!

A few kids GASP. He's got all their attention now.

EDDIE (CONT'D)
Yup! Party with Shaq at MY lemonade stand!

EMERY
Eddie--

EDDIE
Tomorrow. Five o'clock. Be there!

Eddie peaces out. Emery, troubled, follows behind.

INT. GRANDMA'S ROOM - DAY

The blinds are shut, casting the room in a very Godfather-esque light. Louis and Evan enter hesitantly. Grandma sits in her wheelchair by the window.

GRANDMA
(in Chinese)
Ah, so the problem got to be too much, did it?

LOUIS
Mom, we need your help.

EVAN
Mom's gone psycho! The entire house is covered! I can't go to the bathroom without cleaning it afterwards!

LOUIS
Mom, you're the only one I know who can help us. You're the real master of Monopoly.

Grandma turns her chair around to face them, proud.

GRANDMA
(in Chinese)
I know. What's in it for me?

EVAN
I'll organize your closet.

LOUIS
I'll take you to the spa.

EVAN

You can test your makeup on me.

Grandma looks away, uninterested.

LOUIS

Please, mom, we'll do anything.

Grandma shrugs, starts to wheel away. She stops when she hears a CRINKLE.

She looks down at it. Evan quickly picks it up and gives it to her. It's a "RENT" sticky note. She looks up. There are sticky notes on her wheelchair's handle bars. She stares between Louis and Evan, all equally horrified.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

The yard is setup for a party. Plastic cups stack up with a crudely drawn logo for Eddie and Emery's lemonade stand. A boombox sits out, playing RAP MUSIC. Eddie and Emery admire their hard work.

EMERY

It looks great, but do you think anyone will come?

EDDIE

Oh, they will.

Eddie hands Emery a flyer. It advertises the party, but also promotes a special visit from "SHAQ" in the evening.

EMERY

He's not really coming, is he?

Eddie snatches the flyer.

EDDIE

No, but they don't need to know that. We can keep them here as long as we want, drinking our lemonade and putting money in our pockets.

EMERY

But isn't that false advertising?

Eddie wraps an arm around his brother's shoulder.

EDDIE

Emery, if we didn't lie to the public, what kind of business would we be?

A GROUP OF KIDS approaches. Eddie grins.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE - DAY

Jack pours a glass of lemonade, reaches his hand out.

JACK
That'll be two-fifty.

The KID in front of him seems distracted.

JACK (CONT'D)
Excuse me. Excuse me!

The KIDS in front of Jack's home LEAVE. In the distance, he can hear RAP MUSIC.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

Jack walks up to Eddie's house from a distance. He stops as soon as he sees the CROWD OF KIDS partying in the front yard. Eddie spots Jack, winks, continues cashing customers out.

INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

A line of tiny Monopoly cottages sit in front of Jessica's display of glass mice. Jessica places some more cottages on the dining room table, adjusting the "RENT" of the table with a Sharpie.

Grandma wheels in, takes a good look at the various sticky notes.

GRANDMA
(in Chinese)
You've really gone off the deep end, haven't you?

Jessica glares up at her mother-in-law.

JESSICA
Can I help you?

Grandma approaches the table, strokes the Monopoly box on top of it.

GRANDMA
(in Chinese)
Let's make a little wager. I win, and you get rid of these silly notes.

Jessica SCOFFS.

JESSICA
What if I win?

GRANDMA
(in Chinese)
I move to a retirement home.

Jessica's face lights up. Grandma opens up the board game.

Louis and Evan watch from the stairs. They give each other a thumbs up.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

Jack approaches Eddie, furious.

JACK
What's the meaning of this?

EDDIE
This?

Eddie gestures to the party.

EDDIE (CONT'D)
Oh, it's just some benefits to my
lemonade stand. It's the way I run
my business, you know?

Eddie hands Jack a flyer.

EDDIE (CONT'D)
Here, something to dry your tears
with.

Jack rips the flyer, crumples it up, throws it at Eddie.

JACK
You haven't the faintest idea how
to run a business!

EDDIE
Really? Because to me, it looks
like I'm doing just fine.

Eddie wanders off into the party. Jack fumes behind him.

KID 1
Hey, Eddie, when's Shaq getting
here?

EDDIE

Oh, don't worry! He's coming! He's got, uh, balls to shoot first. He'll be here!

Eddie quickly finds someone else to talk to.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Hey!

Jack pushes through the crowd to Eddie. A couple of kids stand back from between them.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Man, what is your problem?

Jack turns, furious, snaps his fingers. A kid steps out with a boombox, turns it on. A BEAT STARTS.

JACK

(RAPPING)

YOU THINK YOU GOT THIS WRAPPED UP
FOR SURE, BUT I DON'T THINK YOU
CARE ABOUT THE CONSUMERS YOU
IGNORE, YOU FEED THEM A YELLOW
GLASS BUT YOU CAN BET ITS PISS, YOU
COULDN'T PAY ME A MILLION DOLLARS
TO TRY THIS.

Eddie SCOFFS, steps up. Kids circle them.

EDDIE

(RAPPING)

NO ONE ASKED FOR YOUR OPINION BUT
SINCE I GUESS YOU'RE TALKIN', WHY
DON'T WE TALK ABOUT THAT YELLOW
STUFF THAT YOU'RE STOCKIN'? YOU
SLAP ON A STICKER AND SAY YOU GOT
COMMODITIES, BUT AT LEAST MY
LEMONADE AIN'T GIVIN' KIDS
DIABETES.

Jack points to another kid. The kid steps out. Jack shoves \$5 in his pocket, motions for him to take over.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

For real?

RAP KID

(RAPPING)

I SEE YOU'RE TRYIN'A PLAY THE GAME
HERE, BIG BUSINESS TYCOON, BUT
YOU'RE BETTER OFF INSIDE, KID,
WATCHIN' CARTOONS.

(MORE)

RAP KID (CONT'D)

LET THE MEN HANDLE THIS JOB, STEP
OUT OF THE BIZZ, BEFORE EVERYONE
REALIZES YOUR LEMONADE IS JUST
WIZZ.

EDDIE

YO, YOU'RE SAYIN' THAT A LOT BUT
WHAT PROOF YOU GOT? I GOT A BASKET
OF LEMONS RIGHT HERE ON THE SPOT.
AND YEAH MAYBE I'M NEW TO THE BIZZ,
JUST AN AMATUER, BUT KID YOU BETTA
RECOGNIZE THIS NEXT ENTREPRENEUR.
BILL GATES DIDN'T START OFF RICH
AND NEITHER DID I, BUT WAIT 'TILL
MY BUSINESS SOARS AND LEAVES YOUR
LEMONADE HIGH AND DRY.

Kids CHEER. Eddie embraces the glory.

Emery grabs Eddie's arm, tries to drag him away.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Yo, what's up?

EMERY

We should really get out of here.

EDDIE

Why?

A LARGE GROUP OF ANGRY NEIGHBORS storm into the party. Kids
either stand back or flee, uninterested in being in the
crossfire.

LADY 1

There's where all my lemons are
going!

Eddie and Emery look back to the laundry baskets full of
lemons by the lemonade stand.

MAN 1 points at Eddie.

MAN 1

Are you responsible for this?

Eddie holds up his hands, defensive.

EDDIE

Oh, no, sir! There are uh, these
are all store bought!

THREE NEIGHBORS go digging through the basket.

LADY 2
This is my prized lemon, Cecile!

EDDIE
You named it?

LADY 2 clutches the oversized lemon to her chest, emotional.

LADY 2
You were going to cut up my
Cecile?!

EDDIE
I didn't know she had a name!

LADY 2
It's a he!

EDDIE
I didn't know that either!

The ANGRY NEIGHBORS surround the boys.

MAN 1
I want my lemons back!

LADY 1
I want my money back!

Emery smiles, uncomfortable.

EMERY
Don't worry! We'll compensate all
of you for your lost lemons!

Kids WHISPER around them.

KID 1
Shaq endorsed this?

KID 2
No, you idiot, they lied!

KID 1
I want my money back!

KID 3
Me too!

The kids also surround Eddie and Emery. Eddie looks at his cash box, SIGHS, heartbroken.

INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Jessica sits across from Grandma at the dining room table. The monopoly game sits between them. Grandma is calm and smug; Jessica intense and focused.

Grandma rolls the dice. She moves her character. It lands a space before jail. Jessica smacks a fist on the table, rolls her dice.

Jessica and Grandma make intense eye contact. Jessica moves her character forward. Her hand trembles. Sweat drips down their foreheads. She lands on Grandma's property.

Grandma LAUGHS. Jessica glares, deadly. She hands GRANDMA the monopoly money.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

Eddie hands a couple of dollars to an ANGRY KID. The kid storms off.

EMERY

How much are we left with?

EDDIE

Three pennies and a jolly rancher.

Jack walks by, grabs jolly rancher, exits.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Three pennies.

Eddie closes the cash lid. Emery SIGHS, equally disheartened.

INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Eddie and Emery enter, but Louis waves them over to the stairs where he and Evan have camped out.

EDDIE

What's going on?

LOUIS

(whispering)

Shh. You don't want to get involved.

At the dining room table, Grandma and Jessica are still involved in a very intense game of Monopoly. Grandma is clearly winning, but Jessica is trooping on.

EVAN

They've been like that for hours.

LOUIS

I took on grandma once. We didn't finish for two weeks.

Jessica ROLLS HER DICE. Evan and Louis clench up in fear. Emery and Eddie look at each other in confusion.

Jessica moves her pawn. Her face drops. She lands on boardwalk.

Grandma motions for her to pay up. Jessica looks down at her cards and money.

JESSICA

(quiet)

I lost.

Grandma grins, wheels away, stops, turns back. She puts a "RENT" sticker on Jessica, and wheels off/exits.

Jessica stares at the game in dismay. Louis and Evan come over and hug her.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

That woman is going to haunt me until I die.

LOUIS

It'll be okay. I know the game is over, but you meant well. I promise, we're going to take further steps as a family to save for the future.

EVAN

And I'll try putting money away for my college fund every allowance.

LOUIS

Just... maybe without the rent notices. I was getting college flashbacks.

JESSICA

Maybe I did go a little overboard. Thank you.

Louis grabs the game pieces.

LOUIS

Let's get this cleaned up. Evan,
will you get the box from the
closet?

Evan nods, opens the closet. It's FILLED with pads upon pads
of sticky notes and containers of sharpies. Louis and Evan
look at Jessica.

JESSICA

Costco had a sale.

They look back at the mountain of sticky notes, unsure what
to do.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Emery follows Eddie into the room, arm around him.

EMERY

Hey, I know we didn't get to save
up for basketball camp, but I had a
lot of fun doing this with you.

EDDIE

Yeah, it was pretty fun, I guess.

EMERY

And honestly, I think the camp is
for beginners. You would be
dribbling loops around those kids
anyways.

EDDIE

You think so?

EMERY

Definitely. Plus, you can teach
yourself basketball. I'll play with
you and we can figure it out
together.

EDDIE

You know what? You're right. I
don't need a camp to tell me what
to do. I'm my own teacher.

Eddie grabs the basketball nearby the dresser, dribbles it
around the floor. Emery plays along, trying to block him.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

He shoots, he--

Eddie throws the ball. There's a loud SHATTERING SOUND. The lights flicker, then ALL POWER GOES OFF. The boys look toward the windows. Lights quickly turn off around the neighborhood. Dogs BARK, neighbors YELL. The boys scatter.

FADE TO BLACK.