

THE CONNERS

"Deadlines, Breadlines, and Vaccine Lines"

Show # 310.5
(between 310 & 311)

Written by

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PREVIOUSLY ON THE CONNERS

(This episode takes place between 310 and 311)

Due to his age, and rising expenses, Dan has had to put an end to his drywall business and is currently unemployed. This has been expounded by the fact that he is behind on his mortgage and has started charging his family rent. Meanwhile, Darlene has been promoted to manager at the plastics plant, and after inheriting his father's hardware store, Ben has moved in to save money. Mark has been studying endlessly to try to get ahead in classes and Mary has moved in while her mother is deployed.

COLD OPEN

INT. KITCHEN - FRIDAY NIGHT (DAY 1)
(Mark, Harris, Becky, Darlene)

(MARK WORKS ON THEIR HOMEWORK AS HARRIS STANDS
BY THE MICROWAVE IMPATIENTLY, PHONE IN HAND.)

MARK

Staring at the microwave doesn't make
it cook any faster.

HARRIS

That's never been proven.

MARK

Neither have the effects of microwaves
on stupidity.

SFX: THE MICROWAVE DINGS

HARRIS (CONT'D)

(Calling off) Aunt Becky your Hot

Pocket is ready!

(BECKY ENTERS LOOKING EXHAUSTED.)

BECKY

Can you not yell? I just got Beverly
Rose to sleep.

HARRIS

Can you not take all day? The wifi
doesn't work when I'm standing by the
microwave.

BECKY

There's a life hack for that...

BECKY (CONT'D)

stick your head inside of it.

(BECKY TAKES HER HOT POCKET OUT OF THE MICROWAVE,
AS HARRIS PUTS HERS IN, PRESSING THE START
BUTTON AND WATCHING IT SPIN LIKE A LION STALKING
ITS PREY.)

HARRIS

You know, hot pockets might just be
the greatest culinary invention of the
Italians.

BECKY

Is that a joke? Because breadsticks
exist.

MARK

Aunt Becky you've been home for hours,
when is my Mom getting here?

BECKY

She didn't call?

MARK

No.

BECKY

Well, we're pretty short staffed at
the plant. Managers have to stay and
make-up for all the lost productivity.

HARRIS

Your constant tardiness is finally
paying off.

BECKY

My goal is to slowly steal time-off by
being a few minutes late each day 'til
it adds up to an entire week's pay.

HARRIS

Way to stick it to capitalism Aunt
Becky.

MARK

She promised she was going to help me with my Pre-AP English essay. It's due Monday, and I've gotta make at least a 3 in order to qualify.

BECKY

A three? Sheesh, when I was in school we had to make at least 70. Three sounds like a cake walk.

HARRIS

Please tell me that's not a sex thing.

BECKY

Google it and find out.

(HARRIS GIVES BECKY AN "I DO NOT TRUST YOU" LOOK AS DARLENE ENTERS THROUGH THE BACK.)

DARLENE

You guys are eating Italian without me?

MARK

Mom! Where've you been?

DARLENE

I know, I know, I'm sorry. It's a train wreck down there. Which reminds me, you haven't visited your Dad in a few weeks.

BECKY

Did they really keep you this late?

DARLENE

Lupita in accounts receivable tested positive and now everyone who came in contact with her has to stay home

until their tests results come back.

BECKY
Not Lupita! She makes the best
breakfast tacos!

DARLENE
She shares those with you!?

BECKY
I'm sure she'd share them with you too
if you weren't so unlikeable.

MARK
Aunt Becky!

BECKY
Don't worry, I haven't had her tacos

BECKY (CONT'D)
in weeks.

(HARRIS READS ON HER PHONE.)

HARRIS
Wait, so people would walk in a circle
to win actual cakes? That is so
disappointing.

MARK
But you're still okay right?

DARLENE
Unfortunately. When the pawns are all
out of the game, someone's gotta cover
the king.

HARRIS
Are you supposed to be the Queen in
this chess metaphor?

BECKY
Nah, she's the one that looks like a

horse.

DARLENE
E-mail your essay and I promise I'll
take a look.

MARK
Fine.

BECKY
Parenting by email. By the time

BECKY (CONT'D)
Beverly Rose is a teenager, I'll be
able to swipe right on her homework.

DARLENE
I'm supposed to tell you that we're
offering overtime if you want it.

BECKY
I'll consider it.

MARK
No! This is terrible! It's only a
matter of time until you all bring
this home to Grandpa.

(MARK GRABS THEIR THINGS AND STORMS OFF)

DARLENE
We really need to get vaccinated.
People are letting their guards down.

(SILENCE, THEY ALL CONTEMPLATE DEEPLY.)

BECKY
You know, it's true... Hot Pockets are
superior to breadsticks.

SFX: THE MICROWAVE DINGS

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ACT IScene 1

INT. KITCHEN / LIVING ROOM - SATURDAY MORNING (DAY 2)
(Dan, Jackie, Ben, Mary)

(DAN IS SCOURING THE FRIDGE FOR SOMETHING TO EAT.
HE ISN'T HAVING MUCH LUCK. JACKIE ENTERS.)

JACKIE
Well, I found 'em.

DAN
Found what?

JACKIE
My glittery gold platform shoes.

DAN
Oh Jackie, I hate to deliver the bad
news but... Disco died.

JACKIE
It lives in our hearts, and in these
shoes! Oh boy do these take me back.

(DAN SITS DOWN IN A CHAIR AND OBSERVES JACKIE
SCIENTIFICALLY. JACKIE IS CONFUSED.)

JACKIE (CONT.)
What are you doing?

DAN
Waiting to see if they'll take you
back. I wonder how much store credit
we could get for you.

JACKIE
I might have some mileage on me but
I'm dependable.

DAN
And she comes with her original parts.

JACKIE
They're for Mary, I'm helping her with
her talent show audition.

DAN
Since when is street walking a talent?

JACKIE
It's the oldest talent in the world.

DAN
Explains why you're doing it.

JACKIE
Oh boy, when I wore these to the
Safari Club there wasn't a man in the
room who could take his eyes off me.

DAN
Ironically, that's the only thing they
couldn't take off you.

JACKIE
And on the dance floor; you shoulda
seen me doing the hustle! I was so
light on my feet, they used to call me
Helium Heels.

DAN
Yeah, I don't think that's why they
called you helium heels.

(JACKIE THINKS ABOUT THIS A BIT TOO LONG. SHE'S
SUDDENLY SHOCKED.)

JACKIE
Oh my God!

DAN
Looking back at your life, it's pretty
easy to see where things went wrong.

(JACKIE CROSSES THROUGH THE LIVING ROOM TO CALL TO MARY, UPSTAIRS.)

JACKIE
Mary!!! I've got those shoes for you!!

SFX: HGTV HOME IMPROVEMENT SHOW ON TELEVISION

(BEN IS WATCHING TV AND SCRIBBLING NOTES PLETHORICALLY.)

JACKIE (CONT'D)
What are you watching?

BEN
Oh hi, It's one of those Home Make-
Over shows. Since I'm taking over my
Dad's hardware store, I wanna make
sure we're carrying all the hip things
people need to remodel their houses.

JACKIE
Like hammers?

BEN
No, obviously not like hammers.
Like... fancy, cool, hammers.

JACKIE
Gotcha.

(JACKIE CROSSES BACK TO THE KITCHEN, WHERE DAN IS ONCE AGAIN LOOKING THROUGH THE FRIDGE.)

JACKIE (CONT'D)
Did you lose something in there?

DAN
Yep; my dignity. I'm just seeing what
we got to eat.

JACKIE
Well there's always eggs.

DAN
Unless we have to eat the chickens.

(MARY ENTERS AND RUSHES OVER TO THE SHOES.)

MARY
Wow! You never told me you used to be
a drag queen!

JACKIE
And you never told me you wanted to
die at such a young age.

MARY
Grandpa, if you're making a peanut
butter sandwich can I have one too?

DAN
Hmmm... how about an egg sandwich?

MARY
Um. Do you have any turkey?

DAN
I've got eggs.

MARY
How 'bout grilled cheese?

DAN
How 'bout eggs?

MARY
Egg salad with lettuce and tomato?

(DAN LOOKS THROUGH THE FRIDGE AGAIN.)

DAN
Egg salad with... egg.

MARY
I guess so...

JACKIE
Why don't you take those up to your
room and try em on.

MARY

Okay.

(MARY EXITS WITH SHOES. DAN TAKES OUT A BASKET OF EGGS AND STARTS BOILING WATER.)

JACKIE

Do you not have money for groceries?

DAN

Okay, way to jump to conclusions.

JACKIE

I thought the girls were helping out.

DAN

We're doing just fine. I'm waiting for a few of my last checks to come in.

JACKIE

If they come in at all. You didn't finish the last two jobs you had.

DAN

Jackie-

JACKIE

If you need groceries, why don't you go down to the food pantry and grab a couple of bags. That's what it's their for.

DAN

No way. In all our years, we've never had to go down to the food pantry and I'm not gonna start now.

JACKIE

Don't be foolish Dan, you've donated plenty of food over the years, it's okay to take some back. This is a hard

time for everyone!

DAN
We don't need a hand out. I'll have
those checks soon and we'll be fine.

JACKIE
Okay, Mr. Too-Proud-To-Beg, enjoy your
eggs.

(JACKIE EXITS THROUGH THE LIVING ROOM AS DAN
STARES INTO HIS POT OF WATER.)

BEN (O.S.)
Wow! Amazing.

DAN
What is?!

BEN (O.S.)
This make-over!
(DAN CROSSES TO THE LIVING ROOM.)

SFX: HGTV HOME IMPROVEMENT SHOW ON TELEVISION

DAN
Is that a record shop?

BEN
It's their living room, but they built
it around their old record player.
Look at all those vinyls!

DAN
Yeah, meanwhile mine have been sitting
in the back of the closet since 1985.

BEN
You've got old vinyls lying around?
You should cash those in. People pay
big money for vinyls.

DAN
What? Nobody cares about old vinyls
anymore, they have CDs and iPods.

BEN
No. Now that everything's on Spotify
people want to collect the old
physical copies they can hold in their
hands.

DAN
Really?

BEN
Oh yeah. You should sell those.

(DAN CONSIDERS THIS, AS WE:)

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ACT ONEScene 2

INT. KITCHEN - LATER THAT MORNING (DAY 2)

(Darlene, Becky, Mary, Harris, Jackie, Dan, Ben)

(DARLENE IS SITTING AT THE TABLE IN FRONT OF HER LAP TOP, CLICKING ENDLESSLY. BECKY SITS BESIDE HER LIKE A ZOMBIE. MARY IS DOING HER HOMEWORK.)

DARLENE

Ughgh! It keeps saying "refresh to see available appointments," but I've already refreshed it four-hundred and fifty-seven times!

BECKY

You know what they say, four-hundred and fifty-nine times the charm.

MARY

What happened to four-hundred and fifty-eight?

BECKY

Four-hundred and fifty-seven ate nine.

MARY

... What?

DARLENE

We're never going to get vaccine appointments at this rate.

BECKY

Are you sure this is how we get a vaccine appointment?

DARLENE

The plant said we were eligible as essential workers so long as we go

through this portal.

BECKY
We're doomed.

DARLENE
I know.

BECKY
Refresh again.

DARLENE
Nothing.

BECKY
Again.

DARLENE
Nothing.

BECKY
Do it Again.

DARLENE
Ooo! We got appointments!

BECKY
Really?!

DARLENE
No, it's still nothing.

MARY
Why don't you just go to the Frederick
Douglas Center?

DARLENE
Go where?

MARY
Shelly's mom got her's at the
Frederick Douglas Center. She said you
just walk up and wait a few hours.

BECKY
Really?!

(DARLENE GOOGLES IT.)

DARLENE
Whoa! She's totally right we can go
right now.

BECKY
Yes! Beverly Rose is with Emilio, this
is perfect!

DARLENE
I'll grab my stuff.

(AS DARLENE AND BECKY GET UP TO LEAVE, JACKIE AND
HARRIS ENTER DRINKING 32 OZ SODAS.)

JACKIE
You'll never guess what was on sale at
the dollar store?

DARLENE
Imported Mexican chocolate bars?

HARRIS
Wait, how did you know that?

BECKY
She's eaten three of them already.

JACKIE
Where y'all rushing off to?

DARLENE
Apparently we can get our vaccines at
the Frederick Douglas Center.

JACKIE
The black community center out in
Kendal County?

BECKY
It's worth the drive.

HARRIS
Wait, you can't do that!

BECKY

Why not?

HARRIS

It's colonialist genocide!

DARLENE

Um. Exsqueeze me? We're not colonizing
Kendal County.

BECKY

Weren't colonizers spreading disease,
we're trying to stop the spread.

HARRIS

That vaccinating facility was
specifically designed to lower the
number of local transmissions for that
already underrepresented community.

JACKIE

She's got a point.

BECKY

Okay... well, the plant is obviously
one of those communities.

HARRIS

And you all have your own vaccination
portal. If you take from their
allocated vaccine stock, you're
committing an act of violence against
people of color.

DARLENE

That's a little bit reductive.

HARRIS

Well the issue is clear as day to me.

BECKY
Don't listen to her. We need those
vaccines.

HARRIS
Aunt Becky!

BECKY
We do!

HARRIS
Fine. Use your privilege to continue
the systemic oppression against people
of color, but don't be surprised if
your fifth-wave colonization is
greeted by a crowd of protestors!

(HARRIS STORMS OFF. BECKY AND DARLENE CONSIDER
THEIR CHOICES.)

BECKY
If we hurry, we can get our Fauci-
Ouchies before Harris has time to call
any of her smelly protest friends.

DARLENE
They really do smell.

(BECKY AND DARLENE RUN OUT THE BACK DOOR AT RECORD
SPEED. JACKIE CROSSES TO THE LIVING ROOM TO FIND
DAN SITTING ON THE COUCH GOING THROUGH BOXES OF
OLD VINYL RECORDS. BEN IS STILL WATCHING TV)

SFX: HGTV HOME IMPROVEMENT SHOW ON TELEVISION

JACKIE
Are these Roseanne's old vinyls?!

(JACKIE JOINS DAN ON THE COUCH AND STARTS LOOKING
THROUGH THEM.)

DAN
And mine!

JACKIE
Bad Company!?! Oh, I remember how much
Roseanne loved Bad Company!

DAN
That's cause she was bad company.

BEN
Can y'all keep it down? (He motions to
the TV)

DAN
I dunno, can you pay the cable bill?

JACKIE
Oh Mary's gonna love these!

DAN
Well, they're not for Mary.

JACKIE
Where's the record player, let's put
these babies on! (Gasp) Super Trouper!
Abba always got us dancing!

DAN
Hold on now, I don't wanna damage the
goods before I price 'em.

JACKIE
Price them?

BEN
Yeah Dan's gonna make a killing
selling those old things. Wow! Would
you look at that hammer? I've never
seen anything like it.

JACKIE
It's a hammer. Dan, you can't sell
Roseanne's old records.

DAN
Why not? We have all the music we need
on cassette tape.

JACKIE
I'm serious, those records meant the
world to her. We used to spin them
while we did each other's nails and
talked about boys.

DAN
Well those boys are on social security
now.

JACKIE
If this is about the food pantry,
that's not a good reason to get rid of
these memories.

DAN
Forget about the stupid food pantry
Jackie! These aren't doing anyone any

DAN (CONT'D)
good sitting in the back of the
closet, and to be honest you didn't
care about them until right now.

(DAN PICKS UP THE BOXES AND BEGINS TO EXIT.)

JACKIE
Dan! Wait... (sigh) Fine. I know a guy
that buys and sells vinyls. I can take
you after lunch.

DAN
Thank you.

BEN
That is not just a hammer.

JACKIE
Will you shut up?!

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ACT ONEScene 3

EXT. VACCINE LINE - EARLY AFTERNOON (DAY 2)
(Darlene, Becky, Harris, Vaccine Line Extras)

(DARLENE AND BECKY WAIT IN A LINE WITH OTHER VACCINE HOPEFULS TRYING TO GET THEIR FIRST DOSE. EVERYONE IS SOCIAL DISTANCING.)

BECKY

I thought Harris said this was supposed to be a predominantly Black neighborhood.

DARLENE

It is.

BECKY

Well these are the whitest black people I've ever seen.

DARLENE

Becky that's racist.

BECKY

I'm white. It's not racist to call someone else white.

DARLENE

Unless they identify as black.

BECKY

Wait, are all these white people actually black?

DARLENE

I don't know. Honestly I can't keep up with Harris' rules. It's all too hashtag woke for me. Let's just get our shots and get out of here.

BECKY

Oh no.

DARLENE

Oh no? What's oh no?

BECKY

Harris is here.

DARLENE

Oh no!

(HARRIS APPROACHES WITH A BULLHORN AND A BIG SIGN THAT SAYS "BLACK & BROWN PEOPLE DESERVE THE VACCINE TOO." SHE IS FLANKED BY A FEW OTHER PROTESTORS WITH SIMILAR SIGNS.)

HARRIS

Ladies and gentlemen please be aware

that these two middle-aged women do

not live in this neighborhood and are

stealing this vaccine from black and

brown people who are dying at an

alarmingly higher rate.

(EVERYONE STANDING IN LINE STARTS BOO-ING.)

BECKY

Really Harris? Middle-aged?

HARRIS

We demand that these women who are

well past their prime, exit the line

immediately and end this violent

pillaging of goods!

BECKY

Excuse you?! My best years are ahead

of me!

HARRIS

Just because they're at higher risk
due to their extreme age does not mean
they have the right to demand special
treatment.

BECKY

Okay, now you're just being mean.

HARRIS

Let's hear it people. Get out of line!
Get out of line!

EVERYONE

Get out of line! Get out of line!

(DARLENE IS COMPLETELY EMBARRASSED, BECKY DOESN'T
KNOW WHAT TO DO.)

FADE OUT.

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END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWOScene 1

INT. JACKIE'S CAR - SAME TIME (DAY 2)
(Jackie, Dan, Volunteer)

(JACKIE AND DAN SIT IN JACKIE'S CAR. DAN HAS A BIG BOX OF VINYLs ON HIS LAP.)

JACKIE

Okay, here we are, the drive-through
collectible's market.

DAN

Drive through what?

JACKIE

It's a market, but you know... because
of the state of the world, it's a
drive through.

DAN

A drive through vintage collectible...

JACKIE

Market, exactly.

DAN

Wow. Bob Dylan was right, the times
the are a changin.

JACKIE

Sure are.

DAN

Gosh, this is kind of a long line. How
many people are selling their records?

JACKIE

Oh, I'm sure it's all kinds of
antiques and collectibles. You know...
cabbage patch kids... Brooklyn Dodger

baseball cards... ancient chinese
vases. Doesn't matter, look the line's
moving.

(A VOLUNTEER KNOCKS ON THE WINDOW. JACKIE ROLLS
IT DOWN.)

VOLUNTEER
Hi. How many people in your family?

JACKIE
Nine.

VOLUNTEER
Sure thing. Pull up right there.

(THE VOLUNTEER WALKS AWAY AND JACKIE ROLLS UP
THE WINDOW)

DAN
What do they need to know that for?

JACKIE
Oh, it's a negotiating tactic. When
you're dealing with uh professional,
um... black market, uh vintage
collectibles, uh.

DAN
Okay, cut the crap Jackie, what is
this?

JACKIE
I just wanted to show you how painless
it is to get a bag of groceries from
the food pantry.

DAN
Drive.

JACKIE
Dan, listen.

DAN
Drive!

JACKIE
Just, wait a second...

(THE VOLUNTEER COMES BACK WITH A FEW BIG BAGS
OF GROCERIES. JACKIE ROLLS DOWN HER WINDOW.)

VOLUNTEER
Here you go.

DAN
Wait, we're sorry. Is this the line to
get food? We were looking for the line
to give food.

JACKIE
Dan.

VOLUNTEER
Oh, I'm so sorry. That's so generous.
I can take the donations right here.

(JACKIE TURNS TO DAN WHO IS TRAPPED.)

JACKIE
Perfect. They can take your donations
right here Dan.

DAN
Right. Right.

VOLUNTEER
Are they in your trunk?

JACKIE
Are they in the trunk Dan?

DAN
Right um...

VOLUNTEER
If you just pop it I'll get them.

JACKIE
Just pop the trunk Dan.

DAN
Ohhhhh nooo...

JACKIE
What is it Dan?

DAN
I, I, I forgot the groceries.

VOLUNTEER
Oh bummer.

JACKIE
Yeah, that's a real bummer Dan.

DAN
I'll just go pick em up and come right
back.

VOLUNTEER
Sure thing and if you know anyone who
wants to volunteer we could use the
hands.

DAN
You got it!

(JACKIE ROLLS UP THE WINDOW.)

DAN (CONT'D)
The second stop better be the drive-
through collectible's market.

CUT TO:

ACT TWOScene 2EXT. VACCINE LINE - MOMENTS LATER (DAY 2)

(Darlene, Becky, Harris, Vaccine Line Extras)

(DARLENE AND BECKY ARE SURROUNDED BY PROTESTORS AND ANGRY VACCINATION HOPEFULS.)

EVERYONE

Get out of line! Get out of line!

DARLENE

(Pulling Harris aside) Harris, this
isn't fair.

HARRIS

Exactly!

DARLENE

These people don't live here either.
They're all white.

HARRIS

I don't know where these people live,
I know where you live.

DARLENE

If you keep this up, you're not gonna
know where you live.

(THE CROWD INCHES CLOSER TO THEM AND BECKY TRIES TO KEEP THEM AWAY FROM DARLENE AND HARRIS.)

EVERYONE

Get out of line! Get out of line!

BECKY

Hey, leave us alone, unless you wanna

BECKY (CONT'D)

show us your I.D.s. That's right I
know you're not from here. You look
like a Hoosier if I ever saw one.

HARRIS
Mom, you're nothing but a phony. You
claim to want to do good in the world,
but you're only making it worse.

DARLENE
Wow. And you think you're actually
making it better? Protesting against
people who are trying to stop this
pandemic?! Maybe you should do some
real activism and get the people in
this "marginalized" community to come
down here themselves. Maybe if they
were getting their vaccines, these so-
called fifth-wave colonialists
wouldn't be able to "steal them!"

EVERYONE
Get out of line! Get out of line!

(THE CROWD INCHES CLOSER)

BECKY
Hey! Six feet apart everyone!

(THE CROWD SCATTERS.)

BECKY (CONT'D)
Yeah! Step off!

DARLENE
Come on Becky.

BECKY
Wait we're leaving? (She follows
Darlene off) And take a shower! Not
you Harris, well... maybe you too.

(HARRIS, SMELLS HERSELF AS BECKY AND DARLENE
EXIT.)

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ACT TWOScene 3

EXT. JACKIE'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER (DAY 2)
(Dan, Jackie)

(DAN STIRS SILENTLY AS JACKIE DRIVES)

JACKIE
So you're just not going to say
anything.

DAN
What's to say? You betrayed my trust
at a time I was very vulnerable.

JACKIE
Fine... I'll buy them.

DAN
I'm not gonna sell them to you.

JACKIE
They're my sister's memories, they're
my memories, and I want them.

DAN
How are you supposed to buy them?
You're struggling too.

JACKIE
A-ha! There it is!

DAN
There what is?

JACKIE
You admit you're struggling.

DAN
You know I'm struggling, my daughters
had to move in with me for God's sake.

JACKIE
Exactly! When you put aside your pride
people are willing to help you.

DAN
You can't help me Jackie.

JACKIE
But I want to.

DAN
You already do too much.

JACKIE
I don't do it for you Dan. I do it for
my sister.

DAN
Well gee, tell me how you really feel.

JACKIE
You know what I mean. For you and for
my nieces and nephews. You're my
family. My only family. I'm serious.

DAN
You don't think I know that?

JACKIE
I'll buy the vinyls Dan, because
they're important to me. I wanna put
on my old platforms, spin those
records, and pour one out for
Roseanne. Don't let your pride ruin
the family piano.

DAN
We don't have a piano.

JACKIE
You know, like in that movie with the

little Welsh boy who dances ballet
while his father's on strike from the
coal mines and bloody Margaret
Thatcher needs to burn in bloody 'ell!

DAN
... Didn't see it.

JACKIE
Oh, it's a great movie. One of those
Oscar films.

DAN
I liked Too Fast Too Furious.

JACKIE
Billy Elliot! Yep. (She's getting
emotional) That's it, they chop up
Billy's mother's piano for firewood.

JACKIE (CONT'D)
See, she passed away when he was just
a wee lad. (Crying.) The boy just
wanted to dance. Dance Billy!

DAN
Sounds like a real tear jerker.

JACKIE
Don't burn the piano. Oh, the Piano,
with Holly Hunter, that's another
great Oscar movie. Her piano plummets
into the ocean. (Jackie sobs.) And
Steel Magnolias!

DAN
There's no piano in Steal Magnolias.

JACKIE
No, but it's just really, really, sad!

DAN
Okay, fine. I can't do this. Pull
over.

JACKIE
(Pulling over) What? Are you okay?

(THE CAR HAS COME TO A FULL STOP. DAN GETS OUT, LEAVING THE RECORDS.)

DAN
Not if I have to listen to anymore of
this.

(DAN SLAMS THE DOOR. JACKIE IS WORRIED.)

CUT TO:

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ACT TWOScene 4

EXT. LOCAL WOMAN'S FRONT DOOR - LATER (DAY 2)
(Darlene, Becky, Local Woman)

(DARLENE AND BECKY STAND IN FRONT OF SOMEONE'S
FRONT DOOR.)

BECKY

This is a great idea!

DARLENE

Yeah it is right? We just gotta get
the word out about the vaccines at the
community center.

BECKY

We're basically heroes.

DARLENE

If we're not going to use those two
doses, I'm certainly not going to let
some other white ladies use them.

BECKY

Definitely not!

SVX: DARLENE KNOCKS

(DARLENE KNOCKS ON THE FRONT DOOR. NO ONE ANSWERS.)

LOCAL WOMAN (O.S.)

We already go to church!

BECKY

Oh don't worry, we're not religious.

DARLENE

We're looking for someone to donate
our vaccines to.

BECKY

Don't say it like that, that sounds

weird.

DARLENE

Then how should I say it?

BECKY

Excuse me, we're with the Frederick
Douglas Center across the street.

LOCAL WOMAN (O.S.)

Well why didn't you say so?

(THE FRONT DOOR OPENS, AND A BLACK WOMAN ANSWERS.)

LOCAL WOMAN (CONT'D)

You're from the Frederick Douglas
Center?

BECKY

We sure are, we're going door to door
to let the community know that
vaccines are available at the center
every day on a first come, first serve
basis.

LOCAL WOMAN

So you really came down to a black
neighborhood under the guise of

LOCAL WOMAN (CONT'D)

setting up a "special vaccine line"
just for us, knowing good and well
what happened to the Tuskegee airmen,
and you thought we were just going to
fall for that?! Nice try!

(SHE SLAMS THE DOOR IN THEIR FACE. THEY LOOK AT
EACH OTHER PUZZLED.)

DARLENE & BECKY

Fair.

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ACT TWOScene 5INT. KITCHEN - SATURDAY EVENING (DAY 2)

(Mark, Mary, Harris, Ben, Jackie, Dan, Becky, Darlene)

(MARK SITS AT THE TABLE WORKING ON HIS ESSAY, MARY DOES HOMEWORK, AND HARRIS TAKES SOMETHING OUT OF THE FREEZER. THERE ARE SEVERAL BROWN PAPER SACKS FILLED WITH GROCERIES ON THE BACK COUNTER.)

MARK

What's for dinner?

HARRIS

Chimichangas. Best culinary
contribution of Mexico.

MARK

It's literally just a hot pocket
filled with beans.

HARRIS

Thesis proven.

(JACKIE ENTERS WITH THE BOX OF VINYLs.)

JACKIE

Hey folks.

MARY

Whoa, are those records?!

JACKIE

Yeah, they were your grandma's.

MARK

Cool!

JACKIE

Is your grandpa back yet?

(MARK AND MARY DIG THROUGH THE BOX IN WONDER PULLING OUT RECORDS AND LOOKING THEM OVER. HARRIS UNWRAPS SEVERAL HOT POCKETS AND PUTS THEM IN THE MICROWAVE. DAN ENTERS FROM HIS BEDROOM AND WATCHES, UNNOTICED.)

HARRIS

I think he's napping.

MARK

Whoa, Madonna?! Are you serious?!

JACKIE

Duh! Long live the queen!

SFX: Sound of Microwave Oven.

DAN

Dinner is served.

JACKIE

Sorry about earlier, if you wanna get rid of these... that's your decision.

DAN

I can't get rid of these Jackie...

look at these kids. It's like they're getting to spend time with their grandma even though she's not here.

JACKIE

So you understand?

DAN

I went back to the food pantry. They

DAN (CONT'D)

gave me nine bags of food. (He points to the bags of groceries.)

JACKIE

Wow. Well that will cover you, but what are the rest of us gonna eat?

DAN

They need volunteers, so I decided that since I'm not working I can at least lend a hand out there and not

feel so bad about taking food home.

JACKIE
Puts a new meaning to "will work for
food."

DAN
No, that's pretty much the original
meaning.

(BEN ENTERS FROM THE LIVING ROOM.)

BEN
Attention everyone! May I present to
you, the Stiletto TB7MC 190Z t-bone
three titanium hammer, with a milled
face and a curved handle lined with
pulled leather.

(JACKIE TAKES THE HAMMER FROM BEN AND EXAMINES
IT CAREFULLY THEN USES IT TO TAP ON THE TABLE.)

JACKIE
It's a hammer, Ben.

BEN
Yeah, but it's a fancy, cool, hammer.
You're no fun!

(BEN STORMS OFF.)

MARK
Who is Boy George?

DAN
(Sitting down.) Oh you're gonna love
him.

SFX: THE MICROWAVE DINGS

(HARRIS PULLS THE CHIMICHANGAS OUT. DARLENE AND BECKY ENTER FROM THE BACK.)

DARLENE

You guys are eating Mexican cuisine
without me?

HARRIS

Did you get your vaccines after I
left?

BECKY

That was an option?

DARLENE

No, we actually did what you should
have done in the first place. We went
door to door trying to inform the
community about the vaccine.

JACKIE

That's very cool of you.

BECKY

It didn't work. It turns out
predominantly black communities have
trust issues with white ladies who
walk around their neighborhood
knocking on doors.

DAN

Go figure!

MARY

Diana Ross!

MARK

Poison?! Wow, a gender-queer rock-
band?

DAN
Not exactly.

HARRIS
So my protest worked, at least on you?

DARLENE
Yes, congratulations Harris you ended
systemic racism.

HARRIS
I mean, I wasn't wrong... but you
weren't exactly wrong either. We're

HARRIS (CONT'D)
regrouping to see how best we can
better serve underrepresented
communities.

MARK
Did you read my essay Mom?

DARLENE
Darn! I knew I was forgetting
something. How bout I read it with you
right now?

MARK
Sure. Wait, you all tried to get your
vaccines without telling me? I've been
refreshing this portal all day. I got
you appointments by the way.

BECKY
Really!?

DARLENE
(Reading laptop.) He sure did, and we
only have to wait ten weeks.

BECKY

A spring vaccine! That has a nice ring
to it!

(DARLENE SUDDENLY BREAKS INTO A COUGHING FIT.
EVERYONE STOPS AND STARES. AFTER A MOMENT OF
SILENCE DARLENE GETS UP, PUTS ON HER MASK AND
BACKS OUT OF THE ROOM.)

DARLENE

I know, I know... I'll see you when I
get my results back.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

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TAGINT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT (DAY 2)

(Jackie, Mary)

(JACKIE, CLAD IN HER OLD PLATFORM SHOES, AND WEARING A FEATHER BOA WITH BIG ELTON JOHN SPECTACLES, TAKES OUT AN OLD DISCO RECORD AND SPINS IT ON THE RECORD PLAYER. MARY WATCHES INTENTLY.)

JACKIE

Okay so the secret of doing the hustle lies in your calves. You really wanna make sure to get a good stretch in before you boogaloo. That's how we used to talk on the streets in my day.

MARY

Okay...

(THEY STRETCH, LIFTING THEIR LEGS ON THE COUCH AND COFFEE TABLE.)

JACKIE

Stretch 'em real good. Just like that.
Ouch. Ouch. Okay. Wow.

MARY

You okay, Aunt Jackie?

JACKIE

Oh yeah, Mama's still got it. Now it goes like this. Count 1, 2, 3, and, 1, 2, 3, and... you hop on the and, see?

(JACKIE DEMONSTRATES, FLAILING AROUND WILDLY UNTIL SHE LOSES HER BALANCE AND FALLS ON HER ASS BEHIND THE COUCH. MARY RUSHES TO HELP HER.)

MARY

Aunt Jackie!!

FADE OUT:

END OF SHOW

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