

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

DISSOLVE TO:

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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:)

CUT TO:

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ACT ONEScene 2INT. 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?!

CUT TO:

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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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