

The LIFE

Sides: Mary Truong

INT. JIMMY'S APARTMENT - DINING ROOM - LATER

Mary, Jimmy, and Jenny are eating at the dinner table.

MARY TRUONG

So son, how was school today? What'd you learn?

JIMMY TRUONG

(excited)

School was awesome mom! Today's science class was on sex education. We saw drawings of naked bodies, and a video of this lady giving birth. The doctor pulled out a baby from a screaming lady, the baby was all bloody and the doctor chopped off a tube from his stomach, and...

MARY TRUONG

(choking)

Can you talk about something else?

JENNY TRUONG

Mom, where do babies come from? How does it happen?

Mary chokes, coughs and puts her bowl down and takes a sip of water.

MARY TRUONG

Honey, I'll tell you when you get older. So how you doing with the kung fu training?

JIMMY TRUONG

Mom, it's called MMA...

MARY TRUONG

Same thing!

JIMMY TRUONG

...sifu taught me some new moves. He taught me how to get out of a choke hold and throw a Superman punch.

MARY TRUONG

Superman punch?

JIMMY TRUONG

Sifu said he invented it. You charge at your opponent and pretend to throw a left and then, "bam" you knock him out with the right.

MARY TRUONG

Remember, kung fu is for self defense. Don't try to pick fights with people to try it out. Especially your sister, okay!

Mary smacks Jimmy's head.

JENNY TRUONG

Yeah! Don't try it on me.

JIMMY TRUONG

(muttering)

Alright.

MARY TRUONG

You're graduating this year, right?

JIMMY TRUONG

Yeah.

MARY TRUONG

Ahh... I can't believe you're growing up so fast. Have you thought about what you're going to do when you grow up?

JIMMY TRUONG

Umm... of course. I was thinking about being a professional fighter, like Cuong Lee.

MARY TRUONG

(shocked)

Professional fighter? No you not! I put you in school and be a fighter. You can be anything, but not a fighter, okay!

JIMMY TRUONG

What's wrong with being a fighter?

MARY TRUONG

They make no money honey, no! Whatever you do, don't be like your useless brother. He doesn't work, doesn't go to school. All he does is go out with his stupid friends every night. He treats this place like his hotel room. Did I tell you he was useless?

INT. JIMMY'S APARTMENT - DINING ROOM - LATER

Mary, Jimmy, Johnny, and Jenny are eating at the table. Johnny takes a seat at the table

JOHNNY TRUONG

Mom, is today underwear laundry day? Why don't you bring them to the laundromat?

MARY TRUONG

(eating)

Laundromat? You know how much it cost? Maybe if you help pay some rent, then I can bring some laundry there? Laun-dro-mat...so, where you been? You haven't been home for the past 2 days?

JOHNNY TRUONG

(eating)

Uhh... I've been helping my friend with some business?

MARY TRUONG

What kind of business?

JOHNNY TRUONG

(eating)

You know, business...hey you guys want to go to Great America on Saturday?

JIMMY - JENNY

(staring at each other)

Great America? Yeah!

MARY TRUONG

(eating)

You paying? Where you get money from? I ain't paying, okay?

JOHNNY TRUONG

(eating)

Don't worry mom, I've been helping my buddy with his import, export business. I'm getting paid this week. You can take Saturday off?

MARY TRUONG

Import, export, eh? Okay, I'll see if I can change my schedule. It should be okay.

Johnny cell phone rings.

JOHNNY TRUONG

(to phone)

Hello, yeah. I'm eating dinner. Can it wait til later? Okay, okay. I'll call you when I get there.

Johnny hangs up.

JOHNNY TRUONG (CONT'D)

Sorry guys, I gotta go...

MARY - JIMMY - JENNY

Uhh... so soon. Finish dinner first.

JOHNNY TRUONG

My friend with the import, export business needs me.

MARY TRUONG

So late?

JOHNNY TRUONG

Yeah, that's how the business is. Money doesn't sleep mom. A shipment just arrived from China and I gotta go check it out.

MARY TRUONG

You coming home tonight?

JOHNNY TRUONG

Maybe, depends on how much work.

MARY TRUONG

Come home more, your brother and sister miss you.

JOHNNY TRUONG

Okay, okay how about I take you guys to school tomorrow?

JOHNNY TRUONG (CONT'D)

Alright, you guys be good, love you mom, bye.

MARY TRUONG

Bye, always like that.