

Archie Alone

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WRITTEN BY

Mark Fink & Stephen Miller "Part One"

Alan Rosen & Fred Rubin "Part Two"

Starring

Archie Bunker-----Carroll O'Connor

Murray Klein-----Martin Balsam

Stephanie Mills-----Danielle Brisebois

Barney Hefner-----Allan Melvin

Harry Snowden-----Jason Wingreen

Mr. Van Ransleer-----Bill Quinn

Veronica Rooney-----Anne Meara

Guest Starring

Polly Swanson-----Janet MacLachlan

Kathy Wakefield-----Renne Jarrett

Jim Spencer-----John Welsh

Arlene Schiff-----Sandy Lipton

Bob the shop teacher----Wil Albert

Linda the waitress-----Heidi Hagman

Directed by

Carroll O'Connor and Gary Shimokawa

Executive Producer

Alen Horn

Produced By

Joe Gannon

Story Editors

Patt Shea & Harriett Weiss

Mark Fink & Stephen Miller

Carroll O'Connor

Alan Rosen & Fred Rubin

Associate Producer

Ken Stump

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EXCLUSIVE TO YOU IN YOUR CITY

IT'S A BIG QUESTION whether Archie can cope with his loss when he refuses to face the fact of Edith's sudden death, in the second season premiere of "Archie Bunker's Place," to be presented in a special one-hour broadcast on Sunday, Nov. 2 (8:00-9:00 PM, PT) on the CBS Television Network. Four-time Emmy winner CARROLL O'CONNOR stars for the eleventh year in the role he originated in the show's forerunner, the innovative comedy series "All in the Family."

PHOTO DIVISION, CBS TELEVISION NETWORK PRESS INFORMATION, TELEVISION CITY, HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90028



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PROGRAM: Archie Bunker's Place
ON AIR: Sunday, Nov. 2
8:00-9:00 PM, PT
SUBJECT: Carroll O'Connor

PHOTO DIVISION, CBS TELEVISION NETWORK PRESS INFORMATION, TELEVISION CITY, HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90028

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PART ONE

ACT ONE SCENE ONE

FADE IN:

INT.LIVINGROOM-MORNING

[Close up on Alarm clock as it rings Archie's hand reaches down and stops the ringing switches to wide shot of Archie waking up on the couch. Archie gets up off the couch and picks up and mends the Alarm clock taking it with him as the camera follows him going up the steps. Once up stairs he opens up the door to Stephanie's bedroom and points the alarm clock at her as it goes off and wakes Stephanie up Archie closed the door and puts the Alarm clock down on the dresser in the hall as he walks into the bathroom. Stephanie goes into the Bunkers' bedroom gets a pair of Archie's pants out of the closet and a Shirt undershirt and boxers out of the dresser. She puts them down on the dresser in the hall as Archie flushes the toilet. Stephanie closed the Bunker's door and goes downstairs.]

FADE TO:

ACT ONE SCENE TWO

INT.KITCHEN-MORNING

[Stephanie walks into the kitchen and puts her coat and bookbag down on the counter as Archie pours himself a cup of coffee. Stephanie takes a frying pan out of the cabinet.]

ARCHIE

What are you doing?

STEPHANIE

Going to make bacon and eggs.

ARCHIE

For who?

STEPHANIE

For you.

ARCHIE

Oh no I don't want nothing like that. Forget it.

STEPHANIE

Aren't you ever going to let me cook breakfast?

ARCHIE

You can cook breakfast when you grow up and get married. If you are lucky enough to find some dope.

[Archie see's cereal box on table.]

ARCHIE (CONT'D)

Meantime look here we got your beautiful coco crunchies their.

[close-up on sour look of Stephanie's face.]

ARCHIE (CONT'D)

Don't give me that face.

[Archie picks up box and starts reading label.]

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ARCHIE (CONT'D)

Did you ever read what's in this stuff here look at this You got your phosphorus there you got your vitamins there. You got your magnishia. All of that hey. And the best thing of all if that stuff if loaded with sugar. Keep you going all day long.

[Archie opens refrigerator and smells spoiled food.]

ARCHIE (CONT'D)

God what stinks in here.

STEPHANIE

Everything! The stuffed cabbage from Mrs. Bloom the tuna casserole from ...

[Archie interrupts Stephanie.]

ARCHIE

Alright alright alright don't tell me no more.

[Archie reaches into the refrigerator and pulls out the milk and rejoins Stephanie at the table.]

ARCHIE (CONT'D)

If the refrigerator's working why is everything stinking?

STEPHANIE

It's all been in there for three weeks.

ARCHIE

Oh didn't you think to clean some of it out?

STEPHANIE

You told me not to touch anything in the kitchen.

ARCHIE

Yah that's right I told you that.

[Archie sits down. Stephanie looks into the cereal box.]

ARCHIE (CONT'D)

Hay there was a terrific picture on the late show last night. You should of stooped downstairs and watched it with me for a little while you know. Godzilla the monster. You should of seen that guy killing Japs millions of them there. We sure could have used him in WW2 .

[Stephanie pours cereal into her bowl and put the box back in the middle of the table.]

ARCHIE (CONT'D)

So how was school yesterday?

STEPHANIE

fine. How was work?

[Archie drinks coffee]

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ARCHIE

um---terrific terrific. I got everything under control like usual.

[Stephanie pours the last drop of milk onto her cereal.]

STEPHANIE

We need milk.

ARCHIE

yah I see that. Well ill bring home some from work tonight.

STEPHANIE

I was thinking this weekend.

[Archie interrupts Stephanie]

ARCHIE

Hay hay hay hay. I got this weekend all planed for us look at this here. Two reserved seats. Tickets to the circus that's for Saturday afternoon isn't it. On Sunday we go to the movies again.

STEPHANIE

I like to go the cemetery. You said we would.

ARCHIE

Oh ya but I already bought the tickets.

STEPHANIE

You promised.

ARCHIE

I know i promised but I didn't say when.

[They hear knock at the door.]

ARCHIE

I'll get that

[Archie goes to the door and opens it.]

ARCHIE

Oh hi you there Polly. Come on in Come on in. How you doing.

POLLY

Hi Arch I'm fine. You certainly sound chipper. How's it going?

ARCHIE

Oh with us fine. Were getting along swell. Here look at this were even having breakfast.

POLLY

Ah! How are you Stephanie?

STEPHANIE

OK

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POLLY

Arch I came for my casserole dish.

ARCHIE

Oh yah yah. Well

[Archie goes to the refrigerator and hesitantly opens the door.]

ARCHIE

Oh Polly its-its in here you know. Amongst allot of other odds and ends. Can you find it in there?

POLLY

I found it.

[Polly reaches to the bottom shelf and pulls the dish out.]

POLLY

You didn't eat it! Don't you like Lasagna?

ARCHIE

Lasagna is that what that used to be?

POLLY

Yah

ARCHIE

Oh gee we love Lasagna. We thought it was a tuna casserole. Well I'll get all of that out for you.

POLLY

Oh I'll get it out.

[Polly looks down at the dish.]

POLLY

Hay! It looks like it's trying to get out by it's self.

[Archie looks at Stephanie and then looks at his watch.]

ARCHIE

Oh well look at the time kid-o. Maybe you better be running off to school.

STEPHANIE

OK

STEPHANIE

What about this Saturday?

ARCHIE

Come on Saturday were going to the circus. I got the tickets Ha. And look we got to get there early so we get used to the smell of the elephants. So though when we have out Hot Dogs peanuts and cotton candy then we won't get nauserated.

[Stephanie puts on her jacket.]

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STEPHANIE

Take somebody else to the circus.

[Stephanie opens the kitchen door and enters the living room. Archie opens the door Stephanie stares at him before she opens the front door and leaves the house. Archie goes back into the kitchen.]

POLLY

What's she got against the circus?

ARCHIE

Oh nothing nothing nothing. She goes to the circus alright. Just that she was thinking about making a visitation to the. Well you know Medowglen.

POLLY

Oh

ARCHIE

Yah . Ah I figure what's the rush it's only a little over a month. You might as well give the grass a chance to grow out there before you start looking all around. You know what I mean?

POLLY

I know what you mean. Well just yell over the fence if you need me ok.

ARCHIE

Yah I'll do that Polly.

POLLY

Bye Arch.

ARCHIE

Yah ya thanks a million.

[Polly opens the kitchen door to the outside.]

ARCHIE

Hay give my regards to Ed.

POLLY

I will.

[Polly closed the door and leaves the kitchen. Archie picks up the circus tickets looks at them and throws them down on the table.]

FADE TO:

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ACT ONE SCENE THREE

INT.BAR-Morning

VERONICA

Gees yous guys are always fighting about something that has no meaning to the rest of humanity.

BARNEY

I'm just trying to tell Harry that most of the traffic that comes into the city comes over the tri- borough bridge.

HARRY

Well I say it's the Queens borough.

BARNEY

Well are you trying to tell me my business? I've been a bridge inspector here for 28 years and I'm telling you her it's the Tri-borough.

VERONICA

Hay how do you inspect bridges when your always in here ha?

BARNEY

Easy! I simply consult my manifest find out today's the day for the Brooklyn Bridge and I mark it unsafe.

[Barney shows his clip board to Veronica. She looks away in disbelief.]

HARRY

Hay Barney try some of these new cashews.

[Harry hands the jar to Barney.]

VAN RANSELEER

Yah there excellent I got them at a gourmet place in the village.

BARNEY

Gee thanks Mr. Van R I really love cashews.

[Barney opens the bottle and a gag snake pops out. Everyone laughs.]

MURRAY

Harry it never fails does it?

BARNEY

You guys is there no end to your merriment?

[Barney give the gag snake to Harry.]

VERONICA

Oh gees fellows I hate to interrupt important business, but whereas my oven cleaner ha?

MURRAY

Archie's bringing it over. He has a couple a errands to go on first.

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HARRY

Were trying to keep him busy.

BARNEY

You know I can't help thinking of my cousin Eddie it was offal.

VERONICA

What's with him?

BARNEY

Well he's allot like Arch. He relied on his wife for everything and she passed away in her sleep one night quietly. Just like Edith it was her heart you know. It was terrible.

VERONICA, HARRY AND MURRAY

What happened?

BARNEY

He couldn't handle it. He went to pieces.

[Veronica Harry and Murray look on with a stoned look on their faces.]

BARNEY

But not old Arch he's doing fine.

MURRAY

And I hope it stays that way

VERONICA

Listen were all trying to keep him happy ant we. Were all keeping his spirits up.

MURRAY

You can do that by breathing on him.

VERONICA

Oh ha ha ha ha.

[Everyone laughs!]

MURRAY

Ah Veronica.

[Archie comes through the front door carrying a loaded brown paper supermarket bag.]

ARCHIE

Hi there everybody.

EVERYONE

Hi Arch.

[Archie walks past Mr. Van Ranseleer.]

ARCHIE

Hi Mr. Van R.

[Veronica walks up to Archie.]

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VERONICA

Hi there boss did you get my oven cleaner?

[Archie hands the spray can of oven cleaner from the bag over to Veronica.]

ARCHIE

Yah here it is. Gee this stuff cost a fortune do you have to cook like a slob?

VERONICA

Look who's calling who a slob.

MURRAY

Don't argue.

VERONICA

Your right Arch I'll try to watch it.

ARCHIE

Hi Linda here

[Linda comes to Archie. Archie gives her the bag.]

ARCHIE

Get that stuff back in the office for me ha.

[Linda takes the bag off camera to the office.]

ARCHIE

I have a latch to fix on the back door and I have to look at the leak in the ceiling there.

[Archie hold up a toilet ballrod.]

ARCHIE

And this here Murray is a job for you.

MURRAY

Glad to do it.

BARNEY

Is that for your toilet arch?

ARCHIE

No Barney it's for my goldfish bowl.

[Everyone but Archie laughs.]

ARCHIE

What the hell was so funny?

MURRAY

It's not what you said it how you said it. It's all in the timing.

ARCHIE

Oh Ya, I was never that funny before.

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HARRY

Oh Well can I say Arch. Like good scotch you get better with age.

ARCHIE

Like a good bartender pour me a beer.

HARRY

Coming right out.

MURRAY

Anything he wants.

[Archie opens the gag cashew can. A the toy snake pops out. Only the blind Mr. Van Ranseleer laughs.]

VAN RANSELEER

Ha ha who who got it this time?

ARCHIE

I got it this time Mr. Van R.

[Archie pauses everyone looks on and stays silent.]

ARCHIE

How come yous ant laughing at that ha. You said that was funny ain't that a joke?

MURRAY

That's too childish to be funny.

ARCHIE

Than why was Mr. Van R wetting his paints here?

[Murray is speechless.]

ARCHIE

Come on come on Murray I know what you are doing. I know what yous all are doing and don't do it no more ha. You don't have to tiptoe around me.

MURRAY

Your right Arch your right.

ARCHIE

And yous don't have to be always agreeing with me neither.

BARNEY

OK Arch anything you say.

ARCHIE

You done it again you dope.

BARNEY

Your right.

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ARCHIE

And still again.

BARNEY

Ya I know.

HARRY

You be better off in Brooklyn Barney.

BARNEY

Yah I think I go inspect my bridge.

[Barney leaves the bar and a man with a overcoat and brief case comes in as Barney is leaving. He walks over to the bar.]

SPENCER

Hello Mr. Klein. Is Mr. Bunker in yet?

MURRAY

Oh yah you tracked him down. Hay Archie this man was her to see you yesterday. I told him to come around today.

[Spencer walks to Archie on the other side of the room.]

SPENCER

Mr. Bunker hi. Jim Spencer Fidelity Insurance. It's about your wive's policy.

ARCHIE

Oh yah yah yah.

SPENCER

You are a tough man to track down.

ARCHIE

Oh well I've been pretty busy lately. To tell you the truth I am very busy right now. Setting up for the lunch rush you know and I got to go back and fix a raging toilet.

[Archie holds up the toilet rod that is still in his hand. Spencer put his briefcase down on a table.]

SPENCER

Well this won't take but a minute. OK if we sit here.

[Spencer sits down at the same table he put his brief case down on. Archie reluctantly follows him and sits down. Spencer pulls a tan folder out of his brief case.]

SPENCER

First off please accept condolences on behalf of myself and Fidelity Insurance on the death of your wife Judith.

ARCHIE

That was Edith.

SPENCER

Oh I'm terribly sorry please forgive me. I have trouble reading my own handwriting. Maybe I should have become a doctor.

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[Spencer laughs. Archie is not amused.]

SPENCER

I have I have your beneficiary death claim. Which states that Edith Bunker died on the date indicated and if you just sign in right there I'll present you with a check for five thousand dollars.

ARCHIE

I ain't going to sign that.

SPENCER

what?

ARCHIE

I don't want to be no beneficiary. What do yous people think. That I can sign a person off the world like that. I don't want it. Just send it out to my daughter in California Gloria Stivic she lives in Santa Barbara.

SPENCER

Well why don't you do that Mr. Bunker? You can endorse the check right over to her. See as beneficiary I need your signature on the death claim.

ARCHIE

I ain't signing no death claim. Oh Your a big company can't you just leave me alone and do what I'm asking you to do. Send it out there to my daughter

SPENCER

Oh maybe I better call the home office.

[Spencer looks for change in his pocket at eyes the bar's pay phone.]

ARCHIE

Use the Pay phone down in the subway this ones out of order.

[Spencer looks at the pay phone again.]

ARCHIE

It's out of order.

[The pay phone rings. Archie picks it up. Spencer see's it's working.]

ARCHIE

Archie Bunker's Place A. Bunker here. Ah hol-hold on ha.

[Archie turns to Spencer.]

ARCHIE

Down the subway alright.

[Spencer packs up his brief case and leaves.]

ARCHIE

I'm Back. Yes that's right Stephanie Mills. What do you mean she's fine. What?!!!! well No I didn't know. Ill handle it.

[Harry, Murray and Linda look on.]

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ARCHIE

Alright! Alright! Alright! Ill handle it bye.

[Archie turns his head to the bar.]

ARCHIE

Oh holy cow.

MURRAY

What happened?

ARCHIE

It's the kid. She ain't been in school for a week.

[Camera zooms in on Archie]

FADE TO BLACK.

ACT TWO SCENE ONE

Archie is bopping the toilet rod on the bar.

VERONICA

Don't you hit her!

ARCHIE

I ain't going to hit her!

[Archie waves the rod.]

VERONICA

What you going to do flush her?

MURRAY

Just stay calm.

ARCHIE

I am calm.

[Stephanie enters through the front door of the bar.]

STEPHANIE

Hi everybody.

EVERYONE

Hi Stephe.

VERONICA

How you doing honey?

STEPHANIE

Hi

[Stephanie sits down at the corner of the bar to the left of Archie.]

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ARCHIE

Well so how was school today?

STEPHANIE

(Softly) Fine.

[Stephanie tries to think of something quickly.]

ARCHIE

What did you learn there?

STEPHANIE

History! How Marco Polo opened trade with China.

ARCHIE

Richard E Nixon done that your lying. You wasn't in school today. If fact you haven't been in school all week.

[Veronica takes to toilet rod away from in front of Archie.]

VERONICA

Don't use your hands!

ARCHIE

I'll use my hand on you if you don't get out of here.

[Veronica goes to the kitchen and takes the rod.]

MURRAY

Arch.

[Murray give a hand signal to Archie to stay under control.]

ARCHIE

You and me are going to have a little talk in private back in the office.

[Stephanie proceeds to the office. But Archie see's Harry and Mr. Van Ranseleer. Forgetting the fact that Mr. Van Ranseleer is blind.]

ARCHIE

What are yous two looking at?

VAN RANSELEER

Who's looking?

[Archie looks away a proceeds to the office.]

ARCHIE

This ain't like you kid-o this ain't like you at all. What have you been doing? Where have you been going?

STEPHANIE

To the library.

ARCHIE

Everyday? Nobody can read everyday.

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STEPHANIE

Once I went to a museum. Mostly I sit in the park and think.

ARCHIE

Your supposed to be doing your thinking in school.

STEPHANIE

I know but I can't go back there.

ARCHIE

Oh you got to go back there.

STEPHANIE

I just can't. Kids are treating me different now.

ARCHIE

What are they doing to you?

STEPHANIE

They don't want to talk to me. I had to recite a poem. It was one Aunt Edith helped me memorize and off of the sudden I was crying and ever since the other kids have been acting funny.

[Archie sits down at the desk.]

ARCHIE

Listen that should teach you a lesson. You had no go blooping in front of strangers.

STEPHANIE

But even at home I can't.

ARCHIE

You shouldn't be at home neither. It don't do no good . It don't change nothing kid. Listen I'm going through the same thing here you know. Murray, Barney all the guys their treating me differently.

STEPHANIE

They are!

ARCHIE

They think you and me are going to fall apart on our owns. But they don't know us. Were going to be OK ain't we? Ain't we?

STEPHANIE

Guess so.

ARCHIE

After you eat your lunch I'll walk you back to school.

STEPHANIE

You don't have to.

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ARCHIE

I got to. I got to go up and see that truant officer. Ain't that ridicules. Your the guy that goes awol and I'm the guy that has to face the court's martial.

FADE TO SCHOOL OFFICE.

ACT TWO SCENE TWO

INT.SCHOOL OFFICE-AFTERNOON

Archie is sitting in the "truant officer's" waiting room between two young boys. Meanwhile in the truant officer's office.

MS.WAKEFIELD

Oh Bob throwing things in class. I understand how you feel school if full of frustrations failures disappointments.

[Camera pans over to Bob and he is a middle aged man.]

MS.WAKEFIELD

It's OK to be angry about that, but you can't express that anger with violence.

BOB

It was self defense.

MS.WAKEFIELD

That shouldn't be necessary.

Ms. Wakefield gets up and starts to walk to the door.

MS.WAKEFIELD

Remember Bob when your trying to control 35 boys in shop class nothing is more important then calm.

[Ms.Wakefield opens the door and Bob leaves the room.]

MS.WAKEFIELD

Mr. Bunker, please come in.

[Archie gets up from between the two young boys and enters Wakefield's office.]

MS.WAKEFIELD

I'm Ms. Wakefield we spoke earlier on the phone.

ARCHIE

Ya ya I know, but I can't help saying I'm surprised you know. Seeing you a grown-up women and a good looking women too I might add doing this type of work.

MS.WAKEFIELD

What?

ARCHIE

Being a truant officer torturing little kids.

MS.WAKEFIELD

Oh Mr. Bunker I'm not a truant officer. I'm a councillor.

[Wakefield shows Archie the her degree on her wall.]

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ARCHIE

What is that Barn Yard Collage.

MS.WAKEFIELD

That's Barnard.

ARCHIE

Oh Barnard! Do you have a football team?

MS.WAKEFIELD

No there the state champions in debating.

ARCHIE

Debating oh biggie.

MS.WAKEFIELD

Please sit down I like to talk to you about Stephanie.

[Archie and Ms.Wakefield sit down.]

MS.WAKEFIELD

First of all I wasn't you to know how sorry I am to hear about your wife.

ARCHIE

Oh yah well thanks very much.

MS.WAKEFIELD

And I realize this is a difficult time for Stephanie.

ARCHIE

Ya well we don't need to go into all of that you know. I had a nice little talk with her this noon. She ain't going to play hookey no more.

MS.WAKEFIELD

That's good! Did you find out what the problem is.

ARCHIE

Ya all the kids was treating her funny, but that's normal the same thing is happening to me. You know the guys down at my bar ever since I lost my wife.

MS.WAKEFIELD

Did Stephanie attend the funeral?

ARCHIE

Attend sure! Her and me were the first to the grave.

MS.WAKEFIELD

well I'm glad she had a chance to mourn with the family.

ARCHIE

Oh we mourned first class let me tell you.

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MS. WAKEFIELD

Does Stephanie talk very much about her aunt?

ARCHIE

Oh well she tries to you know, but I get her right off of that.

MS. WAKEFIELD

Well sometimes people want to talk about their sadness with somebody close to them.

ARCHIE

Yah I know I know they keep wanting to drag it out and drag it out you know, but they aut to be forgetting and getting on with life.

MS. WAKEFIELD

I suppose you haven't given Stephanie anything that belonged to your wife.

ARCHIE

Oh no God. What do you think I am a dope? Gees I have not looked and any of that stuff my self. But I want to pack it away when I get a chance.

MS. WAKEFIELD

Mr. Bunker I think your wrong. I think you should let Stephanie go through those things with you and pick out something that belonged to your wife. It is very helpful to have a special keepsake.

ARCHIE

Are you kidding?

MS. WAKEFIELD

No I'm not kidding.

ARCHIE

Oh well I don't know what I'm doing here wasting my time. Gees you and me are talking two different languages.

[Archie gets up to leave. Ms.Wakefield gets up.]

MS. WAKEFIELD

Afraid so!

ARCHIE

Oh listen I done what you want. I got the kid back in school. That's what you were worrying about. You don't have to worry about nothing no more goodbye.

[Archie goes to the door.]

MS. WAKEFIELD

I'm not finished.

ARCHIE

Well I am!

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MS. WAKEFIELD

Mr. Bunker children just like adults need to deal with death it's part of life. Stephanie need to talk about this. If she doesn't it could have serious consequences.

ARCHIE

I know my job and I'm doing it.
You just do your job, case closed.
FADE TO BLACK.

END OF PART ONE

PART TWO

ACT THREE SCENE ONE

FADE IN:

INT. BAR Kitchen-day

[Veronica is filling two cups with coffee camera pans over to Archie and Murray.]

ARCHIE

First thing she tells me she ain't a truant officer she's a councilor. Geese what the hell is the difference

MURRAY

Well truant officers get them back to school the councilors keep them there.

ARCHIE

Well I always thought a councilor was someone who changed wet sheets at a summer camp.

VERONICA

We didn't have no councilors when I was a kid. All I had was a Gym Coach and the only counseling she ever gave me was that all boys was dirty.

Two Coffees one with sugar one without.

MURRAY

Well which ones mine.

VERONICA

The one with.

MURRAY

Which one is it.

[Veronica puts her finger in one of the cups and then puts her finger in her mouth. Digested Murray pushes that cup to Veronica.]

MURRAY

You know something I think that councilor is right. Stephanie can't handle thing the way you can. So I think you should do whatever the councilor told you to do.

VERONICA

That's what I say.

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ARCHIE

But she said I ought to let Stephanie help me go through all of Edith's stuff. You know Pack and maybe let her keep something that belonged to her.

MURRAY

Well that's a good idea!

VERONICA

I kept my Aunt Josie's amides rosary beads.

MURRAY

It over a month it's time.

ARCHIE

Yah well I guess its got to be done.

MURRAY

Well who else is going to do it?

ARCHIE

Veronica!

VERONICA

What! No! No no! no! I know what you think. You want me to go over to your place tomorrow and help pack up all Edith's clothes and stuff.

ARCHIE

You wouldn't have to do it alone you know. I could get our neighbor Polly Swanson to come in and help you.

[Veronica starts to cry.]

VERONICA

Oh Archie! Archie!

[Veronica cry's some more.]

ARCHIE

Alright alright forget it forget it.

VERONICA

I'll do it I'll do it. I just got to do this first.

[Veronica walks away crying. Murray gets up to follow her Archie tugs on his arm.]

ARCHIE

No wait a Minute wait a Minute where-where are you going?

MURRAY

I'm going inside to cheer her up.

ARCHIE

In the ladies toilet?

[Murray realizes what Veronica is doing and wit a embarrassed look on his face sits back down.]

ARCHIE BUNKER'S PLACE (ARCHIE ALONE TRANSCRIPT)

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ARCHIE

One other thing the councilor told me that it would be good if Stephanie had a hart to hart talk about how she feels about all of this.

MURRAY

Well that's an excellent idea.

ARCHIE

Good come over tonight.

MURRAY

I can't do it you have to do it.

ARCHIE

Oh no no the councilor said I am the very last Pearson that should try to do that. She said I should get a close family friend. She made a particular point of that.

MURRAY

That doesn't sound right to me.

ARCHIE

What do you mean. It don't sound right.

MURRAY

It doesn't sound right.

ARCHIE

I'm trying-----

HARRY

Hay fellows this problems getting to be well known out here.

[Harry slams closed the window door to the bar area.]

ARCHIE

You just told me to do everything the councilor told me well I'm doing that and let me tell you something she was a very pretty young women. Jewish I think.

MURRAY

What does that got to do with anything?

ARCHIE

Do you want to be a close family friend? Or don't you?

FADE TO: ARCHIE's Kitchen

ACT THREE SCENE TWO

INT.HOUSE-NIGHT

Archie gets Ice Cream and a big serving spoon out the freezer in the kitchen and proceeds to the diner table in the living room where Murray is sitting with Stephanie. Where they have just eaten dinner.

ARCHIE

Well how about the Ice Cream?

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MURRAY

Oh no Arch. No more for me I'm full up ah.

ARCHIE

No ice cream well.

MURRAY

Boy that dinner. That was good.

ARCHIE

Oh well there's nothing to it all you need is the time the talent and the Cornell's phone number.

OK when your finished I'll do up the dishes here ha.

STEPHANIE

Can I help?

ARCHIE

No no no let me do this. I'll do this my self. I bought this new detergent I want to test out. It's supposed to make your hands as smooth as a baby's behind.

[Archie goes into the kitchen.]

MURRAY

well that chicken was good wasn't it.

STEPHANIE

Fine Goodnight.

[Stephanie heads for the stairs.]

MURRAY

The coleslaw was taste wasn't it.

STEPHANIE

It was creamy.

MURRAY

Wait wait wait wait where are you going?

STEPHANIE

To my room.

MURRAY

You know Steph. You and I haven't had a good talk for a long time. How about a little talk right now.

STEPHANIE

What do you want to talk about?

MURRAY

Well lets talk about you ha. How have you been feeling lately.

ARCHIE BUNKER'S PLACE (ARCHIE ALONE TRANSCRIPT)

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STEPHANIE

OK.

MURRAY

OK ha. Come here sit down.

[Murray takes Stephanie's hand they head for the couch.]

MURRAY

You know you can tell me if you haven't been feeling good lately. You know that. Here you go.

[They sit down on the couch.]

MURRAY

I heard that you missed school for a couple of days there.

[Silence]

MURRAY

You know Steph a couple of years ago when my father died I remember not wanting to talk to anybody about it and one day I decided to talk about it. I want to tell you I felt so much better.

STEPHANIE

I want to talk to him about my Aunt Edith, but he won't let me.

MURRAY

He won't.

STEPHANIE

No. Every time I mention her he changes the subject or gets mad. And he's been acting so weird.

MURRAY

Oh how do you mean?

STEPHANIE

He won't answer the phone. He won't open all the cards we been getting and he's sleeping on the couch now.

MURRAY

Every night?

STEPHANIE

Aaha. Ever since Aunt Edith died.

[Murray's face shrugs.]

STEPHANIE

Can I go now?

MURRAY

Umhu ya ya-ya.

ARCHIE BUNKER'S PLACE (ARCHIE ALONE TRANSCRIPT)

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[Murray sits back of the couch and Stephanie goes up the stairs.]

STEPHANIE

Thanks.

MURRAY

Goodnight.

[Archie is eavesdropping in the kitchen with his ear to the kitchen door Murray opens the door with Archie's ear pressed on it. Archie feeling pain puts his had over his ear.]

ARCHIE

Oh gees.

[Murray enters the kitchen.]

MURRAY

What happened?

ARCHIE

You crushed my ear lob hum.

MURRAY

Well I didn't think you were eavesdropping.

ARCHIE

I wasn't eavesdropping.

MURRAY

Oh what were you doing?

ARCHIE

I was trying to eavesdrop. Gees were talking too low. So?

MURRAY

Well we had a very nice little talk. How are you getting along?

ARCHIE

What do you mean me? I'm fine fine.

MURRAY

How come your sleeping on the couch?

ARCHIE

You wasn't supposed to be talking to her about me.

MURRAY

But we did.

ARCHIE

Well gee Didn't you ever fall asleep in front of the TV some night ha?

They walk through the door into the living room.

ARCHIE BUNKER'S PLACE (ARCHIE ALONE TRANSCRIPT)

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ARCHIE

You know I mean every once in a while.

MURRAY

Yah every once in a while.

ARCHIE

Yah sure it happens. I'll tell you something else you be surprised the interesting stuff you pick up on them late TV talk shows. Hay they're better the National Enquirer.

MURRAY

Arch will you level with me? Now you been sleeping on that couch ever night now come on.

ARCHIE

Alright I'll level with you. I could never get a decent nights rest of that bed up there.

[Archie heads for the door]

[Archie takes Murray's hat and overcoat off the rack.]

ARCHIE

Now that's the truth. You know Edith always liked that bed, And now that I'm alone. I's really thinking about selling it.

[Archie hands Murray the jacket and places the hat on Murray's head.]

ARCHIE

I'll tell you something you won't believe.

[Murray removes the hat from his head.]

MURRAY

I don't doubt that.

ARCHIE

That old sofa there is way more comfortable.

MURRAY

Why didn't you sign the death claim?

[Archie looks at Murray silent for a second.]

ARCHIE

Hay listen Murray you know I think we talked enough we did yah. I want to thank you very much for coming over and helping me with the kid, but from now on you know. Stay out of my business!

[Archie opens the front door for Murray.]

MURRAY

OK alright.

[As Murray enters the doorway he turns around.]

MURRAY

Just one more thing though.

ARCHIE BUNKER'S PLACE (ARCHIE ALONE TRANSCRIPT)

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ARCHIE

Tomorrow.

MURRAY

Now. I came over here to find out about Stephanie's problem. I did the problem is you.

[Murray turns around and walks away. Camera stays on Archie in doorway.]

ARCHIE

Bah.

[Archie closes the door.]

[Now we are in Stephanie room dressed ready for bed. She is on her bed reading a school book. We hear a knock at the door.]

STEPHANIE

You can come in.

ARCHIE

Oh that's nice your doing your homework ah.

STEPHANIE

Oahu. I'm doing a report do you know anything about Zimbabwe?

ARCHIE

Zimbabwe aaah that's a forward for the Knicks. Big tall colored guy.

STEPHANIE

Never mind.

ARCHIE

Did you have a nice talk with Murray?

STEPHANIE

Oaha do you want to talk?

ARCHIE

Well I don't want to bother you well your doing your homework there you know. That's the important thing you keep it that and I'll holler out good night through the door a little latter.

[We see a close-up Stephanie's sad looking face.]

FADE TO BLACK.

ACT FOUR SCENE ONE

FADE IN:

INT. BUNKERS' BEDROOM-DAY

Veronica and Polly are just about finished packing up Edith's stuff. Veronica is near a box full with Edith's dresses next to the bed which has been striped of it's sheets and blanket. Polly is next to the closet holding one of Edith's dresses. Stephanie is on the bed looking through Edith's jewelry box.

VERONICA

Well this looks like the last of it.

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POLLY

You know I must have seen Edith wear this dress one hundred times. I can just picture her in it running like crazy to the door.

STEPHANIE

Or running up the stairs.

POLLY

Or running to the kitchen. You know your Aunt Edith was into jogging long before anybody else.

[Stephanie smiles.]

STEPHANIE

You know it feels real strange going through her things. It's like she's still here.

VERONICA

Ya it does feel funny. I almost expect to see her come walking right in the door.

[Veronica turns to Polly who is standing near the window.]

VERONICA

Ah Theirs nothing left of her things in the dresser.

POLLY

This is it for the closet. Stephie did you find something you want to keep?

STEPHANIE

I'm going to keep this pin.

[Stephanie has picked out a hart shaped pin from Edith's jewelry box.]

STEPHANIE

Aunt Edith said she was going to give it to me for my sixteenth birthday. So I'm going to keep it and not wear it until then. It will be like she's still here to give it to me.

VERONICA

That's very sweat Steph. Alright where does all this stuff go? Does it go over to Jersey or where?

POLLY

Oh no Stephanie and I talked about it and we decided that Edith would want it to go to the Sunshine Home.

STEPHANIE

That's where my Aunt Edith worked for the old people who don't have any money.

VERONICA

Lets take the stuff down to the car.

POLLY

Here let me help you.

ARCHIE BUNKER'S PLACE (ARCHIE ALONE TRANSCRIPT)

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VERONICA

No I got it Polly.

[Veronica picks up the big heavy box.]

POLLY

I suppose it's wishful thinking that Archie will be back in time to help us.

[Veronica carries the box to the bedroom door.]

VERONICA

Oh he may be back just in time to hold the door open for us.

[Polly turns and looks at Stephanie closing Edith's jewelry box on the bed. Stephanie looks at Edith's pin that is in her hand.]

FADE TO:KITCHEN

ACT FOUR SCENE TWO

The door from the kitchen to the outside is open. Archie comes in carrying a brown grocery bag.

ARCHIE

Ah geees look at this door. Barney's dog could get in here and go all over the kitchen.

Archie puts the bag down on the table and enters the living room. Stephanie is holding a small box.

ARCHIE

Hay who left the back door open?

STEPHANIE

I did I'll go close it.

ARCHIE

Never mind I already done that already.

[Polly carry's a big box down the stairs.]

VERONICA

You just in time this here is the last box.

ARCHIE

Oh hay I have been back sooner it was like a madhouse at the supermarket you know. 100 old ladies going crazy. It seems they got a new bag boy that looks like Merv Griffin.

That's the last of it ha.

POLLY

That's it.

STEPHANIE

All accept for this.

[Stephanie puts her box which is being held by Polly and Veronica on each end. Stephanie then walks up to Archie.]

STEPHANIE

Look what I decided to keep.

[Stephanie shows Archie Edith's hart shaped pin.]

ARCHIE BUNKER'S PLACE (ARCHIE ALONE TRANSCRIPT)

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STEPHANIE

This pin.

ARCHIE

Ya OK that's very nice. Well I want to thank all of yous for helping.

VERONICA

Your welcome.

POLLY

Any time Archie. Hay lets get going.

VERONICA

Ya.

ARCHIE

Hay I can help you there. I can hold the door open for you.

VERONICA

What did I tell you?

STEPHANIE

Bye Polly bye Veronica.

VERONICA

So long honey.

POLLY

Bye.

STEPHANIE

Thank you.

ARCHIE

See you down the bar Veronica.

VERONICA

Ya.

ARCHIE

Hay Polly I'll be yelling to you over the back fence.

POLLY

Ok Archie.

[After they leave Archie takes off his hat and puts it on the rack. Archie goes up to Stephanie who is looking at the pin.]

POLLY

Why don't you go upstairs and hide that.

[Archie sits down in his chair.]

ARCHIE BUNKER'S PLACE (ARCHIE ALONE TRANSCRIPT)

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ARCHIE

So you don't lose it.

STEPHANIE

I won't lose it.

ARCHIE

Do what I tell you

[Stephanie stands still and looks at the pin.]

ARCHIE

Will you please do what I tell you?

[Stephanie goes upstairs Archie sits back still in his chair. The Door bell rings.]

ARCHIE

Leave it to them to forget something.

[Archie opens the door thinking it is Veronica and Polly.]

ARCHIE

What did you forget oh.

[Archie sees that it is a woman that he does not know at the door.]

ARLENE

Hello I'm Arlene Schiff from Ultra Lady Cosmetics.

ARCHIE

Oh well I don't need no cosmetics.

ARLENE

I'm sure you don't. Is Edith at home?

ARCHIE

No.

ARLENE

She knew I was coming by today.

ARCHIE

Well yah she's gone.

ARLENE

Do you know when she'll be back?

ARCHIE

No.

ARLENE

Well I have the cosmetics she ordered last month. I'll just come back tomorrow.

ARCHIE BUNKER'S PLACE (ARCHIE ALONE TRANSCRIPT)

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ARCHIE

Oh no no no don't do that. Step in step in.

[She steps into the house.]

ARCHIE (cont'd)

I suppose there something owing on that.

[Arlene looks at her receipt.]

ARLENE

She has a balance of \$13.47

ARCHIE

Oh well I got a \$20 bill.

[She hands the bag of cosmetics over to Archie.]

ARLENE

Let me get you some change.

[She is looking in her pocket book for change.]

ARCHIE

Oh well I tell you what don't bother with that. You keep the change.

ARLENE

Oh well thank you. Oh listen my numbers there tell her if she has any question she can call me. Thank you.

ARCHIE

Yah yah don't mention it.

[Arlene leaves. Archie holds up the bag.]

ARCHIE

Never could say no to nobody. Never could turn nobody away.

ACT FOUR SCENE THREE

FADE TO:BEDROOM DOOR

INT. BEDROOM -EVENING

Archie walks into his and Edith's bedroom. And closed two empty drawers in the dresser. Archie sits down on the bed and finds one of Edith's slippers on the floor. Sadness encompasses him. To Archie the slipper represents Edith.

ARCHIE

It wasn't supposed to be like this. I was supposed to be the first one to go. I always used to kid you about you going first. You know I never meant none of that and that morning when you was laying there. I was shaking you and yelling at you to go down and fix my breakfast. I didn't know. You had no rite to leave me that way.

[Archie starts to cry.]

ARCHIE

Without giving me just one more chance to say I love you.

[Archie breaks down and brings the slipper to his face. Stephanie walks through the open door.]

ARCHIE BUNKER'S PLACE (ARCHIE ALONE TRANSCRIPT)

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ARCHIE

She was the one that was supposed to stay down here with you you know. Not me. Because I ain't no good at none of this.

Oh well

[Archie pulls out his handkerchief and wipes the tears from his eyes.]

ARCHIE

I tell you what we do. On Saturday I'll borrow Murray's car and you and me will take a little ride to the cemetery.

STEPHANIE

Can we bring flours?

ARCHIE

Yah sure. What kind?

STEPHANIE

Carnations.

ARCHIE

Oh yah yah carnations. She was always crazy about carnations.

ARCHIE (WHISPERING)

Come here.

[Stephanie walks to Archie he puts his arms around her.]

ARCHIE

Are you alright now?

STEPHANIE

I'm alright.

[Stephanie kisses Archie on the cheek.]

STEPHANIE (CONT'D)

Should I start cooking dinner?

ARCHIE

Yah you can do that. But first you better go to the linen chest out there and get some stuff for the bed here. Gees who the hell striped this bed?

STEPHANIE

Aunt Mabel from Hackensack.

ARCHIE

Oowd Mabel from Hackensack. How did she think I was ever going to use my bed without no sheets and Blanket and pillow cases here?

[Stephanie leaves the room.]

ARCHIE (CONT'D)

God them people from Jersey is brutes.

[Camera pans away from Archie. Until it becomes a long shot of Archie on the bed.]

FREEZE FRAME: