

HOME SWEETE HOME

"Pilot"

by

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TEASER

INT. CORPORATE OFFICE - DAY

TRINA ADAMS is in her early 30s, stylish, fun-loving, and about 40 minutes late for work.

She saunters into the office and finds it in complete disarray. The furniture is wrapped in plastic, and the workers are packing their belongings in boxes.

Trina goes to her desk and notices MONA, a co-worker, also packing.

TRINA

Mona, what's going on? Did we get picked for one of those office makeover shows?

MONA

Maybe you'd know, Trina, if you ever showed up on time.

TRINA

Ha ha. So, are you going to tell me or not?

MONA

I'll give you a hint. It rhymes with "We're all wired."

TRINA

Any chance it's "We're all tired, and we're taking a week long vacation?"

Mona shakes her head and goes back to packing.

TRINA (CONT'D)

Fired? Really? How did this happen?

MONA

Someone bought the company and decided to give us all pink slips.

TRINA

And to think, pink used to be my favorite color.

Their boss, GARY, walks by. He looks frazzled and depressed.

TRINA (CONT'D)
 Hey, Gary. Is this true? Are we fired?

GARY
 Huh? Yeah. I'm sorry.

TRINA
 But you were such a great boss!

GARY
 Thank you, Trina, and you were a
 really...

He struggles to say something nice. Trina waits eagerly for the compliment.

GARY (CONT'D)
 ... a really... really...

The praise just doesn't seem to come. Trina starts to worry.

GARY (CONT'D)
 ... a really real worker, you know?
 Really real.

TRINA
 Okay, well, what are we supposed to do
 now?

GARY
 I don't know. I'm out of a job, too.
 But I can be a reference for you for
 if you like?

TRINA
 Thanks. That's sweet.

GARY
 Actually, do you think you could be a
 reference for me, too? You know. Just
 in case.

Trina rolls her eyes.

TRINA
 Oh, brother.

END TEASER

ACT ONE

INT. SWEETE'S HOUSE (LIVING ROOM) - DAY

ROSE ADAMS-SWEETE, an attorney in her late 30s, enters the house and drops her briefcase on the floor. She crouches down and holds her arms out in front of her.

ROSE
Sweeties! I'm home!

DANTE SWEETE, Rose's 5 year-old son, comes running straight into his mother's arms for their daily hug.

DANTE
Mommy!

She picks him up and squeezes him tight.

ROSE
Now that is what I'm talking about.
You still gonna hug me like that when
you're 20?

DANTE
I don't know. Maybe.

ROSE
Well, just so you know, that
constitutes a verbally-binding
contract.

BECCA SWEETE, Rose's 14 year-old daughter, enters the room. She's dressed in an elaborate outfit full of wild and vibrant colors.

BECCA
Hey, mom.

ROSE
Good lord, Becca, did I wash your
clothes with a bag of skittles?

BECCA
It's for the video. Janie and I are
gonna film ourselves doing the Rainbow
Rock Challenge.

ROSE
Is that some new kind of candy?

BECCA

It's an internet challenge, mom. You have to dress in rainbow colors and dance to a rock song by Rainbow. Everyone's doing it.

ROSE

And I assume all this is happening after you finish your homework.

BECCA

Mommm! Come on! I'm gonna be a singer one day. What do I need math for? Cardi B. doesn't know math.

ROSE

She also doesn't know what her real hair color is. Now, why don't you Rainbow Rock your butt back to your room and do your homework?

DANTE

Ha ha, you said butt.

ROSE

You too, Dante. Get to your room.

BECCA

(Frustrated)

Hmph.

Becca and Dante head to their rooms, while JAY SWEETE, Rose's lovable and slightly overweight husband, enters from the kitchen. He's carrying a tray of dessert truffles.

JAY

Hi, honey. Can I interest you in the latest addition to the Sweete's Sweets Bakery?

He holds out the tray.

ROSE

(Tempted)

Mmm.

Rose takes one and bites.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Delicious.

JAY

I call them Sweete's Sweets Teeny Tiny
Terrific Tiramisu Truffles.

ROSE

You might wanna rethink that name.

JAY

And how was your day, Ms. Sweete?

ROSE

I have news.

JAY

Did you get that promotion?

ROSE

Not yet. They said they'd let me know
by tomorrow. It's actually about
Trina.

JAY

Your sister? What's new with that
flaky, irresponsible--

Before he can finish, Trina bursts in.

TRINA

Surprise!

JAY

(Switching quickly)
And adorably unpredictable angel?

TRINA

Hey, Rose.

ROSE

Hey, sis.

Trina walks over to Jay.

TRINA

What's up, Jay? Long time no see.
(Rubbing his belly)
Packed in a little extra for the
winter, huh?

JAY

Someone has to taste the sweets,
Trina.

TRINA
And by the looks of you, they must
taste good.

She LAUGHS.

TRINA (CONT'D)
Oh, you know I'm just messing with
you.

ROSE
Trina's gonna stay for dinner.

JAY
Great. Now, I know who to serve the
poisoned plate to.

Jay heads back toward the kitchen.

TRINA
Ha ha! You're funny, Jay!

Trina WHISPERS to Rose.

TRINA (CONT'D)
He is joking, right?

Rose shrugs.

INT. SWEETE'S HOUSE (DINING ROOM) - LATER

The entire family is gathered around the table. Trina is regaling the kids with stories about her old jobs. The kids are enthralled.

TRINA
And then my job before that was as a
personal trainer for dogs. But it
turns out there isn't as high of a
demand for that as you would think.

BECCA
That's so awesome.

ROSE
So what's next for you, Trina? Are you
going to try for a serious career?

TRINA
Yes. As a matter of fact, I'm going to
try for twenty of them.

She pulls out a handmade list of potential jobs and shows it to Rose. Rose reads it.

ROSE

Food Stylist? Is that an actual career?

TRINA

Food doesn't just style itself.

ROSE

And what's a futurist?

TRINA

Someone who predicts the future and stuff.

ROSE

Sounds... um... impossible.

BECCA

Wow, super cool, Aunt Tri. That's totally going to be my backup career, in case singing doesn't work out.

ROSE

Excuse me? What about being a lawyer, like me?

BECCA

Mommm! I don't want to be in a courtroom all day. They smell bad.

ROSE

What? They don't... Okay, they do smell funky. I'll give you that. But fortune teller isn't any more stable than being a singer.

TRINA

It's futurist, actually. Besides, stability doesn't matter. Having fun's what counts.

ROSE

Ah, no, no, no, no, no.

Jay leans over and whispers to Dante.

JAY

I sense a train wreck coming.

ROSE

It's important to be practical. To think about what's realistic and what isn't.

TRINA

Yeah, but, not really, right?

JAY

(making train noises)

Chugga Chugga Chugga Chugga... Chugga Chugga Chugga Chugga...

ROSE

How can you say that? I mean, look at you. You've gone through eight jobs in three years.

TRINA

That means I'm experienced.

ROSE

And flat broke. Is that what you want for your niece?

JAY

(making the horn sounds)

Choo! Choo!

TRINA

I don't see what the big deal is. Money isn't everything.

ROSE

You only say that cause you don't have any. And if you're not careful, Tri, you'll go through your whole life without accomplishing anything.

JAY

(making train wreck noise)

And... crash!

There's a brief moment of awkward silence.

TRINA

I'm sorry you feel that way, sis. I think it's time I should go.

Trina stands and walks toward the door. Rose follows.

ROSE
Trina, wait--

Trina stops and turns to face Rose.

TRINA
I just have one question for you.

Trina holds out her hand.

TRINA (CONT'D)
Can I borrow some money for a cab?

INT. SWEETE'S SWEETS - THE NEXT DAY

Rose enters her husband's bakery, Sweete's Sweets. It's quaint, with a few tables and a counter where customers can sit. Jay stands behind the counter.

JAY
Hey, honey.

ROSE
I have some good news. I got the promotion!

JAY
Ooh! Baby, congratulations! This calls for a celebration. Zachary!

ZACHARY, late teens, all heart and no brains, comes out from the back room.

ZACHARY
What's up, Mr. Sweete?

JAY
Bring out the chocolates with our secret ingredient.

ZACHARY
You mean the ones with the nutmeg?

Jay SIGHS.

JAY
Yes. Those are the ones.

Zachary goes in the back.

JAY (CONT'D)

He means well. Let's have a seat. Tell me all about it, Ms. Promotion.

They take a seat at one of the small tables.

ROSE

It's such a great opportunity. And it means a lot more money. But it also means a lot more time.

JAY

Time at home?

ROSE

Nope.

JAY

Ah. So, we need a baby-sitter.

ROSE

I guess so. I just hate the idea of a stranger watching the kids.

Zachary comes over with the chocolates. He places them on the table.

ZACHARY

Here ya go, Mr. S.

JAY

Thanks, Zach.

ZACHARY

Hey, if you guys need a baby-sitter, my twin sister is looking for a job.

JAY

Twin sister, huh? Is she a lot like you?

ZACHARY

Yep. Some people say we're almost like twins.

ROSE

Wait. Are you twins or do people think you're twins because you're so alike?

Zachary thinks this over.

ZACHARY

Wow. That's pretty deep stuff, Mrs. S.

JAY

I think we'll figure something else out, but thanks anyway, Zach.

Rose gets up and grabs a box of chocolates from the store's display case.

ROSE

I can't really stay. I want to stop by Trina's before I go back to the office. I feel kind of bad for how things ended the other night.

JAY

All right. We'll talk about it tonight, then. But don't worry. We'll figure it out.

ROSE

Aww. I have the best husband.

She kisses him on the cheek and exits.

Zachary approaches, whispering.

ZACHARY

So, what is the secret ingredient, anyway?

Jay rolls his eyes.

INT. TRINA'S APARTMENT - DAY

KNOCK! KNOCK! KNOCK! Trina opens the door to the apartment and finds Rose outside the door with a box of sweets.

ROSE

Hey sis. Brought you something from Jay's store. He's calling them Sweete's Sweets Chucky Chunka Chocolate Cheesecake.

TRINA

He should rethink that name.

ROSE

That's what I keep telling him. Can I come in?

Rose hands her the box and enters.

ROSE (CONT'D)
I just wanted to say I'm sorry for
what I... whoa!

Now in Trina's living room, Rose is shocked by the fact that it's completely empty.

ROSE (CONT'D)
Um, didn't there used to be a couch
here?

TRINA
Mmm... I don't remember.

ROSE
I'm pretty sure there was. In fact, I
distinctly remember a couch, a TV,
well, furniture basically. Where's the
furniture?

TRINA
I sold it to make rent. The jig is up,
though. I'm out of stuff to sell.
Unless you can sell light bulbs. Do
people buy used light bulbs?

ROSE
I don't think so, honey.

TRINA
Yeah, that's what I figured. So, what
are you waiting for?

ROSE
Say what now?

TRINA
Aren't you gonna gloat?
(In a mocking Rose voice)
You're so irresponsible, Trina. You
need to get a real job, Trina. Gloat,
gloat, gloat.

ROSE
First of all, I don't sound like that.

TRINA
Yes, you do.

ROSE

Okay, fine, I do. But more importantly, I wouldn't kick my little sister when she's down. You're family. And you're coming to stay with us till you're back on your feet.

TRINA

Really?

ROSE

Really. You can head over there now, and I'll be home after work.

The sisters hug.

TRINA

Okay. But I still get to make fun of Jay's pot belly.

ROSE

I'd expect nothing less.

INT. SWEETE'S HOUSE (LIVING ROOM) - NIGHT

Rose finally comes home a long day of work. She's tired, but she still manages to crouch down and hold her arms out in front of her, just as she always does.

ROSE

Sweeties! I'm home!

But her kids don't race to see her.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Hello?!

Still nothing. Instead, she hears them LAUGHING from the kitchen.

INT. SWEETE'S HOUSE (KITCHEN) - CONTINUOUS

Rose enters. The kitchen is a mess. Trina is making homemade cake pops with Becca and Dante, and they are all having fun.

ROSE

Hello?

The kids mutter greetings without looking up.

DANTE

Hey.

BECCA

Hey.

ROSE

Didn't you guys hear me?

BECCA

Aunt Trina's showing us how to make
cake pops.

TRINA

Yeah, we're giving Jay a run for his
money.

ROSE

Oh. Well, Dante, baby, where's mommy's
hug?

DANTE

I gotta put the sprinkles, mommy.

Rose is deflated.

TRINA

Hey kids, who wants to eat their cake
pops by the pool?

DANTE

Yeah!

Dante and Becca rush by Rose on their way out of the kitchen.

TRINA

I've got this, sis. Why don't you go
ahead and relax?

Trina exits as well, leaving Rose alone and miserable.

ROSE

(mumbles to herself)

I want cake pops by the pool.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. SWEETE'S HOUSE (MASTER BEDROOM) - NIGHT

Rose stomps back and forth in front of the bed, fuming with anger. Jay sits in bed, reading a cookbook.

ROSE

I can't believe this. It's just like when we were growing up. The kids at school love cool, fun Trina, but no one wants to hang out with Anal Retentive Rose.

JAY

Ha! That's a good one.

She glares at him.

JAY (CONT'D)

Honey, you're blowing this out of proportion. The kids are just excited to have her in the house. That's all.

ROSE

Why aren't they excited to have me in the house? I'm in the house all the time. I practically live here.

JAY

You do live here.

ROSE

That's my point. Why can't I be fun Aunt Rose?

JAY

Um, probably cause you're not their aunt. You're their mom.

ROSE

Semantics!

There's a KNOCK on the door.

TRINA (O.S.)

It's Tri. Can I come in?

Rose GRUNTS to herself.

JAY

Come in.

Trina enters.

TRINA

Did I interrupt anything?

JAY

Just reading a cookbook.

TRINA

So that's what they're calling it nowadays.

Trina winks at Jay.

ROSE

What's up, Trina?

TRINA

I wanted to let you know I have a job interview tomorrow, so I won't be able to watch the kids in the morning. Is that cool?

Rose is elated.

ROSE

Yes, yes! That's perfect!

TRINA

Um, okay. Not exactly the response I was expecting.

Rose starts to gently push Trina toward the door.

ROSE

Career comes first. I completely understand. How else are you gonna become a fortune teller or a dog whisperer or whatever?

TRINA

The interview's actually for a teddy bear maker.

ROSE

Yikes! I mean, good luck. I hope you get it!

Rose SLAMS the door closed.

JAY

I bet the kids at school never called you Subtle Rose, did they?

Rose goes back to pacing.

ROSE

This is my chance. I'll call the office and tell them I'm coming in late tomorrow so I can watch the kids. I'll show them how cool Aunt Rose can be.

JAY

Again, not their aunt.

ROSE

Don't ruin this for me.

INT. TEDDY BEAR FACTORY OFFICE - DAY

Trina sits in front of MR. BRUIN, a snooty-looking man in his late 30s. He wears a tie with little teddy bears all over it.

MR. BRUIN

So, tell me about yourself.

TRINA

Well, I grew up here. My whole family is here. I have a lot of work experience. As you can see on my resume.

MR. BRUIN

I can see that. You seem to have had several jobs in the past few years.

TRINA

Yes. I'm kind of working on finding myself.

MR. BRUIN

Uh huh. And you think that you have what it takes to be a teddy bear artisan?

TRINA

Absolutely. I always loved them when I was a kid, and I think this would be a

lot of fun.

MR. BRUIN

Well, it's not all fun and games around here. Being a TB artisan requires a great deal of painstaking precision.

TRINA

TB artisan? Sounds infectious.

She LAUGHS. He is deadpan.

TRINA (CONT'D)

Get it? You said TB like teddy bear but I meant it like tuberculosis...

She trails off, and he continues to stare at her.

TRINA (CONT'D)

All right. No jokes. Got it.

MR. BRUIN

Ms. Adams, we are looking for people who are serious about teddy bear creation and can devote their lives to the craft. Does that sound like you?

Trina hesitates.

TRINA

My whole life, huh? So, it's not just a 9 to 5 kind of thing?

MR. BRUIN

I'm sorry. I just don't think you are serious enough about this position.

TRINA

Oh, but I am serious. Honest. I really want to be a teddy bear maker.

MR. BRUIN

Artisan.

TRINA

Right. Artisan. I mean, "maker" is just too generic, right?

MR. BRUIN

I'm sorry, Ms. Adams. Best of luck to

you.

Trina SIGHS. She takes out her list of jobs and crosses off teddy bear maker, the last item on her list.

TRINA

All right. Well, I guess that's it. I'm not even fit to be a teddy bear maker.

MR. BRUIN

Artisan.

TRINA

Yeah, yeah, whatever.

Trina walks out of the office, her head hanging low.

INT. SWEETE'S HOUSE (LIVING ROOM) - DAY

The kids wake up and head to the living room, still groggy and in their pajamas.

ROSE (O.S.)

Wuz up, kids!

Rose pops up in front of them, dressed in wacky, bright colors.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Who's ready to have some fun?

DANTE

Mommy, you look like a clown?

ROSE

Okay, not quite the look I was going for.

BECCA

What is going on?

ROSE

Aunt Trina had to go to a job interview, so I'm going to watch you today. And it's going to be supercool! We can hang out and talk about...

She looks down at the palm of her hand where she's written a cheat sheet of stuff that's popular now.

ROSE (CONT'D)
Snapcat?

BECCA
I think you mean Snapchat.

ROSE
Yeah, totally. For shizzle.

BECCA
And "for shizzle" isn't cool anymore.

ROSE
Oh yeah, I know. I was just.... trying
to be uncool in a cool way. You know?
Hey, how about this?

Rose pulls out two cans of silly string and starts spraying
everywhere, on the kids, the couch, everywhere!

Becca just stares at her, deadpan.

BECCA
Are you having a seizure?

ROSE
Only if seizures are cool.

BECCA
I think I'm going to do some homework
in my room.

Becca starts walking back to her room.

ROSE
Wait! I thought we could make our own
Pop Rocks video.

BECCA
It's Rainbow Rock.

ROSE
Aw, damn it! I knew that one.

Rose looks over at Dante.

ROSE (CONT'D)
You think I'm cool, don't you?

DANTE
 (Shaking head)
 Nah ah.

ROSE
 Great.

INT. SWEETE'S SWEETS - DAY

Trina enters. Jay and Zachary are behind the counter.

JAY
 Hey, how was the interview?

She sits down at the counter, and drops her head onto the counter.

JAY (CONT'D)
 That good, huh?

TRINA
 Give me the hard stuff, Jay.

JAY
 (surprised)
 Sweete's Sweets Rumbling Tumbling Rum
 balls?

TRINA
 Make it a double.

Jay prepares the chocolates.

ZACHARY
 Whoa. What happened?

TRINA
 All you need to know is that I'm not
 fit... for anything.

Trina suddenly perks up.

TRINA (CONT'D)
 Hey, wait, do you need any extra help
 around here?

JAY
 Sure. But I would have to fire
 Zachary, though. Can't afford both of
 you.

ZACHARY
(Worried)
What?

TRINA
Don't worry, Zach. I would probably do
a worse job than you, anyway.

Zachary breathes a SIGH of relief.

ZACHARY
Ahh, thanks! I think.

Jay hands Trina some rum balls.

JAY
Here ya go.

She grabs one and takes a bite.

TRINA
This is just what I needed.

JAY
So, what now? Any other interviews
lined up?

TRINA
Nope. I don't know what I'm going to
tell Rose.

JAY
What do you mean?

TRINA
I keep disappointing her.

JAY
I think I know Rose better than
anyone, and she's not gonna be
disappointed in you.

TRINA
You think so?

JAY
Yeah. Besides, if she is disappointed,
and ends up kicking you out of the
house. Either way, I win.

Trina drops her head back on the counter and GROANS.

INT. SWEETE'S HOUSE (LIVING ROOM) - LATER

Trina enters the house. Rose is cleaning up the silly string from her attempt to be cool. She is still dressed up in her colorful costume. Trina looks her up and down.

TRINA

And I thought I had a bad day.

ROSE

Hilarious. I guess that means you didn't get the job.

TRINA

Not even close.

Rose goes to sit on the couch and lands on a whoopee cushion, which makes a PFFT sound.

TRINA (CONT'D)

Seriously, what happened here?

Trina removes the whoopee cushion and they both take a seat.

ROSE

I thought I'd make my time with the kids really special today.

TRINA

Oh, no. You tried to be the cool mom, didn't you?

ROSE

It didn't go so well.

TRINA

That's because there's no such thing as a cool mom.

ROSE

I just wanted them to think I was cool like you.

TRINA

Like me?

ROSE

Yeah, they're always so excited to see you, and they have so much fun with you. I guess I got a little jealous.

TRINA

That's crazy. The only reason I'm this cool is because I was always trying to keep up with my big sister.

ROSE

Thanks. I guess I have to settle for just being "mom" now.

TRINA

Besides, you don't want to be the kind of mom that lets her kids do whatever they want. Spoiling kids is an aunt's job.

Rose LAUGHS, but then considers this.

ROSE

That's true, you know.

TRINA

What?

ROSE

You need a job. And I need someone here to take care of the kids. Maybe your baby-sitting should be more permanent.

TRINA

Really?

ROSE

Yeah. You could be our live-in nanny. I mean, if you wanted to.

TRINA

Of course. That would be the best job ever!

Trina hugs Rose.

TRINA (CONT'D)

Wait. I don't have to be serious all the time now that it's a job, do I?

ROSE

What do you think?

Rose sprays her with silly string.

Trina LAUGHS.

END OF ACT TWO

TAG

INT. SWEETE'S SWEETS - DAY

Jay and Zachary are behind the counter, while Rose, Trina and the kids are enjoying some doughnuts. Jay is hard at work on the right name.

JAY

Sweete's Sweets Delicious Dynamite
Doughnuts.

EVERYONE

(Simultaneously)

Nope.

JAY

Sweete's Sweets Delightfully
Delectable Doughnuts.

EVERYONE

Nah ah.

JAY

I've got it. Sweete's Sweets
Doughnuts.

ZACHARY

I like it.

ROSE

It's simple.

TRINA

It's short.

DANTE

It's yummy!

JAY

And it only took me three hours to
come up with it.

He almost takes a bite of a doughnut and then pulls back, contemplatively.

JAY (CONT'D)

I am bad at names.

BECCA

I know what'll cheer you up, daddy.

We hear the opening beats of the a Rainbow rock song, then...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. SWEETE'S SWEETS - LATER

In true Rainbow Rock fashion, the entire group is dressed in colorful, outrageous outfits while dancing wildly and joyously, like a family.

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW