

'JACK'

SCENE 1 PAGE 1

TAL #110 4.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jack and Lily eat the pizza, watching the old B monster movie on TV. We see the movie stars a younger, healthier Lily...

Start

LILY

God, look at me. No bags under my eyes!

Jack nods.

LILY

Hey -- You're supposed to say 'you still look good, mom.'

Jack smiles.

JACK

You still look good, mom.

They watch the movie, trying to pretend things are normal. But that's impossible...

JACK

I was looking through the phone book --

LILY

Jack, honey, we've been through this.

JACK

Yeah, but there has to be a doctor closer.

LILY

Jack. Your mother does nothing halfway in life. When she gets sick, she goes all out. And that means specialists. Who are expensive, thus get to live in zip codes of eternal sunshine.

JACK

But across the country?

LILY

It's for a week. Dr. Hasek is the best viral endocrinologist in the country. He'll run his tests, figure this out and I'll be home before you know it. Healthy as a bran muffin.

JACK

What if he doesn't figure it out?

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TAL #110 5.

LILY

Then I have a disease that's never existed before and I'll go down in history. We win either way.

She smiles. But Jack can't contain his fear any longer --

JACK

No more jokes!

Lily looks up at him, surprised.

JACK

I'm sick of you making jokes! This is not a joke!

LILY

I know, honey --

JACK

Me you don't! What if something happens to you?

LILY

Nothing's going to happen. I'm not going to leave you.

A beat. Jack looks down at the pizza on his plate...

JACK

They never put on enough cheese. Even when you order double.

LILY

I'm not your father, Jack.

Jack's silent. She leans over, brushes hair out of his face.

LILY

You and me stick together, right?

Jack just nods. There's a ROAR from the television.

LILY

There you go. Kills the monster, gets the girl, saves the day. Typical Hollywood bullshit -- and thank God for it.

Jack pushes his plate away from the table...

JACK

I'll be upstairs.

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TAL #110 7.

EXT. SAWYER HOUSE - DAY

A Taxi Driver puts Lily's bags in the back of the cab, waiting...

INT. SAWYER HOUSE - DAY

Jack's watching the cab while Lily puts on her coat.

LILY  
There's money in the jar. Mrs. Philbrick will be here Monday --

JACK  
She never shuts up.

LILY  
Be nice to her. Maybe she'll make those brownies you like.

Jack nods... Lily takes a breath, this is it.

JACK  
Mom.

She sees Jack has something in his hands -- it's his sketchbook.

LILY  
Jack, no.

JACK  
I want you to have it with you.

She hesitates. But Jack holds it out to her, offering his most cherished possession. She takes it. And then she puts her arms around him, holding him close...

LILY  
I need you to be strong for me, okay?

JACK  
I'll do anything...

Lily nods, wipes away a tear as she kisses him goodbye...

LILY  
My chariot awaits.

**STOP**

EXT. SAWYER HOUSE - NIGHT

Lily climbs into the taxi, helped by the Driver...