

ALL FOR PUTTING IT IN

Written by

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INT. MICHAEL'S DORM - DAY

MICHAEL (16 years old, black hair, somewhat slow, overthinks a lot)

DANAE (Michael's stepmother, wife to Michael's dad, irresponsible)

Michael wakes up abruptly after hearing his horrible alarm. He stumbles through all the clutter and quickly starts getting ready for school, searching for his gear for the soccer tournament he's participating in.

MICHAEL

Come on, pants, get on! I can't be late. Hopefully, there are some cute girls for you know, a little something-something. Anyway, it's the last week, and I haven't been feeling great. Maybe a girlfriend is the solution to my problems. Where are my gloves? Ahhhh, MOM!!!!

Danae enters Michael's room and sits on his bed.

DANAE (DISGUSTED)

Oh, Michael, I already told you not to call me mom. I didn't give birth to you; I just sleep with your absent father and live here. Your gloves should be in that pigsty you call a room--no wonder you're alone.

MICHAEL

Uh, yeah, but ever since Mom left us, you're the only thing I have. My dad always said, 'A mother isn't the one who gives birth but the one who raises you.' Then he left me outside a store and went drinking with his friends. But that's not the point--I already checked my room...

Danae throws herself onto Michael's bed and sleeps while he talks.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Oh sure, asleep like always. I'm gone, already leaving.

INT. HOUSE KITCHEN - DAY

GRANDMA YOYO (Michael's grandmother, suffers from Alzheimer's and has no filter)

Michael runs to the colorful kitchen to grab his breakfast and finds Grandma Yoyo cooking.

MICHAEL (WORRIED)

OH NO! Grandma Yoyo, what are you doing!? Those aren't oven mitts; they're my soccer gloves! Don't burn them, give them to me!

Michael tries to take the gloves from Grandma Yoyo.

GRANDMA YOYO (SCARED)

Ahhh!!! Danae!!! Help me, a homeless man broke into the house and wants to take my oven mitts!

MICHAEL

I don't think she'll come, she usually always falls asleep while I tell her my life. But hey grandma, don't worry, it's me, your grandson, Michael.

GRANDMA YOYO

Michael? Who the heck is Michael? Besides, my grandson isn't ugly. Get out of here!

The two struggle, and Michael manages to snatch the burnt and hole-ridden soccer gloves from Grandma Yoyo. In response, Grandma Yoyo whacks him on the head with a frying pan, leaving him sprawled on the floor for a few minutes.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER FIELD - DAY

Michael heads to the school soccer field and looks through the flyers to find the team he's been assigned to. Among the names, he spots JASON (tall, dark-skinned, bulky, a gym-goer, terrible at soccer), GILBERTO (a clown, thinks he's funny, completely unsubtle, misses more shots than a broken carnival rifle even when alone in front of the net), and SABRINA (gorgeous, cold-hearted, opportunistic).

Michael looks for them and eventually finds them.

MICHAEL

Are you all my team?

GILBERTO

No, we're just sitting here soaking up the sun and selling drugs to any idiot who comes to a soccer field asking if we're their team, when there's obviously a sign with our names right next to us.

JASON

Hahaha, leave him alone. He's probably new here. You're gonna scare him.

SABRINA

Hey, come and sit here. We're gonna play against that team.

MICHAEL

Yeah, yeah, whatever you say, gorgeous. And for your information, Jason, I've been here for five years, damn it. And Sabrina, are you talking about that team? The one with the gringos?

SABRINA

Haha, yes that team.

MICHAEL

Huh, please, when have you seen a team of gringos play good soccer. It's impossible for us to lose.

INT. THE LITTLE PARAKEET CAFETERIA - DAY

They are all seated at a square table with their drinks and donuts, looking at each other with confused and semi-smiling expressions.

MICHAEL (RESIGNED)

Well, who would have thought that we'd lose 7 to 0 against the gringos.

SABRINA

Blame Jason, he's terrible at playing. Did you see how he kept saying, "It's mine, it's mine," and then Gilberto yelled, "This one's yours," and the ball hit him on the head and he scored an own goal?

GILBERTO

Hahaha, and I don't regret it, but it's true. If you look at him normally, it seems like he has three legs. Then you watch him play, and it looks like someone in a wheelchair could do more than him.

JASON

Okay, that was fun, but I gotta go to the gym. These three legs aren't going to pump themselves. Let's go, Gilberto, I'll drop you off at your house. Here's the money for our share of what we ordered, Michael. Bye!

SABRINA

Oh, Mikey, I forgot my wallet. Could you pay for me?

MICHAEL

Uhh, yea sure. Don't worry about it.

SABRINA

Oh, and buy me 6 more donuts. I have to bring home something to my sister.

MICHAEL

Hmmmm, hey, I don't think I can do that...

SABRINA

Oh, ok, it's fine. I though you were different from the rest, but you know what, if you don't do it then bye.

MICHAEL

Okay, okay, I'll do it. Calm down, okay? Come on, which do you want?

Sabrina gives Michael a kiss after indulging her whim, and he goes completely crazy.

MONTAGE:

-Sabrina and Michael go to the movies, and Michael takes Sabrina's hand.

-Later, they walk by the river. Michael pulls out some flowers from his backpack, kneels down, and confesses his feelings to Sabrina—and she says yes.

INT. MICHAEL'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

SUPER: ONE MONTH LATER

Michael calls everyone in his home. Danae and Grandma Yoyo sit on the sofa to listen.

MICHAEL

Ahh, I wish dad was here to hear too.

DANAE

Don't worry, darling. He's going to return soon from his business trip with his lover.

MICHAEL

I still don't understand how you take that as normal.

GRANDMA YOYO

Ha, please, you idiot. Haven't you noticed that every day a man shows up dressed as a doctor, a janitor, a chef, or a yoga instructor, supposedly to "help" Danae?

DANAE

Mhh, yes, and that's what they do.

GRANDMA YOYO

Please, Danae, I might suffer from Alzheimer's, type 1 diabetes, breast cancer, kidney failure, and COVID-19, but I'm not deaf. You can hear all the way to the neighbor's house how they're rearranging your uterus.

MICHAEL

WOW WOW WOW, okay calm down. I just wanted to inform you all of something.

DANAE

Okay, but hurry up because my soap is about to start.

MICHAEL

Well, I HAVE A GIRLFRIEND!!!

Everyone's surprised as they look at each other with confusion.

DANAE

Oh, seriously? As long as she doesn't turn out pregnant, it's all good.

GRANDMA YOYO

You know, you better not be a pushover and let her manipulate you into getting everything she wants. Imagine having your bank account in the negatives because of that.

Michael glances at his phone out of the corner of his eye and sees a bank notification: "Check your account balance; it's in critical condition."

MICHAEL

Of course not...

DANAE

Okay, let's go, Grandma Yoyo, I can already hear Dr. Polo talking on the television.

The bathroom door opens, and a man in sportswear steps out, adjusting his pants.

MAN

Oh, hi Michael, how are you? Danae has talked a lot about...

MICHAEL (MAD)

Out of my house! Out, OUT!

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Jason and Gilberto gesture to Michael from the door of the music class, signaling for him to come out. Michael asks his teacher for permission to go to the bathroom and then leaves the class.

JASON

Bro, you have to see this. It's very important. Come on, hurry.

MICHAEL

But... uh, okay, let's go already.
I don't think anything could be
worse than what happened yesterday.

The three boys rush to the school cafeteria and arrive just in time to see, from a distance, Sabrina hugging and kissing another man.

MICHAEL (DEVASTATED) (CONT'D)

What the hell? SABRINA!!! What are
you doing?

SABRINA

Hahaha, oh Mickey, besides being
stupid, you're blind—and now, a
CUCKED, HAHAHA! Well, I'm cheating
on you, what else do you think I'm
doing?

MICHAEL

Please, don't leave me like this.

SABRINA

Mmm, I'm sorry. It's not my
problem, bitch.

EXT. BRIDGE - NIGHT

Michael stands at the edge of the bridge, staring into the deep, dark, endless void below, reflecting on everything that has recently happened in his life.

MICHAEL

Why is this happening to me? Why is
my family such a mess? Why haven't
I seen my father in months? Why did
Sabrina cheat on me? WHY, WHY?

UNKNOWN

Honestly, I have no fucking idea.
But tell me something—are you
going, or am I?

MICHAEL (CONFUSED)

Huh? What are you talking about?

UNKNOWN

So, who's jumping first, you or me?
Because there's a huge line to jump
off this bridge—look behind me.

Michael turns to look and realizes there's a crowd of distressed people behind him.

MICHAEL

Oh shit, it's true. Sorry, guys.
Carry on with what you're doing.

UNKNOWN

Hey, I like you. Want to go
somewhere else to talk about this
instead of, you know, killing
ourselves?

MICHAEL

Yeah, let's get totally wasted.

INT. THE LITTLE PARAKEET CAFETERIA - NIGHT

SARAH (17 years old, black hair, friendly, cute and talkative)

The two sit down, order some coffee, and start sharing their thoughts.

MICHAEL

And well, she made all those things
a lot more tolerable.

SARAH

Wow, your life is way more fucked
up than mine. But honestly, living
in this town doesn't help. Just
look around—see those addicts over
there? They smoke so much that if
they fart, they'd probably die.

Both look over at the other table and see a drug addict let
out a fart, collapse onto the table, and pass out.

MICHAEL

Oh, speaking of that, want to see a
dead body? We just have to go to
the river by the train station.

SARAH

How do you know there's dead people
over there?

MICHAEL

Because that's where the Latinos hold their neighborhood meetings, and they lynched everyone who voted for Trump out of fear of being deported.

RANDOM MAN

Hey, idiot! Can you shut up?

MICHAEL

Make me!

The man grabs and throws Michael through the window.

INT. MICHAEL'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

SUPER: THREE MONTHS LATER

Michael comes back from school and, upon opening the door, finds his father sitting on the couch, waiting for him.

ROBERT (Michael's dad, tall, busy and pensive)

ROBERT

Hi, son. I know this is all very sudden, but I want to talk to you.

MICHAEL

Usually, I'd say no, but honestly, I do want to hear you out.

ROBERT

The truth is, I don't like being away from my family, but I have to be far from you to support you and pay for your college. It's your last year in high school, and I just want you to have good memories of this stage in your life.

MICHAEL

I understand, but your absence hurts me, especially because I don't have anyone to talk to. It's hard to be understood in this house, and Danae keeps sleeping with another man.

ROBERT

The truth about that is that she and I want a baby, but I can't give her children.

(MORE)

ROBERT (CONT'D)

And don't worry, I quit my job. I'm going to take some time off to spend with all of you.

MICHAEL

Oh, Dad, I didn't know that. I'm sorry, really. It still feels a bit weird to me, but to hell with that. Thank you for taking this time for us—it means a lot to me.

They hug and leave the house to go on a walk.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

The school announcer mentions that prom tickets are now on sale. Michael leaves his class and walks through the hallways, where he spots Sarah smiling at him.

MICHAEL

Hey, how are? Besides beautiful.

SARAH

Well, happy to see you. What's going on with you, hot stuff?

MICHAEL

Haha, it's hard to believe when my whole life people told me I was uglier than a kick to the nuts. Anyway, I wanted to ask you—WILL YOU GO TO PROM WITH ME?????

SARAH

OF COURSE YES!!!!!! I'd love to.

They grab each other's hand and leave, smiling.

INT. PROM - NIGHT

SUPER: FOUR MONTHS LATER

Michael and Sarah match the colors of their suit and dress, dancing and enjoying the night alongside Gilberto and Jason. At one point, Michael heads to the bathroom, and someone grabs him by the arm.

SABRINA

MICHAEL MICHAEL!!! How nice to see you.

MICHAEL

I wouldn't say the same.

SABRINA

Oh, don't be so bitter. Look, I need your help with something.

MICHAEL

What do you want?

SABRINA

I'm pregnant. My boyfriend abandoned me and left me like this.

MICHAEL

Wow, and that's why we use condoms, kids.

SABRINA

Please, don't leave me like this.

MICHAEL

Hahahaha, I'm sorry. It's not my problem, bitch.

Sabrina grabs a knife from the table as Michael walks away. She runs toward him, intending to stab him. Michael spots Sarah in the distance and waves at her. Sarah notices Sabrina approaching Michael and quickly intercepts her, landing a punch to Sabrina's face. Sabrina slips, falls unconscious, and the knife pierces her neck.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

WOW, WHAT WAS THAT!? EVERYTHING WENT WRONG IN JUST A SECOND! Wait, isn't this kind of romantic? You, my date, saving me from my crazy ex? It's like something out of a movie.

SARAH

Hey, should we call someone or...

MICHAEL

Nah, she's dead already. Let's not ruin this moment—come here, beautiful.

Michael kisses Sarah, and the two walk out of the venue hand in hand as snow falls around them. They draw a heart in the snow together, smiling at each other.

END.