




HEY, MIKE!
SO GLAD YOU
COULD JOIN
US FOR
CHRISTMAS!



THANKS FOR
HAVING ME, MR.
ROBINSON! I'D
MUCH RATHER
SPEND THE
HOLIDAYS WITH
YOU AND GREG.

MY FOSTER
FAMILY DOESN'T
EVEN PUT UP A
TREE. THIS PLACE
FEELS MORE LIKE
MY HOME THAN
THEIRS EVER
WILL.

A young boy with brown hair, wearing a grey t-shirt and blue jeans, is walking towards the camera in a living room. The room is decorated for Christmas, featuring a large, decorated Christmas tree on the left with lights and ornaments, and several wrapped gifts at its base. In the background, there is a white sofa with colorful pillows, a wooden coffee table, and a fireplace mantel with a small plant. Sunlight streams in from large windows, creating a warm atmosphere. A speech bubble is positioned above the boy's head, containing text.

SERIOUSLY?
MAYBE THIS YEAR
I CAN CONVINC
MY DAD TO JUST
ADOPT YOU. WE
CAN GO FROM
BROS TO
BROTHERS.



HAH! WHAT'S UP, GREG! I KNOW YOU'RE JOKING, BUT I'D LOVE TO BE IN THIS FAMILY. I'M PRETTY SURE MY FOSTER PARENTS ARE ONLY IN IT FOR THE TAX BENEFITS.

A young boy with brown hair is sitting on a white patterned rug on a wooden floor. He is wearing a grey t-shirt and blue jeans. He has a sad expression, looking down with his hands clasped near his feet. In the background, there is a decorated Christmas tree with lights and ornaments, a white sofa with green and blue pillows, and a framed picture of a Christmas tree on the wall. A speech bubble next to him contains the following text:

I'M ONLY HALF
JOKING. I ACTUALLY
HAVE BEEN LOOKING
INTO WHAT IT WOULD
TAKE TO LEGALLY
ADOPT YOU, BUT
SINCE THE ACCIDENT...
WELL, MY DAD'S
BEEN...



DUDE, I'M SO SORRY. HOW ARE YOU TWO DOING? I NEVER KNEW MY REAL MOM, SO I CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO LOSE SOMEONE LIKE THAT.



IT'S BEEN
HARD. THIS IS OUR
FIRST CHRISTMAS
WITHOUT HER.
SOMETIMES I FEEL
LIKE SHE'S STILL
HERE IN SPIRIT, BUT
MY DAD IS REALLY
STRUGGLING.

HE PUTS ON A
GOOD FACE, BUT
THIS PLACE JUST
FEELS KINDA
EMPTY NOW. SO
EMPTY THAT I CAN
HEAR HIM CRY AT
NIGHT...



SO I'M
REALLY GLAD
YOU'RE HERE,
MIKE. WE
BOTH ARE.



I'M GLAD I'M
HERE, TOO. YOUR
MOM WAS THE
BEST. SHE MADE
ME FEEL MORE
WELCOME THAN
ANY OF MY
FOSTER FAMILIES
EVER DID.

I'M ALWAYS HERE
TO TALK, GREG.
WELL, NOT ALWAYS,
BUT I WISH I WAS.
I- WHOA, WHAT'S
THAT SMELL? IT
SMELLS AMAZING!
IS YOUR DAD
MAKING-



ALRIGHT,
BOYS! WHO
WANTS HOT
COCOA?!



CAREFUL!
IT'S STILL
PRETTY
HOT!

OH MAN!
THANKS, MR.
ROBINSON!
THIS IS THE
BEST!!!



MMM...
I STILL DON'T
UNDERSTAND
HOW YOU GUYS
MAKE SUCH A
SIMPLE DRINK
SO TASTY.



HEH, IT'S MY
MOM'S SECRET
RECIPE! JUST ADD
SOME VANILLA,
CINNAMON,
NUTMEG,
AND-



DAMN,
I DID IT AGAIN.
NOW I CAN'T STOP
THINKING ABOUT...
GOD, I WISH SHE
WERE HERE. SHE
LOVED HOW MUCH
YOU ENJOYED HER
HOT COCOA...



HEY, IT'S OKAY. I'M SURE SHE'S LOOKING DOWN AT US AND SMILING. I THINK IT'S KINDA BEAUTIFUL THAT SOMEONE CAN LIVE ON THROUGH SOMETHING AS SIMPLE AS A HOT COCOA RECIPE.




UHH, BUT THIS
BATCH SEEMS TO
BE RUNNING
RIGHT THROUGH
ME...

GURGLE



SORRY, I'LL BE
RIGHT BACK.
BATHROOM STILL
IN THE SAME
PLACE?



UHH, YEAH,
DOWN THE HALL
ON THE RIGHT.
YOU OKAY? DO
YOU WANT SOME
MEDICINE?

YEAH, I'M
FINE. I THINK
IT'S JUST BEEN
A WHILE SINCE
I'VE HAD HOT
COCOA...



MAN, WHAT'S WITH THIS STOMACH ACHE?! IT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE A NORMAL ONE...

BURGLING


A young man with messy, spiky blonde hair and bright blue eyes is shown in a shower. He is wearing a red t-shirt and blue jeans. He has a shocked and distressed expression, with sweat droplets on his face. The background consists of white tiled walls and a shower curtain. A speech bubble is positioned to his left, containing his dialogue.

HOLY CRAP! I'M
SWEATING BULLETS!
AM I GETTING SICK?
JEEZE, MY HAIR IS A
MESS, TOO! HAS IT
ALWAYS BEEN
THIS SHAGGY? I
SWEAR I-



G R O W I N G

W-WHA-



I M- MUST
BE HAVING
A FEVER
DREAM OR
SOMETHING,
RIGHT?!

IT FEELS REAL,
BUT HAIR CAN'T
JUST GROW LIKE
THAT! WHAT THE
HELL WAS IN
THAT HOT
COCOA-



CRICKI
CRACKI

AHGK?!



GHN-
GHKK-

CRACK!

POPI!

GROWING



GYAHH!

* G R O W I N G ! *



HUFF ?
HUFF ?
HUFF ?

W-WHA-WHAT'S HAPPENING TO M-

GHK!?
MY HIPS?!
HRHNN-

POPI

SWELLING
GNING





?

NUHUU-
NO MM-
HNGG-

SWELLING

RIPPING