

✓ Joey 20's  
Linda 20's

Team - winning  
FPF-27-A

AUNT BEA

I thought it was a nice offer. No?

JOEY

It is a nice offer, Bea, but we can't accept it.

FANBELT

Joey, are you for real?

JOEY

(irate)

Why the hell do we have to move all the way to Teaneck when my parents live right here in Fort Lee.

LINDA

(shocked)

It's the next town over, Joey!

UNCLE JOE

Kid wants to be close to his parents. I can understand that.

MR. LAZZERI

(muttering)

This is retirement?

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Start

Joey and Linda continue the fight.

LINDA

There's no way I'm living down here!

JOEY

You never complained before!

LINDA

I was never faced with the prospect of growing old in your basement. Besides, we're talking about a house in Teaneck for Chrissakes! A house! You know, like to live in. Four rooms, a garden, and they're just gonna give it to us.

JOEY

(a smoke-screen)

Marone! We used to play football against those bums! With their blue and gold uniforms. I hate Teaneck!

Joey & Linda

LINDA

Okay, I'm just gonna pretend I didn't hear that.

JOEY

Lotta memories down here, Linda.

Joey walks around the room pointing out his cherished STUFF.

JOEY

See this bean bag chair -- me and Linda Iannocelli -- first kiss. Over here, see this crack in the lava lamp -- Fanbelt did a down and out when I said to do a down and in. The Nerf knocked it over. That spackling over there, me and Captain Joe did it after the big fire. This picture of Joe DiMaggio, signed by the Yankee Clipper himself. Need I say more?

LINDA

Joey, Teaneck is five minutes away. Tops. We both make decent money, we can afford to move out of here.

JOEY

You seriously expect me to leave my parents? To just uproot my entire existence and move all the way to Teaneck? We'll fix this place up. It'll be fine. You don't break up a family like that. Have some respect.

LINDA

Break up--...? Joey, grab the reigns, will ya? What about my family? They live all the way in Mahwah. We might never get to see them.

JOEY

Don't get cute. It's different.

LINDA

Why's it different?

JOEY

(the crux of it)

It's different cuz you don't mind not seeing them every day! Let me tell you something. Every moment you spend away from your parents, that's a wasted moment.

LINDA

This is insane! You're are being so stubborn. Like a big chewy piece of...scungilli!

JOEY

Don't call me that.

LINDA

That's what you are. Scungilli!

JOEY

I AM NOT A PIECE OF SCUNGILLI! Fine!  
Let's just cut our losses right now.  
Call the whole thing off!

LINDA

Fine! SCUNGILLI!

Linda storms up the stairs. Joey clicks on the television as if to pretend the whole thing doesn't bother him.

JOEY

And don't come crawling back, either!

*stop*  
INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

The Lazzeris and the rest of the party listen at the top of the stairs holding mugs of coffee and hunks of cake. Linda enters. The group feigns innocence.

LINDA

He's being intractable.

Linda rushes out and SLAMS the door. They shrug. Joey comes up the stairs trying to look as if nothing has happened.

JOEY

What? Cheer up! The Giants are still in first.

Joey walks over to the cabinet, pours some Sambuca into a snifter. There's an air of finality in his attitude. Mr. Lazzeri gestures to his wife -- "say something."

MRS. LAZZERI

Uh...Joey...do you, uh, do you want me to slice you up a pear?

Mr. Lazzeri rolls his eyes. Not what he had in mind.