

Who Loves You More

by

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ABUELA AND ABUELO'S HOUSE

A tidy little home. Abuela and Abuelo are waiting by the door. There is a gentle knock. They open it. Little Ricky rushes inside.

LITTLE RICKY

Abuela! Abuelo!

ABUELA & ABUELO

Little Ricky!

Little Ricky hugs Abuelo and Abuela.

Lucille and Ricardo enter and exchange hugs and kisses.

RICARDO (whispers)

Grandma and Grandpa are right behind us.

ABUELA

Oh, you brought them?

LUCILLE

Well, my parents didn't get to see them this weekend, so...

Grandma and Grandpa enter.

ABUELA

Oh, you tagged along. How nice to see you again.

GRANDMA

Yes, dear, it's such a rare pleasure.

ABUELO

Close the door, por favor. We don't need to air-condition the whole neighborhood.

Grandpa carefully closes the door.

ABUELO

Little Ricky, Abuela has something very special she make just for you.

LITTLE RICKY

What, Abuela?

*Abuela goes to the table. Everyone follows.
Abuela unveils a dish of homemade flan.*

LITTLE RICKY

Flan! I love Flan!

*Abuelo dips a spoon and gives Little Ricky a
taste.*

LITTLE RICKY

Mmmm, this is the bestest flan I ever tasted.

ABUELA

Then I'll make you some every weekend, mi vida. Whenever you come.

LITTLE RICKY

Then I want to come over every weekend!

Grandma and Grandpa exchange a worried look.

GRANDMA

Well, flan is nice, dear, if you happen to like it, but how much can you eat? You must come to our house next weekend - we have a special treat just for you.

LITTLE RICKY

What, Grandma?

GRANDMA

It's a surprise.

GRANDPA

A special, wonderful surprise.

Abuelo and Abuela exchange a worried look.

SCENE 2 GRANDMA AND GRANDPA'S HOUSE

*A small, homey house, with a structure the size
of a refrigerator in the middle of the small
living room, covered with a sheet.*

*Grandma and Grandpa are waiting by the door.
There is an excited knock. They open it. Little
Ricky rushes inside.*

LITTLE RICKY

Grandma! Grandpa!

GRANDPA & GRANDMA

Little Ricky!

Little Ricky hugs Grandma and Grandpa.

*Lucille and Ricardo enter and exchange hugs
and kisses.*

LUCILLE

(whispers)

Abuelo and Abuela are right behind us.

GRANDMA

Oh, you brought them?

RICARDO

Well, they were anxious to see the surprise.

Abuelo and Abuela enter.

ABUELO

(sarcastic)

We just had to see your wonderful surprise.

*Grandpa goes to the large structure and whips
off the sheet, exposing a carnival-sized cotton
candy machine. He turns it on.*

GRANDPA

Voilà!

LITTLE RICKY

Cotton Candy! I love cotton candy!

GRANDMA
(with a smug glance at Abuela)

Everyone loves cotton candy. And it comes in six flavors, so you never get tired of it, like flan.

LITTLE RICKY

Wow!

Grandpa swirls a cone of cotton candy and hands it to Little Ricky.

GRANDPA

And you can have some every weekend you come over.

LITTLE RICKY

You are the bestest grandparents ever! I want to come over every weekend!

Abuelo and Abuela exchange worried looks.

LUCILLE

Mom, Dad, that...thing...is too expensive. You're on a fixed income. It takes up the whole living room.

RICARDO

You have to take it back.

GRANDPA

It's not that expensive - and we'll have it paid off in three years.

GRANDMA

Besides, nothing's too good for our little grandson.

Abuello and Abuela exchange a worried look.

ABUELO

Well, that's muy bueno, but, you know, cotton candy is nothing but sugar and hot air. If you want to see something really special we get you, you come to our casa next weekend.

RICARDO

What did you get, Pappi?

ABUELA

It's a surprise. The most wonderful surprise.

Grandma and Grandpa exchange a worried look.

SCENE 3 - ABUELA & ABUELO'S HOUSE

The pristine house looks messy.

*Abuelo and Abuela are waiting by the door.
There is an excited knock. They open it.
Little Ricky rushes inside.*

LITTLE RICKY

Abuelo! Abuela!

ABUELA & ABUELO

Ricitico!

Little Ricky hugs Abuelo and Abuela.

Lucille and Ricardo enter.

ABUELA

I suppose...they...are right behind you.

*Grandma and Grandpa enter. Grandpa slams
the door.*

GRANDPA

Sorry. Don't want to waste any of your precious air conditioning. So what's this big surprise?

ABUELA

I'll get it. I'll be right back.

*Grandma and Grandpa face off against Abuelo
like gang members before a fight.*

Abuela returns, holding a puppy.

LITTLE RICKY

A puppy! Oh my gosh, a puppy! You got me a puppy!

Abuela hands Little Ricky the puppy while

giving Grandma and Grandpa a smug look.

RICARDO

Mom, you know we're not allowed to keep a dog in our apartment!

ABUELO

We know. We'll keep him here. Rickitico can play with him every weekend. If he wants.

LITTLE RICKY

I want! I want!

Grandma and Grandpa exchange a worried look.

LITTLE RICKY

What's his name, Abuela?

ABUELA

Whatever you want, Rickitico.

GRANDPA

You should call him Sneaky.

LITTLE RICKY

Sneaky is the bestest pet ever. Can we come here every weekend so I can play with sneaky?

Ricardo and Lucille exchange a shrug.

RICARDO

Well, I suppose...if...

GRANDPA

Before you answer, you should come to our house next weekend. We have a wonderful surprise for you.

GRANDMA

We do?

GRANDPA

Of course we do. Remember? The amazing surprise?

GRANDMA

Oh, of course, dear. My silly memory. We got you a very, very, very amazing surprise.

The two sets of grandparents glare at each other with undisguised hostility.

Ricardo and Lucille exchange a worried look.

SCENE 4 GRANDMA AND GRANDPA'S HOUSE

The house is a complete mess.

Grandma and Grandpa are waiting by the door, their clothes in disarray. There's a sound of commotion coming from the bedroom. A knock at the door. Grandpa opens it.

LITTLE RICKY

Grandma! Grandpa!

Abuelo and Abuela rush in behind him, followed by Lucille and Ricardo.

ABUELO

Okay, show us the damn surprise!

GRANDPA

Would you mind getting it, dear.

GRANDMA

No, you get it, dear.

GRANDPA Fine!

He takes deep breath and exits the living room.

The sound of a struggle and a loud crash.

RICARDO

What was that? Is Grandpa okay?

GRANDMA

He's fine!

*Grandpa returns with a monkey, in a pair of
diapers, clinging to his head.*

LITTLE RICKY

A monkey! A real monkey!

*Grandpa pries the monkey off his head and
hands it to Little Ricky.*

GRANDMA
(to Abuela and Abuelo)

Lots of people have puppies, but only Little Ricky has his own monkey.

LITTLE RICKY

This is the bestest gift ever, ever, ever! I want to come here every weekend. I want all my friends to come here. I want to move in with Grandma and Grandpa so I can play with my monkey all the time.

LUCILLE

Mom, you...you can't take care of a monkey!

GRANDPA

He's no trouble at all. We just have to remember to give him his medicine.

LUCILLE

You have to change monkey diapers!

GRANDMA

I changed your diapers, dear, it's no big deal.

RICARDO

No, that's crazy. You have to take him back!

LITTLE RICKY

No! I love him! What's his name?

ABUELO

(sarcastic)

You should call him Loco! Loco the monkey!

LITTLE RICKY

I love Loco! Please don't take Loco back! I'll take care of Loco every weekend, forever!

ABUELO

Well, if you don't mind shoveling monkey shit. But Abuela and I, we got an even bigger surprise, Rickitisimo.

RICARDO

Dad, no...

ABUELA

Much, much bigger.

LUCILLE

You're all on a fixed income! And you're going to spoil Ricky.

ABUELA

That's what grandparents are for, isn't it?

LITTLE RICKY

I can hardly wait for next weekend.

Grandma and Grandpa exchange a weary look.

SCENE 5 - ABUELA & ABUELO'S HOUSE

The house is in complete disarray, littered in dog poop. The couch is chewed up. Sneaky is chomping on a torn curtain.

Abuelo and Abuela are waiting by the door.

No knock. Instead, the door is flung open. Grandpa, Grandma, Lucille and Ricardo fight to get through first. Little Ricky is knocked to the ground.

LITTLE RICKY

Ow!

Little Ricky gets up and enters, nursing a bruised arm.

GRANDPA

Hurry up, we have to get back to the house. We locked Loco in the closet.

GRANDMA

Are you sure?

GRANDPA

I think so. I don't know.

Everyone scans the living room for a sign of the new gift.

RICARDO

Okay, papi, what's the big surprise?

Abuelo goes to the sliding glass door and opens the curtain. Outside is full-sized swimming pool.

ABUELA

Rickitisimo, you like?

LITTLE RICKY

I...I...it's like magic!

ABUELO

We even got it heated, so you can swim all year. Even in Winter. Every weekend.

LITTLE RICKY

You are the bestest, bestest, bestest Abuela and Abuelo ever!

RICARDO

Pappi, you...you...oh my god! You've lost your minds. You don't have the money for this.

ABUELO

I do.

ABUELA

Your father cashed in his life insurance.

ABUELO

And I got a second mortgage.

RICARDO

Papi, this was a very bad idea.

LUCILLE

Really, really bad.

ABUELA

Why? A swimming pool is a good thing to have. Abuelo and I are even thinking about taking swimming lessons.

RICARDO

Papi, we weren't planning on telling you this now, but...

LUCILLE

We're moving to Orlando.

EVERYONE

What! No!

RICARDO

It's a better job. And a great opportunity. I can't pass it up.

LITTLE RICKY

But what about Sneaky, and Loco, and the cotton candy machine, and the swimming pool.

LUCILLE

You can visit on the holidays, Ricky.

RICARDO

And we can go to Disney World whenever you want.

LITTLE RICKY

Disney World? I love Disney World! Can we go to Disney World every weekend?

All four grandparents share a worried look.

SCENE 6 - GRANDMA AND GRANDPA'S HOUSE

Grandma and Grandpa are sitting on the soiled couch. The living room is devastated, littered with used monkey diapers. Loco is chittering and banging from inside the closet door.

Grandma and Grandpa are eating cat food.

GRANDPA

I was wondering, dear, do you think Abuelo and Abuela will let me borrow his swimming pool?

GRANDMA

You can't swim, dear.

GRANDPA

I know. Neither can Loco.

Grandma looks at the closet, turns to him and nods her head.

They go back to their cat food.

After a pause:

GRANDPA

I sure miss the little brat.

GRANDPA

Me too, dear. Me too.

END