

ROSE

You too!

ROSE answers the call.

Start ↓

FS 6 - MUM and DAD

ROSE

Hey mum.

ALLY (*looks together wearing colourful clothing with her hair done*) appears on the screen wearing a mask (that makes a statement) and shield, holding a glass of wine.

ALLY

That's a nice way to answer a call from your mother. Your Dad's here too dear.

ALLY motions to SCOTT (*nicely dressed but weathered look*) who appears in the screen.

SCOTT

(*Not wearing a mask, waving, gets really close to the screen and you can see his nostrils*) Hello darling? How's my little COVID hero?

ROSE

Still not a hero Dad. You don't have to go that close to the computer. I can see and hear you fine.

SCOTT

Sorry. (*Sitting back on the chair*) Is that better?

ROSE

Yes. Mum, why are you wearing a mask and shield?

ALLY

Cause of the corona dear, and all those variances.

ROSE

Variants mum.

ALLY

Yes, I know. There's three of them now!

ROSE

You don't have to wear all that in the house.

SCOTT

I told you so.

ALLY

*(Taking off her mask and shield)* Okay then.

ROSE

We've gone over this mum. You only need to wear a mask when you go out, and you shouldn't be going out now anyways.

ALLY

We aren't going out. Your Dad goes to get the groceries and that's it. He gets them at the curb.

ROSE

Did you both book your vaccines?

ALLY

*(Taking a sip of her wine)* Yes dear, once your father finally got the internet to work. Not together though. Your Dad's shot is at 2:35 and I'm at 2:40. *(Pause squinting again)* You look like you've put some weight on your face *(touching her own face)* bubs.

ROSE

Thanks mum. Remember we were going to cut the bubs name?

ALLY

Try not to eat too much sitting at the computer all day maybe. Oh that reminds me of something I was going to tell you. Iris. You remember Iris, don't you Rose?

ROSE

Yes mum.

ALLY

Iris says that this COVID is turning people into *(counting with*

*her fingers*) chunks, hunks or, drunks (*pointing her thumb to SCOTT and making a face*)

SCOTT

What you pointing at me for?

ROSE

Look, I gotta go. I'm working and about to go into a meeting.

ALLY

All those meetings. You do make me worry don't you? Sitting there working so hard. People can have heart attacks at your age, you know. Or get that thing, oh what's it called Scott? What's that thing? You know what you had to wear socks for on the flight to Portugal?

SCOTT

*(Counting three points on his fingers)* Good work ethic..

ALLY

*(Talking over SCOTT)* DBT! That's it.

SCOTT

..top education and clear career direction will get you everywhere. I started at the bottom and worked all my way to Chief Operating Officer through hard work and commitment. I...

ALLY

*(Cutting him off)* How's my grandbabies doing at university? So proud of them. You are keeping an eye on them with all this virus going around right?

ROSE

*(Under her breath)* Nope, thought I'd neglect them.

ALLY

What dear? Bet Cooper is missing his family. Oh, that Boris had the corona you know. Shame about his hair, needs to sort that.

ROSE

Everyone is good thanks mum. Really got to go now.

ALLY

When this COVID is done with, your father and I will come visit for a whole week. Have a good catch up.

ROSE

COVID is going to be around for a while yet mum. Don't go anywhere until I tell you it's safe, yeah? Best to stay put. Going to say bye now.

SCOTT

We'll let you get back to work. Love you darling.

ROSE

Love you too. Talk to you later.

ALLY

Okay dear. Bye. *(She waves. She turns to SCOTT thinking that she has turned it off)* She always cuts us off short. Always working. Never has any time for us. Do you think she's put on weight? I do.

ROSE

Mum, you need to hang up. I can still hear you.

*SCOTT is laughing as ALLY hangs up. Rose sits for a moment recovering from the call with her parents.*

ROSE

How is it that I'm as sane as I am? *(Sigh)*

*End.*

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FS 7 - ZOOM CALL

ROSE looks at her watch and realizes she has a meeting to attend. She grabs a suit jacket from the kitchen chair and puts it on. She puts some lipstick on *(mirror and lipstick in a kitchen drawer)*. ROSE opens up her laptop and initiates her ZOOM work call. The work call is chaotic and fast passed but in places reflective. First ELAINE appears on the screen. ELAINE is professional, well dressed, with a lot of makeup and black glasses. Close to the screen most of the time. She is in a well-organized home office.