

DESPERATE Housewives

# Josh' Audition SCENES (3/31)

Desperate Housewives - Josh

SCENE #1 (VERSION 3)

VERSION #3

INT. APPLEWHITE KITCHEN - DAY

Josh and Betty sit at the table. He's pinning dead butterflies into a shadow box. She's making chicken dumplings.

JOSH

I've been invited to a party.

BETTY

By who?

JOSH

Someone I met.

BETTY

We just moved in. Nobody knows us. Why would they invite you to a party?

Josh doesn't respond. He continues pinning the butterfly. Betty stops kneading the dumpling dough, stares at Josh a moment.

BETTY (CONT'D)

I do wish you wouldn't meddle with those insect carcasses in my kitchen.

JOSH

Well, you don't like me sitting alone in my room doing it.

BETTY

I know what young men do when they're alone.

Josh punctures another butterfly, pins it to the felt background, says nothing.

BETTY (CONT'D)

This person who invited you probably wants something.

JOSH

Yeah, I think she wants people to come to her party.

He smiles. Betty finds nothing funny in it. He retreats.

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JOSH (CONT'D)

I think she was being nice, Mom.  
That's all.

BETTY

She had an agenda. Everyone has  
them. You're not going, are you?

Josh looks at his mother uncertain, nervous.

JOSH

It's just down the block. I'll be  
home early.

BETTY

Every time you stray from your  
values, things go badly for you and  
then you come crawling back to me,  
and I have to pick up the pieces.  
Haven't you learned that lesson,  
yet?

Betty stops her work, dabs at her teary eyes with the back of  
her hand.

JOSH

Mom, please don't. You always make  
me feel so guilty. Why do you do  
that?

BETTY

I sacrificed everything for you. My  
friends, my job. We uprooted our  
lives because of what you did...

JOSH

I know, but how long do I have to  
keep paying for it? We moved here  
to start again. Shouldn't I have  
friends? Shouldn't I get to know  
people?

BETTY

When I get to know them. When I  
feel I can trust them. Not a minute  
before.

Long beat.

JOSH

You really think everyone has an  
agenda?

BETTY

Everyone.

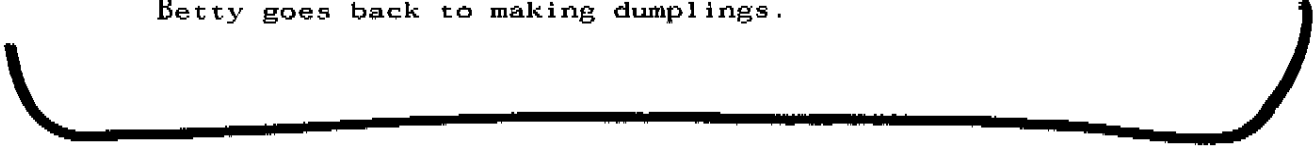
JOSH

What's yours?

BETTY

The same as any mother. To love her  
child unconditionally.

Josh goes back to pinning insects into the shadow box and  
Betty goes back to making dumplings.



SCENE #2EXT. WISTERIA LANE - DAY

Josh is walking down the sidewalk. Randa, a hip 18-year old, comes up to him.

RANDA

So Josh, are you coming to our party?

JOSH

Actually, I don't think I can make it.

RANDA

Why not?

JOSH

Well... I still have a lot of unpacking to do. But thank you for the invitation.

RANDA

Okay. But you're gonna be sorry.

(with a wink)

You were gonna have some fun.

JOSH

(confused)

Fun?

RANDA

There's this girl who lives over on Maple. She saw you and your Mom move in and she thinks you're really cute. She made me invite you.

JOSH

(nervously)

Oh. Well, uh...

RANDA

I'm telling you, all you have to do is walk in and you'll get laid.

Josh immediately becomes uncomfortable.

JOSH

That's... inappropriate.

RANDA

What?

JOSH

You don't even know me. Why would you say something like that?

RANDA

Dude, chill. I'm just saying this girl likes you.

JOSH

My family doesn't believe in sex outside of marriage.

RANDA

Wow. Okay. I'm sorry. Are you guys like Jesus freaks or something?

JOSH

Just because people have beliefs, deeply held beliefs, that doesn't make them freaks. I don't criticize what you believe in. Of course, I'm assuming you believe in something. Or maybe you don't. But my Mom does. And so I do. And you should respect that.

RANDA

You know what? I'm going to make this easy on you. You are no longer invited to my party.

Josh stares at Randa for a beat.

JOSH

Oh. Well, good. I don't like parties anyway.

