

"DAY CAMPING"

Written by

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Based on

Christopher Lloyd and Stephan Levitan's
"Modern Family" on ABC

EXT. CAMPGROUNDS - DAY

PHIL DUNPHEY walks with LUKE back to camp.

PHIL
What'd I tell you, bud? You can
only play down by the creek if you
don't get wet.

Camera widens to reveal Luke is wearing nothing but a shirt
and underwear.

LUKE
Sorry.

They pass by a fire pit with a small flame and come up on
their tent, decorated beautifully with flowers and vines.

PHIL
What? Check out the camp.
(calling out)
It looks great girls!
(beat)
Girls?

The voices of ALEX and HAILEY can now be heard, as they stand
on the other side of the tent, arguing.

PHIL (CONT'D)
Here, bud, why don't you go set
these by the fire to dry.

Phil hands him his shoes, pants, and belt before he hurries
over to the girls.

PHIL (CONT'D)
Woah, what happened here? What
happened to a girls day?

HAILEY
Alex only ever talks to
insult me just because she's
"smart".
(turning to Alex)
Oh yeah, how is that life
with no friends?

ALEX
Hailey won't stop texting her
stupid friends.
(turning to Hailey)
Maybe I should talk to the
trees - at least they have a
higher IQ than you.

Phil turns to smile at the camera.

INTERVIEW -- PHIL

PHIL

The true test of a leader isn't when everything goes right, it's when everything goes wrong. And with the Dunph-ster, you know everything will always go wrong.

He nods, proud, at the camera.

EXT. CAMPGROUNDS - CONTINUOUS

Phil acts as if he's a mediator.

PHIL

Okay, okay lets just take a breather.

(calls out)

Gloria--

He gets the two girls to sit down on a log bench facing the tents as Luke returns from over by the fire. Alex and Hailey's argument builds to yelling at each other

PHIL (CONT'D)

(yelling over the girls)

Gloria - where is she?

GLORIA (O.S.)

In here.

PHIL

Luke, buddy, would you go grab Gloria from the tent?

(turning back to the girls)

Stop yelling!

HAILEY

I'm not yelling I changed my tone!

PHIL

Changed your tone to louder?

LUKE (O.S.)

Awesome!

Luke hurries back out of the tent.

LUKE (CONT'D)

Dad, how do we get rid of a dead body.

PHIL

Bud, now's not the time for jo--

The yelling stops as they gasp in horror at GLORIA PRITCHETT, emerging from the tent. Instead of her usual glamorous look, her hair is in tangles, her face is puffy and swollen, and her lips are fat to compliment her right eye that's crusted over. Her thick hispanic accent, however, is undisturbed.

GLORIA

Sorry Pheel, I jus needed to lie down.

LUKE

(a lá Colin Clive's
Frankenstein)

It's alive!

Phil smiles then quickly catches himself and hurries to help Gloria.

PHIL

What happened?

A SCREAM is heard in the distance and all heads turn to see CAMERON TUCKER running towards them with LILY in his arms, MANNY DELGADO behind them.

GLORIA

Aye Papi, ¿qué pasa?

LUKE

Did they see a dead body too?

GLORIA

A what?

CAMERON

(high pitched)
HORNETS!

Manny SCREAMS upon seeing Gloria as Cameron begins to slowly fall to the ground, out of breath. Gloria YELPS as Hailey shows her what she looks like in her phone camera. Panic begins to ensue.

Phil climbs on top of the log bench to get everyone to stay calm.

PHIL

Hey! Hey - okay, so there's a lot going on right now but let's all just take a deep breath--

LUKE

Ow!

Phil turns to find Luke has wandered over to the fire pit and picked up his pants as they caught fire. They burn his hand and he tosses them onto the grass. Flames begin to spread.

MANNY

Don't touch that! That's poison Ivy.

Phil turns back around to find Hailey and Alex finally united...in screaming and itching where they touched the poison ivy they used to decorate camp. A faint BUZZING sound can be heard.

PHIL

Okay! Let's just stay calm and -
MOTHER OF MARY--

Phil holds his hand and flails as a hornet leaves a large welt between his thumb and forefinger. He slips and falls off the bench on his back. Luke and Manny hurry to help him.

CAMERON

HORNETS!

The BUZZING grows louder.

PHIL (V.O.)

Would I describe myself as a
successful leader?

A swarm of hornets now makes the edge of the forest look dark. Everyone hurries for the car, Phil hobbling behind.

PHIL (V.O.)

I helped everyone get along. I
stayed calm. I put the team first.
Dare I say it, I even united them.

Everyone helps one another to get in the car. They quickly drive away, leaving a burning campsite behind.

INTERVIEW -- PHIL

Phil, now covered in welts and hives, bares a neck brace.

PHIL

What about that says I'm not a
leader?

He smiles and winces.