

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

Helen has an obscenely large ribbon on the puppy, anxiously awaiting for the kids to come through the door.

The puppy is sitting in a box. He BARKS.

HELEN

I know, I know. Just a few more minutes.

The puppy BARKS, again. The door knob turns on the apartment door.

HELEN (CONT'D)

Okay, here we go!

Mary and Robby enter the apartment. Helen is standing at attention beside the puppy.

MARY

Hi mom.

HELEN

Hi.

ROBBY

(Excited) What's that?

MARY

Oh my god! You got us a puppy?

The both rush to the box. Mary picks him up. The puppy is ready to play.

AL enters the apartment.

ROBBY

Look what mom got us! I want to hold him.

MARY

No.

ROBBY

Mom!

HELEN

Mary put the puppy down so he can play.

AL

(Smiling)
What brought this on?

HELEN

I just thought he'd be
good company. What do
you think?

AL chuckles as the puppy runs around, undecided
who he should pounce on next.

AL

I think he looks more
like a cat than a dog.

HELEN

Oh come on he's cute!
And we need a name for
him guys.

ROBBY

King Henry!

AL

Dude, what?

ROBBY

We're studying about him
in school.

MARY

Mom, please, not King
Henry! How about George?

AL

Dudette, you want to
name him after your
stuffed bear?

MARY

Why not?

ROBBY

I want King Henry.

MARY

No that's stupid.

ROBBY

You're stupid.

HELEN

Guys! Guys! Can you just
for once not fight? Al,
you got a name?

AL
(Contemplating)
Yeah, how about Dude?

Helen Sr laughs.

HELEN
I like it.

ROBBY
Hey Dude!

Robby is sitting on the floor. Dude leaps over to Robby and tries to wrestle with his loose sock. Robby laughs and plays tug-of-war between his sock and Dude. Dude wins when the sock flies off.

ROBBY (CONT'D)
Dude, give that back!

MARY
(Laughing)
Dude is a funny name.

HELEN
Well, I think we have a
winner.

All 3 kids are playing and laughing with Dude as Helen watches, entertained, happy.

HELEN (CONT'D)
Dude.