

Y'all in the Family

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INT. HOUSE. KITCHEN. LATE AFTER NOON.

In a modest country style kitchen, a southern family of four are arriving to eat supper. The habitually hungry grandson Jeremy Hubbard is first at the set table. Jeremy, spent four years in college (to no educational benefit whatsoever) and dropped-out. He is thirty years old, still living at home and maintains a college student persona justified by his participation in a seemingly unending correspondence prep course to become a hat model. Harold "Grampa" Hubbard sidles up to the table next, quart of Dixie beer in one hand and a three inch long chewed cigar in the other. Grampa - head of the family of six at home, is a grizzled cantankerous retired marine and police officer who loves his VHS collection of eighties pro wrestling, the music of Hank Williams (not JR.) and see gars. Enter Wilbur "Atrayu" Hubbard. Atrayu is seventeen and refuses to wear anything but black. He has shoulder length jet black hair - most of which covers the entirety of the (his) left side of his face. He wears eyeliner and sports piercings in both ears, his lip and his nose (but don't call him Goth!). He is physically fragile, he is intellectually powerful and politically suspicious. Gramma makes her grand entrance with a steaming pot of food for "her boys". The guys - while continuously indifferent or even vocally ho hum about the suppers - do love Gramma's spicy cajun dishes and Gramma knows it - as shown by the men never missing a meal. Bernadette "Gramma" Mason was Harry's princess to his prince in grade school. And despite a few ups and downs they will be together until the end. Mom (Audry) is at work and the third grand kid Ingrid (the real student) is taking a night class at the college. After grace, Atrayu in accordance with the boys' "never let Gramma know you desperately depend on her cooking and care for your very sustenance" policy - speaks.

ATRAYU

How sod. Slaughtering helpless animals so we can have beans and rice... Again!

GRAMPA

You're lucky! In my day we ate liver and onions and cabbage constantly. No body was late to the table for fennel Friday though!

ATRAYU

Hash tag Gross!

GRAMPA

Hash tag black eye! you little..

Grampa stands to reach over and slap Atrayu, Gramma's stop sign hand seems to serve as a force field to hold Grampa back.

GRAMMA

What animals died for rice and -

Jeremy - inspired - interrupts.

JEREMY

In college Skeezer swallowed a goldfish!

GRAMPA

Hash brown Drop out! I oughta...

Grampa stretches to reach over to clobber Jeremy, but Gramma's hand is a barrier in holding Grampa back.

ATRAYU

Jeremy's woeful lack of education is the result of a calculated mission by the U.S. government to see to it that he is chronically stupid, and that outspoken, activist visionaries such as myself can't advance. Especially financially. I'm broke! How sod.

GRAMPA

You know Wilbur, I was a cop, My daddy was a cop, your daddy was a cop. I can pull a few strings and get you in as a cadet.

ATRAYU

How sod. To be part of a fascist establishment that wields it's power over the down-trodden brainwashed masses! Me a cop? Nope!

GRAMPA

If your sainted mother were around to hear this it would break her heart.

JEREMY

Where is Ma anyway?

GRAMPA

She's covering your uncle Ray's beat!

ATRAYU

How sod this family is... I need my Ritalin!

GRAMPA

What you need is a job! You no rent payin unsweetened tea drinkin scone eatin commie!

JEREMY

What the heck is a scone anyway?

ATRAYU

You don't know what a scone is Jeremy? It looks like college prepared you for a rewarding career in the janitorial arts!

JEREMY

Up yours Wilbur!

ATRAYU

Up yours huh? Great come-back there Jer. And you will address me as Atrayu. The great warrior!

GRAMMA

And by the by, a scone is a traditional Irish baked good, popular in the United Kingdom and Ireland. It is usually made of either wheat or oatmeal with baking powder as a leavening agent, and baked on sheet pans. A scone is often slightly sweetened and occasionally glazed with egg wash y'all.

JEREMY

Holy bejeeziz where did that come from?

GRAMPA

Jerry, your Gramma knows a thing er two about this n that. She's a keeper!

JEREMY

Yeah you got lucky with her Gramps.

GRAMPA

Luckier than you and that tramp go go dancer with those scabs on her lip.

JEREMY

She hit her face on the pole! She was not very gymnastically inclined but she *was* paying for her degree.

GRAMPA

A degree in what? Body piercing? No, no, heh heh wait - it must have been a degree in proctology cuz she turned yer ass into a ATM machine!

JEREMY

I guess yer right, she *was* a little needy.

GRAMPA

No - you are a little needy - you needy a fat lip for giving that snail money you could have paid me back - you good fer nothin...

Grampa stands to reach over to swat Jeremy, stopped only by Gramma's gentle hand holding Grampa back.

GRAMMA

Ok, Ok my men. Enough fussin, Y'all aint gettin no DE-sert until I hear each one of y'all tell each other I love you.

GRAMPA

I love you Bernadette.

GRAMMA

Not me Harry! No De-sert until all y'all tell each other. Okay?

GRAMPA

I dunno, what's the desert?

Everybody laughs.

GRAMMA

Grampa?

GRAMPA

Wilbur...

Wilbur looks at his grandfather with an expression of hope. That Grampa will say "I love you".

GRAMPA (CONT'D)

You're a bitter disappointment!

GRAMMA

Poppa!

GRAMPA

You know Atrayu, I was there when your mother squeezed you out. I was so proud of both of ya. It wasn't easy for either of ya. You were so tiny but I knew I had a little prize fighter in the family!

ATRAYU

Where was my dod?

GRAMPA

That reprobate was probably in the broom closet scroggin the candy striper.

ATRAYU AND JEREMY

The what? The who? The where?

GRAMPA

Never mind. Obviously you didn't have the prize fighter mentality, but I'll never forget when you got in a fight with Eddie Blair down the street and he kicked yer ass. I went to give his dad the hard what fer. When Art Blair told me you knocked one of his son's teeth out I was so proud of ya.

GRAMMA

Atrayu? You got in a fight with big Eddie?

Atrayu's eyes widen as a long held secret has been unearthed.

GRAMPA

It's been our little secret Momma. And Atrayu, you are still a fighter! You're an anarchistic little puke. But you fight for what you believe in and...

Atrayu sincerely smiles and subtly gives Jeremy a neener neener look.

GRAMPA (CONT'D)

And I do love you... very much. Your my favorite grand kid.

JEREMY

Hey!?

ATRAYU

Well Grampa, you are a big old windbag republican which I find seriously uncool. And Sod.

GRAMPA

You know what's uncool? A knuckle sandwich you mascara wearin little...

Grampa stands to reach over to pound Atrayu, and of course Gramma's gentle hand pushes Grampa back.

ATRAYU

But I was going to say... Thanks to you - everyone I care about is in this house. You have been married to my Gramma for what? Fifty years? I feel safe here, I feel lucky. My friend Luke's family is full of ex-husbands and ex-wives and new girlfriends and divorces and nasty kid custody stuff and their all foolin around with each other - his family tree is like a wreath! I don't wanna hear about this later, but I thank you. I respect you. I love you very much. You're my favorite grand parent!

GRAMMA

Hey!?

JEREMY

Wow! This is just too much candy coated crap. I think I'm gonna be sick!

GRAMPA

You already are sick! You've got the think I'm still in college, pizza eatin, thirty year old still livin with his momma, no job havin, porno watchin, mooch, If your gramma wasn't here I'd...

GRAMMA

Porno? Jeremy?

GRAMPA

That's right Momma he was watching
one of those Suzy "Boom Boom" Silva
skin filcks!

GRAMMA

First of all, Jeremy - shame shame.

GRAMPA

Ha ha - that's right shame shame
Jeremy!

GRAMMA

And secondly Harold, How do you
know who this boom boom lady is?
Hmmm?

GRAMPA

For the greater good of the family
unit and pie. I'll move this
miserable ca-ca train along.

GRAMMA

It's not pie.

ATRAYU, JEREMY AND HARRY

Dang!

GRAMPA

Ok Jeremy - formal education...
It's not for everybody. Especially
a numb nutted jock who pee'd away
ten thousand dollars of MY MONEY-
you ungrateful...

Grampa stands to reach over to thump Jeremy, but Gramma's icy
glare stops Grampa in his tracks.

GRAMPA (CONT'D)

Jerry in spite of your many, many,
many, many, many -

JEREMY

I get it Gramps!

GRAMPA

Many, many, many character flaws, I
know a thing er two you don't know
I know. I'm not going to say
anything bad about yer butthole
father but .

GRAMMA

Poppa...

GRAMPA

Let's just say - He was never around - Any way, even when you were a teenager, you were the man who took care of the other kids and the cousins. I know they looked up to you and you showed them mostly your good side - thank God. I know about the time you beat the snot out of that creep who disrespected your sister Ingrid. I know about the times you defended Wilbur. I know that you are afraid of drugs and wouldn't let any of the kids near them.

JEREMY

Well I don't know that I was afraid
-

GRAMPA

Shut-up stupid! Any way, I know all the kids are better people because of the positive influence you had on them when they were young. I thank you for that and I have always loved you.

JEREMY

Actually, it means the world to me to hear you say that Gramps, but I'm not playing this silly little game. All y'all are a bunch of maniacs and dee zerts proolly Jello anyway.

GRAMMA

Oh, I see... I'm a maniac hmmm?

Jeremy mumbles.

JEREMY

You're their queen.

GRAMMA

What did you say to me boy?

JEREMY

Gramma, I love you. Unless it's that green jello! But When I was sick, I felt really bad and alone and defective and weak.

GRAMMA

That was some serious stuff Jerrah,
you had a temperature of 112!

ATRAYU

You're exaggerating Gramma! 112? If
someone really had a temperature
like that it would kill them or
leave them brain dead. Hmmm.
Nevermind.

JEREMY

Shut up *Wilbur*. But Gramma that
whole time you never left my side.
You watched over me, fed me my
favorite macaroni and cheese and
chili almost everyday, dosed and
applied my medication. You *sang* to
me... I've grown to love those
spirituals.

GRAMMA

And you call that the behavior of a
maniac?

GRAMPA

I do! Nobody ate for a week, the
dishes piled up, I ran out of Lucky
lager with the puzzles on the cap,
I got no sweet lovin' -

ATRAYU

(to Grampa) Yecchh!

ATRAYU (CONT'D)

Well, I had to wear my chonies
inside out, I had to steal money
out of Gramma's purse just to get
some cruciferous veggies.

GRAMMA

I'm right here boy!

ATRAYU

Yeah and all because Dumb McStupid
over here had diaper rash!

JEREMY

I'll have you know I contracted a
cruciferous case shingles.

GRAMPA

What the heck are those anyway?

GRAMMA

Actually, y'all, Shingles is a viral infection that causes a painful rash. Shingles can occur anywhere on your body. It typically looks like a single stripe of blisters that wraps around the left side or the right side of your torso. Shingles is caused by the varicella-zoster virus – the same virus that causes chickenpox. After you've had chickenpox, the virus stays in your body for the rest of your life. Years later, the virus may reactivate as shingles. Shingles isn't life-threatening. But Jeremy had it bad. It can be very painful. Vaccines can help lower the risk of shingles. Early treatment may shorten a shingles infection and lessen the chance of complications. The most common complication is postherpetic neuralgia. This is an aggravating condition that causes shingles pain for a long time after your blisters have cleared y'all.

JEREMY

Yeah that! – Now let's eat!

GRAMMA

Sorry y'all... not yet! Jeremy?
Atrayu? Y'all wanna say somethin'?

JEREMY

Yeah, Uh – tray – yoooooo, you're a good egg. A dramatic, crybaby, sulking, I hate everybody, I hate the world – egg. Luv Ya kid.

ATRAYU

Aw thanks bro. And you Sir are a horses ass! Ok let's eat!

GRAMMA

Wilburrrrr?

Atrayu brings his hand to his mouth as if to sneeze.

ATRAYU

Ah... Ah... la-VyEEEEEEWH!

GRAMPA

Bless you! Now woman! Get yer bootie in that kitchen and let's have some dee-zert!

GRAMMA

Excuse me??

GRAMPA

I said - My beautiful and intelligent wife Bernadette. Would we be blessed - so lucky - that you might have one of your delicious de-zerts available for our grateful consumption? Uh... your honor?

GRAMMA

Why thank you for your inquiry my good man... let me see what I can whip up on such short notice please m'lord!

GRAMPA

Why certainly your grace! Allow me.

Grampa stands and in pretend gentlemanry Pulls the seat for Gramma and she exits to the kitchen. The boys - impatiently waiting, are armed with knives and forks and looking at each other like wolves waiting on a rabbit in anticipation.

Gramma enters with her arm in the air expertly holding a platter with a piping hot deep dish and four plates and whisks herself to the table.

ATRAYU, JEREMY AND GRAMPA (CONT'D)

Apple cobbler!!!

As Gramma passes out the delectables, the room is filled with sounds of knives and forks briskly scraping dishes, mmmms and yummmms, chomping, slurping and chewing like animals.

ATRAYU

Hey Grampa?

GRAMPA

WHAAAT??

ATRAYU

Hey listen there's a "Snivling Boo Hoos" reunion concert at the convention center downtown and I love them and my crush Cindy will be there and I am soooo broke!

GRAMPA
How sod!

SEASON 1 EPISODE 1 END.