

INT. BRIDGET'S KITCHEN

BRIDGET, late 60s and motherly mother to Chip brings in two cups of coffee and sets them on the table. She sets them in front of her son CHIP, late 30s, and his "friend," CLANCY, late 40s. She already had her coffee on the table and is talking up a storm.

BRIDGET

And that was the one that we did for the fifth graders class. But the one I'm most proud of, was the one for the second graders. It was a cake of John the Baptist's head.

CHIP

That sounds a little graphic for second graders, mom.

BRIDGET

Oh, graphic, schmaphic... they already know about many deaths in the bible; they know what Jesus went through on the cross. They thought it was gross, but cool.

Clancy interjects.

CLANCY

So was there a verse associated with the decapitation cake?

BRIDGET

The LORD is a jealous God. He takes revenge on all who oppose him. Nahum 1:2... abridged.

CLANCY

For second graders... wow.

BRIDGET

What was your name again sweetheart?

CLANCY

Clancy.

BRIDGET

Oh... I love that name. It's kinda old-fashioned, but then again, it's brand new. What do you do, Clancy?

CLANCY

I am the CFO at the firm where Chip is an accountant.

BRIDGET

Wow! Have a bonafide big-wig in the house who has a C at the beginning of his title and an O at the end.

CLANCY

Yes, ma'am. That's me.

BRIDGET

So I guess you're a bachelor, too, and Chip brought you into town to his sister's wedding so maybe you could scope out the bridesmaids and single ladies?

CHIP

Mom, it's not like that--

BRIDGET

--Chip is always active at weddings... you can't get him off the dance floor. Especially when disco comes on!

CLANCY

Ha! Yes, I am aware of Chip's affinity for disco. He's quite the dancer.

Chip and Clancy take a sip of coffee in unison.

BRIDGET

Now Chip, what were you saying about "it's not like that?"

CHIP

Well... it's not... we're not here to chase women.

BRIDGET

Oh, then you're volunteering to help me with the cake? It's extravagant and if we get three or four more assistants--

CHIP

--Mom, Clancy is more than my boss.

BRIDGET

Like what, a mentor?

CLANCY

No. I'm... I'm Chip's boyfriend; actually his fiance.

Chip looks to Clancy with frustration.

CHIP

I was supposed to break the news.
That was not your place to do that.

CLANCY

I apologize. I just blurted it out
without thought, Chippy. I'm sorry.

Clancy puts his hand on Chip's arm.

CHIP

It's OK. We'll get through this.

BRIDGET

Get through this? Fiance?

Chip stands up in a very presentational way.

CHIP

Mom! I'm gay. I always have been.
And Clancy and I are in love.

Clancy stands up and holds Chip's hand. They stand, one
united front, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

BRIDGET

What in the wild world of sports is
going on in my kitchen?!

(she stands)

You boys stop holding hands

(points to their hands)

and sit down.

CLANCY

Ms. Freeman, with all due respect.
Chip is well into his thirties, but
had not yet shared with you his
sexual preference because he knew
you'd react like this.

CHIP

Mom, I've always been this way.

BRIDGET

No you haven't, you went to prom
with Julianne!

CHIP

Mom, that was eighteen years ago
and Julianne was my best friend...
not my girlfriend.

CLANCY

I went to prom with a Jennifer...
ended the night with a Steven. The
eighties weren't a time when people
were comfortable talking about--

Bridget interrupts loudly.

BRIDGET

--I'm not comfortable! I'm very,
very uncomfortable!

CLANCY

I understand.

BRIDGET

Chip is my baby... my first born!
You can't possibly understand.

CHIP

Understand what, mom? The
disappointment? The church that
tells you to hate my kind? The
household I grew up in where dad
called anyone he didn't like a fag
whether they were gay or not? You
think I can't understand? You think
you're the person being put upon
right now? I've lived with this
secret exactly because of this...
that it would be whoa as me moment
for you. That you wouldn't care
about the ridicule that I've faced
for the entirety of my life. I
would never choose that. I'm not
rebellling against you or God or
anyone. This is how God made me.
And God don't make no mistakes,
right? You've made many a cake that
says that on it. I've seen them.

Bridget sits, near tears.

CLANCY

I'm sorry this is how you had to
have to find out, Ms. Freeman, but
it was time. Your son's a man. Has
been for quite some time and I love
him very much. So much that I asked
him to marry me.

BRIDGET

So I imagine this is some sort of ambush to make me to bake a cake for your wedding... to make me choose between family and my faith.

Chip walks over and kneels next to her. Clancy sits.

CHIP

No, mom. I wanted...
(looks over at Clancy)
well, we wanted to invite you to the wedding. It's important to me that you're there.

Bridget takes a moment. Glancing between the two men.

BRIDGET

I can understand that.
(looks at Clancy)
Is it important to you?

CLANCY

Very much so.

Silence. Bridget ponders. The men await her response.

BRIDGET

When is this wedding happening?

CHIP

We don't have an exact date, but this is a lovely time of year... so probably sometime close to this date next year.

Bridget takes that in. Nods her head.

BRIDGET

Well... at least I'll have some time to... time to think about it.

CLANCY

We don't need an answer now. Just know that we want you there.

Chip leans into his mother and hugs her. She hugs back. They share an emotional moment. Clancy gets caught up in the emotion of it as well, but stays where he is.

END SCENE