

RA
Pop, you have to go again?

PAUL
I'm sorry, Ra. I don't like having
to miss out on watching you grow.
Someday you'll understand.

Paul gives Ra a kiss on the head and kisses Mal on the lips
and leaves. **RA = 10.5 yo.**

MAL
You look so handsome, Ra. Tell us
about school.

RA
I don't like my teacher. She just
brushes off questions.

MAL
Well, that's because sometimes we
just need to accept the way things
are, that's life. It's okay to have
questions, we can't just spend our
whole life questioning.

RA
But then we can't have the answers.

G-MA
Did you meet any nice people?

RA
Zia was there. She's nice.

MAL
Sal's daughter. I remember her.

G-MA
Ra's got a girlfriend.

RA
No! She's just a friend!

MAL
Keep your options open. Your father
and I were just friends in school
too. Well who ever you find, I'm
sure she'll be great.

RA
Ma, I want to go to the mountains.

MAL

I don't think anyone ever has. You may as well wish to go to the moon.

They continue eating fruit, and grandma heads to the bathroom. **RA = 11 yo.**

RA

But if I can collect enough fruit and a way to carry them and maybe a bike, I can get there.

MAL

Even if it was possible, you'll grow old and die there alone. That would be the end of our family name.

Grandma comes back from the restroom.

G-MA

What'd I miss? My boy, have you grown since the last time I saw you.

MAL

Ra want's to be an explorer. Ma, please talk to him while I freshen up.

Mal leaves for the restroom. Grandma sits in the chair and motions for him to sit on her lap, as he does.

G-MA

You know, my Pa wanted to be an explorer probably over 4 whole hours ago now. You're like him. It's okay to dream, but understand the danger. I should tell you the story of your Pa's parents now that you're old enough. They're not with us because they went out on vacation when your Pa was at school. They brought exactly enough for the trip, but when they got back their door malfunctioned and they couldn't open it. They should of went to the fruit tree and got more, but they kept trying to open it... several minutes later, they both starved to death on their porch. So I raised him with your ma. Soon after you were born. It's dangerous to stray to far away.

Ra begins to cry heavily, as Mal enters back in. She rushes over. **RA = 11.5 yo.**

MAL

Ma! What happened?

G-MA

I told him about Paul's parents, about what happened to them.

MAL

Ma, what are you thinking! You don't need to scar the boy! All you needed to tell him was that they passed away!

Mal take Ra into her arms and pets him.

G-MA

Sorry, I though it was an important lesson.

MAL

No ma. There there Ra. It's okay.

RA

(crying less)

Where do they go when they die, to the Aliens?

MAL

Aliens... where'd you hear that? No Ra. I really don't know. We become part of the earth, I guess. Don't think about it too much, just enjoy the moments we have.

RA

Okay. Can I call Zia?

MAL

Of course, just press numbers two zero.

Ra goes over to the phone picking it up and dialing, while Mal goes over to grandma and talk sternly to her in quiet.

RA

Hi, is Zia there? This is Ra.

RA AND ZIA ON TWO HALVES OF THE SCREEN.

Zia picks up the phone. **RA = 12 yo.**