

Breaking Them Up

Uncle Rick

12.

INT. BUS - DAY

Damien rides across town.

EXT. AUTO SHOP - DAY

Damien pedals up to an auto shop where UNCLE RICK (late 30s), the man from the photo from Laurie's desk, smokes.

UNCLE RICK
Damien?

DAMIEN
Hey Uncle Rick.

Uncle Rick flings the cigarette, like he's been busted.

UNCLE RICK
What the hell are you doing out here?

DAMIEN
I needed to ask you something in person.

UNCLE RICK
About what?

DAMIEN
Did my parents have a shotgun wedding?

UNCLE RICK
Oh...

His deer in headlights look gives it away.

DAMIEN
They did, didn't they? I found this.

Damien shows him the picture from his phone.

DAMIEN (cont'd)
They've always said they were married May 3rd in 2002. But this license says 2003. Which is about seven months before I was born.

UNCLE RICK
I don't know what you want me to say.

Start

DAMIEN

You know, I always wondered why they eloped instead of having a wedding, but now I get it.

(sighs)

This. Explains. So. Much.

UNCLE RICK

What are you talking about?

DAMIEN

Nothing. Look I gotta get back.

UNCLE RICK

Hang on, I'll give you a lift.

DAMIEN

That's ok. Do me a favor, don't tell my mom I came to see you, ok?

UNCLE RICK

Yeah. Can you not tell her I said anything to you?

DAMIEN

You didn't.

End

INT. DAMIEN'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

Damien rinses his retainer. He exhales and puts it in his mouth and goes into the hallway and stops.

A framed photo on the wall has his attention: it's from the hospital, a much younger Phil and Laurie with a newborn Damien. They seem completely at peace.

Damien then sees Phil making up the couch to sleep on. He glances into his parents' room, sees Laurie remove throw pillows from the bed as she gets ready for bed.

INT. DAMIEN'S HOUSE - DAY

Phil nods along as he watches a Noam Chomsky interview on TV on the evils of capitalism.

Damien picks at his cereal when Laurie returns from a run, ankle weights slung over her shoulder. She zips up one of the corners of the weight holders. Phil clocks that.