

INT. HOUSE, KITCHEN - MORNING

A sunny kitchen.

DAD is sitting at the kitchen table sipping a cup of coffee, eating a slice of toast, reading a newspaper, etc.

His skinny, awkward teenage daughter enters the kitchen, quickly goes to the refrigerator. Her name is AMY.

AMY

Hi Dad.

Dad looks over at the camera, motions toward his daughter.

DAD

(proudly)

There she is! My baby.

Amy shakes her head, rolls her eyes. Takes a cup of yogurt out of the fridge and heads back out the room as her father continues his chat with us.

DAD (CONT'D)

(close up)

Today's the big day! Today, I hand over the keys to the car to her.

Shot of the keys resting on the table.

DAD (CONT'D)

And even though I know traffic accidents are the leading cause of fatalities for teens, I'm about as ready as can be. Why?

EXT. CAR - DAY

IMAGE of Dad and MOM sitting in the front seat of a car. Dad has dark hair.

IMAGE of Amy in the back seat.

DAD (V.O.)

I didn't wait. I started early. When Amy was ten I was already making her aware of road safety and being a responsible driver.

IMAGE of Dad glancing over at Mom.

IMAGE of Dad pointing at an approaching sign.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAD (V.O.) (CONT'D)
I'd quiz her often on recognizing road signs as we travelled along and gradually introduced her to more intricate road and traffic scenarios.

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

Dad remains in his chair, talking to the camera.

DAD
Now I always set a good example: always wore my seat belt, never drove after drinking, or when I was tired; and I never spoke on a cell phone while driving.

IMAGE of Amy sitting in a classroom, bored.

DAD (V.O.) (CONT'D)
The driver's ed she got in school seemed to focus on having her pass a test. I wanted the focus to be on safe driving.

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

CLOSE UP.

DAD
So I enrolled her in an additional driver's training program which helped develop her skills and good behaviors. I know, I sound like a dad, but driving is a privilege and that privilege would be taken away if she didn't follow the driving agreement we worked on together.

IMAGE of them signing their "agreement": leaning over a piece of paper with some writing on it, and two signatures at the bottom.

CLOSE UP on IMAGE of passages mentioning restrictions on night driving and passengers in the car for the first year.

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

Dad continues chatting with the camera.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAD

I know she could still get into an accident even if she was not driving. So... I talked to her friends' parents and I got them to agree to similar plan. So, instead of just having a family driving agreement, we included the friends into the agreement as well.

AMY (O.S.)

(calling)

Daaaad!

DAD

(calling through window)

Be there in a second!...

CLOSE UP.

DAD (CONT'D)

(smiling, shaking head)

Amy will be driving a safe car. Not just some used car that I got for the lowest price. Her car is going to be in good working order, it is a sedan, and it's gonna have airbags and other safety features.

He stands up.

CLOSE UP. He picks the keys up off the table.

DAD (CONT'D)

Why would any parent do any less for their kid?

He exits the kitchen.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Dad enters the living room, walks to the front door, pauses there.

He looks at some FRAMED PHOTOS hanging on the living room wall.

Dad's POV: Photos of Amy as a baby taking her first steps; Amy in ballet class; Amy winning some sort of award in school.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAD
(to self)
They grow up so fast, don't
they?... in the blink on an eye.

He turns toward us.

DAD (CONT'D)
With all the time and money spent
on things like sports and music
lessons to develop our kids as
individuals, it's odd to think that
most parents spend such little time
to get them ready for what is
probably the most dangerous thing
they'll do in life... or, maybe
they just haven't thought about it.
Maybe, someone should write it
down.

He puts his hand on the doorknob, looks down at his hand
there, and hesitates.

Then, he looks back into the camera and smiles a forced
smile.

DAD (CONT'D)
(softly)
Well...

A beat. He purses his lips.

DAD (CONT'D)
Here I go!

He turns the knob.

EXT. HOUSE - MORNING

SLOW MOTION:

Move in on the front door of a house as it opens and Dad
appears. He looks at his daughter, and beams with pride.

Over Dad's shoulder, we see Amy, standing in the driveway.

The family car is right behind her.

Move in on Amy. She folds her arms, taps her foot, rolling
her eyes. Dad approaches.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Move in on Dad's face. He looks down. We follow his gaze down to his hand in his pocket. He takes out the keys, lets it rest for a second on his upturned palm.

He looks back up, at his daughter, and hands her the keys.

DISSOLVE TO:

IMAGE of an older Amy graduating college.

IMAGE of an older Amy at her wedding getting married.

IMAGE of an older Amy holding her baby.

THE END