

PROOF AUDITION - CLAIRE + CATHERINE

CLAIRE: Honey, now that Dad's gone it doesn't make sense. It's in bad shape. It costs a fortune to heat. It's time to let it go. Mitch agrees, it's a very smart move. We're lucky, we have a great offer -

CATHERINE. Where am I supposed to live?

CLAIRE. Come to New York.

CATHERINE. I can't believe this.

CLAIRE. It'll be so good. You deserve a change. This would be a whole new adventure for you.

CATHERINE. Why are you doing this?

CLAIRE. I want to help.

CATHERINE. By kicking me out of my house?

CLAIRE. It was my house too.

CATHERINE. You haven't lived here for years.

CLAIRE. I know that. You were on your own. I really regret that, Katie.

CATHERINE. Don't.

CLAIRE. I know I let you down. I feel awful about it. Now I'm trying to help.

CATHERINE. You want to help now?

CLAIRE. Yes.

CATHERINE. Dad is dead.

CLAIRE. I know.

CATHERINE. He's dead. Now that he's dead you fly in for the weekend and decide you want to help? YOU'RE LATE. Where have you been?

CLAIRE. I-

CATHERINE. Where were you five years ago? You weren't helping then.

CLAIRE. I was working.

CATHERINE. I was HERE. I lived with him ALONE.

CLAIRE. I was working fourteen-hour days. I paid every bill here. I paid off the mortgage on this three-bedroom house while I was living in a studio in Brooklyn.

CATHERINE. You had your life. You got to finish school.

CLAIRE. You could have stayed in school!

CATHERINE. What about Dad? Someone had to take care of him.

CLAIRE. He was ill. He should have been in a full-time professional care situation.

CATHERINE. He didn't belong in the nuthouse.

CLAIRE: He might have been better off.

CATHERINE. How can you say that?

CLAIRE. This is where I'm meant to feel guilty, right?

CATHERINE. Sure, go for it.

CLAIRE. I'm heartless. My own father.

CATHERINE. He needed to be here. In his own house, near the University, near his students, near everything that made him happy.

CLAIRE. Maybe. Or maybe some real, professional care would have done him more good than rattling around in a filthy house with YOU looking after him.