

MR. DICK'S NEIGHBORHOOD

Being a dick can be fun. Just ask Ted.

Mini Bible By

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LOGLINE

Ted Dick is just what his last name is; a dick, and he really shouldn't be allowed outside or to talk to human beings, but despite all that, Ted decides to take a chubby little kid under his wing and teach him about life and all the bullshit it entails.

SYNOPSIS

Ted is a weed smoking, foul-mouthed, perverted asshole who lives in an upscale neighborhood community. He's mean and rude and says anything he wants to whoever he wants, including children... Especially children. He doesn't participate in any neighborhood functions or parties and doesn't decorate his house for any holiday. He lives alone since his wife got fed up of his bullshit and left him and his successful son helps take care of his bills because Ted spends all his money on weed.

Ted answers to no one, follows no rules and he likes it that way. Then Ted befriends a neighborhood kid named Leslie. Leslie is a chubby little boy with a girl's name, which Ted likes to point out all the time. He gets picked on a little and doesn't have many friends. But Leslie always sees the brighter side of things. Leslie appreciates Ted's realness and Ted appreciates Leslie's ability to see the good in a bad situation. Ted wasn't the best father to his own son and looks at Leslie as an opportunity to get it right. Leslie lives with his single mother and older sister and likes hanging out with Ted.

Ted and Leslie are a lot alike and teach each other a few things. Ted teaches Leslie not to take any shit from anyone and to stand up for himself and other valuable life lessons and Leslie is just what everyone needs to deal with Ted and his crazy behavior. Leslie teaches Ted that he doesn't have to be a dick all the time and that he still has a life worth living.

MAIN CHARACTERS

TED DICK

A dick. Mid 50's. A dick. Grouchy without the trash can. But Ted still manages to be sweet and caring in a real dick sort of way. He likes what he likes and he likes it his way. Any other way, by any other person, is shit to him. Again, he's a dick.

LESLIE

Eight years old. Chubby, sweet and loyal, with no one to be loyal to. He's a smart kid and a little beyond his years. He doesn't really get paid too much attention to at home. His mom is always at one of her many jobs and his older sister has better things to do than hang out with her little brother. Leslie's father ran out on them when Leslie was four.

MATTHEW DICK

Ted's son, 30 and handsome. Not a dick. Pretty much the opposite of his father in every way possible. He's married and just had a baby. He owns his own business. Because Ted is retired, Matthew helps him out with his bills and put him on a budget. Ted doesn't follow it. Matthew loves his dad and just wants him to be happy and be a good grandfather since he always wasn't the best dad.

MARIE CONNOR & TOM NORTON

Two parents (not together) who despise Ted and want their children nowhere near him. They're co-presidents of the Ridgewood Oaks Community Board. They've tried to include Ted in several neighborhood activities, none of which went well. Their next step is to get him kicked out of the community. Marie's husband is always on business and Tom's wife is always at work. Ted calls it upon himself to inform them whenever he can, that their spouses are having affairs.

AT THE END OF THE DAY...

Ted just wants to feel useful again... or at all. He thoroughly screwed up his marriage and his wife had every reason and then some to leave him. Although his son is successful, Ted really had nothing to do with that. He just wants to feel like he contributed to something or someone, which is where Leslie comes in.

IN A NUT SHELL...

Mr. Dick's Neighborhood is a sarcastic comedy for adults who work hard all day, taking shit from their bosses, who have to deal with incompetent assholes all day and then come home and take shit from their kids and spouse. They just want to stand up and scream and curse people out, including children, but know that they can't, so they watch Ted do it. Somehow, somehow, Ted seems like a hero. He's that voice in your head that wants to stand up and say stuff, but you're too afraid to. He says what everyone else is thinking, but wouldn't dare say. He actually makes sense, sometimes.

SAMPLE EPISODES

TED'S "SPECIAL" BROWNIES

After Leslie's mom forgets to make brownies for his class bake sale, Ted decides to help him out. Ted also makes a "special" batch for himself, which Leslie accidentally takes to school and Ted has to get there to switch them out.

NO NEW NEIGHBORS

When a new couple looks at the house next to Ted's, he gathers Leslie and the other neighborhood kids and devises a plan to make sure they don't want to buy the house. But having the kids on Ted's side comes with a price, a price he wasn't prepared to pay.

HOW YOU LIVIN'?

Ted visits an old friend of his who lives in a retirement community and takes Leslie along. Ted doesn't like being around old people and he gets a glimpse of where he could end up and it isn't pretty.

COME ONE, COME ALL

Ted decides to have a poker night. He invites over a few of his friends and things get a little out of hand. The number of guests keeps growing and somehow keeps getting younger. Ted takes it upon himself to continue teaching the children of the neighborhood life lessons, this time through poker. Parents show up at Ted's door, demanding their children back.

HIGH AS A BALLOON

Ted and his friends get a little too stoned and end up crashing a 9 year old birthday party. Ted is so high, he starts spilling out neighborhood secrets, which causes a neighborhood wide war.

WILL THERE BE SNACKS?

Tom and Marie call an emergency Ridgewood Oaks Community meeting. All the parents and residents are outraged by Ted and his behavior and want him kicked out the neighborhood immediately. By the way, Ted is also in attendance at this meeting. He went for the food.

REUNITED AND IT DOESN'T FEEL SO GOOD

Ted's ex wife shows up at his door. Ted thinks she's there to rekindle an old flame because she realizes that she can't live without him. She's actually there because of a small error and they actually aren't legally divorced and she's getting remarried.

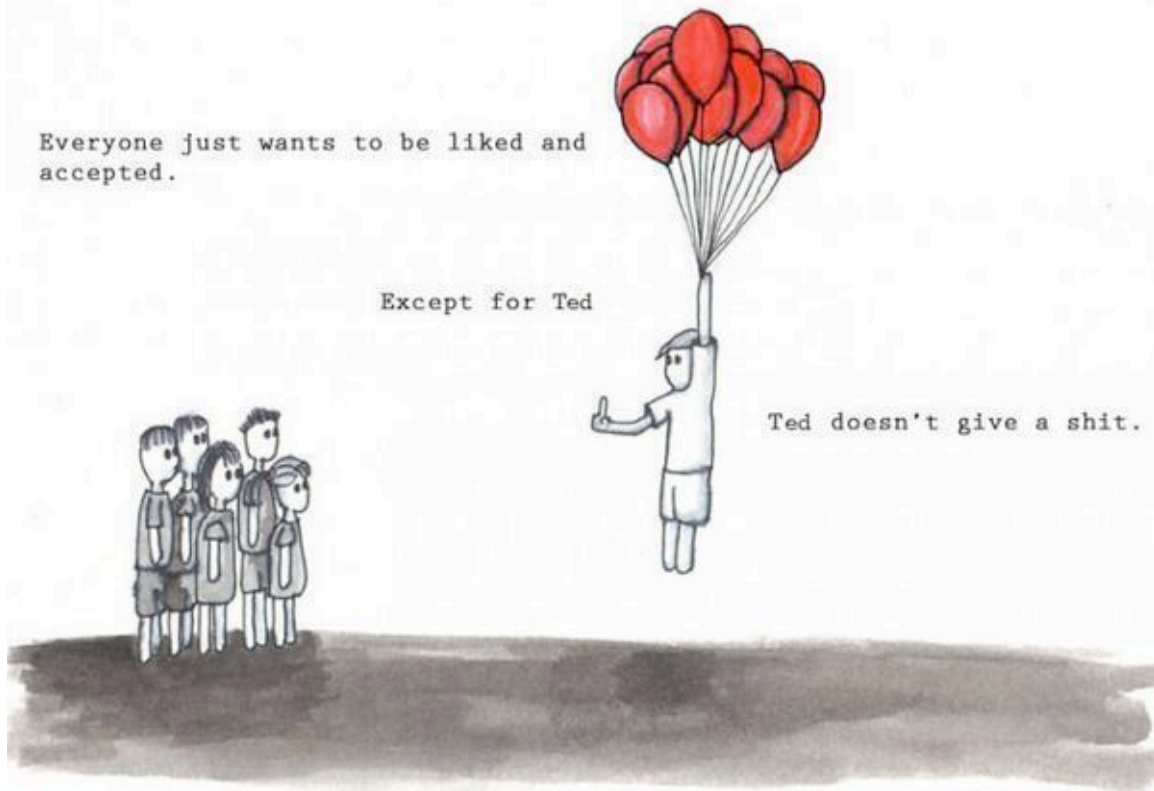
FUCK YOUR FEELINGS

Ted decides to seek out some professional help to deal with his anger, which he doesn't think he has. He basically explains to this therapist why everyone else is wrong and he's right. Ted also doesn't like the exercises the therapist has Ted doing, such as writing in a journal and to top it all off, Ted finally realizes who the therapist is; his ex wife's new fiancé.

Everyone just wants to be liked and accepted.

Except for Ted

Ted doesn't give a shit.



MR. DICK'S NEIGHBORHOOD

"Welcome To The Hood"

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FADE IN:

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITY - RIDGEWOOD OAKS - DAY

A quiet neighborhood, filled with big houses with manicured lawns and big backyards with swimming pools. Kids are playing in the streets. Dads are mowing lawns and moms are getting ready to call everyone in for dinner. The end of summer is approaching.

A car enters the community and makes its way to the end of the neighborhood, to the house that sits above all the rest at the end of the culdesac. A few kids move out the way as the car pulls into the driveway and parks.

TED DICK, mid 50's white male, gets out the car holding a grocery bag and finishing a beer. The kids stop playing and stare. Ted scratches himself and then shoots the kids a look and they all scatter. Ted walks towards the house and goes in.

INT. TED'S HOUSE

Ted walks in and sets his grocery bag down. He goes to the closet and takes off his jacket and hangs it up. He then takes off his shoes and kicks them into the closet. He picks up his bag.

INT. KITCHEN

Ted walks into the kitchen and starts emptying his grocery bag. He pulls out a case of beer, opens one and puts the rest in the almost empty fridge. Last thing he pulls out is a fresh bag of weed. He smells it and smiles.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Ted walks into the living room, turns on the television and sits in his chair. He sets his beer down and begins rolling a joint. Once he's finished, he lights it and sits back, flipping through the television.

TED

God, I am so sick of reality dating shows. Fucking go to a bar.

He flips through a few more channels.

TED (CONT'D)
Damn. Look at that ass!

After a few moments, Ted's cell alarm goes off. He gets up and goes to the window and looks out around the neighborhood.

A few seconds later the MAILMAN comes walking up the street and Ted smiles and smokes his weed.

The mailman gets to Ted's mailbox.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITY

The mailman looks through his bag and gets out Ted's mail. He opens the mailbox and barking emerge from nowhere. The mail man closes the mailbox and looks around terrified. The barking stops.

Ted laughs from the window, watching.

The mailman proceeds to open the mailbox again and when he does he ears the barking again and shuts it and looks around again. The barking stops again.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Ted watches and laughs hysterically at the mailman. He chokes on his weed and drinks his beer.

TED
This shit is hilarious!

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITY

The mailman tries one more time and opens the mailbox slowly and hears the barking. He shoves the mail inside and runs for his life up the street.

INT. LIVING ROOM

TED
Fucking moron. Never gets old.

Ted sets his joint down and heads outside.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITY

Ted walks down his driveway to his mailbox, drinking his beer. An attractive WOMAN next door, is also getting her mail. She looks over at Ted, who is scratching his balls and looking through his mail. He looks over at her and smiles. She looks disgusted.

TED
How you doing?

The woman says nothing.

TED (CONT'D)
Hey, did you get the coupon for two
dollars off laundry detergent?

The woman heads towards her house, shaking her head.

TED (CONT'D)
(calling out)
Enjoy the rest of your mail.

INT. KITCHEN

Ted looks through his empty cabinets and then looks through the fridge, which has nothing in it but beer and ketchup.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITY

Ted walks outside, keys in hand and sees EMILY, 7 years old, jumping rope at the end of his driveway. He approaches her.

TED
Excuse me, little girl. What's your
name?

EMILY
Emily.

TED
Such a cute name. Emily, you're
jumping rope on my driveway.

EMILY
Yup and I've almost jumped a hundred
times.

TED

That's nice. But I don't want you
jumping rope on my property.

Still jumping, Emily moves a foot down and is now on the
sidewalk.

EMILY

Now, I'm on the sidewalk.

TED

Listen, I don't want you jumping rope
anywhere near my house.

EMILY

You don't own the sidewalk.

TED

Neither do you. So get lost.

EMILY

Not until I get to a hundred.

TED

I don't have time for this. I've got
to get to the store and you're
prolonging my process.

EMILY

(mockingly)
You're prolonging my process.

Ted snatches the jump rope.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Hey, that's mine!

TED

If you don't stop jumping rope on or
near my property, I will choke you
with it and then run you over with my
car.

Emily screams and runs off. Ted opens his garage and puts the
jump rope in a box filled with jump ropes. He closes the
garage and gets in his car. He backs out and drives down the
street.

EXT. GROCERY STORE - PARKING LOT

Ted parks in a handy capped parking space.

INT. GROCERY STORE - MEAT SECTION

Ted does his shopping. He spots a WOMAN, rolls his cart over to hers and attempts to talk to her. He takes a look in her shopping cart.

TED
Nice choice of steak.

The woman rolls her eyes and doesn't say anything.

TED (CONT'D)
How do you like your meat cooked?

WOMAN
Excuse me?

TED
Your steak. How do you like your
steak cooked? You like it juicy?

WOMAN
You're a freak.

TED
Do you like that?

The woman pushes her cart away.

TED (CONT'D)
Don't over cook your meat.

INT. GROCERY STORE - FRUIT SECTION

Ted makes his way to the grapes. He starts putting grapes in a bag. As he's putting grapes in a bag, he begins to pop a few in his mouth. He makes sure no one is looking and then pops a few more.

A teenage MALE WORKER notices Ted and approaches him. Ted stuffs a handful of grapes in his mouth.

WORKER
Sir.

TED
What the hell do you want?

WORKER
Are you eating the grapes?

TED

What kind of question is that?

WORKER

Sir, you're not allowed to eat the grapes.

TED

What are you, the fucking grape patrol?

Ted pops another grape.

WORKER

See, you just ate another one.

TED

No, I didn't.

Ted eats another one.

WORKER

You just did it again.

TED

How old are you, junior?

WORKER

I'm sixteen.

TED

Why don't you go pop a zit or fuck a girl or something?

WORKER

What did you just say?

TED

(shrugs)
Or a guy. Whatever.

A few other CUSTOMERS stop and stare at Ted making a scene.
The worker gets frustrated.

WORKER

(yelling)
I will kick your ass, old man!

TED

Now you've got some balls? Bet they're as big as these grapes.

Ted pops more grapes and the worker hits Ted in the stomach and grapes fly out his mouth. Ted buckles to his knees, coughing.

TED (CONT'D)
Jesus Christ, you little shit!

WORKER
(yelling)
Now, stop eating the fucking grapes!

TED
Alright, I will. Calm down.

The worker storms off. Ted calls out after him.

TED (CONT'D)
I'm telling you, if you bust a nut,
you will release all that aggression.

Ted gets up off the floor and shoves more grapes in his mouth.

TED (CONT'D)
Nothing to see here. Move on. Finish
your grocery lists.

Ted is standing in the ten items or less line. Ted looks at his watch and then looks at the basket in front of him and counts the items. Ted notices the clerk is going very slowly.

TED (CONT'D)
(sotto)
This shit is taking way too long.

Ted grabs a candy bar and puts it in the MALE CUSTOMER'S basket in front of him. The customer gets to the front of the line.

TED (CONT'D)
Miss, this guy has more than ten
items.

The FEMALE check out clerk stops before she scans his items.

MALE CUSTOMER
No, I don't.

TED
Yes, you do man. I counted.

MALE CUSTOMER
You counted?

TED

Yes. The sign clearly says ten items
or less and you sir, have eleven.

The customer looks over his basket.

MALE CUSTOMER

That candy bar wasn't in there
before.

(pointing to Ted)

You put that there!

TED

(feigning shock)

I did no such thing.

A FEMALE CUSTOMER walks up behind Ted.

FEMALE CUSTOMER

What's the hold up? I got to get home
and cook dinner.

TED

Hold you're fucking tits, lady. This
guy has eleven items in the ten items
or less line and it's wrong.

MALE CUSTOMER

You're a jerk you know that?

TED

I do know that. But at least I'm
following the rules.

Ted, again, causes a scene and CUSTOMERS stop to watch.
Another woman from the line next over, chimes in.

FEMALE CUSTOMER #2

Can't you let him slide? It's not a
big deal.

MALE CUSTOMER

Thank you.

TED

How about we get the manager down
here and see if he thinks it's a big
deal?

MALE CUSTOMER

You've got to be kidding me. Fine,
I'll go to another line.

The guy pushes his basket to another line.

TED
Thank you for being a law abiding
citizen. We all appreciate it.

The clerk begins checking out Ted's items, while looking at
him like he's crazy.

TED (CONT'D)
(to clerk)
You single?

EXT. GROCERY STORE - PARKING LOT

Ted begins walking to his car and notices a CROWD around his
car.

TED
What is it now?

A DISGRUNTLED WOMAN from the crowd points at Ted. She's
standing next to a MAN in a wheelchair.

DISGRUNTLED WOMAN
There he is!

Ted approaches the crowd.

TED
Alright now, what the hell is going
on? If you're selling some kind of
religion, I don't believe in God.

WHEELCHAIR MAN
I'm not surprised.

DISGRUNTLED WOMAN
Can you tell me what possessed you to
park in this handicapped spot?

TED
(confused)
It's closer to the store.

DISGRUNTLED WOMAN
Other people need these spots.

Everyone in the crowd all agrees.

TED
People like who?

WHEELCHAIR MAN
How about people like me?

TED
You mean people in wheelchairs?

WHEELCHAIR MAN
Yes, handicapped people.

TED
You aren't handicapped. You're just sitting down.

WHEELCHAIR MAN
I can't believe you just said that.

TED
I should be the one pissed off. I have to walk everywhere and you get to roll.

WHEELCHAIR MAN
How about I roll over and kick you ass?

TED
Why is everyone so sensitive today?

DISGRUNTLED WOMAN
You are a sick man.

TED
Listen, if you all would just get out my way, the parking spot will be open.

WHEELCHAIR MAN
You shouldn't have parked there in the first place.

The crowd continues to agree.

TED
Don't you all have boring ass lives to lead? Leave me the hell alone.

Ted tries to get in his car but the wheelchair man blocks him.

TED (CONT'D)

You think I won't beat up a guy in a wheelchair?

WHEELCHAIR MAN

I'd like to see you try.

TED

I will kick you in the legs.

WHEELCHAIR MAN

Go ahead. I won't feel it.

Ted and the wheelchair man begin fighting and people in the crowd try to break them up.

DISGRUNTLED WOMAN

I'm calling the police.

Ted and the wheelchair man are pulled apart. Ted picks up his bags and throws them in the car. He hops in and drives off quickly.

WHEELCHAIR MAN

(yelling out)

Jerk!

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Ted is cooking and talking on the phone. He grabs a beer and pours some in the food he's cooking.

TED

(into phone)

I didn't actually kick him. I just said I would. (beat) I don't cause a scene everywhere I go. (beat) Hey, that kid was on a power trip. He was hopped up on hormones and acne medication. He had no right to talk to me like that. I should have kicked him in his grape size balls.

Ted puts a cover over the food and sits at the table.

TED (CONT'D)

Whatever. Are you coming over tomorrow? (beat) Alright, I'll see you then. (beat) I love you too.

Ted hangs up the phone and goes back to his food.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Ted sits in his chair, eating and watching television. After Ted finishes eating, he sits back, lights one up and sticks his hand in his pants and smokes out.

INT. BATHROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

Ted sits on the toilet smoking weed and reading a dirty magazine with his pants around his ankles. He's pleasing himself very rapidly.

INT. BEDROOM

Ted drags himself into his room and falls out on his bed. Joint still in his mouth.

INT. BATHROOM - NEXT MORNING

Ted stands at the toilet peeing, smoking and pants around his ankles.

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

Ted slums his way through the kitchen. He gets a beer out the fridge and pulls a small tin case out the drawer. It's his weed tin and it's empty.

TED

Shit.

INT. DRUG STORE - MORNING

Ted stands at the magazine stand looking at dirty magazines. A few skater KIDS come in the store. They migrate around the store. One kid in particular, SAM, 17, stands next to Ted at the magazine rack. Sam grabs a magazine and opens it. There's a note in the middle of it. It's say, "I have a \$50."

Sam walks away and gathers up his crew. They all leave the store. After a few moments, Ted leaves the store.

EXT. DRUG STORE - ALLEY

Ted makes his way down an alley. He approaches Sam and his crew who are all skating all over the place.

TED
Sam.

SAM
Mr. Dick.

TED
You got the stuff?

SAM
You got the cash?

Ted takes out a fifty and hands it to Sam.

SAM (CONT'D)
You know you could just text me?

TED
I don't know how to use those damn
things.

Sam passes the money to one of his boys who goes into a bookbag and pulls out a small plastic bag. He hands it to Sam, who gives it to Ted.

TED (CONT'D)
This shit good?

SAM
Fuck yeah, it's good. You know I only
have the best shit. All my customers
are satisfied. Fucking scouts honor.

TED
Scouts honor, huh?

SAM
Yo Ryan, is this the shit?

RYAN, 17, walks up to Ted and Sam.

RYAN
That shit is the shit.

SAM
See, I told you.

TED
Let me ask you something, why do you
sell weed?

SAM

I need money for Standford.

TED

(laughs)

No shit!

SAM

Yeah, I have a 4.0 and my test scores are excellent. I'm a shoe in for a scholarship, but tuition is no fucking joke.

RYAN

This kid is a fucking genius.

TED

That's crazy. Well be good, my man.

SAM

See you in a couple weeks, Mr. Dick.

Ted turns and heads back to his car, smelling the bag of weed.

TED

That kid is a genius.

EXT. RIDGEWOOD OAKS - AFTERNOON

Ted pulls into the neighborhood and he sees a group of BOYS playing baseball in the street in front of his house. Ted stops his car and gets out in the middle of the street.

TED

How many times do I have to tell these little shits?

Ted starts walking towards them yelling.

TED (CONT'D)

Hey, midgets!

The kids stop playing and JASON approaches Ted.

TED (CONT'D)

What the hell do you think you're doing?

JASON

We're playing baseball.

TED

I can see that. Why are you in front
of my house?

JASON

It's a free country.

TED

Yes, it is. A free country for me.
Not for you. Can you vote?

JASON

No.

TED

Can you drive?

JASON

No.

TED

Does your mommy cook your meals and
wash your clothes?

JASON

Yes.

TED

See, you're not free. And you're not
allowed to play in front of my house.

JASON

Whatever.

Jason and his friends start to go back to playing baseball.

TED

Listen, kid. I'm not kidding.

JASON

Listen, jack ass. We can play
wherever we want.

Ted grabs Jason by the shirt and holds him up in the air.

TED

Alright you little queer, I've warned
you. Now you and you're little
friends need to stay away from my
house.

Ted slams him back down on the street. Jason starts crying and he and his friends run off down the street.

TED (CONT'D)
Fucking bastards.

Ted gets back in his car and pulls into his driveway.

INT. TED'S KITCHEN

Ted is putting away his groceries when the doorbell rings repeatedly. He grabs a beer.

INT. FRONT DOOR

Ted opens the door to see Jason and his mom, MARIE CONNOR, late 30's, standing there. She doesn't look happy. Jason is still crying.

TED
Hey, it's the little queer and his
mommy.

Jason starts crying again.

MARIE
Where do you come off talking to my
son like that?

TED
Him and his friends were playing in
front of my house and I don't like
it.

MARIE
Why not? They're harmless.

TED
Look, I don't bother anyone in this
God forsaken neighborhood. The least
you can do, is keep your offspring
away from my house.

MARIE
You just wait until my husband gets
home.

TED
Great. A bigger queer.

MARIE

Would you please stop using that type
of language?

TED

Well shit lady, what the fuck do you
want me to say?

Marie is shocked at Ted's harsh language.

MARIE

This isn't over. Come on, Jason.

Jason and Marie leave and Ted closes the door. He makes it
half way to the living room when the doorbell rings again. Ted
turns back around livid.

TED

Got damnit, lady!

Ted swings open the door, furiously.

TED (CONT'D)

(yelling)

What the fuck do you want?

Ted looks down to see GIRL SCOUTS standing there, horrified.
The girls scream, one of them drops her box of cookies and
they all run down to the sidewalk and down the street. Ted
picks up a box of cookies.

TED (CONT'D)

Ooh, thin mints.

Just then, Ted's son, MATTHEW, 30 and handsome, is walking up
the driveway.

MATTHEW

Nice, dad.

Ted shoves a cookie in his mouth.

TED

What?

MATTHEW

Scaring off Girl Scouts now?

TED

I didn't mean to scare them. Want a
cookie?

MATTHEW
You look like shit.

TED
Well, if I knew you were coming this
early, I would have put on something
more appropriate.

Ted and Matthew hug.

TED (CONT'D)
How you doing?

MATTHEW
I'm good, dad.

They go inside.

INT. KITCHEN

Matthew sits at the table.

MATTHEW
Do I have any mail?

TED
Oh, yeah.

Ted pulls out some mail from a drawer and hands it to Matthew.

MATTHEW
So, how have you been dad?

Ted lights up a joint and sits across from Matthew.

MATTHEW (CONT'D)
I see you're still smoking.

TED
It's for health reasons.

MATTHEW
You really have to take better care
of yourself.

TED
What are you talking about? I'm fine.

MATTHEW
(looking around)
Look at this place. It's a dump.

TED

It has character.

MATTHEW

What happened to the housekeeper I
got for you?

TED

I didn't like her quality of work.

Matthew gives Ted a look.

MATTHEW

You slept with her, didn't you?

TED

I said, I didn't like her quality of
work.

MATTHEW

That's the third one in six months.

Ted tries to hand the joint to Matthew but he refuses.

TED

Enough about me. How's my grandson?

MATTHEW

He's doing great. Starting to walk.

TED

That's good. And the wife?

MATTHEW

Good. She just got another promotion.

TED

You guys are like the perfect little
family. You should be the fake family
in picture frames.

Matthew looks down at his watch.

MATTHEW

I got to get out of here.

TED

Already? You just got here.

EXT. TED'S HOUSE

Ted walks Matthew outside to his car.

MATTHEW
You sure you don't need anything?

TED
I'm okay.

Matthew gives Ted a long look and then gives him a hug.

MATTHEW
I'll see you later, dad.

TED
Take it easy, son.

Matthew gets in his car, backs out the driveway and drives down the street. Ted goes back in the house.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Ted sits in his chair and cracks open a beer. After a few moments of watching television, Ted falls asleep.

INT. LIVING ROOM - HOURS LATER - NIGHT

Ted slowly wakes up. Scratches himself. Sips his beer. The living room is dark, except for the TV and Ted notices flashlights outside his window. He gets up and walks over to the window and notices kids running around his yard with flashlights.

TED
What the hell is going on?

He see's a few more kids run past his window and into his backyard.

TED (CONT'D)
Those little fuck faces.

Ted runs to the hallway closet and gets his shotgun.

INT. KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

Ted runs through the kitchen and out the back door.

EXT. TED'S BACKYARD

Ted stands outside on his back porch, looking around. Shot gun in hand.

TED
Who's out here?

Ted hears a few rustles in the bushes and looks around again. He turns his spot light on and lights up the whole backyard.

TED (CONT'D)
Alright, I'm not fucking around.
Who's back here?

Ted looks around.

TED (CONT'D)
Okay, looks like I'm just gonna have
to start shooting and see what I hit.

Ted cocks his shot gun and just then a chubby boy, LESLIE, 8 years old, jumps out from behind a tree with his hands up.

LESLIE
Please sir, don't shoot me.

Ted smirks.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Ted stands across from Leslie, holding his gun. Leslie looks terrified.

TED
What's your name, boy?

LESLIE
Leslie.

TED
What?

LESLIE
My name is Leslie.

TED
You're messing with me, aren't you?

LESLIE
About what?

TED
(irritated)
Kid, what's your fucking name?

LESLIE
It's Leslie, sir.

TED
Isn't that a girl name?

LESLIE
No, it's my name.

TED
Yeah, I know it's your name. But it's
meant for a girl.

LESLIE
It's a family name.

TED
Who are you named after, your mom?

LESLIE
No, my dad.

TED
Well, what's your middle name?

LESLIE
Michael.

TED
You should go with that.
(beat)
Now, what are you doing in my
backyard?

LESLIE
Playing hide and seek.

TED
Hide and seek, huh? With who?

LESLIE
My fiends.

TED
I'm surprised you have friends with a
name and a stomach like that.

Leslie looks down and examines his stomach.

TED (CONT'D)

Well, I didn't see anyone else.

LESLIE

Everyone's hiding. We use the whole neighborhood.

TED

You mean to tell me that there are kids hiding all over this neighborhood.

LESLIE

Yes.

(beat)

You gonna shoot me now?

EXT. TED'S FRONT YARD

Ted is finishing tying Leslie to a tree.

LESLIE

Are you gonna shoot me while I'm tied to this tree?

TED

Shut up, kid. I'm not gonna shoot you. I'm making an example out of you.

Ted makes a few final knots.

TED (CONT'D)

This is what happens when you disobey.

Ted is finished. He then takes a bag of sugar that was on the ground and starts pouring it around Leslie.

LESLIE

Um, what is that for?

TED

The ants.

Ted finishes pouring the sugar and picks up his beer.

TED (CONT'D)

(yelling)

Now, I want the rest of you little
rugsrats to come out of hiding. I've
got your friend... Leslie here.

Ted and Leslie look around.

TED (CONT'D)

(yelling)

Look, you better bring your asses out
here or I'm gonna leave him here all
night and let the ants fester on his
flesh.

Still no one merges.

TED (CONT'D)

Some friends you got there, Leslie.

(beat)

Alright, fine. I'll just send out a
round of shots until you pint sized
vigilantes come out.

One by one kids start coming from all over the neighborhood,
from behind houses and cars.

TED (CONT'D)

Well, Leslie, they don't mind you
being eaten alive. They just don't
want to get shot.

All the kids pile in Ted's yard.

TED (CONT'D)

Now, how many times do I have to tell
you to stay away from my house?

JASON

We were just playing hide and seek.

TED

Your the little big mouth queer from
earlier. Your dad home yet?

JASON

No.

TED

Probably fucking his secretary.

A KID steps up next to Jason.

KID

Can you just let him go? There's got to be a law against tying kids to trees.

TED

No, there isn't. I've done this before.

KID

You're an asshole, you know that?

TED

Yes, I do know that and who are you?

KID

Kevin.

TED

Well Kevin, I think you all need to go home before your mommies come check on you and see that you're not in your beds.

JASON

Can you just untie him?

Ted looks back at Leslie.

TED

Sure.

(beat)

Under one condition.

INT./EXT. TED'S GARAGE - NEXT AFTERNOON

Ted is sitting in his driveway, drinking a beer and watching all the kids clean out his garage. They're sweeping and wiping shelves down and organizing boxes. Ted shouts out orders.

TED

Those boxes go on the top shelf and be careful, that nail gun is loaded.

INT. TED'S GARAGE

JASON

This blows.

KEVIN

This is all your fault Leslie.

LESLIE

What did I do?

JASON

No one told you to hide in his
backyard. You know he's a psycho.

KEVIN

This is why we don't let you play.

EMILY

I wanna go home.

TED (O.C.)

Stop talking in there and haul ass.

The kids go back to cleaning.

DRIVEWAY

Ted sits back in his chair. Just then Jason's mom, Marie and another parent, TOM NORTON, late 30's, come storming up to Ted, furious. Once they reach him, they stand over him. Ted looks up.

TED (CONT'D)

Can I help you?

MARIE

What are you doing?

TED

Drinking a beer.

MARIE

I can see that. What are you doing
with our kids?

TED

I didn't touch any of them, I swear.

TOM

She means, why are they cleaning out
your garage?

TED

Who are you?

TOM
I'm Tom Norton.
(pointing)
That's my daughter, Emily.

TED
Oh yeah, the jump roper.

TOM
Yes, and thanks to you, she's afraid
to jump rope now.

TED
Don't worry. She'll pick up pole
dancing soon enough.

Tom is appalled.

MARIE
Ted, what kind of operation are you
running here?

TED
This is not an operation. They're
just paying off a little debt.

TOM
(to Marie)
What's he talking about?

MARIE
Oh, you don't know? Last night he
tied Leslie to a tree because the
kids were playing hide and seek in
his backyard.

TOM
You tied a little girl to a tree?
What is wrong with you?

MARIE
Leslie is a boy.

TOM
Is he named after his mom?

TED
I asked the same thing.
(beat)
Look, everyone can just relax. All
they're doing is cleaning.

They all look at the kids still working.

TED (CONT'D)

(yelling)

Hey, do not point the drill at each other!

MARIE

(appalled)

Oh my word!

TOM

Aren't there child labor laws against this?

TED

Child labor? What the fuck?

Tom is taken aback by Ted's cursing.

MARIE

(sotto to Tom)

I told you about his language.

TED

All I'm doing is teaching these kids about work ethic. I mean come on, they live in the fucking suburbs. They wouldn't know work if it bit them in their asses.

TOM

We work hard to provide our children with the best.

TED

Oh, yeah? There are kids in sweatshops working their fingers to the bone to make jeans for pennies so ungrateful American children like your kids can have pants to wear.

By this time, all the kids have stopped working and everyone is staring at Ted. He gulps down the rest of the beer.

MARIE

Kids, let's go.

The kids start piling out from the garage.

TOM
We're taking you all home. Emily,
come on.

Tom, Marie and the kids start walking down the driveway.

TED
Hey, Leslie.

Leslie stops and turns around scared.

TED (CONT'D)
I've got my eyes on you.

Tom grabs Leslie and they all head down the street. Ted looks
at his garage.

TED (CONT'D)
(calling out)
Who's gonna finish cleaning my
garage?

Ted takes a sip of his beer.

TED (CONT'D)
I've got to find some more kids.

DOORBELL.

INT. TED'S FRONT DOOR

Ted opens his front door and Matthew is standing there,
astounded.

MATTHEW
Did you call a little kid a queer?

Ted just stands there, trying to think of an answer.

MATTHEW (CONT'D)
You can't do that!

TED
Says who?

MATTHEW
America!

Ted rolls his eyes and walks to his kitchen. Matthew follows.

TED

How do you even know about that?

INT. TED'S KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

Matthew storms in behind Ted and sits at the table.

MATTHEW

I got a phone call.

TED

You got a phone call? Well, what they call you for?

Ted grabs two beers from the fridge. He offers one to Matthew but he refuses.

MATTHEW

Because I'm the one that pulled some strings to get you into this neighborhood, so I'm the one they called.

TED

What is so great about this neighborhood? Everyone is boring and freaks out about every little thing.

MATTHEW

You mean, like tying kids to trees, threatening a little girl with a jump rope and then forcing children to clean out your garage.

TED

They told you all that, huh?

Matthew jumps up.

MATTHEW

(freaking out)

Dad, they're going to have you arrested!

TED

Calm down. No, they're not. The people around here just need to lighten up.

MATTHEW

No dad, you need to behave better.

TED

I need to behave better. What am I,
ten?

MATTHEW

Just please, tone it down a little.

TED

A little like how?

MATTHEW

Stop tying up kids.

(beat)

And keep your shotgun in the house.

TED

How about I just keep it unloaded?

Matthew stares at Ted.

TED (CONT'D)

Fine.

MATTHEW

And stop smoking weed.

TED

Why?

MATTHEW

I don't like it.

Matthew storms back out and Ted stands there until he hears
the front door slam. He drinks. A few moments later...

DOORBELL.

TED

Now what is it?

Ted heads towards the front door.

INT. TED'S FRONT DOOR - MOMENTS LATER

Ted opens the door and looks down. Leslie is standing there.

TED

What do you want?

LESLIE
I can still help you clean out your
garage if you want.

Ted looks around suspicious.

TED
Who sent you?

LESLIE
No one.

TED
You wearing a wire?

LESLIE
No.

TED
Well, I'm not trying to catch any
heat so you better go on home.

Ted gets ready to close his door.

LESLIE
No one is there.

Ted opens the door again.

TED
Where are your parents?

LESLIE
My mom is always working and my older
sister is always out.

TED
What about your dad? The one you're
named after.

LESLIE
He went to get something to eat.

A beat.

LESLIE (CONT'D)
Four years ago.

Ted takes that in.

TED
Come in.

Leslie comes in and Ted closes the door.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Ted sits in his chair.

TED
Have a seat there, Leslie.

Leslie takes a seat on the couch. He and Ted watch tv. Ted offers Leslie a beer.

TED (CONT'D)
Thirsty?

LESLIE
I'm eight.

TED
That's right.

Ted retracts the beer.

TED (CONT'D)
You hungry?

LESLIE
Not really.

TED
Good. I don't have any food for 8
year olds.

They go back to watching tv. Ted drinks. Leslie looks at him. Ted notices.

TED (CONT'D)
Yeah, kid?

LESLIE
Why are you so mean?

TED
I'm not mean.

LESLIE
You tied me to a tree.

TED
That was to teach you a lesson.

LESLIE
You're an asshole.

TED
Well, I can't argue with you there.

LESLIE
You know you don't have to be.

TED
Have to be what?

LESLIE
A dick all the time. You can be nice.
I think you'll be much happier.

TED
What is this, an intervention?
(beat)
Listen kid, I tell it like it is and
if that hurts someone's feelings,
then tough. Getting tucked in and
breast fed doesn't last forever. It's
cruel out here and the sooner you
realize that, the better.

Leslie gets up and walks over to Ted.

LESLIE
It's okay Mr. Dick, you're getting
older and you're not sure where you
fit in society anymore. I know it's
scary. But you're still important.

Ted gives Leslie a creepy look.

TED
How many times a day do you get beat
up?

LESLIE
Not as often as you think.

Ted smiles a small smile.

LESLIE (CONT'D)
You've still got a lot to show the
world, Mr. Dick.

TED
Seems like I can learn a few things
from you.

LESLIE
I think I better get going.

EXT. TED'S FRONT DOOR

Ted and Leslie are walking out. Leslie starts walking down the driveway but then stops and turns around.

LESLIE
Hey, Mr. Dick?

TED
What?

LESLIE
Do you think it would be okay to come over every once in a while? You know, to hang out?

Ted drinks his beer and thinks.

TED
Sure.

Leslie smiles and walks down the sidewalk towards his house.

TED (CONT'D)
Weird fucking kid.

Just then a WOMAN and her DAUGHTER walk past Ted's house. Ted smiles and waves a little inappropriately. The woman looks appalled and holds her daughter close to her.

TED (CONT'D)
No, not her. I was waving and smiling at you.

The woman looks disgusted and walks faster. Ted watches.

TED (CONT'D)
I hate this fucking neighborhood.

Ted turns and goes inside his house, slamming the door behind him.

END OF SHOW