

From A Christmas Scarol

By Don Zolidis

TIM, high school age
DAD
MOM

(DAD enters, dressed like a cool teen.)

Tim-may! DAD

Hey Dad. TIM

High five! DAD

I'm not really in the mood. TIM

High five! Do it. High five! Woo! DAD
(TIM leaves him hanging.)
(DAD keeps holding up his hand.)

Can I talk to you seriously for a second? TIM

I will talk to you, but you can't leave a bro hanging. High five! DAD

We're not really bros, Dad. TIM

Do not say that. Do not ever say that. That's not something a true bro would say. DAD

Fine. TIM
(TIM gives a half-hearted high-five.)

Boom. DAD

TIM

I haven't gotten my girlfriend a present for Christmas yet.

DAD

Dude! Whoah. What are you thinking, bro?

TIM

Well, I wanted to get her something special and I can't think of anything.

DAD

Yeah.

TIM

And the television is telling me I should get diamonds, but I'm not sure I have anything I can sell to get diamonds.

DAD

Some of your organs might be worth enough. Ha! Kidding ya. You want my advice?

TIM

Yeah.

DAD

Dump her.

TIM

Dad.

DAD

Seriously, bro. Once I got a girl and she's getting up on me like that, I just gotta cut her loose. Not worth the trouble. Amiright? Other fish in the sea, bro.

(MOM enters. DAD instantly changes.)

MOM

What are you telling him?

DAD

Nothing, sweetheart. We're just having a conversation.

TIM

I'm trying to figure out what to get my girlfriend for Christmas.

MOM

You haven't gotten her a present yet?!

TIM
No.

MOM
What are you thinking? Christmas is in two days!

TIM
I know that.

MOM
I can't believe you would do something so inconsiderate. What is wrong with you?!

TIM
It's just a Christmas present.

MOM
Just a Christmas present? *Just a Christmas Present?! No, this defines your entire love!*

TIM
I don't know that I'm in love with her.

DAD
I think you'll know when the feeling overwhelms you. Just like my love for your mother. Right, honey?

MOM
A perfect Christmas present says so much about your feelings.

DAD
Your feelings. Yes your feelings.

MOM
It represents your thoughts about her. It says "I care and respect you."

DAD
Respect. Respect women.

MOM
Respect is very important.

DAD
So important.

TIM
What kind of present says "I respect you?"

MOM

I think, when you look in your heart, you'll find the answer.

DAD

That's what I was saying. Before you got here, that's what I was saying.

MOM

I love that you're giving our son such a good example.

DAD

It's because I care. In here. In my heart. Which is full.

MOM

I'm so lucky.

DAD

I'm the lucky one.

MOM

Okay, but remember: the amount of money you spend is equal to the amount of love you have for her. Okay?

TIM

That can't be right!

MOM

I gotta run.

TIM

Can I have a loan?

MOM

Ha ha ha ha. You're so darling.
(She exits)

TIM

Bye Mom.

(DAD immediately changes back and pulls TIM close.)

DAD

Bro. Always dump `em before the holidays

MOM *(returning)*

Oh one more thing –

DAD

and that's how I learned about acknowledging my feelings.

MOM

We're opening presents on Christmas Eve so I invited Monique over tomorrow.
(She leaves)

TIM

What?

DAD

Remember what I said, Bro. High five.

TIM

I'm just not down with high-fives.

DAD

I'm disappointed in you. The whole reason I had a son was for high-fives.

TIM

Well, I'm sorry.

DAD

That hurts me in my soul.

MOM *(off-stage)*

Are you coming honey?

DAD

Yes dear!
(He exits.)