THE SECRET LIFE OF THE AMERICAN TEENAGER

Episode 3002 "Accentuate the Positive"

Written by Jeffrey Rodgers

Directed by Gail Bradley

The Secret Life Of The American Teenager "Accentuate the Positive"

CAST LIST

Amy JuergensShailene Woodley
George JuergensMark Derwin
Anne JuergensMolly Ringwald
Ashley JuergensIndia Eisley
Ben BoykewichKen Baumann
Ricky UnderwoodDaren Kagasoff
Grace Bowman
Kathleen TsegayeJosie Bissett
Tom BowmanLuke Zimmerman
Jack PappasGregory P. Finley
Adrian LeeFrancia Raisa
Lauren TreacyCamille Winbush
Madison Cooperstein
Alice ValkoAmy Rider
Henry MillerAllen Evangelista
Leo BoykewichSteven R. Schirripa
Ruben EnriquezPhilip Anthony-Rodriquez
JohnJoey Levinson
JohnMatthew Levinson
RobieCian McGrath
RobieLogan McGrath
Bunny
Dr. Wilameena BinkMayim Bialik
Dr. Jeff Tsegaye
GriffinBrando Eaton
GrantGrant Harvey
MooseMoose

The Secret Life Of The American Teenager

"Accentuate the Positive"

LOCATIONS

<u>INTERIORS</u>

EXTERIORS

JUERGENS HOUSE

-- Kitchen

-- Amy's Room

-- Hallway

-- Dining Room

GRACE'S HOUSE

-- Kitchen

-- Grace's Room

ADRIAN'S HOUSE

-- Kitchen

-- Adrian's Room

BOYKEWICH HOUSE

-- Ben's Room

HIGH SCHOOL

-- Hallway

-- Counselor's Office

RICKY'S KITCHEN BUTCHER SHOP **ESTABLISHING SHOTS**

JUERGENS HOUSE HIGH SCHOOL

BOYKEWICH HOUSE

The Secret Life Of The American Teenager

"Accentuate the Positive"

CHRONOLOGY

Scenes	1-20	 Day One
Scenes	21-30	 Night One

THE SECRET LIFE OF THE AMERICAN TEENAGER

"Accentuate the Positive"

PROLOGUE

FADE IN:

DAY ONE

1 INT. BEN'S ROOM - DAY

1

BEN is on the phone, putting things into his school bag.

BEN

Hey, Ricky. I just wanted to thank you again for last night, for making me go talk to Amy. You have no idea how happy I am being back together with her. So, thanks again.

HENRY and ALICE enter. Ben puts his phone down. Alice hands him a stack of paper.

ALICE

Here's the research.

BEN

What research?

ALICE

On early pregnancy tests.

BEN

I don't need it. Adrian's not pregnant. I went over there and talked to her.

HENRY

That would be good enough for me.

ALICE

It's not good enough for me. Ben, did you or did you not see the stick, the results of the test?

BEN

I saw the results. And they were wrong.

ALICE

Those tests are very accurate. They're not wrong.

1 CONTINUED:

BEN

What, do you want it to be right? You want Adrian to be having my baby?

ALICE

I want you not to be duped into thinking she's not having your baby if she is. And if she is, the sooner you find out the better, because the earlier the better when it comes to making a decision about terminating a pregnancy or even when it comes to taking care of a pregnancy. You need to know.

BEN

I do know.

ALICE

You're only going by what she told you.

BEN

What else can I go by?

ALICE

The test.

BEN

What, do you want me to ask her to take a second test?

ALICE

Good idea.

BEN

I can't do that. I'm not going to do that. As far as I'm concerned, this chapter in my life is closed. And I'm opening a new chapter with Amy. I saw her last night. We're back together. And tonight, we're celebrating.

HENRY

Then I really hope Adrian is not pregnant.

BEN

She's not! Come on, let's go. This is the first day of the rest of my life with Amy Juergens. We're going to be a family. The family we should have been all along.

American Teenager - "Accentuate the Positive" - BLUE 3-01-10 3.

1 CONTINUED: (2)

1

Ben exits. Henry starts to follow, but Alice pulls him back.

ALICE

Unless he has another family.

They exit.

2 INT. ADRIAN'S KITCHEN - DAY

2

ADRIAN comes downstairs. RUBEN is having a cup of coffee, about to go out the door.

RUBEN

Coffee?

ADRIAN

Thanks, I quess I've got time.

He hands her a cup.

RUBEN

I've got another long day today, so I won't be home until late. What are you going to do for dinner?

ADRIAN

I don't know. I'll pick something up.

(then, casually)

You know when Mom's coming home?

RUBEN

End of the week.

She nods.

RUBEN

You need something? Anything I can do?

ADRIAN

No, I was just wondering.

RUBEN

If you were wondering because neither of us ever goes to the grocery store, let me give you some money in case you want to pick up some real food. I may want something other than pizza for breakfast tomorrow.

ADRIAN

What's wrong with pizza for breakfast? I think it's better the next day.

American Teenager - "Accentuate the Positive" - BLUE 3-01-10 4.

2 CONTINUED:

RUBEN

Well, enjoy.

He slides the box over to her.

RUBEN

Have a good day.

He exits. Adrian takes a sip of coffee, opens the pizza box, and suddenly a wave of nausea hits.

ADRIAN

Oh no.

She looks like she's going to be sick.

3 INT. RICKY'S KITCHEN - DAY

RICKY checks his voicemail. It's Ben's message.

BEN (V.O.) Hey, Ricky. I just wanted to thank you again for last night, for making me go talk to Amy. You have no idea how happy I am being back together with her. So, thanks again.

But the message doesn't end. Ricky hears Alice.

ALICE (V.O.)

Here's the research.

BEN (V.O.)

What research?

Ricky shakes his head, thinking Ben's an idiot, until he hears the next part of the message.

ALICE (V.O.)

On early pregnancy tests.

BEN (V.O.)

I don't need it. Adrian's not pregnant. I went over there and talked to her.

Ricky's not laughing anymore, but we know he's going to listen to the rest of the message.

FADE OUT.

2

3

END OF PROLOGUE

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

4 EXT. JUERGENS HOUSE - ESTABLISHING - DAY

4

5 INT. AMY'S ROOM - DAY

5

AMY is still deciding what to wear. ASHLEY enters.

ASHLEY

Mom says we're going to be late.

AMY

I'm not speaking to you.

ASHLEY

You just did, but I'm not speaking to you. That's why I said Mom said we're going to be late as opposed to just, "We're going to be late."

AMY

Why did you have to tell them I'm on birth control pills?

ASHLEY

It just sounded as if you spoke to me, although you just said you're not speaking to me.

AMY

Now they're going to suspect that Ben and I are having sex.

ASHLEY

So what? If you're going to have sex, why don't you just tell the truth for once and say, "Mom and Dad, I'm having sex with Ben."

AMY

Because I'm not.

ASHLEY

Then what do you want the pills for?

AMY

In case I change my mind. What do you want the pills for?

ASHLEY

Same reason.

(MORE)

American Teenager - "Accentuate the Positive" - BLUE 3-01-10 6.

5 CONTINUED:

ASHLEY (CONT'D)

Now let's just go back to not talking. Mom says we're going to be late.

And she exits.

6 INT. JUERGENS HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Outside Amy's door, GEORGE sees Ashley.

GEORGE

So did you make up with your sister like I asked?

ASHLEY

We're talking.

GEORGE

Good.

ASHLEY

What's so good about it?

GEORGE

It gives us the illusion that we're all still a family, a happy family.

ASHLEY

No one's going to believe that, not with Mom refusing to marry you again. Can we just move out again?

GEORGE

No! We're not going anywhere. We're going to make this work.

ASHLEY

Yeah, okay. Do you mind if I move out? You can have the garage again. You can have my room.

GEORGE

And just where do you think you would go?

ASHLEY

I think I'd go back next door. In fact, I think I'm going to go over there right now and get a ride to school because Amy is still trying to figure out what she's wearing.

George looks at her.

5

American Teenager - "Accentuate the Positive" - BLUE 3-01-10 7.

6 CONTINUED:

ASHLEY

You know, because she's back with Ben now so she wants to look good.

GEORGE

Why, so he'll want to have sex with her?

ASHLEY

That would be my guess.

She exits. He knocks on Amy's door.

GEORGE

Hey, are you dressed? I want to talk to you.

AMY (O.S.)

I'm dressed. I'm dressed.

George opens the door.

7 INT. AMY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

George enters and looks at her.

GEORGE

You're not dressed enough. Shirt's too low, skirt's too high. Try again.

AMY

Mom said we're going to be late.

GEORGE

Mom's not even here. She's at the gym.

Amy thinks.

AMY

Ashley said - Ugh! She is such a liar. She lies, lies, lies.

GEORGE

And so do you.

AMY

And so do you.

GEORGE

And so does your mother. But you know what? We're all going to stop lying. We're a family.

(CONTINUED)

6

7 CONTINUED:

AMY

Yeah, a family of liars.

GEORGE

Well, that's going to stop. Your mother and I decided that we're all going to start having dinner together again every night, and we're all going to work our way through this by talking to each other with honesty and respect. So come straight home from the nursery with John tonight. Dinner's at six. Conversation starts at six-oh-two.

AMY

I was going to have dinner with Ben tonight. It's our first night back together. He's taking me to dinner, a nice dinner, where people aren't forced to talk to each other.

GEORGE

Invite him over.

AMY

Here?

George looks at her.

AMY

Dad!

GEORGE

Amy.

Amy rolls her eyes.

8 INT. ADRIAN'S KITCHEN - DAY

Adrian comes back down the stairs, wearing something else. She reacts when she sees Ashley at the back door. Ashley enters.

ASHLEY

Hey, would you mind letting me ride to school with you? Wait. Is that vomit? Who puked?

Adrian sits down at the table.

ADRIAN

I did.

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED: 8

ASHLEY

Oh no.

ADRIAN

Yeah, oh no. Ashley...

Ashley thinks she's about to hear something she doesn't want to hear.

ASHLEY

(changing the subject)

Where are the trash bags?

ADRIAN

Under the sink.

ASHLEY

I'll get the pizza out of here.

ADRIAN

Thanks.

ASHLEY

(as she works)

Too bad we don't have any of that stuff the school janitor uses.

ADRIAN

Yeah, I think I'm going to be needing some of that.

Ashley looks at her.

ASHLEY

You know if you want to stay home, I could stay with you.

ADRIAN

Why would you do that?

ASHLEY

Why would I miss school? Are you kidding?

ADRIAN

No, I should go. We should go. We have to go.

ASHLEY

Not if you have the flu.

Adrian looks at her.

8 CONTINUED: (2)

8

ASHLEY

And if you don't have the flu, and if you just want to talk, remember I've been through this before. With someone else who didn't have the flu.

Adrian just sits there.

9 INT. GRACE'S KITCHEN - DAY

9

JEFF looks at GRACE.

JEFF

If taken properly, the tests can be more than ninety-nine percent accurate.

GRACE

That means they're wrong one percent of the time.

JEFF

When the tests are wrong, it usually goes the other way, and the tests come up negative because they haven't picked up an indication of pregnancy from the HCG hormone levels because it's too early.

He sees the look on her face.

JEFF

I'm just telling you this because your mom asked me to tell you this. The tests are accurate.

GRACE

Maybe Adrian read it wrong.

JEFF

Adrian's a smart girl. I doubt it. Maybe she's not pregnant because she had an abortion.

Grace stares at him.

GRACE

I cannot believe you would say that about Adrian.

He looks at her.

JEFF

Because...?

9 CONTINUED:

GRACE

Because I told her not to do that. And I don't think she would do that. And I don't like you for saying that.

She walks out the back door.

JEFF

Wow.

TOM enters from the back door.

MOT

I took the garbage cans out to the curb, doctor. Next time, your turn.

JEFF

I don't mind taking turns doing that, however I do have a job I have to get to.

TOM

Yeah, yeah.

JEFF

You know what? I think you should think about getting a job.

TOM

In this economy?

Jeff looks at him.

JEFF

You did have a job at one time, didn't you?

MOT

I did.

JEFF

And?

Tom sees KATHLEEN enter.

ТОМ

You tell him.

Tom exits. Jeff looks at Kathleen.

KATHLEEN

What?

American Teenager - "Accentuate the Positive" - BLUE 3-01-10 12. 9 9 CONTINUED: (2) **JEFF** What happened to his job? KATHLEEN Oh. They don't provide anger management classes for part-time employees. Jeff looks at her. KATHLEEN Some guy made some rude comment about some woman they were working with, and Tom punched him. It was a really rude comment. **JEFF** Then good for Tom for punching people at work. She smiles. KATHLEEN You think? He looks at her. **JEFF** No. KATHLEEN How'd it go with Grace? **JEFF** Do you want Grace to hate me? KATHLEEN No. He gives her a kiss. **JEFF** Then you talk to her from now on. I'll see you tonight. He gives her a kiss and then exits.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - ESTABLISHING - DAY

INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Ben is with Henry and Alice.

10

11

10

11 CONTINUED:

BEN

So where should I take Amy for dinner?

HENRY

Wings, dude. That's where it all began.

BEN

No, I want to take her some place nicer than that.

ALICE

I hate to bring this up, but before you go to dinner, you think maybe you should tell Grace that you and Amy are back together?

BEN

I thought about telling her, but I was having such a good day yesterday, I didn't want to ruin it.

ALICE

You mean with something like the truth?

BEN

Yeah.

(then)

Look, I thought about it, but why put myself through that and her through that? We weren't together anyway. I'd just be calling her to say we're never going to be together. That seems wrong.

ALICE

No, it doesn't. You know Grace wants you to be more than a friend.

HENRY

Yeah, but with Grace Bowman that doesn't necessarily mean sex. With her, it's friends with limited benefits.

Alice looks at him.

ALICE

Are you finished, Hank? (MORE)

12

11 CONTINUED: (2)

ALICE (CONT'D)

(turns to Ben)

I suggest you do right by Grace because I think you and Adrian might still have a problem, the kind of problem that Amy is not going to overlook.

BEN

Would you drop it? Adrian and I have been friends for a long time now, and she didn't try to hide anything from me before, so why would she hide anything from me now? And don't answer that because this is the end of this discussion.

He walks away, rounding a corner.

12 INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - ANOTHER ANGLE - CONTINUOUS

Around the corner, Ben walks right into Grace.

BEN

Just the person I was looking for.

GRACE

Uh-huh. Did you want to tell me that you were over at Amy's last night?

He looks at her.

GRACE

Adrian saw you. You and Ricky.

BEN

Why don't we go out and see your car? I have something I need to tell you.

GRACE

Is it worth walking out to my car for?

BEN

I guess I could tell you right here.

GRACE

You're back with Amy, and it's going to be better than ever.

BEN

I'm sorry, Grace.
 (MORE)

12 CONTINUED:

BEN (CONT'D)

I really do like you, but Amy and I have so much history together, and I really want our relationship to be better than ever, so I hope we can make it work this time. And as stupid as it sounds, I hope you and I can still be friends.

GRACE

I understand. I'm disappointed, but I understand. And you know what? We are friends. And as your friend, I want you to be happy. You deserve to be happy. Especially after what Adrian put you through last week. I really think she should have found out what the situation was first before scaring you like that.

BEN

No, I think she did the right thing coming to me. If she was scared, I deserved to be scared, too.

GRACE

See, you're a nice guy, and nice guys are hard to find. Amy's really lucky. Other than getting pregnant. Anyway, have you seen Adrian this morning? I phoned her, I texted her, nothing. You have any idea of where she is or what's going on with her? I hope she's okay.

BEN

Uh, I haven't seen her. But I hope she's okay, too.

GRACE

If she's not okay, and you need to talk, feel free to call me, Ben. Bye.

She walks away. Ben is starting to sweat. If she's not okay? What?

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

13 INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Ricky is looking around. JACK approaches.

JACK

Who are you looking for?

RICKY

Why do you want to know?

JACK

Just making conversation.

RICKY

Why?

JACK

Here's the thing...

RICKY

Oh no.

JACK

My dad got a new job. He and my mom are moving. We live in a house that belongs to the church, so I need a place to-

RICKY

No. I have my kid. And I don't need another one.

JACK

It would just be for a year, and I'm not a kid. I'm a responsible guy. I could help out around the house. It's not like you'd have to look out for me or anything.

RICKY

I don't want a roommate. And even if I did, I can't have a roommate. I just got shared custody. I had to fight for that. I'm not going to screw that up.

JACK

Alright, well, could I just say you said I could live there?

13 CONTINUED:

RICKY

What good would that do?

JACK

If my parents think I have a place to stay, my dad can accept the job and they can take off.

Ricky looks at him.

RICKY

Yeah, I guess you could do that.

JACK

Alright!

RICKY

Where are you really going to stay?

JACK

I'll find some place. I'm not worried.

He walks away. Ricky sees GRIFFIN walking with GRANT.

GRANT

Hey, look who's here. Me.

RICKY

You're going to school here now?

GRANT

Not now, next fall. Have you seen Ashley?

RICKY

No. But you stay away from her.

Ricky walks away. Grant looks at Griffin.

GRANT

I told you. He has a thing for her.

GRIFFIN

No, he doesn't, and even if he did, she doesn't have a thing for him. And you know what, she doesn't have a thing for you either. So transferring here would be a big mistake. I'm telling you, Ashley's not going to be happy about this, and she really hates surprises.

13 CONTINUED: (2)

GRANT

We can get past that. And what choice do I have? If I ask, she'll just say no. She's got the whole summer to get used to the idea. So... if she's not happy now, she'll be happy later, and I don't mean that in a stalker kind of way. Ashley needs me. She just doesn't know she needs me.

GRIFFIN

She doesn't need you. She doesn't need anyone. And that's both her strength and her weakness. And you cannot be hanging around me all the time. Because people are going to think we're not just cousins, we're kissing cousins, and I'm trying to get a boyfriend.

GRANT

How are you going to get a boyfriend hanging out with my future girlfriend?

GRIFFIN

She's not your future girlfriend, but she is my current friend. And if you come here, you have to make some friends of your own.

GRANT

I thought you had a boyfriend. Who was the guy at the wedding?

GRIFFIN

He's just a friend, a friend who has a lot of tough stuff going on in his life, and he needed to get out.

GRANT

He's not out?

GRIFFIN

Out side.

GRANT

Oh.

GRIFFIN

Why can't you just stay your school?

American Teenager - "Accentuate the Positive" - BLUE 3-01-10 19. 13 CONTINUED: (3) 13 GRANT Because my school doesn't have Ashley. GRIFFIN Why did I do this to myself? They continue on. 14 INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - ANOTHER ANGLE - DAY 14 Ricky takes out his phone, dials, waits. RICKY Where are you? Why aren't you at school? INTERCUT: 15 INT. ADRIAN'S ROOM - DAY 15 Ashley is on her phone. **ASHLEY** Because I didn't feel like coming in today. RICKY Why not? **ASHLEY** I felt like taking the day off. RICKY Why's that? Why today? **ASHLEY** Why not today? RICKY Don't you want to see your boyfriend? Your boyfriend is here. ASHLEY Boyfriend? What boyfriend? RTCKY Oh, I'm sorry, not boyfriend, companion. **ASHLEY** Who are you talking about? RICKY

That Grant guy.

American Teenager - "Accentuate the Positive" - BLUE 3-01-10 20.

15 CONTINUED:

15

ASHLEY

He's at school?

RICKY

Yeah, this school.

ASHLEY

This is the first I've heard of this.

RICKY

Where are you anyway?

Adrian enters. Ashley hangs up.

ADRIAN

Who was that?

ASHLEY

It was Ricky. He was just letting me know that Amy is looking for me.

Then a beat, Adrian looks at her.

ADRIAN

Why would Ricky call you? Why didn't Amy call you?

ASHLEY

I told you we're not speaking to each other.

ADRIAN

Oh yeah, I forgot.

ASHLEY

You're still in love with Ricky, aren't you?

ADRIAN

No, I'm really not. I can't let myself be in love with Ricky anymore. Being in love with Ricky is what got me where I am today. I might even hate Ricky.

Ashley gives no reaction.

16 INT. COUNSELOR'S OFFICE - DAY

DR. BINK is there when Amy enters.

AMY

You wanted to see me?

16 CONTINUED:

DR. BINK

Sit down, Ms. Juergens.

AMY

If this is about Ashley, I don't know where she is. She said she was going to ride in with Adrian.

DR. BINK

She called. Adrian's car is on the fritz. They're waiting for Triple A. That's not what this is about. Have a seat. I have something exciting to tell you. I have lifechanging news.

Amy sits down, unsure what this all means. Dr. Bink starts to hum, "New York, New York," while an impatient Amy stares at her and waits.

DR. BINK

Don't you get it?

AMY

No.

DR. BINK

It's up to you! New York! New York!

AMY

I really need to talk to Ben. Ben Boykewich. We're supposed to go out tonight. It's our first time out in a really, really long time, and my dad won't let me go. He wants Ben to come over for dinner instead.

DR. BINK

Oh, well that is important. You want me to announce it over the P.A.?

(mimics)

"Ben Boykewich, Amy Juergens cannot go to dinner, but you can have dinner at her house. Please contact her immediately."

(then)

Then your personal business gets taken care of, and we can get down to school business.

AMY

What does New York have to do with school business?

16 CONTINUED: (2)

DR. BINK

You, Amy Juergens, have been invited to attend a four-week, all expenses paid, program for young musicians at the Nabokov School of Music this summer in New York.

Amy looks at her, what?

DR. BINK

Do you believe it? I saw this summer program for young women and I knew you had wanted to go to Juilliard some day, and well... this is the first step.

Amy doesn't comprehend.

DR. BINK

You can go to Nabokov. This summer. For four weeks.

Amy stands up.

AMY

Is this some kind of cruel joke or something? You know I can't go to New York. I have a baby.

DR. BINK

The baby has a daddy. And a grandfather. And grandmother. Two grandfathers and two grandmothers. And an aunt.

AMY

Doesn't matter.

DR. BINK

It matters. It totally matters. It's four weeks that'll change your life.

AMY

I can't change my life. And maybe I don't even want to change my life. Maybe I want to stay right here this summer and try to make things work out with Ben. I love Ben. Oh my God! New York?

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

17 INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

MADISON and LAUREN are with Amy at her locker.

MADISON

How did you get that?

AMY

How did I get that? It's not easy to play a French horn. I've been practicing for years. Dr. Bink heard about the program, and Mr. Sedlack gave her a DVD of my solo I'm learning.

LAUREN

Are those two...? Are Sedlack and Bink...? You know.

AMY

No! I don't think so. It doesn't matter. This is really amazing. I mean, of course, I can't go, but just to get the offer.

LAUREN

Why can't you go?

AMY

Uh, John.

LAUREN

Take him with you. You were going to take him to Italy when you wanted to go with Ben.

AMY

I was an idiot then.

MADISON

That was last summer.

AMY

Yeah, I know that. Still... I'm a responsible mother now. And I can't take John with me. I'd be living in a dorm and going to school all day, and I have a job here, and... I can't go.

Ricky comes up.

17 CONTINUED:

RICKY

Can't go where?

AMY

Hi, Ricky.

MADISON/LAUREN

Bye.

They exit.

RICKY

Where are you going?

AMY

I'm not going anywhere, but I did get an offer to go to a summer music program in New York. And that would lead to Juilliard. It's the Nabokov School of Music.

RICKY

No kidding. That's pretty impressive.

AMY

Yeah.

RICKY

I guess I could keep John, but I just pushed Ben to go back with you, so you probably shouldn't just take off.

AMY

You pushed Ben? What does that mean?

RICKY

I mean, he was hesitating for whatever reason, and I encouraged him to go back with you, and if it doesn't work out, feel free to blame it on me.

AMY

This time, it will work out.

RICKY

Well, if it doesn't.

AMY

It will.

RICKY

I hope so.

17 CONTINUED: (2)

AMY

What changed since last night?

RICKY

Nothing. Congratulations on getting the offer and my condolences on not being able to accept. What time am I picking up John tonight?

AMY

Ben and I can't go out tonight. My dad won't let me, so I'm just going to ask Ben to have dinner with my stupid family - And why can't I just take off? Ben took off last summer.

RICKY

And how'd that turn out?

AMY

It's not Bologna. It's New York.

Ricky shrugs.

AMY

It doesn't matter, I'm not going. I'm not even going out to dinner tonight. I just have to find Ben and tell him.

RICKY

You're looking for Ben?

AMY

I'm looking for Ben.

Ricky nods down the hall toward Ben. She sees him and smiles. Ben smiles and approaches.

RICKY

(pointedly)

Don't be late for work.

Ricky walks away. Ben looks at Amy.

BEN

I've been looking for you everywhere.

AMY

I'm sorry. I found out I got in this summer music program in New York, and I was in the counselor's office and then I had to go see Mr. Sedlack and then...

17 CONTINUED: (3)

BEN

A summer music program in New York? Wow! Congratulations!

He kisses her. She kisses him back.

AMY

Of course, I'm not going. I can't.

BEN

I'm sorry. I know how tough it must be for you to keep having to pass up opportunities, but you're such a good mother.

AMY

Yeah. About that. About being a mother and part of a family... My dad won't let us go out tonight. He and my mother have this stupid idea that we're all going to start eating together again every night, so we can bond or something. But you're invited.

BEN

I'd love to come.

AMY

You don't have to. It's going to be awful. Ashley and I aren't even speaking to each other.

BEN

What's new? Amy, I love your family, and I want to be part of your family, just like I want you to be part of my family. Because some day, I hope you and I are a family.

AMY

Me, too. Some day.

BEN

So what time's dinner?

AMY

Six.

BEN

I'll come straight from work.

AMY

Me, too. I'll see you there.

18 INT. GRACE'S KITCHEN - DAY

Kathleen is putting flowers in a vase when Grace enters and slams down her books.

GRACE

Ben broke up with me.

KATHLEEN

Broke up with you?

GRACE

Yeah. At school. Are those my jeans?

KATHLEEN

No.

GRACE

They look like my jeans.

KATHLEEN

They're not your jeans. Go back to Ben. What happened with Ben? I didn't know you considered the two of you to be together. I thought you were just friends.

GRACE

Oh, you knew I wanted him to be more than a friend.

KATHLEEN

No, I really didn't. I thought that maybe you would find a guy who... doesn't have any possibility of being pregnant with your best friend.

GRACE

There's no possibility. And just because your stupid husband is a doctor and gynecologist doesn't mean he knows everything about pregnancy. He doesn't know anything about Adrian. Or her womb.

There's a KNOCK at the back door. It's Jack.

GRACE

Ugh. What's he doing here?

KATHLEEN

Grace Bowman!

Grace crosses and slings open the door.

18 CONTINUED:

GRACE

Just because Ben broke up with me does not mean that I would ever go out with you again.

JACK

Of course not. May I come in? Hi, Mrs. Bowman... Oh, is it still Bowman?

Kathleen smiles.

KATHLEEN

It's Tsegaye. Mrs. Tsegaye.

Grace looks at her.

GRACE

When did that happen?

KATHLEEN

When I got married.

JACK

Congratulations on that.

KATHLEEN

Thank you, Jack.

JACK

So... How are the cabinets working? Need me to tighten them up or anything?

GRACE

No.

KATHLEEN

They're working fine. Sit down. Grace will get you something to drink. And... I'll leave the two of you to talk.

JACK

Actually, I wanted to talk to you.

GRACE

To her? About what?

KATHLEEN

She's upset that I'm wearing her jeans.

GRACE

I knew those were my jeans!

18 CONTINUED: (2)

KATHLEEN

You gave them away. I kept them. So what is it, Jack? What's going on?

JACK

My dad is leaving the church.

KATHLEEN

On his own will?

JACK

Yes.

GRACE

Why?

JACK

He's been offered a job teaching Philosophy at his alma mater. So he and my mom want to move to Phoenix, but they can't, unless I find a place to live my senior year.

GRACE

You can't live here.

KATHLEEN

Grace!

Kathleen looks at Jack.

KATHLEEN

You can't, but she shouldn't say it like that. It's just that... I'm a newlywed, and we're all trying to bond as a family right now and... I just don't think it's a good idea. Oh. And you and Grace had sex. And Tom hates you.

JACK

I guess that about covers it.

KATHLEEN

But you're welcome to stay for dinner.

JACK

Thanks.

Grace looks at them, exits.

19 INT. ADRIAN'S KITCHEN - DAY

Adrian and Ashley are making ice cream sundaes.

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED:

ASHLEY

I love this. My mother is right next door, cleaning house and cooking and looking after Robie, and I'm right over the fence skipping school and eating ice cream. This is the best school day I ever had in my life.

ADRIAN

You know you're going to get in trouble.

ASHLEY

Yeah, I don't care. I think it's worth it. If you can't do the time, don't do the crime. Besides, if I get busted, it'll give us something to talk about at that family dinner. And maybe if the dinner is unpleasant enough, we won't have to have dinner together every night.

ADRIAN

You know what, Ashley, you're fearless.

ASHLEY

Yeah, so are you.

ADRIAN

No, I'm more dangerous than fearless. But, the thing we have in common is that neither of us really cares what anyone thinks.

ASHLEY

Yeah, that's true. I really don't care what anyone thinks, as long as I feel like I'm doing the right thing.

ADRIAN

Yeah, yeah, that's right. And you know what? If people find out that I was pregnant, or later, they find out that I had an abortion, I can live with that because that's what I have to do. That's what's best for me. I have to do what's best for me.

19 CONTINUED: (2)

ASHLEY

And it's really no one else's business, except for maybe Ben's. Should you tell Ben?

ADRIAN

Ben doesn't want to know. Ben just wants to be with your sister, and you know what, that's what's best for Ben, so I'm not going to get in his way. Besides, Ben doesn't know about things like this. He's a rich kid. He's been totally protected all his life from anything messy like this. I mean, he's a nice guy, he's a romantic guy, but I don't think he can deal with reality. Not this kind of reality. Not without suffering for the rest of his life. When I saw how heartbroken he was when that test was positive, I knew I couldn't just continue to include him in this nightmare. He can't handle it. It would break him.

ASHLEY

I don't know. He went to the clinic with Amy when you drove them, when she was thinking about abortion.

ADRIAN

That wasn't his baby.

ASHLEY

Oh. Right.

ADRIAN

And I don't need him to go with me. I'm going to tell my mother. My mother will go with me. I dread telling her. I know she'll be upset, but I know she'll understand.

Ashley gives her a hug.

ADRIAN

Thanks, Ashley. Thanks for being here with me today.

(sees something, then)
Uh-oh.

Ashley turns and looks. Ricky's at the kitchen door.

ASHLEY

Want me to get rid of him?

19 CONTINUED: (3)

19

ADRIAN

Oh God. No. I'll get rid of him. You mind waiting upstairs?

Ashley exits upstairs. Adrian crosses to the door. She opens it. Ricky looks at her. She looks at him.

RICKY

Are you pregnant?

She doesn't say anything. His eyes fill with tears and he walks away. She turns and closes the door.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

20 INT. BUTCHER SHOP - DAY

20

Ben is arranging boxes on a shelf when BUNNY walks up.

BUNNY

What are you doing?

BEN

I'm alphabetizing the pasta from angel hair to ziti.

BUNNY

That screams busy work. You need busy work? I'll give you busy work.

BEN

I'm just trying to make the time go quickly because I'm going over to Amy's for dinner. I've never been to Amy's house for dinner. It's like I'm... part of the family.

BUNNY

Oh. In that case, let me help you with that.

She quickly mixes up all the boxes.

BUNNY

Put 'em back how they were for the past fifty years. In size order. From risotto to lasagna.

BEN

Oh. I didn't realize.

Bunny looks at him, exits. Ricky stops mopping. He walks over to Ben.

RICKY

That's what you're doing, trying to make the time go fast until you can get to Amy's, or do you have something on your mind that you're trying to forget?

BEN

Like...?

RICKY

I don't know. You tell me.

20 CONTINUED:

BEN

I don't know.

Ricky looks at him. Ben looks back, uh oh, something's going on here.

RICKY

You want to tell me anything?

BEN

I don't think so.

RICKY

Are you sure?

BEN

No. Do you want to tell me anything? 'Cause I'm sensing there's something on your mind.

RTCKY

What's going on with you and Adrian?

Ben takes a moment to look at him.

BEN

Alright, you know. I don't know how you know, but you know. We thought she was pregnant, but she's not. I guess I should have told you, but it didn't seem like it was really any of your business, or anyone's business, except mine and Adrian's.

RICKY

Shouldn't you have told me when I was trying to get you and Amy back together?

BEN

You did get us back together, and no, because I wanted to get back with Amy, and Adrian's not pregnant so... Why shouldn't I get back together with Amy?

RICKY

Ben, Adrian is pregnant.

BEN

No, she's not.

Ricky looks at him.

American Teenager - "Accentuate the Positive" - BLUE 3-01-10 35. 20 CONTINUED: (2) RICKY Yes, she is. And if she told you she isn't, she lied.

BEN

Shut up. You don't know anything.

RICKY

Ben, I know Adrian.

BEN

No.

RICKY

Yes. I do. And Adrian is pregnant, Ben. She is. And neither you nor Adrian may want that to be true, but it is true.

Ben looks at him.

BEN

She's not.

RICKY

I'm your friend, Ben. Listen to me.

BEN

No.

Ricky puts up his hands.

RICKY

Alright. Maybe you can't hear me right now, but if you need me, let me know.

Ricky goes back to mopping. Ben turns white. Whiter. Then he snaps.

BEN

(mumbles)

Jerk.

DISSOLVE TO:

21 EXT. JUERGENS HOUSE - ESTABLISHING - NIGHT 21

2.2 INT. JUERGENS KITCHEN - NIGHT 22

20

George enters the back door. ANNE is feeding ROBIE. George looks around.

GEORGE

Hey, what's for dinner?

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED:

ANNE

Strained peas. Want some?

GEORGE

I mean for us, the family.

ANNE

Oh. I don't know. Chinese?

GEORGE

What about the family dinner? I thought we were going to start having family dinners again.

ANNE

Not tonight.

GEORGE

Tonight. I told Amy she can't go to dinner with Ben tonight, 'cause we're having dinner tonight. Together, as a family.

ANNE

Then you should have said something to me.

GEORGE

I should have said something to you? You were the one who said we were going to start having family dinners. You said that.

ANNE

I didn't mean tonight.

GEORGE

You didn't specify that it wasn't tonight, either. So I took charge. You never think I do anything to try to make us more of a family, so I made a decision.

ANNE

Then you should have let me in on your decision. Especially if you thought I was going to cook the dinner. That way, in between laundry and housekeeping and running to the bank and changing diapers and walking your dog, I would have gone to the market as well. You want us to be more of a family, you make the dinner or you make the phone call. You order in Chinese.

(CONTINUED)

22

American Teenager - "Accentuate the Positive" - PINK 3-16-10 36A.

22 CONTINUED: (2)

22

GEORGE Fine.

ANNE

Fine.

GEORGE *

Why don't I order in English, it'll * get here faster. *

ANNE

Very funny. Just order the food. We'll all eat Chinese in the dining room together. One big, happy family.

GEORGE

I told Amy she could invite Ben.

ANNE

He's not in the family. Not yet anyway. Not that I care if he comes over, it's just that I thought when we do have these family dinners, it's so we can bond as a family.

GEORGE

Well, I invited him, so now, we'll have to bond around him. I'll call China Palace.

Ashley enters.

ANNE

Hi, Ash. How was school today?

22 CONTINUED: (3)

GEORGE

How'd you get home?

ASHLEY

I walked.

GEORGE

Your mother asked you how school was.

ASHLEY

Awesome. I learned so much I feel like my head is going to explode.

ANNE

Uh huh. I saw you over at Adrian's.

GEORGE

She went over there to get a ride. She and Amy aren't speaking.

ANNE

I know that. But did you know that she and Adrian didn't go to school?

ASHLEY

What! We didn't go to school?

GEORGE

Huh?

ANNE

I saw you over there, Ashley. All day long.

ASHLEY

Really? And you didn't come and get me?

ANNE

No. You know why?

ASHLEY

I don't know if I care.

GEORGE

(to Anne)

Why?

ANNE

Because Ashley thinks she's all grown up, she's old enough to make her own decisions about boys and sex and birth control.

(MORE)

American Teenager - "Accentuate the Positive" - PINK 3-16-10 38.

22 CONTINUED: (4)

ANNE (CONT'D)

So you know what? She's old enough to take responsibility for everything else in her life, school included. And if she doesn't go to school and she gets in trouble, we are not bailing her out. And if she makes bad grades and doesn't get into college, then that's her problem.

Ashley looks at George.

ASHLEY

She's my new favorite.

Ashley exits.

GEORGE

What the hell are you doing? You're trying to be the cool mom, now?

ANNE

I'm trying to be a better mom.

GEORGE

Well, it doesn't sound as if you're being a mom at all. She doesn't have to go to school?

ANNE

She'll go.

George looks at her.

GEORGE

Have you lost your mind?

George exits. Anne reacts.

22A INT. JUERGENS HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

George follows Ashley.

GEORGE *

Hey! Stop right there, young lady.

Ashley stops but does not turn around. *

GEORGE *

I'm not talking to your back. I
don't care who your favorite is.

She turns around. *

22

22A*

erican	reelager - Accentuate the Positive - FINK 5-10-10 50A.	
22A	CONTINUED:	22A
	ASHLEY Sorry.	: :
	GEORGE I'm not your favorite? Really?	: כ
	She just looks at him.	,
	GEORGE Fine. I don't care. Be that way. But you do not get to make decisions like whether or not you're going to school at fifteen. Birth control is one thing, education is another. Birth control is an option, school is not an option. You got that?	7
	ASHLEY Mom said I could decide.	; ;
	GEORGE You can't just split up the parents and then go with whichever one tells you the thing you want to hear.	÷
	ASHLEY Then you should have let me know that. Years ago.	; ר
	GEORGE I'm letting you know that right now.	; ר
	ASHLEY Well maybe you should let Mom know that.	7
	He looks at her, turns and heads back for the kitchen.	7
	GEORGE You are not the boss of me, or your mother, or anyone.	;
	ASHLEY (yelling after him) I am the boss of me. Mom just said so. Geez.	÷
	And he continues to the kitchen.	7
23	INT. GRACE'S KITCHEN - NIGHT	23
	Jack is getting the plates. Kathleen hangs up the phone.	

23 CONTINUED:

23

KATHLEEN

That was Jeff. He's still at the hospital. So I guess we'll just eat in here.

JACK

Thanks for letting me stay.

KATHLEEN

For dinner.

American Teenager - "Accentuate the Positive" - BLUE 3-01-10 39.

23 CONTINUED: (2)

23

24

JACK

For dinner.

He starts putting the dishes on the table. Tom enters.

TOM

Well, well. Parents moved off and left you, huh?

JACK

Not yet.

Kathleen interrupts.

KATHLEEN

Tom, go tell your sister Jeff's going to be late so we can go ahead and eat now.

Tom looks at Jack.

MOT

Make yourself useful. You know the way.

Jack nods, exits.

KATHLEEN

Would you be nice? Please?

MOT

Who's not being nice? Not me.

Kathleen reacts.

24 INT. GRACE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Grace is studying. Jack knocks.

JACK

Hey, your mom says we can eat now.

She looks at him.

GRACE

Come in. I want to ask you something.

He steps one step in.

JACK

Alright.

24 CONTINUED:

GRACE

Do you think there's any chance that Adrian could be lying? Do you think she could be pregnant?

JACK

Is there any chance that Adrian would lie? Is that what you're asking? If Adrian is capable of telling a lie?

GRACE

I know she's capable of telling a lie, but why would she tell me she's pregnant and then lie about not being pregnant?

JACK

I would assume because she plans to get an abortion, and she knows from past conversations that you wouldn't be supportive of that.

GRACE

She wasn't at school today.

JACK

Can I sit down next to you on this... bed?

Grace looks at him.

GRACE

I quess.

He sits down.

JACK

Grace, I heard that Adrian wasn't at school, but no one is thinking that she's pregnant or off having an abortion. People don't know. And maybe people shouldn't know. Maybe we shouldn't know. If that's what Adrian did today, then it's over, and that's between her and God. It's not for us to judge. I really believe that.

GRACE

So we're too late?

JACK

Maybe.

(MORE)

24 CONTINUED: (2)

JACK (CONT'D)

I mean, if she did lie, and if she was pregnant, and if she did get an abortion. But we don't know that that's what happened. And if she wants us to know that that's what happened, she'll tell us. And if she doesn't tell us, then... we leave it at that. Maybe someday she will. In the meantime, I think all we can do is be there for her, and not be judgmental, so that if she wants to talk about it, she'll talk about it, and if she doesn't, she doesn't. I think that's the best way to be a friend to her right now.

He tentatively puts his arm around her.

JACK

Is this okay?

GRACE

I quess.

She leans her head into his shoulder.

25 INT. JUERGENS KITCHEN/DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Ashley is coming and going from the dining room, setting the table and putting out the Chinese food while Anne and George are in a heated argument.

ANNE

Even if you and I want to argue about everything else in our lives, we have to be on the same page when it comes to Amy and Ashley!

GEORGE

And Robie!

ANNE

Yes. And Robie.

GEORGE

You forgot Robie!

ANNE

I did not forget Robie.

And they hear Moose BARK.

(CONTINUED)

25

25 CONTINUED:

GEORGE

And the dog. You forgot Moose.

ANNE

Stop being ridiculous.

GEORGE

Who's being ridiculous? You told Ashley she doesn't have to go to school!

ANNE

I did not. I said it's her responsibility to go to school. It's against the law for her not to go to school.

GEORGE

And who do you think would get in trouble for breaking that law? Her or us?

ANNE

She's going to go to school.

ASHLEY

What's the penalty?

GEORGE

You don't want to find that out, young lady.

Ashley exits again.

GEORGE

(to Anne)

What is the penalty?

ANNE

I don't know, I think they just make you go to school.

GEORGE

That's our job. She was next door all day and you saw her and you just let her stay over there? With Adrian? Adrian's a bad influence.

Anne reacts.

ANNE

You sold her parents the house.

25 CONTINUED: (2)

GEORGE

Oh, oh, I get it. You're doing this to get back at me. You're still mad about Cindy.

ANNE

No, I'm not. Or I wasn't. Thanks for bringing that up.

Amy enters with JOHN.

AMY

Guess what?

Both answer.

ANNE/GEORGE

What?

AMY

Is something going on?

Ashley reenters.

ASHLEY

You might want to put John in the nursery, unless you want him to learn some new words.

AMY

Where were you today?

ASHLEY

Apparently, that's no one's business, but mine.

AMY

What's she talking about?

ANNE

Nothing, Amy. What'd you want to tell us?

AMY

Chinese food? Take out? I invited Ben.

GEORGE

Maybe you should un-invite him.

AMY

I'll be right back.

She exits with the baby. George looks at Anne.

25 CONTINUED: (3)

GEORGE

Maybe we should move out again, Ashley and me.

ASHLEY

No, thanks.

She exits.

ANNE

Why would she want to move? She practically has her own apartment here. It's a great place to have sex, don't you think?

GEORGE

It's my fault she wants to have sex? Because I turned the garage into a room for her?

ANNE

And got her birth control pills. Don't forget the birth control pills.

Amy reenters without John.

AMY

Would you two please stop fighting. This is my first night back together with Ben. And I want it to be special.

(looks at George) Like the dinner I would have had if I went out with Ben.

Ashley reenters.

GEORGE

It's a school night. Why is your first concern dinner and Ben? Don't you have any homework?

ASHLEY

If you do, Amy, it's up to you whether or not you do it. Those are the new rules.

AMY

What?

ANNE

Those are not the new rules.

There's a KNOCK at the door. Amy crosses and opens it.

American Teenager - "Accentuate the Positive" - BLUE 3-01-10 45.

25 CONTINUED: (4)

25

Ben is wearing a sports jacket and carrying flowers and a bakery box.

BEN

Hi, Amy.

AMY

(barely)

Hi.

ANNE/GEORGE

Hi.

ASHLEY

And so it begins...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

26 INT. JUERGENS DINING ROOM - NIGHT

26

George, Anne, Ashley, Amy and Ben are all seated at the table. Everyone is staring at their plates. It's deadly quiet. MOOSE is there. Ben looks at his watch.

BEN

Oh goodness, look at the time. Six fifteen. I better get going.

No one objects. Amy stands up.

AMY

I'll walk you out.

BEN

Thanks.

(turns to everyone else)
The dinner was delicious. Loved the
General Tso's chicken.

GEORGE

(mumbles)

We'll let him know.

BEN

Goodnight.

Amy exits with him, giving them all a look.

27 INT. JUERGENS KITCHEN - NIGHT

27

Amy and Ben enter.

AMY

I'm so sorry.

BEN

No, no, that's okay. I don't mind eating in silence. Especially after all the screaming.

AMY

Oh, this is so embarrassing.

Ben looks at her.

BEN

Hey, it's something we'll laugh about in years to come.

(MORE)

27 CONTINUED:

BEN (CONT'D)

And you know what, Amy, all families argue. Maybe not as enthusiastically as this one, but families argue. My family, too. And we will, too. Because all families have problems, and all families find a way of working through their problems, and that's how they stay together, they find a way. And there's always a way. Always.

She looks at him.

AMY

Do we have a problem?

He reacts.

BEN

Do we have a problem? What?

AMY

I don't know, something about the way you said that... like you wanted me to know something.

BEN

No. All I want you to know is that I love you.

Amy smiles.

AMY

I love you, too.

BEN

And I'll always love you. No matter what.

She looks at him.

AMY

Okay. What does that mean? Why are you saying that?

BEN

I just said that because that's what people say.

She looks at him.

BEN

But I will always love you.

American Teenager - "Accentuate the Positive" - BLUE 3-01-10 48. 27 CONTINUED: (2) 27 She looks at him. BEN Goodnight, Amy. AMY Goodnight. He exits. 28 INT. JUERGENS DINING ROOM - NIGHT 28 Ashley is eating everything in sight. George and Anne have disappeared. Amy comes into the room with a vengeance, looks around. She looks at Ashley chewing. AMY I got accepted to a summer program at the Nabokov School of Music in New York. It could help me get into Juilliard. Ashley thinks about it, swallows. **ASHLEY** You should go. Amy looks at her. DISSOLVE TO: 29 EXT. BOYKEWICH HOUSE - ESTABLISHING - NIGHT 29 30 INT. BEN'S ROOM - NIGHT 30 Ben enters his room and is startled to see LEO there. LEO Hey! There you are! I was just going to leave you a note. The flight got in early, and Betty and I want to have dinner with you. BEN Oh. Well, welcome back. But I just had dinner. With Amy. And her family. At their house. Leo looks at his watch. LEO

And you're back at six thirty?

BEN Yeah, they eat early.

(CONTINUED)

LEO

I'll say.

Ben nods.

LEO

Something bad happen at dinner?

BEN

Huh?

LEO

You look like there's something wrong.

BEN

Uh, kind of. But you go to dinner with Betty, and we can talk when you get home. This can wait.

LEC

No, I got time. Tell me what's going on.

Ben looks at him, takes several breaths.

LEO

Oh, come on, how bad can it be?

BEN

Bad.

LEO

Ben, whatever it is, you can tell me. I'm your dad. I love you.

Leo waits, nothing.

LEO

You wrecked the car?

Ben shakes his head no.

LEO

You had a little party and someone broke a lamp.

Ben shakes his head no.

LEO

Oh, come on Ben. I can't picture you ever doing anything so bad you can't tell me. There's nothing you can do that can't be fixed, somehow, some way.

BEN

Funny you should say that. That's kind of what I'm afraid of, that this is going to get fixed, somehow, some way.

Leo stares at him.

CONTINUED: (2)

30

BEN

Adrian is pregnant. And it's my baby.

Leo slowly sits down on the bed.

FADE OUT.

30

END OF SHOW