

FINAL DRAFT
11/5/71

ALL IN THE FAMILY

"Cousin Maude's Visit"
(Formerly "Everybody Is Sick")

Produced by
Norman Lear

Directed by
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&
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Episode #13

A Bud Yorkin-Norman Lear Production

Tape: 11/9/71

ALL IN THE FAMILY

"Cousin Maude's Visit"

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CAST

ARCHIE BUNKER CARROLL O'CONNOR
EDITH BUNKER JEAN STAPLETON
MIKE STIVIC ROB REINER
GLORIA STIVIC SALLY STRUTHERS
COUSIN MAUDE BEATRICE ARTHUR

SETS

INT. BUNKER LIVING ROOM

ALL IN THE FAMILY"Cousin Maude's Visit"ACT ONEFADE IN:INT. BUNKER LIVING ROOM

(GLORIA IS ON COUCH IN HER BATHROBE WITH A BLANKET
AROUND HER LEGS. EDITH SCURRIES OUT OF KITCHEN
WITH A BOTTLE OF ASPIRIN IN HER HAND, RUNNING
TOWARDS STAIRS)

ARCHIE

(SHOUTING O.S.)

Edith!

EDITH

Coming, Archie!

GLORIA

(VERY NASAL. HER HEAD ALL STUFFED)

Mother...

EDITH

I'll be with you in a minute, Gloria. Your
father wants some aspirin.

GLORIA

But, Ma...

ARCHIE

(SHOUTING AGAIN O.S.)

Edith! Bring me some Kaopectate, too, will
ya!!

ARCHIE CONT'D)

(BEAT)

And hurry!

(RUNS DOWNSTAIRS FOR KAOPECTATE. GRABS BOTTLE
OFF THE TABLE AND STARTS FOR THE STAIRS)

EDITH

Kaopectate...

MIKE (O.S.)

Mom, I need some nose drops!!

EDITH

Right away, Mike! Nose drops...

(RUNS BACK TO TABLE AND PICKS UP NOSE DROPS, TOO.
STARTS BACK UPSTAIRS)

GLORIA

Mom...

EDITH

(AS SHE RUNS)

In a minute, Gloria, I'm doing the best

I can with the three of you sick this way.

(EDITH DISAPPEARS UPSTAIRS. GLORIA THROWS OFF
HER BLANKETS, GETS ON HER FEET, UNSTEADILY, STARTS
TOWARD KITCHEN AND IS OVERTAKEN BY A GIANT SNEEZE.
EDITH REAPPEARS)

EDITH

(AS SHE DESCENDS)

Gloria, what are you doing up? You're
supposed to be resting.

GLORIA

I know, Ma. I just wanted a cup of tea,
and you're so busy.

ARCHIE

(LOUDER THAN BEFORE O.S.)

Edith, you dingbat! You brung me the Milk
of Magnesia!

EDITH

Oh! I got 'em mixed up. I'm sorry, Archie.

GLORIA

Mom, let me get the tea.

(GLORIA STARTS FOR KITCHEN)

EDITH

No, Gloria. I'll get the tea, you just
lie down and rest.

ARCHIE

Edith, come on...

(EDITH RUNS TO KITCHEN, CALLING UPSTAIRS AS SHE
DOES)

EDITH

I'll only be a second, Archie!

MIKE (O.S.)

Ma!

GLORIA

She's in the kitchen!

MIKE (O.S.)

What??

GLORIA

(SHOUTING LOUDER)

I said, "She's in the kitchen."

MIKE (O.S.)

I can't hear you, Gloria.

GLORIA

(SCREAMING)

Michael! You know how lousy I feel? Must
you make me scream?!?!

MIKE (O.S.)

I need some orange juice!

(EDITH SCURRIES IN FROM KITCHEN WITH TEA)

ARCHIE

Come onnn!!

EDITH

(HANDING GLORIA THE TEA)

Here's your tea, Gloria, nice and hot.

GLORIA

Thank you, Mom.

ARCHIE (O.S.)

Edith, you've got me walking the plank! The
Kaopectate!!!

EDITH

Coming, Archie!

ARCHIE (O.S.)

(AS EDITH CLIMBS STAIRS)

Don't forget the ginger ale to kill the
taste.

EDITH

Oh, ginger ale... Oh, my!

(STARTS DOWNSTAIRS)

GLORIA

Oh, stop, Ma! Enough's enough.

(SHE SHOUTS UP THE STAIRS)

Michael, daddy, you two bundle up and come
down here before Mom falls on her face!

(TO EDITH)

Come on, Ma, you gotta sit down and rest.

(SHE LEADS EDITH TO HER CHAIR WHERE SHE SITS)

EDITH

I'll be all right as soon as I can catch my
breath. It wasn't so bad the first two days
when I wasn't so tired an' you wasn't so
sick...

GLORIA

We've just got to send for Cousin Maude to
help out, Ma! Or you're gonna get sick, too.

EDITH

Well, I phoned her, but your father send her
a telegram and told her not to come. He
won't have her around.

(MIKE APPEARS ON STAIRS AND STARTS DOWN)

MIKE

Oh boy, am I dizzy! My head is spinning.

(ARCHIE PASSES MICHAEL QUICKLY ON STAIRCASE)

ARCHIE

Look out, look out, where's that Kaopectate!

EDITH

Don't you wanna open the ginger ale first?

ARCHIE

There's no time for that now.

(HE CHUG-A-LUGS THE KAO)

Oh, geez! Where's the ginger ale?

EDITH

Over here, Archie.

(EDITH GOES TO TABLE FOR GINGER ALE)

ARCHIE

How could you mix up Kaopectate with Milk of Magnesia? It's like mixin' prune juice with radiator seal... Get out of that chair, meathead. Edith, where's the ginger ale?

EDITH

Here you are, Archie.

GLORIA

We're killing Mom, daddy. I can't see why you won't let Cousin Maude come help out.

ARCHIE

Oh, blow your nose! That woman ain't settin' foot in this house. End of discussion.

GLORIA

How can you hate her through all these years?

MIKE

Are you kidding? Archie's hatred is like a fine wine. It mellows with age.

ARCHIE

Oh, go take a pill.

MIKE

Yeah, good. I need some vitamin C.

EDITH

No, I'll get it, Mike. You sit down on the couch next to Gloria. You can share the blanket.

MIKE

I can't sit next to Gloria. She's highly infectious! She was the one I caught this from in the first place.

GLORIA

Don't blame that on me! I warned you I was coming down with something. Why'd you have to kiss me?

MIKE

'Cause I liked you that day.

(COUGHS)

ARCHIE

Cut that out, will you. I don't want you breathin' your germs on me.

MIKE

Archie, if there's no personal contact, there's no danger of further infection.

ARCHIE

That's with regular germs. But them Polack bugs you got may be too dumb to know the rules.

EDITH

Here you are, Mike.

GLORIA

Mom, will you please get me the nasal spray?

ARCHIE

Hold it, Edith.

MIKE

Yeah, and some orange juice.

ARCHIE

Hold it, Edith!! Stop runnin' around. If we're all gonna stay down here together, I'm gonna have to lay down some ground rules and priorororities. And the first priororority is me! I am the one that's really sick.

GLORIA

You're sick? My legs and back muscles ache and I'm nauseous all the time...

MIKE

I feel for you, Gloria, I really do, but you have one of the lesser strains of the virus. I have the big one!

ARCHIE

I'm the sickest one here and I'm the breadwinner with three human beings to feed and one government mule!

(MORE)

ARCHIE (CONT'D)

So if youse two want anything, get it
yourself, Edith's waitin' on me and keep
the path between this chair and the
bathroom clear at all times!

GLORIA

Daddy, I think it's high time we reconsidered
Cousin Maude!

ARCHIE

Forget it.

GLORIA

She's the only relative on two sides of the
family that'll come when you need her, and
you won't have her around. What on earth
have you got against her!

ARCHIE

She's a big mouth buttinsky. And was from
the day we met.

EDITH

Oh, I remember that day. Maude and me was
sittin' in the Puritan Maid Ice Cream
Parlour havin' their special -- Oh my, it
was good -- it was called a Steamboat -- five
flavors of ice cream, with three toppings,
whipped cream, marshmallow, and butterscotch
sauce, and a marischino cherry on the top...

ARCHIE

Oh, Edith, lay off that stuff, my belly's
turnin' over.

GLORIA

Ma, I want to know what happened.

ARCHIE

Nothin' happened. Your mother was sittin' there with Maude -- and I was sittin' across the way with this kid, Rupert Pratt -- geez, talkin' about gettin' sick, you shoulda seen him turn his eyelids inside out -- and I was just tryin' to get your mother's attention...

GLORIA

How did you do that, daddy?

ARCHIE

Oh, I was just tryin' to make her laugh. That was my way -- what do you call it -- style -- in them days.

EDITH

He was so cute! First, he stuffed two straws up his nose like a walrus...

ARCHIE

All right, Edith!

EDITH

Then he made out like he was shot in the belly, and he put his head back like this, and let chocolate syrup drip out of the corner of his mouth.

ARCHIE

Stifle, Edith.

GLORIA

No, Ma. Keep going. Did he finally make you laugh?

EDITH

Oh, yeah.

(SHE LAUGHS JUST TO THINK OF IT)

He got up from where he was sitting and came over to where we were...

ARCHIE

Will you stow it, Edith.

EDITH

-- and while he looked straight into my eyes -- he squished his hand right down into my Steamboat! Well, I had to laugh -- there was his hand up to here in five flavors, three toppings, whipped --

ARCHIE

Yeah, we heard what a Steamboat is, Edith. If you want to tell 'em something... tell 'em what your Cousin Maude said on that occasion.

EDITH

She said -- Oh, my... do you really want me to repeat it, Archie?

ARCHIE

Go ahead -- let these two know what she's really like -- and they'll know why I don't want her around.

EDITH

Well, she said she hadn't seen nothin' so disgustin' since her kid brother heaved up his whole dinner at his confirmation!

ARCHIE

You hear that! Nice, huh. I pull the funniest stunt in the whole history of the Puritan Maid Ice Cream Parlour -- and that's what Maude come up with. That's why I hate the dame.

EDITH

Well, she ain't too crazy about you neither. 'Cause one Christmas your father and Maude had this terrible fight when she caught him drawing a beard and horns on a picture of President Roosevelt.

GLORIA

Cousin Maude liked Roosevelt, eh, Ma?

ARCHIE

Oh, yeah. She's a New Deal Fanatic...

EDITH

Once she ran thirty blocks up Broadway during a parade just to catch up with his car and touch his hand.

MIKE

Oh, boy -- I'm feeling lousier by the minute!

(TAKES THERMOMETER OUT OF ROBE AND POPS IT INTO HIS MOUTH)

ARCHIE

What're you doin' with that fermometer?

I'm the guy with the temperature.

MIKE

Are you kidding? Look at that inflammation!

(OPENS MOUTH AND STICKS OUT TONGUE IN ARCHIE'S FACE)

ARCHIE

Get that ugly hole away from me!

MIKE

And feel those swollen glands there.

(PUTS ARCHIE'S HAND ON HIS THROAT)

ARCHIE

Ah, get out of here. I don't want to feel
no part of you.

MIKE

Why, you afraid to find out I'm sicker
than you are?

ARCHIE

Hey, Edith! Get me a fermometer!

(EDITH GOES TO TABLE)

We'll settle this once and for all! And
shake that thing down first all the way.

EDITH

(RETURNING WITH THERMOMETER)

Here, Archie.

MIKE

All right, you shake yours down, too.

ARCHIE

Mine is already down. Stick it in your
yap and let's go.

EDITH

Now I'll time it -- One, Mississippi --
two, Mississippi -- three, Mississippi.

GLORIA

What are you doing, Ma?

EDITH

I'm counting sixty seconds. That's how
they taught us in school. Now what Mississippi
was I up to?

ARCHIE

You was up to Mississippi four...

EDITH

What, Archie?

ARCHIE

Mississippi five, Mississippi six,
Mississippi seven...

EDITH

Oh, yeah -- Four, Mississippi -- five,
Mississippi --

ARCHIE

You went back.

GLORIA

You've lost count, Ma. You're way behind.

EDITH

If I could only remember it, I could time it by playing the Minute Waltz. Though the last time I played it, it took seven and a half minutes.

ARCHIE

Edith, the next time you want to time anything, just let the sand run outta your head!

MIKE

All right, times up. Whattaya got?
(ARCHIE HOLDS HANDS OVER THERMOMETER AS THOUGH HIDING CARDS. MIKE DOES SAME)

ARCHIE

Oh no!! I'm calling you. Whaddya got?

MIKE

Can you beat 99?

ARCHIE

Can I beat 99? I got that beat with points to spare! What does it say, Edith?

EDITH

MacKassin and Robbins!

ARCHIE

No, Edith. Let me see -- what did you say, 99? Well, 99.3!

MIKE

Yeah? Well, read it and weep! 101.2!!

ARCHIE

Lemme see that.

MIKE

There it is. 101.2!

(SUDDEN REALIZATION)

Hey! What am I so happy about? I'm
dying here. Gloria, get off the couch.

GLORIA

Oh, no. My temperature's 101. For two
tenths of a point I'm not giving up my
couch!

MIKE

Gloria, I'm sick, will you let me have the
couch.

GLORIA

All right, you can have it, you hypochondriac.

MIKE

Me? Hypochondriac? I don't want the couch
now.

GLORIA

You're upsetting me, and I'm sick.

MIKE

What do you call 101.2? Chopped liver?

GLORIA

I don't care. Stop screaming, you
hypochondriac.

MIKE

What do you want me to do? Die for you?

ARCHIE

Will youse two pipe down -- my head's
killin' me!

(EDITH TRIES TO KEEP THE PEACE)

SOUND: DOORBELL

(ARCHIE TRIES TO GET EVERYBODY'S ATTENTION.
HE GETS UP TO ANSWER THE DOOR)

ARCHIE

Shut up all of youse -- Shush!!! -- There's
a person at the door.

(HE OPENS THE DOOR ON A TALL, GRIM-FACED WOMAN
CARRYING AN OVERNIGHT BAG)

ARCHIE

Huh? What are you doing here?

EDITH

Maude!

MAUDE

Edith!

(SHE HANDS ARCHIE HER OVERNIGHT BAG)

ARCHIE

Wait a minute, Maude, didn't you get my
telegram to stay the hell away?

MAUDE

Listen, dum-dum! I've always ignored
everything you've said, why should I pay
attention to anything you write?

(MORE)

MAUDE

Edith!! Honey-lamb! You can rest easy
now. Maudie's here.

ARCHIE

Oh, geez --!

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE UP:

INT. BUNKER LIVING ROOM - FOLLOWING DAY

(ARCHIE IS ASLEEP ON THE COUCH. MAUDE ENTERS
FROM THE KITCHEN WITH PITCHER OF JUICE AND
SETS IT ON TABLE)

MAUDE

(CROSSING TO THE FOOT OF STAIRS)

All right, everyone, rise and shine!

Come on, everybody, up --

(SINGS)

LAZY MARY, WILL YOU GET UP

WILL YOU GET UP

WILL YOU GET UP

Come on, Edith, Michael, Gloria! We're
goin' to have breakfast down here this
morning -- the exercise will do you
good.

(CROSSES TO COUCH. SINGS)

GOOD MORNING

GOOD MORNING

YOU SLEPT THE WHOLE NIGHT THROUGH

GOOD MORNING

GOOD MORNING TO YOU.

Are you waiting for a special
invitation? I said breakfast is on
the table.

ARCHIE

I heard you, and so did every moose up
in Canada!

MAUDE

Listen, Archie, I'm not gonna let you
upset me. I'm here because of Edith!
The fact that you happen to be here
with her is beyond my control -- like
any other freak of nature. Now you can
either come to the table and eat, or
lie there and feed off your own fat!

(BEAT)

And if you choose the latter, you could
probably lie there for months!

ARCHIE

I ain't slept the whole night here!

MAUDE

Well, it's day time now. So get off
the couch, you'll be in the way.

ARCHIE

You put me there. You kept me from
sleepin' with my own wife in my owd bed.

MAUDE

Your wife needed the rest. It's
probably the first peaceful night
she's had in twenty years! Dear, sweet
Edith.

(LOOKING AT ARCHIE)

I'd kill for that girl.

ARCHIE

You buried two husbands, Maude, ain't
that enough killin'?

MAUDE

It's only eight o'clock in the morning
and already your foul mouth is open for
business! Fred died of a brain
hemorrhage, and Bert died of a heart
seizure, and you know that very well,
Archie Bunker!

ARCHIE

All I know is I seen 'em both in the
funeral parlour, layin' there with big
smiles on their faces -- happy to leave!

(EDITH COMES DOWN STAIRS IN BATHROBE AND
PAJAMAS)

EDITH

Good morning, everybody.

MAUDE

There's Edith, get up, Archie...

ARCHIE

What for?

EDITH

Oh, look you got everything ready?

(MAUDE PULLS OUT A CHAIR FOR EDITH)

MAUDE

That's right, Archie, just sit. Fred
and Bert, God rest their souls, used to
jump up and hold my chair for me.

EDITH

It's a shame they both had to die so young.

ARCHIE

It was all that jumpin' up and holdin' out chairs that did 'em in.

MAUDE

Watch it, Archie.

(GLARES AT ARCHIE)

Have your juice, Edith darling, and I'll make you a nice hot breakfast.

(MAUDE EXITS INTO KITCHEN)

EDITH

Thank you, Maude. Oh, my! Do I feel rested! I bet I haven't slept so good in twenty years! How do you feel, Archie?

ARCHIE

How would you feel if you was woke up by a singing Storm Trooper.

EDITH

Oh, but Archie, she's been such a big help! And she means well.

(MIKE AND GLORIA COME DOWN THE STAIRS)

MIKE

Don't walk so close to me. You're breathin' on me.

GLORIA

Then walk faster, 'cause I'm hungry .

EDITH

Well, how do you two feel this morning?

MIKE

Well, my temperature is down to a hundred, but my throat still hurts, my eyes are clearing, my nasal passages seem...

GLORIA

Who cares, Michael, who cares. You know what he did to me? He sat the alarm to wake him up every two hours, so he could take his pills, gargle, and wheeze over his inhaler for ten minutes.

(TURNS TO MIKE)

You want to know something, Michael?

When you're sick -- you're sick!!

(MAUDE ENTERS FROM THE KITCHEN WITH A LOT OF FOOD)

MAUDE

Good morning, children. Look what I made you Edith. Bacon and eggs, potatos, something to get your strength back. Mike and Gloria, I made you this delicious custard -- good for the tum-tum...

(TO ARCHIE, HER VOICE DROPPING)

... and this is for you.

ARCHIE

Custard for them...

(LOOKING AT DISH)

What is this?

MAUDE

My own invention. Cream of Wheat with cheese.

ARCHIE

Cream of Wheat with cheese?

MAUDE

It's light but it binds.

ARCHIE

It looks like somethin' I et and lost.

GLORIA

Daddy, how crude.

MAUDE

Crude. He was always crude. I remember when he and Edith were courtin and they both liked to go to movies -- with the screen full of Spencer Tracys, Leslie Howards, and Clark Gables -- he took her to see Chester Morris.

ARCHIE

Damn right. A great actor.

(HE GOES AND SITS IN HIS CHAIR)

MAUDE

Edith, remember the lovely pictures we used to see?

EDITH

(WITH REVERENCE)

Yeah, "Rebecca", "Wuthering Heights."

MAUDE

"Intermezzo", "A Woman's Face".

(BEAT)

And then Archie came along.

EDITH

"A Bullet For Boston Blackie".

ARCHIE

A powerful picture -- They don't make movies like that no more. You never knew what was good, Maude. You was wrong about everything, that's why you never got along with nobody.

MAUDE

I always got along with Edith. Remember, Edith, when we stuck our fingers with a needle and mixed the blood together in a blood vow. There was an Indian word we used to say.

EDITH

Ollonto!

(THEY LAUGH AND HUG)

MAUDE

Ah, Halcyon Days.

ARCHIE

Garbage days --

(MORE)

ARCHIE (Cont'd)

The best thing I ever done for Edith was takin' her away from that whole family of dreamy eyed nuts.

MAUDE

Oh, so now you're not stopping at me, Archie. Now you're attacking the whole family. And after that wedding! Those presents we gave you.

ARCHIE

Presents, oh, ho, ho -- Edith came to me with a waffle iron, a rain coat that leaked and an impacted wisdom tooth!! Presents, ha, ha!! Oh, geez, let me out of here --

(RISES AND STARTS UPSTAIRS)

Cream of Wheat and Cheese -- wrong again, Maude!

(RUNS UPSTAIRS)

EDITH

Maude, don't mind Archie. He's not himself.

MAUDE

Never mind, I don't expect much from a man who would laugh out loud at Ish Kabibble!

MIKE

What's Ish Kabibble??

EDITH

Oh, he was a person. He played in Kay Kayser's band. The College of Musical Knowledge.

GLORIA

But what did he do that was funny?

MAUDE

Nothing. Kay Kayser would say -- and "There's Ish Kabibble" and you're father laughed.

MIKE

Did you think he was funny.

MAUDE

Like a migraine. Come everybody, let's all go into the living room. Leave the dishes. I'll clean them up later.

Edith, lamb, you sit right over here; make yourself comfortable, I want you to get all the rest you can.

EDITH

Thank you, Maude -- that's very sweet.

MAUDE

Oh, this is the first time I've been off my feet today! Oh, that feels good.

(EDITH REALIZES MAUDE IS SITTING IN ARCHIE'S CHAIR)

EDITH

Maude, maybe you'd rather sit over there on the couch?

MAUDE

Oh no. This old chair is good enough
for me.

EDITH

But Archie...

MAUDE

Archie, Archie... when I think of the
hundreds of men you could have married.

EDITH

Who?

MAUDE

Henry Messinger for one, he liked you a
lot.

EDITH

Yeah, but he made me very nervous --
always twirling that key-chain -- I
still got a scar where he clipped me.

(SHOWS MARK ON HER ARM)

(ARCHIE IS SEEN COMING DOWN THE STAIRS)

(EDITH CONTINUES NERVOUSLY)

Maude, wouldn't you feel more
comfortable sitting over there on the
couch?

GLORIA

Yeah, Maude, come on, there's lots of
room.

MAUDE

No, thanks. I'm beginning to get
used to this chair.

ARCHIE

Yeah, well, you better start getting
unused to it, Maude.

MAUDE

And may I ask why?

ARCHIE

Because that's my chair and I want to
sit in my chair.

MAUDE

Oh!

ARCHIE

So get out of my chair.

MAUDE

No!

ARCHIE

Maude, if you don't get out of my chair
I'm going to make you very, very upset.

EDITH

Archie, please!

ARCHIE

Stay outta this, Edith. I got the
secret weapon to put this little lady
away. Now, last chance, Maude.

MAUDE

Oh, get lost, Archie!!

ARCHIE

You ain't gettin' outta that chair?

MAUDE

That's right.

ARCHIE

All right, here we go. This here country
was ruined by Franklin Delano Roosevelt!
(THERE'S A BEAT AS MAUDE REACTS)

MAUDE

Your'e fat!

ARCHIE

What's that got to do with anything?
Stick to Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

EDITH

Archie, you promised never to say that
name again in front of Maude.

ARCHIE

Franklin Delano Roosevelt!

EDITH

Archie, please! He don't mean nothing, his
whole family was for Roosevelt.

ARCHIE

For two terms only, but that was it!
That guy was hangin' on like a Pope.

MAUDE

He hung on to save his country. He was a
Saint. The people loved him. That man had
charisma!

ARCHIE

I don't care how sick he was! His mouth
was always working pretty good with 'em
phony Fireside Chats.

MAUDE

Listen, those Fireside Chats kept this
country informed!

(MORE)

MAUDE (Cont'd)

And one "My friends" was worth a barrel full of "Let me make this perfectly clear."

ARCHIE

Oh, you're wrappin' our President, are you. Well, I'll tell you one thing about Richard Nixon. He keeps Pat home. Which was where Roosevelt should have kept Eleanor. Instead he let her run around loose till one day she discovered the coloreds. We never even knew they was there. She told them they was gettin' the short end of the stick and we been havin' trouble ever since.

MAUDE

It was a choice of Civil Rights or Civil War.

ARCHIE

We got Civil War -- Riots in the streets.

MAUDE

Caused by Poverty and Un-employment.

ARCHIE

Caused by Roosevelt the original creepin' Socialist!

MAUDE

He pulled this country out of the Depression.

ARCHIE

And right into World War II.

MAUDE

Which he won as Commander-in-Chief.

ARCHIE

General MacArthur won the war and
Roosevelt fired him.

MAUDE

That was Truman.

ARCHIE

Under sealed orders from F.D.R.!

MAUDE

What?

ARCHIE

A well known fact -- and he sold us out
to Joe Stalin at Gibraltar.

MAUDE

They met at Yalta!

ARCHIE

He sold us out there too! Handed
Europe over to the Russkies on a silver
platter! And that's that. And I got
my chair.

MAUDE

You know, Archie, I think I liked you
better when you were shoving straws up
your nose. I'm leaving this house.

EDITH

Maude...

ARCHIE

Good, good. Let her go. I got my chair.

MAUDE

Archie, you can have your chair. Only don't move around too much or you'll crush your brains!

(EDITH SITS HOLDING HER HEAD)

Wait, Maude! -- Oh my! Oh, my!

MAUDE

What's the matter, Edith?

EDITH

Mike, when you first got sick, how did you know?

MIKE

It was my head, I got all dizzy.

EDITH

Where did you feel it first, Archie?

ARCHIE

In my stomach. Why?

EDITH

You, Gloria?

GLORIA

Suddenly I felt nauseous and started throwing up.

EDITH

That's the one!!!

ARCHIE

Edith, what's the matter? Where you goin'?

EDITH

I'm sick.

(SHE CLAPS HAND OVER HER MOUTH AND RUNS
UPSTAIRS)

(ARCHIE LOOKS AFTER HER)

ARCHIE

Edith! Edith! You can't be sick --

What the hell are we gonna do? And

who's gonna take care of all of us?

(MAUDE TAPS ARCHIE ON HIS SHOULDER - ARCHIE
TURNS AND REACTS)

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

TAG

FADE UP

INT. BUNKER LIVING ROOM - SOME DAYS LATER

(MIKE AND GLORIA, FULLY DRESSED, KISSING)

ARCHIE

(ENTERS FROM KITCHEN WITH A BEER. SEES THEM
AS HE CROSSES TO HIS CHAIR)

Aw, cheez! C'mon, cut that out! Youse
gonna give all your germs a fresh
start.

GLORIA

Oh, come on, Daddy. Why are you so
grumpy? You should be thankful we're
feeling better.

ARCHIE

How do you expect me to feel with that
woman up there, hangin' around my neck
like an Albacross?

MIKE

Archie, have patience. That's how it
is with a virus. Sometimes it lasts
for two days, sometimes you could be
sick for a week.

ARCHIE

(LOOKS UP TO HEAVEN)

If you got any pity at all, let her
get well today.

MAUDE (O.S)

Are you sure you can manage, Edith?

EDITH (O.S.)

Don't worry about me, Maude. I'm fine.

(EDITH AND MAUDE APPEAR ON THE STAIRCASE.

EDITH IS FULLY DRESSED, SUPPORTING A VERY
SICK MAUDE, DRESSED IN PAJAMAS AND BATHROBE)

(CALLS OUT)

Archie, look who's up!

(ARCHIE REACTS)

FADE OUT

THE END