### MODERN FAMILY

"Changes"

Written by

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#1ARG04

SHOOTING DRAFT 8-26-09

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# MODERN FAMILY

"<u>Changes</u>"

## #1ARG04

# CAST

JAY PRITCHETTED O'NEILL
GLORIA PRITCHETTSOPHIA VERGARA
PHIL DUNPHYTY BURRELL
CLAIRE DUNPHYJULIE BOWEN
MITCHELL PRITCHETTJESSE TYLER FERGUSON
CAMERONERIC STONESTREET
HALEY DUNPHYSARAH HYLAND
ALEX DUNPHYARIEL WINTER
LUKE DUNPHYNOLAN GOULD
MANNY DELGADORICO RODRIGUEZ
GUEST CAST
DYLANREID EWING

### MODERN FAMILY

## "Changes"

### <u>SETS</u>

INT. DUNPHY HOUSE - LIVING ROOM

INT. JAY & GLORIA'S HOUSE

INT. MITCHELL & CAMERON'S CAR

INT. DUNPHY HOUSE - KITCHEN

INT. JAY & GLORIA'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM

INT. COSTCO

INT. GLORIA'S CAR

INT. CAFE \*

EXT. DUNPHY HOUSE - BACKYARD

EXT. PARK

### ACT ONE

#### 1 INT. DUNPHY HOUSE - DEN - DAY

1 \*

\*

Phil is planted on the couch watching a ball game as Claire passes through. She sees a bag of garbage by the door.

CLAIRE

I thought you were taking out the garbage.

PHIL

I am.

He stands and takes a step backward toward the garbage, never \* looking away from the TV.

CLAIRE

Phil.

PHIL

I'm getting it now.

He takes another half step. Irritated, Claire grabs the bag, opens the front door, and nearly walks into DYLAN.

DYLAN

Hey, Mrs. Dunphy. Waiting for Haley.

CLAIRE

Did you ring the bell?

DYLAN

I texted. She'll be down in a minute.

CLAIRE

Tell her I said hi.

PHIL

Dylan! D to the Y to the --

DYLAN

Hi, Mr. Dunphy.

PHIL

You're just in time for the end of the game.

DYTAN

I'm not much of a baseball guy. (to Claire)

Haley says hi.

CLAIRE

I was being --

PHIL

Come on. I'll catch you up.

Phil pats the couch. Dylan hesitates.

PHIL (CONT'D)

Come on, I don't bite.

Pats the couch again. Dylan sits very awkwardly, like a cat getting into a swimming pool. He keeps as much distance from Phil as he can. Suddenly, Phil snarls at him, rabid doglike.

PHIL (CONT'D)

Kidding.

(then re: TV)

Okay, see that guy? Tying run. He's been stuck on second base forever. I think he's gonna try and steal third.

(then)

So, how's it going with you and Haley?

Dylan is uncomfortable. Is Phil baiting him or has he unknowingly stumbled onto a truth?

DYLAN

I think I'm just gonna wait in the car.

PHIL

Knock yourself out, brah.

Dylan exits.

PHIL (CONT'D)

(to Claire)

He's a little jumpy, isn't he?

CLAIRE

Gee, maybe teenaged boys don't like hanging out with their girlfriends' dads.

PHIL

I thought we were past that. I'm all about taking it to the next level.

CLAIRE

I thought you were all about keeping it real.

PHIL

Yes, but the whole point of keeping it real is so that you can take it to the next level. Did you really not know that?

CLAIRE

You haven't exactly taken it to the next level with my dad.

PHIL

What are you talking about?

CLAIRE

We've been married sixteen years and you still walk on eggshells around him.

PHIL

What? Are you kidding? Jay and I are total buds!

#### 2 PHIL INTERVIEW

PHIL

Jay and I are "buds" with kind of an invisible asterisk. He's not a... talker. Or a hugger. Once he ran over my foot with his car. To be fair, he had just given up smoking. But, basically, we're buds.

(beat, places the imaginary asterisk) Asterisk.

#### 3 INT. JAY & GLORIA'S HOUSE - DAY

Jay is assembling the pieces of a remote control plane. Gloria and Manny are getting ready to go out.

\*

2

\*

3

MANNY

I wish I could stay home with you and fly toy airplanes.

JAY

They're not toys, Manny. They're models and they're very complicated. You want to fly one of these you have to know all about airfoils, drag, lift, and thrust. These are all principles of aerodynamics.

MANNY

The box says twelve and up.

JAY

Where?

Manny points it out.

GLORIA

You can fly toy planes with Jay next time. Today I want you to spend time with Luke.

MANNY

Why?

GLORIA

Because his mother invited you, so you go. Family should be close.

(re: box)

I'm pretty sure this is a typo.

#### 4 JAY & GLORIA INTERVIEW

GLORIA

Men need their hobbies. Manny's father had many hobbies. Like hiking in the desert, or that kind of skiing where they drop you from

(searches for word) What is it?

She mimics a spinning blade.

JAY

(begrudgingly)

Helicopter.

4

GLORIA

Yes. Once, on a dare, he even boxed with an alligator.

JAY

Wrestle. You wrestle -- you can't box with alligators.

GLORIA

Are you sure?

How would they get gloves on those little... claws?

GLORIA

Well, aren't they like hands?

A beat of incredulity.

JAY

No! (then) Okay, now I forgot what we're talking about.

GLORIA

I'm just saying that hobbies are important to the man, whether you're risking your life or flying little planes from a safe distance.

#### 5 INT. MITCHELL & CAMERON'S CAR - DAY

Cameron is driving, Mitchell is in the passenger seat. Cameron turns into a parking lot.

MITCHELL

Wait, wait -- what are you doing?

CAMERON

We need diapers. It'll just take a second.

MITCHELL

This is Costco.

CAMERON

Yes, which is where we buy diapers.

MITCHELL

Since when?

5

\*

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\* \*

\*

\*

\*

	MODERN FAMILY "Changes" 8/26/09 Shooting Draft	6.
	CAMERON Remember when we adopted that baby? Since then.	* * *
	Cameron starts to get out.	*
	CAMERON (CONT'D) Are you coming?	*
	MITCHELL I just need a minute when I woke up this morning I was not a person who shopped at Costco. And neither, I thought, were you.	* * * *
6	MITCHELL & CAMERON INTERVIEW	6 *
	CAMERON Mitchell is a snob.	*
	MITCHELL I am discerning.	*
	CAMERON Official slogan of snobs. When we first met he didn't give me a second look because I was some hick from a farm in Missouri and he was a big city boy.	* * * *
	MITCHELL Who says "city boy"?	*
	CAMERON Country folk.	*
7	<u>OMITTED</u>	7 *
8	INT. DUNPHY HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY	8
	Claire, Gloria, and Manny are in the kitchen.	
	GLORIA Manny brought his favorite game to play with Luke.	

Manny pulls a board game from a bag.

MANNY

It's called EMPIRE. You use strategy to expand territories and take over the world.

CLAIRE

Luke'll love that. He's in the back yard.

During the following banal dialogue, the camera catches Manny \* looking out the window, where he sees Luke bouncing mindlessly on the trampoline, a box on his head. Manny puts the game back in the bag.

GLORIA

I should get going. Do you need anything while I'm out shopping?

CLAIRE

I don't think so, but thanks.

End of banal dialogue. Alex enters, wearing a nice outfit. Her attitude is sullen.

ALEX

Okay, what about this?

CLAIRE

Don't you say hi to Gloria and Manny?

ALEX

Hi, Gloria and Manny. (back to Claire) Okay, what about this?

Alex does a turn so her mother can see the outfit.

CLAIRE

No. You're wearing a dress.

ALEX

(whining)

Mom...

CLAIRE

It's not going to kill you to look like a girl for one evening.

ALEX

It's a wedding for some friend of yours I never even heard of.

CLATRE

This is not up for discussion. Just borrow one of Haley's again.

ALEX

No, that sends an ugly message -that I'm Haley.

(then)

Instead of trying to force me to wear a dress, why don't you worry about getting Luke to wear pants?

CLAIRE

What?

She looks out the window.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)

Oh, why does he --

She raps on the glass.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)

Luke! Pants!

GLORIA

Alex, why don't you come shopping with me? Maybe I can find you something you like.

CLAIRE

That's a nice offer, but it's not really Alex's thing.

ALEX

(to Gloria)

Actually, I'd love to go.

(to Claire)

See? You don't know what my thing is. You have no idea what my thing is.

CLAIRE

Yes, your thing is to provoke, just like your sister's thing is to never come out of her room. And your brother's thing is... visible to the Hendersons.

(banging on window)

Luke! Put 'em on!

### 9 <u>INT. JAY & GLORIA'S HOUSE - ENTRYWAY - DAY</u>

9

Tight on Jay.

JAY

You're here to "hang out?"

Reveal Phil at the front door. He holds up a six pack.

PHIL

Brought six friends.

### 10 PHIL INTERVIEW

10

11

PHIL

I decided to make more of an effort with Jay. Our relationship's always been stuck in that primal place where we started. He's the old silverback protecting his females. Then this younger, stronger gorilla comes swinging in, beating his chest. Naturally the ape-ladies come running, presenting their nice scarlet behinds. Papa ape wants to stop all that, but he can't. That's just life. I'm not the enemy. The enemy is poachers.

### 11 <u>INT. JAY & GLORIA'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER</u>

Jay is on the couch finishing up his plane. Phil stands awkwardly.

JAY

Do you have to just stand there? You're making me uneasy.

PHIL

Um...

JAY

For god's sake, sit down. You can hold this wing in place while I fasten this.

Phil hesitates. Jay waves him over.

JAY (CONT'D)

Come on.

Phil sits uncomfortably on the couch, exactly as Dylan did in the first scene.

END OF ACT ONE

# ACT TWO

12	INT. COSTCO - DAY	12
	Mitchell is at a shopping cart. Cameron shows up with a package containing a dozen large tubes of toothpaste and a wrapped package of fifty bars of soap.	*
	CAMERON Got the toothpaste and the soap.	
	MITCHELL Oh good, now we can open that general store. (then) I thought we were just here for diapers.	* * *
	CAMERON	*
	We had an old saying back on the	*
	farm: as long as you're bringing	*
	the mule to market	*
	(then) I feel you rolling your eyes,	*
	Mitchell.	*
12A	MITCHELL & CAMERON INTERVIEW	12A *
	CAMERON	*
	It was at one of Pepper's game	*
	nights that we met I remember	*
	Mitchell because he kept rolling	*
	his eyes every time I got a little	*
	boisterous	*
	MITCHELL	*
	I was not.	*
	CAMERON	*
	You were a little.	*
	MIDGUETI	*
	MITCHELL Maybe a little.	*
	(then)	*
	Anyway, we started playing charades	*
	and it was my turn to act out a	*
	clue, but when I saw what it was I	*
	had no idea how to do it. All I	*
	could think of was	*
	Mitchell mimes placing his hands on piano keys.	*

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	MITCHELL (CONT'D) Without missing a beat, Cam said	* *
	CAMERON Casablanca.	*
	MITCHELL I mean, all I did was this	*
	He does it again.	*
12B	INT. COSTCO - CONTINUOUS	12B *
	MITCHELL Let's just get the diapers and get out of here.	* *
	CAMERON  Fine, I just want to swing by the wine section.	* * *
	MITCHELL There's a wine section?	*
	CAMERON A good one. Just past the tires.	*
	MITCHELL  No way, they don't have	* * * *
	The true scope of the store begins to dawn on Mitchell.	*
	MITCHELL (CONT'D) Cam, what is this place?	*
13	EXT. PARK - DAY	13 *
	Jay and Phil are alone in a giant field. There may be othe people around, but they are far away. Jay holds the remote control and manipulates the plane, which flies above. Phil is into this	

is into this.

PHIL

Now can I try it?

JAY

No.

\*

\*

\*

PHTT

I should get one of these. I've always loved planes. If my life had gone a little differently, I think I would have been a pilot.

(then) Hey, what would happen if you turned the remote off and then back on real fast?

JAY

Yeah, you would have been a great pilot.

PHIL

So can you do a loop-de-loop?

JAY

If I wanted to.

PHIL

No way. Can I try it?

JAY

No.

PHIL

Okay.

A beat.

PHIL (CONT'D)

I can see why you like this, it's so peaceful. I mean, the whole world disappears when you're out here.

(a long beat of silence) I remember this one summer --

JAY

Tell you what. There's another trick called "threading the needle." I used to do it with Claire and Mitch when they were kids. You wanna try it?

PHIL

How does it go?

JAY

You grab one of those hoops over there and go stand way, way, way at the end of the field, and I fly the plane through it.

Phil considers this.

PHTT

That sounds awesome! And then I get a turn at flying it?

JAY

No.

PHIL

Okay.

#### 14 <u>INT. DUNPHY HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY</u>

14

Claire pulls some Nestle's Tollhouse cookies out of the oven as Manny enters.

MANNY

Those cookies smell like heaven. Your own recipe?

CLAIRE

No, I just put 'em in the oven.

MANNY

And added the secret ingredient of caring?

CLATRE

Sure.

(then)

So how are you and Luke getting along?

MANNY

I don't know. He won't come out of his box. Maybe I'll just stay here and catch up with my sister.

Claire is thrown.

CLAIRE

(realizing)

Oh, you mean me. Actually, I guess I would be your step-sister.

MANNY

My mother says we are never to use the word step because it means "not real." And we are a real family.

He sits.

MANNY (CONT'D)

So what is the matter, Claire?

CLAIRE

What do you mean?

MANNY

You seem sad.

mother.

CLAIRE

Oh, it's nothing. Just dealing with some Alex stuff. You know, kids.

MANNY

(scornfully)
Kids. You don't have to tell me. My school is full of them.

15	OMITTED	15 *
15A	GLORIA INTERVIEW	15A *
	GLORIA I always wanted a daughter dress her up in pretty outfits, do her hair and nails and make up. No one knows, but for the first year of his life, I made Manny up like a girl and told people he was my daughter. Just a few times. I didn't want to mess with his head. When he found the pictures, I told him it was his twin sister who died.	* * * * * * * * * * * *
15B	INT. CAFE - DAY	15B *
	Gloria and Alex are having lunch at a cafe in the mall.	*
	GLORIA So I was thinking after lunch we could do a little shopping.	* *
	ALEX I'm not getting a dress.	*
	GLORIA That's fine by me. I am not your	* *

ALEX I know. You're my grandmother.	*
GLORIA Step-grandmother.	* *
ALEX Everyone at my school thinks it's weird.	* *
GLORIA Why is that?	*
ALEX Because you're so young and pretty. Who has a hot grandmother?	* * *
GLORIA I did. But for today, think of me as a girlfriend. We are just two girlfriends, out for an afternoon of fun.	* * * *
ALEX What do you usually do with your girlfriends?	* *
GLORIA I don't know, we go out, we talk, we drink wine.	* * *
ALEX Can I drink wine?	*
GLORIA No.	*
ALEX Not much of a friend.	*
GLORIA Well, you can still feel free to talk to me about anything.	* * *
ALEX Yeah, adults always say that, but they don't mean it. When my mom says I can ask her anything, I really can't. She just freaks out.	* * * *
GLORIA Well, not me. I do not freak out. So, shoot.	* *

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16.

PHIL

(yelling)

Is this far enough?

JAY

That's good. Now stand still! Don't move!

PHIL

Okay!

Jay manipulates the plane. We see it high in the sky as it swoops down toward Phil, who doesn't move. The plane doesn't hesitate -- it smacks into him and knocks him down violently.

END OF ACT TWO

### ACT THREE

#### 19 EXT. PARK - DAY

19

CLOSE on Phil lying on the grass, moaning and disoriented.

PHIL

You hit me.

JAY

You must have moved. I told you to stay still.

PHIL

I didn't move!

JAY

Try not to talk. I want to make sure nothing's broken.

REVEAL that Jay is examining his plane.

#### 2.0 INT. DUNPHY HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

2.0

\*

Claire and Manny are in mid-conversation at the kitchen table, the plate of cookies between them. Claire has the coffee pot next to her cup, and Manny has a milk carton next to his plastic cup.

CLAIRE

Alex and I can't just disagree. She has to turn everything into a fight.

MANNY

Hmm. A strong, independent woman. (pointedly)

Sounds like somebody else I know.

CLAIRE

Yeah, but I was never hostile. Like this whole dress thing. I never had that trouble with Haley.

MANNY

Maybe Alex doesn't want to compete with her big sister. Maybe she's trying to create her own identity. Put her in a dress and she disappears.

\*

\*

\*

\*

21

CLAIRE

For one afternoon.

MANNY

I would not give up being myself for even one second.

Claire takes a moment to consider this. Manny takes a sip of his milk.

CLAIRE

You know, Manny, sometimes I forget you're only ten-years-old.

He lowers his cup, revealing a milk moustache.

MANNY

And three quarters.

Claire's phone rings.

CLAIRE

(into phone)

Hello?

(then)

Olives? Well... yeah, I guess so...

#### 21 INT. COSTCO - DAY

MITCHELL

(into phone)

You got it.

Mitchell hangs up and puts a giant three-pack of olives in \* the overloaded cart. Cameron joins him.

CAMERON

I found the diapers. They're down

They start pushing their cart down the aisle.

MITCHELL

You're not going to believe what I \* saw -- coffins. They have baby formula and they have coffins. You \* can buy everything you need from \* birth to death.

They turn the corner to find themselves facing a vast wall of diapers.

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	MITCHELL (CONT'D)  Oh my god, look at all these diapers. These are so cheap, why don't we just buy enough for the next year or two?	* * *
	CAMERON Where would we keep them?	*
	MITCHELL They sell sheds here.	
	CAMERON You want to buy a diaper shed? Are we those guys now? The guys with the diaper shed?	*
	Cameron gently pulls him away from the diapers.	*
	CAMERON (CONT'D) Okay, time to go.	*
21A	MITCHELL & CAMERON INTERVIEW	21A *
	MITCHELL So, after charades we went out for coffee and I learned he loved art, played piano, spoke French	* * *
	CAMERON Un peu.	*
	MITCHELL I misjudged him.	*
	CAMERON I'm sort of like Costco. I'm big, I'm not fancy, and I dare you not to like me.	* * *
	MITCHELL And I'm more like (to Cameron) What was the name of that little shop in Paris?	* * * *
	CAMERON You are such a snob.	* *
22	OMITTED	22 *

22A	INT. CAFE - DAY	22A *
	Gloria and Alex are seated across from each other.	*
	GLORIA Well, I have a small flower on my ankle, and a tiny butterfly on my upper thigh.	* * *
	ALEX How high up?	* *
	GLORIA Pretty high.	* *
	ALEX Did you do it to look sexy? Did you do it for a guy? Does Grandpa like it?	* * *
	GLORIA No. No. Oh yes.	*
	ALEX That's gross.	*
	GLORIA (shrugs) Meh.	* *
	ALEX Let's go back to your piercings.	*
	GLORIA  No, no, I have played balls, and answered a lot of your questions. I have one question for you.	* * *
	ALEX What is it?	* *
	GLORIA Why don't you want to wear a dress?	* *
	ALEX Because I don't want to look like Haley and her stupid friends.	* *
	GLORIA I wear a dress and I am not Haley.	*
	ALEX You are Haley, just forty years older.	* * *

22.

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Busboy.

	MODERN FAM	IILY "Chang	es"	8/26/09 S	hooting	Draft		23.
		You know, go out on like that. comes, you And so you dress.	one da a date And will	with a cu when that want to lo	ite boy day ook good			* * * * * *
	Beat. Ale	ex takes th	is in.					*
		So, you ev	ALEX ver kis	s another	girl?			* *
		That is no grandmothe		=	your			* * *
23	OMITTED						23	3 *
24	INT. DUNPH	IY HOUSE -	KITCHE	N – DAY			24	1 *
		deep in co she tops o 's cup.						* * *
		Was my mom keep in mi different	nd, sh	on me? Su e's from a	à.			* * *
	Gloria ent	ers with A	lex, wh	ho carries	a garme	nt bag.		*
		Hello! We	GLORIA 're ba					* *
		Hey, guys,	CLAIRE how'd					* *
		It was fur (to Ma	anny)		<b>:</b> ?			* * *
		Well	MANNY					* *
		We all had (then)		at time.				* * *

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	CLAIRE (CONT'D) Alex, I've been thinking about it, and it's not the end of the world if you don't wear a dress to the	*
	wedding.	*
	ALEX It's all right, I bought one.	*
Alex runs	upstairs. Claire turns to Manny.	*
	CLAIRE (re: Alex) See what she does?	* * *
	MANNY We can talk about it next week.	* *
	in, helping a drugged Phil. During the following, deposit him on the couch.	*
	JAY Clear the way.	*
	CLAIRE What happened?	
	JAY Just a little accident. Nothing big.	
	PHIL I was in a plane crash.	
	CLAIRE Will somebody tell me what happened?	
Claire exa	amines a bruise or some cuts on Phil.	
	JAY We were threading the needle and somebody moved.	*
	PHIL No I didn't. You did it on purpose.	*
	JAY That's the painkiller talking, he's a little loopy.	* *
	GLORIA How bad is it?	

\*

JAY

One of the wings is cracked and the propeller is bent, but I can --

GLORIA

I mean Phil.

PHIL

I was in a plane crash.

JAY

(aside to Gloria and

Claire)

Look, I didn't ask for him to be there. He insisted. He took a chance and that's what happened.

CLAIRE

Like when you ran over his foot?

MANNY

You ran over his foot?

JAY

It was an accident.

CLAIRE

You went out of your way. We could all see the tire marks on the lawn --

I had just quit smoking --

Phil groans.

JAY (CONT'D)

You're upsetting your husband.

PHIL

Water...

We follow Claire and Jay into the kitchen. Claire gets water.

JAY

It wasn't my fault.

CLAIRE

I've seen you thread the needle a million times. You never miss.

JAY

(taking a cookie)

I know. I must be getting old.

\*

CLAIRE

Why don't you admit it. You never liked Phil. And put that down. You do not get a cookie.

JAY

I like Phil.

(then, off her look)

It's just that sometimes he tries too hard, you know? It's kind of... irritating.

Gloria crosses in.

CLAIRE

Maybe he tries too hard because you never make any kind of effort. In sixteen years, have you ever once told him you liked him?

JAY

Maybe not in those exact words --

CLAIRE

You haven't said it in any words! You know how that makes me feel?

Claire goes to the couch and gives Phil water during the following:

GLORIA

(shocked)

You never told your son you love him?

JAY

Whoa, whoa, when did we jump to love? And he's not technically my son.

GLORIA

Does that mean you don't love Manny?

JAY

Sure I do. Believe me, while I was in the park, I really wished Manny was there.

GLORIA

Why, so you could fly a plane into his head?

Claire has returned.

PHIL \* (getting emotional) \* I am a good dad. So are you. Come here. He reaches for a hug. Jay wants to be dead, but they hug. Jay tries to pull away, but Phil isn't letting go. PHIL (CONT'D) This feels so right. JAY Okie dokie... \* PHIL (feeling Jay's arm) You're very muscular. Cameron and Mitchell enter, carrying olives and other things they bought. They notice the tableau on the couch. CAMERON What's going on? PHTT \* I was in a plane crash. GLORIA Jay is telling Phil how much he \* loves him. Mitchell and Cameron are a little put out. CAMERON Oh. That's nice for Phil. MITCHELL Yeah, really nice. Not that he's ever said anything like that to my boyfriend... CAMERON It's okay. MITCHELL No, it's not okay. GLORIA Mitchell is right. You get in that hug.

JAY

Are you kidding me?

GLORIA

Jay!

JAY

(resigned)

Come on, Cam.

Cameron goes and joins the hug.

GLORIA

\*

Say it...

JAY

I like you too, Cam.

PHIL

What do you like about him?

JAY

Aw, jeez.

(then)

Gloria, no...

We see that Gloria is taking a picture with her phone. Mitchell is also capturing the moment on a new video camera.

GLORIA

Manny, get in there.

Manny goes to join the hug.

PHIL

(to Cameron)

Doesn't he have big arms?

Cameron feels Jay's arm.

CAMERON

He really does.

GLORIA

Hold still.

Dylan comes down the stairs.

PHIL

Dylan! Get in on this!

As the others (except Jay) playfully encourage him, Dylan reluctantly joins in the hug.

GLORIA

\*

Everybody smile!

MODERN FAMILY "Changes"	8/26/09 Shooting Draft	30.
JAY Don't push it.		*
And on this awkward yet so	omehow close moment, we:	*
	FADE OUT.	
END O	F ACT THREE	

END OF ACT THREE