

Family Separation By Peter Keel

a dark comedy sketch

**Copyright © August 2018 Peter Keel and Off The Wall Play
Publishers**

Caution: This script is provided for reading purposes only. Professionals and amateurs are hereby advised that it is subject to royalty. It is fully protected under the laws of the United States of America, the British Empire, including the Dominion of Canada, and all other countries of the Copyright Union. All rights, including but not limited to professional, amateur, film, radio, and all other media (including use on the worldwide web) and the rights of translation into foreign languages are strictly reserved; and any unauthorized use of the material may subject the user to any and all applicable civil and criminal penalties. For any information about royalties or to apply for a performance license please click the following link:

<http://offthewallplays.com/royalties-and-licensing-of-plays-sold-by-off-the-wall-plays/>

Family Separation

By Peter Keel

Character List

Andrew – Middle aged man, married to Andrea, father of Fran and Francis.

Andrea – Middle aged woman, married to Andrew and the mother of Fran and Francis.

Fran – Teenage girl and daughter of Andrew and Andrea.

Francis – Teenage boy and son of Andrew and Andrea.

A large table is situated center stage. Four seats are around the table. On one side a middle aged man Andrew is sitting next to his wife Andrea. Both are well dressed and look anxious. Two teenagers enter the room, a boy Francis and a girl Fran, and they sit in the two remaining seats at the table.

Andrew: Hi kids.

Andrea: Hi guys, please sit down.

Fran: Mum, dad, what is going on?

Francis: Yeah, why are we here?

Andrew: Please relax, there is nothing wrong. Your mother and I need to talk you both. Andrea, do you want to lead off?

Andrea: Yes. Francis and Fran, our two darling children, you know your father and I love you both very much. But you are old enough to realize that this hasn't been working.

Fran: What do you mean?

Andrew: Your mother and I have been talking a lot recently.

Francis: More like fighting a lot.

Andrew: Yes, and we have made a few decisions about our future, and we wanted to talk to you two about those decisions and us moving forward.

Fran: Oh my god, you are getting divorced. Divorced! I knew it and it's my entire fault.

Andrea: We are not getting divorced. That's really drastic. Calm down, it's OK.

Andrew: Separation is a better term.

(Fran and Francis are visibly shocked.)

Francis: Separated! And it's all Fran's fault. Well done Fran.

Andrea: Francis cut it out. It's not just Fran's fault.

Fran: Mum!

Andrew: Fran, calm down. It's a series of factors that have made us come to this decision, your mother's and my relationship, money, work stress, and you two being one of the biggest problems.

Fran: So we are the reason you are separating?

(Andrew and Andrea both laugh.)

Andrea: Us getting separated? You mean your father and me?

Andrew: No. Your mother and I are not getting separated. We love each other.

Francis: But you just said.

(Andrew and Andrea continue to laugh.)

Andrew: No we **(gestures to himself and Andrea)** are not getting separated. We **(gestures to Andrea and himself.)** love each other very much, we are getting separated from you two. **(Gestures to Fran and Francis.)**

Andrea: Damn these kids are slow.

(Andrew and Andrea continue to laugh.)

Fran: What? I don't believe this.

Francis: This is mental. How could this be our fault? Sure Fran's fault but me. What did I do?

Fran: What are we supposed to do? How do we get separated? You are our parents, you can't abandon us.

Andrew: Your mother and I have talked at length about this, but we think it's the best way forward for everyone involved.

Fran: How is us separating the best for everyone?

Andrea: Well without you two burdening us financially.

Andrew: Or emotionally.

Andrea: Yes, we will be able to have more holidays and spend more time with each other. Which will be nice.

Andrew: I can get that sports car I've been looking at, but could never afford. And we can focus on our relationship and over time if your mother and I both feel happy, maybe just maybe we will have a few kids. But this time do it right.

Francis: *What do you mean do it right?*

Andrea: That's going to be so much fun. I love kids.

Fran: I don't believe this. Where are we going to live?

Andrew: Well your mother and I own the house.

Andrea: And we are happy here. It would be silly for us to move out.

Andrew: Extremely silly. So I guess that means you two should find alternative arrangements.

Francis: Dad I'm fifteen years old. Strangely enough, I don't have an alternative arrangement.