

The Baldwins
by
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INT. THE CHARLIE BALDWIN HOME - DAY

The EGGS, CHARLIE BALDWIN, WENDY BALDWIN and HENRY BALDWIN, all wearing trousers and shirts, sit on a sofa in that order, watching TV in a luxurious, two storey high living room. Marble pillars are by the sides. Out of the huge windows on the left is a sunny and hilly countryside view. CAMERAMEN on both of the FAMILY'S sides point their cameras at the EGGS.

HENRY

Do we really have to have every minute of our lives filmed and then shown on TV, dad? You don't find this embarrassing?

CHARLIE

Not every minute, son. Just the highlights. Anyway, it's making us a ton of money, just don't do anything controversial like burn another country's flag and you should be fine!

HENRY

Why?

CHARLIE

Do you know what a hate crime is, son?

HENRY

No...

CHARLIE

It's a very bad thing, Henry. We get into trouble, other people feel sad, no one wins. Not only that, we'd get hate mail in response!

HENRY

Isn't that hypocritical, father?

CHARLIE

Henry, you're only a few days old and already you're turning into a huge asshole.

WENDY

Now now, Charlie. Henry is just curious...

CAMERAMAN 1

We're filming in ten seconds...

CHARLIE
 Ok, gang. Remember the rules, be entertaining but do not, repeat do NOT be offensive? Ok?

HENRY
 Got it.

WENDY
 Got it.

CHARLIE
 Ok, here we go, just a few more seconds.

CAMERAMAN 2 gives a thumbs up and mouths 'Go!'

HENRY retrieves a tiny French flag from his pocket.

CHARLIE
 (seriously)
 Henry, no.

HENRY gives the flag a kiss.

CHARLIE
 Oh. Good. I like France, too. Why DO you like France so much, boy?

HENRY
 I just think the country is filled with wonderful people and wonderful places.

CHARLIE
 Wow, you're only a few days old and you're filled with love. Who's your favourite Frenchman out of curiosity?

HENRY
 Who invented the guillotine, father?

CHARLIE
 Oh no.

HENRY
 Because I don't like him.

CHARLIE
 Phew! That was very nice of you.

HENRY
 I also hate the person who invented wine, who probably came from France.

CHARLIE

Champaign comes from France, at least. And why do you hate wine?

HENRY

Because it put you into rehab.

CHARLIE

Fine, wine has ruined my life. But please go back to talking about nice things again, boy!

HENRY

Ok, you're a really strong egg.

CHARLIE

Thanks, boy! And why is that?

HENRY

You gave up smoking...

CHARLIE

Ah yes. That's the hardest thing you can ever do.

HENRY

I noticed you have something in your pocket, father. What is it? Another flag?

CHARLIE

Oh it's nothing, boy. I wouldn't worry.

HENRY

No, seriously. Is it the flag of Spain? I love Spanish people, too!

HENRY bobs up and down to CHARLIE'S immediate side and picks something from his pocket. It's a tiny cigarette.

HENRY

What's this, father?

WENDY

Henry! You know the risks of smoking!

CHARLIE

I don't know how it got there! I don't smell of smoke, do I??

WENDY

Look into my eyes and tell me you don't smoke.

CHARLIE
 (seriously)
 Wendy, I have never smoked in a day
 or so. That's me more or less fully
 quit!

WENDY
 What else have you been hiding from
 me?

CAMERAMAN 1 gives an enthusiastic thumbs up. CHARLIE exhales
 deeply.

CHARLIE
 Ok. Yesterday, I may have got drunk,
 gambled at a casino and assaulted a
 police officer.

WENDY
 Charlie!

CHARLIE
 Look, I said I MAY have done that,
 things are very blurry. I'm not in
 trouble am I? That suggests I simply
 got drunk and gambled away a few
 thousand pounds or so.

WENDY
 How could you??

CHARLIE
 I didn't lose everything! I won you a
 cuddly toy, I wanted to surprise you!

WENDY
 You did?

CHARLIE
 Get me the present, boy...

HENRY bobs up and down out of the room.

CHARLIE
 You'll like this Wendy, it's
 adorable...

HENRY bobs back into the room, carrying a present. He sits
 back on the sofa as WENDY unwraps it.

CHARLIE
 It's a good'n...

WENDY stares at the present, which is a cuddly, woolen egg.

WENDY
It's perfect...

CHARLIE
See??? And what's losing a few
thousand pounds when my acting career
has made me a fortune?

HENRY
Should I assault police officers,
dad?

CHARLIE
No. I wouldn't really even tell them
that you love them. Not whilst drunk,
anyway.

HENRY
What about when you're not drunk?

CHARLIE
Oh that's very complicated, Henry. If
when you grow up, you do find
yourself attracted to a police
officer, maybe tell them when they're
off duty.

HENRY
Have you ever been attracted to a
police officer?

CHARLIE
You know what? Some of them are very
dominant.

WENDY
Charlie!!

CHARLIE
Not as dominant as you, Wendy!

WENDY
Oh. Ok, then.

CAMERAMAN 1 gives an enthusiastic smile.

WENDY
As you're my one and only boo, I got
you a present, as well...

CHARLIE
Oh really?? What is it??

WENDY
Get the present, Henry...

HENRY bobs out of the room once again.

CHARLIE
Is it another egg cup? Extra relaxing
bubble bath?

WENDY
You'll see!

HENRY bobs back in the room carrying another present which
he hands to CHARLIE. He sits back down.

CHARLIE
This is so exciting...

CHARLIE unwraps the gift.

CHARLIE
Oh wow! One of those kits that allow
you to paint eggs, I'll definitely
give that a go!

WENDY
Paint me!

HENRY
And me!

CHARLIE
Yes, let's all paint each other!

CAMERAMAN 2
Ok, that's enough filming for now...

CHARLIE
Go well?

CAMERAMAN 2
Weellll... Maybe a bit... on the
cheesy side? Having said that the
police officer story was too far in
the other direction. These are
complicated feelings for regular
viewers to have...

CAMERAMAN 1
Let's just have something to eat and
then go back to filming...