

A Day in Forestia

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INT. EDUARDO'S ROOM - DAY

A table with an open laptop. Objects and decorations revealing a freshman biology student. The room, in complete silence, irradiates calmness. An oasis in the middle of the chaotic city.

An attractive young man, 18, is sitting reading the book *The Hidden Life of Trees*. He is EDUARDO. To his side, there are notes on the forms of communication and collaboration between forest trees and their possible applications in society. Symbiosis, mycorrhiza, chemical communication processes, the role of collaboration in evolution. A note with a DIAGRAM for a society based on mutual support forest networks - the core: the FAMILY. In the laptop, a PowerPoint slide with the title "COOPERATION FOR EVOLUTION: HISTORY OF A FOREST SOCIETY" and three names: Eduardo Guillén, Jimena Espino, Javier González.

Eduardo hears the family car parking, then the key in the door, and finally the noise of bags. He snaps the book shut and runs towards the kitchen.

INT. EDUARDO KITCHEN - DAY

Eduardo greets CARMEN, his mother, and begins to rummage through the grocery bags scattered around the kitchen, not finding what he is looking for.

EDUARDO

You didn't bring me the foam.

CARMEN

No.

Eduardo stops searching and begins to lose his composure. Standing, leaning over the table, Carmen turns her back to him. Dressed up for work and obviously stressed, she reads a floristry magazine, ignoring both the bags and her son.

EDUARDO

(trying to control himself)

I needed it for tomorrow.

CARMEN

(without turning to look at him)

Why didn't you tell me?

EDUARDO

I told you a thousand times!

CARMEN

No, you didn't tell me. When did you tell me?

EDUARDO

I told you yesterday and I told you today, before you left!

CARMEN

Well, either way. You have your bike, right?

EDUARDO

With the bike I can't ... argh!

Eduardo, furious, kicks the floor and comes out of the kitchen muttering and making a fuss. Carmen continues reading the magazine while Eduardo runs to his room.

INT. EDUARDO'S ROOM - DAY

Eduardo smashes the door against the wall as he enters, leaving a black mark where the metal hit.

EDUARDO

(muttering)

Fuck me...

Eduardo hurries to prepare his things to go out, and when he reaches the note with the diagram he pauses for a moment. His family is far from being a support network.

EDUARDO

As if. Families suck.

At that moment, on the nightstand, we see how the screen of his cell phone turns on by itself. Without Eduardo noticing, an unknown application begins to install.

CARMEN (O.C.)

(from the kitchen)

Have you already helped your brother?

EDUARDO

(slamming the laptop shut)

Don't you see what I have to do!? Let the jerk learn to work alone. Fucking incompetent.

CARMEN (O.C.)

You go on, speaking like that ...

The app disappears from the screen and only a green icon remains, lost among all the other applications: FORESTIA. When Eduardo picks up the cell phone to put it in his pocket, the cell phone screen is already off.

Eduardo goes downstairs and meets Carmen again.

CARMEN

Where are you going?

EDUARDO

To see if I can find something to replace what you didn't bring.

CARMEN

Put the helmet on.

Eduardo throws another tantrum, goes for his helmet, puts it on, and leaves the house snorting. He takes the bike, gets out and closes the gate. Before getting on the bike, he gets a message on his cell phone.

Eduardo takes it out of his pocket, and we see on the screen a WhatsApp from SANDRA: "HELLO BABY (heart emoji) ARE WE STILL MEETING LATER ON? I LOVE YOU." Immediately after, another message comes in, also from Sandra: "BY THE WAY, DO YOU THINK YOU CAN HELP ME TODAY?"

EDUARDO

Oh, give me a fucking break.

Without opening the messages, he gets on his bike and heads towards a PARK, where he gets distracted by the shapes of the trees. We see the phenomenon known as "crown shyness" in the canopy. Eduardo sighs.

EDUARDO

I want to be like you.

Suddenly, a Google Maps type VOICE comes out of his pocket:

VOICE

In 50 meters you will have reached your destination.

Eduardo tries to take out the cell phone with one hand to see why the stupid Maps has just been activated without his consent, but he loses control of the bike and crashes against a streetlight. Black screen as Eduardo closes his eyes. When he opens them again, the same voice says:

VOICE

You have reached your destination. Welcome to Forestia.