

- 1 You're a great big sister.
- 2 TINA: I am? Really? *(Grabs card off of floor.)* Listen to this, "Mean
3 things I have said to my sister: You touch me one more
4 time and I'll snap your Barbie's head off!"
- 5 CHAD: Everybody says stuff like that. You should hear the
6 things I say to Daniel. It doesn't mean anything. Besides,
7 that was years ago.
- 8 TINA: So what about this one? "Sometimes you're so annoying,
9 I just can't stand the sight of you!" Remember that?
10 *(Turning to Tori)* I said that! *Tonight I said that to my sister.*
- 11 TORI: But you didn't mean it. She knows that.
- 12 TINA: It's the last thing I said to her. The last thing she'll
13 remember!
- 14 TORI: No! She'll remember the good things, Tina. You guys
15 might have fought, but that's normal. She's going to be
16 crushed when she finds out. And she'll feel just as bad as
17 you that the last thing you did was fight.
- 18 TINA: You think that makes me feel better? To know that she's
19 going to suffer, too?
- 20 TORI: Of course not. That's not what I meant.
- 21 CHAD: She's just trying to help, Tina.
- 22 TINA: Well, she can't. Nothing can. We're dead. Don't you guys
23 get it? We didn't even make it to high school. It's not
24 supposed to happen like this. These cards ... they're our
25 lives ... oh my gosh ... there's so much I want to do ... now
26 that I know ... now that I see all these cards. There are
27 supposed to be more. More *good* stuff, you know? I just
28 want to have more time ... *(Pleading)* Why can't I have more
29 time? *(Lights fade to black.)*

Parents ... When Will They Ever Grow Up?

CHARACTERS

(2 Girls, 2 Guys)

Marcia: Girl whose parents fight over stupid stuff. She thinks they act like children.

April: Girl whose Dad and stepmother are too lovey-dovey, like they're on a second honeymoon or something. She feels like the third wheel.

Spencer: Guy whose parents never fight ... because they are never around each other. At first he thinks that's great, but then his friends make him paranoid that something is wrong.

Lincoln: Guy who lives with only his dad and thinks he's got it made. Mostly. Sometimes he wishes there was a woman in the house.

SETTING

This can be located anywhere: at one of the character's house, at a restaurant, at a school lunch table, etc.

1 MARCIA: Sometimes I swear that I am the parent and my mom
 2 and dad are the children. They are so ridiculous!
 3 APRIL: Oh boy. Here we go again.
 4 MARCIA: I know. Seriously. I'm only twelve and can act one
 5 hundred percent more mature than them.
 6 APRIL: Now I'm curious. What'd they do?
 7 MARCIA: Got in another stupid fight this weekend.
 8 APRIL: Over what?
 9 MARCIA: Meat.
 10 SPENCER: Meat? How in the world do you fight about meat?
 11 MARCIA: Exactly. Not only *how* do you fight about meat, but
 12 *why* would any sane, mature person ever fight about
 13 something stupid like meat in the first place? I mean, come
 14 on, fighting about politics, religion, money, sure, but meat?
 15 LINCOLN: So what's the story? How *did* they fight about meat?
 16 MARCIA: My mom and dad were making this new pork
 17 barbeque dish and Mom said to do it one way and Dad said
 18 to do it another way and *bam!* A full-fledged war occurred.
 19 They didn't speak for two whole days.
 20 APRIL: Really? Two days over that?
 21 SPENCER: What happened to the barbeque? Did you ever eat it?
 22 MARCIA: Not even a little. It never became barbeque. My mom
 23 threw the whole thing in the trash when Dad started
 24 arguing with her over how to fix it.
 25 LINCOLN: She threw away perfectly good meat? Now that *is*
 26 something to get mad about. Even I'm mad now!
 27 MARCIA: Do you know how uncomfortable it is to be in a house
 28 with two people who aren't even speaking to each other?
 29 They both act all nice and sweet to me — overly so — but
 30 won't even look at each other. Over meat!
 31 APRIL: That stinks. But I think I'd rather have that than what
 32 I've got.
 33 MARCIA: What could possibly be wrong at your house? Your dad
 34 and Shelia just got married a few months ago. Don't tell
 35 me they're having trouble already.

1 APRIL: I wish! Oh no. It's *way* worse than that. They are all *over*
 2 each other. Like teenagers or something.
 3 SPENCER: Well, your stepmom is kind of hot.
 4 APRIL: *Gross!* (*Punches SPENCER's arm.*) She even sits in my
 5 dad's lap when they watch TV sometimes. Isn't she a little
 6 old for that?
 7 MARCIA: At least they're happy and not ignoring each other.
 8 APRIL: No. They're ignoring me! It's like I don't even exist.
 9 They're like lovesick puppies, always staring at each other
 10 and kissing. I'm telling you, it's disgusting!
 11 LINCOLN: That would be rough. Nobody likes to see that!
 12 MARCIA: Especially when it's your parents.
 13 APRIL: *Stepparent.* I feel like a third wheel in my own house. It
 14 was *so* much better when it was just me and my dad.
 15 LINCOLN: Tell me about it. My dad and I have it made. No girls
 16 in the house equals *no drama.*
 17 MARCIA and APRIL: Hey!
 18 SPENCER: It's the truth. Two guys alone in a bachelor pad has
 19 got to be pure heaven, right, Lincoln?
 20 LINCOLN: (*Slight pause*) Well, I wouldn't say *pure* heaven. I
 21 mean, sometimes it'd be nice to have a chick around. My
 22 dad isn't exactly a top-notch cook, you know.
 23 MARCIA: Maybe you and your dad should take a cooking class.
 24 You shouldn't want a woman just to cook for you.
 25 LINCOLN: Oh, we wouldn't want one just to cook. She could
 26 *clean* too. Our house is a wreck!
 27 APRIL: (*Obviously getting riled up*) Oh my gosh! No wonder your
 28 dad doesn't have a wife. With attitudes like that, who —
 29 MARCIA: (*Jumping in*) For real! How chauvinistic to think a
 30 woman would even *want* to cook and clean for you two
 31 ungrateful slobs.
 32 LINCOLN: (*To SPENCER*) See what I mean? No girls equals no
 33 drama!
 34 SPENCER: For real.
 35 MARCIA: Maybe it's the guy who causes all the drama. Did you

1 ever think about that? One time my dad didn't speak the
 2 whole time we were eating just because he didn't like his
 3 dinner. He was so mad and he ruined everyone else's time
 4 by sitting there all angry over nothing.
 5 APRIL: Sounds like your dad gets mad about food a lot.
 6 MARCIA: I know! And it was my birthday dinner.
 7 SPENCER: Well I don't see how him sitting there quietly caused
 8 any drama. He wasn't crying and carrying on, was he?
 9 MARCIA: No. But once *he* got mad, then my *mom* got mad, and
 10 then she yelled at him for being ridiculous and then dinner
 11 was ruined.
 12 LINCOLN: So you see, your *mom* started the drama.
 13 APRIL: Of course you would see it that way. It's always the girl's
 14 fault, isn't it?
 15 LINCOLN: Hey, you said it. Not me.
 16 MARCIA: Whatever. Guys cause drama way more than women
 17 do. They just don't ever admit it. They think that just
 18 because they don't cry and get all emotional that they're
 19 not the problem. But I'll take Mom's crying over Dad's
 20 mean angry-at-the-world face any day.
 21 SPENCER: That's because girls are too sensitive. A guy should
 22 be able to be mad over his food if he wants to. Especially
 23 if he's hungry!
 24 LINCOLN: And especially if his wife throws a perfectly good
 25 piece of meat in the trash.
 26 MARCIA: So you think it's no big deal that my parents fought
 27 over that stupid barbeque for two whole days? A whole
 28 weekend wasted over that perfectly good piece of meat?
 29 LINCOLN: Well, maybe not two whole days ...
 30 SPENCER: I'm just lucky that my parents never act like that. I
 31 can't remember the last time they had a fight.
 32 LINCOLN: I can't remember the last time I even saw your
 33 parents together.
 34 SPENCER: True. Even when they're in the same house, they're
 35 always apart. Dad's in the living room and Mom's

1 in her office.
 2 MARCIA: Well, that's not good.
 3 APRIL: Sounds like maybe things are worse at your house than
 4 anyone's.
 5 SPENCER: How do you figure that? My house is *always* quiet
 6 and peaceful.
 7 APRIL: Exactly. *Too* quiet and peaceful.
 8 SPENCER: No such thing.
 9 MARCIA: Oh yes there is. When things get quiet at my house,
 10 that's when things are *really* bad. That's when I start
 11 worrying that I'm going to get the whole "We love you and
 12 it isn't you, it's us" speech. Then my dad will move out and
 13 the divorce papers will come in the mail.
 14 SPENCER: Oh, come on. That's stupid. You just said you hate
 15 it when your parents fight.
 16 MARCIA: Yeah, but I hate it even more when they don't. The no-
 17 speaking thing is *way* worse. (*APRIL and LINCOLN nod in*
 18 *agreement.*)
 19 SPENCER: You guys are just jealous because my parents are
 20 normal. They aren't ripping out each other's throats or
 21 making out on our couch. They're just going on about their
 22 lives —
 23 APRIL: Alone.
 24 SPENCER: They're not alone!
 25 LINCOLN: Might as well be. Dude, think about it. You all don't
 26 even eat together.
 27 SPENCER: Who does these days? We're a busy family.
 28 LINCOLN: Every night? Even on the weekends?
 29 SPENCER: (*Thinking for a moment*) So they like to eat separately.
 30 Big deal. What's the harm in that? It's better than eating
 31 together and fighting over meat!
 32 MARCIA: If you say so.
 33 SPENCER: Of course I say so! This is the most ridiculous thing
 34 I've ever heard. I'm supposed to be upset because my
 35 parents are too mature to fight about stupid things?

- 1 APRIL: A couple who fights together stays together.
2 SPENCER: You just made that up. Couples do *not* have to fight!
3 You guys need some serious therapy, you know that?
4 MARCIA: Yeah, when *you're* trying to decide who to live with,
5 you'll need some too.
6 APRIL: Or who you want to spend Christmas and Thanksgiving
7 with.
8 LINCOLN: Maybe your dad will get a hot new wife like April's
9 dad!
10 APRIL: Hey!
11 LINCOLN: Sorry, but it's true!
12 SPENCER: Look, my parents are fine. They are *not* getting a
13 divorce. Maybe after fifteen years of marriage they just like
14 their alone time. That's *not* a bad thing. In fact, I think
15 right now I could use a little alone time myself! (*Walks off*
16 *angrily.*)
17 APRIL: Oh, come on, Spencer! Don't be that way! We were just
18 kidding! I'm sure your parents are just fine.
19 MARCIA: You know I'd give anything to have parents that don't
20 fight over meat.
21 APRIL: Or a stepmom that doesn't look and act like a lovesick
22 teenager.
23 LINCOLN: Or a father who knows how to cook and clean up
24 after himself. (*The three stop yelling after SPENCER, look at*
25 *each other, and laugh.*)
26 MARCIA: Geez, we've got it bad, don't we?
27 APRIL: For real. (*They start walking Off-Stage while saying the*
28 *following lines.*)
29 LINCOLN: You think our parents will ever grow up?
30 MARCIA: Doubtful.
31 APRIL: I just hope we don't grow up to be just like them.
32 LINCOLN: Not a chance.

After-Hours at the Superheroes Club

CHARACTERS

(2 Girls, 2 Guys)

Superhero 1: A male masked superhero who is jealous that the others don't have to suffocate behind one, too.

Superhero 2: Male superhero who wears tights for mobility, but is *not* happy about it.

Superhero 3: Female superhero who wishes it didn't matter how she looked. Would be a whole lot easier *not* wearing heels when saving the world.

Superhero 4: Female superhero who has to see a chiropractor for back problems.

SETTING

Heroes are sitting around a coffee club-type place talking about their day. It quickly becomes a competition of who has it the worst and how ungrateful people are.