

written by Vu Thi Hai Loc

LOGLINE

A Filipino family move to Montreal, but their new life is filled with wrong things due to the language difference.

SUMMARY

Amado Mendoza is an office man in his late 40s. He has a wife (Riza) 4 years younger than him, and three children: Aron, the eldest son, Aireen, the middle child and only daughter, and Alex, the youngest. He lives in the Philippines with his family, but he receives a work transfer from his company to Canada. Thus, he and his family must move to the city of Montreal.

On the first day they arrive in Montreal, the person who is in charged of picking them and bringing them to their new house does not show up, leaving them to rely on themselves to get to their house. Hence, they take a taxi. Being the head of the family, Amado takes up his role as the one in charge of the family, so he decides to take responsibility on giving the address to the driver. However, all members of the Mendoza family can only understand very few words in English, so Amado ends up giving the wrong address, getting them to a house in West Mount instead of their original destination near North Montreal. They got to the wrong house, but the landlord welcomes them in as she is expecting a family to move in. The Mendozas are very happy about their apartment, and they stay there for their first night. The next morning, Amado receives a note in their mailbox for their landlord, saying that the people who intended to stay there would not come. Amado thus realizes that the Mendoza family arrived to the wrong house, but being unable to admit his mistakes, he decides to hide everything away from both his family and the landlord.

Their life continues as they struggle to get used to the new city and the new lifestyle, and also new languages. The eldest son, Aron Mendoza, has finished his high school studies in the Philippines and thus he applies to the next stage of education in Montreal, which is supposed to be college. However, before he is able to proceed to the next level, he must go through a language course before being able to apply. After two months passed in the program, he was put into secondary 5, unknowing that he could go to the college. Hence, he continues his studies at the wrong education level.

The father, Amado, starts his job. He was told that he is to work in the accounting department, because he has always been working as an accountant. On the first day he reports to work, he tells the manager in his poor English that his job is with numbers and sale. Hence, he is put into the marketing department, and he cannot notice that he is put in the wrong department since he works in sorting the documentation for the marketing department, thinking that it is different because in Canada.

PILOT

[script - lst part]

At the airport of Montréal-Pierre Elliott Trudeau, in the arriving hall. A man in his late 40s, a woman slightly younger, and her three children, 2 boys and 1 girl, are standing in one place. They look like they are waiting for someone. The old man, which seems to be the father, is trying to call someone.

AMADO

[puts the phone down and speaks angrily in Filipino] I can't contact the guy. WHERE can he be?

RIZA

[turns towards Amado from looking at the youngest boy and replies in Filipino] What's wrong? What's wrong? Do you think you have the right number?

AMADO

It is! I'm sure of that!

RIZA

Maybe you should try one last time.

AMADO

I've been trying for more than 5 times now. How many more times do you expect me to call?

RIZA

[exclaims] I don't know! The kids are tired now! I am tired. I just want to get to the place and rest! And don't say that you don't feel tired!

AMADO

Fine! I'll call one last time! If that man doesn't answer, we'll get a taxi!

AIREEN

Mom! When can we go? [whines] I don't want to stay here! I want to take a shower and sleep!

ALEX

[quietly, but enough for Aireen to hear] It won't make you any more beautiful even if you try to sleep more.

AIREEN

What did you just say? Mom! Did you just hear what Alex said! He called me ugly!

ALEX

Hah! It's YOU who said that! It's not what I said!

[Aireen is about to tackle Alex, but Riza pulls both of them apart]

RIZA

ENOUGH, you two! Be quiet! If you want to be home faster, don't make any fuss! [returns her attention to her husband]

[Aireen huffs and glares at Alex before turning away. Alex then comes closer to Aron, who is sitting by their luggage and listening to music from his headphone. Amado, who fails to call the guy who is supposed to pick them up, shuts his phone and turns to talk to Riza.]

AMADO

It's useless! We'll take the taxi!

RIZA

Are you sure? Do you have the address?

AMADO

I have it somewhere... [searchs in his bag, then he takes out a piece of fold ed paper] Hah! Here it is! We can get to the house without the help of any damn man! Ok, kids! Let's go!

RIZA

[to the children] Hopefully your Dad can do this.

ALEX

Don't worry, Mom. If Dad can't do it, we'll can ask the police.

AIREEN

Alex! That makes us the same as kids who forget how to get home.

ALEX

Well... I'm a kid, I don't have a problem.

AIREEN

[irritated] Ugh!

RIZA

Okay! Mister Kid, how about you take your bag and follow your Dad in stead of irritating your sister?

ANNEX A

STORYBOARD



Amado Mendoza is seen waiting on the phone for someone to reply. He constantly calls the number for 2-3 times.



Riza and Amado talk about calling the number the last time.



Aireen complains to Riza about staying at the airport for so long.

ANNEX A

STORYBOARD



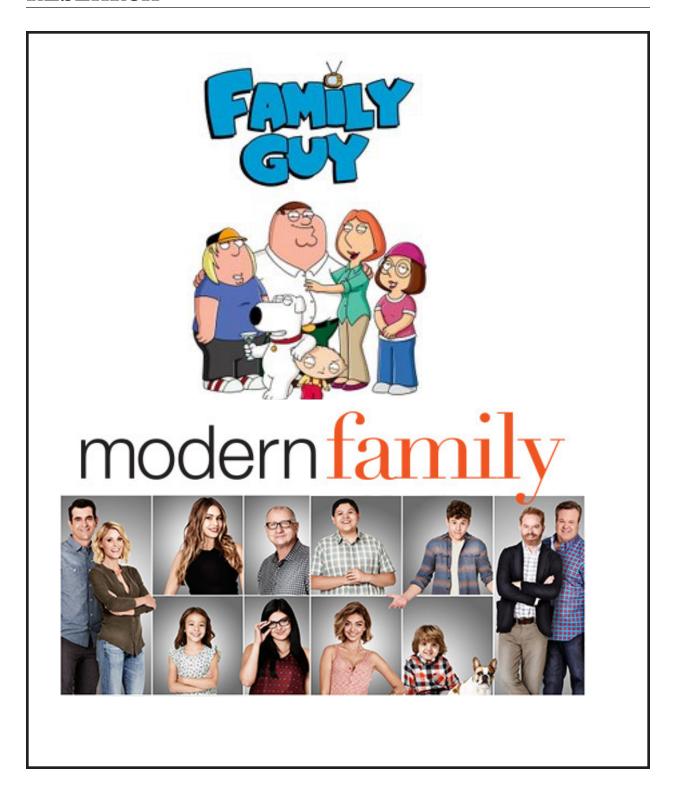
Aireen and Alex are in a childish fight between siblings.



Riza puts a stop to the childish bickering.

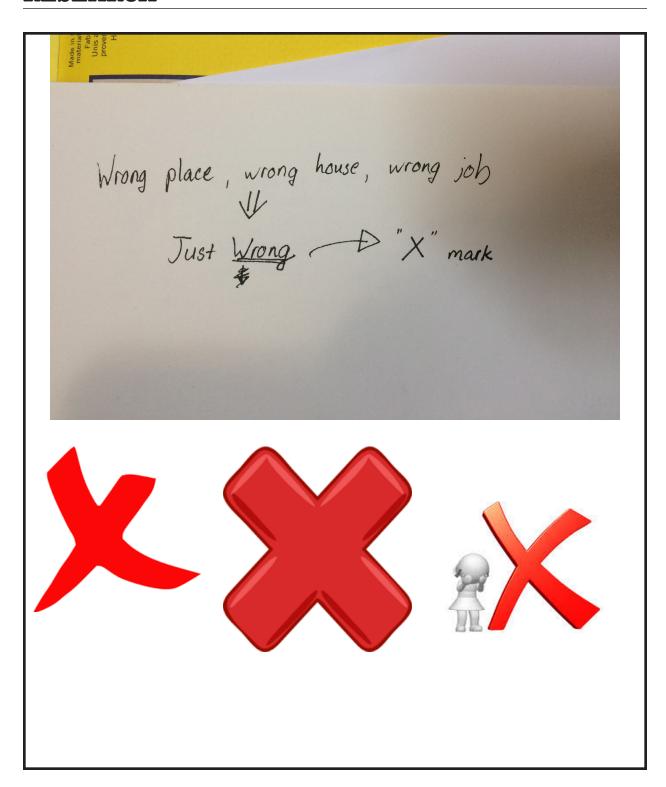


Amado informs Riza that the call is not answered. Hence, they will be taking the taxi.



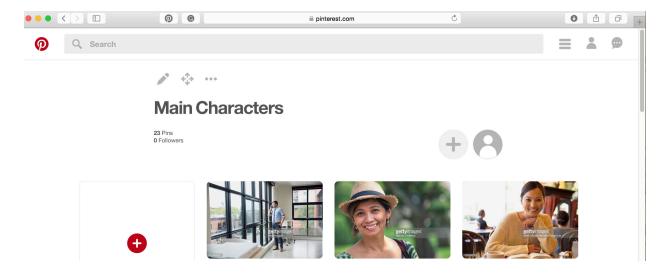
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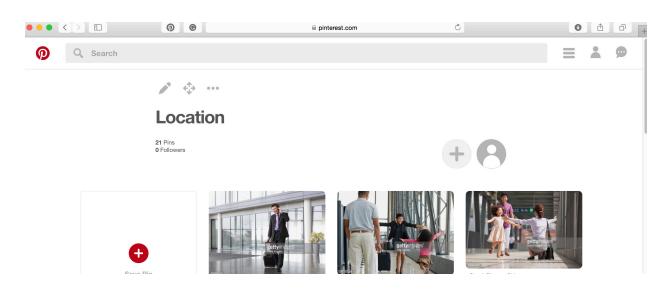
Pinterest

Main Characters



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Location



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