

*OLMES,
TEA &
FAMILY TIES*

by

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FADE IN:

INT. MICHAEL'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM

MICHAEL (mid-twenties) is standing in front of a mirror rehearsing his Greek while fixing his shirt.

MICHAEL:
Kalispera! Kalispera - -

HELENA (mid-twenties) walks in behind Michael, sneaking up on him. She wears a red dress.

HELENA:
It sounds shit mate!

MICHAEL is startled. Both of them chuckle for a little bit, as HELENA fixes his green buttoned-up shirt.

MICHAEL:
Oh really?! If I recall correctly
YOU said that it was improving!

MICHAEL kisses HELENA at length. After he finishes his sentence, HELENA briefly playfully contemplates this before denying it.

HELENA:
I never said that!

MICHAEL:
Yes, you did!

HELENA:
No, I didn't!

MICHAEL:
Yes, you did!

HELENA:
Michael!

MICHAEL looks at his partner baffled! Raises his hands in defeat.

MICHAEL:
Okay, whatever you say!

HELENA playfully nudges him.

MICHAEL:

Before we leave, is there anything
you need to tell me about your
family before we meet them?

HELENA just smiles awkwardly at MICHAEL before she finally
replies.

HELENA:

Well... you'll, you'll just have to
see for yourself!

HELENA plants a small kiss on MICHAEL before exiting the
room. MICHAEL is left a bit confused.

CUT TO:

THE OPENING CREDITS OF THE FILM: the opening credits will
consist of shots also seen in the proof of concept trailer,
such as the parents of ELENA placing dishes on the
respective seats, iconography and the mother getting the
yoga mat from the living room.

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LUKIA (O.S.):

They're going to be here at any
moment.

CUT TO:

INT. LUKIA AND ALEXIS'S HOME - DINING ROOM

ALEXIS (late-forties), and LUKIA (late-forties) are putting
down plates and glasses of water for the dining room table.

ALEXIS:

Hey, please remind me to put some
tea for our guests!

LUKIA:

You're going to make tea right
now?! Do you know what happened
last time? The smoke detector - -

ALEXIS:

- - relax, I will put it at a
lower temperature! And
besides it'd be rude if I did
not make some tea for our
guests!

LUKIA:

Right! Because *clearly*, you make tea for when our daughter comes to visit us as well!

ALEXIS:

Well... better late than ever!

LUKIA:

We both know that this is because Michael is coming over!

ALEXIS:

I- I want the environment to feel more British you know! And besides, I believe that this is the perfect opportunity for us to bond based on our own experiences with being Br-

LUKIA:

You took one DNA test!

ALEXIS:

And it says that I am part British!

LUKIA:

You're only three per cent British! - For starters, I can't wait to see Michael! Elena told me a lot about him, and I'm sure that he will be fascinated with Greek cu-

ALEXIS:

This again?!

LUKIA:

What do you mean by *this again?*!

ALEXIS:

You know - - at times you can be quite- -

LUKIA is frustratingly waiting to finish his answer.

LUKIA:

- quite what?!

ALEXIS:

- Well the point is, that you constantly talk to others

about Greece, and how much of
a spectacular country it is!

LUKIA:

So?!

ALEXIS:

Maybe Michael doesn't want to hear
about Gr-

LUKIA:

Oh, come on! I'm sure that he will
be interested!

CUT TO:

EXT. ALEXIS AND LUKIA HOUSE - EVENING

HELENA and MICHAEL walk through the door. MICHAEL seems nervous. He is about to (playfully) back away, but HELENA grabs him from his jacket and pulls him closer to her.

CUT TO:

INT. LUKIA AND ALEXIS'S HOME - DINING ROOM

ALEXIS:

Did I tell you about what Elena
told me?

LUKIA:

Is it about us acting like a
normal family for once?

ALEXIS:

Yeah!

LUKIA:

I agree that we do not need to
begin arguing, but that's what
families do you know.

ALEXIS:

Yeah, and we embrace everyone
regardless of how different we
are!

As ALEXIS and LUKIA are about to kiss the DOOR BELL rings
interrupting them.

CUT TO:

ALEXIS and LUKIA open the door, greeting both MICHAEL and
HELENA.

LUKIA:
Hi, how are you?

HELENA:
We're doing well. Mom, Dad, this
is my boyfriend Michael.

MICHAEL:
Hi, how are you?!

ALEXIS:
We're doing well, how are you?

MICHAEL:
Same, oh - I brought you
something, I hope you lot like it!

MICHAEL hands over to LUKIA a BAG.

ALEXIS:
You lot?

MICHAEL:
Uh - oh! It's a British
expression. It refers to multiple
people.

ALEXIS:
(with an expression of
interest and curiosity)
Oh! - -

She opens it, revealing a bottle of wine.

LUKIA:
- Wow! Michael, you shouldn't
have!
Oh, and both of you can put
your stuff in our room!

MICHAEL and HELENA are heading upstairs,

ALEXIS:
Wait, Michael, would you like some
tea?

MICHAEL stops in his tracks while HELENA continues to go
upstairs.

MICHAEL:
Uh... yeah why not.

ALEXIS:
Sweetie?!

HELENA (O.S.):
No thanks, I'm good!

CUT TO:

INT. DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

MICHAEL, LUKIA and ELENA are sitting in the dining room, while ALEXIS goes to make some tea. MICHAEL sits next to the empty chair in the centre of the table. LUKIA and HELENA sit next to each other opposite MICHAEL.

LUKIA:
So, how did you find the trip?

MICHAEL:
It was quite hectic.

HELENA:
A lot of traffic, so we had to
take the tube instead.

ALEXIS enters the kitchen and places the tray next to him and MICHAEL.

ALEXIS:
Here you go! I did not know what
tea you liked so I - -

MICHAEL:
No, it's, it's okay! Thank you
very much, sir.

LUKIA:
Please just call us by our names!
You are very much welcome here!

MICHAEL smiles, because of that comment.

MICHAEL:
Thank you very much!

ALEXIS puts his arm on MICHAEL'S shoulder. HELENA is glad that everyone is getting along at the moment.

ALEXIS:
Do you drink tea often Michael?

MICHAEL:
No, not really! Don't get me wrong
I love a good cup of tea as much
as the next Brit, but I am more of
a coffee person.

ALEXIS:

Oh! Well, that was the same for me. Then, after I found out that I was part British I just began drinking tea more.

HELENA rolls her eyes.

LUKIA sighs.

MICHAEL:
Oh really?! This must have been life-changing!

ELENA:
Dad, you're only three per cent British!

LUKIA nods in agreement.

ALEXIS:
Yes, but it also isn't surprising as I have been in this country for around eighteen years, so I always felt - - you know!

ELENA leans close to LUKIA. Both of them are baffled.

ELENA (to LUKIA):
Wha- what is he doing?!

MICHAEL:
Kinda! I see what you're trying to say. I'm Caribbean but I've been born here, so I feel like I am fully British you know!

LUKIA leans close to ELENA.

LUKIA:
At least they're getting along.

ELENA is still unimpressed. She looks outside in the direction of the kitchen.

ELENA:
Okay, um - Dad I think it's time to check the food right now!

ALEXIS:
Are you sure? It still needs a bit of time, so - -

The timer from the oven begins to ring.

ALEXIS:
Yeah, I'm going.

ALEXIS gets up from his seat. The same is true for ELENA.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

As ALEXIS opens the door from the oven revealing a tray of Yorkshire puddings, HELENA grabs a rug and waves at the ceiling towards the smoke detector. Luckily it doesn't activate.

ELENA:
Dad, please do not go overboard
with the questions at the table.

HELENA takes out another tray of cooked beef.

ALEXIS:
What are you talking about?

ELENA:
About the whole DNA thing! Michael
did not need to -

ALEXIS:
I don't get what your problem is!
You were like this on the phone
earlier, I just want to spend time
with him.

ELENA:
Yes, and that's fine but *please* do
NOT go overboard with this!
Remember Evan?

ALEXIS:
Who's - oh! Evan from - -

ELENA:
Yeah! We do not want another Evan
situation!

MICHAEL and LUKIA entered the kitchen.

MICHAEL:
Hey, what are you lot talking
about?

ELENA:
Oh, n-nothing! Now that you are
here, can you please give us a
hand Michael?!

LUKIA looks at the Yorkshire puddings at the top of the tray.

MICHAEL:
Yeah, sure!

MICHAEL helps both ALEXIS and ELENA move the different trays of food.

LUKIA opens the refrigerator door and grabs a salad that she made earlier but has to put it in the fridge and a glass of olives.

CUT TO:

INT. DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

ALEXIS puts the food on the plates of everyone except LUKIA, he adds two Yorkshire puddings to MICHAEL'S plate. The tray with the roast and the Yorkshire puddings is in the middle of the table while the olives are

MICHAEL:
This looks terrific!

ELENA:
Yeah, Dad, you've outdone
yourself!

MICHAEL notices that LUKIA is going to eat a salad.

MICHAEL:
Are you sure you don't want
anything else?

LUKIA:
No honey, it's perfectly fine!

ALEXIS:
Trust me she does not want to eat
what I cook!

LUKIA:
Yeah, because it's full of fat!

ALEXIS:
No, it's not!

ELENA:
Dad, I agree with Mom on this one!

ALEXIS sits down as well. MICHAEL with his fork, takes an olive and eats it.

MICHAEL:
these olives are amazing! Are they
from Calamata?

LUKIA:
Yes, and they are! And also, they
are rich in Vitamin C as well!

MICHAEL:
Oh ok!

LUKIA:
Yes, they are my favourite olives,
but they also contain a lot of fat
so I do not eat them that much!

MICHAEL:
Greece must be well known for its
olives.

LUKIA:
Oh not just for its olives, but
for its olive oil as well, and its
advancements in math - -

ALEXIS:
- England is also well known for
its tea.

HELENA rolls her eyes, as she knows what's going to happen.

LUKIA:
Uh no. China is well known for its
tea. England has stolen its tea
back in the 1800s.

ELENA:
Can we please just eat - -

ALEXIS:
- Well, it is also well known for
the royal family, the Tower of
London...

LUKIA:
Alexi, please! Let's not make this
into a competition!

HELENA is relieved. MICHAEL is confused.

ALEXIS:
I am not making this into a
competition! I am saying that

England is also well known for a
lot of things as well!

ELENA covers her face with her hands with embarrassment.
MICHAEL is sitting awkwardly next to ALEXIS.

LUKIA:
I am not denying that! I am just
trying to explain to him more
about the country that we BOTH
originated from! Which is more
appropriate than the crap that you
spew like how you are part
British- -

ELENA still has her face covered with her
hands.

HELENA:
Why me?!

MICHAEL seems to smell something.

MICHAEL:
Does anyone else smell this?

ALEXIS:
Because I am!

LUKIA:
No, you are not! You are so
delusional!

The SMOKE DETECTOR begins acting up causing the family to
rush towards the kitchen.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

The family is in the kitchen. ELENA spots a burned piece of
bread in the toaster. ALEXIS grabs a rug and begins
swinging it at the fire detector.

ALEXIS:
Okay, guys, you know what to do!

LUKIA opens up the kitchen door which leads to the porch.

MICHAEL opens the doors to the dining room which also leads
to the porch.

Lastly, HELENA opens the door of the house. The smoke alarm
stopped.

CUT TO:

HELENA is standing in the hallway talking to ALEXI AND LUKIA'S NEIGHBOUR.

ELENA:

Look, We're sorry that this has happened.

NEIGHBOUR:

Yes, but this can't keep happening! Please, just fix the damn alarm!

HELENA:

Yes, we will. Have - -

THE NEIGHBOUR leaves the house before HELENA can finish her sentence.

HELENA:

- a nice day!

ELENA shuts the door. MICHAEL ALEXIS and LUKIA are also standing in the hallway as well. There is an awkward silence.

ELENA looks at her family with disappointment

ELENA:

You two are unbelievable!

ELENA storms off to her room upstairs.

ALEXIS:

Well - -

LUKIA storms off to the living room. MICHAEL stands there awkwardly.

MICHAEL:

You know what - I'm going upstairs!

CUT TO:

INT. ELENA'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

HELENA is sitting in her bed in silence. Her bedroom is filled with childhood photos and a photo of her at her graduation. MICHAEL enters her bedroom. He looks around.

MICHAEL:

Well... that's a colourful room!

HELENA chuckles. They both stay there in awkward silence. A few moments later LUKIA enters the bedroom. HELENA and MICHAEL make room for her to sit on the bed, and she analyzes the room.

LUKIA:

Did anything change in this room?

ELENA:

Not a lot.

ALEXIS enters the bedroom. The trio makes room for him on the bed as well. There is an awkward silence.

ALEXIS:

After all of this... I'll call
someone to fix the smoke detector.

HELENA:

Oh! After all of this?

LUKIA:

Better late than ever!

HELENA chuckles.

MICHAEL:

Well, today was...

LUKIA:

Peculiar?

ALEXIS:

Interesting?

ELENA:

Fucked?

MICHAEL:

(chuckling)

No! All three!

The family chuckles for a bit.

THE END.

