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Mom®

de
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traducción de
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(fragmento en inglés)

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DAUGHTER

Mom. I don't know if you can hear me. They don't know for sure. They told me to talk to you and tell you things. I'm supposed to remind you of our life together... Easy, right?... I don't even know what to say, Mom. There's so much I'd have to explain, these last few years with you have been so... When I close my eyes, the memories come flooding back. Where to begin?

MOTHER

(Singing) Happy birthday to you, happy birthday to you, happy birthday, dear daughter...

DAUGHTER

So I'm getting the secret recipe for your cannelloni?

MOTHER

You are not. A professional never gives away her secrets.

DAUGHTER

I need a nap before I go back to work. Can you wake me up in half an hour?

MOTHER

I got a book at the library I think you're going to like.

DAUGHTER

I can't come for lunch tomorrow. Things are busy at work.

MOTHER

I can pack you some food to eat at the studio.

DAUGHTER

Want to come to the theatre with me? It's a comedy...

MOTHER

Want to help me fold these sheets?

DAUGHTER

Mom, it's just that these are the best cannelloni I've ever tasted. How come you won't share the recipe?

MOTHER

You look so beautiful. That dress is so becoming on you... Hold on, there's a thread hanging.

DAUGHTER

Why don't you stay at my house tonight?

MOTHER

I saw the tuna ad today. Loved it! “Atlantis. Bring happiness home.” Outstanding. Superb.

DAUGHTER

Of course I’ll come with you to your surgery.

MOTHER

Your bed’s all made up for you.

DAUGHTER

Where did this incredible sherry come from?

MOTHER

Ready for the most eye-opening dinner of your life?

DAUGHTER

I can’t believe you’re keeping your cannelloni recipe from me.

MOTHER

It’s top secret. I’ll carry it to my grave.

DAUGHTER

Mom, I have no idea if you can hear me, but they’ve asked me to talk to you, in case... so I’m going to tell you things, okay? So much has happened in the short time we’ve been together... I barely remember life without you in it.

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MOTHER

You’re telling me this now?

DAUGHTER

Yeah.

MOTHER

Even though you’ve already started the paperwork?

DAUGHTER

Yeah.

MOTHER

I’m your mother. You can’t confide in me?

DAUGHTER

Don’t be upset, Mom.

MOTHER

I'm not upset. I just can't understand why you didn't..

DAUGHTER

(Interrupting her) I'm telling you now. Want me to finish, or would you rather keep arguing?

MOTHER

Go on.

DAUGHTER

Well, a home study has been completed, and placement should happen soon. What I'm trying to tell you is, I'm going to need you by my side for this, that is, if that's where you would like to be.

MOTHER

Are you sure this is what you want to do?

DAUGHTER

I am.

MOTHER

But on your own?

DAUGHTER

I won't be on my own. I told you. Not if you're there, by my side.

MOTHER

I mean... without a father in the picture?

DAUGHTER

What does that matter? I had a father, but I probably would have been better off without one.

MOTHER

Oh, sweetie...

DAUGHTER

Mom, with you for a grandmother, this child won't need a father.

MOTHER

You seem so certain of that. Maybe you should wait until you've found the right person, someone you can start a family with.

DAUGHTER

You're so radical in some things, and so old-fashioned in others...

MOTHER

I'm just trying to be helpful. You're talking about adopting a child, Empar. The more stable an environment you can offer her, the better for everyone involved.

DAUGHTER

But there's no need to worry about stability, Mom. She'll have a mother who'll love and protect her. She'll have a grandma who'll love and spoil her rotten. She'll have a bicycle, red with blue handlebars, and trips to the countryside on the weekends, and every year we'll make black lines on the wall to show her how tall she's grown, and frame photographs of her by the Christmas tree. And she'll have love, as much love as she needs. Plus all the things the kids I knew at school used to have.

MOTHER

Do you want to talk about that?

DAUGHTER

No.

MOTHER

It can help to talk, and you've never wanted to talk about it.

DAUGHTER

Because my childhood was shitshow, Mom. Would I rather have picture postcard memories? Of course. Do I? No. It upsets me every time I have to remember my past. Life is crap sometimes, and just thinking about how unfair and cruel it can be, I want to kick and punch a few holes in the wall. So let's talk about something else. Let's talk about what I want to talk about. Are you going to help me, or not? Do you want to be a grandmother, or not? Because I know I can raise a child without a father, but I'm not sure I can do it without you.

MOTHER

I just worry, Empar. That's what mothers are supposed to do. Adopting a child is complicated.

DAUGHTER

Nothing is simple, Mom.

MOTHER

And you never told me you wanted to be a mother.

DAUGHTER

You never asked.

MOTHER

Well, that's true. We really need to talk more often. See, that's my point.

DAUGHTER

It's hard for me. That's my point.

MOTHER

I accept that, sweetheart. But we should talk about how to organize all this.

DAUGHTER

You still haven't told me if you want to be a grandma!

MOTHER

Of course I want to be a grandma. Don't be silly!

DAUGHTER

Well, why didn't you say that in the first place?

MOTHER

Because you caught me by surprise. Do you have any idea when it will go through

DAUGHTER

There's a waiting list. It's been three years already, as of today, in fact.

MOTHER

Three years! See what I mean about talking about things more often?

DAUGHTER

I knew you were going to say that.

MOTHER

So when we... you were already?

DAUGHTER

Yeah.

MOTHER

What are you going to tell the child about your relationship with me?

DAUGHTER

I don't have to tell her anything. Her own story will be complicated enough.

MOTHER

Kids ask questions, Empar. If she doesn't get answers from you, she's going to come to me. What am I supposed to tell her?

DAUGHTER

Just say that... I don't know. I can't worry about it right now.

MOTHER

Well, how old is the child?

DAUGHTER

Four or five, maybe. I'm not certain. Definitely pre-school.

MOTHER

Old enough to ask questions, then. You'll need to come up with answers.

DAUGHTER

I'll just say I had a very happy childhood. You and Poppa loved me lots. The end.

MOTHER

Not very convincing. You might want to be able to elaborate a bit.

DAUGHTER

You're unbelievable, Mom. First you say I should be up front with you, and now you want me to tell lies to my own child.

MOTHER

It's not lying. Children need protection for as long as possible.

DAUGHTER

By keeping them from the truth?