

14 yr old boy

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7 CONTINUED: (2)

MARK

7

HOUSE

Your pain and your cane emboldens you. You have a cane, you can say anything; get away with it. If I had a cane, we'd be even; I could say whatever I wanted right back --

ARTIE

(exiting)

I want another doctor. I didn't come here for the rub n'tug, fella.

House finishes writing a prescription.

HOUSE

Here's your script, fella. Take three, four at a time -- help you with the misery factor.

Artie limps out of the room. Off House.

8 INT. O.R. -- DAY

8

Doug McNeil is on the operating table as a surgical team cuts into his leg.

WE TILT UP to the gallery TO FIND his wife, then PAN from her to her older son, then...

House. Just watching. Finally...

Start -

CONNIE

Thank you for being here.

HOUSE

Not a problem.

Another silent beat. He checks his watch - but doesn't leave.

MARK

...Dad wouldn't kill himself.

HOUSE

You haven't spoken to him in over six --

MARK

(distracted)
I know my dad!

CONNIE

Mark, the doctor's trying to --

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(CONTINUED)

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MARK

8

CONTINUED:

MARK

He wouldn't kill himself.

HOUSE

Fine. I'm wrong. You obviously have a tremendous understanding of this man who drools in front of your TV 24 hours a day.

MARK

He must have been confused; it must have been an accident!

HOUSE

Hope it was a suicide attempt. If he was lost, then that wheelchair is just a planter. But if he was trying to kill himself, then he knows how miserable his life is, means there's still something there to kill. Means your dad's still there.

Mark is tearing up. His mother holds him. House watches, curious.

Cameron enters.

— stop

CAMERON

Sorry. Need you.

As House heads for the exit, he exchanges a look with Connie.

CONNIE

Thank you.

Cameron reacts, surprised to hear that from a patient directed to House --

1/2