

INT. HOME - NIGHT

A birthday balloon floats behind MATEO's (Isabella's father) chair. ISABELLA (Mateo's daughter) sits across from him, picking at her food.

MATEO

You've been so glum all night. Is it because I look older than George Clooney now?

ISABELLA

(grins)
You still believe you're better looking than him?

MATEO

(proudly)
It's because of my scar.

ISABELLA

Dad...

MATEO

(imitating young Isabella's voice)
"Dad, why do you have this scar?"

ISABELLA

(imitating Mateo's voice)
"I decided to get a different face to look more handsome."

Mateo and Isabella both laugh. Mateo reaches for Isabella's hand.

MATEO

And thankfully thyroid cancer free for the last 25 years. I appreciate you for making my birthday special, as always.

Isabella places her other hand on Mateo's.

ISABELLA

I got the role.

MATEO

That's amazing!

ISABELLA

But they want me to move to New York, and I'm going to be away from you for the first time. I'm scared something might happen again.

MATEO

I'll be fine. You have to make your dreams come true.

ISABELLA

Dad, I can't leave you.

MATEO

I promise it will be okay. No, it will be better than okay.

ISABELLA

Pinky promise?

MATEO

Yes, pinky promise. I won't get a new face and this is the only scar I'll ever have.

Isabella and Mateo lock their pinkies together.