

"SMALL VICTORIES"  
EPISODE 8: TOUGH TALKS IN TOUGH TIMES  
WRITTEN BY JADE MADISON SCOTT

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**Scene One**  
**Introduction**

HOST

WGC Productions presents Small Victories. You ready?

MARISOL

To beg for money like a leech? No.

HOST

That's the spirit.

MARISOL

Oh, you think you're funny, huh? Alright, if you're sensitive to strong language or mentions of death, do what you will. Music.

(Small Victories Theme)

**Scene Two**  
**Nina's Apartment: Night**

MARISOL

(Internal)

Oliver is right. It's Nina. She loves me. She loves me. She loves me and my kneecaps. She wouldn't want me to get hurt. Even if it's kind of my fault that I'm in the situation anyway. I just gotta make it clear it's a one time thing. Once I get my job I'll never ask for money again. Never ask for anything again.

(Marisol unlocks Nina's door, enters, and closes the door.)

MARISOL

Uh, Nina?

NINA  
(distant)

Yes?

MARISOL

I've got to talk to you about something pretty serious. Uh, where are you?

NINA  
(distant)

Bathroom?

MARISOL

Oh, I can wait.

NINA  
(distant)

I'm not coming out.

MARISOL

I keep telling you you gotta eat more fiber.

NINA  
(distant)

No. I'm not using the bathroom, I'm just in here. Forever.

(Marisol walks to the bathroom door.)

MARISOL  
(over action)

Why? What's wrong?

NINA  
(behind the door)

I don't want to leave.

MARISOL

I mean, that's pretty clear.

(Pause)

Hey, can I come in?

NINA

Why? You can hear me just fine out there can't you?

MARISOL

Yeah, but I wanna see your pretty face.

(Pause)

NINA

Okay.

(Marisol opens the bathroom door.)

**Scene Three**  
**Bathroom**

MARISOL

Woah.

NINA

What?

MARISOL

You look gorgeous.

NINA

Please, Marisol—

MARISOL

No, that dress it's....you look great.

NINA

Oh. Thanks.

MARISOL

You know, this isn't the worst place to live forever.

NINA

Nope.

MARISOL

Tell me, is the tub comfortable?

NINA

Yeah, thinking of bringing my comforter in here. Maybe a few pillows too. It'd be great.

MARISOL

You could mount a TV under the shower head, make it a whole thing.

(Nina laughs weakly.)

MARISOL

Wanna tell me what's going on?

NINA

My parents—

MARISOL

Are they okay?

NINA

Um—

(Nina starts crying and Marisol walks to her side.)

MARISOL

Woah. Woah, what happened? Nina. Nina, what happened?

NINA

My dad...my dad has cancer.

MARISOL

Oh.

NINA

Stage three. Pancreatic.

MARISOL

Oh, Nina—

NINA

My dad is dying.

MARISOL

Hey. Hey, come here.

NINA

He's not gonna make it. Oh my God, my dad is dying.

MARISOL

When'd you find out?

NINA

They called an hour ago. They told me and asked me to go out to dinner which is a little fucked now that I think about it. I haven't talked to him for, like, seven months because he....oh my God, I don't even remember why I was upset.

MARISOL

Nina—

NINA

And now he's dying and I've been wasting time over something that I don't even fucking remember!

MARISOL

Nina!

NINA

What?

MARISOL

When's the dinner?

NINA

Are you serious?

MARISOL

I'm asking to make sure you're not late.

NINA

Not late? I'm not going.

MARISOL

What?

NINA

I'm not going.

MARISOL

Why not?

NINA

I...Marisol, I can't.

(Beat)

MARISOL

Scout.

NINA

What?

MARISOL

Scout, I'm getting in the tub.

(Marisol gets into the tub. Nina and Marisol adjust.)

NINA

Marisol, there's barely enough space for...and you're coming in anyway.

MARISOL

Just move a little.

NINA

Fine. You're so bony.

MARISOL

You love it. Alright, there.

NINA

Cozy?

MARISOL

Very, but I didn't come in here for me. Nina, look at me—

NINA

We're so close, it'd be harder for me to not look at you—

MARISOL

Seriously, look at me.

(Pause)

Why don't you wanna go?

NINA

I'm not ready.

MARISOL

Ready for what?

NINA

Ready to see him. I mean, God, before this I was so angry with him.

MARISOL

Angry about that thing you can't even remember?

NINA

Yes, but...I mean, the entire time he wouldn't even text me. He just cut me out and expected me to be the one to go back to him, which was...he's so insufferable and vindictive and stubborn, and I know it's only 'cause I'm vindictive and stubborn that I probably even—

(Nina makes a sound of frustration)

And now I'm just supposed to forgive him 'cause he's dying! Am I an awful person? I'm an awful person. I know it's bad to say, but I'm still so...I think if I see him I'm gonna forgive him and I don't want to forgive him.

MARISOL

Nina, he's dying—

(Nina laughs.)

What's funny?

NINA

(laugh/crying)

Sorry. It's not funny. It's just the way you said it. Go on.

MARISOL

I'm just saying from what you were saying earlier you clearly feel some type a way—

NINA

Yeah, I hate him.

MARISOL

No, I meant when you were talking about him dying. How messed up you looked about it. Plus you're dressed up, you beat your face. Some part of you wants to go and I think you should listen to it.

(Beat)

NINA

He sounded so old, Marisol. Over the phone he just...I don't know if I can get back on a good page with him if I know he's gonna die at the end.

MARISOL

We're all gonna die, Nina.

NINA

Please—

MARISOL

Right.

(Beat)

NINA

If this was your dad what would you do?

MARISOL

I...I don't know. I think it might be a little different 'cause he's the last family member I got—

NINA

I'm sorry—

MARISOL

No. I'm not searching for pity or anything, it's just true. I mean, he hasn't even so much as talked to me since Sam died so...if he called and told me he was dying. If it was me...I don't know. I'm not jealous of you right now, I can tell you that.

(Nina and Marisol laugh)

NINA

Parents are such assholes.

MARISOL

Yeah.

(Pause)

Hey, if you don't go we can go out and do something. Take your mind off it. And you know, no matter what you choose or what happens you're gonna be okay, you know? Whether you see your dad and get right with him before he dies. Or if you guys don't make up and he dies. Whatever happens you'll be okay. You're that kind of person. It's one of the things I love most about you.

(Beat)

NINA

We should get married.

MARISOL

Uh, yeah. I know that. We talk about it sometimes too, remember?

NINA

No. No, I mean it.

MARISOL

What?

NINA

Do you wanna marry me?

MARISOL

Holy shit.

NINA

Is that a yes or...

MARISOL

Fuck yeah, it's a yes!

NINA

It's a yes!

MARISOL/NINA

Ahhhh!

NINA

Uh, um, I'm, I, you're right I should, I should go to the restaurant and at least see him once, but when I get back—

MARISOL

We can have some fun?

NINA

Lot's of fun.

MARISOL

Big fun.

NINA

Wait.

MARISOL

What?

NINA

When you came in here you said you wanted to talk about something serious? What's wrong? Is everything okay?

MARISOL

Oh, uh, I, you know I must have been exaggerating 'cause I can't even remember what I was gonna talk about. Now, let's get you out of this tub.

(Small Victories Theme)

**Scene Four**

**Closing**

HOST

You have just listened to *Small Victories*. Starring Morgen McKynzie as Marisol

MORGEN

Yeah, but I wanna see your pretty face.

HOST

Yodeet Nymberg as Nina

YODEET

Parents are such assholes.

HOST

Composer, Sterlyn Termine. Script Supervisor, Virginia Wilson. Director and Sound Designer, Nathan Gabriel. Writer, Creator and Producer, Jade Madison Scott. And Akanimo Effang as The Host. Small Victories is supported by listeners like you. You can support us by subscribing to our Patreon and purchasing our merchandise from our store. Links to both can be found at [www.wgcproductions.com](http://www.wgcproductions.com). Please follow us @withgoodco on Instagram and Twitter to stay up-to-date.