

INT. IRIS AND CHARLIE'S LIVING ROOM

ABUELO is reading from a book, telling the story of El Cucu.

ABUELO
Here's the tale of El Cucu
He is always watching you
If you are selfish, rude, and mean
From him nothing is left unseen
In the darkness of the night
El Cucu will give a fright
When you're naughty without cause
He will strike you with his claws
If you hear the Cucu sound
You best begin to look around
In the dark a trail of smoke
You will see before his cloak
Little ones will lie in bed
With nightmares of his eyes of red
He will put you in his sack
And everything will turn to black
If the children should stay bed
They leave their loved ones forever
sad
But if the children should be good
They banish him into the wood
This is why we sing this song
To make El Cucu run along

Abuelo closes the book to reveal the two children, MACKENZIE (11) and BENNETT (8.)

Start

ABUELO (CONT'D)
(Singing)
Si me porto bien y no hago mal
Y obedesco a mis papas
Siendo bueno como tal
El Cucu jamas vendra
(Speaks)
Don't forget this song in case El
Cucu comes!

MACKENZIE
(Rolling her eyes)
Yeah right.

BENNETT
(Scratching Mackenzie)
Ooooh, I'm Coo-coo.

MACKENZIE
Stop it!

IRIS (30s) is cooking in the kitchen and looks over to them.

IRIS
Papa, stop scaring the kids with
your ridiculous stories.

ABUELO
Maybe if El Cucu had visited you,
you wouldn't be calling my stories
ridiculous.

Iris rolls her eyes and continues cooking. Mackenzie starts texting. Bennett pokes Mackenzie and runs towards the stairs. As he passes the front door, CHARLIE (30s) enters from a run. Bennett runs into Charlie, annoying him, but continues running upstairs.

IRIS
(Calling)
No running in the house!

ABUELO
(Calling)
Listen to your mother or El Cucu
will get you!

MACKENZIE
(Storming off)
She's not our mom.

Mackenzie storms upstairs, still on her phone. Charlie is taking off his running gear and approaches Iris.

CHARLIE
Do these kids plan on following the
rules any time soon?

ABUELO
They're fine, Charlie. They've been
through a lot. Be patient.

IRIS
You know what I think? I think this
vacation will be good for all of
us.

ABUELO 3.

ABUELO
(Sarcastically)
For all of you. Some of us weren't
invited.

IRIS
(Playfully pushing him)
Oh, Papa.

End

FADE TO: