

INT. PEDRO BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

The room is dark, but we can see a ray of bright sunlight streaming in through closed blinds. A pair of HANDS type across a computer KEYBOARD. A video game is completed. Emails are sent. A power switch is thrown down and the screen goes black. PEDRO, 14, skater-punk, gets up sleepily from his chair, and pulls a HOODIE over his head. He puts on a red skater HAT and pulls it low over his eyes.

INT. LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

Pedro enters the living room where his MOM and older sister CARLA sit chatting, watching the television.

PEDRO

Can I go to the park?

Mom and Carla look at each other for a moment, disapprovingly.

MOM

You have to be back by six o'clock.

SISTER

Yeah, six o'clock, Pedro, because I really, really want to see this movie, so don't be late.

PEDRO

I won't. Can I go?

SISTER

You have to promise to be here by six o'clock. You can't be late again.

MOM

Don't be late Pedro. Your sister want to see the movie.

Pedro looks annoyed. Nobody gives him the respect he deserves.

PEDRO

I won't be late!

Pedro turns and stomps out of the room, leaving Carla and Mom behind, nodding their heads in disapproval. He slams the front door.

EXT. PEDRO'S HOUSE - DAY

Pedro jumps over his front bannister and onto his bike. He pedals it away from the house, gaining speed quickly as he rides out onto the road.

TITLE CARD - "POLAROID"

EXT. VARIOUS STREETS - DAY

Pedro pedals along the roads, blowing off steam as he pedals. He jumps a CURB and rides around a CAR backing up. He races down a hill and pedals up a steep incline. Pedro turns quickly and heads across some railway TRACKS. Once across the tracks, he quickly veers onto a rocky PATH.

EXT. PATH - DAY

Pedro bikes onto the path and jumps a drainage DITCH, expertly kicking a leg up into the air. He pedals fearlessly along the twists and turns, riding along logs and between large trees. He rides along until he comes to a park.

EXT. PARK - DAY

The boy rides along a trail of the crowded park. There are too many people and he has to walk his bike. Things are moving slowly and Pedro, the hothead, once again gets impatient. He looks at his watch...it's 5:30! He is going to be late!!!

PEDRO

Oh No!

He picks up his bike and begins to run with it through the crowd. Finally he jumps back on it and rides once again through the streets toward his house, avoiding traffic and standing as he digs into the pedals.

INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Mom and Carla are having a conversation over a finished dinner. A CLOCK on the wall reads 7:30. Pedro enters, sweaty and out of breath. Carla looks up from her plate and shoots Pedro a dirty look.

MOM

What's going on?

BEAT

(CONTINUED)

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CARLA

I can't believe you did it again!

PEDRO

I'm sorry! It wasn't my fault!

CARLA

Wasn't your fault? You were supposed to be home an hour and a half ago! You always forget! Always! I really wanted to see this movie! The tickets were for today. I paid for them. I bought one for you.

PEDRO

I'm sorry!!

CARLA

You always forget

MOM

I was really, really, really worried. I didn't know what to think!

Pedro looks at the dinner table. The remains of a FANCY DINNER sit in bowls and platters. He pulls the hat further down over his eyes and sits down at the head of the table.

CARLA

You gonna pay for the movie?

PEDRO

Sorry! It wasn't my fault!

MOM

What about the last time we talked? I made a special dinner just for you.

PEDRO

I forgot I'm sorry!

The two begin to lay into him with questioning. It is familiar to Pedro and he sinks further into his chair.

MOM

Who were you with?

PEDRO

Alone.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MOM (DISBELIEVING)
You were alone.

CARLA (JEALOUSLY)
Having so much fun...

MOM
I think you should go to your
bedroom and think about this some
more...and no dinner for you.

Pedro storms off and slams his bedroom door. Once again the two ladies look at each other and shake their heads in disapproval.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Mom and daughter clean up their dinner and put the remains into plastic containers. They gossip about other people, as they clean, and carry on a monotonous conversation.

INT. PEDRO BEDROOM - NIGHT

Pedro lies on his back in bed in a shaft of moonlight. He listens to the conversation drone on for a bit and then covers his face and ears with a pillow and groans.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

The conversation goes on. They talk about a future trip, school grades and TV reality shows.

INT. PEDRO BEDROOM - NIGHT

Pedro gets out of bed and covers the bottom of his door with a TOWEL so the light won't give him away. He turns on his COMPUTER and begins to search the internet. He is a bit frantic looking up technical details. WE see him type in the word "POLAROID".

Pedro goes to his closet and roots through it. He finds an old cardboard box and searches through it and until he pulls out an old 1960's POLAROID CAMERA.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

The two ladies are still at work, still monotonously chattering.

INT. PEDRO BEDROOM - NIGHT

Pedro starts to take apart the camera, tinkering with the circuitry and loading the film. He looks to his computer and searches out more technical data as he tinkers. Finally he finishes and picks up the device, putting the strap around his neck.

PEDRO
I wonder if it's gonna work.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Pedro enters the room with the camera where Carla now tunes out on the couch watching television. He strides right up to her with the camera, surprising her.

CARLA
Hey what are you doing?

Pedro snaps a Polaroid photo of Carla, who puts up her hands to block the bright flash from her face.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Mom puts away the last of the dishes. Pedro again walks right up to her and taps her on the shoulder.

MOM
Pedro get to your bed.

He snaps a picture. The FLASH whites out the screen.

CUT TO:

INT. PEDRO BEDROOM - MORNING

Pedro wakes from a long and restful sleep. He blinks a few times and smiles.

PEDRO
They're gone.

INT. KITCHEN/LIVING ROOM/BEDROOMS - DAY

Pedro paces the house, looking about him.

PEDRO
Mom? Carla?

There is no one home.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Pedro makes a phone call.

PEDRO
Is Scott there?

BEAT

I was thinking if you want to come over or just hang out...or...five minutes? Okay, bye!

He grabs his hat and jacket and heads out.

EXT. PEDRO'S HOUSE - LATE NIGHT

Pedro returns, strutting up the sidewalk. He looks pleased with his day. He leaps the front gate with a single bound and enters the house.

INT. PEDRO'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

PEDRO
Hey Mom, I'm home!

Pedro enters and takes off his jacket. He hears a NOISE behind him and spins around. On his bulletin board are the PHOTOS of Mom and Carla. But...something has gone wrong! Mom and Carla are trapped IN THE PHOTOS!!! They pace back and forth within the frames.

PEDRO (CONT'D)
Mom! Carla!

MOM
Pedro, what have you done? Please?
Do something! Do something!!!

CARLA
I am so sick of you! Look what
you've done! I'm trapped!

PEDRO
Oh my--I don't know what to do!
Tell me what to do, Mom!

CARLA
I'm going to get you!

Carla claws at the air futilely. She is still trapped in the photo and cannot get out.

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CARLA (CONT'D)

When I get my hands on you, boy,
I'm gonna wring your---

MOM

Darling, honey, help us!

PEDRO

Mom, I don't know how! I don't--

Pedro pulls his hat over his eyes and sits on the bed. His Mom and sister continue to cry out. Pedro covers his head with his pillow and lies on his back.

INT. PEDRO BEDROOM - MORNING

A HAND touches Pedro's sleeping shoulder. HE awakes with a start. It is his mom and she is smiling.

MOM

Good morning darling. It's a
beautiful day and I have a surprise
for you...

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

She leads the boy into the kitchen. At the table is a BREAKFAST MEAL fit for a king: EGGS, PANCAKES WITH STRAWBERRIES AND WHIPPING CREAM, FRUIT, JUICE AND CHOCOLATE MILK. Carla comes into the room, hiding something behind her back.

CARLA

Good morning birthday boy! Did you
have a good sleep?

PEDRO

Yeah...

He smiles and sits at the table. Carla pulls out a CAKE with lit CANDLES from behind her back. She places it in front of Pedro and kisses him on his cheek.

Pedro gets ready to blow out the candles. He sucks in air. His Mom comes into the room with something in her hands. She holds it up to her face. It is a POLAROID CAMERA!!! Pedro holds his hands in front of his face and screams in self defence.

PEDRO (CONT'D)

Mom! No, Mom, no!!!

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There is a FLASH of white.

END CREDITS.