

**Ned Sides-** The sensitive middle child, Ned is always caught between two women who don't really like each other: his slightly spoiled wife Becca and his highly judgmental mother Pat. Satisfying both of them and their interests is a line that Ned constantly strives to tow but rarely succeeds in doing so. Ned has built his life around doing everything his mother says even buying the house next door to his folks and becoming a veterinarian.

INT. OFFICE- DAY

Ned sits across from his therapist, Dr. Farley.

**NED**

Good news, Dr. Farley. This can be our last session.  
You've done it. I am cured.

DR. FARLEY

I see.

**NED**

If I had my Purell with me I would shake your hand, sir.

DR. FARLEY

What about the main issue we've been exploring here?

**NED**

Ah yes, that. Totally past it. You are looking at a normal healthy man who, with your help, is now much less afraid of his mother.

DR. FARLEY

Good to hear.

**NED**

I mean it. And if she were sitting here I would say the exact same thing to her face.

(CHECKING)

This is all doctor- patient confidential, right? It would be like illegal for you to share any of this with her.

DR. FARLEY

Yes, Ned.

**NED**

Cool, cool. Yeah, I feel good. I have wasted so much energy worrying about what my mom thinks. Seeking her approval. Trying to please her.

DR. FARLEY

This is big, Ned.

**NED**

The only annoying thing is this is actually the kind of achievement Mom would really be proud of. But of course I can't share it with her.

(THEN)

Well, I'm going to miss our little sessions here. But that's the price you pay for being completely cured.

DR. FARLEY

It had to happen eventually.

Ned gets a text.

**NED**

Ah, see there, it's a text from my mom. "Ned, don't forget to write your Aunt Resse a thank you note for the birthday gift." Now that would be the kind of thing that used to really get on my nerves. Because I already told her like three times that I was going to do it. And why is it any of her business anyway, whether her grown son writes a thank you note?

DR. FARLEY

It angers you, doesn't it?

**NED**

Well it would have really burned up the old Ned. But the new Ned, it just slides right off my back.

DR. FARLEY

That's good.

**NED**

I mean who does she think she is?! I'm an adult. I don't need to be told what to do.

DR. FARLEY

Okay.

**NED**

I mean before I was completely cured this kind of thing would have really gotten under my skin!!

DR. FARLEY

I'm sorry that's the end of our time for today.

**NED**

(still heated)

Okay, I will see you tomorrow.

DR. FARLEY

I think that's a good idea.

**NED**

Great!

Ned exits in a huff.