

Maria is standing at the counter. She begins to stuff three lunch boxes with antipasto, Italian bread, and fresh mozzarella.

LITTLE PAT

I want peanut butter and jelly.

MARIA

You can't. You might be allergic.

SKYE

He's had it, like, a hundred million times.

MARIA

Not in front of me.

LITTLE PAT

Fine. I'll just bring a cupcake.

MARIA

No you won't, sweet tooth. You're getting the Romanelli special.

Maria grabs the three juice boxes and adds one to each lunch box.

SKYE

But the cheese you give us smells bad.

LITTLE PAT

Yeah, like crap.

MARIA

Enough! Pat, don't use that word!

START

Maria finishes the kids' lunches and closes their lunch boxes. She hands the kids their lunches, and walks them to the front door.

MARIA (CONT'D)

Bus will be here soon. We'll pick out some new lunches next week, okay? Now, what do you need to remember?

LEAF

Do we have to do this every morning?

MARIA

Yes, Leaf. We do.

They stop at the doorway.

LEAF
Don't talk to people.

MARIA
Strangers. Don't talk to
strangers.

LEAF
Is the bus driver a stranger?

MARIA
Uh, no.

LEAF
But I don't know her.

MARIA
Okay, maybe don't talk to her.

LEAF
What if she asks me which stop I
get off at?

MARIA
You can answer that, Leaf. I'm sure
she's been vetted... Nevermind.
Come on. What else?

LEAF
No running no swimming no
climbing... anything. No objects in
the mouth or electrical sockets no
messing with fire stay away from
stray animals cleaning solutions
people with flu-like symptoms and
homemade baked goods.

MARIA
Good, good. Okay, time to go. **END**

Pat, Skye, and Leaf give Maria a big hug and leave. Maria waits for a moment, watching them stroll down the sidewalk. She walks back to the kitchen area.

She packs up the antipasto and mozzarella, and puts it back into the fridge. As she closes the fridge door, she sees a photo on it. It's her and her sister, Lily, on Halloween. They are dressed as Mario and Luigi. In a stroller, baby Leaf is dressed as a green mushroom with "1UP" printed on his onesie.

CUT TO: