**Life is Full of Arguments**

The Calvins family history twisted like the crooked branches of the leafless tree, on one autumn weekend in their Nebraskan home. It was a brisk October Sunday morning when Alfred Calvins happened to be chowing down on nectarines and soymilk as always. He was sitting at the kitchen table watching the new Sanjay and Craig episode. Alfred is a short and plump gentleman that is thirty-two years old. He has orange hair, green eyes and countless freckles covering his body. He also has a signature soul patch that he carefully trimmed weekly. He seems to be very awkward at certain moments but is classy in his clothing appearance. He lastly L.A.R.P.s twice a week and often admires his inspiration, Madonna. Connie Calvins, Alfred’s mother, walked downstairs wearing her pajamas like usual. She blew her brown hair out of the way then greeted and fed all ten of her cats. Connie is a sixty-eight year old woman with brown eyes and appears as average height. She is extremely skinny and has a rather frail body. She enjoys being lazy, admiring her motivation, David Hasselhoff, and having power by winning arguments. Alfred and Connie love each other very much but fight often over small and large happenings. Alfred would soon be getting married to his fiancé Debra Higgins, one of the first girls Alfred has ever been in a relationship with. He loves everything about her very much but his mother thought otherwise . . .

“Mornin’ Mommy!” Alfred cheerfully said to his mother.

“ Yeah whatever. I didn’t get much sleep last night so don’t bore with whatever you have going on,” she replied.

“Sorry Ma, I just can’t believe that I’m marrying my sweet Debby-Poo in just two months!” he stated as he pictured the extraordinary moment.

“Listen Al . . . I’ve been thinking for a while now and I have made my decision,”

“What decision?” Alfred responded.

“My decision is that you and Debra should not get married,” she told him not feeling any remorse.

“WHAT?” he croaked in shock.

“I want you and Debra to break up so you can meet someone better than that lousy woman,” she repeated herself with an attitude.

“But Ma, I love her and I think she’s perfect for me . . .”

“I think she is hideous and has an awful personality. You should meet someone new that is more beautiful and has a sweet manner like me,” she replied with confidence.

“Why can’t you let me be happy for once?” Alfred sighed knowing that his mother always got her way.

“You should be very thankful for everything you own because you are very lucky to have it all. I know you are extremely happy about many things in your life,” she hissed.

“I mean about my personal and social life,” he mentioned.

“Well sometimes that’s the way the cookie crumbles,” she sassed getting more serious.

Alfred had to take in the vicious comment to control his emotions and find a way to respond to his wild parent. He tried to picture himself in a peaceful setting to calm his aggravated mind.

“I . . . I…um,” he responded trying to think of a threat or comeback.

“You what? Look Alfred, you either break up with Debra or you suffer the consequences!” she shrieked at him knowing the he was be a coward like normal.

Connie thought she had won. Alfred always backed down in these moments and let his mother have her way. But this time, he did something different. He loved Debra too much to just give up. He did something any male in the Calvins family had never done. Stand up to their mother in an argument.

“You know what Ma; I’m tired of you always winning our disputes and you getting your way. I am going to marry Debra because I don’t care what you think of her. I’m thirty two years old and I can make my own decisions!” he angrily exclaimed with self-confidence of his own.

Connie was shocked at the statement and started to applaud her son.

“Well done Alfred. No son in this family history has stood up against his mother in an argument. I’m proud of you!” she hollered.

“What? You’re not angry with me? I thought you hated Debby?” he told her in confusion.

“Oh I’ll get used to her,” She concluded.

Connie and Alfred did not argue once for the next few weeks. They simply planned the wedding together and shared ideas with no conflict occurring. Two months later, Alfred married the love of his life while his mother happily watched. Anyone in the Calvins family now stood up for themselves as Alfred and Debra decided to have no arguments in their household until one day it all changed…