

SINISTER SENIOR

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. WALKING TRAIL - DAY

A WOMAN (67) steps off the trail and stands a few feet back from a ledge, overlooking a beautiful valley. The potential drop of over a hundred feet straight down is terrifying. She speaks to someone out of sight.

WOMAN

It's so beautiful here, isn't it?

The woman turns around and smiles at her unseen companion.

WOMAN

Take my picture.

Her face turns terrified.

WOMAN

What are you doing?!

A pair of hands reaches out and shoves her. The woman topples backward, right over the edge.

O.S. Her terrified SCREAM is audible for a couple of brief moments, followed by a THUD.

A person's shadow moves away from the cliff.

INT. DINING HALL - NIGHT

A celebration takes place. Many tables are decorated with a golden anniversary theme. Nearly empty plates remain. Some GUESTS finish their meals.

Festive MUSIC plays. Numerous couples dance, including some of the CHILDREN in attendance.

The spotlight couple sits at one of the tables with close family. BETTY HARRISON (68) looks incredible for her age. Her died blonde hair appears completely natural. Her physique could impress much younger men.

Her husband of 50 years, SCOTT HARRISON, looks his 70 years. His snow white hair makes him dashing for an older man. He carries a few extra pounds but they look good on him. His skin is nearly as wrinkle-free as Betty's.

Their two children are at the table with their spouses. Jennifer (JENNY) DEEVERS (45) gets her good looks from her mom. Her younger brother RANDALL (RANDY) HARRISON (42) is much more casual than his classy sister.

Jenny's husband STEVEN (STEVE) DEEVERS (47) is a banking executive who epitomizes sophistication. Randy's wife SARAH HARRISON (38) oozes energy.

Each has a drink before them, wine or champagne, except for Betty. She has apple juice in her wine glass.

RANDY
 (to his parents)
 I can't believe you two made it
 this long.

BETTY
 Why not?

Betty grips Scott's hand.

BETTY
 We work out in the bedroom daily,
 after all.

Everyone at the table laughs, although the adult children are somewhat embarrassed. Betty and Scott lack that quality.

JENNY
 Mom.

RANDY
 We can't take you two anywhere.

More laughter. Sarah pulls Randy to his feet.

SARAH
 You've avoided the dance floor long
 enough.

As Sarah drags Randy to the dance floor, he twists to look back at his family.

RANDY
 Help me.

Sarah moves well to the upbeat music. Randy is a little embarrassed but makes some movements to fit in.

Betty watches her son adoringly.

BETTY
 (to Scott)
 Remember when we used to have that
 kind of energy?

Scott kisses Betty's hand.

SCOTT

What do you mean "used to?"

Scott stands, guiding Betty to get feet. They smile like two teens in love as they go to the dance floor and show off some impressive moves.

Jenny and Steve sip on their drinks as they watch.

JENNY

I hope we're that happy on our 50th anniversary.

STEVE

Well, we'll be quite a bit older. Maybe the nursing home will throw us a party.

Jenny gives Steve a playful shove. They kiss.

Their kids, JASON (16) and KIMBERLY (KIMMIE, 14) come to the table with pieces of cake and sit down. With them is AMBER (11), Randy and Sarah's daughter.

KIMMIE

I can't believe Grandma and Grandpa are dancing in public. How embarrassing.

STEVE

Oh yeah? Your mom and I plan to embarrass you every chance we get when we're that age.

JASON

No offense, but you already do.

KIMMIE

And you probably won't be around that long. They're ancient.

Jenny's jaw drops, but she's more amused than angry.

JENNY

Wow. Way to dis on us.

JASON

You make it too easy.

Jason and Kimmie dig into their cake.

AMBER

Makes me glad my parents are somewhat normal.

Jenny and Steve pass each other a smirk.

ON THE DANCE FLOOR

Betty and Scott fail to break a sweat as they keep up with the younger couples. The song ends. A DJ working a nice stereo system speaks into his mic.

DJ

This next one is special to Scott and Betty. It's the first song they ever danced to.

A slow, romantic SONG plays. The couple of honor takes a slow dance position. They gaze into each other's eyes as they sway to the beat. Two people very much in love.

SCOTT

Remember the dance? If my friends hadn't dragged me there, I may never have met you.

BETTY

How could I forget? You were this awkward boy who didn't even know how to talk to a girl.

SCOTT

Good thing you weren't afraid to do the talking for both of us.

They smile at each other and rest their heads together.

Dancing near them, Sarah and Randy watch their elders with great admiration.

INT. DINING HALL - LATER

The shindig winds down. Betty and Scott stand before their guests as everyone prepares to leave.

SCOTT

Betty and I would like to thank all of you for sharing this memorable day with us. Without family, these special moments would lose much of their meaning. We love you all.

The crowd cheers.

BETTY

Good night, all, and have a safe trip home.

Some guests leave. Others go to Scott and Betty, and give them their well wishes.

EXT. HARRISON HOUSE - NIGHT

A beautiful upper middle-class home in a suburban neighborhood. A light in an upper window is on.

INT. HARRISON HOUSE - MAIN BEDROOM - NIGHT

Betty sits up in bed, reading a book. She wears reading glasses. The bedside clock reads 11:39 pm.

Scott turns off the light as he leaves the bathroom.

BETTY

Did you take your pills?

Scott climbs into bed.

SCOTT

Yes, dear.

BETTY

I know you think I'm a nag sometimes, but high blood pressure isn't anything to take lightly.

SCOTT

You're not getting rid of me that easily.

Betty grins at her husband.

BETTY

Glad to hear it.

Betty returns to her reading.

Scott props up his head on his hand and watches Betty. She notices.

BETTY

What?

Scott takes Betty's hand into his and strokes it.

SCOTT

We have about 20 minutes left to our anniversary. Maybe it should go out with a bang.

Betty removes her glasses and looks at Scott lustfully.