

## Kramer vs Kramer (Ted gets fired)

TED

*(Both sit at restaurant table for lunch)* Anyways, the other morning, I'm at the refrigerator, you know, getting Billy ready for school. So, I'm just in my underwear, and he notices that I've lost weight. And he comes in and he pats me, he comes up to about here on me, and he says, "Daddy, you've really lost a lot of weight." And he looks up at me, and he says, "And it's all gone to your nose."  
*(laughs)* He was so cute, you know?

JIM

Well, you know kids.....

TED

This is delicious, do you want a taste? It's delicious. *(Puts fork with food towards Jim)*

JIM

No thanks, Ted.

TED

You sure? It's good.

JIM

I'm full. Yeah, listen... uh... Ted, I had a call from a friend of mine at another agency.

TED

Right...

JIM

The Mid-Atlantic people have invited him to pitch the account.

TED

Why?

JIM

I guess they're not happy with what we're doing. I don't know.

TED

*(still upbeat)* Maybe you should have them over and I'll give them a little tap dance.

JIM

No, it's okay. I have Norman working on it.

TED

Norman?

JIM

Yeah...

TED

You're taking me off the account? You don't like me anymore?

JIM

*(coughs)* It's not quite that simple. Uh... I think we are going to have to make a few changes here. Well, it's...

TED

You're firing me?

JIM

Yeah, I'm letting you go. Yes.

TED

Why?

JIM

Now look, Ted. This is a very painful thing for me. You don't know how badly I feel. But I... I've been getting a lot of pressure from the guys upstairs and there wasn't anything else I could do. Now, listen, I've thought about this a lot and it's really better this way. I mean, if I took away your stripes, if I was to put you on some schlock account, you'd hate it, and you'd hate me for doing it to you. This way, it's a clean break, and believe me, that's the best thing.

TED

You know that my wife is fighting me for custody. You know we're going to court. Do you know what my chances are if I'm out of a job?

JIM

Now, look, I understand you're upset but for God's sake don't do this here.....

TED

I don't want to beg, but I'm asking you, please, as a friend. Huh? I'm asking you....

JIM

Ted, you're an extremely bright guy. You really are. You got a hell of a talent. You're gonna be okay. You're gonna land on your feet. You're gonna survive. Teddy, look... (*reaches for his wallet*) I know you may be a little short of cash right now. No big hurry about paying this back.

TED

Shame on you. (*throws napkin down on table and exits.*)

**END**