

**ALLISON & GEORGE
“BRING ME A TACO”**

Mary Engquist

Cast: Allison-George-Billy and Taco man

Scene--Set in old living room

ALLISON

I cannot believe that I sent you out to get me a Taco and you bring me home a Paco.

GEORGE

Oh, sweetheart, this poor little doggie looked at me with his big ole eyes and I could not resist rescuing him with the look on his face.

ALLISON

Well, if you think he had a face you could not resist, take a look at mine.

(She gives him a very dirty look)

GEORGE

You're scaring me now, Allison.

ALLISON

No scares about it. If our landlord sees us with a dog we have been had. You know that we are not allowed dogs here. He will for sure make us move.

GEORGE

You got it all wrong, Allison.

ALLISON

What do you mean by that remark?

GEORGE

Well, we will make Paco our baby.

ALLISON

Have you lost your marbles, George?

GEORGE

Not at all. We still have the bassinet left over from Billy's kid when they spend the night so we could put Paco inside and cover him with a baby blanket and stick a bottle inside his---

ALLISON

That is enough, George. Now I know you lost it. Oh shucks, someone is knocking at the door, George. Now what?

GEORGE

Quick, Allison, grab the baby blanket and stick this dog treat in his mouth. That will keep him quiet.

ALLISON

If you think for one minute that I will cover this dog with a baby blanket and feed him like a baby—Oh my gosh, the landlord is banging on the door. Do something, George!

GEORGE

Maybe it's not him at the door, Allison.

ALLISON

I know his knock and no one in their right mind knocks 3 times on the ceiling if you love me and then comes down and bangs on the door who hates you.

GEORGE

So he likes that song.

(George starts singing "Knock Three Times on the Ceiling if You Love Me" and then he heads to the door.)

ALLISON

Shut up, George.

GEORGE

Quick, Allison, grab the dog and wrap the blanket on him.

ALLISON

I cannot believe that I am doing this.

(She holds the dog with a blanket wrapped around him.)

GEORGE

Oh, what a surprise to have you knocking at our door.

LANDLORD

Yea, I bet. And I know what you and Allison are up to.

ALLISON

Oh no, George, I told you he would find out.

LANDLORD

Find out what?

GEORGE

Well, find out that you cannot live without us.

LANDLORD

What are you saying? You're moving out without a 30 day notice?

GEORGE

Nothing like that. Why we were just talking about what a good landlord you are and so very understanding.

LANDLORD

You guys are up to no good. Why look at Allison; she is holding a baby and you know very well that no kids are allowed.

GEORGE

It's not what you think. Allison's sister just had a baby and needs us to babysit it for a few days.

LANDLORD

How can a woman that is 75 years old have a baby? I met that woman last year when she tried to sell me her burned cookies and she did not look like a 20-year-old gal. With her looks she could have stopped a clock before midnight.

ALLISON

Are you calling my sister ugly? How dare you.

GEORGE

It's alright, Allison; maybe we will take that new apartment around the corner.

LANDLORD

Ok, sorry, Allison, but how could she have a baby at her age?

GEORGE

That's easy. She had a long 9 months of pregnancy. In fact, she did not even know she was pregnant all these years. Why she just thought--

ALLISON

Yea, she just thought she was getting fat.

LANDLORD

I have heard it all now. You both have 24 hours to remove this baby from your apartment.

GEORGE

Not a problem. We will have him---

LANDLORD

What is that growling that I hear?

GEORGE

Oh, it's just my stomach. Why since we have been babysitting we have no time to eat.

ALLISON

That's right. Now if you will excuse us I need to make supper for George before he croaks.

GEORGE

Gee, Allison.

LANDLORD

Now no funny stuff. Just get rid of that kid and you both can keep your happy, dysfunctional family.

(With that remark the landlord walks out the door)

ALLISON

That sure was close, George-e-boy.

GEORGE

Please don't call me that name.

ALLISON

Your name is George.

GEORGE

I know, but when you add a-boy, well I know that you have more to say to me and it ain't going to be nice.

ALLISON

Now what, George? We got to find a home for Paco, or it's either me or Paco, so forget the small stuff.

GEORGE

You mean to tell me I have a choice?

ALLISON

One more crack like that and you are history.

GEORGE

Now, sweetheart, you know that I love you more than Paco, and besides he is only a dog. Why you are a ----

ALLISON

Careful what you say.

GEORGE

I was just going to say—wait, who is at the door now?

ALLISON

I will get the door and you hold our baby.

(She hands George the baby wrapped in the blanket.)

GEORGE—

Hey, Billy.

(He opens the door)

BILLY

When did you guys have a baby?

(He looks surprised at George holding it.)

GEORGE

What baby?

BILLY

You guys are always teasing me. Here, let me see. Ouch!

(He starts to pull down the blanket and yells.)

Why did that kid bite me? And since when are babies born with teeth?

(He shakes his hand like it was bit.)

GEORGE

Were you born yesterday, Billy? You know that Allison is too old to have a baby.

ALLISON

What did you just say, George-e-Boy? Why I am going to hit you over the head.

BILLY

Please, Allison, he did not mean it.

GEORGE

Don't tell her that. Maybe I meant every word.

ALLISON

Well, then here is your suitcase and don't let the door hit you going out.

(She throws an empty suitcase at him and George drops the dog.)

BILLY

Hey, George, you're scaring the baby. What? It's a plane, it's a bird, it's Super Dog? What have you two been eating?

GEORGE

Let me start from the beginning. Allison sent me to the store to buy her a couple of tacos. When I went up to the window I left the car door cracked. When I got back in the car I did not see

the dog.

BILLY

Well, what made you realized that you had a dog in the car with you?

GEORGE

Well, I can answer that. When I got home the dog had eaten all the tacos up.

ALLISON

George walks in and says, “Surprise, sweetheart, they were out of tacos,” but he found me a Paco. When I asked what a Paco was he says it was better than a taco.

BILLY

Then what happened?

GEORGE

Mr. Landlord comes over, so we disguise the dog like a baby.

BILLY

Then I show up.

GEORGE

Yea, like always your timing stinks.

BILLY

He sure is a cute little dog. And, yes, look at those baby brown eyes. Why I think he likes me.

GEORGE

Why do you say that?

BILLY

See how he is jumping up on me. Hey, look there is something on his belly.

GEORGE

It looks like someone put a tracker on him. No wait! He's trying to tell us something. What is it little Paco?

BILLY

Hey, his name is on his belly.

ALLISON

Well, what does it say?

GEORGE

Give me a minute, this little Chihuahua wants to take a hunk out of me.

ALLISON

I will take the hunk out of you if you don't hurry up and tell us

what it says.

GEORGE

Yea, okay, hold your pants on. It has the name Rick on it. It says- Rickety, dickory dock, the mouse ran up the clock.

BILLY

Don't tell me the clock struck one?

GEORGE

No, it says it struck a deal.

ALLISON

Come on George-e-boy, what does it say?

GEORGE

Okay here goes, Rickory Dickory Dock,
The dog barked at the clock,
The clock struck three,
Fiddle-de-dee,
Rickory Dickory Dock.

BILLY

I always thought it said Hickory Dickory Dock. Why does it say Rickory?

GEORGE

Now that is a good question.

ALLISON

Well, then George, answer it then.

GEORGE

Come on, Allison, do I look like a rocket scientist to you?

ALLISON

You got about 3 minutes to become one.

BILLY

Not so hard on him, Allison.

GEORGE

Yea, you heard the man, not so hard on me. Hey, wait a minute. It's becoming very clear to me that this dog was planted in my car.

ALLISON

What are you trying to say, George, they were out of tacos so they gave you a Paco dog.

GEORGE

No, Allison, you are missing the real reason this poor dog is branded.

ALLISON

And? I am waiting.

GEORGE

It's simple. Even a kid could figure this one out. The owner I read has been very slow in business. He puts his dog in the car after starving him for a few days.

BILLY

Then what?

GEORGE

He knew that his Paco would be so hungry and that he would eat all your tacos before you got home, thus knowing that you would come back to buy more. Hee, hee I know that is the reason.

ALLISON

You still have not explained why a nursery rhyme was put on his chest.

GEORGE

Because Rickory, is short for meaning Rich, meaning his plan would make him double the money.

ALLISON

Come on, that is the most—Hey, answer the door, you knuckle head.

GEORGE

Oh, look, it's the taco man.

TACO MAN

Yea, it's me looking for my dog and you're the last one to see him. My helpers saw him jump inside your car. You used your ATM card so it was easy for me to find you.

ALLISON

So you are trying to double your profit by starving this Lil dog. You should be ashamed of yourself.

TACO MAN

What are you talking about Miss?

ALLISON

Well, you have that stupid nursery rhyme branded on your dog.

TACO MAN

Oh? That! It's simple to explain. My daughter wrote that with a felt pen. She was in a contest at her grammar school and was trying to get the dog to run up a clock for a trick. She could not remember all the words.

GEORGE

Then why did she use Rickory instead of Dickory?

TACO MAN

Because I told her to use my name, Rick. It was easier for her to remember. You see, my daughter has autism.

ALLISON

You see, George, that you were wrong once again.

TACO MAN

What do you mean?

ALLISON

Well, he told us--

GEORGE

Yea, I told my wife and Billy here that some poor old soul lost his poor little doggie and would come looking for him someday.

ALLISON

But, George--

GEORGE

That's enough. Now go get little Paco and give him to Rick.

TACO MAN

There he is. Hello, Paco, I sure hope that these good people fed you enough. You look so skinny.

ALLISON

Don't let his looks fool you. He had more than you will ever know.

TACO MAN

Well, thank you all so much. My daughter will be very happy we have him back. I want you to mention "Paco" every time that you come in and you will get all the free tacos you want for one full year. Every night is taco night. With that I must get back to my daughter.

GEORGE

Okay, thanks so much. Bye.

(The door slams as the taco man leaves.)

ALLISON

Well, George, all is not forgiven.

GEORGE

What is there not to forgive? Free tacos for a year.

ALLISON

Do you realize the weight that I will gain by having tacos every night for dinner? No way, don't you take him up on it or you have been had. You hear that, George-e-boy?

GEORGE

Oh Allison, there you go calling me names again.
(They all exit the room)

THE END