




CAR WASH

What is family?



In a drama reminiscent of *A MAN CALLED OTTO* or *SOMETHING'S GOT TO GIVE*, a "TV family" is fractured... when an accident, decades later, gives a lonely and bitter woman an opportunity to reconsider the definition of mothers, daughters, children and grandchildren.

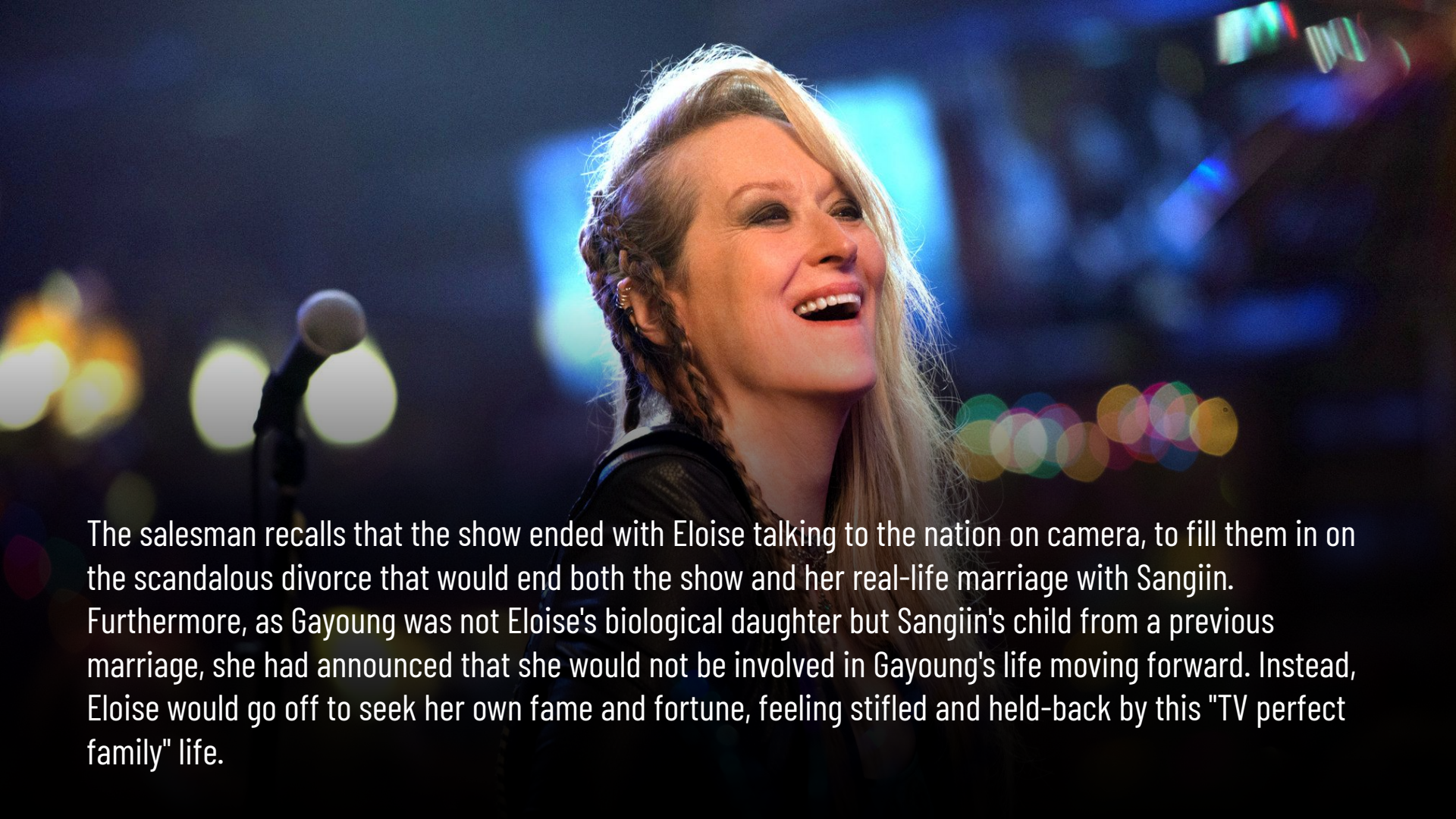


A close-up portrait of actress Meryl Streep. She has short, wavy blonde hair and is looking directly at the camera with a somber, almost tearful expression. Her eyes are slightly red and puffy. She is wearing a dark, high-collared garment. The background is a wall of large, square, grey tiles with white grout. The lighting is soft and focused on her face.

We open in a furniture store, where ELOISE is staring at a "staged" living room, tears welling up in her eyes. Her moment of reflection is interrupted by a pushy salesman, who, after spewing his sales pitch, recognizes her as "that mom from TV"! Eloise deflates.

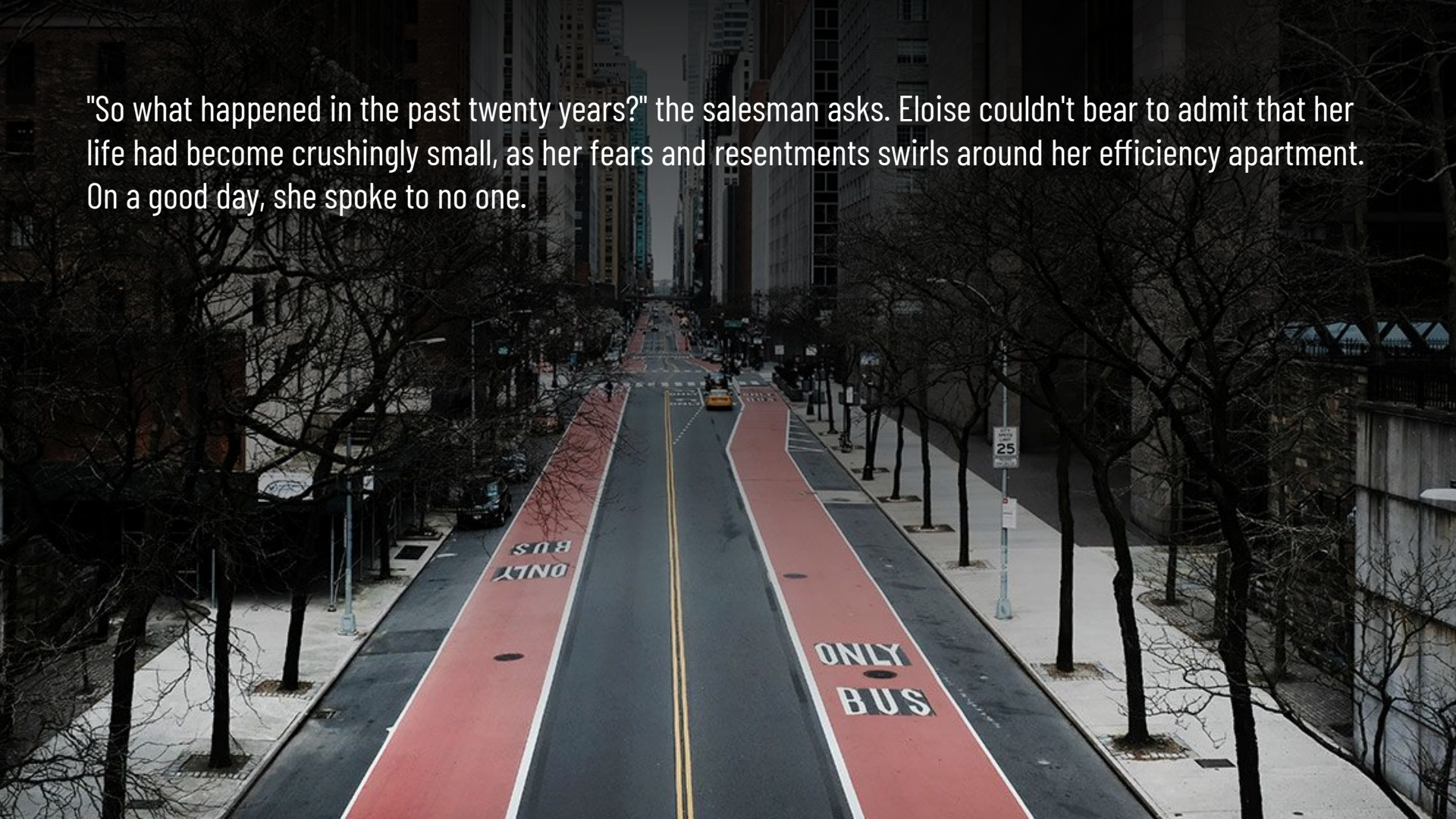


We cut to a flashback, where a living room set, eerily similar to the store display, where we see a sitcom, 'Our Kind Neighbors' featuring a younger Eloise, her NOW DECEASED ex-husband, Eom Sangjin and their daughter, Gayoung.



The salesman recalls that the show ended with Eloise talking to the nation on camera, to fill them in on the scandalous divorce that would end both the show and her real-life marriage with Sangiin. Furthermore, as Gayoung was not Eloise's biological daughter but Sangiin's child from a previous marriage, she had announced that she would not be involved in Gayoung's life moving forward. Instead, Eloise would go off to seek her own fame and fortune, feeling stifled and held-back by this "TV perfect family" life.

"So what happened in the past twenty years?" the salesman asks. Eloise couldn't bear to admit that her life had become crushingly small, as her fears and resentments swirls around her efficiency apartment. On a good day, she spoke to no one.

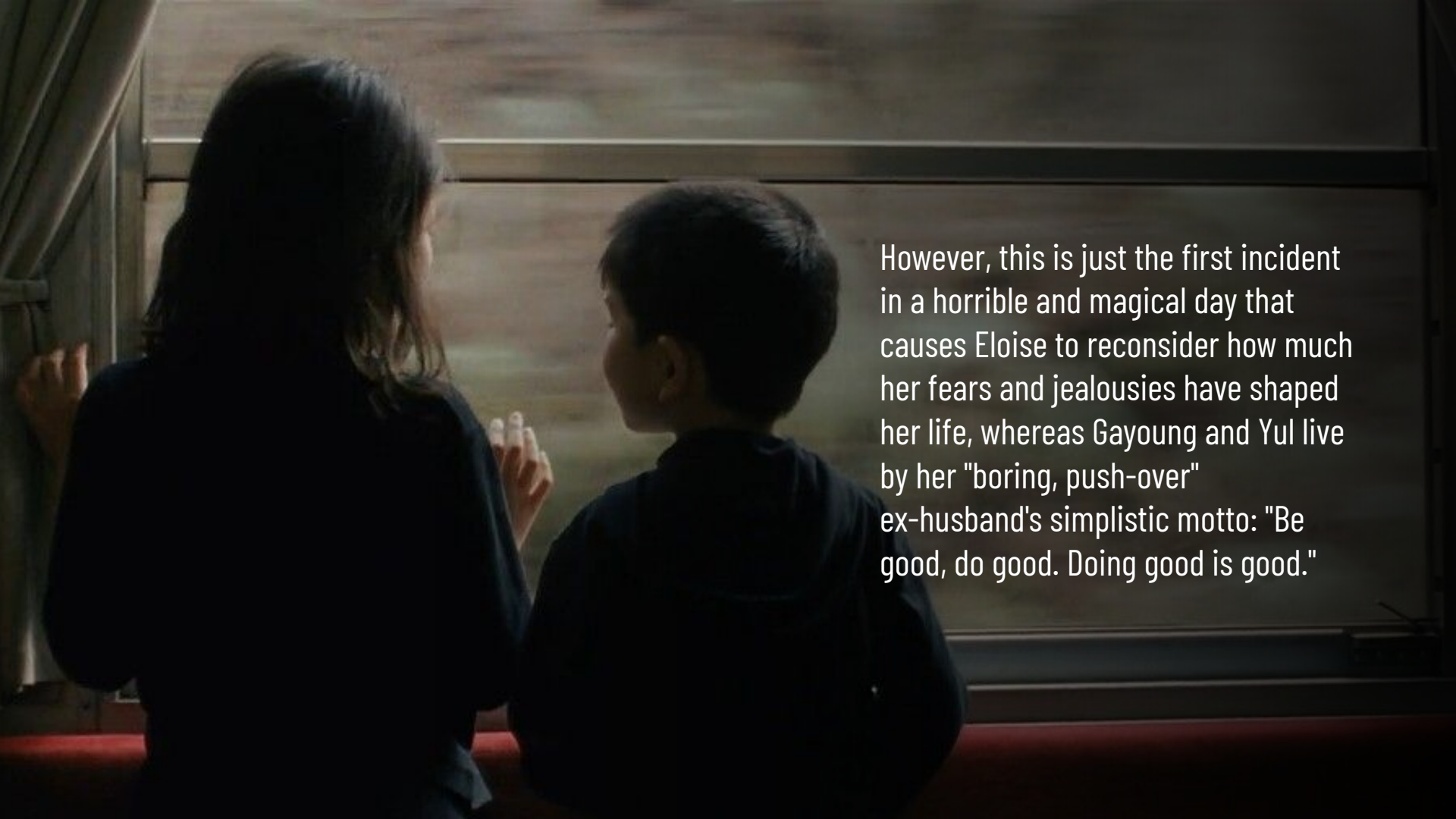


Today wasn't a good day, as her phone lit up. And, shockingly, the voice on the other end was GAYOUNG! "I need help and you are the last option I have." The favor? Babysit Gayoung's child, Yul, while Gayoung works an emergency shift at the local ER.



Yul, a sweet girl, and her loudmouth friend, Shingangwoo, have pledged to wash a local couple's classic car ten Saturdays in a row, to "repay" the cost of repairing a dent Shingangwoo and Yul made while playing ball a few weeks ago. Eloise is shocked that keeping her word is so important to Yul, especially when Shingangwoo threw the ball that dented the car.





However, this is just the first incident in a horrible and magical day that causes Eloise to reconsider how much her fears and jealousies have shaped her life, whereas Gayoung and Yul live by her "boring, push-over" ex-husband's simplistic motto: "Be good, do good. Doing good is good."



She is forced to spend time with an elderly couple married for 50 years... a vision of the future she abandoned. Ironically, it fills her not with disgust, but with jealousy.

She has insight into
celebrity and realizes how
empty her dreams were.

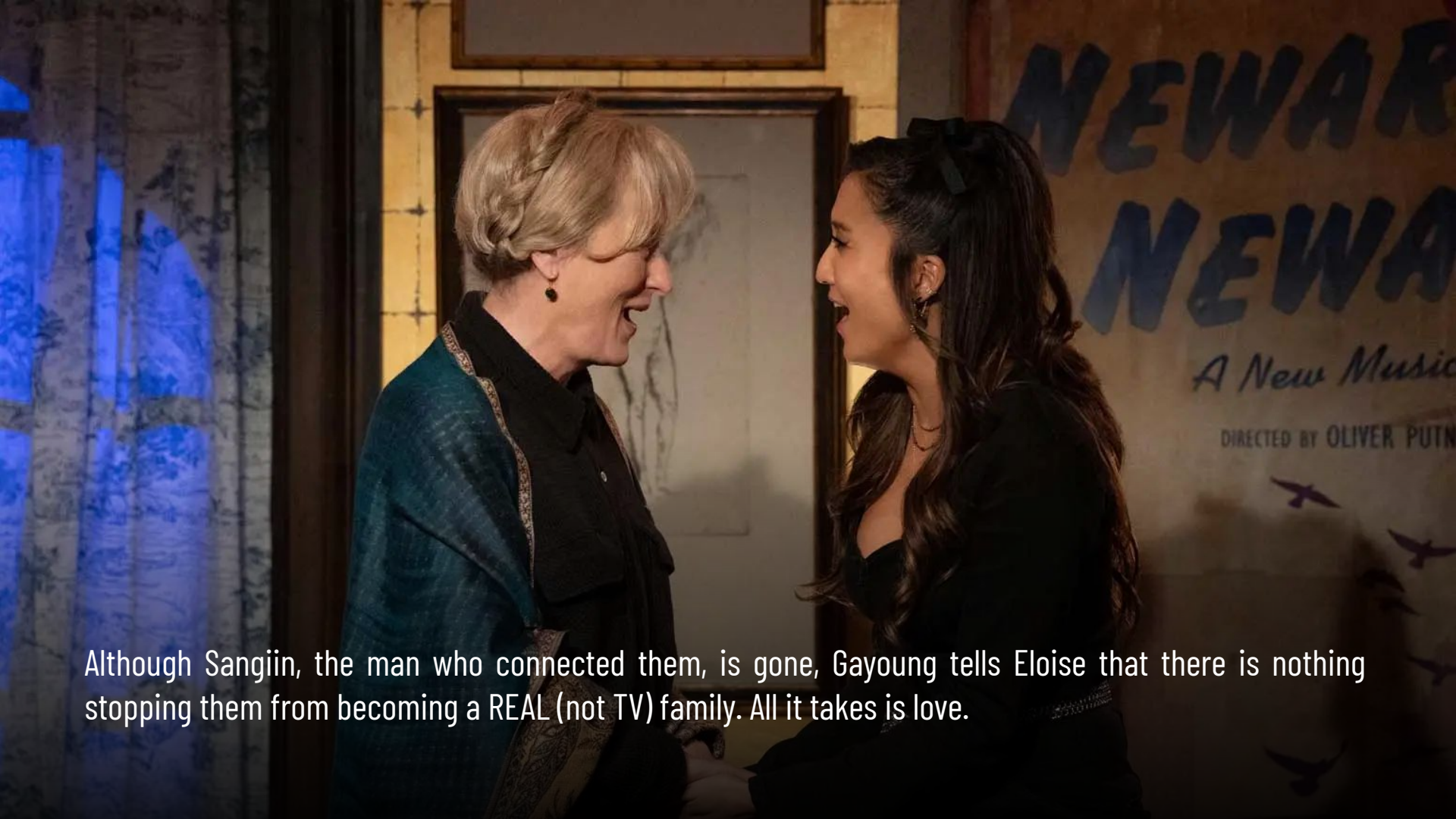


At the hospital, she sees how lucky she is.



And when Gayoung is injured at work, she discovers the pleasure of actually being a mom and grandmother.



A scene from a film showing two women, Eloise and Gayoung, laughing together. Eloise, on the left, has short blonde hair and is wearing a dark green jacket over a black top. Gayoung, on the right, has long dark hair with a black bow and is wearing a black top. They are standing in front of a movie poster for 'NEWARK NEWARK'. The poster features the title in large blue letters, the subtitle 'A New Musical' in cursive, and the director's name 'DIRECTED BY OLIVER PUTLAND'. There are also silhouettes of birds in flight on the poster. The background is a textured wall with a blue light effect on the left.

Although Sangiin, the man who connected them, is gone, Gayoung tells Eloise that there is nothing stopping them from becoming a REAL (not TV) family. All it takes is love.

A heartfelt dramedy about a lonely woman reconnecting with her not-quite-granddaughter, similar to:





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Stories worth the binge **Manta**