

CARMELA

Look.
 Candy.
 Everywhere.
 Spicy and sour and sweet.
 They have tamarindo on a spoon
 And Chocolate
 And cajeta [mexican caramel]
 That's Mamí's favorite because she loves caramel.
 And there's my big brother's favorite.
 sour gum
 Yuck!
 And right over there
 they have spicy chips
 And the ones that look like
 wagon wheels
 And peanuts
 And hot pickles
 And—
 There's a big jar
 full of mango lollipops.
 I love the bodega!

BIG BROTHER appears.

BIG BROTHER

There you are. Before you say anything, we are not here for candy.

CARMELA

You left me.

BIG BROTHER

Because you're too slow.

CARMELA

I'm going to tell Mamí. And when Papí calls today, I'm going to tell him, too. I'm going to tell him everything. What? Why did you make that "hmmmmph" noise?

BIG BROTHER

Papí's not going to call.

Beat.

CARMELA

What was that? I didn't hear what you said. But I did hear it. And the way my big brother looks at me Reminds me of those times when my friend Natalia says something But then she doesn't seem happy with her words.
 (To BIG BROTHER)

CARMELA (CONT'D)

What did you say?

(To AUDIENCE)

My eyes are getting wet.

BIG BROTHER

Don't cry, OK? What I meant to say was, Papí's not going to call while we're gone. This is why we should hurry so we can get home faster.

CARMELA

Can I get a mango lollipop? Every time Papí stopped by the bodega, he would get me one. The ones that have chilé sprinkled on top.

BIG BROTHER

We'll see.

CARMELA

Papí says the same thing
Whenever I ask for something.
But I don't tell my big brother.

BIG BROTHER

I'm going to get what we need. It will be quicker this way. Then, we can get out of here.

CARMELA

I wanna look around.

BIG BROTHER

Stay. Right. Here.

BIG BROTHER leaves.

CARMELA

You're not the boss of me.

(To AUDIENCE)

Mamá said
I can do whatever I want
because it's my special day.

*CARMELA looks left and right and
walks down the aisles.*

CARMELA

Look at all these cereal boxes
They have really big ones
And little ones
And mmmmm
tomato soup
And corn in a can
No, thank you.
I like fresh corn.
Oh, crackers.