

Modern Muslims 3

We fade in to a house in the suburbs. Madiha, an early 30's South Asian female with a slight punk vibe, exits from an Uber. Her boyfriend Aarif, a handsome mid 30's South Asian male, starts grabbing their bags out of the trunk. Madiha stares at the house wistfully. Aarif hands the driver some cash and he drives off.

Aarif: You okay?

Madiha: I think so.

Aarif: We can still fly back home if you don't feel comfortable with this.

Madiha: No I want to. It's been....a while. But I want to see them.

Madiha and Aarif walk up to the front door. She knocks on the door.

Madiha: My brother and sister say they've changed so we'll see. Maybe they really have gotten with the times.

Mrs. Mossad answers the door. She becomes emotional in an instant. The following exchange is in whatever second language both actors speak.

Mrs. Mossad: Oh my God! Honey, we weren't expecting you!

Madiha: Yeah I know. I knew it was dad's birthday and I wanted to surprise him.

Mrs. Mossad: Who's this?

Madiha: My boyfriend.

Mrs. Mossad: Ah [long beat] So do you want to come in?

Madiha: Can we?

Mrs. Mossad thinks about it for a moment.

Mrs. Mossad: Yes but hold on.

Mrs. Mossad goes inside and we hear her speaking with Mr. Mossad. They're arguing loudly in whatever language we're using. Madiha looks at Aarif with nervousness in her eyes. He holds her hand tightly. Mrs. Mossad comes back outside.

Mrs. Mossad: Alright come on.

Mrs. Mossad goes inside. Madiha and Aarif follow her in. Everything changes to being shot like a cheesy CBS sitcom. Mr. Mossad is sitting in his chair watching TV. Everything will be in English from this point forward.

Madiha: Hey dad.

Mr. Mossad grunts at Madiha without even looking at her.

Madiha: You look well.

Mrs. Mossad: Dear I know it's been a while but I taught you kids it's wrong to lie!

The audience laughs. Aarif looks around in surprise. Alanis enters from downstairs. She's about six months pregnant.

Alanis: There's my big sister!

Alanis runs over to Madiha and gives her a tight hug.

Alanis: I've missed you so much! You haven't changed a bit!

Madiha eyes Alanis up and down.

Madiha: I wish I could say the same!

The audience laughs. Aarif leans into Madiha.

Aarif: [whispering] Does no one else hear that?

Madiha: Just roll with it [to Alanis] When are you due?

Alanis: In three months!

Madiha: Who's the dad?

Mr. Mossad: A lazy Black bastard!

The audience gasps.

Aarif: Damn right that's a gasp! Holy shit!

Alanis: Dad don't talk like that! The baby can hear you!

Mr. Mossad: That's nonsense!

Alanis: It's true! I read a book that says the first thing a baby develops is ears!

Mrs. Mossad: That would explain why your father's are large enough that he glided his way into America!

The audience laughs.

Mr. Mossad: Watch your mouth Morena!

Mrs. Mossad: Or you'll do what? Have a heart attack while you try to hit me? Save your energy dear. I need you for a few more years until the life insurance is fully bonded!

The audience applauds riotously.

Aarif: That wasn't even that good a line!

Madiha: [to Alanis] So where is your husband?

Alanis: He's at work but he should be home soon.

Madiha: What does he do?

Mr. Mossad: He answers phones!

Alanis: He works at a call center--

Mr. Mossad: A damn glorified receptionist!

Alanis: He's a site manager actually. They have contracts with Atena, Booking.Com, Uber--

Mr. Mossad: He goes to college for four years to pick up phones? Is that what his people's Dr. King would've wanted?

Alanis: Dad keep talking and you'll be meeting the good doctor in person very soon to ask him yourself!

The audience goes wild. Aarif is caught up in the moment and starts clapping with them.

Aarif: *Yeah!* You tell his ass!

Alanis: So who's this you brought with you?

Madiha: This is my boyfriend.

Aarif shakes Alanis' hand.

Aarif: Aarif Ahmed, nice to meet you.

Alanis: I'm Alanis. This is my mom Morena and you've met Satan over here!

The audience laughs.

Mrs. Mossad: Where's your family from Aarif?

Aarif: My parents are from Bangladesh but I grew up in Tampa.

Mrs. Mossad: Did you go to college?

Aarif: Yeah I went to USF.

Mrs. Mossad: Majoring in what?

Aarif: Engineering. I work in aeronautical science.

Mrs. Mossad: And you live by yourself?

Aarif: We bought a house last year and just a month ago I bought this little lady a Tesla for her birthday. Now would you like my social and a picture ID next?

The audience laughs. Aarif seems excited by this.

Mrs. Mossad: You make *that* kind of money?

Aarif: [confidently] I don't like to brag but yeah.

Alanis: How'd you two meet?

Madiha: He actually owned the apartment complex I was living in at the time.

Mrs. Mossad: [shocked] You own several properties?

Aarif: Just that one complex, a couple hotels in South Beach and I've got some land in Dubai
I'm taking offers on.

Mrs. Mossad turns to Alanis.

Mrs. Mossad: [chiding] Why didn't you get pregnant by this one?

The audience laughs.

Mr. Mossad: Yeah it's not like he's knocking up anyone else anytime soon!

The audience oohs in shock. Madiha tries to ignore that dig.

Madiha: Where's Ely?

Ely enters from the back door entrance. His fiancé Ali is following right behind him. They've got
the cake.

Eli: Sorry we're late! The baker screwed up the first name and they had to scramble to make
another one!

Mrs. Mossad: Is it really that hard to spell 'jackass'?

The audience laughs. Ely sees Madiha, runs to her and hugs her.

Ely: It's so good to see you! I'm glad you didn't chicken out for once!

Madiha: Can you blame me before? It's not exactly like Mr. Conversation over here is the
greatest host!

The audience laughs.

Ely: This is my soon to be husband Ali!

Ali shakes Madiha and Aarif's hands.

Ali: I've heard a lot about you--mostly from your brother!

Madiha: Yeah that tracks [beat] So you came out? How'd that go?

Mrs. Mossad: I took it well!

Mr. Mossad, Ely, Ali and Alanis look at Mrs. Mossad as if she's lying. She struggles to maintain
her poker face. The audience laughs.

Mr. Mossad: We weren't thrilled but at least your brother knows he's a boy!

Madiha: [defensively] You know what? I didn't come here to--

Ely gets in-between Madiha and Mr. Mossad.

Ely: So how was the flight from Toronto?

Madiha: Long but tolerable. There was an issue getting on at first. They wouldn't take my passport.

Mr. Mossad: Why? You still sporting a beard in it?

Madiha pauses to maintain her composure.

Madiha: The numbers were a bit worn. It took them a while to get it to work.

Aarif: That's my fault! I've been flying this one all over the world for the past year or two now!

Mrs. Mossad: So you travel a lot for work?

Aarif: I get put on assignments abroad from time to time.

Madiha: Around this time last year we were actually living in Seoul for a while. Before that we were in Guam and before that were in Dubai.

Mrs. Mossad: If you two ever split and you decide to want a kiss from a slightly older rose--

Mr. Mossad: Slightly older?

Mrs. Mossad: Well compared to you I'm practically a teenager but he gets my point!

The audience laughs.

Aarif: I appreciate the offer but I'm very happy with your daughter. In fact, boyfriend's a bit of a misnomer because I proposed to her last week!

The audience gasps in shock.

Mrs. Mossad: [to Madiha] What did you say?

Madiha: [nonchalantly] I'm down.

Mrs. Mossad, Alanis and Eli shriek with delight and hug Madiha. Aarif walks over to Mr. Mossad.

Aarif: I came here to ask permission to marry your daughter.

Mr. Mossad doesn't respond.

Madiha: Dad he's talking to you.

Mr. Mossad still doesn't respond.

Mrs. Mossad: With a mouth that big I know you know how to use it!

The audience laughs.

Mr. Mossad: My daughter's over there. You're talking about my son.

Madiha: That's it! I'm done!

Madiha heads for the door. Mrs. Mossad pulls her back.

Mrs. Mossad: No please don't! We can handle it! I'll drug him!

The audience laughs.

Madiha: He's never going to change! He's a stubborn, bitter and *angry* little old man!

Mr. Mossad gets up.

Mr. Mossad: Don't I have the right to be angry? One of my sons is marrying a man and the other doesn't think he is one!

Madiha: Regardless of what you want, I am who I am! I'm not changing that for you dad! It's been almost ten years! I thought you guys were all modern now!

Mr. Mossad: There's modern and there's--whatever all that is!

Mrs. Mossad: To be fair, the only modern thing about your father is that he uses deodorant now!

The audience laughs.

Mr. Mossad: You don't think I miss my son? What kind of parent doesn't want a relationship with their child? But I just can't accept this! You've mutilated your body and perverted it from its natural purpose! How would Allah look upon what you've done to yourself?

Mrs. Mossad: What would he say about yours?

Mr. Mossad: Don't start woman!

Mrs. Mossad: You're a drunk! You have no right to talk about how anyone else lives their lives!

Mr. Mossad: How dare you accuse me of drinking? That's harem my friend!

The audience cheers at hearing his catchphrase.

Alanis: Dad I've seen you pouring scotch into your coffee.

Ely: I've seen him pour scotch into cereal.

Mrs. Mossad: I've seen him pour scotch onto his crotch after drinking too much scotch!

The audience laughs.

Aarif: I'm sure the good people of Edinburgh appreciate the economic boost!

The audience laughs. Aarif is delighted by this.

Mr. Mossad: And what about you? What kind of man does it make you if you're marrying someone like this?

Aarif: A bigger one than you.

The audience cheers. Alanis' husband Jamal, a husky mid 30's Black male dressed and styled like Michael Stivic from 'All in the Family', enters.

Jamal: Hey y'all!

Jamal notices the tension in the room.

Jamal: Oh God are we in another 'Very Special Episode'?

Alanis: Jamal this is my sister Madiha and her fiancé Aarif.

Jamal: Nice to meet y'all [to Alanis] This is the one who gave their pecker the axe right?

Alanis: [chiding] Jamal!

Jamal: What? I think it's weird but if that's what makes her happy then why the hell not? It ain't mine! *Thank God!*

The audience laughs.

Mr. Mossad: See I'm not the only one who thinks it's weird!

Jamal: Oh it's really out there but it's her body, her life and if she's your family that's for you to respect. I know you guys had a hard time getting along in this country so you wanted yourselves to be as normal and inoffensive as possible. I'm sure you see your daughter's sex change as a threat to that, but it's not. What threatens it is your bigotry which *is* perverse! So she may have changed sexes but I think the one who really needs to change is you!

The audience applauds. Mr. Mossad takes a moment to think. He walks over to Jamal, punches him in the face and then hugs Madiha.

Alanis: Dad what the hell?

Mr. Mossad: He had a point but I'm not letting no kala talk to me like that!

Mr. Mossad looks at Madiha's ring with his wife. Jamal gets to his feet.

Jamal: It's days like this I feel like calling ICE on your dad!

Mrs. Mossad: Let me know when you do so I can burn his green card!

The audience laughs.

We cut to a promotional bumper. The whole family is standing there posing and smiling.

Announcer V/O: Tune in next for the latest episode of 'The Modern Muslims' with special guests Mindy Kaling and Kumail Nanjani as Aarif's very Americanized, very non-religious hipster parents! Will they end up popping a cap in the ass of these very modern Muslims? Will Mrs. Mossad purposely have her husband catch her in bed with another man for the third time? How much longer can the meta-textual humor in this show remain fresh and original? Find out

next week on the show that QAnon believers think is secretly funded by George Soros! Only at
CBS!

We cut to black.