

Deployed
By Eric Eidson

TY and ANTHONY have their weekly Skype call. Anthony is deployed overseas, and Ty is living at home with their mom. The call begins.

Ty
(Saluting)
Sergeant Jackson.

Anthony
Put your hand down. You're ignorant.

Ty
I haven't saluted you as a sergeant yet. I wanted to congratulate you!

Anthony
You don't have to salute me at all, but thank you.

Ty
Not yet, but next year at this time... we'll both be in uniform.

Anthony
Yeah keep talking. You run that idea by Mom?

Ty
She knows I want to join the army.

Anthony
Knowing and approving are two different things.

Ty
Whatever. She let you join...

Anthony
Oh no, she told me not to join and I did anyway.

Ty
Yeah well, she's all proud of you now. She's always bragging about her son, the sergeant.

Anthony
Oh yeah, what's she say?

Ty

She's all, "he was at the top of his class in basic training..."

Anthony
That's true.

Ty
"He was promoted six months earlier than usual."

Anthony
Also true.

Ty
"He's going to be an Army Ranger. That's the top of the top in the army."

Anthony
She really say all that?

Ty
Nonstop.

Anthony
Why can't she ever say that shit to me?

Ty
She's proud of you, but she's still mad at you I guess.

Anthony
And yet you want to follow in my footsteps.

Ty
The Jacksons are soldiers. It's in our blood.

Anthony
Oh now you're sounding like Dad. Don't say shit like that around Mom. She'll beat your ass.

Ty
No, she'll cry first and then she'll beat my ass.

Anthony
She'll beat your ass with her slipper while she's crying. She'll be like (fake crying and beating) "how could you bring up your father and say that to me. You trying to make sad? Come give your mom a hug."

Ty
(Laughing)

Oh yeah, that's her. She'll whoop us and then ask us to comfort her.

Anthony

She prepared me for the army better than basic training. (A moment) How's she doing?

Ty

She's alright. You know.

Anthony

Yeah.

Ty

She misses dad.

Anthony

Yeah, me too.

Ty

She misses you too.

Anthony

It'd be nice to hear it from her once in a while.

Ty

I'm working on that.

Anthony

Speaking of which... have you heard anything from Kendra?

Ty

Bro, forget Kendra. She's a bitch.

Anthony

Watch your mouth. I don't appreciate when you disrespect her like that.

Ty

She's out here disrespecting you.

Anthony

What do you mean?

Ty

Nothing.

Anthony

No, not nothing. You brought it up now we're talking about it.

Ty

You brought her up so now we're talking about it.

Anthony

Then we both agree we're talking about it.

Ty

You're too good for her.

Anthony

Why?

Ty

She's over here hanging out with other dudes.

Anthony

What do you mean other dudes? What dudes?

Ty

I'm saying she hasn't been loyal.

Anthony

Yeah, I get what you're saying, but who hasn't she been loyal with?

Ty

Come on man...

Anthony

Ty...

Ty

I just wanted to have a nice chat with my brother...

Anthony

Fucking tell me Ty.

Ty

Shit, Anthony. Fine. I'll tell you. It's Chris, man. She's been hanging out with Chris.

Anthony

Son of a bitch. I'm gonna fucking kill him. Fucking backstabber. He waits til I'm gone to steal my girl.
Wait until I get back, then he'll be sorry.

Ty
I'm sorry, bro.

Anthony
I'm so fucking pissed.

Ty
I know.

Anthony
I knew he was going to pull this shit.

Ty
Chris is an asshole.

Anthony
And Kendra...

Ty
Bro, Kendra is...

Anthony
She's a bitch I know.

Ty
Finally! Thank you! Kendra is such a bitch. I hate that she did this to you. Bro, she has to go.

Anthony
I know.

Ty
Man. Can't you just dump her and move on?

Anthony
Move on with who?

Ty
I don't know, find someone else. Anyone.

Anthony
Yeah, the army isn't exactly the best place to find a girlfriend.

Ty
There are girls in the army.

Anthony
I'm not too interested in dating someone who could kick my ass.

Ty
You don't want to date someone like Mom?

Anthony
Oh my God, you're so stupid.

Ty
Bro, I'm a comedian. I got jokes for days.

Anthony
Yeah, I know you do... Oh shit, Ty. I gotta go. Lights out soon.

Ty
Alright man, I love you brother.

Anthony
Love you too. Give Mom a kiss for me.

Ty
Will do. I'm going to try to get her to join the call next week.

Anthony
Good luck.

Ty
(saluting)
Sergeant Jackson.

Anthony
At ease soldier.

End of scene.