INT. SANDWICH RESTAURANT - DAY

A dad, JACK, approaches the counter where TRISH works.

TRISH

Welcome to this sandwich restaurant.

JACK

Can I get one large classic coldcuts, and make it loaded!

TRISH

Sounds great!

JACK

Oh, I was also gonna get a surprise sandwich for my daughter, Emily. So just give me one 8 inch flatbread with all the stuff that daughters like on there.

TRISH

What does that mean.

JACK

Sorry, my head's a bit muddled, I design next-generation engine systems for public transit and I get so in the zone with all that. I meant: just give me the sandwich a young girl would enjoy the most. What do you think my daughter would order?

TRISH

...Whatever she likes?

JACK

ha well heh yeah, I don't know what that is. Specifically sandwich-wise. And in general too.

TRISH

oh, aww. well. Let's go topping by topping. What sandwich genre?

JACK

Full meat-lover with bonus bacon and lemme get it drenched!

TRISH

That's a pretty big swing. She's not like vegan or anything is she?

JACK

Vegan? Um, sorry mr spock, I'm more of a "Star Wars" kinda guy. Heh. But yeah she definitely is.

TRISH

Then she doesn't eat meat.

JACK

You know what, this was stupid, just give me the bread. I'll see how she reacts and then we'll iterate from there over the next few months until she loves me.

TRISH

Don't bring your daughter a loose piece of 8in flatbread, we can do this. veggie pattie. Tomatoes?

**JACK** 

Hell no!--She's not a girly girl or anything. She plays a sport!

TRISH

What do tomatoes have to do with being a girly girl?

JACK

(stammers)

TRISH

What sport?

JACK

The one with the shoes I had to buy her.

TRISH

Lettuce?

JACK

What are the calories in that? A little birdie named "my wife" told me Emily's trying to lose weight to attract some boy. He better know how wonderful she--Emily's like, she's perfect? Do you know anything about next-generation engine systems of public transit vehicles?

TRISH

A little?

JACK

Well my daughter's like a really really good gudgeon pin.

TRISH

Lettuce has no calories.

**JACK** 

Oh great, she'll just love it!

TRISH

hmm. Green peppers?

**JACK** 

Are those like--No. I'm thinking of--well, She writes something called "fan fiction" for something called "Riverdale" and it makes me something called "very confused."

TRISH

You're asking if green peppers are like writing fan-fiction for the sexy Archie reboot?

JACK

I know they're not! right? No. They're not. No green peppers.

TRISH

Sprouts?

JACK

I read a book on love languages and if my sandwich plan doesn't work out, I mean, I've tried all the other ones! Yes sprouts, but just know this is my last shot.

TRISH

Why didn't you just bring her?!

**JACK** 

She said she had to charge her cellular phone. I don't believe her--the battery life on the 7 is best in it's class. There must be another, secret reason.

TRISH

No... Cucumbers?

JACK

I think she's embarrassed to be seen with me. Cucumbers sound great!

TRISH

That's... probably not true. Oil and vinegar?

JACK

Would you say that's the BB King of sandwich toppings? She's nuts for his sweet licks.

TRISH

well, no, but it's sweet that you know that about her! How old is she exactly?

**JACK** 

She's fourteen and at that age they're just so... she's sixteen. Christ. What did I say?

TRISH

Fourteen.

JACK

She's sixteen and I'm scared of her and the days just evaporate and I realized I'm the one that likes BB King.

TRISH

...Mustard?

**JACK** 

Her little brother loves mustard. Can't get enough of the stuff.

TRISH

Do you want a sandwich for him?

JACK

Nah. he fends for himself. Can you read me back an index of the selected ingredients so far?

TRISH

Well, it's an eight inch flatbread with veggie pattie, lettuce, sprouts, cucumbers, and mustard.

JACK

That's a dumb dad sandwich from a dumb dad that doesn't know his beautiful amazing daughter. I love her! I love my daughter!!

TRISH

You're really trying and that's what's important. Also, it's a pretty basic sandwich.

JACK

Your words have touched me. Here's an exceptionally reasonable tip.

They smile, he kisses her cheek and it's weird but innocent. He leaves. Everyone in line takes out their phones.

**EVERYONE** 

(cascading one after another)
Hey dad. / Hey dad. /
Hey dad.

BLACKOUT