

ELIZABETH
Just hit the space bar when you're ready.

14.

HAROLD
I will! I know how to run a quick-time video. I'm not like all these other technologically-deficient old people you usually visi--

(lifting the laptop to his ear)

I can't hear anything. I think something's wrong.

ELIZABETH
Hit the volume button.

HAROLD
I know that. Of course I know that. Got you again. Third time today.

ELIZABETH
No, you didn't. You're still looking for the volume button.

HAROLD
What?! No. I was just joking.

ELIZABETH
So play it, then!

Harold tries to subtly press buttons on the keyboard.

HAROLD
I will! Once I explain to you that I was just being humorous, making fun of seniors who are inept at finding their way around a comput-

ELIZABETH
You're trying to buy yourself time!

HAROLD
No! You're just not understanding-

Elizabeth walks up to his shoulder.

ELIZABETH
No need to explain the joke. I understand. Go ahead and play it.

HAROLD
Yeah, sure. No problem. Here we go.

Harold takes one last stab, pressing his palm down over the entire keyboard.

HAROLD
Oops, I think I opened your itunes, whatever that is.
(defeated)
Okay, fine. You're right. This is a Mac, and like every other old person, I have a PC that I bought 15 years ago that does nothing because my Norton Anti-Virus software is out of date and I don't know how to update it.

HAROLD (CONT'D)

You're right, I have no idea how to turn up the sound on this shiny thing. You win, okay?

ELIZABETH

Okay, now apologize to your fellow seniors who you've called senile, desperate, inept, and technologically-deficient today. None of which are very nice things to say.

HAROLD

I also said "far gone, mentally". Does that fit under senile, or...

ELIZABETH

Apologize for that too.

HAROLD

Okay, but my vitriol stems from a sort of self-loathing. When I hurl insults at others, it hurts me most, because I'm reflecting back my own insecurities and inadequacies... so you can't be critical of me. You actually have to be sympathetic toward me.

ELIZABETH

Nice try. You can't get off that easy. I have a daughter, remember. I know the strategies of manipulation.

HAROLD

I originally planned to throw a fake tantrum and storm off to my room, but my bad hip prevents storming of any kind, so I went with the sympathetic self-loathing thing, hoping it'd work.

ELIZABETH

It didn't.

HAROLD

You're a worthy adversary.
(toward the audience)

I'm sorry, any fellow seniors out there in the world who might hear me.

Like you, I too am inept and desperate, and even senile - especially when it comes to understanding confusing new things in the world like cryptocurrencies.