

Time: The present. Friday afternoon.

Place: A restaurant called Junior's in the town of Stewiacke, a town in Nova Scotia located halfway between the equator and the North Pole.

*There are tables and a counter with stools in the diner. On the front door is sign on a string. The sign, as it is facing the audience, reads 'Closed'. Lights up to reveal three women, Vi, Rita and Mary Ellen sitting at a table in the diner.*

Rita: Well, I don't know why she doesn't just leave him. They don't even sleep in the same bed anymore.

Vi: Get out.

Rita: Hand to God, Vi. She sleeps in the master bedroom and Ian sleeps in what used to be Harvey's room.

Vi: Harvey? Their son Harvey?

Rita: Yep.

Vi: So, why don't they just get a divorce?

M.Ellen: No, Elspeth won't do that.

Rita: No. She says it would be too hard on the children.

Vi: Harvey and Glad?

Rita: Right.

Vi: Harvey's forty-one.

Rita: But he only just moved out a couple of months ago. He's still finding his legs. His parents divorcing could be a setback. Plus there's the whole circumcision fiasco. That muddies the waters too.

Vi: The circumcision has nothing to do with Harvey's insecurities.

M.Ellen: The 'botched' circumcision.

Rita: Performed by Elspeth's veterinarian cousin

Vi: Oh, that's just a rumour. I don't think it was done by a veterinarian at all.

M.Ellen: Elspeth swears it's the gospel.

Rita: I wouldn't have let him near a flank steak with a knife let alone a you know what. My land, it's no wonder Harvey is skittish.

M.Ellen: I've never seen a man flinch so much around cutlery.

Vi: But he was a baby when it happened.

Rita: Yes, but those things stay with a person. That's why I'm against circumcision. It should be outlawed.

Vi: And Glad? Glad lives in Costa Rica last I heard.

M.Ellen: Well, not so much lives as is 'in custody'.

Rita: Anyway, I hope they work it out. I mean, Elspeth just turned sixty. She hasn't got too much tread left on those tires.

Vi: I'm just glad I didn't have any kids when I got divorced. Johnny's girl Katie still finds it tough and he's been divorced from her mother for twelve years.

M.Ellen: How old is she now?

Vi: Seventeen. And she's having a rough go of it up there in Thunder Bay. Hanging with a bad crowd too. Johnny's really worried.

Rita: Johnny's a cop. Can't he tell the cops up there to keep an eye on her?

Vi: He has. But it's not the same as being there himself.

M.Ellen: It's so hard being a teenager these days. I hope she gets through it.

Vi: From your lips to God's ears, Mary Ellen. All right girls, I'm off to the gym. Or as the owner insists on calling it, Dugan's Pub.

M.Ellen: No, don't go yet, Vi. What's the rush?

Vi: I'm meeting Johnny for happy hour.

Rita: Oh, Johnny. What's Johnny?

M.Ellen: Yeah, what's Johnny?

Vi: We meet every Friday at Dugan's for happy hour. You know that.

M.Ellen: So, he can't wait on you for fifteen minutes?

Rita: Yeah, you know what they say about keepin' a man waiting.

Vi: No. What do they say, Rita?

Rita: It makes him want you more.

M.Ellen: Maybe Rita has a point, Vi. Maybe you should play hard to get.

Vi: Mary Ellen, I've already been got. I've been got six ways from Sunday.

Rita: She's right. Her gettin' got days are long gone.

Vi: Well, now I haven't stopped getting' got. I still get got. There's just no need to play hard to get got. Now, I gotta get. The love of my life is waiting.

*(Sean Merrit enters the restaurant.)*

Vi: I suppose he can wait fifteen more minutes.

*(Vi sits.)*

M.Ellen: Well, what do we have here?

Rita: What do we have indeed?

Sean: Ladies.

Vi: Well, the jury's still out on that but thank you anyway.

M.Ellen: Vi, stop that. *(To Sean.)* Don't listen to her. She's nothing but trouble.

Rita: And so am I if you like that sort of thing. And I hope you do.

M.Ellen: Now, that's enough you two. *(Sean.)* They're a caution. I'm sorry.