

Coffee Break
Season 1 - Episode 1
"New Beginnings"

Extremely minor dialogue changes for Vivian, Liz, Patsy & Mitch.

Minor action changes by Ralph all highlighted (2012-02-03)

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Revision by Ralph Pritchard (2011-12-22)

(Incorporated Joceline and Tom's conversation)

Revision by Ralph Pritchard (2011-12-20)

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Revision by Ralph Pritchard (2010-08-23)

Revision by Ralph Pritchard (2010/01/06)

1 INT. COFFEE SHOP CASH REGISTER - DAY

1

A waitress DONNA LEE, early 40's, wearing a killer evening dress is putting a tea bag in a single-serving stainless steel teapot at the coffee station and delivers it to a table where a well dressed and coiffed VIVIAN LANCASTER, late 40's, sits and reads the paper in an organized fashion, wiping her fingers with a moist towelette with each turn of the page. Sitting with her is Vivian's mother MAMMY LEBLANC who is working on a Sudoku puzzle.

VIVIAN

Thank you Donna Lee, there's nothing like a cup of green tea to start the day off just right.

DONNA LEE

Winning last night's lottery would have been "just right" for me.

MAMMY

Going to the can unassisted would be good. Any day. Especially when I'm on a blind date.

VIVIAN

Mother, you've never been on a blind date.

MAMMY

I know, but can you imagine how embarrassing that would be. Excuse me sir would you...

VIVIAN

Ma!

Donna Lee tops up the coffee at PATSY's (early 40's never married) table as she types on her laptop keyboard. There is a corkboard on the wall with things pinned on it in perfect symmetry and there is a black book and business card wallet on the table. She is wearing a **bluetooth earpiece.**

*

PATSY

(flagging down Donna Lee)
Is fun-loving one word or two?

DONNA LEE

If you're filling out another online dating profile and you really want to snag a man, put in "loves to have fun".

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

MAMMY

While you're at it, you might as well add
"can't get enough".

Patsy frowns at Mammy and quickly calls out to Donna Lee.

PATSY

Hold up Donna Lee, let me get a picture
of you in that gorgeous dress.

DONNA LEE

(posing)
Here you go.

Patsy pulls her camera out of her bra and takes a quick
picture. As Donna Lee walks away, Patsy plugs her camera into
her laptop.

PATSY

(typing away and to herself)
Let's see what action my profile gets
NOW.

Patsy hits the Enter key, sits back and crosses her arms with
a big Cheshire grin.

CUT TO:

2 INT. COFFEE SHOP FRONT DOOR - MOMENTS LATER

2

The main door opens, FRED WILLIAMS, early 70's and RICKY
VENTURA, early 30's and carrying a guitar, walk in and are
engaged in a minor argument.

FRED

Can't you hooligans find somewhere else
to practice?

RICKY

(sigh)
Give us a break Fred, we're just a bunch
of struggling artists.

FRED

(sarcastically)
Give ME a break, I'm struggling to hear
myself think!

...which is quickly interrupted by the sight of Donna Lee
walking up.

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

2

FRED (CONT'D)
(to Donna Lee and coughs)
Excuse me Miss,
(coughs, reaches for Line)
Do you know the Heimlich manoeuver?
(coughs again and falls against
her, chest to chest)

Donna Lee quickly reacts by wrapping her arms around his back and squeezing him a couple of times. Meanwhile Fred rests his chin on Donna Lee's shoulder and grins.

RICKY
(impatiently)
Alright Fred, I think that worked.

Fred with is chin now on her chest.

FRED
(coughs)
Not just yet!

Donna Lee realizes what Fred is up to and gives him one last squeeze which lifts Fred off the floor making a terrible bone cracking sound. Fred cries out in pain, she releases him and he collapses onto the floor.

FRED (CONT'D)
(gasping and in pain)
Sweet angel of mercy.

Ricky helps Fred into his seat.

RICKY
There you go Fred. (to Donna Lee) Johnny,
I mean Honey,

Close up of Ricky's face after realizing he screwed up, back to close up of Donna Lee's face as she looks at Ricky after he screwed up. Donna Lee's face quickly

MORPHS TO:

3 INT. LIVING ROOM

3

Morphs to Johnny Lee's face and then camera zooms out to reveal Johnny Lee and Ricky holding hands while sitting on a couch watching TV.

CUT TO:

4 INT. COFFEE SHOP FRED'S TABLE - MOMENTS LATER

4

RICKY

Can we get a couple of coffees here
please?

DONNA LEE

Coming right up, Darling.

FRED

Honey? Darling? As in...

RICKY

As in honey...my girlfriend.

Fred puts up both hands and mouths the word.

FRED

...oops.

Ricky joins his friends at the next table while Donna Lee
makes her way to the cash/coffee area. As she approaches
Patsy's table

PATSY

(excited to Donna Lee)

I've already had 3 hits on my new
profile!

Donna Lee gestures a thumbs up to her as she arrives at the
coffee machine. Mitch a young native man is placing freshly
baked muffins in the display. She begins to pour 2 cups of
coffee.

DONNA LEE

Would you be a dear and take one of those
over to Mrs. Lancaster?

MITCH

Who's that?

DONNA LEE

(quietly pointing to Vivian)

The new owner.

MITCH

I thought you were the owner.

DONNA LEE

Why would you think that?

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED:

4

MITCH

I don't know. Maybe it's because you're bossy and controlling, and you scare the crap out of me.

DONNA LEE

First of all, I'm not bossy, I'm assertive. Second, I'm not controlling, I'm organized. Third, (beat) I AM scary! Now move your buns and take a muffin to Mrs. Lancaster!

Mitch grabs one with his fingers, places it on a plate. Just then Donna Lee accidentally bumps him and as the muffin falls he pulls out a hunting knife and spears the muffin mid-air in slow motion as it falls towards the ground. He slides it off the knife on the plate using his other fingers and quickly walks over to Vivian unaware that Vivian saw the whole thing.

MITCH

Here you go Mrs Lancaster.

VIVIAN

(surprised at what she just witnessed)
Thanks you, um...

MITCH

Mitch. I'm the chef. Well baker actually...(last minute thought) I love my job!

VIVIAN

(a slight chuckle)
Nice to meet you Mitch. (under her breath) I think.

PATSY

(from across the room and staring at Mitch's behind)
Nice muffins Mitch, can I grab one?

*

Mitch throws Patsy a disgusted look. The sound of a guitar playing in the background can be heard.

MITCH

Excuse me Mrs. Lancaster.

She nods and as he makes his way back to the kitchen she takes the muffin and folds it into her napkin like a Christmas gift.

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED: (2)

4

VIVIAN
(to herself while wrapping
muffin)
Note to self, discuss the proper handling
of food with Mitch.

She takes one sip out of her cup, stands up, looks around,
and walks over to the bus pan and drops the wrapped muffin in
and returns to her table where she starts rearranging the
condiments.

MAMMY
Would you quit? It's hard enough on a
woman my age to figure this puzzle out
let alone...

VIVIAN
I wouldn't be so snooty to the woman that
gives you your medication every morning,
if you know what I mean.

Mammy's eyes shift left to right and back again analyzing
what Vivian just said, gives an "ah yes nod" and goes back to
her puzzle.

CUT TO:

5 INT. COFFEE SHOP FRONT DOOR - MOMENTS LATER

5

LIZ, mid 30's, Vivian's daughter is talking on her cell phone
as she enters the coffee shop. She is dressed in her
coveralls and is covered with grease. Liz makes her way to
Vivian's table while on the phone. Vivian catches most of the
conversation.

LIZ
(very aggravated - talking on
cell phone)
..I want an apology, right now (beat)
Whaddaya mean what for?! You called me a
psycho witch (beat) In front of the
kids?! Dude! (beat) Really?! Well, at
least I'm not a greasy - sponge (looks at
herself, then ends the call) arg! (To
Vivian) Mother -!

VIVIAN
Liz!?

LIZ
I don't know what I saw in that guy.
He's such a...

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

5

MAMMY (V.O.)

Liz!?

LIZ

Sorry mémère. (whispering to Vivian) I thought you said Mémère had trouble hearing.

VIVIAN

No, her hearing is perfect. (THEN) The trouble is with her mouth. (Beat) Honey, I know Enrico drives you crazy but he's still the father of your children.

LIZ

(realistic and sarcastic)

Father? More like a sperm donor. (THEN) Tequila should come with a warning. "Consumption my lead to life long regret!"

*

VIVIAN

(Trying to soften the mood)

A cup of green tea Liz?

LIZ

No, I can't, I just came to drop off your car keys. (THEN) Besides, this psycho witch needs a stronger brew than tea.

VIVIAN

Liz, have you given any thought to my gentle suggestion of coming to work here, with me?.

LIZ

Mom, I'm happy with the job I have.

VIVIAN

(grimacing)

You're a grease monkey? (BEAT) Do you like being covered in grime and sludge day in and day out? C'mon Honey, it's a hell of a job for a lady.

LIZ

(sarcastic)

Some choice: A "hell of a job" or the devil for a boss. I'm in hell either way...I gotta run.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED: (2) 5

Vivian stands, Liz darts out the door. Vivian walks towards the kitchen.

CUT TO:

6 INT. COFFEE SHOP FRONT DOOR - MOMENTS LATER 6

BENJAMIN CRANK, well dressed businessman, early 40's and his sidekick HOMER JOHNSON, identical suit, same age group as Crank, walk into the coffee shop. Benjamin nudges Homer.

HOMER
Lancaster.
(repeats louder)
Mrs Lancaster.

Vivian turns around and walks over to Benjamin as he steps in front of Homer.

BENJAMIN
Mrs. Lancaster, I presume?

Homer nods his head as if to say "that's right".

VIVIAN
Yes?

BENJAMIN
(squints)
Do you know who I am?

VIVIAN
A Jehovah witness? (beat) You guys usually travel in pairs, don't you?

*

Crank reaches into his jacket and pulls out a letter.

BENJAMIN
(quite cocky)
My name is Crank, Benjamin Crank. I have a court order which rescinds your contract to purchase this property.

HOMER
'Cause it ain't yours!

VIVIAN
Is this some kind of joke?

BENJAMIN
I'm afraid it's no joke.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

6

HOMER
(gangsta pose)
No Joke!

VIVIAN
(she looks around)
Did Liz put you up to this, where are the
cameras?

HOMER
(to himself)
I don't have a camera. (to Benjamin) Did
you ask me to bring a camera.

BENJAMIN
(to Homer) Shut-it!

Donna Lee walks over, followed by Patsy and Mitch.

VIVIAN
That's impossible! My paperwork is
meticulous.

BENJAMIN
Doesn't matter, your deal is no good.

HOMER
Not good.

Benjamin reaches out and pushes Homer back and a little
behind him.

BENJAMIN
(clasps his hands and rolls his
thumbs against his chest)
You see the previous owner had accepted a
tentative offer from me.

HOMER
(looks around Benjamin)
Tenta, tentat...

DONNA LEE
(to Homer)
TEN-TA-TIVE! Don't hurt yourself!

VIVIAN
(to Crank)
Are you the guy who was planning to turn
this place into a parking lot?

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED: (2)

6

BENJAMIN

Who said anything about a parking lot.
I'm turning this into a gentleman's club.
(quite proud of himself)

Fred approaches behind Vivian.

FRED

Like a Rotary or Kinsmen club?

HOMER

No stupid...like an exotic night club.

FRED

(excited)
A nudie bar?

VIVIAN

There's already a strip club! How many
strippers per capita do you think this
town needs?

BENJAMIN

This one's different! I'm gonna build a
high class joint with (lots of hand
movement to help with the visualization)
VIP service, comfy leather chairs, brandy
and cigars, jacket and tie, karaoke...

CUT TO:

7 INT. COFFEE SHOP FRED'S TABLE - NIGHT

7

Background looks like a night club, coloured spot lights,
strobe lights. Fred is wearing a black and white tux & begins
to sing in the same rhythm to Tom Jones' Pussycat song

FRED

(singing)
Nudie bar, nudie bar, I've got flowers
and lots of hours to spend with you. So
go on and powder your cute little...

BACK TO:

8 INT. COFFEE SHOP FRED'S TABLE - MOMENTS LATER

8

DONNA LEE

You'd better sit down Fred before you
fake a heart attack.

Fred shakes his head waking himself up.

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED:

8

BENJAMIN

I assure you Mrs. Lancaster that OUR
paperwork is in order.

No one says a word.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

Now let's not play games. The first group
of talented ladies are already enroute
from Montreal. Of course I will consider
booking local talent. (he looks at Donna
Lee)

Fred grins. Donna Lee looks confused.

HOMER

(eyes wide open at Donna Lee)
Miss Cinnamon Buns.

Donna Lee looks disgusted and then scary.

BENJAMIN

(In a loud voice)
Now, I'm leaving to check out the
competition.

HOMER

Market research...heh heh

BENJAMIN

(loudly)
I'll be back at 2 o'clock and when I
return, I expect everyone to be gone and
the keys left on the table (taps on
Fred's table with his finger).

Homer reaches around Benjamin and taps the table with his
finger as well, lifts his eyebrows, cracks a smile, and nods
yes.

The Crank duo turn and leave. There is an eerie silence. Then
Patsy speaks up.

PATSY

(smirks and starts to dance)
I think I could dance exotically.

Patsy laughs at her own joke. All but Fred give her a nasty
look and she recoils.

*
*

PATSY (CONT'D)

Just kidding, jeeese.

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED: (2)

8

Vivian is stunned and sits down at an empty table with Mammy while the others continue to talk.

CUT TO:

9 INT. COFFEE SHOP PATSY'S TABLE - MOMENTS LATER

9

Fred, Patsy, Mitch and Donna Lee move slowly towards the cash counter.

PATSY

This is terrible. Just terrible.

FRED

(dramatically)

Business. It is not for the faint of heart! Poor, po-oor Mrs. Lancaster.

PATSY

Poor me! I mean...yes...AND...This is the last place in town with free Wi-Fi that hasn't blocked the dating sites.

DONNA LEE

That's because you were banned from all the other places when they realized you were using their establishment as your personal office.

PATSY

Hey, I'm not the only one, according to Business Week, the coffee shop is the new cubicle.

DONNA LEE

That may be but YOU took it a little too far arranging after hour meetings and insisting on having your own key.

MITCH

(extremely worried)

I really need this job. (to himself) Past mistakes have limited my options.

PATSY

(overhears him)

Past mistakes? (THEN chuckles) Did you assassinate the wrong President?

Mitch gives her a stern look and points his finger at her.

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED:

9

MITCH
Forget I said anything.

FRED
Am I the only one who thinks that having
a nudie bar makes good economic sense.

Everyone shouts in unison "YES"!

DONNA LEE
We all understand your idea of what
constitutes a "stimulus" package...and
it's NOT happening here!

MITCH
Guys, Guys...Let's continue this in the
kitchen.

They start walking towards the kitchen

CUT TO:

10 INT. COFFEE SHOP EMPTY TABLE - MOMENTS LATER

10 *

Vivian is feverishly making notes as Mammy is trying to get
her attention.

MAMMY
You writing Volume II of War and Peace?

VIVIAN
(trying to remain pleasant)
What I'm doing Mom, is planning the
demise of Mr. Crank and his moronic
sidekick. I haven't got it all worked out
yet, but so far it involves peanut
butter, a burlap bag and an angry weasel.
(beat) Any other questions?

MAMMY
That Crank fellow really hit a nerve.
(THEN) You can get further with Honey.

VIVIAN
(sarcastic)
But only if I drown him in it! (THEN)
Weren't you going somewhere Mommy
Dearest.

MAMMY
Oh ya. I was going to try hitting the
bathroom on my own.

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED: 10

Mammy walks away while Vivian continues to write and scratch out and write.

CUT TO:

11 INT. COFFEE SHOP KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER 11

The gang of 4 continue their conversation.

DONNA LEE

Alright! Is everyone clear on the plan?

MITCH

(Rap singing)

Gimme a little B, and a little E,
checkin' out Crank's office, 1-2-3.

PATSY

(neurosis showing, hands
waving)

And you're ABSolutely sure he won't be
there?

FRED

(like a strip club announcer)

He would never miss an afternoon of "Give
it up for the captivating and titillating
Misty Morning".

PATSY

I hope your source is reliable.

MITCH

Fred is the source! His "lunch" booth is
right behind Crank's.

Fred looks a little sheepish.

FRED

I hope my absence this afternoon doesn't
affect her performance.

DONNA LEE

I'm sure she doesn't care if you come or
not.

PATSY

(to Donna Lee)

Niiiiicce! (puts fist up to bump with
Donna Lee, Donna Lee frowns).

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED:

11

MITCH

Alright, let's git'er done!

Mitch opens a case, and gives a crowbar to Patsy who turns around and starts pretending to use it, a hammer and screwdriver to Fred, but nothing for Donna Lee.

DONNA LEE

Hey!?! (beat) Where's my tool?

Patsy turns around, looks Donna Lee up and down.

PATSY

Maybe you lost it.

MITCH

(to Donna Lee)

You stay here and watch our six.

PATSY

Watch your sex?

*

*

MITCH

Civilians geez!!...Watch our backs!

*

*

Donna Lee grabs the crowbar from Patsy.

DONNA LEE

(to Patsy shaking the crowbar at her)

You stay and man the home front.

PATSY

Okay, okay...(helpless) But who's going to bring me coffee.

DONNA LEE

(throws her apron to Patsy)

Self serve.

FRED

(excited about the adventure)

Tally ho!

They exit out the back door while Patsy fumbles with the apron.

FADE OUT:

12 INT. COFFEE SHOP EMPTY TABLE - MOMENTS LATER

12

Vivian is still writing when GEORGE RUNSFELD, 50's, the mayor, and SAMANTHA BURNS, 30's, his girl, rush in.

GEORGE

Vivian, darling are you alright? Sweetie pie and I heard that Mr. Crank barged in on you this morning and announced that the coffee shop was his.

Mammy walks by and takes her seat.

VIVIAN

That was fast.

MAMMY

(thinks Vivian is talking to her, sits down at table)
Ya, no luck. Looks like I'm going to have to take matters into my own hands.

Vivian shakes her head.

VIVIAN

(to George and motioning him to sit)
How did you find out?

GEORGE

(sheepish)
Um...Crank told me.

VIVIAN

What?! That son of a...

MAMMY (V.O.)

Vivian!?

GEORGE

Well as the town's mayor and chair of the zoning committee, he has to come to me to file a petition to change the zoning on the property.

SAMANTHA

My George is very influential in this town.

Patsy overhears conversation turns to Samantha while Mammy starts to chugalug a large glass of water.

*

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

PATSY

You're very lucky to have him.

Patsy leans closer to Vivian and while trying to hide the fact that she is talking says...

PATSY (CONT'D)

(to Vivian)

At least he's not chasing me anymore.

Mammy spits out her water on Samantha when Patsy says this.

VIVIAN

Ma! (can't help but snicker).

Samantha, George & Vivian pass her their napkins.

VIVIAN (CONT'D)

Here let me help. (beat) So George, I hope you told him that the coffee shop wasn't ZONED for a "Gentlemen's" club. (silence) Well?

GEORGE

All I told him was that it COULD be changed IF his petition was approved.

MAMMY

(looks quickly back and forth between Vivian and George)

Uh oh.

GEORGE

Say Vivian, I would be honoured if you would have lunch with me to discuss this. I know a discreet little place on the other side of town that serves a mighty fine steak. We could put our heads together (wink) and see what comes up.

Vivian rolls her eyes and ignores his invitation.

SAMANTHA

I'm RIGHT HERE George!

GEORGE

(turns to Samantha)

Strictly business dear, strictly business (rubs his hands together).

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: (2)

12

VIVIAN

(gets tough)

You haven't forgotten that it was MY
husband who got the charges dropped when
you found yourself in that nasty
predicament 2 years ago have you?

George hums and ha'

GEORGE

(worried)

Um, ah...Now Vivian...you ah..

MAMMY

She'd rat you out in a heartbeat!

GEORGE

(he holds and pats her hand)

Oh darling Vivian, you worry too much. I
made Crank apply for the zoning change
just to get his application fee. (beat)
After all, the town sure can use a new
snowblower. I fully intend on denying his
request.

Patsy does the "yes we won" gesture with her arm and mouths
"yes", she gets up, puts on apron and takes an order.

*

*

MAMMY

Vivian! If I don't look after my nasty
predicament, I'M going to need more than
a lawyer, if you catch my drift.

VIVIAN

Alright ma, let's go. (pointing at
George)I trust you'll make the smart
choice.

By this point Mammy is up and hopping, George is squirming in
his chair, they don't see Patsy working 2 tables away.

*

*

GEORGE

(blows her a kiss)

Au Revoir mon Cherie.

George blows her a kiss, Samantha whacks him with her purse
while Vivian and Mammy head to the washroom.

CUT TO:

13 INT. COFFEE SHOP FRONT DOOR - DAY

13

IVY WATERS middle age, enters the Coffee shop. She is wearing a long, flowing skirt & a flowing top (Bohemian style) She is carrying a large purse/basket. Patsy with apron on spies her & motions her over & points to the computer screen.

*
*

PATSY

Check this out, Ivy...What do you think?

Ivy sits with basket beside her.

IVY

Wow! He's cute

PATSY

I know, right! I just sent him a flirt and he replied by sending me a rose!

Looks around a bit puzzled.

IVY

Really? How did he know you were here?

PATSY

Not a REAL rose Ivy, an ELECTRONIC one. That's what people do if they are interested.

IVY

Well I prefer the real ones. They smell so much nicer.

PATSY

You're missing the point...(looks over into basket) Ivy is that a cat in there?

IVY

Yes it is. This is Mr. Pickles. Now don't look right at him. He's highly unstable right now. (leans in to allergic & hyper Patsy to whisper) He's on suicide watch.

*

PATSY

Suicide what?

IVY

It started a few weeks ago. I noticed that he was acting most peculiar, not himself at all. At first I thought that he had fallen out with Miss. Emma, she's the other cat who moved in, and she can

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED:

13

IVY (CONT'D)

be very snooty when she wants to be. Then I realized that it was far more serious than that.

PATSY

Far more serious?

IVY

Why yes. I started tuning in to his behaviors. He seemed so sullen and apathetic. I could sense that he was going to a very dark place. He can get quite discouraged.

PATSY

(nods)

I can relate.

IVY

Well anyway, in Mr. Pickles' case he turns this hatred inwards. Why just last week he threw himself in front of the vacuum cleaner! Even Miss. Emma is concerned for him, and she usually doesn't like to get involved

PATSY

(slides farther from cat & trying to understand Ivy)

So now you are carrying him around in a basket?

*

*

IVY

(getting a bit frustrated)

Yes. I told you he is on suicide watch. At least until the crisis passes.

Another picture of a fireman in a swimsuit appears on Patsy's screen while Ivy hurries off towards a table of men with cat.

*

FADE TO BLACK.

14 INT. CRANK'S OFFICE - A SHORT TIME LATER

14

*

The outline of four people can be seen in a dimly lit office.

FRED

What are we looking for again?

DONNA LEE

We went over this already. What is wrong with you?

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

FRED

(rubs his belly)

It's my diverticulitis. I have to drink A LOT of prune juice to stay regular. I think I may have drank one too many glasses this morning.

DONNA LEE

Focus people. We are looking for the signed offer for the coffee shop. I'll check the desk. Mitch you check the filing cabinet. Fred you keep watch to make sure no one comes

FRED

(holding his stomach)

I'm not feeling very well. (nasty growling noises)

MITCH

Ah jeese Fred...maybe we shoulda' left you at the coffee shop.

Another "gastly" noise from Fred.

DONNA LEE

(waves hand under nose)

(exhale sound)Crank needs to air out this office. It smells terrible in here.

MITCH

Way to go Fred.

FRED

(sheepishly)

Sorry folks, but the doctor says better out than in!

CUT TO:

15 INT. COFFEE SHOP PATSY'S TABLE - MOMENTS LATER

15

Vivian and Mammy walk out of the washroom towards Patsy's table.

VIVIAN

(resuming a conversation from the washroom)

...I know, but it's not like it's the most disappointing thing that's ever happened.

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED:

15

MAMMY

That's true. (THEN) Not like that bastard
Ken up and leaving you high and dry.

VIVIAN

Ma, he died.

MAMMY

(shrugging her shoulders)
You never should have married him
anyway?! (BEAT) As your mother, it's my
duty to point out the bad choices you've
made.

VIVIAN

(sarcastic)
Really!? Well lucky me. I should be
grateful then.

Both arriving at Patsy's table.

MAMMY

See? (beat) It'll take more than a little
backed up plumbing to keep me from
helping you out.

VIVIAN

(shakes her head)
Ma, Let's get you some prune juice..

PATSY

(paranoid)
I'll can get it for you.

VIVIAN

Thanks Patsy but Donna Lee can get it.

PATSY

(her legs starts bouncing)
Uhh, Donna Lee's not here...right
now...at this time.

VIVIAN

Patsy? Is there something you should be
telling me?

PATSY

(looking around)
Mr. Pickles is on suicide watch, at least
until the crisis passes.

FADE TO BLACK.

16 INT. CRANK'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

16 *

After looking through everything and finding nothing the gang of 4 are straightening things up and wiping off their fingerprints.

FRED

Well that was a royal waste of time!

DONNA LEE

All I found was an overdue porn movie and a half eaten cheeze whiz sandwich.

MITCH

Ya, so far the only thing criminal is his taste.

FRED

Keep wiping, if Crank notices anything out of place, he's sure to dust for prints.

DONNA LEE

This place could use a good dusting. It's filthy.

There's a creak outside the door.

MITCH

Ssshhh! I hear something! (he shuts off the light)

Vivian and Patsy arrive, close the door and turn on the light. Donna Lee picks up an umbrella and is about to hit Patsy.

PATSY

You JUST about scared the crap out of me!

Patsy's nerves are getting the best of her. She is pacing back and forth near Crank's desk. She is rubbing her arms, touching her head, shrugging her shoulders, etc.

FRED

You DID scare the crap out of ME! I don't know if what I'm wearing is meant to carry a full load.

VIVIAN

Are you all insane? Do you realize you're breaking the law??

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED:

16

MITCH

Only a little... We were just trying to get you out of a jamb Mrs. Lancaster.

DONNA LEE

We figured if we found the signed sales agreement Crank wouldn't be able to take the coffee shop away from us.

VIVIAN

That's sweet and I appreciate the thought, but it doesn't justify this. We have to get out of here. Liz is looking after the coffee shop, Ivy's cat is shredding the curtains and Crank will be showing up at any minute.

PATSY

I knew this was a bad idea!

Patsy goes into overdrive and as she approaches Crank's desk she is looking the other way and slams her knee into the side of the desk. She lets out a yell.

PATSY (CONT'D)

Ooowwwccch!

A close up view of the action of her hitting her knee against the desk reveals that a secret panel opens (or a drawer slides open) revealing a ledger.

VIVIAN

Well what have we here.

DONNA LEE

That's nothing special, I already found another one over there just like it. (points to bookcase) No sales agreement, just a bunch of numbers.

VIVIAN

Let's have a look shall we. Patsy, pass me that journal, please.

Vivian lays the books side by side and flips a couple of pages.

VIVIAN (CONT'D)

Ha!

She taps the ledger just like Crank tapped the table earlier, looks at everyone and gives a big grin.

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED: (2)

16

VIVIAN (CONT'D)
(now with a full on smile)
Patsy? Any chance you brought your camera
with you?

PATSY
(pulls it out of her bra)
Never leave home without it.

FADE OUT.

17 INT. COFFEE SHOP KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

17

Vivian, and the gang of 4 run into the coffee shop from the
back door carrying the hidden ledger.

CUT TO:

18 INT. COFFEE SHOP FRONT DOOR - MOMENTS LATER

18

Crank, Homer and a uniformed police officer come in the front
door. Liz is there lying on the floor with crystals on her
body. Ivy is ohm- ing and waving a feather over Liz. Mammy
watches amused.

BENJAMIN
You see officer, this is exactly what I
was talking about...hippy squatters.

HOMER
Here ye, here ye, weighing in at, uh, (to
Benjamin) How much do you weigh boss?

BENJAMIN
Just introduce me, you moron.

Liz gets up off the floor in a daze.

HOMER
The one, the only, Benjamin Crank.

THE GANG OF 4
(in unison)
Booooo!

The staff and some patrons from the coffee shop start to
assemble around Crank and Vivian. and start to boo Crank.

HOMER
And in the other corner, the sad, the
pathetic...

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

18

LIZ

(hands on hips)

Hey!...Critical and demanding perhaps but she is certainly not pathetic!

BENJAMIN

(to Vivian)

It is my pleasure to introduce you to my friend, Officer (he looks at the officer's name tag) Peters. He is here to ensure that the court order is enforced. I believe you were just about to hand me the keys on your way out.

VIVIAN

Strange...I was under the impression that you had a change of heart.

MAMMY

(goes nose to nose with Crank)

Benjamin! I shoulda' spoke to your Mama years ago!. You've been a bully since you were a little kid. If you know what's good for you, you'll take that little moron and high tail it outta' here!

The crowd reacts with ooo's and ahhhh's.

HOMER

(steps in between Homer&Mammy)

You can't talk to my boss like that.

PATSY

(to Fred)

\$50 bucks says she'll deck him in one punch!

BENJAMIN

Listen lady the only change I'm interested in is turning this DIVE into a money making gold mine. Now officer I would like to exercise my rights under the court order and...

VIVIAN

But Mr. Crank, the information (she reaches back) that you left me to read in your journal (Donna Lee passes her the ledger) led me to believe that you were COOKING up something else.

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED: (2)

18

Vivian shows him the ledger. Benjamin realizes that with the cop present he could get into a lot of trouble.

BENJAMIN
(he is stymied)
How did, where did you...

VIVIAN
In fact I earmarked a number of pages that describes in great detail your unique business strategy for expansion. Officer Peters, would you be kind enough to hold this while I turn the page?

Benjamin yanks the ledger from Vivian's hands.

BENJAMIN
NO! I mean, that won't be necessary. Ya, I completely forgot about leaving this here for you to look over. Officer so sorry...I'm not going to be needing your services after all.

LIZ
(to Homer)
He won't be needing your services either little boy.

Homer lunges forward but is grabbed by the officer.

POLICEMAN
Alright you two. Let's continue this chat outside.

The officer turns and starts walking away holding Homer.

BENJAMIN
Fine. I'll be back later to re-schedule that appointment.

PATSY
(cheerfully)
Hey Crank. (Crank turns around) I don't think that'll be necessary.

Patsy dangles a camera and USB key in front of Crank. Then she takes his picture.

PATSY (CONT'D)
Say cheese! (she looks at the picture)
Not a bad picture. Add a few numbers to
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED: (3)

18

PATSY (CONT'D)
your shirt and it'll be perfect. Now turn
to your left please.

The officer stops and turns around.

POLICE
Let's go Crank.

Crank & Homer leave defeated. Everyone bursts into cheers and
applauds, hugging each other.

VIVIAN
Thank you just isn't enough. I am so
grateful to have friends and customers
like you who went out of your way to help
me. If there is anything, anything I can
do to return the favour just...

PATSY
Glad to do it. I mean this place is like
home to me, even better.

DONNA LEE
Ya better, 'cause you have free internet
here.

PATSY
It's not JUST that...I mean...being here
with all of you...you're like family.

VIVIAN
I understand Patsy. (open arms towards
her table) Please consider this your home
away from home.

PATSY
Say, do you think I could have my own
key? Since IT IS like my home?

Vivian tilts her head & ponders "it ain't going to happen".

DONNA LEE
Quit while you're ahead Patsy.

Everyone spots Fred holding one arm up and muttering
something with his eyes closed as Mammy approaches them.

FRED
So close and yet so far. All those poor
young, naked ladies, crowded into that
small, hot, sweaty dressing room.

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED: (4)

18

MAMMY

It smells like the sewer backed up in
that dressing room.

Fred snaps out of it and excuses himself.

FRED

Excuse me while I freshen up.

Fred starts walking away.

MAMMY

(cries out)

Take a change of underwear with you,
you'll need it! (to Viv) You did good kid.

VIVIAN

Thanks Ma.

Mammy signals her to come closer and whispers to her.

MAMMY

I'll hold off giving you my other
observations to a later date.

Vivian hugs her and whispers back.

VIVIAN

You're all heart Ma. Just remember, I'm
the one who'll be choosing your nursing
home.

MAMMY

Good point.

They stop hugging.

LIZ

(hands on hips)

Blackmail...huh...(proudly) I didn't know
you had it in ya. (she lightly taps her
on the shoulder with her fist).

The following dialogue is said as if it were once sentence.

IVY

She has a warrior's spirit...

MITCH

The eyes of a hawk...

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED: (5)

18

PATSY

A blessing in disguise...

DONNA LEE

And the cunning of a fox.

LIZ

Well that's pretty much the "whole nine yards" so if there are no more "IDIOMS", I'll have that green tea now.

Donna Lee leaves to get a green tea for Liz.

VIVIAN

Don't you have to get back to work?

LIZ

That'll be a NO. Boss told me that if I left one more time for personal reasons he was gonna can me and Ssoooo.

VIVIAN

Just now!? It's all my fault. I'm going over there right now to talk to him.

PATSY

She's on a roll. (reaches in her bra)
Here, take my camera.

She starts toward the door and Liz calls her back.

LIZ

Hold on Mom. It's wasn't just for this time...between Enrico, the kids, (quietly) my drinking problem, and my roller derby career, I'm barely there.

*

VIVIAN

Liz...then please...re-consider my offer.

LIZ

Mom...I don't think I can work for you.

VIVIAN

Yes (her best sad face)I remember...you'd be working for the devil.

LIZ

Ya about that comment...I'm, I'm sorry.

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED: (6)

18

VIVIAN

I had that coming. (beat) Liz, come in as full partner...50/50.

LIZ

Seriously? Equal rights? I don't know... knowing you there'll be some loophole in the fine print.

VIVIAN

No tricks Liz...Look I know I wasn't always there for you growing up, and I'm hoping that we can use this opportunity as a second chance to get to know each other better.

(anxious moments)

What do you say?

MAMMY

Hurry, say yes! The prune juice is working and I'm not going to be able to hold it if this soap opera goes on much longer.

Liz looks around the room, everyone is leaning closer & closer. Donna Lee has Liz's green tea in hand. Liz shakes her head in defeat and grins)

LIZ

Alright, trial period. But if you start getting critical and demanding, then I'm outta here.

Vivian extends her hand, they do a big shake.

VIVIAN

Deal!

They go to hug and then Vivian realizes that Liz is full of grease she backs off a little and chuckles.

VIVIAN (CONT'D)

Someday, we'll look back on this, laugh nervously and change the subject. You know, like we always do.

Vivian & Liz laugh while the crowd mumbles their approval. Donna Lee hands Liz her green tea. (beat) The sound of plates breaking in the kitchen followed quickly by the sound of a screaming cat is heard. Everyone looks towards the kitchen.

(CONTINUED)

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32.

18 CONTINUED: (7)

18

IVY (V.O.)
Mr. PIICKLEEEESS! (voice trails off)

FADE TO BLACK.

END