

Vi Side #1

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ACT TWO Scene 1

Time: The next day. Tuesday.

Place: The same.

Lights up to reveal Rita pouring herself a coffee. The sign on the door facing the audience now reads 'Closed'. The diner is open. Janine enters from the kitchen followed by Vi.

Vi: Why didn't you tell us this at dinner last night?

Janine: Last night was Mary Ellen's night. I didn't want to inject my problems into that.

Rita: So, he wants to take you to Halifax. As a tour guide.

Vi: He wants to get you into bed that's what.

Janine: He said we would be in separate rooms.

Vi: Oh, well, that'll put a stop to any shenanigans then. Yes. No one has ever had sex staying in separate rooms at the same hotel because nobody's ever had too much to drink and given into temptation before!

Rita: So, what are you going to do?

Vi: She's going to say no of course.

Rita: Why is she going to say no?

Vi: Two words. Brad ley. She's already got a man. A good man. Why would she put that relationship in jeopardy for a weekend fling with a good-looking well-to-do, single, vulnerable doctor? And here I am talking mySELF into liking the idea. Jesus Mary and Joseph! Look, Janine, you're the baby of our group. We look out for you. And I say you shouldn't go.

Janine: Vi, nothing will happen.

Vi: So, you're going?

Janine: I didn't say that.

Rita: So, you're not going.

Janine: I didn't say that either.

Vi: You mean you're thinking about it? You're actually thinking about it?

Janine: I might be.

Vi: I can't believe this.

Janine: Why are you becoming so indignant?

Vi: Because I thought better of you, Janine. Of the four of us, you've always been the clearest thinker.

Rita: I thought that was me.

Vi: Oh please. *(To Janine)* And now you're thinking of cheating. That's not clear thinking at all.

Janine: I'm not thinking of cheating. I would just be going to Halifax with the guy.

Vi: And would you tell Bradley about it?

Janine: Probably not.

Vi: Then that's cheating. You don't have to have sex to cheat. Right, Rita?

Rita: No, but it's more enjoyable that way.

Vi: The mere fact that you're deceiving your partner—going somewhere with some other guy for sex or not--that's cheating.

Janine: I don't think of Bradley as my partner.

Vi: You live together.

Janine: Yeah, I know, but, we have separate bank accounts, we each pay our own bills. We buy our own food. The only thing we share is space.

Vi: Why would you live with a guy if you don't consider him your partner?

Janine: For the company I guess. I don't know.

Vi: My God, Janine. I didn't know you were so indifferent where relationships are concerned. So laissez faire. Did you pick this attitude up when you traveled to all those European cities? Because I don't think you could pick it up here.

Janine: Are you offended, Vi? Does my attitude offend your moral core? Is that what this is?

Vi: I just thought better of you.

Janine: Stop saying that. You've got no reason to think less of me unless I think less of myself, and I don't. So stop saying that.

Vi: Fine. I won't voice my opinion then.

Janine: No, I want you to voice your opinion. I value your opinion. I just don't want the judgment that comes along with it.

Vi: You value my opinion?

Janine: Of course I do. I value all of your opinions. Rita's, Mary Ellen's. I need those voices in my life.

Vi: Fine. No more judgment then.

Janine: Thank you.

Vi: You slut.

(The women laugh. Mary Ellen enters.)

END

~~M. Ellen: Hello!~~

~~Rita: Mary Ellen. You're late. Oh by the way, Martine came into the bakery this afternoon.~~

~~M. Ellen: Loaf of bread?~~

~~Rita: The tip jar.~~

~~M. Ellen: I'll tell her to bring it back.~~

~~Rita: So, where have you been?~~