

THE LOST VIRGINITY TOUR

A full-length play

By Cricket Daniel

Contact:
Cricket Daniel
1534 NE Wakefield Pl.
Bend, OR 97701
541-280-5535
cricket@cricketdaniel.com

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Four women, 60's and over, retired and living in Happy Trails Senior Resort Community in Surprise, Arizona.

VIOLA, divorcee, mouthy from New Jersey

KITTY, single, sweet, Southern Belle.

RITA, married, smart earthy type.

ELAINE, widow, older and wise.

SETTINGS

Elaine's Condo, Happy Trails Resort, AZ

Hatteras Island, NC. Lifeguard Station (Kitty)

New Jersey. Grandma's bedroom (Viola)

Ball State University. Dorm Room (Rita)

Colorado. Bear Pine Cabin (Elaine)

ACT ONE

SCENE 1

Happy Trails Senior Resort Community.
ELAINE'S Condo.

ELAINE getting ready for the weekly Happy
Trails Baking Club.

(ENTER RITA holding a plate of cookies)

RITA

Hi. Sorry I'm late.

ELAINE

You're actually the first one here.

RITA

Really? Where's Abbott and Costello?

ELAINE

On their way, I'm sure. Viola's cart is probably speeding through the park, as we speak.

RITA

God help us all.

(They both cross themselves. Horn Honks)

ELAINE

That must be Mario Andretti now.

(ENTER VIOLA with platter of cookies)

VIOLA

Watch out. Hot bun's coming through!

RITA

Hot buns? I thought it was cookie week?

VIOLA

It is. I mean these hot buns!

(Showing off her butt)

RITA

If you say so.

VIOLA

If I say so? Well, I do say so. I've been taking aerobics. Feel how hard my buns are.

RITA

No, thank you.

VIOLA

Elaine, come over here and feel my buns.

(Elaine pokes Viola's butt)

ELAINE

Yep. Those are some hard buns, alright.

VIOLA

See! Come on, Rita. Have a squeeze.

RITA

I really don't feel like grabbing your ass, Viola.

VIOLA

Your loss.

ELAINE

I saw that aerobics class in the event calendar. Maybe I'll join you.

VIOLA

Oh, you should! I'm in the best shape of my life.

RITA

You are?

VIOLA

Yep.

RITA

Well, then you've had a shitty life.

VIOLA

You just said a mouthful there, honey!

ELAINE

Where's Kitty? Didn't she come with you?

VIOLA

I dumped her off about a block away.

ELAINE

Dumped her off! Why?

VIOLA

She was being a back seat driver. Which is pretty hard to do when you're in a two seater golf cart.

RITA

So you just kicked her out?

VIOLA

Yeah, that's right.

(ENTER KITTY exhausted and sweaty)

KITTY

Viola McGee! I will never forgive you! You know I can't walk with my bunions. Not to mention, it's over 100 degrees out there!

VIOLA

You should have thought about that before bitching about my driving.

KITTY

I simply said to slow down. You are such a hard ass.

ELAINE

Literally. I just felt it.

VIOLA

She was yelling "Slow down, you crazy old tart!" I'm sure you can understand why I got so upset.

RITA

Calling you a tart?

VIOLA

No, old! She gave me no choice. I put the pedal to the metal and punched it.

ELAINE

Of course you did.

VIOLA

Then she starts screaming at the top of her blackened lungs “She’s trying to kill me. Help! She’s trying to kill me.”

KITTY

I do not have black lungs! My doctor said that my lungs are as pink as a pig’s nose.

Kitty pulls a cigarette from her purse and puts it in her mouth, unlit.

VIOLA

Kitty, that is a bad analogy. A pig’s nose is always in the mud. If your lungs are so damn pink, then light up that cigarette.

KITTY

No.

VIOLA

Come on. You know you want to.

RITA

Don’t do it, Kitty.

VIOLA

Elaine, go get me one of those clicky things you use to light all of your candles with, will ya?

ELAINE

Now Vi, you just stop it. You know she can’t smoke anymore.

KITTY

I can smoke! I just choose not to.

VIOLA

And I’m sure you stopping wasn’t motivated by seeing a chest X-ray of your lungs looking like a ball sack on a corpse!

KITTY

That's it. You are no longer my best friend!

VIOLA

Fine! So, I slammed on my brakes, grabbed her plate of cookies and pushed her off. Here you go.

(Viola hands a platter of cookies to Elaine).

ELAINE

Oh now, don't these look delicious.

KITTY

She didn't even slow down. I literally rolled into the curb.

VIOLA

Rolled my ass. Besides, the only thing they care about is that your cookies made it. And they did, thanks to me.

KITTY

I am sick of you riding my cookie coattails!

VIOLA

What the hell's that supposed to mean?

KITTY

You don't even bake.

VIOLA

Since when is that a requirement?

KITTY

It's a baking club! I vote to have Viola McGee removed from the Happy Trails Baking Club!

ELAINE

The meeting hasn't officially started yet, Kitty.

KITTY

Well, when it does, I would like to put it to a vote. And I would expect a unanimous vote considering that yours truly almost died today.

VIOLA

Died? You're here, aren't ya? Besides, you walking a little once in awhile wouldn't hurt.

KITTY

What are you trying to say, Vi?

VIOLA

You know.

KITTY

No! I most certainly do not know. What are you implying?

VIOLA

That you can use the exercise. There I said it. I addressed the elephant in the room!

KITTY

(gasps)

I have simply put on a few pounds, since I quit smoking.

ELAINE

Okay, okay! Kitty, you just sit down, fake smoke your cigarette, and rest your bunions.

KITTY

Thank you. I think I will.

RITA

And we are all proud of you for quitting. Your skin has never looked better. The reason why all smokers should stop!

ELAINE

Let's get started, shall we?

(All the women place their platters of cookies on a table and gather around).

ELAINE

(reading minutes)

Happy Trails Baking Club. Wednesday, June 4th, 1:15pm. Come to order.

(Elaine holds out a cookbook and Rita taps it with a rolling pin)

KITTY

It would have been one o'clock if Viola didn't make me walk.

VIOLA

It would have been 1:05 if you were in better shape. Go on, Elaine.

(Ladies stand after their name is called, others
applaud)

ELAINE

Members include myself, Elaine Matthews, President. Rita Hanson, Vice President.
Kitty Warmerdam, Secretary.

KITTY

I was pushed out of a moving vehicle. I would like to remain seated, if you don't mind?

VIOLA

It was a golf cart! Hobos have jumped out of trains moving faster!

ELAINE

Of course, Kitty. And Viola McGee, Treasurer. It was noted at our last meeting that the use of artificial sweetener goes against our baking code of conduct and will not be allowed, regardless of Rita's recent diabetes diagnosis. All in favor raise your hand. At this point, I would like to hand it over to Kitty for any upcoming events. Kitty?

KITTY

What about voting to have this one removed from our club?

VIOLA

So now I'm "this one." Don't you mean the woman who drives you all over this park every single day?

ELAINE

Kitty, I know you're upset, but I don't believe we should vote out any members today.

VIOLA

(to Kitty)

I guess that's just how the cookie crumbles.

ELAINE

For now, let's go over upcoming events and see how you feel after you've had a chance to bring your blood pressure down.

KITTY

Fine. (Beat) Bettye Martin asked if our Baking Club could donate baked goods for their Bingo Nights, which raises money for pool and rec room needs. Current needs include noodles and balls.

RITA

Noodles and balls?

VIOLA

Sounds like a party! Count me in.

KITTY

Pool noodles to be used for water aerobics and new balls for Bocce. All in favor, raise your hand.

(All raise their hands)

Thank you. That's all I have.

ELAINE

Viola, how did we do at this week's bake sale?

VIOLA

Not as well as we had hoped. This gluten-free, no-wheat craze is absolutely killing us. And the residents of Happy Trails are buying into this shit. As of right now, we have \$65.75 in our club account. I move to increase our dues from \$3.00 to \$3.50. All in favor, raise your hand.

KITTY

Why?

VIOLA

So, that I can count your hands!

KITTY

No, why do we need to increase our dues?

VIOLA

So that our bank account reaches a hundred, before we all do.

RITA

I agree with Viola. If we're being asked to donate baked goods for events like Bingo, we need enough to cover our costs. However, I think we should all get an extra bingo card for our generosity.

VIOLA

I will inform the Bingo Committee of our stipulation. All in favor, raise your hand.

(All raise their hands)

VIOLA

Starting next month, each member will put an extra fifty cents in the measuring cup.

ELAINE

Okay. That's our last item on the agenda. Let's all recite the Happy Trails Baking Club pledge and begin.

(Each member stands and holds up whisks, rubber spatulas, etc. They recite the pledge all out of synch and then all together on last line)

ALL

I (all state their names), hereby dedicate my God-given baking talents to the Happy Trails Baking Club. I swear to bake everything from scratch, use only the highest quality of ingredients, including real butter and pure sugar. I swear to never sacrifice flavor for calories and never prepare anything that is vegan or gluten free. In Betty Crocker's name, Amen.

ELAINE

Now, who would like to share their recipe first?

KITTY

I would personally like to go last. My heart is still racing.

ELAINE

Fine. Rita?

RITA

Sure. These are my grandmother's famous snickerdoodle cookies and the recipe.

(Rita presents her plate of cookies and hands each lady the recipe.)

RITA

If you look at the recipe closely, you will see my grandmother's secret ingredient.

ELAINE

Cream of Tartar?

RITA

No. Kaluha!

VIOLA

Your grandmother was a trailblazer. Without innovators like her, we wouldn't have the Jello shot!

KITTY

Delicious.

RITA

Thank you.

ELAINE

Okay. My turn. Ladies, brace yourselves for my daddy's "award-winning" bacon and bourbon chocolate chip cookies!

(Elaine passes around plate and recipe.)

RITA

Bacon?

ELAINE

Yes, siree.

VIOLA

Bacon and bourbon?! Let me at 'em.

KITTY

Between the Kahluha and the bourbon, I ought to be numb to my pain soon.

RITA

Hot damn! I do believe this is the best thing that I have ever had in my mouth.

VIOLA

So sorry to hear that, Rita.

ELAINE

My daddy won first prize six years running at the Durango County Fair with this recipe.

KITTY

I can see why.

VIOLA

Getting the judges liquored up was a good move. Your daddy was a smart man!

KITTY

I better pass out my cookies, before I pass out.

(Kitty passes around cookies and recipe)

KITTY

Ladies, I present to you, my Great Aunt Ida's Southern tea cakes. These here are a crowd pleaser and guaranteed to class up any gathering.

VIOLA

What are you trying to say?

ELAINE

Yeah! Are you implying that we need classing up?

KITTY

I'm not saying all of you. Just Viola!

VIOLA

Does taking a swipe at me, make you feel better?

KITTY

Ooooh, yes.

RITA

So are these cakes or cookies?

KITTY

Both.

ELAINE

They are so cute and tiny.

VIOLA

They made them small on purpose, I bet. It forces you to eat them with your little pinky sticking up. So you can't help but look classy.

(They all eat their cookies with their pinkies sticking up)

RITA

You're right. I already feel classier.

KITTY

My Great Aunt Ida was a very classy Southern woman. She would bring her tea cakes over to the house every Sunday after church. She wore long white gloves, and I thought she was the end all.

ELAINE

Thank you for sharing her recipe with us. They are just delicious.

VIOLA

So, I've had bourbon, bacon, kahalua and cake, and it's not even two in the afternoon. God, I love being a member of the Happy Trails Baking Club.

KITTY

Kind of ironic, considering you don't even bake.

VIOLA

I'm Italian. We don't bake, we cook!

KITTY

You don't cook, either.

VIOLA

I don't have anyone to cook for.

ELAINE

What happened to Ron in #44?

VIOLA

He rubbed my leg during Bachelor in Paradise.

RITA

So, what's wrong with that?

VIOLA

I'm not looking for sex.

ELAINE

And rubbing your leg, says he wants sex?

VIOLA

During Bachelor in Paradise? Yes!

RITA

Thank god I've been married for a hundred years. I don't have to worry about having sex anymore.

KITTY

You're lucky.

RITA

For not having sex or for being married?

ALL

Both!

KITTY

I think I would have liked being married.

RITA

It's not too late.

KITTY

I'm not getting married at my age. What would be the point?

RITA

So that someone has the authority to pull the plug when the time comes.

VIOLA

You can put me down for that, Kitty. I'll pull that sucker for ya!

ELAINE

Why didn't you ever get married, Kitty? I thought you Southern Belles started planning your wedding day right out of the womb?

KITTY

Just wasn't in the stars, I guess.

ELAINE

I was married for over forty years and loved every minute of it.

RITA

I'm almost there myself. Dean and I celebrate thirty-nine in December.

VIOLA

I was married four times and pulled the plug on all of them. See Kitty, I'm qualified.

KITTY

Four times!?

VIOLA

My poor mother. "Now Viola, you're Catholic. You must remain a virgin until you get married and never divorce or you will bring shame upon our family name and go straight to hell." Thank God, I like the heat.

KITTY

So, did you lose your virginity before marriage?

VIOLA

Did Gene Kelly sing in the rain?

RITA

But, what about what your mother said?

KITTY

And your family name?

VIOLA

Hey, I held out until I was seventeen. Not bad for a Catholic girl.

KITTY

You lost your virginity at seventeen!?

VIOLA

That's pretty good. Hell, my best friend Mary put out our freshman year, during Fleet Week! How old were you?

KITTY

I'm saving myself for marriage.

VIOLA
Come on. I told you.

KITTY
Nope. I'm a lady.

VIOLA
Hardly. Rita? When did you lose your virginity?

RITA
Twenty. Ball State.

VIOLA
Is that a sexual position?

RITA
No! Ball State University. It's where I went to college.

VIOLA
Okay, I'm in first place with seventeen.

KITTY
I don't think being in first place is necessarily a good thing, do you?

VIOLA
Elaine?

ELAINE
Well, I hate to kick you off the podium, Vi.

RITA
No! You?

KITTY
How old were you?

ELAINE
Sixteen. We were high school sweethearts. We had planned to get married.

VIOLA
Why didn't you?

Elaine is quiet.

KITTY

But you ended up marrying Warren.

ELAINE

Yes, I did. But you never forget your first love.

VIOLA

Okay, your turn Kitty.

KITTY

No.

RITA

Come on. We all told our ages.

VIOLA

Let me guess. Thirteen?

KITTY

Thirteen! I was still playing with dolls at thirteen.

VIOLA

Uh-huh. Sure you were.

KITTY

Okay, okay, I was eighteen. It was the summer before I went off to college. He was a lifeguard.

VIOLA

Ooooooh, sex on the beach. Meow.

KITTY

It wasn't sex. It was beautiful.

VIOLA

You must have been cleaning sand out of your hoo-haw for days!

KITTY

This is exactly why I didn't wanna tell you.

RITA

Mine involved a fire extinguisher. And that's all I'm gonna say about that!

VIOLA

(idea pops into her head)

Oh my god. Rita, where's this Ball State University?

RITA

Indiana.

VIOLA

And Kitty, where did all this sex on the beach go down?

KITTY

It wasn't just sex, it was beaut--

VIOLA

Yeah, we know. It was beautiful. You probably cried afterward. Where?

KITTY

Hatteras Island. North Carolina.

VIOLA

Elaine?

ELAINE

My family's cabin in Colorado.

VIOLA

And mine was at a family reunion in Jersey.

KITTY

You lost your virginity at a family reunion!? Did you have incest?

VIOLA

Yes! I did it with my Uncle Marvin. Of course not!

RITA

Why do you wanna know all of this, Vi?

VIOLA

I have the best idea!

KITTY

Oh no.

VIOLA

And there's no sense arguing with me. Without my great ideas, we wouldn't all have a lifetime supply of medical shoe horns.

ELAINE

She's right. I use them to hold up my tomato plants. So, what's your idea?

VIOLA

We're going on a roadtrip!

RITA

Roadtrip?

ELAINE

All of us?

KITTY

Together?

VIOLA

Yep. Let's take a little journey back in time, shall we? Pack your bags, ladies! We're going on The Lost Virginity Tour!

END OF SCENE ONE

SCENE TWO

One week later. Lights up on Elaine's living room. Viola and Kitty are there, luggage by their sides. They both have on "The Lost Virginity Tour" T-shirts. The backs have a list of the Cities/Locations of the "LVT 2017 Tour". They wear these shirts throughout the entire play.

VIOLA

(yelling)

Hurry up, Elaine!

Elaine enters, wearing her LVT T-shirt, pulling luggage behind her.

ELAINE

I can't believe you talked us into this. I don't even know what to pack for this thing.

VIOLA

It's called the Lost Virginity Tour and you just need to pack wine and three weeks' worth of underwear. I already took care of our shirts.

KITTY

I love our T-shirts!

ELAINE

I packed three weeks' worth of underwear and four weeks' worth of wine.

VIOLA

Thatta girl. Where on earth is Rita? We need to get on the road.

KITTY

She's probably having a hard time leaving Dean.

Enter Rita.

RITA

(dancing)

Let's get this party started!

ELAINE

Yeah, she really looks devastated.

RITA

Sorry, I'm late.

VIOLA

No excuses! We have an itinerary and now we're behind sched--

RITA

(pulls out bottles)

I stopped by the liquor store.

VIOLA

You're forgiven.

KITTY

Where's your T-shirt? We're all wearing ours.

RITA

Oops, sorry. I'll put it on.

Rita pulls out her T-shirt, rips off her blouse and puts it on.

RITA

So are these places on the back, listed in the order of our itinerary?

VIOLA

Yep. First stop, Hatteras Island. North Carolina.

RITA

So, we're going from North Carolina to Indiana and then to New Jersey?

VIOLA

What's the problem?

RITA

The problem is, that's completely out of the way. Have you looked at a United States map, lately?

VIOLA

Why the hell would I look at a United States map?

KITTY

Because we're driving across the country!

ELAINE

We'll just head to New Jersey after North Carolina. Settled.

VIOLA

We can't do that!

ELAINE

Why not?

VIOLA

Because, the T-shirts are already printed!

KITTY

So.

VIOLA

So!?! Do you think the Rolling Stones make up tour T-shirts and half way through the tour say "I think we'll skip Baltimore and just head straight to Denver, because it's faster?"

RITA

We are not the Rolling Stones, Vi.

VIOLA

You're right. We're younger! Look, we're sticking to the itinerary. It's bad luck to change the tour stops after they've already been silk screened onto T-shirts. The Lost Virginity Tour kicks off in North Carolina, heads to Ball State University, then to my Grandma's house and ends in Colorado. Let's go.

ELAINE

I don't think this is such a good idea. What if revisiting our pasts, alters our futures?

VIOLA

I'm a sexy, single, four-time divorced, sixty something-year old living in a senior community full of bocce ball-playing old farts. I sure as hell hope this trip does alter my future!

KITTY

Sexy? Now you're pushing it, Vi.

VIOLA

Watch it, Kitty. You're no Brigitte Bardot.

RITA

When liquor laced cookies are the highlight of our week, then it's time for us to shake things up! Now, let's make like dough and roll!

KITTY

She's right. I'll drive the first leg. I need to take my nap at noon.

ELAINE

I need to take my Lipator with food. So, if we stop at noon for Kitty's nap, I'll need to eat. But then I can drive the second leg. I can't drive at night because of my cataracts.

VIOLA

Rita? Do you come with any medical restrictions?

RITA

No. But I need to be near a bathroom at all times. My bladder isn't what it used to be.

VIOLA

Well, that's gonna be a little difficult, considering we're going to be spending the majority of the next three weeks in my convertible. Elaine, you got any of those Depends on ya?

KITTY

Just because Elaine's the oldest one in our group, doesn't mean she shit's her pants!

VIOLA

At the rate we're going, we will never even get out of the damn park!

RITA

I'll be fine. I just won't drink any liquids...or eat.

KITTY

For three weeks?

VIOLA

Okay, girls. This is it. The Lost Virginity Tour officially begins now!

They all gather their luggage and start to leave.

RITA

Woo hoo.

KITTY

Oh my, we're really doing this, aren't we?

RITA

Wait! I've gotta go pee.

VIOLA

That's it. I'm buying a box of Depends.

LIGHTS FADE.

BETWEEN EACH SCENE, YOU WILL NEED TO ESTABLISH THE ROAD TRIP, AND DRIVING FROM STATE TO STATE. SUGGEST USE OF VIDEO OF A LITTLE CAR CROSSING THE U.S., OR HAVE THE LADIES "DRIVE" AROUND ON STAGE DURING SCENE CHANGES. BE CREATIVE AND HAVE FUN!

SCENE THREE

HATTERAS ISLAND, NC. BEACH. LIFE GUARD STATION.

ALL FOUR WOMEN ENTER, STILL WEARING TOUR T-SHIRTS AND IN BEACH ATTIRE.

VIOLA

(exhausted)

How many lifeguard stations are on this beach? Do you Southern Belles have an extremely high rate of drownings or something!?

ELAINE

Who knew that walking in sand was such a workout. My calves are on fire!

RITA

Is this it, Kitty?

KITTY

I'm not sure. Hold on.

Kitty looks all around the life guard station, looking for a carving in the wood.

KITTY

This is it!

RITA

Thank God.

KITTY

(rubbing carving)

This is the one. Look. It's still here.

All the girls gather around.

RITA

(reading)

I love Pretty.

VIOLA

Did you carve that?

KITTY

No. Mario.

ELAINE

Was he...the one?

KITTY

Yes. His name was Mario Reynoso. He looked just like Desi Arnez, only taller.

ELAINE

I'm sure he was very handsome if he caught your eye, Kitty.

VIOLA

So, where did it happen? Here? Missionary style? Did you dig a hole?

RITA

Vi. Let her tell the story.

Fine!

VIOLA

I don't even know where to begin

KITTY

How about from the beginning?

ELAINE

A moment of reflection and then...

My family rented a house here every summer. I don't have a single memory that doesn't include summers on Hatteras Island.

KITTY

Sounds divine.

ELAINE

It was. I absolutely loved coming. Every summer was the same. Same house, same kids, same everything. Except for the summer that I met Mario. That summer changed me....forever.

KITTY

How so?

RITA

Mario was my first everything. Boy friend, kiss...

KITTY

Roll in the sand!

VIOLA

Vi!

ELAINE

He was the first boy who ever told me I was pretty. That's what he called me...pretty. "My name's Kitty, not pretty," I told him. "Not from where I'm standing," he said. And, from then on, that's what he called me.

KITTY

So, that's what this carving means.

ELAINE

KITTY

Yes.

VIOLA

Okay, “my pretty,” get to the good part.

RITA

Stop! It’s her story. You can jump right to the sex when it’s your turn! How did you two meet?

KITTY

My kite accidentally flew into his lifeguard station.

RITA

You know what they say, there are no accidents...there is only some purpose that we haven’t yet understood.

VIOLA

Dr. Phil.

RITA

Deepak Chopra.

KITTY

I thought I knew every kid on Hatteras Island, but I had never seen Mario before.

ELAINE

Did his family rent a house that summer, too?

KITTY

No. His family all worked on Hatteras. His mother and sister worked in the kitchen of the Yacht Club, and his dad was a boat mechanic. They lived in a little town about forty miles away.

VIOLA

Forty miles? That’s a hell of a commute.

KITTY

They were hard workers.

ELAINE

So, what happened after your kite flew into his lifeguard station?

KITTY

I spent every day right here, counting down the minutes until he got off of work. We would walk along the water for hours, sharing our hopes and dreams. He didn't see the money or the big house. He only saw me. And for the first time, so did I.

ELAINE

He sounds wonderful.

KITTY

He was. And so was his family. I spent all summer with them. His mom spoke very little English, yet I understood her more than I ever did my own mother. She called me Mija and hugged me so tight, it took my breath away.

RITA

It sounds like you didn't just fall in love with Mario that summer, you fell in love with his whole family.

KITTY

I did. And it was right here, under the moon's glow...

VIOLA

This is it!

KITTY

We professed our love for each other.

VIOLA

And...?

KITTY

And...it was beautiful.

VIOLA

That's it!?

KITTY

Yes.

ELAINE

She doesn't need to go into all the details.

VIOLA

Yes, she does! I didn't drive over two thousand miles for that!

RITA

I'm with Vi on this one. I've been without liquids for over three days and my pee looks like Italian dressing. A little more detail would be great, Kitty.

VIOLA

Were you two just making out and one thing led to another? Or was it planned?

KITTY

A little bit of both, I suppose. We had talked about...you know, being each other's first. But I didn't think it was going to happen here, on that night.

RITA

So, how was it? Your first time?

KITTY

It was beautiful and scary. But mostly beautiful.

VIOLA

Just like the first time I went through the self-checkout line at the grocery store. I had watched other shoppers go through it. But I was too afraid to try it myself. What if I do it wrong? Will an alarm go off? Until one day I declared "Viola, this is the day that you face your fears!" And next thing you know, I had two bags of groceries that I scanned all by myself. And I've been going through the self-checkout line ever since. Unless I have produce. I have no idea what to do with produce.

(Long Beat)

RITA

Are we still talking about sex?

ELAINE

I don't think so. Sex doesn't last that long.

RITA

Will you just shush and let Kitty talk!

VIOLA

Sooooorrrrry.

KITTY

That's okay. I'm done.

RITA

Done? Then what?? Whatever happened with you and Mario?

Kitty wipes away tears.

VIOLA

That rat bastard didn't break up with you afterward, did he?

KITTY

No. I broke up with him.

ELAINE

Why?

RITA

I thought you loved him?

KITTY

I did. Very much.

VIOLA

I don't get it.

KITTY

Things are different here in the South. You can't just love anybody you want.

ELAINE

Love is love, no matter where your heart lands on the map.

KITTY

I wish that were true.

RITA

Look, I don't know much about the South, but as far as I'm concerned, you have the right to love any damn person you want.

VIOLA

I'm with Rita.

KITTY

I was a wealthy Southern belle. And he was from a poor Hispanic family.

VIOLA

You broke up with him because he was poor? What's the matter with you?

ELAINE

Well...I don't believe it... but I am actually going to agree with Viola, here.

KITTY

You don't understand. I didn't have a choice.

ELAINE

Honey, you always have a choice.

Kitty drops, crying.

KITTY

But I didn't.

LIGHTS FADE, SPOTLIGHT ON KITTY.

FLASHBACK- KITTY'S MOTHER V.O. KITTY
IS NOT A V.O.

MOTHER V.O.

Kitty, you are to break it off with that boy right this instant. Do you understand!?

KITTY

No, Mama. I love him!

MOTHER V.O.

We will not have our daughter running around with trash.

KITTY

He isn't trash. He's wonderful.

MOTHER V.O.

Kitty...he's Mexican! (Beat) Now, enough is enough. People at the Yacht Club have been seeing you with that family. I can't even imagine what they all must think.

KITTY

I don't care what anybody thinks.

MOTHER V.O.

Your father and I have discussed this. You are to call that boy and end it.

KITTY

I won't do it, and you can't make me.

MOTHER V.O.

Kitty!

KITTY

No!

MOTHER V.O.

Then we will have that family fired.

KITTY

You can't do that.

MOTHER V.O.

Oh yes, Kitty. We can and we will. Now, I suggest you pick up that phone. Do you hear me?! Right now!

KITTY

But Mama. We..we made love.

Audible slap.

MOTHER V.O.

You are a filthy whore and you are not to utter another word about this. Do you understand me? Now, I have had about enough of your behavior.

KITTY

Please. Mama. Please don't make me.

MOTHER V.O.

You either do it or that family will lose their livelihood. And it will all be your fault. Is that what you want?

KITTY

No.

MOTHER V.O.

Then you know what you have to do.

Sound of ringing phone.

KITTY

(crying)

Mario? Mario...I can't...see you. No. I can't see you anymore. I...

MOTHER (V.O.)

You tell that boy you don't love him and it's over.

KITTY

I..I don't love you. And... I don't ever want... to see you again.

Sound of phone hanging up.

MOTHER (V.O.)

We are never to speak of this again. Do you hear me?

KITTY

Yes, Mama.

Lights up. Back to present.

ELAINE

Oh, Kitty. I'm so sorry.

RITA

I can't believe your mother made you do that.

VIOLA

I'm sorry for what I said earlier. You were right-- you didn't have a choice.

KITTY

Didn't I?

RITA

No. You didn't. Your parents would have had that family fired. You were protecting them.

KITTY

I betrayed them. I betrayed Mario.

ELAINE

That's not how I see it.

VIOLA

What happened after you made that phone call?

KITTY

My parents took me home. We left Hatteras Island early that year. And I've never been back....until now.

RITA

Did you ever see Mario again?

KITTY

No.

ELAINE

You never called or wrote to him?

KITTY

I was too ashamed.

VIOLA

But it wasn't your fault. If you had explained to him the situation, I'm sure he would have--

KITTY

Forgiven me? How do you ask for someone to forgive you, when you can't even forgive yourself?

ELAINE

You need to forgive yourself, Kitty.

KITTY

I can't.

RITA

But if you never forgive yourself, then you can never move on.

KITTY

I made a promise to myself on that day that I would never give my heart to another boy again. And I didn't. I think it's safe to say that I never did move on.

VIOLA

Well, that stops today. Everybody deserves love. Hell, even me!

KITTY

I had my chance at love.

ELAINE

Life is full of second chances.

RITA

It wasn't your fault.

ELAINE

Rita's right. You need to forgive yourself.

VIOLA

(to Kitty)

Give me your hand?

KITTY

Why?

VIOLA

Just give it to me.

KITTY

No.

VIOLA

You are impossible. Give me your damn hand.

Kitty holds out her hand. Vi holds it.

VIOLA

Everyone stand in a circle and hold hands.

All the girls stand, holding hands.

VIOLA

(shouts)

I forgive you, Kitty!

KITTY

Oh my goodness, will you stop shouting? You're going to get us arrested.

VIOLA

It wouldn't be the first time. Now say it! I forgive you, Kitty!

KITTY

No!

RITA

I forgive you, Kitty!

VIOLA

Good girl, Rita! Let's hear it, girls.

ALL

I forgive you, Kitty!

VIOLA

Come on, Kitty. Before someone calls the cops.

KITTY

(whispers)

I forgive you, Kitty.

VIOLA

We can't hear you!

KITTY

I forgive you, Kitty.

VIOLA

Come on! Shout it out!

KITTY

I forgive you, Kitty!!!

ELAINE

Thatta girl!

VIOLA

Again!

KITTY

I forgive you, Kitty!!!

VIOLA
How does that feel?

(Beat)

KITTY
Like a start.

ELAINE
And you just keep saying it.

KITTY
For how long?

ELAINE
Until you believe it.

(Beat)

VIOLA
Are you okay?

KITTY
I think I'm going to be, yes.

(Beat)

VIOLA
Now, can we please go? I've got sand in places that no woman should have sand.

RITA
I'm starving.

ELAINE
Me too.

VIOLA
Someone take my hand. I can't walk in this damn stuff.

ELAINE
Here, hang on to me.

All leave. Kitty is alone. She rubs the carving on the lifeguard station and kisses it.

KITTY

I forgive you, Kitty.

Kitty exits.

LIGHTS FADE.

TRAVEL SEQUENCE TO NEXT LOCATION - BALL STATE UNIVERSITY.

SCENE FOUR

TOUR STOP #2 - BALL STATE UNIVERSITY. DORM ROOM.

All the ladies enter into a dorm room. The dorm room has a desk and bunkbeds.

RITA

I don't believe it. It looks exactly the same.

ELAINE

It's so small.

RITA

Funny how things seem so much bigger when you're younger. I thought it was huge.

VIOLA

Perfect segue. Top or bottom?

RITA

He was on top.

VIOLA

I actually meant which bunk was yours, but I like where you're going so far.

RITA

Oh. Bottom. My roommate had the top bunk.

KITTY

She was there that night!?

RITA

No! She was away for a wedding. Which is why we planned it for that weekend.

VIOLA

You plan a trip or a birthday party. Not sex!

ELAINE

And did it go as planned?

RITA

Not exactly.

VIOLA

This calls for alcohol. Elaine? Got the goods?

ELAINE

Yep!

Elaine pulls a bottle of wine out of her bag,
unscrews it, and hands it to Viola, who takes a swig.

VIOLA

Okay, let's get down to business, shall we?

KITTY

Wait.

Kitty puts her unlit cigarette in her mouth.

ELAINE

Okay, I think we're ready.

KITTY

What was his name?

RITA

The boy's name isn't important.

VIOLA

That's code for she don't remember.

RITA

Oh, I remember. It's just not important right now.

VIOLA

I'm gonna call him Hank.

RITA

Why Hank?

VIOLA

I like the way it sounds. It rhymes with spank! So was it a one-night stand?

RITA

Of course it wasn't a one night stand! I was a good girl.

VIOLA

Uh huh. Classic lie. Right up there with "the check's in the mail" and "it's just a cold sore."

RITA

He was my boyfriend. We met senior year. We were both virgins.

VIOLA

Two virgins finding each other on this big campus. What are the odds?

KITTY

It was fate.

RITA

Being a virgin, my expectations were...

ELAINE

Low?

RITA

No. High!

VIOLA

That was your first mistake. You over hyped it. Just like you over-hyped La La Land. What a yawner.

RITA

La La Land is the best picture I've ever seen!

KITTY

I agree. I absolutely loved it.

VIOLA

Well, if La La Land is the best picture you've ever seen, then Hank probably couldn't get it up and this virginity story is probably a dud.

ELAINE

Okay, we are getting way off topic. Unless Hank is Ryan Gossling, then let's stop talking about La La Land.

KITTY

Is Hank Ryan Gossling?

RITA

Yes. That's why I couldn't tell you his name. My first time was with Ryan Gossling. People magazine just bought my story.

KITTY

All right. You don't have to get snippy.

ELAINE

Ladies! Rita, whenever you're ready.

RITA

As I was saying, we had the room to ourselves that weekend, and I wanted to, you know, take advantage of the situation.

VIOLA

You're referring to your first time as a situation. That's what they say on those cop shows; "We have a situation." The situation is always something horrific.

RITA

I just wanted the night to be perfect, like in the movies. So I...

VIOLA

Here you go again with the over-hyping. You went into the "situation" with way too high expectations. I'm telling you, her first time was probably a bust.

ELAINE
Let her tell the story, will ya?

RITA
I bought new lace panties for the “occasion.”

VIOLA
Slutty.

ELAINE
Classy.

RITA
Itchy. But more on that later. First, I had to prep myself.

ELAINE
Prep yourself? What do you mean? Like stretching?

RITA
No. I...shaved my...

KITTY
Legs?

Rita shakes her head no.

VIOLA
Your hoo-haw?

Rita nods her head yes.

VIOLA
On opening night!?

RITA
Not the whole thing! Just a respectable trim.

ELAINE
You wanted to look presentable.

RITA
Well, I didn't.

ELAINE

Why not? What happened?

RITA

After shaving, I sprayed Sweet Honesty on...it...her...down there.

KITTY

Sweet Jesus, why?

VIOLA

Let me get this straight. You shave your nether regions on the most important night of your life and then you spray cheap Avon perfume down there? It's like an innocent person getting maced.

RITA

And it stung.

ELAINE

I bet.

RITA

Not only did I have horrible razor burn, but it itched like hell. By the time "Hank" showed up, my...

VIOLA

Cooter.

RITA

Was bumpy and bright red.

KITTY

Are you sure it wasn't just blushing?

RITA

I wish! And my new lace panties felt like sandpaper! I'm pouring wine with one hand and discretely trying to itch my bits with the other.

VIOLA

Not as easy as it sounds, I'm sure.

ELAINE

Well, you've always been a multi-tasker.

RITA

Meanwhile, he's breaking into a sweat because apparently, opening a condom packet is more difficult than completing the New York Times crossword puzzle.

VIOLA

Who knew? Of course, I've never attempted either.

RITA

In the meantime, my fine china is flaring up like a pack of hemorrhoids, and Hank thinks I'm playing with myself because I'm horny. At this point, the condom packet is in his mouth, and he's yanking at it with his teeth. He pulls on it so hard, he elbows me in the shoulder, sending me across the room. He eventually gets the packet open, rolls that baby on, and throws me down on the bed, just like in the movies.

KITTY

(puffing on cigarette)

If I could light this, I would.

VIOLA

Is he talking dirty? Hanks always talk dirty.

RITA

Not exactly. He says, "Do you smell smoke?" I assume he's talking about my flaming crotch, which I have since nicknamed Hot Tamale.

ELAINE

Why does he smell smoke?

RITA

Because my carpet is on fire?

VIOLA

We get it. Your lady business is burning up.

RITA

No. Literally, my carpet is on fire! Apparently, I knocked over the candle I had lit for ambiance when he elbowed me, while opening the condom packet.

ELAINE

Oh no!

RITA

Then the smoke alarm in the dormitory goes off.

KITTY

Oh my! This story is taking a turn.

VIOLA

You think?

RITA

I panic, push him off and me and my Red Hot Chilly Pepper hit the floor. He flies off my bunk and hurdles me like Bruce Jenner...

VIOLA

You mean, Caitlyn.

RITA

She'll always be Bruce to me. So, he runs over to the fire and starts jumping up and down, trying to put it out, which is kind of hard to do with his pants around his ankles. He's jumping on the fire, but it's getting bigger!

VIOLA

His unit is getting bigger!?

RITA

No! The fire is getting bigger!

KITTY

Bigger? Why?

RITA

Because now his pants have also caught fire.

VIOLA

Holy shit!

RITA

So, me and my spicy tuna roll hightail it out into the hall and break open the fire extinguisher box.

KITTY

Oooh, I've always wanted to do that.

RITA

I run back into my dorm room where I find “Hank” rolling around on the floor, trying to put himself out.

ELAINE

Stop, drop and roll. That’s what Dick Van Dyke always said to do.

RITA

I pull the little trigger thing on the fire extinguisher and spray at the fire and my red hot lover.

VIOLA

You should have turned it around and sprayed it on your “situation,” while you were at it.

RITA

Now comes an announcement over the PA system to evacuate the building. But we don’t feel the need to go anywhere, because we know why the fire alarm went off and the fire and “Hank” are now both out. And because we are determined to make this night “the night,” we start going at it again, all the while the ringing of fire alarm bells are going off.

ELAINE

Your determination is impressive.

KITTY

It’s kind of romantic, having alarms going off.

VIOLA

Do you know how loud those alarms are? The only thing banging in that room are their ear drums!

ELAINE

Go on!

RITA

So now, he’s half naked on top of me, with third degree burns and fire extinguisher foam all over him. He starts trying to get my pants off, but I’m wearing my skin-tight Levi’s, which have, and I’m not exaggerating, fourteen buttons that run from my fire crotch up to my belly button.

VIOLA

And he thought the condom packet was a bitch.

RITA

But he flies through the buttons with ease. So, I'm thinking, this is going to be amazing!

VIOLA

Once again, over-hyping. You're setting yourself up for disappointment.

KITTY

(puffing away)

So far, there is nothing disappointing about your story, Rita.

RITA

At this point, we lose power.

KITTY

Well, I don't blame you. You must have been exhausted from all of the running and jumping.

RITA

No, I mean electricity. It's now pitch black, and the one candle I had, has been smashed to a million pieces. But the darkness is actually convenient, because now I can itch Hot Lips Houlihan in private.

VIOLA

Fire in the hole!

RITA

He starts pulling down my lace panties, and I'm screaming because they're getting snagged on my inflamed razor bumps. But he thinks I'm screaming in pleasure. So, he starts to grind up and down on me, making a sound that I can only describe as, primal.

KITTY

Oh my.

RITA

Now, I can't see his face, but from the sound of it, he is having the best time of his life. But there's only one problem?

VIOLA

What?

RITA

(Beat)

He missed.

ELAINE

What do you mean, he missed?

RITA

Just what I said. He missed.

VIOLA

Are you sure? Maybe "Hank" has a few shortcomings. And by a few, I mean one.

RITA

Oh, I'm sure.

KITTY

How do you miss?

RITA

Between the dark, the smoke alarm, the panic, and my razor bumps...my panties never fully came down, and somehow he got his...you know what...wrapped up into them, like a sling, and he thinks he's...you know...in me.

VIOLA

So his Hank junior is swaddled like a baby in your lace panties, and you're, what? Just laying there?

RITA

Pretty much.

VIOLA

Hank, party for one!

RITA

At this point, I'm going back and forth in my head about whether or not I should tell him. And before I come to a conclusion... he comes to his.

VIOLA

Check, please!

ELAINE

So, you didn't lose your virginity that night?

RITA

Well, one of us did, but it sure wasn't me. And, I've never had the heart to tell him.

ELAINE

Where would you even start?

VIOLA

"Hey Hank, did you have fun tonight? Good. That makes one of us."

RITA

Poor thing. We still count that night as our first time.

KITTY

Wait. You still talk to him?

RITA

Talk to him? I married him.

ELAINE

You were married before Dean?

RITA

Nope.

VIOLA

Did I miss something?

ELAINE

Wait. Hank is Dean?

RITA

And to this day, he still doesn't know. So, you guys have to swear this stays between us!

VIOLA

Okay, ladies, pinkies in.

All the ladies stand in a circle and connect pinkies.

VIOLA

We swear that Dean will never find out that he lost his virginity to a pair of Avon smelling, lace panties. All say pinky swear!

We pinky swear!

ALL

We still don't know.

KITTY

What do you mean? That's everything.

RITA

No. We still don't know when you lost your virginity?

KITTY

After that night, I made a decision.

RITA

To never shave your hoo-haw again!?

VIOLA

Yes, that too! But more importantly... to wait. I lost my virginity on our wedding night.

RITA

Awww, I love that story better, anyway.

ELAINE

And on that night, everything went perfect. I was in La La Land.

RITA

LIGHTS FADE.

INTERMISSION

ACT TWO

SCENE ONE

THIRD TOUR STOP. GRANDMAS BEDROOM, NEW JERSEY.

ELAINE

It's like we stepped back in time.

VIOLA

My cousin owns the house now and she hasn't changed a thing. Grandma lives on!

KITTY

I can't believe you did it at a family reunion, in your grandmother's bedroom! Who does that?

RITA

Viola McGee, that's who.

VIOLA

At least I didn't do it in public. God only knows who saw you two playing Beach Blanket Bingo.

RITA

I don't know how a girl goes from a family reunion to losing her virginity, but I can't wait to hear it. This calls for some reserves.

Pulls out bottle of wine.

VIOLA

You got anything stronger in there?

RITA

Yeah. Why?

VIOLA

You're gonna need it.

KITTY

Oh boy.

ELAINE

This oughtta be good.

RITA

I agree. Whenever you're ready.

VIOLA

First of all, I didn't know I would be losing my virginity that day. We were here to celebrate my grandma's birthday. It was just family and a few of my grandma's friends. But then my cousin walked in--

KITTY

You lost your virginity to your cousin!? Is that even legal?

ELAINE

Maybe he was her third cousin?

RITA

Or cousin by marriage. Was he?

KITTY

Does it matter!? It's still her relation. Call me old fashioned, but one should never have relations with their relations.

VIOLA

Do I look like someone who would have sex with a family member!?

All silent.

VIOLA

Wow! Your silence says it all. If you had let me finish, you would have heard me say that my cousin walked in with his friend!

KITTY

Oh thank god!

RITA

Sorry, Vi. And for the record, I never actually believed you would have sex with a relative. Well, not a blood relative, anyway.

VIOLA

Thank you.

ELAINE

So, it was your cousin's friend?

VIOLA

Yeah. His name was Randy. He wore leather and had jet-black hair. It was eighty degrees outside and he wore leather. I should have known he was trouble.

RITA

Bad boy, huh?

VIOLA

Of course. I've always had a thing for the bad boys. I had never thought much about the word "swoon" until the first time I laid eyes on him. It may have been my Grandma's birthday, but it felt like the Fourth of July to me.

KITTY

Fireworks!

VIOLA

Yep. He walked in and we locked eyes. I never even saw Grandma blow out her candles.

RITA

Okay, okay. Slow down. So, Randy walks in and then what?

VIOLA

So my cousin does a quick hello to everyone and introduces Randy. Said he was his college roommate and brought him up for the weekend.

ELAINE

College? How old was he?

VIOLA

Twenty-two. No sooner did he say hello to everyone, he walked right over to me. I could barely look him in the eyes, he had my head spinning. But then my bratty little cousins started teasing us. They could tell I liked him and they were embarrassing me. So, I invited him upstairs... just so we could talk.

RITA

Sure. To talk.

The girls all giggle.

VIOLA

That was it, I swear!

RITA

You may wanna get that cigarette out, Kitty. I've got a feeling we are gonna hear about all of this "talking."

VIOLA

He was nice and I felt special.

ELAINE

If you're going to lose your virginity to a boy, he should make you feel special.

RITA

Was he a good kisser? Bad boys were always good kissers.

VIOLA

I don't know.

RITA

What do you mean you don't know?

VIOLA

We never kissed.

KITTY

How do you make love to someone and not kiss.

VIOLA

I wouldn't exactly call what we did "making love."

KITTY

Well, I was trying to class it up. Okay, sex. Is that what you mean?

VIOLA

Not exactly.

ELAINE

I'm getting confused. So you two came up here...to talk?

VIOLA

Yeah. And we did...at first. He made me laugh and told me I was cool. It was exciting and I felt safe.

ELAINE
Why wouldn't you?

VIOLA
We were flirting, but I wasn't prepared for... what came next.

RITA
What came next?

VIOLA
He put his arm around me. And, I liked it at first. But, then he started rubbing my leg, and I felt...

KITTY
Nervous?

VIOLA
No. Scared.

ELAINE
Why?

VIOLA
It all happened so fast. One minute we were talking about school, and then he...he changed.

KITTY
How did he change?

VIOLA
My stupid cousins! That's the only reason why we came up here. I only brought him up here so we could talk without them teasing us.

ELAINE
We believe you.

VIOLA
It was my idea to come up here.

KITTY
I don't understand. What happened?

ELAINE
I don't think Randy wanted to just talk.

RITA

Why am I getting the feeling that this isn't a good story?

KITTY

But you said he liked you.

VIOLA

I thought he did.

KITTY

You said he was nice and made you feel special?

RITA

(shaking her head)

Kitty.

VIOLA

He started calling me "baby." He rubbed my leg...hard. I told him we weren't allowed in here and that we should get back downstairs. I started to get up, but he grabbed me by my arm. He kept telling me that I wanted it.

KITTY

But you didn't. You just came up here to get away from your cousins.

VIOLA

I want you to know that I was a good girl. I didn't run around like that. I didn't. I was good.

ELAINE

We know.

VIOLA

I know I always talk about all the men I date in the park. But I just like the attention. I don't let them... I know I brag..but I'm not--

RITA

We know, Viola. We know you.

VIOLA

No, you don't. You know the Viola I turned into. The Viola with the hard shell that I would continue to wear throughout my life, like armor. I lost more than my innocence that day. I lost myself. (Beat) And it was my fault.

RITA

Look, I don't need to know all of the details about what happened that day, but it was not your fault.

VIOLA

He was right. I was the one who brought him up here. What else is he going to think? (Beat) He held me down. I begged him to stop. But he didn't.

RITA

Bastard!

VIOLA

I didn't scream. I didn't fight. Maybe he was right.

ELAINE

No! Don't you dare blame yourself!

VIOLA

Why? Why didn't I do something!? I just laid there crying, allowing him to violate me. Tears running down my face.(Beat) And, I've never cried since.

KITTY

You haven't cried since that day?

VIOLA

No.

KITTY

But it wasn't your fault. You were a victim.

ELAINE

You know that, right?

RITA

Nothing you did or said justified what happened to you. Viola, this was not your fault.

VIOLA

I know.

ELAINE

Do you? Really?

RITA

Then say it.

Viola shakes her head.

RITA

Say it now. Say it for you.

KITTY

Please say it, Viola.

VIOLA

It's not my fault.

RITA

Again.

VIOLA

It's not my fault. I didn't lose my virginity that day. I was raped! (Beat) Oh, god.

KITTY

What?

VIOLA

That's the first time I've ever said it out loud.

Viola starts to cry.

KITTY

Viola...you're crying.

VIOLA

No, I'm not! I'm sweating. My grandma's house has always been too damn hot.

RITA

You don't always have to be so tough, you know.

ELAINE

Why did you want us to take this trip knowing you would have to relive that horrible day?

VIOLA

Because, it isn't about that day. For me, it's every single day. It never goes away.

RITA

But, now it can.

VIOLA

No, it can't, actually.

ELAINE

You can choose to let it go. Here, now, today.

KITTY

Elaine's right. Just like I needed to forgive myself and move on. You need to forgive yourself and move on, too. Starting right now, that incident never happened. It's dead.

VIOLA

Life can't come from something that's dead.

ELAINE

Life?

VIOLA

I got pregnant.

KITTY

Oh no. What did you do?

VIOLA

I had no choice. I had to tell my mom.

ELAINE

Did you tell her everything?

VIOLA

I did. Right when you think you know your mother, she up and does something that shocks the shit out of you.

RITA

What did she do?

VIOLA

She hugged me. Apologized. And told me I was the bravest girl she knew.

ELAINE

Why did that shock you? What did you think she was going to do?

VIOLA

She's Italian Catholic. I thought she was going to kill me, of course!

RITA

So, what happened...with the pregnancy?

VIOLA

I gave birth to a baby girl. I named her Lori. And for fifteen beautiful minutes, I held her in my arms.

KITTY

Why only fifteen minutes?

VIOLA

Because, after that, I did the hardest thing I've ever done in my entire life. I handed her over to her parents.

ELAINE

You gave her up for adoption?

VIOLA

I didn't have the means to raise a baby.

ELAINE

Giving the gift of life is a selfless act. Your mother was right, you were brave.

VIOLA

They were an older couple who'd tried for years to have a baby of their own. When I put her into their arms...it felt right

KITTY

Viola, you have a daughter.

VIOLA

I do.

RITA

Do you know where she is?

VIOLA

They were from Maryland, but that's all I know.

ELAINE

Have you ever tried to find her?

VIOLA

No.

KITTY

Do you want to?

VIOLA

I honestly don't know.

RITA

We can help you. When we get home, we can help you look for her, if you want.

VIOLA

What if she doesn't know about me? Or worse yet, what if she does and doesn't want to meet me?

ELAINE

We won't know unless we try.

KITTY

Come on. Whattya say?

VIOLA

I'm not sure if I'm ready to open that door to my past.

RITA

Honey, you brought us here for a reason.

VIOLA

Yes. To share my story.

ELAINE

I don't believe that and neither do you. That sweet baby girl is the reason why we're all sitting in this bedroom right now. This wasn't about your first time. Or about Randy. It's about Lori.

RITA

Remember, there are no accidents...there is only some purpose that we haven't yet understood.

VIOLA

That Dr. Phil's a smart man.

RITA

This road trip isn't about revisiting our pasts. It's about discovering our futures.

KITTY

Thank you for sharing your story with us. Whatever happened in this room, made you who you are today. And I personally, wouldn't change a single thing about you, Viola McGee. Except for your driving.

VIOLA

I wouldn't have shared it with any one else. I love you girls.

ELAINE

I think we just saw a glimpse of the old Viola.

VIOLA

Yeah, well, don't get used to it. This damn tour has softened me up! I'm still a hard ass, and don't you forget it!

RITA

Turn around.

VIOLA

Why?

RITA

Just do it.

Viola turns around and Rita squeezes her ass.

RITA

Yep. It's hard, all right.

VIOLA

I told you.

Kitty motions to the girls.

KITTY

Okay girls. Here's to Vi. I've got a feeling your story is just beginning.

RITA

You know why you brought us here, right?

Viola nods.

KITTY

What do you wanna do?

VIOLA

I wanna find my daughter.

Elaine is now crying.

RITA

Elaine?

KITTY

Why are you crying, honey?

ELAINE

Because I'm next. And I don't think I'm ready.

VIOLA

You are. You can do it.

ELAINE

I'm not as brave as all of you.

Rita holds out her hand and Elaine takes it.

RITA

Don't worry, Elaine. We'll help you. It's what we do.

LIGHTS FADE.

SCENE TWO - TOUR STOP #4 - FAMILY CABIN, FRONT PORCH, COLORADO.

The ladies are hiking on a wooded trail before arriving to a cabin.

KITTY

My goodness. I feel like there's an elephant on my chest.

RITA

We've only been walking for three minutes!

VIOLA

So much for taking aerobics every week. My hard ass is out of shape.

ELAINE

It's the elevation. The air is thinner up here.

VIOLA

Oh good. So I'm not out of shape. It's the thin air.

RITA

I love it. Fresh air. The smell of pine. Being one with the earth.

VIOLA

If getting my brand new shoes dirty is being one with the earth, you can have it.

KITTY

What's that sound?

ELAINE

Nature.

VIOLA

What do you mean, nature?

ELAINE

I mean, nature.

KITTY

(swatting away mosquitoes)

I don't trust nature. I don't like hiking. I'm a mall walker.

Ladies come up upon a porch.

ELAINE

This is it! Bear Pine Cabin. Our family cabin.

RITA

I didn't realize your family still owned it.

ELAINE

They don't. Not for years.

KITTY

Wait! We can't go inside?

VIOLA

Did you not get the memo? Her family doesn't own it anymore.

Kitty knocks on door.

KITTY

Hello!

ELAINE

What on earth are you doing?

KITTY

(swatting at bugs)

Seeing if we get inside. Hello! Anyone here?!

VIOLA

What's the matter with you? Even if someone were here, what makes you think they would want the Apple Dumpling Gang inside with them?

KITTY

This porch isn't screened in! I'm gonna get eaten alive.

ELAINE

The mosquitoes can get really bad up here. They never really did like me.

RITA

They must not like me, either. I'm fine.

KITTY

Why am I the only one getting attacked?

VIOLA

Because, you practically douse yourself in Southern Rose body spray. What did you expect? The bugs have hit the jackpot!

KITTY

Excuse me for wanting to smell like a lady.

VIOLA

You don't smell like a lady. You smell like a damn Rose Parade float. And obviously, the bugs agree.

RITA

(pulls out whiskey)

Here, take a few swigs of this. We'll get those little bloodsuckers drunk!

VIOLA

What about us bloodsuckers? It's our last tour stop! Pass it around.

KITTY

(takes swig from bottle)

Well, it can't hurt. So, why is it called Bear Pine?

ELAINE

Let's just say, the bugs are the least of your worries?

KITTY

Are there bears!? I did not risk my life being in a car with Viola for the last three weeks only to die in a bear attack.

VIOLA

(takes a swig of whiskey)

Don't worry, Kitty, I'll make sure your tombstone reads, "Here lies Kitty Warmerdam...She went out smelling like a rose."

KITTY

Can't you just tell us your story in the car? We can't get inside the cabin anyway.

VIOLA

We trekked through miles of sand for you. I think you can withstand a few bug bites for Elaine!

Kitty pulls out her cigarette, puts it in her mouth and takes a seat.

KITTY

(slapping her skin/bugs)

Fine!

RITA

Okay, gather around, girls. Elaine, this cabin is a blank canvas. Take us back. Paint us a picture of that weekend.

ELAINE

Actually, I can do better than that.

VIOLA

A reenactment!?! Great idea. I'll play your love interest.

ELAINE

No, not a reenactment.

Elaine walks over to a large rock and tries to move it.

VIOLA

I played a court jester in the fifth grade.

KITTY

You still play one, Vi.

RITA

What are you doing?

ELAINE

Here, help me lift up this rock.

VIOLA

Why?

ELAINE

You'll see.

The ladies lift the rock. Elaine looks under it and swipes away dirt.

ELAINE

It's not here!

VIOLA

What?

Elaine starts digging in the dirt.

KITTY

What are you looking for?

RITA

Whatever it is, can you hurry? This rock is heavy.

ELAINE

You can put it down.

All the ladies let go of rock.

VIOLA

What were you looking for?

ELAINE

Our time capsule. We buried it under this rock. But it's not here.

VIOLA

Who would have taken it?

ELAINE

(emotional)

I don't know.

RITA

Honey, can you imagine all of the weather and snow this cabin has seen over the years? The rocks and landscape have probably moved or changed. I'm sure it's here somewhere. We can keep looking.

ELAINE

No. It's okay.

VIOLA

What was inside the time capsule?

ELAINE

Mementos from that weekend. We had always planned on coming back here someday to dig it up.

VIOLA

Sometimes digging up the past isn't all it's cracked up to be.

KITTY

This coming from the lady who organized a "Let's all go digging up our pasts" Tour!

VIOLA

Seemed like a good idea at the time.

RITA

It was a good idea! We all needed this trip. It's good for the soul to re-examine one's life and purge all the toxins within. It frees you and allows you to live your purpose-driven life.

VIOLA

Rita! Is this thin air getting to you? You're starting to sound like Oprah!

KITTY

I wanna purge toxins from my life!

VIOLA

And, don't think for a second I don't know you're talking about me, Kitty!

RITA

Viola, it's not always about you.

VIOLA

Yes, it is, Rita.

KITTY

Actually, it's about Elaine. It's her turn to share her story with us.

RITA

Are you ready?

ELAINE

Yes. But, I'm afraid my story may not be as exciting as all of yours.

RITA

We've had class warfare, carpet and crotch fires, and one unplanned pregnancy. I hope, for your sake, your story isn't as exciting as ours.

KITTY

I'm sure your story is beautiful, Elaine.

RITA

You mentioned that he was your first love?

ELAINE

Yes. In every way.

VIOLA

What was his name?

ELAINE

Carl. Carl Lane. I planned to marry him.

VIOLA

Well, thank god you didn't!

RITA

Viola!

VIOLA

Her name would have been Elaine Lane. That just ain't right.

KITTY

I kind of like it. Sounds like a character in a mystery novel.

ELAINE

We would actually joke about that. I loved the idea of being Elaine Lane. But I think I mostly loved the idea of being Mrs. Carl Lane.

RITA

Why didn't you two get married? That's the story I wanna hear.

VIOLA

Hey, hey, hey. We aren't skipping over the good stuff. Some of us are risking life and limb to hear this story.

RITA

Life and limb?

Kitty is slapping away insects in a fury.

VIOLA

That's right! I can hardly breath at this elevation and between the bugs and the bears, Kitty will probably leave here in a body bag. Hell, even you may be leaving in a body bag.

RITA

Why me?

VIOLA

Because, if she skips over the virginity part, I'll kill you. So, if you want to live your "purpose-driven life," I suggest you don't encourage her to skip over the good stuff!

ELAINE

Don't worry, Vi, I won't.

VIOLA

And take your time.

KITTY

Take her time? These bugs are the size of house cats!

VIOLA

You're the only one getting bit. Take one for the team.

KITTY

That's because I'm sweet. Clearly, these bugs don't care for the taste of bitter and smart ass.

RITA

Are you two through? Elaine.

ELAINE

Oh gosh, let me think.

KITTY

Is it hard for you to remember?

ELAINE

No. Not at all. The memories are just tucked away. But they're always there. It's just that I feel guilty.

VIOLA

Why?

RITA

What's there to feel guilty about?

ELAINE

Because I was happily married to Warren. And I'll always miss him.

RITA

Of course you will.

ELAINE

My heart belonged to Warren. (Beat) But it ached for Carl.

KITTY

Oh my. I just went weak in the knees.

ELAINE

Carl always made me weak in the knees. He was handsome, smart, funny...and all mine. There was never a doubt in anyone's mind that we would marry. And even though that never happened, I don't regret losing my virginity to him. We were out of our minds with excitement as we drove here that weekend, knowing our plans.

VIOLA

Ha cha cha. Here comes the good part.

KITTY

Were you scared?

ELAINE

I wasn't scared. I wasn't nervous. I was in love.

VIOLA

That's the way it should be.

RITA

Yep.

ELAINE

Carl thought of everything. Candles, blankets, music...

Elaine pauses.

VIOLA

And? What happened once you guys got here? Details! We want details!

ELAINE

We came rushing in. Funny how much of a hurry we were in, and yet...

ALL

What?

ELAINE

He took his time. He slowly peeled away my clothing. And, just like that, he turned a shy young girl into a confident woman with every layer.

KITTY

(puffing away)

Sweet Jesus.

ELAINE

He was patient and gentle. We spent the whole weekend in each other's arms. Making love and planning our future together.

RITA

So, pretty much like my first time.

VIOLA

Your first time was a circus.

ELAINE

All of our stories were instrumental in their own way. And, ultimately changed our lives forever.

RITA

It's actually an interesting study... the loss of our innocence and how each experience affected our future love lives..

KITTY

Or lack thereof..

RITA

I wonder if girls even think about the long-term effects when they decide to give theirs away.

KITTY

I never would have done it with a boy who didn't love me. I thought I was going to spend the rest of my life with Mario. I've since dated several men. But the second I felt myself falling...my walls would go up.

VIOLA

I was cheated out of my first experience. And as a result I've had four failed marriages. I wish I had a story like Elaine's. Hell, I'd even take your shit show, Rita.

RITA

No regrets. Each story shaped us. But we shouldn't allow them to define us. And some stories are still being written.

ELAINE

Not all stories turn out the way you expect.

KITTY

What happened? With Carl?

ELAINE

Soon after that weekend, his father had a massive stroke.

RITA

That's awful.

ELAINE

His mother had no choice but to move to California to be closer to family. Carl begged to stay behind, but his mother needed him. In a single week, Carl became a man in more ways than one. Shortly after our weekend together here at the cabin, Carl and I said goodbye.

KITTY

But, didn't you two try to stay together?

ELAINE

Of course. We exchanged hundreds of letters. Professing our love to one another. He promised to return for me. But after a year or so, his letters stopped.

VIOLA

He stopped writing?

Elaine nods her head.

RITA

And he never came back for you?

ELAINE

No.

KITTY

Why not?

ELAINE

I don't know.

VIOLA

Rat bastard!

KITTY

Whatever happened to him?

Elaine shakes her head.

RITA

I wonder if he's still in California?

VIOLA

Or married?

ELAINE

Some memories are best to remain just that...memories.

KITTY

Don't you ever wonder what your life would have been like if his dad never had that stroke?

ELAINE

Of course. But I have no regrets. I was lucky.

KITTY

Lucky?

ELAINE

Some people don't get to experience one great love, let alone two. And, that's it. That's my story.

VIOLA

No. That's not it. We need to find your time capsule. Who's with me?

RITA

Yes!

ELAINE

There's no use. It's not here.

KITTY

It's worth a try. Let's keep looking.

The ladies start to pick up rocks, dig in dirt, etc.

VIOLA

There's a chance you don't remember which rock you buried it under.

RITA

I agree. All these rocks look alike.

ELAINE

Of course I remember. It was the first big rock to the right of the cabin.

RITA

Which right? Looking out from the cabin or looking towards the cabin?

ELAINE

Looking...out. Yes, looking out from the cabin!

KITTY

We looked under the wrong rock!

VIOLA

Then it must be this one. Rita, help me.

Rita starts to help.

RITA

It won't budge. Come on girls.

All four girls help.

VIOLA

On the count of three. One. Two. Three!!

Rocks moves a little.

RITA

One more time.

VIOLA

Put your weight into it.

KITTY

Viola! Now is not the time to take a crack at me!

ELAINE

We're going to throw a hip out trying to move this thing. It's not worth it.

RITA

I'll throw my hip out for you any time, Elaine.

VIOLA

On the count of three. All together! One. Two. Three!!

The rock rolls. All the girls start digging in the dirt.

ELAINE

(emotional)

This is it. This is our time capsule.

Beat.

VIOLA

We did it! There's nothing we can't do, if we all do it together.

RITA

Do you wanna open it?

ELAINE

Yes, I think I do.

VIOLA

We'll let you be alone.

The girls start to leave.

ELAINE

With you.

KITTY

What?

ELAINE

If I can't open it with Carl, then I wanna open it with my best friends.

VIOLA

Oh thank god! Because, I am dying to see what's inside!

RITA

Me too!

Ladies all gather around as Elaine takes out each item one by one.

ELAINE pulls out a Bazooka Bubble Gum wrapper.

KITTY

Bazooka! I haven't seen Bazooka bubble gum in ages.

ELAINE

Carl spent hours that weekend trying to teach me how to blow a bubble.

VIOLA

Are you sure he wasn't trying to teach you how to...

RITA

Don't say it, Vi!

Elaine pulls out a long ribbon.

VIOLA

(grabs ribbon)

Elaine! I didn't take you for the type.

ELAINE

What type?

VIOLA

To be tied up. But I like it.

ELAINE

This was my hair ribbon!

RITA

Really, Viola! We're talking about Elaine.

Elaine pulls out a torn photo.

ELAINE

Oh my.

RITA

(takes photo)

Is that him? Carl?

ELAINE

Yes.

KITTY

He's handsome.

VIOLA

Why is it ripped? Don't tell me his old girlfriend was in the picture!

ELAINE

No. He always kept a photo of us in his wallet. We had put it in the time capsule, but at the last minute, Carl ripped it in half. He said he couldn't bare to not have a picture of me with him every single day.

KITTY

How romantic.

Elaine pulls out an old 45 record.

ELAINE

Oh my goodness, I had forgotten we put this in here.

KITTY

(takes record)

Elvis. Can't Help Falling in Love.

ELAINE

It was our song. Carl would sing it for me. He was awful.

RITA

I love Elvis.

Viola starts singing.

VIOLA

"Wise men say ...

Rita joins her.

RITA

"Only fools rush in...

Kitty joins in. All three sing.

KITTY

"But I can't help, falling in love with you."

Elaine has since pulled an envelope from the time capsule. She is silent and emotional.

VIOLA

What? Were we as awful as Carl?

KITTY

Elaine? Are you all right?

ELAINE

This envelope...

What is it?

RITA

I don't know.

ELAINE

What do you mean you don't know?

KITTY

This wasn't in the time capsule when we buried it that day.

ELAINE

How is that possible?

VIOLA

Elaine opens the envelope and pulls out a piece of paper. She silently starts to read it and drops it.

Elaine?

KITTY

Viola picks up the paper.

What's it say?

RITA

Is it okay, to read it?

VIOLA

Elaine nods her head.

VIOLA
(reading aloud)

"Elaine. If you are reading this, you have returned to Bear Pine. I need to explain why I never returned for you. I hope you can find it in your heart to give me that opportunity. I had to do what I felt was best for you. You were and remain the love of my life. I will be waiting...for however long it takes. Love always, Carl."

He still loves you.

KITTY

VIOLA

(hands it to Elaine)

And, his address and phone number are on it, too.

RITA

Is it too late?

ELAINE

Yes.

VIOLA

But...you said your heart still aches for Carl.

ELAINE

It does. But, he can't just resurface and put all the pieces back together again.

RITA

Why not?

ELAINE

Because my life doesn't work that way. When he left, he took a piece of my heart with him and he never came back. And my heart was never whole again.

KITTY

It sounds like he had his reasons.

ELAINE

I needed to hear those reasons then, not now.

RITA

Look Elaine, I don't know Carl, but I do know you. And you have the biggest heart of anyone I know. Give him a chance to explain.

KITTY

Just call him. Or at the very least write, so he isn't left--

ELAINE

Waiting? Like this picture, our relationship is torn. You can't just magically put it back together again.

While Viola is holding the envelope, a picture falls out. It's the other half of the photo.

VIOLA
(picks up photo)

Are you sure about that?

Viola connects the picture to Elaine's.

KITTY
(gasps)

Magic.

RITA
Sometimes, when your past is staring you right in the face, you've gotta open your heart to see it.

VIOLA
It looks like the pieces are coming together. Do you see it?

Elaine nods.

RITA
What do you wanna do?

ELAINE
I live in Happy Trails now. I have all of you. I'm finally happy. It took years to get here, after Warren's passing.

VIOLA
Did anyone else notice that she didn't exactly answer the question? Listen up, and this goes for all of us. When we hopped into my car three weeks ago, we started on a journey. And this journey isn't over, not even close. This wasn't just a fun little roadtrip. This trip marks the beginning of the rest of our lives. We have a chance to write our own ending to our stories. Now we can either go back to Happy Trails; wash, rinse and repeat, or we can return better and stronger versions of ourselves. A bit more of a challenge for me, because I was already amazing, but you know what I mean.

RITA
And, there she is!

VIOLA
Elaine, if you don't reach out to Carl you'll regret it. You've already had to say goodbye to him once. Don't do it again. And Miss Kitty, while we're on the subject. You also had your reasons for ending it with Mario.

So if you're asking Elaine to forgive Carl, you need to do the same for yourself. Open up your own time capsule and start to pull out your memories. Maybe, just maybe, the pieces will fall into place for you, too. No more walls. And Rita, I think your story may be the most important one out of all of ours. You waited. By default, but still; you made the decision to wait for your wedding night. And you and Dean are still happily married. That says something. Had I been lucky enough to raise my daughter, I can only hope she would have done the same. (Beat) This thin air must be getting to me. I'm turning into a big ball of sappy shit.

ELAINE

(to Viola)

You would have made a wonderful mother.

KITTY

Who knows, you may still get the chance.

VIOLA

I'm okay either way. Because now, I'm free.

KITTY

I thought you were cheap?

Kitty laughs at her attempted joke. Viola, proudly
"tips" her hat to Kitty.

ELAINE

Viola's right. No more wasting a single day with regrets. Life's too short.

RITA

You know what? I think when I get home, I'll take Dean to La La Land!

VIOLA

Don't drag him to that snooze fest.

RITA

I'm not talking about the movie.

VIOLA

Ha Cha Cha!

KITTY

I love you girls.

VIOLA
To us!

ALL
To us!

VIOLA
Here's to taking off the armor.

RITA
To unpacking old memories.

ELAINE
And to making new ones.

KITTY
Here's to tearing down walls.

VIOLA
Here's to born again virgins!

Ladies all hold hands, raise them.

VIOLA
(Slaps her arm)
I just got bit.

ELAINE
Uh oh, we better get going.

KITTY
Seriously!?! She gets one single bite and now we better get going!?

All start to gather things.

VIOLA
Who wants to stop in Vegas on the way home?

RITA
You really haven't ever looked at a U.S. Map before, have you? Vegas is not on our way home.

VIOLA

I wanna see that new Magic Mike show. I saw them on Ellen.

KITTY

Those men are practically naked in that show!

VIOLA

Exactly! Who's with me?

RITA

I'm in. It's baseball season. Dean won't even notice I'm still gone.

ELAINE

I don't suppose since we're gonna be close, we could go to California, too?

RITA

California?

Elaine is holding Carl's note and the time capsule.

VIOLA

Absolutely.

KITTY

I've got bites all over me and my bunions now have a heartbeat. What's a few more days, at this point.

RITA

Thatta girl.

VIOLA

The Lost Virginity tour continues! Let's go!

All start to exit.

RITA

Woo hoo! Wait! I've gotta go pee.

VIOLA

You're killing the moment here, Rita!

ELAINE

You'll have to hold it. There aren't any restrooms out here.

VIOLA

This whole place is a restroom. Have a squat.

RITA

I can't squat to pee. I'll never be able get up!

ELAINE

Don't worry, Rita. We'll help you. (Beat) It's what we do, remember?

LIGHTS FADE.

THE END.