

Oh Doctor! I'm Pregnant!

by
Kris Thompson

Kris Thompson
1710 S. Main St.
Georgetown, TX 78626
281.253.3488
kriskt@outlook.com

Cast of Characters

- DR. WAYNE WRIGHT: OB/GYN Physician, early 40s, wildly attractive, devastatingly charming, confirmed bachelor until heavily pursued and married Penny Wright 6 months ago. He loves Penny but struggles with attention he receives from nearly all women, and some men.
- PENNY WRIGHT: Doctor, infectious disease specialist, mid 30s, attractive, loyal, sweet but not a pushover. Was determined to be married to her work but finally gave in to Dr. Wright's marriage proposal passing up an opportunity to join Doctors Without Borders.
- HAILEY BRADSTONE: Air-head 22-year-old promiscuous receptionist
- LAVINIA BLANKENSHIP: Rich, hot to trot, newly divorced, rich, late 40s, long time GYN patient of Dr. Wright. Has had previous fling with Dr. Wright.
- GERTRUDE FORD: Sarcastic, efficient, no-nonsense, late 40s, replacement receptionist. Very visually old maid type, dowdy, little or no makeup, hair in an unadorned bun, ugly glasses, dresses not-to-impress in loose clothes, nurse shoes etc...Until last scene in which she's dressed more attractively.
- PHILLIP S. MORTIN: Attractive, gay, mid 30s, pharmaceutical company sales rep who makes more visits to Dr. Wright's office than needed because, like everyone else, he has a big 'ole crush on Dr. Wright.

Place

Dr. Wright's OB/GYN Clinic waiting room. Chairs and side tables as in a doctor's waiting room. Lots of maternity, motherhood, and other magazines. Holders on the walls with pamphlets about prenatal care etc...There is a reception window with the classic sliding glass on counter that is high enough that you can only see the receptionist's shoulders and up. On the counter is a cup with pens and a clipboard that has a sign in sheet. There is a front door (front door), a door leading to the reception/conference room/doctor's office area (reception/office door), and another door leading to the exam room hallway (exam room hallway door) which opens into the reception room so that, when open, a fichus tree and chairs are behind it.

Time

Current day. Spring. Mid evening.

ACT I
Scene 1

Setting: Doctor's waiting room hours after office has closed. Lights are off in room but light is on in the receptionist area behind the closed reception window so that some of the light is spilling through into the waiting room. The door to the exam room hallway is slightly open.

At Rise: WAYNE and HAILEY are in the hallway beyond the slightly open door to the reception area. They are disheveled, giggling, and talking in low sexy voices.

(WAYNE and HAILEY enter through slightly open exam room hallway door. HAILEY is hopping on one foot as they enter, trying to put on her other shoe. WAYNE is tucking his long sleeve, button up shirt into his trousers.)

HAILEY

(Trying to get on her high heel while steadying herself on WAYNE'S shoulder.)

Oh...Dr. Wright. That was hot.

(HAILEY loses her balance while trying to put on her shoe.)

Whoa...

(WAYNE stops tucking in his shirt to catch and steady her while she puts on her shoe. They end up in an embrace.)

WAYNE

You think I'm hot, do you?

HAILEY

Everyone thinks you're hot. Even Phillip thinks you're hot.

WAYNE

Phillip?

HAILEY

That pharmaceutical rep? He's into you.

WAYNE (flattered)

Really?

HAILEY

What I meant was...that-

(Nods to open exam room hallway door.)

-was hot.

WAYNE

(Takes HAILEY closer in his arms.)

What? Oh...oh yeah?

HAILEY

Mos def. I mean ...I've never been with an old guy before. Honestly, I didn't know what to expect. What with all those commercials for Viagra and all...

WAYNE (protesting)

An old guy? I'll have you know that that I'm only...

HAILEY

(Puts her finger on WAYNE'S lips to hush him.)

Shhh...You are most definitely hot. (beat) Now Doctor-

WAYNE

You know you can call me Wayne.

HAILEY

Hmmm...I think I'll keep calling you Doctor. It kind of makes it a little more naughty, don't you think? (coy voice) Oh, Doctor...your shirt needs a little tucking in.

(Proceeds to unbutton WAYNE'S pants, starts to unzip, and tuck his shirt in his pants.)

Let me help you with that...

WAYNE (excited)

Again?

(OS sounds of someone trying to open the front door. WAYNE and HAILEY freeze with HAILEY'S hand slightly down WAYNE'S partially unzipped pants.)

HAILEY

Why's someone here at this hour?

WAYNE

Shhh...

HAILEY

It's probably the cleaning people, which is weird because-

WAYNE (insistent)

Shhh...

HAILEY

(loud whisper) -because they're not supposed to come on Wednesdays.

WAYNE (more insistent)

Shhh...

(OS Sounds of keys in the lock.)

WAYNE

(loud whisper) Shit! Penny!

(WAYNE jerks away to hurry toward patient room hallway which causes HAILY to fall, taking WAYNE'S pants to the ground with her as PENNY enters front door.)

PENNY

(Can't see anything yet as lights are dim and her eyes have not yet adjusted.)

Wayne?

(HAILEY is on her knees in front of WAYNE frantically, and comically, trying to help WAYNE pull up his pants as PENNY turns on the waiting room light.)

PENNY (surprised)

Wayne!

WAYNE (cornered)

Penny!

HAILEY (confused)

Mrs. Wright?

(HAILEY tries to help WAYNE pull his pants up.)

PENNY (hurt)

Wayne...

WAYNE (apologetic)

Penny...

HAILEY (embarrassed)

Mrs. Wright...

(HAILEY and WAYNE successfully finish pulling up WAYNE'S pants. They all stand there for a moment, WAYNE and PENNY looking at each other and HAILEY looking at the floor.)

PENNY (angry)

Wayne!

WAYNE (pleading)

Penny...

HAILEY (uncomfortable)

Ummm.... (pause) I should go.

PENNY

(Stares at WAYNE.)

Yes Hailey. You should go. (sarcastic) I don't think the Doctor will need your (pause) services (pause) any longer.

(HAILEY exits front door. WAYNE and PENNY stare at each other for a moment and then start talking at the same time.)

WAYNE

PENNY

I'm so sorry. Penny you must know I- I Can't believe this! How could you do-

(WAYNE and PENNY stop talking and stare at each other.)

WAYNE (sincerely)

God...Penny. I am so sorry. I...I...I don't know what I was thinking.

PENNY

I'm pretty sure I know exactly what you were thinking. My wife is leaving town-

WAYNE

Oh yea. What happened?

PENNY

It was cancelled! (pacing) Seriously, how could you do this? Why would you work so hard to get me to marry you if you just wanted to keep...sleeping around? You could have stayed a bachelor and had that every night of the week.

WAYNE (inappropriately proud)

Well, not every night-

PENNY (glares)

Stop. Just...(long pause)

(Takes deep breath.)

I thought you were ready for something real. You promised you were past all...this.

WAYNE

I-

PENNY (pacing)

I gave up Doctors Without Borders to...(beat) to be with you. Do you have any idea of how much good I could have done in Kenya? Do you?

(PENNY stops pacing. She is facing away from WAYNE who approaches from behind and gently turns her around to face him.)

WAYNE

I know. I do. This will never happen again. I promise.

PENNY

You've already made that promise.

(WAYNE pauses, looks up and to the right, trying to remember.)

PENNY (Cont.) (incredulous)

Our wedding vows!

WAYNE (flustered)

Yes. Of course. I knew that.

PENNY

I wanted to believe you. (pause) No. I did. I believed you but-

WAYNE

You can believe me, Penny. I swear it.

PENNY

I'm not an idiot! It was foolish of me to think you could change. People don't change. You were always (pause) looking for (pause) something else. Something more? Something different? I thought it was me...but...I was wrong. (pause) I love you Wayne, but I can't be married to you.

WAYNE (panicking)

Wait, wait, wait. Hold on now. Let's not get ahead of ourselves. We can work this out. I'll do anything. Marriage counseling, whatever. I know...I know I have (pause) an ego problem. I guess I like attention too much...or...I don't know. But I'm not looking for anything else Pen. I love you. I've never felt for anyone what I feel for you. You must know that.

PENNY

(long pause) I know you love me. But...it's not enough. I can't be married to someone who isn't...all in.

WAYNE

I am! I'm all in. I swear it. I will make sure this never, ever, ever happens again.

(Sound of a knock at the front door.)

HAILEY

(OS front door) Wayne? Er...Um...Dr. Wright?

WAYNE (embarrassed)

Yes?

HAILEY

(OS front door) It's me.

WAYNE (impatient)

Yes?

HAILEY

(OS front door) It's me (pause) Hailey.

WAYNE (annoyed)

Yes?

(HAILEY sheepishly enters front door.)

HAILEY

Sorry. (long pause) (uncomfortable laughter) Boy is this awkward huh? (long pause) I, ummm...I forgot my purse. I was trying to wait until you guys were done arguing but it sounds like it's gonna be a while and it's almost nine and I have a date at ten so...

PENNY

(thinking...you just had sex with someone and now you have a date with someone else, delivered as a statement not a question.) You have a date. (beat) Tonight.

HAILEY (oblivious)

Yea...I know it's late for a date but Bailey never gets off work before nine so...

WAYNE

Bailey?

HAILEY (oblivious)

I know, right? Bailey and Hailey. Hailey and Bailey. Everybody teases us about that. (long pause) Ummm...Can I get my purse?

PENNY (sarcastic)

Please. Be my guest.

HAILEY

(While speaking, walks to and exits reception/office door, entering reception desk area. She is chatty, matter-of-fact, no true remorse.)

Thanks! I'm really sorry about all this Mrs. Wright. But Wayne's right. We promise we'll never do it again. For real.

(Retrieves purse from reception desk, opens reception window, leans toward the opening and speaks.)

I really shouldn't have done it any way. Bailey would be so mad if he knew.

HAILEY (Cont.)

(Closes reception window and then enters from reception door with purse and heads for the front door while speaking.)

OK well...I'm out. Again, I'm really sorry Mrs. Wright. (pause) And Wayne...
(Looks at PENNY.)

err...Dr. Wright...

(Looks at WAYNE.)

I'll see you in the morning.

WAYNE (professionally)

Alright Hailey.

(HAILEY exits front door. PENNY turns and faces WAYNE with her hands on her hips.)

PENNY (dumbfounded)

Alright Hailey?

WAYNE (oblivious)

What?

PENNY (angry)

Alright Hailey? (beat) Alright I'll see you in the morning Hailey? (beat) I'm all in this marriage but I think I'll just go ahead and keep the bimbo receptionist Hailey?

WAYNE

But...

PENNY (sarcastic)

Yes. That's perfect. I most definitely think you should keep Hailey employed while we try to work on our marriage.

WAYNE (confused)

Well, someone has to answer the phone, but I-

PENNY (sarcastic)

In fact, I'm absolutely sure that it will make it so much easier for you to concentrate on your profession of love for me, and fidelity to our marriage, to keep employing the woman.... (angry laugh) oh what am I saying...she's a girl-

WAYNE

She's twenty-two but-

PENNY (angry)

-to keep employing the girl you've been screwing so you can spend nine hours a day, five days a week, with her flitting about-

WAYNE

She doesn't really flit...she's not much of a...flitter, but-

PENNY

-flitting about, fawning over you, calling you (mimicking) "Wayne...err...Doctor Wright" while I have the extreme pleasure of constantly wondering...worrying about... (long pause as she gets herself under control) Oh never mind. This is ridiculous. I'm done. I'm filing for divorce.

(Turns to leave.)

WAYNE

I'll get rid of her! I promise! I swear it!

(PENNY turns back to see if WAYNE is serious, considering.)

WAYNE (Cont.)

(long pause) As soon as I find a replacement...

PENNY (exasperated)

Oh for heaven's sake. You're an idiot. Forget it! Goodbye Wayne. And don't even think about coming home.

(Storms out the front door.)

WAYNE (defeated)

What have I done? Oh my God. What have I done? (long pause) (selfish/practical) And where am I going to sleep tonight?

ACT I
Scene 2

Setting: Late morning two weeks later. The doctor's office is open. The reception window is closed. Otherwise unchanged waiting room.

At Rise: GERTRUDE, in a muu muu type dress or other frumpy, loose fitting clothing that does not reveal her figure, nurse shoes, hair up in a bun, big glasses, no makeup, is in waiting room putting new magazines out or anything of that nature.

(GERTRUDE finishes arranging magazines or other task and exits reception/office door. Moments later PHILLIP, dressed professionally, is humming as he enters front door with sample case over one arm, laptop in the other arm. He heads to the reception window, putting down his sample case on the floor. He taps on the reception window. GERTRUDE opens reception window.)

Can I help you? GERTRUDE (curt)

Well, hello Gertrude. PHILLIP (familiar)

Do you have an appointment? GERTRUDE (curt)

An OB/GYN appointment? Now Gertrude...I may be gay, but I'm not that gay! PHILLIP (joking)

Let me rephrase. Mr. Morton, isn't it? Is Dr. Wright expecting you? GERTRUDE (annoyed)

It's Phillip S. Morton to be precise and- PHILLIP

I don't see you on his calendar. Weren't you just here last week and then again on Monday? GERTRUDE (no-nonsense)

Oh, I just stopped by to say hello to Dr. Wright. We have some new samples I'd like to share with him. PHILLIP

You can leave the samples with me. GERTRUDE

PHILLIP (disappointed)

Oh...is he out today?

GERTRUDE

No. He's with a patient.

PHILLIP (brightens)

Oh! Well then, I'll just wait. I'm on my lunch hour anyway.

GERTRUDE (suspicious)

(delivered as a statement) You're visiting doctor's offices on your lunch hour.

PHILLIP (flustered)

Well, uh...I just had a little extra time and thought...

GERTRUDE (sarcastic)

Uhh huh. (pause) Well, Phillip S. Morton, as much as you're here you might just be the most dedicated pharmaceutical rep to ever walk the earth. (curt.) Take a seat.

(Abruptly shuts reception window.)

PHILLIP

Well, alrighty then.

(Picks up his sample case and puts it and his laptop down next to a waiting chair next to the ficus tree that is next to the exam room hallway door. This door, when opened, blocks the ficus tree and a couple of chairs. PHILLIP sits down and pulls out his cell phone.)

PHILLIP

(Tries to turn on his cell phone.)

Dead! Damn it!

(Pulls a charger out of his case, walks around the room looking for a plug and, when cannot locate, reluctantly goes to reception window and taps.)

GERTRUDE (curt)

(Opens window.)

Can I help you?

PHILLIP

My phone died and-

GERTRUDE (dry)

My condolences.

PHILLIP

Um...I was wondering if there was somewhere I could plug in the charger.

GERTRUDE

Well, if you had made an appointment for a meeting, I could have put you in the conference room and you could have charged it in there.

PHILLIP

Oh. Is there someone in the conference room now?

GERTRUDE

No.

PHILLIP

Well then...could I charge it in there?

GERTRUDE

No. It's only for scheduled meetings.

PHILLIP

O...K (pause) Is there another plug I could possibly use?

GERTRUDE

There's a plug behind the ficus tree.

(Abruptly closes reception window.)

PHILLIP

(While talking, walks to the ficus tree and hunts for the plug.)

(to himself) Jeez...Talk about your customer service. I wonder what ever happened to Hailey.

GERTRUDE

(OS from behind closed reception window) I heard that!

PHILLIP

(Still looking for plug.)

Sorry Gertie!

GERTRUDE (hopeful)

(Slowly opens reception window.)

Gertie? Did you say Gertie?

PHILLIP (apologetic)

Sorry! I meant Gertrude. No disrespect.

(Finds plug behind ficus tree and plugs in charger.)

GERTRUDE (wistful)

No one has called me Gertie since I was a teenager.

PHILLIP

I had an Aunt Gertrude. She was a no-nonsense gal like you. Strict, but had a good heart.

PHILLIP (Cont.)

My brother and I called her Auntie Gertie.

GERTRUDE (wistful)

Auntie Gertie. (pause) Always wished I could have been an Aunt. (beat) Well isn't that nice. (pause, thinking) Listen... can you keep a secret?

PHILLIP (suspicious)

Um...sure.

(GERTRUDE waves PHILLIP over conspiratorially. PHILLIP rests charging phone on chair arm and goes to reception counter.)

GERTRUDE

You were asking what happened to Hailey?

PHILLIP

Well, it's just that she left quite abruptly.

GERTRUDE

Yes, so I've heard. Rumor has it that she was a young, pretty thing.

PHILLIP

True. (sucking up) But she wasn't nearly as organized as you are....Gertie.

GERTRUDE

Thanks, but you don't have to butter me up.

PHILLIP

I wasn't, I was-

GERTRUDE

Yes you were. Doesn't matter. I've decided to like you.

PHILLIP (pleased)

Oh? Well that's so-

GERTRUDE

Do you want to know what happened to Hailey or not?

PHILLIP

Yes. Of course! (beat) Is it juicy?

GERTRUDE

Very.

PHILLIP

Well...then dish Gertie, dish!

GERTRUDE (conspiratorially)

Word is....

(Looks over each of her shoulders.)

Word is that she and the Doctor were (pause) having an affair.

PHILLIP (shocked)

No! An affair? But she was so young!

GERTRUDE

Barely legal as I hear it.

PHILLIP

And he just got married a few months ago!

GERTRUDE

Right. Good Lord. Some men were just not meant to keep their pickle in their jar.

PHILLIP (laughing)

Oh Gertrude...

GERTRUDE

Gertie, if you don't mind.

PHILLIP

Gertie, you are a hoot! So...they were having an affair. Hmm...Well...What happened?

GERTRUDE (conspiratorially)

Word on the street-

(Looks over each of her shoulders.)

well, word around here, is that the Mrs. walked in on them.

PHILLIP

No way!

GERTRUDE

Way! And while they were in the act!

PHILLIP

No way!

GERTRUDE

Way! And right here in this very waiting room!

PHILLIP

Are you serious?

(Scans the room for likely places.)

GERTRUDE

Probably right about where you're standing.

PHILLIP

(Steps aside gingerly.)

Ohhhh... Well that doesn't seem at all sanitary....

GERTRUDE

That was my thought exactly. First thing I did? Had the carpet shampooed.

PHILLIP

Smart. (beat) Well...that is just scandalous, Gertie.

GERTRUDE

I know, right?

PHILLIP

So, what happened to Hailey? I would imagine Dr. Wright would be worried about a sexual harassment lawsuit if he tried to fire her.

GERTRUDE

Quite right. He got her a better paying job with Dr. Holquest over in West Chesterfield.

PHILLIP

Ahh....plastic surgeon, right? Smart move. She should get along well there. And what about Dr. Wright's wife?

GERTRUDE (matter-of-factly)

They're divorcing.

PHILLIP (hopeful)

Really? Hmm....

(Runs his fingers through his hair, subconsciously primping.)

Well that's a downright shame, isn't it?

GERTRUDE (sarcastic)

Harumph. (sarcastic) I'll bet you think it's a shame. But you're barking up the wrong tree mister.

PHILLIP (innocently)

Me? What?

GERTRUDE

Dr. Wright doesn't go that way. Believe you me.

PHILLIP

Well...a boy can dream now, can't he?

(Exam room hallway door opens just slightly and the voices of WAYNE and LAVINIA can be heard chatting but they do not yet enter.)

LAVINIA

(OS Exam Room Hallway) Oh come on Wayne. Just come over tonight and I'll make you forget all your troubles.

(GERTRUDE rolls her eyes points PHILLIP to his chair, and quietly slides the reception window closed. PHILLIP moves quickly to his chair. Just as PHILLIP sits, WAYNE and LAVINIA open the door wider and step into the room, not seeing PHILLIP who is virtually hidden from them by the open door. PHILLIP looks around for something to do so he doesn't appear to be eavesdropping, quickly picking up pregnancy magazine and pretending to read, although holding the magazine upside-down.)

LAVINIA (Cont.)

I know you want to. It would be fun. Just like old times. What do you say?

WAYNE

A tempting offer. If I wasn't married...

LAVINIA

Wayne, Wayne, Wayne.

(LAVINIA faces WAYNE, puts her hands on and starts rubbing WAYNE'S arms.)

LAVINIA (Cont.)

I know how it is. You're hoping she'll take you back...but, deep down, you know she won't. It's quite a long shot and, correct me if I'm wrong, but as I recall you're a man who likes a sure thing...

(LAVINIA takes a hold of and squeezes WAYNE'S hands. From behind the upside-down magazine, PHILLIP is squirming or otherwise visibly uncomfortable listening to this exchange.)

WAYNE

Well...

LAVINIA

...a man who has wants...

(LAVINIA takes one of WAYNE'S hands and puts it on her hip.)

WAYNE (becoming interested)

Yes...wants...

LAVINIA

...and needs...

(LAVINIA takes WAYNE'S other hand and puts it on her other hip.)

WAYNE (excited)

Yes...needs...

LAVINIA

(long pause) How long, Wayne?

WAYNE (serious)

How long? Um...well I've never actually measured, but it's very...

LAVINIA (laughing)

Oh, I remember that measurement. Kind of hard to forget. What I meant was, how long has it been, you know, since... (pause) since you've been without... (pause) any, well...attention...from your wife.

(LAVINIA slides her hands up WAYNE'S arms to his shoulders, moving her body in closer to his.)

WAYNE

Oh that. Um...about two weeks.

LAVINIA

Ohhh...Two weeks. Poor baby. That must seem like an eternity for a man like you...

(LAVINIA puts her hands around WAYNE'S neck, looking up into his eyes, poised for a kiss. WAYNE is staring into her eyes.)

LAVINIA (Cont.)

...with wants (pause) and needs, and....

(WAYNE can fight it no longer and pulls LAVINIA tightly against him and they start kissing passionately. Suddenly PHILLIP'S cell phone rings with a loud, obnoxious showtune ringtone. WAYNE and LAVINIA, startled, break apart. GERTRUDE opens reception window to see where the music is coming from. PHILLIP goes to grab his cell phone but, in his haste, knocks it off the chair arm and into the fichus tree. PHILLIP bends over, into the fichus tree, in an attempt to retrieve and turn off the cell phone when WAYNE and LAVINIA come around the door to see who is there, finding only PHILLIP'S backside.)

GERTRUDE

Phillip S. Morton to see you Dr. Wright.

ACT I
Scene 3

Setting: Months later. The doctor's waiting room, close to noon. Everything remains basically the same except the office has a few 4th of July decorations.

At Rise: GERTRUDE is behind the reception window which is closed.

(PENNY enters front door. She is dressed smartly but in clothes that do not show her figure. She looks around and hesitantly approaches the window and taps lightly.)

GERTRUDE (curt)
(Opens reception window.)

Can I help you?

PENNY
I wonder if I could have a word with Dr. Wright.

GERTRUDE (curt)
Do you have an appointment?

PENNY
No. But if-

GERTRUDE (curt)
You'll need to schedule appointment if you wish to see Dr. Wright.

PENNY
I only need a few moments. If you would-

GERTRUDE
I'm sorry but Dr. Wright is a very busy man.

PENNY (sarcastic)
Oh...you don't know the half of it!

GERTRUDE (shocked)
Excuse me?

PENNY
Look, if you would just tell him that Penny is here to see him, I would be grateful. I know he takes his lunch at one.

GERTRUDE
And how would you know...oh wait. You're Penny? Penny Wright?

PENNY

Yes, that's right.

GERTRUDE (bluntly)

You're the ex-wife.

PENNY

Well...we're not quite to the ex-stage just yet...but yes, I'm Penny Wright.

GERTRUDE

Oh no? He said that you-. Hmmm...Well, have a seat. I'll get him.

(GERTRUDE abruptly closes reception window. PENNY walks around the reception room, looking at motherhood pamphlets with interest. After a few moments, WAYNE enters from reception/office door, obviously happy to see PENNY.)

WAYNE (happy)

Penny! I didn't know you were stopping by today.

(PENNY and WAYNE embrace formally, somewhat awkwardly.)

WAYNE (Cont.)

Um...did you get the documents? My lawyer said he sent your lawyer everything she asked for.

PENNY

Yes, yes.

WAYNE

And those boxes that were in the attic? The one's from your Mother's house?

PENNY

They were from my Father's house.

WAYNE

Oh yes...that's right. You got them?

PENNY

Yes. I did. Thank you.

WAYNE

Of course. And you know...anything else you need-

PENNY

Yes. I know.

WAYNE

-or want.

PENNY

You've been very...accommodating Wayne. Thank you.

(Awkward silence.)

WAYNE

I kind of thought you would be well on your way to Kenya by now.

PENNY

No. I'm putting Kenya on hold. For a little while anyway.

WAYNE

Oh?

PENNY (pacing)

There are some things I need to...take care of...before I can-

WAYNE (disappointed)

Oh. Yes...of course. The divorce. You know you don't need to be in the court room. Your attorney can appear on your behalf.

PENNY

Yes. I know. (long pause) About court, Wayne. I...I wanted to talk to you before... before...

(Starts crying, and is blubbering through her words.)

before we go down there and...

WAYNE (concerned)

Pen...what is it? What's wrong?

PENNY (crying)

...before we go down there and...and God, Wayne, what if it's a mistake?

WAYNE (hopeful)

A mistake?

PENNY

I thought I already made the biggest mistake of my life by marrying you...but what if I'm wrong? What if this is the mistake. And then we'll be halfway across the world and she'll never know you.

WAYNE (confused)

She?

PENNY (mildly hysterical)

Or he...and you'll never know him!

WAYNE

Him?

PENNY

Or her...I don't know yet. How could I know yet?

WAYNE

Know what yet?

PENNY (crying)

She or he. Him or her. Oh God, Wayne. (long pause) I'm pregnant!

WAYNE (shocked)

You're...you're pregnant?

PENNY (hopeless)

I know. Great timing, right? Barely married. Cheating husband. Divorce on the horizon. This is just a disaster.

WAYNE

Oh Penny...No. (meaning it's not a disaster.)

PENNY (misinterpreting)

Oh God. I knew this was a mistake. I don't even know why I came here.

(PENNY turns to leave, rushes to front door, hand on knob when WAYNE stays PENNY'S hand and turns her around to face him.)

WAYNE

No, it's not a disaster. It's not a mistake. It's wonderful. I always said you would make a fabulous mother.

PENNY

I don't want to be a single mom! I don't want to pass a child back and forth like some kind of (pause) time-share property. Every other weekend and two weeks during the summer. That was my childhood! I swore I would never...Oh Wayne, this is not how I want to start a family.

WAYNE

Pen, don't you see? We can do this. Together. You and me. Do it right. I'm ready. I really am. I'm all in this time. I'm ready to be a good husband. A good father. Please. Please forgive me. Please give me another chance. Give us a chance.

(Puts a hand on PENNY'S belly.)

All of us.

PENNY

(Puts her hand over WAYNE'S hand on her belly, looking down.)

I want to believe...

WAYNE

(Tips her face up by her chin to face him.)

Then believe...

(WAYNE kisses PENNY, she kisses back, they both wrap their arms around each-other kissing passionately. GERTRUDE quietly opens reception window to see what is happening as it has gone quiet and sees PHILLIP opening front door with sample case over one arm, laptop over the other arm. PHILLIP sees the intimate embrace, sees GERTRUDE seeing the same, they raise their eyebrows at each-other, they both look disappointed, shrug shoulders at each other. GERTRUDE motions for him to leave and quietly closes the window while PHILLIP backs out and quietly closes door. Neither are noticed by the kissing couple.)

WAYNE

Come on Pen. Let's go see how far along you are.

(WAYNE and PENNY exit exam room hallway door.
GERTRUDE opens reception window and calls out to front door.)

GERTRUDE

Mr. Morton. (pause) Phillip S. Morton!

PHILLIP

(Opens door and peeks in.)

To be precise. Hey Gertie! Is the coast clear?

GERTRUDE

Yes. They've gone to an exam room.

PHILLIP

(Enters, closes door, puts his things down in a chair while speaking.)

An exam room! Good Lord. The doctor knows no shame! I guess he really is hopeless. Barely divorced and playing doctor in the middle of the day. And in an exam room no less! Ugg.

GERTRUDE

Well, apparently not divorced yet.

PHILLIP

No? But he said they- (pause) Well, that's even worse. The man really can't...how did you put it? Keep his pickle in his jar?

GERTRUDE

Well, that part's still true. Believe me you me. The man doesn't even know he has a jar.
(long pause) But they're not back there

(Makes air quotes.)

playing doctor. They're back there determining her due date!

PHILLIP (shocked)

No! Her due date? Not even divorced and he's already knocked up some bimbo?

GERTRUDE

That's no bimbo. That's Mrs. Wayne Wright.

PHILLIP (astounded)

The wife!

GERTRUDE (distressed)

Exactly. I can't believe it. I just can't believe it.

PHILLIP (disappointed)

They're getting back together? And here I thought that maybe, just maybe...

GERTRUDE (distracted)

You and me both, sister.

(HAILEY enters front door, both GERTRUDE and PHILLIP turn to look at her, PHILLIP raising his eyebrows in surprise.)

PHILLIP

(to HAILEY) Hailey?

GERTRUDE

(to PHILLIP) Hailey?

PHILLIP

(to GERTRUDE) Yes. Hailey!

GERTRUDE

(under her breath said like "speak of the devil") Speak of the bimbo.

PHILLIP

Hailey! So, ummm, great...to see you...right here...and right now.

HAILEY

Hey Phillip.

GERTRUDE

Timing is everything.

PHILLIP

Oh...pardon me. Hailey, this is Gertie.

GERTRUDE (unimpressed)

Gertrude, if you don't mind.

PHILLIP

Right. Gertrude. Gertrude, this is Hailey.

HAILEY (unimpressed)

My replacement, huh? Figured he'd go for some old chick this time. Well, I need to see him. Today. Now.

GERTRUDE

I'm afraid this old chick doesn't offer same-day appointments.

(Consults appointment book or computer.)

How's next Thursday? Two o'clock? Consider it booked. Do you need a reminder card?

HAILEY

Yea, I don't think I'm going to wait till next Thursday. I mean it was fine when Bailey thought it was his but then we got in this big fight and I might have made some inappropriate comparisons of him to Wayne...

(Looks at GERTRUDE.)

Err...Dr. Wright

(Looks back at PHILLIP.)

and then he was like "How would you know that?" and I was like "I don't know." and he was like "You slept with him didn't you?" And I was like "I'd hardly call it sleeping." And he was like-

PHILLIP

Hailey! What are you trying to say?

HAILEY

Bailey broke up with me!

GERTRUDE

My condolences.

PHILLIP

But...what did you mean when you said, "when Bailey thought it was his."?

HAILEY (nonchalant)

Oh that. I'm pregnant

PHILLIP

Oh dear....

GERTRUDE

Well ain't that the crapper.

HAILEY

You tell Wayne...errr....Dr. Wright, that I'm pregnant and I want to see him NOW!

GERTRUDE

Damn that doctor.

PHILLIP

And his pickle!

HAILEY

Pickle? What?

GERTRUDE (like speaking to a child)

It's what happens to a cucumber when you soak it in a brine, dear.

HAILEY

(long pause) I don't know what you're talking about.

(Looks back and forth between GERTRUDE and PHILLIP.)

Look, I know he's on his lunch break about now. (long pause) OK. Then I'll just head back there myself.

(HAILEY starts to head for exam room hallway door. PHILLIP jumps in front of and blocks door.)

PHILLIP

No! Wait! You can't!

GERTRUDE

Help yourself!

PHILLIP

Gertie!

GERTRUDE

What? Not like he doesn't deserve it.

HAILEY

Deserve what?

PHILLIP

Gertie! Isn't the doctor with a very important patient right now? (to HAILEY) Perhaps, you could come back later today Hailey?

HAILEY

Uhhh...I'm not going anywhere until I see Wayne...

(Looks at GERTRUDE.)

Errr...Dr. Wright. I'll just wait right here until he comes out.

GERTRUDE

Well...How can you argue with that?

PHILLIP

Gertie! What has gotten into you? (pause) Listen, considering Hailey's delicate situation-

HAILEY

Situation?

PHILLIP

(to HAILEY) Condition. Your delicate condition. (to GERTRUDE) Don't you think it might be better to put her in an exam room where she could rest until Dr. Wright finishes up with his other patient? (pause) Gertie?

GERTRUDE (rolling eyes)

Oh all right. Let me see which rooms are available.

(Closes reception window abruptly.)

PHILLIP

So, Hailey, how are you feeling?

HAILEY

Actually, with all the talk about cucumbers and pickles, I'm a little hungry. I haven't had lunch yet.

PHILLIP

I actually meant the pregnancy. How have you been feeling, you know, with the pregnancy?

HAILEY

Oh that. Yea. I feel ok. Used to be sick all the time. Now I'm just hungry all the time.

PHILLIP

(long pause) Excited about the baby?

HAILEY (apathetic)

I guess so. I never really thought about having a kid.

PHILLIP

Really? Hmm....Not me. I've always wanted kids. Ever since I was little I knew I wanted to be a father.

(GERTRUDE abruptly opens window. HAILEY and PHILLIP turn toward her.)

GERTRUDE

Exam room three. I assume you know the way.

(HAILEY heads toward exam room hallway door.)

HAILEY

Ahhh...Exam room three. Yes. I'm familiar.

(Turns back, raises eyebrows up and down at PHILLIP.)

Very familiar...if you know what I mean.

(HAILEY quickly exits exam room hallway door.)

PHILLIP

Eww...

GERTRUDE

Where's my Lysol?

PHILLIP

Listen Gertie...we've got bigger fish to fry.

GERTRUDE

Fish...yes. I am hungry now that you mention it.

PHILLIP (pacing)

How can you think of your stomach at a time like this? We've got to get Mrs. Doctor Wright out of here before she sees Miss Afternoon Delight!

GERTRUDE

I'm sorry...This is this our problem, why? (pause) It would serve him right.

PHILLIP

Gertie, come on now. He's a good man. He's just made a few...impulsive...choices. Now let's figure a way out of this before something else goes wrong.

GERTRUDE

Oh, I think a prominent OB/GYN with a pregnant almost-ex-wife and a pregnant ex-employee in the same office at the same time is about as wrong as it could possibly get.

(LAVINIA enters from front door.)

LAVINIA

Is the doctor in? I've got a bit of personal...news for him.

(Pats her small baby bump.)

GERTRUDE

I stand corrected.

LAVINIA

Pardon me?

PHILLIP

He's with a patient.

LAVINIA

I'll wait.

(Sits in a chair and puts her purse in the chair next to her.)

GERTRUDE

This should be good.

PHILLIP

Gertrude! Don't you think you should put...Mrs.- (looking for a name)

GERTRUDE

Mrs. Blankenship

LAVINIA

That's Miss. I'm divorced.

PHILLIP

Miss Blankenship in an exam room?

GERTRUDE (sarcastic)

Oh gosh...I don't know, Phillip. The exam rooms are pretty full right now...if you know what I mean.

PHILLIP

Right. (pause) The conference room?

LAVINIA

(Picks up magazine and begins to read.)

I'm fine here.

GERTRUDE

That's for meetings and by appointment only.

PHILLIP

I think you could make an exception for Miss Blankenship given the...delicacy of the situation?

LAVINIA

Situation?

PHILLIP

I mean your condition of course. The delicacy of your condition. The waiting room can be such a (pause) germmy place.

GERTRUDE (matter-of-fact)
True.

LAVINIA (wistfully)
True.

(GERTRUDE and LAVINIA stare at each other suspiciously)

PHILLIP

(long pause) Gertie!

GERTRUDE (snaps out of it)

Oh all right! You can show her to the conference room Mr. fix-it-all!
(Abruptly closes reception window.)

PHILLIP

This way Miss Blankenship.

LAVINIA (confused)

I'm sorry...Do you work here?

PHILLIP

No. Just a friend of the doctor.

LAVINIA (sigh)

Me too. Me too.

(PHILLIP leads LAVINIA to exit through reception/office door which closes behind them. Moments later WAYNE enters from exam room hallway door, with a big smile on his face, walks to reception window and taps. GERTRUDE opens window.)

GERTRUDE

Can I help you?

WAYNE (cheerful)

Gertrude, cancel all my afternoon appointments.

GERTRUDE

Um...well...Dr. Wright...you do have someone waiting for you in the conference room.

WAYNE

Oh no. Wait...is it Phillip?

GERTRUDE

Well...um...Phillip is in the conference room.

WAYNE

A lunch date I'll bet. I really need to write these things down. He's such a sweet man, don't you think?

GERTRUDE

Oh, he's sweet alright.

WAYNE

I'll just go have a chat with him. I'm sure he'll understand.

(WAYNE exits reception/office door as PHILLIP enters from exam room hallway door.)

PHILLIP

Ok. I got Miss Blankenship settled in the conference room and I checked on Hailey in exam room three. She's on her cell so sufficiently distracted for the foreseeable future.

GERTRUDE

Doctor big pickle just went into the conference room looking for you. He thinks you had a lunch date.

PHILLIP

Oh boy...Getting the happy news from Miss Blankenship without warning? He's going to be in shock!

(WAYNE enters from reception/office door, shoulders slumped, shock and on his face having just received the news from LAVINIA that she's pregnant by him. PHILLIP and GERTRUDE stare at him, wide-eyed.)

WAYNE (in shock)

Oh...there you are Phillip. I thought you were in the conference room but...it was...someone else.

PHILLIP

That's alright Wayne. (pause) Are you ok?

WAYNE (in shock)

Oh sure, sure. Um...Oh yes. I'm sorry I can't have lunch with you today. I'm...I'm... Where am I going Gertrude?

GERTRUDE

Mrs. Wright? (pause) Your wife? (pause) Exam room three?

WAYNE (in shock)

(Talks while walking to exam room hallway door.)

That's right. My wife. Mrs. Wright. Exam room three. Rain-check Phillip?

PHILLIP

Sure Wayne...whenever you want.

(WAYNE exits exam room hallway door.)

PHILLIP (panic)

(long pause) Exam room three? Did you say exam room three?

GERTRUDE

Oh crap. That's where Hailey is!

PHILLIP

Oh boy...Getting the happy news from Hailey without warning.

GERTRUDE

Big day for Dr. Don Juan.

(LAVINIA enters from reception/office door. PHILLIP and GERTRUDE stare at her, wide-eyed as she walks to reception window.)

LAVINIA (noticing the stares)

What?

GERTRUDE

Can I help you?

LAVINIA

Wayne said I should make an appointment for next week. Put me down for Tuesday at three-fifteen.

GERTRUDE

Put you down? As much as I'd enjoy that-

LAVINIA (confused)

Pardon me?

GERTRUDE

Not likely.

LAVINIA (confused)

What?

(As LAVINIA and GERTRUDE are engaged at reception window, talking in low voices, they do not notice or hear as PENNY pokes her head in from exam room hallway door, looking around.)

PENNY

(To Phillip) Hi. Have you seen Dr. Wright?

PHILLIP

Oh! You're-

(Shoots a quick look at LAVINIA to see if still occupied.)

I, um, I think he's waiting for you in his office.

PENNY (happy)

He is? Oh...silly me. I must have misunderstood.

(PENNY enters from exam room hallway door, crosses waiting room just as GERTRUDE closes reception window and LAVINIA turns around heading for front door. PENNY and LAVINIA bump into each other as PHILLIP, dismayed, looks on.)

LAVINIA

(Holds belly protectively.)

Watch it there. Precious cargo.

PENNY

Whooops. Sorry about that. Me too. You ok?

LAVINIA

Seem to be. You?

PENNY

Oh, fine.

PHILLIP

(trying to distract LAVINIA) Miss Blankenship!

LAVINIA

What?

PHILLIP

(trying to get LAVINIA away from PENNY) Umm...Let me get the door for you!

PENNY

How far along are you?

LAVINIA

About 3 months. You?

PHILLIP

(Opens front door and motions grandly for LAVINIA.)

And here we go.

PENNY

About the same.

LAVINIA

Well, if you'll excuse me.

PENNY

Good luck with the baby!

(PENNY makes way for LAVINIA who exits front door. PENNY exits reception/office door. Moments later WAYNE enters from exam room hallway door, shoulders slumped, shock and on his face after hearing from Hailey that she's pregnant by him. PHILLIP stares at him, wide-eyed.)

WAYNE (total shock/overwhelm)
Oh, hello Phillip. Did we have a lunch date today?

PHILLIP
We'll do it another day Wayne.

GERTRUDE
(Opens reception window.)
Doctor, your wife's waiting for you in your office.

WAYNE (still in shock, confused)
My office. Right. My wife. Penny. (perks up) She's pregnant you know.

PHILLIP
We know.

GERTRUDE
We know.

WAYNE (still in shock, confused)
OK.

GERTRUDE (prompting)
(long pause) Your office?

WAYNE (still in shock, confused)
Oh. Yes. That's right.

(PHILLIP opens reception/office door for WAYNE.)

WAYNE (Cont.)
That's right. My wife. My office. Rain check Phillip?

PHILLIP
Sure Wayne...maybe next week.

(WAYNE exits reception/office door and PHILLIP closes it behind him. Moments later HAILEY enters from exam room hallway door and walks to reception window.)

GERTRUDE
You again.

HAILEY
Wayne...er...Dr. Wright said I should make an appointment for next week.

GERTRUDE

As we've discussed in some detail, I've already made you an appointment for next week. Is pregnancy zapping your synapses or is English your second language?

HAILEY

What? (pause) Hey...I don't think receptionists are allowed to insult patients.

GERTRUDE

That wasn't an insult dear.

HAILEY

OK then. I accept your apology. Now, since I used next week's visit today can I make another appointment for next week?

GERTRUDE (big sigh)

Fine. Thursday. Two o'clock.

(GERTRUDE writes and then holds out appointment card to HAILEY.)

GERTRUDE (Cont.)

Here. Take a reminder card. You'll need it.

PHILLIP

Gertie!

GERTRUDE (fake sweet smile.)

I mean...in case you need it.

HAILEY

Harumph.

(Ignores appointment card, turns her back and huffs out, exiting front door.)

PHILLIP

Well then.

(HAILEY enters front door, huffs in, grabs card from GERTRUDE, and huffs out, exiting front door.)

GERTRUDE (sarcastic)

(Shaking head.)

And she's reproducing.

(LAVINIA enters front door, looks around the room, spots her purse, grabs it, and notices PHILLIP and GERTRUDE staring at her.)

LAVINIA

What?

GERTRUDE

We were just talking about the survival of our species.

LAVINIA

Oh for heaven's sake. You are so strange.

(LAVINIA exits front door.)

PHILLIP

Don't let her get you down, Gertie. At least you're not the almost 50s-desperate-divorcee-who's-schlepping-her-OB/GYN-into-an-embarrassing-mid-life-pregnancy.

GERTRUDE

Yup. Never been divorced. At least I got that goin for me.

PHILLIP

How about I buy you lunch?

GERTRUDE

Mexican?

PHILLIP

Perfect. We'll eat nachos, drink margaritas, and gossip.

GERTRUDE

I'm in! Not sure about the marga-

(PENNY and WAYNE enter from reception/office door talking about her pregnancy.)

WAYNE

Phillip you're still here?

PHILLIP

I'm taking Gertrude for Mexican food.

WAYNE

Wonderful! We're on our way out to lunch as well. Vietnamese.

(Holds open front door for PENNY who exits front door with WAYNE behind her. WAYNE pauses, turns back, looks at GERTRUDE and PHILLIP, holds his finger up in front of his mouth motioning to shhhh, keep his secret, then turns back and exits front door.)

GERTRUDE

Very strange that he would want to keep his penchant for Vietnamese a secret.

PHILLIP

Very funny Gertie. But seriously, how in the world is Wayne going to manage it? He's got himself into quite a-

GERTRUDE & PHILLIP (looking at each other)

Pickle!

ACT II
Scene 1

Setting: Early afternoon, week day, 5 months later. The doctor's office is open. The reception window is closed. There are tasteful Christmas decorations around the waiting room. There is a snow storm brewing outside.

At Rise: LAVINIA is in the waiting room sitting in a chair, flipping through a magazine without reading. She is 8 plus months pregnant and dressed in very fashionable maternity clothes, a heavy coat hanging over a chair next to her. GERTRUDE is behind the reception window which is open. She is giving LAVINIA the evil eye and smiling like the Cheshire cat.

GERTRUDE (fake sweetness)

Mrs. Blankenship?

LAVINIA (rudely)

(without looking up) That's Miss Blankenship. I'm divorced you know.

GERTRUDE (sarcastically)

I believe that Miss would be for a much younger person, no? How about we go with Ms. That's sort of non-descript (under her breath) like your morals.

LAVINIA

Excuse me?

GERTRUDE (fake sweetness)

You forgot to sign in.

LAVINIA (annoyed)

Oh for heaven's sake!

(With difficulty gets out of chair, waddles to window and signs in.)

Happy?

GERTRUDE

Thrilled. Ecstatic. A dream come true, really.

LAVINIA

Oh for goodness' sake.

(GERTRUDE watches LAVINIA sit, get comfortable, pick up a magazine, cross her ankles, and start to read.)

GERTRUDE

Mrs. Blankenship?

LAVINIA (annoyed)

What is it now?

GERTRUDE (fake sweet smile)

I need to get a copy of your insurance card.

LAVINIA (more annoyed)

You have a copy of my insurance card.

GERTRUDE (fake sweet)

New Year. New copy.

(LAVINIA, with difficulty, gets out of chair, grabs her purse, waddles back to the counter, and digs in her purse for insurance card.)

LAVINIA (exasperated)

Here.

(LAVINIA hands card to GERTRUDE through the window. GERTRUDE busies herself with card.)

LAVINIA (Cont.)

(Looks around the room while waiting for her card to be copied.)

(long pause) You know your Christmas decorations are still up.

GERTRUDE (sarcastic)

Really?

(Comes back to window and looks out around the waiting room.)

Hmmm...I walk through that room every day on my way to work and still, it totally escaped my attention.

LAVINIA

Well, I never!

GERTRUDE

I beg to differ.

LAVINIA

Oh for God's sake.

GERTRUDE

Yea...I don't think God had anything to do with it.

LAVINIA

This is preposterous!

GERTRUDE

I agree. Here you go.

(GERTRUDE hands LAVINIA an open cardboard box through the open window.)

LAVINIA

What is this?

GERTRUDE

A box for the decorations, since they're bothering you so much.

LAVINIA

What? Oh for heaven's sake.

GERTRUDE

I just thought that the nesting impulse might be kicking in and it might be therapeutic for you.

LAVINIA

(Tosses box into nearby chair.)

What is wrong with you? You've got to be the rudest receptionist I've ever encountered! I seriously don't know why Wayne keeps you around.

GERTRUDE (under her breath)

Back at 'cha.

LAVINIA

What did you say?

GERTRUDE

Here's your card back. (pause)

(GERTRUDE hands card to LAVINIA who grabs it, shoves it in her purse, and waddles to chair next to empty box to sit with obvious back pain, picks up magazine, flips through, tosses on table next to a Christmas decoration, notices the decoration, looks to see if GERTRUDE is watching, which she is not, picks up decoration and puts in box, looks around, seeing another decoration, she picks up and puts in box. GERTRUDE peeks out window and smiles an evil little smile which LAVINIA does not see.)

GERTRUDE (Cont.)

(long pause) Mrs. Blankenship?

LAVINIA

I told you, it's Miss-

GERTRUDE

The Doctor will see you now.

LAVINIA

(Stands and gives GERTRUDE the evil eye.)

Well it's about time. I've been waiting for nearly fifteen minutes! I have a car waiting you know.

GERTRUDE

Well, you were an hour late.

LAVINIA

It's snowing. You're lucky I made it at all.

GERTRUDE (sarcastic)

It's like I won the lottery.

LAVINIA

Does your sarcasm know no bounds?

GERTRUDE

Apparently not. Listen, I would love to tell you where to go...(pause) but I think you already know the way to exam room three.

(Closes reception window with a bang.)

LAVINIA

That woman!

(Stands, compulsively grabbing a few more decorations and putting them in the box on her way to exam room hallway door, then a few more decorations, and then opens door, notices there is a decoration hanging on the inside of the door, grabs it, goes back to the box in the room and puts it in and then exits exam room hallway door.)

(A moment later, PHILLIP enters front door. He's wearing a heavy coat, hat, gloves and is dusted in snow. He walks to and taps on reception window. GERTRUDE opens.)

GERTRUDE

You made it.

PHILLIP

Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of-

GERTRUDE

You're late.

PHILLIP

What?

(Gets out and looks at cell phone.)

Gertie, it's just now noon.

GERTRUDE

Ha! I told ya you can't trust those things! My watch says it's twelve-oh-three.

PHILLIP

Gertie. My cell phone is connected to the internet which is connected to the world time server, which has the most accurate time on earth.

GERTRUDE

Ah ha! The clock on the wall says twelve oh three! That's two against one.

PHILLIP

You set that clock from your watch. Get over it. It's a watch. You can't expect it to keep time.

(Consults cell phone again.)

Now it's after twelve. You ready? My turn to buy. Know where you want to go?

GERTRUDE

Hmmm...Maybe Mexican. But Her-Royal-Pain-In-The-Butt just went back.

PHILLIP

Ahhh...Ms. Blankenship I presume?

GERTRUDE

Precisely. (pause) She was an hour late for her appointment!

PHILLIP

Snow delays no doubt.

GERTRUDE

Probably be another 20 minutes.

PHILLIP

No worries. I can wait. (beat) I'll bet this weather has made it difficult scheduling Wayne's gals so they don't run into each other at appointments.

GERTRUDE

Nah...I've got a bullet-proof system.

(HAILEY, wearing a heavy winter coat, gloves, and hat, all dusted with snow, enters front door. She is wearing a sweater under her coat. Both GERTRUDE and PHILLIP turn to look at her, both raising eyebrows in surprise.)

GERTRUDE (Cont.)

Or not.

PHILLIP

Hailey! Gertrude...Hailey is here. She's here right now, in this office at the same time

PHILLIP (Cont.)

other patients are here in this office.

GERTRUDE

What are you doing here?

HAILEY

What do you think? I have an appointment, duh.

(Proceeds to take off hat, gloves, and coat, revealing she's nearly full term pregnant, and a bulky sweater.)

I'm a little early, but wanted to beat the storm.

GERTRUDE

You're not a little early, you're a week early. Your appointment isn't until next Wednesday.

HAILEY

Really? I thought it was this week. Oh well...if you could squeeze me in that'd be good.

(HAILEY plops down on chair nearest to the fichus tree, puts her gloves, hat in the chair next to her, but keeps her coat in her lap, incidentally covering her belly so that between it and the sweater it is not obvious to anyone looking at her sitting down that she is pregnant. This is not her intent...just happenstance and needed for coming interaction with PENNY. GERTRUDE looks at PHILLIP and they both shrug.)

GERTRUDE

Umm...Well...That's just not possible. He's completely-

HAILEY

Well, I'm not going back out in this weather.

(HAILEY pulls her cell phone out of coat pocket and starts scrolling. Moments later PENNY, wearing a heavy coat, a hat, and gloves, all dusted with snow, enters front door carrying a large bag of Chinese takeout and turns back to close the door. Both GERTRUDE and PHILLIP turn to look at her, both raising eyebrows in surprise.)

PHILLIP (loud whisper)

Bullet-proof?

GERTRUDE (loud whisper)

More like target practice.

(PENNY closes door and turns back around.)

PENNY

Hello there Phillip! So great to see you again.

PHILLIP

Mrs. Wright!

(HAILEY hears name and, distressed, looks for a way to hide, ending up picking up a magazine, upside down, and pretending to read.)

PHILLIP (Cont.)

Gertrude...Mrs. Wright is here. She's here right now, in this office.

(During the following dialogue PENNY puts down the bag of food, takes off her gloves and hat, takes a small bag of fortune cookies out of the larger bag and gives to GERTRUDE, all the time not noticing HAILEY.)

PENNY

Now Phillip, I've told you a hundred times, please call me Penny. Hello there Gertrude. I Brought you some fortune cookies. I decided to surprise Wayne with his favorite (beat) Kung Pao Chicken. I thought we could have lunch together. Despite the weather, the line at The Magic Dragon was out the door. I barely got out of there before it started snowing. It's really coming down now.

GERTRUDE (wistfully)

The Magic Dragon. (heavy sigh) I can't eat there anymore.

PHILLIP

Watching your salt intake?

GERTRUDE

Naw...just way too much of a good thing.

PENNY

I know I'm a tad early for his lunch hour. Is he with a patient?

PHILLIP

Yes.

GERTRUDE

No.

PHILLIP

No.

GERTRUDE

Yes.

PENNY

Well...is it yes or no?

GERTRUDE

What I mean is that he's with a patient and there's a patient waiting to see him so I'm not

GERTRUDE (Cont.)

really sure when he'll be free.

PENNY

(Looks around room.)

Oh...right. (to HAILEY) Sorry. I didn't see you there. What time is your appointment?

HAILEY

Umm....

GERTRUDE

She doesn't have an appointment. We're working her in. So...you can see how it might be quite some time. How about I stow the Chinese in the break room and give you call when he's free?

PENNY

Oh, don't bother. I don't have anything else this afternoon, it's snowing, and my feet are killing me. I think I'll just wait.

(Starts taking off her coat.)

PHILLIP

Oh here, let me help you with that.

(PHILLIP helps PENNY take off her coat.)

PENNY

Thanks. You're too sweet.

(Unsteady on her feet.)

Hmmm...I think I'd better sit down.

PHILLIP

You ok?

PENNY

I think so. I was feeling a bit sick yesterday. Hardly ate a bite and woke up famished. But now I'm feeling a little off again.

PHILLIP

Gertrude, I think Mrs. Wright...sorry Penny...would be more comfortable in the conference room.

GERTRUDE

The conference room is for scheduled meetings.

PHILLIP

Gertie!

GERTRUDE

(to PHILLIP) Oh, right. (to PENNY) Mrs. Wright, you can wait in the conference room.

PENNY

Oh, nonsense. I'll wait out here.

(To PHILLIP'S dismay, PENNY sits one seat down from HAILEY who is trying very hard to hide behind her upside-down magazine. PENNY picks up a magazine and starts to fan herself with it and then begins to flip through the pages. She is not paying close attention to HAILEY. PHILLIP and GERTRUDE, unheard, are whispering conspiratorially.)

PENNY (Cont.)

(to HAILEY but not looking at her) So...you expecting?

HAILEY

(from behind magazine) Um...yup.

PENNY

(not looking at her) How far along are you?

HAILEY

(from behind magazine) Um...almost all the way?

PENNY

(not looking at her) Ha! Me too. Thank goodness. In fact, I'm almost two weeks over due. Should be any day. But...first baby and all. You?

HAILEY

(from behind magazine) Um...yup.

PHILLIP

Mrs. Wright...I mean Penny...Gertrude says the conference room is ready and waiting!

PENNY

You are both too kind. But I'm totally fine here.

(Continues to flip through magazine, not paying too much attention to HAILEY, not looking at her, as she speaks.)

(to HAILEY) I'm so ready to be done. Done with indigestion. Done with swollen ankles. Done with doctor visits.

HAILEY

(from behind magazine) You probably don't even have to make appointments to see him.

PENNY (only half listening)

Hmm? See him?

HAILEY
(from behind magazine) Wayne...errr...Doctor Wright.

PENNY (recognizing)
What did you say?

PHILLIP
I don't think she said anything, do you Gertrude?

GERTRUDE
Open mouth, insert pickle.

PENNY
(Stands and grabs magazine out of HAILEY'S hands.)
Oh my God. What are you doing here?

HAILEY
I...well I just...I'm here to-

PENNY (dismayed)
(Starts pacing.)
I can't believe this. He said he was done fooling around. Oh my God. I'm such an idiot!

PHILLIP
Mrs. Wright! No...it's not like that.

GERTRUDE
She has an appointment.

PENNY
I thought you said she didn't have an appointment!

GERTRUDE
Well, not officially. But she's just here as a patient. Like I said, we're working her in.

PENNY (angry)
(to GERTRUDE) A patient? (to HAILEY) What? You couldn't find another gynecologist in the entire city? It just had to be Wayne? (to GERTRUDE and PHILLIP) Who does that?

HAILEY
Well...my gynecologist referred me. Said Wayne...errr...Dr. Wright...is the best OB around.

PENNY
OB?

PHILLIP

Oh boy.

PENNY

OB!

GERTRUDE

Oh boy.

PENNY

Did you say OB?!? (long pause) Oh God. Hailey. Stand up.

(HAILEY stands, her coat falling to the floor, and is visibly nearly full-term pregnant.)

PENNY

No. Oh God. No. Tell me you didn't-

HAILEY

We didn't! I swear, Mrs. Wright, we kept our promise. We didn't fool around anymore after that last time we fooled around. The time when you caught us in here right after we had just finished fooling around...and well...before we were about to fool around again...ummm... But that was it! That was the last time we ever, ever did it. For real.

PENNY

Oh thank God. So...Wayne's not the father.

HAILEY

Well...

PENNY (pacing)

Oh my God.

HAILEY (following)

I know, right? That's exactly how I felt. You know, I never worried too much with Bailey. He always wore protection, just in case. And we did it all the time. I mean, for real. Like rabbits. Practically every night. And mornings too. Bailey loved doing it in the morning. Or with the lights on. He-

PHILLIP

Hailey!

HAILEY

Oh. Sorry. Um...But with Wayne. Well, he always said birth control pills were virtually 100 percent effective so...

PENNY (sitting)

I think I'm going to be sick...

PHILLIP

I'll get you some water.

HAILEY

Thanks. Hey, get some for Mrs. Wright too. She doesn't look to good.

(PHILLIP exits reception/office door. GERTRUDE continues to watch, through reception window, as the scene unfolds.)

HAILEY

Anyway, I'm like...oh my God. I only missed a couple pills. Like, I took most of them right on time. So, I'm like...well, Wayne, not virtually 100 percent after all, right?

PENNY

(to HAILEY) Please stop talking.

GERTRUDE

Virtually 100 percent airhead.

(HAILEY sits back down. PENNY bends forward, putting her head in her hands.)

HAILEY

(Stands.)

(to GERTRUDE) Hey! Are you insulting me?

GERTRUDE

That was not an insult. I'm all about the facts.

(GERTRUDE abruptly closes reception window with a bang.)

HAILEY (yelling)

(to GERTRUDE) Good! Then I accept your apology.

(Sits.)

(to PENNY) Mrs. Wright, I'm sure Wayne will-

PENNY

Hailey, please. Just stop talking.

(HAILEY shrugs her shoulders, pulls out her cell and starts scrolling. Door leading to the exam room hallway starts to open, WAYNE and LAVINIA are in the hallway talking as LAVINIA enters the room, visibly nearly full term pregnant. WAYNE remains in the doorway. Neither see HAILEY and PENNY as they are both somewhat blocked by the open door.)

WAYNE

(from exam room hallway door) I wouldn't worry too much about that. It's very common for pregnant women in your age range.

LAVINIA

(Turns back to face WAYNE.)

My age range? Ugg...that kills me. (coy) I'll bet you weren't thinking about my age range when you had me bent over my kitchen island!

(PENNY and HAILEY'S heads jerk up at the comment. WAYNE and LAVINIA chuckle.)

LAVINIA (Cont.)

Oh Wayne, will I ever have my girlish figure back?

WAYNE

Don't worry. I'm sure men will be bending you over your kitchen island again in no time.

(GERTRUDE opens reception window, having heard the exchange.)

LAVINIA

Alright. I'll see you next week.

(LAVINIA turns and enters fully into room, carrying her coat, pulling on her hat and gloves on and heading for front door just as PHILLIP enters from reception/office door with a bottle of water.)

PENNY (angry/sarcastic)

(Stands.)

Kitchens? Waiting Rooms? Libraries? Oh my, Wayne. You're such a creative lover.

(PHILLIP takes a look around the room and sizes up the situation as LAVINIA turns around, looking at PENNY confused.)

LAVINIA

What?

PHILLIP

Oh boy.

WAYNE

Penny?

(Enters fully into waiting room.)

What are you doing here?

PHILLIP

(Picks up Chinese food bag.)

Kung Pao Chicken?

PENNY

(Gestures to LAVINIA.)

So this one's pregnant too?

(PENNY gestures to HAILEY who is behind her. HAILEY waives timidly.)

HAILEY

Hi Wayne....errr...Dr. Wright.

LAVINIA

Library? You slept with your slut receptionist in a library?

HAILEY (offended)

The library...as if!

PENNY

No. The library was me.

HAILEY

(Stands.)

(to LAVINIA) Wait a minute. Did you just call me a slut?

LAVINIA

I call 'em like I see 'em.

WAYNE

Penny...it was before...it was when you left me, I swear it.

PHILLIP (considering)

The Library? Hmmm...

PENNY (sarcastic)

Oh...Ok. Well that certainly makes the situation infinitely better. (sincerely) How could you not tell me Wayne? Two other women pregnant!

HAILEY

(to LAVINIA) What are you...my grandma's age? And pregnant by your gyno? That's pathetic.

(For a sort period, EVERYONE starts yelling at each other, ad lib, with the exception of PHILLIP who hands the Chinese food bag through the reception window to GERTRUDE and then tries to calm everyone down, ad lib. GERTRUDE stows the Chinese food on her desk and stands watching through the reception window and shaking her head.)

PENNY

That's it. I'm leaving!

LAVINIA

Me too. Car's waiting.
(Begins to put on coat, gloves, hat.)

WAYNE

Penny, please don't go.

PENNY

Goodbye Wayne. This time I mean it. It's over. Don't you dare come after me.

(PENNY storms out front door.)

WAYNE (yelling)

(Notices PENNY'S coat.)

Penny, your coat!

(Grabs PENNY'S coat and heads for front door.)

PHILLIP

(Stays WAYNE'S hand on front door handle.)

Wayne? Maybe you should let me.

(WAYNE nods head and hands coat to PHILLIP who hurries toward front door exit.)

PHILLIP (Cont.)

Penny! Your coat!

(PHILLIP exits front door.)

HAILEY

So, do you have time to see me or what?

WAYNE

What?

GERTRUDE

She's a week early for her appointment.

LAVINIA (sarcastic)

(delivered as statement) Apparently, she's quite the eager beaver. Right Wayne?
(Heads toward front door.)

HAILEY

Hey...

(LAVINIA opens front door about to leave and is surprised to find PHILLIP and PENNY on the other side just walking in.)

WAYNE

Penny!

(PENNY ignores WAYNE, takes a seat, and begins reading a magazine.)

WAYNE

Phillip?

PHILLIP

Storm is bad. It's a virtual white-out. No way anyone can drive in this. Everyone will just have to wait out the storm here.

LAVINIA

But I have a town car waiting.

PHILLIP

There's no car waiting.

LAVINIA

Idiots!

PHILLIP

Gertrude, can you bring out the Chinese food? (to PENNY) You really should have something to eat.

(LAVINIA starts to take off her coat, hat, gloves while GERTRUDE enters from reception/office door with the bag of Chinese food. She is in her regular muu muu type dress or other frumpy clothing, and nurse shoes. Because of her big dress/clothes, no one can tell she's pregnant.)

PENNY

This day couldn't possibly get any worse.

GERTRUDE

I beg to differ.

(EVERYONE looks at GERTRUDE who hands PHILLIP the Chinese food bag and then defines her belly with her hands and appears nearly full-term pregnant.)

WAYNE and PENNY

Oh my God.

Ha! Oh wow!

HAILEY

Seriously Wayne?

LAVINIA

No...not you too Gertie!

PHILLIP

GERTRUDE (nodding yes)
The bathroom...at the Magic Dragon.

PHILLIP

Ewww...
(Shoves the Magic Dragon takeout bag into WAYNE's hands.)

PENNY (in distress)
Oh my God, Wayne. Oh my God!

WAYNE
Pen. Please believe me! It was when I thought you were gone for good!

PENNY
No, it's not that. (long pause) My water just broke!

ACT II
Scene 2

Setting: Reception room, hours later.

At Rise: Phillip is OS exam room hallway. Everyone else is in the waiting room. PENNY is on the floor with several pillows under her head and a sheet over her bottom half. Her knees are raised and she is doing breathing exercises. WAYNE is kneeling between PENNY'S legs, his head and arms under the sheet. GERTRUDE is sitting on a close-by chair holding a stop watch, timing PENNY'S contractions. HAILEY is eating Chinese food and scrolling on her phone. LAVINIA is on her cell phone.)

WAYNE

(Emerges from under sheet.)

Everything is coming along. Dilation is nearly seven centimeters.

PENNY

Why so fast? We should have driven to the hospital ourselves when we had the chance.

GERTRUDE

In this snowstorm? I think you're better off here.

WAYNE

Any luck with your car service?

LAVINIA

The moron put me on hold!

PENNY (having contraction)

Oh boy. Not already! Gertrude. The stopwatch. Here comes another one!

(GERTRUDE clicks the stopwatch and makes a notation in a notebook.)

WAYNE

You're doing fine Pen. Remember your breathing.

(PENNY starts labor breathing and continues throughout dialogue below.)

GERTRUDE

(Consulting stopwatch and notebook.)

Contractions are coming much closer. Less than four minutes apart.

(PHILLIP enters from exam room hallway door carrying several white blankets/sheets and other birthing supplies.)

PHILLIP

How's she doing?

WAYNE

She's a trouper!

GERTRUDE

Did you try to the breakers again?

PHILLIP

Yes. Didn't do any good. Power's still out. Why isn't there a backup generator?

WAYNE

We're not a surgical facility. Thank God for the windows and skylight.

(PHILLIP kneels next to WAYNE and helps arrange blankets and other supplies around PENNY.)

LAVINIA

Yes. I'm still here. (long pause) What? I don't believe this! (pause) You were supposed to have waited while I was at my appointment! (long pause) I don't care! That's what I pay you for! (pause) Well that was hours ago! (pause) I don't give two squats about the weather! (pause) No! Don't you dare put me on hold again! (beat) Damn it! He put me on hold!

PHILLIP

(Dabs PENNY'S forehead with a damp cloth.)

You're going to be ok, Penny. And, just so you know, you look quite beautiful. Labor suits you.

PENNY

(between labor breathing) Thanks Phillip. You're too sweet. Oh God! Aaaa!

LAVINIA

Yes. I'm still here and if you put me on hold one more time you can kiss your job goodbye! (pause) You told me two hours ago that you were on your way back. (pause) No, I can't wait until the storm passes, this is an emergency! (pause) Yes...well I have...an associate here with me and she's in labor! We've got to get her to the hospital. (pause) Of course I've already called for an ambulance you imbecile! (pause) I have no idea! Maybe they can't get here! (long pause) Why do I think you can get here when they can't? Because (shouting) I have you on retainer! (long pause) Fine. Consider your contract terminated!

(Smashes cellphone button to end call.)

Morons.

WAYNE

No luck?

LAVINIA

No. None. Sorry. They're idiots.

PENNY

(between labor breathing) Ahhh!!! Where is that ambulance?

WAYNE

Hailey, call 911 again and ask them how close the ambulance is.

HAILEY

I called them an hour ago to check and they said they were close. Snow slowing them down.

WAYNE

Just do it again. Tell them it's urgent, that she's experiencing precipitous labor.

PENNY

(between labor breathing) What? Wait! What does that mean? Is everything ok?

(HAILEY dials 911 on her cell phone.)

WAYNE

Just fast labor Pen.

(Goes back under sheet to check dilation etc...)

PENNY

(between labor breathing) But what if-

PHILLIP

Everything's going to be ok Penny.

GERTRUDE

He really is the best OB around. Just breath.

HAILEY

(into phone) Yea...My name is Hailey Bradstone. (pause) Just like it sounds. (pause) Brad as in Brad Pitt and Stone as in-(pause) Yea that's right. So, OK, like I called a long time ago for an ambulance and then I called back like about an hour ago and then you said you were almost here but now it's really really an emergency cause she's in precip-(pause) -something labor.

WAYNE

(from under sheet) Precipitous.

(Pops out from under sheet to speak.)

If the ambulance is not here in the next few minutes we'll have to deliver right here.

(Goes back under sheet.)

PENNY

(between labor breathing) No! I should still have hours of labor left!

PHILLIP

Shhh...save your energy.

(Dabs PENNY'S forehead with a damp cloth.)

PENNY

Wayne why is this happening so fast? Can't you slow this down?

WAYNE

(Comes out from under sheet and attends to PENNY.)

Penny. You're ok. It's just that little Abigail is in a big hurry to meet us. I can deliver her right here if I need to.

(WAYNE and PHILLIP begin arranging blankets etc...in preparation.)

PENNY

(between labor breathing) Nooooo! The hospital. I want to go to the hospital.

HAILEY

422 Sycamore.

GERTRUDE

Hailey! That's not the right address!

HAILEY

(into the phone) Hold on. (to GERTRUDE) Yes it is. I use it every day. I think I would know my own work address.

PHILLIP

I know that address. That's...that's Dr. Holquest office in West Chesterfield!

PENNY

(between labor breathing) She gave the wrong address?!? Who does that? Ahhhh!!!

HAILEY

Oh crap. You're right. That's my new work address. Sorry.

LAVINIA

You're even more clueless than I thought!

HAILEY

Hey...

PHILLIP

Hailey! Give them the right address! 41 White Oak!

HAILEY

What...oh yea. (into the phone) Um...I'd like to change that address to- (pause) What? (pause) No. We're in Oak Lawn. The address is 41 White Oak Drive and- (pause) Yes... (stumbles over word) precipitous labor. (pause) Hold on. (to GERTRUDE) They want to know how far apart the contractions are.

GERTRUDE

Less than four minutes.

WAYNE

And she's past 8 centimeters dilated.

HAILEY

(into phone) Four minutes 8 centimeters. (pause) Are you sure? OK hold on. (to WAYNE) They said they probably can't get here before the baby does.

PENNY

Noooooo!

HAILEY

Weather. Snow. Some roads are impassable. (into phone) What? Oh...OK hold on.
(Gets up and tries to hand phone to WAYNE)
(to WAYNE) They said they can walk you through the delivery.

GERTRUDE

Hailey. He's an obstetrician.

HAILEY

Oh yea. Right.

LAVINIA

Total air head.

WAYNE

(to HAILEY) Tell them to get here as quickly as they can.
(Goes back under sheet.)

HAILEY

(to LAVINIA) Hey...I'm getting tired of your insults.

PHILLIP

Hailey! Tell them!

HAILEY

What? Oh yea. (into phone) We have a doctor here so just get here a-sap!

LAVINIA

Snow storm, power outage, disappearing car service, ambulance sent to the wrong

LAVINIA (Cont.)

address. It's Murphy's law.

WAYNE

(Pops up from under sheet.)

Nine centimeters!

(Goes back under sheet.)

HAILEY

Who's Murphy?

PHILLIP

It's an expression. Like anything that can go wrong will.

GERTRUDE

Well, at least it can't get any worse.

LAVINIA

(Holds her belly.)

Uh—oh. Oh no.

PHILLIP

Ms. Blankenship? What is it?

LAVINIA

(Looking down at her belly.)

My water just broke.

WAYNE (flabbergasted)

(Pops up from under sheet.)

What?

GERTRUDE

I stand corrected.

PENNY

(between labor breathing) Wayne! I think she's coming! The baby's coming NOW!

ACT II
Scene 3

Setting: Months later. Mid-morning on a Saturday. The reception window is closed.

At Rise: PENNY is sitting in the waiting area, talking baby talk to her baby in the stroller. Diaper bag is nearby.

PENNY

Yes, you are. You're gonna have a good time with Daddy today aren't you? That's right. That's my girl.

(WAYNE enters from reception/office door in casual summer clothes.)

WAYNE

Ahhh...you're here already!

(WAYNE and PENNY embrace in a friendly manner and then he bends over stroller and talks baby talk to baby.)

WAYNE (Cont.)

Hello my little pumpkin. How you doing? Ohhh...did you find your toes? Are they all there?

PENNY

Her new favorite thing. (pause) Done with appointments?

WAYNE

None this morning. Just paperwork. Did you hear back from Doctors without Borders?

PENNY

Not yet...Dr. Brussard said they'll let me know, but probably not until end of the month.

WAYNE

They'd be lucky to have you.

PENNY

They know it. I know it. But three months is a much shorter commitment than they usually require.

WAYNE

If you want to go for longer-

PENNY

No. Not until she's older. I couldn't bear it.

WAYNE

I know what you mean. (pause) How is she today?

PENNY

In a good mood. Had a big breakfast. She'll probably fall asleep soon.

WAYNE

(Bends over stroller and talks to baby.)

Are you ready to go to the park with Daddy? That's right. We're going to the park today.

(OS Front Door women chattering. Front door opens and, still chattering about baby stuff enters LAVINIA, HAILEY, and GERTRUDE enter, each either pushing a stroller or carrying a baby and all carrying a diaper bag. They are each greeted by PENNY and WAYNE with hugs and kisses on the cheek, peeks at the babies, lots of chatter.)

LAVINIA

Are we all here?

(Looks around the room.)

Yes...good. OK ladies! We've got manni/pedis and sangria at noon and my girl will not be happy with us if we're late!

HAILEY

Ohhh....Sangria! Is that like a margarita?

LAVINIA

Are you even old enough to drink?

HAILEY

Back off granny.

PENNY

Come on girls. You promised. No bickering on our first Mom's day out.

HAILEY

It's ok, Penny. Granny and I loooove each other, don't we.

LAVINIA

You're not too shabby kiddo. Lots to learn, but not too shabby.

HAILEY

You just love me 'cause I set you up on a date with a certain plastic surgeon.

LAVINIA

That and your babysitting skills.

GERTRUDE

I don't want to interrupt your love fest ladies, but has anyone else noticed...Someone is missing! I know Wayne's not going to take all these girls to the park all by himself. Where's-

PHILLIP

(OS Front Door) I'm here! I'm coming! (pause)

(PHILLIP enters front door and pushes in a quad stroller or two double strollers.)

PHILLIP (Cont.)

Just a little late. Had to pick up a little something for our first big outing together!

(PENNY, LAVINIA, and HAILEY greet PHILLIP with hugs and kisses, excitedly fawn over the new stroller (s).)

PHILLIP
Gertie!

GERTRUDE
Phillip S. Morton!

PHILLIP

To be precise!

(PHILLIP and GERTRUDE embrace.)

PHILLIP (Cont.)

How you doing Gertie? You look fabulous!

GERTRUDE

Never been happier. Being a mom is even better than being someone's Auntie Gertie.

PHILLIP

And how is the little munchkin today?

(PHILLIP picks up GERTRUDE'S baby and puts her in the new stroller talking baby talk to her. The other Mom's take their cue, each taking their baby "bundle" and put in the new stroller, kiss their farewells to babies. LAVINIA and HAILEY kiss/hug PHILLIP and WAYNE and exit talking about manicures and sangria.)

GERTRUDE

You look good too Phil. Happy.

PHILLIP

Never been happier.

GERTRUDE

(Pats PHILLIP on the cheek adoringly.)
I'm so glad for you. So glad. (pause) Well, I'm off to get my nails and toes done.

PHILLIP
Never thought of you as a nail and toe gal.

GERTRUDE
I have a follow up interview tomorrow. Hospital Admin.

PHILLIP
What? Gertie! You've been holding out on me!

GERTRUDE
Wish me luck.

PHILLIP
I've not doubt you'll get the job and whip them all into shape!

(GERTRUDE hugs PHILLIP, kisses her baby bundle, and exits front door. PENNY watches as PHILLIP fawns over babies and notices WAYNE watching PHILLIP with adoration and walks over to him. They speak but PHILLIP doesn't notice as he's too busy with the babies.)

PENNY
I guess you finally found what you were looking for.

WAYNE
I did. They're beautiful.

PENNY
Them too. But, you know what I mean.

WAYNE
Phil? (pause) He's great. Changed my life. Who knew?

PENNY
He's kind of perfect for you, you know. And he's totally in love with the babies. I'm happy for you Wayne. Really happy for you. You're both lucky guys.

WAYNE
Thanks Pen. (pause) You know I'm just crazy about you. I love you Penny.

PENNY
I love you too Wayne.

(PENNY and WAYNE embrace in a non-romantic way. PHILLIP looks up, sees them, and smiles. WAYNE smiles back at PHILLIP and then kisses PENNY on the top of the head.)

PENNY (Cont.)

Well, I better get going before they kill each other or leave without me.

PHILLIP

You got that right!

(PENNY hugs PHILLIP goodbye, kisses her baby and heads to front door exit.)

PENNY

See you boys back at your place at about three?

WAYNE and PHILLIP

Sharp!

(They all chuckle. PENNY exits front door. PHILLIP bends over stroller(s) again, fussing over babies making sure they're all properly strapped in the new stroller(s). WAYNE walks over to him, leans over, and peeks in the stroller(s) with his hand lovingly on PHILLIP'S back. PHILLIP straightens up and they put their arms around each other's shoulders or waists and PHILLIP rests his head on WAYNE'S shoulder as they look fondly on the babies. After a moment, and during the following dialogue, WAYNE turns and gathers up the diaper bags.)

WAYNE

Who's ready to go to the park?

PHILLIP

We are!

(WAYNE holds open the front door as PHILLIP pushes stroller(s) out the front door and WAYNE starts to follow carrying the diaper bags.)

PHILLIP (Cont.)

(OS Front Door) Wait...wait! Abigail lost a sock. I'll get it.

(WAYNE exits front door as PHILLIP comes back in front door, looking around the room for the sock. GERTRUDE enters front door carrying a gift bag and watches PHILLIP as he locates a pink sock on the ground. PHILLIP sees GERTRUDE. He picks up the sock and shows it to GERTRUDE.)

PHILLIP

Found it!

(Looks at the sock like it's the sweetest thing he's ever seen, and holds it to his chest.)

PHILLIP (Cont.)

I knew it. I just knew I'd love being a husband and a father. Gertrude, I'm one lucky guy!

GERTRUDE

I forgot to give you this.

(Hands PHILLIP the gift bag.)

PHILLIP

For me? Oh, thank you Gerdie! You know how I love presents! What is it?

GERTRUDE

Just a little something to remember our time together.

(PHILLIP pulls out a jar which is tied with a pink bow, with a pickle inside of it and laughs.)

GERTRUDE (Cont.)

I think Wayne has finally found his pickle jar!

PHILLIP

Oh Gerdie!

(PHILLIP and GERTRUDE hug.)

END