

(Name of Show)

("Title of Episode")

by

(Name of First Writer)

(Based on, If Any)

Revisions by

(Names of Subsequent Writers,  
in Order of Work Performed)

Current Revisions by

(Current Writer, date)

Name (of company, if applicable)

Address

Phone Number

COLD OPENING

DESCENDING AERIAL VIEW (ALA GOOGLE MAPS) COMING FROM OUTER SPACE, EVENTUALLY ZOOMING IN ON OUT MOBILE HOME COMMUNITY.

ROSE (V.O.)

My name is Rose Davis and I used to have a dream, a few bucks in my pocket, and a waistline. Then, it seemed like the world hit a few bumps, I blinked, and it was all downwardly mobile.

WE SEE A SIGN ABOVE THE TRAILER COURT: "DAVIS ESTATES."

ROSE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

At one time my family owned this whole mountain, but now these five acres are all that's left of that. And it looks like I might just end up living crappily ever after, trying to keep tin roofs over my tenants' heads. But so far, the wind blows, things change, and the right people just seem to show up at the right time...

INT. THE DENBYS' CAR - DUSK

THE DENBYS, A WELL-TO-DO ATTRACTIVE COUPLE, LATE THIRTIES, EARLY FORTIES, PULL UP ACROSS FROM THE TRAILER PARK AND STOP.

MR. DENBY

Okay, then...!

MRS. DENBY  
(confused, looks outside)

"Okay, then" what?

MR. DENBY

We're... here. At the cabins. We're here.

MRS. DENBY

This is... a trailer park... just off the highway...

(squints at a sign)

"With one-room cabins 'round' back."

When you said we're going to have a rugged cabin get-away vacation, I was thinking more... Swiss Chalet with a hot toddy! This looks like an ad for smokeless tobacco.

MR. DENBY

Oh, honey, it'll... it'll be great. So great. Just like our honeymoon. Remember?

MRS. DENBY

(shakes head "no")

I was still drinking gimlets back then.

MR. DENBY

Just the two of us, snuggling on that tiny bed in that junky log cabin in Wisconsin. No radio, no TV, no phone. Just us and... and nature... and... and...

MRS. DENBY

And the robbery. Lost our watches the second night. That was romantic.

MR. DENBY

Okay, but until the robbery--

MRS. DENBY

And three pairs of my shoes, a box of cigars, and our wedding license. Why would--? We had to get married again.

MR. DENBY

But focus on that first night... that first night was pretty incredible.

HE SNUGGLES UP TO HER.

MRS. DENBY

(grins)

Okay, you're working it pretty hard here, but, yes. We had a really, really good time.

MR. DENBY

Come on. Let's do it again.

MRS. DENBY

Oh, I don't think I can do that again. As I said, I was still drinking gimlets back then.

MR. DENBY

No, I mean, just stay in a cabin.

MRS. DENBY

Oh. That.  
(then, slightly suspicious)

Is everything okay...?

MR. DENBY

Absolutlely. Why do you ask?

MRS. DENBY

Because I've noticed you've started  
drinking...beer. Domestic beer.

MR. DENBY  
(kisses her cheek)

Everything's great.

MRS. DENBY  
(sighs, reluctantly)

All right. We'll see how it goes.  
(looks at the park, grimaces)

I bet the people who live here eat...  
casseroles. Can't you just sense it?

Casseroles... everywhere.

A PAUSE AS SHE QUESTIONS WHAT THEY'RE ABOUT TO DO. THEY GET  
OUT OF THE CAR.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. THE HERRINGBONE

THE HERRINGBONE IS A PIZZA JOINT/BAR/REGISTRATION OFFICE. A  
LARGE, WARM FRIENDLY PLACE WITH A CABIN-LIKE INTERIOR. SOME  
PINBALL MACHINES, SKIS, AND SKIING ACCOUTREMENT (HENCE THE  
NAME HERRINGBONE) CLUTTERED WITH VARIOUS PIECES OF REALLY  
COOL FOLK ART - QUILTS AND INTERESTING STUFF MADE OUT OF  
STICKS, VINTAGE POP MACHINE, STURDY COMMUNAL TABLES, COUCH-  
THERE'S A SIGN ON THE WALL: "EAT, DRINK, AND BE MERRY, FOR  
TOMORROW YOU OWE THE IRS!" SKAR, RICKY, AND A FEW OTHER KIDS  
ARE PINBALLING AND BEING KIDS. BUZZ (THINK GEORGE CARLIN AS  
AN X MARINE, STILL WEARING HIS UNIFORM JACKET, ON WHICH IS A  
MEDAL HE WON IN VIETNAM) IS FIXING A TOASTER OVEN.

KATHIE LEE (AN EX HOOKER ROSE ONCE RESCUED AND NOW TOTALLY CONTROLS) IS PUTTING SOME PIZZA AND BEER IN FRONT OF THE BARLOWS (WHO ARE CURIOUSLY ANDROGENOUS - THINK PAT FROM SNL - HARD TO TELL WHO IS THE MAN AND WHO IS THE WOMAN.)

KATHIE LEE

Okay, so, large pepperoni, two beers,  
and a shot.

WENDELL

Kathie Lee, we didn't order a shot.

KATHIE LEE

Well, I wrote it on the ticket so...

SHELIA

Why would we order two beers and just  
one shot?

KATHIE LEE

Excellent point.  
(downs the shot herself)

Problem solved.  
(moves away from them, then  
doubles back)

You want another shot?

ROSE ENTERS FROM THE FRONT DOOR (ROSE WEARS CLOTHES WITH TOO MANY PICTURES OF ROSES ON THEM. HER JEWELRY IS ALSO ROSE-BASED. HER OVERLY PENCILED-IN EYEBROWS, GREEN EYE SHADOW, AND RED LIPS ARE QUITE SEXY... ON THE PLANET VENUS.). SHE'S FLUSTERED, AND SEARCHING AROUND FROM BEHIND THE CLUTTERED CHECK-IN COUNTER, LIFTING PAPERS, JUNK-MAIL CATALOGS, A PAPER PLATE WITH A HALF-EATEN PIECE OF PIZZA, ETC.

ROSE

Where the HELL are those glasses? I  
tell people to leave my stuff alone!  
Do they listen?

SHE LOOKS BEHIND HER, THEN REACHES DOWN AND FEELS AROUND BELOW THE COUNTER, SHE PULLS UP AN EMPTY SCHNAPPS BOTTLE.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Dammit, Kathie Lee!  
(pause, then)

I need the damn glasses to see the damn  
glasses! I spend half my time looking  
for stuff I had two seconds ago!

BY NOW, WE CLEARLY SEE THAT HER GLASSES ARE MERELY PUSHED  
BACK ON HER HEAD.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Okay, somebody's gonna feel Granny's  
wrath for gettin' on my main nerve! I  
have check-ins coming, today!  
(clenches fist, eyes closed)

Gotta focus... I bet I left 'em on my  
desk - I was settin' some Twitter  
nitwits straight. Yeah, that's where  
the are.

SHE EXITS OUT THE BACK, JUST AS THE DENBYS ENTER THE FRONT,  
GUARDED.

KATHIE LEE

Hello, there! You here to eat, drink,  
or...  
(checks sign)

...be merry? We do have an hourly  
rate! I don't see any luggage!

SHE LAUGHS WAY TOO HARD AT HER JOKE.

MR. DENBY

Yes- very funny. We... we have reservations for a cabin, and we have our luggage out in the car-

KATHIE LEE

Okie-doke. Want some help with luggage, sir? Buzz can give you a hand.

BUZZ

Where are you folks coming in from?

MR. DENBY

Up from Aspen for a couple of nights. Here are the keys - there are three bags in the trunk.

BUZZ

Three bags for a couple of nights, huh? Living large, my man.

BUZZ EXITS TO GET THEIR LUGGAGE.

KATHIE LEE

Buzz, don't be so nosey! Let me get the manager. Make yourselves at home.  
(pats Mr. Denby's arm, then feels his arm for a bit)

Man, that is a nice fabric. What is that?

MR. DENBY

It's cashmere actually... I don't--

KATHIE LEE

Cashmere? Isn't that like goat or something?

(MORE)

KATHIE LEE (CONT'D)

Well, it is so nice, smooth to the touch, and hey, you've got quite a gun show going on in there, don't you?

MRS. DENBY

Could you get the manager, please?

KATHIE LEE

Oops, Mother lion protecting her cub. I get it. I totally get it. And you were not wrong to do that, 'cause I can really...

SHE MAKES A POUNCING MOTION WITH HER "CLAWS" AND EXITS OUT BACK. MR. DENBY SEEMS, PERHAPS, STRANGELY ATTRACTED TO THIS TRAMP-ISH BEHAVIOR.

WENDELL

Caitlin, come over and eat.

NO RESPONSE, SHE KEEPS PLAYING PINBALL.

WENDELL (CONT'D)

Caitlin. Come on. ...Caitlin?

SKAR

(loudly across the room)

Dad! There is no "Caitlin." I am done with "Caitlin." I'm Skar.

WENDELL

I'm not going to call my daughter "Skar."

SKAR

(pointedly)

With a "K."

SHELIA

Well, at least it's got a little  
flair. Come on, Skar, eat.

SKAR  
(crosses to sit with them)

Thank you. Dad?

WENDELL

You're a self-destructive little girl  
who has an angry, rebellious streak  
that makes me seriously concerned for  
your future and your health, and our  
future and our health.

SKAR  
(shrugs)

Better than "Caitlin."

THE DENBYS TAKE ALL THIS IN. KATHIE LEE ENTERS, WITH ROSE.  
THE DENBYS HAVE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE HER AND THEY ARE  
EVENLY BOTH SHOCKED AND AMUSED - POOR PEOPLE ARE SO COLORFUL!

ROSE  
(to Kathie Lee, wearing  
glasses)

Yeah... they were on my desk. Okay,  
so I'll have a medium one of those  
sausage and pineapple. Oh, and a  
couple of those whaddya call it -  
merlots! Yeah, some nice merlots...  
(to the Denbys)

I'll be right with you, folks.

Welcome to Paradise!

END COLD OPENING

ACT ONEINT. THE HERRINGBONE - CONTINUOUS

(MR. DENBY, MRS. DENBY, ROSE, SKAR, KATHIE LEE, BUZZ,  
WENDALL, SHELIA)

ROSE

Howdy, there, folks! Are you in town  
for the foreclosure seminar?

MR. DENBY

No, I'm not here for tha--

MRS. DENBY

(her eyes light up at the  
thought)

There's a *foreclosure* seminar? That  
sounds... fun!

ROSE

I remember seeing something in the  
paper about one being at what used to  
be the union hall. ...But, when I  
think about it, I hardly ever read the  
papers any more. I think maybe a Bush  
was still President. Eh, forget I  
said anything.

(waves to the Barlow family)

Hey, Wendell, Shelia. Hi, Scab.

SKAR

Skar.

ROSE

Whatever.

(back to the Denbys)

So, what can I do ya for?

MR. DENBY

We called earlier to reserve a cabin.

The Denbys.

ROSE

(heads to the registration  
desk)

Oh, yeah. Come on over here and sign

in and stuff.

(leads him by the arm, feels  
his jacket, then, to Kathie  
Lee)

Man, you weren't kidding! Plush

Fabric! Big guns too!

KATHIE LEE

(laughs)

Right?

MRS. DENBY

Can we all just leave my husband's arm  
alone, please?

ROSE

How are his calves? Nice? Defined?

MRS. DENBY

(flustered)

...Ample. Can we please register?

ROSE

You got it. Sign in here.

(takes out a map and points)

Okay, so, we're here.

(MORE)

ROSE (CONT'D)

Cabin 7 is here, just past the communal garden but not as far as what we like to call "Heroin Lane." Buzz will take your bags for you-now, this part is the trailer court and you do not want to wander in there. They're territorial, drunk, and have guns.  
(off their reactions)

Ha! I was kidding. About the gun part, at least.

BUZZ RE-ENTERS WITH THE BIG BAGS.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Hey, Buzz, take them to Cabin Seven, please.

BUZZ

In room movies! Nice kitchen, fireplace. I'll bring in some cut wood for you too.

ROSE

Buzz is our jack of all trades around her. He lives just up the road at this mother's house. She's old and pretty sick. Has a colostomy bag. So I can't talk him into living down here-

BUZZ

Rose, ixnay on the olostomy-cay ag-bay.

ROSE

What's wrong with 'em? I'm looking forward to getting one. That's how lazy I plan to be.

ROSE

How long you been married?

MR. DENBY  
(growing uncomfortable)

Eighteen years.

ROSE

I been married for eighteen years. Total. I mean, if you add them all up.

SHE, KATHY, BUZZ, AND THE BARLOWS LAUGH IT UP.

ROSE (CONT'D)  
(points to the Barlows)

They've been married for... what is it now, Wendell?

WENDALL

Fifteen years.

ROSE

See? Just normal folks here. He's, like, your average gay guy. Not, y'know, the flamboyant, cross-dressing, gay gay type. We like to say "He's just gay enough." And Shelia, there, is your run of the mill lesbian. God, it's almost boring.

MRS. DENBY

And... they're married?

ROSE

Yep. She's a nurse at an old persons' home - but not in the fun shuffleboard and all-you-can-eat Jello part, more in the "They're never going outside again" part. So, she has insurance, he's sort of a writer, and there ain't a sort-of writer in the world who has insurance.

WENDALL

I'm a real writer.

ROSE

Yeah? What are you working on now?

WENDALL

...Every other month I write the copy for Highlights magazine's "Goofus and Gallant" strip.

ROSE

Want his autograph?

SHELIA

Anyway, he and I have been best friends since we were kids, so we figured why not get married so he can get on my policy?

WENDALL

Then we had this little bundle of joy.

SKAR

I'm not joyful!

SKAR STORMS OUT OF THE PLACE.

WENDALL

(yelling after her)

And you're not "Skar!"

BUZZ

Artificial insemination-

ROSE

There ain't nothing artificial about a turkey baster. I mean, you're not really gonna use it again, but still.

MRS. DENBY

(a bit nervous)

I think we're ready to go to the cabin now.

ROSE

Ha. You both have the same look on your faces as those normal guys who came over to pick up Marilyn Munster. Okay. Buzz, will show you the way, in case there are coyotes.

(off the Denbys' reaction)

Man, you guys aren't digging any of my jokes, are you?

MR. DENBY

Oh, we're digging them. They're very  
funny.

BUZZ STARTS TO LEAD THEM OUT.

ROSE

If you get hungry, there's pizza and  
beer here. Or if you want, I made a  
tuna casserole in the fridge.

MRS. DENBY  
(mouthing knowingly to her  
husband)

"Casserole."

THEY EXIT.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. FIRE PIT - EVENING

SOME OF THE TRAILER COURT RESIDENTS ARE GATHERED AROUND AN  
OPEN FIRE PIT. THIS IS WHERE THEY GOSSIP AND CHIT CHAT.  
THIS IS WHERE THE GREATEST PHILOSOPHERS IN THE WORLD HANG  
OUT. BBQ'S, PICNIC TABLES, TWINKLE LIGHTS. PERHAPS THE  
COZIEST PLACE ON EARTH. KATHIE LEE IS DRINKING MORE CHEAP  
MERLOT OUT OF A PAPER CUP. KIDS ARE RUNNING AROUND. ROSE  
ENTERS (NEW OUTFIT FOR THE EVENING-QUITE THE GYPSY LOOK)  
CARRYING AN ENORMOUS AND BIZARRELY-SHAPED TOMATO, .

ROSE

Hey, look what I found in the  
Community Garden. Sometimes it pays  
to live downstream from a nuclear  
waste dump.

SHE TOSSES IT IN THE STEW POT OVER THE FIRE.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Good luck in there, freak.

BUZZ

(looking handsome and cleaned  
up)

Hey, Rose, you look really sharp in  
that earthy peasant blouse - I  
remember when all the girls used to  
wear them, but they didn't look as  
good as you do....lots of women  
couldn't pull off an outfit like that,  
but, you--

ROSE

How much do you want to borrow, Buzz?

BUZZ

Man, your psychic powers are really  
humming, today, Rose.

ROSE

Yeah, so, how much, and when can you  
pay me back?

BUZZ

Sixty bucks. I have to get my bass out  
of the pawn shop and get my chops up  
for our gig at Angels. And I'll pay  
you back the day my check comes.  
Promise! Hey... maybe you could be my  
date that night.

ROSE

Buzz, I told you - I don't date guys  
in PRE-HAB.

KATHIE LEE POURS HER SOME WINE AS ROSE SITS NEXT TO HER.

KATHIE LEE

Hey, speaking of Angel's, later on,  
you wanna go and have a drink or two?

ROSE

God, I went there twice and both times  
drunk idiots actually hit on me. It  
was creepy and sad at the same time.

KATHIE LEE

Well, Rose, you're going to get that.  
You cougar, you.

ROSE

Shut up! I am not a cougar. I'm a  
badger. An aging, gassy badger with  
its romance gland removed. I'm wet  
where I'm supposed to be dry and dry  
where I'm supposed to be wet.

KATHIE LEE

Buzz likes you! He's pretty cute, in  
a lives-with-his-mom kind of way.

ROSE

Buzz is in his sixties, lives with his  
mom, and plays in a band. The end.

(MORE)

ROSE (CONT'D)

And cute or not, a boozed up man will  
try to hump a compost heap... in  
winter... with his mother watching...  
his gravely-ill... deeply-religious...  
old old mother watching.

KATHIE LEE

So... you just wanna stay here then?

ROSE

Yeah. Us in a bar, midweek... not  
good, hooker.

(then, to everyone there)

Okay, hey, everybody, I just want you  
to know that I, your wise and  
protective empress, have kept the dogs  
at bay yet again, and through clever  
bookkeeping and downright lying, you  
will all have electricity and water  
for the entire month! It'll be living  
just like rich people did in 1918!

EVERYONE CHEERS AND LAUGHS.

ROSE (CONT'D)

(toasting to the sky)

Lord, forgive us our debts as we  
forgive our debtors!

BUZZ

Hold on a second, Rose. Mrs. Ricon  
hasn't paid rent this month. She's  
way late.

ROSE

That's weird. She's never late.

She's one of the only ones of y'all

who has an actual job.

(in reverie)

God, remember jobs? Let me see if I

can recall... you, what, go to a...

"place" every day, right? And then

you either sit around and do stuff or

you stand around and do stuff. Then

you go home. And then they would pay

you - god, that sounds so crazy - and

then you'd, what's that phrase?

"Spend money on stuff." God, was that  
even close?

SHELIA

(head in hands, forlornly)

I have a job. It's mind-sucking,

depressing, disgusting, and I'll be

dead in five years. And there are

drawbacks too... but, I'm grateful...

because... I have... a job.

WENDELL

Attagirl!

BUZZ

The reasons there are no jobs is that

"free market" deal is just a race to

the bottom. Supply-and-demand?

(MORE)

BUZZ (CONT'D)

If you're broke, you can't demand nothing - and that's just what you get. And don't think we're gonna get a bailout. That's for the one percent of the one percent that are too big to fail! All the money trickled up. They get it- we owe it! And that's what's killing the ninety-nine percent.

ROSE

Ninety-eight percent. You got your one-percent, then the other ninety-eight percent, then there's us.

EVERYONE LAUGHS. THEN ROSE NOTICES THAT MR. DENBY HAS BEEN STANDING ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE GROUP, KINDA WATCHING AND LAUGHING.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Hey, Mr. Whatsyourface. Don't lurk in the shadows like that. And put your hands where I can see 'em.

MR. DENBY  
(awkwardly enters the pit  
area)

Sorry to interrupt. Uh... my wife really wants a Fresca and was just wondering if there's any around.

ROSE

Well, the pop machine in there is chock full of Mountain Dew and Tab.

(MORE)

ROSE (CONT'D)

And that's about it. We're all about  
the caffeine around here.

ROSE POURS SOME MORE MERLOT IN HER PAPER CUP.

MR. DENBY

Yeah, she really wants a Fresca.

A LONG BEAT AS THEY JUST LOOK AT EACH OTHER.

ROSE

Well, best of luck on your quest!

MR. DENBY  
(inching out)

Okay, then, I'll just be... Nice fire.

ROSE

It is a nice fire, isn't it?

BUZZ

The Cheyenne have a poem that goes:

"We are part fire, and part dream.

We are the physical mirroring  
of 'Miaheyyun,' the Total Universe,  
upon this earth, our Mother."

EVERYONE TAKES THIS IN.

ROSE  
(her eyes smile as she looks  
at Buzz)

It is a nice fire, isn't it?

MR. DENBY NODS AND AWKWARDLY SLIPS OUT OF THERE AS SOME KIDS  
RUN BY, INCLUDING RICKY.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Hey, Ricky, get over here. Is your  
mom home?

RICKY

No. She's still at work.

ROSE

Well, what time will she be back? I gotta talk to her about rent.

RICKY

Oh, she'll... be back pretty late, so--

ROSE

Well, I stay up pretty late, we got a whole other bottle of Merlot ready to go.

KATHIE LEE

It's a cab blend.

ROSE

It's three bucks a bottle, is what it is. Minus the five cents refund on the bottle - which is my turn to get, by the way.

(back to Ricky)

So you tell her to come find me.

RICKY

I don't know, she's usually so tired, she just goes right to bed. And then she has to leave by five-thirty in the morning.

ROSE

I get up at five--

RICKY  
(quickly)

Four-thirty. Usually it's four-  
thirty.

ROSE AND HE LOOK AT EACH OTHER FOR A BEAT. THEN...

ROSE

You kids... You just don't know how to  
lie these days. Okay, I'm going to  
look for your mom now.

SHE GETS UP, RICKY FOLLOWS HER.

RICKY

Where are you going? She's not in the  
trailer--

SKAR HAS BEEN WATCHING THIS AND TRAILS AFTER THEM.

SKAR

Hey, what are you doing? His mom's  
been really sick. So maybe you should  
just let her alone...

CUT TO:

EXT. THE RINCON'S TRAILER - CONTINUOUS

THE THREE OF THEM ROUND THE CORNER, HEADED TOWARDS THE DOOR.

ROSE

Sick too, huh? What do you know about  
it?

SKAR

Enough. It has to do with... feminine  
problems.

ROSE

Knowing who your parents are, do you  
have a clear understanding of what  
"feminine problems" really are?

SHE STARTS FOR THE DOOR, SKAR JUMPS IN HER WAY.

SKAR

You can't go in there. That's  
breaking and entering.

ROSE

Move. Because I'm about to become  
your feminine problem.  
(busts past and steps inside)

Mrs. Ricon...?

CUT TO:

INT. THE RICON'S' TRAILER - CONTINUOUS

SHE ENTERS AND SITS ON THE COUCH, RICKY AND SKAR FOLLOW HER  
IN.

ROSE

Okay, so you know what I'm going to  
do? I'm just gonna sit here, and wait  
for her to come home so I don't miss  
her. Then she can go right to bed.  
Cool? Cool. Got anything to snack on  
that's both nutritious and delicious?  
Or, y'know, some Fritos?

RICKY JUST STANDS THERE, SILENT. BUT SOMETHING IS DEFINITELY  
UP. AND IT'S NOT GOOD. ROSE PULLS HIM INTO HER.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Okay. What's going on, honey?

RICKY

Um... the... the INS grabbed her at  
the bus stop.

ROSE

Oh, god.

SKAR

I seen the whole thing. This country  
is messed up.

ROSE

We finally agree. How long have you  
been living alone for?

RICKY

Couple, three weeks.

ROSE

What? Holy crap.  
(hugs Ricky)

Your tax dollars at work.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWOINT. THE RICON'S' TRAILER - CONTINUOUS

ROSE AND RICKY AND SKAR ARE AS WE LEFT THEM.

ROSE

Okay, well, this blows. Come here,  
kid.

SHE GIVES HIM A BIG HUG.

ROSE (CONT'D)

You've been really brave. And really  
stupid. There's a ton of people  
around that fire that have your back.  
Even though they're flat on theirs.  
You're going to school though, right?

RICKY NODS.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Good. Listen, Buzz will find out what  
we can do about your mom, alright? He  
knows stuff about this. It'll all  
work out fine. Or else it won't. So  
don't worry, okay?  
(to Skar)  
You. Outside.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE RICON'S' TRAILER - CONTINUOUS

ROSE AND SKAR CLOSE THE DOOR BEHIND THEM.

ROSE

Okay, look, Skid--

SKAR

Skar.

ROSE

Whatever. You've known about this from the beginning? And you thought it'd be cool for that timid little boy to live alone? You should have told someone!

SKAR

I was scared that if I told someone, Child Services would come and take him away too.

ROSE

That's not going to happen.

SKAR

How do you know?

ROSE

'Cause we're not going to tell no one.

SKAR

But you just--

ROSE

It's different when adults do it!  
Now, listen. I understand not wanting to rat him out. That's usually uncool.

(MORE)

ROSE (CONT'D)

But you should always rat to me about everything around here because I'm - I don't want to say "Head Rat" - but I need to know things like this. Because if we don't cough up the dough for their rent, this whole trailer court could be shut down. The property is this close to foreclosure every month - we have no wiggle room. I mean, are you aware that you put our entire community at risk of eviction?

SKAR

No. Sorry.

ROSE

Well, you did. Honey, you're a child. Your view of the world is this.

ROSE PUTS HER HAND UP THREE INCHES FROM SKAR'S EYES.

ROSE (CONT'D)

And as you get older...  
(slowly pulls her hand back a little)  
...you get to see a little further and a little further. Hell, I'm at the point where I can see Mars. But you have to know that you don't know things yet. And I... I know everything. Which is exhausting, by the way.

SKAR

What's the capital of Montana?

ROSE GLARES AT THE SMIRKING GIRL FOR AN BEAT... THEN:

ROSE

Helena, you smart aleck punk. Did any of this sink in? Because you are smart. Like, way smart. I can smell the smart on you. If you ever get past this snarky brat thing, I see you getting a scholarship and heading off to one of those fancy East Coast schools. And then become a different kind of snarky brat.

SKAR

Yeah, I've had my eye on Yale since before I could swear.

ROSE

Hey, it's possible. You should want to get out of here. But we're stuck here. And right now so are you. And we all need to be a tight, unified group or else we're dead. My dad was the president of the silver miners' union here in Colorado back in the day, and they had to fight really hard to get that union. Like scary violent hard, y'know.

(MORE)

ROSE (CONT'D)

But they did it to protect each other.  
So we're like a little union in this  
park. Except, y'know, they had  
medical benefits, paid holidays, and,  
well... pay. But it's still about  
being all for one and one for all.  
Get it?

SKAR

Yeah. I get it.

ROSE

Good. Now go burn something down.

SKAR EXITS. ROSE SHOUTS AFTER HER.

ROSE (CONT'D)

But nothing on the property!

CUT TO:

EXT. FIRE PIT - A BIT LATER

ROSE IS IN THE MIDDLE OF TELLING EVERYONE WHAT'S HAPPENING.

ROSE

...So he's been living there alone  
for, like, two or three weeks.

WENDELL

Oh, my god. That little kid? Is he  
okay?

(a very reluctant offer)

I mean, does... he... need... a...  
place..... to..... stay...?

ROSE

I know your heart was really in that one, Wendell. But you've got your hands full with... Scamp.

SKAR (O.S.)

(shouts)

Skar!

ROSE

(shouts back)

Shut up! We'll figure out something for Ricky, but most importantly, we need money for that rent or they'll shut us down with all the grace of Zuccotti Park. Now who can pitch in?

BUZZ

(digs in his pockets)

Would... eight bucks help?

ROSE

No.

BUZZ

(puts it back in his pocket)

Okay, then. Hey, I got room for him at my mom's for a while. She has that sun porch full of tomato plants. I could move them over here and him in there, at least for a while.

ROSE

Buzz, you are the most generous broke-ass man who ever lived.

(MORE)

ROSE (CONT'D)

You got a big heart, darlin'. You're always the first to share everything your mom has. Too bad that bitch isn't like that and you know that will never happen in a million years.

BUZZ

Point made.

SHELIA

Rose, let's be honest. We all can pitch in a little, sure, but there's no way we're going to cover the whole thing. We don't have a lot of extra cash lying around. We live in a trailer park, for god's sake.

ROSE

It's called "Davis Estates," thank you very much. And, dammit, you're right. So what are some other options?

KATHIE LEE

Barbra Streisand.

ROSE

Keep going, this sounds good...

KATHIE LEE

Well, she has tons of money. She seems like a nice person--

ROSE

She does?

KATHIE LEE

Yeah. And she's one of those  
Hollywood liberal-types who wants to  
help the downtrodden and such. Well,  
we're downtrodden and such. We are  
"People who need people," if you will.  
HA! So let's just write her - I'm  
sure we can get her address - and ask  
her for the money. Problem solved.

ROSE

(looks at her for a beat)

Look at you. It's only Tuesday and  
you're already at a Thursday drunk!

KATHIE LEE

(writing a note)

"Dear Ms. Barbra Streisand..."

ROSE

And they say the hand-written letter  
is a lost art.  
(then)

You know what... those people in the  
cabin drove in in a Mercedes. They  
have money.

BUZZ

You don't even know them.

ROSE

I know... but in the brief time I  
spent with them, I'm pretty sure...  
I'm smarter than them.

WENDELL

"Smarter than they."

ROSE

You know how you said you got bullied  
as a kid?

WENDELL

Yes.

ROSE

Well, it wasn't for being gay.

SHE STARTS IN THE DIRECTION OF THE CABINS...

CUT TO:

INT. CABIN - A BIT LATER

ROSE IS IN THE MIDDLE OF TELLING SOMETHING TO THE DENBY'S.

ROSE

...So his mom is gone and he's been  
living alone for two to three...  
months.

MRS. DENBY

Oh, that poor boy.

ROSE

It's awful, I know. So... I was  
thinking... since you seem like such  
nice...

(MORE)

ROSE (CONT'D)  
(looks at Mrs. Denby for a  
second, then continues)

...people, I thought maybe you could  
help out a bit.

MR. DENBY

In what way?

ROSE

Well, maybe you could pay up front for  
the thirty days you're staying here.

MRS. DENBY

Thirty days? Oh, no. We're just  
spending a little rustic vacation  
weekend here.

(spots something crawling on  
the table)

The degree of rusticness is a bit over-  
the-top...

(smashes whatever it was with  
a book)

But we're gone soon.

ROSE

Nu-uh! Your husband here booked this  
cabin for a full thirty days!

MRS. DENBY

What? Why would you do that?

MR. DENBY

Uh...

ROSE

Look, there are a bunch of people out there that could be homeless by the end of the month. I can't imagine it would make that much difference to you to pay it now instead of later. I'd really appreciate it.

MRS. DENBY

You're right. It would make zero difference if, for some reason, we were going to be staying in this cesspool for an entire month. However--

MR. DENBY

I'll... I'll see what I can get my hands on.

MRS. DENBY

"See what you can get your hands on"? That sounds like that might be a hard thing for you to do. Why would that be a hard thing for you to do, John?

ROSE

(puts it all together)

Ohhhh... you haven't told her yet, have you?

SILENCE.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Tell her. Tell her right now.

MRS. DENBY

Tell "her" what?

ROSE

Tell her what's actually going on.  
What's actually happening. What your  
actual situation is.

MR. DENBY

Uh... dear...

ROSE  
(clears her throat)

Uh...

MRS. DENBY

John...?

MR. DENBY

We've hit a... Well, from a financial  
standpoint... our portfolio has had a,  
uh... we don't have any, like, money.  
Anymore.

MRS. DENBY TAKES THIS IN...

MRS. DENBY

Wanna run that by me again?

MR. DENBY

Yeah, we kinda lost everything.  
Mitch, it turns out, was running a -  
oh, god it's so trite to say it these  
days - a "Ponzi scheme." And pretty  
much all of our savings are... um...

ROSE

Crap.

MR. DENBY

Excellent word choice.

ROSE

I'm familiar with many financial terms  
of that sort.

MRS. DENBY

So... we're broke?

MR. DENBY

Not...

(with exaggerated despair)

"broke." More like...

(soft pedaling, lighter)

"Unfunded..." "Insolvent...."

(softly, somewhat cheerily)

"Broke!"

MRS. DENBY

(seething, rising)

John...

ROSE

(starting for the door)

Y'know what, I'm just gonna scoot on  
outta here if you don't mind...

MR. DENBY

Wait... how did you know how bad my  
situation was?

ROSE

Didn't. Took a guess. See ya.

ROSE EXITS.

MRS. DENBY

So this whole "cabin vacation" thing was just to trick me and trap me out here?

MR. DENBY

I didn't know what else to do.

MRS. DENBY

Well, I know what I'm going to do. I'm going back to the Aspen house and away from you.

MR. DENBY

There is no Aspen house. Or beach house. Or really any house. Everything is being sold or foreclosed on. But I'm sure this is temporary. I'll get another job. I didn't do anything wrong. I just got the clients, I wooed them. Mitch is the one who did the books and the investments and is being arrested...

(checks his watch)

...right about now.

MRS. DENBY

When were you going to tell me we're...

(MORE)

MRS. DENBY (CONT'D)  
(mocks his soft-pedaling,  
lighter tone)

"broke!"

MR. DENBY

We have some money. But until  
everything is sold off, I'm not quite  
sure how much.

MRS. DENBY

What exactly are you selling?

MR. DENBY

Pretty much everything. Furniture,  
jewelry, the car is paid for... but we  
should probably get something a little  
more energy efficient.

MRS. DENBY

Good god, we're going green?! That's  
it.

SHE GRABS HER COAT AND EXITS.

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. THE HERRINGBONE - MINUTES LATER

RICKY AND SKAR ARE PLAYING PINBALL. MRS. DENBY ENTERS AND  
LOOKS AROUND.

MRS. DENBY

Excuse me, kids. Do you know how one  
can get a drink here?

SKAR  
(hops over the bar)

Sure. I'll get it. What do you want?

MRS. DENBY

Really?

SKAR

Absolutely. Let me fix you something.

MRS. DENBY  
(noticing Ricky)

So. You must be Ricky.

RICKY

Yeah.

MRS. DENBY  
(not sure what to say)

...How are you?

RICKY

Okay. How are you?

MRS. DENBY

You're "okay"? Really? Well, if you're okay, then you leave me no choice other than to also say that I'm "okay." But only because you're here.

RICKY

Good.

MRS. DENBY  
(sincerely)

I'm glad you're okay.

ROSE ENTERS AND SEES SKAR WHO HAS A PINT GLASS OUT AND IS POURING JACK DANIELS INTO IT LIKE IT'S WATER.

ROSE

Get out from behind that bar!

SKAR DOES SO.

SKAR

I was just getting the nice lady a  
drink.

ROSE  
(off the enormous glass of  
booze)

You've been watching how Kathie Lee  
bartends too long. Okay, kids,  
vamoose. The lady here has a right to  
a little alone time. Just her  
thoughts. And her ridiculously large  
jar of whiskey.

THE KIDS VAMOOSE.

ROSE (CONT'D)

I kinda figured you'd be in here.

MRS. DENBY

How did you figure that?

ROSE

Your life just exploded into a million  
pieces. Time to drink.

MRS. DENBY  
(off the whiskey)

That is awfully big. Uncouth, really.

...Wanna split it?

ROSE SHRUGS, NODS "YES," AND SITS AS MRS. DENBY SPLITS THE  
BOOZE.

MRS. DENBY (CONT'D)

And we can just sit here and drink in silence while I think about what to do next. Could we do that?

ROSE

I guess we can.

THEY SIT AND DRINK FOR A SHORT MOMENT, THEN...

ROSE (CONT'D)

Nope, we can't. So what did you do?! Did you yell at him? Throw something at his face? Or are you a frying-pan-over-the head type?

MRS. DENBY

No. I didn't do any of that. I said a few choice words and left.

ROSE  
(unimpressed)

Hear you roar. So what now?

MRS. DENBY

I don't know. I mean, that is a lot to take in. What the hell does he expect from me?

ROSE

Well, he probably expects you're not coming back.

MRS. DENBY

It has crossed my mind.

ROSE

Well, yeah, I totally get that. Sure. But, then, you see, he'll really have nothing. And that's not cool. He's at the lowest part of his life. You can't leave him alone now with a big ol' divorce. This is where all the fun you've been missing as a rich lady starts! You'll have the opportunity to think while you scramble. It's kind of fun actually! Builds character and all that shit. And you're starting great because booze helps the whole process along. So while you're stumbling around under the weight of what's known as "sinking to the bottom," you actually get an opportunity or two to make a difference in the lives of other people, in a good way. And then you're not a bitter old sow the rest of your life. Well, at least not because of a divorce.

MRS. DENBY

What do you know about it? And you're not going to sing "Stand By Your Man," are you?

ROSE

Nah. I was told years ago to never  
sing. Come here.

(leads her to the open door)

See that big hill up there? Tomorrow  
go out and look at the big mansion on  
top of it - that's where I grew up.  
This five acres is all that's left of  
what my family used to own, so I do  
know what I'm talking about. Come  
here, I got an idea.

SHE LEADS MRS. DENBY OUT OF THE ROOM.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. FIRE PIT - CONTINUOUS

MR. DENBY IS TALKING TO BUZZ AS THEY LOOK AT THE FIRE. HE'S  
PROBABLY HAD A FEW. THE RICH, WHEN DRUNK, LIKE TO SLUM IT...

MR. DENBY

You know, Kathie Lee and Rose thought  
my jacket was really impressive. But  
your jacket says a hell of a lot more  
for you than mine does for me...

BUZZ

What do you mean?

MR. DENBY

You know - I mean your old jacket says  
you did something really worthy and  
honorable in your life. Mine just  
says that I had a credit card.

BUZZ

I don't know about worthy, man. I did what I was told, came back with some metal in my back, which they let me keep, a drug habit, and constant nightmares. But it wasn't all a walk in the park.

MR. DENBY

Still, Buzz... You have something I really respect. Yeah, I have an expensive car and some clothes and other stuff, and a couple of houses... that I'm losing... because I put my faith in something that's kind of fake, and coming apart. You have something real that nobody can take away.

BUZZ

Well, thanks, I guess. ...Wanna trade?

ROSE CROSSES BY WITH MRS. DENBY. ROSE NOTICES MR. DENBY.

ROSE

Great, you seem a bit hammered too.  
Follow me.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. CABIN - MOMENTS LATER

ROSE IS TALKING TO THE DENBY'S...

ROSE

...So, I was thinking, y'know, instead of staying in this awful, cramped cabin, you could just take over Ricky's trailer. It wouldn't cost too much more than this place, and it has two rooms, and she's so mad at you, that way she doesn't have to look at your sad broke-as-hell face all day. Everyone wins!

MRS. DENBY

Oh, I don't think we should--

MR. DENBY

We'll take it.

MRS. DENBY

What?

MR. DENBY

She's right. It's way nicer over there. There are people around. It makes sense.  
(quickly)

Temporarily. It's totally temporary. Until, y'know, things turn around.

ROSE

(selling it to Mrs. Denby)

The bathroom is inside...!

MRS. DENBY

I can't believe this is happening.

ROSE

Great! This totally solves everything.

MRS. DENBY

But what is that Ricky boy going to do?

ROSE

Until we find his mom, he's going to change his name from Ricky Ricon to Ricky Davis, that's what. Who knew I could have a kid so far after menopause?  
(then)

Okay, now. If you're going to be living here - "temporarily" - there's a few things you have to understand. And that is we're all in this shitheap together. And, according to the papers, the heap is just getting bigger. You're new, so welcome. Now, get a swimsuit and start doing laps because as far as cesspools go, this place is actually somewhat pleasant. Filled with very pleasant and fascinating people. Please treat them as you would your own family.

MRS. DENBY

Oh, that's a bad analogy...

ROSE

(laughs)

Okay, I get that. Treat them like you would treat your doubles partner.

Okay, then. I'll be by later with Welcome Wagon envelope with coupons to Ruby Tuesday and Linens 'N Things. If that doesn't make you feel welcome, I don't know what will.

SHE STARTS TO EXIT, THEN TURNS BACK.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Oh... and I found a Fresca for you.

SHE TOSSES IT TO MRS. DENBY, WHO SEEMS TOUCHED BY THIS GESTURE.

ROSE (CONT'D)

See? We take care of each other around here. So, keep boozing it up tonight and save it for breakfast.

'Night.

ROSE EXITS.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. TRAILER COURT, OUTSIDE ROES'S TRAILER - NEXT MORNING

THE DENBYS ARE HAULING THEIR SUITCASES ACROSS THE COURT, HEADED TO THEIR NEW "TEMPORARY" HOME. MRS. DENBY ROUNDS THE CORNER AND SEES RICKY FORLORNLY MOVING ALL HIS STUFF INTO ROSE'S PLACE. ROSE IS HOLDING THE DOOR FOR HIM, AND RUFFLES HIS HAIR.

ROSE

Welcome home, kiddo.  
(as he enters the place)

Oh, and it's your week to do the  
dishes. Hop to.

RICKY LAUGHS AS SHE FOLLOWS HIM IN. MRS. DENBY JUST STARES  
AT THE SCENE AND SIGHS.

END ACT THREE

TAG

EXT. FIRE PIT - LATER THAT NIGHT

EVERYONE IS SITTING AROUND THE FIRE PIT, FINISHING UP SINGING  
JOE HILL'S FOLK SONG "PREACHER AND THE SLAVE" (A.K.A. "PIE IN  
THE SKY).

EVERYONE

(singing)

"...YOU WILL EAT [YOU WILL EAT]

BYE AND BYE [BYE AND BYE]

IN THAT GLORIOUS LAND ABOVE THE SKY

[WAY UP HIGH!]

WORK AND PRAY [WORK AND PRAY]

LIVE ON HAY [LIVE ON HAY]

YOU'LL GET PIE IN THE SKY WHEN YOU DIE

[THAT'S A LIE!]

SKAR

God, why do all these songs come from  
decades before I was born?

ROSE

Because these songs actually say  
something.

(MORE)

ROSE (CONT'D)

About society and about the rights of people and the beauty of life. Also, Buzz sucks at guitar and they only have, like, three chords. So just sit back and enjoy it, Sk...aaaaaa...rrr.

SKAR SMILES, A SLIGHT VICTORY. THEN...

ROSE (CONT'D)

...rsdale.

SHE LAUGHS ALONG WITH EVERYONE ELSE.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Wait, wait, let's do this one, for the little ones. 'Cause it'll really piss 'em off.

(starts singing)

"TEACH YOUR CHILDREN WELL..."

EVERYONE JOINS IN, GUITARS UP, ETC...

EVERYONE

(singing)

"...THEIR FATHER'S HELL WILL SLOWLY GO

BY. AND FEED THEM ON YOUR DREAMS.

THE ONE THEY PICK'S THE ONE THEY'LL

KNOW BY...

ON THE OUTSKIRTS WE SEE MRS. DENBY, WATCHING THIS. THEN, STILL UNSEEN BY THE OTHERS, SHE WALKS BEHIND THEM ALL... AND SURREPTITIOUSLY LEAVES A CASSEROLE ON ROSE'S STOOP.

EVERYONE (CONT'D)

(singing)

"...DON'T YOU EVER ASK THEM WHY, IF

THEY TOLD YOU, YOU WOULD CRY..."

SHE PAUSES, CRACKS OPEN HER FRESCA, TAKES A SIP, THEN HUSTLES BACK TO HER TRAILER. MR. DENBY HOLDS THE DOOR OPEN FOR HER... AND LOOKS AT THE CROWD GATHERED AROUND THE PIT. AND STARTS TO QUIETLY WHISTLE ALONG. MAYBE THIS PLACE ISN'T SO BAD.

MRS. DENBY  
(smacks him in the belly)

Stop that immediately.

MR. DENBY STOPS WHISTLING AND TRIES TO GO INSIDE. ...BUT SHE'S LOCKED HIM OUT. HE SIGHS.

EVERYONE  
(singing)

"...SO JUST LOOK AT THEM AND SIGH...  
AND KNOW THEY LOVE YOU."

FADE OUT.

ROSE (O.S.)

Okay, so how many more of these do I  
have to do until we get to  
syndication?

END OF SHOW