

start

Annie  
Peg

PEG  
So, she has this whole terra cotta thing going on, but I'm not that earthy-crunchy.

ANNIE  
Looks like she bought out every gift shop in Santa Fe.

PEG  
Her patio is very nice, she took her plants pretty seriously. I've been online trying to figure out what's what.

She points it out on the laptop.  
Annie leans in extremely close. Her face nearly touching the screen.

ANNIE  
That's Asparagus Fern, that's Anthurium, and that would be --  
Lacy Leaf Philodendron.  
(off Peg's look)  
Senior Horticultural Therapy. Every Wednesday.

PEG  
Quite the greenhouse, grow lights and everything. Plus thyme, basil, parsley, rosemary --

ANNIE  
All the spices in the world wouldn't have helped her.

PEG  
Not the best cook?

ANNIE  
She tried. Some of her stuff was pretty good, if you didn't know what it was supposed to be. Her meatloaf was the best I ever tasted until she told me it was carrot cake.

PEG  
(laughing)  
You said you're in "assisted" right?

ANNIE  
Yes. A proud "Ass."

not that

PEG

Don't take this the wrong way, but you don't appear to be –

ANNIE

A decrepit old crone? I'm not. But I don't see very well. After my husband passed away, I nearly burned the house down making tea. I'm legally blind, even with my glasses. But without them I'd need two German Shepherds and a helper monkey. This computer is nice. It's bright and you can zoom in real close.

I've

PEG

Did you ever consider just getting a dog, for company?

op.  
ose. Her  
reen.

ANNIE

Not with these eyes. Last summer I saw a snake on my screen porch –

be –

PEG

I hate snakes.

ANNIE

Not a fan either. I broke a broom handle trying to kill the damn thing.

me,

PEG

And did you?

ANNIE

Yes. And I'm proud to say that that bungee cord will never hurt another soul.

know  
er tasted

PEG

I see why people like you, Annie. You're so outgoing, you're like the mayor of this place.

ANNIE

I do try to be social. After Kevin died, I think the solo meals bothered me the most. I've never liked eating alone, even as a kid. I'm an only child. I used to put stuffed animals at every place setting. That's probably why I talk so much, no one else ever chimed in. Were you married?

PEG  
(Nods) Got divorced a year ago. Tried to keep the house up, but too many ghosts. Mostly of me.

ANNIE  
Ghosts?

PEG  
You don't want to hear all of this crap.

ANNIE  
I just confessed to being the Bungee Cord Killer. It's your turn to reveal something.

PEG  
Fair enough. With no one else around, I got in my head too much. I felt like I lived with a ghost of my younger self. That young Peg was lurking around every corner. Always there to remind me of a bad choice or decision. "Should have married that first guy, Peg. Should have finished that degree, Peg."

ANNIE  
It sounds like our ghosts meet for coffee. I hate my younger self. Well, I don't hate her, I just really envy her tits.

PEG  
(laughing)  
For the most part, everything was fine with Alan. Then, a couple of years ago, after thirty-two years together - he hit me. Not really a hit, but - It was ridiculous, we were going away for, well - history's most organized romantic weekend. I was putting the luggage in the car and as usual, I was not doing it correctly, so he shoved me out of the way. When he did, I slipped on the gravel and went down. Hard. Hard enough to split my lip. So, the fall was accidental, but the shove wasn't, and that was just as bad.

ANNIE  
Definitely.

PEG  
He was falling over himself with apology. He nearly started crying. Of course, I wasn't going anywhere then, looking like I did. So I had the whole weekend to think about it.

up, but

Sitting there, unpacking lingerie with my lip out to here. I started wondering; How long have I been letting myself get shoved out of the way? We limped along another year or so, but we both knew something had shifted. We called it quits.

ANNIE

So sad.

PEG

turn to

More strange than sad. I was bored and anxious at the same time. The thing is - Alan was very strict with the kids - the whole time they were growing up, it was like boot camp. So, a lot of clashes. I spent so much time playing peacemaker, defusing stuff between him and the kids that when they left, I was this referee without a game.

o much. I  
ng Peg  
me of a  
y, Peg.

ANNIE

But you must like having a whole place to yourself.

PEG

er self.

I don't know. Next year, I'll be sixty years old\* (*\*or age appropriate for the actor*) and except for the last few months selling the house, I've never lived alone. From my parents, to college roommates to Alan. I've noticed that I've started to talk to myself. About nothing. I just say out loud what I'm going to do next. "O.K, now I'll make some egg salad and do the dishes." Should I be worried?

couple of  
really a  
the  
y, so he  
travel  
e fall  
bad.

ANNIE

Oh, sweetie. If the FBI ever bugged my room, they'd think eight people with Tourette's lived there. The stuffed animals have been replaced. Now I whisper sweet nothings to houseplants, and I swear at FOX News. Come on, lets look at the rest of those pictures.

Dennis and Johnny enter and walk toward the "fish tank."

End

DENNIS

Well that sounds great, but who's going to fix it?

d crying.  
d. So I