

WOMAN 2

42.

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INT. GYMNASIUM - DAY

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Helen opens the door to a busy urban gymnasium and is immediately assaulted by the sound of screaming children and the smell of sweaty little bodies. She spies STACEY practicing her floor routine on the soft mats in the middle of the space. The COACH waves at Helen and holds up her hand to indicate Stacey needs five more minutes. Helen nods and points to the bleachers - she'll wait up there.

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INT. GYMNASIUM - BLEACHERS - DAY

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Helen descends from the top of the stairs and takes a seat in an empty row. The benches are sparsely populated with a handful of other parents who are waiting to pick up their young Olympic hopefuls.

Two rows ahead of Helen, two WOMEN are discussing something loudly, their heads knitted together.

WOMAN 1

That's what *I* heard. A *waitress*.
That he met at a local restaurant

WOMAN 2

I thought she was a bartender.

WOMAN 1

No, a fucking waitress. His *kids*
were right there.

WOMAN 2

Oh my God. How did she find out?

WOMAN 1

He *told* her.

WOMAN 2

No!

WOMAN 1

Yes. He just came home one day and
told her and said I'm leaving you.

WOMAN 2

Oh my god. I feel sick.

WOMAN 1

Right? I mean, that can *happen*.

WOMAN 2

You know, he never seemed happy to
me.

WOMAN 2

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WOMAN 1
You think?

WOMAN 2
It was *obvious*. She's just - she's so perfect, you know what I mean? So committed to her look, her store, her whole life. But he was *miserable*. He had this, like, *dead* look in his -

Helen CLEARS HER THROAT audibly. The woman turn around. They freeze. Woman 2 looks like she's about to vomit. But Woman 1 breaks into a HUGE FAKE SMILE and says in a voice a full-octave higher.

WOMAN 1
Helen! You look *great*.

HELEN
Thanks Sandra.

Handwritten: *End sc. 1*

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EXT. GYMNASIUM - DAY

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Helen and Stacey emerge on to the street. Helen bends down to help Stacey zip up her jacket.

HELEN
I saw that back flip. That was pretty cool.

STACEY
I've been practicing.

HELEN
I can tell. You're getting pretty good. Are you hungry?

STACEY
I'm starving!

HELEN
Come on. Let's go to the diner -

SANDRA (O.C.)
Helen?

Helen freezes. Fuck. She closes her eyes for a brief moment, before looking up. Sure enough, Sandra is running towards her.

WOMAN 2

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