

HOPE FLOATS 1 - 1

DOT

Birdie, come on in. ... Hold my calls, Jessie. ... Wow, you look beautiful. Same old Birdie.

BIRDIE

Same old Dot.

DOT

(PAUSE) You have no idea who I am, do you?

BIRDIE

No. Sorry, I don't.

DOT

That's alright. When I knew you I was about five inches shorter and 70 lbs heavier. We didn't exactly eat at the same lunch table.

BIRDIE

...Polkadot?

DOT

...Oh....

BIRDIE

Is that right?

DOT

Nobody's called me that in a long time.

BIRDIE

Oh, my God! You look fantastic.

DOT

Thank you.

BIRDIE

You're welcome. My God, I mean, it's remarkable.

DOT

Was I really that terrible before, Birdie?

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BIRDIE

Oh no, no, no.... I just meant that...

DOT

Yeah, well I know what you meant. People change.
You get better as you get older.

BIRDIE

Yeah.

DOT

Of course, you look exactly the same.

BIRDIE

Well, no, actually I...

DOT

Oh, I know, I heard about you and Bill. Now what the
hell was the lady's name? We saw it on TV. ... Are
you all right?

BIRDIE

Oh, I'm fine, I'm fine. You know so much of that,,,
that is staged for TV. You know, it's not real. It's just
parading. Yeah.

DOT

So, you need a job. What sort of work have you been
doing?

BIRDIE

Umm... housework. Bill worked.

DOT

And you didn't work?

BIRDIE

We.. we have a daughter so I took care of her.

DOT

How fast do you type?

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BIRDIE

Don't type.

DOT

Okay. Computer skills?

BIRDIE

Don't compute.

DOT

Oh... my goodness. You're gonna have to give me some idea of what you're looking for here Birdie, 'cause I'm not likely to find a listing for Prom Queen.

BIRDIE

Well, um, I used to take pictures. I was good at that so er, maybe I could er, get a job at the newspaper or Jackson's Portrait Studio.

DOT

It's closed down and the newspaper's not hiring, I can tell you that right now.

BIRDIE

Oh, I see. Um... Dot, I would really like a job. One that I could like myself for, even if it's just for a little while. ... Dot, I... I don't know how I treated you at High School. I'm guessing it was pretty bad seeing how you're hell bent on putting me in my place right now. That's okay. Just um... just put me in a job too. I would really... I would really be grateful.

DOT

Well. Take some pictures over the weekend and bring them in.

BIRDIE

Okay.

DOT

I'll look them over.

BIRDIE

Thank you.