

ME TOO

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Amos Comenius Memorial School

Hopedale, NL

CAST OF CHARACTERS

BARBARA (BARBIE): played by Hayley Flowers

DIANE: played by Laura Winters

DOROTHY (DOT): played by Kanes Winters

REPORTER: played by Cadence Winters

RICHARD: played by Cadence Winters

BACKSTAGE/EXTRA: Kelly Flowers

Scene One

Scene opens with women at a women's rights protest. REPORTER talking to audience as if talking to a camera, rushes females at rally.

REPORTER: *(talking to audience as if speaking into a camera)* This is John McNeil at the Women's Rights Protest. Today we are going to be interviewing some of the protestors on why they have decided to attend this protest.

REPORTER walks up to BARBIE and asks them the following question:

Hello ma'am, what brings you to this protest today?

BARBIE: Men and women do not get paid equally. I am here for the right to be paid the same amount as my male coworkers. We do the same work, so we deserve to be paid the same.

REPORTER: That's quite the interesting statement there. *(turns away from BARBIE and wanders over to DIANE)*. Ma'am, what is *your* goal in this protest?

DIANE: As a woman of colour, I strive for equal rights for not only white women, but also women of colour.

REPORTER: That sounds like a *fabulous* idea for a "women's" rally. *(turns away)*

DIANE is flabbergasted.

DOT: You can't talk to her like that! Us women have gone through enough.

REPORTER: This has been a wonderful evening. This is John McNeil for ABC News.

Exit REPORTER

BARBIE: The GALL of that man! Treating us like garbage! On the TV no less!

DIANE: Barbara, it's okay! That's why we're here! That's why this rally is happening!

BARBIE: *(sigh)* you're right, but I'm still mad. Ughhh... men.

DOT: That reporter reminds me of Richard. Thank God I divorced that jerk.

BARBIE: Ughh you're right. He didn't deserve you. You deserved so much better. Don't let a man drag you down.

DOT: You're right, he really did drag me down.

DIANE: You're lucky you got out of there.

DOT: I'm glad I got out of there too

Dimming of lights, curtains go down.

Scene 2

In front of curtains, RICHARD proposes.

RICHARD: You're the love of my life, I would love to spend eternity with you. Will you make me the happiest man and marry me?

DOT: *(hands on face, crying)* Of course I will marry you, you make me so happy!

RICHARD carries DOT off stage romantically.

Walking through home freshly married. Oohing ahhing.

DOT: This kitchen is amazing! I can make you so many meals here!

RICHARD: I bet you make the best homemade meals. I can't wait for my buddies from work to spend time here too.

Walking across the stage.

DOT: This room would be perfect for a beautiful home office for you honey!

RICHARD: I won't be working from home dear. I think this would be a wonderful room for the nursery.

DOT: Oh, of course it would, darling.

RICHARD: Aren't you excited for us to start our family? Little girls, beautiful, like you and little lads like me.

Doorbell rings.

DOT: Oh! Our first guests in our home! I'll get it!

RICHARD follows her to the door. DOT opens the door.

GIRLS: SURPRISE!

DIANE: Congratulations! We brought a casserole.

DOT: Oh how sweet! Come in! Richard, how exciting!

RICHARD: I'll be back. I'm going to John's house. *(sarcastic)* You girls have fun.

RICHARD exits stage. Women settle in the living room.

DIANE: So, how's married life? How are you settling in?

DOT: It's everything I could have dreamed of!

BARBIE: I can't believe you got married. I can't EVER see myself getting married.

DIANE: I can't wait to be married... I hope Henry works out for me. He is such a sweet man.

BARBIE: He seems real sweet, you've been courting him a while now, maybe he will be ready for the next step soon!

DIANE: I hope so, that would be exciting!

DOT: *(Spaced out)*

BARBIE: *(notices that DOT is spaced out)* Dottie? Are you ok? ... Hello..?

DOT: *(back to Earth)* Oh, sorry, Barbie. I'm in my own world.

DIANE: Are you sure you're ok?

DOT: Yeah, I'm ok.

DIANE: This house is so beautiful. You have a kitchen to DIE for.

DOT: *(haphazardly smiles back)*

BARBIE: This place is so big! The extra space would be lovely for a home office.

DOT: *(starts to sob)*

DIANE: Oh, honey what's wrong?

DOT: I wanted the extra space for a home office, but Richard...

BARBIE: But Richard WHAT?

DOT: Richard wants it to be a nursery. He wants to start a family and I'm not ready. I can't be a mom yet! I thought it would be the two of us for a while before having kids.

BARBIE: Oh sweetheart, you don't have to have kids if you don't want to.

DOT: But he's my husband, I have to. I need to make him happy.

BARBIE: Dorothy, you are not responsible for your husband's happiness. If you don't want to have kids right now, that is your choice. He should be making you happy.

DOT: He does make me happy. I'm just not ready to be a mom.

BARBIE: I'm happy that you're happy. I'm sure you'll figure it out.

Clock chimes

DOT: Oh look at the time! I need to warm up that casserole for Richard.

DIANE: We'll get out of your hair now. Enjoy the casserole! Congratulations on the wedding again!

SCENE 3

Weeks later. DOT is not feeling well, her and RICHARD are sitting in the doctor's office.

RICHARD: I cannot believe you have been so sick for the past week. I hope it's not too serious.

DOT: I hope not, I think I'll be okay.

NURSE: Mrs. Smith the doctor is ready for you!

RICHARD: I'll wait right here for you

DOT walks off stage, RICHARD looks nervous in the waiting room. Lights dim. Lights come up, they are at home.

DOT is at the stove and also on the phone. RICHARD is on the couch reading a newspaper.

DOT: That was the doctor on the phone.

RICHARD: What did he say? Is it serious?

DOT: No, not serious. We are expecting.

RICHARD: *(jumps up and starts pacing)* That's excellent news dear! I hope it's a boy, I can teach him to play ball, we can go fishing together! We have to get the nursery ready! What color should we paint it? We can do blue, or green!!! Oh honey this is such exciting news!

DOT: Sweetie, What if it's a girl?

RICHARD: She would be the most beautiful girl. I can't wait to share the exciting news!

DOT: *(back onto RICHARD, cooking at the stove)* I am not ready to share our news. *(door closes, she turns around and he is gone)*

**sighs* (reaches for phone and calls girls)*

Hello, you girls should come over for coffee. *(waits for response)* perfect, see you soon.

Lights dim. Lights come up, girls are arriving. Doorbell rings. DOT opens the door.

DIANE: I brought sandwiches, sounds like you needed some comfort food.

BARBIE: Let's get the coffee on so we can chit chat.

DOT and BARBIE head to the kitchen to make coffee and DIANE sets out sandwiches in the living room. Everyone settles in the living room.

BARBIE: What's wrong Dorothy?

DOT: I have something to tell you girls.

DIANE: Is everything okay?

DOT: I am in the family way, Richard and I are having a baby!

DIANE is excited with DOT, BARBIE is visibly shocked. BARBIE and DIANE speaking at the same time.

DIANE: Oh my Lord, I am so excited for you!

BARBIE: Oh my goodness, I thought you weren't ready for children?

DOT: I thought I wasn't but I am excited to have a baby with Richard.

BARBIE: Did Richard force you to have this child?

DOT: NO, of course not, We are so happy for this baby!

BARBIE: If you say so, we are always here for you.

DIANE: Barbie, can't we just be excited for her?

BARBIE: Yes of course we can, I just hope it's everything that you hope for.

DOT: I'm sure it will be a wonderful experience. I'm still nervous, but I'm excited.

DIANE: Thank you for the coffee, darling. I can't wait to see the baby when it's born!

BARBIE: If you need any help with the baby, give me a call.

BARBIE and DIANE exit with improvised goodbyes.

DOT begins to clean up from coffee and the curtains close.

Scene 4

DOT is sick off stage, RICHARD enters coming home from work.

RICHARD: I'm home, dear! What's for supper?

DOT: (*retching*) Sorry, honey, I haven't been feeling well all day. I'll get started on it shortly.

RICHARD: (*big sigh*) Of course, dear. I'll be waiting.

RICHARD sits on the couch, arms crossed, visibly upset.

Faucet running sound. Lights dim.

Lights come up, the girls are helping prepare for the baby shower. DOT, visibly more pregnant, waddles into the living room.

DOT: ugh, I'm getting bigger by the minute! This baby is making me so tired.

DOT sits on the couch, BARBIE rubs DOT'S back.

BARBIE: That's what pregnancy does to you! I'm never having kids.

DOT: I love this baby already. I hope it's a boy so Richard is happy, he really wants a boy.

DIANE: Have you thought of a name?

DOT: Richard picked out Douglas for a boy and won't think of any girl names. I love the name Cynthia.

DIANE: That's a beautiful name! ... (*can't contain it any longer*) I have a confession to make.

BARBIE: OH MY, ARE YOU PREGNANT?!

DIANE: NO, of course not! I'm getting MARRIED! (*holds out ring*)

Girls gush over ring and happy exclamations are made.

DOT: Oh, how exciting! Henry was made for you!

BARBIE: I am so happy for you!

Doorbell rings.

DOT: My guests are here!

DOT waddles to answer the door. Lights dim.

Labour off stage, RICHARD paces in front of the curtain, baby cries.

NURSE: IT'S A GIRL!

RICHARD is visibly upset by the news. Lights go down.

Scene 5

Scene opens with RICHARD and DOT walking into the home with the baby.

DOT: Finally we are home, I am so tired.

RICHARD: I am so glad we are out of the hospital. They can't cook a meal like you can, dear.

DOT: I'm sorry, honey, I am going to be so focused on our beautiful daughter, I won't be able to cook like I used to.

RICHARD: We will discuss this later, I have to go to work.

DOT: Richard, we just got home, do you have to go to work right away? I want to spend time as a family.

RICHARD: I am going to work to support this family. It's my job to pay the bills, your job to take care of the house and our baby.

DOT: I can't do this alone!!

RICHARD: Then call your girl friends to help you *(as he storms out of the house, baby starts to cry)*

DOT: *(picks up phone, crying, and dials)* Hello?

(pause)

We just got home from the hospital and Richard's gone, the baby is crying, I'm alone, what do I do? *(becoming more worked with each sentence)*

(pause)

Thank you, the door is open. *(hangs up)*

DIANE walks in.

DIANE: Oh, Honey. We are here for you, what do you need?

BARBIE: *(out in the kitchen mixing a bottle)* Don't you worry about that beautiful baby girl, we will take care of her, you should rest.

DOT: Thank you so much, I just need a short nap. I don't know what I would do without you girls.

BARBIE: That's what we are here for *(takes baby from her and hands to DIANE with bottle)*
Now go, Shooooo!

DOT walks off stage. Leaving the two girls alone with Cynthia.

DIANE: They have such a beautiful girl. I love that they named her Cynthia.

BARBIE: Well they didn't really have any other names picked for a girl. I wonder how Richard took the news that it was a girl at the hospital?

DIANE: I'm sure they are over the moon.

BARBIE: Then where is he? Why did he leave them alone the VERY first day home from the hospital? If he loved them so much then he would be here, not us.

DIANE: Maybe he just needs to go to work to process this big change. It's a lot to take in.

BARBIE: HE wanted this baby. HE should be here taking care of HIS family. Do we even know if he is gone to work? He is probably out with his buddies while his wife and daughter are here all alone. She just had the baby!!!

DIANE: Shh. Dot is under enough pressure with this new baby, she doesn't need to worry about where Richard is.

BARBIE: She doesn't see what an all show no go man he is.

DIANE: He seemed so good for her when they first started courting. Now he is showing his true colors.

BARBIE: I thought so too at first, but the way he manipulated her into wanting a baby threw me for a loop.

Door opens off stage, rustling of housecoat.

DIANE: Oh, I think Dot is awake!

DOT shuffles into view.

DOT: I feel so much better, thank you girls for the help.

BARBIE: Of course, anytime, we are always here to help.

DOT: How was Cynthia?

DIANE: She is such a good baby!

DOT: What a relief.

BARBIE: Anything else you need us to do? We could help you cook and stay for supper.

DOT: Oh no! That's okay, I can cook our supper. That nap helped me alot. Besides, Richard would not be happy if you were here when he showed up. Taking care of the baby and the house is my responsibility, he would not take kindly to me pushing my responsibilities on you girls.

BARBIE: (*fuming*) Richard can....

DIANE: (*interrupts BARBIE*) We wouldn't want to cause you any more troubles (*looks pointedly at BARBIE*), we will get out of your hair, call us if you need anything! Bye!

Drags BARBIE out the door.

Lights go down, a sign goes across the stage: "ONE WEEK LATER."

DOT is cooking, baby begins to cry.

DOT: Oh no... (*DOT exits*)

RICHARD arrives home from work.

RICHARD: I'm home, dear!

RICHARD removes coat, hat, and sits on the couch. He turns on tv or radio. After sitting for a bit, RICHARD smells something burning.

RICHARD: Honey, I think something's burning!

DOT hurries in with the baby and a bottle and hands the baby to RICHARD.

DOT: hold her for a second while I check supper.

Hands RICHARD baby and bottle.

RICHARD: What am I supposed to do with this?

DOT: FEED HER.

RICHARD: Dotty, that's not my job.

DOT: *(checking pot)* Supper's ruined! *(becoming emotional)*

RICHARD: Are you kidding me? You have ONE job, Dotty! You can't even do that!

DOT: I'm trying my best, Richard.

RICHARD stands up with the baby and approaches DOT.

RICHARD: Well that's not good enough.

DOT: Well what am I supposed to do here? I'm at my wits end! I cook supper every night I clean I take care of the baby-

RICHARD slaps DOT.

(silence, then baby starts to cry)

RICHARD: *(in shock)* Oh- I'm so sorry, Dotty. Please don't cry, I love you. I promise it will never happen again.

RICHARD hugs DOT, lights dim.

Scene 6

Lights come back up, DOT is in the kitchen preparing coffee back to the audience, DIANE and BARBIE knock on the door.

DOT: Come in!

BARBIE and DIANE enter.

DIANE: Hey girl! We haven't seen you in ages, *(peers in play pen)* Cynthia has grown so much! I can't believe she is 6 months old!

BARBIE: *(picks up baby)* Your momma has been keeping you all to herself! Auntie Barbie misses you, yes she did!

DOT: Yea, we have been so busy, she sits on her own now! *(turns around and brings coffee to the girls, girls are visibly shocked)*

DIANE: Oh honey! What happened? Did you fall?

DOT looks ashamed.

BARBIE: Did Richard do that to you? *(Lays baby back in play pen)*

DIANE: Oh, Richard would never!

DOT: *(looks ashamed, starts to cry quietly)*

DIANE: Oh Dottie, don't cry! We'll get you through this!

BARBIE: You need to divorce him, he won't stop until it's too late.

DOT: *(sniffs)* It's always my fault. I make him upset in some way.

BARBIE: It's NEVER your fault. He is supposed to be there for you.

DOT: Cynthia needs a father figure in her life. I can't leave him. It's not that bad most of the time.

DIANE: Do you really want her to grow up seeing him hurt you? What if she was in the same situation?

DOT: Richard would never hurt Cynthia. It's only when he gets angry with me.

BARBIE: I work with a bunch of divorce lawyers, I could get you a good lawyer and get you out of here.

DOT: I just need to think. *(grabs baby and storms out)*

BARBIE and DIANE exchanged concerned looks.

Lights go down.

DOT is cooking supper in the kitchen, RICHARD is in the living room searching for his paper.

RICHARD: Dot, where is my newspaper, woman? It's not where I told you to put it!

DOT: I think it's still out on the step, dear! I'm sorry Cynthia was really fussy today, I didn't have time to grab it for you.

RICHARD: You can't do anything RIGHT can you?

Cynthia starts crying from the nursery.

RICHARD: Dot, Cynthia's crying, you gonna take care of that?

DOT: Can you grab her from the nursery, she might be hungry!

RICHARD: *(stomps to nursery, brings her to the living room, tries to feed baby, Cynthia continues to cry, RICHARD becomes visibly frustrated)* WILL YOU SHUT UP AND STOP CRYING?!

DOT runs into the room.

DOT: Richard, what are you doing?

RICHARD: Will you shut your child up?! I have a headache, I worked all day.

DOT: *(takes her and begins rocking her)* I'm sorry, I told you she has been fussy all day, I don't know what's wrong with her.

RICHARD: *(gets in DOT'S face)* Shut her up NOW, or I will find a way to shut her up.

DOT: You hurt my baby and I will call the police. They will put you away for a long time. The bruises are proof.

RICHARD: Clean up this house and have that baby settled before I get home. I'll be back.
(slams door)

DOT goes and picks up the phone. DOT is very scared.

DOT: Barbie? Can you put me in touch with that lawyer? He's gone too far!

DOT: *(pause, deep breath)* He threatened Cynthia.

DOT: I know I have to leave. I'm already packing my things.

DOT: Thanks, do you think you could bring Diane with you? To help with Cynthia? Great, see you soon.

Hangs up the phone, continues frantically packing, and Cynthia is finally quiet.

Lights go down, end scene.

Scene 7

Scene opens at DOT and BARBIE'S new apartment. DOT, DIANE and BARBIE are unpacking.

BARBIE: I am so happy you are finally divorced from that sleazebag.

DOT: Yes, me too. I can finally sleep at night knowing me and Cynthia are safe.

BARBIE: Not everyone is as brave as you are to leave a situation like that.

DIANE: I am so proud of you Dorthy, not everyone would be able to do that.

DOT: I'm just excited we finally got our own place! A three bedroom with room for us all!

DIANE: I'm so proud of us! Barbie finally got her promotion, Dot is finally free and Henry and I are finally married! We have all come so far since we met senior year!

DIANE hugs DOT, then BARBIE joins in and they all start giggling.

BARBIE: Did you girls see the posters for the Women's Rights Protest this saturday?

DIANE: I saw them! Henry already bought the supplies for posters.

DOT: Oh, I didn't know! I can get a babysitter so I can go too!

DIANE: This is so exciting!

BARBIE: I can't wait to fight for our rights, women's voices deserve to be heard!

DOT: I can't wait to empower other women by sharing my story.

BARBIE: Me too!

DIANE: Me too!

Lights dim, curtains close, finishing music.