

Gina & Libby 1

2 W012-A



INT. THACHER HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Libby is fixing dinner. GINA, a beautiful, charismatic woman in her early thirties stands by, with a drink in her hand.

GINA

What made you cut your hair?

LIBBY

Every time I went to the beauty parlor, Maurice would say, "Oh, what I could do with your hair."

GINA

Next time ask him what he means.

LIBBY

You don't like it.

GINA

I like it, I like it fine. I'm just not so sure I like it on you.

LIBBY

Remember what Mom used to say, "If you don't have something nice to say..."

GINA

don't say it to me."

They both laugh.

GINA

Well, it'll grow back. It's one of the few things in life you can count on.

LIBBY

So how's your travel agency?

GINA

I dumped it three months ago. Now I bake cheesecakes.

LIBBY

You what?

GINA

Yeah, I supply restaurants with every kind of cheesecake under the sun: chocolate, plum, mint, amaretto.

LIBBY

I thought you wanted to go back to school to become a teacher.

GINA

I do. But for the moment I've found another way to be underpaid.

LIBBY

Gina, you only have a few credits to go.

GINA

So maybe I've taken a little detour.

LIBBY

And what was your dog grooming business? Your let - me - organize you company? Your disco - Laundromat?

GINA

What can I tell you? I've got too much talent for my own good.

LIBBY

You'd be so good at teaching And it would give you health insurance, a pension, some stability. Don't you worry about the future?

(off her silence) *LISTEN*

Look, I'm not saying what you're doing is wrong. I'm just saying...

GINA

Something else might be better.

LIBBY

Yeah.

GINA

And who gave you the right to decide what's best for me?

LIBBY

I don't mean to sound judgmental.

GINA

But you are and always have been!

LIBBY

(hurt)

You used to want to know what I thought.

GINA

And did you ever wonder why I stopped coming to you for advice? Why I stopped calling, why I stopped visiting...It's because you don't just give advice you expect it to be taken.

LIBBY

I do not.

GINA

You expect everything to be the way you think it should be. Well, I'm not like you. I never was and I never will be.

LIBBY

No one's saying you should be.

GINA

I see you watching me with my kid. Well, maybe I'm not the kind of mother you are or Mom was. And maybe I don't want to be, okay?

LIBBY

Gina...

GINA

Look, I'm a single parent. I can't stay at home like you did. And maybe I don't spend enough time with her.

(losing composure)

But Zoe loves me. She really loves me. And that's gotta count for something.

LIBBY

It counts for a lot.

GINA

(breaking down)

Maybe she needs more structure, more supervision, more discipline. Maybe she needs more than I can give. But I'm trying, I'm really trying. And if that's not good enough, I'm sorry; I can't do any better. And I'm sick of you and everyone else telling me I can!

Gina storms out. HOLD on Libby, realizing there's a lot more going on with Gina than she had previously thought.