

35. INT. HAPPY'S RESTAURANT - DAY.

35.

HELEN and TRISH sit together.

HELEN

(picking at her food)

Uch. I don't know why I suggested
this place. Joy recommended it...

TRISH

Well, at least we're together.
I never get to see you,
you're so busy.

HELEN

No, you're so busy.

TRISH

No, you are...

HELEN

Well, I guess I am.

TRISH

Me too.

HELEN

In fact, if I have to do one more
interview...

TRISH

I guess it's hard, all this success.

HELEN

It's just I'm so tired of...of being
admired all the time. All these men...
I mean, they're all beautiful,
artistic minds, great sex, the whole
package...but hollow, you know what
I mean? I feel nobody's really honest
with me. Nobody wants me for me.

TRISH

They're not family.

HELEN

Oh, Trish. If only I had your
husband, kids, carpool.

TRISH

Well, I may "have it all," but
sometimes I wonder what my life
would have been like if I'd
actually tried to write a novel.

HELEN

Oh, I'm sure it would have been good.

TRISH

Maybe I will write one.

HELEN

Oh, you should... Just try...

Pause.

TRISH

No, I don't need that kind of success.

HELEN

Uch, listen to us. We who have everything while Joy...
What does she have?

TRISH

You're right. And she's just getting older.

HELEN

Last night she called - I was in bed with Vilmos - no, Huraki - and she was in tears. She told me she'd quit her job...

TRISH

Oh, but...but that's her lifeline!

HELEN

She said she wanted to "change" her life. Do "good" work with the poor, the needy...

TRISH

I don't get it.

HELEN

Don't even try.

TRISH

And what about her music career?

HELEN

I don't know, but don't hold your breath. Anyway, listen. This is all top secret. She doesn't want anyone to know.

TRISH

Oh.

(a beat)

But she told you.

HELEN
She felt she could trust me.

TRISH
'Cause I always thought I was
someone she could confide in.

A BUSBOY comes by, refills their water glasses, leaves.

TRISH
Did you speak to Mom?

HELEN
You mean about the split-up?

TRISH
Oh. I-I thought it was top secret.

HELEN
Just for Joy. Sensitive Joy.
Everyone else knows.

TRISH
Oh.

A WAITER comes by and leaves the check, clears the plates, goes off.
TRISH picks up the check, looks at it.

HELEN
Thanks for lunch. I really
enjoyed this.