

AVERAGE JOE (6 Roles)

Coach is surprised.

THOMAS (CONT'D)  
For what it's worth, and I can't believe I'm saying this, I'm on your side.

COACH  
How do you know the Bible so well?

THOMAS  
A lot of atheists started out as Christians. But got turned off by a bad experience.

COACH  
I can understand that. You ever had a bad experience at a restaurant?

THOMAS  
Yeah, of course.

COACH  
Well don't let one bad meal keep you from being fed.

Thomas considers this as the waitress brings fresh drinks. Coach picks up his fork about to dig in and the waitress spills Coach's ice tea onto his plate and into his lap.

WAITRESS  
Oh my gosh! Oh, I'm so sorry Coach.

Thomas looks at Coach and then they both begin laughing.

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COACH JOE SIDES SCENE 3

# scene 3

INT. COACH SEATTLE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY/DUSK

SUPER: EXHIBIT B

Coach enters the house as Denise puts the finishing touches on the most amazing prime rib dinner setting he's ever seen.

COACH  
Hon, that looks incredible! I thought you had to work late?

Denise kisses him on the cheek. She is the perfect wife.

COACH (CONT'D)  
Thank you.

DENISE  
You're welcome.

They take their seats and coach loads his plate.

DENISE (CONT'D)  
We haven't had dinner together in a while, and I had plenty of time to hit the grocery store and get this started since I quit my job today. And I finally got caught up on the laundry that's been piling up, so you now have some clean underwear.

Joe's first bite of prime rib stops just short of his mouth.

COACH  
Wait, what?

She takes a sip of wine.

DENISE  
You were out of underwear.

COACH  
No, I know that. I'm talking about the other part?

**START** → DENISE  
I quit my job.

Joe puts down his fork.

COACH  
Babe, don't you think we should've talked about this first?

DENISE  
What was there to talk about? I couldn't take it anymore.

Joe knows something is off.

COACH  
But it was a big decision.

DENISE  
Oh, when I make a decision it's something we needed to discuss.

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COACH

When it involves our livelihood,  
yes, I think we need to discuss  
some things.

DENISE

So it's about the money?

COACH

No, we're fine, but it changes  
things a bit.

DENISE

And those changes are going to be  
my fault. Now I see.

COACH

Look, you were less than a year  
away from your pension. I just  
think you should've thought this  
through a little more before making  
a snap decision. What happened? Did  
someone piss you off?

DENISE

No, Joe. Nobody pissed me off. You  
don't need to go beat anybody up.

DENISE stands up and throws her plate in the sink.

COACH

Whoah! I'm just trying to help...

DENISE cuts him off.

DENISE

Why do you have to do that?! All  
the time. You try to make it  
something you can fix. I'm not  
asking you to fix anything. I just  
want you to listen!

COACH

I'm not trying to fix anything, I'm  
just trying to figure out what  
you're upset about.

DENISE

Everything!

COACH

Denise, calm down. Let's be  
rational about this.

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Coach turns to camera breaking the fourth wall.

COACH (CONT'D)  
I would recommend you never say  
that to your wife.

DENISE  
Rational?! You want rational?!

DENISE grabs COACH's plate and throws it into the living  
room. COACH stands up, not believing what's happening.

DENISE (CONT'D)  
Why do I feel like these fights are  
always my fault?! Why is there  
always something wrong with me? And  
then you get to come to the rescue!

COACH  
I just want to take care of you.

DENISE  
You don't need to take care of me!

COACH  
Then what do you want me to do?!

DENISE  
I don't want you to do anything!

COACH  
Then I guess I'm not needed. So I'm  
going to get some air before I say  
something terrible.

Joe walks toward the door.

DENISE  
Yeah, that's your M.O. isn't it.  
When things get messy and it's not  
fun anymore, you leave.

Joe stops short of the door. His anger has arrived.

COACH  
So now you've put me in a no win  
situation! If I walk out you win!  
If I stay I lose!

He turns to Denise.

COACH (CONT'D)  
You quit your job because it got  
hard and you gave up!  
(MORE)

COACH (CONT'D)

Because you're not a fighter! And I'm tired of being the one who is always fighting for you when you don't even believe your worth fighting for! And I think you're trying to sabotage this relationship because you don't know what it's like for someone to love you and want to fight for you, and it scares the hell out of you!

**←END**

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