

Female Female Comedy

Draw

Sisters talk about life

Miranda sleeps in her old bed. In the other half of the room, Linda Lue is packing to leave. The dog climbs in her suitcase and she pulls him out and sets him on the bed. It looks like she's almost done. Her side of the room now looks like a typical tacky motel room; no floral bedspread, no picture of Loretta Lynn. Miranda opens her eyes.

LINDA LUE
Hey, you. I thought you were going to sleep through my departure.

MIRANDA
And miss the opportunity to see another piece of my life crumble away?

Linda Lue looks concerned.

LINDA LUE
Do you want to tell me what happened with you and James?

Miranda sits up.

MIRANDA
I think the marriage just woke him up. We realized he didn't want to be with me for the rest of his life. The wedding thing was a big mistake.

LINDA LUE
(meaningful)
And you didn't have any second thoughts of your own.

MIRANDA
He's the one who left me.

Linda Lue sits next to her on the bed.

LINDA LUE
Can I tell you a story?

MIRANDA
How many people die in this story?

LINDA LUE
Just one. When my Aunt Lydia was eighteen, she was engaged to marry Henry Esterbrook. However, the week before the wedding, Henry eloped with Marianna Fine. Aunt Lydia was so devastated she thought she'd rather be dead than be without Henry, so she decided to hang herself.

*Text
In her shoes
7:50*

MIRANDA

Has it occurred to you that this story is completely inappropriate for this situation?

LINDA LUE

There's more. Lydia went to the hardware store to buy a length of good strong rope, she couldn't have weighed less than two hundred pounds, and the man that sold her that rope turned out to be her destiny. She married him that summer. My Uncle Ernie.

MIRANDA

Which one of them dies?

LINDA LUE

My Uncle Ernie was bitten by a poison centipede later that same year. He died instantly. But that is beside the point and you know it. There is someone out there for everyone, and even if your head doesn't know it, your heart does.

MIRANDA

So her heart led her to the hardware store.

LINDA LUE

Just like yours took to Memphis. Remember the night I met you? I read your palm?

MIRANDA

Yeah. But you didn't read my heart line.

Linda Lue gives her a knowing look.

LINDA LUE

Sometimes people want to be surprised.

Linda Lue reaches for Miranda's hand. Miranda lets her take it. Linda Lue examines it; we get the idea she may inventing the reading.

LINDA LUE (CONT'D)

See, it's the same as before. You are not one to settle for the easiest thing - I think that's true. A challenging relationship. . . that can be very romantic; to me that seemed like you and James, both of you so pig-headed.

MIRANDA

This isn't helping.

LINDA LUE

The important thing to know is to follow your heart. Don't go against what it's telling you, and don't bury anything that ain't dead.

Miranda pulls her hand back.

MIRANDA

Who's going to die now?

Linda Lue smiles.

LINDA LUE

No one that you don't kill with your own two hands. You know, maybe next week would be a better time for me to leave.

MIRANDA

No, honestly, I couldn't stand you or Mr. Buster Dog another day. Go to Hollywood and tell them who the hell you are.