

MARY PAGE

Sonny made a report this morning. Listen, if your father doesn't turn him up over at this other boy's house, I want you to drive me up to Dayton. I would drive myself but I just feel very shaky --

WENDY

No, please let me drive you. Me driving is a good idea.

Mary Page makes another drink.

MARY PAGE

I swear, I don't know what we're going to do about him, Wendy. We need to get him in some kind of program, he needs some serious help because this is wearing me out. He has -- you will find this when you have kids of your own, it's unavoidable, but -- he has aged me.

WENDY

Mom.

MARY PAGE

What?

WENDY

You need to stop drinking now.

MARY PAGE

I'm going to count to ten. Okay? Just please don't say anything.

WENDY

You are not helping yourself or this situation by getting drunk right now.

MARY PAGE

For Christ's sake, Wendy! For Christ's sake! Can you not understand how scary this is for me?

WENDY

I just don't see how drinking is going to make the situation any better.

MARY PAGE

I'm just trying to keep it together here.

WENDY
What the hell is that?

MARY PAGE
It's a rosary.

WENDY

You have got to be kidding me.

MARY PAGE
Why? I was confirmed. Against my will, but it still counts.

WENDY
You can't just pull that out of a shoebox when things look bad.

MARY PAGE
Wanna bet?

WENDY
You are a piece of work.

MARY PAGE
If Louis is all right, maybe I'll go back to the church.

WENDY
I'm glad you said "maybe." That lets me know you're still you.

MARY PAGE
Do you want something to eat? I have a pot of chili in the fridge.

WENDY
I'm okay.

MARY PAGE
You want a sandwich?

WENDY
No, I'm fine.

MARY PAGE

Um...oh, there's fudge, from that place at the mall.

WENDY
Mom.

MARY PAGE
You want a drink?

WENDY

Not if I'm driving you to Dayton, no.

MARY PAGE
I have some pop in the fridge.
(beat)
How are classes?

WENDY
Fine. Boring.

MARY PAGE
How's Jonah?

WENDY
He's fine.

MARY PAGE
Boring?

WENDY
A little.

MARY PAGE
That might not last, huh?

WENDY
No, I don't think it will last. Who knows?

MARY PAGE
Is there anybody else in the picture?

WENDY
I'm not like you, Mary Page. There's only one person at a time in my picture.

MARY PAGE
Mm. Good for you.

WENDY
I'm sorry.

MARY PAGE

No, that's...on the nose. If you're going to be mean, you should at least be accurate.

WENDY
No, it's not going to last.

MARY PAGE
I really admire you, Wendy. I respect you.

Pause.

WENDY
Thank you.

MARY PAGE

I get mad at you sometimes because you seem inflexible, but the truth is: You are your own person.

WENDY

Thank you.

MARY PAGE

That's not easy, you know. For us.

WENDY

Who's us?

Mary Page doesn't hear her. She sinks to her knees, trembling.

WENDY

Mom?

Tears fall. Wendy goes to her.

MARY PAGE

I thought I would be stronger.

WENDY

It's okay.

MARY PAGE

I always thought I was a stronger person.

WENDY

Mom, it's okay.

MARY PAGE

What did I do?

What did I do?

The phone rings.

