

SCRIPT TITLE

Written by

Name of First Writer

Based on, If Any

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FRIED GREEN TOMATOES

INT. CAFE - NIGHT

RUTH is sitting in the cafe, worrying about her abusive husband showing up and trying to see their son. Earlier in the day, a detective came looking for Frank. He has gone missing.

IDGIE sneaks up on her and startles her.

IDGIE

Sorry. What are ya doin' in here?

RUTH

No milk in the house. Where were you?

IDGIE

Takin' care of business, havin' a good time.

RUTH

I've been thinkin' maybe I should move on... because of Frank and all. I just don't want you to feel like... you have to look out for us. I just... don't want to be selfish, that's all. Maybe if I wasn't here, you'd settle down.

IDGIE

I'm as settled as I ever hope to be.

Beat.

RUTH

Then... why can't you tell me where you were?

IDGIE just looks at RUTH, no reply.

RUTH (CONT'D)

I had a dream... the other night. I dreamt that Buddy was gone. I ran to his crib and there he was, sleepin' like an angel. And you know, I thanked God... for lettin' me still have Buddy. And I remembered...

(MORE)

RUTH (CONT'D)

havin' the same reaction after Frank would beat me, thankin' the Lord for givin' me the strength to take it. And I remembered... thankin' the Lord for each day my mother lived, even when she was spittin' up blood... and prayin' for me to kill her. I looked in my mother's eyes pleadin' for me to help her... and all I could do was pray. While you were gone, as I was holdin' buddy, I thought if that bastard, Frank Bennett... ever tries to take my child... I won't pray. I'll break his neck.

IDGIE

Ruth, you don't have to worry about Frank Bennett anymore.

RUTH

How can you say that? It's his child, too. He won't give up on his blood.

IDGIE

I'm only gonna tell you this one time. Frank Bennett won't be bothering you no more. You understand?

RUTH

You killed him, didn't you?

IDGIE

No!

RUTH shakes her head at IDGIE.

IDGIE (CONT'D)

You don't believe me.

IDGIE (CONT'D)

Right now, I don't know what to believe.

IDGIE (CONT'D)

Believe me when I tell ya I don't want ya to move out.