SC 4 PAULINE & LAUREL
*Pauline enters the kitchen.*
LAUREL
*(From offstage.)*What's for supper?
PAULINE
*(Entering and calling off.)* What do you want for supper, Sweetie?
LAUREL
*(From offstage.)* I'm not hungry.
PAULINE
*(Calling off.)* Then why did you ask?
LAUREL
*(From offstage.)* I thought maybe if you were making something I like then I'd be hungry.
PAULINE
*(Calling off.)* I have a lentil stew in the freezer.
LAUREL
*(From offstage.)* Nah.
PAULINE
*(Calling off.)* "Nah"?
LAUREL
*(From offstage.)* No, thank you.
PAULINE
*(Calling off.)* How about grilled cheese with tomato soup?
*Laurel enters.*
LAUREL
What did *she* like to eat when she was my age?
*Silence.*

LAUREL *(cont'd)*
Are you really gonna let her stay here?
PAULINE
I can't imagine why she would want to live in this town again.
Wants to sleep in the basement room.
LAUREL
She isn't gonna move in here with us, is she?
PAULINE
If you want her to leave I'll tell her she has to go right now
LAUREL
Is she out of prison for good?
PAULINE
If she doesn't get into trouble again.
LAUREL
You think she'll murder someone else?
PAULINE
*(A beat.)* We need to get supper on the table.
LAUREL
She isn't gonna sit at the table with us is she?
PAULINE
You want Marie's lentil stew or grilled cheese sandwiches?
I'll cut the crusts off for you.
LAUREL
What do you think they eat in prison?
PAULINE
I don't know.
LAUREL
Do you think she'll tell me all about prison if I ask her?
PAULINE
You'll have to ask her.

LAUREL
I will. I'll ask her.
She's not going to keep us from going to Dollywood, is she?
PAULINE
Of course not.
*Laurel looks out the window.*
LAUREL
She's standing on the cliff, right on the edge.
PAULINE
together.
*(Looking out the window.)* She and Sherman used to watch the clouds
LAUREL
Uncle Sherman's not talking to me.
PAULINE
woods.
*(To Laurel.)* What did you say?
*(Still looking out the window.)* I thought she'd want to take a walk in the
LAUREL
Uncle Sherman isn't talking to me anymore.
As soon as she came here. He's gone.
PAULINE
Well, Laurel, you're in college now.
Maybe you're too old for an imaginary friend.
He died before you were born.
LAUREL
He's not imaginary.
I hate her for killing him.
PAULINE
Hate is a very strong word.
LAUREL
Do I have to be nice to her?
PAULINE
Let's give her a second chance.

LAUREL
She doesn't deserve a second chance.
PAULINE
Sherman used to say that everybody deserved a second chance.
LAUREL
Even a murderer?
PAULINE
She's your mother.
LAUREL
Is she going to take me away?
PAULINE
You're nineteen years old.
You get to choose where you live.
LAUREL
I want to always stay here with you.
PAULINE
That makes me very happy. *(They have a moment.)*
And you know what else would make me happy right now?
LAUREL
What?
PAULINE
Would you please take the garbage can to the end of the driveway?
LAUREL
Yes, ma'am.
Right away.
PAULINE
Thank you.
Supper'll be ready in about thirty minutes.
*Laurel starts to leave.*
PAULINE *(cont'd)*
And, Laurel?
LAUREL
Yes?
PAULINE
You have to be nice to her.