

OLD TIMES

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INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

A warm and cozy place. A soft glow from a fireplace lights the room.

On an armchair near the fireplace sits EDNA(70s). She stares at the fire.

The doorbell rings.

Edna jumps to her feet, shuffles towards the door and opens it. Outside stands AMELIA(70s), clad in a black dress. They both beam with joy and hug each other closely.

EDNA

Finally! You made it! I missed you.

AMELIA

I missed you too.

Edna breaks the hug. She holds Amelia's hand, lets her inside, and closes the door.

EDNA

Come on in. We have a lot to catch up on!

Amelia sits in an armchair opposite Edna.

EDNA

You okay? It's chilly today.

AMELIA

(giggles)

You were always super sensitive in winters. I'm good.

EDNA

How about some hot coffee?

AMELIA

Oh! I would love it.

Edna gets up and goes to her-

KITCHEN

EDNA

I knew you would.

She pours hot coffee into two beautiful ceramic mugs, picks them up carefully, and returns to the-

LIVING ROOM

Edna places the mugs on a table between the armchairs.

EDNA
How's your health?

Edna sips her coffee.

AMELIA
It's pretty good. Two surgeries at
this age take a severe toll on your
body, though.

EDNA
And if the surgeries are on your
heart.

She sips her coffee again and sets her mug down on the table.
Her eyes glisten with tears.

EDNA
You know, for a moment, I thought I
might lose you.

Edna locks her eyes with Amelia's.

AMELIA
(smiles)
I won't be leaving you so soon.

Edna chuckles.

EDNA
Anyway, you see this.

She points to her scarf.

EDNA
I still knit.

AMELIA
You do!

EDNA
Yeah. But now, it takes a long
time.

AMELIA
As long as you're happy.

EDNA
You know the first time I gave you
a scarf?

AMELIA
Of course! When we were fourteen.

EDNA
Yes! You still remember! And the
time when you stole my boyfriend?

AMELIA

That I don't remember.

EDNA

(grins)

You sly bitch. But I know that was you.

AMELIA

Hey! We have gone over this fifty years ago.

EDNA

(laughs)

I'm messing with you.

AMELIA

No grudge?!

EDNA

None.

AMELIA

Truce.

EDNA

Truce.

(beat)

You know, Ivy got an increment last week!

AMELIA

That's wonderful!

EDNA

Yeah! And we're also planning to go to the carnival. It started when we were five and is still taking place. Can you believe that?!

(beat)

Hey! Come with us to the carnival. It'll be fun!

AMELIA

I would love to, but you know why I can't.

EDNA

Don't say that.

AMELIA

Someday, you've got to face the truth, Edna.

EDNA

Stop saying that.

AMELIA
Edna, listen to me.

EDNA
Please!

She glances at the fire and then back at Amelia.

AMELIA
You've to let it go. Just let-

The door lock twists and opens, and IVY(50s), Edna's daughter, enters. She carries two grocery bags.

IVY
Sorry, mom. Got a little late. The self-check-out counters weren't working today.

Edna stands up and goes to her daughter.

EDNA
Let me help you with it, honey.

IVY
No, mom, that's fine.

Edna takes one bag from Ivy and almost drops it on the floor.

EDNA
Damn! It's heavy.

IVY
See. Don't worry about it, mom. I hope you weren't bored.

EDNA
How could I? Look, Amelia came to visit us.

She points to the empty armchair where Amelia was.

IVY
Oh! Hi, aunt... Amelia.

EDNA
Why don't you come and sit with us, honey?

IVY
I'm... tired, and so are you. Right? It's also past your bedtime.

Hesitant, Edna looks back at the empty armchair.

IVY
Don't worry about aunt. I'll give her company.

Ivy puts down the grocery bags, holds Edna by her shoulders, and they walk O.S.

EDNA(O.S.)
Can she stay with us till the
morning?

IVY(O.S.)
Of course, she can. I'll make sure
that you and aunt...

Their voices fade.

Moments later, Ivy returns. She sits in the armchair where Edna sat.

IVY
(at the empty armchair)
Hi, aunt Amelia.

The fire cackles in the otherwise silent room.

Ivy closes her eyes, and tears slide down her face. She starts to weep as we...

FADE OUT