

**SCENE 2**

*A small room. MARIA is sitting in front of a mirror, being fussed over by LAURA. ANNELI is watching.*

LAURA

I don't know what Janine was saying, I think you look beautiful.

MARIA

Thanks, mum.

LAURA

So, what happened out there?

MARIA

I don't know! I think Janine was right. I think I got a bit overwhelmed. You know how full of stuff my head can get.

LAURA

What stuff?

MARIA

I don't know...thinking about not being single anymore and all of that, and then I had this like, weird little thought about like, what if our core beliefs are actually entirely different and maybe instead of being fun and challenging it's just, not.

LAURA

So, you really did have a proper turn then.

MARIA

Yeah.

LAURA

What changed your mind?

MARIA

I'm not sure. I think I just decided to stop overthinking everything and just go with the flow. You know, like yoga.

LAURA

Oh, sweetheart, you do pay attention to our classes! That's so wonderful to hear. Should we do the whole 'I'm proud of you' speech again? I know we did it this morning, but that feels like such a long time ago.

MARIA

No, it's okay, I remember the gist of it. Something like, I'm perfect and wonderful and this is my day and not to forget that I'm surrounded with love, blah blah blah.

LAURA

That's the one. Although maybe you could do with some more concealer. Right, I'll see if Chris has any.

MARIA

Thanks mum.

LAURA

You're welcome, my angel. Oh, I'm so glad you two are choosing to do this!

MARIA

Yeah, me too!

LAURA

Isn't this so exciting?

ANNELI

Yeah! Can't wait!

*LAURA leaves. MARIA turns back to the mirror, in a happy little daze.*

ANNELI

Are you really going to go through with this?

MARIA

Come on, Ann.

ANNELI

I'm serious.

MARIA

Yes, I love him. That's all that matters right? I got a bit loopy for a minute but I'm ready now.

ANNELI

You made me go through all of that, just to change your mind. Again? You even said! You even said that that would be ridiculous if you went back on your decision again and now you've gone and done it!

MARIA

As Megara says to Hercules: "People do crazy things when they're in love."

ANNELI

Yeah, but she'd just like, sacrificed herself for him. I mean, I get it, I'd also throw my soul into hell for that man.

MARIA

Demi-god.

ANNELI

Whatever. Delicious animated bimbo boy, Greek demi-god, potato, potato.

MARIA

But it had a happy ending, didn't it? If they can figure their problems out, then I think me and Callum can as well.

ANNELI

Doesn't seem like quite the same scenario.

MARIA

Look, Ann, I love you, I really do. And I'm so grateful for everything you've done, but I don't actually need your approval for this. You're here because I want your support, not because I need you to make my life decisions for me.

ANNELI

Well I'm so glad that now you're not freaking out you've decided that my input doesn't mean anything anymore. Maybe I should have left you in the mess I found you this morning and I'm sure love would have found a way to fix it all anyway, without my help.

MARIA

Don't make this about you, Ann!

ANNELI

That would be impossible since you've made it entirely about you!

MARIA

Seriously, we're going to argue about me making things about myself on my wedding day?

ANNELI

No! We're not. Which is why I'm going to take myself away from this, you're going to get married, probably, and I'll see you afterwards.

MARIA

Okay, fine, that sounds like a pretty good idea actually!

ANNELI

Alright, I'll see you later!

*ANNELI leaves. MARIA huffs. LAURA enters.*

LAURA

Anneli looks a bit off?

MARIA

She's just not as good with change as I am, that's all.

LAURA

And there has been plenty of that going on today. I'm sure she'll calm down before the ceremony.

MARIA

I hope so.

LAURA

Chris didn't have any concealer, by the way. What's the point in having brother who used to be an Avon representative if he can't even supply skincare on demand?

MARIA

I think you're stereotyping, mum.

LAURA

He's my brother, I can stereotype him if I want to.

*LAURA sits down next to MARIA.*

LAURA

Are you okay, sweetheart?

MARIA

Yeah. It's still a bit scary though, isn't it? Like, it could all go wrong. We could still be making a mistake. Like you and dad.

LAURA

You know, sweetheart, I loved your dad. I loved your dad much longer than I should have. And although that didn't work out, we still had a lot of good years. And we had you. It's not always useful to measure a marriage, or any relationship by how long it lasts. You should measure it in other ways; how much you've learnt from each other, how you've changed as a person. Worst case scenario, you'll come out of this knowing a bit more about yourself and what you need in a partner.

MARIA

Yeah.

LAURA

For me, it turned out I needed a woman.

MARIA

I thought you said you were bi.

LAURA

*(sincerely)*

I am. I was joking. Terri being a woman and your dad being a man had nothing to do with it. It was all a lot more complicated than that. But we won't get into that now. Just know that it's okay to be a little unsure sometimes.

MARIA

Okay.

LAURA

And no matter what, I'll always be there to catch you.

MARIA

Thanks mum.

LAURA

But you really should have talked to me before deciding on this theme.

MARIA

What's wrong with it?

LAURA

Everywhere I look there's garish colours and just so much glitter it hurts my eyes. You have to admit, it's not the classiest, is it?

MARIA

I think it is!

LAURA

Well, I'm just saying-

MARIA

My day, my rules!

LAURA

Well, hello there Bridezilla.

MARIA

No! I'm not being a Bridezilla. Just because it's not all themed around yoga and hurgy...herguh...hyaah...

LAURA

Hygge?

MARIA

Yeah, that.

LAURA

No, you're right. It is your day and if little Lego superheroes for placeholders is what makes you happy, then who am I to judge?

MARIA

Exactly! *(beat.)* You're still judging me, aren't you?

LAURA

Yes. Yes, I am.

*They laugh.*

MARIA

Hey mum. I'm glad you found Terri. I mean, in general, not as in, today.

LAURA

Me too, sweetheart, me too.

MARIA

Even if you are both painfully pretentious sometimes.

LAURA

Hey!

MARIA

You can't deny it! It's a miracle I didn't pop out of your womb a fully certified hipster riding a fixie bike.

LAURA

Since it's your wedding day, I might concede that you may have a point.

MARIA

Correct answer! *(beat.)* I love you, mum.

LAURA

Oh, my sweet little girl, I love you. *(They hug.)* I really really want to give you the 'proud of you' speech again.

MARIA

Go on then.

**BLACK OUT.**