

**SIDES: OLDER RUBY (Older Millie)**

**OLDER RUBY (*female/60s*)** A spirited woman who is on the verge of life changes, experiencing real love for the first time. Yet she is anxious about what this may mean for her very close relationship with her sister.

**OLDER MILLIE (*female/60s-70s*)** Even at this age, she maintains her role as cautious older sister—caring and protective. She is faced with an exciting opportunity which would take her thousands of miles away from her current home, and she struggles to accept this new life apart from her sister.

*1990s. Ruby and Millie are outside in a community garden adjacent to the Senior Apartments where they live. MILLIE is working near a fig tree.*

Hand me those clippers.  
(points)

MILLIE

Where are they?

RUBY

Next to the gloves on the ground over there.

MILLIE

I can't see them.

RUBY

Well, put on your glasses!

MILLIE

I can't.

RUBY

Why can't you, Ruby?

MILLIE

I was watching Seinfeld last night.

RUBY

Yes...

MILLIE

And the phone rang.

RUBY

MILLIE

Okay.

RUBY

I wasn't sure if I should pick it up. I don't mind picking up the phone if it's a repeat, but this was a new episode last night. Did you see it, Millie?

MILLIE

No, I didn't. I was talking with Adrian last night.

RUBY

How nice he called all the way from England. Well, you missed a good one. But they're all good ones. That sense of humor, I tell you, Millie, that Jerry Seinfeld knows how to bring out the humor in everyday life.

MILLIE

What happened to your glasses?

RUBY

I had a spot on my glasses that was driving me crazy. I had cut up a tomato right before Seinfeld. Stanley gave me the tomato from his garden, but wouldn't you know, the tomato juice sprayed right up on my glasses.

MILLIE

You didn't throw them out because of that, of course.

RUBY

Of course not. I wanted to wait for a commercial break to clean them, but the spot was irritating me so. I couldn't keep watching with that tomato juice in my way. So I began cleaning them on my blouse when the phone rang. I set them down on the couch, got up to go to the phone, because I decided it might have been you calling and maybe you were in trouble.

MILLIE

What kind of trouble do I get in? I was fine last night.

RUBY

Well, I didn't know that at the time. Of course, the phone call was only someone trying to sell me a Sunday newspaper. But the Senior Apartments gets the Sunday paper anyway. It's in the Rec Room. What do I need my own copy for?

MILLIE

Where are your glasses?

RUBY

I got off the phone and went to sit down to resume my show, and wouldn't you know I sat right on top of those glasses.