

- 1        *motions to her bust line.)*  
2    VERONICA: Well, the boys'll like that.  
3    BETTY: Ooooh, I can't believe you! *You* are absolutely no  
4        help!

## Guarantees

### Introduction

Sometimes it's the simplest things that make life bearable. In this scene, a mother and a daughter deal with the daunting prospect of facing brain surgery.

- 1    ALEEAH: Mom! I don't want them shaving my head!  
2        Couldn't they just shave a spot? Just where they're — ?  
3    MOM: No, Aleeah. They have to shave it all. *(A long silence.)*  
4    ALEEAH: But I can get a wig, right?  
5    MOM: Sure. Any color you want.  
6    ALEEAH: Purple?  
7    MOM: Purple? *That* I don't know. *(They laugh together. Then*  
8        *there is another long silence.)*  
9    ALEEAH: They're going to get all of it, aren't they? The  
10       tumor?  
11   MOM: Oh, sure. Between the surgery and radiation, it's all  
12       going away.  
13   ALEEAH: You think we'll get all of this done in time for me  
14       to go to prom, Mom?  
15   MOM: Aleeah, honey, I don't know. We're just going to have  
16       to wait and see.  
17   ALEEAH: Is there going to be a scar? Am I going to end up  
18       looking weird or something?  
19   MOM: No, silly. Once your hair grows back, nobody'll ever  
20       know. Unless you show them.  
21   ALEEAH: *(After a beat)* This is going to stop the seizures,  
22       right?  
23   MOM: The doctors think so. We wouldn't let them do this if  
24       we didn't think so.  
25   ALEEAH: But there's no guarantee?

- 1 MOM: Sweetie, we both know there's no guarantees in life.
- 2 ALEEAH: (*ALEEAH nods her understanding and then stares at*
- 3 *the floor, thinking. Finally*) Then I can get the purple one,
- 4 right?
- 5 MOM: A purple one? Are you sure? Oh, all right. If we can
- 6 get that past your daddy!

# Happiness

## Introduction

In this scene, JO helps PAT gain a new perspective on what true happiness really is.

- 1 PAT: (*Excited*) Jo! Jo, guess what? I am so happy. I just got
- 2 ... a brand new car! My daddy bought me a new \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 (*Fill in with the latest hot car*).
- 4 JO: Wow, that's great.
- 5 PAT: And to top it all off: Tonight, I'm going to the
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_ (*Fill in with the latest hot band*) concert and
- 7 I've got backstage passes so I get to hang out with the
- 8 band after the concert!
- 9 JO: That's terrific!
- 10 PAT: And this morning, I got my acceptance letter from
- 11 Harvard — my first school of choice.
- 12 JO: Fantastic!
- 13 PAT: And my prom dress? I got it yesterday. Oh. My. Gosh.
- 14 It's soooo beautiful. I look at it and almost cry. I am
- 15 soooo, soooo happy.
- 16 JO: That's great. What color is it?
- 17 PAT: Oh, it's pink with a chiffon trim and — oh, wait, just
- 18 listen to me? I'm such a blabbermouth. I haven't even
- 19 asked you about your day. How has your day been?
- 20 JO: Well ... I went to St. Jude's this morning to see my
- 21 cancer doctor and found out that I've probably got a year
- 22 to live instead of the six months they gave me the last
- 23 time I was there. I'm pretty stoked about that.
- 24 PAT: (*Completely stunned*) Oh my gosh, oh my gosh! Jo! Jo,
- 25 I — I am so sorry. I didn't know. What have you got?