

F.R.I.E.N.D.S



TAKING CONTROL

Ross: I don't want to be _____, okay? I just... I just – I just wanna be _____ again!

(Rachel enters in a wet wedding dress and starts to search the room.)

Chandler: And I just want a million dollars! *(He extends his hand hopefully.)*

Monica: Rachel?!

Rachel: Oh God Monica hi! Thank God! I just went to your building and you weren't there and then this guy with a big _____ said you might be here and you are, you are!

Waitress: Can I get you some _____?

Monica: *(pointing at Rachel)* De-caff. *(to all)* Okay, everybody, this is Rachel, another Lincoln High _____. *(To Rachel)* This is everybody, this is Chandler, and Phoebe, and Joey, and – you remember my _____ Ross?

Rachel: Hi, sure!

Ross: Hi.

(They go to hug but Ross's umbrella opens. He sits back down defeated again. A moment of silence follows as Rachel sits and the others expect her to explain.)

Monica: So you wanna tell us now, or are we waiting for four wet bridesmaids?

Rachel: Oh God... well, it started about a half hour before the _____. I was in the room where we were keeping all the _____, and I was looking at this gravy boat. This really _____ Lamauge gravy boat. When all of a sudden – *(to the waitress that brought her coffee)* Sweet 'n' Lo? – I realized that I was more turned on by this gravy boat than by Barry! And then I got really freaked out, and that's when it hit me: how much Barry looks like Mr. _____. You know, I mean, I always knew he looked familiar, but... Anyway, I just had to get out of there, and I started wondering 'Why am I doing this, and who am I doing this for?'. *(to Monica)* So anyway I just didn't know where to go, and I know that you and I have kinda drifted apart, but you're the only person I knew who lived here in the city.

Monica: Who wasn't invited to the _____.

Rachel: Ooh, I was kinda hoping that wouldn't be an issue...

[Scene: Monica's Apartment, everyone is there and watching a Spanish Soap on TV and are trying to figure out what is going on.]

Monica: Now I'm guessing that he bought her the big pipe organ, and she's really not happy about it.

Chandler: *(imitating the characters)* _____ or egg salad? Decide!

Ross: *(in a deep voice)* I'll have whatever Christine is having.

Rachel: *(on phone)* Daddy, I just... I can't marry him! I'm sorry. I just don't love him. Well, it _____ to me!

(The scene on TV has changed to show two women, one is holding her hair.)

Chandler: *(re TV)* Ooh, she should not be wearing those pants.

Joey: I say push her down the stairs.

Phoebe, Ross, Chandler, and Joey: Push her down the stairs! Push her down the stairs! Push her down the stairs!

(She is pushed down the stairs and everyone cheers.)

Rachel: Come on Daddy, listen to me! It's like, it's like, all of my life, everyone has always told me, 'You're a shoe! You're a shoe, you're a shoe, you're a shoe!'. And today I just stopped and I said, 'What if I don't wanna be a shoe? What if I wanna be a – a _____, you know? Or a – or a hat! No, I'm not saying I want you to buy me a hat, I'm saying I am a ha- It's a _____, Daddy!

Ross: You can see where he'd have trouble.

Rachel: Look Daddy, it's my life. Well maybe I'll just stay here with Monica.

Monica: Well, I guess we've established who's staying here with Monica...

Rachel: Well, maybe that's my _____. Well, maybe I don't need your money. Wait!! Wait, I said maybe!!

[Time Lapse, Rachel is breathing into a paper bag.]

Monica: Just breathe, breathe... that's it. Just try to think of nice calm things...

Phoebe: *(sings)* Raindrops on roses and rabbits and kittens, *(Rachel and Monica turn to look at her.)* bluebells and sleigh bells and – something with mittens... La la la la...something and noodles with string. These are a few...

Rachel: I'm all better now.

Phoebe: *(grins and walks to the kitchen and says to Chandler and Joey.)* I helped!

Monica: Okay, look, this is probably for the best, you know? _____. Taking control of your life. The whole, 'hat' thing.

Joey: (*comforting her*) And hey, you need anything, you can always come to Joey. Me and Chandler live across the hall. And he's away a lot.

Monica: Joey, stop hitting on her! It's her wedding day!

Joey: What, like there's a rule or something?

[*The door buzzer sounds. Chandler gets it*]

Chandler: Please don't do that again, it's a _____ sound.

Paul: (*Over intercom*) It's, uh, it's Paul.

Monica: Buzz him in!

Joey: Who's Paul?

Ross: Paul the _____ Guy, Paul?

Monica: Maybe.

Joey: Wait. Your 'not a real date' tonight is with Paul the Wine Guy?

Ross: He finally asked you out?

Monica: Yes!

Chandler: Ooh, this is a _____ moment.

Monica: Rach, wait, I can cancel...

Rachel: Please, no, go, that'd be fine!

Monica: (*To Ross*) Are, are you okay? I mean, do you want me to _____?

Ross: (*Choked voice*) That'd be good...

Monica: (*Horrified*) Really?

Ross: (*Normal voice*) No, go on! It's Paul the Wine Guy!

(*A knock at the door. Monica gets it; it's Paul*)

Monica: Hi, come in! Paul, this is.. (*They're all lined up next to the door*)... everybody, everybody, this is Paul.

All: Hey! Paul! Hi! The Wine Guy! Hey!

Chandler: I'm sorry, I didn't _____ your name. Paul, was it?

Monica: (*Shows Paul in*) Two seconds.

Phoebe: Ooh, I just pulled out four _____. That can't be good.

Ross: So Rachel, what're you, uh... what're you up to tonight?

Rachel: Well, I was kinda supposed to be headed for Aruba on my _____, so nothing!

Ross: Right, you're not even getting your _____, God.. No, no, although, Aruba, this time of year... talk about your- (*thinks*) - big lizards... Anyway, if you don't feel like being alone tonight, Joey and Chandler are coming over to help me put together my new _____.

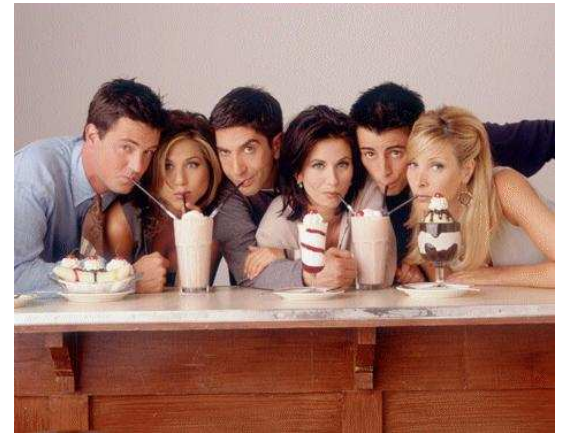
Chandler: (*Deadpan*) Yes, and we're very _____ about it.

Rachel: Well actually thanks, but I think I'm just gonna _____ here tonight.

Ross: Okay, sure.

Joey: Hey Pheebs, you wanna help?

Phoebe: Oh, I wish I _____, but I don't want to.



FEEDBACK

1. Explain why Rachel is wearing a wedding dress.

2. Pick out the names and say who is who.

The one who was supposed to get married.

The one who was at school with Rachel.

The one who is moving into a new apartment.

The one who tries to seduce Rachel.

3. The wedding.

Names of the bride and the bridegroom.

Why the bride decided not to get married.

4. Say what kind of characters Rachel, Joey, and Phoebe are. Quote from the text to justify.

5. Pick out at least two humorous answers and explain in your own words why they are funny.

6. Explain the title of the text.

7. What image of marriage is given in this passage?

Adapted from *Trackers 1è*, ed. HACHETTE.

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