

9

INT. HATCHERY SEXING ROOM - DAY

BABY CHICKENS in stacked bins huddle for warmth. David stares at them.

HAYASHI
Hello everybody!

David looks to see HAYASHI (60s, Japanese), introducing Monica and Jacob to seven ASIAN WORKERS. It looks like the presentation of a newly married couple.

HAYASHI (CONT'D)
I introduce to you Mr. Jacob and Mrs. Monica Yi.

Monica and Jacob bow politely. The workers clap.

HAYASHI (CONT'D)
Mr. Yi is an expert chicken sexer. He comes from Seattle and California.

MR. NGO (age 45) a Vietnamese worker raises his hand.

MR. NGO
Hey. Now he comes to Arkansas? Is he crazy or what?

The other workers laugh, but Jacob and Monica don't.

Hayashi leads Jacob and Monica to their stations. MRS. OH (age 40-50), gives a little bow.

Start Sc. 1

MRS. OH
[Hello.]

MONICA
[Oh hello, there are Koreans here!]

MRS. OH
[Yes, a few of us.]

MONICA
[I heard it's was only Vietnamese.]

MRS. OH
[Oh no. There are a few Koreans. Fayetteville is bigger, but we all live in Rogers for the schools. Is that where you moved...?]

MONICA
[Uh, no, we're in a town called
"Holt."]

MRS. OH
[...I never heard of it.]

MONICA
[It's an hour away, in the
countryside.]

MRS. OH
[Why would a Korean move there?]

End Sc. 1

Monica doesn't know. Meanwhile:

10 THE HATCHERY BREAK ROOM 10

Anne pulls out two big ENCYCLOPEDIA BOOKS.

ANNE
I'll read "V." You start with "L."

David reads. He's bored.

11 HATCHERY SEXING ROOM 11

Jacob works quickly, separating male and female chicks.

He looks like a poker dealer dealing fuzzy yellow cards.

Monica is slower, just learning. Mrs. Oh watches them both.

Start Sc. 2

MRS. OH
[I've never seen anyone as fast as
Mr. Yi. Surely he made more money
in California.]

MONICA
[Yes, but I wasn't fast enough to
work there, so...]

MRS. OH
[When did you begin working?]

MONICA
[Six months ago.]

MRS. OH
[In any case, fast enough for here;
you're in just the right place!]

End Sc. 2

JACOB
You talk about a Grandma smell? [Go
get the stick.]

David stops and looks wilted.

JACOB (CONT'D)
[You don't want the stick? Then act
properly in front of grandma. ...Go
on, sleep.]

David carries his pillow out. Monica seems to appreciate
Jacob's intervention.

52 INT. DAVID'S ROOM - NIGHT

52

David lies awake plugging his nose. He looks at Soonja who is
snoring. The SNORING gets louder.

David sighs and moves his fingers from his nose to his ears.

53 INT. HATCHERY BREAKROOM - MORNING

53

The chicken sexers get ready with their lab coats. Mrs. Oh
smells a bag of PEPPER POWDER, a gift from Monica.

Start Sc. 3

MRS. OH
[But what's special about it?]

MONICA
[It's from Korea. It's better.]

MRS. OH
[Is that so? I see. Thank you.
...You haven't been to Dallas yet?
They have this there.]

End Sc. 3

54 INT. MOBILE HOME - DAY

54

Anne stirs ATOMIC ORANGE CANNED PASTA in a pot.

David wraps a piece of WHITE CHEESE around a BANANA. He eats.

SOONJA
[Looks tasty! Can grandma try?]

Nope - David turns his back on her. Anne pours herself
MOUNTAIN DEW.

DAVID
I want some.

SOONJA (CONT'D)
 [Bullshit, you think you're
 winning, look at this!]

Soonja SLAMS! Anne and David exchange a glance, *what is this?*

SOONJA (CONT'D)
 [Fast, fast. Keep the game moving.]

56 INT. HATCHERY - DAY

56

Jacob sorts the chickens at his usual fast speed.

Monica sorts slowly, carefully. She second guesses herself
 and rechecks the last chicken she sorted.

Monica gets up to put the bin away.

The other workers work, their masks are bright in the lamps,
 chicken dust drifting around them.

Start Sc. 4

MONICA
 (to Mrs. Oh)
 [Why didn't anyone start a Korean
 church around here?]

MRS. OH
 [With fifteen Koreans?]

MONICA
 [It could be good. All the Korean
 kids can play together.]

MRS. OH
 [The Koreans around here, we left
 the cities on purpose. ...To escape
 Korean church.]

End Sc. 4

She's half joking, and Monica plays along, politely smiling.

Jacob watches Monica, her smile fading.

57 EXT. THE FARM - DAY

57

David and Anne walk together. Soonja is ahead. Countless
 grasshoppers catapult away. Anne whispers to David.

ANNE
 Did you know she can't read?

DAVID
 She isn't like a grandma.