



EPISODE # 226703

"THE DEER-HUNTERS"

WRITTEN BY

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DIRECTED BY

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SHOOTING SCRIPT - 8/18/00

WARNER BROS. TELEVISION  
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"THE DEER-HUNTERS"

CAST

LORELAI GILMORE .....	LAUREN GRAHAM
RORY GILMORE .....	ALEXIS BLEDEL
SOOKIE ST. JAMES .....	MELISSA MCCARTHY
LUKE DANES .....	SCOTT PATTERSON
MICHEL GERARD .....	YANIC TRUESDALE
LANE KIM .....	KEIKO AGENA

GUEST CAST

MAX MEDINA .....	SCOTT COHEN
MRS. KIM .....	EMILY KURODA
TRISTIN DUGRAY .....	CHAD MICHAEL MURRAY
PARIS GELLER .....	LIZA WEIL
MADELINE .....	SHELLY COLE
LOUISE .....	TEAL REDMANN
DRELLA .....	ALEX BORSTEIN
JACKSON .....	JACKSON DOUGLAS
HEADMASTER CHARLESTON .....	DAKIN MATTHEWS
CUSTOMER .....	JAYNE AMELIA LARSON

\*

GUEST CAST (cont'd)

MAN #1 .....	JON BRUNO	*
MAN #2 .....	JIM JENKINS	*
WOMAN #1 .....	SARAH BROOKE	*
WOMAN #2 .....	JENNIFER WILLIAMS	*
WAITER .....	RICH TOPOL	
REVIEWER (O.S.) .....	DANIEL GRAVES	



"THE DEER-HUNTERS"

SETS

INTERIORS:

DAY:

STORE  
CHILTON  
    /CLASSROOM  
    /HALLWAY  
    /HALLWAY OUTSIDE THE HEADMASTER'S OFFICE  
    /HEADMASTER'S OFFICE  
INDEPENDENCE INN  
    /LOBBY  
    /KITCHEN  
ANTIQUÉ STORE  
LANE'S HOUSE  
    /LANE'S ROOM  
LORELAI'S CAR  
LORELAI'S HOUSE  
    /LIVING ROOM

NIGHT:

CHILTON  
    /CLASSROOM  
LUKE'S DINER  
LORELAI'S HOUSE  
    /LIVING ROOM  
    /KITCHEN

EXTERIORS:

DAY:

CHILTON  
ANTIQUÉ STORE  
ROAD  
STARS HOLLOW HOME  
    /PORCH  
WOODS

NIGHT:

LORELAI'S HOUSE

TEASER

1 INT. STORE - DAY (DAY 1)

1

LORELAI and RORY are standing in the school supplies aisle of the market.

LORELAI

Shopping for school supplies.  
Parrrrrr-taaay.

RORY

Nobody demanded that you come.

LORELAI

What, are you kidding? How often do you get to do things like this? I was thinking as long as we're going crazy, let's get some toilet paper and a plunger next.

RORY

I'll do this later.

LORELAI

I'm teasing. Come on. Pull out that list of yours.

Rory pulls a list out of her pocket.

RORY

Okay. Fine. I need legal pads.

LORELAI

Got it.

RORY

Tons of pens...

LORELAI

Right.

RORY

Some number two pencils, three highlighters, an eraser, a staple remover and a pee-chee folder.

LORELAI

You need three highlighters?

RORY

Yes.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

LORELAI

Three.

RORY

Yes.

LORELAI

That seems like a very random  
number.

RORY

Three is not a random number.

LORELAI

I mean, how did you come up with  
that number?

RORY

One dries up, one gets lost, I've  
got one left.

LORELAI

You've thought this out.

RORY

Yes, I have.

LORELAI

What came first, the chicken or  
the egg?

RORY

Back to the list please.

LORELAI

Okay...

(grabs some pads)

Legal pads...

RORY

Those are purple.

LORELAI

So what? They're festive.

RORY

I can't have purple.

LORELAI

Yes, you can. They're on sale.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: (2)

1

RORY

I am going to a serious school  
now. I need serious paper.

LORELAI

Paper is paper.

RORY

Not at Chilton.

LORELAI

Okay.

She puts the purple pads back and gets the standard yellow  
ones.

LORELAI (cont'd)

Fine. Here's your serious paper.

RORY

Thank you.

LORELAI

And here are your somber  
highlighters, your maudlin pencils  
and your manic-depressive pens.

RORY

Mom...

LORELAI

Now, the erasers are on lithium so  
they may seem cheerful, but we  
actually caught them trying to  
shove themselves into the pencil  
sharpener earlier.

RORY

I'm going home now.

LORELAI

Oh, wait. We're going to stage an  
intervention with the neon post-  
its. Make them give up their wacky  
crazy ways.

RORY

You are never coming shopping with  
me again.

Rory exits with Lorelai blathering on after her.

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

2 EXT. CHILTON - MORNING (DAY 2) 2

A bus pulls up. Rory gets off, loaded down on both sides with bags of books. She walks out of frame. A beat, then she walks back in frame without the bags. She gets back on the bus and gets off holding another couple of bags. She goes back out of frame. A beat, then she comes back into frame, gets back on the bus and emerges with a gym bag and her lunch. She walks out of frame. The bus closes the door and pulls away. We follow the bus off to reveal Rory, now completely loaded down with all of her bags, starting the long walk up the hill to school.

3 INT. CHILTON - CLASSROOM - DAY (DAY 2) 3

Rory sits along with the rest of the class, including PARIS, TRISTIN, MADELINE and LOUISE. The teacher, MAX MEDINA, good-looking, mid-thirties, is handing out papers.

MAX

Decent effort by most, good effort by some, exceptional effort by two. Miss Geller.

Paris smiles proudly as she takes her paper.

MAX (cont'd)

And Miss Grant.

He hands a paper back to Louise. Madeline pouts.

MAX (cont'd)

Take these home. Learn from your mistakes.

He hands Rory her paper. She opens it. It's a D. She looks at it, heartbroken.

MAX (cont'd)

Look at the large red circles around various parts of your paper as friendly reminders that to err is human. And that here at Chilton, we try to beat that humanity right out of you.

He looks at Rory and smiles. She still looks shell-shocked.

(CONTINUED)



3 CONTINUED:

3

MAX (cont'd)

Okay, next up, the test. The dreaded test. Shakespeare. The man we've been droning on about for the last three weeks finally comes back to haunt us on Friday. This is a big one, my friends. Multiple choice, with an essay section that will count for twenty percent of your grade this semester. Don't be fooled by my kind face and charming personality. This test will be hard and there will be no make-ups.

The BELLS RINGS.

MAX (cont'd)

You will need to refer back to the study materials I gave to you at the beginning of the month, as well as to the extensive notes you've been taking. Off with you.

The class pours out. Rory is still staring at her paper. Paris, Madeline and Louise gather near Rory's desk.

PARIS

Hard paper.

LOUISE

A killer.

PARIS

How'd you do?

LOUISE

A.

PARIS

Me, too.

LOUISE

Small world.

PARIS

Isn't it? Madeline? What'd you get?

MADELINE

You know I got a B.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED: (2)

3

PARIS

B's not bad.

LOUISE

Not at all.

PARIS

Respectable even.

LOUISE

I'd be proud.

PARIS

A D however... that would be a  
cause for concern.

LOUISE

A cry for help.

PARIS

An job application to McDonald's.

LOUISE

Would you like fries with that?

PARIS

Hey, you know, everybody can't be  
smart. As my mother always says,  
somebody has to answer the phones.

MADELINE

Okay, I have no idea what you two  
are talking about.

PARIS

No. But Rory does.

Paris and Louise give Rory a satisfied smile. Rory gathers  
her things and exits the room sadly.

4 INT. CHILTON - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS - DAY (DAY 2)

4

Rory exits. She walks a beat and then takes her paper out to  
look at it.

TRISTIN

(from behind her)

Hey, Mary.

RORY

(to herself)

And it just keeps getting better.

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED:

4

TRISTIN  
You look sad.

RORY  
I'm fine.

TRISTIN  
Bad grade?

RORY  
I have to go.

She starts to walk. He follows her.

TRISTIN  
You know what, Mary, I just can't  
figure out why we're not friends.  
I think it's because I make you  
nervous.

RORY  
I think it's 'cause you can't learn  
my name.

Tristin gets in front of her and leans in close.

TRISTIN  
Do you have a boyfriend?

RORY  
None of your business.

TRISTIN  
Is that a no?

RORY  
Is there no one else in this school  
for you to bother?

TRISTIN  
I think you like me and you just  
don't know how to say it.

RORY  
Oh, boy.

TRISTIN  
What are you doing Friday night?

RORY  
I'm busy.

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED: (2)

4

TRISTIN

What, do you have to be back at  
the convent by five?

RORY

Please, leave me alone.

TRISTIN

Well, since you said please.

Tristin grins at her and turns to walk away.

TRISTIN (cont'd)

Later, Mary.

Rory looks after him, completely frustrated.

5 INT. INDEPENDENCE INN - LOBBY - AFTERNOON (DAY 2)

5

MICHEL and DRELLA are arguing at the front desk. Lorelai comes  
downstairs to find them bickering.

DRELLA

Back off, Chevalier.

MICHEL

You are blind, stupid, and clumsy!

DRELLA

Yeah, well, at least I'm not French.

LORELAI

What is going on here?

MICHEL

She ran over my shoe.

DRELLA

You got in the way.

MICHEL

You aimed for me!

DRELLA

Yeah, well.

LORELAI

Okay, hold on...

MICHEL

She scratched my shoes.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

5

DRELLA

Oh, what a baby.

MICHEL

These are three hundred dollar  
Italian loafers.

DRELLA

I wonder if Versace makes a  
pacifier.

MICHEL

You're fired!

LORELAI

Excuse me?

DRELLA

You can't fire me.

MICHEL

Then I dock your pay.

LORELAI

Sorry.

MICHEL

Can I kill her?

LORELAI

Not before high tea.

MICHEL

Then I will curse you. Constantly,  
and in several languages.

DRELLA

I'm going for the other foot.

LORELAI

Drella! To your corner! Now!

Drella glares at Michel and moves off.

MICHEL

(to Drella)

I win.

LORELAI

You are a grown man, Michel. Now,  
go to your desk and think about  
that.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED: (2) 5

She notices a pile of letters on the desk.

LORELAI (cont'd)  
(excited)  
Oh, my God!

She grabs a "Four Star Dining" magazine out of the pile and starts running toward the kitchen.

6 INT. INDEPENDENCE INN - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS - DAY (DAY 2) 6

Lorelai enters.

LORELAI  
Sookie, I got it!

SOOKIE  
My review?

LORELAI  
Right here!

They start looking through the magazine.

SOOKIE  
Where is it?

LORELAI  
I'm looking.

SOOKIE  
Hurry.

Rory enters, draped in her bags and holding her books. Lorelai looks up at her.

LORELAI  
In theaters now.. The thing that reads a lot.

Rory drops her bags to the floor with a thud.

RORY  
Chocolate?

SOOKIE  
Glass jar.

Rory heads over to the counter and starts digging into Sookie's vat of baking chocolate.

(CONTINUED)

6

CONTINUED:

6

SOOKIE (cont'd)  
Lorelai, look.

LORELAI  
Right, sorry.

The two women rifle through the magazine.

RORY  
Geez, who's naked?

LORELAI  
Lucian Mills. Food critic.

RORY  
Yeah? How's his butt?

LORELAI  
He was supposed to review the  
restaurant in this month's... I  
got it!

SOOKIE  
Is it good? Is he mean? Should I  
cry?

LORELAI  
Okay, here we go.  
(reading)  
"The words divine, delectable, and  
delirious don't begin to describe  
the delicious experience of dining  
at the Independence Inn." Ooh,  
I'm smelling a rave.

SOOKIE  
Really?

LORELAI  
(reading)  
"Only Chef Sookie St. James could  
make a simple salad of hothouse  
tomatoes and assorted fresh herbs  
seem like a religious experience.  
Her lobster bisque is worth every  
sinful, cream-filled, rich sip."

SOOKIE  
See, I actually don't use that  
much cream. Just a really  
concentrated lobster stock and...

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED: (2)

6

LORELAI

Sookie, he's not here.

SOOKIE

Right. Go on.

LORELAI

(reading)

"The entrees are as heavenly as the starters. Though the much-lauded risotto was perfectly fine, it was the simple handkerchief pasta with a browned sage and butter sauce that sent me through the roof." Sookie, this is unbelievable. I've got to have this framed for the dining room.

SOOKIE

(a little deflated)

Oh. Yeah. That would be swell.  
Can I see that again?

Sookie grabs the magazine and re-reads the review.

LORELAI

We should celebrate. Tonight, the girls on the town.

RORY

I can't. I have to study.

LORELAI

Hey, are you okay?

Rory hesitates for a minute.

RORY

I'm just tired.

LORELAI

Well, we can celebrate tomorrow.

RORY

No, you guys go.

SOOKIE

You know, I should really get started on the shopping list.

LORELAI

What is going on here?

(more)

(CONTINUED)



6 CONTINUED: (3)

6

LORELAI (cont'd)  
We are young and fiery women.  
Studying? Shopping lists? Where's  
to hell with it all? Where's  
throwing caution to the wind?  
Where's... oh shoot, the linen  
delivery.

Lorelai runs out. Rory calls after her.

RORY  
You go, girl.

Rory goes back to the chocolate. She looks very unhappy.  
Sookie takes the review and starts reading it again. She's  
not so happy herself.

7 INT. LORELAI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - NIGHT (NIGHT 7  
2)

Rory is studying at the kitchen table. Lorelai is watching  
TV.

LORELAI  
News is on.

RORY  
One sec.

Lorelai watches a beat.

LORELAI  
And for our top story: Tonight, a  
grizzly horrible thing happened in  
a small town where no grizzly  
horrible thing's ever happened.  
Everyone's shocked.

She watches for another beat.

LORELAI (cont'd)  
House slides down hill.  
(beat)  
Teens are dangerous. Stop  
procreating.  
(beat)  
Liposuction kills. Stay fat.

She turns off the TV.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

LORELAI (cont'd)

Okay. I'm bored. Let's get ice  
cream.

Rory doesn't answer. Lorelai crosses into the kitchen.

LORELAI (cont'd)

Hello?

RORY

Mom, I'm studying.

LORELAI

Yeah, but we're talking ice cream  
here. How about a break?

RORY

I can't take a break now.

LORELAI

Okay. When?

RORY

Are you four?

LORELAI

No. I'm hungry.

RORY

Have more pizza.

LORELAI

It's cold.

RORY

Heat it up.

LORELAI

It's not the same.

RORY

Lorelai, go to your room!

LORELAI

Wow. Smart girls are mean.

RORY

Look, if you let me study now,  
I'll play with you this weekend.

LORELAI

Promise?

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (2)

7

RORY

Yes. We'll do anything you want.

LORELAI

You'll go to the shoe sale with me?

RORY

Yes.

LORELAI

And you'll let me try on anything I want?

RORY

Yes.

LORELAI

And you'll let me push other people out of the way if they're going for my size?

RORY

I'll even run interference for you.

LORELAI

You have a deal.

RORY

Good.

Rory goes back to her studying. Lorelai exits the kitchen.  
Beat. Lorelai comes back in.

LORELAI

So, I'm sorry, where did we land on the whole ice cream issue?

Rory packs up her books and goes in her room. Lorelai looks after her, confused. What just happened here?

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

8 EXT. ANTIQUE STORE - DAY (DAY 3) 8

Rory, in rumpled school gear and holding books, goes inside.

9 INT. ANTIQUE STORE - CONTINUOUS - DAY (DAY 3) 9

Rory enters.

Lane? RORY

Rory? LANE (O.S.)

Right or left? RORY

Right. LANE (O.S.)

Okay. RORY

Rory goes to the right. No Lane.

RORY (cont'd)  
I thought you said right.

LANE (O.S.)  
Sorry. My right. Your left.

Rory goes the other direction. She turns a corner and finds LANE studying at one of the tables. There's a small plate with some sort of sad rice-cakey looking thing on it. Rory sits down with her and proceeds to open her books.

Hey. RORY

You're late. LANE

Sorry. RORY  
(looking at Lane's plate)  
What is that?

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED:

9

LANE

Twelve calories.

RORY

Here.

She pulls out a candy bar and hands it to Lane.

LANE

Oh, my God. Thank you.

She rips into it and takes a bite. Rory pulls out her huge book of notes.

LANE (cont'd)

Man, what's that?

RORY

My notes.

LANE

Really.

RORY

I don't think Shakespeare knew himself this well.

MRS. KIM comes over to the table with a CUSTOMER.

CUSTOMER

Ooh, I like. How much?

MRS. KIM

Five hundred.

CUSTOMER

Is that the best you can do?

MRS. KIM

Four fifty.

CUSTOMER

I'm not sure.

MRS. KIM

Three seventy-five and you take it right now.

CUSTOMER

Sold.

MRS. KIM

We appreciate your business.  
(more)

(CONTINUED)

9

CONTINUED: (2)

9

MRS. KIM (cont'd)  
(to the girls)

Move.

Mrs. Kim and the customer move off. Lane and Rory gather up their books.

RORY  
I really miss Stars Hollow High.

LANE  
You're kidding, right?

RORY  
No. Chilton's just... I don't know. Hard.

LANE  
What do you care? You were Miss Everything's So Easy at school. This should be a snap for you.

Rory looks at Lane a beat wanting to tell her she's got it all wrong. She can't. The girls settle at another table and start taking their stuff out again. Mrs. Kim comes over to the girls.

MRS. KIM  
Nope. This is sold. Move.

She spots the candy bar on the table.

MRS. KIM (cont'd)  
What's that?

RORY  
It's mine.

MRS. KIM  
That is chocolate covered death.

RORY  
With a creamy caramel surprise.

Mrs Kim spots someone at the other end of the store and exits off. Rory and Lane gather up their stuff and move to yet another table.

LANE  
So, this guy asked about you today.

RORY  
What guy?

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED: (3)

9

LANE

The new kid. Tall, perfect.

RORY

What did he want to know?

LANE

Where you were.

RORY

What did you say?

LANE

That you were just too smart for  
us and had to go to the genius  
school.

RORY

Oh.

LANE

He seemed to like that. Guess  
he's into brainy chicks.

RORY

Well, I'll keep my eyes open for  
one for him.

They sit down and settle in at the new table.

MRS. KIM (O.S.)

No! Sold!

LANE

Mom...

MRS. KIM (O.S.)

Move!

LANE

(calling off)

Where do you want us to go?

MRS. KIM (O.S.)

A library!

The girls gather their stuff one last time.

LANE

I hate sales.

They exit off.

10 INT. INDEPENDENCE INN - LOBBY - LATE AFTERNOON (DAY 3) 10

Lorelai is gathering up her stuff. Drella is playing "Iron Man." Lorelai heads off toward the kitchen. She passes Drella.

LORELAI

No Black Sabbath.

DRELLA

No one's listening.

LORELAI

No Black Sabbath. No Steely Dan,  
no Boston, and no Queen.

DRELLA

What happened to you to make you  
so cold?

LORELAI

We like that Mozart.

Lorelai continues toward the kitchen.

DRELLA

(sighs)

I am the Artie Shaw of harpists.

11 INT. INDEPENDENCE INN - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS - DAY (DAY 3) 11

Sookie is sitting at her little desk in the kitchen. She's obviously very depressed. Lorelai enters in a rush.

LORELAI

I need coffee to go.

SOOKIE

There's some fresh over there.

Lorelai looks at the coffee, which has boiled down to a syrup on the bottom of the pot.

LORELAI

Fresh in my first lifetime as Joan  
of Arc.

SOOKIE

Oh, I'm sorry. I thought I made  
some fresh. Here.

She gets up and makes coffee.

(CONTINUED)



11 CONTINUED:

11

LORELAI

Bless you. I'm completely exhausted and I have to drive into Hartford tonight to attend a Parent-Teacher meeting.

SOOKIE

Sounds great.

LORELAI

Yeah. I mean, this school is so completely different then Stars Hollow. They send like a thousand pages of updates home every week. It's a very intense place.

SOOKIE

Um hum.

LORELAI

Last week, there was a huge debate over allowing a plaid scrunchie to be acceptable head wear. People took sides. Things got very ugly. The scrunchie motion finally passed and I like to think I was the tiebreaker.

SOOKIE

That's nice.

Sookie sits back down at her little desk and slips back into her funk. Lorelai goes over to Sookie.

LORELAI

Honey, are you okay?

SOOKIE

He said it was fine.

LORELAI

Who said it was fine?

SOOKIE

Lucian Mills.

LORELAI

The restaurant critic?

SOOKIE

He said my risotto is fine.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED: (2)

11

LORELAI

Isn't it?

SOOKIE

(indignant)

No. It's not fine. Fine is a word you use when you get stopped on the street by someone you sort of know but you don't really want to talk to and they ask you how you are and you say you're fine. Because it's just enough that they feel you're doing okay so they don't have to talk to you anymore but they can feel like they were considerate enough that they asked and that if maybe you weren't fine they would actually listen to what's bothering you even if they wouldn't want to.

LORELAI

Sookie, I don't think he meant fine as a slam. Or as a monologue.

SOOKIE

He couldn't have meant it any other way.

LORELAI

I don't want you to get so upset over this one little review.

SOOKIE

This is pride, Lorelai. I mean, you know about this risotto. When my mother was on her deathbed, I --

LORELAI

You made her the risotto, and she lived another three years. I know.

SOOKIE

She was supposed to be dead. The doctors told us she wouldn't make it through the night. I lost a down payment on a casket.

LORELAI

And she lived because of the risotto. It's the magic risotto.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED: (3)

11

SOOKIE

And that man had the nerve to call  
it fine.

LORELAI

I don't think he knew the story.

JACKSON enters.

JACKSON

Okay, before you get goofy on me I  
don't have the porcinis. I forgot  
them. I have no other excuse than  
plain old stupid human error and I  
brought you morels which is not  
what you want, so come on, let me  
have it.

SOOKIE

Morels are fine.

JACKSON

(to Lorelai, taken aback)  
Did anyone else feel a shift in  
the space/time continuum?

LORELAI

A reviewer didn't like the risotto.

JACKSON

The magic risotto? You're kidding.

LORELAI

Look, I have to go. Try and cheer  
her up a little, would you?

JACKSON

Sure.

Lorelai gives Sookie a hug.

LORELAI

Forget this, sweetie. You're the  
best. We all know it.

Lorelai exits. Jackson stands there a minute, not quite knowing  
what to say to the sad Sookie.

JACKSON

So... I hear the huckleberry crop's  
going to completely suck this year.

Sookie just looks at him.

(CONTINUED)

\*  
\*

11 CONTINUED: (4) 11

JACKSON (cont'd)

I'm not good at consoling.

Sookie just sighs.

12 INT. CHILTON - CLASSROOM - EVENING (NIGHT 3) 12

Teacher Max Medina's classroom has been turned into a parental meeting place. In the back of the room a table is set up with coffee and cookies. Seated in the chairs are several STERN-FACED, WELL-HEELED parents. Max is leaning against his desk.

MAX

We'll be focusing on Elizabethan literature this semester. Shakespeare, Marlowe, Bacon, John Webster...

MAN #1

Is Marlowe really that significant?

MAX

We want to give as complete an overview as possible.

WOMAN #1

Yes, but will he be included on the Advanced Placement test?

MAX

We can't know exactly what will be on the AP test, but it will definitely be important for future studies once your kids hit their universities.

MAN #1

But to get there, they need to pass the AP test.

MAX

All of this is important and could very well be included.

WOMAN #2

How do we find out?

MAX

Bribe someone on the AP committee.

Several parents look like they're considering this.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

MAX (cont'd)

I was kidding.

The door opens and Lorelai enters. She's still in her work suit but now she wears a B-52s tee shirt under her jacket. The whole room looks at her, Max more interested than the others.

LORELAI

Sorry I'm late. Terrible pothole incident. You don't care. Please go on.

She knocks into a globe.

LORELAI (cont'd)

(joking)

What in the world...

(realizing the joke's not going over well)

I'll sit now.

She sits. The parents turn back to Max.

MAX

I'm sorry, we never met.

LORELAI

Oh, I'm Lorelai Gilmore. Rory's mom.

MAX

Glad you could join us.  
(to the other parents)  
Rory's one of our new students.

WOMAN #1

How nice. Now the AP test...

MAX

Yes. Well, we're preparing them as best we can.

Lorelai spots the coffee set up at the back of the class. She carefully makes her way over to the pot and pours herself a cup.

MAN #2

I've hired a tutor for Bethany.

MAX

Always a valid option.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: (2)

12

Lorelai takes a sip of the coffee. She starts to choke.  
Everyone turns around to look at her.

LORELAI

Jesus, Mary, Joseph and the camel!

She notices the stares.

LORELAI (cont'd)

Really bad coffee.

The parents look at each other.

LORELAI (cont'd)

(louder to the room)

So, the AP test, what are we doing  
about it, huh?

The parents shake their heads and then turn back to Max who is  
finding Lorelai infinitely amusing.

MAX

Okay, so the next test is currently  
scheduled for next month. Saturday,  
the twenty-fifth, at seven a.m.

Lorelai raises her hand.

MAX (cont'd)

Ms. Gilmore.

LORELAI

Okay, where is the test?

MAX

It will be given here.

LORELAI

Here.

MAX

Right.

LORELAI

On the twenty-fifth at seven  
o'clock.

MAX

Yes.

LORELAI

Okay, good.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: (3)

12

MAX

Any other questions?

LORELAI

Yeah, can parents come?

WOMAN #1

What?

LORELAI

It's just kind of exciting that's  
all. I thought, maybe it's stupid,  
but...

MAX

No, it's not stupid.

LORELAI

I would just love to see the  
excitement.

MAN #2

It's a test.

LORELAI

I know.

MAN #2

What's exciting about a test?

LORELAI

You play golf?

MAN #2

Yes, I do.

LORELAI

You explain yours, I'll explain  
mine.

MAX

Okay, let's get back to the meeting.

WOMAN #1

(whispering to a Woman #2)  
That's the one who voted for the  
scrunchies.

WOMAN #2

Must be a scholarship student.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: (4)

12

LORELAI  
(starting to stand, insulted)  
Excuse me?

MAX  
Okay, I think this would be a good  
time for a break.

The room disperses. Max walks over to Lorelai.

MAX (cont'd)  
What were you going to do, hit  
her?

LORELAI  
No. But I had some good verbal  
comebacks ready.

MAX  
Like?

LORELAI  
"Scholarship this" was the front-  
runner.

Lorelai takes another sip of coffee. She grimaces.

LORELAI (cont'd)  
And it just gets worse.

MAX  
Not drinking it is always an option.

LORELAI  
Not in my world.

MAX  
I'm Max Medina.

LORELAI  
Nice to meet you.

MAX  
I apologize for the behavior of  
some of our guests tonight. This  
is a tense time for some people.

LORELAI  
What, the SAT season?

MAX  
The waking hours.

Lorelai smiles at him.

(CONTINUED)



12 CONTINUED: (5)

12

LORELAI

Hey, are you this nice to my kid?

MAX

Ah, it's easy. Rory's a sweet girl.

LORELAI

She is, she is.

MAX

How is she liking Chilton?

LORELAI

Oh, she loves it.

MAX

Really?

LORELAI

I mean, it's obviously an adjustment for her. But she really wants to go to Harvard and this is how she'll get there.

MAX

Harvard.

LORELAI

Tall, bricks, ivy...

MAX

I've heard of it.

LORELAI

Ever since Rory could crawl I've wanted her to go there.

MAX

It's a great school.

LORELAI

I actually bought her a Harvard sweatshirt when she was four, which, of course, was way too big for her so she used it as a blanket for a while and then as a make-shift diaper on a really ill-fated shopping trip and I've now told you a story that would so mortify her she'll kill me when she finds out you know.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: (6)

12

MAX

Well, don't tell her then. It'll  
be our secret.

LORELAI

I'd appreciate that.

They smile at each other a beat.

MAX

(off her tee shirt)  
So, you're a B-52s girl.

LORELAI

What?

(looks at her shirt)  
Oh. Actually, I'm a klutz girl  
who shouldn't drive with a cup of  
coffee in her hand. I just had  
this in the car.

MAX

Well, I hope Rory adjusts to this  
place. We need her here.

LORELAI

Thank you. That's nice.

MAX

And I hope she's not too  
disappointed about her paper because  
it's very hard to catch up on all  
that reading material. I know a D  
seems pretty dismal, but...

LORELAI

What? Rory got a D?

MAX

Yes, but...

LORELAI

Rory's never gotten a D.

\*

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: (7)

12

MAX

Well, it was the first paper she's  
had to turn in and she was bound  
to falter a little.

\*  
\*

LORELAI

Oh, man. This totally explains  
the no ice cream thing. God, I'm  
such an idiot.

MAX

The ice cream thing?

LORELAI

Look, I've got to go.

MAX

I'm sorry if I said something to...

LORELAI

If Rory got a D she's not feeling  
too hot right now and I'd kind of  
like to be there.

MAX

I understand.

LORELAI

So, it's been nice meeting you.

MAX

You, too.

LORELAI

Keep up the good work. And don't  
ever make coffee again.

MAX

I won't. I promise.

Lorelai exits off. Max looks off after her, obviously smitten.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

13 INT. LUKE'S DINER - NIGHT (NIGHT 3)

13

Rory is sitting at a table studying. She scribbles furiously, then erases what she wrote. Scribbles again, this time her pencil breaks. She throws it down in frustration. LUKE comes over with a piece of pie.

LUKE

Here.

RORY

What's this?

LUKE

You look like you need pie.

RORY

I do?

LUKE

Violent pencil-tossing usually signals a need for pie.

RORY

What if I had thrown a pen?

LUKE

I would've brought you trout.

RORY

What?

LUKE

I don't make the rules. I just carry them out.

Luke crosses off. Lorelai comes in the door. Luke passes her.

LORELAI

Hey, backwards baseball cap. New look for you.

LUKE

She's over there.

LORELAI

Thanks.

(more)

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED:

13

LORELAI (cont'd)  
(she spots Rory)  
She eating pie? Did she have dinner  
yet?

LUKE  
You raised her. I just serve.

Luke crosses off. Lorelai goes over to Rory and sits down.

LORELAI  
Hey, bookworm.

RORY  
Finally. Where were you?

LORELAI  
Actually, Hartford.

RORY  
Why?

LORELAI  
Well, because tonight was the...

RORY  
(remembering, busted)  
Parent-Teacher Meeting. Oh, my  
God.

LORELAI  
Yeah.

RORY  
I forgot.

LORELAI  
It went very well. I was extremely  
charming and really won the crowd  
over. They made me queen.

RORY  
So, I guess you talked to Mr.  
Medina.

LORELAI  
Yeah.

Rory doesn't say anything.

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED: (2)

13

LORELAI (cont'd)

I can't believe you let me whine  
about ice cream and shoe sales  
when you had this major thing going  
on.

RORY

I know.

LORELAI

I hate when I'm an idiot and I  
don't even know it. I like to be  
aware of my idiocy. Revel in it.  
Take a few pictures. We missed a  
prime Christmas card picture  
opportunity there.

RORY

I'm sorry.

LORELAI

You should've told me.

RORY

I couldn't.

LORELAI

You couldn't tell me? You tell me  
everything.

RORY

It was too humiliating.

LORELAI

You once told me that you loved  
Saved By The Bell. What could be  
more humiliating than that?

RORY

I couldn't even form the words. I  
couldn't even say it. I couldn't  
even comprehend it. I have never  
gotten a D. Ever.

LORELAI

I know.

RORY

I broke my arm and couldn't write  
for a month and I still got an A  
minus.

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED: (3)

13

LORELAI

Well, that was a different school.

RORY

Yeah, I know. It was Stars Hollow High. A D at Stars Hollow is like an F at Chilton. Or worse probably. It's like a G. Or a W.

LORELAI

So, I'm guessing you didn't do too well on your spelling test either.

RORY

Please don't tell Grandma and Grandpa.

LORELAI

Okay, now hold on...

RORY

They'll want their money back.

LORELAI

I won't tell them.

RORY

A D. I suck.

LORELAI

You do not suck.

RORY

I can't do this.

LORELAI

Now you listen to me. A D is bad. But all this talk about sucking and you can't do this, the self pity thing, that's worse. That's not you. You don't feel sorry for yourself. You didn't when it took you three months to ride a bicycle and you won't now.

RORY

Four months.

LORELAI

What?

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED: (4)

13

RORY

It took me four months to learn to  
ride a bike.

LORELAI

Really? Four months?

RORY

Yeah, you want to belabor the  
conversation?

LORELAI

Okay, forget about the bike. Just  
listen to me. A D is one grade.  
It is not the rest of your life.  
You will catch up and you will do  
better. Period. You come from  
hearty stubborn stock, my dear.  
If there is one thing that I gave  
you it is my stubbornness.

RORY

I am not stubborn.

LORELAI

You are, too.

RORY

I am not.

LORELAI

Fine, you're not.

RORY

Thank you.

LORELAI

You're welcome. You can do this,  
Rory. And I will help you. I  
will get you through this. Now  
put the D behind you. Oh look,  
where is it? Behind you. Can't  
see it. Buh-bye. Okay, what's  
next?

Rory takes a deep breath.

RORY

I have a test on Friday.

LORELAI

A test. Good.

(CONTINUED)



13 CONTINUED: (5)

13

RORY

On Shakespeare.

LORELAI

The Bard with the beard. Check.

RORY

It's twenty percent of my grade.

LORELAI

That just makes life interesting.  
Now, what do we have to do to get  
you an A on that test?

RORY

Well, I need to learn all my study  
notes. There's three chapters in  
the book that they covered before  
I started there.

LORELAI

Do you have to do the "out, damn  
spot" thing? Cause I love that.

RORY

You really think I can do this?

LORELAI

I'll bet you a dollar.

RORY

One dollar.

LORELAI

A new one. With the big head.

RORY

That's it? That's what my future  
is worth? One dollar?

LORELAI

Two dollars?

RORY

Two dollars.

LORELAI

Well, come on. You did get a D.

Rory shakes her head and smiles at Lorelai. Lorelai and Rory  
eat the pie and strategize about the study sessions.

14 INT. INDEPENDENCE INN - KITCHEN - MORNING (DAY 4) 14

No longer the lethargic Sookie we saw in the last scene. Bowls of risotto are lined up on the counter and Sookie is intensely stirring several pots on the stove. Lorelai enters.

LORELAI

Hey Sookie, did you see the --

Sookie shoves a spoonful of risotto into Lorelai's mouth.

SOOKIE

Good?

LORELAI

Hot.

SOOKIE

What about this?

She shoves another spoonful into Lorelai's mouth.

SOOKIE (cont'd)

Better?

LORELAI

Hotter.

SOOKIE

Wait, there's one more.

LORELAI

Sookie, what's with all the risotto?  
Have we gone theme now? Is this  
like the scotch tape store?

SOOKIE

I've tried forty different recipes,  
okay? Forty. And every single  
time I came back to the same  
conclusion.

LORELAI

That yours is better.

SOOKIE

Yes.

LORELAI

It is.

A WAITER comes into the kitchen.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

WAITER

You were looking for me?

SOOKIE

Yes! Great! A guy came in here  
three weeks ago. Lucian Mills.  
He ordered the risotto and he didn't  
like it.

WAITER

(shocked)

The magic risotto? You're kidding.

LORELAI

Not helping.

SOOKIE

He was a restaurant critic so he  
ordered several things and probably  
didn't finish them. He mentioned  
in the review that his waiter had  
a goatee and you have a goatee so  
you waited on him. I need info.

WAITER

Well, what did he look like?

SOOKIE

Like he was unhappy with the  
risotto.

WAITER

I don't know...

SOOKIE

And he may have been with an  
annoying table companion that  
wouldn't let him concentrate on  
what he was eating!

WAITER

I serve a lot of people...

SOOKIE

He might've been wearing a fake  
beard. Or a wig. Or false teeth.  
Or one of those plastic glasses  
with the big nose on them!

WAITER

(to Lorelai)

May I be fired now?

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED: (2)

14

LORELAI

Absolutely.

The waiter exits. Sookie goes after him.

SOOKIE

What about a guy with an annoying  
companion and a fake wig who was  
sitting under an air conditioning  
vent next to a woman with too much  
perfume on?

Sookie exits. Lorelai just sighs, picks up a spoon and starts  
eating some of the risotto.

15 EXT. CHILTON - DAY (DAY 4)

15

It's lunch time. Rory is sitting on a bench studying.

TIGHT PROFILE SHOT of Rory reading. Suddenly Paris's face  
appears in back of Rory.

PARIS

"Let me not to the marriage of  
true minds  
Admit impediments. Love is not  
love  
Which alters when it alteration  
finds,  
Or bends with the remover to remove:  
O no! it is an ever-fixed mark  
That looks on tempests and is never  
shaken;  
It is the star to every wandering  
bark,  
Whose worth's unknown, although  
his height be taken."  
(beat)  
You're going down.

Paris's face disappears. Rory drops her head in frustration.

16 EXT. LORELAI'S HOUSE - NIGHT (NIGHT 4)

16

As WE PUSH IN, we hear Lorelai and Rory's voices.

LORELAI (O.S.)

The Comedy of Errors. Written...

RORY (O.S.)

Uh, fifteen ninety?

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED:

16

LORELAI (O.S.)

Published?

RORY (O.S.)

Sixteen ninety-eight?

LORELAI (O.S.)

Sixteen twenty-three. Close.

17 INT. LORELAI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS - NIGHT  
(NIGHT 4)

17

Lorelai and Rory are on the couch. Books and papers are scattered everywhere. They've obviously been at this a long time.

RORY

How is sixteen twenty-three close?

LORELAI

You got the sixteen part right.

RORY

I was off by seventy-five years.

LORELAI

Anything under a hundred years is close.

RORY

What kind of rule is that?

LORELAI

Hey, I'm running the study session here, okay? Now, Richard III.

RORY

Fifteen ninety-one?

LORELAI

(a la game show buzzer)

EEEEH!

RORY

Ninety-three?

LORELAI

EEEH!

RORY

Ninety-six?

LORELAI

EEEEH!

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED:

17

RORY

Okay, that's getting really annoying  
now.

18 INT. LORELAI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - A FEW HOURS 18  
LATER - NIGHT (NIGHT 4)

Cookies, mac and cheese, fried chicken, several jumbo coffee  
cups and assorted candy bags are strewn all over the living  
room. Lorelai is sprawled on the couch dead tired. Rory sits  
at the kitchen table, equally cluttered with study rations,  
with a cold washcloth over her eyes.

LORELAI

Go on. I'm listening.

RORY

The sonnets are one hundred fifty-  
four poems of fourteen lines...

LORELAI

Except...

RORY

Except for one twenty-six, which  
is twelve lines.

LORELAI

Good.

RORY

They're written in iambic  
pentameter...

LORELAI

Except...

RORY

Except for one forty-five, which  
is in tetrameter.

LORELAI

Rock on, sister.

RORY

Really?

LORELAI

Not one mistake.

RORY

Wow.

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

18

LORELAI

So, how do you feel?

RORY

Nauseous.

LORELAI

Yeah. I don't think the fries in  
the horseradish sauce was the  
brightest idea we've ever had.

RORY

It was satisfying in the moment  
though.

LORELAI

You are going to blow that class  
away tomorrow.

RORY

You think?

LORELAI

I think. Hey, what do you say we  
call it a night and get some beauty  
sleep.

RORY

You go ahead. I just want to review  
my notes one more time.

LORELAI

That's okay. I'll stay up.

RORY

Mom, go to sleep.

LORELAI

Please, I'm not tired. I was just  
thinking about you is all.

Lorelai leans back on the couch and closes her eyes. We pan  
over to Rory at the kitchen table opening her books.

19 INT. LORELAI'S HOUSE - KITCHEN/LIVING ROOM - A LITTLE  
WHILE LATER - NIGHT (NIGHT 4)

19

Rory is still studying. She gets up and gets herself a glass  
of water. She walks into the living room where she sees Lorelai  
dead asleep on the couch. Rory gets a blanket off a chair,  
covers Lorelai up and then goes back to the kitchen table,  
sits and opens her book.

20 INT. LORELAI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - A LITTLE 20  
WHILE LATER - NIGHT (NIGHT 4)

Lorelai is still asleep on the couch. She wakes up and still groggy, sits up. She glances into the kitchen where she sees Rory at the kitchen table with her head down on her books, fast asleep. Lorelai wraps the blanket around her and goes into the kitchen. She sits down next to Rory. She puts half the blanket over her, lies down on the table and falls asleep next to her kid.

21 INT. LORELAI'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING (DAY 5) 21

Lorelai and Rory are still asleep at the kitchen table. Rory stirs. She opens her eyes and sees the bright sunlight streaming in. She sits up, panicked.

RORY

No. Oh, no!

She jumps up and runs into her bedroom yanking the blanket off of Lorelai, waking her up.

LORELAI

What?

(her neck is stiff)

Ow. Geez. Such a bad sleeping idea.

RORY (O.S.)

I'm late!

LORELAI

What?

RORY (O.S.)

I'm late! I'm late! I woke up late!

LORELAI

Okay, calm down.

RORY

I can't calm down! I've missed my bus! Get up!

LORELAI

Sweetie, mommy can't move right now. Mommy's been sleeping at a right angle all night.

Rory runs out of her bedroom putting shoes on.

RORY

I'm going to miss the test!

(CONTINUED)



21 CONTINUED:

21

LORELAI

No, you won't. Grab the keys,  
let's go.

Lorelai jumps up and then stops.

LORELAI (cont'd)

I can't drive you.

RORY

You have to! I missed my bus!

LORELAI

I have a meeting at the inn at  
eight.

RORY

Mom!

LORELAI

Stop! Okay. Think. You take the car.

RORY

What?

LORELAI

You take the car, I'll get Sookie  
to pick me up. Here.

Lorelai runs over to her purse and takes a cell phone out and  
grabs her car keys. She hands it to Rory.

LORELAI (cont'd)

Take this, take these, and go.

RORY

Are you sure?

LORELAI

Go, go, go!

RORY

I'm gone!

Rory runs out of the house.

LORELAI

(calling after her)

Good luck!

Lorelai, still stiff, sits back down in the chair and drops  
her head back on the table.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

22 EXT. ROAD - MORNING (DAY 5) 22

Rory is driving along, very tense about her situation. She suddenly thinks about something. Keeping her eyes on the road she reaches into her backpack to look for something. She reaches a stop sign. She stops. She pulls Lorelai's cell phone out of her backpack and dials.

23 INT. LANE'S HOUSE - SAME TIME - MORNING (DAY 5) 23

We're TIGHT on Lane, who is sitting in a pile of brightly colored pillows listening to music and reading a 'zine. Behind her are brightly colored rock posters and artwork. Next to her is a lava lamp. All you see is color and Lane sitting in the middle of it. Her phone RINGS.

LANE

(into the phone)

Hello?

We will cut back and forth as needed.

RORY

Did I leave a set of my notes at your house yesterday?

LANE

Where are you?

RORY

I'm driving to school. I need to check on something and I can't find some of my notes.

LANE

Hold on, I'll check.

Lane gets up and opens a door.

24 INT. LANE'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS - MORNING (DAY 5) 24

Lane emerges from what we now see is her closet. Her bedroom is in stark contrast to the brightly colored haven she created in closet world. Her room is completely beige, including the bedding, with one lone crucifix hanging over her bed as the only decoration. Lane looks around.

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED:

24

LANE

I don't see anything.

RORY

What did I do with them?

LANE

Maybe they're downstairs in the store.

RORY

Maybe. I just don't...

WHAM! The Jeep shakes. Rory looks around, startled, and sees a STUNNED DEER staggering away from the Jeep.

RORY (cont'd)

Oh, my God.

LANE

Are you all right?

RORY

I just got hit by a deer!

LANE

You hit a deer?

RORY

No. I got hit by a deer!

LANE

How do you get hit by a deer?

RORY

I was at a stop sign and he hit me! Oh, my God!

Rory gets out of the car.

25 EXT. ROAD - CONTINUOUS - MORNING (DAY 5)

25

Rory gets out and runs around looking for the deer.

LANE

Was it a four way stop?

RORY

What does that matter?

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

LANE

I don't know. I don't know what  
to ask after you've been hit by a  
deer.

RORY

I don't see him.

LANE

Put salt down! Deers like salt.

RORY

Where am I going to get salt?

LANE

Do you have a lunch?

RORY

Lane!

LANE

Sorry.

RORY

I can't see him anywhere. What if  
he's hurt?

LANE

Rory, your test!

RORY

What time is it?

LANE

It's seven-forty.

RORY

No!

She hangs up and runs back to the car, gets in, and drives  
off.

26 INT. CHILTON - HALLWAY - A LITTLE LATER - DAY (DAY 5)

26

We come up on a clock the reads EIGHT FIFTEEN. Rory comes  
tearing around the corner running at full speed down the  
completely empty hallway.

27 INT. CHILTON - CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS - DAY (DAY 5) 27

Rory bursts through the door. The entire class looks up from their tests, Paris with a bit of a triumphant smile.

MAX

Back to your tests, please.

All heads go down. Paris puts her head down but sneaks a look at what's about to transpire.

RORY

I'm sorry, I...

MAX

Miss Gilmore, you'll have to wait in the library.

RORY

But what about the test?

MAX

(sympathetically)  
I'm afraid you've missed the test.

RORY

No.

MAX

We start class promptly...

RORY

No!

MAX

(overlapping)  
...at eight-o-five and that's when I need people to be in their seats.

RORY

Please.

MAX

It's the rules. I'm sorry.

RORY

But you don't understand. I was up all night studying. And then I missed the bus so I had to drive...

MAX

Let's discuss this outside.

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED:

27

RORY

...and then I'm driving down this road and I stop and I get hit by a deer!

MAX

You hit a deer?

RORY

No. I got hit by a deer! You don't believe me? I've got antler prints in the side of my mother's car!

MAX

Rory, come on.

RORY

No! I'm not leaving! I won't leave! You have to let me take this test! I'm ready for this test! I know everything there is to know about Shakespeare...

MAX

Okay, you need to calm down, now.

RORY

I know his birthdate and his mother's name and the kind of ink he used!

PARIS

(under her breath)

Loser.

Rory hears this and runs over to Paris's desk.

RORY

And just what is your problem, huh? You already have everything! You already have the grades and the status! What the hell is wrong with you that you have this constant need to be the biggest bitch in the entire world!

MAX

Okay, let's go.

Max tries to get Rory out the door.

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED: (2)

27

RORY

(to Paris)

Huh? No answer? What's up, quippy?  
Why so silent?

MAX

Outside, now.

Rory follows Max toward the door. She passes Tristin's desk and turns on him.

RORY

And for the last time, the name is  
Rory!!!!

Max pushes Rory out the door. The class looks at each other, completely stunned at the scene they just witnessed.

28 INT. INDEPENDENCE INN - LOBBY - SAME TIME - DAY (DAY 5)

28

Michel is standing, taking down notes.

LORELAI

Make sure that carpet is replaced  
perfectly before they go.

MICHEL

Okay.

LORELAI

I mean perfectly. Nailed down and  
everything.

MICHEL

Oh, you mean that perfectly. I  
thought you meant the other  
perfectly. The one that would be  
misinterpreted by the other Michel,  
the one who couldn't understand  
what you meant by perfectly.

Lorelai walks past Drella and her harp.

DRELLA

Hey, what do you think about Pat  
Benetar?

LORELAI

Great idea. Can she play the harp?

A LOUD SCREAM is heard from the kitchen. Lorelai takes off  
after the sound.

29 INT. INDEPENDENCE INN - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS - DAY (DAY 29  
5)

A jubilant Sookie is whooping it up and dancing around the kitchen. She's waving a piece of paper around in the air. Lorelai rushes in.

SOOKIE

I found it! I found it!

LORELAI

You found what?

SOOKIE

His bill! I found his bill!

LORELAI

What are you talking about?

SOOKIE

It wasn't the risotto. It was the wine! He ordered the wrong wine!

LORELAI

Oh. Well, great.

SOOKIE

See, he mentioned in the review that he had the summer tomato salad, which I only made once in the last three weeks because Jackson, of course, decided to punch out his tomato grower and well, that's another story.

LORELAI

Yes. Save it for Christmas time.

SOOKIE

So, then Brian, the goateed waiter only worked one shift that week because his girlfriend kicked him out and he had to move.

LORELAI

Celia kicked him out?

SOOKIE

Well, he didn't want kids.

LORELAI

She knew that when he moved in.

(CONTINUED)



29 CONTINUED:

29

SOOKIE

Women always think they can change men.

LORELAI

Yeah.

SOOKIE

So, anyhow, I narrowed down the day, checked the bills and found out that there was a party at table six that ordered practically everything on the menu, including...

LORELAI

The magic risotto!

SOOKIE

And, with the risotto, a reisling. A reisling!

LORELAI

Why not just drink battery acid?

SOOKIE

Exactly! It changes the flavor of the dish and the fact that Brian even served it makes me think that Celia is better off without him.

LORELAI

I'm so glad, hon.

They hug. Jackson comes in with a box of zucchini.

JACKSON

Okay, Here's the zucchini.

SOOKIE

(with a flourish)  
Too small! Take them away!

Sookie triumphantly moves off. Jackson turns to Lorelai.

JACKSON

It's good to have her back, huh?

LORELAI

Yeah.

JACKSON

Yeah.

(more)

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED: (2)

29

JACKSON (cont'd)

(beat)

You're still paying for the zucchini  
though.

Michel enters with the cell phone.

MICHEL

(to Lorelai)

There's a man with a funny accent  
on the phone asking for you.

LORELAI

Really? Did you guys exchange the  
secret handshake?

She takes the phone.

LORELAI (cont'd)

(into phone)

Lorelai, here.

She exits off, leaving Jackson and Michel staring at each other.

MICHEL

And so, being a grown man has not  
dissuaded you from wearing the  
overalls, hmm?

30 INT. CHILTON - HALLWAY OUTSIDE THE HEADMASTER'S OFFICE -  
AFTERNOON (DAY 5)

30

A solemn Rory sits on a bench in a lonely hallway. Lorelai  
comes running down the hall up to her.

LORELAI

Rory! What happened? Are you all  
right?

RORY

I got hit by a deer.

LORELAI

You got what...

RORY

And I was late and then they  
wouldn't let me take the test so  
I...

LORELAI

They what?

(CONTINUED)

30 CONTINUED:

30

RORY

They said I couldn't take the test  
and I...

LORELAI

Oh, you are kidding me.

RORY

Mom...

LORELAI

No. It's okay. You just stay  
right here. I'll handle this.

Lorelai, pissed as hell, goes into the Headmaster's office.

31 INT. CHILTON - HEADMASTER'S OFFICE - A MOMENT LATER - DAY 31  
(DAY 5)

Headmaster Charleston and Max are seated, talking. Lorelai  
enters.

LORELAI

Hello? Excuse me?

CHARLESTON

Ms. Gilmore, please come in.

LORELAI

Thank you.

Lorelai comes in.

CHARLESTON

Have a seat.

LORELAI

I think there's been a terrible  
misunderstanding. See, Rory told  
me that you wouldn't allow her to  
take the test.

CHARLESTON

She was late.

LORELAI

I know. I'm sorry about that.  
But there were circumstances beyond  
her control. I mean, Rory is never  
late. She's almost annoyingly on  
time. I'm sure if you checked  
your records you'd see that...

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED:

31

CHARLESTON

Her past performance has nothing  
to do with today's situation.

LORELAI

Okay, but see, she was up all night  
studying, with me. I was there so  
she's got a witness.

CHARLESTON

She's not on trial here.

LORELAI

Yes, well, your honor...

He looks at her.

LORELAI (cont'd)

Just a little trial humor. That  
won't happen again. Okay, see,  
she woke up late and broke her  
neck to get here, and we don't  
live locally as you know, and...

CHARLESTON

My dog ate my homework.

LORELAI

Excuse me?

CHARLESTON

My computer crashed and I lost my  
mid-term.

LORELAI

I wasn't making excuses...

CHARLESTON

My grandmother, aunt, first cousin,  
died. My sister took my report to  
school instead of hers. There's a  
family situation at home that has  
made it impossible to study. My  
religion prohibits studying after  
sundown. I went blind last night  
but now I'm fine.

LORELAI

Look, that is not Rory.

CHARLESTON

Rules are rules, Ms. Gilmore.  
(more)

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED: (2)

31

CHARLESTON (cont'd)

If you're late, then you forfeit  
the right to take the test.

Headmaster Charleston gets up and walks to the door.

LORELAI

(confused)

Where are you going?

(to Max)

Where is he going?

MAX

Lorelai, believe me, if there was  
anything I could do...

LORELAI

You can let her take the test.

MAX

I afraid I can't.

LORELAI

That's not fair.

CHARLESTON

Ms. Gilmore, we are not here to be  
fair. We are here to educate.

LORELAI

That's right. And I'm asking you  
to educate my kid.

CHARLESTON

We will when she's on time. Have  
a nice day.

He opens the door.

LORELAI

Are you holding that door open for  
a reason?

CHARLESTON

Our meeting is over.

LORELAI

(getting pissed)

Like hell it is.

MAX

Lorelai...

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED: (3)

31

Lorelai stands up.

LORELAI

Do you have any idea what we've been going through? We've been up all night every night this week studying! We haven't slept, we haven't talked about one thing except this school and this test for the last seven days! We have stretched ourselves as thin as we possibly could without going completely postal! My God! We're only one person!

CHARLESTON

Why don't we narrow the field of conversation down to Rory.

LORELAI

Fine, why don't we? You all sit up here in your snotty school that's desperately in need of some extra heating vents and you nurture horrible kids that treat each other like mortal enemies, you set ridiculous standards that make normal people feel less than everyone else, you take a great kid like Rory and tear her apart!

MAX

I don't think that's completely fair.

LORELAI

(turning on Max)

And you! You say things like she'll do fine and she's smart and this stodgy rotting rathole could use someone like her, and then you shut her out of a test that she's been cramming for and she's ready for, and she completely deserves to take!

MAX

(to Headmaster Charleston)

I never called this place a rathole.

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED: (4)

31

LORELAI

No, I added that. Wouldn't want you to get in trouble with Il Duce here. I thought this school was going to be great. That it was the opportunity of a lifetime. Well, I guess I can just add it to my "boy, was I wrong" list. Right below gauchos, but just above the Flashdance phase.

CHARLESTON

My goodness, you do like to throw fits in your family.

LORELAI

What are you talking about?

CHARLESTON

Your daughter threw a similar, though not quite as manic, fit of her own this morning.

LORELAI

Oh, please. Rory never throws fits. She's the most even-tempered person I know.

CHARLESTON

Well, then she did a lovely impression of you.

LORELAI

I don't...

CHARLESTON

Ms. Gilmore, everything you said in your rant is absolutely true, without the colorful embellishments, of course. We do set impossible standards and such standards do foster highly competitive children. However, that is life and that is Chilton.

LORELAI

Rules can change, you can change them.

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED: (5)

31

CHARLESTON

I told your daughter when she first came here that this place is not for everybody and may not be for her. I will now tell you the same thing.

LORELAI

Okay, but...

CHARLESTON

She doesn't have to be here. She doesn't have to go to Harvard and maybe she shouldn't. If she can't handle the pressure she should leave. But rules are the same for every child in this school. They will not change for her or for you. And you need to leave here now and decide what you intend to do. However, another outburst like this from either of you will not be part of the option list. Thank you for coming down. That will be all.

32 INT. CHILTON - HALLWAY OUTSIDE THE HEADMASTER'S OFFICE - 32  
A MOMENT LATER - DAY (DAY 5)

Lorelai is now sitting next to Rory. Both of them look busted. They sit for a long beat, then Lorelai looks over at Rory.

LORELAI

You got hit by a deer?

33 EXT. CHILTON - MINUTES LATER - DAY (DAY 5)

33

Lorelai and Rory are standing outside the Jeep staring at the side of it. We see antlers imprinted on the passenger side.

LORELAI

You did. You got hit by a deer.

RORY

It just came out of nowhere.

LORELAI

You couldn't just run into a wall like other kids?

(CONTINUED)



33 CONTINUED:

33

RORY

Can we just go home please?

LORELAI

Yeah. Sure, come on.

They get into the car.

34 EXT. STARS HOLLOW HOME - PORCH - DAY (DAY 5)

34

Sookie, calm -- almost glowing, stands on the porch of an unfamiliar home. She's holding a covered plate in one hand, a glass of wine in the other. She takes a deep breath, then awkwardly rings a doorbell with her elbow, then turns away from the door so she is facing the street. The door opens a crack, the security chain keeping the door in place. We don't see the REVIEWER, we just hear his voice.

REVIEWER (O.S.)

May I help you?

SOOKIE

Yes, hello, my name is Sookie St. Clair -- I'm the chef at the Independence Inn.

REVIEWER (O.S.)

I know who you are.

SOOKIE

You do? Well, I'm flattered. You write about so many chefs and...

REVIEWER (O.S.)

What are you doing here?

SOOKIE

Right. Well, I know this is a terrible intrusion, but... are you cooking?

REVIEWER (O.S.)

I'm making chicken.

SOOKIE

(sniffing)

Tarragon? White wine? A little cream?

REVIEWER (O.S.)

Yes.

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED:

34

SOOKIE

You used too much salt.

REVIEWER (O.S.)

I did not.

SOOKIE

It smells salty.

REVIEWER (O.S.)

I'm closing the door now.

SOOKIE

No! Wait! I found out your name  
through my network of culinary  
friends and...

REVIEWER (O.S.)

Look, this is really inappropriate.  
And confusing. I gave you a good  
review. The magazine is already  
on the newsstands. There's nothing  
I can do. I suggest you go home.

He starts to shut the door. Sookie half-turns towards it.

SOOKIE

I don't care about the review. I  
just want you to try this dish,  
(holds out the dish)  
with this wine.  
(holds out the wine)  
I'll wait.

A hand appears and takes the dish and wine. Sookie smiles a  
little triumphant smile.

35 INT. LORELAI'S CAR - DAY (DAY 5)

35

Lorelai and Rory drive along in silence. Lorelai looks at  
Rory who just keeps staring straight ahead.

LORELAI

So, quite a day.

RORY

I don't want to talk. Please.

LORELAI

Okay.

(more)

(CONTINUED)

35 CONTINUED:

35

LORELAI (cont'd)

(beat)

You know, I really think that we  
should...

RORY

Stop the car!

LORELAI

What?

RORY

Here, stop here!

Lorelai stops the car.

36 EXT. ROAD - CONTINUOUS - DAY (DAY 5)

36

Rory and Lorelai get out of the car. Rory starts off in the  
same direction the deer staggered off in.

LORELAI

Just felt like a impromptu nature  
walk?

RORY

I want to make sure it's alright.

LORELAI

What's alright?

RORY

The deer.

LORELAI

Rory, we're never going to find  
the deer.

RORY

I'm going to try.

LORELAI

I'm in heels.

RORY

Then stay in the car.

LORELAI

It's dangerous in the car with  
crazy kamikaze deer around.

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED:

37

LORELAI

Maybe you shouldn't have been  
studying that hard.

RORY

What are you talking about?

LORELAI

You're sixteen. You're supposed  
to sleep. And eat a real meal.  
And come up for air once in a while.

RORY

They kicked me out.

LORELAI

No. Of course not. They love  
you. This is all coming from me.

RORY

Are you telling me to quit?

LORELAI

I'm telling you that if you wanted  
to go back to your other school  
with Lane, I would be fine with  
that.

RORY

You don't think I can do it.

LORELAI

Okay, stop here. You look at me.  
Now, you know that's not true. I  
think you can do anything. No one  
thinks higher of you than I do. I  
plan to be you someday. But, you  
don't lose it in class. That's  
not in the Rory personality  
description. And if you're losing  
it in class because you're tired  
or stressed out or working too  
hard, I'm worried about that. I  
have to be.

RORY

I lost it once. Only once.

LORELAI

Okay. Fine.

They walk a beat.

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED: (2)

37

LORELAI (cont'd)

I can't even remember a time when we weren't talking about you going to Harvard. It's like it was always a given that it was going to happen. That's what we were working for. Everything went in that direction.

RORY

I know.

LORELAI

But, I'm forgetting how all that started.

RORY

What do you mean?

LORELAI

I mean, was it me that started it or was it you? Was it my dream that you went to Harvard?

RORY

Mom...

LORELAI

Because I never got to do the big fancy college thing. Maybe this whole time I was thinking it's all for Rory when it wasn't.

RORY

Yes, it was.

LORELAI

Maybe I've been pushing you too hard. Maybe I want you to have this because I didn't. Maybe I'm living through you.

RORY

Mom...

LORELAI

I don't want you to feel that you have to do this for me. I mean, maybe this is the wrong dream.

RORY

I'm not doing this because of you.

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED: (3)

37

LORELAI

If it is, you don't have to do it.

RORY

I know that.

LORELAI

I mean, I'll still love you even if you can't support me in my old age in the fabulous manner in which I plan on growing accustomed to.

RORY

I'll remember that selfless gesture. Thank you.

LORELAI

I just want you to be happy.

RORY

I am.

LORELAI

No, I mean really happy. Like dancing through the woods crazy kind of happy. And if Chilton and Harvard aren't going to make you dance through the woods, then forget about them.

RORY

I was just behind. I never caught up on all the reading. That's why I got a D.

(beat)

I can catch up. I will catch up. And once I do, everything will be fine.

LORELAI

Rory...

RORY

And Harvard is my dream. I want it more than anything. I swear.

LORELAI

Yes, but...

RORY

I appreciate what you're saying. I do, really. But I'm not ready to give up on Chilton.

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED: (5)

37

LORELAI

Yeah.

(beat)

I'm really hoping he has insurance.

The two women keep walking along the road in search of the deer.

38 INT. LORELAI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY (DAY 5)

38

Lorelai and Rory arrive home.

LORELAI

Okay, get that plaid skirt off,  
grab your books, we're going to  
Luke's.

RORY

Don't you have to get back to work?

LORELAI

They can last a little while longer  
without me. Plus, Michel's so  
cute when he feels like he's been  
overworked. His ears puff out,  
his nostrils flare, it's big fun.  
Go.

RORY

I'm gone.

Rory runs off. The PHONE RINGS. Lorelai lets the machine  
pick it up.

LORELAI (V.O.)

(on answering machine)

"It's us. we're not here, we have  
a life, get over it."

The PHONE BEEPS.

MAX (V.O.)

(on answering machine)

Hi. This message is for Rory.  
It's Max Medina calling.

(more)

(CONTINUED)

38 CONTINUED:

38

MAX (V.O.) (cont'd)  
I just wanted to say that I talked  
to Headmaster Charleston, or Il  
Duce as he's more affectionately  
known in the Gilmore household,  
and he's agreed to let you do some  
extra credit work to help make up  
for the missed test today. Now,  
I'm not sure what the extra credit  
work is yet, but it probably will  
be time consuming and extremely  
painful. It will, however, get  
you back up to where I think you  
rightly belong. Don't lose heart,  
Rory. Make this work. And if  
your mother's listening, Lorelai,  
it was a pleasure encountering  
you. I hope it happens again.  
Anyway, see you in class. Bye.

The phone machine stops. Lorelai smiles to herself, pleased  
with the message and the messenger, as we:

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW