

Rod *(suddenly hard as nails)* Chris, we're going to the bridal fair. We don't have the luxury *not* to.

Chris knows they don't. But she wants that TV so badly

Chris looks at Rod and his flowers but has no words. So she just leaves. And leaves behind a rather messy silence

Annie looks at Rod, who is clearly slightly wounded by this

Annie We'll be fine, Rod. She doesn't have to be here.

Rod But I want her to be here, Annie. That's the thing. I want her to have all this. *(He just about finds a smile for Annie)* Never make a business out of something you love. I go for a walk now up Grizedale, see all the flowers and I think, "It's you little bastards who are screwing us over." *(He looks to the sunflowers)* Then again, John managed it, didn't he? *(Beat)* Worked that park for thirty years, never *stopped* banging on about how beautiful it was. Couldn't bloody shut him up.

Annie lets this settle. It's true

Annie Rod, how bad ARE things with the shop?

Pause

Rod Try and keep 'em cool.

Rod leaves. That's answer enough

Annie watches where he went for a beat, then takes the sunflowers out

SCENE 6

The church hall. The next day

New day. New girl. Elaine enters, a younger beautician, stunningly white in a pharmaceutical dress

Elaine No no no no, this is fine, ladies, there's enough light in here. We'll do it in here.

Ruth and Jessie enter from the kitchen. They have paper collar-protectors round their necks