

Old
Written By Tab Parker

Flashback in Show Opening

DOCTOR

Agnes, I have good news. You're pregnant.

AGNES

Finally. I've been trying for so long.

DOCTOR

Unfortunately for so long that there is a 100 percent chance your child has autism.

AGNES

So he'll be a talented artist?

DOCTOR

More like Rainman.

AGNES

Well that's wonderful. Dustin Hoffman was so good in Hook.

Present Day. Agnes is an old woman, sitting on her porch.

HAROLD

Hello Agnes, it's Harold and Sarah Spencer.

SARAH

How are you today, Agnes?

AGNES

Get off my porch.

HAROLD

We just came over to apologize. You may have noticed that your mailbox was on the pavement.

AGNES

Get off my goddamn porch.

SARAH

That was us.

AGNES

I assumed it was you, I've never seen people drink so much and then get behind the wheel of a motor vehicle. And not leave a note.

HAROLD

Sarah baked you some cookies. And don't worry we're going to pay for the damage.

AGNES

Oh good. Cookies will rebuild the mailbox my husband built shortly before he collapsed from a heart attack.

SARAH

Your lawn looks lovely, do you have someone take care of it for you?

AGNES

If by 'take care of' you mean the neighborhood boys that pee on it. Yes. Probably one of yours.

SARAH

We don't have kids.

AGNES

Well, why not? Harold. Are you having trouble performing.

SARAH

Oh no, it's not him, it's me.

AGNES

That's probably for the best at your age. At this point, you want Harold to artificially inseminate some younger girl.

SARAH

No. If we're going to do this, I'm going to do this. I am going to do this.

AGNES

That's preposterous. You're much too old.

HAROLD

Do you have any kids yourself?

AGNES

I have a son. He's not right. I waited too long. They don't have 100% of their brain function when you have them that old.

HAROLD

Oh, is he a little slow?

AGNES

He's only slow.

SARAH

I'm sure he's very sweet. They're usually very sweet.

AGNES

Oh yes, he's very sweet. We had a cat that he loved, Mr. Mittens. But he doesn't learn when you tell him "no". "Michael, don't hug the kitty so hard." Then you try to explain death, but he can't understand. So you just let him play with the cat corpse. Then he starts drawing pictures on your walls so you have to send him away.

That's why you have to artificially inseminate. You don't want one of those things running around your house.

Beat.

HAROLD

We're learning to sail. As a hobby. Do you have any hobbies, Agnes?

AGNES

My husband and I took up sailing a long time ago. We even bought a bright blue sailboat. Named it "For Sail". In the summer, we would take it out to the middle of the lake – have picnics, play truth or dare. But Henry never quite got his sea legs. He was always throwing up over the side of the boat. We tried everything; bromine, sumac root, pepto bismol.

I had never seen a man vomit so much.

HAROLD
Oh. That's...

AGNES
Going to be you? Yes, Harold I know. We can all tell.

SARAH
Agnes, why are you being so mean?

AGNES
Maybe I'm just a lonely old woman, who needs some new friends in her life.

SARAH and HAROLD look hopeful.

AGNES
Or maybe I'm an old woman with dozens of friends, who wants her nosy, drunken neighbors to
leave her alone.

(beat)

Get off my goddamn porch, you childless bastards.