

AS HE STUMBLES TO THE GROUND, PENNY STORMS OUT, SLAMMING THE DOOR BEHIND HER. BEAT. SHELDON SPOTS SOMETHING IN THE CARPET...

SHELDON

Oh, look. A safety pin.

SCENE D

INT. LEONARD AND SHELDON'S APARTMENT - THAT NIGHT  
(Leonard, Koothrappali, Sheldon, Wolowitz)

KOOTHRAPALI AND WOLOWITZ PLAY A VARIATION OF CHESS WITH PAWNS AND THE DINOSAUR THEY ASSEMBLED EARLIER. SHELDON CLEANS THE KITCHEN. A "DANGER: WET FLOOR" SIGN DEMARCATES HIS WORK. LEONARD ENTERS.

LEONARD

Guys, I've solved our problem! Penny is going to cater for our table.

KOOTHRAPALI

She is?

LEONARD

It's perfect. Beautiful girl, beautiful pastries. We'll have our cheesecake and eat it, too.

SHELDON

And Penny agreed to this?

LEONARD

I haven't exactly asked her, but she's got to do it, right? I mean, we're friends, and what's a friend if she doesn't stand behind your table in a state of partial nudity?

WOLOWITZ

Amen to that.

KOOTHRAPPALI

Perhaps, as children, we read different books on friendship. In India, my book was Little Krishna and the Great Friendship Brouhaha, whereas yours seems to be The Berenstain Bears Go A-Pimping.

SHELDON

An unlikely name for a children's book. But no more suggestive, I suppose, than The Hardy Boys.

INT. 4TH FLOOR HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

(Leonard, Penny, Koothrappali, Sheldon, Wolowitz)

LEONARD MARCHES TO PENNY'S DOOR AND KNOCKS. PENNY OPENS IT. HER UNIFORM IS TORN AND COVERED IN CHEESECAKE.

LEONARD

Hi, Pen... whoa, what happened?

PENNY

Sheldon happened.

LEONARD

Dare I ask?

PENNY

Because your roommate is a psychopath, I couldn't find a safety pin for my uniform. Without a safety pin, my shirt wouldn't stay buttoned.

(MORE)

PENNY (CONT'D)

And without their accustomed restraints, Penny 1 and Penny 2 revealed themselves to an older customer, one Mr. Betanmueller, whose wife thought I was coming onto him. She pushed me, I pushed back. Then Stan pulled me into his office, and I got written up for, quote, "pummeling the elderly." How was your day?

LEONARD

It just got better.

PENNY

Good night, Leonard.

SHE STARTS TO CLOSE THE DOOR.

LEONARD

Wait! Would you cater our table?

PENNY

I can't. I'm already catering for Dr. Jensen and the mechanical engineerds.

LEONARD

But they're just using you for Penny 1 and Penny 2.

PENNY

They're using me because I work in food services, and they need food served.

LEONARD

We need food served.

PENNY

Then serve it yourself.

LEONARD

But engineers aren't interested in Leonard 1 or Leonard 2. If there were a Leonard 3, that might interest them, but only for scientific reasons.

PENNY ROLLS HER EYES AND AGAIN TRIES TO CLOSE THE DOOR.

LEONARD (CONT'D)

Wait! They want to turn you into some sort of cheesecake-bearing floozy, and I'm not okay with that...

PENNY

Unless it's for your table.

LEONARD

Yes. I mean, no. I mean...

PENNY

You do realize you're one word away from getting punched.

SHE ROLLS UP HER SLEEVE.

PENNY (CONT'D)

Mrs. Betanmueller was just a warm-up.

LEONARD

Why are you catering for them?

PENNY

Why are you telling me what to do?

LEONARD

Because I'm your friend, Penny. And in the name of friendship, I forbid you from doing this!

A PAUSE.

PENNY

Excuse me?

LEONARD

I respectfully discourage you from doing this.

PENNY

I can take care of myself, Leonard! I'm a grown woman. I have a job. I work at The Cheesecake Factory.

LEONARD

And it's a small step from The Cheesecake Factory to Hooters!

PENNY

Hooters? Is that what you think of me?

LEONARD

I don't know what I think of you!

PENNY

Well, I know what I think of you,  
Leonard Hofstadter. And it's "Jerk"  
with a capital J.

PENNY SLAMS THE DOOR. BEAT. SHE RE-OPENS IT.

PENNY (CONT'D)

And an exclamation point!

SHE SLAMS THE DOOR AGAIN. LEONARD SLOWLY TURNS AROUND AND  
SEES SHELDON, WOLOWITZ, AND KOOTHRAPALI STANDING IN THE  
HALLWAY.

KOOTHRAPALI

You know, this sort of thing never  
happened to Little Krishna.

END OF ACT ONE