

EDDIE

Look what you're wearing.

DELORIS

When I got dressed this morning, did I know there was gonna be a murder? What's with all that smoke?

EDDIE

Incense.

DELORIS

Incense? That ain't no incense up in here. Somebody's smoking weed.

MONSIGNOR O'HARA

Mother Superior, this is Deloris.

DELORIS

Deloris Van Cartier. As in Cartier's.

EDDIE

Thank you Mother Superior for letting her hide here for the month.

DELORIS

WHAT?!

MOTHER SUPERIOR

A month?!

DELORIS

This is the perfect place?!

EDDIE

Now you stay here, hide in this convent, and be inconspicuous.

MOTHER SUPERIOR

(To Monsignor O'Hara)

Inconspicuous? How can she be inconspicuous? A neon sign blinking "Wawa food market" is less conspicuous. Pardon us for a minute.

(aside)

Monsignor, I must urge you to reconsider.

MONSIGNOR O'HARA

Mother Superior, you took a vow of charity.

MOTHER SUPERIOR

I take it back.

MONSIGNOR O'HARA

Mother Superior...

MOTHER SUPERIOR

(She sighs)

I suppose if it must be, then it must be.

MONSIGNOR O'HARA

It must be.

MOTHER SUPERIOR

Very well then.

(Back to Deloris and Eddie)

Welcome to Queen of Angels.

EDDIE

Thank you.

MONSIGNOR O'HARA

(To Eddie)

Come Officer Souther, let us make reparations and there is a tawny port you might enjoy before mass.

(Monsignor O'Hara exits)

EDDIE

(To Deloris)

Behave yourself.

(Eddie exits)

(Beat)

DELORIS

Well.

(Beat)

MOTHER SUPERIOR

Yes.

(Beat)

DELORIS

Okay.

(She hears a small echo, then, loudly and off towards the ceiling-)

OKAY!

(It quickly echoes)

(DELORIS)

Great acoustics!

(Yelling back to the ceiling)

I'm in a church!

(It echoes back)

With a bunch of nuns!

(It echoes back)

Yeah—I like that reverb. You know I'm a singer. Professional. Hey—Mother May I— When this is all over with, could I borrow this space for a few weekends? Fridays, Saturdays...

MOTHER SUPERIOR

Sunday is usually booked.

DELORIS

Hey, I just wanna say thanks for letting me stay here and—and I say this to people all the time—I really dig what you nuns are doing. I love your work. I mean at the end of "The Sound of Music," when you sisters steal the Nazi's car parts so the singing children can get away. That's good stuff.

MOTHER SUPERIOR

Thank you.

DELORIS

So listen, while I'm here, these are my ground rules. I want three meals a day and I'll need two rooms, one for my clothes, one for my down time.

MOTHER SUPERIOR

And these are my rules. You will stay in your room. When you are not in your room, you will behave as a nun. Do you know how a nun behaves?

DELORIS

Hey, I went to catholic school when I was a kid.

MOTHER SUPERIOR

The benefits of which are quite apparent. Now. You will only come out of your room for meals or prayer—do you pray, child?

DELORIS

Well, one time when I saw Donna Summer, she was wearing a white sequin dress and had a white fur—and I said to myself "Jesus Christ I wish I had that dress." Does that count as prayer?

MOTHER SUPERIOR

No.

(MOTHER SUPERIOR)

(Beat)

The material world has no value here. This is a different world you enter now.
Behind these walls we live a life of adoration and grace.

#4 – *Here Within These Walls*

This is a sanctuary.

OUTSIDE,
LIFE'S A MESS.
NO ONE'S PURE OF SPIRIT ANY LONGER.
THERE'S NO WRONG OR RIGHT
JUST WRONG AND WRONGER.
PEOPLE HAVE AMUSED THEMSELVES TO DEATH—

OUTSIDE,
LIFE IS GRIM.
FILLED WITH SMUT AND SCANDAL TO THE BRIM.
I SUPPOSE THERE MAY BE ROOM FOR HIM.

(Gestures toward God)

FRANKLY, I DON'T PLAN TO HOLD MY BREATH.

BUT HERE WITHIN THESE WALLS,
DAYS ARE FILLED WITH GRACE,
GOD IS IN HIS PLACE,
HIS WISDOM STILL RESPECTED.
HERE WITHIN THESE WALLS
LIFE HAS A DIFFERENT PACE
THAN LIFE BEYOND OUR DOORS ...
AND FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH,
THIS LIFE'S NOW YOURS.

(Deloris, putting a cigarette in her mouth)

DELORIS

Can I get a light? I saw a mess of candles in the other room.

MOTHER SUPERIOR

Not. In. Here.