

ON GOLDEN POND

CHELSEA: This house seems to set me off.

ETHEL: Well, it shouldn't. It's a nice house.

CHELSEA: I act like a big person everywhere else. I do. I'm in charge of Los Angeles. There's just something about coming back here that makes me feel like a little fat girl.

ETHEL: Sit down and tell me about your trip.

CHELSEA: I don't wanna sit down. Where were you all that time? You never bailed me out.

ETHEL: I didn't know you needed bailing out.

CHELSEA: Well I did.

ETHEL: Here we go again. You had a miserable childhood. Your father was overbearing, your mother ignored you. What else is new? Don't you think everybody looks back on their childhood with some bitterness or regret about something? You're a big girl now, aren't you tired of it all? You have this unpleasant chip on your shoulder which is very unattractive. You only come home when I beg you to, and when you get here all you do is be disagreeable about the past...Life marches on, Chelsea.

CHELSEA: Yeah, your life. In your perfect house on your perfect lake. You don't know what it's like being reminded how worthless you are every time that old son of bitch crosses your path.

ETHEL: That old son of a bitch happens to be my husband. I'm sorry Chelsea that he's not always kind. It's not always easy for me either. You're such a nice person, can't you think of something nice to say?

CHELSEA: No! Oh, yeah. I married Bill in Brussels.

ETHEL: You did what in Brussels?

CHELSEA: I married Bill.

ETHEL: Does it count in this country?

CHELSEA: Fraid so.

ETHEL: Well, bless you. Congratulations.

CHELSEA: Thank you.

ETHEL: You have an odd way of building up good news.

CHELSEA: I know.

ETHEL: Bill seems very nice.

CHELSEA: He's better than nice. He's an adult too. I decided to go for an adult marriage this time.

ETHEL: Will Bill live with you?

CHELSEA: Yes, that's part of the reason Bill had to get back to LA. He's murdering his ex-wife. She doesn't want the kid anyway.

ETHEL: Do you?

CHELSEA: Yes.

ETHEL: Well, I'm so pleased.

CHELSEA: Nothing to it. I'm twice as old as you were when you married Norman. Think that means anything?

ETHEL: I hope it means that Bill will be only half as much trouble. Norman will be surprised.

CHELSEA: I'll bet.

ETHEL: All he wants is for you to be happy.

CHELSEA: Could have fooled me.

ETHEL: Dear God, how long do you plan to keep this up?

CHELSEA: I don't know. Maybe someday we can try to be friends.

ETHEL: Chelsea, Norman is 80 years old. He has heart palpitations and a problem remembering things. When exactly do you expect this friendship to begin?