

Slide 2 – Jon & Tess

TESS: Nothing. I was just saying I don't like it.

JON: You'll have to narrow it down.

TESS: The Prime.

JON: Senior Serenity says companionship is the most important thing--

TESS: I know what Senior Serenity says.

JON: That it's much better than television.

TESS: Better than *television*, hallelujah. They just want them pacified Jon, they don't care—

JON: What's wrong with pacified? She's eighty-five, honey. She wakes up and she doesn't know where she is. I'd like to be pacified right now, but I have to wait thirty more years for the privilege.

TESS (*muttering*): I'll pacify you.

JON: What?

TESS: Nothing.

JON: Look. (*He lifts a peanut buttery spoon from the ink*). Peanut butter.

TESS: Small miracles. Maybe she's finally succumbing to my nagging campaign.

JON: Maybe the Prime told her to.

(*TESS makes an audible shiver of distaste*).

JON: It's like a parrot that way. "Even a spoonful."

TESS: Do you know that parrots live forever? Penny's father had a parrot, it was like his reason for existing, and he gave it to her when he died. And now, twenty years later, it still says things in his voice.

JON: Like what?

TESS: Mostly just (*in a parrot voice*), "Hey there partner." But she can tell it's her dad.

JON: That's—how did you put it?

(*She makes the shivering-distaste sound. He tries to do it*).

TESS: No. (*She does it again, better than him*).

JON: Now without the motion.

(*She makes the shiver sound motionlessly, with some effort*).

JON: Nice.

TESS: So much talent.