



Donna, Sophie

The Courtyard

It is early morning and the Taverna is bathed in a dawn glow. SOPHIE is in the courtyard, still wearing only her pyjamas. DONNA hurries onto her balcony.

DONNA

(As SHE comes out)

What's going on ... Sophie? What are you doing? It's six o'clock in the morning.

SOPHIE

(looks around, confused)

I don't know. I ...

DONNA

(coming down the steps)

Wait right there.

As DONNA hurries towards her.

SOPHIE

I'm all right, mum.

DONNA

Of course you're not all right—you're sleep-walking again.

SOPHIE

Again? When do I ever sleep-walk?

DONNA

(trying to feel SOPHIE'S forehead)

The night you went down with measles. The night you couldn't do your times-table ...

SOPHIE

Oh, mum—get off, I'm not a baby.

DONNA

I know, but you're still my daughter Sophie, and I know that something's wrong ...

A moment. DONNA looks at SOPHIE.

DONNA

It can be stopped, it isn't too late—I can sort out this wedding malarkey ...

SOPHIE

Malarkey? What do you mean—malarkey?

DONNA

Nothing, I'm sorry it's just a figure of speech ...

SOPHIE

No, it's not. That's what you think—isn't it?—I'm stupid to get married, it's just a whim?

DONNA

Well, I'm not pretending I really understand ...

SOPHIE

Of course you don't. You did just fine without a man, didn't you—you never did that marriage and babies thing. You just did the baby, well good for you.

DONNA

Hang on—what's happening? Why are you having a go at me?

SOPHIE

I'm going to do it right, mum. I love Sky and I want to be with him and I don't want my children growing up not knowing who their Dad is. Because it's crap!

SHE exits. DONNA stares after her, devastated by her words. Off: We hear the unearthly wail of bagpipes and the unearthly wail of SKY and PEPPER.

END SCENE

Donna, Sophie

HARRY looks at SOPHIE and exits. SOPHIE looks at DONNA. There is a moment of tension between them.

DONNA

Is that the dress, then?

SOPHIE

Yes.

The wedding-dress is a fabulous concoction – a girly-girl's fantasy wedding-dress:

DONNA

Oh – it's gorgeous! Right then, are Ali and Lisa ready to help you?

SOPHIE

Mum, will you help me?

DONNA nods, momentarily too overcome to speak. SOPHIE crosses to the dressing table. They are both full with their thoughts –

DONNA crosses to the bed and picks up the dress – she lays it out on the floor ready for SOPHIE to step into – she doesn't look at SOPHIE

DONNA

Dive in.

SOPHIE stands in the middle of the dress and DONNA helps her into it, doing it up at the back.

SOPHIE

(suddenly)

Do you think I'm letting you down?

DONNA

What makes you say that?

SOPHIE

'Cos everyone says your mum's so cool, bringing up a kid and running a business – all on her own ...

DONNA

I didn't have much choice. I couldn't go back home – an unmarried mum in the seventies. My mother disowned me.

SOPHIE

What!? I ... didn't know ...

DONNA

Bloody best thing, too. I'd much rather be here than some rainy old housing-estate. Look at you ...

SOPHIE

Will you give me away?

DONNA is taken aback – she nods

SOPHIE

I'm really proud of you, mum.

DONNA can't speak. SOPHIE exits from the bedroom. DONNA sits at the dressing table.

END SCENE