

Living Large

Linda Larocque





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LIVING LARGE

By Linda Larocque

CAST

PEG: A middle-aged to elderly female.

DONNA: A middle-aged to elderly female.

LOIS: A middle-aged to elderly female.

EDIE: A middle-aged to elderly female.

Place:

A coffee house.

At Rise: DONNA and LOIS are having coffee while waiting for EDIE and PEG. There are four chairs around table.

LOIS: Where are those two?

DONNA: Don't worry, they're always late.

LOIS: Did you bring the casino information?

DONNA: Yeah, it's right here.

EDIE: (*enters breathless*) You two won't believe it! Wait until you see her. She's parking the car. I tell you, you won't believe it. Act surprised, alright?

LOIS: Geeze, what's wrong, Edie? You're out of breath.

EDIE: (*flustered*) Nothing. I mean everything. Just act surprised.

PEG: (*Enters with all eyes on her. Part of her hair is dyed purple.*) What's wrong? You act like this is the first time you've ever seen anyone with purple hair.

DONNA: Actually it's the first time I've ever seen a 75-year-old woman with purple hair. So excuse me if I seemed shocked...because I am.

LOIS: Blonde I understand. Black, even red...but purple? Purple is intimidating. Give me a while, Peg, and eventually I'll get used to it.

PEG: And that's another thing. I've changed my name too.

DONNA: As in legal? To who? To what?

PEG: It's sort of legal. From now on to all of you...I'm Chloe.

DONNA: Are you maybe...like...on something?

LOIS: Like too much Prozac?

EDIE: Or not enough?

PEG: No, I'm perfectly perfect! I've always liked the name Chloe so it's my name from now on. The purple hair and the name change (*beat*) is all a part of the new...and super exciting...me.

DONNA: Is there something more going on behind this?

PEG: I told you I was making an announcement today.

LOIS: Yeah, well, I thought maybe your daughter was having a baby or you were getting a cat or a boyfriend. But you're over the top on this one. You sure you're not on something?

DONNA: I think you are. Maybe you need an intervention, like on TV. Remember we're here for you Peg, all the way.

PEG: Chloe! It's Chloe, and I don't need anything. I know what I want and I know what I'm doing. Get used to it, girls, because it's here to stay, along with a lot of other changes.

LOIS: Now don't get testy. We love you and we don't want anything happening to you. We're concerned for you. And you gotta admit this behavior is off the wall, even for you.

PEG: Hate to disappoint you, but you're all wrong. It is me. I've just hidden it. After all these years you're seeing my inner child come out.

EDIE: I can't stand this. You sound like a nut job...CHLOE!

DONNA: I don't know you anymore. Maybe you're joking?

LOIS: It's the purple hair. How can you take a 75-year-old woman, with purple hair seriously?

EDIE: If you're doing this for the purpose of shocking us, it's working.

PEG: I'm moving the first of the month.

DONNA: Let's stop this craziness and talk about our trip to the casinoooo...WHAT? You're doing what?

PEG: I'm moving the first of the month. You heard me.

EDIE: Why? You've got a darling apartment.

PEG: I won't go far. It's only about fifty miles from here.

LOIS: Fifty miles is a long way. You may as well move to Nebraska.

PEG: It's the best deal I could find on a Holiday Inn.

EDIE: What's a Holiday Inn got to do with your moving?

PEG: I'm going to live there.

LOIS: Live where?

DONNA: In a Holiday Inn? You're going to live in a Holiday Inn?

PEG: Ya. I heard about it on the internet. It's a great way to live and a good place to go when you get sick.

EDIE: But you're not sick?

PEG: I know. I'm thinking ahead.

LOIS: Seriously, I haven't been this confused since I bought my iphone.

DONNA: Alright, Peg or Chloe or whoever you are today, just tell us what's up. Right now, I'm with Lois...totally confused.

PEG: Look, it's the latest rage and I'm on board all the way. It's living large.

EDIE: I've heard of campers and vans and motor homes, but I've never heard of anybody living in a Holiday Inn. But then I don't get around much either.

PEG: Well for all you doubters, here's the deal.

LOIS: This should be good.

PEG: I get a single senior rate of \$35.00 a day, which includes toothpaste, shampoo, toilet paper, free local telephone, a microwave, a refrigerator, maid service, free breakfast, shuttle service, and workout room.

LOIS: (*interrupts*) You haven't exercised since you played basketball in junior high.

PEG: Swimming pool, free coffee twenty four/seven in the breakfast area, laundry facilities, fancy cable TV, internet, WIFI, free soda and cheese at happy hour, snow plowing, snow shoveling, shower caps, soap, maid service, and sheets and towels washed for me with fresh towels daily. Need to hear more?

DONNA: I don't know. You're either nuts or you're onto something. I just haven't made up my mind yet.

EDIE: Just where is this paradise you've located?

PEG: It's outside of Joplin. A little town called Pea Ridge. Cheap rates in those little towns. There's no deals in big cities.

LOIS: Is it in the sticks?

PEG: I drove over and checked it out. It's not that bad.

LOIS: Yeah, and it's probably not that good either.

END OF FREEVIEW

You'll want to read and perform this show!