

MIRA

What has she got that I ain't got?..... Yeah, probably a bunch of stuff.....Brat.

MIRA exits. TIGHTLY goes to GOODLY.

GOODLY

Welcome to the Princess Interviews. May I call my assistant to hold your things for you?

TYGHTLY

Oh, no, no, thank you, M'am. I can carry them just fine myself.

GOODLY

If you don't mind my saying so, you look a little overburdened, Miss...

*GOODLY holds out her hand to shake Tyghtly's.
TYGHTLY can't decide what to do with the backpack she
is holding on to very tightly.*

TYGHTLY

Uh, sorry. My name is Tyghtly. Tyghtly Cling. Nice to uh...

*TIGHTLY is still undecided about letting go of the
backpack in order to shake hands. GOODLY reaches
gently for her hand. Unclenching Tyghtly's fingers one by
one, she helps her let go.*

GOODLY

(taking the backpack)

Here, let me help you with that. I promise you can have it back if you still want it after the interview.

*TYGHTLY lets go only long enough to shake hands. As
soon as GOODLY puts the backpack down, she picks it
up right away.*

GOODLY

(un-thwarted)

No problem. We are actually *looking* for people who can cling tightly to--

TYGHTLY

Cling Tightly?! That's ME!

GOODLY

Yes, I can see you know how to adhere. Clinging. Staying connected. Adherence can mean a close physical union of two objects..... As in the case of you and your backpack.

TYGHTLY

If you knew how important the things were in there, you'd understand. That is to say, *I* think they're important. I mean, I've been holding on to them for so long, they feel like they are a part of me and I--

GOODLY

--don't know if you can function without them?

TYGHTLY

Um....yeah...I guess you do get it, huh?

GOODLY

Have you ever considered lightening your load a little? Even one little thing at a time?

TYGHTLY

(panicked)

Oh, no, no, no. I couldn't possibly do that. I'm so used to carrying them. I'd probably feel so unbalanced after all these years that I'd fall over! It's a comfy routine, you know? Me and my baggage. Familiar.

GOODLY

Familiar doesn't necessarily mean good for you. I would be most curious to see what is in this bag that is so vital to your well being.

TYGHTLY

(incredulous, she pulls out her list, reads it)

Only Everything I Can't Live Without!

Pictures of my lost loves.

Videos of every time people were mean to me.

Rejection letters of the jobs I didn't get.

A spreadsheet of what to worry about and when -- with color-coded bar graphs, of course.

A journal of the stupid things I've done to myself and others.

Instruction on how to keep my bad habits from showing.

A book of my sins, failures, shortcomings.

You know. All the essentials.

GOODLY

(gently taking the list)

I see. Well, it is not very becoming for a princess to be so encumbered with such things. We are looking for adherence to a much higher authority than your opinion of yourself. An authority who can carry your burdens for you, by the way. Who sees through all the--

TYGHTLY

--why don't we just forget the whole thing. It's obvious you don't want me, so just say it. I can handle it, just like I handle everything. By *myself*. I got this.

(starts to exit, struggling under the weight of the backpack)

(sarcastically)

Gotta find room in one of these pockets for a video of *THAT* lovely episode. Ugh.

TYGHTLY crosses Justy Wishy as she enters and doesn't even notice that her overstuffed bag bumps Justy off step.

JUSTY enters. She is wearing clothes that need adjustment. One boot, one sandal, shirt on backwards, hair a mess, etc.

GOODLY

(looking at Justy in puzzlement)

Are you here for the interviews? Do you even know where you are?

JUSTY

Hi! Of course I do. I'm here! I'm fine. No problem. Are you in charge of this bad boy?

GOODLY

Yes.... I am Mrs. Goodly. And you are?

(to audience)

Besides being a mess...

JUSTY

Justine Wishy. Justy for short. But if you like Justine better, you can call me that. But I'm ok either way, really. Or you can just call me Miss Wishy. Or, *Ms.* Wishy, if you prefer. But I noticed you said, "*Mrs.* Goodly," so you probably don't care about the whole *Ms.* Or *Miss* thing, right? But it's *totally* up to you though, because I'm good either way, and whatever you want to--

GOODLY

--Very well, then, Justy! Today we are looking for those who understand what it means to adjust. To make or become suitable to a particular situation or use. To conform. You definitely seem willing to do that.

JUSTY

That's me! I'll be anything you want me to be!

GOODLY

That is not exactly the point. We want you to be yourself. The person you were meant to be!

JUSTY

Uh...oh...um..... I don't know who that is, exactly. I mean, I'm always making adjustments. Every time someone gets mad at me, or needs me desperately all of a sudden, or doesn't seem to like me anymore, or wants me to go to great lengths to--Well, I have to adjust if I'm going to be in their lives.... Don't I?

GOODLY

I hardly think that you need--

JUSTY

--and then there are all the times people I care about need help, or have a crisis, or need me to be enemies with *their* enemies or--

GOODLY

We are not talking about the kind of adjusting where you lose yourself. Where you give up your personal beliefs and commitments. Change your behavior to take on someone else's challenges for them. Soon your own life will be so crazy, *you'll* be the one in crisis, the one needing...

(gesturing to Justy's messy hair and clothes)

...an adjustment...

JUSTY

(practically in tears)

My. Life. Is. Fine. I have this under control. I can fix this myself.

GOODLY

If you insist. But I don't believe we are always capable of properly adjusting our *own* lives, much *less* someone else's. Princesses have to rely on someone much more powerful than themselves to--