

"EDNA 'S GARAGE"

"Aunt Edna Wants You"

Written by:
Jim Boston

1312 N. 48th Ave., #324
Omaha, NE 68132
402 556-3340
Huskercyclone@netzero.net
10-16-2022

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. POYDRAS STREET, NEW ORLEANS, LA - DAY

A multicolored 2020 GMC tow truck drags a 2018 Ford Focus down this yet-to-be-busy street.

EXT. EDNA'S GARAGE - DAY

This fairly good-sized garage features a large, already-open overhead door alongside two conventional doors.

EDNA POWELL (31, Black; in overalls) stands by the overhead door as the truck and its catch back into the building in the utmost of care, the Ford Focus first.

EDNA
Don't hit me now.

Edna uses hand signals to guide the truck along.

She breathes relief once the Ford lands inside the building...but a look at the parking lot changes Edna's relief into worry.

Nine other cars await repair...from a new Nissan Versa Note to a 1990 Chevy Lumina to a 2018 Lamborghini Huracan.

EDNA (CONT'D)
It'd take an octopus to move all these cars out.

INT. EDNA'S GARAGE - WORKSPACE - DAY

The Ford Focus rests next to a 2013 Dodge Avenger.

EDNA
(watching tow truck)
If only Audubon Aquarium of the Americas could loan us an octopus.

Edna's gaze turns to two large tool cabinets along one wall...a battered desk (and matching chair) on the opposite wall...a work bench.

She eyes GINA WILLIAMSON (22; the driver) and DARRYL KEITER (20; the passenger), who jump out of the tow truck to remove the chains and other accessories from the Ford Focus.

Gina's T-shirt and jeans look a bit clean...but grease covers Darryl's jeans and New Orleans Saints jersey.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GINA

That's it, Darryl and Edna: A Monday-morning car for a Monday morning.

Gina climbs back into the truck.

EDNA

Lock it back up when you're done.

GINA

I will.

An annoyed Gina checks the windows (they're down) before she starts the truck.

EDNA

Last time it wasn't locked, somebody ripped off those fuzzy dice on the rear-view mirror.

DARRYL

They were gettin' scuzzy.

Darryl looks outside toward the lot. Worry fills his face.

DARRYL (CONT'D)

It's gonna take an octopus to do these cars.

EDNA

No, it won't. We've done it before.

They watch Gina peel out of the garage.

Edna and Darryl move over to the Ford Focus to make sure the car's wheels rest in the correct places for hoisting.

EDNA (CONT'D)

Let's check the hood.

DARRYL

You mean let's check the unemployment lines instead and get us some help.

Edna gestures Darryl into the Ford's driver's seat.

He shrugs his way inside the Focus, whose hood he pops up from inside.

Edna sees the hood pop up...and raises it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

The hood almost comes off its hinges.

EDNA

Give me the hood of my '86 Chrysler
any day.

She watches Gina amble back into the garage.

GINA

Edna, we've gotta call a conference
or something.

EDNA

Gina...

Gina looks startled.

EDNA (CONT'D)

Keys, please.

Gina feels inside her pockets for the Ford's keys...in vain.

GINA

Sorry.

Edna struts over to Gina.

GINA (CONT'D)

We still need to call a...
(to Darryl)
Check the visor on the driver side.

Darryl nods from inside the car.

EDNA

Remember that Dodge Avenger you
were working on?

GINA

If we don't get another mechanic,
we'll be stacking cars on top of
each other!

Edna frowns.

GINA (CONT'D)

(moves toward Avenger)
And you know how you like to keep
things moving.

Edna nods a little.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

EDNA

That Dodge Avenger's supposed to be
done by noon.

The boss returns to the Ford Focus; she diagnoses the engine,
the radiator, etc.

EDNA (CONT'D)

Start 'er up, Darryl.

Edna waits for Darryl to turn the ignition...but no sound
comes out.

EDNA (CONT'D)

You haven't found the keys yet?

GINA

I think he ate 'em.

Gina watches Edna shrug.

INT. FORD FOCUS - DAY

Darryl checks the visor on the driver's side...then the visor
on the passenger side.

He slides the latter visor out of position...and the keys
fall onto the carpet.

He looks perplexed...

INT. EDNA'S GARAGE - WORKSPACE - DAY

...until he, in triumph, jumps out of the car and shows Edna
the keys.

EDNA

Darryl, you can't start 'er up in
the air.

Darryl slides back into the car.

He turns the key...but the Focus won't kick over.

EDNA (CONT'D)

Try it again.

Same result as before.

A defeated Darryl climbs out of the car.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DARRYL

That's what's gonna happen to us if
we don't get some help.

Edna gives Darryl a blank look.

EXT. EDNA'S GARAGE - DAY

The Lumina's the only vehicle that's been fixed and gone.

In its place: A 2013 Kia Soul...and a 2015 Kia Forte.

INT. EDNA'S GARAGE - WORKSPACE - DAY

Gina now works on a 2003 Oldsmobile Alero.

GINA

Hey, Edna, got a minute? Got
something to show you.

Edna nods at Gina, then turns to a worried Darryl...who's
about to lower the Ford Focus' engine.

EDNA

I'll be right back, Darryl.

DARRYL

Yeah.

Edna strolls over to the Alero.

GINA

You better come along, too, Darryl.

And Darryl follows Edna to the Olds Alero.

GINA (CONT'D)

Look at this.

Gina climbs into the car, starts it up, and turns on the
wipers...only to find they don't work.

GINA (CONT'D)

The dude had an AM/FM/XM/CD/MP3
stereo put in. It was a cheap job
and a cheap AM/FM/XM/CD/MP3 stereo,
too. Now the wipers won't wipe
unless the lights are turned on.

Gina tries the lights...and the wipers come on along with the
lights.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

EDNA

Try the turn signals.

Gina activates the turn signal lever...but no signals blink.

When she turns off the lights, the turn signals blink away.

EDNA (CONT'D)

That dude's in trouble on a rainy
night, ain't he?

Gina shuts off all the systems and evacuates the Oldsmobile.

GINA

That dude's in trouble on a rainy
night.

EDNA

I know.

Edna and Darryl move away from the car, but...

GINA

Wait!

Darryl and Edna stop in their tracks.

GINA (CONT'D)

I got both of you here to tell you
this: We've got to add a new
mechanic to the crew.

Edna and Darryl charge toward Gina.

GINA (CONT'D)

Look: If we don't, we'll be
stacking so many cars up here we're
gonna need a crane.

Darryl nods in glee...Edna does a slow burn.

EDNA

Gina, don't you ever quit
complaining?

DARRYL

She's right.

Edna and Gina show Darryl puzzlement.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DARRYL (CONT'D)
Well, she is right...Gina. You
always...well, not always...you
complain a lot.

Gina's face shows a slow burn.

DARRYL (CONT'D)
(to Edna)
But she does have a point.

EDNA
We've gotta get to work!

DARRYL
That's what I'm talkin' about!
(puts arm around Edna)
I like money, too, but if we don't
spread the workload a little
thinner, I ain't gonna live long
enough to spend my money.

Edna strides toward the Ford Focus.

EDNA
Let's go work on that engine.

Darryl follows his boss over there.

DARRYL
We've got two more cars here today
than yesterday.

GINA
And they gotta be done tomorrow!

EDNA
But they're not that bad.

Gina nods, then follows Edna to the Focus.

GINA
Edna, how would you like to be down
to one mechanic...you?

EDNA
I've done it before.

DARRYL
With ten cars on your tail?

Edna hurries toward her desk.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

She lunges toward her laptop; with a few mouse clicks, she goes online...and reaches the "New Orleans Times-Picayune" Website, where she clicks on "WANT ADS."

Darryl gestures Gina into following him in a tip-toe toward Edna's desk.

The twosome sneak a peek at Edna's budding ad.

Gina and Darryl high-five it. When Edna turns around to eyeball them, Darryl and Gina scurry to the Alero.

EXT. EDNA'S GARAGE - DAY

Nine vehicles await rejuvenation in the parking lot...but three or four of 'em weren't there yesterday.

A 2014 Chevy Camaro enters the parking lot...and just squeezes into a space.

INT. EDNA'S GARAGE - WORKSPACE - DAY

TANYA THIBODEAUX (16) and FAIRY GODCHAUX (19), both in nonmatching overalls, drag a large professional-size jack into the garage...and recline at the first space they find.

TANYA

They oughta give us a Purple Heart
for this, Fairy.

Fairy nods.

FAIRY

Yeah.
(waving at Tanya)
Thank you kindly, Tanya.

Tanya nods...then searches the space for her baseball cap.

Fairy joins FOUR OTHER APPLICANTS at or next to the work bench in the Great Edna's Garage Job Hunt.

The first of those four, PAUL HOOPES (20s), watches Darryl and Edna wrestle with the Ford Focus' engine.

The second, LEE ROY NEVILLE (late 20s), tries to fill out the paper version of his job application.

Contestant Number Three, CAL BOARD (20; in overalls), uses his cell phone to fill out the job app.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Last, but not least: ROBERT BOLIAUX (30s), who sits on the floor. He, too, fills out the job app on his own cell phone.

Fairy doesn't sit down yet. She slaps her own forehead.

FAIRY (CONT'D)
Danged brain of mine!

Tanya continues to search for her hat...but now, she looks at Fairy, then peers underneath the work bench.

TANYA
They got application forms on top
of the desk.

While Fairy goes to the desk for an application form, Tanya continues to look under the bench...but gazes at legs.

TANYA (CONT'D)
(looking up)
Don't y'all mind me.

Tanya walks away from the bench as Fairy fills out her own job application form.

TANYA (CONT'D)
Ah always come in here during mah
school lunch period and look for
baseball caps.
(stares in space)
How could Ah leave mah cap...

Now Tanya strolls over to Edna and Darryl, who take the Ford's engine apart.

TANYA (CONT'D)
Edna, you better git "America's Got
Talent" started.

A nodding Edna moves toward the desk.

EDNA
Do your thing, Darryl.

A glum Darryl nods before he eyeballs Tanya.

DARRYL
Can you help me with this engine?

TANYA
Help you? Ah'll be the boss!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Tanya comes over to aid Darryl.

SAME SCENE - A BIT LATER

Edna sits behind her desk; she lays the interview on Paul.

EDNA
Well, Paul, tell me why you feel
you're qualified for this job.

PAUL
Reason I feel qualified is...I have
a lot of...experience.

Edna doesn't look convinced.

PAUL (CONT'D)
I'm good with hubcaps.

EDNA
Uh huh.
(grabbing a pencil)
Tell me more.

PAUL
I'm eager to learn.

EDNA
Uh huh.

SAME SCENE - THIRTY MINUTES LATER

Edna looks at Lee Roy's application...doesn't look impressed.

EDNA (CONT'D)
Lee Roy, I know you went to my old
high school...the best one in town--

LEE ROY
Right on for Ben Franklin High!

EDNA
But I can't believe they taught you
to spell "school" S-C-O-O-L.

Lee Roy looks embarrassed.

SAME SCENE - TWENTY MINUTES LATER

The boss now interviews Cal.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

CAL
Ah'm the best you've ever seen.

Edna looks at Cal's application, then at Cal himself.

CAL (CONT'D)
Mah granddad had a Guff station on
Elysian Fields Avenue.

Edna's nod is enthusiastic.

CAL (CONT'D)
And Ah helped him at his last place
all through high school. Ah've been
tryin' and tryin' to be a mechanic
like mah granddad ever since then.

Cal flashes a smile.

CAL (CONT'D)
It's been two years this May.

EDNA
I've been reading your app, and I
see you've held a parade of jobs
these last four years. I'm kinda
worried about that.

CAL
Ah can do just about anythang, Ms.
Powell. ANYthang.

EDNA
Uh huh.

SAME SCENE - AN HOUR LATER

Fairy and a still-seated Edna eyeball each other.

EDNA (CONT'D)
Let me get this straight, Fairy:
You're going to college AND you
want to work here?

FAIRY
That's absolutely right.

Edna's mouth flies open.

EDNA
How...how did you get to...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

FAIRY

Well, Ah bought a 2014 Camaro a couple of years ago. They told me it was a nice car, but after a couple of months, it kept giving me all sorts of trouble.

Fairy catches Edna's nod.

FAIRY (CONT'D)

First thang Ah did was go to a mechanic, but it got to where Ah was wasting mah little ol' money.

Edna leans closer to Fairy.

FAIRY (CONT'D)

So...Ah bought a few books on how to fix cars yourself, and Ah went to work on mah Camaro. And Ah found out Ah could do a better job than any mechanic.

Now Edna shakes her head "yes" again.

FAIRY (CONT'D)

It's out in the parking lot. Ah had to just about make a bribe, but it's there.

EDNA

Ever worked for a mechanic before?

FAIRY

Nope. Ah'm jackleg all the way.

Edna's mouth flies open one more time.

While Edna looks in amazement at Fairy, Robert sneaks up behind the boss...and points a gun at her back.

ROBERT

Give it here. All of it.

A horrified Edna stands up.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

You know...all of it!

Robert points to the desk drawer...Fairy edges her way to the work bench.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

In reluctance, Edna pulls the drawer open and exposes Robert to some checks and some cash. He helps himself.

Fairy finds a wrench underneath the bench and throws the wrench with all her might.

The wrench nails Robert on his gun arm...and jars the gun loose. He drops the loot.

Darryl comes over and grabs (and almost tackles) Robert before the latter can find his gun.

Edna picks up the money.

Gina locates a rope and ties the culprit.

Tanya sprints to the desk to call the police.

EXT. EDNA'S GARAGE - DAY

A squad car tries to pull into the parking lot...but no parking space remains.

Result: TWO OFFICERS jump out of their vehicle, then hurry toward the garage.

INT. EDNA'S GARAGE - WORKSPACE - DAY

The officers pick Robert out and grab him.

OFFICER #1

Robert, you have the right to remain silent--

GINA

Who cares? Just get him out!

OFFICER #2

Uh...all right.

The cops lead Robert out the overhead door while Fairy turns to Edna.

FAIRY

It may seem presumptuous of me, Edna, but, considering the circumstances, well...Ah feel Ah'm the one for the job.

Gina eyes a silent Edna.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GINA
She saved your life.

DARRYL
That counts for something, don't
it?

Edna receives concerned looks from the crew.

TANYA
You know what Ah'd do if somebody
saved mah life?

EDNA
I'll tell you what, Fairy: I'll
think it over.

Four mouths drop in shock.

EDNA (CONT'D)
I'm gonna need a letter of
reference, too.

GINA
Edna...you'd put a piece of paper
ahead of a life?

EDNA
I can't just hire anybody. If I
took just any Tom, Sue, or Harry
off the street, I'd be...

GINA
We're not talking about any Tom,
Sue, or Harry! Who came in to
return that jack of yours, anyway?

Edna walks toward the Ford Focus engine.

EDNA
End of discussion...let me think it
over. Remember?

Four stunned, dissatisfied faces stare at Edna.

FREEZE FRAME

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. BERGER FAMILY LAWN AT TULANE UNIVERSITY - NIGHT

An optimistic Fairy (now in a pantsuit) sprints down a sidewalk toward:

EXT. DIXON HALL - NIGHT

Fairy opens the front door to this historic, stately two-story building.

INT. EVONN'S OFFICE AT DIXON HALL - NIGHT

Organ professor EVONN GREENGRASS (70s), cell phone to her ear, sits behind her desk in this well-decorated space.

EVONN
(into phone)
Well, Peter, I must have my car
looked at...my Audi Fox; you've
seen it...it's not behaving like a
fox; it's growling like a grizzly
bear...

Evonn strolls over to her mini-library of textbooks and music books. With her free hand, she pulls out a textbook.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE EVONN'S OFFICE AT DIXON HALL - NIGHT

Fairy changes her sprint to a jog once inside Dixon Hall.

She stops right in front of the door whose nameplate features a calligraphed "EVONN GREENGRASS."

Fairy raises a fist to knock...but opens the door instead.

INT. EVONN'S OFFICE AT DIXON HALL - NIGHT

She hesitates to walk further when she realizes Evonn's still on the phone.

Evonn gravitates to her desk, sets the textbook down, and sits back down.

EVONN
(into phone)
Where can I get it tuned
up?...Edna's Garage? You actually
found satisfaction there?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Fairy saunters toward a plush, upholstered swivel chair on the other side of Evonn's desk.

EVONN (CONT'D)

(still on phone)

Well, I don't know. I don't know if I can trust a woman to fix my car...they take too long, you know; and when they get dirty, it's disgusting.

A now-befuddled Fairy plops into that swivel chair.

EVONN (CONT'D)

(wraps up call)

I've always been taught that if I wanted someone to fix a pie, it should be a woman. And when it comes to fixing a car, it should be a man.

Evonn looks up at Fairy.

EVONN (CONT'D)

I must go. I'm busy...I'll talk with you later. Au revoir.

The prof turns her phone off, then sees Fairy's timid look.

FAIRY

Hi, Ms. Greengrass. Couldn't find you at the Rogers Chapel, so...Ah thought you might be here.

Evonn climbs out of her chair and nods. When Fairy rises from her own seat, the twosome head for the door.

FAIRY (CONT'D)

Remember that job Ah told you Ah was standing in need of?

EVONN

Yes, Fairy.

FAIRY

Well, Ah thought a few references would help, and Ah was wondering if you'd be one of mah references.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE EVONN'S OFFICE AT DIXON HALL - NIGHT

Fairy watches Evonn lock the office door.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

EVONN

I would be delighted. Let me congratulate you on finding a job to begin with.

The two women walk on.

EVONN (CONT'D)

Where is it?

FAIRY

That place Ah heard you talking about over the phone...Edna's Garage...Ah want to be a mechanic.

Evonn's face shows a look of absolute horror.

EVONN

(hands to her own face)

A mechanic! A MECHANIC!!

(takes hands off own face)

Do you realize what it's going to do to your hands?

Both stop in their tracks.

Fairy stares into space.

EVONN (CONT'D)

And, more importantly, to the organ?

FAIRY

Ms. Greengrass, Ah'm a darn good mechanic...at least mah friends tell me so.

Evonn doesn't look convinced.

FAIRY (CONT'D)

Ah fixed mah own car so well you cain't tell it was once a lemon.

Fairy and Evonn resume their walk...at a faster clip.

EVONN

Mechanic! What kind of job is that for a woman...especially one studying to be the...Renee Fleming of the pipe organ?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

FAIRY

Ah don't know about Renee Fleming...but Ah do know that Grace Bumbry's a soprano, too. And Grace Bumbry's a car enthusiast.

Evonn looks skeptical.

FAIRY (CONT'D)

Ah found that out reading an old "Jet" magazine.

EVONN

Well, you're not Grace Bumbry. And what were you doing reading "Jet?"

Evonn and Fairy stop walking.

EVONN (CONT'D)

Young lady, you have two choices. What'll it be: The swell pedal...or the gas pedal?

FAIRY

What's wrong with both? Huh?

Fairy casts a look of disgust.

EXT. EDNA'S GARAGE - NIGHT

The parking lot's now so full it can't take another vehicle...even if the ones in the lot are different ones.

INT. EDNA'S GARAGE - WORKSPACE - NIGHT

It's closing time...Edna and Tanya make sure all the tools are in place, lock the doors of the two 2015 Honda Accords in the garage, and secure the overhead door.

At the overhead door, Tanya and Edna work a bewildering series of latches...something Penn and Teller can't escape.

TANYA

Edna, Ah'm glad this ain't New York.

EDNA

Yeah?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TANYA

Yeah, 'cause if this was New York,
this door would have to have twice
as many latches.

Edna and Tanya finish the overhead task, turn out the lights,
and...

EXT. EDNA'S GARAGE - NIGHT

...leave through a side door.

EDNA

(locking side door)
Need a ride?

Tanya locks the other side door.

TANYA

Why not?

Tanya and Edna stroll toward the latter's 2019 Toyota Camry.

At the Camry, Edna grabs (and reads) a note from the
windshield wiper on the driver's side.

The note says: "MAKE FAIRY YOUR NEW MECHANIC- THE LIFE SHE
SAVED WAS DEFINATELY YOURS."

The misspelling is intentional.

Both mechanics climb inside the car...Edna shakes her head
back and forth.

INT. TOYOTA CAMRY - NIGHT

The twosome fasten their seat belts.

Edna turns on the ignition...and finds rough going.

EDNA

Come on! You're a Toyota! Live up
to your slogan...let's go places!

Tanya laughs.

TANYA

Good one!

At last, the boss' Camry turns over.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

EDNA

I mean, what the hell? I had to fight like hell to get financing for this car. It better turn over.

Edna turns the stereo ON...and FUNKY MUSIC blasts through the car's speakers.

EDNA (CONT'D)

How you doing in school, Tanya?

TANYA

Knockin' 'em dead in auto mechanics...and even teachin' the teacher some thangs he never knew before.

Edna looks pleased...but not for long.

EDNA

How about your other classes?

TANYA

Let's not get into that.

The boss throws Tanya a disappointed look.

TANYA (CONT'D)

Let's talk about that note you was readin'. Whatcha thank?

EDNA

Remember what I said this morning about thinking it over?

TANYA

Whatcha thank?

EDNA

I haven't thought it over yet.

Now Edna gives the note a sideways look.

EDNA (CONT'D)

Say, you didn't write this note, did you?

Tanya shows Edna an impish look.

TANYA

Me? Ah cain't even spell "definitely."

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Edna flashes Tanya her own impish look.

EXT. ROGERS CHAPEL AT TULANE UNIVERSITY - NIGHT

A small, modern-looking building.

INT. ROGERS CHAPEL SANCTUARY - NIGHT

Fairy finishes scales on the chapel's two-manual Schantz pipe organ...and the success makes Evonn smile from ear to ear.

EVONN

Very good, Fairy!

Fairy draws a blank look.

FAIRY

After working on scales every day for the last seven years, it better be very good.

EVONN

Never hurts to practice, you know.

Evonn hands Fairy a book of works by Johann Sebastian Bach.

EVONN (CONT'D)

Let's see how you do on "My Heart Ever Faithful," by you know who.

Fairy opens the book to the corresponding page.

FAIRY

Lennon and McCartney.

Evonn tries hard to hide her grin.

With a nod, Fairy launches "My Heart Ever Faithful..." and flies through the piece.

But wait!

EVONN

Your knees aren't together!

Fairy shrugs.

EVONN (CONT'D)

Start over, Miss Godchaux.

FAIRY

You mean Ms.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The student starts over, knees together...Evonn stews.

EVONN

If I could get my hands on Gloria
Steinem for dreaming up "Ms."

EXT. NORTH ROCHEBLAVE STREET - 2019 TOYOTA CAMRY - NIGHT

Edna drives through New Orleans' Fairgrounds section.

The car stops at a brick house...the Thibodeauxes' place.

INT. TOYOTA CAMRY - NIGHT

Tanya opens the passenger's-side door.

TANYA

Don't forget to think it over.

EDNA

Don't you hear your mama call?

A nodding Tanya slides out of the car; she closes the door in question and waves at Edna.

Edna watches Tanya stroll toward the house.

A worried look crosses the boss' face.

EDNA (CONT'D)

That's the last time I ever forget
to turn the alarm on in the garage!

Now Edna points the Toyota in the other direction.

INT. EVONN'S OFFICE AT DIXON HALL - NIGHT

Fairy and Evonn sit across from each other at the latter's desk.

FAIRY

It seems you wanna get your car all
tuned up.

EVONN

You heard my call.

FAIRY

Ah can do it for you. In fact, Ah'd
do it for free.

Evonn shakes her head "no."

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

EVONN

You can tune up tomorrow.

Fairy throws the professor a hopeful look.

EVONN (CONT'D)

In the chapel.

FAIRY

Ms. Greengrass, you don't know what this job means to me!

EVONN

I know what it could mean.

(folds her arms)

You talk as if you've gotten the job. We must never count our stops before they're pulled, must we?

FAIRY

But--

EVONN

There are other jobs out there, Fairy. Nicer jobs.

A stunned Fairy eyeballs Evonn.

EVONN (CONT'D)

If you promise me you'll find a job that's more becoming to a young lady of your talents, I will...

Evonn turns to her laptop.

EVONN (CONT'D)

I'll type this letter of reference for you.

Fairy's nod is timid.

FAIRY

You win.

Evonn pecks at her laptop's keys as Fairy looks on.

EXT. DIXON HALL - NIGHT

Fairy and Evonn stroll out of the building and head for their respective vehicles.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

They reach Evonn's 1977 Audi Fox...parallel parked alongside Dixon Hall.

FAIRY

Ah guess when you put everything together, Ms. Greengrass, you've got a point there.

Evonn rests an arm on Fairy's shoulder.

EVONN

I'm delighted that you understand.

The professor climbs into her Fox.

EVONN (CONT'D)

I'll see you tomorrow.

They wave before they AD LIB their goodbyes.

A jogging Fairy watches Evonn drive off...but notices the car doesn't SOUND the way it should.

FAIRY

She doesn't need a tune-up. She needs a rubber band!

Fairy turns her jog into a sprint.

EXT. POYDRAS STREET, NEW ORLEANS, LA - 1977 AUDI FOX - NIGHT

Evonn's car slides from the fast lane into the slow one...only to quit with a BANG!

The professor steps out of the auto and slams the door.

She looks across the street...and finds she's about half a block from Edna's Garage.

Evonn saunters over to the front of the Fox, looks in the direction of Edna's Garage, and raises the Audi's hood.

The teacher scratches her head in a world of worry.

EVONN

Something told me to get this car tuned up.

Evonn gazes across the street at the garage one more time.

EXT. AUDUBON STREET - NIGHT

Fairy makes a run for her 2014 Camaro (parked on Audubon). She hops in, starts it up, and hurries down the street.

EXT. POYDRAS STREET, NEW ORLEANS, LA - 1977 AUDI FOX - NIGHT

Evonn ties a handkerchief to the Audi's antenna, then returns to the driver's seat to wait for help.

INT. AUDI FOX - NIGHT

Evonn watches Fairy's Camaro pass the Fox and come to a careful stop in front of the older car.

EXT. POYDRAS STREET, NEW ORLEANS, LA - NIGHT

Fairy jumps out of the Camaro and gazes at the Fox.

With a nod, the Tulane undergrad opens the Camaro's trunk...where she extracts a rather large tool kit.

She opens the box and fishes for implements...only to find not a single one is metric.

EXT. EDNA'S GARAGE - NIGHT

The lights blaze...the overhead door's back up...moonlighters Edna and Darryl spraypaint one of the Honda Accords.

Fairy, tool box in hand(s), hurries toward the garage.

INT. EDNA'S GARAGE - WORKSPACE - NIGHT

Fairy peeks inside the building.

FAIRY

Ah hate to bother you, but may Ah borrow some of your metric tools?

Edna looks surprised...Darryl looks at Fairy.

FAIRY (CONT'D)

Ah don't have any. Ah've never driven a foreign car, let alone fixed one.

EDNA

Yeah. Come on in, Fairy.

Fairy does just that.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Darryl continues to gaze at Fairy...despite the fact that his sprayer coats the floor and his shoes with enamel.

EDNA (CONT'D)

I've got a couple of tool cabinets on the wall.

Fairy saunters over to the tool cabinets.

EDNA (CONT'D)

All the metric tools are in the bottom drawers of each cabinet.

The young organ student pulls out several metric wrenches of various sizes and thicknesses. She stuffs the wrenches into her tool kit.

Darryl and Edna watch Fairy leave with the desired tools. All three wave at each other.

FAIRY

Thank you kindly.

EDNA

If you need me, Fairy, holler.

Darryl continues to eyeball Fairy (who heads for the Audi Fox)...and he continues to spray that paint everywhere but on the Honda Accord!

EDNA (CONT'D)

Darryl, watch what you're doing!

He turns his sprayer off.

DARRYL

You've gotta get her, Edna. We'll have a line of customers all the way to Shreveport.

EDNA

You mean Los Angeles.

DARRYL

And she saved your life...remember?

Darryl observes Edna's pained expression.

EXT. POYDRAS STREET, NEW ORLEANS, LA - 1977 AUDI FOX - NIGHT

Fairy checks the Audi's oil (it's at an adequate level), then pulls out the plugs...and finds they've had it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Evonn jumps out of the car to watch Fairy.

FAIRY

Ms. Greengrass, you're fortunate to have had oil in the crankcase.

Evonn's nod is slow and timid.

FAIRY (CONT'D)

But you still need new plugs and points. Ah can tell.

Fairy shows Evonn all of the old spark plugs...each corroded.

The Tulane student grabs new plugs and points from the tool box and installs the new plugs in the Fox engine.

Fairy and a shocked Evonn see Edna reach the 1970s car.

EDNA

(to Fairy)

I thought you were fixing your car.

FAIRY

(shaking her head "no")

Ah just couldn't resist this one.

(putting in points)

And Ah wanted to show mah teacher that mah hands wouldn't fall off doing this kind of work.

Evonn slaps her own forehead.

FAIRY (CONT'D)

And Ah've gotta start someplace.

Edna looks unsettled.

EDNA

Tell you the truth, that's what I told my granddad when I first got interested in cars.

Fairy throws a look of surprise Edna's way.

EDNA (CONT'D)

Ever since I was little, I've loved cars...and getting grease on my hands.

Evonn moves closer to Edna and Fairy.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

EDNA (CONT'D)

Granddad had this place a long time. He didn't like me coming in at first, but I kept doing it. And it got to the point where he was teaching me all about cars and how they work.

Edna grins.

EDNA (CONT'D)

He helped me get my first car: An '86 Chrysler New Yorker. For parts.

Now Fairy wraps up her work on the Fox.

EDNA (CONT'D)

Boy, I had that car ready to drive to school in a week.

FAIRY

Try it now, Ms. Greengrass.

A still-bewildered Evonn winces into the Audi to start it up.

And it kicks over...just like that.

But Evonn's still stunned.

EDNA

I wanted a chance to fix other cars...so I started advertising on the bulletin board at school.

FAIRY

(to Evonn)

Let it run awhile.

Evonn shakes her head "yes." Edna does, too.

EDNA

Anyway, I fixed quite a few cars that way, and, well, I had a lot of fun...especially when I saw the surprises on people's faces.

Evonn's face shows a truckload of surprise.

EVONN

Fairy, I've got to reimburse you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

FAIRY

Nope. Forget it.

EVONN

Oh...kay.

(to Edna)

You really must give Fairy a chance. Not only is she quite an organist, she also is quite a mechanic.

Edna's mouth drops.

EVONN (CONT'D)

Many thanks!

Evonn waves at Fairy and Edna before driving off.

Edna points at Fairy.

FAIRY

This was your granddad's place?

EDNA

That's...right. He willed it to me and five years ago, I took it over.

Fairy nods, then gathers up her tools and gives Edna those metric wrenches back.

FAIRY

Are you still looking for a full-time mechanic, Edna?

Edna's face is a blank.

FAIRY (CONT'D)

Ah read where Fats Domino used to work in a mattress factory. He got in an accident that messed up his hands...but he recovered and kept right on playing.

They stroll toward the Camaro.

EDNA

You know something, Fairy? You've got guts. You're real gutsy.

Fairy blushes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

EDNA (CONT'D)

You sure know how to take charge.
First it was throwing that wrench
at that robber at the job
interview. And now fixing your
teacher's car.

Fairy opens her trunk and places her tool box back in it.

FAIRY

Mah dad says guts run in the
family.

EDNA

How would you like to fix cars from
a garage, not a street?

FAIRY

You're not kidding me, are you?

Fairy goes into the car to grab Evonn's letter of reference.

She gives the letter to Edna, who shakes her head "no."

EDNA

Tear it up.

Fairy's mouth flies open.

FAIRY

You...you wanted this so much you--

EDNA

After you saved this here garage, a
letter of reference won't be
necessary.

Fairy folds the letter and sticks it in her pants pocket.

EDNA (CONT'D)

See you tomorrow, Fairy.

FREEZE FRAME on Fairy's and Edna's high five.

FADE OUT.

THE END