

ACT 2

SCENE 1: BAD CONNECTION

(Music: Cheb Mami "Parisien du Nord." Start from the beginning with chiming beat, cut off before the rap.)

(RUTH sits in her room at her home. Early morning, just getting light. RUTH speaks throughout the scene, again, as if she were on the telephone, but this time uses a real phone.)

RUTH

Hello, John? Can you hear me?

(beat)

Can you hear me now?

(beat)

What the hell is wrong with this connection?

(RUTH hangs up and tries again.)

I'd like to place a call to John the Baptist.

(beat)

It's urgent.

(beat)

Ruth.

(beat)

Gordon.

(beat)

G - O - R - D - O - N.

(beat)

How the hell do you think you spell it?

(beat)

Sorry.

(beat)

Yes. I'll hold.

(Pause. RUTH hums along to the hold music.)

Damn, they need to get some better music.

(beat)

Well, tell him it's an emergency! Tell him it's Ruth Gordon, for Christ's sake!

(beat)

Sorry.

(beat)

Yes, I do know better. Jesus Christ the holy son, the most reverend and blessed. I got it.

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