

SCENE 5

At Violet and Ben's. Ben is home. Violet has the baby in her arms. She's nursing.

VIOLET

What are you doing here? Aren't you in Alberta?

BEN

Yeah, but I decided to come back...

VIOLET

What's up?

BEN

I saw what you put on Facebook. The Hashtag Me Too.

VIOLET

Huh?

BEN

That Hashtag Me Too that you posted on Facebook a while back.

VIOLET

I did?

BEN

Yeah.

VIOLET

Oh. I don't remember.

BEN

You posted a Hashtag Me Too on Facebook and you don't remember?

VIOLET

Oh, come on, that had to be what, like, a year ago? You think I know what I posted on Facebook a year ago?

BEN

It's not just any post. It's a Hashtag Me Too. It should be kind of memorable.

(Beat. Violet doesn't say anything: she finds him kind of intense)

When was it? What was it? Who was it? You've never brought it up.

(Beat. Violet, feeling a bit guilty, is still not saying anything)

I'm sorry I'm not handling this very well, but I kind of flipped out after I saw that on Facebook. I was alone on the highway for six hours, I couldn't think of anything else... I was flashing back on all the signs I hadn't noticed. So then I made a list of all the guys who... was it someone I know?

VIOLET

The signs? What signs?

BEN

Well, that you'd been... attacked.

VIOLET

(uneasy)

Wait, hold up. So you're saying you can't just use that hashtag to be, like, in support of the movement?

BEN

In support of? No.

VIOLET

Sure, yeah, like: "I support girls who have experienced assault, Hashtag Me Too."

BEN

You haven't been assaulted?

VIOLET

Everyone thinks I was assaulted?

BEN

Yeah.

VIOLET

Are you sure? Cuz I think you can post it just to be, like, "Hashtag Me Too... You go, girls, stay strong, we got you!"

BEN

Why did you post a Hashtag Me Too if you haven't been assaulted!

VIOLET

It felt lame to not do anything. Like I was lacking in compassion.

BEN

You need to take it down.

VIOLET

It won't matter if I delete it from my Facebook now... No one will even notice.

BEN

Make a new post to say that you've never been assaulted.

VIOLET

Seriously? That would be totally out of context.

BEN

My sister posted a crying emoji... my ex... You got dozens of crying emojis. No one said anything to me.

VIOLET

You could've just read my Facebook page like everyone else.

BEN

I can't believe you weren't assaulted and you posted a Hashtag Me Too.

VIOLET

Well I don't know, maybe I need to think about that.

BEN

We're talking about sexual assault.

VIOLET

Not just assault: there's also harassment.

BEN

Jesus, Violet.

VIOLET

Everyone was posting them! You're not gonna sit here and tell me that every single person who posted a Hashtag Me Too has been sexually assaulted.

BEN

That was the idea, yeah.

VIOLET

Nah, I don't think so. I know girls who – they posted Hashtag Me Toos on Facebook ten feet long. And they haven't been sexually assaulted, that's for damn sure. It's more like, "Unsolicited compliment blah blah."

BEN

You know I came home in the middle of my work trip for this?

VIOLET

I've had unsolicited compliments. When I was 18 years old, one of my bosses came onto me.

BEN

And then what happened?

VIOLET

Well, I slept with him.

BEN

Did he force you?

VIOLET

No. He was hot. But... you know, he was still my boss.

BEN

Where was this?

VIOLET

It was my manager at McDonald's.

BEN

Okay, that wasn't like an enormous position of power.

VIOLET

Was he my boss or not?

BEN

How old was he?

VIOLET

What difference does that make?

BEN

Just asking.

VIOLET

Eighteen.

BEN

Wow, you must have been helpless under his sway.

VIOLET

Okay. Are we really doing this? We're gonna do a deep dive into my personal history to see whether or not I have the right to put a fucking Me Too on Facebook?

BEN

Why not? You posted it on Facebook for the world to see. Might as well talk about it.

VIOLET

Fine. That time I was drunk and I found myself with a guy in a taxi and I was like "Whoa, what am I doing here?" And I got out and took another taxi?

BEN

Did the guy stop you from getting out of the taxi?

VIOLET

No, but I was clearly too drunk to make an informed decision to go home with him.

BEN

You always brag about being able to hold your liquor. How did you expect him to know you were too drunk?

VIOLET

Since Emma was born, there's been a lot of times I gave you a blowjob even though I didn't really feel like it –

BEN

Allow me to reassure you on that point: it hasn't been that many times.

VIOLET

I do it because I feel guilty about not having a sex drive.

BEN

I've never asked you for anything.

VIOLET

No, but I still feel like I need to contribute to the healthy functioning of our relationship. So, I give you blowjobs.

BEN

Oh, so your Hashtag Me Too is against me? Fantastic.

VIOLET

All I'm saying is that, me too, I'm a girl, and me too, I've gone through a lot of shit dealing with the sex drive of guys. That's all.

BEN

(flabbergasted)

You could've told me you have no sex drive instead of trying to control me with blowjobs.

VIOLET

Control you?

BEN

(sarcastic)

"Guys are so stupid... The relationship's in trouble, then... bam! One li'l BJ solves everything..."

VIOLET

Fine: I'm sorry I gave you blow jobs -

BEN

Don't worry. You'll never have to deal with my sex drive again.

VIOLET

(sighing)

I was talking in general!

(He goes out, slamming the door.
Violet is alone, depressed. The crow
again. Violet screams as if in answer.)

Aahhhhhhhhhhh.