

1.6 Repudiate

PICKLES. Do you think love lasts forever?

SONIA. I'm sorry...?

PICKLES. Do you think love is *real*? A force. A real, actual, substantial thing in the world...like a rock...or selfishness...or do you think it's just an artificial man-made construct like religion...or football?

SONIA. Oh, man, *really*?

PICKLES. Yes, really. I'm just diggin' here, you know? Just diggin' around...

SONIA. I think it's real. Like a rock. (*Discovering this idea more fully as she goes...*) Exactly like rock, actually. Solid...weighty...hard...and painful in a variety of awful and humiliating ways...

PICKLES. That's what I think!

SONIA. Well, okay then...

PICKLES. (*Abruptly.*) Did you know that this play is called LIFE SUCKS?

SONIA. (*This is getting awkward...*) Ummm...yes.

PICKLES. Do you think that's right?

SONIA. Oh Pickles...

PICKLES. Do you think life sucks? Do you think that that's... *accurate*?

SONIA. Pickles we're not even at the end of Act One

PICKLES. 'Cause I don't. (*Including us...*) I don't think that title is right and I just want you to know that I didn't choose it...and furthermore, that I *repudiate* it.

SONIA. But—

PICKLES. That sounds funny. Repudiate. Repudiate. Repudiate. Repudiate. *Repudiate. Repudiate. Repudiate. Repudiate.* Is that even a word?

SONIA. Yes.

PICKLES. Does it mean...to deny. To reverse. To...erase?

SONIA. I think so.

PICKLES. Okay, good. Well, then, I *repudiate* that title. Sure, life is hard, life is tricky. And it can be really unfair and frustrating and, you know...*deeply problematic* sometimes. Right? Right?

SONIA. Right.

PICKLES. But life does not *suck*. I just wanted to get that on the record. Not that there's a record or whatever, I know that, but I wanted to get that on the record anyway. Life does not suck. *Life* does not *suck*. Life does *not* suck.

(*She goes...*) Exactly like rock, actually. Solid...

...and painful in a variety of awful and humiliating ways...

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SONIA. Well, okay then...

PICKLES. (*Abruptly.*) Did you know that this play is called LIFE SUCKS?

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SONIA. Yes.