

Ryu
&
Kathy

15.

(RYU speaks out. KATHY stands farther off, enormously pregnant now.)

RYU. First of all, welcome. Welcome to the SDO.

I'm sure you all have a lot of questions.

"What do I wear?"

"How do I talk?"

"How do I explain this to the kids?"

Kathy and I will help you answer all of these perfectly normal questions.

KATHY. The most important thing to remember is that all of us were newcomers at one point. I mean gosh, we're *still* newcomers. Ryu and I have only been here, what

RYU. Fourteen months.

KATHY. Fourteen months. And Ryu's already the floor manager at the box factory. I'm so proud.

RYU. Honey...

KATHY. Now I'm embarrassing him, but I think it's important to know how life in 1955 can really focus you.

In the modern world, people are always talking about their problems. Always asking "How can I be happier?" Maybe if I had a different diet, maybe if I had a different therapist. A different childhood. In the '50s, you have to keep it together. You aren't just living for yourself. You have a responsibility to make life wonderful for your husband and your child – and your community. (*suddenly more personal*) It's amazing how...healing that responsibility can be.

(RYU comes forward to join KATHY.)

RYU. We are not saying life is better in the 1950s. We are not saying people are happier necessarily. We are saying that they're more *present*.

KATHY. Thank you, yes.

RYU. We are not in pursuit of the past.
We are in pursuit of the present.

(The baby kicks inside KATHY.)

KATHY. Oh.

RYU. What is it?

KATHY. (*hand to her belly*) The present.