

SOFT OPENING

Written by

Sarah Moen

Based on Seinfeld

INT. COMEDY CLUB - NIGHT

JERRY SEINFELD is on stage, in the midst of his stand up routine.

JERRY

Everyone's excited about this 'soft opening.' Not me. That means you have to see people again. People you've been avoiding for months. And that means small talk. I mean it was painful before but now? Forget about it. "So what have you been up to?" "Oh you know, absolutely nothing. Same as you." No one even has updates for each other anymore! You know what small talk makes me miss? Zoom. Someone asks you what you're up to over Zoom and you can just mute yourself. Pass it off as technical difficulties. Imagine we had that button in real life? "Hey how have you been?" "Sorry what was that? Oh, I think you're muted. Anyways, I'll see ya." After that you just walk away, problem solved.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

JERRY AND GEORGE.

GEORGE

This feels off.

JERRY

It's in your head.

GEORGE

(pointing to waitress)  
She's not wearing a mask.

JERRY

So?

GEORGE

So...Tuna sandwich with a side of Covid coming right up!

JERRY

You won't eat your sandwich served by a woman with no mask but you'll have sex with one.

GEORGE  
Don't do that.

JERRY  
Just saying.

GEORGE  
It's a soft opening Jerry. Soft.  
That means you roll things out.

JERRY  
So sex before sandwiches?

GEORGE  
I think so.

JERRY  
I'd put sex in phase two, but  
that's just me.

ELAINE ENTERS.

GEORGE  
Where's your mask?

ELAINE  
Please, don't be such a baby.

She reaches over and takes a bite of George's sandwich.

GEORGE  
Are you out of your mind?!

ELAINE  
Didn't you see Susan last night?

GEORGE  
What if I did?

ELAINE  
Then it doesn't matter. This is  
negated.

GEORGE  
Negated?

JERRY  
Negated.

George shoves his sandwich towards her.

GEORGE  
Just take it.

KRAMER ENTERS WEARING A HAZMAT SUIT.

ELAINE  
You can't be serious.

KRAMER  
Huh? Oh this. First I got it as a safety precaution--but I've been getting so many compliments I started wearing it everyday. It's really scoring with the ladies if you know what I mean.

JERRY  
I can't say I do.

The waitress comes up to the table.

WAITRESS  
What can I get for--hey nice suit.

KRAMER  
Thanks, it's Tyvek.

WAITRESS  
May I?

KRAMER  
Of course.

WAITRESS  
(feeling the material)  
So...durable.

KRAMER  
You got that right.

She gives him one last smirk before walking away.

GEORGE  
Did everyone witness that or am I crazy?

ELAINE  
Oh, we saw.

KRAMER  
Giddyup.

JERRY  
So *durable*? Have we really been locked in our houses for so long that she thought that was the right thing to say?

KRAMER  
She's right though, it is.

GEORGE  
Shut up you, dropping the Tyvek name like it's Armani. You're just as socially stunted as her.

ELAINE  
You can't blame her. Three months...No action? Desperate times call for desperate small talk.

JERRY  
Really desperate. So desperate you go with *durable*.

KRAMER  
You think she wants me?

ELAINE  
Oh yeah.

GEORGE  
If you sleep with that woman in a hazmat suit, I'll look up to you for the rest of my life.

The waitress comes over to pour them more coffee.

KRAMER  
Hey when do you get off?

WAITRESS  
Ten minutes...Meet me outside?

KRAMER  
You got it.

She winks.

Elaine SHOVES Kramer.

ELAINE  
GET OUT.

JERRY  
You really gonna go?

KRAMER  
Why not? It's a soft opening.

FREEZE FRAME ON KRAMER.