

Two Goddesses in Minnesota

by

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Answers I selected:

The meaning of life is:

Falling in love

Finding yourself

CHARACTERS

HELENA Unknown goddess of love.

BRIVICA Unknown goddess of knowledge.

SETTING

A tiny town somewhere in Minnesota. The scene takes place in a small diner with a few tables with customers, two waitresses, and a line cook.

(Helena and Brivica walk into the diner and sit at one of the open tables. There are customers in a few other booths and two waitresses chatting at the front. From a small window, a line cook can be seen standing over a grill. Once the women sit down, one of the waitresses approaches them and smiles.)

WAITRESS 1

Good morning ladies! What can I get started for ya?
Coffee? Tea?

HELENA

What would you recommend?

WAITRESS 1

Based on the hour, I'd go with a hot cup of coffee.

HELENA

Then that's what I'll do. Thank you, my love.

(Helena smiles at the waitress and winks. The waitress blushes and turns to Brivica.)

WAITRESS 1

And for you, honey?

BRIVICA

Tea sounds lovely.

WAITRESS 1

Black or green? I may have an Earl Grey in the back too.

BRIVICA

Green. Thanks.

(Brivica focuses on Helena, dismissing the waitress. The waitress walks to the kitchen window and passes the order to the cook.)

BRIVICA

So, tell me again why you've picked this awful place?

HELENA

Briv! They need us! Look at all of these poor souls, lost and alone. They have no idea what they're missing. Can't you see it?

BRIVICA

They seem perfectly happy to me. In fact, that table over there hasn't stopped chatting and laughing since we walked in.

(Helena groans and rolls her eyes.)

HELENA

They have not celebrated a wedding in almost 2 years! And their graduation rates are plummeting.

BRIVICA

So you mean to tell me you've dragged me out of my home, down to Earth, to this tiny little town because people aren't getting MARRIED?!

(Brivica puts her head in her hands and groans.)

HELENA

Well they're not discovering themselves either! People here are born here and then they simply waste time until they die. HERE. They never leave! We have to do something!

BRIVICA

What do you mean they just live and die? Don't they have hobbies? Interests? Secret plans?

HELENA

Nothing! Our waitresses are third generation staff here at this restaurant, and the cook is a fourth generation line cook. And not because they enjoy it, because they never tried to do anything else.

BRIVICA

This seems like a horrible idea, Helena. You know we're not allowed to meddle in human affairs anymore.

HELENA

Brev, PLEASE! We haven't done anything like this in centuries. They NEED us!

BRIVICA

How bad is it here? They seem happy.

HELENA

Both waitresses have cried themselves to sleep for the last eight years. The people at table two haven't felt love in even longer.

BRIVICA

There's no way that's true

HELENA

IT IS!

BRIVICA

This feels like a bad idea...

HELENA

Come on! Please!

(Brivica side eyes Helena for a moment
before slumping her shoulders
slightly.)

BRIVICA

Fine... what's the plan?

HELENA

We have to help them realize the meaning of life!

BRIVICA

I do love a good lesson in self discovery...

HELENA

No no no... We have to help them find LOVE!

BRIVICA

Pass

HELENA

Half and half?

BRIVICA

Sounds fair to me. Where do we start?

(The waitress approaches with two steaming mugs and sets them on the table.)

WAITRESS 1

Here you are, ladies! Have you decided what you'd like to eat?

(Brivica looks at Helena quizzically, Helena nods in approval.)

BRIVICA

I think so... But first I had a quick question. Have you ever been to Venice?

WAITRESS 1

Ummm... no? Why do you ask?

BRIVICA

You just have a glow about you, like you belong on an Italian beach under the sun. Maybe in a little cottage...

HELENA

With a lovely husband! Oh, and children. Just a few to help around the house and whatnot.

WAITRESS 1

This is going to sound crazy but you two are describing my dream life! If only I could...

BRIVICA

And why can't you?

HELENA

What's stopping you?

BRIVICA

Don't you want to find yourself?

HELENA

Or love? Don't you want to fall in love?

WAITRESS 1

Honestly? I would love to.

BRIVICA

You would love to what exactly?

(The waitress looks conflicted for a moment before nodding her head and straightening her posture.)

WAITRESS 1

I would love to find myself on the Italian Coast. I have family there, you know? Never met them of course, but I would love to. And I'd love to learn to cook, and to read, maybe even have a small shop on the coast and sell little trinkets.

(Brivica grabs the waitress by the hand and looks into her eyes.)

BRIVICA

Then go.

(The waitress takes off her apron and sets it on the women's table. She lets her hair out of its ponytail and turns and walks out of the diner.)

HELENA

One down, one town to go! Thank you, thank you Briv

BRIVICA

I forgot how much I love this. Who's next?

HELENA

Since you got the last one, it's my turn now. I think the other waitress and the line cook would make the perfect couple. They've known each other for years, but they haven't taken the time to really see each other.

BRIVICA

Take it away then...

(Helena winks and then stands up, walking towards the cook's window.)