

# Community in Four Scenes

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This sketch is intended to be used in conjunction with Scott Peck's book on community; the scenes are designed to help illustrate the various stages of community development described in his book and to facilitate discussion.

The sketch is written for 2 female performers, bare stage.

**NOTE:** Lines indicated in [italics] are stop action asides and directed to the audience.

## Scene 1 - Pseudo Community

**Darlene:** Sally how good to see you. You look simply maaaaaless. [She looks like death warmed over. How 'bout it girl friend... have you lost the key to your make up drawer? Take a look.] I saw your new car, it's sooooo cool. [How pretentious .....Huge gas guzzling SUV]. But with today's gas prices it must cost you a fortune to keep it in gas.

**Sally:** Oh, thank you. [Like you really care] I've been saving for over 3 years for this car. With kids, soccer, dance you know. I finally drove my Honda into the ground. [Why do I feel like I have to justify my purchases to you?] It is expensive to feed however. This whole gas thing is impossible to understand, just one big conspiracy by all those oil rich nations holding us hostage with crude. That's why we need to increase off shore drilling and open up the fields in Alaska for exploration!

**Darlene:** I don't know if that's the answer. I think corporate greed may have something to do with it. [Oil rich countries.....what a simplistic comment].

**Sally:** [Tree hugging, Sierra Club, eco-terrorist, get a grip on reality]. I'll just be glad when everything is back to normal.

**Darlene:** [Normal; let me make sure I understand what that means.....normal means: I can buy all the fossil fuel I want for under a dollar/ gal and with no consideration for the air we breathe or of the future of the planet.....yeah]. Me too. So nice to see you again. Give my love to Kenney.

**Sally:** Thanks so much. See you in church on Sunday. (They hug)

### Scene Two - Chaos

**Darlene:** Sally I've been wanting to talk to you. I'm a card carrying member of "The Friends of the Mountains Social Club" We explore ways we can help improve the planet...don't you thing that is a noble goal? I wanted to know if you would like to join us at our next meeting. [That is if you can actually get that tank of yours out of the two spaces you take up at the mall and find you way up the hill].

**Sally:** Oh my...that sounds like fun. [In a pig's eye, just what I want to do hang around a bunch of 60's throwbacks, wining over some endangered bug]. E-mail me the dates and I'll check my calendar. I'm really not into to all this ecology stuff; I believe that science is confirming that this whole greenhouse thing is just the natural cycle of things.

**Darlene:** I'll send you the dates. Hope you can make it, our guest speaker has just returned from a fascinating adventure in the Amazon basin. I'll be glad pick you up and drive. [Don't want the other members to know that I associate with anyone who drives a V-8].

**Sally:** That will be great. (They hug and turn)

### Scene 3 - Emptiness

**Darlene:** [Can you believe how insensitive she is to the needs of our Planet?? How is it that Christians have so little regard for Gods beautiful creation. Can't she see that believers are called to be stewards of His creation]?

**Sally:** [That gal has made nature her god!!! Didn't God tell us to subdue nature and use it? I tell you these Green Peace types are ruining our country. No cars.....No guns .....No Freedom].

## Scene Four - Community

**Sally:** I'm so glad I came to your meeting. To tell you the truth, I wasn't sure what kind of deal I was getting in to.....you know some sort of cult!!! I guess I expected you all to look like Grizzly Adams and serve pinecones to snack on. (They laugh)

**Darlene:** I understand how we might look like...some kind of echo freaks. We just want to keep our local hills well maintained for hiking and picnics. We work with the forest service, basically providing volunteers to build trails and clean streams. We could sure use your 4-wheel drive to take us to a remote trailhead that needs our attention.

**Sally:** No problem... In fact I'm sure my daughter's entire soccer team would love to lend a hand. I'm sure I can probably haul everyone up in one trip in that huge tank I own.....(they laugh).

**Darlene:** Sally.....I must confess that I was a little embarrassed.

**Sally:** Embarrassed? About what?

**Darlene:** Well when the speaker started talking about the "Save the giant 2 spotted monkey toed aphid" fund. Even I thought that was over the top.....

**Sally:** Whew! I'm so glad! I was beginning to think that I had lost all sensibilities. I did think it was too funny when he said we should all put a bowl of beer by our roses to.....

**Together:** encourage the aphids to mate! (Laugh....improv)