

"CHOCK'LIT SHOPPE OF HORRORS"



HEY,
POP.
STAYING
DRY, I
HOPE?



BETTY,
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
OUT ON A
NIGHT LIKE
THIS?



WANT
SOME
CHICKEN
NOODLE
SOUP TO
WARM YOU
UP? IT'S
CREAMY.



TEMPTING AS THAT SOUNDS, I'M NOT HERE TO EAT...

...I WAS HOPING TO INTERVIEW YOU FOR THE BLUE AND GOLD.

SHOULD I BE WORRIED? NOT PLANNING AN EXPOSE ON ME, I HOPE.

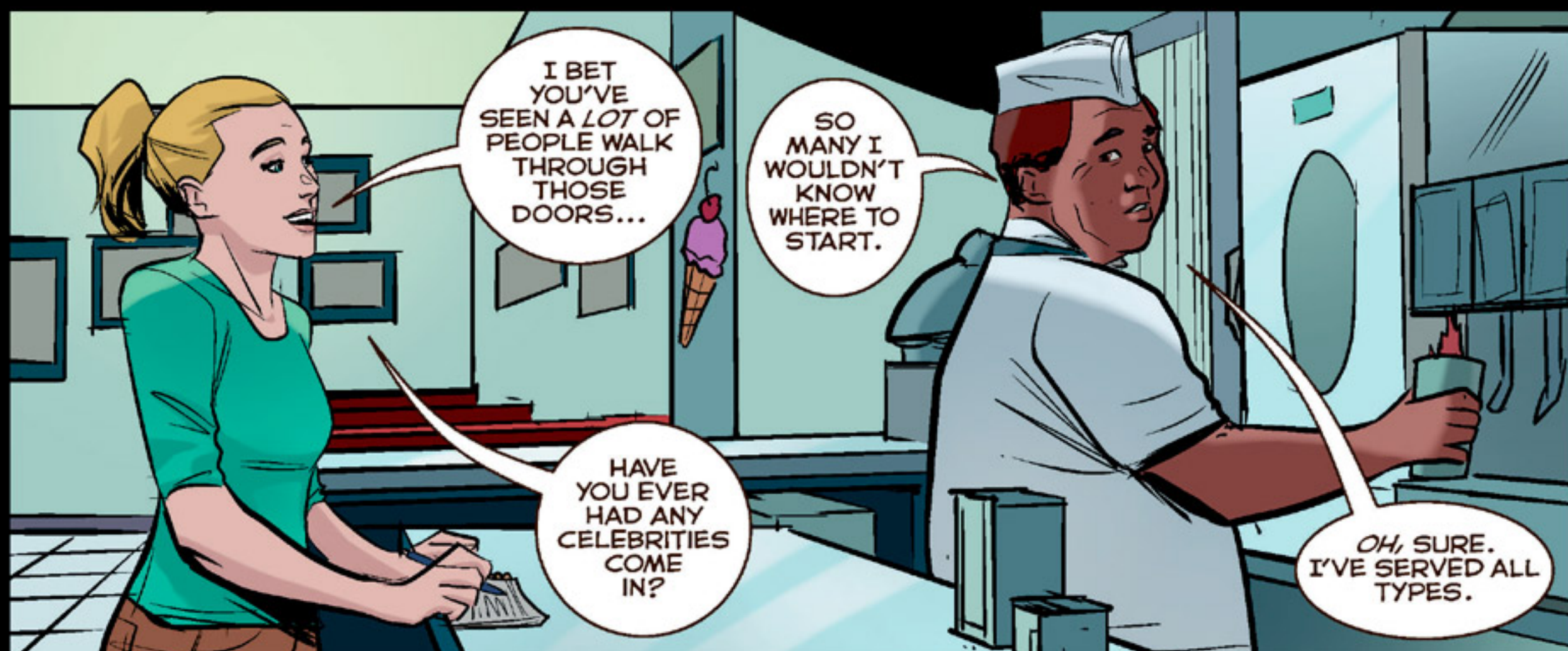
OH, NO, NOTHING LIKE THAT.

WE'RE DOING A SERIES TO COMMEMORATE RIVERDALE'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY--ONE ARTICLE ON EACH OF THE TOWN'S ICONS.

YOU CAN'T DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT WITHOUT POP'S.

WELL, WE DO HAVE SOME HISTORY. POP'S HAS BEEN HERE LONGER THAN THE TOWN ITSELF. 'COURSE, IT WAS DIFFERENT IN THOSE DAYS.

MY FATHER, POP SENIOR, OPENED THIS PLACE AS A PHARMACY AND SODA FOUNTAIN. NO FOOD, JUST ICE CREAM AND POP.



I BET YOU'VE SEEN A LOT OF PEOPLE WALK THROUGH THOSE DOORS...

SO MANY I WOULDN'T KNOW WHERE TO START.

HAVE YOU EVER HAD ANY CELEBRITIES COME IN?

OH, SURE. I'VE SERVED ALL TYPES.



WE'VE HAD THE HONOR OF SERVING MANY PRESIDENTS OVER THE YEARS, SOME WHILE THEY WERE ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL, OTHERS... DURING LESS HAPPY TIMES.

NEIL ARMSTRONG STOPPED IN FOR A TUNA MELT ONCE. GUY TRACKED MUD ALL OVER MY FLOOR...

...NOT THAT I CARED, MIND YOU. THOSE WERE FEET THAT HAD TOUCHED THE MOON.



ONE NIGHT AT AROUND TWO IN THE MORNING, MADONNA ROLLED IN ON A PARTY BUS WITH HER DANCERS. LIKED MY CHICKEN AND WAFFLES SO MUCH, SHE OFFERED ME TICKETS TO HER CONCERT...

...GAVE 'EM TO MY WAITRESSES, AS I'M NOT MUCH FOR LOUD EVENTS.



WOW. THOSE ARE... REALLY BIG SIGHTINGS.

YOU'RE DARN RIGHT.



MATTER OF FACT, SEE THAT DOLLAR BILL OVER THERE ON THE WALL?

THAT WAS A TIP MY FATHER GOT FROM ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS, OR SHOULD I SAY... MOST INFAMOUS GUESTS WE'VE EVER HAD.



MY FATHER--THE ORIGINAL "POP"--HAD JUST OPENED THE SHOP A COUPLE OF YEARS PRIOR...



IT WAS A TUESDAY, DURING THE MIDDLE OF THE AFTER-NOON RUSH...

...THERE WAS ELECTRICITY IN THE AIR...

...WHEN A *STRANGE* COUPLE CAME IN.



MY FATHER COULD TELL, IMMEDIATELY, THAT THEY WEREN'T FROM AROUND HERE. THEIR CLOTHES, THEIR TEXAS ACCENTS...

...BUT IT WAS MORE THAN THAT...



SOME PEOPLE...THEY HAVE THE WHIFF OF DEATH ABOUT THEM...

THESE TWO, THEY *REEKED* OF IT. IT WIFTED IN WITH THEM...

THEY SAT TOO CLOSE, LAUGHED TOO LOUD-- COULDN'T KEEP THEIR HANDS OFF EACH OTHER...



MY FATHER TOLD ME, THAT DAY, HE SAW SOMETHING THAT CHILLED HIM TO THE MARROW.

CAN I GET YOU FOLKS ANYTHING ELSE? MORE COFF--

>GULP!<



WAS' THE MATTER, MISTER? YOU SEE SOMETHING YOU DON'T LIKE?



I, UH, I DON'T...

THE FELLA GAVE MY FATHER FIVE DOLLARS. WHOLE BILL WAS ONLY 80 CENTS.

RELAX, MISTER. 'PRECATE THE HOSPITALITY.

THIS WAS DURING THE DEPRESSION, MIND YOU, AND MOST FOLKS WERE HARD UP.

...NOT THE CASE WITH BONNIE AND CLYDE.



THE BONNIE AND CLYDE? REALLY, POP?

TAKE A LOOK FOR YOURSELF.