

SERENA is making tea, AUNT LYDIA enters.

AUNT LYDIA

Quitting is very hard.

I used to smoke, too, once upon a time.

I'm pleased that everything is going so well with the baby.

SERENA

As our doctor would happily tell you.

AUNT LYDIA

Have I let myself become a bother?

There's so much more to a successful pregnancy than can be measured in a
doctor's office.

The ventilation in the Handmaid's room, the firmness of the bed.

The mood in the household.

Her attitude seems much improved.

SERENA

It's everything a Wife could ask for.

She's quite unlike herself.

AUNT LYDIA

Mrs. Waterford, no small effort has been made to bring Offred to heel.

Your baby needs to know he's in a Godly, harmonious environment.

SERENA

Of course. Praised be His miracle.

AUNT LYDIA is making notes in her book

SERENA

How do you take your tea?

AUNT LYDIA

I'm afraid I won't have time after all.

Busy day.

More visits to make.

I'll see myself out.

See you soon, I hope.

SERENA

Blessed day.

AUNT LYDIA Blessed day.