

Synopsis

Sy's Bargain House opens with Sy and Rita Finberg returning home from their last day at *Sy's Bargain House*, a small mom and pop clothing store they operated for 43 years in Kensington, a working-class section of Philadelphia. They sit in the living room and reminisce. Sy feels he's met his goal, to be "the number one mom and pop shop in the city of Philadelphia!" Rita, however, finds this a hollow victory countering that selling dry goods was never what she imagined doing her entire adult life.

Goldie, Sy's younger sister, enters and tells Rita how Sy manipulated their mother into passing on the store onto him even though she had worked there since childhood. Through flashback we see young Goldie begging her mother not to give the store to Sy. Returning to the present, Goldie demands her "cut", striking him with each demand until Rita strikes Goldie in retaliation. The play ends with a flashback of young Sy telling his mother how much he wants the store as young Goldie folds merchandise unaware of the betrayal taking place just a few yards away.