It wasn’t until the next Fall season that Penny rationalized that she might need to do something about her growing weight problem.

Helping Maru with her experiments were one thing. And sulking over the fact that she had missed out on potentially the *one* person who would have liked her body for what it was without needing to put in any sweat and hard work was another. But Penny was getting so big that her hips were checking either side of the door to her and her mother’s (admittedly) small trailer.

The ravenous red head had comfort-eaten her way to a floorboard-bending four hundred and fifty pounds in just the span of a year, making her officially heavier than pretty much everyone else in Pelican Town. Even bigger than notable mainstays like Abigail and Haley!

Penny was bound and determined to lose at least some of this weight, if not just so that she might be more attractive, but so that she could move about her and her mother’s tiny tinny trailer without the whole thing feeling like it was going to burst apart if she so much as leaned against one of the thin walls…

“Well we are just so happy to have you join our little Aerobics Meet-up, Penny!”

Caroline was Abigail’s mom. The fact that their hairs were naturally two different shades of weird might have thrown anybody else off, but there was no denying that Abigail had inherited her mother’s physique. All while Penny was growing up she had maintained a slender, enviable body (come to think of it, *most* of the women in Pelican Town had been able to stay trim until recently!) but once she’d started to fill out, Abigail’s mom showed everyone in town just where her daughter’s appetite had come from.

A lot of the mothers were like that now. Not surprising, considering that the average waistline in Stardew Valley had nearly doubled in size. But Caroline, with her enormous stomach and her fleshy arms and her fat face, took the cake.

And probably went back for seconds.

Every Tuesday, regardless of the weather or the season, she and the other moms met up so that they could do some light aerobics. It was a small, but helpful tidbit in everyone’s weekly schedule that helped keep them mobile at the increasingly large sizes that certain members of the group had began growing to.

And yet, they were still nowhere near as big as Penny was.

Even Robin, Maru’s mom, was only *just* as big as Penny was. The two of them looked more related than Robin looked to Maru most of the time—or Penny to her own mom, come to think of it. Two round, chubby-cheeked, belly-heavy women who got red in the face like a pair of tomatoes. At least she didn’t have to worry about fitting in with the new crowd…

“Okay everybody, now we’re going to extend a big welcome to Penny today!” Caroline clapped her chunky hands together with a smile, “Apparently she’s never done any aerobics before, so let’s try and take it easy on her today, okay?”

Penny waved her chunky fingers shyly at the crowd of overweight older women (and Emily, Haley’s sister) that had gathered for the regular meeting.

Alex’s mom, Jodi, had been hit pretty hard by the mysterious expansion that had gripped Pelican Town. As had Ms. Marni. Compared to her and Caroline, Emily seemed to be the only one with some semblance of a girlish figure anymore, having escaped with nothing more than a measly pot-belly. A figure that, after having spent some time weighing more than two times as much as the average woman, Penny would have killed for.

“Don’t worry, Penny—this class is *super* fun.” Emily said with a wide grin, “Just stick with me; I’ll make sure that you don’t fall too far behind.”

Penny would come to learn that there wasn’t much danger of that. Even with her advanced weight, she couldn’t help but feel like the other attendees weren’t exactly trying their hardest to actually lose any weight. Sure Marni made an attempt to touch her toes now and again, but Jodi seemed more content to listen to her podcast on her headphones, while Caroline actually *went into the kitchen to get snacks*. Outside of the pathetic attempts of Robin, who was as red as she was doughy with her tongue lolled out in exhaustion, Penny seemed to be the only one actively *trying* to exercise!

“This is a really beginner friendly group, Penny.” Emily explained with a sagely nod, nibbling on one of the Fish Tacos that Caroline had brought out for everyone to try, “These gals don’t take things too seriously—it’s really more like they get together for fun each week, and a chance to gossip.”

Penny hadn’t done much exercising at all, and she was still drenched in sweat form her forehead to between her giant sloping tits and all the way down to the small of her back. She was so vastly out of shape that she hardly knew how she was going to be able to waddle to the kitchen table! But once Caroline had brought out the Fish Tacos, she knew that she as going to have to power through and find a way to make sure that she could find room for them…

But as bellies pressed hard against the edge of the table, wobbling with mirth at the various preposterous rumors that the overfed gaggle of girthy gals were all too happy to spread after a token thirty minutes of exercise, Penny was somehow overcome with the shadow of doubt that said none of them were going to be able to help her to squeeze anything smaller than a circus tent any time before the year was over…

“There we go girls—what did everyone think of my Fish Taco recipe?” Caroline asked the group, a smile on her chubby face, “Penny, you’ve been awfully quiet?”

Penny gulped nervously.

“I-It’s great, ma’am!” she managed to say, “B-But… shouldn’t we be back out in the living room, exercising?”

The five other women threw their heads back in raucious, rotund laughter, like she had said the funniest thing in the world.

“Oh sweetie, don’t you know that *Aerobics Class* is just code for “get together and gossip”?” Jodi waved dismissively as her thick double chin wobbled, “I would think that someone lusting after that new farmer would have *plenty* to talk about…”

The table erupted in more laughter as Penny’s face grew red and her hands instinctively reached out for more comfort food, travelling slowly to the big pile of tacos laid out for everyone to indulge in…