

WARNER

ELLE?!

ELLE

Hmmm? Oh... migod, Warner! That's so weird, I totally forgot you go here!

WARNER

What are you doing here?

ELLE

I go here.

WARNER

You got in to Harvard?

ELLE

What? Like it's hard?

EMMETT

I think this is yours.

(reading)

Woods, comma, Elle...

ELLE

Is this my social agenda?

EMMETT

No, your academic roster.

ELLE

Right. There's that.

(to WARNER)

Let's totally catch up after class.

EMMETT

Who is she?

WARNER

My ex-girlfriend.

ELLE is about to take a seat in the front row.

VIVIENNE KENSINGTON sees her. If anyone ever personified the tasteful Brooks Brothers blueblood, it's VIVIENNE.

VIVIENNE

All that pink you're wearing. Is that even legal?

ELLE

Pink's my signature color.

ACT ONE, SCENE NINE

A DUMPY TRAILER has appeared. ELLE, with EMMETT by her side, turns to PAULETTE.

ELLE

Paulette, are you ready?

PAULETTE

I don't know, Elle. Dewey scares the crap outta me.

ELLE

And that's okay. Channel that fear and tell yourself you are a strong, independent woman. You **MUST** be reunited with your dog.

EMMETT

Anyone who bakes their dog a birthday cake deserves nothing less.

PAULETTE

(displays cake)

It IS shaped like a bone.

ELLE

And that kind of devotion cannot be ignored.

PAULETTE

It's not easy to find dog-friendly chocolate substitutes.

PAULETTE POUNDS on the trailer door.

Meet DEWEY. He sees PAULETTE, opens the door and stands in the door frame.

DEWEY

Crap, not you again! Paulette, get your fat ass offa my property!

PAULETTE

I wanna see my dog, Dewey! I gotta right! I bet you didn't even know it's his birthday today.

DEWEY

(taunting, sings)

It's your birthday, it's your birthday... Well, you can't see him, Jelly Gut!

DEWEY takes the Bone Cake.

Best decision I ever made? *Throwin' you out!*

DEWEY slams the door.

PAULETTE'S breaking down.

GUARD

Wyndham! You got some visitors!

CALLAHAN exits, leaving BROOKE with ELLE, EMMETT, WARNER, VIVIENNE and ENID.

EMMETT

Hi, Ms. Wyndham. I'm Emmett Forest. I'm co-counsel with Stidwell, Zyskowski, Fox and Callahan. These four interns are the cream of the crop at Harvard Law and we're here to "whip up" your legal defense.

BROOKE is silent, unimpressed.

Incidentally, my mom's a big fan of your DVDs. Credits you with her nutcracker butt. Her words.

Again nothing.

Anywho, we'd love to discuss your case and go over a few choices. We want to free you as soon as possible, so you can bring your message back to your fans.

BROOKE

That's all I want... This should be easy.

EMMETT

Great. Callahan briefed me on your meeting and there is a significant amount of evidence against you. To free you, the jury will need to hear an alibi.

BROOKE

Not gonna happen.

EMMETT

Even though it could save you?

BROOKE

Yep. Put me on the stand and I'll be forced to lie.

WARNER

Okay Ms. Wyndham, if we can't hear an alibi, you should accept a plea bargain.

BROOKE

And admit to something I didn't do?

VIVIENNE

But with a plea bargain, you'd get out in a couple of years. That sounds reasonable, right?

BROOKE

Reasonable to do time for my husband's killer? Not really.

ACT ONE, SCENE SEVEN

ELLE sits in the salon chair at the Hair Affair, a slightly run-down salon.

PAULETTE

Hey there! Welcome to the Hair Affair. You're with Paulette so you're in good hands. I'm sorta like Allstate, but for hair.

ELLE

Make me a brunette.

PAULETTE

What? Brunette? Honey,
(gestures to her hair)

you're a genetic lotto win! Alright, something else is goin' on here. Back up. Paulette's listenin'. Spill.

ELLE

Okay. I'm Elle Woods, and I came all the way out for Harvard Law School —

PAULETTE

That's a good school!

ELLE

I know, right? And, I did it to follow my one true love Warner out here and now he's...
(gagging)

he's dating this evil preppie.

PAULETTE

So what's she got that you don't got? Three boobs?

ELLE

She's

(air quotes)

"serious."

PAULETTE

Seriously, she have three boobs?

ELLE

No, she's a constipated polo shirt with a mousy brown bob. Apparently that's what Warner wants. So, you have to make me a brunette.

PAULETTE

Whoa, whoa, whoa. Do you know the number one reason behind all Bad Hair Decisions?

ACT TWO, SCENE THREE

...THE HAIR AFFAIR, where ELLE gets a manicure from PAULETTE.

PAULETTE

There. Now you're ready for your big trial. You sure you don't want me to paint little gavels on 'em for ya?

ELLE

It's okay, Paulette. That might be a bit too much.

PAULETTE

Classy lawyer pink it is. When the jury people see those nails, they'll know they can trust ya.

ELLE

Which is more than my team is doing. They're all over me to give up Brooke's alibi.

PAULETTE

Including your

(does air quotes)

"friend" Emmett?

ELLE

Well... he IS on the team too...

PAULETTE

Yeah, in more ways than one. I see the way he looks atcha.

ELLE

Paulette, he's just my friend.

PAULETTE

Right. And I could use a friend like that.

PAULETTE suddenly sees KYLE and is instantly mute.

KYLE

I've got a package. For Miss Paulette Buonufonte.

PAULETTE goes limp at the sight of him, but manages to raise a weak hand. Her hand remains in the air as KYLE approaches.

The name's Kyle. This is my new route and the first stop of the day. Kinda cool karma, huh?

ELLE grabs the stylus and signs for the package herself.

Alrighty, then.

KYLE's theme music plays as he starts to exit.

(KYLE)

Do me a favor? You have yourself a super day.

PAULETTE nods awkwardly as KYLE saunters out of the salon.

PAULETTE

God, the new UPS guy's like walking porn.

ELLE

So talk to him already.

PAULETTE

Right. I can't talk to guys like that. I'm not like you... I got nothing to offer.

MUSIC CUE as PAULETTE BENDS over...picks up the package and straightens:
SNAP!

CHORAL MUSIC and LIGHTS reveal the GREEK CHORUS, striking a tableau of awe...

MARGOT ** Jump up **

Oh my god!

PILAR

Did you see that?

SERENA —

She's got the most perfect Bend and Snap I've ever seen!

MARGOT, SERENA, PILAR —

You're a natural! Hi, Paulette!

PAULETTE waves back slowly, freaked.

PAULETTE

I see dead people.

ELLE

No! It's just my Greek Chorus! I'm so psyched you can see them too now! *Walk over excitedly*

PAULETTE

But I haven't had any Jager.

SERENA —

When your Bend and Snap has that much snap, it's been known to alter all laws of physics and logic.

PAULETTE

What are you talking about...Bend and Snap...?

ELLE

(demonstrating)

The Bend...and Snap!

(the GIRLS ad-lib reaction to her Bend and Snap)

It's a move invented by U.C.L.A. cheerleaders to break the will of the opposing team.

(ELLE looks around, cloak and dagger)

But it also has real world applications: the Bend and Snap is 99.99% effective on straight men.

PAULETTE

Yeah, and I've got a great track record with those.

SERENA —

I see the problem here...and it's not physical: it's spiritual. Paulette just needs a little...spirit.

MARGOT

And Serena knows about spirit: she's a U.C.L.A. Cheer Team Leader.

MARGOT, PILAR, SERENA —

Go Bruins!/Alright!/Bruin Power! (etc.)

PAULETTE

Cheerleaders scare me!

SERENA

Paul-Ette. Do you know why cheerleaders get the guy and keep the guy?

PAULETTE

Because you jump around showin' your panties?

SERENA —

Yes. And because we demand and command attention.

PILAR

For real. You must become the cheerleader you fear.

SERENA —

You've got the pompoms. It's time to shake 'em.

READY? OK-AY!