

DINAH AND CASSIE

(OPEN ON DINAH ENTERING TO SEE CASSIE AT HER DESK, WORKING. SHE ENTERS. CASSIE LOOKS UP.)

DINAH

What lucky timing. You're just the person I'm looking for.

CASSIE

(LOOKING BEHIND HER) You're talking to me?

DINAH

Who else?

CASSIE

No offense, but I'm not really in the mood today. I just want to get my work done and get out of here.

DINAH

Oh, I won't keep you.

CASSIE

And Hart's not here, if that's what this is all about.

DINAH

No. Well, in a way, it is about Hart. But not the way you think.

CASSIE

You have no idea what I think.

DINAH

Actually, Cassie, I'm here to invite you to a party.

CASSIE

Me?

DINAH

Nothing fancy. Just a casual little surprise party for Hart. His birthday's next week, and I'm throwing him a small get-together at his farm next Friday night. I hope you'll join us.

CASSIE

(STUNNED...LONG PAUSE) We both know you can't stand me, Dinah. Why on earth would you want me there?

DINAH

You're absolutely right. I couldn't care less if I ever saw you again but for some reason, Hart likes you and it's his birthday.

CASSIE

Gee, Martha Stewart better watch out. I don't know if I've ever received such a gracious invitation.

Cassie & Dinah

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DINAH

All I know is, Hart considers you a friend. And I love Hart. I want to make him happy. So, I'm inviting you to his birthday party. Yes or no?

CASSIE

I'm sorry, but I won't be able to make it.

DINAH

Don't tell me you have something better to do next Friday night?

CASSIE

Yes, I do.

DINAH

What?

CASSIE

Wash my hair.

DINAH

Fine. Be that way. I was just trying to be a nice, mature person. It's too bad you can't do the same.

CASSIE

I've got some work to do, Dinah, so if you'll excuse me.

Dinah & Cassie

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DINAH

Lemme ask you something, Cassie. If you and Hart are such good pals, why are you afraid to come celebrate his birthday? I mean, some friend –

CASSIE

I am his friend.

DINAH

Then prove it. Or, do you think it'll be too painful to see Hart happy with the woman he truly loves?

CASSIE

Don't be ridiculous.

DINAH

Then why are you too scared to show your face at this party?

I'm not.

CASSIE

Then come.

DINAH

Okay! Fine, I'll come!

CASSIE

Okay!

DINAH

end