

\*Revised 3/24

Coco

MARGARET ENTERS FROM THE KITCHEN WITH COCO.

start →

MARGARET

Sc. 1

Did you prepare it as I asked?

COCO

Yes.

MARGARET

With the ingredients I provided?

COCO

Yes. I made the cake. It's not like I was smashing atoms together, or teaching Kanye to sing. It was a cake. I did it. It's done. Now unless there's something else (DOES A MOCK BOW) Your Royal Heinous desires, I'm going to my room, cracking open a little Alize Gold, and watching Deadliest Catch. I'm two episodes behind and I already missed three heart attacks and eleven head injuries.

MARGARET

Sounds like a miserable evening.

Enjoy. (THEN) Goodbye, Benjamin.

MARGARET EXITS INTO THE ELEVATOR.

BEN

She is not a nice lady!

Me and Mean Margaret

1/6

COCO

Dude, she's not even a lady. She's just, like, a bag of bitterness held together with spite and Percocet.

(THEN) Percocet...

COCO SMILES, LIKING THE IDEA.

BEN

Wait! "Coco," right? Hi, I'm Ben. Ms. Manley's new... handler, I guess.

COCO

Cool. Well, here's little tip for you, Ben: if you're going to be "handling her", you might want to find yourself a drum of chloroform and a tranquilizer gun. Or you know what? Any gun'll do. What I'm saying is: I want you to shoot her. (BRIGHTLY) See ya!

BEN

Wait! Just tell me where she's going. Please.

COCO

(RELENTING) The Carlyle.

BEN

Thank you! (THEN) Come with me.

2/16

COCO

Hmm. Spend even more time with her, ya say? I've got to think about that one.

("STRUGGLING") Um, er, ah, mm -- no.

BEN

I'm buying.

NOW SHE'S INTERESTED.

COCO

Let's hit it!

\* \* \* \* \* END \* \* \* \* \*

BEN AND COCO APPROACH MARGARET, SITTING HAVING A DRINK.

Start →

BEN

Sc. 2

Hello, Margaret.

MARGARET

Hello, Benjamin. Coco, nice to see you out. And I love the ensemble. Did you have to chase the meth addict far to get it?

COCO

(MOCK LAUGHS) Ms. Manley, you still got it. Too bad no one wants to see it.

MARGARET

Sit. Join me.

BEN AND COCO JOIN HER.

3/6

BEN

It's nice here. I've never been.

MARGARET

The Carlyle is the epitome of New York. Every first meeting I ever had with a director, I had right here in this very room.

COCO

And every second meeting she had, she had in the bathroom stall just outside this very room.

MARGARET

Oh, Coco. With that wit and personality, you're only lacking in wit and personality.

COCO

Careful. Your original face is showing.

BEN

Man, you must be an amazing cook if she lets you talk to her like that.

MARGARET

Coco's not my cook. She's my granddaughter.

BEN

Your granddaughter?! So--

4/6

COCO

My mom's Chinese (OR JAPANESE/INDIAN/ETC).  
Dad has an Asian fetish. The more exotic  
the better. His last girlfriend had that  
surgery to look like a cat. She was a  
mess. And she ruined all the furniture.  
(TO MARGARET, LOUDLY) We're talking about  
father. (TO BEN) Poor dear. She's fading  
fast. (TO MARGARET, LOUD) Do you need a  
change? Down there?

SHE SIPS HER DRINK, SMILES AT MARGARET.

\* \* \* \* \* END \* \* \* \* \*

WE'RE OUTSIDE THE WEDDING FUNCTION ROOM OF THE CARLYLE  
HOTEL AS BEN AND COCO RUSH IN AND PEEK INSIDE THE DOORS.

start →

BEN

Sc.3

(SOTTO) They're doing the vows.

(NOTICING) And there's the cake!

COCO

They've got it turned around. The  
rosettes go in the front! We need to  
get it facing the right way.

BEN

Yes! And that's exactly why we're  
here: to make sure the cake is  
properly displayed before they eat it  
and run naked down Madison Avenue!

5/6

COCO

Wild guess, but... you've never gotten high, have you? (THEN) You wanna?

BEN

What are you doing here, Coco? This is your fault, too, you know.

THIS TOUCHES A NERVE FOR COCO. SHE BREAKS, SUDDENLY VULNERABLE.

COCO

I know! But I'm not like that. You have to believe me. I'm a really nice person. I just... I think I've been around her so long her awfulness has rubbed off. And not in a good way.

BEN

So move out.

COCO

And go where? I'm not like you. I don't have a ten-year plan all mapped out on my vision board. Career. Apartment. Marriage. Dentist.

BEN

You don't have a dentist?

COCO

(NO) Yes.

\* \* \* \* \* END \* \* \* \* \*

W/C