

FIRST DRAFT

Today's Date

(Based on, If Any)

Revisions by
(Names of Subsequent Writers,
in Order of Work Performed)

Current Revisions by
(Current Writer, date)

Registered: #####

JUST SHOOT ME

"One Step Forward, Twelve Steps Back"

TEASER

INT. BLUSH MAGAZINE MAIN OFFICE- MORNING
(Dennis, Elliott)

DENNIS
Hey look it's Fifi. I think I'll
mosey on over and say hello.

ELLIOT
Dennis, I don't think she's
interested.

DENNIS
Oh really? Then how do you explain
that love note she sent me?

ELLIOT
(PUZZLED) Love note? The restraining
order?

DENNIS
Technically. But if she's not
interested, then how come she dotted
her i's with little hearts?

ELLIOT
I don't know. I think that's the only
correct legal spelling of Fifi.

DENNIS
Stand back, I'm going in.

ELLIOT
Just remember you can't come within
300 feet...

DENNIS
Dude, I think by now I know all the
rules, OK? (YELLS ACROSS ROOM) Hey,
Fifi, baby where have you been?

ACT ONE

A

FADE IN:

INT. BLUSH MAGAZINE MAIN OFFICE- CONTINUOUS
(Jack, Maya, Dennis, Elliot)

EVERYONE SITS AROUND THE TABLE FOR THE MORNING MEETING

JACK

Everyone, I have wonderful news!

DENNIS

We're finally merging with Victoria's
Secret?

JACK

No. (A BEAT) Maya has been nominated
for a Fashion Plate!

ELLIOT

That's great!

MAYA

Wait a minute. What's a Fashion
Plate?

ELLIOT

The Society of Fashion Magazines holds
an annual dinner called the Fashion
Plates.

JACK

Get it? An award dinner? Fashion
plate? You eat off of a plate...

MAYA
Yeah I get it. So they give you a
plate?

DENNIS
No, Elly Mae they give you a statue.
Imagine an Oscar but it wears a
little black dress. Just picture Phil
in accounting.

JACK
You were nominated for best hard news
story for your piece on bulimia among
runway models.

ELLIOT
Remember? Nina did the Pros, you did
the Cons?

MAYA
This is great! It's nice to see that
this industry took the time to
recognize hard news as a category.

JACK
You have some stiff competition.

MAYA
Like what? "The Search for the
Ultimate Female Orgasm?"

JACK
Maya don't be silly. (A BEAT) No one
wins 3 years in a row. Here.

JACK HANDS MAYA A SHEET OF PAPER.

MAYA
(READING) "It's Never Too Soon For
Implants", "No Clump Mascara: Do We
Dare Dream?", and... "The Search for
the Ultimate Female Orgasm!"

ELLIOT
Yeah, but like Jack says, nobody wins
three years in a row.

NINA ENTERS. SHE LOOKS HUNGOVER.

NINA
Sorry I'm late. I had dinner at The
Wharf last night and I think I have a
touch of food poisoning.

DENNIS
Nina, you know your system's not used
to food.

NINA
Once again, the shrimp doesn't agree
with me.

ELLIOT
Nina, Maya's been nominated for a
Fashion Plate Award. Isn't that
great?

NINA
What about me? It's not fair. I'm
just ahead of my time, that's all.

ELLIOT
That's right. The world just isn't
ready for "Mood Clothing".

MAYA
What's "Mood Clothing?"

ELLIOT
Nina invented a line of clothing that
changed colors with your mood. It
would be black if you were angry, red
if you were happy...

MAYA
That sounds cool.

DENNIS
Yeah it would have been cool, but
Madame Curie decided they should turn
transparent when you get aroused.

MAYA
Oh.

DENNIS
Yeah, I went to show my mood pants to
this hot waitress, and now I'm banned
from every Chuck E. Cheese on the
planet.

MAYA
Hey, "The Search for the Ultimate
Female Orgasm" is by Alice Switzer.
We went to school together.

JACK

That's great, an old school chum!

MAYA

I didn't really know her that well. One time I saw her come out of our professor's office. Her hair was a mess, her skirt was all crooked, and her top was misbuttoned.

DENNIS

(INTERESTED) Really.

MAYA

Yeah, I know it was only his office hours, but you would think she would have put herself together a little better. You know, to make a good impression.

NINA

Maya, darling. Did she get an A?

MAYA

Yeah and I always thought that was so weird. I mean she hardly even came to class.

NINA

Well then believe me she made a good impression.

DENNIS

Yeah, in the professor's couch.

MAYA
Do you guys really think so? She
received the Prescott Medal! It came
down to me and her. She won by
sleeping her way to the top.

MAYA LOOKS DEJECTED. EVERYONE ELSE LOOKS AT NINA.

NINA
What's everyone looking at me for? I
only slept my way to... somewhere near
the middle. (A BEAT) I walked from
there.

MAYA
Well this time it's going to be
different. This time the award will
go to the best journalist. I mean how
could she sleep with the entire
nominating committee.

EVERYONE LOOKS AT ELLIOT

ELLIOT
What's everyone looking at me for?
Like I can really speak for the rest
of the nominating committee.

MAYA
Elliot, you're on the nominating
committee and you slept with her?

DENNIS
I thought you only slept with models?
How about leaving something for the
rest of us?

NINA
Relax, Finch all of your girls are
safe from Elliot. Unlike you, he
can't fit on that tiny trolley to the
Land of Make Believe.

MAYA
(PRESSING) Elliot?

ELLIOT
(EXASPERATED) She said it was
research for her article. You guys
know how much I love science!

DENNIS
Are you mentioned in the article?

ELLIOT
(BORED) I don't know I just glanced at
it when it came out. (A BEAT)
(GIGGLES) I think I'm subject 29.

DENNIS
(EXCITED) Page 88?

ELLIOT
(EXCITED) Second paragraph!

DENNIS
You the man!

DENNIS AND ELLIOT HIGH FIVE

MAYA

I don't care anyway. It's stupid. A journalism award from a fashion magazine is like a "best buns" award from "The Economist". They wouldn't know it if they saw it.

JACK

Don't be so sure. I know some of those guys at "The Economist". They have an eye for the ladies.

MAYA

(TO ELLIOT) Do I have your vote, or are you just going to vote for who you've slept with?

JACK

(ANGRY) Maya! That's absurd.

ELLIOT

Thank-you Jack.

JACK

Elliot slept with every nominee in the supermodel category. He can't possibly vote for all of them.

MAYA

Well I'm going to do some digging. Maybe Alice made a flaw in her research that will invalidate her study. You know, like cold fusion?

NINA

Boy, I remember Cold Fusion.

Especially that drummer...

DENNIS

(SCREAMS) Avert your eyes! She's

wearing the Mood blouse!

CUT TO:

ACT ONEB

MAGAZINE COVER INSERT- DECADENT DESSERTS: THEY'LL CLAMOR FOR SECONDS

INT. BLUSH MAGAZINE BULLPEN COFFEE AREA-LATER THAT DAY
(Maya, Nina, Dennis, Elliot)

ELLIOT

(TO NINA) I'm sorry you didn't get
nominated for a Fashion Plate.

NINA

That's OK. I have a little excitement
of my own. I just checked my voice
mail and it looks like I have a second
date tonight.

DENNIS

Nina has a second date? Isn't that
one of the signs of the Apocalypse?

NINA

(TO FINCH) You never have a second
date either because you're too lazy to
reinflate them.

MAYA

So tell us about this guy.

NINA
He seems very nice, but he kept
commenting on my drinking.

ELLIOT
How much did you have?

NINA
I had one glass of wine.

MAYA
That's not very much.

NINA
I know. I mean I'll admit they were
constantly refilling it, but it was
still just the one glass.

MAYA
Well it didn't bother him too much.
He still called you.

NINA
Yes, he said he had something special
planned for tonight.

DENNIS
Alright Nina! Sounds like someone's
getting cab fare!

NINA
Oh stop it. I hate when you get my
hopes up for nothing.

CUT TO:

ACT ONEC

MAGAZINE COVER INSERT- FASHION TIPS: MAKE A BOLD STATEMENT

INT. CHURCH-THAT NIGHT

(Nina,Dicky,assorted alcoholics in recovery)

THE ALCOHOLICS STAND AROUND BEFORE THE MEETING STARTS
DRINKING COFFEE. NINA IS WITH HER "FRIEND" DICKY.

DICKY

Nina, I'm glad you could come.

NINA

Why not? When we pulled into the
church parking lot I was like, "oh
great, another attempted exorcism."
But this looks like fun.

DICKY

(SMILES) This is your first AA
meeting isn't it?

NINA

Yes, so I have to warn you. I'm a
city girl so I don't know a lot about
cars.

DICKY
That's not really what we're about.
Just listen for awhile, and if you
think you're up to it, I was sort of
hoping you might speak tonight.

NINA
I'm not good in front of a group. I'm
good as part of a group...

DICKY
It's easy. First, you get up behind
the podium and say, "hello, my name is
Nina." No last names.

NINA
That's a rule I live by.

DICKY
Then you tell the group how long
you've been sober.

NINA CASUALLY BLOWS INTO HER HAND AND SMELLS HER BREATH.

NINA
Gee, maybe I'm not your best bet for
going first.

DICKY
Finally, you talk about some of your
experiences with alcohol.

NINA
Now that I can do.

DICKY
(BRIGHTENS) Really?

NINA
(SMILES) Just watch me.

A MAN IN A CARDIGAN, JERRY WALKS BEHIND THE PODIUM.

JERRY
OK people let's get started.

EVERYONE SHUFFLES TO THEIR SEATS. NINA IS IN FRONT.

JERRY (CONT'D)
Who'd like to start?

THE FIRST HAND UP IS NINA'S. SHE WAVES AND SMILES.

NINA
(SOFTLY, HOPEFUL) Oh me. Pick me.

JERRY
Great! A new member, come on up.

NINA SCAMPERS UP TO THE PODIUM.

NINA
(BRIGHTLY) Thanks Councilman Parker.
Whoops, I mean "Jerry".
Hello, my name is Nina. I've been
sober for...

NINA TAPS HER WATCH TO SEE IF IT'S STILL WORKING.

NINA (CONT'D)
Well anywho. (SERIOUS TONE) I'm not
here to talk about me, I'm here to
talk about my friend, alcohol.
(SUDDENLY ANIMATED) One time me and
Binnie got a hold of a case of 20 year
old scotch. We were on our way to an
(MORE)

NINA(CONT'D)
embassy party when this gang of bikers
roars up...

DICKY SINKS INTO HIS SEAT AS WE...

CUT TO:

ACT ONE

D

MAGAZINE COVER INSERT- SECRETS TO IMPROVING YOUR
RELATIONSHIPS

INT. BLUSH MAGAZINE JACK'S OFFICE- THE NEXT DAY
(Maya, Jack)

MAYA ENTERS JACK'S OFFICE WITH A SHEAF OF PAPERS

JACK
Any luck finding a flaw in Alice's
orgasm research?

MAYA
(DEJECTED) No. It's actually a great
article. A good sample, a control
group, she even has signed affidavits.

MAYA SHOWS JACK WHO SCANS THE LIST

JACK
Wow. She'll be tough to beat. She
did sleep with the whole nominating
committee, and most of the Knicks, oh
Leonardo DiCaprio! He's a hunk.

MAYA
At least now we know where he was on
Oscar night.

JACK
You know if you'd like, I can make a few calls. The nominating committee doesn't pass in their ballots until tonight

MAYA
What, you want to pull some strings? Call in some favors?

JACK
You think Ivanka Trump hosts Miss America because she was just the right combination of cross-eyed and chunky?

MAYA
Dad, I want to win on my own, not just as Jack Gallo's little girl.

JACK
Maya, I admire that. In fact, it's the first thing I'm going to say when I make those calls.

MAYA
Dad! Don't make any calls.

JACK
OK, OK I promise.

MAYA
But maybe I can make some calls of my own? Just to plead my case.

JACK

Maya, you don't really know anybody. You find fashion shows dull, you don't go to industry parties. (A BEAT) Except that one time, and you did make an impression.

MAYA

That wasn't my fault. I had a bad cold and I couldn't taste anything. I thought I was eating Nina's soup. Who orders a bowl of Scotch? (A BEAT) I shouldn't even go.

JACK

Maya, I didn't raise a quitter. Where would Tori Spelling be if she quit when things got rough?

MAYA

(DELIBERATELY) Exactly where she is now.

JACK

OK, bad example. (ASIDE) But boy she's a gutsy artist. (A BEAT) Maya, I'm going to make some calls.

MAYA

Dad...

JACK
I'm just going to dial. Then the
phone is yours. It's time the fashion
world met you.

MAYA
(UPSET) Why, because I'm Jack Gallo's
little girl?

JACK
No. Because you're Maya Gallo, and
she's an excellent writer who deserves
to win on her own merits.

MAYA
That's all I'm asking for.

JACK
Good. This first guy is Bill Morris.
Bring up the fact that he still owes
me twenty grand.

MAYA
Dad, I'm not going to use your
relationships.

JACK
You're right. Did I mention he has a
mistress in Newark?

CUT TO:

ACT ONEE

INT. BLUSH MAGAZINE MAIN OFFICE-CONTINUOUS
(FINCH, NINA, ELLIOT)

JACK AND MAYA ENTER FROM JACK'S OFFICE. NINA IS WALKING THROUGH THE OFFICE BUT SHE STOPS EVERY TEN FEET AND WALKS SOME MORE. SHE LOOKS FRUSTRATED.

DENNIS

Nina, I told you; if you want to chew gum, wait until you sit down.

NINA

Great now you made me lose my place. I'm on this twelve step program to a new life. I've been taking twelve steps all morning and I don't feel any different.

ELLIOT

Nina, are you sure these twelve steps are not on some kind of list?

NINA

I have one of those, too. That's even harder. I'm only up to number four.

NINA REACHES INTO HER PURSE AND TAKES OUT A FOLDED PIECE OF PAPER. AS SHE STARTS TO UNFOLD IT SHE REACHES BACK INTO HER

PURSE AND TAKES OUT A FLASK. SHE TAKES A SIP AND PUTS IT BACK. SHE CLEARS HER THROAT.

NINA (CONT'D)

"Make a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves."

DENNIS

You're making a moral inventory?
That'll take about a minute?

NINA

(LOOKS AT LIST, THEN AT FINCH) In number seven, when I humbly ask Him to remove my shortcomings; you'll be the first to go.

ELLIOT

Nina, all this twelve step stuff, it sounds like you joined AA?

NINA

Yes, and let me tell you something. When I joined no one told me there would be so much math. (A BEAT) It's really a fun group even though they tell a lot of "Woe is me" stories. But I'll loosen them up tonight at my preparty.

DENNIS

Well, you are the queen of loose.

ELLIOT

Nina, I don't think those guys are supposed to drink.

NINA

They won't have to, I'll have food:
rum cake, Jello shots, my "special"
brownies.

ELLIOT

Nina will there be anything there
without alcohol in it?

NINA

I don't know, certainly not me. See
you at the Fashion Plate Awards.

DENNIS

Who are you bringing, one of your boy
toys? Do you really want to sit at
the kids' table again?

NINA

Actually, my AA sponsor Dicky is
taking me to the Fashion Plate Awards.

DENNIS

What magazine is he with, Boozeweek?

NINA

He happens to be the Master of
Ceremonies.

NINA EXITS TO HER OFFICE, TWELVE STEPS AT A TIME. MAYA
ENTERS FROM JACK'S OFFICE.

ELLIOT

You look pleased with yourself.

MAYA
I think I'm going to win that stupid
award.

DENNIS
Stupid award? Not if you're up
against Nina.

ELLIOT
Just how do you propose to do that?

MAYA
I'm using my charm and personality for
a little last minute lobbying.

DENNIS
This isn't like running for class
President? My advice: cleavage.

MAYA
(TO ELLIOT) Do you agree?

ELLIOT
No. I'm sure you can appeal to their
minds...

MAYA
But...

ELLIOT
Do you still have that red strapless
number?

MAYA
(ANGRY) Thanks for all the support.

MAYA STOMPS OFF AND EXITS TO THE ELEVATORS.

DENNIS

More support than she gets from that
red strapless number.

ELLIOT

She still thinks it's a stupid award.
I called in every favor I had just to
get her on the ballot.

DENNIS

Why'd you bother?

ELLIOT

Maya is a very talented writer and she
deserved it. If she got out more I'm
sure someone else would have nominated
her. She's just not a party person.

DENNIS

Oh yeah, remember that one time...

ELLIOT

That doesn't count. She drank Nina's
soup.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWOE

MAGAZINE COVER INSERT- PARTY TIME: WHEN YOU JUST CAN'T KEEP IT DOWN!

INT. HALL OF FASHION PLATES- THAT NIGHT
(MAYA, CORBEL, DENNIS)

MAYA IS IN HER RED STRAPLESS DRESS. NEXT TO CORBEL. MAYA LOOKS A LITTLE GREEN.

MAYA
Hi, I'm Maya Gallo.

CORBEL
(BUBBLY) I'm Corbel. I'm a nominee.

MAYA
Me too. I'm nominated for best hard news story.

CORBEL
(POINTS TO HERSELF) Best superhero.

MAYA
(PUZZLED) Really? Are you sure you don't mean super model?

CORBEL
(STUNNED REALIZATION) You're right!
(A BEAT) I could have been killed foiling that bank robbery.

DENNIS WALKS OVER CASUALLY, ALMOST COOL.

DENNIS
Maya, you're a vision in scarlet!

MAYA
Corbel, this is my friend Dennis.

DENNIS
(WINKS) Hey doll, what's shaking?

CORBEL SMILES WEAKLY, A LITTLE WARY

DENNIS (CONT'D)
(TO MAYA) How goes the lobbying? Do you think you're going to take home a Fashion Plate award?

MAYA
No one I spoke to will commit. I think a lot of them are still voting for Alice's article.

DENNIS
Just because she slept with them.
(STARES AT CORBEL'S CHEST) People can be so shallow.

MAYA
Honestly, isn't bulimia more important than "The Search for the Ultimate Female Orgasm?"

DENNIS
(SUAVE) I don't know, I know how I'd rather spend my Saturday.

MAYA
(FROWNS) Right. Before or after you
play with your dolls?

DENNIS
(SNAPS AT MAYA) Action figures!
(LAUGHS, COOL) I mean, what are you
talking about?

CORBEL
(SIGHS) I hope I get a Finchy.

MAYA
They call the award a "Finchy"?

CORBEL
I know. It's the Fashion Plate
Awards, they should call it...the
Fascist. One winner says it's the
same size as this guy Finch in her
office, and the name just stuck.

MAYA
You don't say...

DENNIS
(STANDS UP REALLY STRAIGHT) Yes, an
amusing urban legend. (A BEAT) Maya,
maybe it's just the company, but you
don't look too good.

MAYA
I went to the Wharf for cocktails and
I think I have food poisoning.

DENNIS
Isn't that where Nina got sick?

MAYA
Yeah but I thought she was kidding.
You know, about eating food?

CORBEL
(TO MAYA) So who nominated you?

MAYA
I don't know. Isn't that a secret?

DENNIS
No, just the vote is secret. Elliot
Demoro nominated Maya.

THIS REVELATION SHOCKS MAYA

CORBEL
(TO MAYA) Really? I slept with him,
too!

MAYA
(STILL IN SHOCK) Yeah. What? No!

CORBEL
I sleep with lots of guys, but he was
one of the few who was really on the
nominating committee.

DENNIS
You know, I'm the chairman of...

MAYA
(TO DENNIS, CUTS HIM OFF) Did Elliot
really nominate me?

DENNIS
(CONDESCENDING) Did you know anyone
else on the committee before today?
He went out of his way for you...

MAYA
...and I kept telling him it was a
stupid award. I feel terrible. I
think I'm going to be sick.

DENNIS
Relax, Elliot won't hold a grudge.

MAYA
No, I mean I feel terrible, I think
I'm going to be sick!

MAYA GRIMACES, HOLDS HER STOMACH, AND EXITS.

CORBEL
Do you think I should go with her?

DENNIS
Oh, she'll be fine, baby.

CORBEL
You're right. Besides, I threw up
before I came, so I can wait to do it
again until after dinner. Bye!

CORBEL EXITS

DENNIS
(YELLS AFTER HER) OK, so we'll catch
up later! (PSYCHING HIMSELF UP) Talk
about needy!

CUT TO:

ACT TWO

G

MAGAZINE COVER INSERT- SHAKE UP YOUR MATE AND CLIMB ON TOP

INT. HALL OF FASHION PLATES, ELSEWHERE- A LITTLE LATER
(Dennis, Jack, Maya, Cindy, Alice)

JACK AND CINDY SHMOOZE.

JACK
My daughter was nominated for an
article on bulimia.

CINDY
Well there's a girl here she should
meet. I was just powdering my nose...

JACK
Oh look there she is! Maya!

MAYA ENTERS. CINDY LOOKS SHOCKED TO SEE HER.

JACK (CONT'D)
Maya, this is Cindy Moutafis she runs
the Fashion Plates, Cindy this is...

MAYA
Oh hi, we just sort of met in the
lady's room but I didn't get your
name. Hey, thanks for holding my hair
back.

CINDY
(WEAKLY) It was nothing.

MAYA
Dad! You didn't tell me Sir Richard
Prescott was the M.C.

JACK
I didn't know. Normally we get stuck
with Melissa Rivers.

MAYA
Dad! He's the man they named the
Prescott Award after. Don't you see?
Me, Alice and Prescott all over again.
I think it's a sign.

JACK
Prescott left.

MAYA
What!

JACK
Yeah, he showed up three sheets to the
wind so they had to send him home.
But guess what? They asked me to take
his place! See you on the stage!

JACK AND CINDY EXIT. ALICE ENTERS.

ALICE
Hello, Maya.

MAYA
Alice Switzer.

ALICE
I hear you've been doing some last
minute lobbying for the Finchy?

MAYA
Yeah, and it's not as easy when you
keep your clothes on.

ALICE
What are you implying?

MAYA
I'm not implying anything. I'm saying
that when I finish an article, only my
fingers hurt.

ALICE
Oh you're still so self righteous.
Don't you see that the system failed
me?

MAYA
What?

ALICE
You left college with an education.
I'm like a star athlete who gets
passed along without doing any
work, just so it won't interfere with
her extracurricular activities.

MAYA
Maybe you should have turned pro.

ALICE
Hey! I'm using what I've got. You're
just jealous because I'm going to beat
you again and this time I deserve it.

DENNIS WALKS OVER.

DENNIS
Maya, you're a vision in scarlet.

MAYA
Not now Dennis.

DENNIS
(TO ALICE) Hey, I know you!

ALICE
(PUZZLED) I don't think so.

DENNIS
Yeah! We met at Elton John's party!
We were both so loaded. Remember, I
told you I was Leonardo DiCaprio?

ALICE
Oh my God!

DENNIS
Man that whole night is a blur. But I
do remember signing your autograph
book, right after Patrick Ewing.
(DENNIS LOOKS PAST HER) Hey, I have
to go, I see a friend of mine.
(YELLS) Fifi! Wait up!

MAYA
(SMUG) Well, I suppose you'll be
withdrawing your name, now?

ALICE
What do you mean?

MAYA
You included Dennis Finch in an orgasm
study! That's like including Marilyn
Manson in a study on family values!

ALICE
All right, I'll withdraw. (A BEAT)
But you can see I'm not a well person.

ALICE HURRIES OFF

MAYA
Then get some help.

A WAITER OFFERS MAYA A GLASS OF CHAMPAGNE.

MAYA (CONT'D)
Oh, no thank-you. Oh hell why not,
(SHOUTING) I'm king of the world!

CUT TO:

ACT TWOH

INT. HALL OF FASHION PLATES- A LITTLE LATER
(Maya, Elliot, Jack, Nina, Dennis)

MAYA IS SEATED NEXT TO DENNIS AND NINA AT A TABLE. THE ACTION CUTS BETWEEN THEM AND JACK WHO IS AT THE PODIUM. ELLIOT WALKS OVER AND TAKES THE EMPTY SEAT NEXT TO MAYA.

ELLIOT
Sorry I'm late, I was congratulating Corbel on winning, "Best Supermodel"

NINA
What was the deal with that outfit?

ELLIOT
You mean the red cape? (SHRUGS)

MAYA
Elliot, I'm so glad you're here I thought you were going to miss my category.

ELLIOT
So what? It's just a stupid award.

A WAITER ENTERS WITH A BOWL OF SOUP FOR MAYA.

MAYA
I didn't order...

NINA
(MOTIONING WITH A STRAW) Yoo-hoo!

That's for me.

THE WAITER PICKS UP THE BOWL PLACES IT IN FRONT OF NINA AND
THE WAITER EXITS.

MAYA
Elliot, I'm sorry about what I said.
Look you're the first person I thanked
in my speech!

HANDS ELLIOT A TYPED SPEECH

ELLIOT
Maya you penciled me in. That's not
even pencil, it's eyebrow pencil!
What did you do add me in the ladies
room? What's spattered on this...

ELLIOT SMELLS IT AND RECOILS VIOLENTLY.

MAYA
Give me that.

ELLIOT
You still think it's a stupid award,
in a silly industry.

ON STAGE JACK HOLDS UP AN ENVELOPE

JACK
All right folks. Now here's the
moment I've been waiting for. The
winner of the best hard news story
is...

JACK SMILES AT MAYA WHILE HE OPENS THE ENVELOPE. MAYA SMILES
BACK.

JACK
(BRIEF LOOK OF DISAPPOINTMENT) "It's
Never Too Early For Implants" by Miss
Rachel Winters.

EVERYONE APPLAUDS MAYA LOOKS DISAPPOINTED. AN AVERAGE
LOOKING WOMAN RACHEL APPROACHES THE PODIUM.

RACHEL
I want to thank everyone for this
wonderful award...

MAYA
(ASIDE TO ELLIOT) Two words with
three syllables, not bad.

RACHEL
When I first had my mastectomy, my
self esteem went through the floor. I
felt like part of me was gone, and not
just physically. I didn't know where
to go for information on
reconstructive surgery, or how long I
needed to wait. I hope my article
helped models, actresses, and regular
women like myself who battled cancer,
and want just wanted to feel whole
again. Thank-you.

THE AUDIENCE APPLAUDS AND RACHEL EXITS.

ELLIOT
I'm sorry, what were you saying.

MAYA

I'm so embarrassed. How arrogant of me to think I was the only person tackling real issues.

ELLIOT

Do you still think Fashion Magazines are silly?

MAYA

Of course, but they're a great forum to reach women and talk about the issues that shape their lives.

I owe you an apology, Elliott. Thanks for the nomination. I feel honored to be mentioned alongside women like Rachel Winters.

DENNIS

Well wait until you meet the girl who wrote "No Clump Mascara". She's a hottie. (TO NINA) Hey where's your date? I thought he was hosting this shindig?

NINA

Oh he was detoxed, (QUICKLY COVERING)detained! He was detained.

BACK ON STAGE, JACK HAS MOVED ON.

JACK

Our next category is best new hairstyle...

DENNIS
(CROSSES FINGERS, CHANTING) Blunt cut,
blunt cut...

DICKY ENTERS ON TO THE STAGE FROM BEHIND JACK. HE IS WILD
EYED AND DISHEVELED.

JACK
Wait a minute, you're not Christof.

DENNIS
Yes! Blunt cut!

DICKY
(SLURRING) My name is Sir Richard
Winston and I'll be your Master of
Ceremonies...

JACK
No way, Jack Gallo, I'm Master of
Ceremonies!

DICKY
Oh yeah? Watch me make Gallo whine.

JACK AND DICKY START TO TUSSLE. SECURITY COMES IN

DENNIS
(CLAPPING) Ooh Liquor jokes. Nice
going, rummy.

MAYA
Dad!

CUT TO:

ACT TWOI

INT. HALL OF FASHION PLATES- THE END OF THE NIGHT
(Maya, Elliot, Nina, Jack, Dennis)

THE STAFF CLEANS UP AS EVERYONE WALKS OUT. ELLIOT HAS HIS ARM AROUND MAYA AND JACK HAS HIS ARM AROUND DENNIS. JACK LOOKS A LITTLE RAGGED, BUT HAPPY.

ELLIOT
Well, Maya. What did you think of
your first Fashion Plates?

MAYA
Well they certainly aren't dull.

JACK
Honey, I'm sorry you didn't win.

MAYA
That's OK. I'll get them next year.
I've got some good ideas, (LOOKS AT
ELLIOT) and a friend or two on the
nominating committee.

ELLIOT
Well that really depends who I'm
sleeping with.

JACK
Hey, there's that Sir Richard fella.
(TO FINCH) Do you think I should get
in a few more licks?

DENNIS
Well let's see, he is handcuffed and
being held by two policemen. I'd say
it's a pretty fair fight.

JACK
Boy I really showed him what kind of
man Jack Gallo is didn't I?

DENNIS
Yeah I don't know which part I liked
best, when you bit him or when you
pulled his hair.

NINA
I better go say goodbye to him.

ELLIOT, MAYA, JACK AND DENNIS EXIT. NINA APPROACHES DICKY
AND TWO POLICEMEN.

NINA (CONT'D)
Unlike Jack Gallo, I hate to kick a
man when he's down. But Dicky, we're
through. You have an alcohol problem.
They have organizations for people
like you. Find one, and get some
help.

CUT TO:

TAG

INT. CHURCH-LATER

(ALICE, FRANK, JERRY, ATMOSPHERE)

ALICE

Hello, my name is Alice and I'm a sex
addict. It's been six weeks since
I've had sex, and this group has
helped me a lot.

WE SHOW THE ROOM APPLAUDING AND IT IS ALL OF THE MEMBERS OF
THE AA MEETING

FRANK

We should really tell her that the sex
addicts meet on Wednesdays, it's AA
that meets on Thursdays.

JERRY

I know but she tells the best stories.

FADE OUT.

THE END