

COUNTERFEIT CONTESSA 2-1 (GL)

SHE

Oh my God! Is your brother here with you?

HE

No.

SHE

Don't look so amazed.

HE

Sorry. I like this look on you. I like it better actually. [pause] So, Contesssa, I just love what you've done with the palace. The warm tones of the pickled sweet breads play beautifully off the otherwise cool reds of the imported salamis, it all screams grandeur.

SHE

Thanks. Hey, you know, we have some of the world's finest chocolates, only here we charge for them. I'll have the guards check your pockets on the way out.

HE

I only steal from my relatives.

SHE

Did you tell Sinclair?

HE

I was going to but I fell asleep during a heated discussion on escrow.

SHE

Couldn't you just clam up until after the party?

HE

Yeah, I could, but I hate to see my brother hurt. Beneath that boring lawyer's exterior beats a heart of blood and muscle.

SHE

Well, this is important to me.

## COUNTERFEIT CONTESSA 2-2

HE

And to Sinclair. I know exactly how he feels. What man could possibly resist a woman who tosses back Dom Perrignon at night and sells it by the case the next day?

SHE

He really liked me? Tell me all about him - what he likes and doesn't like.

HE

Oh, let's talk about me, I'm much more interesting. . . . Okay, he loves his work.

SHE

Which is?

HE

Corporate law. Real estate holdings.

SHE

What else?

HE

He drives a Jaguar, which he's pathetically fussy about. Don't ever put your make-up on inside the car. A lipstick stain doomed his last flame. He flosses twice a day. He cheated off me in a law exam. Denies it to this day!

SHE

Well, if you're such a good lawyer . . .

HE

Oh, we're on to me now for a change. Good. Uh, I'm a Pisces. My favourite colour is . . . .

SHE

How come your family's faces went red when I asked them what you did?

HE

They hate to brag.

SHE

I think you're what we Nardino's call a "mooch".

## COUNTERFEIT CONTESSA 2-3

HE

This coming from what we Everetts call a "gold-digger"?

SHE

How dare you! This has got nothing to do with money. This has to do with elegance and romance. You wouldn't know romance if it bit you on the butt.

HE

Would romance do that sort of thing?

SHE

Look, you think you know me just because . . . . .

HE

I know you better than Sinclair does, and if you think he's going to care about you after he finds out who you are . . . . .

SHE

What's wrong with who I am?

HE

Well, you tell me. You're the one who seems to be running away from things.

SHE

Look, I've got to get back to work.

HE

Fine. I'm out of here. Good luck at the ball. Of course I'm sure you know all the protocol and little details about a Coming-Out Ball. Goodbye.

SHE

What? What details?

HE

What is the one colour dress you should not wear under any circumstances to another woman's debut?

SHE

Huh?

## COUNTERFEIT CONTESSA 2-4

HE

When you see the deb, what do you actually say to her?  
"Hey baby! Eighteen now? Yowsa!" Or is there perhaps  
a more orthodox phrasing? It's a very formal gig. As a  
Contessa, everyone will be looking to follow your lead.  
But....

SHE

Margo's fitting me for a dress at the apartment  
Wednesday night. Please help.

HE

[Pause] Okay.