

# STEPHANIE

61.

VICTORIA

The pine I...I...

She sneezes again and pulls out a Kleenex from her bag and blows her nose.

CHARLIE

Well hello. Let me get you a cab.

VICTORIA

No, no, I'll be, I'll be...

She sneezes again as Charlie hails down a cab and holds the door open for her.

CHARLIE

I'll call you. And make sure you take something for that.

Victoria climbs into the cab, Charlie shuts the door and sees her off.

For a moment he pauses as he watches the cab drive off - doubt - and even a hint of relief - etched on his face.

INT. STEPHANIE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - LATE DAY

Start Sc. 2

Gwen returns home humming the Christmas Carol she and Charlie played musical chairs to.

She dumps her bag and eyes a plate of freshly baked Christmas cookies. Gwen takes a bite of a cookie and swoons as Stephanie walks in.

GWEN

Is this mom's old recipe?

STEPHANIE

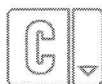
Yeah. Are they good?

GWEN

Just as good as she made.

STEPHANIE

Great, because I'm kind of hoping to carry on her tradition, you know, how she used to bake with us when we were little.



# STEPHANIE

62.

GWEN

Oh I'm not a very good baker. I mean mom tried but remember I always ended up with more batter in my mouth than in the bowl.

STEPHANIE

I remember and don't worry. I don't want to bake with you. I want to bake with my little girl...or boy.

Gwen looks up at Stephanie, here eyes widen , her mouth full of cookie as she asks...

GWEN

Are you saying...

STEPHANIE

I'm pregnant.

Gwen throws her arms around her sister.

GWEN

Oh Steph, I'm so happy for you!

STEPHANIE

I know. It kind of feels like Christmas came early.

GWEN

Does Roy know?

STEPHANIE

Of course. He's already tossing names around. Although if he thinks Duke for a boy is an option, he's got another thing coming.

GWEN

So the job...

STEPHANIE

I called and told them to consider someone else.

GWEN

That's so great Gwen. You're going to have your own family.

(with realization)

Oh my gosh you're going to need my room!



# STEPHANIE

63.

STEPHANIE

Oh, oh don't worry about that. It's like eight months away and we can make you a room in the basement.

Stephanie tries to make it sound as positive as possible but somehow it just feels wrong. Gwen feigns a smile as she replies...

GWEN

Sure. I'm just...so happy for you.

They share a sisterly hug. Over her sister's shoulder we see the first signs of longing in Gwen's eyes.

End Sc. 2

