

EDDIE, VALERIE, Beverly, Nelson and Tia Dolores

~~imitation Gucci about him. But one could recognize him as a just talking, smooth operator and still fall victim to his allure. With one grand gesture Eddy dashes in and snags Dolores off her feet — spinning her around in an embrace.~~

~~DOLORES. (To Eddy.) Eddy! Put me down! I got to work. (She puts her down then traps Nelson in a bearhug.)~~

~~EDDY. Brother!~~

Start

DOLORES. (Breathless.) Eddy. What are you doing here?

EDDY. I came to find you a rich old hunk.

DOLORES. (Amused.) Oh, stop.

EDDY. I'm serious. (Let's go of Nelson and turns to Beverly.) And who are you?

NELSON. This is Beverly. A friend from college.

EDDY. A friend? (Takes her hand and kisses it.) Sister.

BEVERLY. (Self-conscious.) Nice to meet you. I've heard lots about you.

EDDY. Yeah? What's this one told you?

BEVERLY. Oh. About your public relations and all that.

NELSON. (To Eddy/changing subject.) Hey, I hear you were in South of the Border.

DOLORES. Yes. It looks so pretty.

EDDY. Great place. (To Beverly.) But I want to hear more about my public relations.

NELSON. Come on. You don't want to hear about yourself.

EDDY. I love to.

DOLORES. (Eager to listen with him.) Me too.

BEVERLY. (To Eddy.) Oh, by the way. Congratulations on your contract with ... was it, Colgate?

DOLORES. (To Eddy.) I didn't know about this.

EDDY. (Putting Nelson on.) You didn't? I wonder why Nelson didn't tell you.

DOLORES. Nelson. You're terrible. (Eddy notices the pile of dough.)

EDDY. Hey, what the hell you makin' there — frisbees?

DOLORES. No. One thousand tor ...

NELSON. (Cuts in.) Listen. Bev and I were off for a little drive.

BEVERLY. Nels. Your brother just got here.

EDDY. You tell him. (To Nelson.) I'm that bad, huh? (Opens fridge, takes out a six-pack and starts handing cans around.) Come on. Let's have a little toast.

NELSON. (Worried.) To what?

EDDY. To this beautiful girl being here.

NELSON. Oh. That's a good idea. (Gets ready to toast.)

DOLORES. And to my boys being here.

BEVERLY. And to your grandma being in heaven.

NELSON. Bev.

EDDY. (To Beverly.) Where was she 'til now?

BEVERLY. Purgatory. (A shrill voice calls from outside.)

VALERIE. (Offstage.) Eeeedie!

NELSON. Who's that?

EDDY. Oh, that's just Val.

DOLORES. Who?

EDDY. Valerie Spinetti. A girl I'm promoting.

BEVERLY. You mean, an actress?

DOLORES. Eddy Cruz. You have a friend and you don't invite her to come in? What is she going to think we teach you?

EDDY. Don't you worry about Val. She just wanted to make sure I had a little time alone with my family.

BEVERLY. That was sweet of her.

VALERIE. (Offstage/shrill.) Edddieeee! Are you gonna plug me in, or aren't 'cha?

EDDY. I better go plug her. (He heads out side door with Dolores on his tail.)

DOLORES. I help you.

EDDY. (Offstage.) Thanks, Tia. But all I gotta do's get juice for the van.

DOLORES. (Offstage.) I get it. You want orange or papaya? (Their voices trail off.) End

~~BEVERLY. Your brother's not at all like I'd pictured.~~

~~NELSON. You didn't like him either.~~

~~BEVERLY. Will you stop that?~~

~~NELSON. Haven't come on a little strong?~~

~~BEVERLY. Not at all. I found him kind of ... continue ...~~

~~... (They start setting the table.)~~

~~I ... (Eddy and Dolores ...)~~