

INT. LAURA'S HOME - KITCHEN - DAY

Laura is attempting to bake and decorate a cake, with no success.

LAURA
It didn't work. Damn it! It didn't work.

Kitty knocks on the door.

KITTY
Hello? Laura?

Laura opens the door.

LAURA
Hi, Kitty.

KITTY
Hi, am I interrupting?

LAURA
Of course not, come in.

KITTY
Are you all right?

LAURA
Why, sure! Sit down, I've got coffee on. Would you like some?

KITTY
Please. Oh, look, you made a cake!

LAURA
I know. Didn't work. I thought it was going to work. I thought it would work better than that.

KITTY
Oh, Laura, I don't understand why you find it so difficult!

LAURA
I don't know either.

KITTY
Everyone can make a cake.

LAURA
I know.

KITTY

Everyone can. It's ridiculously easy. Like, I bet you didn't even grease the pan.

LAURA

I greased the pan.

KITTY

All right. You know, you have other virtues. And Dan loves you so much he won't even notice. Whatever you do, he's gonna say it's wonderful. Well, it's true!

LAURA

Does Ray have a birthday?

KITTY

Sure he does!

LAURA

When is it?

KITTY

September. We go to the country club. We always go to the country club. We drink martinis and spend the day with fifty people.

LAURA

Ray's got a lot of friends.

KITTY

He does...

LAURA

You both have a lot of friends. You are good at it. How is Ray? I haven't seen him in a while.

KITTY

Ray's fine. These guys are something, aren't they?

LAURA

Oh, yes, you can say that again. They came home from the war... They deserved it, didn't they? After what they'd been through.

KITTY

What... did they deserve?

LAURA

I don't know. Us, I guess. All this.

KITTY

Oh, you are reading a book.

LAURA

Yeah.

KITTY

What's this one about?

LAURA

Oh, it's about... This woman who's incredibly... well, she's a hostess, and she's incredibly confident and she's going to give a party. And maybe because she's confident, everyone thinks she's fine... But she isn't. So.

KITTY

Well.

LAURA

Kitty, what is it? Is something wrong?

KITTY

I... I have to go into the hospital for a couple of days.

LAURA

Kitty...

KITTY

Yeah. I have some kind of...growth in my uterus and... they're going to go in and take a look.

LAURA

When?

KITTY

This afternoon. Well, I need you to feed the dog.

LAURA

Of course. Is that what you came here to ask? What did the doctor say exactly?

KITTY

Well, it's probably what the trouble's been... about getting pregnant. The thing is... I mean, you know... I've been really happy with Ray. And now it turns out there was a reason... There was a reason I couldn't conceive. You are lucky, Laura. I don't think you can call yourself a woman until you're a mother. And the joke is... all my life I could do everything. I mean, could do anything, really. Except the one thing I wanted.

LAURA

Yes.

KITTY

That's all.

LAURA

Oh, at least now they'll be able to deal with it.

KITTY

That's right. That's what they're doing.

LAURA

That's right...

KITTY

I'm not worried. What would be the point of worrying?

LAURA

No, it's not in your hands.

KITTY

But that's it... It's in the hands of some physician I've never even met! Some surgeon who probably drinks more martinis than Ray and...

LAURA

Oh, Kitty!

KITTY

I mean, of course I'm worried about Ray.

LAURA

Come here.

KITTY

I'm doing fine, really.

LAURA

I know, I know you are.

KITTY

I'm more worried about Ray. If anything, he's not good with this stuff.

LAURA

Forget about Ray...just forget about Ray.

Laura kisses Kitty.

KITTY

You're sweet. You know the routine, right? Half the can in the evening, and check the water now and then, and Ray will feed him in the morning.

LAURA

Kitty, you didn't mind?

KITTY

What? I didn't mind what?

LAURA

Do you want me to drive you?

KITTY

I think I'll feel better if I drive myself.

LAURA

Kitty, it's going to be all right.

KITTY

Of course it is. Bye.

Kitty exits.