

MARY ELLEN SIDE #1

49

~~M. Ellen: Really. That's all it is. I'm very happy for you, Vi. That Johnny is one of a kind.~~

~~Vi: Yeah. So, maybe I'll marry him after all. Who knows?~~

~~(Mary Ellen cries.)~~

START

Janine: Mary Ellen, what is wrong with you? And don't say you're happy for Vi. No woman gets that happy because another woman's got a good man. Now what is it?

M. Ellen: I didn't get anything for my birthday.

Janine: What?

M. Ellen: Kyle and the boys. They didn't get me anything for my birthday.

Rita: You mean they forgot it.

M. Ellen: No, they didn't forget it. They just didn't think it was important enough to make a fuss over. When I got home that evening they gave me a birthday card. One birthday card signed by the three of them and that was it. There was no cake. No presents. I even made the supper that night.

Vi: Well, what about breakfast in bed? You said they made you a nice breakfast in bed with a rose on the tray and..

M. Ellen: There was no breakfast. There was no rose. There was nothing. I just told you that because I was embarrassed that I wasn't being made to feel special on my birthday, by my own family. I swear it just about killed me. I cried all day.

Janine: Oh, sweetheart.

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~~Vi: That's men for you.~~

~~Rita: That's men all right.~~

~~Vi: They can be such selfish, obtuse jackasses.~~

~~Rita: They're a bunch of idiots.~~

~~Vi: I'm glad I've got Johnny because the rest of them are as worthless as a meat thermometer at a vegetarian cook-off.~~

Vi: Oh. Did you bring more test results with you? You're not carrying an official envelope this time.

Sean: No, I didn't come here to talk about anything medical.

Vi: Oh, is that right? Did you hear that, girls? The doctor wants to talk to Janine about a non-medical issue. I wonder what that could be.

Rita: Probably something private. Personal.

M.Ellen: Well pull up a chair then, Sean. Gather round, girls.

Vi: Yes, pull up a chair. What is it you want to talk about?

Sean: Well, like Rita said it's...it's personal.

(The four women stare at Sean for a moment.)

Vi: Go on.

Sean: When I say personal I mean I would like to keep it between Janine and myself.

Vi: Oh fine. I can take a hint.

M.Ellen: Yeah, I guess I should be getting home anyway.

Rita: Why?

M.Ellen: Well, because I've got..

Rita: You've got what?

M.Ellen: I've got....

Rita: You've got an ungrateful family waiting for you to cook for them. And then clean up after them. Is that what you've got?

M.Ellen: Mostly.

Rita: Well, not tonight, Mary Ellen. No. Tonight I'm taking you out.

M.Ellen: Out where?

Rita: I'm taking you to The Cavalier for dinner.

CONTINUE

M.Ellen: The Cavalier?

Rita: We'll have a fine meal and we'll have some wine and I'm going to ask them to put a single red rose in a vase right there in the centre of the table. How does that sound?

Vi: It sounds good to me. I'm coming too.

Janine: Me too.

Rita: What do you say, Mary Ellen?

M.Ellen: I say you girls mean the world to me. Thank you. But we'll have to dress up if we're going to the Cavalier. And that means I would have to go home and change. And Kyle will be there and I'll have to explain where I'm going.

Rita: Don't worry about it. Come to my place. I'll find a dress for you.

M.Ellen: Wear one of your dresses?

Rita: Sure. Why not?

M.Ellen: Well, the dresses I wear say I'm a married woman. The dresses you wear say open for business.

Vi: Oh, come on Mary Ellen. Live a little.

M.Ellen: No. You know what? I'm going to go home and get changed. And I'm going to tell Kyle exactly where I'm going and that he and the boys can fend for themselves or starve to death. And not just tonight, but any damned night that I don't feel like cooking from now on. So, there you have it. We'll meet at the Cavalier in one hour.

END

~~Rita: Done.~~

~~Janine: All for one!~~

~~Rita: And one for all!~~

~~(Vi, Mary Ellen and Rita start for the door.)~~

~~Vi: We're off then. Oh, Mary Ellen, Martine came to see me with a tax question this morning.~~

~~M.Ellen: Your stapler again?~~