Juditalia

SCENE B

INT. NEW YORK CITY CAB -- DAY

JUDITH AND PAIGE ARE IN THE BACK SEAT.

JUDITH

He liked you.

PAIGE

Will you stop?

JUDITH

I'n telling you -- you could land aircraft in fog with the signals he was sending you. He gave you that number for a reason.

- - PAIGE

Yeah. If the baby's sick.

JUDITH

Fine, use that as your cover.

PAIGE

I have ankles that look like water balloons and an all muu-muu wardrobe, the last thing I'm going to do now is start seeing someone:

JUDITH

Then let me have the number.

PAIGE

No.

JUDITH -

Aha! Because you like him!

PAIGE

Because that's not why he gave it to me.

JUDITH

And because you like him. Admit you liked him.

PAIGE

(GRUDGING) He was nice.

JUDITH

Nice. He was male caviar. (BEAT) You know who's going to be thrilled about this? Your mother.

PAIGE

No, she won't. Nothing I do thrills my mother. I could be scaling Mount Everest, in a size two snowsuit, on my way to accept the Nobel Peace Prize, and you know what my mother would say? "Oh my God, who is cutting your hair?"

JUDITH

Come on, she's going to be a grandma.

That's number one on the "Finally I Don't

Have To Hoan and Look Away When They Ask

How My Daughter Is Doing" list. She's

coming down for the birth, right?

PAIGE

Well, I want a little time to get settled, get confident, I want to wait until she can see me as a functioning, capable mother.

(BEAT) I figure three years should do it.

(TO THE CAB DRIVER)

THE CAB STOPS. PAIGE IS GETTING OUT.

JUDITH

Let me have the number. I won't use it, I promise. It'll just feel good to know it's there, like having M&H's in the house.

PAIGE

Except you told me you could never have M&H's in your house.

JUDITH

I did? That was stupid.

PAIGE GOES.

JUDITH

(CALLING AFTER HER) This is different! This is not a calorie-producing product!

CUT TO: