

"Grace Under Fire"

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4 pages

INT. BEAUTY PARLOR - DAY
(GRACE, DOT)

(GRACE ENTERS AND SITS BESIDE DOT, WHO IS READING A MAGAZINE)

GRACE

Is the hair stylist here?

DOT

Yeah, she's on her break.

GRACE

Is she any good?

DOT

She's brilliant.

GRACE

You're her, aren't you.

DOT

Yep.

GRACE

Hi, I'm Grace.

DOT

I'm Dot. What were you looking for?

GRACE

I have a presentation to make Monday.

I need something that says, she knows
what she's talking about.

DOT

I can see what you mean. Your hair
is a little ambivalent.

GRACE

I knew I should have gone to the gay guy. He hates me, but at least he calls me Darling.

DOT

Here at "Truth and Beauty" we're not about flattery. I evaluate hair as the expression of the whole person. I see you eat red meat.

GRACE

You can tell that from my hair?

(DOT INDICATES HER FRONT TOOTH)

DOT

No, you got a little thing right there.

GRACE

You mean I went around with this all day and nobody told me?

DOT

Truth and Beauty.

GRACE

Can we just get to the beauty?

DOT

The first step is to realize that you already are beautiful.

GRACE

Suddenly, I'm listening.

DOT

Beauty comes from the inside out, but sometimes it doesn't make it all the way. It's my job to wave it on through.

GRACE

This is going to cost me more than fifteen bucks, isn't it?

DOT

See, you've got a great sense of humor. But I don't get that from your hair. It barely cracks a smile. And I'm not saying that to be critical... Darling. Your hair just doesn't reflect what's inside, it should reveal.

GRACE

Did it reveal I have my kids about to come out of the movies and half a gallon of ice cream melting in the car?

DOT

Where I come from you don't leave anything in the car.

GRACE

Where did you come from? Two months ago this place was a Hickory Farms.

DOT

That's why there's a free beef log
with every perm. And New York City.

GRACE

If there's a choice, I'll take the
beef log. (THEN) How'd you wind up
in Victory?

DOT

I got in my car and told myself I was
going to drive til I ran out of gas.
Which I did, unfortunately, in
Tennessee. So, I tanked up again,
and here I am.

GRACE

Just like that?

DOT

My motto is, Have Scissors, Will
Travel.

GRACE

Mine is, Have Scissors, Don't Run.

DOT

So, what do we have here?

STOP