

**Dialogue #1 -- pages 30-32**

**PATTY.** *(Laughing)* This is why. This right here. This is why I do not drink alcohol of any, any kind. Evil, evil, it does evil, evil, things to me.

**MARGARET.** Sometimes, under certain circumstances, it is a necessity.

**PATTY.** And are these those kind of circumscran -- circumstran -- *(She starts laughing at her mispronunciations.)* I can't talk. Truly. Honestly. I cannot speak anymore, not for one more single solitary second.

**MARGARET.** Oh my, you are a lightweight. I'm sorry. I really am.

**PATTY.** How long have we been sitting here?

**MARGARET.** I haven't a clue.

**PATTY.** Maybe you should try calling your son again. *(Margaret dials. It goes right to voicemail. She hangs up and returns her phone to her purse.)* Nothing huh? *(Margaret fidgets. Patty pours her some more wine.)* It'll be fine, sweetie.

**MARGARET.** He's already late back to school with this trip. His professors are not happy with him or me for that matter, but I think it's worth it. The experience will be worth it. And he's smart. He can catch up, right?

**PATTY.** Of course he can. I get the feeling you're holding back on me. I bet he's one of those -- whaddya call 'em? Renaissance men. It's all that schooling you were so good about giving 'em.

I'll always, always be so very, very sad that Pamela never went. But then her father and I didn't go either, so I couldn't put up much of a fight with her throwing that up in my face every teeny tiny time I brought it up.

**MARGARET.** Sometimes I worry that it didn't give my children much beyond some very high-paying, very well-connected jobs.

**PATTY.** Well, that's enough. And besides, going to those schools -- the things they must've learned and done and the people they met. That's once in a lifetime.

**MARGARET.** Exactly. Exactly!

**PATTY.** I wish we could have given that to Pamela. That changes your life.

**MARGARET.** But look what you *have* given her. All that travel. I couldn't even get on a plane for my children. I wonder if that would have made the difference.

**PATTY.** I'm not sure how much of it she even remembers. I remember every little moment of every little trip. But Pamela ... I'm not like you, sweetie. You're an example. I can feel it in you.

**MARGARET.** Well, that's kind but --

**PATTY.** So where did *you* go?

**MARGARET.** Go?

**PATTY.** Where did you go to college?

**MARGARET.** Oh. Oh, I didn't.

**PATTY.** Now don't believe that for one single solitary second.

**MARGARET.** It's true. I barely got out of high school.

**PATTY.** Now you're just lying.

**MARGARET.** I am not. I was a bit of a bad girl.

**PATTY.** Oooo ... Go on, gimme that story.

**MARGARET.** There's not much of a story to tell. I liked my car, and my boyfriends, and the movies, and a well-shaken sidecar more than I liked high school. But that's half the girls I knew growing up.

**PATTY.** You're disappointing me.

**MARGARET.** Oh! Well, I was banned from walking with my class at graduation.

**PATTY.** Oooo, now here we go.

**MARGARET.** See, I used to do a bit of singing when I was younger.

**PATTY.** Stop it right now!

**MARGARET.** Oh nothing high profile. Just at clubs around town.

**PATTY.** I have to say I get more impressed by you every single solitary second. I can barely carry a tune in the church choir. In fact, just last month I was told that unless I started just mouthing the words and just pretended like I was singing from now on, that they'd have to ask me to leave.

**MARGARET.** Oh that's ... *(Finding it funny she starts to laugh.)* That's terri - really - *(Her laughter starts to take over)* That's ...I'm sorry, really, it's not - it's not funny at all ... *(Laughter overtakes her a bit.)*

**PATTY.** Oh, go on. Nothing to worry about darlin'. I'm used to it. So. Tell me what got you kicked outta graduation.

**MARGARET.** Well, I sang "I Wish I Could Shimmy Like My Sister Kate" at my senior prom.

*(Margaret stands and does a faux striptease.)*

**PATTY.** Oh my Lord! You were the bad girl, weren't you?

**MARGARET.** I got tossed out of prom and I was forbidden to walk with my class at graduation. College felt a long way off.