JAMES No exports, he means. From Haiti to the rest of the world. Only imports. Lots of imports. **DANNI** Right. LINDA You could just have a sip? **DANNI** Really, no thanks. I'm fine. (BETH-ANN and STEPHANIE enter) LX 20 (B/S ENT) LINDA There you are! **BETH-ANN** Linda! (They hug) **BETH-ANN** And this is my daughter, Stephanie. LINDA I have heard so much about you. You're a beautiful young lady. **BETH-ANN** Hi Clark. **CLARK** How's it going? LINDA And this is James. **BETH-ANN** Hi. Beth-Ann. CLARK And Danni. **BETH-ANN** Hi. Steph? STEPHANIE Hi.

LINDA

How was your flight?

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Fine, fine. Spent most of it keeping the group calm, you know, yes, we're going to walk on the tarmac, no, don't give your luggage to that guy over there, I don't care if he's offering to help.

(BETH ANN SITS)

LX 22

And the drive in?

BETH-ANN

LINDA

Well, Henry was great. Of course. Dodging blockades, weaving in and out, all while keeping a pleasant chatter up to assuage the - but look, enough about me, I'm boring. What about you? Are you happy? Because it certainly looks like it.

LINDA

I'm fine. The same as when you visited last year, mostly. Hot.

BETH-ANN

Clark?

CLARK

I'm just fine, Beth-Ann.

BETH-ANN

And what about you two? How long have you been here? When are you leaving? All that stuff.

JAMES

I've been here about a year, and I'll be leaving soon.

DANNI

Yeah. I just got here yesterday. I don't know when I'm leaving, really. I guess it depends on -

BETH-ANN

You're going to love it here. I love it here. I won't say everyone loves it here, there's always someone in the group who gets sick or depressed or bedbugs.

DANNI

Bedbugs?

BETH-ANN

Only in Room Three. That's why I don't let anyone in my group stay there anymore.

DANNI

Oh.

(DANNI is in Room Three)

BETH-ANN

But most people love it here. All of my friends, real friends, you know. I mean, it's just an amazing place. Have you seen much yet?

(DANNI shakes her head no)



CLARK

No, actually I draw the curtains and eschew public places, unlike some people.

LINDA

People see you. You're visible. Women, Stephanie, Danni, even Beth-Ann, she's single, you know, they see you. When you walk into a room, they see you and you see them and maybe something happens and maybe it doesn't, but there's the possibility, there's sight.

CLARK

Is this why my sex life has to be regulated but yours --.

LINDA

I spent the twenty years after my divorce being invisible, not even looked past, but looked *through*. And then, one day, I came here, and I saw this beautiful young man looking back at me. At me. And he's kind and smart and a gifted painter. This is not the same as a weekly succession of girls whose names you barely know, it's not a sport, or a challenge, or some misguided form of rebellion. Henri and I are in love, truly and passionately, and for you to compare our relationship to your sordid flings is repulsive and untrue. I don't care about the age difference between you and Stephanie, Clark, that would be ridiculous. I care that you don't give a damn about her.

CLARK

That's a lovely rationalization for sleeping with someone who could be your grandchild. Do the folks back home buy it?

LINDA

No, they don't understand particularly well. Which is why, you may have noticed, I'm spending more and more time here. I don't want to talk about this anymore; I just want everybody back from that tour.

CLARK

Tell you what, I'll stay in my room until dinner, and even if she tries to force me out by sucking on a sugar cane. Fair enough?

WARNING ON THE STORM TRANSITION

LINDA

Fair enough.

LX 69

SQ G.9

TRANSITION

SUB IN: AFTER BLACK OUT SUB OUT: ERIN OUT OF LIGHT

STEPHANIE (CONT'D)

And then another kid, an older one, hit her hand and took it away and then two more kids started yelling, I guess telling the other kids that I had candy, I don't know, I couldn't understand. And, soon, really soon, like instantly, there were tons of these kids asking for a dollar or food, holding out their hands and I just kept shaking my head and saying "No more, no more. I only brought one. I'm sorry." Finally, this old woman sticks her head out of the door of one of the houses and yells at the kids and they run away. And I walk back

BETH-ANN

Don't you ever do that to me again.

STEPHANIE

I just wish I had more to give them.

JAMES

We all do.

LINDA

Good. I'm glad you're home. It's been a long day.

BETH-ANN

You want to talk more about it?

STEPHANIE

Not really.

(BETH-ANN hugs STEPHANIE again)

LINDA

Anybody want more cake?

(Everyone shakes their heads no)

Oh, come on!

CLARK

I'll take another glass of rum.

JAMES

Make it two.

LINDA

(getting them rum)

See, everything turned out just fine.

CLARK

I told you so. Now, let's start the party we were promised.

SQ K.3

(CLARK puts on a CD of Haitian pop music. He and DANNI start to dance, JAMES taps his foot and nods, STEPHANIE sways, while LINDA and BETH-ANN talk.)