

(BROOKE)

My secret is nuclear and if it gets out, I could lose my fitness empire, which means everything to me. If I tell you... will you Delta Nu Sister Swear not to tell anyone?

ELLE

I will Double Delta Nu Sister Swear.

BROOKE

Okay. On the day my husband was killed, I had...
(BROOKE looks to the PRISON GUARD in earshot, whispers:)
Lipo...

ELLE

What?...

BROOKE

(again, quiet)
Lipo...

ELLE

Brooke, you're going to have to speak up, I can't—

BROOKE

(bursts like a geyser)
LIPOSUCTION! MINIMALLY INVASIVE, OUTPATIENT LIPO, BUT LIPO!

(ELLE gasps.)

ELLE

Oh, my God!

PRISON GUARD

Ms. Wyndham, your time is up.

BROOKE

I had to do it.

ELLE

Your secret's safe with me.

BROOKE

(screams as she's being pulled out)
My fans are counting on me, I can't let them down! You gotta take care of me, Elle! You swore.

(BROOKE's gone. Just then, everyone returns, including CALLAHAN.)

EMMETT

Elle, there you are.

ELLE

I got her alibi.

CALLAHAN

You're kidding. So. What is it?

ELLE

I'm afraid I can't tell you.

CALLAHAN

Why not?

ELLE

I Double Delta Nu Sister Swore not to.

VIVIENNE

Elle, this is not some little sorority thing...

ELLE

Oh, I know. It's a big sorority thing. But don't worry: Brooke really had nothing to do with this. Think about it: Brooke's a fitness queen. Exercise gives you endorphins, and endorphins make you happy. Happy people just don't kill!

(CALLAHAN is seething.)

CALLAHAN

Emmett – a word.

(CALLAHAN drags EMMETT to the opposite side of the stage. Focus switches back to ELLE discussing with the INTERNS. CALLAHAN and EMMETT heatedly talk amongst themselves, unheard.)

VIVIENNE

Elle, if you don't give up this alibi, we will ALL lose the case.

ELLE

Then I guess we're not very good lawyers.

WARNER

Listen, Pooh Bear – Elle. Callahan wants that alibi.

ELLE

But I gave Brooke my word.

CALLAHAN

Emmett, let me be very clear. This is your chance, and I gave you simple instructions— Lead this legal team and get me an alibi. You're zero for two.

(CALLAHAN and EMMETT approach the remaining INTERNS.)

Everyone, field trip's over. Let's go. Back to work.

(turning to EMMETT and ELLE)

Except you two. I'd rather not see "Ratty Corduroy" or "Legally Blonde" again today.

(EMMETT and ELLE are left alone.)

ELLE

Emmett, I'm sorry—

EMMETT

—I don't need you to be sorry. I need you to tell me the alibi.

ELLE

I can't because I gave Brooke my word. Having an alibi isn't the only way to win this case.

EMMETT

No, but it sure would help.

ELLE

We'll free Brooke the right way. The noble way.

EMMETT

This isn't a Lifetime Original Movie, Elle. I'm not interested in nobility right now, I'm more interested in saving Brooke's life.

ELLE

No you're not. You're more interested in impressing Callahan.

EMMETT

Well, he is my boss. And if I impress him he'll make me associate.

ELLE

And jeopardize your client's trust and our integrity?

EMMETT

Why do you always have to be right?

ELLE

I don't have to be... when I'm with you, I just am.

(#23 – OFF TO THE SALON! begins. They exit.)