

TRUVY *(on phone)* I'm sorry honey, you know I would if I could, but I just can't today. I could squeeze you in first thing Monday. Fine. See you then, Susan. *(She hangs up, then gazes out the window deep in thought)*

No-one speaks for a moment.

ANNELLE *is listening to the weather report.*

ANNELLE Thirty-nine degrees! You were right, Truvy.

Music plays.

TRUVY It's too cold for this time of year, I'm gonna write a letter.

OUISER I don't like it one bit. I turn blue when it's this cold. And blue is not in my palette.

CLAIREE Anne Boleyn had six fingers.

OUISER Who's Anne Berlin?

CLAIREE Anne *Boleyn*. She was one of the six wives of Henry.

OUISER I never watch public television.

CLAIREE She had six fingers.

OUISER What happened to the other four?

CLAIREE She had eleven total.

DJ'S VOICE My personal congratulations to Waynetta Bench of one hundred and thirty-four Debbie Jean Drive. She is the winner of the Halloween sweepstakes sponsored in part by KPPD and Marmillion Mills. Mrs Bench wins an all-expense-paid weekend in Baton Rouge and a year's supply of plywood from Marmillion Mills...the finest plywood money can buy. If you're going out today, bundle up. We'll be doing good to get up to thirty-nine degrees. Last night was the coldest Halloween since nineteen forty-eight. I'm not used to this arctic weather.

OUISER Are you trying to confuse me? What are you talking about?

CLAIREE This article says that she had six fingers on one hand. So she had all her dresses made so the sleeves hung down to her fingertips so she wouldn't look weird.

OUISER *Reader's Digest* is a font of useful information.

They lapse into thoughtful silence.

TRUVY *(her scarf is tied around her neck)* Clairee. I just love my scarf. You are so thoughtful. It really jazzes up this outfit.

CLAIREE The only thing that separates us from the animals is our ability to accessorize.

ANNELLE I want to spray just a little more of my French perfume. I love it so much. I love it when the smell just fills the air.
(She sprays a mist and walks through it)

TRUVY Don't waste it! That stuff ain't cheap.

OUISER Save it, honey. We're going to have to burn our clothes as it is.

TRUVY I'm just so touched that you remembered us.

CLAIREE I had a ball shopping. I don't care what anyone says, the French people are very friendly. And most of them had the courtesy to speak English.

OUISER *pulls her scarf out from under her smock. It is a wild print. As OUISER examines it...*

TRUVY And I love Ouiser's, too. I may want to borrow that sometime.

OUISER You're welcome to it.

CLAIREE You don't like it, do you?

OUISER It's perfect for me. A print this busy'll never show dog hair.

ANNELLE My feet are like two blocks of ice.