

# Road to My Forever

Lindsay Lohan | Betty White



WGA Reg. Treatment of screenplay

by

Gene Cartwright

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A Screen Treatment  
Based upon a screenplay of the same title

(p. 5-14)

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WGA Registration No: 1453603

## Proposed Principal Cast:

**Beatrice “Bea” Daly** .....Betty White

Bea: A feisty, 5’-4”, 135lb, white-haired, eighty year-old grandmother and nursing home resident/owner, and only living relative to a 22 year-old granddaughter. (Betty, now 88, plays a younger woman)

**Jessica Daly “JD”** .....Lindsay Lohan

Jessica, 22, blonde, USC Film School student: attractive, strong-willed, determined to live life to its fullest, while struggling with the tragic loss of her father, and abandonment by her mother. JD is very loyal to friends and protective of her grandmother. Also has acting aspirations.

**Bradley St. Julian “Brad”** .....

JD’s boyfriend and fellow film school student, 6’+, athletic, handsome mixed parentage (African-American and Creole), shares Jessica’s focus on career but hopes they remain a part of each other’s lives. The two met at Starbucks when JD spilled latté on the keyboard of his laptop computer. It was not a warm and fuzzy beginning.

**Mila Jalil**.....

Jessica’s best friend, 22, middle-eastern, attractive auburn-haired, bubbly, talkative, extrovert personality, just landed first acting role.

### Minor & Personal Cameo Roles:

David Letterman  
 Will Ferrell  
 Louis Black  
 Magic Johnson  
 Bill Clinton  
 Alvin Reed (Lenox Lounge owner)  
 Sonny Rollins (jazz great)  
 Whoopi Goldberg  
 Lady Gaga  
 Cicely Tyson  
 Don Rickles

## **LOCATIONS**

Principal Location: Los Angeles

Secondary Location: New York

Other Locations: Route 66 - Los Angeles to Chicago

**Road to My Forever.**

Road to Manhattan (Starbucks, 125<sup>th</sup> and Lenox Avenue)

## Log Line:

A feisty eighty year-old grandmother and nursing home resident, (Betty White) shrewdly convinces her USC Film School student/granddaughter (Lindsay Lohan), to forego a South Beach summer break, and join her in a cross-country road trip from Los Angeles to Manhattan, in a 1955 Buick Roadmaster convertible.

## Road to My Forever

(125th & Lenox Avenue  
Harlem, Manhattan New York)

A comedy, a love story, a journey of discovery

*“Not even the deepest footprints last forever.” - Gene Cartwright*

USC Film School student, Jessica Daly (Lindsay Lohan) “JD” has her summer break all planned. In a few days she, boyfriend and fellow film student, Bradley St. Julian, and several friends, will invade South Beach for a week of fun and sun. That is the plan.

But the plan changes. During what is to be a normal visit to her feisty, eighty year-old, nursing home resident grandmother, Bea Daly (Betty White), the latter convinces her granddaughter to join her on a cross-country road trip to Manhattan for her first Starbucks visit, she says. Despite always wanting to please her grandmother and only living relative, Jessica cannot believe she agrees to such a wild-eyed plan. What’s more, the trip will be made in a red and white, 1955 Buick Roadmaster convertible in storage since 1978.

It all begins the day regular school session ended. Jessica leaves the George Lucas Instructional Building, and heads to her shiny new Ford Focus—a birthday gift from Bea. Brad and her best friend, Mila, soon join her. Plans for the Miami trip are confirmed. Jessica then heads for one of her weekly visits to Crescent View nursing home in Rancho Palos Verdes to see her grandmother. Gram (Bea) is no aging flower ready for the compost heap. She is always full of fire and never at a lost for words.

Bea springs her surprise, without apology for the plans she is disrupting. And she is ready with an answer to the inevitable questions. Despite Jessica’s stunned reaction, her grandmother will not take “no” for an answer. She knows exactly where, when, why, and where she wants to go. And, she explains why JD’s ever-present ‘Skinny Double Vanilla Latte’ plays such a pivotal role in her plan.

And thus begins what becomes the most improbable, adventure-filled, discovery-rich road trip since Bing Crosby and Bob Hope embarked on “The Road to Morocco.” You may describe it as “Thelma and Grandma Louise” on steroids (more like on Preparation-H and ensure).

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## ACT ONE

**Jessica Daly, twenty year-old USC film student** has only one living relative—her grandmother and her very best friend, eighty year-old Beatrice, whom her remaining friends call “Queen Bea.” Jessica sees Bea at least once a week, visiting her at her nursing home near Pacific Palisades overlooking the Pacific Ocean. They talk almost daily.

**In 1996, Bea, still strong and viable,** chose to sell her home and take up residency at Crescent View, to be close to her friends. Now most are gone, except for Leon, 84, a charming gentleman and Errol Flynn devotee, with a crush on her. Leon, a former business executive who always wears a “blue surge” suit, white shirt, and bowtie, is quite the violinist, often regaling residents.

**What Jessica doesn’t know** is that Gram is not just a resident, she’s the owner. Years after losing her husband of forty-five years, Gram bought the place, sold her home, and moved in. Bea’s ownership of Crescent is kept secret from Jessica for good reason: Jessica would insist Bea quietly enjoy her life, and not endure the stress of running a business. Other, familial reasons are revealed. Bea and late husband, Andrew became wealthy from early investments in the Texas oil industry, and later Standard Oil of California. Bea permits JD to believe her education, and support comes from the estate of their son and Jessica’s late father.

**Another Secret:** Bea has also kept her diagnosis of Retinitis Pigmentosa a secret from Jessica, and her friends. This is a principal reason she feels compelled to make this return trip she and her late husband planned but never made.

**‘Queen Bea Sets Her Trap’:** When JD arrived at Crescent View, her ever-present cell phone and Starbucks latte hand, and after the exchange of hugs and kisses, Bea presents her with an unexpected proposal: JD can invite her on the trip to South Beach, or treat her to her first Starbucks visit ever. Jessica is speechless, certain Gram is joking. She is not.

“My string bikinis are ready...got the sun block, sunglasses...Metamucil, the works,” Gram says with a straight face, dressed in her flower-print dress and pink house shoes.

JD waits for the punch-line that does not come. What now? The South Beach trip is set. Besides, the idea of Bea in a bikini poses a shocking visual. Gram continues.

“Don’t strangle on your latte, baby. Spring break is...well, it’s something I just never had a chance to do, and...well, it’s near the very top of my ‘cup list.’”

“Cup list? Gram, I have heard of a bucket list but...”

“Same thing, just smaller. Figure I don’t have time left for a whole bucketful.”

**Despite her unquestioned love for Bea,** JD cannot envision her Gram accompanying her on a trip to South Beach. She eagerly accepts a second and easier option Bea presents: a trip Starbucks. But something about this option seemed more than a little curious. When Jessica quickly agrees and offers Gram the choice of location, Gram quickly responds:

“That’s easy. Manhattan.”

**JD Falls For It:** Jessica readily agrees. “Manhattan Beach, it is”, she answers, referring to a nearby beach city. Gram smiles coyly, and shakes her head, slyly:

“Ah, not quite, dear. Just a little farther east.”

“East?” Jessica is puzzled. A long pause follows, “I give up.”

“East. I want to go to Manhattan.”

“Manhattan? Wait, Manhattan...as in The Big Apple?”

“Bingo! You are the wiz I always knew you were.”

Jessica keeps smiling, still convinced Gram is joking. Bea loses a gradual smile and a slow wink. It takes a moment but JD slowly realizes Bea is serious. She is even more surprised when she learns Gram has a fear of flying, and is insisting on a cross-country road trip.

**Then The Questions:** Then comes challenging questions from Jessica, testing Bea’s resolve and true reasons.

“Gram, you know I have plans already...with Brad, and Mila, and my friends. But...but why Manhattan, if I may ask? You know I’d go anywhere...do anything to make you happy. We’re all each other have. But...”

“Sounds a bit strange...my choice, right...the one you just agreed to?”

“Ah...not strange, just...”

“Weird,” Gram chuckled, grasping JD’s hand. “Well, let’s see. Start with the fact I am a little past my sell-by date, and...”

“That may be true for most your age, but not for you,”

“You’re a sweetheart. Look, baby this will not be my first road trip...but it could well be my last. I’m just saying. Your grandfather and I made the trip...well, more than sixty years ago. Whoa, did I say sixty? My god, I just made myself feel old for a minute. Anyway, we always planned to make it one more time but...And, you know my attitude and philosophy: I do not believe in leaving dreams on the pillow. New York is where I met my Andy, the only man I ever loved, and ah...really knew, if you get my meaning,” Gram winked. Jessica cleared her throat.

“He was your...what do you call him...your Roméo?”

“Yes. The man was a...ah anyway, I’ll have to tell you about that when you’re old enough. We always planned to have this nostalgic trip back to where we met...in Manhattan...in Harlem.”

“Harlem?”

“Harlem. I never told you the whole story, and I won’t tell you right now. There are miles and miles we’ll have to talk about it.

“But...”

“It was V.E. Day...Victory in Europe; the end of the war. May 8, 1945...big parade in New York...Times Square. My God it was really something. I was seventeen; my father was gone...murdered three years earlier for refusing to pay protection money to low-life thugs in Brooklyn. Mother had been committed...died in a...one of those places they put people then. I was own my own...became a grown woman overnight.”

“I remember your telling me a little about that.”

“I never wanted to be one of those old people...always talking ‘bout ‘way back then.’ But I will anyway. Later on that day, I made my way from Times Square on the 1/2/3/9 line to 145<sup>th</sup> in Harlem; ended up at 125th and Lenox, trying to find a way to sneak into the Lenox Lounge nearby, to see Billie Holiday with “Hot Lips” Page on trumpet, and Ram Ramirez on piano. I just had to get in but I was barely seventeen then. I spotted your grandfather all decked out in his Army uniform, looking like a four-star General...ribbons, medals and all. We spotted each other at the same time.

“He made his move, and I pretended I didn’t hear a word. Long story, a little shorter...I asked him to escort me into the show. He agreed. I was in heaven. We were together from that moment to the day he died, true story. Now, enough; I am not going to start tearing up, which is exactly what will happen if I keep going.”



**So What About My Latte?** “So, how does my ‘Skinny, Double Vanilla Latte figure into all this?”

“Glad you asked. For years now, every time...nearly every time you come by, I can count on two things: your cell-phone in one hand, and that little white cup in the other, right?”

“Guilty.”

“It’s one place I’ve never been. So, I just decided I want to discover what that’s all about, for myself. Not the phone thing; you can keep that, and that thing glued to your ear...looks like a cockroach or something crawling out.”

“Gram, it’s called a Bluetooth.”

“Whatever. So that’s the reason. Now, to be honest, I would have no problem spending a week or so in Miami...checking out some buff bodies on South Beach. I do have the bikinis, and the legs still...with apologies to Tina Turner.”

“Gram, you are absolutely...”

“And the two sisters here (points to her breasts) have not fallen below the equator, yet. Way I figure, if they haven’t by know, I don’t expect they will. Knock on wood.”

“Oh, my god. Listen to you. You are soooo bad.”

“It’s true. That’s ‘cause I wear bras, always have. That’s what keeps ‘em up longer. I know you don’t believe me. I’ll show you, if you want.”

“No, no, no. I believe you, Gram.”

“Listen, sweetie. I’m sorta sorry to pull this on you but...this will be a trip of a lifetime, you’ll see. Okay, so it’s a little far to drive for a...what do you call it?”

“A latte.”

“Whatever. But I happen to know the exact store I want to go to.”

“Which one?”

“This one,” Gram goes to her dresser, opens a drawer and shows JD a picture. “The one at 125th Street and Lennox Avenue, in Harlem. The picture on the right is what it used to look like.”



Today



1945

**When JD Questions Bea’s Stamina For Such A Trip,** Bea responds:

“Stamina? I’ll show you stamina!”

Bea launches into a half-dozen jumping jacks, several free-standing leg-lifts, and then issues her granddaughter an arm-wrestling challenge.

“Enough, Gram. I believe you.” JD is in stitches, doubled over.

Gram takes a needed breath. “It’s right on the spot where I experienced the most eventful day of my life. You should have seen the Harlem I saw and enjoyed back in the forties. Some think it was a place where only black folk were, but the music; the excitement...all types of people. And I was one of them, especially after I met my Andy. ‘Course in ’45 The Lenox Lounge only let black folk in to perform, not as patrons. All that, even though black soldiers had fought and died in the war and all. Don’t get me started on all that.” JD was speechless.

“We have some planning to do,” Bea continued.

“We’ll have to rent a car. Mine is too small,” said JD.

“Don’t worry. I’ve got a car we can get ready. And we have to do some shopping...”

“Whoa, whoa, whoa, slow down. You have a car?”

“Sure do. You’ll see.”



**Jessica’s Dilemma:** Jessica now has a real dilemma. She has to explain to Brad, and her friends, why plans have changed.

**Bea is Busted:** After Jessica and Bea make their plans, Jessica tells Brad. Brad has never been introduced to Bea, despite his and Jessica’s three year relationship. He decides the time is right. He makes an impromptu visit to Bea at Crescent View, without Jessica’s knowledge. To Bea’s shock and dismay, he finds her in her office, in her true role as the owner of Crescent View. Brad is equally surprised, given Jessica’s account of her grandmother.

During their forty minute visit in her office, Bea and Brad form an instant liking for each other. Both realize each now has a secret: Bradley does not want Jessica to know he secretly met Bea, and Bea is not ready for Jessica to know her real role. Both agree to keep each other’s secret.

**The Preparation:** From the moment Bea and Jessica visit the AAA in Santa Monica, it is clear that Bea has her mind made up regarding the route: she expects to make a nostalgic journey on the famous Route 66, although she knows the Route 66 of today is not the Route 66 of more that 50 years ago.

**Still, they will see billboards and giant statues** along the highway still hawking a baffling array of roadside attractions, tempting travelers to swim alongside giant blue whales, to see live rattlesnakes and other wild creatures on display in roadside menageries, or to stay at “Tucumcari Tonight—2,000 Rooms.”

**The Roadmaster:** This classic, well-preserved machine undergoes a bumper to bumper, top to bottom diagnostic and make-ready. Before showing it off Jessica, and the Crescent View family, Gram spares no expense. When Jessica asks about the expected cost of the preparation; the trip; the accommodations and all, Gram calmly responds:

“You just let me worry about that. I’ve got a little nest-egg I’ve managed to hang onto.”

**The Day of Departure-Farewell Party:** On the day Gram and Jessica depart; they are treated to an emotional send-off by staff and residents of Crescent View. Leon provided the finale with a lengthy violin concerto that brought tears to Gram’s eyes, tears she struggled to conceal.

**Within an hour of leaving Crescent View,** and before the afternoon crush, with JD at the wheel and the top down, the duo reached and exited the eastbound 210 Freeway at Citrus Ave. As JD turns north onto Route 66, Gram eases an 8-track tape into the player. JD cringes.

Bea turns the volume up on famed guitarist, Wes Montgomery's "Day in the Life" and smiles. JD slowly loses a smile that conveys her surprise. She had expected Lawrence Welk. This would be the first of many surprises.

Gram's car boasts an 8-track player, which her late husband, Andy reluctantly installed in 1973, although he kept the original radio. After some energetic discussion, the two world travelers reach the first of what was to be many compromises: while they would travel as much of Route 66 as possible, some of the travel would be on Interstate Highways. Jessica eagerly points out the I-40 sign, and quips:

"I want to get to New York before I leave my child-bearing years."

The two also agree Jessica would balance the 8-track tapes with her iPod she can connect to the car's speakers via a cigarette lighter link.

**One More Issue:** no Latte stops until New York.

"Okay, now you've gone too far, Gram...I love you but..."

This point of contention threatened the whole venture. Then Gram offered a compromise:

"Okay. We can stop for your fix but I'll just stay in the car." JD nodded agreement.

"Cool!"

## ACT TWO

**Adventure, Mishap, Bonding, Discovery, and more:** The trip is filled with laughter, tears, bonding, shock, surprise, danger, and near-tragedy. Gram insists on driving some miles in each state, explaining that when she and Andrew made the trip in 1951, she did most of the driving. So, donning a baseball cap (Gram is a diehard baseball fan) appropriate to whatever state in which they are traveling, she takes the wheel. The car draws constant attention from onlookers; the good, the bad, and the conniving.

**By the time they reach Barstow,** Gram is on the verge of deciding the trip is a mistake. Jessica, already weary of Gram's choice of music, has her iPod blasting with Lady Gaga and others Gram has never heard. The issue is settled when JD agrees to use ear buds, at least when she isn't driving. She may otherwise play her music (at low volume) through the car speakers. Neither is quite sure this trip is going to work.

**In Flagstaff, Arizona, Bea is stopped by a State Trooper** for going too slow. When asked for her license, she begins verbally describing it, rather than reveal her true photo, which she dislikes. Her charm and wit prevail for a moment. She ends up reluctantly showing it.

**Near Albuquerque, New Mexico, Gram is stopped for speeding,** only to have the Trooper suddenly have to break away to assist in pursuit of a fleeing felon. To Jessica's surprise, Bea, wants to follow the pursuit, insisting she film the action. Against her better judgment, Jessica does so, until the pursuit exits the highway. Both explode with excitement.

**Bea keeps a watchful eye on truckers** and others who get too friendly with Jessica. Jessica soon learns Gram is packing heat. They find themselves being trailed by two unsavory characters they first saw at The Route 66 Travel Center truck-stop in Albuquerque. A few miles down the highway, Bea suggests Jessica pull into a rest area. The men do likewise and park. Gram and Jessica go to the ladies room. When they return, the men are parked even closer.

Jessica goes to the Buick. Bea walks calmly to the men's car, purse in hand, goes to the driver's side, smiles and eases her hand into her purse, as Jessica looks on:

"I notice you two have been following us for...oh, must be more than fifty miles now."

"I don't understand ma'am."

"Don't ma'am me. Whatever you two have in mind, 'fageddaboutit,' alright."

As Gram speaks, she eases her right hand up to reveal the butt of her pearl-handle .25 automatic. She smiles. In a flash, the driver cranks his car. Gram steps back, her hand still in her purse. While she and Jessica look on, the car, speeds away and back onto the highway. Jessica is puzzled.

"What just happened? What did you say?"

Gram smiles. "Oh, not much"

**Motels were not exactly up to Bea's standards** but she made the best of it. During their quiet time, usually at night, Gram reveals things Jessica never knew--things about her father, and her mother. Jessica's mother, a subject JD always wants to avoid. Gram offers her love, advice and a comforting shoulder. She listens. In what are rare moments, Jessica opens up and talks about what her life is like without her parents; how she feels about school, her friends, her future, and especially Brad. Fortunately, both she and Bea snore, and therefore sleep soundly.

**Truck-stops prove more than just interesting**, especially the behemoth trucks. Jessica learns of Bea's knowledge of, and fascination with the mammoth vehicles. Bea is also taken with the men and women who drive them. To Jessica's amazement, one trucker lets Bea climb behind the wheel. Jessica films the event, including Bea's laying on the horn. For a moment, JD sees her grandmother as a little girl she still is.

During a few overnight Motel stops, Jessica notes curious behavior: Gram chooses to not use the cell phone she purchased but opts for hotel/motel land lines. Jessica observes her daily calls back to Crescent View. Gram insists she is simply making sure all is well, and that her friends are okay.

**Bea unwittingly foils a bank robbery in a Shamrock, Texas.** During the robbery attempt, Bea waits outside as Jessica goes into the bank. When an inordinate amount of time passes, she goes inside to check on things, Just as she enters, a short, bald man wearing a baseball cap turned backwards, nearly runs her over. Enraged, Gram refuses to let the man pass.

"Just run me over, why don't you. How about excuse me?"

The stunned holdup man blurts an obscenity, and Gram takes her purse, still containing her .25 automatic, and clobbers the man on the head. The blow not only stuns him but everyone else, as the man collapses to the floor in a heap.

**As the man lies motionless**, JD, customers, and bank officials rush to her side. All cheer Bea as a hero; Jessica is stunned, and Bea is puzzled. Police arrive, and Gram becomes a reluctant hero, who only wants to quickly make her own getaway. Declining the Shamrock County-Star News newspaper editor's request for an interview, and the mayor's offer of a 'key to the city.' Bea agrees to a single photo with "His Honor", the mayor (Don Rickles), and the two "escape," without Gram revealing how a 5 foot, 4 inch, 135 lb., 80 year-old grandmother could pack such a punch.

**Fleeing the DEA:** At a small shopping mall in Joplin, Missouri, Bea and JD unwittingly stumble into their most harrowing adventure. When they park in front of, and enter a dress shop, a drug courier fleeing the DEA, tosses his briefcase-laden stash onto the rear floorboard of Gram's car.

**Agents are baffled** when they stop the heavily tattooed man's car, and find nothing. Later, they review the shopping center's video surveillance film and observe what happened. They obtain Bea's license plate, and car description. A statewide APB/BOLO is broadcast, and the hunt is on.

What follows is hilarious and harrowing. Back on the road, following lunch in Carterville, Mo., Bea (in passenger seat) looks back and spots an unmarked car following. She remembers their earlier experience, and tells JD to give her trackers the slip. JD guns it, and the chase is on. It is only when a police helicopter closes in, and Bea spots the markings, that they realize this chase is different.

**Felony Stop:** Shortly thereafter, the two find themselves in a full felony stop, guns aimed at them and all. Gram refuses to get on the ground, despite Jessica's pleading.

"I'm eighty years-old, there's no way am I getting down on this ground, young man. (Will Ferrell) Taze me if you want, and I'll own the whole state. You are making one huge mistake here."

**After several tense moments,** cooler heads prevail. Bea and Jessica are cuffed briefly; the briefcase is found, and it is soon discovered the two "criminals" are innocent travelers caught up in an unfortunate incident but not before the two are searched.

**The Search:** All along, Jessica is afraid the search of Gram's purse will reveal the .25. When it does not, Jessica is surprised. Finally, all is unraveled and they are permitted to leave. In the car, Jessica asks Bea about her gun. Bea smiles and answers:

"There is more than one advantage to wearing a bra and girdle, sweetie."

**JD Disappears:** After days and days on the road, albeit at a pace suitable to Bea, the traveling duo reach Joliet, IL, where Bea decides they're going to have a little fun, and enjoy some first-class comfort. They check into Joilet's Harrah's Hotel and Casino. Bea finds the slots irresistible, and draws a crowd when she hits a \$5,000 payout, and calls it quits. She insists on security, and has Casino officials arrange her payout via wire transfer to her California bank account.

**Later, Bea awakens at 2 a.m. to find JD is gone.** She is startled and alarmed. Bea uses her cell-phone, for the first time, to try and reach JD but there is no answer. She contacts the desk, alerts security; they all try to calm her but Bea insists something has happened. She dresses quickly and goes to the Casino. Bea covers nearly every square inch, repeatedly recalling JD's cell. Just as police are about to be called, Bea is approached by security and informed JD had called from their room. Both angry and relieved, Bea returns to her room to hear the explanation. The minute Bea opened the door, a tearful JD demanded to know where she had been.

"I've been searching all over for you. You scared me to death, Gram."

Bea is incredulous. It turns out that JD, unable to sleep, returned to the Casino, then the spa and exercise room. When she returned, she found Bea missing. The two had been searching for each other. After a few calm moments the two erupt in laughter.

**Chicago at Last.** By the time Gram and Jessica reach Chicago, both enjoy a much-needed rest. The next morning, during a marathon conversation, Jessica learns Gram has been keeping a potentially life-altering secret: the Retinitis Pigmentosa, an irreversible condition that will likely cost her sight. It is a moment filled with emotion. Jessica realizes the diagnosis was yet another reason the trip was so important to Bea.

**In The Dark:** Despite their frequent cell-phone conversations and texts, Brad and Jessica's friends conceal the fact the road trip is gaining national notoriety: stories are beginning to appear on national TV news shows such as CNN, and MSNBC. Brad has been uploading JD's videos to You Tube, and Twittering about their trip. All this goes unnoticed by Bea and Jessica because most of their downtime is spent talking, sleeping, and instead watching movies, including video of their trip Jessica has been documenting

**More adventures follow,** as the dynamic duo heads for New York on Interstate 90. JD is finally relieved to finally reach a modern roadway, until Bea blows through several toll booths. At the next service plaza, JD insists she drive the rest of the way. Bea agrees.

### ACT THREE

**Big Surprises Greet Them:** What Bea and Jessica do not yet realize is that they have become unwitting celebrities. Video and photos of them, and their car, are all over the web. CNN has been trying, unsuccessfully, to contact them. Reporters have been dispatched to try and locate them.

**Magic:** What Bea and Jessica do not know is that, thanks to someone both know: word has reached Starbuck's headquarters regarding Gram's cross-country trip for her "virgin latte." What's more, the (UCO) owner of the Starbuck's at 125<sup>th</sup> and Lennox Ave in Harlem, Magic Johnson, has been alerted, and is waiting to greet them. Where they receive a green carpet welcome. Magic personally serves Bea her first Latte, on the house.

**Mr. Alvin Reed,** current owner of the Lennox Lounge has been told the story, and how the Lounge, in 1945, served a special place in the life of Beatrice and Andrew Daly. He also welcomes them to dinner and guests during an appearance by Sax legend, Sonny Rollins.

**The "Big Arrival"** in the Big Apple, and especially in Harlem captures the imagination and emotion of the times: past and present. When Bea and Jessica arrive they are stunned by their reception. Jaws drop; eyes bulge, and hearts flutter.

**Roses:** Jessica nearly collapses when a handsome young man steps forward carrying two bouquets of a dozen roses: After an excited embrace and kiss, Bradley presents a bouquet to Jessica, the other to Bea. Bea is not surprised to see Bradley. She knew he would be there. It was all arranged during their following their meeting at Crescent View.

**Harlem and all of New York buzzes.** To their surprise, former President Bill Clinton invites them to visit him in his office, and treats them to signed copies of his book. Bea visits her old

Brooklyn neighborhood and finds it is not the same. She grows emotional and quickly departs. Two days later, Bradley returns to Los Angeles.

**David Letterman:** A David Letterman producer invites Bea and JD to appear on his ‘Late Night’ show. Jessica has to convince her to accept. She does. During the interview, Bea takes over the show. Her wit, charm, and openness leave David leaning back, with arms folded, and mostly listening. Then in a surprise move, David calls for one of the producers to bring a third guest onto the stage.

As all turn to watch, Bea’s 1955 Buick Roadmaster (newly detailed) is driven onto the stage. David turns to Bea:

“Now that is one beautiful machine. And you two drove this all the way from Los Angeles. I hear you did your share of the driving.”

“You bet your sweet...”

“Whoa, careful now. I hear Jay Leno has one of these. But I’m sure yours looks a lot better, though.” All laugh at the dig.

**Bea Takes The Big Apple:** The two enjoy a whirlwind tour of New York, including a Yankee baseball game where Bea and JD appear on the “Videotron,” to great applause. Over the next days, Bea and JD discuss their return trip to California.

Jessica insists one 3000 mile road trip is about all she can handle. Surprisingly, Gram agrees. Bea arranges to have her Roadmaster transported back to California, and agrees to make another first: her very first flight. Gram has never flown before.

So, as interest in her story brings reporters, cameras and crews to JFK, Gram and Jessica, now closer than ever, and with an unbelievable story to write, take off for her trip home.

Just before takeoff, Bea and Jessica are contacted by a literary agent with a publishing offer from Simon & Schuster. JD speculated this could all lead to a film offer, and maybe her dream of acting would also become a reality.

### **In Flight:**

Passenger:

“Excuse me ma’am, ah...you look familiar.”

“Oh? What do you mean?”

“You look, you look just like...like Betty White.”

“Oh, I get that all the time.”

“Weren’t you on Letterman last night?”

“Who’s Letterman?”

THE END