

## Job Preps

Cast: Margaret, Caroline, Bernadette, Melinda

Setting: Margaret, Caroline and Bernadette are at Melinda's house helping Margaret find just the right outfit to wear for her job interview.

Props: Margaret has a variety of different outfits, Melinda has a purse with Oreos in it, Bernadette has a bottle of water.

- 1 MARGARET: So, do you like this dress?  
 2 CAROLINE: It's fine.  
 3 BERNADETTE: Can we just make a decision and go?  
 4 MARGARET: I think it makes me look fat.  
 5 MELINDA: You look fine. Take the stupid thing and let's go.  
 6 MARGARET: My hips look like two overripe watermelons  
 7 wiggling away under this thing.  
 8 CAROLINE: Then don't use it, Margaret. Try on something  
 9 else.  
 10 BERNADETTE: I've got to get going ... Vinnie's waiting for  
 11 me ...  
 12 MELINDA: *(Cutting her off)* Vinnie's waiting for me ... Yeah,  
 13 we know, Bernadette. We don't care.  
 14 BERNADETTE: Jealous, Melinda?  
 15 CAROLINE: I'm starving.  
 16 MARGARET: I told you to eat before we came over to  
 17 Melinda's.  
 18 CAROLINE: I did eat. That was six hours ago. My  
 19 metabolism is normal, my food has been digested, my  
 20 blood sugar is dropping and so am I.  
 21 MELINDA: Stop complaining. *(Reaching in her purse)* Have  
 22 a cookie.  
 23 CAROLINE: I can't just eat a cookie. It's too dry. If I pass out,  
 24 I hold all of you responsible.  
 25 BERNADETTE: Oh, for heaven's sake. Eat the cookie.

- 1 CAROLINE: Dry? I'll choke to death.  
 2 MARGARET: Should I try on the red dress?  
 3 BERNADETTE: Here, drink some of my water to wash it  
 4 down with.  
 5 MELINDA: Take the one you have and let's get going. We all  
 6 have things to do.  
 7 CAROLINE: Melinda, give me something from the fridge.  
 8 MELINDA: My mom's dieting. There's nothing in there but  
 9 two pieces of sliced jicama and tofu.  
 10 CAROLINE: Never mind. Give me the cookie.  
 11 MARGARET: Give me a cookie, too.  
 12 CAROLINE: Oh, so now you're hungry, too?  
 13 MARGARET: Oreos? I don't really care for Oreos.  
 14 MELINDA: *(Reaching again into her purse)* How about a  
 15 Strawberry Newton?  
 16 CAROLINE: I want that.  
 17 BERNADETTE: You already took a bite out of the Oreo.  
 18 CAROLINE: I can't have both?  
 19 MELINDA: *(Flinging her purse to the floor in front of them)*  
 20 Oh, jeez, just help yourselves.  
 21 BERNADETTE: Hey! Don't put your mouth on my bottle.  
 22 MARGARET: I am going to try on the other one I left in the  
 23 bathroom. I'll be right back. *(Exits.)*  
 24 MELINDA: We are never going to get out of here.  
 25 BERNADETTE: Why are we even here? Does anyone care  
 less than I about what Margaret wears on her job  
 interview?  
 CAROLINE: *(Quietly)* Why is she bothering? She's not going  
 to get the job.  
 MARGARET: *(From Off-stage)* I can hear you, ya know.  
 CAROLINE: *(Loud enough to be heard)* You're not going to  
 get the job.  
 MARGARET: You don't know that.  
 BERNADETTE: Who cares? Can we go? Vinnie and I are  
 going to an accordion concert tonight.



1 MELINDA: Yeah, wouldn't want to be late for that.  
 2 BERNADETTE: *(Flatly, an old argument)* Shut up.  
 3 CAROLINE: Why are you even going in for this interview?  
 4 MARGARET: Why not?  
 5 MELINDA: How about lack of qualifications?  
 6 MARGARET: *(Coming out in the new dress)* Please. How  
 7 qualified do you have to be?  
 8 CAROLINE: Oh, let's see. You are applying for an aerobics  
 9 instructor job. Perhaps you should know aerobics.  
 10 MARGARET: You dance around, sweat and just shout out  
 11 the occasional "You go, girl!" or "Dig in! Dig in!" How  
 12 difficult can that be?  
 13 BERNADETTE: Well, when you drop dead of your stroke,  
 14 we can all use it as an excuse to buy a new black outfit.  
 15 You are the most out-of-shape person I know.  
 16 MARGARET: Am not.  
 17 BERNADETTE: Are too.  
 18 MARGARET: Not!  
 19 BERNADETTE: Are!  
 20 MARGARET: Not!  
 21 BERNADETTE: Are!  
 22 MARGARET: Not!  
 23 MELINDA: When you two are done with this witty  
 24 conversation, perhaps we can move on.  
 25 MARGARET: Listen. Maybe I should wear dance tights with  
 26 a little flowy skirt over it.  
 27 BERNADETTE: Bad fashion choice.  
 28 CAROLINE: I hope you get this job, just so I can see you  
 29 attempt to do aerobics.  
 30 MARGARET: You want to see? Come on, right now. Let's go.  
 31 CAROLINE: You'll drop dead right in front of us.  
 32 BERNADETTE: So, are you wearing the dress you have on?  
 33 It looks fine. Melinda, take me home.  
 34 MELINDA: You don't know she'd drop dead.  
 35 CAROLINE: Dead as a doornail. Dead as last season's shoes,

1 dead as dead person. Dead.  
 2 MARGARET: Shut up. I'll be fine.  
 3 BERNADETTE: Melinda, I have your keys, let's go.  
 4 MELINDA: Margaret, Caroline has a point. You know you  
 5 don't just stand there, you have to move with them.  
 6 MARGARET: I'm not stupid. I watch those exercise shows.  
 7 CAROLINE: From your couch.  
 8 BERNADETTE: If I'm late for that concert, Vinnie's mom  
 9 will never forgive me.  
 10 MARGARET: Have you ever done aerobics?  
 11 CAROLINE: A couple times. I don't live under a rock, ya  
 12 know.  
 13 BERNADETTE: She's playing lead accordion. I can't walk in  
 14 late. It would be rude.  
 15 MELINDA: Margaret, do you have a routine figured out?  
 16 MARGARET: For what?  
 17 MELINDA: What if they ask you to audition?  
 18 MARGARET: Audition??  
 19 CAROLINE: You're screwed.  
 20 BERNADETTE: Good. That's decided. Melinda, take me  
 21 home.  
 22 MARGARET: I can make something up, I guess.  
 23 CAROLINE: You're screwed.  
 24 MARGARET: I really want this job. Have you seen how  
 25 many cute guys go into this club?  
 26 MELINDA: We should help her out.  
 27 CAROLINE: How?  
 28 MARGARET: I remember some stuff from that Richard  
 29 Simmons video.  
 30 MELINDA: Do you have any oldies music?  
 31 CAROLINE: Why does she need music?  
 32 MELINDA: So she can lead us in an aerobics lesson and we  
 33 can help her out with some ideas.  
 34 BERNADETTE: That would involve sweat, wouldn't it?  
 35 MARGARET: How's this one? *(She names a song from the '50s.)*

1 **BERNADETTE:** Sweating? I sweat for no one.  
 2 **MELINDA:** You want a ride home?  
 3 **BERNADETTE:** Like twenty minutes ago.  
 4 **MELINDA:** Give us just a while to help Margaret out, then  
 5 we can go.  
 6 **MARGARET:** Come on, Bernadette. I need this job. My cash  
 7 is running low.  
 8 **CAROLINE:** That will happen when you spend it all on stuff  
 9 you don't need.  
 10 **MARGARET:** I needed that faux fur hat.  
 11 **CAROLINE:** Yeah. You really need to walk around with the  
 12 fake carcass of some poor animal perched on your  
 13 head.  
 14 **MARGARET:** Some of us care about fashion.  
 15 **BERNADETTE:** Some of us care about getting to our  
 16 appointments.  
 17 **MELINDA:** It's only an accordion concert. Unless Drew  
 18 Carey is hosting it, you will be missing nothing.  
 19 **BERNADETTE:** But Vinnie ...  
 20 **MARGARET:** Boyfriends come and go. Friends last a  
 21 lifetime.  
 22 **BERNADETTE:** A lovely Hallmark sentiment. You've got  
 23 one song, and then we have to go!  
 24 **MARGARET:** OK.  
 25 **BERNADETTE:** One song.  
 26 **MELINDA:** This will be fun. We can all use a good workout!  
 27 **CAROLINE:** I sense disaster.  
 28 **MARGARET:** You guys line up over here. (*CAROLINE,*  
 29 *MELINDA* and *BERNADETTE* form a line facing  
 30 *MARGARET*.) Now, the song. (*She pushes play and begins to*  
 31 *"do aerobics," CAROLINE, MELINDA* and *BERNADETTE*  
 32 *follow her frenetic moves.*) Yeah! Go! Scoop down, scoop  
 33 down! (*The music and routine should last a minimum of*  
 34 *two minutes, no longer than three before the last girl*  
 35 *drops out. As she continues, they all become out of*

1 breath, dropping out, quitting. They sit in exhausted  
 2 silence for a moment, breathing heavily.)  
 3 **CAROLINE:** (*Deadpanned*) This was fun.  
 4 **BERNADETTE:** I have to take a shower. I'm sweating.  
 5 **MELINDA:** We're out of shape. Maybe we should all join a  
 6 gym.  
 7 **CAROLINE:** Just give me another cookie  
 8 **MARGARET:** (*Gasping for breath*) I wonder if that job at  
 9 Taco Bell is still open.