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TRUDY: Is this really happening?

PAULA: I think so...

TRUDY: Will you...?

PAULA: Pinch me.

TRUDY: Yeah.

PAULA: Three...

TRUDY: Two...

TRUDY: One... Ow! **PAULA:** One... Ow!

TRUDY: Well... That's that. It's really happening, Paula... I don't understand, but—

PAULA: I was on the phone with my father when we found out. I told him I loved him and then it cut out. Nothing since. But you're here. Thank you for coming.

TRUDY: I was home. I heard people outside, yelling, crying. I turned on the news and found out. Then the emergency broadcast thing came on. I spent, I don't know how long, trying to make calls. Nothing. A waste of minutes. And then I remembered I was headed here anyway, so I just came...

PAULA: Why are you dressed up? What's in the bag?

TRUDY: Paula, I know you said you wanted to be alone today. I know you said it's just another day and you didn't want to do anything, but I had planned to kidnap you, take you to the city and show you a good time. I missed your thirtieth birthday and I have always regretted it, and here you are turning forty today. Literally not even the end of the world was going to stop me. *(They hug again.)*

PAULA: Trudy, you missed my thirtieth because you were in the hospital with appendicitis. It's not your fault... But I'm, I'm glad you're here now.

TRUDY: *(Near tears:)* I always felt that I could have toughed it out a few more hours and met you all out at Red Lobster. I know how much you love Cheddar Bay Biscuits. *(Crying a bit.)*

PAULA: Okay, okay. Calm down. What's in the bag?

TRUDY: *(Recovering quite quickly:)* I brought you a party.

PAULA: You what?

TRUDY: It may be the end of the world, but it's also your birthday, so we're going to celebrate. It's all we can do...

PAULA: You didn't have to do this, Trudy.

TRUDY: Yes, I did. *(PAULA goes to hug TRUDY, but TRUDY pulls back.)*

TRUDY: We have a lot to do and we don't have a lot of time, so we've gotta get moving.

So, first cake, then presents, then drinks, a game, more drinks, then popcorn and a movie to end it, just like we used to when we were younger *(She starts to tear up.)* Hold it together, Trudy. Okay, let's begin.

PAULA: If you say so.