11 If only ...

Five college friends get together to talk about their past, present, and future.

Deanna: I think they're coming.

. . .

Pamela: Yeah, me, too! Just like when we were in college. . . . Now, how about some of my mother's special chocolate cake for dessert?

Roberta: OK.

. . .

Amelia, Deanna,

Laura: Surprise! Happy birthday!

Roberta: Oh, you guys! I really thought you had

forgotten.

Pamela: Who, me? Forget?

Roberta: You didn't say anything the whole night.

I had no idea.

. . .

Amelia: Hey, guys. Guys! Before we open presents and have birthday cake, how about looking at

a few pictures?

Deanna: Oh, no!

Amelia: OK. Here goes.

Roberta: Oh, look at Deanna: always the serious

one.

Amelia: Even then, you were hard at work.

Deanna: I know. I should have been more carefree like the rest of you. I never learned to relax.

Laura: Oh, but you were so sensible. You always did well in school and graduated at the top of

your class.

Roberta: Yeah. Now look at you. You are a

successful lawyer.

Deanna: Yes, but I didn't think that having a good time in college was important. The moment I graduated, I realized I had missed a lot. I still don't know how to relax and have fun.

Pamela: Well, Deanna, if I had listened to you, I wouldn't be just a clerk at the office. I'd be

the manager.

Deanna: What do you mean?

. . .

Deanna: Oh, Pamela, don't you think you should study for your exams?

Pamela: Yeah. Yeah. after this.

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Deanna: Oh, yeah.

Pamela: But, hey! Now I'm taking classes at night, and I hope to earn my degree in business

administration.

Roberta: But you have to study, Pamela.

Pamela: I know, I know.

Amelia: And look at me. I'm still waiting tables.

I'm not the big actress I dreamed of

becoming.

Roberta: Look. Remember this?

. . .

Deanna: You were fantastic that night.

Amelia: I was so naive. I thought that just being a good actress was the key to success. If I'd been more realistic, I would have majored in education. At least now, I could be teaching

drama instead of waiting tables.

Laura: Don't worry, Amelia. You'll make it.

Roberta: Yeah, before you know it, you'll be a famous movie star, and we'll all have to line

up to get your autograph.

Laura: May I have your autograph, please?

Amelia: Autograph, right. We'll be asking for *your*

autograph soon.

Deanna: Yeah. The Internet genius.

Laura: I am a long way from being that famous, guys. I'm ambitious, yes, but not famous.

Roberta: All those long hours in front of the

computer sure paid off.

Laura: Seven A.M.! My exam!

. . .

Deanna: You lost a lot of sleep, but if you hadn't been so dedicated, you'd never have become president of your own Internet company.

Laura: I guess that's true.

Pamela: And what about you, Roberta? Have you finally decided what you want to do?

Amelia: You certainly have traveled a lot.

Roberta: Yes, I have. But it's time to settle down into a career. The moment I took my first trip, I knew what I wanted to be.

Deanna: What's that? Roberta: A travel agent! Pamela: That's perfect!

Roberta: I took a lot of business, but I should have majored in languages. Knowing different languages can really help when you're in the travel industry.

Amelia: We agree. That's why . . . we got you these.

Deanna: Go ahead, open it.

Roberta: Oh! Just what I needed! . . . This is

so ... - Thanks, you guys!