

MOTHER BURNSIDE

1-10-53

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JEFF

Why, Sally Cato.

SALLY CATO

Hello, Jeff honey.

FAN

Didn't rightly 'spect you to be comin' round for the doin's.

SALLY CATO

(Dripping sweetness)

However could I manage to stay away when me and Beau've been engaged since grammar school? I wouldn't feel like a true daughter of the South if I didn't ooze out all the hospitality that's just simmerin' in my innerds!

(The GUESTS almost snap to attention as MOTHER BURNSIDE appears from within the house, on BEAU's arm. She is a massive octogenarian)

MOTHER BURNSIDE

START What do you mean I don't look happy, Beauregard? I'm always happy.

(She scrutinizes each GUEST disdainfully)

When are you gonna trot out that New York filly? All I can see around here is family.

BEAU

Now, Mother --

MOTHER BURNSIDE

'Ceptin' you, Sally Cato. When we got peaches right here, ripe for the pickin', I cain't see why any man would go hankerin' after some Northern alligator pear.

BEAU

Mother, the War Between the States is over.

MOTHER BURNSIDE

(Dismissing such nonsense)

Don't give me any of that Appomattox applesauce.

SALLY CATO

(Kissing BEAU's cheek)

Welcome home, Beau sugah.

BEAU

(Uncomfortably)

Hello there, Sally Cato.

(Calling)

Mame! Mame honey, we're all out here, waitin' for you.

