



HEART'S DESIRE

by Ali Kemp & Deborah Klayman

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Characters

- Sally Sparkle:** Late 40s/early 50s, Veteran presenter whose husband (Stan Sparkle) is far more famous than her, causing her endless irritation. Outwardly bright, sassy and flirty with an eye for younger men. Inwardly dissatisfied with a whiff of desperation.
- Heart's Desire: To front a Prime-Time, Saturday night show and be more famous than her husband.
- Ade Aduba:** 20s, very good looking "cheeky chappie". Although initially cast as eye candy he is a very capable presenter. Affable, likeable and trustworthy – girls fancy him and guys would buy him a pint. Started out in children's TV, Ade is ambitious and wants to be taken seriously – this is his first step towards mainstream programming.
- Heart's Desire: To be the next presenter of Question Time.
- Jenny Collins:** 30s, single mum to 9 year old Lucy. Primary school teacher, currently single, who lives in a rented flat near her parents in Milton Keynes. Met Rachael at University in Nottingham (Nottingham Trent). Lived together in halls, Jenny studied Fine Art. Moved to London together and initially worked in a gallery, but moved home after having Lucy and retrained as a teacher. Best friends with Rachael, speak almost daily and meet up often. Rachael is Lucy's godmother and Jenny has a good relationship with Tim.
- Heart's Desire: To own her own home, a semi with a garden in Milton Keynes.
- Rachael Thomas :** 30s, seems to have the perfect life. Good career as a buyer for a high street chain, long term boyfriend Tim is a sports agent. They recently bought their first home – a loft conversion in Shoreditch. Met Jenny at University in Nottingham (Nottingham Trent). Lived together in halls, Rachael studied Business. Moved to London together, Rachael took a job in Top Shop and worked her way up. Best friends with Jenny, speak almost daily and meet up often. Rachael is Lucy's godmother.
- Heart's Desire: To design a collection for London Fashion week.

*The studio recording of weeknight gameshow, **Heart's Desire**.*

Ade Aduba bounds on to the stage. He is a good looking 'cheeky chappie'. An 'applause' board sits on a stand SR.

Ade: Ladies and gentlemen, my name is Ade Aduba and I want to welcome you to tonight's filming of **Heart's Desire**!

Heart's Desire is a game like no other: two best friends work together to put "points in the pot" in order to make it to our nail-biting final round where one of them could win their **Heart's Desire**.

But here's the twist – "The head doesn't always know the **Heart's Desire**". Our **Contestant Heart's Desire Information** computer, or CoHDI, is going to determine that for us!

Our contestants have filled in a comprehensive questionnaire prior to selection, and that information, coupled with their answers on tonight's show, will allow our computer to generate each contestant's true **Heart's Desire** - don't worry, ladies and gentlemen, the high tech happens behind the scenes so that we can just enjoy the game!

Okay, well now you're ready, I can hear in my ear that it's time to get on with the show. So without further ado, here she comes, your host for the evening, the queen of your **Heart's Desire**....the spectacular Sally Sparkle!

Ade indicates 'Applause Sign'. Sally enters. She is late 40s/early 50s, a veteran presenter.

Sally: Thank you, thank you, you're too kind ladies and gentlemen. And a special thank you to my co-host, the talented – and gorgeous – Ade Aduba!

Ade: Right back at you, Sally.

Sally: Do you know what my **Heart's Desire** is, Ade?

Ade: I'm pretty sure it's not pre-watershed material, Sally!

Ade exits.

Sally: Oh Ade! Now remember, ladies and gentlemen, if you want to apply to be a contestant on **Heart's Desire**, you can find all the details on our website: www.heartsdesire.co.uk.

Now, without further ado, let's bring on our best friends!

Ade re-enters, indicates 'Applause' sign. Jenny and Rachael enter and take up their game positions.

Ade: Let's meet the contestants! Hi there ladies, please tell us your name and where you're from.

Rach: Hi, I'm Rachael. I'm a buyer for a fashion retailer and I'm from London.

Jen: Hi, I'm Jenny and I'm a primary school teacher and mum from Milton Keynes.

Sally: Welcome ladies, lovely to have you here.

Both: Thanks Sally.

Sally: And girls, aren't we lucky to have such a hunk looking after us?

Ade: Thanks Sally, and you're looking exceptional tonight .

Sally: How do I keep my hands to myself? Now ladies, why don't you each tell us a little something about your best friend?

Rach: Well Sally, this is my best friend Jenny, and we've known each other since we met at university in Nottingham.

Sally: Oh, my home town! And Nottingham University is a world top 1% university, ladies and gentlemen.

Jen: Erm, actually we went to Nottingham Trent.

Sally: Oh, the poly?

Rach: It's a university.

Sally: So Jen, you mentioned that you're a mum.

Jen: Yes Sally, I have a nine-year old daughter called Lucy, and Rachael's her godmother.

Sally: Isn't that fantastic ladies and gentlemen? And how often do you all get to see each other?

Rach: Well unfortunately as my boyfriend Tim and I live in London, and Jenny and Lucy are in Milton Keynes, not as often as we'd like.

Jen: But we talk every day and see each other every couple of weeks.

Sally: This is clearly a very close friendship, and a long one at that. Rachael, I understand your boyfriend Tim is a sport's agent – and quite a handsome one!

Rach: Yeah he's amazing, Sally, and I love that he and Jenny get on so well.

Jen: And he's great with Lucy.

Sally: You really seem like the best of friends, so tell me ladies, how far would you go to help your friend win her **Heart's Desire**?

Rach: Well Sally, my **Heart's Desire** is for Jenny to be happy, so both of us are going to be winners tonight.

Jen: Yes Sally, whichever of us wins that final game, we'll both be over the moon.

Sally: Well ladies and gentlemen, those are our lovely contestants – now it's back to my sexy co-host, Ade Aduba, to introduce the first game.

Ade: Thanks Sally, too kind as always. Ladies and gentlemen, Rachael and Jenny are ready to play **Heart's Desire**. Round One will test how well they work together. For each question the girls can put 20 points on one answer or spread across the options, "hedging their bets". They must put at least 50 "points in the pot" to go through to the next round.