

Phone rings, and Maude answers. God is on the line.

MAUDE
Hello?

GOD
Maude Ribowski?

MAUDE
Yes.

GOD
Maude. This is God.

MAUDE
Oh.

GOD
The One and only. The Creator. God Almighty.

MAUDE
Yes, yes I know.

GOD
Maude?

MAUDE
Yes?

GOD
I received a message from you.

MAUDE
Yes God, I prayed a couple of days ago to you.

GOD
So, I'm just returning your call.

MAUDE
Yes, of course, thank you.

GOD

Sorry it's been--

MAUDE

Oh, don't worry.

GOD

It's been a couple of days--

MAUDE

I understand I understand, please it's no big deal.

GOD

I've been busy.

MAUDE

Well, of course you have.

GOD

You know, this time of year, it just gets crazy for me.

MAUDE

Yes. I believe it.

GOD

So.... yeah.

MAUDE

Mmmm.

GOD

So, uh.... what was it you wanted?

MAUDE

Oh! Yes, of course. I almost forgot.

GOD

'Cause it's been a couple of days and I--

MAUDE

Yes, yes, well please don't worry about it. Do you remember the Church Bake-Off from last year?

GOD

Church Bake-Off...?

MAUDE

St. Mary's of the Apostate.

GOD

Yes, yes, of course, I remember now.

MAUDE

Last year Betty Marlean won--

GOD

Right. The, uh, jelly filled pastry wraps.

MAUDE

Raspberry jam.

GOD

Right, raspberry jam filled. Those were good.

MAUDE

Yes they were, they were.

GOD

Yes.

MAUDE

Well, so, anyway, this year I thought I'd make my Lemon Bars and, uh...

GOD

Mmmm, Lemon Bars, sounds good.

MAUDE

Yes, and, well... It's been a tough year for me, what with Hank's hernia, and I did lose my primary seat in the quilting circle. Bursitis. And Blanche has some sort of heart murmur, or--

GOD

Yes yes.

MAUDE

Or something. And I don't know... It's just been a rough couple of months, and I could really use a pick-me-up.

GOD

You want to win this year's Bake-Off.

MAUDE

Yes, well, at least beat out Betty Marlean.

GOD

Oh.

MAUDE

You know, you didn't hear this from me, but I heard a rumor going around that Betty has had a fling with the mailman.

GOD

Bruce?

MAUDE

Yes. And Frank's none the wiser. Although they could do it in front of Frank on the living room table and he probably wouldn't notice.

GOD

He is sort of oblivious, isn't he?

MAUDE

Yes. Anyway, I thought that that sort of behavior is not exactly becoming of a Bake-Off champion.

GOD

No. No I suppose it's not.

MAUDE

So... could I...?

GOD

Lemon bars. Yes, why don't you try a little bit of Almond extract this time.

MAUDE

Almond extract, that's a good idea.

GOD

Trust me, 1 tablespoon. It'll make all the difference.

MAUDE

Oh thank you God, thank you.

GOD

No problem. Is there anything else I can do for you?

MAUDE

Oh, could you smite Betty Marlean's Raspberry Filled Pastries?

GOD

Already done.

MAUDE

Thank you.... uh... amen.

GOD

Amen to you too Maude.

(click)