

HURRICANE DIANE by Madeleine George

PAM ANNUNZIATA

(Pam Annunziata is a vibrant, bold, outspoken, funny, Italian-American, Jersey housewife who hires Diane to design her backyard to resemble Delfini's Italian deli on Front Street. She wants an Italian villa with hanging vines, roses, and a fountain.)

Anyway, my neighbor was telling me all about your pawpaw forest, and I'm definitely interested, I'll need to hear the details, but here's the thing: I have a little something else in mind. It's not practical, it's not gonna seem related, but I have always dreamed of having my own Italian garden exactly like in the mural outside Delfini's, you know, the deli on Front Street?

You haven't been to Delfini's? What's the matter with you, how long you been in town you haven't been to Delfini's? I am shocked I am

SCANDALIZED Diane, truly, it is not neighborly of you not to patronize that place, it's a local family place, you gotta get your butt in there. First of all it is DUHLICIOUS, best delicatessen this side of Brooklyn, and the prepared foods? So authentic, and plus the service, anyway, and they have this painting. Now I have not personally been to Italy, I'm full-blooded Italian, both sides, mother's family Abruzzo father's family Napoli but they met in the States at a USO dance, it's a whole story. Now my husband has been to Italy on business several times, but I personally have never been, and I was thinking that in case I never get to go, what I would love is to have my own little Italian garden just like the one outside Delfini's with the hanging vines, the roses, the fountain, the whole nine. And then even if I never do get to go, I can still look out my window while I'm doing the dishes and see a little miniature version of it right there.