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"Where have you been?" Larry asked gently as he saw Joan walking into the living room. He actually saw what happened in the park.

"I went out for a stroll," Joan answered.

She did not talk about what happened between her and Dustin because she did not want to annoy Larry.

"Where did you go?" He probed.

"The park." There was no explanation, so Larry looked towards Joan, waiting for one.

Nevertheless, Joan said nothing and went straight to her room.

Is she in a bad mood because she feels guilty? Or is it something else?

"Dinner's ready!" Delilah announced from the dining room.

"Coming!" Lucius exclaimed as he hurried out his room.

"Where's Joan? Is she still out?" Delilah asked.

As though she heard her, Joan shouted from her room, "I'm skipping dinner!"

What happened here? Did something happen between her and Larry? Delilah's gaze shifted from Joan's room to the man in front of her as suspicions filled her mind.

"She's just a bit tired today," Larry quickly explained.

"Dad, why's Mom tired?" Lucius asked with a soft tone.

Larry patted Lucius head. "Your mother is a little busy recently."

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Is that so? I didn't hear anything about any event happening at the supermarket, though. Despite the thought in mind, Lucius lowered his head and went on with his meal.

Meanwhile, Delilah added more food to his plate. "Eat up, Lucius. Your exams are coming up soon, so you need all the energy you can get." She attempted to change the subject.

"It's been freezing recently. Don't forget to put on more clothes," she continued.

On the other hand, Joan was standing at the window in the room, looking out at the pitch-black sky, lost in her thoughts.

Besides Larry, Dustin was another person she trusted the most. She felt heartbroken to think that Dustin would treat her like that.

"Joan. What happened between you and Dustin?" Nancy called Joan on the phone.

"Why did you ask?" Joan responded with a question of her own.

"Jory told me that Dustin is leaving soon. I think he said he was going overseas."

Is it because of what happened? The thought made Joan shudder as her heart sank.

Is our friendship going to be over, just like that?

Right then, Larry opened the door. "What's wrong? Are you really not eating?" he asked.

"I'm not hungry."

Hearing that, Larry's heart ached as he looked at the fatigued expression Joan wore on her face.

"Did something happen?" he asked deliberately, trying to get Joan to come forward.

"It's nothing," Joan muttered.

That was very straightforward. What is she trying to hide? Larry scanned her from head to toe like he was anticipating something more.

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"Joan, did you forget something?" Larry asked out of the blue.

Joan was caught off guard as she did not know what the man in front of her was referring to.

"Not that I know of," she denied. Larry figured she was not going to tell him anything no matter what, but he continued probing.

"Did Dustin contact you recently?"

"He did." Joan's answer was brief. Having said that, there was no more follow-up as Joan left the room.

What is she trying to hide? Larry looked at the woman from upstairs, flustered.

"Mom, Grandma kept some food for you in the kitchen," Lucius' voice echoed from the living room.

"Alright. Got it." Joan replied immediately.

The next morning, Larry woke up early and headed to the company. Delilah worked in the garden, and Lucius went to school, so Joan was the only one left in the house.

After what happened between Dustin and her, Joan decided to quit the job at the supermarket. Hence, she sent Dustin a text informing him that she would no longer go to work.

At the supermarket. "Mr. Silverman, are you really leaving? We'll all miss you," an employee said as she cried.

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"That's right, Dustin. Things will come to pass. You don't have to go abroad. Moreover, what's going to happen to us if you leave?"

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"Mr. Silverman, please don't go... "

Truth be told, Dustin seemed cruel and merciless sometimes, but he treated the employees in the supermarket extremely well. Not only was their pay two times higher than the workers in the other supermarkets, but he would also organize gatherings for them frequently. Because of that, everyone listened to him and was reluctant to see him leave.

"Alright now! Be happy. I'm not dead and I'll be fine, so don't worry about me," Dustin responded with a smile as he looked around.

He was looking for Joan, but she was not there. She's still angry at me! Why won't she forgive me!

"Mr. Silverman, let's get together tonight, shall we? We're going to miss you!" an employee proposed out of nowhere.

"Yeah! Mr. Silverman. Let's have a meal together, take it as a farewell party!" a girl chimed in while wiping away her tears.

What happened right there made Dustin feel warm inside.

Of all the things he had done in the past, working in this supermarket was the one thing that he never regretted.

"Alright then. You guys go tidy everything up. We're getting off early today," Dustin announced before heading to his office.

Will Joan come tonight? I doubt it. She must really hate me now. Dustin rested his head on the desk. His silhouette was that of an exhausted man.

In the end, he needed to let go and disappear for a while.

Jory told him to go traveling more often so he could meet different people and see something different. Maybe he would meet the one true love that he had been waiting for in his long-awaited travels.

Soon after, everyone was done with their tasks. So, Dustin went ahead and brought them to a restaurant nearby. It was the most luxurious restaurant there with a great ambiance. They would always go there for all the gatherings.

"Hey, where's Joan? Is she not here yet? Quick. Give her a call," a woman said.

"I did. She said she had something going on, so she won't be able to make it," someone responded.

What is this girl doing? How could she miss such an important occasion! Dustin's leaving, but she's acting like it's not a big deal?

"Hey! Joan. What're you busy with? Get over here right now!" A plump woman shouted at the phone.

"I have things to attend to, so I won't be able to make it." Joan was discreet as it was just an excuse. She just did not want to see Dustin.

"Come on. Don't tell me you don't know how Dustin feels about you. Everyone in the supermarket knows that he worked at the supermarket because of you! On top of that, he has done so many things for you! Even if you don't like him, you should still have the common courtesy of bidding him farewell, right?"

Her statement left Joan speechless at the other end of the line. Joan did not know what she could say to refute the woman since none of them knew what happened between the two of them.

"Alright now. Just come here quickly. Don't make me go there and drag you out personally," the woman said before ending the call.

At that moment, Joan was staring at her phone with a perplexed expression. She was lost all of a sudden.

What should I do? Joan could not forgive what Dustin did to her and Larry just yet. But he's leaving soon!

She hesitated for quite some time before finally making up her mind, walking out, and headed straight towards the restaurant.

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Back at the restaurant, the private room Dustin and the lot were in was livelier than ever. Everyone was smiling, glasses clanging around as they toasted and mingled. No one was thinking about how it was Dustin's last night in the country and how they may never get to see this man again.

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The door opened all of a sudden, and Joan walked in.

She took an awkward glance at Dustin, then she smiled at everyone.

"Sorry, I'm late," Joan said as she approached the table.

"What do we do to latecomers?" One of the older women raised her hand out of the blue.

"She has to drink!" Everyone answered simultaneously before bursting out into a fit of laughter.

Seriously? Joan looked at what was going on in front of her, backing away instinctively.

"I am not feeling well today, so... "

"So you should drink even more!" a young man exclaimed. As soon as those words came out of his mouth, the mood in the room was heightened to the next level.

"I'll drink for her!" Dustin immediately stood up.

Joan was astonished by the man in front of her. Her face blushed as she was at a loss.

They just got in a fight not long ago, but Dustin had offered to help her resolve the situation.

"Huh? Are you worried about Joan, Mr. Silverman? Why don't you worry about me instead? I look good too, right?" A young lady sauntered towards Dustin with narrowed eyes and a glass in hand.

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"Stop that! You should just go and enjoy your drink!" A young man came along and pulled the lady to the side.

"It's alright," Joan spoke. "I'll drink." She picked up a glass and started drinking.

"Cool! Alright, guys. Get the drinks ready! She has two more to go!"

Watching how Joan down the drinks worried Dustin.

He knew that she was greatly disappointed with him and did not want to pay him any heed.

"Okay! One more!" The other employees were cheering Joan on.

Soon, she lost count of how much she had and got drunk.

"Joan, wake up. Don't sleep here." Dustin patted her on the shoulder.

They got her really drunk.

"Mr. Silverman, Joan is drunk. You should send her home."

Everyone in the supermarket knew that Larry and Joan were divorced. They were hoping that Dustin could get together with her, so they made sure to create some alone time for the two.

"Yeah, Mr. Silverman. We should be going home too. It's late. We'll leave Joan in your care."

It did not take long before everyone left, leaving only Dustin and Joan behind.

He slowly approached her and uncovered her face under the strains of hair, caressing it with a strange expression on his face. The longing and love he had for her welled up inside him.

"Larry... " The woman on the sofa mumbled.

All she thinks of is Larry even in her sleep. Dustin was rather helpless when he heard that.

He once thought that Joan would notice his existence as long as he stayed by her side and secretly protected her. Lo and behold, she had finally noticed him, but it was time to say goodbye.

Dustin was both scared and disappointed. He truly had no idea what he should do to attain the woman's heart.

Meanwhile, Joan's phone in her bag had been ringing. It was obviously Larry. Looking at the name on the screen, Dustin's expression darkened.

"Joan, wake up. Larry's calling you." He gave her a light shake, but Joan was out cold.

After quite some deliberation, Dustin crouched down and carried Joan on his back before leaving the restaurant.

"Larry, Joan's not back yet. Could she be in trouble?" Delilah looked towards the sky and asked softly. She was quite worried.

"I'll go look for her!" Larry exclaimed, grabbing his coat and headed out.

Having said that, Larry saw a familiar face not far away right after he left the house.

Why are these two together? Why is she on his back? Larry froze on the spot, exuding a murderous aura.