

MICHAEL

She clearly doesn't want me. Why should I stay. You told me she's good natured and cooperative.

MOTHER

She said that? Must have had sugar in her coffee.

MICHAEL

I've explained that seniors know what they want. She doesn't want anyone here. So, why waste her money?

MOTHER

She paid you from my money.

MICHAEL

I think so. Your name is Evelyn, right? That was the name on the check. In trust for Daphne...

MOTHER

You paid him with my money? How dare you. You knew I wouldn't like him.

MICHAEL

Break my heart. I should get going.

MOTHER

You stay right there. I want the whole story from you.

DAPHNE

There's no story. I placed an ad looking for a caregiver. He answered, had good references and I hired him.

MOTHER

How come you were unemployed?

MICHAEL

My last lady died.

MOTHER

You kill her?

DAPHNE

Of course not. She had an end-stage disease.

MOTHER

You mean cancer? You're allowed to say words like that.

MICHAEL

Most people whisper that word.

MOTHER

They think if they say it, they'll catch it. So stupid.

MICHAEL

I agree. Look if I have to stay, do you have any cards? I don't want to be on my phone all the time. That's kind of rude.

MOTHER

Playing cards in front of me is rude, if you ask me.

MICHAEL

Would you like to play?

MOTHER

I don't play cards.

MICHAEL

Okay, then. I'll just play on my phone.

MOTHER

What?

MICHAEL

It's a word game. Very addictive. I'm up to level 742. When Mrs. Lewis was very ill and didn't really need me during the day, I started playing. But I was always there... near her. She'd watch her shows then doze off. There's a lot of waiting with a job like this.

MOTHER

So you're paid for playing cards.

DAPHNE

Mother!

MICHAEL

In a way, yes. Especially when patients are gravely ill. But with patients like you, I like to take them out. Do stuff. Get some fresh air. Go to the library. Help around the house.

DAPHNE

That would be a blessing.