

Lost and Found

Susan K. Callahan

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LOST AND FOUND

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CAST

FRED HARRISON: In his sixties, cantankerous, but deeply in love with his wife of 35 years, Jeanne.

JEANNE HARRISON: In her sixties, gentle but feisty when it comes to dealing with her beloved husband, Fred.

Place

The home of Fred and Jeanne Harrison.

Time

The present. A Saturday evening.

Setting: A kitchen. The décor is cheery, but definitely lived-in with several days' worth of mail and newspapers cluttering the counter area and table. A desk or wall phone is in full view.

At Rise: Fred is leaning against the counter, checking the content of the pockets in his sports coat as though he is trying to find something. Jeanne enters, a bit flustered. She is dressed to go out for the evening but is not quite all put together.

FRED: Ready to go?

JEANNE: Almost. I just have to find my keys.

FRED: Here we go again.

JEANNE: You don't have to get nasty about it.

FRED: Well, it's true, isn't it?

JEANNE: What do you mean by that?

FRED: Every time we get ready to go out, you can't find something you need. If it's not your keys, it's your purse, or your gloves, or your phone. And you know how I feel about that phone. Why on earth you think you need to take that thing with you everywhere you go is beyond me.

JEANNE: Will you please stop ranting and raving about my cell phone and help me find my keys?

FRED: Hmph! Any idea where you left them?

JEANNE: If I knew that, would I still be looking for them?

FRED: What do they look like?

JEANNE: What do you mean, "What do they look like?" They're keys! You know the shiny metal things with jagged teeth and points on the ends.

FRED: You can cut the sarcasm right now. I just want to be sure I'm looking for the right set.

JEANNE: They're the keys I use all the time. The ones with the little silver frog on the key ring.

FRED: That's a frog? I didn't know that. Guess I never looked at it that closely. I just thought it was some kind of a blob to help you find your keys at the bottom of your purse. And we both know how well that works. By the way, have you looked there?

JEANNE: Where?

FRED: In your purse. Isn't that what we were just talking about?

JEANNE: Sorry, you got me sidetracked with the frog. Of course I did. That was the first place I checked. Can't you just help me? We're going to be late.

FRED: What time is it anyway? I don't have my watch on.

JEANNE: It's 6 o'clock. We're supposed to be across town in 30 minutes. Want me to go upstairs and get your watch?