

To My Dearest Wife Mary

A Monologue, in three letters.

Cast:

Charles – A man aged 30 plus.

To my Dearest Wife Mary,

Firstly I must apologise for what I have done. Actually I have no apology, this is because of you. I just apologise for how you will find me. It was never my intention, things just turned out this way.

Actually, before 'firstly' I should have said how much I have always loved you and wherever I end up after this I will always love you from there. You were my childhood sweetheart and I have loved and cherished you every day since then. Do you remember the day we met? I found you wandering the school corridors, laden down with books and tears in those beautiful eyes of yours. That second you bowled me over and changed my life forever. I unburdened you of your books while offering to help you find your class room. Thankfully it was the other end of the school so we were able to talk a bit to get to know each other. Then when I had safely delivered you to the correct door you gave me a kiss on the cheek. Well that's how I remember it. I guess your memory serves you differently, reminding you how you found me under a pile of bullies who were thumping seven bells out of me, you set off the fire alarm which sent them scattering in every direction while you stood laughing and pointing at me. Actually it was probably coincidence the fire alarm was triggered as you didn't get into any trouble for setting it off.

Actually, before all of the above I must apologise for how you are about to find me. Go down to my shed, it will be unlocked. Don't worry I have removed the rake which you said was strategically placed for your delightful mother to 'accidentally' step on. Actually I left this behind by mistake after raking up the leaves, it is autumn after all! I really must stop using the word 'actually' I know it winds you up. Basically I am sorry. I know 'Sorry' just doesn't cut it for you anymore, (by the way I have always hated that saying, but never mind now my love.) In the shed you will find several things missing. Remember that memory game we used to play in youth club, it's a bit like that. But you were never very good at that so I will help you. Amongst the items missing will be a knife, some rope and a bottle of whiskey that I'm not sure if you even knew was there in the first place. What you will find is the second note.

Until then, take care my love and take care of our beautiful daughter. Once again I am sorry, but you drove me to this!

Your devoted Charles.x x x

To my Dearest Wife Mary,

So you have found this note in my shed. Yes it's my shed because I built it and it is my haven. Actually have you ever trod foot in here before, somehow I doubt it? Got you in here now though didn't I? (Incidentally I have removed the photo from the dart board in here, you do not need to see an image of your mother peppered with so many holes!) On the shelf though, yes look up to your

right, you will see the vase I have finally fixed for you, maybe you will be impressed with how well I have done it, you can hardly see a crack!

Anyway I digress. I am sorry for all the things I have done wrong in your eyes, I have always meant to do the best for you and our beautiful daughter. Sometimes I think this is never enough for you so maybe this final act will make some amends.

Now follow the path down to the bottom of the garden, to the big oak tree which hangs over the border of our little 'estate'. Please prepare yourself for what you will find. I do hope you will not be too shocked, I have planned to soften the blow for you by leaving you these notes. And I do hope there is no blood.

Remember, your incessant nagging drove me to this. But never mind, I will always love you.

Your devoted Charles x x x

To My Dearest Wife Mary,

You have found my final note. I hope you are not too shocked at the sight before you. There is no blood so that is a relief. So what do you think now? This is a result of your nagging of which I have already mentioned *actually*. Look up and admire my handy work, obviously my years in the scouts taught me good rope work! Bring our beautiful daughter here in the years to come so she can enjoy this swing. It is strong enough to carry your delightful mother so will be fine for our daughter as she grows up.

You will find me in the hedge with the bottle of whiskey which will probably be nearly empty. Please wake me up in time for dinner.

Your devoted Charles x x x. (Love you)