

E

DEB FROM UPSTAIRS, CHARLOTTE, KAITLYN, PAUL, KEVIN, ALLIE

Let Nothing You Dismay

Topher Payne

KEVIN

September was six years.

CHARLOTTE

Six years! Deb, can you believe that? And now he's going to be a *father*. You just turn around and wonder where the time went.

PAUL

Not when you're *there*.

ALLIE

What's that, Paul?

PAUL

When you're *there*, the time doesn't just disappear like that. Things happen, you're there for them.

CHARLOTTE

Hello, Paul, Kaitlyn. Good to see you, Merry Christmas.

KAITLYN

Merry Christmas!

PAUL

Yeah.

DEB FROM UPSTAIRS

Your aura's brown.

KEVIN

I'm sorry?

DEB FROM UPSTAIRS

You aura looks like poop.

KEVIN

No it- Mom, who is this?

CHARLOTTE

This is my neighbor, Deb from upstairs. You should listen to her, Kevin, she's very intuitive. Oh, Allie, you're glowing! You have the glow of motherhood and possibility surrounding you! Deb, this is my beautiful daughter-in-law, Allie. Isn't she glowing?

DEB FROM UPSTAIRS

She's radiant.

KEVIN

How come she's radiant and I look like poop?

CHARLOTTE

That's what I'd like to know. What's wrong?

KEVIN

Nothing's wrong.

CHARLOTTE

Is your brother here?

ALLIE

Dennis ran down to the coffee kiosk.

KAITLYN

What color is my aura?

DEB FROM UPSTAIRS

Yellow.

KAITLYN

Is that good?

DEB FROM UPSTAIRS

It isn't bad.

Awkward silence.

KAITLYN

I don't usually look good in yellow.

CHARLOTTE

Well! This is uncomfortable.

PAUL

You know, Kaitlyn wanted to go down to the gift shop for a bit. Didn't you, Kaitlyn?

KAITLYN

Yeah, sure, I could shop.

PAUL

Anyone need anything?

KEVIN

Nope.

ALLIE

We're all set.

DEB FROM UPSTAIRS

Unwaxed dental floss, a pack of chewing gum, and a paperback mystery novel. If it's a murder mystery, there cannot be graphic depictions of death, because when we imagine those things, it is toxic to mind and spirit. The safest option would be a mystery surrounding a jewel heist or perhaps the theft of an artwork.

