\*\*1.- What happens in the story?\*\*

Jane, a college student, reflects on her emotionally draining role as confidante to her romantically troubled friends. Frustrated with being everyone’s support system while feeling stagnant herself, she contemplates setting boundaries and pursuing her own emotional fulfillment. After declining an unsatisfying offer from an inattentive suitor and once again comforting her heartbroken friend Martin, Jane realizes she desires real, reciprocal love. A brief encounter with her barista and a deepening moment with Johan, an enigmatic figure from her past, culminate in Jane seizing the courage to prioritize her own desires and move toward an authentic romantic connection.

\*\*2.- What is the theme?\*\*

The story explores the emotional labor of being the "emotional anchor" in friendships, the struggle for self-worth within imbalanced relationships, and the quiet transformation that comes from choosing vulnerability and self-prioritization. It deals with themes of emotional availability, boundaries, self-discovery, and the often unacknowledged toll of constant caregiving—especially within young adult dynamics. Ultimately, it’s a coming-of-age story about finding the courage to step out of one’s helper role and into one’s own life and desires with agency and hope.

\*\*3.- Does it propose other interpretations, in addition to the literal one?\*\*

\*\*4 – Agree\*\*

\*\*4.- If the above question was affirmative, which interpretation is it?\*\*

The story can be viewed as an allegory for emotional codependency and the conditions that shape women into caretakers at the expense of their own development. Jane’s journey parallels a societal shift in recognizing the unseen labor many women perform in friendships and relationships. Her ultimate decision to choose herself suggests a quiet feminist arc that values self-love over martyrdom. Johan may represent not just romantic fulfillment but the possibility of living authentically and assertively. The "anchor" becomes both metaphor and warning—highlighting the danger of emotional stagnancy when one's identity depends solely on others’ needs.