

Stephanie Gardener

Act II, Scene 1 (ADEHJ) — Four years later

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Money's tight. You know that. Money's always tight. That's just the way things are. Your parents try to protect you from it, but you're old enough to know what's going on. In the past few weeks though, things have gotten worse. Dad did something dumb again. You know that much. There have been a lot less treats in the past few weeks, and mom and dad have been fighting even more than usual.

Mostly when they're fighting like this, you just try to calm things down. There's nothing you can really do to make it better, but maybe you can at least get them to stop fighting. At least the tea party is still fun! You know uncle William helped pay for the party this year. You hope he brought something fun. Uncle William always brings the best presents.

Maybe the best present would be for your parents to stop fighting over money for a little while.