

## **Mary**

Mary is Agnes' friend; they both come from the village of Auldearn at the Highland foothills. Agnes is getting married tomorrow and she invited four of her friends for an evening bridal shower. This is the last opportunity when the girlfriends may talk to Agnes as an unmarried woman. All the girls have known each other since their childhood. After graduation, Mary left Auldearn for Spain where she seemed to meet the man of her dreams; he knew exactly what she wanted and convinced her that he was that.

Mary grew up learning to tell people what they wanted to hear. That made her life a response to other people. She always thought it was important to seem happy, and for that, everyone has always loved her as a smiling, always happy person. She has been deferring to others all the time, treating them the way they wanted to be treated while neglecting her own needs for so long that she realized she could not imagine living another way. She feels unable to rise to the challenge of a proper relationship, to truly love someone, to value herself as an equal.

At present, she lives with her husband, whose preferences rule their household. He is well aware of Mary's nature and likes to take advantage of it. He uses her for his own selfish schemes; he does as he pleases. Sometimes, he treats her callously and jealously. Mary still loves him in a way - for, despite this, he is more often in a good mood and considerate of her feelings. Mary's expectations of her proper role in their marriage prevents her from standing up to him and telling him she doesn't like being treated the way he treats her when he is inconsiderate.

She wishes Agnes had a man who would truly, passionately love her forever; that seems a rare thing to find. Many men try to give this impression, but after the wedding, their wife becomes their maid; the love fades into something else.

### **Other Characters**

In reality, Mary came mainly to see Agnes; her relationship with the other girls is not at its best; at least she doesn't know what to expect of them.

### **Agnes**

Agnes is getting married tomorrow, she is naive and inexperienced. Mary is worried about her. What if Agnes succumbs to some guy's sweet talk and trusts him the way Mary did. Agnes must not believe every word guys say, she must not get manipulated by them.

### **Josie**

Josie is a fashion designer in Paris, so she really managed to make all of her childhood dreams come true. She is a nice and ambitious girl. She is a transsexual but she handles the transition well - you have known her since her young days, but she was already a woman back then. She was always so certain about what she wanted; all her life decisions were huge and straightforward and she never asked anybody for their permission or approval.

She is quite inconsiderate with other people and you really think this will get back to her, sooner or later.

### **Carla**

Carla was always straightforward and impertinent in school; sometimes, she was even a little rough. Right after Carla finished school, her parents sent her to Germany where she later found her husband. She has always been able to take care of herself and she was not afraid of telling other people what to do. Carla always cared about not being poor and it seems it worked out for her well. However, she never learned to behave as a proper lady and not only is she lacking tremendously in looks and self-care, but in manners as well. Mary finds her incredibly hillbilly behavior wildly offensive, but she doesn't want to spoil Agnes' bridal shower, so she decided to hold her tongue.

### **Jessica**

She has always wanted to have a big family. At present, she is married and lives in Italy. She has a husband and a big family there, just as she wanted; in fact, she is pregnant again (with baby No. 4!). She was always looking forward to having children so much - it seemed she didn't even care who she'd have them by, so she should be happy now.

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### **The TV Series**

There is a TV series running in Spain. It's called Don Juan and Mary likes to watch it. It's a big hit; a romantic show about love and betrayal.

Don Juan is a charming handsome man who can get any woman he sets his eyes on.

However, he never sticks with any of his conquests and he inevitably betrays each of them.

Previously on the show:

Don Juan has been caught in Don Carlos' house with Don Carlos' wife. Don Carlos attempted to kill Don Juan, but Don Juan won the swordfight and killed Don Carlos.

Subsequently, he fled and left Rosalia, Don Carlos' wife, alone and widowed.

- That is exactly what men are like: they seduce women, poor dears, with their sweet talk and lies, women fall for them, and then the men change and the women are to pay the price. For all Mary knows, Rosalia should be glad Don Juan killed her husband AND fled away.