Suo 1

Ian Suo

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My Roommate

Marcus is a cunning, old man with silver hairs. He works in finance, always on his guard and preaches about the Dollar in the house. Once in a while, he’d leave the house dressed up with a guitar on his back. He is going through separation.

One night we talked about marriage, and Marcus revealed it’s his fourth marriage. I asked, “So, you seem experienced in this subject. I’m kind of curious about this whole, marriage thing. If you piss off your lady, what do you do?”

“You apologize.” He chuckled.

I hated that answer, so I requested confirmation, “How many times have you done that?”

He raised his voice and replied sarcastically. “Oh, countless times! For about 28 years now with my current wife.”

“That sounds miserable… What made you stay married for so long?” I asked.

Marcus replied with a sniffle, “I already put up with so much of her crap, my entire life is gone. But if we divorce, I would lose even more. That’s the only reason. Hell, I don’t even love her. We own a nice house but I’m living here just to avoid her. She takes care of me when I’m sick, that’s the only perk. But you can just see a doctor. Is marriage worth it?”

Suo 2

I was at a loss of words.

“Just stay single and focus on your career. Sleep with whoever you like. Once you are made, adopt a foster child. You just got to fix him up but you’ll have the time and money by then. That’s the best advice I can give you.” He said.

This old man sounded very convincing, I couldn’t think of anything logical to argue against that conclusion. Perhaps my view on marriage has now changed a little.