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# A Spy in the House of an Artist

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## **Characters:**

DELPHINE: The artist, 25 years old, short wavy brown hair, olive skin, tall, skinny, brown eyes.

SUZANNE: Delphine's best friend, 24 years old, long ginger hair, pale skin, short, kinda chubby, hazel eyes.

MATTHEW: The burglar, 23 years old, short brown hair, middle height, tan, skinny, brown eyes.

LANDLORD: 50 years old, bald, short, brown eyes.

RICHARD: The mayor, tall, chubby, dark brown hair, green eyes.

HELEN: Richard's wife, alluring, middle height, blue eyes, light brown hair, wears white.

## **SCENE 1: The Street**

*(The weather is dark, time is late, people are standing and talking in front of a opera hall, it is a crowded street then Matthew enters to the street)*

MATTHEW: Here we go, let's see how lucky I am...

*(Stars to spy out people)*

MATTHEW: This couple looks decent. Let's see.

*(He steals the woman's bag and starts to run)*

HELEN: Someone stole my bag! There is a pickpocket! Richard!

POLICE 1: Hey! Come here

*(3 Cops starts to chase Matthew)*

RICHARD: Don't worry sweetheart. As long as you are okay, everything is fine.  
Look, the cops will catch him.

HELEN: *(in a sad tone)* But Richard... It was my favorite bag...

*(Matthew continues to run away, cops continues to chase Matthew)*

POLICE 2: Come here! Stop! I said stop!

MATTHEW: They are still following me... what should I do... what should I do...?

Oh if I can climb up there...*(thinks)* I can hide!

*(He reaches the stairs, starts to climb)*

**Scene 2: The Building's Stairs, Time is late, weather is dark, warm**

MATTHEW: *(breathlessly)* I think I removed my trace-

*(Sees an open window)*

MATTHEW: Omg... Look at those paintings, they are so beautiful. I missed to painting...

*(Sits down on the stairs and starts to watch)*

MATTHEW: Those would be worth a lot of money. Ah, what am I saying?! I can't be someone like that. Look, Matthew! You are going to sell the things inside of the bag, pay your mother's debt and you are going back to the art school! I don't want to be a pickpocket. I want to be an artist, I don't want to harm anyone

*(Two women enter the room.)*

SUZANNE: Hey...listen to me. Everything is going to be okay. We are going to find a way to pay the rent. We still have one week.

DELPHINE: Yeah. One week and then I will be homeless.

SUZANNE: Delphine! You won't be homeless.

DELPHINE: Yeah. I can build a tent to sleep with these worthless things. *(Points out the paintings)*

MATTHEW: *(silently)* Worthless? Who says it's worthless!?

SUZANNE: Did you hear that?

DELPHINE: Hear what?

SUZANNE: I think it is just a cat or something. Anyway, look, your paintings are beautiful.

DELPHINE: Who cares if it is worth nothing?

SUZANNE: Don't be pessimistic

DELPHINE: I'm not being pessimistic

*(Suddenly, someone knocks the door severely)*

SUZANNE: Oh...

DELPHINE: *(edgily)* Yeah look, he came. That's all I need great!

*(Delphine stands up, goes and opens the door, landlord comes in edgily)*

LANDLORD: Delphine!

DELPHINE: Look, I still have 1 week!

LANDLORD: You have 1 week because I gave you extra 2 weeks!

DELPHINE: That's not my problem. You gave me some extra time so I have time.  
Now get out!

LANDLORD: I will make you pay for it!

*(Landlord leaves)*

SUZANNE: Calm down. We need to think calmly.

DELPHINE: All I can do is drawing.

SUZANNE: Then give yourself one more chance.

DELPHINE: Like I have any other choice... Okay I will draw one more thing and try to sell it.

MATTHEW: Or if I borrow some of them and try to sell by giving her name... I won't be a thief. I will just be an art dealer like my mother. I will save both my mother and her.

*(Matthew thinks for a few second and makes a plan)*

MATTHEW: It's their loss if they don't buy those masterpieces.

*(Delphine and Suzanne screams)*

DELPHINE: Who are you!

MATTHEW: Umm... I know it's so creepy right now but I'm your neighbor. I forgot my keys and I was using the fire escape to reach my window. Then I saw my windows were also closed. I was going down when I saw those beautiful paintings. I couldn't help but stop and view those masterpieces.

SUZANNE: Oh... That was awkward.

DELPHINE: Masterpieces? Those are just worthless paintings.

MATTHEW: Worthless for whom?

DELPHINE: For dealers.

MATTHEW: You must have encountered the wrong ones. The ones who have no taste.

DELPHINE: How can I find proper dealers?

MATTHEW:(*with a tricky smile*) Maybe you had already found them.

DELPHINE: Are you an art dealer?

MATTHEW: No but my mother is.

SUZANNE: Why would we trust you?

MATTHEW: Because you don't have any other choice. Just kidding. I can prove it to you.

DELPHINE: Hey, want to come inside?

(*Suzanne and Delphine whispers to each other*)

SUZANNE: Delphine don't do that. We don't even know him.

DELPHINE: What could possibly go wrong?

SUZANNE: Like... everything.

DELPHINE: I'm already in the worst situation.

SUZANNE: Trust me you are not. It's not even near it.

*(Delphine disobeys Suzanne)*

DELPINE: Hey, what is your name?

MATTHEW: Matthew. What's yours?

DELPINE: Delphine. Won't you come inside?

MATTHEW: Oh are you sure?

DELPINE: Yes, come inside!

*(Matthew comes in, Suzanne sighs)*

DELPINE: Welcome. You were saying that your mother is an art dealer.

MATTHEW: Yes. She is an art dealer and if she had seen one of those, she would admire.

*(Suzanne sits silently)*

DELPINE: Matthew I know it may seem awkward but I need your help.

MATTHEW: You want to contact my mother. Am I right?

DELPINE: Yes!

*(Someone knocks on the door, Suzanne goes towards the door frazzled)*

SUZANNE: Who is that?

POLICE: Hello ma'am. We are holding an investigation. Could you open the door please?

SUZANNE: Delphine, come here! There are cops!

DELPHINE: I'm coming!

*(Matthew fills with fear)*

MATTHEW: They must have come for me. I need to escape!

*(Matthew grabs two paintings and goes out from the window)*

POLICE 1: We are searching for a thief and we detected from the camera that the thief used this buildings to escape from us. Have you seen someone with black clothes and a black hat using that stairs?

*(Delphine and Suzanne freezes)*

DELPHINE: Omg...He is here.

*(Delphine and Suzanne turns back and realizes Matthew is gone)*

SUZANNE: Oh... He was here.

*(Delphine turns to the cops)*

DELPHINE: He told us he is our neighbour.

SUZANNE: (in a angry way) I told you that you shouldn't trust him!

DELPHINE: I know...

SUZANNE: Sir, can you tell me what he had exactly stolen?

*(Delphine starts to look around)*



POLICE 2: The first lady's bag.

DELPHINE: And my two paintings...

### **Stage 3: Matthew's House**

*(It's morning, Matthew enters the stage from a door with his key, breathlessly, puts two painting to the floor, sits to the sofa and calls for his mother)*

MATTHEW: Mom! Where are you?

MARGUERITE: Matthew? Welcome! I'm changing! Give me a minute.

MATTHEW: I'm trying to save my mother and an artist, why am I feeling bad? I'm not doing anything wrong. I'm sure delphine will understand...

MARGUERITE Hello Matthew! How are you? Where were you yesterday?

MATTHEW: I was at my friend's house. Mom I have great news! I found an artist and she is willing to work with you!

MARGUERITE: With me? Really? What is her name?

MATTHEW: Her name is Delphine. She is very talented and has very beautiful paintings. Look over there, she gave her two paintings to me so that I could show you.

*(Marguerite goes to take paintings. She takes a painting and starts to analyze.)*

MARGUERITE: Oh... Those are really beautiful. Especially that one! What was her name again?

MATTHEW: Delphine

MARGUERITE: Surname?

MATTHEW: Oh... I don't remember...

MARGUERITE: That's okay we can ask her later. Those paintings are my last chance. I need to call some places. If I can squeeze those paintings to one of the exhibitions, I can return to my career again! Matthew I need to talk with Delphine. Can you give me her telephone number?

MATTHEW: Oh...umm...I forgot the number card at Arthur's house.

MARGUERITE: You need to go and find the card. We need to be quick!

MATTHEW: Okay mom! Then I'm going to Arthur's home again. See you!

MARGUERITE: See you darling!

**Stage 4: Delphine's House, it's morning, the weather is sunny and a bit cold**

*(Delphine and Suzanne are sitting on the sofa nervously.)*

DELPHINE: Everything is messed up. I don't have money, my two favorite paintings, I'm going to lose my home and everything is my fault.

SUZANNE: Yes, everything is your fault. You needed to be more careful.

DELPHINE: I know...

SUZANNE: Anyway, it is what it is. We need to focus on different ways.

*(Suddenly, the door bell rings)*

DELPHINE: I'm coming!

SUZANNE: I hope it's not the cops this time.

*(Delphine smiles at Suzanne)*

DELPHINE: Who is that?

MATTHEW: Hey... Me again.

*(Delphine opens the door)*

DELPHINE: You! How dare you come to my house!

MATTHEW: Look... I can explain!

SUZANNE: Did you bring back the paintings?

MATTHEW: No but...

SUZANNE: Anyway, I'm calling the cops.

MATTHEW: Wait! I can really explain! Delphine, I know I took your paintings but I didn't do anything wrong, I swear! I showed them to my mother and she is willing to work with you! If you let her, she will call places to put your paintings!

DELPHINE: Wait, really?

SUZANNE: Don't believe him! He is a liar!

MATTHEW: Please. Give me one more chance.

*(Delphine thinks for a while)*

DELPHINE: Okay...

SUZANNE: Omg I can't believe this.

DELPHINE: Look Suzanne, I really don't have anything to lose.

SUZANNE: But... Anyway, okay.

DELPHINE: Your mother can sell the paintings.

MATTHEW: Tell me your phone number. I'm gonna send it to my mother.

DELPHINE: Okay

### **Stage 5: Delphine's house, 1 week later**

*(Delphine, Marguerite, Matthew, Suzanne sitting at Delphine's sofa. Everybody is happy)*

DELPHINE: Marguerite, thank you so much for everything. Without you, I couldn't have done it.

MARGUERITE: I need to thank you too Delphine. Without you, I couldn't have come back to my career.

SUZANNE: Matthew, did you gave the lady's bag back?

MATTHEW: Yes.

SUZANNE: Aren't you in trouble?

MATTHEW: *(smiles)* Not at all.

SUZANNE: How did you get away with it?

MATTHEW: It was simple. First, I got an appointment for the mayor's office. Then, I went there and I said I found it in a dark street.

DELPHINE: So what did he say?

MATTHEW: He thanked me and gave me the cash inside of the bag to show his gratitude.

MARGUERITE: And you took the cash?

MATTHEW: Umm... Yes. Are you mad at me?

MARGUERITE: No, not at all. Let's go and eat some good food with that money.

MATTHEW: Yes. I'm really hungry.

SUZANNE: Let's go!

**THE END**