

ABC "GENERAL HOSPITAL"

GENERAL HOSPITAL - ROLE OF "DUSTIN"

LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON (CHARLES,
DUSTIN)

DUSTIN IS ON HIS WAY OUT WHEN HIS
MEDDLING FATHER STOPS HIM.

CHARLES

I made lunch reservations for two at
the Metro Court today.

DUSTIN

And to what do I owe the privilege
of lunch with my dear old dad?

CHARLES

Not lunch with me, with Jenny.

DUSTIN

Thanks, but no thanks.

CHARLES

It's my treat.

DUSTIN

Did you miss the fact that I can't
stand her?

CHARLES

Not true. You're afraid.

DUSTIN

No, she doesn't frighten me - she
inspires me to contemplate murder.

CHARLES

You care about her, you have
feelings for her, and that's what
you're afraid of.

ROLE
OF
"DUSTIN"

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DUSTIN

So you're a shrink now?

CHARLES

It's a simple choice - be a coward and run away, or find the courage to deal with a terrific woman who you can't stop thinking about.

DUSTIN

I think I liked it better when you were drinking.

CHARLES

(IGNORES THE DIG) You know, son, I've been where you are now.

DUSTIN

I doubt it.

CHARLES

I understand why you refuse to commit, I'll even take some of the blame.

DUSTIN

Dad, I don't have the time to get into this --

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CHARLES

(PRESSES ON) I was deeply in love with your mother and when I lost her, I couldn't handle it. I trashed my life. You got hurt in the process.

DUSTIN

Look, I appreciate that you're trying to help now, but you can stop. You're making the situation sound so simple when it's not. A lot of things happened in my life while you were gone. To think that I might do the things you did or make the same mistakes... trust me when I say it's not going to happen. I'm not you. I'm not a drunk and I enjoy playing the field.

CHARLES

But you are like me when I was younger, before I met your mom! I didn't want to get tied down. I eventually learned there was no future in living that way.

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GENERAL HOSPITAL - ROLE OF "DUSTIN"

DUSTIN

What else do you need me to say?
Jenny's great. We've been honest
from the start. I don't want her
investing in us, I've made that
clear. She doesn't want a
commitment either.

CHARLES

Maybe she's only saying that...

DUSTIN

I guarantee that she won't show up
at this lunch you've arranged.

CHARLES

There's only one way to find out -
go and see.

DUSTIN

You know what? Fine. I'll go. But
only to prove that you're wrong
about me and wrong about Jenny. And
I don't need your help with women.
I certainly don't need your help
with this one.

END.

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