

(Name of Project)

(Genre)

by

(Name of Writer)

Name

Address

Phone Number

Agency Information

CHARACTER NAME

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

AGE

GENDER

Sides for OLD MAN / The Goldfish Letters / Steve Stajich

TED

No, we're fine here. (to OLD MAN) I'll ask you, as a gentleman, to not frighten my wife.

The OLD MAN seems surprised at this.

OLD MAN

Yes. My mistake. Not a thing that happens every day, right?

ALICE seems to calm down a little.

TED

Not a thing that happens again. Ever.

The OLD MAN appears to take TED's meaning.

OLD MAN

I see. (BEAT) You had questions.

TED

I'd like to see some form of... ID.

OLD MAN

(LAUGHS) Come on, now. Questions. Big questions. That's mundane.

TED

It's big enough. Your real name, your address.

OLD MAN

You have all that. (to ALICE) You won't let him hurt me.

ALICE

You're going back. To... wherever. (CARING) You need to go back.

The OLD MAN heaves a sigh.

TED

All right, just clear up the-- You pulled our daughter's letter out of the trash. You put your letters in our mailbox. Just-- let's get to some of that.

OLD MAN

I don't need to do any of that. (BEAT) Being me.

TED

There's a point at which this becomes tiresome, sir.

OLD MAN

I look out for all the children.

TED

Like that.

OLD MAN

I keep my eye on the sparrow.

TED is getting agitated again.

ALICE

Thank you. (BEAT) For doing those things.

OLD MAN

You're welcome.

(EDIT)

TED

No! Nobody is 'welcome.' (to ALICE) And for the record, we are taking care of our daughter's emotional needs.

OLD MAN

I think that your wife--

TED

I was talking to my wife! (to OLD MAN, LOUD) You, you just shut up!

ALICE
Ted, please. (BEAT) Our guest...

TED
What?! Oh, okay. There it is. Good. Clear signal. Time to act.

TED pulls his cell phone out of his pocket and begins dialing.

ALICE
No, don't.

OLD MAN
So... what is it that you do, Ted?

(EDIT)

TED
Al...

ALICE shrugs. TED sighs.

TED
I supervise access for and completion of cable television systems.

OLD MAN
Hmm.

TED
(MOCKING) Hmm. For the record, I-- we downsized, to move to a better environment for our daughter.

OLD MAN
Noted. (BEAT) So, the new thing. Rewarding...?

TED looks to ALICE. She gives him nothing.

TED
Not like your work, I'm guessing.

The OLD MAN laughs.

OLD MAN
There you go. See? That wasn't so hard.

TED
(SOFT) I'm not... accepting you.

The OLD MAN dwells a moment on this,
then...

OLD MAN
Well, it's early.