

Emotion: Remorse

Character: Joe

(Joe enters and sits down.)

Joe

Why did I have to do that? (He sighs)

Joe

I wish I could just go back and redo today all over again. It can't turn out much worse than it has already. But I can't do that, can I?

(Puts his head in his hands)

Joe

Arrgh! How! How could I be so completely stupid?!

(Mary walks by.)

Mary

Hi, Joe!

Joe

Go away! I'm tired of people coming to tell me off. I know it was my fault.

Mary

Tell you off about what? What have you done this time?

Joe

Oh, I guess you're the last person in the whole world who hasn't heard about it then! Well, maybe it's none of your business!

Mary

Okay, be that way. Suit yourself.

(She keeps walking.)

Joe

Hmph. Everyone wants to come and ask questions! And she assumed that I'd done something bad to begin with. Well, maybe it was bad! And maybe I'm sorry. But I know what they'll say. (He puts on a whiny voice) "Saying sorry isn't enough this time, son. You need to show you're sorry."

Joe

It wasn't as if I did that much damage. And I really wasn't trying to. Okay, I hit some expensive Ming vase with baseball, and they want me to work for them for the rest of the year to raise money so I can pay them back. There goes my summer! Why is it up to them to decide how I pay them back? I'd rather do something else with my free time than work in some stupid antiques shop polishing vases!

Joe

But there really isn't anything to be gained from whining about it. Maybe it will be fun. Arrgh! Fun? FUN?! How could it be fun? They're going to make my time working for them as awful as they can. They hate me now!

Joe

Ah... I'm getting cold. I should go back in. But my mom said not to come back in until I've changed my mood. Well, maybe I like being grumpy!

(He thinks about this for a minute, and then laughs)

Joe

I sound pretty stupid, I guess. There's really no reason to whine about it. And it probably won't be as bad as I think. Yeah. There are worse things I could have done. Might as well just see what happens. (He pauses, then shivers) Time to go in, I think.

(He exits.)