DISCUSSION: DIALOGUE

“That’s fantastic!” she said happily.

Her eyes widened. “That’s fantastic!”

She slumped in her chair. “That’s fantastic.”

“Tom, I understand your concerns.”

“Mary, I hear you, but I don’t think you know the whole story.”

“Tom, stop right there. I already know.”

“But Mary—”

“Not another word, Tom!” she shouted angrily.

He opened the door. “Hello, Jenna. I’ll tell Lisa you’re here.” He closed the door in Jenna’s face and headed to the kitchen.

“Jenna is here. I can’t believe she’d show up after badmouthing you to your boss. You can’t put up with that kind of treatment from your best friend.”

He opened the door. And frowned. “Hey. Honey, Jenna’s here.”

Lisa came to the door and clung to Tom’s arm. “Hey.”

Jenna tried to smile. “Can we talk?”

Tom exploded. “Really? You just show up here, thinking you can talk to her after what you did?”

“You know the childhood I had. All the missed birthdays and empty promises and pain day after day…I just don’t know how to be a good parent.”

“Jason, your mother beat you, your father drank, and I know there was so little joy in your house, but you’re different. You don’t have to be like them.”

“Did you pick up the milk?”

“Yes, I picked up the milk.”

“Did you call your mother?”

“Yes, I called my mother.”

“My knee’s still bothering me. Did you make a doctor’s appointment?”

“No, I haven’t made a doctor’s appointment yet.”

"Hang on..." Harry muttered to Ron. "There's an empty chair at the staff table.... Where's Snape?"

"Maybe he's ill!" said Ron hopefully.

"Maybe he's *left*," said Harry, “because he missed out on the Defense Against the Dark Arts job *again*!"

"Or he might have been *sacked*!" said Ron enthusiastically. "I mean, everyone hates him --"