

MARA
Can I ask you a question?

HANK
Sure, as long as it is not going to take longer than ten minutes.

MARA
Sorry!

HANK
We close in ten minutes.

MARA
Oh!

(She gets a photo out of her pocket, and hands it to HANK over the counter.)
Have you seen him around?

HANK
(Takes a glimpse.)
Yes, Eugene.

MARA
(Desperate.)
Have you seen him recently?

HANK
Who is asking?

MARA
Me!

HANK
I know that. But, who are you to him?

MARA
His fiancée. That's why I am in the photo with him.

HANK
I can be in a photo with Beyoncé, doesn't mean we are together.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

MARA

But we are together.

HANK

(Unsure.)

How come you are asking about him then?

MARA

You are suspicious of me?!

HANK

Just because you are cute, that doesn't mean I can trust you.

MARA

(Blushing. Nervous Chuckles.)

Oh! Okay!

(Changing her demeanor to concerned.)

But I am really his fiancée, and we haven't heard from him for six months. We are worried.

HANK

We?! Who is We?

MARA

Me, his parents.

HANK

Why are his parents not here looking for him then?

MARA

They are older. I took upon me to track him down. Why aren't you answering my question?

HANK

Client confidentiality.

MARA

This is a grocery store! What kind of confidentiality agreement could you possibly have?

HANK

We respect our residents' privacy.

MARA

Resident, not visitor?

HANK

See, now you are already extracting information.

MARA

Let me level with you. He told us a year ago that he was going to Europe, then suddenly he stopped communicating six months ago. We got worried. His parents found the last

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

MARA (CONT'D)
credit card transaction taking place here-Was he here with another girl?

HANK
I haven't seen him for about ten days, couple of weeks!

MARA
That's all you got to tell me.

HANK
That's what you asked.

MARA
If I file a police report and show it to you, will you tell me more?

HANK
I will talk to the police then.

MARA
You've got to be kidding me. No empathy?!

HANK
Nothing against you, Mara. That's just how we are in this town.

MARA
I don't think so. Tom and Crankshaft answered my question.

HANK
Then, you had your answer.

MARA
Neither has seen him for two weeks. I am trying to see if there is a reason I should be concerned for his safety.

HANK
you thought he was in Europe, it seems he just didn't want to be found.

MARA
(Takes a deep sigh..)
Okay. Just I want to pay, please.

MARA hands HANK a credit card. He pulls out his phone, quickly types in the total, taps the card for payment, and returns it to her.

MARA
(Grabbing the items in visible anger.)
What is the total, or you can't tell me that either?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (8)

HANK
(He smiles.)
Forty-three bucks.

MARA
WHAT!

HANK
This is French Brie, hours away from any fancy supermarket.

MARA
Imagine if I wanted to cook a full meal here!

HANK
You have a good night.

MARA
Bye.

MARA exits. HANK hesitates for a moment, glancing back at the tablet before subtly checking to see if she's gone. He quickly steps offstage and locks the store door. Re-entering, he sets the tablet on the counter, picks up his phone, and dials a number.

HANK
(To the phone.)
Hi. This is Hank from Sun Sprite. I just had a very interesting conversation.
(Beat)
About Eugene.
(Beat)
A girl, called Mara!

BLACKOUT.