

Dialogue sample from  
The Present

by DJ Sanders

MANGO

I simply adore these dainty containers. Where did you find them?

RASPBERRY

At a small antique store several years ago. The woman who sold them to me said they were an heirloom passed down in one family over four generations.

MANGO

How intriguing! Just imagine the number of cups of coffee these quaint little containers have helped sweeten? I am particularly fond of the ornate designs carved in the edges. I have never seen such craft work before. Have you?

RASPBERRY

No. Only on this set.

MANGO

You are quite fortunate to have such a coffee set. Have you noticed that people don't take the time to make nice things anymore? Why do you suppose that is?

RASPBERRY

I haven't a clue.

MANGO

I do have a certain theory on the matter. In this modern society where people place more emphasis on function than on fashion, it would only seem appropriate to conserve time and create a container that merely contains. But even if one did take the time and put forth the appropriate effort to craft a container that pleased the eye, would anyone take note? I fear not. That is the dilemma of our times. It would be futile to take the time to create even the most ornate of containers because modern people have yet to learn to appreciate the simple ones. What do you think?

RASPBERRY

I would have to concur.

MANGO

Indeed, you would! You are a sensible person and sensible people always concur with exactitude. Speaking of ornate containers, I do find myself particularly drawn to this box and bow you have on the table. What ever is it for?

RASPBERRY

It's a present.

MANGO

A present. Yes, indeed. A pretty box with a splendid bow-how could it be anything other than a present! Who is it for?

RASPBERRY

I intend to give it to a close friend.

MANGO

A close friend...that's nice. Someone should be so lucky to have a friend like you who would give a present. I don't believe I have ever had such a friend.

RASPBERRY

Perhaps you have.

MANGO

Pardon?

RASPBERRY

Nothing.

For more information or to obtain the full script, please contact

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