

## The Easy Way to Charm



It was the usual warm Florida night in July of 2022. Almost ten past the eleventh hour, Eddie and Mary had finally put their baby to bed. Eyes drooping, they sat for a spell in the dark.

“I’ve taken some time off work. Let’s go on a trip,” Mary declared.

“Well, it’s about time!” Eddie was overjoyed. He immediately retrieved the travel books from the edge of a nearby, not-too-tall shelf.

Mary nibbled on a handful of raisins and turned on the lamp so they could see better. “It would be the bee’s knees to discover a new world,” she said, looking to her left. Realizing that she was not using the proper nomenclature, Mary whistled softly. Sometimes she felt so dated.

Flipping back and forth through a magazine, Eddie pointed to a certain page with an ad for the ideal hotel choice. It was a faraway city they had never visited, although they had seen a slideshow about it a long time ago. The trip would certainly rescue them from boredom.

Mary squealed, feeling the earth moving under her feet. “Oh, you’re an angel, that place looks distinguished! In fact, that even tops the four days in Paris that we did. Remember when we saw that guy, Carl? He looked like Christopher Walken!”

“Oh, I know, we were shocked...I mean, really shocked, to discover he wasn’t the real deal!” The couple giggled. They had built so many wonderful memories as they headed into their golden years. It was about time for a vacation.

Then Eddie smiled. “Yes, that was a wonderful milestone. Now, we’ve talked about this sort of trip time and time again, but we held off because I don’t really know what to expect. Let’s do it!”

Reading the price information, Mary’s face went sour. “It’ll cost at least five, if not six, rounds of golf. Not completely sure because I can’t remember. But at least it’s not the highest priced in the world!”

“Yes it’s exciting, but don’t worry, sweetheart, we won’t dig ourselves into a hole.” Eddie gave her a warm hug. “We are well-heeled, and smart.”

Mary had already pulled out a large foldable map of the immediate area where they would be staying and laid it flat. They looked at the map very carefully for several minutes, saying nothing.

“There’s a lot to do and see...but you’ll definitely want to get someone to adjust your hemline two inches because it will be colder where we are going,” Eddie directed.

Mary replied that she would take it down around eleven inches. She was modest, although she literally almost made a rude gesture. What a card, to tell her how to dress! What year was this?

Eddie realized grossly that he should stop before they arrived at a fight, which would really slay the mood. “Ok nine times then. That addresses that issue. Now, take a double-take at this place I rounded up on Google.”

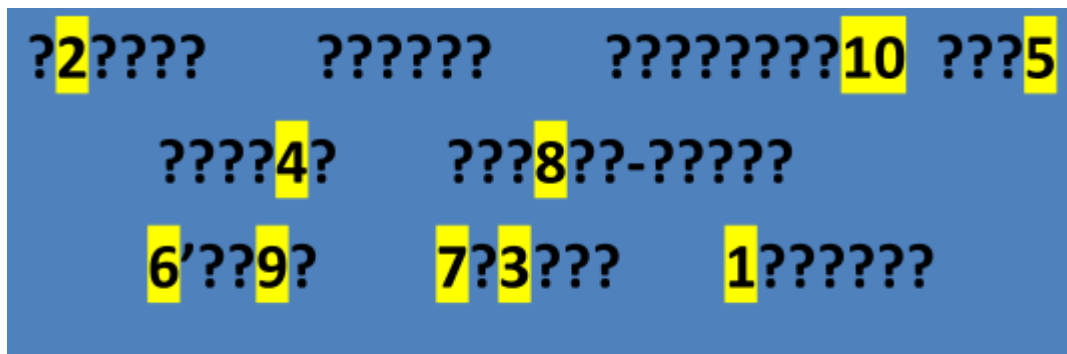
Mary leaned in to see Eddie’s phone and felt like they were both sixteen again. And despite it being Friday the Thirteenth, Eddie felt lucky to have changed the subject.

“What a treat! That sounds like a luscious place to visit.” It did not seem too far off par with that place where Eddie gave a rare online review. “I wish we thought of this sooner!” Mary smiled sweetly.

“Well it’s never too late. Now I feel knocked out. Let’s go to sleep so we can get an early start tomorrow.”

“Yes, we’ll leave right after breakfast time.

‘Sweet dreams, darling!’ Mary clicked off the lamp and started packing, making sure to leave a note for the mailman. He needed to know that they would hurry back.



The answer is a person, place or thing.  
A winning answer must include specifics on how you solved the puzzle  
Submit your answer to me by messaging on Mysterious Writings  
Good luck!