

Valentine's Day

Interactive reading

Instructions - read parts of the text, then focus on the question and discuss what will happen next in the story. Continue reading to check your predictions. Remember to cover the parts of the text that you currently do not need.

1 Martha always dreaded the 14th of February. She considered herself a down-to-earth woman who knew what she wanted from life, and a relationship was not one of those things. She enjoyed her hobbies, an occasional trip with her besties, going to a cinema alone, and eating in silence. However, something always bothered her with the imminent approach of the 14th. Was it because of the constant Valentine's Day promotions? Articles online about love? Perhaps it was because her besties were in relationships? Or maybe she felt constant pressure from everyone to spend that day with someone? After all, only bitter weirdos did not celebrate that day with someone.

What do you think will happen this year?

2 February 13th Martha received a phone call from her bestie. At first, she thought that perhaps Jena wanted to ask her for help with babysitting - she had a 4-year-old son. However, that was not the case.

What does Jena want?

3 Jena said she had news! She had a friend from work who had recently divorced, felt lonely, and wanted to spend the evening with someone. So Jena arranged a blind date for Martha! Martha was obviously appalled - did her friend really think so low of her?

What do you think Martha should do next?

4 Martha demanded some answers.

What kind of questions did Martha have?

5 First of all, why would Jena treat her this way? Did she think Martha was some miserable person who didn't have anything to do but babysit a grown, lonely man on 14th February?

What kind of questions did Martha have?

6 Jena apologized to Martha about it. She only had Martha's best interest in mind. When she heard Andrew's story, she thought that perhaps Martha was feeling lonely too. She admitted that the verbiage was not the best and that she could have done a better job presenting the possible date candidate. However, Andrew - the lonely, divorced guy - was really sweet and perhaps he was worthwhile?

Should Martha go on a date with Andrew?

7 Martha decided that going on a first date on a 14th February with a man that got recently divorced was asking for trouble. She told her friend no but told her she could give him her phone number. He could call her and ask her out on a different day. Unfortunately, he never did and Martha was not surprised.