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Grace	Grace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grace finds herself in a retirement home which runs against her philosophy on life</li> <li>It doesn't seem right, something's out of place, it's like she feels life being sucked out of her, but can't put her finger on it initially</li> <li>Subconsciously she knows it's not right, but it takes time to confirm this. Things add up, and she soon realises that it's Joan.</li> <li>That's a challenge she's not prepared to ignore.</li> <li>She's not prepared to merely exist and wants to live life to the very end</li> <li>So she challenges the status quo and sets about bringing life, love and colour into Pacific Dreams, and dignity to the elderly who have forgotten how to live</li> <li>It's not malicious, conniving, nasty or aggressive, rather, it's just something that's natural, a situation that needs to be reset</li> <li>Joan has an interesting background. She was an archaeologist, when that wasn't done in New Zealand. So she went away overseas and worked in Africa where she branched out into social anthropology when it was still an unknown field. She published several books, non of which ever made it to New Zealand, but were well recognised as authoritative sources in universities in Europe and the USA.</li> <li>While in Africa she met her husband and they were married in Nairobi. They worked together for many years, but disaster struck when they were both caught in inter-tribal fighting along the Niger River. She escaped on a river boat but he was shot and killed. She was pregnant at the time.</li> <li>Grace never remarried, she kept working in Africa and returned to New Zealand to be close to her daughter and husband, and grand-daughter, all who have since moved overseas to work in London</li> <li>Grace was awarded a Dame hood for her contribution to archaeology</li> </ul>	<p>Grace - Joan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Questioning, initially uncertain, then summing her up pretty fast and begins to challenge, reorder, reset, remind Joan that she's got a duty to look after each individual and that the elderly are human beings, living breathing, loving people</li> <li>Grace challenges the status quo, electing to continue to live life and not cave in, actively defying Joan's controlling ways</li> <li>Grace feels a bit sorry for Joan, she sees the small mindedness of Joan's actions and sees that Joan doesn't see what she has become</li> <li>Grace quietly upsets Joan, not deliberately antagonising her, but rather, just doing what needs to be done</li> <li>Grace also sees the routine and dull, bland existence in Pacific Dreams for what it is, existence, purgatory, and the only way to fix that and let each person live, is to bring life inside. If that means actively defying Joan, then, so be it. Grace has never been one to back down from a challenge and there are many ways to skin a cat...</li> </ul> <p>Grace-John</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Romance, attraction, can't waste too much time as we're getting old, but tempered with class and treading slowly.</li> <li>Will plant a seed and see where it goes.</li> <li>Grace doesn't know John, but the photos in her room add a bit of mystery as to whether he's her husband.</li> <li>He's a potential ally, and she goes about subtly recruiting him into her world. In the end she calls on him to change his behaviours as a means to changing the behaviours of others</li> <li>She sees something in him that makes her curious and wanting to know more</li> </ul> <p>Grace and the Elderly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grace sees them as what she will become and decides to change it</li> <li>She views them with sympathy, she's not going to abide by the rules that have broken them</li> <li>She sees that they have lost something, the spark, decorum, class, social graces, general interaction that makes us human</li> <li>She sees that they can change and regain what they have lost, that they can be human until the end and not merely exist, that without social interaction and being civilised, they are nothing, but that it's not too late...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Her main goal is to bring life and dignity to the elderly people in Pacific Dreams</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grace represents life, love, passion, action, fun, frivolity, a bit mischievous.</li> <li>She has Grace, poise, serenity</li> <li>Always has a smile.</li> <li>She doesn't take no for an answer and has been successful in life through her intellect, determination</li> <li>Yet she's not aggressive, dominant, controlling</li> <li>Rather she achieves her way through alternate paths, indirect action, influence, subtlety, politeness</li> <li>Few things faze her, it could always be worse</li> <li>She bright, intelligent, active, engaging</li> <li>She challenges the status quo</li> <li>She wants everyone to live life to the fullest, to never say die</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To help others live life to the end</li> <li>To make allies with John</li> <li>To have romance with John</li> <li>To bring light and colour into Pacific Dreams</li> <li>To change the status quo</li> <li>To bring dignity to mundane existence that precludes the end of life</li> </ul>
Joan Head Nurse		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joan's seen them come and go. She's forgotten the reason she started in this line of work, to look after people and to care for them</li> <li>Now it's about making it easy for them and her. Their journey to death, her management of them</li> </ul>	<p>Joan-Grace</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sees Grace as a challenge, need for dominance over her, teach her the ropes, bring her under control</li> <li>But while there's a sense of dominance, it's almost as if</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Her main goal is to maintain the status quo</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joan represents bland, dull, muted colours with the life nearly sucked out of them.</li> <li>Old people have been through a lot in life and they know how</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>She wants order, serenity, simplicity</li> <li>She doesn't want peace disturbed</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Into this place she is challenged by an old lady, a new entrant who doesn't know the rules. That's a change in the acceptable circumstances and needs to be put right, quickly. But there's no need to make a song and dance about it, rather, just go about it efficiently and orderly.</li> <li>• But, if it goes to far... Well, some things need to be stomped on, more subconsciously</li> <li>•</li> <li>• At home Joan is married without children, she couldn't conceive. This still hurts her from time to time and it's quite likely that she sees the elderly as her children, although she would never know this. Perhaps that's why every now and then she gives them a bit of love</li> <li>• But it's her background that brings the discipline in. Raised on a farm in the Waikato, her mother and father were extremely practical people, no room for romance, no room for showing love. The firm Protestant upbringing made her practical, no-nonsense, get things done in the most efficient manner. People's feelings come second to the task</li> <li>• Her husband runs a small hardware store, getting up early and getting to work. It's getting tight, what with all the mega stores popping up.</li> </ul>	<p>bringing Grace under control is needed to make it easy for everyone else so the routines that are so important are not disturbed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grace is disturbing the peace, but she probably doesn't know that, so initially Joan will just fix things up and grace will get the message and comply like everyone else does.</li> <li>• Over time Grace doesn't comply and it's necessary for Joan to be a bit more forceful, because, after all, grace is old and is going to live the rest of her days here, so she needs to fit into the routine.</li> <li>• Still, Grace doesn't get it and finally Joan locks the door to the garden, the outside world, life. That's the signal needed to bring Grace under control.</li> <li>• In the final scene, Grace wins, bringing out the rose, matched by John. Saying 'my spirit will not die'. In that, something changes in Joan and she see's life, glimpses it for a minute and remembers what she's really here for, to let people live until the end.</li> </ul> <p>Joan to Elderly People</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Routine, order, maintain status, move them on and move them through</li> <li>• Make it easy for them, as long as they make it easy for her and everyone else</li> <li>• Making it easy means making it easy for Joan and the staff, means making them obey the rules, which, after all, are for everyone's good</li> <li>• They are sometimes a bit of a hassle though, because they need attention, so the best thing to do is put a routine in place that the forgetful old dears can follow, the whole is greater than the individual.</li> </ul> <p>Joan – John</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He's just another elderly person</li> </ul>		<p>tough life is, so they won't notice if there's no pictures on walls, no colour in the carpet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• She's disconnected form the elderly, so I'm thinking that while in group shots around her that they may be out of focus slightly, like they are already lost souls in purgatory.</li> <li>• She's disconnected from Grace in a different way, in that there is no emotional connection at a personal one-on-one level. Thus when the two of them are in the same scene, engaging with each other, I'm think that they are one shots and no over the shoulder two shots capturing both in the same frame. This may change in the end dinner scene.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People need to keep to the rules to make it easy for her, the staff and others</li> <li>• She doesn't want to get too close to anyone, she's seen too many come and go</li> <li>• She doesn't want to be challenged and if she is, she'll just put it back into order again, you know, just sort it out, and move on</li> </ul>
John		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John's here because there's nowhere else to go at his age. He's had a hip replacement and it's a bit of struggle to move around, but as that was several years ago, it's fine now thank you for asking.</li> <li>• The issue is his balance, most of the time it's working, but every now and then it drops out and he will bump into a wall or fall over in the bathroom.</li> <li>• John's a retired contracts lawyer who spent some time in the Philippines working with Foreign affairs. He retains an air of dignity, behaviour of a now forgotten age</li> <li>• Children would think of him as a quiet, polite old man and he's be a good grandfather</li> <li>• He was a family man, had three sons who have all moved overseas to live. They are married with their own children and are white collar professionals</li> <li>• Before that he spent a brief period in the RAF during the WW2, towards</li> </ul>	<p>John – Grace</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John doesn't know Grace, but there's still a bit of romance in him. It's been gone for a while now, but is still bubbling beneath the surface</li> <li>• He finds himself in a novel situation in that he's old, genteel, and has given up on romance and then a lovely lady arrives and shows a bit of interest in him.</li> <li>• His passion is reignited, rekindled, the juices stir</li> <li>• But underneath that he's still uncertain, not going to jump in, after all, who is this woman and he's really getting on a bit now.</li> <li>• He needs to be drawn out and given a reason</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• His main goal is to understand the new dynamic and where he fits into it</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Old colours, genteel, respectful, takes care of himself, maybe a tie or cravat, groomed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wants to enjoy the rest of his life</li> <li>• Wants a bit of romance, his could be it</li> </ul>

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Receptionist		the end of the war, arriving in the UK as the war was ending. He was trained as a bomber navigator				
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is a job, one that pays poorly but allows her to exist. She doesn't rock the boat, just goes about her job quietly and efficiently. The elderly come and go, she never really knows them beyond per-functionary politeness.</li> </ul>	Receptionist - Joan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Respect, worker-boss, no real engagement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Her main goal is to do a job and go home at the end of the day</li> </ul>	NA	NA
Taxi Driver		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A happy go lucky character.</li> <li>Drives a taxi because he wasn't the brightest at school, but doesn't mind that.</li> <li>Likes everyone and everything, nothing's ever too much of a problem</li> <li>Can't understand why people are so fixated on their homes and doing them up, that just sucks up money that could be spend travelling the world</li> <li>Would love to travel</li> <li>Loves his rugby, still plays for the seniors, staunch supporter of the All Blacks and never gets caught up in the fuss over the coaches because there's no way he could do that job</li> <li>Is married and has three kids, all in their teens and doing ok at school. Hopes that one of them, the eldest son Jackson, will go to university, which is looking likely</li> <li>His wife works part time in the supermarket and wants the roof fixed, she never lets it go, but they can't afford it right now, although he knows is has to be done</li> </ul>	Taxi Driver - Grace. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grace is someone old, seems kind of nice, a bit distant maybe</li> <li>Certainly worth talking to her, she's got that kind, warm manner that makes it east</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drive Grace to Pacific Dreams</li> </ul>	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wants to share his life philosophy with others and convert them even just a little bit</li> <li>Wants to get out of here, go overseas and discover the world</li> <li>Wants his wife to forget about fixing the house and try to enjoy life a bit more</li> </ul>

	Tone Genre and factors influencing lighting, mood, costume and feeling.
<b>Pacific Dreams, the building</b>	Pacific Dreams, the rest home. It's: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Purgatory, the dim, bland place in which people exist between life and death</li> <li>The final place to exist before one moves on</li> <li>Quiet, dim, dull, grey, between light (life) and dark (death)</li> <li>Comfortable, as easy as possible for people to slip from life into death</li> <li>Serene, a little too serene, feeling like it's not quite right.</li> <li>Ordered, routine, structured, because elderly come and go, they are forgetful and, well, they're just easier to manage that way</li> <li>Safe and secure</li> <li>Colour and life is outside, people inside can see it, but can't get to it. It's in the past, not in the future. Inside are only memories of it.</li> <li>It's like on the scales of how a rest home should be run, order has outweighed life. It's not a deliberate decision to make it harder on the elderly, or make the last stages of life unpleasant. It's more of a</li> </ul>

slow evolutionary change, that's just happened over time, like something's been forgotten, lost in the process of looking after the elderly. The Head nurse has kind of lost sight of what she was originally there to do. The elderly don't fight back, don't argue, and they die, move on, there's turn over of the customers. So, it's been easy for things to slowly, sub-consciously, change.

- Middle Class, enough money is around that it could be invested into the rest home to make it adequately decorated, but not money for it to be classy. Yet it's not adequately decorated, instead it's Spartan, lifeless and empty, devoid of life.

The significance of the name "Pacific Dreams":

- Pacific, like the blue tranquil water of the Pacific ocean
- Pacific, like a Pacific island, with palm trees and greenery
- Dreams, a place to dream, to relax
- A typical marketing ploy name for a rest home that suggests more than it is
- A little fishbowl somewhere inside, with fish representing the ocean and also that people are in a fishbowl that is fake compared to the rest of the world