

Bourne
toWrite...
creative writing
workshops

She was Disappointed

by Lawrence Howard

She was disappointed by both the weather and the fact that Louis wasn't there. She loved days like this, when the sun was shining, the outside temperature was warm but not too hot with a very gentle breeze – just enough to stir the air around but nothing more.

Virginia and Louis had been married for many years and having recently retired they'd taken up different interests so that they wouldn't be under each other's feet all the time.

Louis had taken up sailing in more recent times and with his pension had bought a sailing boat. It wasn't big enough to need crew, but it had a cabin and was capable of crossing the English Channel, something which Louis really wanted to do.

Today's forecast for sailing had been good. They'd agreed to sail out of Southampton and spend a few days in Jersey or St Malo and then return to England. Although Virginia had never learnt to sail, in fact she couldn't even swim, she enjoyed supporting her husband's interests and spending quality time with him.

Unfortunately, despite the forecast saying otherwise, there was virtually no wind in the Solent and this made it impossible for them to set sail. Although disappointed for Louis, now they were retired they had few time constraints and could always go the following day. In Virginia's mind this meant that they could spend a lazy day together in the sunshine and maybe set sail the next morning.

But Louis was nowhere to be seen and she had no idea where he was.

"That stupid bloody woman," said Louis angrily, "I've been stuck with her for over 30 years and since we've been retired I'm with her even more. I didn't enjoy spending the few free hours I had when I was working, but these last few years since retirement have become unbearable."

“And today of all days, when we’ve planned to cross the channel, there’s no bloody wind. That means she’ll be sitting around, waiting for me to come up with some idea of what we can do instead, when you know, I just want her out of my life,” continued Louis.

“So, when will you do it?” asked Olivia, “when will you set yourself free so that we can be together?”

Louis leant forward and kissed Olivia on the lips, “hopefully tomorrow,” he replied.