

Billy liar

Literature



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Billy silently creeps down the stairs and out of the front door. He looks around and sees Arthur walking towards him. When Arthur sees Billy he starts to run over to him.

Arthur: What you doing up this early? I'd be careful if I were you Rita is supposed to be coming over to yours to see you with her brother.

Billy: I know I heard you and Rita talking outside mine last night that's why I'm up, I'm getting out the way. What are you doing up?

Arthur: I came to warn you about Rita.

Billy: So what happened with you and Rita last night at Foley Bottoms then?

Arthur: Nothing much she was too wound up bout you. She kept going on about it she did.

Billy: Well she's not getting the ring. Barbara still has it. I thought I might go round to hers and try to persuade her to give me it back so I can sell it to pay back Shadrack and Duxbury.

Arthur: You can't avoid Rita forever! What happened with you and Liz yesterday?

Billy: I was supposed to go to London with her last night but I didn't.

Arthur: so that's another one you've upset.

Billy: I'd better go!

Billy has just seen Rita walking up the road with a large man. He runs off in the other direction leaving Arthur standing in the road.

Rita: (yelling after Billy) you better run Billy but I'll catch up with you one day and you'll be sorry. I want my ring!

15 minutes later Billy walks through his garden gates and into his house.

Geoffrey is sitting in a chair reading his paper. Billy can hear his mum in the kitchen. Geoffrey doesn't look up from his paper.

Geoffrey: Bloody hell look who it is!

Alice runs in with a tea towel in her hand.

Alice: Billy your back! I'd thought you'd gone.

Billy: I missed my train

Geoffrey: No you didn't, I heard you come back in last night and go out again this morning.

Alice: (turning to Geoffrey) Why didn't you tell me?

Geoffrey: Because I knew he would be back soon

Alice: Where'd you go this morning? That young madam came round last night shouting, waking up the whole street. You'd better be careful or that one. But I suppose you brought it all on yourself.

Alice folds the tea towel and goes back into the kitchen.

(Alice calls) Do you want any thing to eat?

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Billy: Yes please mum

Geoffrey: He doesn't blood deserve it.

Billy sits down. Geoffrey carries on reading his paper.

Geoffrey: So why didn't you go?

Billy: Didn't want to leave every one when I had caused so much trouble.

Geoffrey: You're all heart! Don't lie no wonder they call you Billy Liar. I'm ashamed to call

you my son.

Geoffrey folds up his paper and walks towards the kitchen. Alice comes out of the kitchen and gives Billy a tray with a sandwich on.

Billy: Thanks mum. I'm starving.

Alice: Do you want any thing else?

Billy: Can I have a drink?

Alice goes out to the kitchen. There is a knock on the door. Alice goes to answer it.

Alice: (still by the door) no you're not coming in.

Rita storms in the room followed by Alice

Rita: Yes I am!

Rita stamps up to Billy as he stands up and puts her hands on her hips.

Alice: (shouting) Get out of my house!

Rita: Where's my ring!?

Geoffrey comes out of the kitchen

Geoffrey: What the bloody hells going on?!

Alice: (to Geoffery) Get her out of my house.

Billy: (to Rita) I think you'd better leave.

Rita: I'm not going any where.

Alice: I'm phoning the police.

Geoffrey: No you're not (to Rita) I think you'd better leave.

Rita: Calm down all I want is my ring.

Billy: I haven't got it.

Rita: Has that Barbara got it still? Right I'm going round there.

Rita storms out of the room and slams the front door she stops out side to light a cigarette and she walks away. Back in the Fisher house. Alice sits down in a chair.

Alice: (to Billy) why did you get involved with that girl when you had that nice girl, Barbara?

Billy: Don't start mum

Geoffrey walks towards the door

Geoffrey: I'm going out

Geoffrey goes out. Billy finishes his sandwich in silence. Alice just sits there.

There is another knock on the door. Alice goes to answer it.

Alice: (coming back into the living room) Come in dear sit down, do you want a cup of tea?

Barbara: No thanks I'm ok with my orange

Alice goes into the kitchen. Barbara sits down and gets an orange out of her bag and starts to peel it. Billy notices she hasn't got her ring on.

Billy: Where's your ring?

Barbara: I've got it safe here in my bag. I'm not sure what to do with it.

Billy: If you don't want to marry me any more I'd understand. You could just give me the ring back and we could get on with our lives.

Barbara: But I don't want to part with it

There is a silence when Billy or Barbara don't know what to say.

Billy: Did Rita come and see you this morning?

Barbara: What that awful girl from before? No she didn't. I don't think she knows where I live.

Billy: Well she want the ring.

Barbara: Well if I give itck to you I don't want you giving it to her.

Billy: I wouldn't

Barbara: Well ok here yo go.

Barbara gives Billy the ring. He puts it in his pocket. Barbara gets up.

Barbara: Bye then Billy

Billy: See you around

Barbara leaves. Alice comes out of the kitchen

Alice: Is it over between you two them?

Billy: yes

Alice: I really liked her

Geoffrey comes back

Geoffrey: Do you know that girl Liz or what evaer her name is, the one you were involved with (talking to Billy) well shes gone off again, she will never settle down.

Billy: Shes not the type to settle down

Billy gets up and walks towards the living room door and up the stairs, his hands are in his pockets. Looking at the ground. He lays on his bed put his hands behind his head and sighs.

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Conclusion

At the end of the play Geoffrey has just told Billy about Liz going off again. Billy is upset about this news that is why he goes off up to his room at the end. He realises that all his lies have, in the end, left him with nothing he lied to get in the first place. He now has to pay back Shadrack and Duxburys with the money he will get from selling the ring. Rita gives up on Billy and starts going out with Arthur. His Grandmas funeral is on the Tuesday, Billy does not go. Barbara moves away with he parents and Liz never comes back. Arthur and Rita move in together. Every body else grows up and moves on but Billy still lives at home. He did not get to do his dream job of script writing Billy wishes that he had never told so many lies. The final message of this play is lying never gets you any where.

Commentary

When Billy is going down the stairs he puts his weight on the banisters, so as not to make any noise. Before Arthur looks up and sees Billy he is kicking a stone along with his hands in his pockets. When Arthur and Billy are talking to each other they don't look in each others eyes because they don't feel comfortable talking to each other as Arthur feels guilty about being with Rita and Billy feels guilty because he heard them talking.

Arthur is wearing brown trousers with a white shirt. He is quite smartly but Billy is wearing black trousers with an untucked shirt and his suede shoes. His hair is unbrushed. When he is running away he keeps looking behind him. Rita jogs up to Arthur and stops by him with her brother coming up behind her. Rita is wearing a tight shirt, a skirt and heels. Her brother is one

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of those people who is not very clever but is strong. He is wearing a t-shirt and shorts. He doesn't say any thing, he does what Rita tells him to do.

When Billy arrives back home he is wistling. Geoffrey does not look up when Billy comes in because he does not want to look as if he is bothered that Billy is back. Alice comes out of the kitchen claps her hands together, she is carrying the tea towel because she was washing up. Billy tells another lie when he tells his mum and dad he missed the train. He did not want his mum and especially his dad to think that he didn't even try because he was scared.

Alice is wearing a flowery patterned dress and slippers and Geoffrey is in a suit with out a tie with his top button undone. After Alice has said all the negative things to Billy she asks him if he wants something to eat so she can't stay mad at him for long. Geoffrey does not like Alice treating Billy so good.

Billy says that he is staying for the good of every one else. Geoffrey knows he is lying and he thinkd Billy is scared of being on his own and can't survive on his own. Geoffrey doesn't mean it when he says I'm ashamed to call you my son he's just angry. He leaves to show that he is.

Alice is pleased to have Billy back, he takes advantage of her being so nice to him, when she asks him if he wants any thing else.

Alice does not like Rita because she wears short skirts and uses words she doesn't expect her to. Rita thinks she can do what ever she wants and that a little lady isn't going to stop her. She pushes past Alice even though Alice

says no your not coming in. Alice is shouting at Rita even though she doesn't normally shout. Rita is shouting louder than Alice because she is trying to ignore her. Billy is scared of Rita and he just wants to forget about what he has done. Geoffrey hears every one shouting and comes and shouts louder than every one else. Alice does not want Rita in her house. Alice thinks she is better than Rita.

Billy is talking calmly to Rita because he just wants Rita to leave. Alice then goes over to the top and says she is phoning the police, she wouldn't have really done it, she was just threatening her. Rita does not want to take the chance that Alice might do this so she calms down. This might mean that Rita had been in trouble with the police before. When Billy tells Rita that Barbara has the ring, she gets angry again and says she is going round there even though she doesn't know where she lives. Rita gets out side and light her cigarette to calm her down.

When Rita has gone Alice asks a rhetorical question about why did Billy get involved with Rita, Billy doesn't want his mum going on. Geoffrey goes out because he can't stand every one arguing. Alice likes Barbara much better because she is more respectable to Alice. Alice treats her completely different to Rita, when Alice offers her a cup of tea she says no because she has her orange, Barbara eats a lot of oranges. Barbara is wearing a tweed suit and flat shoes unlike Rita wearing a short skirt and heels.

Billy does not sound surprised when he asked where the ring is because he was expecting it. Barbara keeps it with her because she still has feelings for Billy. Billy tries to get the ring off of her by not sounding as if he wants it back.

When Billy asks if Rita had been round he knew then answer would be no but he was trying to make conversation. Barbara gives Billy the ring because she thinks it's what he wants, really she wanted to forgive him and still get married.

Alice is disappointed that Billy and Barbara are over.

Geoffrey comes home happier than he was . When he tells Billy about Liz goin away again he watches Billy carefully to see what he does.

At the end Billy knows that he has messed up and that lying gets you nowhere. He has lost 3 girls on a day. He is depressed and sad. The fact his nan is dead also hits him. All of the scene would have Billy as then main subject with lighting in him. There is only music when Billy comes back through his garden gate when he is whistling.