

Breaking Them Up

Susan

35.

GREG

Good morning, everyone. So as you may have surmised, I suffered a minor case of the bends recently. It was my fault, I unfortunately ascended far too quickly. The good news is they say after a few more chemical peels, the scars will hardly be noticeable.

Greg chuckles and wipes the make-up off. It was a joke.

GREG (cont'd)

I'm sorry. I have a twisted sense of humor.

Most of the class is relieved, but also a little freaked out. But Laurie smiles, finding it funny.

GREG (cont'd)

Scuba diving is actually very safe. As long as it's done properly. Which is why you are all here, of course. As some of you know, I'm Greg. I am the owner here at Cardinal Adventures. Now my first question: is there anyone who signed up alone?
(no hands go up)

Of course not! Partly because you're required to sign up in pairs, but mainly because, like life, scuba diving is best experienced with a partner. And on that note, let's go around and meet all of you. We'll start with you two.

Start

A couple, SUSAN (60s), chatty, and DOYLE (60s), crotchety, probably ex-military.

SUSAN

Hello everyone. I'm Susan. This is my husband Doyle.

Doyle nods, not much of a talker.

SUSAN (cont'd)

Our daughter is taking us to the Caribbean for our 40th anniversary in July, so that's why we're here.

GREG

The ruby anniversary. That's beautiful. Congratulations.

End

SUSAN

Thank you.

Next is an IMMIGRANT CHINESE COUPLE (25).

XI

Hello. My name is Xi. And this is my wife, Cheng.

CHENG

(shy)

Hi.

XI

We moved here six months ago for my job.

They wait for him to continue, but he doesn't.

GREG

Well, we're glad to have you here.

His eyes move to Damien and Laurie and he recognizes her.

GREG (cont'd)

Hey. Love Your Pets, right?

LAURIE

Yes.

GREG

Folks, for all your pet needs, you should head to Love Your Pets pet store run by...Laurie, I believe, if I recall your nametag correctly?

LAURIE

Good memory. And this is Damien.

GREG

Nice to meet you, Damien. So what made you sign up for the class?

LAURIE

Well Damien here actually took first place in his school's geography fair, and first prize were lessons for two.

Everyone looks impressed, says congrats. Damien just nods.