

Breathing Corpses by Laura Wade

*AMY is a 19 yr old chambermaid. She is cleaning hotel rooms when she discovers a customer who has taken their own life.*

AMY:

{Entering the hotel room, noticing someone in the bed} Oh god, sorry. {looks at figure in bed} God not again. You're supposed to put the Do Not Disturb on. Then I wouldn't come barging in. {She moves to the bed, lifts the sheet} Ok. Ok. {She places her hand and takes the pulse.} Yeah. Yep {She goes to the phone, lifts the receiver, goes to ring a number and the changes her mind}

I'm ok. Just - you're dead and I'm going to get sacked I think, so - Not very - not very good, is it? What's your name Mr Man? I'll go down and tell them in a minute. Probably think I'm joking this time. {she notices a letter} Oh you did a letter. Nice. You know you look- I bet you were lovely. I bet you were really- really kind. Not a person I'd ever really talk to but. But you look lovely. Don't fancy you or anything, you're a bit old for me. Probably got kids my age. Oh god have you got - {looks at envelope} Does it say in here? Who's Elaine?

D'you mind if I- It's just you've not sealed it, so no-one'd know, 'cept you and me, and I won't tell anyone if you don't. {opens letter} Jim. Hi Jim. {reads the letter} That's a really nice letter, Jim. I mean, you know... For that kind of letter it's nice. Not too long, you don't blame anyone. Wouldn't seem fair, really, they never get chance to say anything back. Good you haven't blamed anyone.

I think I will get the boot this time. You weren't to know. They don't think I did it, not really- although I did get questioned last time coz they found my fingerprints on the bottle next to the bed, got in trouble for what was it, disturbing a crime scene- Manager says I'm the angel of death. Don't know why it's always me. Why can't the thing that makes me different be a nice thing? Special cause I'm, I don't know pretty or something. Someone people'd want to look after. Stupid cow.

You know what gets me? Why wouldn't you go somewhere really good? Cause you're not going to have to pay for it next morning, are you? Why wouldn't you book into somewhere really posh, the Ritz or the Hilton or something, that's what I'd do. Get a bus to London, new credit card cause you'll not be around to pay the bill, will you? See a show. Have a nice long jacuzzi and then fall asleep forever but - But least it's a nice four poster, Egyptian cotton, chocolate on the pillow. Not a hotel on a bloody roundabout.