

**THE FIRST TIME**  
**A two-minute monologue**  
**By JANE CAFARELLA**

*Drama*

*BREE, 20s-30s defends her violent husband while taking refuge with her sister.*

He's not an abusive husband!

This has never happened before. NEVER!

I don't know!

We were arguing...everybody argues!

about money...

It got a bit... nasty

He fell asleep. On the couch,

I saw the glass of beer on the table, and, well...I was angry

So I picked it up and poured it over his face.

He just lost it!

It was my fault. It was stupid!

I'm not going to press charges! He's my husband!

I wouldn't have come so late if the kids hadn't woken up, and he wasn't still going crazy.

You're reading way too much into this. He's a good dad. Normally.

It'll be fine. I'll be fine.

*Her phone pings. She checks it, frowning.*

*(Calling off)*

Kids! We're going!

I'm fine. I'll take a few days off until the swelling settles.

He's really upset. He's under a lot of pressure.

We haven't told anyone, but the business is going bankrupt.

No! I'm not going to tell Mom, and don't you either.

She wouldn't understand. She never liked him.

*She checks her phone and speaks aloud as she texts her reply:*

Coming!

*(To her sister)*

Don't tell me what to do!

It's MY life!

*187 words*

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