

Macmillan | Social Information Processing

MAN: Hey. Hello, James.

JAMES: Hey. Sorry. I'm just looking back at my text conversation with Janelle.

MAN: Everything OK?

JAMES: I-- I don't think so.

MAN: What's going on?

JAMES: Well, you remember a couple of weekends ago when we went to that party at your cousin's house? And I ran into my ex.

MAN: Yeah. Did something happen?

JAMES: No. No. Nothing-- no! Nothing happened. Truly nothing. We ran into each other. I said hello. I asked her how she was doing. And we went our separate ways.

MAN: Sounds OK to me.

JAMES: You know, sounds OK to me too. So I decided to tell Janelle because you know, I'd want her to tell me if she ran into her ex at a party. You know?

MAN: That seems right.

JAMES: Right. So I texted her, and I said hey, I've been meaning to tell you I ran into Rosie at a party a few weekends ago. It was fine. We talked. Nothing happened.

I even put a little smiley face at the end so she'd know it was no big deal.

MAN: And what did Janelle say?

JAMES: Well, she said, now you're just telling me this now?

MAN: Uh oh. Do you think she's mad?

JAMES: Oh! Well, look! She used all caps. She's upset.

MAN: That's a lot of question marks. What are you going to do?

JAMES: I don't know. I just replied to her, and I said, it was honestly no big deal. But she didn't reply to that. So I replied again saying, I love you with a bunch of smiley face and heart emojis.

MAN: Aw.

JAMES: But that didn't help. Janelle thinks something happened between Rosie and me because I waited so long to tell her.

MAN: Oh.

JAMES: But nothing happened! I don't know why she doesn't trust me. This has always been an issue for us! I'm like, I'm a good guy.

I like-- I wouldn't do anything to hurt her. Know what? I'm going to be the one now to use all caps on her. Why don't you believe me? I did nothing!

There.

MAN: Hope that works.

JAMES: She replied.

MAN: And?

JAMES: She said call me. Period. Very short. Well, she's never that short.

MAN: Sounds like you better give her a call. Good luck, man.