

Relationship Accounting

When John and I first started dating, his best friend, Darren, took me aside and warned me, "Do NOT hurt him!" Too bad no one ever cared about John hurting me. Yes, you have all seen John's 'good guy' side; but, you did NOT see what has gone on behind closed doors.

When I had my mental 'breakdown' in 11/1992, only four months after we got married, you saw a 'great guy' stepping up and filling in as parent while I was in the hospital. You saw a 'great guy' working while his wife was on State Disability Insurance. You didn't see the Intermittent Explosive Disorder that resulted in over \$1000 of property damage from punched and kicked walls. You didn't see him in a fit of rage shattering an irreplaceable antique gravy boat my grandfather given me before he passed away. He didn't see him punch and destroy two Sega game controllers out of frustration. You didn't see him throwing small appliances across the room as a substitute outlet when she told him he was not allowed to damage their second apartment they lived in together, in 1995. You didn't see him, in 1999, shattering the driver's side window of my car, slamming the car door out of anger that his GERD pills fell out of the car onto the parking lot and scattered.

You didn't see him shoving and slapping my daughter. You didn't see him making fun of her 'fat ass' when she was already upset that the boys at middle school were doing the same thing. You didn't see him punching my daughter's bed right next to her face as 'discipline'. You didn't see him demeaning my son for being skinny and depressed.

You didn't see him objectifying his wife, who was dealing with emotional trauma and knowing part of that trauma was rape by her first husband, by grabbing her breast and telling her it was his. You didn't see him refusing to take STOP as an answer during sexual encounters she didn't even want in the first place. You didn't see him refuse, after being fired in 1993, to get a job when she begged him to; so, they could afford their baby that was on the way. You didn't see that, instead of cutting his hair to get a job with UPS, he coerced her into scheduling an abortion. You didn't see that, when she had a miscarriage before the abortion appointment, he let her grieve alone, saying to her, "To me the baby was already dead. I don't understand why you're making such a big deal about it." You also didn't see that, after a four day hospital stay for a life-threatening episode of acute pancreatitis in 1996, he refused to be her caregiver during her recovery, failing to lift a finger with household chores, balking at even the simplest tasks like making her some jello for her restricted diet, while she laid on the couch still in excruciating pain, forcing her to get up and fend for herself.

Here is what else you didn't see:

Her having to go back to work, before she had fully recovered from the mental breakdown, to support the family; because, John got himself fired. Her taking no days off to grieve after the miscarriage. Her supporting him through his TWO YEARS of unemployment, without demeaning or nagging him, and giving him an allowance so he could have money he had control over to help his self-esteem during his unemployment.

Her trying to get her children and him into family counseling with her, in 1997, to work through the household tension and him telling her SHE was the problem and he wasn't going. Her switching antidepressants when the one she was on was causing sexual issues in their marriage, just to keep him satisfied. Her trying to get him to work through their marital issues, in 1998, and him saying it was stupid and pointless. And in 1999, her giving him the option to either file for divorce or go to anger management classes after shattering the car window and him quitting the anger management classes

after only two weeks saying, “They're talking about our past. It's not the past that pisses me off, it's stupid people today.”

Her giving him her used Nissan Sentra when they separated; so, he could continue working and support himself. Her dealing with and paying for all of their combined debt and his property damage. Her NOT asking for alimony, which she rightly deserved because she was on SSDI and he was employed, when he conveniently filed for divorce in 2005, AFTER she took care of all of the common debt and his property damage.

Her maintaining a friendship with him, in hopes he'd get his shit together and they would reconcile their marriage. And, as a friend, her loaning him two hundred dollars, in 9/2019, which he never paid back; because, he “couldn't afford gas for work”. Her giving him her Dodge Grand Caravan and \$2000, in 2021, to help him transition from Pandemic Unemployment Assistance back to work; because, he didn't have a vehicle and no money to begin the Lyft or Uber vehicle lease program.

When her health deteriorated after the murder/suicide in her family, in 1/2019, which included crime scene cleanup, and being denied mental health services by 25 clinics citing “Medicare Panel Full”, abandonment by family and friends, who said she is now “just too negative, medication side effects, in 6/2021, causing tendon and ligament damage resulting in mobility issues, he moved in with her in 10/2021, at her request, to temporarily provide caregiver support. She got him on the County IHSS payroll and paid all of his living expenses. He never applied for a job and, in 12/2021, had the nerve to tell say, “I feel like a fucking slave.” During the ensuing argument, he volunteered that he had lied to her about leaving his weed in Las Vegas, committed a Federal Felony by transporting a controlled substance across State-lines into a Zero-tolerance State, putting her lease in jeopardy. So, she kicked him out for a second time.

She had received a retaliatory formal dismissal letter, in 11/2021, from the entire KU Physician's Network after a denial of treatment for a fungal lung colonization resulted in a Quality of Care investigation by her Medicare Part C provider; and, in 11/2022, the Panasonic lithium battery plant excavation explosions, cracked water and sewage pipes causing cross-contamination making her home uninhabitable, and being at 80% Federal Poverty level income that was also \$400 over the gross income test and restricted income housing had two-year waiting lists made finding a new apartment to immediately move to impossible. John invited her to move in with him to prevent homelessness, promising her he would be her caregiver and make up for everything—his behavior during their marriage, the reason they separated and divorce, his behavior as her caregiver in KS and the betrayal of trust, and all of the generosity, patience, and tolerance she had showed him over the years—saying he wanted to make her life better and only wanted to see her happy.

Instead, the abuse began again when, against her better judgment, she moved in with him in 3/2023, ramping up to threat of physical violence when he pulled a punch a fraction of an inch from her face on Thanksgiving Day 2023 and blocking the door when she tried to leave and diffuse the situation, resulting in LVMPD responding to a Domestic Violence call, him manufacturing 'emergencies' by failing to maintain the van she gave him forcing her to cover all household expenses TWICE, him storing her food out of her reach, forcing her dependence on him to access the food she paid for, and only moving her food to where she could reach it after she finally put her food down and demanded basic courtesy and respect, although this took THREE WEEKS of nagging on her part. Things kept escalating to constant psychological abuse and coercive control. In an attempt to deescalate the situation, she had him sit with her and draw up a roommate agreement he signed in 11/2024, that he immediately and repeatedly violates. And, to add insult to injury, he parades around the apartment

naked, as if the fact we were married in the past justifies his indecent exposure in a roommate situation in the present.

THIS is why I began withholding my share of the rent in 9/2025. I REFUSE to PAY to be abused and I am using that \$\$ to get out of here as soon as possible. And, I am within my legal rights to do so under landlord/tenant law and ADA mandates. So, if he wants to whine to the people who think he is a good guy and say I'm being unfair. Read this essay again and tell me who is, has been, and likely always will be unfair.