

Lesson 2

READ THIS STORY #1, Advanced

Maria's Son

Maria automatically began to knead the dough. It was easier for her to wrestle with a knotty problem when her hands were busy.

Her son, Gary, had been full of self-confidence when he asked her to cosign the loan for his new sportscar. He assured Maria that it was just a formality. He was positive he could manage all of the payments himself. After all, Gary was a stockbroker. He said he needed the car to impress his wealthy clients with his personal success in the stock market.

Gary had a lot of charisma, but he often exaggerated possibilities and minimized difficulties. Gary was not financially responsible. He tried to wriggle out of this unpleasant situation. He felt his mother had unlimited resources, so he didn't need to make good on his loan.

Maria feared that she had been overprotective with her son. She had rescued Gary from several financial disasters in the past. Had this been the wrong thing to do? Perhaps Gary would never become a self-sufficient individual if she didn't force him to face the consequences of his own poor judgment.

With a twist of her wrist, Maria slapped the dough into the bread pan. She knew what she had to do.