

It was early spring when Boudreaux passed away. Afterwards Charmaine seemed to be doing fine - still Marie worried about her friend. Three weeks later they were talking on Charmaine's front porch.

"When I came over I saw Pierre leaving. He looked mad. Is everything okay?" Marie asked.

"Yeah, it's okay. He heard about Boudreaux's \$30,000 life insurance policy and wanted me to lend him some money to buy a boat - but I told him dat da money is all gone" Charmaine replied.

"You spent \$30,000 in three weeks? Charmaine, what did you do girl?" Marie asked.

"Well, the funeral cost \$6,500 - den I gave da church another \$500 - and da stuff at the wake was another 500" Charmaine explained.

"Yeah ... go on" Marie urged.

"Then da rest went for da memorial stone" Charmaine stated.

"Wait. Let me get dis straight. You spent \$22,500 for a memorial stone. Is dat right?" Marie asked.

"Yeah, dat's right" Charmaine replied.

"Charmaine how big is dis thing?" Marie asked.

Charmaine held up her hand and replied, "Oh, about three carats."

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