

Mary was a university student. She did not have very much money, and her parents were not rich, but she had an uncle who had been fortunate enough to collect great wealth. He had no children, and Mary was his favourite niece, so he always gave her valuable Christmas and birthday presents.

When her Uncle George's birthday came round, Mary wanted to buy him something really special, but because he was so wealthy, she did not know what to get him. She went into the best shop in her town and explained what her problem was to one of the helpful young shop assistants.

Finally Mary said to her, 'I suppose this isn't the first time anybody has come to you with this problem. What do you have for someone who's already got everything he wants or needs?'

The girl sighed deeply and answered, 'Envy, Only envy.'