



Masaaki (Male, 40's)

Masaaki is a devoted and caring husband and father. But that's not always clear to his family because he is also devoted to his at the Aquarium. His wife was once brilliant but her issues with drinking have put a strain on the relationship. There is much unspoken tension between them bubbling beneath the surface.

Scene 1

Masaaki is ankle deep in dead fish while examining a shark that washed up dead on shore, along with hundreds of fish. His daughter Ruka runs up to him.

Masaaki	Oh, Ruka?
Ruka	Dad!
Masaaki	Strange, huh? This is a relative of the megamouth.
Ruka	Megamouth?
Masaaki	Yeah, it's a type of shark that lives in the deep-sea. Most of the other fish are deep-sea types as well. Why did this happen? So many types of fish washed up. And Sora is still missing. It's such a mess.
Ruka	Sora hasn't returned?

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Masaaki	That's right. Jim is looking for him, too.
Ruka	What about Umi? How is he doing?
Umi	He's looking dejected. He must be worried about Sora.
Ruka	<i>(Runs off)</i>
Masaaki	Hey! A typhoon is coming. Stay home!

Scene 2

After Ruka had been missing, she finally returns, but storms off after her mother tries questioning her.

Masaaki	Well...At least she's back home safe.
Kanako	That's all you have to say?
Masaaki	I didn't mean to come off that way.
Kanako	I suppose that's how you'd be. Ruka doesn't want to stay home because I'm a drunk. <i>(Beat)</i> You two are similar in that way.
Masaaki	It's Ruka and you that are alike. You want people to know how you're feeling, but you don't know how to express it. So you get frustrated and lash out, right? You're both awkward at navigating life. I see that now. I just didn't know how to help back then. <i>(she's giving him a look)</i> What?
Kanako	Honestly...you're equally awkward.
Masaaki	I may not be the best either, but I want to make things right. If you'll give me another chance. We belong here in our home...together.

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