

28 DAYS

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Jasper
There she is! Hello darling, how are you?
(kisses, bangs her leg in a cast)

Gwen
Ow...ow!

Jasper
What's that?

Gwen
Ah, nothing...

Jasper
You poor little thing! What are they doing to you here?

Gwen
I fell

Jasper
Is that part of the therapy? I want you home darling. Listen, everybody's asking after you.

Gwen
Like who?

Jasper
Like Mrs Leftowitz from downstairs, remember her?

Gwen
The non-talker?

Jasper
Right, five years without a word, I'm crossing the lobby yesterday, she stops right in her tracks, and says "I'm glad you got rid of that girl, she's nothing but bad news".

Gwen
That's not funny.

Jasper
Of course it's funny.

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Gwen

No Jasper, it's not. Anonymous strangers thinking I'm bad news, it's not funny.

Jasper

It is funny, believe me, everybody I've told's laughed really hard.

Gwen

That's great.

Jasper

Come on, you need cheering up. I'm taking you away.

Gwen

What are you doing?

Jasper

Cheering you up a bit, taking you away from these freaky people. I'm sorry.

(bangs her leg)

Gwen

Ow, God!

Jasper

Come on, have some cheese. Have a roll.

Gwen

No bread, I'm already getting fat.

Jasper

Come on, it's very good bread.

Gwen

Not if I don't want bread it's not.

Jasper

Fine, I'll have the bread, just break it open for me.

Gwen

I don't wanna...

Jasper

Just break open the bread.

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(There's a ring inside)

Gwen
This is a ring.

Jasper
Yep.

Gwen
What are you, proposing, or...?

Jasper
Yeah, I am.

Gwen
At rehab.

Jasper
No, I'm proposing to you now, you happen to be here.

Gwen
Yeah, but, I don't know. "Well, how did he ask?" "Well, he came down to visit me in rehab, and...

Jasper
Ok, so it's not the moonlight in Maui...

Gwen
Where did you think we were going to get married, Surly's pub?

Jasper
Why not? Make a good story.

Gwen
I don't need any more stories. I have enough stories. I would like a life.

Jasper
I guess that's what I thought I was offering.

(He opens thermos)

Gwen
What is that?

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Jasper

Champagne. I brought it to go with the proposal, thinking wrongly this might be a romantic moment.

(she grabs it and throws it off the boat)

Jasper

This is so not how I saw this whole thing playing out!

Gwen

I'm sorry, I'm just not taking this as lightly as I used to.

Jasper

Taking what?

Gwen

This straighten up and fly right thing. I don't know, maybe there is something wrong with me...

Jasper

Is that what they're telling you here?

Gwen

No. Yeah. It is. An you know what, I think they're right.

Jasper

Well they're not. You're just in a rut, it happens to everyone.

Gwen

No Jas, there's an entire world of people out there who do everything right and they don't drink, and they don't do drugs, and they are happy.

Jasper

That's a crock of shit. They aren't happy. No adult human being is happy. They're born, they have a limited amount of time going around thinking everything is dandy. And then, inevitably, tragedy strikes, and they realize, life equals loss. And the whole point of the game is to minimize the pain caused by that equation. And some people do it by have kids, or making money, or taking up coin collecting. And others do it by getting wasted. Having that little switch in their head turning the hot light off and the cool light on.

Gwen

Nobody gets hurt collecting coins.

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Jasper

Everybody hurts everybody, it's the human condition. Come on Gwenie, don't let them tell you there's something wrong with you, there isn't, you're fine!

Gwen

I don't feel fine.

Jasper

Of course you don't feel fine, you're in Deliverance country surrounded by a bunch of sober freaks. And you're not with me. Come on, I don't feel fine these days either, and it's because we're apart. You're mine, I'm yours, I love you.

Gwen

Why do you want me Jasper, I'm such a mess.

Jasper

Maybe I like mess.