

TAKE FLIGHT

Written By

Mike Yeulett

Mike Yeulett
writingwanderer@yahoo.com

Part Two: Gone

EXT. RUA DA REBOLEIRA RESIDENTIAL STREET - NIGHT

It's a quiet and peaceful night on the Rua da Reboleira

GASPAR approaches the door of his home

INT. JACK'S SHARED APARTMENT. HALL

Gaspar enters closing the door behind him. Throwing his keys on the table, Gaspar heads to the lounge.

INT. JACK'S SHARED APARTMENT. LOUNGE

Gaspar stands in the doorway looking in:

JACK sleeps sitting up right on a chair whilst KENZIE sleeps on the couch covered with a blanket.

INT. JACK'S SHARED APARTMENT. HALL

BRUCE, the dog, lies on the floor looking up at Gaspar.

Gaspar shrugs his shoulders as he walks past Bruce, heading into his room, closing the door behind himself.

INT. JACK'S SHARED APARTMENT. LOUNGE - MORNING

Bruce, sitting beside a sleeping Jack licks at his hand causing him to slowly stir from his deep sleep.

GASPAR O.S

Heavy night?

Jack suddenly awakens: he notices Kenzie is gone.

Gaspar is leaning against the doorway drinking a coffee.

JACK

Where is she?

GASPAR

Looks like she's gone.

Jack vacantly looks around the room.

GASPAR

Who was she?

(CONTINUED)

JACK
I dunno. She fell into the Douro.

GASPAR
(*Am I hearing this?*)
She what?

JACK
She fell into the river.

Pause for a beat.

JACK
Christ it's cold.

GASPAR
It's 9 in the morning and already
30 degrees, so maybe you should
get out of those wet clothes?

Gaspar leaves drinking his coffee.

Jack stares aimlessly at the couch Kenzie slept on.

INT. JACK'S SHARED APARTMENT. BATHROOM

Jack grabs a hot shower.

EXT. RUA DA REBOLEIRA RESIDENTIAL STREET - DAY

Jack exits the apartment building onto the Reboleira with
his bag over his shoulder and Bruce by his side.

The window to his apartment up above opens: it is Gaspar
who is leaning out of the window.

GASPAR
Hey!

Jack looks up at Gaspar:

GASPAR
I might be a bit late. I'll meet
you guys there.

JACK
Sure.

GASPAR
Tchau cadela

Jack flips Gaspar the middle finger before walking. Bruce

follows as he walks along the Run da Reboleira.

EXT. CAIS DA RIBEIRA. RIVER BANK - DAY

Sitting on the river bank with Bruce by his side, Jack writes in his journal:

JACK V.O

(Narrates)

I'm sorry I didn't finish writing to you. Something quite unusual happened. Not far from where I am now, a woman fell into the river. Believing me to be her guardian angel, I guess you can say I had to take ownership of my responsibilities. It's strange. As she said: guardian angels only appear to stop a situation that could lead to an effect, and then disappear without a trace, watching from afar. Last night she came. This morning she went. Makes me question: who really was the angel? Maybe it was even you.

Jack looks out over the river Douro.

EXT. AVENUE DE DIOGO LEITE - LATER THAT DAY

Jack and PEDRO walk along the avenue with Bruce.

PEDRO

It was a good night. You would have enjoyed it. It was a shame you weren't there.

JACK

There's always another time.

PEDRO

They've got you working a lot of shifts huh?

JACK

I mean, I can't complain. It pays the bills. Keeps me active.

Pedro laughs.

PEDRO

The Chez Lapin a fucking gym now?

JACK

You know what I mean. Sure the hours can be... *inconvenient* but it's fine. It's fine.

Pause for a beat.

PEDRO

I actually wanted you there because I wanted to thank you

JACK

(*Are you kidding me?*)
You wanted to *thank me*?

PEDRO

For saying what you said, the other night.

JACK

Oh, it was nothing.

PEDRO

No, you were right. You were right about everything. I went to work the day after... mulled it over.

JACK

(*Sarcastic*)
Realised you're an opinionated ass?

Pedro laughs.

PEDRO

I think I knew that already. But I realised you were right, and I need to be careful where I aim.

JACK

Still considering relocating?

PEDRO

The only thing keeping me here is an *ok* job and friends.

JACK

No *Family*?

PEDRO

We've never been *close*. Even when at the dinner table at Christmas we seem so far away. Maybe a fresh start, my career and home, could be what I'm after. Do you ever miss it? *Home*.

Pause for a beat.

JACK

Home will always be home, no matter where you are. But people are people, and they have to make choices, no matter how selfish.

Jack looks at Pedro giving him a smile of support.

INT. SANDEMAN WINERY. TASTING ROOM - DAY

Jack and Pedro occupy a table in the empty room.

TOMAS walks over to the pair carrying a bottle of Sandeman port and three glasses.

TOMAS

Hungover is an understatement. But I plan on drinking through it

Tomas begins pouring three ports:

JACK

In England we call that hair of the dog.

TOMAS

Well I am in serious need of *cabelo do cachorro*. How was your night?

Jack is caught off-guard:

JACK

Great.

Tomas hands the glasses of port around the table before sitting joining Jack and Pedro.

TOMAS

Cheers.

PEDRO

What are we toasting too?

TOMAS

To it being a Saturday and as of 7 minutes ago no longer being the manager of this place.

PEDRO

Until Monday. And doesn't the level of manager require some degree of *vocational commitment*?

TOMAS

Talk about souring the toast.

Jack, Pedro and Tomas tap glasses before drinking.

PEDRO

It is a little sad though. You finished almost 10 minutes ago and you're still in the workplace?

TOMAS

You're right. Let's go.

Jack, Pedro and Tomas stand readying to leave.

EXT. 7G ROASTER RESTAURANT. TERRACE - DAY

Jack, Pedro, Tomas and Gaspar sit at the table drinking beers. Bruce sleeps beside Jack.

During the conversation, Jack seems a little vacant:

TOMAS

(*To Gaspar*)

So what happened to you last night? One minute you're there, next minute you're gone.

GASPAR

Now that *would* be telling.

TOMAS

Such hubris.

(CONTINUED)

GASPAR

Telling you would be like telling
a publicist.

Tomas scoffs.

PEDRO

(Points at Jack)

What is it he calls you?

GASPAR

The Daily Mail.

Pedro, Gaspar and Tomas laugh at the table.

TOMAS

Seriously telling me I'm the only
one with a little intrigue?

Silence at the table; Tomas turns to a distant Jack:

TOMAS

Hello?

Jack snaps back into the conversation:

JACK

Yeah, sorry...?

TOMAS

Hardly said a word. It's like
you're here but you're not here

JACK

Just a little tired

GASPAR

Here's one for you *Daily Mail*.

Tomas gives Gaspar a raised eyebrow.

GASPAR

A certain someone's tired because
he spent last night fishing
helpless women out of the Douro

TOMAS

(*Am I hearing this?*)

What?

JACK

It wasn't *women*, it was a *woman*

TOMAS

Whether it was *one woman* or *five*,
what the hell happened?

Pause for a beat; Jack thinks "*how do I approach this?*"

JACK

She threw herself in.

PEDRO

And you went in after her?

Jack shrugs: "*I guess so*"

TOMAS

So you jumped into the river? Do
you know how dangerous that is?

JACK

What was I to do, let her drown?

TOMAS

Sounds like she was fairly
content with her choice.

PEDRO

Was it like that film *Vertigo*?
Where the woman throws herself
into the San Francisco bay?

JACK

It was hardly cinematic.

TOMAS

More dramatic than cinematic.

Gaspar smiles.

TOMAS

So *who* is she?

JACK

I don't know.

TOMAS

Well where is she?

Jack shrugs.

PEDRO
Probably giving it another go
whilst *Prince Charming* is
occupied elsewhere.

Tomas, Pedro and Gaspar laugh; Jack simply smiles.

EXT. JARDIM DO MORRO - DAY

In the picturesque gardens overlooking Porto from up
high, Jack, Pedro, Gaspar, Tomas and Bruce sit:

PEDRO
(*To Gaspar*)
So she wasn't the one?

GASPAR
Is there such a thing as *the one*?

PEDRO
I think there's someone for all
of us. But I'm not really a
traditionalist.

GASPAR
So what's that, you saying you're
gonna fuck about with the one?

Pedro laughs.

PEDRO
I like to think *those days* are
behind me.

TOMAS
What are *those days* exactly?

PEDRO
The days when you don't treat
people as people. Just things.

GASPAR
Yeah I'm still working on that

The group laugh.

GASPAR
It's crazy to think we're all
nearing thirty, not one of us
settled down. Maybe we're doing
something wrong?

(CONTINUED)

JACK
Or something right?

Silence as the four gaze out over Porto.

INT. JACK'S SHARED APARTMENT. LOUNGE - EVENING

Tomas, Gaspar and Pedro occupy the room.

Jack enters wearing his work uniform.

TOMAS
Are you sure you can't wing it?

JACK
Unless you want to cover my share
of the rent and bills?

TOMAS
On second thought

JACK
Then no

GASPAR
You meeting us after?

Jack contemplates.

PEDRO
Not like you're doing anything.

GASPAR
And you've got tomorrow off.

JACK
(*Surprised*)
How'd you know?

GASPAR
This is practically a marriage

Jack rolls his eyes.

TOMAS
(*To Gaspar*)
You're *definitely* the wife.

The group laugh before a moments silence.

TOMAS

See how it goes, and if you wanna
come, we'll be at *Casa do Livro*

JACK

Got it.

Jack smiles before heading towards the door.

INT. CHEZ LAPIN RESTAURANT - NIGHT

It's fairly quiet for a Saturday night.

Jack walks over to an occupied table of FOUR with a
bottle of red wine and four glasses. Placing the glasses
in front of each member of the table, Jack removes the
cork from the bottle.

JACK

Alguém gostaria de tentar?

A MAN at the table raises his hand.

Jack pours the man a taster of the wine. Approving of the
wine upon tasting, the man gives Jack the thumbs up.

Jack continues to pour the wine.

EXT. CHEZ LAPIN RESTAURANT

Walking out onto the exterior patio, Jack joins his
fellow co-worker FREDDY who stands close to the door.

JACK

Hey

FREDDY

Hey

JACK

Quiet, huh?

FREDDY

I've never been so bored. Feel
like I want something to go wrong
just so I have something to do.

JACK

I don't think I'd be that extreme

A COUPLE approach.

(CONTINUED)

JACK

You take this one. Stops you
praying for a fire.

Freddy smiles as he walks to greet the couple showing
them to a table inside.

Jack remains outside.

He notices a woman sitting on a bench facing him across
the way: it is Kenzie.

EXT. CAIS DA RIBEIRA

Jack walks over to Kenzie. She stands, timidly smiling.

JACK

Hi.

KENZIE

Hi.

Silence.

KENZIE

Sorry, I, erm... this seemed like
a good idea at the time.

JACK

How did you find me?

KENZIE

I remembered your shirt.

Jack remembers he never changed out of his uniform:

JACK

Oh yeah.

KENZIE

Must've been cold.

JACK

Freezing.

Kenzie smiles.

KENZIE

Me too.

JACK

Took a twenty five minute shower

KENZIE

Yeah, mine was forty

Jack and Kenzie smile through the awkward silence.

JACK

Why'd you leave?

KENZIE

I didn't know what was appropriate

Pause for a beat.

JACK

Well you found me.

KENZIE

Yeah, guess I did.

Long moment of silence.

JACK

I should really get back

KENZIE

Maybe I could make it up to you sometime? Grab you coffee?

Jack smiles.

JACK

I don't drink coffee

KENZIE

So that's a no to the coffee

JACK

But I like to walk?

KENZIE

Yeah... walking's good. I mean I don't think it's necessarily me making it up to you but... I like to walk.

Jack smiles; pause for a beat.

JACK

Be at the Cathedral tomorrow at eleven.

KENZIE

Sure.

Jack begins to step back toward the Chez Lapin:

JACK

It's Jack.

KENZIE

Kenzie.

Jack turns heading back to the restaurant, smiling.

End of Part Two: Gone