

# Right Again

LYNN: A woman

JIM: A man

1 INT OF AN ORDINARY TENEMENT FLAT IN GLASGOW (OR ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE WORLD)

JIM and LYNN stand in a room. LYNN is preparing to leave. The suitcase is to one side. JIM is staring at her.

JIM

*I knew it would happen. You said it wouldnt but I knew it would.  
Right from the start. I knew it..*

LYNN is taken aback by this, but only mildly; she smiles, shaking her head. JIM studies her.

JIM

*Did I or didnt I? Eh? I did didnt I?*

LYNN

*What?*

JIM

*I said it would happen*

LYNN  
WEARILY  
*Oh God . . .*

JIM  
(SHRUGS)  
*I did. I said it, and I was right*

LYNN  
*Yes, you were right*

JIM  
*I knew I was*

LYNN says nothing

JIM  
DEFIANTLY  
*I did didnt I?*

LYNN  
Yes.

JIM  
*I did*

JIM studies her. LYNN glances at her suitcase. LYNN sees JIM shrug.

LYNN  
*Yes, you did. (PAUSE) You were right and I was wrong.*

JIM

*I'm not saying that,*

LYNN smiles

JIM

*I'm not*

LYNN

*I thought you were*

JIM

*I was just saying . . .*

LYNN

INTERRUPTING

*I know what you were saying. (EVENLY) I know  
what you were saying.*

JIM

QUIETLY

*Only that I knew it would happen. I didnt want it to  
happen but I knew it would.*

LYNN is staring at him and he becomes a little uncomfortable.

JIM

*That's all I'm saying. You didnt think it would happen but I did*

LYNN just looking at him

JIM

*I knew it would*

LYNN

*Yes, you were right*

JIM

*I didnt want to be right*

LYNN

*No, just me to be wrong*

JIM

*What? No! Not at all*

LYNN smiles

JIM

*Not at all*

LYNN studying him, she shakes her head

JIM

*I dont want you to be wrong.*

LYNN

*Oh!*

JIM

*Honest, I dont. What do you not believe me*

LYNN

*I dont care. One way or the other. (PAUSE) It doesnt matter.*

JIM

*Of course it matters*

LYNN

*No it doesnt.*

JIM stares at her. LYNN holds his stare for a couple of seconds. She feels sorry for him.

LYNN

*It isnt your fault Jim. (PAUSE) Dont think it is*

JIM chuckles for a moment, then shakes his head staring at her

LYNN

*It's me.*

JIM

*It's not you*

LYNN

*It is*

JIM

*No it's not*

LYNN sighs, gazes at the carpet

JIM

*Please*

LYNN doesnt raise her head

JIM

*I only mean dont go blaming yourself, it's not you.*

LYNN looking at him.

JIM

*It's not you*

LYNN is sympathetic, feeling for him. She wants to reach her hand to him but knows better.

LYNN

*I could've gone this morning. I wanted to tell  
you face to face.*

JIM

*Face to face,*

LYNN

Yes

JIM

IRONIC

*I appreciate it.*

LYNN

*It wouldnt have been fair otherwise.*

JIM

Naw.

LYNN

*Just going without saying.*

JIM watches her

LYNN

*It wouldnt have been fair to you. It wouldnt have been.*

*Nor to us, it wouldnt have been fair to us*

JIM

*Us?*

LYNN

*Us!*

JIM

*Dont talk about us, it's you. It's not us. It's not honest saying that, and ye're usually honest. Where does that come from, talking like that?*

LYNN

*Talking like what?*

JIM

*You know what I mean*

LYNN

*I dont know what you mean at all*

JIM stands as though expecting an answer. LYNN just watches him.

JIM

*Do you expect me to take you back?*

LYNN

*What?*

JIM

*What am I supposed to just take you?*

LYNN

*What do you mean?*

JIM

*I'm talking about if you want to come back, if you decide to come back; if that's what you decide I mean am I supposed to just take you?*

LYNN smiles

JIM

*I'm being realistic.*

LYNN

*I know*

JIM

*You might want to. It is possible. So then if you do I mean what happens? Am I just supposed to let you!*

LYNN ironic, shaking her head

JIM

*It happens all the time. People split up, they walk out on their partners and then want to come back. The grass isn't as green as they thought it would be so then back they come. And what about their partners? Are they just supposed to let them?*

LYNN

*What are you talking about?*

JIM

*It's obvious what I'm talking about.*

LYNN begins checking things out on top of the cupboard and mantelpiece

JIM

*It happens all the time.*

LYNN

*Of course it doesn't*

JIM

*Yes it does, a lot of times it does. And I mean so then there's the partner. What is he just waiting? just standing there. She leaves him and that's that! (PAUSE) People move on you know that's what you forget,*

LYNN

*This is getting ridiculous*

JIM

*Ridiculous to you.*

LYNN

EMPHATICALLY

*It's ridiculous*

JIM

*How do you know? You dont know. You cant. Not for sure. Nobody does. You're talking the future.*

LYNN

*Oh for God sake.*

JIM

*It's only hypothetical.*

LYNN

*Exactly*

JIM

*So if it does happen.*

LYNN

*It wont*

JIM

SHRUGS

*Dont expect me to take you back, I'm talking if it does*

LYNN

*It wont*

*JIM*

*No but if it does.*

LYNN

*It's not going to.*

JIM

*Yes, you know everything*

LYNN

*I know that*

JIM

*Aye well how do you know I mean I like the way you say that  
as if you know for sure but how the hell can you I mean  
you cant, you cant know for sure.*

LYNN watches him a moment longer then glances at the door, a bit absent-minded; now back to him. JIM is defensive

JIM

*Not for sure. (PAUSE) Look, it's a simple question  
I'm asking.*

LYNN

WEARILY

*What is?*

JIM

*The question I'm asking*

LYNN does not respond other than by watching him

JIM

*I'm talking if you walk out the door.*

LYNN sighs then frowns slightly. JIM is staring at her.

JIM

*Dont pity me. Dont you . . . Are you pitying me dont you  
dare pity me. Dont you dare*

LYNN

*I'm not pitying you. [PAUSE] I'm not.*

JIM

*You were. I saw it.*

LYNN

*I wasnt*

JIM

*Know what I mean, just go! Just go if you're bloody  
going but dont you damn well pity me.*

LYNN shakes her head. JIM gestures with his thumb upturned towards his shoulder

JIM

*So go, just go. Away you go, out my sight. (PAUSE)*

*What is he waiting down the stair?*

LYNN sighs

JIM

*Eh? Is he?*

LYNN gazes at him. JIM is trying to figure her out

JIM

*Is he waiting down the stair?*

LYNN shakes her head, a despairing irony

LYNN

*There's nobody. How many times do I have to tell you!*

JIM

*You liar.*

LYNN smiles. JIM is goaded by her smile.

JIM

*You are! You're a bloody liar.*

LYNN

*You know I didnt have to wait. I could have gone this morning*

JIM can barely make sense of this

LYNN

*When you were out, I could have gone then.*

JIM  
CHALLENGING  
*So why didnt you?*

LYNN  
*Because it wouldnt have been fair. To just leave, it  
wouldnt have been fair*

JIM  
SARCASTIC  
*Thanks a million.*

LYNN nods and reaches for the suitcase JIM stands where he is. HE stares at the suitcase.

JIM  
PROVOCATIVELY  
*It looks brand new.*

LYNN does not respond.

JIM  
*What have you just got it? I've never seen it before*

LYNN lifts her coat from a peg, pulls it across her shoulders.

JIM  
SMILING  
*So it was planned? It was all planned! Huh! When?*

LYNN sighs

JIM

*When did you decide? Eh? Was it a while ago?*

LYNN

*What does it matter?*

JIM

*Oh it matters*

LYNN smiles slightly

JIM

*You better believe it matters*

LYNN gives a brief shake of the head. JIM watches her pull the suitcase handle upright, and put her hand to the door knob

JIM

*So ye're just going?*

LYNN exits, pulling suitcase behind her, and closing the door behind her. JIM stares at the door, frowning. He is irritated, almost angry. Now JIM smiles, heavily ironic. He turns from the door, he scratches his head. He looks back at the closed door uncertainly, gazing at it.

end