

"I've got to go"

by

?

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FADE IN.

INT. THOMAS BROWN'S PRIVATE ROOM #903 - NITWIT HOSPITAL -
MORNING

THOMAS BROWN, 65, lays asleep. He is startled awake when CHARLIE, a handsome 28 year old nurse, his right forearm in a cast, noisily enters pushing in a blood pressure machine.

CHARLIE

Wake up Thomas! Blood pressure
time!

Charlie leaves it near the bed, walks over to the window and opens the blinds.

The bare window reveals a bright blue cloudless sky. The sun beams directly unto Thomas's face.

Charlie returns to the blood pressure machine, takes the arm cuff and fits it on Thomas's right arm.

CHARLIE

Another cloudy day! Mmm... Looks
like rain!

Thomas frowns as Charlie pumps the cuff.

THOMAS

I may be blind but not stupid...
nor deaf!

FRANK, 28, gawky looking nurse with a stutter, walks in carrying a tray of assorted open pill containers, labelled with the patients' names.

CHARLIE

My my my...feisty this morning
Thomas!

Charlie takes the cuff off.

FRANK

Ya sh..sh...sh...shouldn't
t..talk to Mr b...b...brown that
way, ch...ch...Charlie.

CHARLIE

(mocks)
W...w...w...why not?

Frank drops his head.

THOMAS

You are such a nasty man!

Charlie exits the room with the blood pressure machine.

CHARLIE

Yeah old man. I know and I don't care.

Frank approaches Thomas and places the tray on his bedside table.

FRANK

It's m...m...medicine time Mr.
B...B...Brown.

Frank seeks Thomas's container, tilts it to read the name, as three pills slide out and mix into some of the remaining containers.

FRANK

Oh n...n...no!

THOMAS

(giggles)
You mixed my pills again, Frank?

Thomas lifts the tray and begins to walk out.

FRANK

Yes. I'm s...s...sorry . I will
b...b...be right b...b...back.

Nurse LOUISE, 26, gorgeous athletic looking blonde, walks in as Frank is about to exit. She carries a breakfast tray.

LOUISE

Good morning Frank.

Frank is infatuated by Louise. He smiles and answers stutter free as she continues to walk over to Thomas's bedside table.

FRANK

Good morning Louise.

Frank gazes upon her as he exits and knocks into the door frame. He juggles with the tray but regains composure and quickly exits.

Louise giggles and attends to Thomas. She helps him sit up.

LOUISE

And how are we this morning
Thomas?

She slides the table with the food in front of him and takes his right hand to feel the tray. Thomas gently holds onto her hand.

THOMAS

Frank likes you.

Louise gently takes her hand away.

LOUISE
Do you need help with your
breakfast this morning?

THOMAS
I'll be fine.

Louise takes the buzzer from the top of the bed and rests it next to Thomas's left hand; he feels it as well as her hand and gently squeezes it.

THOMAS
Charlie is not right for you.

LOUISE
I love Charlie and he loves me.
(Louise, dumbfounded,
pulls her hand away)
How do you know about us?

THOMAS
A blind man sees. Would you like
me to tell you what I see?

LOUISE
(hesitantly)
Sure. Why not. You're my last
patient. I've finished my shift
for today.

INT. CAFETERIA - NITWIT HOSPITAL - LUNCH

Charlie and DENNIS, a 27 year old nurse, sit, eating lunch. The room is packed. Dennis points to Charlie's cast.

DENNIS
So are you going to tell me the
story?

Charlie takes a mouthful of his burger and splatters as he speaks.

CHARLIE
The stupid bitch accidentally
dropped a bowling ball on my
hand. Just as well her old man's
rich. I'd dump her like a hot
coal otherwise.

DENNIS
She loves you man.

Charlie fills his mouth and pervertedly stares towards two female nurses sitting nearby having their lunch.

CHARLIE
 That's her problem.
 (looks to Dennis and
 frowns)
 And since when did you start
 caring? You treat women worse
 than I do!

Dennis raises a brow and starts eating his salad.

DENNIS
 So what have you got planned for
 the weekend?

CHARLIE
 She's taking me to meet her folks
 at their country estate which has
 an eight hole golf course. A
 fucking golf course Dennis and I
 hate golf! Pansy fucken sport.

EXT. RICHMOND ESTATE GOLF COURSE - 6TH HOLE - AFTERNOON

Charlie awkwardly prepares to swing his putt, five meters
 away from the hole. His cast makes it near impossible.
 Louise two metres away steps closer.

LOUISE
 Wait. I'll give you a kiss for
 good luck!

We see her parents EDWARD, 65 and MARGE, 63 standing a few
 meters away, next to their golf cart. Louise gently presses
 her lips on Charlie's mouth and whispers.

LOUISE
 I love you.

EDWARD
 (laughs)
 A kiss won't help him. It's his
 14th attempt.

Marge gently hits him on the arm, nudges him to be polite.

MARGE
 Edward!

Louise gives her dad a stifled look.

EDWARD
 Well I'm hungry. Lunch is well
 overdue. Show him what to do!

INT. CAFETERIA - NITWIT HOSPITAL - MONDAY - LUNCH

Charlie his back to us sits with Dennis having lunch.
Dennis is in stitches.

DENNIS

Great weekend hey? So, is she
still worth it?

His back to us Charlie answers with a severe lisp.

CHARLIE

She's a good fuck, she loves me
and she has money. Hell yeah!

DENNIS

You're seriously fucked up
Charlie.

We see Charlie's face. His top lip is swollen and bruised
and his two front teeth are broken in half.

CHARLIE

The dentist said I was lucky they
snapped below the nerve. He'll
have them looking like new.

Dennis wipes the tears from his laughter and tries to
speak.

DENNIS

So she kisses for luck then she
shows you how to swing your stick
and hits you in the mouth in the
process. This is priceless.

Frank, a tray in hand nears their table. He sees Charlie's
face and stops.

FRANK

Ch..ch..Charlie! Are you
O..O..OK?

CHARLIE

Yeah I punched myself. Imagine
what I'll do to you! Now piss
off!

Without a second thought Frank walks away and heads for the
furthest empty table.

Dennis contains his laughter.

DENNIS

Frank's a nice guy. You're not a
school bully any more you know!

CHARLIE

There's something about him that fucks with me especially the way he looks at Louise.

DENNIS

You're jealous!

CHARLIE

Are you crazy?!

Charlie irate, stands and walks towards the open cafeteria door located near where Frank sits. His food tray remains untouched.

He passes Frank with a filthy look and exits. Frank drops his head.

Dennis stands and walks over to Frank.

DENNIS

Can I sit down?

Frank looks nervous but nods.

FRANK

Sh...sh...sure.

Dennis giggles.

DENNIS

That stutter is pretty fucked up man. You should do something about it.

(composes himself)

Anyhow. I'm not here to lecture you on that.

Frank gives a nervous smile.

FRANK

Is ch...ch...ch...Charlie OK?

DENNIS

Yeah! He's fine. He's good looks haven't been destroyed, just his pride.

Frank shyly nods agreeing.

DENNIS

So what's the story between you and Louise?

FRANK

(surprised)

Louise? N...N...Nothing.

DENNIS

C'mon Frank. It's half obvious
you like the girl. You never
stutter when she's near. That's
got to mean something.

Frank stares up in pensant thought.

FRANK

(no stutter)

She's beautiful and I like her a
lot. I wish...

DENNIS

You wish what Frank?

Franks gaze returns to Dennis and his stutter begins.

FRANK

Th...that CH...CH...Charlie would
t...t...treat her nice.

DENNIS

I knew it. You are in love with
her.

Frank reveals a horrified look.

FRANK

N...n...n...n...no!

Dennis giggles but reassures by placing his hand on Franks
arm.

DENNIS

It's OK. It's OK. I won't tell
Charlie.

Frank relaxes.

DENNIS

I'm going to help you Frank.

INT. CHARLIE'S APARTMENT - LIVING AREA - EVENING

Charlie sits on a red velvet love seat watching TV, dressed
in his under wear. The room dimly lit, has very little else
apart from the TV on a stand and a large heavy wooden
coffee table.

Louise walks in, hair wrapped in a towel, dressed in a bra
and panty.

LOUISE

Have to hurry. I'll be late for
my shift.

CHARLIE

Sure! By the way...
 (he rubs his groin.)
 That was a great blow job babe.
 Sorry I couldn't do anything...
 (points to his mouth)
 You know... a bit sore.

Louise pulls a face.

LOUISE

Hmm. Maybe Thomas was right about you!

CHARLIE

Who? Are you talking about that blind fool in 903?

Louise turns and walks away.

LOUISE

What do I see in you? Never have anything nice to say about anyone.

CHARLIE

Babe, don't be like that. I love you.

Charlie quickly jumps to his feet to follow her, loses his balance and kicks his toe in the leg of the wooden table in the process.

He slumps back down as he hollers holding his toe.

Louise runs back in with empathy and kneels beside his leg and places her hand over charlie's which is rubbing his toe and looks Charlie in the eyes.

LOUISE

I'm sorry darling. It's all my fault. Can I do anything to ease the pain? Want some ice?

Charlie's moans become more exaggeratedly pronounced. He gently places his hand behind Louise's neck as if to kiss her but draws her head towards his groin instead. She gets the idea.

CHARLIE

This will definitely ease the pain Babe.

Charlie raises a brow in anticipation as an evil grin appears on his face. Then a look of sexual contentment overwhelms him. Only his face is visible.

CHARLIE
I love you Babe. I need you and
want you so much.

EXT. HOSPITAL ENTRANCE - LATER

Louise is late. She takes a quick look at her watch before entering the Automatic doors, not noticing Frank who stands there with his arms placed behind his back. It's 23:15.

The doors open and she steps through as Frank calls out. She looks back. Frank stands there with a smile.

LOUISE
Oh hello Frank. I'm so late. What
are you doing here? Have you been
called in for a late shift?

FRANK
No. I was waiting for you. Been
here an hour.

Frank pulls a bunch of red roses from behind his back and offers them to Louise who is speechless.

FRANK
These are for you.

Louise looks Frank in the eyes and sees the glitter of love.

LOUISE
Thank you.
(she smells them)
Their beautiful. What's the
occasion?

FRANK
None. Just wanted to give you
something that matched your
beauty.

Louise smiles and gets a noticeable quick shiver.

LOUISE
That is so sweet. Thank you
Frank.

She then takes a quick look at her watch.

LOUISE
Oh my God. I have to get going.

FRANK
Can I see...

Louise cuts in.

LOUISE
I have my first break at 1.00 am,
If you're still around. We could
have coffee in the cafeteria.

Frank smiles and nods.

 FRANK
I'd love that.

 LOUISE
Great! Now I've got to go.

Louise runs in.

Frank, over excited, hyperventilates and sits on the ground
in front of the doors. From the shadows, Dennis appears and
nears Frank. He kneels beside him.

 DENNIS
Are you OK?

Frank looks up with the biggest grin and nods as he tries
to control his breathing. Dennis smiles and nods in return.

 DENNIS
It's all up to you now!

Dennis stands and helps Frank up.

 FRANK
Thank you Dennis. You're great.

Dennis looks to him startled.

 DENNIS
You're stutter? It's gone!

Dennis pats him on the back, smiles and walks away. Leaving
Frank standing near the door. He waves back without
looking.

 DENNIS
Good luck! Oh!..
 (stops and looks back)
...by the way! Go and talk to the
old man in 903! I did! He will
tell you your future! Louise
knows hers!

INT. CAFETERIA - NITWIT HOSPITAL - LUNCH

On screen: Three days later.

Dennis sits with Frank and Louise over lunch. Charlie walks in hobbling on his right foot, bandaged, his lips still swollen, his arm still in a cast and a look of horror on his face.

Dennis, about to have a drink, stands, with his water filled paper cup in one hand, as Charlie nears the table and pulls out the chair next to his, with his other hand.

DENNIS

Sit down. You look like you've seen a ghost.

Charlie does not sit, instead stares to Dennis and Frank sequentially. Dennis remains standing.

CHARLIE

n...n...n...nice
thr...thr...thr...threes...s...so
me. You are all a...a...ass...

All three look to him in shock. Dennis interrupts him.

DENNIS

What the fuck has happened to you?!

He points to Frank.

CHARLIE

His f...f...f...fault. Lost
m...m...my girl. Went t... t...
to see the old man. T...to see
what he had t...t...told Louise.
Th...th...the B...b...bastard
croaked on me after
c...c...cursing me and I
w...w...w...walked out
stu...stu...stu...ttering.

Louise stands accompanied by a look of extreme sorrow, almost as if the looks were intended as having empathy for Charlie.

LOUISE

Oh my God! That's terrible!...
(beat)
... Thomas is dead?!

She runs out of the cafeteria, followed by Frank.

DENNIS

Well old buddy. You got what you
deserved and as you would so
eloquently put it.
(beat)
I don't give a fuck!

Dennis quickly paces after the other two, accidentally spilling his drink as he places the cup on the edge of his tray before he leaves. The water runs down the edge of the table onto the floor and puddles up near an unawared Charlie.

Charlie looks around, all eyes are on him in silence. He turns and takes a step to walk and loses footing in the puddle.

Fade out.

Song title: I've got to go...

(Song written for a male vocal; intro for a female vocal and refrain a female Choral sound)

(After piano chord)

I've got to go baby... (whispered)

(After piano chord)

I'm sorry... (whispered)

(After piano chord, when violin starts)

But I've got to go ... (whispered)

(After cymbals)

**You touched my hand and broke my wrist
You kissed my lips and broke my teeth
You said I'm sorry and I love you so
- I love you so - (refrain)**

**I said oh baby please don't go
Karma got me when I kicked my toe
I said I love you and I want you so
- you want me so - (refrain)**

**Now that you've left and gone away
Come back to me is all I pray
You said I'm sorry but I've got to go
- I've got to go... - (refrain)**

** (suggestion) It would be nice to extend the last note in the refrain maybe 4 beats longer, as to emphasise the last word as it fades out.