

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

As the light pushes through a break in the curtains, REGULAR JON - pale and skinny with a crew cut and a tube in his arm - opens his eyes and realizes:

Today is his last day of chemo. He closes his eyes...

EXT. A LARGE, EMPTY FIELD

...and instantly enters a dream.

Nothing but rolling hills of grass - except for a SMALL TABLE at which TWO MEN sit. He moves closer.

Both men are him. CHILL-STOIC-COLLECTED-JON (CSCJ) and NEUROTIC-WIMPY-UNHINGED-JON (NWUJ) sit across from each other. As Regular Jon approaches, CSCJ starts up:

CSCJ
(collected and chill)
Well, this is it. We made it.

NWUJ
(unhinged and
neurotic)
Whoawhoawhoa...we don't know that for
sure. It might not have worked! We
won't know until the PET scan..

CSCJ
Yeah, but come on. The odds are in
our favor. Our PET scan in November
was clear. And Dr. Goldenberg is
completely confident, so that's a
great sign.

NWUJ
Yeah, how does *HE* know? He's got so
many patients, he's probably not even
paying attention to us. And besides,
he might be a Trump supporter.

CSCJ
Come on...all he said was that things
might not be so bad. He's been
nothing but wonderful this entire
time. And it's not like we've needed
his undivided attention every day. It
hasn't been *terrible*.

NWUJ
NOT TERRIBLE?? Dry heaving for 10
days every two weeks is not terrible?
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

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NWUJ (cont'd)

Having everything taste like vomit? Losing our hair?? Both big toenails falling off? I mean, even on the GOOD days we couldn't walk up a flight of stairs without feeling like we were climbing at altitude.

CSCJ

Look, yeah, if you dwell on all that minor shit, of course it's tough. But look at some of the other patients... look at what they're going through! We've had it really easy compared to most and we're very lucky for it.

NWUJ

Well what about our FAMILY? It's been really hard on them. Poor Isaac is always clinging to you, and Rachel has to pick up all of our slack because these clots in our arms make picking him up feel like trying to move a dresser.

CSCJ

They've been fine. Isaac is friggin' two years old - even if he realizes what's going on for a minute he's instantly forgotten it because he's decided that Pigmund Freud needs to be thrown into the crib. And Rachel has been a rock star this whole time. It's unfair for you to presume to know how she's feeling.

NWUJ

Oh I know how she's feeling. She hates us and wishes we would just get the fuck *better* already so she can live a normal life.

CSCJ

She does not think that. And besides, we *are* getting better, that's the point. The end is here and we can start focusing on recovery, now that we won't have this poison being pumped into us every two weeks.

NWUJ

But that's my *point!!* We won't know until the PET scan. And even if it's clear now...WHAT IF THIS SHIT COMES BACK??

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

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NWUJ (cont'd)

Two months, a year, five years...what happens if it comes back THEN?? We now have the rest of our lives to think that that every twinge of back pain means we have cancer again.

CSCJ

We can't think like that. We have to take it in chunks of time...remember? That's how we got through this. Just focus on getting through the next treatment, the next obstacle, then regroup and get over the obstacle after that. That's the way these things are handled. Like Joe Simpson, remember?

NWUJ

Yeah, yeah he crawled from rock to rock down a glacier on a broken leg. Good for him.

CSCJ

But that's how you do it. Don't think about what could happen down the road because ANYTHING could happen down the road. Just focus on the now, plan as best you can for what's in front of you, and take things as they come.

NWUJ

And what about Trump, huh? What if the ACA is repealed and the insurance company can deny us coverage? What THEN??

CSCJ

Did you not just hear me? Yeah, Trump sucks but let's just *take things as they come*. I mean, sure we'll call our representatives and fight as best we can against his bullshit, but things probably won't get as apocalyptic as everyone thinks. Our grandparents survived the goddamn *Holocaust* for fuck's sake...keep things in perspective, you know??

NWUJ

No, YOU keep things in perspective, OK? Not of all of us can be all chill, stoic and collected in the face of fucking cancer and Donald Trump. I'm scared shitless.

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CSCJ

Well I'm scared too, but remember:
there's nothing in life that it can't
be made worse by something else, and
there's nothing we're going through
that hasn't already been experienced
by someone else. That's the only
thing that matters, and the only way
we're going to get through everything
is by remembering that.

NWUJ

Whatever - you're really annoying,
you know?

CSCJ

Well so are you. You're bringing me
down, so I'm just going to head over
to that nice rock and try to read a
book or write or be productive or
something.

NWUJ

Fine. I'm going to go crawl into this
dark lair in my mind and let these
negative thoughts overtake me until
I'm an undulating ball of anxiety and
depression.

CSCJ

Fine, you do that.
(turning to REGULAR
JON)
Which'll it be?

Regular Jon looks from NWUJ's sunken, miserable eyes over to
CSCJ's calm, peaceful ones and makes his move.

REGULAR JON

(to NWUJ)
You need help..

He walks off with CSCJ. For now, he's at peace and ready for
whatever.

NWUJ

YOU'LL SEE!!! WE'RE ALL DOOMED!! AND
I'LL BE HERE TO REMIND YOU!!!!

NWUJ's tirade fades away as Regular Jon and CSCJ walk
further away.