

(Printed with the demonstration version of Fade In)

the promise

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EXT. MOUNTAIN PASS CARPARK , DAY

A large SUV pulls up, a man gets out the and goes to the back of the car, opens the rear door and retrieves his backpack, shuts door and continues towards the track, with a wider angle we see the track entrance and a mountain in the background, obviously giving us an idea of where he is going, or at least his goal.

This is JACK, he is your typical looking outdoors-man, bearded and rugged, despite his masculine look, he does have a serious expression in his face and a look of sheer determination. We hear the car door shut in the background and see a woman, dressed in totally wrong outfit for hiking, This is PAIGE, his wife, she is dressed in a red cocktail dress, high heels and with beautiful makeup. She is fully aware she is not dressed for mountain trekking but it doesn't seem to bother her.

Whilst Jack marches on-wards towards the trail. Paige takes her time, absorbing the sun's rays, enjoying the views and smelling the wild flowers

Jack barely makes eye contact to Paige, he pretty much looks always in the direction he needs to go, he delivers all of his dialogue in that direction.

JACK

The plan is to get to the top by sunset, so I suggest we pick up the pace, okay?

PAIGE

So bossy, grrrrr I notice you didn't make any mention about my outfit, do you remember this dress, I wore this at our first date, remember?

Jack smiles at that but he is more determined to get a good head start up the track, Paige makes her way also but not so well in the clothes she wore, especially the high heels, she trips and stumbles about.

JACK

You should have worn better shoes.

PAIGE
(struggling)
Yes, i know, should have worn better shoes, but these go really good with this dress.

JACK
That's really not a hiking.....

PAIGE
(cuts in)
I know what your going to say, your wearing the wrong clothes to go hiking in blah blah blah... i'll manage...

EXT.MOUNTAIN TRAIL.MONTAGE OF SHOTS.DAY

We see Jack hiking up a mountain trail, he is a skilled hiker, at no stage have we come across too hard of a climb yet but we are not even at the base of the mountain yet.

EXT.MOUNTAIN LAKE VIEW.EXT

Jack is filling his water bottle at the lakes edges and Paige is sitting on a rock.

JACK
(drinking from a water bottle)
Still a beautiful place, you remember when we first did this trail?

PAIGE
God, that would be what? 10 years ago,

JACK
10 years ago today

PAIGE
That would have been

JACK
4 years ...

PAIGE
3 months

JACK
14 days

PAIGE
Before the surgery, how time flies,

JACK
(Getting up and
motivated to
continue on)
Yeah ...time flies, Speaking of
time....if we wanna get to the top by
sunset we better move our asses.

PAIGE
(with hiking boots
on now)
well i changed my shoes now, despite
the fact they don't go with this
dress, however I can pick up the pace
now, so watch out, your gonna have to
keep up with me.

Paige heads off in front of Jack almost running,
occasionally runny backwards and mocking Jack

EXT.MOUNTAIN TRAIL STEEPER LOCATION -DAY

This area is starting to get steeper, After many bouts of
exhaustion, struggles, even confusion, even possibility of
being lost and occasionally looking at a map or compass,
this climb is making Jack start to loose his breathe and
raise a sweat. Paige is fine she might as well be skipping
up the mountain.

JACK
I'm sorry honey, I'm either too old
or to slow or both....this is taking
me longer than I thought....

PAIGE

Now you are making excuses....i know our hiking days haven't been as frequent as we used to ...but the fresh air will do us both good....its got to be better than being in that hospital.

JACK

Anywhere is better than a hospital

PAIGE

Exactly, so no time to dilly dally, old man

JACK

i said i felt old, i didn't mean i was old.

EXT.HIGHER UP THE MOUNTAIN TRAIL.MONTAGE OF SHOTS-DAY

We follow them, Paige might as well be walking in a country garden, she spending most of it, laughing and giggling and picking wild flowers whereas Jack, we see his every step, every grunt and reach to get higher etc he is starting to struggle and confront barriers, tripping and just getting tired as its a pretty steep climb, we see him frustrated but still determined to continue despite his exhaustion.

JACK

(Taking a breather)

Do you remember the last time we were here?, you reached for that branch to get up that step it broke and you slid down the track on your backpack, most people would be freaked out, but not you....what did you do?

PAIGE

i laughed all the way down.

JACK

That's right you laughed all the way down.....I came down to help you see how you were.....and what did you say to me???

PAIGE

Again, againlets do it again

JACK

Again and again....god you were little a teenager, bulletproof and crazy.

PAIGE

i think the words your looking for are windswept and interesting, not to mention

JACK

i know beautiful and wild

EXT. MOUNTAIN TRAIL.COVERED IN TREES-DAY

After many bouts of exhaustion, struggles, even confusion, even possibility of being lost or incoherence. we come to quite a steeper part, there is a rocky way you could climb or continue using the track, jack tries doing both using the rocky part on one leg and the track to maintain balance, Jack reaches for a branch to get leverage but it breaks, he falls back but ends up sliding down the trail.

EXT.VIEW OF TREE TOPS FROM JACKS POV.MOVING.DAY

We see from jacks pov that this slide is not fun at all and is quite terrifying looking up at the trees above you as you slide down a mountain, grunting and making the obvious noises you would if you were sliding down a mountain.

Paige watches him go all the way down the track about 20 -30 metres on his back.

PAIGE

(calling out)

WHY AREN'T YOU LAUGHING?

JACK
You have got to be kidding me!....
that was not funny?

EXT.STOPPED VIEW OF TREE TOPS FROM JACKS POV LOOKING UP.DAY

Paige comes into jacks point of view from a laying down position

PAIGE
Disappointed...no laughter ... and
.....

JACK
No i don't want to do that again.....

Jack goes to stand and winches in pain, looks down and see he has a branch logged in his leg, blood is evident, it doesn't look pleasant.

JACK (cont'd)
Ahhhhh no.....

PAIGE
(she turns to walk up
the track)
oh well that sucks doesn't it.....im
not carrying you

JACK
Somehow we may not make it to the top
by sunset...

PAIGE
What because you have got a little
splinter in your leg?

JACK
what the fuck?

PAIGE
This is so typical of you Jack, let
something small get in your way....
you do this all the time.....

JACK

I don't believe this?

PAIGE

What cant you believe Jack, that you cant finish this, you made me a promise Jack, the mountain top by sunset remember?

JACK

(getting upset and frustrated)

I know ... it's just...

PAIGE

oh do you need a drink maybe..... Did you bring some whisky Jack? You were always a big drinker.

JACK

You were sick.....I couldnt cope, I needed something to calm my ...

PAIGE

Calm your nerves.....cause boohoo my wife has cancer.....so I might just drink myself to oblivion.

JACK

I couldn't help you, I didn't know what to do?

PAIGE

I didn't need your help, I just needed you to be there for me. that's all I ever wanted.

JACK

I'm trying, I'm doing that now.....

PAIGE

Jack lets be honest, at the moment your doing fuck all, i made it through kemo alone and that was tough, this.....this is nothing....so how about we get up, dust ourselves off and finish this little adventure.... the top of the mountain is right there, probably about an hour away.... you think you could limp that far...you have a promise to keep

CUT TO -

EXT.SAME MOUNTAIN TRACK.DAY

Jack getting up, as uncomfortable as it is.

JACK
(looks her for the
first time in the
face)

I REMEMBER THE FUCKING PROMISE....
I AM NOT GOING BACK ON MY WORD ,
I LOVE YOU, I HAVE ALWAYS AND WILL
ALWAYS LOVE YOU,
I STOPPED DRINKING....FOR YOU.....
I'M HERE NOW AREN'T I, WE ARE DOING
THIS, AND WE WILL GET THERE BY
SUNSET.

PAIGE (SMILES)
That's my Boy, Beat you to the top

Jack reaches down and yanks out the branch from his leg.

CUT TO

EXT.MOUNTAIN PEAK.DAY

We see a view of jack, now with a bandages wrapped around his leg limping toward the final stages of the mountain top

EXT.MOUNTAIN TOP.DAY

We Jack him get to the top, and make his way to the mountains edge and stand there with Paige, seeing the view, gave him a much needed boast of relief and accomplishment.

JACK
We made it honey

PAIGE
You certainty did

We see Jack drop his backpack and remove, something from it, it's a half bottle of whisky.....he removes the lid....

PAIGE (cont'd)
(Looking surprised)
Jack?.....

Jack empties it's entire contents to the ground

JACK
Did you think I'd go back on my word?

PAIGE
Jack....I?

JACK
I made you a promise and I'm here to
keep it and look

Jack points toward the now setting sun, its beams are highlighting Paige face in a glow of radiance, Jack now has a cremation urn in his hand

EXT.MOUNTAIN TOP.SUNSET

PAIGE
It's beautiful

JACK
So are you....are you ready to do
this?

PAIGE
You better believe it

Jack removes the lid to the urn and ashes start to float out and Paige slowly starts to fade away as all the ashes rise into the wind.

CUT TO

EXT.POV OF ASHES/PAIGE RISING ABOVE JACK. SUNSET

We become the POV of the ashes/Paige and we rise up high and see Jack on the mountain top and we truly see the expanse of the mountain area around them, the ashes float about and slowly disperse in the air giving us a final beautiful view of the sunset before us.

END