

Through Glass Darkly

By

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FADE IN:

INT. KITCHEN

GARY (30s), thin and geeky looking - is doing the dishes, it's clear from his awkwardness that he's not used to doing it.

Sitting at the table Kizzy (30s), attractive, dark complexion - nurses a mug of coffee.

KIZZY
(continuing conversation)
... but you don't NEED it, do you?

GARY
No, course not, but WANT is a much better reason to buy it!

KIZZY
But we could use the money for a new sofa.

GARY
A sofa - reeeaaally!?

KIZZY
Well, something for the house then.

GARY
There'll be money left for something boring like that. Promise.

KIZZY
Yea, but there'd be more of it!

GARY
Look - who's bonus is it exactly?

Kizzy gets up from the table.

Eyes tearing, she holds the elaborate pendant round her neck as a comfort and leaves the kitchen.

GARY
(under breath)
Fuck.

Gary aggressively throws the cup he's washing back into the washing bowl where it hits something solid and smashes.

GARY

FUCK!!!

INT. OFFICE

Gary is typing an email.

Across from him is BEN, younger, very animated.

BEN

Oh mate that'd be so cool!

GARY

You should have a word with Kizzy,
she thinks it's a stupid idea.

BEN

God no, you gotta do it!

GARY

Still, twelve hundreds a lot.

BEN

That's Kizzy talking - man up!

GARY

(laughing)

K, convinced, will order it
tonight.

BEN

Great, I can't wait to see it.

GARY

You can even test drive - now let's
get some work done!

They both drop their heads and start tapping away.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Gary is sprawled out on the sofa, he's surfing the net on
his iPad.

Kizzy is nearer the TV on a chair, she's watching a soap
opera.

She cradles the pendant in her hand, massages it gently,
unaware that she's even holding it.

There's a cold atmosphere between them.

GARY
Look, I'm sorry about this morning.

KIZZY
Me too.

GARY
But it's the first decent bonus in
ages - I just wanted a...

KIZZY
Treat, I know, you and your
gadgets.

GARY
Exactly!

Gary moves his iPad to one side.

GARY
So we're good?

KIZZY
Always. And yes the Google thingy
is fine too.

GARY
You read my mind - again! And
thanks love.

KIZZY
Yeah, but the sofa too!

GARY
Sold to the lady with my conjugal
rights in her hands!

They both laugh at the oft shared joke - Kizzy with a wry
smile playing on her lips.

GARY
We'll go looking at the weekend!

Gary picks up the iPad again, it's already on a Google Glass
page on a website - he clicks BUY.

Kizzy watches him as he taps away, grin now gone.

INT. HALLWAY - MORNING

Gary talks to the POSTMAN at the open front door.

GARY
Been waiting for this for days.

POSTMAN
Something good?

GARY
New man toy - Google Glass

Postman looks nonplussed.

GARY
(enthusiastically)
It's like a pair of glasses with a
computer built in, it puts info
onto the glass so you can see it.

POSTMAN
(still unsure)
Oh. Sounds good!

GARY
Yep, gonna be great!

Gary signs for the package and takes the small box.

POSTMAN
Thanks, have fun.

GARY
Will do.

Gary closes the door and moves through to the kitchen table.

He places the package on the table, goes to one of the
drawers and retrieves a sharp knife.

The package is open in seconds, familiar Apple logo visible
on the otherwise plain design.

Kizzy appears silently in the doorway behind him.

Gary doesn't notice.

He carefully takes the contents from the box and starts to
examine them.

GARY
(Involuntarily)
Ohhh...

He picks up the Glass and starts to admire it.

In moments the Glass is on his head.

Kizzy watches impassively, ever so slowly rubbing her hands together - around her pendant - like she is grinding something into it.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Gary and Kizzy are watching TV.

Gary appears to wink, very dramatically, at Kizzy.

KIZZY
Are you winking at me?

GARY
Sorry, just testing it all out...
you can take photo's by winking!

KIZZY
And that's useful?

GARY
It's so good!

KIZZY
(smiling)
Perhaps not as practical as the
sofa though?

GARY
(laughing)
No, but will the sofa take photo's?

KIZZY
Well, as long as you're happy with
it!

GARY
Very!

Gary downloads the picture he's just taken to his iPad.

KIZZY
And?

GARY
And what?

KIZZY
Sofa!

GARY
Oh yeah, sorry, almost forgot about that.

KIZZY
No - you did forget!

GARY
No, well a little, sorry - my bad... Sunday?

KIZZY
Yes, if we can tear you away from your new toy.

Gary laughs, but his attention is already elsewhere.

He starts to scan the image on the bigger screen.

The image is of the living room, all looks good, Gary is about to swipe off the image.

There's something odd in the corner.

GARY
How odd.

KIZZY
Yep, you sure are!

GARY
Ha ha ha ha... very funny!

Gary makes to throw a cushion.

KIZZY
So?

GARY
There's a weird shadow on the photo.

SCREEN: Photo of the room, there is a shadow in the corner of the room.

KIZZY
You never were any good at taking
snaps though.

GARY
True, true.

KIZZY
Just try again, but later. I'm
trying to watch this.

GARY
Good plan.

Kizzy turns to watch her TV show.

Gary takes the Glass from his head and starts to examine it.

Kizzy turns slightly and looks at Gary - the cold look is
back on her face.

She strokes her pendant and smiles.

INT. OFFICE

Gary and Ben are crowded round Gary's PC.

GARY
See, it's like a shadow.

BEN
Yeah, but so?

GARY
So it's brand new.

BEN
Yeah, but it might be the lighting
in your living room or something.

GARY
You think?

BEN
Take a picture here and see.

GARY
K, good idea.

Gary takes his Glass, turns it on and puts it on his head.

He looks at Ben.

GARY
Say cheese!

Ben smiles as Gary blinks.

A few clicks on the PC and the photo is on the screen.

In the corner behind Ben is a darker area as if someone has left a black gauze curtain there.

GARY
See, still there. In the back
behind you.

BEN
Yeah, in the corner. Weird.

GARY
Shit, gonna have to contact Support
now!

Gary yanks the Glass off his head and throw=spins them onto the desk.

INT. KITCHEN

Gary is on his iPad - typing quickly. Glass on his head.

SCREEN CHAT (Shown as screen display)

GARY
Yeah, every photo I take.

SUPPORT
And when you look at the Glass
itself?

GARY
No, nothing at all - got it on
right now and all seems fine.

SUPPORT
And you tried cleaning the lens
too?

GARY
Yep, that too - no difference.

SUPPORT
Well, that's certainly odd.

GARY
Yeah, tell me about it.

SUPPORT
Ok - we'll make you an appointment
to see a technician... how's
Sunday?

GARY
Sooner the better!

Gary makes a note of an address, types a couple more sentences and then puts his iPad down in disgust.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Gary and Kizzy are watching the TV.

KIZZY
So how'd it go in town?

GARY
Oh they looked at them, ran
diagnostics and cleaned them.

KIZZY
And?

GARY
They couldn't get the shadow to
appear, nothing more to do.

KIZZY
So have you tried it again?

GARY
Yeah taken a few shots.

Gary retrieves his iPad and moves to sit with Kizzy,

He starts to show her a series of pictures, various shots of their home.

In each shot there is a shadow in the corner, as the shots progress the shadow shifts slightly - appears to grow.

KIZZY
It's moving you know.

GARY
What is?

KIZZY

The shadow.

GARY

You sure?

KIZZY

Check the pictures.

Gary flicks through a number of the shots in sequence.

The shadow slowly moved towards the foreground, appearing to grow.

GARY

Fuck - it's getting worse!

KIZZY

Sorry love, think you need to have it looked at again.

GARY

Bollocks!

KIZZY

Are we going now?

GARY

Back to the shop? No, need an appointment.

KIZZY

Shopping, for the sofa you promised me.

GARY

Oh god, I forgot and it's 3.30, they'll all be shutting.

KIZZY

Oh just so typical - got what you want and now you don't give a shit about my stuff.

GARY

Yeah, and what have I got? A broken piece of kit and you nagging about a stupid sofa!

Gary turns off his iPad and petulantly stomps out of the room.

Kizzy smiles and grinds her hands together around the pendant some more.

INT. KITCHEN

Gary sits alone and blinks - repeatedly.

After a few more blinks he grabs his iPad and looks at the pictures.

GARY
Aaarrgggh!

SCREEN: Picture of the Kitchen, except it is almost totally obscured by shadow.

He turns off the iPad in disgust and begins packing the Glass back into it's box.

KIZZY
What ya doing?

GARY
Sending it back.

KIZZY
Still camera probs?

GARY
Yeah, rubbish!

KIZZY
They repairing it?

GARY
No, I've decided to get money back.

KIZZY
Sorry babes, you really liked it.

GARY
Yeah, well - not as exciting as I'd hoped.

KIZZY
Shame still.

Gary finishes wrapping tape round the box.

GARY
So, drop this at post office and then go find you a sofa?

KIZZY
That okay?

GARY
(smiling)
Course, though not sure sofa and
domestic bliss fit your traveling
roots.

Kizzy punches him on the arm.

KIZZY
Ha - same old jokes!

GARY
Still funny though.

KIZZY
Watch out - might curse ya!

Gary doubles up laughing and picks up the package.

They leave the kitchen both now laughing.

As they leave Kizzy drops a small piece of black gauze from
her hands.

It disappears into vapour before it hits the floor.

Kizzy is laughing louder as the house door closes.

FADE OUT:

THE END