

The Gables – All In

Rick: Hi, Donna.

Donna: Who are you?

Rick: Jesus.

Donna: Where am I?

Rick: You're dreaming.

Donna: I'm dreaming? Oh, I love dreaming. What did you say your name was again?

Rick: Jesus.

Donna: Oh. Do you mean like Jesus as in a Spanish name, or Jesus as in the Son of God

Rick: The latter.

Donna: Oh... Wow!

Rick: Yes, I get a lot of my best work done through dreams.

Donna: I've heard that. I've heard that a lot of Muslims are becoming Christians because you appear to them in dreams.

Rick: Yes, that is true.

Donna: What can I do for you, Jesus?

Rick: Well, I've come to talk to you about something.

Donna: What is that?

Rick: You've got something that I want.

Donna: What is it?

Rick: I want you. I want everything you have and everything that you are?

Donna: Everything that I have and everything that I am?

Rick: Yes.

Donna: Well, I'm not sure I'm willing to give you that?

Rick: Don't you remember the Bible verses that talk about this?

Matthew 15:8: These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.

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Mark 8:31 - For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it

Donna: Yes, I remember those verses.

Rick: I want to make you into the person I intended you to be. But in order to do that, you have to first die to self.

Donna: What does that mean, die to self?

Rick: It means that you must give up everything you have, everything you are or want to be, so that I can replace it with what you were designed to be before sin ruined your life.

Donna: But I've grown comfortable with who I am.

Rick: But you can become so much more than you can even imagine if you'll just let me take control of your life and lead you where I want you to go.

Donna: That sounds exciting, but how do I know I can trust you?

Rick:

Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

Let's play poker.

Donna: What? Play poker? You want me to play poker with God?

Rick: Yes. I'll be the House, you'll be the player.

Donna: OK. Well, weird things happen when you're dreaming, so guess I'll play along. I take it you can tell when I'm bluffing.

Rick: Yes. Your poker face won't fool me.

Donna: So, how do we play?

Rick: You have to ante up something of value, something that I want and I'll guarantee that you'll win.

Donna: That sounds easy.

Rick: Well, you haven't found out what I want you to ante up yet.

Donna: Oh, OK. Well, let's play. What's the ante?

Rick: [Deals five cards to Donna, five cards to himself] Your car.

Donna: Ha! That's OK. I need a new one anyway. [Donna looks at her cards]

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Rick: What did you get?

Donna: A royal flush, in spades. It's impossible to lose.

Rick: That is correct. [Looks at his cards]. You win. Take your winnings.

Donna: This is fun! What do you want me to ante up next?

Rick: Your house. [Deals five cards to Donna, five cards to himself]

Donna: No problem. I don't like my house anyway. [Donna looks at her cards]

Rick: What did you get?

Donna: A straight, Ace high... It would be pretty tough to beat that.

Rick: [Looks at his cards]. You're right. You win, take your winnings.

Donna: Cool. What's next?

Rick: Your bank account.

Donna: My bank account? Hmm. Do you want me to give all my money away to the poor, like with the rich young ruler?

Rick: No. I just don't want it to be less important than me, like in the Sermon on the Mount.

Donna: OK. Deal. [Looks at her cards]. A Full House. Pretty tough to beat.

Rick: Looks at his cards. You're right. You win. Collect your winnings.

Donna: What's next?

Rick: Your family.

Donna: My family?

Rick: Yes.

Donna: I don't know.

Rick: Don't you trust me? They're mine anyway.

Donna: Yes. But what are you going to do with them?

Rick: That is up to me. Will you play?

Donna: I'm not sure.

Rick: Very well. Let's see what your daughter thinks.

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Donna: My daughter? What does she have to do with it?

Rick: You'll see. Abby, come over here.

Abby: Yes Jesus.

Rick: Do you trust me?

Abby: Of course.

Rick: Let's pretend that these chips represent all that you are and all that you have. I want you to bet everything, and I guarantee that you will win. Will you trust me?

Abby: Of course

Rick: What do you bet?

Abby: All in. [Abby pushes all her chips to the center of the table]

Donna: All in? What does that mean?

Rick: It means that she is willing to lose everything, so that I can mold her into the person she was intended to be.

Donna: Oh. So, I guess if she is willing to go "all in", then I should be willing to give her to you too. Correct?

Rick: Correct.

Donna: What else do you want me to give you?

Rick: Your plans and your dreams

Donna: But that is who I am? I don't want to give that up.

Rick: In relative terms, you dream of becoming a garbage man, but I dream of you becoming an astronaut.

Donna: Oh [looks shocked]

Rick: I only want the best for you, but you have to trust me.

Donna: Oh... OK. I'll ante up my family.

Rick: Good [Jesus deals the cards]

Donna: [Looks at her cards] These aren't very good cards, Jesus.

Rick: I know. Trust me.

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Donna: OK. [Flips over her cards] Pair of threes.

Rick: Flips over his cards. Pair of twos. You win. Collect your winnings.

Donna: Whew! What's next...? Oh... I guess there is nothing left... except me.

Rick: That is correct. What are you going to do?

Donna: I guess I'll go 'All in'.

Rick: You guess?

Donna: No, I know. All in!