

Day 25

Set

by

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A dentist and a patient. She's in the chair, her mouth full of cotton and sealed with tape.

DENTIST

I gave you a whole new set.

She mumbles.

DENTIST

The ones you had were so flat. Canines should not be flat. These ones, they're great. Ever see a vampire movie?

She mumbles in protest.

DENTIST

They're nothing like that. Not long. They're pointy.

He gestures at her mouth.

DENTIST

Like they should be. I had to really set them in there, there were no roots.

She mumbles.

DENTIST

Not in the front ones. The back ones, yes, definitely. But they had to go because they wouldn't match the new ones in front.

She mumbles in argument.

DENTIST

Well, if you want mis-matched teeth, I can go fish them out of the trash and put them back in. That's up to you.

She mumbles in shock.

DENTIST

Of course we throw them away. What are we going to do, save every tooth that we pull out? Where would we store them? We'd have to open a whole new teeth storage warehouse.

She mumbles.

DENTIST

Bio-waste? It'll be fine. They're biodegradable. We're not out to destroy the planet one tooth at a time. Are you really that upset about this?

She mumbles sadly.

DENTIST

Saying goodbye is always hard. Especially without your front teeth.

She mumbles.

DENTIST

You have front teeth, I was saying it would be hard without them. Saying "sayonara" would be harder though. The "S" sound, Ssssss. More like "thhhhhh." But you'll be okay. Next month we'll do the bottom row. That's a real disaster area. Depending on what happens down there, we may have to remove the top set, too.

She mumbles in surprise.

DENTIST

It's dentistry, it's not an exact science. And we're not monsters, we're not going to do a full set of teeth all in one go. Imagine how that would be? You don't have to because I'll tell you: awful. Very very awful. So, we'll see you next week. Have a lovely day.

She mumbles to herself.

DENTIST

And you can go do that to yourself as well. Bye bye.

He smiles and exits.