

Day 28

Steadfast

by

Chris Leyva

Two men, 60's. They sit on a couch, drinking some bottles of Mexican Coke.

SAM

It's supposed to be better for you.

RICH

Coke is Coke.

SAM

But this is real sugar. It's not that corn syrup.

RICH

Sugar is sugar.

SAM

Sugar isn't bad.

RICH

Tell that to my doctor.

SAM

Sugar in moderation.

RICH

Everything in moderation.

SAM

I hate moderation.

RICH

I hate delayed gratification.

SAM

You know the marshmallow test? You get some kids in a room and you tell them, here's a marshmallow. If you wait for five minutes and don't eat it, you'll get two marshmallows.

RICH

I'd eat it.

SAM

Why?

RICH

I hate delayed gratification.

SAM

You wouldn't hold onto the steadfast hope of a second marshmallow?

RICH

How would I know the guy wasn't lying about the second marshmallow?

SAM

That's not the point.

RICH

Reagan said, "Trust, but verify." You want me to wait to eat my marshmallow? You promise me you'll give me a second marshmallow, put the second marshmallow on the table. Let me see it. Put it on the table.

SAM

If they put it on the table, they couldn't trust you to not eat the second marshmallow.

RICH

They can't trust me, but I'm supposed to trust them? I think that's stupid. Show me the second marshmallow, I want to see it.

Pause. They drink their Cokes.

RICH

Now, I want a stupid marshmallow.