

WHAT FLYNN WOULD HAVE WANTED

Summary:

Since her aborted marriage to Brad, things haven't felt the same in Summer Bay for Sally. Her foster children are adults, many of her friends have moved on. Summer Bay House feels big and empty and holds too many bad memories. The deaths of Tom, Michael and Flynn as well as the many recent troubles in the Bay have made Sally ponder on the fragile nature of life.

After the scene with Alf, which I have submitted, Sally takes the bull by the horns. She talks to Leah about Dan and Rachel about Brad, both of whom have made new lives for themselves away from the Bay. She takes a leaf out of Flynn's spontaneous book, leaving the bay with Pippa to first visit Brad in Tasmania and then to see where her travels take her.

INT: SUMMER BAY HOUSE - DAY

SALLY has been sorting through old photos and albums, which are now scattered across the dining table. She has been crying, the blotchy red face giving this away. She is now at the kitchen sink, washing her hands, deep in thought, oblivious to her own actions. She doesn't hear ALF come into the house.

ALF:

Would you believe it, not one flamin' bite.

SALLY continues, oblivious. ALF approaches her and touches her on the arm. She jumps.

ALF:

Sal. You alright, love?

SALLY quickly turns off the tap.

SALLY:

Oh, Mr Stewart. I was miles away.

ALF:

So I could see.

SALLY dries her hands. ALF begins to walk to the dining table and then sits down.

ALF:

Looks like you've been having a clean up.

SALLY follows ALF and sits down.

SALLY:

I was *planning* to. Then I found all the old photo albums and got distracted.

ALF:

Old snaps tend to do that. (Beat) And that's why you've been crying.

SALLY:

I never could hide anything from you, could I?

ALF just smiles, sympathetically in return.

SALLY:

Reliving all those memories, it affected me more than I imagined. Tom, Michael, Flynn. It seems like only yesterday since...

SALLY stops, on the verge of crying again.

ALF:

I know love. Some pretty good blokes have called this house home, (jovially) even if I do say so myself!

ALF succeeds in making SALLY raise a small smile and he smiles back.

SALLY:

A pretty good woman once lived here too.

ALF:

I'd make that two.

SALLY:

I could never be half the woman Pippa was. This will always be *her* home to me.

ALF:

This is your home now. It's where you belong, love.

SALLY:

It doesn't feel like it used to. Just a vault of memories, a lot of them unhappy ones.

ALF:

Then leave, take a break.

SALLY:

A holiday?

ALF:

It would give you some time to think. When I took off a while back it was just what the doc ordered.

SALLY:

It's what Flynn would have prescribed.

ALF:

(Somewhat jokily) He always wanted to see the world. Why don't you and young Pip go an' see it for him?

SALLY however, has taken this suggestion seriously and is back in deep thought.