**KEELY AND DU**by Jane MartinCole

Hello, Keely. *(No answer. She regards him.)* Your dad\*s well. I see him every day. I brought one flower because I didn\*t know what else to bring. I got it out of your yard. *(He puts it at the bottom of the bed and backs away again.)* Are you all right? You look all right. *(He turns to WALTER.)* What I did, it was something an animal would do. I should have been killed for it. I would wake up in the middle of the night and think that. Every night. I couldn\*t stand to look at myself. I didn\*t like to look down and see my hands or my feet. I wouldn\*t use a pen or a pencil because then you have to see your hand. I grew a beard because I couldn\*t shave. I wore the same clothes all the time, I was up to a quart of booze a day. I was out. I wasn\*t human anymore. I won\*t describe it. Remember when we went down to Pensacola? That was some trip. Hey, I got your cat. I\*m taking care of your cat You got it after, right? I\*ve been wondering what its name is? Your cat. What its name is? It\*s a great cat. I call it Stripes, you know, because I don\*t know. *(A long pause.)* I would cut off my hand, you know, like they used to do. I would do that if it would make a difference. I would do anything.Anything. Take me back. Forgive me. I loved you in a bad way, a terrible way, and I sinned against your flesh and spirit. God forgive me. I\*m an alcoholic but 1 don\*t drink now. I don\*t know. . .1 was. . .lived like. . .didn\*t know right from wrong, but I\*m with Jesus now. I accept him as my Lord and he leads me in his path. I will stay on the path. I will stay on the path. We were married, Keely, you are carrying my baby, let\*s start from there. I put you on a pedestal, Keely, I do, I wouldn\*t say it, and I am in the mud, I\*m drowning and I ask you to lift me up and then we minister to this child. Jeez, Keely, our child. You know in my house, in my father\*s house, Jeez, what were those kids, they were nuthin\*, they were disposable. In your house, right, you know what a time you had. You know. But it can be different for him. I\*m different, look in my eyes, you know that. Hey, my temper, you know, I don\*t do that, it\*s over. *(Indicating WALTER.)* Ask him is it over. I think about you every minute, every day. I want to dedicate my life to you, because it\*s owed, it\*s owed to you. You got my baby. I hurt you so bad you would kill a baby! That\*s not you, who would describe you, you would do that? Jeez, Keely, don\*t kill the baby. I brought a book we could look up names, we could do that tonight. You pick the name, I would be proud. I\*m going to wait on you. You\*re the boss. They got me a job. I\*m employed. Five o\*clock, I\*m coming home. Boom. No arguments. I help with the house, we can be partners, I understand that guys, you know, we didn\*t get it, you know, that was yesterday, that\*s over. I\*m back from the dead. I don\*t say you should believe, me but because the baby you should test me out. You gotta take my hand here, we could start from there, I\*m asking you. *(His hand extended)* You don\*t have to ask me to be on my knees, I\*m on my knees. What am I without you? I\*m only what I did to you. I can\*t demand. What could I demand? Choose to lift me up. Who else can you save, Keely, but me? I\*m the only one you can save. This is make or break, Keely. Right now. Right now. Close your hand, take my hand. You know what I mean? One gesture, you could save me. We could raise a child. With one gesture we could do that. Come on, Keely. Come on, Keely.