

***Time Stands Still* by Donald Margulies**

MANDY

Stop it! Richard *agonized* over this! He was sick about it! For days! He couldn't sleep! He *loves* you. Why would he want to hurt you? I mean, really. He's only doing his job. So, they're not going to print your story-too bad. They've already got a "bummer" story running that week. No, I mean it, I'm really sorry, I bet you worked really hard on it. It's not like I can do anything. Besides feel bad, and turn the page, and thank God I was born in the half of the world where people have food to eat and don't go around hacking each other to death. The people who are killing each other have always been killing each other, and terrible things are always going to happen so...You know what I wish? There's so much beauty in the world. But you only see misery. Both of you. I wish you'd just let yourselves feel the joy. Otherwise...what's the point?