

T W O   B R O T H E R S  
•   P I C T U R E S   •

# BACK TO LIFE

## SERIES 2

By

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Episode 5

Post Shoot Master Script - 14.05.21

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OVER THE OPENING SCENES: we hear a distorted ice cream van chime... strangely eerie.

1 **INT. JANICE'S OFFICE - DAY 6 (MORNING)**

1

JANICE settles herself down with some tarot cards and a nice bit of toast. She shuffles them. Then closes her eyes.

2 **EXT. BEACH - DAY 6 (MORNING)**

2

A DOG WALKER walks along the beach. They throw the ball... They walk on. Behind them we see a BODY in the sea, Bobbing in the waves quite far out. They walk past... Oblivious.

3 **INT. JANICE'S OFFICE - DAY 6 (MORNING)**

3

JANICE turns the first one. It's the ten of swords. A man lies down with ten swords in his back. She looks concerned.

4 **INT. BILLY'S HOUSE. BEDROOM - DAY 6 (MORNING)**

4

MIRI stands looking out of the window and anxiously fiddling with her phone, still wearing Billy's boxers and top. A furrowed brow. A bit jittery. She looks at the sky. Dark clouds.

A single magpie flies past.

MIRI

Oh fuck off.

5 **INT. JANICE'S OFFICE - DAY 6 (MORNING)**

5

JANICE turns another card. It's the death card. She looks even more anxious.

5A **INT. BILLY'S HOUSE. BEDROOM - DAY 6 (MORNING)**

5A

MIRI looks at her phone again and calls Mandy (for the 10th time). It goes straight to voicemail.

6 **OMITTED**

6

7 **INT. JANICE'S OFFICE - DAY 6 (MORNING)**

7

JANICE is nervous now. She turns another card. It's the Devil. SHIT.

She picks up the phone-

8 **INT. BILLY'S HOUSE. KITCHEN/JANICE'S OFFICE- DAY 6 (MORNING)**

8

MIRI tries to make a coffee. Very distracted and stressed she really loads the coffee in. Her phone rings, she answers- \*

MIRI

Shit sorry. Hello?

(CONTINUED)

JANICE

You ok?

MIRI

Yep.

JANICE

Sure?

MIRI

Yes why.

JANICE

No reason.

MIRI

Are you sure?

JANICE

Yes.

They are both being cagey.

MIRI

What, have you heard something?

JANICE

No. Something happened?

MIRI

No.

JANICE

Good.

MIRI

Good.

JANICE

You sure?

MIRI

Yes why?

JANICE

You were just in my head when I was  
doing something. Doesn't matter.

MIRI

Good.

JANICE

Good.

MIRI

Great.

JANICE

Great.

MIRI

I'm so great.

JANICE

Me too.

MIRI

Yippee.

JANICE

Woohoo.

Neither are convinced.

MIRI

See you on Wednesday then?

JANICE

Fabulous.

MIRI

Incredible.

Beat. Then:

JANICE

Be safe Miri. Stay out of trouble.

MIRI

Of course. Why wouldn't I? I mean  
why would I not - Why would I stay  
IN trouble, I stay out of it, bing  
bang bong.

She takes a nervous swallow of horribly strong coffee.

JANICE

What's a bing bang bong?

MIRI

An imaginary drum.

Beat. Both look suspicious.

JANICE

Ok. Good luck in your driving test.

MIRI

What?

JANICE

It's Monday. I thought you said-

CLOSE on Miri's face. SHIT.

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CONTINUED: (3)

4  
8

**TITLES: BACK TO LIFE**

9 **INT. MATTESON HOUSE. UPSTAIRS HALLWAY / BATHROOM - DAY 6** 9

CAROLINE and OSCAR are awake. They creep out of their room and check the small loo. Dom isn't there. It's all tidy. They hear humming downstairs. They venture down...

10 **INT. MATTESON HOUSE. KITCHEN - DAY 6** 10

DOM is wearing Oscar's dressing gown. The washing machine is on.

He has laid out a lovely breakfast. He is poaching eggs. The table is set. Coffee is made.

OSCAR and CAROLINE are utterly bewildered but Dom is utterly charming and relaxed and confident.

DOM  
Morning guys. Coffee, tea?

They sort of roll with it in a state of bewilderment.

CAROLINE OSCAR  
Coffee. Tea.

He refers to the robe apologetically.

DOM  
Sorry about this, my clothes are in  
the washing machine. Got a little  
splash of you know what on them.  
But I've made poached eggs and eggy  
bread, sit down. Please!

\*

They look to each other blankly and sit down.

11 **EXT. BILLY'S HOUSE - DAY 6** 11

BILLY sees MIRI out. She is still in Billy's bed clothes. Miri is being a little manic in her fragile optimism. High nervous energy.

BILLY  
Has Mandy got back to you?

Miri checks phone.

MIRI  
No but I'm sure it's fine, right?  
Has to be. He will be. Because I  
am.

\*  
\*  
\*

Billy is gently concerned about her.

BILLY  
You sure you're up to doing this?

(CONTINUED)

MIRI  
Yup, totally.

BILLY  
You didn't sleep at all...

MIRI  
That was a strong coffee. And I  
haven't had coffee before really-

BILLY  
Oh right- \*

MIRI  
It's making me feel very fast in my  
mind.

BILLY  
Ok.

MIRI  
He would have limped off, bump on  
the head. Little concussion. All  
good. \*

Miri smiles. Really hard. She needs Billy to buy into her  
fragile false optimism.

BILLY  
I'm sure, now go pass your driving  
test. Twenty years too late.

11A **INT. MATTESON HOUSE. HALLWAY - DAY 6**

11A

MIRI lets herself in.

12 **OMITTED**

12

13 **INT. MATTESON HOUSE. KITCHEN - DAY 6**

13

MIRI enters. OSCAR and CAROLINE are sitting with full plates  
in front of them. Both shocked and sheepish. DOM welcomes  
Miri.

DOM  
Heyy! Come in.

Miri is in shock. She sort of walks in.

DOM (CONT'D)  
Take a seat, poached egg?

Dom pulls out a chair and Miri sits down too, food placed in  
front of her. They all start eating. In total silence.

OSCAR  
Lovely.

(CONTINUED)

CAROLINE  
Delicious.

MIRI  
Perfect consistency.

DOM  
I'm a big egg man.

Miri suddenly snaps out of it.

MIRI  
Hang on a second, what are we  
doing?

It's like the spell is broken/ hypnotism has worn off,  
everyone realising suddenly where they are and what they are  
doing. Oscar regurgitates a bit of egg into his hand.

OSCAR  
Yes quite, what is this?

CAROLINE  
I don't know?

MIRI  
Why are you all in your jammies and  
why are we eating poached eggs?  
This is fucking weird.

Caroline panics.

CAROLINE  
It's not what you think!

MIRI  
I didn't - but now I do OH MY GOD.

Miri stands up. DISGUSTED.

CAROLINE  
No no no!!

MIRI  
What is going on???? \*

OSCAR  
Christ Miri no!!!

Everyone is up now and flapping about, apart from Dom who is  
really enjoying the free meal.

DOM  
Cool it, come on. I needed a poo.

MIRI  
Oh god-

DOM

- and your mum and dad very kindly  
let me use their facility. I was a  
little ... out of sorts, fell  
asleep. And here we are, a thank  
you brekkie, and that's everything.

\*

Miri looks at them all. They all nod.

OSCAR

(terribly earnest)

It was falling out of him Miri, we  
couldn't say no.

It's all very serious. Miri remembers her goal.

MIRI

Fine. Whatever - Dad, my driving  
test's in half an hour.

\*

OSCAR

Good god yes!!!

MIRI

I need to get some clothes on and  
get there!

They spring to action. The door bell rings.

14

**INT. MATTESON HOUSE. HALLWAY - DAY 6**

14

CAROLINE answers. It is LAURA. Fucking Laura from the Ladies of Hythe. Caroline does that thing where you only leave a tiny gap so no one can see inside.

LAURA

Lazy morning?

CAROLINE

Yes. Slow start. Can I help?

LAURA

Just dropping these off. I know you  
expressed an interest in helping  
with the Church fete. Thought you  
could leaflet your neighbouring  
roads-

OSCAR passes in his pjs.

OSCAR

Laura.

This forces Caroline to reluctantly open the door an inch more.

(CONTINUED)

LAURA  
(icy)  
Oscar. How's the planet?

OSCAR  
(icy back)  
Still dying due to the ignorance of  
the common man. And woman.

Laura prickles.

CAROLINE  
Of course. Thank you. Fantastic.

\*

Caroline is trying to tie this up. Then MIRI appears on her  
way to get changed.

MIRI  
Mum, I really need big, clean  
knickers!

\*  
\*

Caroline looks at Laura. Embarrassed.

LAURA  
If you finish the leaflets. There's  
a committee meeting at 2pm. On the  
dot. You are very welcome.

Caroline is surprised and thrilled.

CAROLINE  
I'd love to. See you then.

THEN DOM walks out in Oscar's robe.

DOM  
Can I have a shower? Need to wash  
my bum after last night.

Laura's jaw drops.

CAROLINE  
Arghhhh!!!

Caroline panics and suddenly slams the door in Laura's  
shocked face.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)  
Oh goodness.

DOM  
What?

OSCAR  
Towels are in the airing cupboard.

DOM  
Airing cupboard. So grown up.

(CONTINUED)

Dom heads upstairs. Caroline is distraught.

CAROLINE  
She's going to think-

OSCAR  
Let her.

CAROLINE  
But-

OSCAR  
You'll never have her approval, let  
it go.

Miri shouts from her room.

MIRI (O.S.)  
GUYS!! Get a move on!! I'm going to  
be late!

\*  
\*

Dom leans over the banister wrapped in a towel.

DOM  
Can I use this towel?

He already is.

OSCAR  
Um well. Yes?

Caroline doesn't want to be alone with Dom, Caroline puts her hand up desperately.

CAROLINE  
Miri! I'll take you!

\*

OSCAR  
But I was going to...

CAROLINE  
Please let me. You can see Dom out.

Caroline looks at him pleadingly. He gets it.

OSCAR  
Ah right yes. Of course.

Caroline nods in thanks, and races up to get changed.

\*

The BODY is closer to the shore now... We hear a piercing scream.

SOMEBODY runs into the waves to drag it out. Another PERSON calls for attention on the shore.

16

**INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY 6**

16

MRS BOBACK is meticulously searching through all of Mr Boback's stuff. Then further and deeper, under the mattress, anywhere that something could be hidden in the room.

And then she is struck with a thought. Her husband's trousers. She slides her hand into a pocket, and pulls out her passport. YESSS. She will be free. \*

16A

**EXT. DRIVING TEST CENTRE - DAY 6**

16A

MIRI and CAROLINE walk towards the entrance.

CAROLINE

I can't stay long. Need to do the leaflets.

MIRI

You don't have to come in.

CAROLINE

No, no. Moral support.

17

**INT. DRIVING TEST CENTRE - DAY 6**

17

MIRI and CAROLINE sit, Miri jiggles her leg. Jittery.

CAROLINE

It's ok to be nervous.

MIRI

Not nerves. Coffee.

Caroline is gently inquisitive.

CAROLINE

Did you stay next door?

MIRI

Yes, but not, in that way.

CAROLINE

Right.

Beat.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)

Are you ok? Is everything Ok?

MIRI

Yup, great.

Caroline senses something's up.

CAROLINE

With the Bobacks being back, we haven't really-

(CONTINUED)

MIRI

Yup.

CAROLINE

Mandy?

MIRI

Yes, why?

CAROLINE

Living there? All those kids.

MIRI

No! Yes. I mean you know Mandy.

CAROLINE

Complicated girl. Always was.

MIRI

Yup.

CAROLINE

Well you know where we are. If you  
need anything.

Miri is overcome with a desire to tell Caroline everything...  
It's all over her face, Caroline looks at her quizzically-

CAROLINE (CONT'D)

What?

Then the Driving Examiner, BRIAN, comes out. Miri stops  
herself. Puts her hand in her pocket.

MIRI

Mum can you look after Geri, don't  
want her to beep through the...

She rummages in her pocket. It's not there.

MIRI (CONT'D)

Oh god. Oh no.

CAROLINE

It'll survive an hour.

MIRI

No, I haven't seen her since...  
last night-

Miri is ashen as the realisation dawns. She left her digital  
pet at the lighthouse. Evidence linking her to the crime  
scene.

CAROLINE

I'm sure it'll be ok Miri, it's  
just a toy...

(CONTINUED)

Brian approaches. He has a name badge on.

BRIAN  
Miri Matteson?

MIRI  
Yes.

CAROLINE  
Knock em dead!

BRIAN  
(deathly serious)  
Please don't. Follow me to the  
vehicle.

A beat, then Miri follows. Caroline watches her go. A little concerned.

18 INT. MATTESON HOUSE. HALLWAY - DAY 6

18 \*

OSCAR enters the house with the food waste bin. DOM comes down the stairs... Dressed and ready.

\*  
\*

DOM  
I'm off.

OSCAR  
Right.

DOM  
Ok.

OSCAR  
See you around.

Awkward beat.

DOM  
Just wanted to thank you so much,  
for your hospitality, seriously.  
Takes quite a man to let me in. I'm  
very grateful. And clean finally,  
that was a much needed shower.

He means it.

OSCAR  
No problem.

DOM  
Thank you for that.

OSCAR  
It's fine.

DOM  
You're a true gent.

(CONTINUED)

OSCAR

No no.

DOM

If there is anything I can do round the house, I don't know, anything, just please say. It's not like I've got anywhere to go.

OSCAR

What about work?

DOM

Lost my job, boss got...

OSCAR

Chlamydia?

DOM

No!! Sick of me. Thought I needed some "time off".

OSCAR

Right so. You going back to your... car?

DOM

(upbeat)

Guess so. Yup. Listen to the radio... Maybe put the seat back... Roll down the window. That's all you can really do in a car.

Beat.

DOM (CONT'D)

Do you need anything fixing? Before I go?

OSCAR

No.

DOM

Shelves to put up? I'm handy?

OSCAR

Nope.

Beat.

DOM

Anything, at all?

Oscar looks at him... Bingo.

19

**INT. BRIAN'S CAR - DAY 6**

19

An expressionless BRIAN sits with MIRI. He is impossible to read. Quite monotone and a jobsworth.

BRIAN  
So you're the Miri Matteson?

MIRI  
Yes.

BRIAN  
I examine driving not character.

MIRI  
Good to know.

BRIAN  
We'll see.

MIRI  
Yup.

BRIAN  
And you've been learning for-

MIRI  
20 years. With a big gap.

BRIAN  
You seem nervous.

MIRI  
I am nervous.

BRIAN  
Yes. You seem it.

MIRI  
I definitely am.

Beat.

BRIAN  
Seat belt on?

MIRI  
It is.

It is.

BRIAN  
Oh.

MIRI  
It's the first thing I did.

(CONTINUED)

BRIAN  
You hid it behind your hair.

MIRI  
I didn't.

BRIAN  
You placed your mane over it so I  
couldn't see it.

MIRI  
I literally just put my seat belt  
on.

BRIAN  
Hmmm.

He writes something for ages. Miri is tense.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
So we will start. Follow my  
instructions and directions. And  
when I do this-

Brian taps two sharp taps on the dashboard. Very intensely.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
... I want you to perform an  
emergency stop.

MIRI  
Ok.

BRIAN  
That could happen at any time.

MIRI  
Understood.

BRIAN  
When you least expect it.

MIRI  
Yeah.

Brian suddenly taps the dashboard! Miri jumps and slams the  
brakes with her feet. Beat.

BRIAN  
We haven't started yet.

MIRI  
No.

BRIAN  
Let's get going.

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19 CONTINUED: (2)

16  
19

A police car with a siren passes them. Miri freezes up, watching it intently.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
You do know how to start a car?

Miri snaps herself out of it.

MIRI

Yup. Sorry.

She drives off.

20 EXT. STREET - DAY 6

20

CAROLINE leaflets. Fast and efficient. A woman with a mission. She feels good.

A police car passes her, she barely notices it.

21 EXT. HIGH STREET - DAY 6

21

DOM is standing in the street dressed as a bag of rubbish. Quite a bad, rushed costume. Basically him in a bin bag with some rubbish stuck to a hat. OSCAR addresses PASSERS BY.

OSCAR

(very serious)

Every day approximately 8 million pieces of plastic pollution find their way into our oceans. Even now a shipping container of rubber ducks lies on the sea bed on this very coastline, and nothing is being done, no efforts made to remove this pollution from our planet... The beaches and streets of Hythe are becoming...

A police car goes past fast, drowning him out. TINA drives it. They continue oblivious.

22 INT. BRIAN'S CAR - DAY 6

22

MIRI drives nervously.

It's deathly quiet. They approach a junction and Miri slows to a halt, handling it well. BRIAN is almost annoyed by her flawless driving.

BRIAN  
Turn right here.

\*

Miri puts the indicator on. Before she can take the turn, an ambulance wizzes past them. Then a police car.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
I wonder what's going on?

(CONTINUED)

Miri looks like she is about to be sick.

MIRI

Lots of old people live here, it's  
probab-

Another police car.

BRIAN

No. This is something big.

The road is now clear. Brian looks to Miri to take the right \*  
turn.

MIRI

Should we go another way, it's  
distracting-

BRIAN

Nope. Right here. As directed. \*

Brian really wants to see what's going on. Miri reluctantly  
drives in the same direction as the drama ahead. Sick to her  
stomach.

23

EXT. BEACH - DAY 6

23

A CROWD have gathered. TINA pulls up on the promenade...  
Makes her way through the crowd. Flashing her badge.

TINA

Sergeant - Tina - Leonard's on  
paternity leave... Make way, excuse  
me.

She gets to the front and a little hollow cry comes out as  
she looks at MR BOBACK's dead body.

TINA (CONT'D)

Ahhh. Sir? Are you? It's me Tina.  
Tuna?

People look at her talking to a clearly dead body. She  
realises.

TINA (CONT'D)

But now you're dead.

She tries to be professional. She takes the pulse of a  
clearly very dead body.

TINA (CONT'D)

He does indeed seem to be dead. You  
are correct. Well done.

The PARAMEDICS who pronounced him dead a while ago look at  
her blankly.

(CONTINUED)

TINA (CONT'D)  
Very good work.

Tina isn't really used to dead bodies. Or being in charge, or being in charge of a dead body.

TINA (CONT'D)  
100 percent dead in fact.

She nods, a little involuntary tear trickles down her cheek.

24 INT./EXT. BRIAN'S CAR / BEACH - DAY 6

24

MIRI is driving closer and closer to the scene of the body's discovery with BRIAN...

To her left the police cars, ambulance and CROWD. She is desperately trying to concentrate. Ignore and drive on.

BRIAN  
Bloody hell. That's a lot of emergency vehicles, haven't seen that many since-

Just as they get to the centre of the drama, Brian - who is desperate to know what is happening, taps his hands on the dashboard.

Miri swallows hard. He taps again. Miri hesitates.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
I'm tapping. I tapped.

Miri is forced to perform an emergency stop in the very place she didn't want to stop. Somewhere between all of the emergency vehicles.

Brian is straining to see, properly mawkish.

A stretcher passes in front of the car with a covered BODY on it.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
Oh, it's a body. Oh god, it's a dead body. Awful. Maybe a granny went for a swim. Strong tides.

\*  
\*

Miri stares blankly ahead.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
Tragic... Anyway...

He looks at his notes. Miri is entranced. TINA passes and sees Miri. Really stares her out.

Meanwhile Brian is consulting his notes, confused...

(CONTINUED)

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Ohh...

He seems really downhearted.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

You've passed.

Miri is still staring ahead.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

You've passed.

MIRI

Have I?

BRIAN

I'd ask you to drive back to the centre but I think we've been taped in, how exciting-

The road has indeed been taped across. Miri gets out, desperate to get away from it all.

24A EXT. BEACH - CONTINUOUS - DAY 6

24A

MIRI walks in a daze... TINA spots her... Tina is pretty emotional and angry.

TINA

I hope you've got an alibi?

MIRI

Why what's happened?

TINA

Why don't you tell me?

MIRI

Because I don't know.

TINA

I'm not at liberty to say.

MIRI

Fair enough.

TINA

But it's a horrible sight. Bloated.  
No one should have to see that.

Miri walks on. Keen not to seem guilty but desperate to get away.

TINA (CONT'D)

What you doing here anyway?

Revisiting the scene of the crime?

(CONTINUED)

MIRI  
No. Driving test.

TINA  
Bit old for that.

MIRI  
You can't do them in prison.

TINA  
Fair point.

MIRI  
Bye Tina.

TINA  
Aren't you interested in what's  
happened?

MIRI  
It's none of my business...

Tina watches her suspiciously. Miri swallows nervously.

MIRI (CONT'D)  
Ok, what's happened?

TINA  
Somebody has died.

MIRI  
That's terrible. Are they ok?

TINA  
No. He's dead.

MIRI  
Right yes.

TINA  
Would you be ok if you were dead?

MIRI  
I don't know, maybe. 'Cos I  
wouldn't have to talk to you.

TINA  
That's a bit unkind.

MIRI  
Sorry.

TINA  
Don't you want to know who it is?  
You knew him.

MIRI

Don't you need to notify next of  
kin before telling people?

Beat.

TINA

Yes. I do. Yes.

MIRI

So you'd be breaking the law if you  
told me.

TINA

Well-

MIRI

So. It's a small town. I'm sure  
I'll find out.

TINA

(under her breath)

I expect you will. When we arrest  
you for the crime.

\*

\*

\*

MIRI

Whatever it was. I had nothing to  
do with it.

\*

\*

TINA

That's what you think.

MIRI

Yes it is.

Beat.

TINA

I mean that's what you think you  
want me to think. I think.

Tina has confused herself again, and she is a bit green.

MIRI

Can I go now?

TINA

Yup.

Then-

TINA (CONT'D)

(suddenly vulnerable)

Dead bodies are horrible aren't  
they?

Miri looks at her.

(CONTINUED)

MIRI

Yes.

Miri walks off.

\*

Tina looks lost, truly unsettled by what she has seen.

25 OMITTED

25

26 INT. MANDY'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM - DAY 6

26

MARK, CERYS and PHOEBE play twister while MANDY holds the board and directs them. Hilarity and fun. Mandy's phone rings, she checks it. It's Miri. Her face clouds. She switches it off completely and continues her family game.

27 OMITTED

27

28 EXT./INT. MANDY'S HOUSE. HALLWAY / LIVING ROOM - DAY 6 28

MIRI approaches Mandy's House, as her phone call to Mandy is rejected. She takes the phone away from her ear and lets herself in. She can hear hilarity coming from the living room. Bewildered, she pokes her head round the door. MARK, PHOEBE and CERYS are playing Twister, all laughing. A scene of family joy...

MANDY comes into the hall.

MIRI

They've found him.

MARK (O.S.)

Mandy, spin the wheel.

MANDY

I don't think you should stay here anymore-

MIRI

His dead body.

A flicker. Then Mandy pushes on.

MANDY

- Cerys is furious about her bike and you stole Phoebe's scooter so she's livid too. They're strong women so I think it would be too tense.

MARK (O.S.)

This position is very hard to hold.

MIRI

You have to go to the police Mandy.

MARK (O.S.)  
It's hurting my knees.

MANDY  
Your bags are packed.

She refers to some bags in the hall, all Miri's. Miri is shocked.

MARK (O.S.)  
I have a weak patella!!

MIRI  
(pleading)  
Mandy.

Mandy is strangely removed and breezy.

MANDY  
I feel better than I've ever felt.  
I'm finally enjoying some family time. The police can come to me if they want me.

MIRI  
(utterly desperate)  
But they'll come to me!! They will.  
He was a police chief for fuck's sake. He was revered. Please Mandy, this town has been trying to get me since I came out. This is all they want. I'm begging you.

Mandy flinches, then smiles.

CERYS/ PHOEBE (O.S.)  
Mum!

MANDY  
My family need me.

She walks back into the living room. Miri picks up her bags

\*  
\*

29 EXT. MANDY'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS - DAY 6

29

MIRI stands outside. She screams. Properly losing her shit.

MIRI  
FUUUUCCCKKKKK. Fuck FUUCKKKK.

She kicks the bin over.

Fuck.

Miri clocks the bags Mandy handed her.

That's it. Miri has to leave.

(CONTINUED)

She starts to charge off down the road, then runs. She will never escape her past if she stays here. FUCK THIS TOWN.

30 EXT. HIGH STREET - DAY 6

30

DOM is still dressed as a bag of rubbish. PEOPLE pass. OSCAR is handing out fact sheets...

OSCAR

We need to rally the people of Hythe... Join us at "Make Hythe Clean" for litter picking tomorrow from 3-5pm. Let's take matters literally into our own hands!

No one is taking the fact sheets.

DOM

Maybe... condense it a bit?

OSCAR

They need the information.

DOM

You need their attention first.

Dom takes a fact sheet, hands it to a WOMAN, with charm.

DOM (CONT'D)

Hey. Information.

Anyway it works. She takes it.

OSCAR

Join us tomorrow to make Hythe clean and green.

Oscar and Dom share a smile. They are a team.

Then: Dom is distracted by a HAPPY FAMILY who are walking across the road. He slouches in his bin bag, sad. Oscar notices.

31 INT. CHURCH HALL - DAY 6

31

CAROLINE arrives. Walks in, head held high. The room stops and looks at her, hostile again. She's had it.

CAROLINE

Oh what now?

LAURA and LISA are staring at her. Everyone is.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)

Oh I see, get Caroline to do the leaflets then gossip behind my back. That nasty old witch has jumped to sordid conclusions.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

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31 CONTINUED:

25  
31

CAROLINE (CONT'D)

He came for a crap Laura, not a  
bonk. Ok? Honestly you're like Mean  
Girls with hip replacements. A  
bunch of nasty ungodly bitches!

A stunned silence. Laura starts to cry. Caroline falters. She  
sees someone else is being comforted. She hadn't noticed that  
before.

LISA

You haven't heard have you?

CAROLINE

What?

32 EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN - DAY 6

32

MIRI walks and walks. Away from the town centre.

Her phone rings. It's Billy. FUCK. She lets it ring out,  
looking out bleakly. Another single magpie passes.

MIRI

Fuck off!! Or come back with a  
friend seriously!!!!

Our Miri is losing hope. She trudges out of town.

33 INT./EXT. ICE CREAM VAN / BEACH - DAY 6

33

BILLY drives back into town beaming. His chime is on. His  
phone is on the dashboard as he leaves a voicemail for Miri.

BILLY

Miri it's me. I've got it!!! It's  
amazing. Home in a minute, come and  
meet me...

He trails off. He has arrived at the seafront. Police cars  
etc...

BILLY (CONT'D)

Hope test was good. Call me. Bye.

He hangs up and pulls over. Sickening feeling in his tummy.

99 FLAKE PASSERBY

99 Flake please.

BILLY

No sorry it's not up and running.

He looks out the window and sees TINA.

BILLY (CONT'D)

What's happened?

(CONTINUED)

TINA  
Chief Inspector. Found in the water.

BILLY  
Christ.

TINA  
Little shaken up to be honest.  
(to herself)  
You don't do this to someone like him and get away with it.

BILLY  
You ok?

TINA  
Sorry I'm a bit discombobble-ated.  
I'll have a Funny Foot if you have them.

BILLY  
No. I just bought it. Don't have any stock.

Billy tries to turn his jingle off. It won't work. \*

HOT DOG PASSERBY  
Do you do hot dogs?

BILLY  
No!!

SNOWBALL PASSERBY  
Three Snowballs please.

A QUEUE is forming. It's awful. Billy is panicked. Frantically hitting buttons. The jingle just gets slightly louder.

Billy can't get his seatbelt back on. He tries to call Miri again. Straight to voicemail. \*

34 EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN - DAY 6 (LATE AFTERNOON) 34

MIRI has walked a long way. She approaches a bus stop, weary. Examines the routes. One goes to Tonbridge. That's far enough. She sits and waits.

35 EXT. STREET - DAY 6 (LATE AFTERNOON) 35

OSCAR and DOM are done for the day, about to go their separate ways. Dom is still in his rubbish bag. \*

OSCAR  
Well thank you. I wonder if any of them will show up tomorrow.

DOM

Hope so.

OSCAR

Better go home.

DOM

Pint or something?

OSCAR

Nope. Caroline will be expecting me. She's made a kedgeree.

Sad pause. Dom is about to cry. They both know it.

DOM

Ok. Well thank you again for letting me into your home.

A small tear escapes. He turns and walks away. Oscar can't bear it. He follows.

OSCAR

Chin up.

DOM

It is. I just miss my family. I mess everything up. I don't know how not to.

This and the shit escapade have made him pitiful and utterly unthreatening to Oscar. He just sees a lost little boy in front of him.

OSCAR

Well you're young, you can work on that. There's still time.

DOM

(quietly)

I sometimes think there's not much point in me, you know?

Oscar feels the power behind that. Suddenly genuinely concerned.

OSCAR

Nonsense. You... were a good bag of rubbish... You edited me well. And you make wonderful poached eggs and that's very hard to do. Mine always look like testicles, so that's something.

DOM

Thank you. Bye.

Oscar stops him again.

OSCAR

(stern and passionate)

If you really want your wife back  
you need to work hard, really fight  
for it. Don't give up. Don't just  
say I love you. Show her. Every  
single day. It's actions not words.  
Actions. And for god's sake be  
patient with her. It takes time, a  
long time it turns out, to forgive  
someone properly. So give her that.

Dom nods. He leaves. Oscar pauses, then heads in the opposite direction.

36 EXT. BUS STOP - DAY 6

36 \*

MIRI waits and waits. No bus is coming. She looks away from town, towards Tonbridge, then back towards Hythe. She starts to walk back into town. What is the point in running away? She is cold and tired.

\*

Her phone rings. It's Janice.

37 INT./EXT. JANICE'S CAR / STREET - DUSK 6

37

JANICE drives MIRI home silently. They pull up a bit down the road from Miri's house.

JANICE

I'm not going to talk about this to anyone, I didn't see you halfway out of town with your bags packed ok? I wasn't here. This is my free time so technically I am acting as a friend, do you understand?

MIRI

I didn't touch him Janice I-

JANICE

(snap)

Don't say anything to me. Do not because I am legally obliged!!

Calms herself.

JANICE (CONT'D)

But if you know anything. If you were involved in anything you need to go to the police. You need to nip that shit in the bud. He was the Chief Inspector Miri and you're the town criminal with a grudge to bear, they're coming for you first and don't you forget that.

(CONTINUED)

MIRI

I know.

JANICE

You're a pain in my poom poom, Miri  
really you are. Rich little white  
girl, like a lint roller just  
picking up all the shit and making  
my tarot cards freak out. Thought  
death was meant to mean new  
beginnings not actual - I need a  
ramen.

\*  
\*

Janice takes a calming breath and hands her something.  
Deathly serious.

JANICE (CONT'D)

I want you to have this. Might help  
you tonight. It's a marriage:  
marshmallow, biscuit.

Miri looks in her hand. It's a Wagon Wheel.

MIRI

Oh Janice, this is... I haven't had  
one of these for-

JANICE

Just take it or I'll change my  
mind.

Miri smiles at her. Gets out of the car.

JANICE (CONT'D)

I don't want to see you back inside  
Miri. Don't give up on yourself.

Miri looks at her sadly.

JANICE (CONT'D)

Don't you dare.

MIRI walks towards her parent's house. She can hear the chime  
of the ice cream van, chiming on and on. It breaks her heart.

She looks at the van. Strokes it. An example of the life she  
could have had.

Then, ignoring Billy's House, she knocks on her front door.  
CAROLINE and OSCAR bustle her inside, greeting her warmly.

The van chimes on and on...

39 **INT. HOTEL. CORRIDOR / ROOM - NIGHT 6**

39

TINA and another OFFICER knock patiently on the door to Mrs Boback's hotel room. No response. They knock again.

40 **EXT. LIGHTHOUSE - NIGHT 6**

40

On the ground something beeps. It's Miri's digital pet. MRS BOBACK's hand reaches down and picks it up.

The ice cream van chimes on into the credits...

**END OF EPISODE FIVE**