

DADDY ISSUES

EPISODE 6 – SADIE

Written by

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1      **EXT. GEMMA'S FLAT, WALKWAY -- DAY -- JANUARY**

1

GEMMA (38 weeks pregnant) follows MALCOLM down the stairwell towards their flat. Something is bothering him.

                  MALCOLM

Wait... err, before we go in I need  
to bring something up...

On Gemma - worried. *This sounds serious.*

                  MALCOLM (cont'd)

Have you seen my Stanley knife?

                  GEMMA

I thought it was something serious.

1A EXT. GEMMA'S FLAT, STAIRWELL -- CONTINUOUS

1A

MALCOLM

It is serious Gemma, they're very dangerous. What if the baby gets nipple confusion and puts it in its mouth?

GEMMA

As long as you find it in the next twelve months I think we're okay.

Malcolm opens the door and ushers Gemma inside.

2      **INT. GEMMA'S FLAT, HALLWAY -- CONTINUOUS**

2

**MALCOLM**

    Hang on.

Malcolm puts his hands over Gemma's eyes as he leads her down the hallway.

**GEMMA**

    You don't need to do this every time  
    you clean the sink, Dad.

3 INT. GEMMA'S FLAT, LIVING ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

3

Malcolm takes his hands away from her eyes.

A huge cheer of SURPRISE goes up. Hung from the ceiling is a banner HAPPY BABY SHOWER

There in her living room/kitchen are CHERRY, RITA, WINNIE and DEREK.

On the table is a large picture of Catherine (in her prison uniform) making it look like she's died.

Next to the picture is a brand new baby car seat with a plastic toy doll strapped in. Big bow tied round the handle. Label reads LOVE DAD XXX.

**MALCOLM**

I did invite your mother but she...  
she sent some very unkind memes by  
way of a reply.

## GEMMA

(delighted)

This is... well nothing's on fire like the last party you organised.

Malcolm nods. A *success*. Gemma pulls Cherry to one side.

GEMMA (cont'd)  
You helped him with all this, right?

## CHERRY

Me? No.

## GEMMA

Oh god.

## **TITLES: DADDY ISSUES**

4      INT. GEMMA'S FLAT, LIVING ROOM -- MINUTES LATER

4

Malcolm shows Gemma the buffet. Some cakes and sandwiches plus jars of baby food with spoons in them.

                  MALCOLM

Derek sorted the food.

Derek leans over and grabs one of the jars of baby food.

                  DEREK

Roast beef dinner. One of my favourites.

Derek holds out a spoonful of brown slop for Gemma to try.

                  GEMMA

This is actual baby food? We're not just eating actual baby food?

                  DEREK

What else would we be eating at a baby shower?

                  MALCOLM

And there are presents!

Gemma sits as she's given a shopping bag by Malcolm.

                  MALCOLM (cont'd)

That's from Baris. He sends his love.

In the shopper is a huge bag of adult nappies and a menorah.

                  GEMMA

I'm not Jewish.

                  MALCOLM

Neither is he!

                  CHERRY

Adult nappies are really handy, post birth...

Gemma's next present is from Rita. She opens it.

                  GEMMA

Tia Maria and two water damaged boxes of Calpol?

Gemma checks the date.

                  RITA

Found them under the sink at work and thought, Gemma would like those.

GEMMA  
(re; date)  
Expired.

RITA  
We could open it now? Wet the baby's  
head? The Tia Maria, not the Calpol.

Rita leans into Malcolm. Puts her hand on his chest. Makes no  
secret of the fact she's very into him.

RITA (cont'd)  
(very flirty)  
Although... cheeky cocktail?

Malcolm blushes. Not used to woman coming on so strong.

Gemma opens a present from Winnie. It's a squeaky dog toy.

GEMMA  
It's a dog toy.

WINNIE  
No. It's a baby toy.

GEMMA  
It's a dog toy.

Winnie doesn't react. Cherry present a large basket full of  
useful items. Standard baby shower fare.

CHERRY  
Boring but useful.

GEMMA  
Did you see the dog toy and the  
menorah? I am desperate for "boring  
but useful".  
(then)  
No Xander?

CHERRY  
I don't think so, babe. I did invite  
him.

Move to Malcolm and Derek.

DEREK  
And don't think I've forgotten about  
your birthday tomorrow, king.

MALCOLM  
You don't need to make a fuss.

DEREK

Malcolm, you and I need to have some fun before this baby comes along and ruins your life, which is why we are doing... an escape room.

MALCOLM

I don't know what that is.

DEREK

Really? Well, I bloody love them.  
Happy Birthday.

Derek turns his attention to Gemma.

DEREK (cont'd)

Mine next!

He hands Gemma a beautifully wrapped present. She opens it.  
It's a really lovely baby blanket.

GEMMA

Derek? This is actually... nice.

DEREK

Always bossing the prezziess.

Derek double guns Malcolm as Gemma hands it to Cherry.

GEMMA

(whispers)

Check there's nothing weird in or on this?

Cherry nods. Understood.

5      **INT. GEMMA'S FLAT, LIVING ROOM -- LATER**

5

Malcolm brings out a pinata.

                  MALCOLM

And this is filled with all your  
favourite things. If you like  
funsized chocolate bars and biros.

Fun montage of everyone taking a swing at the pinata.  
Different styles and levels of competitiveness.

At some point the car seat/doll are moved onto the floor.

Gemma smashes the pinata. As she does, Malcolm's Stanley  
knife falls out and lands on the doll in the car seat.

                  MALCOLM (cont'd)

There's my Stanley knife!

Gemma stares at the doll with an open blade on its lap.

6      INT. GEMMA'S FLAT, LIVING ROOM -- LATER

6

Malcolm tidies up the flat as Derek sits with his feet up.

DEREK

Two weeks to go, eh? And you've got  
the basics covered? Cot?

MALCOLM

Yep.

DEREK

Pram?

MALCOLM

Yep.

DEREK

Oil for massaging Gemma's perineum?

MALCOLM

(very uncomfortable)

We've not talked about that but  
there's some fry-lite in the cupboard  
if she needs it.

Malcolm looks at the calendar on the wall.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

What time is the escape room booked  
for? I'm getting a wart removed in  
the morning as a birthday treat for  
myself.

DEREK

No idea. They just drag you off the  
street and bundle you into a van.

MALCOLM

Like a kidnapping?

DEREK

Exactly like a kidnapping. It's  
themed on the film "Taken".

Malcolm nods. Then...

MALCOLM

What if it's an actual kidnapping and  
I don't fight back because I think  
it's the escape room.

DEREK

That my friend, is part of the  
thrill.

(MORE)

DEREK (cont'd)

You might think it's the escape room  
guys and it's actually an old enemy  
who wants to slit your throat and do  
unspeakable things to your corpse.

MALCOLM

I don't have any enemies who'd want  
to do that.

DEREK

Your ex-wife?

Out on Malcolm. *Ooh maybe.*

7 INT. SALON -- DAY

7

Gemma finishes WINNIE's hair as Rita stands vaping out the door. Gemma's in a bit of discomfort but tries to hide it.

RITA

So which lucky tosser did you pick as birth partner in the end? Malcolm?

GEMMA

Oh god, can you imagine? No one wants their Dad catching a glimpse of the business end. Remind me to pick up his birthday cake.

RITA

Do you think he'd like me to jump out of it, semi-naked?

Gemma makes a small circle with her hands.

GEMMA

The cake is this big.

RITA

I could hide a boob in there?

WINNIE

Who is gonna be your birth partner?

GEMMA

I don't know. Cherry's the natural choice but she's got the kids.

RITA

I've been telling her Winnie, pick me pick me. I'd be amazing Gemma. I was once held hostage at an Embassy and I thrived. Absolutely thrived under those conditions. You can't make a diamond without intense pressure.

GEMMA

Pretty sure they can just grow diamonds in labs these days.

WINNIE

Diamonds and meat.

RITA

My favourite Prince song. Please Gemma. Pleeeeeaaaase.

GEMMA

Fine. Cherry isn't around, you can do it.

Gemma rubs her back as she takes Winnie's payment.

GEMMA (cont'd)

You won't see me for a while. I start  
my maternity leave on Monday.

RITA

(to Winnie)

I've got a 18 year old boy coming in  
to cover. Very keen to learn the  
ropes... if you know what I mean?

Winnie waves goodbye and she leaves the salon.

WINNIE

Good luck, Gemma love.

Gemma closes the door behind Winnie.

GEMMA

Rita, please don't groom your new  
apprentice into shagging you on a  
crate of toner --

Gemma is interrupted by a sudden whoosh. She stares at a huge  
puddle on the floor. Her waters have broken.

Rita scrambles to higher ground. Like there's a mouse.

RITA

What's that? What the fuck is that?

GEMMA

I think my waters have broken?

(confused)

I'm not due for another two weeks.

Gemma looks at Rita, slightly terrified. Rita climbs down.

RITA

It's okay, Gemma. I'm here. I'm just  
gonna get the "cleaning in progress"  
sign so no one slips over in your...  
"fluid".

Gemma nods. Rita moves towards the back office whilst still  
looking at Gemma - like she's backing away from a mad dog.

GEMMA

(worried)

Rita? Where are you going?

But Rita does not reply.

8 EXT. STREET -- SAME TIME

8

Malcolm walks down the street. He stops and pulls at his shirt front, looking at something on his own chest - pleased with the results.

MALCOLM

Lovely job.

At that moment a white transit van pulls alongside him. Two men jump from the cab. We will get to know them as WARREN and CRAIG. Both dressed in SAS type gear.

CRAIG

Malcolm Moscrip?

MALCOLM

Hu?

WARREN

You're about to be... TAKEN.

They pop a black hood on Malcolm's head.

MALCOLM

(cautious; hooded)

Before that happens, can I just check my wife - my ex wife - Davina wasn't involved in this?

CRAIG

There's no Davina on the booking form.

MALCOLM

(relief)

Thank goodness. Great. You get on with it then fellas.

Craig and Warren look at each other. *What's that about?*

WARREN

Oops. Almost forgot. Phone please?

MALCOLM

Why?

CRAIG

Because you're being... TAKEN.

Malcolm blindly hands over his phone as the men opens the doors and bundle him into the back of the transit van.

Sat there gently sobbing is a hooded figure. Derek.

MALCOLM

Derek? This is fun isn't it?

DEREK

I've made a terrible mistake.

9      INT. SALON, TOILET -- MINUTES LATER

9

Gemma stands outside the toilet door. She knocks.

GEMMA

Rita? Is everything okay?

RITA (O.S.)

*I'm having a shit.*

GEMMA

I'm having a baby.

On Rita in the toilet. She's having a massive panic attack.

RITA

Go away. I'm going to be ages. You know how sluggish my bowels get.

GEMMA

So you don't want to be my birthing partner after all?

RITA (O.S.)

*On reflection. No.*

GEMMA

What about 'I thrive under pressure'? What about 'I was taken hostage in an embassy'.

On Rita In meltdown

RITA

No one comes out of anyone else's vagina during a siege, Gemma.

Back on Gemma. She shakes her head.

10    **INT. TRANSIT VAN -- LATER**

10

Malcolm sits next to Derek, both with hoods on their heads, hands tied up in their laps. The transit van is moving.

                  MALCOLM

What a birthday treat.

                  DEREK

I don't like it, Malcolm. Turns out I don't like being bundled into a van with a bag on my head.

Derek fiddles with the hood, finally pulling it off his head. He's sweaty and red eyed.

                  DEREK (cont'd)

You can take the hood off.

                  MALCOLM

(shrugs)

I'm quite enjoying it.

10A **EXT. SALON -- LATER**

10A

XANDER walks past the salon as...

11 INT. SALON -- CONTINUOUS

11

... Gemma turns the sign on the door over to closed. He stops and stares at her, then enters. Awkward atmos between the two - they've not spoken since they fell out over Ben.

XANDER

Why are you closing early?

A contraction hits it's peak but in the moment she doesn't want to admit it. Gemma bites back the pain.

GEMMA

Gas leak.

XANDER

I don't smell any gas.

GEMMA

So much gas. You better go, I don't want you exploding everywhere.

XANDER

Sure you're not in labour?

Hold on Gemma. She doesn't want to admit she needs him.

GEMMA

I might be a bit in labour.

XANDER

Why are you pretending not to be?

GEMMA

(nearly in tears)

I don't know! It's too early and I'm taking my Dad out for dinner tonight.

XANDER

You are such a dickhead. I'll drive you to the hospital.

12    **INT. TRANSIT VAN, CAB -- MOMENTS LATER**

12

Malcolm's phone buzzes in the footwell as GEMMA (DAUGHTER) flashes up. No one spots it.

13 EXT. SALON -- SAME TIME

13

Xander helps Gemma walk down the street to his car as she leaves a message for Malcolm

GEMMA  
(on phone)  
Dad. It's started.  
(emotional)  
I'm not ready.  
(then)  
Happy birthday.

14 INT. LOCK UP -- LATER

14

Malcolm and Derek - now untied and unhooded - are frogmarched into the lock-up through the door.

Inside has been dressed like a very complicated escape room. Loads of mathematical symbols. Filing cabinets, a whiteboard, lots of things with locks on them. Some Andy McNab books.

WARREN

So guys, welcome to your TAKEN themed escape room.

CRAIG

You have been TAKEN and must solve the clues to release yourself from this lock-up and save your daughter.

Malcolm nods along. But then a thought occurs to him, so he puts his hand up.

MALCOLM

I don't want to sound like I'm not really enjoying this... but isn't it the daughter who gets Taken in Taken?

CRAIG

Eh?

MALCOLM

It's not Liam Neeson who gets "Taken". It's his daughter.

DEREK

Yeah. Malcolm's right. Are we meant to be the daughter?

CRAIG

Knew it. I fucking knew it. I said we should have done the "Saw" franchise.

WARREN

(to Malcolm)

No. No! You need to get out of the lock-up to save your daughter... who has been TAKEN.

DEREK

But we were the ones who got Taken. Are we and our daughters both taken?

MALCOLM

I'm a bit confused.

CRAIG

Everybody says this, Warren!  
Everybody. We've not taken a single  
person who doesn't instantly say  
"this doesn't even make sense if  
you've seen the film Taken".

WARREN

What's your solution, Craig? Go round  
kidnapping peoples daughters in order  
to make the theme land?

CRAIG

I just think we need to try a bit  
harder with the world building.

Warren turns to Malcolm and Derek.

WARREN

(annoyed)

You've got three hours.

MALCOLM

Three hours!?

CRAIG

Y'mate went for the deluxe package.

Craig and Warren leave. Slamming the door behind them and  
locking Malcolm and Derek inside.

DEREK

Actually works out cheaper.

15    **INT. HOSPITAL, LABOUR ROOM -- LATER**

15

Midwife ASTRID shows a shellshocked Gemma into a private room. Xander looks around.

                  XANDER

                  Your own room!?

                  ASTRID

I know, 48 hours ago she'd have been  
on a trolley near the needle bins.

Gemma grabs the side of the bed as a contraction hits.

                  GEMMA

I can't have the baby today, it's my  
Dad's birthday.

                  ASTRID

I don't think there's much we can do  
about that.

                  GEMMA

Aren't there some stitches you can  
put in. A special glue? A bit of  
resistance to take me past midnight?

                  ASTRID

Baby comes when baby wants to come.

                  GEMMA

(annoyed)

Ugh.

16 INT. LOCK UP -- LATER

16

Derek looks at a clue on a piece of card. It is all complicated maths symbols.

DEREK

What the fuck is that supposed to mean? It's probably about the light bulb. There's always a clue in the light bulb.

Derek grabs at the naked bulb hanging from the ceiling. He burns his hand.

DEREK (cont'd)

That's really fucking hot. You have a go Malcolm.

Malcolm looks at the card with the clue.

MALCOLM

Not sure it is about the light bulb.

Derek takes a deep breath. Changes subject.

DEREK

So there is something I wanted to bring up. About Gemma.

MALCOLM

What about Gemma?

DEREK

She's going to have that baby soon and... she'll need someone to take care of her.

MALCOLM

I'm going take care of her.

DEREK

You won't be around forever, mate.

Malcolm frowns. He's not that old.

DEREK (cont'd)

Someone with a good job who you know and idolise a little bit. Someone you think of as a really sexy son? Which is why I'd like your permission to ask Gemma to marry me.

Malcolm struggles to know what to say.

MALCOLM

Err... err.

(beat)

Aren't you still married?

On Derek. He knows this is a rejection - he's gutted.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

Sorry...

17 INT. HOSPITAL, LABOUR ROOM -- LATER

17

Gemma sits on a birthing ball breathing through the pain. Xander breaths with her.

GEMMA

(annoyed; in pain)

I 'm never having sex again if this is what happens. What a stupid fucking stupid system. Stop breathing so loudly.

XANDER

Sorry.

GEMMA

And stop apologising. This isn't your fault.

The pain passes. She calms down. Big breath out.

XANDER

No. I probably should apologise though. For ghosting you, after Ben.

GEMMA

I was ghosting you, buddy.

XANDER

I was ghosting you.

GEMMA

You fucking were not Xander. I was ghosting the shit out of you.

They both laugh.

XANDER

Cherry told me what happened. Have you heard from him at all?

GEMMA

We are not talking about this now. I 'm really glad you're here though?

XANDER

(hopeful)

Yeah?

Gemma looks like she's going to confess something important.

GEMMA

Can you get me a milkshake and a bag of crisps?

18 **INT. LOCK UP -- LATER**

18

Malcolm is fiddling about with a combination lock that opens a small case.

**MALCOLM**

Done it! Ugh. There's another maths clue in this one.

Malcolm tries to show Derek another difficult card covered with maths symbols. Derek turns away from Malcolm. Fucked off that he doesn't get to marry Gemma.

19 **INT. HOSPITAL, LABOUR ROOM -- LATER**

19

Gemma stares at her phone. She's tried calling Malcolm and Cherry loads of times. She's even tried calling her MUM.

As she's doing so Astrid checks the baby's heartbeat with a doppler. She frowns.

ASTRID

Baby's heart rate is a little low.  
We'll try giving you some more fluid.

Gemma smiles & nods as Astrid leaves. She's alone and a bit worried. Gemma scrolls through her phone to CAT (EMERGENCY).

Gemma makes a video call. It's answered by Catherine's cellmate REEDO.

REEDO

Who the fuck are you?

19A INT. PRISON CELL -- SAME TIME

19A

Intercut conversation

GEMMA

Catherine gave me this number for emergencies. It's Gemma. Her sister.

REEDO

(to Catherine)  
Hundo. Five minutes.

Reedo passes the phone up to the top bunk.

CATHERINE

Gemma! I told you not to use this number unless it's an emergency. You're gonna have to send her a hundred quid in crypto currency.

GEMMA

What? For a five minute call?

Catherine spots where Gemma is.

CATHERINE

Are you in hospital?

GEMMA

I'm in labour and I can't get hold of anyone. Not Dad, or even Mum.

(bit scared)

I don't want to do this alone.

CATHERINE

Oh.

(then)

There was something I wanted to discuss, actually.

GEMMA

You wanted to discuss something with me? I'm literally having a baby. That's why I called you.

CATHERINE

It's not coming out of you right this second, is it?

Gemma shakes her head.

GEMMA

No. No you're correct. Carry on.

CATHERINE  
(beat)  
Am I a bad person?

Gemma honestly doesn't know how to answer.

CATHERINE (cont'd)  
I think I might be a bad person.

A big contraction builds in Gemma. She is in a lot of pain but tries to keep the conversation going. Catherine is the only person she has with her at this moment.

GEMMA  
Oh god! Maybe?

CATHERINE  
Just you know, with the trial coming up, I'm starting to wonder if I shouldn't have paid someone to push Gary off that fire escape. If maybe it was a bit selfish?

GEMMA  
(in pain)  
Aaaaagh. It was a pretty terrible thing to do.

CATHERINE  
He's fine now. Really. He actually seems much happier since it happened.

GEMMA  
But if you know it was bad - Jesus fucking Christ - and you don't do it again, that's growth.

CATHERINE  
Couldn't afford to do it again if I wanted to. Cost a fortune.

GEMMA  
Great. AAAAAGGGGGHHHH.

CATHERINE  
Thanks Gemma... shit. Screws.

GEMMA  
Cat? Please don't go --

Catherine hangs up. Gemma feels abandoned.

20 INT. LOCK UP -- NIGHT

20

Derek sits in a slump. Heartbroken.

MALCOLM

You can't not talk to me all afternoon. I need your help otherwise we'll never get out of here.

DEREK

Not gonna lie Malcolm, this hasn't really gone as planned. I was going to ask your permission to marry Gemma. You'd say yes. Bosh our way through the escape room, onto the pub for your birthday lunch and toast me as your new Son-in-Law.

MALCOLM

Oh. Sorry. But even if I had said yes, I've a feeling Gemma wouldn't be up for it.

DEREK

You think? You're right. Screw her.

MALCOLM

Yeah. Screw her. But also... you know. She's the best thing in my life and I love her very much.

Derek completely shakes off his slump, cuts across Malcolm.

DEREK

Yeah, whatever. I'm bored of this. Let's solve this motherfucker Derek style.

Malcolm looks at Derek. Derek raises an eyebrow.

MONTAGE - Beautiful Mind style montage of Malcolm and Derek solving puzzles. Possibly also smashing things up.

Hard Cut to Malcolm and Derek on the floor, exhausted.

MALCOLM

It's really hard!

DEREK

It's so bloody hard.

Derek waves at a CCTV camera.

DEREK (cont'd)

We give up. It's too hard.

21 INT. HOSPITAL, LABOUR ROOM -- LATER

21

Nighttime as Gemma lies on the bed with the gas and air machine next to her - IV drip in now. Cherry and Xander by her side.

GEMMA

This is really horrible.

CHERRY

It's gonna get a fuck of a lot worse.

Xander throws Cherry a look.

CHERRY (cont'd)

What? She knows. I made her watch youtube clips.

A contraction hits. Gemma takes a huge gulp of gas and air.

GEMMA

That actually does take the edge off.

CHERRY

Babe, I can't stay, the kids are waiting in a taxi. I've got like eight minutes before one of them smashes a window.

GEMMA

(high)

It's fine. I think it's gonna be pretty plain sailing from here.

Cherry gives Xander a look. *It won't be...*

GEMMA (cont'd)

I wonder what it would be like to be really flat? You know when they slide people under doors. Because they're really flat?

XANDER

What?

GEMMA

When people go all flat? And so they can slide you under a door?

Gemma mimes sliding something under a door, and finds her own hand fascinating.

CHERRY

God I love gas and air.

Cherry takes the mouth piece from Gemma and has a little puff. Looks totally chilled out.

CHERRY (cont'd)

So good.

Gemma flops back in the bed. Cherry takes Gemma's hand.

CHERRY (cont'd)

Gemma, before I go... listen to me.

Is Cherry giving some wonderful advice or reassurance?

CHERRY (cont'd)

Take all the drugs, even if you don't need them. Hospital grade heroin is amazing. I sometimes dream about getting into a little car accident just for the bed rest and morphine.

(Xander)

If you dare leave her side I will break both your knee-caps. Call me when she's had it.

22 EXT. LOCK UP -- NIGHT

22

Craig and Warren walk towards the transit Van with Malcolm and Derek following them. Warren hands back their phones.

DEREK

Why did you make it so hard?

CRAIG

I don't think it is that hard, is it?

Malcolm spots all the messages from Gemma.

DEREK

Takes all the fun out, making it that hard.

MALCOLM

Gemma's having the baby! My daughter's having a baby.

DEREK

Today? Rude.

CRAIG

Yeah she was calling a lot.

WARREN

At least she hasn't been TAKEN. Am I right?

MALCOLM

I need to get to the hospital.

(to Warren)

Can you drive me to the hospital?

WARREN

Err we're not really a taxi service.

DEREK

Drive my best friend to the hospital or I will look for you, I will find you and I will kill you.

(then)

Joke. But I will leave you a shocking review.

Warren shrugs, not interested. Craig nods to Malcolm.

CRAIG

You two, get in.

23    **INT. HOSPITAL, LABOUR ROOM -- LATER**

23

Gemma sits up in bed with the baby heart monitor around her baby bump. In the background are SENIOR MIDWIFE and ASTRID looking at the trace. Gemma turns to Xander.

GEMMA

You can go if you want? Get something to eat?

XANDER

I managed to nab a piece of dry toast that a midwife then shouted at me for stealing. So I'm good.

He holds her hand.

XANDER (cont'd)

I'm not going anywhere. Unless you want me to leave?

GEMMA

No. I want you with me.

(then)

God, I bet I look awful.

XANDER

Awful? Never. I don't think I've seen you look more beautiful. And you always look beautiful.

Gemma smiles. *There are some strong unspoken feelings here.* But they're interrupted by Astrid.

ASTRID

We're still not happy with baby's heart-rate Gemma, so it's time to discuss other options.

Gemma looks at Xander. Scared. He squeezes her hand.

24    **INT. TRANSIT VAN -- LATER**

24

The van races through the streets. Malcolm looks a bit terrified. Craig drives as Derek fills in a form. Warren is not there.

DEREK

I saw all three of mine slide into the world. Absolutely fucking disgusting. I mean really offensive. Blood and shit everywhere. She was screaming. I was screaming.

(to Craig)

"out of ten how would you rate your escape room experience"?

MALCOLM

I remember popping out to get a Walnut Whip and when I came back Davina was watching Neighbours. Both times.

DEREK

(to Craig)

Too fucking hard out of ten. That's how I'd rate it.

25    **EXT. HOSPITAL -- NIGHT**

25

The transit van pulls up with a screech.

26 INT. TRANSIT VAN, CAB -- CONTINUOUS

26

CRAIG  
Go rescue your daughter.

Derek looks at Craig and shakes his head - he doesn't like any man trying to be Malcolm's pal.

DEREK  
(to Malcolm)  
Don't fuck it up, big guy.

27 INT. HOSPITAL, CORRIDOR -- LATER

27

Malcolm rushes down the corridor looking for Gemma. He finds Xander already dressed in surgical scrubs talking to Astrid.

XANDER

Gemma's being prepped for surgery.

MALCOLM

Is she okay?

XANDER

She needs a c-section.

ASTRID

Only the birthing partner can go in.

MALCOLM

I'm the father. Gemma's father. Not the baby's.

XANDER

I'm just a friend.

MALCOLM

The father isn't here.

ASTRID

(annoyed)

Which one of you is going in with her?

Malcolm hesitates. Does Gemma want him there? He's not sure. He looks at Xander and shrugs.

MALCOLM

He's already got the kit on.

Malcolm spots Gemma through the doors. She smiles at him. Relieved he's finally there.

GEMMA

Dad!

28 INT. HOSPITAL, THEATRE -- LATER

28

The ANAESTHETIST sits near Gemma's head. Malcolm - now in scrubs - fidgets on a small stool near Gemma's head also. Senior Midwife is there to take the baby.

There's a screen across Gemma's chest so she can't see.

On the other side of the screen is a SURGEON, SCRUB NURSE and STUDENT DOCTOR.

ANAESTHETIST

So you'll feel a tugging sensation  
but there won't be any pain. I  
promise.

GEMMA

That's really odd. And quite gross.

ANAESTHETIST

Would you like me to talk you through  
what's happening?

GEMMA

No. Talk to me about anything but  
what's happening. Did you tell her  
(*Surgeon*) you'd just got your floors  
done?

ANAESTHETIST

Yes we had damp proofing and a  
concrete pour.

GEMMA

Oh yeah, what was that like?

ANAESTHETIST

Err... they hadn't put the screed  
down so --

GEMMA

-- Oh god that felt so weird.  
(panic)

Tell me about the screed. Tell me  
about the screed!

Malcolm finds the stool he's sat on uncomfortable.

MALCOLM

This is a very small stool. Is there  
a bigger stool.

Everyone ignores Malcolm.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

I can stand.

He stands and knocks the stool over.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

Oops. Shall I pick that up or is that unsanitary?

Malcolm stands up straight, now able to see what's going on at the surgical end if he chooses.

GEMMA

Dad, don't look over the curtain.

MALCOLM

(looking)

Oh dear.

ANAESTHETIST

Nearly there Gemma. The surgeon is just cutting through the last layer before the uterus.

Gemma pulls a face. *Too much information.*

MALCOLM

I think the curtain should be higher. Can I write to someone about that?

SURGEON

Are you ready to meet your baby?

MALCOLM

Or maybe you have a suggestions box.

The surgeon holds the baby up over the curtain.

SURGEON

Here she is.

And everything stops. The medical team wait for the baby to cry. It does. They all smile - baby was fine after all.

Gemma stares at her baby as she's handed to Senior Midwife.

Hold on Gemma. Overwhelmed with love. The biggest moment of her life. Senior Midwife brings the baby to Gemma and places her on Gemma's chest.

GEMMA

She's a girl?

SENIOR MIDWIFE

Congratulations, Gemma.

Senior Midwife moves out of the way so Malcolm can see.

SENIOR MIDWIFE (cont'd)

There you go... Grandad.

Senior Midwife hands the baby to Malcolm. His turn for the rush of love.

MALCOLM

Hello little one.

SURGEON

Someone call the registrar, I can't stop the bleeding.

GEMMA

What?

ANAESTHETIST

(to Gemma; calm)

It's going to be fine.

Senior Midwife takes the baby and places it in a clear travel cot.

SENIOR MIDWIFE

Come with me, grandad.

MALCOLM

But, Gemma?

SURGEON

I need more light in here. I can't find the source of the bleeding.

Two medical professionals dressed in scrubs race into the operating theatre past Malcolm.

MALCOLM

It's going to be okay.

GEMMA

(quiet)

Dad!

Malcolm looks back at Gemma as he and the baby are ushered towards the doors by the Senior Midwife.

29 **INT. HOSPITAL, LABOUR ROOM -- LATER**

29

Malcolm sits with his newborn granddaughter in his arms, back in Gemma's empty labour room.

We don't know how much time has passed and neither does he. Xander enters with two coffees.

*XANDER (O.S.)*

*Malcolm?*

But Malcolm doesn't reply.

Hold on Malcolm.

**MALCOLM**

I can't lose her. Not now.

(to the baby)

We can't lose her.

Still on Malcolm. Not scared. He can't think about what being scared means.

He's just waiting. The door opens again. It's Astrid. For a moment Malcolm fears the absolute worst.

**ASTRID**

Gemma's fine. She lost a lot of blood  
but she's fine.

Relief doesn't register for Malcolm. He's still in shock.

**XANDER**

She's okay?

**ASTRID**

(to Malcolm)

She's in recovery. We'll bring her  
back soon.

(to Xander)

No other visitors tonight though. Mum  
and baby need their rest.

Xander nods but Malcolm isn't really listening. Still reeling from how close he came to losing his daughter.

30 **INT. HOSPITAL, LABOUR ROOM -- NIGHT**

30

Malcolm sits in the large purple birthing partner chair as Gemma sleeps.

The baby starts to cry.

Malcolm picks her up and soothes her until she's sleeping again but Gemma has woken.

MALCOLM

You go back to sleep, love. I've got her.

Gemma gives a sleepy smile. She feels safe.

GEMMA

I've thought of a name. Sadie.

MALCOLM

Sadie.

(to Sadie)

You're a much better birthday present than being locked in a storage unit with your uncle Derek.

GEMMA

What have you been doing today?

Gemma shakes her head. It doesn't matter.

Hold on the three of them. Very sweet.

I FOUND A REASON by THE VELVET UNDERGROUND plays.

The door creeps open.

ASTRID

(quiet)

There's a visitor for you, Gemma.

GEMMA

Can they come back tomorrow?

Astrid closes the door. Then opens it again.

ASTRID

She's being quite insistent.

Gemma and Malcolm look at each other. *She?* Astrid is moved out of the way by a woman. DAVINA.

DAVINA

It's okay Gemma love, I'm here now.

Davina immediately takes the baby from Malcolm's arms.

MALCOLM

Davina?

DAVINA

Malcolm, what are you doing? Gemma  
doesn't want her baby catching  
something from your dirty great  
warehouse hands.

GEMMA

Mum!

Out on Gemma. *Fuck.*

**END OF SERIES**