

RALPH & KATIE

Episode 2

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SHOOTING SCRIPT



9th February 2022

MONTAGE:

Over the top of the following, we hear an acapella choir version of *'It Must Be Love'*.

1 EXT. LAKE DISTRICT ROAD. DAY 7. 10:20.

We follow a POSTWOMAN as she makes her way down a picturesque road.

2 EXT. LAKES & CAKES BAKERY. DAY 7. 10:30.

She walks past the bakery...

3 EXT. PUB. DAY 7. 10:35.

And past the pub, where the sign reads *'Valentine's Special: 2 for 1 Carvery & Cava (lonely hearts menu also available)'*.

4 EXT. RALPH AND KATIE'S STREET. DAY 7. 10:45.

Finally, she heads towards a house we all know and love...

5 INT. RALPH AND KATIE'S HALLWAY. DAY 7. 10:46.

Some envelopes cascade through the letter box and land on the doormat. RALPH appears from the living room and picks up the post... he spots a red envelope with a large heart on the front.

On closer inspection we see that it's addressed to *'Katie'*, and underneath the address is a handwritten note: *'Do not open until Feb 14th x'*.

RALPH stares at the envelope, confused by its appearance. He hesitates, before shoving it in his back pocket...

6 EXT. VILLAGE HALL. DAY 7. 13:35.

The village hall in all its... village glory. The door is wide open, as if the music is spilling from it.

And over the visual:

RALPH & KATIE**7 INT. VILLAGE HALL. DAY 7. 13:36.**

LOUISE is conducting the choir in the acapella version of *'It Must Be Love'*.

(CONTINUED)

The PIANIST sits at the piano, eating a sandwich whilst reading a newspaper. DANNY, now an enthusiastic member of the choir, concentrates on his sheet music. Next to him is RALPH, who distractedly looks over at KATIE, who is happily singing beside EMMA.

As the song ends, the PIANIST plays the final chord (the first thing we've seen them play) and it is *completely* out of tune. The choir wince. There's a loud 'TWANG' from the piano as LOUISE signals for the choir to stop singing.

A beat.

LOUISE
Good. Very clean.

8

INT. VILLAGE HALL. DAY 7. 13:55.

DANNY and KATIE are tidying up the hall as the rest of the choir leaves. RALPH sits on a chair to the side, watching KATIE. EMMA follows LOUISE in from the side room.

EMMA
We can only do so many acapella numbers, Louise. We've not got the pitch for it.

DANNY
Speak for yourself.

LOUISE
It's a great idea love, but I just don't think we've got the time.

DANNY
For what?

EMMA
A Valentine's fundraiser for a new piano.

DANNY makes a face of disdain before continuing clearing chairs. We stay with EMMA and LOUISE.

EMMA (CONT'D)
I can handle most of it. You just need to spread the word.

LOUISE
Are you sure you want to celebrate Valentine's Day this year after... you know...

EMMA
Oh I'm over Gary now.

(CONTINUED)

But there's a vulnerability here. LOUISE can see it... and EMMA knows it. A moment between them.

EMMA (CONT'D)

Or I will be. (BEAT) Gary would've said what you're saying. "You can't organise a party in a few days. You've got to plan ahead, Emma!"

LOUISE

And you want to prove him wrong?

EMMA

(shrugging)

Maybe.

LOUISE

But you're over him?

EMMA

(avoiding the question)

I just want to do something nice.

Beat.

LOUISE

(softening)

Okay.

EMMA

Okay?

LOUISE

Okay. Whatever you need, just let me know.

EMMA

Thank you. You won't regret it. I'm a Libra, Louise. It's in my blood to spread love.

LOUISE turns to DANNY.

LOUISE

What about you Danny? You a Libra too?

DANNY

Nah, I'm a bit Valentine's intolerant to be honest.

EMMA

Danny!

DANNY

Well, it's all a load of rubbish, isn't it? If I fancy someone, I'll tell them.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DANNY (CONT'D)

I'm not gonna wait until February the fourteenth to buy some overpriced chocolates and half dead flowers.

TOM appears behind DANNY, at the entrance of the hall. He's carrying a box full of drama game props.

TOM

Well, this is a cheery room.

EMMA

Tom!

He makes his way over.

TOM

Hi babes.

LOUISE

We're just heading off. Hall's all yours.

LOUISE grabs her bag and coat.

EMMA

Tom, do you remember Danny? Year above us at school.

TOM

Er, yeah, hiya. You're the one who did the magic trick at Miss Brebner's leaving assembly.

DANNY

Correct.

TOM

Can't forget that. Tried. Couldn't.

DANNY

(slightly embarrassed)

Yeah.

TOM

So much blood.

DANNY

Anyway...

TOM

And so many ferrets.

DANNY

(desperately trying to change the subject)

Emma, you were saying something -

(CONTINUED)

EMMA

Yes - Valentine's Day!

TOM

Oh, I love it. The chocolates, the flowers, the mystery.

This is exactly what EMMA wants to hear.

EMMA

We're throwing a Valentine's fundraiser. Monday night. Tickets a tenner, and you get a buffet and a glass of Prosecco.

TOM

Sign me up.

EMMA

Our first guest!

EMMA looks to LOUISE who smiles, supportive.

TOM

Right, come on, hurry up. I've got a gaggle of stagey eight year olds arriving in ten minutes.

EMMA/LOUISE/KATIE

See you Monday!/Bye Tom./Have fun.

TOM heads to the side of the hall to set up, as DANNY slowly puts his coat on. KATIE and LOUISE head out of the hall. EMMA follows behind, looking back to see DANNY watching TOM. TOM looks over at him.

TOM

Good to see you, Danny.

DANNY

Yeah, you too.

TOM returns to sorting his box of props. DANNY watches him for a moment too long before turning his attention to RALPH, who hasn't moved from his seat, strangely subdued.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Everything alright, mate?

RALPH

Yeah.

RALPH heads out, leaving a not too reassured DANNY.

9

INT. RALPH AND KATIE'S LIVING ROOM. NIGHT 7. 21:40.

RALPH and KATIE are sat on the sofa watching TV. KATIE's phone pings. She picks it up and starts replying.

RALPH
Who's that?

KATIE
Emma. She wants us to do the raffle.

RALPH raises his eyebrows. He's not impressed. KATIE turns to RALPH.

KATIE (CONT'D)
It'll be fun. Our first Valentine's as a married couple!

KATIE sends her text. RALPH thinks, then...

RALPH
Did he like Valentine's Day?

KATIE
Who?

RALPH
The guy who broke your heart.

KATIE
Nathan?

RALPH's enemy now has a name. He nods.

KATIE (CONT'D)
Yeah, he did.

RALPH
And you loved him? ...Nathan.

KATIE
Nathan is in the past.

RALPH
Are you still in touch?

KATIE
No. He moved to Devon. We wrote letters for a bit.

RALPH's ears prick up when he hears that Katie and Nathan once wrote letters to one another. He desperately wants to ask about the card but...

KATIE (CONT'D)
You coming to bed?

(CONTINUED)

RALPH

I'll be up in a bit.

KATIE kisses him on the cheek before heading upstairs. After a moment, RALPH retrieves the unopened Valentine's card from his back pocket. He hesitates. Then opens it. It has a handwritten poem inside: "*Roses are red, Violets are blue. I miss your smile. When I'm not with you!*"

Below the poem is a large question mark. Ralph's mind starts going into overdrive.

TITLE CARD: "*The past is a closed door.*"

10

INT. LAKES & CAKES BAKERY. DAY 8. 11:40.

On the wall of the bakery is an A4 sized homemade poster for the fundraiser. EMMA sticks an extra strip of paper across the bottom which says 'TOMORROW!!' in large letters. As she does so, she fills DANNY in on her progress. DANNY mildly amused by her energy.

EMMA

I've booked a DJ, and we've got the brewery throwing in a few kegs, and the Fellside are sorting us out with some buffet bits. Do you wanna know how many tickets we've sold?

DANNY

I've got a feeling you're going to tell me.

EMMA

Forty two! It's a bit sad they didn't have any other plans to be honest. Now, what do you think about a centrepiece? Something they won't expect. Like a fire breather. No mime artists though. I had a bad experience once in Covent Garden. That's why I don't trust London.

DANNY's smiling now.

EMMA (CONT'D)

What?

DANNY

Nothing. You're good at this.

He means it. EMMA looks at him, unsure.

EMMA

Gary used to say I was a bit too much.

(CONTINUED)

DANNY

Yeah, well you know my views on Gary.

EMMA acknowledges this, but moves the conversation along.

EMMA

You gonna come then?

DANNY groans.

EMMA (CONT'D)

Tom'll be there.

DANNY

And?

EMMA

He's looking pretty good these days.

DANNY

(faux casual)

He always looked good. So what?

EMMA smiles at his forced nonchalance. DANNY's phone pings. He checks the text.

DANNY (CONT'D)

It's Ralph. Got to go. Code red.

HARD CUT TO:

11

INT. PUB. DAY 8. 12:20.

RALPH and DANNY are sat in the corner with two pints. RALPH has told DANNY what he knows about 'Nathan'.

DANNY

Okay, so his name's Nathan. What does that matter? He's just an ex. You had a girlfriend before Katie, right?

RALPH

Yes but I didn't love her. She didn't send me letters from Devon.

DANNY

Well no, but probably because she was from Braithwaite.

RALPH shakes his head - DANNY just doesn't get it.

DANNY (CONT'D)

I don't know what you're worried about, mate. Nathan's in the past.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DANNY (CONT'D)

No one goes back to the past. It's a closed door.

RALPH

So what about this?

RALPH produces the mystery Valentine's card from his back pocket and slides it across the table as if it's evidence in a murder trial. DANNY picks it up.

RALPH (CONT'D)

It was sent to Katie.

DANNY

Wait, has Katie seen this?

RALPH shrugs. DANNY drops the card.

DANNY (CONT'D)

You stole her card? And now you're getting me involved?? Jesus Christ! How long have you had it?

RALPH

A day.

DANNY

Twenty four hours?! No. No, you need to talk to Katie and come clean.

RALPH

It's *my* marriage.

DANNY

(carefully)

Mate, I just think you need to have a chat with Katie.

(beat)

And give her that.

DANNY points at the mysterious card. They both look at it, like it's a bomb waiting to go off.

RALPH

(unconvincingly)

I will.

DANNY gives him a look.

RALPH (CONT'D)

When the time is right.

RALPH takes a sip of his pint. On DANNY: that went well...

12 **EXT. LAKE DISTRICT. BENCH. DAY 9. 09:05.**

New day. A wide shot of the lakes on a cold February morning. A blast of music. An older couple sit on a bench. One of them puts their arm around the other.

TITLE CARD: *"When you know, you know. You know?"*

13 **EXT. RALPH AND KATIE'S BACK GARDEN. DAY 9. 16:25.**

LOUISE and KATIE have been planting geraniums in a large terracotta pot. As KATIE finishes off, LOUISE stands and takes her gloves off, stretching her back in the process. She spots BRIAN over the fence. He's on the ground, peering under a plant pot.

LOUISE
You okay there, Brian?

BRIAN looks at her, no hint of a smile.

BRIAN
I'm at war, Louise.

LOUISE
Oh?

BRIAN
Slugs. I'm on a search and destroy mission.

LOUISE
Sounds intense.

BRIAN gets up now.

BRIAN
Oh, it is. I'm currently training the local predators to hunt them down. I've just ordered a new hedgehog house. Starting early is a must.

LOUISE
Right.

BRIAN looks over the fence, nodding towards the pot.

BRIAN
What you going with?

LOUISE
Hardy geraniums and sciatica.

BRIAN
Very nice. The geraniums I mean.

(CONTINUED)

LOUISE

I got that.

KATIE is now on her feet.

KATIE

Happy Valentine's Day, Brian.

BRIAN

Is it? Well, yes. Good. Likewise.

LOUISE

You coming to the party tonight?
Village hall. Tenner a ticket. All
for a good cause.

KATIE

And you might get lucky!

Awkward BRIAN doesn't quite know how to take KATIE's comment.

BRIAN

Ah yes, well. I actually already
have a long standing commitment.

LOUISE

(exchanging look with
KATIE)

What's her name?

BRIAN

It's an illustrated talk on slate
mining at the Keswick Institute.

LOUISE

Well, if you change your mind
there'll be a vol-u-vent with your
name on it.

KATIE

(waves)

See ya Brian!

LOUISE and KATIE head inside, leaving a tempted but cautious
looking BRIAN.

14

INT. RALPH AND KATIE'S KITCHEN. DAY 9. 16:26. CONTINUOUS.

KATIE and LOUISE enter from the garden to find RALPH, still
in his brewery clothes, back from work. LOUISE barely stops
as she says hi to RALPH.

LOUISE

Hiya, love. Can't stop - got an
Asda delivery in ten. See you
tonight. Bye Katie!

(CONTINUED)

LOUISE heads out.

KATIE
How was your shift? I missed you
this morning.

KATIE heads to a nearby cupboard.

RALPH
Fine. Was running late.

KATIE retrieves a card, a box of chocolates and a football magazine from the cupboard.

KATIE
Happy Valentine's Day!

RALPH looks at the presents, caught out. He clearly hasn't got her anything. Beat.

KATIE (CONT'D)
You can give me mine later. I'm off
to help Emma.

She kisses him on the cheek.

KATIE (CONT'D)
Love you.

RALPH
Love you too.

But he's not overly convincing. KATIE grabs her stuff and leaves. Once she's gone, RALPH heads to a drawer; it's full of toot, but underneath the toot is the mystery Valentine's card. He holds it in his hands, wondering what to do.

15 **OMITTED**

16 **OMITTED**

16A **INT. LAKES & CAKES BAKERY. DAY 9. 16:45.**

In the closed bakery, EMMA sits blowing up a balloon - she's surrounded by dozens of already blown up balloons, and bags of decorations. TOM is at the counter packing a pile of food containers into two large freezer bags.

TOM
What time can we get in the hall?

EMMA
Half an hour.
(takes a breath)
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

EMMA (CONT'D)

I think I might pass out. A human body can't emit this much air.

TOM

Did you not want helium balloons?

EMMA

Oh god, don't. The canister didn't arrive, did it? We're just gonna have sad balloons.

TOM

Sad balloons?

EMMA

Yeah, like on the floor. Fatigued.

Just then DANNY arrives with a 24-pack of lager.

DANNY

Afternoon.

EMMA

(smiling)

Oh hello. Didn't think we'd be seeing you...

DANNY

(casually)

Found these in Nan's garage, think they're from Boxing Day two years ago, but figured you might want them.

As he sets them down on a nearby table.

DANNY (CONT'D)

You want a hand with that?

EMMA

(out of breath)

Oh yeah, that'd be great, thanks.

But DANNY has headed directly over to TOM...

EMMA (CONT'D)

Or not. That's fine too.

DANNY starts helping TOM fill the bags.

TOM

Someone's getting in the Valentine's Day spirit...

DANNY

Well, I suppose it's nice to celebrate.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DANNY (CONT'D)

Chocolates and flowers and you
know, the mystery and what not...

A look from EMMA: Wow, subtle Danny...

TOM

Aw. It's like Scrooge on Christmas
morning.

(to EMMA)

Babe, I've got to go. I'll drop
these off on my way.

On DANNY: Shit, should've got here sooner.

EMMA

Thanks so much for helping. See you
tonight!

TOM

(picking up the bags)

See you *both* tonight!

EMMA/DANNY

Bye!/See ya.

DANNY watches TOM leave. A knowing EMMA stares at DANNY with
a smile, DANNY clocks this.

DANNY

Oh, shut up.

KATIE arrives holding a box. EMMA rushes over to her.

EMMA

Ah Katie! Brilliant. Where's Ralph?

KATIE

He'll meet us at the hall.

EMMA takes the box from KATIE, unwrapping it like a toddler
on Christmas morning. DANNY looks over at KATIE, trying to
work out whether she knows about the card yet.

DANNY

Everything okay?

KATIE

Yeah. Why?

DANNY

No reason. All good.

On DANNY - Ralph clearly hasn't told her.

EMMA

Oh you're kidding...

(CONTINUED)

DANNY

What's wrong?

EMMA

They've got my order wrong! I ordered a bumper Valentine's party box. They've sent the Hen Do box. We've got six packs of penis straws!

She holds the penis straws in her hand. KATIE laughs.

DANNY

It'll be fine. No one will notice.

EMMA

They've got *veins*, Danny. I've invited the W.I.

DANNY starts heading for the door.

DANNY

That's alright, have you seen their calendars?

EMMA

Wait, where you going?

DANNY

I won't be long. I need to do something.

EMMA

We'll see you at the hall!

But DANNY is out.

17

INT. RALPH AND KATIE'S LIVING ROOM. DAY 9. 16:55.

RALPH (now changed out of his work gear) is sat on the sofa, staring at the mystery Valentine's card on the table in front of him. We hear the front door open. An out of breath DANNY appears at the living room door.

DANNY

You said you were gonna speak to her.

RALPH's silence says everything. DANNY softens.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Mate, you're getting yourself in a state over nothing.

RALPH

Have you ever been in love?

(CONTINUED)

DANNY is a bit taken aback by this question but RALPH has clearly been rehearsing it in his head for half an hour.

DANNY
(brushing it off)
Er, yeah. Once.

RALPH
What happened?

DANNY
(honestly)
He broke my heart. I cried in every room in the house, shed included. But eventually I was okay. I mean, it probably wasn't real love. I think I just wanted someone to want me.

RALPH is silent. DANNY realises this probably isn't what RALPH wanted to hear.

DANNY (CONT'D)
But that was totally different to you and Katie. When you know, you know. You know? Look, can we please go to the hall and sort this out?

RALPH takes a moment... then grabs the card and heads for the front door. DANNY isn't sure whether he nailed that or made things worse.

17A **EXT. VILLAGE HALL. DAY 9 17.30.**

There are a few red balloons on the door.

EMMA (O.S.)
He should be here by now.

18 **INT. VILLAGE HALL. DAY 9. 17:31. CONTINUOUS.**

The hall is now half decorated - it looks like a promising mess. KATIE and EMMA are sorting the buffet table.

KATIE
Who?

EMMA
The DJ, he's late.

KATIE sneaks a sausage roll into her mouth.

EMMA (CONT'D)
(without looking)
I saw that.

(CONTINUED)

PSYCHIC SURRANE, a deadpan fortune teller, has arrived. She's dressed to the nines. Bit like Mystic Meg. But from Keswick.

SURRANE

You Emma?

EMMA

Yes.

SURRANE

Thought so. I'm Surrane, Psychic Surrane. The fortune teller. We spoke on Facebook. Where shall I set up?

EMMA

Oh yes, hi! Just in the corner, please. Unless that's bad energy?

SURRANE

(looking around)

Nah, it's all the same really.

SURRANE saunters over to her spot. EMMA checks her watch again.

EMMA

I'm gonna call the DJ. Make sure he's not lost.

KATIE

It's going to be fine.

EMMA

Yeah, no, you're right.

(to SURRANE)

This is going to be a good night, isn't it, Surrane?

SURRANE

I'm not on the clock 'till seven, hun. Anything out of the agreed hours is extra.

This isn't what EMMA needed to hear.

EMMA

Right, I'll make a start on the cakes.

EMMA heads for the kitchen as RALPH and DANNY enter the village hall. RALPH heads straight for KATIE.

KATIE

(smiling)

There you are!

(CONTINUED)

By this point a determined (and slightly dramatic) RALPH has reached KATIE. He holds the card (and envelope) out to her. A confused KATIE takes the card and begins reading. Over the top of this:

DANNY

Shall we sit down? I could make a cuppa. Or coffee... actually, peppermint tea might be nice and calming -

KATIE

(to RALPH)

You opened my post?

RALPH

Why are you getting cards from other men?

KATIE

What?

DANNY

Ralph's worried it's from Nathan.

KATIE

(confused)

Nathan?

RALPH

Why did you never tell me about him?

EMMA enters from the kitchen, having heard the commotion.

KATIE

There was nothing to tell.

RALPH

You loved him. I'm meant to be the love of your life.

KATIE

You are!

RALPH

Then why did Nathan send you that?

KATIE

He didn't!

RALPH

Then who did?

EMMA (O.C.)

I did.

Everyone turns to EMMA.

(CONTINUED)

EMMA (CONT'D)

I didn't have anyone to send a card to this year so... I sent one to Katie. You know, for Galentine's Day...

RALPH and DANNY blankly stare at her.

EMMA (CONT'D)

(more desperate)

Like Valentine's, but for gals.

KATIE looks at RALPH like "what do you say to that?" In fact, now everyone's looking at him, SURRANE included.

EMMA (CONT'D)

Ralph, I didn't mean -

Hurt and embarrassed, RALPH leaves the hall in silence. EMMA looks at KATIE apologetically. Just then SURRANE appears next to EMMA with EMMA's phone in one hand and a half eaten cocktail sausage in the other.

SURRANE

Your phone just pinged, hun. DJ's cancelled.

On EMMA - still looking at KATIE.

19

INT. LOUISE'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. NIGHT 9. 18:45.

LOUISE is at the mirror, putting her earrings in. We hear the front door go.

RALPH (O.S.)

Mum?!

LOUISE

Living room!

RALPH appears at the living room door.

LOUISE (CONT'D)

What are you doing here? I was just about to leave.

RALPH

I need to go in the loft.

20

INT. LOUISE'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. NIGHT 9. 19:10.

RALPH is sat on the floor with a large cardboard box in front of him. Most of the contents are now strewn across the floor: football magazines, CDs and textbooks. RALPH is still searching through the box.

(CONTINUED)

LOUISE

So, let me get this straight. Katie got a Valentine's card... that you opened and didn't tell her about... and you just found out that it wasn't from some secret lover, but was actually from Emma... and now rather than apologising to Katie and begging for her forgiveness, you've left the party to come here and have a quick rummage through your old football magazines? Seems reasonable. Ten out of ten for that, Ralph.

RALPH

I'm looking for something.

LOUISE

Well, I'm going to the party and I'm not waiting.

LOUISE goes to leave but RALPH has frozen. He's found what he was looking for.

LOUISE (CONT'D)

What's that?

He hands LOUISE a homemade Valentine's card. The inside is blank.

RALPH

I had to make it at school. I didn't have anyone to send it to.

LOUISE looks at a sad RALPH, realising that this might be a bit more serious than she first thought.

RALPH (CONT'D)

Katie's the only person I've ever loved. I've missed out on stuff.

LOUISE

What are you talking about?

RALPH

Katie's parents took her to clubs. She met people. Boyfriends.

(beat)

You never took me.

LOUISE

We weren't the kind of people who did clubs.

RALPH

You weren't.

(CONTINUED)

This is slightly bruising for LOUISE.

LOUISE

Well, I'm sorry for not thinking about your relationship status when you were eleven, Ralph.

RALPH

If I'd gone, I might have been in love. Before.

LOUISE

But you're in love now - you're married for Christ's sake.

RALPH

Katie has a past. I should have a past. I'm the man.

LOUISE

Wow. Well, excuse me, I didn't realise we'd been transported back to the 1940's... You want more skeletons in your closet, is that it?

RALPH doesn't reply.

LOUISE (CONT'D)

And you're blaming me...?

Again, nothing. But then...

RALPH

What if I don't know what love is?

LOUISE

Of course you know what love is. You've been worshipping Wayne Rooney for two decades.

RALPH gives his mum a look. She knows what he means.

LOUISE (CONT'D)

Ralph, you found your wife sooner than most people find their socks in the morning. You're one of the lucky ones! And I'm sorry if you think I kept you away from those... experiences. Maybe I did. But I'm a mum and I did what I thought was best and quite frankly, I don't think it all turned out too badly.

RALPH

It's different.

(CONTINUED)

LOUISE

What?

RALPH

Being married.

LOUISE

To how you thought it'd be?

RALPH nods.

LOUISE (CONT'D)

Mmm, well, it'd be boring if everything was always as expected. For example I thought you were a feminist and yet here we are.

RALPH

Sorry.

LOUISE

I think Katie might need to hear that more than me, don't you think?

TITLE CARD: *"It's a bit scary sometimes..."*

21

EXT/INT. VILLAGE HALL. ENTRANCE. NIGHT 9. 19:40.

RALPH (who's spruced up now) and LOUISE approach the hall, where a few people are queuing. They find KATIE (in her party dress) just inside the door. She's sat at a trestle table, taking tickets.

LOUISE

I'll leave you two alone.

LOUISE heads into the hall.

RALPH

I'm sorry. I should have told you how I felt.

KATIE

Yes, you should.

RALPH

I've never been in love before. It's a bit scary sometimes.

KATIE

I know.

PARTY GOER

Mate, can we come in? It's bloody freezing.

(CONTINUED)

RALPH turns to this guy like 'can you not see that we're in the middle of something? Piss off' but instead says...

RALPH

In a minute.

KATIE

I wanted to keep Nathan in the past. I only love you now. That's all that matters.

RALPH smiles at this.

PARTY GOER

On the verge of frost bite over here, mate.

RALPH briefly looks over his shoulder, agitated, then back to KATIE. RALPH reaches inside his coat pocket...

RALPH

This was waiting to be sent to you.

He hands her the old Valentine's card. KATIE opens it. Inside, RALPH has written "*Thanks for choosing me xxx*". KATIE can't help but smile.

Just then, EMMA appears behind them. She and RALPH make eye contact. KATIE nods for RALPH to go to EMMA.

22

INT. VILLAGE HALL. KITCHEN. NIGHT 9. 19:45.

EMMA sits with RALPH, surrounded by plates of half iced cupcakes. It's a bit of a mess. EMMA's thoughts come tumbling out...

EMMA

I'm so sorry. I didn't mean for you to get upset about the card. Honestly, I'm not having an affair with your wife.

RALPH

(deadpan)

I know.

EMMA

I realise that I'm a bit of a nightmare but Katie's my friend and I want you to be my friend too. And I'm sorry for being too much.

RALPH

You're fine.

(CONTINUED)

EMMA

I just wanted to do something nice for everyone, but it's been a disaster. You know, I once planned a moon ritual in Beijing with only two hours' notice and a handful of sage. Now I can't even organise a party in a village hall.

RALPH

You can. You have.

EMMA takes this in. It's what she needed to hear. She hugs RALPH, who eventually settles into the embrace. DANNY enters and sees the cakes.

DANNY

This event has been brought to you by Diabetes UK.

(EMMA doesn't laugh)

It's starting to fill up, mate. You should probably come out.

EMMA

Is anyone dancing?

DANNY's face tells us that no one is dancing. RALPH looks at a deflated EMMA, before standing up like the hero he is...

RALPH

They will.

He looks at DANNY. A plan is afoot.

On DANNY: Oh bloody hell, what's he got planned now?!

23

INT. VILLAGE HALL. NIGHT 9. 20:05.

Now, finally, we reveal the hall, fully decorated. And it actually looks pretty banging. There's a disco ball and twinkly fairy lights - and people! Although none of them are dancing. EMMA takes to the stage and approaches a mic. The music cuts out.

EMMA

(into the mic)

Hello everyone -

There is some feedback from the speaker... but at least it gets everyone's attention.

EMMA (CONT'D)

Hi. Erm, thank you so much for being here tonight. I just wanted to let you know that we've officially raised enough money for a new piano!

(CONTINUED)

Applause.

EMMA (CONT'D)

Well, a second hand keyboard from Oxfam, but still. And that wouldn't have been possible without all of you. So, thank you.

(beat)

This is actually my first Valentine's Day as a single person for quite a while and... well, I wanted to do this to make sure that we all had somewhere to be. People to be with.

LOUISE smiles at this, she understands.

EMMA (CONT'D)

None of this would have happened without the help of my mates. And two of them are about to come to the rescue again right now. So, over to you, boys!

There is a slight pause. Scattered applause. KATIE and LOUISE have no idea what's happening.

'Love Machine' by Girls Aloud starts playing as the disco lights begin flashing.

RALPH and DANNY take to the dance floor as the crowd part like the red sea. DANNY sees TOM in the crowd.

DANNY

(to himself)

Oh my god, what am I doing?

RALPH

Just follow my lead.

RALPH and DANNY perform a half choreographed dance routine. It's not polished, but it's a lot of fun. KATIE, EMMA, LOUISE and TOM watch on, thrilled. EMMA watches her party come to life as RALPH and DANNY encourage everyone to join in.

24

EXT. VILLAGE HALL. NIGHT 9. 20:08.

The flash of disco lights inside the building - the sound of applause, cheers and music.

A solitary figure approaches. It's BRIAN. He has a brochure tucked under his arm: 'The History of Slate - Keswick Institute'. He hovers outside the entrance, uncomfortably gazing at the door. He'd quite like to go in, but he also knows that this isn't the sort of thing he does.

(CONTINUED)

He hesitates. He goes to take a step towards the door... but then turns away and walks into the night.

25

INT. VILLAGE HALL. NIGHT 9. 21:30.

As the party continues, we find a sceptical LOUISE sat opposite SURRANE, who is reading her palm.

SURRANE

Ahhh yes, I'm seeing a man in uniform...

LOUISE

You've got good eyesight. He's in the Himalayas.

SURRANE

Oh, but what's this? It looks like there might be someone a little closer to home...

LOUISE scoffs and looks away, only to find a PENSIONER hovering nearby. He winks at her.

LOUISE

Absolutely not.

We MOVE TO the buffet table, where a couple of OLDER LADIES are drinking out of penis straws. They each furtively grab a handful of the straws and shove them into their handbags.

Then we pick up DANNY, who is making his way over to TOM.

TOM

There he is! Billy Elliot himself.

DANNY

Was it really embarrassing?

TOM

No, I liked it. What you lacked in dignity you made up for in enthusiasm.

DANNY

Not the first time that's been said.

They both laugh - comfortable in each other's company. DANNY decides to go for it...

DANNY (CONT'D)

Do you fancy a drink?

But at that very moment, a flash-looking MICK appears behind TOM.

(CONTINUED)

MICK

There you are.

MICK kisses TOM's cheek. We see DANNY trying to compute what's happening in front of him.

TOM

Finally!

MICK

Sorry, I got stuck in traffic.
(clocking DANNY)

Hi.

TOM

Oh yeah, Mick, this is Danny, an old school friend. And Danny, this is my boyfriend, Mick. He's late for everything.

MICK

Nice to meet you, Danny.

DANNY

(crushed)

Yeah, you too.

TOM

Danny does magic. He's basically the David Blaine of Cumbria. Uses ferrets instead of rabbits and everything. Very edgy.

DANNY

Yeah, well ferrets aren't part of a union...

TOM/DANNY

Yet.

TOM and DANNY laugh. MICK looks confused - he doesn't get it at all. After a moment...

MICK

(to TOM)

Anyway, shall we get a drink?

TOM

Drink, Danny?

DANNY

Erm, nah. I'm okay thanks. I've got one over... there.

He points in a vague direction.

TOM

Okay.

(CONTINUED)

TOM and MICK make their way towards the drinks area, as DANNY watches on.

26

INT. VILLAGE HALL. NIGHT 9. 22:50.

It's near the end of the evening now. Various couples are slow dancing on the dance floor. EMMA joins DANNY, who is watching from the sidelines.

DANNY

You should be proud of yourself.

EMMA

Thanks, pal.

DANNY is looking at TOM and MICK, who are dancing together. EMMA notices this.

EMMA (CONT'D)

I didn't know he had a boyfriend.

DANNY

(shrugging)

It's alright. Got you, haven't I? Like Thelma and Louise. Over love and ready to embrace the joys of single life.

EMMA

Have you ever watched Thelma and Louise?

DANNY

No, I have not.

EMMA chuckles then subdues.

EMMA

I don't think I actually want the single life - sorry. I want love and marriage and matching Christmas pyjamas and all the other things you hate. I thought I had all that with Gary but... if not Gary then...

DANNY

Same plan different man?

EMMA likes this new motto.

EMMA

Same plan, different man.

(she looks at a dejected

DANNY)

Right, come on. You look tragic.

(CONTINUED)

She stands in front of him and holds out her hand.

EMMA (CONT'D)

Danny Hyde, will you please dance
with me?

DANNY smiles and, half reluctantly, joins EMMA on the dance floor. He glances back over at TOM, who is still dancing with MICK. But this time TOM looks back at him and smiles.

27

EXT. LAKE DISTRICT. BENCH. NIGHT 9. 23:00.

A wide shot of the lakes, as in Scene 12, but this time it's RALPH and KATIE on the bench. RALPH has his arm around KATIE.

KATIE

You still owe me a present.

RALPH

I know.

KATIE

You could get me two next year?

RALPH

Okay.

KATIE

Will you celebrate next year?

RALPH

Yeah.

KATIE rests her head on his shoulder as RALPH smiles, enjoying the moment.

RALPH (CONT'D)

I love you.

KATIE

I love you too.

(beat)

But if you ever open my post again,
I'll kill you.

RALPH

Fair enough.

END OF EPISODE