

# RALPH & KATIE

## Episode 3

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## SHOOTING SCRIPT



9<sup>th</sup> February 2022

**TITLE CARD:** *"Doctor, Doctor"*

1     **EXT. LAKE DISTRICT. DAY 10. 13:10.**

A LONE CAR winds its way along a beautiful hillside road.

2     **EXT. RALPH AND KATIE'S HOUSE. DAY 10. 13:25.**

THE CAR is parked outside the house now. LOUISE is retrieving a bag and a pair of crutches from the boot.

Next door, BRIAN emerges holding a recycling bag full of paper/card. He clocks LOUISE and the crutches.

The passenger door opens to reveal a grim-faced RALPH (in his work clothes) with his foot in a medical boot.

BRIAN

Oh dear, oh dear. Someone's been in  
the wars. What happened to you,  
matey?

RALPH half-smiles in polite acknowledgement but doesn't have time for BRIAN right now. He is trying to negotiate his body out of the car.

BRIAN

Here, let me.

BRIAN drops his bag but LOUISE gets there first.

LOUISE

(polite yet firm)  
You're alright Brian. We can  
manage.

LOUISE helps RALPH out of the car while also balancing bag and crutches.

3     **INT/EXT. RALPH AND KATIE'S FRONT WINDOW. DAY 10. CONTINUOUS.**

KATIE is at the window observing LOUISE'S one-woman support show. She looks anxious.

4     **EXT. RALPH AND KATIE'S FRONT DOOR. DAY 10. 13:30.**

BRIAN, placing items slowly, one-by-one into his recycling bin, is pretending not to eavesdrop on LOUISE and KATIE as they confer on the doorstep. LOUISE is on her way out.

LOUISE

Keep it elevated, no movement, and  
painkillers every four hours.  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

LOUISE (CONT'D)

The brewery have signed him off for three weeks. I'm sorry I've got to run to a lesson now, but I'll be back first thing.

KATIE

No need.

LOUISE looks at her - sorry?

KATIE

We can manage.

LOUISE glances over at BRIAN. She lowers her voice.

LOUISE

Are you sure, love? His nibs can be a very demanding patient.

KATIE

I'm his wife.

LOUISE

And you've experienced his hangovers.

KATIE

This is my job.

The glint in KATIE's eye tells LOUISE she can't win this. She concedes.

LOUISE

Alright. But if you need anything, anything at all...

KATIE

I'll call you.

And, with that, KATIE shuts the door on a surprised LOUISE.

LOUISE glances again at BRIAN who seems now to be inspecting the sleeve of a microwave curry.

LOUISE

Bye Brian.

BRIAN looks up as though he'd forgotten she was there.

BRIAN

Oh, bye Louise.

And over a wide shot of the street as LOUISE heads back to her car:

**RALPH & KATIE**

5      **INT. RALPH AND KATIE'S LIVING ROOM. DAY 10. 13:40.**

RALPH on the sofa with his boot elevated. KATIE fawns on him.

KATIE  
My hero.

RALPH  
I fell in a pothole.

KATIE  
I still think you've been brave.

RALPH  
I've been a pillock.

KATIE  
You haven't.

RALPH  
I want to be at work. And now  
you're stuck with me.

KATIE  
I don't mind.

He looks at her - full of self-pity.

KATIE  
I don't. Honestly.

He doesn't believe her.

KATIE  
I love looking after you.

She means it. She kisses him. He brightens a little.

**MONTAGE**

SONG: 'DOCTOR, DOCTOR' by Robert Palmer plays over fast-paced scenes showing:

6      **INT. RALPH AND KATIE'S LIVING ROOM. DAY 10. 14:05**

Tight on a plate holding a mountain of sandwiches. The plate is placed carefully on the coffee table by a loving and determined-to-be-jolly KATIE. RALPH is in position on the sofa with his leg elevated. He stares mournfully at the sandwiches. Nothing will cheer him up.

7      **INT. RALPH AND KATIE'S LIVING ROOM. DAY 11. 11:12.**

New day. KATIE plumps RALPH's cushions and leans him forward as she puts them behind his back.

(CONTINUED)

He doesn't take his eyes off the telly. KATIE is beginning to get irritated as RALPH barely nods his thanks.

8      **INT. RALPH AND KATIE'S LIVING ROOM. DAY 12. 15:34.**

New day. RALPH, still in position, is enjoying playing with a litter picker. The game is to try and lift biscuits off the table. Widen to reveal KATIE, on her hands and knees cleaning up the broken biscuits RALPH has dropped all over the carpet. She looks tired and annoyed.

9      **INT. RALPH AND KATIE'S LIVING ROOM. DAY 13. 17:20.**

New day. RALPH's 'catchment area' is a mess. The table a collection of empty plates, tea cups, two footie mags, half drunk glasses of water and ibuprofen strips. RALPH eats crisps and watches football. KATIE enters, regards the mess, heads over to the window, closes the curtains and, in the dim light, shuts her eyes for a moment of peace.

10     **INT. LAKES & CAKES BAKERY. DAY 14. 13:43.**

CLOSE ON-- KATIE'S head, face-down on a table.

Her shoulders rise and fall. She's asleep.

EMMA (looking particularly glamorous) is at the counter chatting to DANNY - her only customer. DANNY is filling in a questionnaire.

DANNY  
Speed of service. 10. Quality of  
service. 10. Themed events and  
novelty items...

His pen hovers above the page.

EMMA  
What?

He looks at her, serious.

DANNY  
I don't think you should do those  
Fortune Cookies again. And I'm not  
sure this town was ready for  
'Around the World in 80 Pasties'.

EMMA seems downcast.

DANNY  
Though the Galapagos ones were kind  
of special.

EMMA rallies.

(CONTINUED)

DANNY

Why am I doing this anyway?

EMMA

The lease is up on this place in a few months. It's market research ahead of the new boss.

DANNY

Ahh, is that why you're looking so fabulous?

EMMA

Oh no.

(twirls her hair)

THIS is for Operation New Horizon.

DANNY leans in.

DANNY

What's Operation New Horizon?

**TITLE CARD:** *"Operation New Horizon"*

11

**INT. LAKES & CAKES BAKERY. DAY 14. 13:44 (CONTINUOUS).**

CLOSE ON EMMA'S PHONE SCREEN --

It's a dating app. A gallery of profile pics.

DANNY inspects the array of 20-something-aged men.

DANNY

So by horizon you mean sex?

EMMA

I mean true love, obviously.

She looks at him -- a moment of sincerity.

EMMA

I mean my soulmate, Danny. I'm not like you. I can't be all on my own. I just can't.

DANNY sees her pain. Okay then.

DANNY

So these are your matches?

EMMA

Yeah.

DANNY taps the screen.

(CONTINUED)

DANNY  
Well, he's handsome.

EMMA  
Yes but cycle shorts? Why?

DANNY  
Okay.

He taps again.

DANNY  
'Proud Dog Dad' has nice eyes.

EMMA  
I don't like Dobermans.

DANNY  
How about this guy? Ethan?  
'Successful, solvent, loves scuba diving..'

EMMA  
(reads)  
'... And here's the list of sexual favours I'd like you to perform on the first date..'

DANNY looks at EMMA - No. Moves on.

DANNY  
Troy looks fun.

EMMA  
Yeah but he's wearing a bum bag.

DANNY looks at her for an explanation.

EMMA  
There are two types of people in this world - bum bag people and non bum bag people. They can never mix romantically. It's the same with double espresso people and non-double espresso people.

DANNY decides to accept this.

DANNY  
Okay then. Cycle Shorts Guy wins.  
You should message Cycle Shorts Guy.

EMMA stares at the screen, warming to Cycle Shorts Guy.

EMMA  
Yeah. Okay.  
(beat)  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

EMMA (CONT'D)

Let's get you on an app. Then we could do this together.

DANNY

I'll pass, thanks.

EMMA

Why not? It could be fun.

He looks at her, incredulous.

EMMA

Seriously, what are you so afraid of?

DANNY looks at her -- this conversation is over. And swiftly diverts her attention to sleeping KATIE.

DANNY

She's going to kill you.

EMMA

But she's been dead on her feet all day.

DANNY looks at EMMA, stern.

EMMA concedes and moves over to KATIE and gently nudges her. KATIE rouses. She glances at the clock. Panic.

She stands, dizzy for a moment.

KATIE

Why did you let me sleep?

DANNY

Don't worry. I can check on Ralph.

KATIE

No. You've done your work today.

DANNY

It's fine.

KATIE

No. (steely) I look after Ralph.

DANNY and EMMA exchange a glance as KATIE picks up her coat.

DANNY

Fine, you look after Ralph. But I'm seeing you home.

KATIE is too weak to fight him on this.

12

**EXT. LAKE DISTRICT STREET. DAY 14. 13:55.**

KATIE and DANNY head up the street. Danny cradles a coffee (in eco keep cup). They hear A BABY HOWLING and see TOM pushing a pram towards them with a manic look in his eye.

TOM sees them and stops. KATIE peers into the pram with recognition and a little concern.

KATIE  
(to the baby)  
Hello Rosie. Where's your mum?

TOM  
Rebecca's in London.

KATIE  
London?

Through the WALL OF BABY NOISE.

TOM  
She went down last night for a hen weekend. Muggins here volunteered to look after Rosie. Only someone's replaced Rosie with the Babadook.

He acknowledges DANNY now with a pained smile. DANNY tries to look sympathetic.

KATIE addresses the pram.

KATIE  
Hey hey... What's wrong?

TOM  
I've not had a moment's rest or a wink of sleep. I thought this would be easy. And fun. But it's not easy. Or fun.

TOM looks traumatised. DANNY holds out his coffee.

DANNY  
You need this more than I do. I've not touched it. It's a double espresso.

TOM  
I bloody love a double espresso.  
Thanks.

On DANNY - so Tom's a double espresso person too? TOM takes the coffee and necks it.

KATIE rolls the pram backwards and forwards.

(CONTINUED)

KATIE

You need to keep moving.

TOM

That's what Rebecca said. But I've been round the park seven times and, with every lap, she gets MORE 'angry pterodactyl'.

KATIE looks at her broken friend with sympathy.

She takes the pram and pushes it down the road with purpose.  
TOM looks at DANNY.

TOM

Where is she going?

**TITLE CARD:** *"The Oasis of Calm"*

13

**EXT. RALPH AND KATIE'S BACK GARDEN. DAY 14. 14:05.**

Birdsong and glorious peace and quiet.

TOM parks the now-silent pram just outside the back door.

He holds his breath and backs away pantomime-slowly. Success.  
ROSIE remains asleep.

Elated, TOM returns inside.

We stay with the pram. The garden. The chirruping birds.

Over the fence, BRIAN appears holding a pair of pruning shears. He's humming, going about his business, until he notices the pram. He stops -- what's that?

He moves closer -- is that a baby? Why is there nobody with it? Why is there an unattended baby in the garden? He's curious, conflicted.

14

**INT. RALPH AND KATIE'S LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN. DAY 14. 14:06.**

KATIE looks into the living room. RALPH is in position on the sofa. He's asleep.

KATIE moves quietly to the kitchen table and sinks, tired, into a chair. DANNY is putting the kettle on.

TOM empties his pockets, removing grey rag after grey rag. He speaks in hushed tones.

TOM

You're magic, Katie. And your house is magic. It's an Oasis of Calm.

(CONTINUED)

TOM removes his jacket to reveal a fabulous shirt.

DANNY  
Great shirt. Love the  
asymmetrical...

He gestures to a stain on one side, below TOM's shoulder. TOM glances down at it, crestfallen.

TOM  
Carrot purée.

TOM takes his shirt off (he's wearing a T-shirt/top underneath). DANNY tries not to notice.

Even more jaded now, TOM grabs a cloth and sponges at the shirt.

TOM  
How can this be so hard? I mean all  
babies do is sleep, poo and eat. On  
rotation.

KATIE glances into the other room at RALPH.

TOM  
How can something so boring be so  
exhausting?

KATIE is still looking at RALPH.

TOM  
I've been feeling like a prisoner  
in my own home. Can you imagine --

-- RING. RING. The doorbell.

They all look panicked. DANNY catches KATIE'S eye and scrambles out of the room.

15

**EXT. RALPH AND KATIE'S FRONT DOOR. DAY 14. 14:07.**

It's BRIAN. He's holding out a tube of half-squeezed, encrusted Arnica cream.

BRIAN  
Arnica.

DANNY  
Oh hi Brian.

BRIAN  
For the patient.

He gestures at his leg, meaning Ralph.

(CONTINUED)

BRIAN  
It alleviates bruising and  
swelling. Apply a thin layer and  
massage into the skin.

BRIAN mimes this to be extra helpful then hands the tube to  
DANNY.

BRIAN  
I'll admit I was a sceptic at  
first. Thought it was all a bit  
hocus pocus. But it's done wonders  
on the aggressive gout in my left  
big toe.

DANNY looks down at the encrusted tube in his hands.

DANNY  
Thanks. That's really thoughtful.

A beat.

BRIAN  
And you're aware, are you, that  
there's a baby in the garden?

DANNY  
Yes. It's all good, mate. She's  
having her afternoon nap.

He puts his fingers to his lips in a 'shushing' gesture.

DANNY  
Thanks, Brian. Bye.

And he shuts the door.

16     **INT. RALPH AND KATIE'S KITCHEN. DAY 14. 14:08.**

DANNY returns to find TOM (in his T-shirt/top) and KATIE  
still at the table. KATIE is just resting her eyelids.

There's a plate of biscuits (jammy dodgers) in front of TOM.  
He reaches out to touch a biscuit, then pulls away as though  
it might bite.

DANNY  
What are you doing?

TOM  
Every time I touch food, Rosie  
wakes up. It's like she knows...

DANNY looks at him -- seriously?

(CONTINUED)

TOM

How are we going to tell Rebecca  
that her baby has been demonically  
possessed?

DANNY, humouring him, glances at the back door.

DANNY

How long's she been asleep?

TOM

Twenty minutes maybe.

DANNY

I reckon you'll be okay.

TOM looks at him -- really?

DANNY looks at him -- trust me.

TOM picks up the biscuit and --

-- 'DING DING' RALPH and KATIE's SMART SPEAKER lights up on  
the counter.

TOM drops the biscuit.

SMART SPEAKER

(robotic voice)

This is a reminder.

Katie - it's time to get Ralph a  
beer.

KATIE opens her eyes and shoots DANNY a look of blame.

DANNY

I should never have taught him how  
to set that thing. I'm sorry.

KATIE sighs, gets to her feet. She needs tea.

All is quiet. TOM looks to DANNY again for reassurance.

He musters courage and picks up a biscuit, slowly puts it in  
his mouth and --

-- RING RING. It's the doorbell.

TOM spits out the biscuit. DANNY tries not to laugh. KATIE  
rushes out of the room.

17

**EXT. RALPH AND KATIE'S FRONT DOOR. DAY 14. 14:10.**

It's STEVE and CLARE THORNE (Katie's parents). CLARE, as  
ever, is straight on it. STEVE, mild-mannered, holds back.

(CONTINUED)

CLARE

We phoned the house this morning.  
Danny told us about Ralph. We've  
come to lend a hand.

KATIE looks openly horrified. STEVE gives her a weak smile.

STEVE

Hello love.

KATIE

I'm fine. I don't need a hand.

CLARE

Sweetheart, you've not replied to  
the family whatsapp in four days.  
That's a clear cry for help.

18 **OMITTED**

19 **INT. RALPH AND KATIE'S LIVING ROOM. DAY 14. 14:11.**

CLARE enters followed by a stressed KATIE. STEVE hovers at  
the doorway.

CLARE

Afternoon Ralph.  
(clocking he's asleep)  
Mustn't nap in the day. It'll mess  
with your natural sleep cycles.

RALPH stirs, waking. CLARE throws open the curtains.

KATIE

Mum, sshhhhhh!

CLARE studies RALPH. He's blinking, sitting up.

CLARE

Let me get those cushions.

CLARE starts aggressively plumping his cushions (in exactly  
the same way KATIE plumped them in the montage).

CLARE

I'll tell you what you need.

RALPH

(worried)  
What?

CLARE

Sandwiches.

KATIE

Mum. Sshhhhhh!

(CONTINUED)

CLARE

Katie, why do you keep shushing me?

The answer arrives in the form of A DISTANT WAILING SOUND.

KATIE shakes her head -- for fuck's sake.

20

**INT. RALPH AND KATIE'S KITCHEN. DAY 14. 14:20.**

KATIE, TOM and DANNY look on as CLARE soothes BABY ROSIE on her shoulder. And it's working. ROSIE is calm now.

STEVE sits in the corner reading the newspaper.

(If needed, CLARE can put ROSIE back in the pram during the following)...

CLARE

(to DANNY)

Why precisely are we looking after  
a baby?

DANNY

It's not my baby.

CLARE

Well whose baby is it?

TOM

Rosemary's baby.

KATIE

It's Tom's baby.

CLARE looks at TOM -- what?

TOM

It's Rebecca's baby.

CLARE

Oh.

TOM

I'm looking after her for the  
weekend.

CLARE

Oh.

ROSIE starts to grizzle. CLARE sniffs the air.

CLARE

You need a new nappy don't you?  
Yes you do. That's what you need.

THE SMART SPEAKER lights up.

(CONTINUED)

SMART SPEAKER

This is a reminder.  
Katie - it's time to give Ralph a  
big smoochy kiss.

KATIE shoots DANNY an I-blame-you look. CLARE laughs.

CLARE

Romantic.

TOM

I can do it, Mrs Thorne. The nappy.

CLARE

Clare, please. And don't worry,  
Tom. You should rest. I'll take  
care of it.

(issuing orders)

Steve, clear the table. Katie,  
fetch me the marigolds.

DANNY eyes TOM -- time to get out of here.

21

**INT. RALPH AND KATIE'S LIVING ROOM. DAY 14. 14:34.**

TOM and DANNY sit in the quiet. RALPH is semi-dozing.

BABY HOWLS and STRESSED VOICES can be heard in the other  
room.

A few beats. They glance at each other.

TOM

Families, eh.

DANNY

My Nan always says: you can't  
choose your family, but you can  
ignore their phone calls.

TOM

Smart woman.

DANNY smiles. Yes.

TOM

I remember her picking you up from  
school. In her red hat. She seemed  
fun.

DANNY

Yeah. She's great.

(smiles)

She used to take me with her every  
time she went to get her hair done.

(CONTINUED)

TOM

Oh my god, Trevor the hairdresser.  
What an icon.

DANNY

And his parrot --

TOM

Veronica. God Rest Her Soul. That  
parrot could sing Miss Saigon.

DANNY

I really wanted a bright blue  
parrot.

TOM

Me too.

DANNY and TOM are laughing now. RALPH wakes up. Shifts  
position. Closes his eyes again.

DANNY and TOM, sheepish, quieten down.

A beat.

DANNY

How's Mike?

TOM

Who's Mike?

This gets DANNY's hopes up.

DANNY

The guy from the Valentine's thing.  
Are you not..?

TOM

You mean Mick.

DANNY

Mick! Sorry. Of course. Mick.

TOM

Yeah Mick's really well, thanks.

DANNY tries to hide his disappointment.

DANNY

Great. That's great.

A beat.

TOM

What about you? You dating?

(CONTINUED)

DANNY  
I'm actually... Taking time out to  
actively explore solitude.

TOM  
(not sure if Danny is  
joking)  
Oh?

DANNY  
(serious)  
Yeah. In Manchester I was always  
with someone. You know. Now that  
I'm here, I've decided to practise  
constructive celibacy.

TOM  
(polite)  
That sounds great.

DANNY  
Yeah it's great. It really is.

RALPH opens one eye at DANNY -- seriously?

DANNY eyeballs him back -- fuck off.

22

**EXT. RALPH AND KATIE'S BACK GARDEN. DAY 14. 14:45.**

STEVE lets himself out of the back door. He's holding a full  
nappy bag. He's glad to be outside.

He heads towards the bin.

BRIAN  
Ey up.

It's BRIAN greeting him cheerily over the fence. STEVE forces  
a smile.

STEVE  
Hi there.

BRIAN  
I'm Brian. The neighbour.

STEVE stops.

STEVE  
I'm Katie's dad. Steve.

BRIAN  
Are you here about Moses in the  
bullrushes?

STEVE doesn't know how to answer this question.

(CONTINUED)

BRIAN  
The unattended baby.

STEVE  
Oh right.

BRIAN leans in now, man-to-man.

BRIAN  
I wasn't sure whether I ought to  
'intervene'.

STEVE is unsure what to say -- and not enjoying BRIAN's implication.

BRIAN  
It's not straightforward though is  
it? No rulebook is there?

BRIAN smiles, genuine. But STEVE tries to disengage.

STEVE  
Yes, well, thanks but if you'll  
excuse me, I'm holding a warm bag  
of shit. So...

But BRIAN won't let him go.

BRIAN  
You're not local then?

STEVE  
We're just a short drive away.

BRIAN  
You must worry.

STEVE doesn't react.

BRIAN  
About her being here, you know.  
Independent. Without you.

STEVE gives in. He's going to have to converse with this man.

STEVE  
I learned very early on that when  
Katie wants something, it's best  
not to stand in her way.

BRIAN nods. STEVE looks him in the eye for the first time.

STEVE  
What about you, Brian? Any kids?  
Grandkids?

BRIAN seems suddenly thrown.

(CONTINUED)

BRIAN

Sorry, Steve. Baked potato on the go in there. Better get to it before it's a fire brigade job.

And, with that, he's off. STEVE stares after him -- strange bloke.

23

**INT. RALPH AND KATIE'S KITCHEN. DAY 14. 14:50.**

CLARE is making a mountain of sandwiches. KATIE looks on, tired and stressed.

CLARE

Why don't you go get your pyjamas on? Or run yourself a bath?

KATIE

I don't want one.

CLARE

How about a nice sit down in the bedroom? Put your feet up? We can stay all evening if you like? I'll make supper.

KATIE

Please don't. There's no need.

RING. RING. The bloody doorbell a-bloody-gain.

CLARE

I'll get it.

24

**EXT. RALPH AND KATIE'S FRONT DOOR. DAY 14. 14:51.**

It's LOUISE. And she's surprised to see CLARE.

LOUISE

Oh, hello.

CLARE

We just popped round to give Katie a hand with Ralph.

LOUISE

Did you now?

25

**INT. RALPH AND KATIE'S LIVING ROOM. DAY 14. 14:52 (CONT).**

LOUISE enters (followed by CLARE) and finds RALPH, DANNY, TOM and ROSIE on the couch. RALPH is playing with Rosie's squeaky toy. SQUEAK. SQUEAK.

(CONTINUED)

(Alternatively, Rosie could be in her pram with Ralph SQUEAKING the toy in her direction).

STEVE is reading his newspaper.

They all look up as LOUISE enters.

RALPH

Hi Mum.

KATIE enters from the kitchen. She sees LOUISE.

KATIE

Louise.

She wants to explain herself - but she doesn't know where to start. LOUISE gets there first.

LOUISE

I thought you might need a break or want some help. But it seems you've got all the help you could possibly need...

KATIE

No!

Everyone looks at her. They all heard the emotion in her voice.

THE SMART SPEAKER lights up.

SMART SPEAKER

This is a reminder.  
Katie it's time for you to give  
Ralph kinky sex.

RALPH glances, sheepish, at DANNY.

And KATIE reaches breaking point.

KATIE

I DO need a break. I need a break  
from ALL OF YOU.

She storms out.

CLARE reaches for her coat -- she's going to chase after her. But TOM, firm yet polite, intercepts.

TOM

No, Clare. We need you here. To  
look after the baby.

And, before anyone can stop him, he has grabbed his jacket and is out the door.

(CONTINUED)

**TITLE CARD:** *"A Cry For Help"*

26

**EXT. LAKE DISTRICT. BENCH. DAY 14. 15:15.**

KATIE and TOM (in jackets) sit on the bench looking out at the lake. KATIE is calmer now.

TOM

Do you want to talk about it?

KATIE

Does Mick want kids?

TOM

Are you changing the subject?

KATIE

Does he?

TOM sees the KATIE eye-gleam and backs down.

He considers the question.

TOM

Well, if he does, I'm fucked.

KATIE

Are you and Mick going to get married?

TOM smiles.

TOM

I don't know.

TOM reflects.

TOM

He pronounces 'tissues' 'tiSSues'.

From TOM's face, it's clear this disturbs him. KATIE has to think about it - maybe she even says 'tiSSues' to herself.

TOM

But, apart from that, you know, he's great. He's perfect.

They sit in silence for a moment.

TOM

I want to be a Dad. I've always pictured it for myself. I love kids - even the ones I teach.

(beat)

Okay, not ALL the ones I teach...

KATIE meets his smile.

(CONTINUED)

TOM

I always knew being a gay Dad,  
especially round here, would have  
its challenges. But I never thought  
the biggest challenge would be that  
I'm no bloody good at it.

He laughs - sad.

KATIE

I think you'll be a great Dad.

TOM shakes his head.

KATIE

You're just tired.

TOM

I'm so tired.

KATIE

Feeling tired isn't a reason to  
give up. It's a reason to rest.

TOM likes this.

KATIE

You need a rest.

TOM

Thank you Doctor.

KATIE

You're welcome.

TOM

You're very wise.

KATIE

Yes I am.

27

**INT. RALPH AND KATIE'S KITCHEN. DAY 14. 15:20.**

CLARE holds ROSIE while LOUISE sets a bottle and a packet of  
formula on the table.

LOUISE

She didn't invite you did she?

CLARE

No. (beat) But I knew she needed  
me. My radar pinged.

She looks at LOUISE.

(CONTINUED)

CLARE

Katie's not like Ralph. She doesn't ask for help. I have to intuit her emotional needs.

LOUISE

Last time I intuited one of Ralph's emotional needs, it turned out I just had gallstones.

This makes CLARE smile.

LOUISE

My radar's been on the blink since the late-nineties.

LOUISE is peering through her reading glasses, frowning at the instructions on the formula.

CLARE settles ROSIE in her pram.

CLARE

Give it here.

LOUISE hands over the formula and turns her attention to ROSIE. She tries to distract her (maybe with a toy).

CLARE makes the bottle.

CLARE

From the moment Katie was born, I knew I was going to have to be a different kind of Mum. No idea what I was doing - just knew I had to do it differently.

Their eyes meet in mutual understanding.

LOUISE

Yes.

CLARE stares at BABY ROSIE.

CLARE

When Katie came out, she looked like she'd just been to a hair salon. Her hair had these frosted tips.

(beat)

Then I noticed that none of the nurses would pick her up.

(beat)

Then the doctor came into the ward one evening and he said: 'are you happy with this child? Are you happy with the shape of her eyes? She's quite floppy, isn't she?'

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CLARE (CONT'D)

All this with the four other new  
mums on the ward listening in.

LOUISE looks at her -- genuinely moved. She shakes her head.

LOUISE

Charming.

A beat.

CLARE

I imagine it was the same for you?

LOUISE transfers her attention to ROSIE. A beat.

CLARE

With Ralph?

But LOUISE is not going to open up. CLARE continues  
carefully.

CLARE

I didn't want to feel alone. That's  
why I helped set up the local  
support group. And the phone-line.  
They were life-savers for me.

LOUISE

Oh I never went in for any of that  
sort of thing.

CLARE

Really? Why?

LOUISE

Because I never understood why,  
just because two women have babies  
with Down's Syndrome, it means they  
automatically have to be best  
friends.

This is a little too blunt for CLARE but she hides her hurt.

LOUISE swiftly changes the subject. She looks down at ROSIE.

LOUISE

Do you want to feed her or shall I?

28

**EXT. LAKE DISTRICT. BENCH. DAY 14. 15:28.**

KATIE and TOM sit in comfortable silence.

KATIE looks over at TOM. A beat.

KATIE

How do you know if you're doing it  
right?

(CONTINUED)

TOM

Doing what right?

KATIE

Looking after someone. Being a wife.

TOM

Depends what you mean by right. Everyone's got different versions of right.

He treads carefully now.

TOM

I mean... Your Mum... She does everything for everyone doesn't she?

KATIE

Yes.

TOM

Never stops? Never asks for help?

KATIE

Yes.

TOM

Takes over - even when no one asks her to?

KATIE

Yes.

TOM

Is that what you mean by 'doing it right'?

KATIE doesn't answer.

TOM

Because there's another way, you know?

KATIE

Oh? What's that?

He looks at her.

TOM

Your way.

KATIE

Oh.

(beat)

What's my way?

(CONTINUED)

TOM  
Wonderful.

This makes KATIE smile.

TOM  
Fuck the rest of 'em, darling.  
In the end, you can only do it your  
way.

He looks to her for another smile. But she's furrowed again.

TOM  
You do know you don't have to get  
everything right first time?

KATIE  
Yeah...

She looks at him.

KATIE  
But I like to.

They sit with this. A few beats.

TOM  
Shall we return to the Oasis of  
Calm?

KATIE  
Do we have to?

29

**INT. RALPH AND KATIE'S LIVING ROOM. DAY 14. 15:40.**

KATIE and TOM enter. It's clean. And oddly calm.

DANNY is wiping surfaces. RALPH, resting on crutches and reunited with his litter picker, is lifting baby paraphernalia off the carpet.

ROSIE (doll) is asleep in her pram. DANNY's phone is next to her, playing soothing white noise.

KATIE  
Where is everyone?

TOM  
Did you murder them?

DANNY  
Buried them in the garden.

KATIE  
My hero.

KATIE beams at DANNY.

29A     **INT. LAKES & CAKES BAKERY. DAY 14. 16:05.**

LOUISE enters the cafe. BRIAN is by the window with tea and apple pie. He gives her a friendly smile.

BRIAN  
Send you packing as well, did they?

LOUISE  
I might have deserved it this time.

They share a smile. BRIAN looks like he'd happily continue the chat, so LOUISE moves quickly to the counter. EMMA acknowledges her, distracted.

EMMA  
If you were on a date with a guy  
and you realised you didn't fancy  
him, what would you say to get out  
of it?

LOUISE  
Sausage bap please.

EMMA is briefly confused, until she's not.

EMMA  
Here's my list - unforeseen food  
allergy, pet bereavement, tell him  
he looks too much like my brother  
...

LOUISE  
Hang on - why are you on a date  
with a bloke you don't fancy?

EMMA  
Well, I'm not. I mean I don't know  
if I don't fancy him yet

LOUISE  
(Carrying straight on)  
How about you just say, 'I'm sorry  
but I've realised that this isn't  
going to work and I don't want to  
waste any more of your time or  
mine'?

EMMA stares at her - mind boggled.

LOUISE  
It was much simpler in my day. We  
didn't mess about with dates. One  
minute you're snogging a pimply lad  
at an Elvis Costello concert, the  
next, you're at the alter.  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

LOUISE (CONT'D)

I still can't listen to Oliver's  
Army without getting the distinct  
feeling I've been conned.

EMMA smiles. LOUISE softens - can see this is a big deal for her.

LOUISE

Must be strange. Being out there  
again. After all that time with  
Gary.

EMMA

(yeah)

I haven't been on a first date  
since I was fifteen. (panics) God,  
what if it's him who starts looking  
for an excuse to leave?

LOUISE looks at her.

LOUISE

Then you just shrug, wave him off  
and make sure he pays for the  
drinks before he goes. (BEAT) Enjoy  
yourself. Take your time. You'll  
find what you're looking for in the  
end. (BEAT) Or maybe you won't and  
you'll end up divorced in your  
thirties like me.

LOUISE smiles at EMMA, genuine - you've got this. EMMA is touched.

BRIAN approaches.

LOUISE

What about you, Brian - ever gone  
big on the dating scene?

BRIAN

Never. Can I have more water for my  
teabag?

They both look at him, considering asking further and deciding not to.

EMMA gets the water.

BRIAN

If you want a quick escape, you  
could always tell him you're  
expecting a delivery of ericaceous  
compost.

EMMA

(polite)

That's a good one. Thanks.

(CONTINUED)

BRIAN looks pleased with himself. Heads back to his seat.  
EMMA turns to LOUISE.

EMMA  
How's Katie? Is she going to be  
alright?

LOUISE  
I think she'll be just fine. Good  
luck.

LOUISE heads to a table. BRIAN calls over.

BRIAN  
I thought I might pop round to see  
Katie later. I'll report back if  
you like.

LOUISE  
I'd leave them for tonight, Brian.

BRIAN considers this. And decides LOUISE is probably right.

**TITLE CARD:** *"This is a reminder..."*

30

**INT. RALPH AND KATIE'S KITCHEN. DAY 14. 16:15.**

They're all in the kitchen collecting up Rosie's bottle and nappy stuff. (RALPH is on crutches from now on).

DANNY has settled Rosie in the pram. He and Tom stand together (looking almost like parents) as they smile at the baby.

TOM  
You're good at this.

DANNY  
Nobody's good at this. Not really.

TOM  
You are.

DANNY  
I'm just practised. Younger  
siblings. Largely absent Mum.  
I'm acclimatised to chaos.

TOM smiles at him with real admiration. DANNY feels it, becomes shy then pulls himself together.

DANNY  
Before I forget.

He grabs Tom's shirt from the counter. It's folded.

(CONTINUED)

DANNY

I put some stain remover on. It's  
too good to lose.

TOM is truly touched. He doesn't know what to say.

KATIE

(to TOM)

Are you going to be okay tonight?

TOM

Yeah. You were right. I was  
overthinking it. I just need some  
sleep. Mick's offered to come round  
later. Thank god.

RALPH glances at DANNY.

TOM

Great to see you guys.

TOM takes the pram and heads out.

TOM

Catch you later.

RALPH/DANNY

Bye/ Yeah bye mate.

TOM exits with KATIE. RALPH turns to DANNY.

RALPH

Do you want me to go round Mick's  
place and beat him up for you?

DANNY ignores him completely.

31

**EXT. RALPH AND KATIE'S FRONT DOOR. DAY 14. 18:45.**

DANNY, RALPH and KATIE say their goodbyes.

DANNY

Take it easy.

KATIE

Thanks for your help today.

DANNY

Pleasure treasure. It was nothing.  
It was fun.

And DANNY heads off.

KATIE and RALPH stand in the doorway watching DANNY walk up  
the road.

(CONTINUED)

In the distance, A GIRL IN HEELS totters along next to a GUY WEARING CYCLE SHORTS.

RALPH  
Is that Emma?

KATIE follows his gaze. It is EMMA. On her date.

RALPH  
Who is she with?

KATIE shrugs. RALPH looks more closely. He's confused now, perplexed.

RALPH  
Are they cycle shorts?

32     **INT. RALPH AND KATIE'S LIVING ROOM. EVENING 14. 19:25.**

RALPH and KATIE sit together on the sofa.

KATIE  
I don't want to look after you the way my Mum looks after me.

RALPH  
I don't want you to either.

She leans into him.

KATIE  
Thank God for that.

They stay like this - happy and snuggling - until --

THE SMART SPEAKER lights up.

SMART SPEAKER  
This is a reminder -

Ralph turns -- oh shit. What's she going to say now?

SMART SPEAKER  
Ralph, now that you can walk, it's your turn to make the tea.

Ralph laughs, looks at Katie questioning.

KATIE  
Taught myself.

RALPH  
Right.  
(beat)  
I'm going to unplug her.

(CONTINUED)

KATIE  
Don't you dare.

RALPH gets up and hobbles to the kitchen.

KATIE stretches out until she takes up the entire sofa.

**END OF EPISODE**