



FLOAT

EPISODE 3

TRANSMISSION SCRIPT - 29.08.21

by Stef Smith

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A twist of a hand in a tracksuit jacket pocket.

A scuff of a foot on a wet tile.

A pair of eyes dart around the room.

JADE is restless and watching AGNIESZKA swim laps. COLETTE walks up behind her.

COLETTE

You know I've been listening to
your playlist all week.

JADE

Have you?

COLETTE

Yeah. It's good. Very political.

JADE

Too much?

COLETTE

No. I mean maybe a bit, but I don't
mind.

JADE

Sorry.

COLETTE

No. It's nice. I like your music.

Heavy flirtations are in the air. They both turn to watch the pool, Agnieszka continues to determinedly swim laps.

COLETTE (CONT'D)

And anyway it's me who should be
saying sorry. I wanted to apologise
in person. It's embarrassing, you
seeing me in such a state.

JADE

No it's not embarrassing. Don't
apologise.

Colette smiles. Warmth between them.

JADE (CONT'D)

Have you decided yet what you'll
do?

COLETTE

How about I just pretend it's not
happening?

Colette laughs, nervously. Jade doesn't. Silence. Sadness.

JADE

If you want, I could speak to -

COLETTE

[IN] Oh my god.

JADE

What?

Colette suddenly walks away. It takes Jade a moment to turn around and see what's happening. Colette is walking towards LIAM who has a a black eye and a bust lip. Jade walks over to them both.

COLETTE

You alright? What happened?

LIAM

It was my Mum's birthday. It got out of control, right. I mean, who knew fifty could be so fierce.

JADE

You got into a fight?

LIAM

No no no. I was trying to break up a fight, right, between these two lassies. So one of them is holding this, like, high heel or something like that as a weapon and the other is just like swinging, like can't even see, just swinging fast in self defense.

COLETTE

I swear this whole town is just after a fight.

Agnieszka is getting out the pool, Liam turns to watch. She spots him and is soon shocked when she sees his face. Liam knows that she has noticed. Smiles, despite the black eye.

LIAM

I'll be back in a minute.

He quickly leaves to talk to Agnieszka. Jade and Colette look at each other, Colette rolls her eyes.

COLETTE

I don't understand why he doesn't
just ask her out.

We can't hear Liam but it's clear that he is reenacting the story to impress Agnieszka. Jade and Colette are watching.

JADE

It's easier said than done.

COLETTE

Were you seeing anyone? In Glasgow?

JADE

Me? Yeah...yeah, I had a
girlfriend. Angie. But it didn't
work out.

COLETTE

I'm sorry.

(BEAT)

Agnieszka said she didn't think you
would go back to Glasgow.

JADE

What made her say that?

COLETTE

She thought you'd had a rough time.

JADE

In what way?

COLETTE

She didn't go into detail.

JADE

But what did she say?

COLETTE

She didn't say any more.

JADE

But what did she say?

COLETTE

[IN] Nothing. She said nothing
else.

Panic is still bubbling in Jade. The other side of the pool Agnieszka leaves and Liam watches her. She turns to look at him, he suddenly busies himself, playing it cool. Colette and Jade are watching, we can see Jade's panic start to rise. Colette is oblivious.

COLETTE (CONT'D)

He should have called the police on
the woman who did that to his face.

JADE

It sounded like it was self
defense.

COLETTE

And that sounds like an excuse.

JADE

How could you possibly know?

The mood shifts. Jade walks off poolside. Colette watches not
understanding what just happened. STEVE walks up - Jade just
walks past him. He blows his whistle.

STEVE

(Joking)

No running on poolside.

Steve turns to smile at Colette. But is just met with her
stern face.

STEVE (CONT'D)

Did something just happen?

COLETTE

Honestly. I don't know.

Colette walks away. Steve is left, baffled and feeling like a
spare prick. A SWIMMER jumps into the pool.

STEVE

No bombing!

Jade is on the edge of anger and sadness. Trying to catch her
breath. Trying to calm herself.

She looks down, her knuckles are bleeding, as if they are
fresh from a fight. It's shocking. She looks at it. Blinks.
The blood vanishes.

AGNIESZKA (O.S.)

Jade? Jade...

JADE

You said you wouldn't say anything.

AGNIESZKA

I didn't.

JADE

Aye, right.

AGNIESZKA

I said you could trust me. What more do you want?

Silence. Jade stares at Agnieszka, choosing to believe her.

JADE

She is going to find out, isn't she? She's going to find out and think I'm a terrible person. Maybe I am a terrible person.

AGNIESZKA

I don't think you're a terrible person Jade, please.

JADE

[IN] But what if I am?

(BEAT)

What if something inside me is fundamentally fucked. Because see all of this - is too fucking hard.

Silence. Jade looks down. Devastated. Agnieszka takes a moment, then looks at her. Jade is trying to calm herself.

JADE (CONT'D)

This wasn't exactly the plan.

AGNIESZKA

Well. Back in Belarus, I was swimming at a national level. And here, I swim lengths between shifts. Whose plan ever plays out?

Jade nods. Silence.

AGNIESZKA (CONT'D)

Is this about Colette? Do you like her?

Jade doesn't reply but we realise Steve is standing behind them.

STEVE

Aren't you supposed to be on poolside?

JADE
I just needed a minute.

AGNIESZKA
Sorry, she was just - overwhelmed.

Silence. Steve looks at her. He isn't sure what to do but can't help but soften to her. Everyone is a little embarrassed by the situation.

STEVE
Well why don't you take the rest of the day off. We've got too many staff on anyway.

JADE
Yeah but I need the money -

STEVE
[IN] I can't have my staff being - overwhelmed...in a cupboard.

JADE
Well I promise I can get -

STEVE
[IN] Go home, Jade.
(BEAT)
You're next on at the weekend. Try and rest up before then.

Steve leaves.

On Jade - feeling like she might have fucked it up even more.

3 INT. STAFF ROOM - EVENING

3

Steve walks in, Colette is getting changed out of her work clothes. A moment where Colette looks at Steve.

COLETTE
You alright?

STEVE
What's been going on? With you and Jade.

COLETTE
What do you mean?

STEVE
Something is going on.

COLETTE

No, it's just -

STEVE

[IN] You know she is a...

Steve hesitates.

COLETTE

Gay? Do I know she is a gay?

STEVE

No. I didn't mean it like that. I just think she fancies you. And fuck knows you're always texting each other.

COLETTE

We're just friends. I mean do I look like a lesbian?

STEVE

What does a lesbian look like?

COLETTE

Not like me.

Silence. Those words hang in the air. Colette recoils at her own homophobia. She suddenly feels very uncomfortable.

STEVE

It's been days and days since you've stayed over and I'm not even sure you like me, let alone love me.

COLETTE

What's that meant to mean?

STEVE

It means you need to have a think about what it is you really want.

COLETTE

But I want you.

STEVE

Aye. Easy to say.

(BEAT)

Harder to feel.

COLETTE

But I -

STEVE

[IN] Just have a think about what it is you really want.

COLETTE

Okay. I'll think about it.

Steve exits. Colette is left - her foundations rocked. She moves to leave.

4 EXT. SPORTS CENTRE - EVENING

4

It's just Jade, sitting on some steps slowly sipping her beer, it's her second, maybe third.

A moment of calm and quiet, which is gently broken as Colette walks up to her. Colette sits next to Jade.

COLETTE

Where have you been? You left early.

JADE

Steve said there were enough people on shift.

(Sarcastic)

And you know me - busy, busy, busy. There is just so much to do and see around here.

They both smile, with a slyness. The moment soon passes.

COLETTE

Why did you walk away like that?
Earlier.

JADE

I just needed some air.

(BEAT)

No one ever tells you how boring it is - feeling like this eh. I'm so bored of my own thoughts. I think that's why I hated writing essays at Uni.

COLETTE

At least you got the grades to go to Uni, the only thing I left high school with was a boyfriend.

(BEAT)

But I'd love to give it another shot, one day. I always thought I'd make a good nurse. I like people and I'm not scared of blood.

JADE
Sounds like a perfect match.

They smile. Silence. Jade takes a swig of beer. Colette opens up a bit more.

COLETTE
My Dad lost his job at the start of the year. And my Mum has always hated her's, so they're not exactly role models.

JADE
That's tough, I'm sorry.
(BEAT)
It feels weird not to offer you a beer.

Colette pushes the fuck it button. She grabs a beer, opens it and down it.

JADE (CONT'D)
Right, Careful.

Relief washes over Colette.

COLETTE
No. I'm going to get rid of it.
(BEAT)
I'm going to get rid of it because I don't want to end up like my parents. I don't want to end up stuck in this shit hole. Even though everything, every-fucking-thing is making it impossible for me to leave.

A breath. Colette can't believe she just let it spill out like that. Jade is equally shocked. Colette pushes the fuck it button again.

COLETTE (CONT'D)
And do you know, there is something else.
(BEAT)
Something I've been meaning to say to you because...since you've come back, I've not been able to stop thinking about kissing you. And I...do you think I could kiss you?
(BEAT)
Please?

Colette looks at Jade. Stripped bare by the confession. Jade has been totally caught off guard.

JADE

Yeah.

(BEAT)

I do.

Colette moves closer to Jade. Their faces almost touch. Their breath on each others lips.

Colette puts her hands on Jade's face.

They close their eyes. Tender. Tentatively. They kiss.

END OF EPISODE