

ME & MRS JONES

EPISODE ONE

by

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SHOOTING SCRIPT

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1 INT. GEMMA'S BATHROOM. MORNING

1

CHARLOTTE and JESS are in their school uniforms, GEMMA looks scruffy and is trying to tie her hair in a pony tail. They are all looking down the toilet. JESS is holding a fish bowl looking worried.

CHARLOTTE

Sorry mum, I just thought Nemo would like to go for a swim somewhere new.

GEMMA

I'm not sure he wants to swim in the sewage pipes Charlotte.

JESS beckons the fish out of the toilet like you would a cat, sucking her lips making kiss noises.

JESS

Come on Nemo. Come on...

GEMMA

Oh mind out... (*GEMMA plunges her hand down the loo*)... Wrestling a goldfish first thing in the...
Gotcha!

GEMMA pulls her hand out fast and plops a goldfish into the fish bowl JESS is holding.

JESS

(*Kisses the fish bowl*) Nemo...
what an adventure you've been on!

GEMMA (CONT'D)

Right quick sticks or we'll be late.

MUSIC starts and they all exit to head downstairs...

INTO...

1A INT. GEMMA'S LIVING ROOM. MORNING.

1A

CHARLOTTE comes downstairs first heading for her lunch box at the bottom of the stairs.

CHARLOTTE

Mum if Jesus hadn't died how old would he be now?

GEMMA follows her down the stairs.

GEMMA

I don't know.... Coats on, grab your bags.

CHARLOTTE
Because you can't add up?

CHARLOTTE has opened her pack lunch in an attempt to eat it.

GEMMA
No (*slams CHARLOTTE'S lunch box closed*) and can you not eat your pack lunch before school please.

GEMMA grabs bags, football kits and coats etc as JESS comes down stairs still holding the fish bowl.

JESS
Poppy's getting a bosom bra can I have one?

GEMMA
No.

CHARLOTTE
You don't really need a bosom bra do you mummy?

JESS
Can Nemo come to dads tonight?

CHARLOTTE goes out the front door followed by GEMMA.

INTO

2 EXT. GEMMA'S HOUSE. MORNING.

2

The POST WOMAN is at the gate as GEMMA and CHARLOTTE come out.

GEMMA
No. And don't drag your bag Charlotte.

POST WOMAN
Morning Mrs. Jones.

She hands the post to CHARLOTTE there is a post card from China which CHARLOTTE looks at. JESS comes out the front door still carrying the fish bowl.

CHARLOTTE
It's from Alfie in China mum!

GEMMA
... now come on... Just get in please or we'll be late.

As JESS talks they head down the path towards the car. The POST WOMAN is with them as they are herded by GEMMA who then heads to the front of the car.

JESS

Is it today or tomorrow for Alfie in China mum? I mean it can't be tomorrow because that hasn't happened yet. Unless our brother is Doctor Who? Is he mum?

As GEMMA rushes to the front of the car CHARLOTTE starts to shout relentlessly from inside the car.....

CHARLOTTE

Mum Mum Mum....!

GEMMA

(Gets in the car) What?

CHARLOTTE

I need to do my maths homework or Mrs Collier says I'll lose my golden time.

GEMMA

You can do it at your dads tonight.

JESS

Mum I like how the light makes the fur above your lip glow.

CHARLOTTE

But its due in today.

GEMMA

(She looks in the mirror at CHARLOTTE) Brilliant....

As she looks in her mirror GEMMA sees the POST WOMAN sitting between CHARLOTTE and JESS who has the fish bowl on her lap.

As the TWINS chatter on GEMMA gets out the car and opens the door letting the POST WOMAN out. She then gets the fish bowl and puts it in the POST WOMAN'S hands.

CHARLOTTE

Chloe Bryant is bringing her dad's pants in for show and tell today.

JESS

Ergh that's disgusting.

CHARLOTTE

I know - she'll get a penalty point for that.

JESS

I'm gonna close my eyes, I don't
wanna see them.

CHARLOTTE

I do.

JESS

Eeerrrrghhhhhh...

GEMMA gets in the car and drives off leaving the POST WOMAN holding the fish bowl and looking confused.

CUT TO:

3

INT. JASON AND INCA'S HOUSE - BEDROOM

3

The bedroom is white with a large colour studio photographic portrait of INCA and JASON hanging above the bed. INCA is sitting at her dressing table with mirror and is vigorously rubbing lots of moisturiser on her arms. JASON is in the bathroom brushing his teeth.

JASON (V.O)

Charlotte and Jess have got their football match tonight so I'll collect you at 4.30.

INCA rubs a dollop of moisturiser between her hands.

INCA

I should be revising for my waxing exam this evening Jason. If you please you will speak to Gemma and arrange for otherwise.

JASON enters in a overly short Chinese Kimono, it is black with red dragons on it and is tied neatly. He is mid tooth brush.

JASON

She'll go potty.

INCA starts to apply the moisturizer to her upper arms in big strokes watching herself in her dressing table mirror.

INCA

It is very important I learn wax Jason, English women are having a lot of mighty big hairs. Gemma will understand my strong needs in this matter.

JASON

Are you sure I can't change your mind?

He puts a leg up provocatively on the end of the bed. She stops and looks at him. Pauses then squirts some moisturizer and starts an elaborate face buff.

INCA

It will take more than the wolf sex to change Inca's mind.

JASON stands deflated in the small Kimono.

CUT TO:

4

EXT. LARGE(ISH) JUNIOR SCHOOL PLAYGROUND. MORNING

4

GEMMA pulls up at the school gates. The TWINS charge out of the car armed with art projects, lunch boxes etc. She catches up with the twins in the playground to kiss CHARLOTTE who ducks to avoid her.

CHARLOTTE

Ergh that is gross mum.

JESS

We're not six!

CHARLOTTE

Don't hug us it's embarrassing!

GEMMA

No it isn't - see.

We pan over to see TOM MARSHALL hug his overly confident 8 year old daughter POPPY goodbye, he lifts her from the ground.

GEMMA

There's nothing wrong with a hug.

JESS

Only poo heads hug.

GEMMA

Jess, please don't say poo heads!

POPPY passes and hears GEMMA say 'poo heads'.

POPPY

Excuse me Mrs Jones, can you not use the word poo on school property!

POPPY moves off as CAROLINE approaches she is one of the THREE NIGELLA WANNABES (women who once had careers but now are overbearing helicopter mums) and hears.....

GEMMA

(*Shouts after Poppy*) Poo.... No,
hang on, I didn't say poo..

CAROLINE

Morning Gemma, see you just made it
on time...

GEMMA

What! Oh, Caroline, hi, I expect
you're wondering why I shouted poo!

CAROLINE

Not really.

GEMMA

It wasn't me who said it first, I
was just repeating it...

Before she can finish CAROLINE spots TOM and moves off
towards him (not too far from GEMMA). Her fellow NIGELLA'S
SUSIE and TANYA are already with TOM.

GEMMA

Great.

GEMMA turns back to the twins for a hug.

GEMMA

Hug please.

JESS

Mum! Stop being a geeky loser.

GEMMA

(*Under breath*) I'll pay you.

JESS/CHARLOTTE

How much?

GEMMA

(*Smiles*) 50 pence?

JESS looks at GEMMA, arms crossed.

JESS

Pound each or no hug.

CHARLOTTE

And we want half up front.

GEMMA

You two are so like your father.

GEMMA surreptitiously hands them some money and they hug
before CHARLOTTE and JESS run into school. GEMMA turns in
surprise to see TOM standing behind her.

She is a little flustered by him, mostly because she's aware of all the mums in the playground watching them.

TOM

(Playful) Did you just pay your daughters for a hug?

GEMMA

Of course not, don't be ridiculous! That was their lunch money.

TOM looks over at the TWINS holding lunch boxes at the school door.

TOM

But they've got packed lun....

GEMMA

They have yes but they... eat two lunches they've got some sort of high metabolic rate issue. It's a twin thing, which affects their... How can I help you Tom?

TOM summons up courage.

TOM

Right, good, straight to the point, I like that. Gemma would you like to go out with me for a drink, slash, meal thingy tonight?

Before he can finish GEMMA grabs his lips and pinches them closed so he can't speak. They stand staring at each other. GEMMA holds his lips closed during the following.

GEMMA

Oh! Sorry, I don't know why I did that - it was a nervous reaction to the drinks, slash, meal thingy - Why am I still holding your lips? Oh no, I've been holding them for far too long people are....

GEMMA looks about her, realising everyone can see her holding his lips. She makes eye contact with CAROLINE standing with TANYA and SUSIE who gives her an evil look.

GEMMA

OK, I'm going to let them go and we will pretend this didn't happen and we'll talk about the... PTA!

She releases his lips and tries to act casual.

GEMMA

Sooooo...?

TOM takes a pen from his jacket pocket, grabs GEMMA'S arm and rolls up her sleeve and starts writing his phone number on her arm.

TOM

Ok look, I've talked to you about the PTA every day for a month when what I've really wanted to do was ask you out. Which I think you know....

The moment is broken by FRAN shouting.

FRAN (V.O.)

Watch where you're putting that sword Flynn.... Flynn!

FRAN approaches as TOM puts the lid on his pen.

TOM

So call me Mrs. Jones. (*Nodding acknowledgment at FRAN*) Fran.

FRAN curtsies a bit. TOM leaves. FRAN who is in a business suit but has on bright spotty/patterned welly boots reaches GEMMA. FLYNN is brandishing a large sword as he runs to the school.

GEMMA

(*Looking at FLYNN*) Oh no, is it Roman day?

FRAN

No.

TOM suddenly reappears and points at GEMMA'S arm (sleeve still rolled up) to unnecessarily explain.

TOM

(*Points at GEMMA'S arm*) Sorry, sorry, I just wanted to explain I saw someone do that on a TV show, but it was on her naked thigh so - a bit sexier.

TOM smiles at FRAN and GEMMA and goes. FRAN grabs GEMMA'S arm and looks at the phone number.

FRAN

The school DILF's phone number!

They look over at TOM getting into his Range Rover

FRAN

Ohhh Gem's result! He's super sexy,
like a slightly porkier Antonio
Banderas in Zorro.

FRAN sees the THREE NIGELLA'S looking over.

FRAN

The Nigella Wannabes are going to
hate your guts if you date *their*
Tom. You know, I could have been a
Nigella....

GEMMA covers her arm up and attempts to change the subject.

GEMMA

If you hadn't got drunk at sports
day and tried to seduce Mr.
Roberts. Interesting look you're
sporting with wellies by the way.

FRAN

Flynn buried all my shoes in the
garden again.

TOM drives past the gates in his Range Rover and blasts the horn getting the attention of the whole playground. He waves over enthusiastically at GEMMA, FRAN waves over zealously back at him.

FRAN

You're going to go out with him,
right?

GEMMA

He's not my type.

FRAN

You mean he's not a self centred
philanderer with a very small...

GEMMA holds FRAN's lips together.

CUT TO:

GEMMA's living room has a lived in feeling. She is sat at her computer in the corner. There are family pictures of her with the TWINS and ALFIE scattered around. She dips a Mars Bar into her coffee. Suddenly JASON is stood behind her, leaning against the door frame. He is wearing a grey blouson leather jacket.

JASON

Enjoying a deep throat chocolate
moment are we?

GEMMA

(Startled with chocolate in mouth)
Jason! Blimey, you nearly gave me a
heart attack! How many times can
you please knock.

JASON

The back door was open.
Besides, my kids live here I
should be able to come and go as
I want.

GEMMA

Of Course, you're right. (She
smiles, JASON seems pleased) So
I guess I should have the keys to
yours and Inca's so when the
twins are with you I can just let
myself in and out. I'm sure Inca
will be happy with that
arrangement?

He makes a face like "ok you win". GEMMA pushes past him
into the kitchen and opens the washing machine. She takes
out the washing and put it in the washing basket. Jason
leans on the kitchen table and helps himself to a pear.

JASON

Fine, I'll knock. Thing is Gem
Gem, Inca's got a waxing exam
tomorrow and she needs to
meditate tonight so.....

GEMMA

Oh no... no you don't... the girls
are staying at yours tonight...

JASON

Please, otherwise Inca will stealth
wax me in my sleep again.

GEMMA opens the utility cupboard a clothes horse falls out
which she wrestles with trying to get it out.

JASON

I'll still see them at the weekend,
Inca's doing Sunday lunch, Swedish
style.

GEMMA

As delicious as dry Ryvita
pickled gherkins and cabbage
sound you'll see them tonight.

JASON

Why? What difference does it make?

GEMMA

Because tonight Jason...I've got plans...to go out....

JASON

Singles night at the Legion is it?

He laughs at his own joke and watches as GEMMA tries to pull out the clothes horse which has now got caught up with the long tube of the hoover.

JASON

Need a hand?

GEMMA

Nope.

*(getting more annoyed
with the clothes horse)*

I've got a date.

JASON snorts.

JASON

No you haven't.

GEMMA

I have!

JASON takes over and pulls out the clothes horse and begins to set it up. It is complicated and for the rest of the scene he struggles with which bit goes where. GEMMA rolls up her arm to show TOM'S phone number written on it.

JASON

What sort of lunatic writes his number on *human* skin?

GEMMA

It's sexy. He would have done it on my naked thigh but I was... wearing trousers. It's Tom, Tom Marshall.

JASON

The knob in the Range Rover?

GEMMA

Yes. No! Tom is not a knob.

JASON

His wife left him for the Asda night supervisor. That qualifies him for complete knobdom.

GEMMA

I left you for no one so what
does that qualify you for?

He puts up the clothes horse looking pleased with himself.

JASON

Fine, I'll have the girls, but
don't wear those.

He points to granny knickers that GEMMA is now holding.

JASON

Unless he's a pervy knob in a
Range Rover.

He gives the clothes horse a manly pat.

JASON

(*re clothes horse*)
Glad I popped round now aren't
you?

GEMMA

(smiles sweetly)
Love to Inca.

He throws her a look and exits and as he does so the
clothes horse collapses in on its self to the floor.

GEMMA

(*shouts after him*)
Poo head!

She gives the clothes horse a kick, then looks at her arm
with the phone number on it.

GEMMA

Right.

She marches into the kitchen

INTO

6

INT. GEMMA'S KITCHEN. MID-DAY

6

GEMMA picks up the phone and is about to dial when she
turns and grabs a bottle of Advocat from a kitchen cupboard
and takes a swig. She does a 'yuck' face then recoils and
chokes.

GEMMA

Erghhh.... God.... Erghh

As she speaks we cut to....

CUT TO:

TOM's house is a family home but with predominantly masculine touches. A photo of him and his daughter in Taekwondo outfits is on a table with the answering machine. TOM is standing in his full taekwondo kit going through various moves calmly, his answer machine clicks in and he hears....

GEMMA (PHONE MESSAGE)

(we hear choking /
gagging noises)

Ergh... sorry... Advocat went
down the wrong way.... I don't
normally drink during the day...
Just a quick shot for courage...
that's not important.. Anyway,
it's me..... Gemma.. Gemma
Jones... from the play ground...
you wrote on my arm.. But you
know that, so

(overly loud)

I will go out with you tonight...
goodbye.

(She thinks she's hung
up)

Oh no what have I done - oh no..
the phone what the....

(line goes dead)

The machine clicks off. TOM goes into a full on taekwondo display.

TOM

Yes! Yes! Yes! Aaaaah.

He does a small bow.

CUT TO:

GEMMA is in a changing area curtained off from the shop. She is holding a small slutty dress and looking at it. It's red and sparkly with holes in it all over the place.

GEMMA

I'm not sure about this dress Fran.

There is no answer.

GEMMA (cont'd)

Fran! The dress, it's a bit...
small looking...

Still no answer so GEMMA'S head appears between the curtains that open out into the shop. She spots FRAN texting nearby.

GEMMA (cont'd)

Fran!

FRAN

What! Sorry, I'm just flirt texting
my dentist.

GEMMA

Fran! This dress is... confusing.

FRAN

Rubbish, it's the perfect mix of
educated sluttiness. Trust me.

FRAN pushes GEMMA's head back in the cubicle and resumes
texting. The camera stays with FRAN and we presume GEMMA is
changing into the dress.

FRAN (cont'd)

I thought you were going to
chicken out of this date with
Tom.

GEMMA (V.O.)

Jason drove me to it.

FRAN

Yeah well he'd drive me to binge
drinking and self harming.

GEMMA opens the changing room curtain to reveal she has the
dress on but it's over her own clothes - it looks insane as
she obviously doesn't have it on right.

GEMMA

I look like Noddy.

FRAN

I quite fancied Noddy when I was
little - he had his own car.
(looking at her) It might help if
you took your other clothes off.

GEMMA

Fine.

A resigned GEMMA closes the curtain. FRAN resumes texting as
a SNOOTY SHOP WOMAN walks past and hears.

FRAN

And I'll need to bring you up to
date on this Centuries sexual
practices.

A nervous GEMMA pops just her head through the curtain. We
can't see her body but she's wriggling a bit during the
following, we assume trying to get the dress off.

GEMMA

What! (*Under her breath*) I assumed sex had remained pretty much the same over the Centuries.

FRAN

Who was the last man you slept with?

GEMMA tries to think.

GEMMA

Er...was it?...no...er. It could have been...er..

FRAN

It was Jason wasn't it?

GEMMA

Yes.

GEMMA goes back into the changing room. We stay on FRAN.

FRAN

Men over 40 need to see flesh to make the effort. Nowadays people don't even go on dates, they just hook up for a quickie between 'Attenborough's Blue Planet' and 'Newsnight'.

GEMMA (V.O.)

(*sounds hot and bothered*) Really?

FRAN

Yeah, Attenborough's shows were responsible for at least three of my best ever sexual encounters. You can learn a lot from the animal kingdom.

GEMMA'S head appears through the curtain, she looks a mess - obviously been struggling to get out of the dress.

GEMMA

I'm going to cancel.

GEMMA disappears back into the changing room and we go with her, she is still trying to get out the dress.

FRAN (V.O.)

Look, Tom's really nice. You deserve some fun Gems..

GEMMA

(*To self*) Houdini would struggle with this...

FRAN pops her head into the cubicle....

FRAN
Does bosoms have one or two 'o's'
(sees GEMMA) Oh!

FRAN takes her head out the curtains and we see her stop the SNOOTY SHOP ASSISTANT as she walks past.

FRAN
Have you got any scissors, we may
have to cut her out of the Educated
Slutty.

CUT TO:

9

INT GEMMA'S LIVING ROOM. AFTERNOON

9

GEMMA is in the living room with facial hair removal cream on her upper lip. She is watching an animal documentary - two bears are wooing, we hear them growling. Unannounced her son ALFIE and his mate BILLY enter carrying rucksacks - they watch the TV before speaking.

ALFIE
(To BILLY re bears)
Reminds me of you mate.

GEMMA
Alfie! You're not supposed to be
back for another four months!
(suddenly worried)
Are you in trouble?! Is it
drugs? (checks his arms) Have
you been expelled from China?

ALFIE
It's not school mum. They don't
chuck you out of China for
smoking behind the bins. Oh
yeah, this is Billy, I said he
could stay a few nights.

BILLY
Hi. I think there's...
(motions to his upper
lip)
something on your.....

GEMMA
Oh no!

GEMMA wipes the hair removal cream off her upper lip.

ALFIE
Billy saved my life in China.

GEMMA
Saved your life?

ALFIE
Yeah, I fell off the Great Wall
into his arms.

BILLY
It was quite romantic really.

GEMMA (CONT'D)
I thought you were going to be
away "discovering yourself" until
Christmas.

ALFIE
Nah, I "discovered myself" in a
week. Turns out I'm actually
fairly shallow.

(sits on sofa and looks
at the tv)
Man those bears are really going
for it...

GEMMA tries to turn the TV off only to turn it up as the
bears growl. Finally she pushes the right button and mutes
it.

BILLY
(to Gemma)
If it's a problem me staying I
can just...

ALFIE
Nah mum's cool about stuff like
this aren't you mum?

GEMMA
(unconvinced)
It's fine. Oh its so lovely to
have you home lets celebrate with
a - Tom!

ALFIE
What's a Tom?

GEMMA
I have a date with a Tom - no
wait I'll cancel.

ALFIE
Don't do that mum, we're gonna go
out anyway, right, need to grab a
shower if I'm gonna work the
Alfie magic tonight.
(to BILLY)
Make yourself at home mate.

ALFIE goes. BILLY looks at the TV. The bears are still on.

BILLY

Once they've mated the male walks away and might never see the female again.

GEMMA

I've met a few of those in my time. Well, when I say a few I mean - well - anyway, better get ready.

CUT TO:

10 EXT. FOOTBALL MATCH. SCHOOL PLAYING FIELDS - AFTERNOON 10

JASON and INCA stand freezing to death on the sidelines of a children's football match. It is bleak. Girls run around, their parents shout. JESS stands in goal not that into the match while CHARLOTTE runs about furiously. INCA shivers in her bright coloured 'going out' tight red/fuschia dress and high heals, her hair long and shiny looking. She looks totally pissed off.

INCA

(brrrs like a horse pointedly for attention)

The thing is Jason, because I am so slim I feel the cold much more. Plus apart from my head I am completely hairless; like an otter.

(pouts)

I should be revising for my waxing exam Jason.

JASON

I know love - and to show my appreciation I will let you wax any body part you like when we get home.

She smiles seductively at him. We see TOM is wildly cheering on POPPY standing with CAROLINE, TANYA and SUSIE.

TOM

Good team work Poppy. That's the spirit!

CAROLINE

Poppy's such an amazing little person Tom. A real credit to your parenting skills.

TOM

Thank you.

CAROLINE

(*Touches his arm*) No thank you,
for being such a positive male role
model.

We go back to JASON and INCA. JASON is looking annoyed at TOM.

JASON

That's the guy that's going out
on a date with Gemma tonight.

INCA

Which one?

JASON

The one who looks like a knob.

INCA looks over at TOM talking with the THREE NIGELLA'S.

INCA

He's a handsome knob.

JASON

No he's not.

They both look over at TOM as the NIGELLA'S laugh, touching his arm.

INCA

He looks like he could really
give the good sexual
experiences. Oh! I am knowing, I
will see if Gemma wants me to
give her the body wrap, she can
lose inches off her torso.

CHARLOTTE scores by getting past POPPY. JASON jumps up and down shouting too much, pointedly over at TOM.

JASON

That's my girl! Well done. My
flesh and blood, from these
loins! Go Jess!

TOM looks over nonplussed at JASON shouting.

INCA

It was Charlotte who scored.

INCA walks off, her heels sink in the mud.

CUT TO:

11

INT. GEMMA'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. NIGHT

11

BILLY is sat on the sofa unpacking his dirty clothes from his rucksack. ALFIE is on GEMMA's computer with "Facespaces.com" up.

ALFIE

(looking at screen)

Oh yes! Get in! I've been sexy poked by that fit Thai bird I met in Bangkok.

BILLY

(looks up)

And you're OK with that?

ALFIE

She was hot.

BILLY

She was a he.

ALFIE

Shut up! She was all woman.

BILLY

You were pissed out of your brains on Thai whiskey.

ALFIE

So. She had all the right bits.

BILLY

On the outside maybe.

ALFIE

Jealousy is a terrible thing my friend.

BILLY

Her name was Ken!

BILLY heads for the kitchen with his dirty clothes.

ALFIE

I don't care, I'm sexy poking back - then lets get totally mullered.

CUT TO:

12

INT. GEMMA'S HOUSE KITCHEN. NIGHT

12

GEMMA is looking at her reflection in the kettle. She bouffants her hair up so it's enormous.

GEMMA

Brilliant, I look like a
scarecrow...

She grabs a clip and frantically smoothes her hair down
clipping it to one side.

GEMMA

Great, now I look like Hitler.

She piles her hair onto her head, it now just looks like a
large nest.

GEMMA (TO SELF)

Hi I'm Gemma and I have a family
of rats living in my hair.

Defeated she slumps on the counter.

GEMMA

It's just a date... pull yourself
together.

BILLY enters carrying the washing Gemma springs up from
counter.

GEMMA

(*Slightly desperate
tone*)

How do I look?

BILLY

You look...

GEMMA

...like the Fuhrer...?

BILLY

No.

GEMMA

Like I should cancel and just
have an early night?

He laughs.

BILLY

No. You look nice. Kind
of....Cameron Diaz - Charlie's
Angels not Shrek obviously.

GEMMA

Are you just saying that so you
can take advantage of my washing
machine?

BILLY

Absolutely, I've got a weakness for a triple A+ graded 1400 spin washing machine with 12 wash programmes, reduced creasing option and a 29 minute quick wash.

GEMMA

Wow, you know your stuff.

BILLY

Two summers working at Croydon's premier electrical store has its uses when it comes to impressing the ladies.

GEMMA

I bet it does.

She laughs. He motions towards the washing machine. She nods and puts on some earrings again using the kettle as a mirror as he loads the machine.

GEMMA

I feel like a teenager on a first ever date.

BILLY

That's a great feeling isn't it. The bit just before your first kiss - you both know it's going to happen but you don't know when and your hearts pounding and...

GEMMA

Oh no!

BILLY

What?

GEMMA

I should've shaved both my legs.

BILLY

You only shaved one leg?

GEMMA

Work deadline trying on 14 dresses ... prodigal son returning... sort of took my mind off what I was doing.

(suddenly looks up)

Contraception!

BILLY

What?

GEMMA

My one shaved leg, I'll use it as a form of contraception. It'll put him off.

BILLY stands up and they are now facing each other.

BILLY

I think I'd find it kind of intriguing. "The woman with the one hairy leg."

She laughs and picks up her bag and goes into the living room. BILLY looks at the washing machine. He pushes the button on the machine to start it.

CUT TO:

13 INT. GEMMA'S LIVING ROOM. NIGHT

13

GEMMA goes into the living room finding ALFIE mucking about on her computer.

GEMMA

Alfie! My work's on that, be careful.

ALFIE

Chill, I know what I'm doing.

The door bell goes.

GEMMA

Oh no... I'm not... Do I look OK?

ALFIE

(doesn't look up)
Yeah, fine.

GEMMA goes to the door and lets in TOM.

GEMMA

Tom hi, come in.

He comes into the living room.

TOM

Wow! You look...
(searching for right word)
Super!

GEMMA

Thanks. This is my son Alfie just back from travelling the world. Alfie this is Tom.

ALFIE doesn't even look up from the computer.

ALFIE
Alright mate.

TOM
He's your son! Wow... big. I
didn't realise you and Jason had
been together so long.

ALFIE
(snorts) That muppet isn't my
dad.

GEMMA
Alfie! I had Alfie waaaay before I
met Jason... I mean not waaaay
way. I'm not that old... I mean
I'm oldish, obviously but not...
I was really young when I had
Alfie.... I mean not young as in
"headline in the Daily Mail"
young just.....
(panic plea to Alfie)
Did you say something?

ALFIE smiles at his mum, he's not helping her out. He pulls
the plug on the computer.

ALFIE
Nope you carry on, you're doing
really great.

ALFIE relaxes back in his chair as BILLY comes in.

TOM
Gosh two man sons?

GEMMA
No, this is Billy. He's Alfie's
friend. He saved his life
(after thought)
It wasn't drugs related.

TOM and BILLY shake hands.

TOM
I once saved someone.

GEMMA
Really?

TOM

(with pride)

Well, when I say someone, it was more of a dog - But it was an old lady's dog and she said he was more of a son to her than her son had been. Anyway he fell in the pond and got into distress, little legs, and I ... well, I paddled in and saved him.

They all stare at TOM blankly as he smiles broadly.

CUT TO:

14

INT. JASON AND INCA'S DINING ROOM. NIGHT

14

JASON and INCA'S dining room is minimalist and not exactly child friendly. It's quite sterile and there are awful sculptures dotted around. The twins and JASON are sat at the dinner table. Relaxation music plays, pipes and whale sounds.

JESS

What's that noise?

INCA comes into the room holding large dinner plates.

INCA

Whales who are relaxing.

INCA puts down the plates and we see that there are tiny portions of health food in the centre of them. It looks to be a beansprout and tofu based dish. It looks awful.

CHARLOTTE

What is this?

INCA

Tofu and beansprouts.

JESS

Ergh puke.

JASON

No not puke, now eat it up girls.

He takes a mouthful then winces then smiles lovingly at INCA.

JASON

Mmmmm yummy.

JESS

But Dad I thought we were having burger and fries?

INCA

I'm sorry Jess but I don't allow
meats in the house.

CHARLOTTE

But we had burger and fries with
Dad last time we were here.

INCA

Excuse me?

JESS

When you were at your spray tan
class.

JASON

(to Jess)

Don't be daft love, we don't do
hamburgers - remember? Or any
form of corporate food.

INCA

Are you lying to Inca?

JASON

No, I promise. They've got it
wrong. I would never let a
Quarter Pounder down my digestive
tract.

INCA

(to JASON stern/annoyed)

I have decided which body part of
yours I am going to wax.

JASON looks nervously at the girls who stifle a giggle.
CHARLOTTE and JESS eat using small mouths like rabbits.

CUT TO:

15

INT. THAI RESTAURANT. NIGHT

15

We look through the window of 'Bangkok House' Thai
restaurant. GEMMA and TOM are sat at a small bar waiting
for their table. They have Mai Thai cocktails.

GEMMA

These are lovely.

She sucks long and hard on the straw.

TOM

Steady there cowboy, they're
strong.

She laughs, then does a hiccup.

GEMMA

Been a long day, I needed that.

TOM

You look really stunning Gemma.

GEMMA

Thank you.

TOM

I knew you could.

GEMMA looks at him slightly shocked.

TOM

(embarrassed)

I mean, you always look good, you just look *more* good now.

GEMMA

Thanks, thing is you get too used to slobbing around in jogging bottoms, sometimes I forget I've got a waist.

TOM laughs and takes a gulp of his cocktail he seems very relaxed now.

TOM

Yeah, I've seen you in those jogging bottoms at the school gates every morning sporting that big old Marmite moustache.

He laughs, GEMMA looks at him blankly.

GEMMA

(upset)

Marmite moustache?

TOM

(oblivious to response)

Yeah, it's either Marmite or Chocolate spread.

GEMMA

(flatly)

It's Marmite.

TOM

(pleased with self)

Thought so.

TOM smiles at her long and hard. She smiles back. He smiles again. She smiles again.

TOM
I like your teeth.

CUT TO:

16 INT. BUS - NIGHT

16

ALFIE and BILLY are sitting on the top deck of a bus chatting. ALFIE is spouting crap looking in the bus window and adjusting his clothes to look 'perfect'. BILLY has his feet nonchalantly up on the seat in front next to ALFIE'S leather jacket.

ALFIE
You know mate, travelling the world and all its orifices has really opened my eyes. It's helped expose the real me...

BILLY
Yeah, well, my advice, keep the real you covered up if you wanna pull tonight..

FROSTY GIRL and CUTE GIRL get on the bus dressed for a night out. They sit near ALFIE and BILLY on the bus.

ALFIE
Aye! Aye!...

ALFIE leans over to them to introduce himself.

ALFIE
Ladies, I'm Alfie, this is Billy. He's a bit like my Sherpa. We just got back from travelling the world.

FROSTY GIRL
(unimpressed)
Really?

CUTE GIRL smiles at BILLY.

ALFIE
Oh yeah. Tell them Billy.

BILLY
China, Borneo, Phuket. Alfie was just telling me how he's a changed man since Thailand.

FROSTY GIRL
(sarcastic)
Sex change?

CUTE GIRL and BILLY laugh.

ALFIE
 (to *Frosty Girl*
seriously)
 You're funny, I like you.

FROSTY GIRL looks slightly taken aback by this.

ALFIE
 No, I meant changed as in my
 outlook's changed. I'm kinda now
 looking for someone who's my
 intellectual equal. Like...

BILLY
 Paris Hilton?

ALFIE
 (ignores *Billy* and
 stares intently at
Frosty Girl)
 Someone I can share things with
 like....

BILLY
 STDs?

ALFIE
 (ignores *Billy*)
 Experiences. A woman with
 intelligence, knowledge, you
 know, a big brain.

BILLY
 Which would obviously mean a big
 head.

CUTE GIRL smiles at BILLY

ALFIE
 (unsure)
 Right sure, a big head.

FROSTY GIRL
 (defensive)
 Are you saying my heads too big?

ALFIE
 What? Umm. No, yeah, sort of -
 but you know, in a good way -
 like a Bratz doll - I mean not
 plastic or.. what I'm trying to
 say is ... Billy, what am I
 trying to say?

BILLY

I think what you're trying to say
is can you buy these two ladies a
drink in town for being a dick on
the bus?

The girls laugh. The boys are in.

CUT TO:

17 INT. THAI RESTAURANT. NIGHT.

17

GEMMA and TOM are now seated at their table and their desserts are being served.

TOM

(*thank you nod to
waiter*)

Khrob koon ka.

The WAITER does a little bow and leaves.

TOM

Thong yib - pinched golden egg
yolks for you and sang kha ya fak
thong - Thai custard with pumpkin
for me.

GEMMA

Yummy.

GEMMA tucks in. TOM doesn't he looks at bit perturbed.

TOM

Gemma I...

TOM stops GEMMA looks up and smiles.

GEMMA

What's wrong, not lusting after
my pinched egg yolks are you?

TOM

Have I been a bit over the top?

GEMMA

What?

TOM

I think possibly I've been trying
too hard this evening and I think
I might be coming over as a bit
of a knob.

GEMMA

No...

TOM

It's just it took me so long to pluck up the courage to ask you out, and then you said yes and now we're here and I feel...

GEMMA

I've had a really lovely evening Tom. It's nice to feel like a grown up again, I'm glad I said yes.

She smiles. He smiles. She smiles.

TOM

You really do have great teeth.

CUT TO:

18

INT. TRENDY BAR. NIGHT

18

BILLY is stood at the bar with the Manager, RACHEL, 30's and cool. They are watching ALFIE who is chatting to FROSTY GIRL.

RACHEL

So you're mates with our Alfie then?

BILLY

Yep, four months intercontinental mayhem ending with him being chased out of China by an old woman with a broom.

RACHEL

Sounds like Alfie - what had he done? Broken her heart?

BILLY

She had three daughters.

RACHEL

(knowing)

Ah.

BILLY

Three broken hearts and one broken broom. She was a bit of a ninja granny.

RACHEL

So you thought here was a safer bet?

BILLY

That and we ran out of cash. Do you need anyone?

RACHEL

Sexually no, I've just turned lesbian.

She smiles over at MEGAN her partner clearing tables.

BILLY

Right, congratulations. But I meant work wise.

RACHEL

You worked a bar before?

BILLY

2 months in Portugal, 3 months in Goa, 3 days in China.

RACHEL

3 days?

BILLY

The Ninja granny ran us out of town.

RACHEL

Since you're a mate of Alfie's, I shouldn't even entertain the idea but... I'll give you a trial run tomorrow.

BILLY

Cheers.

We look over at ALFIE who is with FROSTY GIRL and she's proudly sticking her breasts out and ALFIE has his hands on them in a 'matter of fact' way, as if analyzing them somehow.

FROSTY GIRL

Well, what do you think?

ALFIE

(matter of fact)

You're right they do feel kinda natural.

FROSTY GIRL

Told ya.

BILLY and RACHEL smile.

BILLY
 (to RACHEL)
 You better get your broom.

CUT TO:

19

EXT. DOORSTEP GEMMA'S HOUSE. NIGHT

19

GEMMA and TOM are standing on her doorstep. She is rummaging for her keys in her bag, she hands her bag to TOM to hold while she carries on rummaging in it.

GEMMA
 I should have a key round my neck
 I can never find anything in this
 bag. It's a bottomless pit.

She brings out a doll's torso, football cards and a pair of socks which she hands to TOM.

GEMMA
 Well, apart from the doll's head,
 the football cards and the socks
 of course.

(ALTERNATE ITEMS: Trump cards, Math attaxs cards, conkers, dolls leg, stickers, plastic necklace, broken tiara, play figure, mouth organ, empty juice carton)

This is now the moment on a date where a couple might kiss - or might not - so there is a bit of an awkward atmosphere as they both know this.

TOM
 So....

GEMMA
 So err....

TOM
 You fancy another date sometime?

GEMMA
 Er...yes. That would be nice.

TOM goes to kiss her on the lips, only she goes to kiss him on the cheek - the result is he kisses her on the ear hole.

GEMMA
 Sorry.

TOM
 Sorry. I'm rushing things.

GEMMA

No, it's fine just caught me off guard. But I'm on guard now, so you could try again, maybe. If you wanted to...

He goes to kiss her again, this time they kiss.

GEMMA

(whispers)
I can't feel my feet.

TOM

(whispers romantically)
I know what you mean.

GEMMA

No, I mean I really can't feel my feet, I think you're standing on them.

TOM

What! Oh sorry.

BILLY comes round the corner and walks straight in on them.

BILLY

Oh sorry, sorry, don't mind me carry on. Hello Tom.

He fumbles for his key, trying not to interrupt. It's a squeeze on the step.

GEMMA

Where's Alfie?

BILLY

Still sampling some of the local delights.

They all stand awkwardly on the doorstep.

BILLY

Right I'll leave you to it.

They all stand awkwardly again.

BILLY

Bye.

TOM

Bye.

BILLY lets himself in.

GEMMA

Hold the door. Thanks again Tom, see you at school.

GEMMA and BILLY go in and close the door leaving a confused TOM. He puts the doll's head and football cards on the window ledge and posts the socks through the letter box.

CUT TO:

20 INT. GEMMA'S HOUSE. NIGHT

20

GEMMA follows BILLY into the house.

BILLY
I'm really sorry for interrupting
your...

GEMMA
It's fine. Got to keep them
wanting more.

BILLY
Mind if I make a coffee?

GEMMA
No go ahead.

BILLY goes into the kitchen. GEMMA kicks off her shoes and goes over to the computer.

GEMMA
No!

She tries again. She is now panicking.

GEMMA
No no no!

BILLY comes back into the living room.

GEMMA
No!!!

BILLY
Everything alright?

GEMMA
I need to send my work. It won't
turn on!

BILLY
Let me look.

GEMMA
Do you know what you're doing?

BILLY
Trust me I used to be a big nerd.

GEMMA

How big?

BILLY

NHS specs and acne big.

GEMMA

Do it.

BILLY goes up to the computer. He looks at it.

GEMMA

What's wrong with it?

BILLY

Shhh...

She looks away as BILLY looks closely at it then looks at the wall and puts the plug in and turns it on, it comes on.

BILLY

There we go.

GEMMA

Oh thank you, thank you!

She hugs him.

BILLY

It was just unplugged. It's the first place us big nerds look. You'd be surprised how many...

Suddenly he stops speaking and they realise that he is still holding her. They both look at each other. The moment is broken when the back door opens and JASON comes in with the twins holding a bucket. GEMMA and BILLY step away from each other. JASON doesn't see them he is too caught up with ushering the sick kids in.

JASON

Gemma! The kids have been throwing up all over the place. Inca has beansprout puke in her hair extensions. She's in a terrible state.

GEMMA runs to the kids. BILLY goes in to help.

GEMMA

Beansprouts?

JESS

She made us eat green stringy stuff mum.

And with that JESS throws up all over BILLY's trousers.

GEMMA

Oh no! Sorry Billy.

BILLY

It's fine.

CHARLOTTE then throws up in the bucket.

JASON

Ergh this is disgusting...

GEMMA

(to Jason)

Get out!

JASON

It's not my fault.

GEMMA

It never is.

(to Billy)

You better get cleaned up,
there's fresh towels in the
bathroom.

BILLY passes JASON on his way upstairs.

JASON

(to Billy)

Who are you anyway?

GEMMA

Not now Jason.

GEMMA heads upstairs with the twins

JASON

Got yourself a toy boy? What
happened to the knob?

(shouts up the stairs)

Couldn't he rise to the occasion?

He laughs at his own joke then realises he's alone in the
living room.

JASON

Alright, I'm leaving.

CUT TO:

21

INT. HALLWAY. NIGHT

21

BILLY is in a towel coming out the bathroom having had a
shower. GEMMA is coming out of the twins room. They stop
in front of each other.

BILLY
Got the sick off.

GEMMA
Good. Sorry about that.

BILLY
I just spent 4 months with your son, so am kinda used to it.

She seems a bit awkward with him in just a towel. We hear the front door open and giggling. It's ALFIE and the girl coming in. GEMMA looks panicked. Without thinking she shoves BILLY back into the bathroom as Alfie and Frosty Girl go past snogging.

ALFIE
What's your name?

FROSTY GIRL
Sam.

ALFIE
Sam, short for...?

FROSTY GIRL
Samantha.

ALFIE
Just checking.

She pushes Alfie against his bedroom door which is opposite the bathroom and starts snogging the face off him.

CUT TO:

22 INT. BATHROOM. NIGHT

22

GEMMA and BILLY are standing close together by the bathroom door. They whisper. Billy seems amused by the ridiculousness of her actions. He's being playful and non-predatory during the following.

BILLY
What are you doing?

GEMMA
Shhh. I didn't want Alfie to see us together.

BILLY
Together in the hall?

GEMMA
What? Yes, well you've got no top on, he might - have got the wrong idea.

BILLY

The wrong idea about what? That
I'd just had a shower?

GEMMA

Yes...no
(realizes what she's
done)
I may have slightly over reacted.

BILLY

To me having a shower?

GEMMA

No, to Alfie seeing us, he might
have thought we were up to no
good.

BILLY

Why?
(laughs)
Do you usually get up to no good
with his friends?

GEMMA

(embarrassed)
No! Absolutely not. Never. How
could you even insinuate...

BILLY

I didn't.

GEMMA

Shhh!

They stand close, silently. They hear ALFIE'S bedroom door
open and FROSTY GIRL giggle as she goes in slamming the door.

GEMMA

He's gone.

BILLY

Phew! Because God forbid he
should have caught us innocently
chatting in the hall but us holed
up chest to chest in the
bathroom, no problem there.

He smiles. Then they both laugh but trying to keep it
quiet. Clearly there is a spark between them.

BILLY

Good night Mrs. Jones.

GEMMA

...Good night.

They look at each other. There is a beat, like they are both holding their breath. Then the moment is broken.

BILLY
Good night.

GEMMA
Night night, mind the bed bugs
don't bite.

BILLY leaves. GEMMA glances at herself in the mirror.

GEMMA
(*to her reflection*)
Mind the bed bugs don't bite?
Really?

She slides down the wall and sinks to the floor.

GEMMA
So, you snog a man you hardly know
on your doorstep, then drag a half
naked young man into your bathroom.
Well done Mrs. Jones.

END.