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‘Outnumbered’

By

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(SERIES 3)

EPISODE 3

SHOOTING SCRIPT

10TH SEPT 2009



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PRODUCTIONS LTD

1. EXT. HOUSE

We can hear BEN and JAKE arguing vociferously, with DAD trying to pacify them.

2. INT. KITCHEN
(A)

DAD is at the sink Finishing the washing up. It's the end of breakfast; JAKE & BEN are still at the table.

DAD (Trying to get control of JAKE and BEN)

Will you two pack it in?!

JAKE

Well he started it

BEN

I did not.

JAKE

Yes he did, he facebook-raped me.

DAD

Facebook-ra...?

JAKE

Yeah he changed my status to 'Jake is a transvestite'. He doesn't even know what a transvestite is.

BEN tries to explain what a transvestite is.

i.e. - It's a man who wants to be a lady and saves up to buy a lady's parts

BEN

Anyway he started it

DAD

I don't...

BEN

He changed my status to 'Ben died last Tuesday' and I
didn't

MUM walks in and heads for the table (or somewhere)

DAD

Look, look, I don't care who started it

JAKE

How can you not be interested in who started it. You're a
history teacher.

DAD

Yeh but –

JAKE

History is about 'who started it'

DAD

Well that's –

JAKE

Then how do you teach World War Two? "I don't care if
Hitler started it, I just want it all cleared up".

DAD

That's not – look – all I'm saying-

(B)

As they argue, KAREN enters.

KAREN

I've decided. I'm not going to be a vet when I grow up.
I'm going to be an astronaut.

BEN stops arguing with JAKE to argue with KAREN

BEN
Girls can't be astronauts

KAREN
What?

MUM
I think they can, actually, Ben.

BEN
How can girls be astronauts? They can't throw.

DAD
Erm... why does an astronaut need to know how to throw?

BEN comes up with bizarre reasons why an astronaut might need to be able to throw which KAREN disputes fiercely.

-The spacecraft might get taken over by alien jelly fish and to kill them you have to throw space spanners at them.
-KAREN says she would just turn up the heating until they melt (etc.)

Then the conversation changes when KAREN challenges BEN

KAREN
Anyway girls can throw.

DAD
Interestingly, there is evidence that the way the female shoulder is put together does make it difficult for girls to throw a ball hard.

KAREN picks up a tennis ball from the work surface and throws it hard at DAD.

DAD
Ow!

KAREN

That was a hard throw... (she picks up something else)
And so was that.

MUM

Karen... I've told you before... You're not allowed to
throw things at Dad.

Meanwhile, MUM'S got to the fridge and discovered there's no milk.

MUM

Jake, can you check if the milkman's been?

JAKE

Why me?

MUM

Well you drink most of it.

JAKE

Sorry to inconvenience you... I'll just leave home shall I?

MUM

OK, but get the milk on your way out

JAKE sets of grumpily

BEN (in full spate)

And supposing an alien is charging towards you, and the
only weapon you've got is a javelin (etc.)

3. INT. HALL DAY

3

We follow JAKE trudging up the hall.

DAD (OOV)
 Why would an astronaut have a javelin? (etc.)

4. INT./EXT. FRONT DOOR

4

JAKE is about to pick up the milk from the doorstep, when he sees KELLY walking up the road towards him. He stands transfixed.

5. INT. KITCHEN

5

MUM is finishing making the tea.

BEN

And, anyway, you can't have women in space because what if one of them had a baby and the baby popped out and started floating around the capsule, bumping into all the important buttons that control the forcefield. And what if the baby cord thing that joins the baby to the mum tripped up the pilot and he fell onto the buttons which control the back-up forcefield for when the first forcefield stops working etc.

MUM (to herself)
 Where's he got to with that milk?

6. INT./EXT. DOORSTEP

6

JAKE now looks entranced, as KELLY is striding confidently past the house. As she passes she gives him a friendly smile and wave.

KELLY
 Hiya

JAKE (croaks)
 ...Hiya

We see his P.O.V (which is leg-orientated) as she walks up the road away from him, we hear MUM'S voice

MUM (OOV)
Any time this month would be nice

JAKE
Oh, right

JAKE turns to go inside, without the milk

MUM
The milk!

JAKE (remembers)
Oh, yeh, right (He bends down to pick up the milk)

7. INT.KITCHEN AS BEFORE

7

BEN
Also, you can't have women as astronauts because if the spaceship was being bashed with asteroids they'd all be in the toilet crying and being sissy.

DAD
That's a bit of an unfair stereotype.

BEN
No it isn't

MUM (handing DAD some post as she enters)
Do you know what a stereotype is?

BEN
No

MUM

OK, well a stereotype is, um, a wrong idea about people, um, for instance, y'know, there are some people who think that, say, women, are all sissy...sissy, girly girls who do unimportant things whereas, in fact, there are lots of strong successful women who prove that stereotype wrong, do you see?

BEN

...is there any bacon?

MUM is a bit cheesed off

MUM

For instance, why did you direct that question to me and not to your father?

BEN

...because you're nearest the fridge

MUM

Oh... right... well, that's

The doorbell rings. MUM sets off for the door.
JAKE has noticed that DAD is deep in thought reading a letter

BEN (OOV)

Jake, check if there's any bacon

7 INT./EXT. FRONT DOOR

7

(A)

MUM opens the door to a man in his mid-40s HOWARD
He hands her a leaflet.

HOWARD

Never fear, I'm not asking you for money. I just want to give you a leaflet.

MUM
(reading) Oh, it's about the speedbumps...

HOWARD
It is indeed. And there's more information on our website.
'www dot this madness must end dot com'.

8. INT. KITCHEN

8

DAD is still deep in thought reading his letter. JAKE is watching him.

BEN (OOV)
No bacon... unbelievable

JAKE (watching his DAD)
...what's that?

DAD
(distracted) Erm... yeh, it's just a letter from the
hospital... instructions about my colonoscopy

KAREN
Is that when they chop off a bit of your brain to make you
behave better?

DAD
That's a lobotomy

KAREN
Miss Lyons said Ben could do with one of those.

DAD
They've been banned... sadly

KAREN
(disappointed) So you're not having one of those?

DAD
Sorry to disappoint you

KAREN
So what are you having?

DAD
Look, I'm just having a very simple thing where they film
your insides

KAREN
...film your insides?

DAD
...yes

KAREN
But your insides are on the inside. How do they film
them?

DAD
With a camera

KAREN
...in your insides?

DAD
Yes

She looks doubtful

KAREN
...are you sure you've got this right?

9. INT./EXT. FRONT DOOR DAY

9

MUM and HOWARD as before

MUM
Its just... we haven't yet...

HOWARD
Alright then, then let me ask you a question. Are you in favour of councils riding roughshod over the wishes of local residents?

MUM
No um obviously not, no, it's just we haven't decided yet whether we –

HOWARD
Let me ask you another question. Are you in favour of people dying because of ambulances being impeded in their progress?

MUM
No... no, I'm not in favour of people dying... I'm against that, it's just –

HOWARD
Let me just show you a few statistics

We see MUM'S heart sink as HOWARD opens his laptop.

10. INT. KITCHEN DAY

10

As before. BEN has joined KAREN

KAREN
Yes, but how does this camera get inside your insides?

DAD
Well, it's a special tiny camera, y'know specially designed for the purpose

KAREN
Yes but how do they get it inside your insides?

DAD (reluctantly)
Well they... they put it up your bottom

KAREN and BEN find this hilarious, BEN especially

BEN
Up your bottom?!!!

JAKE
It's not that funny, Ben

BEN
Oh come on, it's pretty funny

JAKE
No it's not

KAREN
It is Jake. Who's going to work the tiny camera?

DAD
Eh?

KAREN
Is there going to be a tiny, tiny midget doctor who goes up
your bottom to work the camera?

DAD can't be sure if she's serious

DAD
No Karen

BEN and KAREN run amok with this idea.

BEN

Is there someone recording sound? What if Daddy did one of his massive farts? He could deafen the midget doctor!

KAREN

What the camera sees... will we be able to watch it live on TV?

DAD

No, you won't be able to watch it live on TV

KAREN

Is that 'cos its on sky and we don't have sky?

DAD

No, Karen. There is no colonoscopy channel... yet

They ask lots of other questions

- How do they get it out?
- Does it go all the way through to your mouth?
- What happens when it meets your breakfast? Etc.

N.B. At some point cut away to JAKE looking appalled and a bit worried

And when filming this we will go as far as KAREN's exit in 12a)

11. INT./EXT. FRONT DOOR DAY

11

MUM and HOWARD, as before, only now she looks like she is losing the will to live

HOWARD

...and furthermore the elevation on the speed bumps will be 12 centimeters which is patently absurd

MUM

Yeh um... the thing is this road has become a bit of a rat-run

HOWARD

That's due to those new lights at the top of Palmerston Grove. I did warn them. But let me show you some more-

MUM
Um... actually now's not a great time, we've –

HOWARD
Understood, Saturday morning chaos, bad timing. I'll leave you alone (he goes)

MUM (relieved)
Thanks

HOWARD
(turns at the gate) And come back this evening

MUM (oh shit)
Oh... great

12. INT. KITCHEN

12

(A) As before.

KAREN (as Big Brother)
'Day 49'. And Daddy's tummy is full of carrots'

BEN and KAREN kill themselves laughing. After this KAREN runs off.

(B)

JAKE
Why have you got to have this...thing?

DAD (trying to reassure him)
It's purely precautionary, Jake, routine procedure now. If you're middle-aged and you've got tummy trouble then –

BEN (from nowhere)
(As he rifles through a drawer) Is the camera looking for cancer?

JAKE (shocked/scared)
Be – en! Shut up

DAD
No it's fine, Jake, that's OK, he can ask that. It's nothing to be frightened of, cancer's just a word, we shouldn't be afraid to say it.

BEN (loud)
Cancer

DAD
Yes, that's –

BEN
Cancer, cancer, cancer, cancer, cancer

DAD
Yeh, there's a difference between not being frightened of it and turning it into a catchphrase.

JAKE
Yeh, it's not funny Ben, Mason's dad has got cancer and –

DAD
It's OK Jake don't worry. I'm confident that I've not got – there are millions of stomach-related ailments, it will be one of those, believe me, it'll probably turn out to be just my nerves or something

BEN
Why would your nerves be bad?

DAD
Dunno, hard to work out isn't it, put down the carving fork

Cut to BEN who has, indeed, picked up the carving fork

BEN
I'm just looking at the shape of it

DAD
It's pointy, that's the shape of it, put it down.

BEN (as he puts it down)
If you used that as a javelin you could impale two aliens at once. Provided that they were standing next to each other... and very thin... and kept still

MUM
(to herself as she enters) Why are boys so aggressive?... Why do they see everything as a weapon?

BEN (as he leaves for the living room)
Because we can throw and girl can't.

MUM
Jake, you'd better get your kit together.

JAKE leaves, towards the hall.

KAREN
(following BEN & picking up tangerine)
Girls can throw properly.

We hear a thump and a howl from BEN.

MUM
Ka-ren! No throwing fruit indoors.

(C)

DAD moves to the sink to put the final touches to the washing-up

MUM
Jake was at it again... ogling Frank and Jean's daughter, Kelly.

DAD
Oh, what, the one with the legs?...

MUM looks at him.

MUM
... the one with the honours degree from Oxford

DAD
Oh... yeah

MUM
Honestly the boys attitudes are... medieval. Ben sees women purely as... staff and Jake spends all his time watching The Pussy Cat Dolls with a face like this (she does an impression of gormless male lust)

DAD
He's a boy, he's 13, he's –

They hear a lot of shouting coming from the living room and hurry in there.

13. INT. LIVING ROOM DAY

13

JAKE has wrestled BEN to the ground and they are fighting

MUM and DAD
Stop that!

MUM
Can you stop that!... There is no need to fight!

BEN
Well actually there is, 'cos when we men were cavemen we had to fight other cavemen to stop them stealing our pet brontausauruses. It's Darwin.

MUM

Well a) That's not Darwin, that's the flintstones and b) it's utter... rubbish. You never see Daddy start a fight do you?

BEN

No, cos he'd lose

DAD

No, Mum's right. Real men don't fight... they're man enough to control themselves.

MUM

Exactly. So you two just cool it.

DAD (breezy)

OK, washing up's done, I'll see you about one

He kisses her on the cheek and leaves frame into the kitchen

MUM

OK, so... (MUM suddenly realize what he's just said. She follows him into the kitchen)... What do you mean 'see you about one?' Where are you going?

14. INT. KITCHEN DAY

14

DAD (flourishing racquet)

Well, this is a bit of a visual clue

MUM

You're not playing tennis?

DAD (picking up his kitbag)

Yup, I am

MUM

You can't play tennis this morning, you're on kids patrol

DAD

No, no, I'm playing tennis with Rick, Frankie and Bob...
I've done the washing up

MUM

But... I've got my coffee morning with Jilly and Suzannah

DAD

Yeh, but... I'm playing tennis

MUM

Since when?

DAD

What do you mean, 'since when'? Since... it's a long-standing –

MUM

No, no, no, it's not on the calendar. And you know the rule – if it's not on the calendar then it doesn't officially exist, that's the rule

DAD

But Sue –

MUM

It is not a sanctioned, bona-fide commitment

DAD

But –

MUM

That's the rule

DAD

Sue –

MUM

We both agreed to the rule

DAD

Yes but –

MUM

Specifically to prevent double-bookings like this. So if it's not on the calendar then –

DAD

But it is on the calendar

MUM

Where?

They move to the calendar

DAD

There, see?

MUM

Where?

DAD

There

MUM (deciphering)

‘P-ton’

DAD

‘P-ten’. Short for tennis

MUM

Well how the hell am I supposed to decode that? I haven't got an enigma machine.

15. INT. KAREN'S BEDROOM DAY

15

KAREN is now playing 'The Apprentice' with her soft toys.

Sir Alan – give me a reason why I should choose you as my apprentice?

Contestant – Because I'm a winner, I don't know the meaning of the word 'lose'. I was born to succeed, I am always number one, top of the heap, a superhero, I can smell success in my spit. I have never, ever failed at anything in my entire life

Sir Alan – You're fired

KAREN throws the contestant out of the window

+ Version where contestants slag each other off and where Sir Alan is tremendously offensive – 'I don't want you as my apprentice, you smell'

+ 'Last week the contestants had to saw off their own feet and sell them in Sainsbury's'

+ Good team leader?

- No she's bossy and annoying and she's dead
- No she's an elephant
- You lot are a bunch of clowns (cut to clowns)

+ Who are you going to bring back into the boardroom?

+ 'Sir Alan will meet you in the Sahara Desert in fifteen minutes'

16. INT. KITCHEN DAY

16

MUM

The rule is it has to be on the calendar and it has to be written in something resembling English.

DAD

Clearly, 'p-ten' stands for Pete- tennis.

MUM

Well then write, "tennis"

DAD

There isn't room in there. The box is too small and half of it's taken up with the revelation that it's a Bank Holiday in Canada

MUM

Oh I see suddenly this is about my calendar – buying skills is it

DAD

I'm just saying there isn't room for my name and the word 'tennis'

MUM

Yeh. There isn't room because the square is mostly filled up by the words 'Sue – coffee morn.'

DAD

Is that what that says?

MUM

You know perfectly well that that's...

DAD

How am I supposed to read that microscopic scrawl?

MUM

It's perfectly legi – hang on... you wrote your tennis on there this morning, didn't you

DAD

I did not – I wrote it on there last Tuesday

MUM

Well I don't remember seeing it

DAD

Just because you didn't see it, that doesn't mean it doesn't exist (etc.)

We leave them mid-argument

17. INT. BEDROOM.

KAREN continues her game of 'The Apprentice'

18. INT. KITCHEN DAY

18

(A) As before

DAD

All I'm saying is that as commitments go, a game of tennis trumps a coffee morning, surely.

MUM

How do you work that one out?

DAD

Well... because... obviously, if I cancel I'll be letting down Rick, Frankie and Bob, that's 3 people, whereas if you cancel you're only... letting down 2

MUM

Oh f-

DAD

Also, also, if I don't show, the boys can't have a match whereas if you don't turn up, Jilly and Suzannah can still... drink coffee.

MUM

I don't believe this.

DAD

Also I really need a run around. I've had an extremely stressful week at...

MUM

You've had a stressful week at work! I've been working on telephone sales... for rubbish money... with all these teenagers... I heard one of them refer to me as 'gran'

DAD

But you had a night out on Thursday didn't you?

MUM

That was a parents evening! I spent hours sitting around waiting to be told it's great that Ben's so keen on the Aztecs but he needs to stop carving scenes of human sacrifice on all the desks...

DAD

Yeh, but this tennis court is booked for this morning, specifically, whereas you can reschedule your coffee morning. But a booking on those courts is like gold dust and...

MUM

So, basically, what you're saying... is that you're social life is more important than mine.

DAD

No I'm not saying that, I-

MUM

You are. You're saying that four men playing tennis is more important than three women having a coffee morning

(B)

BEN (passing through getting glass of water)

Well it is

MUM

...what?

BEN

Well a coffee morning isn't competitive, 'cos it's not like who can drink the frothiest coffees, while a tennis match is men battling for victory, so it's more important (he runs out)

(A) Cont'd

MUM fixes DAD accusingly

DAD

...Well, I don't know where he got that from...

MUM is still fixing him

DAD

I know, how's this for a compromise? You take Karen and Ben along to your coffee morning?

MUM

How is that a 'compromise'?

DAD

Well I'll take Jake with me

MUM

Jake's playing football this morning

DAD

Oh yeah, I forgot

MUM

No you didn't

DAD

Can't we get someone to come and keep an eye on them?

MUM
At five minutes notice?

DAD
What about... what's her name... the old lady down the road...

MUM
What Joan? No she won't do it... well her doctor's told her she musn't do it again.

DAD (recalls)
Oh... yeah...

MUM
There's only one fair way to settle this. We'll have to toss a coin.

DAD
... alright then.

MUM (produces coin)
OK, tails I get my coffee morning, heads you get your tennis, OK?

DAD
OK

She spins the coin. We don't know which way it's landed until MUM says

MUM
It's best out of three

19. EXT HOUSE DAY

19

Fade on DAD protesting over 'best out of three'

20. EXT. TENNIS COURT DAY
 (A)

20

Fade up on tennis court. DAD is on court, waiting to receive serve, alongside his friend RICK.

DAD (quietly)
 So, what's this bloke's name again? I didn't

RICK
 Lance. He's just moved in opposite Frankie, so Frankie roped him in at the last minute

We cut to see LANCE preparing to serve. He is in his mid 50s and is held together by knee-braces and elbow protectors

DAD
 And why did Bob drop out?

RICK
 Double-booked himself with his wife on kids patrol, didn't he. What a pillock.

DAD (awkward)
 Yeh, what a pillock.

FRANKIE
 Ok, ready?

LANCE serves. DAD returns to the back of the court, just inside the baseline. RICK goes to congratulate him, but is cut short by a call of 'OUT' from LANCE. RICK looks at DAD in bewilderment

DAD
 Erm... out?

LANCE
 Yes, out... by about that much (He illustrates with his hand)

RICK looks at DAD to indicate he thinks LANCE is cheating. DAD replies with an expression of 'Let it go'. RICK quietly shakes his head.

LANCE
Fifteen – love

DAD (to RICK)
Maybe it was out.

(B)

LANCE is about to serve again but then looks displeased by the arrival of MUM, hurriedly ushering BEN and KAREN through the door of the court. They call out 'Hello, Daddy'

MUM
Hi boys, sorry about this, sorry, sorry Pete, but Melanie rang, her car won't start so I've got to take Jake, plus Luke plus Dean to football and you're going to have to look after these two.

DAD
Well... can't someone else...?

MUM
I've tried everyone... honestly. Got to go. Dean and Luke are on their way to our place.

DAD
But... but we're playing tennis, how am I going to keep them entertained

MUM (dumping some bags)
They've brought toys and... Ben, I told you not to bring this. (she confiscates the carving fork).
It'll be fine. Just don't let them out of this... cage.

DAD (floundering)
But... look – we... this is not a practical arrangement.

MUM is heading off

MUM
They can have a little game on one of those spare courts –
which are like gold dust apparently. Bye (she sprints into
the distance, carrying a carving fork)

(C)

DAD (calling after her)
How am I supposed to... (but she's gone)

RICK
(impressed) She's quick (He fetches some kit)
Here you go kids, got some spare racquets here, and a
ball, there you go, you have a game on that court.

RICK starts giving BEN and KAREN racquets and a ball

KAREN
Thanks Rick

RICK
You know Frankie, don't you. And that's Lance.

BEN
Lance? That is so cool, you've got the same name as a
weapon. I wanted to call myself Scimitar, but Dad said
there'd be too much paperwork

LANCE (thrown)
...right

DAD
OK, well you two have a nice game on this next court
here...

The KIDS start a little knock-up
LANCE prepares to serve.

DAD
That's brilliant, see how long you can keep that going

LANCE
So fifteen-love. Are we ready?

RICK
Yup

LANCE
Fifteen-love

LANCE goes to wind up his serve again, but this time he is distracted by KAREN making a very loud noise which she starts doing every time she hits the ball like Venus Williams.

DAD
... Karen, what are you doing?

KAREN
It's what ladies do when they play tennis. I've seen them on the T.V, every time they hit the ball they go (she illustrates) Then they sit down and eat a banana.

DAD
Well, Venus Williams may do that, but you don't have to, it's –

KAREN
If it's worth playing, it's worth playing properly. Venus Williams must go (noise) for a reason.

DAD
Yeh but it's distracting and not very...

BEN

Why do they make that noise? It's only a tennis ball it's not very heavy. It's not like they're hitting a rock or a small something made from osmium, which is the heaviest metal known to man.

LANCE

Right... so are we going to play some tennis?

DAD

Sorry, yeah...

LANCE

OK fifteen-love

He winds up his serve

KAREN

Oh this is boring

DAD (irritated)

Well... do some drawing or something

RICK (who thinks he's good with kids)
Hey, I've got an idea, Ben, why don't you be our ball-boy, y'know, like at Wimbledon, very important job.

BEN

OK

RICK

And Karen, you can be umpire

DAD (alarmed)

Rick, I'm not sure that's a very good id-

KAREN

Is that the one who's in charge?

DAD
It's just she tends to get a bit-

RICK (winking at DAD)
That's right, you're the ref, and what you do is every time
the ball hits the net you shout 'foul'

KAREN
OK...

LANCE winds up his serve

KAREN
Wait! (she gets a pencil and pad from her bag)... Play!

21. EXT HOUSE DAY

21

SUE pulls up in the car.
JAKE, DEAN and LUKE are waiting at the front door in their kit.
MUM calls out the car window

MUM
Sorry, boys... had to drop off Ben and Karen...

As they head to the car, two girls walk down the road... one of them very pretty and very curvy. DEAN elbows JAKE and they all whisper and smirk chauvinistically. JAKE is showing off to his friends and MUM overhears him say.

JAKE
Did you see those?

MUM is not pleased.

22. INT. CAR

22

As the boys get in the car, they transform into nice, polite lads.

LUKE
Morning Mrs Brockman

DEAN
Morning Mrs Brockman

MUM
Morning boys

DEAN
Thanks for the lift

MUM
No problem

JAKE
Oop, hold on tight... woman driver.

MUM gives JAKE a dirty look as she starts the ignition.

23. TENNIS COURT DAY

23

The tennis match is in mid-rally. BEN is crouched down beside the net, alert and vigilant, head moving side to side.

DAD (or RICK) hits a winner.

LANCE
...Out!

RICK
Out?

LANCE

Yes.

FRANKIE

Well... what does our umpire say?

KAREN

I shall have to consult hawkeye... woooooooooo! In.

LANCE

No sweetheart, it wasn't

KAREN

Yes it was. It bounced... here (she shows where it bounced) And don't call me sweetheart

RICK (jokey)

The umpire's word is final, Lance

LANCE

I'm telling you it was out

Both the kids tell him he's wrong. BEN tells him he needs glasses and that maybe his sweat band stops him seeing properly

DAD

Well look it doesn't matter does it, we'll play a let

KAREN

I'll decide what we do, I'm the umpire

BEN

Book him...!

KAREN

Good idea... Daddy, you are booked...

DAD
Ben, what are you doing?

BEN (flinging his arms in the air)
I'm doing a Mexican wave.

DAD
You can't do a Mexican wave with one person

BEN
I can if I keep running around the court

LANCE
Yes...

DAD
Ben, don't

FRANKIE
Actually, I think the ball probably was in Lance.

LANCE is painted into a corner. Grudgingly he acquiesces.

FRANKIE
40-30 to you.

NO SCENE 24 24

25. EXT. CAR PARK AT SPORTS GROUND DAY 25

MUM is parking the car in a space

26. INT. CAR 26

LUKE and DEAN are getting out of the car.

LUKE/DEAN
Thanks Mrs. Brockman (etc.)

JAKE is just about to get out of the car when MUM stops him in his tracks.

MUM
... could you just hang on a second, Jakey?

JAKE (recognizes a certain tone)
Mum, I'm about to play football.

MUM
This won't take a moment

There is an exchange of look between JAKE and his two mates, before LUKE and DEAN go on ahead.

MUM
Jake... do you know what the 'objectification of women' is?

JAKE
... A foreign film?

MUM
No, it's not a foreign film, it's when women are seen as just objects or, or... commodities

JAKE looks at her blankly

MUM
...by men...

JAKE looks at her even more blankly

MUM

For instance, it's when a pretty girl walks past and someone says "did you see those?" rather than "did you see her?"

Now JAKE sees what she is driving at

JAKE

I was abbreviating, wasn't I

MUM

...what?

JAKE

Y'know, I was using the word 'those' as short for 'those two girls'... cos there was a pair... of girls... y'know, like you might say 'watch out for those' instead of saying 'watch out for those cars'

MUM

... I think you might have confused me with a gullible idiot.

They start to argue about whether MUM is a gullible idiot.

27. EXT. TENNIS COURT DAY

27

Again, in mid-rally... LANCE hits the ball hard... it is returned... and LANCE hits it even harder.

LANCE

Yes! Game to-

KAREN

Out!

LANCE

What?

KAREN

The ball was out. Point to Daddy's team.

LANCE

Oh for f-!

KAREN

And another point, bad language

LANCE

I didn't swear!

KAREN

No, but you were going to.

BEN

Yes, you were going to say f-

DAD (very quickly)

Ben!!

LANCE

She can't dock points like that.

DAD (to LANCE)

It's fine, ignore her, she's just being-

KAREN

You can't ignore me, I'm the ref. (points at RICK) He said

DAD

I know, Karen, but-

KAREN

Don't argue with me, Daddy, you've already been booked.

FRANKIE

Again, I thought that probably did look out... on balance.

BEN

It was miles out, that bloke's blind.

There is a bit of an atmosphere. LANCE festers for a few moments.

LANCE (darkly)

Deuce it is then.

28. INT. CAR DAY

28

MUM and JAKE are still arguing.

JAKE eventually takes control.

JAKE

Anyway I don't see why you're making such a drama of it... girls like to be admired don't they?

MUM

Girls like to be admired... but as a person not... as a... sexual object.

JAKE

...does Britney Spears want that?

MUM (snaps)

Look, Jake, I just don't want you growing up into the kind of man who... who talks to women without looking at their face.

JAKE

...you are such a hypocrite

29. EXT. TENNIS COURT DAY

29

RICK hits the ball into the net

RICK
Oh you idiot...

LANCE
Advantage us...

RICK
What is wrong with me today?

KAREN
Well what star sign are you?

RICK
Er... Pisces

KAREN
Well, it's probably not your fault... it's probably just a bad pisces day... mind you Daddy's playing rubbish and he's cancer. What star sign are you Lance?

LANCE
Can we just get on please?

DAD
Yeh, sorry.

LANCE
Advantage us... set point.

30. INT.CAR DAY

30

MUM
I am not a hypocrite.

JAKE

Yes, you are! I've heard you and your mates talking about that builder who's working opposite the house.

MUM (thrown)

Well, um, that's... how did you hear that?

JAKE

All giggling and cracking jokes about the size of his spanner.

MUM

Ah, well, that was Melanie who said that, it wasn't –

JAKE

Although of course when you all rated his arse out of ten, you were really admiring him in a nice way, as a person.

MUM

Listen... a) you shouldn't eavesdrop

JAKE

You were screeching like...

MUM

And b) It's different because... he didn't know we were looking at him.

JAKE

But –

MUM

The point is –

JAKE (now out of the can)

Mum, this can wait. You'll make me late for kick-off (He exits)

MUM looks frustrated and disgruntled. JAKE'S head pops back into frame.

JAKE
By the way, I said you'd wash the kit...

31. EXT. TENNIS COURT. DAY
(A)

31

RICK hits a shot, then LANCE hits a winner. He punches the air.

LANCE
Y-e-ss!!

DAD and RICK look at each other

RICK
Um... I thought that looked a bit...wide

KAREN
It landed right here (she stands on the spot)

RICK
See? Wide.

LANCE
Yes, but I saw it. It was good, why believe her?

KAREN
Well, they should believe me because my eyes are going to see better than yours because you're quite old.

DAD
Karen, that's not very-

Suddenly, LANCE hurls his racket angrily at the ground

LANCE
Oh this is a bloody joke!!

BEN (points)
Racket abusement

KAREN
Yes, and swearing. Two points to Daddy's team.

LANCE (Mimicking KAREN)
'Two points to Daddy's team'

DAD
Alright, Lance, there's no need to –

LANCE
This is ridiculous... something's going on here. I've had four perfectly good shots called out, how do you explain that?

KAREN
It could be your star sign. Are you a pisces or a cancer?

LANCE
... what?

DAD
Shall we play a let? First serve

LANCE shakes his head thunderously, but prepares to serve

BEN
Why did they name a star sign after a disease? Cancer.

LANCE (to BEN)
Yeh- do you mind?

BEN
It's only a word, nothing to be afraid of.

DAD

Ben, ssh...

LANCE

Please (BEN goes quiet)... Thank you.

BEN

Cancer, cancer, cancer, cancer

(B)

LANCE (snaps)

Oh come on, that's out of order

RICK

Eh?

LANCE

Well... he's obviously playing mind-games, isn't he.

DAD

... he's nine

LANCE (paranoid)

He knows what he's doing... like her...

FRANKIE

To be fair I think Karen has been calling pretty accurately,
I mean –

LANCE

She sees what she wants to see.

RICK (to himself)

Well that's rich

LANCE (has heard, he advances on RICK)

... are you calling me a cheat?

RICK (to LANCE)
Yes I am calling you a cheat

LANCE
Listen, matey, I wouldn't need to cheat to beat you, I used to play for my county.

RICK
Which county was that? Wankershire?

LANCE boils for a moment, then whacks a tennis ball straight at RICK

RICK
Come on then!

(A cont'd)

A fight starts between LANCE and RICK, with DAD and FRANKIE trying to separate them... but the adults fight is soft-focus in foreground, through their jostling what we're watching is the open-mouthed astonishment of children who've never seen adults behave this way.

32. EXT. HOUSE DAY (EARLY EVENING)

32

33. INT KITCHEN DAY
(A)

33

MUM is sorting out a lot of dirty football kit.
KAREN comes in.

KAREN
I think the world is unfair to women.

MUM

Absolutely... you're right. Often it is.

KAREN

Because women can't even grow moustaches or beards.

MUM

Well... hardly ever... your Auntie Brenda is a bit of an excep... but do you want to grow a beard?

KAREN

I might. I might want to be a tug boat captain... or an Ayatollah.

MUM

Well, you'd make a very good Ayatollah... But, women can do things men can't... we can have babies.

KAREN

I'd rather have a moustache than a baby. You can always shave off a moustache if you change your mind.

(B)

BEN comes in and starts asking questions about hair growth.

i.e. Why does hair keep growing even if you cut it off?

Is it all coiled up under your skin waiting to come out?

Is there a hair making bit of your head on top of the brain?

Why do men go bald and then have lots of hair coming out of their ears?

Is it the same hair?

Why do all women in shampoo ads flick their heads?

34. INT. LIVING ROOM DAY

(A)

34

DAD and JAKE are watching TV.

Improvised dialogue with contrasting dialogue about -

i.e. Doctor Who.

Bring on the Wall... (OK if Vanessa Feltz was being hit by a real wall, then, yes, that would be entertainment). Or the 1966 World Cup.

Possibly we go via a property programme and get into selling the house – JAKE exits.

(B)

KAREN comes in, and goes over to DAD

KAREN (showing him some pictures)
I've done some drawings. They're of you playing tennis

DAD
Oh... lovely

KAREN
That's you, holding your tennis bat.

DAD
Oh, yes.

KAREN
And there's that man, biting your friend's knee, and your friend is saying (reads speech bubble) 'ouch, ouch, ouchy'... although that isn't actually what he said.

DAD
No, I know.

KAREN
What he actually said was...

DAD
Yes, yes, I know (changing the subject) and what's that up in the sky?

KAREN
That's a dragon

DAD
... being ridden by Barrack Obama?

KAREN

Yes, he's coming to arrest all of you

DAD

Right... and, um, what's the hippo doing there?

KAREN looks at him as if he's an idiot

KAREN

...all my pictures have hippos in

DAD (remembers)

Oh yes, of course, sorry.

MUM enters

MUM

Karen, come on, it's bedtime

KAREN

OK, OK, don't bang on (she goes)

(C)

MUM

I wasn't banging on

MUM plonks herself down wearily on the arm of the sofa

MUM

'Real men don't fight. They're man enough to control themselves'...

DAD

Listen, OK, I didn't fight I was trying to restrain them.

MUM

Ben says you gave this bloke a crafty elbow in the ribs.

DAD

That was an accidental collision... while I was restraining him.

MUM looks at DAD for a moment, not sure whether to believe him

MUM (shakes her head, muttering)
...pathetic... four grown men... what are you watching?

DAD

Erm... it's Simon Cowell being rude to a mentally ill person.

MUM

Oh... right

DAD blips the telly

MUM (pissed off)
Oh look it's the Pussy Cat Dolls

DAD (sensing danger)

Yes... she's got a nice face, hasn't she

He blips again

MUM

(sigh) I tried having a word with Jake about his attitude to women, but, I'm... I'm just so depressed by the way everyone automatically slots themselves (...the doorbell rings...) so easily into these stupid... (she sets off to answer) sexual stereotypes. It's... prehistoric.

35. INT./EXT. DOORSTEP. DAY

35

MUM opens the door. It's HOWARD.

HOWARD

Back as promised. I've actually got a copy of what the Council laughably call their 'Traffic Calming Programme'
Would you like me to talk you through it?

MUM thinks for a moment

MUM

Oh this is too technical for my girly brain... it's man's talk, I'll fetch my hubby

She turns to walk away from him up the corridor, wearing an evil smile as she calls...

MUM

Pe-ter... it's for you, darling.

END of EPISODE