

EP1/SC1. EXT. SALVAGE YARD. DAY 1. 15.00

FRANK

NSE CAROL, RURAL RED NECKS, ROTTWEILER

Barbed wire fence. Stacked up car chassis and rusting engines. Mechanical bailers. The sound of squealing metal.

A couple of NSE RURAL RED NECKS leaning on the bonnet of a stolen 4 x 4. Chatting with the yard owner NSE CAROL - a HARD FACED WOMAN of local ill repute. Unaware that they're under covert surveillance...

A sweaty red face peers over the fence, looking through the lens of a camera. Precariously balanced on a stack of fruit boxes.

This is **FRANK HATHAWAY** - PI. Photographing the exchange. Click. CAROL captured for posterity.

FRANK zooms in on the car registration plate. Camera eye view Framed... Focus point... Red button... Confirmation: it's the stolen car he's been searching for. Click...

CAROL hands over a wad of cash and they all shake on the deal. There's the money shot. Click. FRANK chuckles. Then his laughter dries up... as a mangy Rottweiler trots out of the office. Over to the fence as it senses an intruder. Teeth bared... slathering and barking.

CAROL snaps her head FRANK's way.

FRANK ducks out of sight as the boxes wobble under his weight. He loses his balance and falls.

An ominous thump.

HARD CUT TO:

EP1/SC2. EXT/INT. SALVAGE YARD/TAXI. DAY 1. 15.01

FRANK, AJAY

NSE RURAL RED NECKS, ROTTWEILER

FRANK running for his life. Hobbling and winded after his fall. Seriously unfit.

The rabid dog in hot pursuit. A couple of NSE THUGS gaining ground.

A mini cab parked up at the end of the alley: 'TOUCHSTONE TAXIS. Company motto: 'Travellers must be content.'

AJAY MATHARU - 30s Black Country Sikh; weary insouciance. Meter running: £19.30...

FRANK wrenches open the taxi door and collapses in the back.

FRANK
(wheezes)
Well, don't just sit there...
Drive!

AJAY
Not until you've paid your fare...

The dog nearly at the car... scenting blood.

AJAY (CONT'D)
Round trip... plus waiting time.

The dog flies at the window. Gnashing teeth and slobber... FRANK pulls out a crumpled note. In no position to argue.

FRANK
There's twenty.
(throws it over the seat)
Now put your foot down!

AJAY hits the accelerator and the cab speeds away in the nick of time. The THUGS left standing.

AJAY
You're a heart attack waiting to happen. You know that Frank?

FRANK gasping for breath as the adrenaline ebbs away.

CUT TO TITLES:

EP1/SC3. EXT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. GARDEN. DAY 1. 15.30

GENEVIEVE, LU, VERONICA, CLIVE

NSE HOTEL STAFF

A sedate and idyllic contrast.

Timbered Tudor country house with manicured gardens. A gazebo in the grounds. NSE HOTEL STAFF set up trestle tables for a forthcoming wedding.

THREE WOMEN - weighing up a selection of bridal bouquets.

Hotel wedding planner **VERONICA VINTEN** perfectly groomed. Practiced in the art of flattery.

VERONICA
The Tudor Rose is a popular choice.
Subtle yet sophisticated...

LU SHAKESPEARE distracted as she takes in the scene - lost in the moment... *is this really all for her?* VERONICA brings LU back to the here and now. Another bouquet.

VERONICA (CONT'D)
Or the blushing beauty. Tiger
lilies... and my personal favourite
as it's modelled on my own wedding
bouquet...

LU's mother puts her oar in. **GENEVIEVE SHAKESPEARE** (early 60s) - a model of passive aggression.

GENEVIEVE
I think subtle...

LU
(dithers)
...A girl needs to stand out on her
wedding day...

GENEVIEVE takes in her daughter.

GENEVIEVE
I wouldn't worry on that score,
darling.
(to VERONICA)
We'll go with roses.

LU grits her teeth at another slight.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC3A. EXT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. DRIVEWAY/CLIVE'S JAG. DAY
1. 15.35

GENEVIEVE, LU, VERONICA, CLIVE

The wedding arrangements finalised, VERONICA walks her clients out.

VERONICA
You haven't mentioned the honeymoon? Somewhere nice?

LU
Bora Bora. Clive insisted on somewhere remote and exotic.
(for GENEVIEVE's benefit)
He spoils me.

Talk of the devil. A Jag pulls up in the nearby car park. The driver toots his horn. GENEVIEVE narrows her eyes.

GENEVIEVE
Oh, he's quite the charmer.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC4. INT/EXT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. DRIVEWAY/CLIVE'S JAG.
DAY 1. 15.35

CLIVE, LU, VERONICA, GENEVIEVE

LU gets into the car. Frustration with her mother boiling over.

LU
Anyone would think it was her
getting married.

CLIVE in the driver's seat. Mid 40s. Attractive silver fox - affable and self-assured.

CLIVE
(takes her hand)
Let's elope.

LU
(finally - a smile)
Don't tempt me...

LU turns to pull on her seat belt as CLIVE starts the car.

CLIVE
I thought we'd eat out tonight.

A single strand of red hair on the headrest... Her stomach turns over... but she covers.

LU
...You'll need to drop me in town
first. Nails and a pedicure. A
bride has to look her best.

CLIVE
I'd marry you in sackcloth and
ashes.

CLIVE oblivious to LU's stoney face as the car pulls away.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC5. EXT. STRATFORD UPON AVON. DAY 1. 15.40

NSE PASSERS BY

Beautiful Stratford. Swans on the Avon. Weeping willows framing pastoral meadows. Black and white timbered buildings and quaint cobbled streets.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC6. EXT. SHEEP ST HQ. DAY 1. 15.41

FRANK

FRANK whistles as he takes the stairs. Crumpled and sweaty after his surveillance adventure.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC7. INT. SHEEP ST HQ. RECEPTION/OFFICE. DAY 1. 15.42

FRANK, LU, SEBASTIAN

The sign on the glass reads: HATHAWAY INVESTIGATIONS.
(Francis Hathaway. Private Investigator.)

Dressed as an Elizabethan Minstrel, **SEBASTIAN BRUDENELL** - "RADA trained" Receptionist - sits feet on the desk perusing a copy of The Stage. Mid 20s; lazy and louche. A lute propped beside him. FRANK doesn't bat an eyelid.

FRANK
Audition?

SEBASTIAN snorts - he wishes...

SEBASTIAN
Walking tour of Stratford. I'm a
wandering minstrel.

FRANK
That's one way of putting it.

SEBASTIAN
At least they pay me.

FRANK
End of the week.

SEBASTIAN
You said that last week.

FRANK
(holds up his camera)
Ongoing Stolen Vehicle case... I
tracked the car down to a salvage
yard in Evesham.

FRANK places the camera into SEBASTIAN's tray for safe keeping.

FRANK (CONT'D)
I'll inform the client we've found
his motor. Pass the details onto
the police. Case closed. Money in
the bank.

SEBASTIAN
Which leaves us a workplace comp
claim... and a missing Westie...

FRANK doesn't want to hear it. Heads through.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)
...Oh, and a woman waiting in your
office...

(CONTINUED)

FRANK bowls into PI HQ. Ancient equipment. White Board detailing current cases. A mass of squiggles and photos and arrows and post-it notes. A snap of a mournful looking mutt. LU ensconced on a battered sofa. Police commendation - DI FRANCIS HATHAWAY. Arden Constabulary.

FRANK
(shouts through)
...Coffee please, Sebastian...

FRANK clears some space on his desk. Dirty plates and cups... deftly placed in a drawer. A pile of red bills smoothly hidden under files. LU pretends not to notice.

FRANK (CONT'D)
Frank Hathaway. So what can I do for you, Ms...?

LU
Luella Shakespeare. For the next 72 hours... I'm getting married on Saturday.

FRANK
Congratulations.

LU
(blurts)
I think my fiancé might be having an affair...

FRANK
If I can stop you there... I don't do extra maritals.

SEBASTIAN interrupts with two chipped mugs.

SEBASTIAN
We're out of coffee, tea and milk...

FRANK
(fixed smile)
Then take some money from petty cash.

SEBASTIAN
And petty cash.

LU
Your website says 'no job too small'...

FRANK
I've always seen adultery as a waste of my talents.

SEBASTIAN casts a poisonous look for FRANK'S benefit.

SEBASTIAN
I'm sure he could be persuaded to
make an exception.
(pointed)
For the appropriate financial
incentive.

FRANK does some swift internal calculations.

FRANK
Bearing in mind the incommodious
time frame... I'd have to charge
you double... 250 an hour... plus
any incurred per diems.

LU
(credit card)
Will a thousand do as a retainer?

SEBASTIAN
He'll take it.

Out on FRANK - compromised.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC8. INT. THE MUCKY MALLARD. DAY 1. 16.00

FRANK, LU

NSE LANDLORD, CUSTOMERS

LU and FRANK have retired to FRANK's de facto office. LU with a diet coke. FRANK taking notes with a pint.

LU
Clive Brenton.

FRANK
(scribbles)
And you've been together... how long?

LU
Thirteen weeks... three days.
(off his look)
We met online. A whirlwind romance.

FRANK
(clearly...)
His line of business?

LU
Company Director. Imports and exports...

FRANK
And what makes you think he's having an affair?

LU
I asked him to take tomorrow off to do the seating plans. "Wall to wall meetings", he said... I came across this in his diary...

A photo on her phone. A desk diary page.

LU (CONT'D)
Lunch reservation for two at La Mela dell'Amore.

FRANK
Pricey.

LU
And intimate.

She opens a napkin - a single red hair.

LU (CONT'D)
And then I found this, on his car seat... Autumn Sunset. I'd know that shade anywhere.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)
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LU (CONT'D)

(catty)

She's not even a natural red head.

(off his look)

Janice. His secretary. I've seen
the way she looks at him.

FRANK

I'll need a photo.

LU manages a nod. Does she really want to know the worst?

CUT TO:

EP1/SC9. INT. LA MELA DELL'AMORE RESTAURANT. DAY 2. 13.00

FRANK, CLIVE, JANICE, THIAGO

NSE WAITERS, DINERS

NEW DAY. Linen tablecloths. Discreet romantic alcoves.

FRANK's scruffy demeanour raises eyebrows from his NS WAITER.

FRANK
Fish soup... Carafe of house red.

The WAITER takes his menu - passing another table as he heads for the kitchen. The briefest glimpse of another DINER - Dark hair, cinnamon skin... A distinctive goatee...

A peal of female laughter from a nearby alcove. CLIVE and PA red head JANICE. Late 30s... Plain and toothy.

A beat on FRANK - it takes all sorts...

FRANK gets to work. Places a paperback book on the table. Puts his mobile phone on top of it and a key fob camera on top of the mobile... angles it toward CLIVE and JANICE.

CAMERA: Intimate conversation. A champagne toast.... CLIVE produces a jeweller's box. A diamond pendant necklace.

JANICE holding the necklace up to her neck as CLIVE takes in her bosom approvingly. Caught in the act.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC10. INT. SHEEP ST HQ. OFFICE. DAY 2. 19.00

FRANK, LU (OOV)

SPLIT SCREEN/SC11. FRANK at his desk updating LU.

LU (OOV)
He bought her a diamond!

FRANK
That doesn't prove anything.

LU (OOV)
Have you had much success with
women?

CLIVE's key in the door OOV.

LU (CONT'D)
...He's home.

FRANK
Just don't do anything-

Click. LU hangs up on him.

FRANK (CONT'D)
Rash...

FRANK'S frustration as we swipe to FULL SCREEN.

SWIPE TO:

EP1/SC11. INT. LU'S COTTAGE. KITCHEN. DAY 2. 19.00

LU, CLIVE, FRANK (OOV)

SPLIT SCREEN/SC10. A pretty cottage in a picturesque village. The table laid for dinner. A pot bubbling on the stove. LU on the phone as FRANK updates her. Watching covert footage of Janice and Clive on her ipad. Champagne... toast... necklace.

LU
He bought her a diamond!

FRANK (OOV)
That doesn't prove anything.

LU
Have you had much success with women?

CLIVE's key in the door.

LU (CONT'D)
...He's home.

FRANK (OOV)
Just don't do anything-

Click. LU hangs up on him.

FRANK (CONT'D)
Rash...

FRANK'S frustration as we swipe to FULL SCREEN.

LU quickly picks up a knife. Chopping salad as CLIVE joins her in the kitchen.

CLIVE
Something smells nice...

LU wills herself not to wince as CLIVE kisses her neck.

CLIVE (CONT'D)
I'm starving.

LU's hand tenses on the knife.

LU
(keeps it light)
Didn't make time for lunch?

CLIVE
I took Janice to La Mela dell'Amore

LU savagely decimates a tomato.

LU
Janice?

CLIVE
To say thank you for all her hard
work.
(teases)
If I didn't know better I'd say you
were jealous.

LU turns - the blade of the knife pointing at his heart.

LU
Should I be?

CLIVE
OK - you got me... I needed a
woman's opinion... on this...

The jeweller's box. LU opens it.

CLIVE (CONT'D)
It belonged to my grandmother.
She'd have wanted you to have it.

LU melts in his arms.

LU
Oh, Clive...!

How could she have doubted him?

CUT TO:

EP1/SC12. EXT/INT. QUIET COUNTRY LANE/LU'S CAR. DAY 3. 10.00

FRANK, LU

NEW DAY. FRANK opens the passenger door to LU's Mini and squeezes himself into the passenger seat. He spots a large pair of mounted antlers on the back seat.

LU
(off his look)
Wedding present from my Aunty Gwen.
She and my mother have never got
on.

FRANK squashes himself into the passenger seat.

FRANK
So what couldn't wait?

LU
The case is closed. Complete
misunderstanding...
(the necklace round her
neck)
It's a family heirloom. I should
never have doubted him.

FRANK
At least let me finish those
background checks...

LU
Your services are no longer
required.

FRANK
You're all set to sprint up the
aisle with a bloke you met online
and barely know!

LU
(stung)
I'll rephrase that. You're fired!

FRANK
Well, don't say I didn't warn you!

LU stares ahead as FRANK climbs out and slams the door.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC13. EXT/INT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. BRIDAL SUITE. DAY 4.
11.00

GENEVIEVE, LU, CLIVE, JANICE

NSE HOTEL STAFF

NEW DAY. The bridal suite is laid out with flowers, chocolates... a bottle of champagne.

LU is alone on the balcony. Munching on an orange cream. Resplendent in her bridal gown (a nod to Anne Boleyn). She toys with her pendant as she takes in the scene below.

Catering staff in Tudor garb make last minute floral touches to the wedding. Chairs being set up. CLIVE in his morning suit looking dapper... The man she loves....

LU'S smile freezes as he's joined by JANICE. She attaches a bloom to his buttonhole. Again the easy intimacy.

LU's anxieties again to the fore as GENEVIEVE busies in. Dolled up for the wedding.

GENEVIEVE
The groom's side's looking
distinctly thin on the ground so
I've moved Uncle Andy's lot over to
pad them out. They'll be half cut
when they arrive so I doubt they'll
notice.

LU presents herself for approval. GENEVIEVE chooses her words.

GENEVIEVE (CONT'D)
Well... You certainly make the most
of what you've got.

Out on LU - A back handed compliment if ever she heard one.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC14. INT. MUCKY MALLARD. DAY 4. 12.00

FRANK, SEBASTIAN, WSC DIANE (ON SCREEN), WSC JACK (ON SCREEN)

NSE BARMAN, CUSTOMERS

FRANK's in his usual spot draining a pint. Settled in for the duration. As he gestures to the NSE BARMAN for another, the TV catches his attention.

[Scene 14A] - A WORLD SHOPPING CHANNEL PRESENTER hard selling this week's special. It's a dead ringer for LU's necklace.

WSC DIANE
...Diamonique vintage solitaire
only 79.99, plus postage and
packaging. What can I say except: I
can't believe they're not diamonds!
(to CO PRESENTER)
Jack?

WSC JACK
Certainly had me fooled, Diane.

FRANK
Family heirloom my...!

WHUMP! A file lands on the table. SEBASTIAN. Under sufferance.

SEBASTIAN
Clive Brenton used several dating sites under different aliases. Either he suffers from multiple personality disorder... or the man's a compulsive liar.

FRANK
Romance fraud.
(his pint from the BARMAN)
Thanks, Will... All the rage these days.
(SEBASTIAN's raised eyebrow)
Gobby mare fired me. Apparently it was all a "*misunderstanding*."

SEBASTIAN
She's marrying a con man in less than an hour. Who will, in all probability, ruin her life and render her destitute.
(pointed)
Maybe someone needs to warn her?

FRANK
I did try!

SEBASTIAN stalks off leaving FRANK to ruminate.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC14A. INT. WSC STUDIO. DAY X. -

JACK, DIANE

A WORLD SHOPPING CHANNEL PRESENTER hard selling this week's special. It's a dead ringer for LU's necklace.

WSC DIANE

Undisputed sparkle, unexpected affordability. And there we have it. A Diamonique vintage solitaire only 79.99, plus postage and packaging. What can I say except: I can't believe they're not diamonds!

(to CO PRESENTER)
Jack?

WSC JACK

Certainly had me fooled, Diane.

(to CAMERA)
You too can enjoy the luxe look of the world's most perfect simulated diamond, paired with gleaming gold plated silver.

WSC DIANE

And if my boyfriend is watching.
Hint, hint!

JACK picks up a ring box.

WSC JACK

Here's another hint for Diane's boyfriend. A stunning two carat diamonique solitaire.

DIANE

Emerald setting. 14 carat white gold plated silver.

WSC JACK

Perfect for an engagement ring or that special Valentine's gift. There's nothing like a solitaire to say "I love you"

WSC DIANE

I second that. Diamonique's a girl's best friend....

WSC JACK

Whereas a man's is a dog.

WSC DIANE

I know what I'd prefer.

WSC JACK
Coming up after the break - a
stunning crocodilesque hand bag.

WSC DIANE
And we can assure you that no
crocodiles were harmed in the
making of these bags can't we Jack.

WSC JACK
We can indeed Diane.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC15. EXT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. WEDDING VENUE. DAY 4.
13.00

FRANK, LU, REGISTRAR, JANICE, GENEVIEVE, VERONICA, CLIVE
NSE WEDDING GUESTS, HOTEL STAFF, STILLS PHOTOGRAPHER, VIDEO
PHOTOGRAPHER

The wedding service is in full swing. JANICE and GENEVIEVE on their respective sides of the aisle. NSE PHOTOGRAPHERS. VERONICA hovering at the back of the venue.

Bride and Groom stand before a rotund REGISTRAR dressed as Cardinal Wolsey - in keeping with the Shakespearean theme.

REGISTRAR
"Let me not to the marriage of true
minds admit impediments."

Beer breath, dishevelled FRANK nicks a buttonhole from an NSE USHER. And is accosted by a suspicious VERONICA

VERONICA
Veronica Vinten. Wedding planner.
You are?

FRANK
I'm with the bride.

Sidling in to stand at the back.

REGISTRAR
If any person present knows of any
lawful impediment to this marriage,
he or she should declare it now.

LU looks coyly round. Locks eyes with FRANK - frantically gesturing from the back of the venue... mouthing.... *I need to talk to you!*LU mouths "what?" FRANK jabs a thumb - outside - and slips out of the venue.

Mortified, LU turns to CLIVE and the REGISTRAR.

LU
...Excuse me...

LU hitches up her wedding dress and bustles up the aisle - leaving CLIVE left standing at the altar.

Murmurs from the congregation.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC16. EXT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. WEDDING VENUE. DAY 4.
13.05

FRANK, LU, VERONICA, REGISTRAR, GENEVIEVE, CLIVE, JANICE

**NSE HOTEL SECURITY, WEDDING GUESTS, HOTEL STAFF, STILLS
PHOTOGRAPHER, VIDEO PHOTOGRAPHER**

VERONICA calls for back up as she steps away from the wedding.

VERONICA
(walkie-talkie)
Security to the east wing garden...

LU and FRANK in a hissed altercation. Burly NSE HOTEL SECURITY heading their way.

LU
You've interrupted my wedding to tell me he lied on his dating profile?

FRANK
He's not the man you think he is.

LU
Mine said I'm an outdoorsy girl who loves cooking...

FRANK
You hired me to-

LU
I hired you because I thought he was having an affair - and is he?

FRANK
No. Not to my knowledge but...

He's lost her on the no... FRANK flanked by SECURITY heavies.

LU
I'd like this gentleman removed.

LU readjusts her wonky decolletage and heads back into the wedding.

FRANK
(calls after her)
...You're making a big mistake!

A fuming FRANK bats off SECURITY as he's frogmarched away.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC17. EXT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. WEDDING VENUE. DAY 4.
13.06

FRANK, LU, REGISTRAR, JANICE, GENEVIEVE, VERONICA, CLIVE
NSE WEDDING GUESTS, HOTEL STAFF, STILLS PHOTOGRAPHER, VIDEO
PHOTOGRAPHER

GENEVIEVE rolls her eyes. LU hurries up the aisle mouthing sorries. Breathless as she rejoins CLIVE at the altar.

LU
Just some drunk who wandered into
the wrong wedding.
(to the REGISTRAR)
As we were?

REGISTRAR
...If any person present knows of
any lawful impediment to this
marriage, he or she should declare
it now.

This time he gives it a moment. A hushed beat of expectant
pin drop silence.... Relief all round as finally...

REGISTRAR (CONT'D)
Clive William Brenton and Luella
May Shakespeare... Your vows are
your promises to each other...

FADE TO:

CLIVE and LU join hands as they make their vows.

LU
"Love's gentle spring doth always
fresh remain."

CLIVE
"Love is all truth; Lust full of
forged lies."

JANICE sniffles receiving disapproving looks from GENEVIEVE.
VERONICA watching from her place at the back.

FADE TO:

REGISTRAR
...By the giving and receiving of
rings. I therefore proclaim that
they are husband and wife.

CLIVE and LU lock lips. GENEVIEVE's weary sigh drowned out by
enthusiastic applause.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC18. EXT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. WEDDING RECEPTION. DAY 4.
14.00

LU, REGISTRAR, JANICE, GENEVIEVE, CLIVE

NSE WEDDING GUESTS, HOTEL STAFF, STILLS PHOTOGRAPHER, VIDEO PHOTOGRAPHER, TUDOR MAID, WAITER

A TUDOR MAID strums madrigals on a harp. GUESTS mill. NSE VIDEO AND STILLS PHOTOGRAPHERS recording every moment for posterity. GENEVIEVE with LU. Fixed smile for the camera - CLICK. Eyes on Clive meeting and greeting guests.

GENEVIEVE
He's certainly got Aunty Gwen in
the palm of his hand...

LU
You are happy for me?

GENEVIEVE
I think you've done well...
(guarded)
All considered.

She nabs some champagne from a passing tray. They turn away from CLIVE - as an NSE WAITER hands him a note.

GENEVIEVE (CONT'D)
I hope it's not too late to make me
a grandmother.

CLIVE pales as he slips the note into his pocket.

LU
I've been married for twenty
minutes!

GENEVIEVE
Well, you know what they say... old
hens don't lay eggs.

CLIVE
(interrupts)
If my Tudor Rose will excuse me,
I've left my speech in the room.

LU
...Don't be long...

GENEVIEVE
I'm going to freshen up. Make sure
you talk to all the cousins.

LU clocks JANICE watching CLIVE head off.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC19. EXT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. GARDEN. DAY 4. 14.20

FRANK

NSE HOTEL SECURITY

FRANK weaves his way through the gardens dodging SECURITY and using foliage for cover as he snakes towards the venue.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC20. EXT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. WEDDING RECEPTION. DAY 4.
14.21

LU, REGISTRAR, JANICE, VERONICA, GENEVIEVE

**NSE WEDDING GUESTS, HOTEL STAFF, STILLS PHOTOGRAPHER, VIDEO
PHOTOGRAPHER, TUDOR MAID**

VERONICA disengages LU from a group of GUESTS.

VERONICA
It's time for the toasts, but we
seem to be minus a Groom.

LU
He went upstairs to get his speech.

JANICE
(ear wiggling)
I'll fetch him.

Not so fast. LU puts JANICE straight.

LU
His wife can do that.

LU sweeps away. Out on poor JANICE - demoted to second
fiddle.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC21. INT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. STAIRWELL. DAY 4. 14.25

LU, THIAGO

A WAITER heads downstairs and passes LU, who is heading upstairs. Latin appearance. Goatee beard. This is THIAGO. The man from La Mela dell'Amore.

LU barely registers him in as she swishes toward the Bridal Suite.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC22. EXT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. WEDDING RECEPTION. DAY 4.
14.30

FRANK, LU, REGISTRAR, JANICE, VERONICA, GENEVIEVE

**NSE WEDDING GUESTS, HOTEL STAFF, STILLS PHOTOGRAPHER, VIDEO
PHOTOGRAPHER, TUDOR MAID**

FRANK sidles into the venue. Grabbing a glass of champagne as he scans the GUESTS for any sign of LU.

Accosted by VERONICA.

VERONICA
You again!

FRANK
Five minutes with the Bride.

VERONICA
Five seconds till I call Security.

FRANK
Then give her a message from...

VERONICA gets out her walkie-talkie.

VERONICA
Three... two... one...

GENEVIEVE's ear piercing scream cuts her off. Staring up at the bridal suite...

As LU staggers onto the balcony. Bridal gown drenched with blood... as are her hands - held aloft like Lady Macbeth.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC23. INT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. CORRIDOR/BRIDAL SUITE. DAY
4. 15.00

DI MARLOWE, FRANK, CLIVE

NSE UNIFORM POLICE, HOTEL MANAGER

DI MARLOWE flashes her warrant card at the NS HOTEL MANAGER wringing his hands outside the taped off corridor to the bridal suite.

DI MARLOWE
DI Marlowe. Arden Constabulary.

A NS PC guards the door. DI MARLOWE enters.

The carpet is smeared with blood. CLIVE's body splayed on the floor - his formal shirt drenched with blood. And FRANK! - crouching by the body taking notes. We think she'll arrest him on the spot...

DI MARLOWE (CONT'D)
You know disturbing a crime scene
is a criminal offence?

FRANK points to his shoes, encased in plastic shower caps.

FRANK
Took your time getting here.

Clearly they have history.

FRANK (CONT'D)
Single blow to the chest with a
thin bladed instrument... Bled out
all over the carpet... Doors are
self-closing... Handle's been wiped
clean...
(off MARLOWE's look)
Just appraising you of the facts.

DI MARLOWE
You're not my boss now, Frank.

FRANK
Go on - admit it, you miss me...

MARLOWE sighs her defeat - a sweep of the room.

DI MARLOWE
Murder weapon?

FRANK points to a hairdresser's pouch on the table. An empty gap where the largest pair of scissors are missing.

FRANK
I'd bag that up if I were you. It's
missing a pair of scissors...

CUT TO:

EPISODE 1 - O BRAVE NEW WORLD - SHOOTING SCRIPT
30.08.2017

EP1/SC24. EXT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. GROUNDS. SCENE CUT

EP1/SC25. EXT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. BRIDAL SUITE/CORRIDOR. DAY
4. 15.20

DI MARLOWE, DS KEELER, FRANK

NSE UNIFORM POLICE

FRANK ear wigging as DS KEELER meets DI MARLOWE at the door of the bridal suite carrying an evidence bag with the hairdresser's pouch inside.

DS KEELER
100 wedding guests, 15 waiting staff, a hotel with 80 occupied rooms - oh and a waitress who wants us to investigate the theft of a pair of shoes from the staff cloakroom.

DI MARLOWE
We could be looking for hairdresser's scissors.

DS KEELER
Funny that... because the bride used to own a hair salon. Sold it after she got engaged.

DI MARLOWE
Cordon off the grounds. Full sweep.
No one leaves till I say so.

DS KEELER bristles as FRANK steps out. No love lost.

DS KEELER
...What's he doing here?

DI MARLOWE
Good question.
(to FRANK)
I'm still waiting for an explanation.

FRANK
(sniffy)
Constable Keeler.

DS KEELER
It's Detective Sergeant now.

FRANK
Who'd have thought it?

DI MARLOWE
Still waiting, Frank.

FRANK
The bride hired me.
(off her look)
Client confidentiality.

DI MARLOWE
You're not her bloody lawyer,
Frank...

DS KEELER
He's not even a copper.
(goads)
Not anymore.

DI MARLOWE shoots him a look. Back off Sergeant.

DI MARLOWE
(to FRANK)
You can fill me in now... Or I can
arrest you for obstructing a murder
enquiry.

FRANK outmanoeuvred.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC26. INT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. STUDY. DAY 4. 15.45

LU, DI MARLOWE, DS KEELER

DI MARLOWE and DS KEELER question LU. A forlorn figure as she sits in her blood stained wedding dress.

DI MARLOWE
You hired a private investigator because you suspected your fiancée of having an affair with his Secretary.

LU
It was a misunderstanding.

DI MARLOWE holds up a clear plastic evidence bag. Inside - LU's hairdressing pouch.

DI MARLOWE
Do you recognise this?

LU
They're my hairdressing scissors. A salon pochette... I brought them to do my mother's hair.

DI MARLOWE
Seems to be a pair missing...

LU pales as the implication hits home.

LU
(dawning realisation)
You think they're what killed him?

DI MARLOWE
No doubt the post mortem will shed light on that.

DS KEELER
CCTV footage taken from the hotel lift at 14.25 this afternoon. No sign of this 'waiter' you claim to have seen.

LU
I definitely passed him on the stairs.

DS KEELER
We've checked with the hotel and...

DS KEELER holds up the e-fit reconstruction based on LU's description. The iconic face.

DS KEELER (CONT'D)
...No one matching Che Guevara's
description works there.

LU sighs: the resemblance is indeed uncanny.

LU
(out of options)
...I want to speak to Frank
Hathaway.

It's not looking good for LU.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC27. EXT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. GARDEN/DRIVEWAY. DAY 4.
16.45

**LU, FRANK, DI MARLOWE, DS KEELER, JANICE, VERONICA, GENEVIEVE
NSE STILLS PHOTOGRAPHER, VIDEO PHOTOGRAPHER, WEDDING GUESTS,
UNIFORM POLICE**

LU's walk of shame. Escorted from the hotel flanked by NSE POLICE OFFICERS while GUESTS look on in muted horror. A VIDEO PHOTOGRAPHER recording every moment for posterity.

CAMERA lens. LU flies full tilt toward him.

LU
Turn that thing off!

The lens fills with white noise... a thud as the camera hits the ground... Gravel and feet.

It takes two UNIFORM's to cram LU and her dress into a patrol car. LU's eyes meet FRANK's as she's locked inside.

Out on FRANK - a beat of sympathy.

CUT TO:

EPISODE 1 - O BRAVE NEW WORLD - SHOOTING SCRIPT
30.08.2017

EP1/SC28. INT. ARDEN CONSTABULARY. SCENE CUT

EPISODE 1 - O BRAVE NEW WORLD - SHOOTING SCRIPT
30.08.2017

EP1/SC29. INT. ARDEN CONSTABULARY. CORRIDOR. SCENE CUT

EP1/SC30. INT. SHEEP ST HQ. RECEPTION/OFFICE. DAY 4. 18.30

FRANK, SEBASTIAN

FRANK arrives back at HQ. SEBASTIAN still engrossed in The Stage.

FRANK
You'll be pleased to hear we're
back on the case.

SEBASTIAN circles a possible job with a pen.

SEBASTIAN
I'm positively ecstatic.

FRANK
Did those background checks
come up with anything?

Sebastian's puts a ? next to an audition call.

SEBASTIAN
Just some stuff from Companies
House.

FRANK
(fights impatience)
...Going to tell us what it said?

SEBASTIAN puts down his magazine. Takes his time finding it while FRANK taps his foot.

SEBASTIAN
Brenton Exports. No registration of
any such company.

Out on FRANK as he weighs up developments.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC31. EXT. BUS STOP. SCENE CUT

EP1/SC32. INT. BRENTON EXPORTS. CLIVE'S OFFICE. DAY 5. 09.00

FRANK, JANICE

NEW DAY. FRANK arrives at CLIVE's office. PA JANICE packing up boxes. A framed photograph of LU on the desk. She jumps as she turns to see FRANK behind her.

FRANK
Janice, isn't it?

JANICE
(wary)
...You were at the wedding...

FRANK
I'm a Private Investigator - hired
by Mrs Brenton.

FRANK takes in the office. The transient feel...

FRANK (CONT'D)
Going somewhere?

JANICE
The landlord served an eviction
notice. It doesn't make any sense.

FRANK clocks a book of matches on the desk: 'CERILLOS EL
GALLO - PANAMA CITY'. He slips the matches into his pocket as
JANICE turns back to her packing.

FRANK
How long had you worked for Clive
Brenton?

JANICE
Six month contract... I came
through a temping agency.

FRANK
So you weren't aware his business
was bogus?

JANICE
(thrown)
I just did the filing and answered
the phone.

FRANK
Know anyone who might have it in
for the deceased?

Her eyes flicker to the photo of Lu.

JANICE
He always said she didn't trust
him.

(CONTINUED)

FRANK clocks the red eyes - she's been crying.

FRANK
Fond of the boss, were you?

JANICE drops LU's photo in a bin. A smash of splintered glass.

JANICE
I hope they lock her up and throw away the key.

The grief etched on her face is raw and real.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC33. INT. SHEEP ST HQ. OFFICE. DAY 5. 10.00

FRANK, SEBASTIAN

FRANK & SEBASTIAN take in the White Board. The case so far. Suspects. A poster of Che Guevara. FRANK adds a wedding snap of JANICE to the Board.

FRANK
Jilted lover? Woman scorned... If she couldn't have Clive, then no one would.

He adds JANICE's name and draws a line between her and CLIVE.

SEBASTIAN
"And wet my cheeks with artificial tears..."

FRANK
They were genuine. I can tell when a woman's faking it.

SEBASTIAN
I'm sure you've had plenty of experience.

FRANK
(grabs his coat)
Get on to that wedding photographer. We've got the widow's authority to get hold of the footage...

SEBASTIAN
And where are you off to?

FRANK
Arden nick.
(checks his watch - late)
They'll have to charge her soon, or let her go.

SEBASTIAN
Sorry - slipped my mind... they released her twenty minutes ago. Last heard of headed back to the scene of the crime...

FRANK groans his frustration as he leaves. Useless!

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)
...I'll take that as a thank you...

Back to his magazine.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC34. INT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. LOBBY. DAY 5. 11.00

LU, VERONICA

NSE CONCIERGE, HOTEL STAFF AND GUESTS

The NSE CONCIERGE is behind today's newspaper. A wedding photo of Lu and Clive. The headline screams: 'The Black Widow'. "Bride for an hour!" An attention seeking cough. The CONCIERGE glances up and double takes. "Her!"

LU
I'd like to pick up my honeymoon cases.

VERONICA
(interrupts)
I'll handle this, James.

The CONCIERGE makes himself scarce.

VERONICA (CONT'D)
On behalf of the hotel I'd like to extend our sympathies for your loss.

(beat)
However we've impounded your luggage until the outstanding... amount has been settled.

(whips out an ipad - swiping and tapping)
Eighteen thousand, six hundred and eight pounds and forty nine pence.

(kindly)
We didn't charge you for the toasting champagne.

A tight smile from LU as VERONICA loads her card into the machine.

LU
(PIN number)
I'm sorry if this has caused you any inconvenience-

VERONICA
Two wedding cancellations already this morning. Which is probably a blessing as the bridal suite is cordoned off as a murder scene.
(the card machine bleeps)
...It seems your payment's been declined...

Out on LU - it can't have been.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC35. EXT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. DRIVEWAY. DAY 5. 11.05

FRANK, LU, BANK VOICE (OOV)

LU exits the hotel on the phone to her bank. Telephone hold music. Greensleeves. Oh the irony.

FRANK leans on LU's Mini.

FRANK
Your instincts were right about
Janice. I think Clive was more than
just the boss.

LU
And I thought things couldn't get
any worse...

FRANK
Actually, they can... His business
is a front. Brenton Exports doesn't
exist.

As LU's face drains of colour...

FRANK (CONT'D)
What have you done?

LU
I invested all the money from the
sale of my salon.

FRANK
How much?

LU
Two hundred and fifty grand.

FRANK groans. LU despondent as the full extent of her dilemma hits home.

FRANK
(bucks her up)
Come on...

LU
Where?

FRANK
Your place.
(off her look)
Phones, files, computers... He
can't have invested money in a
bogus business. All we have to do
is find a trail.

(CONTINUED)

LU
...You do believe I'm innocent,
then?

FRANK
Wouldn't be here if I didn't. But
as this is now a murder
investigation I'll be charging
premium rates.
(off LU's look)
If there's a killer out there I
want danger money.

LU smiles - despite herself... as finally - her call is
answered.

BANK VOICE (OOV)
Arden Banking. How may I help you?

LU's trepidation.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC36. EXT. LU'S COTTAGE/NEARBY LANE. DAY 5. 12.00

FRANK, LU

A parked up car nearby in the lane. LU frowning as she checks her bank statement on her mobile as she and FRANK head up the path to her cottage.

LU
The joint account was emptied this morning.

FRANK
Not by a corpse. Looks like Clive has a partner in crime.

LU
I'm a victim of a fraud scam! We have to tell the police.

FRANK
That you fell for a smooth talking con man? Yet another motive to murder him. CPS would have a field day.

LU
(reality sinking in)
...I really thought he loved me...
How could I have been so stupid?

FRANK
You'd be surprised how easily people can be duped.

LU
Go on, say it - I told you so.

FRANK
...Let's just worry about getting that cash back, shall we?

The right thing to say... LU manages a smile. She puts the key in the lock - the door swings open.

FRANK (CONT'D)
...Behind me.

For once LU does as she's told.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC37. INT. LU'S COTTAGE. HALL/LIVING ROOM. DAY 5. 12.05

LU, FRANK, THIAGO

FRANK and LU step into the house. A broken vase in the hall...

FRANK
Stay there...

FRANK heads for the kitchen - as LU hears a noise from the living room. She promptly ignores FRANK's advice. Retrieving her hairspray from her handbag, she steps into the room to find it's been ransacked.

A noise - and then THIAGO flies out of his hiding place. A stolen laptop under his arm.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC38. INT. LU'S COTTAGE. KITCHEN. DAY 5. 12.06

FRANK, LU (OOV)

FRANK hears LU scream from the kitchen. Dashes back to help.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC39. INT. LU'S COTTAGE. LIVING ROOM. DAY 5. 12.07

LU, FRANK, THIAGO

LU fights like a dervish as she grapples with the bearded INTRUDER. He kicks her off as she clings onto his legs like a trooper.

THIAGO
(Mother of God!)
Madre de Dios!

LU unleashes the hairspray... as FRANK appears in the doorway and takes the full brunt of the blast. Aaargh!!!

The INTRUDER makes his escape in the confusion. LU hares after him as FRANK staggers round coughing and blinded.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC40. EXT. LU'S COTTAGE/NEARBY LANE. DAY 5. 12.10

LU, THIAGO

A breathless LU looks on helplessly as THIAGO speeds away in the parked up car from SC36. Screaming engine shattering the calm of the tranquil village.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC41. INT. LU'S COTTAGE. KITCHEN. DAY 5. 12.30

FRANK, LU

LU dabs FRANK'S inflamed eyes with cotton wool and water.

LU
I'm telling you it was Che Guevera -
you must have seen the resemblance.

FRANK
Hardly - you'd just blinded me...

LU
I said I was sorry.

FRANK
So what's on the laptop that's so
important?

LU
I don't know. It was Clive's work
computer.

FRANK
Well, did you get a decent look at
the car?

LU
Brown... ish. More of a metallic
bronze.

FRANK
Saloon? Hatch back? Estate? How
many doors?

LU
I can't think while you're
shouting.

FRANK
Well, pardon me... Knock yourself
out.

LU screws her face in concentration.

LU
P-K-1-6 M-H-N...
(deadpan)
Registration number. And an air
freshener hanging from the mirror
with a logo. Hot Wheels Car Hire.

Hidden talents... FRANK sees LU in a new light.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC42. INT. HOT WHEELS CAR HIRE. RECEPTION. DAY 6. 09.00

STACEY, DAVE/SEBASTIAN

NSE JASON, CUSTOMERS

NEW DAY. Early morning. Deserted office. A bleary-eyed receptionist - STACEY - toying with her muesli. Her peace shattered when **DULL DAVE** clashes in. Acne and overalls - hampered by the doors as he's weighed down by cleaning apparatus. Taking up half of reception as he clatters about off loading bleach, cloths and detergent.

'DAVE' is a well-disguised SEBASTIAN method acting his socks off.

STACEY
The cleaners finished an hour ago.

DAVE/SEBASTIAN
(Nasal)
I'm here for your hardware.
(legend emblazoned on his
uniform)
'Terminally Clean'. Customized
Commercial Cleaning Solutions.

STACEY
They didn't tell me you were
coming...

DAVE/SEBASTIAN
Just need to disinfect your
keyboard...
(unloads his equipment)
You know there's more germs on that
than your average toilet seat...

STACEY retrieves her hands as she stares at the keyboard with distaste.

DAVE/SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)
One of your colleagues does the
evening shift... Tapping away for
hours...

STACEY'S colleague JASON enters the office, picks up some marketing packs from the table and heads back out.

DAVE/SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)
Where have his fingers been..?

STACEY
(nauseous)
...Five minutes...

STACEY evacuates her seat and heads for the coffee machine. SEBASTIAN slips onto STACEY'S warm seat.

Checking the coast is clear types in the CAR REGISTRATION
written on his wrist. ...The computer says SEARCHING...

CUT TO:

EP1/SC43. INT. SHEEP ST HQ. OFFICE. DAY 6. 12.00

FRANK, LU, SEBASTIAN

Dressed as Dull Dave, SEBASTIAN reports back to FRANK and LU.

SEBASTIAN
Thiago Cabrera... Panamanian
national, over here on business.

FRANK takes the matches from his pocket.

FRANK
Did Clive's work ever take him to
Panama?

LU
He never really discussed his job.

FRANK
If he'd been mixing with dangerous
people... we could be looking at a
professional hit...

LU
Using hairdressers scissors?

SEBASTIAN
Ask him yourself.
(slip of paper)
I got the address where he's
staying.

FRANK
Sebastian, I could kiss you.

SEBASTIAN
Please don't.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC44. INT. TRAVEL INN. ROOM 413. DAY 6. 17.00

FRANK, THIAGO

NSE HOTEL GUESTS

THIAGO sitting on the hotel bed. Clive's laptop open on his knee. "Download in progress..." when... all hell breaks loose in the corridor. A fire alarm clamours. Knocking on doors.

FRANK (OOV)
Please make your way down the
stairs. Do not use the lifts...

Banging on the door. THIAGO opens it. FRANK holding a fire extinguisher. A jet of foam in THIAGO's face. FRANK muscles in, kicks the door shut and grabs THIAGO in an arm lock against the wall.

THIAGO
(blinded)
Police?

FRANK
You should be so lucky. So you can
forget your human rights and tell
me about Clive Brenton...

THIAGO's face doused in the wall. Struggles to speak.

THIAGO
Ar...ock...ard...!

FRANK releases his grip a smidgen. THIAGO gasps for air.

THIAGO (CONT'D)
(accented English)
Pocket... card...

FRANK reaches in his jacket. A business card:

Thiago Cabrera. Investigador Privado. Avenue Las Playas 2034.
Panama City.

FRANK
Thiago Cabrera. Investigador
Privado.

FRANK groans - one of his own.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC45. INT. MUCKY MALLARD. DAY 6. 18.00

FRANK, THIAGO

NSE LANDLORD, CUSTOMERS

Clive's laptop on the table. USB stick. Files downloading.
THIAGO samples his pint.

THIAGO
If this is an English apology it's
no wonder you are constantly at
war. It tastes like your weather.

FRANK
(to business)
The laptop...

THIAGO
Encrypted files... Which my client
hopes will lead to the whereabouts
of monies that are rightfully his.

FRANK
Your client being?

THIAGO
Valentina Rodriguez. A former
associate of an Englishman who went
missing - presumed drowned - in a
swimming accident off Bocas del
Toro in 2012.

FRANK
Tragic.

THIAGO
For my client. This man was in
possession of a great deal of her
money. So imagine her surprise when
he resurfaces alive and well under
the alias Clive Brenton.

FRANK
You were at the murder scene...

THIAGO
Looking for this...
(the laptop)
He was dead when I entered the
room. I doubt your police would
have been 'understanding'.

FRANK
They'd have had you cautioned and
locked up in no time.

THIAGO
May I enquire - what was your rank?

FRANK
That obvious?

THIAGO
Former Capitaine Cabrera of the
Panama National Police.

FRANK
Ex Detective Inspector Hathaway.
Arden CID.

The laptop pings. Download completed.

THIAGO
I have what I need to take back to
my client.

THIAGO removes the USB key. FRANK grabs his hand...

FRANK
And in return... I need a name.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC46. INT. SHEEP ST HQ. OFFICE. DAY 7. 09.00

FRANK, LU, SEBASTIAN

NEW DAY. A wedding photograph of Clive and a plus size mystery bride. CLIVE has more hair - smiling besides his rotund bride. Shiny skin, dark bubble perm and thick glasses.

"British Tourist. Drowning accident. Bocas del Toro. *Tragedy strikes as British man drowns on honeymoon...*'

SEBASTIAN

(reads)

Brian Bettsworth married bride Ronnie in St Oswald's Church, Wentworth, before honeymooning in Central America. An idyll tainted by tragedy when Mr Bettsworth failed to return from a midnight swim. A resort spokesperson said:

(Spanish accent)

"Our sympathies are with his wife who is receiving all our assistance at this terrible time".

LU

(stunned)

He had an ex wife?

SEBASTIAN makes a face at FRANK - *bless...*

FRANK

Dead men don't get divorced.

LU

I married a bigamist?!

FRANK

Look on the bright side... It means we have another suspect.

FRANK pins the wedding photo on the evidence board.

FRANK (CONT'D)

Somewhere out there is a grieving widow. Clearly he's done this before...

LU

So what did the police have to say?

FRANK

Marlowe said they'll follow it up. Didn't seem too interested.

LU
Still trying to pin this on me!
(heads over to FRANK's
computer)
It's a good job I've found us
another lead.

FRANK
(put out)
...Hang on! Who said you could
touch-
(a poisonous look to
SEBASTIAN)

SEBASTIAN
(mouths)
Sorry...

LU brings up new evidence on the computer.

LU
Most of these files are encrypted.

FRANK
Yeah, we already know that-

LU
Except for some photo albums.
Corporate stuff mainly... but take
a look at this...

A photo of CLIVE and JANICE. Glasses of champagne in a
corporate stand at a race course.

LU (CONT'D)
Six months she said she'd been
working for him...

LU zooms in on a billboard behind CLIVE and JANICE. 'THE MALT
STAKES. SPONSORED BY GLEN IRVINE.'

FRANK takes in the year. Clearly visible.

FRANK
2012...

LU
They've been working together for
years.

CUT TO:

EPISODE 1 - O BRAVE NEW WORLD - SHOOTING SCRIPT
30.08.2017

EP1/SC47. INT. ARDEN CONSTABULARY. SCENE CUT

EPISODE 1 - O BRAVE NEW WORLD - SHOOTING SCRIPT
30.08.2017

EP1/SC48. INT. SHEEP ST HQ. RECEPTION/OFFICE. SCENE CUT

EP1/SC49. INT/EXT. LU'S MINI/STRATFORD HIGH STREET. DAY 7.
15.00

FRANK, LU, JANICE, SEBASTIAN (OOV)

NSE PASSERS BY

Rear eyeball stakeout. LU and FRANK parked up in the high street. Squashed into LU's Mini. Antlers in the back. Dashboard littered with Styrofoam coffee cups.

SEBASTIAN on car speaker phone.

SEBASTIAN (OOV)
Janice Bardolph served a 12 month sentence for credit card fraud in 2010...

LU raises an eyebrow at FRANK...

FRANK
And before you suggest going to the police... again... If they arrest her now you can kiss your hard earned cash goodbye.

(shifts in his confined space)

Have you ever considered the benefits of a nice hatchback?

LU
(pats the dashboard)
Don't listen.

FRANK
There's a word for your sort. Objectum sexuals. Like that bird who got hitched to the Eiffel Tower.

LU
At least it won't bigamously marry her and steal all her money.

They take in the shoppers.

LU (CONT'D)
...So what's the story with you and DI Marlowe?

FRANK
...Purely professional.

LU
...Ex copper? I thought so. What happened - fail the annual medical?

FRANK
(irked)
Why don't we concentrate on the
case in hand?

Clearly she's hit a nerve... A timely interruption as JANICE heads out of the hairdressers. Freshly tinted hair and bags of boutique shopping. She climbs into a flash car.

LU
Waxing parlour, beachwear, boutique
and summer highlights... I'd say
she was planning a holiday.

FRANK
Quite the detective...

A smug smile from LU as she pulls away - following JANICE's car.

FRANK (CONT'D)
Well, put your foot down!

LU
Er... pedestrian zone... 20 mile an
hour limit.

FRANK
So?

SEBASTIAN - still there. Ear wiggling.

SEBASTIAN (OOV)
Says the man who lost his license
for speeding.

FRANK
Why are you still here?

SEBASTIAN (OOV)
The conversation was just getting
inter...

FRANK cuts him off. As they tail JANICE out of town.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC50. EXT/INT. INDUSTRIAL ESTATE. STORAGE UNITS/LU'S CAR.
DAY 7. 15.25

FRANK, LU

LU's Mini has pulled up behind JANICE'S car - parked outside the storage units. FRANK gets out as quick as he can before LU can make a move.

FRANK
Stay here... And this time I mean it.

LU
Alright!

LU rolls her eyes in frustration as FRANK heads inside.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC50A. INT. INDUSTRIAL ESTATE. STORAGE UNIT. DAY 7. 15.30

FRANK, JANICE

JANICE locks up one of the units. A hold-all at her feet.

FRANK
I think that belongs to my client.

JANICE spins round to find FRANK - not again. As FRANK steps towards her JANICE swings the bag at FRANK. A banshee scream as she clobbers his crown jewels.

FRANK (CONT'D)
Ooof!!

FRANK hits the deck like a sack of spuds. JANICE grabs the bag and runs.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC51. EXT. INDUSTRIAL ESTATE. STORAGE UNITS/LU'S CAR. DAY
7. 15.32

FRANK, JANICE, LU

Through the rear view mirror, LU watches JANICE sprint out of the building with FRANK in laboured pursuit.

JANICE'S POV as she runs through the car park. Straight past LU'S Mini when.... OOMPH!!

JANICE lands on the tarmac in a dazed and crumpled heap, having tripped over a large pair of mounted antlers.

LU
...Whoops...

LU steps calmly out of the car. Unzips the hold-all as a wheezing FRANK finally catches up. The bag is filled with cash.

LU (CONT'D)
How much would you say was in here,
then?

FRANK
(wheezes)
Around two hundred and fifty K.

JANICE
(spits out the words)
I'm the only partner that ever
mattered! He owed me!

LU balls a fist to take a swing at JANICE. FRANK grabs her in the nick of time.

FRANK
Trust me... She'll get what's
coming to her.

Out on JANICE - finally nailed for her crimes.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC52. EXT. INDUSTRIAL ESTATE. STORAGE UNITS/LU'S CAR. DAY
7. 16.00

FRANK, LU, JANICE, DI MARLOWE, DS KEELER

NSE UNIFORM COPPER

A cuffed JANICE is pushed into a police patrol car by NSE UNIFORM. FRANK - leans against the boot of the Mini being read the riot act by DI MARLOWE and DS KEELER.

DI MARLOWE
You can call it a citizen's arrest.
I call it reckless vigilantism.

FRANK
Clive Brenton was a serial
bigamist... Three wives we know of
and counting...
(hands over CLIVE's
laptop)
Evidence is all on that laptop.
(a nod to JANICE)
They've been fleecing vulnerable
women for years... Sad, desperate
women...

LU
(interrupts)
I think we get your gist, Frank...

FRANK
Janice was his partner in crime.
The only other person with access
to those bank accounts. Got greedy
and killed him. Made off with the
money...

DI MARLOWE
(sceptical)
So what happened to this hold-all
full of cash?

FRANK
(to LU - all innocence)
...Did you see a hold-all?

LU
(butter wouldn't melt)
A hold-all? What did it look like?

DS KEELER sneers. Removes Frank's arm from the boot and pings it open. His face drops. Empty.

DS MARLOWE
(loses patience)
Janice Bardolph didn't kill
anyone... Cast iron alibi. The
video footage proves she didn't
leave the venue during the murder
window.

A worried look between FRANK and LU.

DS KEELER
(to LU)
We found those missing scissors.
Dropped out of the bathroom
window...

FRANK
(back foot)
Doesn't prove anything.

DS KEELER
(pointed)
Forensics are testing them now.

DI MARLOWE
(to LU)
I wouldn't go too far if I were
you.

DI MARLOWE follows her partner to the car.

LU
(fumes)
Well, that went well, didn't it?!
Thank you, Frank!

FRANK glowers. A bit of a set back...

CUT TO:

EP1/SC53. EXT. STRATFORD. BUS STOP. DAY 7. 16.10

SEBASTIAN

SEBASTIAN sits at the bus stop dressed as an Elizabethan Minstrel. Lute slung over his shoulder. The hold-all on his knee...

CUT TO:

EP1/SC54. INT. SHEEP ST HQ. OFFICE. DAY 7. 17.00

FRANK, SEBASTIAN, LU (OOV)

SPLIT SCREEN SC55. SEBASTIAN busy adding CLIVE's various aliases to the whiteboard: *Clive Brenton aka Brian Bettsworth, Stephen Jenkins, James Falstaff.*

FRANK on speaker phone to LU.

FRANK
At least we got your money back.

LU'S scrolling through photos of CLIVE'S mystery bride on her laptop.

LU (OOV)
(bleak)
I can't spend it in prison.

FRANK
Why don't you get an early night?

SEBASTIAN
It may be the last one you spend in
your own bed.
(off FRANK's look)
...I'm only saying...

FRANK
You're not going to prison. We've
still got this ex-wife to find.

LU takes in the image on her laptop as...

SEBASTIAN at the white board - takes in the wedding photo of the mystery dowdy bride.

SEBASTIAN
A woman that size should never wear
strapless...
(the bouquet in her hand)
And tiger lilies at a wedding are
so passé...

LU (OOV)
(A tug of memory)
...Tiger lilies...

Her gaze fixes on the same photo on her laptop. The bride. The dark bubble perm and thick glasses. The flowers... A light bulb moment... which she's about to share when...

FRANK
Time you left this to a
professional... Best not to worry
your head about it...

LU fumes. Patronising bastard!

LU (OOV)
(lies)
I have to go... My mother's here.

SWIPE TO:

EP1/SC55. INT. LU'S COTTAGE. KITCHEN. DAY 7. 17.00

LU, FRANK (OOV), SEBASTIAN (OOV)

SPLIT SCREEN SC54. LU'S scrolling through photos of CLIVE'S mystery bride on her laptop. On speaker phone to FRANK.

FRANK (OOV)
At least we got your money back.

LU
(bleak)
I can't spend it in prison.

FRANK (OOV)
Why don't you get an early night?

SEBASTIAN (OOV)
It may be the last one you spend in
your own bed.
(off FRANK's look)
...I'm only saying...

FRANK (OOV)
You're not going to prison. We've
still got this ex-wife to find.

LU takes in the image on her laptop as...

SEBASTIAN takes in the wedding photo of the mystery dowdy bride.

SEBASTIAN (OOV)
A woman that size should never wear
strapless.
(the bouquet in her hand)
And tiger lilies at a wedding are
so passé...

LU
(A tug of memory)
...Tiger lilies.

Her gaze fixes on the same photo on her laptop. The bride. The dark bubble perm and thick glasses. The flowers... A light bulb moment... which she's about to share when...

FRANK (OOV)
I think it's time you left this to
a professional. Best not to worry
your head about it...

LU fumes. Patronising bastard!

LU
(lies)
I have to go... My mother's here.

Hanging up, she grabs her keys and heads out.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC56. INT. SHEEP ST HQ. OFFICE. DAY 7. 17.55

FRANK

FRANK alone in the office. Working his way through the wedding video footage.

ONSCREEN: LU's walk of shame. Escorted from the hotel by POLICE while GUESTS can look on in muted horror.

LU flies full tilt at the camera.

LU
Turn that thing off!

... a thud as the camera hits the ground... Gravel and a CU of shoes.

FRANK looks at the wedding stills photos pinned to the white board then back to the freeze frame. Bingo!

He picks up his mobile - about to dial LU's number... Thinks better of it and pockets the phone.

Hurries out.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC57. INT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. EVENTS OFFICE. DAY 7.
18.00

LU, VERONICA

VERONICA cuts engagement announcements from a newspaper.
Glances up to discover LU in the doorway.

LU
I've come to settle my bill.

LU pulls out an envelope bulging with notes.

LU (CONT'D)
In cash. Eighteen thousand, six
hundred and eight pounds...
(drops coins)
And 49 pence.

VERONICA
...It's rather irregular. But under
the circumstances I'm willing to
make an exception. I'll arrange for
the concierge to fetch your cases.

LU
You've been very kind. I was lucky
I found you...
(the newspaper cuttings)
Although if I remember you
contacted me...

VERONICA
I keep a file.

LU
Clive didn't want an engagement
announcement. But my mother wanted
things done properly. Sent in a
photo without telling us.

VERONICA
Mothers. Always think they know
best.

LU
Is that when you realised your
husband was alive?

LU places the wedding photo of Brian and Ronnie on the desk.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC58. EXT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. WEDDING RECEPTION. DAY 4.
14.00 - FLASHBACK

LU, REGISTRAR, JANICE, GENEVIEVE, CLIVE

**NSE WEDDING GUESTS, HOTEL STAFF, STILL & VIDEO PHOTOGRAPHERS,
TUDOR MAID**

CLIVE - reading the note he's just been handed: *I'm waiting for you in the bridal suite. Your loving wife, Ronnie.*

CLIVE pales as he slips the note into his jacket pocket.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC59. INT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. EVENTS OFFICE. DAY 7.
18.10

FRANK, LU, VERONICA

LU points at the photo. RONNIE's bouquet.

LU
The blushing beauty - modelled on
your own wedding bouquet. Apart
from that I'd never have recognised
you.

VERONICA stares LU down - her secret history exposed.

LU (CONT'D)
You must have lost fifty pounds?

VERONICA
Fifty-four. After being "widowed" a
change was in order. New hair...
new nose... a new career. Wedding
planning. There's irony. Especially
when my late husband pops up with
another unsuspecting bride.

LU
You must have hated him.

VERONICA
Six days of wedded bliss... Then
widowed on the other side of the
world in a country where I didn't
even speak the language. Although I
became quite fluent in Spanish
condolences.

FRANK steps into the room.

FRANK
I'm guessing he's not all that went
missing. Clean you out did he?

VERONICA
My savings. The money from the sale
of my house... My hopes and dreams.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC60. INT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. BRIDAL SUITE - DAY 4.
14.10 - FLASHBACK

CLIVE, VERONICA

CLIVE hurries into the Bridal Suite. Flustered after receiving the note. He's thrown to discover the wedding planner. Doesn't even click at first - why would he?

CLIVE
...Sorry... I was...

VERONICA
Expecting someone else? Don't you recognise me, Brian?

The penny finally drops with CLIVE.

CLIVE
...Ronnie?

VERONICA
It's Veronica, now. So much more refined - don't you think?

CLIVE
My God, you've changed.

VERONICA
You just look older. Less hair.

CLIVE
What do you want?

VERONICA
My money. Every penny you stole from me.

CLIVE
...It's all gone.

VERONICA
Mine perhaps... But you have a new victim now. Bora Bora. Another honeymoon accident I assume is the plan?

CLIVE
(a frisson...)
...You're different. And I don't mean the nose job.

VERONICA gets out her phone.

VERONICA
My money, Brian... Or I call the police. You're looking at a seven year stretch.

CLIVE falls back on his charm. Steps closer.

CLIVE
If I could turn back the clock.
Make everything right between us...

He lifts a finger to VERONICA's face. Runs it down her cheek... A beat on VERONICA - a moment when she just might waver... And then she pulls away and the spell is broken.

VERONICA
The old me may have fallen for that.

CLIVE
...I find the new you infinitely more attractive. If you'd looked like this when I married you... I'd have made the honeymoon last a bit longer...

VERONICA sees red - old insecurities tipping her to breaking point. LU's hairdressing scissors on the table. She grabs them. Lashes out. Surprise on CLIVE's face as his mouth drops open. His blood splashes ruining her stilettos.

Out on VERONICA - holding the bloody scissors.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC61. INT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. EVENTS OFFICE. DAY 7.
18.15

LU, FRANK, VERONICA, DI MARLOWE

A defiant VERONICA stands down her accusers.

VERONICA
You should be thanking me.

LU
I'm the prime suspect for his
murder.

VERONICA
They haven't enough evidence to
convict either of us. And of course
I'll deny it.

FRANK
You can try. Although I've just
been talking to one of the
waitresses. Reported a pair of
stolen shoes...

(notebook)
Pink suede wedges. They were 60
quid half price in the sale and
she'd only worn them once. Wasn't
too chuffed when someone swiped
them from her locker.

FRANK lines up photos with time codes on VERONICA's desk. The
video still from the dropped camera. The change of footwear.

FRANK (CONT'D)
You changed your footwear between
14.00 and 14.20.

VERONICA
(back foot)
So I 'borrowed' some shoes. Doesn't
make me a murderer.

FRANK
Depends what you did with the old
ones. The police are searching your
house as we speak.

As DI MARLOWE steps into the room holding a bloody pair of
wedges in an evidence bag. FRANK looks at his watch.

FRANK (CONT'D)
48 minutes. Not bad.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC62. EXT. ARDEN FOREST HOTEL. DRIVEWAY. DAY 7. 18.30

DI MARLOWE, FRANK, LU, VERONICA, DS KEELER

NSE UNIFORM POLICE

VERONICA sits in the back of a police car. DI MARLOWE and DS KEELER talk to LU and FRANK.

DI MARLOWE
You're a jammy sod, Frank.

FRANK
Don't mention it. And my client?

DI MARLOWE
(to LU)
Free to go.

DI MARLOWE heads off. A glower from DS KEELER as he follows.

LU left alone with FRANK. Her eyes meet VERONICA's as the police car pulls away.

LU
I owe you...

FRANK
My invoice is in the post...

LU
...I think we made a good team...

FRANK manages a non committal smile.

LU (CONT'D)
...Lift?

FRANK
Think I'll stretch my legs.
(leaving)
Try and stay out of trouble, yeah?

Out on LU - as FRANK walks away. Bittersweet.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC63. INT. LU'S COTTAGE. KITCHEN. DAY 8. 09.00

GENEVIEVE, LU

NEW DAY. LU opens the door. GENEVIEVE bulldozes in. On a mission.

GENEVIEVE
I'm here to help you on the upward turn. What you need is some positive psychology.

Presenting her with an envelope.

LU
What's this?

GENEVIEVE
Mini break in the Cotswolds...
(off LU's look off horror)
I know it's not Bora Bora. But at least you'll have some company...

LU clocks the money hold-all. A life changing moment.

GENEVIEVE (CONT'D)
The world is your oyster, Luella!
People will always need haircuts!

LU picks up the bag of cash and walks out.

GENEVIEVE (CONT'D)
Luella-?

The door slams. GENEVIEVE sighs her exasperation.

CUT TO:

EP1/SC64. INT. SHEEP ST HQ. RECEPTION/OFFICE. DAY 8. 09.30

FRANK, LU, SEBASTIAN, DUANE

NSE COLIN

FRANK arrives to find the office in chaos. The reception desk is missing. He runs into a burly BAILIFF DUANE holding a video camera.

FRANK
What the hell's going on?

DUANE
(holds up a piece of
paper)
Francis Hathaway. You've been
served for non-payment of business
rates.

FRANK
(To SEBASTIAN)
Some guard dog you are.

SEBASTIAN
I was tuning my lute.

DUANE nods to the other BAILIFF to clear FRANK's desk.

FRANK
Look, it was just a short term cash
flow problem... Cut me some slack
here... A few more days.

LU
How much does he owe you?

LU in the doorway holding the bag of cash.

FRANK
...None of your business.

DUANE
(checks)
Three thousand six hundred and
twenty two pounds...

DUANE'S COHORT COLIN picks up the chair.

FRANK
...Not the chair! I need the chair!

A wad of money from her bag.

LU
(to DUANE)
Do you really want to carry all
this lot downstairs...?

DUANE weighs up his options...

DUANE
...Put that down, Colin. Start
unloading the van.

The BAILIFFS head for the stairs.

FRANK
(calls after them)
I don't know how you sleep at
night!

The others left alone. A pointed look from FRANK to
SEBASTIAN.

SEBASTIAN
I'll just go and...

SEBASTIAN leaves them to it. LU takes in the office as she
sits on the saved desk.

FRANK
I'll pay you back. Every penny...
Minus my outstanding invoice.

LU
This isn't a loan, Frank. I want
into the business.

FRANK
(dawning realisation)
...Oh no. No, no, no. I need a
partner like a hole in the head.

LU
You said we make a good team.

FRANK
No - you said it - I didn't...
disabuse you...

LU
I'm done cutting hair. I want to do
something that will make a
difference.

FRANK
Then volunteer for a job in a soup
kitchen.

LU
You're drowning in debt. You've got
an out of work actor answering the
phone.

SEBASTIAN (OOV)
(calls through)
A RADA trained out of work actor!

LU
What this place needs is a woman's
touch...

SEBASTIAN
(calls through)
Oh, do let's go shopping for
curtains...

FRANK
(to SEBASTIAN)
Will you not encourage her!
(to LU)
You don't know the first thing
about being a detective!

LU
I know about people - that's not a
bad start. The rest I can learn on
the job. So what do you say, Frank -
partners?

CUT TO:

EP1/SC65. INT. SHEEP ST HQ. RECEPTION. DAY 9. 11.00

FRANK, LU, SEBASTIAN

NSE HANDYMAN

NEW DAY. An NSE HANDYMAN scraping away at the glass. The phone rings.

SEBASTIAN
Shakespeare and Hathaway - Private
Investigators. How may I help you?

Pull back to FRANK and LU - a pair of curtains over LU's arm.

FRANK
...Three months... Trial basis.
We'll see how things pan out.

SEBASTIAN
(Client)
Please don't upset yourself Madam.

LU
Six months...
(to HANDYMAN)
When you've finished here there's a
curtain pole needs putting up.

SEBASTIAN catches Lu's eye.

SEBASTIAN
(on phone)
...Perhaps you'd prefer to speak to
a Female Detective.

LU
Put her through please, Seb.

LU takes the curtains through to the office.

THE HANDYMAN steps back to let FRANK see the sign.

SHAKESPEARE & HATHAWAY PRIVATE INVESTIGATORS

Out on FRANK. What has he let himself in for?

END OF EPISODE