ME & MRS JONES EPI SODE ONE

by

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1 INT. GEMMA'S BATHROOM MORNING

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

CHARLOTTE

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

ŒMMA

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

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

JESS

Come on Nemo. Come on...

ŒMMA

Oh mind out... (

)... Wrestling a goldfish first thing in the...
Gotcha!

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

JESS

() Nemo... what an adventure you've been on!

GEMMA (CONT'D)

Right quick sticks or we'll be late.

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

I NTO. . .

1A INT. GEMMA'S LIVING ROOM MORNING.

1A

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

CHARLOTTE

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

GEMMA follows her down the stairs.

GEMMA.

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

CHARLOTTE

Because you can't add up?

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

ŒMMA

No (

) and can you not eat your pack lunch before school please.

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

JESS

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

GEMMA.

No.

CHARLOTTE

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

JESS

Can Nemo come to dads tonight?

CHARLOTTE goes out the front door followed by GEMMA.

I NTO

2 EXT. GEMMA'S HOUSE, MORNING.

2

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

GEMMA.

No. And don't drag your bag Charlotte.

POST WOMAN

Morning Mrs. Jones.

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

CHARLOTTE

It's from Alfie in China muml

ŒM/A

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

JESS

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

CHARLOTTE

I do.

JESS Eeerrrrghhhhhhhh...

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

CUT TO:

3 INT. JASON AND INCA'S HOUSE - BEDROOM

3

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

JASON (V.O)

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

INCA rubs a dollop of moisturiser between her hands.

I NCA

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

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

JASON

She'll go potty.

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

I NCA

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

JASON

Are you sure I can't change your mind?

() Poo.... No, hang on, I didn't say poo...

CAROLI NE

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

GEMMA

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

CAROLI NE

Not really.

GEMMA

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

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

ŒMM

Great.

GEMMA turns back to the twins for a hug.

ŒMMA

Hug please.

JESS

Mum! Stop being a geeky loser.

ŒMMA

() l'll pay you.

JESS/ CHARLOTTE

How much?

ŒMMA

) 50 pence?

JESS Looks at GEMMA, arms crossed.

JESS

Pound each or no hug.

CHARLOTTE

And we want half up front.

ŒMMA

You two are so like your father.

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

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

TOM

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

GEMMA.

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

TOM looks over at the TW/NS holding lunch boxes at the school door.

TOM

But they've got packed lun....

GEMMA

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

TOM summons up courage.

TOM

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

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

GEMMA.

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

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

ŒMMA

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

She releases his lips and tries to act casual.

FRAN

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

FRAN sees the THREE NIGELLA'S looking over.

FRAN

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

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

ŒMMA

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

FRAN

Flynn buried all my shoes in the garden again.

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

FRAN

You're going to go out with him right?

ŒMMA.

He's not my type.

FRAN

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

GEMMA holds FRAN's lips together.

CUT TO:

5

5 INT. GEMMA'S LIVING ROOM M.D. MORNING

ŒMMA's living room has a lived in feeling. She is sat at her computer in the corner. There are family pictures of her with the TWINS and ALFIE scattered around. She dips a Mars Bar into her coffee. Suddenly JASON is stood behind

her, I eaning against the door frame. He is wearing a grey blouson I eather jacket.

JASON

Enjoying a deep throat chocolate moment are we?

GEMMA.

Jason! Blimey, you nearly gave me a heart attack! How many times can you please knock.

JASON

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

GEMMA.

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

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

JASON

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

ŒMM

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

JASON

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

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

JASON

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

GEMMA.

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

JASON

Why? What difference does it make?

ŒMMA

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

JASON

Singles night at the Legion is it?

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

JASON

Need a hand?

ŒMMA

Nope.

)

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

He puts up the clothes horse looking pleased with himself.

JASON

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

He points to granny knickers that GEMMA is now holding.

JASON

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

He gives the clothes horse a manly pat.

JASON

G ad I popped round now aren't you?

ŒMMA

(smiles sweetly) Love to Inca.

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

GEMMA.

(s) Poo head!

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

ŒMM

Right.

She marches into the kitchen

I NTO

6

6 I NT. GEMMA'S KITCHEN. M D-DAY

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

ŒM/A

Er ghhh.... God.... Er ghh

As she speaks we cut to....

CUT TO:

7 I NT. TOM S LI VI NG ROOM M D- DAY

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

GEMMA (PHONE MESSAGE)

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

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

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

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

TOM

Yes! Yes! Yes! Aaaaah.

He does a small bow.

CUT TO:

8

8 I NT. BOUTI QUE DRESS SHOP. LUNCH TI ME

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

GEMMA.

I'm not sure about this dress Fran.

There is no answer.

GEMMA (cont'd)

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

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

7

GEMMA (cont'd)

Fr an!

FRAN

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

GEMMA.

Fran! This dress is... confusing.

FRAN

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

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

FRAN (cont'd)

I thought you we're going to chicken out of this date with Tom

GEMMA (V.O.)

Jason drove me to it.

FRAN

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

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

ŒMMA.

I look like Noddy.

FRAN

I quite fancied Noddy when I was little - he had his own car.

() It might help if you took your other clothes off.

ŒMMA

Fi ne.

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

FRAN

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

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

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

FRAN

Who was the last man you slept with?

GEMMA tries to think.

GEMMA

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

FRAN

It was Jason wasn't it?

ŒMMA

Yes.

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

FRAN

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

GEMMA (V.O.)

) Really?

FRAN

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

ŒMMA'S head appears through the curtain, she looks a messobviously been struggling to get out of the dress.

GEMMA.

I'm going to cancel.

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

FRAN (V. O.)

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

ŒMMA

() Houdini would struggle with this...

FRAN pops her head into the cubicle....

Saved your life?

ALFI E

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

BI LLY

It was quite romantic really.

GEMMA (CONT'D)

I thought you were going to be away "discovering yourself" until Christmas.

ALFI E

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

Man those bears are really going for it...

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

BI LLY

(to Gemma)

If it's a problem me staying I can just...

ALFI E

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

ŒMMA

It's fine. Chits so lovely to have you home lets celebrate with a - Tom

ALFI E

What's a Tom?

ŒMMA

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

ALFI E

Don't do that mum, we're gonna go out anyway, right, need to grab a shower if I'm gonna work the Alfie magic tonight.

Make yourself at home mate.

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

BI LLY

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

GEMMA.

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

CUT TO:

10

10 EXT. FOOTBALL MATCH. SCHOOL PLAYING FIELDS - AFTERNOON

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

I NCA

(

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

I should be revising for my waxing exam Jason.

JASON

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

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

TOM

Good team work Poppy. That's the spirit!

CAROLI NE

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

TOM

Thank you.

CAROLI NE

() No thank you, for being such a positive male role model.

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

JASON

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

I NCA

Which one?

JASON

The one who looks like a knob.

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

LNCA

He's a handsome knob.

JASON

No he's not.

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

I NCA

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

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

JASON

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

TOM looks over nonplussed at JASON shouting.

I NCA

It was Charlotte who scored.

INCA walks off, her heels sink in the mud.

CUT TO:

11

11 INT. GEMMA'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM NIGHT

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

ALFI E

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

BI LLY

And you're OK with that?

ALFI E

She was hot.

BI LLY

was a

ALFI E

Shut up! She was all woman.

BI LLY

You were pissed out of your brains on Thai whiskey.

ALFI E

So. She had all the right bits.

BI LLY

On the outside maybe.

ALFI E

Jeal ousy is a terrible thing my friend.

BI LLY

Her name was Ken!

BILLY heads for the kitchen with his dirty clothes.

ALFI E

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

CUT TO:

12 I NT. GEMMA'S HOUSE KI TOHEN. NI GHT

12

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

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

BILLY stands up and they are now facing each other.

BI LLY

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

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

CUT TO:

13 INT. GEMMA'S LIVING ROOM NIGHT

13

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

GEMMA.

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

ALFI E

Chill, I know what I'm doing.

The door bell goes.

ŒMMA

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

)

ALFI E

Yeah, fine.

CEMMA goes to the door and lets in TOM

ŒMMA

Tom hi, come in.

He comes into the living room

TOM

Wow! You look...

Super!

GEMMA

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

ALFIE doesn't even look up from the computer.

ALFI E

Alright mate.

TOM

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

ALFI E

() That muppet isn't my dad.

ŒMMA

Alfie! I had Alfie waaay before I met Jason... I mean not waaaay way. I'm not that old... I mean I'm oldish, obviously but not... I was really young when I had Alfie.... I mean not young as in "headline in the Daily Mail"

TOM

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

They all stare at TOM blankly as he smiles broadly.

CUT TO: dl y.

I NCA

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

CHARLOTTE

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

INCA

Excuse me?

JESS

When you were at your spray tan class.

JASON

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

INCA

Are you lying to Inca?

JASON

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

INCA

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

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

CUT TO:

15

15 I NT. THAI RESTAURANT. NI GHT

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

GEMMA.

These are lovely.

She sucks long and hard on the straw.

TOM

Steady there cowboy, they're strong.

She laughs, then does a hiccup.

GEMMA.

Been a long day, I needed that.

TOM

You look really stunning Germa.

ŒMMA

Thank you.

TOM

I knew you could.

ŒMMA looks at him slightly shocked.

TOM

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

ŒMMA

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

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

TOM

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

He laughs, GEMMA looks at him blankly.

ŒMMA

Marmite moustache?

TOM

Yeah, it's either Marmite or Chocol at e spread.

ŒMMA

() It's Marmite.

TOM

(

TOM
I like your teeth.

CUT TO:

16 I NT. BUS - NI GHT

16

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

ALFI E

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

BI LLY

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

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

ALFI E

Aye! Aye! . . .

ALFIE I eans over to them to introduce himself.

ALFI E

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

FROSTY GIRL

(Really?

CUTE GIRL smiles at BILLY.

ALFI E

Oh yeah. Tell them Billy.

BI LLY

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

FROSTY GIRL

Sex change?

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CUTE GIRL and BILLY laugh.

ALFIE

You're funny, I like you.

FROSTY GIRL looks slightly taken aback by this.

ALFIE

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

BILLY
Paris Hilton?

ALFIE

(

Someone I can share things with
```

BI LLY

like....

BI LLY

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

The girls laugh. The boys are in.

CUT TO:

17 I NT. THAI RESTAURANT. NI GHT.

17

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

TOM

) Khorb koon ka.

The WAITER does a little bow and leaves.

TOM

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

ŒMMA

Yumny.

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

TOM

Germa I...

TOM stops GEMMA looks up and smiles.

ŒMMA

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

TOM

Have I been a bit over the top?

ŒMMA

What?

TOM

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

ŒMMA

No. . .

TOM

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

ŒMMA

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

She smiles. He smiles. She smiles.

TOM

You really do have great teeth.

CUT TO:

18 I NT. TRENDY BAR. NI GHT

18

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

RACHEL

So you're mates with our Alfie then?

BI LLY

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

RACHEL

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

BI LLY

She had three daughters.

RACHEL

)

Ah.

BI LLY

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

RACHEL

So you thought here was a safer bet?

BI LLY

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

RACHEL

Sexually no, I've just turned lesbian.

She smiles over at MEGAN her partner clearing tables.

BI LLY

Right, congratulations. But I meant work wise.

RACHEL

You worked a bar before?

BI LLY

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

RACHEL

3 days?

BI LLY

The Ninja granny ran us out of town.

RACHEL

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

BI LLY

Cheers.

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

FROSTY GIRL

Well, what do you think?

ALFI E

You're right they do feel kinda natural.

FROSTY GIRL

Told ya.

BILLY and RACHEL smile.

BI LLY

You better get your broom

CUT TO:

19 EXT. DOORSTEP GEMMA'S HOUSE. NI GHT

19

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

GEMMA.

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

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

ŒMMA

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

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

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

TOM

So. . . .

GEMMA.

So err...

TOM

You fancy another date sometime?

GEMMA.

Er...yes. That would be nice.

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

GEMMA

Sorry.

TOM

Sorry. I'm rushing things.

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

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

ŒMMA

()
I can't feel my feet.

TOM

I know what you mean.

ŒMMA

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

TOM

What! Oh sorry.

BILLY comes round the corner and walks straight in on them

BI LLY

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

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

GEMMA.

Where's Alfie?

BI LLY

Still sampling some of the local delights.

They all stand awkwardly on the doorstep.

BI LLY

Right I'll leave you to it.

They all stand awkwardly again.

BI LLY

By e.

TOM

Bye.

BILLY lets himself in.

GEMMA.

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

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

CUT TO:

20 INT. GEMMA'S HOUSE. NIGHT

20

GEMMA follows BILLY into the house.

BI LLY

I'm really sorry for interrupting your...

ŒMMA

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

BI LLY

Mnd if I make a coffee?

How bi g?

BI LLY

NHS specs and acne big.

GEMMA

Do it.

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

ŒMMA

What's wrong with it?

BI LLY

Shhh...

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

BI LLY

There we go.

GEMMA

Oh thank you, thank you!

She hugs him

BI LLY

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

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

JASON

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

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

ŒMMA

Beansprout s?

JESS

She made us eat green stringy stuff mum

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

Oh no! Sorry Billy.

BI LLY

It's fine.

CHARLOTTE then throws up in the bucket.

JASON

Ergh this is disgusting...

ŒMMA

Get out!

JASON

It's not my fault.

ŒMMA

It never is.

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

BILLY passes JASON on his way upstairs.

JASON

Who are you anyway?

ŒMMA

Not now Jason.

GEMMA heads upstairs with the twins

JASON

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

Couldn't he rise to the occasion?

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

JASON

Alright, I'm leaving.

CUT TO:

21 I NT. HALLWAY. NI GHT

21

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

BI LLY

Got the sick off.

GEMMA

Good. Sorry about that.

BI LLY

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

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

ALFI E

What's your name?

FROSTY GIRL

Sam

ALFI E

Sam, short for...?

FROSTY GIRL

Samant ha.

ALFI E

Just checking.

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

CUT TO:

22 I NT. BATHROOM NI GHT

22

ŒMMA and BILLY are standing close together by the bathroom

BI LLY

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

GEMMA.

Yes...no

I may have slightly over reacted.

BI LLY

To me having a shower?

GEMMA.

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

BILLY

Why?

Do you usually get up to no good with his friends?

ŒMMA

No! Absolutely not. Never. How could you even insinuate...

BILLY

<u>l</u> di dn' t .

ŒMMA

Shhh!

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

ŒMMA

He's gone.

BI LLY

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

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

BI LLY

Good night Mrs. Jones.

ŒMMA

... Good night.

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

BI LLY

Good night.

ŒMMA

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

BILLY leaves. ŒMMA glances at herself in the mirror.

ŒM/A

M nd the bed bugs don't bite? Really?

She slides down the wall and sinks to the floor.

ŒMMA

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

END.