

WELCOME TO OUR VILLAGE, PLEASE INVADE CAREFULLY

Episode 2.3 – 'Questioning Loyalties'

by

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EXT. PARK

**F/X: LAWRENCE, THE PARK KEEPER (40s), JANGLES HIS KEYS AS HE PREPARES TO UNLOCK A SHED.**

KATRINA: Lawrence! Don't open that shed!

LAWRENCE: Hello Katrina. How's your mum and dad?

KATRINA: Normal. Just like everything else. Completely normal.

LAWRENCE: Must be a bit funny, living with ~~them~~ <sup>one of them</sup> again, staying in your old bedroom, now you're 34!

KATRINA: Yes, it's hilarious. In fact it's one o' á ä . e

LAWRENCE: But you don't know how to drive the ride-on mower.

KATRINA: Of course I do.

LAWRENCE: When have you driven a ride-on mower?

KATRINA: Oh, all the time, up in London, we all drive ride-on lawnmowers.

LAWRENCE: Why?

KATRINA: Because... they're... exempt from the Congestion Charge.

LAWRENCE: I'll have to remember that next time I'm down.

KATRINA: Although by then the entire planet will probably have been invaded by aliens, seeing as how Lucy and I are the only ones trying to stop them.

LAWRENCE: Oh, I expect it'll all blow over.

KATRINA: Yes, probably, I'm sure it's nothing to worry about. So if you want to pop along, I'll mow this grass for you.

LAWRENCE: No, you're all right. Until this alien invasion business, I hadn't realised just how much of my sense of identity was bound up with keeping a large expanse of grass from growing past a certain point.

**F/X: LAWRENCE STARTS UNLOCKING THE SHED.**

KATRINA: Lawrence! No –

**F/X: AND HE OPENS THE SHED DOOR.**

LAWRENCE: Good lord!

MINION:

LUCY: We could have a ride round the park on the ride-on lawnmower?

KATRINA: (BEAT) All right, but I'm driving.

MINION: (ALIEN ME TOO?)

KATRINA: No, not you too.

INT. ULJABAAN'S HOUSE

F/X: USUAL AMBIANCE.

MARGARET: Mr Uljabaan, I wondered if I might raise some of the residents' issues with you.

ULJABAAN: Fine, Margaret, but I can't promise I'll listen. When I hear about the problems of lesser life forms I tend to tune out.

MARGARET: (BEAT) Right.

ULJABAAN: No offence.

MARGARET: If you say so. Now. Linda Morgan is pregnant.

ULJABAAN: Really?

MARGARET: I know, it's such good

COMPUTER: Yes?

ULJABAAN: Make a note –

MARGARET:

Do you know why we didn't win Best Kept Village In





ULJABAAN: Yes.

LAWRENCE: And I can have it?

ULJABAAN: Well don't take the piss, but yes.

INT. LYONS HOUSE

**F/X: KATRINA ENTERS.**

KATRINA: Hi Dad.

RICHARD: Hello love. What have you been up to?

KATRINA: Kidnapped one of Uljabaan's minions. Questioned him. Couldn't understand a word he was saying. Got found out. Let him go.

RICHARD: Cheer up, pub quiz tonight. We can make it five wins on the bounce – no team has ever done that in the modern era.

KATRINA: I bet Uljabaan stops me winning that too.

RICHARD: Why would he do that?

KATRINA: To deprive me, his sworn enemy, of a powerful symbolic victory.

RICHARD: Are you his sworn enemy?

KATRINA: He's certainly sworn at me.

RICHARD: I'm sure he's got more important things to do than stop us winning a pub quiz.

KATRINA: You think? The other day I saw him personally removing a caricature of him Lucy had scratched into the perspex window of the bus shelter, and then he drew one of her.

**F/X: MARGARET ENTERS.**

MARGARET: Oh, Katrina.

KATRINA: What are you Oh, Katrinaing me for now?

MARGARET: You tried to kidnap one of Mr Uljabaan's troops, didn't you.

KATRINA: I didn't try to, Mum, I did. Why do you always have to belittle my success?

MARGARET: It was spectacularly ill-timed.

RICHARD: Why?

MARGARET: I was just about to convince Uljabaan to cut down the Alexanders' pear tree.

KATRINA: Not the pear tree again. I thought you gave up on this years ago?

RICHARD: As far as your mother's concerned, revenge is a dish best served long after everyone thinks it's dead. Then it leaps up from the plate and bites your face off.

MARGARET: This is not about revenge.

RICHARD: She also believes revenge is a dish best served under another name entirely, so you think you're being served a nice pie, whereas in fact you're being served very, very cold revenge.

MARGARET: I'm serious. It's a hazard. Someone will break a leg.

KATRINA: Gosh, Mum. It almost sounds like you're showing a concern for health and safety.

MARGARET: No. It's common sense.

KATRINA: Common sense about health and safety.

MARGARET: Health and safety is only a problem when it goes too far.

KATRINA: So what level of illness and danger do you feel is appropriate?  
Scurvy and electrocution?

MARGARET: Katrina –

KATRINA: Or whooping cough and avalanches?

RICHARD: Dropsy and flying in a snowstorm.

MARGARET: Don't you start.

KATRINA: Shingles and putting a rug on a polished floor.

MARGARET:

KATRINA: Nobody thinks Never Say Never Again counts. Are you sure this isn't a trick question?

RICHARD: What else would the connection be?

KATRINA: (BEAT) That they're all actresses Ron fancies?

RICHARD: No, that can't be it because I remember him saying he'd really gone off Teri Hatcher.

KATRINA: Poor Teri. She'll be so cut up when she finds out.

**F/X: DOOR OPENS, MINION ENTERS.**

MINION: (ALIEN GREETING)

LAWRENCE: Great, here he is – Ron, we can start.

KATRINA: One of Uljabaan's troops is joining your team?

LAWRENCE: No, the thing he's carrying is joining our team.

KATRINA:

But that's not fair. Uljabaan's

MINION: (ALIEN RIGHTO)

**F/X: MINION LEAVES.**

RON: (D) Eyes down please. Round One. General Knowledge.  
Question One. What is the chemical symbol for magnesium?

COMPUTER: Big M, little g.

**F/X: ALL THE TEAMS WRITE THIS DOWN.**

LAWRENCE: Yeah great, but could you whisper?

COMPUTER: (WHISPERS) Sorry.

EXT. PUB

**F/X: MINION WALKS OUTSIDE. THERE IS A COMMOTION  
NEARBY INVOLVING LUCY AND MARGARET.**

LUCY: Did you tell Uljabaan to cut that tree down?

MARGARET: I'm sorry, Lucy, but it has to go.

LUCY: But that's murder!

MARGARET: No it isn't.

MINION: (ALIEN STEADY ON LADIES)

MARGARET: Stay out of this, please.

MINION: (ALIEN SORRY)

LUCY: Oh, I'm sure you don't like to think about it when you're sitting reading a book, but the truth is, you're stroking the chopped-up corpse of a tree. It's disgusting.

MARGARET: We're certainly not making any books out of this one. I think we'll have it cremated instead.

LUCY: You dreadful witch!

**F/X: LUCY STORMS AWAY.**

LUCY: Wood is murder! Wood is murder! Books are butchery!

INT. PUB

**F/X: QUIZ WRAPPING UP.**

RON: (D) Runners-up with sixty-nine points are Parallel Lyons...

**F/X: RICHARD THROWS PENCIL DOWN.**

RICHARD: Bloody hell.

RON: (D) And the winners with eighty-one points are Lawrence and the Machine!

**F/X: LAWRENCE AND HIS TEAM CHEER. OTHERS MAKE DISGRUNTLED NOISES.**



KATRINA: But there were only eighty questions.

RON: (D) They got a bonus point for having the best team name.

RICHARD: I told you we should have gone with Two Lyons On The Shirt.

KATRINA: It doesn't make any sense, Dad, we're not on a shirt.

RICHARD: What a farce. One of the silver linings of being cut off from the outside world by an alien invasion was that people couldn't use their phones to cheat on the pub quiz. And now this!

KATRINA: I told you Uljabaan would put a stop to our winning streak somehow. It's not enough to get at me – he has to hurt my family too.

RICHARD:

LAWRENCE: And if there's anything else I can do, that might be appreciated in a similar way, prior to the next pub quiz, like if you need help cutting down the pear tree in the Alexanders' front garden...

ULJABAAN: I don't.

LAWRENCE: I've got a lot of experience removing large plants, and I've never lost a finger to a chainsaw yet. (BEAT) Two toes, but you don't miss toes. Look, I can balance on one foot and you'd never know the difference.

ULJABAAN: I have no intention of cutting down the pear tree.

LAWRENCE: Why's Lucy chained herself to it then?

ULJABAAN: Lucy Alexander?

LAWRENCE: Yeah. I say chain, she's used an old bike lock. She said she wanted to save the tree from you.

ULJABAAN: Can we be clear on this? Lucy Alexander wants to save a tree?

MINION: (ALIEN INTERJECTION)

ULJABAAN: Curious. Gantac says he saw Miss Alexander arguing with Margaret about the tree outside the Rose & Crown last night. Computer?

COMPUTER: Yes.

ULJABAAN: Run a personality profile of Lucy Alexander and calculate the probability that she would ever genuinely care about a tree.

**F/X:** **BLEEP.**

COMPUTER: Probability calculated at three point six four per cent.

ULJABAAN: Exactly as I thought.

COMPUTER: What, right down to the same number?

ULJABAAN: Broadly similar to what I thought. Thank you again for this information, Park Keeper.

LAWRENCE: Can I have the Computer for the next pub quiz?

ULJABAAN: Yes, Park Keeper, yes.

LAWRENCE: Brilliant. (BEAT) You do know that Park Keeper isn't my name, don't you?

ULJABAAN: I can make it your name if you continue to be insolent.

LAWRENCE: Sorry.

**INT. LYONS HOUSE (KITCHEN)**

**F/X:** **KATRINA ENTERS.**

KATRINA: Morning Mum. Why are you looking out of the window?

MARGARET:                   There's a man hiding in the coal bunker.

KATRINA:                    He's not hiding very well, then, is he?

MARGARET:

KATRINA: Oh bloody hell.

RICHARD: If they find out something about Katrina and dob her in to Uljabaan, they're hoping they'll get the Computer on their team. I bet that's Gary Morley in the coal bunker.

MARGARET: How are we going to get rid of him?

RICHARD: Set fire to the coal?

KATRINA: I expect he'll go away if he learns something he can tell Uljabaan, such as the fact that (LOUDLY) I put poison in Uljabaan's morning coffee and at any moment he might drink it and die.

**F/X: PAUSE. NOTHING HAPPENS.**

KATRINA: (LOUDLY) Although if someone got there in time to warn him, his life would be saved and he'd be eternally grateful.

**F/X: OUTSIDE, SOMEONE GETS OUT OF A COAL BUNKER AND RUNS FROM THE GARDEN.**

MARGARET: He's gone. What a lot of fuss just to win a silly pub quiz.

RICHARD: Ah, now Margaret, I've been to silly pub quizzes and the Rose & Crown's pub quiz is not silly.

KATRINA: I loved that Dad and I had something to do together. We're a good team. Dad knows about sport and old films and TV shows, and I know about things that actually matter.

RICHARD: Isn't there anything we can do?

KATRINA: Lucy an

EXT. LUCY'S HOUSE

F/X: ULJABAAN APPROACHES.

ULJABAAN: (BEAT; TOUCHED) I see. Well, if that's –

MARGARET: Oh don't be so gullible.

ULJABAAN: (COLLECTING HIMSELF) What?

MARGARET: You don't believe any of this rubbish do you?

ULJABAAN:



ULJABAAN:

INT. PUB

**F/X: KATRINA AND RICHARD ARE MEETING WITH RON.**

RON: Look, I know it isn't in the spirit of it –

RICHARD: It's so far from being in the spirit of it, it can't even see the spirit of it because the spirit of it is over the horizon.

RON: But it's driving up interest in the quiz. Even people who are useless at pub quizzes think they might be in with a chance, if they can get the Computer on their team.

KATRINA:

KATRINA: OK, firstly – a bowl of baked beans with some chorizo in it is not tapas, and secondly these people have their pride. Graham has been entering every week for eight years. You think he's playing for second place? No – he thinks he has a chance of winning.

RON: He doesn't have a chance of winning.

KATRINA: No, but he turns up anyway. And that misguided belief in his ability to overcome his own sub-mediocrity is what makes humanity what it is. But even someone as slow-witted as Graham will realise he can't beat a Computer that knows everything.

GRAHAM: Are you talking about me?

KATRINA: No, Graham. You just go on doing your wordsearch.

RICHARD: You haven't been eavesdropping on us, have you?

GRAHAM: Why would I do that?

KATRINA: Ironically, if you'd been eavesdropping on us, then you'd know why you might want to eavesdrop on us.

GRAHAM: I've been concentrating so hard on the wordsearch I didn't notice you were there. I've only got one more word to find and I can't see it for the life of me.

RICHARD: What's the word?

GRAHAM: 'Wordsearch'.

KATRINA:

MARGARET: I just walked past Graham on the way in. It's a bit early for him, isn't it?

RON: Not these days, Margaret. Things aren't great between him and Carol. Some days she just stares at him until he leaves the house.

MARGARET: You know that until the invasion happened, she was going to leave him and shack up with that chap in Amersham?

RICHARD: Everyone knows that.

MARGARET: Apart from Graham.

KATRINA: Ron... I've got an idea. Announce that you're holding a bonus pub quiz tonight.

RON: I can't do that!

KATRINA: Why not?

RON: Because it's Wednesday. Wednesday night is salsa dancing.

RICHARD: Ron, skip the salsa dancing. It's awkward anyway when no women turn up.

RON: It's not a problem for those of us who are at ease with their sexuality.





ULJABAAN: Tell me.

LUCY: Never!

ULJABAAN: Then I shall be forced to use... the mind probe.

LUCY: All right, I'll tell you then.

ULJABAAN: Really?

LUCY: Yeah, I don't want you to use the mind probe. What is the mind probe?

ULJABAAN: It's a device for probing your mind.

LUCY: Sounds nasty.

ULJABAAN: It really is. Now speak, youngling! What is the truth behind this tree?

LUCY: (SIGHS) You know how you disabled all communications with the outside world when you invaded the village?

ULJABAAN: Yes.

LUCY: Well you missed one. I found a broadband cable that still works, running under the pear tree in our front garden.

ULJABAAN: If it still works, why haven't you used it to summon help yet?



LUCY: Nobody would believe it, would they? We need evidence first. Anyway, that's why I didn't want you to pull up the tree.

ULJABAAN: Foolish girl. You've played right into my hands. Instead of protecting the tree, your actions have only drawn attention to it.

LUCY: Oh... yeah, I didn't think it through did I.

ULJABAAN: Yartek – gather three other troops, a chainsaw, some shovels and a tractor beam, and convene at Miss Alexander's house. Computer? (PAUSE) Computer?

MINION: (ALIEN EXPLANATION)

ULJABAAN: What do you mean, gone to the pub quiz?

INT. PUB

**F/X: PUB ATMOSPHERE. LAWRENCE WALKS PAST, WITH THE COMPUTER.**

LAWRENCE: Evening.

MARGARET: Good evening, Lawrence.

LAWRENCE: Margaret? You've never done the pub quiz before.

MARGARET: No, but Katrina thought I might enjoy this one.

LAWRENCE: You picked a bad week to start quizzing. We are going to walk it tonight.

KATRINA:



**F/X: RICHARD WRITES THIS DOWN.**

KATRINA: (LOW) Excellent.

RON: (D) Question two: Who really smashed the passenger window on Janine's Ford Focus on Christmas Eve 2002?

**F/X: MUTTERS AND SCRIBBLING.**

MARGARET: (LOW) She did it herself.

**F/X: RICHARD WRITES THIS DOWN.**

RON: (D) And for a bonus point, why?

MARGARET: (LOW) To get out of visiting her father in the hospice on Christmas Day. This is fun!

KATRINA: It's a shame Lucy isn't here.

MARGARET: Yes, I would have thought Uljabaan would have finished interrogating her by now.

KATRINA: Interrogating her?

RON: (D) Question three. How much money did Mike Gravett lose when his property empire collapsed in 1989?

MARGARET: (LOW) Trick question. He didn't lose any money because he put everything in Emily's name.

**F/X:** **RICHARD WRITES THIS DOWN.**

KATRINA: Why's Uljabaan interrogating Lucy?

MARGARET: She's been trying to convince him that she and you have found a working broadband cable underneath the pear tree in her front garden.

RICHARD: Have you?

KATRINA: No.

MARGARET: No, Lucy and I made it up.

RON: (D) Question four. During her breakdown in the summer of 1996, Penny Saunders started stalking which popular television actor?

MARGARET: (LOW) Jimmy Nail.

**F/X:** **RICHARD WRITES THIS DOWN.**

KATRINA: Why did you make up this stuff about the broadband cable?

RICHARD: To get rid of the pear tree.

MARGARET: As soon as Lucy started trying to protect it, he got suspicious. Of course we had to make it convincing, so at first she claimed she had a sentimental attachment to the tree.

KATRINA: Lucy doesn't have a sentimental attachment to anything. Except maybe some of the characters from Finding Nemo.

RON: (D) Question five. Which of Madeleine and Peter's children isn't his?

MARGARET:

**F/X: RICHARD WRITES THIS DOWN.**

EXT. LUCY'S HOUSE

**F/X: SOUND OF DIGGING AND UPROOTING.**

LUCY: I'm sure it ran under the tree.

ULJABAAN: Rest assured, we will find it. Even if we have to destroy all of these rose bushes.

LUCY: Oh no. I hope you don't have to do that. And if you have to move that creepy cherub statue, be careful not to break it.

ULJABAAN: (TO MINIONS) Move the statue.

**F/X: THE STATUE IS DROPPED AND SMASHED INTO PIECES.**

LUCY: Maybe it's under the rockery.

ULJABAAN: You think we can be deterred by a few rocks?

LUCY: No, absolutely not.

ULJABAAN: Destroy the rockery!

**F/X: CRUNCH OF PICK-AXE INTO ROCKERY.**

LUCY: Haha!

INT. PUB

**F/X:** RON IS READING OUT THE ANSWERS.

RON: (D) ...question seventy-nine – answer to that one is because he was having an affair with a member of the House of Lords who can't be named for legal reasons. But if you want to know, see me after the quiz.

RICHARD: I think we're on full marks so far.

MARGARET: They could try making it difficult next time.

**F/X:**



LAWRENCE:                   What, this useless piece of junk?

COMPUTER:                   See, this is why I never say a hundred per cent, even if I think it  
is a hundred.

END OF JOKES.