

INEXPLICABLES

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Episode 4 – Lashing Out

Content Warnings:

- Strong language
 - Alcohol & alcoholism
 - Arguments (inc shouting)
 - Panic & anxiety
 - Manipulation
 - Vicarious embarrassment
 - Mugging & physical violence
 - Sexual references
 - Discussions of: kidnapping, dementia, police & imprisonment, self-recrimination, outing (supernatural), rejection
 - Mentions of: food, rot, hospital, injury, fat shaming & bullying
 - SFX: drilling, ringing, repetitive beeping, crying, misophonia
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CHURCH HALL - MORNING

[EXTENSIVE SOUNDS OF POWER TOOLS AND RENOVATION]

[HEAVY OBJECT IS DRAGGED ACROSS THE FLOOR]

MEREDITH

(Struggling) Why. Did I. Agree to this. Urgh!

[SIGHS OF RELIEF]

SUZY

There. Just five more beds, and then we can get started on the lockers.

MEREDITH

(Groans) It's fine for you. You've got the whole super strength thing.

SUZY

(Chuckling) You what?

MEREDITH

You know... [CARTOONISH SUPER-STRENGTH IMPRESSION]

SUZY

You do realise I'm not the Hulk right?

MEREDITH

Yeah, whatever. Look at me! You see this? That's good, proper sweat. There's no way you can be doing all this and look so chill. I'm calling bullshit. You've got to have an edge.

SUZY

Yeah, it's called basic exercise. Look it up.

MEREDITH

Eurgh.

[DRILL SOUNDS STOP]

SHUHELA

Oh, Meredith, if you've got a second, I need a favour?

[MEREDITH GRUMBLES]

SHUHELA

Could you take a look at this door? I really can't tell if it's on straight with these bloody hinges.

SUZY

Looks good to me.

SHUHELA

Hmmm. Maybe it's my eyes that are wonky, I've had these glasses for years. Meredith? Thoughts?

[MORE EXHAUSTED GROANS]

SHUHELA

Yeah, you're probably right. I'm overthinking it.

[PUTS DOWN DRILL]

Well! DIY SOS eat your heart out!

SUZY

It is coming together, isn't it?

MEREDITH

It'd be a lot quicker if all the big, strong blokes we know would get off their arses and help. Where's Ivan when you need him?

SHUHELA

Frank said yesterday he'd be along at some point. He's probably just held up.

SUZY

What about Harold?

MEREDITH

Harold? Ha! He'd rather stick his head in a bucket of piss.

SUZY

He can't be that bad. I think he's sort of sweet.

MEREDITH

Trust me, when it comes to DIY, he's about as much use as tits on a fish.

SHUHELA

Still. He *seems* to mean well.

MEREDITH

Yeah, he **seems** a lot of things. Then you try to lean on him for something real and he bails.

SUZY

Maybe he just needs, you know, someone to believe in him.

MEREDITH

Eurgh. Suzy, no. NO. You'd be better off believing in— Oh, I don't know... a pot plant or something. Eurgh.

SUZY

I wouldn't worry. It's not like I can ask him out or anything. He's terrified of me.

MEREDITH

Good.

SHUHELA

Aw, he'll come around, my love. And in the meantime, there's plenty more fish in the sea.

SUZY

You say that, but I'm not exactly drowning in offers at the moment.

SHUHELA

Oh, you need to get online, love! It's much easier! No faffing around with all that 'Oh no, are they into me' rubbish. Just a couple of swipes, bish, bash, bosh, and everyone is on the same page. Simple.

SUZY

I don't know...

MEREDITH

Bit of a dark horse aren't you, Shuhela? I didn't have you pegged as a techie sex-vixen.

SHUHELA

(A little flustered) Oh, well, I don't know about all that but I, uh... I might have been giving it a bit of a go, yeah!

SUZY

And?

SHUHELA

I'll admit it's been a bit hit and miss, but...

MEREDITH

But?

SHUHELA

I've been chatting to this one woman recently and... well, I'm actually meeting her tonight! [JOYOUS SQUEAL]

MEREDITH

Oooh, what will the pastor say?

SHUHELA

Oh, stop! [GIGGLES]

SUZY

What's her name? You got a picture?

[SHUHELA RIFLES THROUGH LOOKING FOR PHONE]

SHUHELA

Yeah, one sec. Her name's Barbara. I've got her profile on here somewhere...

[PHONE STARTS RINGING]

MEREDITH

Speak of the devil.

SHUHELA

Hardly. It's only Frank.

MEREDITH

You filthy mare.

[SUZY LAUGHS]

SHUHELA

(Good natured) Oh, bugger off!

[RINGING STOPS AS SHUHELA ACTIVATES SPEAKER]

Hey Frank!

MEREDITH

And just where the hell are you, young man? We're sweating our tits off here while you're probably kicking back with a tray of cocktails.

FRANK (TELEPHONE)

Meredith? Can you put Shuhela back on?

SHUHELA

You're on speaker, love.

FRANK (TELEPHONE)

Oh. Right.

SUZY

Hi, Frank!

FRANK (TELEPHONE)

Hi Suzy.

[UNCONVINCING COUGHS]

Listen, I'm really sorry but I've, I've come down with a bit of a bug or something. I don't think I'm gonna be able to come in.

MEREDITH

(Disbelieving) Oh yeah.

FRANK (TELEPHONE)

I'm gonna try and work from home today; hope it clears up by tomorrow.

SHUHELA

Ah, alright love.

MEREDITH

Whatever. We don't need you anyway. We're fine. We're better than fine, we're smashing it.

FRANK (TELEPHONE)

Great. Listen, uh, Shuhela, sorry to lay this on you last minute but I was due for house calls today, so...

MEREDITH

House calls? Like what we did with Hannah? I can do house calls!

FRANK (TELEPHONE)

No, Meredith.

MEREDITH

Hey, no, it'll be fine! We're basically done here anyway, and now I officially work here, all the insurance and shit is sorted, right?

SHUHELA

W-Well yes, but house calls can be a lot and you're still new to everything...

MEREDITH

Then I'd better get started, shouldn't I? If I'm going to be co-CEO I should know all about this stuff, right?

[PAUSE]

SHUHELA

(To Frank) She's not wrong.

FRANK (TELEPHONE)

Fine. But you call me if anything happens.

MEREDITH

Done. Bye, Frankie baby! [FAUX KISSY SOUNDS]

[CUTS OFF PHONE]

Oh no! Looks like I have to go sit on people's sofas sipping tea while you two have all this fun to get on with...

[CLOTHING RUSTLES AS MEREDITH GETS READY]

SUZY

Oh, piss off!

FRANK'S FLAT - SIMULTANEOUS

[PHONE CUTS OFF]

FRANK

Damn it.

Great, now she's loose in Gravesby. [SIGHS] This had better be important.

LILY

Oh, it is.

FRANK

Get you a drink?

LILY

Water. Thank you.

FRANK

Alright.

[FOOTSTEPS, LIQUID SOUNDS AND GLASS CLINK]

FRANK

So. What's William done now?

LILY

Oh, no, no it's nothing to do with Mr. Allen.

FRANK

(Chuckles) That's a first.

[CHAIR SCRAPES]

Listen, Lily. Look, I've got a lot on so if you're not going to tell me what's up, then—

LILY

There's something wrong with ICS.

FRANK

What?

LILY

After the stuff with St Mark's, Mr. Allen had me doing some digging. Financial records, old clients, all of it.

FRANK

And?

LILY

And, once you get past the rumours of weird noises and hauntings, there's... um, irregularities.

FRANK

What does that mean?

LILY

Okay...

[PAPERS RUSTLE]

Toby Sixsmith. Becky Forbes. Hafiza Bamber. What do these people all have in common?

FRANK

They're all ICS cases.

LILY

They all disappeared.

FRANK

(Patiently) No, they were re-housed.

LILY

Really? Where? Because none of them are in Gravesby anymore.

FRANK

Well, they all move on eventually...

LILY

And don't tell **anyone** where they're going?

FRANK

What are you try—

LILY

They don't leave any forwarding addresses. There's no new rental records, no social media updates, nothing in Gravesby or anywhere else! ICS contacts them and then they just vanish off the face of the Earth. Never to be—

FRANK

A lot of them have difficult conditions which makes it hard for them to stay on the grid long-term, right. They have a tendency to go dark and then pop up somewhere else after a while. It's unfortunate, yes, but it happens.

LILY

(Snorts) Right. What about Hannah Gullick?

FRANK

What?

LILY

She lives alone at Flat 26.

FRANK

I know who Hannah is Lily, get to the point.

LILY

She's missing. Neighbours reported it the day before yesterday.

FRANK

No, that can't be right. We'd have been informed.

LILY

According to the police files, you were.

FRANK

Are you accusing us of... what, kidnap? Murder?

LILY

No, I... I don't know. Frank, I think someone is deliberately targeting inexplicables, and...

FRANK

Say it.

LILY

...and, together with these rumours... I'm worried it's someone inside ICS.

FRANK

...

This is low. Even for William.

LILY

Uh, um... Sorry?

FRANK

ICS finally gets hold of St Mark's, so what? He tries a bit of the old divide-and-conquer, with bonus scaremongering to boot? What? Just so he can get his cut from a sell-off?

LILY

What?! Frank. No! That's not what I'm trying to say at a—

FRANK

Get out. Go on!

[CHAIRS SCRAPE]

LILY

I'm trying to help, Frank.

FRANK

(Hustling) Aha, yeah, sure you are. Come on.

[DOOR OPENS]

LILY

Hey! Look, Frank, I know you think I'm less than scum, but I'm genuinely just trying to help!

FRANK

Look, if you want to help, then quit, right. Quit working against your own for a snake who's selling everyone's welfare for flash cars and golf trips!

LILY

Frank!

FRANK

Don't come here again.

[DOOR CLOSES]

Goddamn it.

ICS, IRIS'S OFFICE - MORNING

[PAPERS RUSTLING THROUGHOUT]

HAROLD

...and this room here? Adjacent to the day room?

CRESSIDA

Laundry. It's on the plans we looked at yesterday, Harold. Along with the kitchens and the bedrooms and the vegetable plot and the cool down room. It's all in the plans.

HAROLD

Yes, yes, you say that, but there's a hell of a lot of steelwork listed in the materials and I still can't find where it's going. It's like you're adding a whole extra basement.

CRESSIDA

Japanese knotweed.

HAROLD

What?

CRESSIDA

It's a non-native plant that's been damaging the foundations for years. The architect advised installing countermeasures to keep it at bay.

HAROLD

(Snorts) Fifteen steel beams and reinforced concrete?

CRESSIDA

Knotweed. It's relentless.

HAROLD

Well. Whatever. I'm just saying that there's a lot of extra costs here, Cressida. And even with a grant from the council and your... anonymous donors, it's going to be a stretch.

CRESSIDA

We'll manage.

HAROLD

Just as long as we make sure there's enough left over to pay everyone for their contributions.

CRESSIDA

Hmmm. Quite.

HAROLD

Speaking of which, I was wondering if you had given any consideration to my... consultation fees?

[CRESSIDA SIGHS]

I know cash-in-hand is often preferable in these situations, but obviously my fees are fairly considerable, so perhaps some kind of monthly transfer might be more appropriate?

CRESSIDA

I don't think we need to worry about such things quite yet, do you? Certainly not until the renovations are completed.

HAROLD

Oh I don't know. In my experience, consultants always work best with up-front payments. Keeps them focused.

CRESSIDA

Well, far be it from me to claim to have more experience than you do when it comes to *payments*.

HAROLD

How very gracious of you.

CRESSIDA

In fact, I was wondering if you might answer a quick question I had?

HAROLD

Oh, of course. You are paying me for my time after all.

CRESSIDA

Yes, we are, aren't we?

Well, as I said, I'm aware you have *far more* experience with financial regulators than I do. I was just wondering how such an organisation – let's say... the FCA, as a random example – would react to clear, recorded evidence of a person who is already under investigation attempting to negotiate inappropriate terms with a private enterprise? Such as... hypothetically, a social care organisation.

HAROLD

(Forced casual) Well, I suppose in that **unlikely** instance they might take an interest. But of course, any sort of investigation brings up complications to *everyone* involved—

CRESSIDA

Hmmm.

HAROLD

(Loudly) —even when the involved parties are completely innocent.

And in my experience, no-one really benefits from that kind of scrutiny.

CRESSIDA

Hmmm.

HAROLD

It's very much all-for-one and one-for-all, if you take my meaning.

CRESSIDA

I believe I do, yes.

HAROLD

But of course, what do I know? I'm only a consultant.

CRESSIDA

Of course.

HAROLD

Anything else? I'd be more than happy to answer further questions as part of my billable hours.

CRESSIDA

Oh no, no. I think that should suffice for now.

HAROLD

Excellent. In that case, can we return to the plans? I'm still seeing lots of fine details we can examine together.

CRESSIDA

(Wearily) Yes. Lets. [CLEARS THROAT]

I must say, you do seem to have sharper eyes than your mother when it comes to these... fine details.

HAROLD

Well, you see, my Mum always had a major flaw. Caused her problems for years.

CRESSIDA

Oh, did she really?

HAROLD

Oh yes. She always thought the best of people. Thankfully, I can see what's really going on.

CRESSIDA

How fortunate. Well, in that case, no doubt you can **also** see how we can all benefit when we work **together**, while affording each other the opportunity to pursue matters independently from time to time.

HAROLD

Of course. From time to time.

CRESSIDA

I see.

HAROLD

Quite.

So... er, where did we get to?

[HAROLD'S PHONE RINGS]

CRESSIDA

Uh, do you need to take that?

HAROLD

Oh, er...

[LOOKS AT PHONE]

Ah. That's, um...yes, I, I, I, I, I probably should...

[DOOR CREAKS AS CRESSIDA STEPS OUT]

CRESSIDA

Take all the time you need.

CHURCH HALL, CAR PARK - DAY

[URBAN SOUNDS AS MEREDITH PACKS CAR]

MEREDITH

(Singing to herself) House calls! Gonna call some houses, yeah! Not gonna carry no beds, no-no! No heavy lifting for me, no-no! Cos we are doing the best house calls! House caaaaaaaaaalls!

[FOOTSTEPS APPROACH]

GODBOLT

Y'all right, Beyonce?

MEREDITH

Don't bother.

GODBOLT

Been calling you. Few texts too.

MEREDITH

Been busy.

GODBOLT

Clearly.

MEREDITH

Look, Godbolt, say what you want or piss off, because I've got shit I need to do and places I need to be.

GODBOLT

Liiike... Paris!

MEREDITH

What?

GODBOLT

Paris. Boom!

[PRODUCES TICKETS]

Two tickets. Leaving tonight. Voulez-vous coucher avec moi, ce soir?

MEREDITH

What.

GODBOLT

(Chuckling) It means—

MEREDITH

I know what it means!

GODBOLT

So what do you say? Paris? Wine... smelly cheese... it's all paid for—

MEREDITH

Va te faire foutre.

GODBOLT

Er, sorry, I don't— What does that mean?

MEREDITH

It means no.

GODBOLT

What?

Seriously?

You'd rather hang out here taking care of losers? It's Paris. **The** Paris.

MEREDITH

Listen. Godbolt. You might think you're being cute or funny or interesting or whatever, but you're not. You just sound desperate.

GODBOLT

Don't play hard to get—

MEREDITH

(Angry) I'm serious. I'm not going to Paris with you. There's a reason you've never seen so much as one of my nipples and it's because I barely fucking know you! You're just some prick who doesn't know when to quit, so I'm telling you loud and clear, again. Leave. Me. The fuck. Alone.

GODBOLT

(Softly) Fuck me...

MEREDITH

No thanks.

GODBOLT

(Angry) What is your problem!? I bring you flowers, I buy you tickets to Paris, and you treat me like—

SHUHELA

(Calling, approaching) You forgot your case files, love! You'll want to brush up on their histories before— Oh, sorry, have I interrupted?

GODBOLT

Yes.

MEREDITH

No. You've interrupted absolutely fuck all, Shuhela. Godbolt was just leaving and never coming back.

GODBOLT

Fine.

(Sounds tearful) Forget it. Forget you, forget trying, forget the whole fucking thing.

(Voice starts to sound different) I'm done. I'm done with you and I'm done with all of this!

[MEREDITH KICKS CAR FRUSTRATEDLY]

MEREDITH

Ow! Ah! Fuck!

SHUHELA

Ah, you all right?

MEREDITH

Course I'm not alright, I just broke my fucking toe— Argh!

SHUHELA

Well, for what it's worth, I think you're probably doing the right thing.

MEREDITH

I didn't do it because it's "right" – Ow – I did it because he's being a fucking creep!

SHUHELA

Ah. Well, um, here are the files...

MEREDITH

Yeah, thanks. I'll just—

SHUHELA

Take care of yourself, love, yeah? And call me if you need anything.

MEREDITH

Yeah, sure, don't worry about me, I'm fine.

[CAR DOOR CLOSING AS MEREDITH ATTEMPTS TO START CAR... ENGINE SPLUTTERS FORLORNLY]

MEREDITH (INSIDE)

Oh, come on...

Argh. Fuck, fuck, fuck, fuck, fuck.

[CAR STARTS EVENTUALLY]

See? fine!

SHUHELA

Oh dear.

ICS, IRIS'S OFFICE - DAY

HAROLD

John, John, I can only apologise. I genuinely was going to call—

BELFRAGE (TELEPHONE)

No! Enough playing silly buggers. You've lied about everything from day one *and* you just ignored a compulsory investigation meeting!

HAROLD

I can explain. I was just—

BELFRAGE (TELEPHONE)

Oh, shove it. We are done. Do you understand? I've spoken to your CFO and he's spoken to Gilmour. Your contract is terminated with immediate effect.

HAROLD

What!? No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no. We just need to reschedule! I-I can be there first thing tomorrow morning and—

BELFRAGE (TELEPHONE)

(Bitter laugh) We are way past rescheduling, Harold. We're looking at criminal charges now. Jail time.

HAROLD

(Panicked) No! No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no! I can get the money. All of it! I-I just need time to make some transfers! Please John!

BELFRAGE (TELEPHONE)

Did you not hear me, Harold? Criminal charges. Even if you handed over every single penny, it wouldn't matter. We've already spoken to the Met. I'm sure they'll be contacting you later today to arrange—

HAROLD

(Pleading) But I haven't done anything wrong!

BELFRAGE (TELEPHONE)

Either you turn yourself in voluntarily, or they will take you in. Do you understand? Handcuffs, blues and twos, the whole lot. Your time's up, matey boy. You can't wriggle your way out of this one.

[PHONE CUTS OFF]

HAROLD

John? Jo—

[HAROLD STARTS BREATHING HEAVILY]

CRESSIDA (OUTSIDE)

No, thank you, Ivan, I really must get back to it or we'll be here all day at this rate.

[IVAN RUMBLES]

[DOOR CREAKS OPEN; FOOTSTEPS]

CRESSIDA

Right. How are we doing in... here?

[DOOR CLOSES]

Oh.

[FOOTSTEPS]

Harold? Everything alright?

HAROLD

(Dazed) Huh? Oh, um...

CRESSIDA

Are you alright, my dear? You look terrible.

HAROLD

Y— H— Oh, uh, yes. Uh, no. No, I'm no— Yes! I'm just, um... excited, yes. Ah, ah, very excited.

CRESSIDA

Well. Uh... Alright. So, what do we think of signing off on the suppliers so we can move on—

HAROLD

(Distracted) Oh yes. It's all good. It's all, yeah... excellent. Perfect.

CRESSIDA

Oh! Good...

HAROLD

Absolutely. So. Um. Since everything's done, I, uh, I thought I would just go for a walk. For... business. And, er, you just carry on with my blessing and I'm, uh, I'm going to... um, yes.

[FOOTSTEPS AND DOOR CREAKS AS HAROLD LEAVES OFFICE]

[IVAN RUMBLES]

HAROLD

Ah! Oh, hello Ivan!

(Muttered, fading) Oh God, oh God, oh God, oh God...

[IVAN PEERS IN AND RUMBLES QUESTIONINGLY]

CRESSIDA

A prior engagement, it would seem.

[KEYS JANGLE]

Not a problem. Now I can finally catch up on other urgent business.

[DOOR CLOSES]

Right. Time to start planning the move.

HANNAH'S FLAT - DAY

[OUTDOOR SOUNDS AS FRANK APPROACHES]

FRANK

What are you doing here?

LILY

Same as you. I'm checking up on her.

FRANK

Look, if you're following me then—

LILY

I got here first, Frank.

FRANK

Yeah... Well...

LILY

I told you. I want to get to the bottom of this. If you choose not to believe me then that's your look-out. But **I'm** not going to stop.

FRANK

Me neither.

LILY

Good.

FRANK

...

So, any luck?

LILY

I've been knocking on and off for the last ten minutes. No answer.

FRANK

She doesn't answer the door to strangers.

[KEYS JANGLE]

It's too dangerous.

LILY

(Offended) I'm not a threat!

FRANK

Dangerous for **you**.

LILY

Oh.

I see.

FRANK

(Calling) Hannah? Hannah, it's Frank! I'm coming in.

(To Lily) You can wait outside.

LILY

Just open the door.

FRANK

Yeah...

[DOOR OPENS, THEY HEAD INSIDE]

FRANK

Hannah? Hannah, you in? Hannah?

LILY

(Inhales) Do you smell that?

FRANK

What?

LILY

Something's rotten.

FRANK

Hmm.

[FOOTSTEPS, DOOR OPENS THEN AUDIBLE RECOILING TO A FOUL SMELL,
POSSIBLY AKIN TO ROTTEN EGGS, AND SOUNDS OF DISGUST]

LILY

That fridge has been open for days.

FRANK

(Muffling mouth) Mmhmm.

[DOOR CLOSES]

LILY

So, still think I'm setting you up?

FRANK

Alright. You've got my attention. Tell me everything from the beginning.

LILY

Okay. William asked me to dig up the dirt on you guys after the St Mark's thing,
so I started trying to trace former clients hoping to find something.

Unprofessionalism, abuse of power, frau—

FRANK

Ah, so you were trying to set us up?

LILY

But that's when I started to notice the disappearances. Here, look!

[LILY PASSES FRANK HER PHONE, SOME BEEPING]

FRANK

These are the post-case assessment forms from the ICS archives. Where the hell did you get this?

LILY

Cressida.

FRANK

What? She sent you these?

LILY

Not... exactly. [SIGHS]

She's been using me to get information on the council for years. Especially William. I bend an ear or get her a meeting arranged, and in return, she—

FRANK

Christ, Lily! Are you serious? That's pretty damn shady.

LILY

Oh, calm down Frank. I just do her favours sometimes and she... she helps me out. Makes sure no-one bothers me.

FRANK

(Suspicious) Helps you out? How, exactly?

LILY

Look, it doesn't matter. The point is, I owe her. If she didn't help me, I don't know what I'd have done.

FRANK

So how **did** you get the assessment forms?

LILY

I... I stole them.

We have these meetings where we... um, discuss things. I needed something for William, anything, and I-I was desperate alright? So I went through her stuff and found all this paperwork in her bag. I took as many pictures as I could. Anyway the point is, those files are all linked to disappearances. And that's not all.

FRANK

No?

LILY

Keep scrolling.

LILY

There's another list.

FRANK

More disappearances?

LILY

No. Not *yet*. But they're all expected to be moving into the St Mark's location when it's finished.

FRANK

Are you trying to tell me that you think Cressida and Iris set up ICS to kidnap inexplicables?

LILY

I'm saying *someone* has started targeting them, and right now Cressida is the most likely suspect.

How much do you know about her, Frank? I mean **really** know, beyond the baking and the fancy dresses?

FRANK

...

This doesn't make any sense.

MEREDITH (OUTSIDE)

(Calling) Hannah? Hannah, it's Meredith!

FRANK

(Hushed) Damn it! Housecalls... Quick! Bathroom!

[MOVEMENT AS THEY DASH TO BATHROOM AND CLOSE DOOR]

MEREDITH (MUFFLED)

(Entering) Only me! Hannah? Y'all right? You left the front door o—

Eurgh, gross... Hannah! You here? You in the back doing sexy stuff?

No?

...

Brilliant. Fantastic. What a waste of—

[MEREDITH'S PHONE RINGS]

Oh, piss off!

LILY

Sounds like a bad day all around.

FRANK

Hmmm.

IRIS' HOUSE, LOUNGE - AFTERNOON

[CLOCK TICKS AS HAROLD SIGHS]

[CABINET DOOR CREAKS, THEN BOTTLES/GLASS CLINKS AS HAROLD FIXES
DRINK]

HAROLD

Okay. Okay. Calm down. Let's just think for a second.

Okay. So, you— What you do is you get to Liverpool, and you call Francis and
get him to—

No, stupid! Come on, they, they'll be tracking your contacts. Stupid! Stupid!

[DRINKS]

Okay, so instead we, we, we, we, uh... right! We... squeeze Cressida for
whatever cash we can get and then— No, you bloody idiot! She'll just call them
in! Jesus Christ, think, man!

[DOORBELL RINGS AND HAROLD SQUEAKS]

Shit! Shit! No, they can't be— It's too soon!

[DOORBELL RINGS]

(Calling) Just a minute!

Who is it?

SUZY (OUTSIDE)

Harold? Uh, it's Suzy. From the, uh, the group session? And the restaurant. Are you free for a moment?

HAROLD

(Calling) Uh, I'm kind of busy actually.

SUZY (OUTSIDE)

Oh, uh, it won't take long.

HAROLD

(Muttering) Christ...

[FOOTSTEPS, DOOR OPENS]

HAROLD

Yes, hello. What is it?

SUZY

Oh, hi.

Uh... um, well, I, I was hoping I could maybe come in and we could... talk?

HAROLD

We can talk here. Bit of a mess in there.

SUZY

Alright.

HAROLD

How did you find me?

SUZY

Oh, um... Shuhela. She mentioned that you were staying at Iris' house, so I thought I'd swing by and see how you were doing after... well, you know.

HAROLD

Right. Well, I'm fine.

Brilliant, in fact.

SUZY

Oh. Good.

HAROLD

Mmm. So, i-if that's everything, I really am busy—

[ATTEMPTS TO CLOSE DOOR]

SUZY

Before you go, I was wondering if, maybe, you wanted to go out for a bite?

HAROLD

(Nervous) A-a what?

SUZY

(Realising) Oh god, no! I mean food. Like a meal. Y'know, like Italian, or fish and chips, or something. Or, it doesn't need to be a meal. It could be a quick drink?

HAROLD

Uh...

SUZY

Oh god! No, I mean like a coffee or smoothies or...

HAROLD

Are you taking the piss out of me?

SUZY

What? No! No, not at all! No, I mean this, this is just me saying that... you know, I like you and was wondering if you might... like me, too?

HAROLD

Did Meredith put you up to this?

SUZY

What? No she—

HAROLD

Because it isn't funny, you know. And she knows I got enough of this shit at school. Everyone thought it was so hilarious to ask the fat kid out.

SUZY

No I promise! This is me, just wanting to ask you out. H-Honestly. I promise.

HAROLD

(Surprised) Oh, right. Well, I, uh... Actually, I'm sorry, I do have a lot to get on with, so I should just...

SUZY

(Dejected) Oh. Right. Sorry.

HAROLD

Yeah, so, um, I'm just going to get back to that. Important things. So, um... bye.

[DOOR CLOSSES]

SUZY

(Quietly) Bye.

BARBARA'S FLAT - AFTERNOON

[DOOR KNOCKING]

BARBARA (INSIDE)

Who is it?

MEREDITH

(Muttering) Father-fucking-Christmas, who do you—

(Calling) Meredith Stonewell. I'm from ICS!

BARBARA (INSIDE)

Oh.

Where's Frank? I thought Frank was—

MEREDITH

Yeah, well, you've got me today.

BARBARA (INSIDE)

(Nervous) Oh. Uh... In that case... is there any chance we can reschedule? S-
Sorry, I—

MEREDITH

Look Barbara, I've got four more house calls to make today and I'm already an hour behind thanks to this completely fucking pointless one-way system, so

why don't you just open the door, talk to me for, like, five minutes, and then I'll be out of your hair, alright?

[DOOR UNLOCKS AND OPENS]

BARBARA

Right. Yeah. Sorry, come on in. Sorry the place is such a mess. Here, you take the armchair, I'll just brush, uh... the hair off...

[BRUSHING NOISES]

Sorry.

MEREDITH

Got dogs then?

BARBARA

Oh... no... I do like dogs but it probably wouldn't be a good idea. It'd probably just get even messier.

[NERVOUS LAUGHTER]

Are you, um, are you feeling alright? You're shaking...?

MEREDITH

Yeah, I'm fine. Fucking stellar. Anyway, I just need you to fill out these assessment forms and then we're good to go.

[PAPERS RUSTLE]

BARBARA

Alright.

MEREDITH

Okay, cool. So, it says here you're a...

BARBARA

Lycan, yes. Much better word than 'werewolf', I reckon. Bit of a stupid phrase, werewolf, everyone gets the etymology wrong.

MEREDITH

Ah. I guess that explains the hair. And the... nails.

BARBARA

Sorry, yeah. I was literally just about to sort all that out.

MEREDITH

Mmhmm.

BARBARA

Look, I don't want to be rude but I'm actually doing really well at the moment. I'm managing my episodes fine, and just, you know, getting on with it.

MEREDITH

(Distracted) Great, yeah. Good for you.

BARBARA

So, I mean, is filling out all these forms still really necessary?

MEREDITH

Well... people who know better than me think it is, so let's just tick the boxes, sign the forms, and then I can move on, yeah?

BARBARA

I do everything you've all said to keep everyone safe, plus a bunch more besides. I-I'm actually taking the caravan out next week down to Coniston. There's loads of space and I've properly stocked the freezer and—

MEREDITH

Yeah, sounds like you're doing great. I'm just here for the paperwork, alright?

BARBARA

Yeah, sure. I'm just saying, it's actually very manageable if you're prepared.

MEREDITH

Mmhmm. Right, got some questions for you, Barbara. Simple stuff.

Okay, so, it's the 23rd... at...

[SCRIBBLING]

Let's say three, yeah?

So... "Has the individual anything to add since their last visit?"

BARBARA

Nope. Just keeping my head down. Started trying out maternity slacks. For the stretch, y'know?

MEREDITH

Cool.

BARBARA

Apart from that, uh... Oh wait! No, I... I've got a date!

I guess that's something to add!

MEREDITH

A date?

BARBARA

Yeah. Tonight. Met her online. Old dog, new tricks, I guess.

MEREDITH

Right.

Riiiiight. Have you, um... have you told her about... you know?

BARBARA

No. No, not yet. Do, do you think I should?

MEREDITH

Oh well, I don't know if I'm the best person to give advice...

BARBARA

But?

MEREDITH

But... well, I reckon honesty is always the best policy. Especially on a first date.

BARBARA

Oh, no, yeah, totally. I wouldn't lie to her or anything, but I worry that it might... y'know. Put her off.

MEREDITH

Best to know sooner rather than later though, right?

BARBARA

Right.

MEREDITH

(Almost to herself) No-one likes surprise baggage.

BARBARA

Yeah. I guess...

MEREDITH

Cool. Well, listen, like I said I am running seriously late, so what I'm going to do, I'm going to leave the rest of this with you and then you can fill the rest in and, like, post it back to us, yeah?

BARBARA

Oh er... yeah. Sure. I'll show you out...

MEREDITH

Don't bother, I can see the door. And, like, have a think about what I said. You've got to tell people everything up front or don't bother dating them at all. It's all or nothing.

[DOOR OPENS/CLOSES]

BARBARA

(Quietly) All or nothing...

ICS OFFICE - EARLY EVENING

[DOOR OPENS; MEREDITH STUMBLES INSIDE, KNOCKING STUFF OVER]

MEREDITH

Argh! Goddamn it.

[LIGHT SWITCH FLICKS ON, MEREDITH IS STARTLED]

MEREDITH

Ah! Shuhela what are you doing just sitting there in the dark like a creepy puppet?

SHUHELA

(Quietly, dejectedly) Sorry love.

MEREDITH

It's fine. Just... argh. Never mind.

[FOOTSTEPS, MEREDITH SLUMPS EXHAUSTEDLY]

SHUHELA

Bad day?

MEREDITH

You could say that. Two no shows, one massive blob thing.

SHUHELA

Oh, Mr Mckenzie?

MEREDITH

Yeah! Mr-fucking-Mackenzie, that's the one. And then this lady who's a werewolf and... Well, anyway. No wonder Frank is such a miserable old git, must be exhausting doing this every day.

SHUHELA

(Not listening) Mmm.

MEREDITH

You all right, Shuhela?

SHUHELA

Yeah...

MEREDITH

Cool... I was worried there for a moment. Y'know, cos you're... sat here alone in the dark, all dolled-up with the dress and that.

SHUHELA

I'm fine.

MEREDITH

Cool.

Cool....

...

Only, I mean, it's not cool though, is it?

SHUHELA

(Distracted) Hmm?

MEREDITH

It's pretty obvious something is wrong, and if that's because of something I did or said or something like that—

SHUHELA

Not everything is about you, love.

MEREDITH

No, yeah I get that, but still...

SHUHELA

Listen, this isn't about you. It's all... me.

MEREDITH

Okay.

SHUHELA

(Tearful) My date bailed on me.

MEREDITH

Oh... Uh...

SHUHELA

It's my fault! I came on too strong and scared her off. I never know when to shut up. Never have!

MEREDITH

Hey, no, hang on. Uh, you can't blame yourself for this.

SHUHELA

Meredith, I appreciate what you're saying, but you're just wrong on this one, love. You're just—

MEREDITH

No, no, no, no, I'm not.

SHUHELA

Meredith!

MEREDITH

(Hesitant) I... I think I may have... cancelled the date.

SHUHELA

You what?

MEREDITH

(Sighs) I met her. Your date. She was one of my visits today. Barbara O'Brien, right?

SHUHELA

Yeah.

MEREDITH

Yeah. Shit. Um... Look I'm sorry but the thing is... she's a werewolf, and she was worried about telling you and I-I told her I was crap at advice, I-I-I did! But she kept going on and on and... well...

SHUHELA

(Warning) Meredith...

MEREDITH

I said that it's better to be upfront with people about your baggage before they run off and, and, and... well... that it's "all or nothing". I guess she must have taken it to heart, or something.

SHUHELA

Right.

MEREDITH

I'm sorry.

...

So. Are we... okay?

SHUHELA

I'm going home.

MEREDITH

But—

SHUHELA

(Forced calm) Listen, Meredith. Heh. I appreciate that you're trying, I do, but I need to not be around you right now.

MEREDITH

Hey, it's not my fault she decided—

SHUHELA

(Growing angry) If you hadn't interfered, I'd be with her, right now, on my first date in months.

MEREDITH

Yeah I know that, bu—

SHUHELA

(Angry) Not everything is your business to comment on! Especially when **you** just end up putting your problems on other people! I realise you've had a rough time of it, love, but not everyone is shit, Meredith. Some of us don't run away from difficult things. Or difficult people.

[HEAVY SIGH, KEYS JANGLE]

I'll leave you to lock up. See you tomorrow.

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[FOOTSTEPS, DOOR CLOSES; KEYS JANGLE]

MEREDITH

Fuck!

[MEREDITH RUSHES OUTSIDE]

(Calling) Shuhela, wait I'm sorry!

[GROANS AS CAR PULLS AWAY]

Well done, Meredith.

SUZY (DISTANT)

Just leave me alone.

MEREDITH

Suzy?

TEENAGER #1 (DISTANT)

Give us that cash then!

[MEREDITH APPROACHES]

MEREDITH

Oh, fuck!

TEENAGER #1

Come on, hurry up with it or—

SUZY

You want to be very careful how you finish that sentence.

TEENAGER #1

Or what, you fucking scrubber?

MEREDITH

Oi! Get fucked, you scabby little afterbirth!

TEENAGER #1

Who the fuck are you?

MEREDITH

You alright, Suzy?

SUZY

It's fine. I've got this.

MEREDITH

Piss off, you spotty little ballbags.

TEENAGER #2

Say that again. Go on!

MEREDITH

Get that phone out of my face!

TEENAGER #2

Or what? Or what! What you gonna do?

[SOUNDS OF STRUGGLE]

MEREDITH

Get off, you!

[SUZY HISSES AND LEAPS IN]

TEENAGER #1

Oh shit! Look at her teeth!

MEREDITH

Suzy!

SATIE'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

[SOUNDS OF A MODERATELY BUSY RESTAURANT]

SHUHELA

Barbara?

BARBARA

Blimey! Shuhela?

[CHAIR SCRAPES; GLASS TOPPLES]

SHUHELA

Oh, Oh...

BARBARA

Bugger! Sorry I've— Oh I've soaked the ruddy—

SHUHELA

Oh no, that's alright. Here, oh it'll dry.

[BOTH CHUCKLE NERVOUSLY]

BARBARA

Thanks. God, I already feel like a right mug...

SHUHELA

Oh it's okay. Just a bit damp.

BARBARA

It's not okay though, is it? I'm so sorry I tried to cancel earlier. Just cold feet, I guess. I'm just... really happy to be here with you after all that nonsense.

SHUHELA

Me too.

BARBARA

Oh! Fab! Uh, well, would you like to sit?

[CHAIR SCRAPES]

They do food. I mean, duh, obviously they do food, it's a restaurant. But, like, good food.

SHUHELA

Sounds wonderful.

[CHAIR SCRAPES AS THEY BOTH SIT]

BARBARA

I'm so glad you called. Because I just— I was really nervous and I, I-I panicked, but I really did want to be here. I mean obviously because you're well, I mean, wow!

Sorry. Uh, I'm babbling. Bit of a babbler me! You'll be lucky to get a word in edgeways.

SHUHELA

Oh no, it's alright, love. I'm a talker myself.

BARBARA

Brilliant!

Oh, but, um, yeah, I've been nervous, because I... well...

Um... There's something I should probably mention right off the bat. Before you, decide if you want to try this. Me.

SHUHELA

Okay.

BARBARA

Right, uh, so. How to... uh? Okay, so I haven't mentioned before but I...uh... I have a... condition. And, uh, it affects – well not everything – but... sometimes I'm... uh... a bit different and it's, um... it... oh god...

SHUHELA

It's alright, love. I know what you're going to say.

BARBARA

(Chuckles nervously) I really don't think you do...

SHUHELA

So is it a full transformation, or do you just go hybrid?

BARBARA

Oh! I, uh...

SHUHELA

Well, ei-either way, it's fine with me. Just helps me know whether it's better to keep you company or leave you to it.

BARBARA

Oh my God. How did you?

SHUHELA

I work for ICS.

BARBARA

Oh.

SHUHELA

Yeah. You know, Meredith? She did your house call today? So, she told me.

BARBARA

Oh, right. Oh, honestly, I was dreading doing it myself, so, um, maybe she did me a favour.

Anyway, yeah, after we talked, it just... it just really got to me, y'know? Like, I would never lie to anyone, lead them along or anything, but it's just, it's not something you can drop into conversation. You can't be like: oh hey, nice to meet you, every so often I get hairy and chase deer around, want a drink?

[THEY BOTH LAUGH]

Anyway. I... I'd understand if... Well, that's why I tried to cancel, because you should know what you're getting yourself into, and—

SHUHELA

I-I-I'll tell you what, love. Instead of talking about all that, why don't we just sit here, eat some good food, have a drink, and enjoy a nice evening. Yeah?

BARBARA

Oh. Yeah. Yeah absolutely! That sounds great!

SHUHELA

Wonderful. In that case, let's go straight to the main course; that way, you don't have to worry about staying out too late.

It must be distracting keeping an eye on the sky, and I want your full attention.

BARBARA

(Coy) Oh! Uh, anything take your fancy?

SHUHELA

(Flirty) Let's find out, shall we?

HOSPITAL WARD - NIGHT

[HOSPITAL MONITOR BEEPS; PAPERS RUSTLE]

MEREDITH

(Reading) Okay... “relation to patient”. Uh... [SCRIBBLING] Disdain.

[FOOTSTEPS]

WARD NURSE

Miss Stonewell?

MEREDITH

Yeah? What's up?

Oh... Hey. Listen, about the other day...

WARD NURSE

It-It's fine.

MEREDITH

Yeah, uh, I wasn't really...

WARD NURSE

S-So, um, it looks like Clementine is doing alright. She's got a bad sprain from the fall, but mostly she's just a bit shaken up.

MEREDITH

Who the fuck is Clementine?

WARD NURSE

The girl you brought in?

MEREDITH

Oh, right. Huh. Did not have her pegged as a Clementine.

WARD NURSE

Uh, yes, well, I just needed to check something with you.

MEREDITH

(Not listening) Clementine. Clementine...

WARD NURSE

So, apparently you told A&E that she was running away from a dog; is that right?

MEREDITH

Oh, well, I... don't know, I, uh, I only came along after it had all happened so I, I thought I saw a dog running away but like, I don't know what type or anything...

WARD NURSE

Right. Because Clementine is claiming she was running away from a woman.

MEREDITH

Oh well... I mean, I-I wouldn't know anything about that.

WARD NURSE

You're sure? I need to have the story straight before the police get here.

MEREDITH

Police? Wh-Who's called the police? Why would you call the police for a dog?

That's, that's a bit OTT, isn't it?

WARD NURSE

It's standard procedure in a situation like this. There might be a dangerous animal on the loose.

MEREDITH

Oh. Right. Well, like I said I didn't see anyone. I heard a scream, came outside and Clementine was just lying there in the car park, holding her arm and crying all snotty and that. There's not much more I can tell you. It's all on the form.

[PAPERS RUSTLE]

WARD NURSE

Alright. Well, in that case, are you alright to just hang around for the police, so they can ask any questions they might have for you to—

MEREDITH

I would love to, honestly. Bloody love coppers me, definitely not a shite institution from top to bottom, but I really need to get going. Got the kids at home and you know what babysitters are like, five minutes late and you're paying in monthly instalments! You know what I mean.

WARD NURSE

Okay, Miss Stonewell. Just be warned, they might call you about it tomorrow, so—

MEREDITH

Yeah, not a problem. You've still got my number from before, so...

[FOOTSTEPS AS SHE LEAVES, DRAWS NEAR A DIFFERENT BEEPING MACHINE]

DENISE

(Delirious) Baby... Baby boy...

NICK

Meredith?

MEREDITH

Hm? Who the fuck are you?

NICK

Oh, er, sorry. Um. Godbolt told me about you.

DENISE

Baby boy.... Stop hiding...

MEREDITH

Right. So you're...

NICK

Um. Nick. Hi.

MEREDITH

Huh. And this must be Denise. Hello, Denise.

(To Nick) Hey, I think we spoke on the phone, right?

NICK

Oh, ur, yeah...

MEREDITH

Your cousin's a right prick.

NICK

Yes. He is.

DENISE

Got to stand tall. Stand tall!

NICK

Shhhhh, it's alright... it's alright... everything's fine.

MEREDITH

What happened?

NICK

Stroke. And then she fell, and... I wasn't there, so, um....

MEREDITH

I'm sorry.

NICK

S'fine.

[DENISE GROANS UNCOMFORTABLY AS SHE STIRS]

It's alright... I'm here.

MEREDITH

I'm sorry. You're... I'm intruding.

NICK

No, no, i-it's fine.

MEREDITH

I should go.

NICK

Alright.

DENISE

(Softly) Don't hide...

MEREDITH

Have a good night, I guess.

NICK

Yeah. You too...

(Godbolt's voice) Shit.

I

RIS' HOUSE - LATE NIGHT

[MEREDITH ENTERS AND HEADS TO DRINKS CABINET TO FIX HERSELF
SOMETHING; CLOCK TICKS]

HAROLD

Thought you were off the booze.

MEREDITH

Fuck! Jesus, Harold! Why is everyone just sitting in the fucking dark today like
fucking trolls?

[LIGHT SWITCHES ON]

HAROLD

I'm thinking.

MEREDITH

(Wearily) You know what, just don't, alright? I can't be fucked with you trying to be all mysterious and shit.

What's with the suitcase? You leaving?

...

I saw Suzy earlier.

I don't know what you said to her, but she was pretty upset. I think she actually likes you.

HAROLD

Mmm.

MEREDITH

We are a fucking mess, you know that?

HAROLD

Yes.

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[MEREDITH'S PHONE PINGS]

MEREDITH

God, what now...

Oh fuck.

HAROLD

What?

MEREDITH

Look at this.

MEREDITH (VIDEO)

Get that phone out of my face!

TEENAGER #2 (VIDEO)

Or what? Or what! What you gonna do?

[SOUNDS OF STRUGGLE]

MEREDITH (VIDEO)

Get off, you!

[SUZY HISSES AND LEAPS IN]

TEENAGER #1 (VIDEO)

Oh shit! Look at her teeth!

HAROLD

Christ...

MEREDITH

One of the little shits put it online...

HAROLD

That's a lot of views.

MEREDITH

What the hell are we going to do?

HAROLD

I wish I knew.

[CLOSING THEME]

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Inexplicables – E04 – Lashing Out

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Beth Eyre — Meredith Stonewell

Harry Farmer — Harold Stonewell

Safiyya Ingar — Shuhela

Ian Hayles — Frank

Fay Roberts — Cressida

Mark Nicolson — Abraham Godbolt / Nick

Karim Kronfli — John Belfrage

Savy Des-Etages — Lily Jones

Vera Chok — Suzy Broadbent

Alexander J Newall — Ivan

Nikola O’Keefe — Barbara

Sas Freeman — Denise

Francesca Reid — Ward Nurse

Hannah Raymond Cox — Teenager #1

Maddy Searle – Teenager #2

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