To Hull & Back

Series 2, Episode 4

‘Where Do You Think You’re Going?’

*Written by Lucy Beaumont*

*Produced by Carl Cooper*

*Cast in order of appearance:*

*Sophie………………………… Lucy Beaumont*

*Sheila………………………… Maureen Lipman*

*Jean………………………….. Kerrie Marsh*

*Ernie…………………………. Norman Lovett*

*Lorraine…………………….. Sarah Parks*

*DJ Richie……………………. Jon Richardson*

RX: 19:30-21:30, Tuesday 26/07/16

Venue: RADA Studios, 16 Chenies Street,

 London, WC1E 7EX

 Charge Code: PAI-0500-BACK

 Tape Number: PLN630/ 16 LK 0093 LHO

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 TX: BBC Radio 4, 18:30, Wednesday 31/08/2016

SOPHIE VO: Dear - I've run out of people to pray to- Alan Titchmarsh

 Please let my auntie Pamela like me, she's coming over for my birthday and I want to go back with her and live in Amsterdam, with the Dutch. I’ve already starting packing, and please don't let my Mother chuck a trifle at the wall like she did last year… and can I just say what you can do with a drooping conifer is Inspired.

**SCENE 1. INT. LIVING ROOM. DAY.**

SOPHIE Can I please have that £200 you owe me?

SHEILA No, you've got plenty there, there's people begging on the streets.

SOPHIE Mother!

SHEILA Why don't you ask Ernie to lend you it.

SOPHIE He's in prison!

JEAN I still need fifty quid off you Sheila.

SHEILA You've got a house in Mayfair Jean, what more do you want?

JEAN Bond Street. and I'm £50 quid short.

SOPHIE Mum?!

JEAN At least you got to be the Scottie dog again Sophie, I always have to be a paper clip, where's that little top hat?

SOPHIE I used it as a cake decoration.

SOPHIE You're the worst person to always be the banker mother. You're terrible with your own money.

SHEILA I beg your pardon!!

SOPHIE Your turn Ernie, you can get out of jail now.

ERNIE Oh I'm quite happy here Sophie, I've just signed up for a welding course.

SOPHIE I'll take Ernie's go then if he's busy

**FX DICE BEING ROLLED ON BOARD.**

SHEILA ‘Saying I’m bad with money.

SOPHIE You are bad with money, what's that box you think I haven't seen in the gas cupboard?

SHEILA It's a little bit of happiness in a cruel world.

SOPHIE 70's fancy dress clothes.

JEAN Fancy dress? Why do you need that for?

SOPHIE Why does she need a Toby jug of Bette Midler?.

SHEILA I used to go to a lot of fancy dress parties I'll have you know, came first in a competition once. I won a bag of meat.

SOPHIE I'll be the big three-three, you'll need to cope without me soon

SHEILA Why?

SOPHIE None of your business

SHEILA Right, neither of you are having any more money, the banks shut!!!

JEAN Oh cheers.

SOPHIE You're so unkind!

SHEILA UNKIND! Jean am I unkind?...Jean?

JEAN Erm... you're complicated.

SHEILA Am I unkind Ernie?

ERNIE Yes. You never write to me in here Sheila.

SHEILA I'm not playing this ridiculous game!!!! I’m going, I’ve had enough, I’ve had it with all of you.

JEAN (Under breath) Here we go- 24, 25, 26,

SHEILA STORMS OUT

**FX SLAMS DOOR**

SOPHIE What was that Jean?

JEAN 6 mins and 28 seconds, write it down Ernie.

SOPHIE What was it last week?

ERNIE Er… 12 minutes.

JEAN 12? …That long?

SOPHIE So the record’s still Balderdash.

JEAN Yep.

ERNIE 9 seconds.

SOPHIE Wow.

JEAN Saying she was unkind is maybe bit harsh Soph. I feel bad for her.

SOPHIE That's what auntie Pamela said.

JEAN When?

SOPHIE She text me…

JEAN Maybe keep that to yourself.

SOPHIE Pamela's coming to my birthday.

JEAN Your auntie Pam's been saying she's coming to stay as long as I've known you. You've still never met her.

SOPHIE No she has to this time Jean.

 I'm going to go back to Amsterdam with her, to live.

JEAN You don’t even know her Sophie. I'm your best mate. Don't you want to live near me?

SOPHIE No... right, I'll go check on me mother.

SOPHIE LEAVES THE ROOM.

**SCENE 2. INT. LIVING ROOM. DAY**

**FX SMASH OF A PLATE AGAINST THE WALL**

SHEILA AMSTERDAM!!!

SOPHIE Why not?

SHEILA With Pam???!!!! Do you know what they called her at senior school? 'Pam-ham legs', do you know why? Because anyone was allowed to look at them for half a Rothmans, two Rothmans and she'd let you look all the way up to her spring greens.

SOPHIE Well She's 63 now though.

SHEILA That's doesn't matter, she's more lose than ever, you know she's got a plastic catsuit?

SOPHIE You like fancy dress.

SHEILA There's nothing *fancy* about what she gets up to… Amsterdam? You? Her? No! You know what the women *do* in Amsterdam?

SOPHIE Yes.

SHEILA What?

SOPHIE They make cheese-

SHEILA Cheese? It's a wild drugs and sex haven Sophie!!!

SOPHIE No? They've got canal boats.

SHEILA Exactly. She'll have you sucked into rubber latex and left for dead before you can yodel 'hi ho, Heidi' ".

SOPHIE Well I want a different way of living and I want to wear clogs.

SHEILA That's what they all start off saying. No stay in Hull with your mother. I’m the kind, caring one. She’s…

SOPHIE You're just jealous…

SHEILA Jealous?!!

SOPHIE Auntie Pam is a cool sophisticated lady; I bet she eats sun-dried tomatoes. You know I've always wanted to meet her, I think we'd get on, a lot.

SHEILA You won't. She’s not like me.

SOPHIE Good! I'm still going to ask if I can go and live with her.

SHEILA She hasn't actually offered then? Oh… I don't know why I'm bothering, she'll let you down, she won't even turn up Sophie, she never has. I'm the only one you can trust.

SOPHIE Well we'll see about that won't we.

**FX SHEILA OPENS KITCHEN CUPBOARDS**

SOPHIE What are you doing with those Coco Pops?”

SHEILA I need the box.

SOPHIE What for?

SHEILA A very nice thing that I'm doing. There's a vagrant lady outside Costcutters, I imagine She'll be getting a cold rear end by now. She hcan sit on this.

SOPHIE Right, why are you looking at me like that?

SHEILA See?

SOPHIE What?

SHEILA I am kind. I've got a few things she can have too, I might reach out to her... kind you see. I *am* kind.

SOPHIE I tell you what would be kind- letting me go to Amsterdam.

SHEILA Oh you can *go* to Amsterdam Sophie.

SHEILA Really?

SHEILA When I'm dead!

**SCENE 3. SOPHIE'S BEDROOM. EVENING.**

A YOUTUBE VIDEO PLAYS ON HOW TO COLOUR IN EYEBROWS.

**FX JEAN KNOCKS**

JEAN Oh good gracious, what have you done to your eyebrows?

SOPHIE I've dyed them,

 I want to look like that lady in the book, there. I got it out of library.

JEAN That's a cartoon.

SOPHIE It's an illustration actually Jean.

JEAN Of a Milk Maid.

SOPHIE Traditional Dutch attire, I'm making a skirt like that, I want to fit in in Amsterdam.

SOPHIE I'm so nervous… Jean?... do you think auntie Pamela will like me ?

JEAN ...Yeah, I think so.

**FX FRONT DOOR OPENS DOWNSTAIRS.**

JEAN Your mother’s back.

SOPHIE She's been working at ~~The Samaritans.~~ Humber Help Line

JEAN I can't believe how far she's taking this kindness malarkey, you've opened a right can of worms.

**SOPHIE AND JEAN WALK DOWN THE STAIRS.**

JEAN How's the charity work been Sheila?

SHEILA I've got to go back soon, I'm doing a night shift on the phones.

SOPHIE Oh right.

SHEILA That's where you stay up all night.

SOPHIE Yeah.

SHEILA And listen to other people's problems.

SOPHIE You know you’ll have to be sympathetic

SHELIA I am sympathetic!

 I've just got time to change me shoes.

SOPHIE You don't have to go if you don't want to.

SHEILA No, it's a very important, I'm a pillow of the community.

JEAN It suits you down to the ground Shelia !

SHEILA You shut your face. Oh look at the time, I'll have to go and be kind, I haven't even had chance to rest my dainty feet, give give, give..

SOPHIE It's a shame you won't be here when Pam arrives…

JEAN Or a blessing.

SHEILA She's not going to arrive Sophie, she's a let down in Lycra that one.

SOPHIE When did you last see her?

SHEILA 1986. I've protected you all these years.

SOPHIE She's high-class mother.

SHEILA She's not she wears slutty shoes and has damaged hair - how many women do you know that do a white wash, a dark wash and leopard print , wash, eh?

SHEILA Oh sugar I'm gonna miss the bus -think of me won't you, helping those in need!

JEAN Good luck Sheila...

**FX DOOR SHUT**

JEAN Your mam might be right about Pam Sophie?

SOPHIE Noo... She's jealous Jean, she knows Pam is a sophisticated jet setter and we run a carboot stall for a living- she's coming to take me away from it all.

JEAN Are you sure you'd fit in in Amsterdam?

SOPHIE I'm a cosmopolitan social butterfly.

JEAN You eat breaded dinosaurs.

SOPHIE I can hear footsteps, do you think she's come early?

**FX KNOCK AT DOOR**

SOPHIE Oh my god, I think that's her, look through the letterbox.

JEAN It’s a woman…

SOPHIE Does she look stylish?

JEAN She looks... a bit like your mam, she's got the same coat ...and hat…

SOPHIE She must not want to intimidate her... Is my lippy alright?

JEAN Yeah... You’ve got a bit on your forehead… I'm nervous.

SOPHIE Why?

JEAN I don't want you to go away.

**FX JEAN OPENS THE DOOR**

JEAN Hello.

LORRAINE Is Sheila in?

JEAN No she's on a night shift but Sophie-

SOPHIE HIYA! I can't believe it, wow… You got here alright then??!

LORRAINE Yeah, it's not far?

SOPHIE Not far, ha! I told you she was a global trotter or whatever you call it.

LORRAINE I've been called worse.

SOPHIE I couldn't think of a better early birthday present than having you here.

LORRAINE Ha! Oh you poor thing, I could.

SOPHIE Come in, come in, this is Jean-take her jacket

LORRAINE Thanks, Ooh, strapping lad,

JEAN (tut) Cheers.

SOPHIE Sit down, sit down. Why don't you go home now Jean... Can I get you a Lambrini?

LORRAINE Oh girl after my own heart.

SOPHIE Auntie Pamela.

LORRAINE Auntie Pamela? (Tries out the sound of it.)

SOPHIE Oh sorry, would you prefer just Pamela or Pam.

LORRAINE No… auntie Pamela will do… Auntie Pamela.

SOPHIE I wondered if you'd be wearing your mink coat and pearls. She's got a mink coat and pearls Jean, haven't you…

LORRAINE Hasn't everyone… hah ha. No just my scruffys today love.

SOPHIE And you don't wear slutty shoes.

LORRAINE Who said that?

SOPHIE My mother.

JEAN Think I will get off now-

LORRAINE Did she now.

**SCENE 4. INT. THE GOOD SAMARITANS OFFICE**

**FX OFFICE SOUNDS/CALL CENTRE.**

SHEILA Hello, ~~Hull Samartians-~~Humber Help Line

GIRL Hello

SHELIA Talk to me

GIRL (Distort) I feel so lonely here at home, all my friends have gone to university. (breaking down). I've got nobody. I just wish I'd I'd... (killed myself )

SHEILA Worked harder at school? Yes that's normal, too busy out chasing boys were you?

GIRL (Distort) No my parents were going though a divorce.

SHEILA That's families for you, how do you think I feel, I've got a grown up daughter pegging everything on meeting her auntie Pamela 'cept she's text me to say she's not coming, but muggins here will bear the brunt.

GIRL (Distort) Well just talk to her, explain what's happened.

SHEILA She's gonna be devastated, but I did say.

GIRL (Distort) At least she's got you.

SHEILA …I worry about when I'm gone.

GIRL (Distort) You should try not to-

SHEILA Yeah...thanks for listening.

**FX LINE GOES DEAD. THERES BEEPS AS SHEILA DIALS.**

SHEILA MUTTERS HER PHONE NUMBER WHILST DIALING

**FX IT RINGS. SOPHIE ANSWERS**

SOPHIE (Distort) Hello?

SHEILA It's your mother.

SOPHIE (Distort) Hiya mum, how's it going there?

SHEILA Good, I'm really helping people, I've got some bad news for you… SOPHIE (Distort) Aunty Pam's here we're just-

SHEILA Aunty Pam… she can't be

SOPHIE (Distort) She is, I'm doing her hair in curlers,

SHEILA Sophie-

SOPHIE (Distort) I must go mother, what's that Pam?! Oh we've got loads of fig rolls-

SHEILA SOPHIE!

SOPHIE (Distort) Bye mother!

**FX LINE GOES DEAD. THERE’S BEEPS AS SHEILA DIALS.**

JEAN (Distort) Hello

SHEILA It’s me Jean. I'm at Humber Help Line, I need your help.

JEAN (Distort) Aren't people meant to call *you* Sheila?

SHEILA Sophie said Pamela's at the house.

JEAN (Distort) Yeah she is.

SHEILA She's not. Get round there. Pam emailed me Jean, she can't squeeze in a visit, I said 'oh but you can squeeze in a size ten' but-

JEAN (Distort) Sheila- So who's that at the house?

SHEILA I don't know…

JEAN (Distort) Well she knows who you are!

SHEILA What does she look like?

JEAN Like you.

SHEILA Tall and slim?

JEAN You're not- She's got the same coat as you.

SHEILA Oh jean...There's been a homeless woman sat outside Costcutters all week. I told her to pop round-

JEAN Have you been giving her your clothes?

SHEILA Yes.

JEAN Oh ~~dear.~~ No.

SHEILA HANGS UP, SHE CALLS SOPHIE BACK.

**FX LINE GOES DEAD. THERE’S BEEPS AS SHEILA DIALS.**

**SCENE 5. INT. LIVING ROOM. NIGHT.**

**GRAMS MUSIC FROM A FILM-SUSPENSE, THE BABY JANE ONE.**

LORRAINE IS PISSED, FEET UP ON THE COUCH.

LORRAINE Another slat and vinegar chip stick if you will, young Sophie.

SOPHIE You've had em' all Aunty Pam. I've got Jamie Dodgers.

LORRAINE (trying to be posh) Uh no, I've gone all a savoury love, I usually preference a crisp cracker and a bit of unpasteurised cheese when I'm regaling, find something in a minute though. I'll have another gin.

**FX POURS GIN**

SOPHIE That's nearly gone un' all.

LORRAINE So where was I, ermmm, oh, yeah

 Lenny Henry said to me, he said 'Lorraine-

SOPHIE Who's Lorraine?

LORRAINE My nickname**,** a mishap with a hot quiche, got lodged down my wind pipe during the first act of Othello, I want 'alf taunted for it... 'Quiche??.. Lorraine??' They'd say to me. (Laughs at herself for thinking of it)
No offense love but your house is mental, how do you live with all this stuff?

SOPHIE My mother wastes a lot of money.

LORRAINE ...Is she hard to live with love?

SOPHIE I've been wanting to move out for a long time.

LORRAINE But you'd be worried about her.

SOPHIE She doesn't think I'm ready.

LORRAINE She never will. Families eh, don't they break your heart… well-

**FX CLINKS GLASS ON BOTTLE**

LORRAINE (slurring more)oh my Gordon Bennett, what's that staring at me on top of the telly?

SOPHIE Bette Midler- it's a Toby jug.

LORRAINE Oh I've Bet Mette Bidler!!

SOPHIE Pardon?

LORR Pet Bidler!

**FX JEAN BURSTS IN. DOOR SLAMS OPEN**

JEAN (dramatic) SOPHIE!

LORRAINE Oh that fat lad’s back ~~look.~~

JEAN Sophie, I need a word about something

LORRAINE HAS CONKED OUT-SHE SNORES.

JEAN Is she alright?

SOPHIE She's had a long day.

**FX SHEILA BURSTS IN. DOOR SLAMS OPEN**

SHEILA (Dramatic ) (The same as Jean) SOPHIE!!!!!!!!

SOPHIE What's going on?

LOUD SNORE FROM LORRAINE.

SHEILA Oh good grief. She's conked out.

SOPHIE She's been doing this.

JEAN Sheila needs to tell you something Sophie.

SOPHIE ~~What?~~

SOPHIE I'm glad you're back early mother (deflated) Pam's hard work int she.

PAUSE.

SHEILA ....Yeahh... she is.

JEAN Sheila?!!

LORRAINE SNORES

SOPHIE I see what you mean. She's a bit different to what I thought. She’s met Bette Middler though, what did you have to tell me?

SHEILA Oh nothing, nothing…

JEAN Sheila?!!!!

SNORES, WAKES HERSELF UP.

LORRAINE Martine Mc Clutch-in-him. I've worked with her!

SHEILA Auntie Pam, Auntie Pam- I'm pleased you've come to join us, Sophie will show you up to your room, nice warm bed for the night, just tonight, I'll be up to see you first thing, help her up Sophie.

SOPHIE HELPS HER UP.

SOPHIE Up you get.

LORRAINE Is that the time?

THEY LEAVE THE ROOM

JEAN (mad) Of all the things you've done through the years, I've got high blood pressure, do you know that, at my age-

SHEILA Well don't stand like that for a start.

JEAN Stand like what?

SHEILA Bulky..

JEAN (hisses) She's not- your- sister!

SHEILA Exactly! Now listen- no, she's not Pam, but let Sophie think *that’s what* she's missing and we don't have to worry about her doing a Puss in boots with the real one, the real Pam will break her heart, like she did with mine, that one up there just needs a good wash.

JEAN When did she break your heart?

SHEILA November the 11th 1979, an Abba concert in Stafford.

JEAN We can't tell Sophie what to do, she's an adult,

SHEILA That's debatable.

SOPHIE ENTERS.

SOPHIE I've took her fags off her just in case, she said she's been up in flames a lot.

JEAN Sheila wants to talk to you about something Soph-

SOPHIE What?

PAUSE

SHEILA Your eyebrows, they're nearly the same colour as the curtains love…

SOPHIE They are the same colour.

SHEILA Why?

JEAN What did you use?

SOPHIE No fabric dye, from the curtains.

SHEILA Any more questions Jean?

**SCENE 6. INT. SOPHIE'S BEDROOM. MORNING.**

SHEILA KNOCKS.

LORRAINE Enter.

SHEILA Are you decent?

LORRAINE Always.

**FX SHEILA ENTERS, SHE SHUTS THE DOOR.**

SHEILA (sing-song) Well Lorraine we're all having a bit of fun aren't we-if you can pretend to be auntie Pamela just this morning and say you're going to Amsterdam, I'll give you twenty quid and you can find somewhere else, not round here

LORRAINE Oh, you see the thing is Sheila I thought we were having a sit-down dinner with napkins.

SHEILA Who said that?

LORRAINE Me.

SHEILA When

LORRAINE Just now.

SHEILA Oh.

LORRAINE For that little lasses birthday. Be nice. You see I'll know when the times right to leave...when my work here is done... I'm like that last pilchard in the tin.

SHEILA You what?

LORRAINE You throw me away but the smell lingers on yer for days.

LORRAINE Perhaps it'll never leave…

SHEILA What sort of fancy dress?

LORRAINE The box under the stairs, I think there's enough clobber for some sort of ABBA -esque affair. We both love fancy dress don't we?

SHEILA Yeah.

LORRAINE You can forget who you are for a minute when you're all dressed up. Which one of Abba do you want to be?

SHEILA I don't mind- The blonde one.

LORRAINE Ahh she always was your favourite.

SHEILA How do *you* know that?

LORRAINE (Eeery) Sheila, I'm ~~meant to be~~ am your only sister.

BABY JANE EERIE TUNE

**SCENE 7. INT. HALLWAY. EVENING.**

JEAN KNOCKS. SOPHIE, LORRAINE AND ERNIE ARE IN THE KITCHEN, WE CAN HEAR ABBA IN THE DISTANCE. LORRAINE IS STEADILY DRINKING THROUGHOUT, BECOMING MORE AND MORE INTOXICATED.

SHEILA Come in Jean.

JEAN I'm not happy about this Sheila-.

SHEILA (worried) Jean, she's a psychopath!

JEAN Yeah well this is what happens when you let strangers in your house and pass them off as family, actually, yeah, thanks for inviting me over to dinner then! This'll be part of her plot, make us dress up as Abba and take us out one by one.

 SHEILA Who have you come as?

JEAN (insecure) The one without the beard, Bjorn.

SHEILA Is that a toupe?

JEAN Yeah it's me grannies.

SHEILA Your *grandads*?

JEAN No me grannie's. (*Quieter*) Can't you just chuck this Lorraine out Sheila?

SHEILA I think she just wants dinner with us, hopefully she'll go after that.

JEAN Hopefully?

SHEILA Come through.

ABBA MUSIC PLAYS.

LORRAINE BURPS.

LORRAINE Fill me up again, Frank, Harold -.

SOPHIE He's called Ernie. Hiya Jean.

ERNIE Hi Sophie.

LORRAINE Oh Jean's here, nice costume son, you're next to Erwin Jean.

JEAN Which one are you meant to be Ernie?

ERNIE Pavarotti.

LORRAINE Right Sheila there, I'll sit here. If you can squeeze past Ernest's fat suit

ERNIE I'm not wearing a fat suit.

**FX SOPHIE SERVES. CLINK OF PLATES AND CUTLERY**

SOPHIE Starters are ready, here you go everyone. Prawn cocktail… but I made it with sausages.

JEAN It tastes like angel delight.

SOPHIE It is.

SOUND OF THEM TRYING TO ENJOY IT.

SOPHIE Tell us about what it was like growing up together you two.

JEAN (sarcy) Yeah tell us.

LORRAINE It was a very Happy/

SHEILA /Sad.... Up and down childhood.

LORRAINE Full of-

SHEILA Arguments-

LORRAINE -trips to the beach… and Sister rivalry.

SHEILA Oh yes.

LORRAINE It never leaves.

SHEILA No.

SHEILA What for?

LORRAINE Delicious, this is Sophie, you're a clever cook.

SOPHIE Ta.

SHEILA She takes after me.

LORRAINE You don't get many compliments at home do you?

SHEILA I compliment her.

LORRAINE What like?..

PAUSE

SHEILA Well-I said she had a clean forehead the other day.... Mother and daughters are tricky…

LORRAINE I never had a daughter… (quiet to Sheila) *did I?*

SHEILA (back) *No*.

LORRAINE I could never live up to you.

SHEILA Ha!!! You're joking, you were the golden child! I couldn't get a look in!

LORRAINE Why don't you compliment your daughter Sheila?

SHEILA I have to watch her like a hawk, the worry I have.

LORRAINE What a burden.

SHEILA Yes!

LORRAINE …So let her fly the nest. She'll resent you for it if you don't, believe me.

JEAN Shall we have a gap before the main course?

LORRAINE Why don't we play a game then, what about charades, I'll take the wine through-

**FX THEY GET UP CHAIRS SCRAPE. PLATES COLLECTED BY SOPHIE AND ERNIE UNDERNEATH DIALOGUE.**

SOPHIE There's your glass here.

LORRAINE Oh my fine with the bottle.

SOPHIE Can you both be a bit nicer to Pam

SOPHIE I'll bring in some nibbles.

ERNIE ~~Oh heck.~~

SHEILA Right, Jean… we need a plan.

JEAN What plan?

SHEILA For when she passes out again-

JEAN Yeah?

SHEILA We'll drag her- into the yard.

JEAN What?!

SHEILA I'll distract Sophie.

JEAN We can't just drag her outside.

SHEILA It's her natural habitat, she'll be more comfortable.

JEAN I hate coming to your house Sheila.

LORRAINE (off) Are you participating ladies?

SHEILA Yes.

THEY GO INTO THE LIVING ROOM. (HUM OF TV OR SOME MUSIC?)

LORRAINE Right, I'll start the charade then. So-

SOPHIE It's a film.

SHEILA (quick) Psycho.

JEAN (quick) Single White Female.

LORRAINE I haven't done it yet-right... let me think, what was - (conks out, snores)

SOPHIE There she goes again.

SHEILA (sweetly, plotting) Oh Sophie be a love, go find them tea candles in my wardrobe. I bet the meter’s gonna run out and shops shut. Take Ernie up with you, ~~take your beard off Ernie, you're sweating~~,

SOPHIE Okay. Come on Ernie.

SHEILA (WHISPERING) Right Jean, I'll get her feet, you get the other end.

JEAN What if she wakes up?

SHEILA We'll say its Shiatsu. Hurry up.

 We'll put her at the bus stop, she might forget where she was.

JEAN I don't like this.

SHEILA How do you think I feel, I'm middle-class, this should be in your blood Jean, chucking women out

THEY STRUGGLE WITH HER.

SHEILA Open the door.

**FX JEAN OPENS THE DOOR**

LORRAINE STIRS.

**FX DOOR CLOSES. THEY’RE OUTSIDE NOW**

**FX STREET AT NIGHT.**

LORRAINE Two words, starts with-

JEAN Sheila!

SHEILA Rock her, rock her…shh. (Sing Lullaby)

CUT TO:

**INT. HALLWAY.**

SOPHIE AND ERNIE WALK DOWN THE STAIRS.

SOPHIE Where have they all gone? Mother?

ERNIE Maybe they're hiding (shivers). Huuuh!

SOPHIE What's wrong

ERNIE Women *hiding-* it's not a nice image.

**FX DOOR SLAM**

THEY'RE OUT OF BREATH

SOPHIE Where have you two been? Why are you out of breath?

SHEILA A race, we've just had a race.

SOPHIE Dressed like Abba?

JEAN Yeah

SOPHIE Where's Pam?

JEAN She came last.

SOPHIE Is she okay?

SHEILA Yes, she'll be fine. Oh Sophie, can you imagine Amsterdam with her. All that drinking she does?

**FX KNOCK ON THE WINDOW**

THEY JUMP.

SHEILA What's that?

JEAN SHE'S BACK!

SHEILA How did she get to the back window?

JEAN She looks angry.

SOPHIE (WALKING OFF) She will be, she lost the race...I'll let her in.

SOPHIE LEAVES.

JEAN We can't get rid of her Sheila!!! What we gonna do?

SHEILA (panic) She needs to feel uncomfortable here… Have you got a vest on underneath that jumper?

JEAN Yeah.

SHEILA Take it off then, that might help.

LORRAINE Lovvies!!!! So...where did we get to... ~~I really can't remember~~?

JEAN Charades, your team won.

SOPHIE And now we're gonna have stroganoff -in tomato sauce.

ERNIE Amazing

SOPHI With Mussels.

ERNIE Oh wow.

LORRAINE I thought I could smell pork?

SHEILA No, Jean’s took her top off.

JEAN Do yer need 'hand Sophie?

LORRAINE Five words.

JEAN You what?

LORRAINE The charade… five words… Whatever happened to Baby Jane.

JEAN Never seen it.

LORRAINE It's about controlling someone, *psychologically*…

SOPHIE Have you seen Shrek? That's about a princess that turns green.

LORRAINE It can happen a lot Sophie, dominance, if you're not careful, siblings, mother and daughters.

SHEILA Er, excuse me, I don't control Sophie.

LORRAINE That’s not what it looks like.

SHEILA Right I've had-!

LORRAINE What?

SHEILA Come on, out now!!

LORRAINE I'm a guest!

SHEILA I've had enough of this-!

SHEILA I'd do anything for my daughter.

LORRAINE Does she know that?

SOPHIE Yeah, I do Pam!!! Thank you, I wouldn't change her. I always thought I should have had you as me mother but... I think I'm happiest here.

PAUSE

SHEILA SEE!

LORRAINE Music to my ears.

SOPHIE But I think you should find somewhere else to stay tonight before your ferry to Amsterdam.

LORRAINE Oh. Right.

SOPHIE You can stay for mussel stroganoff?

LORRAINE No… no, I'll finish this fag and I'll hit the road... *families... you can't pick em' can yer.*

SOPHIE No, lovely to finally meet you, I'm gonna dish it out before it dries up.

SOPHIE LEAVES THE ROOM.

LORRAINE I'll be on my way then… thanks for having me. ~~Am I covered in glitter?~~

~~JEAN A bit.~~

SHEILA There's twenty quid here for you… Lorraine.

LORRAINE Ta.

SHEILA Have a… a good life, if you can..

LORRAINE You don't choose this life Sheila, it chooses you.

JEAN Where will you go?

LORRAINE That all depends on who needs me… be kind to each other.

JEAN We will. Won't we Sheila.

SHEILA Yeah. Don't stand so close to me though Jean.

**FX LORRAINE OPENS THE DOOR SHE LEAVES. DOOR CLOSE.**

PAUSE

SHEILA (think she will say something sympathetic)...It's awful to see a sad drunk int it.

JEAN Or a sad angel.

SOPHIE ENTERS

SOPHIE Has Auntie Pam gone then?

ERNIE *Auntie* Pam?

SOPHIE Yeah.

ERNIE Oh no that wasn't your *auntie* Pam. I've met your auntie Pam.

SOPHIE What!

SOPHIE STORMS OUT

SHEILA Sophie!! Sophie!!-

FADE TO

**SCENE 8. INT. SOPHIE'S BEDROOM. DAY**

**FX SOPHIE IS PACKING. SOUND OF ZIPS. COAT HANGER RATTLE, WARDROBE DOOR CREAK**

SHEILA I'm SORRY SOPHIE!!.. Don't go, don't leave me.

SOPHIE No you've blown it Mother.

SHEILA I don't know why I'm living if you're not here.

SOPHIE You'll have lots of time to figure it out won't you?

SHEILA She won't be there to meet you at the ferry Sophie.

SOPHIE She will mother, me real auntie Pam has even put money in my account for the taxis ~~there.~~ I'll be seeing her tonight at the terminal for a new life with the Dutch.

SHEILA I was gonna do a gammon tonight.

SOPHIE Excuse me, move please, I'm gonna set off now and sit in a cafe.

SHEIA You'll ruin me with worry, I'll be skin and bone. I'll break me neck you know, I fall down the stairs, all those boxes in the living room, they'll tumble down with me.

SOPHIE Good.

SHEILA I won't look after myself.

SOPHIE Where’s the key to the back door.

SHEILA Here.

SOPHIE Open it then.

SHEILA I want you to have this.

SOPHIE What is it?

SHEILA It’s Your hospital bracelet, from when you were born.

SOPHIE It's tiny.

SHEILA Yeah. You've grown, a bit…

SOPHIE Bye mum.

SHEILA Bye, …you look… really beautiful tonight.

SOPHIE Do I?

SHEILA Yes it suits you, how you've got your hair.

SOPHIE You've never said anything like that before.

SHEILA Well I should have done.

SOPHIE Thank you.

SHEILA Will you stay Sophie? , let's have a gammon and invite Jean and Ernie round for monopoly.

SOPHIE No more lies then mother.

SHEILA No lies... you can be a banker, I'll be the paper clip.

SOPHIE You wouldn't do that.

SHEILA I promise. If you do it properly…

**SCENE 9. INT. LIVING ROOM.PM**

ABBA PLAYS.

SOPHIE Here you go Jean, you're the Scottie dog-

JEAN At last.

SOPHIE Here's an extra £20 quid, if you want anymore just ask.

SHEILA You can't do that.

SOPHIE You going straight into jail Ernie?

ERNIE Yes please… oh home at last, nice to see you boys.

SHEILA Oh this is ridiculous!!!

JEAN Here she goes…

SOPHIE Get counting...

SHEILA But I'll continue.

JEAN Ooooh.

**FX DICE SHAKING**

JEAN and it's –

**FX THE LIGHTS GO OUT.**

SOPHIE Meter’s gone.

SHEILA The tea candles are in the gas cupboard Soph, here Jean take this torch…

SOPHIE Steady Jean.

THEY GO TO THE CUPBOARD.

JEAN Can you see me Sophie.

SOPHIE I can smell you Jean.

JEAN I ran out of old spice.

SOPHIE Here we go, look in here.

 **FX CUPBOARD DOOR OPENS**

JEAN I'm glad you stayed.

SOPHIE Me too… Tea lights, tea lights…

JEAN What's this?

SOPHIE Let's see… Photograph album.

JEAN 1983.

SOPHIE Year I was born.

JEAN Ha didn't your mother wear funny hats-

SOPHIE That's her hair Jean.

JEAN This one's come unstuck, oh…

SOPHIE What?

JEAN No, dunt matter.

SOPHIE Why, let's see!... oh... That's me mother, on her wedding day she very pale.

JEAN ...who's the groom Sophie?

SOPHIE Can’t you tell Jean it’s ...Ernie

JEAN Ernie? Oh this is weird…

SOPHI3 Look at his teeth Jean!! He's had *them* sorted out. No lies I said to her, all these years I've been asking who my dad is, right what time is it?

JEAN Er, ten to eight.

SOPHIE I'm gonna catch that ferry.

JEAN Oh Soph.

SOPHIE What would you do Jean?

JEAN I'd wait for the gammon.

SOPHIE I'm gonna tip toe out. Cover for me?

JEAN If that's what you want.

SHEILA (off) Are you coming back in?

JEAN Quick go.

 Yeah here we go Sheila, candles, candles, candles-

SHEILA Light them then…

**FX SOUND OF MATCH**

SHEILA Playing board games by candle light, it's gone backwards we used to go to dances when we were your age Jean, didn't we Ernie

ERNIE And Fancy dress parties.

SOUND OF BACK DOOR CLOSING??

SHEILA Yes! Do you remember that fancy dress party we went to and we won a ~~sack~~ bag of meat, what was it we went as? You had those fang teeth…

JEAN Teeth?

SHEILA Dracula and I was-

JEAN His bride.

SHEILA Yeah.

JEAN SOPHIE!!!!