



FLOAT

EPISODE 203

SHOOTING SCRIPT - 07.06.23

by Stef Smith

All rights reserved. No part of this script may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system of any nature, or transmitted, in any form or by any means including photocopying and recording, without the prior written permission of Black Camel Pictures, the copyright owner.

Licenses issued by the Copyright Licensing Agency or any other reproduction rights organisation do not apply.

THIS SCRIPT IS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL AND MAY NOT BE DISCLOSED WITHOUT THE PRIOR CONSENT OF BLACK CAMEL PICTURES.

If any unauthorised acts are carried out in relation to this copyright work, a civil claim for damages may be made and/or a criminal prosecution may result.

1

EXT. COMMUNITY HALL - MORNING 3

1

A clenched fist.

The pound of heavy feet on a pavement.

The crack of a pill packet and painkillers swallowed dry.

JADE is on the edge of a hangover but she won't admit it. As she walks up to the community hall, she finds COLLETTE waiting. Collette looks sorrowful but Jade isn't having any of it.

JADE

What are you doing?

COLLETTE

You didn't reply to my texts.

JADE

I've been awake 5 minutes.

COLLETTE

I just wanted to make sure you got back okay after yesterday.

JADE

I'm fine.

Jade is desperate to leave and begins walking away.

JADE (CONT'D)

And I'm gonna be late.

COLLETTE

Are you sure? Because I've just had a busy head and -

JADE

(INTERRUPTS)

You made me feel like a dick but apart from that - I'm fine.

COLLETTE

I'm sorry.

JADE

And I'm late.

Jade disappears into the community centre. Collette is left outside, saddened and angered by Jade's reaction.

CUT TO:

JADE

No. Way.

Jade begins to take off her gloves.

JADE (CONT'D)

Punching someone got me in this mess, it's not gonna get me out.

Jade goes to walk away, still struggling with her gloves.

PATRICIA

This exercise is about learning how to deal with your emotions in a way that doesn't harm you - or anyone else.

Jade pauses.

PATRICIA (CONT'D)

Plus, if you leave, Jade, you'll breach your CPO.

Deep breath. Jade turns around and takes a big swing at the punching bag. It connects. She feels a tiny buzz.

After a beat, Jade punches it again. And again, and again.

As she punches, we see a flicker of her bloody hand again. Anger rising. But she punches again and the image is cleared. As if she is overwriting the memory of it. With one final punch, Jade is left breathless and suddenly feels very watched. Frozen in place.

PATRICIA (CONT'D)

It's good, Jade. You did good.

(BEAT, back to EVERYONE)

What Jade showed us there - is the importance of channelling negative emotions into directed action.

The shock of positive affirmation. The shock of a lesson learnt.

PATRICIA (CONT'D)

Margaret, you're up next.

Relief on Jade's face.

CUT TO:

COLLETTE is looking at her phone. KELLY is just leaving.

KELLY

I'm on close tonight. So, I won't see you till the morning.

(BEAT)

I picked up those tablets for your Dad.

Collette takes the packet of pills. Studies them.

COLLETTE

These can make you feel dizzy, so I'd be a bit careful with that.

Kelly nods. She covers the silence with talking, as Collette processes her thoughts, their situation. Kelly is checking her bag making sure she has everything.

KELLY

You're much better than me with all this - medicine. Remember that time you had eye drops? You must have been about nine, had to put them in yourself because I couldn't stand it. Guess I'll just get used to it.

COLLETTE

It's really different.

KELLY

What is?

COLLETTE

Having your Dad as a patient compared to a stranger.

(BEAT)

I thought maybe I wouldn't find it as hard this time. Maybe I'd be a little used to it or something but...

Collette shakes her head.

Silence. Kelly has no idea how to handle her daughter's emotions.

KELLY

When you're back for the holidays it'll be so much easier for us all and he will have started his treatment and... it will just be easier.

COLLETTE

But I don't even know what dates I'll be back.

KELLY

It's enough to know you're coming.

COLLETTE

And what about after the summer? If he needs more treatment... if he needs -

KELLY

(INTERRUPTS)

We'll cross that bridge when we get there. *If* we get there.

Kelly leaves in a wave of denial. Collette can't quite shake the feeling of guilt.

CUT TO:

6

INT. COMMUNITY HALL - AFTERNOON 3

6

It's tea break and JADE has been passed a bleak cup of tea. THEO mimes a punch in slow motion towards Jade. Jade doesn't react.

THEO

You've got some right hook on you.

JADE

I'm trying to be a pacifist these days.

THEO

When I was hitting that bag I was thinking about the destructive nature of society's addiction to the gender binary.

(BEAT)

And how it's trapping us all.

We see a flicker of anger in Theo - a sense of why they are even in anger management. Silence. Jade just stares into her tea.

THEO (CONT'D)

How about you?

JADE

I was thinking about yesterday.

THEO

I wouldn't give it too much thought, the whisky was flowing and -

JADE

(INTERRUPTS)

Mixed messages. I feel like I can't - get to her.

THEO

I saw the way she looked at you.
Nothing mixed about that.

Jade doesn't quite know how she feels about Theo's response, relieved, maybe.

JADE

I should invite her to the pub
tonight, shouldn't I? Try and...
see what's going on.

THEO

Is this you channelling your
negative emotions into directed
action?

Jade playfully shoves Theo.

THEO (CONT'D)

It's annoying when good advice
actually works, isn't it?

JADE

(Joking)
Fucking raging at it mate.

A mixture of nerves and relief in Jade. Maybe not everything
is lost.

CUT TO:

7

INT. COLLETTE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - EVENING 3

7

COLLETTE is eating a bag of crisps.

COLLETTE stops in the door way, watching GERRY, her Dad,
watching the TV.

In the light of TV, she smiles and holds out her bag. He
takes one, as she slumps down next to him on the sofa.

GERRY

I must be sick. Not like you to
share your crisps.

She playfully punches him. He puts his arm around her. She
nestles into him. A smile on her face - enjoying the
simplicity of the moment.

They sit in the dark. They choose not to talk.

She squeezes him extra tight. Tenderness.

We sense their love, for a second we sense what they will lose. Collette's phone lights up with Jade's name.

CUT TO:

8

INT. PUB - NIGHT 3

8

JADE looks at her phone. THEO slams down two pints - one for each of them.

THEO

I asked for the cheapest pint.

JADE

Well, you're lucky that cheap is my favourite flavour.

They do a little cheers.

THEO

Has she replied?

JADE

Not yet.

THEO

Well, who would want to miss this?
It's so - nice - in here. Sticky.

JADE

How have you never been in here?
It's the only pub in a mile that
has windows.

THEO

I've just never really felt -
welcome.

KELLY is going around all the tables in the bar.

KELLY

No pub quiz tonight I'm afraid,
girls. Campbell's got a tummy bug.

Jade and Theo hesitate.

JADE

Ah, Kelly, Theo isn't actually -

THEO

(INTERRUPTS)

It's okay.

JADE

Nah, it's...

KELLY
(INTERRUPTS)
It's what?

Jade tries to figure out how exactly she wants to phrase it.

JADE
Sometimes it's just better to say
'folk'. Instead of 'girls' or
'boys'.

KELLY
Oh.

Kelly is bamboozled and swiftly turns defensive.

KELLY (CONT'D)
Well, the pub quiz isn't happening
no matter how I say it.

Kelly leaves. Theo sits in the awkwardness. Jade doesn't quite register how weird this is for Theo.

JADE
How about a game of darts?

We see Kelly behind the bar. Watching them, suspiciously.

CUT TO:

9 **INT. PUB - NIGHT 3**

9

We sense time is passing. A dart that just misses bullseye. Scores written up as JADE and THEO play.

CUT TO:

10 **INT. PUB - NIGHT 3**

10

Coins pushed in a slot. The balls throw themselves out. Chalk on a cue. JADE and THEO play pool. Spirits are high. Theo feels vaguely out of place, whereas Jade is right at home.

CUT TO:

11 **INT. PUB - NIGHT 3**

11

JADE and THEO are busy laughing, doing trick shots on the pool table. There is a sense of joy.

Then Jade stops in her tracks. It takes Theo a moment to catch up.

COLLETTE has walked in. She spots Jade and softly smiles. Deep breath.

THEO

I'll get us a round.

Theo disappears to the bar and Collette walks up to Jade.

Silence. They are being gentle with each other.

COLLETTE

I thought it would just be us.

Collette looks at KELLY, then at Theo at the bar - they are being served quickly.

JADE

Can you blame me wanting moral support after yesterday?

COLLETTE

Look. I'm sorry. And...

Collette tries to find the words. Jade lets her squirm for a moment, then punctures the tension.

JADE

And... you're stripes.

COLLETTE

What?

JADE

You're stripes, I'm solids.

Jade holds out a pool cue towards Collette. A moment for Collette to accept they aren't having the conversation - yet. She takes the cue. Tender smiles.

Meanwhile, Kelly has a discomfort rising in her. She goes to collect glasses near Collette. She talks quietly.

KELLY

Does your Dad know you're out?

COLLETTE

He said it was fine. That I should drink for both of us.

KELLY

Just don't try and keep up with those other two, okay? They've been at it all evening.

Kelly walks off - suspicious. Collette just tries to get her head back into the game of pool, shaking off her Mum's negativity.

CUT TO:

12 **INT. PUB - NIGHT 3**

12

The three of them are playing pool.

JADE and THEO are clearly drunker than COLLETTE, but they're still having fun. KELLY is watching them and Collette is aware. Jade innocently puts her hand on Collette's shoulder, but Collette subtly moves away. Jade doesn't even begin to clock that Collette is policing their physical touch.

CUT TO:

13 **INT. PUB - NIGHT 3 (LATER)**

13

JADE walks over with a pint and two half pints. THEO and COLLETTE are deep in chat.

THEO

My Dad got a job at the post office. So I just followed. I've always fancied living by water.

COLLETTE

Yeah. That is nice.

(BEAT)

Oh, careful.

Jade accidentally pushes over an empty glass and it smashes on the ground. Jade goes to pick up the glass with her hand.

JADE

Shit, sorry.

COLLETTE

Not with your hands.

Collette grabs Jade's wrist. Collette looks at Jade and suddenly realises she is wasted and can't help but feel disappointed.

THEO

I'll go tell someone...

Theo leaves.

JADE

Sorry.

COLLETTE

It's okay. I'm sure I was spilling plenty of things last night.

Jade realises she is drunk enough to finally ask the question.

JADE

What happened?

COLLETTE

What d'you mean?

JADE

When I wanted to kiss you. What happened? Why did you push me away?

COLLETTE

I just... I had been trying to talk to you all night about some tricky stuff and -

JADE

(INTERRUPTS)

We were talking.

Jade is a little riled by the conversation already.

COLLETTE

Not that sort of talking.

JADE

So, let's talk now.

COLLETTE

I think the moment has passed.

JADE

You can't just back track.

COLLETTE

Look. You've just - had a few drinks and I -

JADE

(INTERRUPTS)

Are you embarrassed of me?

(BEAT)

Is that what this is?

COLLETTE

No. That's not what this is.

JADE

(INTERRUPTS)

What is it then?

(BEAT)

Is it because I'm a fucking loser who has done nothing but go backwards in life? And the fact that we kissed and we fucked - is so appalling to you, that you can't even look at me?

Jade is almost overwhelmed by her own anger. She has to stop to catch her breath. A few PEOPLE around them have turned to look - Jade was beginning to raise her voice. Unbeknown to them, Kelly had just arrived to sweep up the glass.

Collette looks at Kelly, Jade follows her gaze and turns to Kelly. There is shock on her face.

Silence. The penny drops.

JADE (CONT'D)

Oh.

(BEAT)

Oh.

Jade's heart breaks a little. Silence. She turns around and looks at Collette, who is devastated.

Everything is fucked.

END OF EPISODE.