

DETECTORISTS - SERIES 2

EPI SODE THREE

Written by

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SHOOTING SCRIPT

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1 EXT. FARNINGHAM WOODS, CAR PARK - EVENING 1

Russell and Hugh, shouldering their detectors, walk up a track and find themselves in a grim looking, empty car park on the edge of a wood. There is litter and old mattresses strewn around and various scruffy warning signs:

NO PARKING AFTER DARK.

CAR PARK CLOSES AT 8.30PM

We cut to the opposite angle and see Russell and Hugh's expressions as they take in the scene unfolding before them. (It's hard to read what they're seeing, their faces are blank)

HUGH
Do you think that's what the mayor
was doing?

RUSSELL
Which one?

HUGH
(he points)
That one.

RUSSELL
Possibly.
(beat)
Maybe not exactly that, but along
those lines.

HUGH
And do you think he was wearing the
chain while he was doing it? *

RUSSELL
I suppose so.

HUGH
What for?

RUSSELL
Probably gives him a sense of
power.

Silence as they watch.

HUGH
Can we go home now?

RUSSELL
Yeah... don't want to stick around
here any longer than we have to.

However, they linger a moment longer. Russell points.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)
She's going to catch her death...

TITLES:

detectorists

2 INT. SUPERMARKET - DAY

2

Lance is in the men's grooming aisle trying aftershaves. He takes a sampler from the shelf and checks no-one is watching. He squirts it into the air in front of him and then walks through the mist. He does this twice and then replaces the bottle on the shelf. As he moves away he is horrified to see Sophie and Peter come into the aisle. Peter is carrying a bottle of wine.

SOPHIE
Oh hello Lance!

LANCE
Sophie! Hello.

SOPHIE
What you up to?

LANCE
Oh just picking up a few things.

They look in his basket.

PETER
Nice flowers.

LANCE
Yes, brighten the place up a bit.

SOPHIE
What kind of...

LANCE
Freesias I think.

PETER
And some chocolates?

LANCE
Yes. Thought I'd treat myself.

SOPHIE
Why not?

LANCE
Exactly.

Sophie sniffs the air and looks around.

SOPHIE
Can you smell the early nineties?

Lance sniffs.

LANCE
Nope.
Anyway. Nice to see you.

SOPHIE
Yes. You too.

PETER
Enjoy your chocolates.

LANCE
Will do.

They part. We stay with Lance, he is winning.

Cut to Sophie and Peter walking in the other direction, they are stifling giggles.

3 INT. ANDY AND BECKY'S HOUSE - DAY

3

Andy's phone vibrates on the table, Becky picks it up and looks at the screen. She calls upstairs.

BECKY
Your phone's ringing. It's Sophie.

ANDY (V.O.)
Can you answer it? I'm up to my elbows.

She does.

BECKY
Hi Sophie, it's Becky...
Yes he's changing a nappy...
I know, when he could be watching
football...
Yes...
Hang on...
(she calls to Andy)
Sophie's just bumped into Lance and
thinks something's about to go
down.

ANDY (V.O.)
Oh yeah? Like what?

BECKY
(listens)
... saw him in the supermarket
buying all the materials required
to make a romantic evening.

Andy comes down stairs awkwardly holding the baby between his arms with hands outstretched.

ANDY
He must have got the instructions
off the internet.

He hands Stanley over to Becky.

ANDY (CONT'D)
Got to wash my hands...

He runs off through to the kitchen and continues the conversation V.O.

ANDY (V.O.)
What things was he buying?

BECKY
What was he buying?...
Flowers. Chocolates. Aftershave.

ANDY (V.O.)
What kind?...

BECKY
Freesias. Ferrero Rocher.
Fahrenheit.

Andy re-enters drying his hands.

ANDY
Christ.

He takes the phone from Becky.

ANDY (CONT'D)
Do you still have the suspect in
your sights?...
Okay follow at a discreet distance
and report back...
Oh and Sophie?...
Be safe...

*

He hangs up.

BECKY
You're a bunch of kids.

ANDY
We're just concerned about him.
Don't want him to make a fool of
himself.

BECKY
Right because you're the expert in
that field.
Listen, can we get a baby sitter
tomorrow night? I thought we could
go out. Just us.

ANDY
Oh yeah, okay, what's brought this
on?

BECKY

Nothing's 'brought this on'. I'm only suggesting going to a restaurant.

ANDY

Cool. Who'll baby sit?

BECKY

Well. Let's face it...

ANDY

Your mum.

BECKY

She's free.

ANDY

Of course she is, she doesn't have any friends.

BECKY

I mean she doesn't cost anything.

ANDY

Oh yes. Sorry.

BECKY

She is his grandmother.

ANDY

I just wish we didn't have to rely on her so much.

BECKY

Well I think I've got a plan to deal with her.

ANDY

Murder? Really? Okay then.

BECKY

Not murder.

ANDY

I know someone. I'll make a call.

BECKY

Not murder.

4 EXT. PARK - DAY

4

Sophie and Peter are behind some bushes in the park, spying on Lance through the leaves and giggling. Peter is standing and Sophie is kneeling to the side of him.

CUT TO:

5 EXT. PARK, SOPHIE & PETER'S POV - DAY 5

Lance is sitting on a bench, very aware that he looks like a man on a date. He decides to dump the flowers and chocolates in a bin next to him. Checks his watch.

He suddenly appears to look straight at Sophie and Peter, he flattens his hair, gets up and waves.

CUT TO:

6 EXT. PARK - DAY 6

Sophie turns to realize there is a young woman watching her and Peter from the path just a few feet away. (This is actually KATE, Lance's mysterious friend). Sophie scrambles to her feet.

SOPHIE

Hello.

Kate just stares.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

We were just looking for something.

PETER

Kate watches them nip off round the bushes. Just as they're out of sight Lance appears, he looks in the direction they've gone.

LANCE
Who was that?

Kate speaks with an Irish accent.

KATE
Don't know. But they were spying on you.

Pause. They turn to each other.

LANCE
Hello. How are you?

KATE
All right thanks.

7 INT. SCOUT HALL - DAY

7

It's the weekly meeting of the DMDC. All the members, apart from Lance are milling about, perusing the finds table, getting tea and coffee. Peter is laying photo print-outs and old newspaper clippings on a table. Andy and Sophie are talking close by.

SOPHIE
...about twenty two, twenty three,
dark hair down to about here.

ANDY
That's her. Did he see you?

SOPHIE
No but she did. I'm shit at spying.

ANDY
That's already been established.
And he dumped the chocolates and
flowers?

SOPHIE
Yeah but the smell of aftershave
was still very much in the air.

*

Sheila has wandered over and is looking at the laid out maps and pictures.

SHEILA
It's amazing isn't it? All the
information at our fingertips these
days.

LANCE
 Sorry I'm late everyone.
 Had something to do...

Sophie has finished laying out the research. *

SOPHIE
 Do you want to gather round and
 I'll show you what we've turned up. *

They start to move to the table. Andy looks at Lance who seems very happy. Weird.

ANDY
 You smell nice. *

SOPHIE
 So. We're pretty certain that this
 is the same view of the round tower
 because of this window. *

They compare a recent photo to the old newspaper cutting. Sophie refers to an Ordnance Survey map.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
 And the photograph would have been
 taken around here looking in this
 direction. Pretty much exactly
 where we parked the cars the other
 day.

ANDY
 Well that's Church Farm. That's
 actually on our permission.

Lance picks up and studies the newspaper cutting.

ANDY (CONT'D)
 We haven't got to that field yet
 but it's definitely on the same
 farm.

LANCE
 No. You're looking in the wrong
 place.

SOPHIE
 No we're not. What do you mean? *

LANCE
 You're on the wrong side of the
 church.

PETER
 How do you know?

Lance refers to the newspaper photo.

He points to the map with a flourish.

TERRY (CONT'D)
... belongs to none other than 'The
Right Honourable' Mr. Mayor
himself!

PETER

PETER
Even so, you've got a good
percentage of female club members.

TERRY
I should think we probably do have
above average.
We've got two lesbians and an Asian
as well.

Polite smiles.

TERRY (CONT'D)
Very proud.

SHEILA
Louise and Varde are also women
Terry, not just lesbians. *

TERRY
But you know what I mean. We've got
all the minorities covered.

SOPHIE
Are women a minority?

TERRY
You know what I mean.

SHEILA
I don't know if we do Terry.

TERRY
Oh god it's a minefield. I'm going
to shut up.

Peter spots that Simon and Garfunkel have entered the pub and
are coming over.

PETER
Hey look. It's those guys.

SOPHIE
Shit.

LANCE
Evening ladies.

ART
(pretending to enjoy the
joke)
Ha! Yes. Your catchphrase.

ANDY
Here they are. The Dirt Sharks.

TERRY
The what?

ANDY

You heard me.

ART

Yes! We've reformed. We are now The
Dirt Sharks.

SHEILA

Urgh.

ART

ART
And there will have to be a Finds
Liaison Officer present to record
items of value.

LANCE
We're not expecting to find
anything of value.

ART
Aren't you?

PETER
No.

LANCE
What are you getting at? *

ART
According to the Protection of
Military Remains Act 1986, any
crash site that is suspected of
having... *

PETER
Everything is being done by the
book. You don't need to worry. But
thank you for your help. *

Pause.

LANCE
Good night.

ART
Good night.

They start to move away. Hesitantly, expecting Lance to get
the last word.

When they're almost out of the room Lance coughs an insult
into his fist.

LANCE
WANKERS!

SHEILA
Ooh. They give me the willies.

PETER
A rival club? *

ANDY

PETER
Really? You didn't tell me that!

*

SOPHIE
And they'll never let me forget it.

TERRY
Their methods are... unsound.

SHEILA
Nighthawks.

PETER
You were a nighthawk?

*

*

SOPHIE
No! I was duped.

*

*

ANDY
We rescued her from the dark side.

*

*

SOPHIE
No you didn't.

*

*

PETER
That's hilarious. I knew there was something I didn't trust about you.

*

*

ANDY

Well what's a reasonable age difference?

LANCE

I think ten years is reasonable.

ANDY

What about twenty?

LANCE

He's not twenty years older than her.

ANDY

No but would that be too much?

LANCE

Yes, probably. What are you talking about?

ANDY

Nothing...

9 EXT. THE TWO BREWERS PUB - NIGHT

9

Closing time and the gang are leaving and saying their good-byes.
Andy exits the pub with Sophie.

ANDY

You walking home?

SOPHIE

Um, Peter's giving me a lift.

ANDY

You only live down the road.

SOPHIE

Yeah, well...

Just then Peter comes out of the pub. Andy gets it.

ANDY

Okay, well, see you later.

SOPHIE

See ya.

PETER

Bye Andy.

Andy watches them walk off towards Peter's van, then he turns and heads off himself.

ANDY

And when were you going to tell me?

BECKY

I didn't want to put pressure on you getting a job. I was going to tell you as soon as you got work but the weeks and months are passing and you're still signing on.

Andy put's his head in his hands.

BECKY (CONT'D)

I'm so scared Andy that now we've got a baby that's it, we'll never do anything brave or exciting again because we're too nervous about changing anything.

BECKY

Yes please. I'd like a scotch,
double, no ice.

WAITER

Sir?

ANDY

Just a decaffeinated coffee please,
quite weak, lots of milk, cold milk
so it's not too hot. Just tepid.
With sugar.

Becky looks at him with concealed exasperation.

WAITER

Would you like a marshmallow with
it?

ANDY

Ooh, yes please.

The waiter leaves.

Beat.

Becky gets some printouts from her bag and shows Andy.

BECKY

Look. Let me show you what I've
found.
Toutsweogala Hill in Botswana.
They've been excavating an iron age
civilization there for the past
five years. They've just received
funding for a further year and
they're recruiting new graduates as
field archaeologists.

Andy looks at the printout.

BECKY (CONT'D)

The nearest town is 50km away and
so they've begun building a village
close to the excavation for all the
workers. And they've set up a
school for the children. And the
school needs volunteers.

Andy doesn't know what to say.

BECKY (CONT'D)

Well?

ANDY

It's... um, I don't know...

BECKY

Look at it Andy! It's almost too good to be true. When will something like this come along again?

ANDY

Who'll look after Stanley?

BECKY

We'll figure it out.

ANDY

It'll be difficult without your mum around.

WAITER

Madam, a double scotch, no ice...
and for you sir, a weak, tepid,
milky, sweet, decaffeinated coffee.
(beat)
Enjoy.

ANDY

Thank you.

He goes. Becky just looks at Andy.

ANDY (CONT'D)

What?
You don't think I should have the
marshmallow?
You think it'll keep me awake?

11 EXT. NEW PERMISSION - DAY

11

Andy and Lance are detecting a few metres apart, Andy is yawning.

LANCE

Africa Botswana?

ANDY

No, Botswana Upon Thames.

LANCE

Bloody hell.

ANDY

Ridiculous right? How can we take a
baby to Botswana?

LANCE

How long for?

ANDY

A year. It's totally the wrong
time. We need to wait until Stan's
older.

LANCE

Sounds brilliant.

ANDY

What? Not you as well?!

LANCE

Sounds right up your rue. Brushing
dirt. Why wouldn't you go for it?

ANDY

Can't wait to get rid of me. Who
would you go detecting with?

LANCE

Don't worry about me.
Anyway, I might not have so much
time for detecting soon.

ANDY

Why's that?

LANCE

LANCE
No. Tiny strip of rabbit fur.

*
*

ANDY
And he was a big bloke.

*
*

Pause.

*

LANCE
Did you see Celebrity Mastermind?

ANDY
Yeah. General knowledge questions were a joke.

*
*

LANCE
I didn't. I went out.

ANDY
Like children's questions.

*

LANCE
Didn't see it. Went out with someone.

*

ANDY
General knowledge questions on normal mastermind are well difficult.

LANCE
No-one you'd know.

ANDY
Why do celebrities get easier questions?

Pause.

ANDY (CONT'D)
Christ sake! I know you've been seeing someone, I saw you!
And Sophie saw you.

LANCE
When?

ANDY
In a cafe when you said you were in the DIY store, and in the park.

A grin spreads over Lance's face, he's been dying to talk about her.

LANCE
You've seen her?

ANDY
(shouts)
RIGHT! THANK YOU!

Pause.

LANCE
She's...

ANDY
Shhh! No. I just need to process...

Andy puts his head in his hands. Eventually...

ANDY (CONT'D)
Your daughter?

LANCE
Yes.

ANDY
That you knew about?

LANCE
Yes.

ANDY
But you hadn't told me?

LANCE
Why should I have?

ANDY
Oh god, no reason. It's just a
little thing.

LANCE
I'd never met her before last week.
She looks just like her mum.

ANDY
Who's her mum?

LANCE
I was only with her a few months.
She wasn't much older than Kate is
now. I fell hook, line and sinker.
It was a summer fling. Met this
girl, spent the summer with her.

ANDY
Tell me more, tell me more, was it
love at first sight?

LANCE
Mate. I'm opening up here.

ANDY

Sorry.

LANCE

Anyway. The summer came to an end, she found out she was pregnant, furious, sawed my bed in half.

ANDY

Sawed it in half?

LANCE

With a chain saw.

ANDY

Lengthways?

LANCE

Across.

Pause.

LANCE (CONT'D)

Then she moved back to Ireland and I never saw her again.

ANDY

So, what, did Kate find you?

LANCE

Wrote me an e-mail last month. I always hoped she would but I didn't know what her mum had told her about me.
It's a brave new world mate. A time to make up for past mistakes.

ANDY

Yeah.

LANCE

And I think you should go for that job.

Andy doesn't respond.

Pause.

*

ANDY

So did the council come and pick that up then? The bed?

LANCE

No. Had to dismantle it in the end and take it up the dump.
(beat)
Took three trips.

END CREDITS.