

WELCOME TO OUR VILLAGE, PLEASE INVADE CAREFULLY

Episode 2.1 – ‘Questioning Loyalties’

by

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EXT. PARK

LAWRENCE: Really?

KATRINA: Yes. When I lived in London I drove a ride-on mower every day.

LAWRENCE: I thought you worked for an educational charity.

KATRINA: I did.

LAWRENCE: So why were you driving a ride-on mower every day?

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

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

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

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

KATRINA: Yes, probably, I'm sure it's nothing to worry about. So if you want to pop along, I'll get on aná q g

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

LAWRENCE: Good lord!

LUCY: This isn't what it looks like.

MINION: (ALIEN PATHETIC HELP)

LAWRENCE: It looks like you're holding one of the lower-ranking aliens hostage.

LUCY: Oh! That's alright then. I was afraid it looked like we were doing some kind of bondage game.

LAWRENCE: That never entered my mind.

LUCY: Phew. Yeah, we are holding him hostage.

MINION: (ALIEN WHINE)

LAWRENCE: I'm reporting this to their leader.

KATRINA: No, don't do that.

LAWRENCE: I just don't want to get involved.

**F/X: LAWRENCE STRIDES AWAY.**

KATRINA: You can't opt out of being invaded!

LAWRENCE: (OFF) Sorry Katrina. See you at the pub quiz tonight?

KATRINA: Yes, I'll be there. (TO LUCY) Great. What do we do now?

LUCY: Go for a ride on the lawnmower?

KATRINA: (BEAT) May as well.

MINION: (ALIEN ME TOO?)

KATRINA: No, not you too.

INT. ULJABAAN'S HOUSE

F/X: USUAL AMBIANCE.

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

ULJABAAN: Fine, Margaret, but I'm not promising to do anything about them. In fact, I can't promise I'll listen. When I hear anything about the problems of lesser life forms I tend to tune out.

MARGARET: (BEAT) Right.

ULJABAAN: No offence.

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

ULJABAAN: Really?

MARGARET: I know, it's such good news. They've been trying for years.

ULJABAAN: Computer?

COMPUTER: Yes?

ULJABAAN: Make a note

MARGARET: Andrew Milway has lost his back door key.

ULJABAAN: He doesn't need to lock it. If anyone breaks into his house, there's a limited list of suspects.

MARGARET: But that's the problem – it's locked. He can only get into his back garden by going round the side.

ULJABAAN: So what does he want me to do?

MARGARET: He wants you to make and fit a new back door.

ULJABAAN: (BEAT) Is this a ruse to get me to double-glaze his house for him?

MARGARET: He showed me the door, it is definitely locked.

ULJABAAN: Computer, put his house under surveillance for two weeks. See if he opens the back door.

COMPUTER: Noted.

MARGARET: There is one other very minor concern – you know the pear tree Leonard and Beth Alexander have in their front garden?

ULJABAAN: No.

MARGARET: Could you order them to cut it down please?

ULJABAAN: Why?

MARGARET: Because I loathe it.

ULJABAAN: Interesting. Do you loathe all pear trees, or just this one?

MARGARET: There are two branches that overhang the pavement, and they never pick the pears so every autumn they fall on the path and everyone treads them in. It's a hazard.

ULJABAAN: Have to say, it doesn't sound like that much of an issue.

MARGARET: Do you know why we didn't win Best Kept Village In Buckinghamshire in 2003?

ULJABAAN: Because there was at least one village in Buckinghamshire that was better kept than this one?

MARGARET: Because of those pears. I told them to clean them up but oh no. Honestly, what is the point of creating a floral centrepiece on the village green in the shape of Tim Henman if there's a slick of rotten pear mulch two streets away?

ULJABAAN: I sympathise, but as you're not going to be entering Best Kept Village In Buckinghamshire any time soon, it seems –

MARGARET: But don't you see?

ULJABAAN: Still not as yet.

MARGARET: They wilfully ignored what was best for the village and went on pleasing themselves. That tree is an affront to our way of life. I've asked them to saw down the overhanging branches as a



compromise, twenty-seven times. And have they?

ULJABAAN: I assume not, or we wouldn't be discussing the matter.

MARGARET: No. And that

hadn't chosen to breed, she wouldn't exist and this wouldn't have happened. But apart from that.

MARGARET: So, about this pear tree –

ULJABAAN: I'd rather not get involved, Margaret. Sorry – I should deal with this.

MARGARET: Yes. Of course. I'll go and... speak to Katrina.

**F/X: MARGARET LEAVES.**

ULJABAAN: Thank you for this information, Park Keeper.

LAWRENCE: I thought it best to report it, sir, as I didn't wish to be implicated in any subversive shenanigans.

ULJABAAN: You will be rewarded for this. Gravis – go and release your comrade. And then, both of you look for my missing socks. I'm down to my last pair.

MINION: (ALIEN OK)

**F/X: MINION LEAVES.**

ULJABAAN: Computer, it's very important that we ensure this doesn't happen again.

COMPUTER: What action do you want me to take?

ULJABAAN: Install tracking devices in all of my socks.

COMPUTER:

Right. I thought we were talking about preventing your men  
from

**F/X: KATRINA ENTERS.**

KATRINA: Hi Dad.

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

KATRINA: Oh, kidnapped one of Uljabaan's minions. Questioned him. Couldn't understand a word he was saying. Got found out. Had to let him go.

RICHARD: Better luck next time. But on the bright side, you can make it to the pub quiz tonight, yes?

KATRINA: Yes, got nothing else on now the hostage has gone.

RICHARD: Good. See if we can make it five wins on the bounce.

KATRINA: We've been doing rather well, haven't we?

RICHARD: We've smashed it. I thought I'd have to give up doing the quiz after the invasion started, what with Terry and Paul living outside the village –

KATRINA: You could have joined one of the other teams.

RICHARD: What, Lawrence's team? Or Bill Howells' lot? Couldn't do that. Too much history. You can't just wave away years of animosity in a marriage of convenience. But you fill in the gaps in my knowledge better than Terry did. And Paul was just riding our coat-tails really, Terry and I had been talking about cutting him loose for months.

KATRINA: It's nice to have something we can do together, anyway.

**F/X: MARGARET ENTERS.**

MARGARET: Oh, Katrina.

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

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

KATRINA: I didn't try to, Mum, I did. You have this way of belittling any success I might have.

MARGARET: It was spectacularly ill-timed.

RICHARD: Why?

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

KATRINA: Why?

RICHARD: (KNOWS THIS BY ROTE) Because there are two branches that overhang the pavement, and they never pick the pears so every autumn they fall on the path and everyone treads them in. It's a hazard.

MARGARET: (TALKING IN STEP WITH RICHARD) It's a hazard. Someone will break a leg.

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

health and safety.

MARGARET: No. It's common sense.

KATRINA: Common sense about health and safety.

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

KATRINA: So what level of illness and danger do you feel is appropriate?  
Tonsillitis and mild electrocution? Glandular fever and  
avalanches perhaps?

MARGARET: Less of your sarcasm, young lady. With Mr Uljabaan's authority  
behind me I finally had a chance to do something about that  
tree. Ruined now. Thanks to you.

RICHARD: Let it go, Margaret.

KATRINA: Yeah, it's not wa io y ss ty

LAWRENCE: No, Ron – we're still waiting for one of our team to get here.

RON: All right, five minutes. Get on with the picture round while you're waiting.

RICHARD: Easy picture round this week.

KATRINA: I know who they all are, but what's the connection?

RICHARD: They all played Bond girls.

KATRINA: What about Kim Basinger?

RICHARD: She was in Never Say Never Again.

KATRINA: Never Say Never Again doesn't count.

RICHARD: Ron thinks it does.

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

RICHARD: What else would the connection be?

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

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

KATRINA: I'm sure Teri will be devastated to hear that.

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



KATRINA: But you've still got a comprehensive database of facts about planet Earth.

RICHARD: Ron – this can't be right. It's in the rules, isn't it? No technology of any kind.

RON: Er... I've never actually got around to writing up the rules as such...

COMPUTER: And Uljabaan did say that if I wasn't allowed to take part, then he would make pub quizzes illegal, to be punishable by death.

RON: (BEAT) OK, it's not against the rules.

KATRINA:

RON: Are we doing this quiz or not?

COMPUTER: Yes. Bring on the test of insignificant information!

RON: Round One. General Knowledge. Question One. What is the chemical symbol for magnesium?

COMPUTER: Big M, little g.

**F/X: ALL THE TEAMS WRITE THO to**

LUCY: She wants them to cut the tree down! My tree! You dreadful witch! Well, I won't let you, you hear me? I won't!

**F/X: LUCY RUNS OFF, HYSTERICALLY.**

MINION: (ALIEN IS SHE OK?)

MARGARET: No no, she's fine. She's just seventeen, that's all.

INT. PUB

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

RON: Runners-up with sixty-nine points are Lyons Bar...

KATRINA: Runners-up?

RICHARD: We won last week with sixty-four.

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

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

KATRINA: But there were only eighty questions.

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

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

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

RICHARD: But the chocolate bar is called a Lion Bar, not a Lions bar.

KATRINA: That's where the pun comes in.

RICHARD: No it doesn't. People don't get it.

RON:

EXT. LUCY'S HOUSE

**F/X: NEXT MORNING. CLANK OF CHAINS.**

LAWRENCE: Morning Lucy.

LUCY: Morning Lawrence.

**F/X: CLANK CLANK.**

LAWRENCE: Chaining yourself to that pear tree then, are you?

LUCY: Yeah, could you give me a hand?

LAWRENCE: All right.

**F/X: CLINK CLANK CLANK CLINK.**

LUCY: Not too tight.

LAWRENCE: Sorry. How's that?

LUCY: Great thanks.

LAWRENCE:

LUCY: She's trying to get Uljabaan to make them cut it down. So I'm staying here until he promises not to cut it down.

LAWRENCE: And what if he doesn't?

LUCY: Then I guess I'll be here a long time. (BEAT) I should probably have eaten a bigger breakfast.

LAWRENCE: Why, what did you have?

LUCY: A bag of Revels.

INT. PUB

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

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

RICHARD: No, it's not in the spirit of it. It's so far from being in the spirit of it, it can't even see the spirit of it due to it being over the horizon.

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

KATRINA: But the Computer's on Lawrence's team.

RON: At the moment, yeah. But if someone else gets into Uljabaan's good books –

KATRINA: Oh, good grief. More co-operation and collaboration. Everyone will inform on everything Lucy and I do.

RICHARD: So I'm at a disadvantage because I refuse to inform on my own daughter. (BEAT) On the other hand, there's no reason I couldn't shop Lucy for something.

KATRINA: Dad, no. It's not just about that, is it? It's about the integrity of the pub quiz. It's our pub quiz and we need to reclaim it.

RICHARD: You're right. Ron, this might pull in a few extra punters at first – but when people turn up and realise the result's a foregone conclusion, all the excitement will go out of it. People will just drift away.

RON: You think?

KATRINA: Of course. Who's going to turn up just to play for second place? Graham has been entering every week for eight years. He's not playing for second place, no – he thinks he has a chance of winning.

RON: He doesn't have a chance.

KATRINA: No, I know he doesn't. But he turns up anyway, week after week. You can't take that away from him. It's that mistaken belief in a man's ability to overcome his own sub-mediocrity that makes humanity what it is.

GRAHAM: (OFF) Are you talking about me?

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

GRAHAM: (OFF) I'm a stuck. I've only got one word to find and I can't see it for the life of me. They're all supposed to be types of farm animal – is there one called a 'higemn'?

RICHARD: (BEAT) Yes, it's a sort of goat.

GRAHAM: (OFF) Brilliant, thanks!

RON: All right – I'm in. But how can we get rid of the Computer?

KATRINA: Announce that you're holding a bonus pub quiz tonight.

RON: What? On a Wednesday?

RICHARD: I know it seems radical, Ron, but I've had an idea. An idea for a pub quiz that the Computer can't win.

INT. ULJABAAN'S HOUSE

F/X: LAWRENCE ENTERS.

ULJABAAN: Ah! Park Keeper.

LAWRENCE: There's a bonus quiz night at the Rose and Crown – can I use the Computer again?

ULJABAAN: I don't see why not. It does him good to get out of the house.

LAWRENCE: By the way – are you really going to cut down the pear tree in



the Alexanders' front garden?

ULJABAAN: No.

LAWRENCE: Because if you are –

ULJABAAN: I'm not, it's a matter of no interest to me.

LAWRENCE: I'm your man for the job. I've got experience of removing large plants, and I've never lost a finger to a chainsaw yet.

ULJABAAN: I'll bear in mind that you're my man for a job I don't want doing, thank you.

LAWRENCE: Right. I'll tell Lucy the tree's safe then.

ULJABAAN: Yes, why don't you – (BEAT) Lucy Alexander?

LAWRENCE: Yeah, it was her that told me. She's worried you're going to cut it down so she chained herself to it.

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

LAWRENCE: Yes.

ULJABAAN: Computer?

COMPUTER: Yes.

ULJABAAN: Run a personality profile of Lucy Alexander and calculate the

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

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

ULJABAAN: Exactly as I thought.

COMPUTER: What, right down to the same number?

ULJABAAN: Broadly similar to what I thought. Thank you, Park Keeper. I shall look into this tomorrow.

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

ULJABAAN: (BEAT) Yes, of course I know that.

**INT. PUB**

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

LAWRENCE: Evening.

KATRINA: Evening, Lawrence.

RICHARD: Feeling confident?

COMPUTER: Yes. I've checked to make sure I know all of the facts, and I do. I know all of the facts. I've calculated the chances of us winning at ninety-nine point seven six per cent.

LAWRENCE: Why not a hundred?

COMPUTER: I never say a hundred, even if I think it is a hundred, because I don't want to get it in the neck if something funny happens.

LAWRENCE: Good luck!

**F/X: LAWRENCE AND THE COMPUTER WALK AWAY.**

KATRINA: Ha! If only they knew.

RICHARD: Are you sure this is going to work?

KATRINA: Yes. And we're going to win – because we've got Mum on our side.

MARGARET: I don't understand why you think I'm going to be of any use. I never know the answers in these things unless they're about kings and queens of England or films starring Julie Andrews.

KATRINA: This quiz is going to be a little bit different.

RON: (OFF) Right! Welcome to bonus quiz night at the Rose and Crown. Same form as usual, eighty questions. Question one: why did Graham's wife Shirley threaten to divorce him in summer 2009?

GRAHAM: (OFF) What?

MARGARET: (LOW) Oh! That was because he took out a two thousand pound loan to buy a hot tub for their back garden just after

she'd been made redundant.

**F/X:**

**RICHARD STANDS, WALKS OVER TO THE BAR.**

COMPUTER: Yes. My database is not limited to all recorded human knowledge. I've been observing you all for quite some time, and I have comprehensive knowledge of village gossip.

KATRINA: More comprehensive than Mum's?

RICHARD: Good grief. This is like when Kasparov got beaten by Deep Blue at chess.

MARGARET: I told you pub quizzes were silly. I'm going to do something more productive with my time.

**F/X:**

LUCY: Well spotted.

ULJABAAN: Miss Alexander, why do you want to save this tree?

LUCY: Because trees are important and we shouldn't cut them down.

MARGARET: Oh, really, Lucy –

LUCY: No, it's true, I saw something on TV about it.

ULJABAAN: But I cut down four trees behind the church last week and you didn't chain yourself to any of those.

LUCY: I would have done, but I didn't find out until after you'd done it, and it seemed a bit pointless to chain myself to them after you'd cut them down.

ULJABAAN: I think there's another reason why you're protecting this tree.

MARGARET: Obviously there is.

ULJABAAN: Margaret – I'll deal with this. Lucy?

LUCY: (BEAT) All right, yeah, it's special.

ULJABAAN: Special how?

LUCY: Well... this tree's always been here, all my life. It's the tree I used to climb when I was little, and it's the one I used to tell the seasons by, and when all its leaves were gone I knew it was almost Christmas. I'd play around it, and when a branch fell

down I'd pretend it was a sword and the tree was the mast of a  
pirate ship. And I used to pi



ULJABAAN: Cut those chains and take Miss Alexander to the cells.

LUCY: But you can't do that!

ULJABAAN: Why not?

LUCY: (BEAT) Because it's mean.

ULJABAAN: No, that's not good enough. Cut the chains!

MINIONS: (ALIEN RIGHT YOU ARE)

**F/X: MINIONS STEP FORWARD, REMOVE CHAINS.**

INT. PUB

**F/X: KATRINA AND RICHARD ENTER.**

RON: Oh, not you again.

KATRINA: Ron, you're doing another pub quiz tonight.

RON: We tried it, it didn't work.

RICHARD: We can't give up that easily, Ron. There must be a way – that Computer can't possibly know everything.

RON: It does know everything. From the creation of the universe to which Police Academy movies had Steve Guttenberg in – it's all the same to that thing.

KATRINA: (BEAT) All the same. You're right – to the Computer, it's all the same.

RON: I know, that's what I just said, it's all the same.

KATRINA: But don't you see?

RICHARD: Yes!

RON: Do you?

RICHARD: No.

KATRINA: I know how we can do this.

INT. ULJABAAN'S HOUSE

**F/X: COMPUTER RUNNING IN BACKGROUND.**

ULJABAAN: How goes the interrogation, Computer? Has she talked yet?

COMPUTER: Yes.

ULJABAAN: Excellent! What is the truth of her determination to protect the pear tree?

COMPUTER: Oh, she hasn't talked about the tree.

ULJABAAN: Then what has she talked about?

COMPUTER: Pop music, mostly.

ULJABAAN: I will speak to her myself.

**F/X: ULJABAAN STANDS, WALKS.**

COMPUTER: Sure – I need to go soon actually, it's the quiz.

ULJABAAN: Another one?

COMPUTER: Yeah.

ULJABAAN: You are to prioritise interrogating the prisoner over the pub quiz, Computer.

COMPUTER: All right.

**F/X: DOOR OPENS, ULJABAAN ENTERS ROOM WHERE LUCY IS BEING INTERROGATED BY A MINION.**

LUCY: ...did find the second album disappointing. Have you heard it?

MINION: (ALIEN NO)

LUCY: It was alright, you know, but a bit half-arsed.

ULJABAAN: What are you talking about?

LUCY: Vampire Weekend.

ULJABAAN: Stand aside, Yartek. I'm taking over.

MINION: (ALIEN FINE)

**F/X:                                    MINION STOMPS AWAY.**

ULJABAAN:                                    Now, Miss Alexander. Tell me why you want to protect the tree.

LUCY:    I'll never tell you in a million years.

ULJABAAN:                                    Ah, so you admit there is something to tell.

LUCY:    (BEAT) Oh yeah, you didn't know that. Lying's hard.

ULJABAAN:                                    Then tell me the truth.

LUCY:    No.

ULJABAAN:                                    Tell me.

LUCY:    No!

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

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

ULJABAAN:                                    Really?

LUCY:    Yeah, I don't want you to use the mind probe, I'll just tell you.

ULJABAAN:                                    There. See how it's done? She fears me.

LUCY:    It's true, he's so fearsome.

ULJABAAN:                                    Speak, youngling! What is the truth behind this tree?

LUCY:

KATRINA: Evening Lawrence.

LAWRENCE: Katrina, Richard. Gluttons for punishment, aren't you?

RICHARD: Yes, that's us. Gluttons.

COMPUTER: Is it going to be about village gossip again?

KATRINA: No, otherwise we'd have brought Mum again.

RICHARD: Back to general knowledge. Apparently it's quite easy. Stuff everyone knows.

LAWRENCE: Oh, I see. You're making it so easy that you're hoping there'll be a tie for first place?

KATRINA: No, that isn't what we're hoping.

RON: (OFF) Right! If you're quizzing tonight, please take your seats.

RICHARD: Good luck, chaps.

COMPUTER: Thank you. We will not be wishing you good luck because luck is not a rational concept.

**F/X: THEY TAKE THEIR SEATS.**

RICHARD: (LOW) I hope this works.

KATRINA: (LOW) It will, it will.

RON: All right, eyes down. Question one. What's the best Fleetwood Mac album?

COMPUTER: (BEAT) What?

RON: I've been asked to repeat the question. Question one. What's the best Fleetwood Mac album?

COMPUTER: That's not a question.

RON: Yes it is, it's got a question mark at the end.

COMPUTER: But it's not a factual question. It's entirely subjective.

RON: Yeah, it is. But there is a right answer, and if you say anything else, you're trying too hard to be different.

COMPUTER: But Fleetwood Mac released seventeen albums.

RON: Question two!

EXT. LUCY'S HOUSE

F/X: TREE BEING CHOPPED DOWN. ULJABAAN ORDERING MINIONS ABOUT IN BACKGROUND. MARGARET AND LUCY WATCH FROM A DISTANCE.

MARGARET: And he just believed you?

LUCY: Yeah. I think at that point, if he'd made me take a lie detector test he wouldn't have believed that either. He'd got it into his

head that I had some sinister reason for not wanting the tree to



**F/X: QUIZ ANSWERS BEING GIVEN.**

RON: Answer to question seventy-one – Who would win in a fight between Superman and Wolverine? Answer is it wouldn't happen, Superman is DC universe and Wolverine is Marvel.

COMPUTER: They're both fictional characters.

RON: Question seventy-two: Which is cooler, knights or pirates? Answer is pirates. Question seventy-three: Which is cooler, planes or helicopters? Answer is helicopters. Question seventy-

RICHARD: I enjoyed that.

COMPUTER: It was completely illogical.

KATRINA: I know.

COMPUTER: Well I'm not playing again. That was stupid.

RICHARD: We marked your answer sheet. Your team didn't do too badly.

KATRINA: No thanks to you, of course. For the Fleetwood Mac question, you were going to put Tango In The Night.

RICHARD: Ludicrous.

**F/X: ULJABAAN ENTERS.**

ULJABAAN: Excuse me, everyone – an opportunity has suddenly come up to do some work for me!

KATRINA: Good grief.

ULJABAAN: I'm digging for something in the Alexanders' front garden, and it's turning out to be a bigger job than we expected, so if anyone wants to help, I might see my way to letting you have the Computer for the next quiz...

**F/X: EVERYONE IS UNIMPRESSED.**

ULJABAAN: Nobody? Not even you, Park Keeper?

