CHAMPION

by

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EPISODE 8

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Balloon

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BULLA (mocking her))
"I go by Vita now) actually"
Being a ChampionUgot tooUmucf () Tj ET BT 12 0 0 36 1 T 72



HONEY (FACETIME) Girl? They've

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VITA and TAYO sit opposite each other as a FAN finishes taking a selfie with VITA, who has happily obliged.

TAMO

Eat up, eat up!

VITA has to be reminded to eat. Her mind is clearly elsewhere.

TAYO (CONT'D) You're feeling good about everything though, yeah?

VITA After a few more runs of-

TAYO
No, no, I mean about all of this.
Vita! The who dropped the
Champion name and became "a star"!

VITA laughs at TAYO's amateur dramatics.

VITA
I mean, life is just... different
now. And I never thought I'd be
okay with it, you know? All the
exposure and everything that's come

MEMET smiles, trying to keep things upbeat even though how much he's missed VITA

MEMET

Look- These last few months, I've had to really deep a few things...
I'm sorry, V. I should never have chosen Bosco over you.

VITA doesn't want to get into this conversation.

VI TA

That's all in the past now!

MEMET's eyes flicker with sadness, but he won't let that show.

MEMET

Exactly. In the past. And you're with that Laurent guy now?

VI TA

. . . yeah.

MEMET

(Laughi ng)

You moved on quick, init?

VI TA

(shaking her head) Nah, it wasn't like-

MEMET

I'm joking, I'm joking. It's cool.

VI TA

And are you seeing anyone?

MEMET

Nah. Nobody I meet quite matches gp

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LAURENT enters holding a TAKEAWAY BAG, scaring her.

VI TA

Argh!

VITA sits up.

VITA (CONT'D) I didn't know you were here! I said I'd meet you later.

LAURENT p

BOSCO (nodding slowly)
Alright. Run that track again.

RUSTY runs the track, and we hear it through HEADPHONES again. BOSCO takes a deep breath before he begins.

We hear BOSCO spit the first four lines of EYES ON BOSCO, a track about why he went to prison; the paranoia of being in the public eye, having a knife on him because he didn't feel safe, his PTSD following prison. He thanks his sister for holding him down, apologises that he never saw her. And then, at the end... the reveal about his dad stealing his money.

YEMI clears the stage and heads over to VITA as the dancers exit.

YEMI

PHI LI P

(to BERES) Well. If Bosco isn't in his right mind, then there are places he could go... to be... looked after.

BERES

(confused) How you mean?

PHI LI P

Well, you wouldn't want everyone thinking what he said about you in that song was true, would you? You're a smart man, Beres. (BEAT)

I'll leave you to think about it.

PHILIP exits, leaving BERES and DAWN. DAWN looks very uncomfortable...

DAWN

You can't let them do this. Your son is many things. He's selfish, he's stupid, my God the boy can be reckless, but he's not mad. Don't let these people paint him like that.

BERES is tapping his hands anxiously on the table which he thi nks.

> DAWN (CONT'D) Are you hearing me?

BERES ignores DAWN. Still tapping his hands on the table.

DAWN (CONT'D)

Υ

DAWN (CONT'D)
I won't be part of this, B. Not any more.

DAWN exits! Out on BERES looking resolute that whatever he's going to do is the right thing.



BOSCO cuts her off.

2 I know. But where we're

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ARI A

(softly, sadly)

And what about your daughter? They fly next week, and you can't even call her?

BOSCO looks down at the table.

ARIA (CONT'D)

Vita's performing tomorrow.

BOSCO

I know.

BOSCO Looks her straight in the eyes and says nothing. He would Love to see VLTA but he's convinced his re-appearance would hold her back again.

BOSCO (CONT'D)

I'm not ready, Mum. Not yet.

ARIA realises he won't change his mind.

ARI A

Whenever you're ready to come home... we'll all be waiting.

They stand and hug.

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BOSCO

Bye, Mum.

Out on BOSCO, who looks like a man who is sad but resolute.

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VITA is at the kitchen table, scrolling through social media on her PHONE. The BLOGS have picked up not just BOSCO's song, but the CONTEXT. We see articles that are calling BERES a thief, a con artist, a liar. LAURENT enters.

LAURENT

What you looking at?

VITA shows LAURENT what she's looking at.

LAURENT (CONT'D)

-when you coming back in the studio?

VITA is confused.

VI TA

Are you not seeing this stuff?

LAURENT shrugs.

LAURENT

You're the one who's been on me about getting everything right for tomorrow!

VITA's had enough of him.

VI TA

I can't do this anymore.

LAURENT Looks confused.

LAURENT

What d'you mean? Can't do what anymore?

VI TA

This is all... it's been really nice, this past few months, honestly, but... it's work, and I'm just so busy at the moment, and I think you need someone who has more time for you.

LAURENT Looks sad.

I AURFNT

Someone who has more for me?

VI TA

Yeah. It's only gonna get worse, the more I have to do-

LAURENT

But I'll be with you, I'll be right there with you-

VI TA

I don't want you to be! You've been next to me for the past few months!

The sadness on LAURENT's face turns to nastiness...

LAURENT

Ah, so it's been a using ting?

VI TA

Using? What?

LAURENT

Who is it that's practically been living with you, making songs with you, getting your album together?

VI TA

VITA (CONT'D)
And you probably won't listen to th

YEMI snatches the USB STICK up and heads out of the room, passing a GLAM SQUAD, carrying more DUST BAGS of clothes, who are entering.

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VITA is trying not to panic. Where is everyone? She sits on the sofa, then curls up into a ball, tries to regulate her breathing.

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YEMI

What's up

YEMI

(ignoring TAYO, raising an eyebrow)

You're on in thirty. Yes?

VI TA

(nods)

Yep.

YEMI leaves the room, but not before shooting HONEY a dirty look.

HONEY

Who's she looking at like that?

(to TAY0)

You better tell your girl to mind out, you know.

TAYO has been here before.

TAY0

We should take our seats. V, we'll see you afterwards.

TAYO goes off after YEMI to try to talk to her.

HONEY

You're gonna kill it.

VI TA

Am 1?

HONEY

Yes! You are! Come on man. Show them what south London gi

41 41

VITA Looks terrified. YEML is next to her, Looking pissed off. AWARDS COORDINATOR comes over.

AWARDS COORDI NATOR

Good to go?

YEMI

She is.

VITA is led into a darkened area of the stage as we hear:

MERCEDES JONES

Now, next up, we have a singer who's risen through the ranks, and the charts, at lightning speed. So of courseB she's nominated for Best

THEN, backing track kicks in! The lights come on, and we see VITA standing, resplendent, at the top of the stairs. She

CHANTELLE (absent-mindedly) No, Milan, it's Aunty Vita!

> MILAN , it's both of them!

A huge smile spreads across CHANTELLE's face as she sees BOSCO onstage.

MARK enters and sees CHANTELLE, smitten, and MILAN, entranced, as they watch the screen. It truly hits him then that he will never match up to BOSC

LENNOX That's my girl!

ARIA is wiping tears from her eyes.

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VITA	runs of	f and i	nto BOS	SCO's	arms	as	the	audi e	ence	chee

ARI A

V! V! I'm so proud of you!

ARIA pulls VITA into a huge hug as BOSCO spuds LENNOX, who is elated.

LENNOX

Well done, son.

BOSC0

Had to do the right thing at some point.

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	VITA exits the venue, AWARD iE haEdE SheEwoE,	



VITA
Don't worry, Bos! It's gonna be okay! I'm gonna get you back!