

Lock In
Short Stories for Grown Ups submission
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FX: AFTERNOON NOISES OF A QUIET BAR.

LAND-LINE RINGS 4-5 TIMES

RORY Hello, The Ship, Rory Speaking?

NOEL (Wheezy) Hello. The Ship. Rory Speaking. You trying to put manners on my bar?

RORY Naw Da. That's just how you answer a phone when yer a business.

NOEL (Wheezy) By giving out all your details? Say nothing til you hear more and say less when you do always done me grand.

RORY prison for receiving stolen goods.
stood behind the bar in wellies again.

NOEL The Ship taking on water?

RORY babysitting the last of the Summer Winos in three inches of water.

NOEL Get down off the cross we need the wood. Put me on loudspeaker. I want to speak with my people.

FX. NORMAL CALL CUTS TO LOUDSPEAKER

Here! Shouldn't half off you be at work?

FX: CHEERY RESPONSE FROM 4-5 REGULARS

(LOUDSPEAKER CONT'D) Thought so! The usual culprits. Quick hello just. I'm out on the veranda to get the signal and you could fry an egg on top of me. Keep her between the ditches! (CHUCKLES) Here am I still on louds

NOEL

Appreciate the support Son.

RORY Naw. Most of our regulars have spent time in an institution.
. Da, times have changed. People need
a reason to go to a pub nowadays.

NOEL Beyond Alcoholism?

How is Charlie?

RORY g us as a reference on job applications
again. I need to sort this place.

NOEL Trouble in paradise? Hope not. Here I need to head. Haiku

RORY Haiku Workshop?!

NOEL I know. I swear I'm using muscles in here I never knew I had.
Did you know it can take a whole lifetime to get one just right.

RORY Well sure ye've time on your hands.

NOEL Clever.

RORY Well-

NOEL G

FX: NOEL hangs up.

RORY -(DEFEATED) never agreed to anything.

FX: MOBILE PHONE RINGS. CLASSIC NOKIA RINGTONE.

RORY Uh... Hello? Who's this?

NOEL (SOTTO) Keep it down. Morris is experimenting with Lucid Dreaming.

RORY Da is that you? Here how are you ringing me?

NOEL Me and Morris have a wee Nokia 3310 on a timeshare.

RORY Naw, people have timeshares on flats in Tenerife or caravans in Bundoran. Not on Nokias.

NOEL Wee heads up just. Mickey ll drop some oil in to you Sunday.

RORY Tell him not to bother, I never .

NOEL Son, I wouldn't normally ask -

RORY

NOEL (IGNORES) -but it's for Lorenzo. Rory...I think the cheese has slid off the cracker with this fella.

RORY In what way?

FX: Text Alert

NOEL Has the Spy come in from the cold?

FX: Text Alert

RORY If you mean has Mickey dropped off the oil then yes.

FX: Text Alert

NOEL Secretion.

FX: Text Alert (marginally quicker)

NOEL Discretion. Sorry. Autocorrect. Use code from now on.

FX: Text Alert

RORY AYE. The eagle has landed. The Moscow winds blow cold.
I know why the jailbird sings.

FX: Text Alert

NOEL Aye, like that. Smiley Face.

NOEL

(SOTTO) Naw Son. I'm being bullied by yer man over there... and that boy... and a few others. They all run for Lorenzo. It's his show.

NOEL Pretend you have asthma! Fake an attack!

RORY I do have asthma! Ye not mind hiding my inhaler every time I played football. Kept telling me to walk it off!

NOEL Did I? Sorry son. I'm not proud of that.

RORY Look Da just tell me where the books are. The Ship is literally
.
no books.

RORY No books. Nothing at all?

NOEL It genuinely was always (tap tap) in here.

RORY How is seeing you tap your head worse?
You wrote nothing down?

NOEL You've brains to burn. That's your thing. Only thing I can do is get on with ones. So that's what I do. I don't write things down.

RORY Except that number in the Wispa wrapper!

NOEL You still have that?

RORY Binned it.

NOEL Shame.

RORY I risked joining you in here for nothing then?

NOEL I know we've some strange laws in this part of the world,
Son... but I'm pretty sure beard oil is legal.

RORY Beard oil? Ye think I'm simple? You said the whole wing's

SCENE 6 INT. JAIL/BAR

DAY
