

MOVING ON SERIES 9

Episode 4

TWO FAT LADIES

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YELLOW SCRIPT

Thursday 11th May 2017

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1

EXT. CHURCH HALL. CAR PARK - DAY 1 18.00

1

Best mates DEBS (40s, funny) and CATH (40s, worrier) start undressing as they rush across the car park - coats, scarves, as much as they can disband.

DEBS
Left me bra off.

CATH
You haven' t!

DEBS
Flami ng wel l have. Wei ghed i t. 4-
and-a-hal f ounces!

CATH is hal fway between feeling di sgusted but al so thi nki ng maybe she shoul d have removed hers...

We now see a sign screami ng 'Bul ge Busters!!! - Thursday, 6pm.'

As they enter, CATH throws her bag at DEBS and starts fiddli ng around wi th her bra, DEBS hel ps her. They gi ggl e.

CUT TO:

2

INT. CHURCH HALL. BULGE BUSTERS - DAY 1 18.15

2

Bul ge Busters. A li ne of overwei ght peopl e queui ng for the weigh-in. DEBS has been on the scal es and i s now putti ng her shoes, ear-rings, etc back on. CATH i s on the scal es.

She wal ks over, exci ted, wavi ng her card.

DEBS
Wel l ?

CATH
Pound off. You?

DEBS tries to look pleased for her but i s gutted.

DEBS
Pound on.

CATH i s a bi t of a know al l .

CATH

DEBS (CONT' D)

Went in to it with my eyes open.
Knew there'd be a price to pay.

DEBS looks totally demoralised. They start to head out. CATH can see she's gutted.

CATH

I'll split it with you. Half a pound each.

DEBS smiles, appreciates the gesture.

DEBS

Can you try for a stone?

They laugh and head off. But -

BULGE BUSTER LEADER

(ICY) Not staying for the class?

Aargh. Caught.

DEBS & CATH

Love to but we've got Aqua
Aerobics/Kick boxing -

Yikes. Guilty glance - should have worked their lie out first!

They dash out, fits of giggles again, like they've been told off by the Headmistress.

CUT TO:

3

INT. BINGO HALL. FOYER - DAY 1 19.00

3

Stressed. Queuing up to get their tickets.

CATH

- and then I said Linz, if you want a block paved drive, then you should get one.

DEBS

Too right. Just had that promotion hasn't she?... Oh come on! Won't get our table if they don't get a move on!

CATH

That's what I said. All them qualifications, why shouldn't she? And he's just had a big interview.

DEBS

Matt has? Another one?

CATH
On the cards for Area Manager.

DEBS
Won't be long before he's Regional.

CATH beams. A dream come true.

DEBS (CONT'D)
(TO TELLER) Hi ya Mary. Everything
twice please.

MARY THE TELLER hands over a thick selection of gamecards and special flyers. CATH fishes for her purse.

CATH
Is it my week?

DEBS
No, you paid for Bulge Busters.

DEBS pays, holds up the cards for CATH to choose her own. She picks one, kisses it for good luck. They head off into the hall.

CATH
I said Linz, I said you want to go to Miami, but what's that? All that money, blown in two weeks. A block paved drive, that's for life, isn't it? An investment. I mean, four bed semi at their age. Can't take their eye off the ball now can they?

DEBS shakes her head. No they certainly can't!

CUT TO:

4

INT. BINGO HALL. MAIN ROOM - NIGHT 1 20.30

4

You could hear a pin drop. DEBS and CATH, determined faces, concentrating like their lives depended on it, even glancing

BRYAN THE BINGO CALLER
We have a call on our last number,
don't move your markers ladies and
gentlemen whilst we do the check -

The CHECKER zooms over, starts to read out the numbers to the
CALLER.

CUT TO:

5 INT. BLACK SWAN - NIGHT 1 22.00 5

At a table with DARREN, DEBS' husband (bit rough and ready)
and GEOFF (bit of a know all), CATH's husband.

DEBS is splitting the money.

DARREN
(FLAT) Ooh, Brewster's Millions.
Forty eight quid.

GEOFF and DARREN roll their eyes.

DEBS
Forty eight pound fifty if you
don't mind. (TO CATH) Twenty four
pounds and twenty two...three...
four...five pence.

CATH
Pleasure doing business with you.

They toast their lagers.

GEOFF
I'll postpone the yacht.

DARREN
Your Linz' II be buying one soon
enough!

They all laugh. Good friends.

DARREN (CONT'D)
You can put your share towards my
Vesuvius Deluxe 3000 -

GEOFF
The who what where now?

DARREN shoves his iPhone in GEOFF's face.

DEBS
Not this again, he's never shut up
about it -

CATH
What is it?

DEBS
His stupid fire pit -

DARREN
Work of art that.

GEOFF
Nine hundred quid!

DARREN
Worth it -

DEBS
Would be if it had four tyres and a steering wheel!

GEOFF
Cost you a fortune in logs -

DARREN
Got to live a bit, Geoff -

GEOFF
Why would you want one of them -

DARREN
Summer! All year round. Barbecues in December!

GEOFF
And it goes in the ground? Set fire to your decking!

Miserable get.

DEBS
Anyway, dreamer. Won't be getting it this year. Not if we're doing Los Cristianos again. (TO CATH) I put the brochures through your door.

CATH
Oh yeah, we'll have a look at them over the weekend.

DEBS
Second week of September when the schools have gone back?

DARREN
You two might be ready to dare to bare in your bikinis by then -

GEOFF
Steady on. They've only got a clear 8 months!

CATH pulls a face at him. DEBS prods DARREN in the gut.

DEBS

Cheeky things. Don't fancy the thought of you in your budgie smugglers.

He slaps his belly.

DARREN

All muscle that, love... You seriously saying you haven't seen women's heads turning when they've seen me and Geoff on the beach?

The bell goes. Kicking out time. Chairs going up on tables.

DEBS

Seen a few stomachs turning... Anyway, here's to good times with good friends.

ALL

Good times.

They all toast with the dregs of their drinks, neck them down, coats on, hometime.

DARREN

So, my little shitzu. Gonna treat me out your winnings on the way home? Slap up meal somewhere fancy?

She pinches his cheek, big smiles.

DEBS

You bet!

CUT TO:

6 EXT. CATH & DEBS' STREET - NIGHT 1 23.30

6

The suburbs. Modest semis. Neat. Nothing fancy.

The blokes are carrying their chips and eating out of the paper. CATH and DEBS are starving, eyeing up the grub.

A close-up of DARREN dangling a battered sausage over his gaping mouth. CATH and DEBS are NOT amused.

DARREN

Fancy a bit of me sausage, ladies.

CATH

You're not funny, DARREN.

DEBS

That's about 19 million points at Bulge Busters.

GEOFF

DEBS
Never know. Might change our luck.

CUT TO:

8 INT. BINGO HALL. MAIN ROOM - NIGHT 20.40 8

'JACKPOT JAMBOREE' in lights on the stage.

GOD THE TENSION!!! You could hear a pin drop. It's halfway through the big game. DEBS is waiting for 2 numbers, CATH is waiting for four...

BRYAN THE BINGO CALLER
Six-and-two, sixty two... Top of the
shop blind 90... Three and eight,
thirty eight... Unlucky for some -

CROWD
You are!

BRYAN THE BINGO CALLER
...one-and-three, 13...

DEBS is still waiting for two, she takes a nervous gulp of her drink.

BRYAN THE BINGO CALLER (CONT'D)
Four-and-one, forty one... Two Fat
Ladies -

CATH
House!

A HUGE groan from the rest of the players as she leaps out of her chair, DEBS jumps up in disbelief, they jump up and down and scream.

The jackpot! They've won the sodding jackpot!

BRYAN THE BINGO CALLER
Don't move your markers, jackpot
call, all the eights, eighty-eight.

CUT TO:

9 INT. BINGO HALL. MAIN ROOM - NIGHT 2 21.00 9

CATH is up on stage with BRYAN, the BINGO HALL MANAGER and a massive comedy cheque for £46,238.26p.

A PHOTOGRAPHER is taking a shot, DEBS is doing a selfie on her phone - herself to the front and CATH, BRYAN and MANAGER in the background.

With trembling hands she sends it to DARREN.

CUT TO:

10 INT. BLACK SWAN - NIGHT 2 CONT. 10

The Quiz. DARREN, GEOFF, ALAN and KEITH at a table - all with empty glasses.

QUIZ MASTER
...and final question, Lulu scored her only number one hit with which boy band in the autumn of 1993?

They scribble down an answer.

QUIZ MASTER (CONT'D)
If the teams would like to swap sheets and we'll be back in half an hour with the answers.

They are all looking at DARREN pointedly.

DARREN
What?

GEOFF
Your round.

DARREN
Is it? I got the last one didn't I?

ALAN
No that was me. Keith got the one before and Geoff got the first one.

DARREN
Oh yeah. 'Course he did.

Sideways glances. Same old, same old.

He walks to the bar, realises he's got a text - rushes back.

GEOFF
(Sotto) Here goes. The dog ate me wallet -

But DARREN thrusts his phone in GEOFF's face.

DARREN
Seen this!?

CUT TO:

ALAN

The timing is purely coincidental in that you're now a woman of substantial means but I just want it to be known that I've always fancied you, Deborah -

Laughs.

GEOFF

We need to make a list, Cath. Not just fritter it away. This could be a game changer for us. First off, we should top up the ISA.

Trust him.

DARREN

Yeah, but you've got to have a bit of 'mad' money haven't you? A blast.

ALAN

Don't be wasting it all. Keith needs sponsorship for his breast reduction.

Laughs - apart from KEITH.

DARREN

Four of us should go away. A weekend living it up. Amsterdam?

ALAN

Vegas!

DARREN

Why not! We're rolling in it. Viva lost wages -

DEBS

rolling in it? Heard this Cath? All those years laughing at us going the bingo, saying what a waste of time and now -

DARREN

Don't be like that. Me and Geoff, always been very supportive of your gambling addiction, haven't we?

GEOFF

What's that?

DARREN

Just saying, the girls with the bingo, always backed them.

(MORE)

DARREN (CONT'D)

And now we're all getting a slice of the big one!...I mean you are splitting it aren't you? (bottle of Champagne) Here, get that down your neck.

DEBS fills everyone's glasses with the champagne.

GEOFF

What d'you mean by that?

But nobody's listening now, awash with champagne.

KEITH

(CHAMPERS) Ooh the Ambassador is spoiling us -

DEBS holds up her glass.

DEBS

Here's to - all the eights!

ALL

All the eights!

But there's GEOFF giving DARREN a look.

CUT TO:

12 INT. CATH & GEOFF'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 2 23.30 12

The big comedy cheque is resting against the wall. CATH has just sat down, kicked her shoes off, rubbing her toes, thrilled to bits.

CATH

These stupid shoes...

GEOFF (O.S.)

Treat yourself to a few new pairs now, love.

Toilet flushes.

CATH

I'm loaded. I can afford new feet!

He enters. Zipping up.

GEOFF

What about the other fella, eh?

CATH

Who?

GEOFF

Mingebag over the road.

(MORE)

I tell you what Cath, if the boot was on the other foot -

CATH

Don't be like that. I don't know why you let him wind you up all the time, you're supposed to be mates -

GEOFF

You know he's got a streak in him. Still owes us 25 quid for Tony Kennedy's retirement do. Alright letting us get 50 quid of B&Q vouchers and sticking their name on the card aren't they? That was last September!

CATH

Oh shush.

GEOFF

And who picked up the tab in that tapas place, Trough of Boland, Easter Monday -

CATH

He said he'd give you it when we got back. There wasn't a cash machine for miles which for miles for miles 160ET Q q 1 0 0 -1 0160T1

DARREN

Well?

He can tell by her face.

DARREN (CONT'D)

I'm going over there, right now!

DEBS

Don't be ridiculous.

He follows her through to the kitchen, fuming.

DARREN

Keeping us dangling like this!

DEBS

We only won Thursday. Paid in Friday. It's only Monday now.

DARREN

What they playing at? Bank's all instant now with the internet!

DEBS

Well what can I do? Put a balaclava on and burst through her front window?

DARREN

This is him this. Scheming. Plotting.

DEBS

(WORN OUT) Don't do me any potatoes...

DARREN

Power! Loves it. On his little throne, sitting there all North Korea, doing his stupid mind games -

DEBS' mobile rings. They jump. DEBS shows him the phone - CATH!!

DARREN stops chopping. Frozen.

DEBS

Hello stranger! (Laughs) Been making your shopping list? Us too!...When?...Tomorrow? Ooh

She snaps the phone shut.

DARREN

He smiles. Back to normal. Chopping the tea. She waltzes to the fridge.

DARREN

Well, maybe a leg between us!

DEBS

What d'you think? Days out at the races, passes to the Owner's Enclosure -

DARREN

Watch your mouth. This is a family show!

More laughing. CATH looks to GEOFF, he gives her the nod.

CATH

Anyway, the reason we're all here tonight...

GEOFF taps his knife against the side of a glass, refills all of their drinks. CATH produces a white envelope.

CATH (CONT'D)

Ta-dah!

DARREN

The bit we've been waiting for. Drumroll, Maestro, if you please!

CATH

Here it is! Been today, got a Banker's Draft so you can put it straight in.

DEBS and DARREN clap with glee. CATH hands them the envelope. DEBS opens it. Excitement!!!

GEOFF

I know it's not Euromillions but just nice to have a cushion isn't it -

DARREN

Too right. Bit of bunce in the bank, treat yourself now and again, not have to worry about a rainy day...

But DEBS' face has changed from delight to distress.

DARREN (CONT'D)

Let's have a look then. I want to count all the noughts.

DEBS

(TO CATH) Has there been a mistake?

CATH and GEOFF swap guilty looks.

DARREN snatches the Banker's Draft.

DARREN
What's this! You having a laugh?

GEOFF
Six grand, Darren!

DEBS
Halves, Cath, we always go halves -

GEOFF
This is different Debs, you know that -

DEBS
Different! Why? Why is it different? Every single time we've had a win we've split it 50/50 -

GEOFF
A few quid here and there -

DARREN
So now it's big bucks all the rules have changed? Surprise, surprise -

GEOFF
What's that supposed to mean?

DEBS
(to CATH) Was this your idea?

CATH
We talked about it, all weekend -

DARREN
I bet you did -

CATH
And we thought it was a very generous offer.

DEBS
An offer? Is this a joke Cath? I'm entitled to half that money, you know I am.

GEOFF
See. That word. 'Entitled' -

DEBS
Twenty three thousand-

DARREN
- one hundred and 19 quid!

GEOFF
Well I don't know anyone else in
the world whose friends would take
them out for a lovely meal -

DARREN
buffet -

GEOFF
- and throw a gift of six thousand
pounds back in their faces.

DEBS
I'm asking you again Cath. You're
not sharing the money? Not
properly?

CATH can't look at her.

DEBS is in shock.

DEBS (CONT'D)
This is wrong. You must know that!

DARREN
'Course they do, look at their
faces -

DEBS
Eleven years we've been going to
that bingo. Even when one of us
has been on holiday we've split any
winnings... Cath?

DARREN
You keep the nice round forty
thousand for yourselves and fob us
off with a few lousy quid?

CATH
We thought that was a nice amount.
We you'd be pleased.

DEBS
Cath... Just tell me again. Is this
for real? Because I can't believe
you're trying to do this.

CATH stares at her plate.

GEOFF
Debs, I must say I'm very surprised
by this attitude I really am.

DARREN
Oh wind your neck in, Geoff.

DEBS
(Fighting tears) Cath?

DEBS thrusts the Banker's Draft under her nose.

Beat.

CATH
That's it.

DEBS picks up the Banker's Draft, she's shaking with shock, anger, disappointment.

So what now?

She suddenly thrusts it over the flame of the candle in the middle of the table. Flakes of blackened paper float in the air. GEOFF looks around anxiously to see if MRS TANG has noticed, he flaps, waving the evidence away.

GEOFF
Well that's charming behaviour, I must say.

DEBS wants to burst into tears. DARREN grabs her arm.

DARREN
Get your coat. We're leaving.

DEBS scuttles off, too upset to speak.

DARREN (CONT'D)
Fine friends you are. You haven't heard the last of this.

Walks out.

GEOFF and CATH are traumatised. GEOFF throws MRS TANG a 'sorry' look.

Alarm as a wild-faced DARREN returns.

DARREN (CONT'D)
And I want me strimmer back!

CUT TO:

15 INT. BLACK SWAN - NIGHT 4 21.45

15

DEBS is devastated, DARREN is raging.

DEBS
- she stood at that bar -

DARREN
Bold as brass!

DEBS
Champagne flowing -

DARREN
That I paid for!

DEBS

- never once said oh by the way,
what d'you think you're doing?

DARREN

Precisely!

DEBS

Why are you celebrating? Did you
think this had something to do with
? Biggest win we've ever had!
Can't believe it.

She knocks her drink back.

DARREN

Never saw that coming.

DEBS

I mean, why? Why act like this?

DARREN

Greed. What other explanation is
there?

Beat.

DEBS

So where do we go from here? How
can we still be friends?

He places his empty glass down with finality.

DARREN

We can't.

CUT TO:

17 INT. DEBS & DARREN'S HOUSE. BEDROOM - NIGHT 4 04.10 17

Middle of the night. DEBS can't sleep, staring at the ceiling, fretting.

DEBS
(Whisper) Darren! You awake?

DARREN
(Groan) I am now.

She flicks on the bedside lamp, he recoils in horror.

DEBS
(Whisper) Can't get it out of my mind. Churning over and over...

DARREN
(Whisper) Yeah, well, think they can get away with this? I'm not letting this go. They'll get the fright of their lives. Don't you worry about that.

DEBS
(Whisper) What d'you mean?

DARREN
(Whisper) There was an agreement.

DEBS
(Whisper) But there wasn't!.. Why are we whispering?

Normal voices.

DARREN
There was! In theory. A verbal understanding. A moral obligation!

DEBS isn't buying any of it.

DARREN (CONT'D)
I'm telling you. They're going to have to hand over what's rightfully ours!

DEBS
They obviously don't think they owe us anything. How we going to force them?

DARREN
Doesn't matter. Half that money is yours, fair and square.

DEBS

It's useless. It's not like we
signed a contract
(MORE)

GEOFF (CONT'D)
Shown their true colours
now... (CHECKS LABEL) Hey.
They'll Scotchguard it for an extra
50 quid!

CATH
Maybe if we gave them a bit
more... Rounded it up to ten? I
mean that's a nice amount isn't it?
She could get her kitchen done,
she's been saying for ages.

GEOFF
After that behaviour? Has she
called to apologise? Even a lousy
text?

It's a no.

GEOFF (CONT'D)
If they were true friends, they'd
have been over the moon for us, not
grasping for every penny they could
get.

CATH
I know...but me and her, it was
kind of our thing, we'd been going
for years.

GEOFF
How many times! Like you said - if
Keith at the quiz plays the fruit
machine and wins a tenner, does he
have to give me a fiver just
because I'm standing next to him?

She's still torn. He zooms up on the recline, sits up
properly.

GEOFF (CONT'D)
You need to get this straight in
your head. Stop letting them make
you feel guilty. We've done
absolutely nothing wrong. They're
the ones out of order - not us!

CUT TO:

18 EXT. SOLICITOR'S OFFICE - DAY 6 14.55

18

DARREN is leaping up the steps but DEBS is hovering.

DARREN
What?

DEBS

I just - I mean, is this the right thing to do? Going all legal.

DARREN

Yes! We need to know where we stand -

DEBS

What if it goes to court or something, we end up all over the papers!

DARREN

We're just asking advice that's all.

She reluctantly walks up the steps

DARREN (CONT'D)
And talk fast. The first 15
minutes are free.

CUT TO:

19 INT. SOLICITOR'S OFFICE - DAY 6 15.15

19

MISS SAMFIELD is listening. DEBS is very nervous and restrained, DARREN is virtually out of his chair with indignation.

MISS SAMFIELD
...so for the past 11 years, there
has never been an opportunity to
keep your own winnings, you always
split it 50/50 with Mrs Cooper?

DARREN
To the last penny!

MISS SAMFIELD
And she with you?

DEBS
Yes. Everything.

DARREN
Never thought for a minute to keep
it all herself, did you love? Not
like that are you? (to MISS
SAMFIELD) Very generous, always has
been. Too generous at times. I've
always said, haven't I love, I've
said you want to watch that, people
think you're soft, take advantage,
mistake kindness for weakness -

DEBS
(Hisses) Darren!

He shuts up.

DARREN
What d'you think, Miss Samfield.
You reckon we've got a case?

MISS SAMFIELD
You need to be aware that there is
no legal undertaking for Mrs Cooper
to share her winnings.

Downcast faces.

MISS SAMFIELD (CONT'D)
But with your history... there is a
certain moral obligation
(MORE)

MISS SAMFIELD (CONT'D)

DARREN

(to DEBS) I said that didn't I?
What did I say? Exact words! (to
MISS SAMFIELD) So you reckon the
jury would find her guilty?

MISS SAMFIELD smiles.

MISS SAMFIELD

It would be a civil hearing... A
judge would find in your
wife's favour...

DARREN punches DEBS in the arm triumphantly. Ow!

MISS SAMFIELD (CONT'D)

But - for the amount of money
involved, by the time legal costs
were taken into account, court
time, Barrister's fees...

DEBS

There'd be nothing left?

Precisely.

DEBS (CONT'D)

So what do we do?

MISS SAMFIELD

You've said Mrs Cooper is one of
your closest friends?

DEBS

(GUTTED) friend...

DARREN clutches at her hand.

DARREN

Don't cry, love...

MISS SAMFIELD proffers a box of tissues.

MISS SAMFIELD

Friendships being torn apart, it's
always upsetting... Sometimes when
two people sit down, take a moment
from all the madness, talk things
through like sensible adults... You
think that's an option? You could
have a calm, measured conversation
with your friend?

DEBS nods vigorously. Yes, of course she could.

CUT TO

:

19A EXT. CATH & GEOFF' S HOUSE - DAY 6 16.00

19A

DEBS is on the path. She steels herself then marches towards the front door.

CUT TO:

23 INT. BLACK SWAN - NIGHT 6 20.00

23

ALAN and KEITH are in shock

ALAN~
Six grand?

KEITH
Bit harsh.

ALAN
I thought they were best mates?

DARREN
Like sisters.

KEITH
And they've kept the lion's share?

ALAN
Your Debs must be gutted.

DARREN
We both are!

ALAN
People eh?

DARREN
Tell you what, didn't see that coming. All those years, weddings, christenings, holidays with the kids. I gave him a tow once all the way from Lytham St Anne's... (THINKS) And I carried his father's coffin! You think you know someone...

ALAN
Right rum do, I'll give you that -

DARREN
You ask me, I don't even think it's Cath's idea, it's him pulling the strings -

KEITH
Does like to take control, our Geoff -

ALAN
I know, but fair's fair. He must know that's not on -

KEITH
Never had him down as a -

GEOFF enters.

Eveni ng!
shout

GEOFF
What are we havi ng. My
(MORE)

ALAN and KEITH bounce up with their empty glasses for refills.

DARREN glares at them. Traitors!

CUT TO:

INT. CATH & GEOFF'S HOUSE. KITCHEN - NIGHT 6 21.00

GEOFF

The facts, Cath. Basically she's
trying to bully you into handing
over 23 grand. It's not on!

(MORE)

?

DEBS
What else can I do?

CUT TO:

27 INT. CATH & GEOFF'S HOUSE. KITCHEN - DAY 7 13.00 27

DEBS and CATH having an emotional cup of tea in the kitchen.

DEBS
...so I wanted to apologise for
y'know all the shouting and the
madness and stuff. Never in a
million thought we'd ever have a
fallout like that.

The relief.

CATH
We can get back to normal now? Put
this whole thing to bed.

DEBS
Definitely.

CATH
Been the worst time of my life, I'm
not joking.

DEBS
Look at the time! Told them I'd do
a late shift. Have to go.

They stand, hug.

CATH
See you Thursday?... You've lost
weight by the way.

DEBS
Think so? Haven't really been
eating... All the upset...

CATH
I've gone the other way. We've
been doing nothing but eating out.

Nice. If you can afford it.

They walk to the door. DEBS hovers. Awkward.

DEBS
Shall I take it now?... Or do you
need to go to the bank again?

Eh

?

DEBS (CONT' D)
The si x thousand. . .

Is she kiddi ng?

CATH
You think after all thi s -

DEBS
I thought we were fri ends now -

CATH
That's the only reason you've come
round? To get your mi tts on the
money?

DEBS
What? No -

CATH
That's why you're here! I thought
it was a bi t sudden -

DEBS
No, you're wrong -

CATH
You can swing for any wi nni ngs now
Debs after all the nasti ness you've
caused -

DEBS
I was upset! I thought we just
tal ked about it -

CATH
And I fell for it. Thinki ng you
just wanted my fri endshi p! To be
mates again. Out! Go on, get out!

She pushes a shocked and bewi ldered DEBS out of the house.

CUT TO:

28 EXT. CATH & GEOFF'S HOUSE. DOORSTEP - DAY 7 CONT. 28

A traumatised DEBS, not knowi ng what the hell she's done
wrong as the door slams shut behind her.

CUT TO:

29 INT. CHURCH HALL. BULGE BUSTERS - DAY 8 18.35 29

A defeated DEBS is in the queue, anxiously looki ng over her
shoul der for the arri val of CATH. No si gn

She's even forgotten to take her coat and shoes off for the weigh-in.

BULGE BUSTER LEADER
Another three pounds!

DEBS barely registers it.

BULGE BUSTER LEADER (CONT'D)
Definite contender for Slimmer of
the Month!

A raft of jealous faces all looking at her.

She scuttles out.

BULGE BUSTER LEADER (CONT'D)
Not staying for the class?

But she's gone.

CUT TO:

30

INT. BINGO HALL. MAIN ROOM - DAY 8 19.25

30

DEBS feels weird. She's uncomfortable, at their usual table.
No sign of CATH.

She looks around. Everyone chatting in gangs. She seems to
be the only person on her own. Right Billy No Mates.

DEBS hands him the egg box, says nothing, goes back inside.

CUT TO:

33 EXT. CATH & DEBS' STREET - DAY 11 08.30 33

DEBS is even thinner now. A few weeks later.

DEBS and DARREN are just about to get in their car, DARREN driving.

A big delivery van outside of CATH and GEOFF'S. You can't miss it. He can see that she's livid.

DARREN
I thought we said.

Beat. She gets in the car.

CUT TO:

34 INT/EXT. DEBS' CAR/CATH & DEBS' STREET - DAY 11 08.32 34

But as they drive down the street towards the open back of the van, DARREN goes nuts, screeches to a halt.

DEBS
Bloody hell Darren -

DARREN
The Vesuvius Deluxe 3000!

CUT TO:

35 EXT. CATH & GEOFF'S HOUSE - DAY 11 CONT. 35

DARREN jumps out of the car.

DARREN
Think that's clever do you?

The DELIVERY MEN freeze. GEOFF feels he has to act big, storms down his path (shuts his gate, mind). CATH lurks.

The two blokes square up to other over the gate.

GEOFF

GEOFF

(MORE)

DARREN

Been after one for months, you know
full well -

GEOFF

Grow up you maniac.

DEBS

Don't talk to him like that -

CATH

What's it got to do with you what
we've got? None of your business!

GEOFF

Sorry lads, ignore these nutters,
through the back, I've left the
side gate open -

DELIVERY MEN go up the path.

GEOFF (CONT'D)

(GOADING) Look a treat on the new
patio. Limestone. Might buy one
for our Lindsey.

DARREN

Princess Lindsey? Surely she's got
everything already?

CATH

See, always with the snidey
comments -

DARREN

Ooh, our Lindsey's got a power
shower, ooh, our Lindsey's got one
of those American fridges that does

CATH

Our Li am and hi s A stars. Our Li am
and hi s Duke of Edi nburgh award.
Our Li am wal ks on water -
(MORE)

DEBS

You horror. You're his godmother!
He's at Uni doing Business Studies.
We never said he was Bamber bloody
Gascoigne!

Horns - their car and the delivery van are blocking the road.

DARREN

Green eyed monsters the pair of
you!

GEOFF

Us? It's you two who can't stand
anyone else having anything. Just
get lost.

He gives DARREN a bit of a push in the chest to get him out
of the way so he can bolt the path gate closed.

DARREN

Who you pushing?

Handbags at dawn.

CATH

Stop it -

DEBS

Darren, don't -

CATH

Geoff, your sciatica!

Luckily for them DELIVERY MEN reappear and wade in to break
it up. DARREN and GEOFF do a great job of pretending that
they REALLY want to fight.

GEOFF

Next time! I'm warning you -

DARREN

Oh really

Who says that? Who like
that? I dunno...just lost it.

She knows that's not good enough.

?

Does she really have to ask?

DEBS (CONT'D)
You think he'll leave her?

Thinks.

DEBS (CONT'D)
(PANIC) You think they'll get
divorced?

DARREN
Dunno. Depends.

DEBS
On what?

DARREN
Well how bad was it?

CUT TO:

37 EXT. PRINTING FIRM. CAR PARK - DAY 12 17.35 37

Geoff's workplace. GEOFF can see DEBS but ignores her, walks briskly to his car.

GEOFF
Whatever it is, I don't want to
hear it -

DEBS
I just want to apologise, Geoff -

GEOFF
Bit late for that.

DEBS
It was a nothing, a laugh, everyone
had too much to drink -

GEOFF
Cath's told me all about it.

DEBS
It was just some stupid drunken
madness, I swear.

GEOFF
Yeah. That's what she said. Some
daft lad chancing his arm.

DEBS
That's right. He just threw the
lips on and that was it

DEBS (CONT' D)

-

GEOFF

Built it up though didn't you?

DEBS

I never wanted to cause to trouble.

GEOFF

Yes you did. You thought you could rake up a bit of ancient history, a bit of tittle tattle, push Cath into a corner, get your mitts on the money. That's what all this is about.

DEBS

No -

GEOFF

You're hacked off so that gives you the right to wreck our lives?

DEBS

It wasn't like that!

GEOFF

Then what is it? Because I earn more than Darren so Cath doesn't have to work?

DEBS

Don't be ridiculous, I like my job -

GEOFF

Well there's some beef with Cath. Something that makes you want to attack her. She won that money, fair and square and you know it.

He gets in his car.

GEOFF (CONT' D)

Or tell you what, is it just because she's thinner than you?

And he drives off.

CUT TO:

38 INT. LOCAL MINIMART - DAY 12 18.20

38

CATH is putting some bits into a basket for one. DEBS appears.

CATH

Have you followed me here?

DEBS
I need to talk to you
(MORE)

DEBS (CONT' D)

CATH ignores her.

CATH
I've got nothing to say to -

DEBS
I went to see Geoff.

CATH freezes.

CATH
At Doreen's?

DEBS is shocked.

CATH (CONT' D)
Yeah. He's left. Run back to his
mother's.

DEBS
For good? He's coming back?

CATH
How do I know? Says he needs a few
days to sort his head out.

DEBS
Cath, I'm sorry. Really. I never
meant... If I could take it all
back...

CATH
What did you expect? Dropping a
bombshell like that? How much must
you hate me -

DEBS
I don't!

CATH
Then what possessed you?

DEBS
I was mad, just blurted it out -

CATH
Liar! You knew what you were
doing.

CATH's in the fish fingers.

DEBS
I just want you to know... He won't
hear from me what really happened.

CATH explodes now.

CATH
You wicked, spiteful cow! So now
you're trying to blackmail me?

DEBS
What? No, I'm saying I would never
tell him -

CATH
Come on! I'll give you a lift.
We'll go round there right now.
Doreen's never liked me, this'll be
the icing on the cake -

DEBS
You're not listening -

CATH
So I spent one night at a crappy 2-
star guest house with another man
fourteen years ago and you've been
storing it all up to use against
me! Nice! You know full well we
were going through a bad patch.
What kind of a friend is that! Six
grand? Shouldn't it be 30 pieces
of silver?

The slams her basket down on the floor and marches out. On
DEBS. Oh god.

CUT TO:

39 INT. DEBS & DARREN'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM - DAY 12 19.35 39

Mood is awful.

Eating their tea on their knees. She feels terrible, hunched
over, can't face eating. DARREN has finished his.

DARREN
You haven't even touched that.

Beat. TV on. Neither really watching.

DARREN (CONT'D)
Not eating. Not sleeping. Not
going out.

Beat.

DARREN (CONT'D)
All this. Needs to be put to bed
right now.

Beat

DARREN (CONT'D)
Deborah. Are you listening to me?

DEBS
I just can't...

DARREN
I don't want to hear one more word about it. All that money has done is caused a ton of aggro. I'm sick to the back teeth.

Beat.

She finds it too much, gets up and trudges off to the kitchen with her plate. He fumes.

Then a crash.

DARREN (CONT'D)
Debs?

Nothing.

DARREN (CONT'D)
Deborah!

He flings his plate down rushes out to the kitchen...

CUT TO:

40 INT. DEBS & DARREN'S HOUSE. KITCHEN - DAY 12 CONT. 40

DARREN's expression, rushing into the kitchen, seeing DEBS lying on the floor.

CUT TO:

41 INT. CATH & GEOFF'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM - DAY 12 19.50 41

GEOFF is looking surly, he's got a hold-all and is stomping around throwing random stuff into it, books, DVDS, etc. CATH is nervy and aloof.

GEOFF
And all my Jeremy Clarksons. Where are they?

She shakes her head. Like she wants to keep that. Then hears the siren/sees the blue light flashing outside. She rushes to the window, GEOFF behind her.

They realise it's at DEBS and DARREN's house.

CUT TO:

CATH
What's happened?

DARREN
She collapsed!

CATH
We'll come to the hospital -

DARREN
You stay the hell away. It's all
your fault! You caused this!

GEOFF and CATH watch helplessly as the ambulance doors are locked shut and it speeds off down the road.

They look at each other - what have they done?

CUT TO:

43 INT. DEBS & DARREN'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM - DAY 13 11.00 43

About a week later.

DEBS in her dressing gown, on the couch, recuperating, listlessly watching the telly with a cup of tea.

The letterbox (a struggle) makes a lot of noise.

CUT TO:

44 INT. DEBS & DARREN'S HOUSE. HALLWAY - DAY 13 CONT. 44

DEBS stares at a big thick Jiffy bag of an envelope on the mat. Handwritten. Addressed TO MY BEST MATE.

DEBS picks it up and opens it.

It's wads of cash, all bundled up.

CUT TO:

45 INT. CATH & GEOFF'S HOUSE. HALLWAY - DAY 13 11.10 45

CATH's heard a noise - rushes out into the hall to see the the envelope being shoved right back through (or the cash wads being dropped one by one if the envelope won't fit in).

CATH watches in dismay. Now what?

CUT TO:

46 EXT. CATH & DEBS' STREET - DAY 13 CONT.

46

DEBS is making her way back to her own house.

CATH rushes out, brandishing the wads of cash.

CATH
Debs!

DEBS carries on walking.

CATH (CONT' D)

DEBS

Nah. You be happy. We're fine.
I'm ok now. I got carried away,
made myself ill. Crazy...

CATH

We're best mates, Debs. Like
sisters. Never had a fallout in
our lives.

... 40 years,

Debs.

DEBS

Yeah, well... Had a good run...

Awkward beat.

DEBS (CONT' D)

Door's on the latch, best get
back...

CATH

We can all get together.. I mean,
sometime? Maybe? There's a band
on The Swan, Friday night. Supposed
to be really good, all covers.

DEBS

I'm um... Not sure I'm ready to be
going out just yet.

CATH

Well, when you feel better? Next
week? Oh - and Geoff's been going
on for ages about trying that new
Tepannyaki place. We could go
there? The chef cracks open the
eggs on your head!

A half-hearted nod from DEBS.

CATH (CONT' D)

Japanese food. Hardly any
calories. Not that you need to
worry, not now... You look great by
the way.

DEBS

Thanks... Yeah... maybe... I'll text
you...

Beat.

CATH

You're not going to are you?

DEBS traipses back to her house.

CATH is stuck in the middle of the street, frozen to the spot, clutching the damn envelope and the wads of cash.

She watches sadly as DEBS goes right inside, waits for the front door to close before finally heading back to her own home.

A final look over to DEBS house. It feels like it's a million miles away. CATH's rock bottom, goes inside.

The two doors close. And that's that.

THE END