

1 8/1. INT. DARWIN. WARD - DAY (08:48) 1

In on the phone being slammed down - hard. JAC. And not in a good mood. RIC approaches, senses her short temper.

JAC

(Explaining)

AAU. Patient's collapsed on the way in. To what do I owe the pleasure?

RIC

Believe me, the pleasure is all yours. I was hoping to catch the new locum before he started.

JAC

He's late. I don't like him already.

RIC

I'm sure there's a reasonable explanation.

JAC

I'm sure there is. Still don't want to hear it.

RIC

I wanted to give him a warm welcome... before you dish out the prerequisite cold one.

JAC

He's late on his first shift, do you want me to put up a balloon?

RIC

Perhaps if you'd helped sift through the CVs...

JAC

Am I the only one capable of making a decision around here?

RIC

Then I can assure you I picked a suitable candidate. The agency informed me Mr Rossini has a certain presence about him.

JAC

(Looks - theatrically)

The one thing I seem to be missing is his 'presence.'

RIC

Jac...

JAC

Look at it this way, he's going to  
have to do a lot to impress me  
after this.

Out on JAC - ruling the roost as she heads out of Darwin.

CUT TO:

2      8/2. EXT. HOLBY. ROAD - DAY (08:49)

2

In on the clip, clop of a horse's hoof as it canters past the Holby City sign. The riders (MATTEO ROSSINI, 40s, wearing a casual suit and JENNY OSBORNE, early 60s, prim and proper, no nonsense - blood caking her face) are obscured from view - silhouetted, Zorro-like against the morning sun.

CUT TO:

3

8/3. INT. WYVERN. PULSES - DAY (08:52)

3

A vitamin C tablet being dropped into a glass. DOMINIC watches it fizz, hungover, as ISAAC slides it over to him.

DOMINIC  
I think I'm dying.

ISAAC  
Please be more dramatic, the patients in Oncology can't hear you.

DOMINIC  
Why aren't you feeling this rough?

ISAAC  
I can handle my drink.

DOMINIC  
(Suddenly suspicious)  
No you can't.

On ISAAC - busted.

ISAAC  
I switched to water halfway through the night.

DOMINIC  
Hell no H2O.

ISAAC  
Not sure vomiting on a patient in front of a live audience is going to do anything for my funding prospects.

DOMINIC  
(Remembering)  
The live stream.

ISAAC gathers his things together - as DOMINIC remains in his seat, very much the petulant child.

ISAAC  
Come on.

DOMINIC stands - ready to face the day - until a wave of nausea hits him. He sits back down as ISAAC rubs his back, gently.

DOMINIC  
One more minute.

CUT TO:

4 8/4. EXT. WYVERN. RECEPTION - DAY (08:54)

4

The rear doors of an ambulance open to reveal LAUREN WILSON (35, confident, strong stare, dangerous) on an ambulance trolley. JAC sighs when she sees her patient.

JAC

You're supposed to be unconscious.  
(To the N/s PARAMEDICS)  
You do know what unconscious means?

LAUREN

I was when they got to mine.  
Calling 999 with chest pains really  
does buy you the executive service.

JAC

I'll be your Consultant, Ms Nay...

LAUREN

Ms Naylor. Yes, I know who you are.

LAUREN meets and holds JAC's gaze. Intense.

JAC

Somebody's done their homework.

JAC reads LAUREN's notes - taking another glance at her new patient. But LAUREN hasn't broken eye contact yet.

LAUREN

I've always wanted to meet a heart  
surgeon.

JAC

Well I wouldn't exactly call this  
your lucky day.  
(To the N/s PARAMEDICS)  
Get her admitted and taken up to  
Darwin.

GO TO: BERNIE and SERENA arriving to work. BERNIE brushes her hand against SERENA's as they walk in - the briefest of moments before SERENA quickens her pace.

BERNIE

In a hurry?

SERENA

Oh you know me. Like to lead by  
example.

BERNIE

We're half an hour early.

SERENA

Like my mum always used to say,  
punctuality is the art of waiting  
for the careless.

BERNIE  
(Pointed)  
I get it.

SERENA stops, turns and walks back to BERNIE.

SERENA  
I'm sorry. It's just -

She looks behind her, gestures to JAC overseeing LAUREN's transfer from the ambulance. JAC looks up - gives SERENA a wry smile.

SERENA (CONT'D)  
It only takes one monkey for the jungle drums to start beating around here.

BERNIE  
I remember.

SERENA  
Let's just enjoy it whilst we can.

BERNIE  
Of course.  
(Seeing the horse)  
If it's any consolation, if tongues are going to wag today, they won't be about us.

They both turn to see a huge stallion trot by. The rider - (MATTEO) supports a semi-conscious woman (JENNY OSBORNE). He gives them a two-fingered salute before dismounting from the horse. JAC also spots the commotion - raises an eyebrow.

JAC  
One moment.

Go with JAC as she crosses to BERNIE helping MATTEO assist JENNY. The horse bucks a little - MATTEO strokes its nose, calming.

MATTEO  
Easy, easy.  
(To BERNIE)  
She fell, from the horse.

BERNIE  
What's your name?

JENNY  
Jenny...

BERNIE  
Looks like you've had a bit of a bump Jenny. We'll get you checked over inside.  
(Of the horse)

BERNIE (CONT' D)

Interesting choice of transportation. Most of our patients prefer ambulance.

MATTEO

It was the fastest way. And the ED looks - busy. Ambulances were backed up, four or five deep.

SERENA

Oh, well thank God you had Tornado.

JENNY

My horse, is he okay?

SERENA

We'll make sure he's taken care of.

JENNY

I just don't know what happened.

JAC

Excuse me.

MATTEO

(Turns - big smile)  
Hello.

JAC

That's a horse.

MATTEO

Encouraging to see the doctors here have such a keen eye for detail.

JAC

You've risked exacerbating her injury.

MATTEO

I cleared her neck at the scene.

JAC

I'm sure you're very proud of your first aid certificate but you can leave her with us. Go sort your horse out.

MATTEO observes JAC. Plays his trump card.

MATTEO

Jenny Osborne, 62, fell from a moving horse roughly twenty minutes ago. Briefly KO'd, GCS 15. BP 120/80, pulse 70.

(Direct - to JAC)

And it is not my horse.

MATTEO strides past JAC to help BERNIE and SERENA get JENNY into a wheel chair.

BERNIE

I've got this, thank you...

MATTEO

Matteo. Matteo Rossini. Now could  
one of you point me in the  
direction of Darwin ward. I believe  
I'm late for my first day.

Out on JAC. Of course it's the flipping cowboy.

CUT TO:



5

8/5. INT. DARWIN. WARD - DAY (09:10)

5

MATTEO, now in scrubs. A walk and talk with JAC.

JAC

And you just found this woman  
laying in the road?

MATTEO

She didn't drop down at my feet.  
Although it wouldn't have been the  
first time.

JAC

Convenient you can ride a horse.

MATTEO

Like fate, some would say.

JAC ignores the comment, marching off - West Wing style.

JAC

We have two state of the art  
theatres and funding in line with  
our status as a centre of  
excellence for cardiothoracics. We  
perform 1000 cardiac and 800  
thoracic surgeries per year...

MATTEO

- And the canteen?

JAC

Sorry?

MATTEO

The food?

JAC

I'd rather eat roadkill.

GO TO: MO and OLIVER at the Nurses' Station. They're watching  
ZOSIA from a distance - talking hushed.

MO

She shouldn't be here.

OLIVER

The CPS don't agree...

MO

It's barely been a week.

OLIVER

...Or her lawyers. Looking unlikely  
she'll be charged.

ZOSIA stands - she's been listening in.

ZOSIA

If I say I'm fit to work, I'm fit  
to work. Thanks for the support.

JAC and MATTEO approach. MO does a double take at MATTEO.

JAC

These are your colleagues. Ms  
Maureen Effanga, Consultant.

MATTEO

A pleasure, Ms Effanga.

MO

(Swooning)  
Mo is fine.

JAC

(Pulls face at MO)  
Specialist Registrar, Mr Valentine.  
And CT2, Dr March.

MATTEO shakes ZOSIA's hand.

MATTEO

I can see I'm going to like working  
here.

OLIVER

(Intercepting handshake)  
I'd like to hear you say that by  
the end of the week.

JAC

If you've finished manhandling my  
staff, you can shadow Ms Effanga.  
She treats, you watch.

MATTEO

You can really afford the luxury of  
an induction?

JAC

My department, my rules.

MATTEO observes JAC - stood in front of him, arms folded,  
unflappable. For a moment he looks unhappy, but he quickly  
defuses any tension with a wink.

MATTEO

If you say so. *Boss.*

MATTEO watches her walk away. She seems fun.

CUT TO:

6 8/6. INT. KELLER. WARD. BAY 2 - DAY (09:32)

6

DOMINIC sits alone in a cubicle, a saline drip hooked up to his arm - dark sunglasses on. In his hand Arthur's Croix de Guerre medal absentmindedly slips through his fingers.

SACHA (O. S.)

Yes Mr Griffin, I'm sure he's around here somewhere.

DOMINIC panics as SACHA pulls the curtain.

SACHA (CONT'D)

Busted.

DOMINIC

I'm sorry, I was just -

DOMINIC spots RIC isn't there. He puts his glasses back on.

SACHA

You're not worried about a dressing down from me?

DOMINIC

From you? Maybe when you had your nifty dye job, but now not so much.

DOMINIC and SACHA smile. SACHA spots the medal.

SACHA

Never been one for sticking to the rules myself, would you believe. Although this is grossly inappropriate.

DOMINIC

The bag's nearly finished.

SACHA

Bournemouth beach, 1976. Got into a scuffle with some of the locals.

(Nostalgic)

Those were the days. You know I've still got a scar...

SACHA stands - starts to lift up his scrubs.

DOMINIC

3, 2, 1 - hangover cured.

DOMINIC takes the medal, places it in his pocket.

SACHA

Was this debauchery a response to the research position? I thought you'd made your peace with Isaac's decision?

DOMI NIC

What is with everyone around here  
always trying to psychoanalyse each  
other. It's weird.

SACHA

They're doing a live stream  
operation. They don't come along  
every day.

DOMI NIC

I can think of better things to do  
on a webcam. It's just a hangover -  
I'm fine.

SACHA

Excellent. If you're feeling  
better, patient in bay 2 with a  
perforated viscus. Lickety split.

DOMI NIC grumbles as he heads out from his hiding place.

CUT TO:

7 8/7. INT. AAU. WARD - DAY (09:35)

7

MORVEN is leading a group of F1s out of an AAU theatre - passing BERNIE, SERENA, FLETCH and JENNY.

MORVEN

If you could all just follow me.  
Please keep your arms and legs  
inside the vehicle at all times.

They follow her like sheep - passing BERNIE, SERENA and FLETCH with JENNY as they try to stop her bleeding nose.

SERENA

I've seen some things in my time  
but Jac Naylor's face when he asked  
where Darwin was has got to be in  
the all time top ten.

FLETCH

Can't wait to ask her 'so why the  
long face?'

JENNY

I'm glad I've provided some  
entertainment this morning.

BERNIE

Yes, a little decorum, please.  
You don't remember falling at all?

JENNY

No I remember. Just can't for the  
life of me think why.

BERNIE

Fletch. FBC, U&Es, LFTs, blood  
gases and a head CT please. And  
let's get a nasal tampon for the  
nosebleed.

MORVEN passes with her gaggle of N/s F1s behind her.

MORVEN

On your left you will find Ms Wolfe  
and Ms Campbell, Clinical Leads of  
the Acute Admissions Unit.  
(Hushed, to the JUNIORS)  
They're big deals, look alive.

SERENA

Good morning.

MORVEN

Any pearls of wisdom for the new  
rotation?

SERENA

Yes, the pay is better abroad.

BERNIE  
Observe, learn and constantly  
question your own decisions.

MORVEN  
Couldn't have put it better myself.  
Now if you'd like to follow me...

One by one the N/s F1s follow MORVEN... all except one - who  
is bending down to tie a shoelace.

BERNIE  
And never leave a man behind.  
(To SERENA)  
No wait, that was the other career.

The doctor stands up and turns around.

CAMERON  
Okay to leave a family behind  
though?

It's CAMERON, BERNIE's son.

CAMERON (CONT' D)  
(To BERNIE)  
Hello Mum.

Out on BERNIE - not expecting this.

CUT TO:

8

8/8. INT. DARWIN. WARD - DAY (09:46)

8

MATTEO stands with MO, distracted and bored as she writes up notes on an N/s ELDERLY PATIENT.

MATTEO

She always like this? Your boss?

MO

Like what?

MATTEO hisses, makes a claw with his hand.

MO (CONT'D)

You ain't seen nothing. Today's a good day.

MATTEO

And what's a bad day like?

MO

All in good time Mr Rossini.

MATTEO stares at JAC from across the room.

MATTEO

I do hope so.

JAC is running an ECG on LAUREN - looks at echo monitor.

JAC

105 bpm. You're tachycardic. We'll run a few more tests.

LAUREN

I'm not going home any time soon?

JAC

I very much doubt it.

LAUREN takes out her phone - starts firing off a message.

LAUREN

Need to cancel on a client.  
Bit of a relief, to be honest,  
barely looked at their case.

JAC

Is there anyone we can call?

LAUREN

I think I've got this, thanks.

JAC

(To NS nurse)

Fine. Let's get her sent off for an echo and an upper chest x-ray.

JAC walks off. MATTEO spots his opportunity.

MATTEO

Excuse me.

MO sees where he's heading - raises an eyebrow.

LAUREN

Here he is. Butch Cassidy. Who turns up to their first day of work on a horse?

MATTEO

... A stable hand.

LAUREN

A narcissist.

MATTEO takes her notes - starts to read them.

MATTEO

How long have you had these heart symptoms?

LAUREN

What's this, medicine in the round? Thought I had already had a doctor.

MATTEO

Two heads are better than one, no? Lean forward for me.

MATTEO puts his stethoscope to LAUREN's chest. Thump. Thump. Thump. The heartbeat affects him for a moment. He recovers.

LAUREN

Everything okay?

MATTEO

I haven't used this in a while.

MATTEO puts his stethoscope back around his neck. He doesn't realise JAC is now stood behind him.

MATTEO (CONT'D)

If you'd like my professional opinion...

JAC

If she doesn't, I would.

On MATTEO - busted.

CUT TO:



9 8/9. INT. KELLER. WARD/STAFF ROOM - DAY (09:55)

9

It's a hive of activity in Keller as JASMINE and ISAAC prep DAVID JAKEMAN (25, serial complainer, one of life's victims) for the operation. An N/s NURSE heads over to a watching DOMINIC - has a word in his ear. DOMINIC smiles - smugly to himself.

ISAAC

Mr Jakeman has a malignant thyroid tumour that we will be extracting today with a total thyroidectomy.

DAVID

Trust you're okay performing in front of an audience?

ISAAC

All the world's a stage Mr Jakeman. To have a benign tumour that turns malignant is pretty unlucky.

DAVID

Well isn't that good to know.

ISAAC

Luck changes Mr Jakeman. I'm confident we've caught it in time.

JASMINE

I did a bit of research and statistically, nine out of ten patients with papillary carcinomas will go on to live a further ten years or more.

DAVID

Ten years? I'm 25!

JASMINE

(Backtracking)  
Emphasis on the more.

DOMINIC heads over. Hears the following.

ISAAC

And you're sure you don't want us to call anyone?

DAVID

I'm a lone ranger. I don't want anyone here.

DOMINIC takes JASMINE aside.

DOMINIC

'Lone ranger'. Tragic. Anyway message from the Ivory Tower. Mr Griffin has a job for you.

JASMINE

The live stream is this afternoon.  
I'm a bit busy...

DOMINIC

And so is the ED. You're needed on  
the front line...

ISAAC

Today? He's seriously calling my  
research assistant away, today?

DOMINIC

Don't forget your stab proof vest.

JASMINE looks to ISAAC - she clearly doesn't want to go.

ISAAC

Who am I to question hospital  
hierarchy. Go on. I'll update you  
on the procedure later.

JASMINE

(Not happy)

Spouse I might bump into Doctor  
Knight. Sorry, Mr. Jakeman. Good  
luck with the operation.

JASMINE leaves - DOMINIC beaming a smile as she goes. He  
picks up DAVID's file, starts to scan his test results.

DOMINIC

Judging by your scans, the tumour  
looks to be less than 1 centimeter  
in size which is...

ISAAC

Dr Copeland!

DOMINIC

But you need an assistant?

(Off ISAAC's look)

Fine. I'll see you in an hour when  
you come crawling on your knees  
begging for my help.

DOMINIC walks off - confident he'll get his own way.

CUT TO:



10

OMI TTED

10

11      8/11. INT. DARWIN. CONSULTANTS' OFFICE - DAY (10:36)      11

JAC - reading the riot act.

JAC  
I'm not one for repeating myself so  
if I were you, I'd listen up. This  
is my department and I demand a  
general level of compliance from my  
staff - put that down...

MATTEO has gotten out of his chair and started to pick up various items on the shelves around the room.

MATTEO  
What is this?

JAC  
Expensive.

MATTEO puts it down. Walks behind JAC's desk - picks up some kind of trophy / certificate / medical accolade.

MATTEO  
So many accolades, certificates.  
How many letters after your name?

JAC  
I'd hazard a guess at more than  
you.

MATTEO goes to perch on the edge of her desk.

JAC (CONT' D)  
Don't sit there.

MATTEO sits there.

MATTEO  
It is admirable, such a devotion to  
one's career. But I have one  
question?

JAC sighs, folds her arms. Go on.

MATTEO (CONT' D)  
Why no pictures of your child?

Beat. JAC stares at MATTEO.

MATTEO (CONT' D)  
You like to keep your private life,  
private. Okay.

JAC  
You stalked me. Not creepy at all.

MATTEO gets up - smiles at JAC - perfectly calm.

MATTEO

Mrs Naylor.

JAC

Miss.

MATTEO

Sorry. Ms Naylor. I wasn't asked to work at this hospital, for a significantly lower sum of money that I am worth, so I can 'shadow'.

JAC

Ms Effanga is a highly experienced surgeon who I trust implicitly.

MATTEO

And I still believe that to be a colossal waste of mine, the NHS' and the patients' time. The heart here is the same as in Rome, no?

On JAC - he has a point.

MATTEO (CONT' D)

I look forward to working with you.  
To achieving great things with you.  
And no doubt learning from you.

(Pauses - leans in close)

But I will not be scared by you.

And with that, he leaves. One nil MATTEO.

CUT TO:

12 8/12. INT. KELLER. LIFT LOBBY / WARD - DAY (10:41) 12

DOMINIC has just come out of the lift. He notices a young man PAUL HILL, (25) peering through the doors into Keller.

DOMINIC  
Can I help you?

PAUL  
My mate. No visitors apparently.

DOMINIC  
David Jakeman?

PAUL  
Yup. Been messaging him all week.  
He's turned the blue ticks off.

DOMINIC  
You can turn those off? How?!

PAUL  
I don't get it. I was there for him  
last time. We were solid.

DOMINIC  
Sometimes people want to take these  
things on alone.

DOMINIC looks at him - how scared he is for his mate. He leaves the door wedged open, tilts his head. PAUL looks confused.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)  
I could get in a lot of trouble for  
this...

PAUL  
Nice one.

PAUL makes a beeline for DAVID's bed. DOMINIC follows. DAVID spots PAUL.

PAUL (CONT'D)  
Could have at least left a note.

DAVID  
(Panicked)  
I said I didn't want any visitors!

PAUL  
(Of DOMINIC)  
Dude said it was okay.

ISAAC balks as PAUL playfully punches DAVID on the arm.

ISAAC  
Could you not assault my patient,  
please? Do you want him to leave?

DAVID  
(Concedes)  
He'd only break back in.

PAUL  
Too right.

ISAAC moves away, busying himself as DOMINIC hovers. *NB: ISAAC does not hear the following.*

PAUL (CONT'D)  
Is it... back, mate?

DAVID swallows, uncomfortable at the question.

PAUL (CONT'D)  
Because if it is, it's cool. Be like last time. FIFA, beer, as many 9/11 conspiracy documentaries as you want. We got this man. I'm here for you. Bought you a survival kit.

He dumps the sports bag on the bed. Tears well in DAVID's eyes. Can't quite get a word out - nods his gratitude.

DOMINIC  
I'll give you two girls a moment.

DOMINIC walks off, ISAAC grabs his arm as he goes.

ISAAC  
Can't get involved clinically so you get yourself emotionally attached instead.

DOMINIC  
That's a bit of a leap.  
(Beat)  
So these are secondaries?

ISAAC  
Two young men, united by cancer and you want to parachute yourself into their lives like the medical version of Mary Poppins.

DOMINIC  
Campest reference you've ever made.

ISAAC  
My patient needs objectivity and a focused mind. You went out and got smashed last night because it was the anniversary of you and Arthur becoming *Facebook* friends.

DOMINIC  
(Childish)  
Glad to know I have your support.



ISAAC

This is a man's medical wellbeing  
Dom - not everything is about you.

DOMINIC watches as ISAAC heads back over to DAVID and PAUL -  
is he being selfish?

CUT TO:

13

8/13. INT. CT SCANNER ROOM - DAY (10:47)

13

BERNIE and CAMERON are in the observation Room as an N/s NURSE helps JENNY onto the CT bed.

CAMERON

Just never seemed like a good time.

BERNIE

The middle of a shift felt right?

CAMERON

(Meek)

Surprise!

BERNIE

It is good to see you.

CAMERON

So are you two, like, serious?

BERNIE

(Hushed)

This isn't an appropriate work place conversation.

CAMERON

(Hushed)

Shame - you'll have to have an actual conversation with me outside the workplace then.

FLETCH enters - sensing the slight air of tension.

FLETCH

Sorry - Mrs Osborne's file. Might want to take a look. Turns out she was admitted less than a week ago. Minor CVA.

BERNIE

Would have been good to know.

With the scan complete - BERNIE heads in to speak with JENNY.

BERNIE (CONT'D)

Why didn't you mention your stroke?

JENNY

Because I'm fine.

BERNIE

I can't say I don't admire your desire to get back in the saddle so soon but a bit of R & R could have gone a long way.

JENNY

I wanted to prove it hadn't beaten me.

FLETCH

Well you certainly gave it a good go. You got anyone looking after you at home?

JENNY

There's someone at home, don't know if you could say he's looking after me.

FLETCH

How about we give him a call?

JENNY

Worth a try.

BERNIE

We'll keep you under observation until we get the results back.

CAMERON has been watching the interchange between JENNY and BERNIE. Out of his earshot - he approaches his mother.

CAMERON

Mum?

(Off BERNIE's stare)

Ms Wolfe. Mrs Osborne's ocular movements. The way she looked at you. Seems a bit, off.

BERNIE

Ten points for enthusiasm but I inspected her eyes on arrival. The patient had a stroke not more than a week ago, I think we can assume this is related.

CAMERON

You're the boss.

BERNIE

If I'd known this is what I had to do to get you to listen to me I'd have brought you to work more when you were younger.

CAMERON

(To FLETCH)

I wasn't that bad.

BERNIE

Understatement of the century.

(To FLETCH - light)

He was a terror.

FLETCH

Apple never does fall far from the tree.

BERNIE

(Mock insulted)

Hey.

CAMERON

He's right. Taught me every trick in the book, you did.

BERNIE playfully clips her son round the head. Out on CAMERON - enjoying working with his mum.

CUT TO:

14

8/14. INT. DARWIN. WARD. BAY 2 - DAY (11:01)

14

JAC and MATTEO at the Nurses' Station with LAUREN's notes.

JAC

Come on then Poirot. Tumour or pericardial cyst. Anything to add?

A dark mass is evident within LAUREN's heart.

MATTEO

Yes. Poirot is not Italian.

JAC gives the death stare - follows him over to LAUREN.

MATTEO (CONT' D)

Our scans confirm your irregular heartbeat is being caused by a mass on the right ventricular outflow track of your heart.

LAUREN

(Unflinching)

Right.

JAC

We need to run some tests before we can consider how to treat it. Lets get a CT scan and an FBC.

MATTEO is bursting to say something, like a kid in class.

JAC (CONT' D)

Yes, Mr Rossini?

MATTEO

Just one question.

LAUREN

Go for it.

MATTEO

You like animals?

LAUREN

Excuse me?

MATTEO

You know, like cats, dogs, fish?

JAC

Where exactly are you going with -

MATTEO's hand goes to JAC's lips - shush.

LAUREN

I have been exposed to animals in the past, yes.

MATTEO

Excellent.

With an enigmatic wink MATTEO heads off, JAC on his heels.

JAC

Something you want to share with  
the rest of the class?

MATTEO

Oh so now you want my opinion?

JAC

This smart guy routine - it's  
intoxicating.

MATTEO

I need to check a few things.  
Wouldn't want to make a fool out of  
myself on my first day.

On MATTEO - a plan forming.

CUT TO:

15

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15





16 8/16. INT. DARWIN. WARD/ NURSES' STATION - DAY (11:18) 16

JAC is briefing ZOSIA and OLIVER whilst MATTEO taps away at the computer.

ZOSIA

So because you're not testing out some new bit of kit she's not worthy of your time.

OLIVER

Zosi a.

JAC

All we know is that she has a large mass located within the heart. If it's a non malignant tumour it makes much more sense to treat the symptoms non-surgically to avoid putting her at greater risk of heart failure. Unless you have a better idea, Dr March?

She doesn't.

MATTEO

I do.

MATTEO rolls over on his chair. The team wait, expectantly.

JAC

Are you waiting for a drum roll?

MATTEO

It's a cyst caused by hydatid disease. It's rare in the heart but not unheard of.

OLIVER

Hydatid disease? Isn't that caused by tapeworm infestation?

MATTEO

Yes, it is usually a result of infestation with the larval or adult form of the echinococcus granulosus tapeworm.

(Beat)

She has a parasite.

JAC

Whilst I'm sure your internet browsing skills are second to none - we like to rely on a little more than -

MATTEO

- I have seen it before. It's particularly endemic to North Africa.

ZOSIA  
You worked in North Africa?

MATTEO  
North Africa, Syria, Chile.  
*Médecins Sans Frontières*.

JAC  
I think I can decide what's best  
for my patient.

JAC storms off - pissed. MATTEO returns to the computer.

OLIVER  
(Italian accent, jealous)  
*Médecins Sans Frontières*... we've  
all been travelling.

ZOSIA  
Yes and you came home with  
cirrhosis of the liver and an  
exotic disease. How desirable.

ZOSIA leaves OLIVER floundering. MATTEO smirks at the  
computer, clearly enjoying himself. ZOSIA pulls up a chair.

ZOSIA (CONT' D)  
You seem fairly certain that it's  
hydatid disease.

MATTEO  
I am fairly certain of a lot of  
things.

MATTEO nods in OLIVER's direction.

MATTEO (CONT' D)  
He doesn't like me.

ZOSIA  
He's only jealous. A handsome  
doctor talking to his ex-  
girlfriend.

MATTEO  
He is not gay?

ZOSIA  
No. No he's not gay.

MATTEO  
He is a very lucky man.

ZOSIA  
He was a very lucky man. So, tell  
me Mr Rossini, how does one go from  
fighting the good fight in Syria to  
the back streets of Holby?

MATTEO

(Uncomfortable)

A story for another day and lots of wine.

(Professional)

If I wanted a serological test, could you do that for me?

ZOSIA

In theory. Going behind Jac's back is the workplace equivalent of poking a bear with a big stick.

MATTEO smiles - gives her the puppy dog eyes.

ZOSIA (CONT'D)

A big bear. Grizzly.

MATTEO

As your superior, I request that you order the test.

ZOSIA

What is this, divide and conquer?

MATTEO

I'm just doing my job.

He smiles at ZOSIA. Irresistible. Eventually she nods.

ZOSIA

You're going to get me in trouble.

On MATTEO as ZOSIA walks away. Dividing and conquering.

CUT TO:

17 8/17. INT. AAU. WARD - DAY (11:22)

17

CAMERON is replacing JENNY's nasal tampon.

FLETCH

I had a mate who headbutted a horse once. Safe to say the horse came off better.

JENNY

Where is he? Romeo?

FLETCH

O, Romeo, Romeo! Wherefore art thou Romeo? We doing Shakespeare?

JENNY

That's his name - my horse.

FLETCH

That would make more sense. I asked a mate from the ED to look out for him until you're sorted. He's away from traffic, got plenty of water and about twenty packs of polos.

JENNY

Thank you. Could you pass my phone? It's in my bag.

FLETCH hands JENNY her bag before he leaves. She takes out her phone and turns it on. But once switched on - she just stares at it. Confused. CAMERON watches as JENNY stares. Something clearly isn't right. BERNIE passes with SERENA.

BERNIE

What are you doing?

CAMERON

Treating her nosebleed.

BERNIE

Unsupervised?

CAMERON

Fletch went to check on her horse.

BERNIE

(Of the nasal pack)  
I trust that has adrenaline included.

CAMERON

Ah.

BERNIE

You're going to have to sharpen up if you're not going to fail again.

CAMERON looks a little hurt as he moves off.

SERENA

I don't want to comment on one's parenting but wasn't that a little harsh?

BERNIE

Since when did mollycoddling get anyone anywhere?

SERENA

True. But he's a junior. I'm sure you didn't escape med school with a totally unblemished record.

BERNIE

When I made a mistake I was heavily reprimanded for it. It's why I don't make them anymore.

GO TO: CAMERON at the Nurses' Base with MORVEN.

CAMERON

Question?

MORVEN

If it's a stupid one, you'll get a stupid answer.

CAMERON

How long can you work alongside your family without one of you spontaneously combusting?

MORVEN

Most families? Probably five minutes.

CAMERON

You did it with your husband...

MORVEN

Not for very long.

CAMERON

Sorry. I didn't mean...

MORVEN

Haven't seen you around the shelter for a while.

CAMERON

Studying. It was you that gave me the kick up the arse I needed actually.

MORVEN

(Bolstered)

Really? And you think it's the right decision?

CAMERON looks over at his mum and SERENA.

CAMERON  
Jury's still out on that one.

CUT TO:

18

8/18. INT. KELLER. WARD - DAY (11:33)

18

ISAAC is writing up notes as DOMINIC hovers around him.

DOMINIC  
(Mumbled)  
Sorry.

ISAAC mimics a sudden heart attack.

ISAAC  
This is big.

DOMINIC  
Fine, taking it back.

ISAAC  
Too late now. So why the change of heart?

DOMINIC  
Maybe I considered the possibility that you had David's best interests at heart and stopped focusing on my own personal gain.

ISAAC  
Self reflection as well? You must be hungover.  
(Pager bleeps)  
One moment...

DOMINIC  
And I'm sure you'll find someone perfectly capable.

Follow DOMINIC as he crosses over to the patient in the bed next to DAVID's. PAUL chats away on the phone - he hasn't left DAVID's side.

PAUL  
My services are required elsewhere. I'll tell you later... good things come to those who wait babe.

He hangs up the phone.

DAVID  
Out of ten?

PAUL  
Meh. A Seven.

DAVID  
Then you're punching above your weight. Don't cancel 'cos of me.

PAUL  
Misters before sisters.

\*

DAVID

What's in the bag then?

PAUL

What isn't in the bag my friend.  
We've got lads mags and a Game Boy.

(Hushed)

A couple of beers, bottle opener,  
pack of jonnys.

(Louder again)

Crisps, selfie stick, vitamin C  
tablets. Think that's got you  
covered.

DOMINIC passes.

DOMINIC

That's some friend you have there.

PAUL

Just doing my duty.

DOMINIC smiles - he likes PAUL. ISAAC heads back over.

ISAAC

(To DOMINIC)

You better scrub up then. My last  
resort has just failed.

DOMINIC

You're funny - you don't look like  
your on your hands and knees.

ISAAC

Don't push it. Can you check his  
group and save results are back  
please? No time like the present.

\*  
\*  
\*

ISAAC heads off - DOMINIC subconsciously taking the medal out  
of his pocket.

PAUL

Good luck charm?

DOMINIC

Hmmm?

DAVID

Your medal?

DOMINIC

Yeah, something like that.

Out on the medal clutched in DOMINIC's hand.

CUT TO:





19

8/19. INT. DARWIN. NURSES' STATION - DAY (11:45)

19

MATTEO watches JAC as an N/s NURSE hands her a file. She reads it - her face going from confusion to anger.

MATTEO

Was I right?

JAC

An educated guess, nothing more.

MATTEO

Isn't that what medicine *is*?

JAC

If only I was as smart as you think you are.

MATTEO practically skips behind her. He loves being right.

CUT TO:

20 8/20. INT. KELLER. NURSES' STATION / WARD - DAY (11:52) 20

DOMINIC is at the computer, looking up DAVID's medical history. ISAAC sees what he's doing.

ISAAC

Who knew I was going out with such a swot. You know, you're only on board for today, and because of a lack of another suitable candidate. My hands are tied.

DOMINIC

Just the way I like them.

ISAAC

What have I created?

DOMINIC

Like you can take the credit, I was born this way.

DOMINIC leans forward - giving ISAAC a view of Arthur's medal - pinned to his scrubs.

ISAAC

Don't tell me you're wearing that to work now?

DOMINIC realises what he's talking about.

DOMINIC

This? Forgot I even had it on.

ISAAC

Liar.

DOMINIC

So today was supposed to be a bad day, right. I was hungover, Jasmine was your assistant. All I wanted was to make it through the shift in one piece. And then I put this on... and it's like, I dunno.

ISAAC

(Skeptical)  
A good luck charm?

DOMI NIC

My hangover's gone, Jasmine's otherwise engaged... and I get to work with you. And suddenly, today is a good day.

(Coy)

I knew you wouldn't understand.

ISAAC

You know it's not appropriate to wear in theatre.

DOMI NIC

You are kidding?

ISAAC

I'm upholding a high set of standards for this trial.

DOMI NIC hesitates a moment before unpinning the medal.

DOMI NIC

I do *not* appreciate this.

DOMI NIC goes back to reading DAVID's file.

DOMI NIC (CONT' D)

I don't get it - his records don't show a detailed history at all.

ISAAC

Looks about right for a benign tumour to me.

DOMI NIC

Beni gn?

ISAAC

I thought you'd read the file. The previous tumour was non-malignant.

DOMI NIC

His mate said he looked after him for months.

He looks around - DAVID and PAUL taking a selfie together.

DOMI NIC (CONT' D)

He lied about having cancer.

CUT TO:

21

8/21. INT. DARWIN. WARD. BAY 2 - DAY (11:54)

21

JAC and MATTEO are giving LAUREN her test results.

LAUREN

You're just going to leave it there?

JAC

You are not critically ill, Miss Wilson. The risks of surgery far outweigh any benefits we can make to your quality of life.

LAUREN

She telling the truth?

MATTEO shrugs, theatrically.

MATTEO

I am just here to observe.

LAUREN

Well this has been a waste of time.

JAC

If you hold my name in such high regard then I'm sure you'd trust my decision.

JAC turns to leave.

LAUREN

Okay so you give me more meds? What if I don't take them. I'll just end up back in here every week anyway.

MATTEO

In that case, there is another option...

JAC

Mr Rossini...

LAUREN

I'm listening.

MATTEO

The cyst is on the right ventricular outflow track. We aspirate and peel off from the right ventricle. If we preserve the heart muscle, heart failure will not be a problem.

JAC

And if you excise the muscle wall?

MATTEO

As with a tetralogy of fallot, we  
put a pericardial patch on the  
RVOT.

JAC

And such a large patch will lead to  
heart failure. Congratulations,  
you've just killed the patient.

MATTEO

I'm a glass half full kind of man.

LAUREN

Sold. Where do I sign?

JAC

You don't get to decide what  
treatment you have.

LAUREN

But I can decide who treats me.  
(Holds out her hand)  
Piacere di conoscerti.

MATTEO is smug as JAC is left out in the cold.

CUT TO:

22

8/22. INT. KELLER. WARD - DAY (11:59)

22

DOMINIC can barely contain his anger as he prepares to confront DAVID. All guns blazing.

ISAAC

I know it looks dishonest but you don't have any of the facts...

DOMINIC

File under 'don't mess up my trial.' Don't worry, I'm not stupid.

(Eyeballing DAVID)

I'll be gentle with him.

GO TO: DAVID in a lot higher spirits.

PAUL

I'll talk to the boss - see if I can get more time off.

DAVID

You don't have to do that...

PAUL

You could barely make a brew last time.

DOMINIC and ISAAC approach - catching what PAUL just said.

ISAAC

You got this? I need to check the theatre team are good to go.

DOMINIC nods as ISAAC shoots off. He grabs DAVID's notes.

DOMINIC

David, could I ask you a few questions about your previous treatment?

DAVID nods - nervous.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)

After the tumour was removed, you received both chemo and radiotherapy?

DAVID

Correct.

DOMINIC  
And what kind of chemotherapy did you receive?

DAVID  
B. E. P. Bleomycin, etoposide and cisplatin.

On DOMINIC - this guy is clever.

DOMINIC  
(To PAUL)  
Could you excuse us one moment?

PAUL  
Sorry. Told him. I ain't budging. Problem shared and all that...

DAVID  
It's fine mate.

PAUL nods - heads out.

DOMINIC  
Do you know how many people have come through those doors and not walked back out because of cancer? How many relatives I've made tea for as they accept their loved ones are living on borrowed time.

DAVID  
Alright keep it down...

DOMINIC  
Sounds like you had the wool pulled right over his eyes.

DAVID  
Yeah, and now I'm paying for it aren't I?

DOMINIC  
Oh poor you. Who's going to play you in the movie? 'The Boy Who Cried Cancer.'

DAVID  
You can't make me feel any worse than I already do.

DOMINIC  
You wanna bet?

DAVID  
When I got the all clear, he was the first person I saw. He saw my face, assumed the worst and I... never corrected him.



DOMINIC

Lying by omission is still lying.

DAVID

It was a difficult time. My  
girlfriend left me, I'd been made  
redundant...

DOMINIC

And now it's three years later, the  
girl is long gone, you've got a  
cushy new job but oh, what's that,  
you're still taking your mate for a  
complete mug.

DAVID

This is my punishment. I wanted to  
deal with it alone.

DOMINIC

How very noble of you.

DAVID

You can't tell him. Patient  
confidentiality. I know my rights.

Out on DOMINIC. Will he say anything?

CUT TO:

23

8/23. INT. DARWIN. WARD. BAY 2 - DAY (12:10)

23

MATTEO and ZOSIA are with LAUREN.

MATTEO

Your exposure to animals. Care to explain?

LAUREN

My parents. They live on a farm by the Brecon Beacons.

MATTEO

And when were you last there?

LAUREN

About, seven, eight years ago.

ZOSIA

You haven't been home in that long?

LAUREN

(Pointed)  
It's not my home.

MATTEO

You had close contact with the animals?

LAUREN's face darkens, just for a moment.

LAUREN

From time to time.

MATTEO

Adult tapeworms can live quite happily in a dog. But their eggs require more - an intermediate host, like a sheep or a human. The egg invades through the gut wall and usually lodges in the liver... although in your case...

MATTEO points to his heart.

LAUREN

So they're resilient.

MATTEO

Who would have thought something so small could be so fascinating.

LAUREN

Just get it out. That was the deal.

MATTEO

Ms Naylor was not wrong when she spoke of the risks. The cyst is built from your own tissue *and* larval origin. Full of fluid.

MATTEO (CONT' D)

If it bursts...

(Makes a bursting action)

The parasite will spread. Excuse me.

MATTEO leaves the room.

LAUREN

Just do what you have to do.

ZOSIA

Can I ask, why such determination? Humans are a dead end host, the cyst is growing at less than one centimeter in diameter a year. It's not like you don't have time to consider other options.

LAUREN

I have a parasite living inside my heart. I'll take the risk, thanks.

On ZOSIA - sensing something is up with LAUREN.

CUT TO:

24      8/24. INT. DARWIN. CONSULTANTS' OFFICE - DAY (12:12)      24

JAC sat her desk - clicking repeatedly on her computer.

MO  
Everything al right?

JAC  
Fi ne.

MO  
Only I think I can see steam coming  
out your ears.

JAC turns - giving MO the full on death stare.

MO (CONT' D)  
Al right, cal m down.

JAC  
(Not cal m)  
I am cal m.  
(Of the computer)  
Useless piece of -

She flings the mouse on the desk. MO lets her cool a moment.

MO  
He's just seeing what he can get  
away with. Give him a few weeks and  
he'll be fully signed up to the  
cult of Jac Naylor.

JAC  
This is why I hate locums.

MO  
So what are you doing? Doing a name  
search in case he's got a double  
life as a serial killer?

JAC  
Maybe.

MO  
Whilst he's in there taking  
patients off you. Doesn't sound  
like the Jac I know.

On JAC - MO has a point. But then her screen finally loads.  
JAC's face a mixture of anger and righteous indignation.

JAC  
Ms Effanga, congratulations on  
almost making me doubt myself.

She turns the screen. A picture of MATTEO at a swanky  
fundraiser, a drink in his hand, an arm around...

MO  
Is that?

JAC  
Guy. He's the one who stole the  
Digby stent.

Guy Self's smug grin staring back at her.

JAC (CONT' D)  
He's finished.

Out on the picture of Guy and MATTEO as JAC kills the image.

CUT TO:

25 8/25. INT. KELLER. LIFT LOBBY / LOCKER ROOM - DAY (12:18) 25

ISAAC and DOMINIC are walking to the Locker Room.

ISAAC  
I'm very proud of you.

DOMINIC shrugs.

DOMINIC  
It wouldn't be the first time I've  
paid lip service to my strict moral  
code.

ISAAC  
Such a martyr.

DOMINIC reaches his locker - opens it. Starts rifling through  
his things, frantically.

DOMINIC  
No, no, no, The medal. I left it  
right here.

ISAAC  
It can't have gone far.

DOMINIC  
I need to find it.

ISAAC  
We're on in twenty minutes. It'll  
have to wait.

But DOMINIC is almost manic as he looks for the medal.

CUT TO:

26 8/26. INT. DARWIN. WARD. BAY 2/ NURSES' STATION - DAY 26  
(12:22)

LAUREN sits in her bed, observing MATTEO.

LAUREN  
You like what you do?

MATTEO  
It is what I live for.

LAUREN  
I always liked taking things apart  
just to see how they ticked.

MATTEO  
It is so much more than seeing how  
things *tick*, Miss Wilson.

MATTEO takes his hand - puts it to his chest.

MATTEO (CONT' D)  
The heart sits here. More central  
than most people think. Protected  
by the breastbone. Evolution's way  
of saying 'this is important' but  
also, 'this is vulnerable.'

LAUREN  
You're passionate about your work.

Unbeknown to MATTEO - JAC is behind him. Listening.

MATTEO  
Have you ever seen a heart beat,  
Miss Wilson?

LAUREN  
Not in real life.

MATTEO  
Waves spread from the base to apex.  
It is dynamic, intrinsic, clear and  
beautiful - the rhythm of the  
engine of life. Blood flowing from  
capillaries, capillaries into  
venules, venules into veins,  
passing through vessels and  
chambers, never stopping, never  
clotting, always flowing, moment to  
moment, beat after beat.

On JAC - despite herself, MATTEO's words have struck a chord  
with her. Not that she'd let him know it. She interrupts.

JAC  
Have you always been this  
irritating or is it a skill you've  
acquired over the years?

MATTEO

I am an all or nothing kind of man.

JAC ushers MATTEO away from LAUREN. He knocks her handbag over as he goes, some papers spilling. He scans them briefly before handing them back to LAUREN. A flicker of interest - JAC snaps him out of it.

JAC

While I'd be happy for you to make such a colossal mistake on your first day, believe it or not I don't enjoy seeing patients die unnecessarily. We need governance lead. Ric can sign off.

MATTEO

But I have her full consent.

JAC

Yes, but you don't have mine.

(Softer)

Trust me, Ric will appreciate a less cavalier attitude towards patient safety.

MATTEO observes JAC - not sure of her intentions.

MATTEO

And now you have my back?

JAC

I haven't fallen for your charms if that's what you're thinking. He's expecting us. Maybe try for a more low key entrance than this morning.

JAC allows a smile to herself as MATTEO watches her go. What game is she playing now?

CUT TO:



27

8/27. INT. WYVERN. PULSES - DAY (12:35)

27

ZOSIA is waiting in the queue for a coffee as DOMINIC barrels past - barging to the front of the queue.

DOMINIC

Excuse me, I didn't leave a medal down here did I? About this big - shiny. Very valuable.

The N/s BARI STA shakes her head - says something like 'sorry.' DOMINIC looks crestfallen.

ZOSIA

Aren't you a little old to be getting drunk on a school night?

DOMINIC

Sorry?

She shows him her phone. A tonne of missed calls.

ZOSIA

Must have been a good night.  
(Off DOMINIC's look)  
What's up with you?

DOMINIC

I've lost Arthur's medal.

ZOSIA clips him around the head.

ZOSIA

You brought it to work?

DOMINIC

You can save the lecture.

ZOSIA

How could you be so careless?

DOMINIC

Sounds like the start of a lecture to me. Can you help me look for it?

ZOSIA

No can do. New locum started today. And Jac has just sent me this.

ZOSIA shows DOMINIC a link on her phone - it's the article about MATTEO and Guy.

DOMINIC

He's cute.

ZOSIA

Look who he's with.

DOMINIC

Ah.

ZOSIA

He's the one who patented the tech  
for the Digby stent.

The news has affected DOMINIC. His anxiousness grows.

DOMINIC

Yeah well, enjoy the fireworks.

ZOSIA

(Taking her coffee)  
Find that medal.

ZOSIA leaves DOMINIC.

CUT TO:

28

8/28. INT. CEO'S OFFICE - DAY (12:39)

28

In on RIC and MATTEO shaking hands. JAC rolls her eyes.

RIC

Ms Naylor tells me you've reached an impasse. And quicker than I expected. It's not even lunchtime.

MATTEO

A difference of opinion. Of course I hugely respect Mrs Naylor's

JAC

- Miss...

MATTEO

Sorry, sometimes I forget you are single.

(Continuing)

...Ms Naylor's approach... but I believe there to be another alternative.

RIC

If we have her consent I don't see why we shouldn't proceed.

MATTEO

Excuse me?

JAC

We've identified the cyst, it has the potential to grow and cause problems. Why not act now?

RIC

Expanding to right ventricle outflow track for the tetralogy of the fallot will give a good chance.

MATTEO stares at JAC. You bitch.

JAC

Perhaps you'd like to watch?

RIC

Excellent idea. It may help you understand Ms Naylor's decision making as clinical lead.

MATTEO turns to JAC - pleasant - but only for RIC's benefit.

MATTEO

Oh I'll be watching.

Out on MATTEO - starting to get the measure of this woman.

CUT TO:

29

8/29. INT. AAU. WARD - DAY (12:42)

29

With FLETCH's assistance - CAMERON is inserting a nasal balloon in JENNY's nostril.

JENNY

I've been trying to put my finger on it... you are the spit of this lad I went to school with.

CAMERON

Handsome lad was he?

JENNY

Ooh, very much so.

FLETCH

(Light)

Shall I give you two a minute?

JENNY

Craig Miles his name was. Lovely boy. We... went out for one summer, but he moved away. Never did find out what happened to him. He had the bluest of blue eyes.

FLETCH and CAMERON share a look. CAMERON's eyes aren't blue.

FLETCH

Did you call your husband?

JENNY

No point. He'll be propping up the bar by now no doubt.

CAMERON

Bit early to be in the pub?

JENNY

Wild horses wouldn't keep him away from that place. Literally, come to think of it.

BERNIE approaches - test results in hand.

BERNIE

The good news is your CT has come back clear. You were sent to the acute stroke centre the last time you were admitted?

JENNY

They told me I'd made a great recovery.

BERNIE

And they prescribed you warfarin? I trust you've been keeping up with the dosages.

JENNY  
(Lying)  
Of course.

BERNIE  
Then we should be able to rule out  
a second stroke. We'll keep you  
under observation for a few more  
hours whilst your nosebleed  
settles.

BERNIE heads off - CAMERON in pursuit.

CAMERON  
Mum?

BERNIE  
Keep calling me Mum and I'll tell  
everyone how old you were when you  
stopped wetting the bed.

CAMERON  
Ouch. Are you sure it's not worth  
checking her vision. A couple of  
things - they just don't seem  
right...

BERNIE  
We've been through this. Any neuro  
problems would have been picked up  
by the CT.

BERNIE heads off. CAMERON heads back to where SERENA is  
treating an N/s PATIENT.

CAMERON  
Ms Campbell, have you got a moment?

SERENA  
Of course.

CAMERON  
I'd like to order Mrs Osborne an  
MRI.

SERENA  
On a whim or for a particular  
reason?

CAMERON  
I think she might have some kind of  
neuro injury that wasn't picked up  
on the CT.

SERENA  
Such as...

CAMERON  
I don't know... it's just the way  
she looks at people.

CAMERON (CONT' D)

She said she called her husband earlier but she didn't... I caught her, just staring at the phone.

SERENA

And you've run this past Ms Wolfe? I really don't want to get in the middle of a family dispute.

CAMERON

A bit late for that...

A warning look from SERENA.

CAMERON (CONT' D)

Sorry. It's just - she'll shoot me down in seconds.

SERNEA

As your senior I can't just ignore your concerns. Leave it with me.

CUT TO:

30 8/30. INT. LIFT LOBBY / DARWIN CORRIDOR - DAY (12:44) 30

MATTEO and JAC are heading back onto DARWIN. It's been an awkward silence - until...

MATTEO

Bravo.

(JAC keeps walking)

What is it? Do I threaten you?  
Frustrate you?

JAC

Not nice when someone passes off  
your work as their own.

MATTEO

I don't understand.

JAC takes a printout of the article from her pocket.

JAC

Looks like a fancy do.

MATTEO reads the article.

MATTEO

It was Paris, not Berlin.

(Off JAC's stare)

Guy did mention I should keep our  
acquaintance private.

JAC

Make a career out of plagiarism?

MATTEO looks confused.

JAC (CONT'D)

The tech for the stent you passed  
off as your own. That was mine.

A beat. MATTEO composes himself.

MATTEO

That was not how the information  
was presented to me.

JAC

What exactly is your big head  
compensating for?

MATTEO

You're calling me a liar?

JAC

That would be an insult to liars.  
To have the audacity to walk into  
my department after what you did. I  
could have your contract terminated  
right here, right now.

MATTEO

Then why don't you...

On JAC - doesn't want to go there. (She fancies him.)

MATTEO (CONT'D)

I told you, I did not know.

JAC

Let me check if I care. Nope.

MATTEO

Such petulance... you surprise me.

JAC

I'm full of surprises. Shame you're not going to be around to see them.

JAC walks away - confident she's won this battle.

CUT TO:



31

8/31. INT. KELLER. CENTRAL WARD - DAY (12:46)

31

Heading over to DAVID's bed - DOMINIC is still troubled by not having the medal. He shakes his head at ISAAC.

ISAAC

We'll look for it after the shift.

PAUL

So, this will sort him out will it?  
He'll be 'all clear.'

ISAAC

The thyroidectomy should remove  
most of the cancerous cells.

PAUL

And how long will he be out of  
action for?

ISAAC

That depends on his recovery,  
although I would recommend six  
weeks off work.

DAVID

Every cloud.

PAUL

Hey. Least it's not as long as last  
time.

DOMINIC tenses at the lie. He tries to remain neutral.

ISAAC

We'll take you through to theatre  
shortly.

PAUL

You can do one if you think I'm  
spotting your rent again though  
pal.

DAVID

(Nervous laughter)  
I've got that covered, don't worry.

DOMINIC

How long were you off for the last  
time, David?

DAVID shoots DOMINIC a 'please don't do this face.'

PAUL

About four, five months wasn't it?

DOMINIC

And you paid his rent?

PAUL

I helped him out. What mates do  
init.

DOMINIC

(To DAVID)

Unbelievable.

ISAAC

Dr Copeland, I'd think very  
carefully before you proceed.

DOMINIC

You need to tell him.

PAUL

Tell me what?

DOMINIC

Tell him the truth, David.

DAVID

You're not allowed to do this.

PAUL

What the hell is going on!

A beat. DOMINIC considers DAVID one more time.

DOMINIC

David's tumour was benign.

Confusion from PAUL - he doesn't understand.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)

The cancer you nursed him through?  
I've had cocktails more toxic.

PAUL is shocked, quickly giving way to anger.

PAUL

Is this true?

DAVID's face says it all. PAUL struggles with what to say. He goes from looking like he may punch his friend, to being on the verge of tears. In an outburst of anger, PAUL flips the equipment trolley over before walking away from DAVID.

ISAAC

Dr Copeland.

Out on DOMINIC. Now he's really messed things up.

CUT TO:

32

8/32. INT. DARWIN. WARD. BAY 2 - DAY (13:15)

32

MATTEO has told LAUREN he won't be performing the surgery.

MATTEO

I will still be there. But only to watch.

LAUREN

Is there a particular reason?

MATTEO

(Looking at JAC)  
Mainly one.

LAUREN

You still get to see me naked.

MATTEO

You don't seem too disappointed.

LAUREN

I hear Ms Naylor is very capable.

MATTEO

So they tell me. Excuse me.

MATTEO leaves - crossing over to JAC at the Nurses' Station.

MATTEO (CONT'D)

Io e te poi facciamo i conti.  
(*This isn't over*)

MATTEO leaves before he can translate. JAC smiles. She's getting to him. GO TO: ZOSIA with LAUREN.

ZOSIA

Must look like we don't know what we're doing.

LAUREN

Good job I do. I made sure I got what I wanted.

ZOSIA looks confused. LAUREN smiles.

ZOSIA

You think you manipulated them?

LAUREN

Facilitated their ignorance for personal gain. It's why I'm a good lawyer. I get the operation I wanted with the surgeon I chose.

ZOSIA

How do you figure that?

LAUREN

Surgeons can live a life of such vanity. Her reluctance to do the operation of her own free will left me no choice but to take advantage of their member measuring contest. There's no way she'd let him do this surgery over her.

ZOSIA

You sound like a Bond villain.

LAUREN smiles - a compliment for her.

ZOSIA (CONT' D)

Why so set on Jac in the first place?

LAUREN

She's the most competent surgeon I could find.

ZOSIA

But you didn't know you needed surgery until this morning.

It dawns on ZOSIA.

ZOSIA (CONT' D)

You already knew about the cyst?

Out on a stunned ZOSIA.

CUT TO:

33

8/33. INT. KELLER. BACK STAIRS - DAY (13:25)

33

DOMINIC and ISAAC - head to head.

ISAAC

He's refusing to do the operation.

DOMINIC

Like today hasn't been a bad enough omen.

ISAAC

What are you talking about?

DOMINIC

The inspirational young man fighting cancer alone turns out to be a sadistic liar, the doctor who shafted Darwin with the Digby stent is in the building and now I've lost Arthur's medal.

ISAAC

You know there's a therapist out there who would kill to write a paper on you.

DOMINIC

Thanks babe.

ISAAC

The new Consultant arriving - coincidence. David lying about having cancer - the human condition. And you breaking patient confidentiality - a blatant attempt at self sabotage.

DOMINIC

Great, more psychoanalysing.

ISAAC

Arthur gave you those medals to remember him by. How would he feel if he knew they'd come to symbolise your own self destruction.

(Kind but firm)

It's time to move on, Dom.

ISAAC squeezes DOMINIC on the shoulder as he leaves.

ISAAC (CONT'D)

I need you to fix this.

Out on DOMINIC - can he do this.

CUT TO:

34

8/34. INT. DARWIN. GUY'S OLD OFFICE - DAY (13:35)

34

Guy's old office - blinds drawn - empty. MATTEO sits - melancholy, sulking. He moves to a bookshelf - a copy of Guy's book left behind. He flicks through it when - *knock*.

ZOSIA

Miss Wilson. She knew she had hydatid disease.

MATTEO

I know. I saw her old notes.

ZOSIA

Why didn't you say anything?

MATTEO

I didn't care.

(Beat)

You know I knew your father?

ZOSIA

I did hear.

MATTEO

He is a good man.

ZOSIA

Debatable.

MATTEO

He told me about you. The mountains you've had to climb.

ZOSIA

He shouldn't have.

MATTEO

He spoke very highly of you, Zosia. He's a very proud dad.

ZOSIA

(Changing the subject)

You can't say I didn't warn you. About Jac. She likes a fight.

MATTEO

Why are you all so scared of her?

ZOSIA

She's been around a long time. Outlived them all. Elliot Hope, Connie Beauchamp...

(Looking at the book)

My dad. It gives her some status.

MATTEO lets this sink in - maybe she's right.

MATTEO

I guess you have to be a psychopath  
to survive around here.

ZOSIA

(Dawning on her)  
A clear lack of remorse,  
manipulation, the superficial  
charm.

MATTEO

You shouldn't speak about your boss  
like that.

ZOSIA

I'm not talking about Ms Naylor.

CUT TO:

35      8/35. INT. AAU. WARD - DAY (14:03)

35

BERNIE has discovered JENNY's empty bay.

BERNIE

An MRI scan is a frivolous and expensive waste of time.

CAMERON

What was it you said? Question every decision you make?

BERNIE

Yes, not every decision I make! This is typical of you Cameron.

On CAMERON. Ouch. GO TO: FLETCH and SERENA bringing JENNY back in from her scan.

FLETCH

Why don't you let me call that husband of yours again. Give him a kick up the backside.

JENNY

If you can do in twenty minutes what I haven't been able to do in twenty years, I'll be eternally grateful.

SERENA has the MRI scan results in her hand. She looks at them, confused. Spotting CAMERON and BERNIE - she heads over.

SERENA

Sorry to interrupt -

BERNIE

By all means. I hear you two have quite the working relationship.

SERENA

Well as it turns out, Cameron's fears may not be completely unfounded.

CAMERON is pumped at the praise. SERENA shows them the scan.

SERENA (CONT'D)

As you can see, there has been significant damage to the occipital cortex.

BERNIE

But that's impossible.

SERENA

That's what I thought.

CAMERON looks over at JENNY chatting away with FLETCH.



CAMERON

She' s blind.

CUT TO:

36

8/36. INT. KELLER. CENTRAL WARD - DAY (14:21)

36

DOMINIC is trying to convince DAVID to change his mind.

DOMINIC

A lot of planning has gone into this. You need to think rationally.

DAVID

I am. For the first time in years. It's like my nan used to say - the best pillow is a clear conscience.

PAUL (O. V.)

Glad someone can sleep easily.

DAVID

(Didn't know he was there)  
That's not what I meant...

PAUL

Don't wanna hear it. Just let these gents get on with sorting you out. Free up a bed for the more deserving.

A beat.

DAVID

Will you be here? When I wake up?

PAUL shakes his head.

PAUL

Good luck with it. *Mate.*

PAUL walks away from his friend.

ISAAC

You okay?

DOMINIC

Yeah, I think so.

ISAAC

I was talking to David.

DAVID looks up at him. Nods his acceptance.

ISAAC (CONT'D)

Dr Copeland, find a porter to take the patient through to theatre. Let's get this show on the road.

CUT TO:

37 8/37. INT. DARWIN. CENTRAL NURSES' STATION / BAY 2 - DAY 37  
(14:36)

MATTEO is with LAUREN, a self-satisfied look on her face.  
ZOSIA approaches JAC - hands her a file.

ZOSIA

She wanted you... as her surgeon.  
Before she knew she needed surgery.

JAC pauses. Come to think of it - that is weird.

ZOSIA (CONT' D)

She's received treatment at four  
different hospitals over two years.  
She knew she had the disease.

JAC

Spit it out, Jessica Fletcher.

ZOSIA

And repeated psychiatric treatment.

JAC

Failing to see how that's relevant.

ZOSIA

She's a psychopath.

On JAC. Wasn't expecting that. She heads over to LAUREN.

JAC

I will not be manipulated into  
surgery.

LAUREN just stares - poker face.

JAC (CONT' D)

Three referrals not enough for you?

LAUREN

I'm entitled to a fourth opinion.

JAC

I'll leave you in Mr Rossini's  
assuredly less capable hands.

The tiniest look of defeat for LAUREN as JAC leaves. She  
blinks it away.

LAUREN

You already knew, didn't you?

MATTEO

Your life story is of no interest  
to me.

LAUREN

I prefer sociopath. Less Norman  
Bates-y.

ZOSIA

How long have you known?

LAUREN

All my life. But if you're asking when I got the diagnosis - about ten years ago.

MATTEO

That must have been hard to hear?

LAUREN

It was liberating. I wasn't choosing to behave how I do - my condition just gives me a bigger range of choices than a neurotypical human.

MATTEO

Through manipulating others?

LAUREN

Some people play sports. I play people.

MATTEO

I still need a team. To operate.

LAUREN

And there was me thinking you'd won everyone over.

Out on MATTEO - can he convince the team to operate?

CUT TO:

38 8/38. INT. KELLER. THEATRE - DAY (14:40)

38

Theatre viewed through the eye of a webcam. DAVID lies unconscious. A ring under his head extends his neck.

ISAAC

My name is Mr Mayfield and today I will be performing a total thyroidectomy on the patient, Mr David Jakeman.

ISAAC (CONT' D)

Anticipated critical events are limited and include injury to the recurrent laryngeal nerve or bleeding around the neck. The surgery will last approximately one hour.

DOMINIC checks for the medal - remembers it's not there.

ISAAC (CONT' D)

Right. Let's get started.  
(To DOMINIC)  
Scalpel.

DOMINIC hands ISAAC the scalpel - he makes a necklace incision across DAVID's extended neck.

ISAAC (CONT' D)

I will be using bipolar diathermy to remove the thyroid, a current runs through the instrument only, minimizing any spread to surrounding structures.

DOMINIC misses his cue - ISAAC coughs.

DOMINIC

Sorry.

He hands ISAAC the forceps - but he's clearly nervous.

CUT TO:

39

8/39. INT. DARWIN. STAFF ROOM - DAY (14:45)

39

A bunch of grapes dropped on the desk. OLIVER and ZOSIA look up in bewilderment as MATTEO eats one straight off the stalk.

ZOSIA

Where did you get them?

MATTEO

AAU. Ask a better question.

OLIVER

What are the grapes for Matteo?

MATTEO

Better.

MATTEO pulls out a syringe and an oversized needle from his pocket.

MATTEO (CONT' D)

If you can pierce into one of these, using this oversized needle, without tearing the skin you can remove the cyst without spreading the parasite.

ZOSIA

You're persistent, I'll give you that.

MATTEO

Are you in?

ZOSIA

All you're doing is simultaneously playing into the patient's hands, flattering your own ego and annoying Jac to unprecedented levels. It's a total vanity project... I'm in.

MATTEO

Yes!

He grabs ZOSIA into a hug. OLIVER hides his jealousy.

MATTEO (CONT' D)

And you, pretty boy?

ZOSIA

Come on Ollie, this is a rare procedure. Might not see one again for a while...

OLIVER

Fine. Count me in.

MATTEO

Avengers Assemble.

MATTEO munches on a grape - getting the team together.

CUT TO:

40      8/40. INT. AAU. NURSES' BASE / WARD - DAY (14:50)      40

MORVEN is looking for something amongst the paperwork at the Nurses' Base as RIC hovers.

MORVEN

Investigating reports of a grape theft. Seriously, who would steal someone's grapes?

RIC

I'm glad to see we're putting your talents to good use.

MORVEN

You come into hospital and someone nicks your fruit. Just not what you want, is it?

RIC

Do you have a moment?

MORVEN

Several.

RIC

I've heard a lot of good things about you today. From the F1s.

MORVEN

I promise - I didn't pay them.

RIC

How would you feel about applying for the position of Departmental Foundation Doctor Representative?

MORVEN

I erm... wow. I don't know? Do you think I'd be any good at it?

RIC

I wouldn't be asking if I didn't.

GO TO: JENNY's eye - close up as BERNIE shines her torch.

BERNIE

INR is normal. You haven't been taking your warfarin have you Jenny?

JENNY

I kept bruising, when I was riding. I like to stay active, me.

BERNIE

Failure to take the medicine would have put you at an increased risk of suffering a secondary stroke.

\*



JENNY

What's all this got to do with my eyes?

BERNIE

Cameron, would you like to explain?

CAMERON

(Surprised)

Er, yeah. Sure. Mrs Osborne, we think you may have suffered a second stroke sometime after you were discharged.

JENNY

Surely I would have known.

CAMERON

Not necessarily. They're called incidental strokes. They can pass largely unnoticed. A blood clot has travelled from your heart to the back of your brain. It was not large enough to cause a major stroke but the reduced blood flow to your occipital lobe has caused damage. Irreparable damage.

JENNY

Yes, yes, yes - but what does all this mean?

CAMERON

Mrs Osborne - can you take the pen torch out of my hand.

JENNY looks puzzled but still reaches out to take the torch away from CAMERON. Only there isn't a torch.

JENNY

(Alarmed)

What torch?

It's confirmation for BERNIE and CAMERON. BERNIE nods encouragingly at CAMERON.

CAMERON

I wasn't holding one. Mrs Osborne we think you may be suffering from a rare neurological condition known as Anton Babinksi syndrome. It occurs in patients such as yourself, where despite irrefutable cortical blindness, the patient insists they can see.

JENNY

I'm blind?

BERNIE

I'm afraid you have been for quite some time.

JENNY

But I can see. I can see perfectly.

CAMERON

What you are seeing are confabulations. You saw the torch because I told you there was a torch.

BERNIE

Your eyes aren't relaying the images anymore so your brain is relying on your other senses to piece everything together.

JENNY

How can I live at home for over a week and not realize I was blind. Or get on a bloody horse.

CAMERON

You know your own home. You could see because you know where everything is. I presume you're used to getting up in the dark?

JENNY

Yes...

CAMERON

And had some help getting on your horse this morning...

JENNY's silence speaks volumes.

BERNIE

I'm sorry it's not better news.

JENNY

Will it come back. My sight?

CAMERON

It's too early to say. We'll get you a formal vision assessment with the eye department and the stroke team can help with any additional support.

JENNY stares into space.

JENNY

I think I'd like a moment. On my own please.

BERNIE

Of course.

CAMERON and BERNIE step away.

BERNIE (CONT' D)

I'm impressed, I have to say...

CAMERON

It was just a hunch.

BERNIE

You were right. That's what matters. And I'm sorry. For doubting you.

CAMERON

High praise indeed. Too much for me to say I told you so?

BERNIE

Don't push your luck.

Out on CAMERON and BERNIE. A definite thawing.

CUT TO:

41 8/41. INT. KELLER. THEATRE - DAY (14:58)

41

In theatre with ISAAC and DOMINIC - surgery complete.

ISAAC

We will start him on a course of ablative radio-iodine radiotherapy before keeping him in isolation for three days. Thank you for your time. I look forward to working with you again in the future.

ISAAC signs off from the live stream.

DOMINIC

You think it went okay?

ISAAC

Perfect.

DOMINIC

Sorry... about how I acted earlier.

ISAAC

We might need the crash trolley. That's the second apology I've had from you today.

DOMINIC

I'm being humble, you could at least not be unbearable about it.

ISAAC

Only if you admit you didn't need the medal.

DOMINIC

Fine. But I draw the line at saying you were right.

ISAAC smiles - satisfied. He rummages through his scrubs - takes out the medal.

ISAAC

How about now?

DOMINIC can't believe it. He chuckles in shock and anger. He looks up at ISAAC - before turning around and heading out of theatre, slamming the doors as he goes.

CUT TO:

42

8/42. INT. DARWIN. THEATRE 1 - DAY (15:05)

42

A buzz of activity in theatre as LAUREN lies on the table. MATTEO opens the pericardium, stares at LAUREN's heart. The rhythmic beating he described earlier, come to life.

\*

MATTEO

This sight... it will never stop  
taking my breath away.

(Composes himself)

Let's get her on bypass. Aortic  
cannula please.

\*

\*

OLIVER passes MATTEO an aortic clamp.

\*

CUT TO:

43

8/43. EXT. PEACE GARDEN - DAY (15:15)

43

The relative tranquility of the peace garden. JAC sits alone - drinking a coffee. The sound of someone approaching frustrates her, her tranquility broken. It's DOMINIC.

DOMINIC  
Sorry. Do you mind?

JAC  
Yes.

DOMINIC sits down, regardless. JAC sighs - finishes her coffee and makes to leave.

DOMINIC  
Me and Diggers used to come out here...

JAC stops. For fucks sake. She reluctantly sits back down.

JAC  
You know I don't do shoulders to cry on. If you want to offload why don't you write a blog or something.

DOMINIC  
Zosia told me. About the new guy. You know what they say. Keep your friends close - your enemies -

JAC  
- Locked in the boot of your car.

DOMINIC  
I thought it was a sign.

JAC  
Come again?

DOMINIC  
I lost Arthur's medal today. I say lost, Isaac hid it from me.

JAC  
This story doesn't sound like it's going to interest me. Wrap it up Copeland.

DOMINIC  
He mocked me. It gave me comfort... and he mocked me for it.

JAC  
Attributing luck or comfort to an inanimate object should be restricted to teenage girls practicing Wicca or gambling addicts. Mr Mayfield is right.

DOMINIC

You really don't do shoulders to  
cry on do you?

JAC

If you weren't as self absorbed as  
a sponge you might have considered  
he was trying help you.

DOMINIC takes this in.

JAC (CONT' D)

Are you done?

DOMINIC nods. Yeah he's done. JAC stands - is startled by a  
*neigh* making her spill her coffee. ROMEO the horse sticks his  
head through a bush. Out on a furious JAC as DOMINIC tries to  
suppress his laughter.

CUT TO:

44 8/44. INT. DARWIN. THEATRE - DAY (15:27) 44

The team continue to operate on LAUREN. Bloody bypass tubes in, MATTEO is finishing clamping the aorta. ZOSIA places saline soaked swabs around the pericardium. \*

MATTEO  
Aorta clamped. Scalpel please. \*

N/s NURSE hands over a scalpel and MATTEO slices into the heart - revealing the cyst.

OLIVER  
So she's a psychopath. Should fit in perfectly well round here.

MATTEO  
To not experience empathy or morality? To be free of irrational emotions. She was right. It must be liberating. Syringe please. \*

ZOSIA passes MATTEO a syringe and then he aspirates the cyst. \*

MATTEO (CONT' D)  
Aspirating the cyst of larvae fluid. \*

MATTEO carefully removes the syringe, and then passes it to ZOSIA. \*

MATTEO (CONT' D)  
Saline. \*

ZOSIA passes MATTEO another syringe full of hypertonic saline and a needle. He injects the cyst with the saline. ZOSIA has a hold of the syringe, whilst an N/s NURSE passes MATTEO a pair of forceps and scissors. \*

MATTEO (CONT' D)  
Dissecting round the cyst. \*

ZOSIA  
You think she enjoys having that label.

MATTEO  
I think she enjoys knowing her own mind. The wall is very thin, wish we had a cryo - \*

The slightest of tremors in his hand causes him to nick the cyst with the scissors - it's contents bursting into LAUREN's heart. \*

ZOSIA  
It's perforated.

MATTEO  
It's okay - the pads will get it. \*



OLIVER

She could become anaphylactic.

MATTEO

We finish extracting the main cyst  
then we clean up the rest.

OLIVER

We should page Jac.

MATTEO

Why? Does she have your nuts in her  
purse? We can do this.

MATTEO takes a breath - refocuses as he removes the cyst.

ZOSIA

I think we're good. Sats are fine.

MATTEO

(Mimicking, whiny)  
*Call Jac, Call Jac.*

OLIVER glares at MATTEO.

OLIVER

The patient could have died.

MATTEO

(Still busy in the heart)  
But she didn't. We've got this.

Out on MATTEO - crisis over.

CUT TO:

\*

45

8/45. INT. AAU. WARD - DAY (15:47)

45

JENNY is reflective as FLETCH and CAMERON sort her referrals.

FLETCH

We've notified Social Services. Got the stroke team and OT on their way too - see if you're going to need any adjustments at home.

JENNY

A stairlift fitting for an old fool.

(Sad)

So, you don't look like Craig Miles.

CAMERON

I might sound like him. All of us here, we're an amalgamation of accents, smells, doctors you've had treat you in the past or seen on TV.

JENNY

So nothing that I see is real?

FLETCH

I wouldn't say that's true. Sounds to me like you're quite literally seeing your memories. It's not made up, just your own interpretation of the world.

(Thinking)

Cor if it was me, everyone would be blonde.

JENNY

I'm glad I'm so fascinating.

FLETCH

Sorry. Are you okay?

JENNY

My husband. He isn't coming.

FLETCH

Still in the pub?

JENNY

Still in Spain with one of the riding instructors. Had a thing for blondes as well.

FLETCH

You've been coping by yourself?

JENNY

Coping being the operative word.

CAMERON

To be fair Mrs Osborne, I'd argue  
that you've been coping perfectly  
well.

FLETCH

He's got a point. If you can do all  
the things you've done without  
being able to see, sure as hell you  
can do them without him around.

JENNY

He's really gone, hasn't he?

Silence from FLETCH and CAMERON.

JENNY (CONT'D)

Funny. Took me going blind to  
realise that I won't be seeing him.

CAMERON

Or look at it this way. It took you  
going blind to realise you didn't  
need him in the first place.

JENNY looks up - and for once makes proper, full eye contact  
with CAMERON. It's slightly unnerving.

JENNY

Maybe you're right.

Out on JENNY - a new beginning.

CUT TO:

46

8/46. INT. WYVERN. PULSES - DAY (16:05)

46

DOMINIC spots PAUL - sat on his own in the cafe. PAUL twitches his leg - staring into space.

DOMINIC

Surgery went well. He should be awake soon.

PAUL

Two weeks after he told me, I got this phonecall. Job offer, down in Bournemouth. Lifeguard on the beach. The Magaluf of the British coast apparently. Proper dream job.

DOMINIC

Sounds perfect.

PAUL

Turned it down didn't I. Couldn't leave him.

DOMINIC

I'm not going to defend him.

PAUL

Good.

DOMINIC

He said his girlfriend had just left him? The first time.

PAUL

Alexa, yeah. He was like, obsessed.

DOMINIC

People do crazy things when they're heartbroken. It's one of the only times in life it's acceptable to act like a complete cray.

PAUL

This is acceptable?

DOMINIC

Not for one second. But I get it.

PAUL

We all picked on him, back in school. I felt bad for him. Always stuck with him after that. Everyone used to say I was just over compensating. You know, making up for the old days.

DOMINIC

To make yourself feel better. Well that's nothing unusual.

PAUL

Except it wasn't. I liked him. I was his mate. The guys used to say he was taking advantage. That I'd repaid my debt. Should've listened.

DOMINIC

He might have been lying then but he has got cancer now.

PAUL

Could say he deserves it.

DOMINIC

You could. But speaking from experience... I wouldn't wish it upon my worst enemy.

PAUL

How stupid would I look? If I just go back in and pretend like it's okay.

DOMINIC

You'd be twice the man he'll ever be.

PAUL

What do I even say to him? Every version of the conversation I see starts with me slapping his stupid, lying, face.

DOMINIC

I think it's David's turn to do the talking, don't you?

Out on DOMINIC. Has he done enough to fix things?

CUT TO:

47

8/47. INT. DARWIN. HDU - DAY (16:22)

47

LAUREN is in recovery - drowsy and exhausted, but awake.

LAUREN  
Didn't kill me then.

MATTEO  
Quite the contrary. Your heart is  
once again, unblemished.

LAUREN  
Got a thousand academics that would  
disagree with you on that one.

MATTEO  
I'll write you up a course of  
Albendazole. One moment.

MATTEO moves away. ZOSIA hangs around.

ZOSIA  
Your parents. Why was it the last  
time you saw them?

LAUREN  
Personal.

ZOSIA  
Didn't think you'd pass up the  
opportunity to talk about yourself  
a bit more.

LAUREN flashes ZOSIA a hostile look - weary of the dig.

LAUREN  
They had this old sheepdog. Long  
past retirement. A bag of bones.

ZOSIA  
Don't tell me you felt empathy.

LAUREN  
I killed it.

On a stunned ZOSIA.

LAUREN (CONT'D)  
The dog was old and my parents were  
too sentimental to do what needed  
doing.

ZOSIA  
A trained vet are you?

LAUREN  
If asphyxiation is their chosen  
method of euthanasia then yes, I  
guess I am.

ZOSIA

I can understand why they haven't  
stayed in touch.

LAUREN

Please. The choice was all mine.  
Now, how about we discuss your  
unresolved daddy issues?

ZOSIA looks up at MATTEO. Recalls his words from Guy.

ZOSIA

All resolved, actually.

CUT TO

48      8/48. INT. KELLER. CENTRAL WARD - DAY (16:38)

48

In on the overnight bag being dumped on the end of DAVID's bed. PAUL stands there, eyeballing his friend.

ISAAC  
No more trouble please.

DOMINIC  
(Loaded)  
He's not here to fight.

DAVID  
Nothing you can say will make me  
feel any worse than I already do.

Silence from PAUL.

DAVID (CONT'D)  
I'd lost everything. I had nobody  
left.  
(Realising)  
I have no one left.

PAUL  
I'm coming back in the morning. You  
can keep this 'n all.

DAVID  
Why are you being so nice to me?

PAUL  
I've taken the Game Boy out.

ISAAC  
David needs to go into isolation  
for his iodine treatment soon.

PAUL  
I'm moving out.

DAVID swallows as he takes this in.

ISAAC  
He's just been through some  
intensive surgery. It's not  
advisable he's left to fend for  
himself.

DAVID  
You don't have to... I've called my  
parents.

On PAUL - that was unexpected.

DAVID (CONT'D)  
Time for them to share some of the  
burden.



DOMINIC

Come on. Let's get you upstairs.

PAUL nods at DAVID - a mixture of friendship and severity.  
DAVID is taken away - facing his fate alone... for now.

CUT TO:

49

8/49. INT. KELLER. LOCKER ROOM - DAY (17:10)

49

Closing his locker door - DOMINIC is ready for home. He jumps when he turns around - straight into ISAAC, coffee in hand.

ISAAC

I think I owe you an apology. Peace offering?

DOMINIC

We need to work on your negotiating skills. It's fine. There is the smallest of chances that I may have overreacted about the whole medal thing.

ISAAC

Are you being serious?

DOMINIC

It's been known for me to blow things out of proportion from time to time.

ISAAC

A drama queen, some might say?

DOMINIC

Don't push it.

ISAAC

Drink? It's your turn to play babysitter tonight. I'm celebrating.

They leave the Locker Room - arm in arm. The happy couple.

ISAAC (CONT'D)

And if you want to bring the medal, fine, but can you not try and convince people you fought in Afghan this time. Pretty sure impersonating a servicemen is illegal.

DOMINIC

Don't worry. I've left it somewhere safe.

CUT TO:

50

SCENE OMITTED

50

51

8/51. INT. DARWIN. HDU - NIGHT (17:15)

51

LAUREN is reaching for a glass of water. It causes her great pain to do so. MATTEO hands her the glass.

LAUREN

I could have managed.

MATTEO places the glass back on the table, just out of reach.

MATTEO

Do you feel any different?

LAUREN

I'm content knowing it's no longer there.

(Changing subject)

So you're sticking around here then?

MATTEO

Any idea why I shouldn't?

LAUREN

(Mimicking him from earlier)

Mainly one.

MATTEO

Would that be how you dealt with it? By running away?

LAUREN

No, but you're not like me.

MATTEO

Do you feel ashamed? That you lost at your own game?

LAUREN

I got the surgery I wanted. Sounds like a win to me.

MATTEO

But not in the manner of your choosing. You wanted Ms Naylor...

LAUREN

- I'd like to rest now.

MATTEO

Or how about this? I performed the surgery I wanted, on the patient I chose, asserting my presence in the department and making some allies along the way. And yet you still think you manipulated me. Perhaps I am a lot like you. Enjoy your victory.

MATTEO winks and leaves LAUREN in the dark, alone with her thoughts.

CUT TO:

52

8/52. INT. ALBIE'S - NIGHT (17:55)

52

Albie's is busy - a queue of people at the bar. CAMERON is stood with SERENA - waiting to order. A slightly awkward air.

CAMERON

So... *orange is the new black*...

SERENA

Didn't have you down as a fashion guru.

CAMERON

No, it's a TV series. About lesbi - about female prisoners.

SERENA

Is that my speciality now?

CAMERON

Sorry. Just... trying to get to know you. Not great at icebreakers.

SERENA looks behind her at nearby SACHA and JASMINE - clearly eavesdropping in. It's excruciating, she knows he means well.

SERENA

I'll go and wait with your mother.

(Kind)

And for your information, I binge watched season four in three days.

CAMERON smiling as she goes - he likes her. JASMINE sidles up to him - smashes an ice cube on the bar.

JASMINE

Ice breakers are my speciality. Heard you were here now. I'm drowning my sorrows - what about you?

CAMERON

Your sorrows? Just be thankful you don't have to work with your mother.

JASMINE

My sister is director of cardiothoracic surgery. And I missed out on a live stream thyroidectomy.

CAMERON

You win. You want one?

JASMINE flashes a twenty pound note.

JASMINE

This round is on Mr Levy.

She points over to SACHA - bopping his head to the music.

JASMINE (CONT' D)

But you can get the next one.  
Better get back to Ms Wolfe.  
Mummy's boy.

She gives CAMERON a wink as she takes his place at the bar.  
CAMERON smiles before grabbing the drinks - taking them over  
to BERNIE and SERENA.

BERNIE

You know that's the first time  
you've ever bought me a drink.

CAMERON

First day for everything.

SERENA

Your mum was just saying - it was  
nice working alongside you today.

BERNIE

I underestimated you.

CAMERON

And that's the first time you've  
given me a compliment without  
following it up with a comparison  
on how well my sister is doing.  
Cheers.

BERNIE

By the way I know that's a vodka  
and coke. If you want to make it  
this time around we can't have you  
drinking every night. No more  
distractions.

But CAMERON - back to square one.

CUT TO:

53

8/53. INT. DARWIN. STAFF ROOM - NIGHT (18:02)

53

A champagne cork pops - the foamy contents spilling as MATTEO pours OLIVER and ZOSIA a drink. They chink.

MATTEO

You know, it is superstition that  
if you don't make eye contact when  
you say 'cheers' you will have  
seven years of bad sex.

OLIVER

Everyday's a school day.

MATTEO swivels in his chair, leaning backwards to bite a grape off the bunch in ZOSIA's hand just as JAC walks past. JAC's POV - MATTEO - the Roman Emperor - being fed grapes by his worshipers. She shakes her head and walks off.

CUT TO:



54

8/54. INT. DARWIN. WARD / LIFT LOBBY - NIGHT (18:05)

54

JAC is leaving the hospital, helmet under her arm. She heads outside - when she spots MATTEO - jogging to catch up.

JAC

We're no longer in work, I don't have to speak to you.

MATTEO

Thank you. For letting me do the operation. I hope we can continue working together.

JAC

CT funding is hard to come by. I wouldn't have done myself any favours putting my dislike of your grating personality over your skills as a clinician.

MATTEO

Look. I am an ass. But so are you.

JAC

Good night, Mr Rossi ni.

She goes to walk off. He grabs her arm - the tiniest bit of force. Enough for JAC to pay attention. Undeniable chemistry.

MATTEO

Cards on the table. I guessed Guy's offer was... disingenuous. But if you were in the same boat, wouldn't you have done the same?

JAC

I guess you'll never know.

MATTEO

How was I to know fate would bring us together, so soon.

JAC

Are you high?

MATTEO

The universe works in mysterious ways, Ms Naylor.

JAC

The universe has its eye on you.

MATTEO smiles his charming smile.

MATTEO

Good. Let me know if it sees anything out of the ordinary.

And with that MATTEO heads towards the main doors - his first shift complete. JAC watches him go, hating herself for watching him walk away.

CUT TO:

55

8/55. EXT. WYVERN / ROAD - NIGHT (18:07)

55

MATTEO finds ROMEO. A bucket of water and assortment of fruit / food by his feet. A note on the bucket reads '*You owe me a pint. Noel.*' ROMEO bucks as MATTEO approaches, excited.

MATTEO

Let's get you back home.

He takes the horse by the lead - starts to lead it away.

MATTEO (CONT'D)

I think I'm going to like it here.

And like the closing shot of a western, MATTEO and ROMEO walk off, into the night.

END OF EPISODE.