

HOME AND AWAY

"Wide Open Places / Closed In Spaces"

By

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"WIDE OPEN PLACES/CLOSED IN SPACES"

ACT ONE

MONTAGE

1 EXT. CRUISE SHIP/TENNIS COURT - DAY

ROO and ALF are playing doubles 'deck tennis'. Alf serves... the ball is returned, and Roo smashes the winner. They hi-five.

2 EXT. CRUISE SHIP/SHUFFLEBOARD - DAY

A shuffleboard disc lands in a small marked triangle. Roo smugly walks away from her shot as Alf lines up his attempt. His push is way off. Roo gently gibes Alf over her victory.

3 EXT. CRUISE SHIP/FLYING FOX - DAY

Roo and Alf walk past a Flying Fox. Roo jokingly joins the queue, but Alf stands his ground, refusing to indulge in her playfulness. Roo ends the joke and they carry on walking.

4 EXT. CRUISE SHIP/BUFFET - DAY

ROO and ALF are walking past a buffet. Alf grabs a plate and tries to join the short queue before Roo pulls him away.

ROO
Not 'til later.

ALF
But I'm starving love.

ROO
Later.

MONTAGE ENDS

5 EXT. CRUISE SHIP/DECK QUILTS - DAY

Spectators watch on as Alf lines up his final quoit throw. Roo is trying her best to encourage him.

ROO
Easy does it. You've got this one dad. Just line it up and give it a lovely BIG SWI--

ALF
 (grumpy, to Roo)
 --Stone the crows love, can you
 give us just a bit of silence?

Alf lines up his throw again. He swings and...

ROO
 Remember, just like last time dad.

Alf stops and turns to Roo.

ALF
 (firmly)
 Do you mind if I throw the flamin'
 thing?

ROO
 (embarrassed)
 Sorry.

Alf throws it. Snap! It lands in the centre circle, winning the game.

Spectators cheer. The losing pair gracefully shake hands. During the celebration, Roo spots a waiter with a tray carrying glasses of orange juice and grabs one.

ROO (cont'd)
 (to waiter)
 Thanks.

Roo then embraces Alf, who is also excited, but in his usual understated way.

ROO (CONT'D)
 Aw, great throw dad. I knew you'd
 do it.

Their embrace ends.

ALF
 Yeah, well... it took a little time
 with all your yabbering.

ROO
 Yeah, sorry about that.
 (refocuses)
 Now, what next? Let's go and give
 the Waldens a run for their money
 on the tennis court.

ALF

No, no I need a rest love. We've been running around this ship like a couple of headless yabbies and I think it's time for a sit down.

ROO

(slightly disappointed)

Aw, maybe a quick sit down...

(jokingly)

It's tough being an old man on a young person's cruise, eh?

ALF

Oi. Easy with the old person talk. I'm not decked out with purple trackies and a pair of woollen slippers just yet, you know.

ROO

Not yet...

They head to a table.

ALF

I could do with some grub.

ROO

Too many things to do and besides we're going to that cafe on the island a little later, remember?

ALF

I'm trying to forget. So many things to do when we reach shore and you're carting me off to a cafe.

ROO

You're gonna love it.

ALF

I'll wait and see about that. Now if you don't mind, grab us an o.j.?

ROO

(being cheeky)

You're young remember? You can get it yourself.

ALF

(not impressed)

Ha. Ha.

6

INT. DINER - DAY

IRENE and LEAH are hovering over a laptop, searching for details on the cruise activities. To their left, displayed prominently, is the bottle with the cryptic message.

IRENE

Shuffleboard, table tennis, deck quoits, rock climbing, ice skating, even a flying fox... jeez, can you see Alf zippin' down a cable for fun?

LEAH

Hmmmmm. Not in this lifetime.

IRENE

That's not the half of it. They also have a few deck pools, whirlpools, a gym, sports bars and a twenty four hour pizza bar.

LEAH

Now I can see that.

IRENE

What?

LEAH

Alf stuffin' his face at two in the morning.

They laugh.

IRENE

You're not wrong there love.

NATE joins them at the counter.

NATE

You ladies seem to be having a fun time.

IRENE

Oh darl, we're just having a sneaky beak at some of the things Roo and Alf might be gettin' up to. You been on one of these... cruises?

NATE

Me? No, not yet... but it's on my list.

IRENE

You got one too? Mine's getting longer by the day and I don't see it shrinking anytime soon. Anyway what can I get ya?

NATE

Black coffee please.

IRENE

Coming right up. Have a seat and I'll bring it over.

NATE

Ta.

Nate heads to at the back table.

LEAH

(pointing at the screen)

Look, look. They have game shows where the passengers dress up in animal costumes to compete.

IRENE

Those poor sods. I can just imagine Roo and Alf standing in front of all those people dressed up as penguins, flapping their arms.

LEAH

You mean flapping their wings.

They both laugh. Leah heads over to the coffee machine.

IRENE

I bet Alf would lay an egg real quick just to get out of that one. Aww darl, I reckon Roo's havin' a fantastic time on that cruise. I'm glad it was organised for her.

Leah is a bit confused by Irene's choice of words.

LEAH

Organised for her?

Irene has no time to answer before OSCAR and EVELYN turn up.

IRENE

Hey guys, what can I get for you?

OSCAR
Actually, we're not here to order.

IRENE
Oh.

OSCAR
Yeah, Evelyn wanted to ask something.

IRENE
(to Evelyn)
Ask away.

EVELYN
Um...

After a hesitation, Oscar speaks on her behalf.

OSCAR
She wanted to ask if she could--

IRENE
--I'm sure she's okay with asking the question herself, Osc?

OSCAR
Yeah, sure.

IRENE
Alright love. What can I do for ya?

Evelyn takes a few seconds to pluck up the courage.

EVELYN
I... just wanted to ask... if I could have a part time job... working here.

Irene and Leah share a look, gauging how the other feels about the proposal.

EVELYN (CONT'D)
...maybe cleaning the tables, washing up... that sort of thing.

LEAH
Sounds okay to me. We've been a little run off our feet recently with the lunch rush.

IRENE

Sounds okay to me too. When would you like to start?

OSCAR

Is it cool if she starts today?

IRENE

(to Evelyn)

You have any thoughts on the matter love?

(to Oscar)

No offence, I just find it better if people speak for themselves. That way everyone's on the same page.

OSCAR

Sure.

EVELYN

Well... you guys seem as though you need some help at lunch, so here I am.

IRENE

(quietly, concerned)

You okay love? It's gonna get pretty busy in here a little later and if you're not feeling up to it, maybe--

OSCAR

She'll be--

Evelyn interrupts Oscar, wanting to look capable in front of Irene and Leah.

EVELYN

--I'll be fine.

IRENE

Okay.

LEAH

Well it's sorted then. You just need to wear some toe covered shoes, and we'll see you back in say... half an hour?

EVELYN

I'll be here.

IRNEE
See you then.

OSCAR
Thanks.

Oscar and Evelyn leave.

LEAH
(calling over to Nate)
Coffee's up.

Nate heads to the counter.

IRENE
(to Leah)
That was a bit weird, Oscar talking
for Evelyn like that.

LEAH
Maybe she's a bit shy about asking
for the job herself?

IRENE
Maybe, but this is ain't the place
to be shy, especially in about half
an hour.

Nate grabs the coffee.

NATE
Thanks guys. Look, mind if I sit
here for a few hours, I'm doing
some paperwork for the hospital and
I wanted a little time away from
the hustle and bustle of it all?

LEAH
Yeah, of course.

NATE
Thanks.

7 EXT. OUTSIDE DINER/PATHWAY - DAY

Oscar and Evelyn head home.

OSCAR
You feeling okay about this?

EVELYN

I just don't know why I'm so edgy right now. I couldn't even ask for a job without your help.

OSCAR

You did alright in the end.

EVELYN

But I'm already feeling the pressure build up again... what's wrong with me Oscar?

OSCAR

Hey! There's nothing wrong with you. You hear me? Right now you just need to take your mind off things. Okay?

EVELYN

It's just that things getting worse. Every day seems harder than the day before.

OSCAR

And that's why we're doing something about it Evie. Relax. Let's stop thinking about stuff for a while.

EVELYN

Easy for you to say.

OSCAR

I know. Listen, this job will be a good start for you.

EVELYN

(reluctantly)

Yeah?

OSCAR

Yeah... I promise.

Oscar hugs Evelyn.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

Now let's go and find you some shoes. Okay?

INT. ROO'S HOUSE - DAY

HARVEY is sitting at the table. MADDY enters. Harvey asks her how she is spending her first day of the school holidays. She replies that she is meeting up with Josh and will be working as a life guard.

HARVEY

Morning.

MADDY

Hey.

HARVEY

What are you up to for your first day of freedom?

MADDY

Josh is coming over in a minute. We're heading to the surf club to see if they need me to life guard part of today.

HARVEY

Wow, first day of the school holidays and you're already back in work.

MADDY

Yeah, I kind of like it that way. So how's your head?

HARVEY

Yeah, the wine was pretty kind to me last night. No wrath of the grapes.

MADDY

What?

HARVEY

It's a book thing.

MADDY

Oh. Hey I know it's probably not my place, but maybe it's not a bad thing that Roo has gone away for the week.

HARVEY

You're probably right. I would have just preferred if we had made up after our fight before she left.

MADDY
Yeah, but time apart is possibly
just as good.

HARVEY
I love her very much.

MADDY
I think she knows that too.

Josh knocks on the door.

JOSH
Hello.

MADDY
Come on in, you're just in time.

Harvey stands and heads to the kitchen.

HARVEY
Stay for some lunch. I'm making it.

JOSH
I'm in.

MADDY
Me too.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

9 INT. CRUISE SHIP/CORRIDOR/OUTSIDE CABIN - DAY

Alf and Roo are heading out of their cabin. Roo is looking through her bag. She pulls out a bottle of water, then sunscreen, then another bottle of water...

ROO

Now, do we have everything we need?
Water, sun cream... more water...

ALF

We're fine. Just relax. We're not solving the nuclear crisis here, we're just going for a walk.

ROO

I know, I just don't want to forget anything.

ALF

And you haven't.

A couple from down the hall, NELLIE (60) and JERRY (64), pass by.

NELLIE

Snorkeling or trekking to the waterfalls?

ROO

Oh, hey guys.

ALF

Neither. Bossy boots over here has gotten us trying out the local cuisine.

NELLIE

Oh?

Roo stops fidgeting in her bag.

ROO

Yeah, a friend of ours made us promise that we'd try out a local cafe, restaurant here. Just need to find out where it is.

NELLIE

We're going to have a look at the gorgeous waterfalls. The guide says they're 'simply spectacular'.

ALF

(to Roo)

Hear that? Simply spectacular. We could do worse than to follow the local guide ourselves?

ROO

Yeah, well not this time dad.

The couple starts on their way.

JERRY

(gently teasing Alf)

Enjoy your lunch today. Make sure you take some photos of the main course for the newspaper back home.

Nellie hits Jerry on the arm.

NELLIE

Oh, stop your teasing. It won't be that bad.

JERRY

(to Alf)

Cafe's are the stuff of memories Alf. Make sure you jot it all down in your diary tonight. The people back home wouldn't want to miss a thing.

NELLIE

Oh, Jerry don't be so cheeky.

Nellie and Jerry walk ahead. Alf and Roo follow behind.

ALF

(whispering)

Hear that? Stuff of memories. I'd put my foot down and whinge if I thought it make a blast'd bit of difference.

(rhetorical)

An excursion to a cafe?

ROO

You are whinging... and I thought you were hungry?

ALF
Bloomin' starving.

Roo smiles cheekily.

ROO
Then let's go get some lunch.

10 INT. DINER - DAY

Leah and Irene are prepping for lunch.

LEAH
(to Irene)
Hey, before... what did you mean
when you said the cruise was
organised for Roo?

IRENE
Did I say that?

LEAH
You did.

IRENE
Aw, must have been a slip of the
tongue. I'm prone to those every
now and then.

LEAH
Yeah, I s'pose...
(changing topic)
So who do you think this mystery
person is? Any clue?

IRENE
Well, I've not had anymore second
sights since last week and I don't
think I'll be having anymore.

LEAH
Yeah, I know... but if you had to
have a guess? I mean, who would
send a message in a bottle? That's
quite a romantic thing to do for
someone?

IRENE
The bottle didn't give a name, so
how's that romantic?

LEAH

That makes it even more romantic.
Keeping hidden until the last
possible moment. I can't wait to
find out who it is.

IRENE

If it happens, then I'm sure we'll
find out soon.

LEAH

True.

Irene calls out to Nate.

IRENE

Hey love, if you want to order
something for lunch, best do it now
before the rush starts.

NATE

Thanks. Give us a minute to decide.

IRENE

Take all the time you need doc.
(to Leah)
We better butter those buns before
all hell breaks loose.

LEAH

I'm ahead of you. Last batch is
almost done.

IRENE

Oh, great job darl.

11 EXT. CHAMPAGNE BAY/PORT - DAY

Roo and Alf head down the gangway. A crowd has gathered on
shore, all waiting to board mini buses for their various
excursions.

Roo is holding up a large visitor's map of the island and is
trying to get her bearings.

ALF

Go and ask the driver over there.
I'm sure he'll be able to fill us
in.

ROO
Good idea.

Roo leaves as Jerry joins Alf.

JERRY
You don't strike me as the type of
bloke to be in your daughter's
pocket.

ALF
I'd prefer to do something else,
but this means a lot to her, so
I'll go along with it.

Nellie calls from the mini bus.

NELLIE
(loudly to Jerry)
We're boarding.

JERRY
(loudly back to Nellie)
Coming.
(to Alf, jovially)
Don't eat too much, you're gonna
need to save room for tomorrow's
excursion to the Pizza Palace.

Jerry starts heading over to Nellie.

ALF
(snarkly)
Ha. Ha. Enjoy your long trek up the
mountain.

JERRY
What trek? We've booked a private
mini bus to take us there.

ALF
(loud)
Lazy so and so.

JERRY
Tell it to the cook when he brings
your apple strudel.

ALF
(louder again)
Shows what you know. They grow
mangoes around here.

Roo walks up.

ROO
 (concerned)
 What's going on? Why are you shouting?

ALF
 Codger over there thinks he's bloomin' Graham Kennedy with all his jokes.

ROO
 (feeling contrite)
 Sorry dad. If you really want to change the plans then--

ALF
 --No, no love. I actually reckon we dodged a bullet getting away from them. His jokes were killin' me.

Roo puts Alf's arm around hers.

ROO
 Then let's go. It's nice pleasant walk this way.

ALF
 Lead the way.

Roo and Alf walk towards the jungle, leaving behind the grandiose cruise ship.

12 INT. DINER - DAY

The diner is packed. Irene and Leah are run off their feet.

Irene is taking orders and making lattes, while Leah is preparing food.

Evelyn arrives.

EVELYN
 Where do you need me?

IRENE
 Perfect timing. Can you make a start of the dishes? The dishwasher's goin' hammer and tong and we're still running out of plates.

EVELYN
Of course.

Evelyn makes her way to the sink. She takes a deep breath and tries to relax. She looks at her hands. They're calm, not shaking. She starts washing dishes.

13 INT. ROO'S HOUSE - DAY

Harvey, Josh and Maddy have finished lunch.

MADDY
We better be off.

HARVEY
You guys have a good day.

MADDY
Will do.

JOSH
Thanks for lunch.

HARVEY
Don't mention it. I'm heading out to the diner a little later, so if you're around, I'll see you then.

MADDY
Okay.

Maddy and Josh make their way out.

14 INT. DINER - DAY

The diner is busy.

Evelyn is drying the dishes as fast as she can. It's stressful and she almost drops a plate. Leah notices.

LEAH
(to Evelyn)
You okay?

EVELYN
Yeah, I'm just a bit hot back here.

LEAH
Take a minute if you need. We don't have too many plates to spare right now.

EVELYN

No, I'm okay.

Evelyn looks down at her hands which have started to shake just a little. She takes a deep breath. Her stress is creeping up.

15 EXT. BEACH - DAY

Maddy and Josh bump into Oscar walking along the beach.

JOSH

Hey.

OSCAR

Hey guys.

JOSH

How's Evelyn feeling?

OSCAR

Yeah better. She's started work at the diner.

MADDY

Today?

OSCAR

About ten minutes ago.

MADDY

Wow, that was quick.

OSCAR

I think she needed to get her mind off of things. Actually, where are you guys headed?

JOSH

Surf club.

OSCAR

If you pass the diner later, drop in and say hi.

MADDY

A bit of moral support?

OSCAR

Can't hurt, and I think I've been keeping her in cotton wool lately, so I'm gonna keep my distance.

MADDY
We'll drop in later for sure.

JOSH
Yeah, of course.

OSCAR
Thanks.

16 EXT. CHAMPAGNE BAY/ROAD - DAY

Roo and Alf are walking along the road.

ROO
This really is a beautiful island.

ALF
Can't complain, but there's also no place like home... and speaking of home, you and Harvey alright after your little tiff last week?

ROO
I think so dad. We have a few things to work out... but I love him... and I'm sure he loves me too... so we'll keep on trying.

ALF
I reckon you two will get there. Anyway, enough of this sappy stuff, what do you say we pick up the pace and go get some grub?

ROO
Race you there.

Roo speeds up her walking.

ALF
Oi. Slow down.

17 INT. DINER - DAY

IRENE
(loudly)
Two lattes, one toastie and a Caesar salad.

Two adults grab the lattes, a teen grabs the toastie and Nate picks up his salad.

NATE

You weren't kidding about it getting busy.

IRENE

No I wasn't. Also darl, we just ran out of full-cream mayo so it's got the light stuff. Hope that's okay?

NATE

Actually... that's perfect.

IRENE

Oh good.

NATE

How's Evelyn doing? I overheard her before and she seemed a little stressed.

IRENE

So far, so good as far as I can tell. Was it right for us to take her on, you think?

NATE

Absolutely. Keeping busy is always the best thing. Now, thanks for the salad.

IRENE

My pleasure.

Nate heads back to his table.

LEAH

Irene?

IRENE

Yeah hun.

LEAH

We've got more mayo in the cool room if you need it.

IRENE

Ah thank Heaven.

(to Evelyn)

Evelyn love, mind goin' in the cool room back there and getting out some bottles of mayo? They should be in a large cardboard box towards the back there.

EVELYN
 (reluctantly)
 Sure.

IRENE
 Also be careful, the light's on the
 blink in there.

Evelyn opens the cool room door and is met with a cold breeze. She's scared and getting worse by the second. She takes a hesitant step forward. Fear is written all over her face.

ANGLE ON NATE - SITTING AT HIS TABLE

Nate is watching Evelyn.

NATE - POV

Evelyn enters the cool room.

18 COOL ROOM

Evelyn takes another step. She's petrified. The cool room is dark and foreboding. Her claustrophobia is kicking in hard. She starts to shake, becoming less and less lucid as her fear deepens.

19 DINER

IRENE
 (calling out to Evelyn)
 You having trouble finding the box
 in there?

20 COOL ROOM

Evelyn hears nothing. Her mind is in full panic. She looks at her quivering hands.

IRENE (O.S.)
 Darl? You okay?

21 DINER

IRENE
 (to Leah)
 Do you mind having a quick look
 with her? The box might be hidden.

LEAH
Yeah, of course.

Leah heads to the cool room but accidentally knocks a wooden pepper grinder to the floor. As she goes to pick it up, she bumps the cool room door shut.

22 COOL ROOM

Evelyn panics and screams.

Everyone in the diner hears. Leah quickly opens the door.

LEAH
I am so sorry about that.

Evelyn is crying and quickly leaves the cool room.

LEAH (CONT'D)
Breathe slowly. Take your time.

IRENE
(to Evelyn, deeply concerned)
You okay love?

Evelyn's breathing improves slightly.

EVELYN
I'll be okay, but do you guys mind
if I take a few minutes.

IRENE
Of course, of course. Take the rest
of the day off if you need.

EVELYN
No, I just need a little time.

Evelyn heads out of the diner. Nate follows her.

LEAH
I didn't mean to close her in like
that.

IRENE
Of course you didn't darl. Not your
fault. I just think she's having a
tough time right now.

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

23 EXT. OUTSIDE DINER/PATHWAY - DAY

Nate chases after Evelyn.

NATE
Evelyn. Evelyn!

Evelyn stops and breaks down in front of Nate.

NATE (CONT'D)
Hey, hey it's okay.

EVELYN
No, it's not. Did you see how I acted in there? I freaked out over nothing.

NATE
Forget about what happened in there. I'm just here to lend an ear?

EVELYN
(tearfully)
I don't know what's happening to me.

NATE
Here.
(pointing to a bench)
Let's take a minute.

Evelyn sits, still visibly shaking. Nate joins her.

24 INT. DINER - DAY

Leah returns from the cool room with a couple of bottles of mayonnaise.

LEAH
I hope she's okay.

IRENE
She will be, I'm sure. She's a strong soul. Actually love, do you mind grabbing some take away cups from the office? They might be around my desk.

25 INT. DINER/OFFICE - DAY

Leah has a look around before opening Irene's desk. She shuffles some papers before noticing a bottle exactly the same as the one on the counter. Leah peers out of the office to make sure it's not the same bottle.

26 INSERT - BOTTLE ON COUNTER

The bottle is right next to Irene.

27 BACK TO SCENE

Leah has a sneaky look around the desk before finding a suspicious folder. She looks inside.

28 EXT. OUTSIDE DINER/PATHWAY - DAY

Evelyn and Nate are sitting on a bench.

EVELYN

I'm not sure when it started. At first it wasn't much. A hot flush here and there when I got into a lift or a tight squeeze, but after a while the shakes started... and then I didn't even have to be in a small room for my heart to start pumping like I was in a marathon.

NATE

You know what triggered it off?

EVELYN

I've thought about that. The only thing I can think of was my time in the cult and when Oscar, Kyle and I were locked in the container. But that was ages ago.

NATE

Well, it can take time for the mind and body to react to that much trauma.

EVELYN

What's happening to me?

NATE

Not sure and I don't want to speculate--

EVELYN

--Please. I need to know what I can do about it.

NATE

You may have the onset of claustrophobia.

EVELYN

Claustrophobia? But if that's true, then why do I get stressed even when I'm not in a small space?

NATE

If you leave it long enough, the anxiety begins to thrive and may deviate into other anxieties, like agoraphobia.

EVELYN

So what can I do?

NATE

It doesn't change overnight, but it is something you will need to face head-on.

EVELYN

I feel so stupid.

NATE

Evelyn, never say that. It's nothing to feel stupid for. It's real and can affect your life. I... have had my own brush with trauma along these lines and it will take time.

EVELYN

What happened with you?

NATE

My old man was a miner back in the UK and he was involved in a cave in, where 18 miners were trapped. A few were killed but he was one of the lucky ones. They were trapped for 13 days. After their ordeal all but two of them were affected long

(MORE)

NATE (cont'd)
term by the cave in. My father was one. He came out of the experience close to how he was before they went in.

EVELYN
Why was he different?

NATE
For one, he was the mine supervisor. He had to keep the others alive and keep them hoping. I suppose that responsibility allowed him to keep his mind off the 'what if' questions.

EVELYN
You said two people were okay?

NATE
I was down there too.

EVELYN
You?

NATE
Yup. I was pesky seven year old and I badgered my dad for weeks to allow me to go down the mine with him. He finally relented. It was supposed to be for a quick look around... but as it happened, I was there for just under two weeks.

EVELYN
Were you terrified?

NATE
At first... but I kept my eyes on my dad, and watched how he was with the other miners. I'm sure he protected me from the worst of it, but I fed off his calmness. He was incredible composed through it all.

EVELYN
That's incredible.

NATE
Yeah, but the main thing was how I viewed what was happening. We were trapped, sure, and the only thing

(MORE)

NATE (cont'd)
we could control was how we dealt
with everything.

EVELYN
You saying if I keep my mind
occupied and off the fear, my
anxiety will improve?

NATE
It's a start. There's a way to go
but look...

Nate points to Evelyn's hands.

NATE (CONT'D)
...you're not shaking anymore.

Evelyn takes a moment to savour the advice. Then abruptly:

EVELYN
Guess we better be getting back.

Nate smiles.

NATE
Let's go.

29 INT. DINER - DAY

Leah brings out a sleeve of paper cups.

LEAH
There you go.

IRENE
Ah good. It's dying down a bit now
thank Heaven.

Nate and Evelyn return.

IRENE (cont'd)
Hi darl. You okay?

EVELYN
I think so.

LEAH
(very sympathetically)
Oh that's good to hear. Listen,
take some more time if you need to.

EVELYN

I think I'd... like to just get back into it.

LEAH

Great. Start by clearing some of those tables. Kids can get a bit messy.

EVELYN

Done.

Evelyn smiles and heads off to clear the tables.

LEAH

Uh, Irene... do you know anything about this?

Leah puts the bottle from Irene's desk next to the one with the message. Irene's eyes widen.

IRENE

No idea.

Irene tries to busy herself to avoid the situation.

LEAH

Then how about this?

Leah places some pieces of paper on the counter. Evelyn notices the clues.

IRENE

What are they?

LEAH

Some correspondence with a Mr. Steve 'Breakfast Show' Jones... who hosts the radio show... which gave away the cruise tickets.

IRENE

And?

LEAH

And the letter mentions a cruise competition organised by an I.R.
(savouring the moment)
Irene Roberts perhaps?

IRENE

Coincidence.

The remaining few customers in the diner stop what they're doing and watch the situation unfold.

LEAH
And finally this.

Leah gives Irene a handwritten sheet.

LEAH (CONT'D)
A piece of paper with all the competition questions.

IRENE
They could be anybody's.

Leah gives Irene the manila folder the papers came from.

LEAH
I got them from this folder.

The folder has the name:

IRENE ROBERTS

written prominently on the front.

At that exact moment Maddy and Josh walk through the front door. They look around. It's a curious sight seeing everyone completely silent in the diner all looking at Irene.

MADDY
What's happening?

END ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

30 INT. DINER - DAY

Leah, Maddy, Josh, Nate, Evelyn, Sasha, Spencer and a few other customers listen attentively to Irene.

IRENE

I guess you're all wondering what's going on?

LEAH

You could say that.

IRENE

Yeah right. Well, you remember I went to the city a couple weeks back?

LEAH

I remember, it was pretty quiet around here.

Everyone laughs.

IRENE

Oi cheeky. Okay from the beginning... I was rung up by someone from the Bay's ancient past who needed my help. After I got over the shock of it all, we had a chat and together came up with a plan.

MADDY

Your second sight, right?

IRENE

Spot on, my second sight. I thought it would work well for getting you guys to start believing the story from the start.

SASHA

What about the message in the bottle?

IRENE

I'm getting to that.

MAN #1
Get there faster.

IRENE
Alright, alright. Pipe down. This
ain't a town hall meeting.

31 EXT. BEACH - DAY - TWO WEEKS AGO, FLASHBACK

Irene is walking along the beach. She stops, opens her bag, takes out the bottle, places the note inside and throws the bottle towards the sea. She hurries away just as Sasha and Spencer walk onto the beach.

IRENE (O.S.)
When I left the bottle on the beach
that morning, I needed to make sure
that who found it would end up
telling everyone.

END FLASHBACK

32 INT. DINER - DAY

SPENCER
So we're the town gossip are we?

MADDY
Looks that way.

IRENE
Once the message spread around a
bit, I could carry on with me
premonitions. Then, the next thing
was the radio competition and that
was pretty easy as it turned out. A
disc jockey mate helped out with
getting the fake competition to air
and I just needed to convince Maddy
to ring up.

Harvey walks in and sits.

ANGLE ON HARVEY - SITTING BESIDE SPENCER AND SASHA

HARVEY
(whispering)
What's going on?

SPENCER

(whispering)

Turns out Irene's second sight was a ruse. The whole trip was planned from the beginning.

HARVEY

Oh.

RETURN TO WIDE ANGLE - DINER

MADDY

(to Irene)

How'd you know I'd get the answers right?

IRENE

That's where he came in useful.

Irene points at Josh. Maddy can't believe it.

IRENE (CONT'D)

He knew the questions you would be able answer. Bands, movies, all that stuff.

MADDY

(to Josh)

You knew the whole time?

JOSH

What can I say, I'm good at keeping a secret.

IRENE

He did a great job.

MADDY

(jibing Josh)

I'm gonna kill you when we get out of here.

IRENE

And once Maddy had the tickets, I needed to convince her to get Alf and Roo onto the cruise.

MADDY

Someone wanted Roo and Alf on that cruise the whole time?

IRENE

There's someone very special
waiting to see her and Alf.

ANGLE ON HARVEY

He looks crestfallen. Fearing a possible new love interest?

33 EXT. CHAMPAGNE BAY/HOTEL - DAY

We see the legs of a mystery person leaving a hotel and getting into a cab. The mystery person is a woman, wearing a long dress.

MYSTERY PERSON (O.S.)

Can you take me here, please?

A paper map rustles as the person hands it over to the driver.

INSERT - MAP

A finger points to an 'X' marked on the map.

34 INT. DINER - DAY

IRENE

Once Roo and Alf had boarded the ship, my job was pretty much done.

MADDY

(to Josh)

So who is the mystery person?

JOSH

Irene never did tell me.

IRENE

I kept that little morsel to myself. The final part of the puzzle was... when Roo and Alf got to Champagne Bay in Vanuatu... they needed to go for lunch at the Nambawan Cafe. So I told her the grub there was to die for.

MADDY

Have you ever been?

IRENE

I haven't been North of Fraser Island darl. So if the itinerary is right, then they should have reached Champagne Bay about an hour ago. So I guess it's okay to let you all in on who the mystery person is...

35 EXT. CHAMPAGNE BAY/PATH - DAY

Alf and Roo are walking along a path.

ALF

How much further love?

Roo holds up a map.

ROO

According to this map, it's just around the bend.

36 INT. CAB - DRIVING

The mystery person is rubbing her sweaty fingers together.

CAB DRIVER

Be there in a couple on minutes.

37 EXT. CHAMPAGNE BAY/CAFE - DAY

Alf and Roo head around the bend and spot the cafe.

ROO

There it is. Nambawan Cafe.

ALF

About time.

38 INT. CAB - DRIVING

The cab pulls into a car park and stops.

CAB DRIVER

Nambawan Cafe. That'll be six hundred Vatus.

INSERT - PURSE

The mystery person opens her purse to pay the driver.

39

INT. CHAMPAGNE BAY/NAMBAWAN CAFE - DAY

Alf and Roo are seated. A waiter is taking their order.

ALF
What do you recommend?

WAITER
How hungry are you?

ALF
Bring me your biggest dish.

WAITER
And you madame?

ROO
I'll have a fruit juice and a
chicken pizza.

ANOTHER ANGLE - MYSTERY PERSON ENTERS.

The mystery woman enters the cafe and spots them.

MYSTERY PERSON (O.S.)
Alf? Roo? What are you doing here?

Alf and Roo turn around. They are caught unawares. Standing there is PIPPA ROSS (Mystery person). They both get up and hug her.

ALF
Flamin' heck, what on earth are you
doing here?

PIPPA ROSS
I got your note.

ROO
What note?

Pippa gives Roo the note.

PIPPA ROSS
This one.

ROO
We didn't send this.

PIPPA ROSS
What? Then who did?

A second mystery person is standing behind them.

MYSTERY PERSON #2 (O.S.)

I sent it.

They all turn around. All three are in total SHOCK. Standing in front of them is FRANK MORGAN (Mystery person #2).

FRANK MORGAN

And I got you two to come on the cruise.

ALF

You flamin' mongel.

40 INT. DINER - DAY

Absolutely everyone in the diner is gobsmacked and totally silent. They can't quite believe who it is.

NATE

Who's Frank Morgan?

FADE OUT

END OF EPISODE