

ANNA. They were always together. The door to the
kitchen was always open.

ANNA. She would have put people out there,
because they were always there. But she was
never there.

ANNA. They were the children. They were so
close to her. They were always there. But she was
never there.

ANNA. And she was always there. She was
always there. She was always there. She was
always there.

ANNA. How you could be that close to
people. How you could be that close to
people.

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people. How you could be that close to
people.

(The doorbell rings.)

(SCOTT lets in TOM and ANNA.)

Oh, hello.

TOM. All right, mate.

ANNA. Hi.

TOM. We didn't want to bother you but -

SCOTT. No, come on through. Come on through.

(They are now in Scott's living room.)

ANNA. We just came to -

(A look of horror on the faces of all but SCOTT, who is oblivious to the connection. No one mentions it so as not to get drawn into a difficult conversation.)

TOM. We just wanted to make sure you're doing okay...
But you've got company, so we'll...

SCOTT. Oh, sorry, this is Rachel. Tom and Anna. They live a couple of doors down.

RACHEL. Hello.

ANNA. *(Overlapping.)* Hello.

TOM. *(Overlapping.)* Hi.

(Awkward silence.)

(Simultaneously.) Well, we won't -

SCOTT. *(Simultaneously.)* Where's Evie?

TOM. Anna's mum has her for the night.

SCOTT. D'you want a drink?

TOM. We don't want to intrude. We just brought you some... *(Gestures to food and drink.)*

SCOTT. Oh, that's brilliant. Cheers.

ANNA. It's Moroccan chicken, with lemon couscous. Nothing fancy. The chicken's organic.

SCOTT. Sounds great. Thanks.

(Awkward.)

ANNA. And the wine, it's...

(ANNA reads the label.)

RACHEL. White.

ANNA. From the Marlborough region.

SCOTT. Right. Thanks. I'll pour us all a glass.

Well, not Rachel. She doesn't drink.

*(TOM, ANNA and RACHEL share a glance.
'Rachel doesn't drink!')*

RACHEL. Sparkling water. From the Buxton region.

TOM. We really don't want to -

ANNA. A drink would be lovely. Thank you.

(SCOTT opens the bottle, pours three glasses.)

So, how do you two know each other?

SCOTT. Rachel's helping in the search for Megan.

ANNA. Do you know something we don't?

RACHEL. Probably.

(Beat.)

TOM. If there's anything we can do, mate...

RACHEL. Like what?

(They drink. Awkward.)

SCOTT. How's Evie doing?

ANNA. She's almost sleeping through now.

RACHEL. Almost?

TOM. Sorry -

RACHEL. No, I'm interested.

(Beat.)

ANNA. She wakes about four every morning so I take her back into *our* bed.

RACHEL. I suppose, the trouble with that, it creates a cycle of dependency.

ANNA. I'm sorry?

RACHEL. Well, if you always take her into *your* bed at that time, then she'll always wake up at that time, won't she?

ANNA. Do you have children, Rachel?

TOM. Scott. Mate. All of this...

SCOTT. Have you heard what they're saying online?

TOM. ...

SCOTT. You have.

RACHEL. I'm sure it's not true.

(All eyes on RACHEL.)

ANNA. Do you know Megan?

RACHEL. I know she wouldn't hurt a child.

ANNA. I suppose we never know what anyone's really capable of.

TOM. Look. It's nothing to do with us.

SCOTT. Still, must be weird, hearing your old babysitter might have killed a child.

TOM. Evie's fine. Megan was always great with Evie.

(Prolonged awkward moment; no one knows what to say.)

(TOM downs his drink. ANNA follows suit.)

Well, it's getting late. We'd better get back for Evie.

RACHEL. I thought you said, Anna's mum -

TOM. She was just passing.

(To SCOTT.) Call us if there's anything at all. You know, we're just down the road.

SCOTT. Yeah. Cheers. Thanks for the chicken.

ANNA. I'm sure she's all right. We all just need a bit of space sometimes, don't we?

(Beat.)

Just, let us know if there's anything we can do.

TOM. Bye, Rachel.

RACHEL. Bye.

(TOM and ANNA leave.)

SCOTT. That was weird. Sorry if Anna was a bit rude. She's not usually...

RACHEL. She's always like that with me.

(Beat.)

SCOTT. What? You know her?

RACHEL. No. I mean...

SCOTT. What's going on?

(Long pause.)

What's going on, Rachel?

RACHEL. It didn't seem important, but...

SCOTT. But?

RACHEL. The thing is, Tom and I we used to be...

SCOTT. Used to be...?

RACHEL. ...Married.

(Pause.)

SCOTT. Why didn't anyone mention it? Why didn't you tell me before?