

TORCHWOOD

Episode 9

by

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Goldenrod Revisions

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1 EXT. A48 AND OTHER BUSY DUAL CARRIAGEWAYS 1

Shots of very busy road. Traffic roaring and rushing past. Speeding away. Over this.

VOICE OVER EUGENE

Normally life is just something you get on with isn't it, but ... since all this happened I've noticed that life just ... whizzes by. The speed of light is 299792458 meters per second. Pain travels through the body at 350 feet per second. Even a sneeze can reach 100mph.

2 EXT. FIELD NEXT TO COUNTRY ROAD - DAY 1 2

Eugene wakes up. He is lying in the middle of a quiet country road.

VOICE OVER EUGENE

*Hi, hi, ... I'm Eugene by the way, and ... that's me there
(little embarrassed
laugh)
Lying in the road... just outside Cardiff.*

Eugene gets up and looks about him, utterly bemused. He walks to the side of the road.

VOICE OVER EUGENE (CONT'D)

*(pause, with sad
passion)
God, time and life just bloody whizzes by.*

Eugene stops. In the field in front of him is a crime scene and some cows. And - The Torchwood team.

Eugene's spirits lift as he walks on.

3 EXT. FIELD NEXT TO COUNTRY ROAD - DAY 1 3

Eugene is ushered through the police tape along with a couple of policemen. He walks straight towards the team who are huddled over something. No-one is stopping him. Cool.

EUGENE

*(excited)
Hey Gwen. Jack. Tosh. Er...the guys at the rope just let me through so...*

*
*

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

3

The team are doing their job as calmly as possible but they are rattled, upset.

Someone moves and Eugene suddenly gets a view of the body. Its his body. Bloodied and bashed about - dead.

GWEN

(overlapping above)

...I'd say at least 50mph.

EUGENE

(confused ,in shock)

Hey?

JACK

Travelled on the bonnet maybe,
bounced...

EUGENE

Hey..

JACK

...rolled, smashed his head on the
boulders.

EUGENE

(rising panic but not
wanting to look a
fool in front of the
team)

Um excuse me, but that looks a lot like
me.

He tries to relax. It can't be what it looks like.
Obviously. He folds his arms and tries to look like he's
taking an intelligent interest in the details of the
case.

TOSH

(sadly)

He couldn't even cross the road without
messing up.

*
*
*

Gwen starts searching the body. Takes out wallet and
mobile and puts them on his chest.

GWEN

No coat, no bag. Where was he going?

EUGENE

Is it like a sort of government
exercise?

(CONTINUED)

GWEN

(slightly guilty)
Perhaps he was hit deliberately.
Maybe he really did have something
important.

EUGENE

...and I'm like the dummy?

TOSH

Like what?

GWEN

I don't know. He was always trying to
talk to us. Show us stuff. Perhaps we
shouldn't have been so...

TOSH

Gwen, I think this is just an ordinary
RTA.

EUGENE

Guys?

JACK

It was a red car. There's paint under
his fingernails.

EUGENE

Am I dead?

JACK

I can smell banana. Okay, so what do
you want to do Gwen?

EUGENE

(desperate)
Am I cowin dead?!!

He grabs at Tosh but his hand just goes straight through
him and Tosh notices nothing. Eugene is shocked. Reality
dawning.

Eugene's phone rings. They all stop and look at the phone
lying on dead Eugene's chest. Eventually Tosh picks it up

TOSH

(into phone)
Yes?

EUGENE'S MUM FROM PHONE

Hello? Hello love. Its just I went to
Tesco's and I forgot tea-
bags...hello?...Eugene?

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED: (3)

3

Tosh doesn't know what to say. Gwen takes the phone. *

GWEN

Mrs...erm

(looks at card in Eugene's wallet)

...Jones. Something's happened. We need to talk to you.

TITLES.

4 INT. SECONDARY SCHOOL HALL.- LATE 80'S.- FLASHBACK 1

4

Bang into sound of screaming cheering kids in school hall. and close up on the frozen shocked face of YOUNG Eugene. Open up to reveal scene as...

VOICE OVER EUGENE

What I think now is - this whole thing started way back...like here maybe...

An inter-school maths competition. On stage, banners, the maths teams, some teachers including MR GARRETT and scoreboard. The home team includes YOUNG EUGENE, by far the youngest member of the team. They all look really pissed off, but Eugene, in shock, looks the worst.

VOICE OVER EUGENE

Interschool maths competition, Beacon Heights school, 1989. I was a bit of a maths head then. Binary coding, topology, quadratics, I just loved stuff like that. I didn't make friends easily but I won cups.

MR GARRETT

That's it. No score in the quick fire round. Final scores are Beacon Heights 38, Rushmore 41. And so our congratulations to the winning team - Rushmore secondary school, and goodbye!

Everyone starts to leave. In amongst the leaving audience is SHAUN, Eugene's father. Eugene however, remains rooted to his chair. The Science Teacher and Question Master Mr Garrett looks across at him with concern.

5 INT. SCIENCE LAB. EUGENE'S SCHOOL, LATE 80'S. FLASHBACK 1

The home team are leaving the room with the bags and coats they have just collected. They pass Mr Garrett as he enters. Eugene stares fixedly at the display cupboard avoiding the eyes of his fellow team members. One gives him a disgusted look. Mr Garrett is a shy, kind man. The sort of teacher boys could easily rip apart.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

5

MR GARRETT
(referring to the
display cabinet)
Ever had a proper look at the
collection?

EUGENE
No sir.

MR GARRETT
Would you like to?

EUGENE
No sir.

Mr Garrett crosses over, opens the cupboard and takes out
what looks like a prosthetic eye.

MR GARRETT
I play golf.

EUGENE
(not knowing how to
respond)
Oh. Good sir.

MR GARRETT
I play golf. And one day when I was
playing really badly - stuck in the
first bunker and whacking at the sand,
this fell out of the sky, and landed,
plop, beside me.

EUGENE
(bemused)
Out of the sky?

MR GARRETT
Yes. It looks a bit like a golf ball so
I picked it up and put it in my pocket.
But when I had a proper look...here...

He shows Eugene the Eye. Which does indeed look like a
prosthetic eye - only there's something different about
it. Inside the glass it seems to swirl very slightly. Or
does it?

MR GARRETT (CONT'D)
...I realised it was an eye. And I
thought - where on earth has it come
from?

Eugene looks at him.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED: (2)

5

MR GARRETT (CONT'D)

I mean - it dropped from the sky. Isn't that amazing?

He hands it to Eugene who looks at it closely, fascinated.

MR GARRETT (CONT'D)

My wife won't have it at home. She thinks its come from the local hospital and therefore - not a thing to put on the mantelshelf. Have it.

Eugene looks at him with surprise.

MR GARRETT (CONT'D)

Look after it.

Eugene's father, SHAUN appears at the classroom door. He has a video camera over his shoulder and he's angry.

SHAUN

(shouts)

Where the bloody hell have you -

Notices Mr Garrett and has to stop.

SHAUN (CONT'D)

Good evening.

MR GARRETT

Good evening

SHAUN

Come on Eugene.

Eugene hesitates, looking at Mr Garrett. Mr Garrett gives him a smile. Eugene pockets the Eye.

MR GARRETT

Got everything?

EUGENE

Yes thanks sir.

He goes.

6 INT.SITTING ROOM, EUGENE'S HOME. EVENING. 1989. FLASHBACK 2

Eugene stands and takes the eye out of his pocket. In the background, his parents argue.

6 CONTINUED:

6

SHAUN

7

INT. YOUNG EUGENE'S BEDROOM. EVENING. FLASHBACK 2

7

Young Eugene lies in bed looking up at the ceiling. It has been done out as the night sky. The milky way drifts above him. A detailed home-made rocket ship hangs below it.

Downstairs his parents' argument has turned to a row and is still growing in volume and ferocity. Something smashes. Sudden silence.

VOICE OVER EUGENE

Mr Garrett retired soon after that and I never really saw him again. But he was a scientist, a very rational man so...

The sound of a back door closing and footsteps. Young Eugene looks out of the window and sees his dad get in the car. He hammers on the window but the car drives off.

VOICE OVER EUGENE (CONT'D)

(over above)

That was the night my dad went away.

An upset Young Eugene takes the Eye out of a cup and holds onto it tightly - desperately.

VOICE OVER EUGENE (CONT'D)

But that was OK. It was Ok actually because I had been given the Eye, and the possibility of an alien encounter.

He opens his hand and looks at the Eye. It seems to swirl a little inside.

VOICE OVER EUGENE (CONT'D)

(sudden passion)

God. I wanted that alien to come and claim his eye more than I ever wanted anything in my life.

He looks up at the night sky on his ceiling.

We move up towards the stars as he studies them. His room is full of pictures of planets, and stars. Up and Up.

VOICE OVER EUGENE (CONT'D)

I worked out its possible provenance, the life form and galaxy. Planetary Escape velocities, launch windows, necessary fuel capacities, and then I... waited... and waited...

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

Pause, then as a seeming casual afterthought.

VOICE OVER EUGENE (CONT'D)
My dad never came back.

We come down from the night sky, down and down...

VOICE OVER EUGENE (CONT'D)
*But I'm getting lost in the past here.
Time and life whizzes past even when
you're waiting.*

We whizz down and down until....

8 EXT. CRIME SCENE - NIGHT - A FEW MONTHS AGO - FLASHBACK **B**

....we find an older Eugene standing just behind the police tape surrounded by the crush at a crime scene.
Over:

VOICE OVER EUGENE
*I developed an interest in UFO activity,
and put together a collection of alien
artefacts. And then - then ...I found
you...*

The Torchwood team sweep through, glamorous, gorgeous and crime busting.

EUGENE
Hi, erm hi - I'm Eugene Jones and I have
a keen interest in your ...work
(struggles to get
papers out of a
briefcase)
Erm...excuse me I want to show.

Owen gives a cursory glance and heads on, but Gwen acknowledges him...

GWEN
Yes?

EUGENE
(overwhelmed by sudden
attention)
Hi...OK what it is...erm..

Drops briefcase, papers fly. Someone calls to Gwen.

GWEN
Got to go.

Papers blow around Eugene's head. Struck dumb by beauty.

11 CONTINUED:

11

VOICE OVER EUGENE

So there we are - back to where I was before. Dead in a field. But kind of not dead as well. That's pretty weird in anyone's books.

Just before they close the door Eugene gets in too and sits down next to Gwen. Gwen flicks open Eugene's mobile phone photo file and searches through it.

EUGENE

(suddenly sings loud)

Oh Danny Boy, the pipes the pipes are calling. From glen to glen...

Absolutely no reaction from anyone.

VOICE OVER EUGENE

Also - er invisible. That's unusual too.

Eugene looks in the rear view mirror. He isn't there. He contorts himself to try and find his image - nothing.

VOICE OVER EUGENE (CONT'D)

But to tell you the truth it kind of felt familiar. So stuff was happening and although on the surface things didn't look that positive..

Slumps back down in seat.

VOICE OVER EUGENE (CONT'D)

... sometimes when you least expect it you find yourself somewhere you most want to be.

He looks shyly at Gwen sitting next to him. Amazing.

Gwen is scrolling through mobile phone photo images. She is trying to make sense of a set of photos of 3 pairs of shoes, at the end of three pairs of legs, under a table.(There are three photos of the same subject) We need only glimpse this now - but we note Gwen's interest. She flips the mobile shut, sighs and turns her head to look out of the window, straight through Eugene.

The vehicle moves off.

12 INT. KITCHEN, EUGENE'S HOUSE. -DAY 1

12

Close up of Eugene's mum's stricken face. Her whole body shakes very slightly from profound shock. Pause

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

EUGENE'S MUM

Are you sure its him?

GWEN

Yes Mrs Jones.

Eugene watches devastated.

EUGENE

I'm sure erm...I'm sure...its all going to be OK.

GWEN

Have you any idea what he was doing out on that road?

Eugene's mum shakes her head.

EUGENE'S MUM

Perhaps you couldn't really identify him?

Eugene can't take it. He walks out.

GWEN

We could.

EUGENE'S MUM

That's his tea there.

Gwen looks at it a plate with steak and kidney pie, mash, peas and ketchup under the grill.

13 INT. SITTING ROOM AT EUGENE'S MUM'S HOUSE. DAY 1

13

Eugene walks passed the open door. Terry (school boy) is watching telly with determination.

EUGENE

Hi Tell. What's on?

No answer.

14 INT. EUGENE'S BEDROOM. DAY 1

14

Eugene walks into his room where Ianto and Owen are searching. Ianto has packed up Eugene's computer and there are some videos/dvd's in a box. (He picks up, or camera takes in a pinned up leaflet advertising an astronomy convention at Aberystwyth Uni; BLACK HOLES AND THE UNCERTAINTY PRINCIPLE)

Owen sits on the bed flicking through sci-fi comics. Like large policemen in a child's bedroom they seem out of

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

place He chucks it down and gets up - the pile of vintage comics collapses.

OWEN

Shit!

Eugene moves forward to save his comics but can do nothing.

OWEN (CONT'D)

What the hell are we doing here?

Ianto opens a cupboard.

IANTO

Look at this.

15 INT. SITTING ROOM. DAY 1

15

Terry continues to stare at the TV through the following. Morose teenage blankness that hides a load of stuff.

GWEN

Do you understand what's happened to your brother Terry?

TERRY

Yeh.

GWEN

What?

TERRY

(unemotional)

He walked into a road and got run over.

Pause.

GWEN

Where's your dad?

TERRY

He works for a big corporation in America.

Owen puts his head round the door

OWEN

Gwen?

16 INT. EUGENE'S BEDROOM -DAY 1

16

Ianto, Owen, Gwen and Eugene are gathered round an open cupboard that's been converted into a display case

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED:

16

exhibiting 'alien' items. Labels say things like Dactovian rock shards, listening device found in Chevening, Herts. Thromartian? Gwen is looking at some currency. They talk quietly.

EUGENE

(quite proud)

That's pre-gorgon Pilurian currency. I had them authenticated.

GWEN

Are these Roman coins?

Owen is looking at something that says The Egg Clusters of Pixian Asterites.

OWEN

Hey look rice crispies. Oh man there are some rogues out there.

Gwen is looking at a space in the centre of the display. There's no label.

GWEN

There's something missing here.

Bronwen, Eugene's mum appears at the door. They stop and look up, somehow guilty.

GWEN (CONT'D)

(gently)

Mrs Jones - Do you know what's missing from Eugene's collection.

EUGENE'S MUM

(not hearing,
desperate)

Why didn't they stop? They killed my boy and then.. just drove on?

GWEN

We'll find them for you Mrs Jones.

17

INT. DOWNSTAIRS EUGENE'S MUM'S HOUSE - DAY 1

17

18A CONTINUED:

18A

OWEN

OK so why don't you do it?

GWEN

I do it? The autopsy?

OWEN

Yeh. I've got a stack of admin.

Eugene watches them like Wimbledon.

GWEN

Ok. Good

EUGENE

(worried)

She's going to do it. That's cool.

Owen offers Gwen a tray of knives.

OWEN

Number 3 scalpel. Start at the sternum.
Piece of piss.

She looks at him taking up the challenge, Eugene kind of readies himself for what's ahead. Legs apart, hands behind back.

EUGENE

OK here we go. This is also new to me,
but in an investigation like this...

Gwen picks up the knife. He immediately faints.

OWEN

We'll tell Mrs Jones we took out his
liver for training purposes will we?

She contemplates the body. Ianto arrives.

IANTO

A red Mondeo's been stopped in
Caernarfon. Very drunk guy who's
admitted knocking a man over near
Cardiff. Fits Eugene's description. The
guy says he thought he'd be OK so he
drove on .(pause) He says he's sorry.

Gwen puts the knife down slowly

OWEN

He was a sweet guy. Its very sad. Can we
get on with some proper work now.

*

22 CONTINUED:

22

EUGENE (CONT'D)

is..(stops, looks at Jack) Why? Why is this happening to me? I mean... Rather than to you for instance?

Jack gets up and walks off into the night. Eugene looks after him.

EUGENE (CONT'D)

(sad)

And 38% of women prefer chocolate to sex. Apparently.

VOICE OVER EUGENE

Some people find numbers boring. And erm...well they never helped me get laid or anything but..I like them.

Jack disappears from view. Eugene sighs and looks out over the landscape, totally alone.

VOICE OVER EUGENE (CONT'D)

(sadly)

They're Ok. They make some sense of the world

23 THE HUB - THE NEXT MORNING/ LUNCHTIME - DAY 2

23

Gwen is boxing up Eugene's possessions. She holds his phone in a clear plastic bag and contemplates it. A Contents Of Pockets bag is also on her desk.

DVD plays on a small screen next to Owen as he works.

GWEN

Is that Eugene's DVD?

OWEN

No. (she looks at him, he can't lie)
It was on loan from a video store.

Gwen goes over and ejects it.

OWEN (CONT'D)

I was going to take it back.

GWEN

I'll do it.

OWEN

Suits me. There'll be a fine.

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED:

23

GWEN

Er...two eggs ham and chips please.

Eugene looks at her. Woah!

Gwen sits. Eugene sits next to her. They look out the window together. *

EUGENE

So...so. God this is so weird. I used to follow you. Now you're following me!

Yeh.

(pause)

Cool.

They look out the window together.

Gwen takes the phone from her bag, and removes the polythene wrapper.

She switches it on. It's open at the **photo file**.

There are 3 pictures of three pairs of legs and shoes under a table. One female pair and two male pairs. It looks as though the camera may have gone off accidentally. Eugene and Gwen study them, turning their heads this way and that to make sense of them.

EUGENE (CONT'D)

No, I don't know whose those are.
(shakes his head) I don't remember anything ...except (a tiny light) *

She's flicking down the names now. *

EUGENE (CONT'D) *

Phone Gary. He might know something. *

She has come to the name GARY and presses dial. Eugene looks at her. Amazing. *

GARY'S VOICE ON PHONE *

Eugene? *

GWEN *

(into phone) *

This is Gwen Cooper. I'm sorry, I have some very bad news Gary... *

CUT TO: *

24A INT. VIDEO STORE - DAY 2

24A

*

Gwen and Eugene walk into what appears to be an empty store. JOSH the store worker is on the phone behind the counter framed by a picture of surfers on Bondi Beach. Eugene is immediately transfixed by a film (TBC) playing on screen.

Closes phone and smiles at Gwen.

JOSH

Hi Gorgeous. You want to borrow a dream?

GWEN

No thanks. I want to return some DVD's on behalf of someone else who's - deceased.

JOSH

Deceased? No shit. That's pretty final.

GWEN

Eugene Jones.

JOSH

Hey. I think he used to come in here with a mate. Bit of a dreamer? Kind of...of...

EUGENE

(watching film)

...irresistible?

JOSH

...Ordinary looking?

GWEN

Yes. He died in a road accident.

JOSH

That's bad. Sweet guy. Thirty four pounds please.

EUGENE AND GWEN

Thirty four pounds?!

JOSH

Yeh. Sorry. He's had them out for ages. Haven't seen him in months. I don't think I can bend the rules just because he's dead.

Gwen gets her wallet out.

(CONTINUED)

24A CONTINUED:

24A

EUGENE

Bread head bastard. Sorry Gwen.

GWEN

That's OK

JOSH

Did he?

Makes noose and hanging gesture. Eugene and Gwen look at him surprised.

JOSH (CONT'D)

Did he 'walk into the oncoming traffic?'

They have kept the idea of suicide at the back of their minds.

JOSH (CONT'D)

See - lot a people come in here. They don't want to be themselves anymore - they want to be someone else. They want me to transport them.(leans towards her, seductive) How about you baby?

EUGENE

Leave it out. She's a...police officer.

GWEN

I'm fine thanks. How about you?

JOSH

Me? I'm outta here. I'm moving to London in a couple of months. You know what I'm sayin.

EUGENE

I know what you're saying because you been saying it for 3 years.

JOSH

25 INT. THE HUB - AFTERNOON DAY 2

25A OMITTED 25A
AND AND
26 26
27 INT. LOBBY PASSMORE TELESALLES - MORNING - DAY 3 27

Eugene sits on the steps in the lobby of his old work building. Gwen comes through the door. He jumps up and joins her as she heads purposefully for lift through busy lobby.

EUGENE

I kind of knew you'd come...well you know not for definite obviously...you know, but I was really hoping...so...
(he witters on under)

VOICE OVER EUGENE

So. Anyway -I never quite lived up to my early promise as a maths genius.(pause) No. (pause then bright) But choosing not to follow a particular career path has meant I have experienced massive professional variety; computer repair, fast food chef, plastics factory ...I've done it all.

By now they are in the lift. The doors close.

28 INT. PASSMORE TELESALLES - MORNING - DAY 3 28

Ping. The lift doors open revealing Gwen and Eugene. They step out onto a huge floor of telesales agents in booths chatting on phones. At the top of which is a management office.

VOICE OVER EUGENE

When the alien visitation happened my life would change forever. I continued my astronomical research and joined Passmore telesales...

They walk towards the office surveying the employees as they go.

EUGENE

Oh yes. This is all nauseatingly familiar.

Gwen puts her bag down on the floor and crouches down. She takes Eugene's mobile phone out, flips to the photo images and then surveys the dozens of pairs of shoes under the desks as Eugene talks.

(CONTINUED)

28 CONTINUED:

28

VOICE OVER EUGENE

... Selling kitchens, home insurance, barbeque sets (Pause. Doubt) Selling life and ...er ..waiting. But by now I was 25.

EUGENE

Jason, Pete. The guy who has a personal hygiene problem.

Gwen spots a familiar pair of shoes (Pair of shoes no 1 from the mobile phone photo) and straightens up to identify the owner (Gary).

EUGENE (CONT'D)

Nothing changes really. Hi Morag. Me and Morag used to go out.
(pause as he looks at Morag)
For a bit.

A handsome rather smug management guy approaches Gwen.

EUGENE (CONT'D)

(barely disguised contempt)
And that's Craig Telford.

CRAIG TELFORD

Hi. Can I help?

29 INT. CRAIG TELFORDS' OFFICE, PASSMORE TELESALLES -DAY 3 29

Craig, is standing a little too close to Gwen.
Eugene is sitting in his chair looking at his computer.

CRAIG TELFORD

Oh...its so... (searches dramatically)...

EUGENE

Your links aren't updating.

CRAIG TELFORD

... (sighs) what on earth can you say Gwen?

EUGENE

Bollocks?

Craig's eye is caught by a young pretty female employee in a short skirt, walking to the loo. He tracks the swing of her hips.

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED: (2)

29

CRAIG TELFORD (CONT'D)

Aaah!

30 INT. BY THE WATER COOLER, PASSMORE TELESales - DAY 3

EUGENE

Don't worry mate its ok. Its Ok

GWEN

Tippex?

She turns around to see Linda.

LINDA

Is it true? He got run over?

Gwen nods. Gary slopes off.

LINDA (CONT'D)

(genuine distress)

No! Oh God. Sorry. I'm Linda. I'm a Silver Seller.

Her face crumples. Gwen hands her a tissue.

LINDA (CONT'D)

(through tears)

Its all about belief you see. If necessary I am Kitchens For a Lifetime. Eugene was only ever himself.

GWEN

Not much of a salesman then?

LINDA

No. I think Craig kept him on out of the goodness of his heart. Eugene's good

30 CONTINUED: (2) 30

GWEN (CONT'D)
(Linda nods)
Where does Gary sit?

Linda points to his desk.

31 OMITTED 31

32 INT. GARY'S DESK, PASSMORE TELESales, LUNCHTIME DAY 3 32

Gwen puts the card on Gary's desk. She notices a leaflet for a forthcoming N.Wales Astronomy Society convention at Aberystwyth University. BLACK HOLES AND THE UNCERTAINTY PRINCIPLE.

Gwen is starting to Tippex out the message on her card when her phone rings. Its Owen.

GWEN
Hi Owen. Oh sorry... yeh...I just had a couple of things to check out. On my way.

She picks up the leaflet and puts it in her bag.

33 INT.PUB -LUNCHTIME - DAY 3 33

Gwen and Linda sit over their drinks. Eugene wanders disconsolate.

LINDA
See Eugene always thought Craig was taking me for a ride, but in actual fact Craig has said he loves me. Twice.

She looks at Gwen seeking reassurance. Gwen tries her best

GWEN
Great.

LINDA
Well one day Eugene came in very low and...

GWEN
(interrupting)
Why? Why was he low?

LINDA
He wouldn't talk about it.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

LINDA (CONT'D)

Anyway I was fed up too because Craig had...well anyway, I said, I'd love to get away from it all and go to Australia. Eugene suddenly got very excited - he said 'Yes! You've got to go and get away from Craig.' I said - 'but I haven't got the money', and he said he'd get it for me.

GWEN

Was he in love with you?

LINDA

Oh no. He loved someone who he said was unattainable. He was just trying to look after me. He said - (quoting with emphasis) 'don't stay here and waste your life waiting for something that may never happen'.

GWEN

So where was he going to get the money?

LINDA

Exactly.

EUGENE

(like its coming back)

You said you haven't bought a new pair of socks in 6 years.

Gwen's phone rings. She ignores it.

LINDA

I said you haven't even had a new pair of socks in six years. He stood up. Right where you are now...and he said - that's your phone.

Gwen takes out her phone and cancels the call without looking.

GWEN

He said...?

LINDA

He said...(auspicious) 'I'm going to sell it.' I said - 'what?' He said - 'My Alien Artefact.'

GWEN

(prompting her)

So...

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED: (2)

33

LINDA

So he brought it in to work..

34 INT. PASSMORE TELESales DAY. - TWO WEEKS AGO - NIGHT - 34
FLASHBACK 5

Gary, Pete, Linda, Jason, Tina stand round Eugene's desk.

Eugene takes the Eye out of the box and puts it down. It rolls across the desk. Suppressed giggles.

PETE

Its a plastic eye!

EUGENE

Its an alien body part and I'm going to sell it on ebay.

LINDA

Eugene, Its very nice of you but I don't think that'll get me the bus into town let alone a flight to Sydney.

35 INT. PUB -AFTER WORK - DAY 3

35

LINDA

Some people laughed. But he went ahead and of course it just sat there.

EUGENE

She said maybe a photo, you know, bit more of a description so..

LINDA

Then out of the blue. £2.50. A kid in Birmingham. And then...

36 INT. PASSMORE TELESales - TWO WEEKS AGO - NIGHT -FLASHBACK 5

Eugene and Linda are working.

GARY OOV

Hey Eugene you've got a couple more bids.

Eugene brings up ebay on the computer

GARY OOV (CONT'D)

Bloody hell £75.

Tight in on the screen as the bids accumulate.

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED:

37

GWEN (CONT'D)

(closes phone)

Mrs Jones wants to talk to me. I've got
to go Linda.

EUGENE

(a sense of foreboding)

Lets not go back there Gwen. I
don't want to go back.

But she's on her way out. And then turns back.

GWEN.

Linda, sorry but Eugene's right, Craig's
a total pratt. Sorry. But...

Gwen shrugs - what can she say.

38 CONTINUED:

38

EUGENE'S DAD
(over above)

EUGENE'S MUM

And then...and then...

GWEN

Someone gave him the Eye? As a consolation prize?

EUGENE'S MUM

Yes. Yes. It was Mr Garrett the science teacher.(her face twists in disgust). A plastic eye?! As a consolation prize! But Eugene treasured it.

TERRY

That was the night Dad walked out.

EUGENE'S MUM

(correcting him)

Went away.

TERRY

You can stop now Mum.

EUGENE'S MUM

What do you mean?

TERRY

He's dead Mum! He may have been able to square the root of the square fucking root but he couldn't cross the friggin road.

EUGENE'S MUM

Terry, please!

Pause. Embarrassed silence which Gwen breaks.

GWEN

He sold the eye online, so something happened and he stopped caring about it.

TERRY

(cutting across,
getting angrier)

You know if Eugene really had been a genius Dad would never have left.

EUGENE'S MUM

(shocked)

What? No, that's not it.

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED: (2)

41

TERRY

Dad left when he found out Eugene was a failure. That's what Eugene always said.

EUGENE'S MUM

None of that's true. He went because of his work.(to Gwen) He has important work.

TERRY

Oh for fuck's sake.

GWEN

Have you told Mr Jones about Eugene?

EUGENE'S MUM

Well, you see, he works for a big corporation in America.

TERRY

Stop giving us that shit! He's not Superman mum! He works at a garage on Filey Rd.

Eugene's Mum looks truly shocked. Her son looks at her.

TERRY (CONT'D)

Eugene found him about two weeks ago. He found him on the internet and then he went and had a look. He's a cashier. Works nights.

Eugene looks down very upset.

42 OMITTED

42

43 INT. GWEN'S CAR, FILEY ROAD. -NIGHT- DAY 3

43

Gwen and Eugene in the car. The car pulls into Filey Rd Garage and stops. Its raining.

VOICE OVER EUGENE

(really difficult)

Life can be such a let down can't it? I thought my dad had left because he'd realised I was a total failure.

Past the windscreen wipers and through the rain they watch the night cashier at Filey road garage - SHAUN, Eugene's dad.

(CONTINUED)

VOICE OVER EUGENE (CONT'D)

That I would always let him down. And here he was all along. Doing his important secret work in Filey Rd, Cardiff. (scornful laugh) I'd always thought I was the disappointment, but it turned out he was.

On Eugene. Speaking with real anger. Near tears.

EUGENE

What a bloody idiot I was! What a sucker Eugene! Once I'd seen him there, everything I'd dreamed about was like rubbish - just a crock a shit, including the Eye. So why not sell it? Along with the woodworm treatment and loft insulation and all the other crap floating round the world. Linda was welcome to the money.

Gwen makes a move to get out of the car and approach him. Eugene is suddenly really angry and excited.

EUGENE (CONT'D)

No! No! NO. Don't Gwen!

Gwen hesitates half way out of the car. Then sits back down. Eugene is shamefaced and morose.

EUGENE (CONT'D)

I don't want anything to do with him.

Silence

EUGENE (CONT'D)

45 CONTINUED:

45

Eugene sits watches painfully as GWEN digs a hole. *

GWEN *

He didn't understand why his dad walked out. And... *

(limply) *

He just needs a bit of help. *

JACK

To do what? He's dead. *

GWEN

(struggling with
inexpressable stuff)

I know he's dead. But ... *

EUGENE

This is not sounding good Gwen.

JACK

(giving her a hard
look)

I'll see you on Monday.

She sighs and sits - giving in.

GWEN

OK.

Jack starts to leave.

EUGENE

Hey. No. You can't just stop. I mean ..
what about the fifteen thousand pounds?
Gwen? Gwen!

Gwen holds her head a moment as Eugene's upset pulls at her. Then suddenly sits up.. calls after Jack.

GWEN

OK. Listen to this. Eugene had an alien
eye in his collection. He sold it
online.

Jack stops. Interested.

JACK

Yeh? What - like a Sixth Eye?
A Dogon Sixth Eye?

GWEN

Maybe.

(CONTINUED)

JACK

Its possible. There used to be a trade in them. Who's got it?

GWEN

Don't know but I've nearly tracked it down. What is the sixth eye? I mean, exactly.

JACK

Its the one at the back. It looks behind at where you've been. Kind of puts things in perspective. Useful, fun and slightly terrifying. That's why they were in demand.

This is the first time anyone of authority has authenticated the Eye. Eugene is moved and vindicated.

EUGENE

See. See,(exihas.017as1 cs 0 0 0 sc q eG3 lCI mean,)Tt1 0 0

46 CONTINUED: 46

Gwen and Eugene sing along tops of their voices.
"Jacqueline" by Franz Ferdinand. Open road and freedom.

47 OMITTED 47

48 INT. FOYER OF ASTRONOMY CONFERENCE, ABERYSTWYTH UNI. DAY 48

Gwen and Eugene enter foyer area of conference. 'Black Holes and The Uncertainty Principle'.

Gwen stands by a grand staircase and studies the crowd looking for Gary.

She becomes aware of a pair of shoes near her head and half way up the staircase. She can only see the lower legs of their owner - the upper half of his body is obscured by a display board. They are familiar shoes. She takes out Eugene's mobile phone.

The shoes owner starts to move up the stairs and out of vision. Gwen moves quickly towards the bottom of the stairs to pursue them.

As she rounds the corner she sees Gary in an exhibition room off the main foyer, studying a dinosaur.

GWEN

Gary?

Gary jumps in surprise then bolts through the exit when he realises who it is. 3 seconds later he returns shamefaced.

GARY

50 CONTINUED:

50

GARY

At first just to cheer him up. He was miserable. But then the bidding just took off and we got.. I mean, I got involved. I was just helping Eugene make money.... Then one morning....

51 INT PASSMORE TELESALS. TWO WEEKS AGO FLASHBACK 5

51

Eugene joins Gary in a corner of the office.

VOICE OVER GARY

...Eugene came and had a chat.

EUGENE

(excited
conspiratorial)

I think its him.

GARY

Who?

EUGENE

The Alien. My Alien. I think he's come back to claim what's rightfully his.

Gary looks at him.

EUGENE (CONT'D)

Gary - I'd stop believing in him. I mean I thought I was just a total sucker but...who else would be bidding this kind of money for a prosthetic eye? He couldn't contact me any other way...

GARY

So he chose ebay?

EUGENE

Cyberspace. Even an online auction has a certain elegant...erm symmetry. Gary -I think I'm finally going to meet him.

52 INT. EXHIBITION, ABERYSTWYTH - DAY4 CONT.

52

GARY

Well I was doubtful at first you know, but then suddenly out of nowhere - bam - fifteen thousand. The bid jumped to a cool cwin' fifteen thousand.

Eugene is pacing about getting excited.

(CONTINUED)

EUGENE

Yeh. Yeh. I remember us talking.

GWEN

I thought it was fifteen thousand and five pounds fifty.

GARY

It was yeh it was. Now, I don't think I'd pay that kind of money unless it was my own private personal body part. Would you?

Gwen is getting Eugene's phone out.

GWEN

(not convinced)

No.

EUGENE

(overlapping)

No! No way! I remember yeh - I waited a couple of days and then I got an email telling me to come to to .er...(can't remember)

GWEN

You saw Eugene the day he died didn't you?

Shows Gary the **photos of the three pairs of shoes under**

GARY

Or not.

GWEN

Or not?

GARY

Eugene was very secretive. Could
have been in ...Splott?

EUGENE

Splott? That doesn't sound right mate.

GWEN

(referring to the
photo)

Who are these other people with you
Gary?

GARY

No-one. I mean those are just...random
shoes I should think.

(beat, he looks down,
genuine)

I miss him.

EUGENE

Don't worry mate. We're going to crack
it. I can just feel it.

Gwen looks at Gary, suspicious.

53 OMITTED

53

54 INT. HOTEL ROOM, ABERYSTWYTH HOTEL, NIGHT CONT DAY 4

54

Gwen studies the picture. She notices something. (a
screwed napkin under the table near the shoes.)

EUGENE

(OOV and as the door
opens)

Yeh, yeh I can remember now... I called
a taxi... then I put the eye in a
freezer bag...

Gwen studies the picture in the phone. She zooms in on
something - a screwed up napkin under the table near the
shoes.

EUGENE (CONT'D)

And then there was...I was walking up
this road going up towards...

(CONTINUED)

55 CONTINUED: 55

The alarm goes off and Gwen leaps up.

EUGENE

I thought we were on holiday.

GWEN

Got to get there before them.

56 EXT. GWEN'S CAR ON A 48 - MORNING DAY 5 56

The car drives and then turns off.

57 INT. GWEN'S CAR. - DAY 5 CONT. 57

The car has turned off into a small service road.

EUGENE

(recognising it)

Yes. Yes - this is it. I came round the corner

The car goes round a corner...

EUGENE (CONT'D)

And there it was! There it was the...

(sees the sign on the building. He deflates)

...The Happy Cook?

58 EXT HAPPY COOK. ON A48 - DAY 5. 58

Gwen and Eugene walk towards the door

EUGENE

I walked towards the door wondering who exactly I would be meeting, excited, quite stressed, shitting myself frankly...I opened the door...

Gwen opens the door and they walk in

EUGENE (CONT'D)

..walked in and saw...

The Happy Cook is tacky anodyne and ordinary. Calming crap piped music and a sort of English dullness greet them.

EUGENE (CONT'D)

...and saw...er..

A waitress, JEN passes carrying food. Gwen looks down at her feet.

(CONTINUED)

58 CONTINUED:

58

GWEN

Ah, ha I've been looking for a pair of shoes like that for ages.

The waitress is wearing **Pair of Shoes No 3**. She turns and looks at Gwen, Eugene recognises her, it triggers the memory and when he looks away from her face we are back...

59 INT. HAPPY COOK. A WEEK AGO - FLASHBACK 7

59

Eugene turns his head and sees Gary and Josh the video guy sitting at one of the tables.

VOICE OVER EUGENE

And saw..? My mates.?

They smile/wave, slightly embarrassed. Eugene goes over.

EUGENE

(head down, sotto voce)

Hey lads. Good to see you..but erm...I've got the rendez-vous.

JOSH

Its us.

EUGENE

(looking around)

I know but...he won't want a crowd.

(they don't move, he's more insistent)

I'm meeting the buyer.

I'm meeting the...alien.

JOSH

We are the alien man. We bought it.

EUGENE

What?

Jen the waitress appears with two plates of fry ups she puts in front of Josh and Gary. Gary is looking shame-faced

JEN

Here.

(to Eugene)

What are you having?

EUGENE

Erm....I'm having a ..a milkshake thank you. Banana.

(CONTINUED)

59 CONTINUED:

59

JOSH

Yuh. So we are the official buyers.
Could we see the erm merchandise?

Eugene looks at them amazed. He takes out the eye from
the freezer bag in a bit of a daze.

EUGENE

59 CONTINUED: (2)

59

He squirts the ketchup, holds his hand out.

JOSH (CONT'D)

Please could I have my...our..
collectable.

EUGENE

So you've got fifteen thousand and five
pounds fifty on you have you?

JOSH

We've got £34

Eugene looks at them.

GARY

(trying to justify)
£34 Eugene. That's not a poke in the
eye. So to speak.

WWE

61 INT. HAPPY COOK. ONE WEEK AGO. FLASHBACK 7

61

From the other side of the table Jen picks up the eye. Looks at it and holds it away in disgust.

Josh snatches it from her hand and makes for the door.

Eugene rugby tackles him and the Eye flies up from his hand.

FX: Close Up of the Eye as it spins above them in slow mo. A small world in orbit, a light and life swirling in the centre of it. The lads' hands reach up towards it as it spins just out of reach.

VOICE OVER EUGENE

*There it was. Beautiful, precious.
Spinning just out of reach. We all want
fifteen thousand pounds don't we? We
all want more love, more power... we all
want what we haven't got. And even
though I didn't really know what the Eye
was anymore, I was damned if I was going
to let it go for £34 and a banana
milkshake.*

As the Eye begins its downward trajectory Eugene's hand reaches higher than the others, he grabs it, puts it in his mouth and....swallows.

63 CONTINUED:

63

JOSH
Heimlich! Heimlich!

Gary looks confused as Josh tries to perform the Heimlich Manoeuvre on Eugene.

GARY
What are you doing?

JOSH
Retrieving the goods idiot! Get the milkshake!

Eugene struggles as Gary gets the milkshake.

They try and pour the milkshake down Eugene's gullet. A messy business.

64 INT. HAPPY COOK - DAY 5

64

JEN
Well that's not acceptable behaviour. Not at a Happy Cook. They were making a public spectacle of themselves. And then...

65 INT. HAPPY COOK. A WEEK AGO - FLASHBACK 7

65

Eugene busts out of Josh's arm wrap, Josh gives him a whack on the side of the head. Eugene pushes Gary off and holding his right ear makes for the door...

VOICE OVER JEN
...he just sort of threw them off. He looked a bit weedy, but suddenly it was like...Popeye.

66 INT. HAPPY COOK - DAY 5

66

JEN
And that was it. He was out the door and gone.

To the routine sounds of cutlery and canned music Gwen, Eugene and Jen regard the door that Eugene went through the previous week.

Josh and Gary come in through the door. Josh is wearing the shoes that Gwen spotted outside the door at the hotel.

JEN (CONT'D)
Oh my god! That is so weird!

(CONTINUED)

66 CONTINUED:

66

Gwen steps out of the way, behind a pillar.

66 CONTINUED: (2)

66

Gary trips Josh up. He splays out onto the floor taking someone's plate of food with him.

JOSH (CONT'D)

What did you do that for twat?

Gary sits down heavily.

GARY

I miss him.

67 INT. HAPPY COOK -DAY 5 - A LITTLE LATER.

67

Eugene stands looking out of the window down on the unending stream of cars.

GWEN OOV

...So he ran out the door and you two...ran out after him?

Gary, Josh and Gwen sit at a table.

GARY

Yeh. we chased him across the car park. But he's quite fast Eugene. Josh had new shoes and was making a fuss...

JOSH

(stopping him)

Eh, eh. You are overweight.

GARY

He hared across the road and we lost him.

Silence. Gary looks at Gwen.

GARY (CONT'D)

Honest to God.

GWEN

OK.

GARY

That's it.

GWEN

OK.

She gets up and walks to the window and stands by Eugene. Takes her phone out.

(CONTINUED)

67 CONTINUED:

67

EUGENE

All those cars. All those lives moving through space...

GWEN

(into phone)

Hello? Can you give me the number for Filey Garage, Filey Road Cardiff please.

EUGENE

...All that humanity whizzing around in a frenzy of chips and burgers, bank holiday fun, burst tyres, screaming kids and sudden heart-attacks.

GWEN

Put me through thanks.
Mr Jones? You don't know me, but I'm a friend of your son Eugene. I have some bad news for you...I'm afraid.

MIX TO

68 EXT. FIELD BY COUNTRY LANE. A WEEK AGO. FLASHBACK 8 68

Eugene is running across the field. He is enjoying the fact he has out-run the others, laughing.

VOICE OVER EUGENE

Apart from a buzzing in my ear where Josh whacked me I felt good. I was running across a field on a sunny Saturday morning...

Eugene goes along a path towards a quiet country road.

VOICE OVER EUGENE (CONT'D)

The smell of exhaust and banana milkshake, a slight nausea, heart beating too fast cos I wasn't that fit -

He puts his finger in his ear and wiggles it to try and restore his hearing. He looks back to check the lads aren't after him and steps into the quiet country road.

VOICE OVER EUGENE (CONT'D)

all the stuff that tells you you are alive.....

Eugene never hears the red car that comes out of nowhere and swerves straight into him. He's knocked onto the bonnet.

(CONTINUED)

68 CONTINUED:

68

We see Eugene's surprised face through the windscreen for a second.

Eugene's body rolls off the car and into a ditch/field beside the road.

Silence and birdsong.

69 INT. CREMATORIUM. - DAY 6

69

Eugene's funeral. The coffin is dressed with flowers. A hymn is being sung.

Track along the shoes of the congregation and then up to the faces of his friends. Gary and Josh shamefaced, Pete, Morag weeping, Jason, Roger, Linda, Gwen, Eugene's mum Terry and finally Shaun.

VOICE OVER EUGENE
(starting with Gary
and Josh)

I think it was well within my rights to feel pissed off. But you know in the end I feel.. I feel like after we've had a couple of drinks and we're about to watch the match. (Passed Gwen, and Terry) I feel like I'm really going to miss you all.

We arrive at Eugene's dad - Shaun, a slightly shrunken man - a drinker although not in the least drunk now, once handsome, small, fierce, too much hair gel, and an underlying burning anger doused with shame.

VOICE OVER EUGENE (CONT'D)
There's no consolation prize going to make up for the disappointments....

The hymn ends and his mother is standing behind the lectern unfolding piece of paper to make speech. But she can't lift her head. Her body shakes with crying.

VOICE OVER EUGENE (CONT'D)
For the hurt and loss. For all the things we hope for and don't get.

Terry looks across at his dad pointedly.

Shaun doesn't know what to do. Then he gets it. A look of terror but he gets up and walks towards the lectern.

(CONTINUED)

SHAUN

(sings)

The summer's gone and all the flowers
are dying. Tis you must go and I must
stay behind.

The young undertaker by the coffin rifles through his
order of service confused.

VOICE OVER EUGENE

*Dad left home, not because of me, but
because...well...it was easier to be in
the pub.*

An older officiator gives the young undertaker a nod that
he doesn't understand.

Shaun reaches deep and sings from the heart.

SHAUN

(sings)

But come ye back when summer's in the
meadow. Or when the valley's hushed and
white with snow.

VOICE OVER EUGENE

*Of course, he wasn't an alien monster or
a secret superhero...He was just an
ordinary crap bloke who didn't like
routine and responsibility and...ran
away.*

The young undertaker takes what he thinks is the cue from
his colleague and the coffin starts to roll forward.

SHAUN

(sings)

And I'll be there in sunshine or in
shadow.

EUGENE

69 CONTINUED: (3)

69

VOICE OVER EUGENE

And that's a shame really. That's a terrible pity...because we missed each other...

The curtains close as the coffin disappears.

VOICE OVER EUGENE (CONT'D)

- completely.

The coffin starts to move again.

70 EXT. BACK DOOR OF CREMATORIUM. - MUCH LATER. DAY 6.

70

Gwen paces nervously waiting for someone. Eugene talks fast. Sense of something impending unsettles them.

EUGENE

You know 28 is one of those perfect numbers. Its equal to the sum of its divisors. I am 28. I was 28. (pause) I think I'm going to have to go soon Gwen

GWEN

Oh God.

EUGENE

Yes.

(trying to cheer)

Also 28 centimetres per second is the top speed of a lone lobster.

One of the crematorium workers we've seen at the funeral emerges from the back door, holding a brown paper bag. He hands Gwen the bag.

GWEN

Thank you. I'm sorry to have to ask you to do that.

CREMATORIUM WORKER

I've known worse.

70A EXT. STREET OUTSIDE EUGENE'S MUM'S HOUSE - DAY 6

70A

Gwen and Eugene walk towards his parents house. Gwen stops looks around her trying to find - to see, something.

GWEN

Eugene?

EUGENE

Yes.

(CONTINUED)

70A CONTINUED:

70A

GWEN

Eugene? Now the eye is in the bag
rather than in ...you ...are you...are
you..?

The moment is interrupted by ...

OWEN

Hey stranger!

Further down the pavement. The SUV pulls up.

JACK

Did you get it?

Pause, then Gwen holds up the bag with the Eye in it
unenthusiastically.

GWEN

I got it. Its real.

JACK

(whistles)

Impressive.

OWEN

We haven't run tests yet.

Gwen just stands there with Eugene, not moving towards
them.

TOSH

Come on. We're on a double yellow.

Gwen looks across at Eugene's house. Jack and the others
follow her gaze.

The wake. People are arriving - a small group gathered
outside with Eugene's mum and Terry who are welcoming
guests.

GWEN

Give me five minutes.

Jack gives her a nod. Gwen heads towards the wake.

71 EXT. STREET OUTSIDE EUGENE'S MUM'S HOUSE - DAY 6 - CONTINUOUS

People are arriving at the house - a small group gathered
outside with Eugene's mum and Terry who are welcoming
guests.

Gwen starts to cross the road towards the house.

(CONTINUED)

71 CONTINUED:

71

As she does so her attention is caught by a figure rounding the corner on the opposite side of the road, making his way towards the house he hasn't been into for years. Its Shaun.

Gwen slows somewhere near the middle of the road as she watches Terry and Bronwen clock Shaun. As she slows so does the action and we lose sound.

71 CONTINUED: (2)

71

71 CONTINUED: (3)

71

He looks at her.

EUGENE

That's Ok.

She leans forward and kisses him gently on the lips.

EUGENE (CONT'D)

71 CONTINUED: (4)

71

VOICE OVER EUGENE (CONT'D)
*...and swallow it whole. Because take it
from me, life just whizzes by, and then,
all of a sudden, its...*

Go to black.

END OF EPISODE