Epi sode #1102

Master Script 25.04.22 KIM CAMPBELL LINDON KING JOE CASEY DONTE CHARLES VALERIE CHAMBERS NEIL GUTHRIE JAMILAH OMAR AMY SPRATT CORAL WALKER NICKY WALTERS WENDY WHITWELL EXT BENCH AREA EXT BEHAVI OURAL UNI T EXT PLAYGROUND EXT MAI N ENTRANCE EXT STAFF CAR PARK INT ADMI N/WENDY' S AREA INT ASSEMBLY HALL INT BACKSTAGE INT BEHAVI OURAL UNI T INT DEPUTY HEAD' S OFFI CE INT DRAMA/MUSI C STUDI O INT ENTRANCE CORRI DOR INT ENGLI SH CLASSROOM (AMY) INT FOYER INT HEAD TEACHER' S OFFI CE INT HI STORY/HUMANI TI ES CLASSROOM INT MAI N CORRI DOR INT MAI N ENTRANCE INT MAI N ENTRANCE INT RED CANTEEN INT SI XTH FORM COMMON ROOM INT STAFF ROOM

EXT CHARLES HOUSE EXT CREMATORI UM EXT NI CKY' S FLAT EXT ROAD OUTSI DE SCHOOL EXT STREET

INT CHARLES HOUSE INT CREMA

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Izzy heads to Tommy's room. IZZY Tommy. Get up will y'? She throws open the door. The bed's empty. IZZY (CONT'D) Tommy? Izzy runs downstairs. The front door is ajar.

IZZY Dad! Tommy's not here! DAD!

Izzy gives up on Donte, grabs her coat off the bannister.

At the gate of the walkway where pupils are entering the playground, Dean and Noel stop ZAYNE, with a gaggle of Year 7s as he tries to come in.

DEAN What school d'you go to?

ZAYNE (confused) Waterloo Road?

I

DEAN What school do you go to DANNY You got somewhere to go back to if it all goes wrong. What have I got if I lose thip?

As Kai's trying to form an answer, they reach the gate, where Noel stops them.

DEAN What school do you go to?

DANNY Get out my face.

Danny tries to push past but Noel pushes him back.

DEAN We're William Beswick. We'll always be William Beswick.

NOEL

ls right.

DEAN So - what school do you go to?

DANNY (temper flaring) Maybe no school, alright?

Danny tries to push past again but Noel blocks his path. Danny tries again. Noel blocks him.

> KAI Danny, walk away.

Danny reluctantly sees the sense of that and turns.

DEAN No school, no home, no mum...

Button well and truly pressed. Danny goes for Dean, Kai standing in the way of Noel before he can intercept.

Pupils gather round to egg them on.

Danny and Dean struggle clumsily with each other, punching, grabbing, pulling -

And then Kim's there -

KIM Break it up now!

Kim has to physically pull Danny off

WA

NEIL and CORAL walk to the staff room.

CORAL Hours, the Police were at ours asking questions.

NELL Bit much isn't it. You weren't even the one who hit the poor woman.

CORAL (Hi des her unease) That's what I told them.

AMY runs past them, heading out to playground duty, giving them a wave.

CORAL (CONT'D) And if I was looking at anyone, it'd be the one who nicely bandaged her arm instead of calling an ambulance... but that's just me.

NELL

I guess they'll find out what happened when they have the coroners inquest.

Coral is uneasy but we let them go and pick up JOE as a passing PUPIL greets him in French.

JOE

Oui, Ali, cava! Tres bien!

Joe's grinning as Kim catches up and walks with him.

KIM I'm gonna need you and Lindon to have the Behavioural Unit open today.

JOE

We said next week.

KIM

Caught Dean Weever and Danny Lewis knocking seven bells out of each other. Told them they were going into isolation for the day.

JOE Hang on, the BU's not central detention. It's for kids on the verge of exclusion. (MORE)

Kim walks in mid-speech with Joe.

KIM

and that's on top of trying to convince the whole sodding community that my school's going to be better than theirs was. (out loud)
Morning everyone, just to say the new Behavioural Unit is open as of today, if you've got Danny Lewis or Dean Weever in your classes they will be absent.

Lindon is straight over.

LI NDON

OK, what?

KIM Joe can fill you in.

LINDON Danny Lewis is year twelve, if he doesn't want to be here, just let him go -

KIM Not happening.

LINDON He's never applied himself, I don't know why he'd start now

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Neil is in his classroom getting ready for the day, when he sees Kim pass in the corridor and calls out to her.

NEIL Ms Campbell - must say the new sign's very nice.

Kim reluctantly pauses in the doorway.

KIM Thanks Neil. I've got assembly, so -

NEIL I just wish there'd been a little more consultation with staff before the change was formalised. Particularly those of us with an informed opinion.

KIM I appreciate it wasn't an ideal process, for anyone.

NEIL A lot of people don't want it, youl knowl I have to a 10

(MORE)

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NEIL (CONT'D)

I've tried to discuss the underlying issues, but bring any nuance to the debate and you get shouted down.

KIM

Neil, the name has changed, it's here to stay. We're making our own heritage.

Kim gets a text message from Amy telling her Izzy and Tommy Charles are in the school.

KIM (CONT'D) (to Neil) Sorry, can we do this later?

As Kim goes, Neil's left disappointed but unsurprised by her response.

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12A

12A

Kelly Jo and Samia enter the hall for assembly and we see the new Waterloo Road stained glass for the first time. Kelly Jo looks to the stage where she sees the picture of Chlo in her old uniform, the same as on the memorial, up on a screen.

KELLY JO

Seri ousl y?

PRESTON arrives as they take seats.

SAMI A

Where were you? I waited.

PRESTON Working out. Forgot the time.

Samia rolls her eyes at a nonplussed Kelly Jo, who turns to look down the line - where she finds Dean (next to Noel) firing her a little kiss. Kelly Jo shoots him a look of disgust, but as she turns away we see that she's chuffed.

> KIM (sombre) Morning Waterloo Road. (she takes a moment) As you know, last week there was a fatality outside school. (indicating picture) Her name was Chlo Charles.

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Some excitement / some dismay at that.

 $$\rm KIM\ (CONT'D)$$ We are all in this together. We are Waterloo Road.

As Kim steps down from the stage, some - like Caz, Samia and Kelly Jo, whoop and applaud that. Others are against.

DEA

The doorbell's ringing and Donte's got himself up, in T-shirt and boxers, wiping his eyes as he stumbles to answer. We're expecting it to be Izzy, Tommy and the teachers - but it's a ME

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DEA

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TONYA Mum, we have to.

NICKY We'll see about that.

PRESTON You telling me you're too tight to buy your own kid's uniform?

NICKY (missing a tiny half beat, like she's not giving her true answer) It's the principle.

But as Nicky fast marches away, genuine worry lines her face.

CORAL (CONT'D) I take it you've got no marking or lesson planning?

Amy blanches, puts down the tin and goes to find some work.

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KIM Nicky, do you want to - ? (GO INTO MY OFFICE)

Nicky does so, full of the kind of tension that says she's anticipating a big argument.

KIM (CONT'D) How about we discuss this further next time we have an official Head Pupil catch-up?

CAZ

You're fobbing me off, Miss. You're doing it nicely, but you're still fobbing me off.

Caz goes.

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Year 11 (including Noel and Kelly Jo) are in history class with Neil.

NEIL The Hundred Years War. I take it we've all watched the module now, so, what did we think?

SAMI A

Sir, you've still got that up.

She points at a wall display: the British Empire, illustrated by portraits and statues of the 'great and good'.

NELL

As I've already explained, that's because we should pay attention to the historical record, not whoever shouts the loudest.

KELLY JO Is he talking about me?

SAMIA So you don't agree with getting rid of the racist's name Sir?

NEIL How long did The Hundred Years' War last? It's not as easy as it sounds-

SAMIA Sir I asked you a question.

NEIL (very reluctant) Yes, and you're framing it in a particularly emotive way -

SAMIA You either do or you don't.

NELL If you want an honest answer, no.

Many of the class reacts loudly, shouting him down, jeering. Others, like Noel, jeer at the jeerers.

> NEIL (CONT'D) William Beswick did a lot of good in his time -

More uproar.

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NEIL

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The place collapses into jeers and arguments and throwing paper balls at each

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DONTE (CONT'D) Bet she could do with a hand looking after Sparky.

Tommy looks down at the toy in his hand.

I ZZY

I'll give Mum your toy.

TOMMY Won't she be upset?

DONTE

Not with you, mate. Not with you.

Donte fires Izzy a remorseful look, acknowledging that it's him she'd be upset with.

DONTE (CONT'D)

Go on.

Donte hugs Tommy and then Tommy heads out to the neighbour.

Izzy looks at him, appreciating the gesture.

I ZZY

We'd better go.

DONTE

Yeah.

Donte puts a hand on her shoulder and leads them out, we watch them go and as Tommy heads off with the neighbour, Izzy and Donte get in the hearse.

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Kim hurries to the car park - and pauses as she sees fresh graffiti on a wall:

She gets into the car, now slow and sullen, closes the door and sits staring into space, disappointed in her pupils, their parents, her teachers but mostly herself.

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Shola gets into the car.

As Kim does likewise there's a look on her face that suggests she's far from certain about what she's just decided to do. But she gets into the car, decision made.

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As other mourners wait outside the crem, the hearse pulls up followed by a funeral car - from which the Charles Family emerge. Donte puts a hand on the shoulders of Izzy and they watch emotionally as Chlo's coffin is carried from the hearse, before walking in behind.

Kim and Shola arrive just in time, unseen by the family. Shola looks uncertain all of a sudden, but Kim nods to her, it's OK, and they follow the other mourners inside.

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LINDON There are plenty of kids who'd give their right arm for this opportunity, and you throw it away like that?

DANNY

l'm not.

LI NDON

If I'd seen a commitment to your work, Lewis, I might be able to stand by you. But I am not seeing that, anything but.

DANNY Always had it in for me, didn't you? Never had my back, not once.

JOE

Danny, qui et.

Lindon takes out his phone and walks out of the office.

JOE (CONT'D)

Don't move.

Joe goes after Lindon.

Before Kim and Shola Leave, a distraught Lzzy gives a tiny wave to Shola, no animosity, just glad to see her.

CELEBRANT Donte, shall we take a moment -

DONTE

I can't do it.

Donte pulls away, too emotional to continue. He gets down from the podium and walks out of the crem.

Izzy and Tommy watch him go, distraught.

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Lindon looks at him, unflinching. Joe's had enough, and goes back into the office, furious.

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LINDON You say that now.

DANNY

I'll do the work.

JOE

Mr King.

Lindon looks round - the officer nearly upon them. Lindon looks at Joe and Danny, shrugs. What can I do? He goes to the office and emerges with the bag of cannabis.

LI NDON

In there, Lewis.

Danny miserably goes into the office - as the $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Police}}$ Officer reaches them.

LINDON (CONT'D) Officer. Think this is for you.

Joe's glaring at Lindon like he's a rat.

Lindon hands over the drugs.

POLICE OFFICER And you don't know who it belongs to?

Joe frowns - what?

LINDON Found it over by the gates this morning... No idea whose it is.

Joe tries not to look surprised.

POLICE OFFICER One of yours probably dropped it.

LINDON That's what we thought. Isn't it Mr Casey?

JOE Yeah, yeah. That's what we thought.

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Lindon steps back in, to find Danny agog.

LINDON Very Last chance.

Lindon gives him a hard look, and then walks out. Danny shoots him a hateful look as he leaves, then sits, and with renewed determination, begins to write.

Neil walks in with a cup of tea, ready for next lesson. And stops in shock as he sees the state of his classroom: displays ripped down, books scattered, 'RACEIST' (sic) written on the walls.

Amy is taking Year 11, including Kelly Jo, Samia, Dean and Noel. Samia is answering a question in the background while we're on Dean and Noel.

NOEL

You think he's been thrown out though?

DEAN (bad tempered) I dunno.

NOEL Would he still be able to live in the hostel and that?

DEAN

I dunno!

NOEL You think maybe we should have said something?

DEAN (Shakes his head) My dad will leather us if I get kicked out of school.

Dean looks troubled, like he's wrestling with

NELL She's got a very distinctive style.

SAMIA She was with me all through lunch actually, except when she went to -(voice fades, realising) See the new uniform.

Kelly Jo stands up.

KELLY JO Alright, Mr Historical Facts, it were me.

NELL

Come on.

SAMI A

Froghead -

KELLY JO

What d'you expect when you're all like 'William Beswick did good too'? Cos he paid for some museums an' that? Yeah I'd have been dead impressed while I was chained up in the bottom of his boat!

AMY

Kelly Jo, Mr Guthrie's asked you -

KELLY JO

Cos that's where I would have been, make no mistake, stolen from my family, living like a dog. And her. And her. And him. And if you want that name on your chest, you're as bad as all the people that let him do it. Worse. Cos you just don't care about no-one but yourself. (glowering at Dean)

No-one.

The colour drains from Dean's face as he listens to all that.

Kelly Jo miserably stamps out with Neil, watched by a flustered Samia... and a perturbed Dean... at last learning the true meaning of empathy.

50

Lindon's working as Danny again scribbles away, determinedly, at his books. He finishes. Looks over what he's done. And then, tersely, almost challengingly, hands over his work.

Lindon begins to read through. After a moment he reads more carefully, surprised; impressed even. He looks up at Danny.

LI NDON

This is good.

DANNY

I know. And the next one's going to be good, and the next one. I'm going to stick it out, Sir, just cos you don't think I can.

LINDON I'll be happy to be wrong.

Danny looks at him dubiously, before t

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WATERLOO ROAD

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Joe sits thinking, as a subdued Kim comes and plonks down next to him.

JOE How was it?

KIM Didn't stay long. Have you heard? Danny's got his place.

JOE Yeah. I heard. And I think he's extremely motivated.

Kim detects doubt in Joe's tone/mood.

KIM

I came from the same pastoral role as you, Joe. The good old days... when you didn't have to compromise. You just had to be a friend to the kids. Then you realised it was just as important not to be one.

Joe nods.

KIM (CONT'D) Now I might be looking at some very big compromises. (off Joe's con

Janeece kisses him on the cheek, hugs the kids, grabs her bag, runs out, runs back for her pullalong, runs out again.

Donte and the kids look at each other in the wake of the whirlwind, then chuckle.

Kim rus

(MORE)

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DANNY (CONT'D)

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Coral goes to her car with a pile of books which she chucks onto the passenger seat. Some fall off and she reaches across instinctively - but stops as she flashes back:

Ep 1 - Coral in the car, distracted tbc, the moment of distraction, the impact.

Coral brings her hand back. She can try to offload her guilt onto Amy as much as she likes, but it stubbornly remains.

Tommy is asleep on the sofa, while Izzy rests her head on Donte's shoulder as he shows her the necklace.

DONTE See, it's meant to be What Would Chlo Do but -

I ZZY

But Janeece.

They both manage a little smile; it doesn't last long.

IZZY (CONT'D) Dad... What will we do? Mum did everything for us. What about looking after Tommy? What about your truck? What about everything?

DONTE

We'll be OK.

Izzy tries to believe that, and closes her eyes.

DONTE (CONT'D)

We'll be OK.

But as Donte faces a future without Chlo, he really isn't sure he believes it himself.

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