

The Wonderful Marriage of Mr & Mrs Lee

Act 1

Scene 1: Orla and Koda's Apartment

Time: The Present, Evening.

One stage area mimicking an apartment. An L-shaped sofa faces the audience on LC; a coffee table is in front of it and an open bottle of wine sits on top. On RC, a dining table is set. On UR, URC, and UC a galley kitchen faces the audience. A kitchen island is just in front. The lights are white.

ORLA and KODA are slumped on the sofa. There is a spotlight on ORLA. She is wearing a black dress and apron, which are quite dishevelled. ORLA grabs the bottle of wine. She looks at it for a while then decides to take an extended swig. ORLA then faces the audience.

ORLA I'm not an alcoholic; in case you're wondering. I'm a teacher and it's a Friday. This is an essential step in Orla Lee's self-care routine.

(pause.)

And it's fucking delish.

KODA laughs as ORLA takes another long swig. The spotlight extends onto KODA, who is in a compression shirt and black trousers. ORLA slowly lowers the bottle as the two look at each other.

KODA You are insatiable, do you know that?

ORLA I'm afraid I do. I mean who wouldn't want this?

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KODA Why do you think I put a ring on it? I had to wife you up asap, otherwise I would be considered a fool.

ORLA *(chuckles.)* A fool indeed.

ORLA places the bottle down and leans into KODA. KODA kisses ORLA'S head and wraps an arm around her.

KODA So what did you want to do tonight?

(ORLA gives KODA a suggestive look.)

KODA I mean besides that. *(dramatically.)* My wife is objectifying me? I cannot believe such a thing!

ORLA Well believe it.

KODA See if the roles were reversed I would catch a case.

ORLA No, you would only catch these hands.

ORLA tries to tackle KODA to the sofa. It fails miserably since KODA just pushes ORLA off him.

ORLA I can't believe you'd push a poor defenceless woman!

KODA Well believe it. Equal rights, equal fights my love.

ORLA *(laughs.)* Oh piss off you!

KODA flips her off. ORLA heads to the kitchen whilst KODA gets a phone call and answers it. ORLA looks out to the audience.

ORLA My husband, everyone. Koda Lee, the suave late night host who has captured the nation's heart. Not to inflate his ego further, but it clearly worked on me.

(ORLA flashes her ring.)

ORLA It's weird being married. Everything changes but simultaneously, it stays the same. I'm still Orla Lee, yes we both have the same surname; that's actually how we met. There was a book club at uni and like an AA meeting we had to introduce ourselves. We bonded over that fun little fact, as well as books and other things...

(pause.)

ORLA Anyways, flashforward seven years later and tada! We wed. We did it! How long do you think we'll last? Actually don't answer that. I love this man and I don't want your opinion.

KODA hangs up the phone and falls onto the sofa. ORLA heads over to join him.

ORLA Is everything alright?

KODA So GQ wants to interview me on married life.

ORLA We've been married for three weeks.

KODA That's what I said, in my head. But I'm not opposed to getting dolled up.

ORLA Aww does my baby want to look pretty?

KODA Please, I'm already pretty. Why not enhance what my mama gave me?

ORLA How can I argue with that logic?

KODA shrugs and ORLA leans into KODA'S arms.

ORLA So, I may or may not have ordered from the Golden Dragon...

KODA Please say you did!

(ORLA stares at KODA. KODA panics.)

KODA No! No! No! Not like that my love. Your cooking is gorgeous! Sexy even. I just know it's been a long week for you, and you deserve to rest.

ORLA Hun, love the enthusiasm but the hole you are digging is now a crater.

KODA I'm just excited for my duck and oyster sauce. Can't a guy be happy about a dirty, greasy gorgeous takeout after a long, long week?

(ORLA smiles.)

ORLA Yes, Yes he can.

KODA scrolls through his phone as ORLA turns to face the audience.

ORLA So this has been our little slice of paradise. It's been nice just the two of us. The elopement, the honeymoon, just us. Serenity doesn't even begin to describe it. You may be wondering, Orla, why did you not have friends or family there? Do you not have friends or family? And to answer your ever curious little mind I would say yes. Yes I do. But as a couple, we decided we just wanted a ceremony for us, to celebrate us. Plus our parents can be a little intense. especially towards the other. They've never really seen eye to eye.

ORLA places a kiss on KODA's cheek and gets up off the sofa. She grabs the wine bottle.

ORLA That's enough for tonight. I am a responsible grown woman who knows her limits.

(KODA whips his head around.)

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ORLA Oh don't look at me like that 'Mr-I-need-a-spliff-after-being-on-the-telly.'

KODA If you think kids are bad, try working with celebs.

ORLA Hey, you chose to become a TV presenter. Do you remember filming all those selftapes? Being a runner and doing all those internships for I quote 'the experience.'

KODA Let me complain about the job I love and have worked very hard for. Anyways, you complain about being a teacher.

ORLA I'm not denying that. Pay isn't great but love those little faces, snot and all.

KODA Okay now you're being adorable. Stop it! I was winning this argument.

ORLA Not anymore you're not.

KODA Alright... GET HERE!

ORLA Ah shit!

KODA starts to chase ORLA around the apartment. This goes on for a while until KODA catches ORLA and lifts her over his shoulder.

ORLA Now what?

(There is a long pause.)

ORLA Koda? Earth to Koda?

(There is another long pause.)

KODA Yeah I did not think this through...

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ORLA Koda my love, the apple of my eye, could you please put me down? This feels quite demeaning.

KODA Oh of course. Sorry about that.

(KODA hastily puts ORLA down.)

ORLA Eh, you're all good. Anyways your smile and massive pe-

KODA ORLA!

ORLA What I was going to say was your smile and massive personality make up for it. It had me enamoured from week eight.

KODA *(sarcastically.)* Sure it did.

KODA gets up and heads to the kitchen. Meanwhile, ORLA turns to the audience and gestures to his size. ORLA suddenly stops when she feels KODA'S hand on her shoulder. ORLA looks up.

KODA Hey what do you mean from week eight? This is new information to me.

ORLA You know I'm a pessimist.

KODA That I do. But I'm intrigued, why week eight? What happened on day 56 that made you think, oh my gosh he's the one! What a hunk, a stud, a stallion some might say.

(ORLA playfully slaps KODA.)

ORLA To humble you I'd say you tolerate me. To be truthful I'd say you were always there. Whether I was happy or sad, you made the effort. I'd like to think I do the same. Sorry, that's mushy isn't it?

KODA cuts her off with a kiss. ORLA reaches for his cheeks. They gently pull away.

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KODA Don't you dare apologise. We've talked about this; I love when you can be vulnerable. Makes me feel like you trust me, and value my opinion.

ORLA I do, more than anything.

Before ORLA can hug KODA, a doorbell SFX plays. Followed by a pounding SFX at the door. KODA wraps his arms around ORLA. ORLA reciprocates.

KODA Now I could be wrong, but I think our takeaway might be here.

ORLA You know what? I think you might be onto something.

(The pounding SFX plays again.)

KODA OK WE GET IT! YOU'RE THERE! WE'RE TRYING TO HAVE A WHOLESOME MOMENT AS HUSBAND AND WIFE!

(ORLA pulls away.)

ORLA Go and answer it; we can't have your duck and oyster sauce getting cold.

KODA My duck and oyster sauce!

ORLA goes to the kitchen to grab cutlery whilst KODA rubs his hands together and rushes to the door. KODA opens the door and murmurs can be heard as the LIGHTS FADE to BLACK.

Scene 2: Orla and Koda's Apartment

Time: Day/Evening

The stage is the same as it was in scene 1. KODA and his parents, EMA and RIK are in the kitchen. ORLA and her half-brothers, ERIC and DORIEN, are lounging on the sofa.

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The lighting in this scene will switch from a cool blue hue to warm yellow to indicate the difference between the day and the evening.

KODA and his parents are meeting in the evening. They are having wine and appetizers by the kitchen counter. ORLA and her brothers are meeting in the day. The trio are playing video games whilst various packets of crisps cover the coffee table.

For the majority of this scene, one side will be frozen whilst the other is live.

ORLA So how have you two been?

ERIC Grand.

DORIEN Alright.

ORLA Great, it's going to be one of those conversations.

(CHANGE TO KITCHEN.)

KODA's nose twitches unconsciously as he pours another glass.

EMA Is your hayfever acting up?

RIK Ema, let the boy be.

EMA Sorry, it's just distracting. Twitching like a rabbit who's done a line of cocaine.

(EMA laughs.)

(CHANGE TO SOFA.)

ERIC You know dad is asking about you?

(DORIEN nudges ERIC.)

ERIC Nudge me again- see what happens.

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DORIEN Okay twink, pipe down.

ERIC tries to wrestle DORIEN but fails spectacularly. It ends with ERIC slumped on the sofa with a pout. DORIEN nonchalantly continues the conversation with ORLA.

DORIEN Ignore him, he's just trying to stir drama.

ORLA I usually do, but this time I'm inclined to listen to him.

(ERIC sits up immediately.)

ORLA Calm yourself. I'm concerned my phone might off itself with the way Dad keeps messaging me.

ERIC Is he prying about your gyno stuff or your new homo husband?

DORIEN ERIC!

ERIC What? It's usually one of those two things and guessing by our Sisters' uncomfortable expression... I'm going with option A.

(ORLA stares at ERIC, her glare unwavering.)

ERIC Dorien... she's scaring me...

ORLA Good.

(CHANGE TO KITCHEN.)

EMA So how is Orla? Is she well?

KODA She's good.

(There is a pause.)

EMA She's good? It's like drawing teeth with this one!

©

RIK Ema, dear, let us sit. We can continue interrogating Koda once we are sat. I'm getting another charley horse.

EMA See, this is why you need to drink more— you're clearly dehydrated. And no, hard whiskey does not count.

RIK starts chugging his wine whilst EMA clasps her hands together.

EMA So, obviously you enjoyed your honeymoon. Tell us more about it!

KODA It was gorgeous! The northern lights were surreal and the hot springs were so relaxing! I could live there, ma, I swear! Definitely worth the hype.

EMA Aww! I'm so happy the newlywed life is treating you well! I can't believe I had to get the photos from your PUBLIC Instagram. I swear Koda Lee, use the family groupchat!

KODA *(chuckles.)* Why did you need the photos?

RIK So she could turn our mantelpiece into a shrine.

(KODA chokes on his wine as EMA nudges RIK)

KODA *(splutters.)* I'm sorry, what?

EMA It's a monumental moment Koda, we had to commemorate it somehow.

KODA Mum, that's a bit creepy.

EMA Never question a mother's will Koda. You wouldn't understand.

RIK She downed a can of Red Bull.

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EMA HEY! Those things get me up and active. Don't hate me cause you're procrastinating in retirement.

RIK One would call it relaxing after a long thirty years of hard manual labour.

(KODA turns to face the audience. He also pours himself another glass.)

KODA He was a pediatrician, my mother was a nurse and they created an entertainer. This has led to some of my relatives believing I am 'unstable'. And to that I say, yeah probably. Only child mentality, I'm the center of the world, well certainly my parents' world.

(pause.)

KODA I know that sounds cruel but after interviewing hundreds of people, you pick up on things. For example, my mum always makes small remarks and my dad will either dismiss her or he verbally shuts downs. You'll think it's 2020 the way this man goes on verbal lockdown. But this perfect storm leads to their intense care and guidance being downpoured onto moi. It's difficult to see your parents fall out of love but it's also difficult to deal with their overbearingness.

(KODA turns to face his parents.)

RIK Kids are difficult, remember this one when he was little?

EMA I remember it like it was yesterday. Do you remember when he had a meltdown in Waitrose?

RIK And we just laughed at him!

EMA Ah it worked like a charm though; he never did it again.

KODA Isn't that neglect?

(CHANGE TO SOFA.)

DORIEN is showing ORLA something funny on his phone. This seems to infuriate ERIC since he's been banished to the far end of the sofa. He huffs dramatically. ORLA and DORIEN pay him no mind.

ERIC Orlaaaaaa, I'm sorry. I was a knob.

ORLA Still are, but continue.

ERIC I was trying to make it, y'know, lighter and humorous for you.

ORLA So my faulty genitals and husband's sexuality is funny to you?

ERIC NO! The opposite! I was trying to console you but clearly it backfired.

DORIEN Clearly.

ORLA *(sighs.)* I appreciate the thought, but if you could steer clear of combining those two subjects and comedy that would be great.

ERIC Duly noted. Loud and clear.

DORIEN It's a good thing you're not majoring in humor, cause boy? They would fail your arse.

ORLA Kick him out and put out a restraining order.

DORIEN On gawd!

ERIC There's a special place for both of you in hell.

DORIEN Yeah right next to you.

ORLA *(spookily.)* For all eternity!

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ERIC Pricks, the lot of ya!

ERIC flips his older siblings off as they laugh at him. The laughter slowly dies down.

ORLA Anyways, how's dad been with you two?

DORIEN Ghosted me. Thankfully.

ERIC sighs as he pulls out his phone to find a specific text message.

ERIC 3.45am asked me and I quote, 'which one did you come from again?'

ORLA Sounds about right.

DORIEN He said that about your mum? Mad...

(CHANGE TO KITCHEN.)

KODA is finishing his plate and goes to grab more food. EMA holds out her plate and KODA places food on her first, then his own.

RIK So how's the return to work?

EMA Rik! Let the boy rest! He's just been to Iceland for Pete's sake!

KODA It's fine Ma, The internet is 'mourning' the loss of an eligible bachelor. So I've been interviewed a lot this week. It's weird being the interviewee but I'll get used to it.

RIK That's my boy, ready for the grind! Can't wait to brag about this at church next Sunday.

EMA We don't go to church to brag...

RIK Really? I swear it's always 'my son is a beloved TV host, my son is a national treasure.'

EMA It's not bragging if it's facts.

(CHANGE TO SOFA.)

ORLA So Eric, how's uni going?

ERIC Eh, it's alright. I love animating but there are some right wrong'ns on my course.

ORLA Yeah you get those everywhere.

ERIC Really? Whilst we were watching Totoro, someone was getting sucked off in the back of the lecture hall. It was minging!

ORLA Yep, average university experience.

DORIEN It's not even an erotic film.

ERIC That's your takeaway?

(CHANGE TO KITCHEN.)

EMA So I know I'm probably going to sound eager but are you and Orla thinking of adding to your household?

RIK Ema! The boy's just got married!

KODA Actually, we've talked about it and we're thinking of adopting.

EMA Adopting?

KODA Yeah! We went down to the shelter and saw the cutest cats! Gnocchi and Miso are brothers and they are so adorable! UH! I get aggressive even thinking about them.

RIK *(chuckles.)* Oh son, never change.

EMA Ha. Ha. You know what I mean, Koda. First comes marriage then comes a baby in a baby carriage.

KODA It concerns me that you're basing my future on a nursery rhyme.

EMA Why are you avoiding giving me an answer?

RIK Ema...

EMA Rik, clearly something is up with our son having kids. Do you not want them?

KODA Uhhh, I've- I mean WE haven't really thought about it.

EMA I think you should.

KODA Okay, we'll take it into consideration.

EMA Good.

KODA Great.

(KODA and EMA start to drink. CHANGE TO SOFA.)

DORIEN So in all seriousness, how is your health?

ORLA Dorien, I thought I was clear that I didn't want to talk about it.

DORIEN I know but I'm worried about you. It's affecting you more than you think.

(ORLA whips around to face DORIEN.)

ORLA It's affecting me because it's MY health and you keep prying about it only stresses me out more! Once I get more answers, after my husband, you'll be the first to know.

(DORIEN raises his hand in defence.)

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DORIEN Sorry for caring.

ORLA Oh, bite me!

(The two of them sit there awkwardly whilst a tapping sound comes from ERIC's phone. He is texting intensely.)

ORLA *(to ERIC.)* Do you mind?

ERIC Huh? I thought Dorien and you were still being melodramatic.

ORLA Melodramatic? *(sighs.)* Why did I even invite you two here tonight?

ERIC Cause you love us.

DORIEN Yeah what he said.

ORLA Why are you guys so much like dad?

(ERIC and DORIEN shoot up in protest.)

DORIEN HEY! You take that back!

ERIC That is the most offensive thing anyone has said to me.

(CHANGE TO KITCHEN.)

RIK So are you going ahead with remodelling the spare bedroom?

EMA Oohh please say you are! And into a nursery one hopes!

KODA *(frustrated.)* Mum, please give it a rest.

EMA Koda, I'm only thinking about your future.

KODA Yeah, well, don't.

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EMA Koda, I never meant to offend you. I just wanted to see what your thoughts were on having kids.

KODA Respectfully mum, that isn't your place to know. This discussion is for my wife and I only.

RIK We're sorry Koda.

EMA Huh?

RIK We just want to support you and Orla. If you need us to back off, please tell us.

EMA What?

KODA The non-stop interrogation is tiring, it's like having journalists for parents. So if you could stop doing that, I would appreciate that.

RIK Okay son, we'll stop.

KODA Thanks dad.

(KODA and RIK clink their glasses together and drink what's left. EMA starts silently crying. KODA awkwardly picks up the bottle, noticing it's empty and puts it in the bin.)

EMA You have no idea how difficult it was to conceive you.

(CHANGE TO SOFA.)

ERIC is fiddling with his fingers and his leg is bouncing. He tries to get comfortable whilst DORIEN is on the phone and walking behind the sofa. ORLA keeps observing ERIC.

ORLA What is it you want to ask?

ERIC *(points to himself.)* Me?

ORLA No, our other brother who is clearly on the phone. Yes you dipshit.

ERIC Okay no need to be snarky.

ORLA Eric, ask your question before I slap it out of you.

ERIC Uhm well it's personal.

ORLA Eh you've invaded my privacy this evening, it's only fair I get to know something embarrassing about you.

ERIC Well technically it's not about me per se. I need advice for my mate and I thought you'd be the best person to go to.

ORLA Your elder much wiser and prettier sister? You've made the right choice. Shoot.

ERIC My mate and his partner have decided to open their relationship. Since you and Koda used to be in an open relationship I was wondering if you could give them a few pointers?

(ORLA starts using the cut it out gesture to try and silence ERIC, but it's too late. DORIEN slowly turns around to face ORLA and raises his hand to the phone.)

DORIEN Dad, I'm going to have to call you back. I need to have a chat with my sister.

(DORIEN hangs up the phone.)

ERIC *(realises.)* Shit, you didn't tell him?

ORLA No Eric I did not.

(silence.)

DORIEN What. Were. You. Thinking?

ORLA I was thinking that this is none of your business.

DORIEN Okay no need to be snarky.

ORLA And no need to be judgemental. It's my life, my relationship. End of conversation.

DORIEN I didn't realise this was how you approached... relationships.

ORLA *(sighs.)* Eric, why don't you think before you speak?

ERIC I was only asking for advice. I didn't know Dorien had a stick up his arse.

DORIEN Why are you both acting like this is normal?

ERIC Cause it is?

DORIEN So you saw no risk inviting that sort of complication?

ERIC As long as people are consenting, clean and safe it's game in my opinion.

ORLA That was strangely profound for you.

ERIC Thank you.

DORIEN Okay, you two need to stop. This is serious. Orla you could take all these precautions but others may not.

ORLA Dorien, I appreciate your concern but this was all in the past. We were safe and we tested frequently.

DORIEN That's not the point, I-.

(DORIEN sighs as he pinches his nose.)

ORLA Then what is your point?

(ORLA stands to DORIEN'S level.)

ORLA Cause it seems to me that you're uncomfortable.

(DORIEN cuts ORLA off.)

DORIEN Of course I'm uncomfortable! Why would you risk your health all for a little bit of fun? It's sad.

(CHANGE TO KITCHEN.)

(KODA is frozen by the fridge as EMA is crying. RIK tries to usher her out.)

RIK We've all had a lot to drink tonight. Don't worry about us Koda, We'll get an Uber back.

(EMA cuts RIK off.)

EMA No, he's old enough, he needs to know.

(RIK grabs ahold of EMA.)

RIK He doesn't need to know anything. We need to leave.

(EMA leaves RIK's grasp and stumbles up to Koda, her hand goes up to his cheek.)

EMA My little bear, my rainbow baby.

(CHANGE TO SOFA.)

DORIEN Don't you know how many STDs are out there?

ORLA Oh for pete's sake Dorien, we didn't sleep around with anyone and everyone!

DORIEN But why would you subject yourselves to that?

ORLA 'Subject yourselves?' Who do you think you are?

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DORIEN Your brother who cares if you're out there-.

(ORLA cuts him off.)

ORLA Out there what? Go on finish that sentence I dare you!

DORIEN grits his teeth. He grabs his jacket from the sofa and storms out from L. He slams the door behind him. ORLA turns to face ERIC who takes the hint and scrambles out from L.

(CHANGE TO KITCHEN.)

EMA and RIK leave together, their arms around one another. KODA is left in the kitchen, mouth agape and on auto pilot as he cleans up. LIGHTS up all over the stage so we can see ORLA and KODA. ORLA slumps down onto the sofa as KODA washes glasses. LIGHTS FADE TO BLACK

Scene 3: Orla and Koda's Apartment

Time: Early Morning.

A wooden diffuser is on. ORLA is laying on the sofa, cuddling a few Pokémon plushies. KODA is on the floor smoking a joint. ORLA is wearing an oversized tee and baggy trousers whilst KODA is wearing jogging bottoms. The lights are a warm yellow and a record player is on in the background. A soft instrumental can be heard.

(KODA takes a hit from his spliff.)

KODA So that was a day.

ORLA Mhmm.

(KODA sits up and looks towards ORLA.)

KODA Are you alright?

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ORLA I dunno.

(KODA gets up and sits at the end of the sofa.)

KODA You want to talk about it?

ORLA It's nothing out of the ordinary, just my brothers being utterly themselves.

ORLA slowly rises and crawls towards KODA. She places her chin on his shoulder. KODA chuckles.

KODA You want a hit?

(ORLA nods and KODA holds the joint up.)

ORLA What a gentleman.

KODA What can I say? Setting the bar for all men.

ORLA takes a hit and slowly exhales. KODA observes this and gulps. ORLA chokes and quickly swats KODA.

ORLA You perv. Eyeing my throat like a bloody vampire.

KODA Whatttt? It looks yummy, plus I know you like it when I bite.

ORLA Not disagreeing with that, but what are we going to do?

KODA lowers the joint and turns to face ORLA.

KODA You've been thinking about this for a while huh?

(ORLA nods.)

ORLA How can I not? They may be dense but they're right. Dad won't leave this be, or you be for that matter.

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KODA If it's any reassurance, I'm happy in my sexuality.

ORLA I know you are but that doesn't give him the right to look down on you.

KODA Eh, you win some, you lose some. Anyways I'm more concerned with how much this is affecting you.

ORLA You're my husband and he's making fun of you, of course I'm going to be upset!

(KODA rubs ORLA'S hand.)

KODA It doesn't help that your brothers are being immature about the whole thing.

ORLA Eric told Dorien about our past.

Instantly realising, KODA flops back onto the sofa. ORLA scrambles to yank the joint out of his grasp. She lets out a few profanities before taking a hit.

KODA How did he take it?

ORLA As well as anyone who was raised by an au pair in a London penthouse.

KODA He went ballistic didn't he?

ORLA Eh, he almost slut shamed us. So I would say better than it could have been.

The record comes to an end and ORLA goes to stomp out the joint in the ashtray. KODA sits up as she returns.

KODA My mother mentioned it again.

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ORLA looks straight up, knowing what KODA is referring to. KODA waits for ORLA to respond.

KODA I tried to defer it to the cats but damn, that woman wants grandkids.

(pause.)

And now I kind of understand why.

KODA is still waiting for ORLA to reply. She doesn't. Instead her hands run up and down her thighs. KODA takes a gulp.

KODA Uhm, apparently I'm a rainbow baby.

(ORLA stops moving.)

ORLA *(barely audible.)* Oh Kodes.

ORLA goes to snuggle up to KODA, he accepts her immediately and hugs her a little tighter than usual.

ORLA How do you feel hun? That's a lot to take in.

KODA *(hesitantly)* It was quite the bombshell but I've never seen my mum so emotional, so vulnerable. I feel sorry for her more than anything.

(There is a pause.)

ORLA Has your stance changed?

KODA pulls ORLA onto his lap. He places his chin on her shoulder.

KODA No. It has not. If we have them, we have them and if we don't we don't.

ORLA starts to sniffle. KODA lifts her up and the two are now standing face to face.

KODA Hey, hey, hey. It's okay. I've got you. I'm so sorry for bringing it up, I wasn't thinking. Stupid weed makes me a dumbass. Although I was already a himbo huh?

(ORLA lets out a pitiful laugh.)

ORLA My himbo though.

KODA Forever and always.

(KODA brushes ORLA's tears away.)

KODA Are you going to be okay?

ORLA Yeah, I will be. It just gets to me from time to time. I know it's silly and all that.

KODA Nonsense! It's not silly, it's a genuine concern of yours and you're allowed to feel upset by it.

(ORLA walks to the kitchen and puts the kettle on boil.)

ORLA Do you want one?

KODA That would be nice.

ORLA And a cheeky Hobnob on the side?

KODA I fucking love you! Do I ever tell you that?

ORLA *(smiles.)* Now and again.

LIGHTS FADE TO BLACK.

Scene 4: Orla and Koda's Apartment

Time: Mid-Morning.

Both ORLA and KODA are asleep on the sofa. KODA is hugging one plushie, the rest are discarded across the living room floor. The lights are a white hue and birds can be heard. Suddenly KODA'S phone rings, awakening the two. KODA dramatically falls off the sofa whilst ORLA stays on the sofa, all snuggled up.

ORLA *(mumbles.)* See this is why you put your phone on sleep mode.

(KODA sits himself up and rubs his head.)

KODA But what if it's important?

ORLA On a Sunday morning? It better be.

KODA looks to the table where ORLA'S phone is. Although her phone seems to be on 'do not disturb' the phone is flashing on and off with new notifications. Confused, KODA goes to grab the phone. After scanning over the notifications his eyes widened.

KODA Shit.

(pause.)

KODA Shit, shit shit!

(ORLA now awake, looks over to KODA.)

ORLA Kodes, what's going on? Why are you holding my phone and losing your mind?

KODA says nothing as he hands ORLA her phone. ORLA reads through a few of the messages. She then faces the audience. LIGHTS focus on her. Meanwhile, KODA grabs his own phone and picks up the call.

ORLA I am going to kill Dorian. Who does he think he is? He's crossed a line and now my husband and I have to pay for his stupid, stupid

little tirade! After I kicked him out last night, Dorien and his mates got blathered at the bar.

(ORLA scrolls, disbelief evident on her face.)

ORLA And Dorien- of course- ended spewing his guts on camera

(ORLA'S jaw clenches, her tone now sharper,)

ORLA Not just that... he went and spilled everything. About Koda and I's past but very open relationship. Then his mates did the smart thing of uploading it onto their Insta. Which is public.

(ORLA exhales slowly as the implication slowly sinks in.)

ORLA We're fucked. Extremely and oh so 100% completely fucked!

LIGHTS dim on ORLA and now focus on KODA, who has gotten off the phone. He now faces the audience.

KODA Uhm, so that was my agent. It's not great news, and they are pissed! As am I, but hey it's family so I can't be too mad at them right?

(pause.)

KODA Oh my God, I'm going to lose my job! My parents are going to disown me, I can't believe this is happening! If this doesn't get nipped in the bud, the tabloids and every social media platform known to man are having a field day.

(realises.)

KODA Okay, this could be worse. We can rephrase it, spin the story a little. Dorien was just drunk and decided to ramble complete and utter

bollocks. Okay. Yeah, that's good, that's a start. Why did Dorian have to run his mouth? This not only affects me, but it also affects.

(KODA looks over to ORLA who is staring intensely at her phone.)

KODA Orla.

(KODA rushes over to her. ORLA looks up.)

ORLA *(nervously.)* So my boss wants to meet with me tomorrow, I wonder what that could be about.

KODA Orla, I'm so sorry.

ORLA No, don't you dare apologize. The one who should be apologizing is that self-absorbed dipshit whose probably hungover, head first in the toilet not knowing what the fuck he's just caused.

(ORLA goes to grab her keys and a jacket.)

ORLA You know what? I think it might be a good time to have a little chat with my brother. Really kick some sense into him you know?

KODA rushes to the door and places himself between it and ORLA

ORLA Kodes, do you mind? I'm trying to castrate my brother.

KODA As much as I want that to happen, I can't in good conscience let you do that.

ORLA 'Let you?' I don't need your permission to beat the everlasting christ out of my brother.

KODA *(sighs.)* Orla, my agent has asked me to go silent. Just until the PR team can craft up and publish a statement on my behalf.

ORLA And how long is that going to take?

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KODA Earliest this evening, latest tomorrow morning.

ORLA chucks her keys away and goes to the kitchen. She decides to make a cup of coffee.

ORLA But this is a family disagreement? Shouldn't we be the ones to handle it?

KODA Normally, I would agree with you but I'm going to follow protocol. I love my job and I'm not going to risk losing it more than I have already.

(ORLA stops what she's doing and looks at KODA sympathetically.)

ORLA Come here.

(KODA goes to the kitchen.)

ORLA You Koda Lee have done nothing wrong. You will not lose your job because you are talented and beloved. Plus they can't fire you cause that's discrimination and then the lawsuit that follows? Please they'd lose that in a heartbeat.

KODA I like this optimism. But something in my gut tells me, this will not go quietly.

ORLA That I agree with. After a meeting with the headmaster, gosh it feels like I'm back in school, this will probably go to the governing board.

KODA I don't think it will go that far.

ORLA Really? You don't think a bunch of parents, who now think I'm indoctrinating our lifestyle onto their kids, will take it to the trustees?

KODA Not all of them, plus some people nowadays are quite accepting.

(ORLA pulls out her phone and reads an email.)

ORLA 'Dear Mrs Lee. You sicken me. You and your husband are disgusting and I can't believe they let your kind around children. Please consider resigning or I'll have to consider taking legal action. Additionally, I have requested Oliver to be pulled out of your class. Yours truly, Chelsie Lewis, Oliver Lewis' mother.'

KODA Ok, that is a threat, she has no legal grounds.

ORLA Not if she declares me mentally unstable.

KODA My love, that's up to the court to decide. Not some middle aged Millennial who clearly has nothing better to do.

ORLA True. But I like Oliver, his mother is tolerable but Oliver always lightens up the class with his toothy grin. I can't believe this is all going to change.

(ORLA continues to make the coffee.)

So what do we do now?

KODA Honestly, I don't know.

ORLA What about your parents?

KODA What about them?

ORLA Jee, I don't know, they dropped that pretty big bombshell on you last night and now they've woken up to, well this shit show.

KODA I should call them shouldn't I?

ORLA I think that might be a good idea. Unless that goes against your silence protocol?

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KODA It's a social media lockdown, I'll be fine.

KODA goes to call his parents. The phone rings once and disconnects. He tries it again but the call doesn't go through.

ORLA Maybe they're asleep?

KODA Hmm.

KODA keeps trying but nothing happens. ORLA hands him his coffee as he gives up.

ORLA Was that your dad? Maybe try your mum?

KODA That was my mum, she usually picks up straight away.

KODA places the mug down and tries to call RIK. The phone rings a couple times before being connected. RIK offstage responds.

RIK Hey bud, how's it going?

KODA You've seen the video, haven't you?

RIK Yeah, I have.

(silence.)

KODA So how's everything your end?

RIK Uhm, we've been better. But you just missed your ma. She went to Church.

KODA So you didn't go with her?

RIK No, not today, I wasn't feeling like it.

KODA Oh.

(RIK suddenly hangs up.)

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KODA Did he just?

(ORLA caresses Koda's shoulder.)

LIGHTS FADE TO BLACK.