

YOU'LL ALWAYS FIND ME IN THE KITCHEN AT PARTIES

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1. INT. KITCHEN - EVENING

A stylish modern kitchen, the sides are laid out with sealed buffet food and empty glasses. There's several boxes of wine on the side, unopened. We can hear background chatter from outside the kitchen.

Enter CLAIRE, 40s, dressed in a black dress, her hair and make up done. As she talks, she is checking the food.

CLAIRE

(calling back to others)

They'll be here in a minute, I've just had a text off Carol. Do you want me to put the kettle on before we go?

GREG

I'll have one, if there's one going.

The camera pans around to GREG, 40s, sitting at the kitchen table. He's dressed in a smart suit.

CLAIRE

You will, will you?

GREG

Never turn down a cuppa.

CLAIRE

(calling back)

Do you want one Denise? Two sugars isn't it?

DENISE (OFF SCREEN)

Yes please!

Claire begins to boil the kettle and get cups out of the cupboards.

GREG

You look nice.

CLAIRE

Thanks.

GREG

Is that the dress you wore to Steve and James' wedding?

CLAIRE

It is. Nicely spotted.

GREG

Always thought that suited you.

The kettle boils, Claire begins to pour hot water into three mugs. Greg is sitting smiling at her.

GREG

Nice spread you've got here.

CLAIRE

Yes! Alice down in the village has done such a lovely job. She was here first thing this morning dropping it all off.

GREG

Did I spy mini pork pies?

CLAIRE

And Party rings.

GREG

Ah my favourite.

Claire removes tea bags and stirs in sugar.

CLAIRE

(shouts)

Denise! Your tea's ready!

(to Greg)

Here you go.

She places the tea in front of him, and sits down opposite.

GREG

What time is everyone getting here?

CLAIRE

Carol is on her way now with Brian, then Sophie and Malcolm are heading straight there from theirs with the kids, cause it's on the way. Mum and Harold are meeting us there too, but Dad is going to be here in about half an hour I think.

GREG

Good turn out.

CLAIRE

Well, Helen and the kids can't make it, cause Amy's got a tummy bug, but they've sent apologies. And Darren said he'll pop over here after.

GREG

Not up for it?

CLAIRE
I think seeing lots of people might
be a bit hard for him today.

GREG
How are you?

CLAIRE
(laughs)

She gets up, brushes down her dress.

CLAIRE
I need to put some of these
sandwiches in the fridge otherwise
they wont be worth eating by the
time we get back.

The doorbell goes.

DENISE (OFF SCREEN)
It's Carol and Brian, I'll get it!

GREG
I never liked Brian you know.

CLAIRE
You can't say that!

GREG
Can say what I want now.

Claire picks up her tea and sips it.

CLAIRE
You're not drinking your tea.

GREG
Bit hot.

There's a commotion in the hall.

GREG
That'll be Mum then?

CLAIRE
Sounds like Brian is being a
handful.

GREG
Ugh.

CLAIRE
Be nice, hey?

GREG
I will not. Can't stand the man.

DENISE (OFF SCREEN)
I'll just give her a hand, back in
a second...

Claire sits back down and looks fondly at Greg.

GREG
You've got this.

CLAIRE
I know. Bit of party food, good
people, what's not to like?

GREG
Eat a couple of party rings for me,
hey?

Carol bursts into the kitchen

CAROL
Oh there you are, Denise said you
were hiding in here. How are you
holding up? My poor lamb.

The camera pans back to Claire who is sitting alone at the
table, with two mugs of tea. She realises she's been talking
to herself.

CAROL
Brian just does not want to leave
the car, so I think we might just
sit out there. The other cars are
ready, so shall we make a move? Oh
this spread looks lovely,

Carol gets Claire up out of her seat. Claire manages a swig
of her tea before being ushered towards the door.

CAROL
Have you been out this morning? Oh
the whole street is lined with
people!

As Carol pushes Claire out of the kitchen door, we focus on
an invite pinned to the notice board. It is for Greg's
funeral.

CAROL (OFF SCREEN)
(fading out)
Oh he was so loved, dear. Everyone
is heartbroken obviously, but as I
said to Brian, we just need to look
after you today, don't we?

ENDS