

This Student Life – Series 2

EPISODE 16

Dur: 08:37

Music – dur: 00:15

EPISODE 16, SCENE 1 – DONNA AND LOUISE DRIVE BACK IN THE CAR

Driving in the car

DONNA:

Don't worry, darling. You can Skype them anytime.

LOUISE:

It's not that. I just can't believe that they would rather be with that slime bucket than their own mother. I mean, what have I ever done?

DONNA:

They're children. They just want their friends, their school. If you offered to stay there instead, I'm sure they would want to be with you.

LOUISE:

I did.

DONNA:

What? (*Sound of indicator*)

Can you check that road on the left for me, love?

LOUISE:

I did offer to stay there.

DONNA:

You ... ? But, but what did they say?

LOUISE:

No. They like his new girlfriend. She makes them loom bands, and takes them to the juice bar and roller blading.

DONNA:

I suppose you aren't really into those kind of things.

LOUISE:

Well. Not everyone is a maternal, perfect, size-10 superwoman.

DONNA:

Don't get bitter.

LOUISE:

Mmm. Anyway, it's better here. You and I can spend some proper time together.

DONNA:

Yes. That would be nice (*sad and beginning to cry*).

LOUISE:

Oh. Mum. Are you crying?

DONNA:

No, no. It's just I've had dry eyes lately.

LOUISE:

Oh, you can't fool me mum. Come on. It's Dad, isn't it? I wish you could take my advice Mum and get out. It can be done, and you'd be so much happier.

DONNA:

No. Actually your father has been quite nice to me. I'm sorry. I've just been a bit low lately. It's silly really.

LOUISE:

Like, what do you mean, "low"?

DONNA:

I just feel like life is pointless. No-one really needs me except to fetch shirts and find matching cufflinks. I don't have any friends, apart from a single mum... I'm flabby and old...

LOUISE:

Mum. You stop all this negative talk. I need you. Dad needs you. You're a brilliant student and you're going to be an incredible psychologist.

DONNA:

Oh I'm never going to get through that degree. It's 6 more years. I'll be ancient by then.

LOUISE:

You will do it. I think you're amazing, Mum. Now come on. Snap out of it. I'm back now and we've got our TMAs to write.

DONNA:

Oh gosh. Yes. I'm so behind Louise. I thought over the break I'd have ages, and I've tried reading but nothing's going in and its due like really soon.

LOUISE:

Well Mum, same here. See, we're a good pair! Right, we need supplies and a late night with our computers.

DONNA:

Oh, that reminds me. I need to pick up dinner. Okay, let's stop at the next M&S services and get some things. I'm glad you're home darling. And, I'm sorry, I never even asked about whether everything was sorted.

LOUISE:

Well, Mike has agreed to unfreeze my assets, so at least I've got money again. Funnily enough, I think his girlfriend was the one who really wanted to avoid the divorce becoming really acrimonious. I think Mike was stealing himself for a good fight with me.

DONNA:

And are you solvent?

LOUISE:

Well, for now, yes. One thing I'd say about Mike is he made some very good investments, and he's agreed that I should have my share. He was really pleased about my university course too. Much more supportive than when we lived together. It was a bit of a shock.

DONNA:

Oh, I'm glad things are working out for you. I wouldn't want to leave with you in a mess.

LOUISE:

Leave? What do you mean leave? Where are you going?

DONNA:

Nowhere. I don't know why I said that. Oh look, there's a Marks there, let's stop and get some food.

EPISODE 16 SCENE 2 – DAVE TRIES TO GET JACK'S PILLOW

DAVE:

No mate, I really like what you've done with your room. Looks like you're settling in well. You got rid of all the ferret droppings then?

JACK:

Ferret droppings? Anyway, I just wondered whether I could have a shelf up here.

DAVE:

A shelf? What, to put your books on. No problem, I'll build you one tonight.

JACK:

Oh, you don't have to build one.

DAVE:

No, it's no bother at all. Consider it done. That pillow looks very comfortable. Mind if I borrow it?

JACK:

What?

DAVE:

Your pillow, can I borrow it? Only I've been getting a really sore neck overnight.

JACK:

Um... well. Look, I got it at Debenhams, so I'll pick one up for you when I'm at the library today okay, and you can do the shelf for me and we'll call it quits.

DAVE:

Oh, well, yeah. Good plan. I'd appreciate that. So you're out? How long will you be?

JACK:

Oh, just a couple of hours. No work today?

DAVE:

No. Day off today. I'll see you later then. I'm planning on going out too. I probably won't be in your room at all while you're out. Er, I'm off to the post office.

EPISODE 16 SCENE 3 – NEESHA DOESN'T SUBMIT TMA 03

In the office

SOPHIE:

Are you okay, Neesh?

NEESHA:

No. I'm not.

SOPHIE:

Oh. What's up?

NEESHA:

My TMA was due yesterday. I didn't put it in.

SOPHIE:

Oh dear. Why not?

NEESHA:

Because I haven't started it.

SOPHIE:

What? Why?

NEESHA:

Oh, Christmas and all the family round. And it's a really, really boring one, and I don't really understand it all.

SOPHIE:

Mmmm. So what are you going to do?

NEESHA:

What do you mean?

SOPHIE:

Well, can't you *do* something? Like last time when you spoke to your tutor and he gave you an extension didn't he?

NEESHA:

Well, yeah. But he's going to think I'm such a... I mean, I've got to be the worst student in the entire world. I mean, you...

SOPHIE:

You're not a bad student. Okay, well maybe a bit. But I'm sure he's seen worse.

NEESHA:

Oh, he's going to love you and your highlighters and colour coordinated stationary.

SOPHIE:

I'm sure there's more than just one tutor. Anyway, what are your options about the assignment?

NEESHA:

I don't know and I don't care. I'm just going to pack it all in.

SOPHIE:

Neesh, you can't do that. Work are paying. What are you going to say to HR if you just stop. Like, thanks for the opportunity but I just couldn't be....

NEESHA:

..Oh that is a point.. (*sigh*). Okay. So, plan?

SOPHIE:

Right, well I do happen to know about this. For this module there is one assignment that you can substitute, so you need to find out if this is one of them, and if it is then you don't need to do anything.

NEESHA:

Huh? Substitute? How on earth would you know that?

SOPHIE:

Yeah, on some of the modules you get one go to not submit anything.

NEESHA:

Oh cool. Okay, so I'll call the OU and see if this is one of them.

SOPHIE:

Or you could look it up yourself on the website. Here, I'll do it from my student home page.

NEESHA:

Trust you. Okay, so what does it say.

SOPHIE:

Yep, TMA 03 is substitutable but they don't advise substituting unless you really need to...

NEESHA:

Well, I really need to.

SOPHIE:

OK. Hey why don't you call your tutor anyway and see what he says?

NEESHA:

He doesn't want to hear from me.

SOPHIE:

Well email him then. And see if he responds. Bet he will.

NEESHA:

I suppose. Okay, here – I'll email him now.

SOPHIE:

Good. So let's see what happens.

EPISODE 16 SCENE 4

Dave is putting up the shelf

DAVE:

Right. So hammer, wood, nails. Everything I need for a shelf. And young Jack is out for a bit, so a good chance to nick his pillowcase. Problem is how will he not notice? Ah, I got it.

Sound of hammering

A door opens and closes

JACK:

Oh Dave, that is fantastic. My shelf.

DAVE:

Yeah. Look, I'm sorry I spilled some oil on your pillowcase. Anyway, I took it off and I'll get it washed for you.

JACK:

Oh, there was no need. And, I got your pillow.

DAVE:

Fabulous. Nice one. Well, I'll tell you what to celebrate I'll pop out and pick up a Chinese. Not like a Chinese woman, obviously. Well unless there's any nice one's hanging around. In which case there's a tin of baked beans in the cupboard.

JACK:

Dave, does it ever occur to you to engage your brain before your mouth?

DAVE:

Chow mein good for you? I ain't buying no meat though.

JACK:

Fine. I'm going to put some books on my new shelf.

Dave goes out and Jack hums to himself. There is then an almighty crash as the shelf comes down and Jack screams.

Music – duration: 00:06