

ROSE  
LUCAS

~~**Aiden:** I'd like to see him try. It really eats away at him that the group had their major achievement without him. Did you hear what he said to the reporter yesterday about us only being four? Intimate my arse. There's only four of us left for a reason and it's since he joined. Think about it. I'm only here to keep my eye on what he's like with my Lauren. Lucas is only here because Simon walked out after an apparent misunderstanding Daniel had with his fiancée. But still he somehow manages to pull the wool over my daughter's eyes. **(Places the award on the table.)** See how long before he notices. I bet he'll get all sweaty and red in the face about it.~~

**(Aiden smiles to himself and exits stage left. Rosie enters stage right. She sneaks up on Lucas and puts her hands over his eyes.)**

**Rosie:** Boo.

**Lucas:** **(Startled)** Bloody hell Rosie. What are you trying to do to me?

**Rosie:** Sorry I couldn't resist. I saw the fire-escape open backstage, thought it would be the quickest way round. The set looks good.

**Lucas:** That's down to Aiden. How was your run this morning?

**Rosie:** Good thank you. Struggling to keep up with Natalie though. She knows how to pace herself better than I do.

**Natalie:** **(Convincingly friendly.)** I think you're being a touch modest Rosie.

**Rosie:** Natalie was filling me in about rehearsals. I'm looking forward to seeing it. I never thought I'd see you on stage Lucas. I'm so proud. Sorry, I keep saying that don't I?

**Lucas:** Once or twice.

**Rosie:** So is he here yet? Daniel?

**Natalie:** We got talking after our run like we do.

**Lucas:** Why what have you told her?

**Rosie:** He's still bitter about the redundancy. He still blames you. I said to Natalie, it's been five years.

**Lucas:** In all fairness though, I can see how it must have seemed. The business was in bad shape and I had to let people go. Senior management wasn't exempt. But what he fails to see - it is because I took those difficult decisions that the business survived and is now flourishing.

**Rosie:** He should have moved on by now instead of trying to antagonise you. Constantly telling you that you are not good enough and making you stay here most nights to go over lines with Natalie. I'll be honest, no offence Natalie, but I'll be happy when the production is over and I can get my husband back.

**Natalie:** **(Awkwardly)** I should change before we start. I'll catch up later. **(Exits stage left.)**

**Rosie:** Bye for now. **(Taking the script off Lucas.)** Do you want me to go through some lines with you?

**Lucas:** You don't have to do that.

**Rosie:** Come on! It will be fun to do it onstage after all the times we've gone through the script.

**Lucas:** Actually, we'll be starting soon. I should change into my costume too. **(Exits stage left.)**

**Rosie:** Lucas, I'll just wait here then shall I? **(Puts script on the sofa.)**

**(Lauren enters stage right.)**

**Lauren:** Hello Rosie, I thought I heard your voice.

**Rosie:** Hello Lauren. Good to see you again. You're not in this one are you?

**Lauren:** No. I'm backstage and front of house. Daniel says I'm too quiet for the stage.

**Rosie:** Nonsense. I sat at the back last summer and I heard every word.

**Lauren:** Have you ever thought of treading the boards?

**Rosie:** Oh no, I couldn't. I don't like being the centre of attention.

**Daniel:** **(Entering stage right.)** Lauren, props! I thought I told you to bring them in? **(Seeing Rosie.)** Well... Well. Rosie Thompson. I'll have to make you an honorary member the amount of times you're here. **(Sees the award and steps over.)** Lauren what is this doing here?

**Lauren:** I don't know.

**Daniel:** Was this on the props list?

**Lauren:** **(Stutters)** Erm... erm... it's... erm...

**Daniel:** **(Mimics stutter.)** Erm... erm... it's erm... Will you kindly find a place for it?

**Lauren:** I'm sorry Daniel. I don't know how it got there.

**(Aiden enters stage left.)**

**Daniel:** Move it now.

**Aiden:**  
loft and  
mistake  
such a  
paper c

**Lauren:**  
**Daniel:**  
**Rosie:**  
**(Rosie glances at the script and exits stage left.)**

**Daniel:**  
wheel  
gooseb  
**(Aiden suddenly appears and slams the door.)**

**Aiden:**  
daughter  
award  
tongue

**Daniel:**  
**Aiden:**

Lauren  
**Daniel:**  
this side

**Aiden:**  
really v

**Daniel:**  
**(Natalie enters and looks at the script.)**  
**Natalie:**

**Daniel:**  
**(Aiden exits stage left.)**  
**Natalie:**  
**Daniel:**  
**Natalie:**  
**Daniel:**  
**Natalie:**  
having.

**Daniel:**  
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