

GENIE IN THE HOUSE! Ep.22 Emma TV 11/09/06 Arnold Widdowson

1 **INT. KITCHEN - DAY**

EMMA is slumped at the KITCHEN table surrounded by text books and various homework necessities. She is twiddling a pen and watching the portable TV out of the corner of her eye, longingly. It is a trendy MTV/T4 magazine type show. The female presenter's excitable tones fill the room.

1 TV PRESENTER (OOV)
...coming up, our top ten of what not to wear at a Hollywood premiere!

2 EMMA
What not to wear? That is my entire wardrobe.
 (pointedly)
Not that it matters because I'm never going to a Hollywood premiere

3 TV PRESENTER (OOV)
...later I will be interviewing Billy Blaze!

4 EMMA
 (Perks up)
Billy Blaze?

5 TV PRESENTER, OOV
...right after this break!

6 EMMA
Urgh! Oh well. I might as well get on with some homework...

EMMA picks up the TV remote and switches it off, looks at the books and settles on a 'Heat' style magazine and starts poring over it.

7 EMMA (CONT'D)
Ahhh. Think I'll kick off with a bit of 'media research'

Enter SOPHIE, bright and breezy with a spring in her step.

8 EMMA (CONT'D)
 (glumly)
You look happy.
 (Indicating the pile of books)
Have you already scaled Mount Homework?

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

9 SOPHIE
Nope, haven't even started.

10 EMMA
That would be why you look happy then.

SOPHIE gets herself a drink from the fridge.

11 SOPHIE
I'm going to get it all done at a
homework party.

12 EMMA
A what? A homework party? Are you
joking? Those are two words that
should never - EVER - go together!

13 SOPHIE
It'll be fun! It's just across the
road at Harold's house and...

14 EMMA
Whoa! Hang on - rewind. Who's Harold?

15 SOPHIE
Harold? He's just a boy in my class...

16 EMMA
(interested)
A boy? What boy? When boy? How boy? When
boy? Is he your boyfriend? Is there
chemistry?

17 SOPHIE
(Holding up a book)
Emma the only chemistry between me and
Harold is in this book ok! I mean,
he's just a friend. In fact, you're
more than welcome to join us if you
want?

18 EMMA
Hang on let me just check.
(looks at her diary)
Oh no sorry. I'm too busy... having a
life.

19 SOPHIE
(looks at all the text books.
Sarcastically)
Oh yeah yeah. I can see that. See you
later.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: (2)

SOPHIE exits

EMMA's glimmer of interest in SOPHIE's 'gossip' disappears and she is faced with her homework again. She slumps onto the table dejected, then guiltily reaches for the magazine. She stops.

20

EMMA

Well. I can't spend my valuable time
reading about celebrity gossip.
(her face lights up)
I'll watch it on TV instead!

EMMA picks up the remote and turns on the TV.

Enter ADIL who makes a bee-line for the fridge.

21

ADIL

Gangway! Hungry genie in the house.
Lock up your snacks.

CUT TO:

2

INT. TV STUDIO - DAY

A young female TV PRESENTER, about EMMA's age is nattering excitedly on couch to BILLY BLAZE, the latest teenage heart throb. He is ridiculously sultry and cool, and doesn't say a word.

22

TV PRESENTER

Billy, the last time we met was in New York after your gig, I remember we partied the night away! Ooh! And I was wearing that new designer dress!

3

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

23

EMMA

Let the man speak! I don't care about your dress! It makes me sick!

24

ADIL

(Looks quizzically at a tub
of food)
Are you saying this prawn cocktail is off?

25

EMMA

Adil - the people on the telly?

26

ADIL

(wearily)
Yes I know - on the telly, not in the
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

ADIL (CONT'D)
telly. Don't worry, I'm not going to
take the television apart... again.

27 TV PRESENTER (OOV)
(gushing)
...so you're about to release your
second album

28 EMMA
Third album! She is rubbish! I mean,
all she has to do is swan about a TV
studio getting pampered, she can't
even get the basic facts right! Where
do they get these TV people from?

29 ADIL
Is that a trick question? Because I'm
pretty sure it's not from inside the
TV...

30 EMMA
It's not that I'm jealous...
(thinks about it)
All right, yes. I am jealous. I mean,
they're my age... roughly... and look at
the life they lead! Interviewing hot
stars AND they get paid for it! It
must be brilliant!

ADIL is now munching on a bowl of cereal.

31 EMMA (CONT'D)
(half to herself)
I wish my life was like that

ADIL splutters out the food he is eating and hurriedly adopts
his wish making stance

32 ADIL
Let the power of my magic

33 EMMA
(suddenly aware of what ADIL
is doing)
Adil - no!

34 ADIL
May Emma be the host
Of her own TV show!

WHOOSH! EMMA shuts her eyes fearing the worst. There is a flash
of light and smoke etc. As the dust settles, EMMA opens her eyes
tentatively. Nothing has happened.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED: (2)

35 EMMA
(clearly a bit disappointed)
Well...I suppose that's a relief.
(trying to be upbeat)
Now I can concentrate on my homework.

ADIL has his mouth full, but is trying to communicate something.

36 ADIL
Mwmmshert... wumbshl

EMMA can't see him as her eye keeps wandering towards the TV.
She sighs and gets up and heads for the door to the LIVING ROOM.

37 EMMA
Yeah you're right who am I kidding? I
might as well go and watch the rest of
the show on the other TV. It's so much
bigger - alot more lifelike.

EMMA opens the door to the LIVING ROOM

4 **INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY**

The camera pulls back to reveal that the LIVING ROOM has turned into the set of an MTV type pop and celebrity chat show. There are TV cameras and cables everywhere, sound booms, racks of monitors. Camera operators, make-up people, floor managers and set dressers mill about. Instead of the usual dreary furniture upstage, there's a psychedelic sofa and a jazzy backdrop.

EMMA is standing, staring at the spectacle in shock. Suddenly an amplified announcer's voice booms around the set

38 ANNOUNCER (OOV)
Ladies and Gentlemen, Emma Norton is
in the house!

A solo spot swings onto EMMA and she finds herself blinking into the light as rapturous applause erupts from an unseen audience.
EMMA slinks back through the door into the KITCHEN

5 **INT. KITCHEN - DAY**

EMMA is panting and gulping wide-eyed with shock. ADIL is still in the KITCHEN. He swallows his mouthful.

39 ADIL
I said: I think the wish took place in
the LIVING ROOM. I hope you like it!

(CONTINUED)

6 INT. LIVING ROOM/STUDIO SET- DAY

PHILIP is walking purposefully around the set, barking orders authoritatively.

49 EMMA
Dad, I can explain..

50 PHILIP
Right...Camera three, I want a pan across the set, camera two, zoom in on the guest. Quickly on the make up please - and check the radio mics!

51 EMMA
Adil, what have you done to my Dad?

52 ADIL
It looks like Mr PHILIP is the director

53 EMMA
Him? He couldn't direct a tourist to the post office!

54 ADIL
Well there's no tourist in sight. This is only a live TV show..

55 EMMA
(she starts to get anxious)
Live?

PHILIP makes his way over to the monitors.

56 PHILIP
Come on everyone - we're on air in thirty seconds!

57 EMMA
Hang on... so if Dad's the director... who's the producer?

EMMA's face registers surprise as a heavy hand is placed on her shoulder. It is MAX who has taken to his cigar-chomping producer persona like a fish to water.

58 MAX
Emma. Darling. Honey. Sweetie. You're going to be fantastic tonight, I can feel it.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

59 EMMA
Max?! Wait a minute... what exactly is
going on here?

60 FLOOR MANAGER
Going in ten... nine...

61 MAX
What's going on? Is you're being a
star! Now remember, you are our
greatest asset - we're relying on you!

MAX half pushes EMMA onto set in front of the cameras.

62 EMMA
But...!

63 FLOOR MANAGER
...two... one... and go Emma!

Music strikes up and a huge EMMA NORTON logo in lightbulbs is illuminated. The amplified announcer's voice booms across the set

64 ANNOUNCER (OOV)
Ladies and gentlemen, please put your
hands together for your host.
Heeeeere's Emma!

There is wild applause and cheering from the audience. EMMA is at a complete loss and smiles helplessly into the camera.

65 EMMA
Hi... Ermm... um... Hello! Ermm...

7 **INT. HAROLD'S LIVING ROOM - DAY**

HAROLD and SOPHIE are sitting at a table strewn with numerous textbooks and other study aids. HAROLD is nervously going through a chemical formula. SOPHIE is half listening, half looking around the room, puzzled.

66 HAROLD
So... if we add copper sulphate to... to...
Nitric acid, um... the formula would... be...
um

67 SOPHIE
Harold? Is anyone one else coming to
this 'homework party'?

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

68 HAROLD
Um... well if x is the totality of the party and y is the expected number of guests. Then z would be the differentiator with which...

69 SOPHIE
Just a yes or no will do

70 HAROLD
Um... no.

71 SOPHIE
Not exactly a 'party' then is it?

72 HAROLD
Well, according to the dictionary, 'party' is defined as, erm...

73 SOPHIE
Harold, did you invent a party to get me over here on my own?

74 HAROLD
(embarrassed)
Well, I didn't 'invent' anything as such... perhaps 'conceived' would be a better word, erm...

75 SOPHIE
(kindly)
It's very sweet of you, but I just see you as a pal - a very brainy pal, but a pal nevertheless

76 HAROLD
(hiding his disappointment)
Oh absolutely! Definitely! Of course, yes. Yes.
(desperate for a distraction)
I know! Why don't we take a break?
Let's watch TV.

HAROLD reaches for the remote with nervous clumsiness, switching on the TV and knocking over a box of pens in the process. SOPHIE looks at him fondly with a smile on her face as though maybe HAROLD could be more than just a friend.

77 SOPHIE
(Takes a deep breath, coquettishly)
Actually, you know Harold...

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (2)

HAROLD sees the TV and looks surprised. SOPHIE has her back to the TV and can't see.

78 HAROLD
What's your sister up to?

79 SOPHIE
(annoyed)
What? Boy, you move fast!

HAROLD points over SOPHIE's shoulder. SOPHIE assumes he is pointing at her house

80 HAROLD
I know this sounds crazy, but... isn't that your sister?

SOPHIE finally sees EMMA on the TV, she tries to cover her astonishment by blagging.

81 SOPHIE
...incredible... just how much that presenter looks like her.

82 HAROLD
You mean that's not her?

SOPHIE is still blagging whilst trying to conceal her irritation.

83 SOPHIE
No, my sister is nowhere near that stupid, shallow and irresponsible.

84 HAROLD
No, I suppose not. You'd have to be a real dimwit to present a show like that.

85 SOPHIE
Exactly. Let's turn this rubbish off

SOPHIE emphatically switches the TV off, but it is still clearly playing on her mind.

8 **INT. LIVING ROOM/STUDIO SET - DAY**

There is an air of tension on set as EMMA stands terrified in front of the camera. Her ad libbing is stilted and painful.

We see ADIL behind the camera, holding up 'idiot' boards, and EMMA starts to read off them. We occasionally cut back to ADIL holding up the boards.

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED:

86 EMMA
(reading)
Hey! Why didn't the camel cross the
road?

ADIL holds up the punchline

87 EMMA (CONT'D)
Because he got the hump!

More audience laughter

88 EMMA (CONT'D)
Though seriously though, folks, camels
are really sweet creatures - it's
because they spend so much time in the
dessert!

More audience laughter. EMMA is actually starting to enjoy
herself.

89 EMMA (CONT'D)
(still reading)
But now it's time for my first guest,
please welcome...
(reads, squinting at the
board)
Sorry. Forgot to...

EMMA's voice trails off and we cut to ADIL holding a board that
says

"Sorry. Forgot to magic up guests. You're on your own. Busk it!"

ADIL grins sheepishly, drops the cards and scurries off.

EMMA is on her own again and the awkwardness returns. She is at
a loss of what to say.

90 EMMA (CONT'D)
(searching for something to
say)
Um... before my first guest... let me tell
you... what I'm up to at the moment.
Erm, which is well, not alot, because
I have this really boring history
homework. I mean who wants to know
about what's already happened. We
should study what's going to happen.
And call it 'futuristics' or
something...

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED: (2)

There is a ripple of polite laughter, but also a lot of coughing. This is a sinking ship..

9 **INT. LIVING ROOM/STUDIO SET, BEHIND THE CAMERAS - DAY**

MAX is standing next to PHILIP shaking his head and looking furious.

(NOTE FOR DUBBING: THE FOLLOWING CONVERSATION IS OOV AND VERY MUCH IN THE BACKGROUND BUT THROUGH OUT MAX AND PHILIP'S CONVERSATION, YOU HEAR SNIPPETS OF EMMA RAMBLING:

91

EMMA (OOV)

I mean I'm not much of an academic, I more cool..than school... but homework I mean... I don't watch TV or sleep at school...so why would I do work at home...what invite your teachers round for tea, no thankyou...
END OF NOTE FOR DUBBING)

92

MAX

Norton, what is this? She's supposed to be a professional! What kind of presenter is she?

93

PHILIP

Don't worry Max, She'll deliver the goods

94

MAX

She'll be delivering pizzas if she doesn't raise her game! Now this is a disaster! What am I going to say to the network?

10

INT. LIVING ROOM/STUDIO SET - DAY

EMMA is still rambling away about homework

95

EMMA

School is for work, home is for fun. 'Home' and 'work' don't mix. Try telling that to my sister Sophie - her idea of a good time is a homework party...

The audience laughs at this. EMMA is encouraged again.

11 **INT. HAROLD'S LIVING ROOM - DAY**

SOPHIE is watching TV with the volume down low while HAROLD is in his KITCHEN (OOV) making tea. She has been watching, horrified as EMMA continues on her 'swotty Sophie' theme.

96 EMMA
She's such a teacher's pet she should
have a leash around her neck!

More laughter

HAROLD re-enters the living room with a mug of tea. SOPHIE quickly switches off the TV before he notices.

97 HAROLD
(proffering a mug of tea)
Here you go!

98 SOPHIE
(as though snapping out of a
trance)
Yes! Here I go. Home I mean.
(apologetically)
I really think I should help Emma with
her homework.

99 HAROLD
(disappointed)
Oh...

100 SOPHIE
Something tells me she's not quite
doing it right... Sorry!

SOPHIE heads for the door and exits quickly, leaving behind a baffled HAROLD.

12 **INT. LIVING ROOM/STUDIO SET - DAY**

EMMA is totally relaxed and bantering away - all her previous sense of awkwardness has dissolved and the audience is loving it.

101 EMMA
... I mean, imagine trying to get a
boy's attention by talking about crop
rotation!

ADIL has reappeared at his previous position, with more idiot boards.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

102 EMMA (CONT'D)
Aha now! Here is the man who's
supposed to hold up my cue cards

ADIL moves in front of the camera

103 ADIL
(waving)
Hi!

104 EMMA (CONT'D)
...or 'idiot boards', as we call them
here. Named after the guy holding
them.

Audience laughter

105 ADIL
(raises an eyebrow of
offence)
Not so much an idiot board as a bored
idiot, listening to your drivell

The audience make a good natured shocked 'wooo!' sound. More
laughter

106 EMMA
Do you mind? I am trying to do my job
here. I don't interrupt your work by
knocking the coffees off the tray.

107 ADIL
Just as well - we need those coffees
to keep us awake while you're on air

More audience laughter

13 **INT. LIVING ROOM/STUDIO SET - DAY**

MAX and PHILIP are watching this with relief and enjoyment. MAX
and ADIL give each other the thumbs up.

108 MAX
Yes! This is more like it

109 PHILIP
I told you she was good

110 MAX
She? It's the fella with the turban
who's getting all the laughs!

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED:

111 PHILIP
Adil? He's just a genie

112 MAX
Geni-us more like! I'm gonna make him a
star... and he's going to make me lots of
money

CUT BACK TO ADIL

113 ADIL
You might be a 'present'er, but I
really don't think you've got the
gift...

(NOTE FOR DUBBING: DURING PHILIP AND MAX'S CONVERSATION WE
HEAR EMMA RAMBLING IN THE BACKGROUND, IN SOME CASES WE ONLY
HEAR BITS OF THE SENTENCES :

114 EMMA (OOV)
Performance you know how people are
always delighted when they strike a deal.
Well they love it here in the studio...
everyone wants to strike Adil - and
everybody is equally delighted here when
they... Emma Norton... Mainly because
they...Emma's not on...

END NOTE FOR DUBBING.)

More audience laughter

MAX shoves ADIL onto set with EMMA, where he receives a massive
round of applause. ADIL is bowing, lapping it up as EMMA looks
on amused.

14 **INT. KITCHEN - DAY**

Through the window, we see SOPHIE storm into the kitchen.
She looks around. All looks normal. She is puzzled, then she
sees the TV with EMMA presenting and hears laughter and
applause.

115 EMMA (OOV)
Sorry about him Ladies and Gentlemen you
just can't get the staff these days.

116 ADIL (OOV)
but seriously though folks...we
shouldn't laugh at Emma...why because
she's not funny

15 **INT. LIVING ROOM/STUDIO SET - DAY**

SOPHIE enters and is stunned by the transformed house. She snaps out of it and approaches the FLOOR MANAGER

117 EMMA
 Anyway time for a message from our
 sponsorerers.

118 SOPHIE
 (annoyed and loudly)
 Excuse me!

119 FLOOR MANAGER
 Shh! We're on air! Can't you see the
 red light?

The FLOOR MANAGER points to the red light and shakes his/her head disapprovingly. The light goes off

120 FLOOR MANAGER (CONT'D)
 And... cut for commercial break!

16 **INT. LIVING ROOM/STUDIO SET - DAY**

ADIL is having his make-up touched up while an excited MAX is heaping praise on him, with PHILIP looking on.

121 MAX
 Adil, my boy - you are hotter than the
 sun! My ears want to marry your jokes!
 Next stop, the top!

ADIL has no idea what MAX is talking about and looks helplessly at PHILIP

122 PHILIP
 He says he likes you

123 MAX
 I'm going to make you a star!

124 ADIL
 Wow, thanks! Are you going to use foil
 or something?

125 MAX
 Ha ha! Good one! There's no stopping
 this boy! No Adil, you have held up
 your last idiot card!

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED:

126 ADIL
(distressed)
What! You're firing me?

127 MAX
Au contraire, my boy. Au contraire..

ADIL grins confusedly and looks to PHILIP again for help

128 PHILIP
He says 'no'

ADIL looks relieved as MAX shakes his hand and he turns to camera.

17 **INT. LIVING ROOM/STUDIO SET - DAY**

There is a general relaxed hubbub of noise as the crew mill about. SOPHIE stands disoriented, looking around her. EMMA flounces over to SOPHIE

129 EMMA
Oh, hi Soph! What do you think of the show?

130 SOPHIE
(furiously)
Are you joking?

131 EMMA
I was a minute ago - I was on fire!

132 SOPHIE
(threateningly)
I'll make sure you are on fire if you don't unwish this... NOW!

133 EMMA
Now you're joking... there is no way I would unwhishing this - I'm having a great time! And so is the audience. You need to stress less.

134 SOPHIE
(sarcastically)
Well sorry for being the boring swotty sister

135 EMMA
Apology accepted

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED:

136 SOPHIE
But if you're not going to unwish
this, then I am

137 EMMA
(nonchalantly)
Then I'll just rewish it again

138 SOPHIE
Well then I'll unwish it again

139 EMMA
Then I'll rewish it again

140 SOPHIE
And I'll...
(exasperated)
Argh! Fine, I'll sort this out another
way.

SOPHIE storms off

141 EMMA
(shouts demandingly to the
crew in general)
HELLO! What's a girl gotta do to get a
cappuccino round here?

18 **INT. LIVING ROOM/STUDIO SET - DAY**

PHILIP is looking upwards, shouting orders at unseen stagehands.

142 PHILIP
Up a little bit... left a little bit.

SOPHIE approaches him

143 SOPHIE
Dad...

144 PHILIP
(without looking)
A tall skinny latte, two sugars - and
don't forget the chocolate sprinkles
this time!

145 SOPHIE
Dad, it's me!

146 DAD
(glances at her briefly)
Oh. I'm very busy at the moment love
(barks)
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

DAD (CONT'D)

Where's the lighting director? Where's the best boy? Where's the gaffer? Come on people we've got a job to do here!

147

SOPHIE

Dad - this is important...

148

PHILIP

(indicates the set around them)

And this isn't?

149

SOPHIE

But...

150

PHILIP

And remember: chocolate sprinkles

PHILIP continues to bark orders upwards. SOPHIE is dejected and desperate, then spots MAX as he walks by.

151

SOPHIE

Uncle Max!

152

MAX

Just an espresso for me please

153

SOPHIE

No, listen, please! This is crazy! Emma's just a schoolgirl! She shouldn't be presenting a show, with her name up in lights

154

MAX

You know what, little lady? I totally agree. She's not star material - I realise that now.

155

SOPHIE

(relieved)

Right. Good

156

MAX

The real star of this show... is Adil!

157

SOPHIE

What?!

MAX nods smugly and points upwards where the light bulb logo now reads 'Adil!'

158

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

OH! This is madness!

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED: (2)

ADIL's voice suddenly pipes up from behind them

159 ADIL (OOV)
This is madness!

19 **INT. LIVING ROOM/STUDIO SET - DAY**

ADIL is sitting with an entourage of crew flitting nervously around him. He is holding a coffee cup and shouting at a runner. He has transformed into an egomaniacal prima donna.

160 ADIL
Do I look like I drink decaf? Get rid of it! And where's my sandwich? I want a pastrami on rye with all the seeds picked out. Max!

MAX hovers into view. ADIL waves a script in his face

161 ADIL (CONT'D)
This script stinks! Where are all the camel gags? Get rid of it.

ADIL throws the script at MAX

162 MAX
Right away Mr Adil, sir.

163 FLOOR MANAGER (OOV)
Going in five... four...

ADIL sits and preens himself

164 FLOOR MANAGER (CONT'D)
two... one. Go Adil!

ADIL waves beaming to rapturous applause.

165 ADIL
Ladies and Gentlemen, thank you, thank you. I'm the new host around here, so from now on I'll be wearing the trousers!

ADIL indicates his baggy pantaloons, the audience laughs.

166 ADIL (CONT'D)
Seriously though folks, you wouldn't want to be in my shoes - unless you've got very strange feet!

ADIL indicates his curly slippers, the audience laughs again.

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED:

167 ADIL (CONT'D)
And now...

He squints, trying to read, then indicates that the next card needs to be shown

168 ADIL (CONT'D)
Sorry about this ladies and gentlemen,
it appears we've got an amateur on set
tonight

CUT to EMMA, who is now holding the idiot boards, she is struggling to keep them in order. The audience finds this hilarious.

169 ADIL (CONT'D)
(In a catchphrase style)
She used to be a star, and now she
does the cards - give a small hand for
Emma!

Audience derision and laughter

170 ADIL (CONT'D)
Isn't she beautiful? Long eyelashes,
slender neck, good teeth - but enough
about my camel!

More hilarity from the audience.

CUT to EMMA and SOPHIE, EMMA furiously throws down the cards.

171 EMMA
This is humiliating!

172 SOPHIE
Funny! That's what I thought when you
were talking about me, your weird
swotty sister...

173 EMMA
I'm sorry - I shouldn't have said
those things. But you are a bit of a
brainbox...

174 SOPHIE
Emma!

175 EMMA
What I mean is, maybe your brains can
get us out of this!

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED: (2)

176 SOPHIE
OK. I think it's time to unwish the wish.

(NOTE FOR DUBBING: WHILST SOPHIE AND EMMA ARE TALKING WE HEAR ADIL IN THE BACKGROUND, HIS VOICE IS INTERSPERSED BETWEEN THEIR CONVERSATION:

177 ADIL
We shouldn't laugh at Emma... why... because she is not funny that's why she lost her job.
Here's one for you..what do you call.. Wearing baggy trousers...Pandaloons! Get it?... Of course you do... Well...sometimes I amaze myself...I'm so funny

END OF NOTE FOR DUBBING.)

178 FLOOR MANAGER (OOV)
And... cut TO the commercial break!

20 **INT. LIVING ROOM/STUDIO SET - DAY**

ADIL is sitting in his director-style chair with a fluffy dressing gown on and dark glasses. EMMA walks purposely over to him followed closely by Sophie.

179 EMMA
Adil! I need a word with you!

180 ADIL
Oh what is it now? Another autograph?
(produces a pen)
Come on, let's get it over and done with

181 SOPHIE
(urgently)
No, Adil! We need you to undo the wish!

182 ADIL
And I need a coffee, but you don't hear me moaning about it.

MAX appears

183 MAX
Is there a problem here, Mr Adil?

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED:

184 ADIL
(indicating the girls)
Yes! Will somebody PLEASE remove these
people from my set. NOW!

MAX starts bustling the girls away.

185 MAX
Come on girls, show's over. We'll send
you a signed photo

186 SOPHIE
You can't throw us out! This is our
living room!

187 MAX
No, darling. That's showbusiness.

MAX throw's the girls off the set.

21 **INT. HAROLD'S LIVING ROOM - DAY**

EMMA is pacing up and down furiously while SOPHIE is
concentrating on formulating a plan.

188 EMMA
It was MY wish, and Adil hijacked it!
I don't remember wishing Adil to turn
into a big-headed prima donna

189 SOPHIE
Either way, if we can't get near him,
then we can't order him to undo the
wish.

Enter HAROLD with a tray of teacups.

190 HAROLD
Tea's up. You girls certainly have a
thirst on - I'm going to run out of
tea bags at this rate.

191 EMMA
(ignores him)
I mean, one minute he's your friend,
the next he's a totally different
person.

192 HAROLD
(unaware of the situation)
Aha. Beware of Greeks bearing gifts.

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED:

193 EMMA
 (to SOPHIE)
 What is he talking about? Can you
 translate? I don't speak Nerdish

194 HAROLD
 It's a reference to the Trojan Wars.
 The Greek soldiers hid inside a giant
 wooden horse and pretended it was a
 gift to the Trojans. Once inside the
 city gates, they broke out and
 captured the city.

195 EMMA
 Well that's lovely for them, but it
 doesn't solve my problem.

196 SOPHIE
 (cogs whirring)
 Wait a minute... Trojan Horse... guests...
 (jumps in excitement)
 I've got it!
 (Catches herself. TO HAROLD)
 Harold. Umm... I'd love another cup of tea.

197 HAROLD
 (amazed)
 Another one? What about this one?

SOPHIE downs the tea in a gulp, smiles and flits her eyebrows.

198 HAROLD (CONT'D)
 (shrugs his shoulders)
 OK

HAROLD exits.

199 EMMA
 (to SOPHIE)
 Well?

200 SOPHIE
 (explains quickly)
 Adil's going to have some guests on
 the show called the Cheesy Girls - all
 we have to do is pretend to be them
 and cancel the wish while he
 interviews us!

201 EMMA
 That is brilliant! You're a genius

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED: (2)

202 SOPHIE
Well, it was Harold's idea really...
even if he didn't realise it..

HAROLD re-enters with yet more tea. He has overheard the last comment.

203 HAROLD
What was my idea?

204 EMMA
(to HAROLD)
You know, you're so not bad.

EMMA gives HAROLD a spontaneous peck on the cheek. Then recoils realising what she's done. She walks out of the room followed by SOPHIE, leaving HAROLD wide-eyed and stunned. After a beat, SOPHIE returns and gives HAROLD an even bigger kiss on the other cheek. SOPHIE hurries after EMMA. HAROLD faints to the floor.

22 **INT. GIRL'S BEDROOM - DAY**

The GIRLS' BEDROOM has been turned into ADIL's star dressing room, bedecked with flowers and photographs of himself.

EMMA and SOPHIE cautiously peep over the top of the windowsill and quietly climb in. EMMA looks around in horror.

205 EMMA
Wait til I get my hands on that jumped-up genie

There is a noise from outside the room.

206 SOPHIE
Shhh!

The GIRLS nimbly move by the door with their backs against the wall.

Enter MAX and the CHEESY GIRLS, opening the door so that SOPHIE and EMMA are hidden behind it. The CHEESY GIRLS are dressed as one might imagine a pop duo does: identical flamboyant costumes.

207 MAX
Here you go girls. We'll expect you on set in ten minutes.
(beams at them)
Marvellous!

MAX exits, the CHEESY GIRLS exchange amused looks.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED:

EMMA and SOPHIE exchange a purposeful look and advance stealthily on the CHEESY GIRLS.

23 **INT. LIVING ROOM/STUDIO SET - DAY**

EMMA and SOPHIE appear behind the cameras in the sitting-room set wearing the CHEESY GIRLS' outfits, wigs and glasses. They look extremely self-conscious yet are well disguised.

MAX spots them and comes over

208

MAX

Ah! The Queasy Girls! Looking forward to having you on the show! You must meet the director - PHILIP Norton.

EMMA and SOPHIE start to panic about being recognised by their own Dad as MAX gesticulates over their shoulder

209

SOPHIE

Oh no, surely there's no need! We're just on for a quick interview and then off again

210

MAX

Interview? Nonsense! No you're booked to play your new song. PHILIP!

EMMA and SOPHIE turn to whisper to each other

211

EMMA

New song? What song? Do you know it?

212

SOPHIE

Do I look like I listen to the Cheesy Girls?

213

EMMA

Oh no!

PHILIP has arrived with a guitar and tambourine. The GIRLS try to hide their features as best they can

214

MAX

Ah PHILIP, come and meet the Queasy Girls

(aside to PHILIP)

I think they're a bit shy

215

PHILIP

No need to be shy, girls! It's just one song. Now, which one of you plays the tambourine which one the guitar?

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED:

Both GIRLS make a grab for the tambourine and half grapple over it. EMMA wins and SOPHIE reluctantly takes the guitar.

216 PHILIP (CONT'D)
Ah, competitive, eh? Tchoh! Just like
my daughters.

The GIRLS laugh stupidly. Suddenly there is a hubbub of activity as shooting is about to restart.

217 FLOOR MANAGER (OOV)
OK, commercial break over, going live
in ten... nine...

MAX pushes them towards the stage.

218 EMMA
(through her teeth)
I'm going to kill that new boyfriend
of yours

219 SOPHIE
It's not Harold's fault. And he's not
my boyfriend.

220 FLOOR MANAGER
In...two... one... and go Adil!

24 **INT. LIVING ROOM/STUDIO SET - DAY**

ADIL into the camera.

221 ADIL
Ladies and Gentlemen, it gives me
great pleasure to introduce two close
personal showbiz friends of mine, the...

ADIL squints at the idiot board which is now being held by MAX

222 ADIL (CONT'D)
The Queasy Girls...?!

EMMA and SOPHIE shuffle onto set and the backing music kicks in. They sway awkwardly. There is an awkward pause.

Suddenly SOPHIE has a brainwave and starts singing:

223 SOPHIE
(sings)
The magic we had has all gone,
we used to have so much good
fun, Time spent with you,
All our wishes came true

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED:

ADIL has worked out it's EMMA and SOPHIE and looks on, stunned.

224 ADIL
Magic? Wishes? Surely they are not
talking about me.

225 EMMA
And now you've become such a creep,
Big-headed, boring and cheap

226 SOPHIE AND EMMA
Fortune and fame have adored your brain

228 EMMA
And why did our friend have to change

229 SOPHIE
And turn into somebody strange

230 EMMA
I wish I'd never wished that wish...

231 SOPHIE
Now it's too late...

232 EMMA
Yes it's too late...

233 SOPHIE AND EMMA
Is it too late,
is it too late?

This is too much for ADIL as guilt and the realisation of what
he has done overwhelms him

234 ADIL
No, it's not too late! Stop!

235 ADIL (CONT'D)
May this house be taken off the TV
Let's get back to normality!

WHOOSH! The usual SFX swirl around and the house is returned to
normal.

25 **INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY**

EMMA, SOPHIE and ADIL are standing in the same positions, only
EMMA is holding a plate instead of a tambourine and SOPHIE is
holding a rake instead of a guitar. All three burst out
laughing.

PHILIP walks in from the garden, and suspects some horseplay.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

236 PHILIP
Come on girls! Enough playing around.
You should be doing your homework

237 EMMA
(ecstatically)
Yes! Homework! Lovely, normal, boring
homework!

26 **INT. HAROLD'S LIVING ROOM - DAY**

SOPHIE and HAROLD are doing homework together.

They BOTH have their heads buried in books. Something makes them look up. She sees that HAROLD is staring at her, gooey-eyed. She makes a quizzical face which snaps him out of his trance. Embarrassed, HAROLD buries his face back in his book. Then something makes HAROLD look up. He sees that SOPHIE is looking at him over the top of her book. Their eyes lock. When that becomes unbearable, both of them look down again. But after a beat, their eyes lock once more. HAROLD gulps. He leans across to offer SOPHIE a kiss on the cheek. HAROLD shrivels. Eyes lock again. Then SOPHIE leans across to offer HAROLD a kiss. He backs away and she shrivels. Two apparently empty beats follow. Then, in a moment of madness, they both positively throw themselves at one another.

CLUNK!

They knock heads together. SOPHIE and HAROLD both fall about giggling.

THE END