

ALEX and JUDY

~~JUDY: OK.~~

START

~~ALEX: But that's very much a ballpark.~~ Where are you going?

JUDY: Going?

ALEX: Moving to.

JUDY: Nowhere just

ALEX: Nowhere

JUDY: Somewhere smaller, maybe. Cheaper.

I'm sure you know, but

Mike had, before he left, he had very much led Johnny to believe he'd be the next Assistant Manager.

ALEX: Yes, Mike shouldn't have done that. Especially when he knew he was going to retire.

JUDY picks up one of the leaflets.

JUDY: You couldn't consider, um, reconsidering, could you?

ALEX: Reconsider the appointment?

JUDY: Toby's wife's a doctor, isn't she? They've got plenty of

Sorry, I shouldn't ask only I know Johnny won't. I know you and Johnny, um. I know you get on very well.

ALEX: It wasn't just my decision. I can put people forward, but the decision's taken at regional board level.

JUDY: Did you put Johnny forward?

ALEX: No, not this

JUDY: You didn't even put him forward?

ALEX: Johnny's target at the moment is to list four houses a week, but all this year it's been more like two and half, the occasional three.

So if I'm putting someone forward to regional management, they're going to be looking at those numbers and asking me why I think this person's ready for a bigger role, and being verbally promised a job by someone who's subsequently left the company isn't going to cut it.

ALEX: Do you see his payslips?

JUDY: Of course.

ALEX: So you'll know he's been getting less commission, considerably less than

JUDY: Yes.

ALEX: For some time.

JUDY: Yes.

ALEX: So what do you think it is?

JUDY: I know the market's been tough.

ALEX: Well we adjust the targets to take that into account.

He asked me, in his one to one the other day. He wondered if it was his clothes. Or turning up in a fifties car.

JUDY: He asked you that?

ALEX: It's obviously on his mind, he knows he's not doing as well.

JUDY: He's always felt dressing a bit differently made him distinctive, made him memorable. It's his thing.

~~What did you say? In this one to one?~~

~~ALEX: I said I'm sure it's not the clothes per se. But if the clothes are making him feel~~

~~It's the psychology, it's all about confidence. People can smell it, can't they? You need to project confidence so people want to work with you cause you seem like you're~~

~~winning. Maybe Johnny doesn't feel like he's winning for
some reason.~~

~~JUDY: So how does he turn it around?~~

~~ALEX: I said to him you've got to look at everything,
everything in your life, work out what it is that's putting
you off balance. And then do something about it.~~

~~JUDY: Do something about it like what?~~

ALEX: I don't know. Not for me to say.

Do you want me to value the house? Or is this just

Because it's quite a lot of paperwork and if you're not
really intending to

JUDY: No, let's leave it.

ALEX: Right.

ALEX gathers up her things. She stops and looks at JUDY.

I'll bear it in mind, OK? What you've said. I can't see
anything coming up, someone would have to leave and I
can't see that happening soon, but

JUDY: Please don't take him.

ALEX: What?

JUDY: I know you could, we both know you could but please
don't.

ALEX: Sorry I don't know what you're talking about.

JUDY: These feelings he's been having – I don't know what's
happened between you, I don't know how far it's gone, I
don't really want to know I don't think

But please. He's all I've got. I might be able to bear it just
being a sex thing, but if it's more than that

ALEX: A sex thing sorry what?

A sex thing?

JUDY: Oh my god you didn't

ALEX: Johnny?

JUDY: Oh my god.

ALEX: That would be completely

I'm his boss.

JUDY: I thought he'd told you, I thought it was a mutual

ALEX: Johnny?

JUDY: I'm his wife it's obviously not that hard for me to understand someone being attracted to him.

ALEX: No sorry of course he's lovely but

God no.

OK that makes more sense now.

JUDY: What does?

ALEX: The way he's been behaving.

Right, OK.

Huh.

JUDY: Oh god.

ALEX: God, men are so

JUDY: Please don't tell him I told you?

~~SCENE 5~~

END

~~Afternoon. JUDY and MARCUS in the living room, with drinks.~~

~~MARCUS: And that's why it's called a Screwdriver.~~

~~JUDY: Because they stirred it.~~