

# FLOODING APPLEBY ROAD

## EPISODE 2 "GAME OVER"

### SCENE 1

### INT: BEDROOM

FX

SOUNDS OF THUNDER FROM OUTSIDE.

RUNNING WATER CAN BE HEARD.

THE BUTTONS ON A CONTROLLER ARE BEING SPAMMED.

GUNSHOTS AND SIMULATED SCREAMS DROWN OUT THE SOUNDS OF WATER.

GAME

Finish him! Let him have it!

FX

GRUNTING AND SOUNDS OF STRUGGLING.

JACK

Come on, come on, come on.

GAME

Unlucky!

FX

'GAME OVER' SOUND EFFECT.

JACK

For fucks sake, every single time.

GAME

Try again?

JACK

Why even ask? Obviously, I'm going to try again.

FX

A GENTLE KNOCK ON THE DOOR.

JACK

Dad I already told you, I can't turn it down any lower.

FX

DOOR OPENS

DAD

Jack, can you turn the XBOX off please.

FX

A SIMULATED SCREAM.

JACK

I'm going to bed soon, okay?

DAD Jack, turn the XBOX off.

FX A PUNCH.

GAME Is that the best you can do?

JACK I thought you were staying up in case it floods anyway? I literally just have to beat this guy then / I'll go...

DAD I'm not going to ask you again. Turn the XBOX off please.

JACK Dad will you just...

FX 'GAME OVER' SOUND EFFECT.

FOOTSTEPS MOVE ACROSS THE ROOM.

JACK Piss off! Look what you've made me do. I've been trying to beat this guy all night and now you've...

FX SOUND OF A PLUG BEING PULLED FROM THE SOCKET.

STATIC TV NOISE.

JACK What the fuck? Why the fuck would you do that?

DAD Language Jack.

JACK Was it not enough for you to ruin this match, you had to ruin all the progress I've made as well.

DAD (SCOFFS) If I spoke to my father the way you spoke to me when I was a boy, I'd have gotten a smack on the wrist with a ruler.

JACK Oh brilliant, so you're threatening to beat me up with a ruler now are you? You're pathetic. Stay out of my life and focus on your own, maybe then you might actually get laid.

DAD Ah yes, and my sexual inactivity really is made so much worse by the queue of young ladies here for you, isn't it?

JACK I've still had more dates than you in the last year.

DAD Right. Well I guess I'll just take your word for it then, seen as you've never thought to bring any of these lovely ladies round here.

JACK Yeah well maybe that's because I don't want them to meet my sap of a dad who just sits around playing the crossword, getting pissed off if you breath too loud, and just moaning all day, every day.

DAD Jack please-

JACK They'd take one look at you and say "Christ, what a sad, sad man." And I wouldn't blame them. What a disappointing glimpse into my future.

*Pause.*

DAD Your mum is on the phone.

JACK Why is she ringing so late? I could've been asleep for all she knew.

FX ALAUGH.

JACK What? It's not like she's ringing to speak to you, is it?

DAD Have you looked outside at all in the past two hours?

*Pause.*

(SIGHS) Get off your fat arse and move your feet to the top of the stairs. They do move, don't they? And once you're

there, all you have to do is use your eyes and look at bottom of the stairs. Maybe the 5 feet of water covering our brand new carpet might shed some light on your Mum's late-night call.

FX                    DOOR SLAMS.

THUNDER.

**SCENE 2**        **INT: HALLWAY**

FX                    RUNNING WATER BECOMES LOUDER.

STATIC SOUNDS THROUGH THE PHONE.

JACK                He's such a fucking asshole.

MUM                Jack, we've spoken about this.

JACK                No we haven't. You spoke about leaving me here with him so you can go get passed around / like a...

MUM                Don't speak to me like that. I always said that if you changed your mind, you could come live out here but you always insisted that you wanted to stay there with your Dad.

JACK                Well yeah, I'd much rather watch Dad decay in his armchair then listen to my Mum getting rammed against the wall most evenings.

MUM                Where do you get these ideas Jack? You're being totally uncalled for. Not that it's any of your business, but I haven't even been on a date since I came down here.

JACK                I've seen all your new Facebook friends. I'm not stupid.

MUM Yes from work I... I don't have to explain myself to you.

JACK Why did you even bother ringing? It's not like you're gonna come up and help, is it?

MUM (SIGH) Your sister has been very naughty this evening. She's been refusing to sleep. She says she's been worrying about her big brother after Daddy said there might be floods.

SAMMY (OFF) Can I speak to Jack now Mummy?

JACK Well pass her over then.

MUM Not when you're being like this.

JACK Just pass her over.

MUM No.

JACK (LAUGHS) Are you serious?

MUM Deadly.

JACK Pass her over.

MUM I don't want you speaking to her when you're being like this.

JACK Mum don't be so dramatic.

MUM The way you speak to people is disgusting Jack. It's the kind of behaviour you're going to look back on and regret.

JACK Are you serious? You really think I'm disgusting one? Really? Look in the fucking mirror next time.

MUM Jack-

FX ABRUPT SLAMMING OF THE PHONE.

JACK (UNDER BREATH) Stupid fucking bitch.

DAD (OFF) I heard that.

JACK (SHOUTING) Why do you care?

FX WATER SPLASHING.

DAD (OFF) Because I don't want to wake up in ten years and find myself in Carlisle Crown Court because you've gone on murderous rampage.

FX GENTLE FOOTSTEPS TAKE US TO THE TOP OF THE STAIRS.

RUNNING WATER BECOMES LOUDER.

JACK Dad what the fuck. Are you naked?

DAD No, I've got my swimming trunks on.

JACK Why are you in there? That's literally disgusting. Look at the colour of it.

DAD I've rang the house insurance / and...

JACK And they said the best thing to do is go swimming in the riddled water?

DAD They said they're going to evacuate us, which is great. But they're not going to save Teal for us, are they?

JACK You've stripped down to your trunks just to get Teal's ashes?

DAD If the water gets any higher, she's gone Jack. Just a part of the river.

JACK So? Get out of the water, you're being an idiot.

DAD I can't do that to her. She was a part of this family too.

JACK Yeah... 5 years ago, before you and mum got her put down.

DAD She was in pain.

FX WATER SPLASHING.

JACK Would you put me down if I was in pain?

DAD I'd put you down if you weren't in pain. Because you are a pain.

FX TEXT ALERT.

DAD Someone's popular.

JACK It's Archie.

DAD Oh crap, how's he handling all this with that batshit mother of his?

JACK She has a diagnosed panic disorder Dad.

DAD Even so, absolute nightmare of a woman.

JACK Well at least she isn't literally swimming in the flood water.

FX MOBILE PHONE TYPING.

DAD What's he said then? Is he asking about all these ladies in your life?

JACK Just shut up and grab the urn.

DAD Just tell him that all his Mum needs to do is ring their house insurance. Then they'll sort everything else out. And tell him to tell her that although the call button is big and

green, and scary, it's probably just as scared of her as she is of it.

JACK (UNDER BREATH) Fucking hypocrite.

DAD What did you say?

JACK All you do is nag. Nag nag nag. "Don't speak to your mum like that" "Show a little respect" "Blah blah blah" Yet here you are, making fun of someone with a literal disability.

DAD A disability? She's hardly in a wheelchair, is she?

JACK Yes, a disability. That's what her doctor said, you know, the one that fucking diagnosed her? The guy with more medical knowledge than you. Why do you always have to be such an insensitive wanker all the time?

DAD Hey, watch it.

FX WATER SPLASHING.

JACK No you watch it. Watch the fucking urn. You're going to spill her everywhere if you're not careful. Why didn't you just move her upstairs yesterday you fucking idiot?

DAD Okay Jack, you've had your fun but it's not funny / anymore.

JACK You know what, part of the fucking family is she? Well, then I've got something really good. I've been saving this for a rainy day.

FX AGGRESSIVE FOOTSTEPS LEAD OUT THE ROOM.

DAD Jack? Where are you going?

DOOR OPENING.

DISTANT SHUFFLING.

AGGRESSIVE FOOTSTEPS RETURN.

DAD                   What's that?

JACK                   What's printed on my controller?

DAD                   What controller? I haven't got my glasses on.

JACK                   When you got me this for Christmas last year, you got a picture of me, you, Sammy and Mum printed on it. Do you remember why?

*Pause.*

JACK                   Do you remember why?

DAD                   Because... You were always in your room playing on the damn thing and I wanted to / remind you...

JACK                   You said it was because 'family is the most important thing' That's what you said. That was last Christmas, so what.... 11 months and... 2 weeks ago? Not even a fucking year.

DAD                   Jack...

JACK                   So now I have to look at this shitty controller every single day. Everything about this fucking photo is a lie. I have to look at you stare at Mum as though she's the most beautiful woman in the world. Even though she'd already met Ed before this picture was taken.

DAD                   Don't bring / him...

JACK                   And I have to stare at Mum smiling like everything's perfect, even though 4 days earlier, you'd bounced her head off a fucking wall.

DAD                    Jack, come / on....

JACK                   You can't see but if you look close enough, you can see the way she moved her hair to cover the bump you gave her. And do you know what makes this even worse Dad? The cherry on the fucking cake.

*Pause.*

JACK                   I have to look at Sammy. I have to look at Sammy, the little girl who will grow up thinking that this is a normal family. A family that lies and bounces each other heads off the walls. That's the family she deserves, is it? Cause family is the most important thing, is it? (LAUGHS) If this family was the most important thing in my life, I'd kill myself.

DAD                    Don't say things like that Jack.  
  
If you felt like this, you didn't have to stay here.

JACK                   Yes I did.

DAD                    Why?

JACK                   Because.

DAD                    Because what?

JACK                   Because seeing Archie lose his Dad made me not want to lose mine.

*Pause.*

Mistake.

FX FOOTSTEPS SLOW LEAD AWAY.

DAD Wait...

JACK What? I don't want to hear the same bullshit again Dad.

*Pause.*

DAD You shouldn't leave your controller on the edge like that.  
You might damage it.

JACK (SCOFFS) Right.

DAD Hey, I'm not finished.

Customising that controller cost me an arm and a bloody leg. And I didn't do it to try and pretend like we had it perfect.

FX WATER SPLASHING.

DAD I got you it because... because... (DEEP BREATH) I knew that last Christmas would be the last Christmas all four of us would ever spend together again.

And just so you know, I'll never forgive myself for what I did to your mum. Or that I ever let you and Sammy see.

When you said you were going to stay here with me, it felt like I'd been given a second chance.

But I guess not, eh?

*Pause.*

JACK I'm packing my things. You should do the same.

FX                    FOOSTEPS RETURN.  
A STUMBLE.  
A CRASH.  
A PLOPPING SOUND.  
SLIGHT SIZZLING NOISE. ACCOMPANIED  
EVENTUALLY BY THE SOUND OF SPARKS.

JACK                  Dad?

*Pause.*

FX                    SHUFFLING.  
A SCREAM.

JACK                  Oh my god, oh my god, Dad... Dad.

FX                    MOBILE PHONE TYPING.  
DIALLING TONE.

JACK                  (CRYING) Pick up pick up pick up pick up. Please pick up.

FX                    MOBILE PHONE DIALLING CONTINUES.  
DISTANT CRYING IN THE BACKGROUND.  
DIALLING LASTS LONGER THAN USUAL.  
FADE OUT.

**THE END.**