

OUR QUEEN (AUDREY & MELITA SERIES EP 3)

Written by

Kirris Riviere

Based on, stories coming from individuals that lived through the  
pandemic.

Address  
PolyPhenProductions

Phone Number  
07890681880

Set a couple of days afterwards, Melita, Audrey, Stan and Mike are all on a video call to the hospital. A doctor is in the room with their mother. The Doctor is heavily dressed in PPE and utterly exhausted. We join the Doctor and Melita in mid conversation.

DOCTOR

I hasten to add that I'm going from covid patients to cancer patients due to a lack of staff. We endeavour to maintain good infection prevention control and of course we're still learning on a daily bases, unfortunately we are under a level of uncertainty due to air borne spreading, the rates rising, and not getting enough support from government. Mrs Shaw, I am afraid to say we simply do not have enough PPE.

Slight pause.

I am also afraid to say that we have done all we can for your mother.

MELITA

Would it be possible to see her, and talk with her.

DOCTOR

Yes, yes of course.

The doctor positions the camera so their mother can see them. (We never see the Doctor Nurse or their mothers faces) The mother tries to wave at them but is to frail. apart from the doctor, everyone is lost for words.

I'm am so sorry but i must go.

Speaking to the mother.

I'll leave you in the capable hands of Fehmeed, Mrs Shaw.

Doctor walks to the door and opens it. The mother speaks as he's about to leave.

MOTHER

Thank you doctor, I know your  
trying your best. Just like my  
daughters.

As the Doctor turns around the picture freezes. We hear Nurse  
Fehmeed talking to the Doctor as their mothers breathing  
becomes loud and irregular.

FEHMEED

Thats it Mrs Shaw hold my hand,  
your daughters are still here and  
love you dearly.

DOCTOR

Thats it Mrs Shaw, relax.  
Everything will be fine. Thats it.  
Thats it, Mrs Shaw.

Audrey shouts.

AUDREY

O my god! O my god! Not like this,  
No! Mum please stay with us. I love  
you, please.

MELITA

Audrey, please stop shouting mum  
can still hear us, we need to stay  
calm.

AUDREY

Stay calm how the fuck are you  
staying calm.....

Melita ends the call the laptop screen goes black.. Pause.  
Stan and Melita look at each other. On the other side of the  
laptop screen Audrey starts screaming as mike tries to calm  
her down, this time it doesn't work.

AUDREY

And what the fuck is PPE?

Mike looks at Audrey.

MIKE

I'm going to ring the hospital,  
find out whats going on.

Mike gets his phone out to make the call. Audrey is irate.

AUDREY

Why did she do that, she just ended  
the call.

(MORE)

AUDREY (CONT'D)

That could have been the last time  
I saw my mum alive. how could she.

MIKE

Look let me speak to someone they  
can tell us whats going on.

AUDREY

This isn't good enough.

Audrey picks her bag up and walks out of the room towards the  
front door. Mike's still on the phone. Mike shouts.

MIKE

Wait, Audrey please.

As she opens the door, audrey shouts back.

AUDREY

I'm going to see mum.

We are back in the living room with Mike, he hears the door  
close. he runs out to the corridor to see Audrey sitting on  
the floor. Her back is on the front door. some coats and  
jackets have fallen around her. She looks up to Mike.

AUDREY

I think i need to talk to you.

Mike tries to lighten the mood.

MIKE

Well, that's lucky cause I'm not  
going anywhere?

Slight pause.

AUDREY

She's a power freak and always has  
been. There i said it.

Mike looks concerned.

Even when i wanted her to meet you  
she didn't. It was only due to  
Stan's car breaking down on the  
motorway that she met you sooner.  
No! She wanted it to be perfect. At  
the restaurant dressed in our  
evening gear with elevator music  
playing as we enter. No, no, no  
Sister, life doesn't work that way,  
instead....

Mike interrupts.

MIKE

I was introduced while I was ordering some drinks at a Little Chef. Yeah I remember.

AUDREY

And thats how life works but hey, better watch what I say, best not to stick my head all the way in the lions mouth.

Mike looks. Pause. Mike is still holding the phone which is now on loud speaker. Ringing noise becomes louder. If possible camera zooming into phone being held. We are in Stan's car with Stan and Melita. Stan's cough has come back. Their phone is ringing also on loud speaker.

MELITA

She hasn't even tried to call to apologize, thats the thing that gets me.

STAN

Why don't we just go home, your to upset to go visiting her now.

MELITA

You damn right I'm upset, all my life i've been the one getting her out of the shit while she drinks herself stupid. Yet again she's already wasted half our bloody evening.

STAN

I could have told you before we went to the hospital they wouldn't have let us in.

MELITA

Now I don't even know if she is still alive, my mum, our Queen. There's no way she should be exposed to such profanities. Audrey should know better and i'll tell you what, by the time I finish with her she bloody well will.

Stan looks.

She's still refusing to give me the recipe to mum's Oxtail dish. After all those bloody years.

Stan nods his head.

Yeah nod your big eight head but  
that was after we agreed if i told  
her mums Ackee and salt-fish  
recipe, she'd tell me...

STAN  
Where is this going?

MELITA  
I've had enough Stan, she's crossed  
a line. Enough is enough.

Melita opens stan's glove compartment.

STAN  
Hey, hey...

MELITA  
Yes I know, you still smoke cigs  
Stan, even if you say you've given  
up, your cough says otherwise.

STAN  
Hey, don't start having a go at  
me...

Melita lights a cigarette to Stan's absolute surprise.

MELITA  
Fuck it, you only live once hey!

Stan looks at melita.  
Keep your eyes on the road Stanley  
Jackson.

They arrive outside Audrey's and Mikes house. The phone is  
still ringing. Stan parks up and is about to open the car  
door. Melita looks at Stan.

MELITA  
Not yet, I haven't finished this  
cigarette.

Stan nods his head.

STAN  
Its not a bloody cigarette. Cant  
you tell the difference?

Melita looks right in Stan's eyes. We join Audrey and Mike  
still sat by their front door. Audrey is holding a drink.  
Mike is still ringing the hospital and has the phone on loud  
speaker.

MIKE

All this drinking isn't good for you Audrey.

AUDREY

Who are you, my mum?

MIKE

I'm just saying.

AUDREY

Well, say something different, something not so bloody obvious and I might for once be surprised by an interesting statement coming from you, and two, actually listen.

Mike looks.

I love you.

Suddenly they both hear footsteps coming up their drive with a the sound of a phone ringing also becoming louder.

Who the hell is that.

MIKE

Shh, just pretend we're not in.

AUDREY

What with your phone ringing on loud speaker, whoever's outside definitely knows we're in. Cretin!

Mike and Audrey hear a bag being dropped on the ground just outside their front door and then the door bell rings. The footsteps quicken as Stan and melita walk to the end of the drive way.

MIKE

Sounds like they're leaving.

Suddenly we hear Melita shout.

MELITA

We know your in there so open your door.

Pause.

Open your door, I need some water after smoking one of stan's bloody spliff's.

The door opens slowly revealing a slightly drunk Audrey and a rather amused Mike who is now looking at Melita. Melita slowly walks towards the door with Stan who has his hands in his pockets and feels a little awkward. Both phone's still ringing and both still on loud speaker. They both walk in as the door closes. The door reopens as Mike grabs the bag that Melita left outside their door and as the door closes again, the camera goes black.

END