

Lily and Teddy

Written by

Helen Sheridan

Third Draft 14.10.2014

FADE UP:

A photograph of an elderly couple obviously taken many years ago is encased in an oval mahogany frame.

ALAN:
You are a sap you know that?

EMMA:
Why?

ALAN:
You don't even know them!

EMMA:
So?

ALAN:
So.... why did you get the bloody thing?

1. INT KITCHEN/LIVING ROOM – EVENING

The Kitchen/living area is a muddle of objects from various eras. There is a wall collage of frames of different shapes and sizes and colours, containing a variety of images. Silhouettes of couples, etc. The sofa sits just to the left of this wall, which has spaces missing as though it is not yet finished. Against the opposite wall, an ironing board is already set up with a pair of suit trousers laying across it, and a shirt hangs on a hanger, which is sitting on the handle of the door to the room.

A couple in their late 20s/early 30s inhabit this space. The woman sat on the coffee table staring at the frame. The man stood behind her looking over her shoulder. Emma looks up to Alan with a sorrowful expression

EMMA:
Because it was so sad seeing them in that frame
just staring back at me and what if I can find out
something about them?

She looks back to the frame immersed in the image.

(CONTD)

You know they probably had no one who cared enough...
They weren't important enough to hang on to, so I dunno,
when I found it, I thought somebody should treat them
with a bit of dignity. What if the next person who came along
just wanted the frame, and their photo was thrown out.
How sad would that be?

Alan rolls his eyes but looks at her with affection.

ALAN:
Point proven!

EMMA:
Yeah, yeah!

There is a slight pause as they both stop to look at the photo again. Then Alan moves back to the ironing board and sets about returning to ironing a crease in his trousers. Emma moves to the sofa and sets the picture frame carefully onto its front on the coffee table working at the back of the frame. Alan still immersed in his ironing doesn't notice.

ALAN:
So what 're you gonna do with it then?

EMMA:
Well I'm definitely going to keep them.

Alan pauses what he's doing and nods at the wall collage.

ALAN:
I'm telling you now, they are not going on that wall.

EMMA:
Why not?

ALAN:
You're jokin'? Our everyone'll be all, ah are they your grandparents and we will be all, no. ... no we don't actually know those people! That's just weird! Plus, the idea of some old couple staring at us from beyond the grave ...

EMMA:
Give it a rest with that superstitious crap will ya, that's probably how they ended up being thrown out in the first ...

The back of the frame has given way in her hand and she stares at the back of the upturned photo.

(CONTD)
Al?

(CONTD)
Alo... come ere.

Alan noting the urgency of the last sentence stops his fussing and moves over to sit on the sofa next to her. They see a second photo, of a couple on their wedding day. The frame had been covering it. It's years older than the first.

ALAN:
Do you think it's them?

EMMA:
It's got to be.....Incredible.

Emma lifts up the second photo revealing the back of the first photograph which has a date

inscribed in blue ink.

ALAN:
Look theres a date on the back.

EMMA:
1935.

She lays both photos on the table in front of them and stares from one to the other.

ALAN:
Not much to go on if you want to find out anything about
them. No chance with just a date.

They both sit and stare at the photos.

EMMA:
Do you think we'll be together as long as they were?

ALAN:
Eh probably not.

This breaks Emma out of her spell as she turns to him with surprise.

ALAN:
Look at it logically Ems... that guy probably stuck
around all those years because back then his missus
would have done his ironing for him!

He ducks away and off the sofa before she can give him a slap, and with a wide grin, feeling pleased with himself, he goes back to his ironing. Emma goes back to the photos.

EMMA:
Two special memories kept side by side for
all these years. The wedding day is understandable.
What do you think happened on the day they got
the second one?

ALAN:
Anniversary maybe? You didnt get photos for no
good reason back then.

2. INT KITCHEN/LIVING ROOM – DAY

The ironing board is no longer up and Alan sits watching TV while Emma flips through photographs on facebook. Suddenly looking resolute she stands and moves to the shelving unit in the corner. She pulls out a couple of albums and roughly chops them into ovals and places two photos inside the oval frame. One is of the couple on their wedding day, the other is one from when they first met.

She hangs the frame in the middle of the collage and steps back admiring her work. We move in to the frame and moving out we notice some of the pictures on the collage have changed. We become aware of some removal men moving in front of the camera. One stops, lifts the frame off the wall and puts it into a box marked charity shop.