

The Bureau of Lost Things: No taste

by

Simon Wiedemann

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The characters, Will, Cara, Ronni and Ray were thought up by The London Comedy Writers. So was the surreal concept of the Bureau of lost things. All of the writing you are about to read, was by me.

FX: Loud chewing sounds are heard.

RAY
Mmmm. This is a good sandwich.

RONNI
I can tell. You're eating like a pig.

RAY
Pigs are very intelligent, Ronni.

RONNI
Just because they're apparently intelligent, it doesn't mean they have good table manners. You're eating SO noisily.

RAY
Yeah, well you look like a pig!

CARA, WILL AND RONNI TOGETHER
Ray!!

WILL
(awkwardly)
So...

RAY
(nervously)
I mean you see like a pig. They have very good eyesight. Well observed about my eating, Ron.

WILL
Well saved.

RAY
Ahem!

CARA
Why can't we just have one lunch break, where everyone gets along?

RAY
And why can't you ever pay attention? Didn't you hear I was paying Ronni a compliment?

CARA
I've never heard that compliment before.

RAY
Because you never listen!

WILL
 Hey... What the hell is that? Look
 who's coming to enter this building!

RAY
 My God. A man wearing a shirt on his
 legs, and shoes on his head...

FX: The entrance door opens.

THE WEIRDO
 Hello!

RAY
 (nervously)
 Hello.... What can we do for you?

THE WEIRDO
 I've lost my sense of style.

RAY
 Ahh... Not your sanity?

THE WEIRDO
 No, I don't think so.

RONNI
 Prove it. Who's your favourite band?

RAY
 Why did you ask that?

RONNI
 You can tell a lot about someone
 through their taste in music. It was
 on the news.

THE WEIRDO
 (thinking hard)
 Oh, gee.... gee....

RONNI
 GG Allin?? Activate the electronic
 lock, Ray, we've got a weirdo! He
 can't enter the general population!

THE WEIRDO
 What?? Who's GG Allin??

RONNI
 You can't take back what you've said,
 it's too late!

RAY
 Who IS GG Allin?

RONNI
Just a freak musician who used to poo
on people, on stage.

THE WEIRDO
WHAT??

RAY
It's ok, you'll get the help you need.

FX: The doors are heard locking.

CARA
(trying to calm the
weirdo down)
So... Would you like to see a picture
of my family?

THE WEIRDO
(edgy)
That... That sounds good.

CARA
This is my mum. She's nice isn't she?
What about yours? Did she hit you?

WILL
She must have done.

FX: Footsteps quickly reach running speed.

THE WEIRDO
AAAARGH!

FX: A thud against toughened glass is heard.

THE WEIRDO
OW!

RAY
Toughened glass. Just in case.

THE WEIRDO
Let me go!

RAY
So you can go pooing on everyone? No
chance.

RONNI
Call 999, whilst I see that he's ok...

FX: Cautious footsteps pitter patter. Three tones are heard
from a phone. The lifting of its speaker follows.

RAY
Hello, police please... There's a
nutter in the bureau of lost things...

THE WEIRDO
(shouting)
Don't listen to him, I'm not a nutter,
I'm an off duty policeman on holiday.
I'm constable Allen!

RAY
.... Uh-huh?... Uh-huh? The police
want to speak to you, Mr. Allen...

FX: THE WEIRDO picks himself up and walks to the phone.

THE WEIRDO
You've got to get me out of here. They
say I'm going to poo on everyone!

RONNI
(embarrassed)
I'm sorry, but it really did make
perfect sense at the time!

THE WEIRDO
(seriously)
Oh.... Is that a fact?

RONNI
What's a fact?

THE WEIRDO
It seems this place is under
investigation, and an officer was soon
going to come round here, anyway...
Why am I here, Sir? I've lost my sense
of style and I was hoping it would be
here, I'll explain later.... You're
sending round someone who isn't on
holiday?.... Ok, bye..

FX: The phones gets put down.

RONNI
What?? Why are we under investigation?

THE WEIRDO
Which one of you is Cara?

RONNI
Not me.

WILL
Not me.

RAY

Not me.

CARA

Er.... Me...

THE WEIRDO

Would you like to tell everyone what you've done?

CARA

Um... I've been stealing people's sense of humour...

RAY, WILL and RONNI give outraged gasps.

THE WEIRDO

Doesn't coming clean feel so much better?

CARA

(ashamed)

Yes officer.

THE WEIRDO

Now tell us a joke.

CARA

... What do you get if you give a rabbi tea?

RAY

What?

CARA

A rabbit.

THE WEIRDO

And another...

CARA

(starting to cry)

What music do do OAPs listen to?

RONNI

Go on...

CARA

(wiping her eyes)

Hip op.

THE WEIRDO

Now keep us entertained, until reinforcements arrive...

CARA
 Alright, here goes... I am in trouble.
 But because of compassion, I will be
 ok.

WILL
 That was supposed to be entertaining?

CARA
 It was a haiku.

WILL
 I want another gag...

CARA
 Er.... Why did the criminal Manx cat
 cross the road?.... To lose the tail.

RAY
 Eeeeeuuurghhh....

RONNI
 God dammit, Cara, that was cheese.

FX: Sirens are heard getting louder.

WILL
 Yeah, he said entertain us!

RAY
 Oh no, the police are here, already.

THE WEIRDO
 They must have already been in the
 area. Are you some kind of most wanted
 gang?

RAY
 No!

FX: knocking on the door is heard. The door opens.

POLICEMAN 1
 Which one of you is Cara?

CARA
 I a....

POLICEMAN 1
 (interrupting)
 Constable Allen! What the hell are you
 wearing?!

THE WEIRDO

I've lost my sense of style. I've already explained everything on the phone to the guy who sent you.

POLICEMAN 1

Looks like you've lost your mind. If you've spoken to the phone operator, can you explain the reason I'm here? What year is it?

THE WEIRDO

You're here because Cara has been stealing people's sense of humour... It's 2017.

POLICEMAN 1

Cara's been thieving people's sense of humour?? Now I KNOW you're crazy! Cara is quite clearly suspected of stealing peoples hearts!

CARA

I can explain! Er... I was watching the comedy film 'Happy Gilmore' at a house party, and I said 'I love Jews'. Adam Sandler is a famous Jew, right? Aaand... the guy sitting next to me heard 'I love you'.

POLICEMAN 1

And what guy was this?

CARA

... Just a guy sitting next to me.

POLICEMAN 1

Sounds like a pretty watertight explanation to me.

THE WEIRDO

But the jokes she told were hilarious!

RONNI

I don't think so. They were really lame.

POLICEMAN 1

Can you repeat one for me?

CARA

So... Why did the criminal Manx cat cross the road? To lose the tale.

POLICEMAN 1

Not my kind of humour, personally.

THE WEIRDO
Tell the OAP joke!

CARA
What kind of music do OAPs listen to?
Hip op.

POLICEMAN 1
Hip op isn't a style of music, it's an operation. Do you even know what a joke is? Are you hearing voices, Greg?

THE WEIRDO
.... What?

POLICEMAN 1
It's a simple enough question, Gregory Gordon Allen.

RONNI
GG Allen?

THE WEIRDO
Just the voices of the people here.

POLICEMAN 1
That's enough for me. Come on. Let's go to the loony bin. Sorry about this guys, have a nice day.

FX: Two men start walking. The door opens then closes.

CARA
(relieved)
Hoooooly Sh....

RONNI
Cara!

CARA
Poo.

RAY
Please don't keep going on about poo.

CARA
I actually got away with stealing people's hearts AND humour!

WILL
Quiet! Ronni, how did you know about GG Allin?

RONNI
A friend invited me to one of his gigs, a long time ago.

I don't want to talk about it.

WILL
What kind of friends do you have?

RONNI
Thieves apparently... Cara.

CARA
Don't change the subject, who invited
you to his concert?

RONNI
A punk music fan. He said to me
'aren't you tired of all the tame
bands that don't push boundaries?' I
agreed, then all hell broke loose.
Needless to say, he's not my friend
anymore.

CARA
Oh, Good.

RONNI
Everyone, please just get on with
eating your food.

RAY
Sounds good to me.

FX: Loud chewing sounds are heard.