

**ANOTHER DAY**

**BY DAVID MUNNS**

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**Cast**

<b>DAVID MARKS</b>	<b>: Daniel Berryman</b>
<b>JANET MARKS (David's mum)</b>	<b>: Antony Howell</b>
<b>STEVE KEYS</b>	<b>: David Munns</b>
<b>ANN BRAKE</b>	<b>: Lucy Meah</b>
<b>DAVID STRAND</b>	<b>: Antony Howell</b>
<b>PHIL LANGER</b>	<b>: David Munns</b>
<b>HEATHER</b>	<b>: Lucy Meah</b>

**DAVID M :** The one thing I always find (**Beat**), the one thing I always find about girls, is that, I often find them to be (**Beat**), well to be a bit pushy. And that quite frankly tends to put me off them!

Don't get me wrong - some girls can be very pleasant, but some girls tend to make demands of you that often, that *quite often* you can't live up to - like pushing you down the aisle as soon as look at you.

I know this because such a thing happened to me.

Her name was Hann..... no it might have been Heather.

Well I dated her once and together we,,,,,. What I mean was that things were not right between us.

I mean we stayed good friends and everything.

But I feel that it just wouldn't have worked.

**FX:** PHONE RINGS

**DAVID. M :** Excuse me – that's the phone.

**FX** PICKS UP RECEIVER

**DAVID . M :** Hello

**DAVID.S: (Distort)** Hello my old son how have you been keeping?  
Is it alright if I come over next Saturday?

**DAVID M:** Well the flat's a bit of a mess but you can come over if you like, and we can pop over to the World web café - but this time no Blake 7.

**DAVID . S :** OK I'll bring a Dr Who maybe a Tom Baker ....

**DAVID.M :** KEY TO TIME season OK ?

**DAVID S : (Distort)** Good Idea, I'll be round about three.

**DAVID.M:** See you then.  
Give my love to your mum for me .

**DAVID S: (Distort)** I'll see you then

**DAVID M:** You too. Bye.

**FX :** PUTS DOWN RECEIVER

**DAVID M:** Now as I said before I don't like..... I dislike girls who are pushy. But another thing is that I am a constant worrier, and to my mother I am and will continue to be a constant worry.

I worry about everything from the nature of the universe to why there is so much human stupidity in the world to why my mother insists on being so tidy and why she worries about my untidiness.

**FX :** PHONE RINGS AGAIN

**DAVID M :** And that might be her right now!

**JANET :(Distort)** David , you promised me you'd be with me at half one. That was half an hour ago. It is now two.

**DAVID.M :** I'm sorry, its just that I have a fair bit of tidying up to do and I haven't finished it all.

**JANET : (Distort)** Oh I see. The trouble with you is that you have too much stuff and there some things that you really must throw out .....

**DAVID M :** Believe me I will get round to it as soon as.....

**JANET : (Distort)** The cows come home (*slightly exasperated*). You *always* say that and it seldom If ever happens. If you had been more like your late father then .....

**DAVID M :** OK, OK I'll be round there in five minutes.

**FX :** PUTS DOWN RECEVER , DOOR OPENS , DOOR CLOSES , FOOTSTEPS RECEDING

**DAVID . M :** Three minutes later I was at the bus stop outside the discount cash and carry in hopes that I might catch - no praying - that I definitely catch the 987 into town. I bumped into an old friend Steven Keys and well.....

**FX :** BIRD SONG , OCCASSIONAL CARS GOING PAST

**STEVEN K :** Hi, David, what are you doing here ?

**DAVID M :** Hoping to catch that 987 into town. You see I'm on my way to see mum, and hoped to do a spot of shopping.

**STEVEN K :** Me too! By the way how's things between you and that girl at work? Ann er , Ann er .....

**DAVID M :** Ann Break ? Oh we're just good friends (Beat) you know.

(To Himself) I always feel uncomfortable talking about Ann but luckily he doesn't realise that. For the last three no - make that four months - she's been well ..... And I never said she was my type! Come to think of it I don't rightly know what sort of girl is my type.

**STEVEN . K:** Well that's not what I heard.

**DAVID .M :** And what exactly did you hear ?

**STEVEN K:** Well I'm not one to gossip but .....

**FX :** BUS PULLS UP AND DOORS OPEN

**DAVID . M :** I'm sorry I have to go.

**STEVEN :** I'll tell you next time we meet ok ?

**DAVID .M :** Sure. Bye.

**FX :** DOORS CLOSE, BUS PULLS AWAY

**DAVID M :** Few, that was a close one , I just don't want to talk about , talk about, talk about , well you know what I said earlier , you know about girls being too pushy and well Ann Brake is a case in point. Whenever we meet, whether ts at work or for a drink somewhere, she rushes me into things that I'm not ready for - like tying the old K.N.O.T.

When the 987 reached my stop I went to the one person - no the one and only person - who would understand.

**FX** : TRAFFIC ATMOS ,

**DAVID M** : (SIGHS )

**FX** : LOUD BUZZER

**JANET** : **(Distort)** David is that you?

**DAVID M** : Yes, mum, can I come up

**JANET** : **(Distort)** I'm afraid you caught me in the middle of the washing up.

**DAVID M** : I'll come up in the lift .

**JANET** : **(Distort )** OK.

**FX** : DISTANT BUZZ DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES

**DAVID M** : I called the lift to take me to the second floor and I knew what to expect when I arrived at flat 6.

**FX** : DOOR OPENS

**JANET** : Hello dear.

**DAVID M** : Hi mum.

**JANET** : Anything interesting you have to tell me ?

**DAVID M** : Weellll. I did bump in to Steven Keys at the bus stop ....

**JANET** : The stop outside the cash and carry ?

**DAVID M** : That's right and and

**JANET** : And ?

**DAVID M** : And

**JANET** : And?

**DAVID M** : And he asked me about (Pause) her

**JANET** : Ann ? **(Beat)** Ann from work ?

**DAVID M** : Well he thinks that Ann and I are.... well an item.

**JANET** : And are you ?

**DAVID M** : **No.** But everyone else thinks that , and what with that and the other pressures at work - at Book World.....

**JANET** : I know ,**(Beat )** By the way , do you know I spent all day yesterday tidying your room .

**DAVID M** : Thanks. You haven't moved my work file have you?

**JANET** : Why do you ask dear ?

**DAVID M** : Because I'll need it tomorrow that's why. Now where did I put it?

**JANET** : You'd forget your head if it wasn't screwed on

**DAVID M** : See what I mean? Its just as I said earlier my untidiness....  
There are things far more important than tidiness take Monday for instance: on Monday morning at Book World my manager Phill had some good and bad news.  
I also came into contact with Ann.

**ATMOS** : **HUBUB OF THREE OR FOUR VOICES INCLUDING ANN**

**ANN** : Hi David, when can we meet for a drink - so we can - you - well you know.

**DAVID M** : Oh hi. I, I, I was just going to.....just going to....  
Have you read the new Dick Frances?

**ANN** : David. Stop trying to change the subject.

**PHILL** : May I have everyone's attention please.

**ATMOS** : HUBUB QUIETENS DOWN

**DAVID M** : I wonder what it is this time .

**PHILL** : Thank you. Thank you. As you may or may not be aware, there have been rumours flying around that this store may have to close or relocate. I only hope its one and not the other. There maybe a new assistant manager joining us .

**DAVID M** : (To himself ) *Not another assistant manager.* And the great big saw came nearer and nearer and nearer and nearer and nearer and nearer.

**PHILL** : David would you step into my office for a moment.

**DAVID M** : (To himself ) I know what that means , and I'm not sure it's going to smell too good.

**PHILL** : Come in. Sit down. Close the door.

**FX** : DOOR CLOSES QUIETLY

- DAVID M** : Thanks Phill. If you don't mind me asking – what's all this about ?
- PHILL** : You remember Richard Goddard.....
- DAVID M** : The guy with a physics PhD, who worked here for a few months last year? Things started off well enough between us but then things went a bit you know.....
- PHILL** : And the last straw was that e-mail. I know that some people can't handle praise or for that matter criticism but...
- DAVID M** : He almost throttled me, and all because I called him a genius and it became a bit of an obsession
- PHILL** : You antagonized him!
- DAVID M** : I saw him on the bus the other day..... and he totally ignored me - but why bring this up now ?
- PHILL** : Well it just so happens that we have a new member of staff joining us tomorrow and I don't want you rubbing them up.....
- DAVID M** : The wrong way ? I can see your worried .
- PHILL** : That's not the only thing. I heard that you and Ann are an item.
- DAVID M** : Ann and I - are not - I repeat - Not An Item!
- PHILL** : According to her you two are stitched at the hip.

**DAVID M** : But Phil, I wish that she wouldn't, because, because she's not my type, but then again I don't know what sort of girl is my type.

**PHILL** : Then why does she always look at you like she wants you for lunch?!

**DAVID M** : I don't know. I just don't know , she , she

**PHILL** : Calm down.

**DAVID M** : Phill

**PHILL** : David

**DAVID M** : PHILL

**PHILL** : David

**DAVID M** : (Sighs) She's obsessed with me Phill, but I can't see why.

**PHILL** : David Marks, sometimes you can be impossible.

**FX** : KNOCK ON DOOR

**PHILL** : Come in.

**FX** : DOOR OPENS

**PHILL** : Ann - there you are!

**DAVID M** : (To Himself) To Phill she's the nicest girl in the world (Beat) to me she's just a distraction - in fact my whole life is one big distraction !

**ANN** : David, there are a couple of boxes of the new Oxford Dictionary that need unpacking in the store room.

**DAVID M** : (To Himself) There's nothing like unpacking dictionaries to get a girl alone with her obsession  
(To Ann) Be right with you.

**FX CLOSSES** : **CHAIR DRAWN BACK, FOOTSTEPS DOOR**

**DAVID M** : When Ann and I got to the store room to start on those dictionaries, I started getting nervous because knowing what Ann felt about me.....

**FX** : **RIPPING OPEN CARDBOARD BOX**

**ANN** : David ?

**DAVID M** : Yesssss.

**ANN** : I Was thinking

**DAVID M** : What about?

**ANN** : Us David. Usssss.

**DAVID M** : (To Himself) See what I mean – Pushy. Crypes !, How do I tell her that I'm not her type (To Ann ) What about us ?

**ANN** : When will we (Short Pause) You know

**DAVID M** : Ann I've been meaning to tell you, meaning to tell you

**ANN** : Oh David you're a sweetie

**DAVID M** : Have you ever met my mother?

**ANN** : (Slightly confused) Errrrr , No (Beat) Why did you ask me ?

**DAVID M** : Would you like to?

**ANN** : (Uncertainly ) I'd love to!

**DAVID M** : (To Himself) Her head says so, But her heart says no. It's rather like asking someone if they like sticking pins Into the skin on the back of there right hand?

Anyway on the ground floor of Book World the following day we met, I mean we're formally introduced to the new assistant manager and I was in for a pleasant surprise or not .....

**ATMOS** : **CHATTER OF VOICES**

**PHILL** : Can I have some quiet please .

**ATMOS** : **CHATTER DIES DOWN**

**PHILL** : Now as you may be aware . we haven't had a bad year but due to one thing and another profits have been down this year, and next year could be make or break for us . So to that end I have appointed a new assistant manager. So everyone this is Heather.

**DAVID M** : Not Heather? Heather Carter?!

**HEATHER** : David Marks is that you ?

**ANN** : Excuse me, but do you both know each other?

**DAVID M** : Why er , yes .

- PHILL** : Good then you'll get on well.
- HEATHER** : If he's still the David Marks I knew back then (Beat ) then I doubt it.
- DAVID M** : I know , I know, it was my indecision that made us part in the the first place.
- HEATHER** : You always worry to much,
- PHILL** : Ok back to work everyone .
- DAVID M** : But Heather those days are all behind me now.
- HEATHER** : Prove it to me. As I recall whenever you got into a jam you always expected me or someone else to come and bail you out.
- DAVID M** : But we did have some good times - didn't we?
- HEATHER** : That's when you introduced me to Ian.
- DAVID M** : (Puzzled) Ian ? Ian? (Penny drops) Oh , no – it was my old chum David Strand who introduced you to Ian. What attracted you to him in the first place?
- HEATHER** : Weeeeell the fact that he was all the things you are not, and the fact that he doesn't keep you waiting when he makes up his mind.
- DAVID M** : And then again ...
- HEATHER** : As David Strand said at the time you lost to the better man.

- DAVID M** : I know , I know. Don't rub it in, but I think I can prove myself.
- HEATHER** : Good - or at least I think good. Would you get me a coffee?
- DAVID M** : Certainly and while I'm about it - would you like me to get you this months copy of The Bookseller as well ?
- HEATHER** : Thanks.
- DAVID M** : Welcome to the team .
- PHILL** : Heather, David, can I have a word with both of you in my office.
- DAVID** : Is it to do with the brief relationship we had over six...
- PHILL** : It's not about that. I have a little job for you both.
- DAVID** : What's that
- PHILL** : Something I think you can both handle. Could be the making of you David.
- DAVID** : Phill then told me that Book World was holding a major Children's spring book launch which will include the author's signing copies of their new works - that sort of thing - and it was up to me and Heather to make sure that it went with a swing!  
Little did I know that it would be the most nerve-wrackingly busy day of my life and at seven thirty that morning.....
- FX** : **CARDBOARD BOX BEING OPENED**

**HEATHER :** David, could you pass me those shelf markers ?

**DAVID M :** Oh ...here .

**HEATHER :** Thanks and have you blown up all those balloons yet?

**DAVID M :** Yes I think so .

**FX : BALLOON BURSTS**

**HEATHER :** David , that display should have twelve balloons .

**DAVID M :** Sorry about that. One less won't make any difference (Beat) will it?

**HEATHER :** (Considering) Well maybe not, Have you hired the rabbit costume ?

**DAVID M :** Yes I picked it up yesterday from the hire firm.

**HEATHER :** Good, and put up the cardboard displays in the window?

**DAVID M :** Already done, I did them while you were having your coffee break (To himself) and scoffing the last of the Jammy Dodgers or was that Phill ?

**HEATHER :** And hired the actors and the magician?

**DAVID M :** (Slightly Embarrassed) Errrrrrrrmm I managed to hire the magician, but I'm afraid one of the actors can't .....

**HEATHER :** Never mind, I think you'll make a suitable replacement .

**DAVID M :** Replacement?

**HEATHER :** Well you are just the right size aren't you?

**DAVID M :** Oh I see (Sighs) Things I do in the name of Literature. Still it might be fun, if not a bit hot and stuffy.  
Anyway later that day ...

**FX : KIDS CHERING, HUBBUB OF CUSTOMERS, BEEP OF TILLS**

**HEATHER :** How do you think it's going ?

**DAVID M :** (Muffled) I think things are going rather well .

**HEATHER :** Did you say things are going well ?

**DAVID M :** ( Muffled) Yes

**HEATHER :** Was that a yes?

**DAVID M :** (Muffled) YES!

**HEATHER :** Oh good, You know with that head on I can't quite make out what your saying . Do you mind taking it off for a minute?

**DAVID M :** (Muffled) I can't get this head off !

**HEATHER :** Can't this what off ?

**DAVID M :** (Muffled) I can't get this head off - it's stuck!

**HEATHER :** What did you say ?

**DAVID M :** (Muffled) The head of this costume - it's stuck fast !  
I can't get it off !

**HEATHER :** Oh let me try (Makes Straining noises)

**DAVID M :** Put your back into it (Pause) Come on (Pause)

**HEATHER :** (One last Gasp) Sorry, It just wont budge.

**DAVID M :** (Muffled) Well that's a fat lot of good. I'm supposed to be meeting mum for a slap-up meal this evening and I can't go dressed like this...

**HEATHER :** (Trying to sound reassuring without trying to patronise) Don't panic . Don't Panic !  
We'll try again later when the last customers have left.

**DAVID M :** Well the book launch was a big success and Phill our boss was as pleased as punch. Oh and if your wondering I did manage to get out of that rabbit costume (Beat) Well, eventually. And later I met mum at our favourite Chinese restaurant though I hate to think what she would have made of me turning up for dinner dressed as a rabbit ! Anyway ....

**FX : RESTERAUNT ATMOS**

**DAVID M :** How's your Chow –Main?

**JANET :** Quite good , How's yours ?

**DAVID M :** It's good and the sweet and sour goes well with it don't you think?

**JANET :** How did it go at work today dear ?

**DAVID M** : Oh fine. But it was a bit hot in that rabbit suit.

**JANET** : (Slightly Puzzled) Rabbit suit?

**DAVID M** : We had a children's book launch at Book World today

**JANET** : (Realising) Oh I see , and how did the book launch go?

**DAVID M** : Well Phill says that's I could become Heather's number 2 full time, and if business picks up I could become an assistant manager myself

**JANET** : That's nice dear

**DAVID M** : I knew that things were going well and I somehow knew that it was too good to last. And that somewhere around the corner disaster was ready and waiting to take me for a tumble and that made me a little nervous but for the moment I was happy. If I have learned one thing it's this - if someone tells you that nothing can go wrong then you know that something is definitely about to go wrong but you don't know quite when. You know it will be soon and there's only one thing to do BRACE YOURSELF!

**FX** : **MOBILE PHONE RINGS**

**DAVID M** : Hello

**ANN** : (Distort) David hi it's me , I've thought it over and I really do want to meet your mother

**DAVID M :**

**(Worried)** Oh dear last time I tried to put her off and I think this time she's serious.  
Mum what do I do now ? !