

JMG Stories

LOREM IPSUM DOLOR SIT AMET, CONSECTETUR ADIPISCING



KIRSTEN  
JOHNSON

# SWAYING CUPID

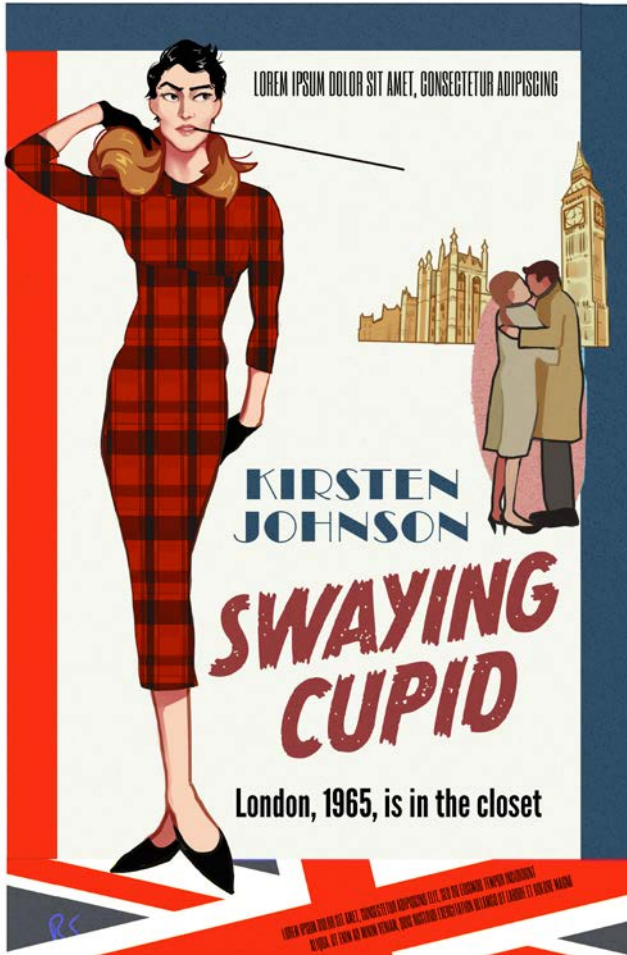
London, 1965, is in the closet

Written by: Laine Slater

# SWAYING CUPID

— *London, 1965, is in the closet* —

Created by: JMG Stories | Written by: Laine Slater



— ” —

*CHRISTIAN* Do you really think things will change?

*TONY* I think they will. It'll be hard, and it'll be difficult. But they will. And you have to believe that. Because otherwise, you'll sink.

*Christian's face is already starting to look better.*

*TONY (CONTD)* It's better to die with a smile on your face than cowering in the corner. That's the only thing they can't take from us.

*CHRISTIAN* What?

*TONY* The fact that we are, absolutely and completely fabulous.

**Genre:** *Drama, Comedy, Period piece*

**Format:** *8 episodes of 42 mins each*

**Targetgroup:** *15 years old and over*

**Potential buyers:** *Netflix, Amazon, HBO, various TV channels*

**Estimate** *15-20 mill Euros*

**At Pitch-level** *Q1 2021*

**Series concept:** *Swaying Cupid is a show about following your heart, even if it means facing complications, danger and even the consequences of breaking the law. It sheds a heartwarming light on gay struggles in the 60's, in an otherwise swinging London*

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**S**waying Cupid is a comedy drama that focuses on the struggles of the gay community in swinging 60's London, as they try to find love working at a matchmaking service.

A series for 15 year olds and over which will resonate with the gay community and people who are interested 60's culture.

*Concept:* How are you supposed to find love, when society finds that love immoral, and in the eyes of the law, illegal?

Christian, a closeted gay man living in 1965 London, has a very un-fabulous life. When not day dreaming of a more exciting life, he toils away at his mind numbing banking job, or gets drunk with his housemate Imogen, and his two gay best friends, Steven and Robert.

Christian just wants to find love, and find love for his hopeless friends too. But this poses a problem. The 60's may be swinging, but for a homosexual, such a lifestyle can get you arrested, or even killed. After matching two friends together, and finding he has a real knack for it, Christian decides to become a matchmaker, but it's not that simple.

A man being a matchmaker, especially in these times where suspicion is high, is a good way to get yourself outed as homosexual and in a lot of trouble.

After being attacked and accused of being a homosexual, he can only think of one other way to make his dream happen. Christian needs to find a way of using his talents, but without people knowing it's him. Christian drops his suit and

tie, and instead dons a wig and dress, to become Kirsten.

Kirsten is confident, sassy, and all the things Christian isn't. But this means that Christian now must lead a double life. Two jobs, two personalities, two sets of clothes and two secrets. Being a gay man and being a woman who's really not a woman at all.

Kirsten's matchmaking service quickly becomes one of the best in the city, all the while secretly supporting and working with the gay community on the side. Things get more complicated when he falls in love with one of his males clients... one who thinks Christian is a woman.

Being outed as a gay man can land you in a mental hospital. Being outed as a transvestite can land you in prison.

And a woman from Christian's past has discovered his secret, and is hellbent on making the world know.

Kirsten's got to work hard to keep her friends out of trouble, her company above water, and double life a secret.

And Christian has to work twice as hard...

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# SWAYING CUPID

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*“The purpose of a man is to love a woman  
And the purpose of a woman is to love her man  
So come on baby let's start today, come on baby let's play  
The game of (love) love (love) love  
La la la la love!”*

---

*The Game of Love  
by Wayne Fontana and the Mindbenders*

*– Note –*

*Please read the pilot script before reading this bible. Also, when music is mentioned throughout this bible/script, please play the music as you read for the full experience.*

*– Synopsis –*

Christian, a closeted gay man living in 1965 London, wants to follow his dream of being a matchmaker. He's got the talent, he's got the drive, he's just got the wrong... ahem, you know. Christian must shed his quiet reserved personality and take on the one of Kirsten, his sharp tongued, fierce and fabulous alter ego to help the gay community find love, and possibly find it himself..

SWAYING CUPID

*Pilot Episode*

# *The Secret Knock*

*Written by: Laine Slater*

INT. CHRISTIANS'S FLAT - CHRISTIAN'S ROOM - MORNING

CHRISTIAN GIST, (28), wakes up. Clean shaven, with hair that likes to stick up at odd angles and a nice jaw line.

Christian's room is smart and very tidy. Hardwood floors, big windows, double bed and a respectable collection of books. A record player and vinyl collection sit in one corner.

He pulls himself out of bed and staggers slightly as he stands up. It's clear he was drinking the night before.

He walks over to his record player, takes a vinyl out from his extensive collection. "Along Came Jones" by Tom Jones.

Christian places the record on the turntable, then presses play.

MUSIC CUE: "IT'S NOT UNUSUAL" by Tom Jones.

Suddenly Christian's hungover frame disappears. He begins to dance. Sways and spins, all arms waving and leaping across his room.

INT. CHRISTIANS'S FLAT - BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

As the music plays, he brushes his teeth, does a well thought out and carefully curated skin care routine, shaves, and then hops in the shower.

INT. CHRISTIANS'S FLAT - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Christian leaves the bathroom, towel around his waist, carefully drying his hair with another towel.

MUSIC CUE ENDS.

As he is suddenly face to face with JEN (29), pretty and a bit dumb, dressed in typical 60's fashion, tight jumper, pencil skirt, tights.

Christian lets out a high pitched yelp and instinctively covers his chest.

CHRISTIAN

Oh. Hello Jen.

JEN

Hello, Christian...

CHRISTIAN

Um... You have a nice night?

JEN

Yeah. Where did you wander off to?

CHRISTIAN

Work today. Had to leave early...

JEN

Shame. We could have... hung out.

Christian laughs nervously.

CHRISTIAN

Yeah, shame. Maybe next time?

JEN

Until next time...

Christian grins sheepishly and backs away until his behind finds his door. He slips into it, still facing Jen, as if she were to attack him at any moment.

INT. CHRISTIANS'S FLAT - CHRISTIAN'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Christian leans against his door and lets out a sigh.

CUT TO:

INT. CHRISTIANS'S FLAT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Christian, now fully dressed in a smart grey suit, enters the living room. Spacious and airy, with large abstract art pieces hanging on the walls. Jen lounges on the sofa. She smiles flirtatiously at Christian.

In the middle of the room, sits IMOGEN PALMER (26), very pretty, long hair, slight hippie vibe to her. None of this can be seen right now as she is very, very hungover. Tired eyes and messy hair, Imogen is painting on her easel. She seems to be finding it difficult.

CHRISTIAN

I'm going to work Imogen.

(pause)

Are you okay?

IMOGEN

I'm seeing how I paint in different states of mind. This one is while hungover. It's a painting of darker tones and melancholy.

CHRISTIAN

You mean you're just hungover and  
you promised your friend you'd  
finish the painting today?

IMOGEN

Hmm, I prefer what I said.

CHRISTIAN

Right, well I'm off to work. I'll  
see you later.

IMOGEN

Okay, love you.

CHRISTIAN

I know. Bye.

JEN

Bye Christian!

Christian just nods nervously and makes his exit.

JEN (CONT'D)

I think he fancies me.

Imogen snorts.

IMOGEN

He definitely doesn't.

JEN

How would you know?

Imogen turns to her.

IMOGEN

Right. You can't tell anyone.

JEN

Yeah?

IMOGEN

But he's... you know...

Jen looks at her expectantly. Imogen struggles with her  
words.

IMOGEN (CONT'D)

You know.

Imogen flaps her hand forward. Jen's eyes open wide in  
surprise.



JEN

Ohhhh!

Jen wrinkles her nose in a way you would at a cute child.

JEN (CONT'D)

Awww.

CUT TO:

EXT. BANK - OUTSIDE BANK - MORNING

Christian walks along, taking in his surroundings. This is his regular walk to work in busy 1960's London. Flower power hippies walk past, laughing and chatting. A pair of Mods skulk along, brooding and cool.

MUSIC CUE: "GAME OF LOVE" by Wayne Fontana and the Mindbenders.

Christian passes a coffee shop, where he sees a couple chatting. As the woman talks for England, the man catches Christian's eye and smiles at him. A couple holding hands walk over the road, and the woman looks back to check out the backside of another lady.

London is in the closet.

END MUSIC CUE.

EXT. BANK - TELLER STATION - MORNING

Christian settles at his station. His cheerful face soon becomes one of pure indifference. Life is a lot greyer at the bank. Next to him, is JOHN, (32), expensive hair cut, expensive suit, but clearly not as cool as he thinks he is. John has a classic posh English accent. He looks at Christian and leans over.

JOHN

Had a bit of a rager last night.

CHRISTIAN

Oh yeah?

JOHN

Ohh yes. It was insane I'll tell you. Me and some of the chaps went for a spot of dinner, then to the casino - an illegal one I might add!

Christian listens politely.

JOHN (CONT'D)  
Then we went to a gentleman's club.  
Cigars, drinks, was very cool. How  
about you?

CHRISTIAN  
Well. Just a usual Friday night.  
Um.

CUT TO:

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

INT. CHRISTIAN'S FLAT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Christian and Imogen are sitting on the sofa watching "Top of the Pops" on TV, smoking cigarettes, drinking wine out the bottle. The small black and white TV shows The Beatles playing.

CHRISTIAN  
(V.O)  
Me and my housemate listened to  
some music, had some drinks.

IMOGEN  
Who's the best looking of The  
Beatles?

CHRISTIAN  
I like Paul the best.

IMOGEN  
I fancy Ringo.

Christian chokes on his drink.

CHRISTIAN  
Ew!

CUT TO:

INT. CHRISTIAN'S FLAT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Now Christian's friends are here. STEVEN, (34), tall and strong, but as gentle and sweet as a kitten. And ROBERT, (30), always smiling, as camp as the day is long, very feisty.

They dance and act camp together gossiping, giggling and have fun, getting out all of that silliness that they won't be able to show in public.

CHRISTIAN

(V.O)

Then some other friends came by,  
got dressed up for the night we had  
some...

They smoke cigarettes out of cigarette holders and drink elaborate cocktails that Steven makes.

CUT BACK TO:

END FLASHBACK.

INT. BANK - TELLER STATION - CONTINUOUS

Christian thinks for a moment.

CHRISTIAN

Whiskeys.

CUT TO:

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

INT. JAZZ CLUB - NIGHT

The group dances to a large brass band. Christian catches the eye of a HANDSOME YOUNG MAN, dressed in a smart, grey suit, who stands by the bar. In the background, TOUGH LOOKING MEN watch from the side lines, either suspicious or just angry at the groups flamboyant behaviour. Christian subtly flirts with his new friend.

CHRISTIAN

(V.O)

Then more drinking, dancing at a  
club.

Jen arrives and puts it quite heavy on Christian, who smiles through it before escaping.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

Then met someone, who I... er...

END FLASHBACK.

INT. BANK - TELLER STATION - CONTINUOUS

CHRISTIAN  
Took home...?

John looks at him for a moment. Christian thinks he's slipped up, then...

JOHN  
Nice one! Was she pretty?

Christian thinks of the face of his new friend from last night. We see flashes of the little hand touches, the staring. So handsome.

CHRISTIAN  
Gorgeous...

JOHN  
(laughs)  
Well I am here for it! We definitely need to go out together soon.

CHRISTIAN  
Ummm...

The BANK MANAGER, wearing an expensive suit, passes John and Christian. He is a bit of a brute, despite his fancy clothes.

BANK MANAGER  
John! Christian! Is this a mother's meeting? Open up your stations! You can knit and talk about your baking recipes on your break!

Christian knows the drill, he gets his head down and starts working. It seems Christian is quite intimidated by his boss.

CUT TO:

INT. POSH BAR - EVENING

End of the work day. It's a busy Saturday evening. Christian sits with Steven, Robert and Imogen, they are all still feeling the night before. They sip on red wine.

STEVEN  
Did you get that guy's details from last night, Christian?

CHRISTIAN

No

(pause)

You know when, you know they are,  
and they know you are. But you  
don't want to ask or make a move,  
just in case you've read all the  
signals wrong?

ROBERT

I never have that problem. I have a  
sixth sense about these kind of  
things. For example.

Robert motions to a GOOD LOOKING CHAP who's standing by the  
bar. The chap gives a small smile to Robert.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

If you'll excuse me...

Robert stands and makes his way over to the chap. The chap  
smiles warmly as he approaches.

STEVEN

There should be a knock.

IMOGEN

A knock?

STEVEN

Yeah, like a certain knock you do  
if you are into each other.

CHRISTIAN

What like-

Christian raps his knuckles on the table several times in a  
sort of musical beat.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

Do you want to snog a man?

Steven and Imogen laugh. They order more drinks.

INT. COCKTAIL BAR - LATER

They are all quite drunk now, Robert is still chatting away  
to the good looking chap.

STEVEN

Why can't we find love as easily as  
the rest of the world?

CHRISTIAN

Because we'd get arrested. Or sent to a looney bin.

STEVEN

I know, I know, but what if we had a way of meeting new people, without broadcasting that we're gay? And you would have to give the special knock so we knew that we're gay?

CHRISTIAN

You were serious about the knock?

STEVEN

No, but something, like a secret code so we knew what kind of person they were looking for? We can't tell who might be like us, and who might be-

Steven is interrupted by raised voices.

CHAP

(O.S)

What do you think you're playing at?

They look over to the bar, where the chap Robert was talking to has suddenly become hostile. Robert looks terrified.

ROBERT

(stuttering)

I'm sorry- I thought- I just-

CHAP

Thought what? Eh? Do you think I'm queer? Eh? Are you a queer?

This brings more attention to them. Several of the chap's friends stand up from the table and advance on Robert. Christian jumps into action.

CHAP'S FRIEND 1

What's wrong?

CHAP

This bloke here just tried to kiss me! Leaned in and tried to bloody kiss me!

ROBERT

I'm sorry, I was just messing  
about, I didn't mean anything by it-

CHAP'S FRIEND 2

Are you queer? Eh? Are you batty  
boy? He's a batty boy isn't he?  
Aren't you?

Christian jumps in.

CHRISTIAN

I'm sorry, my friend, he's drunk,  
he didn't mean anything by it.

CHAP'S FRIEND 1

Are you queer too? Coming out the  
woodworks now, aren't they?

CHAP

How many of them are there?  
Disgusting. You touch me again and  
I'll break your arm.

CHRISTIAN

He's drunk, it was an accident,  
it's fine.

CHAP

No it's not fine. Dirty bastards.

They look like they're about to punch Christian and Robert.  
Then Steven comes in between them. Steven towers over the  
chap and his friend. Imogen stands by them too.

STEVEN

That's enough.

The chap and his friends know when they're outmatched. They  
look around at Christian and his friends and back off.

CHAP

Should be locked up the lot of you.

CHAP'S FRIEND 2

You keep away. Dirty queers.

The chap and his friend leave. After a moment, the bar picks  
up again. Steven goes a bit weak at the knees.

STEVEN

Bloody hell, that was scary.

Steven sits down.

CHRISTIAN  
That was amazing Steven!

STEVEN  
I need a brandy.

Imogen pushes a drink into Steven's hand, which he knocks back with ease.

EXT. STREETS - LATER

Everyone is walking home. Christian and Robert have fallen behind slightly in order to have a quiet conversation.

ROBERT  
That was so embarrassing.

CHRISTIAN  
You didn't know. He didn't need to make a scene like that.

ROBERT  
It's so hard. How are we supposed to find anyone when they could be... like them? I wish there was-

CHRISTIAN  
A secret knock?

ROBERT  
We're not undercover spies Christian. We're people. We work, and we get drunk on weekends, and we want to fall in love and chat up strangers. Why can't we just be treated like everyone else?

Christian struggles to find a reply.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
My friend was caught in a public loo last week.

CHRISTIAN  
Yeah?

ROBERT  
Yeah. A bunch of blokes, pulled him and the other guy out. Kicked the living daylights out of them.



CHRISTIAN  
Are you still visiting public  
toilets?

Robert doesn't answer.

ROBERT  
I'm going to head home.

CHRISTIAN  
You sure? We were going to have a  
few people around our place.

ROBERT  
Yeah mate, I think I've outed  
myself enough tonight.

Robert starts to cross the road.

CHRISTIAN  
You could join a matchmaking  
service?

ROBERT  
(laughs)  
What will my preferences be? Blue  
eyes, blonde hair, and a penis?

Christian laughs.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
Bye.

CHRISTIAN  
Bye.

Robert walks away. Christian keeps following the group and  
thinks.

His peace is broken by a drunk Jen, who again, appears out of  
nowhere.

JEN  
Christian! Hi! How are you?

CHRISTIAN  
Oh, hi Jen.

Jen moves in close.

JEN  
Listen, it's okay. I know.

CHRISTIAN

Know what?

JEN

You know! About the thing about the fancying men thing.

CHRISTIAN

What? No I don't!

JEN

It's okay. Imogen told me, it's fine!

Christian sighs and throws an annoyed glance at Imogen, who glances back and waves merrily at them. Jen waves back.

CHRISTIAN

You can't tell anyone.

JEN

No, no! It's fine! It's great! You know, I've always wanted to have a gay best friend. You know, for shopping and stuff.

CHRISTIAN

Right. Well I'm sorry, but - I'm actually Imogen's gay best friend, and I can only be one person's at a time.

JEN

Really? Is that like, in the rules?

CHRISTIAN

The gay rules say so, yeah.

JEN

Ohh. That's a shame. Cause I'd love a gay best friend. For like-

CHRISTIAN

Shopping and stuff.

JEN (CONT'D)

Shopping and stuff.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

Yeah... Oh well.

JEN

The truth is, Christian. I'm very lonely.

CHRISTIAN

Right.

Jen starts to tear up.

JEN  
I just want a nice bloke to look  
after me. I want someone to care  
for. You know?

Christian is quiet for a moment.

CHRISTIAN  
I know exactly what you mean.

Jen is about to speak again but suddenly someone calls over  
to them from across the road.

JOHN  
Christian! How are you old sport? I  
told you we'll have a night out  
together!

CHRISTIAN  
(under his breath)  
Oh bloody hell.  
(normal voice)  
Hi John! I'm good thanks.

John crosses the road and slaps his hands together merrily.

JOHN  
So where are you lot off to then?

CHRISTIAN  
We were going to have a few drinks  
at my place.

JOHN  
Perfect! I'll tag along then shall  
I?

Christian tries to refuse, but to no avail.

CUT TO:

INT. CHRISTIANS'S FLAT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

A montage of Christian, Steven, Imogen, Jen and John all  
smoking, drinking and dancing.

Jen still looks a little weepy, and after watching how  
pathetic John dances, Christian has an idea. He sits next to  
John on his sofa and has a quick conversation with him.

CHRISTIAN  
Do you like Jen?

JOHN  
Jen? Yeah, she seems like a lovely lady.

CHRISTIAN  
You should ask her out.

JOHN  
You think?

CHRISTIAN  
Yeah! Why not!

JOHN  
I don't know Christian. She's... prettier than me.

CHRISTIAN  
Trust me.

Christian pats him on the shoulder and then slides along the sofa over to Jen. The camera follows and it shows that they are all only three feet apart.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)  
Jen, what do you think of John?

JEN  
John?

Jen peers over at John. John sheepishly waves.

JEN (CONT'D)  
He's cute. I like his hair.

CHRISTIAN  
Really? I mean, yeah, good! You should go chat to him.

JEN  
Yeah. Okay, sure.

Christian gives her a supportive nudge and walks to the kitchen to watch his work from a distance.

Jen and John start talking. It goes well. Imogen walks over, watching them.

IMOGEN  
Ooh, well done.

CHRISTIAN  
They're both drunk and desperate.  
Seemed like a perfect match.

IMOGEN  
Little matchmaker you are.

Christian has a thought.

CHRISTIAN  
Yeah... I am...

CUT TO:

INT. POLLY'S MATCH MAKING SERVICE - THE NEXT DAY

POLLY (45), pinched up face, silvery hair, sits behind her desk, looking rather confused.

POLLY  
You want to work here?

Christian sits opposite Polly, dressed in another fine suit, with his CV in hand.

CHRISTIAN  
Yes, yes I do.

POLLY  
You want to work for a matchmaking service?

CHRISTIAN  
That's right.

POLLY  
Like, as an employee?

CHRISTIAN  
Yes.

POLLY  
Not a customer?

CHRISTIAN  
No.

POLLY  
Right. You realise that's a bit strange, yes?

CHRISTIAN  
Is it?

POLLY

Very strange in fact. Is this a way  
for you to find women?

CHRISTIAN

Oh no, no. I want to help people  
find love.

POLLY

Uh huh... Are you gay?

Christian pales.

CHRISTIAN

What? No! No, no, no! No way.

POLLY

Because we have a policy here.  
Customers would find it very  
uncomfortable for a man, especially  
a gay man, to be involved in  
helping them find love.

CHRISTIAN

Well, I'm not gay.

POLLY

But you are a man.

CHRISTIAN

Yes.

POLLY

In that case, I will have to  
politely decline.

CHRISTIAN

Right.

POLLY

Would you like me to help you find  
yourself a nice girl though?

Christian pretends to think it over.

CHRISTIAN

Ummm...

CUT TO:

INT. CHRISTIANS'S FLAT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Christian walks in and flops onto the sofa. Imogen lays on another sofa, wet flannel on her forehead. Christian groans. Imogen groans too.

IMOGEN

What's up with you?

CHRISTIAN

An old lady tried to marry me off.

IMOGEN

That happens to me all the time.

CHRISTIAN

Did you know men would find it weird if I were to help them find love?

IMOGEN

(sarcastically)

No! Really?

CHRISTIAN

Pull back the attitude, I'm upset.

IMOGEN

C'mon now Christian, you're not exactly the straightest bloke in London. You have better skin than I do. Might as well have a hat on that says "omi-palone".

CHRISTIAN

Are you still drunk? Did you say omi-palone?

IMOGEN

Yes actually, I am still drunk. Speaking of drunk, Jen called.

CHRISTIAN

Oh god. What about?

IMOGEN

She found love.

CHRISTIAN

You mean sex?

IMOGEN

What's the difference?

CHRISTIAN

With who?

JEN

With your friend-

CHRISTIAN

Co worker.

IMOGEN

- co worker friend. They spent the night together and she told me that he was the first person not to sneak out the window before she woke up.

CHRISTIAN

Really? (beat) You know I think I'm a bit of a Cupid.

IMOGEN

Then why haven't you found anyone for me?

CHRISTIAN

I wouldn't dare curse someone to the hellish landscape that must be a relationship with you.

Imogen considers this.

IMOGEN

Okay, that makes sense.

CHRISTIAN

Any more messages for me?

IMOGEN

I am not your secretary!

CHRISTIAN

Alright, I'm sorry.

Christian stands to leave.

IMOGEN

Oh yeah, also, Steven called you, he asked for you to call back when you have the chance, something about work.



CHRISTIAN

Oh! He must have got that promotion  
he was talking about!

CUT TO:

INT. STEVEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Steven sits on a the sofa, Christian and Robert sitting by  
his side. Steven is distraught, surrounded by piles of  
tissues.

STEVEN

Fired!

Steven starts bawling again. Christian pulls out another  
tissue and hands it to him. Robert absentmindedly pats on his  
shoulder and reads a magazine.

CHRISTIAN

It's okay Steven, just tell us what  
happened.

STEVEN

Well, I was on my morning shift.

CUT TO:

INT. THE OFFICE - BREAK ROOM - MORNING

The break room is small, quiet and empty, apart from: Steven,  
dressed in smart work clothes, who is drinking tea with  
another MAN, wearing a shirt and a nice tie. They are  
chatting comfortably, maybe a little flirty.

STEVEN

(V.O)

And I was talking to the cute guy  
that I always have tea with, you  
know, the one that always wears  
nice ties.

TIE MAN

We should go for a drink sometime.

Steven smiles.

STEVEN

I would love that.

Tie Man inches a little closer.

STEVEN (CONT'D)  
There's a really nice club that  
just-

Tie Man moves in on Steven and kisses him. Steven panics at first but then is lulled into the passion of the kiss. The kiss holds for a moment before...

CO WORKER  
What in Christ is going on?!

They look over to see a CO WORKER has walked in and is frozen in shock. Tie Man reacts first by pushing Steven away and pointing at him accusingly.

TIE MAN  
Did you see that! He bloody kissed  
me!

Steven is too shocked to speak.

CUT TO:

INT. STEVEN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Steven continues to cry. Now Robert has forgotten his magazine and looks at Steven in shock.

ROBERT  
That bastard outed you!? When he  
was the one that kissed you?!

Robert jumps to his feet.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
Let's go there! Tell your boss what  
really happened. He can't do this  
to you!

STEVEN  
It's too late Rob, I can't go back  
there, I was mortified.

ROBERT  
Well we have to do something! At  
least we should confront this  
arsehole that's outed you! You did  
nothing wrong!

STEVEN  
I'm gay Rob, that's what I've done  
wrong.

ROBERT

Don't you be saying stuff like that. There is nothing wrong with us. It's the rest of the world that is wrong.

CHRISTIAN

Look, calm down, let's just figure out what to do.

STEVEN

I need a job.

ROBERT

Well, I can ask my friend if you could get a job at her company?

STEVEN

What kind of company is it?

CUT TO:

INT. MIRANDA'S CLEANING SERVICE - THE NEXT DAY

Steven stands sheepishly while MIRANDA, (64), stern, squat and tough walks around him. Christian and Robert sit near them, trying to hold in their laughter.

MIRANDA

So what makes you think you'll be a good cleaner?

STEVEN

I... I'm really good at getting stains out of my clothes?

Christian giggles and Robert hits him, but then he starts laughing too. Steven glares at them but says nothing.

MIRANDA

Have you ever shampooed a carpet before?

ROBERT

No, but he's pissed himself on lino!

Christian and Robert are falling about now. Miranda stops to stare at them. When they realise, they shut up.

MIRANDA

Enough of that.

ROBERT  
Yes Miss.

CHRISTIAN  
Sorry Miranda.

Miranda inspects Steven closer. It looks comical how Steven is so scared of this short old lady. Miranda pokes Steven's arms.

MIRANDA  
You'll do. Run along now, you start immediately. Go find a cleaning outfit in your size.

Steven doesn't need to be asked twice. As he bolts into the next room he shouts:

STEVEN  
Thank you for the opportunity, I won't let you down!

After Steven is out of sight, Miranda smirks at Christian and Robert. They all start laughing.

ROBERT  
You evil cow Miranda!

MIRANDA  
Oh come off it, it's only a bit of fun. Poor sod almost passed out didn't he?

They laugh again.

CHRISTIAN  
Thank you so much for helping him out. He really needs this.

MIRANDA  
Well we have to take care of our own don't we? He'll be able to be more himself here. How did he lose his job again?

ROBERT  
Got caught kissing a man.

MIRANDA  
Classic.

Someone enters. It is TONY (27), handsome, fresh faced, blonde hair, blue eyes.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)  
Tony! Dolly to varda you!

TONY

Dolly to varda your dolly eke  
Miranda! Do you have my drag ready?

MIRANDA

I do, let me just grab it for you.  
(to Christian and Robert)  
One moment please gentlemen.

Miranda steps into a back room. Tony sets his eyes on Robert and smiles.

TONY

Hello.

Robert smiles right back.

ROBERT

Hello.

Christian looks between them.

CHRISTIAN

I am also here.

Tony and Robert ignore him. Miranda returns and breaks the sexual tension. She hands Tony a bag of clothes, feathers and ruffles are poking out from the opening.

MIRANDA

I also fixed the vogue burn in your  
kaffies.

TONY

You are a life saver!

MIRANDA

Stop smoking while you wear all  
this! You'll go up in flames.

TONY

Keep your shyker on, I'll be fine.

Tony glances at Robert.

TONY (CONT'D)

(to Miranda)  
Is he so?

Miranda rolls her eyes and pushes him out of the store.

MIRANDA

Varda you soon darling!

Tony calls out at her as he disappears.

TONY  
You're the light of my life  
Miranda!

MIRANDA  
I know!

Miranda acts as if this was a completely normal interaction.  
Christian and Robert gapes at them.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)  
What?

CHRISTIAN  
Well I have some questions.

ROBERT  
Me too! Who was the strikingly  
gorgeous and charming fellow you  
just pushed out of my vicinity?!

MIRANDA  
That's Tony.

ROBERT  
And what is his phone number?!

CHRISTIAN  
(interrupting)  
Rob keep your tongue in your mouth  
for just a moment please! Miranda  
were you talking another language?  
What was that all about?

MIRANDA  
That's Polari.

ROBERT  
I think I have a cream for that.

MIRANDA  
You've never heard of Polari?

CHRISTIAN  
No. What is it?

MIRANDA  
It's our secret language.

ROBERT  
What, for cleaners?

MIRANDA  
No! For ome-palonis.

Christian just looks at her.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)  
Gays!

And as if he was summoned, Steven steps into the room. They all look at him. Steven is dressed in a very effeminate maid outfit. He does a little twirl, quite pleased with himself. Miranda smirks.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)  
Steven. That's a theatre costume.  
You get blue scrubs.

STEVEN  
I know.

Christian and Robert start giggling again.

STEVEN (CONT'D)  
Laugh it up chaps. I think I look  
gorgeous.

CUT TO:

INT. THEATRE - DESSING ROOM - EVENING

Christian and Robert are drinking in a backstage dressing room, with a group of VERY FLAMBOYANT ACTORS, some women but mostly men. They drink cocktails and smoke cigarettes. Christian and Robert look a little out of place, compared, but they are clearly enjoying themselves. Robert sits near Tony.

ACTOR 1  
Alamo means they're attractive!

ACTOR 2  
Yeah, you point at a fortuni fruit  
and say...

ACTOR 1  
Alamo!

ACTOR 2 (CONT'D)  
Alamo!

The whole room laughs, Christian and Robert too.

CHRISTIAN  
Right, and fortuni fruit means...?

ACTOR 3  
A gorgeous gay man!

The group laughs again. Robert seems to be having a fun time, drinking and flirting with Tony, but Christian seems to be concentrating more on learning the "lingo" of this fascinating gay subculture.

CUT TO:

INT. CHRISTIANS'S FLAT - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Christian is curled up on the sofa, a radio on its arm. Imogen paints on her easel in the middle of the room. Playing on the radio is the radio comedy "Round the Horne". Christian laughs as he listens intently.

CUT TO:

INT. LEONARD'S COCKTAIL BAR - NIGHT

Christian and Steven is led by Tony into a very suave cocktail bar, the people inside are mostly men, gay men. This is Leonard's bar. A gay hub, where people can be themselves. Tony raises a hand to several people as they make their way through. A few MEN raise their glasses in greeting. Some give Christian a cheeky wink. They make their way towards the bar, where LEONARD, (56), bald, aged, but sporting an impressive moustache stands, serving drinks.

TONY  
Leonard!

LEONARD  
Tony! How are you darling?

They blow air kisses to each other.

TONY  
I wanted you to meet Christian,  
he's a new friend.

LEONARD  
Well it's a pleasure to meet you.

CHRISTIAN  
It's... er, dolly to varda... you?

Leonard looks taken aback. Christian thinks he's said it wrong but then Leonard laughs heartily.



LEONARD

It's dolly to varda you too  
Christian. Come have a drink.

Christian glances at Steven and smiles as he settles by the bar.

CUT TO:

INT. LEONARD'S COCKTAIL BAR - LATER

Two men sit at a table in deep conversation. The next conversation is subtitled.

MAN 1

So I run back from the khazi and  
this fortuni feely omi is cackling  
away to my mate!

*So I return from the loo and find this gorgeous young man  
talking to my friend.*

MAN 2

Nah!

No!

MAN 1

I know! But the thing is my mate  
ain't a fruit so I know that this  
dish is mine for the taking. I  
strut over, varda him up and down  
and say "fancy a wallop?". He goes  
"get me a bevvy first, then we'll  
talk".

*I know! But you see my friend isn't gay so I know that this  
young gentleman is free to be courted. I walk over, look him  
up and down and say "would you like to dance?" He replies "if  
you buy me a drink first, then we shall".*

MAN 2

Oh, what are you like?

*Oh, your humorous exploits amuse me to no end!*

MAN 1

I know! So we've had a few bevs and  
we've had a turn around the dance  
floor, and that's when he tells me.

*I know! So we have had several drinks and had a waltz on the  
dance floor, and that is when he informs me.*

MAN 2  
What's he tell you?

*What did he inform you of?*

MAN 1  
He goes: "we shared a cottage three weeks ago, you don't remember do you?"

*He says "we had a sexual encounter in a public lavatory three weeks ago, you have no memory of such thing, do you?"*

MAN 2  
Oh no! You already charvered him didn't ya?

*Oh no! You had already engaged in sexual intercourse with him did you not?*

Man 1 nods gravely. Both men burst into laughter. We leave them to see Christian and Steven watching them from a booth.

STEVEN  
We're crap at being gay.

CHRISTIAN  
Hmmm.

STEVEN  
How did we never notice this?

CHRISTIAN  
Maybe we're a little too deep in the closet. Look at these two.

Christian motions to these very happy, very publicly camp men.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)  
They don't care what people are thinking of them. They just get on with their lives. They have confidence. How do you get confidence like that?

STEVEN  
A couple of pints does it for me.

CHRISTIAN  
You know what? I'm going to do it.

STEVEN  
What? Get me a couple of pints?

CHRISTIAN  
No. I'm going to start my own  
matchmaking service.

STEVEN  
Well it's your round so- wait what?

CUT TO:

EXT. MIRANDA'S CLEANING SERVICE - OUTSIDE - DAY

MUSIC CUE: I CAN'T GET NO SATISFACTION BY THE ROLLING STONES

Miranda sticks up a small flyer on the shop window. It reads:  
SWAYING CUPID MATCHMAKING SERVICE. CALL NOW TO FIND LOVE!

Christian stands outside, beaming at the ad. Imogen stands  
next to him.

IMOGEN  
Swaying Cupid?

CHRISTIAN  
Yeah, it's like a play on words.

IMOGEN  
Ohh.  
(pause)  
For what?

Christian looks at her.

CHRISTIAN  
For playing cupid!

IMOGEN  
Oh right yeah, course. That makes  
sense. Cause Cupid swings both  
ways?

CHRISTIAN  
Does he?

IMOGEN  
In my experience he does.

Christian shakes his head at her.

IMOGEN (CONT'D)  
Is this just a way for you to get  
laid?

CHRISTIAN  
I don't want to get laid!

IMOGEN  
Seems like you need it. You should  
find yourself a boyfriend.

CHRISTIAN  
I will when I'm good and ready.

Imogen shrugs.

CUT TO:

INT. BANK - OFFICE - DAY

Christian is using the Xerox machine to make more copies of  
the flyers. Two colleagues walk past and Christian awkwardly  
waves at them while trying to cover the flyers.

CUT TO:

INT. THEATRE - BACKSTAGE - DAY

Robert gives out flyers to all the actors and stage hands.  
They all look very interested. He passes Tony and after a  
moment of thought, decides not to give him one.

CUT TO:

INT. CHRISTIANS'S FLAT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

MUSIC CUE ENDS.

Christian sits by the phone anxiously. Imogen is watching TV.  
Doctor Who is playing. Loudly.

CHRISTIAN  
Can you turn that down please? I  
won't be able to hear the phone.

IMOGEN  
Where would you go if you had a  
TARDIS?

CHRISTIAN

Two years back to tell myself to  
find a different roommate.

The phone rings! Christian panics briefly before taking a  
deep breath and picking it up.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

Hello?

(pause)

Yes! That's me! So you want to find  
love?

Imogen turns the TV volume up. Christian mouths "STOP IT!"  
and throws a pillow at her. He stands and walks over to the  
TV and turns it off.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

Yes! So what we do is have a short  
interview to get some information  
on you and what kind of person you  
are looking for-

(pause)

Yes.

(pause)

Well I don't think it makes a  
difference if I'm a man or not.

Imogen walks out the room.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

Well I don't think it's weird, to  
think that it's a woman's job and  
men can't do it, that's weird don't  
you think?

Imogen returns with a toilet plunger.

IMOGEN

(Dalek voice)

EXTERMINATE! EXTERMINATE!

Christian recoils in horror at the sight of the toilet  
plunger, and tries to keep away from it while also being tied  
down the phone wire.

CHRISTIAN

Well no, I think that a man can do  
any job that a woman does.

(pause)

Well being pregnant isn't really a  
job- GET THAT AWAY FROM ME!

Imogen pokes the plunger in Christian's face. He drops the phone and scrambles away. Imogen laughs. Christian glares at her and crawls back to the phone. He holds the receiver to his ear.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)  
He hung up!

IMOGEN  
Well he didn't seem so interested anyway.

CHRISTIAN  
Next time you answer the phone.

IMOGEN  
I'm not your secretary!

The phone rings. Imogen picks it up. She speaks in a very professional voice that shocks Christian.

IMOGEN (CONT'D)  
Swaying Cupid Matchmaking Service,  
how may I help you?  
(pause)  
Uh huh.  
(pause)  
Yeah, okay we can do that.  
(pause)  
And what's your name?  
(pause)  
Okay, we can meet there.  
(pause)  
Could we make it half 9 instead?  
(pause)  
Fantastic. Okay see you then.

Imogen puts the phone down, ignoring Christian's gaping mouth.

IMOGEN (CONT'D)  
You have a meeting, tomorrow half 9.

CHRISTIAN  
Right. Thanks Imogen.

IMOGEN  
Can I watch Doctor Who now?

CHRISTIAN  
Can you put the plunger down?

CUT TO:

INT. SMALL PUB - NIGHT

Christian enters the pub, it's small, dingy, and mostly empty. A few surly looking blokes sit at the bar. The bartender watches him suspiciously. This is not Christian's kind of place. Christian walks up to the bar.

CHRISTIAN

Could I have-

The bartender looks at him. So do the other patrons.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

Half a mild, please.

The bartender nods. Christian pays for his drink and sits on a table in the middle of the pub. He takes out a notepad and pen. He sips on his half pint and hides a grimace.

A few moments later, GEOFF (46) enters. Balding, big belly and a lad-ish demeanour. He looks about and eventually finds Christian looking at him. He moves closer.

GEOFF

You seen a bird about?

CHRISTIAN

Um, no. Are you Geoff?

GEOFF

Yeah.

Christian smiles, stands and holds his hand out to shake.

CHRISTIAN

Oh, I'm Christian, I'll be your matchmaker.

Geoff laughs slightly. He thinks it's a joke. Christian keeps holding his hand out. Geoff realises.

GEOFF

Oh, right. Sorry mate, I thought there'd be a girl, you know? Like, I spoke to a girl on the phone.

This takes the wind out of Christian's sails.

CHRISTIAN

Um, no, I'm your matchmaker.

GEOFF  
Okay. Yeah, alright, sure.  
(calls to the bartender)  
Pint of mild please mate.

Geoff sits, still warily.

CHRISTIAN  
Okay, let's start with how you'd  
describe yourself.

GEOFF  
You mean like, how I look?

CHRISTIAN  
Yeah, like how would you describe  
your best features.

Geoff thinks for a moment.

GEOFF  
Tall, in good shape, strong.

Christian looks at him. That's not how he'd describe him.  
Still, he jots it down.

CHRISTIAN  
And how would you describe your  
personality?

Geoff thinks again.

GEOFF  
Fun loving, I like a joke.

Geoff picks at his nose.

GEOFF (CONT'D)  
I'm sensitive.

This isn't going well.

CHRISTIAN  
Right. So, um.

Christian flounders a little. He fiddles with his notepad.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)  
So, tell me about your past  
relationships.



GEOFF

Well, uh. The last bird I had was alright, we broke up cause she would always be travelling, you know for work, so we didn't see much of each other.

CHRISTIAN

Okay, any others?

GEOFF

The girl before that, er, died.

CHRISTIAN

What?!

GEOFF

Yeah, she had polio, in her right leg, and she just... didn't make it. We were really in love as well, you know? But, spouse that's the way it goes sometimes. Still think about her a lot.

CHRISTIAN

I'm sorry to hear that.

Geoff is quiet, stony faced but clearly upset. Christian looks at him with pity. Christian tentatively reaches out to touch Geoff's hand, to comfort him. Geoff looks up at him. Christian smiles.

SMACK!

Geoff punches Christian right in the nose. He falls back and off his chair, onto the floor. His nose is bleeding quite badly.

BARTENDER

Oi!

GEOFF

He was fondling my hand! Just started touching me!

CHRISTIAN

I'm sorry, honestly I'm sorry!

BARTENDER

We don't want that in here, go on sling your hook.

GEOFF

But he bloody started touching me!

BARTENDER

I'm not talking to you.

Christian looks up at the bartender. He's staring down at him. So are the other patrons. Faces of anger and disgust.

CHRISTIAN

I'm sorry.

GEOFF

Piss off out of here you dirty  
homo.

Christian scrambles up, takes another look around the pub, grabs his notepad and runs out.

EXT. SMALL PUB - OUTSIDE - NIGHT

Christian bursts out the pub and runs a little way up the road. He leans against a wall, and begins to sob. Deep racking sobs that make him double over. Christian isn't in pain, he's completely humiliated.

CUT TO:

INT. THEATRE -BACKSTAGE - THE NEXT DAY

There's a knock at the door. Tony opens it. Christian stands there, with a big black eye. He smiles sheepishly. Tony puts his hands to his mouth.

TONY

Oh Christian, darling.

INT. THEATRE - DRESSING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Christian looks at himself in a mirror with lightbulbs surrounding it. Tony stands behind him, preparing something.

TONY

Robert told me what happened. Big  
brute. But don't you worry  
sweetheart, I'll make you vada bona  
again. I work magic with this mud.

CHRISTIAN

Thank you Tony, I really appreciate  
this.

TONY

Don't worry your little head, let  
Tony do his thing.

Tony starts to put foundation on Christian's black eye.  
Christian looks deeply into his own eyes.

CHRISTIAN

How do you do it Tony?

TONY

Do what, lovey?

CHRISTIAN

Stay so happy? How do you stay so  
strong?

TONY

I have to Christian. We all have  
to. If we don't, what will the next  
generation do? How will things  
change?

CHRISTIAN

Do you really think things will  
change?

TONY

I think they will. It'll be hard,  
and it'll be difficult. But they  
will. And you have to believe that.  
Because otherwise, you'll sink.

Christian's face is already starting to look better.

TONY (CONT'D)

It's better to die with a smile on  
your face than cowering in the  
corner. That's the only thing they  
can't take from us.

CHRISTIAN

What?

TONY

The fact that we are, absolutely  
and completely fabulous.

That makes Christian laugh.

TONY (CONT'D)

You have gorgeous bone structure  
Christian, you could be an amazing  
drag queen.

CHRISTIAN  
You think?

TONY  
Oh yeah. Wouldn't be able to tell  
you're a man even.

Tony finishes the make up. Christian looks normal again.

TONY (CONT'D)  
There you are. Back to normal. No  
not normal, better!

Somewhere in another room, the phone rings.

TONY (CONT'D)  
Ooh, I better get that. Right, I'll  
see you later. Take some of this so  
you can do it at home, okay?

CHRISTIAN  
Thanks, Tony.

TONY  
Not one spot of bother darling. See  
you later.

Tony leaves. Christian looks at himself in the mirror.

MUSIC CUE: "GIRLS" by Girl in Red. A slow, piano solo cover.

He studies his face. His fingers trace his lips, his cheek bones. His eyes wander behind him, to the boxes of wigs, hanging dresses. The make up laid out before him. Christian makes up his mind.

MUSIC CUE ENDS

Christian grabs various things, a few wigs, a dress, some stockings. He holds up some doughy round things and holds them to his chest. He grabs some make up. He leaves in a hurry.

CUT TO:

INT. CHRISTIAN'S FLAT - BEDROOM - LATER

MUSIC CUE: "PAPA'S GOT A BRAND NEW BAG" by James Brown

Christian pulls on some stockings in front of a large mirror. He slips on some high heels. He practises walking, he's not very good at it.

He experiments with make up, he pokes himself in the eye with a mascara pen. A little bit of lipstick. He puckers his lips in the mirror. Now the dress. He pushes some pillow-y padding down his front, giving himself an impressive bust.

He stands in front of a mirror, and practises a female voice.

CHRISTIAN  
(fake female voice)  
Hello. Helloooo...  
(clears throat)  
Helloooooooooo...

INT. CHRISTAIN'S FLAT - BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Christian shaves his legs, he has a few cuts on them. He seems to be enjoying it.

INT. CHRISTAIN'S FLAT - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Christian is now fully dressed as a woman, his make up isn't great, but he could easily be mistaken for a lady. Quite an attractive one at that. He stands around looking sexy, cigarette in a cigarette holder. Class.

MUSIC CUE ENDS

A phone call! Christian struts over to the phone and answers it. His voice sounds so manly coming from such a effeminate mouth.

CHRISTIAN  
Hello?

MALE VOICE  
Hello? Is this Swaying Cupid  
Matchmaking Service?

CHRISTIAN  
Y-yeah! Yes it is, um... hold  
please?

Christian panics slightly, he spins on the spot then takes a breath, clears his throat, and holds the phone to his ear. His voice is different. Younger, sexier, more feminine. He sounds a bit like an English Eartha Kitt.

KIRSTEN  
Hello... this is... Kirsten.

MALE VOICE

Oh hello! Yeah, I was wondering if I could set up a meeting for the matchmaking thing?

KIRSTEN

Yes of course! Let me just grab my notebook...

Kirsten looks around frantically for some paper. He finds some on the side table and in the kerfuffle, drops the pen. It rolls under the sofa. Holding the phone to his ear with his shoulder, he gets on all fours and reaches under the sofa.

KIRSTEN (CONT'D)

Okay, so can I take your name, number and age please?

The voice starts speaking but becomes muffled as Kirsten struggles to find the pen. The front door opens and Imogen enters. Her eyes open in shock as she watches a strange woman on all fours showing her backside to her.

IMOGEN

Who the bloody hell are you?!

Kirsten looks up in panic. She has found the pen. She starts scribbling on the paper and continues on the phone.

KIRSTEN

Okay, and tell me a little about yourself.

IMOGEN

Are you using my phone?! Who are you?! Get out! Get out of my flat!

Imogen starts towards Kirsten, who does an impressive evasive manoeuvre all the while still talking on the phone and taking notes.

KIRSTEN

Okay, and what kind of person are you looking for?

Imogen runs into the hallway, then like a flash she's back with the plunger. She brandishes it like a sword. What follows is a cartoonish chase around the living room, Kirsten still writing notes, keeping the phone jammed by her ear with her shoulder.

KIRSTEN (CONT'D)

Lovely, so shall we pick a time to meet?

Kirsten wraps the wire around Imogen's wrist to keep the offending plunger at bay.

KIRSTEN (CONT'D)  
Yeah? At half 5?

She wrestles the plunger away and it scatters across the living room floor.

KIRSTEN (CONT'D)  
Perfect! I'll see you then! Bye!

Kirsten hangs up the phone and turns to Imogen who's standing in a fighting stance.

CHRISTIAN  
Imogen I-

SMACK!

Again, Christian receives a punch on the nose. He falls on his arse.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)  
Ouch! Jesus Christ, Imogen!

Imogen covers her mouth.

IMOGEN  
Oh my god! Christian!?

CHRISTIAN  
Yes! It's bloody me! Aww, I think you've gave me a second black eye.

Imogen helps him up and onto the sofa.

IMOGEN  
Oh Christian, I'm so sorry! I thought you were a burglar!

CHRISTIAN  
A burglar that uses the phone?

IMOGEN  
I panicked! I should have known it was you after the way you reacted to the toilet plunger.

CHRISTIAN  
Yeah could you please stop weaponizing that please? It's disgusting.

They sit for a moment. Christian suddenly looks quite embarrassed.

IMOGEN  
Why are you dressed as a woman  
Christian?

CHRISTIAN  
No reason.

IMOGEN  
And are they my high heels?

CHRISTIAN  
(pause)  
Yeah...

Imogen looks at Christian. Christian looks ashamed of himself. What a ridiculous idea. Imogen wipes some misplaced lipstick from his chin.

IMOGEN  
You honestly think you can trick  
people looking like this?

CHRISTIAN  
I know. This would never work. I'm  
gonna get out of this outfit.

IMOGEN  
What? No it can work! It's just  
your make up is terrible. You need  
to focus contouring your bone  
structure more. And your lips need  
to be fuller.

Imogen stands and holds her hand out.

IMOGEN (CONT'D)  
Come on.

CHRISTIAN  
What?

IMOGEN  
We're giving you a proper make  
over. You're going to look almost  
as good as me.

Christian smiles and takes her hand. They stand up and leave the living room. We leave the living room too, and look out over the London night. The lights are beautiful over the night sky. We settle on that for a moment before moving back into another window.




INT. DORIS'S FLAT - CONTINUOUS

DORIS, (82), frail but with a strong cruel face, looks on in horror as she spies on Imogen and Christian through the reflection of a small make up mirror. Her face turns to anger and disgust.

DORIS  
Not in this building. Oh no. Not in  
this building...

END.



# Swaying Cupid

Character Bios

## SWAYING CUPID

**NAME:** CHRISTIAN GIST

**AGE:** 28

---

**APPEARANCE:**

- SLIM
- HIGH CHEEK BONES
- VERY NICE TEETH (MY MUM ALWAYS TOLD ME TO BRUSH TWICE A DAY)

**LIKES:**

- JAZZ MUSIC
- DANCING
- MEETING NEW PEOPLE

**TURN ONS:**

- WHEN PEOPLE STUMBLE OVER THEIR WORDS. IT'S ADORABLE!
- WHEN PEOPLE ARE FUNNY
- PRETTY EYES

**HATES:**

- MESS
- UNKIND PEOPLE
- LOUD PEOPLE

**TURN OFFS:**

- PEOPLE WHO TALK WITH THEIR MOUTHS FULL. UGH!
- OBNOXIOUS PEOPLE
- BAD PERSONAL HYGIENE



*Tom Read Wilson (34)*

***Favourite film:*** From Here to Eternity (I LOVE Frank Sinatra and it's such a romantic film)

***One word to describe yourself:*** Thoughtful

***What's your perfect Sunday?:*** A nice walk through one of London's parks, a spot of lunch in a nice café, where I can people watch. Then back home for a bubble bath, then I would spend the rest of the evening in my dressing gown and slippers, and watch some tele. It would be extra perfect if someone was there to join me too.

Christian is a closeted homosexual, known to be quiet and mild mannered in public, but rather cheeky and sharp witted with his closer friends. Christian has learned how to keep his private life private and he is very happy with it, thank you very much. He has got to the point of being so "straight" in public, his flamboyant and camp nature has faded, even in private, but when Christian starts dressing as Kirsten, his female alter ego, he starts to realise that he had been suppressing his own personality.

## SWAYING CUPID

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We see that Christian lets people walk all over him in the beginning of the story. From being unable to stand up to his boss, to just letting jibes slide with his friends, Christian hasn't got the confidence to take charge. This changes over the course of the series as he gets more and more into the character of Kirsten, eventually finding love himself and quitting his job as a bank teller and working full time with his matchmaking company.

Christian is born to a rather waspish and high class family, whose conservatism is the clear reasoning on why he is so closeted as an adult. This is also one of the reasons he and Sam connect on a level others cannot. When we meet Christian's parents in a later episode, this will be focused on more and becomes a turning point for both Christian and Sam.



## SWAYING CUPID

**NAME: KIRSTEN**

**AGE: 26 (I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING. IT'S RUDE TO ASK A LADIES AGE)**

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**APPEARANCE:**

- FACE STRUCTURE TO DIE FOR
- LONG DARK HAIR. BUT SOMETIMES SHORT BROWN HAIR.  
DEPENDS ON HOW I FEEL.
- LOVELY PAIR OF LEGS

**LIKES:**

- COCKTAIL PARTIES
- GOOD FOOD
- SHOPPING

**CHEEKY**

- BIG ARMS

**HATES:**

- BEING BORED
- RAINY DAYS
- CHRISTIAN'S BOSS

**TURN OFFS:**

- RUDE AND ANNOYING PEOPLE
- SEXISM. IT HAPPENS A LOT...
- LIARS

**TURN ONS:**

- STRONG PERSONALITIES
- SOMEONE WHO'S A LITTLE

*Favourite film:* Some Like It Hot

*One word to describe yourself:* Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!

*What's your perfect Sunday?:* I wake up and somehow do not have a hangover. The many beautiful gentlemen that I find in my bed make me a tea and a large breakfast, and dress me in one of my Sunday outfits. I eat, and take a stroll into London town. I go window shopping, then loop back around and do some actual shopping. After a small lunch in a disgustingly expensive restaurant, I will then have a taxi take me home so I can change into an evening gown and then attend a fancy party. I expect my Sunday will end quite like my Saturday did.

Kirsten is Christian's alter ego, and while Kirsten is quite like Christian to begin with, she starts to become her own person, and before very long, Kirsten's personality starts to rub off onto Christian. Kirsten is not drag, Kirsten is not transgender nor transexual, Kirsten is the result of Christian having no other option to fulfil his dream. Kirsten is a side of Christian that can only be portrayed through looking and acting like a woman.

## SWAYING CUPID

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While Imogen and Christian are always at each other's throats, Kirsten and Imogen get on famously! This is one of the many reasons why choosing between Christian and Kirsten becomes harder and harder as the show goes on.

Kirsten is confident, catty, and all the things Christian wishes he could be. Christian's life of suppressing his sexuality made him quiet and reserved, despite him having a wicked sense of humour and a sharp tongue. This comes out in boatloads with Kirsten. Kirsten couldn't give a monkey about what people think of her, and she is undoubtedly going to tell you what she thinks, no matter how rude it sounds. Don't like it? Leave a complaint at the front desk, sweetheart.

## SWAYING CUPID

**NAME:** IMOGEN PALMER

**AGE:** 26

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**APPEARANCE:**

- CUTE FRINGE
- FRECKLES (ALSO CUTE)
- GENERALLY BEAUTIFUL

**LIKES:**

- PAINTING
- DRINKING
- ELVIS

**TURN ONS:**

- SOMEONE WHO CAN DANCE
- CLASSY RESTAURANTS
- SOMEONE WHO CAN MAKE ME LAUGH

**HATES:**

- WASHING UP
- WAKING UP EARLY
- HANGOVERS

**TURN OFFS:**

- PEOPLE WHO NAG
- BAD JOKES
- PEOPLE THAT ARE TOO SERIOUS



*Kaya Scodelario (28)*

*Favourite film:* Girls! Girls! Girls!

*One word to describe yourself:* Unique!

*What's your perfect Sunday?:* I wake up and stick on the tele, hopefully Christian isn't in but Kirsten is cause then she'll sit down and have a cup of tea with me. After a few hours of tele and snacking on whatever sweet stuff Christian has in the cupboard, I'll do some painting. Then I'll have a bath for an hour or two, then snuggle back up on the sofa and watch some more tele. Then at the strike of 9, I'll have a large glass of wine. Watch some more tele then probably go to bed at 2-3am. Lovely.

Imogen is a self-obsessed artist, and has all the traits of one. Lazy, sarcastic and enjoys a drink. Unbothered by the harshness of reality, she floats through life on her good looks and her incredible luck. Her upper class raising has left her soft and not ready for the real world, which is lucky because she lives in the fantasy that is '65 London, a place where she actually flourishes.

Imogen loves her friends, and goes through her own process of self-realisation and personal growth as

## SWAYING CUPID

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the series develops. Imogen's arc is about maturing and learning to rely on herself. The hippie decade won't be around forever Imogen, and you better learn that before you become old news.

Imogen, at first glance, is immature, ignorant, and kind of rude. That is because she is immature, ignorant, and kind of rude. She is the youngest of the group, and it shows. But with the help of Christian and Kirsten, and the problems they all face, she will go through a change over the course of the show, and become a smarter, wiser, and better rounded person.



## SWAYING CUPID

**NAME: ROBERT SHARNER**

**AGE: 30**

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**APPEARANCE:**

- MEDIUM HEIGHT (KIRSTEN'S NOTE: ROBERT IS 5'5" ...)
- EASY ON THE EYES
- WELL-MANICURED

**LIKES:**

- THEATRE
- BARS AND CLUBS
- DRESSING UP

**TURN ONS:**


- GOOD DRESS SENSE
- TALL, DARK AND HANDSOME
- HEALTHY BODY

**HATES:**

- LIBRARIES (IT'S BORING AND PEOPLE ALWAYS SHH ME)
- PEOPLE THAT SHH OTHERS
- PIGEONS (RATS WITH WINGS YUCK)

**TURN OFFS:**

- PEOPLE WHO DON'T UNDERSTAND ME
- PEOPLE WHO HND ME EMBARRASSING
- PEOPLE WHO ARE NASTY



*Colin Morgan (34)*

**Favourite film:** Inside Daisy Clover

**One word to describe yourself:** Sassy

**What's your perfect Sunday?:** I wake up in a bed that's not my own. The owner of the bed makes me breakfast and doesn't mind if I take a bath. After breakfast, and seconds (not breakfast), I sneak off and go meet my friends, we swap stories and have a laugh. The weather is beautiful so we go walk by the river, or maybe a park. I get back home in time for my soaps. My lover calls me, asking if I want to come back round. Maybe I do.

Robert is happy go lucky and one sassy guy. Always a flirt and a great lover of attention, Robert is a classic peacock, dressing up and acting out at all times. Robert is fiercely loyal to his friends, and hates injustice and unfairness. Robert goes through some very hard times throughout the show, but this just shows his strength and resilience as a gay man in these times.

Robert is the perfect character to show how pride and confidence in oneself can be the difference between rising above the hate and hardship, or breaking down completely under the social pressures of a homophobic world. Robert is a proud gay man, but this means he will purposely put himself into harm's way, to stand up for himself and his friends/loved ones. It's the 60's! Clothes! Music! Colours!

## SWAYING CUPID

**NAME:** STEVEN MCDONALD

**AGE:** 30

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**APPEARANCE:**

- TALL
- BIG ARMS
- BLONDE HAIR

**LIKES:**

- KIDS
- MUSICALS

**TURN ONS:**

- BEING WINED AND DINED
- SOMEONE WHO'S WELL READ

**HATES:**

- SPORTS
- CROSS STITCH

**TURN OFFS:**

- BEARDS
- SERIOUS PEOPLE



*Carl Shilg (28)*

*Favourite film:* The Wizard of Oz

*One word to describe yourself:* Sweetheart

Steven is a very muscular, very tall, handsome man. He is also a complete push over and extremely effeminate. He sometimes needs support from his friends, to get him through tough times, just as much as they need him to help them move house or reach something from a high place.

## SWAYING CUPID

**NAME: MIRANDA BURNS**

**AGE: 64**

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**APPEARANCE:**

- STRONG LEGS
- SILVER HAIR

**LIKES:**

- MY JOB
- NEATNESS

**TURN ONS:**

- PRETTY DRESSES
- LONG LEGS

**HATES:**

- DANCING
- BAD SINGERS

**TURN OFFS:**

- MESSY PEOPLE
- OVER SHARERS



*Jo Brand (63)*

***Favourite film:*** Rebel Without a Cause

***What's your perfect Sunday?:*** I open the shop as usual, no problems, just a nice quiet day. At the end of the work day, I take a walk to the cemetery and visit my girlfriend, Doris, I tell her about my week, and tell her that I miss her. Later, Tony and the theatre crew invite me over for drinks and possibly a preview of their new show. After a couple glasses, or bottles, of wine, I come home and get to bed. Obviously, if this was a perfect Sunday, Doris would still be with us, and I would show her what I've made of my life since she's been gone.

Miranda is a head strong, gruff lesbian woman who is friends with Christian and his group. She is the “mother hen” of a lot of the gay community in London, and has seen it all, done it all, and got several of the t shirts, probably one of the reasons why she opened a drycleaner and housekeeping business. She also uses this as a place to help gay people with work, places to live and a kind of hub for them.

Miranda is a great example of how being gay in these times can give you a very tough exterior. She can be sweet and loving, but after the shit she's gone through, you can understand why her broad shoulders may be a little cold.



## SWAYING CUPID

**NAME:** TONY PHELPS

**AGE:** 27

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**APPEARANCE:**

- DANCER PHYSIQUE
- GORGEOUS

**LIKES:**

- ACTING
- SINGING

**TURN ONS:**

- THE OLDER GENTLEMAN...
- GOOD HEAD OF HAIR

**HATES:**

- HOMOPHOBES
- WOMAN BEATERS

**TURN OFFS:**

- CLASHING OUTFITS
- NOSE PICKERS



*Olly Alexander (30)*

***Favourite film:*** Carry On Camping

***One word to describe yourself:*** Fabulous

***What's your perfect Sunday?:*** After a great night with the guys, I wake up in whoever's bed/bath/floor and spruce myself up with some aftershave and a comb. Then we all go downtown to a restaurant to get rid of the hangover. After some dolly grub, we swing by Leonard's Bar, have a couple more cocktails and dance to some jazz. Then we get completely bevvied, we wander back to someone's gaff and keep the party going! To be honest that my perfect weekday too!

Tony is young, handsome, and an absolute sweetheart. He and Robert are... good friends. Still hopeful of change and more openly gay than the older people in the community, Tony gets in a lot of trouble for simply being himself.

## SWAYING CUPID

**NAME: SAM MURPHY**

**AGE: 36**

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**APPEARANCE:**

- FRIENDLY FACE
- I LIKE MY EYES, I SUPPOSE

**LIKES:**

- PLAYING SPORTS
- READING
- I DON'T KNOW... DUCKS? MOST CUTE BIRDS I GUESS!

**HATES:**

- PUBLIC TRANSPORT, IT'S A RIGHT PAIN IN THE... CAN I SWEAR?
- PEOPLE WHO DON'T BLOW THEIR NOSE WHEN THEY REALLY SHOULD

**TURN ONS:**

- I DON'T REALLY HAVE MANY...

**TURN OFFS:**

- WHEN GIRLS ARE TOO FORWARD WITH ME, IT MAKES ME NERVOUS
- PEOPLE WHO DON'T READ MANY BOOKS



*Russel Tovey (39)*

***Favourite film:*** Gone with the Wind (I love the book too!)

Sam is a gay man, he just doesn't know it yet, and Christian's main love interest. Very pleasant and humble, Sam is the perfect man for Christian, but quite intimidated by Kirsten. Christian will have to navigate being the outrageous Kirsten and the reserved Christian all the while "trying" to find Sam a match.

## SWAYING CUPID

**NAME:** VANESSA HEWITT

**AGE:** 36

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**APPEARANCE:**

- CLASSY SUITS
- A CONSTANT BUT APPROPRIATE AMOUNT OF LIPSTICK

**LIKES:**

- READING
- ARGUING
- I DON'T KNOW... DUCKS? MOST CUTE BIRDS I GUESS!

**HATES:**

- INJUSTICE
- BULLYING

**TURN OFFS:**

- MENS AFTERSHAVE

**TURN ONS:**

- MY SIGNIFICANT OTHER



*TNia Miller (30)*

*One word to describe yourself:* Feisty!

Vanessa is a straight talking, very intelligent, gay woman who bravely fights for the gay community in and out of the courts. Sometimes cold and calculating, she can be seen as kind of a vigilante of gay rights justice, this makes her popular with Robert who somewhat shares this trait.

## SWAYING CUPID

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### – It's the 60's! Clothes! Music! Colours! –

#### **Clothes!**

In Austin Powers- esque London, the bright wonders of everything that made the 60's swing will be the focal point in Swaying Cupid. Gorgeous 60's fashion, not one person will be dressed dull. Kirsten will start wearing quite modest feminine clothes, and then eventually wear classy and elaborate dresses and outfits, taking full advantage of the over the top 60's drag that we all wished was still around.

#### **Music!**

Non-stop 60's hits being pumped into each episode, you will be reminded of the decade in every scene. The 60's had a fantastic selection of songs that can perfectly encapsulate certain scenes and feelings. London was a music power house during the 60's and that will be shown in force. Playing vinyl records will also be featured throughout the series.

#### **Colours!**

Every day is summer in 1965! No clouds, only sun and smiles. But. This can change, drastically.

The serious scenes will be shown through the lack of vibrant colour and sparkle that the rest of the show has. To the point where eventually the viewer will feel impending uneasiness as soon as they notice that this particular scene isn't as bright as the one before it. Life as a gay man in these days was like no other. The highest highs of such a unique lifestyle can change in an instant to possibly life or death situations. Life as a homosexual in 1965 is dangerous. This will be shown primarily through colour and colour gradients.

#### **Fun!**

A lot of the whimsy and comedic fun in this show will be shown through the directing, rather than the acting. These are real people who act, to an extent, realistically, but still have a grounded feel to them. This will give the more serious scenes depth and the feeling of danger, which there is a lot of.

– *Episode Outlines* –

## SWAYING CUPID

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### – *Episode 1 – The secret knock* –

Christian wakes up after a night of drinking. After dodging his lazy housemate Imogen's very forward friend, he goes to work. He chats with his clueless work college, dodges his strict boss, and manages to navigate another day of being a closeted gay man.

That night, him and his gay friends discuss the difficulties of finding other people of the same sexuality in a world where people are frightened or violent towards homosexuals. Christian's friend Robert accidentally flirts with a straight man who almost hits him.

The same night, Christian matchmakes Imogen's friend and a friend from his work together. Christian thinks he would make a very good matchmaker, and he knows the London gay community needs one.

Christian's friend Steven loses his job over getting outed by another gay man, so Christian and Robert fix him up with a job at a lesbian friend's cleaning company. While at the cleaning company they meet Tony, a flamboyant and handsome actor that instantly connects with Robert. Christian learns about Polari, the secret gay language that is commonly used in theatre.

Christian decides to open his own matchmaking service. He speaks to some potential clients, one of these is a gruff man who's looking for love. After speaking for a while, the man becomes uncomfortable with Christian, and accuses him of being "a dirty homo" the man punches Christian, giving him a black eye.

Tearful and depressed, Christian meets with his theatre friend, Tony, who puts some theatre makeup on him to cover the bruise. This is when Christian realises he can't be a matchmaker. But someone else can.

After borrowing some wigs, clothes, and lumpy stuff for stuffing, Christian experiments with dressing as a woman. He practises make up and walking in heels. He gets a call in relation to the matchmaking service, and Christian tries out his new persona, Kirsten.

During this call, Imogen walks in on him and believes him to be an intruder. After an awkward explanation, Imogen decides to help him, well at least help him with putting his tights on properly. Next door, the elderly neighbour spies on them. This will not end well.



– *Episode Outlines* –

## SWAYING CUPID

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### – *Episode 2 – What breed of dog is that?* –

**B**lack. The song “Doo Wah Diddy Diddy by Manfred Mann” starts to play.

We open on a pretty woman walking along the street. A few construction workers wolf whistle at her. Her face is mostly covered by some large sunglasses. She gets a paper from the shop. The older newsagent gives it to her on the house. The woman walks home, opens the door, takes off her hat, her glasses, her... wig?

This is Kirsten. AKA Christian.

Christian is in a good mood. Swaying Cupid Matchmaking Service has its first ad in the paper! Plus they have a few possible places for the office! Kirsten is in such a good mood she doesn't even mind that some of the customers that have called are a bit... strange...

After a montage of oddballs and nervous wrecks, Christian realises he needs help, so he pulls in the reluctant Imogen to help him with admin and assistant work. Imogen, it turns out, is great at admin!

Steven's landlord refuses to renew his contract because of rumours of his sexuality. Kirsten comes to the rescue, scaring Steven and impressing Robert. Kirsten pulls some strings and manages to find a new place for Steven to live. This is Kirsten's first success and it gives her new found confidence. Different clients come in for appointments, fun interviews with exceptional characters. This is perfect for Kirsten to find her personality. She is

hilarious, sassy and sometimes downright cool.

We follow one (several) of these clients from interview, to date and seemingly a perfect match.

Imogen gets a call from a magazine that has caught on to the phenomenon that is Kirsten's matchmaking and wants to write an article on them.

The elderly neighbour keeps an eye on their comings and goings, making Kirsten very nervous. This pushes them to get a new office as soon as possible.

Kirsten finds the perfect office, but has to suffer with the perverted estate agent who seems hell bent on taking her out for dinner.

The interviewer comes to their new office earlier than they expected, and brings her small dog Humphrey. Imogen stalls her, while Christian changes into Kirsten. Humphrey wanders into the bathroom where Christian is getting changed and steals Christian's wig. The interviewer then mistakes the wig for another dog, in which Imogen then has to pretend to be hers until Christian can find a new wig to start the interview. They manage to finish the interview without any more problems and they make the front page.

A woman called Emily chats with her friend when she comes across a copy of the magazine. She mentions that it looks an awful lot like her ex-boyfriend, Christian...

– *Episode Outlines* –

## SWAYING CUPID

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### – *Episode 3 – French kissing* –

**C**hristian is back at work in the bleak bank branch. But he notices that some of his colleagues are reading the article about Swaying Cupid Matchmaker Service! They talk about Kirsten on the front cover and suggest that Christian should contact her for a date. Christian realises how much he hates working here, and longs to be back to her second job, and not dressed as a man.

Kirsten throws a party for her friends in celebration of the company's success, where many original and unique characters show up. They play records and have a good time. Robert bring a plus one, his 'good friend' Tony.

Christian's elderly neighbour complains about the noise and catches Robert and Tony in the hallway being intimate. The police is called.

A policeman arrives. The policeman, Alex is himself gay, though obviously not openly. Therefore, he does not arrest them, but gives them a good-natured warning before seeing the neighbour and gives her a thin explanation as to why she was mistaken. The whole ordeal causes Robert and Tony to argue and agree to give their relationship a break.

**OLD LADY:** I saw them kissing!

**ALEX:** They're French madam, that's how they say hello.

**OLD LADY:** Really? Christ almighty no wonder they lost the war.

A new matchmaking challenge for Kirsten. Marcus is gay but wants to date women because he is too scared to be with men. Kirsten tries to help him in becoming more confident, but it doesn't work. In fact, it ends very badly.

Emily makes contact and sets up an interview. She talks to Imogen but Christian does not know who's made the appointment until he sees Emily in the waiting room. He needs to make an excuse quickly, and Imogen takes over the interview.

Marcus visits Kirsten. He was beaten up because of Kirsten's plan and makes sure she knows it, this really effects Christian, and makes him wonder whether being a matchmaker for the gay community is too dangerous. Robert is seen visiting a public bathroom. Which can be very dangerous, in many ways...

– *Episode Outlines* –

## SWAYING CUPID

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### – *Episode 4 – Come out the cottage* –

Kirsten has a new client, Sam who wants to find a girlfriend, but seems to be clearly gay

Over time, Christian develops feelings for Sam, but is Sam ready to acknowledge his own feelings? Christian is contacted by a lawyer. She tells him that they have helped several homosexuals with different problems. The lawyer's sexuality is kept open. She wants to help others and they have heard through different channels that Christian is also helping gay people out. This is a relationship that Christian will find use for later.

Robert visits one of the public restrooms, the tinder of their times. The police bursts in and apprehend everyone, taking them into the station. One of the policemen is the officer from the party. His car 'happens' to break down and lets Robert escape while trying to fix it.

Some of the success stories from Kirsten's matchmaking makes it to national news, and the ball starts rolling.

We follow Kirsten's matchmaking process, with a particularly interesting coupling of a young beautiful French woman and a much older, butcher woman.

A national radio calls and wants Kirsten on their morning show, but this, of course, collides with his day job, and he has to call in sick to make it.

Christian has called in sick a lot lately...

Emily has discovered where Christian works during the day, and sets off to the bank to confront him. Emily arrives, only to discover that he is "sick". On the radio in the bank, she hears Kirsten's interview.

She decides to rush off to the studio and expose him live on the radio, but she is too late and Kirsten has already left the studio. She discovers Emily heading inwards and throws herself into a storage room and she passes by her without suspicion.

Christian is too scared to go back into the hallway as Kirsten, and he can't go back out as himself. Inside the storage room he finds a cleaning uniform and cleaning equipment and decides to put it on and escape.

She backs out of the storage room with a cart, head-scarf and uniform, just as Emily is on her way back. But she does not recognise her. Kirsten is in the clear. Until she gets roped into cleaning up the same set where she was just interviewed. Awkward.

Emily is angry and frustrated because she cannot get a hold of Christian. And so, she decides to sabotage his business. She finds out the details of a matchmake date, then goes to the restaurant where the date is meant to happen...

– Episode Outlines –

## SWAYING CUPID

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### – Episode 5 – What a sham –

**E**mily feeds insane lies to the woman the man is meant to meet, causing the date to crash and burn.

Christian's parents show up for an unannounced visit, just as he is about to transform into Kirsten. With a half deaf and sexist father, and a prim proper and conservative mother, Christian is in for a ride.

**CHRISTIAN'S DAD:** Hello my darling.

**IMOGEN:** Hello.

**CHRISTIAN'S DAD:** Christian, you never told me you had such a beautiful flat mate.

**CHRISTIAN:** It must of slipped my mind.

**CHRISTIAN'S DAD:** I'm going to see where your mum is.

Christian's Dad winks at Imogen and leaves again. Imogen looks at Christian.

**IMOGEN:** Don't leave me alone with him.

**CHRISTIAN:** I was going to say the same thing.

At the same time, Kirsten has to handle the client who is, naturally, very disappointed and annoyed about the terrible date he just had. The stress building up leads to Christian forgetting to remove his make up when showing up at the bank. Sam wants to meet a girl, but Kirsten still believes

he's gay. Kirsten sets him up with a lesbian woman in hopes that it will invoke some gay feelings inside him.

It helps for a while, but Sam inadvertently tells Kirsten the possible reasoning for him being so far in the closet.

Christian and Imogen are out at a restaurant with two gay couples, posing as straight couples. These couples we already know from previous episodes. They discuss how hard it is not being able to be together, especially because they can't live together. This gives Christian an idea.

Christian makes a plan for the four of them to live together. He gets in contact with his new lawyer friend and makes arrangements.

Next day we meet Christian, the two couples, Imogen and the lawyer by two apartments. With secret connecting doors that join the two apartments, they can live together as gay couples in private and straight couples in public without arousing suspicion.

Back at the office, Imogen receives a new male client, Martin, who wants Kirsten's help, but she falls in love with him herself. She hatches a plan to steal him away for herself. This will go well...

Robert has again visited the public toilets and been arrested. This time by a policeman that's not Alex, and thus he has no means of escape this time...

– Episode Outlines –

## SWAYING CUPID

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### – Episode 6 – Two Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest –

**R**obert gets help from Christian's lawyer friend and manages to evade prison and is instead sentenced to treatment at The Maudsley Hospital (a real London hospital from that time). This is a horrific experience for the whole community.

In the bank branch. Christian struggles to concentrate because Swaying Cupid is slowly taking over his life. The role of Kirsten occupies him more and more. He notices that he has started to like wearing women's clothes.

KIRSTEN: I'm starting to like wearing women's clothes more than men's. Is that weird?

IMOGEN: No. I wear women's clothes all the time.

He also thinks more and more about Sam. He thinks he's falling in love with him.

This makes him careless / sluggish on the way in / out of character. This time he forgot to remove nail polish. His colleagues notice and he has to come up with an excuse.

JOHN: Is that nail varnish?

CHRISTIAN: No.

JOHN: Are you sure? It looks like nail varnish.

CHRISTIAN: Oh right yeah! This nail varnish. Right, yeah. Weird.

JOHN: So... Why are you wearing nail varnish?

CHRISTIAN: I'm... In a play. Where I have to wear nail varnish.

JOHN: Right. Who are you playing?

CHRISTIAN: A woman.

JOHN: Oh! Right!

CHRISTIAN: Yeah. Doing it as a favour... For my girlfriend...?

He tries to toughen up to compensate for the embarrassing revelation and gets help from one of the ladies in the branch to remove the nail polish. She is obviously not completely convinced and Christian tries with various macho remarks to calm her scepticism.

Kirsten has a serious chat with Sam and manages to make him admit that he has a slightly different taste than usual.

She makes him feel safe enough that he finally admits that he is gay and the two have an emotional moment together. But Christian still can't find a way to tell him that he is really Kirsten. He starts / tries, but eventually withdraws.

Imogen connects Martin with Emily, to push him into her own arms.

Emily of course uses the opportunity to create

– *Episode Outlines* –

## SWAYING CUPID

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– *Episode 6* –

an unforgettable (crazy/negative) experience for Martin, and thinks it is negative for Christian/Kirsten, but it basically plays right into the hands of Imogen, who uses the chance to ask him out on a date as comfort at the first opportunity.

Tony is beaten up in an homophobic targeted attack. A policeman finds them. Tony tries to explain that the two men had attacked him on the tram.

The men do not refuse, but instead claim that they have the right to do so against people like him. The policeman asks Tony why he thinks they beat him up and Tony struggles to explain himself. All three men are arrested.

The lawyer tries to sort it out but fails miserably. The policeman lets the two who beat Tony go with a warning not to create more trouble. Tony and the lawyer are dazed and shocked. Tony is arrested for immorality. The lawyer manages to negotiate for Tony to be sentenced to treatment at The Maudsley Hospital.

Tony is transported away and into a waiting bus. Tony is dropped off at The Maudsley Hospital. Tony is then pushed into a therapy session, everyone looks depressed and run down. He looks up. Robert sits opposite him. They smile at each other, and suddenly the world looks brighter.

– *Episode Outlines* –

## SWAYING CUPID

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### – *Episode 7 – You sweaty little Oik* –

Imogen gets a phone call from a top magazine. They want to send a reporter to follow Kirsten through a working day, to give people an impression of who she is, how she works, etc.

It is a great opportunity to make the business known, but at the same time poses two problems. Christian needs to take more time off work, and having someone shadowing Kirsten so closely may risk exposing her. Christian is therefore reluctant but eventually agrees to it because Imogen promises to help him.

A British tabloid sends an annoying little reporter who sweats a lot, who would rather be an investigative reporter. The whole day consists of struggling to work normally while the reporter ask difficult questions about Kirsten's past and the relationship between her and Imogen. He even tries to make client meetings difficult and almost catches Kirsten out on some questions. This ends with Kirsten blowing up at him with a powerful and sassy monologue that puts him in his place.

At The Maudsley Hospital we see Tony and Robert again.

They are with 10-12 other very young men in a room, with a nurse (with Nurse Ratched vibes) leading a group therapy session. She tells them how they are wrong, and how they can be “helped”. Their sexuality is perverted and it must be cured. Some of the patients have clearly been through electric shock therapy, and it is hinted that Robert and Tony have been through the same.

Christian hears about Imogen's planned date with Martin and decides to invest everything in Sam.

She shows up at Sam's door as Kirsten and is invited inside. Kirsten tells him that there is something he needs to know, and tries to tell the truth, but cannot find the right words. So she takes action.

Back in the hospital, the patients must participate in testing an experimental medicine they have obtained from the United States. Lysergic acid diethylamide, or what is commonly known as, LSD.

They should take one pill each and then go to their rooms so that the medicine can work overnight.

We see the boys each take their own pill and break up from the group therapy and head out into the hallway. They walk down the hall and some of them go into the nearest rooms, others continue on to their rooms. From outside of the building, each window in various rooms light up briefly, and the silhouette of the men are seen going to bed, before they lights go out.

It stays dark for a while. Suddenly, one window lights up again. The silhouette of a figure in the window, then suddenly another. The two figures begin to embrace each other and kiss. In quick succession, lights then appears in more and more windows. More figures, embracing and kissing. Suddenly the alarms go off. Clearly the drugs are working, just in a way that wasn't expected.

Back at Sam's.

– *Episode Outlines* –

## SWAYING CUPID

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– *Episode 7* –

**KIRSTEN:** One moment.

Kirsten stands and starts looking for a record. A Ben Webster & Oscar Peterson album. Perfect.

**MUSIC CUE:** “In The Wee Small Hours Of The Morning” by Ben Webster & Oscar Peterson  
The music starts to play, soft and gentle. Kirsten starts to dance sensually. Sam watches on, clearly uncomfortable.

**SAM:** Kirsten, please, you’re confusing me. I don’t want this.

**KIRSTEN:** Shh, shh, shh.  
Kirsten keeps dancing. She takes off her heels. Her coat. She slides the dress off her shoulders.

**PLOP!**  
A fake breast drops to the floor.

**PLOP!**  
And the other one.

Sam looks absolutely terrified.

**SAM:** What the fu-

The wig comes off and lands at Sam’s feet. He looks down and stares at it. A moment passes. He looks up. Christian stands before him, half naked and vulnerable. He’s wiped most of the make-up off. He looks nervous, sheepish, and most definitely male. Sam just stares at him.

**CHRISTIAN:** I have to be Kirsten, so I can do my work. But that’s not who I am.

**SAM:** Who are you?

**CHRISTIAN:** My name is Christian, and I think I’m in love with you.

Sam just stares at him.

**NOTE:** The scenes of Christian revealing himself to Sam, and the scenes of the patients making love in the hospital will be intercut to end in a big finish ending.



– *Episode Outlines* –

## SWAYING CUPID

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### – *Episode 8 – Chip Off the Ol' Nail* –

Picking up again in the morning in Sam's apartment.

Christian and Sam are in his bedroom and have obviously spent the night together. Sam admits having feelings for Christian. But the problem is, they can't be openly gay together, especially with Swaying Cupid being under such a microscope these days. Christian suggests a wild idea... what if Sam becomes Kirsten's husband? Then they can be together without suspicion.

Sam is taken aback, that means that Kirsten will have to stay forever, and Sam is concerned on how Christian will be able to live such a double life. He's already finding it difficult. As Christian dresses back up and become Kirsten, Sam tells her that he needs time to figure out his feelings. Kirsten agrees, although she is rather upset.

Imogen gets another call. They liked the radio feature so much that they want to include Kirsten in the Saturday entertainment on TV.

Imogen has her date with Martin. She realises that she has been so blind sighted by love, she doesn't actually need a man to look after her any more, she's a very successful receptionist and agent, to a very successful company. She's grown. Imogen agrees to a second date, but with a feeling of power and maturity she has never felt before.

As Kirsten's appearance is announced in the TV guide, Emily plans how she will get revenge by revealing Christian on live TV.

Emily finds out that that the annoying tabloid reporter who has made the article about Kirsten, will be a guest with Kirsten, since the feature will be partly about the portrait interview he has made. Emily plans to out Kirsten to the reporter, who is happy for the scoop. Kirsten discovers them, and after a while, finally stands up for himself, threatening the reporter, and using his real male voice, confusing and scaring the crap out of him. The reporter agrees to not go forward with the scoop.

Emily, surprised to see Christian so strong and confident as Kirsten breaks down and explains everything.

Then follows an honest conversation about the feeling of being rejected when he left her with no reasoning or explanation. They dated for several weeks before he essentially ghosted her. Then after seeing that he is now dressing up as a woman and helping others find love, it sent Emily over the edge.

Christian tells her the truth. Christian is gay, and like most gays of the time, he tried to force himself to be with a woman. But eventually it became too much and he had to leave. Out of fear and shame, he left and never told her why. Christian apologises for hurting her, and begs for forgiveness.

Emily then reveals something else. She has a child. It's Christian's. She shows him a necklace with an amulet, it opens. Inside is a picture of a little boy.

– Episode Outlines –

## SWAYING CUPID

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– Episode 8 –

*EMILY: He's yours Christian.*

*CHRISTIAN: Mine?*

Emily laughs. A happy laugh through her tears. She hands him the picture. The little boy in the picture couldn't be more than a few years old. He has Christian's eyes. Christian stares at the photo. Tears well up in his eyes.

*CHRISTIAN: I have a son.*

*EMILY: No one knows he's yours. He hasn't got a father in his life. But if you want, he can. Christian doesn't know what to say.*

*EMILY: Your makeup is running.*

*Christian laughs. Then suddenly realises.*

*CHRISTIAN: Oh my god, the interview.*

*EMILY: Go on, redo your makeup. I'll wait for you.*

Christian looks at her. He hugs her. A long, deep, loving hug.

We catch up with the gang in Leonard's Bar. One month has passed.

Imogen is with Martin, Kirsten is with Sam. We see Robert and Tony come in through the door. It is mentioned through dialogue that Christian no longer works at the bank. Imogen has become a shareholder and vice president of Swaying Cupid.

*IMOGEN: How are you both?*

*TONY: We've got a letter from Maudsley. Turns out LSD doesn't stop sexual feelings.*

*SAM: What does it do?*

*ROBERT: Makes it a whole lot cooler.*

*The two settle down and the lights are dimmed further.*

On stage, Girl in Red comes on and sings a jazzy version of Midnight Love. Before the credits roll, this text shows:

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*In 1967, the Sexual Offences Act was passed through in the UK. It made same sex acts legal for those who were the age of 21 or above.*

*In 2013, the Same Sex Couples Marriage Act was passed through the UK. The first same-sex marriages took place on 29 March 2014.*

*In 2018, the UK government pledged to ban gay conversion therapy. This has not yet happened.*

*The fight continues...*

– *Episode Outlines* –

## SWAYING CUPID

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### – *Future Series – Season 2* –

Almost two years has passed. The end of this series will be just as same sex acts are legalised. This will give a great emotional finish and an interesting opening for series 3.

The year is 1967. The gay community is starting to find its feet and start working towards a common goal. Rights. We will introduce real figures from the times such as The Homosexual Law Reform Society (which Tony and Robert will no doubt be involved in), which was key during the campaign which led to the passing of the Sexual Offences Act, and Maureen Duffy, who wrote the novel about lesbian life, *The Microcosm*.

Along with domestic plots and stories, Kirsten will also be working towards something bigger picture. This will lead to the first step towards gay rights, the Sexual Offences Act.

This is also going to build on the identity crisis that Christian/Kirsten has started going through in the first series. A double life is hard enough to deal with, but when Christian has started to prefer being Kirsten, despite Sam being in love with his male half? Does this mean that Christian is transgender? An almost unheard of thing in these times?

Christian and Sam's relationship will be put under more pressure, as they are now technically "married" although not legally as Kirsten has no ID to speak of. Sam now works along with the group at *Swaying Cupid*. As Kirsten is now his

boss, this creates quite the tense dynamic between them. Rocky shores ahead.

We will also be focusing more on Christian and Emily's relationship. They have become good friends, as they have a child together. But when Emily starts dating a more masculine, "of the times" man this will make things harder. Christian does not want that kind of influence on his boy.

Their son, knows Christian as his father, but why aren't mummy and daddy together? He's around 4-5 years old, the age of imprinting. Christian tries his hardest to keep Kirsten out of his son's life, but for how long can that go on for? Especially as Christian is Kirsten more and more as the days go on...

Imogen and Martin are going strong! But with Martin looking to settle down, and fast, and Imogen becoming more and more integral to the company, how will Imogen deal with this? Plus, who knows what will happen if Martin discovers her male roommate and female boss are the same person?

At the end of the series, Imogen will agree to marry Martin, and perhaps Kirsten and Sam will want to get married officially too. Vanessa, the lawyer, will surely be able to work out the paper work! This will be the first gay wedding (although secret) ever. After the wedding, at a small party in the flat, they then see on television: The Sexual Offences Act go through parliament.

– *Episode Outlines* –

## SWAYING CUPID

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– *Series 3* –

9 years have passed. It is 1976. The era of punks is in its early stages. This will bring gender bender expression, feminists are stronger than ever. David Bowie has made waves through English society.

Homosexuality is no longer illegal, but the fight is far from over, Tony and Robert are fighting openly for gay rights. This can be dangerous but they have a strong community around them. These aren't the character we met in series 1.

Society has begone to sway left again, people are more open to change. So why is Christian still dressing up as Kirsten? Yes she has a great life and career, she has her own weekly column in a glossy magazine, answering matters of the heart-questions, while stepping back a little from the day-to-day running of the matchmaking business. She lives with Sam in their own flat, and are still married in public.

Sam wants to live as two gay men. But that can't happen as long as Kirsten is still on the scene. But can Christian leave Kirsten? Especially now he seems more like himself when he is herself.

Christian and Emily's son is now a teenager and plays in a prog-rock band. Inspired by David Bowie, Queen and Pink Floyd, he pulls on androgynous clothes and an exaggerated personality, both on stage and outside of it. Christian's very proud, but wonders whether he can tell him about his own second personality...

Emily is no longer with the man from series 2, and she is going through a sort of mid-life crisis, that makes her adopt the complete hippie life-style. This can be a pain for Christian, who feels like she isn't looking after their son properly.

Imogen and Martin are now happily married and have a 3 year old son. Imogen is now running the company and regularly has to bring her son to work, which is hard for Kirsten when she has her various fake boobs and wigs strewn about the place.

The 70's have brought new technological difficulties for Swaying Cupid. The matchmaking business is in flux, changing towards more technological solutions, which could make it easier to run the business without the actual presence of Kirsten – like magazines with personal ads, phone based services and early versions of video/super 8 personal ads. This is another reason why Kirsten should perhaps give up the wig.

Tony and Robert choose to live openly, and sometimes this can effect their careers, the way that co workers treat them. This can also cause problems for their friends.

The series leads up to a final decision for Kirsten. Should he become Christian full time again, or can he not survive without Kirsten? How will this affect his relationship with Sam, who is gay, and her son?

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