



A Husband for Mum

Trish Cooke

Eleven-year-old Callum wants to find a husband for his single mum, and he thinks he's the perfect person to find her match, as he knows her better than anyone.

CALLUM: Ever seen a beautiful woman and wonder why she's single? My Mum's single. Single yes, but I guess she's not really on her own, cos she's got me. Young, carefree, witty, charming, an ideal companion...

What I'm worried about is later, when all those girls won't be able to keep their hands off me. Don't want her crying in her coffee and pining for some male company then, cos then I'll be too busy being grown up!

The thing is Mum could have any man, but she doesn't want any man. Since she split up with Dad, she's convinced herself there's only one perfect match for everyone. She actually believes her soul mate's out there, somewhere. She believes in it so strongly, I think she's probably met him already, in a past life or something, but she let him pass her by.

Now me, I believe you've got to go after what you want in life. Things don't just fall on your lap out of the blue... Least that was what I thought before last week...

(Beat.)

We were coming home from shopping when I was quizzing Mum about stuff... you know personal stuff. I said to Mum –

'So, if you had a choice, of any man in the whole world, who would you choose?' And she just looks at me and laughs. 'Come on, your ideal man?' I say, and she says, 'OK, Brad Pitt'. I mean really? Brad Pitt's a Hollywood star and he's got millions of women after him. Dad's good looking and look where that got her!

So, I say, 'Maybe you should go for someone less good looking.' And before I can finish what I am saying it happens! This Beetle car, looks like Herbie from that old film, Herbie Rides Again, but it's red with a blue and white stripe on the bonnet, it comes speeding towards us and the driver slams on the brakes, just in time and the goofiest man I've ever seen comes out, and calls out Mum's name... And I think to myself... now this could be him.