

M&B Paranormal Investigations
Season Finale
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INT. KENNETH'S PORSCHE

VROOM! The engine is LOUD.

BERNARD

Gosh, this engine is loud! You'd never guess we were going 15 miles an hour. Should you not drive a bit faster, dear??

MAGENTA

No, I can't go any faster! There's a *gnome* clinging to the windscreen, Bernie! I can barely see the road!

GNOME CHUNTERS

LINDSAY

Turn the windscreen wipers on!

She does.

MAGENTA

Get off the car, you horrid little bastard! Get off!

The gnome HAMMERS on the glass.

BERNARD

Ohhh he's hammering on the glass.

MAGENTA

Is he trying to break it? He's trying to break it!

LINDSAY

How strong are gnomes, mum?

MAGENTA

How should I know!

BERNARD

I don't think there's anything to worry about. He's only got little fists.

A final THUMP.

CRRRRRACK.

ALL OF THEM

Ohhh!

The gnome LAUGHS victoriously

LINDSAY

Stop the car, mum! Stop the car!

MAGENTA

Right!

Magenta SLAMS on the breaks.

The gnome is THROWN; we hear a trailing ARGGHHH. Couple of BOUNCES.

MAGENTA (cont'd)

Well. That dislodged him.

LINDSAY

Is he alright?? Did we hurt him?

Gnome GROANS

BERNARD

He's moving. He's getting up! Gosh. Resilient little thing, isn't he!

MAGENTA

Should I... should I run him over?

LINDSAY

No!

MAGENTA

No, no, you're right, I won't, I shan't do that.

BERNARD

He doesn't seem all that interested in us anymore.

LINDSAY

Where's he looking? Ohhhh, look! The gnome, he's seen a deer.

MAGENTA

A deer?

LINDSAY

A deer in the trees.

BERNARD
Where? Where! I want to see!

MAGENTA
There, there! Look, can you see?

BERNARD
Oh! Oh, that's adorable!

MAGENTA
Isn't he sweet!

BERNARD
They're looking at each other!

MAGENTA
I wonder if the gnome's ever seen a deer before?

BERNARD
Maybe not!

LINDSAY
Perhaps his kind have some kind of special affinity with the natural world, so he's sort of communicati--

BERNARD
OH MY GOD, HE'S ATTACKING IT! HE'S CLIMBING INSIDE! HE'S RIPPING IT APART!

The gnome attacks the deer with such ferocity that we hear SNARLING and SQUEALS.

ALL OF THEM
Oh oh! He's climbing inside! He's working it like a puppet!

GNOME LAUGHS

LINDSAY
Mum, drive! Drive! Get us out of here! For the love of God!

CLICK

INT. MACDUFF'S FAST FOOD RESTAURANT - BIT LATER

CLICK

LINDSAY

That was the most disturbing thing I've ever seen. And I'm a zookeeper. I've given enemas to elephants. I don't know how you can both eat at a time like this!

MAGENTA

Well, we've been around the block a few times, dear.

BERNARD

Not our first rodeo! Go on, Lindsay, have a bite. It's your favourite: a mixed Foob! Extra chunks!

LINDSAY

Floob. It's Floob.
(beat) Fine. Give it here.

DISTANT MACDUFF EMPLOYEE

Order 53: MacDuff Double Cheese.

BERNARD

Are you still on hold, darling?

MAGENTA

Mmm. Four minutes now.
Listen to this.

We hear the CovenCo hold music through M's phone

MAGENTA

(sneers) That's their hold music. Who do they think they are with their airs and graces!

BERNARD

Wow. That's a great piece of music though, isn't it? You can tell CovenCo have really got their shit together.

MAGENTA

Bernie! Don't compliment the enemy!

BERNARD

They're not the enemy anymore though, surely? Not if they're gonna help us close the portal?

MAGENTA

We don't know if they will, yet.

(MORE)

MAGENTA (cont'd)
 (mutters darkly) Making us wait
 around like a bunch of serfs, begging
 for their lordly favour, having to
 listen to this shit in the meantime--

Hold music STOPS. On the phone -

INZILBÊTH
 Hi, Magenta. It's Inzilbêth again.

MAGENTA
 Guhh!

INZILBÊTH
 Sorry to keep you waiting.

MAGENTA
 No worries at all, Elizabeth.

INZILBÊTH
 It's Inzilbêth. Not Elizabeth. Common
 mistake.

MAGENTA
 Oh God. Say it again.

INZILBÊTH
 Inzilbêth? It's from the
 Silmarillion. She was the daughter of
 Lindórië. Yeah? The sister of
 Eärendur. You know: the fifteenth
 Lord of Andúnië. A descendant of Tar-
 Calmacil.

MAGENTA
 Right, yeah. Say it again?

INZILBÊTH
 (sighs) Inzilbêth. (beat) Inzilbêth?

MAGENTA
 Got it, yeah. So, what's the verdict?
 Will CovenCo help us close the
 portal, or will you stand by and
 watch while the planet's overrun by
 creatures from another dimension?

INZILBÊTH
 Well, you can't manage this alone,
 can you? So yah. We'll help.

MAGENTA
 Oh marvelous. Good choice.

INZILBÊTH

We've just been discussing strategy,
in fact.
Wait, let me put you on speakerphone.

MAGENTA

Oh, right. I'll do the same.

INZILBÊTH

OK. There.
Can you hear us?

BERNARD

Yes! Hello!

MAGENTA

That was Bernard.

INZILBÊTH

Hi Bernard. I'm Inzilbêth. This is
Gimilkhâd.

GIMILKHÂD

Hi! Can you hear me?

BERNARD

Yes, loud and clear! Did you say
Gimilkhâd? As in, son of Queen
Inzilbêth and King Ar-Gimilzôr of
Númenor?

GIMILKHÂD

Who else!

BERNARD

Fantastic!
Oh, Lindsay's here too. Daughter of
me and Magenta, of the house Fairton!
Haha!
Say hello, Lindsay.

LINDSAY

Hello.

MAGENTA

Alright, good, we've introduced
ourselves, let's get on with it shall
we.
So what's this about a strategy?

INZILBÊTH

Yah. So we've identified two major
problems. One: the open portal.

(MORE)

INZILBÊTH (cont'd)

Two: the entities that have escaped from said portal.

MAGENTA

(mutter) Yeah I told you that.

INZILBÊTH

Let's take problem two first. There are two possible approaches to problem two. One: squish and slash.

BERNARD

You mean, brute force? That doesn't sound very nice.

LINDSAY

No, it doesn't.

MAGENTA

Not to mention, three of us couldn't vanquish a single gnome, let alone a horde of the buggers.

LINDSAY

Plus the World Serpent, don't forget him. And a demonically possessed Kenneth McCrag.

BERNARD

What's the second possible approach?

INZILBÊTH

The carrot. Lure them back into the portal.

MAGENTA

That's more like it. So how do we do it?

GIMILKHÂD

Not sure. We hadn't got that far.

MAGENTA

(dark mutterings)

BERNARD

What about problem one: closing the portal?

GIMILKHÂD

I'll take this one, if I may.

INZILBÊTH

Of course, darling. It was your idea, after all.

(to Magenta) Gimilkhâd is a brilliant strategist.

GIMILKHÂD

Thank you, darling.

INZILBÊTH

Well, it's true.

MAGENTA

(mutters) Ugh. God.

GIMILKHÂD

As are you, my love. Not to mention, the finest magical practitioner this side of the equator.

MAGENTA

F--ks sake.

INZILBÊTH

No, you are.

GIMILKHÂD

No, you are.

MAGENTA

Who's on the other side of the equator, then?

GIMILKHÂD

Mmm? Sorry, what?

MAGENTA

You said she's 'the finest magical practitioner this side of the equator.' So who's the superior magical practitioner on the other side of the equator? I'm just asking. It sounded like you had someone in mind, that's all.

LINDSAY

Are we going off-topic?

GIMILKHÂD

Yes, I rather think we are!

INZILBÊTH

But were you, though?

GIMILKHÂD

What?

INZILBÊTH

Were you thinking of someone in particular?

GIMILKHÂD

(sweating) Oh. Ummm. I mean, ha, ahharumm--

INZILBÊTH

Tar-Atanamir? It is, isn't it? Is that who you meant?

GIMILKHÂD

Well. Ummm. Ha. Uhhh.

INZILBÊTH

So you think Tar-Atanamir is a better magical practitioner than me, do you?

MAGENTA

(mutters) Uh ohhh.

BERNARD

Who's Tar-Atanamir?

GIMILKHÂD

He's... he's a very fine warlock.

INZILBÊTH

His ex-boyfriend. Tar-Atanamir is Gimilkhâd's ex-boyfriend.

MAGENTA

(loving it) Oh dearrrr. Ohhh. That's unfortunate.

BERNARD

Gosh. Bit awkward.

GIMILKHÂD

I wouldn't say he's a 'better' magical practitioner than you, darling. Equals, maybe.

INZILBÊTH

Mmm. I see.

GIMILKHÂD

Actually, what am I saying? You're leagues above Tar! Silly old Tar!

(MORE)

GIMILKHÂD (cont'd)
 Couldn't hold a candle to you. My
 love.

INZILBÊTH
 Don't..! Don't touch me, please. No,
 just don't. Not while we're working.
 (mutters) Or any other time.

Magenta CHUCKLES.

MAGENTA
 Sorry, I'm not laughing, I'm just
 clearing my throat. (laughs)
 Should we get back to the matter at
 hand? Feral gnomes are decimating the
 wildlife as we speak. We haven't got
 long.

GIMILKHÂD
 Yes! Absolutely! Back to work.
 Teamwork is the dreamwork.

INZILBÊTH
 Oh is it? If you ask me to open the
 relationship again...

GIMILKHÂD
 (loud) Portal! Portal! Let's close
 the portal.
 So, let's do this properly. One
 possible way is to invite a religious
 organisation to build a place of
 worship at the site in question, and
 luckily, we have a couple of
 Scientology chums who will be able to
 fast-track--

MAGENTA
 Absolutely not.

BERNARD
 Yeah, not a fan of that idea.

INZILBÊTH
 How about a Freemason's lodge? It's
 not religious, but it's been around a
 looong time. It might work.

LINDSAY
 Wow.
 Where'd you find these two? Dickheads
 R Us?

BERNARD

Don't be rude, Lindsay. But yes, we're not going to invite Scientologists or Freemasons to build on our land, thank you.

MAGENTA

I suppose we could set up our own religion. That's a lot of paperwork though. And I can't run a cult again, all that *fawning*, I found it really off-putting.

BERNARD

It was exhausting, wasn't it?

M's phone BLEEPITY BLOOPS.

MAGENTA

Oh wait. I've got another call coming through. It's Kenneth.

BERNARD

Oh.
Wait. Kenneth??

LINDSAY

Answer it.

CLICK.

MAGENTA

Hello? Mr Baby? Is that you?

KENNETH

(sheepish) Hi, yup. It's me. Err.
How's it going?

MAGENTA

Well. Not brilliantly. Our home is destroyed. And we barely escaped with our lives.

KENNETH

About that...

LINDSAY

Jeb the cameraman didn't make it. He got dragged into the woods by pixies.

BERNARD

Yeah, we're pretty cross with you, Mr Baby Kenneth, if I'm being perfectly honest. So what do you want?

KENNETH

I would like to offer a sort of...
detente. And apologise to you all.

MAGENTA

Pbbt. A likely story. What is this,
some sort of trick?

KENNETH

No, not, it's not a trick.

BERNARD

Hard to believe, I'm afraid.

LINDSAY

Yeah! What happened to: "sucks to be
you, humans, mwahahahah!".

KENNETH

That was the old me, of two hours
ago. The new me has been thinking...
I suspect I've been making choices
based on... hurt feelings. Ego. A
very human thing to do, ironically!

MAGENTA

Oh yeah? Things not turning out like
you hoped, then? More chaos than you
can handle, is it?

KENNETH

As ever, witch, you are most
perceptive.
They're not listening to me. It's
like they've forgotten who brought
them to this realm! They're running
riot. Laughing in my face. You'd
think people would heed the words of
the portal opener and close personal
friend of the World Serpent, but no!
Apparently not.

MAGENTA

Maybe you're not leadership material.
Sounds like you overestimated
yourself.

LINDSAY

Yeah. Who'd want to follow a pussy
like you?

BERNARD

Lindsay!

MAGENTA

Don't use misogynistic terms to insult someone, dear.

LINDSAY

No, I...it was a pun! A reference to when he was seven kittens! Like pussycats! Fine! Whatever! This whole thing sucks! My arm hurts, not that anyone's even asked about that! Granny's stuck in another dimension, have you forgotten that? And I don't want to be in a coven anymore! I'm gonna go get a Floob.

She leaves.

MAGENTA

I think this has all been rather difficult for her.

BERNARD

A bit of a shock to the system.

KENNETH

I know how she feels. I think I've really muffed things up.

MAGENTA

Do you want to reverse it?

KENNETH

Yes, I do.

BERNARD

Do you have a plan? Because we really don't.

KENNETH

I have!... half an idea!

MAGENTA

That's half more than we have. Go on.

KENNETH

We must return to the ancient ways and surround the portal with a circle of oak.

BERNARD

Oak? Oak trees? Riight. I suppose we could plant a few acorns, that wouldn't be too hard.

MAGENTA

Didn't you say it takes 100 years for an oak tree to reach maturity? I'm not sure we have that long.

KENNETH

Well, here's the thing. On the other side of the portal, in the land of my genesis, is a forest of oak that stretches as far as the eye can see.

MAGENTA

Oh that sounds nice. Doesn't that sound nice?

BERNARD

Sounds lovely.

KENNETH

We just have to get a few over here, that's all. Bring them through, plant 'em... Bob's your uncle.

BERNARD

Oak trees are quite big.

MAGENTA

Mr baby, could you levitate them?

KENNETH

Oh, I could! Hmmm. Yes. If Jormundgardr was on one side of the portal, I could be on the other, and one of us could pass an oak tree through... like a baton... yeah!

MAGENTA

Great. That sounds like a plan. Alright then, let us know when you've done that. We'll come back when it's over. Good luck! Bye now. Bye bye.

KENNETH

Wait. Wait wait wait. The oak are not from this realm. They will not take root... without witch magic.

MAGENTA

Ugh. Course not.

BERNARD

So we need to be present, then?

MAGENTA

Sounds like it.

KENNETH

You need a full coven, actually. Do you know anyone who can step in for the elder witch?

MAGENTA

Yes! Yes yes, yes we do. Alright, enough chat. Let's collect Lindsay from the Floob machine and finish this.

KENNETH

Wait.

MAGENTA

What? What what?? Why can't you say everything at once?

KENNETH

The oak trees alone cannot secure the portal.

MAGENTA

But you just said--

KENNETH

A druid must attend to the sacred grove. A druid to keep the forces of chaos at bay. To maintain the balance. But it's alright... I have an idea about that...

CLICK

EXT. MISTY MOOR RECTORY RUINS

CLICK

Mystic WIND HOWLS

A sound reminiscent of ENTS

The WITCHES CHANT.

The EVIL LAUGHTER of gnomes, pixies et al.

Bernard sounds like a TV reporter in a storm.

BERNARD

Oh Jesus Christ.

(lifting voice above howls) Hopefully my new-and-improved dictaphone is recording a-ok, and withstanding the mystic forces that are absolutely battering me right now! I can't imagine how the others are holding up! It really is something! Oh, oh, and here comes the final oak! It's crowning through the portal! Oh, actually, it's coming roots-first this time! A difficult delivery!

The SHRIEK of Jormogundr.

BERNARD (cont'd)

(like a football commentator now) And that's a beautiful pass of the oak from Jormungundr to Kenneth! Smooth as silk! Some kind of giant lizard with four heads tried his best to intercept, but these two were having none of it! Jormo and Kenneth; what a duo! It's the kind of teamwork that occurs when two exceptionally talented entities work together for... well, eons, in this case. And Kenneth passes the oak to the coven who are chanting up a storm - a literal storm! The roots of the oak tree reach for the soil and not even an army of malevolent gnomes can stop it... and indeed, the final tree has taken root! There's just one more thing to do and it's all over!

KENNETH

Bernard! You're up! Only you can finish this!

BERNARD

Ohhh. Are you really sure about this?

MAGENTA

You can do it, darling! I believe in you.

BERNARD

But I'm not qualified!

MAGENTA

Course you are! You've been tapping into the esoteric for weeks now.

BERNARD

But it's all so new. I don't even know how to chant, I haven't learned the ancient mystical languages.

KENNETH

You don't need the ancient languages. You just need to state your intentions... in a lyrical fashion. Here - I found this amongst the rubble.

BERNARD

My guitar!

MAGENTA

Doesn't it need to be plugged in?

Bernard STRUMS the guitar. It works! Without electricity!

MAGENTA (cont'd)

Apparently not.

BERNARD

But I don't know what to play!

KENNETH

Play from the heart, Bernard the Druid. Play from the heart.

BERNARD

Alright...

(sings)

It's been over two millennia
Since a Druid walked these lands
The age of magic is long past
And yet here a Druid stands!

To protect that which is sacred
The Earth, the wind, the sky
The balance 'tween this and the next world
In the hands of... just some guy

(spoken) Quite a heavy responsibility... Oh god! No, it's fine, I can do it...

Mr Baby assures me it's basically
An administrative role
Just some cross-dimensional diplomacy
And inter-world border control

Well alright, here I go
There's no turning back now...

Cos there's a new Druid in town!

(GNOME CHORUS
Wah wah wah wah!)

Welcome to the Portal!
All thee who pass through here
Mythic, magick or mortal
To these laws you must adhere
You may pass to the human realm
If you promise you won't interfere
If you so much as turn someone's milk sour
I'll banish you right back, d'you hear?

This promise I extract from you
This verbal contract binds you to
The Druid
Bernard... of Misty Moor

(GNOME CHORUS
Ba da wah! Ba da wah!)

EXT. MISTY MOOR RUINS - LATER

A CRACKLING campfire.

An OWL HOOTS.

Bernard on acoustic guitar -

BERNARD

(sings) We opened up the portal, then
we closed the portal again.
Mr Baby schemed against us
but then we parted ways as friends...

MAGENTA

You can put the guitar down now,
darling.

BERNARD

But I feel so inspired!

LINDSAY

Can't believe dad's a druid. Pass the
marshmallows, mum.

MAGENTA

There you go, sweetie. I think he'll
make a wonderful druid.

BERNARD

Thank you dear. I'm feeling more confident about taking it on, now. I suspect the difficult part is over.

MAGENTA

Exactly. Ahh, thank goodness we can relax. All's well that ends well!

LINDSAY

Errr. We haven't got Granny back yet.

MAGENTA

But we will. We'll figure that out tomorrow though, eh?

BERNARD

Yeah.

Cracks open a beer, DRINKS.

BERNARD (cont'd)

What a shame we lost the house though. Still, we're not homeless! It was good of Mr Baby to dig our caravan out from under the rubble, wasn't it.

The caravan GROANS. The metal has suffered greatly.

LINDSAY

(mutters) Doesn't look very stable.

BERNARD

Do you know, I was quite sad to see Mr Baby evacuate Kenneth's body and return to whence he came. I think I'll miss him.

MAGENTA

Me too. He was a good sort really, wasn't he. Hard to stay angry at him. We all make mistakes, and he made up for it in the end. And now everything's back to normal!

Beat

INZILBÊTH

(fear) Except for the creatures that escaped the portal in the long hours before we could close it.

GIMILKHÂD
(fear) Hundreds of them. Thousands.
They're all out there... listening...
watching... waiting...

A GNOME laughs in the nearby woods

EVERYONE
(shrieks)

MAGENTA
Well, I suppose there might be a
little bit of clean-up still to be
done. But you know what that means?

GIMILKHÂD
Chaos. Horror. Ruin.

MAGENTA
Well, yes, all of that. And... plenty
of work for M&B Paranormal
Investigations! Eh?

BERNARD
Hurray!

THEME TUNE

The End