

# *Home and Away*

## Storylines

- A Storyline: Irene's second sight returns and her revelations transfix the Bay
- B Storyline: Evelyn begins to feel wracked by claustrophobia, brought on by her experiences with the cult and her imprisonment with Oscar and Kyle
- C Storyline: Harvey strengthens his relationship with Maddy but suspects someone is courting Roo

## **Central Characters**

1. Irene
2. Alf
3. Roo
4. Leah
5. Evelyn
6. Maddy
7. Harvey
8. Mystery Person

## Synopsis

IRENE makes plans to visit the city for a couple of days. She doesn't elaborate on the reason why, but there is no disquiet or concern from anyone.

She returns and life goes on as normal.

EVELYN starts developing signs of claustrophobia following her traumatic experience in the cult and being imprisoned in the shipping container. She decides to keep the anxiety to herself.

Irene spills the beans to ALF (which LEAH and ROO overhear) mentioning that her second sight has returned <sup>(1)</sup>. Any concerns of her foreseeing a disaster are quickly allayed when she reveals that her visions, whilst currently sketchy, are premonitions of a ***special someone*** reuniting with one of the locals from the Bay.

Leah takes a special interest in the revelations. It reminds her of Miles' visions.

During an early morning walk, SASHA and SPENCER discover a ***message*** contained in a very unique **bottle** lying on the beach. They take it into the diner where the message is read aloud for everyone to hear. The locals get excited about the possibilities of who sent it and whom it's for. The ***message*** is cryptic,

but it does mention a ***distant land*** and a ***life-changing trip***. This message confirms that Irene's premonitions are taking shape.

Roo and HARVEY have an argument and decide to spend more time on the underlying issues of their relationship.

Alf and Leah start to wonder whether Irene's premonitions may in fact be health related, similar to Alf's medical issues when he was hallucinating, which would help explain her mysterious trip to the city two weeks earlier. Leah approaches Irene with her concerns, but Irene makes light of them and denies that her trip was health related.

Evelyn's claustrophobia is becoming more and more intense. Oscar notices her unusual behaviour and tries to help out. She resists.

Irene tells everyone that she's had a second vision, which involves the ***ocean*** and ***islands***.

Shortly after, a second clue arrives in the form of a ***radio competition***. The prize is a ***seven-day cruise*** around the ***Pacific islands***.

Excitement reaches fever pitch when Irene's premonitions come true again.

Irene convinces Maddy to call the radio station and enter the cruise competition on behalf of Alf (who Irene believes deserves a trip away). Maddy wins the radio competition for the two cruise tickets.

Maddy offers the tickets to Alf, but he declines them, deciding to stay and help an overwhelmed John at the surf club. Leah tells Maddy to offer the tickets to Roo, who will in turn convince Alf to go as her plus one, but Roo also declines the tickets, citing the need to work on her relationship with Harvey.

After mulling it over for a while - and on the insistence of Leah and Maddy - Roo decides to take the tickets and convinces Alf, with John's help, that he would have a great time on the cruise. Alf finally agrees to go, but he can't quite see how the cruise experience will be much fun.

Roo and Alf begin planning their trip while the people in the Bay gossip about who they'll meet on their vacation. Roo and Alf dismiss the premonitions as a coincidence. Harvey becomes a little cold to Roo after she decides to go on the cruise.

Evelyn's anxiety and mood swings increase. Oscar decides that he can't hold back anymore and insists that she get a job at the diner, to keep herself busy and her mind off her anxiety.

### **(A possible stand-alone episode)**

The big day arrives for Roo and Alf to set sail. Alf is reluctant to enjoy himself as they board the ship. They unpack in their cabin while Alf reads through the first

day's program. He sniffs at some on the cruise activities, questions some of the meetings, i.e. friends of Bill W, and proclaims that cruising is for old people, to which Roo announces that he IS old, before telling him that cruises are great fun.

They head to the upper deck to wave goodbye as the ship sets off.

Roo suggests they explore the ship, but Alf's curmudgeon attitude gets the better of him and he decides to stay in the piano lounge. Roo heads off to look around on her own.

An elderly woman grabs a seat beside Alf and they strike up a pleasant conversation. She senses Alf's bad mood and insists that he join her at a quiz. Alf begrudgingly agrees. Over the course of the quiz, the woman gives him advice about enjoying his time as often as possible and Alf starts to lighten up, before deciding to fully enjoy his time on the cruise. A little later Roo finds Alf on the upper deck, dressed in a loud tropical shirt and partying with the other passengers. His attitude is a hundred times better which puts Roo in a great mood.

The next day during breakfast the elderly woman spots Alf and Roo and decides to go over and say hi. Her husband and grandchildren stay at the buffet. She asks Alf how he is, and with a big smile he tells her he's having a terrific time. She's pleased, as is Roo. One of her elderly woman's grandchildren comes to collect her so they can eat. Roo asks Alf who the woman was, but he is coy simply saying that she gave him a pick-me-up when he needed it.

They go for a swim, play some shuffleboard, watch an evening show and dance the night away.

That night Roo goes out for a late snack before returning to find a fully dressed Alf out like a light on the bed.

### **(My spec covers everything below)**

Roo and Alf are having a great time on the cruise while people back in the Bay are speculating if there is a mystery person, and if so who it is.

Oscars and Evelyn go to the diner, where Evelyn gets a job for the school holidays. The job starts well but after being accidentally shut in the cool room, Evelyn panics and leaves the diner.

Leah discovers a second bottle (shaped exactly the same as the one found on the beach) hidden in Irene's desk. She also finds evidence that Irene set up the cruise competition and also finds the competition questions written out, with Maddy's name at the top. After being confronted, Irene finally tells the truth to Leah, explaining that her trip to the city a few weeks before was in aid of her meeting a mystery person who needed her help to get Alf and Roo onto the cruise ship.

Irene admits to fabricating the entire story to everyone at the diner. She admits to **planting** the message in the bottle and also organising – through a friend at

the radio station - the fake cruise competition. Irene confesses that she convinced Maddy to try for the competition tickets and then chose questions she knew only Maddy would be able to answer.

The revelation that Alf and Roo were both preselected for the cruise comes as a huge surprise to everyone. Harvey overhears it and becomes concerned that an old flame from Roo's past may be involved.

Roo and Alf dock at Champagne Bay, Vanuatu. They walk around the island enjoying the sights, unaware that they are about to meet a mystery person.

Everyone in the diner wants to know one thing. Who is behind it all? Irene finally reveals that the mystery person is...

CUT TO

...Roo and Alf arriving at the cafe and coming face to face with.... (Revealed in the spec script).

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*(1) "Irene has a special gift, which is rarely referred to these days, the gift of second sight. She dreamed that her fiancé Ken was calling her and she ran following him to the edge of a cliff. She realised she had foreseen his death. It is a gift that Irene has chosen not to use, so unlike Floss McPhee she does not seek to see the future." - BTTB*