

# Y2K: Take 2

## Episode 10: Bri - age 29 - Auckland - October 2008

### CHARACTERS

BRI - scenes 10.1 - 10.4 (Lorcan)  
ANTONIO - scenes 10.1, 10.2, 10.4 (Alexandre)  
GAVIN - scenes 10.3 - 10.4 (James)

*(INTRO MUSIC)*

### Scene 10:0

DIRECTOR

Places, please. We'll try again everyone. Right. Whenever you're ready - Take 2.

*(INTRO MUSIC)*

NARRATOR

Episode 10. Welcome to the year 2008. October. Auckland, New Zealand. Bri (Bree) is 29 years old.

### Scene 10:1

*(INT. Large function room at university. Evening. Party of about 80 people having a sit-down formal dinner. ANTONIO is standing up.)*

ANTONIO

*(in the middle of a speech)* You have worked harder and withstood more ire than anyone I know. There were so many obstacles in your path and you didn't let them defeat you, you calmly and methodically found another way, built a new path. Your strength, smarts and sheer determination brought you here, and I cannot wait to see where they take you next. You are an inspiration to so many, and what you have achieved today means you will inspire countless more. I am so proud, and so honoured, to be your partner. *(Raises glass)* To Bri (Bree)! Cheers!

MANY VOICES

To Bri (Bree)!

*(Clinking of many glasses, pause, then conversation starts again. ANTONIO sits.)*

BRI

*(quietly, touched, in Portuguese)* Saúde.

ANTONIO

*(sin low voice to BRI)* Saúde. *(sips, beat)* Was that all right?

BRI

*(touched)* It was beautiful. Thank you my darling.

ANTONIO

Of course! You deserve to be celebrated after working so hard for so many years.

BRI

Aw. Thank you. *(overwhelmed)* I can't believe it. The PhD is mine. Finally. *(beat)* I keep having nightmares that someone will take it away from me, like they figured out I missed a high school math class or something, but... It's real. I did it.

ANTONIO

You did. And I couldn't be prouder. Doctor Bri *(Bree)* Annie Shaw. My Doctor Shaw. Suits you.

BRI

*(smiles)* We're both doctors now.

ANTONIO

We are. And look around you! All of these folks are here to celebrate \*you\*.

BRI

*(stressed)* I know.

ANTONIO

*(picks up on her distress, joking)* I mean, no they're not. They're, um, here to praise someone named... Vee who just obtained their... FLC?

BRI

*(laughs)* What does that even mean?

ANTONIO

*(smiles)* I have absolutely no idea. Just wanted to make you laugh.

BRI

*(smiles)* It worked. Thank you.

ANTONIO

*(smiles)* Anytime, *(in Portuguese)* meu amor. *(in English)* Oh, time for the next speech!

BRI

*(smiles)* Can't a girl eat her dessert in peace around here?

ANTONIO

Nope! One bite, and then a new speech!

BRI

*(takes bite, laughs, then conversations are quieting)* Hush, it's starting!

*(ding-ding-ding of spoon on glass, then (Jess) clearing of throat, then fade)*

### **Scene 10:2**

*(INT. BRI'S and ANTONIO'S house in an Auckland suburb. Faint sound of two puppies yapping. Late morning. BRI is sitting by her laptop, typing quickly.)*

ANTONIO

*(casual, calls from other room, distant)* Bri (Bree)?

BRI

*(distracted, calls)* Yeah?

ANTONIO

*(calls, distant)* Did you walk the dogs this morning?

BRI

*(distracted, calls)* Wasn't it your turn?

ANTONIO

*(calls, distant)* Shit! *(in Portuguese)* Merda! *(calls to BRI, agitated, in English)* There is literally shit on the carpet! Come help! *(grabs paper towel from kitchen and makes sounds of disgust as he cleans up)*

BRI

*(gets up, footsteps to other room)* What was that?

ANTONIO

*(agitated)* Poop! *(throws paper in garbage)* I'm so sick of this, there's always bloody poop everywhere.

BRI

*(like she's shaking off a dream)* Right. How can I help?

ANTONIO

*(annoyed)* Nothing, it's done now.

BRI

Right. *(beat)* OK. I'll take the dogs out.

ANTONIO

(angry) Can't believe you forgot to walk them! You know how they are!

BRI  
I thought it was your turn?

ANTONIO  
(angry) No! I walked them last night!

BRI  
All right! I'll go now.

ANTONIO  
(angry) No! I'll go! (passive aggressive) I always do it anyway.

BRI  
(almost in tears) Fine. (turns to leave)

ANTONIO  
Hey. (irritation melting away) You all right? You are never this meek.

BRI  
Meek?

ANTONIO  
You are scaring me now. Come here. (leads BRI to couch) Sit. (BOTH sit.) What is going on with you lately?

BRI  
I don't know. I'm so... (sighs, very upset) They're puppies, they can't help it.

ANTONIO  
Hey, that's fine. I know. It's our fault, not theirs. We forgot to walk them.

BRI  
(almost crying) They're only babies.

ANTONIO  
They are. Bri (Bree). My darling. (worried) This can't all be about the dogs. Talk to me.

BRI  
(very upset) You're right.

ANTONIO  
OK. Whatever it is, we can handle it. Yes?

BRI

I- I'm overreacting, I think.

ANTONIO

No such thing. You feel what you feel. (*gently*) And right now it seems you are feeling panicky.

BRI

Yeah.

ANTONIO

OK. I've known you for six years, and this has never happened before. You want me to throw out some guesses?

BRI

Yeah. Please. (*breathes*)

ANTONIO

Right. So. The major thing to happen lately is you got your doctorate, so it's probably connected to that.

BRI

Yes. (*breathes*)

ANTONIO

You've been applying for post doc positions. Is that it?

BRI

(*very stressed*) I sent some off this morning. (*breathes*)

ANTONIO

OK. Are you worried you won't be accepted?

BRI

Yes. No. Both. (*quickly*) I don't know if that's what I want to do. But I don't know what else to do. I feel... (*long pause, quietly, calmer*) I feel lost.

ANTONIO

That's OK. You don't have to decide anything right now. You can take your time to find your way.

BRI

(*lets out relieved breath*) You are right. (*slowly*) I don't have to know.

ANTONIO

Sending off applications is good, but you don't have to accept if you are offered one, you know.

BRI

(*smiles*) How come you always know what to say?

ANTONIO

(smiles) Well... I \*am\* a trained psychologist.

BRI

(chimes in) ...trained psychologist. I know. (smiles) But you are also a damned good partner.

ANTONIO

(smiles) Even when I yell at you about poop?

BRI

Especially when you yell at me about poop. (jokingly) Those are your finest moments.

ANTONIO

There you are! I get worried when you stop teasing me.

BRI

(laughs) Good.

(puppy paws approaching, happy yapping)

BRI

Aw, there you are! (continues) I'll take them out.

ANTONIO

You sure?

BRI

Yeah. It's a nice day. Spring flowers and sunshine will do me good.

ANTONIO

OK. (quick kiss) I'll get lunch started. (gets up) Anything you're in the mood for?

BRI

(thinks) Do we have any fish? Or sea food?

ANTONIO

I'll see what we have. (walks toward other room)

BRI

Thank you ! (to dogs) All right, pups, time for a walk! (excited yapping) Yeah, walkies!

(Fade out)

### **Scene 10:3**

*(INT. Corridor at university. Distant voices. Afternoon. BRI walks quickly, then stops by an office doorway. GAVIN is sitting inside, typing quickly.)*

BRI  
*(knocks on doorframe, from doorway)* Hey Gavin.

GAVIN  
*(stops typing, smiles)* Bri *(Bree)*. Kia Ora. Great to see you. It's been a while.

BRI  
I know. Been laying low. Can you spare a minute or are you on a deadline? *(beat, sing-song voice)* I brought tea.

GAVIN  
Course, come in. I'm just editing, it can wait.

BRI  
*(walks in, pushes door closed, hands over tea, sets down her own styrofoam cup)* Here.

GAVIN  
Thanks. *(sips)*

BRI  
It's not the good kind. Vending machine. *(sits down)*

GAVIN  
*(smiles)* The styrofoam cup kind of gave it away.

BRI  
*(laughs)* Course. Yeah.

GAVIN  
So. What's up?

BRI  
Um. Help?

GAVIN  
Whatever I can do.

BRI  
I- Um.

GAVIN  
You um what?

BRI  
Oh, Gav. *(sighs)* I don't know what to do next.

GAVIN

Ah. Post-doctoral angst.

BRI

*(smiles)* That obvious? *(sips tea)*

GAVIN

We've all been there.

BRI

*(sheepishly)* I thought I was the only one.

GAVIN

*(laughs)* Suppose some folks escape. I certainly didn't. Spent about three months moping about on my parent's farm before I figured out what to do next.

BRI

Oh. I remember you being away, but... You've always seemed so focused.

GAVIN

Nah. Just good at pretending. Like most people.

BRI

*(wry smile)* Don't get where \*you\* are without some drive.

GAVIN

Oh, always had drive. Just needed direction. *(beat)* Pretty much like you right now.

BRI

*(sips tea)* Yeah. You make it sound simple.

GAVIN

I know it's not. *(sips tea)*

BRI

*(serious)* No. It really isn't. *(sighs)* I... I did apply for some post docs, but not sure that's what I want.

GAVIN

Right. So what else is on the list?

BRI

I... don't know. These last few years writing my dissertation has been... everything.

GAVIN

So maybe stay in academia? Get that post doc?



BRI  
Maybe.

GAVIN  
All right. What are the other options?

BRI  
I... *(sips tea)* I've always wanted to... *(sheepish)* Save the world I guess? Sound silly, but... I want to do... good.

GAVIN  
You could do that through anthropology research, definitely. You have done that already through your work so far.

BRI  
Thank you. And I could. Suppose I... Am longing to do something more hands on.

GAVIN  
*(smiles)* After all that writing, yeah?

BRI  
Exactly!

GAVIN  
I know the feeling. I've never been as enthusiastic about sheep shearing as right after I got my doctorate. For me, that passed. For you, well, maybe you need some time to figure it out?

BRI  
Yeah.

GAVIN  
So what are we talking about here? Greenpeace activist? Volunteering for Save the Children? Community outreach?

BRI  
*(laughs)* All of those sound interesting.

GAVIN  
Focus! Define! You know how.

BRI  
*(deep breath)* Yes professor!

*(BOTH laugh)*

BRI  
*(continues)* Right. *(thinks)* OK. More community-oriented than activist, I think.

GAVIN

Good. *(beat)* Go on.

BRI

And not permanently relocating, I want my base here in Auckland.

GAVIN

Right. And what do you want to save? Can't do everything at once.

BRI

That's right. *(thinks)* People, I think. Or animals!

GAVIN

Hm. If you think back to the past few years, what cause has...  
*(thinks)* moved you the most? *(sips tea)*

BRI

Well, there's the obvious. LGBTQ rights, trans rights, all that. I volunteer with the Rainbow Youth, and I'll keep doing that whatever else I do. *(thinks, then small laugh)* Honestly, this year has been all about dogs, for me.

GAVIN

*(surprised)* Dogs?

BRI

We adopted two rescue puppies, and reading the stories from the shelter... Makes my blood boil.

GAVIN

Would you want that to be your career? With the SPCA? Rescue mistreated animals?

BRI

Maybe? Not sure there is paid work there, though.

GAVIN

Well. Seems you have some more thinking to do.

BRI

I do. *(thinks)* This has been helpful.

GAVIN

Good. Want to grab lunch?

BRI

Sure. *(throws empty cup in bin)*

*(BOTH get up, and start walking toward the door)*

BRI

So. Farm kid, huh? *(smiles)* I never knew.

GAVIN

Yeah, yeah. *(smiles)* More to me than creative writing and horror films.

BRI

There definitely is. Thanks Gavin.

GAVIN

No worries.

*(Door opens, they walk out, door closes)*

*(Fade out.)*

### **Scene 10:4**

*(INT. BRI's and ANTONIO's house. Kitchen. Early evening. They are cooking.)*

ANTONIO

*(frying onions)* So what's Gavin's ETA?

BRI

*(chopping bell peppers)* Anytime after 6.30 - he should be here any minute. *(few footsteps)* Here. *(pours chopped peppers into pan)*

ANTONIO

Good. *(stirs pan)*

BRI

*(chops tomatoes)* He just got back from a conference in Singapore.

ANTONIO

*(stirs)* Those tomatoes ready?

BRI

Yup. *(pours in chopped tomatoes)*

ANTONIO

*(stirs)* So he'll be jetlagged?

BRI

Maybe a little. *(goes to fridge)* Want the prawns now?

ANTONIO

In a minute. *(stirs gently)*

*(doorbell rings)*

BRI

That's him now! I'll leave these here. *(sets down bowl on counter next to ANTONIO, quick kiss)*

ANTONIO

*(smiles)* Not so fast! *(pulls BRI back and kisses her thoroughly)*  
There! Now you can go. *(goes back to cooking, small happy laugh)*

*(doorbell rings again)*

BRI

*(happy laugh, calls)* I'm coming!

*(BRI opens door)*

BRI

*(continues)* Gavin! Welcome! Come in! *(quick hug, door closes)*

GAVIN

Thanks! *(hands over wine bottle)* Got you this.

BRI

Thanks. *(looks at bottle, joking)* Hey, this isn't from Singapore!

GAVIN

*(laughs)* No! Good old Gisbourne Chardonnay.

BRI

*(smiles)* It'll have to do I suppose. *(BOTH move toward kitchen)*

ANTONIO

Gavin! Welcome! *(quick hug)* How was your trip? *(goes back to stirring)*

*(BRI opens cupboard, gets out glasses)*

GAVIN

Good. *(beat)* Hot and humid. Made me long for summer.

BRI

*(opens bottle, pours)* Not long now! Wine?

GAVIN

Yes please.

BRI

Here you go *(hands glasses to GAVIN and ANTONIO)* Cheers!

GAVIN and ANTONIO  
Cheers!

GAVIN

So, Bri (*Bree*). I'm really curious now. You still figuring things out? Or did you decide on your next adventure?

BRI  
*(smiles)* I decided. I think.

GAVIN  
And?

ANTONIO  
*(smiles)* You'll have to pull it out of her. Why don't you two go out on the deck while I finish dinner?

BRI  
*(laughs)* You just want us out of your hair!

ANTONIO  
*(smiles)* Busted! Run along, kids! *(quick kiss with BRI)*

*(GAVIN laughs)*

BRI  
*(laughs, to GAVIN)* After you!

*(BRI and GAVIN walk to door, walk outside, close door, spring evening in suburb, some birdsong, distant cars)*

BRI  
*(continues)* There are blankets over there if you need one.

GAVIN  
*(sits down on deck chair, sips wine, places glass on table)* I'm all right. *(slightly surprised)* It's nice.

BRI  
Not as hot as Singapore! *(sits down on deck chair, places wine glass on table)*

GAVIN  
*(smiles)* No. So...?

BRI  
I've accepted a post doc fellowship, here at the university.

GAVIN  
That is brilliant, congratulations!

BRI  
*(smiles)* Thank you.

GAVIN  
What's the project?

BRI

It's focused in Papua New Guinea. Socio-economic development and inequality among the Boazi-speaking peoples.

GAVIN

Ah, that's with Busse (*bYEW-see*), right?

BRI

Yes, do you know him?

GAVIN

A little. Only heard good things. (*sips wine*)

BRI

Oh good! I don't know him. (*beat*) Yet, I suppose.

GAVIN

Also, this means you'll still be my lunch buddy!

BRI

I will! Though there might be a bit of travel.

GAVIN

Well, that's exciting.

BRI

It is. Yeah, I'm looking forward to that part. (*sips wine*)

GAVIN

So turns out you'll be saving the world through research.

BRI

Well. As much as I can. I'll try to save some dogs, too.

GAVIN

Oh?

BRI

(*excited*) We will be a foster home for rescue dogs.

GAVIN

Great. (*beat*) What does that mean?

BRI

Many dogs need somewhere to stay while the shelter finds a permanent home. That's us!

GAVIN

That is beautiful. (*smiles*) And you're not afraid you'll get attached to them all and end up with a hundred dogs?

BRI

*(laughs)* I mean there is always that risk! No, I think we'll be fine. We're only going to have the two of our own, so...

GAVIN

Will you have time?

BRI

I think so. I can work a lot from home, when I'm not travelling, and Antonio is completely on board, too. *(sips wine)*

GAVIN

Sounds like you have it all figured out.

BRI

Yeah. *(beat)* Thanks for helping me think it through the other day. Hearing you had been through it, too... It was such a relief.

GAVIN

Academia can be very isolating. We're supposed to only care about formal qualifications, writing articles, showing up in the right publications, jumping through all the hoops... And then we sit in front of our own laptops and write, and write, get more and more stressed and never talk to anyone about it. There is not much space for fostering community, supporting your colleagues, letting them support you... You have to carve that out for yourself. It's important.

BRI

*(smiles)* I'll remember that.

GAVIN

*(small laugh)* Didn't mean to make a whole speech about it. Something I've been thinking about, that's all. We have all kinds of support systems around our undergrad students, and then the further you go, the support structures just fall away. *(sips wine)*

BRI

You're right. I've never thought about it that way. *(thinks)* Maybe we could do something about that?

GAVIN

Yeah. Subject for our next lunch meet-up?

BRI

Absolutely. *(sips wine)*

GAVIN

*(looks around)* So I'm guessing that pile of material over there has something to do with dogs?

BRI

Yes! So we are fencing in the backyard - should have done it before, it'll be great for our dogs too. And we are turning our spare room into a puppy room! I follow this rescue dogs channel on Youtube and they have so many helpful tips.

GAVIN

It's great to see you so excited.

BRI

Thanks. *(smiles)* Who knows, maybe you'll end up adopting a rescue dog too?

GAVIN

*(laughs)* No! I don't have space for a dog! *(half-serious, half-joking)* You'd better warn me off coming over when you have puppies.

BRI

*(laughs)* If you say so. I promise I'll warn you...

*(DOOR to house opens, ANTONIO comes out, sets down wine glass on table and sits down in deck chair)*

ANTONIO

Dinner will be another few minutes. *(kisses BRI, sits down)*

BRI

Perfect.

GAVIN

Bri's *(Bree's)* been telling me about the new puppy room.

ANTONIO

*(smiles)* Finally! A place to contain the poop!

*(GAVIN and BRI laugh)*

BRI

We should have organized one long ago! Didn't realize they were a thing.

ANTONIO

Me neither. A toast to that?

*(ALL grab their glasses)*

ANTONIO

*(continues)* To no more poop!

BRI and ANTONIO

*(laugh, then)* No more poop!



GAVIN  
Cheers!

ANTONIO  
*(in Portuguese)* Saúde!

BRI  
*(smiles, to ANTONIO)* Saúde my love.

*(ALL sip wine)*

GAVIN  
Did I ever tell you about the time I learned about dagging? So, my brother and I, we were taken out to the farm with my father, and he...

*(Fade out)*

### **Scene 10:5**

NARRATOR  
Thank you for listening to Y2K: Take 2. This episode was written, produced and directed by Karin Heimdahl. Our intro and outro music is created and recorded by Jake Haws, listen to his podcast "Making Music with Jake Haws" to hear more. This episode featured Lorcan Annie Sherry as Bri (*Bree*), Alexandre Laguna as Antonio and James Cain as Gavin. The drama school director was Sarah Golding, and the narrator Emma Laslett. For more information, please go to [Y2Kpod.com](http://Y2Kpod.com) or find us on social media @Y2Kpod If you enjoy the show, please consider supporting us on [Patreon.com/Y2Kpod](https://www.patreon.com/Y2Kpod) Please join us again next month when we meet Jess in 2019.

DIRECTOR  
*(claps hands)* All right, thank you everyone. That's a wrap for today!

*(OUTRO MUSIC)*