

# SHIELA'S ISLAND AUDITION PIECE 1

They continue changing. They wrap towels around their bodies to divest themselves of wet undies, DENISE seeking cover to do this.

FAY. Funny thing is, your body does actually accustom itself to cold. It's like, when you're exposed to the elements, your common ancestry comes out.

JULIE. Yes, yes.

(There is a pause.)

How d'you mean?

FAY. (Pointing at her exposed flesh.) These! Goosebumps!

JULIE. Ah.

(There is a pause.)

DENISE. You share a common ancestry with geese, do you, Fay? That's interesting. Your family photo album should be worth looking at.

FAY. Ha! No, I mean you get throwbacks to prehistoric patterns. The hairs are rising atavistically to form a layer of clothing over the skin.

DENISE. Actually it's all been disproved, that. They've found prehistoric man very early on developed the Disney character beach towel. If you check cave paintings you can quite clearly see stick figures chasing mammoths through rivers, then standing round in groups trying to get their undies back on without anyone seeing.

JULIE. I know, it's daft really, isn't it? This? (She gestures at the towels wrapped around their midriffs.) You know. Out here. All girls together.

DENISE. (Stopping in mid-action.) What are you suggesting, Julie?

(JULIE immediately shrivels.)

I hope you're not suggesting we drop towels and display our front bottoms publicly, because as far as Fay's concerned, if she's descended from a goose, I don't think I want to see.

(SHEILA looks at her map.)

SHEILA. Actually ladies, thinking about it, we've not done badly here.

(The others stop putting their socks on and turn to look at her.)

No, seriously. Seventeen hundred hours we were supposed to check into phase two, and it's now (She checks her watch.) eleven forty-seven. We're streaks ahead of the other two teams.

JULIE. It's good captaincy, Sheil.

SHEILA. Oh, no, no...

JULIE. Isn't it, Denise, Fay? Made a good choice, didn't we?

(FAY nods. DENISE doesn't.)

SHEILA. Oh no...

JULIE. For captain.