



Episode 8

Narrative

ANNIE [Reading note]

"Dear Tenants, my cousin, your landlady, is on holiday this week, so I am in charge. The same rules apply: no pets, no parties, no visitors, especially boys. Yours, Eunice Mountain."
Eunice Mountain? She sounds terrible! Worse than the tarantula.

BRIDGET

If that's possible.

ANNIE

Do you think she'll say no shelves?

BRIDGET

She can't. They'll look fantastic. "The timber shelves in clear lacquered beech veneer with six castors and a TV bench."

ANNIE

Ooh! Now, where shall we begin?

BRIDGET

Annie, it's easy. Rule number one: always read the instructions first.

ANNIE

Well, that will only take a week.

BRIDGET

OK, let's have a drink before we begin. Milk, Annie?

ANNIE

Yes, please.

BRIDGET

"I owe you, Nick."

There! Well, no milk. Would you like some sparkling water?

ANNIE

Right.

BRIDGET

"I owe you, Nick." "I owe you, Nick." "I owe you, Nick!" How dare he? Aha!
Would you like some cola?

NICK

Thanks, Bridget, I was looking for that.

BRIDGET

Nick!

NICK

Huh? Sorry.

BRIDGET

Add it to the list.

Or ask your flat mate to buy your food.

NICK
Huh? Wow!

BRIDGET
You didn't know Hector was rich?

NICK
No.

BRIDGET
I'll speak to you later!

HECTOR
Wow, what are all these boxes?

ANNIE
Our new shelves, Hector.

HECTOR
I can help you build them. Where are the instructions?

NICK
Hector, my friend, rule number one: never read the instructions.

ANNIE
Ohhh, I see you have a note from our new landlady then.

BRIDGET
Eunice Mountain!

NICK
Eunice Mountain. I bet she's the same size. *[Sound of intercom buzzing]* Hello? It's Eunice Mountain. Who am I? I'm Nick, from Flat B. Oh, you want Flat A? This is... *[Sound of intercom buzzing]* Hello? Yes, this is Flat A. Yes, I am Nick from Flat B. Yes, I *know* this isn't my flat.

EUNICE MOUNTAIN
I want to see you downstairs - now!

NICK
Sorry. OK. Right away.

BRIDGET
Well?

NICK
Eunice Mountain wants to see me downstairs *now*.

HECTOR
Oh, bad luck, man.

ANNIE
Oh dear.

BRIDGET
Ask her if she has any milk, bread and biscuits.

NICK
Ha-ha..

ANNIE
OK, so: "First open box A and take out shelf number 1."

BRIDGET
But which is box A?

HECTOR
This is box C.

ANNIE
And I've got box D.

HECTOR
Ah, I've got it. This is shelf number 1.

ANNIE
No, Hector. *This* is shelf number 1.

BRIDGET
No, *this* is shelf number 1.

ANNIE
Oh, this is a nightmare.

HECTOR
OK, Annie, read out the instructions.

ANNIE [Reading instructions]
"Put shelf 1 against the wall."
Hector, I think the books will fall off.

Sound of door to flat opening and closing

BRIDGET
So what's Eunice Mountain like?

NICK
You know, not bad.

HECTOR
Are you in trouble?

NICK
Probably.

HECTOR
I've got it - put pole B on the left and pole A on the right and the shelf on top. Bridget.

BRIDGET
Like this, Hector? Have you put up shelves before, Hector?

HECTOR
Many times.

BRIDGET
Or do your servants do it for you?

NICK
I'll do it!

HECTOR
No, no, no, *///* do it.

NICK
Drop! Drop! Ha! I laugh at instructions.

BRIDGET
Oh, that was clever.

HECTOR
It's OK. I can straighten it.

NICK
Aha! Stand back and watch the master at work!

Sound of wood being sawed

NICK
Da-daaa!

ANNIE
Oh, well done, Nick.

BRIDGET
Hmm.

HECTOR
Wow!

BRIDGET
So where does this piece go?

Sound of knocking on door

EUNICE MOUNTAIN
Hi, I'm Eunice Mountain, your new landlady.

BRIDGET [Composing email]
'Anyway, guess what I have discovered?
Hector's family - the Romero Family - is one of the richest in Argentina!
Can you believe it?!'

NICK
Wow!

ANNIE [Composing email]
'The good news is: our landlady has gone on holiday!
The bad news is: her cousin - Eunice Mountain - is our temporary landlady.
She sounds *awful*.'

EUNICE MOUNTAIN
Hi.

BRIDGET
Hello. I, I, I, I am Bridget, and this is Annie.

ANNIE
Hello.

BRIDGET
And this is Hector from Argentina.

EUNICE MOUNTAIN
Well, hello, Hector.

BRIDGET
Hector lives next door with Nick.

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

I've met Nick already, haven't I, Nick.

NICK

Oh yes, that's right.

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

Hmm, we need to talk about your rent - in private.

NICK

Gre-at – uhhh!!

HECTOR [Reading instructions]

"Measure the distance between the shelves." Oh. Aha. Annie, hold this, please. Aha, that's it, uh-huh. And this should be it!

ANNIE

Hector, do you think that's correct? These shelves are for mice.

BRIDGET

Can I speak to you please, Hector?

HECTOR

Hmm?

BRIDGET

So, Hector, one of the richest families in Argentina, the Romero family. There you are, Hector! So why the secret?

HECTOR

Because I wanted *you* to like *me*, not my money.

BRIDGET

Oh Hector, of *course* I do. Who else knows?

HECTOR

Nick.

BRIDGET

I *thought* so.

HECTOR

But not Annie. Don't tell Annie - yet.

BRIDGET

Why, Hector?

HECTOR

Because Bridget, I ..., because...

BRIDGET

Yes?

HECTOR

Because I - I am in love with Annie.

NICK

Nick has entered the building!

BRIDGET

So where are you going looking like John Travolta?

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

He has a date with me, haven't you, darling.

HECTOR

Another date?

BRIDGET

But that's three times this week!

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

Four.

We've been to dinner, to the theatre, to the cinema and last night - salsa dancing!

BRIDGET

Can you salsa?

NICK & EUNICE

Whoo!!!

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

I am the salsa queen!

BRIDGET

Yeah, with two left feet.

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

Pardon?

BRIDGET

Nothing.

HECTOR

It sounds great.

BRIDGET

What is it tonight?

Ping pong?

NICK

Tonight's it's karaoke.

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

And I am the karaoke queen! Let's go.

Bye! "I love yo-u-u!"

BRIDGET [Mimicking Eunice]

"I am the karaoke queen!"

I bet she sings like a toad.

ANNIE

So, Hector, where were we?

HECTOR

OK, I think I've got it, Annie.

Assorted b/g noises/music

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

I did knock, but the music was so loud, you didn't hear me. I thought we'd have a little chat. Rule number two: no underwear on the radiator.

ANNIE

Oh, well, it's dry now. Give it to me. Give it to...., thank you.

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

Let me repeat the rules.
No parties *and* no visitors, especially boys.
Especially boys from next door.
Especially Nick. He's mine!
Get the message?

ANNIE

Erm, yeah, we get the message.

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

See you later. Oh, by the way, that shelf is not straight. Bye!

BRIDGET

Well, I have never!
What does she..., *who* does she think she is?

ANNIE

The landlady's cousin?

BRIDGET

Oooh, I know that, but no Hector and no Nick? How *dare* she?

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

Coo-eee!

Coo-eee!

NICK [groaning]

NICK [groaning]

HECTOR

How is Eunice?

NICK [groaning]

HECTOR

Problems?

NICK

She is very nice.

HECTOR

But?

NICK

But - she's just not my type.

HECTOR

What do you mean?

NICK

Look, presents.
More presents. Flowers. More presents. Chocolate.
And her *energy!* I'm *exhausted!*

Sound of knocking on door

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

Nick! Ooh, Nick!
Coo-eee! Let's go dancing!

NICK

Hector, get rid of her!

HECTOR

Get rid of her? How?

NICK

Say something!

HECTOR

What shall I say?

NICK

Anything! Tell her I'm not well.
I've eaten a hedgehog. I've gone to the moon.

EUNICE MOUNTAIN [Knocking on door]

Oh, Nick, are you in there?

NICK

Go on!

HECTOR

OK, OK! Oh, hi.

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

You're not Nick.

HECTOR

No. Nick.., Nick's hedgehog has gone to the moon.

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

Pardon?

HECTOR

Nick's hedgehog is not well. Nick is sad.

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

So, he must come dancing to make him happy.

HECTOR

No, no!
He cannot dance!

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

Why not?

HECTOR

He stood on the hedgehog without shoes. Very painful.

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

Oh, very *messy!*

HECTOR

So he cannot dance.

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

Oh, that's a pity.
Well, never mind.

HECTOR

Yeah, sorry.

Bye.

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

Da-da-da-da!

You'll just have to come instead!

HECTOR

Pardon?!

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

Come on, let's dance!

ANNIE [Composing email]

'Yes, Hector is *still* building the shelves.

I don't know why he is so keen to help!

Still, I like it!

ANNIE

Do you think that's correct?

ANNIE

'And poor Nick! He looks exhausted!

He's going out with Eunice. They've been to the theatre, the cinema, a restaurant, a salsa club *and* a karaoke club. She is the Karaoke Queen!

NICK & EUNICE

Oooooohhhhhh!

ANNIE

I don't think Bridget likes her.

ANNIE

"And tighten the screws." Annie, you are a genius.

Hi, Hector.

HECTOR

Hi, Annie.

ANNIE

What's the matter? Are you OK?

HECTOR

I am exhausted.

ANNIE

What happened?

HECTOR

Last night, Eunice and I...

ANNIE

Yes?

HECTOR

She made me...

ANNIE

Yes?

HECTOR

... Go dancing.

ANNIE

Oh!

HECTOR

Annie, she dances like a rhinoceros.
Whoa! Annie! The shelves! You finished them!

ANNIE

Oh, just a bit more measuring.

HECTOR

I will help you.

ANNIE

Oh.

HECTOR

Oh.

ANNIE

Sorry.

HECTOR

Sorry.

ANNIE

It's OK.

It happens when people work together. So, where were we?
Ah! "For the final shelf, take..." oh! Hector! Oohhh!

NICK

Help! Hide me!
Wooo!!

HECTOR

Eunice?

NICK

Eunice.
Oh Bridget, save me!

BRIDGET

Why?

NICK

It's Eunice.

EUNICE MOUNTAIN [*Knocking on door*]

Nick! Coo-eee! Oh, Nick!

NICK

Oh, there she is!
She's too much!

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

I know you are in there, Nick.
Bridget, Annie, I said no boys.

BRIDGET

Shall I get rid of her, Nick?

NICK

Oh, yes, please! But how?

BRIDGET

I'll think of something. Annie, let Miss Mountain in.

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

Ah, there you are, Nick. *And* Hector!
Bridget, I thought I said no boys.

BRIDGET

Yes, you did!

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

Especially boys from next door.

BRIDGET

Yes, yes, you did!

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

Especially ...

BRIDGET

... Nick, he's mine!!

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

Oooh!

Well ... just wait until I tell my cousin!

Oh, by the way, Hector, I've got a fax for you.

HECTOR

Oh? Oh, please, give it to me.

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

It's from your father. It says, "Coming to London to meet... the Prime Minister? My jet arrives at midday. Will phone. Father."

Ooh! Actually, Hector, I think you're more my type.

ANNIE

I, I don't think so, Eunice.

EUNICE MOUNTAIN

Oh!

Goodbye.

ANNIE

Oh, and don't slam the... door.

Oop!

So Hector, your father is flying to London in his private jet to meet the Prime Minister?

BRIDGET

Well, they *are* one of the richest families in Argentina.

NICK

So Bridget, where *were* we?

BRIDGET

No, Nick.

NICK

Huh?

BRIDGET

The trick worked. Eunice is gone.

HECTOR

Annie, I will buy you a million shelves.

ANNIE

Ooh, well, we better start measuring for them then.

HECTOR

Oh-ho-ho!

COMMENTARY [v.o.]

Next time in EXTRA, Nick dresses up, Bridget is working hard in television and Hector goes for an audition! EXTRA, don't miss it!