

THE TERRIBLE TANGLES OF TIME TRAVEL

Written by
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INT. KITCHEN, GRANDMA'S HOUSE - DAY

Logan squirts the final touches of canned cream on the two enormous nick-a-block-a-glories, covered in hundreds and thousands, chocolate and strawberry sauce.

Logan places one in front of Grandma and then sits down opposite her with his.

LOGAN

You know Mum would go mad if she knew I was having ice cream before my dinner.

GRANDMA

Well, you only live once!

They start to devour them, getting cream and custard and jelly all over their faces, groaning with pleasure.

Logan suddenly stops and looks at his Grandma. His face turns serious. She notices this and stops eating too.

LOGAN

I don't want to live with Mum anymore.

GRANDMA

Logan Baxter, where did that come from?

LOGAN

Ever since she met Kevin I... I was thinking I could may be come and live with you instead?

GRANDMA

My dear boy, there would be nothing that would give me greater pleasure, as Oscar Wilde once said "It is not my riches that make me wealthy it is the company" ...or was that Bill Gates?

She shakes her head. Logan is quietly amused.

LOGAN

Where DO you get all your wonderful stories from Grandma? I can't figure it out. Despite however far-fetched they may seem, I can't help think that every word you say is true...

GRANDMA

You are the only one that does my boy.

LOGAN

...but how can they possibly be true?

She leans over and holds his hand.

GRANDMA

The fact that you believe me is all that matters.

(She pauses)

...but in regard to your situation, you need to give Kevin a chance. She is your mother after all. Perhaps taking an interest in her world might make things better.

Logan looks put out. She reaches out for his other hand and squeezes them both for assurance.

GRANDMA (CONT'D)

Whenever you feel alone or need some company, your old Grandma is just around the corner - you are welcome any time you know that don't you.

The doorbell rings.

INT. FRONT DOOR, GRANDMA'S HOUSE - DAY

Grandma opens the door to reveal KEVIN (30) a socially inept, morbidly obese accountant who consistently sweats.

KEVIN

Evening Mrs Baxter - Logan ready?

Logan reluctantly appears with his rucksack and gives his Grandma a hug and a kiss on the cheek.

GRANDMA

Remember what we talked about.

LOGAN

I will.

KEVIN

Goodbye Mrs Baxter

GRANDMA
Goodbye Kevin.

She watches them both climb into a pink fiat 500 at the end of her front garden. Kevin can barely fit in the drivers seat.

As they pull away, Grandma waves them goodbye with a warm smile, but as soon as they are out of sight, she slumps over in pain and hobbles back indoors.

INT. KEVIN'S CAR - DAY

They drive in silence. Kevin looks at Logan and then back at the road. Logan frowns back at Kevin. Kevin looks back again nervously, trying to find the courage to speak.

KEVIN
So, how was school today.

Logan looks at him suspiciously.

LOGAN
Okay!?

KEVIN
Good, that's good.

He looks back at Logan again and notices the badges on his rucksack.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
They Might Be Giants hey. You obviously like em?

LOGAN
Obviously!?

KEVIN
Maybe I can get us a couple of tickets. What do you think?

LOGAN
I think your being very weird?

KEVIN
It's about time we got to know each other better, don't you think?

LOGAN
No!

Kevin ruffles Logan's hair.

KEVIN
Rrrrr! You little scamp...

Logan just shakes his head in despair.

EXT. LOGAN'S HOUSE - DAY

The car pulls up in the driveway. They both gets out. Kevin farts as he struggles to his feet. Logan looks disgusted. Kevin offers and apologetic smile.

KEVIN
Asda Quiche.

As he waddles to the front door he lets out a few more.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
No more, I promise.

INT. HALLWAY, LOGAN'S HOUSE - DAY

Logan kicks off his trainers and heads towards his bedroom.

BRENDA
Is that you sweetie?

BRENDA BAXTER (42), a lumpy leopard skin car crash, comes into the hallway.

KEVIN
How's my pink fluffy kitty witty?

BRENDA
Missing my big teddy bear-wear?

They exchange a long wet slimy disgusting kiss. Logan cringes at the horrific sight!

LOGAN
You know Grandma says that the aborigines in Australia would refrain from kissing as the mix of saliva could attract millions of bush flies that would swarm into your mouth and eat you from the inside out!

Brenda tries to ignore her son but can't and pulls away.

BRENDA
Grandma says this, Grandma says that.

(MORE)

BRENDA (CONT'D)

That's all I ever hear coming out of that stupid mouth of yours. As I've told you as thousand times Grandma is a compulsive liar who belongs in a looney bin! Now go and sit up at the table. Kevin is treating us to a posh dinner tonight!

INT. DINING ROOM/KITCHEN - NIGHT

Kevin pulls out the tray from the oven. The food is burnt to a crisp. He cringes.

KEVIN

It may have been cooking a little longer than I had hoped.

Brenda sees smoke rising from the oven. The fire alarm goes off. Kevin jumps and drops the dinner on the floor. He fumbles to reset the alarm, but can't. In desperation he ends up hitting it with the potato masher.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Shut up, shut up, SHUT UP!!!

The alarm suddenly stops. All that remains is a mess of hanging wires and broken plastic.

Suddenly aware he is being watched, Kevin looks back into the smoke filled dining room to see Brenda and Logan wide eyed with shock, their mouths dropped to the floor.

He quickly disappears behind the kitchen unit and scrambles to peel all the burnt food off the floor and place them onto the semi-prepared dinner plates.

Logan looks back to his Mother. She can only reflect her embarrassment.

BRENDA

Everything okay honey?

He then stands up again, brushes himself down and takes a deep breath before turning back around with a forced smile.

KEVIN

Everything's perfect my sweet!

He lays the plates of burnt food on the table as if nothing ever happened.

BRENDA
(trying not to cough)
Mmm, smells delicious!

Kevin holds his index finger up, remembering something and returns to the kitchen. Logan turns his nose up at the mess on his plate.

Kevin removes an ice cold bottle of cheap fizzy wine. It slips out of his hand. He fumbles to catch it, but it eventually drops on the floor, but miraculously does not break. He breathes a sigh of relief.

Logan picks a hair out of his potatoes. His mother slaps his hand down as Kevin returns to the table.

BRENDA (CONT'D)
Behave!

Kevin lays two glasses on the table and turns the bottle label towards Brenda for her approval.

KEVIN
Madame?

BRENDA
Ooo, very nice!

Kevin twists open the wire top and then tries to ease off the cork, but it won't come.

LOGAN
Can I do it Mum? Please, can I? Can I?

He tries several different attempts, his face getting redder and redder until he looks like he is about to explode.

LOGAN (CONT'D)
Please Mum let me do it?

Brenda is losing her patience.

BRENDA
Oh for goodness sake, just give it to him!

The cork suddenly shoots out, across the table just missing Brenda and smashing her best plates on the dresser behind.

KEVIN
Maybe we should eat out instead.

INT. CHINESE RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Logan sits at the table with his arms folded. His plate of food has been eaten and with excruciating despair, he is being forced to watch his Mother and Kevin flirt with each other as if he wasn't even there.

They are sharing noodles, giggling like teenagers as their mouths come together joined by a single noodle. It's utterly disgusting!

Logan clears his throat. They freeze. His Mother looks at him. The moment has gone. She reluctantly severs the noodle with her teeth and they resume normal eating.

Kevin wipes his mouth with his napkin, looking theatrically confident.

KEVIN

You know what, I'm just going to come out and say it.

BRENDA

Say what honey?

KEVIN

We've been dated quite some time now and well, I don't want you to get the wrong end of the stick. I think your really, really nice, and Logan you're...

He sighs.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

...what I'm trying to say is that I'm terribly sorry, but I just can't do this anymore.

He looks directly into Brenda's eyes with a serious expression. She swallows, looking heartbroken.

Logan's face lights up with ecstatic joy, but then Kevin leans across the table and opens a small red box in front of Brenda. Inside is an engagement ring - a glitzy monstrosity from Argos.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Brenda Baxter will you marry me?

Brenda blubbers and laughs at the same time.

BRENDA

Oh yes, yes, yes, yes, yes!

Logan leans back as his Mother repetitively kisses a smug looking Kevin.

BRENDA (CONT'D)

Oh Logan isn't this the best news ever? Your finally going to get what you've always wanted - a real Dad.

Logan is speechless, the colour fading from his shocked face.

BRENDA (CONT'D)

Well don't just sit there, say something?

Logan projectile vomits over Kevin. People in the restaurant scream with horror.

EXT. CHINESE RESTAURANT - NIGHT

The front door bursts open. Logan storms out of the restaurant and down the road. His Mother chases after him.

BRENDA

Logan come back here now!

LOGAN

I'm not living with him!

He crosses the road and starts running.

BRENDA

Logan. Logan!

Logan disappears into the night. For the first time, his mother looks worried about him.

EXT. GRANDMA'S STREET - NIGHT

Logan comes running around the corner and into his Grandma's street.

EXT. GRANDMA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Out of breath he stumbles through the small metal gate and knocks loudly on the door. Nobody answers. He looks up at the windows. There are no lights on?

He checks under he plant pots arranged around the porch and eventually finds a spare key.

He opens the door.

INT. GRANDMA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Logan comes through the door.

LOGAN

Grandma?

He looks in the living room, the dining room, the toilet and the bedroom. The house is completely empty?

EXT. GRANDMA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Logan comes out again, confused and worried.

MRS GLADSTONE

Logan?

He looks across the fence to see Mrs Gladstone, a kind, quiet lady in her fifties. She is his Grandma's next-door neighbour.

LOGAN

Where is she?

She struggles to find the right words.

MRS GLADSTONE

Logan dear I'm so sorry. Your Grandma was taken to hospital. I'm afraid she...

Before she can finish her sentence his Mother's pink fiat 500 screeches to a halt. Brenda scrambles out to tell him off, but then sees tears suddenly start streaming down Logan's face.

He reaches out for her and buries his face into her chest, crying uncontrollably. She looks back up to the neighbour.

BRENDA

What's happened?

EXT. GRAVEYARD - DAY

A coffin with the name Gladys Baxter engraved on a small brass plaque is lowered into the ground.

Logan stands in front of his Mum, white as a sheet, his eyes glazed, lost in grief.

His Mother is the complete opposite, making an over-dramatic scene, secretly milking the attention from family and friends.

Kevin stands next to her holding her hand. He looks as awkward as ever desperately trying blend in. He watches what everyone else is doing and then tries to imitate them.

INT. SOLICITORS OFFICE - DAY

Logan sits with his Mother opposite the solicitor. Kevin stands behind them. Logan is still vacant and pale. Brenda's leg is twitching impatiently.

BRENDA

Please just get on with it?

SOLICITOR

I'm afraid Mrs Baxter has requested that her estate be donated to charity.

Brenda huffs with a mixture of bitterness and disappointment.

SOLICITOR (CONT'D)

...except for one small item.

Brenda's sits up again her eyes widening.

BRENDA

Item? What kind of item?

SOLICITOR

A clock.

BRENDA

A clock?

SOLICITOR

Her mantelpiece clock.

BRENDA

Why on earth would she want to leave me that?

SOLICITOR

She didn't leave it to you Mrs Baxter, she left it to your son.

Logan suddenly snaps out of his trance.

LOGAN

What?

Brenda is outraged and stands up.

BRENDA
 Congratulations Logan she must have
 really loved you!

Brenda storms out of the room, pulling Kevin out with her.
 Logan smiles awkwardly at the solicitor and stands up to go.

SOLICITOR
 Master Baxter! Your Grandma also
 left you this.

The solicitor passes him a handwritten letter from his
 Grandma. Logan's face comes back to life.

LOGAN
 Thank you.

The solicitor smiles kindly back at him.

BRENDA
 (in the distance)
 If you want a lift home Logan you
 better start moving those legs
 right now!

Logan rushes out.

INT. LOGAN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Logan unravels the clock and places it with pride on his
 desk, stepping back to admire it. He looks down at the letter
 in his hands.

He wets his lips nervously, sitting down on his bed and opens
 it carefully. It reads:

GRANDMA (V.O.)
 My Dear Logan, I wish you will
 never have to read this letter, but
 I know someday it is inevitably
 that you will. Despite my will to
 live life to the full, my body
 sadly will not last forever. It
 breaks my heart to have to leave
 you my sweet Grandson, as I have
 treasured the adventures we've had.
 Your love, laughter and silliness
 gave me such joy. And I will be
 forever grateful.

(MORE)

GRANDMA (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Apart from the fond memories that I hope I leave with you, I did promise I would some day let you into my secret. Well this is it. The future of history is now in your hands. Please look after it my dear boy. All my love now and forever, Grandma.

A tear falls from Logan's cheek. He is choked. He looks down at the envelope. There are two keys included in the letter. He studies them with confusion, then looks back up at the clock.

There is a keyhole on the face. He approaches it and hesitantly inserts one. It fits perfectly. He turns the key. It winds up the clock which starts ticking.

He puts the other key in and tries to turn it too, but it will not move. He removes his thumb away to see an arrow on the key pointing to the left.

The other key has an arrow pointing to the right. He tries turning it slowly the other way instead. The hands immediately spin anti-clockwise.

Blurred lights, form and colour spin behind him at lightening speed.

After just a full half turn backwards he stops. He is aware that something odd has just happened. EVERYTHING feels different.

INT. LOGAN'S BEDROOM (2004) - DAY

Logan turns around to find his bedroom is no longer there. In it's place is a light blue room with a cot full of soft toys, a changing table scattered with baby creams, nappies and ointments and some animal mobiles hanging from the ceiling.

Logan is freaked out and quickly runs out of the room.

INT. LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN (2004) - DAY

Logan appears in the hallway. The wall paper is different but most of the furniture and ornaments are the same. He enters the living room.

There is a large fat tube tv on the unit instead of a flat screen and the sofa is different.

He hunts for the remote control and switches on the telly.

NEWSREADER

Christopher Reeve, the actor who played the iconic comic book hero Superman has died at his home...

He switches channels.

There is a trailer playing:

PRESENTER

Doctor Who is returning to the BBC after 15 years in an all new series starting this Saturday...

Logan frowns at Christopher Eccleston and turns off the TV.

LOGAN

This can't be happening!

He rummages through the magazine rack, pulls out a newspaper and looks at the headlines.

Nancy says farewell ... The US today bids farewell to Ronald Regan in...

He looks at the date: Friday June 11th 2004

Logan's breathing gets faster and deeper. He is clearly scared by what is happening.

He hears a noise. He spins around and looks through to the hallway.

INT. HALLWAY (2004) - DAY

A key is being pushed into the front door by a figure unidentifiable behind the frosted glass door.

INT. LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN (2004) - DAY

Logan panics not knowing where to hide. At the last minute he leaps behind the sofa just in time.

He can hear the person hurry across the living room and into the kitchen. Open the fridge, close the fridge and rush back to the hallway.

BRENDA

Here we are my little soldier. Just in time.

Logan's eyes widen. He recognises his Mother's voice and peers over the sofa. He watches her sorting out the pram in the hallway.

She is different - nicer, gentler, slimmer more relaxed and actually looks attractive ten years younger!

She lifts a baby out of the pram and disappears into Logan's room. He looks confused at first and then Eurika!

LOGAN

That's me!

He scrambles out from behind the sofa and creeps through into the hallway to peek at them.

INT. HALLWAY, LOGAN'S HOUSE - DAY (2004)

Brenda is sitting on a rocking chair feeding six month year-old Logan his milk.

She is tender and gentle with him. He can't believe that this is his Mother.

BRENDA

There you go my little prince,
there you go, drink it all up like
a good little boy!

She kisses him affectionately.

Logan's eyes well up, witnessing for the first time that his mother did once love him very much. What on Earth went wrong?

She rubs the baby's back. He burps. Logan laughs without thought.

Brenda hears him and looks towards the door alarmed.

BRENDA (CONT'D)

Whose there?

Logan moves away from the door, but can't find anywhere else to hide.

INT. NURSERY, LOGAN'S HOUSE - DAY (2004)

Brenda puts baby Logan in his cot and looks for a weapon but there is nothing. She heads cautiously into...

INT. HALLWAY, LOGAN'S HOUSE - DAY (2004)

...the hallway. Nothing. She picks up an umbrella and creeps into the

INT. HALLWAY, LOGAN'S HOUSE - DAY (2004)

...living room, but again all looks as it should.

She relaxes and turns back to see Logan standing behind the door.

She screams

Logan screams!

EXT. LOGAN'S HOUSE (2004) - DAY

Logan sprints out of the house and down the street.

INT. HALLWAY, LOGAN'S HOUSE - DAY (2004)

Brenda is already on her Nokia 3310 mobile.

BRENDA

Police!

EXT. LOGAN'S HOUSE (2004) - DAY

Logan runs past a fat man. ..a fat man that looks like...

Logan looks back. The man looks back at Logan - It's Kevin!

Before Logan has a chance to think, he runs into a lamp post and knocks himself out.