

EPISODE 4

**KATIE MORAG
AND THE SICK SHEEP**

(CBBC/CBeebies)

SHOOTING SCRIPT

Written by
Sergio Casci

10TH JULY 2014

1

TITLES WITH V/O

1

DISSOLVE TO:

2

INT. KATIE MORAG'S BEDROOM

2

KATIE MORAG IS GLUING A LEAF TO A PAGE IN HER SCRAP-BOOK.

KATIE MORAG (V.O.)

All the seasons are beautiful here
on Struay... And every one of them
is somebody's favourite!

SHE TURNS TO AN EARLIER PAGE IN THE SCRAP-BOOK, REVEALING A
PHOTO OF HER MUM STANDING OUTSIDE THE POST OFFICE. MRS MCCOLL
IS BATHED IN SUNLIGHT AND HAS HER EYES CLOSED.

KATIE MORAG

Mum loves the summer, cause it's
warm and sunny...

WE HEAR A CRACK OF THUNDER AND MIX TO A PHOTOGRAPH OF MRS
MCCOLL OUTSIDE THE POST OFFICE, HUDDLED UNDER AN UMBRELLA.

KATIE MORAG (V.O. (CONT'D))

Some of the time anyway..!

KATIE MORAG TURNS TO A PHOTOGRAPH OF GRANNIE ISLAND READING
IN FRONT OF THE FIRE.

KATIE MORAG (V.O.)

Grannie Island likes the winter,
'cause she can cosy-up by the fire
with a good book...

WE HEAR THE SOUND OF SNORING AS WE MIX TO A PHOTO OF GRANNIE
ISLAND FAST ASLEEP IN HER CHAIR WITH THE BOOK LYING OVER HER
EYES.

KATIE MORAG (V.O.)

Though she never gets past the
first chapter!

KATIE MORAG TURNS TO A PHOTOGRAPH OF LIAM WEARING A SCARY
COSTUME AND STARTLING HIS (APPARENTLY) TERRIFIED FATHER.

KATIE MORAG (V.O.)

And Liam can't wait for Autumn,
'cause that's Hallowe'en, and he
loves scaring people... Especially
Dad!

KATIE MORAG TURNS THE PAGE, REVEALING A DOUBLE-SPREAD OF
DRAWINGS AND PICTURES OF LAMBS, INCLUDING ONE MADE FROM BALLS
OF COTTON WOOL.

KATIE MORAG (V.O.)

But *my* favourite season is the
Spring, 'cause that's when all the
baby lambs are born!

KATIE MORAG NOTICES THAT ONE OF THE COTTON BALLS IS LOOSE.
SHE PICKS UP THE GLUE, DABS IT AND STICKS THE BALL BACK ON
AGAIN.

KATIE MORAG (V.O.)

I love *all* the animals here on
Struay, but baby lambs are
absolutely definitely the cutest!

CUT TO:

3

EXT. GRANNIE ISLAND'S - DAY

3

GRANNIE ISLAND IS MENDING A FENCE.

KATIE MORAG (O.S.)

Hello..!

GRANNIE ISLAND LOOKS UP AND GRINS.

GRANNIE ISLAND

Katie Morag..! Well this *is* a nice
surprise... I wasn't expecting you.

KATIE MORAG

Mum said you had something to show
me.

GRANNIE ISLAND

(teasing)

Really..? I can't think *what*...

SHE SMILES, AS IF SOMETHING HAS SUDDENLY OCCURRED TO HER.

GRANNIE ISLAND (CONT'D)

Unless it was *this...*

SHE GESTURES FOR KATIE MORAG TO FOLLOW AND THEY START TO WALK TOWARDS THE FANK.

CUT TO:

4

EXT. FANK 1 - DAY

4

WE CUT TO A LITTLE GATE AS KATIE MORAG AND GRANNIE ISLAND ARRIVE AT IT. KATIE MORAG'S FACE LIGHTS UP!

KATIE MORAG

Ah! Alecina's new lamb! She's beautiful!

CUT TO HER POV OF WEE LAMB.

KATIE MORAG RUNS INTO SHOT. GRANNIE ISLAND ALSO COMES INTO SHOT AND PICKS UP THE LAMB.

GRANNIE ISLAND

(Gently)
Sit yourself down on the stool there.

GRANNIE ISLAND REACHES INTO THE LITTLE PEN AS KATIE MORAG SITS ON THE STOOL.

THE LITTLE GIRL'S EYES LIGHT UP AS THE BLANKET AND LAMB ARE PLACED GENTLY ON HER LAP.

KATIE MORAG

She's so tiny..!

THE LAMB BLEATS PLAINTIVELY.

GRANNIE ISLAND

Would you like to feed her?

GRANNIE ISLAND HANDS A BABY BOTTLE TO KATIE MORAG, WHO IS NERVOUS AND EXCITED AND EVER SO GENTLE.

SHE TAKES THE BOTTLE AND PLACES IT AGAINST THE LAMB'S MOUTH.
IT STARTS TO FEED HUNGRILY.

SHE CONTINUES FEEDING THE LAMB FOR A FEW MORE MOMENTS THEN
LOOKS UP AT GRANNIE ISLAND WITH A QUIZZICAL FROWN.

KATIE MORAG

Should Alecina not be feeding her?

GRANNIE ISLAND

She should, aye...

(beat)

She's a wee bit poorly.

KATIE MORAG

What's wrong with her?

GRANNIE ISLAND

Alecina's a fair old age to be
lambing... I think it took it out
of her.

KATIE MORAG

So she just needs a rest?

GRANNIE ISLAND HESITATES.

KATIE MORAG (CONT'D)

Grannie Island?

GRANNIE ISLAND

Aye...

(beat)

Now watch what you're doing.

KATIE MORAG TURNS BACK TO THE LAMB, STILL CLEARLY WORRIED.

CUT TO:

5

EXT. FANK 2 - DAY

5

ALECINA IS LYING ON THE STRAW. KATIE MORAG AND GRANNIE ISLAND
CREEP IN QUIETLY.

KATIE MORAG

Oh my goodness...

SHE WALKS OVER, KNEELS DOWN, AND STROKES ALECINA GENTLY.

KATIE MORAG (CONT'D)

I've never seen her like this
before.

GRANNIE ISLAND

Aye... It's not like her.

KATIE MORAG

Poor Alecina...
(beat)
Will she get better soon?

GRANNIE ISLAND

It's hard to say.

KATIE MORAG LOOKS UP, A GRAVE LOOK ON HER FACE.

KATIE MORAG

But she *will* get better...

GRANNIE ISLAND HESITATES.

GRANNIE ISLAND

Animals don't live forever, Katie
Morag... This might just be her
time.

KATIE MORAG'S FACE FALLS AND SHE TURNS BACK TO ALECINA.

KATIE MORAG (V.O.)

Grannie Island was always reminding
me that farm animals weren't pets.
They were there to do a job, and we
shouldn't get too fond of them. But
I'd known Alecina my entire *life*...
She was almost a member of the
family!

SHE GLANCES UP AT GRANNIE ISLAND.

KATIE MORAG (V.O.)

Isn't there something we can do?!

GRANNIE ISLAND

I called the vet in Tiree... He was sending some medicine over on the ferry this morning. Neilly Beag said he'd pick it up.

KATIE MORAG

I'll go get it!

SHE RUSHES FOR THE GATE.

GRANNIE ISLAND

Katie Morag!

THE LITTLE GIRL STOPS AND TURNS.

GRANNIE ISLAND (CONT'D)

The vet...

(beat)

Well he didn't sound too hopeful.

KATIE MORAG THINKS FOR A MOMENT THEN STEELS HERSELF.

KATIE MORAG

Alecina's the toughest sheep on Struay... He just doesn't know her like we do!

SHE TURNS AND DASHES OUT.

CUT TO:

6

EXT. NEILLY BEAG'S - DAY

6

KATIE MORAG PULLS UP OUTSIDE NEILLY BEAG'S ON HER BICYCLE.

KATIE MORAG (V.O.)

I cycled all the way to Neilly Beag's and all the way back, without even stopping to catch my breath..!

CUT TO:

GRANNIE ISLAND IS SITTING NEXT TO ALECINA, STROKING HER FLEECE AND SINGING GENTLY TO HER.

KATIE MORAG STAGGERS UP TO THE GATE AND SEES THEM. SHE WATCHES FOR A MOMENT, MOVED, THEN COUGHS TO MAKE HER PRESENCE KNOWN. GRANNIE ISLAND LOOKS UP, STARTLED.

GRANNIE ISLAND

You're back..!

SHE STANDS UP, EMBARRASSED TO HAVE BEEN CAUGHT THAT WAY.

GRANNIE ISLAND (CONT'D)

I, uh... I was just checking on her.

KATIE MORAG SMILES AND HOLDS OUT THE PACKET.

KATIE MORAG

I got the medicine!

GRANNIE ISLAND

Good girl..!

GRANNIE ISLAND TAKES THE PACKET, SLIPS HER GLASSES ON AND STARTS READING THE BACK.

GRANNIE ISLAND (CONT'D)

Now let's see...

GRANNIE ISLAND MUMBLES TO HERSELF AS SHE GOES THROUGH THE INSTRUCTIONS. KATIE MORAG WATCHES IN SILENCE.

GRANNIE ISLAND (CONT'D)

Seems straightforward enough.

SHE TAKES THE PLASTIC BOTTLE OUT OF THE PACKET, SUCKS THE REQUIRED AMOUNT INTO THE ORAL SYRINGE AND GENTLY DRIPS THE MEDICINE INTO ALECINA'S MOUTH. KATIE MORAG SMILES SADLY.

KATIE MORAG

You love her too, don't you...

GRANNIE ISLAND

(matter-of-factly)
She's not a pet, Katie Morag.

KATIE MORAG

But you *do*, don't you!

GRANNIE ISLAND

Hush now... I'm trying to concentrate.

KATIE MORAG REMAINS SILENT BUT SMILES KNOWINGLY TO HERSELF.

GRANNIE ISLAND FINALLY FINISHES WHAT SHE'S DOING AND PATS ALECINA GENTLY.

GRANNIE ISLAND (CONT'D)

Right... All we can do now is wait.

CUT TO:

8

INT. GRANNIE ISLAND'S CROFT - DAY

8

GRANNIE ISLAND IS RINSING THE LAMB'S BOTTLES (AFTER STERIDENTING THEM!) AND IS PUTTING THEM BY THE SINK TO DRY. KATIE MORAG IS PERCHED ON THE SIDE OF THE SINK, WATCHING HER.

KATIE MORAG

Grannie Island..?

GRANNIE ISLAND

Hmmm?

KATIE MORAG

What happens to animals when they die?

GRANNIE ISLAND

What d'you mean?

KATIE MORAG

Well people have *funerals*... Like old Mrs Eckersley when the ladies from the bowling club came over from Oban and we planted the tree.

(beat)

But what do animals have when *they* die?

GRANNIE ISLAND

It depends. If it's a family pet folk might put it in a nice wee box and say a few words. If it's a farm animal... Not so much. They just bury it. (**bury** is TBC)

KATIE MORAG

That's sad.

GRANNIE ISLAND

Like I said, you shouldn't...

KATIE MORAG

You shouldn't get too fond of them!
I know!

(beat)

But it still seems sad.

GRANNIE ISLAND LOOKS AT HER, THINKS FOR A MOMENT, THEN SIGHS.

GRANNIE ISLAND

Follow me.

KATIE MORAG

Where..?

GRANNIE ISLAND

I want to show you something.

CUT TO:

9

EXT. GRANNIE ISLAND'S - CAIRN

9

GRANNIE ISLAND LEADS KATIE MORAG TO A SMALL CAIRN NOT FAR FROM THE CROFTHOUSE. A FEW COLOURFUL PEBBLES AND SHELLS HAVE BEEN LODGED IN THE CRACKS.

GRANNIE ISLAND

See the pebbles and shells... Have you ever wondered why I put them there?

KATIE MORAG

'Cause they're pretty..?

GRANNIE ISLAND

They are... But that's not the reason.

KATIE MORAG FROWNS QUIZZICALLY. GRANNIE ISLAND HESITATES, A LITTLE EMBARRASSED.

GRANNIE ISLAND (CONT'D)

Whenever one of my animals dies, I get a nice pebble or shell and I put it on the cairn. That way, every time I look at it I remember them.

KATIE MORAG

You do..?!

GRANNIE ISLAND

I do.

SHE NODS TOWARDS ONE OF THE SHELLS.

GRANNIE ISLAND (CONT'D)

That big white one... That was Alecina's grannie. Old ewe by the name of Matilda. Fine looking beast, but the *temper* on her!

SHE GESTURES TOWARDS A SHINY, MEDIUM-SIZED STONE.

GRANNIE ISLAND (CONT'D)

That brown pebble there... Scraggy wee goat called Benjamin. Passed away when you were a baby.

(beat)

That goat was smarter than most humans! I do believe he understood English... though he never quite got the hang of speaking it!

KATIE MORAG GRINS THEN NOTICES A SMALL, GRUBBY ORANGE SHELL.

KATIE MORAG

What about that one?

GRANNIE ISLAND LOOKS ACROSS THEN SMILES WRYLY, PRISES THE SHELL FROM ITS CRACK AND WIPES SOME OF THE DIRT OFF IT.

GRANNIE ISLAND

Goldfish.

KATIE MORAG

You had a *goldfish*?!

GRANNIE ISLAND

It was your mother's.

KATIE MORAG

What was his name?

GRANNIE ISLAND

Jaws.

KATIE MORAG

And what was he like?

GRANNIE ISLAND

He was a *goldfish*..! Not much to say in the personality department.

(beat)

Though he did seem awful fond of Grandad Island... Swam across to say hello whenever he walked in.

KATIE MORAG LOOKS AT HER GRANDMOTHER AND GRINS.

KATIE MORAG

You know what you are..?

GRANNIE ISLAND

What am I?

KATIE MORAG

A big softie!

GRANNIE ISLAND

I am *not*!

KATIE MORAG

Yes you are! You're a big softie!

GRANNIE ISLAND

I'm no such thing..!

(beat)

.(MORE).

GRANNIE ISLAND (CONT'D)

And don't you go breathing a word of this to anyone... I'd never live it down!

CUT TO:

10

INT. KATIE MORAG'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

10

KATIE MORAG IS TOSSING AND TURNING IN BED.

KATIE MORAG (V.O.)

I couldn't get to sleep that night, no matter *how* hard I tried! I even tried counting sheep, but that just made me think of Alecina and I'd get all worried again!

THE DOOR OPENS AND MR MCCOLL PEEKS IN.

KATIE MORAG

Hi Dad...

HE WALKS OVER TO THE BED.

MR MCCOLL

What are you doing still awake?

KATIE MORAG

Thinking about Alecina.

MR MCCOLL SMILES SADLY, AND PERCHES ON THE BED, HE STROKES HER FOREHEAD GENTLY.

KATIE MORAG (CONT'D)

Why do animals have to die?

MR MCCOLL

It's just the way the world works. They're born, they grow up, they grow old... And then they pass away.

KATIE MORAG

But it's so *sad..!*

MR MCCOLL

Aye... It is.

KATIE MORAG

Well I don't think it's a very good system!

MR MCCOLL SMILES THEN SWITCHES ON THE BEDSIDE LIGHT, PICKS UP KATIE MORAG'S SCRAP-BOOK AND TURNS TO A PICTURE OF A PLEASANT-LOOKING MAN WITH A TRILBY HAT AND GLASSES.

MR MCCOLL

You know who that is?

KATIE MORAG

That's your dad... Granpa Mainland!

MR MCCOLL

That's right.

(beat)

Now what was he like?

KATIE MORAG

He was funny!

MR MCCOLL

What makes you say that?

KATIE MORAG

That poem he used to say!

MR MCCOLL

Remind me...

KATIE MORAG

*On yonder hill there stands a coo,
It's gone away, it's not there noo,
The farmer kept her in a dookit,
Now that's gone too 'cause someone
took it!*

MR MCCOLL

(chuckling)

He was funny..!

(beat)

But how did you know that..? He died before you were born!

KATIE MORAG

'Cause you and Granma Mainland
always talk about him.

MR MCCOLL

That's right... We still remember
him and talk about him... and we
still love him. So even though he's
gone, in a funny kind of way it's
as if he's still here. And that's
the same with everyone we love...
So long as we think about them and
remember them.

KATIE MORAG THINKS FOR A MOMENT.

KATIE MORAG

I'll always remember Alecina, no
matter what...

MR MCCOLL SMILES LOVINGLY AND KISSES HER ON THE FOREHEAD.

CUT TO:

11 **EXT. GRANNIE ISLAND'S CROFT - DAY**

11

KATIE MORAG IS RUNNING TOWARDS THE FANK.

KATIE MORAG (V.O.)

The next day I got up bright and
early and ran straight round to see
how Alecina was doing..!

CUT TO:

12 **EXT. FANK 2 - DAY**

12

KATIE MORAG PUSHES THE GATE OPEN AND ENTERS.

KATIE MORAG

(quietly)
Alecina..?

SHE'S NOT IN HER USUAL PLACE. KATIE MORAG LOOKS ROUND.

KATIE MORAG (CONT'D)

Alecina..?!

NO SIGN. KATIE MORAG'S FACE FALLS.

CUT TO:

13

EXT. GRANNIE ISLAND'S CROFT - DAY

13

KATIE MORAG'S RUNNING TOWARDS THE HOUSE.

KATIE MORAG

Grannie Island..! Grannie Island..!

SHE SUDDENLY STOPS AND STARES. GRANNIE ISLAND IS OVER AT THE CAIRN, PLACING A SHELL IN ONE OF THE CRACKS. A LOOK OF DISMAY CROSSES THE LITTLE GIRL'S FACE.

KATIE MORAG (CONT'D)

Oh no..!

CUT TO:

14

EXT. GRANNIE ISLAND'S - CAIRN

14

GRANNIE ISLAND IS STILL FIDDLING WITH THE CAIRN AS KATIE MORAG RUSHES UP, HER EYES BRIMMING WITH TEARS.

KATIE MORAG

Grannie Island..!

GRANNIE ISLAND TURNS, STARTLED.

GRANNIE ISLAND

Katie Morag..! What on earth's wrong?!

KATIE MORAG

I don't want Alecina to be dead..!

GRANNIE ISLAND

But...

KATIE MORAG

(interrupting)

I know she's still with us if we love her and remember her, but I still don't want her to be dead..!

GRANNIE ISLAND

Well that's lucky then...

KATIE MORAG LOOKS AT HER, PERPLEXED, BUT BEFORE SHE CAN REPLY SHE HEARS A LOUD THROATY BAAAAAAAHH!

SHE TURNS AND SEES THE OLD SHEEP STARING UP AT HER.

KATIE MORAG

Alecina..!

SHE RUSHES OVER TO HER.

KATIE MORAG (CONT'D)

Oh Alecina, I thought you'd gone!

GRANNIE ISLAND

Her..? She'll outlive us all!

(beat)

In fact I'm thinking she faked the whole thing to get a wee rest!

(beat)

Wouldn't blame her mind... Kids are hard work!

SHE TURNS AND STARTS FIDDLING WITH THE CAIRN AGAIN. KATIE MORAG FROWNS QUIZZICALLY.

KATIE MORAG

So what's the shell for?

GRANNIE ISLAND HOLDS UP THE SHELL. IT'S BRIGHT ORANGE.

GRANNIE ISLAND

This..?! The *Goldfish!*

(beat)

I saw it was getting a wee bit manky... Figured it needed a scrub!

KATIE MORAG GRINS.

KATIE MORAG

You really *are* an old softie..!

GRANNIE ISLAND THROWS HER A LOOK.

CUT TO:

15

INT. KATIE MORAG'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

15

KATIE MORAG STICKS A PHOTO OF ALECINA AND THE LAMB INTO HER SCRAP-BOOK, THEN LOOKS AT IT AND SMILES.

KATIE MORAG (V.O.)

I know Alecina won't be with us forever, but I'm so glad she's with us *now*...

SHE PUTS THE ALBUM DOWN AND WALKS OVER TO THE WINDOW.

KATIE MORAG (V.O.)

And one day, when she *is* gone, we'll put a beautiful white stone on the cairn to remember her by. 'Cause it's just like Dad said... When someone's in your heart, they can never be all that far away.

KATIE MORAG FLASHES HER TORCH TOWARDS GRANNIE ISLAND'S.

THE GLINT OF LIGHT ANSWERS BACK FROM THE PAGES OF THE BOOK.