

Death and Addiction

By

Danny Lewis

14/05/18

Draft 2

Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries

Email - d_lewis98@live.co.uk
Phone Number - 07541894669

EXT. EVENING - DOWNTOWN.

Alice Charles a local 23 year old girl walks down the dimly lit streets of Morrison Way in rural Melbourne, Australia. Her high heels CLICKING on the cobbles as she walks towards the high street of Cavendish Road. The street is ALIVE with PEOPLE having a merry time in and around some of the local pubs. As she passes the people on the street, she greets them with a smile and a wave. Alice sees a couple waking down the street towards her, she raises her hand and waves at the couple who she recognizes.

ALICE CHARLES
Evening Mr. Davis, Mrs Davis.

Alice stops in the street in front of a couple and shakes the hand of Mr. Davis and hugs Mrs. Davis

MR. DAVIS
Evening Alice. Going some nice
this evening?

ALICE CHARLES
Just the Dock Mr. Davis.

MRS. DAVIS
Stay safe Alice dear, its late to
go out by yourself dear. Would
you like us to accompany you? It
would be a fuss, would it dear?

MR. DAVIS
Not all, we would more than happy
to join you.

ALICE CHARLES
No need to worry Mrs. Davis, i
will be fine on my own, i'm
meeting someone there.

MRS. DAVIS
Someone Special? Well we wont
keep you dear. Have a nice
evening Alice.

ALICE CHARLES
And You Mrs. and Mr. Davis.

Mr and Mrs Davis hug Alice goodbye and walk away down the street leaving Alice alone. Alice pulls her shawl round her shoulders TIGHTER and starts to walk down the street towards the Dockyard. Alice stops in front of an alley in between two factories, where an elderly woman sits wrapped in a torn frayed blanket with a small dirty white dog at her feet. The dog looks up and RUNS to Alice, she bends down to greet the dog.

(CONTINUED)

ALICE CHARLES
Evening Stella.

Alice stokes the dog as she wags her tail at Alice's feet.

ALICE CHARLES
Evening Eliza.

ELIZA
What you want sheila?

ALICE CHARLES
Only to stop by to say hello to a
friend.

Alice stops playing with the dog and walks over to Eliza,
who is sitting on some old materiel.

ELIZA
If you insist on being here, did
you at least bring some cagmag
and adam's ale?

ALICE CHARLES
Of course i did Eliza, i can't
let you go without.

Alice reaches behind her, under her showl and pulls out a
satchel, placing the bag on her lap and pulls out a loaf
of bread and a silver flask.

ALICE CHARLES
I got these from the Bakery down
the street, you know, the one
with all of cakes in the window.
Mrs. Cromwell's. And i got this,
for Stella.

Alice passes the loaf of bread and flask to Eliza to free
her hands so that she can throw Stella a freshly cut bone.

ELIZA
Someone is spending some big
sugar! Where did you get those
beans from?

Eliza takes a bite of the bread hungrily, then opens the
flask to take a sip of the liquid inside.

ALICE CHARLES
Its just some spare coin i had.
Thought i would treat you to some
thing nice for a change.

ELIZA
I can't pay you back i'm a
sundowner.

ALICE CHARLES

I don't want to be paid back, its
a gift for you.

Eliza stares at Alice for a while like she is trying to come with the right words to say, but before she could say anything Alice stands up, brushes her skirt off and makes her way to the end of the alley way.

ALICE CHARLES

Well i guess ill be off then,
Eliza. It was nice seeing you
again. And you too Stella.

Alice reaches down and pets the dog one last time before leaving.

ELIZA

Yeah, beat it, you blitherer.
Leave this buffer to her grub in
peace!

2

EXT. EVENING - DOCKYARD.

Alice appears from round the corner onto the dock, she walks down the path, past the docked boats and warehouses. The dim lights of the street lamps lights her path to a small platform at the end of the dock. It is silent apart from the sounds of the waves slowly CRASHING against the boats, ROCKING them slightly from side to side causing them to CREAK and GROAN.

Alice looks around and can't anyone. She is alone on the platform unaware Eliza has followed. Creeping in the shadows down the path keeping to the doorways of the dock huts and warehouses. She slowly walks down an alley between two warehouses crouching behind a wooden crate, watching Alice stand there, waiting. Alice stands in the dark as the light from the street lamps does not reach her.

After moments of nothing a second figure appears on the docks. Eliza tries to move closer to hear what is being said but there is no where to go. She can make out that the figure is a man and that Alice is not happy that the man is there, she keeps trying to keep her distance from him. The man reaches out and grabs Alice by the shoulders, she struggles against his grip.

Alice frees herself, in rage she SLAPS the man across the face and points to the end of the dock making him leave, she stayed there still. Turning away from the direction the man left, she looks out towards the ocean. Eliza moves back, leaving Alice alone until she noticed something from the corner of her eye, the man creeping behind Alice. The man raised his hand to reveal something long in his hands, as quick as he raised it he brought it down on top of

(CONTINUED)

Alice's head. SCREAMING, Eliza drops to her knees as she watching Alice's body fall to the ground and the man SPRINTING away.

3 INT. MISS FISHER'S HOME, DOTS BEDROOM - MORNING

MISS FISHER
Morning Dot! Time to wake up.

DOT
Huh, Miss Fisher? What is going on?

Miss Fisher burst through the doors and hurries over to the window pulling open the curtains. Dot jumps up from her slumber half dazed by what is happening around her. Miss Fisher walks over to the chest of draws and starts pulling out items of clothing and chucking them onto the bed by Dot.

MISS FISHER
We have to leave in 5 minutes, Mr Butler is readying the car. Get up Dot, you need to get ready.

DOT
Leave? Where are we going so early?

MISS FISHER
We are going to the docks, Dot.

DOT
The docks, why Miss?

MISS FISHER
Now that would ruin the surprise now wouldn't it Dot. Now hurry and get dressed, we leave soon.

Miss Fisher walks over to the wardrobe and starts looking through the dresses that Dot owns before choosing one and placing it at the foot of the bed and then rushing out of the door. Dot sits in her bed looking confused.

4 EXT. MISS FISHER'S FRONT GARDEN - MORNING

Miss Fisher walks down the garden path to the gate where Mr. Butler is waiting by the car with the door open waiting for Miss Fisher to get in. Close behind Dot comes RUNNING out of the house to the car.

MISS FISHER
Thank you, Mr. Butler. Hurry along now Dot, Don't want to be late!

DOT
Late for what Miss Fisher?

MISS FISHER
My special delivery

Miss Fisher enters the car and starts the engine. Mr. Butler opens the passenger's door for Dot.

MISS FISHER
Good bye Mr. Butler!

MR. BUTLER
Good bye Miss. I will have tea ready for your return.

Miss Fisher drives off down the road as as she could, leave a waving Mr. Butler behind.

5 EXT. DOCK YARD, MAIN ROAD. MORNING

Miss Fisher drives her car into the docks past the BUSY market and dock workers.

DOT
Why are we here Miss?

MISS FISHER
We are here to pick up a delivery, Dot

DOT
A delivery Miss? What kind of delivery will you have at the docks Miss?

MISS FISHER
Well Dot i have... Whats going on there?

Miss Fisher stops driving when she spots a crowd forming at the end of the dock.

DOT
What do you think Miss?

MISS FISHER
I don't know Dot. Lets get a closer look.

Miss Fisher drives her car slowly down the road until she spots a FAMILIAR FACE among the crowd.

MISS FISHER
Why don't we ask the Detective?

6

EXT. DOCKYARD - MORNING

Miss Fisher walks up to the CROWD with Dot. They try to squeeze pass the crowd but couldn't move until she spots Detective Jack Robinson standing in the middle of the crowd.

MISS FISHER

Oh Jack!

Miss Fisher calls out to the Detective waving her hand. The Detective looks up and sighs, trudging over to Miss Fisher.

DETECTIVE ROBINSON

I knew you might show up. You somehow always do.

MISS FISHER

It must be fate.

DETECTIVE ROBINSON

Must be.

MISS FISHER

So what's happened here Jack?

DETECTIVE ROBINSON

And why should I tell you Miss Fisher? You are but a civilian, let the police do their work in peace.

MISS FISHER

Now where's the fun in that Jack?

DETECTIVE ROBINSON

Go about your business Miss Fisher, you are not needed here.

MISS FISHER

Not needed? Well I can't see any of your constables carrying a bag.

DETECTIVE ROBINSON

Why would they be carrying a bag?

MISS FISHER

I can tell the body is a girl, so where is her bag? Every girl carries a bag, where else are we meant to carry our lipsticks?

SIGHING, the Detective Robinson lets the Miss Fisher and Dot into the crime scene and leads them over to a figure on the floor covered in a white sheet.

(CONTINUED)

DETECTIVE ROBINSON

Someone called in a murder last night, didn't say who they were but only that we will find her here.

Detective Robinson kneels down and uncovers the face of the body to reveal Alice laying a pool of blood.

MISS FISHER

Poor thing. So young. It looks like she was attacked from behind, she had no clue it was gonna happen. Blunt force trauma would explain the pool of blood round the back of her head. Death would have been quick, she didn't suffer.

Miss Fisher bends down to look at Alice, examining the wound and space around her.

MISS FISHER

Did she have anything on her that might explain why this happened?

DETECTIVE ROBINSON

She didn't have much, only this large amount money.

Detective Robinson pulls out a large roll of cash and presents it to Miss Fisher.

MISS FISHER

This is an abnormally large amount for a young girl to be walking around with. And one for someone who doesn't look like she would earn this much. Where was this?

DETECTIVE ROBINSON

It was in her jacket pocket.

MISS FISHER

No bag? Are you sure you looked? Why would she keep this amount of money in her pocket and not her bag?

DETECTIVE ROBINSON

Well if she thought someone might rob her, they will only take the bag and not the money?

MISS FISHER

But why did the murderer keep the bag? They would have checked the bag and saw that there was nothing in it. I would have just left it.

Miss Fisher starts to look at the rest of the body to try and find some clue to where her bag might have gone. She notices some strands on the body, short white strands, she picks up a strand and looks at it.

MISS FISHER

Dot, come here. Do you have my magnifying glass on you?

DOT

Yes Miss Fisher. You told me to always put it in your bag.

Dot reaches into her bag and pulls out a small gold rimmed magnifying glass and hands it to Miss Fisher. Miss Fisher places the magnifying glass in front of the strand of strand.

MISS FISHER

What do you think this is Dot?

Miss Fisher passes the the magnifying glass and white strand to Dot who holds it up to her eye to get a close look.

DOT

Not sure Miss, maybe some white fibers?

DETECTIVE ROBINSON

No, it isn't a fiber its too soft.

Detective Robinson looks over Dot's shoulder to look at the strand.

CONSTABLE COLLINS.

Its dog hair, Sir.

Constable Collins appears next to Detective Robinson and points to the fiber.

DETECTIVE ROBINSON

Dog hair Collins? You sure?

CONSTABLE COLLINS.

Yes Sir, i used to have hair like that from a dog i used to look after for a friend. It got everywhere.

MISS FISHER

So we are looking for a white dog. Whoever owns that dog could be a witness? or maybe the killer?

DETECTIVE ROBINSON

That is a very long list of suspects Miss Fisher. What do you expect us to do? Ask every dog owner if they know this girl?

BARK. The group looks round and sees a small white dog standing in the alley. The dog turns and runs down the alley.

DETECTIVE ROBINSON

Well Constable Collins, off you go. Don't let that dog escape.

Constable Collins looks at Detective Robinson to see if he means what he said, he does. He turns and chases the dog.

DOT

Poor Hugh.

7

INT. POLICE STATION, DETECTIVE ROBINSON'S OFFICE - LATE MORNING

Detective Robinson is sitting behind his desk looking through some papers while Miss Fisher looks on bored. The door SWINGS open with Constable Collins standing RED FACE with a white dog in his arms.

MISS FISHER

Well done Hugh!

Miss Fisher RUNS over to Constable Collins bringing the dog to her chair.

MISS FISHER

Now little one, where is your owner?

Miss Fisher faces the dog towards her looking into the dog's eyes.

CONSTABLE COLLINS

I found her behind the dress factory. She must just be a stray.

MISS FISHER

No Hugh, She is not a stray, look, she has been well fed. If she was a Stray she would be skin and bones.

(CONTINUED)

Miss Fisher turns the dog to face Constable Collins.

MISS FISHER

See?

DETECTIVE ROBINSON

So she must belong to someone.
Maybe someone who knew the
victim, cause why else who she
have dog hairs on her clothes?
Does she have a collar?

Detective Robinson gets up and walks towards Miss Fisher.
He hesitantly reaches for the dog who SNAPS at his hands.

MISS FISHER

She doesn't seem to like you
Jack.

DETECTIVE ROBINSON

Well, I'm not fond of her either.

Miss Fisher notices how Detective Robinson is keeping his
distance from them. She stands up and moves closer to the
Detective who retreats from them.

MISS FISHER

Ah! Jack you wouldn't be...
afraid of this little dog, would
you?

DETECTIVE ROBINSON

Not such a thing. I... I just
don't like them around me, thats
all.

MISS FISHER

What's not to like about this
little sweet thing?

Miss Fisher moves closer to the Detective, the Dog BARKS
scaring the Detective, falling into his seat. Miss Fisher
SMIRKS at Detective Robinson as he adjusts himself in his
seat.

DETECTIVE ROBINSON

Can you get it out of here!

MISS FISHER

I plan on doing just that. Hugh
does the station have a collar
and leash?

CONSTABLE COLLINS

Should do from our service dog.
Why?

MISS FISHER
You are gonna go on a walk.

DETECTIVE ROBINSON
What are you planning Miss
Fisher?

MISS FISHER
She is going to lead you to your
new suspect Detective.

Miss Fisher places the dog on to Detective Robinson's lap
and makes her way to the door as the Detective is FROZEN
in his seat.

DETECTIVE ROBINSON
Miss Fisher! Where are you going?

MISS FISHER
I have some unfinished business
to attend to down the docks.

Miss Fisher smiles as she walks away.

DETECTIVE ROBINSON
Collins. Get. It. Off. Me. Now.

CONSTABLE COLLINS
Yes Sir!

Constable Collins RUSHES over to the Detective and picks
up the dog. The Detective HURRIES out of the room leaving
Constable Collins holding the dog.

8 EXT. DOCK YARD - AFTERNOON

Miss Fisher is waiting outside a warehouse when Dot
appears from inside.

DOT
Sorry Miss, they won't see with
you.

MISS FISHER
Why not?

DOT
They say that they never received
a delivery for a Miss Fisher.

MISS FISHER
That can't be I have the letter
of delivery here!

Miss Fisher pulls out a letter from her bag and hands it
Dot.

(CONTINUED)

MISS FISHER

It says that the delivery will be here on this day.

Miss Fisher takes the letter back from Dot then STORMS into the warehouse.

9

INT. WAREHOUSE 3 - AFTERNOON

Miss Fisher STRUTS into the warehouse walking towards the office at the back.

MISS FISHER

Hello! I'm here to speak with the caretaker of this house! Is anyone about?

Miss Fisher CALLS out to the three men in the office. Getting up from their seats two men meet Miss Fisher in the middle of warehouse. The Two men seem to be workers and the other still in the office is a well dressed man.

MISS FISHER

Hello, gentleman may one of you be able to help me? I'm looking for my delivery.

WORKER 1

No deliveries today miss.

WORKER 2

Come back tomorrow.

MISS FISHER

No deliveries? The amount of creates say other wise to me, Mr...

Miss Fisher GESTURES to the crates in them room. The two workers shuffle their feet when behind them the well dressed man appears.

RICHARD TAYLOR

Mr. Taylor. No devilries have arrived, and what you see around you is the back log of past arrivals. Some people are not as punctual as you Miss...

MISS FISHER

Fisher. Phyrne Fisher.

RICHARD TAYLOR

Pleasure.

(CONTINUED)

Miss Fisher reaches out her hand to greet Richard Taylor, who takes it in a FIRM handshake. Miss Fisher pulls back her hand to retrieve the letter in her bag that she hands over to Richard Taylor.

MISS FISHER

I have a letter that might say other wise Mr. Taylor. And as you can tell the name of the boat carrying my delivery is docked right out side.

RICHARD TAYLOR

I see. However Miss Fisher, we do don't have your package here. And as you can see from this inventory list handed to be by the boats captain, your package was not on board that boat.

Richard Taylor picks up a form that was laying on a nearby crate and hands its to Miss Fisher.

MISS FISHER

Richard Taylor. As in Taylor Industries. The owner of the trading docks.

RICHARD TAYLOR

The one.

MISS FISHER

Well then, I can't argue with that. Sorry for the interruption. Good bye gentleman. Mr. Taylor.

Miss Fisher turns and leaves.

10 EXT. DOCK YARD - AFTERNOON

Miss Fisher exits the warehouse and meets Dot who is waiting outside.

DOT

How did it go Miss?

MISS FISHER

Something smell fishy here Dot, and its not the sea.

Miss Fisher HURRIES down the street with Dot RUNNING behind.