

Episode 1: Danger? What danger?

1: Max Johnson's office, Dublin

Judy: Max, I've got the list of children's names. And you were right, our child is mentioned. He's in danger! Foley has sent the order to kill all the children. You have to come and get me out of here! I'm not safe. I've hidden the list in case ...

Secretary: Tom Hunter is here.

Max: Tell him to come in....Hi, Tom. Thank you for coming over so quickly.

Tom: No problem. You know I don't like spending too much time in London. But I'm intrigued. What's going on?

Max: We've got a problem. Do you know Ben Griffiths?

Tom: Yes. Of course I do. He's a good friend.

Max: Ben's in America now. He's investigating a mysterious death. A woman called Judy Faringdon. The murder took place in Los Angeles, where Ben lives, but I don't know where he is now. I ring him on the phone, I get no answer. Normally, he sends me messages every week to discuss which stories to highlight in the following edition.

Tom: Maybe he's just ill.

Max: No.

Tom: Is it a cause for concern? I mean, I don't call you sometimes for over a month.

Max: You're not Ben. You know that Ben's in charge of the American edition of The Move. He interviews celebrities. That's why he sends me messages, to discuss the latest stories and which ones to highlight for the next edition. But then he also has another job, more dangerous. He investigates illegal activities.

Tom: Illegal activities?

Max: Corruption mainly. Anything unethical or dishonest. Politicians, businessmen, Bankers, lawyers, politicians. America offers lots of opportunities if you want to be dishonest.

Tom: I see. Is he a private detective? Does he work for the FBI? The CIA?

Max: No, he's a journalist. He writes about them.

Tom: But you don't publish his stories in The Move.

Max: The Move isn't that kind of magazine. It's lifestyle, culture, travel... We publish Ben's corruption in The Limit.

Tom: I read The Limit... But I don't remember anything by Ben.

Max: He writes under a different name, Roger Fleck.

Tom: But why does he have two identities? Why didn't he ever tell me the truth?

Max: We all have secrets, Tom. Listen, frankly, I want you to go and find him.

Tom: No, Max, I don't do that sort of work! I can climb mountains, cross deserts, explore jungles – whatever you want but I'm not a detective, I can't do that.

Max: I can understand you don't want to do this, but Tom, you've got to find Ben. This isn't really a request. If the shoe were on the other foot, you know he would go after you.

Tom: Well...I don't think I really have a choice. So...Yes. But I can't do it alone and Simon, my photographer, is in Russia... And of course it's going to be a dangerous job... You know Caroline, my wife, of course, don't you? So she's not going to be happy about this.

Max: Well. Jenna? Could you arrange a meeting between Gina and Tom? She'll be accompanying him on his next assignment. Thanks. OK, Tom. Gina, a new photographer, will be coming with you. She's Italian. And I can give Caroline a ring to explain the situation to her... And after it's all over, I've heard the dodos are migrating to the Galapagos.

Tom: OK, I'll do it...

Max: And Tom? Do your best.

2: Tom's flat, London

Tom: Hi! Er, Caroline, I have to leave.

Caroline: I've just prepared our luggage. What's the matter?

Tom: I mean I have to go alone.

Caroline: Your job again?

Tom: I have a mission. An important one!

Caroline: You've found another way of avoiding me?

Tom: Caroline! You know that's not true! Ben Griffiths has disappeared and I've got to look for him.
 Caroline: But you're not a detective!
 Tom: Max seemed very strange and worried. Ben may be in danger.
 Caroline : Danger? What sort of Danger?
 Tom: Listen, our trip is just put off for a few days. That's a promise.
 Caroline: You really shouldn't make promises if you think you can't keep them.
 Tom: Yes, I know. And I don't make promises lightly. I'm going to keep this one.
 Caroline: I've been thinking about our conversation the other day. You have to fix priorities in life. So, if you think looking for a journalist who's probably gone sightseeing -
 Tom: Now, Caroline, that's hardly fair! The only reason I'm doing this is because Max...
 Caroline: If you ever change your mind about what's important in your life, let me know.
 Tom: Could you give me a lift to the airport?

3: Horizon Art Gallery, Cardiff

Tom: Excuse me, I want to meet the photographer, Gina Thomson, if she's around. My name is Tom Hunter. Her agent, Jenny Watkins, said I might find her here.
 Gina: So, you like her photos, do you?
 Tom: Yes, indeed. Impressive. Some of them are very powerful. Others, however, hardly convey any feeling. It seems like she doesn't always spend time to take in the full range of possibilities.
 Gina: You know... Sometimes you have time to set up a picture before taking it. It can seem tempting just to click the camera in front of a subject but you often lack time when a subject suddenly presents itself. In fact I was concentrating on something else when I saw this opportunity. Maybe I was wrong in this case... Mr Hunter, I'm sorry, I am Gina Thomson. I admire your work immensely and I couldn't resist the opportunity of hearing your opinion of my work.
 Tom: Don't worry...
 Gina: So tell me, why did you want to see me?
 Tom: I'm looking for someone to accompany me on my next assignment and I was told you were available.
 Gina: Actually, my exhibition finishes this evening so I can be ready first thing tomorrow if you want.
 Tom: Excellent. But don't you want to know more about it before you make a decision?
 Gina: Oh, I imagine that'll involve climbing a few mountains, crossing the occasional desert and swimming across lakes full of crocodiles. Whatever the destination, I don't mind!
 Tom: If I tell you that your professional skills won't necessarily be needed, you still don't mind?
 Gina: You mean you don't need a photographer?
 Tom: Oh, you can bring your equipment by all means. But we won't be observing gorillas or exploring volcanic islands. I've been asked to find someone who's gone missing.
 Gina: A missing person? Great! I've always dreamed of being a detective!

4: Hotel room, Los Angeles

Gina: I managed to get an X-ray of Ben's jaw. It's quite old but you can notice a golden tooth. That will be very helpful in case we have to identify a corpse, you know.
 Tom: I'm sure he's alive! Some friends in San Francisco have given me reports of all kidnapping investigations in L.A. since the fifties... We need proteins. In any situation, dehydrated food can help anyone survive. Chicken or beef? Which would you like?
 Gina: None of them! I'd much rather go to a restaurant. Wait a minute! Have you ever organized a missing person investigation?
 Tom: Well...No...
 Gina: Ok! Then let's start from the beginning... Ok, then we were there and we came all the way up to here. Where do we go next?
 Tom: (Answering telephone). Hello? Hi! Yes, everything's fine. Fine. Maybe you could just give us the addresses again? OK, got it, that's great. Thank you. Sure. OK, well, talk to you soon.
 Gina: That's not far from here! Let's go!
 Tom: Wait! We've got two different places. I'll go to Ben's apartment, you to Judy's.
 Gina : OK.
 Tom : Beef *and* chicken !