

The Road Less Travelled

Episode 4: Rich's phone call

The story so far:

Katie and her cousin Sal are going shopping for a dress for Sal's wedding. Katie hasn't told Sal yet about her and Rich, and while they are in the shop Rich phones Katie. He wants to talk.



Listening

1. Listen to the episode and answer the questions.

- What does Rich want to talk about?
- What does Katie think about it?
- What happens at the end?

2. Listen again. Who says it, Rich or Katie?

- a) This isn't exactly a good time.
- b) You've been ignoring me for the last week.
- c) We have to deal with it.
- d) Does she know what happened?
- e) Have you told her about us?
- f) What she doesn't know can't hurt her.

Language

Echoing

3. Match the two halves of the excerpts from the episode. Notice how the speakers echo each other's last words during the phone call. They do this to show surprise or involvement with what the other is saying.

We need to talk about us.
I'm a bit confused.
I can't believe this.

Confused?
Us? There is no us!
You can't believe this. I can't believe this.

4. Now work in pairs A and B. A, tell your partner something. B, echo A's last words and ask a question or make another comment. Use the ideas in the box to help you.

your age a hobby something in the news a food or drink you like

Example: A: I'm nineteen years old. B: Nineteen? I thought you were older!

Discussion

- What do you think Rich wants?
- If you were Rich's best friend, what advice would you give him?
- If you were Katie's best friend, what advice would you give her?
- What do you think will happen next?

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Transcript

- RICH: We need to talk Katie. You know that.
- KATIE: Rich! This isn't exactly a good time.
- RICH: Why not?
- KATIE: Well, I'm a bit busy. I'm with my COUSIN, your future WIFE.
- RICH: Oh. What are you doing?
- SAL: Katie!! Are you all right? Can you come here and help me with this?
- KATIE: Yes! Yes. Just a minute. I'm on the phone. I'll ... I'll be right there. We're shopping for her WEDDING dress Rich.
- RICH: I know. But we need to talk about us.
- KATIE: Us? There IS no us. You've been ignoring me for the past week.
- RICH: I just ... I just ... I didn't know how to talk to you about it. I'm a bit confused.
- KATIE: Confused?!
- RICH: Well, yeah. What happened in the parking lot, I mean ... there was *something* there ... you have to admit it ...
- KATIE: I can't believe this!
- RICH: You can't believe this. I can't believe this. But it's there. We have to ... we have to deal with it.
- KATIE: You're marrying my cousin! Does she know what happened?
- RICH: What. About us? No. No way. No.
- KATIE: Hmm.
- RICH: You haven't told her anything, have you?
- KATIE: No, but ... I don't like this ... you should tell her ...
- RICH: Hey, be cool. She doesn't have to know. What she doesn't know can't hurt her.
- KATIE: Rich. I can't talk to you right now.
- RICH: OK, when?
- SAL: Katie! Get off the phone and help me with this dress!
- KATIE: Rich, I have to go.
- RICH: When can we meet ... when can I see you ...
- KATIE: Goodbye!
- SAL: Who was that Katie? Mark? Michael? Heh, are you OK? You look really pale!
- KATIE: I'm fine, no it was just an old friend. It's a bit hot in here ... can we go?



Answer key

Listening

1. a) what happened between them
b) Katie is shocked, she doesn't want anything more to do with it
c) Katie hangs up on Rich
2. a) Katie, b) Katie; c) Rich; d) Katie; e) Rich; f) Rich

Language

3. We need to talk about us.
Us? There is no us!
I'm a bit confused.
Confused?
I can't believe this.
You can't believe this. I can't believe this.
4. Individual answers will vary.

