

Cold Trail

By Andrea Louise Watson

INT. Living room

Sarah is finishing cleaning the living room. She plumps cushions and lights a candle. A plate of biscuits is decoratively placed on the coffee table. She surveys the room and takes out a picture from the welsh dresser draw. It is a 10 x 8 image of a smiling woman in her 30's. She gets lost in thought as she stares at the photo. Tony walks in from the kitchen with two cups of coffee supping from one cup. She quickly places the picture face down

Tony

We expecting company? Looks a bit fancy in here love.

He hands her a coffee

Sarah

What's this?

Tony

An orphaned monkey! What does it look like?

Sarah

Why are you drinking coffee? Your going out, you'll be late

Tony

Golf's cancelled. Have you seen outside – it's hurling cats and dogs

Sarah

Can you not meet with your friends for a drink?

Tony

I could, but I don't want to.

He sips more coffee and gives a little smile

Aye Aye, what's going on? Why do you want me out of the house? You got a fella coming over

Sarah

Don't be a daft apeth.

She takes the coffee from him and puts in the kitchen. Tony shouts over to her

Tony

So who have we got coming then?

Sarah

A lady who can help me with Jayne

Tony

Oh Sarah, what now? Another detective? She doesn't want to be found. She is a grown woman. Leave her be. She'll come back when she's ready. Seriously, how much is this costing you?

Sarah

I don't care! It's my money. It's been eight months Tony. Eight months!! I have to find her no matter the cost.

Tony puts his arms around her

Tony

I know you miss her. The trail is cold sweetheart.

You've already exhausted the private detectives. It's time to let go and get on with your life. What more can they tell you

Sarah
This one is different.

Tony
How?

Sarah
She's psychic

Tony
Oh, for

There is a knock at the door

Sarah
That will be her now. Be kind I don't want another word out of you.

Sarah opens the door to Julie.

Julie
Hi. Sarah isn't it

Sarah
Hi Julie, Yes come on through – sit down.

Tony stands arms folded disapproving

Julie
Thank you. Julie sits and so does Sarah

If its ok with you, I don't like to chitchat as I want to pick up all information
through energy.

Tony
(*Muttering*)Or Google

Julie
I'm sorry?

Sarah
Please ignore my husband Julie. He is not sympathetic to this. He is a non-believer

Julie Smiles at Tony

Julie
Ah, Don't worry. He's not the first he won't be the last

Julie gets out her phone and sets it to record.

This is the case for Sarah – 8th October 2015
OK Sarah, we have never met. I don't know your surname and the only information I have is that you're looking for a missing person. Is that correct

Sarah
Yes

Julie
Can you say it louder into the phone Sarah

Sarah
YES!

Julie
The way I work is to communicate with spirit through sensing, feeling and touch.
I get flashes of visions too. I can hear spirit and I can see them

Tony
What a load of bull

Sarah
SsssSch

Julie
Can I have the picture of the missing person? Face down please.

Sarah puts the picture on the coffee table and Julie picks it up but doesn't turn it around.

I'm defiantly getting a female.

Sarah turns and beams at Tony. Tony tuts

Tony
50 50 chance there love. Well done!

Sarah glares

Julie
Talk to me. I'm seeing a really friendly woman with brown curly hair, about shoulder length. Everyone knew her. She's fun. Lots of fun. Very attractive. 35 or 36

Sarah
She's 36, was 35 when she went missing. Oh my god.

Julie
I just need her first name. I'm seeing the letter J

Tony

If you're psychic you should know

Sarah

It's Jayne.

Julie

Thank you. Come on Jayne, let me in, let me in. Where are you Jayne?

OK, OK. I am getting a connection to Jayne. A really strong one.

I am so sorry but that means she has already passed over.

Sarah throws her hands over her mouth

Tony

This is cruel. You're a bloody charlatan. I want you out the house, now!

Sarah

NO!! Please let her stay. I need this... please.

Julie

She is grabbing her third finger. Are there three of you? Three siblings

Sarah

Yes, she is the baby

Julie

And now two. Two..... She is saying Two.

Were there two people who went missing? Did she go missing with someone else?

Sarah

No, just her

Julie

What happened to you Jayne?

She loved music. I can see loads of records and an old record player. She loved vintage. And the colour brown. And an animal. It's a horse. I can see the ears.

She loved her horse. Did she go missing after being with her horse?

Sarah

Yes!!! That was the last time anyone saw her.

Tony

Which was in the newspapers.

Julie

Take me to your month. Starting... she is saying starting. January. She was killed in January. The day she went missing. Lets have a look at her.

Julie turns over the photo

She is giggling at this. She doesn't like it. She thinks she looks fat. Couldn't you have picked a better image she is saying? I don't look like Cleopatra in that picture. Did she get called Cleopatra? In a nickname or a joke perhaps?

Sarah

Cleopatra? No?

Julie

Lets see what happened. (pause)

Dark. It was getting dark. She is showing me stables. Empty stables. No one there. It's really quiet. Are these stables quite far from any roads, like a couple of miles from any road, because I can't hear anything? It's so silent. I'm seeing the Farmhouse. It's in darkness but its not that late. Away. Away. She just keeps saying away and alone. I think the owners were away.

Sarah

That's right. They were on holiday

Julie

I see headlights. They almost blind her
A car pulls up to her just before she was going home.

Tony

You're just making shit up now.

Julie ignores him at continues

Julie

Was she in a relationship? I can see her really smiling when this car pulls up and
I feel really excited too. Like her man is surprising her.

Sarah.

She was single. I was always telling her to get a man

Julie

She's putting her finger over her lips and saying ssscchh.
Ah this was a secret relationship.

Tony

So you can't verify it. How convenient.

Julie

She was in love with this guy. He's the one she is saying. He's the one.
I'm getting an A for the beginning of his name.. A N

Tony

We can get you arrested for being a con artist.

Sarah
Will you shut up!!

Tony
I can't listen to this

Sarah
Good. Piss off

Tony walks away to the kitchen but hovers at the door

Julie
Show me the car. She did know this man and trusted him. He is clean-shaven
Salt and Pepper. She is showing me salt and pepper. I think he was just had a
few flecks of grey. Can you show me the car?

Tony drops a glass in the kitchen

Sarah
Tony, this is important to me please be quiet

Julie
He isn't pleased to see her. He is angry. Very angry! She didn't go to the
appointment. Why didn't she go to the appointment? He is really upset.
She's never seen him so upset. She slaps him, he hits her back.

Julie sighs

Can I have some tissues please?

*An emotional Sarah hands her some tissues. Tony is hovering by the kitchen
looking worried. Julie dabs her eyes as she is picking up the emotion from Jayne.*

Julie

She's getting really emotional now. This is the hardest part for them. Reliving their death. So I'll give her a breather. Can I get a drink of water?

Tony gets her a drink from the kitchen. He is shaking as he hands her the glass.

Julie looks him in the eye

Julie

Thank you. This is going to be hard for you to hear. He hit her back and she hurt her head against the car. He didn't mean to she says. He was just that angry. She threw like a pitchfork at him and it missed.

I should not of threatened to tell. I was going to tell on him. She keeps repeating she was going to tell. She says she shouldn't have said that. I was going to keep it and everyone would have known. She walked away from him. She told him he was pathetic. She felt pain in her back. She can't breathe. She is gasping for breath. She can feel the weight of it but can't move. Can't breathe. Can't breath. Can't breath. She turned to see him and it was over. Oh Lord. He killed her with the pitchfork. I am so sorry.

Julie takes a sip of water. Sarah sits stunned. Tony puts his hand on her shoulder and walks away again. He puts car keys into his pocket

Sarah

Where is she? Where is my baby sister?

Julie

Where are you Jayne? Where are you? What did he do to you?
I can smell horses. Really strong smell of horses. (pause) and prickles on my skin. I think she is wrapped in a horse blanket. But where Jayne?
Boot. Boot. Boot. She is in the boot of a car. Did they ever find her car?

Sarah

No. never.

Julie

She is still in the boot of her car. It's dark. It's not in the water

Sarah

They searched the rivers

Julie

It's in an old building, miles from the farm. He drove her car away from the farm.

She is still there. Brother took her there. Find the car and you'll get him. She says if you find the car He's not cleaned up enough.

Tony starts to slowly move towards to door

Sarah

Brother? We are three sisters. There is no brother!

I have a map of the area, maybe you can point to it. We have to find her.

Julie

Or we could just follow your husband? Is that where you're going now?

Sarah

What? Follow Tony?

Julie

Follow Anthony to take us to Cleopatra!

Tony turns, tears welling up barely able to speak

Tony

I'm. So. Sorry. I wanted to end it. It was a fling. She wanted more. She was obsessed. I didn't want to hurt you. I love you. She wouldn't leave me alone and then she said she was pregnant and we had been trying for so long. She promised me she would get rid of it. I waited for her at the clinic to be sure. She

never turned up so I went to the farm. I never meant to hurt her. She was going to hurt you and I couldn't let that happen. I love you.

Sarah sits stunned unable to move. Julie lifts the phone to her ear and dials.

Julie

I knew it was you from the moment I sat down. I have been recording this remember. Yes, police please.

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