

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Cast:

Cathy Mason

Rachel Mason

Simon Evans

Lucy Eaton

[I Wish I Was An Only Child Theme Song]

Rachel: Oh Poppy, Poppy. Hello, oh Poppy you really want to come up. Come here. Hello Poppy. Hello. Aww I've got the dog I'm so pleased.

Cathy: I know she's been out in the rain so she looks like she's had a perm. The other sisters, the two sisters have had haircuts so they look like rats now.

Rachel: Am I going to have to get a dog so that I can get to talk more. Is that the thing? Go on.

Cathy: What I don't get that?

Rachel: Because what you basically do is get her comfy you're like right OK.

Cathy: No.

Rachel: Welcome to I Wish I Was An Only Child, with me, Rachel Mason.

Cathy: And me, Cathy Mason.

Rachel: Where we speak to other siblings about the dynamic of their relationship to see where we're going wrong.

Cathy: Today are guests are director/ actor/ writer Simon Evans and his sister Lucy Eaton who is a producer/ actor/ and podcaster.

[I Wish I Was An Only Child- Interim Music]

Rachel: Your parents were dentists?

Simon: That's right.

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Rachel: And was it just the two of you?

Simon: Mm-hmm, just two.

Rachel: Any other siblings?

Lucy: [Sings] Just The Two Of Us. Yes, just the two of us.

Rachel: Two of us [chuckles] Simon are you older? What's the age difference?

Simon: Bless you for asking, yes I am, I'm four years older.

Cathy: Oh four years, that's quite.

Rachel: Oh four years older, that was really hard, we couldn't find that out.

Simon: I always love it when people ask which of us is older. It fills my heart with joy.

Cathy: [Laughs] Yeah and it really offends Lucy so come on!

Simon: Yeah I know, I win in both...

Lucy: Yeah I think they see the beard and they're confused.

Cathy: Yes!

Lucy: I think when they see a beard they're like is this a trick? Is this like a double bluff? Is he actually a baby underneath it? So that they don't know.

Simon: Yeah. You also have a maturity which I have yet to...

Lucy: Thank you so much. Thank you so much.

Simon: Which I have yet to grasp at.

Lucy: Thank you, I try my best.

Cathy: So when you were kids, were you really close? Tell us about your childhood?

Lucy: Yeah we were.

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Simon: Yeah, yeah.

Lucy: I know it's so boring.

Cathy: Come on!

Lucy: We thought we were really awesome. I think it's funny, when you said the age difference, I've always said 'I think four years was a very good age difference' that if I'm lucky enough to have kids in my life, I'm probably not going to be able to do because I'll be a bit later in life and maybe won't want to wait around. But it was such a good age difference because from what I understand, I mean I can't believe there were four years where you existed without me Simon.

Simon: Mm.

Lucy: But from what I understand it was like...

Simon: The dark times.

Lucy: ...then I came along. Yeah [laughs] the dark times. You know it's like you're old enough to be like oh a younger sibling, this is fun and cool. It's not taking attention away from me, it's like a new toy.

Rachel: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Lucy: And that's sort of how you treated it wasn't it Simon, you wanted to like put me in a basket on the bike and give me your wellies and stuff?

Simon: Yeah I was hugely excited, yeah I was hugely excited.

Cathy: So you remember it? You remember her coming?

Simon: I remember it being a positive experience. I remember being sort of, oh there's someone new coming along and this is cool and I've got my parents and here comes this new little thing and my parents were very good at sort of saying, yeah your job will be to look after our little bit as

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

well, and absolutely. There's the allegory that I said 'Let's put a basket on the front of my bike so I can take her off on adventures'.

Cathy: Aww.

Simon: A think with my parents tentatively did not grant.

Lucy: [Laughs] Did not allow.

Simon: But yeah we got on really well. I mean there were very few, I mean you're stubborn at times.

Lucy: Very stubborn. Very stubborn.

Simon: And there was a moment where you put your hands over your ears and screamed at me.

Lucy: I remember that.

Rachel: Why?

Simon: Which I think was about as close to...

Lucy: An argument.

Simon: A proper raging argument.

Lucy: And you shouted back at me and that was the only time.

Simon: Yeah.

Lucy: I can picture it, it was outside our parents dental practice wasn't it?

Simon: Yeah it was, yeah.

Lucy: Yeah.

Rachel: And what was the cause of the row? I mean it's hardly a row you put your hands over your ears and?

Lucy: Yes I was just a difficult...

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Simon: It didn't start there. Yeah it escalated to there I think. It was probably about nothing at all but she was refusing to engage in the Socratic dialogue that I was hoping I would be having with my younger sister at this point.

Lucy: [Laughs]

Simon: And so she just covered her ears and screamed at me. And I found that refusal to continue the conversation so frustrating that I just screamed back.

Cathy: So that is the only row you have had?!

Rachel: I was going to say, that's amazing.

Lucy: I think so.

Rachel: They both remember it very clearly.

Lucy: Yeah.

Rachel: Whereas so many siblings we talk to, they have very different perspectives. You know was that row, well I don't remember it like that. But you've got on so well.

Lucy: That's so funny because we also haven't talked about that, I don't know when the last time was we mentioned that. So that is quite interesting that we both remember that so clearly.

Simon: Yeah that's the exception.

Lucy: I think since, they're not rows but like I think we're very fiercely protective of each other as adults now. So there have been like stern conversations now [laughs] but they are normally about like, 'Look after yourself' or 'Stand up for yourself' or 'Why are you letting people push you around?' You know it's a lot more motivational speak turn aggression, if that's a thing?

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Cathy: Have you been like that with each other's partners? So when you've had relationships have you been very judgemental of the other person's?

Rachel: Oh fast-forward.

Lucy: Great question [laughs].

Simon: That's a great question.

Cathy: No, I need to know.

Lucy: What were you going to say Simon.

Simon: Well I was going to actually speak exactly to that. There was a time where I remember when there was a girl who I had been dating for a while who Lucy was not a supporter of in many ways.

Cathy: Lucy, why?

Simon: And that had ended.

Cathy: Why?

Lucy: To be fair I feel like I gave her more of a chance than our parents did. I was like quite understanding for a bit longer. And then she just, it was toxic. It was, she's not a bad person but she was the worst version of herself for Simon.

Rachel: Right.

Lucy: And Simon, you'll probably say that you were the worst version of yourself for her.

Simon: Very much.

Lucy: But it got to a point where I was like, you're just being cruel now. You are a toxic person. Or you have become a toxic person and you seem to be so hurt that you're entirely committed to bringing my brother down as well. You know like making him feel.

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Cathy: Wow, yeah, yeah.

Lucy: And I will not stand for that! And I think I had to sort of, well it was an awful thing where she was almost trying to get me onside. Do you remember that? It was a weird you know she'd sort of been quite distant and suddenly when stuff was going badly between you two, she wanted to like text me and tell me everything you'd done wrong in your relationship and I just thought, look wrong crowd. Wrong crowd.

Rachel: Yeah.

Cathy: And how does that feel for you Simon? Did you feel angry with Lucy?

Simon: No I find it difficult to get angry with her because she's usually right which is frustrating.

Lucy: Yes!

Cathy: [Laughs] Wow.

Simon: I mean but the thing I remember of all of that actually was that relationship had ended and then I'd started talking to her again. And I remember being at a comedy night or something with you sprog, and you sort of saw that she'd been texting me.

Lucy: Yeah.

Simon: Or something. And to get a stern word from Lucy at that point going 'Are you spending time with her again? You shouldn't really'.

Lucy: [Laughs]

Cathy: You listened?

Simon: Was about as cold a shower as I could have hoped for.

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Lucy: Do you know what I think is quite lovely? Is that Simon's incredibly girlfriend who he is now with is actually a childhood friend of mine.

Cathy: Aww.

Lucy: And I feel like I've had that moment for her as well where she's been with a toxic person. And actually with her I remember being sat at lunch with her in a lovely little brunch spot in Victoria and she just revealed that she was talking again to this toxic person and I burst into tears. And I think for her, that was quite an eye opener which maybe is what happened with you Simon where a person suddenly realises that the pain they're inflicting. It's a kind of self harm isn't it? Like when you keep going back to a person that treats you badly, and that makes you the worst version of yourself. It's a kind of self harm and I think you can so absorbed in your own excuses is a harsh term, but you know your own rationale for why you're doing it. And when you suddenly see someone on the outside who really cares about you and see just how distressed they are at what you're putting yourself through, I think it can snap you out of something. And I know it did a bit for Helen. So I love that Simon and Helen are together now because they're just wonderful to each other.

Cathy: No but you must have the magic touch because most people rebel against that kind of rationality.

Lucy: Yeah.

Rachel: When you used to talk about an ex boyfriend of mine I used to think, I don't want to hear it, she's not right. And then you were proven to be absolutely right.

Lucy: [Laughs]

Cathy: Simon is more balanced than you.

Simon: [Laughs]

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

- Rachel: Anyway this isn't about us, but yeah.
- Simon: But I want to hear about this guy now, let's.
- Lucy: Yeah I know [laughs]. Tell us more, tell us more.
- Rachel: You really don't. Unusual, unusual.
- Lucy: Yeah [laughs].
- Rachel: I was really interested in that in terms of, so Helen, who I guess is now your partner, the fact that Lucy, I think that's lovely the fact that you are that, I'm looking for a word?
- Cathy: Insightful.
- Rachel: Yes.
- Cathy: Insightful.
- Rachel: Yes.
- Lucy: Aww, I don't know about that.
- Cathy: But Simon how about you with Lucy's partners, have you been as judgemental?
- Simon: [Laughs] Well Lucy has been historically much more selective in the people that she dates. I have dated more people than Lucy has. So I've not needed to be a voice of dissent at any point. And in fact ironically the wonderful man that she's now married to, the advice I gave to her the day before she met him was, 'You're not just going to meet Mr Right, he's not just going to come knocking at your door, you've got to make some effort'. And then the next day he literally knocked at her front door as he was coming to view the flat that she was living in at the time.
- Lucy: Yeah.
- Cathy: No! That's how you met?

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Simon: That's how they met.

Lucy: Yeah.

Simon: So my advice was 'You can't sit here waiting for him'. And then the next day my advice was proved wrong. So I'm in no way placed to give advice on anything romantic. I feel like Lucy and I in the game of advice and who is the sort of sounding board, we are there for each other. I'm certainly there for Lucy in certain personal matters but I feel like I've become the sort of, yeah the career and the sort of yeah value yourself a bit more. Go after the things you want a bit more. Make things happen a bit more. Because that sort of four years that I had here in London and at university and everything before you got there was one of a lot of graft. And so yeah while Lucy has absolutely been there to go 'Yeah these people you shouldn't hang out with'. I'm the one going 'Yeah but let me be your sounding board for this thing as well'.

Rachel: Yeah.

Cathy: Lucy?

Lucy: Yeah.

Cathy: Will you be my sister?

Lucy: Yes, I will happy to be a sister for hire.

Cathy: I want Lucy as my sister.

Rachel: So if we rewind, did you go to the same schools?

Simon: We did. We went to the same primary school although of course yeah four years difference. And then I went to an all boys school and she went to an all girls school that was just down the road from it. So they were both close. And then I went to university and she went to the same. I think the truth is she just followed really. I just sort of went ahead.

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Cathy: So you went to the same university?

Simon: Yeah.

Lucy: We didn't overlap though did we.

Cathy: Did you live together?

Simon: No we've never lived together. We've never lived together.

Rachel: But you've got shared friends, that's what I was picking up on in terms of over the years. Because we share friends. We move in the same circles. And obviously we work together, we've ended up working together. So how did that come about? You're both, in terms of being in the same industry?

Lucy: I think actually our friends have only recently started crossing over. And even then most of them are either Simon's friends or my friends, but that we both have a huge love and fondness for. Would you say that's right Simon?

Simon: Yeah absolutely.

Lucy: Like there's a couple of people that are right in the middle, but very few.

Simon: Yeah Lucy and Trist got married about a month ago. And it was lovely that there were sort of what? Five or six of people who were my friends, who were people I had met first.

Cathy: Oh that's lovely.

Simon: But that you had close enough to go, we want you there at the wedding. And similarly if that day came for me, there would absolutely be friends of Lucy's who I would go 'Yeah you should be there as well now that we've become close enough'. And again, despite the age difference, because I think so highly of sprog, there's

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

never been a problem of going, why don't you just come and hang out at this thing that I'm doing and just sort of you know.

Lucy: Oh yeah. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Rachel: I've got to say Lucy, if Simon's calling you sprog, what is your nickname for Simon? Do you have a nickname for him?

Lucy: It's only really Simy, which not I get mocked for but I feel like it's a big like you with sprog, every now and then in a professional context because we've worked together quite a lot, I'll say Simy. And is it Ben Stone, Simon? One of the designers that Simon, incredible theatre designer that Simon works with a lot. I think he finds it very funny and he'll start then calling Simon Simy. But no I tend to just say Simy or bro.

Simon: Mm-hmm.

Rachel: OK.

Lucy: Sprog is much cuter, I never came up with a cute nickname for Simon though.

Rachel: Yeah I love that, I love that.

Lucy: Sprog is good.

Simon: It is difficult when we're working together to try and get that out of my brain and to have to sort of go into a rehearsal room and go...

Lucy: Oh and when you call me Lucy it's quite sort of, how dare you?

Simon: Yeah.

Lucy: It's almost feels like a bit of a slap across the face. You're like 'Um Lucy' and I sort of find myself looking around

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

being like is there a Lucy here? I don't? Oh you mean me. Yes that's quite odd.

Cathy: Working together, how did that come about?

Lucy: Hmm?

Simon: Well. So to begin with, so when I first moved to London it took me a little while to sort of go 'OK how do you put on plays? How do you do this thing? How does the system work?' And to have raised enough money to put on the first show and to take some things to Edinburgh. Lucy was still at Cambridge then. And I decided to take some shows up to Edinburgh and I used some of the people I knew from the years below me at Cambridge, when I was in my third year and people in second or first and Lucy was there. So I sort of went, I've got a gang of people, let's all go up and Lucy came. And I think that was the first time I sort of...

Lucy: Yeah that might have been the first time you directed me.

Simon: I sort of directed you, it was sort of a university thing. Then after that when she moved to London as well and I was putting on plays in pub theatres, it was always sort of, do you want to come and be a part of this? There's a fun group of people and you're good, let's do that. And then there was probably quite a gap when I was being an assistant director at the Old Vic, Jamie Lloyd who I was assisting said 'Do you know anybody who might like to play this sort of small maid character, an understudy or something else?' I went 'If it's a maid, my sister can do it, she's pretty good'.

Lucy: I remember you ringing up Simon.

Simon: And then she understudied the most sexualised role in the...

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Lucy: Yeah I was about to say [laughs] because that's an awful tale. I remember first of all, you ringing me up and saying 'Would you play a role in the (unclear 15:08) at the Old Vic if it was nonspeaking. And I was like 'Obviously' like I was just about to graduate from drama school and I was like oh 100% it's the Old Vic. I don't care if it's nonspeaking, yeah I want to be in it. And so then you obviously suggested me as the understudy and I went and auditioned and ended up getting that. And as Simon mentioned one of the main roles I understudied ended up being, I mean she is quite a sexualised character in the script anyway but I feel like in our production Jamie Lloyd really ramped up. You know like she had a scene where the scene began with her being pushed on, on a bed climaxing. And then there was some other moment where someone to try and get news out of her, someone went down on her, is that right? I mean just there was a lot of really sexual stuff put in there.

And it came to the point where the assistant director has to direct the understudies. So we had this awful rehearsal day where I think Simon you almost made an announcement at the beginning to the room you were like 'OK everyone, this is going to be weird, so let's just do it, let's do it very quickly and we don't need to run this one a million times'. And I can remember a moment where one of the actors, was it the scene where the guy playing Bossala was doing the bit where he had his hand up my skirt or something and was doing a whole, you know mime, it's like the hand is literally resting on my thigh but we're acting. And then he suddenly stopped to ask Simon a question, he was like 'Oh at this point?' And I remember Simon going 'Can we just get to the end of this moment please?! And then you can ask the question'. So I think that's probably the most awkward scenario in which we've worked together.

[I Wish I Was An Only Child- Interim Music]

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Cathy: I'm sort of fascinated by, is there any areas because you're so close that you would never go to with each other. So with me and Rach it's sex. We are closer than you could believe but that is a no-go area.

Rachel: We don't talk about that.

Simon: I don't think that has been a conscious thing but that is a subject which we have not discussed, Lucy and I, outside of a rehearsal room and all that sort of stuff.

Rachel: As close as you are yeah

Simon: Yeah that's fairly not taboo, just yeah but sort of not a part of it.

Lucy: I think partly as well because, well I think the thing about sex is that you're slightly when you have a close siblingly relationship sometimes it's like a part of you and actually our partners talk about this a little bit. A part of us reverts to being like the child versions of yourself with each other. So I think that's part of it, is sort of we're hugely supportive and we can obviously be very mature and talk about adult things now. But there's an element of sex is not a thing I'd go to Simy to talk about, it's like because he's my big brother. And a part of me reverts to being like little 9-year-old girl again and I want to ask him about other things. So yeah it's just there's other people I'd go to. Also this is maybe a very reductive thought but also the difference in gender because I'm a woman.

Cathy: Yeah totally.

Lucy: And he's a man. I think there's an element of a lot of the stuff I would talk about. Obviously sometimes it would be very helpful to talk to a man about it.

Cathy: Totally.

Lucy: But actually a lot of the time if I want to have a conversation about sex with someone or a sex issue, I

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

would want to talk to one of my girlfriends. And maybe that's quite reductive, maybe that's not very helpful.

Simon: There's also a thing, I mean I'm aware of this if anybody has spoken to me about sex. I want there to be boundary between my knowledge of their partner as well.

Lucy: Yes.

Cathy: Totally.

Simon: And any honesty we want to have in this conversation I feel like it needs to be about you and not have an impact on what I think about them. And I think we probably both got into a stage now where we know each other's partners very well so this is probably not the forum in which to go, let's bring your energy into this.

Lucy: [Laughs] Yes.

Simon: Let's see what that does to the stew.

Lucy: Yeah [laughs].

Cathy: But if you feel either of you are having a tricky situation, I'm not talking about sexually, I'm talking about just generally. Is the other the first person you'll turn to? Because I think we would turn to each other before our partners.

Lucy: Oh.

Simon: That's a good question.

Lucy: You are one of the first people.

Simon: Yeah.

Lucy: I don't think it's as obvious as. I think there's certain, it definitely depends on what the issue is because there's an element of there are certain friends that maybe I've gone into in-depth about an issue in the past a lot, which means that if that comes up again, that's the person I'm

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

immediately going to go 'Oh I'm struggling with this'. But you're definitely one of the first people I would let know if I'm struggling with something .

Simon: Yeah. I mean this year has been difficult for everybody hasn't it? And I think being in each other's proximity for quite a lot of it has been an absolute saving grace. Certainly for me, I feel for you as well there have been points where I can tell that Lucy is on the cusp of some sort of a nervous collapse.

Lucy: A nervous breakdown [laughs].

Simon: As she has lived through living with parents and finance and buying house and wedding plans.

Cathy: Of course, yeah, yeah.

Simon: And just a case of going 'Hey why don't you and I just go for a walk now. Why don't we just have a little chat?' I mean think we're both very good. I mean Lucy is miraculous at knowing when I'm frayed, sometimes even before I quite realised it myself.

Cathy: And what do you do Lucy? How do you deal with that if you think he's going under?

Lucy: Oh God, that's lovely if you think I pick up on it Simy. I guess it's just trying to get him to talk. Is that what I do? I feel like I'd be like, what's up? What's going on?

Simon: Yeah.

Lucy: Or like, you need to get some more sleep. Or have you been drinking enough water, are you hydrated? Like I feel like it's more just that I would start keeping a beady eye on you a bit more. Or pestering you or getting you to talk about something. But absolutely there was a moment this year when without going into the nitty-gritty of it, I remember having an absolute meltdown in my bedroom here. And having that moment where I knew that Simon

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

was in the house and I almost didn't have the energy to call for him. But I remember thinking, I need my brother. And I was just like having a bit of a cry and you obviously heard it [chuckles] and you came running in. I remember being so grateful because it was exactly what my brain was thinking, I just need my brother to come in here and give me a cuddle.

Cathy: Aww. Yeah.

Lucy: And thankfully you heard the wails of despair in that particular very frantic moment and came running in and I was eternally grateful as always. But yes I think we're both pretty good. It's harder when you're living your lives in London and we live very near to each other in London, we're both in Fulham but it is hard. It's very easy sometimes to just drop off the radar, for us it's probably never more than like a few days but a lot can happen in a few days. And you sort of don't know that someone's been going through all this stuff. It's always lovely when we're working together and it's nice when we are in each other's proximity on a more regular basis and I can really keep an eye on you then.

Cathy: You're very motherly with him. You're very motherly with him aren't you? It's really sweet.

Lucy: I am a little bit aren't I?

Simon: Yeah.

Rachel: And I think they're both fiercely protective of each other.

Lucy: Yeah, yeah.

Simon: Honestly I think this is why there is sometimes some question about who is older. Because I think there are different times where one or the other of us is just looking after the other. And depending on when you meet us, you sort of go oh well Lucy is clearly the older because she's all big sister energy and sort of motherly.

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Lucy: [Laughs]

Simon: And there's other points where you go, she's a mess, thank God she's got an older brother.

Lucy: Yes [laughs] yeah.

Rachel: And that makes sense, it depends on the scenario. But in terms of you know how you said you revert back. Because we revert back to our childhood roles occasionally.

Cathy: 24/7.

Rachel: And it's not always useful in a work context. So you know but that's until control? Do you know what I mean, it's not a problem because you obviously work really well together.

Lucy: Yeah in a work context I think we really curb it at first, don't we?

Simon: Yeah, yeah.

Lucy: I think there's an element of in the few places we've been. The two sort of biggest shows we've done together were A Day in the Death of Joe Egg, which was on the West End just before the pandemic. And there was The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui at the Donmar, those are probably the two biggest highest profile shows that we did together. And I think with both of them, for the first couple of weeks there's a real effort to be very professional. Not pretend we don't know each other but be not even almost I'm trying to think if I would hug you if I came into your house or something, I probably do but you know.

Simon: The rule we sort of said, because I'm lucky enough to have directed loads of shows and Lucy has been, outside of the ones for your company you've been in two of them which is not a heavy percentage and there is integrity in

going I genuinely believe Lucky is the perfect person for this and let's put her in. But even with that rule in place I think that the responsibility to tell people that we are related, I always think, and I don't mean to defer that, I go 'That's your Lucy, you can decide when you want to and if you want to tell people that'. It's not my place to say 'That's my sister over there, we all know each other'.

Lucy: Yeah and also I think, certainly the first time when we did *Ui* I remember being, I love the Donmar Warehouse and I was so over the moon to be in a show there. I was very keen that people felt I deserved to be in it before they knew, before they could even consider that there was any nepotism at play. So I think we were even more cautious there and almost maybe too cautious. Because I remember we got about three or four weeks into rehearsal and I was sat having a coffee break and I sort of got to the point where I just assumed it had become common knowledge. And I remember saying something about Simon and I as kids over a tea break with like three or four people and their faces were just like what?

Cathy: So they didn't know.

Lucy: And I was like 'Well Simon's my brother'. Well a few of them obviously did but for a couple of them they didn't know yet. And no one was mad by any means but I could really tell that there was almost this moment of shock where you could see in their eyes they're suddenly going, shit, have I ever said anything bad about him to her?

Cathy: [Laughs]

Lucy: Which luckily Simon is the best director working in this country, no bias. He's such an incredible director, all jokes aside, he's such an incredible director that most actors really, really love working with him. So no one had ever had a bad word to say about him to me. But you could see the fear in people's faces, that they're like oh shit, this is a close relationship. And that was actually I

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

think a bit of lesson for me that was like, there's a fine line in terms of when actually it is my responsibility to let people know that he's my brother. So I think when we did Joe Egg, I tried a bit more maybe after one week to make sure that it came up in conversation with people. So it's almost yes how do you? I think maybe after stage, it ain't no secret no more.

Cathy: Yeah exactly.

Rachel: Yeah totally.

Simon: That's why we did it just for that. Just to avoid the whole...

Rachel: Yeah to just flush that problem out.

Simon: Yeah.

Rachel: I just think it's amazing that you get on so brilliantly. You're going to try and dig dirt, there isn't any.

Cathy: Oh I really want dirt. Sorry.

Lucy: [Laughs]

Rachel: You get on so fantastic, you get to work together, amazing. So what were Christmases like as kids? I have to keep going back because I want to just get a feel.

Lucy: Oh!

Rachel: Because there's a lot of happiness around. So what was a typical family Christmas like?

Lucy: Do you want to go Simon?

Simon: Yeah as a part of this I suppose it's worth saying that when we talk about both reverting to younger versions of ourselves, we've got a really close relationship with our parents, who are still very with us and glorious. And we spend quite a lot of time with them when we can and the trip we've just been on was with them and our respective

partners as well. And I think it's probably in their environment that it's most noticeable, specifically being back at the house that Lucy's in now where they have lived since I was 11, so what's that? 26 years. But we've got a really small extended family. My father has no siblings and all our grandparents have passed on. My mother has one sister and again with quite a small family there of just four. So my mum's sister and my mum alternated hosting Christmases and the others would sort of come around and we'd sort of do a big old day of everybody around the table. It was fairly stress free. Are we dull Lucy? Are we really boring?

Lucy: [Laughs]

Rachel: No.

Lucy: I think the most exciting thing on Christmas was like I used to, as I'm sure so many kids did, I found it so overwhelmingly exciting. Even beyond the knowledge that Father Christmas, I suddenly am terrified of saying that out loud on anything recorded in case a child is listening.

Cathy: I know, I know.

Rachel: [Laughs]

Lucy: I won't finish that sentence. In case Father Christmas is ill and doesn't turn up one day. I don't know.

Cathy: Exactly.

Lucy: Yeah I've always found Christmases magical. So I think I used to demand to sleep in Simon's room the night before Christmas until quite a late age. I'd almost lay a bed out on the floor because I'd be so excited I couldn't possibly be in my own room alone.

Cathy: Aww.

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Lucy: And then I would wake up early and demand that we played a game because I think our parents did that very wise thing where they were like, no waking us up until nine or something like that. So we would sit on your bedroom floor and play Tummy Ache, does anyone remember that game?

Rachel: No. What's that game?

Cathy: What's Tummy Ache?!

Lucy: An awful game.

Simon: Oh it is.

Rachel: Yeah what is it?

Lucy: How do you describe Tummy Ache?

Simon: I don't know. You have to turn over cards and they've got a starter or a main course or a pudding on them, and you've got to get a complete meal but some of the cards are gone off food.

Rachel: Oh OK. There was me thinking it was you playing some sort of prank. No OK.

Lucy: Oh no, no, a board game like you know.

Rachel: Oh right yeah.

Lucy: But we'd play games and then have to go down. I think the quite cutesy tradition was birthdays, we for a long time had this really weird tradition where, well first of all we would always open our presents in our parents bed, and we would open them together. So whether it was Simon's birthday or my birthday, it's like we'd both be sat there in the bed helping each other open each other's presents. Simon's birthday is New Year's Eve, so I think some point after I was born my birthday is in May, Simon was given a gift on my birthday, because it was unfair that he had his two things right next to each other.

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Rachel: We have the same.

Cathy: Yeah.

Lucy: So then I started to be given a gift on his birthday, so my mum would always have to keep a Christmas gift back to give me Simon's birthday. And we would sit there in our parent's bed and open the presents and I don't know when this tradition started but my mum, there was some joke that all Simon was going to get.

Simon: [Laughs]

Lucy: Simon's laughing because he's like, I didn't know this story would come up. All Simon was going to get was half a rubber and a piece of string for his birthday. And so every birthday, my mother would diligently wrap up half a rubber and a piece of string, and there would be this whole faux play acting moment where we'd be sat there on the bed with our eyes closed and she'd go 'Open your eyes' and all that would be there would be half a rubber and a piece of string. And we'd all go 'Oh!'

Cathy: You kept doing it.

Rachel: How long did that go on for?

Lucy: [Laughs] Too long. Longer than it needed to. I don't know.

Simon: Did you have the same sprog? Did you get half a strawberry or something?

Lucy: Yeah I felt left out. Half a strawberry and a grape became mine. So every time it would like...

Simon: Which is so much more bougie than a rubber and a piece of string.

Cathy: That was very bizarre.

Simon: Yeah.

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

- Lucy: And then there would be this whole moment where my mum would go 'OK well that's all you're getting. But I'll just go and see if you've got any cards'. And then she'd come back with presents so.
- Rachel: Brilliant.
- Cathy: And so there was definitely no parental favouritism was there? There clearly wasn't.
- Lucy: Oh that's a?
- Rachel: Oh!
- Lucy: Well no I don't think there was but I've never really thought about that.
- Simon: No I don't think so.
- Lucy: No. No.
- Simon: There was a thing which I suppose it's not a favouritism but in later life has become something which I've sort of had to fight against slightly. Which was that Lucy when she emerged into the world, was a little more high maintenance than I was. And I was often rewarded for being easy going in response to that.
- Cathy: Oh.
- Simon: Lucy wants to do this, and I found that I was praised and rewarded for being, for sort of going 'Fine whatever, that's fine'.
- Rachel: That's interesting.
- Simon: And that has sort of developed as we've gone on.
- Cathy: So you're insanely submissive.
- Simon: Insanely submissive yes.
- Lucy: Yeah into a slightly less helpful habit yeah.

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Simon: But I'm a submissive narcissist which is really tricky.

Cathy: Yeah that's really tricky.

Simon: That's a really hard line to maintain.

Cathy: Oh that's awful.

Simon: And it's when those two things butt up against each other that Lucy goes 'Are you hydrated? Are you too tired?'

Cathy: Oh.

Simon: I say 'Yes' to everything because I want everyone to be happy and then I insist on doing everything as well as I possibly can which kills me.

Rachel: Yeah.

Lucy: Yes to the detriment of your health.

Simon: So Lucy has a lot to answer for on that.

Lucy: Yes I think that is true.

Cathy: Oh so you do it all?

Simon: Yeah, well that's the plan at least.

Lucy: I do remember, well you were very much naturally a very easy going child and even when you became a teenager like your early teenage years all seemed very low maintenance. And I do remember I had the thing where I turned 12 or 13 and I was suddenly very moody and I wanted to speak to my friends every night on the phone until midnight. And I do remember my mum getting mad at me once and I said 'I'm hormonal!' and she said 'We don't have hormones in this family!'

Cathy: Oh wow.

Lucy: And I remember being like, oh Simon.

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Simon: [Laughs]

Cathy: [Laughs]

Rachel: [Laughs]

[I Wish I Was An Only Child- Interim Music]

[Promotion for Welcome to Spooktown]

[I Wish I Was An Only Child- Interim Music]

Rachel: So you were, let's use the word trickier, a little trickier than Simon?

Lucy: Mm, mm.

Rachel: Yes?

Lucy: Mm.

Simon: Yes.

Rachel: Yes OK.

Cathy: So you were rebellious, did you have a rebellious phase?

Lucy: I think rebellious is doing me far too much credit. Like I am the least rebellious like I hate being told off. I was a real good girl. Like I was terrified of being told off. I was quite a high achiever at school and I quite liked that everyone thought I was very good.

Rachel: Your parents, it's a very close happy family obviously. But were they strict with you? They didn't need to be strict with you guys because you were both...

Lucy: No they were strict with us but I think the nice thing is that it was always, there was always a very obvious sense that the strictness was for us to have all possible opportunities later in life. It was never like, there was definitely a pressure academically. It was very much like

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

you know we would have been rewarded for As and A*s at GCSEs and nothing less.

Cathy: Oh right.

Lucy: But it was all very much, it was never, I do a lot of tutoring now on the side of my acting and producing, or I don't do as much anymore but I've done a lot in the last ten years. And you see a lot of parents where they want the kids to go to the good school and have all the A*s because they want to have the children who have got the A*s and went to the good school. And I feel very lucky that I was very aware growing up that it was all because our parents just, they wanted us to be able to pick what we wanted to do when we got older.

Cathy: Yeah.

Lucy: You know it was always like if you don't work hard now and get the best thing you can possibly get, then you are limited in what you can choose to do. And when we both said, I mean we've both gone into the arts which is a stupid thing to do. And bless them, they've absolutely supported that. And when we as kids will have started saying 'Oh well actually I think I want to be an actor or I want to be a director'. They were never anti that, they were just like fine. Like get a great education first, get the highest grades you can get, go to the best university you can and then whatever you want to do we will emotionally support that. So I think that was helpful.

Cathy: But you both have a very strong work ethic and you can clearly see that and I think that's what you get from that kind of upbringing.

Lucy: Yeah. Yeah definitely.

Simon: Especially in this industry I think which it's a really tough one. And it sort of has this fallacy at the heart of it which is that someone could just recognise you on the street

and catapult you to stardom. Or that you could direct a play with some sort of genius vision and suddenly everyone will go 'You're the new Tarinto' pick your person, and we'll sort of escalate you so quickly. And although there are those stories, they're very rare and more often the person who has that experience has been working tirelessly up until that moment where you notice who they were. And the rest of us are just absolutely...

Lucy: Slogging it out.

Simon: Grafting and just keeping going. And it's been so interesting this year just in my circle the numbers of people who have left this industry. Because they sort of had some distance from it for a time and have put their heads above the parapet and gone, does this bring me any joy anymore?

Cathy: Right.

Simon: And it's dangerous because it does say to you exactly as Lucy says, it goes you have to work hard, would you want to leave this industry not feeling like you've given it your best? And it demands that of you and says 'Come and do this' So a healthy work ethic is healthy.

Lucy: But you're not necessarily rewarded for your hard work.

Simon: Yeah. But certainly for me as well there's been places where that's been unhealthy as well because the sense of yeah that sense of high grades and achievement that our parents did instil in us which has been such a motor behind us both I think, is also a completely nebulous concept in this industry. That the idea of achievement is something which nobody quite, you know you're so busy trying to get to that room that you don't know what room you're standing in.

Cathy: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

- Simon: And so you don't get those things. So I think you're right that to be given that core is invaluable and at the same time, saying to other people who are trying to come up through it, know what you're trying to achieve, and when you get there give yourself a huge pat on the back.
- Lucy: Yeah. But then the hard thing in this industry is that even when you have the great work ethic, I think one of the hard things is when you're at school, if I think back to my academic achievements it's like I knew that if I put the hours in, I got the good grade and it was $1 + 1 = 2$, $A + B = AB$. I've just been reading Giles Terera's book about Hamilton and he says at one point $A + B = AB$ as in Aaron Burr so that's in my head.
- Rachel: Ah!
- Cathy: Ah I see.
- Lucy: And it's an amazing book and everyone should read it, I'm loving it!
- Cathy: Is it? OK.
- Lucy: It is amazing!
- Simon: And in fact the Arturo Ui that Lucy was mentioning before, Giles Terera was in that.
- Lucy: Yeah we were very excited.
- Simon: And he sung a version of Bad Moon Rising. We used contemporary songs re-imagined in sort of 1930s, '40s, ways, at various points and Giles Terera sung Bad Moon Rising at the end of the first half.
- Lucy: It was the most amazing thing.
- Simon: Yeah a brilliant composer called Ed Lewis did a version of it for us and Lucy played piano for it. And the first time we saw that in rehearsals everybody you know.

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Lucy: Everyone was just jaw on the floor.

Simon: Yeah that's an extraordinary human.

Lucy: That guy can sing!

Simon: But back to the work ethic point because it was an interesting thing with Lucy as well because I think throughout my life slightly more than Lucy, though correct me if I'm wrong sprog, I've been a bit more entrepreneurial. I've sort of gone if this place isn't giving me what I want to do, I can try to make that opportunity happen for myself. And before I was director I was a magician.

Cathy: Really?

Simon: And I put magic shows on at school and I ran a casino at my school as well just to sort of.

Cathy: Come on.

Simon: Because I thought that would be a fun way, I needed to raise money to do a magic show and so I hosted a casino night at the school to raise money to put on a magic show.

Cathy: That's amazing.

Simon: So when I came to Cambridge ultimately it was with a sort of sense of, if people aren't going to, I mean at the risk of being controversial, it is for all the right reasons not a good time to be a white straight middle aged director. But when I was coming up in London, that was starting to be the case already that everyone was looking to do all of the wonderful work they're doing now as well. So it came to be that not everyone was opening their doors, certainly as a Cambridge grad I was all the things which 30 years ago, two thumbs up. But now, I have no qualms with it but at that point it was well if this is going to happen I've got to make it happen for myself, I've got

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

to put on the shows myself. I've got to knock on the doors. I can't wait for somebody to invite me to do this. And I remember Lucy coming to London and being quite frustrated to begin with.

Lucy: Well yeah.

Simon: And me sort of going 'Well you've got to do it yourself' which sort of led to forming these amazing companies which Lucy's formed.

Lucy: Yeah and it did take me a while.

Simon: I'm not saying I'm responsible for that but it was.

Lucy: No but you are responsible for it but the one thing I'd argue with is, interestingly the notion that throughout all our lives you were more entrepreneurial because I think I'd learnt it from you but I did a lot of mimicking Simon. Because we were so close and I idolised my older brother as a child it was like anything Simon did I wanted to try as well. I was like 'Oh maybe I could do that'. Even the magicianing, I mean there was a point when you were going to train me up as like the world's greatest fabulous lady magician!

Cathy: That's sweet.

Lucy: Because I remember you saying 'You just don't get female magicians, you would make a killing. They're so few and far between so come on let's train you up'. And I just didn't, I didn't love it.

Cathy: So you didn't cut her up or have her as an assistant?

Lucy: No.

Rachel: But you didn't love it Lucy, you gave it a go and it wasn't for you?

Lucy: I gave it a go and I didn't love it but a lot of the other things that Simon did, I did really copy and I was the

same as him. Like at school I remember organising charity concerts and putting on plays when my school was sort of really not into the kids doing different things. And it was a day school and they very much had that mentality of like well the teachers have to go at the end of the day so if you want to do something yourself then who's going to supervise you? There's no one, so no you can't. And I really looked at what Simon was doing at a much more free and supportive school actually. And I was like 'No screw you, well fine we'll rehearse just in that random public park'. So I did it a lot.

And I remember I took a play to Edinburgh when I was 18, that was the first time that I 'produced' something. And so I think I had it really in me to do that and then I went to university, I took another play to Edinburgh during my time at university and then went to LAMDA and I think I came out and I know drama schools really try to do the opposite, to instil the opposite thing in you but I definitely came out being like 'Where are my jobs then?' You know I really didn't come out of LAMDA thinking all that stuff that I used to do, I'm going to have to do that now. I came out thinking, OK so when are you going to give me a part in Downton? And when am I going to be at the National? And that time that Simon was talking about where I was frustrated, absolutely. Like I went through a really, as so many actors do, a really dark patch of like the moment of realisation that things aren't going to land in my lap. That people aren't seeing me and thinking 'Oh my God she's the greatest thing I've ever seen and I must give her this role!' So I think thanks to Simon pushing me in the end, and actually also thanks to it's a bit cliché but the darkness before the light, whatever the thing, I want to say the calm before the storm, that's totally the wrong phrase. But you know, you have to have a big dip before you really pull yourself up.

Cathy: Totally.

Rachel: And I definitely had that dip about two years after, two or three years after drama school. And then I was at a hen do and a girl I'd known from university called Melanie Fallbrook who is incredible, brilliant actress herself and beautiful singer, she had recently graduated from Guildhall and we were bonding over getting pissed at this hen do and she said 'I'm already sick of the waiting'. You know she'd been out only six months or something and she was like 'This is bullshit'. 'So I'd like to start a theatre company, I don't want to do it with one of my best friends because I think it will be hard to be sort of diligent and professional with them. But I like you, you like me, I think you're good, you think I'm good shall we do it?' And honestly it was sort of Simon's voice in the back of my head and then that conversation with Mel that sprung board, sprung board? Spring boarded me into the next phase of my life which has been almost far more driven by producing and almost acting in-between when I can. And acting sometimes in the shows that I produce but generally I feel like my whole world revolved more about making it myself. And certainly in this industry you feel so much better when you're making it yourself.

Cathy: Totally.

Lucy: You have such a better sense of self-worth because you know certainly when you're an actor and I know Simon feels it as a director as well. But certainly when you're an actor you are the smallest most insignificant cog in the machine. And we look at actors because actors become such huge celebrities you think they have so much power but you're like you have no power as an actor because the industry is so oversubscribed and there's just too many of us. So it's no one's fault but you inherently feel like a little piece of shit on someone's shoe because you're so dispensable. So the minute you start making stuff, you just ramp up into a level where there's far

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

fewer people because it is amazing how so few people actually make that leap into creating and writing.

Rachel: They talk about doing it.

Cathy: They talk about doing it yeah. Everybody talks about writing a book, they don't.

Lucy: Yeah.

[I Wish I Was An Only Child- Interim Music]

Cathy: Can I ask, there won't be, but I am going to dig for some shit. Is there anything you envy about the other? Is there anything that you wish you had from the other?

Simon: I envy, Lucy is a warmer person than I am by quite a margin I think. People gravitate to her in ways that...

Cathy: But do you wish you had that?

Simon: Uh? Yeah I do. I do. I mean I use my curmudgeoness tactically at times.

Cathy: Exactly, that's why I would say you wouldn't want that.

Simon: But it is something that I see in her whenever I'm sort of around her and her friends. The lovely thing from my point of view to go back to that story about when Lucy will say she's my sister in the rehearsal process, is that it will only ever reflect well on me. I am immune in that situation because everyone loves her.

Cathy: Yeah.

Simon: So everyone comes up to me and goes 'I didn't know, isn't she lovely?' And I'm like 'Yeah she is, it's great'.

Cathy: Yeah reflected glory, it's brilliant.

Rachel: [Laughs]

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Simon: Exactly it's the best. In fact if I could have more siblings to do that then I could just sit at home, they're doing its job. I think that's the only thing I envy of you.

Lucy: I feel like I...

Simon: You bought a nice house, I'll have that.

Lucy: [Laughs]

Cathy: Oh!

Lucy: I feel like I envy your skill, again I don't know whether you know there's other skills I'm trying to harness but I envy your skill as a director and in the way in which you can manage people because I think he does it so cleverly and with such intelligence and grace and calm. And I have tried to direct, I cannot do it, I am very bad at it. But I envy your skill but other than that I don't think I envy...

Simon: Sorry there is a shame there that when I use those methods on Lucy now...

Lucy: Oh yes! It's like having a therapist parent. Yeah, yeah, yeah. I'm always like, I know what you're doing.

Simon: Don't do that thing, I'm onto you. I know this game.

Cathy: [Laughs]

Lucy: Yes there was one instance we were doing, it was when Simon directed for my production company Go People, we did a version of A Midsummer Night's Dream with Freddie Fox and Maddy Hill, it was Dream done with only seven actors. And it was sort of not even Dream anymore was it? It was like a whole wonderful thing of itself. And I remember this moment, and I was playing Helena and Simon was trying to get me to do something and I could just see right through it. And I was like 'Just tell me that what I'm currently doing is wrong because then I'll trust you and I'll just stop doing it' and he was like 'But it's not wrong' he was trying to do the thing where he makes it

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

my idea. You know he's like 'It's not wrong what you're doing'.

Rachel: [Laughs]

Lucy: And I was like 'Honestly, I just need you to tell me not to do it'. And eventually I think you did just go 'Don't do it, it's not serving the story'. And I was like 'OK thank you'.

Simon: Don't do it, it's wrong.

Lucy: Yeah, yeah, yeah. But no I think there's nothing to envy because I think the dynamic is perfect. And I often think, I remember talking to someone once at a book launch about parental influence and just how much therapy, you know talks about your parents. And we both started saying 'Isn't it interesting that they don't focus so much on siblings'. Because a sibling...

Cathy: That's Rachel and I always say.

Lucy: ...is almost just as big. Right.

Cathy: Bigger! Bigger!

Rachel: Yeah we...

Lucy: Go on.

Rachel: We interviewed David Baddiel and his brother Ivor the other day and exactly that. He was saying 'I'm so fascinated, why do we not talk about siblings?'

Cathy: And they don't.

Rachel: Because certainly their parents were very absent.

Lucy: Right. So it's even bigger.

Cathy: There's very few psychological studies on the impact on siblings.

Lucy: Yeah.

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Cathy: It's all amount the parental influence.

Lucy: Yeah.

Rachel: Or even saying in a dysfunctional family, in a wonderful family, all the different scenarios the siblings are so important.

Cathy: Yeah totally.

Lucy: Oh I absolutely think because Simon was such a doting and understanding and loving big brother, if you think about what that will have done for my development.

Cathy: Of course!

Lucy: Even just in those first like five years.

Cathy: Totally.

Lucy: That I had this person that always, I was like that person looks after me, that person makes me feel great about myself. They keep me entertained, they stimulate me mentally. I just think I often do feel just a bit guilty that I'm like I feel like I benefitted enormously from Simon as a child and now it's my job as an adult to like reward that, where Simon gave all the love and attention and affection and help and support. Sometimes I feel like Simon you might have drained your little cup as a child in giving to me. And now that we're adults, when you talk about that thing about maternal, not even maternal but you know the support now, I sometimes feel like 'OK well I've got this full cup now because you gave it to me when I was a child'.

Cathy: Yeah so you're going to give it back.

Lucy: So now I can you know drip-feed it back to you as adults.

Cathy: So who's happier?

Lucy: Oh [laughs].

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Simon: Ho-ho.

Lucy: Ho-ho-ho-ho. I think I am generally a more happy person, is that fair?

Simon: Yes. Yeah I think so.

Lucy: I think you are more prone to having a little grey cloud above your head.

Simon: Yes that's certainly true. But I think it's interesting that you asked that question. So I think I was one of the many people before lockdown who would have told you absolutely that I was delighted. That I was having a great, great time all the way through it in this industry and in life and all the rest of it. Single, exhausted, drinking too much, eating badly, late nights all of that, I would have absolutely gone I am doing the job I've always wanted and I'm having a ball. And the some point in lockdown I went, oh God that's not bringing me any joy anymore, so if you'd asked me then I would have gone 'No I'm absolutely miserable'. But now here with Helen and what's happened this year which has been considering what it's been for so many people, it seems in bad taste but it's been a life changing year...

Cathy: Oh I know, yeah.

Simon: ...for me. So yeah there's less of the clouds. But also I think I've been bruised by the industry and by things a bit more and again by romance and things like that, not that I'm assuming that that will happen again now, I feel very happy and content. But I feel like while I might not be as happy as Lucy, I'm probably pretty realistic and I quite like that. I don't mind if I have a couple of days where I'm a bit down really.

Cathy: Yeah I agree. Totally agree.

Rachel: Yeah.

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Simon: And in fact there are times, this is not dirt, there are times when Lucy's indefectible joy can be wearing.

Cathy: Oh! Yes! [laughs]

Simon: There you go, you can take it, that's it, that's it. As dirt you can take that Lucy is sometimes too happy.

Cathy: Oh my God!

Rachel: That's the perfect place to end.

Cathy: I know. Well no because we do have to ask.

Rachel: We've got one more question.

Cathy: Is there anything...

Rachel: Oh can I say it? Because you've said loads today.

Lucy: [Laughs]

Cathy: Sorry.

Rachel: My turn.

Cathy: Oh, oh, no.

Rachel: Is there anything that you'd like to say to each other that you've never said before? So Simon, is there anything that you'd like to say to Lucy that you've never said before?

Simon: Oh God, I don't know that there is. I mean we're sort of best friends. We sort of talk all the time. It's such a lovely invitation but I don't know that there is. I don't know that there is anything.

Rachel: But I think it's lovely because it's all been said.

Cathy: It's lovely yeah.

Rachel: That's the point, there isn't really anything because you're really close and I'm really jealous.

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Lucy: Aww.

Cathy: Lucy there's nothing you want to say is there? No you've said it all.

Lucy: No. Love you bro.

Cathy: Aww.

Simon: I love you too.

Rachel: But you say that regularly don't you?

Lucy: Yes, yes.

Simon: Quite a lot.

Lucy: Yes.

Rachel: Aww brilliant.

Lucy: Snooze.

Rachel: Brilliant!

Lucy: [Laughs]

[I Wish I Was An Only Child Theme Song]

Melanie: This has been a Little Wander production. Local artwork from Cathy Mason. Voice from Melanie Walters. Music from Rhodri Viney. With special thanks to Beth Forrest, Steve Pickup, Sam Roberts, Henry Widdicombe, and Jo Williams. Other podcasts from Little Wander include: Here to Judge and Welcome to Spooktown. Subscribe now on iTunes, Spotify or wherever you get your podcasts.

Simon: Sprog you were really dull on that. You were really boring Lucy on that.

Lucy: Yeah were boring and horrible.

Simon: Yeah.

I Wish I Was An Only Child- Simon Evans and Lucy Eaton

Lucy: And I never want to speak to you again.

Simon: And I promise, yeah I did want to tell them about the guy you knocked over and buried in the garden but I thought I wouldn't.

Lucy: [Laughs] Oh we didn't talk about the (?) scandal, but you know.

Simon: Oh no [laughs].

Lucy: Plenty of other things.

[Promotion for Who Are You Wearing?]

[End of Podcast]