

GOOBER

A Web-series

**EPISODE 2**  
**"Counter Tourism"**

Written by  
Ben Crisp

Based on an original concept by Ben Crisp,  
Brendon Skinner, Simon Williams and Kirsty Stark

April 2 2016 Draft 5.00

© 2016 Gravity Films Pty Ltd and Epic Films Pty Ltd

Gravity Films Pty Ltd  
c/- Adelaide Studios  
226 Fullarton Road  
GLENSIDE SA Australia

Epic Films Pty Ltd  
c/- Adelaide Studios  
226 Fullarton Road  
GLENSIDE SA Australia

E: admin@gravityfilms.com.au  
P: +61 8 8394 2563

E: epic@epicfilms.com.au  
P: +61 8 8394 2556

HARRY waves traffic around him as he waits outside a hotel, reading from his notepad.

HARRY

All I said was, "You look nice today."

DAD (O.S.)

*And what did she say?*

HARRY

She said, "I got ready in, like, five minutes, are you just being nice?"

DAD (O.S.)

*And what did you say?*

HARRY

I said, "Yep."

DAD (O.S.)

*Ah. OK.*

HARRY

What? Dad, I *\*was\** just trying to be nice.

DAD (O.S.)

*Yeah, but, see, Harry, that means she thinks you didn't really think she looked nice.*

Harry frowns, thoroughly confused.

DAD (O.S.)

*Remember how I told you that sometimes people say things, but there's other meanings to it. And sometimes you just have to figure it out, like a puzzle, you have to listen for the clues. Get it?*

HARRY

(shaking his head)

...yeah.

TITLE: "Goober".

A serious-looking BEARDED PERSIAN MAN (ALI) and a PERSIAN WOMAN wearing a hijab (MARYAM) get in the back of the car. Ali clutches a backpack to his chest. Harry smiles at them.

HARRY  
Hello! Oh, I like your scarf.

MARYAM  
Oh, thank you. It is hijab.

HARRY  
What?

MARYAM  
Hijab. Hijab.

Harry looks scared.

HARRY  
Like... like September 11?

They stare at him.

ALI  
Are you thinking \*jihad\*?

Harry clicks, relieved.

HARRY  
Jihad. That's it. Jihad. I like your \*jihad\*. It's very pretty.

MARYAM  
(to Ali)  
This is a mistake.

Ali argues with her in Farsi for a moment.

HARRY  
Is something wrong?

ALI  
No, no, my friend, my wife is just nervous for our...

Ali clutches the backpack to his chest.

ALI  
...how-do-you-say... *big event*.

Harry checks his phone.

HARRY  
Oh, yes! I've never taken anyone to Government House. You must be really interested in politics.

ALI  
We are early for our... please, you will take us to... important places? Places of... value... to people of Australia.

Harry frowns for a moment, then he brightens.

HARRY

Oh, you want me to take you on a tour? OK, seatbelts on!

3

MONTAGE:

3

Harry happily points out the window as he drives.

HARRY

...and that's a police station...  
...see that, that's, like, a  
power distribution junction...

Ali and Maryam whisper to each other in Farsi. Maryam takes notes in a notepad.

HARRY

...I think that place is  
something to do with the fresh  
water supply...there's \*another\*  
school, that's where all the rich  
kids go.

Ali is animated, almost angry.

ALI

Do you see these schools, Maryam?  
Do you see how they treat their  
children: boys and the girls in  
school \*together\*. Playing  
\*together\*. Talking \*together\*.

(to Harry)

It would \*never\* be allowed in  
our homeland. Look, \*another\*  
church. Different religions all  
on each other's doorstep.

Ali whispers something to Maryam and she writes another note. Harry watches them in the rear-view mirror, growing confused.

HARRY

You're really interested in all  
this kind of stuff, huh?

Ali shifts the backpack carefully on his lap.

ALI

We have... special purpose.

HARRY

Oh.

Harry glances in the mirror a few more times as he drives, growing more concerned, and suspicious.

HARRY

Do you want me to put your bag in  
the boot?

ALI

No! I hold. Is very important.  
Must be very careful.

Harry drives on in silence for a little longer, growing  
scared. Ali checks his watch.

ALI

It is time. We go to Government  
House.

Harry hesitates, very worried, but sees Ali staring at him  
in the mirror. Harry nods. Ali squeezes Maryam's hand.

4 INT. HARRY'S CAR -- LATER

4

Harry pulls the car over. Ali and Maryam start to climb  
out.

HARRY

So, you'll be leaving after...  
whatever it is you're doing,  
right? I mean, you won't be  
\*leaving\*... forever...

Ali looks at Maryam meaningfully, then back at Harry.

ALI

In truth I do not know. It is in  
God's hands now.

HARRY

Oh. OK. I guess... I'll wait here  
then? In case you change your  
mind?

But they are gone. Harry waits, nervously. He checks his  
phone: "No Pickups". He looks up, and notices a sign on a  
bus-stop: "If you see something suspicious, call the  
National Security Hotline." Harry shifts in his seat  
uncomfortably.

5 INT. HARRY'S CAR -- EVENING

5

The sun's going down. It's getting dark. Harry rocks in his  
seat nervously. He cranes around, looking for any signs of  
action outside the parked car. He locks the doors. He looks  
at the "National Security Hotline" sign again. He dials the  
number on his phone. It rings.

OPERATOR (V.O.)

*National Security Hotline.*

HARRY

Hi. Um... how's your day going?

OPERATOR (V.O.)

*Do you wish to report a  
suspicious activity or  
observation?*

He breathes deeply, anxious, not sure what to do. Then... POP! POP! BANG! Explosions sound in the distance. Harry gasps, and ducks down with his hands over his head, whimpering and terrified.

HARRY

It's happening! I was trying not to be racist and now it's happening!

THUMP-THUMP-THUMP! Someone bangs on the back window.

ALI (O.S.)

My friend! Open the door!

Harry peeks up at Ali, terrified.

HARRY

Please don't September 11 me!

POP! POP! BANG! The reflection of colourful fireworks twinkle in the windshield. POP! POP! BANG! Harry slowly raises his head and sees them, his eyes wide with fear and confusion. They are smiling, happily. Harry cautiously lowers his window, and the sound of cheers and a band playing the national anthem filter in. Ali and Maryam climb in, big smiles beaming on their faces. Ali opens his backpack and pulls out a camera, an Australian flag, and two framed certificates.

MARYAM

Today we are like you! Australian citizens!

Harry's face slowly turns from bewilderment to relieved joy.

HARRY

Oh. Oh! Oh, congratulations!

OPERATOR (V.O.)

*Sir? Is everything--*

Harry hangs up quickly.

ALI

Who was th--

HARRY

Nobody. Let's celebrate!

SUPER: An Uber-style "RATE YOUR RIDE" screen appears, showing five out of five stars and a review: "He understood the fundamentals."

6

INT. HARRY'S CAR -- LATER

6

At the drive-thru window, Harry hands Wendy his credit card as Ali and Maryam happily eat an ice-cream sundae in the back seat.

HARRY

Thanks Wendy. You look really nice again today. I'm not being nice.

WENDY

Oh, thanks Harry.

HARRY

OK. And, also: *dooset daram*.

WENDY

What? What does that mean?

Harry smiles and waves and drives away. Ali takes Maryam's hand and looks lovingly into her eyes.

MARYAM

(to Ali)

*Dooset daram*.