

**TITLE: BENNY FIX**

GENRE: Drama

FORMAT: TV Series

(Set in UK. Pilot script, ten outline episodes, summaries for Series 2 & 3)

LOGLINE: The man for a PR crisis, but ambition has the better of him. Now he's the problem, and seeking triple redemption.

INTRO: High stakes drama grounded in reality. Benny is an engaging hero, hiding inner turmoil. He needs redemption in business (fast) with partner and daughter (there's hope) and with his father (beyond hope). His restless charm sets the series' tone. His resourceful desperation drives it.

OUTLINE: Stowbay estuary. A child falls from a passing luxury yacht. Benny (35) dives from his modest boat and saves little Mikey from drowning. Back aboard he makes another rescue as his phone splashes into the bilge. Exhausted, he gazes at the home screen photo of smiley Alice (35) and Daisy (10).

In gratitude Mikey's playboy father Anton (30) hosts Benny on his yacht. He fears negligence gossip, more media scandal, and the wrath of his own father Tycho (70), a self-made hotels tycoon. "The old lion dotes on Mikey. Bloodline, dynasty. I'll never hear the end of it." Benny jolts Anton into pre-emptive action.

Tycho owns Stowbay Football Club, just promoted to the Premier League. He's put Anton in charge to test him. Visiting, Benny sees off a hostile players' agent. Anton badly needs Benny as "PR guy, fixer, whatever." Tycho needs Benny too, as 'eyes and ears' on Anton, initially.

Benny resists the dynasty poisoned chalice. Too busy in London, and no fan of football. But his situation is precarious.

His boat is a secret refuge. Not secret enough. He sees off a debt-collector, assuring he has profitable projects in play. He's bought the boat from his fractuous parents to help with their retirement plans, intending a quick renovation and sale. Visiting, his innate charm is reduced to dutiful bemusement. His father snubs him. His queen-bee mother is meddlesome about Alice and daughter Daisy leaving him.

Spirited Alice regards Benny as an enigma, driven by high hopes and demons. Just too distracted for proper family life. Conditioned by his parents' simmering tensions. Haunted by a youthful folly that estranged his father.

*Back story* - Benny's endless PR commitments and "sorry, sorry" apologies drove Alice to despair. So he abandoned his career. Enjoying new freedom he opened Alice Gallery, for Alice to run. But he's interfered, buying art on impulse, aiming high, losing paintings in a 'private viewing' sting. And caught up in other risky enterprises. Too ambitious. More "sorry, sorry" distractions than ever.

Alice has taken Daisy from London back to Stowbay. Managing a fashion shop while starting over in graphic design. Resolved about separation, unless Benny curbs his reckless ventures. She knows it's a huge ask. Benny admits he's risking all, but he'll come good soon.

Benny's accountant warns he's on borrowed time - a brilliant company man but a novice at hands-on business. He's 'bet the house' and headed for ruin. And how could he have lost delightful Alice and Daisy? Benny is shaken by the stark reality-check. He's obliged to seek the dynasty's ready money. The poisoned chalice.

Tycho presses Benny with legacy concerns. Eldest son Nikolas is expanding the hotels empire in the Far East. But he's elusive, no family, maybe he's gay. There's a rumour he's plotting to take over the football club with an Asian syndicate. Anton is too rebellious. Benny tries to extricate him from a corrupt YuBet sponsor deal. Tycho's secret daughter Cass (25) is emerging from a coma after a drugs induced scuba dive accident. Now she's threatening scandal. Tycho's physio-enforcer Hector looms.

There's only little grandson Mikey, a 'chip off the old block.' But Mikey almost drowned. Anton must get his rebellious ex girl-band wife Giselle in the family way again. Do his duty, stop partying around making a bad reputation worse. Tycho even considers having another love-child as 'spare'.

The dynasty's seemingly loyal matriarch Maude (55) runs an expanding nature reserve. Her passion. Tycho is obliged to buy the land, in compensation for his mistress affairs.

Benny navigates the dynasty's deep divisions, relishing the challenges to his skills. An improvising puppet-master, deft or audacious as required. Taking chances he never would have dared as a company man. The money is vital, but his own obligations are neglected.

Alice feels guilt at leaving Benny. Her concern for the gallery gives him hope for reunion if he can run it sensibly. Can he trust pushy new assistant Pascale? He spots a dusty 'lost masterpiece' in a modest private collection. A Vinticelli? Financial salvation? Alice shares his intrigue. But efforts to obtain the painting at bargain price are frustrated.

Young Daisy is cheerful, coping. Admiring Alice's resilience, enthusing with Benny on visits to his stalled projects. She discovers his boat and makes a shock find on it, compromising his father. Benny needs to confront him. Alice tries to contain his anger.

Benny has a tantalising confidante in Steffa (30), the amazon skipper of Anton's yacht. She's a private soul but they begin to share hopes and fears, and intimacy. Steffa has an obsession since her teens, with revenge on an abusive sailing mentor.

Alice falls for a West Indian RAF pilot. Daisy admires him but her resilience snaps over divided loyalties. She runs away. Benny and Alice are brought together in dismay, as Daisy finds sanctuary with Steffa.

Benny attempts a candle-lit reunion with Alice on his boat, prompted by emboldened Daisy. But Anton disrupts in panic. Little Mikey has vanished. Benny is pulled deeper into dynasty turmoil. (*Tycho is the instigator. A scare warning to Anton and Giselle of Mikey's legacy value.*)

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