

## THE LAURAS

[SHOW ID]

JA: I heard this story from a girl named... Laura.

L1: Hi..

JA: Hello Laura!

L1: Hello! I'm Laura Buxton

JA: ha ha. Im SO excited to talk to you!

L1: cool.

And Laura Buxton was just ten years old when this story begins.

JA: Let's do it like a movie, if you don't mind.

L1: like a movie...

JA: yeah.

L1: OK

JA: So you're ten years old,

L1: Well, almost ten

JA: Almost 10

L1: Yeah

JA: Your family is having a party, right?

L1: Yes, it was my nanna and grand dad's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

[big party...150 ppl...cake, balloons]

After the party, Laura's grandpa came over to Laura with an idea.

L1: He um had a balloon left over from the party and he just thought it would be fun to write my name on it and see what happened if I let it go.

JA: And what was written on the balloon?

L1: "Please return to Laura Buxton." And then on the other side it had my address.

So they go outside, and

L1: I just let it go and the wind took it.

MUSIC

L1: we were laughing and joking because we thought it would just get stuck in a tree a bit further down the road somewhere.

[NEED SIGN POST]

JA: And you're living in a town called  
L1: um, I'm living in Stoke-on-Trent

JAD: Now, I'm looking at a map here... Stoke-on Trent is north is up towards the top of England... I'm looking here and it would have had to float up. , and went past Stratford, kept going past Wasale, Wolverhampton, then past Birmingham, past Kitter minster...

JAD: Now we're going past millions and millions of people of different ages, different races

JAD: ... past Gloucester? Gloucest er.  
L2: Gloucester

[find out how many miles, which direction]

JA: And somehow it lands well, where?

L2: Yeah, I got the balloon and I kind of live near Stonehenge, like, in the west.

[back ID Laura 2]

L2: The balloon got stuck in our hedge but our next-door neighbor found it in the hedge and he thought that it was just a bit of rubbish. and he was about to put it in the bin, literally, like have his hand over the bin and then he saw the label saying

L1: "Please return to Laura Buxton,

L2: and he was like... O MY GOD.

[RK is confused, why?

JA explains. end with "a ten year old girl named laura buxton lets go of a balloon, the balloon travels 140 miles and lands in the yard of a ten years girl named laura buxton]

JA: Wow. I think it might be the strangest thing I've ever heard in my life.

L2: It's pretty weird.

So anyway, back to the story, the neighbor rushed over and gave Laura the balloon.

JA: What did you think at that point?

L2: UM I was quite young, so I didn't know what to think. I'd better write the letter because there's someone else out there called Laura Buxton! I must see them!

Ha ha ha

So Laura wrote a letter... to Laura.

L2: Dear Laura, I think I put. I'm ten years old and I live in Wiltshire and I found your balloon. And I remember writing about my pony because didn't really know what else to say and then at the end I put, Well the really weird thing is my name is Laura Buxton as well, so lots of love, from Laura Buxton."

JA: Laura # 1?

L1: Yup.

JA: You get the note.

LA1: Yep! And I got it through the post.

JA: Do you remember reading it?

L1: I remember reading it because I opened it up whilst I was in the kitchen. And it was saying that her name was Laura Buxton and she lived in Wiltshire and it was really quite confusing actually because it was like, 'To Laura Buxton, from Laura Buxton.'"

LA1: I took it up to my mum. And we stood there arguing about it for quite a while.

JA: What did you argue about?

L1: Well she was trying to tell me that it was coming to Laura Buxton and that it wasn't from Laura Buxton. She just thought I was confused... And in the end I just sort of passed her the note and she had to read it herself. She thought I was confused