

The Desert Padre  
Re-Write

From the Valleys of Wales to the Deserts of Nevada

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Two men from the same town in Wales, meet by chance, in  
a small town called Fallon in Nevada.

Magpie Grove Productions

EXT. COUNTY STORE-DAY

Gareth is standing outside the local store thinking about what he needs to buy. A passer by shouts out, Gareth turns and waves. He turns back towards the store and goes in.

INT. COUNTY STORE-DAY

The store is quiet for this time of day. Gareth looks around as he enters the store. But just as he spots what he's after, his attention is drawn to one of the store's customers.

GARETH  
(smiling he shouts)  
Do you sir, now the meaning of Nos Da?

Dan Evans spins around to face Gareth

DAN  
(smiling)  
Of course I do!

Both men just stand staring at each other in disbelief. Neither not knowing what to do.

GARETH  
(feeling quite elated)  
I'm Gareth ,Gareth Hughes. And who might you be, good boy!

DAN  
(smiling)

He starts to walk towards Gareth shaking and scratching his head.

Dan,Dan Evans

GARETH  
(smiling)

He looks Dan up and down and shakes his head.

Dew,Dew, what on earth is going here then? I never expected to come across another Taff in these parts!

DAN

Still shaking his head, he starts to move closer to Gareth with his hand stretch out.

Neither did I!What the hell are you doing here then?You look like some sort of preacher?

GARETH  
(smiling)

Moving closer with his hand stretch out.

You could say that!

Both shake each other hand and step back from each other.

GARETH  
I live and work in Nixon!

DAN  
Thats on the reservation?

GARETH  
Thats right. I've been up there for quite a while now.

DAN  
Oh!The Paiutes?

GARETH  
(scowling)

He looks Dan straight in the face.

Yes, thats right! And I love it.There like the children I never had, I love them dearly.

DAN  
(feeling uncomfortable)

He takes a step back.

So then good boy, what part of the old country are you from?

GARETH  
Sensing that Dan's uncomfortable.

I'm originally from Dafen, Dafen  
Llanelli!

DAN  
(splutters)  
Where?

GARETH  
Dafen!Llanelli!Why?

DAN  
I'm from Coed Cae!

GARETH  
(smiling)

Scratching his head.

I can't believe this! What on earth is going on here good boy?How come we've never met before then?

DAN  
I really don't know!I come here all the time.And nobody ever mentioned there was another Welshman in these parts, ever.I mean ever! And certainly not from the same town!

Both Gareth and Dan look to the store keeper.

DAN  
Hey Bunny.Has anyone mentioned to you about a couple of Welsh guys living in these parts?

BUNNY

She scratches her head.

Not that I can remember, I don't think so

BILL

She looks both Gareth and Dan in the eye.

I thought you were just a couple of limeys!Thats all.

GARETH  
Well, we're not. We're proud Welshmen,  
isn't that right Mr Evans?

DAN  
(laughing)

Waving his hands in the air.

Of course we are Mr Hughes, of course.  
Cymru am byth Mr Hughes, cymru am  
byth!

GARETH  
(laughing)

Waving his hands.

Cymru am byth, Wales for ever Mr  
Evans.

DAN  
Yes, thats right.

BILL  
(smiling)

Pointing.

Ok guys thats enough of that.Your  
upsetting my customers. Take it down a  
notch guys, take it down.

DAN  
(laughing)  
Ok Bill, Ok.

GARETH

Looks at towards Dan.

So Mr Evans?

DAN  
Call me Dan!

GARETH

So Dan! Whats next?

DAN

I suppose I'd better get on with my chores Gareth! I have plenty to do!

GARETH

I have no doubt there Dan, especially in your line of work! What was it again?

DAN

I've got a small ranch just outside town. Only a couple of hundred acres, thats all. But enough to keep me busy, plus the wife and kids of course.

GARETH

Wife and kids! I've been too busy over the years for all of that. Especially now, looking after two churches in Nixon and Fernley. Plus of course the lodge.

DAN

The lodge? You mean the masonic lodge! The one in Fernley?

GARETH

Yes thats right. I'm the Chaplin there, and I've been a brother for many years.

DAN

You probably know the Cormers then?

GARETH

Yes I know the family very well especially brother Ed. Yes very well.

DAN

I just can't believe whats happen today Gareth. I just can't.

GARETH

I know the two of us meeting like this!

DAN

It's not just that, and not that the both of us are Welsh and from the same town either!

GARETH

What do you mean?

DAN

Well, I'm also a fellow brother! Here in Fallon.

GARETH

Shaking his head.

Dew,dew. This is unbelievable whats happen here today dew,dew.

DAN

I know,I know.

GARETH

(laughing)

What are we going to do about all this then good boy?

DAN

(smiling)

Holding his hand out to Gareth

I think with all thats happen today, it would be a good idea if we became friends Mr Hughes! What do you say?

GARETH

(smiling)

Steps towards Dan with his hand out.

I think that would be grand Mr Evans, grand indeed!

Both Gareth and Dan shake hands and gave each other a hug.  
Then step back from one and other.

DAN  
(smiling)

Waving his hands like a conductor.

We're having a bit of a Cymanfa Ganu  
next week with all the family. It  
would be great if you could come.

GARETH  
Sounds interesting my friend!

DAN  
(laughing)

Still waving his hands about.

Cwm Rhondda, Calon Lân and my all time  
favourite Myfanwy. Something to remind  
us of home and who we are. Gets me  
every time.

He begins to hum the tune to Myfanwy to himself.

(a tear rolls down his face)

GARETH  
Dew, ok, I'll come if it shuts you up.

DAN  
(smiling)  
That's great, you wont be  
disappointed. How about a little  
practise on our way out. Once we've  
finished here!

GARETH  
Ok, sounds like a bit of fun.

They both collect their goods from the store keeper and make  
their way towards the door.

BUNNY  
(shouts out and laughs)

Waving.

See you limeys.

Both Gareth and Dan leave the store singing Calon Lân to themselves.

Nid wy'n gofyn bywyd moethus, Aur y  
byd na'i berlau mân: Gofyn wyf am  
galon hapus, Calon onest, calon lân.

I don't ask for a luxurious life, the  
world's gold or its fine pearls, I ask  
for a happy heart, an honest heart, a  
pure heart.