

## RUTH

Around 40 Ruth's journey is from the false self-confidence of the emotionally abused to the genuine self-confidence of the woman, happy in her own skin. Ruth is eager to please, but not a rag doll, and despite being Marie's right hand woman, she is desperate to be one of the cartilage in the spine of the WI and keep everyone happy. She has spine herself. If she was too wet, no one would want her around, but they do, and they feel protective of her because they sense there is something better in Ruth than her life is letting out. They are proved right. The Rabbit costume should be a cocktail of good intentions and not enough time.

**RUTH**        Although I think with me it was likely more finding your underwear in the map pocket of Eddie's Peugeot. *Pause. Elaine stops the beauty treatment.* You know? The little red ones? I mean I'm not surprised you didn't notice you hadn't got them on afterwards, they couldn't've provided much insulation. But there was one of these? Little business cards? Must've fallen out of your bag in the whole...*(she "smiles")* ... melee, you know? And that's when I thought, "Well maybe he'd see me in a different light if I went and did this calendar!" Pointlessly, as it turns out. 'Cause what I hadn't realised is that a woman who takes her clothes off on a calendar is a "tart" whereas one who does it in a lay-by is a real good sport. But hey. *(She stands)* What I DID get to realise is that Eddie Reynoldson is one of those guys who wouldn't understand beauty if it was staring him in the face. And you know how I worked that out, love? *(Beat)* Because it was. Now, in fairness, fuck off back to him.