



# Character Profile: Lawrence “Larry” Chatman

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## Overview

**Name:** Lawrence Chatman

**Nickname:** Larry

**Tagline:** *“Happy as Larry... or so he says.”*

**Age:** Early to mid-40s

**Occupation:** Construction site manager (public housing maintenance – local council)

**Residence:** Non-specific British city (based on Norwich), semi-detached house

**Relationship:** Married young, divorced, long-term single, now in a steady, supportive relationship

**Appearance:** Everyday bloke – short cropped hair, strong build, work boots, warm grin, easy presence

**Voice:** Friendly, informal, quick with a joke – masking deep self-awareness

**Mental Health Lens:** An everyman who’s widely seen as cheerful, upbeat, and resilient. But behind the smile, there are shadows – occasional self-doubt, periods of low mood, and signs that his happiness might also be a shield.

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## Personality

- **Kind, dependable, socially confident**
- A classic “**mate’s mate**” – easy to talk to, known for remembering birthdays and helping you move house
- Has **quirky interests** and a **dry sense of humour**
- Shows a clear commitment to **positive mental health** in everyday ways: chatting in the pub, encouraging mates, asking questions
- **Emotionally intelligent**, though rarely uses that term. He’s warm, listens more than he speaks, and uses humour to bridge difficult topics
- Struggles with **moments of loneliness and imposter syndrome**, but rarely lets them show
- Secretly wonders if his positivity masks something he doesn’t fully understand – he’s open about everything... except maybe himself

Lawrence Chatman Character Profile  
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## History & Backstory

- **Married in his 20s**, divorced in his early 30s – they were young, and things moved too fast. The divorce left him flattened for a while, but he found peace in being single and **rebuilding his independence**
- **Single for many years**, slowly developing more self-knowledge and routine. Had a few relationships that didn't last
- Recently met **someone who really gets him**, and they're taking things at their own pace – it's steady, honest, and supportive
- Used to go **clubbing**, loved live music and gigs, and took **drugs socially** in his 20s and early 30s – not addicted, just part of the scene. Still drinks, and might have the odd dabble, but more rarely
- **Still goes out occasionally**, might end up in a club, but feels increasingly out of place. He jokes about being “the oldest person here by 10 years”

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## Hobbies & Interests

- **Football** (lifelong supporter, watches matches with mates, maybe plays 5-a-side now and then)
- **Cycling** (used to ride competitively, now cycles to clear his head)
- **Cars & DIY** (likes tinkering in his driveway, especially with his older motor)
- **Live music** (gigs and festivals when he can, occasional vinyl collector)
- **Barbershop culture** (gets his haircut regularly, loves the banter)
- **Going down the pub** (but not in a “lash” way – for company, stories, chats)
- **Spy fiction fan** – secretly admires George Smiley, imagines himself as a low-key MI5 agent. Sometimes daydreams about having a secret second life

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## Mental Health Positioning

Larry is the public face of what **positive mental health** looks like in everyday British life:

- He **talks about how good he feels**, not just when he's struggling
- He **models openness and banter** without it becoming performative

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- But – and this is key – **there’s nuance**: Larry also has **bad days**, moments of confusion, flatness, anxiety. He sometimes wonders if he’s fooling himself or others
  - He **represents the tension** between public cheer and private reality – and the idea that **talking about good mental health is as important as talking about the bad**
  - Larry’s story encourages us to check in with the people who “seem fine” – because even the happiest-looking people may be **quietly carrying pain**
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## Places You’ll Find Larry

These settings inspire both the short stories and cartoon strips. They include 12th Man partner spaces as well as everyday British life.

### 12th Man-Connected Settings

- A **barbershop**, bantering with his barber about music and football
- **Construction site**, on lunch break talking to a younger colleague about life
- The **gym**, trying to motivate himself and sharing a laugh about ageing
- A **tattoo studio**, contemplating something meaningful but unsure
- **Cycling group**, catching up with old mates and helping a newcomer settle in
- **Football club**, watching a local game or coaching the under-12s
- **Sports social club**, playing darts or watching a game
- **Car garage**, getting advice, chatting, sometimes just hanging around

### Other Private Life Settings

- **On his driveway**, working on his car or having a can with a neighbour
  - **At the pub**, not boozy, just a social regular – where people talk
  - **At home**, dancing to old records, or fixing something in the shed
  - **At a gig**, earplugs in, pint in hand, texting a mate “still got it” while feeling 10 years too old for it
  - **In a club**, confused by the youth and wondering if he took a wrong turn
  - **On the sofa**, watching spy films and fantasising about being recruited
  - **In a supermarket**, joking with the cashier or helping an old friend in the cereal aisle
  - **On a park bench**, having a quiet moment of reflection
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## Visual & Artistic Layers

Larry is designed to work across multiple mediums:

### Core Character Design

- Recognisable, expressive face (grinning but with real nuance)
- Workwear (hi-vis, boots, maybe a flat cap) or everyday casual (trackie, parka)
- Tattoos possibly visible, but not loud – perhaps sentimental or funny
- Usually seen with others – never isolated in frame for long

### Visual Art/Cartoon Applications

- Seen interacting with real 12th Man environments (barbers, gyms, garages)
- Stylised for merch (stickers, posters, t-shirts – e.g. “Larry opens a box of frogs”)
- Scenarios can include surreal humour:
  - Larry in a shop choosing a “Nutcase” for storing actual nuts
  - Larry staring at a single screw in a wall with a face of existential dread

### Animation/Storytelling

- Authentic tone – realistic dialogue and everyday humour
- Stories show subtle mental health themes – not didactic, just honest
- He is **the man we all know**, and the man we all could be

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## Summary

**Lawrence “Larry” Chatman** is a modern everyman: open, warm, funny – but emotionally complex. He represents **what positive mental health looks like in the real world**, across workplaces, pubs, gyms, barbers, and homes. He’s a character for now: a way to get men talking not just about mental illness, but about **the good days**, the normal days, the hard-to-talk-about days – all with a grin and a shrug.