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## TASTER <u>HERE</u>

With the campaigning zeal of Jamie's School Dinners and the pathos of Katie Piper: My Beautiful Face, Shanie Ryan: Survivor's Guilt looks at how Britain treats its survivors of terrorism.

Bringing compassion, candour and personal experience to the debate, Shanie Ryan finds out if the UK's approach to the victims of terrorist attacks is truly fit for purpose in the late 2010s.

Shanie was 20 years old when she stepped onto a Piccadilly line train at King's Cross on 7 July 2005. Seconds later a bomb detonated in the next carriage and her life changed forever.

It took ten years for Shanie to fully come to terms with what happened. A lasting effect has been survivor's guilt- a struggle to accept her survival over another's death, and compensating for it by trying to live life to the fullest.

2017 was Britain's worst year for domestic terrorism since 2005, with 35 people murdered in three separate attacks and hundreds more physically and mentally scarred.

The terrible events also triggered Shanie's own memories and her guilt. Inspired to help the new wave of survivors, she appeared on the BBC to discuss her experiences. She recalled her years of recovery and government failings in treating her trauma, and appealed to the more recent survivors to contact her for advice.

Two survivors from Manchester got in touch, mother Karen and her 20-year-old daughter Sam<sup>\*</sup>. What they relayed to her in separate messages confirmed her fears: that delayed compensation and treatment are creating the same problems she and fellow 7/7 survivors suffered in the days and months after the attack.

Now a TV and radio presenter, Shanie wants to investigate what is being done to help Karen, Sam and the hundreds of survivors of last year's attacks. Is it time for a rethink of how we approach terrorism and its dreadful aftermath?

\*Names changed to preserve anonymity.