EXT - MANCHESTER STREET - DAY 4/1 06.31

Dreamy, exaggeratedly-happy shots of a deserted Manchester street.

The sky is child’s blue, the sun like a child’s drawing, silhouetting the shapes of Old Trafford’s lighting pylons circa 1973.

A very large orange cat is sat patiently on its own on the corner of the street.

From somewhere far away we hear a woman’s voice, soft and gentle and lovely:

    MOTHER
    (Far away)
    Sam. Sam. Can you hear me? It’s Mum.
    Sam? Sammy?
INT - SAM’S FLAT/BEDROOM - DAY 4/1 06.32

Sam wakes with a frightened start, his forehead glistening with sweat.

SAM
Mum?

Then Sam takes in his 1973 room and he realises it was all a dream. He seems disappointed, agitated.
EXT - MANCHESTER STREET - DAY 4/1 09.42

Sam walks down a street of scruffy Victorian back-to-backs, similar to the ones in his dream but in reality the gardens overgrown and poor, cars up on bricks outside.

There is a view of the Old Trafford floodlights but it’s not the same place as his dream and it frustrates him.

He sees a young GIRL looking at him.

**SAM**
Hello. Do you know a boy called Sam Tyler who lives around here? He’d be about your age.

**GIRL**
(Suspicious)
I’m not meant to talk to strange men.
Are you a strange man?

**SAM**
(Admired)
I think I probably am, yeah.

The girl’s MOTHER gestures for her to run back into her house.

**SAM**
(To girl’s mother)
Excuse me, I was looking for -

The woman shuts the door, leaving Sam alone. Again.

Sam looks down the street at where the driver of a goods lorry is being pushed roughly up against the side of his truck by another, much larger, man.

Sam trots down the street towards the incident, smells trouble.

**SAM**
Can I help you?

The thickset man in his thirties, EDWARDS, glances over at Sam with something close to contempt.

**EDWARDS**
Help yourself, mate, is what you can do, and keep on walking.

Edwards knees the driver in the stomach, making him double up with pain.
CONTINUED:

Sam takes out his police badge.
SAM
I’m a police officer.

The affect of this on Edwards is less than impressive.

EDWARDS
Good for you. He’s been a bit of a greedy boy and I’m reminding him of the rules.

SAM
Did you hear what I said? I’m a police officer.

EDWARDS
(Irritated)
I’m working here. Now run along.

Suddenly the driver takes advantage of Edwards’s distraction and makes a bolt for it, legs pumping with fear.

EDWARDS
Bugger!

To Sam’s surprise Edwards gives chase after the driver.

Edwards is running over wasteland after the driver and Sam has no option but to run after them.

SAM
Stop! Police!

Edwards reaches the driver first, hauls him to the ground and starts bashing his face into the mud.

Sam catches up, throws himself on top of Edwards, reaching for his cuffs.

EDWARDS
What the hell do you think you’re doing?

SAM
I’m arresting you for assault. You do not have to say anything but it may harm your defence if you do not mention when questioned something which you later rely on in court.

DRIVER
That’s not how it goes.

Sam clicks the cuffs tight.
EDWARDS

Big mistake, copper.
Sam drags the cuffed Edwards and the frightened Driver into the police station, one in each hand.

Phyllis looks up from her desk, recognises Edwards at once. She looks immediately nervous, obviously intimidated by this man.

EDWARDS
Alright, love. New, is he?

SAM
Shut up.

DRIVER
I want it written down that I had nothing to do with it!

Annie is there, too, very surprised at the sight of Edwards in cuffs.

Sam notices that this routine arrest has had a profound affect on his colleagues, made them jumpy and nervous. As ever he feels outside the group, ignorant.

Edwards growls like an animal at Annie who instinctively steps back.

PHYLLIS
(To Sam)
What’s the charge?

SAM
Assaulting this man –

DRIVER
(Alarmed)
No, he didn’t! We were just wrestling.

SAM
And resisting arrest.

EDWARDS
Shall you tell him, darling, or shall I?

PHYLLIS
(Nervous, To Sam)
Number three’s empty.

Sam twists the cuffs and hauls Edwards into the cell area.
Sam walks into the CID area, brushing the dirt of the earlier struggle from his clothes.

Chris is handing out pieces of torn paper for the weekend’s Grand National sweepstake.

CHRIS
What you got, Ray?

RAY
(Reads)
“Crisp”.

CHRIS
Bastard, he’s drawn the favourite.

Ray is pleased but his expression changes to the usual sneer when he sees Sam.

CHRIS
(To Sam)
Here you go, sir.

Sam takes a piece of paper.

SAM
(Reads)
“Proud Percy”?

CHRIS
Sweepstake for the Grand National on Saturday.

Gene bursts into the room tucking his shirt into his trousers, all rumbustious energy.

GENE
Can someone put some bloody bog roll in the loo?

Gene snatches his sweepstake entry from Chris.

GENE
I had to wipe my arse on Francis Lee.
(Reads)
“Red Rum”.

CHRIS
Never heard of him.

For once Sam recognises a name and he’s very excited.
SAM
I’ll swap you “Proud Percy” for “Red Rum”.

GENE
(Suspicious)
Why?

SAM
(“The Shining” Voice)
RedRum, RedRum.

Gene just looks at him.

The phone goes on Ray’s desk.

SAM
I just like his name.

GENE
You got inside information?

RAY

GENE
What about him?

RAY
(Looking at Sam)
Some prat just arrested him.

There are groans, everyone knows this means trouble.

Sam is clueless.
INT - POLICE STATION/CORRIDOR - DAY 4/1 11.22

Sam walks quickly down the corridor, attempting to catch up with Gene.

SAM
Who is this Charlie Edwards?

GENE
An unpleasant little scrotum. What we in the business call a necessary evil.

SAM
I don’t get it.

GENE
I dunno what it’s like in Hyde but in A division we have a series of checks and balances. It works very nicely, thank you, until some dill from the suburbs starts waving his willy around.

SAM
Checks and balances?

GENE
Edwards works for a local businessman called Stephen Warren. Mr Warren enjoys cordial relationships with the police.

SAM
(Dawning)
He’s bent?

GENE
Bent as a fish hook. But he keeps his streets spotlessly clean, no burglaries, no sex crimes, nothing. Lets us know if any unsavoury characters arrive in the city.

SAM
And what do we do in return?

GENE
For starters, we don’t arrest his right hand man.

Gene opens the door that leads to the Front Desk.
A smiling Edwards is picking up his belongings from a stoney-faced Phyllis as Gene and Sam come through the door.

EDWARDS
Mr Hunt. There’s no need to apologise, it was an honest mistake.

Sam sees that “his” prisoner is being released and he doesn’t like it one bit.

SAM
(To Phyllis)
What’s going on?

PHYLLIS
(Hates it)
The assault charge against Mr Edwards has been dropped.

SAM
What about resisting arrest?

GENE
That’s been dropped, too.

Sam looks appalled.

EDWARDS
Left some free tickets for the boys and girls, Mr Hunt, just to show there are no hard feelings.

SAM
(To Gene)
He’s my detainee, I say when he gets released.

GENE
(Irritable, to Sam)
Shut it.
(To Edwards)
On your way and don’t push it.

EDWARDS
(Cheery)
Of course not, Mr Hunt.
(To Sam)
See you again, Hero.

Edwards smiles at Sam on the way out.
GENE
(To Sam)
What are you doing tonight?

SAM
I can’t believe what I’ve just seen.

Phyllis moves away, hasn’t enjoyed letting Edwards go free.

GENE
Whatever it was, cancel it.
(Bright)
You’re having a drink with me.
Gene and Sam get out of the Cortina.

It’s a damp Manchester night and there is a long line of young people queuing in their long, sombre coats, Bouncers on the door.

“The Warren” in glittery lights above the door.

SAM
What’s this place? You said a quiet little pub.

GENE
Did I?

One of the Bouncers hurries over to Gene, treats him like a celebrity.

BOUNCER
Evening, Mr Hunt.

Gene tosses the Bouncer his car keys.

GENE
Don’t scratch it.

SAM
(Realising)
This is Warren’s place, isn’t it?

Gene looks at the enormous “The Warren” sign.

GENE
No flies on you, are there?

SAM
What are we doing here?

GENE
Furthering your education so you don’t start a bloody war.

SAM
(Hurriedly)
I don’t want anything to do with it.

GENE
You are to do with it, twat.

BOUNCER TWO
Evening, Mr Hunt.
The door is opened and Gene and Sam are ushered by the waiting punters and into the dark corridor of the disco, just the muffled beat from the dance floor.

GENE
You don’t throw stones in my pond.

SAM
I’ve seen where this sort of thing leads.

GENE
So now we have to apologise. I say “we” but I mean “you”.

SAM
No chance, I’ve got nothing to apologise for.

Gene opens the door to the dance floor and suddenly there is a blaze of colour and noise, literally dazzling the delighted Sam.

He follows Gene across the dance floor. The drab coats removed, the dancers are dressed in glittery clothes and huge platform shoes, wild hair and make-up.

They stomp away to Gary Glitter’s “Do You Wanna Touch?”, pretty girls glancing over at Sam and pursing their lips.

In a cage suspended above the dancers and wearing a minuscule glitter bikini is a girl of about 20. Her name is JONI and there is a brief moment when Sam’s eyes meet hers.

Sam is surprised to see Annie, Chris, Ray and some of the other* police officers stomping away in their civvies.

Annie looks gorgeous out of uniform, dressed to the nines, and it’s not lost on Sam.

ANNIE
(Pleased, to Sam)
Hello, didn’t think this would be your scene.

SAM
Come here often?

ANNIE
Only when we get in free on the guest list.
Gene walks up some steps to where a red rope blocks the way to the VIP area.
SAM
(To Annie)
There’s something I want to talk to you about.

Sam follows Gene and Annie, naturally as she’s talking to him, follows Sam.

SAM
A much-loved orange cat called Ivanhoe.

Gene waits as a Bouncer recognises him and removes the red rope.

GENE
(To Annie)
VIP lounge, darling. Don’t think that includes off-duty slags with glitter in their hair, do you?

Annie steps back, cowed.

Sam looks apologetically at Annie but has to follow Gene into the VIP area. The sight that meets his eyes astonishes him:

There are Manchester City and United players of the period socialising together.

SAM
(Amazed)
Bobby Charlton. Francis Lee. Dennis Law.

GENE
(Also impressed)
Half a million pounds wouldn’t buy you that lot.

Then Sam sees Marc Bolan, drinking with a couple of groupie girls.

SAM
(Awed)
Oh my God.

GENE
What?

SAM
That’s Marc Bolan.

GENE
Who?
SAM
Marc Bolan. Lead singer with T-Rex.

GENE
Stay here and don’t touch anything, I’ll tell Warren we’re here.

Gene moves off to talk to another man who is guarding the door to the inner sanctum.

Sam walks nervously over to Mark Bolan, who is talking to the worshipping girls.

BOLAN
If God were to appear in my room, obviously I would be in awe, but I don't think I would be humble. I might cry, but I think he would dig me like crazy.

SAM
Excuse me, Mr Bolan.

Marc Bolan turns to look at Sam.

BOLAN
What happened to your hair, man?

SAM
I just wanted to tell you I’m a big fan.

Gene gestures over from the door for the reluctant Sam to join him. Sam feels a sudden urge to say the responsible thing.

SAM
(To Bolan, quiet)
Drive carefully. Especially in Minis.

Sam wrenches himself away from the puzzled Marc Bolan. He can’t quite believe that he’s said that, after all, none of this is real, right? He follows Gene into the dark interior of the club.
INT - CLUB/BACKSTAGE - NIGHT 4/1 20.10

The still-excited Sam follows Gene down the dark corridor. He laughs to himself at the craziness of it all.

GENE
What?

SAM
Nothing.

GENE
Don’t say anything smart-alec to Warren, it’s not worth the grief. And remember, he keeps a lid on a lot of the crap in this city so you can down get off your Hyde high-horse.

Gene knocks and opens a door.

SAM
I’m still not apologising.
Warren sits behind his desk, master of all he surveys, eyes fixed with great interest on Sam. Warren is in his forties, not a physically intimidating man but with that utter confidence born of power.

He unscrews a bottle of excellent single malt whisky, pours three glasses.

**WARREN**

So you’re the Caped Crusader, Mr Tyler?

**SAM**

I saw a man assaulting another man and I did my job.

**GENE**

He’s very big on doing his job.

**WARREN**

Glad to hear it. It was a regrettable incident.

Warren presses a button under his desk.

The door opens and Charlie Edwards is standing there.

**WARREN**

I believe you have something to say to Detective Inspector Tyler?

**EDWARDS**

(Cheery, to Sam)

Sorry about earlier, sir. Won’t happen again.

Sam is so taken aback he doesn’t know what to say.

Warren gestures at Edwards and he leaves the room again.

Warren pushes a box of Cuban cigars towards Sam and Gene. Gene takes one without hesitation, Sam is tempted but...

**WARREN**

Please, Mr Tyler, it won’t explode.

Sam knows he shouldn’t really but there is such a clubby atmosphere and it feels good. He takes the cigar, rolls it next to his ear.
WARREN
(To Sam)
If you’ll forgive us, I just want a quick word with your man here.
The door opens and Joni and another girl are standing there.

WARREN
(To Sam)
You enjoy yourself.

GENE
(To Sam)
I’ll be right with you, keep her warm for me.
Gene and Sam are having the time of their lives, stomping around to “The Jean Genie” with Joni and another girl, cigars in hands.

People are clapping, enjoying the sight, especially the off-duty cops.

All except Annie, who feels a little jealous if truth be told.

Joni dances flirtatiously close to Sam.

    SAM
    (Loud, above the music)
    You work for Warren, do you?

Joni nods.

    JONI
    Don’t we all?

Joni laughs and continues dancing.
Sam and Gene get out of the Cortina on a rough, silent street, both of them sucking on the butts of their cigars, both a bit pissed, both rather enjoying themselves.

SAM
What are we doing here?

GENE
Bit of business to sort out.

SAM
What sort of business?

GENE
Some dodgy hippies have been fencing nicked electrical goods.

SAM
Hardly CID, is it?

GENE
Stay here if you want.

Sam reluctantly follows Gene into the stairwell of a block of flats.
Gene and Sam stop outside the door of a flat. They can hear Led Zep’s “Stairway To Heaven” playing very loudly from inside the flat.

Sam knocks on the door.

Nothing.

Gene puts his shoulders to the door and shatters the lock.

The door gives onto a living room that is thick with dope smoke and piled high with boxes of cheap electronic goods.

Two scruffy, startled men with long hair look up, one of them rolling a joint on the back of the Led Zep LP cover.

ROYSTON
Who the hell are you?

GENE
Is there anything in this world more revolting than a dishonest hippy?

The two men get up off the sofa, tensing.

BRIAN
We don’t want any trouble, man.

Gene looks to Sam. Sam’s not joining in.

Gene takes the record off the record-player with a ghastly scratching noise and frisbees it out of the room and into the street below.

Sam winces.

GENE
Do you know what I’d do if I was you? Apart from wash my hair, obviously.

ROYSTON
(Suspicious)
What?

GENE
I’d pack up my shitty, un-ironed clothes and I’d be out of this city by daybreak.

Sam looks at Gene, thinks he’s over-reacting.
SAM
I take it you’ve got receipts for these?

Suddenly a very large hippy called Derrick comes charging into the room, smashes an oil lamp over Gene’s head.

Gene goes down and Royston is quickly at him, kicking him in the ribs.

Sam instinctively goes to Gene’s aid, trying to wrench them off of his colleague.

ROYSTON
Stick the pig! Stick him!

Sam turns to see that Derrick is standing there with a knife, his hand shaking.

ROYSTON
Stick him, Derrick!

Sam sends a quick, hard punch straight into Derrick’s face. He goes down like a sack of potatoes.
Sam and Gene walk into the pub. Gene is carrying one of the stolen televisions and Sam is very self-conscious of it.

GENE
It’s a horrible concept, isn’t it? Huge, psychotic hippies fencing stolen tellies.

SAM
(To Everyone)
This is nothing to do with me.

GENE
Stop being such a bloody girl. Think of it as a tax on Bad People.

Several of the CID Officers are there, enjoying a pint or seven at the end of the shift - Chris Skelton; Ray Carling etc

Nelson is behind the bar.

NELSON
What is that, mon brave?

GENE
It’s a television, Chalky.

Sam winces at this.

NELSON
In a pub?

GENE
Ask the Wonder Boy.

SAM
(Hurriedly)
Nothing to do with me at all.

GENE
Tell him what you told me.

SAM
(Sheepish)
I could make some brackets and put it on the wall, then we can watch the sport.

NELSON
(Baffled)
In a pub?
GENE
Large whisky for the short-haired man.
Saved my bacon.
Now that Gene has given his approval there are pats of *congratulations from his colleagues and Sam quite likes it, basks in it.

Sam feels a weight in his jacket. Reaches in and takes out a wad of bank-notes - secured by a bright elastic band - and looks at* them in complete bafflement.

Gene gently but firmly puts Sam’s hand - and the money - back into his pocket so no-one else sees it.

**GENE**
(Quiet, to Sam)
That should keep Warren off our backs for a while.

Sam realises with horror what has happened.

**SAM**
You did that for Warren?

**GENE**
He brought their existence to my attention.

**SAM**
(Alarmed)
But why’s he giving this to me? I didn’t do anything.

**GENE**
Money for old rope, then, isn’t it?

Sam looks genuinely appalled at this development.

**SAM**
I don’t want anything to do with this.

**GENE**
Too late, you took the cigar. *

Gene takes one of Sam’s bank notes and waves it at Nelson. *

**GENE**
(Hard) *
Get the drinks in and grow up. *
Later.

The pub is deserted except for a pretty drunk Sam and Nelson. Sam can’t keep his hands and eyes off the offending money.

    SAM
    All my life I’ve despised bent cops.

    NELSON
    What did you have to do for it, that’s the question?

    SAM
    I smoked a cigar, I danced with a pretty girl.

    NELSON
    It’s hardly Watergate, my friend.

    SAM
    I’m losing it, Nelson. My instincts, everything I believe in. I’m forgetting what I am in all this... madness.

    NELSON
    “Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold;“.

Sam looks at Nelson, very weary.

    SAM
    (Heartfelt)
    I want to go home.

    NELSON
    Me too, Sam. Close the door after you.
INT - SAM'S FLAT/LIVING ROOM - DAY 4/2 08.10

Basil Brush is cackling away on TV.

Sam is dishevelled and hungover, looking at the wad of notes.

BASIL BRUSH
(On Television)
Sam? Sam?

Sam looks up at the television.

Basil Brush is looking straight out at him from the screen:

BASIL BRUSH
(On Television)
What have they done to my beautiful boy?

SAM
(Shocked)
Mum?

BASIL BRUSH
(On Television)
Can he hear me? Can he hear what I’m saying?

Sam touches the screen, moved.

SAM
Mum?

BASIL BRUSH
(On Television)
B-boom!
EXT - MOTHER'S STREET - DAY 4/2 09.12

Sam walks down another Manchester street, squints up at the floodlights. This time they feel right and he’s getting excited.

Sam spins, his senses working overtime, as a rag-and-bone man shouts his presence as his cart rattles down the street.

SAM
(Fond)
Alfie.

Then Sam turns and sees what he has been looking for:

A large orange cat blinks at him from the street corner.

SAM
Ivanhoe.

Sam can’t believe it, walks slowly towards the cat.

SAM
Ivanhoe. It’s me, Sam. Sammy.

The cat runs up the path of one of the identical Victorian houses, disappears through the ajar front door.

It’s a house that Sam remembers.

With a strange mixture of happiness and trepidation, he walks towards the front door.

He is about to press the bell when he gets frightened, his heart-pumping, almost walks away. Then he makes himself presentable, takes a deep breath, and presses the bell.

The door opens to reveal a lovely young woman in her early twenties. She looks a little harassed, her hands soapy from washing-up, a strand of hair flopped across her forehead.

MOTHER
Yes?

Sam just stands there. How many men get to see their mother as a young, living, breathing equal?

He’s so stunned and moved he can’t speak.

MOTHER
Can I help you?

Sam takes out his ID wallet.
SAM
(Hurriedly)
Detective Inspector... Bolan. There have been a spate of burglaries in the area and we’re making some door-to-door enquires.

His Mother suddenly realises she’s talking to a handsome man, a man who she finds oddly attractive.

MOTHER
Burglaries? I didn’t think we have any, not around here.

She takes off her pinny, dries her hands.

MOTHER
Would you like to come in?
Sam follows his young mother into the house. It all seems so familiar to him and yet strange, like a dream.

He instinctively follows the sway of his mother’s hips towards the kitchen.

MOTHER
You’ll have to forgive me, I was just doing the washing-up.

His Mother catches Sam looking at her body and enjoys it.

SAM
(Flustered)
Not at all, Mrs Tyler.

His Mother shows him into the little front room.

Sam looks at the familiar room, the family photographs of his mother and father and his own younger self.

Sam bends down and picks up a well-loved Action Man, a soldier in the British Army.

Sam notices that his Mother is looking at him.

MOTHER
How did you know our name?

SAM
(Quickly)
It’s all in the records.

MOTHER
A real life detective in the house, my son will be very impressed.

SAM
Is he at school?

MOTHER
He’s upstairs in his room. Mumps.

Sam nods, very discombobulated by this information, can’t help looking up at the ceiling and imagining the boy beyond.

MOTHER
I’m really surprised about the burglaries.
SAM

It happens, I'm afraid.
MOTHER
Not around here it doesn’t, honestly.
We move around a lot and this is the safest place we’ve ever been.
(Remembering herself)
Have you got time for a cup of tea?
Later.

Sam is taking tea with his mother! They are getting on well, a little flirting in the air.

SAM
What does your husband do, Mrs Tyler?

MOTHER
He’s a salesman. Not a very good one at the moment, so if anyone does burgle us they’ll be very disappointed.

The cat pads into the room and goes straight over to Sam.

MOTHER
That’s funny. He only normally likes me and Sammy.

Sam is very moved to be stroking his old beloved cat.

MOTHER
I wonder if I should wake Sam up? He’ll be so disappointed to have missed you.

SAM
(Hurriedly)
No, don’t wake him.

MOTHER
He wants to be a policeman one day, so he says.

SAM
He will be.

It’s a slightly strange thing to say and his Mother looks at him quizzically, amused and oddly fond of him.

There is the sound of a key in the front door.

SAM
(Alarmed)
Your husband?

The Mother moves towards the hallway where a large, sweaty man has let himself into the house.
MOTHER
Mr Carroway, I’d really prefer it if you didn’t just let yourself in. My husband is away on business and -

SAM
Is there a problem, Mrs Tyler?

Carroway sees Sam with a mixture of disappointment and irritation.

Carroway
The mouse do play, I see.

Sam doesn’t like his tone, moves towards him.

MOTHER
Mr Carroway, this is Detective Inspector Bolan.

Carroway looks at Sam with interest.

MOTHER
(Embarrassed)
As soon as my husband gets back he’ll pay you this month’s rent -

Carroway
Not to mention the two months before that.

SAM
There’s a law against landlord’s letting themselves into tenanted properties.

Carroway
No, there’s not.

SAM
You can leave now, Mr Carroway, or we can discuss it further down the station.

Carroway
(Quiet, To Sam)
I answer to Mr Warren.

Sam feels the stab of that name again and he doesn’t like it. He manhandles Carroway out of the house.
Carroway
(Genuinely distressed)
He won't like it, he won't like it at all.
Carroway knows he is beaten, summons up a bit of pride and walks towards the front door.

CARROWAY
(Pointed)
I’ll be back to get my money later,
Mrs Tyler, when your friend has gone.

Sam shuts the door on Carroway.

He sees that his Mother is crying. He tries not to but she is so upset and so pretty. He puts his arms around her.

SAM
Sssh. Come on.

Sam leads his Mother into the kitchen, pours her a glass of water.

MOTHER
I’m sorry.

SAM
How much do you owe?

Sam hands her the glass of water.

MOTHER
Lots.

Almost without thinking Sam takes out his roll of notes.

MOTHER
What are you doing?

SAM
I won some money on cards. How much do you need?

MOTHER
(Prickly)
I don’t even know you. Why would I take money from you?

SAM
It’s only money, what does it matter?

MOTHER
There’s no such thing as “only”. Put your money away.

Sam puts the money back in his pocket, sees he has made a mistake.
SAM
There’s a horse running in the Grand National. “Red Rum”. Put your housekeeping money on him, you won’t be disappointed.

MOTHER
Put my family’s last pennies on a horse?
(Angry)
You should meet my husband one day, you’d get on well. I think you should go now.

Sam realises what his mother is thinking.

SAM
I don’t want anything from you. Not in the way you’re thinking.

MOTHER
Goodbye, Detective Inspector.

Sam is upset, ashamed of himself, hurries out of the house.
INT - CLUB/DANCEFLOOR - DAY 4/2 11.41

Sam strides across the deserted dance floor.

In the cold light of the day the place looks grubby and dirty, a complete illusion.

Just an ELECTRICIAN changing some bulbs.

Sam walks towards the door that leads to the behind-the-scenes office.
Sam makes his way down the dark corridor, finds Warren’s door and opens it without knocking.

Warren is sat at his desk, counting out blocks of bank notes, fixing them with bright elastic bands. He looks up as Sam stands in the open door and, if he’s irritated, he doesn’t show it.

**WARREN**

Mr Tyler, what a pleasure. Take a seat.

Sam takes the money out of his pocket, throws it onto the desk.

**WARREN**

What’s this?

**SAM**

It’s yours.

**WARREN**

Really? Where did you find it?

**SAM**

In my pocket.

**WARREN**

Can’t be mine, then, must be yours.

**SAM**

If you try and bribe a police officer again I’ll arrest you.

**WARREN**

Too early for a little sharpener, Mr Tyler?

Warren flourishes a bottle of Scotch.

**SAM**

I don’t care what sort of deals you might have with other officers, you have no deal with me.

**WARREN**

(Amused)

Is that so?
SAM
In fact, I'm going to go out of my way to make life difficult as possible for you.
Warren smiles at this.

WARREN
You’re new here, son, so I’ll let that pass. Others have tried to wear the white hat and all have failed.

SAM
I came across one of your landlords harassing one of your tenants, don’t ever let me see that again.

Warren presses the button on his desk.

WARREN
Give me his name and I’ll see that he’s dealt with.

For a fraction of a second Sam is tempted by this. Then Sam gets angry, sees what Warren is trying to do.

SAM
The easy days are over. I’ll be watching you.

Warren looks at Sam, getting irritated with the game now.

WARREN
So you say, Mr Tyler.

The door opens and Joni is standing there.

WARREN
Show the Detective Inspector out.

SAM
I can find my own way out.

WARREN
What a clever boy. Not too clever for your own good, I hope.

SAM
Every where you go and every thing you do. I’ll be watching.

Joni watches this exchange with intelligent, quizzical eyes.
Sam is sitting with Annie at a corner table, both of them keeping their voices down.

Sam is prodding his food around without much enthusiasm.

ANNIE
You met your mother?

SAM
I know how it sounds.

Annie looks at him, never ceases to be amazed with what he comes up with.

SAM
You don’t believe me, do you?

Annie says nothing but her silence is loud.

Sam rubs his brow, he’s had one hell of a day.

ANNIE
(Lowers Voice)
You look tired.

Sam looks at Annie.

SAM
What do you know about Warren?

A beat. Annie looks uncomfortable.

Annie clearly doesn’t want to have a conversation about Warren. She grabs the local paper and looks at the cinema listings.

SAM
Annie?

Sam is frustrated that no-one will talk about Warren.

ANNIE
Why don’t we go to the flicks or something? You can pay.

Sam smiles at her, grateful for her sparkling eyes and generosity.

SAM
What’s on?
ANNIE
Something called “Mean Streets”. Or
“Carry On Girls”.

Sam can’t help but laugh at her affectionately.

ANNIE
What?
Phyllis comes into the canteen, looking for Sam. She sees him, walks over to his table.

PHYLLIS
How’s the corned-beef hash?

SAM
A triumph, as ever.

PHYLLIS
There’s a girl in the cells asking after you.

SAM
Who is she?

PHYLLIS
Says her name is Joni Newton.

Her name means nothing to him.

SAM
What’s it about?

PHYLLIS
She put a brick through Woolworth’s front window.

SAM
It’s hardly CID, is it?

PHYLLIS
She won’t speak to anyone else but you.
Sam sits in the interview room with Annie.

Opposite them is Joni. She looks dishevelled, upset, vulnerable. A victim.

SAM
You put the brick through Woolies’ window, Joni, not us. Come on now, what is this about?

JONI
Tell her to go and I’ll tell you.

Sam sighs, looks apologetically at Annie.

Annie gets the message, stands up.

ANNIE
I’ll be right outside.

Annie leaves the interview room, closes the door.

A beat as Sam looks at Joni.

JONI
You’re a good dancer for a copper.

SAM
No more games. Tell me what you’ve got to say or I’m out of here.

JONI
(Serious)
I’m frightened. I’m really, really frightened.

This gets Sam’s attention, as it was meant to.

SAM
Frightened of who?

JONI
Stephen Warren.

Sam is suddenly very interested, leans forward.

SAM
Why should you be frightened of him?
JONI
He said he’s going to kill me. But before he does... he says he’s going to...
Joni starts to cry.

SAM
Have you got evidence? I have to have evidence.

JONI
No way.

SAM
(Energised)
Help me nail him. I can’t do anything about a threat.

JONI
I’ll come back when I’m dead, then, shall I?

A beat as Sam considers.

SAM
Why didn’t you tell one of the other officers?

Joni laughs.

JONI
Because they would have told Warren and that would be the end of me.

SAM
(Uncomfortable)
I don’t know what you’re implying.

JONI
That everyone else in this station is bent. That’s what I’m implying.

SAM
I’ll have to talk to the DCI.

Sam gets up.

JONI
(Genuinely alarmed)
No! This place is infested, you know it is.

SAM
What do you want me to do?
JONI
I’m not safe at my place. I’m not safe anywhere in Manchester. Just let me stay with you tonight –
SAM
I’ll arrange for you to stay in one of the cells, you’ll be safe there.

Joni laughs contemptuously.

SAM
I can’t take you home with me. You’re under arrest for damaging property and I’m a police officer.

JONI
Then behave like one! I’ve come to you because I’m in trouble.

Sam looks at her, trying to figure out what to do next.

JONI
If you let me out of here I’ll end up dead. A friend is coming over from Liverpool to pick me up in the morning and you’ll never see me again, I promise.

Sam is torn.

JONI
I’ve got no-one else to turn to. Please, please help me.

Sam hesitates, not sure what to do next.

SAM
Put your coat on.
Sam smuggles Joni out of the back entrance of the station, the one that leads directly into the car park.

She has her hood and collar up.

They nearly bump into Ray coming in the other way.

    RAY
    Watch yourself!

Sam is about to bundle Sam away when Ray pulls her hood down.

    RAY
    Hello, Joni, what you doing here?

    SAM
    She’s a friend of mine.

    RAY
    (Amused)
    Is that right? She’s a friend of a lot of people, aren’t you, Joni?

    JONI
    Not of yours, scum bag.

Ray laughs out loud.

    RAY
    (To Joni)
    Does Mr Warren know you’re out?

Sam has had enough, pulls Joni towards his car.

    RAY
    (After Sam)
    Don’t forget to wash your hands afterwards. Sir.
INT - SAM’S FLAT/KITCHEN - DAY 4/2 18.00

Sam is chopping up fruit - pineapple, mango etc - on a board and mixing it in a bowl with chilli and garlic.

He’s in his element in the kitchen, skilful and in control, listening to T-rex.

Joni comes in from the bathroom, just wearing one of his shirts.

JONI
(Intrigued)
What are you doing?

SAM
Cooking.

JONI
What’s that?

SAM
This is called a mango.

JONI
And that thing?

SAM
That “thing” is a Halapeno chilli.

JONI
Isn’t it easier to open a can of baked beans?

SAM
No. Pour some wine and shut up.

JONI
(Delighted)
Wine?

Joni picks up a bottle of French wine.

JONI
You’re not your normal copper, are you?

SAM
What time will your friend get here?

JONI
Five in the morning. We’ll be gone before you’re even awake.
Sam and Joni are eating at a table in Sam’s living room.

JONI
Chicken and fruit, I wouldn’t have believed it could taste so good.

SAM
It’s a Mexican dish. A chef in Monterrey gave me the recipe.

JON
Where’s Monterrey?

SAM
Mexico.

JONI
(Astonished)
You’ve actually been to Mexico?

Sam nods.

JONI
Were you there for the World Cup?
(Singing)
“Back home they’ll be thinking about us when we are far away” -

SAM
(Cutting in)
Tell me about Warren.

Joni looks serious, knew this was coming.

JONI
I’ve only been at the club a few months. He was really nice when I started.

SAM
What makes a girl like you want to work with a man like that?

JONI
Money, same as everyone else in the world.

SAM
Go on.
JONI

I knew some of the girls did favours for him.
SAM

(Dry)
Helped him decorate the hall, things like that?

JONI

Ha ha. He’d ask them to entertain important people he wanted to impress.

SAM

What sort of people?

JONI


Sam winces at this, still doesn’t want to admit it goes on.

JONI

Then one day he asked me if I’d go out to dinner with some old French bloke he wanted to do business with.

SAM

What did you say?

JONI

I said “no”.

SAM

What did he think about that?

JONI

This is delicious, Galloping Gourmet.

SAM

(Firm)
Joni.

Joni looks unhappily at Sam, knows she has to finish her story.

JONI

I said “no” again. So he got this bloke Edwards in to his office.

SAM

I’ve met Edwards.

JONI

Then you know he’s disgusting, like a disgusting dog. He pushed me over the desk and held my hands down.

(MORE)
They were laughing and Warren lifted up my skirt. I couldn’t see him but I could feel his breath on the back of my neck... he said if I didn’t do it they’d take turns with me and then chuck me in the canal when they were done...

Joni puts her hand in front of her face, too upset to go on.

SAM
Just words, Joni. Men like that like the sound of their own words.

Joni hesitates for a moment, then decides to go on:

JONI
There was this girl from London who came to work at the club. Yvonne. I liked her, she was nice to me. She decided she wanted to leave the club and when she told Warren he went ape and said she couldn’t.

SAM
What happened to her?

JONI
They found her dead in a gutter. Hit and run the police said.

SAM
You think he had her killed?

JONI
I don’t “think”, I know. Everyone knew.

Sam sees how young she is, how miserable she is. He puts his hand on hers.

JONI
Help me, Sam.
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INT - SAM'S FLAT/LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 4/2 23.10

Sam makes sure his front door is double-locked, then turns to * where Joni is tucked up on his bed. *

Joni has the blanket under her chin, watches him as he walks to the window and pulls a open a tiny gap in the curtain.

SAM
If the phone goes don’t answer it, if the door goes don’t open it.

Sam surveys the street. All is quiet.

SAM
I’ll wake you up early and we’ll get you to Liverpool.

JONI
(Genuine)
Thank you, Sam.

SAM
Good night.

JONI
Sam.

Sam looks at Joni.

JONI
Have you got a girlfriend?

A slight beat.

SAM
I used to.

JONI
Where is she?

SAM
A long, long way away.

JONI
In Mexico?

SAM
Even further than that. Anyway, she would have moved on by now. I hope she has.

Sam makes himself comfortable in the chair. *
CONTINUED:

JONI
Do you want me to come in with me? *

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SAM
I’m a police officer and you’re in my care.

JONI
Wouldn’t bother the others.

SAM
I’m not the others.

Sam looks at her, sees how young and vulnerable she looks.

SAM
It’s a beautiful, wonderful life, Joni, too beautiful to be wasted dancing in a rusty cage for a man like that.

JONI
I know.

Sam turns off the light.

JONI
Sam.

SAM
Go to sleep.

JONI
I’m sorry for all the trouble.

SAM
(Gentle)
Go to sleep.
Sam is tossing and turning in his sleep, his forehead damp, almost like he’s in a fever.

The door opens and Sam sits abruptly up in bed. His young Mother is standing there, smiling at him.

MOTHER
(Far away)
Sam. Sam. Can you hear me? It’s Mum. Sam? Sammy?

SAM
Mum?

Suddenly his Mother morphs into Basil Brush.

BASIL BRUSH
Can he hear me? Can he hear what I’m saying?

Sam, terrified, puts his hands over his face.

SMASH CUT TO:

Sam as a boy, dwarfed by the great trees in the wood that whisper and creak in the breeze.

SMASH CUT TO:

A huge plasma screen showing assorted images from 2005 television, news and sport and music.

SMASH CUT TO:

A handcuff being closed around Sam’s wrist by a female hand.

SMASH CUT TO:

The orange cat sitting serenely on the corner of the street.

SMASH CUT TO:

Joni straddling Sam, both of them naked, riding him.

JONI
Sorry for all the trouble, Sam.
The Test Card Girl grins hugely:
TEST CARD GIRL
It’s nothing to be ashamed of, Sam.
You can’t be lonely all the time.

SMASH CUT TO:

His mother’s appalled face when he offered her the money.

SMASH CUT TO:

Gene looking straight into the camera:

GENE
It works very nicely, thank you, until
some dill from the suburbs starts
waving his willy around. Sam? Sam?

SMASH CUT TO:
INT - SAM’S FLAT/BEDROOM - DAY 4/3 08.10

Sam wakes with a start of fear.

To his amazement he is stark naked and cuffed by his wrists and ankles.

He can hear Gene’s voice and fists banging on the flat door:

GENE
(Out Of Vision)
Sam? Sam!

The sound of the front door being shattered.

Sam realises what is about to happen.

SAM
Shit.

Gene appears in the bedroom, takes in the situation at once.

GENE
(Amused)
Morning.

SAM
Piss off.

GENE
WPC Cartwright informed me that you weren’t answering your phone.
(Cheery, over his shoulder)
He’s in here, love.

Sam gives Gene a look - bastard.

Annie hurries in, worried for him. Then her face drops as she sees him spread-eagled on the bed.

GENE
It’s not all badminton and golf in Hyde, eh?

Sam only has eyes for the hurt Annie, who hurries away from the sight.
Sam is trying to rehydrate himself with a large bottle of Tizer as Gene looks on, still amused.

Other CID Officers are working in the background, have heard about Sam’s predicament.

CHRIS
(To Sam)
Had a few calls for you, sir, told ‘em you were all tied up.

RAY
You did wash your hands, sir?

Sam is feeling too ill to rise to their bait.

GENE
Bad dreams, were they?

SAM
I’ve had better.

GENE
Was Lucy there? Did she have her diamond?

SAM
(Grumpy)
What?

GENE
Lysergic acid diethylamide. LSD to you.

CHRIS
Better watch out, sir, that stuff can last for hours.

Phyllis walks through the office delivering paperwork.

PHYLLIS
Several pairs of hand-cuffs missing from stores. If anyone has any ideas...

Laughter.

Phyllis goes up to Sam and this time she is most definitely not joking.
PHYLLIS
I asked you to look after one of my detainees, sir -
Phyllis -

PHYLLIS
I don’t recall asking you to sneak her out of the back door and take her home and sleep with her.

SAM
It wasn’t like that.

GENE
Go easy on him, Phyllis, he’s had a stroll down the Yellowbrick road.

PHYLLIS
Where is she now? She was arrested for causing criminal damage.

SAM
I don’t know.

Phyllis says nothing but her silence is scathing. She walks away.

Sam looks in horror as Chris’ head morphs into that of a young Labrador dog:

LABRADOR
His brain functions and heart rate are all up. Racing.

Now Sam sees Chris’ head morph into a hyena’s:

HYENA
It’s what we’d expect with a change of medication to Pentobarbital. Still, nothing ventured, nothing gained.

GENE
(Lowering voice)
You know who she works for?

Sam is snapped back to reality. Well, 1973.

SAM
What?

GENE
The girl. You know who she works for?

Sam looks back at Chris and Ray, who are back to normal.
SAM
That’s why she came to see me.

Gene looks suddenly serious.

GENE
Don’t be a prick, Sam, don’t you go rocking the boat.

SAM
She’s terrified of him.

GENE
So what?

SAM
He threatened to rape her and then kill her.

GENE
(Incredulous)
He what?

SAM
He threatened to –

Gene bursts into laughter, which irritates Sam intensely.

SAM
I’m glad it amuses you. I was the only officer she trusted enough in here not to hand her over to Warren, how funny is that?

Something snaps in Gene.

He grabs Sam by the ear and wrenches him towards the interview room.

The other CID Officers look on and thank their lucky stars it’s not them.
Gene drags Sam into the room by his ear and slams the door shut.

GENE
Don’t you bloody dare come the self-righteous prick with me! I’ve been working these streets since I was nineteen years old and I’m telling you they’re safer now than they’ve been in a generation. If you want to shag the inmates that’s up to you but don’t you dare chuck shit at me or my officers.

SAM
We’re not talking about a dodgy telly, we’re talking threats of sexual violence and murder.

GENE
You think you know everything, don’t you?

SAM
I know the aroma of rotten apples.

GENE
I happen to know your slag is lying through her teeth. Do you wanna know why?

SAM
Go on.

GENE

A beat.

SAM
(Stunned)
He’s gay?

GENE
As a bloody Christmas tree, my friend. Although he is a little touchy on the subject, being a twisted Catholic with an elderly mother and all, so I wouldn’t mention it to him if I were you.
Sam is confused.

GENE
You challenged his authority so he stitched you up like a kipper. Pretty girl who appealed to your vanity as the only decent Sheriff in Dodge City, slipped you a micky, tied you up and bounced on your ding-a-ling.

SAM
But why?

GENE
I suspect the answer will arrive in the post. Photographs, you idiot. And the next time he asks you a little favour you’ll do it or the photos will end up on the Chief Constable’s desk. And he gets a Christmas Card from Mary Whitehouse, so you’ll be out of here in the time it takes to say Red bloody Rum.

SAM
She was a honey trap?

GENE
Bingo!

A beat as Sam takes it all in.

GENE
(Qieter)
You aren’t the first and you won’t be the last.

Gene goes to leave, pleased he has got through to Sam for once but also feeling a little sorry for him.

GENE
Checks and balances, Sam. You can’t come into our manor and throw your weight around and expect to get away with it.

Gene leaves the room.

Leaving a confused, troubled Sam behind him.
Annie is at a table on her own, the canteen largely deserted, reads a magazine.

Sam watches her for a moment unnoticed, loves the curve of her face and the flash of her eyes.

SAM
May I sit down?

Annie looks up.

ANNIE
Of course, sir.

Sam sits.

Annie goes back to her magazine.

SAM
I’m sorry you had to see what you saw earlier.

Annie looks up again.

ANNIE
Don’t flatter yourself, there wasn’t that much to see.

SAM
(Smiling)
“Mean Streets” or “Carry On Girls”. You choose and I’ll pay.

A beat as Annie looks at Sam.

ANNIE
I don’t think so.

Despite everything, Sam is taken-aback by her answer.

SAM
I can explain everything.

ANNIE
You don’t have to explain anything to me.

SAM
Annie -
ANNIE
I’ve decided something.
SAM
What have you decided?

ANNIE
I’m going to be a really good friend to you.

SAM
A friend? But -

ANNIE
(Genuine, lowering her voice)
With the enemies you’re making you could do with all the friends you can get. You look after yourself, Detective Inspector Tyler. Please.

Annie makes sure they’re alone and then gives him a kiss on the cheek.

She gets up from the table.

SAM
Please, Annie.

ANNIE
(Smiles)
Hey, I got to see you naked. It’s not all bad.

And with a last dazzling smile Annie walks away.

Leaving a really surprised, crestfallen Sam behind.
Sam walks into the club, empty save for Joni and two other girls working on a new routine.

Sam turns the music off, getting their attention.

Joni nods to the other girls and they leave the dance floor. She seems hard, a real moll.

JONI
What do you want?

SAM
You’re a real class act, aren’t you?

JONI
You shouldn’t be here, it’s dangerous.

SAM
So you said. You seem to have survived.

JONI
I do what I have to do.

SAM
Where are the photographs?

JONI
Being developed.

SAM
“Please help me”.

Joni looks around, lowers her voice.

JONI
I’m sorry, I was just doing a job.

SAM
You have a gift for lying.

JONI
Some of it was true. This is a dangerous place for you, Sam, and you shouldn’t be here.

SAM
Are you lying to yourself, though, that’s the question?
CONTINUED:

JONI
Think what you want.
SAM
You’re a loser, Joni – or whatever your name is. You live in fear, which isn’t living at all. I don’t live in fear. I’m alive.

Sam turns and leaves Joni standing alone in the middle of the dance floor.
Sam is leaving the club when he hears raised voices by the exit. He pushes himself into the shadows, inches forward until he can see where Gene and Warren are arguing.

WARREN
He had it coming to him, little prick.

GENE
You do not humiliate my Officers!

WARREN
If you can’t keep your people in line I’ll do it for you.

GENE
I’m the Sheriff, Warren, and don’t you ever forget it.

WARREN
No, no, Mr Hunt, you’re a bent sheriff. Don’t you ever forget that.

Sam sees the look of anger on Gene’s face.
EXT - MOTHER’S STREET - DAY 4/3 12.20

Sam stands nervously across the street from his Mother’s house.

His Mother is pruning in the tiny little front “garden”, the cat purring away around her legs.

Sam plucks up courage, walks over to her.

SAM
Mrs Tyler.

His Mother turns. Despite everything, she seems pleased to see him.

SAM
(Tongue-tied)
The money... it must have appeared crass and insensitive to you. And I don’t think I am. I know I’m not.

MOTHER
You don’t think you’re what?

SAM
Crass and insensitive.

MOTHER
Oh.

SAM
You might have thought the money was dodgy. Hot. It wasn’t. Well, it was a little bit. But I gave it back. All of it.

Sam’s Mother doesn’t have a clue what he’s talking about.

MOTHER
That’s good, then.

SAM
I’m not a bent cop. I just wanted you to know that.

MOTHER
Now I know.

The sound of a boy coughing from an open upstairs’ bedroom. The young Sam!

SAM
How is he?
MOTHER
Much better, thank you.

A beat, Sam and his Mother looking at each other. Sam looks away first.

SAM
I’d better be going.

MOTHER
Naughty men to arrest?

SAM
Exactly. Good bye, Mrs Tyler.

MOTHER
Good bye, Inspector Bolan.

Sam turns and reluctantly leaves his young Mother, starts to walk away.

MOTHER
Inspector.

Sam turns at the sound of her voice.

MOTHER
I’m going to buy him a treacle tart tomorrow, his favourite. For being such a brave boy with the mumps.

SAM
And custard.

MOTHER
And custard.

SAM
With the skin on.

His Mother laughs, can’t work him out.

MOTHER
You’d be very welcome to drop in, if you’re passing. He’d really like to meet a real police officer.

Sam is touched by this offer.
A subdued Sam is sat up at the bar talking to Nelson.

The rest of the CID Officers – Gene; Ray; Chris – are stood around the television as the horses parade before the Grand National.

Some uniformed officers keep a distance, including Annie who keeps glancing over at Sam.

NELSON
Are those brackets gonna hold that telly, man?

SAM
Of course they will. I worked in a DIY store in my Gap Year.

NELSON
Your what year?

SAM
(Weary)
The brackets will hold.

Over at the television Ray’s horse is on screen.

RAY
Come on Crisp, you bastard!

GENE
Turn him into glue!

NELSON
How were the chillies?

SAM
Good. Strong.

NELSON
Bit too strong I hear.

Nelson does an on-acid bombed face.

A bell rings in the private area behind the bar and Nelson goes to answer it.

A cheer goes up around the television and Sam turns to look at Gene, Ray and the others.
(To Sam)

Anything in the post yet?
SAM
Not yet.

GENE
Probably trying to blow it up so they can actually see something.

Some of the Officers laugh at Sam, who raises his glass mockingly to them.

Nelson reappears.

NELSON
Mr Tyler. Someone out back to see you.

SAM
(Suspicious)
Who is it?

Nelson lifts the flap in the bar and Sam goes behind the bar.

GENE
(Shouting)
And they’re off!
INT - RAILWAY TAVERN/BACKSTAIRS - DAY 4/3 14.04

Nelson shows Sam to an area of crisp boxes and pickled eggs and crates.

We can hear the grandstand commentary on the Grand National and shouts from Gene, Ray and the others.

Nelson flicks a switch and Joni is standing beneath a naked bulb. She looks good, healthy and well, dressed in a coat, a suitcase at her side.

Nelson leaves them to it.

SAM
You deliver the photographs yourself?
Very classy.

JONI
There are no photographs and I’ve got the negatives. The guy developing them is a friend of mine.

SAM
You expect me to believe that?

Joni hands Sam the negatives.

She takes a lighter from her pocket and sets fire to them.

SAM
Even if it’s true, why would you do this?

JONI
I couldn’t stop thinking about what you said. It is a beautiful life. Should be, anyway. You know you asked me why I started working for a man like that?

SAM
Money, I think you said.

Raised voices from inside the pub as horses fall.

JONI
My Mum and Dad used to have a successful cash and carry business until Warren decided he wanted it.

(MORE)
And then he started saying Dad had fiddled the books and he was going to go to the police. And the police, as we know, are his friends.
SAM
You set me up. I don’t believe a word you’re saying.

JONI
Yes, you do.

Joni knows Sam wants to believe her, knows this is the real Joni in front of him now.

JONI
My Dad’s dead. The doctor said cancer but I know it was stress. Then Warren turned on my Mum, said she’d have to go to prison instead.

Sam is very frustrated by this story.

SAM
Joni -

JONI
He said if I danced at his club and was nice to some of his friends...

Joni wavers, upset.

SAM
If you’re throwing me another line -

Joni shakes her head and he believes her.

JONI
Setting you up was my last job. He said if I did that he’d let me go. But he never will, will he? He was lying to me and I was lying to myself.

SAM
I’ll nail him, Joni, but you have to give me the ammunition. Will you give evidence against him?

She shakes her head.

JONI
Don’t stand up to him, Sam, he’ll have you.

SAM
What will you do?
JONI
Mum and me are going on a trip, a long way away from people like him.

SAM
Where will you go?

JONI
Dunno. I hear Mexico is nice.

Sam smiles at her. Admires her.
Sam re-enters the bar just as Red Rum and Crisp fight their famous fight to the finishing line.

RAY
Go, Crisp! Go you bastard!

GENE
Red Rum! Come on!

Red Rum wins and Gene hollers with joy.

Ray rips his piece of paper up.

CHRIS
(Pointed)
Proud Percy fell at Beechers Brook, sir. They had to shoot him.
Sam is asleep on the sofa.

He wakes with a start. Someone is knocking at his door. Loudly.

The Test Card smiles out through the static.

Sam makes his way to the front door, more nervous than usual.

SAM
Who is it?

GENE
(Out Of Vision)
It’s me.

Sam unlocks the door to reveal a serious-looking Gene.

SAM
I’m not cuffed to the bed, sorry to disappoint you.

GENE
Get your coat.

SAM
What time is it?

GENE
Get your coat.
EXT - CANAL STREET - NIGHT 4/3 23.59

A dark, damp night, the street lamps shimmering in the dirty water of the canal.

Sam and Gene walk towards a gaggle of uniformed officers, a few out-late rubber-neckers held back by police tape.

Chris and Ray are there, talking to local people who might have heard something.

They look up as Gene and Sam arrive.

Gene nods at Chris who stoops and removes a blanket from the sodden corpse they have fished from the canal.

Sam looks down on the body of Joni Newton. Her throat has been cut, her eyes stare glassily up at him.

Sam feels physically sick, shocked to his core.

RAY
(To Chris)
He might as well have slit her throat himself.

Sam stands quietly up, almost as if he didn’t hear Ray. Then he turns and speaks to him, his voice quiet:

SAM
What did you say?

Ray looks around for support from Gene or Chris but isn’t getting any.

SAM
What did you say?

RAY
(Nervous now)
Nothing.

SAM
Be a brave boy. Tell me what you said.

GENE
Come on, Sam.

SAM
(Insistent)
If he’s got something to say I want to hear it.
RAY
If you don’t play the game people get hurt. You didn’t play the game, she paid the price.

A beat as Sam appears to take this in.

Then he is at Ray’s throat, smashing his face against the under-curve of the bridge.

RAY
Get him off! Get him off!

It takes all of Gene and Chris’ strength to prise Sam away from Ray.

RAY
Nutter!
Gene has parked the Cortina in the middle of some wasteland, a hangover from the Second World War.

The sun is trying to come up above the roof tops.

Gene and Sam lean against the car, watch the sunrise unfold.

Gene passes Sam a bottle of Scotch that has already taken a bit of stick.

**GENE**

First job I ever had in the force, pounding the street as an nineteen year old Flat Foot. Me and Jack Pike were teamed up with this bloke Harry Outhwaite. He’d been on the beaches at Normandy, won a medal, never talked about it, you know the sort. He had flat feet, breath that could strip the fur off a badger, never did his paperwork. But he was a legend, Harry was.

Gene takes a big swig of Scotch.

**GENE**

There was this gangster knocking around town in them days, made a lot of money during the War, had a lot of coppers and politicians in his pocket.

**SAM**

Plus ca change.

**GENE**

What?

**SAM**

Go on.

**GENE**

We found out Harry was taking the odd back-hander to look the other way.

**SAM**

What did you do?

**GENE**

Jack did what most shiny, moral, just-shaving new kid on the block would do.  
(MORE)
Shopped him. I kept my mouth shut and my head down.
GENE
Everyone hated Jack for squealing. They gave him the cold shoulder, sent him to Coventry. The people he admired, the people he wanted to be, they didn’t want him in their club.

SAM
He did the right thing.

Gene isn’t listening.

GENE
He couldn’t handle it. Hung himself with his belt.

Sam looks at Gene, has rarely heard him open up like this.

SAM
How did that make you feel?

GENE
Like shit

SAM
How does it make you feel now?

GENE
I try not to think about it. I do the best job I can, I try and look after my men and the people in my city.

SAM
When you do think about it, how do you feel?

GENE
Like there’s an animal eating away at my insides.

A beat.

SAM
Do you fancy doing something about it?

GENE
Thought you’d never ask.
INT - SLAUGHTERHOUSE - DAY 4/4 07.00

We are in the silent interior of a large industrial slaughterhouse.

Row after row of dead cows, all skinned and hanging from hooks.

In the corner of the slaughterhouse are the swing metal doors that lead to the industrial refrigerator.
The huge fridge is stacked with frozen cuts of meat.
Sam and Gene are wearing thick coats, hats and gloves.
Which is not the case for Edwards, who is shivering in his trousers and nylon shirt.

EDWARDS
You must need your bloody heads examining.

SAM
Who killed Joni Newton?

EDWARDS
Up your arse, copper, you’ll be dead by the end of the day.

SAM
Was it you?

Edwards spits in Sam’s face and Gene sends an iron fist hammering into Edwards’s stomach, doubling the man up.

GENE
(To Sam)
Done with the questions?

SAM
I tried.

GENE
You did.

With that Gene turns to Edwards.

GENE
Take your clothes off.

EDWARDS
What’s got into you, Hunt? I mean this little shit is a wanker but you’ve been well looked after, you know the score, you know what will happen.

GENE
Take ‘em off or I’ll take ‘em off for you and I so, so do not want to do that.
(To Sam)
Bloody hell, it’s chilly in here.
SAM
It can get much colder than this.
Sam turns the temperature dial down even further.
Edwards starts to unbutton his shirt, teeth chattering.

EDWARDS
He’ll have you both for this.

GENE
My friend is going to ask you some questions. Personally, I hope you don’t answer them because I want you to die in here and end up inside a pork pie.

SAM
Who murdered Joni Newton?

Edwards says nothing.

GENE
Trousers.
Edwards is getting frightened now, they’re going further than he ever thought.

EDWARDS
Please –

GENE
Don’t talk to me! TROUSERS.

Edwards’s fingers are trembling so much with cold he can barely unbuckle his belt.

SAM
Who murdered Joni Newton?

Edwards’s trousers drop around his ankles to reveal his white skin and purple Y-fronts.

GENE
Sod it, let’s leave him in here.

SAM
(To Edwards)
Are you going to answer my question?

Edwards just shakes and shivers, his hands clutched around his chest for warmth.
Silence.
SAM  
(To Gene)  
You’re right, let’s go.

Sam and Gene make ready to leave.

EDWARDS  
(Alarmed)  
I can’t tell you, he’ll kill me!

GENE  
At least it would have been a warm death.

Gene picks up Edwards’s clothes and leaves the refrigerator, Sam right behind him.

Gene locks the fridge door and Sam and Gene stand with their backs against it.

A beat.

GENE  
How did you know Red Rum was gonna win the National?

SAM  
Just a hunch.

GENE  
(Suspicious)  
You didn’t have inside information? A little bird in the racing fraternity?

SAM  
I wouldn’t do a thing like that, would I?

GENE  
I didn’t think you’d lock a murder suspect in a giant fridge.

SAM  
He didn’t answer my question.

GENE  
I’ve a feeling he will.

Edwards’s fist start to thump against the doors, frantic.

SAM  
How’s that animal in your stomach?
Gene looks down at his belly. Considers.
Gene and Sam turn and open the doors.

Edwards is there, shivering, frightened and miserable.

Sam
Who killed Joni Newton?

Even now Edwards hesitates, his fear of Warren that great.

Edwards
She was meant to be your honey trap. When she didn’t come through Warren went ballistic. Slit her throat. I put her in the canal.

Sam knew all this really but hearing it sickens him. His head drops.

Gene
(Firm)
Job to finish, Sam.
The place is heaving with glittery punters as Sam and Gene make their stoney-faced way through the club.

Sam glances up at the cage where Joni once danced. Another girl has replaced her.
Gene and Sam walk down the dark corridor towards Warren’s office.

GENE
D’you like this music?

SAM
Yeah, I do. Don’t you?

GENE
Just a bit of noise really, isn’t it?
My wife and I like Roger Whittaker.
Know him?

SAM
Not intimately.

GENE
Keep it to yourself, though, we all have our guilty little secrets, don’t we?

SAM
Indeed we do.

Gene gently tries the handle of the door. Locked.

With that Gene slams open the door of Warren’s office to find him on his knees and sucking off a young Rent Boy.

Warren jumps to his feet, outraged and humiliated, fumbling with his own trousers.

The Rent Boy smells trouble and makes a bolt for it.

GENE
I’m not a Catholic myself, Mr Warren, but isn’t there something about Thou Shalt Not Suck Off Rent Boys?

WARREN
How dare you come in here?

GENE
That’s what you could have said to the boy!

SAM
Stephen Warren, I’m arresting you on suspicion of the murder of Joni Newton.
WARREN
You can’t touch me, son, I own you.

SAM
You do not have to say anything but it may harm your defence if you do not mention when questioned something which you later rely on in court.

GENE
That’s not how it goes.

WARREN
One phone call and I’ll be out again. And your life, Mr Hunt, won’t be worth living.

GENE
Come on, Wendy Warren, get your handbag and we’ll be off.

Warren hates this, passes an imaginary knife across his throat.

GENE
(Genuine)
Which would you prefer? Out through the front, cuffed, humiliated in front of your punters? Or nice and quiet out the back?

WARREN
(Grudgingly)
Out the back.

GENE
That’s what I thought.
Sam and Gene roughly lead the cuffed Warren through the dancers, which part like the Red Sea.

Some of Warren’s Men move to help him but there is a steeliness in Sam and Gene’s eyes that makes them step back again.
Sam and Gene walk into the pub.

There are various CID Officers there – Ray; Chris – and assorted Uniforms at their own tables, including Annie.

They are noticed and the whole pub bursts into spontaneous applause, a few people even stand. But there’s a serious undertow to it, no smiles – they know there will be repercussions.

Ray – his face still showing signs of his battering – manages a few half-hearted claps.

This time it is the applause of proud men and women, grateful that Sam and Gene have made a stand on their behalf.

Phyllis walks by with some drinks.

    PHYL LIS
    (Quiet, to Sam)
    Thank you.

Gene is especially touched, puffs his chest out.

Sam looks over at Annie, wants to know how she’s thinking. She raises her glass to him.
Later.

Gene and Sam are at their own table at the fag-end of a long night in the pub, the place thick with smoke.

Nelson is cleaning up the dirty glasses.

**GENE**
There is no way you can police a modern city without a bit of give and take.

**SAM**
Checks and balances? It can’t work like that. Every copper has to be whiter than white or the whole thing falls apart.

Nelson is saluting the image of the Queen on the television as the National Anthem plays.

**GENE**
You’re living in cloud cuckoo land, Sam.

**SAM**
Otherwise it spreads like a cancer. A free cut of meat from the butcher at Christmas. Waving the paperwork through for a man with a funny handshake. And one day you wake up and your entire body is riddled with cancer and you hadn’t even noticed and then you’re in real trouble.

Gene just looks at Sam.

**GENE**
Cheerful bastard to have a drink with, aren’t you? We’re celebrating!

**SAM**
What will happen to Edwards and Warren?

**GENE**
Edwards’ll end up floating in the same canal as the girl, Warren’ll see to that. Warren will get the best lawyers money can buy, he’ll oil the wheels of justice.

(MORE)
But we’ll still send him down for a year or two, he’ll hate that.

SAM
(Disappointed)
A year?

GENE
Don’t knock it, never been done before.
(Serious)
You did well, Sam. Every officer will walk a bit taller tomorrow because of you.

Sam is touched by this tribute.

GENE.
(Shouting)
Nelson! I’m thirsty!

NELSON
(Southern American Negro)
Yes, sir, Mr Hunt boss. Chop dem cotton.

A beat as they watch Nelson get them fresh drinks.

SAM
Do you really think Warren will stir the streets up?

Suddenly a window of the pub caves in as it is blasted with a shotgun from outside.

Gene and Sam instinctively throw themselves to the floor as the shot peppers the astonished Nelson’s bar, shattering a jar of pickled eggs and winging the cardboard bikini girl with the salted peanuts.

The screech of tyres outside as a vehicle accelerates away.

Sam and Gene lie on the dirty floor of the pub, covered in shards of glass.

GENE
I think he might, yeah.

Sam and Gene laugh, enjoying each other’s company.
Sam walks up to the front door of his Mother’s house. He’s well-dressed and groomed, has a bunch of flowers in one hand, a wrapped present in the other.

He knocks but nobody answers.

The door gently swings open.
Sam wanders through the hastily-deserted house.
There are scattered papers, pieces of Leggo.
He looks up at the ceiling.
Plucking up courage, Sam walks slowly up the oddly-familiar stairs.
He knows which was his bedroom, goes straight to it.
It’s empty save for a bed and a mattress, some scattered comics.
A very strange, moving moment for Sam.
He squats down to inspect a photograph.
It’s the picture from episode one, of young Sam in an over-sized policeman’s helmet.
Sam, deeply moved, holds the photograph as if it were a Da Vinci.
Sam lies on his sofa, looking up at the ceiling, deep in thought.

The photograph is propped up on the mantelpiece.

His eyelids are heavy.

He starts to sleep.
INT - RAILWAY TAVERN - DAY 4/6 06.00

The pub is deserted this early in the morning, just the traffic rumbling outside.

A long beat.

The weight of the television splinters Sam’s feeble DIY shelves and as it crashes to the floor it switches itself on:

First we see the young Roger Whittaker with his guitar: “No you won’t believe in if any more, if’s an illusion, if’s an illusion...

Then the screen switches to Basil Brush who looks right out at us:

BASIL BRUSH
Sleep well, darling. Mum’s here. Mum will always be here. One day you’ll wake up and I’ll still be here. I love you.

The dot of the television disappears into oblivion.

THE END