

**SCENE 1. MICHELLE'S LIVING ROOM. INT. STUDIO. (DAY 1). 0850.**

CAM 2.

CHRIS WAKES UP ON THE SETTEE. HE IMMEDIATELY SITS UP IN HORRIBLE SHOCK. HE TAKES HUGE INTAKE OF NOISY AIR.

**CHRIS:**

(BREATH) Oh my God! What have I done?

CUT TO: BAR SALADE

**SCENE 2. BAR SALADE. INT. STUDIO. (DAY 1). 0851.**

CAM 5.

ALEX WAKES UP ON THE BAR. HE SITS UP IN HORRIBLE SHOCK. HE TAKES HUGE INTAKE OF BREATH.

**ALEX:**

(BREATH) Oh my God! My asthma is back!

CUT TO: GRANT'S OFFICE

**SCENE 3. GRANT'S OFFICE. INT. STUDIO. (DAY 1). 0851.**

CAM 1

GRANT WAKES UP AT HIS DESK. HE IMMEDIATELY SITS UP IN  
HORRIBLE SHOCK.  
HE TAKES A HUGE INTAKE OF NOISY AIR.

**GRANT:**

(BREATH) Oh my God! How could she do this to me?

CUT TO: BAR SALADE

**SCENE 4. BAR SALADE. INT. STUDIO. (DAY 1). 0853.**

CAM 5.

JENNY IS ALREADY AWAKE. SHE POPS UP FROM BEHIND THE BAR,  
TAKES HUGE INTAKE OF NOISY AIR.

**JENNY:**

(BREATH) Oh my God! Why does everyone in Manchester sleep at work?

CUT TO: VT MICHELLE'S BEDROOM

**SCENE 5. MICHELLE'S BEDROOM. INT. STUDIO. (DAY 1). 0854.**

SOVT DUR TBC

MICHELLE WAKES UP. SHE SITS UP IN SHOCK AND HORROR. SHE TAKES HUGE INTAKE OF NOISY BREATH.

**MICHELLE:**

(BREATH) Oh my God! Bruce Willis' character was actually dead all along!

**SCENE 6. MICHELLE'S LIVING ROOM. INT. STUDIO. (DAY 1). 0920.**

CAMS 5, 4, 3, 2.

CHRIS IS PACING AND SQUEAKING.

**CHRIS:**

Eeeeeee. Eeeeeee. Eeeeeee.

MICHELLE COMES DOWN THE STAIRS READY FOR WORK.

**MICHELLE:**

And an eeeeeee eeee eeee to you too.

**CHRIS:**

(TURNING TO HER) Michelle. I'm worried, I'm terrified.

**MICHELLE:**

Awwww. Chris I've told you, nobody cares that you've a head that's visible from space.

**CHRIS:**

Don't you see. You? Me? Doing...

CHRIS MAKES SEX NOISES.

**MICHELLE:**

To be fair Chris it was more...

MICHELLE MAKES ONE SEX NOISE.

**CHRIS:**

My girlfriend's dumped me. Grant's devastated. We've blown apart our entire friendship group!

**MICHELLE:**

Oh Chris. I know you're worried about me but I'll be fine. Grant will forgive me, he always does. I'll buy him some bubble gum. Probably laughing to himself right now.

EXIT MICHELLE. CHRIS IS DEVASTATED.



**SCENE 7. GRANT'S OFFICE. INT. STUDIO. (DAY 1). 0950.**

CAMS 5, 3, 2, 1.

GRANT'S OFFICE. GRANT IS LAUGHING EVILLY TO HIMSELF. /

**GRANT:**

Oh how I wish I was dead.

GRANT IS TRYING TO BE CALM. HE TAKES SEVERAL DEEP BREATHS  
HE LOOKS AT THE FRAMED PICTURE OF MICHELLE ON HIS DESK.

HE BEGINS TO DRAW ON THE PHOTO.

**MICHELLE:**

Morning! I've brought you a coffee and..... a gingerbread biscuit. Then I ate it. But then I passed a newsagent and bought you..... Some bubble gum!

GRANT IS UNIMPRESSED.

**MICHELLE:**

Look I'm clutching at straws here Grant, I know you might be a teeny weeny bit upset about the whole 'me sleeping with Chris, you walking in, me having to wipe myself off on that scarf you bought me' silliness and I want to make it up to you.

GRANT IS UNIMPRESSED.

**MICHELLE:** (CONT.)

(CROSSING TO THE COAT STAND). It just seems like I give and I give and I give and....

SHE TURNS TO HIM.

BUT HE'S NOT THERE.

**MICHELLE:** (CONT.)  
Grant?

**GRANT:**  
WHORE!

MICHELLE IS UPSET.

**SCENE 8. MICHELLE'S LIVING ROOM. INT. STUDIO. (DAY 1). 1230.**

CAMS 4, 3, 2, 1.

CHRIS IS READING.

MICHELLE ENTERS UPSET.

**CHRIS:**

(LOOKING UP FROM HIS BOOK) She's back. Ruiner of lives, torturer of hearts and customer of Netto.

**MICHELLE:**

Oh don't you start. Can you believe Grant called me a whore? All I did was act like a whore. It's so unfair.

**CHRIS:**

Well, you did jilt him at the altar.

**MICHELLE:**

I didn't love him!

**CHRIS:**

Cheat on him with Alex.

**MICHELLE:**

I was blinded by man nipples!

**CHRIS:**

Cheat on him with me.

**MICHELLE:**

Yes that was rank.

**CHRIS:**

And make him overly flatulent with the amount of gum you've foisted on him.

**MICHELLE:**

Grant loves farting!

**CHRIS:**

(PUTTING HIS BOOK DOWN) You're abominable! I've lost my girlfriend because of you.

**MICHELLE:**

I don't recall you asking me to stop.

**CHRIS:**

I couldn't with a mouthful of pubic hair.

\* FAST CUT NEXT PAGE

**MICHELLE:**

How dare you! I wax religiously.

**CHRIS:**

Well someone needs to revisit the burning bush before it chokes the Israelites.

**MICHELLE:**

You can talk, looking at your mound was like looking at the top of your head, only with a tiny bald mouse nesting in it.

**CHRIS:**

For God's sake, (RISING) this is the reason I don't want anything to do with women again. I'm solely hanging around with men from now on. Simple straightforward men.

**MICHELLE:**

Oh you can't leave yet. Jenny want's to say hello.

**CHRIS:**

(TURNING BACK) Who the hell is Jenny?

**MICHELLE:**

She's my best friend! Scottish, snappy dresser works in Bar Salade.

CHRIS IS NON PLUSSED.

**MICHELLE:** (CONT.)

You've met her a hundred times. You went camping together! Her dad got you tickets to the Mama Mia premiere!

**CHRIS:**

No. Doesn't ring any bells.

HE OPENS THE DOOR, ENTER JENNY. CARRYING BOX (WITH UNSEEN PUPPY). SHE PUTS IT DOWN.

**JENNY:**

There you go! One lovely, glossy, beautiful, cuddly, spiky, sweet smelling. Oh my God Chris, what's happened to you?

**CHRIS:**

I have never met this woman.

\* FAST CUT NEXT PAGE.

**MICHELLE:**

His girlfriend left him.

**CHRIS:**

You weren't in the last series.

**JENNY:**

(COUGH) You've lost your girlfriend? Awww, well you know what they say, the best way to get over a woman...

**CHRIS:**

Is to get under another one. I know, I know.

JENNY AND MICHELLE ARE SHOCKED.

**JENNY:**

Oh my God I was so not going to say that..

**MICHELLE:**

That's disgusting Chris I'm so disappointed in you.

**CHRIS:**

Oh God, I'm so sorry, I really didn't mean to offend you, I teach women's studies I'm a total feminist.

**MICHELLE:**

You were going to say it weren't you?

**JENNY:**

I so was. Bless him.

THEY GIGGLE AT CHRIS.

**CHRIS:**

Oh you women are all the same. I'm off to find some reliable manly company.

HE HULKS then exits.

MICHELLE AND JENNY WATCH HIM LEAVE.

**JENNY:**

So Chris is single?

**MICHELLE:**

What do you think?

**JENNY:**

(TURNING TO MICHELLE) Is he looking?

**MICHELLE:**

For what?

**JENNY:**

Looking for the lost city of Atlantis Michelle. Is he looking for a girlfriend?

**MICHELLE:**

Oh I don't know. He's just broken up with someone and he's my flatmate and, to be honest the sofa's not dry from the last time I shagged him.

**JENNY:**

I like him. I really like him.

**MICHELLE:**

Darling you like cheap lager and even cheaper shoes. You're no judge.

**JENNY:**

No. Speaking of cheap lager I should get to work.

**MICHELLE:**

You've just got here!

**JENNY:**

I know, but you bore me and your sofa smells of hormones.

THEY PLAY FIGHT.

**SCENE 9. BAR SALADE. INT. STUDIO. (DAY 1). 1250.**

CAMS 5, 3, 2.

ALEX IS BODY BUILDING WITH two wine bottles.

CHRIS ENTERS. HE HAS PADDED HIMSELF OUT TO LOOK MUSCLEY.  
BADLY.

**CHRIS:**  
RAAAAAAAAAA!

HE TRIES TO LIFT THE BREAKFAST BAR.

CHRIS CROSSES TO A TABLE AND TRIES TO LIFT IT.

**CHRIS:**(CONT.)  
Owww a splinter.

**ALEX:**  
All right Shirley?

**CHRIS:**  
Yeah man.... Yeah.

CHRIS SPITS ON THE FLOOR.

**ALEX:**  
What did you do that for?! I've just buffed that!

**CHRIS:**  
Cos I like it.

CHRIS SWAGGERS UP TO ALEX.

**ALEX:**  
Well I don't.

**CHRIS:**  
Sorry! I'll get it.

CHRIS DUCKS DOWN.

CHRIS GETS ON HIS KNEES AND WIPES THE FLOOR WITH A LOVELY SPOTTED HANKERCHIEF.

**ALEX:**

(LEANING OVER BAR) So... Ida. You been working out? You're erm.... Looking pretty buff.

**CHRIS:**

(STANDING) Well you know, my pilates class is pretty intense yeah?

**ALEX:**

Oh aye?

**CHRIS:**

Er... Aye. And I've been doing a lot of... breathing exercises. Feeling that burn.

ALEX LAUGHS.

**ALEX:**

Your shoulder pad's slipping.

**CHRIS:**

Oh damn....

**ALEX:**

What's all this in aid of Chris? Are you planning on becoming the world's gayest American Footballer?

**CHRIS:**

It's... I'm having a tough time with women and....

**ALEX:**

Shockedy shock shock. Shock shock and blow me off with a feather.

**CHRIS:**

I thought I could talk to you. Hang around with you because you just sort of travel through life without thoughts or feelings or...

**ALEX V/O:**

Must not cry, must not cry.

ALEX BITES HIS CHEEKS AND BLINKS.

**CHRIS:**

Are you OK?

**ALEX:**

(HIGH) Yes.

**CHRIS:**

So how did you become like you are-insensitive and flippant?

alex looks hurt/taken aback.

**CHRIS:**(CONT.)

Just tell me how to do it. How to be an unfeeling uncaring oaf.

**ALEX:**

(SARCASTIC) It takes years of practice. I spent six years at buffoon college training before I rose to the heady heights of oaf.

**CHRIS:**

Well I need a quick fix solution. I just can't be around women so I need to embrace my masculine side.

CHRIS HULKS AT ALEX

**CHRIS:**(CONT.)

Grrrraaaaaaa!

**ALEX:**

What are you doing?

**CHRIS:**

I'm being you.

**ALEX:**

In your dreams. Is that how you see me, I'm offended.

**CHRIS:**

I want to be like a manly lumberjack type chopping logs, building fires I want to bite beavers.

**ALEX:**

We all want that princess.

**CHRIS:**

I just can't be around women. They're all evil.

**ALEX:**

Except this one. (HE TURNS)

JENNY ENTERS.

**ALEX:**(CONT.)

(LEANING FORWARD) This one is the only woman ever to resist my charms.

**JENNY:**

Hi Chris. Feeling better hen?

**CHRIS:**

Who the hell is she?!

**ALEX:**

Look, I understand not wanting to be around women but... you're never going to be like me. And really would you want to?

**CHRIS:**

You're absolutely right.

ALEX NODS MODESTLY.

**CHRIS:** (CONT.)

Oh you manly men are all the same. I need someone educated. Someone erudite with a delicate sensitivity. That was actually very prescient of you Alex.

**ALEX:**

Thanks treacle.

ALEX LOOKS OFF INTO THE MIDDLE DISTANCE.

**ALEX V/O:**

Thank you mama, thank you papa, for bestowing on me this glorious brain. That I should put it to such humble use can only be proof of my inherent genius. One could have been the greatest historian that ever...

**CHRIS V/O:**

God he's thick, what the hell is he staring at?

CHRIS GOES TO LEAVE THEN STOPS JENNY AND STEPS TO HER.

**CHRIS:**

Graaaaaaa!

CHRIS SWEEPS OUT.

**JENNY:**

Isn't he lovely?

ALEX LOOKS UPSET.

**SCENE 10. MICHELLE'S LIVING ROOM. INT. STUDIO. (DAY 1). 1310.**

CAMS 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.

MICHELLE IS DRESSED IN A LOVELY WHITE DRESS. AND LOOKS VIRGINAL.

**MICHELLE:**

I'll show him. No whore would dress like this would they?

SHE OPENS THE FRONT DOOR.

**GRANT:**

Whore!

HE IS CARRYING A LEAF.

**MICHELLE:**

Hello Grant.

GRANT WALKS STRAIGHT OVER TO THE KITCHEN COUNTER.

**MICHELLE:(CONT.)**

(SHUTTING THE DOOR) Thanks for coming and bringing your leaf at such short notice.

**GRANT:**

WHORE!

**MICHELLE:**

Grant I was really quite upset today when you...

**GRANT:**

(TO MICHELLE) WHORE!

**MICHELLE:**

Grant you can't walk round just...

**GRANT:**  
WHORE!

**MICHELLE:**  
This is just getting rude.

\* FAST CUT NEXT PAGE

**GRANT:**  
WHORE!

**MICHELLE:**  
Grant... this has got to stop.

**GRANT:**  
You know you're right it's not really helping is it? And my throat's becoming ever so scratchy I'm starting to sound like the devil.

**MICHELLE:**  
So does this mean you'll forgive me and we can be friends again?

**GRANT:**  
No! What you did Michelle was unforgivable.

**MICHELLE:**  
I thought you might say that...  
(TURNING TO X AT SOFA)

So I invited a friend over.

MICHELLE TURNS AND PRODUCERS A PUPPY

TO GRANT. NEARLY FALTERS.

**MICHELLE:**(CONT.)  
Herrrr Grrrrrant. Please forgive Michelle.

**GRANT:**  
Awwww a lickle.... No! Where do you get puppies at such short notice?

**MICHELLE:**

(REFFING BREASTS) I just glance down and there they are.

GRANT TUTS AND ROLLS HIS EYES.

**GRANT:**

I'm leaving. I've brought you your leaf that you needed so very urgently and I'm going.

GRANT HEADS FOR THE DOOR.

**MICHELLE V/O:**

Oh God, he's going to make me do the voice. No the voice won't cut it. I'll have to do the song... And the dance.

**MICHELLE:**

'Who's the cutest little man, his name is Grant and he lives in a van.

GRANT HAS STOPPED.

**MICHELLE:** (CONT.)

Who is Michelle's bestest friend, his name is Grant and.... he lives in a van. 'Who is the best solicitor?

His name is Grant and he lives in a van. Who is....

**GRANT:**

OK OK. Though I've told you that song is factually inaccurate. I've not lived in a van for months.

**MICHELLE:**

Does this mean?

SHE HOLDS HER ARMS OUT.

**GRANT:**

Fine.

THEY HUG.

**MICHELLE:**

Do you forgive me?

**GRANT:**

As long as you never sing that song again.

THEY SMILE AT EACH OTHER. CHRIS ENTERS AND GOES TO THE SOFA. /

**MICHELLE:**

Can you forgive Chris?

**GRANT:**

Oh why not... (TURNS & CROSSES TO CHRIS) I've been so sad without you guys. I've had no-one to talk to but bampy, and all he does when I phone is ask me what I'm wearing.

GRANT PUTS HIS HAND OUT TO CHRIS.

**CHRIS:**

Oh. We're all friends again?

**GRANT:**

Well, life's too short.

**CHRIS:**

Yeah, she said you'd forgive her because you always do and she'd done far worse.

GRANT IS STUNNED AND TURNS, HE WALKS UP TO MICHELLE.

**GRANT:**

WHORE!

MICHELLE IS UPSET.

**MICHELLE:**

I'm not a whore I'm just really, really stupid.

SHE FLOUNCES OFF. FLOUNCILY. SHE RETURNS AND GRABS HER LEAF. GRANT GOES TO FOLLOW HER.

**CHRIS:**

Grant! At a time like this a man needs the company of another man.

GRANT EYES THE SUSPICIOUSLY HOMOEROTIC CHRIS.

**GRANT:**

But she was crying, real tears and everything and she didn't even have to peel an onion like last time she...

**CHRIS:**

Like last time what?

GRANT REALISE AND SITS.

**GRANT:**

Like last time she manipulated me.

**CHRIS:**

Exactly.

**GRANT:**

Precisely.

**CHRIS:**

Yuh huh.

**GRANT:**

....Eeyore.

**CHRIS:**

Eeeeeeeeeeeeeee.

\* FAST CUT NEXT PAGE

**GRANT:**

Honk Honk.

**CHRIS:**

She deserves everything that's coming to her.

MICHELLE IS LISTENING ON TOP LANDING TO CHRIS AND GRANT.

**MICHELLE: V/O**

Please be lovely presents.

**CHRIS:**

By which I most certainly do not mean lovely presents.

**MICHELLE:**

Ah bum.

**SCENE 11. MICHELLE'S LIVING ROOM. INT. STUDIO. (DAY 1). 1314.**

CAMS 4, 3, 2, 1.

GRANT IS SITTING AND SULKING.

CHRIS IS POURING SOME MILK AT THE COUNTER.

**CHRIS:**

So Grant. You're nearly my intellectual equal. Shall we have an erudite and frank discussion on the subject of contemporary philosophy in relation to Kirkegard?

**GRANT:**

She took my leaf.

**CHRIS:**

OK. So maybe you'd rather discuss the impact of ecology on traditional European industry.

**GRANT:**

I can't believe she took my leaf.

**CHRIS:**

(CROSSING) Oh you humans are all the same.

CHRIS SPIES THE PUPPY

**CHRIS:(CONT.)**

Awwwww. A puppy! A grossly convenient puppy!

**GRANT:**

I hate puppies. I hate leaves. In fact I hate Michelle.

**CHRIS:**

(MOVING AROUND THE SOFA TO SIT) Animals never let you down, animals listen and care, and they're really tasty. That's it. That's how to avoid getting hurt. I'll just be friends with animals.

**GRANT:**

Right I best go catch up on some papers. (HE RISES) I've got a derogation, a derecognition and half a cheese sandwich to finish. Oh and I've got to fire Michelle.

CHRIS IS PLAYING WITH THE DOG.

**CHRIS:**

I shall name you Erasmus. No Sophocles. No Binky.

**SCENE 12. BAR SALADE. INT. STUDIO. (DAY 1). 1330.**

CAMS 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.

CHRIS IS PLAYING WITH THE PUPPY.

JENNY COMES OVER FROM THE BAR AND GOES TO STROKE THE PUPPY.

**JENNY:**

Awwwwwww.

**CHRIS:**

Don't go near my Binky.

**JENNY:**

I won't, I won't. Can I touch your dog though?

chris grabs binky protectively.

ALEX IS POSING ATLAS STYLE WITH A LARGE GLOBE.

**ALEX:**

(CALLING OVER) Hiya Jenny!

**JENNY:**

(CROSSING TO ALEX) He is absolutely gorgeous.

**ALEX:**

Me? I know, it's a curse that threatens to ruin my life. But it also gets me several bonks a week so swings and roundabouts.

**JENNY:**

Alex?

**ALEX:**

Yes Jenny?

**JENNY:**

(SEXILY) Come here

**ALEX:**

(STEPPING TO HER) Of course.

JENNY SMILES SEDUCTIVELY.

STROKES HIS CHEST THEN  
JENNY TWISTS HIS NIPPLES.

**JENNY:**

Leave us alone you giant penis.

ALEX STAGGERS OFF.

**ALEX V/O:**

That was actually quite erotic.....And now my penis becomes giant.

MICHELLE SIGHS.

**JENNY:**

(ARRIVING AT THE TABEL) What?

**MICHELLE:**

And I can't live without Grant. He's been my closest friend for years. And now I've completely ruined it. I'm just stupid.

**JENNY:**

Awww, you're not just stupid.

**MICHELLE:**

Thanks Jen.

**JENNY:**

You're also a whore.

**MICHELLE:**

Thanks Jen.

ALEX IS MIRACULOUSLY BY THEM.

**ALEX:**

Sorry, just heard the word whore. It was like Pavlov's dogs.

**JENNY:**

That's why you're drooling is it?

**ALEX V/O:**

No, it's because I've been in love with you since the camping trip. Your soul is deep and your intellect fierce and I am in a perpetual turmoil knowing I can never have you.

**ALEX:**

No I was thinking of my dinner, I'm having... peanuts.

HIS EARS PRICK UP.

**ALEX:** (CONT.)

Excuse me, someone just said 'lubricant' in Macclesfield.

HE GOES.

**MICHELLE:**

It's just that, I've always been used to Grant instantly forgiving me for things. I've been spoiled by it. And now he's taken a stand. Now he can see how horrible I am. I can't think of how to get him back.

**JENNY:**

I tell you what men like. Food. And having too many socks, but that's by the by.

**MICHELLE:**

I can't cook. Well I can but I don't want to. And Grant is allergic to so many things. He's allergic to his own hair. That's why it looks like it's trying to leap off his head.

**JENNY:**

Allergies smallergies....

MICHELLE IS PERPLEXED.

**JENNY:** (CONT.)

What? Smallergies is a word. We say it all the time in Glasgow.

**MICHELLE:**

You say (MICHELLE MAKES RANDOM GLASWEGIAN SOUNDS) in Glasgow, it doesn't make it a word.

JENNY FISHES FOR SOME ICE IN HER GLASS.

JENNY POPS AN ICE-CUBE DOWN MICHELLE'S TOP.

**MICHELLE:**(CONT.)

Arghh!... Oooo. Thank you very much. I'm not cooking for him. It's too intimate!

ALEX HAS MAGICALLY APPEARED.

**ALEX:**

Sorry, I heard the word intimate.

HE WANDERS BACK TO THE BAR.

**JENNY:**

Well, have you tried asking for his help? They love that.

**MICHELLE:**

How do you mean?

**JENNY:**

People like being asked for help. And they think that if they've helped you, then you must be something really special. It's simple psychology.

MICHELLE DOESN'T GET IT.

**JENNY:**(CONT.)

Like, think of how it makes you feel to hold a door open for someone?

**MICHELLE:**

Why would I do that? Doors are heavy.

**JENNY:**

OK. Like when you give to charity.

**MICHELLE:**

You've lost me.

**JENNY:**

When a kid is crying and...

**MICHELLE:**

HA ha! Kids crying. 'Boo hoo, Michelle kicked me for getting in her way, boo hoo, I'm in a charity advert and I'm on a drip'....

JENNY IS SHOCKED.

**MICHELLE:** (CONT.)

Too much?

**JENNY:**

Look all I'm saying is that you have to be a bit vulnerable.

**MICHELLE:**

What like, a damsel in distress? A lady who's afraidy? A girl in...perirrrl?

MICHELLE FINDS HERSELF GREATLY AMUSING.

**JENNY:**

Exactly! I mean, you know his route home from work, if he came across you and you were in danger then he'd have to come to your aid.

**MICHELLE:**

You know Jenny, that's a very good idea. What can I do that's a bit risky?

ALEX IS MAGICALLY THERE.

**ALEX:**

Me.

LARGE AMOUNTS OF LAUGHTER.

**JENNY:**

Go away you squat ape.

ALEX IS CONFUSED.

**ALEX V/O:**

But I love you. Still, peanuts for tea tonight!

HE GOES.

**JENNY:**

Just something that puts you in physical danger, so he can feel like a superhero.

ALEX MAGICALLY APPEARS AGAIN.

**ALEX:**

Sorry I misheard. When you said 'superhero' it sounded like someone said 'Please may I sit on your face'.

JENNY IS UNIMPRESSED.

**SCENE 13. MICHELLE'S LIVING ROOM. INT. STUDIO. (DAY 1). 1400.**

SOVT DUR TBC

CHRIS IS PLAYING WITH THE DOG.

**CHRIS:**

I wuv you. No no... I gruv you. I could just take your little nose and smoosh it all up an hug you so hard your eyes popped. But then I'd be arrested for animal cruelty.

THE PUPPY IS BEING CUTE.

**CHRIS:**(CONT.)

You see Binky. That's what I'm talking about.

CHRIS BEGINS TO GIVE THE PUPPY TREATS

**CHRIS:**(CONT.)

You and I need never have human contact again. Not now we have each other. I know you'd never hurt me, and I'd never hurt you.

CHRIS EATS A DOG TREAT

**CHRIS:**(CONT.)

Mmm, I can see why you like these things.

People like us Binky are different. We're gentler, more attuned with nature and the delicate.. OWWWW!

BINKY HAS BITTEN INTO CHRIS' HAND. BINKY IS NOT LETTING GO.  
CHRIS TRIES TO PULL HIM OFF. THEN HE TRIES TO SHAKE HIM OFF.

**CHRIS:**(CONT.)

Binky No! Binky leave!

CHRIS SHAKES HIS HAND VIOLENTLY AROUND. BINKY IS LIKE A DOG WITH A BONE.

CHRIS BECOMES EVEN MORE PANICKED.

**CHRIS:**(CONT.)

Binky!

CHRIS SHAKES HIS HAND SO HARD THAT BINKY FLIES OFF THROUGH THE AIR AND OUT THROUGH THE BALCONY WINDOW. HE PROBABLY LANDS ON SOMETHING SOFT AND GOES TO LIVE ON A FARM FOR THE REST OF HIS LONG AND HAPPY LIFE BUT HE'S A MINOR CHARACTER SO WE DON'T WORRY.

CHRIS IS PANICKY AND UPSET

**CHRIS:**(CONT.)  
Binky. Nooooooo!

CUT TO: VT LOCATION

**SCENE 14. GRANT'S OFFICE/ALLEYWAY/CANAL. EXT. (DAY 1). 1410.**

**SCENE 11A/B/C ON CLOCK**

SOVT DUR: 1'47"

MICHELLE SPOTS GRANT ON HIS WAY OUT OF THE OFFICE. SHE LIES DOWN IN FRONT OF A MOBILITY SCOOTER HOPING TO BE NOTICED BY HIM.

THE MOBILITY SCOOTER DRIVES AROUND HER UNPHASED.

WE CUT BACK TO GRANT WHO HAS MISSED THE ACTION, HE IS TEXTING ON HIS MOBILE PHONE.

CUT TO:

MICHELLE WALKS DOWN THE ALLEY, SHE SEE'S GRANT COMING AND ATTACKS A PASSER-BY.

MICHELLE MOTIONS TO GRANT THAT SHE IS BEING 'MUGGED' BY A YOUNG BOY, GRANT DOES NOT NOTICE , HE IS LISTENING TO HIS IPOD HE WALKS PAST OBLIVIOUS.

CUT TO:

MICHELLE SITTING ON A BENCH READING A PAPER, SHE KNOWS THIS CAN'T FAIL. SHE THROWS HERSELF/'FALLS' IN. GRANT WALKS PAST OBLIVIOUS, AND DOES UP HIS SHOE LACES. MICHELLE STANDS UP IN THE KNEE DEEP WATER TOTALLY BEATEN. SHE WALKS TO THE EDGE WHERE THERE IS A DROP AND DROPS UNDER THE WATER.

CUT TO: GRANT'S OFFICE

**SCENE 15. GRANT'S OFFICE. INT. STUDIO. (DAY 1). 1500..**

CAMS 5, 2, 1.

GRANT IS PREPARING HIMSELF TO SACK MICHELLE. HE IS FIDDLING WITH A PENCIL. HE IS SO ON EDGE THAT IT SNAPS. HE PLACES IT ON THE DESK IN FRONT OF HIM. THE DOOR BANGS.

MICHELLE STAGGERS IN VERY MUCH BEDRAGGLED.

**MICHELLE:**

I have had a day and a half.

**GRANT:**

Off, you've had a day and a half off.

**MICHELLE:**

I've been mugged, nearly drowned in the canal, I was nearly hit by a speeding mobility scooter which is an oxymoron. I was nearly hit by an oxymoron!

**GRANT:**

We don't bring personal problems to work do we?

**MICHELLE:**

But I got a fish in my bra.

\* FAST CUT NEXT PAGE.

**GRANT:**

There are fish in the canal?

**MICHELLE:**

No I got a nice piece of Pollack for my tea and had nowhere else to put it. It was ruined.

**GRANT:**

Michelle, I refuse to be manipulated by you any longer. You got this job due to your manipulation.... I've decided to terminate your contract like a BBC boss with a careless DJ...

MICHELLE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND.

**GRANT:** (CONT.)

You're fired.

**MICHELLE:**

What? But...You're firing me? But... (STANDS) 'Who's the special spiky man his....

**GRANT:**

(RISING AND CROSSING TO DOOR) GET OUT!

**MICHELLE:**

Right... well I'll just take my things then.

**GRANT:**

Do.

MICHELLE GATHERS UP HER THINGS. A FURBY AND PENCIL.

**MICHELLE:**

Oh.. My pencil broke.... Well, Bye Grant.

GRANT NODS AND slams THE DOOR ON HER.

**SCENE 16. BAR SALADE. INT. STUDIO. (DAY 1). 1510.**

CAMS 5, 4, 3.

ALEX IS SPELLING THE NAME JENNY OUT OF WOTSITS ON THE BAR.

**MICHELLE:**

Alex!

HE SWEEPS THE WOTSITS ONTO THE FLOOR.

**MICHELLE:**(CONT.)

You don't think I'm manipulative do you?

SHE SHOWS SOME CLEAVAGE.

**ALEX:**

Free crisps coming up.

**MICHELLE:**

Damn it.

**ALEX:**

Ah don't worry, It's part of your personality.

**MICHELLE:**

But it got me fired! And I'm reaaaaallllly boooooored of being fired.

**ALEX:**

Then stop being manipulative.

**MICHELLE:**

(SARCASTIC) Oh. Oh. Oh.Oh. I suppose you think that if I just told Grant what I was really feeling rather than all the mind games then he'd appreciate that I was actually pretty insecure and he'd try to understand and we could begin our friendship afresh with honesty and trust being at the core. Blah blah blah.

**ALEX:**

Yes.

**MICHELLE:**

Well thank you Mr Logic.... I really meant that. I'd started off being sarcastic and couldn't stop. You're right. I'll be honest with him. That's all he wants. I suppose you want something in return.

**ALEX:**

Yeah, actually, can you put in a good word with Jenny for me?

**ALEX V/O:**

Specifically the word 'Grrrrrrr'.

**MICHELLE:**

She thinks you're pond scum.

**ALEX:**

Then the only way is up.

MICHELLE REACTS.

**ALEX:** (CONT.)

Pond scum leads to pond weed and all the way through X-factor winners up to human.

**MICHELLE:**

You really like her?

**ALEX:**

God yeah. She's the only woman who's ever turned me down. Aside from you.

**MICHELLE:**

Alex we slept together a month ago.

**ALEX:**

Oooops. Sorry. I always forget the faces... and names.... Never the bra size.

**MICHELLE:**

You know maybe with Jenny you should take some of your own advice. Instead of all this macho posturing...

ALEX MAGICALLY HAS HIS TOP OFF.

**ALEX:**

What this?

**MICHELLE:**

Yes.

ALEX MAGICALLY HAS HIS TOP ON.

**ALEX:**

Oh.

**MICHELLE:**

Instead of that why don't you be honest with her. Women like that.

**ALEX:**

Should I tell her about the children's book I'm writing? Bongo the Supercillious Frog?

**MICHELLE:**

Yes!

**ALEX:**

And the way I'm scared of going bald?

**MICHELLE:**

You do it!

**ALEX:**

And that I've never loved anyone and I cry every night alone after closing and think about how to end it all.

**MICHELLE:**

I'd keep schtum.

ALEX REACTS.

CUT TO: VT

**SCENE 17. MICHELLE'S LIVING ROOM. INT. STUDIO. (DAY 1). 1620.**

SOVT DUR TBC

CHRIS IS PLAYING WITH A FURBY.

FURBY MAKES A CUTESY NOISE AT HIM

**CHRIS:**

Oh shut up you bastard.

**MICHELLE:**

I got fired. It was totally unfair! He broke my pencil!

**CHRIS:**

I killed Binky.

**MICHELLE:**

Who the hell is Binky?

**CHRIS:**

Maybe you should be like me. Be an Island. Don't deal with humans. Or animals. Or... What the hell is this thing?

**MICHELLE:**

You're just isolating yourself because you can't deal with real life. We both can't. The reason we slept together was to... not feel anything. You're immature right?

**CHRIS:**

I have star wars figurines in their original packaging to prove it.

THEY LOOK DOWNCAST.

**MICHELLE:**

It's probably a good way to be. Tell you what, let's make a deal. We never feel another thing again. We are islands.

**CHRIS:**

Sounds like a plan to me.

**MICHELLE:**

So....

**CHRIS:**

So....

**MICHELLE:**

So....

THEY BOTH BREAK

**CHRIS:**

I miss Binky.

**MICHELLE:**

I miss Grant.

THEY GO TO HUG. THEY REMEMBER WHERE THIS GOT THEM LAST  
TIME AN SHAKE HANDS INSTEAD.

**MICHELLE:**

I'm sorry for your loss.

CUT TO: BAR SALADE

**SCENE 18. BAR SALADE. INT. STUDIO. (DAY 1). 1630.**

CAMS 5, 4, 2, 1.

JENNY ENTERS AND SPOTS ALEX.

**ALEX:**

Hello Gorgeous.

**JENNY:**

Alright Bawbag! Listen Alex, you know Chris pretty well.

**ALEX:**

Yeah. I know Chris. I know he's gay. /

**JENNY:**

He's not gay.

**ALEX:**

He perms his hair.

**JENNY:**

That's not a perm.

**ALEX:**

He's a murderer.

**JENNY:**

He's not a murderer.

CHRIS ENTERS.

**CHRIS:**

I'm a murderer!

**ALEX:**

(TURNING BACK TO JENNY) Jenny I need to talk to you. I need to tell you about me... about how I feel about you honsetly and.....

JENNY IS ALL EARS.

**ALEX:** (CONT.)

Jenny, I want you to empty my drip trays and polish my stout pipes.

JENNY CHECKS FOR SIGNS OF INNUENDO, HE LOOKS PERFECTLY SERIOUS.

**JENNY:**

OK....

SHE RISES AND JOINS HIM BEHIND THE BAR.

**ALEX V/O:**

What's she doing? Stupid girl. I said, clear as day, 'make me ejaculate by rubbing my penis'. Women really are from Venus.

HE SEES CHRIS. WHO IS GESTURING FOR SERVICE.

**ALEX:**

Hello Twinkle Tits! What can I get you? A pillow on which to rest your freakishly large head?

**CHRIS:**

What would an island drink?

**ALEX:**

Chris... They're not called Islands, they're called Irish. And the answer is 'A lot'.

**CHRIS:**

Just give me a milk.

**ALEX V/O:**

He just asked me to milk him.

**JENNY:**

(PUSHING PAST ALEX) Hi Chris. Here, I'll get this one for you. What's the trouble?

**CHRIS:**

Trouble? Oh no trouble. just that today I've lost my girlfriend, killed a dog and had to spend time chatting to him.

JENNY LOOKS TO ALEX.

**CHRIS:** (CONT.)

If this is what a broken heart does to a man I want nothing to do with it. I prefer being an island. I am a rock.

**ALEX:**

It's 'Iraq' and Iraq isn't an island. Do they teach you nothing at that university?

**CHRIS:**

I've learnt more from having my heart broken than I ever could from a book. I just want to be alone for a while.

HE TAKES HIS DRINK AND WALKS AWAY. JENNY WATCHES HIM GO,  
HE IS REALLY RATHER BYRONIC.

**JENNY:**

He is so attractive!

**ALEX:**

He's hideous!

**JENNY:**

He's single isn't he?

**ALEX:**

Obviously!

**JENNY:**

He's all Byronic and moody and....

JENNY TURNS TO ALEX.

**JENNY:**(CONT.)

Come on Alex. Just tell me what he's into. You boys talk about things like that.

**ALEX:**

Oh right.. well he really likes.... women crying.

**JENNY:**

Does he?

**ALEX:**

We all do. Oh and if you mention your menstrual cycle a lot.

**JENNY:**

I love doing that.

**ALEX:**

And if you kind of wonder aloud where the relationship is going. . ask if your bum looks big...or if other girls are prettier. Oh and don't shave your pits. He likes that most of all.

**JENNY:**

Aww, thanks Alex. I'm away to have a crack at him.

**ALEX V/O:**

Whoa ha ha ha! Have it Chris. Have this female firebomb right in your enormous face.

JENNY APPROACHES CHRIS.

**JENNY:**

Chris?

**CHRIS:**

Yes. What do you want?

**JENNY:**

I'm an emotionally stable nymphomaniac who can cook. Fancy a bonk?

**CHRIS:**

What?

JENNY RAISES AN EYEBROW. CHRIS REALISES THAT SHE'S JOKING.

**CHRIS:** (CONT.)

Pull up a chair.

SHE DOES.

ALEX LOOKS TO THE SKIES.

**ALEX:**

Noooooooooooooooooo!

**SCENE 19. MICHELLE'S LIVING ROOM. INT. STUDIO. (DAY 1). 1700.**

CAMS 4, 3, 2, 1.

MICHELLE IS FEELING SORRY FOR HERSELF. SHE HAS THE PHONE AND IS DIALLING.

**MICHELLE:** V/O

Nobody will ever want me again, if I'm to be a whore I may as well make it fun.

**MICHELLE:**

Yes hello Alex?..... 'NOOOOOOOOOO'? Oh sorry, wrong number.

SHE HANGS UP. THERE'S A KNOCK AT THE DOOR. SHE OPENS IT.

GRANT IS STOOD THERE. HE LOOKS MAD.

**MICHELLE:** (CONT.)

Grant! Oh thank God! I knew you'd come round and...

**GRANT:**

Can I come in?

**MICHELLE:**

Yes sorry of course.

GRANT WALKS IN.

**GRANT:**

It's about your job at the law firm.

**MICHELLE:**

You're rehiring me! I knew you would!

SHE HUGS HIM AND JUMPS UP AND DOWN.

**MICHELLE:** (CONT.)

Yaaaaayyyyy!

HE DOESN'T RESPOND. SHE TRIES AGAIN.

**MICHELLE:** (CONT.)

Yayyyy!

AGAIN, NO RESPONSE.

THEN SHE RETIRES AND COUGHS SELF-CONSCIOUSLY.

**GRANT:**

Certain items have gone missing from the office.

**MICHELLE:**

Yes because I stole them. Duhhh.

MICHELLE OPENS A CUPBOARD.

ENVELOPES, PENS AND THE OFFICE EPHEMERA FALL OUT. GRANT PICKS UP A BUST FROM THE FLOOR.

**GRANT:**

And why would you take this bust of Abraham Lincoln?

**MICHELLE:**

I...I thought it was you!

**GRANT:**

No you didn't!

**MICHELLE:**

Take it.

**GRANT:**

Oh... Well, that's all. goodbye.

**MICHELLE:**

(CROSSING TO SOFA) Bye.

GRANT GOES TO LEAVE. HE STOPS CONFUSED.

**GRANT:**

Wait.. Why aren't you shouting and stamping your feet?

**MICHELLE:**

Because I always do that and there's no point any more. You're right. We shouldn't have anything to do with each other. I'm not good for you.

**GRANT:**

No. Quite right.... Will you be OK?

**MICHELLE:**

Yes I'll be fine Grant!

GRANT MAKES TO LEAVE.

**GRANT:**

Well good. I'll see you.

**MICHELLE:**

Bye.

HE GOES TO GO.

**GRANT:**

One more thing.

**MICHELLE:**

What now?

**GRANT:**

Why did you sleep with him?

**MICHELLE:**

Chris?

**GRANT:**

No, Robert Mugabe. Of course Chris!

**MICHELLE:**

Because I'm lonely.

**GRANT:**

Get a cat! Or a puppy. By the way what happened to your puppy?

**MICHELLE:**

Oh... he landed on a very soft surface and was in no way hurt whatsoever. He went on to father six beautiful litters and lived out his natural life on a farm.

**GRANT:**

I am satisfied with that.

**MICHELLE:**

Grant I do want you to be my friend because I love you but it seems like everytime we're mates we just... I don't have the will power to say no when someone offers me...

**GRANT:**

Their penis?

**MICHELLE:**

Well... yeah.

**GRANT:**

(CROSSING TO SIT) That's pretty pathetic.

**MICHELLE:**

I know.

**GRANT:**

No I mean, really that's just like... unspeakably sad.

**MICHELLE:**

I know!

**GRANT:**

You're like. Revoltingly awful inside, it's almost technically a mental disorder.

**MICHELLE:**

No it's not. I'm the same as you. Only you use me to focus your loneliness on. And I use...

**GRANT:**

Everybody else.

**MICHELLE:**

Yes. You should leave.

**GRANT:**

I don't want to.

**MICHELLE:**

Why?

**GRANT:**

I don't know. I feel like if I go home now I'll just feel...

**MICHELLE:**

Lonely.

**GRANT:**

Yeah.

**MICHELLE:**

Get used to it.

SHE OPENS THE DOOR.

**MICHELLE:**(CONT.)

Bye Grant.

**GRANT:**

Why did you steal the bust. If you thought it was me?

MICHELLE HANDS GRANT THE BUST.

**MICHELLE:**

Because I....Bye Grant.

**GRANT:**

(TURNING BACK) But.... I... But...Look. You can have your job back Michelle. I'll see you in the office Monday.

**MICHELLE:**

Great. That really makes up for it.

SHE CLOSSES THE DOOR AFTER HIM. SHE IS HAPPY AND JUMPS UP AND DOWN.

**MICHELLE:** (CONT.)

Yay got my job back!

END.

