

MIRAMAX

NETFLIX



"THE GENTLEMEN"

episode #101

written by

Guy Ritchie & Matthew Read

Based on the film by

Guy Ritchie

SHOOTING SCRIPT: 31.10.22

1

EXT. RIVER BANK / SUDAN - DAY 1

1

A lawyer arrives to talk to Eddie.

THREE BORED-LOOKING BRITISH SOLDIERS - wearing the light blue berets of the UN - are sat on top of a couple of bulky JACKAL 2 RECON VEHICLES - keeping an eye out for trouble as A CREW OF SWEATY SOLDIERS construct a MEDIUM GIRDER BRIDGE across a muddy river.

A SPOTTER spies a vehicle approaching. He lowers his BINOS and turns to his TEAM LEADER.

SPOTTER
Boss. Unidentified vehicle
incoming.

The GUNNER and the RECON LEADER look up from their phones and gaze out at the dusty road where a BLACK VEHICLE is powering towards them, kicking up a long line of dust.

SPOTTER (CONT'D)
Looks like a Merc.
(BEAT)
S class Sedan.

GUNNER
That's not an S class.

RECON LEADER
Doesn't matter what kind of car it
is. What the fuck's it doing here?

The Gunner shoulders his weapon, ready for action.

RECON LEADER (CONT'D)
They're not going to send a suicide
bomber in a car that's worth fifty
grand.

The Recon Leader gets out of his vehicle and watches as the S-CLASS MERC draws up alongside them.

A beat then the passenger window comes down to reveal IBRAHIM SISSOSKO - an impeccably dressed Sudanese lawyer.

SISSOSKO
I'm looking for Captain Edward
Horniman.

2

EXT. RIVER - DAY 1

2

Eddie finds out his father is unwell.

EDDIE HORNIMAN - an officer and a gentleman in his mid thirties with a handsome but weather worn face -

(CONTINUED)

EDDIE

You're trying to get it out of the sand not dig it in further. When I said take the air out of the tires, I didn't mean all the air, it's as flat as a fuckin' frisbee.

PRIVATE

Sorry Captain, seemed like a good idea at the time.

SERGEANT

Got a man for you Sir.

EDDIE

I am trying to win a war here Sergeant, can't it wait?

SERGEANT

Not this gentleman Sir, he came in expensive wrapping.

Eddie turns back to the truck, which is stuck in the sand.

EDDIE

What's the point in tying the rope to the back of the truck Tea Time? You're not reversing! You're going in the direction the sun sets.

RECON LEADER

Captain Horniman.

EDDIE

Give me a minute.

They're attaching the truck to a partially constructed bridge - to pull it across the river.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Look at the state of that.

Eddie gets down and studies the bridge as they pull it over. The truck is struggling.

PRIVATE

The ground's too soft Sir.

EDDIE

It's not the ground. You just need to make sure it's straight.
(STANDING UP)
Back up and start again.

PRIVATE

Yes sir.

(CONTINUED)

The Sergeant gets to it. The Recon Leader steps forward.

RECON LEADER
You've got a visitor, Sir.

Eddie wipes his oily hands on his trousers and follows him over to Sissosko who's waiting by his car.

SISSOSKO
Captain Horniman?

Eddie looks him up and down and nods.

SISSOSKO (CONT'D)
My name is Ibrahim Sissosko. I'm a lawyer representing Griffin Monroe in London.

EDDIE
What can I do for you?

SISSOSKO
I'm afraid your father's had an accident.

A beat as Eddie takes this on board.

SISSOKO
He fell off a step ladder and has suffered serious head injuries. I've been instructed to take you to the airport straight away.

Eddie looks over the bridge as his crew try once more to pull it over the river.

EDDIE
If you hang on twenty five minutes, I can cut the journey down by an hour and a half.

3

EXT. RIVER - DAY 1

3

Eddie sets off on his journey home.

Eddie is spirited away in the air-conditioned Merc over the newly constructed girder bridge.

4

INT. BLACK MERCEDES - DAY 2

4

Eddie returns to his family estate.

A BLUR OF GREEN - ENGLAND'S LUSH PASTURES FLASHING PAST - drops away and a MASSIVE STATELY HOME looms into view...

Eddie straightens his back, bracing himself as the Merc makes its way down the drive of Halstead Manor - a sprawling estate spread out over fifteen thousand acres. His ancestral home.

5 **EXT. HALSTEAD MANOR - DAY 2**

5

Eddie arrives home.

Eddie gets out of the car and slings his KIT BAG over his shoulder then heads inside.

6 **INT. HALSTEAD MANOR - DAY 2**

6

Eddie meets his brother Freddy.

Eddie dumps his bag and starts to make his way up the staircase when his smartly dressed older brother FREDDY (40 years old - acts like he's 20) appears from the drawing room.

FREDDY

Eddie - you made it. Good to see you.

(ARMS OUT)

Come on bro. Hug it out.

Eddie goes over to him and they embrace.

EDDIE

How is he?

FREDDY

(AFTER A DEEP BREATH)

His goose is cooked man. Doctors said tonight. Tomorrow morning maybe...

EDDIE

How about you? How are you doing?

FREDDY

I have no idea man. I'm basically just...

(HE SHRUGS)

Y'know?

(BEAT)

Mum's the one we need to keep an eye on. Reckon she's been dipping her beak in Dad's medication. Eyes like saucers.

EDDIE

Alright, Freddy. Keep it tight.

Freddy nods his head, taking comfort from his younger brother's strength.

7 **INT. HALSTEAD MANOR / HIS GRACE'S BEDROOM - DAY 2**

7

Eddie speaks to his father on his death bed.

Portraits of the previous Dukes of Halstead line the walls - a rum-looking bunch who are all looking down over --

(CONTINUED)

THE TWELFTH DUKE OF HALSTEAD - AKA HIS GRACE - a liverish man in his seventies, not long for this world now, who's lying on his bed, propped up by pillows, his faithful Labrador (SCOUT) curled up at his feet.

His wife - THE DUCHESS SABRINA (late fifties, elegant but weary) - AKA LADY MACBETH - AKA LADY M - stands by his side along with their youngest, CHARLOTTE (early twenties) AKA CHARLY.

LADY M
Darling. Thank goodness.

Eddie walks over and gives his mother and sister a hug then moves towards his father who's quietly mumbling to himself, his eyes fixed on the middle distance...

EDDIE
Can he hear me?

CHARLY
Sometimes... He's a bit in and out.
But when he's there - he's
definitely there.

Eddie acknowledges this with a nod.

LADY M
He'll be pleased that you came.
Even if he doesn't show it.

Lady M withdraws. Eddie moves closer to his father who continues MUTTERING UNDER HIS BREATH. Eddie can't hear a word. He edges even closer...

HIS GRACE
... of course he was stark bollock
naked but how was he supposed to
know he was in the Upper Chamber...

Eddie turns to Charly. WTF? Charly shrugs.

Eddie turns back to His Grace who stares at Eddie with a new sense of energy.

HIS GRACE (CONT'D)
... The first Duke of Halstead was
a stand up bloke. He's the one that
set the standard. Built this place
with his bare hands. Nicked the
stones from the local monastery...

EDDIE
Dad - it's me. Edward.

His Grace pauses, annoyed by the interruption. Then his hand starts twitching. After a pause Eddie takes hold of it.

(CONTINUED)

HIS GRACE
(SUDDENLY LUCID)
Why d'you turn your back on us,
son? We're your family. *Who you
are...* You think it's brave -
running off to play tuf-tuf with
your chums - but it's not. It's
cowardice.

EDDIE
Try not to work yourself up, Dad.

His Grace's grip tightens and a ghost of a smile spreads
across his lips...

HIS GRACE
I won't let the estate get divided
up.

EDDIE
You don't need to worry about that.
Just try and get some rest.

His Grace smiles and pats Eddie's hand fondly... Then his
eyes focus on the middle distance once more...

HIS GRACE
The *third* Duke of Halstead was a
mean old bastard. Killed fifteen
Frenchmen with his bayonet. Or were
they Prussians? Shot his own foot
off getting ready for a duel. Silly
cunt.

Suddenly he's gripped by a FIT OF COUGHING. A DOCTOR enters
and Eddie steps back as TWO NURSES arrive and struggle to
stabilize the patient...

CUT TO: A LANDSCAPE BY THOMAS GAINSBOROUGH (or similar). We
are --

8

INT. HALSTEAD MANOR / STUDY - DAY 2

8

Eddie learns of his father's death.

Eddie stares at the painting, letting the details wash over
him...

Suddenly there's a sound of WAILING. People start running up
and down stairs. Eddie steadies himself. A couple of moments
pass then there's a soft knock at the door. Charly enters and
hovers in the doorway, not knowing what to say.

Eddie gets to his feet, his face set. Knowing his father is
dead.

9

EXT. HALSTEAD MANOR / CHURCH / GRAVEYARD - DAY 3

9

Eddie buries his father.

A VICAR says a few words over the open grave surrounded by close family, a few friends and some loyal servants.

Eddie and Freddy stand either side of Lady M whose face is totally inscrutable beneath her veil. Eddie, who has his arm round his sister, keep his emotions in check. Freddy, who's struggling, is comforted by his (much younger) wife TAMMY.

We pick out a couple of other faces in the background:

SOME WIDER FAMILY, Scout the dog, along with a couple of MEMBERS OF STAFF including His Grace's gamekeeper - GEOFF SEACOMBE (late fifties) - whose face looks like it was carved out of stone.

And - standing a little further back - SUSIE GLASS - a striking looking woman in her early thirties who's wearing a stylish black dress and is eyeing Eddie with curiosity.

10

EXT. HALSTEAD MANOR - DAY 3 (LATER)

10

Eddie and Charly discuss how Freddy is going to inherit everything.

Eddie walks arm and arm with Charly as the mourners trudge back to the house; two siblings who are fond of each other and enjoy bickering.

CHARLY

Freddy'll blow the lot by Christmas
- you know what he's like.

EDDIE

If Dad left it to you, you'd give
it all to Greenpeace.

CHARLY

I might make a sizeable donation
but I'm not a complete idiot.
Anyway it's irrelevant cause I'm a
girl.

EDDIE

It's irrelevant because the entire
estate gets handed down to the
first born son. Freddy's the heir,
I'm the spare and you've just got
to look pretty and wait until
someone marries you.

Charly laughs. As if.

(CONTINUED)

CHARLY

Tell you what though - Dad might have had second thoughts if he knew how much powder Freddy's been shovelling recently.

Eddie reacts - he didn't realise his brother was back on the gear. Charly nods her head. Big time. And as they continue to make their way to the house we BRING UP THE SOUND of the will reading.

11

INT. HALSTEAD MANOR / LIBRARY - DAY 4

11

Eddie inherits his father's estate.

Eddie listens as AHMED KHAN - a British South Asian lawyer from London - reads the will to a collection of close family and a couple of loyal members of staff.

AHMED

I, Archibald Horatio Landrover Horniman, the twelfth Duke of Halstead, being of sound mind do make, publish and declare this to by my Last Will and Testament. To Geoffery Seacombe, in acknowledgement of his years of faithful service --

Geoff straightens his back, surprised to get a mention.

AHMED (CONT'D)

I leave a lifetime tenancy on the gatekeeper's cottage.

Geoff is humbled and more than a little moved.

AHMED (CONT'D)

To my wife, Sabrina, for her loyalty and faithfulness throughout our many happy years together.

Lady M narrows here eyes, fearing a sting in the tail.

AHMED (CONT'D)

I leave my beloved Labrador, Scout.

Lady M's face flickers. Clearly not a fan of the dog.

AHMED (CONT'D)

To my daughter Charlotte, I leave The Endurance - with the condition that she sail around the world on it within the next three months.

Charly's pleased and surprised.

(CONTINUED)

AHMED (CONT'D)

In terms of the rest of my estate -
including my title -

Freddy takes a deep breath. He's QUIVERING with excitement.
Tammy squeezes his hand.

AHMED (CONT'D)

The house and grounds, the
extensive wine cellar, the art
collection --

As the list continues we cut away to still images of His
Grace's various assets...

AHMED (CONT'D)

-- the yoghurt farm and dairy, the
village of Hetheringham, as well as
the properties in the South of
France, Argentina and Antigua -

Tammy lets out a tiny yelp in excitement.

AHMED (CONT'D)

Not to forget my peacocks Gladys
and Pinkie. I hereby leave to my
youngest son - Edward Horniman.

Eddie looks round in surprise.

All the colour drains out of Freddy's face. He turns to his
mother with a look of FURIOUS PANIC.

FREDDY

You've got to be fucking kidding. I
mean this is a joke, right?

Ahmed looks up from the will and gives a slow shake of the
head.

FREDDY (CONT'D)

I'm the eldest fucking son. It was
supposed to go to me.

An awkward pause. No one knows what to say.

FREDDY (CONT'D)

WHAT THE FUCK IS THIS?

Tammy reaches out to calm him down.

TAMMY

It's bound to be some sort of
mistake --

FREDDY

Don't touch me. Don't fucking touch
me, alright?

(CONTINUED)

He takes a step towards Ahmed, attempting to calm himself.

FREDDY (CONT'D)

I'm the first born son. That means - technically - the estate goes to me. That's not just me saying it cause it's what I want - it's the law. Goes back to the bible. Old Testament. Cain and Abel. It's the will of God. The firstborn son gets everything. It's... it's primogenital.

EDDIE

Primo-*geniture*.

FREDDY

That's what I said.

(TO AHMED)

You've heard of that haven't you?

AHMED

Of course - but the terms of the will clearly state --

FREDDY

I don't give a shit what the terms of the will clearly state. Here.

Freddy pulls out a FOLDED PRINT-OUT which he opens up and starts reading from.

FREDDY (CONT'D)

"The right of succession to the first born, legitimate, male child" - right - which is me, yeah -

CHARLY

Did you actually print that out, Freddy?

FREDDY

(IGNORING HER)

... "to inherit the parent's entire estate - in preference to shared inheritance blah blah blah.

(LOOKING UP)

Right of primogeniture. It's there in black and white. The house, the title - everything - it all goes to me.

Ahmed shakes his head once again and the truth slowly starts to dawn on Freddy.

FREDDY (CONT'D)

Fuck. Fuck. FUCK.

Eddie finds out that Freddy's got financial troubles.

Eddie heads down the stone steps and discovers Freddy swigging from a bottle of wine - Tammy picking out dusty bottles from the racks in the background.

TAMMY

I've got a 2006 Meursault and a Pommard Premier Cru.

(SPOTTING EDDIE)

You don't mind do you Eddie? Just trying to cheer him up a bit.

EDDIE

I think we could all use a drink.

TAMMY

I told him - the money and the title - it doesn't mean anything. Not to me anyway. But he won't listen.

Eddie sits down next to Freddy. Takes a swig from his bottle.

FREDDY

Sorry if I went a bit off the handle back there. Just came as a bit of a shock...

EDDIE

I wasn't exactly expecting it myself. Typical Dad not to tell anyone anything.

FREDDY

It's alright for you. You don't have to worry - you're a fucking Duke... I mean you're loaded now. You never have to work again. Whereas I am fucking fucked.

Eddie looks to Tammy who senses the brothers need some space.

TAMMY

I'll take these upstairs and decant them.

FREDDY

Good idea.

Tammy exits. Eddie turns to Freddy.

EDDIE

What's going on Freddy?

(CONTINUED)

FREDDY

You wouldn't understand. It's a very delicate and nuanced situation.

Freddy takes another glug of wine.

FREDDY (CONT'D)

What it is - is... I owe a lot of money... To some bad fucking people.

Eddie pauses. We get the sense that this isn't the first time this sort of thing's happened.

EDDIE

Who?

No response.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Who Freddy?

FREDDY

D'you remember Pete Spencer-Forbes? He was in my house at Eton.

EDDIE

I remember Pete.

FREDDY

He got into property. Made a killing in the Maldives. Totally loaded now.

13

EXT. MARINA / SERBIA - DAY (FB1)

13

Eddie finds out the cause of Freddy's financial troubles.

PETE - a Posh Twat in his late thirties - introduces Freddy to a couple of DODGY EUROPEAN GUYS.

FREDDY (V.O.)

Last year he introduced me to a couple of Danish guys he'd been working with.

CUT TO: The Dodgy European Guys show Freddy the plans...

FREDDY (V.O.)

They were looking for some money to finish off this complex they were building on the Dalmatian Coast.

CUT TO: A beautiful complex on a glistening bay...

(CONTINUED)

FREDDY (V.O.)
They said if I put in four million -
I'd be able to walk away with eight
two years later...

CUT TO: The same shot without the buildings. Nothing but dust
and rocks.

EDDIE (V.O.)
But it didn't exist, did it?

CUTBACK TO Freddy as he nods his head morosely.

EDDIE
... Which is fine cause you didn't
have four million to invest in the
first place...

Freddy winces.

EDDIE (CONT'D)
Who did you get the money from?

FREDDY
D'you remember that time I was in
rehab?

14

EXT. THE PRIORY - DAY (FB2)

14

Eddie finds out Freddy borrowed a lot of money.

TWO FAT LINES OF COKE are snorted off a table by TWO GUYS IN
WHITE ROBES who are sat by a swimming pool: Freddy and a
Scouser in his forties called THOMAS DIXON aka DOUBTING
THOMAS aka TOMMY.

FREDDY (V.O.)
I met a guy called Tommy who said
that if I ever needed money --

TOMMY
I'm always looking for an
investment opportunity.

CUT TO: Freddy unzips a BAG FULL OF CASH. Tommy nods his
head.

CUT TO: Freddy shakes hands with the Dodgy Europeans.

CUT TO: Freddy's dragged down a corridor and locked in a
freezer.

15

INT. FISH MARKET / FREEZER - DAY (FB3)

15

***Eddie finds out that the people Freddy borrowed money from
were criminals.***

Freddy who looks like he's about to die of hypothermia. The
FREEZER DOOR OPENS to reveal Tommy.

(CONTINUED)

FREDDY (V.O.)

Turns out Tommy's a big time coke dealer.

TOMMY

Twenty five per cent. Every week. Until you get us our fucking money.

Freddy nods his head frantically.

Tommy slaps him in the face with a PLAICE.

16

INT. HALSTEAD MANOR / WINE CELLAR - DAY 4

16

Eddie agrees to help Freddy come up with the money.

Freddy looks up at his brother like he's just done a shit on the floor.

EDDIE

How much is he asking for now?

FREDDY

Eight. Which is fucking ridiculous I know. And now he's saying if I don't come up with it by the end of the week - he'll chop my dick off. Which is fatal. I googled it.

(BEAT)

I know I fucked up, Eddie. But I don't want to die.

EDDIE

I can't just give you eight million quid Freddy. Do you have any idea how much that is?

FREDDY

It's the price of a flat in Chelsea.

A beat as Eddie registers: Freddy doesn't have a fucking clue.

FREDDY (CONT'D)

I'm not asking you to give it to me. I'll pay you back, I swear...

(AFTER A PAUSE)

D'you remember that time when I pulled you out of the duck pond?

EDDIE

I was three years old...

FREDDY

I never meant for any of this to happen. I didn't do it on purpose, yeah.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

FREDDY (CONT'D)

I just stumbled into it - like you and the pond. And now I'm lying face down in the water. You've got to pull me out Eddie. Please.

EDDIE

I never asked Dad to change his will. I didn't want to become a Duke. I had my own life... But it is what it is?

FREDDY

You mean you'll help me?

17

INT. HALSTEAD MANOR / BOOT ROOM - DAY 4

17

Lady M heads out to shoot the dog.

Lady M takes a SHOTGUN out of the GUN CABINET and starts loading it. Eddie enters.

EDDIE

Any idea where Dad kept the key to the safe?

LADY M

Behind the portrait of the sour faced woman above the fireplace in the study.

Lady M SNAPS the barrel and gets ready to set off.

EDDIE

Where are you off to?

LADY M

Just taking the dog for a walk.

Eddie thinks for a moment as she sets off. Then he realises.

EDDIE

You can't *shoot* the dog.

18

EXT. HALSTEAD MANOR - DAY 4

18

Eddie stops Lady M shooting the dog and tells her she can stay at Halstead Manor.

Lady M strides across the lawn - the loaded shotgun in one hand, trailing Scout by the lead in the other.

Eddie hurries to catch up with her.

LADY M

Your father knew how much I hated this horrible animal. Leaving it to me was his little joke from beyond the grave.

(CONTINUED)

EDDIE

Doesn't mean you have to kill it.

LADY M

Yes it does, Eddie. Yes it fucking does.

Eddie takes hold of the shotgun barrel.

EDDIE

You're not the only one who's been landed with something they weren't expecting. Why don't you let me look after him for now?

Lady M lets go of the gun.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

You know you can stay here as long as you want. I'm not going to throw you out. It's still your home.

LADY M

What are you going to do?

EDDIE

I don't know. I haven't decided yet.

(BEAT)

Did Dad say anything to you about changing the will?

Lady M shakes her head.

LADY M

What you have to remember is your father and I pretty much led separate lives these last few years. He spent half the year in Cape Cod and on the rare occasions that we actually saw each other - which tended to be birthdays and Christmas - he was perfectly cordial - but we never really discussed anything.

(ANOTHER BEAT)

I hope Freddy's going to be okay. He seems to have taken it rather badly.

EDDIE

He doesn't exactly help himself.

LADY M

It was a cruel thing to do. But I'm sure your father had his reasons. He was always very canny.

(BEAT)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

LADY M (CONT'D)

You're more like him than you realise.

Eddie glares at his mother, slighted.

LADY M (CONT'D)

I meant it as a compliment. He might have been a tough old bastard. But that doesn't mean I didn't love him.

19

INT. HALSTEAD MANOR / STUDY - DAY 4

19

Eddie opens his father's safe and discovers a stack of money.

Eddie removes the portrait of the sour faced woman to reveal a CAST IRON SAFE. He opens it to reveal A HUGE PILE OF CASH.

20

INT. HALSTEAD MANOR / STUDY - DAY 4

20

Eddie discovers there's no money in his father's estate so he decides to put the house on the market.

Eddie's counted the money and it's laid out on the desk in neat piles alongside VARIOUS BANKING DOCUMENTS which Eddie's flicking through as he sits back in his father's chair...

There's a knock on the door.

EDDIE

Come in.

Ahmed steps into the room.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Thanks for coming over, Ahmed. Grab a seat.

Ahmed takes a seat opposite him.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

I need to get my hands on a large amount of cash by the end of the week.

AHMED

How large an amount are we talking?

EDDIE

Eight million. Well, six...

Ahmed pauses to take this in. It's a lot of money.

AHMED

Your inheritance has made you a very wealthy man. But that doesn't mean to say that you're rich.

(CONTINUED)

EDDIE

How come there's no money in any of his bank accounts?

AHMED

Your father's personal expenditure was something we never discussed.

EDDIE

What about stocks and shares?

AHMED

There aren't any.

(BEAT)

There is the Gainsborough of course...

They both glance over at the Gainsborough.

AHMED (CONT'D)

That's worth at least four. We could have it under the hammer at Sotheby's by Thursday lunchtime.

Eddie shakes his head. He's not selling it.

EDDIE

What about the wine? All those bottles of Château Lafite and Domaine de la Romanée-Conti. They've got to be worth at least three.

AHMED

The trouble is your father couldn't stop drinking them. You wouldn't get more than one and a half for what's left. Two at a push.

EDDIE

He literally pissed it away.

AHMED

Quite.

A pause as Eddie thinks things through.

AHMED (CONT'D)

There has been a slightly unconventional approach from a lawyer based in London. One of his clients has expressed an interest in purchasing Halstead Manor.

EDDIE

That's a bit cheeky isn't it?

(CONTINUED)

AHMED

The vendor wishes to remain anonymous at this stage but his lawyer has stated that he'd be willing to pay well above the market rate. You could be looking twenty... Twenty-five million maybe... But these things take time - and that's before we get into probate and capital gains --

EDDIE

Tell him I'd accept a lower offer in return for a quick sale.

AHMED

Halstead Manor's been in your family for generations.

EDDIE

Since 1547... But if this guy can get me seven in cash by the end of the week - tell him he can have it for fourteen.

21

EXT. HALSTEAD MANOR - DAY 4

21

Eddie is approached by Susie Glass who tells him she used to have a business relationship with his father.

Eddie stands by the edge of the lake, looking out across the landscape, deep in thought. He turns as he hears a car pull up outside the main house.

Eddie watches as Susie Glass gets out of her G-Wagon and starts walking towards him.

Eddie goes over to meet her.

SUSIE

I'm sorry to disturb you. You are the new Duke of Halstead, aren't you?

EDDIE

That's right. I saw you at the funeral.

SUSIE

Susie Glass. Pleased to meet you, Your Grace.

Eddie pauses. It's the first time anyone's called him that.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

I know this must be a difficult time, but I used to work with your father.

(CONTINUED)

EDDIE

You'll forgive my confusion, Ms Glass - only my father wasn't exactly famed for his industry.

SUSIE

That's perfectly understandable - but he had certain business interests that I need to discuss with you.

EDDIE

What kind of business interests are we talking about?

SUSIE

It's easier if I just show you.

Susie opens her passenger door for Eddie who gets in.

Scout watches as Eddie heads off down the drive with Susie. Then he wanders off...

22

EXT. HALSTEAD MANOR / DAIRY FARM - DAY 4

22

Susie leads Eddie towards a cow shed at the dairy farm.

Susie's G-Wagon pulls up outside the working dairy farm that's steaming with mud, cows and tractors.

SUSIE

I liked your father. He was a proper gentleman. Eccentric though.

She glances over at Eddie as she leads him towards a SHED FULL OF COWS.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

Must have come as a bit of a shock. Inheriting everything. The house, the title...

EDDIE

Worse things happen.

Eddie follows Susie through the cows towards a STEEL DOOR at the back of the shed.

SUSIE

He never said anything about the revenue he was getting from the farm?

EDDIE

Must have slipped his mind.

(CONTINUED)

SUSIE

The truth is he was taking home
five million a year - plus profit
share.

EDDIE

I'm guessing it wasn't from making
yoghurt.

Susie nods then punches a code into a CONTROL PANEL. The
steel door opens to reveal a set of steps heading down...

23 OMITTED 23

24 INT. WEED FARM - DAY 4 24

*Susie reveals that there's a marijuana factory under Halstead
Manor.*

Eddie follows Susie down the stairs which lead to a MASSIVE
UNDERGROUND WEED FARM which stretches out as far as the eye
can see.

Eddie drifts through row after row of MARIJUANA PLANTS - all
of them lit up by HYDROPONIC LIGHTS and tended to by SKILLED
WORKERS.

EDDIE

He always loved a bit of gardening.

24A INT. WEED FARM - DAY 4 24A

Susie tells Eddie he can't sell the house.

Susie shows Eddie round the factory.

SUSIE

The cannabis market in the UK is
worth six billion a year. We've
managed to corner a substantial
share of that market - but the
challenge is finding the space to
grow it. That's where your father
came in. In return for a generous
consideration, he let us carry out
our activities with the requisite
discretion and impunity.

(BEAT)

The truth is there aren't that many
fifteen thousand acre estates where
you can do pretty much whatever you
want without anyone knowing.

They approach JIMMY CHANG - a South East Asian worker in his
late twenties - who's manicuring a DENSE PLANT.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

What's this one called Jimmy?

(CONTINUED)

JIMMY CHANG

Frisian Duck. Very popular right now.

SUSIE

Jimmy's been Product Supervisor here for - how long is it Jimmy?

JIMMY CHANG

Three years.

SUSIE

Turned into something of a horticulturalist.

Jimmy stands back for Eddie to inspect the plant. Eddie leans in, gives a rather formal nod of approval, then they move on.

EDDIE

Assuming my Dad was getting ten per cent - which seems about fair -

Susie shrugs. Close enough.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Then this place must be turning over fifty million a year...

SUSIE

It's not far off that.

EDDIE

But if you're saying you've got a substantial share of the market - which one would assume means over half - then this is just a cog in a much bigger machine.

Susie smiles, giving nothing away.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

You must have at least a dozen set ups this size to churn out that much weed.

SUSIE

Your father never concerned himself with the workings of the wider operation.

EDDIE

I'm curious.

(CONTINUED)

SUSIE

All you need to know is that we had an agreement that means, as the new landlord, you'll receive a significant amount of money every year in return for letting us continue our operation.

EDDIE

The trouble is I'm putting the house on the market.

There's a pause as Susie takes this on board.

SUSIE

Well that would create a challenging situation.

EDDIE

Why don't you make me an offer for it then? I'll sell you the whole thing for twenty.

SUSIE

We'd prefer to keep things as they are.

EDDIE

I'm sorry if it puts you in an awkward position, Ms Glass, but I have my reasons for selling and I'm afraid it's unavoidable.

SUSIE

I totally understand that, Your Grace. But there's a pre-existing agreement that means it's not possible. It might not have been written down, but that doesn't mean it's not binding.

25

EXT. HALSTEAD MANOR / DAIRY FARM - DAY 4

25

Susie refuses to renegotiate.

Susie and Eddie make their way back to her car.

EDDIE

What if I wanted to renegotiate?

SUSIE

Look, I'm trying to be reasonable. But if you're serious about wanting to sell the property, that's going to become a problem.

(CONTINUED)

EDDIE

Legally you wouldn't be able to stop me.

SUSIE

You're right. There's nothing legal we could do about it.

The potential threat of this hangs in the air.

EDDIE

Are you threatening me?

SUSIE

Certainly not.

(BEAT)

Look, it's a lot to take on board - I understand that. Normally in this kind of situation various discussions have taken place beforehand...

EDDIE

And normally the work-shy, public school educated, weak willed heir just rolls over and takes the money like a good little boy.

SUSIE

I wouldn't put it like that... But yeah.

(BEAT)

See how you feel once you've had a bit of time to get used to it.

(BEAT)

D'you want a lift back to the house?

EDDIE

No thanks. I'll walk.

Susie drives off, leaving Eddie up to his ankles in cow shit.

He looks over to see Geoff watching him from the edge of the woods in the distance, Scout by his side.

Eddie starts to make his way over to him.

26

EXT. WOODS - DAY 4

26

Eddie seeks out Geoff to ask for his advice.

Eddie approaches Geoff who's looking out at the landscape like he was one of the statues on Easter Island.

EDDIE

Evening Geoff.

(CONTINUED)

GEOFF
Your Grace.
(RE SCOUT)
Found him wandering down by the
lake. I was going to take him back
to your Mum, but...

EDDIE
I'm going to be taking care of him
from now on.

GEOFF
Right.

EDDIE
Actually Geoff, I wanted to ask you
a couple of questions.

Geoff nods his head slowly, looking up at the sun as it sinks
low in the sky.

GEOFF
I often have a cup of tea. Around
this time of day.

EDDIE
Tea sounds good.

Geoff studies him carefully and we get the sense that he
knows what this all about.

27 **EXT. GEOFF'S COTTAGE - EVENING 4**

27

Geoff leads Eddie back to his cottage.

Geoff and Eddie head towards the Gamekeeper's Cottage which
is an idyllic cabin in the woods kind of set up. Scout tags
along.

28 **INT. GEOFF'S COTTAGE - EVENING 4**

28

*Geoff advises Eddie to be careful about deepening his
relationship with Susie.*

Geoff's making the tea. Eddie's trying to find himself a seat
- which is no easy thing in Geoff's charming little cottage
because there's an FURRY CREATURE curled up on every seat.

GEOFF
He's not a bad dog is Scout. He
just needs to know who's boss.
Trouble is your Dad was away a lot.
Makes a dog uncertain. He wants to
be by his master's side all the
time. Doesn't like it when he
isn't. Pack mentality.

(CONTINUED)

Eddie manages to disturb an OWL that's snoozing on a low beam as he heads over to LOW CHAIR by the log burner.

GEOFF (CONT'D)

You can leave him with me for a bit if you like. I could train him up a bit. Straighten him out.

EDDIE

Sure, Geoff. I'd appreciate that.

Geoff starts pouring the tea.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

How long have you worked here? What is it - twenty years?

GEOFF

You and Freddy were still wearing shorts.

EDDIE

And you've always been incredibly loyal to my father...

GEOFF

He gave me an opportunity at a time when a lot of doors were closing on me. He didn't have to - but he did. And that counts for a lot.

EDDIE

Nothing happens on this estate without you knowing about it... So I assume you know what's been going on...

Geoff gives him a level look.

GEOFF

Your father offered me a bag of money once but I said I wasn't interested and that was that. Fifteen thousand acres is more than enough for me to be dealing with.

EDDIE

Especially when you take in every wounded badger that comes along.

GEOFF

Henry's a special case.

EDDIE

I'm starting to think maybe I didn't know my Dad as well as I thought I did.

(CONTINUED)

GEOFF

I always found him pretty straight forward. He had his secrets - but who doesn't?

(BEAT)

As for the various comings and goings... These are serious people.

EDDIE

What if I didn't want them on the estate anymore?

GEOFF

That would be difficult.

EDDIE

So you think I should just take the money and keep quiet?

GEOFF

Worked for your Dad. More or less.

EDDIE

Trouble is - for various reasons - I'm not in a position to sit tight right now.

GEOFF

Freddy?

Eddie nods.

GEOFF (CONT'D)

You can always try and renegotiate. But you want to be careful about asking them for favours. You don't want to be in debt to people like that.

Eddie nods his head slowly, thinking things through. Geoff downs his cup of tea and pours himself another.

GEOFF (CONT'D)

Before I started working for your father I made some choices that I wouldn't make if I had my time again. And what I'd say is that your average criminal conforms to certain expectations. Most of them are thick as mince. Almost all of them would nick your wallet if you gave them half a chance. But they all want the same thing. More. Doesn't matter what it is - they all want more of it.

(BEAT)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

GEOFF (CONT'D)

That means you can predict how they'll behave in certain situations. So long as you're helping them get more of what they want - you should be okay. But don't underestimate them. If you're gonna engage... Make sure you keep your eyes open and your mouth shut.

Eddie considers Geoff's advice carefully.

29

INT. HALSTEAD MANOR / HALLWAY - EVENING 4

29

Eddie tells Charly he's going to fix Freddy's problems.

Eddie comes through the front door as Charly lugs her bags down the stairs.

EDDIE

D'you need a lift to the station?

CHARLY

Mum's driving me. I think she's going to try and persuade me to get to the end of the term before I set off.

EDDIE

Sounds surprisingly sensible.

CHARLY

Yeah, I'm not a complete idiot.

They hug.

CHARLY (CONT'D)

Freddy's the one she should be worrying about.

EDDIE

Freddy'll be okay. I'm on the case.

30

INT. BOXING GYM - DAY 5

30

Eddie calls Susie.

A couple of padded up middle-weight boxers (JACK and CASS) are going at it in a training session.

Susie's watching from behind the ropes when her phone rings.

She checks who's calling and steps away from the ring as she answers, striding off towards her office at the back.

SUSIE (ON THE PHONE)

Good morning Your Grace. Everything alright?

31

INT. HALSTEAD MANOR / STUDY - DAY 5

31

Eddie asks Susie to help him clear Freddy's debt

Eddie's sat at his Dad's desk.

EDDIE (ON THE PHONE)
I think we can drop the formalities. Seeing as we're in business together.

SUSIE
What do you prefer? Edward or Eddie?

32

INT. BOXING GYM / SUSIE'S OFFICE - DAY 5

32

Susie agrees to help Eddie.

Susie settles down behind her desk, turfing out Blanket - who's sprawled out on the sofa - with a glare.

SUSIE (ON THE PHONE)
Eight million's a big number. What did you say the guy's name was?

INTERCUT WITH EDDIE - as he leans back in his father's chair.

EDDIE
Tommy Dixon.

SUSIE
Never heard of him, but I'll ask around. How much of the eight's interest?

EDDIE
Half.

SUSIE
That's a bit steep.

EDDIE
The interest rate wasn't made clear when my brother agreed to the loan. And obviously my options are severely limited in terms the raising the required funds - given our business agreement.

SUSIE
Leave it with me... How much d'you reckon you'd be able to get your hands on?

EDDIE
Hard to say. I'm working on it.

(CONTINUED)

SUSIE

If you can wear the four - I reckon I should be able to take care of the rest for you. I'll let you know how I get on.

Susie ends the call.

Eddie sits for a long moment, thinking through what he's just done. He looks over at the Gainsborough as we BRING UP THE SOUND OF A CHOPPER.

33

EXT. HALSTEAD MANOR - DAY 5

33

Eddie agrees to meet the man who wants to buy his house.

An Augusta Westland chopper comes into land on the lawn outside Halstead Manor. A young black man in a very sharp suit gets out. This is STEVENS. He makes his way towards the house, his jacket billowing in the wind.

Eddie walks towards him. They have to shout to be heard over the noise of the helicopter's engine.

EDDIE

Can I help you?

STEVENS

My name is Stevens.

He hands Eddie an EMBOSSED BUSINESS CARD.

STEVENS (CONT'D)

I'm the Personal Assistant to a private individual who's interested in purchasing Halstead Manor. My client was very disappointed to hear that you'd instructed your lawyer to pull out of negotiations before he'd a chance to counter with a larger offer. He wanted to see if you'd be open to a face to face meeting.

EDDIE

Who is this guy?

STEVENS

If you were willing to come with me, you could be sitting down with him by elevenses.

EDDIE

My situation's changed. I'm no longer looking to sell the house.

(CONTINUED)

STEVENS

He realises this would represent a considerable inconvenience to you - so he wanted to offer you two hundred and fifty thousand pounds for your time.

(BEAT)

It's non-recoupable.

Stevens opens his briefcase to reveal that it's full of FIFTY POUND NOTES. Eddie checks out the money then looks up at him and nods his head.

MOMENTS LATER - Lady M watches from a first floor window as Eddie boards the chopper with Stevens and heads off for God knows where...

34

INT. FISH MARKET - DAY 5

34

Susie meets up with the man who Freddy owes the money to.

A pair of stylish high heeled shoes click-clack their way through the bustling fish market.

Susie Glass glides past the FISHERMEN and the PUNTERS as she breezily makes her way towards Tommy - who's chopping off fish heads behind the counter like a salty executioner.

SUSIE

Mister Dixon?

Tommy looks up from what he's doing.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

Susie Glass. I was wondering if I could have a word.

TOMMY

Step into my office.

35

INT. TOMMY'S OFFICE - DAY 5

35

Susie persuades Tommy to accept less money but there are conditions.

Tommy takes a seat behind his desk - his huge frame looking way too big for his tiny office.

TOMMY

I think my brother knows your Dad actually. How's he doing?

SUSIE

Twelve years into a twenty year stretch.

(CONTINUED)

TOMMY

Ouch. I've heard nothing but good things about your operation though.

Susie perches on the chair opposite.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

I used to think the puff game was too much hassle. Too bulky, not enough return - but it sounds like you guys've got it sewn up.

SUSIE

We've always steered clear of cocaine. Which means we're not in competition with each other.

TOMMY

That's what they tell me. So what's the deal with you and Freddy Halstead then?

SUSIE

I have a business interest that could be put in jeopardy by this debt of his and I wanted to see if there was a way we might be able to resolve it somehow.

TOMMY

Eight million's a lot of money.

SUSIE

What if there was a way I could help you get back the four you actually lent him? You might have to let the interest slide but you wouldn't be out of pocket. And you'd be doing me a big favour...

Tommy considers this for a moment.

TOMMY

Can I let you in on a little secret? I fucking hate fish. Always have done. Hate the smell of them. The taste. I don't even like fish fucking fingers. So the thing I want more than anything is the chance to get out of this shit hole and start doing some proper fucking work.

SUSIE

You looking for a job?

(CONTINUED)

TOMMY

Course not. But I've been waiting for the right opportunity to present itself for a while now.

SUSIE

Why don't you just get to the point?

TOMMY

What I'm thinking is rather than writing off the interest - how about we treat it as an investment. What would four million buy?

SUSIE

I'm not looking for investors.

TOMMY

I can't just write off four million.

SUSIE

What if I got you a million in puff as well?

TOMMY

What am I supposed to do with that?

SUSIE

I don't care what you do with it. I'm trying to find a way through here. We've got to fix this thing one way or another.

TOMMY

When would I get the four in cash?

SUSIE

You can pick it up on Friday. And you'll get the weed by the end of the month.

A beat as Tommy weighs up the offer.

TOMMY

Alright - but he's gotta admit he's a cock though.

(OFF SUSIE'S REACTION)

It's about respect. That posh cunt's gonna admit he's a cock and when he does he's gonna sing me a song while he's at it. I got the lyrics here.

SUSIE

Why don't I give you my number and you can whatsapp me.

(CONTINUED)

TOMMY

There's a video of the dance he's got to do as well --

SUSIE

Send it all over. I'll get you the weed. And then, so long as he comes up with the four - and says he's a cock -

(BEFORE TOMMY INTERRUPTS HER)

- and he sings you this song - we're good?

TOMMY

If he does all that - we're golden.

36

INT. / EXT. CHOPPER / LONDON - DAY 5

36

Eddie travels to London to meet the mystery buyer.

Eddie looks out at the city skyline as the chopper spirits him along the snaking line of the Thames.

37

INT. PINKY'S STREET - DAY 5

37

Eddie arrives at the mystery buyer's club.

Eddie's led through the oak-panelled corridors of a thousand year old Gentlemen's Club - the heads of VARIOUS MEMBERS turning as this scruffy young man passes through the bar towards --

38

INT. PINKY'S / BILLIARD ROOM - DAY 5

38

Eddie meets Uncle Stan who says he's going to make him an incredible offer.

There's a CRACK as the white ball cannons off the red and the white, pocketing both.

STANLEY JOHNSTON - AKA UNCLE STAN - looks up from his shot with a feeling of immense satisfaction. He's an American gentleman in his fifties dressed in expensively tailored tweeds.

UNCLE STAN

Were you aware that this club was formed by one of your ancestors - I think it was the Sixth Duke of Halstead - back in 1793.

EDDIE

Actually it was the Seventh. The Sixth ran off with an Italian opera singer. Ended up dying of syphilis.

(CONTINUED)

UNCLE STAN

Well credit his son for showing the fortitude to bounce back enough to launch such an esteemed establishment. Thanks to him you're automatically a member.

He puts down his cue and offers him his hand.

UNCLE STAN (CONT'D)

Stanley Johnston. With a 'T'.

They shake.

UNCLE STAN (CONT'D)

(NODDING TO THE BILLIARD TABLE)

Do you play?

MOMENTS LATER - Uncle Stan cues off and starts racking up points with meticulous care.

UNCLE STAN (CONT'D)

You know what I love about the British aristocracy? They're the *original* gangsters. The reason they own seventy five percent of this country is cause they stole it. William the Conqueror was worse than Al Capone. When he came over from France he grabbed hold of everything he could get his hands on. And then he set up a system so him and his friends got to hold onto it *forever*. The whole way this country's set up - I'm talking taxation, education, the judiciary... It's all designed to help the aristocracy hold onto their land and their money. Now if that isn't one of the greatest criminal conspiracies of all time then I don't know what is.

Uncle Stan misses a shot and curses under his breath. Eddie steps up and starts playing with an easy confidence.

UNCLE STAN (CONT'D)

I only got out of Colorado because I was good at science and I had an eye for a deal. But if I had that kind of blood flowing through my veins. That *heritage*. I would fucking revel in that shit.

(BEAT)

So how come I get the feeling you don't?

(CONTINUED)

EDDIE

I was always the second son. I never expected anything.

UNCLE STAN

So you joined the army. I get that. You wanted to plough your own furrow. Define yourself away from the weight of all that privilege. And hat's off to you - you nailed it. A Queen's Commendation and a mention in dispatches. Not bad.

Eddie pulls off an improbable shot. Uncle Stan struggles to hide his annoyance.

UNCLE STAN (CONT'D)

But you've got to understand something... I want that house so badly. And in order to get it I'm going to offer you an obscene amount of money.

39

INT. PINKY'S / MEMBERS' ROOM - DAY 5

39

Eddie turns down Uncle Stan's offer and sells him his wine cellar instead.

A WAITER pops the cork of an expensive bottle of wine and pours out two glasses which he puts down in front of Uncle Stan and Eddie who are sat at a table.

Uncle Stan takes the lid of his MONT BLANC and proceeds to write down a long number on a slip of paper.

Eddie waits as Uncle Stan fills in the zeroes.

Finally Uncle Stan folds the piece paper and slides it over to Eddie. Eddie peers at it. It's a big fucking number.

UNCLE STAN

Value is derived from what someone's willing to pay for something.

Uncle Stan sits back in his chair and breathes in the aroma of the wine.

UNCLE STAN (CONT'D)

If I say it's worth that much - it's worth it.

EDDIE

It's an impressive number... And I appreciate the lengths you've gone to - to present your offer in context...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

EDDIE (CONT'D)

But I've changed my mind. I'm not going to sell the house right now.

Uncle Stan's disappointed - but he's also impressed and intrigued...

UNCLE STAN

Maybe you've got more in common with your ancestors than you think you have.

EDDIE

I've never been a fan of opera.

UNCLE STAN

I'm talking about that ruthless streak, Eddie.

EDDIE

Maybe you're right.

Eddie takes a careful sip of his wine then puts his glass down with the faintest hint of disappointment.

Uncle Stan is on to him in a flash.

UNCLE STAN

Don't you like the wine?

EDDIE

It's good. Barolo can be a bit acidic sometimes...

UNCLE STAN

That's why it's served at seventeen degrees centigrade. This one's from Giacomo Conterno Monfortino.

(BEAT)

The best vineyard in Italy.

EDDIE

Maybe my taste buds have been spoiled. My Dad was a terrible snob when it came to wine. He said that if it wasn't from Burgundy, it wasn't worth drinking.

This is like a punch in the gut to Uncle Stan.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Which is ridiculous of course, but... He knew a lot more about wine than I did.

Uncle Stan's face twitches. He can't stand being outclassed.

Eddie looks up. Sees Uncle Stan's on the line...

(CONTINUED)

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Have you ever tried an 1945 bottle
of Romanée Conti?

UNCLE STAN

There's only six cases in
existence.

EDDIE

(AFTER A PAUSE)

Eight actually. The King's got two
of them. The Archduke of Moldova's
got another. The rest are in my
Dad's cellar - along with many
others.

(BEAT)

Funny really. I'm more of a beer
man myself.

UNCLE STAN

Why do I get the feeling you're
trying to sell me your cellar,
Eddie?

EDDIE

Cause I am. You interested in
buying it?

UNCLE STAN

Does he still have the Gautier
Cognac from 1762?

Eddie nods. Uncle Stan gasps. The deal is on.

40

EXT. HALSTEAD MANOR - DAY 5

40

Eddie completes the sale of his wine cellar.

Stevens gives the nod and Eddie slams the door of the chopper
which is laden down with CRATES OF WINE.

Eddie watches the helicopter take off then picks up TWO
LUXURY SUITCASES FILLED WITH CASH and starts to carry them
back to the house.

41-42

OMITTED

41-42

43

INT. HALSTEAD MANOR / STUDY - DAY 5

43

Eddie discovers that Freddy's taken the money from the safe.

Eddie puts the cases on the table.

SUSIE

Do you come bearing gifts?

EDDIE

That's my father's wine collection.

(CONTINUED)

SUSIE
In paper? Bold...

Eddie starts unpacking the money.

EDDIE
This plus the money in the safe should mean my brother's debts are paid. Assuming your conversation with Tommy Dixon went well?

SUSIE
There's a couple of caveats but he said he'll accept the four so long as it's cash and tomorrow.

EDDIE
That's a big step down. How d'you persuade him?

SUSIE
D'you really want to know?

EDDIE
Maybe not. But I'm impressed.

Eddie starts opening the safe. His face falls.

SUSIE
All good?

Eddie doesn't respond for a moment - he just stares into the safe WHICH IS COMPLETELY EMPTY.

43A

INT. / INT. BOXING VENUE ENTRANCE / STUDY - DAY 5

43A

Eddie discovers that Freddy's used his money to place a bet on an exclusive boxing match.

Freddy's talking on his phone as he stands in line with some VIP GUESTS who are shuffling through security.

FREDDY
Hear me out, Eddie. This guy is a two time world heavyweight champion.

EDDIE
How much did you put on, Freddy?

FREDDY
All of it. It's a dead cert. Winner takes all. I met his trainer and everything.

Freddy slows down as he reaches the front of the queue where everyone's being instructed to put their phones into MAGNET-SEALING KEVLAR BAGS.

(CONTINUED)

EDDIE

What's the name of the bookie you made the bet with?

FREDDY

There's no bookie's in this kind of fight. This is a totally exclusive and off the record. It's VVVIP.

EDDIE

How come you're going?

FREDDY

Through a friend of a friend.

EDDIE

Which friend?

FREDDY

... Pete. He's got a mate who's put five mill on the guy - and he's cut me in --

EDDIE

Pete Spencer-Forbes? I'm trying to get a gun out of your mouth Freddy. Why d'you keep jamming it back in?

The SECURITY GUARD gives Freddy an insistent nod. He needs to hand in his phone. Freddy holds up a finger, making him wait.

FREDDY

He's trying to make amends. There's no way this guy's not going to win. It's Joey Bang Bang. He's the undefeated champion of the world.

EDDIE

And who's he up against?

FREDDY

It doesn't matter. He's gonna wipe the floor with him.

EDDIE

Tell Pete you made a mistake. Tell him you're sorry but you need the money back.

FREDDY

Can't do it bro. I'm going to fix this.

Freddy hangs up and surrenders his phone with a sweet smile.

Eddie realises Freddy's hung up. Susie studies him.

(CONTINUED)

SUSIE
Your brother?

EDDIE
He just put two million quid on a
fight.

SUSIE
Which fight?

43-45 **OMITTED**

43-45

46 **INT. EDDIE'S CAR - NIGHT 5**

46

***Jack Glass explains how to get in to see the off the books
boxing match.***

Eddie's sat in the front next to Susie. Susie's brother Jack
is sat in the back, leaning forward as he talks.

JACK
... The reason it's off the books
is that the result stays in the
room. Cause if word gets out then
it'll affect their ranking. These
guys are proper champions so no one
wants to lose face. But the thing
is people want to see them in
action and they'll pay a fuck of a
lot of money to do it. I'm not
kidding - it's a hundred K a ticket
- at least - and that's if you can
get hold of them which isn't easy.

SUSIE
But you can get us in right?

JACK
Well Gerbil knows the guy on the
door and he's had a word and
Gerbil's pretty reliable.

EDDIE
Why's he called Gerbil?

JACK
Cause he looks a bit like a gerbil -
anyway his mate Fitbit's getting
paid five grand just to stand by
the door and look tough.

(BEAT)
Don't ask me why he's called
Fitbit.

EDDIE
So it's going to cost me a hundred
thousand pounds just to have the
conversation?

(CONTINUED)

SUSIE
Two hundred. You're not going in on
your own.

47 **EXT. BOXING VENUE - NIGHT 5**

47

Jack heads off to secure Susie and Eddie's tickets.

Susie's G-Wagon pulls up alongside a series of SUPER
EXPENSIVE LOOKING VEHICLES.

Jack jumps out of the back and makes his way over to the
entrance where TWO TOUGH LOOKING SECURITY GUARDS are standing
guard.

47A **INT. G-WAGON - NIGHT 5**

47A

Susie agrees to lend Eddie the money to buy the tickets.

Eddie watches as Jack back slaps the Security Guards.

EDDIE
Your brother seems relatively
functional. Must be useful.

SUSIE
He's not as functional as he looks.

EDDIE
What's the vice?

SUSIE
His cock.

Susie starts lining up a couple of hundred grands worth of
Bitcoin on her phone.

EDDIE
What does he do with it?

SUSIE
Usual thing. But a lot of it.

EDDIE
Smooth.

Jack gives them the thumbs up.

SUSIE
You can pay me back later. I know
you need every penny right now.

48 **OMITTED**

48

49 **INT. BOXING VENUE - NIGHT 5**

49

Pete refuses to give Eddie his money back.

(CONTINUED)

TWO HEAVYWEIGHT BOXERS slug it out in the ring as Eddie and Susie are guided past various booths filled with VIP GUESTS.

Eddie clocks Freddy watching fearfully as Joey Bang Bang takes a beating. Pete's sat beside him along with a GROUP OF TOUGH LOOKING MEN.

The Concierge steers Eddie and Susie to a booth. Susie sits down and watches the fight.

Eddie waits for the Concierge to leave then makes a beeline for Pete.

Pete doesn't seem concerned as he Eddie approaches.

PETE
Steady Eddie.

EDDIE
Peter. Money.

PETE
What money?

EDDIE
Freddy's money. Which is my money.

PETE
Nothing I can do about it now mate... Fight's started. Take a seat.

EDDIE
You need to talk to whoever you laid the bet with and ask for the money back.

PETE
Can we talk about it later? I'm trying to watch this.

EDDIE
Listen to me, Peter. Without knowing it, you've stepped into a world that you're not familiar with. That money is expected by someone who will not suffer a disappointment.

PETE
That's not my problem. It's yours.

EDDIE
What I'm trying to explain to you is that it's going to be your problem.

(CONTINUED)

PETE

Your brother put that money on Joey Bang Bang. If Jimmy wins - then your brother's going to double his money. But if he loses, that money doesn't belong to him any more and there's nothing anyone can do about it.

Freddy GROANS as Joey Bang Bang starts to get hammered.

PETE (CONT'D)

You're looking in the wrong direction, mate...

Pete turns to watch the fight.

Eddie keeps his eyes on Pete as the crowd get to their feet.

PETE (CONT'D)

There we go... If he goes down before the end of the round, this fight'll end up costing a grand a second.

Joey Bang Bang gets KO'd. Freddy looks distraught.

FREDDY

What's he doing? Why doesn't he get up?

PETE

Show's over mate.

FREDDY

Fuck. Fuck. FUCK.

PETE

That is fucking harsh, here.

Pete pours Freddy a drink. Freddy downs it.

PETE (CONT'D)

(TURNING TO EDDIE)

Your brother really can't cut a break, can he?

EDDIE

You never made the bet.

(BEAT)

You knew that guy was going down, so you took my brother's money and you kept it. Like a cunt.

There's a tense pause.

(CONTINUED)

PETE

That's a serious allegation, Your Grace.

EDDIE

You took advantage of my brother. That's not acceptable. Now we're going to leave here together and you're going to take me to my money and you're going to return it.

PETE

The fundamental rules of gambling are very simple. When you lose, you pay up. You don't go round calling people cunts. Isn't that right John?

CHELSEA JOHN - a broad shouldered hard man - nods his head.

CHELSEA JOHN

He's right. A bet's a bet.
(BEAT)
Move on.

EDDIE

No. You can fuck off.

CHELSEA JOHN

You don't want to go there, son. I'll open you up like a packet of crisps.

Eddie sizes the guy up. And the crew behind him...

EDDIE

This is you're last chance Pete.

CHELSEA JOHN

Why don't you fuck off back to Eton and wank over a biscuit you posh twat.

PETE

You're embarrassing yourself, Edward.

(BEAT)

You think just cause you've inherited a title, you can come in here and start ordering everyone around? That's not the way the world works anymore. So jog on.

Eddie weighs up the situation and comes to a decision.

EDDIE

I'll see you soon, Pete.

(CONTINUED)

PETE
See you later.

Eddie nods his head slowly then heads off.

Pete shrugs off a twinge of anxiety and rejoins his crew.

Eddie rejoins Susie who's perched at her table.

SUSIE
Quite a good fight actually.
(BEAT)
D'you need a hand getting the money
back?

Eddie pauses before he answers, feeling the weight of the implications.

EDDIE
Yeah.

SUSIE
You sure about that?

Eddie looks over to Pete lording it up over his brother.

EDDIE
Yeah I'm sure.

50-53 **OMITTED**

50-53

54 **INT. EDDIE'S CAR / SMART STREET IN CHELSEA - DAY 6**

54

Susie's crew recover the money but Pete wants to apologise.

Eddie and Susie are waiting in his car. Susie's scrolling through her phone. Eddie's on edge seems to be keeping a watchful eye on a particular address.

EDDIE
Ever heard of a guy called Stanley
Johnston?

Susie looks up - thinks for a moment then shakes her head.

SUSIE
Why?

EDDIE
He's the guy I sold the wine to. He
wanted to buy my house. And the
grounds.
(BEAT)
And the kind of money he was
offering made me think he might
know there was something else going
on...

(CONTINUED)

SUSIE

What did you say his name was?

EDDIE

Stanley Johnston. With a 'T'.

SUSIE

What did you say to him?

EDDIE

Told him it wasn't for sale.

SUSIE

Which was the correct answer. D'you want to take a look at this video?

Susie starts lining up a video on her phone. It's a SUPER ANNOYING TECHNO CHICKEN song.

EDDIE

What am I looking at this for?

SUSIE

It's what Freddy's got to do when he hands over the money. Dance like a chicken and sing a version of this song.

EDDIE

Why the fuck's he got to do that?

SUSIE

How the fuck should I know? It's got nothing to do with me. I've got the new lyrics here.

EDDIE

It's like they're eight years old.

SUSIE

Just watch the video, alright?

Susie pulls up a video. She's about to press play when Keith knocks on the window. She winds it down.

KEITH

Did you want us to count it? The guy said it's all there but we haven't checked.

Susie turns to Eddie who pauses before answering.

EDDIE

We can always count it later.

KEITH

Are you sure? It's not a problem - it'll just take time, that's all.

(CONTINUED)

SUSIE
Let's get going.

KEITH
Alright.

Keith heads off then doubles back.

KEITH (CONT'D)
Almost forgot. He wanted to have a
a quick word with you. Think he
wants to say sorry or something.

SUSIE
(TURNING TO EDDIE)
D'you want an apology?

Eddie hesitates. Notices a SPECK OF BLOOD on Keith's shirt.

EDDIE
I'm good.

KEITH
I think he'd really appreciate. It
won't take a minute.

SUSIE
Alright. But make it quick though,
yeah?

Keith nods and heads off. Susie lines up the video for Eddie
who's starting to look a little bit apprehensive.

SUSIE (CONT'D)
I'm Freddy. Okay?
(BEAT)
I'm not gonna sing it - but he's
got to. And he's gotta do the dance
as well, but anyway...

Susie hits play and an annoying song kicks in.

SUSIE (CONT'D)
(READING IN TIME TO THE
MUSIC)
I'm a posh twat who fucked up - Ee-
aye-ee-aye-o.

55

EXT. SMART RESIDENTIAL STREET - DAY 6

55

Pete is brought before Eddie and Susie.

A battered-looking Pete is carried towards Eddie's car by
Keith and Blanket.

SUSIE (V.O.)
And I fucked up cause I'm a cunt -
Ee-aye-ee-aye-o.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SUSIE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

With a twat twat here and a twat twat there - here a twat there a twat everywhere a posh twat. I'm a posh twat who fucked up - Ee-aye-ee-aye -

56

INT. EDDIE'S CAR - DAY 6

56

Eddie is confronted by the violence that has been carried out on his behalf.

Susie and Eddie are interrupted by a BLOODY THUMP on the window.

Pete looks like he's had the living shit beaten out of him.

PETE

(MUMBLED)

I just wanted to say sorry... From the bottom of my heart...

SUSIE

(TURNING TO EDDIE)

That's nice, isn't it Eddie?

PETE

Are we cool then? I mean you've got the money... And I've said I'm sorry, so... Are we cool?

SUSIE

I don't know. Are we 'cool' Eddie?

EDDIE

(AFTER A PAUSE)

We're cool.

Susie gives Keith a nod and he hauls Pete away as Blanket gets in the back with the money.

Susie sees that Eddie's still processing what they did to Pete.

SUSIE

You alright soldier? You're looking a little green around the gills.

EDDIE

I'm fine. I just didn't realise we were going to break both his legs.

SUSIE

Maybe you're just missing the sense of legitimacy provided by the chain of command.

EDDIE

Maybe I am.

(CONTINUED)

EDDIE

Bit of a long story actually. Tommy Dixon's agreed to take the four so we're good for tomorrow.

FREDDY

Fucking hell - well played. How d'you manage that?

EDDIE

He did have a condition by the way. Nothing major. More of a symbolic gesture...

FREDDY

I'm not apologising to that fucking Scouser. It was Pete's fault, not mine --

EDDIE

I'm not interested in the ins and outs. The bottom line is you caused this guy a level of inconvenience. All he's asking is for you to do is acknowledge it.

FREDDY

How am I supposed to do that?

EDDIE

You need to say you're a cock.

(BEAT)

Which - in the greater scheme of things - isn't too bad. I mean a couple of days ago he was threatening to cut your dick off.

Freddy takes a moment to process this.

FREDDY

Sure. I'm a cock. Fucking easy. No problem.

Eddie passes him the joint.

FREDDY (CONT'D)

I mean everyone thinks I'm a cock anyway, don't they? He does. Pete does. Dad definitely did - otherwise he wouldn't have cut me out and given me nothing. What about you Eddie? Do you think I'm a cock?

EDDIE

Well you have been a bit of a cock - if we're totally honest. Doesn't mean you always are.

(CONTINUED)

Freddy hands the joint to Tammy who's drifted over.

FREDDY

Great. That's just fucking...

(TURNING TO TAMMY)

What about you, Tammy? Do you think I'm a cock?

TAMMY

All men are cocks, Freddy.

(BEAT)

That's why the world's fucked.

FREDDY

Thanks for that blinding fucking insight.

EDDIE

He wants you to do a dance as well... And sing the apology.

FREDDY

What fucking dance?

EDDIE

I've got a video of it here.

A beat as Eddie searches for the film.

FREDDY

Is it the fucking chicken dance? I'm not dancing like a chicken for that fucking Scouser.

EDDIE

(DEAD SERIOUS)

Yes you are Freddy. You asked for my help and I'm helping. I'm not doing it because you pulled me out of the pond when I was three. I'm doing it because you're my brother and that's what brother's do for each other. In return you have to do exactly what I say from now on. If that means dancing like a chicken - you don't dance like a bear or monkey or a cockatoo. You dance like a chicken. Is that clear?

Freddy glares at him then nods. Eddie hits play on the video.

59

EXT. HALSTEAD MANOR - DAY 7

59

Tommy arrives to collect his money.

Susie emerges from the main doors as Tommy's car pulls up with a crunch of gravel. He gets and surveys the building.

(CONTINUED)

TOMMY

Nice gaff.

Tommy makes his way towards the front door carrying a BIG SPORTS BAG.

He's followed by his wingman JEDEREK WOZNICK aka JETHRO (20's) who constantly listens to music through a big pair of HEADPHONES.

60

INT. HALSTEAD MANOR / STUDY - DAY 7

60

Tommy insists that Freddy humiliates himself.

Eddie gets to his feet as Susie leads Tommy and Jethro into the room. Freddy skulks in the background.

EDDIE

Thanks for making the trip Mister Dixon. We appreciate you're a busy man.

TOMMY

Nice drive actually. Beautiful countryside. And whilst this whole business has been a total fucking ball-ache - at least I'm getting a show today aren't I?

(BEAT)

Is that for me?

Tommy points to the FOUR HEAVING BAGS FULL OF CASH that are lined up by the sofa.

SUSIE

As promised.

FREDDY

Are you going to count it?

TOMMY

Course not.

(WAVING AT JETHRO)

Hey Jethro. You're up mate.

Jethro steps forward brandishing a BANKNOTE COUNTER.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

(TO JETHRO)

Set yourself up on the settee in the corner.

Jethro gets to it. Tommy turns to Freddy.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Shouldn't take him too long - he's dead quick.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

TOMMY (CONT'D)

(BEAT)

Shall we get started then?

FREDDY

Yeah, listen - about the whole chicken thing. You're not really going to ask me to do it in front of my bro and this rather glamorous young woman are you?

TOMMY

Abso-fucking-lutely I am. It's non-negotiable. That's why I'm here. That's why I agreed to take the four instead of the eight.

Tommy opens up his sportsbag and pulls out a BIG YELLOW CHICKEN SUIT.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Where are you gonna do it?

(POINTING TO A CURTAIN)

I reckon that'd be a good background over there.

Tommy hands him the chicken suit and gets his phone ready to film the show.

FREDDY

Wait a minute. You're not filming it.

TOMMY

Course I'm filming it. I want to save it for posterity.

FREDDY

Look Tommy. I'm sorry - right. And I admit it - I was a cock. But you've got the money.

TOMMY

I know I've got my money. And we all know you're a cock, Freddy. But what I need is an expression of how much of a cock you are. For that you need to sing the song, you need to do the dance and you need to wear the fucking chicken suit.

FREDDY

You don't have to film it.

TOMMY

How am I going to show it to my brother if I don't film it?

(CONTINUED)

EDDIE

Come on Freddy... It's just a song.

TOMMY

And you've got to do it properly. I don't want anything half-hearted. I wanna be able to hear the words loud and clear.

There's a long pause then Freddy takes a deep breath.

FREDDY

Okay, fucking hell - fine.

(BEAT)

But I'm going for a piss first.

Tommy hands him the chicken suit. Freddy stalks off.

61

INT. HALSTEAD MANOR / BOOT ROOM - DAY 7

61

Freddy realises he can't go through with it.

Freddy does two enormous lines off the seat of the toilet.

He gets out a hip flask and pours the contents down his throat then he stares at his feathery reflection in the mirror.

FREDDY

(SINGING)

I'm a posh twat who fucked up...

Fuck it, he can't do it.

62

INT. HALSTEAD MANOR / STUDY - DAY 7

62

Freddy blows Tommy's brains out.

Susie's studying the Gainsborough as they wait for Freddy to return from the toilet. Notes whir through Jethro's money counter in the background, accompanied by the tinny beats coming out of his headphones. Tommy adjusts the framing on his phone.

SUSIE

I like this. There's something about it...

EDDIE

It's by Thomas Gainsborough.

SUSIE

I like how he's done the trees and the clouds... Feels like a storm's coming.

(POINTING AT THE FIGURES)

That's why they're all packing up to go home.

(CONTINUED)

Eddie stands beside her and peers at the picture.

EDDIE

I always thought that guy was
setting off on a journey.

SUSIE

Nah. He's heading home before he
gets wet.

Eddie appraises the picture again and nods his head in
agreement. A moment of connection between the two of them.

TOMMY

I love a good storm. Cleans all the
shit off the street. Flushes it
down the gutter. Tell you what -
this country could do with a storm.
A big one to get rid of all the
filth and the scum --

Suddenly Freddy bursts into the room brandishing a shotgun in
each hand.

They all turn to Freddy as he walks up to Tommy. Freddy
points the gun right in his face.

FREDDY

Who's the cock now you dirty
northern bastard?

Freddy pulls the trigger. There's a loud bang then Tommy's
brains are spattered all over the Gainsborough.

Tommy's body falls to the ground. Dark blood starts pooling
round the tight bundles of money...

Freddy gazes down at what he's done in breathless amazement -
then he walks out into the garden through the french windows.

Eddie and Susie peer at Tommy's body with a sense of muted
astonishment.

The sound of the money counter continues in the background -
Jethro completely oblivious to what just happened.

SUSIE

Do you have any idea how bad this
is?

Eddie turns to her and nods his head slowly.

63

EXT. HALSTEAD MANOR - DAY 7

63

Freddy walks away from the crime scene with a sense of awe.

(CONTINUED)

Freddy walks away from the house and stretches out his arms in the shape of a cross. He feels the sun on his face and lets out a primal roar.

64

INT. HALSTEAD MANOR / STUDY - DAY 7

64

Susie offers to help Eddie deal with the body.

Eddie's sat himself down on the sofa opposite the Gainsborough, reeling from the shock of what's just happened.

All is silent apart from the tinny thud of music leaking out of Jethro's speakers and the brrr of his counting machine...

Susie sits down beside Eddie.

Eddie continues to stare at the painting which is dripping with blood.

SUSIE

I can help you get rid of the body.
If that was something you wanted me
to do.

Eddie takes one final look at the picture then turns to her.

EDDIE

(NODDING TO JETHRO)
What about him?

SUSIE

I can deal with him too.

EDDIE

(AFTER A PAUSE)
We're not killing him.

SUSIE

You got any better ideas?

We hold on Eddie for a long moment as he thinks through his options, then --

EDDIE

Yeah.
(BEAT)
As a matter of fact I do.

END OF EPISODE ONE