

CARLY When they said they'd keep you in mind it was just a nicer way of getting you out the room, it was easier for them to say that, easier in the moment but —

ASHLEY

CARLY They won't call. It's not different to the others.

ASHLEY Yes, it is, listen.

CARLY No —

ASHLEY I think he could tell I was —

CARLY

He was being polite there's no way he was going to give you a job, after being in here all this time neither of us is going to —

JOHN *shoots CARLY, and then immediately ASHLEY. He falls to the ground.*

JOHN

That's / better.

DAVID

Sorry. Sorry. You can't —

JOHN

Well they can sue me then, can't they? They can join the queue.

Thank god most of them can't afford it.

Look at her.

They were supposed to be attractive.

Originally. Look what happened.

Fucking metaphor for the whole thing she is.

Chubby fucking...

Surprised the darts work.

Need an elephant gun.

Ten bore.

*A moment.*

JOHN *shoots them both again.*

JOHN *laughs.*

DAVID

That's a double dose.

JOHN

'Double dose'

DAVID

Give it to me.

JOHN

Uh... uh... 'okay okay'

Twitching.

'The rules.'

I wrote the rules.

What do you do?

Here?

When there's no customers.

You just wait? Or something.

What do you do?

What do you do at home?

Where do you live? Is it a flat? I bet it's a little flat, and you have everything in the right place. Just in exactly the precise position it should be.

A simple life.

Ever invite people home?

Ever meet anyone?

Phone ever ring?

None of your fucking business.

DAVID

JOHN *smiles and gives him the gun back.*

JOHN

So you know.

We filed today.

In two weeks, we'll all be out. You.

Me.

Them.

It's over.

Thank god.

*He leaves.**DAVID stays and watches.**CARLY wakes up again.**ASHLEY wakes up again.**He sits down, and stares, facing away from her.**She looks at him.**DAVID goes right up to the screen of the hide.***Scene Nine***The flat is back to its original state — but with some wear and tear.**CARLY is stood in the middle of the living room, in her coat.**There is a small cardboard box on the floor with their stuff in.**LIAM is in his box, now on the mezzanine level, playing the computer game.**ASHLEY comes down the stairs holding a couple of DVDs. He's slightly vague. Wearing a rucksack.*

ASHLEY

Always something else.

Back of the cupboard.

*He puts it in the box.**CARLY looks at ASHLEY.*

CARLY

You need to put your coat on first.

They said it was raining. Not here. Not yet.

Might be walking round a lot today.

ASHLEY

Distracted.

CARLY

Yeah.

ASHLEY

Sorry.

*She picks up his coat.**Takes the rucksack off him.**He puts his coat on.**Puts the rucksack back over.*

CARLY

Did you speak to him?

ASHLEY

I tried but — I told him this morning. Said we were off. He does know.

CARLY

Found my old phone.

ASHLEY

Good. Thought you would've thrown it away  
threw mine away. So did you try –

CARLY

Yeah I tried Fiona but the number doesn't  
work. She must've changed it. Probably  
changed it ages ago.

We should go.

ASHLEY

Yeah.

ASHLEY goes to the fridge. Opens it.

Takes out a small piece of cheese.

Eats it.

CARLY

Ashley we should go.

ASHLEY

I told him. That it was today.

I don't know if he listens any more.

CARLY

What do you think we should do? We can't  
miss this bus.

ASHLEY

I did say.

I told him.

CARLY looks upstairs.

ASHLEY goes upstairs.

He looks at the box.

Liam.

Liam.

We have to go.

He lifts the box – LIAM kicks out, grabs the  
box, and gets back inside.

ASHLEY watches for a moment.

Then comes back down the stairs.

CARLY shouts to him.

CARLY

Liam, if you don't come now, you'll never see  
us again. We'll leave you behind and we don't  
know where we're going.

So you need to come out.

Liam.

Liam.

Okay

We're going then.

ASHLEY

He knows we won't.

They wait.

Jamie. We could try Jamie.

CARLY

Who?

ASHLEY

He's a mate. From school.

CARLY

Got his number?

ASHLEY

...

A knock on the door.

CARLY opens it. It's DAVID.

DAVID Hi... I'm David. Your warden. Can I come in?

CARLY You're here for the...

DAVID I...

CARLY The inventory is it?

DAVID Right.

*He comes in. Sees ASHLEY.*

ASHLEY Hi.

DAVID David.

ASHLEY Good to meet you.

CARLY That's ours. That's our stuff there.

And there's Liam.

The furniture and everything's that's left, that's all yours.

We've got till eleven.

They said...

Yes it's fine.

I'm just...

I...

It looks strange doesn't it?

Like this.

ASHLEY

CARLY

DAVID

ASHLEY

DAVID

Does he still have his game?

CARLY

We thought you wouldn't mind him keeping that.

It's old now.

I know it's not ours but...

We thought you wouldn't mind.

DAVID

It's on the list actually.

CARLY

You're joking.

DAVID

Yes.

CARLY

Oh.

DAVID

It's fine. He can keep it.

ASHLEY

Where are you going?

CARLY

We're going to try friends.

DAVID

What do you want?

CARLY

You're getting the eleven o'clock bus?

DAVID

Yeah.

ASHLEY

You should go then.

DAVID

We know.

CARLY

You should leave by ten thirty if you're walking up to the road.

DAVID

Yeah.

CARLY

We'll be alright.

ASHLEY

It's Liam. He doesn't want to come out.

CARLY

There's only one bus. Shall I have a word. With Liam?

DAVID

ASHLEY  
CARLY

He's our son, if we can't --  
Yeah.  
Why not?

DAVID goes upstairs to the mezzanine level.

ASHLEY and CARLY watch.

DAVID looks at the box for a minute.

He sits down next to the box.

Close to it.

Speaks quietly.

DAVID

Hello

Soldier?

You're sat in the dark and you want to be safe. That's good. That makes sense. You're bright. You're a bright boy.

But you've got to make a decision.

You can stay in there and see what happens. Or you can come out.

It's up to you.

If you come out it won't be easy.

You understand?

You'll have to go and play football when it's cold, and you don't want to.

You'll have to make new friends with horrible people.

Watch films you hate.

You'll have to go to school every day, and pretend you know the answers when you don't.

Then you're going to have to meet girls and that'll be difficult for ever, that never gets easy. Then you won't know what to do, and everyone else will seem to breeze through it while you can't do the easiest things and it won't be fair, won't ever be fair, you'll struggle to get a house, struggle to get a job that doesn't make you feel like shit. And when you do find it, it won't last for ever, and then you'll be back out there again, older, and less useful. You might have kids and have to look after them, or you might not but either way it'll be difficult all of it, all the time, it'll be really really hard.

But it's either facing all that, or staying in there.

Those are your options.

So?

Soldier.

Liam?

What do you think?

I'm still here.

What do you think?

Soldier?

LIAM *throws the box off.*

*Sits in front of DAVID with his hood down.*

Good boy.

Now how you doing?

Look at me.

Look at me soldier.

*He looks up.*

Give me the game.

LIAM *gives him the game.*

DAVID *puts the coat and the bag on LIAM.*

You've been very brave.

To go out there and do all that. To step outside and face all that.

You must be much more brave than I can even imagine.

LIAM *goes and holds CARLY'S hand.*

CARLY *looks at DAVID, still sat on the floor. Astonished.*

You should go.

*They leave.*

DAVID *comes down the stairs.*

*He reaches across to his bag.*

*Takes out a tranquilliser gun.*

*Puts a dart in the gun.*

*Sits on the stairs.*

*Puts the end of the gun in his mouth.*

*Pulls the trigger.*

*He convulses for a few seconds.*

*He dies.*

*End.*