

T W O   B R O T H E R S  
P I C T U R E S

# BACK TO LIFE

By

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Episode 3

SHOOTING SCRIPT  
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- 1      **EXT. BEACH - NIGHT**      1
- The deserted beach on the edge of town. A few seagulls.  
Nothing else.
- 2      **INT. MIRI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**      2
- MIRI lies awake. It's dark. Her head aches. She sits up and touches it.
- Miri takes a Walkman with a tape in it from her bedside table and puts in her headphones to listen. On the table we can see the tape's empty case: 'Mix 4'.
- AUDIO PLAYS: a recording of a TEEN MANDY and TEEN MIRI.
- TEEN MANDY (V.O.)  
Okay, I'll start.
- TEEN MIRI (V.O.)  
(into recorder)  
Mandy will start.
- TEEN MANDY (V.O.)  
Miri, you're not taking it seriously.
- TEEN MIRI (V.O.)  
I am! Just go.
- Teen Mandy starts to sing, quite seriously - Bananarama's all time classic 'Love In The First Degree'.
- It's eerie. Like listening to ghosts.
- TEEN MANDY (V.O.)  
Last night I was dreaming /I was  
locked in a prison cell / When I  
woke up I was screaming / Calling  
out your name...
- TEEN MIRI (V.O.)  
Woohwooh...
- They giggle.
- 3      **EXT. HIGH STREET - NIGHT**      3
- There's several paper photocopies on car windscreens but they have folded over in the wind so we can't see what's on them.
- 4      **INT. MIRI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**      4
- MIRI touches her sore head. There's a bit of redness around it. The audio continues.

TEEN MIRI (V.O.)  
(singing)  
And the judge and the jury / they  
all put the blame on me / the blame  
on me / They wouldn't go for my  
story / They wouldn't hear my plea

5      **EXT. STREET - NIGHT**

5

We PUSH in on a photocopy on a shop window and see it is a press cutting.

TEEN MANDY & TEEN MIRI (V.O)  
Only you can set me free / Cos I'm  
guilty / Guilty as a girl can be /  
Come on baby can't you see /I stand  
accused / of love in the first  
degree....

We can make out a headline: "Girl charged with Policeman's daughter's murder." ALT Headline: "Lone Teen Killer".

An photo of TEEN MIRI stares out from the article.

**TITLE CARD: BACK TO LIFE**

6      **INT. DOCTOR'S SURGERY - DAY**

6

MIRI waits in line behind a MOTHER her age with a 5 year old CHILD, dealing with an unfriendly jobsworth RECEPTIONIST.

RECEPTIONIST  
Kathy should not have said that.

MOTHER  
But she did. She said I could wait  
and Elsie would be squeezed in.

RECEPTIONIST  
Well, we're overbooked today. But  
if you wanna wait, it's your life.

The mother sighs and turns. Miri smiles kindly at her. The mother goes to sit down with her kid.

RECEPTIONIST  
Next.

The receptionist starts speed typing. Not looking up.

MIRI  
Hi. My name is Miri Matteson, I  
haven't been here for ages but I  
need to re-register -

Receptionist types something in.

RECEPTIONIST

Your last visit was September 2000?

MIRI

Yes.

RECEPTIONIST

That's a long time ago.

MIRI

I'm... very healthy.

RECEPTIONIST

We need an updated ID and proof of address.

MIRI

I don't have any at the moment.

RECEPTIONIST

Bank statement, house insurance?

MIRI

No. I'm not on any of the bills.

RECEPTIONIST

So you don't pay bills?

MIRI

It's my parents' house-

RECEPTIONIST

Wish my parents paid for me.

MIRI

It's not like that.

RECEPTIONIST

Mobile bill?

MIRI

I don't have a mobile-

RECEPTIONIST

How can you not have a mobile??

MIRI

I just need a doctor to look at my head.

RECEPTIONIST

Well, I just need proof of residence.

MIRI

Look, I live there-

RECEPTIONIST

With your mummy and daddy paying  
all the bills yes I know - but I  
need a piece of paper that tells me  
that.

MIRI

But what if I have been away for a  
long time.

RECEPTIONIST

Where have you been?

Miri hesitates. A few people have joined the line behind her.

MIRI

(sotto)

Somewhere.

RECEPTIONIST

Where?

MIRI

Does it matter?

People look round. The receptionist looks at Miri, dead eyed.

MIRI

(frustrated)

I have an infected cut on my head  
and I need to see a doctor.

RECEPTIONIST

Go to A&E.

Miri hates hospitals.

MIRI

No hospitals. I want to go here.

RECEPTIONIST

Then you need to be a big girl and  
start paying some bills. Next.

Miri rebelliously swipes a clipboard off the counter. And  
leaves frame, popping back in to pick it up and put it back  
again.

7

**EXT. NATHAN'S FISH AND CHIP SHOP - DAY**

7

MIRI arrives for work. Closed sign in the door. The smashed  
window is boarded up. She sees paper photocopies of her old  
trial press cuttings all over the front.

One has the headline "GIRL CHARGED WITH MURDER OF POLICEMAN'S DAUGHTER" and a photo of TEEN MIRI.

She tears them down. Then enters.

7A      **INT. NATHAN'S FISH AND CHIP SHOP - DAY (CONTINUOUS)**      7A

MIRI enters, NATHAN is there. He sees the photocopies in her hand.

NATHAN

I got the ones round the back.

MIRI

Oh god, I'm so sorry, that and the window-

NATHAN

It's fine, waiting for some new glass. So. Can't open, health and safety. So that's good.

MIRI

I feel awful. The brick was meant for me not to mess up your business-

NATHAN

People don't like me either, I'm the meat pie man killer. We're both outsiders, it was probably meant for both of us

MIRI

Doubt that

NATHAN

So just go, have a nice day off. You deserve it, when did you last do something nice? un-prisony. Go to the zoo or something

MIRI

I don't want to go to the zoo. I want to work. Or help-

NATHAN

And you will. When I get a window, and some customers again.

Miri knows she's a problem for him.

NATHAN

It's all good. Chin up. We can't let the bastards win. High five.

He holds up his hand. She tries to high five him. She half misses. The whole thing is regrettable.

He turns and exits into the back room.

8      **INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY**      8

JANICE sits opposite MIRI with a mug of tea. A crumpled press cutting with photo of TEEN MIRI between them.

MIRI

So you're telling me you can't do anything? This could have cost me my job and that's all I have right now.

JANICE

Bullshit. Sorry. Had too much soda water and my head is all fizzy. But "All you have" my arse. You are one of the lucky ones. One of the most privileged girls I've dealt with. You've got a job in a foodie place, somewhere really big to live with its own front garden-

MIRI

I'm getting shit sent to me Janice. In a box - actual shit. Graffiti on my house and now someone's putting these up all over town -

JANICE

No one has physically harmed you have they?

MIRI

Yes, they have.  
(pointing at her forehead)  
Look.

Janice looks dismissively.

JANICE

Well I can't do anything about that. Look, I know it's frustrating but step back. Bit of prank poopy -

MIRI

Real poopy.

JANICE

And someone's got a new photocopier - but it's not like the victim's father has come to your work and stabbed you in front of nine people with a sword. Which happened in Margate. Focus on the positives. One - you are not on heroin... you're not on heroin?

MIRI

No.

JANICE

Phew! And you are not involved in prostitution?



MIRI

No!

JANICE

So it's going well. Your life, post prison is going very well. You need to know that and be grateful. I deal with broken women every day, and you have it all. Just lower your expectations and get over yourself.

Miri flushes. Janice knows she's been tough.

JANICE

In a nice way.

Beat. Janice glances at a press cutting. There's the same article with the headline "GIRL CHARGED WITH MURDER OF POLICEMAN'S DAUGHTER" and a photo of TEEN MIRI.

JANICE

It's not flattering I'll give you that, you look like a rabbit.

MIRI

Thanks.

JANICE

(reading)

"Lara Boback, a young woman lured to her brutal senseless death."

MIRI

I didn't lure her, I am not a lurer.

JANICE

If you're gonna kill someone - don't kill a copper's daughter.

MIRI

Janice -

JANICE

Just saying.

MIRI

I keep listening to this tape we all made. The day before it happened. And -

JANICE

Oh God -

MIRI

What?

JANICE

You can't change what is done. It is done. You can only change what you've haven't done - yet - right now.

MIRI

What?

JANICE

I'm tired.

MIRI

We were getting on really well. Me  
and Lara. The day before. It  
doesn't make sense.

JANICE

Then why keep listening to it? It's  
not going to tell you.

(then)

Take the tape. Throw it in a bin.  
Then do something nice for  
yourself. Go to the zoo or  
something.

MIRI

I don't want to go to the zoo. Why  
is everyone trying to make me go to  
the fucking zoo?

Janice rises to leave.

JANICE

Fine. Try Pilates - actually don't.  
I did it for a whole year and  
nothing changed and then I realised  
I hadn't been doing the thing where  
you try to squeeze your bum shut  
then suck your fanny up into it.  
Livid. Five hundred pounds, not a  
muscle in sight.

Janice glances around the sitting room as she leaves.

JANICE

Oh and if anyone asks, we meet in  
my office.

MIRI

I could come to your office.

JANICE

No. I like coming here. Good  
biscuits.

She exits.

10      **INT. KITCHEN - DAY**

10

CAROLINE is loading the dishwasher surreptitiously. MIRI enters. Caroline jumps as if caught in a crime.

CAROLINE  
Jesus! I thought you were your  
father.

MIRI  
Is he very frightening?

CAROLINE  
I didn't rinse the plates.

MIRI  
Oohhh.

CAROLINE  
You've got to rinse them first,  
really rinse them. Saves energy.

MIRI  
But if you really, really rinse  
them, then you may as well have  
washed them so isn't that more  
wasteful in the end?

Caroline thinks about it.

CAROLINE  
Oh god. Don't tell him, he'll  
implode.

Caroline laughs. Miri smiles. It's nice for a moment.

MIRI  
Do you want to do something today?  
Me and you.

CAROLINE  
What?

MIRI  
Something. Anything. Together.

Caroline looks at Miri's hopeful face for a beat. She is ill at ease with the idea of spending time alone with Miri.

CAROLINE

Yes... Why don't you go and see  
Mandy? She'd love to see you.

MIRI

I don't want to see Mandy. I want  
to spend time with you.

CAROLINE

I can't, too much to do.

Caroline leaves. Miri's disappointed. She goes out to the  
garden to find Billy. He's her only option.

11

**EXT. GARDEN - DAY**

11

MIRI walks out and calls to BILLY over the fence.

MIRI

Billy! Get your coat you're taking  
me on an adventure.

She forces a sweet smile. Billy is overwhelmed.

BILLY

What, now?

ANNA suddenly bangs on the window from inside Billy's house.

ANNA

CUNT! CUNT!!

MIRI

That's quite distracting.  
(then to Billy)  
Yes. Right now.

ANNA

CUNT!

BILLY

Sorry-

MIRI

It's OK.

BILLY

Ah sweet, she thinks you're her  
"aunt."

MIRI

She's not saying "aunt" but anyway-

ANNA

CUNT CUNT CUNT.

BILLY

I'll get my keys.

Billy runs back inside. Anna bangs again on the window and shouts one long furious:

ANNA  
CUUUNNNNNNNNTT!

Miri's face hardens. She holds Anna's gaze, sticks up her middle finger up at her and mouths: "FUCK YOU."

12      **INT. MATTESON HOUSE - OMITTED**      12

13      **INT. DOCTOR'S SURGERY - DAY**      13

OSCAR sits in the waiting room. He watches the MOTHER we met earlier play with her daughter. He smiles. She smiles at him.

OSCAR  
How old?

MOTHER  
Five. Constantly sick, nightmare.

OSCAR  
I remember.

MOTHER  
Try not to breathe her in.

Oscar chuckles.

OSCAR  
It goes so fast.

MOTHER  
Everyone says that.

OSCAR  
Because it's true I'm afraid.

MOTHER  
Grandkids?

Pause. Oscar pretends.

OSCAR  
Yes, yes I do.

MOTHER  
How many?

OSCAR  
My daughter has one boy and two girls. Blissful chaos.

MOTHER  
Must be lovely being a grandparent.  
All the fun and half the work.



OSCAR  
It's wonderful.

He enjoys the lie. His name is called out. He gets up.

14      **EXT. AMUSEMENT PARK - DAY**

14

MIRI and BILLY wander through a tatty open-air amusement park/arcade. Eating candy floss.

BILLY  
Did you know that donuts were an accident, a cow knocked some boiling oil into a big pile of pastry and suddenly it was donuts.

Billy doesn't know what to say to girls in general. Especially not girls whom he fancies.

BILLY  
Candy floss was on purpose though. Which is good.

Miri smiles.

MIRI  
I used to come here when I was a kid.

BILLY  
I thought you weren't from round here?

MIRI  
I mean places like this. You know. Fairs and stuff.

BILLY  
I bet you were a nice kid.

MIRI  
Thanks. You too.  
(then)  
Shall we go on a ride?

Miri gestures to a nearby ride. Billy looks.

BILLY  
Wooooaahhh. No way. You're not getting me on that.

We see it's an utterly unscary carousel. Miri looks at him.

MIRI  
Come on Billy, it's a carousel.

BILLY

I'm terrified of horses.

MIRI

They're not real horses.

BILLY  
Very, very realistic.

MIRI  
Not really.

BILLY  
And it's so fast.

MIRI  
It's ridiculously slow. Me and my  
friends...  
(stopping herself)  
Well we just used to get stoned and  
go on them.

Beat.

MIRI  
Come on.

BILLY  
I can't...

MIRI  
Have a bash. I'll be there.

He looks at her.

BILLY  
You'll be there.

MIRI  
Yeah.

BILLY  
The two of us.

MIRI  
Yeah.

Billy concedes and gingerly gets on a horse. He holds on for dear life. Miri gets on one too.

MIRI  
You can do this Billy!

BILLY  
I can do this.

Lovely slow shot of it going round. Traditional carousel music playing. Billy clings on eyes screwed shut as he goes past super slowly. Miri has a lovely moment.

She looks across the carousel and sees the TEEN GIRL from the house on Western Road. The girl smiles at Miri.

We hear the AUDIO TAPE again. TEEN MANDY and TEEN MIRI's Bananarama singing blends with the antique carousel music. A carousel music version of 'Love In The First Degree.'

15      **INT. DOCTOR'S SURGERY - DAY**      15

OSCAR is with DOCTOR SHAH, 30s, female. He is confused.

OSCAR

Kla what?

DOCTOR SHAH

Chlamydia. Could be worse.

OSCAR

Like a urine infection-

DOCTOR SHAH

Not quite.

OSCAR

But it hurts when I pee.

DOCTOR SHAH

Yes but it's an STD-

OSCAR

Like syphilis?

DOCTOR SHAH

It's just chlamydia. Symptoms can take a while to present. Some people self clear others don't. But you'll need to contact your sexual partners and inform them -

OSCAR

Partners?

DOCTOR SHAH

I'm assuming you are with someone. Or more than one -

OSCAR

Good god no, just one. And we haven't. For a while.

Oscar is grappling with it.

DOCTOR SHAH

Sure.

Doctor Shah is unconvinced.

16      **INT. SUPERMARKET - DAY**

16

CAROLINE shops. As she walks down an aisle, she passes two SHOP ASSISTANTS stacking shelves.

FEMALE SHOP ASSISTANT  
She probably planned it for months.  
Now she's just working in the fish  
and chip shop? Did you hear she  
threw a brick at a group of people  
yesterday? Proper psycho. And to  
think she's not even tagged. Just  
walking around. Free as a bird.  
Terrifying.

Caroline grimaces. Too embarrassed to say anything. Then her phone beeps.

A new text: "Can meet now. Horny as fuck."

FEMALE SHOP ASSISTANT  
I'm not serving her. If she comes  
in again she'll have to use the  
self scanner.

Caroline's flustered. She puts her phone in her bag, puts her basket down and leaves.

17      **EXT. AMUSEMENT PARK - DAY**

17

BILLY and MIRI sit in a boat on a kids' ride. The tamest thing in the world. They are waiting for it to start.

BILLY  
I can't believe I haven't been here  
before! This is the best fun ever!!

Miri laughs at him. They are the oldest people on the ride by at least thirty years.

BILLY  
I love boats! Wow. I used to want  
to be a sailor but I get so sick,  
both ends. Nightmare. I was gutted.  
Tried so many times.

MIRI  
I'm sorry.

BILLY  
Just life isn't it. What did you  
want to be? When you were a kid?

MIRI  
Oh my god. So many things.

BILLY

What?

MIRI

Vet/supermodel/pop star/marine  
biologist/Julia Roberts.

Billy smiles.

BILLY

Well, I wanted to be a sailor and  
now I'm a gardener.

Beat.

MIRI

I thought you were a carer?

BILLY

What?

MIRI

For the woman -

BILLY

Oh. Anna. Yes. Carer too. Most of  
the time. Yes. But I am a gardener  
as well. Both. Varied.

Beat. Billy is a bit awkward. They sit quietly, then-

BILLY

Do you have a person, man friend,  
woman, something, someone that you,  
you know, are um, with in any -

MIRI

No. I mean I did once, but he's  
married. Now. Kids and stuff. So-

BILLY

Do you still, think about him?

MIRI

I mean no. Yes but no if you know  
what I mean. You?

BILLY

I loved someone once. But they  
changed. So the love changed too.  
Which happens I guess.

MIRI

Yes.

The ride starts. Billy is having a blast which in turn makes  
Miri enjoy it more.

Across the amusement park, SAMUEL - the mysterious  
Scandinavian investigator - watches Miri with interest.

18      **INT/ EXT. CAR/ THE BRITANNIA PUB - DAY**      18

CAROLINE looks at her phone. And the text "Can meet now. Horny as fuck." She dials.

19      **EXT. STREET - DAY**      19

DOM is hurrying. On his mobile.

INTERCUT with CAROLINE in her car.

DOM

Sorry. Fucking nightmare. Twins have got the shits. It's like a war zone in there. Are you free? I'm gagging-

CAROLINE

No. This is wrong. It's over. It's not happening again.

Dom doesn't believe her, but he will play the game.

DOM

What? Oh. OK. Sure. No probs.

CAROLINE

I mean it this time.

DOM

Fair enough. But you'll change your mind. Like last time and last, last time-

CAROLINE

I will not. I don't want to be this person anymore. I Will not-

DOM

Yes you will-

CAROLINE

No. You'll see. Goodbye Dom.

Dom is worried she might actually mean this, he turns on the charm.

DOM

Oh Come on, just a wee something, like a goodbye fiddle -

Caroline hangs up. Then deletes his number.

20      **EXT. AMUSEMENT PARK - DAY**      20

MIRI and BILLY sit on a bench and eat more candy floss. It blows Miri's mind.



BILLY

I've never met anyone like you  
before.

Miri looks at him. And his kind and open face.

MIRI

I've never met anyone like you  
Billy. You're a one off.

She smiles. Billy looks so happy. Suddenly he looks stricken.

BILLY

I don't want to break this moment  
but I have to do a piss.

MIRI

It's okay.

BILLY

Oh God. Wait.

Billy hands her his candy floss and runs off. Miri suddenly notices SAMUEL smiling at her from several feet away. She nervously half-smiles at him.

He takes that as an invitation and approaches. He enjoys a donut.

SAMUEL

Hello again. We met on the beach -

MIRI

Oh yes -

SAMUEL

Samuel.

MIRI

Miri

Miri looks around for Billy.

Samuel gets out an old dictaphone. He fiddles with the buttons. Dusting his donut fingers.

He clicks to record.

SAMUEL

Wednesday. Morning. We are by...

He looks around.

SAMUEL

The musical horses.

MIRI

Sorry, who are you?

SAMUEL

I'm an investigator, Miri. I look  
for the truth. And I want to help  
you tell your truth.

He holds out the dictaphone up between them.

SAMUEL

We just need to solve your little  
puzzle...

Miri glances behind her to check for Billy.

MIRI

Okay, I'm with a friend right now  
and I'm not going to do this.

Gets up and starts to move away.

SAMUEL

Why was Lara so angry with you that night?

This gets to Miri. Something she has agonised over.

MIRI

What?

SAMUEL

Why was she so very angry, wild with rage at you? Why?

Beat.

MIRI

I don't want to talk to you. Leave me alone.

She backs away. He follows.

SAMUEL

Can I see the bite mark?

MIRI

No!

SAMUEL

It's on your shoulder isn't it?

Miri is appalled

Suddenly Samuel is lifted out of shot. Miri looks up to see a furious Billy, full hero mode (Billy style).

BILLY

Get going you little shit. Or I'll call the police..

Billy places Samuel back down. Billy is surprisingly strong.

BILLY

If you want to see tits go to Margate.

Samuel backs off but waves to Miri.

SAMUEL

I'll be in touch.

Samuel's gone. Miri suddenly grabs Billy and holds on to him intensely.

MIRI

Thank you.

He gives her a big bear hug. It's lovely. After a beat

BILLY

Lets get out of here. Do you mind  
if we go via the supermarket?

MIRI

Yes. I don't like supermarkets.

BILLY

Oh. Why?

MIRI

Commercialism and trolleys.

BILLY

Hey. I'll be there for you. Like  
you were for me with the horse. We  
can do this together.

Oh Shit.

21

**INT. PARENTS' BEDROOM - OMITTED**

21

22      **INT. VAN - OMITTED**      22

23      **INT. SUPERMARKET - DAY**      23

BILLY and MIRI enter the supermarket. The FEMALE SHOP ASSISTANT and the other SHOP ASSISTANT see Miri, and both stare mouth agape.

BILLY

Two mins...

Billy hurries off. Miri walks down an aisle. Mandy is there.

MANDY

Oh. Miri. Hi-

MIRI

Are you that desperate and lonely  
you've got to stalk me in a shop?

MANDY

I'm buying dinner for my family.

Miri glances in her basket. Large bottle of vodka and wine.

MIRI

Nutritious.

MANDY

Don't feel sorry for me. You're all  
alone with a shit hair cut.

MIRI

Wrong. I'm on a date with a shit  
haircut.

MANDY

What? Who with?

MIRI

My neighbour. And it's all going  
very well.

MANDY

Not that well. You're on a date in  
a supermarket.

MIRI

Actually we just stopped off to  
buy... supplies. Excuse me-

Miri moves Mandy out of the way and picks out a box of condoms from the shelf behind her. She takes one box. Then another. She has a stack of them.

MIRI

Gonna need a lot of these. For all the sexual intercourse I am going to be having in a minute.

MANDY

Is he some kind of true crime perv?  
(off Miris face)  
Oh Miri, he doesn't know who you are does he?

MIRI

Goodbye Mandy.

Miri walks away. Mandy calls out suddenly.

MANDY

Wait. I was at a wedding last year and this posh woman farted really loudly. And I got the most uncontrollable giggles. And I looked at Mark... nothing, not even a twinkle. I started to cry because I knew if you'd been there we would have pissed ourselves. And I missed you. So yes, you are right. I am desperate and I am lonely.

MIRI

Me too.

MANDY

And I didn't visit you in prison because I felt terrible. If I'd got to the cliff - ten minutes earlier... Maybe I could have stopped it all.

(then)

Tell the truth. You don't want to be with someone who doesn't know who you are.

Mandy walks away. Billy suddenly joins Miri.

BILLY

Three for two on shower... gel.

He's seen the condoms and he's thrown.

MIRI

Oh God. No - these aren't... they're for my parents. They asked me to get some.

BILLY

That's a lot.

MIRI

Yes. They need a lot. It's all the time.

BILLY

Crikey. OK. That's nice I suppose. I've never heard them -

MIRI

No. It's very quiet. And quick. Which is a relief. For everyone. Okay -

She walks off. Billy follows.

24

**EXT. MATTESON HOUSE - DAY**

24

BILLY and MIRI sit in the van. It's been a lovely day. Neither want to return to their complicated respective homes.

Billy pulls out a toy carousel from his back pocket. And gives it to her.

BILLY

I didn't need a piss at the fun fair.



Miri is touched.

MIRI

Thought it was suspiciously quick.

She turns the carousel round. It's a musical one. It plays a sweet spooky tune. (The shows theme).

MIRI

Thank you.

They look at each other.

BILLY

I should go in, Anna needs her meds.

Neither wants to leave.

MIRI

I've had the best day. Like a holiday from... stuff.

BILLY

Yeah. Back home now though.

Both are a little apprehensive.

MIRI

Yup. Bye.

Miri leans in to kiss his cheek, he leans the wrong way.

It becomes a very awkward and complicated and results in a clumsy almost on the lips kiss. But not.

BILLY

Bye.

MIRI

Bye.

Miri runs into the house.

25      **INT. KITCHEN - DAY**

25

MIRI enters. She sees OSCAR filling the dishwasher.

MIRI

Dad?

OSCAR

She told me she'd never do it again.

MIRI

What?

OSCAR  
And I believed her, I just believed  
her.

Miri's confused.

MIRI  
Is this about the dishwasher?

He frowns.

OSCAR  
What's wrong with the dishwasher?

Miri decides not to tell him.

MIRI  
Nothing. Because everyone really  
rinses everything.

OSCAR  
It always comes out in the end.

MIRI  
What?

OSCAR  
The truth.

Miri looks down at the toy carousel she is holding in her  
hand and thinks of Billy.

26      **INT. MIRI'S BEDROOM - OMITTED**      26

27      **INT. BILLY'S HOUSE - DAY**      27

BILLY sits on the edge of a bed. ANNA lies in bed. She stirs.  
She wakes. She sees Billy. She is confused.

ANNA  
What's your name?

BILLY  
Billy.

Now she knows where she is. She is in a bar.

ANNA  
Do you do Mojitos?

BILLY  
Yes.

He hands her the water, she drinks it.

ANNA  
God, you're good. How much do I owe  
you?

BILLY

On the house. Here, I got these off  
a guy.

She takes two pills off him. Like they are magical drugs.

ANNA

(whispering)  
Ooohhh - what are they?

BILLY

(whispering back)  
The good stuff. You wait.

She takes them as though they are the naughtiest drug. Then  
lies back.

ANNA

(vulnerable)  
Will I be myself again?

BILLY

Of course.

The door bell rings. She bolts up.

ANNA

That'll be my husband. FUCKING  
HIDE, HIDE!! HE HAS A BLUNDERBUSS!

Billy heads downstairs calmly.

28      **EXT/ INT. BILLY'S HOUSE - DAY**

28

MIRI stands nervously outside. BILLY answers the door. He  
sees Miri - he's caught off guard.

MIRI

Billy. I need to tell you  
something.

BILLY

Uh - okay.

He pulls the door closed behind him.

MIRI

We can't be friends unless you know  
the truth.

He looks a little stressed.

BILLY

Me too. I need to tell you  
something too.

MIRI

Oh OK -

BILLY

Maybe it's the same thing?

MIRI

I doubt it.

BILLY

Let's do it together. Like scissor,  
paper, stones.

MIRI

What?

BILLY

Just say it on the count of three.

MIRI

Oh Christ really.

Billy's got momentum...

BILLY

I'll say mine, you say yours -

MIRI

But mine is really big, really,  
really -

BILLY

Oh god no mine is so, so big and  
it's going to blow your mind and I  
feel sick about it.

MIRI

But mine is definitely bigger. I'm  
sure. Unless-

BILLY

/There's no way its bigger than  
mine

MIRI

Really? I can't believe that-

They speak over each other.

BILLY

Oh god lets do this one two three -  
I'm not Anna's carer I'm married to  
her.

MIRI

I killed that girl at the sound  
mirror. It was me.

Both staring at each other. In shocked silence.

MIRI

You're married? To her? Oh my god.

Billy is frozen. In shock.

MIRI

But we nearly, you, we hugged-

Billy just stares. Miri tries to piece things together. She's appalled.

MIRI  
You bought me a present -

Billy still flummoxed.

MIRI  
I'm quite shocked actually.

Billy whispers something.

BILLY  
(tiny)  
Help.

MIRI  
What?

BILLY  
Help.

MIRI  
I can't hear you?

BILLY  
Fuck oh my god - You're a psycho  
killer!

Billy is terrified - he tries to open the door. It's locked.

MIRI  
Billy!

BILLY  
Somebody help me!

MIRI  
I'm not going to hurt you - oh my  
god calm down!!

BILLY  
Oh Jesus, oh god -

MIRI  
It's not like they said. At all.

BILLY  
(Reassured)  
You didn't kill her?

MIRI  
No. I did... it's just not -

BILLY  
STAY AWAY FROM ME!

MIRI

This is excessive.

BILLY

I thought you were the one.

MIRI

We just went to an arcade together.  
And you're married anyway so - oh  
my god.

BILLY

You killed someone!

MIRI

Please sshhh.

BILLY

I'm having a panic attack.

Billy is having a very small and quiet panic attack.

MIRI

Try and breathe.

BILLY

Oh my. OK.

MIRI

Breathe.

Billy breathes, trying to calm down.

BILLY

Aaaahhh.

MIRI

Count to ten in your head.

He tries.

MIRI

I'm sorry.. But you would have  
found out and I wouldn't have been  
able to tell you the truth myself.  
And that would have been worse.

Billy is calming himself down

MIRI

It wasn't what you think. She was  
crazy angry with me - she bit me.  
And I didn't know why, and I  
honestly thought she was going to  
kill me so I pushed her back and...

(then)

But the person you were with today,  
that's me. That's who I am.



Billy is quiet. He sort of nods. He is not OK with it, but being Billy, he sees the good in her confession.

BILLY  
Thank you. For telling me. That  
was... very brave.

Miri appreciates his generosity, she goes towards him to help him up.

BILLY  
No.

MIRI  
OK.

Suddenly we hear screaming from upstairs. Anna appears at the window.

BILLY  
You better go.

ANNA  
LEAVE MY HUSBAND ALONE YOU  
MURDERESS CUNT-WHORE!!

Miri legs it.

29      **INT. KITCHEN - DAY**

29

CAROLINE enters and starts unpacking the shopping. OSCAR is at the table with a paper.

CAROLINE  
Oh blast I forgot butter.  
(then)  
What did the doctor say?

He looks at her. Is he going to tell her?

OSCAR  
An infection.

CAROLINE  
Did they give you antibiotics?

Oscar nods. Looks down to the paper. Suddenly emotional.

CAROLINE  
What's wrong darling?

She looks briefly frightened. Then:

OSCAR  
(quietly)  
A shipping container of rubber  
ducks has sunk off the coast of the  
Isle of White.

Caroline looks at him carefully.

CAROLINE  
Oh dear.

OSCAR  
More plastic in the ocean,  
contaminating everything, fucking  
everything up. For what? What good  
did a rubber duck ever do?

CAROLINE  
Miri used to love them in the bath-

OSCAR  
It's all for nothing. I hate the  
waste.

CAROLINE  
You OK?

OSCAR  
I'm fine. I'll get butter.

He leaves. Caroline watches him. We hear the front door  
close. Caroline closes her eyes.

30	<b>EXT. MATTESON HOUSE - OMITTED</b>	30
31	<b>INT. HALLWAY - OMITTED</b>	31

32      **INT. MIRI'S BEDROOM - OMITTED**

32

33      **INT. PARENT'S BEDROOM - OMITTED**      33

34      **EXT. PARK - OMITTED**      34

35      **INT. MIRI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**      35

MIRI is in her bedroom. She listens to her tape machine, headphones in.

It's the same tape of TEEN MANDY and TEEN MIRI we heard from the start.

TEEN MANDY (V.O.)  
Miri, you're not taking it seriously.

TEEN MIRI (V.O.)  
I am! Just go.

Miri sits on the floor and leans back against her bed. The verse starts up.

TEEN MANDY & TEEN MIRI (V.O.)  
Last night I was dreaming, I was locked in a prison cell...

Miri fast forwards. She knows what's ahead.

As the tape fast forwards, she picks up the old photo of TEEN MIRI and TEEN MANDY. Removes it from the frame.

She stops the tape and presses play.

TEEN MIRI (V.O.)  
Okay, okay. Now just Lara.

She then unfolds one end of the photo... to reveal a THIRD GIRL with her arm around teen Miri.

It's the same girl who waved to Miri from the house at Western Road. And the girl we saw on the carousel.

This is the girl Miri killed. LARA, forever 18.

In the photo Miri, Mandy and Lara are all arm in arm. A tight trio. Best friends.

It hurts Miri to look at it, but she does.

Lara's voice starts up on the tape.

LARA (V.O.)  
Someday I believe it/ You will come  
to my rescue/Unchain my heart  
you're keeping/ And let me start  
anew / ooh

Miri listens with deep remorse.

LARA (CONT'D)(V.O.)  
The hours pass so slowly  
Since they've thrown away the key  
Can't you see that I'm lonely/  
Won't you help me please.

Now all three of the girls sing together.

TEEN MANDY/TEEN MIRI/LARA (V.O.)  
Only you can set me free /Cause I'm  
guilty guilty / guilty as a girl  
can be /Come on baby can't you see  
/I stand accused /of love in the  
first degree / Guilty  
Of love in the first degreeeee.

LARA (V.O.)  
Wait wait. Shh. My Dad's back. Can  
you smell smoke?

We hear deodorant spray.

JOHN BOBACK (V.O.)  
Lara?!

TEEN MANDY AND TEEN MIRI (V.O.)  
Hiii Mr. Boback.

They start laughing. Miri stops the tape. She takes it out  
and puts it in the bin decisively.

36      **EXT. BEACH - OMITTED**      36

37      **INT. DOCTOR'S SURGERY - MORNING**      37

MIRI enters with new determination. She passes the MOTHER  
with the sickly 5 year old CHILD who is back in the waiting  
room again.

Miri approaches the jobsworth RECEPTIONIST.

MIRI  
I was in prison.

She puts a piece of paper on the desk.

MIRI  
It's a letter from my probation  
officer. With my address.

Miri's intimidating. The receptionist is cowed.

RECEPTIONIST  
That'll do.

The receptionist looks at her computer.

RECEPTIONIST  
There's an appointment available in  
about an hour.

MIRI  
I'll wait.

Miri points at the Mother with the 5 year old.

MIRI  
She was here yesterday.

RECEPTIONIST  
I'll make sure she's seen.

MIRI  
Yeah. You will.

The receptionist puts her hand on the clipboard nervously.

Miri turns and goes to sit down. The Mother gives her a  
grateful smile. Miri smiles.

**THE END**