

1 **INT. THOMPSON HOUSE, KITCHEN. DAY 14 (1100 SATURDAY)** 1

DALE READS CUCKOO'S BOOK, STUDYING INTENTLY, MOUTHING WORDS AS HE GOES. HE TURNS THE PAGES IN WONDER. WITHOUT LOOKING UP...

DALE
(SHOUTS)
Mom! I got another question, Mom!

REVEAL RACHEL AND BEN AT THE OTHER END OF THE TABLE.

RACHEL
Dale, we're only here.

DALE
So I got another question about
Dad's book...

RACHEL GOES OVER TO HIM. DALE INDICATES IN THE BOOK.

DALE (CONT'D)
Look. Here Cuckoo's written this
phrase: "Words are Walls". Then
right next to it, he's drawn a
picture of a smiley monkey. Why?

RACHEL
Well...

DALE
I mean - there must be a
connection.

BEN CHUCKLES SCORNFULLY. RACHEL LOOKS DAGGERS AT HIM.

BEN
(CORRECTING HIMSELF)
Probably something very deep. Very
clever bloke.

KEN COMES IN, READY TO GO OUT.

KEN
Anyone coming into town?

BEN
Would have loved to. But Rach and I
are planning our trip. (WINKS)
Dirty weekend.

KEN
It's my daughter.

BEN

I know, Ken. Felt wrong as soon as
I said it.

*
*
*
*

DALE

And I'm staying right here till
I've mastered Dad's book. Mom, this
page is blank - do I read it
anyway?

*
*
*
*
*

RACHEL GIVES KEN A LOOK: PLEASE SAVE ME.

*

KEN

What about you, Dale? Trip into
town?

*
*
*

DALE

Can I ride with my head out the
window?

*
*
*

KEN

Yes, but not in traffic.

*
*

DALE

Woo! Alright!

*
*

HE RUNS TO THE CAR. RACHEL MIMES TO KEN - THANK YOU. KEN
SIGHS - HE'S GOT DALE FOR A FEW HOURS.

*
*
*

CUT TO: TITLES

2

INT. BOOKSHOP. DAY 14 (1120 SATURDAY)

2

KEN AND DALE ARE WALKING AROUND A LOVELY SECOND HAND BOOK STORE. KEN IS IN HEAVEN. DALE STARES AROUND IN WONDERMENT.

KEN

No offence to your father Dale, but these are real books. Smell that!

*
*DALE

Smells of old.

KEN

You're damn right it does. Thousands of years of human knowledge bound up in dusty leather jackets.

DALE

I never knew there were this many books in the world! We only kept a small library on the Ashram - all written by our leader Vashradi.

KEN

Oh, an author too was he?

DALE

Oh yeah, he wrote some good ones. The Dictionary, the Bibl, Leo Tolstoy's "War and Peace".

*
*
*KEN

Yeah, good going. (SEES A BOOK) Oh my god! Wow-ee!

*
*

HE PULLS A BOOK OUT CAREFULLY. IT'S A LARGE OLD TOME WITH A DISTINCTIVE DIAMOND-PATTERNED COVER.

KEN (CONT'D)

Edmund Burke's "Vindication of Natural Society".

(TO NEARBY SHOPKEEPER)

Is this a first edition?

SHOPKEEPER

You know your books.

KEN

Mint condition!

HE FLICKS THROUGH IT ADMIRINGLY.

KEN (CONT'D)

This is the kind of book you could build a collection on.

KEN LOOKS AT THE PRICE.

KEN (CONT'D)

Christ! (PUTS IT BACK) No - I
shouldn't. I really shouldn't.

*

CUT TO:

3

INT. BOOKSHOP, TILL. DAY 14 (1125 SATURDAY)

3

THE SHOPKEEPER IS PUTTING KEN'S CREDIT CARD THROUGH THE MACHINE.

KEN

If you think about it, it's an investment.

SHOPKEEPER

If you'll just put your pin in, sir?

KEN INHALES DEEPLY - IS HE REALLY GOING TO DO THIS? HE ENTERS HIS PIN.

AS IT'S PROCESSING AN ELDERLY YET DISTINGUISHED GENTLEMAN, DR RAFFERTY APPROACHES THE COUNTER.

DR RAFFERTY

I'm looking for an Edmund Burke first edition.

*
*SHOPKEEPER

(GESTURES TO KEN)

I'm sorry, I've just sold it.

*
*
*KEN

(TURNS ROUND, ARROGANT)

Yes, I'm a collector.

A MOMENT OF RECOGNITION.

DR RAFFERTY

Ken Thompson? Well, I never!

KEN

Dr Rafferty? Wow! Didn't think I'd ever have to see you again. I mean, get to see you again.

DR RAFFERTY

Likewise. Completely likewise. Who's your friend?

KEN

This is Dale - my daughter's-late husband's son. And Dale, Dr Rafferty was my history lecturer at college.

*

DALE

You taught Chief Ken? You must be the wisest man in the world!

*

DR RAFFERTY

(CHUCKLING)

Huh, 'The only thing I know is that I know nothing'.

DALE

That is so freaking deep.

DR RAFFERTY

(EYES KEN'S BOOK)

Amusing boy! So Ken, you bought the Burke. Surprising to see you're still pursuing the history.

(LAUGHING)

Last I heard, you were plugging away as a solicitor.

KEN

Yes, Dr Rafferty, I'm a successful solicitor, with an Edmund Burke first edition in mint condition. Well, see you.

KEN SHOOTS RAFFERTY A WINNING LOOK THEN GOES TO LEAVE, RAFFERTY TAKES HIS ARM.

DR RAFFERTY

Ken, reading Burke in first edition has been a lifetime's ambition for me.

KEN

Well best of luck finding one. There's not many around!

RAFFERTY

Of course, I'd track down one for myself, but time's not exactly on my side. Let's just say you wouldn't be lending it to me for more than six months.

*
*
*

KEN

Oh. Sorry to hear that. What a shame.

*
*
*

DALE

Wow! Six months?! You can read a book that quick! (BEAT) Hey Ken! I got an idea. Why don't you lend Dr Rafferty YOUR copy?

*
*
*
*
*

KEN

It's OK, Dale. I'm sure that's not what Dr Rafferty meant.

*

DR RAFFERTY

Actually Ken, lending me that book
would make one of my last earthly
wishes come true.

*
*

DALE

You get to make his wishes come
true! Who wouldn't want to do that?

*
*
*

KEN LOOKS VERY ANNOYED. CHECKMATE.

KEN

Only a complete asshole.

*
*

KEN HANDS OVER THE BOOK, VERY UNWILLINGLY. DR RAFFERTY LOOKS
VICTORIOUS.

DR RAFFERTY

You've made an old man very happy.

HE MOVES ON. KEN LOOKS AT DALE.

KEN

You annoy me sometimes, you know
that?

HE MOVES OFF. DALE LOOKS HURT, BUT SHRUGS IT OFF AND FOLLOWS
HAPPILY.

CUT TO:

4

INT. THOMPSON HOUSE, KITCHEN. DAY 15 (1710 FRIDAY)

4

DALE PREPARES DINNER, SPRINKLING HERBS AND DASHING BETWEEN PANS LIKE A MASTERCHEF.

LORNA TAKES A TASTE OF SAUCE ON A SPOON THEN HANDS IT TO CONNIE.

KEN

He's had it two weeks, Lorna.
That's plenty enough time. Did I
ever tell you how he marked my
second year coursework down to a
2.2?

*
*
*
*LORNA

Oh yes, it's one of my favourite
stories. But you didn't let it stop
you doing the right thing. I'm
proud of you.

*
*
*
*KEN

He's a professor - he can finish a
book in an afternoon. He's probably
even lying about the illness -
wouldn't put it past him.

*
*CONNIE

Calm down, Ken. It's just a book!

*
*KEN

It is an expensive book!

LORNA

Really? How much?

KEN

(THINKS)

Erm... 80 pounds.

LORNA

80 quid! Sheez, Ken! Well I hope it
was a hard back.

KEN

I'm bloody ringing him. And if he
tries to bluff me, he'll wish he
was dead sooner.

*
*

CUT TO:

*

5

INT. THOMPSON HOUSE, HALLWAY. DAY 15 (1715 FRIDAY)

5

KEN IS ALONE, ON THE PHONE TO SANDRA, RAFFERTY'S NIECE WHO IS
OFF SCREEN. *

KEN

He's dead?

SANDRA (O.S.)

*

Sooner than expected. Sorry.

KEN

But he said he had six months.

SANDRA (O.S.)

*

That was optimistic. We were hoping
for another six weeks, but...

KEN

*

Six weeks! (MOUTHS TO HIMSELF) That
lying bastard!

SANDRA (O.S.)

*

Sorry?

KEN

I'm so sorry. That's really,
terrible and inconvenient.

SANDRA (O.S.)

*

Pancreatic cancer is inconvenient?
(BEAT) Well, if you wish to pay
your respects, there's a ceremony
at the house tomorrow, we'll be
spreading the ashes. *

KEN

Yeah, maybe. (BEAT) Thing is,
before he so tragically passed, er,
I lent him this book.

SANDRA (O.S.)

*

A book?

KEN

Yes. An Edmund Burke first edition.

SANDRA SOUNDS UPSET.

SANDRA (O.S.)

*

(EMOTIONAL)

I just can't really... talk about
this right now I... For God's sake,
he's barely cold. *

KEN

I totally understand. You need your
space to grieve. Thing is this book
is very expensive..

SHE HANGS UP. OUT ON KEN'S FACE.

CUT TO:

6

INT. THOMPSON HOUSE, KITCHEN. DAY 15 (1720 FRIDAY)

6

DALE STIRS HIS CASSEROLE.

DALE

And you know it's ready when how good it tastes overpowers the guilt you feel for killing the cow.

(HE TASTES IT, SHAKES HIS HEAD)

Not quite.

KEN ENTERS, LOOKING PUT OUT.

KEN

Terrible news, Lorn. I just spoke to Rafferty's daughter. He's dead.

LORNA

Oh dear.

CONNIE

Oh. Sorry.

LORNA

Not unexpected though, was it.

KEN

(NODDING)

Hmmm. There's a service tomorrow, I think I'm going to go.

LORNA

OK. (BEAT) Ken, I thought you hated him.

KEN

It was a love hate thing. Turns out I'm *really* sad about this. I should pay my respects.

LORNA LOOKS SUSPICIOUS.

LORNA

Ken, you are *not* going to that funeral to get your book back.

KEN

Lorna, that is a dreadful thing to say. Offensive actually.

LORNA

Not as offensive as pretending to be sad so you can go to a funeral and filch a book.

KEN

I miss him.

LORNA

Yesterday you called him Dr.
Dickhead.

KEN

(ADMONISHING)

Rafferty is dead, Lorna!

BEHIND THEM, THERE'S A SMASH.

DALE HAS DROPPED A CASSEROLE DISH FULL OF FOOD. EVERYONE
LOOKS OVER, DALE LOOKS A LITTLE SHELL SHOCKED.

LORNA

Dale?

DALE GRABS A BROOM CHEERFULLY.

DALE

Sorry! Sorry! I'll clean this right
up, I just thought you said that Dr
Rafferty had died.

KEN

I did say that. He's dead.

DALE MAKES A WHINY 'SAD DOG' NOISE AS HE SLOWLY SNAPS THE
BROOM, AND SITS WITH HIS HEAD IN HIS HANDS.

LORNA AND KEN LOOK AT EACH OTHER ALARMED.

LORNA

Dale, what's wrong?

DALE

(THROUGH HIS HANDS)

How can the world be so cruel?! Dr.
Rafferty! Dr Rafferty! Why?!

*

KEN

Come on, you met him for five
minutes. I've had longer
relationships with a Cornish pasty.

LORNA

(DOUBTFUL)

I've seen the way you eat pasties.

KEN

It was a figure of speech. Dale,
you barely knew him.

DALE

And now I never will! He's dead,
and I'll never get to see Daddy
Rafferty again!

HE STORMS OUT THE ROOM. KEN AND LORNA LOOK AT EACH OTHER KNOWINGLY.

CONNIE

Oooh. Something deeper going on there! This is something we psychologists call 'transference'.

*
*
*

KEN

Don't remember you qualifying as a psychologist, Connie.

*
*
*

CONNIE

I did a two day course. It's as much intuition as it is learning. This stranger's death has triggered all Dale's sublimated grief for his father - Cuckoo.

*
*
*
*
*

KEN

How perceptive. What was the clue? Him shouting daddy and running off in tears?

*
*

CONNIE

Emotions are powerful things Ken, and if they are not dealt with at the right time they can come back to haunt you...

KEN

Say, 25 years into your marriage, when you end up 'transferring' bedrooms?

LORNA

(*HALF SMILING*)

KEN!

CONNIE

I'd say Dale needs go to Dr Rafferty's funeral. Deal with his grief head on. And most of all he needs the support of his family.

KEN THINKS.

KEN

(*NODDING, GRAVE*)

Yes. Actually that's incisive analysis, Connie. Which is why we should all go to the funeral... for Dale.

HE LOOKS INNOCENTLY AT LORNA. LORNA NARROWS HER EYES.

CUT TO:

7

INT. KEN'S CAR. DAY 16 (1150 SATURDAY)

7

KEN AND LORNA IN THE FRONT, DYLAN AND DALE IN THE BACK.
EVERYONE IS IN FUNERAL GEAR.

DALE IS LEANING HIS HEAD AGAINST THE WINDOW, HE FOLLOWS A
RAINDROP DOWN THE PANE WITH HIS FINGER.

DYLAN

(TO KEN AND LORNA)

Why couldn't you just leave me at
home? Like normal parents.

LORNA

You're supporting your step-nephew.

KEN

Plus the last time we left you home
alone. 'Burglars' broke in, stole only
vodka and beer, and left a used condom in
my office.

DYLAN

Which is why I should be there to guard
the house. I'm meant to be seeing Zoe
this weekend.

LORNA

You look smart, Dale.

DALE

I wanted to get it right. Seamus
was always so well turned out.

KEN

Always?

DALE

Every single time I met him. Ken, do you think
Seamus is a ghost and is haunting us right now?

KEN

(UNDER BREATH)

Give me strength.

LORNA

(ADMONISHING)

Ken.

KEN

OK. Well, Dale, I'd say IF Dr Rafferty now
exists as a ghost, he's probably with his
family rather than an ex-student and a guy
he once met for five minutes in a shop.

LORNA LOOKS AT KEN. KEN SHRUGS BACK - WHAT?

CUT TO:

8

EXT. RAFFERTY'S HOUSE. DAY 16 (1205 SATURDAY)

8

KEN, DALE, LORNA AND DYLAN ARE WALKING UP THE PATH TO AN IMPRESSIVE HOUSE. DYLAN IS A FEW PACES BEHIND THE OTHERS ON HIS PHONE.

DYLAN

(TO PHONE)

You're not serious!

DALE

I don't think I can do this.

LORNA

We're all here for you.

DALE

But I'm not strong like Ken. Look at him, it's like he's not feeling any pain at all.

KEN IS PEELING A LARGE 'REDUCED' STICKER OFF HIS WAITROSE BOUQUET OF FLOWERS.

KEN

Oh, I'm hurting Dale, I'm just British. And Dylan, get off the phone, you're supposed to be mourning.

DYLAN PULLS A FACE AT KEN - "THIS IS IMPORTANT". KEN KNOCKS ON THE DOOR.

DYLAN

Yeah, well, same to you!

(HANGING UP)

Thanks a lot mum. Now Zoe says we're 'non exclusive' this weekend.

*

LORNA

Really?! That's a risky play.

KEN KNOCKS ON THE DOOR.

DYLAN

Why? She's at Charlotte Brown's pool party. While I'm stuck at a funeral for some old dead twat.

*

KEN

Dylan, be quiet. You cannot call my Professor...

(DOOR OPENS BEHIND HIM,
REVEALING SANDRA)

...An old dead twat.

(MORE)

KEN (CONT'D).

(TURNS TO SEE HER)

Hi. Sorry for your loss.

KEN OFFERS THE FLOWERS, WITH THE SADDEST POSSIBLE LOOK ON HIS FACE.

SANDRA

(*TOUCHED*)

Thank you. Who are you?

CUT TO:

8A

INT. RAFFERTY'S HOUSE. DAY 16 (1208 SATURDAY)

8A

THE FAMILY ARE NOW IN THE GATHERING. DALE IS WITH LORNA, HE IS STARING AT THE URN CONTAINING DR. RAFFERTY'S ASHES, NEXT TO A LARGE PHOTO TRIBUTE AND FLOWERS.

DALE

Oh boy, that's him. That's him in that tiny little jar!

DALE BEGINS TO WEEP UNCONTROLLABLY INTO LORNA'S SHOULDER.

DALE (CONT'D)

Oh it hurts so bad, so bad, it's so unfair, why did God take him from me? Why?!

LORNA GIVES DALE A HUG. SANDRA APPEARS,

SANDRA

Oh you poor thing!

SANDRA GIVES DALE A BIG HUG. LORNA LOOKS QUITE SURPRISED. DALE HUGS HER BACK, TIGHTLY. SANDRA LEADS DALE AWAY OUT OF KEN AND LORNA'S EARSHOT.

SANDRA (CONT'D)

You're his new American friend, aren't you?

DALE

Yes. Yes, that's me.

SANDRA

I thought as much. He talked a lot about you.

DALE

(HOPEFUL THROUGH TEARS)
He did?

SANDRA

Yes. Towards the end especially. You're very welcome here. Would you like to meet the family?

DALE

Oh. So much.

SANDRA TAKES DALE BY THE HAND AND LEADS HIM INSIDE.

KEN AND LORNA HAVE BEEN OUT OF EARSHOT - THEY WATCH SANDRA WITH DALE - A BIT WEIRD.

CUT TO:

9

INT. RAFFERTY'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS. DAY 16 (1210 SATURDAY)

9

LORNA AND KEN WATCH ON AS DALE IS SURROUNDED BY FAMILY MEMBERS.

LORNA

What's up with them and Dale?

KEN

Well, they are Quakers. You know, progressive, huggy huggy.

(A BIT DISGUSTED)

Inclusive.

DYLAN

Are we going to have to sing?

*

LORNA

You're going to have to be respectful Dylan, yes.

*

KEN

Yes Dylan, this is a funeral, there's such a thing as putting other people's wishes before your own. Now, I'm going to go and enquire about my book.

*

LORNA

You're not still going on about that?

KEN

It cost me a hundred quid, Lorna.

LORNA

I thought you said 80?

KEN

Yeah. Eighty. I was rounding up.

CUT TO:

10

INT. ANOTHER PART OF THE HOUSE. DAY 16 (1213 SATURDAY)

10

SANDRA CONSOLES HERSELF WITH A HUDDLE OF MOURNERS.

SANDRA

At least we can say he led a full
life.

KEN SQUEEZES INTO THE GROUP, LIKE A WANNABE AT A COCKTAIL
PARTY, MOVING TWO MOURNERS APART TO GET IN. HE NODS SADLY.

KEN

(*EMOTIONAL*)

Mmmm. Mmmm. We've lost a gem of
man. It's like a light has gone out
in the world.

EVERYONE NODS, IT'S GOING SADLY - WHICH MEANS IT'S GOING WELL
FOR KEN.

KEN (CONT'D)

He was such an inspiration to me at
college, to all of us.

SANDRA

(*TOUCHED*)

Was he?

KEN

Yes such an intelligent man. Nose
always in a book.

(*SMILES AT THE MEMORY*)

Just think of all those books he
had. Where did he keep those books?

SANDRA

In his private study.

KEN

(*AS IF HAVING THE IDEA*)

Gosh, couldn't have a look at them
could I? For old time's sake. (HUGE
FAKE GRIEF) I guess it's my way of
saying goodbye.

SANDRA

None of us have been into his study
since he died. Actually, that was
where he passed.

KEN

(*NODS UNDERSTANDINGLY*)

Ah. So fitting.

(MORE)

KEN (CONT'D).

(SOFTLY)

I'm talking like a minute... max.

CUT TO:

11

INT. RAFFERTY'S HOUSE, STUDY. DAY 16 (1215 SATURDAY)

11

KEN SLIPS INTO THE DOOR AND SHUTS IT BEHIND HIM, IMMEDIATELY DROPPING OUT OF HIS MOURNER CHARACTER.

KEN

Right then you mean old bastard,
where did you put it?

HE SCANS THE SHELVES, AND DESK. SUDDENLY SANDRA JOINS HIM AT
THE BOOKSHELF.

*

SANDRA

You're the only one of his former
students who came. Is that how
Seamus met your American friend?
Through you.

*

*

KEN

(WEIRD...)

Yes! You all right?

*

SANDRA'S WELLING UP.

SANDRA

Sorry, it's been a hell of a couple
of days. You know, I actually had
someone phoning up trying to steal
one of his most expensive books!

*

KEN

Oh God, no! How terrible. And the
book - it was definitely your
uncle's? Because you know -
collectors, they borrow and lend...

*

*

SANDRA LOOKS AT HIM.

SANDRA

It was you, wasn't it? You were the
man who phoned!

KEN

Me? No. Not me.

SANDRA

And now you're here. Trying to
steal from my uncle at his own
funeral?

*

KEN

How dare you?! What a terrible
accusation...

KEN SWALLOWS HIS FAKE RAGE. TRIES FAKE PITY.

KEN (CONT'D)

(OFF HER LOOK)

I know that this is a very
difficult time for you. What's your
name?

SANDRA

Sandra.

KEN

Sandra, I would never "steal" from
your uncle. Certainly not in the
legal sense.

*

SANDRA STARTS TO BREAK DOWN. AT THAT SAME MOMENT, ABOVE HER
HEAD, ON THE SHELF. KEN NOTICES THE DISTINCTIVE DIAMOND-
PATTERNED COVER OF HIS BOOK. YES!

SANDRA

(THROUGH TEARS)

I'm sorry - it's just I know Seamus
would have wanted me to protect his
collection...

*

*

KEN BRINGS HER IN FOR A HUG AS SHE SOBS INTO HIS CHEST.

KEN

It's OK, let it out. This is to be
expected...

AS SHE CRIES INTO HIS CHEST, HE STEALS HIS BOOK OFF THE
SHELF, LITERALLY BEHIND HER BACK, AND POCKETS IT IN HIS
JACKET POCKET.

KEN (CONT'D)

There there. There there.

OUT ON KEN'S FACE - ABSOLUTELY DELIGHTED HE HAS THE BOOK.

CUT TO:

12

INT. RAFFERTY'S HOUSE, HALLWAY. DAY 16 (1220 SATURDAY)

12

SANDRA AND KEN EXIT THE STUDY. SANDRA TOUCHES HIS ARM.

SANDRA

Thank you.

BEFORE MOVING TO TALK TO SOMEONE ELSE. KEN DUCKS ROUND A CORNER EXCITEDLY.

KEN

Get it in.

HE GETS OUT THE BOOK AND OPENS IT, HE LOOKS SHOCKED. CLOSE UP OF THE TITLE PAGE: "A HISTORY OF GENOCIDE" - BY PHILLIP STUART.

*
*

KEN (CONT'D)

A History of Genocide?

ALTHOUGH THE COVER IS IDENTICAL - IT'S A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT BOOK. KEN SIGHS. HE LOOKS UP TO HEAVEN.

KEN (CONT'D)

(TO GOD)

Is this because I'm an atheist?
Yeah? Well, it's petty.

CUT TO:

13 INT. RAFFERTY'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM. DAY 16 (1225 SATURDAY) 13

DYLAN SIGHS, LOOKING AT A SAUSAGE ROLL UNIMPRESSED, THEN PUTTING IT BACK DOWN ON THE BUFFET.

LORNA

Oh come on Dylan, do you need to be so mopey?

DYLAN

It's a funeral mum. I'm supposed to be at a pool party, where Zoe is probably boning all my friends, fucking Judases.

*
*

LORNA

I'd have thought an 18 year old boy would love a free pass.

*
*

DYLAN

Who am I gonna hit on Mum? Have you seen the talent in here? There's not even any milfs.

LORNA

I'm not saying you should 'hit on' anyone. I'm just saying there's a lovely girl over there, why not talk to her?

*

A HOT TEENAGE GIRL IS STANDING ON HER OWN ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ROOM, LOOKING AT HER PHONE. DYLAN LOOKS INTERESTED.

LORNA (CONT'D)

Go on.

DYLAN ARRIVES NEXT TO THE TEENAGE GIRL.

DYLAN

Bit boring all this religious stuff huh?

GIRL

I'm used to it. My family's devout. I've been in the church since birth.

DYLAN

Great.

A BEAT.

DYLAN (CONT'D)

What's your name?

GIRL

Chastity.

DYLAN NODS POLITELY, THIS ISN'T GOING ANYWHERE. HE CATCHES EYES WITH LORNA ACROSS THE ROOM WHO GIVES HIM AN ENTHUSIASTIC THUMBS UP.

CUT TO:

14 INT. RAFFERTY'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM. DAY 16 (1230 SATURDAY) 14

IN ANOTHER PART OF THE ROOM, KEN FROWNS AT A FRAMED PHOTO OF DR RAFFERTY ACCEPTING AN AWARD (KEN'S POSSIBLY SIPPING A WHISKY).

KEN

Where did you hide it old man?

OUT THE CORNER OF HIS EYE, HE SPIES SANDRA SHOWING THE BURKE FIRST EDITION TO A QUAKER ELDER, WHO NODS.

SHE SLIPS THE BOOK INTO HER HANDBAG, KEN'S EYES LIGHT UP.

KEN (CONT'D)

(LORD OF THE RINGS)

My precious!

ANOTHER MOURNER IS AT HIS SHOULDER. HAVE THEY OVERHEARD HIM?

KEN (CONT'D)

(FAKE GRIEF)

So sorry for your loss.

CUT TO:

15 INT. RAFFERTY'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM. DAY 16 (1235 SATURDAY) 15

DALE SITS WITH SOME FAMILY MEMBERS, INCLUDING TWO OLDER WOMEN MARY AND ALICE.

DALE

I'm so happy to meet you Aunt Mary,
but at that same time, it really
bums me out 'cause you're so old
and probably gonna die soon too.

MARY

Oh, maybe that's one way of looking at it.

DALE

There's no maybe about it. I just met
you, but, one day: tomorrow -
perhaps today - you're gonna be in
that jar too. All your memories, your
hopes and dreams, gone forever.
(TO ALICE)

You too probably. In fact all of
us. But you guys first.

HE PUTS A REASSURING HAND ON HER ARM.

DALE (CONT'D)

Oh my god. Your skin is like tissue
paper.

(REMOVING HIS HAND)

I'm gonna let go before I tear you. It's
like I'm watching you die in front of my
eyes.

MARY

(TRYING TO CONSOLE HERSELF)

I suppose the important thing is
that you lead a full life.

*

DALE

But did you? Did you achieve everything
you wanted? Cause it's too late now. You
can't skydive. Your bones would break. Not
even landing, just putting on the harness.

MARY IS ON THE BRINK OF TEARS.

DALE (CONT'D)

I know right? It's super sad.

SANDRA SITS DOWN BESIDE THEM.

SANDRA

I see you've met Dr. Rafferty's
special friend. You know, the
American one.

MARY

Oh!

MARY AND ALICE NOD IN UNDERSTANDING.

DALE

Dr Rafferty and I only knew each other a short while. But he touched me in a special way.

MARY

(UNCOMFORTABLE)

Oh, right.

SANDRA

Ahem. I'd love to get your take on the order of service. You knew a different side to him than us.

DALE

Oh sure! It would be an honour.

SANDRA WALKS DALE OFF LEAVING HER BAG ON A CHAIR.

KEN SPOTS HIS MOMENT AND QUICKLY DARTS OVER.

KEN SITS DOWN NEXT TO ALICE AND MARY, AND SURREPTITIOUSLY LEANS INTO SANDRA'S HAND BAG.

HE FINDS HIS FIRST EDITION OF EDMUND BURKE'S "VINDICATION OF NATURAL SOCIETY" IN THE BAG.

HE LOOKS AROUND, THEN SWITCHES IN "A HISTORY OF GENOCIDE" AS A DECOY, TAKING HIS BOOK BACK FOR HIMSELF.

JUST AS HE'S ABOUT TO CLOSE THE BAG MARY TURNS ROUND.

MARY

Excuse me?

KEN TURNS AROUND, HIDING THE FIRST EDITION OF EDMUND BURKE IN HIS JACKET, TRYING NOT TO LOOK GUILTY.

KEN

Hello!

MARY

What is it they call them these days?

KEN

Who?

MARY

You know, woofers.

SHE POINTS ACROSS THE ROOM AT DALE. KEN IS CONFUSED.

CUT TO:

16 INT. RAFFERTY'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM. DAY 16 (1245 SATURDAY) 16

DYLAN IS NOW MID-CONVERSATION WITH CHASTITY AT THE BUFFET TABLE.

DYLAN

I'm just saying that if God is cruel
enough to take your great uncle away
from you, then maybe you shouldn't
obey his laws.

*
*

CHASTITY

Yes, but Dylan, it's because we
don't understand God, that we must
have faith that he has a plan for
us.

*
*

DYLAN

But maybe His plan was for you to
meet me at this funeral. He is
clever like that, you know, being
God.

*
*
*
*

CHASTITY LOOKS THOUGHTFUL. HE'S GETTING THROUGH.

*

DYLAN (CONT'D)

So in a way, if you don't cop off
with me, you're kind of disobeying
Jesus?

*

CUT TO:

17 **INT. RAFFERTY'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM. DAY 16 (1250 SATURDAY)** 17

KEN HURRIES OVER TO LORNA WHO IS CHATTING POLITELY TO A MOURNER.

KEN

Lorna, quick word.

LORNA

I'm in the middle of something.

KEN

Now.

KEN DRAGS HER OUT OF THE ROOM INTO THE CORRIDOR.

CUT TO:

18 INT. RAFFERTY'S HOUSE, CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS. DAY 16 (1251) 18

DYLAN AND CHASTITY ARE SNOGGING AGAINST THE WALL. THE DOOR OPENS AND KEN AND LORNA BURST IN.

KEN

Dylan! What the hell are you doing?

DYLAN

Mum's idea. *

KEN

Was it?!

LORNA

Dylan, at least be a little more discreet. *

DYLAN

(TO CHASTITY)

Come on. *

DYLAN LEAVES WITH CHASTITY.

KEN

Lorn, we've got a bit of a problem.

LORNA

Go on.

KEN

OK, well turns out the family think Dale is Rafferty's gay lover.

LORNA

What?

KEN

Honestly, I've just had a detailed monologue from Aunt Alice on Rafferty's recent habit of skyping, in the nude, with a young American. *

LORNA

Explains why they're being so nice to him. Ah, sweet of them to be so welcoming...DYLAN! I said more discreet.

DYLAN IS SNOGGING CHASTITY ONLY A FEW METRES AWAY AGAINST ANOTHER WALL, IN FULL VIEW OF FUNERAL GUESTS. DYLAN SIGHS, LORNA'S RUINING HIS BUZZ. HE HEADS OFF WITH CHASTITY.

KEN

Let's go before it gets out of hand.

(MORE)

KEN (CONT'D).

Also, I took my book out of
Sandra's hand bag, so I want to be
gone before she finds out.

LORNA

You stole it?

KEN

Legally, you can't steal your own property.

*
*

LORNA

Ken, it will look like stealing!
Give it back and buy another one.

KEN

It's a very expensive book.

LORNA

Oh come on! A hundred pounds? We
can afford it.

KEN

It was five hundred pounds.

LORNA IS SPEECHLESS FOR A BIT.

LORNA

BLOODY HELL!

SOME PEOPLE LOOK ROUND.

LORNA (CONT'D)

(TO PEOPLE)

Sorry, sorry.

(TO KEN)

Let's just find Dale and get out of
here.

CUT TO:

19 INT. RAFFERTY'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM. DAY 16 (1255 SATURDAY) 19

DALE IS TALKING TO SANDRA.

SANDRA

It's so lovely to get to know you,
is there anything you want to ask
about my uncle? *

DALE

Yes actually. Do you think he'll
come back as a ghost and haunt us?

SANDRA

Oh... well...

DALE NODS AT HER UNDERSTANDINGLY, PUTTING A HAND ON HER
SHOULDER.

DALE

Coz I would love that.

KEN AND LORNA SLIDE UP NEXT TO THEM.

KEN

Hi. We're gonna have to get going.

SANDRA

Before the service?

KEN

Yeah. I know it's strange, but
traffic's a killer on the M6. And
we're not using the toll. Come
along, Dale!

DALE

But Ken, I can't leave. I'm part of
the service.

LORNA

Really?

SANDRA

I thought it would be nice for Dale
to contribute a little. *

KEN

Dale, I don't think you should do
that. I think instead we should
leave immediately. *

HE TRIES TO LEAD DALE AWAY. *

DALE

I'm surprised Ken. I thought you'd
want to stay for the ceremony. Or
did you get your book back already?

*

SANDRA'S EARS PRICK UP.

KEN

Book? What book? We're here to pay
our respects to Dr Rafferty, that's
all.

*

DALE

But you...

KEN

No, I didn't, Dale. Grief has
clearly addled your mind.

*

*

HE'S SAVED BY A QUAKER ELDER APPROACHING SANDRA.

ELDER

Can you take your seats? We're
ready to start now...

SANDRA WALKS OFF WITH DALE. KEN AND LORNA LOOK AT EACH OTHER.
HMMM.

CUT TO:

20 INT. RAFFERTY'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM. DAY 16 (1305 SATURDAY) 20

THE CEREMONY IS IN FULL SWING. THE CONGREGATION STANDS IN A CIRCLE AROUND THE URN. EVERYONE IS SINGING THE END OF 'ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL'. WHILE A TEENAGE BOY PLAYS ALONG ON AN ACOUSTIC GUITAR, INCREDIBLY EARNESTLY.

MOST OF THE FUNERAL PARTY HAVE THEIR EYES CLOSED, SWAYING IN THOUGHT. KEN HAS HIS OPEN, ATHEISTICALLY. HE MOMENTARILY CATCHES EYES WITH SANDRA, WHO'S LOOKING AT HIM NARROW EYED.

ALL

....The Lord God made them all.

THE QUAKER ELDER LEADS THE CEREMONY.

ELDER

Please be seated.

EVERYONE SITS DOWN, QUIETLY.

ELDER (CONT'D)

We all remember Seamus as a great man: kind, loving, and above all, generous.

KEN

(MUTTERS TO HIMSELF)

Wasn't generous when he downgraded my coursework.

LORNA ELBOWS HIM IN THE RIBS.

ELDER

But one person here knew him differently to the rest of us. And the family would like to invite him now to read a short passage, chosen from the book Dr Rafferty was reading when he died.

SANDRA HANDS DALE THE BOOK FROM HER BAG. KEN LOOKS WORRIED - THAT'S THE DECOY BOOK!

KEN

(TO HIMSELF)

Oh shit.

SANDRA HANDS DALE THE BOOK FROM HER HANDBAG.

SANDRA

(TO DALE)

Page 72.

DALE SMILES AT HER, OPENS THE BOOK, AND READS FROM "A HISTORY OF GENOCIDE" IN A INDEFATIGABLY CHEERY TONE.

DALE*(READING)*

Clouds of acrid smoke that smelled
of burning human flesh, rose above
the Khmer Rouge labour camps,
sometimes forming a poisonous rain,
which covered the starving workers
in the remains of their families.
Over three million Cambodians were
tortured and executed. The mass
graves were over filled. Mutilated
limbs protruded from the soil,
causing diseases such as typhoid,
cholera, and plague. In the north,
there were reports that some
soldiers raped the corpses.

*
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*

DALE CLOSES THE BOOK.

HE HANDS IT SILENTLY TO AN ASTONISHED SANDRA. HAVING DONE THE
READING, HE SEEMS RELIEVED, AND SLIGHTLY HAPPIER.

SANDRA LOOKS AT THE TITLE AND THEN GLARES AT KEN. HE SWEATS.

KEN*(TO LORNA)*

OK, let's go.

ELDER

So now it is time for the Quaker
tradition of 'open worship'. If you
feel moved to share your thoughts
about the deceased, please stand.
Just say whatever you feel needs to
be said.

*
*
*
*

HE SITS, THERE'S A BEAT OF SILENCE. A MAN STANDS UP.

MAN

I'll always remember his Christmas
cards, with those little lines of
poetry he chose for everyone.

THE CONGREGATION NODS SADLY.

WOMAN

I'll remember that open box of
maltesers he always had on his
desk. Such a kind man.

THE CONGREGATION SHARES A GENTLE HONEST LAUGH. APART FROM
SANDRA, WHO'S FACE IS NOW BURNING AT KEN. SANDRA STANDS UP.

SANDRA

Yes. I'd just like to say that my
uncle was a good man, and a
forgiving man. So if there is a
person today who has sneaked in
under false pretences in order
perhaps to steal from a dead man, I
hope we can follow my uncle's
example and forgive him. And I hope
he can forgive himself frankly.

*

*

*

SHE SITS. BEAT. KEN THINKS. IS HE GOING TO LET THIS GO?

LORNA

(WHISPER)

Ken. Please, don't.

KEN SHUFFLES TO HIS FEET.

KEN

I would like to second what Sandra
said. But add - that Dr Rafferty
would never judge before he knew
the full picture. Who did what, who
thought what, who owned what. In
case he ended up making a tit of
himself. Mmmm.

*

*

*

*

*

KEN NODS SUPER-HOLY FOR A FEW SECONDS. THEN SITS DOWN. SANDRA
STANDS UP.

SANDRA

(VENOMOUS CALM)

My uncle had a great sense of
justice, and if he did do wrong he
didn't try and worm his way out of
it.

*

*

*

KEN

(TO SANDRA)

But if he was wrongly accused. I
think he had the admirable sense to
stand up for himself. For does not
the bible say 'Call not someone a
thief who has a valid receipt at
home'.

*

MARY

Blasphemy!

*

*

A MAN STANDS UP.

*

MAN

I remember Seamus taking me on
holiday one summer, to Cornwall.
And...

*

*

*

*

SANDRA PUSHES HIM DOWN.

*

SANDRA

(AT KEN)

What's that in your pocket?

KEN

Oh now, come on. What is this? *

ELDER

Sandra, I'm not sure this is the time. *

SANDRA *

(POINTING AT KEN)

That book is Edmund Burke's
'Vindication of Natural Society'.
He stole it from out of my bag!

THE CONGREGATION MUMBLES DISAPPROVINGLY.

LORNA

I think there's been a
misunderstanding.

KEN

(HOLDING HIS BOOK ALOFT)

This is my book. I lent it to Rafferty
and he didn't give it back because he
was jealous that I bought it first. *

SANDRA *

He's lying! *

KEN *

I did! And it cost me one thousand
pounds! *

LORNA

(SHOCKED WHISPER)

A thousand?! Ken!

KEN SHRUGS TO SAY 'IT'S JUST THE TRUTH'. MEANWHILE SANDRA IS
UP AGAIN.

SANDRA

I want you and your wretched family out.

DALE

Guys, this is not what Dr Rafferty
would have wanted.

MARY

Yes, please calm down! Listen to
Seamus' lover.

SANDRA CHECKS HERSELF, BUT A NEW PERSON, A VERY CAMP MAN,
STANDS UP AT THE BACK.

AMERICAN MAN

Erm, I was Seamus' lover.

COLLECTIVE GASP. A MAN NEXT TO SANDRA GOES TO STAND UP, SHE PUSHES HIM DOWN.

SANDRA

(POINTS AT DALE)

Then who's this?

LORNA JOINS IN.

LORNA

I think there's been another misunderstanding.

SANDRA

(TO KEN)

What is wrong with you people?!

ELDER

Sandra! (BEAT) How about we scatter the ashes in the rose garden?

THE ELDER COLLECTS THE URN AND HEADS TO THE FRENCH DOORS.

THE CONGREGATION FOLLOWS HIM.

LORNA

(TO SANDRA)

Listen, I know how this all looks, but my family are not bad people.

THE ELDER OPENS THE FRENCH DOORS TO REVEAL THE GARDEN.
COLLECTIVE SHOCK.

REVEAL DYLAN GETTING A BLOW JOB FROM CHASTITY IN A GAZEBO AT THE END OF THE GARDEN.

SANDRA

Chastity?

CHASTITY

Mum?

THE ELDER DROPS THE URN - ASHES SCATTER ALL OVER THE FLOOR.

KEN AND LORNA LOOK VERY SHEEPISH, AS THE WHOLE CONGREGATION GLARE AT THEM.

CUT TO:

21 INT. KEN'S CAR. DAY 16 (1335 SATURDAY)

21

EVERYONE IS SILENT ON THE WAY BACK. KEN'S EYES ARE FIXED
AHEAD ON THE ROAD.

THE LONGEST BEAT OF SILENCE. DYLAN BREAKS IT.

DYLAN

Best funeral ever. Much better than Granny's.

END OF EPISODE