

DARK MONEY

Created & Written by
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-- EPISODE FOUR --
" The Valiant One "

SHOOTING SCRIPT
30/11/18

1 **EXT. THE ANDOLINI. SOHO STREET - NIGHT** 1

A gastronomic Italian restaurant.

SUPER: FEBRUARY 2019

A familiar VW Golf is parked in the shadows not too far away. We make out the occupant in the driver seat - it's Manny.

2 **I/E. MANNY'S CAR / THE ANDOLINI - NIGHT** 2

Manny stares at a photo on his mobile. It's of Isaac taking a selfie with his father during happier, carefree days.

A cab passes Manny and parks outside the restaurant. Out steps Jotham Starr. As Manny watches Jotham pay the Cabbie we see what lies behind his mobile phone, on his lap - his kitchen knife.

As Jotham steps into the restaurant Manny clutches the knife, squeezing the handle tight - tonight he avenges Isaac.

CUT TO TITLES:

OPENING CREDITS **DARK MONEY**

FADE IN:

3 **EXT. CLEVEDALE HOUSE - DAY** 3

A NHS children's mental health hospital, set in leafy, extensive grounds.

4 **INT. CLEVEDALE HOUSE. ISAAC'S ROOM - DAY** 4

A healthcare bedroom. Manny and Sam are sat at the foot of a bed, by Isaac's bare feet. They look fretful. We then see what they're witnessing - Isaac, sat up in bed, dressing gown on, struggling to eat his meal off his bed tray. BEAT. Isaac coughs a little and grimaces at the hospital food. He doesn't like it.

SAM

Would you like some more water?

ISAAC

Nah.

MANNY

I knew I should've brought something with me.

SAM
(encouraging Isaac)
You should try to eat a bit more.

MANNY
Tomorrow I'll bring you something
better to eat. What would you like?

ISAAC
(rejects)
It's alright.

BEAT. There's a knock on the door.

SAM
Come in.

Isaac's social worker EMILY WATKINS (32, mixed race) enters.
Manny and Sam immediately sit up and look intimidated. Emily
gives them a friendly smile.

EMILY
Hello!

The parents attempt warm greetings despite being tense at
Emily's presence.

SAM MANNY
Hi Emily. Hi.

EMILY
Isaac, can we delay our meeting by
an hour?

Isaac shrugs apathetically.

EMILY (CONT'D)
I'll come get you when I'm ready.

Manny also checks the time and addresses Sam.

MANNY
We should get going.

EMILY
Don't let me rush you.

MANNY
You're not.
(glances at Sam)
We have an appointment.

Sam exhales, it's a meeting they can't miss, but she doesn't
want to do. She hugs Isaac tightly.

SAM

Love you.

Manny follows suit, hugging Isaac even more tightly, knowing Emily is watching.

MANNY

Love you lots.

Manny and Sam give Emily apprehensive smiles as they leave.

5 **INT. CLEVEDALE HOUSE. OUTSIDE ISAAC'S ROOM - DAY** 5

As Manny and Sam exit Isaac's room they are followed out by Emily.

EMILY

Um, is it okay if I have a quick word?

Manny and Sam look nervous.

EMILY (CONT'D)

I know how hard it is each time to say goodbye.

Manny and Sam relax a little and nod.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Isaac's doctor tells me he's now fully recovered physically.

Manny and Sam look buoyed.

EMILY (CONT'D)

So now I'm going to resume talking to him again and I'm hoping to get to the root of why he tried to take his own life. I can't sanction his release until I'm happy we've uncovered the reason why.

Manny and Sam look tense again.

6 **I/E. MANNY'S CAR. JOURNEY TO SOUTHBANK HOTEL - EVENING** 6

Manny and Sam journey in tense silence.

7 **I/E. MANNY'S CAR / SOUTHBANK HOTEL - EVENING** 7

Manny's car slows down as it passes the entrance of the five star hotel, then descends into the underground car park.

8 **INT. CLEVEDALE HOUSE. EMILY'S OFFICE - EVENING** 8

Emily sits opposite Isaac in tense silence. BEAT. Isaac opens a bag of sweets and pops a couple into his mouth. BEAT. Isaac offers her the bag.

ISAAC

Try a red one. They're proper nice.

Emily takes a sweet and pops it into her mouth. She likes the taste.

ISAAC (CONT'D)

Told you.

As Emily chews Isaac relaxes and jokes -

ISAAC (CONT'D)

So I've swapped taking pills for gummy bears and I feel much, much better now.

Emily finishes chewing and gives Isaac a serious look.

EMILY

Do you understand what you did?
You're very lucky to be alive.

Isaac's smile slips away. This meeting won't be fun and games.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Tell me more about your family and friends. Who would you say is the closest to you?

Isaac shrugs apathetically. Emily encourages with -

EMILY (CONT'D)

Imagine an onion and how it has the outer layers, then another layer and so on until you reach its core. Who would be in your core?

ISAAC

(deadpan)
My mobile.

EMILY
Okay. But what about human beings?

INTERCUT:

9 **INT. SOUTHBANK HOTEL. LIFT - EVENING** 9

Manny and Sam stand solemnly as the lift cycles up through the floor numbers.

Isaac mulls this over - then goes for a generic answer.

ISAAC
Family, innit.

EMILY
Any particular order?

10 **INT. CLEVEDALE HOUSE. EMILY'S OFFICE - EVENING** 10

Isaac thinks - then reluctantly says -

ISAAC
My mum and dad.

11 **INT. SOUTHBANK HOTEL. PENTHOUSE FLOOR - EVENING** 11

Manny and Sam make their way uneasily down the corridor.

They arrive at the penthouse door. They pause with foreboding. Manny glances at Sam - 'we gonna do this?'. Sam responds by knocking on the door. BEAT.

The door is heard unlocking - the door swings open. Standing in the door frame is Jotham's manager Brett Huntley.

BRETT HUNTLEY
Hello again.

11A **INT. CLEVEDALE HOUSE. EMILY'S OFFICE - EVENING** 11A

Emily continues her questioning of Isaac.

EMILY
And who would be next?

Isaac thinks hard. He then smiles with fondness.

ISAAC
My grandma.

The smile then fades away. There's pain in his eyes.

ISAAC (CONT'D)

Then my brother and sister... After them I'd say friends.

EMILY

When you say friends, would that include anyone you've worked with, like the cast of Valiant and Son? You guys seemed to have a good chemistry on screen.

ISAAC

(warms up)

Yeah, Mitch is a funny guy... and Leti Anderson.

EMILY

So would you include them in your *onion*?

ISAAC

(amused)

Yeah, maybe... but like right on the outside. They're the brown skin that you throw in the bin.

Emily looks surprised. Isaac explains his logic.

ISAAC (CONT'D)

I'm not working with them anymore.

EMILY

Were you close to your fellow cast members?

ISAAC

Um... yeah. I guess.

EMILY

Did you feel you were like a family?

Isaac thinks then nods.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Was there anyone else you were close to while out there?

Isaac tenses up. Emily spots this. He replies unconvincingly-

ISAAC

No.

Isaac avoids eye contact and subconsciously starts rhythmically stroking his hand. Emily makes a mental note.

EMILY

So in terms of the cast and the family-feel you had, I assume Mitch Colney was the father figure of the group - because he played your father in the film?

ISAAC

(fond memories)

Nah, he was more like a big brother. He had an Xbox in his trailer and everything. He was jokes.

EMILY

So there wasn't really a father figure on set?

Isaac goes silent again.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Or was there?

Isaac goes back to stroking his hand. Emily nods to herself, believing there was. She approaches carefully -

EMILY (CONT'D)

And where does this person fit in your 'world'?

Isaac turns defensive.

ISAAC

They're not in my world!

Isaac goes back to rubbing his hand and avoiding eye contact.

EMILY

Was this person ever close to you?

Isaac refuses to answer.

EMILY (CONT'D)

How do you feel about them?

Isaac screws his face with disgust and hatred.

EMILY (CONT'D)

How did they feel about you?

ISAAC
I don't want to talk about it!

EMILY
And why's that?

Isaac folds his arms and shuts his mouth tight.

EMILY (CONT'D)
Was it someone you thought was a friend?

Isaac's mouth begins to quiver. He starts to get emotional.

EMILY (CONT'D)
Were they nice to you?

ISAAC
No... he was horrible!

EMILY
Horrible? Why do you say that?

Isaac tries to control himself from being overwhelmed.

ISAAC
Because... because... he... m-made me do... disgusting things.

EMILY
What kind of disgusting things?

ISAAC
... To him.

Isaac pulls his shaky hands apart and stares at his palms with shame. Emily gets exactly what Isaac was forced to do. She looks at him with caring, proud eyes.

EMILY
Thank you for being so brave with me Isaac.

Isaac looks at Emily, surprised at Emily's reaction. She smiles back with encouragement.

EMILY (CONT'D)
You don't have to deal with this on your own anymore.

For the first time Isaac feels like he is not on his own.

12

INT. SOUTHBANK HOTEL. PENTHOUSE - EVENING

12

Manny and Sam sit opposite Brett and two of the Lawyers that were with him in Episode One.

Brett brings out a copy of Dominic's newspaper article about Jotham. Manny panics.

MANNY

That wasn't us.

Brett reads the front page headline -

BRETT HUNTLEY

'Hollywood supremo Jotham Starr
accused of child abuse'

MANNY

We didn't go to the press.

Brett gives Manny a doubtful look.

MANNY (CONT'D)

We didn't do it! We wouldn't!

BRETT HUNTLEY

And what about social media?
There's numerous comments filling
in the blank spaces with Isaac's
name. Coincidence?

MANNY

We can't control what people say on
social media.

BRETT HUNTLEY

Do you see the damage this article
has done to our client's
reputation?

Sam folds her arms, uninterested.

BRETT HUNTLEY (CONT'D)

We require your family to release a
statement denying the claims in the
article.

Sam almost laughs, shocked at the audacity of the request.

MANNY

And... if we don't do that.

BRETT HUNTLEY

Then we sue. We came to a financial agreement purely to protect our hundred million dollar movie from damage. And that agreement has now been violated.

MANNY

Can we see the contract again? The one we signed.

Manny looks at Brett. Brett looks at the Lawyers. They give him a knowing look. Brett returns to Manny and responds -

BRETT HUNTLEY

A time can be arranged at my colleagues' office...

BRETT HUNTLEY (CONT'D)

... for you to come in and refresh your mind on the terms of the non-disclosure agreement.

SAM

You lot are pure evil...

Manny's exasperated. Sam's had enough.

SAM (CONT'D)

Do you even care about my son? Do you know what he's been through? What he's done?

Sam eyeballs Brett and the Lawyers. They return an impenetrable gaze.

SAM (CONT'D)

You know what? You and your client can go fuck yourselves!

MANNY

Sam!

BRETT HUNTLEY

Publish a denial or we will sue.

Manny tries to calm Sam down but she keeps shrugging him off as she talks -

SAM

Then sue! Take your money back! I'd gladly go back to being broke!

MANNY
(to Brett)
I need to talk with my wife.

SAM (CONT'D)
And then everyone will know
you're suing us because you
paid us off!

*

BRETT HUNTLEY
Don't you think the press have been
briefed on who the Mensahs really
are? A poor family led by ambitious
parents, who took advantage of the
'me too' movement, by using their
child to extort millions from a
humble filmmaker, who unfortunately
fell for their sob story.

SAM
(rattled)
Well... we'll just come out and say
you're lying!

BRETT HUNTLEY
You'll be surprised how
conservative the public are when it
comes to stories like your own.
Especially if some of the
'research' we have about you both
was also released.

MANNY
We've got nothing to hide.

Sam glances away nervously.

BRETT HUNTLEY
Infidelities?

MANNY
Everyone that matters knows about
my past mistake. I'm an open book.

BRETT HUNTLEY
What about you Mrs Mensah?

Sam looks puzzled. Manny too is confused why this question
has been directed at her.

12A

INT. SOUTHBANK HOTEL. PENTHOUSE FLOOR - EVENING

12A

A troubled Manny and Sam make their way to the lift.

MANNY
Why did Brett ask you that
question?

SAM
He was just trying to mess with our heads.

MANNY
Tell me.

SAM
It's nothing Manny.

MANNY
Don't tell me 'nothing'!

SAM
We're not even together anymore, I don't know why you care...

Manny holds on to Sam's arm. He has a sinking feeling.

MANNY
D-did you cheat on me?

SAM
No!

MANNY
Tell me the truth!

A stressed Sam shrugs Manny off and firmly clarifies -

SAM
They're trying to make something about me staying at Ryan's...

MANNY
(Shocked)
Ryan? You slept with Ryan?

SAM
No, don't be ridiculous! I was just staying at his for a bit. On the sofa...

Manny interrupts with an exhale of betrayal. Sam's livid at being judged unfairly.

SAM (CONT'D)
Like you haven't spent the night on Sabrina's sofa!

Manny's deaf to Sam. He looks heartbroken.

SAM (CONT'D)
Manny?

Sam now grabs Manny's arm and shakes it.

SAM (CONT'D)

Manny!

Manny reluctantly gives her eye contact.

SAM (CONT'D)

Look... What we gonna do about Brett?

MANNY

(bitterness)

There is no 'we'. We're not together anymore. Remember?

The lift arrives. Manny stomps in, leaving a fuming Sam behind.

13 OMITTED 13

14 **EXT. JESS'S HOME - NIGHT** 14

Jess steps onto the street when she sees Dominic crossing from the other side of the road. She retreats to her front door.

DOMINIC

Sorry. It's just that you haven't returned any of my calls or emails.

JESS

Go away!

DOMINIC

Jess please. I just need one minute.

JESS

Piss off!

DOMINIC

Jotham's hired a publicist to work on discrediting Isaac's story.

JESS

Leave me alone!

DOMINIC

They're calling your brother a liar!

Jess stops at that and gives Dominic her attention.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)

They say the article is all made up
by your parents so they can exploit
Jotham for more money.

Jess is angered by this news.

JESS

But they didn't! Can't you just say
that?

DOMINIC

I could but... Jotham's team are
suing my paper over the article and
we can't write anything further
while our lawyers are preparing our
defence.

Jess is briefly surprised... then shrugs unsympathetically.

JESS

Oh well.

DOMINIC

We expected him to retaliate in
this way. It's a small price to pay
for telling the truth. But the
strongest way forward now is to
hear the truth from your parents'
own mouth.

(cautious)

There's a colleague of mine who
works for a U.S. newspaper -

JESS

(distrustful)

No, no more newspaper articles.

DOMINIC

But this would be different. It
would be a recorded interview for
the paper's website, but totally
anonymous. Voices and faces
disguised. That way your parents
can tell the full story,
unfiltered.

JESS

There's no way they'd do it.

DOMINIC
(desperate)
I swear to you Jess, on my own
kids, your parents do this
interview - Jotham will be
finished.

Jess shakes her head with distrust.

14A **INT. RYAN'S STUDIO FLAT - NIGHT**

14A

Ryan arrives at his front door holding a pizza box. He goes to put his key in the door, only to see the latch has been broken. Disturbed, Ryan slowly opens the door and is shocked by what he sees - His place has been trashed.

Sat on a chair in the middle of the room is Manny. He glares at Ryan. Ryan's furious.

RYAN
What the hell bruv?

MANNY
You been sleeping with Sam?

RYAN
Are you crazy?

Manny marches up to Ryan, fists clenched. Angered, Ryan throws down the pizza box down and squares up to Manny, ready for conflict.

RYAN (CONT'D)
You wanna accuse me of sleeping
with her even though you can see
her stuff on the sofa?

Manny glances at the sofa. Sam's pillow and blanket are on it.

RYAN (CONT'D)
She's been staying here because she
had to get away from you and that
dirty money.

Manny realises Ryan knows about the money. He backs away.

RYAN (CONT'D)
(disdain)
Tell me something, what kinda man
accepts money for his child being
abused?

Manny stays silent, feeling ashamed of himself.

15 OMITTED 15

16 OMITTED 16

17 OMITTED 17

18 **EXT. SAM'S FLAT. ENTRANCE TO BLOCK - NIGHT** 18

A modern low-rise block.

A contrite Sam makes her way home. She's surprised to see Jess standing outside. She looks extremely nervous.

JESS

Hi?

BEAT. Sam beckons Jess over and hugs her with love and forgiveness.

19 **INT. SAM'S FLAT - NIGHT** 19

Sam leads Jess into her 2 bed flat. The place is quite bare with unpacked removal boxes filled with Sam's possessions dotted around the place.

JESS

How's Isaac?

SAM

He's itching to get back home,
but... doing alright.

BEAT. Jess looks nervous.

JESS

You know the um, journalist I went
to, Dominic... he told me Jotham's
got some publicist to tell lies
about you and Dad.

SAM

What kind of lies?

JESS

That you're bad parents, don't love
Isaac and lied about Jotham to get
money.

SAM
(recalling Brett meeting)
I'm not surprised.

JESS
But Dominic says you can silence
them.

Sam gives Jess a quizzical look.

JESS (CONT'D)
He's got a contact in America who's
up for doing a video interview with
you and dad.

Sam looks unimpressed. Jess nods in agreement.

JESS (CONT'D)
That's what I was like. But he kept
on going on about how it'll be
anonymous. And they would blur your
face and that.

SAM
I hope you didn't say I'd do it?

JESS
No! I just said I'd pass on the
message. I'm leaving this to you.

Sam looks pensive.

20 OMITTED 20

21 OMITTED 21

22 **EXT. CLEVEDALE HOUSE - DAY** 22

Sam and an apprehensive Jess head for the entrance. The
closer Jess gets the more she's refilled with guilt. She
hangs back.

SAM
What's wrong?

Jess brings a pack of cigarettes.

JESS
Just having a quickie.

Sam senses Jess is stalling through nerves.

JESS (CONT'D)
Give me five minutes.

Jess lights her cigarette and Sam enters on her own.

23 OMITTED 23

23A **EXT. CLEVEDALE HOUSE. CAR PARK - DAY** 23A

Sam exits her car and sees Manny's Mondeo parked on the opposite side. She gets a pang of nerves.

24 **INT. CLEVEDALE HOUSE. OUTSIDE ISAAC'S ROOM - DAY** 24

As Sam makes her way down the corridor she sees Manny waiting outside Isaac's room. He holds a plastic bag - inside is a box of fried hot wings and chips. Sam rolls her eyes at the inappropriate food. Manny clocks her arrival. Sam launches into him.

SAM
What the hell did you do to Ryan's place?

Manny grunts unapologetically.

SAM (CONT'D)
Have you lost your mind?

MANNY
Like you wouldn't have done the same!

SAM
Nothing happened with Ryan!

Emily exits Isaac's room, silencing the couple.

EMILY
Ah, just the people I wanted to see.
(sniffs the air)
Something smells nice.

MANNY
(holds the bag proudly)
It's for Isaac.

Sam looks embarrassed. Emily then turns serious. She lowers her voice.

EMILY

Isaac told me that he was abused by someone in America.

Manny and Sam are startled. Emily glances at the two - 'do you have anything to say?' Manny and Sam look extremely guilty.

EMILY (CONT'D)

I understand how difficult this is, but... this is not something Isaac should be burying under the sand. And neither should you. Don't live a lie.

Manny and Sam feel scolded.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Now, I'm happy to sanction that Isaac can go home...

Manny and Sam look relieved.

EMILY (CONT'D)

... However the real work begins now. I will need to visit regularly to continue our sessions. And monitor how things are at home.

MANNY

(peacemaker)

I totally understand.

SAM

Isaac will now be staying with me, at my new place. It will be a fresh start.

Manny's shocked by this news - this wasn't discussed.

EMILY

I'll return later with some forms I need you to fill in.

SAM

Okay.

Emily heads off. Manny waits until she's far enough away and then angrily states -

MANNY

He's already got a home!

SAM

After everything he's been through,
you expect him to return to *that*
house? That was paid for with the
money from *that man*?

Sam shakes her head and enters Isaac's room. A disgruntled
Manny follows.

25

EXT. CLEVEDALE HOUSE - DAY

25

Sabrina walks towards the entrance with a worried Tyrone.
Jess spots them and groans quietly, not wanting to be seen.
She looks around but there's nowhere to hide. She discards
her cigarette and braces herself for a 'hello'.

SABRINA

Hi?

JESS

Hi.

SABRINA

You coming in?

JESS

No... I'm just leaving.

SABRINA

Oh, okay. Have a good day.

JESS

Yeah, you to.

Jess hotfoots it away from the entrance.

26

INT. CLEVEDALE HOUSE. ISAAC'S ROOM - DAY

26

Sam watches Manny in disapproval as he bickers over the
chicken and chips.

ISAAC

Why you bringing this here? It's
gonna stink out the place!

MANNY

You said you wanted it.

ISAAC

No, I said I could wait until I get out! You never listen to me!

There's a knock on the door.

SAM

Come in!

The door opens. It's Sabrina. Sam's countenance drops.

SABRINA

Hey. It's only us.

Isaac looks confused by the 'us'. Sabrina realises Tyrone hasn't followed her inside. She calls firmly to him.

SABRINA (CONT'D)

Tyrone!

A sheepish Tyrone enters.

TYRONE

Hi.

MANNY

Hey!

Manny gives Tyrone a hug. Sam gives him a polite smile. Tyrone glances at his brother but doesn't say anything.

SABRINA

What's wrong with your tongue?

Tyrone gives Isaac a wary nod.

TYRONE

Y'alright?

Isaac reciprocates the nod. The atmosphere is awkward. BEAT. Sabrina smells food in the air.

SABRINA

Is that chicken and chips?

An embarrassed Isaac shoots daggers at his dad. Manny ties the bag of food and dumps it into the bin. Another awkward BEAT. Sabrina sees the garden space outside Isaac's window.

SABRINA (CONT'D)

That's a huge garden. Are you allowed to go out there?

ISAAC

Yeah.

SABRINA

(to Tyrone)

Why don't you go check out the garden with Isaac?

Tyrone looks reluctant but sees his mum is not asking him but telling him. He looks at Isaac, who also looks unenthusiastic. Isaac beckons Tyrone to follow him.

ISAAC

Come then.

The adults watch the boys leave. BEAT. Sabrina asks Sam -

SABRINA

How is he?

SAM

Good. He should be coming home today.

SABRINA

That's great news.

BEAT.

SABRINA (CONT'D)

I saw Jess leaving as we came in.

MANNY

Jess was here?

Manny looks at Sam to explain.

SAM

Yeah, no, we came in together.

MANNY

(to Sabrina)

Where did you see her?

SABRINA

(awkward)

Just by the entrance. But she said she already visited and was leaving.

Manny groans and goes to find Jess. Sabrina gives Sam an apologetic look. Sam looks away, uninterested.

27

EXT. CLEVEDALE HOUSE. GARDEN - DAY

27

Isaac and Tyrone sit in silence, staring out to the distance. Tyrone spots an old football in the shrubs and retrieves it. He starts doing kick ups. Isaac pretends to not notice. Tyrone catches a glance from Isaac.

TYRONE

Wanna touch?

ISAAC

Nah, it's alright.

Tyrone goes back to doing kick ups. He purposely mis-kicks the ball. Isaac ducks and the ball hits his back. Tyrone tries not to giggle.

ISAAC (CONT'D)

What's your problem?

TYRONE

It was an accident, I swear.

Isaac doesn't believe him, so Tyrone passes Isaac the ball.

TYRONE (CONT'D)

You can get me back if you want?

Isaac wants to resist, but the temptation is too great. He stands up, ready to blast the ball at his brother. Tyrone looks worried and backs away.

TYRONE (CONT'D)

Eh, man, I didn't blast it at you.

ISAAC

Just stand still, man!

TYRONE

Nah, man!

Isaac prepares to blast the ball at Tyrone.

TYRONE (CONT'D)

Isaac, 'llow it!

Tyrone closes his eyes and braces himself for impact. BEAT. Isaac giggles. Tyrone slowly opens his eyes and sees Isaac dribbling with the ball.

TYRONE (CONT'D)

You're a joker.

28

EXT. CLEVEDALE HOUSE - DAY

28

Manny looks for Jess, seems there's no sight of her... but then catches her at the exit of the compound.

MANNY

Jess!

Jess turns around and sees her dad. She keeps walking and so Manny chases after her.

JESS

I'm not coming back.

MANNY

And you don't have to. But wait up.

Jess stops. Manny reaches Jess and catches his breath. She worries what her father is going to say next. Manny then gives her a stern look... but then extends his arms for an embrace. She shakily moves in closer. Manny wraps his arms around his daughter.

JESS

It's all my fault... I hate myself-

MANNY

No, it's all my fault. I should have dealt with *that* man and I didn't.

(holds Jess's face)

I love you.

Jess gets teary, grateful for her father's love.

29

EXT. CLEVEDALE HOUSE. GARDEN - DAY

29

Isaac and Tyrone play football as they talk. Tyrone's face looks really awkward.

TYRONE

I'm sorry for... what I said and everything.

ISAAC

It weren't your fault.

TYRONE

Nah, man... You tried to kill yourself!

ISAAC
(uneasy)
But it wasn't because of you.

TYRONE
You wouldn't have taken them pills
if it wasn't for me.

ISAAC
Nah, I was taking them before.

TYRONE
(surprised)
Rar, real talk?

Tyrone stops kicking the ball. Isaac nods. Tyrone now looks extremely guilty.

TYRONE (CONT'D)
Well... I still abandoned you...
then look what you tried to do.

ISAAC
That weren't your fault. Plus, a
lot went down after we spoke, with
the newspaper and that...

Tyrone can see Isaac looks fearful of the article and reassures -

TYRONE
I ain't heard anyone chatting about
you.

ISAAC
Yeah, but what about online?

TYRONE
Ain't no one our age searching for
that kinda stuff.

ISAAC
(certain)
I bet everyone at my school knows.

TYRONE
(doubts)
Really?

Isaac looks nervous. Tyrone looks concerned and draws closer.

TYRONE (CONT'D)

Well if anyone *tries* it tell them
I'mma come for them. Trust me, they
don't want no *smoke* from me.

Isaac smiles with appreciation.

TYRONE (CONT'D)

But promise me one thing.

ISAAC

What?

TYRONE

Don't let that prick get away with
it.

Isaac gets uncomfortable and turns his attention back to the
football.

TYRONE (CONT'D)

Hey?

Isaac turns back around. Tyrone pats his chest as he vows-

TYRONE (CONT'D)

Man's got your back.

Isaac's invigorated by his brother's support.

30

INT. CLEVEDALE HOUSE. ISAAC'S ROOM - DAY

30

Sabrina watches from a window as Isaac and Tyrone talk. On
the other side of the room Sam tinkers with her mobile phone.
BEAT. Sam glances at Sabrina - then lowers her head as
Sabrina glances at her. They smile.

SABRINA

Caught you.

Sam gives a friendly nod. BEAT. Sam nods to Tyrone.

SAM

I'm really grateful for your son...
he's been a real friend to Isaac.

SABRINA

Tyrone loves Isaac - he's his
brother.

Sam and Sabrina share smile. BEAT

SABRINA (CONT'D)

If... you ever need help with Isaac
- I'm here. My door will always be
open.

Sam looks at Sabrina with great appreciation.

SAM

Thank you.

31

EXT. CLEVEDALE HOUSE. CAR PARK - NIGHT

31

As Manny and Sam talk they watch Isaac shift some baking
utensils from the front passenger seat of Sam's decrepit car.
He then jumps in. Manny's not happy.

SAM

(urgent)

You need to know I've been offered
a chance to be interviewed by a
U.S. newspaper. It's a recorded
interview that will be posted
online.

MANNY

(scoffs)

It's a silly idea.

SAM

Actually I thought it might be
positive. I have a chance to put
the record straight and make people
accept that Isaac was telling the
truth.

MANNY

Does this involve Isaac?

SAM

No, it would just be me. But I'd be
made anonymous.

Manny thinks... then shakes his head.

MANNY

Stupid idea.

Sam snaps.

SAM

Then what else do you suggest we
do?

(MORE)

SAM (CONT'D)

Because even if we give into
Brett's demands we'd still have to
talk to the press. But there's no
way Jotham's controlling what I
want to say!

MANNY

Then you go and deal with things
your way and I will deal with
things my way!

31A

INT. SAM'S FLAT - NIGHT

31A

Isaac wanders curiously around his new home. He reaches the
entrance to his new and much smaller bedroom. He stares at
the unfamiliar empty space.

SAM

Tomorrow we'll go down the old
house and pick up your stuff.

An anxious Isaac nods. Sam puts an arm around him.

SAM (CONT'D)

This is a new start. Things will
only get better. I promise.

Isaac's encouraged by these words.

SAM (CONT'D)

I also want us to be 100% honest
with each other. No more hiding or
burying things. That includes me as
much as you.

Isaac nods. Sam looks apprehensive.

SAM (CONT'D)

And... I want to start with being
open... about an offer I've been
given... to do an anonymous
interview about what happened in
America.

Isaac pulls away from his mum and looks worried.

SAM (CONT'D)

I haven't said yes yet because I
wanted to hear what you think
first... But so you know, I've
thought long and hard and I feel...
(builds herself up)
I feel...

(MORE)

SAM (CONT'D)
doing the anonymous interview will
be a way where I can fight back,
while still protecting you.

Isaac absorbs what Sam said.

SAM (CONT'D)
I'll only proceed with your
blessing. If you don't want me to
do it, I won't. I promise.

Isaac looks unsure.

31B

INT. MAGGIE'S HOUSE. KITCHEN - NIGHT

31B

An emotional Manny uses his laptop to flick through photos of Jotham Starr at the *Valiant & Son* premiere.

Maggie enters, startling him. He attempts to close the window of Jotham's photos before Maggie can see, but fails. She gives him a disapproving look. He tries to appear casual.

MANNY
Was just about to make a cup of
tea, do you want one?

Maggie's not buying Manny's casual act.

MAGGIE
You can't continue to torture
yourself. That man robbed you of
your marriage...

MANNY
My marriage was rocky way
before he came into our
lives.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)
... and the abuse nearly
robbed you of your son. And
now he's robbing your sanity?

MANNY
He's not robbing my sanity.

MAGGIE
(points to the laptop)
Then what is the meaning of all
this?

Manny doesn't have an answer. Maggie's had enough.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)
Either deal with things once and
for all - or move on!

Manny absorbs what his mum said... then starts to gently sob. Maggie's heart breaks for her son. She goes over and holds him in her arms.

32 **I/E. MANNY'S CAR / STREET - NIGHT** 32

Manny's in the driver seat, staring at Brett's number. His finger hovers over the dial button, his mind in a tug-o-war. Manny's finger eventually falls on 'dial'.

Manny listens nervously as it rings... It then goes to voicemail. Manny ends the call and breathes a sigh of relief. He goes to leave his car but then his mobile starts to ring. He looks at the screen - it's Brett. Manny's heart races - to answer or not to answer? He can't take the stress over the decision anymore and so answers.

MANNY

Hello?

INTERCUT:

33 **INT. SOUTHBANK HOTEL. PENTHOUSE SUITE - CONTINUOUS** 33

Brett stands with his mobile by a window, looking out over central London.

BRETT HUNTLEY

Hey Manny, sorry I missed your call.

MANNY

Yeah, um... it was about what you said in the meeting, that we gotta do a press release denying the newspaper's allegations...

Brett waits with anticipation to hear what Manny has to say.

MANNY (CONT'D)

... Um... I'll do it.

Brett smiles with relief.

BRETT HUNTLEY

Good man.

MANNY

But... I want to make one request... I wanna meet your boss, no lawyers, just us two... so I can have closure.

Brett's surprised by this request.

MANNY (CONT'D)
(sounding defeated)
I can't change what's happened... I
just want to be able to move on.

Brett ponders but doesn't have an answer for Manny right now.

BRETT HUNTLEY
I'll get back to you.

Brett ends the call.

As Manny pulls his mobile away from his ear he sees that his hand is now trembling.

34 **EXT. ISAAC'S HOUSE - DAY** 34

The next day. Manny's car pulls up. Outside is a 'for sale' sign. A removal van is being loaded up with Sam and Isaac's things. Manny exits his car and heads into the house.

35 **INT. ISAAC'S HOUSE - DAY** 35

Manny enters and is met by Sam. She addresses him frostily.

SAM
Mine and Isaac's stuff is all in
the van. Anything we leave behind
you can have or sell or chuck away.

Isaac trundles downstairs with his bicycle.

MANNY
Hey? You need help.

Isaac avoids giving his dad eye contact.

ISAAC
I'm fine.

Manny gives his son a hug and kisses his head. Isaac continues to avoid eye contact.

MANNY
I'm gonna miss you.

Isaac pulls out of his dad's arms.

ISAAC
I'm not leaving the country.

MANNY

I know, but... just... Whatever
happens in the future, never forget
I love you.

Sam thinks what Manny said was odd.

36 **EXT. ISAAC'S HOUSE - DAY** 36

Manny stands at the doorstep as Sam and Isaac get into the removal van. Manny gives them a wave. Isaac gives him a brief wave back and hurries inside the van. Sam gives Manny a polite but sad smile... Manny reciprocates and Sam disappears into the van.

The engine starts up and Manny watches his family drive away.

37 **INT. ISAAC'S HOUSE - DAY** 37

Manny reenters the house. He struggles to digest that Sam and Isaac have left for good.

38 **INT. ISAAC'S HOUSE. ISAAC'S BEDROOM - DAY** 38

Manny enters and is shocked by how much of Isaac's stuff still remains, including his array of premium trainers.

39 **INT. ISAAC'S HOUSE. KITCHEN - DAY** 39

Manny sits at the table, listening to the silence, accepting he is now on his own. He thinks about how he got here - the pay off - the NDA - Jotham. He still has unfinished business. He owes it to Isaac... and himself.

He goes to a drawer. In it remain cooking utensils. He pulls out one... the chopping knife from Episode One. As he holds the knife he's refilled with hatred for Jotham. He leaves the room with his instrument of vengeance in hand.

40 OMITTED 40

41 **EXT. SABRINA'S HOUSE - DAY** 41

The next day. A cab pulls up and Sam steps out with Isaac. They're met by Sabrina who stands outside.

SAM
Thanks for this.

SABRINA
Don't mention it.

SAM
I'll be back in a few hours.

Sam gives Isaac a kiss on the cheek. He whispers back -

ISAAC
Good luck.

Sam jumps back into the cab, leaving Isaac with Sabrina.

42 **EXT. OFFICE BLOCK - DAY** 42

A modern building housing several media companies and freelancers. Sam gets out of her cab and makes her way nervously to the entrance. Waiting for her is Jess. She's just as nervous. They embrace.

JESS
You still want to do this?

Sam takes a moment and then nods.

43 **INT. SABRINA'S HOUSE. TYRONE'S BEDROOM - DAY** 43

A restless Isaac plays on Tyrone's console. He gets bored and casts the controller aside. He then picks up a mini basketball and bounces it off the wall several times.

44 **INT. SABRINA'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM - DAY** 44

Sabrina is busy working on her laptop. She hears the mini basketball bouncing upstairs. She tries to ignore it... but then gives in. She goes to investigate.

45 **INT. SABRINA'S HOUSE. TYRONE'S BEDROOM - DAY** 45

Sabrina knocks the door and walks in.

SABRINA
Everything alright?

Isaac realises Sabrina's here because of the basketball. He puts it away.

ISAAC

Sorry.

Sabrina takes the basketball and gives it back to Isaac.

SABRINA

It's okay. I know there's not much to do, but it won't be long until Tyrone is home from school.

Isaac nods. Sabrina can see he looks troubled.

SABRINA (CONT'D)

Do you want to talk?

ISAAC

(jests)

First my social worker, then Mum, then Tyrone, now you.

Sabrina smiles warmly.

SABRINA

Is it getting all too much?

ISAAC

(nods)

But as well, like, not being able to just get on with things, like normal. I've never played so much Xbox in my life.

Sabrina smiles with amusement.

SABRINA

Maybe you can find a new hobby?

ISAAC

It's not that I'm bored. I'm just... if I'm not in my place - I'm in your place. And if I'm not in your place - I'm back in my place. I never thought I'd say this but... I miss school.

Sabrina looks surprised... and impressed.

SABRINA

You wanna go back to school?

ISAAC

Yeah. I'm fed up of living like I'm, I'm - hiding from everyone.

Sabrina looks proud of Isaac.

SABRINA

Well, if you want to go back to school, you know what you have to do.

Isaac waits for Sabrina to answer.

SABRINA (CONT'D)

Just go back!

Isaac tries to think of an excuse.

ISAAC

But...

SABRINA

But what?

Isaac doesn't have an answer. He nods, knowing it's up to him to act on this.

46

INT. OFFICE BLOCK. RENTED OFFICE SPACE - DAY

46

An anxious Sam watches Dominic and his Camera Man set up the filming area. Dominic reassures her -

DOMINIC

After we've finished the questions I'll send the recording to my colleague in the States and he'll do the rest.

(hopeful)

It could be uploaded as early as tonight.

Sam's heart pounds. Jess pours her mum some water. The Camera Man signals to Dominic that he's ready. Dominic turns to Sam.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)

We're ready when you are.

Sam double-checks within herself 'do I want to do this?'
BEAT. She downs the water and gears herself up.

SAM

Let's do this.

Jess squeezes Sam's hand for luck.

47

INT. OFFICE BLOCK. RENTED OFFICE SPACE / INTERVIEW AREA - DAY

Sam sits upright in a chair in front of the camera. She faces Dominic who sits beside the camera lens. He reads questions from his tablet. Sam answers as carefully as she can, so as not to accidentally reveal any clues to Isaac's identity.

DOMINIC

How did your child get into acting?

SAM

Through a weekend acting school. It was something they really enjoyed.

DOMINIC

At what stage did people begin to recognise your child had something special?

SAM

I think around 12. That's when auditions really started to pick up. And it's around that time they auditioned for Jotham's film.

DOMINIC

How did that go?

SAM

Really good. I mean, there were several rounds, which stretched for several months. But I knew my child must've been a favourite, to be called back so many times.

DOMINIC

Was Jotham at the auditions?

SAM

No. We met him for the first time at the read through. He said he had watched all of the audition tapes...

(shifts uncomfortably)

and that my child was his favourite from the beginning.

DOMINIC

And how did that make you feel?

SAM

Happy I guess... to hear this big Hollywood producer was so impressed...

(MORE)

SAM (CONT'D)

we didn't think what he was saying could've meant something else.

DOMINIC

During filming were you or your husband on set?

SAM

No. We couldn't afford to take that amount of time off work. Plus we were reassured by the company that our child would be well looked after.

DOMINIC

By a chaperone?

SAM

Yes, one of the producers, I forget their exact title.

DOMINIC

What made you trust the chaperone?

SAM

(guilty)

I think... because she was a woman... she felt like someone who cared... plus she had worked with other child actors before.

DOMINIC

But essentially you left your child in the hands of strangers?

SAM

... yes.

DOMINIC

Did you contact your child during their time on set?

SAM

Yes, practically every day we'd FaceTime.

DOMINIC

Did they say or give any indication that there was something untoward happening?

SAM

No. They always seemed happy... And when I spoke to the chaperone she always said how well they was doing.

DOMINIC

So you were quite relaxed?

SAM

No! I can't even relax when my child goes to school. I was always worrying, but more about their wellbeing, not if some middle-aged man was preying on them.

DOMINIC

Moving on to when your child returned home, what was that like?

SAM

A huge relief. I couldn't stop hugging them.

DOMINIC

And how was they? How did they seem?

SAM

(recalling)

Happy... but also distracted. We first thought it might've been because they were tired, but... well... they clearly wanted to tell us something, but was too scared. So instead...

(takes a breath)

They showed us a video of what happened.

DOMINIC

They recorded the assault?

SAM

Yes.

DOMINIC

Why did they do that?

SAM

(thinks carefully)

They thought that by recording it no one would accuse them of lying...

(MORE)

SAM (CONT'D)

plus it was easier for my child to show us than tell us. He doesn't want to talk about it.

DOMINIC

Isn't it a little convenient that they managed to record the incident? One might say that they planned to set Jotham up?

SAM

No.

(steels herself)

The reason why they were able to record it was... because it wasn't the first time Jotham had done... *that* to them.

DOMINIC

Jotham had assaulted your child previously on set?

Sam nods.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)

So they knew Jotham would try to do it again and was ready with their camera phone?

Sam nods.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)

Why didn't they tell anyone, like the chaperone?

SAM

They... they were scared.

DOMINIC

But this was such a serious crime?

SAM

They were only 13, surrounded by all these adults. And this was my child's big break. They were scared of losing it all and letting everyone down.

DOMINIC

When you saw the footage, why didn't you go to the police?

SAM

Me and my husband were in shock. We didn't know what to do... but we knew we needed answers so complained to Yonder Starr. We also got in contact with a lawyer.

DOMINIC

What did the lawyer say?

SAM

They said we would have to travel to California and press charges there. But we had no money to do any of that.

DOMINIC

But surely if you really wanted to get justice you would've found some way to raise the funds?

SAM

It would've cost us thousands to take Jotham to court - we didn't have thousands.

(composed)

And even if we did, to put our child through that process of going to court everyday, reliving the assault over and over again... They couldn't handle that, they didn't want to do that. They were 13-years-old.

Dominic moves along the page on his tablet.

DOMINIC

Why did you accept a pay-off?

SAM

It was never, ever our intention. When we complained to Yonder Starr and they arranged a meeting with myself, my husband and Jotham's lawyers. We thought this would lead to an apology...

DOMINIC

So you were only hoping for an apology?

SAM

No!... I guess we were thinking... hoping that once they realised what we were saying was true, that they would do the decent thing and help us, perhaps, prosecute Jotham.

DOMINIC

But instead they offered you money and you took it?

SAM

It wasn't that simple. They went on and on about how if the allegation came out the film would be pulled and how hundreds of people who worked on the film will be affected. They also talked about how my child's name would be plastered everywhere. My child had made it very clear to me that they didn't want anyone else to know... and as a parent I had to honour that. That's why we couldn't go to the press or even expose Jotham on social media. My child didn't want anyone to know.

DOMINIC

So, is it fair to say you felt backed into a corner, with no other choice but to take the money?

Sam gets tearful as she nods.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)

Do you regret your decision?

SAM

Yes.. we... I... thought once we took the money it would be over, but it's not... they, Jotham's people, still have power over us... my child has failed to move on... it's destroyed my marriage... and... the guilt remains.

DOMINIC

And finally, why are you choosing now to break your non-disclosure agreement?

Sam's mind spins with several reasons why... she settles on one -

SAM
Because it's the right thing to do.

48 **INT. ULC CINEMA. MANNY'S OFFICE - DAY** 48

Manny's at his desk. His mobile vibrates beside him. It's a call from 'Brett'. He exhales with foreboding and answers.

MANNY
Hello?

BRETT HUNTLEY (V.O.)
Jotham can meet you tomorrow at seven. Location details to follow.

MANNY
Okay.

The call ends.

49 **INT. OFFICE BLOCK. RENTED OFFICE SPACE - DAY** 49

As the Camera Man packs away Dominic reassures Sam and Jess before they leave.

DOMINIC
Sorry if some questions seemed brutal. I had to ensure I asked the questions viewers would want to hear answered.

SAM
(buoyed)
It was fine. I felt good answering them.

DOMINIC
And I'll be getting a copy before it's uploaded to check your voice and face have been properly masked.
(looks proudly at Sam & Jess)
Thank you again for speaking out. As a father I totally agree with you when you say 'it's the right thing to do'.

Dominic goes over to the Camera Man. Jess gives her mum a hug.

JESS
Proud of you.

SAM
(delicately asks)
After I've got Isaac I might pick
up a takeaway. Fancy joining us?

Jess looks apprehensive, she's still not ready to face Isaac.
She makes an excuse.

JESS
I would but there's this audition I
have tomorrow... got loads of lines
to learn.

SAM
(disappointed)
Oh, okay.
(perks up)
I assume that means you've given up
trying for reality shows?

JESS
Nah, the lines I'm learning are for
a scripted reality show.

SAM
(back to disappointment)
Oh.

BEAT. Jess smirks and Sam gets Jess is joking. Sam gives her
a playful nudge.

50

INT. SAM'S FLAT - NIGHT

50

Sam sits with her Chinese takeaway, uneaten and stone cold.
Her laptop is in front of her. On it plays her interview.
It's entitled:

Hollywood Child Abuse Scandal: A Mother Speaks Out

Sam has been made into a silhouette and her voice has been
dubbed by an American actress.

As Sam scrutinises her answers, we see that she's not alone
watching. Isaac sits beside her, his food also uneaten as
he's engrossed at what he observes. Sam notices Isaac gently
nodding in agreement with one of her answers. He looks
inspired. Sam's happy and relieved.

Isaac then stands up and goes over to one of his half
unpacked boxes and rummages through it.

SAM
What you looking for?

Isaac pulls out of the box his rucksack for school. He unzips, brings out a couple of exercise books and looks relieved. Sam looks confused.

ISAAC
I'm going back to school.

SAM
(shocked)
W-what's the rush? You don't have to go back now.

ISAAC
I'm fed up of hiding. The secret's out now. If people know about it - I don't care. If people don't know about it - I don't care. But I'm going to school.

51 **EXT. SAM'S FLAT. ENTRANCE TO BLOCK - DAY**

51

Then next day. Sam holds the door open for Isaac as he wheels his bicycle out. He's dressed for school, she's a bag of nerves.

SAM
You sure you don't want me to come with you?

ISAAC
How?
(pointing to the seat / jests)
You gonna ride on the back?

SAM
(smiles)
If I must.

Isaac gives his mum a kiss on the cheek.

ISAAC
I'll text you when I'm there.

SAM
You better!

Isaac jumps on his bike and rides off. As Sam watches him she sees her mobile vibrating from a call from Jess. She answers.

SAM (CONT'D)
Hello?

Sam listens to Jess - her face turns serious.

52 **EXT. STREET NEAR SAM'S FLAT - DAY** 52

Isaac rides to school. The further he gets away from home the less confident he looks.

INTERCUT:

53 OMITTED 53

53A **INT. ULC CINEMA. MANNY'S OFFICE - DAY** 53A

Manny sits in from of his computer. He's looking slightly dishevelled and clearly hasn't been sleeping much. On the screen in front of him is a website for a Soho Italian restaurant - The Andolini. He clicks on photos of the restaurant's interior, studying them intensely. There's a knock on the door. He snaps -

MANNY

Yes?

A awkward Farah appears at the door, holding a cup of coffee.

FARAH

You look like you need a top up.

MANNY

(apologetically)

Thank you. Just put it on the side for me.

Farah complies.

MANNY (CONT'D)

By the way, I'll be leaving early today so you'll have the conn.

Farah nods and exits. Manny resumes studying the restaurant.

54 OMITTED 54

55 **EXT. ST JUDE'S SECONDARY SCHOOL - DAY** 55

Isaac cycles near to the entrance and stops. Seeing the throngs of boisterous pupils entering makes him extremely anxious.

He turns his bike 180 degrees and prepares to ride back home, however he is confronted by a group of Pupils heading his way. Isaac tenses up, expecting them to recognise him and comment... but they keep on walking - past Isaac and towards the entrance without even a whiff of interest in him. Isaac breathes a sigh of relief and is encouraged. He turns his bicycle back around and continues his journey.

56 **INT. ST JUDE'S SECONDARY SCHOOL. CORRIDOR - DAY** 56

Isaac walks cautiously down the corridor, still on high alert. However none of the pupils pay him any attention, they're all preoccupied with their own lives. Isaac's confidence grows the further he makes his way. Isaac then remembers he promised to text his mum he has arrived. As he uses his mobile phone he sees his Headteacher glaring at him.

57 **INT. SAM'S FLAT - DAY** 57

Sam stares nervously at her mobile, worrying about Isaac. Jess brings her a cup of tea.

JESS
He'll be alright.

Suddenly Sam's mobile rings. She looks at the screen. It says 'School'. Sam fears the worst as she answers.

SAM
Hello?... Oh hello Mrs James...
(relief)
He is at school, oh thank you for letting me know...
(wry)
Yes, I will discourage Isaac from using his mobile in school... thanks for calling.

Sam ends the call and holds her mobile close, relieved and proud of Isaac.

JESS
I'm guessing he's alright.

Sam squeezes Jess's hand and smiles.

Her mobile then vibrates from another call. A relaxed Sam answers without looking who it is.

SAM
Hello?

CHERYL DENON (V.O.)

Hi Sam.

Sam immediately pulls her mobile away from her ear. Her smile disappears. Jess is curious why. She sees on Sam's mobile screen it says - 'Cheryl Denon'.

58 OMITTED 58

59 **I/E. MANNY'S CAR / THE ANDOLINI - EVENING** 59

Manny's car parks in a shady area, not too far from the restaurant. He turns off his headlights, switches off the engine - and waits.

60 **INT. SAM'S FLAT - EVENING** 60

Sam and Jess sit opposite Cheryl Denon. Jess scrutinises Cheryl as she talks to Sam.

CHERYL DENON

Your interview was quite something.

JESS

That wasn't Mum.

CHERYL DENON

(not buying it)

Well then whoever that mother was, her story was very familiar...

(remorseful)

Especially the role the chaperone played.

JESS

(unsympathetic)

Oh, boo hoo.

Sam puts a hand on Jess to silence her and addresses Cheryl -

SAM

What do you want to ask?

60A **INT. SAM'S FLAT. FRONT DOOR AREA - NIGHT** 60A

Isaac enters, wheeling his bicycle along. He listens for a moment, but the place is silent.

ISAAC

Hello?

SAM (O.S.)

In here.

Isaac heads towards his mother's voice... into the room where he sees her, Jess and Cheryl. Jess looks at the floor with nerves. Cheryl composes herself.

SAM (CONT'D)

How was school?

Isaac doesn't hear the question, he's surprised to see Jess and shocked to see Cheryl. Cheryl smiles warmly at him.

CHERYL DENON

Hello Isaac.

Isaac ignores Cheryl and stares at Jess, who's still looking at the floor.

ISAAC

Sup Jess?

Jess is surprised to hear Isaac address her. She lifts up her head. He gives her a warm smile.

ISAAC (CONT'D)

You good?

Jess smiles back appreciatively and nods. Isaac goes to head off to his bedroom.

SAM

Wait a minute, Cheryl has something to say.

Cheryl's put on the spot. She rouses herself.

CHERYL DENON

Since the newspaper article and the recorded interview...

(steels herself)

other former child actors have come forward... They've joined together to prepare a court case against Jotham. They've been galvanised

(to Isaac)

By you.

Isaac looks unmoved. Cheryl perseveres.

CHERYL DENON (CONT'D)

I've spoken to other former employees and we've all agreed to support the actors' court case and break our NDAs. We want to do everything we can to get them justice... Would you like to join us?

All eyes on Isaac. BEAT. Isaac gives Cheryl a cold stare and goes off with his bike towards his bedroom. His door is heard closing.

60B **INT. SAM'S FLAT. ISAAC'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

60B

Isaac stares into space, thinking about Cheryl's offer. Sam sits beside him, waiting patiently for his response. He gives her eye contact. Sam smiles warmly.

SAM

Whatever you decide I'm 100% behind you.

Isaac acknowledges with a nod then thinks hard.

ISAAC

I ain't missing any more school.

Sam pleasantly surprised by Isaac's response. She gives him a hug.

61 **I/E. MANNY'S CAR / THE ANDOLINI - NIGHT**

61

A cab passes Manny's car and parks outside the restaurant. Out steps Jotham Starr.

As Manny watches Jotham pay then enter the restaurant he squeezes the handle of the kitchen knife tightly.

62 **INT. SAM'S FLAT. ISAAC'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

62

As Isaac unpacks a box of his things there's a knock on his door. He looks wary.

ISAAC

Yeah?

Jess enters, holding a fried egg sandwich. She offers it to him. Isaac pretends to not be hungry.

ISAAC (CONT'D)
I'm alright, thanks.

JESS
But I made it especially for you...
I even used the cooking spray oil,
so it's not as greasy as before.

This raises a smile from Isaac as he remembers the last time Jess made him a very greasy fried egg sandwich (Episode Two).

ISAAC
Alright... put it on the table for me.

Jess does so and sits on Isaac's bed. There's an awkward silence. Jess looks repentant.

JESS
Sorry about the newspaper article.
I swear I really thought it would help.

Isaac looks at his sister with forgiveness.

ISAAC
It did.

Jess doesn't understand.

ISAAC (CONT'D)
You know, when I was at school no one asked me about it. There were a few people that stared, like they were unsure of something...
(remembers with amusement)
Then there was one dinner lady, she blatantly looked like she wanted to ask if I was the kid from the article... But she just gave me my cake and custard and that was it. No questions. Everything was *calm*.

Jess looks proud of her brother. She puts an arm around him.

JESS
I'm glad you feel like things are returning back to normal.

Sam receives a call from Brett Huntley. She initially ignores it... but then decides to answer, coldly.

SAM

Yes?

BRETT HUNTLEY (V.O.)

Sam, do you know where your husband is? He was meant to meet Jotham twenty minutes ago but he's still not shown up.

SAM

Meet Jotham?

Sam looks surprised... and then anxious about what Manny could be up to.

64 **I/E. MANNY'S CAR / THE ANDOLINI - NIGHT** 64

Manny sits in his car psyching himself up. He's then distracted by a mobile call from Sam. He lets it ring a few moments then rejects the call.

65 **INT. SAM'S FLAT - NIGHT** 65

Sam looks at her mobile as her call ends prematurely and goes to voicemail.

Isaac sees his mum looking worried.

ISAAC

What's up?

SAM

I need to find your father.

Sam grabs her car keys.

SAM (CONT'D)

Stay with Jess, yeah. I'll be back.

Isaac grabs his coat.

ISAAC

Nah, I'm coming too.

66 **I/E. MANNY'S CAR / THE ANDOLINI - NIGHT** 66

Manny catches a peeved Jotham stomp out of the restaurant and hail a cab. Manny hurriedly puts the knife under his seat and starts his engine.

Jotham jumps into a cab. As it pulls off Manny follows them in his car.

67 **EXT. SOUTHBANK HOTEL - NIGHT** 67

Jotham's cab heads towards the main entrance.

68 **I/E. MANNY'S CAR / SOUTHBANK HOTEL - NIGHT** 68

Manny sees Jotham's cab pulling into the main entrance. He speeds past towards the underground car park.

68A **I/E. SAM'S CAR / NORTH LONDON STREET - NIGHT** 68A

A frustrated Sam's stuck in traffic. Isaac sits beside her, on his on his mobile to Tyrone.

ISAAC
Sup, is Dad there?

INTERCUT:

68B **INT. SABRINA'S HOUSE. TYRONE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT** 68B

Tyrone plays a console game as he chats on his mobile to Isaac.

TYRONE
Nah, fam.

ISAAC
(to his mum)
He's not at Sabrina's.

Sam begins to fret, causing Isaac to be really concerned.

TYRONE
You coming around? There's a glitch on this game. It keeps giving me bare free points.

ISAAC
I can't now. Maybe tomorrow.

69 OMITTED 69

70 INT. SOUTHBANK HOTEL. LOBBY - NIGHT 70

A desperate Manny rushes into the lobby hoping to see Jotham, but there's no sign of him.

He then notices the guests in the hotel's bar. Among them is Jotham. He's berating Brett, clearly about the failed meeting. Manny continues to watch at a safe distance as Jotham jabs his fingers at Brett. Brett defends himself, which provokes further anger from Jotham, then he storms off. Brett undoes the top button of his shirt and slumps back in his chair.

An angry Jotham marches into the lobby and towards the lift. He's so preoccupied he doesn't even notice Manny.

Manny observes Jotham call for the lift. BEAT. Jotham's lift arrives and he steps in.

Manny dashes over to Jotham's lift, stretching his hand to stop the doors - but he's too late.

71 INT. SOUTHBANK HOTEL. LIFT - NIGHT 71

Jotham hears a thud (of Manny's hand) on the closed lift doors, but thinks nothing of it. The lift travels up.

72 INT. SOUTHBANK HOTEL. LIFT AREA - NIGHT 72

Manny watches Jotham's lift ascend through the floor numbers until it reaches the penthouse floor.

Manny feels his mobile vibrate from a call. He goes to switch it off but then sees who is calling - Isaac. This pulls at his heart. He's unsure whether to answer or not. As he debates with himself we hear the ping of the lift returning to ground floor. The lift doors open for Manny. He has a moment of second thoughts... but then puts away his mobile and steps inside.

72A I/E. SAM'S CAR / MAGGIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT 72A

A concerned Maggie talks to Sam, as Isaac watches his mobile call to Manny also go unanswered.

MAGGIE

I haven't seen Emmanuel today. Is everything okay?

ISAAC

Mum? He's still not picking up.

Panic starts to set in for Sam. Where can Manny be?

73 OMITTED 73

74 **INT. SOUTHBANK HOTEL. PENTHOUSE LEVEL - NIGHT** 74

Manny steps out of the lift and makes his way to the Penthouse. As he walks everything that has led him to this point flashes through his mind. Beads of sweat form on his forehead - his heart rate is off the chart - the pressure is immense.

He reaches the penthouse door. His fist quivers as he goes to knock. He stops and looks angrily at his shaking fist. He's had enough of the stalling, the nervousness and the fear. It's time he *mans up* for his son.

Manny knocks on the door... then listens for approaching footsteps... BEAT. All quiet. Manny knocks a little harder and longer. He hears from behind the door-

JOTHAM STARR (O.S.)
Alright, I'm coming!

Manny stealthily backs away from the eyeline of the door's peephole.

He hears the door being unlocked... The door handle goes down... The door swings open... Jotham stands in the doorframe. He sees Manny...

... And Manny sees Jotham. *Time to be a man.*

Manny launches a ferocious right hook into Jotham's jaw. Jotham flies back into the room and onto the floor.

Manny stands over him and draws out his kitchen knife. The point of the blade hovers over Jotham's heart. Jotham's in a daze.

MANNY
(menacingly)
You deserve this...

Jotham catches a glimpse of the point of the knife and looks petrified. Manny squeezes the handle with all his might, desperate to kill off Jotham once and for all... But his hand can't thrust forward. Manny howls with anger - trying to force himself against his own will to do the deed.

Jotham looks petrified as Manny manically battles within himself. The point of the blade keeps going dangerously back and forth from his heart.

Manny finally lets out a blood curdling shout... and gives up... he wants to kill Jotham... but he's not that guy... common sense prevails.

Manny takes deep breaths to calm himself down... he sees Jotham is also doing the same. He almost looks grateful for Manny sparing his life...

Manny glares at Jotham... moves in close and spits in his face...

... he then moves quickly away from the scene.

75 **INT. SOUTHBANK HOTEL. LIFT AREA - NIGHT** 75

Manny exits the lift and heads for the exit. He's still trying to catch his breath.

76 **INT. ISAAC'S HOUSE. KITCHEN - NIGHT** 76

Manny sits at the table. The unused knife rests in front of him. He's glances at his hands - they tremble - he's in shock.

He's then disturbed by the sound of the front door opening.

Sam and Isaac rush into the room, startling Manny. Sam goes to speak but then sees the knife - as does Isaac. They're shocked.

SAM
Manny... ?

MANNY
I didn't use it...
(to Isaac)
I could've, but...

Manny shakes his head and forgoes explaining. Instead he assumes all responsibility.

MANNY (CONT'D)
All of this is my fault... I
promised you I would sort all *this*
out... and I failed you... I'm
sorry.

Isaac absorbs what his dad has said. BEAT.

ISAAC

But what about the money?

As Manny thinks carefully how to answer, Isaac continues -

ISAAC (CONT'D)

I don't mean the reasons, I mean...
why did you think that was the
right thing to do?

This hits Manny right in the heart. A contrite Manny replies
honestly -

MANNY

I made a mistake. I was wrong.

Sam's moved by Manny's honesty. It causes her to concur with
Manny and also apologise to Isaac -

SAM

We were wrong.

Isaac nods, feeling strengthened by his parents honesty and
also feeling sympathy for his parents. They were put in an
unfathomable position.

77

INT. SAM'S FLAT - NIGHT

77

Sam leads Isaac inside... followed by Manny.

ISAAC

You sure it's alright for him to
sleep over?

SAM

Yeah, as long as Dad is okay with
the sofa?

MANNY

All good with me.

Sam leaves the two males alone. BEAT. Manny glances at the
flat.

MANNY (CONT'D)

How you settling in?

ISAAC

(shrugs)
It's alright.
(pretends to be
disappointed)
No pool though.

Manny and Isaac chuckle, feeling connected as father and son.

FADE TO BLACK.

78 **EXT. SAM'S FLAT. ENTRANCE TO BLOCK - DAY** 78

A few weeks later. Isaac helps Sam load their luggage into the boot of a cab. Isaac receives a text message and pulls away from his mum to read it. It's from Jess -

'proud of you J x'

Isaac gets typing a reply.

79 **INT. AAPAA. CORRIDOR - DAY** 79

Jess reads Isaac's reply to her text -

'thanx & good luck!'

Jess feels warmed by this. She then stares at the open classroom ahead. She takes a couple of deep breaths to settle her nerves and then enters.

80 **INT. AAPAA. A CLASS ROOM - CONTINUOUS** 80

Jess enters and sees a group of drama students (aged 10 & 11) sat in a circle with Avril Allen.

AVRIL ALLEN

Class, I am delighted to introduce you to our new teaching assistant, Jess Mensah.

JESS

(anxious)

Hi.

DRAMA STUDENTS

(excited)

Hello!

Jess is taken aback by their warmth. She joins in the circle.

81 **INT. AIRPORT - DAY** 81

Sam and Isaac enter and see Cheryl chatting to three of her COLLEAGUES (females aged between 25 and 35) close by.

CHERYL DENON
Isaac, Sam! Good to see you.

SAM
Sorry we're late.

Isaac looks around for someone and is disappointed not to see him.

CHERYL DENON
(introducing her
Colleagues)
This is Mel, Leah and Kerry.
They're former producers at Yonder
Starr London...
(smiles proudly at Isaac)
who because of you are also
breaking their NDAs.

Isaac feels comforted that he's not alone in his endeavour.

Sam then nudges Isaac and points towards the entrance. Pulling his luggage and looking flustered is Manny. He spots the group and looks relieved.

MANNY
The traffic was absolute madness.
I'm so sorry I'm late.

Isaac wraps his arms around his father.

ISAAC
Thanks for coming.

MANNY
Thank you for allowing me.

The group looks touched by this moment.

CHERYL DENON
I hate to interrupt but we should
probably check in.

Cheryl leads the group on. A buoyed Isaac immediately follows.

Manny and Sam watch on with immense pride. They then glance at each other... Manny offers his hand to hold... but Sam rejects it... and instead hooks her arm around his in friendship. They follow their son - united.

CUT TO BLACK:

CAPTION: THE END

The £ sign gets scrawled out and replaced with an E, showing:

THE END

FADE OUT.