

Gentleman Jack 2

Episode 7

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The logo for Lookout Point, featuring the words "LOOKOUT" and "POINT" stacked vertically in a gold, sans-serif font, centered within a dark blue square.

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POINT

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1 **EXT. NEW HOUSE, LIGHTCLIFFE. DAY 48. 1100 (EARLY 1835)** 1

SAMUEL WASHINGTON walks up to the house and tap-tap-taps on the front door.

2 **INT. NEW HOUSE, LIGHTCLIFFE. DAY 48. 1100 (EARLY 1835)** 2

 ELIZA PRIESTLEY
 (who was peeping out of
 the window)
 He's here, it's him.

 WILLIAM PRIESTLEY
 (puts his paper down,
 stands up)
 Right.

 ELIZA PRIESTLEY
 Don't - !

 WILLIAM PRIESTLEY
 What?

 ELIZA PRIESTLEY
 Say anything.

 WILLIAM PRIESTLEY
 What d'you mean, "don't say
 anything"? Why've we asked him here
 [if] -

 ELIZA PRIESTLEY
 Don't say anything *aggressive*.

 WILLIAM PRIESTLEY
 I wasn't going to say anything
 aggressive. I was [going to] -

 ELIZA PRIESTLEY
 We. Are dignified people. Even [in]
 - *especially* in - the face of
 adversity. We are good Christian
 folk, and that one simple fact must
 guide our every action, and our
 every response to the actions of
 others.

 WILLIAM PRIESTLEY
 I know that. I do know that, Eliza.
 But I don't think we need to mince
 words.

The FOOTMAN taps at the door and steps in.

 FOOTMAN
 Mr. Washington mam.

She nods/gesticulates, "Go on then" to the FOOTMAN, and flashes a look at her husband to encourage a cool polite detachment. SAMUEL WASHINGTON steps in.

SAMUEL WASHINGTON
Mr. Priestley, Mrs. Priestley.

ELIZA PRIESTLEY
Thank you for coming.

SAMUEL WASHINGTON
It's no trouble ma'am, I'm only
over the road at Crow Nest.

WILLIAM PRIESTLEY
Washington.

ELIZA PRIESTLEY
(dismissing the FOOTMAN)
I sent my note to you in your
capacity as Miss Walker's land
steward. And in view of the fact
that when I wrote to her, the
servant came back saying she was in
York. Until Monday.

SAMUEL WASHINGTON
That's right, ma'am. With Miss
Lister.

MRS. PRIESTLEY can't hear Anne Lister's name without a
sensation of her ears being sullied. Moving on -

ELIZA PRIESTLEY
And so we wondered if you could
throw any light on *this*. For us.
(she produces a letter)
Sent I assume before she left. We
are advised to vacate the school
premises. Both my day school - of
which Mr. Priestley is a trustee,
hence his presence - *and* the Sunday
school. Run by Mrs. Batty. Who is
being requested to vacate her
cottage. Her *home*.

SAMUEL WASHINGTON
Ah. Well. Yes. I'm afraid it it it
does go with the job, yes.

ELIZA PRIESTLEY
Two of your little girls attend my
day school! Suzannah is an
assistant teacher, and you *knew*
about this?

SAMUEL WASHINGTON

(he nods, trying to avoid
an outright 'yes')

There are other rooms in the
village ma'am that would
accommodate the day school more
than adequ[ately] -

ELIZA PRIESTLEY

Yes! There are! And we will make
use of them!

(oops. She lost sight of
the fact that she has
Jesus on her team there)

Why though? Mr. Washington. Why?

SAMUEL WASHINGTON

I don't entirely know ma'am.

WILLIAM PRIESTLEY

What do you know? Washington.

SAMUEL WASHINGTON

Well.

(awkward: this could be
regarded as confidential,
but...)

Mrs. Sutherland and Miss Walker are
dividing the estate in two. There
have been a number of distresses
and evictions in anticipation of
the division, and -

(he dries up)

That's as much as I know.

WILLIAM PRIESTLEY

Dividing it in two?

SAMUEL WASHINGTON

Yes. You must know as much about it
as me Mr. Priestley, but when Miss
Walker's - and Mrs. Sutherland's -
brother died intestate, the estate
came to them both. Jointly. But
there was no provision for a formal
division. As such. I suppose no-one
ever imagined it would happen. But
so yes, Miss Walker is now seeking
a formal itemized division. Of the
estate.

WILLIAM PRIESTLEY

(a thousand troublesome
thoughts)

Is she.

SAMUEL WASHINGTON

It makes sense. Mrs. Sutherland and Miss Walker...

(fearing putting his foot in it at every turn)

Lead very different lives. These days.

Don't they just. Silence.

ELIZA PRIESTLEY

Well well.

SAMUEL WASHINGTON

I'm sorry if it's inconvenient. And for Mrs. Batty too. But I'm... little more than a messenger.

(MRS. PRIESTLEY hesitates, then goes and tinkles the bell for the servant)

Is there anything else I can...? Help you with?

ELIZA PRIESTLEY

I don't think so.

(the FOOTMAN re-appears)

Thank you for coming. Mr. Washington.

SAMUEL WASHINGTON

Mrs. Priestley. Mr. Priestley.

He nods politely to each of them and withdraws.

ELIZA PRIESTLEY

A formal *itemized* division of the estate. And we all know who's behind *that* one, don't we?

OPENING TITLES

3 **EXT. THE BLACK SWAN, YORK. DAY 49. 1130 (EARLY 1835)** 3

Establisher.

4 **INT. THE BLACK SWAN, ANNE & ANN'S PRIVATE SITTING ROOM. DAY 49. 1130 (EARLY 1835)** 4

We discover JOSEPH/GEORGE and EUGÉNIE taking turns to sign a legal document, watched over by Anne Lister's elite York lawyer, 56-year-old JONATHAN GRAY, and ANN WALKER. ANNE LISTER sits slightly apart, as though she is here merely to support her friend, and has no personal stake in what's going on. She's perusing a big book full of architectural drawings.

JOSEPH/GEORGE
(taking the pen from
EUGÉNIE)
What is it we're signing again?

ANNE defers to ANN or GRAY to explain; it's not her codicil.

ANN WALKER
It's a codicil, George, that says
Miss Lister is authorised to
proceed with the division of my
estate if not completed before the
event of my d[eath] -

JONATHAN GRAY interrupts kindly on seeing the look of mute shock on ANNE LISTER's face as ANN WALKER innocently regales the servants with far too much information.

JONATHAN GRAY
You're - ! Simply signing to say
you've seen Miss Walker and Miss
Lister sign their names. George.
That's all.

JOSEPH/GEORGE is still worried this could come back to haunt him.

EUGÉNIE
(bored, she murmurs under
her breath -)
Just *sign* it.

JONATHAN GRAY
The contents of the document are
immaterial. All you're doing is
witnessing that these are indeed
their signatures. Which you know
them to be because you've just seen
them write them.

JOSEPH/GEORGE
(the penny drops)
Oh! I see. Sorry.
(he signs)
I'm with you. As long as...
(concentrating as he
writes his three names:
Joseph. George. Booth)
I just didn't wanna... y'know. Find
out I'd joined the navy. Or
something.

EUGÉNIE looks at ANNE and raises her eyes heavenwards: what a numpty. ANNE refuses to enter into any sort of collusion with EUGÉNIE (but once more gets the idea that there's tension between her two servants). GRAY politely takes the pen from JOSEPH/GEORGE once he's signed.

ANNE LISTER indicates with a flick of the head that they can both take a hike now they've done the business. They both make a bit of a nod, and exit.

JONATHAN GRAY

(putting the doc away)

So that's that, and then regarding your brother-in-law, Miss Walker - can I...?

("Sit down?", he indicates. "Yes of course", she indicates)

I've written a letter to Captain Sutherland which I'll send off to Scotland in due course explaining that I'm now dealing with the matter of the division for you, and - well, let's see what comes back. What would be helpful - as we get further into it - would be to see a copy of this deed of settlement. From 1831. Between him and your sister. To see what exactly she *did* settle upon him. Do you have a copy?

ANN WALKER

No.

JONATHAN GRAY

But you've seen a copy?

ANN WALKER

No, it was just a reference to its existence, but my aunt confirmed it entirely.

JONATHAN GRAY

Well then perhaps I'll write to your Mr. [P] - ?

ANN WALKER

Parker.

JONATHAN GRAY

Parker!
(he writes the name)
Parker...

ANN WALKER (CONT'D)

He's not my Mr. Parker.

JONATHAN GRAY (CONT'D)

...in Halifax and see if I can get a copy from him.

(he makes a note to do that)

And then the other matter, these properties that your cousin Mr. Priestley acquired from your uncle.

(MORE)

JONATHAN GRAY (CONT'D)

The good news is that it looks like the Blackcastle Waste at High Sunderland *is* recoverable.

ANN WALKER

Really?

JONATHAN GRAY

Hm. And of course the rents for the period they've been removed from your estate would be recoverable too.

(ANN looks to ANNE: win win! ANNE raises a coolly satisfied eyebrow)

The other two - Longley Farm in Norland and the house at Hall End in Halifax - I'm afraid it may be too late. According to the statute of limitations, if your cousin has had uninterrupted possession for twenty years or more and no-one's raised any objection within that time, which at the moment appears to be the case, it's - unfortunately - something you may have to accept.

ANN consults ANNE with a look. ANNE's look is sympathetic, grave, thoughtful, but she remains aloof.

ANN WALKER

But I've only just found out about it!

JONATHAN GRAY

I can consult counsel.

ANN WALKER

But surely if someone's only just *found out* about a thing.

JONATHAN GRAY

What's fair and what's legal aren't always the same bed fellows we might hope them to be. Miss Walker.

His manner is sympathetic, not aloof. Rich clients like MISS WALKER are his bread and butter, he's not going to piss them off. ANN consults ANNE with a look, but ANNE's mind is on more aesthetic things -

ANNE LISTER

What do you know about John Harper, Mr. Gray? The architect.

JONATHAN GRAY

(his eyes light up)

Ah! Mr. Harper, well yes, he's very
[highly] -

ANNE LISTER

Parsons was on about him yesterday.
He came to cut my - and Miss
Walker's - hair and I was telling
him about my great disappointment
over a local architect I'd been
bothering with and he insisted that
John Harper was my man.

JONATHAN GRAY

Oh he's excellent! He designed the
whole of St. Leonard's Street here
including the new theatre - you
must've seen it - very elegant, oh
and he's so young! Only twenty-six,
but widely regarded as something of
a phenomenon. Oh, you must snap him
up, Miss Lister if you can. They
all say he's destined for very
great things!

5 **OMITTED**

5

6 **INT. SHIBDEN HALL, DINING ROOM. DAY 50. 1800 (EARLY 1835)**

6

Dinner chez Lister. ANNE's all fired up with enthusiasm -

ANNE LISTER

He's the most *delightful* young man!
I was quite charmed by him.

(MARIAN looks at the
camera, ooh la la, Anne
charmed by a man)

I sent him a note, he turned up at
our hotel at ten o'clock sharp the
next morning -

ANN WALKER

He only looked about fifteen.

ANNE LISTER

- and the very *next* morning -

ANN WALKER

This was Thursday, just gone.

ANNE LISTER

He drove over to Halifax in his carriage -

ANN WALKER

While we were still in York.

ANNE LISTER

- had a good look around Northgate -

ANN WALKER

Anne sent a note ahead to Mr. Greenwood to give him unlimited access -

ANNE LISTER

- and - yes I did - and he was *delighted* with it! He understands my vision perfectly and thinks the whole enterprise has every chance of success!

AUNT ANNE LISTER

Is it going to cost a lot?

ANNE LISTER

Well it's not cheap. *He's* not cheap. But then I shouldn't wish to build a cheap hotel. And the returns will reflect the quality of the investment. He's built a whole street in York -

ANN WALKER

It's *very* fashionable. We went to study it.

ANNE LISTER

He's going to come back with a proper plan within a fortnight.

AUNT ANNE LISTER

Well I'm glad you decided against selling Northgate, I think this is a much better scheme.

ANNE LISTER

Thank you Aunt!

AUNT ANNE LISTER

If it works.

7

INT. SHIBDEN HALL, HOUSEBODY / STAIRS. DAY 50. 1915.
(EARLY 1835)

7

Having finished dinner, ANNE is just leaving the dining room and heading upstairs after ANN, who is ahead of her and near the top of the stairs (more or less off) when CORDINGLEY comes through (from the front door) -

ANNE LISTER
Cordingley!

CORDINGLEY
Mam.

ANNE LISTER
How are you?

CORDINGLEY
Well, mam.

ANNE LISTER
How was your sister?

CORDINGLEY
Very well mam.

ANNE LISTER
How's your leg? Your hip.

CORDINGLEY
It's it's it's it's - you know.

She wants to say it's better so she doesn't get retired off, but it isn't, and she daren't lie, so she keeps it vague.

ANNE LISTER
Anyway, welcome back. Miss Walker and I will have our coffee in our little upstairs sitting room.

CORDINGLEY
Yes mam. Letter mam, for Miss Walker. Mrs. Priestley's servant brought it.

She hands it to ANNE. ANNE heads upstairs.

ANNE LISTER

We'll ask about. And in the interim. *We'll* teach them.

ANN WALKER

(!?)

Will we?

ANNE LISTER

Why not? *You* should start your own school in Lightcliffe anyway. A day school, as well as a Sunday school. We should take on a *good* school master -

(warming to her theme)

A *married man*, with ambition, whose wife could run the Sunday School, and all at your behest.

ANN WALKER

She says she intends to carry on her day school, she says she can procure a room in the village.

ANNE LISTER

Free gratis, like she's had it from you?

ANN WALKER

I don't know. I doubt [it] -

ANNE LISTER

I doubt it too. Has anyone ever given you the least thanks for the use of those rooms? All these years. Either for the day school or the Sunday school? No.

ANN's nodding, ANNE's right. She's the posh rich woman of Lightcliffe, she should be the big charitable benefactor. The prospect of teaching however is daunting -

ANN WALKER

Forty children attend the Sunday school.

ANNE LISTER

Excellent! I'm sure we can manage
that.

10

OMITTED

10

11 INT. UDALE HOUSE, SITTING ROOM. SCOTLAND. DAY 52. 1300. 11
(EARLY 1835)

We discover ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND reading a letter that's concerning when angry footsteps from across the hallway herald the entrance of CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND. He too has a letter.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND
Unbelievable! Your sister has now fully appointed this -
(shakes his letter at her)
Jonathan Gray in York to deal with the division of the property and he expects *me* to take on a legal man too! What's the matter with her?

ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND
She's found out about the settlement I made on you in 1831.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND realises that the letter ELIZABETH's reading is from ANN.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND
Is that her?

ELIZABETH offers the letter, knowing he'll read it anyway.

ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND
She's anxious that there should be no further delay, and [now] -

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND
What *delay*?

ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND
And now she knows it's *you* she should be dealing with rather than me she [thought] -

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND
She's ridiculous!

ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND

She *thought*. It would be better to put the thing more formally into the hands of a legal [man] -

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND

We're going down as soon as we - you - can travel! She *knows* that.

ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND

She did first raise the matter in September, so I suppose from her poi[nt of view] -

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND

Exactly! September. Less than - (realising it's a bit lame, but he fronts it out) nine months ago.

ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND

From her point of *view*. It could look like we were dragging our heels.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND thinks that's laughable; he's clearly going to stick to his guns that this is no time at all for such a big legal matter.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND

I don't suppose it's occurred to her that I'm just as keen to get on with it as she is, so that *I* can make a proper settlement on our children! *Without* involving over-paid lawyers.

ELIZABETH doesn't respond to that. They both know he's been procrastinating, whatever he says.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND (CONT'D)

(as he continues to read the letter)

What's this? About these properties. High Sunderland, Hall End -

ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND

Oh it's - (tiresome) Mr. Priestley. Somehow. Years ago. Got hold of... (she gesticulates at the letter, can't remember the names) - from my uncle. Before the estate came to my father.

(MORE)

ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND (CONT'D)

My aunt used to talk about it,
but... I don't know. I never really
knew.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND

And she's taking him to task over
it?

ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND

She wants me - us - to share the
legal costs. Yes.

This seems to charm and amuse CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND as he
continues to take in the details of the letter (there's no
love lost of course between him and the Priestleys).

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND

Curious.

ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND

What is?

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND

All of it. Everything. The tone of
her letters. The way she's become
so litigious. I half imagined
Priestley was behind it, but
clearly not. Not if she's taking
legal action against him.

(realising)

It's Miss Lister isn't it? I can
hear her voice through and through
this letter. All the letters we've
had lately. So *why*... would Miss
Lister push your sister so forcibly
for a division of the property? Why
would she suddenly be so -

(referring to the other
letter from Gray)

"Eager to expedite matters".

ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND

Why wouldn't she? Miss Lister's a
great one for getting on with
things and not putting off 'til
tomorrow what can be done today,
and [perhaps] -

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND

She's *not* her *husband*.

ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND

- *and perhaps* her influence is
rubbing off on Ann. It is! I can
feel it - I agree - in her letters!
And it's no bad thing! Surely.

(MORE)

ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND (CONT'D)

I was rather pleased with the tone of it, she always sounds so much happier and healthier these days, getting on with her life and engaging with the world around her rather than hiding away and *obsessing* about herself.

What ELIZABETH says is compelling. But SUTHERLAND still has this niggle that there's something pernicious about Anne Lister's influence on Ann Walker. And why on earth would one woman be so heavily influenced by another?

12 **INT. UDALE HOUSE, CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND'S STUDY. SCOTLAND. 12**
DAY 52. 1315 (EARLY 1835)

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND focuses himself to write his letter; he's wise enough to know he has to write objectively, not angrily. But these things will out...

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND
(voice over as he takes up
his pen)
My dear Ann.

His voice takes us into the next scene...

13 **EXT. NORTHGATE HOUSE. DAY 53. 1100 (EARLY 1835) 13**

...where we discover ANN WALKER thrilled, charmed, delighted, as ANNE LISTER explains her vision for Northgate House (and the vast empty field beside it) with powerful enthusiasm. ANN WALKER is captivated with ANNE's vision for making her mark on the town, even offering suggestions of her own (such as names for the two new streets that will be created on the borders of the new enclave). ANNE LISTER appreciates ANN's enthusiasm; everyone else has poured cold water on her ambitious scheme. All this as CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND's letter continues...

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND
(voice over)
By today's post I am in receipt of a letter - by your instructions - from Messrs Gray Solicitors, York, and I have also perused your letter to Elizabeth. The natural inference deductible from both pains me in the extreme.

(MORE)

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND (CONT'D)

You state that in consequence of the settlement Elizabeth made in 1831 she has "relinquished all control over her property" and therefore it seems no progress can be made in the division by further correspondence with her. From similar considerations which prompted my wife to make the settlement in 1831, I assure you we have long been anxious for a division of the property, for we could make no definite settlement on our children while half the property on which it was secured belonged to you.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND's voice continues as -

14 **EXT. NICHOLSON'S, HALIFAX. DAY 53. 1135 (EARLY 1835)** 14

ANNE and ANN walk up the street towards Nicholson's, a posh shop in Halifax that sells fabric for women's clothes. Gentleman ANNE politely opens the shop door for the wife.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND

(voice over)

This is so *obvious* that I assure you I was most solicitous that a partition *should* be offered and also in a measure so fair and equitable that come what may, neither party would have cause to demur.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND's voice continues as -

15 **INT. NICHOLSON'S, HALIFAX. DAY 53. 1137 (EARLY 1835)** 15

ANN is anxious to get a particular kind of exquisite French lace, and examines a selection that one of Nicholson's YOUNG MEN is showing her. ANNE is just as interested as ANN; she's very particular about things like this, even if it's all a bit girly; she's very knowledgeable about what the best people are wearing.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND

(V.O.)

That this partition was never carried into effect - if you recall - is *due to you*, prior to your sudden departure from us eighteen months ago, having requested Elizabeth not trouble or perplex you with matters relating to business.

(MORE)

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND (CONT'D)

And since your return to Halifax you have *not once* hinted at a wish to have the property divided until this last September when you suddenly intimated it for the first time, and in that same letter *also* stated that you had given Mr. Washington instructions to draw up a scheme of division.

MRS. EDWARD RAWSON (56, well-heeled) has come into the shop with her TWO TEENAGE DAUGHTERS, and doesn't spot ANNE and ANN because they have their backs turned, busy looking at lace. MRS. EDWARD RAWSON gets close (without realising) and then sees MISS WALKER, and then MISS LISTER. ANNE LISTER smiles and greets her with her usual charm, but MRS. EDWARD RAWSON ignores her completely and says something blunt and unpleasant to MISS WALKER, which clearly cuts ANN WALKER to the quick. MRS. EDWARD RAWSON then looks ANNE LISTER up and down with disgust (and without speaking to her) like she's something she narrowly avoided treading in, then turns away and goes about her shopping needs. The two teenage daughters are half embarrassed and half thrilled to have seen ANNE LISTER (in the traditional manner). ANNE LISTER of course smiles through the whole thing in the usual well-practised style, but ANN WALKER feels stung, and in Nicholson's of all places! In front of one of Mr. Nicholson's impertinent young men. CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND's letter continues throughout -

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Because Elizabeth is nursing she cannot properly go south before the end of next month. This I thought you understood. She still hopes it would meet with your concurrence to postpone the division until the period most convenient and desired by her, and certainly hopes you would not - in the meanwhile - involve her and her children in usurious legal proceedings. I won't write to Mr. Gray until I hear from you.

16

INT. SHIBDEN HALL, SAVILE ROOM. DAY 53. 1400 (EARLY 1835) 16

ANN WALKER, whose mood has now been sullied and shattered by that grim old bag Mrs. Edward Rawson, sits reading CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND's letter, which continues -

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND

(V.O.)

I have no objection in the remotest degree to you appointing him to act for you but I certainly will not appoint a solicitor to act for me in a matter regarding which there is no dispute. If we are to act on Samuel Washington's scheme, which I sincerely hope we will, why adopt legal measures? I am aware all trades must live, but the Law is the last one I would feel inclined to patronise. Believe I am, my dear Ann, yours most sincerely, George Mackay Sutherland.

ANN WALKER is shaking. She's so angry. ANNE LISTER was watching her read. ANNE has been solicitous and kind; she knows ANN has been upset by what happened in the shop. ANN passes ANNE the letter. JOSEPH/GEORGE comes in with a tray of tea things. He murmurs -

JOSEPH/GEORGE

Knock knock.

- as he comes in because his hands are full. ANNE briefly indicates for him to set the tray down somewhere as she continues to take in the contents of the letter.

ANN WALKER

He's saying he's been *itching* to get on with the division all along. He's a liar. And he's accusing me of wanting to involve Elizabeth and the children in "usurious legal proceedings".

(this seems to tickle ANNE LISTER)

It's not funny!

ANNE LISTER

You're right. Men who hide behind their wives and children are... not so much funny as absurd.

(this still doesn't induce ANN WALKER to smile)

If you're still dwelling on Mrs. Edward Rawson's comment in Nicholson's this morning, don't. You asking the Priestleys to vacate the school rooms is none of her business and she only made herself look foolish by [mentioning it] -

ANN WALKER

(a sudden outburst)

Can you not - ?

(MORE)

ANN WALKER (CONT'D)

Mention *that woman's* name. In my presence. *Ever* again.

JOSEPH/GEORGE has been loitering wondering whether to pour the tea. He uses the opportunity of the awkward silence caused by ANN WALKER's outburst to ask the question -

JOSEPH/GEORGE

Would you - ? Like me to pour the tea? Miss Lister. Or - ?

ANNE LISTER

No. Leave it. Go.

(JOSEPH/GEORGE withdraws.

ANNE speaks as calmly as she can muster -)

What have I asked you. Before. About not speaking to me like that in front of the servants?

ANN WALKER's too cross to apologise. Instead - at length - she nods at the letter ANNE LISTER still has in her hands and says rather sulkily -

ANN WALKER

Are you going to help me write back to him then or what?

ANNE looks grave. Seriously not amused by ANN's outburst. But she's never unkind. *And* she has her own agenda...

ANNE LISTER

(voice over)

My dear Captain Sutherland.

ANNE LISTER's voice takes us into -

17

**INT. SHIBDEN HALL, ANNE AND ANN'S UPSTAIRS SITTING ROOM. 17
DAY 53. 1415 (EARLY 1835)**

We discover ANNE LISTER dictating a letter to ANN WALKER who sits at the little table writing.

ANNE LISTER

I have this moment received your letter, and rejoice to find that you are quite as anxious for the division of the joint property as I am. I fear you [will not serve much] -

18 **INT. UDALE HOUSE, CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND'S STUDY. SCOTLAND. 18**
DAY 54. 1000 (EARLY 1835)

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND reads the letter as ANN WALKER's voice takes over from ANNE LISTER's and continues the letter more fluidly -

ANN WALKER

(V.O.)

[I fear you] will not serve much by being your own attorney but you will judge as you think best. I myself feel persuaded that in employing Mr. Gray to act for me, I spare myself and others much trouble, and adopt not only the best plan, but the cheapest one.

19 **INT. SHIBDEN HALL, ANNE AND ANN'S UPSTAIRS SITTING ROOM. 19**
DAY 53. 1417 (EARLY 1835)

As before, ANNE dictating to ANN, robustly engaging with her theme -

ANNE LISTER

The deed of settlement of February 1831 is so comprehensive, that all power respecting the making good of titles etc., seems vested solely in you. There is not, therefore, any necessity for hurrying my sister to Yorkshire. I shall always be delighted to see her, but I earnestly hope you will be here before the end of next month. I am much obliged to you [for your so kind consideration] -

20 **INT. UDALE HOUSE, SITTING ROOM. SCOTLAND. DAY 54. 1010. 20**
(EARLY 1835)

ELIZABETH now looks over the letter, with SUTHERLAND observing her closely as ANN WALKER's brisk voice takes over from ANNE LISTER's again -

ANN WALKER

(voice over)

[I am much obliged to] you for your so kind consideration in having complied with my request to trouble me as little as possible about business during the time I was recovering in York.

(MORE)

ANN WALKER (CONT'D)

It seems Elizabeth must have forgotten to tell you that immediately on my return from the continent last year, I wrote to tell her of the perfect recovery of my health, and that I was ready and desirous to apply myself to business immediately and diligently and make up for lost time.

ELIZABETH looks up from the letter.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND

Is that her? Seriously. I ask you. *Is that her voice?* So precise, so... to-the-point.

ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND

She wants her moiety, she wants her share -

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND

Yes! Of course, and she'll have it. I always intended to go with Washington's original proposal for the division anyway.

ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND

Did you?

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND

Yes. Subject to our visit.
(gently, he wants to make her think, not simply retort -)
But that aside. Hm? How much do we really know about Anne Lister? How much do *you* really know about Anne Lister?

ELIZABETH's first instinct is to dismiss the question. But on further reflection... she realises that actually she knows very little about this woman that her sister now lives with. She's always been regarded as eccentric, clever and rather masculine, but that's about it. Is CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND right after all? Is there more to Anne Lister's interest in her sister than meets the eye, and should they be worried about something other than the division itself? But what, exactly?

21 **INT. SHIBDEN HALL, BACK ENTRANCE/HOUSEBODY. DAY 55. 1100. 21**
(EARLY 1835)

We suddenly find ourselves walking briskly into Shibden Hall behind JOHN HARPER (from the back door).

Then we see into his pale, sensitive face and intensely intelligent eyes just as he comes into the housebody: he's thrilled with the place as it opens up before him, he instantly appreciates what an eccentric, unique gem it is. JOSEPH/GEORGE is showing him through to ANNE who was reading the paper in the Savile room, but she's jumped up to greet him, and meets him as he's still taking in the splendours of the housebody. He's a surprisingly young-looking man (he's 26 but looks younger), and has the same fascination and delight in the world as ANNE LISTER does.

JOSEPH/GEORGE

Ma'am, Mr. H[arper's here] -

ANNE LISTER

(thrilled)

Mr. Harper!

JOHN HARPER

Miss Lister! How are y[ou] - ?

(he's spotted the detail
in the massive mullioned
windows)

Oh good Lord, look at this! Look at this fellow! With his wheelbarrow. And the owls! Oh, and the monkeys! Oh and this little person wielding a mace!

(he shakes his fist rather
weedily as though
wielding a tiny mace)

I wonder what he's going to do with that? Extraordinary! And the *colours*.

ANNE LISTER

Yes, it's -

JOHN HARPER

(mesmerised)

I'm looking for the Lister coat of arms.

ANNE LISTER

Not there. The Waterhouses put this window in during the sixteenth century. Just before we acquired the place. But some of the glass is much older than that. It was taken from some church or other during the dissolution of the monasteries. So possibly even older than the house itself. Which was built in 1420. My uncle always maintained this is very probably amongst the oldest stained glass in England.

That thrills HARPER's curious mind.

JOHN HARPER

This house is...
(awed, delighted)
Extraordinary.

ANNE LISTER

Mm. It is. It's in my blood and in my bones and in my soul. But it's also inconvenient. Mr. Harper. And draughty. Compared to some of my better friends' houses. And if the mill chimneys creep any higher up the hill from Halifax and the Barbarians come knocking on our door, I've always fancied I shall sell up and go and live quietly on a little hill above Grenoble.

JOHN HARPER

Oh, don't ever leave Shibden, Miss Lister! Your better friends' houses may be less draughty and more convenient, but this has true character -

(he whispers urgently -)
- *and that's priceless*. And it suits you. Where can I spread my papers?

22 **INT. SHIBDEN HALL, DINING ROOM. DAY 55. 1107 (EARLY 1835) 22**

JOHN HARPER has spread out his ground plans and elevations. They look very grand and proper and mathematical, unlike Bradley's daubs.

ANNE LISTER

This is thrilling!

JOHN HARPER

I feel rather bilious.

ANNE LISTER

It's spot on, it's perfect.

JOHN HARPER

It was only when I got through Leeds I realised I'd left York without eating anything. Can I sit down?

ANNE realises what he's just said. About feeling bilious. She pulls out a chair and more or less envelops him and forces him into it. She goes and rings a bell.

ANNE LISTER

You can't *not* eat, Mr. Harper.

JOHN HARPER
I just forget.

ANNE LISTER
Oh I'm the same.

JOHN HARPER
Could I have a cup of tea?

ANNE LISTER
You need a wife.

JOHN HARPER
I live with my brother. He's an attorney.

ANNE LISTER
Well that's no good!
(impressed)
Is he? *GEORGE!*
(JOSEPH/GEORGE comes racing across from the kitchen, buttons undone, chewing, trips up)
Ask Mrs. Cordingley to get Mr. Harper some breakfast. Quickly. Bacon, eggs, bread, butter, fruit.

JOHN HARPER
Just a small slice of bread and thin scrape of butter [would be more than] -

ANNE LISTER
And bring us some tea! Immediately. Bring the sugar! We'll sort you out Mr. Harper!
(she's gone back to the plans)
This is...
(she was going to say 'splendid', but it feels beyond splendid)
D'you know... it's as though you can see into my innermost thoughts and desires.

JOHN HARPER
Oh good.

We cut to twenty minutes later, when MR. HARPER has been overwhelmed with food and is now happily nourished on a small cup of milky tea and an egg.

JOHN HARPER (CONT'D)
Ideally I'd find local merchants for the stone and timber and so forth.

(MORE)

JOHN HARPER (CONT'D)

If you can recommend people, that would be useful. And local craftsmen too. Joiners, plasterers.

ANNE LISTER

Oh, I know them all.

JOHN HARPER

I'll meet anyone you consider suitable. I always meet several people for any one job and then make a decision. Suppliers and craftsmen. All in consultation with you, of course. I shall take on a site manager, and he'll be here throughout the build, he'll come to live in Halifax for the duration. Ideally a fellow called Husband, if he's available. I've worked with him a number of times, I think you'll be pleased. He'll be my eyes and ears.

ANNE LISTER

When will you start?

JOHN HARPER

I should think we could begin clearing the site for the foundations next month.

ANNE LISTER

I'd like a ceremony. A public ceremony. To lay a first stone, a foundation stone. So all Halifax can come and see what we're doing.

JOHN HARPER

Of course!

ANNE LISTER

Excellent.

JOHN HARPER

Oh, and we must be clear - before we get too giddy about it - with the proposed shops, the building costs will go up to nearer the six thousand pounds mark, and then you'd perhaps be looking for an annual rent of nearer four hundred than three hundred. And only you know whether Halifax is a busy enough town to support something like that.

ANNE takes that in thoughtfully; it's quite a hike on the last estimate. At the same time she doesn't want to look like she can't afford what such an ambitious project would take.

ANNE LISTER

What's your impression of Halifax?

He considers. He has to be clear, but it's all said with enthusiasm and a smile -

JOHN HARPER

It isn't York. Your *clientèle* would predominantly consist of trade and people passing through from one destination to another. But my impression is that there's no shortage of money here. And increasingly so. With all these creeping mill chimneys.

23

INT. PARKER & ADAM'S, MR. PARKER'S OFFICE. DAY 56. 1100. 23
(EARLY 1835)

MR. PARKER

You want to borrow another four and a half thousand pounds?

We now discover ANNE with MR. PARKER.

ANNE LISTER

On bond. At four percent. The alternative - which I'm inclining towards - is to sell six of my Navigation shares now and perhaps the rest at Christmas. If I could get four hundred guineas each for them.

MR. PARKER

But... you spoke. So eloquently.
Less than six months ago. At the
shareholders' meeting. About
investing more money in the
Navigation. So to sell your shares
now, would that not look...?
Rather...
(he barely dare say)
lacking in integrity.

ANNE LISTER

No.
(she smiles)
No, I don't think so.

MR. PARKER

Would could would it not...? Look
like you were... jumping ship?

ANNE LISTER

Really?
(still smiling)
How?
(PARKER's bewildered: Does
it need explaining?)
The Northgate Casino will have
stabling for upward of seventy
horses. Mr. Parker. I should've
brought the plans to show you,
they're splendid, Mr. Harper's
excelled himself. Would I be
investing so heavily in a *coaching
inn* if I was worried about the
arrival of the railways? The
railways will arrive at Halifax
last, Mr. Parker, for the same
reason the canals did. Because -
like Rome - Halifax is built on *too
many hills*. No, I'd be taking from
one sound investment to fund
another.

24

EXT. SHIBDEN HALL. DAY 56. 1430 (EARLY 1835)

24

ANNE arrives home at speed, through the barn and into the
backyard in her father's britsker.

25 INT. SHIBDEN HALL, HOUSEBODY. DAY 56. 1430 (EARLY 1835) 25

ANN WALKER is once more elbow-deep in old Walker family deeds and wills at the big table. WASHINGTON is with her; they've both been mulling over facts and figures (used teacups suggest they've been at it a while), when ANNE is heard entering the house -

ANNE LISTER

(OOV)

George! Where's George?

(we hear CORDINGLEY: "ooh

I don't know ma'am")

Tell him to see to the britsker and Smiler and Merlin.

ANNE heads in, chucks her coat and hat over/on whatever's convenient. ANN WALKER is preoccupied. The weight of her wealth and its responsibilities sits heavily on her shoulders. She once again has the recurring 'nervous' pain in the back of her neck that troubles her.

ANN WALKER

Mr. Washington's helped me come up with five different proposals to send to Captain Sutherland. As you suggested. All based on his original proposal for the division.

ANNE explains to WASHINGTON -

ANNE LISTER

I merely pointed out that if Miss Walker sent Captain Sutherland just the one proposal he'd no doubt find fault with it and quibble and drag his heels again. Whereas if he's presented with a choice, he's more likely to engage with the thing and - hopefully - plump for one of them.

SAMUEL WASHINGTON

Tactics!

ANNE LISTER

Not that it's got anything to do with me. Obviously.

SAMUEL WASHINGTON

The only really significant amendment I've suggested is putting either John Farrer's field or Bouldshaw Farm and Clough in Lot One.

(MORE)

SAMUEL WASHINGTON (CONT'D)

They're both worth fourteen hundred pounds, give or take, and it seems to go some way towards balancing the two lots up more evenly.

We see ANNE take this in thoughtfully, then -

ANNE LISTER

As I say, nothing to do with me.

ANN WALKER

Then we can either draw for the lots. Or... I can make it clear to him that I'd prefer Lot One. Being made up of one contiguous piece of land.

SAMUEL WASHINGTON

It would make sense.

ANN WALKER

Whereas Lot Two is made up of parcels of land here there and everywhere. Lindley, Golcar, Saddleworth.

SAMUEL WASHINGTON

Which would make very little difference to Mr. and Mrs. Sutherland, being so far away. As long as it's managed.

By himself, he means.

ANNE LISTER

Well. Again. If it was *me*, which it isn't. I'd give him the choice. Say you'd prefer Lot One - for reasons of contiguity - but if he'd prefer to draw lots you're perfectly happy with that too. Oh, and I'd put Bouldshaw Farm and Clough in Lot One rather than John Farrer's field. It's got coal in it. All set for Sunday again, Mr. Washington?

SAMUEL WASHINGTON

Yes! I am, I'm quite enjoying it. I'm wondering if I've missed my vocation.

SAMUEL WASHINGTON is reading from a book. His girls are our equivalent of Year 5. Eleven of them. WASHINGTON is enjoying reading, but their concentration is waning.

They've been here two hours already and now (apart from one or two teacher's pets at the front) they're drifting off...

SAMUEL WASHINGTON

"Now, the road from Jerusalem to Jericho is steep and treacherous", Jesus explained, "Full of desperate men and thieves". Perhaps the traveller didn't know that, or perhaps he did and he had to make his journey anyway. What do you think, Hannah?

HANNAH

Yeah.

SAMUEL WASHINGTON

Yeah. "The sun was hot and the traveller was tired. He was only five miles from Jericho, when - suddenly - he found himself pounced upon! He was beaten mercilessly, and stripped naked, robbed of his few belongings, and left for dead at the side of the road..."

All this violence seems to wash over most of the kids, they're just dreaming about being outside.

27

INT. SUNDAY SCHOOL, ROOM 2. DAY 57. 1100 (EARLY 1835)

27

ANN WALKER has eleven girls who are the equivalent age of our Year 4. They're in a similar state of boredom/distraction as Washington's class.

ANN WALKER

"Surely the Priest will help me", the poor man thought as he lay helpless and bleeding in the road. But the Priest walked past as though he hadn't even seen him. Emily. Emily. Emily. Don't do that, your finger might get stuck.

(nose picking, obvs)

Some time later, a Levite approached. "Surely the Levite will help me", thought the man. But as the Levite got closer, he crossed to the *other side of the road* and walked quickly away.

One LITTLE GIRL sitting at the front is sucking her thumb, and is heavily invested in the story, despite the general ennui around her.

LITTLE GIRL

(a murmur)

The *bastard*.

ANN pretends not to have heard that and carries on. (Is she shocked, or does it amuse her on the quiet?)

ANN WALKER

Next came along a Samaritan. On a horse. "Oh no!" thought the poor man. "The Samaritan is a foreigner and my enemy, he will never help me".

28

INT. SUNDAY SCHOOL, ROOM 3. DAY 57. 1101 (EARLY 1835)

28

ANNE's got the Year 6's and 7's. Fifteen of them. Plus three bigger girls at the back, amongst them ELIZA WASHINGTON, who is well fascinated by ANNE's lesson. ANNE's at the blackboard with a piece of chalk. Already chalked on the board are diagrams explaining the first four of Euclid's five postulates. ANNE, of course, is alive with excitement about Euclid -

ANNE LISTER

And *then* Euclid postulated - and this isn't as complicated as it sounds - if a straight line...
(she draws all this on the board. It's a lot easier if you see the diagram)
intersects two *other* straight lines, and so makes the two interior angles on one side of the first line *less than* two right angles, then the other two straight lines will meet at a point *if extended far enough* on the side on which the angles are less than two right angles. Yes? Yes?
(she waits for them to start nodding to show they understand, and... they do)
Yes! So from these five *postulates* or *axioms*, Euclid then deduced a much greater number of *theorems* or *propos[itions]* - yes? Charlotte.

ANNE's been trying to ignore the KID with its hand up.

GIRL 1

What's all that got to do with Jesus though Sir?

Miss. GIRL 2 GIRL 1 (CONT'D)
(embarrassed)
Miss. I said Miss.

ANNE LISTER
Euclid believed - as I do - that
the laws of nature were but the
mathematical thoughts of God. God
created the world and every
magical, majestic thing in it, and
d'you know something? Charlotte.
The leaves, the trees, the birds,
the b...
(she didn't intend to
rhyme, and she realises
it might sound trite, but
hey-ho)
bees. It all - at some level -
comes down to mathematics.
Mathematics is the basis of
everything. Everything in creation.
Isn't that *extraordinary*? The
thoroughness of God's planning.

ELIZA murmurs to the lass sitting next to her -

ELIZA WASHINGTON
Me an' Enry Ardcastle once saw her
snoggin' Miss Walker.

29

EXT. CONERY WOOD. DAY 57. 1330 (EARLY 1835)

29

ANNE and ANN are walking back from Sunday School. ANN
WALKER's leading NERO. ANNE carries whatever books they've
both used at Sunday school, as well as their hymnals from
church.

ANNE LISTER
I'm wondering about a trip to
London. A holiday. Before the work
at Northgate really starts. I could
catch up with some of my friends, I
could finally get my travelling
carriage back from Baxter's, we
could make enquiries about a proper
master for the day school and you
could consult a doctor. A really
good doctor. About your neck.

ANN WALKER
I'd like that. I'd like to go to
London again.

ANNE LISTER
And hopefully this business with
the Sutherlands will be settled by
then too.

ANN WALKER

I'd like to meet your London friends.

That could be awkward, but fortunately ANNE is saved by a noise. Like the distant yelp of a wild animal. Or something. But whatever it was, it was muffled, vague, easy to believe you'd imagined it.

ANN WALKER (CONT'D)

Did you hear something?
(they both look around,
and listen. A moment,
then they hear another
noise, coming from over
yonder)
Do you think someone's *spying* on us?

ANNE's hackles rise. She decides she's going to horsewhip them, whoever they are. Perhaps she mumbles, "Priestley" under her breath. She heads off to look.

ANN WALKER (CONT'D)

Anne. Anne.
(urgent whisper)
Anne!

Torn between staying put with NERO, or going and being with ANNE if anything kicks off, ANN WALKER (in the absence of anything obvious to tie her to) says -

ANN WALKER (CONT'D)

Stay.

- and heads off after ANNE. We cut to over yonder as ANNE strides across and, obscured by a pillar...

30

EXT. CONERY WOOD. DAY 57. 1331 (EARLY 1835)

30

...discovers EUGÉNIE and MATTHEW in the throes of passion. They clearly hadn't heard ANNE approach, despite the fact that ANNE hadn't tried to disguise her footsteps, having it in her head that someone was spying on them. What ANNE sees is clumsy, fleshy, undignified, rude.

ANNE realises ANN WALKER's followed her, and puts up a hand, warning her to come no closer.

ANN WALKER

What? What, what is it?

Something in ANNE (personal experience?) doesn't want to humiliate EUGÉNIE and MATTHEW any more than they've already humiliated themselves. So there's just this silence as the cornered animals correct their clothing and wait for ANNE LISTER to say something. ANNE is angry. Very angry.

Appalled, sickened. Servants behaving like animals.
Eventually she murmurs to them both -

ANNE LISTER

Go home.

She indicates towards the hall, so it's clear that she means Shibden, not Tadcaster and Rouen. MATTHEW and EUGÉNIE scurry off. In passing, EUGÉNIE offers -

EUGÉNIE

Je peux vous expliq[uer] -

I can explain.

ANNE LISTER

(bad smell)

Pas maintenant.

There'll be a time for that.

ANN WALKER watches as MATTHEW and EUGÉNIE scurry off towards the hall. It's obvious to her from their body language (and ANNE's) what they were up to. ANN WALKER's shocked. And then - slowly but surely - she starts laughing. Like she did when Mrs. Priestley walked in on them. But nothing will induce ANNE LISTER to laugh, and she finds ANN WALKER's response idiotic. Last time ANN WALKER laughed like this it amazed and excited ANNE LISTER. Now she finds it childish and odd.

31 **INT. SHIBDEN HALL, ANNE'S DOWNSTAIRS STUDY. DAY 57. 1745. 31**
(EARLY 1835)

ANNE closes the door - having just admitted EUGÉNIE - then goes and sits behind her desk. EUGÉNIE stands in front of it. To her credit, EUGÉNIE does look embarrassed. ANNE's quiet.

ANNE LISTER

Tu as l'intention d'épouser
Matthew?

Do you plan to marry Matthew?

EUGÉNIE looks amazed and pulls a "no fucking way" face.

ANNE LISTER (CONT'D)

Oh really? Alors. Tu ne me laisses
pas le choix. Je tiens à ce que ma
maison reste respectable! Je te
donne un préavis d'un mois.

*Well then, you leave me no choice. Because I will not have a
disrespectable household! I'm giving you a month's notice.*

EUGÉNIE looks amazed.

EUGÉNIE

Et Matthew?

What about Matthew?

ANNE doesn't dignify the question with a reply, she simply goes and opens the door for EUGÉNIE to leave. ANNE's cross not least because the whole thing is inconvenient. EUGÉNIE lingers for a moment, then walks out past ANNE in a strop.

32

**INT. SHIBDEN HALL, STAIRS / HOUSEBODY. DAY 57. 1830.
(EARLY 1835)**

32

We find ANNE and MARIAN walking down the stairs together and whispering urgently to each other -

MARIAN LISTER

He's only eighteen! How old's she?

ANNE LISTER

Twenty-six.

MARIAN LISTER

That's - !

Child abuse.

ANNE LISTER

I know! I know.

MARIAN LISTER

(eager to be grown up and
responsible and helpful)

What d'you want me to do?

ANNE LISTER

I'll write to Mr. Thomas at the
servants' register in York, but...
I don't know. It took me long
enough to find *him*.

As they come down into the housebody, JOSEPH/GEORGE is back and forth carrying the soup tureen and other dishes through for the Listers' dinner.

MARIAN LISTER

Well *I* can't start seeing to
father's...

(even the euphemisms sound
rude)

personal needs, it's -

ANNE LISTER

No. No! No, and I certainly can't.
It's not ideal, but...

(MORE)

ANNE LISTER (CONT'D)

we must keep him on as long as it suits us and in the meantime be on the lookout for someone else.

(they're just about to go into the dining room, where we can see JEREMY sitting waiting for JOSEPH/GEORGE to serve him)

Not a word to Aunt Anne about the ridiculous business.

MARIAN indicates that her lips are buttoned. They go into the dining room...

32A INT. SHIBDEN HALL, DINING ROOM. DAY 57. 1831. CONTINUOUS. 32A
(EARLY 1835)

...where ANN WALKER and AUNT ANNE are looking over Mr. Harper's Northgate plans, which ANNE has left spread out on the big table to the right of the doorway.

ANNE LISTER

Ah! Aunt. You've found them! These are Mr. Harper's plans for the Northgate Casino. I thought everyone might like to have a look. Father. And then I can address any questions -

JEREMY LISTER

(filling his plate with food)
No thank you.

ANNE LISTER

- or observations anyone might have.

AUNT ANNE LISTER

(quietly as she peruses the plans)
Take no notice of your father. He's just worried you're going to ruin yourself.

JEREMY LISTER

And all of us!

AUNT ANNE LISTER

Oh, look at this!

ANN WALKER

That's the front door Miss Lister, with -

ANNE LISTER
(gently)
Aunt.

ANN WALKER
Aunt. With the Lister coat of arms
above it. And look. Over the
fireplace here, your family motto -
justus propositi tenax.

Control freak ANNE mouths it with the wife to make sure she's
saying it properly.

AUNT ANNE LISTER
Just! And true of purpose!

ANNE LISTER
Just so.

MARIAN's proud of her family motto too, she feels just and
true of purpose herself, just now. She and ANNE smile at one
another, momentarily united in their just-and-true-of-
purposedness.

JEREMY LISTER
Humbug.

ANNE and MARIAN smile through JEREMY's put-down.

ANNE LISTER
Shall we sit down?

MARIAN LISTER
Let's.
(MARIAN keeps the polite
tittle-tattle going as
the ladies sit, with -)
I always want to say 'bumhug'
whenever someone says 'humbug', I
don't know why.

ANNE LISTER

The only anxiety I have about Northgate, Father, is getting it licensed, what with Christopher Rawson being so difficult. I did speak to Washington about it, but -

AUNT ANNE LISTER

Well Christopher Rawson isn't the only magistrate in Halifax.

ANNE LISTER

Yes but I need two signatories and if he got wind of it -

ANN WALKER

What about Colonel Dearden? And his son. Aren't they both magistrates?

Looks like ANNE hadn't thought of that.

AUNT ANNE LISTER

Oh, send him a note. Ask him to pop in.

33 **INT. SHIBDEN HALL, SAVILE ROOM. DAY 58. 1330 (EARLY 1835) 33**

A shiny new day. The sunlight glints winningly off Anne's cut glass decanter as she pours a couple of little glasses of madeira, and carries them through to the housebody...

34

INT. SHIBDEN HALL, HOUSEBODY. DAY 58. 1330 (EARLY 1835)

34

...where 72-year-old COLONEL DEARDEN examines Harper's Northgate plans (set out differently to before, this is several days later). She gives him one of the glasses of madeira, and one for herself (ANNE wrote in code "*had my hair pinched and dressed*" before she met COLONEL DEARDEN).

COLONEL DEARDEN

This is impressive. And certainly would be a great boon to the town. Another good inn with a large handsome room is much wanted.

ANNE LISTER

I intend to call the large room the *casino*.

She has an impressive stab at an Italian accent, so it sounds exotic, continental, fashionable.

COLONEL DEARDEN

Ah!

ANNE LISTER

The enterprise may not make a great profit - at least not in the first year - but then mercantile speculation is not my aim. I want to take a pride in the thing and do it for the good of the town. The whole enclave will be elegant, and even - dare I say it - fashionable.

COLONEL DEARDEN

Well I can't imagine there'd be any reasonable objection to granting you a license. I can certainly answer for myself and my son. Of course I'll consult with the other magistrates on the matter.

ANNE has to swallow that. She can't start slagging Christopher Rawson off to a fellow magistrate.

ANNE LISTER

But I only need the two signatures?

COLONEL DEARDEN

Oh yes. Strictly speaking.
(ANNE needs to find a way to persuade him not to speak to Christopher Rawson, but her usual quick-wittedness doesn't seem to kick in)

While I'm here!

ANNE LISTER

Yes?

COLONEL DEARDEN

Could I trouble you for a subscription for Mr. Wortley's brother's fund for the West Riding?

ANNE LISTER

Mr. Wortley's *brother*?

COLONEL DEARDEN

John, yes. You may not yet have heard. There'll be no by-election in the town. It seems as though Charles Wood turned down high office specifically in order to *avoid* one. He's taken some more lowly role in the Admiralty. Whereas Lord Morpeth has been made chief secretary for Ireland. So *John* Wortley will contest him for the West Riding.

ANNE LISTER

But, so... Mr. Rawson won't be able to stand for Halifax after all then?

COLONEL DEARDEN

No.

(ANNE has to hide her mirth, she nearly chokes on her madeira with delight)

So can I put you down for a fifty pound donation? I have seven or eight other people of good long standing in the town down for fifty.

ANNE considers.

ANNE LISTER

I shall turn over the leaf and give thirty.

COLONEL DEARDEN

Can't I persuade you to give fifty, Miss Lister?

They're both smiling. ANNE's so happy that Rawson's political ambitions have been thwarted so simply, so effortlessly, that it gives her that ounce of whatever-it-is she needed to dare to confront the matter delicately -

ANNE LISTER

Had Mr. Rawson still been standing. He should have had every vote I could influence. I told him that to his face. And meant it. But the fact is... he doesn't behave handsomely towards me. Over my coal. I'd hate to spend significant money on Northgate only to find my attempt to license such a worthy public endeavour blocked by him on no more than a whim. I could put my name down for fifty. But I do need my license, Colonel Dearden.

COLONEL DEARDEN gets it. Nudge nudge wink wink.

COLONEL DEARDEN

You'll have your license, Miss Lister.

35 **INT. SHIBDEN HALL, CORRIDOR BY THE KITCHEN. DAY 58. 1355. 35**
(EARLY 1835)

JOSEPH/GEORGE is showing COLONEL DEARDEN out at the back door (as his small carriage is out there waiting for him).

COLONEL DEARDEN

Is it still raining, young man?

JOSEPH/GEORGE

On and off, Sir.

Which is all a bit incidental to -

36 **INT. SHIBDEN HALL, KITCHEN. DAY 58. 1355 (EARLY 1835)** 36

EUGÉNIE spots COLONEL DEARDEN's departure, and takes it as an opportunity to grab a moment with ANNE. She scurries from the kitchen clutching a letter. CORDINGLEY and HEMINGWAY watch her go, and consult one another with a look: trollop.

37 **INT. SHIBDEN HALL, HOUSEBODY. DAY 58. 1355 (EARLY 1835)** 37

We follow EUGÉNIE through to the housebody, where ANNE's tidying up Harper's drawings.

EUGÉNIE

Madame? Puis-je vous parler un instant?

Madam, can I speak to you?

ANNE's disappointment with EUGÉNIE weighs heavily on her. And she has a thousand things to do today.

ANNE LISTER

Go on.

EUGÉNIE

Si j'épouse Matthew, pouvez-vous me
garder à votre service jusqu'à ce
qu'il ait sa ferme?

*If I marry Matthew, will you keep me on until he can get his
farm?*

ANNE LISTER

Sa ferme? Où?

His farm? Where?

EUGÉNIE hands ANNE the letter.

EUGÉNIE

Son père lui a promis une ferme.
Pour le moment, elle est
occupée. Mais quand elle se
libérera - très bientôt pense-t-il
- il dit que Matthew pourra
l'avoir. Et alors nous pourrons
nous marier.

*His father's promised him a farm. He has a tenant. At the
moment. But when it's free - which he expects it to be soon -
he says Matthew can have it. And then we can get married.*

ANNE peruses the letter quickly. Something about it doesn't
ring true. She looks at EUGÉNIE carefully.

ANNE LISTER

Mais tu m'as dit que tu n'avais
aucune intention de l'épouser.

But you told me you had no intentions of marrying him.

EUGÉNIE

Qu'est ce que vous voulez que je
fasse d'autre? Si vous ne voulez
plus de moi ici.

What else can I do? If you don't want me here anymore.

ANNE looks to camera: ffs

We now find EUGÉNIE and MATTHEW standing in front of ANNE and
MARIAN, also standing. No-one's happy. The letter is on the
desk between them and has taken on big significance.

ANNE LISTER

How big is this farm?

MATTHEW is terrified of ANNE LISTER. So much so that he can barely have coherent thoughts in her presence, never mind string coherent words together. He mumbles something.

ANNE LISTER (CONT'D)

Speak up.

MATTHEW AVISON

(barely any louder)

Twenty-four acres.

ANNE LISTER

Imagine. Matthew. If you were to be parted from Eugénie for - I don't know - two years. Do you believe you'd feel the same way? About marrying her.

MATTHEW AVISON

I dare say.

ANNE LISTER

You dare say.

MATTHEW AVISON

If nothing happened.

ANNE LISTER

What sort of thing?

MATTHEW AVISON

If if if Eugénie felt same way too.

ANNE looks to EUGÉNIE for a response to that. EUGÉNIE has nothing much in the way of a response: she's got no idea how she'll feel in two years' time. About anything. ANNE allows a moment for that non-verbal response to hit home with MATTHEW.

ANNE LISTER

Well. I only hope you've thought the thing through. Matthew. I can't quite see Eugénie amongst pig tubs and cattle.

(neither can EUGÉNIE)

But. You must judge for yourselves.

MATTHEW AVISON

If I was to just leave. Mam. Please would you let Eugénie keep her job?

ANNE LISTER

Your going or staying makes no difference about what happens to Eugénie, Matthew. But. Now I know your intentions are to marry...

(MORE)

ANNE LISTER (CONT'D)

(they both continue to
look deeply worried at
the idea now it's been
taken seriously)

Miss Marian and I will think about
what to do.

She lets them stand there a moment longer in silence (to see
if anything else emerges), then dismisses them both with a
gesture. They disappear fast.

MARIAN LISTER

You do know that letter hasn't got
a post-mark on it, don't you?

ANNE LISTER

Mm. And it's dated the fifteenth. I
only gave her notice on the evening
of the fourteenth. They're
transparent.

39

**INT. SHIBDEN HALL, THE TENT ROOM. NIGHT 58. 2200.
(EARLY 1835)**

39

ANNE LISTER rubs ANN WALKER's neck with spirit of camphor.

ANNE LISTER

They have us over a barrel, it's so
hard to get people these days.

ANN WALKER

So how's it been left?

ANNE LISTER

Well I'm taking at face value their
claim that they want to get married
- although I don't believe it for a
second - and I've retracted
Eugénie's notice on the
understanding that Matthew is
looking for another job and when he
finds one, they'll marry.

ANN WALKER

Do you think the other servants
know about it?

ANNE LISTER

I don't know.

ANNE doesn't want to think about that now. And anyway, she's starting to feel aroused as she always does when she's been massaging MISS WALKER's neck. The back rub evolves delicately into something more erotic.

ANN WALKER

I'm so glad we've decided to go to
London.

ANNE LISTER

It'll be the perfect tonic. You've
had too much tiresome nonsense to
bother with, with this wretched
division business.

Relaxed from the massage, ANN WALKER melts into a smile and an embarrassing confession -

ANN WALKER

It's silly, but -

ANNE LISTER

What? What is?

ANN WALKER

I always imagined that one day I
might meet Lords and Ladies. In
London. I know we have to be
careful. But I might meet one or
two of them. One day. Mightn't I?

ANNE LISTER has no intentions of taking ANN to meet the posh folk. But in the heat of the moment she decides to cross that bridge another time. She smiles.

ANNE LISTER

Well. One day. Yes. If you're *very*
good.

They kiss.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND's voice takes us into the next scene -

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND

(V.O.)

As you state you will take Lot One as drawn up in Washington's original proposal provided you get Bouldshaw Farm and Clough. I agree to this [proposal] -

40

INT. SHIBDEN HALL, DINING ROOM. DAY 59. 0915 (EARLY 1835) 40

ANNE LISTER and ANN WALKER sit eating breakfast. ANN WALKER is dressed in her riding habit, reading part of Captain Sutherland's letter aloud. WASHINGTON is with them for his morning briefing. ANN WALKER seems to be in a bad mood, so everyone's a bit tense.

ANN WALKER

"[I agree to this] proposal and consider therefore the division formally concluded, and I assure you, my dear Ann, that I sincerely rejoice that it is".

SAMUEL WASHINGTON

Very good. I'm surprised he's agreed to it quite so readily, but... happen he wants to get on with it just as much as you do.

ANN WALKER

Hm. Or he wants to *look* as though he does. Then there's this bit -

(she continues reading from the letter)

"As we expect being south as early as we can leave home I hope you will have no objection to allowing the amendment to the titles to wait until then". You see -

(it's ANNE she's addressing, but ANNE's doing her impression of someone who thinks it's none of their business)

he's still *procrastinating*, he's still not *signing* anything.

SAMUEL WASHINGTON

Well it's a step forward. You've got his agreement in writing at least.

In an attempt to change the subject with further good news -

SAMUEL WASHINGTON (CONT'D)

Oh and I called in on Mr. and Mrs. Priestley again yesterday.

ANN WALKER & ANNE LISTER

Why?

SAMUEL WASHINGTON

I had a note. From him. Asking me to. So. He wanted me to tell you that he intends to give up the waste at High Sunderland without hesitation.

ANN WALKER

Really?

ANN consults ANNE with a look. Clearly neither of them expected the matter to be dealt with so simply and without a fight.

SAMUEL WASHINGTON

So that's good news. That there won't be any sort of legal wrangle. Over it.

ANN WALKER simply goes quiet and thoughtful, rather than rejoice in the information. WASHINGTON's eager to escape the tension and crack on with his day's work. He addresses ANNE LISTER -

SAMUEL WASHINGTON (CONT'D)

Shall I see you down at Tillyholme stile then, ma'am? Mr. Holt and the Mann brothers'll be there already and they won't want to do anything without you, so.

ANNE LISTER

Yes, you go. I'll follow you down.

She means when she's finished her breakfast. WASHINGTON nods a polite bow to them both and goes just as JOSEPH/GEORGE happens to be heading in with a note for ANNE. JOSEPH/GEORGE bumps clumsily into WASHINGTON and they murmur "sorry sir/sorry lad" at one another. JOSEPH/GEORGE then offers the note to ANNE, which she takes from him.

ANNE LISTER (CONT'D)

Hm. Clearly he knows he should never've had it in the first place. Giving it up so easily.

ANN WALKER

It appalls me. How lax [and profl] -

ANNE LISTER

Fasten your buttons properly!

Ooh, that made everyone jump. Shocked, embarrassed, JOSEPH/GEORGE mumbles "sorry ma'am", offers a horrified look to ANN WALKER, and then leaves with his head down, twiddling with his badly behaved buttons. ANNE reverts to her calm, polite undertone as she unfolds the note -

ANNE LISTER (CONT'D)

Sorry, go on.

ANN WALKER takes another second to get over the shock.

ANN WALKER

- how lax and profligate my family's been with our property when I see how particular you are with yours. Coal, stone, *hotels!* How you make every square inch of your land work.

ANNE LISTER

(delighted)

Then you must take example from me and make yours work so too.

ANN WALKER

I am doing, I'm *going* to. That's why I won't stand for any more of this...

(MORE)

ANN WALKER (CONT'D)
(she leaves a big gap then
mutters a defeated -)
nonsense.

There's a note, a tone, in ANN WALKER's voice that prompts ANNE LISTER to gently ask -

ANNE LISTER
What's the matter?

ANN nods at Captain Sutherland's letter, doesn't want to pick it up again.

ANN WALKER
He says I *knew* about the deed of settlement in 1831. He says he told me *all* about it and I've "obviously forgotten". He didn't.

ANNE takes that in. Then refers to the note that JOSEPH/GEORGE brought, which she's quickly scanned.

ANNE LISTER
Parker's coming here at four this afternoon, I'd better get on.
(she gets up to leave the table)
What time do you expect to be back from Hebden Bridge?

ANN WALKER
I don't know. I think it'll be a wasted trip. I don't think anyone wants to take over the Sunday school.

41 INT. SHIBDEN HALL, SAVILE ROOM. DAY 59. 1605 (EARLY 1835) 41

MR. PARKER's been put in the Savile room. He's biding his time going through documents he's brought with him, when ANNE LISTER steams in from six hours work down at Tillyholme stile with the blokes. Her hair's dishevelled, her face is besmirched with muck, her shirt sleeves are rolled up, and there's mud all over her skirts and boots. She probably stinks. She's all manly and vigorous and swashbuckling and ruddy cheeked and happy as she always is when she's been playing out in the mud and exerting herself.

ANNE LISTER
Mr. Parker!

MR. PARKER
Ah!

They shake hands. PARKER doesn't usually see her like this. It's quite a sight, and of course it has an unsettling effect on people, an effect that she always enjoys, on the quiet.

MR. PARKER (CONT'D)

How - how are things on the estate?

ANNE LISTER

Oh, we're winning! I think. One way and another. Mr. Holt thinks this time next year my collieries will be the best hereabouts and will pay off all the expense incurred, within the first three years of production.

ANNE's excitement is palpable. She's jumped up again and offers PARKER a glass of madeira by pointing at it and smiling.

MR. PARKER

Not for me.

ANNE doesn't have one herself.

ANNE LISTER

What've you got for me?

MR. PARKER

I've got twenty-three notices against trespassers shooting and hunting on your land. Which all need signing.

(he passes them)

I've got two notices to quit, one for Mr. Carr for those acres you need back down at Well-royd. Those need signing too.

(she takes those too)

And then regarding selling your Navigation shares. I've asked around.

(MORE)

MR. PARKER (CONT'D)

Mr. Robert Waterhouse has no objection to taking the six you're offering for sale, but he won't give four hundred *guineas*. He will however give four hundred and five *pounds*. No-one will give four hundred *guineas*. Mr. Abbott told me Mr. Louis Alexander has had three of his shares on sale at four hundred *guineas* apiece for some time, and they've not sold.

ANNE stiffens at the mention of Mr. Abbott. "Not a muscle of my face changed... as if nobody's name had been mentioned".

ANNE LISTER

I hope no *other* names were named. In the matter.

MR. PARKER

Oh, but I thought... is he not...? Soon to be family? Mr. Abbott.

ANNE LISTER

No. And if he is, well then, I've made it clear to Marian that she and I - that'll be it.

MR. PARKER

Oh I'm sorry. No, no other names were named.

That's a great relief to ANNE. She'd hate Abbott to know that beneath the snooty exterior she's a wheeler-dealer.

ANNE LISTER

I'll take Mr. Waterhouse's four hundred and five pounds. Anything above four hundred pounds is clear gain as far as I'm concerned, and it's better this way. Borrowing would cost me ten percent in the first year and no building would pay for that.

MR. PARKER

Miss Lister. Anne. Is the whole enterprise not...? A risk?

ANNE considers his words, and then says calmly -

ANNE LISTER

Yes. Of course.
(she's smiling)
Of course it is.

She could add, "But we're not alive, are we? If we're not taking the odd risk", but hopefully that's implicit in her smile. PARKER gets it. She will only ever do her own thing.

MR. PARKER
How's Miss Walker?

ANNE LISTER
Oh, she's out. Ridden to Hebden
Bridge to speak to a possible
candidate for the Sunday School.

PARKER is delicate about the next thing. It isn't - strictly speaking - ANNE LISTER's business.

MR. PARKER
I er. Had a letter. Yesterday. From
Mr. Gray. In York. Who is acting
for Miss Walker in the matter of
the division of the joint property.

ANNE LISTER
That's right.

MR. PARKER
He's requested from me a copy of
the 1831 settlement between Captain
and Mrs. Sutherland. He's sent a
letter he's had from Captain
Sutherland, which he believes is
sufficient authority for me to send
him a copy of the settlement. I
don't think it is. It's rather
vague about "affording every
assistance". My question is this.
In my position. Would you send it?
Or even an extract from it? Without
a more clear yay or nay from
Captain Sutherland about the
specific document in question?

We look carefully at ANNE LISTER. Why is he asking her this?

ANNE LISTER
I have not a word to say on the
matter. Mr. Parker. Why are you
asking me?

MR. PARKER

I suppose. Because. Well it's delicate. It's complicated, I -

ANNE LISTER

Surely the solution would be to write to Captain Sutherland yourself. And request his permission? Regarding the document.

MR. PARKER

Yes! Yes. It would. That's what I shall do.

ANNE's bemused; he's a lawyer. Why did he need her to spell out such a simple solution?

ANNE LISTER

Am I missing something?

MR. PARKER

You - your family - are very good, very old, very *valued* clients of Parker and Adam. And now Miss Walker is here as your companion. I suppose... the anxiety is that I'm going to find myself between a rock and hard place in the matter. Should it become... problematic.

ANNE LISTER

Why would it? It's a simple enough division, and he's already agreed to it.

MR. PARKER

Mr. Gray implied that Miss Walker was angry. To have discovered the settlement.

(ANNE concurs with a nod,
yes she was)

And there was a further implication that I had not acted professionally. In the matter. With her family so opposed to it, and with the settlement appearing to go against the wishes of her father's will, but I can assure you. Miss Lister. It was very much what Mrs. Sutherland wanted, there was certainly no underhand collusion on my part, and nothing I did was unprofessional, and Miss Walker herself knew -

(he lowers his voice even
though he's been told Ann
Walker isn't in)

(MORE)

MR. PARKER (CONT'D)
perfectly well what was going on at
the time - just as the rest of her
family did - Captain Sutherland
made it abundantly plain to her.

ANNE LISTER
She says not.

MR. PARKER
She wasn't well.

ANNE LISTER
Well then how odd of him to burden
her with it. Anyway, it barely
matters now. All that's material is
that we now kn[ow it's] - *she* now
knows - that it's him she should
have been dealing with all along.
Rather than her sister.

MR. PARKER
Indeed. Well then. As you've
suggested, I shall write to him.

ANNE LISTER
Yes, but do leave me out of it. It
really is nothing to do with me.

ANN WALKER's voice takes us into the next scene -

ANN WALKER
(V.O.)
My dear Captain Sutherland.

42 **INT. SHIBDEN HALL, ANNE & ANN'S UPSTAIRS SITTING ROOM. 42**
DAY 60. 1500 (EARLY 1835)

ANNE has been dictating another letter to ANN WALKER. ANN WALKER reads aloud what's been written so far to remind ANNE LISTER of the flow of the thing -

ANN WALKER

I am glad that by your agreement to one of my proposals, the division of the estate is so easily arranged. I am anxious that no time should be lost in preparing the deeds.

ANNE LISTER nods - that's good - then continues dictating and ANN WALKER writes -

ANNE LISTER

I have - for some weeks - had the deed-box here with me at Shibden Hall, and shall go to York as soon as I hear from Messrs Gray, with all the necessary papers -

ANN WALKER's voice continues the letter as we cut to:

42A **INT. UDALE HOUSE, CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND'S STUDY. DAY 61. 42A**
1100 (EARLY 1835)

ANN WALKER

(V.O)

- of which Mr. Parker - or anyone you think proper - may come here and take a catalogue. I hope the papers will be ready for signing before the end of the month. But should you not be able to come to Yorkshire so soon, then surely the papers can simply be sent to you for your signature.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND reads the above letter with mounting silent fury. He jumps up and heads out of the room...

42B **INT. UDALE HOUSE, SITTING ROOM. DAY 61. 1101 (EARLY 1835)** 42B

...and into the sitting room, where ELIZABETH is busy writing letters of her own at the table by the window.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND
This - it gets more and more...

He shakes his head, he has no words.

ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND
What? What is it?

He thrusts the letter at her.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND
The deeds, the Crow Nest deeds have
- for some weeks - been *at Shibden Hall*.

ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND
Why?

SUTHERLAND is all over the place with frustration.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND
Your sister. Is being played for a fool. This is bizarre. It's beyond bizarre, it's sinister! I tried to protect her! And this is -

He doesn't know what to do with himself. He heads back to his office, we linger on ELIZABETH briefly, anxious that her husband is right, and something is very amiss with this relationship her sister has got into.

43 **INT. UDALE HOUSE, CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND'S STUDY. DAY 61. 1103 (EARLY 1835)** 43

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND comes into his office and frantically starts trying to write a letter. The voice over starts -

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND
(V.O)
My dear Parker.

- as the V.O. continues, CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND trashes his draft, looks out of the window, paces the room, and tries to write the letter again and again - and again - as though he's struggling with how to word something that he has no language for. But what we hear, here (below), is the letter he finally manages to write:

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND (CONT'D)

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 22nd June and in reply I have no objection to furnishing Mr. Gray with the copy of the deed alluded to. In fact I am most anxious - as I invariably have been - to afford every assistance in endeavouring to have the property of the late Mr. Walker fairly and amicably divided. I have stated repeatedly that Mrs. Sutherland and I would proceed South and arrange the whole matter as immediately as the season and her health would permit, and when the titles could be given to both parties to whom they were apportioned.

44 INT. PARKER & ADAM'S, MR. PARKER'S OFFICE. DAY 62. 1400. 44
(EARLY 1835)

We discover PARKER at his desk, reading CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND'S letter with increasing anxiety. He can feel the anger radiating from it.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND

(V.O.)

I requested that the boxes containing the deeds should remain until then in the bank where I had placed them. I find instead from a letter received just this morning from Miss Walker that the deeds have been taken from the bank and have for some weeks been at *Shibden Hall*.

(this strikes PARKER)

I do not blame Miss Walker for this, but those who - from selfish, wicked and *unnatural* motives - endeavour to bias her mind.

We see that this particularly disturbs PARKER: it had never occurred to him that Anne Lister and Ann Walker's relationship was anything more than companionship, but perhaps he has been naïve about all those odd rumours about Anne Lister.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND (CONT'D)

Miss Lister states for Miss Walker -
for I am certain she would never do
so - that the object in employing
Mr. Gray is with the view not to
perplex and mystify but to
simplify. This is, I trust, some
attack on you.

45 **INT. UDALE HOUSE, CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND'S STUDY. DAY 61.** 45
 1140 (EARLY 1835)

Worried anxious ELIZABETH comes into CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND's study and sees him writing the difficult, impossible letter. She sees his trashed drafts screwed up in little balls on his desk and the floor.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND

(V.O. as he writes so
tortuously)

As our properties and Miss Lister's
join, I cannot help expressing my
extreme upset that the titles have
been there, which I should of
course have decidedly objected to
had I known. What is going on, I
know not, but the moment our little
boy is over the whooping cough, I
shall - and Mrs. Sutherland if all
is well - visit Miss Walker, and
this I hope in the course of a very
few weeks. My feelings I impart to
you in the strictest confidence.
Yours most sincerely, George Mackay
Sutherland.

CAPTAIN SUTHERLAND looks up at ELIZABETH. She's never seen him like this. He's possessed, like someone who has suddenly hit on the truth of a tricky and sinister situation.

46 **INT. PARKER & ADAM'S, MR. PARKER'S OFFICE. DAY 62. 1405.** 46
 (EARLY 1835)

We end on MR. PARKER, who also realises that Sutherland has gone where angels fear to tread with Anne Lister, and his conflicted feelings about who is truly in the right and who is in the wrong over the matter.

END OF EPISODE SEVEN