

GRIME KIDS

Episode 1

DOUBLE WHITE AMENDS full script
(clean) - 15.11.22

Written by
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Inspired by the DJ Target
bestseller

1 **EXT. OUTSIDE SCHOOL - DAY** 1

Bell rings. Kids panting for summer burst through gates. Year 11s, wearing shirts covered with multicoloured promises of forever, attack with flour, eggs and water.

DANE (Black, 16, confident, loyal, a dreamer), **BISHOP** (Black, 16, quiet, ambitious, a thinker), **JUNIOR** (Mixed-race, 16, Dane's best friend, the mature one) and **BAYO** (Black, 16, always laughing, even if he's the butt of the joke) emerge from a hiding place. Join the melee.

1A **EXT. OUTSIDE SCHOOL - DAY** 1A

The chaos has died down. Powdery evidence of near-misses in the boys' hair, ears and shoe laces. Dane sets up his tape-packs for sale. Cuts labels printed from the IT room. Pritt Sticks them on to cassette covers.

2 **EXT. OUTSIDE SCHOOL - DAY** 2

Bishop picks off old, dry glue from his shoe. Discreetly super glues the toe cap to the sole. Weighs it down with his body weight.

Bayo takes a plethora of pictures- candid, posed, reluctant.

BAYO

Bish!

BISHOP

(covering the camera)

'Llow it man.

2A **OMITTED** 2A

2B **EXT. BIKE SHED - OUTSIDE SCHOOL - DAY** 2B

People queue and haggle by Dane's makeshift stall. Dane hands over a Knights Of The Realm tape.

DANE

£2.50

STUDENT

I've only got £2.

DANE

(taking back the tape)

Next.

STUDENT

Dane man.

2C

EXT. BIKE SHED - OUTSIDE SCHOOL - DAY

2C

MS KALU approaches.

MS KALU

Junior.

Junior discreetly sighs. Quickly meets her halfway to avoid the conversation (he is sure she wants to have) taking place in front of an audience.

MS KALU (CONT'D)

Pat said you missed your session...
Again.

JUNIOR

I was busy.

Ms Kalu observes the flour in Junior's hair.

JUNIOR (CONT'D)

It's the last day, miss.

MS KALU

Well, she said you can call her, if
you need to talk over the summer.

Ms Kalu hands Junior Pat's counselling card. Junior takes it. Quickly stuffs it in his pocket. Returns to his friends.

2D

OMITTED

2D

2E

EXT. OUTSIDE SCHOOL - BIKE SHED - DAY

2E

Dane tries to tune his radio to 100.3FM. Static.

DANE

Rinse were supposed to be back on
air today.

BISHOP

They been saying that all week.

DANE

DTI did them dirty man.

Dane shakes his head. Takes a tape out of his bag. Puts it in his walkman. Presses play. Dane positions the headphones around his neck and lets the music become an overture. Beans approaches. Browses the collection of bootleg tapes on display. He's dissatisfied. Spots the Sidewinder 2 cassette case by Dane.

BEANS

(to Dane)

How much?

Dane puts the cassette case in his bag.

DANE
Oh, that's mine. It ain't for sale-

BEANS
-Let me see.

Dane sighs.

BEANS (CONT'D)
Just wanna look man.

Beans smirks. Dane hands the cassette case over.

BEANS (CONT'D)
The tape too.

Dane swallows his protest. Slowly stops the music. Removes the cassette hands it to Beans.

BEANS (CONT'D)
Safe.

Beans put the cassette in the case. Walks away. Junior and Bayo join Dane.

JUNIOR
(to Dane)
Did you just get jacked?

DANE
Course not. He's just borrowing it.

BISHOP
Sure.

MR BAILEY
(to Bishop)
Mr St. Claire. Sleeves down. And,
where's your blazer?

Bishop looks down at his rolled up sleeves. Hesitates...

MR BAILEY (CONT'D)
(to Bishop)
You know the rules, as long as
you're in unif-

-An egg splatters across Mr Bailey's face.

BEANS
Oi. Mr Bailey. Suck your mum.

MR BAILEY
Who was that?! Who...

...Mr Bailey pursues blindly. Bishop pushes his sleeves further up his arm. The boys cycle out of school. "Oh No", by So Solid plays from a student's stereo at the gates. The boys rap and sing along.

3

EXT. BOW - DAY

3

The boys cycle through bow. Laughing, singing, rapping. Cycle past posters for "Knights of the Realm". Past posters promising life changing line ups in Ayia Napa later that summer. Past rows of newspaper covered faces waiting at bus stops. The National Lottery's £5.7M Jackpot headlines.

BAYO

(to Bishop)

What? That weren't the plan.

BISHOP

6th Form's long. I can go college 3 days a week, still get my A Levels and have enough time left over to get a likkle part time job.

BAYO

But we were supposed to all stay together.

BISHOP

(to Bayo)

You man come college then init?

BAYO

You know my mum won't have that.

Bishop shrugs.

BISHOP

I gotta start making money man.

DANE

(to the boys)

Speaking of, man's trying to get on one of them apprenticeship tings.

BAYO

What?

DANE

You know man's got ADHD-

JUNIOR

-You ain't got ADHD bro. You just don't listen.

BISHOP

Man's a full time daydreamer.

DANE

Whatever. Some of us ain't made for the academic ting... If man didn't get injured in year 9...

The boys groan.

DANE (CONT'D)

You man are haters. Tell me which man you know kick ball like me?

They all laugh. Bayo doesn't.

BAYO
(to Junior)
You're staying for 6th form though,
right?

JUNIOR
I don't know yet. This year was a
flop, so I know I'm due to have to
do retakes. Thinking about doing
them at college.

BISHOP
Swear?

Bishop excitedly daps Junior. Junior shrugs.

JUNIOR
Fresh start init.

Bayo shakes his head. Despair. They cycle past **TANIKA (17,
loud, confident)** and friends, huddled around a radio.

DRIVE TIME HOST (V.O.)
Shout out Tanika and her girls.

The girls scream with excitement.

BISHOP
Come we go Dixy?

BAYO
Nah man. Remember they gave me food
poisoning?

JUNIOR

You didn't have food poisoning
bruv. You were sick 'cause you ate
a 24 piece family meal to yourself.

DANE

Bong belly pickney.

4

INT. PAPA'S - DAY

4

KAI (Black, 16, gift of the gab) is at the counter.
Discreetly tiptoes to make himself taller. Grins at **GENEVIEVE**
(Black, 17, dark skin, nose ring, grounded confidence, knows
and enjoys the power of her presence). Genevieve bags Kai's
order.

KAI

*... Can I be your slave?
I've got to admit girl,
You're the shit girl...
And I'm digging you like a grave.
Now, do they call you Daughter
To the Spinning Pulsar...
Or maybe Queen of 10,000 moons?
Sister to the
Distant
Yet Rising Star?
Is your name Yemaya?
Oh, hell no. Its got to be Oshun-*

GENEVIEVE

-Anything else?

KAI

*Oooh, is that a smile
Me put on your face, child-*

GENEVIEVE

-No. It weren't-

KAI

-Wide as a field of

GENEVIEVE (CONT'D)

-Wide as a field of

GENEVIEVE (CONT'D)

*Jasmine and clover.
Talk that talk, honey.
Walk that walk, money.
High on legs that'll spite Jehovah-
-Yeah we've all seen Love Jones.
Can I get you anything else?*

KAI

Them bars work for me in Bristol, I
can't lie.

Kai waits for Genevieve to ask him a question.

KAI (CONT'D)

That's where man moved from, still.
I know you're probably wondering
why you ain't seen me around before-

GENEVIEVE

-I'm new.

KAI

Looks like the stars aligned-

GENEVIEVE

-Listen, people are waiting.

KAI

(to Genevieve)

Ok. Ok. Ok. Hear what I'm saying
though. You're nice. I'm nice.
And... I don't know... Maybe...

Kai is stumped. He has no original material.

GENEVIEVE

... That'll be £2.99.

KAI

(handing over £5,
undeterred)

Keep the change.

Genevieve hands Kai his change. Ouch. Tanika skips to front
of queue. Genevieve gives Tanika a waiting bagel.

TANIKA

You sorted our tickets?

GENEVIEVE

What tickets?

TANIKA

Don't play with me.

GENEVIEVE

(laughing)

Obviously, I did.

Genevieve reaches into her apron pocket. Flashes two tickets
to Knights of the Realm. Kai clocks them. Tanika shrieks.

KAI

So, can man get your digits or-

GENEVIEVE

(to Papa)

-Going on my break.

Tanika follows Genevieve into the back.

5

EXT. OUTSIDE PAPA'S - DAY

5

The boys play-fight. Bishop pushes Bayo into Kai.

BAYO
My bad. U good?

Bayo steadies Kai. Kai Looks up.

DANE
Kai?

KAI
D! Yo! Man like...

... Hesitation. A tentative embrace. Bishop notes Kai's 110s, True Religion Jeans. Notices his own too-short sleeves have rolled down. Quickly pushes them back up.

KAI (CONT'D)
(to Junior)
Rah. Wagwarn my younger.

JUNIOR
I'm older than you.

Kai assesses Junior's height. A mix of surprise and envy.

KAI
You got big init?

JUNIOR
What you doing here?-

QUEUING PATRON
-You lot growing roots or what?

Kai hovers, awkwardly. Junior looks to Dane, expectantly. Dane considers. Makes a choice. Steps out of the queue. Looks to Junior. An unspoken plea for understanding. Junior's look suggests a refusal to understand.

DANE
(to Junior)
You man get me a tuna sweetcorn?

Dane goes to pull change out of his pocket.

JUNIOR
I got it. It's cool.

Tension lingers between Kai and Junior. Junior enters Papa's.

6

INT. PAPA'S - CONTINUOUS

6

Through the window, Junior watches Dane and Kai walk away. Uneasy.

7

EXT. OUTSIDE PAPA'S - DAY

7

Dane and Kai sit on a bench. Aunties shush moaning children while they catch up with each other. Uncles share tips outside of betting shops. Young people yell at bus drivers who refuse to stop. Cabbies stop to greet one another, ignoring the honks behind them. Cabbies on break queue up outside Papa's.

DANE
(to Kai)
It's been a minute.

KAI
5 years. But man's *back*.

DANE
On ends?

KAI
(a little uncomfortable)
Yeah... You still over in
Parkcroft?

Dane nods. Kai hesitates.

KAI (CONT'D)
I'm in Greymere.

Dane is surprised. Kai waits for more. Dane doesn't give it.

KAI (CONT'D)
In crazy Carol's old flat actually.
It probably still smells like her,
but you know what they say...
(clicking the heels of his
red trainers)
There's no place like home init.
For real though. It was dead. But,
that's what mum liked. I couldn't
get in trouble out there if I
tried. And you know man tried init.

They laugh a little more. The tension thawing.

KAI (CONT'D)
And dad's been desperate to move
back-

DANE
-Your dad's back too?

Kai is a little uncomfortable at the mention of his dad.

KAI

...Yeah... He's been back for a
minute still- setting things up.

This stings Dane. Kai sees it.

DANE
Oh... I didn't know.

KAI
(sharper than intended)
Why would you?

A heavy moment passes. Kai's nose runs and eyes water as he eats his bagel.

DANE
(happy to deflect)
Yeah. Papa's hot sauce is lava. You gotta get mild.

KAI
Mild? Ain't nothing mild about me star.

DANE
Watch it run your belly...

7aA **EXT. OUTSIDE PAPA'S - DAY**

7aA

"Know We" by Pay As U Go plays from an open window. Dane listens hard. Eyes light up.

KAI
What.

Dane takes the radio out of his bag. Tunes it to 100.3 FM. Mutters hope. "Know We" plays clearly through the radio.

DANE
Yes! Rinse is back.

KAI
(standing on the bench)
Course they are. The only royal fanfare fit for the return of the king of Bow.

Dane rolls his eyes. Shakes his head. Laughs. Dane and Kai instinctively rap along to Major Ace's verse. Almost to themselves. Becoming bolder, encouraged by one another's backing vocals. Kai's water bottle becomes their mic. They bubble. Vibe. Tension almost melted. But as the music fades so does their familiarity. It is a little awkward now.

DJ DEEKLIN (THROUGH DANE'S RADIO)
Yes. That was Pay As U Go with
"Know We". Deekline coming to you
live and direct...

Kai sees the others emerge from Papa's. Junior's stoney face restoring the tension. Kai dismounts from the bench.

DEEKLIN (THROUGH DANE'S RADIO)
...Giving away tickets for Knights
of The Realm...

KAI
(to Dane)
Let me leave you man to do your
thing init... It was good to see
you still.

Kai means it. It's fleeting, but for a second, Dane thinks he sees a loneliness in Kai's eyes. Junior, Bayo and Bishop join them. Junior hands Dane a bagel.

DANE
You can roll, if you want. We're
just chilling.

Kai smiles. Nods. Sure to not look too grateful. Junior clearly does not cosign Dane's invitation. Goes to speak-

DANE (CONT'D)
(intercepting Junior's
thought, to Kai)
-Yo. This is Bishop, by the way.
And Bayo.

KAI
(spudding them)
Safe you man. Kai.

BISHOP
How you know D?

KAI
Rah he's not mentioned me, no?

Dane is a little embarrassed.

KAI (CONT'D)
They used to call us batty and
bench back in the day!
(to Dane)
Obviously you were the batty.

Junior rolls his eyes.

Beans, ROLIE and **TEMI** (18, Bayo's older sister) pass by.

7aA2 **EXT. OUTSIDE PAPA'S - CONTINUOUS**

7aA2

Bayo grabs Temi's arm. Beans and Rolie continue on to Papa's.

TEMI
What are you doing?

BAYO
(quietly, in Yoruba)
You shouldn't hang around with
him.

TEMI
English man.

BAYO
(in Yoruba)
He's not a... not a good guy.

TEMI
(cheeky)
He has his uses.

Bayo flaps.

TEMI (CONT'D)
Relax man. His god-mum does Mis-
Teeq's hair. He said he'd
introduce me. That's all...
(looking out into her
fantasy future)
And then I'm out of here.

Bayo's confused.

TEMI (CONT'D)
Mis-Teeq, Stargate, Brandy,
Rodney Jenkins... *Destiny's
Child!* I am 6 degrees of
separation away from replacing
that new girl, Michelle... Lemme
borrow your bike. I forgot to
take the meat out the freezer.

Temi is off on Bayo's bike before Bayo can answer.

7bA **EXT. OUTSIDE PAPA'S - CONTINUOUS**

7bA

Junior nudges Dane. Referring to Beans:

JUNIOR
(mischievously)
Get it back then.

KAI
What?

BISHOP
He jacked Dane's favourite tape.

DANE
He ain't jack nothing. *Borrowed it.*

BAYO

Sure.

Bayo takes a picture of Dane's pouting face. Dane swats him.

KAI

What set?

DANE
Sidewinder's 2nd birthday.

KAI
Slimzee and Pay As U Go?

Dane nods.

KAI (CONT'D)
Pissed.

Kai assesses Beans.

KAI (CONT'D)
Nah. Don't even have that. Get it
back.
(to Beans)
Oi!

Kai steps towards Beans's direction. Dane stops him.

DANE
What you doing?

Beans stops. Looks to Kai. Dane and the others' eyes panic.

BAYO
(quickly, to Beans)
Nothing. Nothing.

BEANS
(to Kai)
Nah. Go on.

BAYO
(to Kai)
'Llow it. Please.

BEANS (CONT'D)
(to Kai)
You got something to say?

Kai clenches his jaw. Looks to Dane, Bishop and Junior. They offer no signs that they are ready for a fight.

BEANS (CONT'D)
Didn't think so...

Rolie's phone rings. He answers.

BEANS (CONT'D)
(stepping towards them)
Matter fact. Where you from? I
ain't seen you round here-

ROLIE
(to Beans)
-Yo. That was Donnie. We gotta
go.

Beans doesn't break eye contact with Kai. Menace in both of their eyes. Beans grins at Kai like a cat letting a mouse free.

ROLIE (CONT'D)
Come man. He's waiting.

BEANS
(back to his usual
arrogance)
You man are lucky I got bigger
tings to do.

Beans and Rolie leave quickly. Kai watches Beans. Seethes. Bayo, Junior and Bishop look nervously to Dane. Dane shakes off his own concerns to alleviate theirs.

DANE
(to Kai, shifting the
mood)
They're back on again at Knights of
the Realm tonight anyway. When the
new tape lands, I'll be first in
line.

KAI
Knights of The Realm, yeah?

Kai looks back towards Papa's. Thinks of Genevieve.

KAI (CONT'D)
You know what would be better still
than getting your hands on that
tape?

Dane listens curiously...

KAI (CONT'D)
... Seeing them live fam.
(pointing to the flyer in
the window)
Come we just go?

JUNIOR
It's over 18.

KAI
True say you look young, still.

Junior scoffs. Looks Kai up and down.

DANE
(to Kai)
J's right though.

KAI
Don't watch that. I got us.

Junior shakes his head. Doubtful.

KAI (CONT'D)
(to Bishop)
What you saying?

BISHOP
Ain't them raves a hard shoe and
shirt ting?

KAI
You man don't have garms?

JUNIOR
(protective)
'Llow it. Course we do.

Kai turns to Bayo.

KAI
You on it?

DANE
(laughing)
Bayo? No way. He ain't even allowed
to listen to "secular" music in his
yard. Unless DJ EZ has a 2-step
remix of "I, The Lord of Sea and
Sky" up his sleeves, ain't no way
his mum's letting him roll.

Dane and Kai laugh hard. Bayo does too. Junior shoots Dane a
disapproving look. Dane misses it.

KAI
(to Bayo)
A rave is basically like church.
You got the DJ preaching from the
pulpit. MCs speaking in tongues.

Kai spits MC Viper bars from 'Put Your Hands Up' Ft Reflex.

KAI (CONT'D)

Tell me man like Viper ain't
possessed by the Holy Ghost.

Kai pretends to "catch the Holy Ghost".

BAYO

A man said "*possessed*" yanno. I'm
Catholic anyway. We don't do-

-Kai spins Bayo around to check out passing girls.

KAI

And what greater act of worship is
there than the admiration of God's
finest creatures, dressed in their
baddest attire.

Kai does the sign of the cross.

BAYO

You're going hell bro.

KAI

Not tonight though. Tonight, I'm
going here.

Kai points to the flyer. Bayo laughs. Looks to Dane.

BAYO

Fine. I'm in.

JUNIOR

Your mum ain't gonna let-

BAYO

-I'll figure it out. Temi owes me.

KAI

Yes my yute. Stick with Krusher K
and I'll show you a thing or two.
(to Bishop)
So?

DANE

He's in!

A flash of uneasiness across Bishop's face is ignored.

KAI

Yo!! It's on then. It's gonna be
shabby.

Kai taps "tickets available at Rhythm Division" on the poster.

KAI (CONT'D)

Come we go.

Kai jumps on the back of Dane's bike. Bishop and Bayo follow. Junior shakes his head. Follows hesitantly in Kai's wake. The whiff of trouble ahead pungent.

7A

I/E. RHYTHM DIVISION - DAY

7A

The boys pull up to Rhythm Division. The blue shop shoots out of the ground like a mountain. The large white letters loom over them. The boys keep their distance from the intimidatingly cool, older people filing into and spilling out of the shop. Look through a gap in the window. The room is darkened by Avirex clad bodies and smoke. TARGET spins. WILEY and FLOWDAN go back to back on the mic. The crowd go wild. The boys' mouths open in awe. From their low peephole, their heroes like giants before them.

DANE

(excited)

Yo. That's Target.

Bayo tries to take a quick picture - their view is obscured.

JUNIOR

(to Kai)

Go on then.

Even if Kai was brave enough to cross the threshold, there's no way through. Junior knows this. Enjoys Kai squirming for a moment. A sold out sticker is added to the flyer in the window. Bubble bursts. Relief on Kai's face, maybe.

JUNIOR (CONT'D)

(smugly)

Oh well. Guess that's it then.

DANE

Wait. Deekline was giving away tickets.

Bishop checks the time on Bayo's watch.

BISHOP

His show's done.

DANE

Well, there'll be tickets there.

JUNIOR

(pointing to poster)

No tickets on the door.

DANE
No. At Rinse...

They look at Dane, confused.

DANE (CONT'D)
It's worth a try. We can ask. Offer
to pay double. Something.

BAYO
Who's got *double* money?

KAI
I got yours. I bumped the train
down, so I still got the fare mum
gave me.

Dane spuds Kai gratefully.

DANE
Wicked. So, we find the station-

BAYO
-How?

DANE
We ask around init.

BISHOP
Bro. Come on. No one knows where
them man broadcast from. And, even
if they did, you think they'd tell
us? We're nobodies.

JUNIOR
(across)
Especially not after the last raid.

DANE
Then we find them ourselves.

BAYO
Without wanting to sound like a
broken record -pun intended-...
how?

JUNIOR
Let's just-

DANE
(to Kai, inspired)
-Remember when we were little and
your dad tried to set up his own
station from yours?... What was his
reach again?

KAI

Like 3 miles... Mum could just
about get it in the car on the way
home from school.

Dane thinks.

DANE

And they were on the 3rd floor?

KAI

Yeah

DANE

Ok.

(to Bayo)

Remember that.

Bayo whips out his small notebook and the boys huddle around
him as he makes notes.

DANE (CONT'D)

So, we know Rinse transmits all the
way out to Southend, cause-

KAI

-That road trip-

DANE

-When you were travel sick in your
mum's bag-

KAI

-'Llow me!

The two laugh. Junior squirms at their shared memories.

DANE

That's like a 30-40 mile radius.

KAI

(to Dane)

So, they'll be transmitting from...

Bayo does the maths in his book.

BAYO

Any block with more than 20 floors.

JUNIOR

(to Bayo)

Suddenly you're Rain Man? But, man
still forgets to check the back
page in every exam.

BAYO

You know I get performance-

JUNIOR
(across)
-Performance anxiety.

BISHOP
(across)
-Performance anxiety.

BISHOP (CONT'D)
Yeah we know.
So. Any block in the ends with at
least 20 floors.

DANE
Yeah...

BISHOP
That leaves Crossways...

KAI
...Or them blocks by Crisp Street

DANE
(surprised Kai remembers)
Yeah!

Dane spuds Kai. Junior grimaces.

DANE (CONT'D)
We find the station-

KAI
-We find tickets.

10

EXT. ESTATE - DAY

10

The boys arrive on an estate. Large blocks tower over them.

DANE

It's gotta be one of these, right?

BAYO

We listened through nuff doors in Crossways. It definitely ain't there, so yeah... I guess.

DANE

Let's split up.

Dane pedals to one block. Bishop to another. Junior is last.

11 **EXT. BLOCK OF FLATS - DAY**

11

Kai and Dane hop off Dane's bike. Hide the bike in bushes.

KAI

I'll start on the top floor. Work my way down. Buck you in the middle.

Kai pops the door of a block of flats. They enter.

12 **EXT. BLOCK OF FLATS 2 - DAY**

12

Bayo holds a door open. Bishop helps a dad with buggy. Enter.

13 **EXT. BLOCK 3 - DAY**

13

Junior kicks his feet. Kisses teeth.

13A **INT. BLOCK OF FLATS 2 - DAY**

13A

Bayo and Bishop run up the stairs.

14 **EXT. BLOCK OF FLATS - DAY**

14

Dane puts his ear to a door. A dog barks and jumps against the other side of the door. Dane falls backwards. The door opens. Dane scrambles to his feet. Runs. Keys fall.

MAN (O.C.)

Oi. What you doing at my door?

Dane can't stop. Runs up a few flights of stairs. Stops to catch his breath. Checks the stairwell shaft. It's clear. He sulks a moment. Dejected. He hears footsteps. Looks up. Relief at the sight of Kai.

KAI

Any luck?

DANE

Nah.

DANE (CONT'D)

(dejected)

Come we go.

15

OMITTED

15

16 **EXT. BLOCK OF FLATS - DAY**

16

Dane and Kai head to the exit.

Pass a man walking in. Share knowing looks. They slow. The man waits for the lift.

DANE
(quietly)
That's D Double!

KAI
He's on next, right?

Dane nods hard. They smile triumphantly to themselves. The lift dings behind them. They turn. The doors close. Without needing discussion, they take to the stairs. They race the lift up flight after flight of stairs.

17 **INT. BLOCK OF FLATS 3 - DAY**

17

Dane and Kai drag themselves up another flight of stairs. Their pace faltering. Out of breath. Cramps and stitches tearing at their sides. A ding can be heard on the floor above. A boost of hope carries them up the final flight.

18 **EXT. BLOCK OF FLATS 3 - DAY**

18

Kai and Dane watch from a hiding place. BEEFY (security) stands guard outside. D Double E spuds Beefy. Enters.

KAI
Now what?

DANE
We... Ask for tickets...

KAI
He doesn't look like the customer service type to me.

Beefy's phone rings. Answers. No signal. He steps away for the door seeking reception. Kai races to the door.

DANE
(whispered)
Kai!

-Kai catches the door before it closes. Slips into the flat. Dane hesitates. Torn. Reluctantly follows Kai in.

20

INT. FLAT - DAY

20

The flat is dirty. Bare. Windows are blacked out with bin liners. A drunk man is passed out in the corridor. The boys step over him. A frail man cooks something unidentifiable. A cigarette hangs from the corner of his mouth. He dances to music in his head.

DANE

(quietly)

I think we should go.

Kai ignores Dane. Heads towards the back of the flat. Music becomes louder. A shut door with a fresh crack in it gives Kai a look into a new world:

MC Mighty Mo is on the mic. Kai watches in awe. DJ Spyro spins on the decks. An MC Bangs on the wall demanding a reload. DJ obliges. The room is electric.

KAI

(whispered)

I thought he'd be taller... And black... Oh shit. I gotta go.

Kai looks to an open toilet door. The toilet is filthy.

DANE

Hold it.

KAI

Trust me, I wish I could. You were right. My belly's twis' up.

DANE

You're gonna go number 2? Here? That's like... Like shitting at the Vatican.

Kai looks around at the state of the place.

DANE (CONT'D)

Metaphorically...

KAI

(whispered)

Even the Pope poos. Watch the door.

Kai disappears into the bathroom. Dane is left unsure what to do. Uncomfortable. Impatient. In disbelief.

GEENEUS (DJ, head of Rinse FM) enters the flat. Dane looks for a hiding place. Slips between hanging coats. Invisible. Geeneus passes Dane. Hangs his coat up centimetres from Dane's face. Bangs on backroom door.

GEENEUS

Who's making all the noise? I can hear you man from the lift, stop baiting shit up, bruv.

21 **INT. FLAT - CONTINUOUS**

21

Geeneus passes Dane. Shuts the backroom door behind him. Dane emerges from his hiding place. Goes to the toilet door.

DANE
(whispered)
Come on! Clench. Wipe. Let's go.

Kai groans. Dane scrunches his nose at the smell seeping from under the door. Dane shuffles back towards the backroom. Peers through the crack in the door. DJ Spyro mixes.

DANE (CONT'D)
(to self)
Sick.

A moment of awe and wonder-

-A loud bang. The front door flies open.

22 **INT. FLAT - DAY**

22

The flat is filled with DTI and police. Dane looks around in a daze. People are being arrested. Cautions are being read. Officers carelessly handle equipment. Geeneus tries to hop over the rear balcony to the neighbours'. Trips over an extension cable running electricity from the neighbour's to the makeshift studio. Ankle sprains. He's dragged back by an officer. Dane is grabbed. Officer notes Dane's uniform. Looks at Dane's panicked face with disappointment and compassion.

26	OMITTED	26
27	OMITTED	27
28	OMITTED	28

29 **OMITTED**

29

30 EXT. KAI'S BLOCK - DAY

30

Kai drags Dane's bike up the stairs. Knocks. **CYRIL** (Kai's dad, late 30s, Black-British) opens. He's surprised to see Kai.

KAI

Hey dad.

CYRIL

What you doing here?

Cyril looks past Kai expectantly. Nervous.

CYRIL (CONT'D)
Your mum with you?

KAI
Nah.

Cyril forgets to step aside to let Kai in.

KAI (CONT'D)
Mind.

30A **INT. KAI'S HOME - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS**

30A

Kai pushes the bike in past Cyril. Cyril watches Kai warily.

CYRIL
What's going on? How come you're-
What did you do?

Kai exhales.

KAI
Good to see you too, dad.

The bike tire leans on some records on the floor.

CYRIL
(snapping)
Careful! Watch what you're doing?

Cyril rushes to the records. Moves them from harm's way. Tuts. Kai looks at the state of the flat. A half painted yellow corridor. Unpacked boxes and bags. A few feeble attempts at decorating. Evidence of a diet of takeaways and juice cartons. DJ Equipment and records everywhere.

KAI
You told mum the flat was ready.

CYRIL
I said it *would* be ready by the
time you guys got here- was
supposed to get here. You haven't
answered my question, what are you
doing here?

KAI
What's your problem fam?

CYRIL
Watch your mouth.

KAI

I didn't wanna be stuck in Bristol
for longer than I needed to be, ok?
School's done. I was bored.

CYRIL

The plan was for you and your mum-

KAI

-Look, if being stuck alone with me
for two weeks-...

Kai doesn't finish. Afraid of the answer to his question.

CYRIL

Just wanted it to be nicer when you
got here, that's all.

They both lower their shoulders a little.

KAI

It's cool.

CYRIL

You hungry?

Kai shrugs. Follows Cyril to the kitchen. Cyril puts together
a stack of takeaway menus.

CYRIL (CONT'D)

A couple of the boys from the old
system are playing out tonight, so
I'll be out till the morning.

KAI

(carefully)

... You told mum you'd get a proper
job if we moved back down...

Cyril swallows his irritation at Kai's whiney tone.

CYRIL

(tapping one menu)

Best duck fried rice in London.

Cyril hands Kai the menus. Leaves quickly. Kai listens to the
front door open and close. Shakes his head.

31 **OMITTED**

31

31A **EXT. JUNIOR'S HOME - FRONT GARDEN - DAY**

31A

Junior approaches. Downcast. Junior's **GRANDAD** (White, N.
Irish, a young 60) and **CUZ** (Junior's "cousin", white-British)
sit outside. Cuz paints a large portrait of Aoife.

CUZ

(smoking a spliff, looking
up into the sky)

Telecommunications my back foot.

(MORE)

CUZ (CONT'D)

Mark my words. They're looking for
a plan B planet.

Grandad ignores Cuz. Spikes his tea with Whiskey. Returns to
fixing a pink walkman. His hands tremble a little. Cuz turns
the page of the Newspaper reporting the launch of Artemis.
Junior enters the garden. Looks down at Cuz's reference
picture- Aoife with a can of beer at a festival.

JUNIOR

(to Cuz)

Why you always here?

(to Grandad)

You alright Grandad.

Junior notices the walkman.

JUNIOR (CONT'D)

What's that?

GRANDAD

Found it in the stuff your dad's
getting rid of... She asked me to
fix this every day for a year when
she was younger.

Grandad shakes his head at himself. Takes a swig at the tea.
Junior notices his sheets hanging to dry.

JUNIOR

(embarrassed, to Grandad)

I told you not to do my washing. I
was going to do it.

Grandad pushes his glasses up to get a good look at the
pretty older lady passing.

GRANDAD

Ms Sheila. Ms Sheila. One of these
days...

Sheila shakes her head. Tries not to smile. Junior goes in.

GRANDAD (CONT'D)

Keep it down. Your da's on another
double tonight.

31B INT. JUNIOR'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY

31B

PAUL (Junior's dad, 47, Ghanaian) is asleep on the sofa. TfL
uniform still on. Half eaten plate of fish and kenkey rests
on his chest. Junior picks up a piece of fish. Paul stirs.
Junior freezes. Paul resumes snoring.

31C OMITTED

31C

32 **OMITTED**

32

33 **OMITTED**

33

33A INT. BAYO'S HOME/LIVING ROOM - DAY

33A

Bayo fixes his uniform by the door. "Cleopatra Theme" can be heard faintly through the door. Bayo enters his home. Goes to the living room. As he turns the door handle he hears a scramble, crash and a swift music change. As the door opens, Kirk Franklin's "Stomp" plays. Temi is collapsed on the floor in front of the hi-fi. **BEBI** (15) recovers from the intense dance routine they've been rehearsing. **YINKA** (11) zones out in front of the TV. Subtitles on. The twins **TAIWO** & **KEHINDE** (7) read their own copies of the same book.

BAYO
Where's mum and dad?

TEMI
(to Bayo)
Oh. It's just you.

YINKA
They called. Their doing a double.

TEMI
Why didn't you say?

YINKA
(shrugging)
You didn't ask.

Temi kisses her teeth. Puts Cleopatra back in.

TEMI
(to Bebi)
Perfect. We got all night.

Bebi wishes they didn't. She's tired. Bayo looks around at the mess of books, snacks and costume changes.

BAYO
(in Yoruba)
Make sure you lot have tidied up by
the time mum gets home.

TEMI
(to Bebi)
Get in position.

BEBI
Can we take a break?

TEMI
5, 6, 7, 8

Bebi rushes to her position. Exhausted. Bebi and Temi perform. Bayo grabs the open box cereal on the table. Takes a handful. Leaves them to it.

33B **OMITTED**

33B

34 **INT. DANE'S HOME - KITCHEN - DAY**

34

The kitchen is small. Tidy. Artificial flowers fill vases on the windowsill. Dane stares at the salt fish fritters abandoned mid-fry. Listens anxiously to Nan seeing the officers out. Nan returns to the kitchen. Puts the officers tea cups in the sink. Tops up her tea. Adds 7 spoons of sugar. Dane watches nervously.

NAN

Me tell yuh two t'ings. Nuh bring
no pickny to me door. Nuh bring no
police to me door.

(MORE)

NAN (CONT'D)

DANE

Nan. I promise. I didn't do anything wrong.

NAN

Well yuh cyan have been doing everything *right*.

DANE

I was just-

NAN

-Somewhere you should'na been.

DANE

I swear-

NAN

-Who you swearing for? You got *lucky*. Lucky dem officers were decent people-

DANE

But, I didn't do any-

NAN

-You nuh affi be doing somet'in wrong, when dem tink say yuh *look* wrong.

Dane looks at Nan confused.

NAN (CONT'D)

Nuh look pon me like dat. You're not a baby no more, Dane. You're a man. A *black* man. Inna h'England.

Dane's eyes water in frustration, fear and confusion.

NAN (CONT'D)

This is your home, yes, of course it is. In these walls, and round here. It is.... *But...* Yuh t'ink... say...

Nan clutches her mug. Confusion flashes across Nan's face. Like she has woken up sleep walking. Dane's worried.

DANE

You ok, Nan?

NAN

(defensive)

No! Mi not *okay*! Yuh t'ink it's easy for me to try and raise a young boy at my age?...

The daze passes Nan's again. Nan loses her train of thought.

NAN (CONT'D)

Wha mi say now...

DANE

It's ok. I get it. I'm sorry Nan.
It won't happen again... Why don't
you go and lay down?

Nan quickly shakes off her fragility.

NAN

This nuh go fry itself.

Nan turns back to the stove. Dane watches nervously. Nan feels Dane watching.

NAN (CONT'D)

Come from under mi feet. Mi jus'
tired is all.

Dane is happy to accept that excuse. Goes to leave...

DANE

...Kai's back.

Nan stops. Let's the concern evaporate from her face before turning to Dane.

NAN

And 'im parents?

DANE

His dad is... Been back for a
while.

NAN

...You talk?

DANE

To Cyr- his dad? No. Haven't seen
him. They're close though.
Greymere.

Nan's brows raise.

NAN

You talk to Kai?

DANE

Yeah... It was... Like... Like old
times... but different.

Dane is seeking permission from Nan. Unsure of what for.

NAN

You know... People grow apart. It's
ok if you don't-

DANE

-He was my best friend.

NAN

Mi know baby.

DANE

Yeah. It's fine.
(almost to himself)
It's fine. Was just... Just letting
you know.

Dane leaves. He and Nan both worry about themselves and each other.

34A

INT. JUNIOR'S HOME - JUNIOR'S ROOM - DAY

34A

JUNIOR (INTO PHONE)

And what? He just left you?... Did
Nan go mad?

Junior rolls up Pat's card and free-throws it into his paper bin.

35

INT. DANE'S HOME - DANE'S ROOM - DAY

35

Dane shifts tapes to fill the gap in his large, alphabetised tapepack collection, where Sidewinder 2 should be (after Sidewinder 1). A small polaroid of a younger Dane, his mum and Cyril in a gold shirt, on a rooftop, falls from between tapes. Dane slips it back into it's hiding place.

DANE (INTO PHONE)

Sort of...

The radio cuts. Dane checks the light switch. Nothing.

DANE (INTO PHONE) (CONT'D)

I have to go. I'll call you later.

Dane hangs up. Goes to the meter. No key. Goes to Nan's room. She's fast asleep. A picture of a young Dane as "Man Of The Match" on her bedside table. Dane checks Nan's coat pockets.

DANE (CONT'D)

Come on.

Nothing. Dane goes to the fridge. Gulps from the bottle of Lilt. Spots the meter key in the fridge. Brows furrow. Worry.

Dane goes back to the meter and puts the key in. The lights come on. The radio starts to play. Dane finishes the last of the lilt. Looks for another drink. Ignores the bottles of kettle boiled water. Grabs some change from a side dish.

35A

OMITTED

35A

35B

OMITTED

35B

36

OMITTED

36

37

OMITTED

37

38

OMITTED

38

39

EXT. OUTSIDE KAI'S HOME - DAY

39

Dane hovers outside Kai's. Allows himself to be distracted by a lively game of penny up taking place below. Delaying the inevitable... Dane knocks. Kai opens.

KAI

Hey...

Kai looks a little guilty.

KAI (CONT'D)

You ok?

Dane bites his tongue.

DANE
Need my bike. I gotta go shop.

KAI
(his own guilt making him
defensive)
Why you got an attitude with me?

DANE
Are you being serious?

KAI
Do I look like Robocop? What was I
supposed to do?

DANE
I told you we shouldn't have-
Forget it.

Dane goes to walk away.

KAI
You wanted those tickets.

Dane stops.

DANE
If we're gonna be friends again-

KAI
-I didn't realise we *stopped* being
friends.

A moment. Both of them daring the other to pull the thread.
Both afraid to.

KAI (CONT'D)
I got you. Next time... Hiyah!

Kai does some exaggerated karate moves. Dane doesn't want to,
but he laughs a little.

KAI (CONT'D)
I got something that'll cheer you
up.

Kai pulls out four tickets to Knights of the Realm.

DANE
No way! How?

KAI
I snuck back in when everyone left.

DANE
You stole these?

KAI

No. I left a fiver where I found them.

DANE

Wait.

Dane counts the tickets.

DANE (CONT'D)

There's only 4 here.

KAI

Thought Junior didn't wanna come.

DANE

Fam.

KAI

Fine.

Kai retrieves a 5th ticket from his pocket.

KAI (CONT'D)

You know he's just gonna make it dead. He's dry.

DANE

He's not... He's just got a lot on his mind. That's all.

Kai scoffs.

DANE (CONT'D)

His mum's memorial's on Sunday.

KAI

His mum?

DANE

Yeah. Cancer. A year ago.

KAI

Rah.

DANE

So, I'm saying, be easy on him.

KAI

Fine. I'll 'llow him... He's still a speng though.

DANE

Kai man.

KAI

I won't say it to his face... That's the best I can do.

Dane laughs a little. Checks the tickets.

DANE

Safe man. I'm gonna go get ready.

Dane goes to leave. Pauses. Groans.

KAI

What?

DANE

... Ain't got my house keys... And nan's asleep.

KAI

You can get ready here, if you want.

Dane hesitates.

KAI (CONT'D)

It's bless. My dad's away. Got a free yard.

DANE

Why wouldn't it be bless?

The thread dangles again...

DANE (CONT'D)

It's cool. I can just get ready at J's.

KAI

You and I both know that J ain't got garms for you. Come man. Mi casa es su casa.

Dane nods tentatively. Heads back to Kai's door.

DANE

So what's the plan to get in?

KAI

Charm baby. That's all I need.

DANE

Nah man. They don't ramp at these tings. Boy Dem always looking to lock it off, so the organisers are proper on their Ps and Qs... I thought you said you had a plan.

KAI

I can't do everything.

They head inside.

39A **OMITTED** 39A

39B **OMITTED** 39B

39C **INT. KAI'S HOME - KAI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT** 39C

Dane is on the phone. Kai scoffs Chinese food.

 DANE (INTO PHONE)
Kai got them... He just did... Come
on man. It'll be live.

 KAI
Tell him he can borrow some garms
if he wants. I know his wardrobe is
dead!

Dane shoots Kai a scolding look.

 KAI (CONT'D)
 (shrugging)
What? You said I should be nice to
him.

 DANE
I was locked out... I know. I-
 (quietly)
-Leave it. It's bless... So meet
you man at 9.30, yeah?... Oh and,
can you ask Cuz to get us IDs- I
know. I know. Please... Thank you.

40 **OMITTED** 40

41aA INT. KAI'S HOME - KAI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

41aA

Kai watches Dane look through his box of clothes.

KAI
Not that one. That's dry clean
only.

Dane pulls out a shirt.

KAI (CONT'D)
That's kind of my favourite.

Dane swallows his frustration. Moves onto another box. Sees and recognises the gold shirt from the polaroid. Looks at the box's label: "Cyril"

DANE
Sorry. I didn't-

KAI
-Nah. It's cool. You can borrow
that one.

Dane isn't comfortable with the suggestion.

KAI (CONT'D)
He barely wears that stuff anymore.

Dane tries it on. It's perfect. Kai almost regrets his offer. Wants *this* for himself *as well*.

DANE
You got another one for B?

Kai looks curiously.

DANE (CONT'D)
Just. Please.

41A INT. JUNIOR'S HOME - JUNIOR'S ROOM - NIGHT

41A

Junior rifles through his wardrobe. None of his clothes are suitable. Kai's critique ringing in his head. Junior goes to his dad's room.

On one side of the room are boxes and bags of AOIFE's belongings. The empty spaces left behind are almost an invisible shrine. The only evidence of his mum, the fluffy dressing gown hanging on the back of the bedroom door. Junior smiles at the memories the gown holds.

Junior opens the wardrobe. Aoife's half is empty. TfL Uniforms and old, mismatched clothes fill Paul's half.

There are no fashionable offerings here. Junior closes the door. A box catches Junior's eye at the top of the wardrobe. He takes it down. Opens it. Pictures of Aoife and Paul's wedding day. Aoife's dried bouquet. The dungarees Aoife wore in her wedding pictures neatly folded. The green trousers and silk shirt Paul wore folded underneath. Junior runs his hands over the pictures of a young and happy couple. Rebellious, care-free and with the world at their fingertips.

CUZ (O.S.)
Yo Junior. Igor's here.
(loud whisper)
With the fake IDs

Junior huffs. Rolls his eyes. Steps into the corridor.

CUZ (CONT'D)
You got the cash? Do you know where
your dad keeps the Christmas tree?
Igor said he'll give us a discount,
if he can borrow it- he'll give it
back Christmas Eve.

41B **OMITTED**

41B

41Ba **INT. BISHOP'S HOME - HALLWAY - DAY**

41Ba

Bishop leaves his room. Goes to the living room door.

BISHOP
Mum, where are my confirmation
shoes-

-His parents dance close. **BERNICE** (Bishop's mum, 40, black, a light St Lucian accent) jumps at the sight of Bishop. Flustered. Steps away from **REGGIE** (Bishop's dad, 40, black Jamaican-British). Reggie playfully pulls her in tighter. **WAYNE** (8, Bishop's little brother) reads. Monster Munch covered fingers smudge the pages. Doesn't look up from his book.

REGGIE
You were my wife before you were
his mother.

BISHOP
Ew!

Bishop covers his eyes and walks down the hall. Takes Wayne with him.

41C **INT. BISHOP'S HOME - BISHOP'S ROOM - NIGHT**

41C

Bishop holds onto WAYNE's ankles.

WAYNE

There's too much stuff under here.

BISHOP

Should be right at the back. A
black box I-

WAYNE

-Got it.

Bishop pulls Wayne out. Wayne's gripping a shoe box. Bishop takes the box. Wayne goes back to his book. Bishop takes out the shoes. Tries forcing his feet into the smart shoes. They are too small. They're in. Barely. Bishop grimaces.

43A OMITTED

43A

44 EXT. OUTSIDE THE HANG OUT/BASKETBALL COURT - NIGHT

44

Bishop, Bayo and Junior head to their "hang out". Bishop adjusts his slightly small shirt. The tight confirmation shoes pinch Bishop. Clad in his dad's wedding clothes, Junior has a new, excitable energy. They practice chirpsing girls. Practice ordering drinks. Practice dance moves. They try on faux confidence. They quickly snatch it from one another with ridicule and banter.

A flashy Mercedes pulls up. DONNIE (30, flash) is in the driver's seat. His passenger counts cash.

DONNIE

Oi. You man.

The boys aren't sure he's talking to them. He is. He won't repeat himself. They nervously approach.

DONNIE (CONT'D)

You lot know Beans?

Bayo, Bishop and Junior nod.

DONNIE (CONT'D)

You seen him?

They shake their heads. Donnie kisses his teeth. Bishop's gaze darts from the notes the passenger counts, to Donnie's chain, the rims, the tints. Donnie catches Bishop's eyes before he is able to divert them.

DONNIE (CONT'D)

(to Bishop)

I know you init? Your dad was the cleaner at my college? He used to bring you in sometimes.

Bishop shifts. Embarrassed.

DONNIE (CONT'D)

Lift your head. Don't ever be ashamed of your parents working hard to put food in your belly. Shoes on your feet.

Bishop looks down at the state of his shoes.

DONNIE (CONT'D)

I said head up.

Donnie takes a pull of his spliff. Offers it to Bishop. Bishop shakes his head. Donnie turns up the volume. The subwoofers shake the whole court. He speeds off. Heads turn in awe as he passes.

45

EXT. OUTSIDE THE HANG OUT/BASKETBALL COURT - NIGHT

45

Some young people are dressed up. Flirtation, gossip and music spreads across the court. Junior kicks ball with some younger kids. Bishop beatboxes while other young people spit.

Kai and Dane arrive. Junior watches their jolly, playful entrance. Jealous and curious. Dane discreetly passes Bishop the red shirt. Bishop breathes a sigh of relief. Spuds Dane.

BAYO

What time you call this? Temi's charging me £2 an hour to cover for me when mum calls to check in. You lot owe me a pound.

Dane notices Bayo's outfit.

DANE

Wait... What you wearing?

Bayo adjusts his waistcoat. They all burst out laughing.

BISHOP

(shaking his head)
Don't. I already got onto him.

BAYO

You said it's a grown ting init.

JUNIOR

(to Dane)
Here

Junior passes Dane two ID cards. Kai snatches one.

BAYO

(reading his ID card)
Sanjit?

Dane holds up his ID. The man has a full moustache.

KAI

These look nothing like us.

Junior fires a cutting look-

DANE

-It's cool. It's cool. Thank you.

KAI

Wait. I've got an idea.

Kai runs into the basketball court. Over to a group of girls. The others instinctively don't follow. Kai returns with mascara.

KAI (CONT'D)

I swear. It works. Trust me.

Kai looks from the picture to Dane. Brushes the dark mascara liquid onto Dane's barely-there moustache.

DANE
This is silly-

KAI
-Keep still.

Kai steps back. Takes one last final look at his work.

KAI (CONT'D)
There. Perfect.

Dane turns to the others. Their faces say it's not "perfect".

KAI (CONT'D)
Ignore them. It'll be dark anyway.
Just don't touch your face.

BAYO
Or get it wet. Mum looks like a
panda when she cries with that on.

JUNIOR
So don't like... Sweat, I guess.

BISHOP
And you better hope it don't rain.

KAI
Let's go.

DANE
I'm gonna run shop. You man want
anything?

Dane jogs ahead. Requests called behind him.

46 **OMITTED**

46

47 **INT. PAPA'S - NIGHT**

47

PAPA (40s, Black) slices a batch of bagels in half. Dane enters.

DANE
You alright Papa?

PAPA
Getting ready for the rush when the
clubs let out. Tuna and sweetcorn?

DANE

No thanks. Can I get 5 Lilts
please?

Papa looks at the fridge. There are only 2.

PAPA

Got some out back. One second.

Papa disappears. Dane checks the counter for all the fliers he doesn't have in his collection. Genevieve carries a tray of freshly baked chicken in from the back. Dane looks up. Surprised to see Genevieve. Struck by the sight of her.

PAPA (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Gen. Come get this for the kid out
there.

Dane cringes at the word "kid". Genevieve disappears before Dane can correct Papa. Dane catches his reflection in a mirror in Papa's. He wipes furiously at his silly moustache. Leaving barely any trace it was there. Genevieve reappears. Notices something different. Unable to put her finger on it. Dane squirms under her gaze. Genevieve returns her attention to the drinks. Stacks fridge.

DANE

I'm not a kid.

GENEVIEVE

What?

DANE

Nothing. You're new?

GENEVIEVE

Yep.

Genevieve puts 5 Lilts on the counter.

GENEVIEVE (CONT'D)

£2.50

Dane hands Genevieve the money. Dane stares at Genevieve a moment. Genevieve looks up.

GENEVIEVE (CONT'D)

Anything else?

DANE

Erm... Yeah...

GENEVIEVE

So, should I just guess?

Dane laughs. Genevieve doesn't.

DANE

Chicken please. Thigh.

Genevieve bags the chicken. Dane pays.

DANE (CONT'D)

Thanks.

GENEVIEVE

No problem.

Dane hesitates. Fiddles with the flyer for Knights of the Realm.

DANE

I'm going to this.

GENEVIEVE

Good for you.

DANE

You should come... When you finish here, I mean. Of course.

Genevieve pretends to be distracted by her work. Dane shakes his head at himself. Goes to leave. Genevieve looks up.

GENEVIEVE

Was that supposed to be an invite then?

Dane stops. Turns quickly.

DANE

Yes. Yes.

Dane waits for more. Genevieve returns to rearranging things that don't need arranging. Dane's confused. Goes to leave.

GENEVIEVE

Ok...

DANE

Ok... You'll come?

GENEVIEVE

Ok, that I've registered it as an invite.

Genevieve smirks. Dane isn't sure what to make of this interaction.

DANE

And, I said... I said I'm not a kid.

Genevieve chuckles a little. Dane is emboldened by her smile. Walks away head held high.

48

EXT. BUS STOP - NIGHT

48

Dane heads towards the bus stop. The flashy Mercedes is ahead. Beans steps out of the backseat. A drawstring bag is handed to him through the driver's window. Beans enters a phone box. The car drives away. Beans waits for the phone to ring. It does. He answers. Heads out of the phone box, with a purpose. The bus is already at the stop. The boys hold it.

JUNIOR

Hurry up man.

Dane runs.

49

OMITTED

49

50

EXT. KNIGHTS OF THE REALM - NIGHT

50

The queue is long. The boys' confidence wanes with every passing minute. They inspect their fake IDs. They're looking less and less like the pictures. Bayo nervously reads and re-reads his ID. Mouths the DOB and name.

KAI

You're making it bait.

-Geeneus and the Rinse crew pull up. 6 of them step out of cabs wearing tracksuits and trainers. A stark contrast to how everyone is dressed. Defying the club's "no hoodies, no trainers" dress code. Go straight to the front. Geeneus walks with a slight limp from his earlier altercation with the police. SHYSTIE is handing out her tapes outside the queue.

SHYSTIE

(trying to reach for
Geeneus)

Gee. Gee.

Geeneus stops a second. Wonders if he knows her.

GIRL

It's me. Shystie.

Geeneus doesn't hear/ignores her. A rope is moved for the Rinse crew. They enter.

BOUNCER

(to Shystie)

Come on you. Out of here.

SHYSTIE

This is a public street. Last I
checked there ain't no age
restrictions on public streets.

Shystie returns to her hustle along the queue.

The boys are next. Nervous. Bouncer looks at them suspiciously.

BOUNCER

IDs?

The boys fumble for their IDs. Bouncer inspects them. Inspects the boys. They hold their breaths.

BOUNCER (CONT'D)

Go on.

The boys exhale. Step towards entrance-

BOUNCER (CONT'D)

-This way.

Bouncer directs the boys out of the line. They are shattered.

BOUNCER (CONT'D)

Tell Igor his work's getting sloppy.

The boys watch as others are granted access to the club. Sulk.

KAI

(quietly)

Oi.

Kai nods towards the van loading equipment at the side door.

51 **OMITTED**

51

52 **I/E. KNIGHTS OF THE REALM - NIGHT**

52

Roadies, with boxes and equipment stacked high, file in. The boys lower the load they have been hiding behind. Keep their heads down. Try to contain their excitement.

53

INT. KNIGHTS OF THE REALM - CONTINUOUS

53

From 'backstage', the boys step into the main room. Let the strobe lights wash over them like sunshine. Take a moment to soak it all in: the clothes, the dancing, the joy, the bass. Heartless Crew pass them and make their way to the stage. Heartless Crew on the stage. The boys mouths fall open. They are in touching distance from stars. Bayo reaches out, almost involuntarily. Bishop swats Bayo's hand. Bayo returns to his senses. Takes a too close picture instead. The flash blinds the musicians. Bayo blushes, embarrassed. The boys watch in wonder as Heartless Crew take their places centre stage and hold the 1000 strong crowd in the palm of their hands.

KAI

This... This is the Promised Land.

BAYO

Blasphemy... Yeah, deffo going hell
G.

They dance. Celebrate.

53A **INT. KNIGHTS OF THE REALM - NIGHT**

53A

The boys wait at a busy bar. Shimmy their way to the front.

 KAI
I got this.
 (to bartender)
Yo.

No response from the bartender. Junior laughs at Kai.

 JUNIOR
Excuse me, miss.

 BARTENDER
How can I help you lads?

 JUNIOR
Erm...

Junior scans the luminescent options.

 BAYO
Can I get a sherry please?

The Bartender's face scrunches. Kai nudges Bayo hard.

 BAYO (CONT'D)
What?
 (quietly)
I seen someone order it on tv.

 DANE
Yeah. Dot Cotton.

Junior grimaces at Dane's teasing.

 KAI
 (to bartender)
No. He's joking. Can we get... rum
and coke. 5 please.

 BARTENDER
£12.50 please

None of them expected it to be so easy. Kai scrambles for cash. Pays. Junior catches a glimpse of his reflection behind the bar. For a moment, he thinks he sees his mum next to him, in her quirky bridal outfit. He looks behind him, her apparition disappears into the crowd. Junior downs his drink. Bayo abandons his. Junior discreetly downs that too.

54 **INT. KNIGHTS OF THE REALM - NIGHT**

54

The club throbs with pure adrenaline. Young women dance like they invented every move. Beans' boys move almost in unison.

Bayo takes pictures. Spots Cuz dancing alone in the corner. Takes another. Bishop avoids the camera. Dane gets lost in the crowd. Kai approaches women. He's rebuffed again and again. One leans on him to stabilise her as she dances with someone else. Bishop watches in awe as guys and girls flash cash, jewellery and oversized bottles.

A group of friends pass a spare shot to Junior. He downs it. They encourage him to join them for a few more rounds. For the first time in a long time, he lets himself go. Dances hard. Free. Tears threaten his eyes. He dances them away.

Kai notices Junior's joy. Nudges Dane. Nods towards Junior as if to say 'look who's enjoying himself'.

55 **INT. KNIGHTS OF THE REALM - NIGHT**

55

Kai stealthily takes an abandoned champagne bottle from a table. Discreetly fills it with water. Kai returns to the main room. Approaches a GIRL.

KAI

Yo. What you saying pretty?

GIRL

Fam. This is the 4th time you've tried to chirpse me tonight.

KAI

...4th time's the charm?

Girl kisses her teeth. Walks away.

Bishop spots Donnie in VIP. Head to toe in designer. Surrounded by impressive men and women. Everyone's having a good time, but they seem to be having the *best* time. Donnie catches eyes with Bishop. With a head nod, invites Bishop over. Bishop hesitates. Goes. Donnie nods approvingly at Bishop's shirt. Pops Bishop's collar. Bishop grins. Donnie takes off his Dior sunglasses. Puts them on Bishop. Bishop melts.

56

OMITTED

56

57

INT. KNIGHTS OF THE REALM - NIGHT

57

The light from Bayo's camera illuminates...

BAYO

Temi!!

Temi tries to duck behind a pillar.

BAYO (SUBTITLE) (CONT'D)
(*in Yoruba*)
What are you doing here?

TEMI
'Llow it man. Speak English.

Bayo's death stare doesn't ease up.

TEMI (CONT'D)
I'm looking for management, if you must know.

BAYO
I paid you £10 to cover for me.

TEMI
You got bumped. I only had to pay Bebi 5.

BAYO
So, give me my £5 back.

TEMI
That's not how outsourcing works.

Temi shrugs. Walks away. Bayo boils.

58

INT. KNIGHTS OF THE REALM - NIGHT

58

Genevieve nurses a drink. Dane spots her. Smiles. They almost float to each other.

DANE
You came?

GENEVIEVE
I was coming anyway.

DANE
Sure. Let's go with that.

GENEVIEVE
Oh. I see the cat gave you back your tongue.

DANE
What?

GENEVIEVE
Nothing.

They bop along to the music.

GENEVIEVE (CONT'D)
Saw you dancing out there.

DANE

So, you were watching me?

GENEVIEVE

(sniffing Dane's drink)
Dutch courage, yeah?

Dane laughs.

DANE

Maybe. Before it wears off...

Dane puts out a hand.

DANE (CONT'D)

Dance with me?

Genevieve rolls her eyes. But gives Dane her hand. The two dance slow and steady. Relax into each other. Move in sync.

59 **INT. KNIGHTS OF THE REALM - NIGHT**

59

Kai watches his friend and his dream girl. Boils. Spots **STEFAN** (Genevieve's cousin, 20) steaming through the crowd towards Dane. The look on Stefan's face confuses Kai.

60 **INT. KNIGHTS OF THE REALM - NIGHT**

60

-Dane is snatched from Genevieve. Stefan and his boys surround Dane.

GENEVIEVE

Stef. What are you doing? We were just dancing.

Stefan pushes Genevieve back. A little harder than intended.

DANE

Oi.

Without thinking Dane lunges to protect Genevieve. Dane is clocked with a punch to the jaw. He sees stars. Stefan's boys hold Dane. Stefan revs his fists to strike Dane again.

GENEVIEVE

Stef. Don't!

Junior appears. Flies between them. The strike intended for Dane is millimetres from Junior's nose, and-

-Kai bodychecks Stefan. Stefan's boys descend on Kai. Bishop and Bayo appear. Hesitate. Fly into the middle of the scuffle, like superheroes. But, are quickly overpowered.

BOUNCER

Oi!

Bouncers separate the warring factions. Bouncer 2 shines a light in Bishop, Bayo, Kai and Dane's eyes.

BOUNCER (CONT'D)

I thought I got rid of you lot?
Come on.

61

EXT. KNIGHTS OF THE REALM - SIDE ENTRANCE - NIGHT

61

The boys sit on crates. Bodies and egos injured. Bishop's shoes are off. Junior throws up in a corner.

DANE

(to Junior)

You good?

Junior nods.

DANE (CONT'D)

You man... Safe for backing it in there.

BAYO

You dun know.

Bayo shadow boxes. Junior joins the boys. Slumps down. Worse for wear.

BAYO (CONT'D)

I think this might have been the best night of my life.

They laugh. Dane jumps up.

DANE

Kai came through like Viscera in King of the Ring.

Dane spuds Kai a thank you. Kai soaks up the admiration.

DANE (CONT'D)
(to Junior)
He saved your rass.

Junior groans.

KAI
I would have been there sooner, but
one choong ting couldn't keep her
hands off me.

Through the door/walls they hear the announcement for Pay As
U Go. The crowd go wild! Dane climbs onto a bin. Watches
through the small dirty window. A spotlight hits DJ Target.
Target conducts the crowd like a maestro.

DANE
I bet every night of their lives is
the best night of their lives...

BAYO
Init. Imagine that was us man.

Bayo cups his mouth with his hands. Mimics a roaring crowd.
Takes a bow. Points towards imaginary adoring fans. The
others watch and laugh. Kai and Dane join in. They sing along
to the faint music. A smile - a spark spreads across Dane's
face. Dane turns from his friends, back to the window.

KAI
Wait... Why *can't* that be us?

Kai is met with confused faces. Dane latches onto the idea
quickly.

DANE
You're right...
(to Bayo)
What's it that your mum says when
she's comparing you to your cousin
again?

BAYO
(putting on his mum's
accent)
Does he have two heads?

DANE
Exactly. Them man there have one
head each. Just like we. Grew up in
these ends. Just like we. That
could be us... That *could* be us.

KAI
That *should* be us.

Bishop looks down at the pair of sunglasses from Donnie. Kai jumps up on the bins. Peers in. The girls. The garms. The glory. He's sold.

KAI (CONT'D)

Bun being knights. We could be gods
of this ting!

Thunder claps. Rain pours.

BAYO

See. Blasphemy. God's gonna merk
you lot yanno.

The boys laugh. They run to take cover from the rain.

OMITTED