

GRIME KIDS

Episode 4

DOUBLE BLUE AMENDS full script (clean) -
03.12.22

Written by
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Inspired by the DJ Target bestseller

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9A

INT. BAYO'S HOME - BAYO'S BEDROOM/TEMI'S BEDROOM - DAY

9A

Bayo sleeps. Jumps up quickly. A sense of having forgotten something important. His memory lands on Temi. Bayo jumps out of bed. Rushes to Temi's room. Temi watches a Hinda Hicks' "You Think You Own Me" music video in bed. Bayo hovers.

BAYO

You ok?

Temi ignores him. Wills him away. Bayo steps in. Closes the door behind him. Temi huffs. Mutes the TV. Sits up. All vulnerability and weakness firmly locked away. Bayo paces.

BAYO (CONT'D)

I've been thinking about yesterday-

TEMI

-I don't want to talk about it.

BAYO

We have to tell mum and dad.

TEMI

No. We do not.

BAYO

Temi-

TEMI

-I swear on my life, if you tell
mum-

BAYO

-But-

TEMI

-You know what she will say.

Bayo furrows his brows in confusion.

TEMI (CONT'D)

(self-flagellation)

I shouldn't have been galavanting.
What was I looking for out there,
in the first place?

(imitating Bimpe)

See how you are dressed like some-

BAYO

(across)

-She wouldn't-

TEMI (CONT'D)

(across)

-Why wouldn't somebody-

BAYO (CONT'D)

-Temi!

Temi exhales away the scream she wants to scream.

BAYO (CONT'D)
You know she wouldn't say-

TEMI
-Or she'd cry. Pray. Fast. Cry some more. I wouldn't be able to bear it.

TEMI (CONT'D)
But... He has to pay.

TEMI (CONT'D)
And who's going to make him?

BAYO
The police?

Temi scoffs.

TEMI
Just drop it.

BAYO
I can't just-

TEMI
(knowing she's taking it out on Bayo, but can't stop. In need of the release)
-My whole life has revolved around what you *can't* do. You couldn't get through a day without crying in school, so I had to sit with you all lunch. Can't wash a thing clean, so mum's stopped bothering to even ask you. What *can* you do? I have spent my life stretching myself across the space between your *can't* and your fucking should. So, for once, grow up and yes, drop it, so I can have one less thing I have to hold up.

KEHINDE (O.S.)
Bayo! Hurry up.

Bayo stares at Temi. Dumbfounded. Heartbroken. Shame-filled. Afraid.

TEMI
Go.

Bayo opens his mouth to say something-

TEMI (CONT'D)

-Just go.

Bayo leaves.

9B

INT. KAI'S HOME - KAI'S BEDROOM - DAY

9B

Kai drags himself out of bed. The weight of the night before weighing him down. Wiley's notebook taunts him from the corner he threw it. Kai shakes it off. He stares at the picture of himself, Cyril and Janette at happier times. Resolves to focus on the more pressing issues in his life. He has bigger fish to fry.

10

OMITTED

10

10A INT. BISHOP'S HOME - BISHOP'S BEDROOM - DAY

10A

Bishop enters. Sings along to the reggae music playing from the kitchen. Wayne quickly hides something.

BISHOP
What you doing?

WAYNE
Nothing.

A cheeky smile spreads across Wayne's face. Bishop laughs. Catches a glimpse of the Sports bag behind Wayne's back. Bishop grabs the bag.

WAYNE (CONT'D)
I was just-

BISHOP
-What are you doing with this?

The fire in Bishop's eyes fades Wayne's smile.

WAYNE
Is that my birthday prese-

BISHOP
-Did you look in it?

Wayne shakes his head. Eyes watering.

WAYNE
I just wanted to know what you got me.

BISHOP
Your birthday ain't even- don't touch none of my things!

WAYNE
But-

BISHOP
-You hear me?

Wayne nods. Bishop watches his little brother's light dim. Bishop is overcome.

BISHOP (CONT'D)
Presents are supposed to be a surprise aren't they?

Wayne nods.

BISHOP (CONT'D)
So you have to wait... Only 3 more weeks.

BERNICE (O.S.)
Wayne, get in the bath. Hurry up.

Wayne goes to leave.

BISHOP
You didn't look in it right?

Wayne shakes his head.

BISHOP (CONT'D)
Promise?

Wayne nods. Leaves. Bishop exhales. Notices how tight he has the bag gripped. Closes his eyes. Regret, shame, doubt flood in. Bishop takes the small phone out of the bag. Puts it in his pocket. Searches for a better hiding place.

11 **OMITTED** 11

11A **INT. KAI'S HOME - KITCHEN/LIVING ROOM - DAY** 11A

Kai burns himself on the stove. Hisses. Flips a burnt pancake. Puts out 3 plates. Takes a calming breath.

KAI
Breakfast!

No-one comes. Kai goes to the living room. Cyril sorts records.

KAI (CONT'D)
I made breakfast.

Cyril looks at the time. It's almost 12pm.

CYRIL
A bit late for breakfast isn't it?

Kai spots the rolled up duvet and pillow on the couch. Kai's nerves multiply. Cyril senses it.

CYRIL (CONT'D)
Thought I'd give your mum a night free from my snoring. First night in a new place and all that.

Kai accepts the unconvincing excuse.

CYRIL (CONT'D)
Come on. Let's see then.

Cyril follows Kai to the kitchen. Surveys breakfast.

CYRIL (CONT'D)
What's the occasion?

Kai shrugs. Takes his seat. Cyril takes his.

CYRIL (CONT'D)
How did last night go?

Kai is surprised Cyril knows.

CYRIL (CONT'D)
Dane mentioned it... I figure
that's where you were?

Kai is conflicted. Shame and frustration.

KAI
We lost.

CYRIL
Never mind. Next time-

KAI
-Nah. I'm done.

Cyril exhales his frustration.

CYRIL
If I had quit every time-

KAI
-Mum!

JANETTE (O.S.)
I'm coming.

CYRIL
It's one thing to let yourself
down, but to let your friends-

KAI
(looking at Cyril's
tattered T-Shirt)
-You gonna change?

Janette rushes in. Suit on. Heels in hand. Pours coffee into
a thermos. Pancake batter on the counter rubs onto her shirt.
She tuts-

CYRIL
-Breakfast.

JANETTE
(frantically wiping her
shirt)
(MORE)

JANETTE (CONT'D)

I don't have time for that. Now,
I'm going to be-

CYRIL

-Kai's made us breakfast.

Janette looks up. Sees Kai's eager face. Feels bad. Smiles.
Takes a seat. Kai is grateful. They eat in silence a moment.

CYRIL (CONT'D)

(to Janette)

You remember AJ?

Janette eats. Cyril waits.

JANETTE

No.

CYRIL

Nah. You do man.

JANETTE

I don't.

CYRIL

He used to play with More Jah,
Badda- a few of them systems down
south.

Janette is tired of the guessing game.

CYRIL (CONT'D)

(trying not to be
discouraged)

Anyway. I met him for a drink. Just
a catch up really. Told him I was
looking for a job and he almost
fell off his chair. "Man like Rich
Tea, behind a desk", he said. "You
belong behind the decks", he said.

Cyril laughs. Kai concentrates on his food. Nervous.

CYRIL (CONT'D)

Anyway, I told him the hustle ain't
for me no more. Family man now. Got
responsibilities. But, then he said
he's got an in at Renk. They're
looking for a tour DJ.

Janette almost laughs to herself-

CYRIL (CONT'D)

-No hustle. Set schedule. Set
money. All guaranteed. There's
probably even a contract. It *is* a
proper job.

JANETTE

So, you brought us back here, so
you could run off on tour?

Cyril sighs.

CYRIL

(to Kai)

Thanks for this.

Cyril leaves the kitchen.

KAI

(to Janette, quickly)

I don't feel well. Stay... Please.

Janette puts a hand on Kai's head.

KAI (CONT'D)

It's my belly. I found the Coming
to America video. I think the video
player's in the box in my room...

Janette recognises this desperate act of her son's. She's
seen it many times in his younger years.

JANETTE

We'll... You'll be ok.

Janette kisses Kai's forehead. Leaves. Kai cracks a little.

12A **OMITTED** 12A

12B **INT. DANE'S HOME - DANE'S BEDROOM - DAY** 12B

Dane dresses. Looks in the mirror. Changes his T-shirt. Checks himself out. Satisfied. Dane catches a glimpse of the Mic Of The Manor flier in his bin. The disappointment of last night resurfaces. Dane shakes it off. Looks to the Freddo bars from Genevieve. Smiles. Changes his T-shirt again.

13 **INT. PAPA'S - DAY** 13

Dane steps into Papa's. The shop is empty. Genevieve reads Eric Jerome Dickey's "Sister Sister". She's engrossed. Dane sneaks up on her.

DANE
What you reading?

Genevieve jumps.

GENEVIEVE
Don't scare me like that.

Dane pushes the cover of the book up to read the title.

DANE
I see nuff girls reading that in school.

Genevieve quickly closes it. Dane looks at her suspiciously.

DANE (CONT'D)
Let me see that.

GENEVIEVE
Mind your business.

DANE
Let me see it.

GENEVIEVE
No.

DANE
Fine. Let me get a chicken sweetcorn.

Genevieve puts the book down. Begins working on the bagel.

DANE (CONT'D)
Thought I'd come by and say wagwarn
-A ha!

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Dane snatches the book. Opens to Genevieve's last page.

DANE (CONT'D)
(in a French accent)
Geneviève!

Dane clutches imaginary pearls. Fans himself. Genevieve tries to grab the book. Dane moves it from her reach.

GENEVIEVE
Why you so extra? Just give it back.

DANE
(reading from the book)
"... It was too late to stop then because I wasn't just on my way, I was there, bucking like a rodeo queen, hoping Michael could hold on for another eight seconds. I screamed and clima"-
(whispering)
-You just reading this on a random Tuesday afternoon? Just out 'ere in the open? On big Roman Road?

Genevieve laughs hard.

GENEVIEVE
Stop being dumb.

Genevieve snatches the book back. Dane walks behind the counter. Touches the seat Genevieve was sitting on.

GENEVIEVE (CONT'D)
What you doing?

DANE
Checking if it's still dry init?

Genevieve gasps. She can't close her mouth from the shock.

GENEVIEVE
I can't believe you just said that.

Genevieve covers her face with the book.

DANE
Oh. So now you're shy?

GENEVIEVE
Nah. You're actually wild.

DANE
I'm wild. But man's reading porn at work. Ok?

Genevieve beats Dane with the book. Dane catches her hand. In their playful struggle Dane snaps one of Genevieve's "shag bands". They pause. Dane pulls Genevieve in close. They hover. Dane stares at Genevieve's glittered and glossed lips. Leans in. They kiss each other deeply. A customer enters. Dane and Genevieve separate. Dane licks the strawberry flavour now transferred to his lips. Tries to push the evidence of his arousal down and out of view.

GENEVIEVE

Get lost. I got work to do.

Dane raises an eyebrow at the book.

DANE

So that's what the kids are calling
it these days.

Genevieve throws a ketchup packet at Dane. Dane catches it. A surprise to even himself. He plays it off smooth. Leaves.

13A

EXT. PARKCROFT PARK/ TOWARDS COMMUNITY CENTRE - DAY

13A

Kids of all ages make their way to the Parkcroft community centre. Eat breakfasts of crisps and Panda Pops. Bayo is in his own head. The twins and Yinka catch up to their friends. Bishop pulls Wayne to one side.

BISHOP

Sorry about this morning.

WAYNE

(back to his cheery self)
That's ok.

BISHOP

It's not. I shouldn't have switched
like that.

WAYNE

It's ok. You're going through
puberty and it makes you have
hormones.

Bishop laughs. Shakes his head.

BISHOP

You're too smart.

Bishop pushes Wayne off. Wayne runs after Yinka.

Bishop sits on the wall. Checks the phone nervously. Junior and Dane approach from different directions. They spud each other. All 4 of them distracted. Tanika and her friends approach.

TANIKA
Ain't you lot...
(to friends)
What they called again?

Friends shrug. The recognition excites Bayo and Bishop.

TANIKA (CONT'D)
Soldier something.

Bayo is about to help-

TANIKA (CONT'D)
-No. Don't tell me.

Tanika shakes her brain hoping the name will fall out.

TANIKA (CONT'D)
Fine. Tell me.

BAYO
Gladiator Crew.

TANIKA
(disappointed)
Oh... Is that it? You sure?

DANE
Yeah.

TANIKA
Hmmm... You should change it. I
don't like it.

JUNIOR
We'll take your feedback on board.

TANIKA
You lot won Mic Of The Manor last
night init?

FRIEND 1
(to Tanika)
Get them to DJ your birthday.

FRIEND 2
Nah they didn't win.

FRIEND 1
Oh.

FRIEND 2

(not quietly)

Didn't you lot bite someone else's bars though? I swear I heard that's why you man lost. My friend's god-brother's the host.

Bayo and Bishop are confused. Dane shrinks-

JUNIOR

-There was a mis...

Miscommunication...

(thinking quick)

But, we'd be happy to have your party host the *exclusive* performance of our new ting.

Tanika likes the sound of exclusive. Friend 2 eyes up Dane.

TANIKA

Guess I'm not gonna get anyone better at such short notice...
Fine.

JUNIOR

Step into my office.

Junior steps away with the girls. Friend 2 winks at Dane.

BAYO

(to Dane)

What was that about stealing bars?

Dane says nothing. The look on his face tells Bayo and Bishop that he knows something.

BISHOP

What was she talking about?

DANE

(reluctantly)

Those weren't Kai's bars last night... They were Wiley's.

BAYO

What?

DANE

I don't know how, but apparently he got his hands on Wiley's notebook, and...

Junior returns.

JUNIOR

Tomorrow night. One hour set.

DANE

An hour? We ain't got-

JUNIOR

(to Dane)

-If people are chatting shit about us, we need to change the subject.

BISHOP

I don't know man. I'm starting to feel like we're ignoring nuff signs... I don't think this music ting is for us?

Junior and Bayo let their personal frustrations seep through:

JUNIOR

The only sign we've been ignoring is the big red one over Kai's head. But, he's gone now so-

BAYO

-Gone? So we banishing people now?

JUNIOR

You want a teef- a liar- rolling with us, yeah?

BAYO

Did you even ask him wagwarn?

JUNIOR

You know what they say about birds of a feather, right? You really want-

BAYO

-I'm just saying, even the Vikings believed in a fair trial-

JUNIOR

-By combat. I ain't opposed to that.

Bayo goes to rebut-

DANE

(to Bayo)

-Leave it.

BAYO

What? Why am I- I'm not a kid, you can't just-

BISHOP

(to Junior)

-An hour set, when we got a half finished track, no money for records, a barely DJ and no MC?

DANE
(a little offended)

Hey.

JUNIOR
(to Bishop)
Leave the records to me. Dane just needs some practice. You have the whole day to finish the track. And... We'll hold auditions for an MC.

BISHOP
What on a "*Popstars*" ting?
Garagestars, yeah?

JUNIOR
Why not? We've already got our Nasty Nigel.

Junior pats Bishop. Bishop isn't convinced. Bayo is irritated.

13B **OMITTED**

13B

13C **INT. PARKCROFT COMMUNITY CENTRE - IT ROOM - DAY**

13C

Junior, Bayo and Dane leave with printed "Garage Stars" flyers. Some flyers in full colour. Some streaked by near empty ink cartridges. Bishop works on his track. Chris enters.

CHRIS
(to Bishop)
Got a proposition for you.

BISHOP
Me?

CHRIS
Work here.

Bishop raises his eyebrows in confusion.

CHRIS (CONT'D)
I've never seen anybody take to this the way you have. We can add you to the programme. Each class is £5 a week for 2 sessions a week. Per student. You get to keep £4. The centre gets 1.

BISHOP
(laughing off the offer)
Me? A teacher?

CHRIS

A trainer, tutor... You'll have 10 kids sign up easily. That's £40 a week. They learn how to listen and problem-solve, improve their computing skills, their maths skills.

BISHOP

Maths? 'Llow it man.

Chris tuts. Sits next to Bishop. Clicks around the screen. Moving things around as he speaks.

CHRIS

It's all fractals- loops within loops, creating groups of events that combine to form groups of an event, reflecting the form of the whole event.

Chris presses play. They listen. Bishop gets it. Adds to it.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

You're a mathematician G.

BISHOP

I don't know about all that. Man's just vibing.

Chris laughs.

CHRIS

Pythagoras probably was when he discovered music scales too.

BISHOP

Pythagoras? A musician? Man like A squared = B squared and that?

CHRIS

I'm being serious. You have something... I think the problem with being as smart as you is that your possibilities are limitless, so there is no limit to the ways you can fail. I know that can be scary, so sometimes not trying too hard feels safest.

Bishop's not sure he's ever understood the feeling before. But Chris' words resonate.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

But, you know what's worse than failing?

Bishop shrugs.

CHRIS (CONT'D)
Living in the perpetual "might have
been".

13D I/E. KAI'S HOME - DAY

13D

Bayo throws the fliers in a bin. Climbs the stairs to Kai's flat. Knocks. Waits. Kai opens the front door. Surprised to see Bayo.

BAYO
Wagwarn.

BAYO (CONT'D)
I heard about... The whole Wiley
ting.

Kai is angry with shame-

BAYO (CONT'D)
(quickly)
-I ain't here to judge you or scold
you.

KAI
I got stuff to-

BAYO
-They're gonna go on without you-
with the crew I mean.

KAI
You think I care?

Bayo hesitates...

BAYO
Well... Yeah?...

Kai kisses his teeth.

KAI
Listen. Man don't even know you
like that, so I know for sure you
don't know me-

BAYO
-I just mean that I *hope* you care.
I care... I think... maybe you get
misunderstood some times. I know
what that's like. And, maybe you
think people don't need you... I
know what that's like too...

Kai softens.

BAYO (CONT'D)

But, we do need you.

KAI

Why? You know I don't have any bars.

BAYO

Those weren't your bars, but it was your energy that had the crowd moving mad. Your delivery, your cadence, your rhythm, your musicality.

KAI

I don't even know what any of that means?

Bayo pulls the M encyclopaedia out of his back pack.

BAYO

I can teach you.

KAI

Why don't you just be the MC, since you know so much.

BAYO

Performance anxiety induced stutter.

Bayo's eager face is hard to resist. Kai steps aside. Bayo follows Kai in.

14

INT. KAI'S HOME - KAI'S BEDROOM - DAY

14

Kai performs the bars he has written. They're full of bravado.

BAYO

You gotta be... More yourself.

KAI

Bro. This is me, I don't know what you want you want-

BAYO

-If you could get anyone in the world to listen to you, like really listen to you, who would it be?

Kai thinks.

BAYO (CONT'D)

You don't have to say who, just keep them in mind. Now... what would you say to them?

(MORE)

BAYO (CONT'D)

They won't judge you. They'll hear
you. Like you intend them to.

Kai isn't sure he understands. Bayo takes a piece of paper.

BAYO (CONT'D)

Like...

Bayo starts writing.

15A **OMITTED** 15A

15B **INT. PARKCROFT COMMUNITY CENTRE - IT ROOM - DAY** 15B

Bishop works on his track. It's 4.30. Junior joins him.

JUNIOR

Done?

Bishop cuts an eye. Irritated by how easy Junior seems to think it is. Junior holds hands up in surrender. The printer whirs next to them. A registration and payment tick sheet for a dance class is spat out. Cuz enters wearing a sequinned hat and matching waistcoat. Junior looks at Cuz baffled.

CUZ

(to Junior, pointing at
the printer)

Hand me that.

Junior collects the print outs. Reads the heading.

JUNIOR

You're teaching a dance class?

CUZ

(demonstrating dance
moves, as proof)

I'll have you know, I was Northern
Ireland's reigning champion in
Lyrical Duet, Acro solo and hip hop
quad for 3 years in a row.

Cuz snatches the sign up sheet and is out of the room before Junior can process what he's just seen.

15C **INT. PARKCROFT COMMUNITY CENTRE - IT ROOM - DAY** 15C

Jazz plays from the main hall. Bishop works on his track. Headphones on. Junior spins on a chair. It's 5.15. The door opens. Junior looks up. Hopeful. Grandad enters. He wears braces and a flat cap. Does a spin.

GRANDAD

What do you think? I heard Miss
Sheila's signed up, so I thought
I'd let her see what I'm working
with. You know what they say about
a man that can dance.

Grandad swings his hips. Winks. Bounces down the corridor. Junior shakes his head. Dane enters.

DANE
Sorry I'm late.

Dane looks around at the emptiness.

DANE (CONT'D)
Rah.

Double checks the time on the wall. 5.17. And the time on the flier on the door. 4.30. Dane and Junior exchange worried looks.

15Ca **EXT. KAI'S HOME - KAI'S BEDROOM - DAY**

15Ca

Bayo reads Kai's lyrics to himself. Kai watches Bayo's lips move. Anxious. Bayo finishes. Smiles. Kai's relieved.

BAYO
Shabby. I ain't even being bias,
but these might be better than
yesterday's.

Kai side eyes Bayo.

BAYO (CONT'D)
Yeah. A stretch. I felt it.

KAI
(reading his lyrics,
pride)
They're good though init.

Kai takes Bayo's piece of paper.

KAI (CONT'D)
So are these.

Bayo quickly snatches them back.

BAYO
Nah. It was just an example.

Bayo looks over Kai's lyrics again. Smiles. Nods.

KAI
Safe for helping me and that.

BAYO
Calm. Thanks for letting me be
useful.

Kai isn't sure he understands the depth of Bayo's words. But he senses this has meant more to both of them than either will say.

15D **OMITTED**

15D

15E **OMITTED** 15E

16 **OMITTED** 16

18A INT. PARKCROFT COMMUNITY CENTRE - DAY

18A

Bishop, Junior and Dane are sat in a row. A budding MC performs. He's terrible. They try hard not to laugh. The MC finishes. Awaits feedback.

JUNIOR
It was... Dane?

Junior turns to Dane for Dane's opinion. Dane's eyes widen. The laughter bubbles inside them.

DANE
I like how you weren't committed to
what we traditionally know to be
rhyming. Bishop?

Dane turns to Bishop. Beans enters. Spuds MC.

BEANS
(to boys)
So, how'd my brother do?

DANE
Bish was just saying...

BISHOP
...How... How... interesting-

DANE
-And entertaining-

JUNIOR
-So entertaining.

BEANS
Man like MC Reece Increase.

Beans throws an arm around his little brother.

JUNIOR
We'll be in touch.

Beans and his little brother leave. Quiet laughter erupts.

JUNIOR (CONT'D)
Man said "I'm not your average kid.
I'm the medium and the mean."

DANE
That bar was kind of hard still.

BISHOP
This is why you're in 3rd set. Mean
is the average, you joker.

Kai and Bayo appear in the doorway. Junior and Dane stare. Unwelcoming.

JUNIOR
What's he doing here?

BAYO
(pointing to the flier)
It's an open audition right?

Junior and Dane's eyes narrow. Bayo looks around.

BAYO (CONT'D)
We can go to the back of the line,
if you'd prefer?... Oh wait,
there's no one else here.

KAI
(to Bayo)
You didn't say nothing about an
audition.

BAYO
(to Junior)
We need an MC. And-

JUNIOR
-And he ain't one.

KAI
(to Bayo)
I'm just gonna go...

BAYO
(trying on a new
confidence)
We're auditioning, whether they
like it or not.

KAI
We?

BAYO
(uncertain)
...Yeah...

Bayo blows out his nerves. Dane, Junior and Bishop look at each other curiously. Kai is relieved for the support. Bayo nods to Bishop. Bishop hits the space bar. The track drops. Bayo turns his back to his friends. Kai turns Bayo to face him. Offers a reassuring nod. The two begin a back to back exchange of deep, comically, rousing lyrics about what they think it means to be men, the examples around them, their conflicting ideas, their failures and aspirations. Dane, Junior and Bishop can't help but be impressed. The sounds and nose scrunches of approval encourage Kai and Bayo. Bayo's confidence grows. Kai's nerves fade. They are barely able to finish. The cheers and braaps of appreciation drown them out.

DANE
(to Bayo)
Where did that come from?

Bayo shrugs shyly.

BISHOP
(shaking Bayo)
That was nang. What happened to
your performance stutter?

BAYO
Kai told me to picture people
naked.

Bayo spuds Kai.

BISHOP
Yo.

Bishop puts a demure hand across his nipples and privates.
They laugh.

BAYO
(to Junior)
So?...

JUNIOR
Looks like we got an MC.

Junior spuds Bayo. Kai is aware that the praise is being
directed at Bayo. Bayo feels Kai shrinking beside him.
Readjusts. Position himself firmly next to Kai.

BAYO
(to Junior)
Two... We're a package deal.

Junior refuses to concede. Bayo holds his nerves. Bishop
swoops in to the rescue.

BISHOP
(to Kai)
We're playing a birthday tomorrow
at 9. You free?

Kai nods hesitantly. Bayo exhales a little. Tired. Enjoys
this *much needed* victory.

BISHOP (CONT'D)
Going toilet. Don't touch nothing!

Bishop leaves.

18Aa	I/E. PARKCROFT COMMUNITY CENTRE/OUTSIDE - CONTINUOUS	18Aa
	<p>Bishop bounces down the corridor. "Ain't We Got Fun" can be heard playing from the hall. Grandad in the background swings Miss Sheila around with more confidence than skill. The daylight casts a silhouette of Bernice in the community centre doorway. It takes a moment for Bishop to see her face from the shadow. He sees an unrecognisable look on her face. Then... Bishop sees the Sports bag in Bernice's hand. His eyes dart around in a panic. The sound of his friends talking and laughing, of jazz instruments playing and of the Cuz shouting instructions fade further and further away.</p>	
18B	OMITTED	18B
19	OMITTED	19
20	OMITTED	20

22	OMITTED	22
23	OMITTED	23
24	OMITTED	24

25 **OMITTED**

25

26 **OMITTED**

26

27

EXT. SWING PARK - DAY

27

Bernice and Bishop stand in silence in the privacy of the estate/ the tiny swing park. The Sports bag still gripped in Bernice's hands. Bishop opens his mouth to speak. No words. Bernice tries to temper her fury- her fear. It melts out of her in tears. Barry's singing can be heard. It gets louder as he gets closer to them. Bishop is ashamed.

BERNICE

In your bedroom... In your little
brother's... What if he-

BISHOP

-No. I made sure that-

-Bernice shoots Bishop a silencing glare. She gathers her thoughts a moment.

BERNICE
What are you looking for Bishop?
Tell me what you think you can find
in here?

Bernice shakes the bag.

BERNICE (CONT'D)
In something like this!

Bishop is too ashamed to confess the truth.

BISHOP
I wasn't... -It's not mine... I was
just looking after it for someone.

BERNICE
For who?

Bishop looks away.

BERNICE (CONT'D)
Why?

Bishop doesn't answer.

BERNICE (CONT'D)
They bullied you?

BISHOP
No-

BERNICE
-Paid you?

BISHOP
Mum... Please.

Bernice and Bishop are distracted by a passing neighbour for a moment. The neighbour argues loudly into a phone.

NEIGHBOUR
Hang up then? Do you think I
care?... Hello?

Neighbour looks around to see if anyone caught the disrespect. Uncomfortable looks of shame are exchanged between Neighbour and Bishop. Both lower their heads. Neighbour scurries away.

Bernice inhales her tears. Holds them tight.

BERNICE
(quietly, almost to self)
This is my fault.

Bishop looks at Bernice. Maybe for the first time. He's confused.

BERNICE (CONT'D)

If I had done enough for you...
Made your home enough for you-

BISHOP

-Don't say that. It's not like- You didn't- *I* made a mistake. I wasn't thinking.

BERNICE

Don't lie to me. You're not a stupid boy. You *did* think. And you thought the exchange was fair. Your life- the life we gave you- you thought it wasn't worth protecting. You thought it was worth risking it. Our life. For this. For jail... For death-

BISHOP

-Mum.

(MORE)

BISHOP (CONT'D)

Stop. That's not true.

BERNICE

I'm not blind, you know? I see what you don't have that you're friends do... I just thought that you saw what you do have, that so many of them don't.

They stay in silence a moment.

BERNICE (CONT'D)

Do you know why I started night school?

Bishop doesn't answer.

BERNICE (CONT'D)

Because I hated seeing the look on your face when you opened a Christmas present or a gift on your birthday and it wasn't quite right.

BISHOP

I-

BERNICE

(anticipating Bishop's denial)

-You smiled. You said thank you. But I know you. I could see you psyching yourself up to face the questions and sniggers about the funny looking tick or the misspelled logo.

BISHOP

I don't care about those things.

BERNICE

You do. And it's ok that you do. You *should* be able to. And I should be able to give them to you. But more than anything I wanted to give you and your brother a reason to be proud of me.

Bishop is too full of shame to look Bernice in the eye.

BISHOP

I made a mistake mum. Please...
I'll give it back. Please don't...
Don't hate me.

A family descend on the park/nearby. They carry fold out tables and decorations for a toddler's birthday party. Bernice gathers herself. They wave. Bernice smiles at them politely. Bishop looks away. Hides his teary eyes from them. Bernice hands Bishop the bag.

BERNICE
(quietly)
Today. You give it today. I don't
want this in my house Bishop. Not
for a single second longer.

Bernice goes to walk away.

BISHOP
Mum...

Bernice stops. Music plays. A balloon floats away. A dad runs after it. Unsuccessful. A child wails with disappointment.

BISHOP (CONT'D)
Did I ruin it? Are things gonna be
different now?

Bernice cries a little. She wants to hold her little boy. The pain in her body won't let her go to him. She walks away.

28 **EXT. PARKCROFT ESTATE/ CHILDREN'S PARK - DAY**

28

Bishop paces. The bag zipped safely in his hoodie. Dials Donnie over and over again.

BISHOP
Come on...

Still, no answer. Bishop tries again. Donnie answers.

BISHOP (CONT'D)
Hey. Donnie...

Bishop's voice cracks.

28A **INT. RHYTHM DIVISION - DAY**

28A

The record shop is busy. People trade DATS and records, merchandise is hung and displayed, promoters negotiate flyer placement at the front and poster placement on the walls and windows. Junior looks through records. Takes a few to the front to pay.

Shop Worker stands in the doorway leading to the back with a man and woman. The man and woman listen keenly. Shop Worker speaks and demonstrates discreetly.

SHOP WORKER
(holding up a microwave
link)

You plug it into the link box. Plug whatever you're wanting to play. Point it at their receiver- it'll be on their transmitter- and Bob's your uncle. They're off air, and you're on.

Shop Worker demonstrates how it all connects. Man and Woman nod gratefully. Hand over cash. Shop Worker pockets it. Puts the equipment in the bag.

SHOP WORKER (CONT'D)
This better not come back to me.

Man takes the bag. He and woman leave quickly. Junior's gaze follows them.

SHOP WORKER (CONT'D)
Can I help you?

Junior doesn't hear at first.

SHOP WORKER (CONT'D)
Oi.

Junior returns his attention to Shop Worker. Shop Worker eyes Junior suspiciously. Wonders what he heard. Junior quickly hands over his selected record. Retrieves the last of his money from an envelope with a "With Sympathy" card. Pays.

29

EXT. PARKCROFT ESTATE/ CHILDREN'S PARK - DAY

29

Bishop sweats. Moves restlessly around the park.

BISHOP (INTO PHONE)
I'm so sorry.

DONNIE (V.O.)
It's cool B. You're doing the right thing. Family over everything. That makes you a man. I'm proud of you. Meet me at the courts tomorrow at 11.

BISHOP (INTO PHONE)
Can it be today. I can meet you
wherever-

DONNIE (V.O.)
-I'm in cunch. Tomorrow.

Donnie hangs up. Bishop's hands tremble. A cold chill. The
last balloon is swept up. More crying.

30 **INT. PARKCROFT COMMUNITY CENTRE - IT ROOM - DAY** 30

Bishop enters. Face puffy. The boys have gone. Bishop pulls
the Sports Bag out from under his jacket. Hides it in a
cupboard of old, broken and abandoned equipment.

31 **OMITTED** 31

32 **OMITTED** 32

33 **EXT. BOW - NIGHT** 33

Junior carries a bag of records. Spots a familiar looking car down a side street. He gets closer to it. "W10 Cars" on the side. Sees Paul in the passenger seat. He and Akosua are locked in an intense conversation. Then, an embrace. Junior boils over with rage. Thinks about confronting them. Storms away. Leaves them to their secrets and lies.

34 **I/E. DANE'S HOME - NIGHT** 34

Dane opens the door.

JUNIOR

I think my dad is seeing another woman!

Junior goes straight through to the kitchen. Runs water into a glass. Chugs it. Fills the glass again. Spots Nan's port. Empties the glass of water. Pours Nan's port. Dane bites his tongue. Junior is too worked up to be questioned.

JUNIOR (CONT'D)

I just saw them together. She's called the house.

DANE

It *has* been a year.

Junior shoots Dane a chilling look.

DANE (CONT'D)

I just meant... I don't know...

JUNIOR

Mum knew her! They have pictures together and everything! That's sick. What if he was seeing her when mum was alive? She's probably why he took all mum's pictures down? Got rid of all mum's stuff so him and his little sideting wouldn't have to look at mum- Wouldn't feel guilty while they were fuc-

DANE

-J! Nan's home.

Junior's hands tremble. He swigs another drink. Nan can be heard approaching. They quickly put away the wine.

JUNIOR

(to Nan)

Evening Nan. Missed you at the memorial.

Nan squints. Tries to place Junior's face. Junior laughs, though unsure he understands the joke. The look on Dane's face quickly fades his laugh.

JUNIOR (CONT'D)

(to Nan)

It's me. Junior.

NAN

(flustered)

Mi 'ave eyes. Mi see. Tell your grandfather he owes me money for the church raffle. If 'im win, mi a keep it.

Junior smiles. Follows Dane to his room. As soon as he is out of sight of Nan, he lets go of the heavy smile on his face.

JUNIOR

...She ok?

DANE

She's just tired.

Junior can see Dane is hiding something. Is too full with his own stuff to inquire. Especially knowing that Dane's limited capacity for his friend's baggage means that any exchange of burden will leave him with the heavier weight.

JUNIOR

Can I stay here tonight?

DANE
Course.

34aA **INT. KAI'S HOME - KAI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

34aA

Kai is emboldened by his "successful" audition. He writes lyrics. Performs to an imaginary crowd. Locks eyes with a picture of Cyril. The perceived judgment in Cyril's eyes trip Kai up. The adrenaline is quenched. Kai's lyrics suddenly aren't good enough. He rips them up. Starts again. Fuelled by resentment and a desperation.

34bA **EXT. PARKCROFT ESTATE - DAY**

34bA

The next morning. Dane and Junior walk through the estate with a box of cereal and milk.

DANE
I might just chill with Nan tonight.

JUNIOR
I spent the last of my money on those records.

They approach Bayo's home. Bayo is outside. He struggles to hang clothes on the washing line.

DANE
(tentatively)
Maybe you should go home. Speak to your dad-

JUNIOR
(to Bayo)
-Yo. Wagwarn. We're gonna rehearse round yours.

BAYO
I don't think-

JUNIOR
-Your parents are on nights right?

BAYO
Yeah. But-

JUNIOR
-Mine's a write off. Nan ain't gonna wanna have us making bare noise in her yard. You know what Bishop's mum's like and I ain't going Kai's so... In about an hour. Let them man know.

Junior is off before Bayo can protest. Dane watches Junior a moment. Isn't sure he's ok. But, maybe grateful for Junior's front.

34A **INT. BAYO'S HOME - TEMI'S ROOM - DAY**

34A

Bayo puts a cup of hot chocolate down next to Temi. Temi stares at the TV.

BAYO
Do you want anything?

Temi doesn't answer.

BAYO (CONT'D)
I hung the clothes up for you.

Temi rolls her eyes at "for you." Bayo swallows his mistake.

BAYO (CONT'D)
The guys wanted to come round today
to rehearse for a gig at some house
party...

Temi doesn't answer.

BAYO (CONT'D)
I can tell them no?...

Bayo goes to leave gently.

TEMI
It's fine... Whatever.

BAYO
Or, I don't even have to go-

TEMI
-I said it's fine.

Bayo isn't sure what else to say. Leaves. Frustrated with his perceived uselessness.

34B **OMITTED**

34B

35 **OMITTED**

35

38 OMITTED 38

39 OMITTED 39

40

INT. BISHOP'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY

40

Bernice and Bishop sit at the dining table. Bishop watches the clock nervously. Wayne excitedly puts mats out on the table. Taking pride in his one chore. Disappears back in to the kitchen.

BERNICE
(quietly)
Everything went fine yesterday?...
When you gave the stuff back?

Bishop nods. Bernice nods. Satisfied but still hurt. Bishop looks to her for more- comfort, reassurance, something. She doesn't have it to give right now. Wayne returns to set out the cutlery. Reggie appears with the plates of food.

REGGIE
Et voilà!

Bernice smiles warmly. Gratefully. Bishop has missed that smile in his direction.

WAYNE
I buttered the rolls.

Bernice tastes a roll.

BERNICE
Perfection.

Reggie and Wayne high five. Bow. Bishop couldn't feel further away from them if he was on Neptune. Bishop pushes food around his plate. The knot in his belly rising to his throat.

WAYNE
(to Reggie)
Did you know that eels don't have S-
E-X like you and mum do, is that
true?

Bernice and Reggie's eyes pop.

WAYNE (CONT'D)
-They just get babies by
themselves. But no one knows how.

Wayne nods confidently.

WAYNE (CONT'D)
It's just one of those life
mysteries.

Reggie laughs. The doorbell rings.

WAYNE (CONT'D)

I'll get it.

Wayne disappears.

BERNICE

(irritable)

Told you we shouldn't have gotten
that cable box.

REGGIE

The day I pass up sometin' free,
please check me in to the loony
bin.

WAYNE (O.S.)

Bishop! It's Dane.

BISHOP

Excuse me.

41 INT. BISHOP'S HOME - CORRIDOR - DAY

41

Bishop pulls Wayne back by the collar.

BISHOP

Go and eat.

Wayne disappears.

DANE

Where you been? We've got practice,
remember?

BISHOP

I'm not feeling well.

Bishop's eyes say more than his words.

DANE

What's wrong?

Dane's question is asking more than his words. Though, he
hopes the answer is a simple one.

BISHOP

Headache.

Dane is grateful for this way out.

DANE

Take some paracetamol? We need you.
I actually can't do it without you.
You got Super Saiyan hearing or
something.

Bishop looks back into his house. He could do with the excuse
to escape.

BISHOP

Fine. But, I have to be back by 11.

DANE

Cool. Promised Nan I wouldn't be
out late.

42

INT. BAYO'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY

42

Kai watches TV with Yinka. Avoiding the close proximity with Junior. Dane walks in with Bishop. As if leading the prize fighter into the boxing ring. The others cheer.

Kai relieved for the buffers and distraction. Bishop can't help but smile a rusty, tired smile. He loves these boys. He had no reason to seek anything outside of them and his home. A moment of guilt takes him.

JUNIOR
(presenting records to
Bishop)
I used the last of the money I got
on Sunday.

BISHOP
J man. You shouldn't have done-

DANE
-Don't bother. I already tried
telling him.

Kai pulls out some of his dad's records: Lt. Stitchie's, "Wap Dem"; Beenie Man's "Big Up And Trust"; Simpleton's "Quarter to 12".

KAI
Was listening to Heartless and
thought we could maybe use a few of
these in our set.

Bishop nods approvingly. Having Bishop's expertise back is a relief.

YINKA
Why can't you do this in your room?

BAYO
There's no space.

YINKA
I can't see the TV.

BAYO
Why don't you take the girls for a
walk?

TAIWO AND KEHINDE
'Cause we're not a pets.

Kai checks his pocket. Pulls out £4.

KAI
Here. Go shop.

BAYO
That's how they get you.

BEBI
Fine. But we'll be taking back our
living room in 45 minutes.

BAYO

I'm adding an extra minute for
every second you're in my face.

Bebi kisses her teeth. Leaves. The others follow.

43 **OMITTED** 43

44 **INT. BAYO'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY** 44

Bishop shares ideas of how melodies and beats should play along side each other. Of tempos and frequencies. Of scratches and loops. Dane executes Bishop's ideas imperfectly. But practice smoothes out the rough edges. Junior makes note of their discoveries. Of set orders and successful ideas. Bayo and Kai commit lyrics to memory.

The boys rehearse. Point out to the arena in their minds filled with screaming fans. Bayo's sisters return.

YINKA

Time's up.

Dane turns up the volume to drown them out.

45 **INT. BAYO'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY** 45

Bayo's sisters jump around the living room. Dance. Braap to mixes and lyrics that genuinely impress. Temi appears in the doorway. A smile creeps on her face. The twins drag her into their dance party. Bayo is proud to be able to be part of lightening her load in this moment. Junior takes a swig from his spiked 'Lucozade' bottle. Kai can smell the booze. Ignores it for now.

46 **OMITTED** 46

47 **EXT. BOW - DAY**

47

Kai, Bayo, Dane and Junior wait nervously for their cab.

KAI
What's he doing?

JUNIOR
We can't be late yanno.

48 **INT. PARKCROFT COMMUNITY CENTRE - IT ROOM - DAY**

48

Bishop digs through the cupboard.

CHRIS
You good?

Bishop is startled. Bangs his head on a box above him. Its contents tumble down. Chris rushes over to help.

BISHOP
-Yeah. Fine. Left my keys here
somewhere.

Bishop spots the corner of the Sports bag. Tries to pack the fallen box quick enough to prevent Chris coming closer.

CHRIS
You thought about my offer?

BISHOP
(quickly)
No. I... Not-

Bishop stuffs the bag in his coat.

BISHOP (CONT'D)
I have to go.

Bishop leaves quickly.

49 **OMITTED** 49

50 **EXT. BOW - DAY** 50

The cab arrives. Dane, Bayo, Kai and Junior load the equipment into the boot. Bishop runs towards them. Sports bag flung across his body.

DANE
Bro. What took so long?

They pile into the cab.

51 **INT. CAB - EVENING** 51

Junior pulls out the CD of their track.

JUNIOR
(to driver)
Do you mind?

Driver shrugs. Junior puts the CD in. Turns to Bayo.

JUNIOR (CONT'D)
Come on every second of practice counts.

BAYO
You're like that stage mum from that film. What was-

JUNIOR
-Whatever. 5, 6, 7, 8.

They all laugh. Kai and Bayo are spitting. By now the others know enough of the lyrics to stab and adlib. The energy climbs. Driver nods along. Impressed.

DRIVER
You know what, I picked a real posh looking fella up yesterday. Said he was a big deal in music. Looking for the next big thing apparently. Gave me his card. Here.

Driver hands out his business card.

DRIVER (CONT'D)
Give him a call.

The boys eyes light up. Excitedly. Driver turns the music back up. The boys are pumped. They all look over the cards with glee: "Dillon O'Brien - A&R".

52

INT. PARTY - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

52

The boys sit alone in a living room. Balloons hang from every corner. They sip strawberry lemonade from plastic cups.

TANIKA (O.S.)
No one's coming!

TANIKA'S MUM (O.S.)
They'll be here.

TANIKA (O.S.)
I told you no one goes to parties
on a weekday!

TANIKA'S MUM (O.S.)
It's the summer holiday! And, it's
the only day your brother could
supervise, since you wouldn't let
me stay. I don't know why. I'm a-

TANIKA (O.S.)
-Just cause you were a teen mum,
doesn't automatically make you
cool.

-Tanika storms up the steps. Tanika's mum enters the living
room. The boys hover awkwardly in the overly decorated space.

TANIKA'S MUM
Can I get you boys something to
eat?

They shake their heads. An appreciative no. Tanika's mum
smiles hard at them. Unsure what to do with herself.

TANIKA'S MUM (CONT'D)
Right.

Tanika's mum straightens a banner. Puts out more cups.
Adjusts the baby pictures of Tanika that she has put on
display.

TANIKA (O.S.)
And take those pictures down!

TANIKA'S MUM
I will do no such thing.

Tanika wails dramatically.

TANIKA (O.S.)
I'm not a baby. This party's so
embarrassing.

TANIKA'S MUM
(marching out of the room)
Tanika Marie you stop it right now
and come downstairs and entertain
your friends.

TANIKA (O.S.)
They're not my friends!

Bayo lets the laugh he's been holding in out. Strawberry lemonade escapes through his nose. The laugh is infectious. Their shoulders roll and temples bulge with suppressed laughter.

KAI

Nah. This is dead fam.

Bishop wraps the rope to the Sports bag around his finger several times.

53

INT. PARTY - EVENING

53

The doorbell rings. Friends 1 and 2 arrive. Slowly, the crowd starts milling in. Tanika appears from her pit of wallow.

TANIKA

Hiiiiii!

Tanika greets her guests and the boys with warmth and charm. The boys look at each other baffled. Laugh again. Dane starts to play a few warm up tracks. Tanika quickly clears the pictures her mum put out. Shoves them in a drawer. Tanika's mum appears in the doorway.

TANIKA (CONT'D)

(to Tanika's Mum)

I thought you had gone! He said he's on his way.

Tanika's mum hesitates. Not sure if leaving the party unsupervised would be wise. Tanika's desperate eyes compel her. Or make her too nervous to object- Tanika is one wrong word away from a conniption.

TANIKA'S MUM

(reluctantly)

Fine... Behave yourself-

TANIKA

(barely listening)

-Yes mum!

Tanika's mum rolls her eyes. Tanika almost pushes her out the living room door. Tanika hears the front door shut. A mischievous smile spreads across Tanika's face.

54

OMITTED

54

55

INT. PARTY - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

55

The party turns into a roaring success. Shystie takes the mic. Dane and Bishop are an amazing tag team on the decks. Though Bishop checks the time and tightens his grip on the sports bag often. Junior has a brilliant, intoxicated time. Kai and Bayo steal the show. Pull ups are demanded. Wheel ups are insisted on. Reloads, requests are roared. The ceiling is banged. People sweat in the middle. Kai is too enthralled by the attention to worry about Junior accepting every drink offered to him and insisting every shot is doubled.

Spliffs are billed on the balcony. Lips are kissed in dark corners. Bayo finds an abandoned disposable camera. Takes a selfie of Gladiator Crew.

56

INT. PARTY - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

56

Dane puts on another record. Bishop checks the time. 10.30pm.

BISHOP
(to Junior)
Let's bounce.

JUNIOR
(to Tanika)
We're gonna bounce.

TANIKA
(tipsy)
Please. One more.

Friend 1 puts a CD in the hi-fi.

JUNIOR
We already played an extra half
hour-

-Tanika screams with excitement as "C'est La Vie" by
B*Witched plays. Tanika and a few girls drunkenly perform a
dance they learned in school.

BISHOP
(anxious)
Where's Kai?

DANE
I'll find him.

57 **INT. PARTY - UPSTAIRS - NIGHT**

57

FRIEND 2 and SISTER sing along to the music coming through
the bedroom floor. Kai sips a drink by the window.

SISTER
(to Kai)
You should put my name in a song.

KAI
Yeah?

Kai enjoys the small dose of fame.

SISTER
Yeah. Shai. Kai. We rhyme. Lady
Krusher K... Sounds good right?

Sister turns Kai around. Kisses him. Kai kisses her back.

58 **OMITTED**

58

59 **INT. PARTY - KITCHEN/CORRIDORS/UPSTAIRS - NIGHT** 59

Dane searches the party for Kai. Two girls sit on the floor in the kitchen eating chicken and rice. Pouring their hearts out. Heads still sore from Auntie Maame's braids. Dane opens the toilet door on a couple arguing.

COUPLE

Go away!

Dane quickly shuts the door. Dane steps over people lining the stairs.

60 **INT. PARTY - NIGHT** 60

Bishop waits at the door. Anxious. Genevieve enters the party. She is in a large coat. She looks a little tired. Her eyes a little yellow. She tries to avoid the kisses and hugs of guests excited to see her. Covers her nose and mouth as she passes a coughing reveller.

TANIKA

Gen!! You made it?
(gesturing haphazardly)
Fling your coat over there.

Tanika runs over to Genevieve. Throws her arms around her.

GENEVIEVE

(pulling her coat tight.
Feeling a chill)
In a bit. You twis' up init?

TANIKA

No... Shhhh. So glad you could come
in the end.

GENEVIEVE

Of course.

Genevieve coughs.

TANIKA

(concerned)
You ok?

GENEVIEVE

(deflecting)
Yeah man. I'm good. Here. Mum's rum
punch.

Genevieve hands Tanika a bottle.

TANIKA
You've always been my favourite
cousin. Come dance with me?

GENEVIEVE
Just gonna get some water.

61 **INT. PARTY - UPSTAIRS - NIGHT**

61

Dane opens a bedroom door. Spots Kai with Sister and Friend 2

DANE
Yo. We're going.

Kai thinks. A plan. Maybe a glint of menace. Turns to Sister.

KAI
One second.

Kai hurries out of the room. Takes Dane with him. Pulls the door behind him.

KAI (CONT'D)
I need you to wingman me.

DANE
What? We have to lave.

KAI
Please. She's on it but her
bredrin's blocking. Ten minutes.
Come man.

Dane groans. Relents.

62 **INT. PARTY - BEDROOM - NIGHT**

62

Kai and Sister kiss. Friend 2 watches. Jealous. Hoping Dane will be inspired.

FRIEND 2
Why don't you take your coat off?

DANE
I'm good thank you.

Dane looks at his watch. Stares Kai down. Kai closes his eyes to avoid the distraction. Friend wrangles Dane out of his jacket.

FRIEND 2
See. That's better.

63

INT. PARTY - DOWNSTAIRS - NIGHT

63

The other boys are gathered by the door.

BISHOP

Taxi will be here in 5. Where them man?

JUNIOR

Dane went to get Kai. They're coming.

Bayo opens the door. Steps out on to the landing. Sees...

... Stefan heads towards the party with his boys.

BAYO

Oh... No.

Bayo backs back into the party.

BISHOP

What?

BAYO

That guy from the rave.

The others step out.

BAYO (CONT'D)

No. Don't-

-They rush back in at the sight of Stefan.

BAYO (CONT'D)

Did he see us?

64

INT. PARTY - BEDROOM - NIGHT

64

Genevieve knocks. Opens the door. Sees Sister with Kai. Scoffs. Shakes her head. Genevieve raises an eyebrow at Kai. Kai is a little embarrassed. Feels condescended to by Genevieve's reaction.

SISTER

Cuz!

Sister jumps up to greet Genevieve. It takes Genevieve a moment to process the scene of Dane with Friend 2. It takes Dane a moment to recognise Genevieve. He instinctively smiles at the sight of her. The look on her face wipes the smile off Dane's face. Dane looks at the scene around him.

DANE

Oh no no no. I swear-

-Gen's face cracks. She holds it together. Kai instantly feels regret.

65 **INT. PARTY - DOWNSTAIRS - NIGHT**

65

Junior peeks out of the front door. Stefan and his friends squint. Trying to decipher the familiar faces that just flashed before them. Up their pace.

JUNIOR

Shit.

Bishop checks the time. 10.40pm. Exhales.

JUNIOR (CONT'D)

Shit. Shit. Shit. Come.

Junior isn't sure which direction to go. Heads upstairs. The boys follow. They pass Genevieve on the stairs. Dane races past them.

DANE

(to Genevieve)

Wait. I can-

JUNIOR

(grabbing Dane)

-Come on. We have to-

-Dane shakes himself free. Almost runs straight into Stefan. Does a sharp U-Turn.

DANE

Go. Go. Go.

BAYO

(sarcastically)

Erm. Yes. We are going. We were, in fact, trying to tell you.

Stefan and his boys stumble over all the bodies on the stairs. Their fall buys the boys precious seconds.

STEFAN

(to the trampled guests)

Move man.

66 **INT. PARTY - BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS**

66

The boys shut the door behind them. Lean against it.

SISTER

(looking at all the boys
gathered in her room)

Erm. I don't think so. I'm not that kind of girl.

DANE

(to Kai)

Them man from the rave.

KAI

Who?

A look of realisation hits Kai's face. Then confusion. Kai looks to the stack of pictures next to Sister's bed. He sees what looks like a young Stefan with an arm around a young Sister and Tanika.

KAI (CONT'D)

Shit.

(pointing to the picture
of what looks like a
young Stefan)

Who's this?

Stefan and his boys beat the door. The boys lean their weight against it.

STEFAN (O.S.)

I'm gonna fuck you man up.

SISTER

My brother.

DANE

Oh shit.

Kai rushes over to the window. Assesses the drop. Looks back at the boys. They shake their heads.

KAI

We don't have a choice.

Kai opens the curtain wide. The boys get ready-

BAYO

-You can't be serious.

Kai listens for the well timed thuds against the door. Times it perfectly, a moment before the next one.

KAI

I'm gone.

The boys race from the door. The door flies in. Stefan and his boys tumble on top of each other. Kai, Dane, Bayo and Junior clamour out the window. Bishop is last. He is half way out. Stefan grabs him by his coat. The others pull Bishop free. The rope for the Sports bag snaps. Bishop falls to the ground hard. They all look up to the window. Relieved. Free. Bishop sees the Sports bag in Stefan's hand. Pats his body to be sure it's gone. It is.

DANE

Come on.

Dane pulls the boys up.

BISHOP

My bag.

BAYO

Forget that. Let's go.

BISHOP

My...

Bishop is dragged away. He looks back longingly at his bag. Down at the phone vibrating incessantly. Donnie calls. It's 11.11pm.

67

EXT. EAST LONDON - NIGHT

67

The boys race round corners. Through unfamiliar alleys. Turn on their heels at dead ends. Drag stragglers. Hide behind a shed in a dark garden.

STEFAN (O.S.)

They went that way.

Bayo tries to catch his breath. Pushes slowly on his asthma pump. The enemy footsteps fade. Relief.

BISHOP

I have to go back.

JUNIOR

What?

BISHOP

My bag.

KAI

Bruv.

BISHOP

I need it.

KAI

You're on your own.

Kai catches Dane's eye.

KAI (CONT'D)

I mean...

BISHOP

It's Donnie's.

The boys turn to Bishop in shock and confusion-

-The garden light comes on. The door opens. A dog bounces into the garden to relieve itself. Bayo is scared of dogs. Bishop anticipates his reaction. Puts a calming hand on Bayo. Girl notices the boys.

GIRL

Mum!! There are boys in our garden.

Lights flicker through the house.

GIRL (CONT'D)

Get them Terror. Get them boy.

The boys scramble on top and behind one another. Run. Leaving the sound of barks and growls behind them. Bayo loses a trainer in the escape.

68

EXT. EAST LONDON - NIGHT

68

The boys creep quietly through alleyways. Checking round corners and over their shoulders. They're lost.

JUNIOR

(whispered, to Bishop)

You messed up-

BAYO

-I think he knows that.

JUNIOR

Big time.

DANE

I think it's this way.

BAYO

J.

JUNIOR

I'm just saying...

(to Bishop)

Why would you even get involved in that? Shotting? For *Donnie*? I mean, for anyone is bad enough, but *Donnie*? Owing a man like *Donnie*...

KAI

(to Dane)

We've been past here before.

BISHOP

Maybe if I just explain it to him.

KAI

Who is this guy?

BISHOP (CONT'D)

(across)

If I tell him that...

... Bishop waits for the others to fill in the blanks. They don't.

BISHOP (CONT'D)

If I tell him the truth?...

DANE

And put yourself in the middle of beef between *Donnie* and them man?

BISHOP

Ok... So... I tell him I lost it?

KAI

He'll believe you?

BISHOP

He trusts me... He likes me.

JUNIOR

He liked his cousin too.

BISHOP

(snapping, nerves rising)

That was a rumour.

Kai hasn't heard this story before.

DANE

(to Kai)

Apparently, he shanked his cousin
over some... I don't even know.
That ain't even our world like
that.

JUNIOR

It wasn't.

Bayo shakes his head at Junior. They turn a corner. Stefan's shadowy figure is at the end of the alley.

KAI

Shit.

They turn to run. The other end of the alley is quickly darkened by the shadow of Stefan's friends. Our boys panic. Their eyes dart. Their eyes land on the silhouette of the bats and poles swinging alongside Stefan and his friends. They charge towards our boys. They turn. Run back the way they came. A car pulls up. Blocking their last escape route. They're blinded by the headlights. Dane trips. Stefan and his boys surround him. Junior looks back.

JUNIOR

Dane!

Bishop and Bayo. Junior, Bayo and Bishop turn back to Dane. Kai looks back. Hesitates. Jumps over a fence. Stefan raises a bat over his head.

GENEVIEVE (O.C.)

Stef don't!

Stefan doesn't hear her. Genevieve jumps out of the car. The headlights turn off. Tanika is revealed in the drivers' seat. Genevieve steps out of the car. Tanika follows. Goes to run to intervene. Slows. Stops. Breathless. Leans against a wall. Tanika turns back to see Genevieve. Genevieve's eyes panic.

TANIKA

Gen?

TANIKA (CONT'D)
(screams, to Stefan)
Stef!

Stefan stops mid swing. Looks over to Genevieve. Genevieve folds towards the floor. Stefan drops the bat. Races towards Genevieve. Dane looks at Genevieve confused. Tries to go to her. Stefan's friend pushes him away. Hard. Dane spots Kai peering from his hiding place. The chaos of it all too much for him to process. Dane shakes off everything else. Focuses on Genevieve. Helpless.

STEFAN

(to friend)
Call an ambulance.

DANE

What's wrong with her? Gen!

Tanika runs to get water from the car. Pours it into Genevieve's mouth. Genevieve puts up a weak and failing fight to do it herself. Genevieve sees the eyes on her. Locks eyes with a scared Dane. She's embarrassed. Angry at her body, at them all.

GENEVIEVE

(to Tanika, quietly)
Take me hospital.

STEFAN

You know they'll make you wait hours.

(to friend)
Have you called-

GENEVIEVE

(avoiding eye contact with the crowd)
-No. Take me.

Stefan wraps Genevieve in his jacket. Tries to help her up. Every touch is agony. Genevieve bats him away. Anger, frustration and embarrassment brewing to form tears. She tries to crawl to the car. Stefan loses patience. Scoops Genevieve up. Genevieve groans to swallow the wails of pain. Stefan apologises with every touch and step. Bundles Genevieve into Tanika's car.

STEFAN

(to Tanika)
Drive. Come on.

Tanika and Stefan zoom away with Genevieve. Dane is left dumbfounded.