

# Patterdale

By  
Paul Jones


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1 x 45' Drama for BBC Radio 4

**CHARACTERS**  
**(in order of appearance)**

TOMMY ..... Oscar Tyndall  
SOPHIE ..... Gillian Kearney  
NAN ..... Eithne Browne  
EMILY ..... Nancie Thomas  
CULLY ..... Harley Harrison  
SMIGGER ..... Sonny Lackey  
GRANDAD ..... Neil Caple  
DAVID ..... Liam Tobin  
THOMAS/ OLD MAN/ JUDGE ..... Paul Duckworth  
MISS MILLICAN/ POLICEWOMAN/ JULIE ..... Keddy Sutton

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|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Producer:               | Pauline Harris  |
| Production Coordinator: | Lorna Newman  |
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| Technical Team:         | Sharon Hughes & Simon Highfield   |
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| TP:                     | Sharon Hughes & Simon Highfield   |
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Audio Drama North, BBC Production

1    **SCENE 1**

2    **EXT. ALLERTON ROAD. 11:45AM**

3    **FX: TOMMY RUNNING FAST ON PAVEMENTS. FAST**  
4    **BREATHING. LIGHT TRAFFIC. CAR HORN BEEPS.**

5

6    **TOMMY:**            (V.O.) When I get to my nan's house I'm going to  
7                            have egg and chips-

8    **SOPHIE:**            *(OFF) Tommy!*

9    **TOMMY:**            -my nan does the best eggs my mum used to burn  
10                          them all crispy underneath like a (barbecue all black  
11                          and crispy)

12

13   **FX: EGGS FRYING/ (OFF) NAT KING COLE'S 'AUTUMN**  
14   **LEAVES PLAYS.'**

15

16   **NAN:**                *(OFF) Never does anything right, your mother, Tommy,*  
17                            *uses too much oil, wants everything yesterday, no*  
18                            *talking to her-*

19

20   **FX: TOMMY GETTING TEARFUL.**

21

22   **NAN:**                *Eh. Come on, don't upset yourself...*

23

24   **FX: NAN'S SPEECH IS OVERTAKEN BY SOPHIE'S**  
25   **NOKIA PHONE RINGING.**

1 **SCENE 2**

2 INT. DAVID AND SOPHIE'S HOUSE. 11:40AM

3 **FX: SOPHIE'S NOKIA PHONE RINGS. (OFF) WASHING**  
4 **MACHINE SPINS.**

6     *SOPHIE:*                      *Hello? Sophie speaking.*

7     **TOMMY:**                (V.O.) I thought it was my mum ringing to say she  
8                                couldn't come again. She always says that, and it  
9                                doesn't even bother me. As if. I'm not a baby. I can  
10                               look after myself-

11 SOPHIE: (LOW) Can you just hold on a minute, please?

13 **FX: WASHING MACHINE SOUND AS SOPHIE ENTERS**  
14 **KITCHEN AND CLOSES DOOR HALF OVER.**

16 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) Sophie took the phone in the kitchen like a  
17 **spy.**

18     *EMILY:*             *Never mind, Tommy. We can always go the park.*

19 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) Emily was upside down in the armchair,  
20 little only messing Converse bouncing up and  
21 down.

22     *EMILY:*                     *We can.. we can...*

23 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) Hands out by her sides, explaining.

24     EMILY:                (Overexcited) We can go on the swings!

1 **FX: KIDS PLAYING IN SWING PARK.**

2

3 *EMILY: Higher, Tommy! Higher!*

4 **TOMMY:** (V.O.) If anyone says anything about her teeth  
5 again, like Cully and Smigger making her cry,  
6

7 **SCENE 2B**

8 **EXT. SCHOOL PLAYGROUND. 10:30AM**

9 **FX: KIDS PLAYING. SHOES ON GRAVEL.**

10

11 *EMILY: (Upset) I am, it's true, I promise. I'm going to get a*  
12 *bouncy castle for my birthday. My dad said I could.*

13 *CULLY: No, you're not.*

14 *EMILY: Yes, I am Cully. Actually!*

15 *SMIGGER: She'll probably burst it with your teeth.*  
16

17 **FX: CULLY LAUGHING.**

18

19 *EMILY: (Through tears) No, I won't!*

20 *CULLY: Yeah, you will, ya goofy little cow.*  
21

22 **FX: EMILY STARTS CRYING. OTHER KIDS START**  
23 **LAUGHING AND CHANTING 'EMILY'S CRYING,**

1                                **EMILY'S CRYING.' BROKEN UP BY TEACHER**  
2                                **BLOWING SCHOOL WHISTLE.**

3

4    **SCENE 2 (CONT'D.)**

5    **TOMMY:**                    I'll put them on the floor, I swear down. I'm gonna-

6    *GRANDAD:*                *Give him a right-hander, Tommy.*

7    **TOMMY:**                    (CLOSE) Like my grandy told me-

8

9    **FX:                                TOMMY HITTING PUNCHBAG.**

10

11   *TOMMY:*                    *Then it won't just be a punchbag that gets hit.*

12

13   **FX:                                TOMMY HITS PUNCHBAG AGAIN.**

14

15   *GRANDAD:*                *Harder!*

16

17   **FX:                                TOMMY HITS PUNCHBAG AGAIN.**

18

19   *GRANDAD:*                *Harder, Tommy!*

20

21   **FX:                                TOMMY BREATHING HEAVILY.**

22

1 **TOMMY:** Then they won't be so full of themselves, thinking  
2 they're dead hard with their mates, showing off-

3

4 **FX: YOUNG BOYS JEERING.**

5

6 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) But Sophie's on the phone for ages so I  
7 look 'round the kitchen door-

8

9 **FX: WASHING MACHINE HUM.**

10

11 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) See her leaning on the worktop.

12 **SOPHIE:** *God, that's awful.*

13 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) hand over her eyes like the sun's coming  
14 down-

15 **SOPHIE:** *Who found her?*

16 **TOMMY:** (OFF) Sophie?

17 **SOPHIE:** *No, I'll wait until David gets back.*

18 **TOMMY:** (OFF) Sophie, what's happened?

19 **SOPHIE:** *We'll tell him together.*

20 **TOMMY:** I run out of the house.

21

22 **FX: TOMMY OPENING FRONT DOOR.**

23

24 **EMILY:** *Tommy? Where are you goin'- Mum!*

1 **FX: TOMMY RUNNING. LIGHT TRAFFIC.**

2

3 **EMILY:** *(OFF) Mum, quick! Tommy's gone out!*

4

5 **FX: LIGHT TRAFFIC.**

6

7 **SOPHIE:** *(OFF) Tommy!*

8 **TOMMY:** **(V.O.) When I get to my nan's house I'm going to**  
9 **have egg and chips-**

10 **SOPHIE:** *(OFF) Tommy!*

11 **TOMMY:** **-my nan does the best eggs my mum used to burn**  
12 **them all crispy underneath like a-**

13

14 **SCENE 3**

15 **INT. NAN AND GRANDAD'S KITCHEN. 5PM**

16 **FX: EGGS FRYING IN PAN/NAT KING COLE'S 'AUTUMN**  
17 **LEAVES (OFF).**

18

19 **NAN:** *(OFF) Never does anything right, your mother, Tommy,*  
20 *uses too much oil, wants everything yesterday, no*  
21 *talking to her-*

22

23 **FX: TOMMY GETTING TEARFUL.**

24

1    **NAN:**                                *Eh. Come on, don't upset yourself...now, the best way*  
2    *to cook them-*

3    **TOMMY:**                            **(CLOSE) Said-**

4    **NAN:**                                *The best way to cook them, are you listening, Tommy?*

5    **TOMMY:**                            *Yes, nan.*

6    **NAN:**                                *You're looking out the window.*

7    **TOMMY:**                            *I'm not.*

8    **NAN:**                                *Talk to the bloody wall.*

9    **TOMMY:**                            *I'm listening, nan. I promise.*

10   **NAN:**                                *Put a tiny bit of oil in the pan, put it on a low heat and*  
11    *crack your egg in, even when the oil's still cold. Have*  
12    *you got that?*

13   **TOMMY:**                            **(CLOSE) She does proper chips as well.**

14   **NAN:**                                *Are you listening?*

15

16   **FX:                                        CHIPS EMPTIED INTO CHIP PAN.**

17

18   **TOMMY:**                            **(CLOSE) In a chip pan. All brown and crinkly with**  
19    **loads of salt and vinegar, not crappy oven chips like**  
20    **David and Sophie.**

21   **SOPHIE:**                            *Not too much salt, Tommy.*

22   **DAVID:**                            *Not too much salt.*

23   **TOMMY:**                            **(CLOSE) When I first moved in with them and Emily**  
24    **last year, I couldn't stand them. I wrote about it in**  
25    **the back of my English book.**



1    **SCENE 4**

2    **INT. TOMMY'S BEDROOM AT DAVID & SOPHIE'S HOUSE. 10AM**

3    **FX: (OFF) QUEEN PLAYING IN EMILY'S ROOM. SOUND**  
4    **OF TOMMY'S PEN ON PAPER.**

5

6    **TOMMY: (LOW) I hate this family they think they're dead**  
7    **posh and their food's all weird and it's nothing like**  
8    **me nan's house on Patterdale Road.**

9

10   **FX: EMILY KNOCKING ON TOMMY'S DOOR.**

11

12   **EMILY: (OFF) Tommy?**

13   **TOMMY: Go away! I'm busy.**

14   **EMILY: (OFF) I've done you a picture!**

15   **TOMMY: I don't want it!**

16   **EMILY: (OFF) I'll slide it under the door!**

17   **TOMMY: (CLOSE) And she's done me this drawing of the**  
18   **house, Emily-**

19   **EMILY: Tell me if you like it!**

20   **TOMMY: With her and David and Sophie in the garden with**  
21   **me in the middle and a big, massive dog that they**  
22   **haven't even got-**

23   **EMILY: (OFF) There's a box for yes and a box for no, just tick**  
24   **which one-**

25

1 **FX: TOMMY OPENING HIS BEDROOM DOOR AND**  
2 **RIPPING UP EMILY'S PICTURE.**  
3  
4 **TOMMY: (CLOSE) So I tore it up and told her I said-**  
5 *I don't want anything to do with your stupid bloody*  
6 *family!*  
7  
8 **FX: EMILY BURSTS INTO TEARS AND LOCKS**  
9 **HERSELF IN BATHROOM. TAPS RUNNING.**  
10  
11 **TOMMY: (CLOSE) And she ran in the bathroom with the taps**  
12 **all on to keep her tears quiet.**  
13 *DAVID: (OFF) Someone running a bath up there?*  
14  
15 **FX: TOMMY KNOCKS ON BATHROOM DOOR.**  
16  
17 *TOMMY: (LOW) I'm sorry Emily, I didn't mean it.*  
18 *DAVID: (OFF) Emily?*  
19  
20 **FX: TOMMY KNOCKS ON BATHROOM DOOR.**  
21  
22 *TOMMY: (LOW) Emily, I'm sorry.*  
23 *SOPHIE: (OFF/Walking upstairs) What's happening you two?*  
24 *TOMMY: (Calling downstairs) Nothing, we're fine!*

1    *SOPHIE:*                    *(OFF/Walking upstairs) What's happened?*

2    *TOMMY:*                  *Nothing!*

3

4    **FX:                    SOPHIE KNOCKS ON BATHROOM DOOR.**

5

6    *SOPHIE:*                  *Emily?*

7

8    **FX:                    SOPHIE KNOCKS AGAIN.**

9

10   *SOPHIE:*                  *Emily, are you okay, darling?*

11   *EMILY:*                   *(OFF/Not okay) Yeah!*

12   *DAVID:*                  *(OFF) Everything okay up there, Sophie?*

13   *SOPHIE:*                  *(Calling downstairs) I'm dealing with it, thank you,*

14                                 *David! (Mutters) Like I always bloody do.*

15   *TOMMY:*                  *I'm sorry, Emily.*

16

17   **FX:                    TAPS TURNED OFF. BATHROOM DOOR**

18                                 **UNLOCKED.**

19

20   *SOPHIE:*                  *There, there.*

21

22   **FX:                    EMILY SNIFFLING.**

23

1 TOMMY: *I'm really sorry.*  
2 SOPHIE: *Come on, you two. Play nice.*  
3 DAVID: *(OFF) Everything okay?*  
4 SOPHIE: *(LOW) For God's sake.*  
5 TOMMY: *(CLOSE) Rolls her eyes like she wants to fill him in.*  
6 SOPHIE: *(Calling downstairs) I said, 'I'm dealing with it!'... (to*  
7 *Emily) are you okay, darling?*  
8 EMILY: *(Sniffing) Yeah.*  
9 SOPHIE: *I don't like it when you fall out.*

10

11 **SCENE 5**

12 **EXT. ALLERTON ROAD. 11:50AM**

13 **FX: HEAVY TRAFFIC/TOMMY RUNNING.**

14

15 **TOMMY:** **(V.O.) I go fast past the library where Emily does her**  
16 **homework, my lungs are dead prickly-**

17 **THOMAS:** **(OFF) Big issue!**

18

19 **FX: PELICAN CROSSING BEEPS.**

20

21 **TOMMY:** **(V.O.) And this old feller says, he says-**

22 **OLD MAN:** **Who do you think you are kid? Billy Whizz?**

23

1 **TOMMY:** (V.O.) So I catch my breath and breathe and nod and  
2 run when there's a gap in the cars-  
3  
4 **FX: CARS BEEPS THEIR HORNS.**  
5  
6 **TOMMY:** (V.O.) I'm boss at crossing roads-  
7 **OLD MAN:** Bloody idiot!  
8 **TOMMY:** (V.O.) I could well be a lollipop man showing all the  
9 little ones how to cross safely-  
10 **FX: SMALL CHILDREN CHATTER.**  
11  
12 **TOMMY:** This way kiddywinks.  
13  
14 **FX: (OFF) RACING CAR APPROACHING.**  
15  
16 **TOMMY:** (V.O.) And if any cars carry on without stopping-  
17  
18 **FX: RACING CAR ZOOMS PAST.**  
19  
20 **TOMMY:** (V.O.) I'll pick up my stick like in Zulu what I saw  
21 with my grandy and run at them dead fast-  
22  
23 **FX: ZULU WAR CRY.**  
24

1    **SCENE 6**

2    **INT. NAN AND GRANDAD'S LIVING ROOM. 10AM**

3    **FX: (OFF) NAT KING COLE 'LET'S FACE THE MUSIC**  
4                                   **AND DANCE' PLAYING. NAN HOOVERING.**  
5                                   **HOOVER TURNED OFF.**

6  
7    **NAN:**                       *Get out from under my feet, will you?*

8    **TOMMY:**                   **(CLOSE) We used to go all the charity shops, me**  
9                                   **and grandy at the weekend when me mum wasn't**  
10                                  **well.**

11  
12   **SCENE 7**

13   **INT. CHARITY SHOP, ALLERTON ROAD. 11AM.**

14   **FX: SHOP DOOR BELL RINGS.**

15  
16   **TOMMY:**                   *Grandy! They've got Monsters Inc!*

17   **GRANDAD:**               *How much?*

18   **TOMMY:**                   *Two quid.*

19   **GRANDAD:**               *Two quid?! Robbing get.*

20   **TOMMY:**                   *Can I get it?*

21   **GRANDAD:**               *Oh, ay!*

22   **TOMMY:**                   *Can I?*

23   **GRANDAD:**               *Supposed to be a bleeding charity shop.*

24   **TOMMY:**                   *Ah, go 'ed, Grandy.*

1    **GRANDAD:**                    *(Reluctant) Go on, then.*  
2    **TOMMY:**                    *Yes!*  
3                                    **(CLOSE) Big hug around his waist.**  
4                                    *Thanks, Grandy!*  
5    **GRANDAD:**                    *Don't be creeping. Eh? See if there's any Catherine*  
6                                    *Cooksons there for your nan, lad. Keep her off my back.*

7

8    **FX: CASH TILL SPRINGS OPEN.**

9

10   **TOMMY:**                    **(V.O.) Then we'd go the café for bacon butties-**

11

12   **SCENE 8**

13   **INT. GREASY SPOON CAFÉ. SMITHDOWN ROAD. 11:30AM**

14   **FX: CUTLERY ON PLATES/COFFE MACHINE/HEAVY**  
15                                    **TRAFFIC (OFF).**

16

17   **TOMMY:**                    *You've got brown sauce on your lip, grandy.*

18   **GRANDAD:**                    *I'm saving that for later.*

19   **TOMMY:**                    **(CLOSE) He's better than my mum, she's useless, I**  
20                                    **said to David and Sophie, I said-**

21

22

23

24

1    **SCENE 9**

2    **INT. DAVID & SOPHIE'S KITCHEN. 12PM**

3    **FX: \_\_\_\_\_ (OFF) CBEEBIES ON IN LIVING ROOM.**

4

5    *TOMMY:                    I don't care, it's fine. We don't have to wait for her, she's*  
6                                *not coming anyway-*

7    *DAVID:                    Best to be ready, Tom.*

8    *SOPHIE:                  Just in case.*

9    **TOMMY:                  (CLOSE) And then twelve o'clock comes and I'm**  
10                               **sitting there watching Cbeebies like a nobhead it**  
11                               **was already on, I'm not five.**

12   *SOPHIE:                  (OFF) Garden's looking nice, David.*

13   *DAVID:                    (OFF) Thanks, Soph.*

14   *SOPHIE:                  (OFF) Ee.*

15   *DAVID:                    (OFF) What?*

16   *SOPHIE:                  (OFF) Ee. My name is Soph-EE.*

17   *DAVID:                    (OFF) Okay, okay. What's the matter with you?*

18   *SOPHIE:                  (OFF) What's the matter with me?*

19   *TOMMY:                    (CLOSE) And they know she's not coming but they still*  
20                               *say I've got to wait.*

21   *SOPHIE:                  Just in case.*

22

23   **FX: \_\_\_\_\_ (OFF) SOPHIE UPSET.**



1 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) Get this. Once I heard David in the kitchen  
2 saying my mum was-

3 *DAVID:* (OFF) A waste of bloody space-

4 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) And-

5 *DAVID:* (OFF) How many times have we got to put him through  
6 this?

7 *SOPHIE:* (OFF/Crying) I don't know. I don't know.

8 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) Hear David go out the back garden and  
9 after a bit he comes back into the living room, says-

10 *DAVID:* Tom, can you give me a hand with something?

11 *TOMMY:* What is it?

12 *DAVID:* I'm just going to dig over some of the borders...

13

14 **FX:** **TOMMY SIGHING.**

15

16 *DAVID:* Get it ready for planting, I could do with a hand if you're  
17 not-

18 *TOMMY:* Can't I watch telly?

19 *SOPHIE:* (OFF) No, you can't. Rots your brain.

20 *TOMMY:* Rots your brain, more like!

21 *SOPHIE:* (OFF) Less of that!

22 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) Sophie watches Love Island when she  
23 thinks we're asleep. I can hear it downstairs.

24

1 **FX: (OFF) LOVE ISLAND THEME TUNE.**

2

3 *DAVID: Tom?*

4 *TOMMY: What?!*

5 *DAVID: Could you give-*

6

7 **FX: TOMMY LETS OUT AN EXASPERATED SIGH.**

8

9 *TOMMY: Alright!*

10

11 **FX: (OFF) LAWNMOWER IN NEXT GARDEN.**

12 **BIRDSONG.**

13

14 *SOPHIE: You'll have to get changed first.*

15 *DAVID: He'll be okay.*

16 *SOPHIE: I don't want you walking in mud all over my nice clean*

17 *floor. I've only just mopped it.*

18 *TOMMY: Just mop it again. I'll do it for you if you want.*

19 *SOPHIE: Oh, will you now?*

20 **TOMMY: (CLOSE) Both hands on her boob like I've touched**

21 **her heart.**

22 *SOPHIE: Oh, Romeo! Romeo! Wherefore art-*

23

24

1     **TOMMY:**                     *Alright, alright.*

2                                     **(CLOSE)** I put my wellies on to keep her quiet and

3                                     we did the garden, me and David, and after a bit he

4                                     leant on his spade and he said, he said-

5     **DAVID:**                     *Listen, Tom. I know you're only young, but-*

6     **TOMMY:**                     *What?*

7     **DAVID:**                     *I think your mum-*

8     **TOMMY:**                     *What?*

9                                     **(CLOSE)** Half a worm in the soil-

10    **DAVID:**                     *I think your mum should turn up when she's supposed*

11                                     *to, it's not fair.*

12    **TOMMY:**                     **(CLOSE)** I didn't say anything 'cause even though

13                                     he's right and I'm not saying he is, I'm not having

14                                     anyone say a word about my mum 'cause it's got

15                                     frig all to do with them, so I just looked away at the

16                                     roses, little raindrops on their petals, and I told him

17                                     without speaking, I said-

18                                     *(LOW)* You're not allowed to say that.

19                                     **And he stopped.**

20

21    **FX:**                           **HEAVY TRAFFIC/ (OFF) SOPHIE'S NOKIA PHONE**

22                                     **RINGING/EGGS FRYING.**

23

24    **TOMMY:**                     *Nan!*

25    **NAN:**                        *What now?*

1    **TOMMY:**                    *We've got you a Catherine Cookson!*

2    **NAN:**                      *Ooh! Colour Blind! Thanks, love. Haven't read that one!*

3

4    **FX:**                        **SOUND OF TOMMY'S EFFORT AS HE DESTROYS**  
5                                   **PLANTS AND PLANT POTS IN THE GARDEN WITH**  
6                                   **HIS SPADE. OUT OF BREATH. SMASHING THINGS**  
7                                   **UP. UPSET.**

8

9    **SOPHIE:**                 *David! Stop him!*

10   **DAVID:**                  *Tommy?*

11   **SOPHIE:**                 *He's going to hurt himself.*

12   **DAVID:**                 *Tom, you're wrecking the plants.*

13   **SOPHIE:**                 *Tommy, please!*

14

15   **FX:**                        **TOMMY EXHAUSTED/PANTING/BROKEN GIVES**  
16                                   **WAY TO NEAR SILENCE. THE ONLY SOUND IS**  
17                                   **TOMMY'S BREATH AS IT EVENS OUT. GRADUALLY**  
18                                   **HEAVY TRAFFIC AND TOMMY'S FOOTSTEPS AS**  
19                                   **HE RUNS.**

20

21   **TOMMY:**                 **(V.O) There's the Oxfam on the corner where grandy**  
22                                   **got my portable-**

23   **THOMAS:**                *(OFF) Big issue!*

24   **TOMMY:**                 **(V.O.) They put it in my room 'cause I used to stay**  
25                                   **with them when my mum wasn't well.**

1    **SCENE 10**

2    **INT. TOMMY'S BEDROOM AT NAN & GRANDAD'S HOUSE. 2PM.**

3    **FX: (OFF) NAT KING COLE'S 'ROUTE 66' PLAYING.**

4    **FURNITURE POLISH SPRAYED.**

5

6    *NAN:                    There we go.*

7    **TOMMY:                (CLOSE) Nan polishing the screen.**

8    *NAN:                    Good as new.*

9    **TOMMY:                (CLOSE) And he got me a DVD player from the Asda**

10   **with some money he won-**

11   *GRANDAD:              Keep it to yourself, lad. She'll have it spent before it's in*

12   *my hand.*

13   *TOMMY:                Can't we get Netflix?*

14   *GRANDAD:              You'll get what you're given.*

15   *NAN:                    Where did that come from, Jimmy?*

16   *GRANDAD:              Some bloke in the pub.*

17   *NAN:                    (Affronted) Oh, pull the other one, why don't you, it's got*

18   *bells on.*

19   **TOMMY:                (CLOSE) Little wink between me and grandy, we put**

20   **DVDs on the window ledge like a bookshelf, all my**

21   **Pixar movies, I had a blanket that my nan knitted on**

22   **top of my quilt and a picture of my mum when she**

23   **was little on the wall, all cute with a tooth missing,**

24   **and my lamp had a footie player about to kick a ball,**

25   **my grandy got it from the car boot-**

26   *GRANDY:                How much?!*

1 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) And it was better than me room in me  
2 mum's house didn't even have a lamp just the big  
3 light on with no lampshade or nothing and when I  
4 was little me nan called the school to check what  
5 time the nativity was and Miss Millican said-

6 **MISS MILLICAN:** (DISTORT) We haven't seen him all week.

7 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) So they went to me mum's house, me nan  
8 and me grandy-

9

10 **SCENE 11**

11 **EXT. JULIE'S HOUSE. DINGLE. 10AM.**

12 **FX:** (OFF) NAN KNOCKING ON JULIE'S FRONT  
13 **DOOR/JULIE'S TV BLARING BALAMORY**

14

15 **NAN:** (OFF) Julie!

16 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) I was crawling on the floorboards with the  
17 telly on loud.

18

19 **FX:** **NAN KNOCKING HARDER ON JULIE'S FRONT**  
20 **DOOR.**

21

22 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) My grandy was up against the living room  
23 window, his hands round his eyes like he was  
24 holding binoculars

25 **NAN:** (OFF) Is she in there Jimmy?

26 **GRANDAD:** (OFF) She's out for the bloody count!

1 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) He went 'round the side and kicked the  
2 back door in-  
3  
4 **FX:** **(OFF) THREE KICKS OF THE BACK DOOR UNDER**  
5 **THE DIALOGUE BEFORE IT SPLINTERS**  
6 **OPEN/FOUR-YEAR-OLD TOMMY CRYING.**  
7  
8 **FX:** **BALAMORY ON TV.**  
9  
10 **GRANDAD:** (LOW) *Jesus tonight.*  
11  
12 **FX:** **SOUND OF BOTTLES BEING KNOCKED OVER.**  
13  
14 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) And he picked me up and carried me out  
15 and my nan called the ambulance and put her cardie  
16 around me. Took me home, told the school-  
17 **NAN:** (DISTORT) *He's staying with us.*  
18 **GRANDAD:** (DISTORT/OFF) *We'll look after him.*  
19 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) And the social worker said-  
20 **SOCIAL WORKER:** *You'll have to go to court and be made a ward of court.*  
21 **NAN:** *He's not going anywhere. Just 'cause Julie can't cope.*  
22 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) And the judge said-  
23  
24

1 **SCENE 12**

2 **INT. COURTROOM. 9AM**

3 **FX: COURT STENOGRAPHER TYPING. SLIGHT ECHO**  
4 **TO THE JUDGE'S WORDS.**

5

6 **JUDGE:** *How do you think you'll manage with a child at your*  
7 *age?*

8 **GRANDAD:** *I'm as fit as a fiddle, cycle to work every day, haven't*  
9 *driven a car in 20 years, I'd run rings round any of you-*

10 **NAN:** *And anyway-*

11 **TOMMY:** **(CLOSE)** *My nan said-*

12 **NAN:** *It'd break my heart if he's not allowed to live with us-*

13 **TOMMY:** **(CLOSE)** *Got her eyes in her glasses-*

14 **NAN:** *He'll be well looked after.*

15 **TOMMY:** **(CLOSE)** *And the judge said-*

16 **JUDGE:** *Mrs Whelan, with the greatest respect. You're 65 years-*

17 **NAN:** *I'm sixty-bloody-four, thank you!*

18 **JUDGE:** *My apologies. You are... yes, 64, and Mr Whelan is...*  
19 *67-years-old. I have to decide if your home is a safe*  
20 *environment for Tommy to grow up in. Do you underst-*

21 **NAN:** *We've looked after him since he was born.*

22 **JUDGE:** *Mrs Whelan-*

23 **NAN:** *My home is spotless. You could eat your dinner off the-*

24 **JUDGE:** *Mrs Whelan, please.*



1 **FX: COURT STENOGRAPHER TYPING. FAINT SOUND**  
2 **OF KOP SINGING 'ONLY ONE TOMMY WHELAN'**  
3 **BUILDS GRADUALLY.**  
4

5 **JUDGE:** *I understand how emotional this must be for you both.*  
6 *I've read the report from Social Services and I have*  
7 *made my decision... I believe it is in Tommy's best*  
8 *interests that he comes and lives with you and Mr*  
9 *Whelan-*

10 **NAN:** *Oh, thank God for that.*

11 **GRANDAD:** *Thank you, your honour.*

12 **JUDGE:** *But this will be reviewed on a yearly basis.*

13 **NAN:** *Thank you, your honour.*

14 **JUDGE:** *I must warn you, if it's found in the future that Tommy*  
15 *would be better served by being placed-*  
16

17 **FX: KOP DROWN OUT JUDGE SINGING 'ONLY ONE**  
18 **TOMMY WHELAN.**  
19

20 **JUDGE:** *(SHOUTING) Then we will return to court. Is that clear*  
21 *Mrs Whelan?*  
22

23 **FX: KOP SINGING. JUDGE BANGING GAVEL.**  
24

25 **JUDGE:** *Order! Order!*

1 **FX: KOP SINGING. JUDGE BANGING HIS GAVEL.**

2

3 **JUDGE:** *Order in court!*

4

5 **FX: CHEERING/GAVEL BANGING MELTS INTO NAT**  
6 **KING COLE SINGING.**

7

8 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) And he gave me a teddy bear.

9

10 **SCENE 13**

11 **INT. NAN AND GRANDAD'S LIVING ROOM. 6PM.**

12 **FX: NAT KING COLE'S 'MONA LISA' SINGING SOFTLY.**

13

14 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) We used to have our tea 'round the table,  
15 egg and chips, my favourite, and my grandy picked  
16 me up from school on his bike each day-

17

18 **FX: LIGHT TRAFFIC/BIKE BELL RINGS.**

19

20 **GRANDAD:** *Keep your legs tucked in soft lad, you'll have us both in*  
21 *the road.*

22 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) And when I got home my nan made me  
23 toast and-

24 *Can I have some more?*

1    **GRANDAD:**                    *(Mr Bumble-style) More!*

2    **NAN:**                         *You'll have to wait for your tea.*

3    **TOMMY:**                    *How long's that going to be?*

4    **NAN:**                         *How long's a piece of string?*

5    **TOMMY:**                    *Why can't I have more toast?*

6    **NAN:**                         *Because your eyes are bigger than your belly, that's*  
7                                    *why.*

8    **GRANDAD:**                 *Pay no attention, lad. She's no Twiggy herself.*

9    **NAN:**                         *Eh, you!*

10

11   **FX:**                         **NAN SMACKS GRANDAD WITH A ROLLED-UP**  
12                                   **ECHO.**

13

14   **NAN:**                         *You're not too big to go over my knee, Jimmy Whelan.*

15   **GRANDAD:**                 *I've heard about women like you.*

16

17   **FX:**                         **NAN AND GRANDAD LAUGHING.**

18

19   **TOMMY:**                    **(CLOSE) And they laughed like that time we was**  
20                                   **watching the film about the Grand National with**  
21                                   **Elizabeth Taylor-**

22   **GRANDAD:**                 *(LOW) Best ride she ever had.*

23   **NAN:**                         *Jimmy!*

24

1 **FX: LAUGHTER STOPS SUDDENLY. A BEAT, AND**  
2 **THEN HEAVY TRAFFIC.**

3  
4 **SCENE 14**

5 **EXT. ALLERTON ROAD. 12PM.**

6 **FX: TOMMY RUNNING. HEAVY TRAFFIC. CARS BEEP**  
7 **THEIR HORNS.**

8  
9 **TOMMY:** (V.O.) Coming up to the lights by the HSBC, it's  
10 dead busy-

11 **THOMAS:** (OFF) Big issue!

12 **TOMMY:** (V.O.) See Cully and Smigger, the divvies, looking  
13 over, they think they're dead cool with their phones  
14 and their *Nikes*, David said-

15 **DAVID:** *We'll get you a pair for your birthday, Tom.*

16 **TOMMY:** *That's ages away.*

17 **SOPHIE:** *It's only a few weeks.*

18 **TOMMY:** *Why can't I have them now?*

19 **SOPHIE:** *Patience is a virtue, darling.*

20

21 **FX: PEDESTRIAN LIGHTS BEEPING.**

22

23 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) Me and grandy used to cross the road here  
24 before the green man comes, I told my nan not to  
25 grass him up but because I thought it was cool-

1    *NAN:*                                *What's all this about not waiting at the lights?*

2    *GRANDAD:*                        *I've been crossing roads for sixty years, woman.*

3    *NAN:*                                *Have you forgotten what happened with Julie?!*

4

5    **FX:**                                **NAN AND GRANDAD ARGUING BEHIND CLOSED**

6    **DOOR.**

7

8    **TOMMY:**                        **(CLOSE) My nan closed the door, but they wouldn't**

9    **back down neither of them.**

10

11   **FX:**                                **NAN AND GRANDAD ARGUING BEHIND CLOSED**

12    **DOOR (MORE INTENSE).**

13

14   **TOMMY:**                        **(CLOSE) So I went up to my room and watched Big**

15    **which my nan got me.**

16

17   **FX:**                                **(OFF) MUFFLED ARGUING DOWNSTAIRS.**

18

19   **TOMMY:**                        **(CLOSE) Get this, the kid is inside the man's body**

20    **and the man is inside the kid's. I know! My head**

21    **nearly exploded when I saw it.**

22

23

24

25

1 **SCENE 15**

2 **EXT. ALLERTON ROAD. 12PM**

3 **FX: TOMMY RUNNING. HEAVY TRAFFIC. CAR SLAMS**  
4 **ITS BRAKES ON.**

5

6 **DRIVER:** (OFF) Watch where you're going, you bloody idiot!

7 **TOMMY:** (V.O.) I see Cully and Smigger come towards me by  
8 the butcher's so I dip into Rosedale before they can  
9 spot me, as if I couldn't fight them, I'd punch Cully  
10 in the face-

11

12 **FX: CULLY'S FACE PUNCHED/HIS REACTION.**

13

14 **TOMMY:** (V.O.) And jam my elbow into Smigger's head-

15

16 **FX: SMIGGER'S HEAD ELBOWED/HIS REACTION.**

17

18 **TOMMY:** (V.O.) They'd be like-

19 **CULLY/SMIGGER:** We're sorry, we're sorry what we said about your  
20 grandad.

21 **TOMMY:** (V.O.) And I'd be like-

22 Too late to be sorry, now give me your Nikes-

23 **CULLY/SMIGGER:** Ya what?

24 **TOMMY:** You heard.

1 CULLY/SMIGGER: Tommy, please!

2 TOMMY: (Mocking) 'Tommy, please. Tommy, please.' Give me  
3 them now!

4 CULLY/SMIGGER: Tommy, please don't hurt us.

5 TOMMY: Give me them now I said, or so help me God, I will rip  
6 your head off and sh-

7 THOMAS: (OFF) *Big issue!*

8 TOMMY: -down your neck!

9

10 **FX: CULLY AND SMIGGER CRYING.**

11

12 TOMMY: (V.O.) And they'd both start crying and begging me  
13 to-

14

15 **FX: SMIGGERS FOOTSTEPS/TOMMY SUDDENLY**  
16 **WINDED.**

17

18 CULLY: Thought you'd get away from us, did you, ya little rat?

19

20 **FX: TOMMY STRUGGLING. HEAVY TRAFFIC.**

21

22 TOMMY: (CLOSE) Smigger's got his arm pressed tight 'round  
23 my neck.

24 SMIGGER: Stay still, you little tramp.

1 TOMMY: Do one, Smigger.  
2  
3 **FX: TOMMY WINDED AGAIN.**  
4  
5 CULLY: Where's your girlfriend?  
6 TOMMY: Haven't got one.  
7 SMIGGER: Yes, you have.  
8 TOMMY: No, I haven't!  
9 THOMAS: *(OFF) Big issue!*  
10 CULLY: Little buck-teethed blondie and Tommy the orphan!  
11  
12 **FX: CULLY AND SMIGGER LAUGHING/TOMMY**  
13 **STRUGGLING.**  
14  
15 CULLY: Are you getting married, yeah?  
16 TOMMY: Do one Cully.  
17 SMIGGER: His bird looks like Lisa Simpson.  
18 TOMMY: No, she doesn't.  
19 CULLY: What you standing up for her, then?  
20 TOMMY: I'm not.  
21 CULLY: Don't argue, you little tramp.  
22 TOMMY: I'm bloody not, I said.  
23 SMIGGER: 'Cause he loves her, that's why.



1 TOMMY: No, I don't. I hate her. She's stupid.

2 CULLY: Where's your dad, Whelan?

3 TOMMY: (CLOSE) Try to kick him, but I can't. Smigger's arm  
4 squeezing in.

5 CULLY: Oh, that's right. He sells the Big Issue in town, our kid  
6 said.

7

8 **FX: (OFF) CHRISTMAS CAROLS.**

9

10 TOMMY: No, he doesn't.

11 CULLY: Yeah, he does.

12 TOMMY: He doesn't, he's in the army.

13 CULLY: (Laughing) No, he isn't.

14 TOMMY: Yeah, he is! He's in Afghanistan. He dived on a bomb to  
15 save all of his men.

16

17 **FX: CULLY AND SMIGGER LAUGHING.**

18

19 CULLY: That right, yeah?

20 TOMMY: Yeah. They did an operation on him it took 12 hours.

21 SMIGGER: Liar.

22 TOMMY: No, I'm not!

23

24 **FX: HEAVY TRAFFIC.**

1 CULLY: (LOW) Our kid said you're adopted.

2 TOMMY: No, I'm not.

3 SMIGGER: Where's your mum, then?

4 TOMMY: Don't you say a word about my mum!

5 **(CLOSE) Try to kick him.**

6 CULLY: Our kid said she's a prozzy.

7 TOMMY: Your kid's a lying piece of shit!

8

9 **FX: TOMMY WINDED.**

10

11 CULLY: She's a dirty little smackhead.

12 TOMMY: She isn't!

13 GRANDAD: *(OFF) Give him a right-hander, Tommy.*

14 CULLY: He saw her by the Women's getting into some van.

15 TOMMY: No, he never!

16 CULLY: Yeah, he did.

17 THOMAS: *(OFF) Big issue!*

18 GRANDAD: *Harder!*

19

20 **FX: TOMMY HITTING PUNCHBAG.**

21

22 TOMMY: **(CLOSE) Smigger pulls his arm tighter, I can't**

23 **hardly breathe.**

1 SMIGGER: Aah, no way. He's going red!

2

3 **FX: CULLY AND SMIGGER LAUGHING.**

4

5 TOMMY: Get off me!

6 CULLY: You know when we start seniors in September?

7 **TOMMY: (CLOSE) His breath's in me ear.**

8 CULLY: Our kid and his mates, they don't like little tramps like

9 you in their school.

10 *GRANDAD: (OFF) Give him a right-hander.*

11 CULLY: They're gonna stick your head down the bog every day.

12 TOMMY: No, they won't.

13 CULLY: Yeah, they will.

14 SMIGGER: Make you see the blue goldfish.

15 *THOMAS: (OFF) Big issue!*

16

17 **FX: TOMMY HITTING PUNCHBAG.**

18

19 *GRANDAD: (OFF) Harder!*

20 SMIGGER: Stop wriggling you little tramp.

21 *GRANDAD: (OFF) Now, Tommy. What you waiting for?*

22

23 **FX: TOMMY HITTING PUNCHBAG.**

1 CULLY: Little orphan Tommy.

2 SMIGGER: Stop wriggling, ya little rat.

3 GRANDAD: *(OFF) Now!*

4

5 **FX: TOMMY PUNCHES CULLY IN THE FACE. CULLY**  
6 **WHELPS. BLOOD PUMPING IN TOMMY'S EARS.**  
7 **(OFF) HEAVY TRAFFIC.**

8

9 TOMMY: (CLOSE) I punch Cully in the nose, see the blood  
10 through his fingers, Smigger hits me but it's  
11 nothing, like a fly, like a feather and I kick him and I  
12 legit through the traffic like I'm flying-

13

14 **FX: HEAVY TRAFFIC.**

15

16 **SCENE 16**

17 **EXT. CHURCH STREET, LIVERPOOL. 5PM**

18 **FX: CHRISTMAS CAROLS/OFFICE PARTIES OUT ON**  
19 **THE RAZZ. BUSES PASSING.**

20

21 THOMAS: *(OFF) Big issue!*

22 TOMMY: (V.O.) We went to the grotto just me and my nan and  
23 my grandy was meeting us outside the Wethies-

24 GRANDAD: *(Singing) If I was the only boy in the world, and you*  
25 *were the only-*

1 *ECHO VENDOR: Echo!*

2 *NAN: How many've you had?*

3 *GRANDAD: (Singing) Nothing else would-*

4 *NAN: Jimmy! For Christ's sake! You're making a show of-*

5 *GRANDAD: Only had a couple.*

6 *NAN: Oh, yeah. And I'm a size 10.*

7 *ECHO VENDOR: Echo!*

8 *GRANDAD: Did you see Father Christmas?*

9 *THOMAS: (OFF) Big issue!*

10 *TOMMY: It was boss, grandy. You should have come.*

11 *GRANDAD: Wouldn't fit on his knee, lad.*

12 *NAN: It was packed.*

13 *GRANDAD: Always is.*

14 *THOMAS: (OFF) Tommy?*

15 *NAN: (LOW) Jimmy!*

16 *THOMAS: (OFF) Is that you, Tommy?*

17 *TOMMY: Who's that, nan?*

18 *NAN: Keep walking.*

19 *THOMAS: Tommy?*

20 *NAN: Jimmy!*

21 *TOMMY: Who is it?*

22 *THOMAS: Don't you know me, son? I'm Thomas. I'm your dad.*

23

1 **FX:** OFFICE PARTY SINGING CHRISTMAS CAROLS  
2 PASSES. THE SOUND IS DISTORTED AND SHOULD  
3 SUGGEST THE ROY SCHNEIDER/JAWS/DOLLY  
4 ZOOM SHOT.  
5  
6 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE/Out of breath) He was skinny and tall with  
7 big teeth like a horse.  
8 **GRANDAD:** (OFF) *If I ever see you again-*  
9  
10 **FX:** GRANDAD SHOVES TOMMY'S DAD OVER AND  
11 RIPS HIS MAGAZINES. (OFF) CHRISTMAS CAROLS.  
12  
13 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) Grandy pushed him down the steps and  
14 the magazines went everywhere.  
15 **NAN:** *Come on, love.*  
16 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) Nan, pulling my arm.  
17 **NAN:** *Come on, I said.*  
18 **THOMAS:** (OFF) *I'm your dad, Tommy! I'm your dad!*  
19 **GRANDAD:** (OFF) *You ever go near him again, I swear to God I'll*  
20 *frigging kill you!*  
21  
22 **FX:** INSIDE BOOTS/SHOPPERS/STAFF. 'O LITTLE  
23 TOWN OF BETHLEHEM' PLAYING.  
24

1 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) My nan took me into Boots all quiet by the  
2 nappies and the-

3 *SHOP ASSISTANT: Can I help you?*

4 *NAN: We're fine thank you, love. Tommy, listen. He's not your*  
5 *dad, he's probably on drugs-*

6 *TOMMY: But-*

7 *NAN: Now promise me you'll never do that kind of thing.*

8 *TOMMY: But nan. How did he know my-*

9 *NAN: Promise me, Tommy.*

10 *TOMMY: How did he know-*

11 *NAN: Promise me.*

12 *TOMMY: (BEAT) I promise.*

13 *NAN: Good lad.*

14 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) But the man said my name-  
15

16 **FX:** **SOUND OF TOMMY WRITING (UNDERNEATH**  
17 **DIALOGUE).**

18

19 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) So, I wrote about it in the back of my  
20 English book where I write all my secrets.  
21  
22  
23  
24

1 **SCENE 17**

2 INT. TOMMY'S BEDROOM AT DAVID AND SOPHIE'S. 3PM

3 **FX: (OFF) QUEEN PLAYING IN EMILY'S BEDROOM.**

4

5     *EMILY:*                     *Your dad?!*

6 TOMMY: *What are you doing in my room?*

7     **EMILY:**                     *You saw your dad?!*

8 TOMMY: Put that down. Get out! Get out ya little grass and don't  
9 be touching my stuff!

10 *EMILY:* *I'm telling my mum.*

11     *TOMMY:*                    *You tell anyone and I'll kill you!*

12     EMILY:                (OFF – shouting downstairs) Mum!

13 TOMMY: *I never did nothing!*

14

15 **FX:** **SOUND OF TOMMY UPSET/BETRAYED.**

16

17     *SOPHIE:*                    (*OFF – shouting upstairs*) *What now?*

18 TOMMY: *Tell her to stop touching my stuff!*

19      *SOPHIE:*                      *Emily?!*

20     **EMILY:**                    *I never touched anything!*

21     **TOMMY:**                     *She bloody did!*

22     *SOPHIE:*                     *Language!*

23



1 **FX: HEAVY TRAFFIC. (OFF) CHRISTMAS CAROLS.**

2

3 *EMILY: I'm sorry.*

4

5 **FX: GRADUALLY VOLUME LIFTS ON TOMMY AND**  
6 **EMILY'S RHYME.**

7

8 *EMILY: Make friends, make friends,*

9 *EMILY/TOMMY: Never ever break friends,*

10 *If you do, you'll catch the flu,*

11 *And that will be the end of-*

12

13 **FX: NAN SCREAMS.**

14

15 **SCENE 18**

16 **INT. NAN AND GRANDAD'S HOUSE. 7:30AM**

17 **FX: TOMMY RACING DOWNSTAIRS.**

18

19 *TOMMY: Nan, what is it?! What's happened?*

20 **(CLOSE) Grandy's legs on the floor lying down in**  
21 **the kitchen.**

22 *NAN: Your grandy isn't well.*

23 **TOMMY: (CLOSE) She closed the door over and held both my**  
24 **hands.**

1 **FX: (OFF) TOMMY RUNNING.**

2

3 TOMMY: *Let go, Nan.*

4

5 **FX: (OFF) KETTLE BUBBLING.**

6

7 TOMMY: *Let go.*

8 NAN: *What?*

9 TOMMY: **(CLOSE) I took her hands off me and walked her to**

10 **her chair.**

11 *You sit down, nan.*

12

13 **FX: TOMMY PRESSING 999 ON KEYPAD.**

14

15 TOMMY: *Sit down.*

16 OPERATOR: *(DISTORT) Emergency, which service do you require?*

17 TOMMY: *Ambulance.*

18 *Nan, sit down.*

19 **(CLOSE) I went into the kitchen.**

20

21 **FX: (OFF) HEAVY TRAFFIC.**

22

1 **TOMMY:** (LOW) Two mugs on the worktop, milk spilt on the  
2 floor in the shape of Australia-  
3  
4 **FX: KETTLE BUBBLING ON THE HOB.**  
5  
6 **TOMMY:** (LOW) His pyjama leg was up so I pulled it back  
7 down.  
8  
9 **FX: (OFF) TOMMY RUNNING.**  
10  
11 **NAN:** *Tommy?*  
12 **TOMMY:** *(Direct) Nan, go back in the living room.*  
13 (LOW) His mouth was half open like when he used  
14 to pretend to be asleep for a trick-  
15  
16 **FX: GRANDAD SNORING.**  
17  
18 **NAN:** *Give him a shake, Tommy. He won't sleep tonight.*  
19  
20 **FX: KETTLE BUBBLING ON THE HOB.**  
21  
22 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) And I blow in his mouth like they showed  
23 us at school, smell tobacco-  
24

1 **FX:** (OFF) SPARROW'S WINGS AS IT LANDS ON  
2 WINDOW LEDGE/AMBULANCE APPROACHING.  
3  
4 **TOMMY:** See a sparrow and I know it's his spirit 'cause he  
5 looks dead straight at me through the glass like a  
6 statue and he tells me with his eyes-  
7 **GRANDAD:** (Whispers) I'll always be with you.  
8  
9 **FX:** (OFF) 3 KNOCKS ON FRONT DOOR KNOCKER.  
10  
11 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) The sparrow flies up towards God and the  
12 angels.  
13  
14 **FX:** KETTLE BUBBLING ON THE HOB. (OFF) TWO  
15 MALE VOICES.  
16  
17 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) Two ambulance men come into the  
18 kitchen. One of them, the skinny one, takes me into  
19 the living room.  
20 **PARAMEDIC:** *You a red or a blue?*  
21 **TOMMY:** *Liverpool.*  
22 **PARAMEDIC:** *I'm a Tranmere fan.*  
23 **TOMMY:** *Must be nice having a crowd around you (what with me*  
24 *and me nan being here)*  
25 **NAN:** *Don't be showing off, Tommy.*

1 **FX: NAT KING COLE SINGS.**

2

3 **SCENE 19**

4 **INT. NAN AND GRANDAD'S HOUSE. 6PM**

5 **FX: CHIPS FRYING IN CHIP PAN. (OFF) 6 O'CLOCK**  
6 **NEWS ON TV.**

7

8 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) I didn't go to school that day, just stayed  
9 with my nan, we watched Big and Mrs Doubtfire,  
10 and the Toy Story films... the house felt dead  
11 strange, like it's somebody else's..

12

13 **FX: CUTLERY ON PLATES.**

14

15 **TOMMY:** (LOW) *I can't finish my chips.*

16 **NAN:** *Not like you, love.*

17 **TOMMY:** *I'm not hungry.*

18 **NAN:** *There's kids starving in Africa.*

19 **TOMMY:** *Well, they shouldn't have been born there, then, should*  
20 *they?*

21 **NAN:** *Eat it.*

22

23 **FX: (OFF) KETTLE BUBBLING ON THE HOB.**

24 **TOMMY:** *I don't want it.*

1 **FX: TOMMY PUSHES HIS PLATE AWAY.**

2

3 *NAN: Eat it, I said.*

4 **TOMMY: (CLOSE) Got her eyes in her glasses and her fork in**

5 **the air.**

6 *NAN: (Firm) Eat it.*

7 *TOMMY: I said, I don't-*

8

9 **FX: CRASH OF CROCKERY AS NAN BRINGS HER FIST**

10 **DOWN ON THE TABLE.**

11

12 *NAN: For Christ's sake! For once in your life, will you do as*

13 *you're bloody well-*

14

15 **FX: (OFF) TOMMY RUNS UPSTAIRS**

16

17 *TOMMY: (OFF) I hate you!*

18

19 **FX: (OFF) TOMMY SLAMS HIS BEDROOM DOOR. A**

20 **DISH RATTLES ON THE FLOOR BEFORE COMING**

21 **TO A STOP. NAN BREAKS DOWN.**

22

23

24

1    **SCENE 20**

2    **INT. TOMMY'S BEDROOM AT NAN AND GRANDAD'S HOUSE. 3AM**

3    **FX: (OFF) NAT KING COLE SINGS 'THE VERY**  
4    **THOUGHT OF YOU.'**

5

6    **TOMMY: (CLOSE) I wake up in the night and go into her**  
7    **room, Catherine Cookson on her pillow but she's**  
8    **not in her bed. I go down the stairs softly like**  
9    **Christmas still sleepy, the hallway's all dark but**  
10    **there's light 'round the door-**

11

12    **FX: NAT KING COLE SINGS 'THE VERY THOUGHT OF**  
13    **YOU.'**

14

15    **TOMMY: (CLOSE) And she's sitting in the living room on the**  
16    **rug by the fire with the photo album open and the**  
17    **record player on, got her hair up in a bun and his**  
18    **dressing gown on and she opens her arms and I sit**  
19    **on her knee with my face in her neck and she smells**  
20    **just like grandy-**

21    **NAN (LOW) What are we going to do, Tom?**

22

23    **FX: NAT KING COLE RECORD ENDS. THE NEEDLE**  
24    **BOUNCES.**

25

26    **TOMMY: (CLOSE) We stay there 'til morning-**

1 **FX: (OFF) DAWN CHORUS.**

2 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) With her boobs pressing in and we sleep  
3 on the couch with the fire still on and her hands in  
4 my back pressing into my skin with the knuckles all  
5 soft like they're not there like water.

6 **FX: KETTLE WHISTLES.**

7

8 **SCENE 21**

9 **INT. COURTROOM. 12PM**

10 **FX: COURT STENOGRAPHER TYPING. SLIGHT ECHO**  
11 **TO THE JUDGE'S WORDS.**

12

13 **JUDGE:** *I've read the social worker's report, Mrs Whelan, and*  
14 *I've listened to your arguments carefully. Please*  
15 *understand, my role here is to ensure Tommy's safety*  
16 *and long-term security.*

17

18 **FX: COURT STENOGRAPHER TYPING CONTINUES.**

19

20 **JUDGE:** *Mrs Whelan, you are ... you are, 70 years old.*

21 **NAN:** *Yes, your honour.*

22 **JUDGE:** *And I understand that children's services have identified*  
23 *an appropriate family?*

24 **SOCIAL WORKER:** *We have, your honour.*

25 **JUDGE:** *With that in mind, Mrs Whelan. My decision is this-*



**SCENE 22**

**EXT. SMITHDOWN ROAD. 12.20PM**

**FX: HEAVIER TRAFFIC. BUSES/LORRIES. TOMMY  
RUNNING/EGGS FRYING.**

**TOMMY: (V.O.) When I get to my nan's house I'm going to tell  
her I battered Cully, she'll be made up and tell me-**

**NAN: I'm proud of you, Tommy.**

**TOMMY: (V.O.) Then we'll have egg and chips and watch  
films all day long and she'll have my room ready all  
set up like normal and I'll move back in with her and  
I'll promise to be good, and I'll bring her a cup of tea  
in the morning and do all my homework and Emily  
can come over and we'll probably get bunk beds but  
I'm bagsying the top one 'cause it was my idea-**

**FX: CAR BEEPS ITS HORN.**

**TOMMY: (V.O.) I run fast past the Mystery and under the  
bridge, there's a gap in the traffic outside Bernard's  
Bikes, so I legit across Smithdown and over into-**

1    **SCENE 23**

2    **INT. NAN'S HOUSE. DAY**

3    **FX:                                PHONE RINGING.**

4

5    *NAN:                                I've just packed that.*

6    *TOMMY:                             I don't want to go.*

7    *NAN:                                I don't want you to either.*

8    *TOMMY:                             Then why are you letting them take me?*

9    *NAN:                                It's the court, lad. They said I'm... just a minute.*

10

11   **FX:                                NAN ANSWERS PHONE.**

12

13   *NAN:                                Hello?*

14   *SOPHIE:                            (DISTORT) Hi Betty, it's Sophie. We'll be there in a*  
15   *minute. Stuck in traffic by Penny Lane.*

16   *NAN:                                (LOW) Okay.*

17   *SOPHIE:                            (DISTORT) Won't be long.*

18

19   **FX:                                NAN ENDS CALL.**

20

21   *TOMMY:                             Nan, I hate them.*

22   *NAN:                                I feel sick.*

23   *TOMMY:                             Then tell them I'm not going.*

1    *NAN:*                                *I can't, love.*

2    *TOMMY:*                            *Yes, you can! Just tell them.*

3

4    **FX:**                                **NAN ZIPPING SUITCASE.**

5

6    *NAN:*                                *I've got you some new pyjamas from TJs.*

7    *TOMMY:*                            *Don't you love me anymore?*

8    *NAN:*                                *And I'll pick you up a dressing gown this week.*

9    *TOMMY:*                            *Nan-*

10   *NAN:*                                *And when you come over for tea, I'll-*

11   *TOMMY:*                            *Nan, please.*

12   *NAN:*                                *You haven't taken anything else out your suitcase, have*  
13    *you?*

14   *TOMMY:*                            *Nan-*

15   *NAN:*                                *Where's your uniform gone?*

16

17   **FX:**                                **NAN IS WINDED AS TOMMY WRAPS HIS ARMS**  
18    **AROUND HER TIGHTLY.**

19

20   *TOMMY:*                            *(Muffled) Nan, please. I don't want to.*

21

22   **FX:**                                **SOPHIE KNOCKS ON FRONT DOOR KNOCKER.**

23

1    *TOMMY:*                    *Nan, please.*

2    *NAN:*                    *Tommy-*

3

4    **FX:                    NAN ANSWERS FRONT DOOR.**

5

6    *SOPHIE:*                *(OFF) I'm sorry we're a bit late, Betty. The traffic was-*

7    *NAN:*                    *(OFF) Can you give us a few minutes?*

8    *SOPHIE:*                *(OFF) Of course I can. We'll wait in the car. Come on,*

9                                *Emily.*

10   *EMILY:*                *(OFF) Mum, what's wrong?*

11

12   **FX:                    NAN CLOSSES FRONT DOOR.**

13

14   *NAN:*                    *Tommy?*

15   *TOMMY:*                *I'm not going!*

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

1 **SCENE 24**

2 **EXT. PATTERDALE ROAD. 12.10PM**

3 **FX: CAR SLAMS BRAKES ON. TOMMY BREATHING**  
4 **HEAVILY. (OFF) EGGS FRYING IN PAN.**

5

6 **TOMMY: (CLOSE) Corner of Patterdale my legs are on fire,**  
7 **there's a police car by me nan's house so I slow**  
8 **down and walk, see neighbours at windows, the**  
9 **front door's half open, nan's walking stick up**  
10 **against the cupboard in the hall, her coat's on the**  
11 **banister with a pocket sticking out-**

12 **POLICEWOMAN: Can I help you, love?**

13 **TOMMY: I...**

14 **POLICEWOMAN: Can I help you?**

15 **TOMMY: Where's my nan?**

16 **POLICEWOMAN: What's your name, love.**

17 **TOMMY: Where's my-**

18 **POLICEWOMAN: What's your name?**

19 **TOMMY: Tommy Whelan.**

20

21 **FX: (OFF) POLICE RADIO.**

22

23 **TOMMY: (CLOSE) She goes in the kitchen, see a neighbour**  
24 **through the doorway looking up from the street.**

25 **POLICEWOMAN: Let's have a sit down, love.**

1 **FX: (OFF) HEAVY TRAFFIC ON SMITHDOWN.**

2

3 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) She sits in my nan's chair. Got my hands  
4 on my ears and it sounds like the baths.

5 POLICEWOMAN: (LOW) I'm sorry to say, love. I've got some bad news.

6

7 **FX:** (OFF) SOPHIA'S NOKIA PHONE RINGS.

8

9 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) Got my hands pressed in closer.

10    *NAN:*                    *(OFF) Are you listening, Tommy?*

11 POLICWOMAN: (LOW) I am sorry, love.

12     *GRANDAD:*            *(OFF) Keep your legs tucked in soft lad, you'll have us*  
13                                *both in the road.*

14 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) Stop the water coming in.

15    *NAN:*                  (*OFF*) How long's a piece of string?

16 POLICEWOMAN: (LOW) Your nan passed away this morning.

17

18     **FX:**                         **SILENCE.**

19

20 POLICEWOMAN: I am sorry, love. Is there anyone you want me to,  
21 anyone who can come to the, anyone I can-

22

23

24

1    **SCENE 25**

2    **INT. CHURCH. 10AM**

3    **FX:                                CHURCH ORGAN PLAYS 'AUTUMN LEAVES.'**

4

5    **TOMMY:**                        **(CLOSE) The priest said her name wrong at the**  
6                                        **f(uneral) (BEAT) he said Elizabeth Mary Georgina**  
7                                        **instead of Betty.**

8                                        **(CLOSE) I was stood next to Emily looking over at**  
9                                        **me mum. She kept turning 'round like she wanted**  
10                                       **me close, but she needed me to say so and I**  
11                                       **couldn't, so I didn't.**

12

13   **FX:                                CHURCH ORGAN PLAYS 'AUTUMN LEAVES.'**

14

15   **TOMMY:**                        **(CLOSE) She's skinny, my mum. And her belly's**  
16                                        **dead hard. I know because she tried to hug me in**  
17                                        **the aisle.**

18   **JULIE:**                            **(LOW) Come here, love. Come here.**

19   **TOMMY:**                        **(CLOSE) And I let her, but it felt too weird at first...**

20

21   **FX:                                LIGHT TRAFFIC.**

22

23   **TOMMY:**                        **(CLOSE) She lives at my nan's house on Patterdale**  
24                                        **Road, now.**

25

1 **FX:** (OFF) NAT KING COLE'S 'DANCE BALLERINA  
2 PLAYS.

3 **TOMMY:** She still doesn't come to get me sometimes, but I  
4 know she's getting better 'cause her belly's getting  
5 softer. I go over for tea when she's feeling okay.  
6 Sophie drops me off and picks me up when I'm  
7 ready. We have egg and chips 'cause she knows it's  
8 my favourite.

9

10 **FX:** EGGS FRYING IN PAN.

11

12 **TOMMY:** (BEAT) She still burns the eggs, like.

13

14 **SCENE 26**

15 **INT. NAN'S HOUSE (NOW JULIE'S). 6PM**

16 **FX:** EGGS FRYING. (OFF) NAT KING COLE'S 'DANCE  
17 BALLERINA DANCE' CONTINUES.

18

19 **TOMMY:** (CLOSE) She's got a postcard on the fridge, my  
20 mum. We bought it on Lark Lane last Saturday. It  
21 says, 'You are a child of the universe, no less than  
22 the trees and the stars. You have a right to be here.'  
23 (BEAT) I like that. I copied it down in the back of me  
24 English book.

25

26 **THE END.**