

REV SERIES 3

Episode 5

by

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REISSUED SHOOTING SCRIPT

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1

INT. VICARAGE - DINING TABLE - DAY 1 (09:00)

1

Adam puts down a coffee mug in front of the Archdeacon. For once the Archdeacon doesn't make a caustic remark about the coffee. He has a set face.

ARCHDEACON

The Bishop hoped to see you in person, but he's away in Cape Town 'til Tuesday, spreading the word, swimming with sharks, so he asked me to see you meanwhile.

ADAM

A-ha. I couldn't tell from your call whether this was going to be good news or bad news?

Adam sits and risks a smile. Might this be good news?

ARCHDEACON

We've received a formal letter of complaint about your conduct.

The wind falls out of Adam's smile.

ADAM

What? Who from?

ARCHDEACON

You're entitled to see a copy of the letter.

He passes Adam a copy. Adam sees Nigel's name.

ADAM

Nigel McCall? Nigel. Stupid man. What's the complaint? I don't let him do enough sermons?

While Adam reads it, the Archdeacon highlights the key issue.

ARCHDEACON

You'll see that he accuses you of "an unprofessional relationship with Eleanor Pattman, headteacher of St. Saviour's...?"

ADAM

What? This is...

Adam is poleaxed by this development. But does his best to present still waters.

ARCHDEACON

And of "conduct unbecoming for a minister"? There is the specific accusation of a kiss.

ADAM

Well... ha. I don't know what to say to this. It's ridiculous. Obviously.

The Archdeacon is not without sympathy. But he's also firm...

ARCHDEACON

You don't need to respond now. Go away and think about it. Then I need you to send a formal written response to the Bishop. He will then decide whether there are grounds for an investigation or not.

ADAM

Not. You know this is nuts.
(hopefully)

The Arch won't be drawn.

ADAM

Fine, yes, I'll write a reply.

The Archdeacon stands. Business done.

ARCHDEACON

Good. I look forward to receiving it. So it was bad news.

(indicates his coffee mug)

Will you pour that away for me?

CUT TO:

2

INT. VICARAGE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 1 (20:00)

2

8pm. Adam on his laptop at the table writing his response with real anger.

ADAM
(to self)
He's a bitter, jealous, joyless
pedant. How dare you...

He types with increasing force and fury.

ALEX
Hello. What are you doing?

She's appeared in the doorway. Back from a long day at work. Adam jumps. Feels caught. She's seen his anger...

He doesn't want her to know about this complaint re Ellie. Fears her anger. Fears her unforgiveness.

ADAM
Nothing. Just... writing my sermon.

Their relationship is fragile at the moment, so it's characterised by over-sustained manners and jollity, especially from him.

ADAM
How are you? You've had a long day.
Can I get you anything?

ALEX
No. You okay? All good?
(friendly enquiry)

ADAM
Yes, yes. All okay. Katie's had a nice day I think. Went down easily.
Why don't you have a drink? I'll get you one.

ALEX
I'll get it.
(then)
How dare you what?

Adam looks at her - hmm?

ALEX
You said 'how dare you...?' When I came in.

ADAM
Yes. How dare you... sin and not seek forgiveness from the Lord.
That's my sermon.

ALEX
Right. Old school.

She pours herself a large glass of wine.

They make an effort to smile at each other - from distance.

CUT TO:

3

INT. CHURCH - VESTRY - DAY 2 (09:30)

3

Adam at the desk, doing the latest funding application form.

He looks up and sees a very sheepish Nigel coming up the stairs. On seeing Adam's head rise Nigel takes on a brisk, defiant manner - like he's been practicing in his head.

NIGEL
(forced brightness)
Good morning.

Adam gives him the most baleful look he's ever given anyone. Nigel hesitates a moment - then sets about his day.

NIGEL
Lots to do today. A couple of funding application forms we should look to get off. Father Winters has asked to borrow the large Holy Week cross. Is it still in your shed? The Walk of Witness is starting from the Esso garage near him.

Nigel glances at Adam anxiously. Adam stares steady hatred.

NIGEL
And I'm keen to get that new reader's rota up.

Nigel deflects things by going to the tea area.

NIGEL
Cup of tea? Would you like? I'm having one.

He fiddles with cups, puts kettle on.

Risks a look round. Adam still staring hatred at him.

NIGEL
No. Are you sure? Let me make you one.

ADAM
Don't. You. Fucking. Dare.

NIGEL
I can make tea Adam. I can make you a tea.

ADAM
What makes you think you have the slightest idea of what my relationship with Ellie is?

NIGEL

Adam, we are not allowed to discuss the current situation. The Clerical Disciplinary Code of 2011 is very clear. Awkward as it is.

(Adam's stare)

Let's just let the quasi-judicial ecclesiastical procedures wend their way.

ADAM

Why are you doing this? What are you complaining about exactly?

NIGEL

Until it is resolved we are not allowed to discuss the matter.

He takes a copy of the Clerical Disciplinary Code from his bag. Prepared and marked page...

NIGEL

Paragraph 73 of the Disciplinary Code...

(reads at Adam)

"Once a formal complaint is made it is inappropriate for the *respondent* (points at Adam) to talk to the *complainant* about it." So let's talk about some pastoral visits instead.

ADAM

Withdraw it Nigel. That's what you should do.

NIGEL

Now - who wants to go to the nursing home to do prayers?

ADAM

You do. The problem is Nigel, is that if we both stay in this room I will cut your genitals off and burn them in front of you in this mug.

(dirty tea mug)

NIGEL

Right. It's going to be like this is it?

ADAM

Yep.

NIGEL

I thought you had more maturity.

ADAM

Nope.

NIGEL

Well the point I'm making is that
if you did cut my... bits off -
you'd clearly be in breach of
paragraph 73 of the Clerical
Disciplinary Code.

ADAM

Get out of here Nigel. You
loathsome knob.

Said with real venom. Nigel scared. But risks a final stand.

NIGEL

I won't be forced from this room.
Paragraph 73 clearly states...

Nigel produces the Code document yet again. Adam rises -
paces fast to Nigel - rips the document out his hand - and
starts hitting Nigel hard with the rolled document.

NIGEL

"Any attempt by the respondent to
put pressure - that's what this is -
on a complainant to withdraw a
complaint is improper." You're
being improper.

Nigel's arms up in protection. But Adam really means it. Sees
his anger.

NIGEL

This is assault.

Adam keeps hitting Nigel.

NIGEL

I will go to the nursing home and
do prayers.

Nigel runs away down the stairs. Adam throws the Discipline
Code doc at Nigel's head.

NIGEL

Paragraph 73.

He's gone.

CUT TO:

4

EXT. BISHOP'S HOUSE - DAY

4

Establish the Bishop's Georgian Town house.

5

INT. BISHOP'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY 3 (11:00)

5

The Bishop leads Adam into his kitchen.

The large kitchen of a Georgian townhouse. (But it's not really been modernised). There's a wooden country table.

BISHOP OF LONDON

Have a seat.

Bishop sits opposite, gathers some papers.

BISHOP OF LONDON

Thank you for your response to
Nigel McCall's complaint of Conduct
Unbecoming. It was written a little
in heat I suspect.

ADAM

That's putting it mildly.

The Bishop - thin smile.

BISHOP OF LONDON

I've asked Archdeacon Robert to
join us.

Adam doesn't like that. The Archdeacon appears in the doorway from another room - comes out of the shadows like some Medici Cardinal.

His mysterious poise is undercut by -

BISHOP OF LONDON

Robert be a good sort and make us
all a cup of tea?

ARCHDEACON

Of course My Lord.

Archdeacon opens a cupboard. A wall of many types of tea inside.

BISHOP OF LONDON

I'll have my usual.

The Bishop points at Adam - asking 'what would you like?'

ADAM

Um. Yes, just tea.
(not why he's here)

ARCHDEACON

What sort Adam?

ADAM

Um. Any.

ARCHDEACON

We have many different types.
There's Earl Grey, Ceylon, Oolong,
Rooibos, many different types of
fruit and herbal infusions. It's
not really my area of expertise.

BISHOP OF LONDON

(sharply at Arch)
Just choose a fruit please Robert.

The Archdeacon sets about 2 x teas. The Bishop turns back to Adam - takes his written response.

BISHOP OF LONDON

You confess to a kiss in your
response.

ADAM

Yes. One kiss. But as I say - it
was an entirely unromantic,
innocent kiss. A platonic kiss.

But the Bishop holds his eyes across the table and hears Adam's uncertainty or lie.

ADAM

I didn't enjoy it. It was a
mistake, I admit that.

BISHOP OF LONDON

A kiss can be many things of
course. I need to understand what's
been going on, and how you've got
into this situation. So I've
instructed Archdeacon Robert to
conduct a small investigation for
me, amongst the key parties.

Adam's face caves.

ADAM

Is that necessary?

BISHOP OF LONDON

(nods yes)

I'm afraid I have to tell you that
while the investigation takes place
you'll be suspended from ministry.

Adam's soul collapses inside him. Utterly lost for words. The Bishop sees his pain. But he is firm.

BISHOP OF LONDON

It will take no longer than 28
days.

BISHOP OF LONDON (CONT'D)

While you're suspended I'm afraid
you're prohibited from entering St.
Saviour's, or dealing in any
pastoral ministry - of any kind -
with members of your parish.

The Archdeacon puts down a fruit tea in front of Adam.

ARCHDEACON

Pomegranate and pineapple.
(Adam doesn't touch it)
Take some comfort from
Ecclesiasticus 2 "...gold is tested
in fire, And chosen men in the
furnace of humiliation."

Adam looks at the Bishop - what the fuck?

BISHOP OF LONDON

I imagine you were hoping to avoid
fire and humiliation.

ADAM

If possible.

CUT TO:

6

INT. BISHOP'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY 3 (11:30)

6

The Bishop and Arch stand at the window and watch a defeated and slumped Adam walk away.

BISHOP OF LONDON

Do you think he'll be alright?

ARCHDEACON

He'll be alright.

They see Adam - filled by a suddenly fit of righteous anger - kick a rubbish bin by the gates. He hurts his foot and the contents of the bin spill.

Then he kicks some daffodil heads around a tree.

The Bishop slides the Archdeacon a 'really?' look.

BISHOP OF LONDON

Go and clear that up would you
Robert?

CUT TO:

7

INT. CHURCH - DAY 3 (14:00)

7

The Area Dean is in her usual, bossy fishnets and dog collar. Diocesan Secretary in her solicitor's style trouser suit.

The latter is pointing a laser range finder measuring device across the chancel. Gets her reading.

DIOCESAN SECRETARY
63.7 feet.

AREA DEAN

And the length was 123 feet. You're
the one with the maths my dear.

DIOCESAN SECRETARY
(quick brain does maths)
7, 835.1 square feet. Call it
7,800.

ADAM
What are you doing?

Adam has entered behind them. Red laser dot on to him.

AREA DEAN
(embarrassed, caught)
Ah hello Father.

Awkward beat. The Dio Sec is more steely than her friend.

DIOCESAN SECRETARY
Just measuring the church.

ADAM
How much does property go for round
here?

DIOCESAN SECRETARY
£800 / square foot.

ADAM
(facetious)
Oh, as much as that? So what's this
church worth do you think?

AREA DEAN
£800 x 7800 sq ft is...
(stumbles, maths too hard)
...well 8 8s are 64. So... er, that
makes 6,400. Times... oh hang on...

DIOCESAN SECRETARY
(sharply)
£6,240,000.

ADAM

Amazing. But it doesn't matter what it's worth, because it's not for sale is it? It has a small but dedicated congregation that deserves a priest. I'm not resigning - I have the freehold.

DIOCESAN SECRETARY

Sadly Adam, that altereth not the fact that there's been no sign of a change in the fortunes of St. Saviour's.

AREA DEAN

We have to think about what's best for the Deanery as a whole.

DIOCESAN SECRETARY

How can you be church in a church that can't afford the lighting bills?

AREA DEAN

We must progress on all fronts hoping - hoping, hoping - that against the odds a miracle occurs and you save your building.

ADAM

I'm not going to let it fail. I'm going to sort it out.

DIOCESAN SECRETARY

While you're suspended?

Silence from Adam. They know. So that's why they've come now.

AREA DEAN

I was shocked to hear about your suspension.

DIOCESAN SECRETARY

Unfortunately while you're suspended you're not actually allowed in here, are you Father?
(firmly)
Or am I mistaken?

ADAM

(defeated)

I'm just collecting my things.

DIOCESAN SECRETARY

Collect them. And go.

CUT TO:

8

EXT. VICARAGE - DRIVEWAY - NIGHT 3 (18:00)

8

Adam comes round the corner - paranoid and upset.

Colin with his dog, Bongo, is on the driveway. With a dirty sports bag containing his worldly possessions.

ADAM

Oh hi Colin.

COLIN

Sorry to ask Vicarage, can I stay at yours tonight? They won't have me back in the hostel.

ADAM

Colin it's tricky at the moment.

He can't say yes. He glances over his shoulder to check no one's watching...

COLIN

I haven't got anywhere else to stay tonight. And it's so cold now.

ADAM

I'm sorry
(leans close to him)
- listen Colin, things are a bit difficult...

COLIN

Just one night.

ADAM

Look I'm not really allowed to talk to anyone from the parish at the moment. Come over here...

Adam leads Colin away furtively from the front door.

CUT TO:

9 **EXT. BEHIND SOME INDUSTRIAL BINS BY A WALL - NIGHT 3(18:15) 9**

Both having fags. Colin cold and angry at what Adam's said.

COLIN

How dare they suspend you? You're the best priest in London. I bet you wish you had knobbed her now if they're gonna suspend you anyway.

ADAM

It's just a temporary suspension. It'll be over soon. Please don't mention it to anyone else.

Colin nods seriously. But Adam knows him well...

ADAM

Colin I'm serious about that. Do not mention it to anyone. I just want this to blow over, without Alex finding out.

COLIN

Like that time you had that lump on your balls and you didn't want me to tell anyone?

ADAM

Yeah, but see - actually you told everyone about that.

COLIN

Oh yeah. But only one at a time. What happened with that?

ADAM

Hm?

(realises what he means)

Oh it was just a fatty deposit. Forget that. This is much more serious than my ball lump. Don't. Tell. Anyone.

COLIN

Gottya.

ADAM

Look here have some money. I'm sorry I can't help...

Digs in his pockets... produces a fiver and some coins... counts...

ADAM
Here... 8 pounds...
(counts coins)
70.

COLIN
(dismay)
What am I gonna do with that?

ADAM
Towards a B&B.

COLIN
What sort of B&B you been staying
in?

ADAM
Sorry Colin. It's all I've got.

Colin gives him a very disappointed look. Knows he'll be on
the streets tonight.

CUT TO:

10

INT. VICARAGE - DINING TABLE - DAY 4 (10:00)

10

Next day. The Archdeacon interviews Adam at the kitchen table. Notepad. Pen. Cup of coffee before him.

ARCHDEACON

Describe your relationship with
Ellie?

Adam just looks at the Archdeacon. Shrugs. Won't play this game. Hates it. Finds it disgusting and depressing.

ARCHDEACON

I'm well aware that harmless
flirting can be one of the ways
that priests build and keep
relationships. And there are many
different types of kiss.

(Adam goes - yeah)
Tell me about this kiss?

Adam suggests that he can't be bothered to.

ARCHDEACON

Talk to me Adam. I can only make
this go away if you talk to me. If
you want this to go away
permanently I've got to be
thorough.

(beat)
Did you use tongues?

Pause. Eventually Adam speaks...

ADAM

I think she may have slipped her
tongue in briefly.

ARCHDEACON

Good.

(Adam's talking, he makes
a note)

Briefly tongues.

CUT TO:

11 **INT. TAXI - DAY 4 (14:00)**

11

The Archdeacon interviews Ellie in his taxi.

ELLIE

There may have been tongues.

ARCHDEACON

Tip of the tongue? Or whole tongue
going in?

ELLIE

I can't remember. Is this
necessary?

ARCHDEACON

I'm afraid so.

ELLIE

You're going to do more harm than
good.

CUT TO:

12

INT. CHURCH - VESTRY - DAY 4 (15:00)

12

The Archdeacon interviews Nigel.

ARCHDEACON

Would you like to tell me in your own words what you think has happened between Adam and Ellie?

NIGEL

Well the first thing to say is that it brings me no joy at all, having to do this.

ARCHDEACON

Sure.

NIGEL

But very clearly I saw a kiss between Adam and Ellie. And he's confessed to it I gather. He's a married minister - a school governor - I'm sorry to say his behaviour is not worthy of a priest. I had no option but to complain.

ARCHDEACON

How do you know it was a sexual kiss?

NIGEL

(amazed at this line)
What, between Adam and Ellie?

ARCHDEACON

There are many different types of kiss aren't there? Kisses of warmth and friendship, and even duty, as well as passion.

NIGEL

Fair to say this wasn't a duty kiss.

ARCHDEACON

You know that do you? Have you ever been kissed by a woman Nigel?

Nigel - outrage.

NIGEL

Yes I have! I get kissed by Cherry all the time. And in lots of different places.

ARCHDEACON

You get kissed in lots of different places?

NIGEL

I mean locations. Everyone knows Adam fancies Ellie.

ARCHDEACON

They know that do they?

NIGEL

I'll prove it to you; I've made a list of inappropriate remarks he's said about her over the year.

He produces a notebook from a drawer. He shows the Archdeacon a page - many written entries. Date and comments.

NIGEL

March 4th PCC meeting. Adam Smallbone. 'I love Ellie'.

Nigel licks the word LOVE as he says it. Looks at the Archdeacon - there's your loaded gun.

CUT TO:

13

INT. VICARAGE - DINING TABLE - DAY 4 (15:00)

13

ADAM

I didn't say 'I love Ellie'

(repeats the heady tone)

I said 'I love Ellie'

(upbeat appreciation)

CUT TO:

14

INT. TAXI - NIGHT 3 (19:00)

14

ARCHDEACON

(reading his notes)

He supposedly said 'I love Ellie'.

Ellie is utterly unbothered by this reveal/suggestion.

ELLIE

That's nice of him. We're a great team. There's lots of different types of love aren't there? I love Call the Midwife and strawberry ice cream.

CUT TO:

15

INT. CHURCH - VESTRY - DAY 4 (14:00)

15

NIGEL

(from notes)

March 16th 'I find Ellie's
assemblies very - *rousing*'.

CUT TO:

16

INT. VICARAGE - DINING TABLE - DAY 4 (15:10)

16

ADAM

Yes rousing. Not arousing. Rousing.

CUT TO:

17

INT. TAXI - NIGHT 3 (19:15)

17

ARCHDEACON

'...very rousing'?

ELLIE

Good. They are.

CUT TO:

18

INT. CHURCH - VESTRY - DAY 4 (14:20)

18

NIGEL

(reading notes)

'I love it when she's strict with
me.'

Nigel pulls the Archdeacon a face of incredulity.

CUT TO:

19

INT. VICARAGE - DINING TABLE - DAY 4 (15:20)

19

On Adam - awkward beat.

ADAM

I didn't... when did I say that?

ARCHDEACON

During a school governors' meeting
apparently.

Adam winces. Hears how it sounds.

CUT TO:

20

INT. TAXI - NIGHT 3 (19:20)

20

ELLIE

I was in that meeting. It was
clearly a joke.

But she's aware how this is coming across. Body of evidence.

CUT TO:

21

INT. CHURCH - VESTRY - DAY 4 (14:20)

21

NIGEL

April 30th after Mass. 'You smell nice Ellie'. May 6th after Mass 'That's a nice top you've got Ellie'. May 13th, after Mass 'I could have kissed her after that Parents Meeting.' May 20th said to me just before Mass - in relation to Ellie's posterior - 'nice bum'.

CUT TO:

22

INT. TAXI - NIGHT 3 (19:25)

22

ARCHDEACON

'Nice bum'.

ELLIE

He said that?

She's caught between a smile and frown. Goes for frown.

CUT TO:

23

INT. VICARAGE - DINING TABLE - DAY 4 (15:45)

23

Adam sighs. Drops his head.

ADAM

She bent over to pick up a hymn book. Nigel and I couldn't help seeing her bum. She has got a nice bum. I'm sorry for observing it. The other remarks are all innocent and being twisted. Ask anyone you like - everyone knows that there's been nothing going on between me and Ellie.

CUT TO:

24

EXT. NIFTY SHOP - NIGHT 4 (19:00)

24

The Archdeacon interviews Colin, who's sitting outside the shop in a filthy sleeping bag, Bongo at his side. Arch has note book.

COLIN

He's wanted to shag her for years.
Good on him. She's fit as a
butcher's window.

The Archdeacon nods with interest and jots it down.

COLIN

I think he said he had a wank about
her once. Or I said it. One of us
did.

ARCHDEACON

I won't write that down.

COLIN

Good. I don't want to make things
worse for him.

CUT TO:

25

INT. VICARAGE - DINING TABLE - DAY 4 (16:00)

25

The Archdeacon ends his interview with Adam.

ARCHDEACON

Thanks for the coffee. I will
report back to the Registrar and
The Bishop. There will a hearing in
due course.

Interview over. Adam gives him a thin smile.

ADAM

Please don't tell Alex meanwhile. I
just want this to go away without
her ever knowing.

The Archdeacon places a supportive hand on him before he
exits. Katie starts crying on the baby monitor.

CUT TO:

26

SCENE OMITTED

26

27

INT. CHURCH - DAY 5 (10:25)

27

Sunday 10.25. Just before the main Sunday Eucharist. The regulars in pews. There's a sense of uncertainty.

On Colin with Adoha at the front. Colin has a can on the go. Keith and Mary also there in the pew behind them, listening in.

COLIN

All he did was shag the headteacher in her office, once, but as a result they've suspended him.

Adoha's world is rocked. She's appalled at this possibility / development.

ADOHA

Is this true?

COLIN

(nods)

But don't tell anyone. No one else knows. Except you and me. And a bloke I told in the pub.

We see Keith - wide eyed with the news - turn in his pew and whisper to two people behind him.

We might just catch the words. 'Headteacher, sex, filthy.'

Those two people talk to the people either side of them. Furtive whispers. Eyes widen with ooo.

More people are told - we see the story ripple outwards.

BACK ON: Adoha

ADOHA

Who is taking the service then? I don't want anyone young.

They look among themselves. Who will it be?

At that point Ellie enters. The conversation - the room - falls awkwardly silent on her entry.

She's aware of many sideways glances. She sits alone at the back - unrepentant - but annoyed.

CUT TO:

28

INT. VICARAGE - HALLWAY - DAY 5 (10:30)

28

Adam rushing out. In his dog collar.

ADAM

Okay, I'm off to church to do Mass.
See you later.

ALEX (O.S.)

(from living room)

Okay. You're late. Sure you don't
mind me missing it today?

ADAM

No no. It's fine. Bye.

And he flies out the front door.

CUT TO:

29

INT. CHURCH - EUCHARIST - DAY 5 (10:35)

29

And now we see who is taking the service - the Archdeacon paces into the church, looking at his watch.

ARCHDEACON

Sorry I'm late.

(talks as he paces in)

As many of you will by now have heard, Father Adam is currently suspended due to an on-going investigation that we hope to resolve as quickly as possible. And when we say we, we mean I. We've been unable to find a parish priest to take these services in the interim...

Nigel - both insulted and disappointed.

ARCHDEACON

...so I will be your temporary priest until such a time as Adam returns, or a permanent temporary replacement is found. Yotam Ottolenghi is showing me how to cook with a clay pot at 12...

(at front, looks at watch)

...so we'll zip through this if that's alright. My style's a bit more dynamic than Adam's. The Lord be with you.

Said with an offensively perfunctory tone and off hand speed.

Silence from the congregation.

ARCHDEACON

I've started. The Lord be with you.

He cues them with his hands. Get on with it.

CONGREGATION

And also with you.

The Archdeacon ploughs on rapidly. With one breath and in one speedily delivered lump he says the whole of -

ARCHDEACON

Almighty God to whom all hearts are open and all desires known cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name -

(shows for the last bit)

through Christ our Lord Amen.

Congregation bewildered and unhappy.

Colin gets up and walks in disgust.

CUT TO:

30 **INT. PUB - DAY 5**

30 *

Adam, alone, nurses a pint.

*

ADAM (V.O. PRAYER)

*

*Typical bloody fucking stupid
church madness. Ahh that's better.
This whole investigation process is
ridiculous. It'll be okay, won't it
Lord? Yeah, it'll be fine. No,
I'll, I'll be fine.*

*

*

*

*

*

*

*

31

INT. NIFTY SHOP - DAY 6 (09:30)

31

Adam enters (in civies). To the counter...

ADAM

Pack of ten please Lisa.

His first cigarette purchase in the series.

LISA

You off to have sex are you?

ADAM

I'm sorry?

LISA

Nuffin.

Adam - irritated.

ADAM

No, I'm sorry Lisa. Why would you say that?

LISA

Just saying what it says.

ADAM

What? What what says?

She shoves an East London News in his direction.

Adam flicks open the first page. There on page 3 is his face and a headline; REV BEDS SCHOOL HEAD.

There's a smiling shot of Adam. A smile that condemns him.

LISA

Dirty bugger.

On Adam's face of panic and pain.

32

EXT. STREET - DAY 6 (10.14)

32

After the emotional blow of the newspaper headline he paces home. Head down. But someone shouts from passing white van -

WHITE VAN MAN (V.O.)
Go on my son. Give her one Vic!

Adam drops his head further. Shamed. Speeds up even more.

His phone rings. He's sees it's Ellie. He hesitates about answering. Decides he must...

CUT TO:

33

**INT/EXT. SCHOOL - ELLIE'S OFFICE - ADAM ON STREET - DAY 6 33
(10:14) - INTERCUT**

Ellie alone in her office, attempting some damage limitation. She's got an open copy of the newspaper on her desk.

ADAM
(attempted chirp)
Hi Ellie.

ELLIE
(acid)
Thanks a lot Adam.

ADAM
What?

ELLIE
Thanks to your newspaper report I'm getting hauled in by the Governors tomorrow for an official reprimand. Who did you tell?

ADAM
No one. I didn't talk to anyone.

ELLIE
Well someone did. And if it wasn't me - it was you.

ADAM
Wasn't. I didn't.

ELLIE
This will sit on my file for 5 years. There goes my whole career plan. Why does everything you touch turn to shit?

She hangs up. Wow, we've never seen her this angry.

Hold on Adam - as he hangs up. His world unravelling.

ADOHA (PRE-LOOED)
People are saying you kissed her?

34

EXT. VICARAGE - FRONT DOOR - DAY 6 (13:00)

34

Adoha is confronting Adam... she's angry and hurt by what she's heard.

ADAM

I'm sorry about all this Adoha.
It's a nightmare. It's a tiny thing
that's been blown out of all
proportion.

Adoha is amazed he isn't refuting it. She looks at him.

ADOHA

Did you kiss her?

ADAM

Well... no, look, it's a
complicated situation. But the
investigation process is
ridiculous...

ADOHA

So you did?

ADAM

Well, I can't really talk about it.

ADOHA

People are saying you did. Did.
you. kiss. her?

ADAM

Yes and no.

ADOHA

Yes.

She appalled. Something in Adam is feeling desperate and masochistic. Maybe a part of him now wants to destroy his relationship with Adoha?

ADAM

Yes. Yes - mainly yep. But also no -
because it was a mistake. But I did
also enjoy it. So maybe I deserve
to be suspended? Who knows? The
Bishop will decide. He's the expert
on judging kisses.

With that he just lost Adoha's support/love forever.

ADOHA

It's true.
(beat, pain, anger)
You disgust me.

ADAM

I know.

She turns away - unable to look at him anymore.

He watches her go. His most loyal supporter - gone.

His phone beeps with a text. He looks at it. It says U R A DESGRACE.

He spots a local newspaper by the door step. Bends. Sees it's the one with REV BEDS SCHOOL HEAD on it.

He goes and hides it away in a bin, fast as he can.

CUT TO:

35	SCENE 20 OMITTED NOW WITHIN SCENE 18	35
21	SCENE 21 OMITTED NOW 18A	21

36

INT. VICARAGE - BEDROOM - NIGHT 6 (17:28)

36

He finishes changing Katie on the sofa. Does her onesie poppers up.

ADAM

There you go girl. What a situation
I'm in hey? What a situation.

She gurgles happily at him. It makes him smile. But he's also one nudge from tears.

His phone beeps with another abusive text. FILTHY BSTARD.

A noise brings Adam to the window. He looks out the front and sees two teenagers and a girl running away from the Vicarage.

What have they been doing? He heads downstairs fast.

CUT TO:

37

EXT. VICARAGE - FRONT DOOR - NIGHT 6 (17:30)

37

He opens the door. The teens have graffitied PERVERT across the front of the house. Adam's heart sinks.

Alex mustn't see this.

CUT TO:

38

EXT. STREET - SUPERMARKET - NIGHT 6 (20:00)

38

Colin, much the worse for drink, is sitting in a stained sleeping bag by the cash point outside a supermarket. Classic homeless image. He's got Bongo his beloved dog with him.

Someone comes to the ATM. It's Lisa, from the shop, getting a tenner out. Colin dimly senses it's someone he knows - so stares at Lisa with drunken, hooded eyes.

Lisa feels unnerved.

COLIN

Got any change? Please. I'm
starving.

Lisa ignores him.

COLIN

Please. Just a little bit of
change.

LISA

Sorry.
(fuck off)

COLIN

It's just sheer bad luck that I'm
here and you're not. C'mon...

LISA

Watch it mate, I've got mace.

She hasn't. Then she recognises him.

LISA

Hang on - ain't you a mate of that
filthy vicar?

Colin looks at her - shakes his head.

COLIN

Nah.

LISA

Yeah you are. I ain't giving no
money to a filthy vicar's mate.

COLIN

I hate that twat. Don't know him.

LISA

Yes you do.

COLIN

No I don't. How many times do I
have to tell ya - I don't know him?

At which point the burglar ALARM for CHICK PIZZ goes off LOUDLY. Flashing yellow light above a chicken icon.

COLIN
Fucken burglar alarm!
(shouts at the man inside)
Get it fucking fixed - you massive
cock.

Alarm screaming. Lisa flees on to the other side of the street.

39

INT/EXT. VICARAGE - FRONT DOOR - NIGHT 6 (20:05)

39

Adam with a bucket of water and suds is vainly rubbing away the graffiti. It's a pitiful sight.

ADAM

Quick quick, before she gets home.

His thoughts become prayer....

ADAM (V.O.)

Dear God, do you really want me to go through this? This is what you want is it? For things to be this hard? Okay - I'll try and be strong. I'll try and make it. But I don't know if I can.

He steps back, assesses his progress.

ALEX

What are you doing

She's standing behind him. Back from work. Adam jumps.

ADAM

Oh hi Alex. Hi. Um. Some arsehole's graffitied the house. Tsch.

But that's unconvincing. Too much emotion near the surface.

ALEX

It's outrageous. Who would do that?

ADAM

It happens to priests.

Beat. She realises that he's going to try denial - so she shows him that she has the local paper.

ALEX

I know what's happened Adam. It's okay...

ADAM

(manic, scared, desperate)
That newspaper report is nonsense
Alex. It's nonsense...

ALEX

I know.

ADAM

...you know what happened between me and Ellie. I've told you. It's not - what they suggest.

ALEX

I know. Don't worry. Are you okay?
(very worried)

ADAM

Yeah yeah yeah I'm fine I'm fine. I
just wanted to get this off....
(the graffiti)
...and now I've got to take the big
cross to Father Winters. He's been
waiting for it.

ALEX

What? Don't do that. Come and talk
to me.

ADAM

(babbling)

No no no no, I'm fine I'm fine. No
need. Don't worry. You look after
Katie. Let me get this done.

He heads rapidly to the side garage where the big Holy Week
cross is.

ADAM

Must do this. You look after her.

Indicates Katie as he goes and pulls out the cross. Alex goes
to Katie.

Adam humps the big wooden cross up on to his shoulder. Starts
walking...

ALEX

Adam, don't do that now.

ADAM

I must. I must I must I must. Don't
worry. Won't take long. Back later.

He flees with the cross. Demons in his mind. Night falling
around him.

Alex stands holding Katie in the doorway. Very concerned by
Adam's manner and actions.

CUT TO:

40

EXT. RESIDENTIAL STREET - NIGHT 6 (20:30)

40

Adam carries the cross down the back streets of Stoke Newington. A strange, poignant, innocuous sight.

CUT TO:

41

EXT. HOXTON STREET - THE WALK TO GOLGOTHA - NIGHT 6 (20:35) 41

Still carrying the cross. The streets are busier here.

People stare at him. Others ignore him. He's sweating. In a bit of pain now. Into Calvary sequence:

Two fat drunk men fall out of a football pub after some match. Tops off. Massive bellies and hanging tits. They're in a loud/fighty mood.

HOOLIGAN

Get out the way! Watch it!

He pushes Adam. Adam stumbles a bit. Struggles on.

Adam struggles on with his cross, turning to watch two GIRLS on the other side of the street having a cat fight.

Distracted, he is suddenly confronted by an AFRICAN MAN marching up the street, SHOUTING - arguing - in Somali (or similar) on his phone. Adam steps to avoid him but, burdened by the cross, stumbles and properly falls - crash - painful. Onto his back...

He looks up from the pavement - his upside down POV - we go into a hallucinatory moment. He seems to glimpse a ROMAN SOLDIER - was it the Archdeacon? - sneering down at him.

Visuals become baroque and feverish now. Sound design becomes hallucinatory and oppressive.

Still lying on the floor, and bleeding a bit from a head graze, Adam turns and spots - tilted angle - a dressed up vampy woman in an alleyway, talking to a man in a hard hat and overalls. She turns to look over her shoulder. Its Ellie. She blows cigarette smoke towards Adam.

Adam picks himself up. He glances into the brightly fluorescent lit KEBAB SHOP as he passes it. There's a crowd in mad party fancy dress at the counter and outside chomping donners. Someone in a PIG'S HEAD MASK turns and looks straight at Adam.

For a fleeting moment, the KEBAB CHEF is COLIN - he sharpens a large, vicious looking carving knife, staring with murderous intent at Adam.

He stumbles on, glimpsing two people snogging each other's faces off in the shadows of a doorway. Could that be Nigel and Cherry? It is - Nigel glances up Adam with a weird, smug expression.

A woman - is it Adoha? - passes him at pace, spitting in his face as she goes.

Adam wipes his cheek, but there's nothing there. He turns - to escape these streets. Hold on a woozy, abstract frame of de-focused blobs of colour from street lights and neon signs.

CUT TO:

42

INT. VICARAGE - BEDROOM - NIGHT 6 (04:10)

42

Small hours. Alex switches the light on and looks at the clock - it reads 04.10am. She picks up her mobile from the bedside table and dials Adam's number. It goes straight to voicemail.

She hangs up.

CUT TO:

Later. Alex on the phone to the police.

ALEX (INTO PHONE)

I'm concerned about him now. He's having a very tough time. He said he was going out for a couple of hours, but that was at 8 o'clock, and he's not back. I know my own husband. He should be back by now.

(listens)

Okay. Yes, I'll wait longer.

But she doesn't like that.

CUT TO:

43

EXT. MILE END PARK - DAY 7 (06:00)

43

First thin light of day on the park.

Eventually we spot Adam moving through the park with his cross. He's been up all night. Where's he been? Walking the streets of London? The wilderness? We'll never really know.

Just silence for a while. The birds. Adam - lone figure.

A dog walker passes him.

DOG WALKER

Mornin'.

He drags the cross up a little hill. There's a bench on top.

He sits on the bench - view of a shit bit of London. Props cross, and for some reason laughs to himself. He's got to such a low point there's nothing left to do but laugh.

He looks at the park. Sunny day coming.

ADAM

It's beautiful here.

He starts to sing to himself 'Dance Lord, Wherever You May be'. Just quietly at first. To himself. Then louder.

He likes the song. It lifts him out of himself. Out of his torment and woes. He sings a bit louder.

ADAM

Dance, dance, wherever you may be,
I am the lord of the dance, said he
And I lead you all, wherever you
may be, And I lead you all in the
dance, said he...

He stands and sings. He starts to dance - without cares.
Dancing. Singing...

ADAM

...the pharisees they wouldn't
dance, they wouldn't follow me, I
danced for the fishermen James and
John, they came with me so the
dance went on...

Wider: Adam dancing - dancing on the heath - like a lunatic.

But now there's another MAN standing next to him, drinking from a tinny. An angelic tramp - in a shell suit. Where did he appear from? Heaven?

He starts jigging along with Adam. Mad grin. Two men dancing.

Now that he's been joined Adam feels self-conscious so stops.

TRAMP
I like your dancing.

ADAM
(sits on bench)
Yeah thanks.

Tramp joins him. Stands by him.

TRAMP
You're in a good mood then.

ADAM
Not really.

TRAMP
Why's that?

ADAM
I'm fighting to keep something
alive - but I don't think I can do
it.

TRAMP
I've learned a few things over the
years.

He sits next to Adam. Adam looks at him - oh no some idiot.

ADAM
Oh yes?

Pregnant pause. What will he say...?

TRAMP
Can't make an omelette without
breaking some eggs.

ADAM
(disappointed)
Right, thanks.

He is an idiot.

TRAMP
What doesn't kill you makes you
stronger.

ADAM
I see.

TRAMP
We are what we eat.

ADAM
Yep.

TRAMP

You buy cheap, you buy twice. The
open hand has the strongest grip.

ADAM

You can stop now.

TRAMP

Never parachute into an area you've
just bombed.

ADAM

That's a good one.

TRAMP

Hey Adam...

Adam is pulled up. How does this man know his name?

ADAM

You know my name.

TRAMP

We all have our crosses to bear.

ADAM

Yes. Yes we do.

TRAMP

I understand, Adam.

The Tramp gives Adam a steady, level look. Holds Adam's eyes. Adam receives love from those eyes. This man suddenly seems to miraculously understand Adam's state and fears.

TRAMP

I'll always be here.

Is that God talking about His Presence? Or the tramp referring to his bench?

He gives Adam a final look - then gets up and walks away.

Adam left on the bench. The Tramp has already disappeared.

CUT TO:

44

EXT. VICARAGE - DRIVEWAY - DAY 7 (07:30)

44

Adam looking pale, dishevelled and benignly deranged comes from the streets towards the house. (No cross now.)

He rings the doorbell. No key. Waits for Alex to answer.

Eventually Alex answers - a wave of anger and relief washes over her.

ALEX

Adam? Where've you been? I've been so so worried about you.

ADAM

Hi. Don't worry. I'm here.

Adam walks in.

ADAM

I just met God.

She looks at him - oh dear. He goes and makes a vain attempt to straighten his look in front of the hall mirror.

He takes his coat.

ALEX

What are you doing?

ADAM

I've got to go to see the Bishop now.

And off he goes.

CUT TO:

45

INT. BISHOP'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY 7 (09:31)

45

The Bishop is standing by the sink, looking out the window. Half turned from us.

Eventually Adam enters. Shown in from reception.

BISHOP OF LONDON

(firm)

Sit down please.

Indicates the kitchen table.

BISHOP OF LONDON (CONT'D)

Sorry forgive my manner, I have a splitting headache today.

Adam starts rummaging in his pocket.

ADAM

I might have an aspirin.

He produces a few old receipts, a pack of Pepper Pig plasters, a scrumpled pack of ten fags... the Bishop studies the contents of Adam's pockets with curiosity.

Next comes a small pack of baby rusks. He offers it up.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Would you like a rusk?

Bishop smiles - no thanks. Adam now finds half a Fruit & Nut.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Or some of this? Can't find my aspirin.

Adam offers up the chocolate bar.

BISHOP OF LONDON

Why not? Thank you.

Adam breaks a lump off. They share the bar.

BISHOP OF LONDON (CONT'D)

Are you alright?

ADAM

I'm alright.

BISHOP OF LONDON

Have you had a horrible time?

Of course he has. He nods... but says...

ADAM

It's okay. I don't mind now.

Odd thing to say.

BISHOP OF LONDON

Well, Archdeacon Robert has done a very full and clear report for me. I'm sorry it's taken so long - but you'll be glad to hear that in my judgement this complaint is unfounded. There clearly was an incident but I don't believe it was indicative of a deeper relationship. So there's no need for further disciplinary action.

Bishop smiles. But Adam remains silent.

BISHOP OF LONDON (CONT'D)

Innocent.

His smile has both kindness and apology.

ADAM

If you say I am.

The Bishop - taken aback.

BISHOP OF LONDON

I thought you'd be relieved to hear that.

Adam - stays silent.

BISHOP OF LONDON (CONT'D)

I know this whole, inadequate process has put you under a terrible strain.

ADAM

Thank you.

BISHOP OF LONDON

Do you need some counselling? We can organise that.

ADAM

No. I want to go.

BISHOP OF LONDON

Go where?

ADAM

I want to leave St. Saviour's.

BISHOP OF LONDON

You mean you want to resign?

Significant beat - Adam realises what he's doing.

ADAM

Yes. I'm resigning.

BISHOP OF LONDON

Why?

ADAM

Lots of people want St. Saviour's closed. I won't fight them anymore.

BISHOP OF LONDON

If you resign - I can't save St. Saviour's for you - you know that?

ADAM

I want to go. Let me go.

BISHOP OF LONDON

Of course if you want to go I won't stop you. But have you considered what you're doing? Not just to St. Saviour's, but to yourself...?

Adam looks sad then smiles.

ADAM

You're a kind man.

BISHOP OF LONDON

What will you do?

ADAM

I'll be free.

BISHOP OF LONDON

Will you?

The Bishop scrutinises Adam intensely for a few seconds. Adam is apparently serene.

ADAM

Can I go now?

BISHOP OF LONDON (CONT'D)

You're sure.

He gestures 'very well' with frustration. Then pragmatism from the Bishop.

BISHOP OF LONDON (CONT'D)

Vale feliciter in Cristo.

ALTERNATIVE LATIN

Ite in pacem.

ADAM

Thanks

The Bishop sees he has chocolate on his hands. He gets up... goes and washes it off at the sink.

End of Episode.