

1 **EXT. STREET - DAY (10.00)**

(JACOB OOV, IAIN OOV, AMBULANCE CONTROLLER OOV, TABBY OOV)

High Angle. An ambulance careers down a street. Foot to the floor fast. Blues and twos wail. Garbled tense voices overlap...

 IAIN (OOV)
How far...?

 JACOB (OOV)
On Solhurst. Less than a mile...

 IAIN (OOV)
Put your foot down...

 JACOB (OOV)
It is down!

 TABBY (OOV)
I don't want...

 IAIN (OOV)
Stop that...

The ambulance hits a hard right, as...

CONTINUOUS TO:

2 INT. AMBULANCE - DAY (10.01)
(IAIN, TABBY, DYLAN OOV, JACOB OOV)

The ambulance lurches round the corner hindering IAIN who struggles to contain TABBY BURKE (15) - working class grunge, teared-up eyeliner, too many piercings. TABBY's slipped her left arm from a restraint - which has a new dressing on it from where she has slit her wrist - and she claws wildly at an older dressing on her right arm, glimpses of old self-harm scars, of previous suicide attempts...

IAIN
Don't do that...

TABBY screams as IAIN tries to grab her left hand... arm flailing she pulls the canula line from her right arm, blood splatters...

IAIN (CONT'D)
Tabby, no!

JACOB (OOV)
Iain?

IAIN grabs TABBY's arm...

IAIN
(to JACOB)
She's pulled the IV...

JACOB (OOV)
Shall I stop?

TABBY tries to bite his hand....

IAIN
Tabby, don't.
(to JACOB)
Just get us there.

IAIN holds TABBY down, who bucks and wriggles...

IAIN (CONT'D)
You know me. Stop this... look at me!
Look at your arm...

TABBY sees the blood dripping from the vein where the IV was....

IAIN (CONT'D)
We're nearly there. Let me look after
you... You know me, please....

And TABBY deflates, starts to cry, a child's sniffles...

IAIN (CONT'D)
Good girl. People care for you. Your
foster mum's on her way...

JACOB (OOV)
We all right back there?

IAIN
I think so...
(to TABBY)
Are we?

Completely compliant now, TABBY stares at the blood leaking from her arm. IAIN clocks his amb bag on the floor...

IAIN (CONT'D)
I'm going to cover this, I won't put a
needle back in. I'll just cover it...

TABBY watches as IAIN uses his foot to hook the bag towards him...

IAIN (CONT'D)
It's all right. It's going to be okay...

IAIN gets the bag, stretches for a gauze... can't quite reach...

IAIN (CONT'D)
We'll sort you out...

And IAIN lunges... releasing the pressure on TABBY's left arm... and in that moment, TABBY breaks his grip... and grabs the razor blade that she had secreted in her old bandage... the one she has been trying to get her hand on the whole time...

And we go to IAIN... who realises his mistake in an instant, and though he lunges, there is nothing he can do, and...

TABBY drags the blade across her throat (unseen).

On IAIN's shock, as...

HARD CUT TO:

3 INT. ED. RESUS CORRIDOR/RESUS 1 - DAY (10.04)D

(DYLAN, IAIN, PAIGE, JACOB)

(NGOZI, TABBY, NS STAFF, NS PATIENTS)

NS STAFF scatter as the ambulance trolley careers into resus at speed...

DYLAN

Excuse me -

CLOSE ON: IAIN, his gloved hands covering the gaping gash in TABBY's throat, as blood pumps, coming fast despite the mass of gauze. TABBY is agitated and thrashing...

IAIN

...Tabby Burke, 15 years old. Multiple suicide attempts...

DYLAN

Out the way, please... I thought this was a slit wrist...

IAIN

She pulled a concealed razor in the back of the ambulance...

IAIN feels the looks but keeps his eyes on TABBY...

IAIN (CONT'D)

I've tried to stop the blood loss, she's losing her airway. And she pulled out her IV line...

DYLAN

I need more light. Get ENT and get me the difficult airway trolley. Someone re-site her venflon and get me the RSI drugs now.

(to IAIN)

Move your hands...

IAIN does. A horrific gash. Blood splutters as TABBY gasps...

PAIGE

Can you see anything?

DYLAN

More light...

NS STAFF position lights as PAIGE administers RSI drugs...

PAIGE

Propofol fent and roc going in.

TABBY goes limp.

DYLAN

The trachea's partially transected... we
need to secure this airway, pass me a
bougie... and an ET tube... more light
here please!

DYLAN, aided by PAIGE, passes the bougie into TABBY's neck as
NGOZI administers suction... she is gurgling, blood spraying from
her throat...

DYLAN manages to get the bougie in.

DYLAN (CONT'D)
In. Thanks Ngozi, I can see now.

PAIGE feeds him the ET tube which he threads over the bougie...

DYLAN (CONT'D)
Ambu bag, please...

DYLAN attaches the bag valve mask, securing it to the tube. As PAIGE bags DYLAN listens to TABBY's lungs...

DYLAN (CONT'D)
That'll do. Let's secure this tube and transfer her to the ED trolley. Iain excuse us...

IAIN doesn't move.

JACOB
Mate, the transfer?

IAIN realises and moves to help...

DYLAN
You'll both need to make a report.

As the team prepares to transfer TABBY to the ED trolley, we stay on IAIN, the pulse in his head pounding, the blood on his coat fresh, and the guilt on his face wrought, and...

CUT TO: TITLES

4 INT. ED. MAIN CORRIDOR/RECEPTION - DAY (10.30)
(RIDA, RASH, FAITH, NOOR, NAZIA, JACOB, IAIN)
(NS STAFF, NS PATIENTS)

The admin doors swing open. RASH hurries out into the busy main corridor, followed by RIDA, pinning her name badge on, trying to keep up. RASH, nose deep in his tablet...

RIDA
Coco Pops was the problem not me...

RASH
Not an excuse.

RIDA
Is actually. Cos you didn't buy any. And I wrote it on the fridge. Ashok flipped. Gillian called.

RASH pauses, lets an NS NURSE with a trolley past...

RASH
You were at mine?

RIDA
Hello? Is this microphone working, that's why I was late. I had to pick some up and feed them to Ashok who'd already lost his s.h.i.t. with Gillian.

RASH
Why didn't she call me?

RIDA
You were here, it's not her fault! She's the best of the agency bunch, don't mess with Gillian. I'm here now, aren't I?

Troubled, RASH stares at RIDA feeling so far behind the curve of his own dad's care that he hates it. But RIDA misreads that look as cold annoyance and her bonhomie wilts...

RIDA (CONT'D)
What are you staring at?

FAITH (OOV)
Rash -

Turning, RASH goes to join FAITH - in her care navigator role - standing by a young British/Pakistani couple in reception. RIDA follows, muttering to herself...

RIDA
Thanks Rida. I really value and appreciate your work with my dad...

FAITH is handing over...

FAITH

...Mrs Din has had some spotting and is in some abdominal discomfort. We've done a urine test...

NAZIA DIN (20s) - exquisite in black jeans, Metallica T-shirt - is in a wheelchair, hand on stomach, distressed. Husband, NOOR DIN (20s) - wearing "Kettle Down Burger" work clothes, name tag declaring 'MANAGER' - is beside her, and beside himself...

NOOR

...I was on an early. She called, we couldn't get an appointment with the doctor. I just panicked...

RASH

It was the right thing to do.

(to NAZIA)

Mrs Din, this is Nurse Amaan, she'll take you through to cubicles...

RIDA

Hi. You can just call me Rida.

Big smile from RIDA and a glance of irritation from RASH. RIDA clocks it - what's up with him today?!

RASH

(consulting tablet)

Your pregnancy test is positive, were you aware you were pregnant?

NOOR brightens...

NOOR

We weren't sure, were we Naz?

NAZIA

(upset)

It's early days.

RASH

Let's get you checked out in cubicles.

And they start to move off...

FAITH

Hey - don't forget this.

FAITH hands RIDA, Nazia's distinctive cardigan, perhaps with an eagle on the back. As RIDA reaches back to take it...

FAITH (CONT'D)

(mouths)

Lose the necklace.

RIDA

What?

FAITH gestures discreetly and RIDA realises that she's wearing the necklace that Ashok gave her. Shit - no wonder Rash is pissed!

RIDA (CONT'D)
...Thanks.

Tucking the necklace in her top, RIDA darts after the others...

RIDA (CONT'D)
(about cardigan)
Nearly forget this. It's a nice one...

But we stay on FAITH, who spots...

FAITH
Iain!

Cleaned up but subdued, IAIN heads out with JACOB, pushing their trolley. He pulls up...

JACOB
Catch you out there.

IAIN
Yeah.
(to FAITH)
What's up?

FAITH
I just wanted a quick word...

She spots how exhausted he looks...

FAITH (CONT'D)
Are you all right? You look rung out.

IAIN's not prepared to talk about it.

IAIN
Busy morning. What d'you need?

FAITH
Really sorry, but I need your keys back.

IAIN was not expecting that. FAITH blunders on, totally unaware...

FAITH (CONT'D)
Luka's lost his, of course he has, and I don't have a spare and I thought well, you don't really need yours anymore, do you?

IAIN's already reaching for his pocket...

IAIN
No, course I don't. Silly to hang onto them...

FAITH
That's what I thought.

IAIN struggles to get the keys off. Finally hands them over...

IAIN
All yours.

FAITH
Thanks.

An NS PATIENT approaches FAITH's desk...

FAITH (CONT'D)
Best go.
(to NS PATIENT)
Are you looking for me?

And she's off not realising just how hard she's kicked IAIN in the proverbials. On IAIN, freshly bruised, as...

CUT TO:

5 INT. ED. CUBICLES - DAY (10:40)
(RASH, NAZIA, NOOR, RIDA)
(NS STAFF, NS PATIENTS)

Inside a cubicle, RIDA attaches a BP cuff to a now gowned NAZIA's arm as RASH consults with her, doting husband NOOR close by...

RASH
Have you experienced any problems with pregnancy before?

NAZIA
(fragile)
I've miscarried six times.

RIDA's heart goes out. She sees NOOR stroke NAZIA's hand...

NOOR
But spotting can happen in early pregnancy, can't it?

RASH senses their desperation. His manner's pitch perfect.

RASH
It is quite common, yes...

NOOR
See?

RASH
But your history of repeated miscarriages is concerning. Has your GP referred you to an obstetrics outpatient clinic?

NAZIA
She did. We've been quite a few times...

NOOR cuts in. He has a tendency to do that...

NOOR
...But everything works fine. They don't really know why we've never made it past the first trimester...

NAZIA's turn to cut in.

NAZIA
We're first cousins.

RIDA, surprised, looks up from the BP cuff. NOOR spots her look and is hurt by it, but he's mainly hurt by his wife's admission...

NOOR
That's got nothing to do with it, Naz.

NAZIA
He needs to know! It's relevant. Isn't it?

RASH

I don't know to be honest. Once we know how far along you are we can get you booked in for an early pregnancy scan. We'll look after you, don't worry.

Tension dialled down a little.

RIDA

BP 150/100, pulse 80, sats 100%, resp 32.

RASH

Good. I'm going to leave...
(pointedly to RIDA)
Nurse Amaan to take your sample and I'll check back with you later.

RIDA gets the message. Be professional.

NAZIA

Thank you.

RASH starts to move away, but RIDA wants to prove herself...

RIDA

I could chase gynae? See if there's any way they can fit Mrs Din in sooner?

RASH pauses, frowns.

RASH

Good idea.

And RASH leaves wondering what's up with RIDA, leaving RIDA deflated and anxious, and...

CUT TO:

6 EXT. AMBULANCE/HOPE AND ANCHOR - DAY (10:50)

(TEDDY, JAN, JODIE, MEGAN)
(NS YOUNG WOMEN, NS PUBLIC)

JAN waits in the driver's seat of an ambulance watching TEDDY approach with two coffees through the open driver's seat window.

A group of YOUNG WOMEN spill from the Hope and Anchor. One of them, MEGAN WISH (18), the worst for wear, wolf whistles...

TEDDY
(without looking)
I'll take that.

JODIE (OOV)
Course you will, big head.

TEDDY's surprised to see JODIE emerge from amongst the group.

MEGAN
Oh Christ, she knows him!

Cackles as JODIE heads over, smiling, a little tipsy. He grins as he meets her...

TEDDY
Starting early are we?

JODIE
Cheeky arse.

JODIE points out one of the women...

JODIE (CONT'D)
Tilly's leaving do. You know her? From
paeds? Quitting nursing, had enough.

TEDDY
Going out with a bang is she?

JODIE
She'll be asleep by two.

MEGAN
(calling over)
Save some for us, Jodie podie!

TEDDY
That one will be in bed in an hour.

JODIE
You wish.

TEDDY
You what?!

They laugh. Feels nice. Feels easy. JAN, watching from the ambulance, bibs the horn with a scowl. Beep!

JAN
Get a move on!

TEDDY
Better go.

JODIE
Better had.

And she pokes him on the nose - affectionate, warm, a touch of flirty. He grins as she joins the others. Jogging back to the ambulance, TEDDY drops his sappy look as he passes JAN her coffee through the window...

JAN
What was that about?

TEDDY
Nothing.

JAN
Not born yesterday. What's going on with you and Jodie?

TEDDY
Give it a rest!

But JAN sees straight through him and he knows it. She watches JODIE disappear as TEDDY climbs into the truck. A beat of awkward.

JAN
The last I heard you and Paige were eyeing up wedding venues.

TEDDY
Her idea that. Not mine.

JAN sees his uncertainty. His defences up... her heart sinks.

JAN
Don't mess her about.

TEDDY
I won't.

JAN
She deserves better. If you think you've made a mistake, fair do's, but deal with it now. Marriage is a long time. Don't go breaking Paige's heart.

JAN starts the engine. On TEDDY, knowing she's right, and...

CUT TO:

7 EXT. HIGH RISE FLATS - DAY (11.20)
(IAIN, JACOB)

IAIN and JACOB are at an estate of tower blocks. Monuments to poverty and despair. Frustrated, IAIN jabs the lift button...

IAIN
What floor?

JACOB
Fourth. Let's walk...

IAIN
Got taken out in five-a-side last night.
Knee's killing me.

Jab, jab.

IAIN (CONT'D)
Come on you bloody thing...

JACOB sees IAIN bubbling, puts it down to...

JACOB
That last shout wasn't your fault.

IAIN
Never said it was.

Jab, jab. IAIN looks up at the block...

IAIN (CONT'D)
Fourth?

JACOB
Yep.

IAIN picks up his bag, pretends to feel better than he does...

IAIN
Race yer!

IAIN hits the stairs. JACOB follows with a wry smile, and...

CUT TO:

8 EXT. CONCRETE STAIRWELL/WALKWAY - DAY (11.27)

(JACOB, IAIN, NATALIA OOV, AMBULANCE CONTROL OOV, JIMO)

Rounding a corner, JACOB finds IAIN sitting on the top stair gasping...

JACOB
Given up, old man?

IAIN
This is it, isn't it?

JACOB
Next one.

IAIN
Really?!

JACOB
Come on...

And JACOB helps a complaining IAIN up. IAIN's phone rings. He clocks who it is...

IAIN
I need to get this.

JACOB
Loser.

JACOB scuttles past as IAIN picks up the call and follows up...

IAIN
(gasping/into phone)
Hey Nat -

NATALIA (OOV)
(filtered/happy to get through)
Are you dying?

IAIN
Not yet. On a shout. A high one.

NATALIA (OOV)
Oh, sorry. Just wanted to let you know
I'm going to be half hour late. Is that
still all right?

IAIN
Remind me?

NATALIA (OOV)
You're giving me a lift home, remember?

Nope.

IAIN
'Course. I'm not stupid.

NATALIA (OOV)
Questionable. So? How's seven sound?

IAIN doesn't know what to say. Should he still be picking Natalia up or is that going to piss Faith right off... er???

IAIN
You know what, can I get back? I just need to check on something...

NATALIA
(disappointed)
Sure.
(joke)
Hey? ...Don't go dying.

IAIN
Try not to.

And he hangs up as he arrives at the fourth floor, a sweaty mess...

JACOB
Hello? Hello? It's the paramedics...

JACOB is banging on a door.

JACOB
Anyone there?

Bang! Bang!

IAIN wheezes his way along the walkway, passing the useless lift, and skirting a dumped fridge and a kid's DIY bike ramp (plank resting on bricks)...

IAIN
Don't tell me there's no one in?

JACOB looks through a window... a scabby kitchen. He bangs on the window as IAIN looks down at the ambulance four floors below...

IAIN (CONT'D)
Long way up.

Bang! Bang!

IAIN (CONT'D)
(into radio)
3006 to control, over.

AMBULANCE CONTROL (OOV)
(filtered)
Control to 3006, go ahead.

IAIN
Thanks base. On our shout, female with burns. We're outside flat 407 but no joy. Have you got anymore information? Over.

JACOB bangs on the door again.

AMBULANCE CONTROL (OOV)
That's the number we have. I'll see if I
can contact the caller, over.

IAIN
Cheers mate, we'll keep trying.
(holstering radio with sigh)
This day's a giver, innit?

JACOB clocks that IAIN's mood's shifted again...

JACOB
Who was that on the phone?

IAIN rolls his eyes...

IAIN
Natalia. Trying to sort out her lift.
Don't know if it's the right thing...
(off look)
Faith asked for her keys back.

Now JACOB gets it.

JACOB
Ouch.

IAIN
Yeah, ouch. She's drawing a line.

JACOB
Is that bad?

IAIN
Just feels a bit...

JACOB
Permanent.

IAIN
Yeah.

The door to 407 opens. JIMO ARMSTRONG (20s) - skanky, skinny, grubby - blinks in the daylight. An anaemic mole in pants and T-shirt, he has crack addict writ all over...

JIMO
(slurred)
...that you... banging, is it...?

IAIN clocks JACOB - just perfect.

JACOB
All right there, mate. Yeah, that was us,
did we wake you?

JIMO grunts, smacking dry lips.

IAIN
Did you call an ambulance? We're
paramedics...

JIMO
...woke me, I was sleep...

IAIN

Do you know someone called Alice? We had
a 999 call from this address?

A flicker of recognition. Dull synapses firing.

JIMO

Al...?

JACOB

That's her. Is Al here, is she? Is she
inside?

JIMO

...was... pissed off I think...

IAIN and JACOB are not convinced JIMO's the most reliable of
information sources...

IAIN

Can we have a quick look? Just check?
Make sure?

JIMO spits on the floor...

JIMO

...starvin'...

And he wanders back into his flat... leaving the door open...

JACOB

Take that as a 'yeah'.

And they follow JIMO in, and...

CONTINUOUS TO:

9 INT. JIMO'S FLAT. VARIOUS - DAY (11.31)
(IAIN, JACOB, ALICE)
(JIMO)

Think of the worst flat you can, then double it. Rubbish on the floor, carpets stained, shabby curtains drawn and half the lights don't work...

IAIN
Hey mate... we're coming in... we're
right behind you...

But JIMO's vanished into gloom.

JACOB
Let's have a little look see.

Cautiously, they start to pick their way through the flat...

IAIN
Alice, are you in here? Alice? It's the
paramedics...

JACOB pushes open the kitchen door. As expected. Food on the side. Pots piled, flies buzzing. And all over the floor...

JACOB
Nice.

Oil, oozing over cracked lino. A blackened chip pan, dropped.

IAIN
(calling)
Alice... ?

IAIN pushes open another door where a TV mutters. A lounge. JIMO already snoring on a leatherette sofa. Drug paraphernalia on the laden table, a discarded spliff, semi-rolled.

They move on. A bedroom. Empty. Mattress propped against a fitted wardrobe. Carpet missing. IAIN hates that people live like this...

JACOB (OOV)
Iain!

And we follow IAIN as he moves down the hall to the last room. Another bedroom...

ALICE MCDONALD (20s) - mixed race, skinny to the point of disappearing - lies face down unconscious on a stained-sheet bed. She wears jeans, an unbuttoned man's shirt and, incongruously, a pair of brand new crisp trainers. JACOB's trying to rouse her...

JACOB (CONT'D)
Hey Alice, can you hear me?... Alice?

He gently squeezes her collar bone, she moans. IAIN, taking her pulse, spots a burnt tin can with holes in... a DIY crack pipe.

IAIN

That's why she's sleeping so well... I've got a radial.

JACOB

Alice, wake up, please. Alice...

ALICE comes to, startled, confused, muttering. Eyes black pits.

ALICE

...who are you..?

JACOB

You called us. We're the paramedics, are you all right?

ALICE, turns, sits up, pulling her shirt around her, revealing a wet towel wrapped around her right arm...

ALICE

...am now thanks for asking...

IAIN

That's all right. Can we have a look at your arm? Did you burn yourself?

ALICE notices her arm as if for the first time...

ALICE

...oh yeah...

IAIN

How d'you do it?

ALICE

Making chips for Jimo...

IAIN

Did you put this on yourself?

ALICE nods, eyes dopey...

IAIN (CONT'D)

Good job.

IAIN gently lifts the filthy towel off her arm revealing a horrific oil burn. Hand to elbow. Approximately 5% surface area, mixture of full and partial thickness. It's gruesome.

ALICE is confused by the look on their faces...

ALICE

S'all right... doesn't hurt...

She jabs the wound with her finger...

JACOB

Don't do that...

ALICE
Why...?

IAIN
Because we're looking after you now
Alice, okay?

And ALICE nods, already drifting.

JACOB
We doing this here?

IAIN
No chance. Let's get her out. We'll get
her sorted there...

On IAIN, full of care and compassion, but clearly sickened to the
back teeth by this job, and...

CUT TO:

10 INT. ED. ADMIN/CUBICLES - DAY (11.45)

(RIDA, PAIGE, NOOR)

(RASH, NS PATIENTS, NS STAFF)

Cubicles. Busy, noisy. RIDA, gloved and aproned tidies a bed covered with soiled sheets as PAIGE makes notes on her tablet. RASH over by admin...

RIDA

He hates me.

PAIGE

He doesn't.

RIDA

He does.

RASH moves away. RIDA shoves the sheets in a bin...

RIDA (CONT'D)

Maybe I should just come out with it? Hey Rash, you know I was wearing your dead mum's necklace, well, it's a funny story...

PAIGE

Not that.

(frowning at tablet)

Did Mr Collins go up for his CT?

RIDA

You know he did. The porters took him.

PAIGE sighs. Her mind's not there.

RIDA (CONT'D)

Are you hung over?

PAIGE

I wish. Went to view a venue last night. It was supposed to be a right laugh, free Prosecco, canapés, the whole works...

RIDA

My kind of night.

PAIGE

It was dry as. Teddy didn't want to be there.

RIDA

Isn't this supposed to be the happy, joyful, party bit with banging sex and doe eyes?

PAIGE

That's what I was lead to believe.

RIDA frowns at PAIGE's sadness. But no time to respond, as...

NOOR (OOV)
Help! I need help...

And...

CUT TO:

11 INT. ED. CUBICLE - DAY (11.47)

(NOOR, PAIGE, RIDA, RASH)

(NAZIA, NS STAFF)

NAZIA is collapsed against the trolley, a terrified NOOR by her side. RIDA and PAIGE assist her onto the bed, start to assess...

NOOR

...she had cramps. She wanted the toilet... I told her to wait...

PAIGE

She's tachy.

RIDA

Nazia? Nazia can you hear me?

Sweaty and pale, NAZIA groans...

NOOR

This isn't my fault...

RIDA

No one said it was.

RASH

(appearing)

What happened?

PAIGE

She collapsed. No obvious injuries...

RASH checks NAZIA's abdomen. She moans in pain...

RASH

Abdomen's tender...

NOOR

What's that mean?

RASH

She may be suffering some internal bleeding. Let's move through to resus...

PAIGE

I'll let them know.

PAIGE leaves in a hurry.

RASH

It's okay, Mrs Din, we've got you.

They push NAZIA out the cubicle, leaving us on NOOR, who is shocked still - mind racing - before he follows them, and...

CUT TO:

12 INT. STAIRWELL - DAY (11.50)
(JACOB, IAIN, ALICE)

Sitting on a carry-chair, ALICE is carried down the stairs like a queen by her two grunting serfs, IAIN and JACOB. JACOB at the head, IAIN at the feet...

JACOB
How are them knees?

IAIN
Don't ask.

ALICE comes to... bewildered, out of it...

ALICE
What... what's that...

IAIN
Welcome back. We're taking you to hospital...

ALICE
No...

IAIN
It's all right, we need to...

But ALICE becomes increasingly distressed...

ALICE
Don't want to go... want to stay here...

IAIN
You need to go in and get sorted...

ALICE
Where's Jimo?... Please, stop... stop...

She starts clawing at the walls...

IAIN
Let's put her down...

They do. Happy for the break. (IMPROVISED DIALOGUE, HERE)...

IAIN (CONT'D)
Alice...

ALICE
I need him... he's got...

IAIN
Jimo's asleep in the flat..

ALICE
The flat...?

IAIN

That's right. He's still sparko, and we really need to get you to hospital and get this arm looked at, remember?

And ALICE nods, conflicting thoughts flooding her addled head.

IAIN (CONT'D)

Well done...

(to JACOB)

Let's go.

JACOB

Take that strain.

And they do, and they lift, and...

CUT TO:

13 INT. ED. RESUS 1 - DAY (11.52)

(RASH, NAZIA, NOOR, PAIGE, RIDA)
(NGOZI, NS STAFF, PATIENTS)

PAIGE, RIDA and NS STAFF move in a flurry as two large bore lines are attached to NAZIA, barely conscious. NOOR watches on helplessly, clutching NAZIA's eagle cardigan. RASH performs a FAST scan.

RASH
I think we have a ruptured ectopic pregnancy - we need two large bore cannulas, O negative from the fridge. Rida, fast bleep Gynae and theatres, please..

RIDA goes to the phone. NAZIA's tearful...

NAZIA
Noor... ?

NOOR
(stepping forward)
I'm here...

An alarm goes.

NOOR (CONT'D)
What's that?

PAIGE
BP dropping...

RASH
(to NGOZI)
I need a blood gas, and get the O neg up...

PAIGE
I've a line in...

RASH
(to Nazia)
Her abdomen's full of free fluid.

RASH examines with the ultrasound. Gentle movements...

RIDA
(hanging up phone)
Gynae on their way...

RASH
Can we get the rapid infusers? We need to replace the blood she's lost.
(to NS NURSE)
Sally, activate the major haemorrhage protocol, please...

At this, NAZIA starts to gently keen...

NOOR
I'm sorry, Naz.

NAZIA shuts her eyes, blocking him out. NOOR feels faint...

NOOR (CONT'D)
So sorry...

RIDA
Do you want a chair, Mr Din?

NOOR shakes his head, overwhelmed by the moment, breath fast...

RASH
How are we doing with the shock pack? Is
the transfuser primed?

NOOR
Feel funny...

RIDA
Mr Din...?

CRASH! NOOR hits the deck. He's passed out, crashing into
equipment. Eagle cardigan dropped. STAFF rush to help...

RASH
Rida -

RIDA
I've got him...
(to NS NURSE)
Pass me a pillow, and get his feet up.
I'll take him to cubicles...

And RASH watches as RIDA takes control, feeling empowered, and...

CUT TO:

14 INT. ED. RECEPTION - DAY (12.05)

(HARRY, FAITH, STEVIE, ALICE)

(IAIN, JACOB, NS STAFF, NS PATIENTS)

FAITH, spotting STEVIE hurrying down the stairs talking animatedly with an NS DOCTOR, grabs a bright yellow envelope off her desk and cuts through the busy reception. She skirts round HARRY, in full police kit, who carries a cuppa...

HARRY

Walk don't run.

FAITH

Yes, headmaster.

HARRY snorts, heading to his station, as FAITH joins STEVIE...

STEVIE

(to NS DOCTOR)

...Raj, I know you booked the time off,
but what can I do? I'm sorry...

The disgruntled NS DOCTOR peels away, as...

FAITH

Tough at the top?

FAITH hands her the yellow envelope.

STEVIE

Always. How's it down here? What's this?

FAITH

Fan mail. Got handed in at reception...

STEVIE opens the envelope and reads over the following...

FAITH (CONT'D)

'Here' is a peaceful calm oasis where
nothing happens. I love it.

STEVIE

Sarcasm's really not your strong point.

STEVIE 'humphs' in surprise at the card...

FAITH

What is it?

STEVIE

(showing card)

A thank you from Lloyd for organising the
respite place. Yeah look, Allard House...

INSERT CARD: Stickers of stars and a scribble of a house labelled Allard House. And someone else's writing saying - 'Thank you Doctor Nash. Love Lloyd, xxx'

FAITH
There you go. A happy day. Keep that smile.

STEVIE
What smile?

She frowns over at HARRY, laughing with an NS SECURITY GUARD...

FAITH
Give him a break. He's all right.

STEVIE
I've known too many in that uniform who aren't.

FAITH would comment, but a commotion distracts. IAIN and JACOB arriving with ALICE on a trolley, crying out...

ALICE
I don't want to be here!

IAIN glances over at FAITH and STEVIE, as they push on through...

STEVIE
He's having a day off.

FAITH
Iain?

STEVIE
Didn't you hear? A patient slashed their throat in front of him. Not nice.

FAITH's shocked, she had no idea...

STEVIE (CONT'D)
(holding up card)
Thanks for this.

And STEVIE hurries off towards resus, leaving us on FAITH worried for IAIN, and...

CUT TO:

15 INT. ED. RESUS 2 - DAY (12.10)

(IAIN, ALICE, STEVIE, JACOB, DYLAN)
(NS STAFF, NS PATIENTS)

STEVIE arrives to find ALICE overwhelmed and wailing as they move her from the trolley to bed...

STEVIE
What we got?

IAIN
Alice McDonald, aged 21. She's sustained a significant chip pan burn on her right arm from wrist to elbow...

ALICE
...I need Jimo...

IAIN
...Burn has been irrigated
and covered in cling film.
Obs are stable...

ALICE (CONT'D)
Jimo... Jimo...

STEVIE
Pain meds?

ALICE
I want to go back!

IAIN
She's been self-medicating with crack. We gave 1 gram of IV paracetamol.....

JACOB
Doesn't seem to be in too much pain.

STEVIE
Alice, are you going to calm down, let us treat you?

ALICE
No, no... (etc.)

STEVIE
Let's get her out of these clothes, and give five of lorazepam, see if that calms her...

IAIN frowns...

IAIN
Can I have a second with her first?

STEVIE
Go for it.
(to NS STAFF)
Let's contact the on-call burns consultant...

As STAFF try to remove her clothes, ALICE kicks out...

ALICE
Don't touch my trainers! (etc, etc.)

IAIN
Alice stop.

ALICE stops, all twitchy, scratchy desperation...

ALICE
But I need to go back...

IAIN crouches by ALICE's side...

IAIN
You need to think about what's important.
Your health. You can see your boyfriend
later.

ALICE
He's not my boyfriend...

IAIN
Who is he?

ALICE starts to cry in frustration...

IAIN (CONT'D)
Alice?

ALICE
My dealer... I just need... and I hurt my
arm!

IAIN
I know you did. And these guys are going
to make it better but you have to help us
help you. Doctor Nash wants to help...

STEVIE looks over, smiles reassuringly...

IAIN (CONT'D)
We all do. You can do this.

And ALICE nods, trying to be strong.

IAIN (CONT'D)
Okay.

IAIN stands and lets a grateful STEVIE and the team move in...

STEVIE
Let's have a look at what we're dealing
with shall we, Alice?
(to NS NURSE)
Get some pictures for plastics...

IAIN joins JACOB as the team examine ALICE's wound...

JACOB
Good job.

IAIN nods ruefully, his heart not really in it.

As they exit Resus 2, they pass DYLAN...

IAIN

Dylan. Any news on Tabby Burke? The teenager from earlier?

DYLAN's look says it all.

DYLAN

I'm sorry. She didn't make it...

On IAIN, gut punched, and...

CUT TO:

16 INT. ED. CUBICLES - DAY (12.15)
(RIDA, NOOR)

NOOR sits on the bed as RIDA hands him a glass of water...

NOOR
I've never fainted before.

RIDA
It was a good first attempt.

He takes a sip.

NOOR
How's Naz?

RIDA
She's in safe hands but she's unwell.
They've taken her to theatre to stabilise
what does look like an ectopic pregnancy
I'm afraid...

NOOR
Isn't that really bad?!

RIDA
It's when an embryo implants itself
outside the womb, usually in one of the
fallopian tubes. When the tube
ruptures...

NOOR
Ruptures? Will she be able to have
children?

RIDA
They'll do everything they can in theatre
to make sure she can still get pregnant,
but sometimes it's not possible...

NOOR's devastated.

NOOR
This is all my fault!

RIDA
It's not, it's just bad luck.

NOOR
Don't patronise me! I saw your look when
you heard we were cousins. You think we
deserve this...

RIDA
I so don't...

NOOR (CONT'D)
Think we brought it on
ourselves...

NOOR (CONT'D)

Even Naz blames me! She thinks this is why everything's going wrong. What if she's right? What if I've done this to her? To our baby?

RIDA

You haven't...

NOOR

Sure about that, are you?

But RIDA's not. And NOOR sees it. And wiping his arm across his tears, he starts to walk away...

RIDA

Where are you going?

NOOR

I don't know.

RIDA

Mr Din, you shouldn't be walking about...

But NOOR's not stopping and we're left on RIDA, frustrated, and...

CUT TO:

17 INT. AMBULANCE/AMBULANCE QUEUE - DAY (13.00)

(TEDDY, MEGAN, JAN)

(NS PUBLIC, NS STAFF, NS PATIENTS)

MEGAN, the drunk girl from The Hope and Anchor earlier, sprawls across a stretcher, IV paracetamol in, leg in a splint. She's wasted, words slurred. TEDDY struggles to check her pulse on her foot...

MEGAN
Hands cold!

TEDDY's had better days.

TEDDY
Heart rate's a little raised. How's your pain? That IV paracetamol kicking in?

MEGAN
How much longer...

JAN, sitting with a tea on the tailgate, calls back...

JAN
Third in the queue now, love.

TEDDY
(disgruntled)
You all right sitting there?

JAN looks at him, clearly still off with him...

JAN
Fine, thanks.

MEGAN
I should have priority... my sister works here...

TEDDY
Used to. You were on her leaving do, remember?

MEGAN
How do you...?
(recognising him)
Oh I know you from earlier - Jodie podie's boyfriend!

JAN huffs.

TEDDY
No. No, I'm not. We're just friends...

MEGAN
Lovely face...

JAN

Don't waste your time, love, he's got a
fiancé... least we think he has.

TEDDY
(to JAN)
Reign it in, eh?

JAN slurps tea as MEGAN looks down at her dead cracked phone...

MEGAN
Sister's going to bollock me for
wandering off...

TEDDY
Does she not know where you are?

MEGAN
Phone broke. They were all having a go
anyway. Not your Jodie podie..

TEDDY	MEGAN (CONT'D)
She's not my...	She'd gone. Better things to do...

MEGAN (CONT'D)
But the others. 'Yer too drunk!' I only
had two!

TEDDY's struggles to believe that...

TEDDY
That so?

MEGAN
Can't even remember falling... Dunno who
called ambulance. I didn't even wanna go
out! I got flu...

TEDDY
You did have a bit of a temperature...

MEGAN
Still have. And my head's banging!

TEDDY
Mine too.

JAN
(at TEDDY)
Poor love.

That's it, TEDDY's had enough...

TEDDY
I'm nipping out. Jan, take over here.
I'll see if can find out where we are in
this queue, Megan.

JAN
Third. I told you.

TEDDY exits the ambulance with a scowl...

TEDDY

Well, I'll go get us some IV paracetamol
from the restock cupboard cause there's
none left.

And TEDDY huffs off, disgruntled, happy to escape, and...

CUT TO:

18 INT. ED. RESUS CORRIDOR - DAY (13.10)
(RIDA, STEVIE, ALICE, NGOZI)
(NS STAFF, PATIENTS)

*

Professionally cheerful, RIDA walks out an NS PATIENT...

RIDA
...pick up your prescription at the
pharmacy, and you're good to go.

STEVIE (OOV)
Look out!

*

RIDA is pushed out the way by a distressed, angry ALICE (now wearing Nazia's eagle cardigan over her hospital gown), trying to discharge herself...

ALICE
You can't make me stay! I need to go.

STEVIE and NGOZI fail to calm her...

NGOZI
Miss McDonald please wait for the burns
consultant...

ALICE	STEVIE
I don't want to see anyone else!	It's only a temporary dressing on your arm...

ALICE snarls in STEVIE's face, slapping away her hand...

ALICE (CONT'D)
I don't care! I want to leave now!

STEVIE switches on her bodycam...

STEVIE
Ms MacDonald, I'm advising you that your
burns need a review, but you're free to
go...

ALICE
Get out my way then!

*
*
*

RIDA watches as STEVIE and NGOZI follow ALICE out, and...

*

CUT TO:

19 INT. ED. CORRIDOR/LIFT/MAIN CORRIDOR - DAY (13.20)

(PAIGE, TEDDY)

(NS STAFF, NS PATIENTS)

Fifth floor (cause that is where the cupboard is!). TEDDY enters the lift carrying 2 bottles of IV paracetamol, and texting. Words appear on screen...

'Jodie - can you call me'

He pushes the lift button and the doors goes to shut... but are stopped by a hand. PAIGE enters. They are surprised, flustered, to see each other...

PAIGE

Look pleased to see me why don't you?

TEDDY

Sorry - miles away...

TEDDY hits send and the text disappears off screen, as...

TEDDY (CONT'D)

Where are you going?

PAIGE

Down.

TEDDY hits the button. The doors shut. Just the two of them. Oh, and that elephant...

TEDDY

(filling silence)

Had to pick up IV paracetamol.

Dick comment. They both know it.

PAIGE

Congratulations.

Awkward beat. And another. And...

TEDDY

Listen...

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Are you...

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Sorry, what...?

TEDDY

No, no, sorry, you first.

PAIGE

What happened last night, at the wedding venue? It was like you hated it...

TEDDY

I didn't.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

You didn't want to be there...

TEDDY (CONT'D)

I did. I thought it was nice.

PAIGE

Nice?! Wow. Ring the bells for nice.
What's up with you?

TEDDY

What d'you mean?

PAIGE

Don't give me that. You're hot and cold.
I have no idea what I've done.

TEDDY

You've not done anything, I swear.

PAIGE

So what is it?

TEDDY looks into her eyes, sees her hurt, knows that this is the time to get real, to do the deed, but... he bottles it.

TEDDY

It's nothing. I'm happy. Really.

PAIGE fumes...

PAIGE

You know what, let's go with nice. Let's stick a deposit down...

TEDDY

What?

PAIGE

The woman said they had a couple of cancellations. If you're happy, I am, let's get it booked, eh? Let's get this show on the road.

Sucker punched, TEDDY's lost for words. PAIGE deflates.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Christ Teddy, just be honest!
I've had doubts... this is all happening fast. Too fast? I don't know. But... I need to know what you're thinking. Do you even want this anymore? Talk to me!

Still TEDDY can't spit them words. PAIGE is heartbroken.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

I can't be with someone who makes me feel like this...

She spits on her finger, and drags her engagement ring off, and hands it back to TEDDY...

PAIGE (CONT'D)
Never fit properly anyway.

PING! The lift doors open onto the busy main corridor.

They both exit in a sort of shellshock. Nothing said. Professional masks slipped on, TEDDY watches PAIGE walk away feeling... what? Regret? Relief? His phone starts to ring...

TEDDY
(into phone)
Hi Jodie... thanks for getting back...

And...

CUT TO:

20 INT. ED. MAIN RECEPTION - DAY (14.00)

(IAIN, FAITH, JACOB)

(NS STAFF, NS PATIENTS)

Taking a moment, IAIN sits brooding when FAITH joins and hands him a coffee...

IAIN
What's this for?

FAITH
Because.

FAITH takes a flapjack from her pocket and slips it into one of his. A relaxed moment that fills IAIN with warmth...

FAITH (CONT'D)
And that's because some days you need treats.

IAIN deflates.

IAIN
You heard?

She nods.

FAITH
Are you doing okay?

Not even slightly. But he shrugs it...

IAIN
What you gonna do?

FAITH
It's all right to feel something, you know?

He does. Just not what she's thinking. Beat. Realising he doesn't want to talk, FAITH stands aside...

FAITH (CONT'D)
Just wanted to check in on you.

And he nods his appreciation, and she starts to go, but then he decides to have a stab at something real...

IAIN
Natalia called me.

FAITH
Right?

IAIN
About tonight's lift?

FAITH is instantly apologetic.

FAITH
Oh, did she? I'm sorry...

IAIN
No, it doesn't matter. I just... I didn't know what to say...

FAITH
Nothing. Forget about it. You got enough on your plate today...

IAIN
I really don't mind...

FAITH
(trying to be helpful)
Iain, I've got it covered. You don't need to be picking up my kids. Thanks though.

IAIN
Right -

FAITH
Enjoy the treat.

And FAITH heads back to her desk leaving IAIN feeling worse than ever. JACOB appears, breathless...

JACOB
Got a shout on the Killwater, a woman suffering a psychotic episode. Really sounds like our girl from earlier...

IAIN
Let's go

IAIN bins his coffee and hurries out with JACOB, and...

CUT TO:

21 INT. STAFFROOM - DAY (14.02)

(RIDA, RASH)

(NS STAFF)

Standing, RASH is finishing his salad whilst reading his tablet. A working lunch of sorts...

RASH

What do you mean 'gone'?

RIDA

He needed some head space...

RASH

Why?

RIDA

He was asking if his wife's miscarriages could be caused by them being cousins and... I wasn't sure what to say.

RASH looks up at RIDA, displeased...

RASH

You don't say anything.

RIDA

I had to say something.

RASH

Actually you don't. Sometimes it's enough for to just be there and do your job. You don't always have to entertain.

That hurt. RIDA's not sure what to say. Aware he's feeling more irritated than he has any right to, RASH bins his salad...

RASH (CONT'D)

Got to get on.

RIDA takes the plunge.

RIDA

Rash, please don't let this become a thing.

RASH

What?

She starts to remove the necklace... RASH's face drops.

RASH (CONT'D)

Is that my mum's?

RIDA

(surprised)

I thought that's why you were being off with me?

RASH
I'm not being off, I just want you to be professional!

RIDA hands the necklace over.

RASH (CONT'D)
What are you doing with this?

RIDA
Ashok gave me it.

RASH
What?! My dad gave you my mum's necklace and you *kept* it?!

RIDA
It wasn't like that! I forgot I put it on this morning to calm him. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to upset you.

RASH looks at the necklace, confused, emotions bubbling, and...

RASH
Rida, I'm not going to need your help anymore with my dad....

RIDA
Oh Rash, come on!

RASH
No, I'm sorry, I need to protect him. Obviously I'll pay you till the end of the week. Gillian will take over your shifts. Thanks for your help.

And RASH goes, leaving RIDA stunned and hurt, and...

CUT TO:

22 EXT. STAIRWELL/WALKWAY - DAY (14.30)

(IAIN, JACOB)

(NS NEIGHBOURS, NS KIDS)

Gasping, IAIN staggers onto the fourth floor - stairs are harder the second time. He spots JACOB talking to NEIGHBOURS as little KIDS scoot around on bikes, scooting over the bricks and wood ramp...

Passing the broken lift, IAIN is incredulous when the lift doors open and a KID scoots out on a bike. Brum! Out the way mister!

IAIN

(to JACOB/about lift)

You see that?

JACOB

We needed the exercise... Defo sounds like Alice. They said she was shouting and screaming, trying to get into the flat. They didn't know who she was...

IAIN

Thought she lived here?

JACOB

Apparently not. Looks like she went in through there...

The old fridge has been pushed to the kitchen window, which has been smashed though. A half brick on the floor. Worried, IAIN looks through the window, shouts...

IAIN

Alice? Are you in there? Alice?!

JACOB

Iain -

JACOB points out blood on a shard of glass in the window frame. And on the kitchen floor...

CUT TO:

23 INT. JIMO'S FLAT. VARIOUS - DAY (14.35)
(IAIN, JACOB, ALICE)

In the kitchen, blood swirls in the cooking oil that covers the cracked lino... Thud! Thud!

The blood travels in a smear along the shitty hall carpet, passing the lounge door, TV still muttering, through the doorway of the carpetless second bedroom, until it forms in a pool around... ALICE. Thud! Thud!

CLOSE ON: ALICE, barely conscious, face down on bare boards at the point where she collapsed. She wears her jeans and her, now soiled, bloody trainers, and Nazia's stolen *eagle cardigan* over a hospital gown. She has a canula taped to the back of her left hand, and her burnt right arm is wrapped in clingfilm... CRASH!

IAIN (OOV)
Alice!

Footsteps. ALICE gurgles and bubbles...

JACOB (OOV)
She's here...

IAIN and JACOB appear in ALICE's line of vision. They immediately start ABCs....

JACOB (CONT'D)
Hey there Alice, can you hear us?

IAIN
Can you see where she's bleeding from?

JACOB
Breathing's ok. Radial is weak.

IAIN
Let's roll her... Mind her head. Alice, sweetheart, we're just moving you onto your back, okay?

IMPROVISED DIALOGUE HERE, PLEASE, as...

IAIN and JACOB gently manoeuvre ALICE onto her back, revealing... a shard of glass has opened up her stomach. ALICE cries in pain...

IAIN (CONT'D)
All right Alice we can see that... Get us a gauze. Did you bang your head when you came in the window...?

ALICE shakes her head.

IAIN (CONT'D)
That's good...

ALICE
...hurts...

IAIN
We'll give you something for that... have
you taken anything else? Is that what you
come back for...?

ALICE starts to weep, distressed, as IAIN applies a gauze wad to
the wound, trying to control that bleeding...

ALICE
Jimo...

JACOB
He's not here, Alice. Did you take
anything else?

ALICE shakes her head...

IAIN
Okay, it's all right...
(to JACOB)
Let's get 1 gram of TXA drawn up, keep the
wound compressed, and prep a fluid bolus.
Do you want to radio a P1 backup and get
some police here for that door...

On IAIN, tenderly tending to ALICE, and...

CUT TO:

24 EXT. AMBULANCE QUEUE/AMBULANCE - DAY (14.37)

(TEDDY, JAN, MEGAN)

(NS STAFF, NS PATIENTS)

TEDDY's tidying the van, packing away the IV Paracetamol, as he talks to JAN who's up front in the driver's seat, still with one on her...

TEDDY

...I managed to get hold of her sister,
she's heading over in a taxi. She was
dead worried...

JAN grunts. TEDDY clocks MEGAN. Asleep, but looking hot, clammy.
He puts his hand on her forehead...

TEDDY (CONT'D)

How long has been sleeping it off?

JAN

Ten minutes.

TEDDY checks MEGAN's heart rate. He tries to rouse her...

TEDDY

Megan? Megan?

MEGAN murmurs. Tries to pull away, irritable...

MEGAN

Ow...

TEDDY

Megan, I'm just going to lift your neck
slightly...

TEDDY performs a passive flexion test. MEGAN's groans.

JAN

Everything okay there?

TEDDY

I think we need to get her in. Her
temperature's up. Heart rate 115. Neck
pain, muscles feel tight...

JAN's immediately concerned...

JAN

You see a rash?

TEDDY checks...

TEDDY

No. But what if she was telling the truth
about only having a couple of drinks?

JAN

I'll let them know inside...

On TEDDY, worried, as...

CUT TO:

25 EXT/INT. WALKWAY/JIMO'S FLAT. VARIOUS - DAY (14.40)
(ALICE, IAIN, AMBULANCE CONTROL, JIMO, JACOB)
(NS NEIGHBOURS, NS POLICE)

Flashing blue lights below as an ambulance pulls up and tiny NS POLICE climb from their car. IAIN waves down to them...

IAIN (INTO RADIO)
3006 to control, can you let the crew
know the lift's working, they just need
to hold the button.

AMBULANCE CONTROL
(filtered)
They'll appreciate that. Over.

JIMO (OOV)
What's happened here...?!

IAIN turns to see JIMO, discarding a box of chicken bones, pushing his way past NEIGHBOURS and jeering KIDS...

JIMO (CONT'D)
Get lost! Move...

IAIN tries to head him off...

IAIN
Can you just wait a sec, mate...

JIMO
Who did that to my window?!

He spots the front door's been kicked in...

JIMO (CONT'D)
And my door! What is this?!

IAIN
There's been an accident. We're dealing
with it. We're bringing her out now...

JIMO
Who?!

IAIN
Alice. She's hurt herself...

JIMO
That bitch did this...?!

He pushes past IAIN and almost walks straight into the carry chair being pushed out by JACOB, a barely conscious ALICE on it...

JACOB
Careful...

JIMO
(to ALICE)
What the hell you doing in my flat?!

Alarmed, ALICE starts to moan...

IAIN
If you could just move out the way...

IAIN helps JACOB manoeuvre a ALICE out past JIMO, past the broken door and out onto the walkway...

JIMO
What you done?! Bringing these here!

JIMO disappears into the flat, leaving ALICE distressed...

IAIN
It's all right, Alice...

ALICE
I need him to...

IAIN
You don't.

JIMO bursts back out...

JIMO
You stupid whore...

IAIN
Stop that! A little respect...

JIMO
Don't tell me...

ALICE
I'm not a whore...

JIMO
You're a whore... You'll shag anything
for a sniff...

IAIN loses it. He shoves JIMO, who falls down. KIDS jeer. JACOB's stunned...

JACOB
Iain!

But JIMO's already up and shouting...

JIMO
D'you see that? Did you...?!

IAIN
I don't care if they did.

Chaos. ALICE starts squealing...

ALICE IAIN (CONT'D)
I'm a good, I'm a good... Alice, it's all right...

JACOB
Calm down...

ALICE
I'magoodmum, I'magoodmum...

PING! The lift doors open. JIMO's face drops as two NS POLICE OFFICERS step out...

JACOB
What's she saying...?

But ALICE just keeps muttering...

ALICE
I'magoodmum, I'magoodmum... (etc)

JIMO
Shut up, Al! Just shut it!

Gasping, barely able to breathe, ALICE looks at JIMO, who's already starting to back away...

ALICE
I'm a good mum.

Realisation dawns...

IAIN
Have you got a kid, Alice?

She nods.

IAIN (CONT'D)
Where are they?

ALICE
Inside. He made me, she wouldn't stop crying...

JIMO
It was your idea!

And as the penny drops for IAIN, sound distorts and time slows and music starts...

MUSIC OVER: **MASSIVE ATTACK - 'TEARDROP'**

As IAIN turns towards the flat, JIMO pushes past JACOB and runs, and the POLICE give chase, but we barely glimpse them as we stay on IAIN as he enters the flat...

And the music pulses as he hurries down the hall, past the kitchen, the lounge, and into the bedroom, the one with no carpet, and ALICE's blood on the floor with medical detritus of wipes and gauze, and...

In the corner, that old mattress shoved up against the built-in wardrobe doors, and...

IAIN drags the mattress aside, and sees the door handles have been gaffer taped shut...

And he rips the tape free and pulls the doors open, and...

On IAIN's shock, as...

CUT TO:

26 INT. ED. RESUS CORRIDOR - DAY (14.50)
(MEGAN, TEDDY, JAN, PAIGE, DYLAN)
(NS STAFF, NS PATIENTS)

MUSIC OVER: **MASSIVE ATTACK - 'TEARDROP'**

SLOW MOTION: TEDDY and JAN push a groggy MEGAN into the ED, where they are met by DYLAN and PAIGE. PAIGE shares the briefest of looks with TEDDY as they push on, and...

CUT TO:

27 EXT. HIGH RISE FLATS - DAY (14.52)

(IAIN, JACOB, ALICE)

(NS TODDLER, POLICE OFFICERS, AMBULANCE CREW,
PUBLIC)

MUSIC OVER: MASSIVE ATTACK - 'TEARDROP'

SLOW MOTION: The lift doors open. And IAIN exits carrying a bewildered TODDLER out. She's snotty, filthy and thin, thin, thin, wearing a blackened, laden-to-bursting, dirty nappy, taped on with gaffer tape.

As IAIN hands her over into the waiting arms of a second AMBULANCE CREW that has arrived, along with more POLICE CARS, blue lights flashing, NS PUBLIC watching with looks of horror, he looks over to JACOB, who is with ALICE on the trolley, and shouting across at him... something's wrong, very wrong, and we are on IAIN as he starts to run over, and... and...

HARD CUT TO:

28 INT. AMBULANCE - DAY (14.58)

(IAIN)

(ALICE)

MUSIC CUTS. Real time. Real panic. And almost a replay of the opening sequence, as...

The ambulance lurches round the corner, hindering IAIN who is putting an oxygen mask onto a bloody ALICE, who is on TXA and fluids, and on the verge of losing consciousness...

IAIN

Alice, stay with me. Hold my hand. Keep breathing...

ALICE's eyes roll...

IAIN (CONT'D)

Squeeze my hand Alice, squeeze it.
Please...

And we're on IAIN's desperation, as he prays, not again, not again, and...

CUT TO:

29 INT. ED. RESUS 2 - DAY (15.00)
(DYLAN, PAIGE, TEDDY, JAN)
(MEGAN, NS STAFF, NS PATIENTS)

Quiet calm as DYLAN shines a light into a now gowned MEGAN's drowsy eyes...

DYLAN
Pupils dilated... but responsive.

PAIGE
BP is 105/70 mm Hg.

DYLAN
She came in for the leg?

TEDDY
Yes, but mentioned she'd had flu and
dropped her GCS...

DYLAN
Megan, I'm going to lift your neck
slightly...

MEGAN groans as her knees and hips spontaneously flex upwards - Brudzinski sign for meningitis. She groans and tries to curl up foetal.

DYLAN (CONT'D)
Don't worry, we won't do that again.
(to TEAM)
Paige, let's get bloods and cultures,
please... Can we get 2 grams of
ceftriaxone and 400mg of aciclovir. Check
if she has any allergies on her record.
Definite indicators for meningitis
here...
(to TEDDY)
Really good spot.
(to team)
...if she remains drowsy we will need to
get her to ITU for the LP...

JAN's chuffed for her nephew, gives him a clap on the back...

JAN
Let's leave 'em to it, smarty pants...

And she smiles to the room as she heads out, and is surprised to catch PAIGE giving TEDDY a cold look... and TEDDY sees that JAN has seen, as we follow them both out of resus, and...

JAN (CONT'D)
What were those evils for?

TEDDY
It's over between us.

JAN

What?! You told her already?

TEDDY

You were right. I needed to be straight.

JAN empathy, in droves.

JAN
You poor loves. No wonder she's upset.
That can't have been easy?

TEDDY shrugs, knowing he's not being straight.

JAN (CONT'D)
(proud)
It was the right thing to do. Trust me,
in the long run she'll be glad you were
honest. Come on -

She leads the way. TEDDY follows, filled with quiet guilt, as...

CUT TO:

30 EXT. ED - DAY (15.15)

(RIDA, NOOR)

(NS STAFF, NS PATIENTS)

Heading back in with a wheelchair, RIDA spots NOOR vaping anxiously in his "Kettle Down Burger" uniform...

RIDA

Thought you'd gone?

NOOR

I'm on a double. Can't face burgers yet.

RIDA

Your wife's awake. She's asking for you.

NOOR shrugs, non-comital...

RIDA (CONT'D)

Why don't you go up?

NOOR

Can't.

RIDA

Why not?

Another vape, trembling hands.

NOOR

I begged her to marry me. I told her that every marriage has a risk, but we would be okay. I took us off for testing. They tested us for 314 different diseases...

NOOR looks at RIDA.

NOOR (CONT'D)

We didn't carry one mutation. Not one!

RIDA

Ectopic pregnancies can happen to anyone.

NOOR

But these things keep happening to us!

Upset, he draws heavily on his vape.

RIDA

I wasn't judging you earlier, you know. I wouldn't...

RIDA decides to give a little more.

RIDA (CONT'D)

My mum's sister married her first cousin.

A surprised look from him.

RIDA (CONT'D)

They have a severely autistic son. Maybe
it was a coincidence, I don't know. Like
I don't know why you and your wife are
struggling like this...

NOOR looks at her.

RIDA (CONT'D)
But I do know how much you mean to each
other.

On NOOR, taking this on board, and...

CUT TO:

31 INT. ED. RESUS - DAY (15.20)
(STEVE, IAIN, CAM, JACOB, ALICE)
(NS STAFF, NS PATIENT)

Action stations.

STEVE
Ready, steady... slide.

As ALICE is moved from trolley to bed by the TEAM, she clings tight to IAIN's hand... squeeze it...

IAIN
This is Alice, 21, she sustained a deep laceration to her abdomen from glass climbing through a window. Blood loss estimated 1 litre on scene, still actively bleeding... she is tachy at 110, hypotensive, last BP 80 over 50, GCS 14, she's had 1 gram of IV paracetamol, a gram of TXA and a 250 fluid bolus.

STEVE
...Hey Alice? Remember me?

But ALICE only has eyes for IAIN, who reassures her...

IAIN
You're okay.

STEVE
Let's get a second large bore cannula in, please. We'll need the O neg from the fridge and someone activate the major haemorrhage protocol.

CAM
Pulse thready...

STEVE
How long had she been bleeding?

JACOB
Guesstimate, 30 minutes, maybe less?

IAIN
She was trying to get to her kid.

ALICE
I'm a good mum.

IAIN nods at her.

STEVIE

There's guarding... she has a deep laceration to her umbilical region, can't gauge depth but there's a possibility of perforation or hemoperitoneum. Let's get it covered and move to CT as soon as we've stabilised.

An alarm goes. And another.

STEVIE (CONT'D)

She's getting hypotensive. Can you let go off her hand, please...?

IAIN tries, but ALICE doesn't want to... She's scared for so many reasons, but mainly...

IAIN

She's safe, I promise.

And ALICE lets go, but we stay on IAIN, full of concern, as...

CUT TO:

32 EXT. ED. MAIN ENTRANCE CORRIDOR - DAY (15.30)

(PAIGE, HARRY, RASH, JAN)

(RIDA, NOOR, NS PATIENTS, SECURITY, STAFF, IRATE WOMAN)

PAIGE walks with RASH down the busy noisy corridor, dodging PATIENTS/STAFF, whilst discussing an MRI on her tablet...

PAIGE

...worsening pain and altered sensation
in his S1. Can't make it out from the
scan... What do you think?

But RASH is distracted by RIDA guiding NOOR into the lift (and up to his wife). He feels a pang of guilt as the lift doors shut...

HARRY (OOV)

Mind your backs, please...

They step aside as HARRY and SECURITY frog march out a large NS WOMAN, with a bloody nose, spitting and screaming something like - 'She deserved it...(etc.)'

HARRY (CONT'D)

(to NS WOMAN)

We all deserve something, just not in
here. In here, it's zero tolerance.....

HARRY et al move on, and....

PAIGE

Rash?

RASH realises PAIGE is still waiting, tablet in hand...

RASH

Sorry. Yes... looks like an L5 S1 disk
compression. I'd refer up to
neurosurgery...

PAIGE

Great, thanks.

As RASH peels, PAIGE finds JAN in front of her with a bar of...

PAIGE (CONT'D)

Chocolate? What's....? Teddy told you.

JAN

(sympathetic)

I'm so sorry, love. How you doing?

PAIGE

Honest, Jan? Gutted but relieved. I know
he's your nephew but I couldn't let him
treat me like that. I had to end it. I
had no choice...

On JAN's confusion, as...

CUT TO:

33 INT. ED. PAEDIATRICS SIDE ROOM - DAY (16.45)

(RASH, IAIN, JACOB)

(NS TODDLER, PAEDIATRIC NURSE, SOCIAL WORKERS)

RASH and a PAEDIATRIC NURSE by the cot containing Alice's TODDLER... she has been transformed with a scrub and is on an electrolyte drip...

RASH

Run that saline for the next four hours, keep regular obs and let me know if her condition changes in any way. Thanks.

RASH write notes up on his tablet. IAIN appears, in own clothes...

IAIN

How is she?

RASH

She's been vomiting. Has some sores, bruising... She'll be all right. Social services are on their way.

IAIN

Can I... (see her)?

RASH

All yours.

RASH leaves as IAIN sits by the cot. He plays with the little girl. (IMPROVISED). Several beats. JACOB enters, also in own clothes...

JACOB

Knew you'd be here. She looks better...

IAIN

Maybe.

JACOB

Our paperwork's been signed off. Tabby Burke wasn't anybody's fault. We couldn't have known that she hid a razor. 'No blame attached'.

IAIN 'harrumphs' in disagreement.

JACOB (CONT'D)

Don't give it that. We can't save them all...

(about toddler)

We did a lot of good today... We did.

But IAIN's not convinced, still things to be done, and...

CUT TO:

34 INT. ED. RECEPTION/CORRIDOR - DAY (17:35)

(HARRY, STEVIE, IAIN, FAITH)
(NS SECURITY, STAFF, PATIENTS)

End of Day. STEVIE is heading out when she sees HARRY, directing a NS TEENAGER in a Man U scarf towards the lifts...

HARRY
If you didn't support United, I could
probably help you more.

He's all professional smiles, until he catches STEVIE's eye.
STEVIE sighs. Then stops herself. She walks straight up to him...

HARRY (CONT'D)
Can I help you, Doctor Nash?

STEVIE
Thought you might like to see this...

She pulls out Lloyd's card and hands it up to him...

STEVIE (CONT'D)
It's from Lloyd. He seems happy. Maybe
the respite will work out?

HARRY hands the card back, dismissively.

HARRY
They make them do this stuff. Wouldn't
pat myself on the back too much.

And he turns away, forcing STEVIE to walk off feeling more
frustrated than before, and...

GO TO: FAITH, has watched this exchange sitting behind her desk,
and failed to notice IAIN approaching...

IAIN
Who's picking Natalia up?

FAITH jumps.

FAITH
You made me jump!

IAIN (CONT'D)
Sorry -

FAITH (CONT'D)
It's all right. What did you say?

IAIN
Are you picking Natalia up?

FAITH
Can't, I'm on a late. I put money on her
phone for an uber...

IAIN
That's not good enough.

FAITH

What?

IAIN

I promised Luka I'd watch his match on Tuesday night. And I said I'd be there for Natalia when ever she needed me, and just... just because we're not, you know... I don't think it's fair for me to disappear. I'm sorry, I don't.

FAITH

Nor do I.

IAIN's astonished.

FAITH (CONT'D)

I never said I wanted you to disappear. I'd love it if you were still involved with them.

IAIN

Really?

FAITH

Just said, didn't I?

And IAIN sees she means it, and he feels brilliant, the best he's felt all day, and...

CUT TO:

35 INT. AMBULANCE STATION/OPS ROOM - DAY (17.40)

(JODIE, JAN, TEDDY)

(NS STAFF)

Fighting her computer, JAN is disturbed by laughter. She heads out to find TEDDY, hosing down ambulances, chatting with JODIE...

JODIE

...I had to throw stones at her window to wake her, she was that out of it!

TEDDY laughs.

JAN

Who's that then?

They turn to include her.

TEDDY

Megan Wish's sister. Jodie got hold of her for me.

JODIE

Tilly think's Teddy's the best. Wants to buy him a drink sometime...

JAN

Sometime will have to be some other time. He's got work.

TEDDY

I haven't...

JAN

Oh, you have.

Her look cuts the mood dead.

JODIE

It wasn't for now anyway. I'll see you Teddy... Bye Jan, yeah?

JAN

Bye.

JODIE beats a rapid retreat.

TEDDY

What was that about?!

JAN turns on him, face like thunder...

JAN

You expected me to trust you with the truth about Gethin when you can't even be honest with your girlfriend? I didn't know I raised such a coward!

(about ambulances)

Clean them again. They're a disgrace.

And she marches off leaving TEDDY feeling ashamed, and...

CUT TO:

36 INT. ED. STAFFROOM - DAY (17.45)

(RASH, RIDA)

(NS STAFF)

RIDA collects her bag from her locker, trying not to listen to...

RASH

(into phone)

Dad listen! Your glasses are on your bedside table. Can you hear me?

(losing patience)

No, I'm not hiding them! Why would I?!

RASH is startled as RIDA takes the phone from him...

RIDA

(into phone)

Ashok? It's Rida. Hello lovely - yeah, I'm well thank you. Have you checked your head for you're glasses? There on there, are they?

(laughs)

Silly so-and-so, you're getting as bad as... Oh.

She hands the phone back.

RIDA (CONT'D)

He hung up.

RIDA turns to go too. But RASH does the right thing...

RASH

Rida?

She turns back, bristling.

RASH (CONT'D)

I know you're good with him. Like I know you're a good nurse...

RIDA

Damn right. And I've done nothing wrong. Maybe I shouldn't have accepted the necklace but I was just trying to make him happy. And I do. We get on.

RASH

And I think that's half my problem... I don't have that relationship anymore.

RIDA

You could. You just need to pull your finger out.

Beat. RASH processing the truth of the words.

RASH

I'd like to offer your job back, if you'd accept?

RIDA maintains her vitriol.

RIDA

Two conditions. An apology.

RASH

I'm sorry.

RIDA

And don't ever treat me like that again. Actually, three things. Buy bloody Coco Pops when I ask for them.

And she walks away, head held high, and...

CUT TO:

37 I/E. IAIN'S CAR/COLLEGE - DAY (19.05)

(IAIN, NATALIA)

(NS COLLEGE FRIENDS)

IAIN sits in his car watching a group of Sixth Formers spill out of their college in high spirits... amongst them NATALIA.

She's happy and relaxed, but positively beams when he flashes his lights and waves and she realises that he's come to pick her up.

IAIN smiles as she excitedly says goodbye to her friends and almost skips round to the passenger seat and clambers in...

NATALIA

Still alive then?

IAIN

Never in any doubt. How was revision?

NATALIA

Do you care?

IAIN

Not really.

And they smile. Genuine affection.

IAIN (CONT'D)

Seat belt.

IAIN watches as NATALIA dumps her bag and put her seat belt on as she natters away...

NATALIA

If I ever get to live my life again and re-pick my options do not let my pick psychology, because they lied! Psychology is just maths in disguise...

NATALIA stops....

NATALIA (CONT'D)

What's happened?

IAIN, emotions bubbling, takes in a deep breath, and lets it out slow, shakes his head...

NATALIA (CONT'D)

What is it? You're scaring me.

IAIN

Sorry...

NATALIA

Is it me?

He snort laughs...

IAIN
Don't be stupid... how could it be you?
I'm happy to see you...

NATALIA
What then?

IAIN
Just a mess of a day...

NATALIA's heart melts a little...

IAIN (CONT'D)
A big mess. One I could have done with
out. But I'm all right now...

NATALIA
Yeah?

IAIN
Yeah.

And he smiles at her. At all that youth and concern, and..

IAIN (CONT'D)
I'm just really glad to be here. Really
bloody glad...

And NATALIA's glad too. And so she leans forward and kisses him
gently on the lips.... IAIN freezes.

IAIN (CONT'D)
What was that?

NATALIA
What do you think?

IAIN
You can't do that.

NATALIA
You said you were happy to see me?

IAIN
I am, but not like that. Never like that.
I told you before. I said.

And NATALIA realises her mistake. Feels humiliation, like a stupid
little girl, and she unclips her seatbelt, grabs her bag...

IAIN (CONT'D)
Natalia, let me drive you...

She opens the door.

NATALIA
I'll get the bus.

SLAM! The door shuts and IAIN watches NATALIA run off, and...

He slumps back in his seat, heart pounding, mind racing, wondering how the hell a shit day just leaped from bad to worse, and...

END OF EPISODE