

STONE
The Deserved Dead

Draft Three

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BBC Radio Drama
Manchester

STONE
The Deserved Dead

1 EXT. POLICE CAR -- DAY

1

SIRENS BLAZE OUT as a POLICE CAR speeds through the rough Manchester streets of an estate.

2 INT. POLICE CAR -- DAY

2

Inside the police car we find STONE and TANNER.

TANNER
How was your holiday?

STONE
Idyllic, two weeks without mobile reception, three pools, babysitting service and an all you can eat buffet...

TANNER
Haven't got much of a tan -

STONE
Google skin cancer, see what it tells you -

TANNER
It's a load of cobblers all that.

STONE
Thank-you doctor Tanner.

TANNER
Everything our parents told us was good for us they're now saying's bad - fags, red meat, sunshine...

STONE
Your parents told you fags were good for you?

TANNER
My dad smoked forty a day -

STONE
How old was he when died?

TANNER
(beat)
Thirty two.

They howl with laughter.

3

INT. VICTIM'S HOUSE -- DAY

3

STONE and TANNER enter the scene of the attack. There is a dead body lying in a mess on the floor.

CRIME SCENE

Ah, DCI Stone and his glamorous assistant -

TANNER

Hilarious.

STONE

(to crime scene cop)
What have we got, Rog?

CRIME SCENE - Roger Trent - (posh, 40s) pulls back a cover to reveal a very mashed person underneath. STONE and TANNER recoil.

STONE (CONT'D)

You could have warned us -

CRIME SCENE

Where's the fun in that?

TANNER

His head's puree -

He retches.

CRIME SCENE

Savage attack. Blows to the skull and testicles. I'm guessing, but I'd say we're looking at in excess of fifty strikes.

STONE

Nice.

CRIME SCENE

Whoever did this really wanted to make sure -

STONE

Time of death?

CRIME SCENE

Midday - approximately, maybe slightly earlier.

They examine the body.

STONE

Testicles, strange -

(CONTINUED)

CRIME SCENE
Not really, people often mutilate
genitalia...

TANNER
(still retching)
He's got the photos to prove it.

STONE
But there's no sexual element?

CRIME SCENE
No penetration of the rectum,
nothing to suggest a sexually
motivated attack -

STONE
Murder weapon?

CRIME SCENE
Here's the interesting part, he
used the victim's rolling pin.

TANNER
His rolling pin?

STONE
Who has a rolling pin anymore -

TANNER
People who cook -

CRIME SCENE
Works like a truncheon, solid
piece of wood - whack -

He motions hitting TANNER.

CRIME SCENE (CONT'D)
Whack - whack -

TANNER
You don't have to look like
you're enjoying it so much.

CRIME SCENE
Could kill you with one blow -

TANNER
So why use fifty?

CRIME SCENE
Anger? Frenzy?

STONE
It's a show of strength. What do
you reckon he did first, the head
or the meat and two veg -

(CONTINUED)

CRIME SCENE

Again, I'm guessing but I'd say
he - or they - struck the head,
laid him to the floor then
started on the erm -
(with snobbish disdain)
Meat and two vegetables.

STONE

So he wanted him to feel pain -
agony -

TANNER

He achieved that -

CRIME SCENE

Seems that way. But the victim
wasn't expecting it, from my
guess - he was busy doing
something else - wasn't even
looking at the attacker -

STONE

(confused)

So, wait a minute...he breaks in -

CRIME SCENE

Not sign of forced entry.

STONE

Right. He's let in. No weapon,
the victim's is so relaxed he
turns his back on them and the
killer ends up butchering the guy
with his own rolling pin...

CRIME SCENE

Yep.

TANNER

Is it just me or does that seem a
bit weird.

CRIME SCENE

We've got a real mystery cooking.

STONE

What was that?

CRIME SCENE

Rolling pin, cooking...

STONE

Don't do jokes, please, Roger,
don't ever do jokes -

4

EXT. VICTIM'S HOUSE -- DAY

4

Stone and TANNER walking back to the car, where SUE is waiting for them with info.

STONE

Sue - talk to me.

SUE

Victim's name is Marcus Powell. He's lived here three and a half years - unmarried, childless, but here's the kicker, he's on the sex offenders register, served time for abusing young boys.

TANNER

A kiddie fiddler -

STONE

(wry -)

Suddenly we have a motive.

TANNER

Yeah, and about ten thousand suspects...

STONE

How long did he serve?

SUE

Five years.

STONE

What kind of abuse?

SUE

Grooming and sexual assault, he was a primary school teacher.

STONE exhales.

STONE

Great.

(beat)

Presumably he was housed here without people knowing his past -

SUE

Hard to say, these things tend to surface...

TANNER

Someone's found out. Done him.

(CONTINUED)

STONE

Possibly. Or: we've got a revenge attack - hence the testicles - by someone he abused, maybe a parent, brother, sister...

They think about this...

TANNER

Why would he let them in?

SUE

Maybe they pretended to be someone they weren't -

STONE

Either way, we've got a nightmare on our hands - because now we've gotta start pointing the finger at a bunch of abused lads. I should have stayed on holiday -

They head for the car.

STONE (CONT'D)

Get door to door started, see if anybody saw anything...

Door to door...

TANNER

We're investigating an incident at number sixty two earlier today

-

NEIGHBOUR

Murder?

TANNER

Incident.

NEIGHBOUR

What kind of incident?

TANNER

Murder.

JUMP TO:

SUE

Did you see anyone arriving around eleven o'clock this morning?

NEIGHBOUR

Think I spend all day looking out of the window?

SUE

Not at all.

NEIGHBOUR

Just cause I'm unemployed doesn't mean I spend my life staring out the window...

SUE

We're asking everyone, sir -

NEIGHBOUR

Get stuffed!

Slam!

JUMP TO:

TANNER

How did you find him?

NEIGHBOUR

He was a quiet bloke, kept himself to himself... he seemed nice - always had a smile for my children...

Station. Loads of activity. We find STONE with his direct boss, CHIEF LIAM McCAFFREY.

Knock on door.

LIAM McCAFFREY

DCI Stone. Come in -

STONE

You wanted to see me, sir -

LIAM McCAFFREY

The paedophile murder -

(CONTINUED)

STONE

Sir -

LIAM MCCAFFREY

I want as little as possible
going to the press until we know
what we're dealing with -

STONE

Any reason, sir?

LIAM MCCAFFREY

Because I say so.

STONE chastised. LIAM softens.

LIAM MCCAFFREY (CONT'D)

Look, John, no one's gonna feel
sympathy for this guy, no one's
gonna miss him -

STONE

If you say so, sir -

LIAM MCCAFFREY

I do. And I don't want the
newspapers splashing him all over
their front pages. We find who
did it quietly, right, last thing
we want is the media all over us
inventing fictions.

STONE leaves.

LIAM MCCAFFREY (CONT'D)

Oh, John, how was the holiday?

STONE

Idyllic.

LIAM MCCAFFREY

Catrina and the kid enjoy it?

STONE

Yes, Cat and Alice loved it.

LIAM MCCAFFREY

Not much of a tan.

STONE

No, sir.

STONE arrives back to find everyone gathered round, there
are party noises and laughter.

(CONTINUED)

STONE
What the hell's going on?

SUE
It's Kieran's fortieth.

STONE
So suddenly the place has turned
into a kindergarten.

SUE
It's only five minutes boss -

STONE
We've got a murder to
investigate.

Too loud, too angry. Bit awkward now.

TANNER
It's not a school kid, John. It's
only a -

STONE
What! Pervert. So suddenly he
doesn't count -

STONE stomps away to his office, someone lets out a final
pathetic party blower, stifled laughter.

TANNER and SUE follow STONE. Door slammed closed.

TANNER
Look, boss -

STONE
(narky)
What have we got?

TANNER
Not much -

STONE
Door to door?

TANNER
Neighbours are doing their see no
evil routine.

SUE
There's one lead - Mike Kelly -
lives at seventy three -

TANNER
Kelly? Any relation?

SUE

(wry)

Yeh, we're all related, what with
it being such an unusual name -

STONE

Carry on.

SUE

He complained about Powell a few
weeks back - apparently he'd been
hanging around outside his house -

STONE

He has kids?

SUE

Two boys and a girl.

STONE

Please tell me someone joined the
dots.

SUE

Seems not. Community support were
sent to have a word with Powell
but there was no follow up.

TANNER

Community support, flaming waste
of space.

SUE

It's not their fault.

TANNER

They're not coppers.

SUE

Some make it.

TANNER

Yeh and the rest are wet liberals
who get off on wearing a uniform.

SUE

You know what I like about you
Mike - nothing.

STONE

Children, children...

TANNER

(sly joke)

She started it.

STONE

We should speak to them, community support, find out which officers it was... and what about this Mike Kelly - does he look the type to take the law into his own hands...

SUE

Not really -

TANNER

Why not?

SUE

Dunno, he was wearing marigolds.

TANNER

The marigold killer.

STONE

Marigolds and a rolling pin, this is turning into an episode of Miss Marple. Get him in - even if it's just to rule him out...

10

INT. INTERVIEW ROOM -- DAY

10

Interview room.

STONE

Interview with Michael Kelly, also present are DS Sue Kelly - no relation - and WPC Mary McGuire. Mister Kelly has refused representation.

(beat)

Mister Kelly - Mike - you're aware that your neighbour Marcus Powell, at number sixty two, was brutally murdered earlier today...

KELLY

(shaken, genuinely shocked to find himself here -)

I am now. But look, I was nothing to do with it. I thought the guy was strange, didn't like him much, but that's where it ends. I'd never hurt him. Honest.

Silence.

(CONTINUED)

STONE

Can you account for your movements at around eleven o'clock this morning?

KELLY

I was in bed. I work nights.

STONE

Alone?

KELLY

Pardon?

STONE

In bed *alone*?

KELLY

Yes. My wife works. Teacher. Kids were at school.

STONE

So there's no one who can verify you were home in bed.

KELLY

...no... but...

STONE

The victim let his attacker in, so it must have been someone known to him -

KELLY

(panics, loses it)

Why would I kill him? I've no reason, no motive. It's absurd.

STONE

Unless there's something you're not telling us.

Pause.

STONE (CONT'D)

Unless the row went further, maybe he made a pass at one of your kids. Is that a plausible scenario, Michael -

Pause.

KELLY

I think I'd like a lawyer now.

11

INT. CANTEEN -- DAY

11

STONE and TANNER head across the canteen to where two COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS - SWEET and MORRISON - are drinking coffee/eating sandwiches.

STONE

Lads... DCI John Stone. This is my colleague - DS Tanner.

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET

Hi... the boss said you wanted a word...

STONE

Won't take long. It's about the visit you made to Marcus Powell on the Bridgeton estate...

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET

Yeah, we've looked back at our notes on that one.

STONE

And? What do they tell you?

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON

(arrogant, off hand with them)

Not much, minor dispute with a neighbour -

STONE

Mike Kelly -

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON

That's him.

TANNER

And what was Powell like?

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET

Fine. Bit quiet. Bit shy maybe.

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON

He offered us coffee and biscuits.

They laugh.

TANNER

(pissed off)

You know he's a paedo.

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET

We didn't.

(CONTINUED)

STONE
Are community support not informed when someone's on the sex offenders register?

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET
We weren't.

TANNER
So... what? You had a nice chat, had your tea and biscuits -

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
Coffee.

TANNER
Right, coffee. Then what? Did you mark his card - tell him not to hang around other people's houses?

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
We just did our job, *sir* -

TANNER
Which is what?

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
We explained there'd been a complaint, we explained the need for harmony in the community and we told him we wouldn't want to hear anything else against him.

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET
It was a storm in a teacup.

TANNER
Not a coffee cup!

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
That's how it seemed. To us.

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET
It really did, I mean... we weren't to know, were we...

STONE
No, of course. Thanks for your help, lads.

STONE and TANNER head away.

TANNER
(sotto)
Useless pratts.

11

CONTINUED: (2)

15.

11

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
(calls after them)
It's not like anyone'll miss him.

STONE stops.

STONE
What?

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
Powell, he got what was coming.

STONE
So people keep saying.

They leave.

12

INT. INCIDENT ROOM -- DAY

12

STONE and TANNER arrive back.

SUE
Sir, we've got something serious -

STONE
What is it?

SUE
We need to head across to
Crumpsall.

STONE
Why, what's happened?

SUE
Get your coat, I'll tell you on
the way -

13

INT. STONE'S CAR -- DAY

13

STONE, TANNER and SUE driving through town.

SUE
One of the kids Powell abused -
Aaron Catwright - he's 18 now -
the landlord of his local heard
him bragging about the attack,
saying he did the guy quote 'good
and proper'.

STONE
God, I was hoping we wouldn't
have to go down this road.

TANNER
Why? Quick result..

(CONTINUED)

STONE

Because we'll have to prosecute him like a murderer. And he'll get sentenced like a murderer. And yet he's a victim. Powell took his innocence - who could blame him for wanting revenge?

Silence, just the car sounds.

Knock on the door. It opens.

STONE

Mister Cartwright?

CARTWRIGHT SENIOR

Yes.

STONE

DCI John Stone. Is your son Aaron at home?

CARTWRIGHT SENIOR

Aaron? What's it about?

STONE

We need to ask him some questions.

CARTWRIGHT SENIOR

(calls behind him)

Aaron. Police...

We hear a crash and a slam as Aaron legs it out the back.

CARTWRIGHT SENIOR (CONT'D)

Aaron!

STONE

(urgent tone)

He's legging it. Tanner - round the back.

STONE crashes through the house.

CARTWRIGHT SENIOR

Hey -

STONE

Out of the way or I'll arrest you!

We hear the sound of STONE crashing through the house and out of the back. Outside again...

(CONTINUED)

STONE (CONT'D)
 Aaron, stop.

TANNER
 (who has come round the
 back)
 I'm on him!

Running/screaming.

STONE
 Stop, stop him.

TANNER
 Aaron, police. STOP!

More running and suddenly AARON has come to a closed gate, he rattles at it hard and then starts climbing it.

TANNER - breathless - reaches him and grabs at a leg.

TANNER (CONT'D)
 No you don't.

AARON CARTWRIGHT
 Get off me.

TANNER
 No chance.

He kicks at TANNER.

AARON CARTWRIGHT
 I haven't done anything.

TANNER
 Then why you running -

AARON CARTWRIGHT
 Leave me alone.

TANNER
 Get down.

TANNER pulls at his leg and he falls hard to the floor, there's a tussle and STONE arrives to help.

AARON CARTWRIGHT
 I haven't done anything!

STONE
 Aaron cartwright, I'm arresting
 you for the murder of Marcus
 Powell, you do not have to say
 anything but it may harm your
 defense if you do not mention now
 anything you later rely on in
 court. Get him in the car -

15

INT. POLICE STATION. CELLS -- DAY

15

SLAM! Police door slams closed. STONE and SUE peer at him through the peep hole.

SUE
He's just a kid.

STONE
Kids murder, Sue -

SUE
But that brutality. All those
blows. It was *savage* -

STONE
Revenge. People get carried away.
Last year I arrested an
accountant - charity worker in
his spare time - pillar of the
community type - he'd stabbed his
wife forty four times - she died
with the second -

SUE
What had she done?

STONE
Affair. Common or garden affair.
Sometimes a switch clicks. People
don't know what they're doing
anymore.

SUE
(of Aaron, as she shuts
the peephole)
Poor sod. That's his life over.

STONE
Two lives over. This is what
abuse does.
(pause)
Let him stew for an hour - then
we'll interview him. Have we rang
a brief?

SUE
On to it -

STONE
Great. You'll find me in the
incident room, under the table
with those Moroccan cushions.

SUE laughs.

(CONTINUED)

STONE (CONT'D)
This jet lag's killing me.

16

INT. INTERVIEW ROOM -- DAY

16

Interview room. STONE, SUE, AARON and SOLICITOR.

STONE
Interview with Aaron cartwright,
also present are DCI John Stone,
Sue Kelly, and Mister
Cartwright's solicitor Laurence
Cougar -

Beat. STONE sighs.

STONE (CONT'D)
Aaron - you okay?

AARON CARTWRIGHT
...fine.

STONE
Your hands are tapping the table,
have been ever since you got in
here. You nervous -

AARON CARTWRIGHT
...suppose.

STONE
You understand why we are here -

SOLICITOR
Of course he understands, he's
eighteen years old.

STONE
(ignores solicitor)
Aaron?

AARON CARTWRIGHT
Yeah. You think I did that
tosspot Powell.

STONE
Yes.

AARON CARTWRIGHT
But you've no evidence.

STONE
You were heard admitting to the
crime. In a pub.

AARON CARTWRIGHT
So?

(CONTINUED)

STONE

Then when we came to talk to you,
you did a runner -

AARON CARTWRIGHT

So?

STONE

You have to admit, both of those
things might look a tiny bit
incriminating -

AARON CARTWRIGHT

...suppose.

SOLICITOR

My client is merely answering
your question, not admitting to
the acts being incriminating.

STONE

I know.

SOLICITOR

Just clarifying.

STONE

Thank-you Laurence. How's your
wife by the way -

SOLICITOR

Mister Stone, you know full well
we're getting divorced and I see
no other reason that you should
mention my wife than to try and
irritate me -

STONE

My mistake, I forgot she was
leaving you -

SOLICITOR

It's mutual. Now might we get
back to the matter in hand -

STONE

Of course. Aaron - why did you
boast about killing Powell, why
did you say, quote, 'I did the
bastard good and proper.'

AARON CARTWRIGHT

Dunno.

STONE

You don't know why you admitted
to murder - in a busy pub -
within ear shot of the landlord -

(CONTINUED)

AARON CARTWRIGHT
Just boasting wasn't it -

STONE
Nothing else.

AARON CARTWRIGHT
I don't even know where the scum
lives. I never wanna see him
again - the dirty/filthy get.

STONE
You're in luck, you'll never see
him again. I can guarantee it -

Silence.

STONE (CONT'D)
Are you pleased he's been killed?

SOLICITOR
Mister Stone... that's leading my
client into saying something you
might perceive as incriminating.

STONE
I'll rephrase the question -

AARON CARTWRIGHT
I am pleased -

SOLICITOR
Aaron, don't -

AARON CARTWRIGHT
(cuts in -)
No, I am. He deserves death.

SOLICITOR
I must advise you against saying
anything that -

AARON CARTWRIGHT
(cuts in -)
He does. For what he did to me,
and the others. We were kids.

STONE
I understand that, Aaron.

SUE
We all understand that.

Beat.

AARON CARTWRIGHT
But I never done it!

(CONTINUED)

STONE

So why brag about it? Why did you
claim...

AARON CARTWRIGHT

(cuts in -)

Because I wanted it to be me. I
wanted to have done it. I've
thought about doing it a thousand
times. After what he done to me.
But now someone else's got in
first. Now I'll never do it. I
was envious, so I claimed him for
myself - yes - YES?

STONE

I don't believe you.

AARON CARTWRIGHT

Okay, so prove it. Prove it was
me. You'll have your work cut
out. I was signing on, on the
other side of town, miles away,
ten minutes before you say he was
killed, what have I got - a time
machine - a helicopter...

STONE

You were signing on?

AARON CARTWRIGHT

Check!

STONE

We will.

AARON CARTWRIGHT

Do.

STONE

You could have got someone to
sign on for you -

AARON CARTWRIGHT

I didn't. Check. Ask the woman at
the dole office, she likes me, we
flirt. The red head, Jane.

STONE

We will.

AARON CARTWRIGHT

Do.

STONE

So why did you run?

AARON CARTWRIGHT
I was scared.

STONE
Of what?

AARON CARTWRIGHT
The police.

STONE
Why?

AARON CARTWRIGHT
Dunno. I'm a naughty boy aren't I, drink too much, can never remember what I might have done the night before...

STONE
Maybe you can't remember murdering Powell.

AARON CARTWRIGHT
I'd remember that - and besides I don't drink in the day -

Beat.

STONE
No one'd blame you, Aaron. People would understand...

AARON CARTWRIGHT
I didn't do it. And while I'm in here you're wasting time finding who did...

Search of house taking place. TANNER overseeing it.

TANNER
We wanted anything you can find, clothing especially, anything that might have blood stains. And we'll take the electrical gear - computers, mobiles, whatever you can see...

'Right boss'. Etc.

CARTWRIGHT SENIOR approaches.

CARTWRIGHT SENIOR
You should be ashamed of yourself.

(CONTINUED)

TANNER

Oh yeah, how's that?

CARTWRIGHT SENIOR

After what happened to my boy -

TANNER

I'm trying to solve a murder -

CARTWRIGHT SENIOR

You a father?

TANNER

No.

CARTWRIGHT SENIOR

Then how can you know how it feels.

TANNER

I'm a copper - I see allsorts -

CARTWRIGHT SENIOR

You don't know, til you have your own, that feeling, protection, you wanna stop any harm coming to them - any pain - and then some bastard comes along and does things to them - filthy, unspeakable things - and you can't protect them, a bleedin' authority figure abused them and you can't do anything about it, because you never knew, you knew your kid was sad, you knew he was withdrawn, but you didn't know WHY. That bastard deserved his balls cutting off for what he did to my son, but he got nothing, five years - NOTHING - and now you think my Aaron, my precious boy got him back - well, I hope so, a part of me hopes he did and if he did he deserves a medal, not prison, but the system doesn't work like that does it. Because the system's screwed. Tell me I'm wrong, look me in the eye and tell me I'm wrong.

Beat.

TANNER

Look, if it was up to me I'd have every paedo castrated and sent to the Falklands, but it's not up to me, I'm investigating a murder, right, so that's what I need to do... investigate...

18

INT. INCIDENT ROOM -- DAY

18

STONE marching through the office.

STONE

What are the dole office saying?

SUE

He was there. They've even got him on CCTV. Ten minutes to eleven he signed on in Harlington Street. Five miles across town. Ten minutes later Powell gets murdered in Carson Road.

STONE

He didn't do it.

SUE

Seems very unlikely.

STONE

What if he got straight in a car, drove at fifty all the way -

SUE

Not possible.

STONE

We're only guessing time of death, maybe scene of crime got it wrong, what if they're twenty minutes out -

SUE

Possible... not likely...

STONE

DAMN!

SUE

I thought you didn't want it to be him.

STONE

I don't. But if it's not him, who is it? We're back to square one.

19 INT. STONE'S HOUSE. BABY'S ROOM -- DAY

19

Sound of a musical baby mobile playing twinkle twinkle little star...

STONE
(whispers)
If anyone ever hurts you, I'll kill them. If anyone so much as lays a finger on your beautiful precious gorgeous body, I'll break every bone in their body...

The music continues...

STONE (CONT'D)
Night night precious angel.
Daddy loves you...

20 INT. STONE'S HOUSE -- DAY

20

Phone rings in the middle of the night or early hours.
STONE awakes.

STONE
Jeez, what time is it? Cat?
Catrina?

No answer from CAT, just moans and groans.

STONE (CONT'D)
Don't worry, I'll get it...
(grabs phone)
Stone.
(listens)
You're kidding.
(listens)
The Bridgeton estate.
(listens)
I'm on my way -

21 EXT. POLICE CAR -- DAY

21

Sirens.

22 EXT. CRIME SCENE -- DAY

22

STONE and TANNER walking to the crime scene.

STONE
What have we got?

(CONTINUED)

TANNER

Same M.O as the Powell killing.
Head battered to a pulp,
testicles made into jam.

STONE

Nice.

TANNER

Don't look this time -

STONE

I won't. Who is he?

TANNER

Kenton Hammond - right seedy
little toerag, word on the street
is that he worked a team of
prostitutes on Mawd Lane.

STONE

Like a pimp.

TANNER

Exactly like a pimp. Nasty piece
of work too by all accounts -
thought nothing of smashing
women's heads in if they stepped
out of line. Spent time inside -
violence, rape, extortion.

STONE

An all round good egg...

TANNER

Couldn't have happened to a nicer
fella -

They enter the house.

They are met by the scene of a dead body and the CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATOR again.

CRIME SCENE

Morning gentlemen, I trust we
didn't rouse you from your beauty
sleep -

STONE

No, I'm always up at five am.

CRIME SCENE

Well, murder's a 24/7 business,
if you wanted regular hours you
should have joined the banking
industry - care to see -

STONE

No! Do bankers have to look at
mashed testicles -

CRIME SCENE

Only metaphorically.

STONE

Do you think it's the same killer
as the Powell murder -

CRIME SCENE

Well, it's got all the hallmarks.
In fact it's almost identical -
no forced entry, brutal attack
with a blunt instrument -

STONE

Rolling pin?

CRIME SCENE

No, interestingly, this time they
choose a house brick.

STONE

Really?

CRIME SCENE

Yes. Perhaps poor Mister Hammond
didn't have a rolling pin - he
doesn't look the cake making type
-

TANNER

How can you tell -

CRIME SCENE

His fingernails. Filthy. People
who cook always have clean nails.

TANNER

You're a mine of useful
information.

CRIME SCENE

I try my best -

STONE

Where did the house brick come
from? Outside?

CRIME SCENE

No, he has them all over the
house, as door stops. They're
cheap but effective, they do,
however, rather have the downside
that if someone wants to murder
you they provide a handy weapon -

(CONTINUED)

STONE

I must remember that -

CRIME SCENE

Do.

STONE

Time of attack?

CRIME SCENE

Around ten pm. Certainly between then and midnight. Neighbours heard screams, thought it was sex at first - apparently mister Hammond was something of a bedroom gymnast...

TANNER

Who found him?

CRIME SCENE

Same neighbour, came round later to check if 'everything was alright'.

STONE

We should talk to him.

CRIME SCENE

Her. Leslie she's called... already been round once. Lovely... *personality*. Definitely worth a visit if you need perking up -

STONE

I do.

TANNER

So... we've either got a copycat killing or the same bloke striking twice -

STONE

Can't be copycat - we didn't release details to the press, nothing specific, all that was reported was the murder, instructions from on high -

TANNER

So we've got ourselves a serial killer -

CRIME SCENE

Does two count as serial -

STONE

Why would someone have a grudge
against a paedo and a pimp on the
same estate -

Silence.

TANNER

You know what this smacks off
don't you -

STONE

Don't say it -

TANNER

Okay...

He makes for the door.

STONE

Alright - say it.

TANNER

You sure?

STONE

I'm thinking it anyway -

TANNER

Someone fancies themselves as a
vigilante -

STONE

...great. That's all we need.

They make for door.

CRIME SCENE

You sure you don't fancy a peak,
he's a real old mess under here -

STONE

I want a coffee and a bagel, if I
see that I won't be able to eat
all morning -

Chief's office. LIAM McCAFFREY and STONE.

STONE

It seems someone's trying to put
us out of a job -

LIAM McCAFFREY

How do you mean?

(CONTINUED)

STONE

Dispensing with the court and judicial system, ridding the streets of unsavoury characters.

LIAM MCCAFFREY

Two crimes doesn't spell vigilantes, John -

STONE

Brutal murders, two in the space of three days, it's like they're sending a message to us - saying they can deal with these scumbags better than we can -

LIAM MCCAFFREY

Okay, then we do a swoop of known criminals on the Bridgeton estate, people who might have taken it upon themselves to act as judge, jury and executioner.

STONE

I don't think that's the way to go -

LIAM MCCAFFREY

Why not?

STONE

Because there's no evidence suggesting a gang motive. The pimp - Hammond - was a lowlife - he might have crossed the line, pissed off some big time criminal, possibly, but Powell, the sex offender, don't think so - and why would they attack them both in the same way - exact same M.O. -

LIAM MCCAFFREY

Perhaps they're cleaning up their manor -

STONE

No break in - they were invited in, like the victims knew them. In both cases there was evidence of the kettle boiling, cups produced, like the victim was having a chat, then wallop!

LIAM MCCAFFREY

I see what you're saying John, but I think it's worth going my way on this one...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED: (2)

23

LIAM MCCAFFREY (CONT'D)
 do me a list of all the Bridgeton
 big hitters who might have an
 interest in hitting these guys.

STONE

Sir - please -

LIAM MCCAFFREY

By noon, John.

STONE exits, grumbling to himself...

24 INT. INCIDENT ROOM -- DAY

24

STONE enters, angry. TANNER and SUE here.

STONE

Bleedin' McCaffrey.

SUE

What is it?

STONE

He wants a big scalp.

TANNER

Meaning?

STONE

Meaning - the rest of our day is
 wasted playing silly buggers!

25 INT. ESTATE -- DAY

25

Bridgeton estate. We hear POLICE VANS sweeping into the
 estate, then ARMED POLICE emerging.

STONE

You - front door, you lot - round
 the back. We only want Keenan.

JUMP TO:

Different part of the estate. More vans. More armed
 police. TANNER hops out first -

TANNER

If the lowlife resists, shoot
 him, we're not here for a picnic.One, two, three... door gets smashed in with a battering
 ram. POLICE enter the house -

STONE

Ryan Keenan! Keenan!

(no reply)

See if he's still in bed.

(CONTINUED)

Same at the other house. Door smashed open.

TANNER

Upstairs, now. Go, go, go... I want Greenhalgh in that van in twenty seconds flat...

Intercut between two different interview sessions.

STONE

Where were you between the hours of midnight and two o'clock on the evening of the fourth -

JUMP TO:

TANNER

Can anyone confirm you were at that address?

JUMP TO:

STONE

Have you any connection at all to mister Kenton Hammond?

JUMP TO:

TANNER

Local pimp, lowlife scumbag - somebody must have wanted him off the block -

JUMP TO:

STONE

We've got two attacks and the indications are gang related - retribution, revenge... somebody wanting rid of these people...

JUMP TO:

TANNER

You're the eyes and ears of that estate Greenhalgh, if anyone knows what's going on it's you -

STONE and TANNER with SUE KELLY.

(CONTINUED)

SUE

Raids haven't thrown up anything from the houses - not a single link to either of the murders.

STONE

That's because we're barking up the wrong tree. Keenan was in Blackpool on a stag night -

TANNER

Greenhalgh was his usual charming self, but he did offer one tidbit...

STONE

Being?

TANNER

Pallancio.

SUE

Who?

TANNER

Edwin Pallancio, Italian grandparents, he's only twenty one, fancies himself as the new big shot on the Bridgeton, he's been trying to impress the Godlin mob - he's one of these act-first-think- later characters, ruffling feathers apparently.

STONE

Doing what?

TANNER

Well, here's the interesting bit - Greenhalgh reckons he thinks nothing of dealing in drugs, handling guns all that stuff... but he has this weird Catholic puritan streak when it comes to women and kids -

STONE

Very Italian.

SUE

What... like the *mafia*.

STONE

So this lad might be hitting targets on the estate because he disapproves of their crimes -

TANNER
Worth a sniff, surely.

SUE
Seems unlikely to me.

TANNER
And that's why he's DCI and
you're just out of uniform.

SUE pulls a face (great radio!).

STONE's car parked up on the Brigdeton estate.

TANNER
Do you think he'll ever leave his
house?

STONE
Patience is a virtue. You seen
this story -
(motions newspaper)
World's biggest caterpillar found
in Nigeria.

TANNER
How do they know?

STONE
...size of a frog apparently -

TANNER
How do they know?

STONE
What?!

TANNER
That it's the world's biggest.

STONE
Because it's massive - look -

TANNER
But they don't know there isn't a
bigger one somewhere -

STONE
It's the biggest *seen*, the
biggest *known* about -

TANNER
That doesn't necessarily mean
it's -

(CONTINUED)

STONE
Get down!

STONE shoves TANNER downwards in the car, they both hide beneath window level -

TANNER
What you doing?

STONE
Them Community support lads -
Morrison and Sweet - we can't let
them see us -

TANNER
You've got your bum in my face.

STONE
(laughing)
Kiss it then.

TANNER
Is that the way to a promotion?

They laugh.

TANNER (CONT'D)
What they *doing* here?

STONE
Supporting the community - I'd
imagine - have a look if they've
gone...

TANNER
YOU look.

STONE
I've got the more memorable face,
you're utterly forgettable.

TANNER
Cheeky get.

TANNER peers up.

TANNER (CONT'D)
They're just hanging around.

STONE
Why -

TANNER
- is that all community support
do, hang around on street corners
looking tough -

STONE

That and drinking tea - how long
we gonna have to stay like this -

TANNER

Dunno, but if you fart I'm
blowing the whole operation.

They laugh.

STONE

Have another look.

TANNER peers up over the window.

TANNER

They're going. Give it another
two minutes and we're in the
clear.

STONE

Shame, I was starting to enjoy
myself down here -

They laugh.

Stock sounds to reflect a small passage of time.

Chief's office. STONE with LIAM McCAFFREY.

STONE

You wanted to see me sir -

LIAM McCAFFREY

Just got your written request -
you want a team assigned to tail
Pallancio -

STONE

Well, me and Tanner watched his
house for three hours yesterday
and there was no sign of him -

LIAM McCAFFREY

Why not just bring him in?

STONE

Because... he's volatile and we
need proper evidence.

(MORE)

STONE (CONT'D)

We've already freaked the estate by bringing in Keenan and Greenhalgh, if we want to stand a chance of prosecuting Pallancio we need to make sure we do the job properly.

LIAM MCCAFFREY

I'm not authorising a stakeout.

STONE

Sir - me and Tanner can't tail him, we're running an investigation, we have to pursue other leads...

LIAM MCCAFFREY

Bring him in.

STONE

We haven't got any evidence, we're going off a shaky tip off from an unreliable gangster.

LIAM MCCAFFREY

John, the streets know their own kind, if Greenhalgh is bothering to open his mouth at all, it's for a reason, this is the nearest you'll get to him grassing up one of his own type. Get a search warrant, turn his place upside down and get Pallancio off that estate...

STONE sighs with resignation.

STONE

Sir.

STONE stomps back into the incident room. TANNER and SUE are here working.

STONE

Arrange a raid - armed response - we'll go in first thing on Pallancio -

TANNER

Thought you didn't want that.

STONE

I don't! But being a detective means nothing anymore, because every single decision I make gets scrutinised upstairs.

(CONTINUED)

STONE grabs his coat and starts to exit.

SUE

Sir, sir -

STONE

I'm going the pub. Leave me an hour then feel free to join me.

He slams out.

TANNER

(to Sue)

You know what, a part of me thinks whoever's doing this is doing us a favour - because let's face it, we can't keep do our bloody job anymore -

He grabs his coat and leaves too.

New day. Morning, early morning. POLICE VAN arrives onto the Bridgeton estate - quietly.

STONE in back of the van.

STONE

Okay, we do this as efficiently as possible. He has a girlfriend, bit of a wildcat, feral by all accounts, she doesn't live with him, but we have to be aware that she might be here. Last thing we want is her getting involved, so if she's there, you - Carter - be responsible for restraining her, right, the rest of you, get Pallancio - ready?

They are.

STONE (CONT'D)

Then let's do this.

Sounds of that ram being used again. One, two, three, they're in. And... action.

VOICES

Police!

(CONTINUED)

They charge upstairs. STONE follows on behind. Doors are kicked in, shouts of 'police' etc...

Others take the downstairs with TANNER. They head through the living room door and...

TANNER

Oh no, oh God.

TANNER retches, flies out of the room.

TANNER (CONT'D)

(barely manages to shout

-)

Boss, boss...

STONE

(heading back down)

What is it?

TANNER

Front room.

(he retches some more)

They've done him -

(violent retching,
barely audible)

He's dead.

STONE

What?

TANNER

Pallancio - they've done him.

(more retching)

Same as the others.

STONE horrified. TANNER retches in the background.

STONE giving a briefing.

STONE

Pallancio was murdered at some time around five o'clock yesterday afternoon - same M.O. as the other murders - extremely brutal - frenzied - attack to both head and testicles. No sign of forced entry. Nothing to indicate a struggle. So once again, the attacker was known to his victim, or was someone he didn't suspect was going to do him any harm...

35

INT. POLICE STATION -- DAY

35

Corridor. STONE walking along with SUE.

STONE

Sue, I want you to trawl CCTV
from the estate, everything they
have over there.

(beat)

I want you to bring me all the
footage from the time period
Pallancio's killer struck.

SUE

Will do.

STONE

But you hand it to me, right - no
one else -

SUE

Okay -

STONE

And don't tell anyone else I'm
looking at it -

SUE

(confused)

Okay -

STONE

And if McAffrey asks I'm out of
the building -

INT. POLICE STATION -- DAY

STONE arrives at the records department in the station. His
mate KEN BROADHURST works here.

STONE

Ken -

KEN

John -

STONE

Still got no fashion sense I see -

KEN

White socks will come back in,
mark my words.

They laugh.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STONE
I need a favour.

KEN
Don't you always.

STONE
No, hush, hush. Me and you type
favour - because if I'm wrong
this could get me in deep doodoo -

KEN
...okay. Name it.

STONE slides a sheet of paper across the table.

STONE
There's two names on this piece
of paper. I want you to tell me
everything you know about them.

KEN
Who are they?

STONE
It's all on the paper. Burn
after reading -

He smiles.

STONE (CONT'D)
Thanks mate. I owe you a pint -

KEN
You owe me more than that -

INT. POLICE STATION. STONE'S OFFICE -- DAY

STONE has his heads in his hands. SUE knocks.

STONE
Come in.

SUE
You okay sir -

STONE
Fine. Why?

SUE
Nothing. Well... the head in the
hands, the crumpled demeanour.

STONE
Coppers standard look. Sue,
listen... that CCTV...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He suddenly stops talking.

SUE
What about it?

Silence.

SUE (CONT'D)
Sir?

Silence.

STONE
Nothing, forget it. I'm going out.

SUE
Where?

STONE grabs his coat.

STONE
Stay out of it, okay - I'm saying that through kindness, because I like you - best thing you can do is take the afternoon off...

He goes.

SUE
(doesn't understand)
Sir, sir...
(yells after him)
What the hell you talking about?

STONE passes TANNER who is at his desk.

STONE
Tanner - fag break.

TANNER
We don't smoke.

STONE
We do now.

STONE and TANNER standing outside the building.

STONE
What I'm about to say stays between me and you, right -

TANNER
COURSE.

STONE

No, look at me, I know we're
mates, I know we've got each
other's back and all that crap,
but I want you to swear -

TANNER

I swear - what is it?

STONE

I've got a terrible pit of my
stomach feeling -

Silence.

STONE (CONT'D)

Mike, tell me I'm being stupid,
tell me I'm so far off the mark
it's not funny...

Silence.

STONE (CONT'D)

But... who gets access to houses -
who... would those three lowlifes
that got mashed, allow into their
homes without fearing they were
about to be murdered?

Silence, TANNER's brain wurrs.

TANNER

You've got me.

Silence.

STONE

Us.

TANNER

Y-what?

STONE

Uniforms.

TANNER

Coppers?

STONE

Possibly, or more specifically...

Silence.

TANNER

Community support officers.

Heavy heavy silence.

(CONTINUED)

STONE

Tell me I'm wrong Mike, tell me
I'm way way off track...

Silence.

TANNER

Now I've got that pit of my
stomach feeling -

Silence.

STONE

We can't tell McCaffrey.

TANNER

What we gonna do?

Pause.

STONE

We do what's right.

STONE's car pulls up outside house. They head towards the door. STONE knocks. Door opens.

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET

(surprised to see him -)

Detective Stone. Tanner.

STONE grabs him.

STONE

Get in the car.

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET

Why?

STONE

(dragging him)

Get in the car.

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET

I've no shoes on.

STONE

Get in the bleedin' car!

Knocking on another door. Woman answers.

TANNER

Mrs Morrison?

(CONTINUED)

MRS MORRISON

Yes.

TANNER

(shows his badge)

DC Tanner. I need your husband -

MRS MORRISON

He's in the bath -

TANNER

(yells at her, fierce)

Then get him out of the bath!

Stone's car driving. STONE and TANNER in the front.

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET

(scared, edgy)

Where we going?

TANNER

Comfortable back there?

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRRISON

(confident, brazen)

You can't do this to us.

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET

Take these handcuffs off!

STONE

Or what?

They drive.

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET

Will you PLEASE tell us where we

are going?

STONE

Day trip, you'll see when we get
there -

Stone's car pulls up in a steep car park at the top of
large moorland area which overlooks the city beyond.

He stops the car, pulls the brake on.

Silence.

STONE

Here we are -

(CONTINUED)

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
(arrogant)
Where?

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET
(scared)
We're not anywhere.

STONE
Lovely view though, don't you
think.

TANNER
Terrific.

STONE
I love it up here, sometimes come
walking - great for clearing the
mind. Fresh air in your lungs -
hard to find in the city, don't
you think.

Silence.

STONE (CONT'D)
I said, 'don't you think?'

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
Suppose so.

STONE
Yes, down there, in the heart of
the city, it's all filth isn't
it. Especially the area we
police - the estate's - with
their the high rises and low life
scum. People living in their own
squalor - bone idle, feckless,
criminal... and that's the good
ones. Some of them are *really*
bad - the dealers, the prossies
and their pimps, then of course
there's the nonce's - the kiddie
fiddlers, nestled amongst us, the
lowest of the low and there they
are breathing the same air,
eyeing up kiddies over garden
hedges, storing the memory for
later when they get home... those
people don't deserve to be called
human, do they, they're like
slugs in your kitchen - they're
repellent, they make your skin
crawl. Right?

No answer. SWEET's breathing fractures slightly.

(CONTINUED)

STONE (CONT'D)

Yep, up here it's all pure. But down there... down there the filth of the world is round every corner.

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
Has all this got a point to it -

STONE

Your brother died on that estate,
Sweet -
(beat)
I've done my homework.

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
So? Why do you think he wanted
to police it -

TANNER

You're not police officers.

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
No, we're better.

TANNER

What's that supposed to mean?

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
We care more.

TANNER

Than who?

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
You lot. You're complacent.
Never get the job done -

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET

Pete -

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
They need telling, arrogant gets.
They can't keep criminals off the streets -

STONE

Like the criminal who killed
Sweet's younger brother -

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET

He was never caught -

STONE

People knew who it was -

TANNER

So why didn't he go down?

(CONTINUED)

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
Because it's lawless out there.

STONE
So you want to bring law and
order do you?

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
Of course.

STONE
By any means necessary.

SWEET's breathing fracturing.

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
Meaning?

TANNER
You know full well.

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET
(panic in his voice)
We know nothing!

STONE
Don't take us for idiots, lads.

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET
We're not. What you talking about
- what are you *saying* -

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
(confident)
We've no idea what you're talking
about -

STONE
Murder.

TANNER
Brutal murder. Three of them.

STONE
The Bridgeton attacks.

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
What about them?

Silence. That breathing again...

STONE
You're involved.

SWEET suddenly loses it - retching.

TANNER
Don't dare puke in this car.

(CONTINUED)

He pukes. And pukes. Trying to breath. Hyperventilating with some sort of panic attack.

N.B This should sound like a man physically reacting to some internal nervous trauma. Visceral, upsetting.

STONE

You okay?

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON

Does he look okay!

He's still trying to breathe.

TANNER

What's the matter with him?

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON

All that talk of his bleedin brother. You're mental.

STONE

Open the windows, give him some air.

TANNER does so. SWEET sucks in air like a dying man. He starts to recover some composure.

STONE (CONT'D)

Sweet, Sweet -

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET

(just manages to utter)

Let us go -

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON

Think you can just bring us up here and start throwing accusations around, Stone -

STONE

I can do what I like -

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON

Law into your own hands.

STONE

Tell me I'm wrong.

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON

You're wrong!

STONE

I've got CCTV footage placing you near Pallacino's at the time of his murder - I've got your own admission that you went to visit Marcus Powell -

(CONTINUED)

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
We're community support -

STONE
Is this revenge for your brother,
Sweet -

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
Leave his brother out of -

TANNER
SHUT IT!

STONE
See yourself as some sort of
avenger? Some sort of vigilante?
Cleaning shit off the streets -

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET
(scared, retched)
Can we go to the station, please.
I think we need lawyers.

STONE
You're going nowhere.

TANNER
You're smart, you've covered your
tracks -

STONE
No evidence, no witnesses -
victim's killed with their own
possessions.

TANNER
And every single one of them the
sort of person people think got
what was coming to them -

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
Maybe they did.

STONE
Did they?

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET
No -

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
Shut up!

STONE
Did they Morrison? The paedo?
The pimp? The dealer? Did they
deserve death -

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
Don't see too many tears shed.

STONE
And with such violence?

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
Violence breeds violence. It's
all these people understand -

SWEET starts to cry.

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON (CONT'D)
What you doing? He's upset,
you've upset him -

STONE
Did they deserve it, Sweet?

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET
No!

TANNER
Morrison?

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
I demand to be released, NOW -

STONE
Or what?

TANNER
You're handcuffed to a police
car, what you gonna do, cry -

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
This is detective work, is it?

STONE
Yes!

Sweet is in a real state.

STONE (CONT'D)
Anything you'd like to say Sweet?

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET
...no.

STONE
I understand the need for
revenge, but this... whose idea
was it? Did it get out of hand?
Did he push you to go further
than you'd -

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
I want a lawyer!

(CONTINUED)

STONE

- like, because I know who's in charge here -

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON

I want representation NOW!

STONE

- I know who wears the trousers in this relationship. You're not getting a lawyer, this is a Kangaroo court. So I'm gonna ask you one more time, Morrison, and I want a straight answer - did they deserve to die?

Nothing.

STONE (CONT'D)

DID THEY?

Nothing.

STONE (CONT'D)

You killed them didn't you -

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET

No!

TANNER

Shut it!

STONE

You used your position and you took the law into your own hands -

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET

No!

STONE

Shut it! Morrison -

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON

You're the copper, Stone.

STONE

That's right and coppers put away murderers -

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON

Do they?

STONE

Yes. As best they can. Within the rules of the law -

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON

Then the law stinks.

(CONTINUED)

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET
(getting desperate)
Pete...

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
Say nothing.

STONE
You killed those men because you
thought they deserved it, thought
they were no longer fit to walk
the earth - you wanted revenge,
didn't you Morrison, admit it!

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
(calm as you like)
I admit nothing.

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET
Can we PLEASE go back to the
station -

STONE
No!

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET
I wanna go back to the station!

STONE
Tough!

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET
You can't DO this...

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
You've got nothing on us -

STONE
Wrong. I've got this. In here.
It's called instinct. And my
instinct's telling me I'm looking
at two murderers -

Silence.

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET starts to hyperventilate again.
STONE chooses to ignore him this time.

STONE (CONT'D)
Nice up here isn't. Big hill
though. Long way down -

Beat.

STONE (CONT'D)
I think me and you should go for
a walk Mike, what do you say?

(CONTINUED)

TANNER
Could do -

STONE
Leave these two to have a chat -

TANNER
They've got a lot to talk about -

STONE
Enjoy the view boys. We'll swing
by tomorrow, see how you're
getting on -

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET
(manic now, a man who
knows his future is
over)
You can't just leave us here.

STONE
Can't we?

COMMUNITY OFFICER SWEET
No. No. NOOOO!

STONE
Oh.

They get out anyway.

STONE (CONT'D)
Have a nice chat lads.

STONE slams the door closed and they make to walk away.

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
They deserved it! THEY DESERVED
IT!!!

STONE comes back, opens the door.

STONE
Pardon?

COMMUNITY OFFICER MORRISON
The system lets people down.
Criminals don't get punished.
They deserved what they got -

STONE
Okay... glad we've got that
cleared up...

STONE slams the door again. He turns to TANNER.

STONE (CONT'D)
Breathe that air in.

(CONTINUED)

They do.

STONE (CONT'D)

There's a Mahatma Gandhi quote -
an uneducated oik like you
wouldn't know it - but he says
'an eye for an eye leaves us all
blind'. And that's it innit -
that's the truth of it.

They stand and look at the view, breathe in the air.

STONE (CONT'D)

Where do you reckon the nearest
pub is -

TANNER

Tidy walk -

STONE

Work up a thirst.

TANNER

Absolutely.

STONE

I'm thinking that way.

TANNER

No, *that* way.

STONE

That's towards the reservoir.

TANNER

There's a village over that brow.

STONE

How far?

TANNER

Couple of miles.

STONE

There'd better be -

TANNER

Trust me -

They set off walking, music kicks in and we hear STONE grab his radio - as he walks into the distance we hear...

STONE

This is DCI John Stone, I'd like
you to send arresting officers to
the quarry view at the top of
Jacobs Hill... as soon as
possible please...

END EPISODE