

**THE PASSING BELLS**  
**EP.2 UK TX**  
**POST PRODUCTION SCRIPT**



MUSIC IN 5M01 10:00:00

RECAP IN

**CAPTION OVER: Previously**

KATIE runs away from MICHAEL playfully as he gives chase up the grassy bank.

CUT TO:

10:00:01

MICHAEL lays in the grass kissing KATIE.

CUT TO:

10:00:02

THOMAS rides a grocery delivery bicycle with some gusto in a quite well-to-do street. He passes by a group of WELL DRESSED WOMEN and rings his bell as he does so.

CUT TO:

10:00:03

THOMAS steps out wearing his uniform, looking pleased as punch. People applaud.

CUT TO:

10:00:05

MICHAEL proudly steps wearing a German army uniform amongst other SOLDIERS. PEOPLE applaud.

CUT TO:

10:00:08

THOMAS sits on his bed. His little brother JOHN and little sister FAITH both sit on the bed with him.

ANNIE (V.O.)

Whatever you have to do...

CUT TO:

10:00:09

ANNIE (V.O. - CONT'D)

... you come back to me, do you hear?

ANNIE closes THOMAS's bird encyclopedia. ANNIE sits on THOMAS's bed whilst he sleeps. She looks around the room, it's a child's room, pictures of birds on the wall.

THOMAS (V.O.)

I'll be alright Mum, stop worrying.

CUT TO:

10:00:13

SUSAN takes MICHAEL's face in her hands.

SUSAN (CONT'D)

You don't have to be a hero...

CUT TO:

10:00:14

MICHAEL and the new recruits are being waved off.

SUSAN (V.O. - CONT'D)

... you know.

CUT TO:

10:00:15

MICHAEL stands amongst the other RECRUITS, rifles in hand.

BEN (V.O.)

We're going. We're actually...

CUT TO:

10:00:16

THOMAS, CYRIL, ANTHONY, BEN and KEVIN run from their tent.

BEN (CONT'D)

...bloody well going.

ANTHONY

Germans won't know what hit 'em.

CUT TO:

10:00:18

The GERMANS are fired at.

CUT TO:

10:00:19

The BRITISH SOLDIERS fire.

CUT TO:

10:00:20

MICHAEL squeezes his eyes shut and fires over and over. He takes cover.

CUT TO:

10:00:23

THOMAS pushes the SOLDIER's body onto the floor of the trench.

The first time he's seen a dead body. He stares down at it, distraught.

TO BLACK.

MUSIC IN 5M02 (TITLES) 10:00:26 **OPENING TITLES SEQUENCE**  
MUSIC OUT 5M01 10:00:27

**WRITTEN BY**  
**TONY JORDAN**

**PRODUCED BY**  
**NICK PITTE**

**DIRECTED BY**  
**BRENDAN MAHER**

**THE**  
**PASSING BELLS**

**TO BLACK**

**CAPTION OVER BLACK: 1915**

MUSIC OUT 5M02 (TITLES) 10:00:58

BLACK SCREEN: A whistle blows. The sound of artillery in the distance.

MUSIC IN 2M03 10:00:59

EXT. BRITISH TRENCHES. DAWN

BRITISH SOLDIERS climb over the top of the trenches with guns wearing gas masks.

**CAPTION OVER: British trench, France**

TWO BRITISH SOLDIERS release canisters of poisonous gas.

CORPORAL BOND (O.S.)  
Gas released!

The announcements are passed on.

OFFICER (O.S.)  
Gas released!

The next wave of SOLDIERS in the trench get ready to go over and do battle.

CORPORAL BOND  
Masks on!

OFFICER (O.S.)  
Masks on!

10:01:13

EXT. NO MAN'S LAND. DAY

CORPORAL BOND (O.S.)  
It's gonna hit their trenches in 3 minutes.

We follow a pipe along the earth.

OFFICER (O.S.)  
It's gonna hit their trenches in 3 minutes.

At the end yellow poisonous gas is emitted into the air.

10:01:20

EXT. BRITISH TRENCHES. DAWN

THOMAS and the SOLDIERS put their masks on.

CORPORAL BOND (O.S.)  
Tuck those bloody masks in. Come on boys! Next wave!

A whistle blows.

OFFICER (O.S.)  
Next wave.

OFFICER (O.S.)  
Next wave.

They move and climb up the ladders to the top of the trench.

CORPORAL BOND (O.S.)  
Move, move, move! Keep moving forward!

10:01:32

EXT. NO MAN'S LAND. DAY

The SOLDIERS walk into battle. THOMAS fiddles with his mask.

THOMAS  
Can't see a thing! Fogging up! I can't see! Can't breathe.

His mask starts to fog up and he has to stop to rip it off, he looks around at the others all doing the same.

ANTHONY  
Take them off, there's no gas here.

The gas cloud suddenly starts to change direction as the wind changes.

10:01:49

EXT. BRITISH TRENCHES. DAY

CORPORAL BOND with binoculars looks at the MEN in front of him and the gas cloud changing direction.

CORPORAL BOND  
(to himself)  
Shit!

10:01:56

EXT. NO MAN'S LAND. DAY

THOMAS, CYRIL, KEVIN, ANTHONY and BEN all moving, advancing towards the German lines with their masks off.

BRITISH OFFICER  
It's coming back at them!

Then the gas hits. Their eyes start streaming, SOLDIERS fall over, they become disoriented. British SOLDIERS gassed by their own side. Chaos. THOMAS struggles to put his mask back on as do some of the others. THOMAS is gasping for breath. An artillery barrage begins.

OFFICER (O.S.)  
Stick together!

MUSIC OUT 2M03 10:02:24

OFFICER (O.S.)  
Take cover! Take cover!

ANTHONY  
Tommy! This way! Tommy!

The artillery continues. THOMAS alone, he falls into a shell hole and he takes off his mask again. FRANK is beside him.

FRANK, a man in his forties, jumps in to lay beside him. THOMAS breathes heavily catching his breath, terrified. He can hardly move, clearly in pain as he spits out the taste of the gas.

FRANK  
Not much use are they? Cough it up! And no water for a bit - makes it worse.

FRANK takes a look out.

FRANK (CONT'D)

We can't stay here we've got to keep moving.  
Upwind of the gas.

THOMAS  
I'm alright here!

FRANK  
It's not safe!

THOMAS  
I'm not leaving!

FRANK  
What's your name? What's your name?

THOMAS  
Tommy.

FRANK  
Have you got a Dad Tommy?

THOMAS  
Yes.

FRANK  
Well he'd never forgive me if I let ya.

FRANK grabs THOMAS roughly by the scruff of the neck and drags him out of the shell hole. They run until they're clear of the gas cloud and jump into another shell hole to take cover in a shower of gunfire and exploding shells.

Just behind them, a YOUNG MAN is shot and falls just above the shell hole. He falls.

FRANK (CONT'D)  
We'll be alright here, gas cloud's moving.

Before THOMAS can react, FRANK has already gone to the BOY and starts to drag him to safety, but before he can get back, they are both cut down by machine fire.

MUSIC IN 2M03 10:03:35

THOMAS  
No! No!

FRANK falls into the shell hole beside THOMAS.

FRANK looks up at THOMAS.

FRANK  
Bastard.

He opens his tunic pocket.

FRANK (CONT'D)  
Pocket...

The breath leaves him and he dies.

THOMAS goes into his pocket and takes out a photograph. It's FRANK and his SON.

MUSIC OUT 2M03 10:04:05

THOMAS closes his eyes and takes cover as another shell explodes just above his head. He put his hands over his ears.

10:04:07

EXT. RUINS. EASTERN FRONT. DAY

An old ruin, it's snowing heavily.

**CAPTION OVER: Gorlice-Tarnow, Poland**

MICHAEL, RUDI, LANZO, FREDDIE and STEFAN stand shivering despite their heavy coats.

FREDDIE  
I've got three pairs of socks on and I still can't feel my feet.

They look older, tired, uniforms not quite so pristine.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)  
Welcome to the eastern front boys.

LANZO  
I heard the shells here are ten times worse.

FREDDIE  
There's no mud to absorb the impact, the ground's so hard...

RUDI  
I heard your hands get so cold you can't fire your rifle.

STEFAN  
I heard they have trench parties every night, more beer than you can drink and three women for every man...

LANZO  
I like his version.

FREDDIE (O.S.)  
And me.

A moment as they walk on.

FREDDIE  
Let's get inside. Light a fire.

LANZO  
Oh I can smell bacon.

STEFAN  
This morning it was sausages.

LANZO  
You think it's a Russian secret weapon? Send over  
smells to distract us?

FREDDIE  
Don't see how, if you're the only one who can  
smell it.

LANZO  
So why they picking on me?

RUDI  
No idea.

They continue towards the ruins.

10:04:49

EXT. GROUND FLOOR. RUINS. EASTERN FRONT. DAY

MUSIC IN 2M04 10:04:51

RUDI, LANZO, STEFAN, MICHAEL and RUDI enter the  
ruins.

Above them, the last of the RUSSIAN SOLDIERS  
disappears into a hole.

10:04:56

INT. FIRST FLOOR. RUINS. EASTERN FRONT. DAY

The RUSSIAN SOLDIER emerges from the hole to join  
his MEN all preparing to attack the GERMANS.

10:04:59

EXT. RUINS. EASTERN FRONT. DAY

MICHAEL, RUDI, LANZO, FREDDIE and STEFAN emerge  
and look around them.

10:05:09

INT. FIRST FLOOR. RUINS. EASTERN FRONT. DAY

The RUSSIAN SOLDIERS prepare to attack.

10:05:10

EXT. RUINS. EASTERN FRONT. DAY

Suddenly a RUSSIAN SOLDIER appears in front of them and shoots.

MICHAEL  
Freddie!

GERMAN SOLDIER (O.S.)  
Ambush! Russians!

MUSIC OUT 2M04 10:05:17

The GERMANS run for cover before more RUSSIANS attack.

10:05:18

INT. RUINS. EASTERN FRONT. DAY

The GERMAN SOLDIERS run inside and a gun battle ensues between them all.

Cut to MICHAEL and FREDDIE who run inside. A RUSSIAN SOLDIER jumps in their way so they veer off down a passageway. In the panic, MICHAEL drops his rifle.

MICHAEL  
My rifle!

They then hide either side of an archway.

MUSIC IN 2M04 10:05:34

The RUSSIAN comes towards them. FREDDIE can see him before MICHAEL and points to him. As the RUSSIAN finds MICHAEL, MICHAEL grabs the front of his gun and he falls to the floor. FREDDIE then jumps on top of him as MICHAEL runs to get his rifle.

MICHAEL is then attacked by a SOLDIER who pins him down and tries to strangle him.

FREDDIE  
Mikey!

FREDDIE next to him is still fighting with the RUSSIAN SOLDIER on the floor who is trying to stab him with a knife.

A GERMAN SOLDIER then shoots and kills MICHAEL'S OPPONENT.

He falls off MICHAEL who gets up, picks up his gun and moves over to FREDDIE, still fighting on the floor. MICHAEL thrusts a bayonet into his OPPONENTS side.

FREDDIE throws him off leaving the RUSSIAN to die.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

Let's get out of here! Mikey come on.

They leave.

10:06:38

EXT. SHELL HOLE. NO MAN'S LAND. DAY

THOMAS in his shell hole beside FRANK'S body. Injured SOLDIERS around him.

MUSIC OUT 2M04 10:06:50

He comes to and coughs. His eyes are red.

A moment before CORPORAL BOND appears in the shell hole.

CORPORAL BOND

There's a cease-fire so both sides can tend to the wounded. Move up!

The INJURED MEN begin to move.

A moment later. All the injured have gone. THOMAS is left with FRANK. THOMAS looks at FRANK'S photo and moves out of the shell hole.

10:07:12

EXT. NO MAN'S LAND. DAY

THOMAS looks around him. The land between the two sides is littered with DEAD and INJURED from both sides.

MUSIC IN 2M05 10:07:24

Then, slowly, the GERMANS start to appear from their positions too.

On THOMAS as he takes in the horror of it all.

Both ARMIES stand in silence, facing each other across a sea of BODIES.

THOMAS tries to pull one of the WOUNDED to safety but realises he can't.

A GERMAN SOLDIER, LUCAS, bends down to help him. THOMAS looks up and their eyes meet.

Together they pull the INJURED MAN back towards the British wire, watched by other SOLDIERS, at first incredulous, but then slowly both sides merge to collect the wounded, irrespective of their nationality.

THOMAS and LUCAS help another wounded SOLDIER, German this time, and they walk back towards the German wire for aid.

THOMAS with young GERMAN SOLDIERS around him now, being tended to.

10:08:51

Later. All the SOLDIERS from both sides walk back into no-man's land. THOMAS walks with LUCAS. LUCAS and the GERMANS stop as the BRITISH SOLDIERS continue on. When THOMAS falls into line with his army he turns to face the ENEMY.

After a moment, the SOLDIERS on both sides turn to walk back to their trenches. Only THOMAS and LUCAS are left facing each other, looking into each other's eyes. LUCAS turns leaving THOMAS alone. A moment as he follows suit.

10:10:13

EXT. EASTERN FRONT. DAY

A weary MICHAEL sits deep in thought.

MUSIC OUT 2M05 10:10:29

FREDDIE approaches to break his trance.

FREDDIE

I don't think I've ever been that scared. I thought we'd had it...

MICHAEL smiles.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

I would have done if it hadn't been for you.

MICHAEL looks at FREDDIE. MICHAEL nods.

MUSIC IN 2M05 10:10:59

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

He would have killed you too.

MICHAEL nods. FREDDIE stands up to leave.

10:11:21

EXT. BRITISH FRONT LINE. DAY

Shells and gunfire around him. THOMAS sits, verbally wincing and crying when he hears the explosions and gun shots. His eyes red and

streaming from the chlorine gas, he struggles to hold on to his emotions, but loses the battle. His heart breaking, he looks at his bird encyclopedia and holds it close.

In the distance the guns rumble on.

Disoriented, he vomits, then when he stops he slowly tries to stand up, as he does so a shell explodes near to him, he falls.

Fade to black.

RUDI (V.O.)

The new kids that got here yesterday...

10:11:47

EXT/INT. RUINS. DAY

MICHAEL and RUDI carry sticks as they walk.

RUDI (CONT'D)

MUSIC OUT 2M05 10:11:50

...said that last Christmas on the western front, some of the British and German troops came out of their trenches and played football.

They enter the ruin.

MICHAEL

Well do you believe it?

10:11:57

INT. RUINS. DAY

Fires burn, SOLDIERS sit around. They sit.

RUDI

It's not much of a war if we don't hate each other. I don't think I did when we got here. When it started, I just thought of them as hats on sticks, like a, like a game at the fairground. But when you see people actually die. People who the day before were telling you about their home and their family, about a book they liked or the food they were going to eat when they got home...then they're dead. It's hard not to hate the people that did that.

MICHAEL gets out a photo of KATIE.

RUDI (CONT'D)

Have you been writing home?

MICHAEL  
When I can.

RUDI  
After a year it's hard to say anything new, well it is if you leave out the mud, rats, shells and dead people.

MICHAEL  
You need a system. When you write to your parents, you tell them that you're bored, that there's nothing to do, that you're safe, there's lots of food and clean blankets so they don't worry. Then to your girlfriend. If you ever get one. You tell her that you're fighting the French and British single handed.

RUDI  
You don't mind lying to your parents?

MICHAEL  
Do you think I should tell them that I'm freezing to death on the eastern front? That I can't feel my hands or feet? No.  
(wry smile)  
I tell them I'm proud to be fighting for my country.

A breathless FREDDIE runs into the ruins holding a slip of paper.

FREDDIE  
We're getting leave!

MICHAEL  
When?

FREDDIE  
Soon! We're getting moved back to the western front and they're giving us four days leave before we go.

MUSIC IN 2M06 10:14:03

MICHAEL takes this in and looks at KATIE'S picture.

10:14:11

EXT. RUIN. DAY

The GERMAN SOLDIERS file out into the snow on their way home.

10:14:24

INT. LITTLE CURIE TRUCK. DAY

THOMAS'S pov, all blurry and out of focus. After a moment...

Eyes focus and slowly open to reveal JOANNA, a young medical assistant in her late teens; she is standing over THOMAS.

JOANNA

Do you know where you are? You've been hurt. Do you remember?

He loses focus again.

JOANNA (CONT'D)

Thomas. Try and stay with me...

FADE TO BLACK.

10:14:49

INT. LITTLE CURIE TRUCK. DAY

MUSIC OUT 2M06 10:14:50

JOANNA is inside a X-Ray truck; THOMAS wakes.

JOANNA

Welcome back.

THOMAS

Where am I?

JOANNA

We got the shrapnel out in one piece and they say your lungs look clear...

We see THOMAS, bandages around his torso.

THOMAS

Was anyone else hurt? My friends...

JOANNA

I'll ask...

JOANNA leaves the truck.

10:15:12

EXT. LITTLE CURIE TRUCK. DAY

MUSIC IN 2M07 10:15:16

JOANNA walks away from the medical truck.

10:15:18

EXT. VILLAGE. DAY

MICHAEL sits on the back of a horse and cart as it drives into the village and stops outside the church hall.

MICHAEL  
Stop!

KATIE appears and runs towards him; he lifts her off her feet in an embrace and they kiss.

KATIE  
Your mum said I could come and meet you, if I promised to bring you straight home.

A MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN clutches half a loaf of black bread pushes past. They look at her.

KATIE (CONT'D)  
People are struggling, things aren't so easy to come by. No-one complains, they say the food's all going to the soldiers fighting.

MICHAEL  
If it is, I haven't seen it! Sometimes the bread's so hard, if we threw that at the Brits instead of bullets we might cause more damage.

KATIE smiles as he kisses her head.

10:16:10

EXT. MICHAEL'S HOUSE. DAY

SUSAN and WILLIAM load turnips and swedes from their farm on to a flat bed army cart helped by a SOLDIER.

KATIE and MICHAEL walk up to the house.

SARAH (O.S.)  
Mikey!

SUSAN looks up and sees SARAH as she runs to greet MICHAEL. SUSAN runs to her SON.

SUSAN steps forward now to embrace him tightly, KATIE looks on.

SUSAN  
Oh thank God...

WILLIAM approaches.

WILLIAM

Welcome home Michael.

They all walk into the house together.

10:16:39

INT. FIELD HOSPITAL. NIGHT

THOMAS sits against a wall. A commotion ensues as a YOUNG SOLDIER screams and struggles on the floor. He is helped away.

DOCTOR

Come on let's get you back. You'll be alright.

THOMAS looks on concerned.

JOANNA is in discussion with a DOCTOR. As she walks away she passes THOMAS. He calls out.

THOMAS

Will he be alright?

JOANNA

We can only fix bodies.

JOANNA moves to leave.

THOMAS

Don't go.

JOANNA looks back at him;

THOMAS (CONT'D)

I don't know anyone else.

JOANNA

Two minutes.

MUSIC OUT 2M07 10:17:12

She sits with him.

THOMAS

I always thought my first time in hospital would be falling out of a tree or something, not being gassed or blown up...

JOANNA

You were very lucky.

THOMAS

(looks at her)

Yes I am.

A moment.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

D'you know how long I'll be here?

JOANNA

That's up to the Medical Officer, I've finished with you.

THOMAS

I thought...

JOANNA

I just do X-rays. My hospital is very small and parked outside.

THOMAS

The truck...

JOANNA

(she nods) The soldiers call them "Little Curies"...

(beat)

After my boss, Marie Curie.

THOMAS

Where are you from?

JOANNA

Cracow.

A blank look from THOMAS.

THOMAS looks at her - bemused.

THOMAS

That's in Austria... I thought we were fighting you.

JOANNA

I'm Polish. We're fighting everyone.

JOANNA smiles.

JOANNA (CONT'D)

Our country was stolen from us a long time ago and then shared between the Austrians, the Germans and the Russians. And now there is a war, we're on different sides, they make us fight against each other. Pole against Pole.

THOMAS

That's terrible.

JOANNA

My father and brother are fighting with the French. They say this is the war we've been waiting for... The one that will give us back our homeland.

THOMAS

It's funny to think of someone actually wanting all this to happen.

JOANNA

I must go. You should get some sleep.

THOMAS

I'd rather keep talking to you. Will I see you tomorrow?

JOANNA nods then walks away.

10:19:02

INT. MICHAEL'S HOUSE. NIGHT

MICHAEL at the sink, washing his plate.

SUSAN is beside him - WILLIAM and KATIE at the table.

SUSAN

Wasn't that long ago I had to remind you to fetch your plate from the table. Now look at you, washing them yourself.

KATIE gets up and heads for the door. She taps MICHAEL to follow.

KATIE

Let's get some air.

MICHAEL follows. SUSAN watches them go.

SUSAN

He seems so much older.

WILLIAM puts his hand on hers.

WILLIAM

He's home. That's all that matters.

SUSAN

And we haven't got enough food to feed him.

WILLIAM  
We'll manage...

10:19:45

EXT. BARN. MICHAEL'S HOUSE. NIGHT

MICHAEL and KATIE are together in the barn. He's pensive, she studies him.

KATIE  
You've been so quiet since you got back, is everything alright...between us?

MICHAEL  
Of course. It's just strange being back here again that's all.

A moment, KATIE watching him.

KATIE  
You can, you can talk to me you know. I know you don't want me to worry.

MICHAEL  
There's really not much to tell.

KATIE  
Liar.

She turns away and he realises she needs him to be honest with her.

KATIE (CONT'D)  
That worries me even more. How bad must it be to make you lie to me?

MICHAEL  
I don't know how to explain it. The words. How, how could you understand? There's, there's nothing I can compare it to?

KATIE  
Tell me how you live, where you sleep.

MICHAEL  
We live in trenches. Underground most of the time. Like rabbits, and it's cold and dark and noisy and wet and you just spend every second wishing you were somewhere else. But there's a

"nowness" to everything. It's like you're seeing it for the first time, like a blade of grass in the mud or colours. The sky is amazing. You can smell the air. Everything's just more intense. It's like your brain's taking it all in, knowing that it might be the last cloud or blade of grass you'll ever see.

KATIE

You mustn't say that.

MICHAEL

It's hard not think that way though. You see life disappear in front of you and as it goes, you realise just how precious it was.

She is shocked by his words. He goes to her.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

That's why I want us to get married.

KATIE

What?

MICHAEL

Look, I, I don't have the ring that I promised you but will you just marry me anyway?

KATIE

Now?

MICHAEL

MUSIC IN 2M08 10:22:50

There's no rush. We've got three days.

A moment between them, excitement, a hint of fear even as she nods. They kiss.

10:22:58

EXT. FIELD HOSPITAL. DAY

JOANNA is bent down under the bonnet of the car, THOMAS stands beside her. She reaches up to get the oil can resting on the front of the truck where she left it, but THOMAS moves it, her hand flailing around looking for it, until she eventually comes out from under the bonnet to look for it. THOMAS is holding it. She snatches it off him, going back to work. He bends down so their faces are level and they smile at each other.

10:23:22

EXT. VILLAGE STREET. DAY

MICHAEL and KATIE with their FAMILIES walk from the church as newlyweds. The church bells ring.

10:23:35

EXT. LITTLE CURIE TRUCK. DAY

THOMAS sits thoughtfully outside the truck as JOANNA watches him. She goes to him. He takes off his cap.

10:23:50

EXT. TOP OF A GRASSY BANK. DAY

KATIE and MICHAEL at the top of the bank we first saw them on kiss and walk on.

10:24:03

INT. RUIN NEAR FIELD HOSPITAL. DUSK

THOMAS and JOANNA lay together and kiss passionately.

10:24:33

INT. MICHAEL'S HOUSE. HALLWAY. DUSK

Through the bedroom door we can see MICHAEL and KATIE in bed.

10:24:41

INT. MICHAEL'S HOUSE. BEDROOM. DUSK

Newlyweds MICHAEL and KATIE in bed together. She's asleep, MICHAEL is awake leaning up on one arm, tracing out her features with a single finger.

10:24:52

INT/EXT. RUIN NEAR FIELD HOSPITAL. DUSK

A post-coital THOMAS and JOANNA lay down on the floor of the ruins, both on their sides facing each other, simply studying every detail of each other's face as though committing it to memory forever.

A bird lands on a nearby wall, a blue tit. It catches his attention. JOANNA turns to look at it.

JOANNA pulls up a small but perfect flower from the wall and hands it to THOMAS.

10:25:39

EXT. VILLAGE. DAY

MICHAEL and KATIE have their last goodbyes. KATIE, SUSAN, WILLIAM and SARAH watch MICHAEL climbing on board a cart with a couple of other SOLDIERS.

WILLIAM  
We're with you son.

KATIE holds up her hand to show him her wedding ring, he does the same with his.

SARAH  
Bye bye.

The cart moves off.

10:26:03

EXT. FIELD HOSPITAL. DAY

THOMAS and JOANNA walk outside. He is leaving.

JOANNA  
You know I could tell them I wasn't happy with your x-ray and they'd keep you here longer, maybe even send you home.

THOMAS  
I can't do that. Not with my mates still here...

She leans in to kiss him. Their kiss then interrupted by other SOLDIERS cheering at them from the waiting horse drawn cart. THOMAS grins and gets on the cart. He blows her a kiss as he goes. JOANNA waves, watching him go back towards the front line, tears in her eyes.

10:26:46

EXT. FIELD. DAY

MICHAEL walks with RUDI, FREDDIE, LANZO and STEFAN.

**CAPTION OVER: German Regiment re-deploys to France**

RUDI  
You mean she wasn't pregnant?

MICHAEL  
No!

MUSIC OUT 2M08 10:26:52

RUDI  
Then why marry her? Why limit yourself to one woman?

LANZO  
He might have a point.

MICHAEL

One woman is enough for me.  
(to the OTHERS)  
So do we know where we're going?

FREDDIE  
(shakes his head)  
They just said west.

10:27:03

INT. BRITISH DUG OUT. DAY

**CAPTION OVER: British Regiment, dugout, France**

THOMAS enters the dug out to find CYRIL, ANTHONY, BEN and KEVIN. They are all delighted to see him.

BEN  
Here he is!

They all greet him.

ANTHONY  
We thought they'd sent you home.

CYRIL  
I told you, he's got nine lives this one.

BEN  
You lost. He's back - pay up!

ANTHONY reacts [he's lost the bet].

THOMAS  
(to CYRIL)  
So how's it been?

CYRIL  
Well the neighbours are a bit noisy, but we're all still here.

KEVIN  
So come on, tell us...any pretty nurses?

THOMAS  
There might have been.

KEVIN  
Didn't bring one back I suppose?

THOMAS  
Couldn't fit her in the bag.

At that moment, there's an explosion.

CORPORAL BOND screams into the dugout.

CORPORAL BOND  
Stand to!

The GROUP all grab their things.

10:27:29

EXT. TRENCHES. DAY

MUSIC IN 2M09 10:27:32

They all scramble out with their rifles and stand on the fire step.

CORPORAL BOND (CONT'D)

COME ON BOYS...GET A MOVE ON... UP HERE....STEP UP, STEP UP...Go, go. Go. Go. Go. Go

The firing begins. As the shelling intensifies, THOMAS presses the daisy given to him by JOANNA into his bird book. He tucks the book safely away and picks up his rifle.

10:28:04

TO BLACK.

MUSIC IN 5M01 10:28:06

TEASER IN

**CAPTION OVER: Next Time**

On MICHAEL.

CUT TO:

10:28:07

KATIE, alone, praying silently.

CUT TO:

10:28:08

JOANNA and THOMAS embrace.

STEFAN (V.O.)

I don't know where we're going...

CUT TO:

10:28:09

A platoon of weary GERMAN SOLDIERS take a break from a march, STEFAN looks around at the assembling TROOPS that march past.

STEFAN (CONT'D)

MUSIC OUT 2M09 10:28:11

...but they don't normally move this many people without good reason.

CUT TO:

10:28:12

A huge piece of artillery. The barrel is raised.

BEN (V.O.)

Have you seen how many big...

CUT TO:

10:28:13

BEN (V.O. - CONT'D)

... guns are moving forward?

The BRITISH SOLDIERS load up.

CUT TO:

10:28:14

THOMAS and KEVIN take a break. THOMAS looks subdued, a bit miserable as they sit against the wall. ANTHONY approaches.

KEVIN

Yeah, well the more the merrier as long as they're on our side.

LANZO (V.O.)

Whatever...

CUT TO:

10:28:17

The BRITISH SOLDIERS fire their artillery.

LANZO (V.O. - CONT)

...happens here...

CUT TO:

10:28:19

The SOLDIERS write letters.

LANZO (CONT'D)

It'll be the end of it?

CUT TO:

10:28:20

THOMAS

This is it...

CUT TO:

10:28:21

On MICHAEL at the firing line.

THOMAS (V.O. - CONT'D)

... it's over...

CUT TO:

10:28:22 BRITISH SOLDIERS gathered in the trench.

CORPORAL BOND  
Everyone will remember that this is where we won the war. Here at the Somme.

CUT TO:

10:28:27 A huge explosion as the shell lands.

CUT TO:

10:28:28 Rubble lands in the dugout.

CUT TO:

10:28:28 MICHAEL and the other SOLDIERS run as the bombardment rains down on them.

CUT TO:

10:28:29 THOMAS runs.

CUT TO:

10:28:29 The GERMAN SOLDIERS fire,

CUT TO:

10:28:30 THOMAS carries on running, explosions all around him.

MUSIC IN 5M12 10:28:31 TO BLACK

10:28:32 **END CREDITS**

MUSIC OUT 5M01 10:28:33

THOMAS	PATRICK GIBSON
MICHAEL	JACK LOWDEN
KENNY BOND	MATTHEW AUBREY
ANTHONY	ADAM LONG
CYRIL	HUBERT BURTON
KEVIN	BEN McGREGOR
BEN	JORDAN MURPHY

FRANK	KIERAN O'BRIEN
FREDDIE	WILF SCOLDING
STEFAN	CHARLES FURNESS
LANZO	FELIX AUER
RUDI	JOHNNY GIBBON
LUCAS	BARTOSZ BIELENIA
JOANNA	ERIKA KARKUSZEWSKA
FEMALE RADIOGRAPHER	KATARZYNA MARIA ZIELIŃSKA
KATIE	SABRINA BARTLETT
WILLIAM	SIMON KUNZ
SUSAN	JENNIFER HENNESSY
SARAH	EWELINA ZAWISTOWSKA
SCREAMING SOLDIER	MICHAŁ MALINOWSKI
1ST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	PETER FREEMAN
KEY 2ND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	AGNIESZKA KRAWCZYŃSKA
2ND ASSISTANT DIRECTORS	IAN HUGHES
	JEFF TAYLOR
3RD ASSISTANT DIRECTORS	KASPER JABŁOŃSKI
	KLAUDIUSZ CHROSTOWSKI
SCRIPT SUPERVISOR	RORY HERBERT
CASTING ASSOCIATE	SIMON COX
LOCATION MANAGER	ANNA PALKA

UNIT MANAGER	MACIEJ KRZEPKOWSKI
2ND UNIT MANAGER	PIOTR CISŁO

PRODUCTION MANAGER MARIUSZ MIELCZAREK

PRODUCTION CO-ORDINATORS DAGMARA BAGNECKA

IWONA CZAJA

PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS MAGDALENA PIETROWSKA  
KRYSYNA ŚLĄZAK

PRODUCTION SECRETARY TIM LEACH

SUPERVISING PRODUCTION ACCOUNTANT JON MILLER

ACCOUNTANTS ALEKSANDRA BUCHALIK  
ELZBIETA JEZIERSKA

STUNT CO-ORDINATOR ZBIGNIEW MODEJ

A CAMERA OPERATOR TOMASZ NAUMIUK

B CAMERA OPERATOR JACEK PETRYCKI

FOCUS PULLER A CAMERA KATARZYNA ŚWIETLIKOWSKA

FOCUS PULLERS B CAMERA ZBIGNIEW GUSTOWSKI  
MICHAŁ SOBÓTKA

1ST ASSISTANT A CAMERA MATEUSZ FRĄCZEK

1ST ASSISTANT B CAMERA MICHAŁ FRĄCZEK  
DIT MACIEJ BERSKI

VIDEO ASSISTANT CAMERA ŁUKASZ DŁUGASZEWSKI

CAMERA ASSISTANTS ŁUKASZ MELJON

ADRIAN KUJDA

ŁUKASZ GRACZYK

STEADYCAM OPERATOR ADAM MENDRY

STEADYCAM OPERATOR ASSISTANT KONRAD GUT

KEY GRIP SEBASTIAN FRĄC

GRIPS MARCIN GRZEGORY

ŁUKASZ GAPIŃSKI

GAFFER JACEK KUROWSKI

BEST BOY BOGDAN MODZELEWSKI

ELECTRICIANS ŁUKASZ CAREK

FILIP KWIATKOWSKI

ARKADIUSZ KŁOS

GENNY OPERATOR WŁODZIMIERZ BEDNAREK

BOOM OPERATORS KONRAD SEROWIECKI

MARIUSZ ANDRASIK

ART DIRECTORS MARCIN AZIUKIEWICZ

ANNA WŁODARCZYK

JAN WALKER

SET DECORATOR KINGA BABCZYŃSKA

STANDBY ART DIRECTOR RADOSŁAW ZIELONKA

STORYBOARD ARTIST ILONA BAŁUT

PROPS BUYER MARCIN DYBCZYŃSKI

PROPS ASSISTANT MICHAŁ ŚWIĄTKIEWICZ

ART DEPT DRESSERS ROBERT "OLO" SENDEROWSKI

MARCIN WASILEWSKI

STANDBY PROPS JAROSŁAW JAGODZIŃSKI

GRAPHIC ARTIST MARIA WILK

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER ADAM SZKOPIŃSKI

MILITARY COSTUME SUPERVISOR MAGDALENA RUTKIEWICZ

MILITARY COSTUME ASSISTANT AGATA DROZDOWSKA  
TAILOR JANUSZ ADAMIAK  
MASTER WARDROBE ANNA SAPIŃSKA-SZALAST

MAKE UP SUPERVISOR MARCIN RODAK  
MAKE UP ARTISTS MAGDALENA LEWANDOWSKA  
AGNIESZKA DĄBROWSKA  
KINGA KRULIKOWSKA  
HAIR STYLIST GRAŻYNA JAKUBCZAK

SPECIAL EFFECTS SUPERVISORS KAZIMIERZ WRÓBLEWSKI  
JANUSZ BYKOWSKI  
WITOLD GAJZLER

MILITARY ADVISORS	TAFF GILLINGHAM PAWEŁ ROZDĘSTWIEŃSKI JACEK HABER DALE TAYLOR
HISTORICAL ADVISORS	PROFESSOR SIR HEW STRACHAN DOCTOR WŁADYSŁAW BUŁHAK

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PUBLICIST	SARAH ASPINALL
PICTURE PUBLICIST	ALEX GILL
STILLS PHOTOGRAPHER	ALEKSANDRA GROCHOWSKA

POST PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR NATALIE SILVER

POST PRODUCTION SERVICES LIPSYNC POST

POST PRODUCTION PRODUCER BEVERLEY HORNE

COLOURIST STUART FYVIE

ONLINE EDITOR CONNAN McSTAY

TITLES HOWARD WATKINS

SIMON EDWARDS

JULIA HALL

DIALOGUE EDITOR BEN BRAZIER

FX EDITOR ROBERT BRAZIER

RE-RECORDING MIXER ROB HUGHES

ASSISTANT EDITOR ROB REDFORD

HEAD OF VFX SAL UMERJI

VFX SUPERVISOR SHEILA WICKENS

VFX PRODUCER MARTIN GABRIEL

SCRIPT EDITOR JUDITH KING

DEVELOPMENT PRODUCER SIMON WINSTONE

COMMISSIONING EDITORS TVP PIOTR DEREWENDA

ADAM DOLISTOWSKI

HEAD OF PRODUCTION & BUSINESS ALEX JONES

PRODUCERS APPLE FILM PRODUCTION VIOLETTA KAMIŃSKA

IZABELA WÓJCIK

CASTING DIRECTOR AMY HUBBARD CDG

CASTING DIRECTOR POLAND TERESA VIOLETTA BUHL

SOUND RECORDIST MATEUSZ ADAMCZYK

MAKE UP & HAIR DESIGNER LUCY CAIN

COSTUME DESIGNER CHARLOTTE HOLDICH

MUSIC BY JOHN LUNN

EDITOR CELIA HAINING

PRODUCTION DESIGNERS ASHLEIGH JEFFERS  
EWA SKOCZKOWSKA

DIRECTORS OF PHOTOGRAPHY TOMASZ NAUMIUK PSC  
JACEK PETRYCKI PSC

LINE PRODUCER ANDREW CHAPMAN

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER BBC WORLDWIDE

BEN DONALD

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER TVP

ZBIGNIEW ADAMKIEWICZ

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER BBC

BETHAN JONES

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

TONY JORDAN

BELINDA CAMPBELL

DARIUSZ JABŁONSKI

---

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MUSIC OUT 5M12 10:29:02