

THE BREAK S5 - WEED

PINK SHOOTING SCRIPT

Written by

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**BBC**  
**STUDIOS**



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FADE IN:

1 EXT. ESTATE - WASTELAND/STAIRS - DAY 1

LEAH (16), GREY HOODIE up, face partially covered, runs down a stairwell which borders a scrap of wasteland. Behind her, glimpses of a brutalist estate can be seen.

She drops into the wasteland. Lands bad. Her leg twists at a horrifying angle. HOLY FUCK!

Beat.

She rolls her tracksuit up, and reattaches her prosthetic leg.

LEAH  
I reckon I've got five minutes -  
max. To finish what I started.

She pulls what at first glance looks like a small knife - fingers wrapped round a small handle, a flash of silver, hint of a sharp point - out of her rucksack.

LEAH (CONT'D)  
Or until the 5-0 realise - I  
swapped hoodies and my cap with my  
mate Kev - and they're chasing  
after him.

LEAH hurries along.

LEAH (CONT'D)  
Me and Kev have lived here all our  
lives. He's proper family. Always  
says leave no bruv behind. We  
started hanging when we were little  
- Mum used to take me and him over  
t' City Farm. Seriously, I get  
gassed thinking bout all the things  
we done. There was this time, last  
year, yeah, when Graham started  
trying to act the hard man.

\*  
\*  
\*

2 EXT. SCHOOL - DAY - FLASHBACK 1 2

LEAH, in a PURPLE JACKET AND CAP, stands next to her best mate KEV (16), a small lad, of similar stature to her, wearing a GREY HOODIE (the same one LEAH wears in the Present Day), as--

GRAHAM (18), a BIGGER lad, makes a WANKER gesture right in the stunned face of KEV.

LEAH (V.O.)  
He thought he was well gangsta - He  
was right up in Kev's face.

\*  
\*

GRAHAM squares up to KEV who is beginning to look scared.

LEAH (V.O.)  
Said he was gonna take Kev's phone.

\*

LEAH looks at GRAHAM towering over KEV. Then at GRAHAM'S DISTINCTIVE BIKE leaning against a handy railing/wall/bin.

LEAH (V.O.)  
So I nicked his bike.

CUT TO:

3 EXT. SCHOOL - DAY - FLASHBACK 1 CONTINUOUS

3

LEAH ditches GRAHAM'S DISTINCTIVE BIKE round a corner, and pegs it.

LEAH (V.O.)  
Only enough to distract him. But it was well funny.

4 EXT. ESTATE - BASKETBALL COURT - DAY - FLASHBACK 2

4

LEAH (V.O.)  
But then just a few months later Graham started kicking off again. Said some crap about me. And this time Kev - he ramped it up. Next level stuff.

KEV (in his GREY HOODIE) shoots across the estate on GRAHAM'S DISTINCTIVE BIKE.

CUT TO:

5 EXT. ESTATE - BASKETBALL COURT/RAILINGS - DAY - FLASHBACK 2 5

Kev is admiring GRAHAM'S DISTINCTIVE BIKE which-- he has HUNG OFF of the railings.

6 EXT. ESTATE - WASTELAND - DAY - BACK TO PRESENT

6

LEAH comes to a stop in the wasteland. Behind her, an open walkway brutalist tower block rises ominously. More towers can be seen in the background.

LEAH  
 Mum weren't too thrilled bout that.  
 But we were creasing up.

\*

O.S. A disturbing noise in the distance. Could be the PLASTIC DRAG of a bin along the ground. Or a CAR BACK FIRING.

LEAH jumps. Brandishes her weapon, and we see it is: A LANCASHIRE POTATO PEELER. WTF?!

LEAH shakes off her aggressive stance, rolls her shoulders, tries to look cool: she WASN'T scared, alright?

LEAH (CONT'D)  
 People don't like coming round here.

MONTAGE:

7 EXT. ESTATE/LONDON INNER CITY - DAY

7

Dark scary corners. An abandoned shopping trolley. Graffitied doors/lifts.

8 EXT. ESTATE - WASTELAND - DAY CONTINUOUS

8

LEAH  
 But they got it all wrong.  
 People're bare welcoming. Helping mum cause she was on her own with me. And helping when Kev's dad's away.

\*

\*

The sound of police SIRENS nearby.

LEAH (CONT'D)  
 It's always been just mum, me, and Kev. 'til Jay started sniffing round mum. Then things got mad crazy.

She stabs the POTATO PEELER angrily into the ground.

LEAH (CONT'D)  
 Last week - me and Kev - we done the Head Teacher's 4-door. It was just a stupid prank.

\*

\*

9 EXT. SCHOOL - DAY - FLASHBACK 3

9

LEAH (in her PURPLE HOODIE AND CAP) and KEV (in his GREY HOODIE), graffitiiing unseen words onto a car.

LEAH'S ARCING HAND directs the spray can.

10 OMITTED

10 \*

10A INT/EXT. ESTATE - LEAH'S FLAT/BALCONY - DAY - FLASHBACK 4 10A

We see LEAH'S MUM, (30s/40s), in her SUPERMARKET UNIFORM, mouth her words - like in the FRESH PRINCE OF BEL AIR opening credits - as LEAH tells us:

LEAH (V.O.)  
 But Mum was suddenly all like:  
*'We're leaving. Jay got a house in Bristol! You can go to a new school!' Like that's a good thing? Who I know in Bristol?*

10B INT/EXT. ESTATE - WASTELAND - DAY - BACK TO PRESENT

10B

She HACKS at the ground.

LEAH  
 It's cause of the Head. Kev and me were just having a laugh, and he proper lost it. Was like *"Leah Penton, you are only good for scrap!"*

\*

LEAH stops digging. Taps her potato peeler against her prosthetic. Punctuating her next words:

LEAH (CONT'D)  
 Scrap. He denied it. Said he didn't say that. But I heard him. Screwed up, didn't he?

\*

\*

11 EXT. SCHOOL - DAY - RETURN TO FLASHBACK 3

11

Return to LEAH (in her PURPLE HOODIE AND CAP), and KEV (in his GREY HOODIE) graffitiing the car.

They lean back to reveal the words:

WUT SCRAP NOW?

12 EXT. ESTATE - WASTELAND- DAY - BACK TO PRESENT

12

LEAH grins at the memory. Then that look fades.

LEAH  
 But mum weren't having it. *'You can make new friends!'*  
*(grimacing)*  
*'With girls!'*

She looks up at one of the tower blocks in the distance.

LEAH (CONT'D)

After the accident last year, I was stuck up there in my room. F'months. All I could do was stare out that stupid window.

\*  
\*

13 EXT. ESTATE - BASKETBALL COURT/RAILINGS - DAY - FLASHBACK 213

Return to KEV (in his GREY HOODIE) admiring GRAHAM'S DISTINCTIVE BIKE, which he has hung off the railings (scene 5).

Wait, he's on his own? He gives a 'thumbs up' up at LEAH'S window in the tower block.

13A INT/EXT. ESTATE - LEAH'S FLAT - BALCONY - DAY FLASHBACK 213A

LEAH'S POV:

GRAHAM'S DISTINCTIVE BIKE hung from the railings. And Kev's THUMBS UP and CHEEKY GRIN.

14 EXT. ESTATE - WASTELAND - DAY - BACK TO PRESENT 14

LEAH LAUGHS at the memory. Resumes digging. It looks like a hole in the ground.

LEAH

When Kev decorated my view, it got me thinking. Bout this bit of scrap land. So as soon as I got out we started making shit bombs.

\*

She grins.

LEAH (CONT'D)

Found these brown paper bags. Went back to t' City Farm - filled 'em with shit from the ponies. So sick! Then I put these seeds in them. They were heavy. You really had to chuck 'em to get some height--

\*

She mimes lobbing a molotov cocktail. Then slams the palm of one hand into the fist of her other.

LEAH (CONT'D)

Shit everywhere.

\*

She LAUGHS. Picks the potato peeler back up. Resumes digging.

LEAH (CONT'D)  
Get some flowers going. That's what  
I thought.  
(beat)  
Then two days ago we got picked out  
on CCTV - doing the Head's car.

Desperately she opens her bag and pulls out a tree sapling,  
before gently placing it in the ground, and covering it over  
with earth.

LEAH (CONT'D)  
Mum was vexed. Said Kev was a bad  
influence. Had me outta here. No  
goodbyes. Bristol's 3 bloody hours  
away. I've got no ride. No money.  
Kev's never got credit on his  
phone.  
(beat)  
So this morning, I dashed. Hitched  
back. To my roots.

\*  
\*  
\*

She gently pats in the sapling.

LEAH (CONT'D)  
Trees and plants and shit. You  
can't move them. Even if they knock  
your yard down, they ain't allowed  
to touch these. It's the  
Environment, and that. More  
permanent than a tag.

TWO POLICE OFFICERS come down the stairs, and SURROUND LEAH  
on the wasteland.

LEAH's face falls. Busted.

O.S. We hear the crackle, click, and mumbled sound of one of  
the POLICE OFFICERS talking into his radio.

LEAH finesses the soil round the sapling. THIS is important.

Beat. Then--

LEAH holds her hands up. Surrender. As we hear--

RADIO COP CONTROL (O.S.)  
*Copy that, ZERO - TANGO - INDIA.*  
*Girl found. We'll let the mum know*  
*you're bringing her home. Over.*

\*

KEV arrives BREATHLESS leaning over the wall above, wearing  
LEAH'S PURPLE HOODIE AND CAP. SHIT - the police beat him  
there - he's too late to warn her!

LEAH eyes flit from KEV, up to a door on the open walkway of the tower that overlooks the wasteland.

LEAH

That's Kev's place there. He challenged me to do this online dance sat on the ledge. But I lost my balance. Fell.

(beat)

He's gotta see that every day... He called the ambulance. Waited with.

(beat)

I just wanted him to have something else to look at. Like he done with the bike.

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\*

Panning out, we see several patches of manure, seeds, and scraps of biodegradable brown paper bags from LEAH's guerrilla gardening shit bombs. And the newly planted tree at her feet.

LEAH (CONT'D)

Something to remember me by.

She looks directly at KEV. Gives him a nod: it's done.

KEV mouths the same words, as she says them to him: Leave no bruv behind.

LEAH (CONT'D)

Leave no bruv behind.

LEAH's phone beeps. A message from MUM:

Kev can visit whenever. Just please come back, love.

Shock. Relief. Joy.

Beat.

She looks direct to camera:

LEAH (CONT'D)

(cheeky)

Jay's has got a garden.

DISSOLVE TO:

15

EXT. ESTATE - WASTELAND - DAY

15

Time passes, and the tree LEAH hastily planted grows strong, the patches of wild flowers a riot of bright blooms, visible from every walkway on the tower, in the now beautiful scrap land.

THE END