

31 EXT. BRIGHTON - STATION ROAD -DAY 31

TOM walks out of the station, clumsily maneuvering between the colourful groups of residents and tourists.

32 EXT./INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY 32

TOM dumps his suitcase on the bed and unzips it, ready to unpack. On the top layer of the suitcase, lays the PICTURE OF TOM'S FAMILY. Tom picks it up and looks at it.

33 EXT. STREET - NIGHT 33

A row of large, almost identical houses stretch towards the horizon. Most of the houses have electric gates, denying entrance to either lush, green lawns or pristine gravel driveways. They all seem to have at least three floors, suggesting big families.

TOM walks down the street, clutching the slip of paper in front of him. He darts his eyes across the number signs on the front of the gates.

Tom reaches his destination and stops in front of THE GHOST HOUSE, craning his neck upwards to take it all in. The rusty in front is one of the very few manual ones that Tom has passed. He pushes it hard, and it creaks open.

34 EXT. GHOST HOUSE - CONTINUOUS 34

The front lawn is dotted with several popped balloons and water pistols.

Tom steps up to the door and attempts to ring the doorbell, it appears to be disconnected. He KNOCKS three times.

MALE VOICE #1

It's him! I'm going to get it.

MALE VOICE #2

I want to do it!

FEMALE VOICE #1

You did it last time.

MALE VOICE #2

You always do it!

FEMALE VOICE #1

I'm doing it, you go hide!

Through the frosted window panel on the front door, we see a green figure approaching. Once it reaches the door, it stands in place.

Tom can see that somebody is there, but they don't seem to be making any attempt to open the door for him.

TOM

Hello?

The figure still doesn't move, as it stands there watching him. The door slowly opens, revealing somebody clad in a GREEN LINEN SHEET.

TOM (CONT'D)

Hello. Does Mr. King live here?

A muffled giggling can be heard under the sheet. KING (twenties) runs down the stairs, coat in hand. King has messy short hair which appears to have been self cut, and a manner of dress that suggests a child.

KING

You must be Tom.

TOM

Yes. Are you Mr. King?

KING

Please, just King.

King exits.

TOM

Did you guys have a party recently?

KING

No. Why do you ask?

35

EXT. SEAFRONT STREET - NIGHT

35

TOM and KING stroll along side by side.

KING

So what brings you here?

TOM

Are you like a doctor? Is there some sort of confidentiality?

KING

I am very confident. So, what's your story?

TOM

I've been unhappy with my wife for several years. My daughter doesn't respect me or care about me. I don't have any real friends. My career is going nowhere.

KING

What is your career?

TOM

I proofread, but I'm supposed to be a published author by now. I've written these children's books-

KING

Children's books? I love children's books.

TOM

Well, you might have read mine if my boss would just take one look at my manuscript, but he keeps blowing me off.

KING

Uh-huh. What else?

TOM

(beat)

I cheated on my wife recently.

KING

What did she say?

TOM

I didn't tell her.

KING

So you just ran away from your problems? You'll fit in well.

36

EXT. OFF-LICENCE - NIGHT

36

King stops abruptly.

KING

What's your favourite type of alcohol?

TOM

White wine?

KING

Wait here.

Tom does as he's told as King walks into the shop. Tom watches form outside.

King returns with a BOTTLE OF WINE and walks off. Tom looks at him perplexedly and follows.

37

EXT. SEAFRONT - NIGHT

37

KING walks to the end of a wide stone wall, which juts out into the sea. He stands on the edge and looks down at the crashing waves below.

KING

This will last longer than a weekend, Tom. Are you ready for that?

TOM

If you can help me, I'll stay as long as I need to.

King unscrews the lid of the wine bottle and takes a quick swig.

KING

Don't tell the others about that.

TOM

I won't.

King holds the bottle up, and turns it over so that it spills all over Tom's cloths.

TOM (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

KING

This is part of the process. Now take off your jacket and your shoes.

Tom hesitates, then complies. King takes the items off of Tom and digs in the jacket pocket. He pulls out Tom's wallet.

KING (CONT'D)

This is your old life.

King extracts the cash notes from inside it, and flings the wallet into the sea.

TOM

Was that necessary?