

absolutely anything

by

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ABSOLUTELY ANYTHING

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1

INT. DORCHESTER HOTEL - DAY

1

A very high-powered reception is in full swing. A throng of glamorous people. Champagne is flowing. Flashbulbs going off all over the place.

Banners proclaim a book launch. The book is entitled:

"What You See With Your Eyes Closed" by Neil Clarke

Up on the dais, the beautiful young TV literary presenter, CATHERINE WEST.

CATHERINE

When I first interviewed Neil Clarke for the Book Programme, I knew he was extraordinary. Now, with the publication of this brilliant novel, reviewers agree he's entered the ranks of Britain's immortals. Ladies and Gentlemen - Neil Clarke.

To wild applause NEIL CLARKE, tuxedoed but smiling modestly joins her. Catherine's smile is intelligent, sympathetic, and admiring: everything an aspiring author could want.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

Neil, I'd like to start off by asking how you managed such amazing insights into the soul of modern man? How you understood so well what men and women really want - in fact - the whole relationship between humanity and the cosmos?

NEIL

I think it came from looking into my own soul, Catherine.

A dog barks. NEIL looks rather disconcerted.

NEIL (CONT'D)

and studying all its flaws, all its potential, all its urgent needs.

The barking increases. NEIL notices a dog in the crowd. This is DENNIS THE DOG. No one else seems to take the slightest notice of the barking dog.

NEIL (CONT'D)

I listened to its cries for help,
I heard its yelps of anguish and
I - I devoted myself for five
long years to capturing them in a
book I hoped

The barking gets louder. There are dogs all over the place.

NEIL (CONT'D)

... would open the doors

The doors of the Reception Room fly open and more DOGS pour into the party.

NEIL (CONT'D)

... of human perception and allow
us to be overcome...

DOGS flood onto the stage.

NEIL (CONT'D)

... by a sense of our own
futility.

An alarm bell starts to ring.

The barking becomes hysterical...Everyone is trying to fight the dogs off...NEIL is submerged in canine sea.

DISSOLVE TO:

2 INT. NEIL'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

2

West Hampstead, London.

NEIL wakes up at the table in his nondescript flat surrounded by piles of school exercise books and unfinished marking...

Around the exercise books are piles of box-files marked: "What You See with Your Eyes Closed - An Autobiography" This is crossed out and replaced successively by "A Self Help Guide" "A Thriller" "An Analysis" and "A Novel".

DENNIS THE DOG is barking wildly while the doorbell rings incessantly.

NEIL comes to his senses and takes in the doorbell.

NEIL

Shit!

3 INT. NEIL'S HALL - NIGHT

3

NEIL opens the door to FIONA BLACKWELL, the neighbour from hell. FIONA BLACKWELL is in her forties and something in the City.

She has recently paid through the nose for her apartment and resents NEIL's presence as the last inhabitant of a rent-controlled flat.

FIONA BLACKWELL
Your dog is barking.

NEIL
Because you rang the doorbell.

FIONA BLACKWELL
I rang the doorbell because your dog was barking.
Your lease says "no pets".

NEIL
Dennis is a guide dog.

FIONA BLACKWELL peers suspiciously over NEIL'S shoulder at DENNIS. DENNIS growls.

FIONA BLACKWELL
You're not blind.

NEIL
I prefer the term "optically challenged".

Fiona's eyes narrow.

FIONA BLACKWELL
You're not optically challenged either.

NEIL
And you know this because?

Beat. A rare moment of uncertainty for Fiona.

FIONA BLACKWELL doesn't quite know what to say but she clearly doesn't believe him.

FIONA BLACKWELL
Well just stop him barking.

NEIL
You're three floors up, Fiona...I can't believe...

FIONA BLACKWELL
If you don't keep your bloody dog under control I'll have it sent to Battersea Dogs' Home!

FIONA BLACKWELL turns on her heel and marches back upstairs.

NEIL
Come on, Dennis, let's go and
evacuate your bowels.

NEIL comes out with DENNIS and slams the door.

CUT TO:

4 INT. STAIRWAY - NIGHT

4

As NEIL is descending the stairway with DENNIS, the front door opens and the girl who figured in NEIL'S dream enters. The real CATHERINE WEST isn't a famous TV presenter at all: but she's just as beautiful and smart as the dream girl, and she *does* work as a researcher on a TV book programme.

CATHERINE
Hi, Neil.

NEIL
Hi, Catherine.

She walks past NEIL to her apartment on the ground floor.

NEIL (CONT'D)
Funny. I was just dreaming about
you.

CATHERINE
Really?

Catherine quite likes Neil, and is perfectly open to being chatted up, but she doesn't take him seriously.

NEIL
You were presenting me with an
award. For my novel.

CATHERINE
Did you deserve it?

NEIL
I was proud but humble.

CATHERINE
And have you actually finished
it? In real life?

NEIL
Absolutely. Almost.

CATHERINE
Last spring you were on chapter -

NEIL
I've renumbered them. In fact,
I've removed them.

CATHERINE

Oh?

NEIL

I think the whole concept of chapters gets in the way.

Catherine is unlocking the door.

CATHERINE

Well, I can imagine that.

Neil realises he has to do better.

NEIL

I want reading it to be like ...
being sucked into a giant vortex.

Catherine smiles.

CATHERINE

Like going on Facebook.

And she disappears into her apartment. Neil grinds his teeth.

NEIL

Sucked into a giant vortex!
Dennis! Why do you let me say
these things?

CUT TO:

5

INT. SCHOOL CORRIDOR - DAY

5

NEIL and his fellow school teacher, RAY, are walking down a corridor. RAY is Indian.

NEIL

Oh, come on, Ray! Twenty quid!

RAY

I can't, Neil.

NEIL

(waving the Sporting
Times)
But it can't lose!

RAY

No.

NEIL

I guarantee you a 50% return on
your twenty quid before the end
of classes today.

RAY reluctantly takes out his wallet, and hands NEIL a note.

RAY

So when do you make your move on Miss Booker Prize downstairs?

NEIL

I don't. She turns out to be a bit literal-minded.

(On Ray's look of incomprehension)

Lack of vision. Whereas me - I can see for miles. Into the future.

We're beginning to realize Neil has a habit of making it up as he goes along.

RAY

A man needs a woman, Neil.

NEIL

I've got Dennis.

RAY

Dennis is male and he is a dog. Or hadn't you noticed?

NEIL

I just don't want to complicate my life, Ray.

(Glances at the note)

This is only a tenner.

CUT TO:

6

EXT. DEEP SPACE - DAY/NIGHT? YOU TELL ME.

6

CAPTION ONE: MEANWHILE

CAPTION TWO: 4 BILLION BILLION LIGHT YEARS FROM EARTH

Deep in the furthest reaches of space, beyond our galaxy even, the Voyager spaceship flies on its lonely way - a tiny, frail contraption, amidst the immensity of intergalactic space.

Suddenly Voyager stops. There is a pause. Then a flash and what sounds rather like a camera click. Then we hear a terrible ominous rumbling noise. As slowly a huge piece of space hardware noses into the right-hand edge of shot and up to the Voyager.

The metallic probe approaches Voyager cautiously - suspiciously - retracts a moment then edges forward again - as if sniffing it - until finally it makes contact.

There is a deathly pause. Then. Gulp! It swallows Voyager!

We pull out to see that the metallic probe was merely a small appendage - snaking out on a mechanical arm many miles long - which protrudes from a vast spaceship with no discernible shape - a higgledy-piggledy agglomeration of structures.

The long, snaking extension arm turns around on itself and conveys the probe back to the mother craft. It produces a second hand which neatly flips open a hatch in the mother craft and thrusts the Voyager into it.

CUT TO:

7

INT. INTERGALACTIC COUNCIL CHAMBER - SPACE

7

Five Aliens are seated round a circular conference table. They are an assortment of creatures clearly from different galaxies. But they all look mean and nasty.

A hatch in the wall opens and the Voyager spacecraft, looking ludicrously small is tossed onto the table, where it slides into the middle. It looks like a bit of backyard junk, amidst the alien hi-tech.

The CHIEF reaches out and picks the Voyager up, turns it upside down and shakes it. A metal plaque falls out.

CU. The PLAQUE: A man and a woman naked holding up their hands in a sign of greeting. The Alien examines it for some moments and then starts bobbing up and down.

ALIEN 1

Clickclickclickclickclickclickcli
ck!Onk!

SUBTITLE

Hahahaha! Oh! Hahahahahah!

ALIEN I

Snnnnssnrrrrtsnuttsnrrr.

SUBTITLE

Another one of them.

Cut away to a collector's cabinet of similar plaques - with a range of alien creatures all making the same gestures and with various kinds of alien writing.

CUT TO:

8

INT. PRODUCTION OFFICE - DAY

8

CATHERINE is on the phone.

As she talks she is clearly agitated by the call and keeps knocking things off her desk - which is easily done as the desk is piled high with papers and objects - the impression is that the desk is too small. She has to retrieve things from the floor as she talks.

CATHERINE

No, Jean-Claude, I don't want to talk to you...No...I don't want to see you either... We had a great time last summer: it's over. What part of "over" do you not understand?

FENELLA SWINDON-JONES looms over CATHERINE'S tiny desk, knocking a couple of sheaves of paper onto the floor. Glamorous, sensual, slightly over-ripe, she is the Nigella Lawson of book programmes.

CATHERINE looks up.

CATHERINE

(Suddenly polite)

Thank you for calling. Good bye.

FENELLA waves a sheet of typed questions in front of CATHERINE and drops them on the desk, they promptly slide off onto the floor.

FENELLA

These questions of yours make it sound as if I thought this bloody author can string two words together.

CATHERINE dives to retrieve the papers from the floor so she's grovelling at FENELLA'S feet.

CATHERINE

But he can. It's a wonderful book.

FENELLA

Darling, didn't you get the memo? We're doing a demolition job.

CATHERINE

It's the best thing he's written. Everybody says so!

CATHERINE gets the papers back onto the desk, but in sitting down again, knocks a couple of books off.

FENELLA

That's why we have to pee on it from a great height. Ten new questions please, by noon.

CATHERINE

Weren't you moved to tears by
chapter three?

Tight on Fenella, because this question makes her very
uneasy.

FENELLA

How could you possibly imagine
that, Catherine?

And she sashays off into the office of JAMES CLEVERILL the
tall, self-confident producer of the show.

STEVE, the researcher at the next desk, leans across and
whispers confidentially.

STEVE

Don't you know? She NEVER reads
the books. She hates books.

CATHERINE

Then why is she presenting a book
programme?

Steve rolls his eyes.

STEVE

How long have you been in
television?

Through a glass door we can see FENELLA ranting at James
Cleverill and then flinging herself out of his office.

STEVE (CONT'D)

Uh oh! I spy trouble...

James Cleverill emerges and walks over to CATHERINE.

JAMES

You may despise her ego,
Catherine, but that's what people
tune in to see. Not books, not
authors, God forbid - but
Fenella's rampant, pulsating,
sexually arousing ego, pole-
dancing around thick volumes of
turgid prose.

Catherine is a bit scared, but she stands her ground.

CATHERINE

I think people watch because this
is a *book programme*, and they
love books.

JAMES

Books are finished Catherine. Our job is to provide scandal, gossip and character assassination with a thin veneer of literary respectability.

CATHERINE

So we're not selling out - we've sold out.

JAMES

Exactly. So don't piss off our presenter by asking if she's read the fucking books, right?

(As he turns to go)

And for God's sake smile. It may be crap, but we're in it together, it's about paying for food and rent, right?

He smiles a smile that freezes CATHERINE'S blood.

CUT TO:

9

INT. CORNER SHOP - DAY

9

A largish Corner Shop with several aisles.

NEIL is busy in an aisle hidden from the CTV camera carefully turning 7s into 4s on an entire shelf of Jaffa Cakes at '78p'.

He glances up at the security camera monitor and happens to see CATHERINE in a nearby aisle. She is leaning against the shelving and banging her head against it.

NEIL looks round the corner. Catherine now has a jar of pickles in her hand and looks like she wants to throw it at something. She is boiling with anger.

NEIL

Throw it!

CATHERINE looks up sharply. She doesn't like being caught out like this.

NEIL

Those pickles have got it coming to them. Evil little bastards, standing in a jar all day long!

NEIL comes up and takes the jar from her hand, and points to it.

NEIL

Look at them! All lined up as innocent as you please!

(MORE)

NEIL (cont'd)

And yet, you know and I know, open the jar! And they'll take over the world!

CATHERINE can't help smiling.

NEIL

Next thing you know they'll be running TV stations and insisting that all programmes are recorded in dill vinegar and look alike!

CATHERINE is taken aback.

CATHERINE

How did you know?

NEIL'S turn to be taken aback.

NEIL

How did I know? I just know. Know what?

CATHERINE

Oh never mind.

NEIL

What's up?

CATHERINE

Nothing.

She wants to end the conversation and returns the jar of pickles to the shelf.

NEIL

I also give support and counselling on dried fruit, dips and pasta sauces...

CATHERINE smiles - a little wanly.

CATHERINE

Thanks. Thanks a lot.

She turns and goes. NEIL stays watching after her wondering what was wrong and wishing he could have really helped.

CUT TO:

10

INT. INTERGALACTIC COUNCIL CHAMBER - SPACE

10

CLOSE-UP: The Greetings Plaque from the Voyager spacecraft.

The five ALIENS are still seated round their conference table.

SUBTITLE

Grrrk crrrrrrunddddingh uuuuuuhp.

SUBTITLE

I like their type-face. It's very futuristic.

CHIEF ALIEN

Kring a cacack cakakcak craaa craa
powl powl...
(consults the plaque)
"Earth"

SUBTITLE

We must take a closer look at this planet... What do they call it?
"Earth".

They get up and move across to a 3D globe monitor. The Scientist Alien flicks a switch and our planet comes up on the monitor.

And suddenly we are looking, through an alien lens, at the earth. The screwed up earth (and the less screwed up earth). Images of Human Life flash by. Things the ALIENS see include the Afghanistan, garbage barge on the Hudson, Deepwater Horizon spill, Lady Gaga, the Los Angeles freeway system at rush hour, neatly uniformed kids reading books in a school in India, riots in the Middle East, wheat being harvested on the Great Plains, Chicago slaughterhouses, an artillery barrage, a youth orchestra in Venezuela, the floating island of plastic crap in the Pacific, and a little girl playing with a puppy.

Which images the aliens approve of, and which they don't like, we won't learn till much later.

NASTY ALIEN

Crast furg.

SUBTITLE

They are vermin. And their clothes look terrible.

The OTHER ALIENS exchange glances that mean they agree.

NASTY ALIEN

Crondargan druck urg.

SUBTITLE

We must eliminate them.

KINDLY ALIEN

Pronder fuy inter uger paker porty.

SUBTITLE

We must follow the due legal process.

CUT TO:

11 INT. ALIEN COURT-ROOM - DAY

11

The ALIENS are suddenly sitting in imposing seats around the 3D GLOBE MONITOR. It is vaguely like a court-room.

CHIEF ALIEN

(Very imposing way of speaking)

Haldor now forly stord yard bor smarker bastcorn.

SUBTITLE

The Court of the Inter-Galactic Council of Superior Beings is now in session. Communication will be carried on, as laid down by law, in the language of the species to be judged.

Everyone starts talking at once and the languages change through Chinese, Russian, Welsh, Portuguese, and finally hit on French.

CHIEF ALIEN

Bon. Maintenant nous somme ici pour...

SCIENTIST ALIEN

I'm sorry I'm not understanding.

CHIEF ALIEN

Excusez-moi! Je me trompe...

(He makes an adjustment to something in his ear)

Ah! Is that better, Kylie?

SCIENTIST ALIEN

Understanding you now, Sharon.

CHIEF ALIEN

By the power invested in me by the Inter-Galactic Council of Superior Species I hereby pronounce a Destruction Order on the Planet Earth.

KINDLY ALIEN

With great respect, Sharon. We should not Pronounce a Destruction Order before we have given these 'Earthlings' a chance to prove themselves.

NASTY ALIEN

They have penetrated Inter-Galactic Space!

The venerable and imposing Chief turns to another Alien, who is there as a sort of observer.

CHIEF ALIEN

Maureen is right.

NASTY ALIEN points to a sign on the 3D GLOBE MONITOR that reads "TEA SHOPPE"

NASTY ALIEN

But they are clearly not a Superior Species! Look at the way they do their 'A's!

CHIEF ALIEN

If these...

(refers to the plaque)

'Earthlings' can convince us they are Superior Beings, they have the right to join our Society. If they cannot, we must eliminate them for the moral well-being of the entire Inter-Galactic Community.

OBSERVER ALIEN

Thank you for explaining it to me, Sharon.

CHIEF ALIEN

Not at all, Miss Barker. It's useful for the cinema audience too.

(glances at camera)

SCIENTIST ALIEN

The usual test, Sharon?

CHIEF ALIEN

The usual test, Kylie.

NASTY ALIEN

(pointing to the plaque with the two humans in friendly greeting)

But look at them - they're obviously evil!

The Scientist Alien takes an hour glass of blue, liquid, glowing light.

SCIENTIST ALIEN

One Earthling will be picked at random. It will have precisely one parsoid interval...

CHIEF ALIEN

What would that be in Earth time, Kylie?

Scientist Alien consults the Greetings Plaque.

SCIENTIST ALIEN

That would be ten of what they call 'days'.

CHIEF ALIEN

Ten 'days'.
(nods at the cinema audience)

SCIENTIST ALIEN

The 'Earthling' will have ten 'days' to prove that they understand the difference between 'good' and 'evil'.

OBSERVER ALIEN

How will they prove it?

CHIEF ALIEN

They will be given the Power that all Superior Beings have...
(he holds up his hand - the palm of which glows blue for a moment.)
The Earthling will be capable of doing absolutely anything.

OBSERVER ALIEN

What if he uses his power for 'evil'?

NASTY ALIEN

The Earth will be eliminated.

OBSERVER ALIEN

But if he uses it for 'good'.

CHIEF ALIEN

We welcome them to the Intergalactic Community.

SCIENTIST ALIEN

Are we ready, gentlemen?

On the 3D GLOBE MONITOR appear a rapid succession of random images of human beings of all colours, races, sizes and ages.

It's like a rotary desk file holder with the images of each human flicking over - at first so fast that it is all a blur but gradually it slows down and we can see the possible representatives of Earth: an unknown, Brad Pitt, unknown, Paris Hilton, unknown, Madonna, Justin Beiber, Osama Bin Laden in his cave, unknown, a TV Evangelist, the Queen, and finally Sarah Palin.

NASTY ALIEN

Ahh!

CHIEF ALIEN

Wait!

The picture flips over once more and there is NEIL looking particularly geeky and wearing his crash helmet. Various lights flash on around his picture - it's rather like winning the lottery.

CHIEF ALIEN

The Earthling has ten days to prove he can use absolute power for "good" rather than for "evil".

The SCIENTIST ALIEN turns the hour glass over. A drop of blue light falls into the bottom. As it crosses the narrow waist of the hour-glass a blue laser beam strikes out and hits the spherical monitor on the Earth around London, England.

CUT TO:

12 EXT. STREET - DAY

12

NEIL is cycling to work.

He approaches some traffic lights just as they go red. As per most cyclists he ignores the red light and carries on. A car, too eager to get started, springs forward and clips his rear mudguard - sending him sprawling across the pavement.

CUT TO:

13 EXT. SPACE

13

The huge orb of the Earth. From out of deep space a blue laser beam shoots down onto the planet.

CUT TO:

14 EXT. STREET - DAY 14

As NEIL lands on the pavement the blue laser momentarily stabs down from up above and strikes his wrist.

All NEIL knows is that he's sprained his wrist.

NEIL
(muttering)
Fuck you, asshole!

He flicks his wrist. Yes, it hurts.

However, unnoticed by NEIL, his hand glows blue.

15 INT. INSIDE THE CAR - DAY 15

A startled look comes into the DRIVER'S eyes and he bucks and jerks about - at first startled and horrified but then gradually starts enjoying it - ending up in orgasmic bliss.

CUT TO:

16 INT. COSTAS COFFEE BAR, BBC TV CENTRE - DAY 16

CATHERINE taking a morning coffee with her friend ROSIE. ROSIE who is another BBC researcher. ROSIE is an attractive Yorkshire lass with a degree in archaeology.

CATHERINE
All they want me to do is to help them sneer at people who write wonderful books.

ROSIE
My producer just wants me to dig up dirt on Amenhotep III. I keep telling them he had a kind nature and lovely hands. I would have loved to spend an evening with Amenhotep III.

CATHERINE
Except that he died four thousand years ago, Rosie. And he would have talked all day long about embalming.

ROSIE
But try finding a good one that's still breathing.

CATHERINE
Tell me about it.

ROSIE
What about the lovely aristocratic Frenchman?

CATHERINE

The lovely aristocratic Frenchman
turns out to have issues.

ROSIE

Issues?

CATHERINE

He is stark raving mad.

ROSIE

But hadn't he inherited a famous
vineyard and a magnificent
chateau?

CATHERINE

Yep. And ten generations of loose
marbles. Chalk that one down to
midsummer madness.

ROSIE

What about "him upstairs"?

CATHERINE

He tried to cheer me up in the
supermarket.

ROSIE

So he's gay.

CATHERINE

What?

ROSIE

He's sympathetic, interested and
available. That's the way life
works.

Catherine thinks about this.

CATHERINE

Maybe. He *is* kind to animals.

CUT TO:

17 EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

17

NEIL wheels in his mangled cycle and looks up at the clock.
He's late. His jacket is torn. A streak of oil on his face.

CUT TO:

18 INT. SCHOOL CORRIDOR - DAY

18

NEIL hurries past a door: 'Head Teacher'. It opens. The
HEAD TEACHER waves a piece of paper in front of NEIL.

NEIL

Hi!.

HEAD TEACHER

That's the fifteenth time you've been late this month, Mr. Clarke.

NEIL

I was knocked off my bicycle.

HEAD TEACHER

(reads off the list)

Yesterday you had "food poisoning". Last Friday you thought it was Saturday. The Monday before you'd forgotten to put the clock back...

NEIL

Everybody does that!

HEAD TEACHER

And the Wednesday before that I see you had an appointment with the "Dali Llama".

NEIL

I sent you the photo!

HEAD TEACHER

It had Michael Jackson in it as well.

NEIL

He was a great man!

HEAD TEACHER

Mr. Clarke, you are totally irresponsible and if I could replace you I would.

THE HEAD TEACHER slams his door.

NEIL

So would I. But I've got nothing to replace me *with*.

CUT TO

19	INT. SCHOOL CORRIDOR - DAY	19
	NEIL approaches his classroom - 4c - He peers through the window:	
20	INT. SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY	20
	Bedlam. Kids are talking, fighting, exchanging money, carving initials on their arms.	

21 INT. SCHOOL CORRIDOR - DAY 21

NEIL can't face it. He nips round the corner and lights up a cigarette. He sighs and stares into space, listening to the din of 4C in the background.

He takes out The Racing Times and studies it closely.

CUT TO:

22 INT. SCHOOL CANTEEN - DAY 22

NEIL is queuing for lunch. NEIL keeps massaging his right hand and wrist as if it has pins and needles.

RAY enters. He spots the extremely attractive Games Mistress, MISS PRINGLE, who is talking to the rather horsey MISS JOHNSTON.

RAY

Hi ya, Gorgeous! How about this evening?

MISS PRINGLE

(withering look)

Drop dead, Ray.

RAY

Alright, let me know when you've thought it over.

He joins NEIL.

RAY (CONT'D)

Neil.

NEIL

Yeah?

RAY

If you could do anything...What would you do?

CANTEEN LADY

Hello, Neil, love. Tinned mouse or fricassee of war victim?

NEIL

I'll have the Roast Head Teacher please, Mrs.B.

CANTEEN LADY

(Snorts a laugh)

You are a one!

She serves him.

RAY
Casserole please, Mrs.B.

CANTEEN LADY
There, you'll enjoy that, Mr.
Ray, as long as you don't eat it.

RAY doesn't hear.

RAY joins NEIL at the table - still glancing at MISS PRINGLE.

RAY
No - I mean if you could make
anything you wanted happen...what
would you do?

NEIL
I'd make Dennis regurgitate my
notes for Chapter Three.

He waves his hand glows blue - unseen by them. Far off whooshing noise.

CUT TO:

23 INT. NEIL'S APARTMENT - DAY 23

DENNIS the DOG is being sick behind the waste-bin.

CUT TO:

24 INT. SCHOOL CANTEEN - DAY 24

RAY
But if you could make something
impossible happen?

NEIL
Intact.

25 INT. NEIL'S APARTMENT - DAY 25

CUT to DENNIS'S sick reforming into sheaves of paper.

CUT TO:

26 INT. SCHOOL CANTEEN - DAY 26

Ray looks reprovngly at Neil. He wants him to take his fantasy SERIOUSLY.

NEIL catches RAY'S gaze directed towards MISS PRINGLE.

RAY
What if you could make somebody
worship the ground you walked on?

NEIL

When they really think you're a little shit? Come on, Ray! That would be taking an unfair advantage of an innocent young girl.

MISS PRINGLE looks anything but innocent.

RAY

Ok! But suppose you could just do one thing that would change your life for the better?

NEIL

That's easy: I'd say: "Alien space-ships destroy 4C". And they'd be history.

NEIL flicks his wrist - hand glows blue.

CUT TO:

27 EXT. SPACE - DAY

27

An alien space-ship appears from behind the Moon and shoots a dazzling burst of green light towards the earth.

CUT TO:

28 INT. SCHOOL CANTEEN - DAY

28

There is a muffled explosion from somewhere in the school building. The entire canteen goes silent. People stare at each other.

The entire canteen goes silent. People stare at each other.

RAY

That sounded like it was in the school!

CUT TO:

29 INT. SCHOOL CORRIDOR - DAY

29

NEIL pushes his way through a crowd of pupils and teachers gathered around a door marked "4C".

He is confronted by a smoking hole in the ground.

4C has vanished.

CUT TO:

30 EXT. SPACE - DAY 30

The immense alien space-ship disappears behind the Moon.

CUT TO:

31 INT. INTERGALACTIC COUNCIL CHAMBER - SPACE 31

The same spaceship on the 3D GLOBE MONITOR.

CHIEF ALIEN

Who was that?

SCIENTIST ALIEN

It was the Salubrious Gat of
Galaxy G946 WOT.

The Chief Alien points, his finger glows blue and the monitor lights up with another Alien.

CHIEF ALIEN

Gat! What do you think you're
doing?

THE SALUBRIOUS GAT

(on monitor)

Just practising, Sharon.

CHIEF ALIEN

We haven't done the Judicial
Review yet! We may not want to
destroy this species.

THE SALUBRIOUS GAT

Who are you kidding?

(refers to a list)

445,349,722 new alien species
encountered. Number granted
Membership of the Inter Galactic
Community of Superior Beings:
zero.

CHIEF ALIEN

We have high standards.

THE SALUBRIOUS GAT

You know you're going to wipe
them out.

CHIEF ALIEN

It all depends on the Earthling.

CUT TO:

32 INT. NEIL'S APARTMENT - NIGHT 32

NEIL opens the door and pours himself dolefully into the room. DENNIS THE DOG runs up to him.

NEIL turns the TV on, and notices some dog mess in the corner.

NEIL

Shit, Dennis! Couldn't you have waited?

NEIL goes to a cupboard and gets out a dustpan and broom to tackle the dog mess.

ON TV: A helicopter above the school, now surrounded by police cars and fire engines etc.

REPORTER

Below me I can see the debris of the classroom in which an explosion killed all 38 pupils. The Head Teacher, Mr. Trevor Lynch said...

NEIL switches the TV off hurriedly. DENNIS wags his tail enthusiastically.

NEIL

Sure Dennis! It was an alien space ship.

DENNIS woofs.

NEIL

What are you talking about? If I could make alien space-ships zap 4C, Dennis, I wouldn't be farting about with this I'd just go - "Dog mess! Clear yourself up!"

He waves his hand at the dog mess. The palm of his hand glows momentarily blue.

NEIL (CONT'D)

See - no can do.

There is a FAR-OFF WHOOSHING NOISE. DENNIS puts his head on one side.

Suddenly the dog mess stands on end and marches across the kitchen like a pair of little fat brown legs! Out through the door into the bathroom. When they reach the lavatory, they do a knees-bend and spring into the air...high above the wc... and then execute a perfect dive into it. There is a satisfying plop. Then the chain pulls.

DENNIS whines. NEIL suddenly needs a very large scotch.

NEIL (CONT'D)

It's shock. Post-shock hallucination!

He finishes the drink and pours another.

NEIL (CONT'D)

It couldn't have been an alien
space-ship, Dennis. It couldn't
have!

Suddenly something catches his eye down on the floor behind
the waste-bin. He bends down and picks up a sheaf of
papers. He stares in disbelief.

The papers are headed "Notes for Chapter Three".

He looks from the papers to DENNIS and then downs his
second scotch. Reaching for the bottle he clumsily knocks
it over.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Damn!

The amber stream starts disappearing down the plug-hole.
NEIL groans - then an idea comes to him.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Whisky! Return to the bottle!

Nothing happens.

NEIL

You see. Nothing! Whisky! Return to
the bottle!

This time he waves his hand.

Obediently the whisky reverses out of the sink and back
into the bottle.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Oh my God! I have to wave my
hand!

NEIL pours himself yet another stiff glassful. He is just
about to swallow it when he notices it's got bits of gunge
from the sink floating around in it. He glances at the
dirty sink and then looks at the whisky with distaste.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Whisky! Change yourself for a new
bottle... a single malt!

NEIL waves his hand at the bottle. It shivers and then the
top screws itself back on, and the bottle leaps onto the
floor, hops across the room, and disappears through the
door.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Hey!

DENNIS dives after it.

NEIL (CONT'D)
Dennis! Sh!

The door slams. NEIL gives chase.

CUT TO:

33 INT. NEIL'S APARTMENT BLOCK STAIRS - NIGHT 33

He looks around for the escaped bottle. CHINK! CHINK!
CHINK! It's hopping down the stairs towards the front door -
DENNIS yapping after it. The front door swings open and the
bottle, with DENNIS in pursuit, disappears through.

The door slams shut.

NEIL (CONT'D)
Dennis!

NEIL runs down the stairs to the front door. It's locked.

NEIL (CONT'D)
Door! Open quick!

The door flies open with unexpected vigour, hitting NEIL
squarely on the jaw.

NEIL (CONT'D)
Ow! Not that quickly.

FIONA BLACKWELL'S face appears on the landing above. NEIL
dives through the door.

CUT TO:

34 EXT. STREET - NIGHT 34

NEIL catches up with the bottle and DENNIS just as they
reach the off-licence.

NEIL
(to the bottle)
I didn't mean go back to the shop
to get exchanged!

He grabs at the bottle, as it jumps up trying to open the
door.

NEIL (CONT'D)
(To the bottle)
It's closed!

With grim determination the bottle smashes itself through
the window. A burglar alarm goes off.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Uh oh!

NEIL and DENNIS THE DOG run for it round a corner and ... bump into a POLICEMAN heading for the scene of the crime.

POLICEMAN

Got you!

DENNIS barks. The POLICEMAN wrestles NEIL to the ground.

POLICEMAN (CONT'D)

(Into his radio)

Got an I.C.One leaving the scene!

(To NEIL)

Hey! Get your dog off!

DENNIS bites the POLICEMAN.

POLICEMAN (CONT'D)

Ow!

NEIL runs for it.

CUT TO:

35

EXT. PARLIAMENT HILL - NIGHT

35

A beautiful night panorama from the top of Parliament Hill. One of the best views in London.

The camera crosses an empty bench and picks out NEIL and DENNIS cowering in some undergrowth. Police sirens and shouts get closer. DENNIS starts barking again.

NEIL

Sssh! Dennis!

NEIL tries to keep his hands over DENNIS'S muzzle.

Lights rake across the hillside. NEIL picks DENNIS up and runs across the top of Parliament Hill - his figure silhouetted against the twinkling townscape below.

He steps into a puddle and falls full-length. Suddenly a light hits NEIL.

POLICEMAN

All right, laddy! You're nicked!

A police car screeches across the grass. POLICE leap out and fling themselves onto NEIL.

NEIL

Me! Be at home having dinner with Dennis!

Blue droplets fly off NEIL'S hand and he and DENNIS THE DOG, disappear. As the POLICEMEN pounce on nothing but each other.

CUT TO:

36 INT. NEIL'S KITCHEN - NIGHT 36

NEIL and DENNIS THE DOG both have their heads in DENNIS'S dinner, and are chomping away happily. NEIL suddenly pulls away in disgust - his mouth full of dog food.

NEIL
Oh! Yuck! Chumzy!

CUT TO:

37 EXT. PARK - NIGHT 37

The POLICE pick themselves up off the empty ground..

POLICE INSPECTOR
You say a word about this,
constable, and you're in fucking
Community Relations.

CUT TO:

38 INT. NEIL'S BATHROOM - NIGHT 38

NEIL is desperately cleaning his teeth - trying to get rid of the taste of dog food. He gargles with mouth wash and then starts brushing again.

Suddenly he stops and stares at himself in horror.

NEIL
Oh my God! 4c!

NEIL rushes into the LIVING ROOM, the tooth-brush still in his mouth. He goes to the phone - no! The door? No! What to do? Suddenly he has an idea.

NEIL (CONT'D)
Everybody who died - be alive
again!

CUT TO:

39 INT. MORGUE - NIGHT 39

Close up of a coffin-lid flying open. A terrifying mangled corpse suddenly sits upright. Shock! Horror! Wider we see a dozen other coffins with the corpses sitting upright and looking round screaming.

Also screaming is a mortician who has been sitting in the morgue reading a newspaper and drinking tea.

CUT TO:

40 EXT. GRAVEYARD - NIGHT 40

The Night of the Living Dead! All over the graveyard corpses and skeletons from all through the centuries are pushing aside their tombstones and rising up.

CUT TO:

41 INT. NEIL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 41

CU. NEIL stops in his tracks. Wailing and crying are coming from the street. Hammering and banging.

NEIL hurries to the window and looks out. The street is thronged with the DEAD looking for their homes, banging on doors and windows. NEIL goes weak at the knees.

NEIL

No! I mean everyone in 4c be alive again - obviously - not everybody who ever died! Are you crazy?

The DEAD disappear.

NEIL turns from the window but suddenly has another thought.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Oh shit! And, of course, all those who died in the bomb blast and who are now alive again be totally uninjured...Shit! Shit!

NEIL throws himself onto the bed.

NEIL

Me! Feel better!
(reacts)
Oh! That's better!
(thinks)
Me! Have a really good idea about what to do!
(instant revelation)
Oh! That's a good idea! Let the bomb blast never have happened!

CUT TO:

42 INT. SCHOOL - CANTEEN - DAY 42

NEIL and RAY are back having their lunch as they were before the alien attack.

RAY is still ogling MISS PRINGLE.

RAY

If you could do anything, I mean
make anything you wanted
happen...what would you do?

A vestigial memory stirs NEIL..

NEIL

What did you say?

RAY

I said: If you could do anything,
what would you?

NEIL

That's weird! I must have dreamt
I could...

RAY

What?

NEIL

Do anything. I'd say: "Let such
and such happen" and it would.

RAY

So what d'you do?

NEIL

Made alien space-ships destroy
4c.

RAY

Good thinking! I'd make Dorothy
Pringle worship the ground I walk
on.

NEIL

You wouldn't be so cruel...

CUT TO:

43

INT. TV STUDIO CONTROL ROOM - DAY

43

Through the glass we see Fenella eviscerating an ELDERLY
AUTHOR, whose head, as the scene progresses, sinks slowly
into his hands. Catherine watches in growing distress -
until her producer, James Cleverill, taps her on the
shoulder.

JAMES

Fenella's complaining you didn't
tell her about his shop-lifting
conviction.

CATHERINE

He was 14! And it has nothing to do with his books!

JAMES

Neither has the show, Cath.
Listen...

JAMES puts his arm around CATHERINE. She stiffens. On the other side of the glass the elderly author is weeping.

JAMES

What upsets Fenella about you is your integrity. But me - I rather like it.

CATHERINE is staring at studio door window. An immaculately dressed Frenchman in a blazer and cravat is tapping on the glass.

JAMES

You play your cards right and you could have your own office...

JAMES gives CATHERINE a squeeze.

JAMES

With a bigger desk and a view...

The handsome Frenchman smiles confidently at CATHERINE. This is JEAN-CLAUDE - the Ex-Boyfriend With Issues.

CATHERINE

Would you excuse me a moment.

CATHERINE slips out of JAMES embrace and hurries to the door.

JAMES

(under his breath)
Mind you, you have to play your cards right...

CUT TO:

44 INT. OUTSIDE THE STUDIO - DAY

44

CATHERINE marches up to her ex-boyfriend.

CATHERINE

What are you doing here, Jean-Claude?

JEAN-CLAUDE

Lerv drew me here. Like a giant mergnet.

CATHERINE

Well, consider yourself demagnetised.

JEAN-CLAUDE

Catherine! What we had last summer - it was phenomenal. Fantastique.

CATHERINE

It was a fling. And it's over.

JEAN-CLAUDE

Not for me. I'm here to win you back. I'm here to make you the next Duchesse de Sant-Anac de Monteton de la Loire.

CATHERINE

Sorry, Jean Claude, not going to happen. I'm flattered, but we weren't cut out for each other. I'm a cold English bitch.

And she shakes hands with him.

CATHERINE

Let's just chalk it up to experience.

But Jean-Claude pulls her into his arms.

JEAN-CLAUDE

Have you forgotten the taste of my lips?

He kisses her. She struggles out of his grasp.

CATHERINE

No. You're still smoking Gauloise. Out, now, or I'm calling security.

She picks up the phone. He is flabber-ghasted.

JEAN-CLAUDE

I'm inviting you to become part of one of the noblest families in France!

CATHERINE

Sorry: it's an honour I'm going to have to decline.

(Into phone)

Hello?

JEAN-CLAUDE
 (Trying to pull the
 phone away from her)
 My ancestors fought in the
 Crusades.

CATHERINE
 Mine were in the Hundred Years War,
 so what?
 (into phone)
 Security?

JEAN-CLAUDE
 I am offering you all the Security
 you could want!

CATHERINE
 I have an intruder on the
 premises...

Jean-Claude slams the phone back in the cradle.

JEAN-CLAUDE
 Intruder?! Moi? Ma famille has been
 dans le Loire since Charlemagne! We
 are not intruders!

CATHERINE
 You are here.

An alarm bell goes off. JEAN-CLAUDE reacts.

JEAN-CLAUDE
 I will win you round, ma cherie.
 I have spoken it!

And he rushes out.

45 INT. SCHOOL CORRIDOR OUTSIDE CLASSROOM - DAY

45

NEIL approaches 4C classroom. He pauses outside the door
 and peers through the window. There is the usual riot going
 inside the classroom.

NEIL goes to open the door. But he checks himself, leans
 back against the wall outside, and half-mockingly does the
 routine - just to reassure himself that it was all a dream.

NEIL
 Let 4c become a model class -
 polite, considerate...oh! And
 keen to learn.

He sees for the first time the blue glow off his hand. A
 magical moment. NEIL is spell-bound...As if mesmerized he
 slowly approaches the classroom door and looks through the
 window.

He can hardly believe what he sees.

CUT TO:

46 INT. SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

46

The children are sitting quietly reading their books.

NEIL enters and takes in the quietly studious scene. So it wasn't a dream - he really has these powers.

NEIL
Good afternoon, 4c.

CLASS
Good afternoon, Mr. Clarke.

NEIL can hardly believe it. He rubs his hands together.

NEIL (CONT'D)
Right! Turn to page seventy three
and read the entire chapter.

LAVENDER
What? The whole chapter?

NEIL
Yes.

LAVENDER
Oooh good!

CLASS
How exciting!...great!...Wow!
He's letting us read the whole
chapter! etc

NEIL indicates to them and the entire CLASS - in unison - bend their heads to their books.

NEIL puts his feet up on the desk and starts studying the Sporting Times.

CUT TO:

47 INT. SCHOOL CORRIDOR - DAY

47

NEIL is walking down the corridor humming happily to himself. He sees the HEAD TEACHER walking towards him.

NEIL
(under his breath)
Head Teacher be nice to me for a
change.

As the HEAD TEACHER draws level with NEIL he beams.

HEAD TEACHER
Neil! Great to see you!

The HEAD TEACHER pumps his hand. NEIL enjoys it - as the HEAD TEACHER becomes a bit too voluble.

HEAD TEACHER (CONT'D)
I really like what you're wearing
and your whole attitude to your
work...

NEIL
Thanks Head Teacher..

NEIL becomes conscious of other TEACHERS looking at him. He starts to edge away. But the HEAD TEACHER shouts after him.

HEAD TEACHER
I'm proud to have you on the
staff Neil!

NEIL
Thank you Head Teacher.

NEIL ducks round a corner... The other teachers glower.

NEIL breaks into a grin and erupts into a silent dance of wild celebration.

CUT TO:

48

INT. MASTERS' COMMON ROOM - DAY

48

NEIL is watching RAY trying to get into a conversation with MISS PRINGLE, but she is giving him the cold shoulder as she concentrates on the glamorous (but possibly gay) MR ERIKSSON - the Modern Languages master.

NEIL smiles to himself. He's going to do his old buddy a favour.

NEIL
Let Miss Pringle worship Sanjeev
Ray.

NEIL watches fascinated as MISS PRINGLE'S attention switches from MR ERIKSSON to RAY. She suddenly looks overawed - her jaw drops and she goes weak at the knees as she gazes at RAY. RAY's not sure what's going on.

NEIL smiles to himself.

NEIL (CONT'D)
(to himself)
I can do absofuckinglutely
anything!

CUT TO:

49 INT. GYM - DAY

49

CATHERINE and ROSIE are in the changing rooms after working out.

ROSIE

But an aristocrat! With a chateau
in France!

CATHERINE

But if I don't love him -

ROSIE

And the vineyard?

CATHERINE

He thinks he can have anything he
wants.

ROSIE

Well, he is of noble birth.

CATHERINE

We're all of noble birth, Rosie.
Just not everybody realises it.
Anyway he's crazy.

CUT TO:

50 EXT. STREET - DAY

50

NEIL is pushing his mangled bicycle home.

He stops in front of a shop window and looks at himself
reflected in the glass. He puffs his chest out. He's
beginning to see himself in an entirely new light.

NEIL

Me! Be President of the United
States of America.

Blue glow as he waves his hand.

NEIL waits for the magic to happen. Nothing happens. He
looks a little disconcerted.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Funny...

He tries again.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Me! Be the President of the...

Suddenly a large black limo screeches round the corner and
four SECURITY MEN leap out and collar him.

SECURITY MAN

Thank God we found you, sir!
We've been looking for you
everywhere!

Suddenly a shot is fired and the SECURITY MEN flatten themselves on the floor, dragging NEIL with them. Then two of them leap up firing at the unseen assassin, while the other two bundle NEIL into the limo.

51 INT. LIMO - DAY

51

As the door slams and the limo takes off a PRESIDENTIAL AIDE hands Neil a stack of files a foot thick.

PRESIDENTIAL AIDE

Sorry about that, Mr. President.
Here's the briefing papers on
Libya, the Deficit, Israel, and
the Middle East, Global Warming,
Iraq, Unemployment, Afghanistan
and the Arctic Wildlife Reserve.
Unemployment.

Suddenly another terrorist car swings out of a side street and pursues them.

The limo driver swerves to avoid the hail of machine gun bullets and finds himself driving straight into an oil tanker.

There's going to be an almighty crash any moment... NEIL hastily gabbles:

NEIL

Me! Be back as my old self at
home.

NEIL disappears. The two security men gape and then turn their attention to the imminent crash.

CRASH. BLACKNESS.

FADE IN:

52 INT. NEIL'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

52

NEIL gazes at his naked reflection in the bathroom mirror.

NEIL

I can do... Anything! But what?
What do I want?

He stares in manic exultation at himself. A wicked grin appears.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Let me have a really big dick!

The camera stays on his face and upper torso as he looks down and his eyes pop and suddenly he is dragged down out of the shot. We hear him hit the floor.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Ouch!

There is a moment's pause.

NEIL (CONT'D)

(out of vision)

Obviously not that big. Dick! Go back to the old size.

NEIL reappears back in the mirror.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Let my penis be one that women will find exciting.

He looks down at his loins, and rolls his eyes.

NEIL (CONT'D)

That's great - but do you think I could have it in white?

(beat)

I know! Let me have a great body!

His palm glows blue and there he is with a really great body. We stay in CU on NEIL as he stares at himself - for a moment he is thrilled...

NEIL (CONT'D)

Wow!

Suddenly pissed off. He has the pert breasts and firm thighs of a 20 year-old centrefold.

NEIL (CONT'D)

I meant a great man's body.

He is suddenly transformed into a little stooped old man with a silk scarf and a wide black hat and long flowing white hair. What's gone wrong? He realizes.

NEIL (CONT'D)

What the fuck?! Not Albert Einstein's! A great man's body! Let me have the great body of a man!

(he suddenly does)

Jesus!

CUT TO:

53 INT. NEIL'S BED ROOM - NIGHT

53

Some time later. NEIL is lying in bed.

NEIL

Me! Be able to see Catherine from
downstairs. Now!

Suddenly NEIL is lit up from below. He freezes for a moment
and then looks over the side of his bed.

There is no floor and he can see CATHERINE in her underwear
doing her ironing.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Shit!

CATHERINE hears his voice and looks up. She gapes.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Let me not be able to see her!

Nothing happens except that his eyes turns white.

NEIL (CONT'D)

No! I don't mean I want to be
blind! Me be able to see! But
floor be as it was.

Everything goes back to normal, except that he can hear
CATHERINE start screaming downstairs.

NEIL (CONT'D)

And Catherine downstairs forget
what just happened.

It all goes quiet again. NEIL rolls his eyes in
frustration.

CUT TO:

54 INT. SCHOOL BIOLOGY LAB - DAY

54

A bell is ringing as a noisy class piles out past a
reflective NEIL who makes his way into the classroom. He
has to squeeze past MISS PRINGLE who is peering in at RAY
through the window in the door.

NEIL

Ray...You know we were talking
about being able to do anything?

RAY

(he doesn't see where
this is leading)

Ye..a...h...

NEIL

Well...

(lowers his voice)

I know this sounds stupid...
but...I suddenly can, Ray.

RAY

Can what?

NEIL

Make anything happen - things
that can't happen... it doesn't
matter - I wave and... they
happen.

RAY looks at his friend sadly. Then he laughs.

RAY

Are you feeling ok?

NEIL goes up to the window in the door, through which MISS PRINGLE is still peering and draws down the blind. Then he comes back to RAY rather furtively.

NEIL

Look.

There is a SKELETON on a stand. NEIL addresses it.

NEIL (CONT'D)

You! Tell us who you were!

SKELETON

You'll never believe this, but I
was a conjurer.

The SKELETON unhooks itself from the stand and sits down at the table - as if chatting over a drink in the pub.

SKELETON (CONT'D)

I went by the name of "The Great
Alfredo"

The SKELETON produces a pack of cards out of thin air and

SKELETON (CONT'D)

Real name was Reg Hoskins. I did
Variety, clubs, private parties -
the lot.

RAY

(In denial)

Oh I get it - strings! Right?

RAY moves closer to inspect the SKELETON and feels for the strings above it.

SKELETON

Course, it's all gone now. I blame the wogs. All that nigger minstrel stuff. Once they started allowing that in and then of course the Jews took over the business. Never the same again...

NEIL doesn't like the SKELETON'S conversation.

NEIL

Oh! Go and jump out of the window.

SKELETON

Righto!

The SKELETON leaps up, races across the classroom and jumps out of the window, smashing through the window pane as it does.

RAY can't believe his own eyes.

CUT TO:

55 EXT. SCHOOL YARD - DAY

55

The SKELETON lands on the HEAD TEACHER who is walking past under the window.

CUT TO:

56 INT. SCHOOL BIOLOGY LAB - DAY

56

RAY

How did you do that?

NEIL

I don't know.

RAY

I could swear it was the skeleton talking.

NEIL

It was.

RAY begins to realize NEIL'S serious.

RAY

Let me see you do another.

NEIL looks around.

NEIL

I can't think of anything.

RAY

Well...

(neither can RAY)

...er...um...How about some flowers?

NEIL snorts with derision.

NEIL

Bunch of flowers in my hand!

A bunch of flowers appears in his hand.

NEIL pulls a face - it's so pathetic.

NEIL

Pathetic! Room be covered in flowers!

The room is covered in flowers.

NEIL

Come on! Think of something more imaginative!

The HEAD TEACHER bursts in carrying the remains of the skeleton. He is furious about the skeleton but then he takes in the flower-filled room.

HEAD TEACHER

What the devil!...Oh! Hello, Neil! You should take some days off. I'll cover for you.

CUT TO:

57

EXT. CATHERINE'S OFFICE - DAY

57

CATHERINE leaves the office and walks along the street.

An open sports car - an elegant vintage convertible - pulls up alongside her and keeps pace with her.

JEAN-CLAUDE

Bonjour, mon petit choux.

CATHERINE

Kerb crawling is illegal in this country, Jean-Claude.

JEAN-CLAUDE

In France we call it a crime of passion. Jump in: we can talk.

CATHERINE

Okay.

And to Jean-Claude's surprise and delight she jumps into the car.

Pulls the keys out of the ignition and drops them in her capacious purse.

JEAN-CLAUDE

What are you doing?

CATHERINE

You want to talk, we'll talk, but I'm not driving anywhere with you.

Jean-Claude opens his mouth to protest but Catherine takes control.

CATHERINE

We had a great time last summer. You totally swept me off my feet.

JEAN-CLAUDE

But of course!

CATHERINE

You have a wonderful pedigree, a wonderful vineyard -

JEAN-CLAUDE

The best Sauvignon Blanc on the upper Loire!

CATHERINE

And a beautiful chateau.

JEAN-CLAUDE

I'm also a great lover.

CATHERINE

Well -

JEAN-CLAUDE

That is true, is it not? Remember when -

CATHERINE

Yeah, OK, conceded, also a great lover. But I don't love you. And I don't think we'd be right for each other. End of story.

She gets up to go. He stops her.

JEAN-CLAUDE

You don't know me! Is why I come to London to prove you are wrong.

CATHERINE

Jean-Claude, that's not going to happen.

JEAN-CLAUDE

I've got an apartment overlooking Hyde Park.

CATHERINE

Well, I'm sure there'll be plenty of girls who'll be delighted to visit you there.

JEAN-CLAUDE

It's for you. Here's the key.

And he drops it into Catherine's bag.

CATHERINE

I don't want it.

She grabs the bag back and gets out of the car. She ratches in her bag for the car keys, and throws them to him.

CATHERINE

I'm flattered you feel so passionately, Jean-Claude, but you're not right for me and you never will be. Go find a girl who thinks you're wonderful: I'm sure there's plenty out there.

She starts looking for the apartment key to return too. But he starts the engine.

JEAN-CLAUDE

There's another man, n'est ce pas? Some cold, passionless Englishman toying with your heart. I'll get rid of him for you, my Catherine!

And suddenly, just as Catherine finds the key and is about to throw it to him, Jean-Claude roars away.

CUT TO:

58

EXT. PARLIAMENT HILL - DAY

58

RAY and NEIL are eating sandwiches as they sit on the seat on the top of Parliament Hill.

RAY

I know! We could own a race horse.

NEIL

We could own all the race horses in the world, Ray.

RAY

No shit!

CUT TO:

59 EXT. RACE COURSE - DAY

59

RAY and NEIL are standing in the middle of a wildly excited crowd cheering the end of a horse race. They both look bored.

COMMENTATOR

And it's Sheer-Length ahead of Queen's Comb but there's Porter's Piece coming up on the outside. And it's Porter's Piece taking the lead... Sheer-Length dropping to third and first across the line is Porter's Piece, followed by Queen's Comb, Zombie and Sheer-length.

RAY

They're all our's.

NEIL

Yeah. We win every time.

RAY

Let's forget the horses. We could have wealth... fame... Women! We could make any woman fall in love with us, Neil!

(the tempter)

Any woman we want...

CUT TO:

60 INT. CATHERINE'S FLAT - NIGHT

60

CATHERINE and ROSIE are having a girl's evening in. There are two bottles of wine on the table and they are slightly tipsy.

CATHERINE proposes a toast.

CATHERINE

Fuck James Cleverill!

ROSIE

Fuck James Cleverill!

They drink.

CATHERINE

Fuck all TV Producers!

ROSIE
Especially ones that say you can
sleep with them...

CATHERINE
If you play your cards right!

They laugh.

CATHERINE
Fuck Jean-Claude!

ROSIE
Oh yes! Fuck Jean-Claude!

CATHERINE
How do I always end up with
control freaks?

ROSIE
Or gays.

CATHERINE
Who?

ROSIE
Him upstairs.

CATHERINE
He's not gay. He's attractive
...he's kind...

ROSIE
(raises her glass)
Then fuck him!

CATHERINE
No! He's nice!

ROSIE
No I don't mean "Fuck him!" I
mean "fuck him".

CATHERINE
You mean "fuck him"?

The girls are starting to get slightly hysterical.

ROSIE
Yeah! Fuck him. It's time you had
a bit of fun, Cath.

CATHERINE
(giggles)
What? Now?

ROSIE
No, not now...

ROSIE ponders for a moment - after all why not now?

ROSIE
You gotta let me do your make-up
first.

CUT TO:

61 INT. INTERGALACTIC COUNCIL CHAMBER - DAY

61

The blue flask, the source of NEIL's power, goes on the blink. The light goes out.

SCIENTIST ALIEN
Bother!
(shouts out)
We'll have to suspend the test!

CHIEF ALIEN
What!

SCIENTIST ALIEN
This is on the blink, Sharon. The Earthling
won't have Galactic Power until I get it
working again.

He starts hitting the piece of equipment.

CHIEF ALIEN
Botheration! Huge botheration!

NASTY ALIEN
I thought our Galactic Powers
meant we could do anything?

CHIEF ALIEN
(furtive glance at audience)
Sh! Don't draw attention to
logical inconsistencies in the
plot.

CUT TO:

62 INT. NEIL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

62

NEIL is tossing restlessly in his bed, remembering the conversation with RAY.

RAY
(voice over)
We could make any woman fall in
love with us, Neil!
(the tempter)
Any woman we want...

NEIL is suddenly wide awake! He sits up in bed. He flicks his hand but there is no blue light. NEIL doesn't notice.

NEIL
Catherine from downstairs be
madly in love with me.

The doorbell rings. NEIL reacts. That was quick! He hurriedly gets out of bed and puts on his dressing gown, the doorbell ringing continuously.

NEIL opens the door. CATHERINE is standing there grinning. She is dressed very sexily and with lashings of make-up presumably applied by ROSIE.

CATHERINE
Hi.

NEIL
Hi.

NEIL breaks into a broad smile. It's worked - of course.

CATHERINE steps forward and plants a juicy kiss on NEIL'S lips.

The camera tracks towards the window where a face is peering in. It's Jean-Claude.

CATHERINE
You're not gay are you?

NEIL
No.

CATHERINE
Let's go to bed.

CATHERINE pushes NEIL back into the room and the door slams on them.

CUT TO:

63 EXT. BACK OF APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

63

Jean-Claude is hanging from the rusted metal of the fire escape, peering into the window onto the landing. Jean-Claude's jealousy reaches boiling point, as he starts kicking anything he can - ie the house.

Suddenly the rusted metal breaks, sending Jean-Claude sliding down towards the ground.

He lands with a crash in the darkness.

CUT TO:

64 INT. INTERGALACTIC COUNCIL CHAMBER - DAY

64

The SCIENTIST ALIEN has installed a new blue light flask - the source of Galactic Power. He hits it.

SCIENTIST ALIEN

Got it!

The power zaps on again. A laser of blue light shoots out.

CUT TO:

65 INT. NEIL'S BEDROOM - DAY

65

The blue laser beam shoots down and hits NEIL'S wrist - setting off the alarm clock. NEIL sits up suddenly awake. He looks to the other side of the bed. CATHERINE has gone, but there is the indentation in the pillow from her head.

NEIL thinks about what happened last night, and smiles. He leaps out of bed, and pulls back the curtains. It's raining. Everything looks so drab and normal.

NEIL

Weather! Be like it is in Los Angeles.

Blue flash. Nothing happens. The room actually goes darker.

NEIL (CONT'D)

I don't mean like it is at this very moment - it's the middle of the night there for crying out loud! Let the weather be like it usually is in Los Angeles during the day! So pedantic!

The room is bathed in sunlight. There by the door are his clothes in a heap where he left them. NEIL is about to go over to his clothes, when he stops. Let's do this the easy way.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Clothes! Get dressed on me.

The clothes pick themselves up wearily, and stagger over to NEIL, as if they had a hangover.

NEIL (CONT'D)

And smarten yourselves up!

The clothes jump to attention, shudder and revive. Neatly pressed and alert they dress themselves onto NEIL without his having to do anything.

CUT TO:

66 EXT. SCHOOL YARD - DAY

66

MISS PRINGLE has arrived early at school, and is now setting up a table in the school yard.

She opens a large bag, from which she produces several candles, a Tibetan prayer wheel, some yards of papers chain and a photograph of RAY...

CUT TO:

67 INT. NEIL'S APARTMENT - DAY

67

NEIL is eating a luxurious breakfast from a silver tray - among all the ordinary debris of his table. His knife and fork are operating without his having to touch them. They just automatically cut up his bacon and eggs and the fork lifts it to his mouth of its own accord.

There are some Oscars on the mantelpiece and a red 1930's Cocoa-Cola fridge.

While he eats NEIL is reading - also in a rather remarkable way. A book hovers just on the other side of his breakfast and the pages riffle through incredibly quickly. NEIL'S face registers a series of reactions: interest, amazement, distaste etc. Finally the book finishes - shuts itself up and leaps onto the out pile.

NEIL

That was a really interesting book, Dennis. What's this? Oooh this one's in German. Let me be able to understand German.

Another tome has taken the place of the previous one.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Das Einzwingerzuchtingfluge warum
der Auchtingflas von
Niebelungenzervorden bekanst ist
...

He glances across at DENNIS THE DOG who is looking up at him adoringly.

NEIL (CONT'D)

What are you talking about,
Dennis?

DENNIS THE DOG barks. Perhaps a bit too emphatically.

NEIL (CONT'D)

She's madly in love with me.
What's wrong with that?

NEIL goes back to his book, but can't concentrate under DENNIS'S adoring gaze. DENNIS barks.

NEIL

Shut up, Dennis! I can handle it.

DENNIS barks again.

NEIL

She's not going to ask me to
marry her.

DENNIS barks again.

NEIL

Or have my children.

DENNIS barks again.

NEIL

What are you talking about,
Dennis?

DENNIS barks again. NEIL suddenly pauses and realizes that
he could find out what DENNIS THE DOG really is saying.

NEIL

I wonder what you would say?
Dennis! Be able to talk!

DENNIS THE DOG

Biscuits.

NEIL

What?

DENNIS THE DOG

Biscuits.

NEIL

Maybe I could make her just a
little bit in love with me...you
know...not enough to want to
marry?

DENNIS THE DOG

For crying out loud! They're in
the cupboard.

NEIL

What are?

DENNIS THE DOG

Biscuits.

NEIL

I'm not going to give you a
biscuit until you answer my
question.

DENNIS THE DOG

Biscuits! Red biscuits! Black
biscuits!

NEIL

Can't you think of anything else?

DENNIS THE DOG

Biscuits! Please! Please! Nothing else matters! Biscuits!

NEIL

Very well...Dennis! Become a rational, thinking creature.

DENNIS THE DOG

Look I just can't concentrate on anything until I've had one of those biscuits. I know it's crazy but that's how it is. I guess I'm kind of hooked on them. So please, give me just one biscuit and then I'll be able think about something else.

NEIL

That makes sense.

NEIL crosses to the cupboard to get the dog biscuits.

DENNIS THE DOG

Oh! Oh! He's getting the biscuits! This is it! He's getting them! He's got them! He's got them! He's going to throw one! Here it comes! Yeah!

DENNIS THE DOG catches the biscuit that NEIL throws to him. NEIL watches him eat it with some condescension.

NEIL

God! It must be awful being a dog. I never realized you had such cravings.

DENNIS THE DOG

It's no worse than you and that bitch.

NEIL

What bitch?

DENNIS THE DOG

That bitch you were shagging last night.

NEIL

Look firstly she is not a 'bitch' - she's a really nice girl. And secondly we weren't just "shagging".

DENNIS THE DOG
Yes you were!

NEIL
We did a lot of talking.

DENNIS THE DOG
Talking about shagging.

NEIL
No!

DENNIS THE DOG
What else is there to talk about?

NEIL
Plenty!

DENNIS THE DOG
Come to think of it I wouldn't
mind shagging your leg right now.

NEIL
I thought I'd made you into a
rational thinking creature?

DENNIS THE DOG
Rational thinking creatures still
have desires.

NEIL
I can soon fix that...

DENNIS THE DOG
Hey no! Don't take my desires
away from me!

NEIL
Why not?

DENNIS THE DOG
They're what make my life worth
living. Biscuits ... shagging.

NEIL
I don't know that I like your
conversation.

DENNIS THE DOG
(Devastated by the news)
But I worship you, Master! I love
you! I admire you!

NEIL
I love you too, but...

DENNIS THE DOG

I can't bear displeasing you! My whole world collapses when you're cross with me.

NEIL

Look I think it's easier when you don't talk.

DENNIS THE DOG

(Aghast)

Oh no! Don't take away my power of speech now I can think rationally! That would be so cruel!

NEIL stares at his dog. He realizes he's made yet another mistake.

Suddenly the doorbell goes.

DENNIS THE DOG (CONT'D)

(Springs to life)

Yeah! Somebody at the door! Hey! We heard the bell! We heard the bell! Hey! Hey! Hey! Somebody!

NEIL

(Panicking)

Dennis! Dennis! Here boy!

DENNIS THE DOG

(Still excited)

But there's somebody at the door!

NEIL

Come here! Bad dog!

The doorbell goes again.

DENNIS THE DOG

(Unable to stop himself)

There it goes again! Hey! Hey! Somebody at the door!

NEIL

Dennis! Quiet! Stop it!

DENNIS THE DOG

Oh no! Have I done something wrong again?

NEIL

Just keep quiet! Do you understand?

DENNIS THE DOG
Yes. Anything! Anything to stop
you being angry with me!

The doorbell goes again. Dennis can't stop himself getting excited.

DENNIS THE DOG (CONT'D)
There it is again! Hey!

NEIL drags DENNIS across to the kitchen and throws him in.

NEIL
Just keep quiet! All right!
That's an order!

DENNIS THE DOG
Right! I like obeying orders!
Especially your orders!

NEIL
Just shut the fuck up will you?

DENNIS THE DOG
Right.

The doorbell goes again. DENNIS THE DOG by a heroic effort manages not to react.

NEIL
Good boy...

NEIL shuts the kitchen door.

CUT TO:

68 INT. NEIL'S HALL - DAY

68

NEIL hesitates before. He looks through the spy-hole and sees that it's CATHERINE.

NEIL
(to himself)
Oh God!
(he instantly feels guilty
about last night)
I made her do it.

NEIL reluctantly opens the door to CATHERINE.

CATHERINE
Hi!

NEIL
(guiltily)
Oh hi!

NEIL hears growling coming from the kitchen. He is very nervous that DENNIS THE DOG will start talking again.

CATHERINE

Look. About last night...

NEIL

(defensively)

Y...e...s?

NEIL glances towards the kitchen - will DENNIS keep quiet? CATHERINE notices his furtive glance.

CATHERINE

Is this a bad time?

NEIL

No. No.

CATHERINE

I don't want you to think I do that sort of thing all the time.

NEIL

(Awkwardly)

Of course not.

And we begin to realise Neil feels guilty about last night because he thinks his miraculous powers made it happen.

CATHERINE

I was slightly drunk.

Relief! She thinks it was because she was sloshed. The perfect way out for them both. Neil falls on the explanation all too eagerly.

NEIL

Naturally! Otherwise you wouldn't have done the thing with the -

CATHERINE

No, that's not what I mean. What I mean is: I like you. I've always enjoyed talking to you. I just wouldn't have come and jumped you like that if I hadn't -

NEIL

Been pissed as a newt.

CATHERINE frowns. She's not sure she likes how NEIL reacts.

CATHERINE

Sort of.

NEIL

That's alright then! Never mind, we can forget all about it.

CATHERINE

That wasn't what I was saying, Neil.

NEIL

Oh... So, er, what did you want?

Scraping on the kitchen door, and Dennis's voice is heard.

DENNIS THE DOG

(From the kitchen)

Shag her!

CATHERINE looks at NEIL in frank surprise.

NEIL

That's Dennis.

CATHERINE

Dennis?

NEIL

(Thinking quickly)

He's the plumber ... I've got a problem with my waterworks - water pipes ...

DENNIS THE DOG

Shag her, Neil!

NEIL

I'd better get him his 'shagger' - it's a sort of wrench that plumbers use ...

NEIL hurries into the kitchen, fuming.

CUT TO:

69

INT. NEIL'S KITCHEN - DAY

69

NEIL

I thought I told you to shut up!

DENNIS THE DOG cowers.

DENNIS THE DOG

I'm sorry! I'm sorry!

NEIL

You're supposed to be a rational, thinking creature, Dennis!

DENNIS THE DOG
I want to shag your leg!

NEIL stares uncomfortably at his dog. What has he created?

CUT TO:

70

INT. NEIL'S HALL - DAY

70

NEIL returns to CATHERINE.

NEIL
Couldn't find the "shagger" had
to use the ordinary "coupler".

There is an awkward pause.

A doggy whine and scraping on the kitchen door is followed
by DENNIS'S rather gruff voice.

DENNIS THE DOG
(out of vision)
I love you, NEIL!

CATHERINE looks at NEIL in even franker surprise.

NEIL
Dennis! Shut up!

CATHERINE frowns.

NEIL (CONT'D)
(Thinking desperately)
It's odd...isn't it? Shouting at
the plumber like that...He's my
brother - the plumber's my
brother.

DENNIS THE DOG
(out of vision)
Say you love me, Neil!

NEIL
We're very close.

All CATHERINE'S doubts are suddenly confirmed. NEIL clearly
has a gay lover locked in the kitchen.

CATHERINE
So...Rosie was right!

NEIL
Rosie?

NEIL is distracted by DENNIS'S yelling.

DENNIS THE DOG
 (out of vision)
 Hey! There's a cat! Neil! Neil!
 Neil! There's a cat on the flat
 roof! Neil! Neil!

CATHERINE
 Dammit! How could you, Neil! The
 next morning!

NEIL
 What?

CATHERINE
 Why do I always end up with
 freaks and sleazebags!

CATHERINE suddenly bursts into tears and runs for the door.

NEIL
 Wait!

DENNIS THE DOG
 (out of vision)
 It's the Ginger Tom! Neil! Neil!
 It's the Ginger Tom!

NEIL hesitates. He wants to go after CATHERINE, but he
 dives for the kitchen.

CUT TO:

71 INT. NEIL'S KITCHEN - DAY

71

DENNIS is on the sink yelling at the window.

DENNIS THE DOG
 Neil! Cats! Cats! Hey you, cat!
 Get out of our garden! Go on! Get
 out, cat!

NEIL
 (Furious)
 Dennis! Become a dumb animal
 again!

DENNIS THE DOG looks panic-stricken. He's got rational
 thought but he's unable to speak.

DENNIS THE DOG
 Woof! Woof! Woof!

NEIL
 So? She thinks I'm gay? So? She
 won't want to marry me. She won't
 want to have my kids... Bingo!
 Problem solved! Thank you,
 Dennis!

NEIL stops to think about this.

In a flash he suddenly realizes that all this is exactly what he wants. He wants to marry CATHERINE. He wants her to have his kids.

He turns and races after CATHERINE.

CUT TO:

72

EXT. SCHOOL CORRIDOR - DAY

72

RAY is walking down a corridor looking hunted, when he passes the open door of a classroom. There is MISS PRINGLE lighting a votive candle on a huge and elaborate shrine with a vast photo of RAY on the wall.

RAY stops.

RAY

Jesus!

RAY strides into the classroom.

RAY

This has got to stop, Miss...

Suddenly he realizes there are a few children of various ages.

MISS PRINGLE

O lord!

CHILDREN

O lord!

They all fall to their knees.

CUT TO:

73

EXT. STREET - DAY

73

NEIL dashes out into the street in time to see CATHERINE about to climb onto a bus.

NEIL

Catherine!

But she can't hear, and she disappears onto the bus.

Jean-Claude's face peers round a corner in between NEIL and the bus. NEIL starts to run towards him.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Catherine!

NEIL waves after her, but the bus drives off.

Jean-Claude glances round to make sure nobody's looking.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Let me be on the bus.

Jean-Claude steps out in front of NEIL. Jean-Claude has a menacing sneer on his face - but NEIL has already disappeared. Jean-Claude does the traditional 'spin round' of someone who has just had someone disappear in front of their very eyes.

CUT TO:

74 EXT. THE ROOF OF THE BUS - DAY

74

NEIL is clinging onto the roof of the double decker bus, being blown by the wind and thrown around and about to fall off. NEIL yelps!

NEIL

I don't mean on the bus! Me be *in* the bus!

He vanishes.

CUT TO:

75 EXT. THE BONNET OF THE BUS - DAY

75

An arm is sticking out awkwardly from the hood of the bus - it is desperately banging sides. Muffled screams are coming from the engine.

NEIL

(out of vision)

Aaaaargh! In the passenger accomodation!! Arghhh!

A blue light flashes inside the radiator.

CUT TO:

76 INT. INTERIOR BUS - DAY

76

NEIL appears in the crowded bus. He is covered in black grease marks, and looks as if he's been battered to hell.

The other PASSENGERS shrink away from his grease-covered form. Some are too preoccupied in reading newspapers etc to notice NEIL'S sudden materialisation or the condition he's in.

NEIL tries to recover from the battering he's had in the engine, and sees CATHERINE sitting at the other end near the door. He pushes his way through the crowd but the bus stops and CATHERINE gets off before he reaches her.

NEIL

Damn.

CUT TO:

77

EXT. THE NEXT BUS STOP - DAY

77

NEIL doesn't think of stopping the bus with his powers, so he has to wait for the next stop. Some things are too ingrained to even consider any alternative.

He alights and runs back towards the previous stop - in time to see CATHERINE disappear into a SANDWICH BAR.

As NEIL starts after CATHERINE, RAY pulls up in his Ford Fiesta. He leaps out, and double-takes at the battered and bruised condition of his friend.

RAY

You gotta stop Miss Pringle!
She's set up shrines all round
the school! There's even a web-
site!

NEIL

You wanted her to worship you!

RAY

Not like this!

NEIL

I'm sorry, Ray, I can't help you
now -

And he tries to get round RAY to reach CATHERINE. RAY stops him, a look of panic in his eyes.

RAY

You haven't lost the powers?

NEIL

No.

RAY

You have!

Neil is a bit irritated with RAY.

NEIL

I haven't! Ray become a duck!

RAY turns into a duck. NEIL picks RAY-THE-DUCK up but it starts flapping wildly and trying peck him.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Stop it, Ray!

NEIL struggles with RAY-THE-DUCK for a few moments.

NEIL
Ray become a sausage!

RAY-THE-DUCK turns into a sausage in NEIL'S hand.

NEIL (CONT'D)
(to the sausage)
I haven't lost the powers, Ray!
It's just...

MISS PRINGLE comes round the corner leading four RAY
WORSHIPPERS, holding placards that read things like: "RAY
SAVE US" "IMMORTAL RAY"

MISS PRINGLE
Where is he, Neil?

NEIL
Er...

MISS PRINGLE
That's his car!

NEIL
Yes...er...

He guiltily hides the sausage behind his back. Traffic is
now piling up behind RAY'S car and horns are blaring.

MISS PRINGLE
Behold! The car of Ray!

WORSHIPPERS
The Car of Ray!

THE WORSHIPPERS fall on their knees around RAY'S car.

Neil takes the opportunity to escape into the sandwich bar
where CATHERINE disappeared.

CUT TO:

78 INT. SANDWICH BAR - DAY

78

NEIL enters the sandwich bar, battered, bruised, grease-
stained and out of breath and still holding RAY-THE-
SAUSAGE. CATHERINE is ordering her lunch.

CATHERINE
With coleslaw please.

NEIL
Catherine. Can we talk?

CATHERINE
No.

NEIL

I love you.

CATHERINE

You also love Dennis.

The SANDWICH GIRL who has been listening with considerable interest to CATHERINE hands the wrapped sandwich over to her and notices the sausage in NEIL'S hand.

SANDWICH GIRL

Did you pick that off there?

She nods to a pile of similar sausages on a dish on the counter beside NEIL.

NEIL

What?? Oh no ... it's mine.

SANDWICH GIRL

(total disbelief)

"Your's?"

NEIL

(to CATHERINE)

You've got it completely wrong about Dennis.

CATHERINE

(as she pays for the sandwich)

Look, I have nothing whatever against Dennis. You love him, he loves you, I'm happy for the both of you: just don't bring me into it.

NEIL

There's just one thing I have to tell you about Dennis.

SANDWICH GIRL

You'll have to pay for that now you've touched it.

NEIL

It's mine!

SANDWICH GIRL

No, it isn't!

CATHERINE

I heard what you said to each other, Neil.

She starts to walk out of the sandwich bar. NEIL runs after her.

NEIL

But there's one crucial thing...

SANDWICH GIRL

Hey!

NEIL disappears after CATHERINE.

CUT TO:

79

EXT. OUTSIDE THE SANDWICH BAR - DAY

79

NEIL grabs CATHERINE'S arm.

NEIL

Catherine: he's not a man!

CATHERINE

I don't want to hear this, Neil!

The incensed SANDWICH GIRL appears from the shop.

SANDWICH GIRL

You perverts come in and steal
our stuff!

NEIL

Oh for goodness sake! It's not
your sausage!

But the SANDWICH GIRL has grabbed it, and is trying to pull it away from NEIL. There is a tussle! During which NEIL suddenly remembers that the sausage is really RAY!

NEIL

Oh, God! Be careful!

SANDWICH GIRL

Give it back!

NEIL

(panicking)

You'll break it! Stop it! Stop
it!

NEIL goes quite manic trying to stop the sausage breaking. Eventually he lets go of it.

The SANDWICH GIRL holds it up out of NEIL'S reach.

SANDWICH GIRL

Give me 80p.

He hesitates. Eventually he realizes he'll have to buy RAY back.

NEIL

Oh alright.

He digs into his pocket and hands her a fiver. The SANDWICH GIRL hands him back the sausage.

SANDWICH GIRL
I'll get your change.

During this altercation CATHERINE has walked up the road, a bus has pulled up and she's about to board it.

NEIL
Never mind!

NEIL starts to run after CATHERINE, but the SANDWICH GIRL grabs him.

SANDWICH GIRL
It's four pounds 20!

NEIL tries to fight her off.

NEIL
Keep it!

SANDWICH GIRL
It's too much for a tip!

NEIL sees the bus leave. He slumps in despair.

NEIL
Have it your own way.

SANDWICH GIRL
I should think so too.

The SANDWICH GIRL re-enters the shop.

NEIL is kicking himself for letting CATHERINE go. As he thinks what to do, he looks at the sausage in his hand, and absent-mindedly starts to take a bite out of it. It kicks. NEIL suddenly realizes he about to take a bite out of his friend!

NEIL
Shit!

He takes it out of his mouth.

NEIL
Sausage become Ray!

The sausage turns back into RAY.

RAY
Jesus! Neil! Have you any idea
how vulnerable a sausage feels?

The SANDWICH GIRL re-appears with NEIL'S change. She's in a better humour now, and registers that the sausage has gone.

SANDWICH GIRL
You must have been hungry!

CUT TO:

80 INT. INTERGALACTIC COUNCIL CHAMBER - DAY 80

The ALIENS are gathered round the viewer watching this scene.

CHIEF ALIEN
It's clear he has no idea of
doing any good whatsoever.

NASTY ALIEN
Why don't we just get on with the
destruction?

CUT TO:

81 INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT 81

Catherine lets herself into the hallway and walks across to her apartment.

As she opens the door the streetlight through the window reveals Jean-Claude sitting in an easy chair with a glass of cognac.

JEAN-CLAUDE
Hallo, cherie.

CATHERINE
Oh my God!

JEAN-CLAUDE
I've seen him. The Englishman
who's trying to wreck your life.
And you and I have much to say to
one another.

CATHERINE ducks back into the Hallway.

CATHERINE
No, we don't.

But Jean-Claude has leapt to his feet and rushed to the door.

JEAN-CLAUDE
Is he a member of an Olympic Luge
team? I don't think so!

They tussle to close the door. There is a big brass door knob on the outside of the door so CATHERINE has more purchase on the door.

JEAN-CLAUDE

Were any of his ancestors
guillotined in the French
Revolution? Not a chance!

CATHERINE

Jean-Claude, you're crazy, you
know that?

JEAN-CLAUDE

He's not worthy of you,
Catherine. He's has little eyes
and he's a school teacher.

As they are playing push-me-pull-you with the door,
CATHERINE realizes the key is still in the door.

JEAN-CLAUDE

He is the sort of man who wears
his socks in bed.

CATHERINE finally manages to get the door closed and turns
to the key to deadlock it. Jean-Claude starts shaking the
door furiously.

JEAN-CLAUDE

I will not let you turn me down
for him!

CATHERINE

Get out of my flat, Jean-Claude!

JEAN-CLAUDE

Ha! You just locked me in!

CATHERINE

Get out the same way you got in.

JEAN-CLAUDE

Remember what we did, up on the
battlements? After that bottle of
Romanee Conti '78?

CATHERINE

JUST GET OUT, JEAN-CLAUDE! I
NEVER WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN! I
HATE YOU! GET OUT OF MY LIFE! DO
I MAKE MYSELF PLAIN? GET OUT!

Slight pause. CATHERINE suddenly sees most of the other
tenants looking over the bannisters all the way up the
stairwell. Including NEIL.

She smiles apologetically.

CATHERINE

Sorry. Er ... Sorry ... for all
the noise.

FENELLA

At least it wasn't barking.

And together with all the others, she disappears. NEIL tiptoes down, puts his finger to his lips and whispers.

NEIL

(whispers)

Walk out the front door, come in the back, and walk up to my place. No moves, no nothing. You can just stay out of his way and I'll make you dinner.

Jean-Claude begins to hurl himself at the door, threatening to burst through it.

JEAN-CLAUDE (O.S.)

My ancestors fought at Agincourt!

Catherine takes a deep breath.

Lesser of two evils.

CATHERINE

Alright. And invite Dennis too.
Let's all behave like grown-ups.

And she goes down the stairs.

CUT TO:

82

INT. NEIL'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

82

NEIL bursts into the kitchen where DENNIS is finishing his supper.

NEIL

She's coming to dinner!

DENNIS THE DOG

Who?

NEIL

Catherine!

DENNIS THE DOG

The bitch?

NEIL

I don't want you chipping in.
You've got to pretend to be a dumb animal again.

DENNIS THE DOG

(Disgusted)

Me?! A Dumb Animal?

NEIL

You know how to pretend don't you? It's called "acting".

DENNIS THE DOG

(rolls his eyes)

You mean like having my tummy tickled?

NEIL

You love having your tummy tickled!

DENNIS THE DOG

No I don't.

NEIL

What?

DENNIS THE DOG

It's a sham, Neil. All dogs do it.

NEIL

Why?

DENNIS THE DOG

(Shrugs)

Why do humans like tickling dogs' tummies?

NEIL

Because dogs like having them tickled.

DENNIS THE DOG

Uh huh! Dogs pretend to like it because they know human beings like doing it.

NEIL

Well, anyway, you pretend that you're just a perfectly ordinary dog.

DENNIS THE DOG

Can't I join in the conversation just a little bit?

NEIL

No.

DENNIS THE DOG

That is so cruel.

The doorbell rings.

DENNIS THE DOG
It's the bell! It's the bell!
It's the bell!

NEIL
I know it's the bell.

DENNIS THE DOG
Sorry! Sorry! Sorry!

NEIL grabs DENNIS THE DOG.

NEIL
(Whispers)
If one word escapes your lips -
I'll put your flea collar back
on.

DENNIS goes rigid with horror.

NEIL (CONT'D)
Bark!

DENNIS barks unconvincingly.

DENNIS THE DOG
Woof.

CUT TO:

83 INT. HALL - NIGHT

83

NEIL opens the door.

CATHERINE
Hi!

NEIL
Has he gone?

CATHERINE
I don't think so.

DENNIS jumps up at CATHERINE trying to lick her.

NEIL
Down, Dennis.

DENNIS THE DOG
(unconvincingly)
Woof.

NEIL hopes CATHERINE won't notice DENNIS'S unconvincing
'woof'.

CATHERINE
You named him after the "plumber"
I suppose?

NEIL

Er...

There is an awkward pause, while NEIL doesn't know what to say. DENNIS obligingly rolls over to have his tummy tickled.

CATHERINE

Do you want your tummy tickled?

CATHERINE tickles DENNIS'S tummy.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

Why do dogs love that so much?

DENNIS rolls his eyes.

CUT TO:

84 EXT. BACK OF THE APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT 84

Because the fire escape collapsed the last time Jean-Claude was on it, scaling the wall to Neil's apartment is harder than before, but to a French aristocrat with a will of iron, not impossible.

CUT TO:

85 INT. NEIL'S APARTMENT - NIGHT 85

Some time later CATHERINE is sitting at the table talking to NEIL who is in the kitchen.

CATHERINE

...so the producer promises to take me out of the cupboard I work in and give me a big desk with a view. But he won't. He just wants to get me into bed.

NEIL brings in the first dish.

NEIL

Bon appetit!

CATHERINE winces at the French, but puts her spoon into the soup. NEIL looks at her expectantly. He has just made a miraculous soup.

CATHERINE puts the spoon to her lips and almost at once her face is suffused in a glow of amazement.

CATHERINE

That's incredible!

She has another taste.

CATHERINE

I've never tasted anything so wonderful in my life!

She tastes some more and again and again.

CATHERINE

It's amazing.

(tastes)

But what is it?

(tastes)

I didn't know you were such a wonderful cook... It's just unlike anything I've ever tasted! How did you do it?

NEIL

I just said: "Let the soup be the most amazing thing Catherine has ever tasted and unlike anything she's had before" and it is.

CATHERINE

(laughing)

Really?

NEIL

(seriously)

Really.

CATHERINE looks at him ... Does she have a feeling he's a bit loopy?

NEIL

I can make things happen... Anything...

Catherine's face clouds.

NEIL

That was what I was trying to tell you. I wasn't talking to a live-in, homosexual plumber this morning. I was talking to Dennis.

CATHERINE

The dog.

NEIL

Dennis the dog.

CATHERINE

Who answered back.

NEIL

Because I made him talk.

CATHERINE

Ah!

NEIL

Which I could do because I have these powers...

Yes! She's got herself involved with yet another weirdo!

CATHERINE

(cautiously)

Special "powers"?

NEIL

Very special. You want a bigger desk at work?

(gestures)

You got it! A great view? How about the Grand Canyon?

(gestures again)

You got it!

CATHERINE looks at him. She's debating whether to make a break for it and escape now or to try and help NEIL.

CUT TO:

86 INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

86

DENNIS is peering through the door jamb. He can see Jean-Claude peering through the window behind them. He scratches on the kitchen door and whines.

CUT TO:

87 INT. NEIL'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

87

CATHERINE decides to humour NEIL.

CATHERINE

How did you get these "powers", Neil?

NEIL

They came very suddenly.

CATHERINE

Very suddenly?

NEIL

After I fell off my bike.
(He sees her expression)
Look! Ask me to do something!

CATHERINE

(sympathetically)

Listen, Neil. It's all right... you can get help...

CATHERINE takes NEIL'S hand in a gesture of sympathy.

At the window, Jean-Claude can't restrain himself any longer.

NEIL

I don't need help. I can do anything.

CATHERINE

Yes... of course you can... But maybe you need to see someone...

DENNIS THE DOG

(from the kitchen)

Woof! Woof!

Jean-Claude smashes through the window commando style on a rope. CATHERINE and NEIL jump to their feet.

CATHERINE

Jean-Claude!

Jean-Claude looks around Neil's apartment and pulls a face.

JEAN-CLAUDE

This is what I'm trying to save you from.

NEIL

Who is this?

JEAN-CLAUDE

I am the fiancé.

CATHERINE

You are not my fiancé, Jean-Claude.

JEAN-CLAUDE

I am about to be!

CATHERINE

No you're not!

JEAN-CLAUDE

We made passionate love all over the Loire Valley.

(To Neil)

Have you ever made passionate love anywhere, Englishman? No, I didn't think so.

CATHERINE

Stop this! I'm sorry, Neil...

JEAN-CLAUDE
You are nothing but a constipated
English petit bourgeois.

NEIL
(calmly)
I'm warning you...

JEAN-CLAUDE
(Attempting to mimic
NEIL)
"I'm werning you"?!
"

NEIL
Yes, I am!

JEAN-CLAUDE
Well, have you ever seen a pair of
duelling pistols?

Jean-Claude produces a pair of magnificently decorated guns
and points them at Neil's head.

JEAN-CLAUDE
Made by Napoleon's own gunsmith
for the fifteenth duke. And still
as deadly today as they were
then!

JEAN-CLAUDE demonstrates the fire power by shooting up a
vase.

CATHERINE
Jean-Claude! Are you crazy?

JEAN-CLAUDE reloads the pistol he fired.

NEIL
I all I have to do is say "Jean-
Claude become a Christmas tree
fairy".

CATHERINE
Put those guns away, Jean-Claude.

NEIL
Or "Jean-Claude turn into a
pumpkin."

JEAN-CLAUDE
How about you say: "Please, Jean-
Claude! Don't put a bullet
through my little English brain."

JEAN-CLAUDE re-aims the duelling pistols at NEIL.

CATHERINE
Jean-Claude! Stop it!

NEIL
(coolly)
I think I'd prefer: "Let all
bullets bounce off me".

He waves his hand. Blue glow.

NEIL
Go on! Shoot!

CATHERINE
You're both crazy!

NEIL
(to CATHERINE)
He doesn't dare.

CATHERINE
(really frightened)
Neil! Please! Please!

NEIL
Go on! Pull the trigger, you
French fop!

JEAN-CLAUDE
Shut up!

NEIL
(Mimicking him)
Shert up! Oh, ma foi, pool ze
trigger feeble Frenchman!

CATHERINE
Stop it! He'll shoot you. He
will!

NEIL
No he won't.

JEAN-CLAUDE
But I will!

CATHERINE
He's crazy!

NEIL
Jean-Claude drop the guns!

NEIL gestures. The guns fall out of Jean-Claude's hands.
There is a moment's hesitation, then CATHERINE swoops down
on them and throws them out of the window.

JEAN-CLAUDE
(to NEIL)
How dare you!

He hurls himself at NEIL and starts trying to throttle him.

CATHERINE
You're idiots! Both of you!

CATHERINE grabs her bag and storms out of the apartment.
NEIL and Jean-Claude hardly notice.

DENNIS THE DOG
(from the kitchen)
Help! Help!

Jean-Claude reacts.

JEAN-CLAUDE
Qu'est que c'est ca?

Still trying to throttle NEIL, JEAN-CLAUDE kicks the kitchen door open, to reveal DENNIS THE DOG chasing his tail in a paroxysm of frustration. As soon as he sees Jean-Claude he freezes - mouth open - not knowing whether he is allowed to speak or not. His eyes flick from NEIL to Jean-Claude.

NEIL
(gasping)
Let Jean-Claude's arm break if he throttles me.

JEAN-CLAUDE looks around but as he can't see anyone - only DENNIS - he resumes throttling Neil. Sound FX of breaking bones.

JEAN-CLAUDE cries out in pain.

JEAN-CLAUDE
Aieeee!

His arm dangles uselessly at his side.

JEAN-CLAUDE (CONT'D)
What happened?

NEIL
It's broken.

JEAN-CLAUDE
English pig-dog!

NEIL
You want me to make it better?

JEAN-CLAUDE
You talk out of your bottom!

He once again hurls himself, broken arm and all, at NEIL.

NEIL
Jean-Claude's arm be better.

Jean-Claude suddenly stops in his tracks. What d'you know? Jean-Claude's arm *is* better. He looks at his arm... examines it... then looks at NEIL in incomprehension.

JEAN-CLAUDE
Incroyable!

NEIL
Jean-Claude be stuck to the ceiling.

WHAM! Suddenly Jean-Claude is spread-eagled across the ceiling.

JEAN-CLAUDE
Merde!

NEIL
Jean-Claude be plastered on the wall.

WHAM! Jean-Claude is plastered upside-down across the wall.

JEAN-CLAUDE
Nom d'une pipe de bois!

NEIL
Jean-Claude be buried headfirst in the plant pot.

WHAM! Jean-Claude is buried head-first in a plant-holder with his legs kicking in the air.

NEIL (CONT'D)
Jean-Claude be standing in front of me!

Jean-Claude is standing in front of NEIL, spitting soil. He looks at NEIL with new eyes.

NEIL
You should be nice to me, Jean-Claude. Maybe I can help you.

JEAN-CLAUDE
(speechless as you would be)
Devil!

NEIL
I can make your life hell... or... I could make you ... the winner of the Tour De France.

Jean-Claude suddenly finds himself on a bicycle wearing lycra and holding a large trophy.

JEAN-CLAUDE
Nom de Dieu!

NEIL
Or disqualify you!

The trophy disappears, and JEAN-CLAUDE still in lycra is reading a newspaper with the banner headline: "DISQUALIFIED! SHAME OF TITLED FRENCHMAN". JEAN-CLAUDE scrumples up the newspaper.

NEIL (CONT'D)
I can do absolutely anything.

JEAN-CLAUDE
Re-instate me!

NEIL
All I have to do is wave my hand.

JEAN-CLAUDE
You have to wave your hand?

DENNIS THE DOG
Isn't he great?

DENNIS is sitting in the doorway to the kitchen gazing up admiringly at NEIL. NEIL turns on DENNIS.

NEIL
I didn't give you permission to speak.

DENNIS THE DOG
No but you've told everyone the secret, so...

NEIL
But I didn't say...

But NEIL doesn't finish the sentence, because he is suddenly lying prone on the floor in front of DENNIS. Jean-Claude has hit him with the heavy planter.

JEAN-CLAUDE
Who is surrender monkey now, English?

CUT TO:

88 INT. PRODUCTION OFFICE - DAY

88

CATHERINE walks into the office. JAMES comes out of his office and smiles at CATHERINE.

JAMES
You made your mind up yet?

CATHERINE
How about this evening?

JAMES

Good girl. My place? 8 o'clock?

CATHERINE

Yeah. Why not? I always end up with the wrong guy anyway.

JAMES frowns. He's not sure whether he misheard.

CATHERINE meanwhile is looking around for her desk.

JAMES

Oh! I've given you a new desk.

JAMES disappears back into his office. CATHERINE looks and sees her name on a door of another office.

CUT TO:

89 INT. CATHERINE'S OFFICE - DAY

89

CATHERINE walks into her office wonderingly. She has a truly enormous desk.

Then she glances out of the window. As if mesmerized she approaches it - her eyes full of wonder. Finally we cut to her POV.

The view she has is of the Grand Canyon.

CUT TO:

90 INT. JEAN-CLAUDE'S APARTMENT - DAY

90

A luxury Mayfair apartment.

NEIL regains consciousness to find he has been gagged and tied up to a chair. His arms are resting on a table. He has been handcuffed and the handcuffs are nailed onto the table.

Jean-Claude, still wearing cycling lycra, is sitting opposite, smiling at him.

JEAN-CLAUDE

Ah, you have come back to us.

NEIL

(struggles)

Mmmmmmmmm.

JEAN-CLAUDE

Now listen urp, pale but strangely gifted British person. When I remove the gag you are going to say exactly what is on this piece of paper here. Understand?

NEIL

Mmmmmmmmmmm.

JEAN-CLAUDE

If you say one word that is not on this piece of paper ... I will shoot your dog.

NEIL now sees that Jean-Claude has DENNIS THE DOG trussed up and is pointing the duelling pistols at his head.

JEAN-CLAUDE

Very well. I'm going to remove the gag now. One word wrong and the dog gets it or, as we say in France, il est un chien mort.

Jean-Claude removes the gag. NEIL sits there looks resentful.

JEAN-CLAUDE

Now, my friend, you will read item number one.

NEIL

(reads reluctantly)

(1) All Englishmen will have big ears and webbed feet"

(NEIL looks at Jean-Claude dumbfounded)
That's ridiculous!

JEAN-CLAUDE

Uh! Uh!

(he threatens DENNIS)

Wave your hand.

NEIL does as he's told. Blue glow.

Jean-Claude stares at NEIL and bursts into laughter. NEIL has huge ears.

JEAN-CLAUDE

Magnifique! And ze feet?

He threatens DENNIS with the pistols. Reluctantly NEIL stretches out a foot. He has a duck's foot.

JEAN-CLAUDE laughs so hard that he almost falls off his chair

JEAN-CLAUDE

(impatient to get on)

Now the next!

NEIL

(incredulous)

(2) All British women to look like Queen Victoria?

JEAN-CLAUDE
And wave your hand.

NEIL
You must be completely deranged.

JEAN-CLAUDE
Ah ha!!!!
(threatening DENNIS)
He does not think so, the little
dog!

DENNIS THE DOG
Don't let him kill me, Neil!

NEIL sighs and shrugs.

NEIL
(2) All British women to look
like Queen Victoria.

NEIL gestures. Blue glow.

Jean-Claude flicks on the television. A quartet of Queen Victorias is performing on *I've ~Got Talent* or some such show, to an audience fifty per cent of which are also Queen Victoria. Two of the judges are Queen Victoria too.

Jean-Claude sniggers with Gallic satisfaction.

JEAN-CLAUDE
Next!

NEIL
(3) All British Policemen to have
pink uniforms...

CUT TO:

91 EXT. STREET OUTSIDE APARTMENT BLOCK - DAY 91

CATHERINE is running up the street. She enters the apartment block.

CUT TO:

92 INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT/DAY 92

CATHERINE runs up the stairs. She can't wait to tell NEIL that she believes him now.

CATHERINE
(shouting)
Neil! Neil!

She gets to NEIL'S door and is about to knock, when she realizes it's already open.

She is suddenly fearful that all is not well. She pushes the door ajar and then cautiously steps in.

The smashed planter is lying over the floor with soil spilled out. She picks up one of the pieces - there is dried blood on it.

CATHERINE
(anxious now)

Neil?

She steps through into the bedroom.

CATHERINE
Neil?

CATHERINE is beginning to get genuinely worried about NEIL. She approaches the bathroom. That too is empty.

CATHERINE turns and goes to the wardrobe and flings the door open to reveal the hunted figure of RAY.

CATHERINE screams. RAY leaps out of the wardrobe and puts his hand over her mouth.

RAY
Sh!

RAY drags CATHERINE to the window and peers cautiously out. There is nothing outside, he relaxes and lets go of her.

RAY
(urgently)
Where's Neil?

CATHERINE
Ray? Are you Ray?

RAY
I gotta find Neil.

CATHERINE
Isn't he here?

RAY
No. He wasn't at school either.

CATHERINE
Something's happened to him!

RAY
It's a matter of life and death.

CATHERINE
I left him with my crazy gun-toting ex-boyfriend.

RAY

Neil's got these powers...

CATHERINE

I know.

RAY

He got Miss Pringle to worship me, and now she's turned me into a fucking religion!
(striking a note of horror)
They think I'm immortal.

CATHERINE

So?

RAY

They want me to prove it by rising from the dead.

Beat.

CATHERINE

We gotta find Neil!

CATHERINE suddenly has a flash of inspiration as to where NEIL might be.

CATHERINE

I know!

CATHERINE turns and runs out of the apartment.

CUT TO:

93 INT. HALLWAY - DAY

93

CATHERINE running down the stairs. RAY follows.

RAY

Where are you going?

CATHERINE feverishly finds the key for her apartment and rushes in.

A series of coats on pegs in the hallway. She desperately feels in the pockets of the first coat.

CATHERINE

No.

She tries the next coat along.

CATHERINE

Damn.

RAY

What are you doing?

CATHERINE has now remembered that what she's looking for is in her bag.

CATHERINE

Got it!

She holds up the key with the scrumpled label that Jean-Claude had put there.

CATHERINE

Where's your car?

RAY

Why?

CATHERINE

I know where he is!

RAY takes this in and then turns and runs with CATHERINE following.

CUT TO:

94 EXT. STREET CORNER - DAY

94

RAY and CATHERINE come running round the corner of a street. RAY suddenly stops in his tracks.

RAY

Shit!

From their POV we see the massed crowd of RAY WORSHIPPERS kneeling around RAY'S car. Some are carrying placards, but a group of four are carrying a business-like GALLOWS with a noose dangling from it.

They all look up on hearing RAY'S voice. All the male RAY WORSHIPPERS have big ears and ducks' feet.

MISS PRINGLE rises to her feet.

MISS PRINGLE

Lord!

RAY turns and runs back round the corner. CATHERINE follows.

The RAY WORSHIPPERS all rise to their ducks' feet and give chase with a sort of fast duck-waddle.

CUT TO:

95 EXT. ANOTHER STREET - DAY

95

RAY and CATHERINE run down the street and dodge down a narrow alley.

The RAY WORSHIPPERS come round the corner and pour down the street, past the narrow alley. But one of the RAY WORSHIPPERS in the middle ranks spots them in the alley.

RAY WORSHIPPER

There he is!

The RAY WORSHIPPERS all push to get into the narrow alley but it acts as a bottleneck and they are jammed into it, fighting with each other. The GALLOWS gets stuck in between the narrow space between buildings. There is a lot of swearing.

CUT TO:

96 EXT. ANOTHER STREET - DAY

96

CATHERINE and RAY run down the street and turn the corner.

A beat and then the crowd of RAY WORSHIPPERS charge down the street. Suddenly a police car pulls up onto the pavement in front of them and three policeman pile out. They all have big ears, duck feet and are all wearing bright pink uniforms. They also waddle.

POLICEMAN

Now what's all this about?

The RAY WORSHIPPERS gape at the POLICEMEN and then giggle and then start laughing and charge on, ignoring them.

POLICEMEN

Hey!

RAY WORSHIPPER

Nice fancy dress.

The POLICEMEN suddenly look at each other and register the colour of their uniform, the big ears and ducks' feet. They look totally perplexed.

CUT TO:

97 EXT. YET ANOTHER STREET - DAY

97

CATHERINE checks the address on the key and nods towards a smart apartment block.

She and RAY run into the building just as the RAY WORSHIPPERS come round the corner. The crowd comes to a halt outside the apartment block, looking round for any sign of RAY. The group carrying the GALLOWS prop it upright and look exhausted.

CUT TO:

98 INT. JEAN-CLAUDE'S APARTMENT BLOCK STAIRCASE - DAY 98

CATHERINE and RAY come out of a lift. CATHERINE checks the apartment number again and they go up to the door of Jean-Claude's apartment.

CUT TO:

99 INT. JEAN-CLAUDE'S APARTMENT - DAY 99

NEIL is still reading from the list. He is getting pretty tired of it. Jean-Claude, dressed as Louis XIV, is enjoying himself immensely, but still has the pistols at DENNIS'S head.

NEIL is dressed in a frock and has a large block of ice cream melting on his head.

NEIL
Item 126. All traffic
lights in England to be
permanently green...

NEIL waves. The usual blue glow.

SOUND FX of cars crashing outside. Jean-Claude peers out of the window, while still keeping the guns pointing at DENNIS.

CUT TO:

100 EXT. STREET - DAY 100

A cross-roads below is full of crashed vehicles.

CUT TO:

101 INT. JEAN-CLAUDE'S APARTMENT - DAY 101

JEAN-CLAUDE
Magnifique!

Suddenly there is banging on the door.

CATHERINE
(out of vision)
Jean-Claude! Are you there?

Jean-Claude reacts and starts getting hurried. He waves the pistols.

JEAN-CLAUDE
Skip to ze end.

NEIL leafs through a few more pages, shaking his head as he reads some of them.

JEAN-CLAUDE

Urry up!

NEIL finds the last one.

JEAN-CLAUDE

Quick! Read it!

NEIL

Item 317 Catherine...

SUDDENLY the door opens and CATHERINE and RAY burst into the room.

RAY

Neil!

JEAN-CLAUDE

(agitated)

Urry! Urry!

CATHERINE

Let him go, Jean-Claude!

JEAN-CLAUDE

Never! Go on, English! Read the last item!

NEIL

Item 317, Catherine West to be deeply, madly in love with Count Jean-Claude de Saint-Anac de Monteton de la Loire.

THERE IS A PREGNANT PAUSE.

JEAN-CLAUDE

And wave your hand!

CATHERINE

(appalled)

Neil! Don't!

JEAN-CLAUDE

Or ze little dog ees dead!

Jean-Claude threatens DENNIS again with the guns.

DENNIS THE DOG

Don't let him shoot me, Neil!

CATHERINE looks from NEIL to DENNIS and back again. NEIL is faced with a choice between her and his dog. Which will he choose?

The moment... goes on... and on...

JEAN-CLAUDE
WAVE YOUR HAND!

CATHERINE
I don't want to love him, Neil! I
don't want to go anywhere near
him!

DENNIS THE DOG
I don't want to die!

NEIL waves his hand. Blue glow.

Catherine turns adoringly to Jean-Claude.

CATHERINE
Jean-Claude! I love you!

JEAN-CLAUDE
I always knew it!

CATHERINE starts kissing Jean-Claude passionately.

This, of course, takes Jean-Claude's mind off DENNIS and the
gun.

NEIL seizes his chance.

NEIL
Dennis be free!

Jean-Claude hears him and fights to get free of CATHERINE.

DENNIS dashes around the apartment yelling.

DENNIS THE DOG
I'm free! I'm free!

Jean-Claude shoots wildly at DENNIS.

DENNIS THE DOG
Help! Help! Neil! Help!

RAY hits the floor to the two bullets.

NEIL
Jean-Claude become a corgi.

Corgis of course can't hold guns. As Jean-Claude enters the
canine world, with Catherine still embracing him, the
duelling pistols fall to the floor.

NEIL
Me! Be free!

NEIL is suddenly free. DENNIS is licking him.

DENNIS THE DOG
Master! You chose to save me
rather than that bitch!

NEIL
Catherine be your normal self and
not in love with Jean-Claude.

CATHERINE lets go of Jean-Claude-the-corgi and stands up
looking deeply embarrassed.

At the same moment MISS PRINGLE appears with the crowd of
RAY WORSHIPPERS crowding into the room behind her.

MISS PRINGLE
Lord! Show us how to conquer
death!

Several RAY WORSHIPPERS collar RAY and rush him towards the
GALLOWS.

RAY
Stop them, Neil! Please!

MISS PRINGLE steps forward and kneels in front of RAY to
kiss his feet.

NEIL
Dorothy Pringle! Think about Ray
the way you used to.

MISS PRINGLE
For crying out loud!

MISS PRINGLE rises to her feet staring and RAY and the RAY
WORSHIPPERS.

RAY
It was nothing to do with me!

MISS PRINGLE
Get lost, you creep.

She turns on her heel and walks off. The RAY WORSHIPPERS
look confused.

NEIL
You lot! Forget about Ray!

The RAY WORSHIPPERS all turn and wander off, abandoning the
GALLOWS and the placards.

DENNIS is chasing the CORGI round and round the room both
are barking and yelping.

NEIL turns and smiles at CATHERINE, but she has been
totally unnerved by being at the receiving end of his
powers. Instead of returning his smile she turns to RAY.

CATHERINE
 (shakily)
 Ray, would you take me home
 please?

CUT TO:

102 INT. INTERGALACTIC COUNCIL CHAMBER - SPACE 102

The ALIENS have been watching the chain of events with evident contempt.

NASTY ALIEN
 Pathetic!

KINDLY ALIEN
 (shaking his head sadly)
 He has no concept of 'good' and
 'evil'.

The CHIEF ALIEN hurriedly calls across to the SCIENTIST ALIEN.

CHIEF ALIEN
 Time's up! Daphne! Prime the
 Destruction Generator!

CUT TO:

103 INT. LANDING - NIGHT 103

NEIL is hanging about his landing watching the front door. Suddenly he hears a key in the door and CATHERINE enters and runs upstairs, and starts to unlock the door opposite NEIL'S flat. At which point NEIL pretends to be leaving his apartment.

NEIL
 Oh, Hi!

CATHERINE hurriedly opens her door.

NEIL
 Could I cook you supper tonight?

CATHERINE
 No thank you, Neil.

NEIL
 I'm doing a whole suckling pig.

CATHERINE
 No.

CATHERINE starts to go into her apartment, but NEIL runs over and grabs her arm.

NEIL

What's the matter?

CATHERINE

Let me go! Let me go!

NEIL

Why won't you talk to me? Is it because I made you throw yourself at Jean-Claude?

CATHERINE

No, you did what you had to do. It worked. Forgotten.

NEIL

Then what?

CATHERINE squares up to NEIL.

CATHERINE

Do you know what it feels like to be in someone's else's power? To have no will of your own?

NEIL gets ready for the big confession.

NEIL

I thought I'd made you love me.

CATHERINE

What?

NEIL

With my powers.

CATHERINE

Are you crazy? Do you imagine ...

She trails off as she realises it might be true ...

CATHERINE

Oh, God. So did I really come home early tonight because I wanted to or did you make me? Did I always live opposite you or have you re-arranged things? I'll never know.

NEIL looks guilty. He obviously did re-arrange everything.

NEIL

But... I love you.

CATHERINE

How could any woman love a man who could make her do what he wants any second of every day forever?

(MORE)

CATHERINE (cont'd)
 I'm sorry, Neil, *I could never love you, not in a million years.*

She slams the door in NEIL'S face.

CUT TO:

104

INT. NEIL'S SITTING ROOM - DAY

104

NEIL and DENNIS are sitting at the table having breakfast.

DENNIS is using a knife and fork.

DENNIS THE DOG
 Great waffles, Master!

NEIL
 Waffles! Who cares about waffles?
 Catherine hates me... Ray hates
 me... Everybody hates me...

DENNIS THE DOG
 (His mouth full of waffle)
 I don't hate you. And *I* care about
 waffles. I think I like them even
 more than biscuits.
 (Thoughtfully)
 Even red biscuits.

NEIL
 D'you know what the worst thing is,
 Dennis?

But Dennis can't speak because his mouth is full of waffle.

NEIL
 It's all my fault.

DENNIS looks as sympathetic as you can while really enjoying
 a waffle.

NEIL
 I've just been thinking about
 myself. What I want.

DENNIS THE DOG
 Mmmmm.

NEIL
 When with the powers I've got! I
 could be solving every problem in
 the world!

DENNIS is wondering whether he should have the last waffle.

NEIL
 I could make people happy!

DENNIS THE DOG
 You couldn't make Catherine
 happy...

NEIL
 Because I wanted her to love me!
 Because I was being selfish!

Dennis decides to take the last waffle after all.

NEIL
 I could solve world hunger!

Dennis is glad he took the waffle. It's absolutely delicious.

NEIL
 Let everyone have as much food to
 eat as they want!

He waves his hand. Blue glow.

DENNIS manages to swallow the waffle. **And suddenly realises
 the plate is full again.**

DENNIS THE DOG
 Master! Have you thought this thing
 through?

NEIL
 Of course I have! I've been
 thinking about it all night! for
 example - homelessness! Let every
 person in the world have somewhere
 to live... No! No! The home of
 their dreams!

NEIL waves and blue glow.

DENNIS's eyes gleam. Somewhere, we might suspect, a penthouse
 kennel with a rooftop infinity pool has just come into
 existence.

NEIL
 And war - senseless war. Over -
 forever. Let there be no reason for
 anyone to make war on anyone else
 any more!

NEIL waves and blue glow. DENNIS takes a waffle in each paw
 and waves them in excited approbation.

DENNIS THE DOG
 Yay!

NEIL
 (an afterthought)
 Oh! And reverse global warming!

NEIL waves and blue glow. NEIL beams at DENNIS. A beat. Nothing seems to have changed.

DENNIS THE DOG
Has it happened?

DENNIS'S eyes flick to the TV. NEIL pounces on it and switches it on.

A reporter standing in front of massed ranks of extremely fat Chinese people in Tiananmen Square.

REPORTER
And the latest nation to succumb to the sudden, mysterious exponential growth in world food supplies is China, where the average weight is now three hundred pounds and rising. Today a party of picnicking schoolchildren brought down a mile long section of the Great Wall of China.

NEIL changes the channel.

The second reporter stands in front of a sea of MacMansions stretching as far as the eye can see.

REPORTER # 2
As homelessness becomes a thing of the past, the last undeveloped area of the Sahara Desert has become a gated community known as "Beau Geste Towers". Property developers are now converging on Antarctica.

NEIL looks grim.

NEIL
I've still got rid of war.

DENNIS THE DOG
That was a good one. "Let there be no reason ... "

NEIL
"For anyone to make war on anyone else any more." How can that go wrong?

And he switches channels again - to a NEWSCASTER in the studio.

REPORTER # 3
For no reason at all, New Zealand has declared war on Iceland.
(MORE)

REPORTER # 3 (cont'd)
 Barbados has declared war on
 Somalia and - in a surprise move -
 the tiny island of Saint Kitts and
 Nevis has declared war on the
 entire Rest of the World. Our War
 Correspondent says he can't comment
 because he's too busy covering all
 the other wars that have broken out
 for no apparent reason...

Pictures of devastation and dead bodies and bombs exploding
 and fighters shrieking through the skies.

CUT TO:

105 INT. INTERGALACTIC COUNCIL CHAMBER - SPACE 105

The ALIENS are transfixed by what is happening.

KINDLY ALIEN
 That's good!

NASTY ALIEN
 Yes! That's more like it!

CHIEF ALIEN
 Excellent!

KINDLY ALIEN
 We should hold on the destruction
 order.

CHIEF ALIEN
 Agreed.

CUT TO:

106 INT. NEIL'S SITTING ROOM - DAY 106

NEIL and DENNIS are witnessing the pictures of carnage all
 over the world.

They are shivering with cold. NEIL goes to the window. It is
 totally iced over. They look at each other.

NEIL
 Oh my God! Global warming!

Channel change. The earth from space. One vast snowball.

DAVID ATTENBOROUGH
 (shivering with cold)
 A short time ago scientists were
 afraid of constantly rising global
 temperatures.
 (MORE)

DAVID ATTENBOROUGH (cont'd)
 None of them have a explanation of
 this sudden return to not just the
 last Ice Age but to the "Snowball
 Earth" of half a billion years ago.

NEIL and DENNIS exchanges glances.

DAVID ATTENBOROUGH
 On the other hand, plans for
 converting the Antarctic into the
 Captain Scott gated community have
 now been shelved.

NEIL
 Shit! Shit! Shit! Shit!

DENNIS THE DOG
 It's not so easy trying to do good,
 is it?

NEIL
 This is so unfair.

Dennis can see where this is going: especially the waffles.
 He crams as many into his mouth as he can and chews very fast
 before Neil says -

NEIL
 Let everything be the way it was
 before I started trying to make
 things better for people.

He waves his hand. The waffles plate empties. The frozen
 earth turns into the earth we all know. David Attenborough
 continues without missing a beat.

DAVID ATTENBOROUGH
 Beautiful though the earth looks
 from space, we all know how fragile
 it is, how much damage human beings
 have done to it and will, it seems,
 go on doing to it ...

CUT TO:

107 INT. INTERGALACTIC COUNCIL CHAMBER - SPACE

107

KINDLY ALIEN
 What happened?

NASTY ALIEN
 He stopped everything.

KINDLY ALIEN
 But ... why?

NASTY ALIEN

He said he was "trying to make things better for people"!!

KINDLY ALIEN

(shocked)

What! No!

CHIEF ALIEN

The only 'Good' is to destroy!
The only 'Evil' is weakness.

NASTY ALIEN

Weakness must be annihilated!

CHIEF ALIEN

Agreed! Vaporize the Earthling
and his wretched planet!

He signals to the SCIENTIST ALIEN to carry on.

SALUBRIOUS GAT appears on the 3D viewer.

SALUBRIOUS GAT

I told you so!

CUT TO:

108 INT. NEIL'S SITTING ROOM - DAY

108

Neil turns off the sound on the TV, so we still see the image as he speaks.

NEIL

Absolute power doesn't corrupt,
Dennis...

(In real anguish)

It drives you bloody mad!

CUT TO:

109 EXT. HAMMERSMITH BRIDGE - NIGHT

109

NEIL has climbed high on to one of the towers of Hammersmith Bridge, and is looking down from a great height into the muddy waters of the Thames below.

DENNIS THE DOG is standing by him. NEIL is rather overdramatizing everything. We get a feeling he might be just doing it as a cry for help.

NEIL

Tell Catherine I love her.

DENNIS THE DOG

Don't do it, Neil!

NEIL gets ready to jump.

DENNIS THE DOG (CONT'D)

But I love you!

DENNIS tries to pull him back pulling on his trouser leg with his teeth. NEIL pauses.

DENNIS THE DOG (CONT'D)

No!

NEIL

I've made arrangements for your biscuits... You'll never have to worry about them again.

DENNIS THE DOG

You are kindest Master!

He starts licking NEIL all over.

NEIL

Stop that!

DENNIS THE DOG

Let's go and play "Fetch The Ball"!

NEIL suddenly turns on DENNIS.

NEIL

I can't stand it, Dennis! Don't you understand? I can't bear all this responsibility! Get that into your stupid dog's brain!

DENNIS is taken aback by this and cowers, as NEIL turns and jumps off the bridge.

DENNIS THE DOG

MASTER! NEIL!

DENNIS looks round for help. There is none. DENNIS leaps after him.

CUT TO:

110 EXT. RIVER - NIGHT

110

And as Neil comes spluttering to the surface, Dennis lands on top of him and they both go under again.

A few moments lapse and they both rise to the surface spluttering and struggling.

NEIL

Get off!

They go under again and then come up again.

DENNIS THE DOG
I'll save you, Master!

NEIL
I don't want saving!

DENNIS THE DOG
Wait a second! I can't swim!
HELP! Master!

DENNIS starts to go under. NEIL abandons the idea of drowning and tries to save DENNIS. There is a considerable struggle.

CUT TO:

111 EXT. RIVER BANK - NIGHT

111

NEIL drags the limp DENNIS onto the shore.

NEIL
Dennis! Dennis! Speak to me! I'm
sorry! I'm sorry!

CUT TO:

112 INT. INTERGALACTIC COUNCIL CHAMBER - SPACE

112

An ALIEN MESSENGER arrives. He waves a letter.

ALIEN MESSENGER
Sharon! Sharon! Terrible news!

The CHIEF ALIEN reads the letter. He looks up gravely.

CHIEF ALIEN
This is indeed grave news. It
appears that the Salubrious Gat
has been interfering with our
translation devices.

NASTY ALIEN
What's happened, Sharon?

CHIEF ALIEN
I am afraid, Janet, we have been
calling ourselves by foolish-
sounding Earthling names - female
ones at that!

All the aliens are outraged.

CHIEF ALIEN (CONT'D)
(gravely)
It seems that "Sharon" is particularly
favoured amongst female Earthlings
from... Australia!

KINDLY ALIEN
The shame of it!

NASTY ALIEN
Sharon! Er! I mean! What should
we be calling you?

CHIEF ALIEN
(adjusting his ear
translator)
Call me "the Death-Dealing
Darkness-Bringer"!

They all bow.

ALIENS
Yes! Oh, Death-Dealer!

SCIENTIST ALIEN
Destruction Generator already
charged, Death-Dealing Darkness
Bringer!

CHIEF ALIEN
Lock the Destruction Generator
onto this so-called planet
"Earth"!

A huge and terrible machine is turned toward the image of
the EARTH that hangs in the 3D Reality Synthesizer.

CUT TO:

113 INT. CATHERINE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT 113

CATHERINE is lying on her bed watching TV. It's an old show
featuring PENN and TELLER doing their conjuring act.

CATHERINE shakes her head and switches the TV off. You
can't watch conjuring when you've known someone who could
do real magic.

The camera closes in on her as she thinks about NEIL.

CUT TO:

114 INT. PARLIAMENT HILL - SUNRISE 114

The first rays of the sun break over London. It glitters in
the morning air just as Wordsworth would have us believe.

NEIL is crumpled on the usual bench. The faithful DENNIS
sits anxiously by him. He puts a paw on him.

DENNIS THE DOG
Try her again, Neil.

NEIL
She won't have me!

DENNIS THE DOG
Then give up the powers.

Neil looks at him, agonized.

NEIL
I can't.

Beat. Dennis thinks.

DENNIS THE DOG
Then give them to me.

NEIL stares at him.

CUT TO:

115 INT. INTERGALACTIC COUNCIL CHAMBER - SPACE 115

CHIEF ALIEN
Skrrrral vergottengerfels?

SUBTITLE
Energize the Destruction Trigger!

The SCIENTIST ALIEN throws a switch and the huge and terrible machine starts to glow and vibrate.

CUT TO:

116 EXT. PARLIAMENT HILL - SUNRISE 116

DENNIS THE DOG
You wouldn't have the powers, but you'd know where they were. And, being a dog, all I want to do is follow orders. I'll do what you tell me to.

NEIL stares emptily at the grand vista of London before him, not even considering this ridiculous idea. Then suddenly he turns on DENNIS.

NEIL
Dennis! You're a genius!

CUT TO:

117 INT. INTER-GALACTIC COUNCIL CHAMBER - SPACE 117

CHIEF ALIEN
Graaatch Grendaalpakdam.

SUBTITLE

Destroy the planet Earth on the
count of three.

CHIEF ALIEN

Lakgratak dangark ankar skratak
bakakalag appar akak.

SUBTITLE

One.

CUT TO:

118 EXT. PARLIAMENT HILL - SUNRISE

118

DENNIS flicks his paw. Blue glow.

DENNIS THE DOG

Wow!

NEIL

Well what's it going to be?
Biscuits?

DENNIS THE DOG

The power made you miserable.

NEIL

I don't have it any more! Tree
become the Eiffel Tower!

He waves his hand at a tree and nothing happens.

NEIL

See?

DENNIS THE DOG

I don't see why it should be any
different for me.

NEIL

(alarmed)

Dennis! What are you thinking of?

CUT TO:

119 INT. INTER-GALACTIC COUNCIL CHAMBER - SPACE

119

CHIEF ALIEN

Hasaman Talamet Ordikard
Anarapjar Fegerat Aswal Parakor
Latarginam.

SUBTITLE

Two...

NASTY ALIEN
 (to cinema audience)
 It is a curse that our numerals
 take so long to pronounce...

CUT TO:

120 EXT. PARLIAMENT HILL - SUNRISE 120

DENNIS THE DOG
 Forgive me, Master.

NEIL
 Dennis! Whatever it is...Don't!

CUT TO:

121 INT. INTER-GALACTIC COUNCIL CHAMBER - SPACE 121

CHIEF ALIEN
 Trock

SUBTITLE
 Three.

NASTY ALIEN
 (to audience)
 That's the only short one.

The blue laser beam shoots out from the Destruction
 Generator.

CUT TO:

122 EXT. HAMPSTEAD HEATH - SUNRISE 122

DENNIS THE DOG
 If I have any power, let the
 source of that power be destroyed
 - for ever.

DENNIS THE DOG shakes his paw a blue glow.

CUT TO:

123 EXT. SPACE 123

The laser destruction beam streaks down through space and
 towards the Earth.

CUT TO:

124 INT. INTER-GALACTIC COUNCIL CHAMBER - SPACE 124

The ALIENS look at each other.

CHIEF ALIEN
 Screretch timborgeezer ergolflute?

SUBTITLE

What did the dog just say?

SCIENTIST ALIEN

Simbikrak Ik ikikik ekerakor.

SUBTITLE

I th-th-think it said... By
Zaldo!

But it's too late!

CUT TO:

125 EXT. SPACE 125

The blue laser beam zaps down against the Earth, rebounds off the atmosphere and shoots back the way it came.

CUT TO:

126 EXT. SPACE - THE INTERGALACTIC HQ STARSHIP 126

The laser streaks across space and zaps the huge alien starship.

CUT TO:

127 INT. INTERGALACTIC COUNCIL CHAMBER - SPACE 127

The ALIENS turn in panic. The Destruction Generator explodes.

CUT TO:

128 EXT. DEEP SPACE 128

The STARSHIP explodes. The laser beam flies off towards...

CUT TO:

129 EXT. THE SALUBRIOUS GAT'S SPACESHIP - SPACE 129

The Salubrious GAT's spaceship - which explodes.

The laser bounces off and heads into the firmament.

CUT TO:

130 EXT. SPACE - VARIOUS PLANETS 130

The laser hits one planet after another and they explode and the beam bounces off to the next.

CUT TO:

131 EXT. SPACE - THE GALAXIES 131

Various stars go into meltdown.

CUT TO:

132 INT. NEIL'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 132

NEIL wakes up. He is sitting at his table surrounded by his marking for school. DENNIS is barking and the doorbell is ringing.

NEIL

Uh oh!

NEIL suddenly remembers all that has happened. Has he still got his powers?

NEIL (CONT'D)

All this marking suddenly be finished and neatly stacked up.

Nothing happens. NEIL smiles.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Fiona Blackwell! Go away!

Again nothing happens. The doorbell keeps ringing. NEIL smiles.

He goes to the door and flings it open to reveal FIONA BLACKWELL the neighbour from hell about to launch into a diatribe against DENNIS.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Fiona! Wonderful to see you!

NEIL lands a kiss on her lips. FIONA BLACKWELL is stunned.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Wonderful news, Fiona: I've got my sight back!

FIONA BLACKWELL is speechless.

Suddenly NEIL hears the front door open. He glances over FIONA BLACKWELL'S shoulder to the hallway below.

NEIL (CONT'D)

Oh! Excuse me! I can see Catherine!

He rushes out. FIONA BLACKWELL retreats upstairs in some confusion.

NEIL intercepts CATHERINE in the hall as she's going through the letters on the hall table.

NEIL

Oh! Hi!

CATHERINE

Hi.

NEIL

Look! Letters turn into cucumbers!

He waves his hand. No blue flash. Nothing happens.

NEIL

Us! Be on the prow of the Titanic!

Nothing happens again.

NEIL

I got rid of the power.

CATHERINE

I'm impressed.

She gathers up her mail and heads for her flat. NEIL runs beside her.

NEIL

Can we have dinner sometime?

CATHERINE

Maybe.

She goes into her apartment and shuts the door.

NEIL turns and walks back to the staircase.

CATHERINE'S door opens and she puts her head out.

CATHERINE

How about tonight?

NEIL

I'll be round in an hour.

NEIL runs up the stairs.

CUT TO:

133

INT. LANDING - NIGHT

133

DENNIS is sitting at the top of the stairs next to JEAN-CLAUDE-THE-CORGI. DENNIS shrugs.

DENNIS THE DOG

I suppose I'd better keep my mouth shut.

JEAN-CLAUDE-THE-CORGI
Turn me back, Den?

DENNIS THE DOG
I can't. Besides I like you as
you are.

JEAN-CLAUDE-THE-CORGI
But je ne suis pas un real corgi.

DENNIS THE DOG
That's OK.

JEAN-CLAUDE-THE-CORGI
And I am not how you say a bitch -
I'm a dog.

DENNIS THE DOG
Nobody's perfect!

DENNIS THE DOG grins and puts his paw round JEAN-CLAUDE-THE-CORGI, who looks a bit sick.

THE END