

AVALON

BREEDERS **SERIES 2**

209 – NO POWER PART I

SHOOTING SCRIPT

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1 INT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - NIGHT 36 - FLASH FORWARD 1

Totally dark. No lights in the house, none outside. We can just about see figures moving around and HEAR VARIOUS VOICES.

PAUL

How can we not have any candles?

JIM

We had candles on all the time in the 70s. Power always seemed to be off.

LEAH

Yes. In hindsight it seems romantic doesn't it, but I don't think it was.

ALEX

No. There's nothing terribly sexy about walking into a glass coffee table.

JACKIE

Oh I don't know. There's bound to be sites on the internet about it. Everything's porn to someone these days.

PAUL

Alright Mum - but if I were you I wouldn't google 'porn' and 'glass coffee table'. Are there really no fucking candles in this house?

AVA

What about Luke's big birthday candle?

PAUL

Didn't we use that?

AVA

No. You cancelled his birthday - remember?

PAUL

Oh. Yes. Okay. Right...

2 EXT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - DAY 34 2

Establisher. A bright day, contrasting with what we've just (almost) seen. We hear AVA.

AVA (O.S.)
Where's that taken? Spain?

3 INT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY 34

3

PAUL and AVA on Paul's laptop. They're creating a slideshow of pictures of Jim and Jackie through the years, looking at an old black and white photo of them on a beach.

PAUL
Spain? No. Littlehampton, probably.
Granny and Grandad have never been
abroad.

AVA
Never?

PAUL
No, "not for them" apparently. Same
with lasagna and liquid soap.

AVA
Is mum going to sneak a photo album
out of granny and grandad's new
flat?

PAUL
Well she's going to try. She'll
need all her shoplifting skills.

AVA
Mum was a shoplifter?

PAUL
(yes)
No.

AVA
We should have some pictures in the
slideshow of Granny and Granddad
with me and Luke as babies.

PAUL
Yes. We've got loads of prints in
the photo drawer - go and dig some
out. I'll scan them.

Ava exits. Paul keeps working on the slideshow. LUKE, a bit awkwardly, comes up the stairs. He wears a black Fred Perry polo shirt and well-cut, straight legged tonic suit trousers.

LUKE
Dad?

Paul looks up.

PAUL
Hey - wow. Brilliant.

LUKE
Really? The top's not too small is it?

PAUL
No, you wear them tight. That's the whole thing - neat. Crisp. Like with Italian suits and thin ties. It's all about the cut. Good trousers too.

LUKE
Jacob says he thinks I'm looking really cool lately.

PAUL
You are mate.

LUKE
And Jacob says to thank you for getting me into Two Tone, because that meant I could get *him* into Two Tone. He loves it.

PAUL
It's great music. No - it's the best music, hands down. And that includes everyone - Mozart, all those twats. And if you want to hear anything I haven't got, log in to my account as me and download it.

LUKE
Thanks. It feels good to have introduced Jacob to something, you know, cultural, because it's usually the other way round.

PAUL
I'm pleased he likes it as much as you.

LUKE
Thanks Dad. Really.

PAUL

You're welcome. It's what dads are for, passing on music you might not have heard before and hoping you fall in love with it.

LUKE

Did Granddad do that with you?

PAUL

Fuck no, that man listened to wall-to-wall bollocks.

4 EXT. JIM & JACKIE'S BLOCK OF FLATS - DAY 34 4

Establisher of the high-rise where Jim and Jackie now live.

JACKIE (O.S.)

It's all cheeses these days I'm afraid, Ally. Any and all cheeses.

5 INT. JIM & JACKIE'S NEW FLAT - DAY 34 5

Inside Jim and Jackie's small flat. It's up in a high-rise block, with views over south London streets. ALLY sits with JACKIE, taking notes on her phone/iPad. JIM is peering out the window (or is out on a balcony) looking at the houses below.

A few boxes from the house move are still scattered around, full of odds and sods.

ALLY

Is he lactose intolerant?

JACKIE

No, Jim just hates cheese.

JIM

(doesn't turn around,
still peering down)
I suddenly realised one day, it's rancid milk. Hardened rancid milk. And that's just cheddar, don't get me started on blue cheese...

JACKIE

We won't Jim, don't you worry..

ALLY

Do you eat chicken Jim?

JIM

Of course I eat chicken. I'm not a lunatic.

JACKIE

Jim can decimate a chicken. He's like a kestrel.

ALLY

Great. And we'll have sausages, veggie and normal, and I'll make lots of salads and dips and things...

JACKIE

Thanks Ally. It's very kind of you.

ALLY

Fifty years married, you need to celebrate. And your new place is...I mean it's lovely but...

JACKIE

It's too small for a party. It's pokey. Like living in a shoebox. A child's shoebox...

JIM

...who's only got the one leg. Have you seen what these fuckers have done to my dahlias?

JACKIE

(to Ally)

Jim can see down into our old garden. I've told him not to, I've told him we need to move on.

JIM

These new tenants haven't mown the lawn once. If our garden was a child they'd have it taken into care by now.

JACKIE

It's not our garden Jim. It never was our garden, not even in all the years we lived there. When you rent something it's never yours, really.

A pause. Ally and Jackie reflect on this. Then Jim turns round.

JIM

Rent boys. You don't hear anything about rent boys any more do you? Used to be all over the papers - rent boys and the archbishop, rent boys and the pop star, rent boys and the Tory MP. Funny how things go.

He goes back to watching his old garden.

ALLY

Do you need any help unpacking the last of your stuff Jackie?

JACKIE

Ooh, that'd be great Ally. Thank you. I'll stick the kettle on.

Jackie exits and Ally starts looking through the boxes, searching for photo albums.

6 EXT. SUPERMARKET - NIGHT 36 - FLASH FORWARD 6

Pitch black street. Hubbub from inside a small supermarket - Tesco Metro, big Londis sort of thing.

7 INT. SUPERMARKET - NIGHT 36 - FLASH FORWARD 7

Dark inside the shop. Can make out that there are quite a few shoppers in there. We hear a MANAGER's voice.

SHOP MANAGER

Thanks everyone. If all our customers could just stay still and where you are just for a few seconds more, the emergency lights should kick in at any moment.

A pause. General chatter from the shoppers.

SHOP MANAGER (CONT'D)

Okay, shield your eyes, emergency lighting going on...now!

Nothing happens.

SHOP MANAGER (CONT'D)

Shit. Sorry, sorry...

Then the lights - harsh emergency lighting - suddenly come on. We're with Ally and Luke, blinking in the glare. Ally has a lot of cooked chicken in a basket.

ALLY

Right, we should abandon this and get home. The tills won't be working.

LUKE

I don't want to go home. Dad's going to kill me.

ALLY

He won't. I'll speak to him. We have to go home. It's the anniversary party.

LUKE

Why has it had to happen like this? What do I do that makes this stuff happen to me. Why can't I control *anything*?

8

INT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT 34

8

It's late, at the kitchen table. Paul is at his laptop, working on the slideshow. He has a scanner hooked up to it and an open album of Jim & Jackie's photographs.

Ally at her laptop answering emails.

PAUL

There are some great photos in this now.

ALLY

That's because your wife is a skilled cat burglar.

PAUL

Yeah, well done.

ALLY

I just took the album out of a box and put it in my bag if I'm honest. It's quite easy to steal from old people.

PAUL

I think criminals might have cottoned on to that.

(MORE)

PAUL (CONT'D)

I'm excited about mum and dad seeing this. Do you think they'll like it?

ALLY

They'll love it. They won't say it, or show it, or express it in any traditional human way, but they'll really like it. A record of all those years together...

PAUL

Yep. They've seen a lot. And in another sense, barely anything.

ALLY

I should go to bed. I'm out the door at half-six tomorrow.

PAUL

Oh Jesus, yes. Get some sleep.

She closes her laptop, gets up.

PAUL (CONT'D)

(looking at screen)

Did you just send me a message?

ALLY

No.

PAUL

Or have I sent myself one? Can you do that? Ah, no, okay, it's Luke. He's still logged in to my music account as me so I'm seeing his messages.

ALLY

Well you need to stop looking.

PAUL

It's not up to me. He needs to log off.

ALLY

Well he's obviously made a mistake. Stop looking. Go and tell him.

PAUL

He's having a conversation with Jacob...

ALLY

Paul! You need to turn that off.
You're spying.

PAUL

How is this spying? James Bond
doesn't just get given the
microfilm in a fucking Jiffy bag,
does he?

(re messages)

Shit, they're organising buying
weed. The little sods.

ALLY

They can't be. Luke doesn't smoke
weed. Neither does Jacob.

PAUL

Well maybe it's a present for the
fucking vicar. I can see the
messages right here Ally. They're
setting up a date to buy cannabis
off some bloke on Friday. Look.

He turns the laptop round.

ALLY

I don't want to look. Turn it off.

Paul stands up.

PAUL

I'm going to have this out with
him. Now.

ALLY

No. You can't.

PAUL

What? He's arranging a fucking drug
deal Ally.

ALLY

You were eavesdropping. He deserves
some privacy.

PAUL

Sorry, am I in some parallel
universe? It's a crime. He's about
to break the law...hang on - okay,
he must have noticed. He's deleted
the messages and logged out.

ALLY

Okay. Fine. I don't think we should confront him now.

PAUL

Well I do. So...

ALLY

He'll be mortified you were reading his messages. I'll talk to him before Friday, say we heard about it from some other parents...

PAUL

No. I want to go downstairs and talk to him now.

ALLY

And I don't want you to.

PAUL

Right. So we're going to do what you want, as per fucking usual.

ALLY

What?

PAUL

Nothing.

ALLY

It wasn't fucking nothing. And maybe we do what I suggest more often because I don't always want to immediately blow everything up like a fucking parenting jihadi.

A beat. The tension lessens.

PAUL

(quietly)

Jihadi Daddy.

ALLY

I need to go to bed. Please don't go and bollock Luke. And please stop reading his messages.

She goes upstairs. Paul hesitates - will he go down to see Luke? No. Goes to his laptop. Starts reading, then stops, closes it. Pours a glass of wine.

9 EXT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - MORNING 35 9

Early morning. Ally leaves the house.

10 INT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING 35 10

Later in the morning. Paul eating breakfast. Luke comes in, puts some books in his school bag. Luke doesn't know if Paul saw the messages. He's trying to be invisible.

PAUL
Have you downloaded any more music?

LUKE
No.

PAUL
Right. Hey, I was thinking of taking us out for pizza on Friday - you busy Friday evening?

LUKE
No, I'm free. Pizza would be good.

A beat.

PAUL
Have you got anything you want to tell me Luke?

LUKE
No.

PAUL
How long have you and Jacob been smoking weed?

LUKE
We've never had it before.

PAUL
Oh come on...

LUKE
Really. This was going to be the first time.

PAUL
I don't believe you.

LUKE
It's true. We both wanted to try it because the Beat poets smoked it.

PAUL

The fucking what? Jesus Luke! If you're going to lie, come up with something better than that mate. The fucking Beat poets?

LUKE

We love the Beat poets and Dylan and we read about Dylan turning the Beatles on to pot, which is what they called weed back then...

PAUL

I know what they called it. I still call it pot in my head and then have to change it to weed. Same with 'joint'.

LUKE

We just wanted to try it. I'm sorry.

PAUL

I thought we were bonding, you and me. The music, clothes...

LUKE

We were. We have bonded. This is just me being stupid. I'm really sorry.

PAUL

Okay, this is the deal. None of your devices for three weeks. And no going on my computer to get round that. You're grounded, whatever the fuck that means I've never said it before, and I'll be talking to Jacob's parents.

LUKE

No!

PAUL

Yes.

LUKE

Please dad. Please. It'll ruin everything. They won't let us be friends any more...

PAUL

You don't know that.

LUKE

I do. His parents are really strict. Please dad, don't. I'm begging you. I'll lose everything I've got.

PAUL

Oh shut up...

LUKE

I'll kill myself.

PAUL

Oi! What the fuck? Calm down. You and your mate were about to break the law. Right?

Nothing from Luke.

PAUL (CONT'D)

Right?

Luke nods.

PAUL (CONT'D)

Now if Jacob's parents find out I knew about it and didn't tell them, they will rightly be pissed off. So I have to tell them, whether I want to or not. You should have thought about this.

A beat. Luke picks up his school bag, close to tears. Heads towards the door.

LUKE

(on the move)

Everything was going okay for me Dad. For the first time, ever, really, things were going right. And now it's all going to end.

He exits through the front door. A beat. Paul sees his reflection in the window.

PAUL

(to his reflection)

And you can fuck off for a start.

11 EXT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - NIGHT 36

11

Establisher. The night of the anniversary party.

12 INT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN/LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 36 12

Ava and NISHA are organising food and drinks, getting everything ready. Paul is trying to set up a projector.

PAUL

Is this...? Ava? Will everyone be able to see it on that wall? I can't tell.

Ava looks.

AVA

I think so, yes.

PAUL

Can you hook it up to the laptop for me in a second?

AVA

Sure.

PAUL

(to Nisha)

I can do it perfectly well, I just like to make Ava think she's helping. It's like a Make A Wish charity.

Nisha and Ava laugh.

PAUL (CONT'D)

(to Ava)

When did Mum and Luke go out?

AVA

About 20 minutes ago? We needed more chicken. Mum thought there wasn't enough for grandad.

The doorbell goes.

PAUL

Who's that? We're not kicking off for another half hour.

He goes down to...

13 INT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - FRONT DOOR - CONTINUOUS - NIGHT 36 13

Paul opens the front door. It's Jim and Jackie.

JACKIE
We're early!

PAUL
Yeah, I can see that. You're half
an hour early.

JIM
Do you want us to go away again?

PAUL
Fuck me, don't start Dad. This is
your party. Come in.

Jim and Jackie come in.

JACKIE
We thought we'd get here early so
we can help out.

PAUL
I think we've got it under control.

AVA (O.S.)
Dad!

PAUL
(to Jim and Jackie)
Come up.

They go up the stairs.

JIM
You sure it's all under control?

PAUL
Positive.

We're now back in...

14 INT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN/LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS 14-
NIGHT 36

Nish still sorting out the food...

JACKIE
Hello Nisha!

NISHA
Happy anniversary!

JIM
Thank you love.

AVA

(to Paul, holding laptop)
Where's the mains lead for your laptop Dad? You're on four per cent battery.

PAUL

That's not right. I charged it last night ready for this evening and I've not been on it.

Ava immediately knows what's happened.

AVA

Okay. Maybe I got it wrong...

PAUL

Has someone else been on it? Has Luke been on it?

Paul takes the laptop. Starts looking through the history.

15 EXT. SUPERMARKET - NIGHT 36 15

Establisher of the small supermarket we saw in a flash-forward earlier. All lit up, streetlights outside.

16 INT. SUPERMARKET - NIGHT 36 16

Ally and Luke in the supermarket, walking past the chiller cabinets.

ALLY

Let's be focussed, just get what we need for tonight. No browsing. We are chicken-seeking missiles.

LUKE

Do we need anything else? Houmous? Cheese?

ALLY

No. No, no, no. Specifically no cheese. We want the opposite of cheese.

LUKE

What's the opposite of cheese?

ALLY

I don't know - jam? That's sweet and liquidy.

LUKE
Traditionally the opposite of
cheese is chalk.

ALLY
Oh God, yes, of course. Chalk and
cheese. Although feta is a bit
chalky, isn't it? In terms of
texture, so...

LUKE
I love our little chats.

ALLY
(goes to playfully hit
him)
Oi, shut up, sarky.

17 INT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN/LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 36 17

Paul with the laptop. He's angry.

PAUL
Yep, he's been WhatsApping Jacob on
this. How dare he? I mean,
seriously...

AVA
Shall we plug it in, to charge it?

PAUL
(ignoring Ava)
This is deliberate. This is a
deliberate fucking challenge to me.
(language...)
Sorry Nisha. But we are too soft on
that boy. Always have been.

AVA
Let me plug that in so we...

PAUL
No. I'm sending a message to your
mum first.

Paul starts typing.

18 INT. SUPERMARKET - NIGHT 36

18

Ally and Luke. Ally gets an iMessage. Reads. Looks at Luke.

LUKE
What?

ALLY
Have you been on dad's computer?

LUKE
No.

ALLY
Have you?

A beat.

LUKE
Was that text from Dad?

ALLY
Yes.

LUKE
Can I see it?

ALLY
No.

LUKE
Is he angry?

ALLY
Yes. He is very angry. He told you
not to go on any devices Luke.

LUKE
I wanted to talk to Jacob. How
angry is he?

ALLY
What do you think? What do your 13
years' experience of living with
Paul Worsley tell you?

LUKE
Shit.

19 INT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT 36

19

Paul hands her the laptop to Ava.

PAUL
Right, you can charge that now.

The doorbell goes. Paul heads down the stairs.

20 INT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - FRONT DOOR - CONTINUOUS - NIGHT 36 20

Paul opens the front door. It's Leah and Alex.

LEAH
We're early!

PAUL
Fuck me, you as well.

ALEX
We thought we might be able to help out.

They enter, close the door.

ALEX (CONT'D)
We've brought a couple of bottles of a very decent Barolo...

BAM! The lights go out. Inside the house and in the street.

21 EXT. SUPERMARKET - NIGHT 36 21

Outside the small supermarket. All lights gone. We hear car alarms and burglar alarms.

22 EXT. LONDON - NIGHT 36 22

A drone shot high over south London. It's almost completely dark. A borough-wide power cut. As the alarms wail we...

CUT TO END OF
PART

23 EXT. LONDON - NIGHT 36 23

High above south London. The only lights are from cars.

24 INT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT 36 24

Some time has passed, some candles have been found. One decent sized ordinary candle, some little tealights and a big candle in the shape of a number 13 with "Happy Birthday!" written on it.

Everyone in the kitchen.

ALEX
(checking social media on
his phone)
It appears to be a borough-wide
power cut. Everything is down.

AVA
Wow. It's sort of exciting isn't
it?

NISHA
Like a film.

LEAH
I wonder if there'll be a murder!

PAUL
When Luke comes back, yes.

JACKIE
Can we still watch that video thing
you've done Paul.

PAUL
No. Battery's flat. The whole
centrepiece of the party can't
happen. It's ruined.

JIM
Oh well.

PAUL
What do you mean, "Oh well"?

JIM
I just meant that I didn't want it
to bother you too much.

PAUL
Well it bothers the shit out of me
to be honest Dad. I've been working
on this for weeks; we both have, me
and Ava. It's important. I wanted
you to like it. So don't "Oh, well"
me, like you couldn't give a shit.

JACKIE
(trying to be peacemaker)
Why don't I stick the kettle on?

PAUL
Because there's no fucking
electricity! What are you going to
power it by, fucking mind-rays?

ALEX

Paul, maybe you need to calm down
just a little.

PAUL

With respect Alex, fuck off.

A key in the latch. Ally and Luke are back. Paul heads down
the stairs.

25 INT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - FRONT DOOR - NIGHT 36 -
CONTINUOUS -

25

Paul arrives as Ally and Luke enter.

ALLY

Okay, let's not do this now...

PAUL

No, let's do this now.

(to Luke)

You have ruined this evening Luke.
Okay? You happy? Ruined the whole
fucking thing. The entire family
has been involved with getting this
slideshow together and the only
thing - the only thing - that you
needed to do was not fuck it up.
But guess what? As usual, you
fucked it up. What the fuck is
wrong with you Luke? Seriously? I'm
asking you a question: what the
fuck is wrong with you?

A long beat. Paul knows he's gone too far.

Luke says nothing, turns on his heel and exits the front
door.

PAUL (CONT'D)

Come here!

He follows to...

26 EXT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - NIGHT 36 - CONTINUOUS

26

Paul watches Luke run off into the pitch-black night.

PAUL

Come here Luke!

But Luke's gone.

Paul heads back into the house.

27 INT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - NIGHT 36 - CONTINUOUS 27

We follow Paul in, on his shoulder. Still dark except for the candle-light. Trudges up the stairs.

Ally, Jim, Jackie, Leah, Alex, Ava and Nisha all silent, having heard Paul's speech to Luke.

Paul now at the top of the stairs, everyone in the kitchen facing him.

PAUL
I'm not the bad guy here.

BAM! Suddenly the lights go on, inside and outside. Appliances beep awake.

Paul in the glare of the kitchen lights. Everyone is looking at him, not being the bad guy.

28 EXT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - NIGHT 36 28

Passage of time.

29 INT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 36 29

A party is being attempted. Jim, Jackie, Leah and Alex are watching the slideshow, Ava and Nisha in charge of the laptop and projector. Paul watches, but from the kitchen. Ally hovers between the party and him, agitated and anxious.

ALEX
I recognise that! Is that Littlehampton?

JIM
It is.

LEAH
I don't believe I've ever been...

JACKIE
We used to go there a lot.

ALEX
So did we. Loved it. Picnics on the beach. Fishpaste sandwiches, with the emphasis on the sand. Cadbury's mini rolls and Tudor crisps.

JIM
Tudor crisps! This is a man after
my own heart.

JACKIE
We couldn't afford to go away for
holidays, could we Paul?

Half a beat.

PAUL
No.

JACKIE
So in the summer we'd go on day
trips out. Littlehampton, Brighton.
Wimbledon Common...

JIM
Kew Gardens, Oxshott woods - where
else Paul?

Jackie and Jim are trying to pull Paul back into the party.

PAUL
Chessington?

JIM
Yes. Although Chessington was just
a zoo then. It wasn't a World Of
Adventures. Unless you think it's
adventurous to buy an ice lolly.
Having said that, if you're
diabetic...

Another picture on the screen.

JACKIE
Oh look! That is Kew Gardens!
There's little Paul. I remember
that coat.

JIM
His coat or your coat?

JACKIE
Both coats. You've not got a coat
on look.

JIM
It's the bloody summer. And I'm
from the North East, you only ever
wear a coat for funerals.

Ally heads down to...

30 INT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS - NIGHT 36 30

Ally with Paul.

ALLY

We should go and look for him. It's been an hour.

PAUL

He'll be back. He's got no phone. Has he got any money?

ALLY

No, his wallet is still in his room.

PAUL

Well then, he'll be back. He's not going to sleep rough is he?

ALLY

I'm going to look for him.

PAUL

Where?

ALLY

I'm just going to drive around and look for him. I can't just wait.

PAUL

He stormed off, Ally. He'll come back soon.

ALLY

Really? Because you know what? If I were him, I wouldn't.

She grabs the car keys off the table and heads downstairs.

A big laugh from the slideshow audience. Paul looks up. There is a photo of a younger Jim and Jackie - Jackie is holding Baby Luke, Jim is beside them reading the Racing Post.

LEAH

Jim! How could you?

ALEX

Ha! Busted, Jim.

JIM

I'd already held him. Babies get boring after a while. And I think I was betting accumulators in those days so I probably needed to check form.

Jackie calls down to Paul.

JACKIE

This is a great slideshow Paul.

JIM

Yes, we're really enjoying it. Thanks, son.

PAUL

Great. I'm glad.

31 EXT. STREETS - NIGHT 36 31

Ally's car driving around the streets.

32 INT. ALLY'S CAR - NIGHT 36 32

Ally looking out for Luke. Slowing down when she sees young people. None of them is Luke.

33 INT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT 36 33

The slideshow is done. Drinks and food being had. Alex approaches Paul.

ALEX

If you'd like us to leave, or if you need to go and look for Luke, just say...

PAUL

Thanks. And sorry for telling you to fuck off earlier.

ALEX

No worries. If I had a pound for every time I've been told to fuck off...

PAUL

Right...how much would you have?

ALEX

Seven or eight pounds at most.
People have generally been
extremely polite to me all my life.

PAUL

Then I doubly apologise.

ALEX

And I doubly accept.

Leah comes over.

LEAH

Sorry about...everything, Paul. If
there's anything we can do.

PAUL

Cheers.

Now Jackie is there.

JACKIE

You should go and search for him
Paul. That was a big old row you
had and you need to sort it all
out. He's a sensitive boy. And he's
a good boy, really. I know there
was the thing with the, what's it
called, seedlings...

PAUL

Weed.

JACKIE

But you can't let it get between
the two of you. You're very
similar. And you've been so close
lately.

Paul nods, heads up to see Ava and Nisha.

PAUL

Do you know where Luke and Jacob
used to hang out?

AVA

All over really. They just liked to
walk and talk. They had a million
things to talk about.

NISHA

Yeah - I'd see them all over the
place.

PAUL

So there was nowhere special they would go?

AVA

No. There was one place they'd avoid.

PAUL

Where was that?

AVA

The lake in the park. Luke said it reminded him of when he was really miserable and lonely

34 EXT. PAUL & ALLY'S HOUSE - NIGHT 36 34

Paul heads out the door. Fast-walking, half-running.

35 INT. ALLY'S CAR - NIGHT 36 35

Ally still looking for Luke.

36 EXT. PARK - NIGHT 36 36

In the park Paul is heading towards the lake from episode 1.

There's a figure sitting on a bench. As Paul gets closer he sees it's Luke.

Paul stands still. Then approaches.

PAUL

Luke?

Luke gets up, starts to walk away.

PAUL (CONT'D)

Come here mate.

Luke turns.

LUKE

No.

PAUL

Come back home, let's talk this through.

LUKE

Talk what through? How 'as usual' I 'fuck everything up'? Come back so we can find out 'what the fuck is wrong with me'?

PAUL

Look...

LUKE

Because I know what's wrong with me. I'll tell you. It's you. You're what's wrong with me.

PAUL

Oi.

LUKE

'Oi' doesn't work any more Dad. And anyway you've been middle-class for decades so it's an affectation.

Paul stands and takes this.

LUKE (CONT'D)

I've been so happy recently having Jacob as my friend, and being happy has made me realise how sad I've been all the rest of the time. All through my childhood I've been sad and you've made me sad, making me feel like I'm never good enough. And your fucking temper. Your mad, deranged fucking temper. "Mind out. Dad's angry." "Dad's in a bad mood, better keep quiet."

PAUL

I've made you sad, have I? That's been the sum total of my contribution to your upbringing? I've taken this little baby and I made him into a sad boy and now a sad teenager? Yes?

A beat.

LUKE

Yes.

PAUL

Right.

LUKE
That's the truth.

PAUL
Right. You're 13 Luke. I'm in
charge of you for the next five
years whether you like it or not.
And you're coming home with me,
now.

LUKE
No I'm not.

PAUL
Where are you going to go then?

LUKE
I don't know.

Paul moves towards Luke.

PAUL
Come with me.

LUKE
Don't touch me Dad.

Paul moves closer.

PAUL
Come here.

LUKE
Don't touch me.

Paul moves in. Takes Luke by the shoulders. There's a
scuffle, it's messy, starts to become a fight.

Then Luke throws a punch, which connects hard with Paul's
face.

It's a hard punch. Paul staggers, almost falls. His nose is
bleeding.

For a second, Paul and Luke stare at each other, a beat of
"What the fuck just happened?"

In that second they know that nothing is ever going to be the
same.

Luke turns and runs away very fast.

A beat. Paul sits on the bench, nursing his split lip/bloody
nose. Starts to cry.

- ENDS -