

1 EXT. JS MOTORS - FORECOURT/CAR PARK - DAY 1 - 07.45 1

As the titles run we fly across a SEA OF CARS. Car after car after car, an array of colours, gleaming in the sun.

This is JS Motors. A huge GARAGE and CAR SUPERMARKET. It is coming to life for the day as workers start to arrive.

There is a buzz about the place, banter, smiles from the staff as they head towards their various sections.

It's work, yes, but they are happy to be here.

We pick out the boss, MIKE (40s, slick, never a hair out of place, driven), as he enters - a part of the team, but also, somehow, managing to exude authority...

FAT JASE, PETE, KATHY, VIV and TRACY are all arriving for work. BETH is there already as are GRACE, EMMA, JEZ, RICK, MARRIANE and ZIGGY.

2 INT. MARTY'S HOUSE - STAIRS/KITCHEN - DAY 1 - 08.15 2

MARTY McLEAN (mid 30s, unshaven - married young, three kids and a hefty mortgage make him look older than his years) hurtles down stairs, dragging on his sharp salesman's suit. He mutters to himself about his lateness, cursing...

He slams into the kitchen where his wife KATRINA is struggling to do the breakfast routine - she is clearly in much pain (stomach pain/IBS) and has a HOT WATER BOTTLE clasped to her stomach. Their three kids - JESSIE (14), JAKE (12) and JOE (9, studious) - are getting ready for school...

Morning chaos.

KATRINA
(with slight edge)
Morning.

MARTY
Why didn't you wake me?

KATRINA
(soldiering on, and making
a show of it)
We did. We shouted.

MARTY
Well I obviously didn't hear you -

KATRINA
Marty, you didn't roll in 'til two,
so I thought you might wanna sleep
off the fumes -

Marty doesn't react to her pain/hot water bottle, this is clearly common sight for him.

MARTY
(assessing the kids, all
said in a huge rush)
Where's your tie? Joe, is it
swimming day or is that tomorrow?

JOE
Tomorrow.

MARTY
Jess, tell me you finished the
Hitler project -

JESSIE
Yes.

MARTY
And what did you learn?

JESSIE
He wasn't very nice.

MARTY
Excellent.
(glances at the clock -
shit)
I've gotta go.

During all this... Marty has been grabbing toast from the toaster, buttering it for the kids, grabbing jam, marmite etc - i.e Doing what he does every morning - getting them all ready because Katrina struggles.

MARTY (CONT'D)
(to Katrina)
You gonna be okay to drive -

KATRINA
I'll manage - once the Colpermin
kicks in -

He blows Katrina a kiss.

MARTY
(to Jake)
Xbox Golf tonight - championship -
we're having money on it -

Marty exits grabbing a MUG OF TEA when JAKE isn't looking and takes it with him. Jake clocks it.

JAKE
Hey!

Marty away...

3 INT/EXT. MARTY'S CAR/STREET - DAY 1 - 08.30 3

Marty driving along at speed, reckless driving. As he does so he shaves with an electric razor and delves around in the glove compartment for mints and chewable vitamins.

Barely looking at the road, when he glances back up he suddenly notices ROAD WORKS and a LINE OF TRAFFIC.

MARTY
Shiiiiit...

Brakes, screech... and he just, *just*, avoids hitting the car in front. He punches the wheel in frustration.

Now he's really late.

4 EXT. JS MOTORS - CAR PARK/SERVICE AREA - DAY 1 - 08.45 4

Marty's car sweeps into JS Motors staff car park, he parks erratically and dives out.

But the car park is situated next to the SERVICE AREA.

Which unfortunately means he has to do the walk of shame past half a dozen oily mechanics.

Ziggy, Rick and others applaud and jeer sarcastically.

MARTY

Vauxhall Corsa - most reliable car on the road, one previous owner, a vicar's wife. Trust me, this car's done less miles than the Pope Mobile...

The couple smile.

Marty holds his hands up like 'fair cop'.

MARTY (CONT'D)

I know what you're thinking - 'here he is - the salesman, with his patter - he's gonna bully us into something we don't want'. Well let me tell you, hand on heart, I am not that guy - you know what you want - you've done your homework, you know the size, the model, the colour - how much you can afford to spend. Am I gonna change that? No. So out of courtesy, I've come to say hello - and if you need anything, I'm right here - Marty Mclean, at your service -

(he makes to turn to go, then - well practised routine - turns back)

By the way, the Pope Mobile line wasn't strictly true.

He turns to go again but this time, Kathy is right behind him - he almost slams into her.

MARTY (CONT'D)

Jesus, Kathy - why you lurking -

KATHY

Mike wants to see you -

MARTY

Concerning?

KATHY

(smugly professional)
I wouldn't know.

MARTY

(sotto, motions to the couple)

This is a dead cert. Check the bump, *preggers* - these two need a family motor -

KATHY

If I were you, I'd come, he's in a foul mood -

(can't help but gossip)

(MORE)

KATHY (CONT'D)

His wife went to her sister's at
weekend, she's still not home -

Kathy turns to leave. On Marty - cursing. He thinks a
beat then strides to another salesman, FAT JASON.

MARTY

Jase, favour - keep them two
sweet for five minutes.

FAT JASON

No prob, what's my cut?

MARTY

You can have fifty percent of
kiss my arse -

Marty heads away.

7 INT. JS MOTORS - MIKE'S OFFICE - DAY 1 - 08.55

7

Marty enters Mike's office. To one side is BETH CORBEN,
Head of Admin, good looking, late 30s, but life has treated
her badly recently and it's showing in her face -

MARTY

You wanted to see me?

MIKE

Come in. Have a seat.

Marty does. Glances at Beth, who smiles.

MARTY

Am I in trouble?

He scans their faces...

MIKE

(to Beth, bit theatrical)
Well, he looks the same and he
sounds the same but something's
clearly different.

MARTY

(glancing between them,
trying to keep it light)
I'm not following -

MIKE

Sales down, five months running -
not meeting your targets, and not
seeming to particularly care -
and this lateness -

MARTY

Lateness?

MIKE
(yells at him)
I saw you trying to sneak past me
- Beth...
(motions for her to take
over)

BETH
Marty, we told you last time, if
it happens again, you're on a
final warning -

MARTY
No, wait, let me explain...

MIKE
Final warning. Beth'll put it in
writing for you - no more
lateness, no more sickies - now
go and do what you're paid for -

8 INT. JS MOTORS - OFFICE AREA - DAY 1 - 08.56 8
Marty exits Mike's office. Kathy pretends to be busy.

MARTY
(displacement anger)
Catch all that did you?

He leaves.

9 EXT. JS MOTORS - FORECOURT - DAY 1 - 09.00 9
Marty exits back out to the forecourt, where the YOUNGISH
COUPLE from earlier are stomping, stern faced, back to
their original car. Marty heads to Fat Jason, open armed.

MARTY
What happened?

9 CONT:

9

FAT JASON

She's expecting twins boys, I
said I bet that's a first - two
penis's inside you -

Marty's disbelieving reaction.

FAT JASON (CONT'D)

I was being jovial.

10 INT. JS MOTORS - BETH'S OFFICE - DAY 1 - 11.33

10

Beth heads back into her office when the phone rings. She
reaches across the desk and grabs it -

BETH

Hello - Beth Corben -

Silence.

BETH (CONT'D)

Hello... Beth Corben...

Her heart starts beating in her throat. Silence.

BETH (CONT'D)

(remains strong -)

Hello -

The line goes dead... She stands a moment, then quickly
grabs it back up, dials 1471.

ELECTRONIC VOICE

You were called today at eleven
thirty three AM, the caller
withheld their number...

On Beth. Struggling slightly, we don't yet know why.

11 INT. MARTY'S HOUSE - HALLWAY/LIVING ROOM/STAIRS/JESSIE'S
ROOM - DAY 1 - 18.15

11

Marty strides into his house, slams the door closed. Foul
mood. He immediately sees SHOPPING BAGS at the foot of the
stairs. Several of them - clothes etc.

His fury doubles. He delves through them.

MARTY

God's sake. Kat. Kat.

He peers into the living room where his two boys are
playing a noisy computer game. Doubles back -

He bounces up the stairs, two at a time.

MARTY (CONT'D)

KAT.

No reply. Hears laughter from his daughter's room.

MARTY (CONT'D)

Jessie...

He tries his daughter's door, it's locked.

MARTY (CONT'D)

Jess? Why's this door locked?

JESSIE

I'm busy.

He hears another voice.

MARTY

Who's in there?

JESSIE

No one.

MARTY

Open the door.

Hammers on it in frustration.

MARTY (CONT'D)

Jessie - open the door.

It - begrudgingly - opens. Marty swings inside to find a YOUNG LAD there, boyfriend. It's only a tiny thing, but Marty clocks he has no shoes on.

MARTY (CONT'D)

What's going on?

JESSIE

We're doing homework -

MARTY

Do I LOOK stupid.

YOUNG LAD

Biology.

They giggle.

MARTY

(to the lad)

Get your shoes on, you're going home -

JESSIE

Dad!

MARTY

I was his age once and I know how his mind works - where's your mum?

JESSIE

I don't know.

KAT (O.S.)

I'm in here!!

Marty bounds out and across to the toilet, heads straight in. She's on the loo, doubled up in pain.

MARTY

Have you talked to her about
contraception?

KAT

(she groans in pain)
I've been on here an hour.

MARTY

Locked door, what's that about.
If she ends up pregnant -

KAT

I'm in bloody agony here -

MARTY

Maybe it's brought on by
excessive spending -

KAT

Oh, piss off -

MARTY

Six bags...

KAT

- they're in the sale!

MARTY

...thirty, forty quid a bag,
that's...

KAT

- they're half price!

MARTY

...the best part of two hundred
notes...

KAT

- they're half price!

MARTY

...in one bleedin trip! Half
price still COSTS MONEY.

He slams out. And meets THE YOUNG GUY sheepishly heading for the stairs.

MARTY (CONT'D)

I'll give you a lift.

YOUNG GUY
You're alright, I'll -

MARTY
I'll drive you!

12 INT/EXT. MARTY'S CAR/STREET - DAY 1 - 18.30 12

Marty driving. YOUNG GUY in the passenger seat. They drive in a very awkward silence until...

MARTY
Get her pregnant that's you finished. Get her pregnant and she keeps it that's you done, mate. Trapped. You'll feel obliged to make a go of it... might even have a few good years, but then ten, twelve, fifteen years down the road, you'll wonder where your life went... you'll wonder why you're stuck with this woman who's always ill, who never has any fun and spends her life buying all kinds of clothes despite the fact that she never goes out. Is that what you want? Is it? Well, is it?

YOUNG GUY shakes his head, this is freaking him out. MARTY stops the car suddenly.

YOUNG LAD
I'm only fifteen.

MARTY
Get out.

YOUNG LAD
I'm nowhere near.

MARTY
GET OUT!

The young lad does and we stay on Marty's face. Hold on him - a moment alone - and we see that he is struggling, fighting back a depression, pissed off with too many aspects of life...

But then, as ever, a distraction.

He glances out of the side window and sees a pub - its welcoming lights beckon him.

13 OMITTED 13

14 INT. MARTY'S HOUSE - MARTY'S BEDROOM - DAY 2 - 08.35 14

Morning. The bleary face of Marty - just arriving into consciousness. Brain foggy but wurring.

MARTY
(without opening his
eyes)
Time is it?

No reply. He forces his eyelids open and realises he is ALONE IN THE BED. He cranes to see the clock - 8.35.

MARTY (CONT'D)
Shit!

He dives out of bed and starts frantically searching for his clothes on the floor - the more he hurries the slower he goes - he's in a panic.

MARTY (CONT'D)
Kat. Katrina!

He falls to the floor as he gets tangled in his trousers.

15 INT. MARTY'S HOUSE - STAIRS/KITCHEN - DAY 2 - 08.40

15

He pounds downstairs and into the kitchen, no one here. He grabs a much needed glass of water and as he furiously necks it, he sees a scribbled note on the table -

WHERE'S YOUR BLOODY CAR!

MARTY
Shit, shit!

He URGENTLY grabs the phone, but his mind won't work to recall the number, he scrambles around in a pile of flyers and pizza leaflets until he finds a TAXI CARD.

He stabs the number in. It rings, and rings and rings...

MARTY (CONT'D)
Come on, answer the bloody...

They answer.

MARTY (CONT'D)
Cab, soon as you can, urgent - 13
Jayward Close.

16 INT/EXT. TAXI/STREET - DAY 2 - 08.55

16

CAB driving through the streets. We find Marty in the back - beer sweats, panic stricken - checking his watch and knowing he is doomed, mind racing...

Jump cuts to emphasis his panic... his foreboding...

17 EXT/INT. JS MOTORS - CAR PARK/FORE COURT/OFFICE AREA - 17
DAY 2 - 09.05

TAXI pulls up, he pays and he gets out. But as soon as he does so, the enormity of the situation he is in hits him.

He stands stock still, staring at the GARAGE (we see FAT JASE and RICK walking outside) - too scared to enter, because he knows what is coming. He starts to shake... he retches with fear, his legs buckle slightly...

And we stay on his face, his mind racing, computing a thought, a crazy notion...

And then he does a strange thing, he dashes out of sight of the garage before anyone can see him, slams himself behind a nearby bus shelter and whips out his mobile phone.

He slowly dials a number and waits as it rings out.

Eventually... we hear Kathy's voice.

KATHY
JS Motors, Kathy speaking...

Nothing from Marty...

KATHY (CONT'D)
JS Motors, Kathy speaking...

Nothing, until...

MARTY
Kathy, it's Marty. Something terrible's happened...

KATHY
What is it?

MARTY
...it's my wife.

We go really tight on MARTY's face. Hold, then...

MARTY (CONT'D)
She died. Last night. Very suddenly. So... I'm sorry but I won't be in today...

Stunned silence from Kathy.

On Marty, eyes like saucers, can barely believe the words that are coming out of his own mouth...

MARTY (CONT'D)
...can you tell Mike?

KATHY

Of course... oh Marty - that's terrible... I'm so sorry - is there anything we can do -

MARTY

No... No...
(pause, and then -)
I just need some time alone.

18 EXT. STREETS - DAY 2 - 09.20 18

Marty walking along the street, heading home. We stay on his face. What the hell has he done...

19 INT. JS MOTORS - OFFICE AREA/SHOWROOM - DAY 2 - 09.30 19

Kathy walking through the building, she is the proud owner of BIG NEWS and she is reveling in every second of it.

She goes from department to department - from sales to accounts to spares and so on... She talks to FAT JASE, PETE, VIV and TRACY. And then to EMMA, JEZ, RICK and MARRIANE.

KATHY

Staff meeting - important -
service area - five minutes...

People react, start gossiping. Kathy strides on.

KATHY (CONT'D)

Staff meeting - important -
service area - five minutes...

GRACE WELLS, the manager of ONLINE SALES, late 20s, quirky looks, an 'always the bridesmaid' quality to her.

GRACE

(sotto, keen to know)
What is it, Kathy - are they firing people -

KATHY

You're not special, you'll be told with everyone else.

And she's away, loving being the one with the big news.

20 EXT. MARTY'S HOUSE - DAY 2 - 09.35 20

Marty approaches the house with trepidation. He stops as he reaches the front door, hesitates, then enters.

21 INT. MARTY'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY 2 - 09.36

21

Marty enters. From the other room he hears -

KATRINA
(quizzical)
Hello -

MARTY
It's me -

KATRINA
Marty?

She appears in the doorway.

KATRINA (CONT'D)
What's going on?

MARTY
Not feeling well.

She shoots him a look -

KATRINA
Brought on by eight pints of
lager.

MARTY
I'm ill, you've not cornered the
market in illness you know, the
rest of us can feel poorly from
time to time -

Too harsh, she stares at him.

KATRINA
You'd better get yourself to bed
then...

She turns to go back to whatever it was she was doing.

MARTY
Why didn't you wake me -

KATRINA
(doubles back)
I'm sorry -

MARTY
This morning, why didn't you wake
me up - you knew I had to be in
work and you left me in bed -

KATRINA
Marty, if you're gonna storm off,
get pissed with your silly
friends, and roll in at all
hours, you can get *yourself* out
of bed - I'm not your mother -

MARTY

Spite then -

KATRINA

Yes, spite. I don't know what's
got into you lately, you're
acting like a bloody teenager -

She storms off. We stay on Marty.

MARTY

(he yells after her)
You should have woken me. YOU
SHOULD HAVE BLOODY WOKEN ME.

And the reality of his lie hits him like a bullet to the
brain... He heads upstairs.

Service area. Everyone gathered - scores of people.

They all chatter and speculate. Tracy, Viv and Emma are
clearly all good friends, an easy fit - whereas Grace is on
the periphery, not one of the girls, but *wants* to be.

TRACY

If he lays me off, that's it -
I'm going selling my body -

VIV

Yeh - I've heard medical
testing's lucrative -

They howl with laughter, Grace to one side, laughing along
too, though not really part of their circle.

Mike and Beth stand at the front, with Kathy to one side
trying to assimilate herself with their authority.

MIKE

Okay, let's have a bit of quiet.

Quiet duly falls.

MIKE (CONT'D)

I've gathered you here because
I'm afraid I've got a bit of bad
news concerning one of our staff -

Concerned looks, interested faces.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Marty Mclean's wife, Katrina,
sadly passed away last night.

Reaction from the staff.

MIKE (CONT'D)

As some of you may know she has been ill for some time with some kind of stomach problem, we're not sure if that's related, but she leaves behind three young children - and Marty will obviously need all the support we can give him in the coming weeks and months...

He nods to Beth to continue.

BETH

We thought it was important everybody knew - so that those that know him can offer condolences and those that don't are sensitive when he does, *eventually*, return to work.

Beat, Beth is struggling a little here. Just a tiny beat, but Mike notices it.

BETH (CONT'D)

I'm going to send a card round and it'd be great if everyone could sign it. Thank-you.

The staff start to filter away. And we pick out Emma, she is crying. Rick saunters over to Jez.

RICK

Bummer or what -

Emma suddenly dashes away, too upset to converse.

RICK (CONT'D)

(to Jez)
What's up with her? Did she know Marty's missus -

JEZ

No.

RICK

So how come she's so upset?

JEZ

It's called empathy, Rick. Some people have it -

RICK

You wanna watch that - soon as
you're married it'll be
waterworks every two minutes -
every time she wants her own way -
it's their secret weapon -

JEZ

You're a great advert for
marriage, Rick -

RICK

It's a prison, mate - a man made
prison. Before you know it
you're like one of the walking
dead - pushing a trolley round
Ikea. I'm looking forward to your
stag do though -

Rick departs, laughing. We hold on Jez a moment and see a
flick of doubt cross his face.

ANGLE on - Mike and Beth walking away.

MIKE

(speaks sotto)
You okay?

BETH

Fine. It just brings it all back,
that's all -

She smiles nicely, liking his concern, but she isn't fine.
And she's away quickly before he can see otherwise.

We stay with Mike.

22A EXT STREET - BENCH - DAY 2 - 09.45

22A *

Marty is sat on a bench by a busy street, thinking. Just
thinking about what to do. How can he tell anyone the truth
now? *
*
*

23 INT. JS MOTORS - BETH'S OFFICE - DAY 2 - 09.50

23

MIKE knocks on the door of Beth's office, no reply.

MIKE

Beth - it's me -

BETH

Give me a minute -

But Mike doesn't, he goes in and finds her furiously trying
to compose herself. He closes the door behind him.

BETH

I envy him. Marty. At least he's got a body, he can have a funeral. He knows for sure doesn't he...

Hold the look between them. MIKE nods, caring.

BETH (CONT'D)

(then she reveals -)
The calls, they've started again.

MIKE reacting to that.

MIKE

Since when?

BETH

Last week.

MIKE

You should have told me...

BETH

(sudden burst of anger)
Why doesn't he say anything? If it's him, why would he do that to me?

MIKE

Beth, it could be anything -

BETH

(she knows that, but...)
I'm getting on with my life - trying to make things normal for my kids - and then this happens and I'm back in the days and weeks after he left - and it's that feeling all over again - the bottom dropping out of your world. Because there's endless questions and no bloody answers.

The strain of the past twelve months seeps through Beth's stoic exterior. She gets upset again -

BETH (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. I shouldn't be saying all this to you.

He moves towards her.

MIKE

I'm *exactly* the person you should be saying it to -

He smiles. She slowly smiles back. And in that moment we might just suspect that there is something more going on here than just professional friendship...

24 INT. MARTY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY 2 - 19.15

24

Evening meal. Marty sits at the dinner table eating, with Katrina and the kids. They are all immersed in conversation - lively, loud, talking over one another. It is a normal busy meal time. But we stay on Marty, watching his eyes flit around the table. And we know what he is thinking... his thoughts expressed on his face.

Jessie and Katrina are in animated mother/daughter conversation.

24

CONT:

24

Jessie's relaying a story from school - something funny at Jake's expense, Jake keeps trying to interject with *what really happened*, but Jessie is telling the much funnier version. Katrina bursts into life affirming laughter.

Marty watches her laughing. It's like time slows down. He smiles at her smiling and momentarily we see his love for her. But then his lie crashes back into his head and fills him with revulsion...

25

INT. MARTY'S HOUSE - MARTY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 2 - 22.45

25

Marty lying awake - Katrina in a deep and blissful sleep beside him - Marty whispers -

MARTY

I'm sorry.

But of course, she doesn't hear.

26

EXT/INT. MARTY'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY/FRONT DOOR - DAY 3 - 09.30

26

FLORISTS VAN pulls up outside Marty's house. The driver produces a MASSIVE BOUQUET of condolence flowers and heads towards Marty's door. Rings the doorbell. Hold...

Eventually the door opens. It's Katrina.

DELIVERY WOMAN

Sorry for your loss -

KATRINA

I'm sorry -

DELIVERY WOMAN

Flowers for Marty McLean -

KATRINA

(confused, yells behind)

Marty -

(to the delivery woman)

No one's died.

Marty appears.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Do you know anything about flowers for -

MARTY

(instantly into a performance)

Give them here. It's a wind up. It'll be the lads from work - because I'm ill. Piss takers, the lot of them -

DELIVERY WOMAN
(shakes her head - no)
Woman who rang said -

MARTY
(interrupts to shut her
up)
Thanks a lot. I know who they're
from - they're great, beautiful,
what are they, Lillies, they're
terrific, really, free flowers -

He hands them to his wife and hastily snatches the ATTACHED
CARD and screws it into his pocket -

MARTY (CONT'D)
Stick them in a vase. Thanks a
lot - bye.

And with that he's closing the door, leaving the delivery
woman with a quizzical expression...

Continuous. Inside... Marty is overplaying the 'hilarious
jape' performance slightly. Katrina circumspect -

MARTY
What a bunch of dicks, mind you,
I've done worse things - once we
sent a truck load of sand to
Tightarse Tom's place because he
kept claiming he was on holiday
and we knew he was at home -

KATRINA
Condolence flowers is a bit sick
though - what does the card say -

MARTY
It'll be a load of bollocks.

KATRINA
Let's have a look -

MARTY
No.

KATRINA
It might be funny -

Marty grabs the card and tears the whole thing in half.

MARTY
Kat - it's a wind up. It's going
in the bin.

MARIANNE

As far as I know, everything's
still in there, why?

BETH

I'd like to look through them.
If, you're okay with that...

Marianne does a half shrug.

MARIANNE

Be my guest.

(beat)

But I have to warn you, Dave's
idea of filing was to just shove
it all in and hope for the best -

She smiles. Beth smiles... and then...

MARIANNE (CONT'D)

I'm still only *acting* head of
sales Beth, he'll be back at this
desk one day, I'm sure of it.

Beth nods, stoic. But doesn't want to get into that right
now. She heads towards the cabinet.

BETH

Have you got a box?

Marty sitting on the window ledge in his bedroom, staring
out of the window intensely. Katrina is getting changed.

KATRINA

When you gonna go back to work?

MARTY

When I'm better -

KATRINA

And they're okay with that -

MARTY

If you're ill, you're ill.

KATRINA

What's up with you -

MARTY

I'm just a bit rundown -

KATRINA

Marty, last time you had shingles
and you were climbing the walls -

MARTY

Yeah well, that was then...

She turns to him. Has an internal debate and then decides to say what is on her mind...

KATRINA

Marty, do you think... and don't
jump down my throat, okay -

Which immediately makes him irritated.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Do you think you might be
suffering some kind of
depression, some sort of mid life
thing -

MARTY

At thirty five.

KATRINA

(she crosses to him,
caring wife - genuinely
concerned)
You haven't seemed yourself
lately -

MARTY

I'm fine -

KATRINA

Drinking all the time, staying
out late, *gambling* -

MARTY

Kat, I'm fine -

KATRINA

And I wouldn't care if it was
making you happy, but it *isn't* -

He turns away from here.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

(she perseveres)
- you used to talk about motors
all the time - we were sick of
hearing about them - who was top
of the chart, how you'd off-
loaded some piece of crap for
twice what it was worth. Now,
you barely mention it.

MARTY

How many times do I have to say it -
I'm fine -

KATRINA

Okay, I'll shut my mouth, but
this is my final word on the
subject -

(MORE)

KATRINA (CONT'D)

(beat, a moment of
connection - showing
there is still love in
this marriage)

- you don't seem fine, Marty, and
I want you back how you were
before, why don't you go and have
a chat with the doctor or
something -

We stay on Marty's face, have her words had some impact? We
won't find out, because through the window he sees what he
has been waiting for - THE POSTMAN heading this way -

MARTY

Okay, doctor, good idea. I'm
going for a walk, see you
later...

And off he shoots, double fast. Leaving Katrina once
again feeling confused and bemused. Living with a man she
barely recognises anymore...

EXT. MARTY'S HOUSE - STREET - DAY 3 - 12.50

Marty scuttles down the street and launches himself behind
a PARKED CAR. Out of sight of his house.

He waits... until... POSTMAN passes.

MARTY

Psst. Deano... down here.

POSTMAN turns and sees Marty behind the car.

POSTMAN

You alright, mate -

MARTY

I'm fine. Hiding from the wife.
Try and look like you're not
talking to me.

POSTMAN

(looks around, no one
there)
...so who'm I talking to, myself?

MARTY

I just need my post, have I got
loads of cards?

POSTMAN

Yeh, you have actually - is it
your birthday?

MARTY

Kind of.

Postman looks at him - 'kind of?'

POSTMAN

(hands them over)

They don't look like birthday
cards, Marty -

MARTY

They're not. But do us a favour,
if any more come through, stick
them in the bin yeh -

POSTMAN

Can't do that, I'll get sacked.

MARTY

Tenner -

POSTMAN

Twenty -

MARTY

Fifteen -

POSTMAN

Done.

MARTY

Cheers, Deano, have a good day.

And with that, Marty scuttles away at speed carrying the
condolence cards...

Marty walking towards the BOOKIES, he passes a PUBLIC WASTE
BIN and hastily slots all the CARDS into it.

Beth, sitting on the floor of her office, delving through
three boxes worth of files, papers, binders and so on.

It is all mainly just crap. Boring, functional work
documents that can be easily dismissed.

But as she pulls out the contents of one folder, a couple
of dog eared photos fall out (pin holes in the corner - as
if they have been pinned to a noticeboard). They are of
herself, Dave and the girls - happier times.

We hold on Beth as she stares at these. They don't make
her cry as she has spent a lot of time staring at photos in
the past year but it's always a punch to the gut.

She quickly packs them away and carries on searching
through the mound - this is needle in haystack stuff...

TRACY

Plays all over the world - Ibiza, Dominican... I'm telling you, he doesn't have a choice in it, I'm going out with him; he's my passport out of this place -

Which niggles Viv a bit, but as Marty enters they are suddenly struck dumb - they mistake his fear for grief.

Marty nods hello and heads inside, people stare. There's an awkwardness to worker's reactions. Pete and Emma have a whispered conversation together.

Ad-libbed comments as he passes. He reaches Grace, who - being someone who puts everyone else's needs before her own - is immediately out of her chair and beside him.

GRACE

Marty, what are you *doing* here?

MARTY

I need to speak to Mike.

GRACE

It's too soon, it really is. You should be at home -

MARTY

I just need a chat with Mike.

GRACE

Okay, but... come here...

And she suddenly pulls him into an embrace. He awkwardly goes with it. Feeling terrible.

GRACE (CONT'D)

I'm so sorry to hear about your wife - it's a terrible terrible thing - to lose someone before their time...

Marty just stands there, awkward, embarrassed. Which of course is read as 'the pain of loss'.

Tracy pulls a cringe face, anything that falls outside of the bracket 'enjoyment' is off limits to her.

Kathy comes scurrying through from her office -

KATHY

Marty, come through, come through, can I get you a drink?

MARTY

I'm fine. Honestly, I just wanted a quick word with Mike.

KATHY
Of course, sweetheart, I'll get
him right away -

37 INT. JS MOTORS - MIKE'S OFFICE - DAY 3 - 15.15 37

On Marty's face.

MARTY
There's something I need to tell
you... something very
difficult...

Wide to reveal Marty is now with Mike, just the two of
them, sitting across from one another in Mike's office.

MIKE
Take your time.

On Marty.

MARTY
It's about my wife...

On Mike, patiently waiting.

MARTY (CONT'D)
The thing is...

He swallows down hard...

MARTY (CONT'D)
Times have been tough at home and
money's been tight and...

He looks at Mike's face, and in that instant, just knows he
can't pull this off...

MARTY (CONT'D)
I want to come back to work, as
soon as possible -

MIKE
Marty, you don't have to worry
about your salary -

MARTY
It's not just that, it's up here -
(taps his head)
I need to take my mind off
things.

MIKE
This is a time for family. Think
about the kids -

MARTY

I know, I know... we've got my parents over, they're helping with the -

(can barely say it)

- funeral arrangements and... I'm no good at this stuff, Mike - I'm a salesman, that's what I do - can I just come back - maybe half days at first... mornings... I know you think it's grief talking, but I can't be in the house all day. I just can't handle hanging around home -

Mike looks at him and sees a desperate man, he nods his acquiescence.

MIKE

You must do whatever is going to make life easiest -

37A INT. JS MOTORS - TOILETS - DAY 3 - 15.25

37A

*

Post talk, Marty feels sick. He feels wretched for his lies and needs a moment by himself.

*

*

38 INT/EXT. JS MOTORS - OFFICE AREA/CAR PARK - DAY 3 - 15.45 38

Marty is being walked back to his car by Kathy. But we are watching this from afar, through a window - with the reception girls, Tracy and Viv...

TRACY

It's a damn shame isn't it.

VIV

You say that, she might have been a bitch - he might be better off without her -

TRACY

Viv -

VIV

What? Did you ever meet her?

TRACY

No.

VIV

Right then -

TRACY

He looks gutted -

VIV

For our benefit, once he gets
home he might be doing a jig -

They laugh. This is how Tracy and Viv talk, endless back
and forth gossip to amuse one another -

They suddenly realise Grace is standing behind them.

GRACE

We should go round there, after
work, offer to help out -

Tracy and Viv swap looks - yeh right.

GRACE (CONT'D)

He's clearly struggling - men
can't cope can they - my dad
stopped eating after my mum died -
he lost two stone in a month -

Fat Jason passing.

VIV

You could do with that diet -

They laugh. He pulls a 'ha ha' face.

GRACE

Come on, it's the right thing to
do - I'm sure he'll say 'no' but
the offer'll be appreciated -

Which guilts them into it.

TRACY

Okay but I've got Pilates at
seven -

GRACE

(pleased with them)
I'll get his address off Kathy -

39 INT. JS MOTORS - BETH'S OFFICE - DAY 3 - 17.30

39

Beth at her desk, with pages and pages of PHONE RECORDS -
itemised bills - strewn around her, she is painstakingly
going through them.

With HIGHLIGHTER PENS she marks certain numbers.

She then glances at the pages and we see that a certain
mobile number, highlighted in YELLOW, has been called many
times.

Beth grabs the phone and slowly, checking the digits off
the sheet, starts to dial the number.

She waits... and gets THE DEAD TONE, disconnected.

On Beth. She looks across the office and sees Mike is still
in his office...

40 INT. JS MOTORS - MIKE'S OFFICE - DAY 3 - 17.40

40

Beth opposite Mike as he looks at the PHONE RECORDS.

BETH

There's one particular number -
mobile - dialled again and again,
all times of the day and night...
it's no one I recognize and when
I try ringing it, it's
disconnected...

MIKE

But the police went through all
this, they said there was nothing
suspicious...

BETH

Maybe there isn't. But who was
he ringing - more than he rang
me, more than he rang you -
there's one call at two in the
morning -

Mike reacts - that is kinda suspicious.

BETH (CONT'D)

I should have done this months
ago, instead of falling apart.

MIKE

Falling apart? Hardly.

Mike casually scans that number again, thoughtful.

BETH

I know what you're thinking -
another woman, maybe he was
planning this all along -

MIKE

It can't be a thought you haven't
had -

BETH

Okay so let's say he'd do that to
me, would he do it to his girls -

Mike acknowledges that but then his expression changes -

MIKE

Why don't you let this go - you've
started to feel better, move on a
little...

(he motions to the
paperwork)

All this is going to do is open up
the pain -

Hold the look between them.

MIKE (CONT'D)

How about getting your girls sat
tonight - let me take you out.

Beth smiles. But is unsure. He stares kind of
jokily/playfully into her eyes and says -

MIKE (CONT'D)

I won't take no for an answer.

BETH

(bit playful back)
How about 'piss off'?

MIKE

I won't take 'piss off' for an
answer either -

He smiles, she smiles. And we see that he has the ability to
brighten her day, take her mind from the darkness.

However...

BETH

Another time.

41 EXT. MARTY'S HOUSE - DAY 3 - 18.30

41

Post work. Grace's car pulls up outside Marty's house and
Grace, Tracy and Viv pile out, with some reticence.

TRACY

(to Grace)
You do the talking -

VIV

I hope no one cries - if a kid
cries I'm gonna be a wreck -

They head up the path.

42 INT/EXT. MARTY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM/HALLWAY/DRIVEWAY -
DAY 3 - 18.40

42

Marty is playing on the Xbox with Jake, sword fighting,
they are attacking one another with considerable aplomb.

Doorbell rings. Marty nods to his son Joe who is nearby
reading a magazine.

MARTY

Joe - door. Now, please.

Joe grumbles and reluctantly peels himself from the sofa
and heads to the door, opens it.

Grace, Tracy and Viv all stare at him. Viv's face set in
horror - her worst nightmare, a grief stricken child.

Except, he just looks bored.

GRACE

Hi, I'm Grace - I work with your
daddy. And you are?

JOE

Joe.

GRACE

(softest caring voice)
Joe, lovely, how are things?

JOE

Fine.

GRACE

Good, be strong. There's no other
way, at times like this - pray to
God and he'll help you through -

Joe stares at them blankly.

Tracy and Viv have fixed grins.

GRACE (CONT'D)

Is your daddy in at all?

JOE

(calls)
Dad. Three women from work -

Marty instantly reacts, drops the control and flies to the
front door. Big fake smile -

MARTY

Girls, girls...
(think think)
Great to see you...

He brings the door ajar behind him - shutting Joe inside.

MARTY (CONT'D)

Listen, sorry, not a great time
right now. Just in the middle of
something -

GRACE

We understand that Marty, we
really do, don't we girls -

TRACY/VIV

(desperate to get out of
there)
Absolutely/definitely.

GRACE

We just want you to know that if
there's anything you need,
anything at all -

Suddenly the back gate door opens and Katrina is standing there with rubbish for the wheelie bin.

KATRINA

Oh, hello -

Aaaaaarrrrrgggghhhh!

MARTY

(instantly improvises)
Girls from work. Came to see if
I was alright, if I needed
anything, I was just telling
them, I'm coping - we're all
coping - aren't we -
(steers them away)
Anyway, thanks for coming girls,
lovely of you, lovely gesture -

Katrina heads to the wheelie bin, backward glancing.

MARTY (CONT'D)

(sotto, nodding to Kat
he says to the girls)
My wife's sister - she's a rock,
but she's taken it hard - well,
obviously, we all have -

GRACE

(stops her departure)
Marty, I've never lost a partner,
but I lost my mum and the worst
thing was, everyone left me
alone, they wanted to 'give me
space, 'let me grieve', but all I
wanted was familiar faces. So
here we are - okay -

Through this Marty glances around at Katrina.

GRACE (CONT'D)

I've written down my number.

She hands him a pre-written piece of paper.

GRACE (CONT'D)

(places her hand on top
of his -)
So if you want a familiar face or
just someone to listen to you
talk, call me -

Marty takes the paper and nods his thanks to the girls.

TRACY

(nods with affirmation)
Call her.

42 CONT: (3) 42

Emphasis on her. They go and Marty glances back at Katrina, who isn't stupid, she knows something strange is afoot. He then glances back at Grace who gives a really caring supportive smile as she climbs back into the car.

Hold the look between them.

On Marty...

43 INT. MARTY'S HOUSE - MARTY'S BEDROOM - EVENING 3 - 20.15 43

Marty getting changed, pulling on a good shirt. He looks at himself in the long mirror, expression unreadable.

44 INT. MARTY'S HOUSE - STAIRS/LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN/HALLWAY - 44
EVENING 3 - 20.20

Marty heads downstairs and pops his head into the living room where Katrina and the kids are watching TV, texting on phones, gawping at laptops etc...

MARTY

I'm going for a stroll -

KATRINA

Feeling better then?

MARTY

Just sick of being cooped up in here. I won't be late -

And he heads away before he can be questioned further.

45 INT. PUB - NIGHT 3 - 20.45 45

Marty heads tentatively into the pub, but instead of heading straight to the bar like normal he scans the room. And there, waving across from the far side, is Grace.

Marty smiles, with submerged anxiety.

46 INT. PUB - NIGHT 3 - 21.30 46

Later, they both have drinks. Grace is all ears...

MARTY

...it's ironic really, they say
God moves in mysterious ways,
well there's your proof - years
and years of IBS, every scan
imaginable - probes and
exploratory stomach operations
and then what gets her - brain
hemorrhage - tragic...

Grace makes a sympathetic face.

GRACE

Did you part on good terms?

MARTY

How do you mean?

GRACE

No ill words, no arguments.

MARTY

No, nothing like that -

GRACE

That's good, her soul can rest in peace. And you're not filled with regrets. It can be terrible for people if they haven't, my Uncle's last words to my Auntie were 'Turn the light off and go to sleep you moaning old cow'.

That sits there a minute and then Marty cracks out laughing. Which in turn, makes Grace laugh.

They laugh and laugh and it eases the tension.

MARTY

Shall we have another?

GRACE

Up to you, the only thing waiting for me at home is last night's Corrie -

MARTY

You tape Corrie?

GRACE

Haven't missed an episode in fifteen years -

MARTY

(with a smile as they
grab their glasses)
You need to get out more -

Playing snooker. Grace is terrible, she takes a shot, completely misses, hopeless. They laugh.

MARTY

You really are the worst player I've ever seen -

GRACE

It's the booze -

MARTY

Rubbish, doesn't apply to
snooker, more you drink, better
you get - watch -

And he effortlessly pots a red.

MARTY (CONT'D)

And round for the blue -

Sinks that too. He's enjoying himself -

GRACE

It's funny isn't it - all the
time we've worked together and
we've never really talked -

MARTY

We've *talked* -

GRACE

Not banter, or messing around, I
mean *talked*, properly -

MARTY

You don't do you, at work -

GRACE

All that time we spend with
people and we know nothing about
each other, nothing valuable -

MARTY

The less I know about Fat Jase -
the happier I am -

She laughs.

MARTY (CONT'D)

The mind boggles what depravities
he gets up to in his spare time -

She smiles. He cues up another red.

GRACE

All I'm saying is, I know the
circumstances are horrible, but
I'm glad we've connected a little
bit more. Because... I've always
liked you Marty -

He misses his shot. Looks at her, did she mean that how he
thinks she means it. Her face is inconclusive.

Marty sneaks into the bedroom. Katrina is already asleep.
He sits on the edge of the bed to remove his shoes.

He looks at the face of his sleeping wife.

On Marty. What is he getting himself into...

Marty steps from his car in the car park. Suit on. On time for a change. He heads towards the office with other arrivals. A gaggle of mechanics, including RICK, JEZ and ZIGGY GREEN, nearby - their awkwardness palpable -

ZIGGY

Alright, Marty -

The others nods at him, eyes quickly averting.

MARTY

Don't treat me differently lads.
No kids glove, any of that stuff,
just the same as before yeh -

ZIGGY

Definitely, Marty.

MARTY

Like it never happened.

Marty gives them a big reassuring smile and heads towards the sales office...

ANGLE - Emma skips up alongside Beth, giddy-faced.

EMMA

It's official! We've got
Cassidy's for the hen night - but
sshhh - I want to give out
invitations later -

BETH

How many are going?

EMMA

About thirty - but no killjoys -
fun people only - it's gonna be
mental - you are coming aren't
you - you have to come -

BETH

Excuse for a night out - try
stopping me -

EMMA

I think you're brilliant, you
know that Beth - if what happened
with Dave, happened with Jez, I
don't think I could carry on...

BETH

You'd be surprised what you can
do when you have to...

Beth smiles, and they both head across to their office.

Marty walking towards the forecourt with Mike and Kathy. In the background PETE is showing a customer a car whilst EMMA talks figures with MARIANNE as her customer peruses their new car.

MIKE

You sure you're okay with this?

MARTY

Positive.

MIKE

When's the funeral?

MARTY

Monday. Down in Milton Keynes.
St. Godfrey's. It's where we got
married. Kat was from there.

Kathy clocking this, making a note.

MIKE

Take as long as you need - a day,
two days, the whole week. You
don't even have to let us know -

MARTY

Thanks Mike, appreciate it -

MIKE

Least I can do. And please -
today - don't be worrying about
targets or sales, just... enjoy
doing what you do best.

Mike pats his arm, supportive. Marty nods his appreciation and heads away. Stay with Mike and Kathy.

MIKE (CONT'D)

He's back too soon, he hasn't
grieved yet -

KATHY

Everyone deals with it
differently. When Percy went I
didn't cry for a month - it was
only when I threw away his bowl
and lead I realised I was never
gonna see him again -

Mike looks at her wryly -

ANGLE - Marty starts opening up car boots, preparing cars for their day on the sales stand...

Grace passes.

GRACE

Marty - I've made you some lunch, thought it'd save you having to go out -

MARTY

Great, thanks Grace.

GRACE

Maybe one-ish. We can eat together if you like -

He nods. Carries on. We stay on Grace, pleased.

Marty selling - see him doing what he does. On a roll with a customer, enjoying himself, full of patter.

MARTY

...this car's got so much attitude you wouldn't wanna meet it on a dark night. Trust me, it's a head turner - wherever it goes it cruises in, has a scan around and says to itself, 'yep, I'm the Governor', so all you have to ask yourself is - can I *handle* a car like that? Have I got what it takes to drive a motor with this much front -

He looks at the TWENTYSOMETHING GUY he is selling to, the guy is practically drooling. Marty takes a secret smile.

Fat Jason passes -

FAT JASON

I'm making a brew if you want one, Marty -

Marty feigns thunderbolt shock.

MARTY

It's a world first - did anyone else hear it? I need third party clarification -

FAT JASON

(does ha ha face)
Is that a yes or no?

52 INT. JS MOTORS - CANTEEN - DAY 4 - 12.45

52

The canteen is small and fairly basic - it's actually an old spares room with tables and chairs in it. People eat bring your own or buy in sandwiches and drinks - some of our regulars are here, including Fat Jase, Tracy and Kathy...

Marty sits with Grace, she produces lunch for them both from her bag, it's a lovely spread -

GRACE

Pasta Bake. Moroccan Cous Cous.
Small salad - it's got beetroot
in it, not sure if you like
beetroot but *I* love it - and then
for afters I've got carrot cake,
Chocolate fingers or fruit -

Marty looks at her amazed.

MARTY

Do you always eat like this?

GRACE

(mock surprised)
Like what?

MARTY

Healthy - normally I'm lucky if I
cram down a chicken sarnie -

GRACE

I'm a bit of a food freak, we eat
too much meat - they reckon sixty
percent of cancers are diet
related, especially colon - oh,
listen to me, you'll think I'm a
crank, my sister calls me Lentil
Lil - dig in -

MARTY

(he does, then chats)
Is she older or younger, your
sister -

GRACE

Older, but only by a year, we
live in the same flat, well -
theoretically - she's an air
hostess so she's always off
flying the world -

MARTY

Wow - glamorous.

GRACE

(with a smile -)
If you like puffy legs and
getting hit on by pilots -

MARTY

What's her name?

GRACE

Ingrid, after Ingrid Bergman - my dad was into those old Hitchcock films - hence the Grace.

She smiles. And in that moment, Marty notices her - just something small, a twinkle in her eye.

He stares at her a moment as she starts peeling cling film off the salad bowl. She becomes aware of his gaze -

GRACE (CONT'D)

(looks up -)

You okay?

MARTY

Yeh, great. Thank-you. This is really amazing.

GRACE

Least I could do.

And she smiles. On Marty...

ANGLE - Jez and Emma eating together across the room. But Jez is flicking through the paper as he eats.

EMMA

Didn't take her long, did it?

Jez glances around, disinterested.

EMMA (CONT'D)

Some women find grief a turn on - I was reading about it last time I had my feet done -

JEZ

Emma, they're having lunch.

EMMA

It's the sympathy gene - it acts like an aphrodisiac - one bloke reckoned he'd had five women chasing him -

JEZ

They're just having lunch.

Which shuts her up. Long thoughtful pause, then...

EMMA

If I die they're gonna be all over you aren't they. You'd better not shag anyone from work Jez. I mean it - 'cause I'll be watching you -

JEZ
(looks up, used to this
kind of nonsense)
I promise I won't shag anyone
from work.
(beat, mischievous
glint)
I'll be with your sister.

She throws her fork at him.

ANGLE - Kathy has overheard all of this and she too glances
at Marty with Grace. It bothers her how normal he seems...

53 INT. MARTY'S HOUSE - HALLWAY/LIVING ROOM - DAY 4 - 18.15 53

Marty enters, chucks his coat on the banister and heads
through to the living room - smiling, good mood.

MARTY
Hiya -

He kisses Katrina (it surprises her), grabs some nuts from
the bowl, slots them in his mouth and asks -

MARTY (CONT'D)
Right, who fancies a Golf
tournament -

His sons do.

MARTY (CONT'D)
Load it up. But I have to warn
you - I've been practising my
swing -

He motions a perfect golf swing. Katrina eyeing him, that
impulsively, self initiated kiss is clearly a rarity.

KATRINA
Good day -

MARTY
Yeh, great.

KATRINA
Glad to be back at work -

MARTY
Definitely - think them days off
did me a power of good - I sold
five motors in five hours. FIVE.
I'm the King of the world -

Katrina smiles, likes this, feels like it might mark the
return of the old Marty to her life...

54 INT. MISSING PERSONS UNIT - DAY 4 - 18.45

54

The black of a computer screen. Suddenly an image scrolls into view. It's a MISSING poster.

MISSING - can you help?: Dave Corben, 39. With a smiling photo of him in happier days. Beneath there's a short description of his appearance (height, hair colour etc) and when he was last seen.

WIDE to reveal Beth sitting at a computer station in a large open plan office.

This is the National Missing Person's Unit - affiliated to the police, but a separate unit. A huge patchwork of posters adorn the wall, each bearing the legend MISSING. A good few are marked with the word 'FOUND', whilst a small minority are emblazoned with the sinister euphemism 'LOCATED' (which in Missing speak, equals DEAD).

GEORGE (50s, greying, old school - good, solid, honest man) enters with two coffees. He hands one to Beth.

GEORGE
(of the profile)
Are you happy with that?
(Beth nods)
If there's anything you want
changing - wording, photo - just
ask. It's not a problem.

Beth smiles, appreciative of his enduring kindness.

BETH
The sightings have slowed down.

GEORGE
Tends to be the case, first year
or so, high profile, people pay
more attention, but the longer
time goes on...
(conciliatory
expression)

Beth nods, accepts that.

BETH
There was something I wanted to
ask you...

GEORGE
Fire away.

BETH
I've discovered something, new
information, or potentially, and
I was wondering whether you'd be
able to help follow up on it -

GEORGE
Of course, what is it?

Beth produces the PHONE RECORDS from her handbag.

BETH
I need a trace on a phone number.
It's disconnected now but it was
in use in the weeks before Dave
went missing... would you be able
to find out whose mobile it was -

George looks at her, quizzical, cautious.

GEORGE
What makes you think they're
suspicious?

BETH
...intuition.

He gives her a look -

BETH (CONT'D)
I know you get people clutching
at straws, I know trying to
follow every last hunch isn't
possible, but please George, just
this one thing - if only to rule
it out.

George thinks a moment, then nods.

GEORGE
I'll see what I can do -

55 INT. MARTY'S HOUSE - MARTY'S BEDROOM - DAY 5 - 07.00 55

Alarm rings out. Marty springs awake. And for once he
peels straight out of bed. Leaving KAT snoozing...

56 INT/EXT. STREET/MARTY'S CAR - DAY 5 - 07.45 56

Marty driving to work, not speeding for once - he sings
along to a life affirming tune on the radio.

57 EXT/INT. JS MOTORS - FORECOURT/SHOWROOM - DAY 5 - 07.55 57

Marty strutting across the forecourt, ready for another day
of sales at the coal face - he passes PARACETAMOL PETE.

MARTY
Alright, Pete - how's it going?

PETE
Sinnusitis, which brings on my
tension headaches. You?

MARTY

All good -

Marty heads away. Can't help smile at Pete. He sees Grace working at her desk through the office window.

She is immersed in her work.

Marty produces his mobile, dials.

He watches as her phone rings and she looks at the display. Gives a small smile, answers -

GRACE

Hello -

MARTY

Ever get the feeling you're being watched?

Grace spins around and sees him through the window.

GRACE

How long you been stood there?

MARTY

Half an hour, can't believe you haven't noticed me -

She laughs, playfully.

MARTY (CONT'D)

I was thinking, maybe we could have lunch again, my treat - maybe down The Blacksmiths -

GRACE

Well, I've brought sandwiches - but yes, that'd be great -

MARTY

Great, one-ish then, yeh?

GRACE

One-ish. That'd be wonderful.

They hang up and Marty heads away to start his day's work. We stay on Grace, who becomes aware of a presence next to her. It's Emma, whom we saw earlier.

EMMA

(leans over, sotto)
He's a widower. He's just lost his wife.

GRACE

(resents the implication)
And I'm offering him some kindness -

EMMA

As long as that's all you're offering -

Emma swaps disapproving looks with Marianne, her boss (life is still black and white for Emma at this stage, but this will change in the coming weeks).

We stay on Grace.

58 EXT. BLACKSMITHS PUB - DAY 5 - 13.10 58

Pub beer garden. Marty with a pint. Grace is trying to surreptitiously eat her sandwiches.

MARTY

(laughing at her -
kindly)

Be brazen - no one cares -

GRACE

I can't -

MARTY

I'm eating, we're giving them money -

GRACE

I feel bad eating my own food in a place where they sell stuff -

MARTY

What they gonna do, throw you out -

GRACE

Maybe -

MARTY

(amused)

Are you always this good?

Grace looks at him. It seems to strike a chord.

GRACE

Yes, I think I am. But I sometimes wonder why -

Beat. She suddenly opens up to him, something she never ever does, so it doesn't come easy -

GRACE (CONT'D)

I'm thirty three Marty, single,
 living with my sister - who seems
 to have men *throwing themselves*
 at her - and stuck in the same
 bloody job I've been doing since
 college - when's it gonna start,
 or is *this it, is this my lot...*

(then instantly regrets
 it)

I'm sorry -

MARTY

It's alright.

GRACE

No, I'm being selfish, moaning
 about myself when you've lost
 your wife, I wasn't thinking -

MARTY

Grace, it's fine. Really.

She looks at him. He smiles reassuringly.

MARTY (CONT'D)

You've been kind to me, there
 aren't many others that would do
 that -

And then he reaches his hand across the table, takes hers.
 Hold the look between them.

MARTY (CONT'D)

It's funny, I've looked at you
 every day for six years but I've
 never really looked at you -

She smiles.

MARTY (CONT'D)

You're a beautiful person Grace,
 you deserve to be happy.

She nods.

MARTY (CONT'D)

And we only get one life...

Hold the moment, until the barman appears shouting 'chicken
 and rice' and holding a plate. Marty motions 'here.'

MARTY (CONT'D)

Quick - hide your sandwiches.

Grace suddenly takes a huge brazen bite of her sandwich and
 chews with abandon -

GRACE

What's the worst that can happen.

They smile.

59 EXT. CHURCH - DAY 6 - 09.45 59

New day.

A HEARSE pulls into the courtyard of a large, imposing, Church. Coffin visible in the back.

Mourners start to emerge from cortege vehicles.

We move to one side to find Marty, already parked, sitting in his car, watching.

He pulls on a black tie and starts to tie it.

60 INT. CHURCH - DAY 6 - 10.00 60

Funeral service in progress. Priest giving a service. Weeping mourners at the front. Towards the back of the church sits Marty, taking it all in.

He glances down at his phone - a text has come through. From GRACE.

'Thinking of you on this difficult day. Love Grace xx'

Marty glances back up at the service.

61 INT. JS MOTORS - OFFICE AREA - DAY 6 - 10.30 61

Kathy is busy attending to important paperwork, or at least pretending to be. Mike breezes through -

MIKE

Kathy, invoice Sam Potts again -
and add interest for every day he
hasn't paid us. That'll jolt the
tardy Welsh bastard -
(she nods, will do)
Back in an hour.

And once he's gone, Kathy shifts the 'important paperwork' to reveal that she is actually scanning through a

DOG MAGAZINE

Her phone rings and she idly grabs it.

KATHY

JS Motors, Kathy speaking -

She's distracted by a particularly dashing Daschund.

KATHY (CONT'D)
I'm sorry, who's this?
Reverend... oh I see.
 (beat, she listens -)
Yes, from St Godfreys -
 (she listens)
Yes, I sent them -
 (beat -)
Right, how strange - have I got
the wrong day?

She listens again and suddenly sits up straight. We stay on Kathy's face...

JUMP TO:

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES and DEATHS being typed into Google.

A scroll of results.

Kathy clicks on one and gets a phone number for a regional office. She grabs a pen and starts to write it down.

Marty enters the house and immediately hears SEVERAL VOICES. The lads have their mates around and they are playing some computer game - loudly.

He sighs, peels his coat off, but as he does so, Kat appears from the front room, arms folded.

KATRINA
Good day -

MARTY
Nah - bit dead.

KATRINA
Well, it ain't gonna get better -

MARTY
How come?

KAT
You'd better go and talk to your daughter.

And that's it, that's all she says. Marty heavy-heartedly treks up the stairs...

Marty knocks on Jessie's door. No answer.

MARTY
Jessie.

JESSIE
Go to hell!

Marty tries the door, it's locked.

MARTY
Jessie, what is it? Open the door.

No reply. He hammers on it.

MARTY (CONT'D)
OPEN THE DOOR.

Suddenly it flies open and a tear-stained Jessie yells at him with fury -

JESSIE
He's dumped me! I found texts, flirting with someone else. And it's all YOUR fault.

Slam. Marty curses.

MARTY
How is that MY fault?

Door opens again. She screams at him -

JESSIE
Why can't you stay out of my business. You're a crap dad and I hate you. I HATE you.

SLAM. Marty - hell in his eyes - hammers on her door.

MARTY
Take that back. Take that back.

No reply. On Marty, clearly rattled by this... suddenly, Katrina comes hurtling upstairs at considerable speed -

KATRINA
Out the way - toilet - urgent -

She slams past him. We stay on Marty...

Marty standing in his back garden, with a bottle of beer. We stay on his thoughtful face. Until... he produces his mobile.

CLOSE ON the phone and we see him scroll through the names until he reaches Grace. He waits a beat, glances over his shoulder at the house. It seems to emanate a distaste for him.

He presses call. It rings. Then answers...

GRACE

Hi Marty, how are you?

MARTY

Having a wobble. Can we meet?

GRACE

I thought you were in Milton Keynes.

On Marty, playing a dangerous game now.

MARTY

I came back... I wanted to see you...

Wine is poured into two glasses. Marty sitting in Grace's small and modest ground floor flat...

MARTY

It was a fantastic service. The priest gave this really poignant speech, all about how each person makes a vital contribution to the world - even if sometimes we might not realise the profound effect we're having...

GRACE

That's nice.

MARTY

Then some hymns - I am the Bread of Life, The Lord is My Shepherd.

GRACE

The Lord is My Shepherd, that's such a wonderful hymn -

MARTY

It provoked a few tears. Sort of happy tears though, that's the thing - it's a release isn't it, a funeral... a letting go.

Grace nods in agreement.

MARTY (CONT'D)

To end they had Here Comes The Sun, you know The Beatles.

GRACE

'They' -

MARTY

I'm sorry -

GRACE

You said 'they'.

MARTY

(instantly corrects)
'We' - sorry, I meant they chose
it, the kids, it was one of their
mum's favourite songs -

Grace nods, then has a concerned face -

GRACE

How are the kids -

MARTY

Good, well, you know, as well as
can be expected -

He takes a slug of wine to detract from that -

GRACE

(feels bad)
You should be with them Marty,
today of all days, I feel bad
that you're here with me when
they need you so much more -

MARTY

They're fine. We had a good talk
earlier, especially me and Jess -
dad to daughter. She loves me
and she wants me to be happy -
she actually said that - she's
very mature for her age -

Grace nods, but still has a nagging concern.

GRACE

Even so... I think you should
drink this and go home.

Marty looks at her.

GRACE (CONT'D)

You're grieving. You're confused.

MARTY

I want to be with you.

GRACE

I know... and I want to be with
you but... it's not right, Marty.

MARTY

Says who?

GRACE

Says... anyone. Your wife is barely in the ground - maybe afterwards... you know... when some time has passed...

And that just hangs there a moment, until... Marty suddenly stands -

MARTY

You're right. You are - totally. I'll go -

He drinks down his wine in one huge gulp. Then turns to her with a stoic smile -

MARTY (CONT'D)

Thanks for being here...

Hold the look between them.

GRACE

Come here -

And Grace brings him into a tight embrace - but it is loaded with repressed sexual tension. We play the moment on both of them. The physical proximity.

Marty kisses her head, then her ear.

They look at one another. A beat... the moment is infused with the sense of 'we can't do this', but logic is out of the window, the primal urge is taking over.

MARTY

I should go...

And they suddenly start kissing, with passion.

66

INT. GRACE'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT 6 - 22.15

66

Later. Post-sex. Grace and Marty lying together. Grace dozes, eyes closed. Marty stares at the ceiling...

His face tells us he shouldn't be here.

67

INT. MARTY'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT 6 - 23.20

67

House in darkness. Marty sneaks into his own house. Everyone is in bed. He slides into the living room and starts to take off his shoes and clothes...

But as he does so, he catches sight of the faces of his family, smiling out from FRAMED PHOTOGRAPHS - he looks at the faces of his children, his wife...

And guilt seeps through his pores.

68 INT. MARTY'S HOUSE - MARTY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 6 - 23.30 68

He ever-so-quietly slides into bed beside a sleeping Katrina. She stirs but doesn't wake.

MARTY lies there a moment and we go close in on his face. He has crossed another line, a massive line.

He leans over and kisses Katrina's shoulder.

He has made a BIG mistake.

69 EXT. MARTY'S HOUSE - DAY 7 - 07.30 69

Bright new morning. Marty comes dashing out of his house - toast in mouth - and slams into his car...

He reverses down the drive and takes off at speed.

But we are watching this from a slight distance. We then become aware of the person watching.

It is Kathy.

She stares at the house he has just vacated.

70 INT/EXT. MARTY'S HOUSE - HALLWAY/DRIVEWAY - DAY 7 - 07.35 70

Katrina doing a thousand tasks to try and get three kids ready for school. She harries and hassles them.

When... the doorbell rings.

Last thing she needs.

KATRINA

Who the bloody hell...

She sets down the school bags etc and heads to the door, swinging it open to reveal Kathy - big fixed smile.

KATHY

Oh, hi, sorry to bother you -

KATRINA

If you're selling I'm not interested -

KATHY

No, no, I work with Marty.

KATRINA

(confused)
Right, sorry -

KATHY

Is he still here?

KATRINA

No, you just missed him.
Literally, minutes ago.

KATHY

Oh, that's a shame. I just had
some paperwork for him -

She brandishes a vague brown envelope.

KATRINA

Can't he do that at work?

KATHY

Of course, I just wasn't sure if
he was going to be in -

KATRINA

Why wouldn't he be in -

KATHY

Well, he's been off, hasn't he...
what with everything...

Kathy examines Katrina's reaction, her perplexed expression
giving her almost all she needs to know.

KATHY (CONT'D)

Sorry, I'm being rude - I'm Kathy
Kavanagh, Mike's assistant -
(offers her hand)

KATRINA

(automatically goes to
shake it -)
Katrina, Marty's wife.

Wallop! The lie is exposed. We stay on Kathy...

KATRINA (CONT'D)

I can call him if you like, get
him to come back -

KATHY

No, no, you're busy, I should go.
I'll make sure I catch up with
him at work - nice to meet you,
Katrina -

And with that she's away.

KATRINA

And you.

Katrina watches her go. But then instantly dismisses it as
she has three kids to get ready.

We stay on Kathy's face as she walks back to her car.

ALISON (V.O.)
I'm not phoning for an argument,
Mike - I'm just ringing to tell
you we're staying another week -

Mike reacts, unbelievable -

MIKE
Fine, just so you know - the
house is up for sale and all your
clothes are in the charity shop,
enjoy the country air -

73

CONT: (2)

73

He hangs up, then instantly regrets it. He curses himself. Stares into space for a moment...

74

INT. JS MOTORS - BETH'S OFFICE/SHOWROOM/CANTEEN - DAY 7
- 09.35

74

Beth hard at work at her desk, Mike saunters casually into her office -

MIKE

Follow me -

BETH

What?

He motions for her to follow and heads off. Beth, slightly perplexed, does as instructed...

Mike, casual as you like, heads past workers, up the stairs and towards the now vacated eating area.

Beth follows, also casual. As she turns into the room, Mike pulls her towards him and kisses her.

It quickly becomes passionate.

As they pull out -

MIKE

He's gone Beth, by choice or not...
he's gone...

BETH

So I move on, forget about him -

MIKE

What's the alternative? Stay like
this? It's tearing you apart.

She pulls away slightly, conflicted. It's the hardest thing for her to face - letting Dave go. Impossible.

MIKE (CONT'D)

What if he *never* comes back. You've
put your whole life on hold -

BETH

(hits back with -)
Says the man in an unhappy
marriage.

Touche. Hold their look. Passion has become pain. Such is the complexity of their situation. And we hold the awkwardness of that for a beat - this couple who have strong feelings for one another (have slept together) - but are both trapped by their circumstances.

Mike moves to her, takes her hands or touches her face. And we see how much he desires her...

MIKE

Neither of us are happy, but we could be - if we stop pretending this isn't happening -

Beth could soften now, go with this, but...

BETH

He's my kids' father. It'd be like telling them he was dead.

Hold their look.

She touches his hand, affectionate, goes.

We hold on Mike.

75 INT. JS MOTORS - OFFICE AREA - DAY 7 - 10.00 75

Kathy at her desk. She sits staring at her computer. And then we see what she is staring at - the FOUR SECTION CCTV VIEW and in one section is Marty with a customer.

He is clearly doing his sales spiel...

We stay on Kathy's face. She glances around as Mike stomps back into his office, slamming the door.

Should she tell him?

She stands, and makes her way out of the office.

76 INT. JS MOTORS - OFFICE AREA/SHOWROOM - DAY 7 - 10.05 76

Kathy marches through the sales office (past Pete and Emma at their desks speaking to potential online customers - Emma looking up the price of a part ex car), her face set to determined. She passes reception girls Tracy and Viv.

TRACY
(nudges Viv)
Kathy's out of her kennel -

VIV
Whatever she's doing, hope she's
not *barking* up the wrong tree -

They start doing dog howls, then kill themselves laughing. Just their way of relieving boredom and passing the day.

Kathy marches with purpose, almost taking out Marianne as she charges her way towards the forecourt...

77 EXT. JS MOTORS - FORECOURT - DAY 7 - 10.10 77

She crashes outside to the forecourt and heads towards Marty (Fat Jase in background with customer, oblivious to what is about to happen), who sees her coming. He is mid-sale -

MARTY

...trust me, yellow cars are the
safest on the road, it stacks up
with statistics, if you don't
believe me, Google it -
(handing his blackberry
over)

Kathy arrives, face of fury -

KATHY

I need to talk to you -

MARTY

Gimme twenty minutes.

KATHY

Now.

MARTY

(then realises)
Who needs me? You or Mike?

KATHY

Me -

MARTY

(almost laughing it off)
Concerning what?

KATHY

Your wife.

MARTY

(slight anxiety)
My late wife?

KATHY

No, Marty, your very much not
late wife.

On Marty, oh shit.

KATHY (CONT'D)

Now!

She walks away, insisting he follow. Marty gives big fake
smile to the customer -

MARTY

Two minutes, mate -

The customer has heard all that and is thinking WTF. But
Marty has no time for explanations, he is away, cantering
after a furiously departing Kathy...

78

EXT. JS MOTORS - SERVICE AREA - DAY 7 - 10.15

78

Service area. Ziggy, Rick and Jez are lounging around outside having crisps and brews. Kathy heads past them into one of the few deserted places on site and stands fuming. Marty appears -

KATHY

Start talking -

MARTY

Look, Kathy, I don't know what you *think* you know -

KATHY

Don't you tell me lies Marty McLean, or I swear to God, I'll take your bloody head off - I want the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth or this entire place hears about it -

Marty knows he is done for, treads carefully -

MARTY

How do you know?

KATHY

The priest rang me, from St. Godfreys - concerned I'd sent hundreds of pounds worth of flowers to the wrong venue -

MARTY

(scoffs wryly)
Right. It's always the small things innit -

KATHY

Why, Marty? Why would you do something like that?

MARTY

I thought I was gonna sacked - okay - I was late again - after my final warning... I've got three kids, Kathy, a bloody great mortgage - and I couldn't let it happen, I just couldn't allow it to happen -

KATHY

So you did THIS? How did you think you'd get away with it?

MARTY

I don't know... I didn't *think* - that's the point... the words just came out of my mouth, but once it was done... SHIT!

Marty suddenly kicks out at an oil can, annoyed and disgusted with his own stupidity. It crashes across the room, leaving only silence...

MARTY (CONT'D)

(softer now, scared)

What are you gonna do? You're gonna have to tell people -

KATHY

Am I?

MARTY

Kathy, you can't keep a secret at the best of times, I'd have to sew your lips together to stop summat like this getting out -

KATHY

(hits back hard)

You know nothing about me - I understand lies Marty, I understand wanting to protect your family - I've been doing it for twenty years - but this is sick and wrong - and it can't go on a second longer -

Marty knows that, starts to crumble...

MARTY

Please, I'm begging you -

KATHY

You *have* to tell people, you *have* to go and put it right -

MARTY

(the thought terrifies him)

...and if I don't.

She regards him with contempt.

KATHY

You hand in your notice and never darken our door again -

Hold the look between them.

KATHY (CONT'D)

This is *your* mess, Marty and you're gonna be the one to sort it out -

Kathy goes, shooting him an almost pitying look. And we stay with Marty, reeling - his world crashing in.

Rick comes bounding in, off his break -

RICK
Alright Marty mate, how was the
funeral, did you have her burnt
or buried, I can't remember?

Marty just turns and leaves.

79 EXT/INT. JS MOTORS - CAR PARK/SHOWROOM - DAY 7 - 10.30 79

Marty walks to his car, cutting a forlorn figure (we see Rick and Ziggy in the background). He gets in and drives away, saying nothing to no one.

ANGLE - On GRACE, quizzically watching him go.

ANGLE - at reception we find Emma and Tracy watching him leave through the sales office window.

EMMA
(solemn)
It's the grief.
(beat, turns to Tracy)
Do you find that attractive?

80 EXT. MARTY'S HOUSE - DAY 7 - 11.10 80

Marty arrives outside his house. He stares at his front door. Dreading what he know has to do...

81 INT. MARTY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY 7 - 11.15 81

Katrina is in the kitchen. The phone rings and she grabs it from her pocket -

KATRINA
Hello -

MARTY
It's me -

KATRINA
Hiya, you alright?

Pause.

MARTY
You know I love you, don't you.
You and the kids, more than
anything in the world -

Suddenly scared by this...

KATRINA
Marty -

Intercut with Marty sitting in the car outside.

MARTY

I'm ringing you so I can get my words out, it's important I manage to get these words out...

KATRINA

Marty - you're scaring me - where are you -

MARTY

I've always tried to be a good husband, Kat, always tried to keep the ship afloat, bring money home, make sure we never went without -

KATRINA

I know that -

MARTY

Year after year after year - I've always done my best -

On Katrina listening, anxiety ridden...

MARTY (CONT'D)

- but just lately it started to become...

(he chokes slightly, then blurts -)

Twenty cars a month, every single month - targets, pressure from above, and it just keeps coming - on and on and on. It's *too much*...

On Katrina. On Marty. Fearful, emotional.

MARTY (CONT'D)

So I buried my head in the sand, tried to pretend it wasn't happening... tried to pretend I wasn't failing... that I was still as good as I used to be...

KATRINA

(really scared now)

What is this, Marty - what are you telling me...

Katrina has walked into the lounge now and she sees Marty's car parked in the street out front...

MARTY

I was going off the rails. You noticed it, *they* noticed it - I was gonna get the sack -

Katrina heads to the front door...

MARTY (CONT'D)
And I did something stupid,
something really stupid -

Marty's face has tears streaming down it.

MARTY (CONT'D)
I went crazy, I must have because
I did something unforgivable -

Katrina opens the front door and stares out. Marty crying now, stares back at her...

He steps out of the car.

MARTY (CONT'D)
I'm so sorry. I don't want to
lose you - I don't want to lose
you...

And Marty sobs like a child. KAT remains rooted to the spot, awaiting the revelation, but she knows it's going to be pretty terrible...

82 INT/EXT. JS MOTORS - OFFICE AREA/BETH'S OFFICE/FORECOURT 82
- DAY 7 - 13.30

Beth working at her desk, the phone rings and she grabs it.

BETH
Hello - Beth Corben.

But silence is all that greets her. She tries to control her anger/upset but fails and screams -

BETH (CONT'D)
Why don't you bloody say
anything.

She slams it down, furious. And immediately her mobile rings, startling her... she checks the display: George MPU.

BETH(CONT'D)
(collects herself, then)
Hi, George -

GEORGE
Beth, good news - we've managed
to locate the source of that
phone number you requested -

BETH
(interest pricked)
Really? Have you got a name?

GEORGE

Absolutely, according to
Vodaphone records, it was
disconnected two weeks after Dave
went missing - May 4th - and the
owner was a woman called Marianne
Morton. Does that name mean
anything to you -

BETH

Marianne Morton -

George makes affirmative noise. Beth stands and looks
across towards the sales area.

She can make out 'acting head of sales' Marianne, sharing a
joke with Emma, and a couple of others.

Beth just stares, dumbfounded.

BETH (CONT'D)

Yes, it means something...

But then something strange happens.

Across the office, we see Pete looking up, Emma stops her
phone call, Fat Jase speaks to Marianne, other workers
start nudging each other, gossip flies and people start
straining to see through the window to the car park...
because...

Coming towards us, side by side, are Marty and his wife
Katrina.

They look at one another. A fragile truce.

And we pick out certain people, Kathy from the window of
her office, she glances and sees Mike looking.

Rick and the mechanics.

And of course, Grace, from her position in the sales
office. She stands, a feeling of dread engulfing her...

Marty and Katrina walk towards the entrance, closer and
closer and closer...

The truth about to be revealed.

END OF EPISODE ONE