1 EXT. ENGLISH HILLSIDE AD 1066 - TWILIGHT 1

Wind is howling. Storm clouds gathering.

Four imposing Norman soldiers on horseback appear on a track at the top of a hill.

They look down on a small village, centred around a church with a distinctive round tower.

The soldiers are blood-spattered and drunk.

Fat raindrops are starting to fall.

2 INT. CHURCH AD 1066 - EVENING 2

A monk hurries up the aisle of that same candlelit church to a table in front of the alter on which are a great bible and an aestel; a manuscript pointer with an ornate gold and i ewel ed handle.

The monk, checking behind with panic in his eyes, dumps the precious bible and aestel into an oilskin sack and continues on through a back door of the church.

EXT. CHURCH AD 1066 - TWI LI GHT 3

3

The monk bursts out of a back door carrying the sack and a shovel. The rain is beginning to come down heavily. He runs out into the storm.

4 EXT. FIELD AD 1066 - TWILIGHT 4

The monk has tripped and stumbled a hundred yards across the fields into the fading light. The rain is now torrential and he stops a few paces from a LARGE STANDING STONE and desperately starts to dig a hole in the muddy ground.

In his terror he stops dead and listens through the rain.

EXT. ENGLISH HILLSIDE 1066 - TWILIGHT 5

5

In the thundering downpour the soldiers spur their horses down the hill toward the village.

EXT. FIELD 1066 - TWILIGHT 6

6

The monk hears the sound of the horses hooves and redoubles his efforts.

He frantically hauls out another shovelful of wet earth and drags the sack into the hole.

Behind him, back across the field, he hears the soldier's horses arriving at the church. He can see the glimmer of fire \* through the trees. There is a distant crash, a scream.

Andy removes his headphones.

LANCE (CONT'D)
You want to try further up there?

ANDY

Go on then.

They turn and walk away.

SUPER:

LANCE

Yeah, they're nobs as well. What you want: A humble smile and a nod to your team mates as if to say "I'm sure you guys knew that too".

**ANDY** 

That's it. Spot on.

Lance bends down to retrieve the target.

ANDY (CONT'D)

What you got?

Lance holds up a corroded piece of twisted metal.

LANCE

Bit off a trestle table... (beat)
You?

Andy reaches into his finds pouch and holds up a badge.

**ANDY** 

Tufty Club badge.

LANCE

You know why don't you?

**ANDY** 

Why?

LANCE

Car boot sales. Used to have them here every weekend a few years back. I've picked up £13.76 in Loose change this morning.

ANDY

This isn't metal detecting, this is scavenging on landfill.

Just then we hear the tinny sound of a baby crying. Andy unhooks aj ET Qy(.) ttor fwety0-1 is

10

#### 10 EXT. NEW PERMISSION, LUNCH TREE - DAY

Sitting under the tree, Andy is unpacking baby equipment: taking a bottle of milk from a cool-bag, pouring hot water from a flask into a bowl to warm it up. He is well practised, but overly fussy, referring to a manual and using thermometers etc. Lance is eating a sandwich and scanning the horizon with his binoculars.

**ANDY** 

What d' you do last night?

LANCE

Stayed in and had a French.

**ANDY** 

A French?

I ANCF

Yeah.

**ANDY** 

What's that?

LANCE

A French takeaway. That new French restaurant on the High Street does takeaways.

**ANDY** 

What d' you have?

LANCE

Oni on soup, escargots, boeuf bourgui gnon.

Pause.

**ANDY** 

Why don't you cook anymore?

LANCE

Dunno. Can't be bothered.

ANDY

I used to enjoy your curries.

LANCE

You're the only one that did.

Pause.

ANDY

What do you think about internet dati ng?

LANCE

I think you're already married mate.
To Becky.

ANDY

Not for me, for you.

LANCE

Shut up.

**ANDY** 

What? What's so ridiculous about that? Loads of people do it these days.

LANCE

Shut up. What is this, an intervention? I'm quite happy as I am thank you.

He spots something.

LANCE (CONT'D) Who's that down there with the camper?

He hands the binoculars across.

CUT TO:

11 EXT. ANDY'S POV THROUGH BINOCULARS - DAY 11

A young man (who we will later find out is PETER) is standing next to the van and also looking through binoculars, though not in their direction.

**ANDY** 

Dunno. Not from round here though. German plates.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEW PERMISSION, FIELD - DAY 12

12

He hands back the bins and lifts the baby, STANLEY from the cot.

LANCE

Can I feed him?

ANDY

Do you want to?

LANCE

Yeah, go on then.

Andy passes Stanley over.

LANCE (CONT' D)

Hello Stanley!

**ANDY** 

Support his head.

ANDY

Hugel y.

**BECKY** 

Doubt it, but it doesn't matter for one day does it?

Andy doesn't say anything but this clearly bothers him.

ANDY

And will she have a go at me for not having a job?

**BECKY** 

Probably.

**ANDY** 

She hates the fact that you had to go back to work and I'm at home with Stan. She thinks it's degrading for a man.

**BECKY** 

Who cares what she thinks? We didn't have a choice.

**ANDY** 

I know.

**BECKY** 

It won't be for long. You'll get a job soon.

**ANDY** 

Yeah.

(beat)

Thought I'd pass my exams and magically become an archaeologist. Didn't occur to me that nobody would give me a job.

She gets up and goes to Andy, hands him the baby.

**BECKY** 

Poor daddy. You know we love you don't you?.

**ANDY** 

Yes... al though...

**BECKY** 

What?

**ANDY** 

It smells like at least one of you has done a poo in your pants.

He looks down the back of the nappy and recoils.

BECKY

Really? Bad luck.

ANDY

That's not fair, you knew.

**BECKY** 

I didn't smell anything.

**ANDY** 

Bullshit. It's making my eyes water.

## 14 INT. SCOUT HALL - EVENING

14

We start off tracking across a finds table that is in a much healthier state than previously. It is coming to the end of the weekly meeting of the DMDC. All the old gang are there: Lance, Andy, SOPHIE, RUSSELL, HUGH, LOUISE, VARDE, TERRY and SHEILA. Terry is next to the finds table giving the club notices.

**TERRY** 

Lovely to see the finds table with a very healthy scattering of quality finds there. A nice range of buttons and buckles and half a dozen civil war era musket balls. I know I've said it before but, although they are common, I find musket balls to be irresistible nuggets of history. Albeit history and all lead items in your collections should be stored safely and responsibly and out of the reach of children.

He holds up a small, penis shaped pendant.

TERRY (CONT' D)

Whose is the Roman phallus?

LOUI SE

That's mine.

Russell snorts out an involuntary laugh.

LOUISE (CONT'D) Something funny about that?

RUSSELL

No.

**TERRY** 

Andy? Lance? Anything from you on the finds table this week?

**LANCE** 

(mumbling)

Not this week Terry.

**ANDY** 

(barely audible) Tufty Club badge.

**TERRY** 

Now the annual club rally is fast approaching and we still don't have a site to hold it on. Does nobody have a permission we can use?

LOUI SE

If the worst comes to the worst we have permission to detect on an old Edwardian rubbish dump out by Maldon.

SOPHI E

An E and abbish dump? That's still rubbish mate, that's disgusting.

**LOUISE** 

How long does something have to be in the ground before it becomes archaeology then, Mrs. Ancient History?

SOPHI E

Well longer than a hundred years surely?

**ANDY** 

I'm with her. The clue's in the name: 'rubbish dump'.

**TERRY** 

Nonsense. The Edwardians threw some fascinating stuff away.

SOPHI E

They didn't throw gold away though did they?

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TERRY It's not all about gold Sophie. SOPHI E

Nobody's going to want to come to a rally where you are absolutely guaranteed to find any gold.

**ANDY** 

She's right Terry. It'll all be broken glass and china.

**TERRY** 

Well until any one comes up with something else it's the best we've got. Russell, Hugh, how is your 'Lost Wedding Ring Recovery Service' doing?

RUSSELL

Yes. Not bad Terry.
One call out this week.
Old biddy. Lost engagement ring.
But I'm not going to waste my time
telling you when you can read all
about it for yourselves in the East
Anglian.

Hugh holds up two copies of the local paper. On the front is a photo of Russell and Hugh standing with their detectors and an old lady. The headline:

There is a ripple of applause and general murmur of approval.

\*

HUGH

Like the Ghostbusters.

RUSSELL

(aside to Hugh)

We weren't going to say that.

(to the room)

Not like the Ghostbusters but something with the logo on the side.

SOPHI E

The Ghostbusters Logo?

**RUSSELL** 

No the DMDC logo.

**TERRY** 

I'm not denying that the club is in a healthier state than this time last year Russell, but I honestly don't think the DMDC coffers can stretch to a Cadillac. Speaking of which, Sheila's come up with a novel fund raising idea that I said she could run up the flagpole, see who salutes it. Sheila love?

SHEI LA

Yes I thought we could do a naked calender.

There is instant furious uproar. They're almost throwing chairs.

**EVERYONE** 

WHAT?! NO WAY! FUCK OFF! ABSOLUTELY NOT! ARE YOU MAD?!

SHEI LA

Terry could take photos of you out metal detecting with your finds pouches covering your privates.

**EVERYONE** 

NO! IT'S THE WORST IDEA EVER! HOW DARE YOU! I'M NOT TAKING MY KIT OFF FOR ANYONE!

CUT TO:

15

### 15 EXT. SCOUT HALL - EVENING

The VW Camper van from earlier pulls into the scout hall car park and stops next to Lance's TR7. We can faintly hear the on-going uproar coming from inside the hall.

CUT TO:

### 16 INT. SCOUT HALL - EVENING

16

Terry is trying to calm everyone down.

**TERRY** 

Now come on, don't just dismiss it, we've got more than enough members for each month of the year, perhaps some of you could double-up. Lance and Andy?

They look horrified.

TERRY (CONT'D)

Russell and Hugh? You could do one together?

RUSSELL

Jesus Christ.

**TFRRY** 

It could be a good money-spinner.

SOPHI E

Really Terry? Who on Earth would buy a naked DMDC calender?

SHEI LA

I would.

**TFRRY** 

Well these things 'go viral' don't they? You get on the local news and suddenly you're sending them all over the world.

SOPHI E

That's how it works is it?

**TERRY** 

Then they write a musical about you.

LANCE

I don't want a musical written about me.

**TERRY** 

Let's have a show of hands who thinks doing a naked calender is a good idea.

Nobody raises their hand apart from Sheila.

TERRY (CONT'D)

It's not enough darling.

SHEI LA

Oh well.

TERRY

So it's agreed, we won't be making a calender.

RUSSFLL

I'd like to go further, I'd like us to take a vow to take our clothes off in front of each other.

LOUI SE

Hear hear!

**EVERYONE** 

Deal! Absolutely! Yes!

Everybody winces as the scout hall door squeaks loudly open and a man in his late twenties/thirties walks in. This is PETER.

Peter speaks with a subtle German accent.

**PETER** 

Hello, are you the metal detectors?

**TERRY** 

Detectorists, yes. Welcome to the Danebury Metal Detecting Club. What can we do you for?

17 INT. TWO BREWERS PUB - EVENING

17

Andy, Lance, Russell, Hugh, Terry, Sheila, Sophie and Peter

**PETER** 

I'm looking for the wreckage or crash site of a plane, a German plane that came down somewhere around here in 1941.

**TERRY** 

I like it already.

HUGH

What type of plane?

**PETER** 

My grandfather was one of the crew members.

My grandmother was pregnant with my dad at the time and she got a telegram with just the words 'missing believed killed'.

SHEI LA

Oh dear.

**TERRY** 

That's very sad.

HUGH

What type of plane?

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y

**PETER** 

A Junkers Ju88, crashed on the way back to France. The only clue I could turn up mentioned the village of Henburystone.

SOPHI E

Oh that's where Andy and Lance detect isn't it? Henburystone? With the round towered church?

Lance and Andy exchange a look. Clearly not happy that this information has been given out.

**LANCE** 

Out that way yes.

**TFRRY** 

You chaps no Longer on Bi shop's farm?

**ANDY** 

No. We searched out all the fields there.

LANCE

There was nothing there after all.

**ANDY** 

We're at this new place. Never turned up anything that Looked like plane wreckage though.

SOPHI E

You need to go through newspapers from the time in the library, see if you can find photos of the crash site. I can help. It sounds interesting.

LANCE

Hang on. Weren't you the girl who said Edwardian archaeology was still rubbish?

SOPHI E

What's your point?

LANCE

Well by your reckoning a world war two bomber is merely litter.

SOPHI E

Shut up Lance.

**ANDY** 

That's what I've been telling him.

RUSSELL

And there's all different niche websites these days. Catering for all different tastes.

**LANCE** 

Are you insinuating I have strange tastes Russell?

**RUSSELL** 

Not you. Other people.

LANCE

I don't want a relationship. I'm going through a period of voluntary chastity.

Andy splutters in his drink.

18 EXT. LANCE'S FLAT - NIGHT

18

Lance climbs the steps to his flat.

19 INT. LANCE'S FLAT - NIGHT

19

Later. Lance's flat is a mess. There are pizza boxes and beer

LANCE (CONT'D)

Kate!... Yes! Hello! Yes, this is, I'm Lance, this is Lance...
Yes I did. I hadn't got round to replying yet, I'm not very good with e-mail...
Yes... yes... thank you, me too....
Well yes, we should meet up, I'm not very good on the phone...

He looks around the room. God it's a shit-hole.

LANCE (CONT'D)

Um, no, how about for a coffee?... Saturday sounds good... Yes I look forward to... it... Yes... Bye then.

He hangs up. Sits down on the sofa with a big sigh. Relief? Regret? Nerves? He looks around at the untidy room and starts to pick up the rubbish.

20 INT. ANDY AND BECKY'S HOUSE, KITCHEN/FRONT ROOM - DAY 20

Andy and Becky are eating breakfast on the move. Andy is being kept on hold on the phone. He is gathering together the baby things and checking them off a list as he packs them into a bag.

Stanley is in some sort of baby chair watching the proceedings in a calm and well behaved manner.

**ANDY** 

...as long as he doesn't have too long a nap in the morning, that's all I'm asking. She needs to wake him up after an hour or everything else gets out of sync and it'll be back to square one.

**BECKY** 

Alright Gina Ford. Chill out.

ANDY

It's not Gina Ford actually, it's my own unique blend of various

ANDY (CONT'D) (somebody answers his call)

Hello?... Yes... Really? Nothing at all?... Not even catering work?... But it's been three weeks now... Okay, thanks.

He hangs up.

BECKY Nothing? Really?

**ANDY** 

I 'don't have any skills'.

Becky looks really troubled, Andy clocks this.

ANDY (CONT'D)
I'll do some job searching today.
While Stan's at your mum's.

She nods.

**BECKY** 

Do you mind if I go out after work with Gay Martin?

**ANDY** 

Sure.

**BECKY** 

He did some volunteer teaching last year in South America. Wants to tell me about it.

**ANDY** 

Cool .

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**BECKY** 

So you don't mind if I'm a bit late?

**ANDY** 

No, as long as you're only with Gay Martin.

**BECKY** 

Oh he's not gay.

Beat.

**ANDY** 

Isn't he?

**BECKY** 

No it's an ironic nickname. Because he's the homosexual man you could imagine. He's gorgeous, Spanish, all the women fancy him.

**ANDY** 

Is he? Do they?

**BECKY** 

I don't.

**ANDY** 

No, of course.

**BECKY** 

But yeah, that's who I'm going out with.

**ANDY** 

Right. Good.

Becky smiles to herself, she is winding him up.

### 21 EXT. BECKY'S MUM'S HOUSE - MORNING

21

Andy rings on the doorbell of a suburban house. He is surrounded by bags and baby equipment and is holding Stanley in a cot, slightly out of breath and dishevelled having struggled there on foot. The door is opened by Becky's mum, VERONICA. The conversation between them is forced, passive aggressive spoken through fake smiles.

**ANDY** 

Hello Veronica.

**VERONI CA** 

Andrew. How are you?

**ANDY** 

Well thank you.

**VERONI CA** 

Are you working?

**ANDY** 

Not really. Still looking for a proper job.

VERONI CA

A proper job. Yes, it's probably about time. And what are you up to today whilst my daughter is at work and I look after your son?

**ANDY** 

(very quiet)

Metal detecting.

**VERONI CA** 

I beg your pardon?

**ANDY** 

Metal detecting.

**VERONI CA** 

Oh very useful.

At the end of the drive Lance pulls up in his yellow TR7 and waves from the window.

VERONI CA (CONT' D)

Who's that?

**ANDY** 

My friend Lance.

**VERONI CA** 

What a silly car.

**ANDY** 

Mmm.

Andy puts the cot down inside the door and takes a piece of paper from his pocket.

ANDY (CONT'D)

I've written a list with feeding times and...

# VERONICA I don't need a list, l've raised

LANCE

Silly? Silly in what way? A clown's car is silly, the Triumph TR7 is a classic.

**ANDY** 

It's just that if he gets out of sync all that work will be out the window and he'll be up all night again.

LANCE

He'll be fine. Relax.

**ANDY** 

Stupid old trout.

Andy finds something in his pocket.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Damn it! We've got to go back.

**LANCE** 

Why? What is it?

He holds up a square of flannel.

**ANDY** 

Clothy. He needs it.

**LANCE** 

Becky's mum will have a flannel.

**ANDY** 

This isn't a flannel. This is Clothy.

LANCE

He can live without Clothy for a day. He's three months old, he's got to start toughening up.

23 EXT. NEW PERMISSION, FIELD - DAY

Lance and Andy are detecting a few metres apart. Andy is digging a signal.

**ANDY** 

... turns out he's not gay at all. It's an ironic nickname coz he's heterosexual.

LANCE

Shi t.

ANDY

Yeah. Gorgeous, Spanish.

23 \*

Yeah?

ANDY

I'm not worried.

**LANCE** 

Doesn't sound like it.

ANDY

But I've got to get a job soon. It's ridiculous. I'm 43 and I can't even provide for my family. Are there any jobs at the depot?

**LANCE** 

Only if you can drive a fork lift.

**ANDY** 

Can't even drive a car.

LANCE

No then.

Andy bends down to retrieve the target.

LANCE (CONT'D)

What you got?

**ANDY** 

Blankety Blank Checkbook and Pen.

**LANCE** 

(exci ted)

Real I y?

With the pen?

**ANDY** 

Ah, no actually, just the checkbook.

**LANCE** 

(di sappoi nted)

Ah well.

See? Car boot sm3ct the

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LANCE
Dawson did the most episodes: 123
including Christmas specials, Wogan
did 95, but, surprisingly, the
scarce ones are the Lily Savage
ones. She only did 59 eps.

ANDY

Alright Rainman. How do you know this stuff?

LANCE