

UNDERTAKERS  
EPISODE 1  
'MINI ADVENTURE'

by

SERENA D. TURK

Draft: 2  
Last Updated: 15<sup>th</sup> August 2016  
Word Count: 6,142  
Page Count: 35

## "UNDERTAKERS - EPISODE 1 - 'MINI ADVENTURE'"

FADE IN:

EXT. FOREST CAR PARK - NIGHT

A MINI is parked on the fringes of a country forest car park. A FULL MOON casts a soft glow on the vehicle which SHUDDERS.

INT. MINI - NIGHT

LOUISE SPENCE, an attractive late-twenties woman, lies back on the rear seats of the tiny car. CLIVE ROLSTON, a morbidly obese man twice her age, removes his shirt above her.

LOUISE

I don't know, Clive. It's a bit small.

CLIVE

I hope you're talking about the car, ha-ha.

LOUISE

But what about your wife?

CLIVE

Soon to be ex-wife. Don't worry about her. She thinks I'm at a conference in London.

Clive begins to kiss Louise's arm. Her eyelids flutter as, with great difficulty, his fat lips move down to her neck. Louise exhales loudly as Clive's full weight presses down.

LOUISE

(wheezing)

Get ... off.

Clive doesn't hear and starts to hump. The car sways, the springs creaking. Louise tries to draw a breath with each stroke. Suddenly Clive looks up, his face a mask of pain. He clutches at his heart before slumping down.

LOUISE

Clive? You okay? Clive?

She shakes him but Clive is obviously dead.

LOUISE

Clive!

Louise struggles to get free but she is trapped. The car shakes as she tries to push him off.

EXT. FOREST CAR PARK - NIGHT

Out of the surrounding forest FOUR DOGGERS emerge watching the shuddering Mini. They approach with lecherous grins.

INT. MINI - NIGHT

Louise spots her phone in her bag. She stretches to reach it. The camera focuses on her fingers then to the window where the doggers can be seen gaping in. Louise SCREAMS.

CUT TO:

TITLE CREDIT IN BLACK

**"UNDERTAKERS  
'MINI ADVENTURE'"**

The 'S' of 'Undertakers' topples to swing like a broken hinge.

FADE TO:

EXT. FOREST CAR PARK - DAY

RICKY and MIKE drive a BLACK VAN into the forest car park. A FIRE TRUCK, AMBULANCE and POLICE CARS surround the Mini. A crowd has gathered along with a TV CREW. They park close to CONSTABLE WOODS and CONSTABLE DRAKE.

Ricky exits first. He is 36, has a slight paunch and is losing his hair. He looks over to his handsome, younger friend Mike - 28, single and always on the pull. They wear matching black suits and ties, with Mike's a tad askew.

RICKY

(to Const. Woods)

Where's the body?

CONST. WOODS

In the Mini.

MIKE

What's with the fire truck?

CONST. DRAKE

Too fat to get out.

A FIRE MAN approaches the Mini with a SLEDGE HAMMER. A woman SCREAMS from inside.

MIKE

What the hell was that? I thought you said they were dead?

CONST. DRAKE

(laughs)

One of them's stiff alright.

CONST. WOODS

He's a bit of a dead weight.

Two FIRE MEN are inside next to a naked, grossly obese Clive. Louise's face can just be seen beneath him.

FIRE MAN

Now cover your eyes, love.

He smashes the rear window as Louise SQUEALS.

INTERCUT:

A TV CAMERA MAN climbs a TREE beside the rescue scene.

INTERCUT:

FIRE MAN

No good, he won't fit. Get the Nibbler.

Ricky and Mike mouth 'NIBBLER?' to each other. More fire men help to cut the roof off the Mini.

INT. MINI - DAY

Louise tries to cover her face as the Nibbler chews off the roof. Broken glass is scattered through her hair.

EXT. MINI - DAY

A hoist attached to the Fire Truck is lowered into the Mini. The men affix it to Clive.

FIRE MAN  
 (to Louise)  
 Try to brace yourself.

INT. MINI - DAY

Clive's body rises but it brings Louise with it. She is elevated a few feet before they become unstuck. She falls back down with a SPLAT. The TV Camera Man films from the tree.

Clive is hoisted high into the air. He is turned too fast and begins to swing like a giant, flabby pendulum. With a longer swing he moves dangerously close to the tree.

FIRE MAN  
 (shouts)  
 Watch out!

The corpse slams against the tree where the camera man is hiding. He falls to land hard on his face. The fire men run to check him. One tries his pulse, stands, shakes his head.

CONST. DRAKE  
 Hope you brought a spare body bag.

EXT. ST. MARY'S CHURCH - DAY

BILLY and JIMMY BASHAM conduct a funeral outside St. Mary's Church. Billy, 60 with goggle-like glasses, turns to his 17-year-old son with an IQ to match his age and whispers --

BILLY  
 Tell me you got it working?

Jimmy is about to reply when the deceased's BROTHER returns.

BROTHER  
 We're ready to lift the coffin.

Billy casts a worried glance at the HEARSE then gets into the driving seat as the men lift the coffin.

INT./EXT. HEARSE - DAY

Billy slots in the key and stops to say a prayer.

BILLY  
 Oh God, let it start.

He crosses himself and tries the ignition but it doesn't tick over. Tries again. On the third go it chugs into life.

BILLY  
Hallelujah!

INTERCUT:

The hearse slowly moves off tailed by the men carrying the coffin. The engine splutters and dies.

INTERCUT:

BILLY  
No, no, no, no!

Billy tries the ignition. The engine struggles. He floors it.

INTERCUT:

The hearse's EXHAUST shakes then --

BANG!

Black smoke belches out to cover the faces of the coffin bearers. CLOSE-UP of the brother who spits out black phlegm.

INTERCUT:

Billy looks over his shoulder at the carnage.

BILLY  
Oh balls!

INT. BASHAMS' OFFICE - DAY

WINNIE BASHAM, Billy's eldest child and office clerk, sits behind her desk playing online bingo. Ricky is talking with Mike about the Mini incident.

MIKE  
Did you see that girl's face when she fell off the fat guy? She's going to be spread like a turkey for weeks.

RICKY

It'll take all of us to bring him inside.

MIKE

Yeah, he's almost as fat as Mrs ...

Mike stops as he realizes Winnie is in the room.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Amanda not in today?

RICKY

I think she's in college on Tuesdays.

MIKE

Pity. I wanted to show her my painting and decorating skills.

RICKY

I still can't believe Billy's letting you prepare the bodies.

MIKE

Recognizes talent when he sees it.  
(looks at clock)  
I better get ready. Carlo will be here soon.

Mike leaves just as Billy and Jimmy enter.

MIKE

Hey, boss.

Billy nods. He is not in a good mood. Jimmy takes a seat behind his sister but Winnie shields the screen with her back. He takes out his phone and plays a GOLF GAME. Billy lifts out a YELLOW PAGES and thumps it onto the desk.

BILLY

That bloody hearse is acting up again. Blew smoke out the exhaust this time. Lucky nobody was killed.

RICKY

Or unlucky.

Billy doesn't hear Ricky as he's too busy scanning the listings for mechanics. He picks up the PHONE.

INTERCUT:

INT. DAVE'S GARAGE - DAY

A grotty mechanic's workshop with a tyre-less car raised over a PIT and sprawling mess of rusty tools.

INTERCUT INT. DAVE'S GARAGE OFFICE/BASHAMS' OFFICE - DAY

The owner DAVE - a bulging brute of a man with tattoos dripping down his bare arms - answers a ringing PHONE.

DAVE  
(into phone)  
Yeah?

BILLY  
(into phone)  
Yes, is this Dave's Garage?

DAVE  
(into phone)  
Yeah?

BILLY  
(into phone)  
I have a hearse here that needs fixing. Could you do it today?

DAVE  
(into phone)  
A hearse? Is it yours?

BILLY  
(into phone)  
Of course it's mine. I didn't go out and steal a broken hearse.

Dave scratches under his armpit then smells his fingers.

DAVE  
(into phone)  
Might take a few days. We're dead busy. Geddit? Dead busy?

BILLY  
(into phone)  
Very amusing. I'll drop it round within the hour.

Billy ends the call then turns to Ricky.



BILLY

Don't tell Mrs Basham about this. She expects me to fix everything myself. I can change a tyre, check the oil, but that's about it.

RICKY

She's visiting her mother today?

BILLY

Thank the Lord.

(sees Winnie)

... as her mother isn't well. Mrs Basham is entitled to free rail travel now.

RICKY

About the stiff we collected - his name's Clive Rolston.

BILLY

Why is that name familiar?

RICKY

Died on the job in the back of a Mini Couper. They had to saw the roof off to get him out.

BILLY

Of course, it was all over the radio. A TV man died too?

RICKY

It's a long story but his widow is coming here later. I think this one's going to attract the press.

BILLY

(rubs palms)

Free advertising, Ricky. I like the sound of that. We could bring signs, and business cards, maybe even flyers.

RICKY

Actually I was going to suggest the four of us take the funeral, for crowd control.

BILLY

Word of mouth. Pass the name of 'Ashes to Bashams' around. More intimate, yes.

Winnie continues to play online bingo but loses again. Jimmy tries to see past her.

JIMMY

Not very good at this, are you?

WINNIE --

Kicks back on her chair, running over her brother's toes with the wheels. He howls in pain and hops out of harms way.

Winnie moves closer to play again. A message on the screen says 'OUT OF CREDIT - ADD MORE?' A list of funds is shown. She selects 'Ashes to Bashams' and clicks 'PLAY NOW'.

INT. DAVE'S GARAGE - DAY

Billy drives in the HEARSE where it cuts out. Dave, in dirty dungarees, pokes his head out of the office smoking a FAG.

DAVE

(shouts)

Out in a minute.

Billy waits by the hearse. He overhears the tail end of Dave's telephone conversation.

DAVE (O.S.)

Tell him if he doesn't have my money by this afternoon I'll break another finger. He won't have any left to drive that thing.

The phone is slammed down. Mildly panicked, Billy gives a broad grin to the mechanic as he walks into view.

DAVE

So you're the body snatcher?

BILLY

(chuckles  
nervously)

Thank you for looking at her at such short notice. She's been giving me bother all week.

Dave slogs around the hearse, kicking the tyres then walloping the EXHAUST which clatters to the ground.

BILLY

It's been threatening to do that.

Dave opens the bonnet. Billy moves to peer inside. Dave begins to pluck out LEADS at random, throwing them over his shoulder.

BILLY  
Probably requires new ones, eh?

Dave draws a guttural snort from the depths of his throat and spits. Billy watches at it flies to hit the windscreen.

BILLY  
Needs a clean anyway. Bit of spit  
and polish, ha-ha.

Dave sneers making Billy's smile retract. He slams the bonnet making poor Billy jump out of the way to let the ogre pass.

DAVE  
Two days.

BILLY  
Two days to fix it?

DAVE  
(harsher)  
Two days.

BILLY  
Do you know what's wrong with her?

Dave shrugs and draws out another cigarette. He lights up and blows smoke into Billy's glasses. He blinks rapidly.

BILLY  
Any clue to the cost?

DAVE  
Won't be cheap.

BILLY  
A rough estimate.

DAVE  
More than eight, less than twelve.

Billy wants to ask eight or twelve what when his MOBILE rings.

BILLY  
Excuse me.  
(answers call)  
Hello?

INTERCUT INT. RAILWAY STATION OFFICE/DAVE'S GARAGE - DAY

The STATION MASTER has a PHONE in one hand and MRS BASHAM'S ID CARD in the other. A crowd has gathered on the platform.

STATION MASTER  
(into phone)  
Is this Mr Basham?

BILLY  
(into phone)  
This is Billy Basham.

STATION MASTER  
I am calling from Chundell Railway  
Station. You have a wife, a ...

He looks at the ID card. The photo of Mrs Basham is like something out of a horror film - demonic. He reads her name but it only states 'MRS BASHAM'.

STATION MASTER (CONT'D)  
(into phone)  
Ehm, Mrs Basham?

BILLY  
(into phone)  
Is she alright? God, what's she  
done now?

STATION MASTER  
(into phone)  
I think you better come right away.  
There's been a bit of an accident.

EXT. RAILWAY STATION CAR PARK - DAY

Billy tears into the car park in his van which more resembles the POPE MOBILE then runs into the station.

EXT. RAILWAY STATION PLATFORM - DAY

A FIRE TRUCK sits on the far side of the tracks. It lowers a winch down behind a TRAIN out of sight. A crowd looks on. Billy stops at the Station Manager.

BILLY  
My wife, is she okay?

STATION MASTER

You must be Mr Basham. Remarkably she's going to be fine. Can't say the same for my station.

BILLY

Where is she?

STATION MASTER

(nods to winch)

Should be just arriving

(beat)

now.

MRS BASHAM, strapped into her SCOOTER, appears over the horizon. Her bulbous face is scrunched into a permanent grimace with the type of mouth that would rather spit at you than say hello. Her right leg is missing below the knee.

She is hoisted into the air, cursing and screaming indistinctively. The crowd gasp as she is swung over the train and down onto the platform.

Billy runs to her. She is covered in muck and gravel and the scooter is caved in at the front.

BILLY

Love, are you hurt?

Mrs Basham spits out some STONES. She is shaking with rage.

INT. POPE MOBILE - DAY

Billy drives with Mrs Basham in the rear on her wheelchair.

MRS BASHAM

There I was, minding my own business, wanting to board.

INTERCUT:

EXT. RAILWAY STATION PLATFORM - DAY

Mrs Basham sits in her scooter on the platform. A train pulls to a stop and the doors slide open. The STATION MASTER approaches.

MRS BASHAM (CONT'D V.O.)

The moron asked me if I required a ramp to get into the train. I said no, my scooter's able to hover and I'll fly in.

The Station Master seems confused. Mrs Basham pulls a face and he recognizes the sarcasm. He jumps onboard and heaves out a heavy RAMP. A number of passengers have now arrived and are waiting behind Mrs Basham to step on. The ramp lands on the platform with a THUD causing everyone to look round.

Mrs Basham reverses to line-up the scooter with the ramp, bowling over those at her rear. She eases forward, mounts the ramp, rolls back. More passengers have joined the crowd which is growing impatient. Mrs Basham reverses to try again. She gets half way, chickens out, and rolls back down.

The Station Manager is getting quite irate. Mrs Basham has a final attempt but at the last second veers to the left. The --

SCOOTER DANGLES

Off the edge of the ramp, swaying as Mrs Basham wriggles.

The Station Manager ushers her to sit perfectly still - one wrong move and she's a goner. Some men step up to assist. They grip the scooter, keeping it steady as the Station Manager stands at the front.

On three they push. Mrs Basham also accelerates and --

DRIVES INTO THE STATION MANAGER

Who is thrown backwards into the train. He falls against the 'OPEN DOOR' BUTTON on the other side. The door spreads just as Mrs Basham zooms inside the carriage.

THE SCOOTER

Speeds across the carriage to --

FLY OUT THE OTHER DOOR!

The Station Manager picks himself up and looks out. Buried in a mound of muck and gravel headfirst between the tracks, Mrs Basham's bulging bum is the only visible part of her. The scooter's rear wheels are still spinning.

INTERCUT:

MRS BASHAM  
I could have been killed.

Billy seems happy at the thought. Mrs Basham slaps his head.

BILLY  
How awful, love.

MRS BASHAM  
Where are we going?

BILLY  
Back home.

MRS BASHAM  
No we bloody well are not. I told  
my mother I would see her today and  
today is when I'll see her.

BILLY  
But I've things to do.

MRS BASHAM  
Your wife almost dies on a rail  
track and you can't be bothered to  
take her to her sick mother?

Deflated, Billy signals and turns the car the other way.

INT. BODY PREP ROOM - DAY

Mike is dressed in a full body apron, his hands in plastic gloves. A WOMAN'S CORPSE is laid out on a table beside him.

CARLO enters. A 'Restorative Artist' of over forty years, the old man has a newfound flair for the dramatic. He wears a psychedelic top and a hippie bandana. Mike's jaw drops.

MIKE  
Carlo?

CARLO  
Hey, Mike. Like the new get-up?

MIKE  
It's ... bright.

CARLO  
After working in morgues my whole  
life I'm determined to make my  
retirement a lively affair.

MIKE

You look like a hippie.

CARLO

I feel like a hippie.

MIKE

Next you'll be telling me you're smoking dope and having it off in the back of a camper van.

Carlo pushes a SMALL BAG of something grass-like further into his pocket but Mike does not spot it.

CARLO

I prefer doing it in a Mini just like him.

Carlo thumbs towards the corpse of CLIVE ROLSTON.

MIKE

You saw the news then?

CARLO

Couldn't believe when he hit that tree. I almost died laughing.

MIKE

You always had a sick sense of humour, old man.

CARLO

We'll work on him later. First, some practise.

Carlo walks to the female corpse and puts on an apron.

CARLO

This one's easy. No visible scarring. Only the final touches to go. You got your make-up kit?

MIKE

(holds up brush)

Check.

CARLO

Then let's go to work.



INT. CONSOLATION ROOM - DAY

Ricky sits opposite a tearful MRS ROLSTON, Clive's widow. He holds a clipboard on his lap. They discuss Clive's burial.

RICKY

And he's to be buried in the family grave?

MRS ROLSTON

Clive was always so thoughtful. He bought that plot years ago for the both of us.

RICKY

Due to the, ehm, nature of your husband's death I must prepare you for a substantial media presence.

Mrs Rolston suddenly straightens and her eyes narrow. The tears have dried up.

MRS ROLSTON

I'm sure I don't know what you mean. My husband was at a conference in London. He hired a car to drive home and had a heart attack at the wheel.

Ricky is uncertain whether this is self-delusion or ignorance. He proceeds with caution.

RICKY

Indeed. In any case the media will be there. Would you like us to field any questions, get them off your back?

MRS ROLSTON

(tears return)

That's so considerate, thank you.

INT. RECEPTION - DAY

Clive's young lover Louise arrives. Amanda greets her.

AMANDA

Good morning. Welcome to Ashes to Bashams.

LOUISE

Oh, hi. I am, was, a close friend of Clive Rolston. I wondered if I might see him before the funeral?

AMANDA

I would need to check with my boss first. Could you excuse me?

Amanda leaves the reception area.

INT. CONSOLATION ROOM - DAY

The door is KNOCKED and Amanda pops her head in.

AMANDA

I'm sorry to disturb you, Ricky, but no-one else is available.

RICKY

What's the matter, Amanda?

AMANDA

There's someone here to view Clive Rolston's body. A close friend.

MRS ROLSTON

It must be Robert. He said he might arrive. I would like to view my husband also.

RICKY

I'm afraid your husband is currently being prepared, Mrs Rolston. He should be ready by tomorrow.

AMANDA

So what do I tell the other woman who's here?

MRS ROLSTON

Other woman!

Mrs Rolston transforms into a banshee - wide eyes, teeth bared, claws outstretched. Ricky jumps from his seat.

RICKY

I'll handle this, Amanda. You pour Mrs Rolston another coffee.

Ricky leaves a petrified Amanda alone with the crazed widow.

INT. RECEPTION - DAY

Ricky recognizes Louise. He knows trouble when sees it.

RICKY  
What are you doing here?

LOUISE  
(bursts into tears)  
I miss him so much.

RICKY  
You can't be here now. His wife is  
just next door.

LOUISE  
She never loved him like I did.

RICKY  
That's none of my concern. I can't  
let you stay. Please leave.

Louise begins to WAIL. It is so loud that Ricky rips out a  
TISSUE and covers her mouth.

LOUISE  
(through sobs)  
I just want to see him one more  
time.

RICKY  
Look, I'm sorry things ended up  
this way. You obviously loved him.  
(to himself)  
Though God knows why.  
(to Louise)  
But he isn't ready to be viewed  
yet. You want to remember him as  
the, ehm, handsome man he was, yes?

Louise sobs and nods.

RICKY  
Then come here tomorrow at one  
o'clock, okay?

Louise dabs her eyes and smiles.

INT. CONSOLATION ROOM - DAY

Mrs Rolston paces up and down the carpet like a caged cougar.  
Amanda hides in the corner. Ricky enters.

MRS ROLSTON

Well? Who was she? It better not have been Louise Spence. That little bitch was always hanging around my Clive.

RICKY

It was an older woman, in her, eighties? Said she was Clive's ...

He waits, hoping for Mrs Rolston to pick up.

MRS ROLSTON

(softens)

Aunt Zara! I thought she was ill.

(rises)

I must go and see her.

RICKY

No!

MRS ROLSTON

No?

RICKY

I mean you're right, she is ill. Poor Aunt Zara. Took sick as I spoke to her. Taxi took her away.

Mrs Rolston sits down, deflated. Ricky's eyes dart to Amanda's ushering her to flee. He kneels beside the widow.

RICKY

Your husband will be ready for viewing by tomorrow afternoon. Would two o'clock suit?

MRS ROLSTON

No. I have important business then. It would need to be one o'clock, no other time suits.

Ricky has no choice but to agree and gives a fake smile.

EXT. CARE HOME - DAY

Billy and Mrs Basham pull up in into the grounds of a care home. The spooky building has a crumbling façade, like a Victorian mental asylum. Black clouds have gathered overhead. A BOLT OF LIGHTNING flashes then a deafening PEAL OF THUNDER.

INT. POPE MOBILE - DAY

Mrs Basham is poking Billy with her finger.

MRS BASHAM  
Hurry up before the rain comes. And  
don't park a mile away.

INT. CARE HOME - DAY

Night of the Living Dead. Animated corpses shuffle around in aimless circles as Billy pushes Mrs Basham in her wheelchair.

INT. MARTHA'S CELL - CARE HOME - DAY

MARTHA sits up in her bed smiling as Mrs Basham enters first. She is a frail little woman and has her white hair in a wide perm. Red lipstick is smeared all over her lips.

MRS BASHAM  
Hello, Mummy.

MARTHA  
Is he here yet?

MRS BASHAM  
Who? Billy?

BILLY  
Hello, Martha.

Martha looks past them out the door.

MARTHA  
He said he'd be here.

MRS BASHAM  
Who are you talking about, Mummy?

MARTHA  
The President. It's all hush-hush.  
Don't want the papers to find out.

MRS BASHAM  
What the frig are you talking  
about?

MARTHA

Johnny said he might be late with the moon landing and all. He said, 'Marilyn, you know Jackie means nothing to me'.

MRS BASHAM

(to Billy)

Thinks she's Marilyn Monroe again.

(to Martha)

Mummy, they said you weren't well.

MARTHA

I'm not?

MRS BASHAM

You had a bad fall.

MARTHA

I did?

Billy goes to sit on a chair and reads a discarded paper.

MRS BASHAM

You know you aren't supposed to climb over the wall.

MARTHA

But they were after me.

MRS BASHAM

Who was?

MARTHA

The Germans. I wrote about it in my diary.

MRS BASHAM

Anne Frank now.

(beat)

Mummy, there's nobody after you.

MARTHA

(notices scratches)

What happened to your face?

MRS BASHAM

Train trouble coming to the home.

MARTHA

There's no place like home.

MRS BASHAM

Well this is your home now.

MARTHA

It's too green.

Mrs Basham looks around her in confusion at the grey cell.

MRS BASHAM

What are you talking about?

MARTHA

If I only had my red slippers I could go home.

MRS BASHAM

But you have red slippers.

BILLY

She means ruby slippers. The Wizard of Oz.

Martha strains to look under the bed.

MARTHA

Where's Toto? Toto? Oh, I hope the wicked witch hasn't got him.

Mrs Basham shakes her head as Billy continues reading.

INT. BODY PREP ROOM - DAY

Carlo enters and hangs up his coat as Mike adds the finishing touches to the FEMALE CORPSE. Carlo is impressed.

CARLO

Very good, very good. You've added a little too much mascara but the blusher's perfect.

MIKE

Thanks. I've been working on her all morning before you arrived.

CARLO

So onto Mr Clive Rolston.

They move to stand beside Clive's obese corpse.

CARLO (CONT'D)

What do you suggest?

MIKE

Um.

Carlo's MOBILE rings. He answers it with a wave of an apology.

CARLO

(into phone)

Hello? This is he. She's what? How did she get in this time? Covered in blood and feathers? Yes, she is a troublesome bitch. I'm on my way.

Carlo hangs up as Mike wonders at the conversation.

CARLO

Mike, I have to go. Sheila escaped from the house again and killed the neighbour's chickens. Damn dog's a nuisance. Tell Billy I'm sorry.

Carlo leaves Mike with Clive's body.

MIKE

But what about Clive Rolston?

EXT. REAR OF BASHAMS' - DAY

A LORRY delivers several COFFINS. Ricky and Jimmy help to offload. The sky is suffocated by GREY CLOUDS.

JIMMY

It's the size of a house!

The coffin is XXXL and gilded in what looks like iron.

RICKY

We'll never be able to lift that.

(to Jimmy)

Where's Mike?

JIMMY

Don't know.

RICKY

Go and find him.

INT. RECEPTION - DAY

Jimmy searches for Mike and finds Amanda in the reception.



JIMMY  
You seen Mike?

AMANDA  
He's in body prep.

JIMMY  
Ricky says he needs him.

Jimmy wanders off. Amanda puffs and leaves her seat.

INT. BODY PREP ROOM - DAY

Mike puts the finishing touches to Clive as Amanda arrives.

MIKE  
Hey, darlin'. Check out my skills.

Amanda approaches. Clive's face is thick with make-up. He resembles a comatose transvestite minus the drag.

MIKE  
Pretty good, yeah?

AMANDA  
(stifles a laugh)  
Ricky needs you.

Mike continues to admire his handiwork.

MIKE  
Tell him I'll be out in a minute.

As Amanda leaves Clive's body releases some trapped wind from the rear. Amanda covers her nose and exits.

MIKE  
(shouts after her)  
That happens some times.  
(beat)  
And it wasn't me.

EXT. REAR OF BASHAMS' - DAY

Mike comes outside to find Ricky, Jimmy, and the LORRY DRIVER really struggling with Clive's coffin.

RICKY  
Give us a hand.

Even with four men the coffin barely budes.

LORRY DRIVER

Forget it. I'll have to go back and  
bring the forklift.

RICKY

Be quick. His wife and girlfriend  
are coming after lunch.

As the lorry leaves Jimmy is swinging an imaginary GOLF CLUB.  
He puts his hands to his eyes as if he's hit a long shot.

RICKY

Is Clive Rolston finished yet?

MIKE

Done and dusted.

RICKY

I wish Billy was here.

MIKE

Where is he anyway?

EXT. CARE HOME - DAY

Rain pelts off the windows and the car park has flooded.

INT. MARTHA'S CELL - DAY

Billy snoozes in a chair as Mrs Basham speaks with her mother.

MRS BASHAM

Winnie is your granddaughter, not a  
friggin' bear.

MARTHA

And who are you again?

A NURSE enters. She carries a cup of WATER and some pills.

NURSE

Hello, Martha. Time for your pills.

MRS BASHAM

Do those things work? She's  
barking.

NURSE

There's nothing wrong with you, is  
there Martha?

Martha laps the water like a dog.

NURSE

Now it's time for a nap.

Martha collapses on the bed, out for the count immediately.  
Mrs Basham is hotting up.

MRS BASHAM

Are we on the same planet? My  
mother is bonkers and I want to  
know what you're doing about it?

NURSE

Nothing.

MRS BASHAM

Nothing!? We pay a fortune to this  
place and you can do nothing?

Billy's hand rests on his wife's shoulders.

BILLY

It's time to go, love.

MRS BASHAM

But ...

BILLY

I know.

INT. CARE HOME - DAY

Billy wheels an irate Mrs Basham out. He bends to whisper.

BILLY

She's happy. Let her be.

The tiniest of tears forms by Mrs Basham's eye. She quickly  
rubs it away.

INT. FUNERAL PARLOUR - DAY

Mrs Rolston, arms folded, stares at Clive's corpse. Ricky rubs  
his face, clearly embarrassed. Mike's make-over has worsened  
with added glitter.

RICKY

We have a trainee restorative  
artist.

Mrs Rolston places her fingers on Clive's pandaesque eyes, the mascara rubbing off. Ricky braces himself for the backlash.

MRS ROLSTON

He's just so ... beautiful. His skin still has that natural glow.

RICKY

Really!?

MRS ROLSTON

Clive and I loved to dance. He was so nimble on his feet. We watched Strictly religiously. His skin would sparkle like this in the ballroom light.

Ricky cannot picture Mr Blobby struggling to his feet never mind dancing. He checks his watch - just past one o'clock.

RICKY

Is there anything else we could do before the service tomorrow?

MRS ROLSTON

A photo. Have you got a camera?

RICKY

I'll return with one, Mrs Rolston.

RECEPTION

Louise has arrived and is dripping wet. Amanda looks uncomfortable. Louise's head snaps to Ricky.

LOUISE

Where is he?

RICKY

(walks to whisper)

You can see him in ten minutes.

LOUISE

But I need to see my Clive now!

RICKY

You can't see him like that, can you? Amanda, get a towel please.

Amanda fetches a TOWEL as Louise sobs.

RICKY  
 (glancing at  
 Parlour door)  
 There, there. No need to cry so  
 loud.

Amanda appears with a towel and sets it around Louise's neck.

LOUISE  
 Thank you.

Suddenly the PARLOUR DOOR opens and Mrs Rolston steps out.

RICKY DIVES --

For the towel, smothering it over Louise's head.

LOUISE  
 (muffled)  
 Mmmphh!

RICKY  
 Let me dry your hair, madam. You  
 don't want to catch a cold, do you?

Mrs Rolston watches Ricky bewildered. She shakes her MOBILE.

MRS ROLSTON  
 I forgot my phone has a camera.

RICKY  
 Okay, great. Go back inside and  
 I'll be right there.

As Mrs Rolston exits Louise resurfaces from the towel  
 breathing hard. Ricky puffs and pants too.

INT. DAVE'S GARAGE - DAY

Billy looks like a drowned rat as he knocks on Dave the  
 mechanic's office door.

BILLY  
 Still pouring from the heavens.

A set of KEYS is thrown at him through a cloud of cigarette  
 smoke. Dave emerges.

BILLY  
 So she's all working now?

DAVE  
Two thousand.

BILLY  
Excuse me?

DAVE  
Two thousand.

BILLY  
Two thousand what?

DAVE  
You owe me two thousand.

Billy's goggle-like glasses slip down his wet nose.

BILLY  
But I haven't got that kind of cash  
with me.

DAVE  
(squares up)  
You better get it. Or else.

Billy gulps and backs away. He takes out his CREDIT CARD.

BILLY  
Do you take plastic?

Dave snatches it and puts it through the machine which BLEEPs.

DAVE  
Says insufficient funds.

BILLY  
But that can't be. I have credit.

Dave cracks his knuckles and snarls.

BILLY  
(pleading)  
No need for violence. I can get the  
money to you tomorrow but I need  
the hearse today.

Dave growls as Billy back steps to the hearse.

INT. HEARSE - DAY

The weather has not eased as Billy drives to work. He BRAKES coming to a red light but they don't respond. He yanks up the HANDBRAKE just in time, narrowly missing the car in front.

EXT. REAR OF BASHAMS' - DAY

Ricky huddles under an umbrella. Mike and Jimmy stand with CLIVE'S COFFIN by the doorway. Billy arrives in the hearse.

RICKY

Here he is now.

Mike and Jimmy roll out Clive's coffin with great difficulty. Ricky meets Billy by the boot.

RICKY

The hearse ready to go?

BILLY

There's a problem with the brakes.

RICKY

What!?

BILLY

Just be careful and use the handbrake. Hopefully it will hold.

RICKY

We need a second hearse, Billy.

BILLY

Let's get Mr Rolston sorted first.

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

Rain plummets to bounce off the grass which has turned to mud. The HEARSE leads a procession of cars to the top of a STEEP HILL. The cars park to the side leaving the road clear.

Billy and Ricky get out and run to the rear of the hearse. Mourners and a large media presence line the roadside to walk to the grave. Mike and Jimmy are at the FAR END of the queue.

BILLY

We'll need at least six men to lift this thing to the grave.

Ricky doesn't answer as he spots Louise hiding by a tombstone.

RICKY  
 Billy, look. It's the girlfriend.

BILLY  
 Oh balls!

Mrs Rolston has not seen her but goes to turn round.

RICKY  
 I'll get Louise, you distract the  
 wife.

They run to the women. Ricky slips and slides over the mud.

FAR END OF QUEUE

Mike has a stack of FLYERS in his hand kept dry by a black umbrella. Jimmy holds a COLOURED GOLF UMBRELLA.

MIKE  
 Your dad expects us to hand these  
 out to the press to advertise  
 Bashams. Not a chance.

He stuffs them into a nearby bin.

HEARSE

The hearse shakes in the wind then slowly ROLLS DOWNHILL.

TOMBSTONE

Ricky confronts Louise.

RICKY  
 You can't be here. If Mrs Rolston  
 sees you ...

LOUISE  
 I had to come. I needed to come.

Ricky looks round. He catches sight of Billy with Mrs Rolston and sighs with relief. Then he spots the hearse.



## STEEP HILL

The mourners and press stand solemn as the undertakers slowly reverse the hearse and coffin back down the road. The camera moves with the hearse on the near side so the sad faces can be seen over the coffin lid.

The hearse arrives at Mike and Jimmy and the camera stops but the hearse keeps rolling to reveal --

THERE IS NO-ONE DRIVING!

Ricky runs down the road at them.

RICKY  
(shouts)  
Stop that hearse!

The undertakers tear after the runaway but it's too late.

THE HEARSE --

Smacks into a TREE. The press snap as the mourners look on.

## GRAVESIDE

A dented hearse has made it to the top of the hill. BRICKS are wedged behind its tyres. SIX MEN including Jimmy struggle to carry Clive's coffin over the grass. As they approach --

## JIMMY SLIPS AND FALLS

On the mud. The others bail as the coffin drops. It begins to slide on the slope, gaining speed. Mourners scramble to dive out of the way as the iron missile hurtles towards them.

JIMMY  
(shouts)  
Fore!

The coffin skids and somehow drops perfectly into the grave.

JIMMY  
(fist pumps)  
Hole in one!

Billy is horrified as the press take more photos. Mrs Rolston is crying over her husband's coffin when --

## LOUISE JUMPS OUT

From behind a tombstone.

LOUISE

Oh Clive! Why did you have to die?

MRS ROLSTON

You!

Mrs Rolston grabs Louise by the neck and throttles her. Louise fights back and the women fall to the mud. They roll this way and that, screaming, kicking, biting as Billy and Ricky try to separate them. Then they --

DROP ONTO THE COFFIN.

The press lean over to photo the women cat fight literally over their dead lover.

INT. DAVE'S GARAGE - DAY

Dave stands by a raised car next to the PIT in the floor. A SCOOTER'S HORN blares making him drop his tool.

MRS BASHAM

You're the one fixed my hearse?

DAVE

Basham. You owe me two grand.

MRS BASHAM

We owe you frig all. The so-called work you did nearly got my family killed.

DAVE

Has the little worm sent his missus to try and scare me?

Dave laughs, his big belly bouncing. Mrs Basham switches on her NEW SCOOTER and smiles.

MRS BASHAM

I've just got this fixed, and had a few adjustments made.

She revs the PETROL ENGINE which ROARS then takes off.

THE SCOOTER --

Rams into Dave smashing him into --

THE PIT.

Mrs Basham brakes at the edge to look down. Dave is sprawled on the ground.

MRS BASHAM

Nobody messes with the Bashams, got it? And you can shove your two grand up your ...

INT. BASHAMS' OFFICE - DAY

Billy comes to sit opposite Winnie at her desk.

BILLY

Your granny's keeping better, love. She was asking for you.

Winnie ignores her father, her gaze fixed on the COMPUTER.

BILLY

By the way, I had a problem with the company credit card. Insufficient funds. I was going to call the bank ...

He reaches for the phone when Winnie grabs his hand.

WINNIE

I sorted it. Problem at their end.

BILLY

That's good, love. I can always trust you.

On the computer the bingo game says 'JACKPOT WINNER!! £20,000'

POST CREDITS:

INT. DAVE'S GARAGE - NIGHT

Dave, bandaged head, works on Louise's MINI sans roof. He fiddles in the backseat when he discovers an UNUSED CONDOM. He sniffs it before putting it in his rear pocket.

THE END