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1

EXT. CLAMPMEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL. DAY 1

1

We can hear a noise from inside a classroom - kids screaming and laughing, the teacher shouting to maintain order.

We see the ground floor classroom window open, and young Kyle, (11 year old mixed race boy), trying to climb out of it. The teacher, Mrs Collins, desperately clings onto his legs trying to pull him back inside the classroom, but he screams and shouts at her.

KYLE

Get off of me you dirty perv, or  
my mum'll sue!

Kyle kicks his legs and escapes the clutches of Mrs Collins, and tumbles to the ground. His class mates cheer as he shoots off.

1A

EXT. HALTHAM COLLEGE PUBLIC SCHOOL.

1A

Title Shots of Hal tham

2

EXT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. QUAD. DAY 2

2

Green. A magnificent green lawn, manicured like a baize. As the shot widens we see rather nice Victorian buildings set around a central grass quadrangle. A chapel and cloisters are at the far end of the splendid formal lawn.

The Headmaster, Anthony, 40's, emerges from his apartment and onto the quad. He looks around at the sun on the grass, and smiles. Everything is in perfect order. He strides towards his office, passing the boys walking around the path, (there is strictly no walking on the grass!) As they pass Anthony, they all happily say "morning headmaster". He is clearly popular.

Dom, 11, a pupil, looking dishevelled and late, hurries out of his 'house' and scampers after some other boys.

DOM

Angela, the middle aged Head's secretary, sees him and trots to catch him up.

ANGELA

Headmaster.

(going through her  
papers as she tries to  
keep up with him as he  
walks with purpose)

Remember you've the chairman of  
the governors...

Anthony heads into the building that houses his office,  
followed by Angela.

3

EXT. CLAMPMEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL. DAY 1

3

Kyle's mum, Candy, early 30's, has been summoned into  
school.

MRS COLLINS

He's been there over an hour.

She stands under a tree with Mrs Collins, looking up. She  
points up the tree to Kyle.

CANDY

(snaps to Kyle)

What the frig are you doing up a  
tree?! Eh?

KYLE

Sitting.

CANDY

(to Kyle)

Don't be clever.

(to Mrs Collins)

He's being stupid.

(snaps at Kyle)

What you doing up a tree?

KYLE

(nodding towards Mrs  
Collins)

I hate her. She's horrible.

CANDY

(turning back to Mrs  
Collins)

He's showing off.

KYLE

You hate her too.

CANDY

(to Mrs Collins,  
apologetically)

(MORE)

CANDY (cont'd)

I never actually said I hated you...

KYLE

You said she'd got a nasty streak.

CANDY

I'll get up there and give you a dead leg in a minute.

MRS COLLINS

I've got thirty one other children...

CANDY

(to Kyle)

I done...like millions of crack pot things in my time, but I never went up no tree in the middle of a lesson.

MRS COLLINS

His behaviour is bordering on...

CANDY

(snappy)

Yeah alright love, you've made your point!

Mrs Collins turns and sees lots of children and staff watching out of the windows.

4

INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. CHAPEL. DAY 1

4

The choir sing exquisitely. Anthony and Godfrey, Chair of Governors, watch as Olivia conducts. (Olivia is Anthony's beautifully presented wife.) Deputy head Charles hovers just behind them.

GODFREY

(whispers)

You're a lucky man, Anthony.

CHARLES

Indeed you are, Headmaster.

ANTHONY

Nothing 'lucky' about it. Finest choir in Europe...and every time they sing, they remind the world just how excellent our school is.

GODFREY

I meant your wife. We must get you both across for supper.

ANTHONY  
(striding off)  
Trench warfare. Come.

Godfrey follows him out.

5 INT. CLAMPMEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL. MRS COLLINS OFFICE. DAY 1 5

Kyle stands, arms folded, looking petulant. Candy sits opposite Mrs Collins.

MRS COLLINS  
I would be loathed to exclude him permanently...

CANDY  
It aint gonna happen again.  
Let's...move on.

MRS COLLINS  
He's got his secondary transfer coming up! I know you've been offered Clampmead...

CANDY  
We've applied for Park Manor.

MRS COLLINS  
Yes, well...that's unlikely in the extreme...have you read the Secondary Transfer Booklet?

CANDY  
(suddenly frustrated)  
Not being horrid love, you know what I mean, but the Secondary Transfer Booklet is a pile of...old rancid poo, isn't it?

CANDY

(pointing at Kyle,  
passionate)

What's he gonna be like after five years there? Seriously, what's it going to do to him?! You know...I know...and sadly I reckon even he knows, so you can ram Secondary Transfer booklets down my throat till they're coming out me back side, but it don't change nothing. Plug holes. Me and him...

CANDY makes a loud, water being sucked down a plug hole, noise, which startles Mrs Collins somewhat.

6

INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. CLASS ROOM. DAY 1

6

Godfrey is watching Anthony take a class of 16 year old for History. Each of the pupils is wearing blind folds. Anthony paces.

ANTHONY

You will all pass your history exam. Each of you can fill up several sides of A4 on the causes of the first world war. But have any of you understood what it felt like? Lads your age lying in rat infested trenches, the blood of their dead friends drying in their hair...

Anthony walks to the front of the class and presses play on his CD. The sound of bombs and gun fire echoes around the class room through the excellent surround sound system. This startles the boys and Godfrey alike.

ANTHONY

Dark...hungry...petrified with fear.

Anthony opens up a Siegfried Sassoon poetry book. He reads as the guns boom.

ANTHONY

I knew a simple soldier boy Who grinned at life in empty joy,  
Slept soundly through the lonesome dark, And whistled early with the lark. In winter trenches, cowed and glum, With crumps and lice and lack of rum,  
He put a bullet through his brain. No one spoke of him again.

The boys are clearly captivated.

7

EXT. CLAMPMEAD ESTATE./INT BURNT OUT CAR. DAY 1

7

A sprawl of predominantly 60's and 70's council houses. There has been house building since, and many of the erstwhile council houses are now clearly privately owned, with their own additions and affectations, but the area is cheap and lots of the residents seemingly don't care about their estate, with abandoned cars and bags of rubbish strewn around.

CANDY is talking to old George, 80's, her grandfather, as she heads down her road and towards her house. (George lives in the block of flats opposite CANDY's road.) We see Kyle ahead, playing with a group of kids.

CANDY

Up a tree. Up a bleeding gum tree  
more like. That's us.

GEORGE

Anything worth knowing, can't be  
taught.



CANDY

I wish I'd listened at school,  
d'you know that? I used to take  
the piss out of Sharmista  
Chatterjee, but I bet she aint  
living on the Clampmead! You  
coming in for a toastie?

GEORGE

Got to see a man about a dog.

George taps the side of his nose.

CANDY

Until I was about fifteen, I  
always thought you meant  
that...and that one day you'd  
come home with a dog for me. I've  
had to live with disappointment  
all my life!

CANDY disappears indoors.

8

INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. FORMAL BOARD ROOM.

DAY 1

8

A governors meeting is taking place. All eyes are on  
Godfrey, as he looks at Anthony, who sits there basking.

GODFREY

I have had a little feed back  
from the Independent Schools  
Inspectorate, who said...  
(reading)  
"...Hal tham is clearly an  
excellent school, both  
educationally and pastorally. The  
school excels in almost every  
department allowing each child to  
reach their full potential."

Anthony looks around at the admiring faces. He sees  
Charles, his deputy, looking up at him. Charles tries to  
smile too.

GODFREY

I would like to publicly thank  
our truly inspirational  
headmaster, and thank him for  
investing his life in our school.

The assembled applause. Anthony looks thoughtful.

Kyle is on the floor in the sitting room on the playstation with Eileen, his slightly over weight friend of 11. Candy sticks her head around the door.

CANDY

Your mum says she wants you home in ten minutes, Eileen. Kyle, I'm going work, mate. Love you.

Kyle nods.

CANDY

You've got crisps and a drink. Go to sleep reasonable, yeah? Do what nan says.

We follow CANDY as she heads towards the front door. Her mum, Ruth, is in the kitchen, having a cigarette and a glass of wine.

CANDY

Bye mum.

RUTH

Why can't you just say you're ill one night?

CANDY

Cos I've 'consolidated all my debts into one single monthly repayment'...if I miss a night's work, I don't get paid, they don't get their money and that's my credit rating down the pan, along with everything else.

RUTH

All I'm saying is, 'I've got a life too'.

CANDY

I need your help for a bit, mum.

RUTH

Maybe you need to find yourself a



They arrive outside their respective offices. Anthony's door reads 'headmaster' Charles' door reads 'deputy'.

CHARLES

Your job at Haltham is to make silk purses out of the silk, not sows ears. Keep your head down and take the applause.

And with this, Charles pushes his door and disappears inside his office. Anthony watches him disappear inside.

11

INT. OFFICE. NIGHT 1

11

Night. CANDY is a night cleaner. She is wearing rubber gloves and emptying bins. Her black co-worker, Lin, 30's, dusts desks in the large, open plan office.

CANDY

Do you sometimes feel like...you're going down a giant plug hole...?

LIN

Guess what? Nope!

Lin laughs.

CANDY

...like you're in that whirl pool, and there's nothing to hold onto...no sides...no hope...you're being sucked down...

LIN

Is this like a dream?

CANDY

(as she thunders about emptying bins)  
Ten o'clock at night till six in the morning, for one hundred and seventy four quid a week. Sixty seven pound rent and rates, twelve pound gas, eleven pound leccy and seventy five pound loan repayment. How much does that leave me, Lin?

LIN

Plug holes and maths? White people!

CANDY  
...A nice nine squid for  
everything else.  
(scoffing)

CANDY heads off into another office.

12 INT. ANTHONY & OLIVIA'S APARTMENT. BEDROOM NIGHT 1 12

Olivia is in bed. She is texting and giggling. We see Anthony in the ensuite, somewhat methodically brushing his teeth. He has an egg timer on the side to make sure he does his full three minutes.

OLIVIA  
(giggling)  
Sorry. Just Lucy. She makes me  
laugh. L. O. L.

Anthony looks at her, puzzled. The three minutes is up and he heads into bed, picking up his book on the way.

ANTHONY  
It was lovely today. Your choir,  
by the way.

OLIVIA  
Was Mr Godfrey suitably  
impressed?

ANTHONY  
He described it as mellifluous.  
(half beat)  
And described us as the perfect  
couple!

OLIVIA  
Fancy.

Olivia rolls over to sleep. Anthony looks at her for a moment.

13 EXT. CANDY'S HOUSE. CLAMPMEAD ESTATE. NIGHT 1 13

Night. A group of kids, including Kyle and Eileen, are running over parked cars and jumping on the roofs. There are no parents around and they are clearly running amok. This pack rule the roost on the estate after dark.

A resident, Mr Evans, comes out to remonstrate.

MR EVANS  
I've had enough of this! You's  
lot are doing my nut in!

They laugh and shout at him, so he has to beat a hasty retreat back inside his home. We catch a glimpse of Mr Evans as he disappears inside and he truly looks petrified and intimidated. We hear a police siren. The kids are on their toes and scattered to the four corners as the police car screeches into the estate.

14 OMITTED 14

15 EXT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. QUAD. DAY 2 15

Anthony is standing looking at the dew on the flawless grass. It is too early for anyone to be about. He spots a lone piece of litter and picks it up.

16 EXT. CLAMPMEAD ESTATE. DAY 2 16

Dawn. CANDY and Kyle are heading out of the police station. Kyle's hand is bandaged.

CANDY  
Don't talk to me. Don't say  
nothing!

KYLE

Paint brushes. A load of old,  
rock hard paint brushes.

CANDY

Weren't worth cutting up your  
hand and getting nicked for then?

KYLE

Yes.

CANDY looks at him, puzzled.

KYLE

When we were breaking into the  
box...we were all  
so...excited...just at the  
thought...

CANDY

Of it being stuffed full of  
treasure?

KYLE

(nodding)

I was the richest man in the  
world for about eight seconds. I  
was going to buy you a car.

Kyle shrugs and then spits (fashionably) onto the pavement.

CANDY

I've gotta get you into Park  
Manor or you're gonna end up...

KYLE

Like my dad?

CANDY

Exactly!

They walk on.

17

INT. CANDY'S HOUSE. LIVING. DAY 2

17

Candy and Kyle arrive home. Ruth is lying on the sofa. She  
sits up and shakes her head admonishingly at Kyle.

Candy picks up the post and starts to read it.

RUTH

I didn't get no sleep neither.  
Chav central out there last night  
it was. Shrieking and hollering.  
That Scotch family had a fight  
with the Vietnamese kiddies.

CANDY

(reading)

'Dear Sir/Madam, I am sorry to inform you, your son/daughter has not won a place at Park Manor...blah blah blah.'

Candy screws up the letter, frustrated to the core.

18

EXT. CLAMPMEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL. DAY 2

18

Candy is in the playground, talking in animated fashion to half a dozen or so other mums.

CANDY

So how comes we've all got Clampmead and none of us put down Clampmead? We all put down Park Manor, and when we don't get it, what do we do? We shrug our shoulders and go, 'oh well'. I aint shrugging my shoulders, I'm writing in to our M.P.

The other women start to laugh. CANDY is completely serious.

MANDY

You know where his kids go?

CANDY

I'm telling him everything needs burning down and starting again cos what we got now aint fair.

MANDY

You went Clampmead, Cand, I went Clampmead...

CANDY

Yes, so it's some other poor bugger's turn now.

MANDY

It's better than what it was when we was going there.

CANDY

Mandy, you and me both know that school is a little bit shit.

(determined)

Kyle's going Park Manor. I don't give a toss what they reckon. And if we all done the same, what can they do about it? Nothing mate.

(MORE)



CANDY (cont'd)

What we all need to do is to march our kids up to Park Manor and demand they set up another class. Let's take a bit of control for ourselves!

CANDY looks determined. They all look at her for a moment before Mandy starts to sing, 'Sisters, are doing it for themselves...' The others snigger.

19

EXT. PARK MANOR SECONDARY SCHOOL. DAY 3

19

Candy and Kyle are outside the school. The headmaster is talking to them. A journalist and photographer from the local paper are there too.

HEAD TEACHER

Unfortunately your son failed to satisfy the schools entry criteria.

CANDY

How do we know he aint got 'musical ability' though? Eh?

HEAD TEACHER

I realise not winning a place here is disappointing, and I'm terribly sorry...

CANDY

You're not terribly sorry though, are you? You're a bit sorry I'm making a nuisance of myself...calling in the Journal and that...Would you send your son to Clampmead Secondary?

HEAD TEACHER

That is not the issue here...

CANDY

Yes it is, mate! The local M.P's son comes here, and he lives eight miles away, and that is bang out of order.

HEAD TEACHER

I can see little point in carrying on this discussion any further.

CANDY

No, cos I'm spot on, and I've mugged you right off!

Candy turns and addresses whomsoever will listen...kids, parents, staff...but most pointedly, the journalist.

CANDY

And when Tony Blair's kids done their secondary transfer, where did they go? Did they go the local kharzi in Islington? Oh no mate, they went eleven miles to the London Oratory. I've done my research! Maybe Blair's kids was blinding at piano, who knows, maybe they play a mean ukulele, but I tell you what I'm coming to the conclusion of...and that's 'it's all a bit unfair to the bleeding core'. And yes, you can quote me on that.

The Head Teacher turns and heads back towards the school. Kyle looks mortified. The local journalist scribbles down notes, as his photographer snaps.

KYLE

I don't even wanna go here, I wanna go Clampmead with my mates.

CANDY

Shut your face and smile.

Freeze frame.

20

INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. ANGELA'S OFFICE.

DAY 4

20

We see the photo. Anthony is studying the photograph of Candy and Kyle on the front page of the Journal, as the shot widens we see it is under the headline, 'Mum Risks Jail For Son'.

ANTHONY

(banging the paper)  
Here we are! There's a sow's ear  
if ever I saw one.

CHARLES

Exactly.

Anthony lowers the paper and we see Charles, in his office. Angela is busying herself too.

ANTHONY

If her lad came here, I could get  
him into Oxford.



KYLE  
(on the television)  
I've heard the dinner ladies are  
well buff.

Anthony laughs.

CHARLES  
How profound.

ANTHONY  
(pointing at the  
television, still  
laughing)  
Even that lad, Charles.

CHARLES  
(pointing to Candy on  
the television)  
Have you seen the mother!?

ANTHONY  
I'm not saying it wouldn't be a  
struggle...

CHARLES  
'Struggle'?! No no no, Angel a  
passing her driving test was a  
struggle.  
(pointing at the  
television)  
That is impossible!

Anthony gives a little shake of the head.

CHARLES  
And to be honest I doubt you'd  
really enjoy the challenge...what  
ever you say.

They hear the sound of the choir floating in through the  
window.

Charles heads off. Anthony picks up a prospectus. He opens  
it up and sees Charles' image on page 7 grinning back at  
him. He looks out of the window and sees Charles heading  
into chapel with a spring in his step.

There is a kerfuffle outside the school gates. A crowd of  
people, including the police, and lots of raised voices.  
Watching the kerfuffle from the safety of his car is  
Anthony.

We can see Anthony is unsure. He puts his hand into his bag and extracts a prospectus. He looks up and sees Candy, arms up high, handcuffed to the school gates singing, "I shall not, I shall not be moved..." whilst a policeman tries to saw through the handcuffs. He looks back down at the prospectus and the smiling image of some parents at an open day.

After steeling himself, he slots the prospectus into an envelope, and gets out of the car.

With her arms raised and back turned, all Anthony can see of Candy is her thong.

Parents are shouting at her as photographers snap away. Unseen, Anthony sticks the envelope into Candy's handbag, which is on the ground beside her, before heading back to his car.

23 A EXT. CANDY'S HOUSE. CLAMPMEAD ESTATE.

23 A

Kyle arrives home.

24 INT. CANDY'S HOUSE. LIVING. DAY 6

Kyle heads off.

GEORGE

(as he sorts out the  
money)

You've all got me down as a bit  
moody. I've gone straight.

CANDY

You got form!

GEORGE

(putting his hands up)

I done the crime, I done my time.  
Besides...

CANDY

'Besides' what?

Kyle comes back in, wiping his hand on a tea-towel.

KYLE

What you talking about?

George clicks his fingers, completely confident. We see Candy mulling it over. She lovingly wraps Kyle up in her duvet, before showing him the prospectus...a photograph of the magnificent school on the front.

25

EXT. HALTHAM COLLEGE PUBLIC SCHOOL. DAY 7

25

From photo to reality. We see CANDY looking around in awe. This knocks any other school she's ever seen into a cocked hat.

It is Open Day, and parents are milling around in all their finery, drinking champagne, listening to jazz bands etc.

All the pupils are there too, and there is a sophisticated carnival atmosphere. Candy clearly feels out of place. Olivia walks past and looks at her.

OLIVIA

Can I help you?

CANDY

It's a bit bloody nice here innit.

Olivia looks a little taken aback.

26

INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. ANGELA'S OFFICE. DAY 7

26

Anthony and Charles are looking at Candy out of his office window. Anthony turns back to Charles.

ANTHONY

(proudly)

I gave her a prospectus!

CHARLES

Why?

ANTHONY

To prove you wrong.

CHARLES

(incredulous)

But...her lad's not going to get in, is he?!

ANTHONY

Why not?



CHARLES  
'Why not?' Are you serious?

The two men stare at each other.

27

INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. FUNCTION ROOM. DAY 7

27

The place is packed with new parents. Anthony, stands at the lectern, addressing them. We see CANDY entering at the back.

ANTHONY

...What we offer the pupils is something even greater than academic success. What we offer them cannot be judged purely on University entrance. We set our pupils on a path and point ahead. As George Bernard Shaw said..."I am not a teacher; only a fellow traveler of whom you asked the way. I pointed ahead—ahead of myself as well as of you."

We see Candy listening.

28

EXT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. CRICKET PITCH. DAY 7

28

All the parents, honoured guests and pupils have gathered for the annual staff v pupils cricket match. The scene is idyllic, with picnics all around the pitch, the school orchestra playing, and the sound of leather on willow and happy laughing, ringing all around.

We follow Anthony, in his cricket whites and padded up, as he smiles at parents. We can see he is searching for

CANDY  
(after a moment)  
You haven't got a clue, have you?

ANTHONY  
About what?

CANDY  
All that bollocks in the  
church...

ANTHONY  
(correcting)  
Chapel.

CANDY  
...and all this!

ANTHONY  
Cricket?

CANDY  
This aint a real school.

ANTHONY  
No?

CANDY  
When I was a kid, I had a toy  
farm yard. Didn't make me a  
farmer, I was just playing at  
it...like you are with teaching.

ANTHONY  
Really...?

CANDY  
I had no crap to clear up...just  
like you aint. Here isn't  
teaching! Listening to all that  
self congratulatory bullshit that  
went on in church, made me wanna  
chuck up.

A wicket falls and a stunned Anthony is called into bat.

ANTHONY  
You're clearly a woman who isn't  
interested in looking any further  
along the road than necessary.  
You want to lead your life with  
such limited horizons, fine. I  
feel sorry for your children.

Anthony strides off towards the crease. Candy glares after him.

CANDY

I feel sorry for yours, mate!

Anthony almost breaks his stride but doesn't.

29 EXT. BRIDGE CLAMPMEAD. DAY 7

29

Kyle is standing on a fly-over bridge looking down at the dual carriage way as the cars thunder past below. He is with Eileen.

KYLE

When our cat died, my mum said  
we'd never get another animal.

EILEEN

You don't have to have it. Just  
my nan reckons she's getting too  
old to look after it.

KYLE

A budgie?!

They see a convertible car underneath, approaching.

KYLE

(pointing ahead up the  
dual carriageway)  
There's one!

They both take aim, and attempt to flob into the convertible car as it passes underneath.

After flobbering, they both rush across to the other side of the bridge to see if there's any reaction from the driver.

EILEEN

Did we get him?

KYLE

I think he wiped his head.

EILEEN

Or it might have gone on the back  
seat.

They start to walk back down the road and towards Kyle's house.

KYLE

So, d'you just like keep it in  
it's cage all time?

EILEEN  
My nan used to let it out for a  
little fly around...until mum  
bought the 'Stafi'.

The arrive by the burnt out shell of a car outside Kyle's  
house.

EILEEN  
Shall we go for a drive?

Kyle nods and they get into the car.

30

EXT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. QUAD. DAY 7

31 INT. CANDY'S HOUSE. BATHROOM. DAY 7

31

Kyle is in the bath with the shower curtain yanked across. CANDY sits on the loo filling in the Haltham Application. George is looking over her shoulder.

GEORGE

Give you a lot of forms, don't they!

KYLE

Yes and you might as well bin them cos I aint going there. Now how about a bit of bleeding privacy?!

CANDY

(ignoring Kyle)

'Mother's occupation', I put 'office worker'...

GEORGE

Sort of true.

CANDY

And sort of crap. And for 'father's occupation'...

GEORGE

What d'you put?

CANDY

Chemist.

George laughs.

CANDY

Well he is doing an eight stretch for selling chemicals of a sort...

KYLE

Why can't I just go Clampmead!

CANDY

I got confidence in you.

KYLE

No, you just think you're too good for Clampmead. Nothing to do with me!

Candy carries on with the form.

32 EXT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. QUAD. DAY 8

32

Candy and Kyle stand in the quad, looking around. Kyle has a nice Ben Sherman on, a pair of chinos and nike trainers. They watch as incredibly smart uniformed boys, many with their musical instruments, head into the examination room.

KYLE

Let's just go home, mum, yeah?

CANDY

You can only do your best, I know that.

Candy goes to hold him. He suddenly looks quite lost and vulnerable.

33 INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. EXAMINATION ROOM. DAY 8

33

Kyle looks around the room and studies the faces of the other boys who are clearly working confidently. Kyle looks back down at his paper and struggles to answer a question.

It is a maths paper. We see Kyle thinking hard. One question has a triangle with two sides marked with 3cm and 4 cm. The third side merely has an 'x'. The question reads, 'Find x'. Kyle after a moments thought, circles x and writes, 'here it is'.

At the end of the paper, there is something called the 'Headmasters Bonus Question'. Kyle reads it... 'How long is a piece of string?' After a moment, Kyle does a string like line on his paper, he writes... '(Not to Scale)' beside it.

34 EXT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. QUAD. DAY 8

34

CANDY finishes off a sneaky fag. She thinks about flicking it before she takes the dog end to the grass, sinks a stiletto heel in, and buries the butt in the hol2 1 kes.rAa

Charles has come in from the quad and bumped into Anthony on his way down stairs.

ANTHONY

If I can inspire thick posh kids,  
what makes you think I can't work  
my magic on a common one?

CHARLES

He's not going to pass the  
exam...

ANTHONY

Not only will he pass, he'll be a  
Haltham success.

Charles shakes his head.

CHARLES

I wouldn't bet on it.

ANTHONY

I would.

The two men once again glare at each other. Anthony nods. They shake hands. Charles becomes aware of all the examinees coming down the stairs too. Anthony takes the opportunity of grabbing a moment with Kyle, who is on his own.



ANGELA

I thought I'd crack on while the phone lines were quiet.

ANTHONY

You look peaky. Go and take an early lunch.

ANGELA

I'm fine thanks. I've got an apple in my bag.

ANTHONY

Ahhh no, you see, it's a myth...an apple a day keeps the doctor away.

(taking the exam papers from her)

I'll mark them. You go and get a jacket potato.

This somewhat disarms her. Angela watches Anthony heading to his desk with the papers. She thinks she knows.

38 OMITTED

38

39 INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. FORMAL BOARD ROOM. DAY 9

39

Charles and Anthony are with the education and finance committee meeting.

CHARLES

He passed?!

ANTHONY

Ninety two per cent. It is apparent to me the child has remarkable ability.

Charles looks stunned.

ANTHONY

We are very lucky...privileged in fact, to be a part of Haltham. I am proposing a gesture that befits our charitable status.

GODFREY

You want to give this one lad a full bursary?

ANTHONY

Being a part of the community isn't just every fourth Sunday opening up the swimming pool.

(MORE)

ANTHONY (cont'd)

We have a responsibility as a school, and I have a responsibility as Headmaster.

CHARLES

But don't we have a responsibility to our pupils?

ANTHONY

Kyle will enhance this school...

Anthony looks imploringly at Godfrey.

ANTHONY

I got your son into Oxford... and I'd like to give this lad the opportunity...

(half beat)

I'm asking you to back me on this, Godfrey.

Charles looks at Godfrey as if to say, on his head be it. Anthony senses this.

40

EXT/INT. CANDY'S HOUSE. CLAMPMEAD ESTATE. HALL DAY 9

40

Anthony is on the doorstep. He can't find a door bell or knocker so is forced to knock on the glass. This is all most unusual for Anthony. We see him surreptitiously wiping his hand, post knock. Behind him we see a smouldering car.

After a moment Candy opens the door and is clearly amazed to see Anthony.

CANDY

I thought you was someone from the catalogue people.

ANTHONY

Your telephone appears to not be working.

CANDY

Cut off.

ANTHONY

Well there you go.

CANDY

What is it? What d'you want?

ANTHONY

I'm willing to risk my not insubstantial reputation on your son. I'll put in the effort, but it will mean he'll have to too.

CANDY

(snaps)

Is that right, fella!?

ANTHONY

I'm offering your son a day place  
with a full scholarship, Mrs  
Jerome. Based on his potential.

ANTHONY  
Real potential. Which you can  
watch whither and die,  
or...water, and watch grow.

KYLE  
He's taking the piss, mum.

CANDY  
I think he might have better  
things to do, as it goes, Kyle.  
He's come round here...

ANTHONY

ANTHONY  
Exactly. You'll be doing your  
catch up work over the summer  
holidays...with me. Our secret.  
Don't want anybody thinking I'm  
showing favoritism.

Anthony smiles. Kyle doesn't.

41 EXT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. PUBLIC SCHOOL. DAY 10 41

The school is deserted because it's the long vacation.

42 INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. ANTHONY'S OFFICE. DAY 10 42

Anthony sits behind his desk. Kyle is struggling with aoritism.

ANTHONY  
She's building mud huts...or  
fixing a well...or something, in  
Bolivia.

KYLE  
Fair play.

ANTHONY  
Duke of Edinburgh award scheme.  
Work!

Kyle puts his head down and works.

43 EXT. STREET. DAY 10

43

Candy is walking down the street with Kyle

CANDY  
Come on, how was it?

KYLE  
School.

CANDY  
Eh?

KYLE  
It was like school...in the  
holidays. Which is stupid.

Kyle looks out of the window.

44 INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE PUBLIC SCHOOL. ANTHONY'S OFFICE.  
DAY 11

44

Anthony grabs Kyle's work and looks at it.

ANTHONY  
Oh for goodness sake! What's this  
mess! ?842 cm BT 12 0 0 -12 1C ET Q -0.011111e621 cm BT 12

Kyle gets on with his work.

45 INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE PUBLIC SCHOOL. SCHOOL SHOP. DAY 12 45

Candy is looking at the prices of the uniform. She is clearly stunned by how much it all costs.

CANDY

If I...like...put some bits by,  
can I come and pay for them  
later?

The lady behind the counter smiles and nods.

46 INT. ANTHONY & OLIVIA'S APARTMENT. SITTING ROOM. DAY 12 46

Anthony sits behind his desk. Kyle looks at him.

ANTHONY

A car travels 100m in 5s. What is  
its average speed?

Kyle scribbles down the answer.

ANTHONY

What does a horizontal line on a  
distance-time graph represent?

Kyle thinks before writing down his answer.

47 INT. CASH CONVERTORS. DAY 13 47

Candy has arrived in the store with a box.

CANDY

Now don't muck me around, cos I  
paid over three hundred notes for  
this lot.

Candy empties the contents of the box onto the counter. It consists of her watch, rings, gold chains etc.

48 INT. CANDY'S HOUSE. CLAMPMEAD ESTATE. EARLY MORN DAY 14 48

Early morning. Kyle is in bed, fast asleep and looking somewhat angelic. CANDY and her mother are at the door, looking in. Candy has all his posh clothes ready.

CANDY

If I could stick him in aspic and  
keep him like that for always...

RUTH

You aint doing him no favours,  
you know that, don't you?

CANDY

What am I supposed to have done?

RUTH

You're an helicopter...hovering  
over him. He don't want you  
hovering over him. It's like that  
cat you had.

CANDY

How?

RUTH

Kept him cooped up in here all  
day long...never letting him out.

CANDY

Yeah, and what happened when I  
did let him out? He got run over.

RUTH

Cos he didn't know what a  
bleeding car was! He'd only ever  
seen one on the tele!

CANDY

I don't care what you think, why  
shouldn't I want the best for  
him?

Kyle starts to stir. CANDY goes and sits on the bed. Ruth  
heads off.

49

INT. ANTHONY & OLIVIA'S APARTMENT. SITTING ROOM DAY 14

49

Olivia is home and is sorting out the washing from her  
suitcase. Anthony watches her.

OLIVIA

(with her head in her  
suitcase)

I can still smell Bolivia.  
Everything was so...vibrant and  
exciting...so completely  
different to...

ANTHONY

I'd say I'd had a successful  
summer too.

OLIVIA  
(used to him)  
You're talking about your bursary  
boy, I take it?

ANTHONY





ANTHONY

Welcome, welcome, Kyle. Your  
official first day.

55 INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. CORRIDOR. DAY 15 55

Anthony and Kyle enter the building. Anthony immediately and somewhat furtively, looks back out onto the quad and at Charles and Olivia. He watches them both playing with each others hands and bracelets. The shock on his face is all too apparent. We see Kyle clocking Anthony clocking Charles and Olivia.

56 INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. CLASS ROOM. DAY 15 56

Kyle is now in a Latin class. The teacher is writing the imperfect verb on the board. All the boys seem to understand. Kyle tries his hardest to concentrate.

56 A INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. ANTHONY'S OFFICE. DAY 15 56 A

Anthony is alone in his office. He looks ashen and somewhat shell shocked as he struggles to come to terms with what he has just seen.

57 INT. CANDY'S HOUSE. KITCHEN. DAY 15 57

Candy is sitting on the kitchen work surface, as Ruth makes herself some toast, and George is sitting down reading the paper.

Candy jumps off the work surface and goes and sits down by George. She is unsettled and after the briefest of moments, she's up again, and off upstairs.

Ruth looks at George and shakes her head.

58 OMITTED 58

59 INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. CLASS ROOM. DAY 15 59

Geography class. The boys listen to the teacher reading. Kyle is lonely.



...then I have to shake my head  
at the bigness of everything.

We see Kyle and Anthony both looking up at the sky. In the distance we see Olivia watching them.

63 INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. CLASS ROOM. DAY 16 63

Maths. Simultaneous equations. Kyle is staring hard at the board, but none of it makes complete sense to him. We see Dom turn and smirk.

CHARLES VO  
I'm just worried this isn't  
really about the child.

64 EXT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. DROP OFF/PICK UP. DAY 16 64

Godfrey and Charles are walking across the quad.

GODFREY  
What d'you mean? What on earth  
else is it about?

CHARLES  
Oh nothing. Forget I even said  
anything. It's just one can't  
help wondering whether this is  
more about Anthony, than any  
educational philosophy he might  
hold.

GODFREY  
Don't talk such bunkum.

Charles tries to smile. Godfrey shakes his head.

65 EXT. CLAMPMEAD BRIDGE. DAY 16 65

Kyle and Eileen are looking over the bridge. Silence.

EILEEN  
I wish we could have stayed at  
juniors for always. Don't you?

Kyle shrugs.

66 INT. OFFICE. NIGHT 16 66

Candy is spraying and polishing. We see Lin emptying bins.

67

INT. CANDY'S HOUSE. KYLE'S BEDROOM. DAY 17

67

Early morning. Kyle is at the kitchen table, eating Weetabix whilst clearly struggling over homework. Candy, who has just returned from work, comes in.

CANDY

Shall I wake up George and get him to come and help?

KYLE

He's not going to know what simultaneous equations are, is he? He's thick like me.

CANDY

Were you listening in class?

KYLE

I don't understand any of it. Any lesson. It's all...why have you made me go to that school, mum?

CANDY

Because...you're brilliant.

KYLE

Then how comes I don't understand what they're going on about half the time?

Kyle drops his head onto the table. We see the agony on Candy's face.

CANDY

(hugging him from behind)

Never give up, Kyle. You never give up, and you'll see.

Kyle looks up at his mum who is bursting with passion.

KYLE

But they're all so...rich!

CANDY

That's alright, isn't it?

KYLE

'Cept I feel like a rag arse pauper when they're giving it plenty about ipods and xboxes when all I got is George's moody MP3 player...that don't work but I haven't dare tell him.

Candy takes this in.

68

INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE CLASS ROOM. DAY 17

68

A physics class for year 7's, (11-12 year olds). There are about ten boys in the class and it is very ordered.

We see Kyle sitting at the back of the class in his new, smart school uniform. He doesn't look at ease or happy as the teacher, Charles, writes something on the board.

CHARLES

So, what happens to a moving  
object if the forces on it are

Olivia heads off. Anthony watches her go. After a moment, the phone in Olivia's bag sounds a text coming through. Anthony thinks for a moment before getting up and picking up her phone. There is a moment where he struggles with his conscience...should he read it. He decides to. He sees the text is from Charles and he reads it.

"I've got a free period. Meet me in chapel?" Anthony thinks for a moment before pressing reply and typing..."I'm coming over now. Take your shirt off."

70 INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE PUBLIC SCHOOL. CHAPEL. DAY 17 70

Charles is in the chapel. There is a knock at the door. Charles quickly starts to unbutton his shirt as Anthony comes in.

ANTHONY

Oh?

CHARLES

(quickly readjusting and thinking quickly)  
Sorry, bloody fly...bug...went down my top. Gone now. Thought it was a wasp.

ANTHONY

Did you know the common wasp...Vespa vulgaris... will attempt to invade honeybee nests to steal their honey?

Before Charles can react, Anthony disappears. His fears confirmed.

71 EXT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. DROP OFF/PICK UP NIGHT 17 71

End of the day and Kyle is heading out of the school. Dom follows him and out to the pick up/drop off/visitors parking area.

DOM

I suppose you're off to steal from the lockers?!

KYLE

Yeah that's right mate. 'Cept I don't want nothing you've got!

DOM

Is it true your mother's a prostitute?

Kyle glares at him.



DOM

And that's how she's able to pay  
your school fees?

KYLE

Shut up.

DOM

I guess your father was her pimp,  
yes?

After a moment, Kyle takes out a coin.

KYLE

Heads or tails?

DOM

(lost)

What are you going on about?

KYLE

Heads or tails?

DOM

Heads.

Kyle flicks the coin high. As Dom tilts his head up to watch the coin, Kyle takes the opportunity to thump him on his exposed jaw.

KYLE

Good night.

Triumphantly, Kyle heads out of school, unaware his pencil case has fallen out of his pocket.

Charles has seen this. He is observing from a little way off.

Dom composes himself, sees Kyle disappearing out of school

Charles extracts the compass and holds it aloft as if evidence for Godfrey.

CHARLES  
Just seen him running off.

GODFREY  
Well, we can't have that! I shall have to talk to Anthony.

Charles looks at Godfrey and shrugs.

72 OMITTED 72

73 EXT. GARAGE. NIGHT. 17 73

Kyle and half a dozen or so friends, are on the roofs of the garages. There is a locked garage, and the kids are attempting to break in, by bashing a hole in the roof. Eileen is with them.

TREVOR  
Pass me that brick.

Trevor gets handed the brick and starts to bash it down on the roof, trying to make a hole.

TREVOR  
(continuing to bash a hole)  
If there's a car in here, I'll be able to get it started. You won't grass on us, will you Kyle?

KYLE  
What you saying that for?

TREVOR  
Well, now you're a geek, we can't tell what you'll do, eh Milan?

Milan sniggers. Kyle is none too happy.

MILAN  
Shall I go get my grand-dad's axe?

TREVOR  
He's got an axe?

MILAN  
(with a shrug)  
Just in case.

TREVOR  
Go on then.

Milan starts to scamper off the roof.

Night. CANDY is emptying bins. She is working industriously and diligently.

LIN

And maybe you like the white half best.

CANDY gets on with her work. She can bite her tongue no longer.

CANDY

So I should just let him...waste his life away and end up in prison, yeah?

LIN

So everybody on the Clampmead ends up in prison, do they?

CANDY

Maybe I should risk my son, for you, eh Lin? That'd be being a good mum, eh?! At the moment he's only flobbering into cars from the bridge...what happens when he lobs a lump of concrete over and kills someone?

LIN

Well why don't you go and move into the middle of a field then? Build a great big wall all around yourself, so you won't have to be contaminated by any of us lot from the Clampmead!

CANDY, frustrated, heads off.

75

EXT. GARAGE. NIGHT 17

75

The kids are still on the roof of the garages. Kyle has the axe and is swinging it madly down onto the roof, and has successfully made a large hole. He swings the axe with frenzy as if purging himself. When the hole's big enough, they all dive down to look in through the hole.

76

INT. GARAGE. NIGHT 17

76

The garage is empty save old newspapers and rats. We look up and see the disappointed faces of the youngsters looking down in through the hole.

(We hear celestial singing.)

Anthony is at the back of the chapel listening to the school choir and watching Olivia conduct.

Charles and Godfrey come into the chapel and sit next to Anthony.

CHARLES  
(whispers)  
I don't need this.

Charles hands back a cheque to Anthony.

ANTHONY  
For the damage to your car.

CHARLES  
It's insured.

Anthony won't take the cheque. Charles rips it in half and puts it in Anthony's pocket.

CHARLES  
He has apparently abandoned his studies for another afternoon.

ANTHONY  
Has he?

CHARLES  
Other members of staff were rather insensitively muttering about your 'feral child'.



MR PATEL  
(pushing Candy)  
Off my pavement.

CANDY  
No. I'm staying on the pavement.  
What you going to do about  
it...axe me to death?

MR PATEL  
How can I, when that bloody thief  
has got my axe!

A couple of kids try to get past and into the shop.

MR PATEL  
One bloody school kid only! Read  
the sign. And everybody off my  
pavement, now!

Mr Patel tries his damndest to shove everybody off the

KYLE

No I never.

ANTHONY

You were seen, Kyle.

CANDY

(snaps)

Do you have to follow me like that?! You look like a kerb crawler.

Anthony stops the car. CANDY doesn't break step, so Anthony is forced to jog down the road after them. Anthony catches up with them and they stop talking.

ANTHONY

Pretty stupid thing to do, wasn't it, Kyle?

KYLE

What?

ANTHONY

Oh, so now we have five minutes of 'who guv, what guv, me guv?' do we?

CANDY

Listen, twat head...

ANTHONY

No, you listen...for once! It doesn't seem to matter how much we bend over to help...

Before Candy can explode, they become aware of Eileen hurrying towards them with a bird cage.

EILEEN

(pointing at the large over head power cables that are all around the estate)

There's just been a big thing on the tele about them.

CANDY

What?!

EILEEN

They make us stupid.

CANDY

Eileen...?



EILEEN

It was on the tele. And we get  
cancer. My house is right  
underneath, so definitely the  
budgie's moving in with you,  
Kyle. If they can do that to  
humans, imagine what they can do  
to budgies.

She hands the cage to Kyle. CANDY shakes her head, Anthony  
is completely lost.

CANDY

(serious, to Anthony)  
Just cos we come from the  
Clampmead, don't make us all bad.

Suddenly Anthony's car screeches past, with Trevor behind

ANTHONY  
(glaring at her)  
You don't think I've rather put  
my neck on the line for you?!

CANDY  
No mate! I think Kyle passed your  
test and you rather wanted him at  
your school.

Kyle comes into the room and looks at Anthony.

KYLE  
(calmly and chillingly  
quiet)  
Why should I bother with lying  
about a bit of damage to a car?  
And if that physics teacher says  
he saw me doing it, he's the liar  
I'm afraid.

Anthony and Kyle look into each others eyes.

ANTHONY  
(troubled and unsure  
about what he says)  
So why would 'that physics  
teacher' make it up?

Kyle shrugs and goes upstairs again. Candy and Anthony  
stare at each other...and there is a feeling of calm after  
the storm.

CANDY  
You see Kyle as...different, and  
that's not right.

Anthony gets up and heads out.

84

EXT. CANDY'S HOUSE. CLAMPMEAD ESTATE. DAY 18

84

Anthony emerges from the house. He looks around, lost,  
trying to determine which way he should go. After a moment  
he heads off with purpose. Before changing his mind and  
walking in the opposite direction. As he does, a car comes  
shooting towards him and rams on it's brakes. He suddenly  
realises it's his own car, with George behind the wheel.

GEORGE

86 OMITTED 86

87 INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. ANTHONY'S OFFICE. DAY 18 87

Anthony is sitting behind his desk. Dom stands in front of

ANTHONY

(to Dom)

If you were the only one there,  
are you saying it was you?

DOM

It wasn't me. But it wasn't Kyle  
either. You always taught me to  
tell the truth, and I've told it  
now. So it's up to you.

Anthony can see he is passionate and honest. Anthony looks  
at Charles, who is squirming.

George and Ruth are dancing to the music that blasts out of the open windows of the house.

GEORGE

Fifty years and nine months ago  
today...your mother raped me!  
(genuflecting)  
God rest her soul!

RUTH

I don't look fifty though. I look  
about twenty.

GEORGE

Me an all. Twenty three tops.

RUTH

(nodding to Candy)  
She looks older than both of us!

They laugh and watch as Anthony comes round the corner and sees Candy. Anthony hurries to her with his planned speech in his head.

ANTHONY

(rueful and humbled)  
I know it wasn't Kyle...who  
damaged the car. I'm sorry I  
didn't listen to you in the first  
place. Please accept my  
sincere...

CANDY

(stopping him mid flow)  
And the humiliation is complete!  
Strip me off, roll me in custard  
and get the entire world to throw  
rotting fish entrails at me.  
Nothing could be worse than you  
witnessing one of my mothers  
barbeques!

ANTHONY

I've come to say sorry.

CANDY

You've come to say what?

ANTHONY

Sorry.

CANDY

And that makes everything  
alright, does it? You falsely  
accuse my son...

ANTHONY

You're right. I've made a  
fundamental error. It is  
inexcusable.

CANDY

Too right, mate.

Candy stares at him. He looks back, feeling the shame. Ruth  
arrives and thrusts a tin of lager into his hand.

RUTH

There y'are mate. A tin of wife-  
beater! Let's get on it!

Ruth is whisked away by her sisters.

ANTHONY

Shall I stay for a drink, or...

Candy shrugs. Anthony nods thinking she wants him to go,  
and starts to head off.

CANDY

Mind you, you have seen me doing  
my war dance outside Primo Saver.

ANTHONY

(turning back)  
That's true.

CANDY

How did it look?

ANTHONY

Personally, I'd prefer to be  
stripped naked, rolled in  
custard...

CANDY

Yeah, alright mate!

90

EXT. CANDY'S HOUSE. CLAMPMEAD ESTATE/INT. BURNT OUT CAR.  
DAY 18

90

Kyle and Eileen are still in the car.

A stolen car speeds onto the estate. Kyle looks and sees  
Trevor and another couple of his friends are in it. They  
screech to a halt and open the back door. Kyle gets out.

TREVOR

Get in.

KYLE

Where you going?

TREVOR  
He hasn't pulled the shutter's  
down on the offie.

KYLE  
Eh?

TREVOR  
We're gonna ram raid it. Get it!

KYLE  
I got my nan's...

TREVOR  
(aggressively)  
Get in, you pussy!

Kyle, clearly reluctantly, gets in. They speed off. Eileen  
is left on her own.

ANTHONY  
Thong as in pants?

CANDY  
No, as in th-inging a th-ong.  
Yes, of course thong as in pants.  
What the hell other sort of thong  
is there?

ANTHONY  
Then yes, I saw your thong.

CANDY  
And did I look little and fat  
even though I was wearing my  
heels?

ANTHONY  
Yes.

CANDY  
Steady. Don't get fresh!

Anthony almost smiles.

92

EXT. OFF LICENSE/INT. CAR. DAY 18

92

Trevor has pulled up a little way down the road to the  
Primo Saver/off licence. He starts to rev the car.

TREVOR  
Ready?

All the others nod and pull up their hoods. Kyle doesn't.

KYLE  
We shouldn't do this...not  
here...not to Milan's...

Just before Trevor shoots forward, Kyle opens the door and  
gets out.

TREVOR  
Where you going?

KYLE  
We can't keep doing this, Trevor!  
This is supposed to be...our  
home!

Kyle walks off.

TREVOR  
(shouting after him)  
You come back here or you're  
dead! Come back here, Kyle!!



Kyle doesn't turn back.

92A EXT. STREET. DAY 18

92A

Kyle is standing on the bridge looking down, thoughtfully.

93 EXT. THE GREEN. DAY 18

93

The party is in full swing. A few aunties are on the bouncy castle, clearly in drink, and taking great joy at flashing their knickers to the kids below who scream in horror.

We see Anthony and Candy eating charred burgers. George comes over with another tin of lager for Anthony.

GEORGE

Look at my girls, eh? Is it any wonder I turned to crime.

ANTHONY

I ought to be going.

GEORGE

She wants you to stay.

CANDY

Only cos I need you to help Kyle with his Latin translation.

GEORGE

And...she thinks you're bunk up material.

Candy looks ashen - she can not believe what George has just said.

CANDY

(shamed)

George, I wonder if you could do us all a favour and...

She whispers something in his ear.

GEORGE

Fair play.

George goes.

ANTHONY

Two questions, if you want me to help Kyle with his Latin, does this mean he's coming back to school?

Candy nods.

ANTHONY

And...what's bunk up material?

Anthony looks at her, trying to remain expressionless.

Suddenly Ruth and her sisters grab Anthony and force him up onto the bouncy castle. Ruth's three sisters hold Anthony and they all bounce him madly.

Kyle arrives in the garden, looking sweaty and dishevelled. He heads across to his mum and hugs her, before he notices Anthony, somewhat reluctantly being forced to wildly bounce.

Candy and a dishevelled Anthony are sitting outside on garden furniture. The party goes on around them but they have found a quietish corner.

CANDY

How long you been married?

ANTHONY

Nearly ten years.

CANDY

So how comes you haven't got any kids?

ANTHONY

Too busy.

Anthony tries to smile.

ANTHONY

There are only so many hours in the day.

CANDY

You went to boarding school, right?

ANTHONY

I was sent away at seven.

CANDY

You see... I think that's odd. What kind of mum did you have?

ANTHONY

She wasn't exactly a loving mother like you.

CANDY

I dunno about that.

ANTHONY

You see I don't think it would be a disaster if Kyle boarded.

CANDY

Shut uppa your face!

ANTHONY

I mean it actually. Boarding would give h46. Boarding

CANDY

Me?!

ANTHONY

He'll always have you. And that makes him one of the lucky ones. Boarding can be like having two families.

CANDY

Boarding?! What Kyle, my Kyle? Fitting in with that lot?

ANTHONY

They're not all filthy rich. Some of them are...

Candy gives him a look of 'pull the other one'... then takes his hand and leads him off.

96 EXT. PARK. DAY. 18

96

Anthony and Candy are walking along.

ANTHONY

(after a moment)

I guess in a funny kind of way  
I'm still boarding! It taught me  
to build a wall around myself for  
protection...and I'm not sure  
that's good. If you stop people  
getting in to harm, you also stop  
them getting in to...

Anthony pointedly stops talking. There is a moment between them.

97 EXT. CLAMPMEAD ACADEMY. DAY 18

97

The place is deserted, but still manages to look desolate.

Anthony and Candy stand looking at the somewhat dilapidated buildings.

CANDY

(pointing)

That was my form room. The one  
with the broken window.

ANTHONY

When a window gets broken and you  
replace it immediately, no more  
windows get broken. You leave it,  
and eventually all windows get  
broken.

CANDY

You got a little expression for  
all occasions, haven't you? I'll  
show you smokers corner.

She takes his arm and starts to steer him round the side of the building.

CANDY

(looking around)

Can you see why I didn't want  
Kyle to come here?

ANTHONY

(nodding)

But it's a shame, isn't it?

CANDY

While good teachers like you keep  
going to work in good schools  
like yours, shit holes like this  
are going to get worst and worst.

After a significant beat Anthony returns his attention to his book.

98

INT. CANDY'S HOUSE. KYLE'S BEDROOM. NIGHT 18

98

Kyle is getting into bed. Candy is with him.

CANDY

He thinks you should board.

Kyle nods. Candy stares at him.

KYLE

I can't give it my best shot, can I? Not if I'm coming back here and getting up to stupidity.

CANDY

But how do I...what do I do without you?

KYLE

I'm nearly twelve.

CANDY

That's not old.

KYLE

But it's not young either.

Candy hugs Kyle.

99

EXT. CLAMPMEAD ESTATE/INT. CAR. DAY 19

99

Candy and George are in the burnt out car. George is wearing his drivers gloves.

GEORGE

What you mean he just kissed your schnoz?!

CANDY

He was nervous. He's only...forty four. But he's 44 in posh years...that's only about 11 in common years.

GEORGE

You wanna watch the posh ones.

Candy touches George's hand.

CANDY

Me and you can look after each other from now on, eh, Gramps?

George nods. They are both trying to be brave.

100

INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. DORM. DAY 19

100

Anthony and Kyle are in the dorm, looking around.

ANTHONY

This will be your bed, Kyle. If that's okay?

KYLE

I am gonna give it a right go here, sir.



ANTHONY

Good. And I'm going to give  
it...a right go too.

Anthony smiles. Kyle notices Dom lying on his bed.

101 INT. CANDY'S HOUSE. KYLE'S BEDROOM. DAY 19 101

Candy is in Kyle's bedroom, lying on the bed, looking up at  
the ceiling, thoughtfully.

102 OMITTED 102

103 OMITTED 103

INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. CLASS ROOM. DAY 20

CANDY

Trying to get a bit of extra money so Kyle can... you know... have all the things...

ANTHONY

Don't work too hard.

CANDY

All work and no play make Candy even duller!

ANTHONY

You're hardly dull.

Anthony attempts to put a friendly arm on Candy's shoulder. Candy quickly tidies the shelves.

CANDY

How's Kyle? I haven't heard from him for a couple of days.

ANTHONY

Fine.

CANDY

I think he's a bit embarrassed of me. And who can blame him? What must I look like waddling around school in my Esso apron?!

ANTHONY

Kyle's gone up a maths set!

Candy looks delighted.

CANDY

Tell him how proud I am. And tell him... tell him to call me if he's not too busy.

ANTHONY

So, how are you?

CANDY

Me? Yeah, good. You?

ANTHONY

I've actually missed your dulcet tones around the place.

CANDY



Candy is coming down the stairs in her Primark ballgown. George is coming in through the door. He is holding a bunch of flowers.

CANDY

What you doing here?

GEORGE

Anthony sent these flowers for you so I thought I'd bring them over.

Candy looks gob smacked.

CANDY

Did he?!

GEORGE

Only joking. But hear the excitement in your voice!

CANDY

He comI0.020955397 Tc q 1 the

GEORGE

Anyway, first date, no more than  
having your tits felt!

CANDY

It's not a date it's a 'new  
parents supper'...so I doubt  
there'll be an opportunity for  
him to have a go on my boobs.

GEORGE

You never know with teachers.

CANDY

(blurting out as she  
heads into the sitting  
room)

Lin's send me to Coventry.

GEORGE

(following her in)

I wish I'd had the opportunity  
you're giving Kyle, I wish I'd  
give your mother the opportunity,  
I wish she'd give you the  
opportunity...

CANDY

I'm just...so lonely.

Candy looks like she might cry. George holds her.

GEORGE

(voice breaking)

Me too.

They cling onto each other.

112

INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE PUBLIC SCHOOL. FUNCTION ROOM.  
NIGHT 21

112

A casual supper for new parents. A couple of dozen or so  
are sitting round a table...all in smart casual, apart from  
Candy who has turned up in a Primark ball-gown.

MRS FILLIS

Are you going away for Christmas?

CANDY

We're staying in doors.

MRS FILLIS

Not skiing?

CANDY

I get vertigo on me bike, so I  
wouldn't thank you for standing  
on the top of a mountain and  
slipping down.

MRS FILLS

Oh!

Mrs Willoughby leans over to join in for a moment.

CANDY

(turning back to Mrs  
Fills)

And I'm working Christmas eve.

MRS FILLS

What do you do?

CANDY

I'm in the petroleum industry.

Some boys come in to take away the plates. Kyle is amongst them. Candy is desperate for him to look at her and smile, but he keeps his head down.

CANDY

That's my boy. And I love him.

MRS FILLS

(pointing to student)

That's mine... and he's a bit of a  
shit. He's all distraught because  
I happen to have a love life.

CANDY

Oh?

MRS FILLS

I don't see why it has to be  
mothers that are made to feel  
guilty.

Anthony and Olivia come in, arm in arm, carrying some more wine. They are warmly greeted. Mrs Fills smiles.

MRS FILLS

Hello Headmaster... and Mrs  
Headmaster!

Candy scrutinizes Olivia.

ANTHONY

I think we have stumbled upon the





Candy walks away.

114 INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE DORM. NIGHT 21

114

Kyle is lying on his bed. Dom is lying on his.

KYLE

Could you believe what my mum was wearing? She looked like the fairy from the Christmas tree!

DOM

How far away are your family?

KYLE

Clampmead.  
(this clearly means  
nothing to Dom)  
It's only a bus ride. What about you?

DOM

Slightly complicated.

KYLE

Where you live?

DOM

My father's in Hong Kong...he's a corporate lawyer, and my mother lives in the South of France with a property consultant.

KYLE

So where do you go?

DOM

Christmas my father's coming to England and we're staying in a hotel near Gatwick.

Kyle isn't sure what to say, so tries to smile.

OMITTED

114

116 INT. CANDY'S HOUSE. KITCHEN. DAY 22 116

Candy is in the kitchen in her dressing gown. George and Ruth are there. Candy is clearly a bear with a sore head, but George and Ruth haven't noticed yet.

CANDY

There's nothing to tell!

RUTH

I can't see any 'hickies' on her neck.

Candy thunders around getting her cereal out.

GEORGE

Here, I hope you didn't shame the good name of our family.

Ruth and George laugh.

116 A INT. HALTHEM COLLEGE PUBLIC SCHOOL. DORM. 116 A

Kyle is sitting quietly at his desk, working away at his poem. He screws up his piece of paper in frustration.

116 B INT. HALTHEM COLLEGE PUBLIC SCHOOL. CORRIDOR. 116 B

A large box, like a sort of ballot box, has been erected in the corridor. 'Michaelmas Poetry Competition' emblazoned on the front. We see boys posting their poems. From the far end of the corridor we see Anthony watching.

116 C INT. HALTHEM COLLEGE PUBLIC SCHOOL. DORM. 116 C

Kyle finishes his poem. He is clearly not sure about it, but after a moment, gets up and heads out with it.

116 D EXT. HALTHEM COLLEGE PUBLIC SCHOOL. 116 D

Kyle is walking across the quad. He passes Anthony.

KYLE

Yes sir.

ANTHONY

(puzzled)

Yes sir... what?

KYLE

I have entered the poetry

ANTHONY  
(suddenly re-emerging)  
Why of course Charles. We  
wouldn't want anyone recognizing  
the handwriting, would we?

Anthony leaves.

Charles and Olivia are lying in bed, cuddling.

OLIVIA

God I love you. I just want to  
curl up small and live for ever  
in your chest hair.

CHARLES

(Looking at her)  
What a weird thing to say.

OLIVIA

I'm just...letting you know how  
much I love you. Again.

CHARLES

Oh yes. Ditto likewise.

OLIVIA

Wouldn't it be great if I could  
leave Anthony and we could be  
together for ever? Live in a  
cottage with cats and kids!

CHARLES

Yes, but as discussed, while  
Anthony's headmaster, that's  
impossible.



CANDY  
(Looking around)  
It is pretty perfect in your  
world, you can't odds that.

\*

ANTHONY  
Well I hate to shatter your  
illusion but my life is far from  
perfect.

CANDY  
Wanna swap?

ANTHONY  
Yes.

\*

\*

CANDY  
I wish I'd brought my apron.

\*

\*

Candy notices Olivia all over Charles, somewhere in the  
distance

\*

\*



ANTHONY

(blurting it out)

My wife's been having an affair with my deputy but my sense of duty means I say nothing, keep my head down, and strive to make the school... 'perfect.' It's all pretend.

\*

Candy looks stunned. Anthony is whisked off somewhere by a parent.

\*

\*

119

INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. FUNCTION ROOM. NIGHT 23

119

The rather splendid room is packed with parents, teachers and dignitaries. Candy enters nervously. A few heads turn and comment. Candy puts on a brave face, she searches the room for Kyle amongst the several boys who are offering round trays of champagne glasses.

\*

\*

\*

\*

Charles claps his hands twice.

\*

CHARLES

Top table boys!

\*

\*

Anthony, who has been collared by a parent, extricates himself and heads across to her, she is still looking for Kyle.

\*

\*

\*

\*

CANDY

(nervously)

At Kyle's primary I was the Father Christmas, and the whole kit, including beard, cost me two squid from Woolies.

\*

\*

ANTHONY

I bet you looked stunning.

CANDY

Taking the piss?

ANTHONY

A little.

CANDY

That's alright then. He's not here. I wanted him to be proud of me.

\*

\*

\*

ANTHONY

He will be proud of you. Who wouldn't?

\*

\*

\*

\*

We sense the tears welling up. Anthony sees her looking round at the other parents, who are indeed giving her little glances. Candy doesn't want to cry in front of the other parents and Anthony senses this. He puts his arm around her and steers her gently to the exit.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

CHARLES

Do I not like that, Mr Godfrey.

\*

GODFREY

What?

CHARLES

Oh nothing. It's probably quite innocent anyhow.

Charles smiles. Godfrey looks at Charles and Candy disappearing.

119 A EXT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. CORRIDOR. NIGHT 23

119 A

\*

As they come into the empty corridor, Candy tries to compose herself. They look into each others eyes. Anthony moves her fringe from her eyes. He kisses her on the cheek. She kisses him on the cheek back. Anthony moves forward and kisses her gently on the mouth.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

120 INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. ANTHONY'S OFFICE. NIGHT 23

120

Anthony opens the door and leads Candy in. Once inside, he holds her for all he is worth.

CANDY

I can't actually breathe.

ANTHONY  
(Loosening his grip  
slightly)  
Sorry.

CANDY  
I'll forgive you.

He goes to kiss her, she responds but neither is sure which way to tilt their heads and their noses crash.

ANTHONY  
Sorry.

CANDY  
Come here.

She grabs him and kisses him, he responds hungrily, and they tumble onto the sofa, but he lands on her with a bit of a thump and causes her to cry out.

ANTHONY  
Sorry.

CANDY  
You're alright. You just winded  
me, that's all.

ANTHONY  
I'm a little out of practice.

CANDY  
And there's me thinking you were  
some kind of lounge lizard.

She has to hoist up her skirt to straddle him, and she kisses him again.

121 EXT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. QUAD. NIGHT 23 121

Charles emerges from the function room, clearly looking for Anthony and Candy.

122 INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. ANTHONY'S OFFICE. NIGHT 23 122

Anthony and Candy are still in the same position, and still

CANDY

I know that, mate. I've known that since you first set eyes on me.

ANTHONY

Really?

CANDY

There's like this green ectoplasm that dribbles out of a fella's mouth whenever they fancy me. I'm the only one who can see it...

Anthony stares at her before realising she is taking the mick. They kiss again. The passion increasing.

Unseen by them, the door pushes open and Charles looks in. He stares at them, aghast, before retreating into the corridor, pulling the door behind him. The noise of the door shutting causes Anthony to jump with a start.

ANTHONY

What was that.

CANDY

What?

The moment of passion is broken.

123

EXT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. QUAD. NIGHT 23

123

Charles is striding across the quad. A spring in his step. He hides when he sees Anthony emerging from his study building. Godfrey emerges from the function room and grabs Anthony.

GODFREY

There you are. Come on, I need you.

And with this, he whisks Anthony back inside with him.

Charles re-emerges and stands on his own, wondering what to. Candy emerges from the building housing Anthony's office.

CHARLES

Can I suggest, you gather your son and go home.

CANDY

What you talking about, mate?

CHARLES  
What I'm talking about is fraud!

CANDY  
I aint a fraud.

CHARLES  
It's theft! To pretend your son  
has won a scholarship, you are  
stealing the school fees.

CANDY  
But he did win a scholarship.

CHARLES  
But he didn't win a scholarship!

CANDY  
(stunned)  
He was chosen because...

CHARLES  
...Of his lack of ability!  
Anthony, in all his arrogance,  
thought, 'give me any stupid  
child and I will work my  
miracles'.

Candy stares at him.

CHARLES  
It was a bet.

CANDY  
Shut up mate.

CHARLES  
He had a bet he could get your  
son to blend in here. A boy so  
lacking in... anything. That was  
the challenge.

CANDY  
You're one sad bloke.

CHARLES  
He bet me a walnut whip, that he  
could turn your son from a street  
yob, into a public school boy.  
You didn't actually think he  
liked you, did you?

Charles heads back into the function room. Candy is left on her own.

Anthony is standing on the stage.

ANTHONY

As tradition dictates, the  
Michaelmas Poetry Prize winner,  
chosen by the English  
department... will now recite his  
winning poem.

Polite applause. The head of English hands Anthony an  
envelope. We see Candy coming in at the back.

ANTHONY

Ladies and gentlemen, this year's  
winning poem is entitled...  
(opening the envelope  
and reading)  
'To see the sky'.

The camera pans around the sea of faces. We close in on  
Kyle who looks genuinely stunned.

ANTHONY

Could the poet kindly make  
himself known.

A shocked but delighted Kyle steps forward to applause.  
Candy looks stunned. Kyle takes to the stage. Anthony beams

At the end, tremendous applause. When he knows Candy is watching them, Charles pointedly hands Anthony a walnut whip.

CHARLES  
(whispers)  
Well...you won the bet, fair and square, Anthony.

Anthony looks at him. Charles puts the walnut whip in Anthony's hand.

CHARLES  
Maybe you could get your common tart to bite the top off for you!

Charles nods to Candy and gets Anthony to hold aloft the walnut whip for her to see. Anthony stares at Charles, the penny dropping.

Candy strides with purpose across to Anthony.

CANDY  
(not softening her voice at all)  
You horrible, horrible bloody horrible...man! You lied and cheated to win yourself a walnut whip!

Anthony looks a little taken aback. He allows himself a little glance at Charles before trying to placate Candy.

ANTHONY  
Candy...

CANDY  
Don't you 'Candy' me, you snivelling little toad. You can stick as many knives in my heart as you want, it's been so badly damaged in the past it's beyond repair, but why lie and tell me my little Kyle's won a scholarship when he hasn't?! Just so you can 'win' again?

The row is now attracting a lot of attention.

ANTHONY  
It wasn't like that.

CANDY  
(screams)  
It m /vr vis You l heated ty l sn' ts



This last shriek has certainly attracted Godfrey's attention. Charles sidles across to him. All eyes are now on Candy.

CANDY

I'm common, you know that  
Headmaster. You want a grope, you  
only had to ask.

And with this, she moves towards the stage, grabs a mortified Kyle and heads out, as the throng part and stare at her in horror, as she goes.

CANDY

(turns to deliver her  
parting shot)

Look at this place...with all you  
holier than thou people with your  
silly bloody names for  
everything...your preps and  
tuckers and minors and majors!  
It's all bullshit...a tart in a  
tiara don't make her a  
princess...isn't that right, Mrs  
Headmaster?

Candy and Olivia make eye contact.

CANDY

Don't look at me like butter  
wouldn't melt. And as if I'm some  
dirty slag when all along it's  
you. Everytime Anthony's back's  
turned you;re up Charles'  
apartment with your knickers  
round your ankles before anyone  
can say 'I'm the choir mistress  
don't you know.'  
(turning back to the  
audience)

CANDY

Put crazy paving out there  
instead of that perfect lawn, and  
people won't think the school's  
as good! How sad's that?  
Everything's bullshit but you lot  
shut your eyes and keep your  
fingers in your ears, and the  
real world won't be able to touch  
you!

Candy goes. A general murmur builds up. We focus in on Charles and Godfrey.

GODFREY

What on earth has been going on,  
Charles?

CHARLES

I'm not wholly sure?

GODFREY

This is no time to defend your  
friend Charles.

Godfrey heads towards Anthony who has remained rooted to the spot.

GODFREY  
I will be calling an  
extraordinary governors meeting  
tomorrow where I will need you to  
explain yourself, Anthony.

Anthony nods and heads out. Charles allows himself a little satisfied smile.

125 INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. ANTHONY'S OFFICE. NIGHT 23 125  
Anthony is sitting numbly on a chair.

126 INT. CANDY'S HOUSE. KYLE'S BEDROOM. NIGHT 23 126  
Kyle is lying in bed. There is a knock at the door and  
Candy comes in.

She sits down on the bed and strokes his hair.

CANDY  
I wish I'd just...listened to  
you.

KYLE  
Am I going Clampmead now, mum?

Candy nods and starts to cry.

KYLE  
What you crying for? I wanted to  
go to Clampmead in the first  
place.

CANDY  
I've let you down badly.

KYLE  
You haven't.

CANDY  
(devastated)  
I have, mate. I couldn't see!  
(MORE)

CANDY (cont'd)

Cos I wanted it all to be right,  
and...I wanted it to be right so  
much...I made it all wrong!

KYLE

Nothing's wrong.

CANDY

I've made us a laughing stock.  
They was all laughing at us when  
we went there, and now they'll  
all be laughing at us when we go  
back to Clampmead with our tails  
between our legs.

KYLE

Nobody's laughing, and if they  
are, I don't even care, because I  
know! I know what it's like  
to...open that box and find  
treasure.

Candy looks up at him, quizzically.

KYLE

Anthony might have cheated to get  
me in, but when I got there, I  
did okay, mum. I swear I done  
okay. I won the bloody poetry  
prize. Did you like the poem?

CANDY

Oh, mate! It was brilliant.

KYLE

It's the first thing I've ever  
won.

He hugs his mum letting her know she's important. The door  
opens and George comes in.

GEORGE

Oi, family love ins, I'm invited!

George joins in with the hug.

127

OMITTED

127

128

INT. OFFICE. NIGHT 24

128

Candy is cleaning. Somewhere else in the building, we can  
hear office Christmas parties going on. We get glimpses of  
them through windows and doors, as Candy walks along with  
her Hoover.

As she opens an office door, there are a couple on the sofa  
having sex.

As she shuts the door on them she hears the man say, "don't worry, it was only the cleaner."

Candy goes on her way.

INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. ANTHONY'S APARTMENT. DAY 25

Anthony is dressed and is looking out of his window. ANGELA

He goes to leave but stops

She links his arm and they head out.

130

Anthony and Godfrey walk along the corridor.

I've spoken to the other

to...

A full Governors Meeting has been called, and the Governors sit around the large table. Anthony is there, and all eyes

Many thanks for your attendance,

GODFREY

I know how busy you all are so... thank you once again. I have spoken to you all individually, we know why we're here. Anthony, you know why we're here. We need an explanation and an apology.

Anthony gets to his feet.

ANTHONY

I've spent my life at boarding school. Never once have I thought about what went on outside, outside these four walls. That was until I offered Kyle Jerome a place. Initially a stupid selfish act. I didn't even consider what it might be like for Kyle, or, if our pupils and teachers would be happy to share their privileged school with someone like him. I am proud to say that the boys and staff, on the whole, have been magnificent. Boys like Kyle won't dilute this school, they will enhance it. I am going to say sorry Godfrey, but not to you. The only people I owe an apology to are Kyle and his mother. Here is my letter of resignation.

Anthony places the envelope in front of Godfrey and calmly walks out of the room.

132 A INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE. CORRIDOR.

132 A

Charles has been ear-oling at the door. On hearing movement he quickly sits down on a chair. Anthony emerges. The two men stare at each other for the briefest of moments, before Anthony disappears. Godfrey calls Charles in.

132 B INT. HALTHAM COLLEGE PUBLIC SCHOOL. FORMAL BOARD ROOM. DAY 21 B

Charles comes into the room.

CHARLES

Last night I slept not a wink.  
Never before has a man been so  
wronged. All I care about is the  
school...our school. If an  
innocent man needs to fall on his  
sword, then I shall fall on my  
sword, but...a woman has lied,  
cast a slur on my character and  
humiliated me beyond belief. I  
put my hand on my heart and  
declare...I have had no affair.

133 EXT. CLAMPMEAD ESTATE/INT. BURNT OUT CAR/RUTH'S HOUSE . 133  
DAY 25

Kyle and Candy are in the car.

CANDY

I've been a crap mum, but I'll  
try and be better.

Candy strokes the back of his head.

KYLE

You're not crap, mum. You never  
have been. You talk crap, yes!

CANDY

I'm a helicopter... that's what  
nanny reckons... always hovering  
over you, never letting you... I  
should have thought more about  
you and not about me.

KYLE

You taught me I could do  
anything. And so did Anthony.

CANDY

You can make it at Clampmead, you  
know. You really could.

KYLE

I know. I can. And I will.

Anthony's car pulls up behind them. He gets out and  
approaches them, and speaks to Candy through the broken  
back window.

ANTHONY

I know. I know what you're going  
to say.

Candy looks at him, somewhat sceptically.

ANTHONY

I was stupid... how everything  
started. But I don't regret a  
single thing.



CANDY

I want you to just...go quietly  
now, and stop...

We see Anthony's eyes well with tears. Ruth and George emerge from her house, arm in arm.

CANDY

Everything's a big, fat  
disappointment...

ANTHONY

(trying to explain)  
It started off a...challenge.

CANDY

Bet! You can say 'bet'.

ANTHONY

Whatever it started up as...it  
ended up with...something else.

CANDY

I'll never like you. I could only  
ever hate you. I want you to go.

ANTHONY

You've changed...everything.

Kyle stares at Anthony.

KYLE

You taught me to look up at the  
sky, Anthony. But all along, you  
was only ever looking down at the  
gutter. We want you to go away,  
and leave our world in peace,  
mate!

Anthony starts to walk away. George goes up to him.

ANTHONY

(to George)  
I ought to go.

GEORGE

And that's it, is it? That's all  
the fight you got in you?

Anthony gives a little shake of the head and gets into his car.

GEORGE

(Leaning into Anthony's  
car)  
So it was all bullshit, yeah?  
(MORE)



ANTHONY

I thought we were a good  
pairing... professionally. I  
didn't think anything else  
particularly mattered.

OLIVIA

I thought I loved you...at the  
start.

ANTHONY

I didn't want it to end like  
this...but it has to,  
Olivia...and I so want you to be  
happy. You deserve a happiness I  
could never give you.

Anthony allows himself a little smile.

And with this, Anthony heads out.

136 EXT. HALTHAM COLLEGE QUAD. DAY 26

136

Dawn. The grass in the quad, capped with dew, looks perfect. Anthony emerges from his apartment and stands looking at the sweep of grass.

He sees Charles watching him from a window.

Anthony walks across the dewy grass for the first (and last) time. When he gets to the other side he looks back at the footprints scored in the dewy grass and smiles.

He disappears, and we are left looking at the footprints in the grass.

137 EXT. CLAMPMEAD ACADEMY. DAY 27

137

A large group of parents and pupils are gathered at the gates at the start of the day.

Candy and Kyle approach the gates. People turn and look at them. We see Lin and Mandy in the throng.

Their way appears to be blocked by angry faces.

Candy and Kyle, unperturbed, head towards the gates. The throng part, like the Red Sea.

Candy and Kyle walk in, heads held high.

Lin smiles and after a beat, claps her. A lone clap initially, but after a moment, others join in.

Candy and Kyle allow themselves a smile.

END CREDITS

Coda

138 EXT. CANDY'S HOUSE. CLAMPMEAD ESTATE. DAY 27

138

Candy and George are walking Kyle home from school. They are laughing and happy.

As they walk up the their front door, we notice Anthony sitting in his car outside their house. They seem to not notice.

INT. CANDY'S HOUSE. HALL. DAY 27