

Written by
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SHOOTING SCRIPT (Issued: 19th October 2018)
PINK PAGES (Issued: 5th November 2018)
BLUE PAGES (Issued: 6th November 2018)
YELLOW PAGES (Issued: 12th November 2018)

Mainstreet Pictures / BBC One

LEO. All we can see. Sat as if master of his dominion.
Wearing an infantilising '25' jumbo birthday badge. Our view
o

He opens the card: 'Happy 25th. C

PATRICK
Mum - this is Benjamin's brother.

BENJA

JULIA
We should sing. Della, help me
light the candles.

Della quickly fumbles for a lighter in back pocket.

PATRICK

LEO
Yeah she... she's great.

TED
You haven't scratched her already?

LEO
(quickly stammers out)
It was Patrick.

Ted looks at Leo - doesn't believe him. In fast -

LEO (CONT'D)
Besides missing out on his pig-
headed attempt to have a barbecue
in Ma

Ted hurries to his electric car, drives off. Leo gives a wave, doesn't get one back. Watches the car go. Now alone. Doesn't like it - so - hammers at the door knocker again.

H

LEO

The first time they've been in close

JULIA
(smiles at the memory)
You always insisted on Patrick
giving you a piggyback.

Instantly annoying Leo.

LEO
Not true.

Ted half-laughs at Leo's bolshy denial.

TED
I'm afraid your mother's right.
You'd plant your feet, cross your
arms and wait until Patrick
relented.

Julia laughs - she'd forgotten. Leo shakes his head, runs up the slippery path to prove a point. When he reaches the top he turns to look back at his parents - they're still half-smiling to themselves. It pleases him, gives him an idea.

LEO
It is e i o l

LEO

I didn't want to see anything, I
didn't want to *kn* anything,
believe me, Mum...When I thought
about telling you, I...I just
couldn't hurt you like that.

Julia sees that he's upset, just gives a tiny nod.

LEO (CONT'D)

Dad swore it was the last time. He
told me he was going to fix things
with you. Make it how it was.

JULIA

(a strangled laugh)
How it was?...How a it?

Leo just looks back at her. Utterly in earnest -

LEO

You were happy. You and Dad...
(waits for confirmation)
Not in a grim all-over-each-other
way, just...quietly working.

And now we know where we are. Back hearing his opening words.

LEO (CONT'D)

It made me feel safe.

Leo averts his gaze from Julia, twists to the window.

LEO (CONT'D)

Like our family was the one solid
thing...But now...?

His face clouds over.

LEO (CONT'D)

We're being ripped apart...
(with venom)
And it's all his fault.

Julia gives a tired shake of the head out to the road.

JULIA

Whatever you think went wrong, went
wrong long before Benjamin.

Silencing Leo.

LEO

What do you mean? We used to have
fun there.

Della's distracted by a BLONDE arriving, bringing two beers -
one for Della. As she passes it over, hands linger. Leo's

The song still playing as - Leo jerks awake. Confused.
Doesn't know where to place the dream - memory, nightmare,
what? He can't cope - stubs out his spliff, gets out of here -

Don't be like that. Stay. We

TED
Don't you think you've caused
enough trouble

LEO
(defensive)
It's called having a drink.

KIERAN
(a little jab)
Not have any mates?

C

LEO
(a hint of excitement)
What we talking, drugs, gangs?

KIERAN
All the above.

In his drunken stupor Leo all but says 'cool'. Just manages to stop himself. Kieran can see how impressed Leo is.

KIERAN (CONT'D)
Nothing to be proud of. I did shitty things to him, things family aren't meant to do... stole, lied...

LEO
(Laughs)
Great stock we're marrying into.

KIERAN
That's me. Not my brother.

LEO
Because he's such an upstanding guy. Keeping you hidden away like some, some dirty secret.

It hurts Kieran. He takes a moment, stares into the bottom of his empty absinthe glass. Then looks back up at Leo.

KIERAN
I'd forgive him anything... He's blood. That's all we have in the end.

It gut punches Leo. The one thing he does

Leo leans against Kieran's van, trying to stop

Leo at her shoul

JULIA
Darling, I'm not, I'm just trying -

LEO
- You were going to say yes
earlier, I know you were. Now,
miraculously, you've changed your
mind... You spoke to Benjamin didn't
you?

JULIA
Of course I did. He's my fiancé.

LEO
And he told you not to help me?
(sees it in her face)
Because he wants all your money for
himself.

JULIA
Beca e he can see that by
continuing to enable you, I'm doing
you more harm than good.

~~LEO~~
A

And he turns, drags out a battered Samsonite from wardr

JULIA (O. S.)
It's in the not saying that you
spare pain.

She looks at the pock-marks left in the cake. The ruin of it.

JULIA (O. S.) (CONT'D)
Protect.

Then of a sudden she just - dumps the whole cake in the bin.

35 OMITTED 35

36 36

Julia's feet all we can see, in wellies, stamping the ground
as she goes. In a ferocious mood. Taking no pleasure in what
we now pull out to see: the incredible landscape.

JULIA (O. S.)
What's wrong with that?

Julia reaches Hay Tor, alone now. Looks to where Benjamin
once was. Her face contorts with anger, pain. She could cry -

37 37

Now utterly drained of all emotion, Julia sits by the window
with a glass of wine. An Anne Tyler attempted and forgotten
by her. The slam of front door runs through her entire body.
She straightens up. Stands. Sits. Again. Until she's sitting.
Fixes her hair. Tries to be ready as - footsteps - then -

A furtive knock, in comes - Benjamin. Without any of the
confidence she's known him to have. He shuts the door behind
him. Grips the handle a moment, before Tf (e) Tj ET BT 12 0 0 Tf (e) Tj

Right, JULIA

JULIA

Benjamin.

She waits for him to look at her. When he does -

JULIA (CONT'D)

Breathe.

(softening her tone)

It's okay.

She doesn't shift her gaze from his eyes, until - he's calmed down. When he's finally able to speak it's a desperate -

BENJAMIN

Is it

Momentary panic on Benjamin's face, gone so fast Julia's not sure she even saw it

Pulls out a treasured picture which he hands to Julia. It's a Mid-Rise Local authority block, name visible. Stood outside, proudly and seriously holding the handles of a pushchair - is seven-year-old Kieran. Inside - blond baby Benjamin.

JULIA

You were blond? *Blond* blond.

(as if a joke)

(MORE)

How many other things are there I
don't know about you I wonder...

Benjamin gives a weak smile - knows the jibe she's making.

KIERAN (CONT'D)

He had this pack of felt tips, that went - I'm not kidding you - everywhere with him. I'd be playing football, look over and there he'd be, not more than six, sat writing these stories about King Arthur and dragons and, and stuff I'd never heard of.

Julia sees the struggle in Benjamin listening to this.

KIERAN (CONT'D)

I knew, even then that he'd...he'd be somebody. Leave us behind...
(as if light)
'Course I didn't think it'd be seventeen years.

She sees the pain flit across Kieran's face. Feels for him. It's this moment that Leo walks into. We've seen this from his perspective, but now we're with Julia. This is her story.

LEO

Rolling bac

Julia's gaze is locked on rear view mirror: reflecting2 423 736 Tm /T

Julia's thrown off course. Fe

JULIA

I thought...
(swallows, then -)
I thought you didn't remember.

PATRICK

You wanted us not to. There's a
difference.

JULIA

Delia, is he... do you..

H DELLA

PARAMEDIC

How did you come by your injuries?

Startling Julia. Her pause the confirmation the medic needs.

PARAMEDIC (CONT'D)

I've colleagues who can help.

Julia's gaze goes from Ted, to the door where Della and Patrick are huddled under the watchful eye of a STERN POLICEMAN holding Leo. Julia does the only thing she thinks she can. Lies.

JULIA

I fell.

She *ill* hold this family toge

J

Patrick

A laugh from Della. Too loud to compensate for the strained silence. Julia lifts her champagne, and the cheers is done - eye contact completely avoided by all. Julia sits. Eimear stands, heads into the kitchen to fetch the food.

Julia looks from one son - Patrick - staring furiously at her luxury Southbank one-bed apartment brochure - to the space where the other son should be. She leans in to Benjamin.

JULIA (CONT'D)

You're sure we shouldn't wait for Leo?

BENJAMIN

He knew the time, he knew what a big deal this was for you. For us. So. His loss.

Julia gives a bright smile as if he's right. Eimear brings in a moussaka, cursing at the burn it gives her. Patrick helps. Food's served, consumed and as cross conversations murmur we see what Julia sees, taking in each face in turn:

From Della doing her supportive best by making awkward small talk with Benjamin, to Eimear soothing a visibly stressed Patrick, to the empty space where her baby should be.

Benjamin turns, leans into Julia, taking her hand.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

Somebody's glass is empty... Which is unacceptable.

Julia smiles, aware they're on show.

JULIA

Keep me pickled to get me down the aisle. I'm onto you, Mr. Greene.

Julia

KIERAN (CONT'D)

I thought, I hoped it'd give us a chance to, to properly get to know each other again.

Aware of Julia's eyes on him, Benjamin smiles with a nod.

JULIA
(like ice)
Tell me what's really going on.

Benjamin tries to f

To where Julia stands, watching from her window.

JULIA
Patrick and you have it under
control ,

LANDLORD

'Fraid not. Like to think I know
most folk 'round here...Perils of
the job.

JULIA

(snatches on this)
What about Kieran Hyland, his
brother?

Recognition4Tm /TT2 1 Tf (h) Tj E2 0 0 12 164 640 Tm /T9

A faded news