

(Name of Project)

by
(Name of First Writer)

(Based on, If Any)

Revisions by
(Names of Subsequent Writers,
in Order of Work Performed)

Current Revisions by
(Current Writer, date)

Name (of company, if applicable)
Address
Phone Number

EXT. FIELD SOUTH WEST SCOTLAND DAY

Green grass merges from a misty air in the morning. Sheep begin to appear. A sheepdog(Jess)emerges from the horizon guiding the sheep down the steep glen into a field below. JIM (39) a shepherd follows behind. The view is then superimposed by the cross hairs of a telescopic rifle.

EXT. ROADSIDE NEAR THE FIELD DAY

A farm hand BOB (72)stands reading the paper beside his old land rover, waiting by pens with cows in them. A car pulls up beside him. JO (32) gets out.

BOB
Are yi lost lassie?

JO
No. I'm here to Pen dip some
cows.

BOB
Are yi sure? I'm waiting for a
man called Joe.

JO
I am Jo! Your new vet.

BOB
Are ye fit enough tae do it lass?
You've got a lot o' heifers here
tae Pregnancy Diagnose.

Jo ignores him, walks over to a barn, puts on her farm leggings and a heavy working jacket.

EXT PEN OF COWS DAY

Jo puts her hand inside the cow,

JO
This one's in calf.

The cows pass through the pen. Jo makes an efficient check on their condition and encourages them through.

BOB
A've underestimated yer
capabilities. (laughs)

A black new Range Rover at high speed tears past, splashing a puddle over Jo and Bob in the cattle pen.

EXT FIELD DAY

Jim is lambing a ewe. Jess sits patiently beside him. The lamb is born and stands shakily. Jim walks off towards the gate. Heavy rain is now falling. He opens the gate and calls Jess through. Jess is ordered to sit, he does so in the middle of the road. Jim closes the gate and bends down to collect his crook. The Land Rover returns at high speed and then a screech is heard. Jim looks round. Jess is hit and goes flying through the air hitting Jim. Jim falls to the ground landing at the bottom of the dyke. He can not breathe. He has swallowed his tongue.

EXT FIELD DAY

Cross hairs of the telescopic sight are on the scene of the accident and moves round to focus where Bob and Jo are standing in horror at the cattle pen.

EXT ROADSIDE ACCIDENT DAY

The Land Rover has stopped. The driver (Rupert Parker-Smythe 52) and his wife (Susanna 48) approach Jim. They crouch over him.

RUPERT

He's just a vagrant. A tramp.

SUZANNA

What about the dog, Rupert?

A piercing crack is heard. A wizz passes between Jo and Bob.

JO

What was that?

BOB

It wis a bullet!

JO

Someone's trying to kill us.

BOB

If he was trying tae kill us we wouldn'ae hiv heard the bang.

JO

What bang?

Instantly a loud bang is heard. Bob scans the horizon. He raises his arm pointing.

BOB

It's Big Tam. Thir must be sumthin' rang. Cummon git in the car.

He enters Jo's Subaru Impretza. He pulls back the seat. He looks over at Jo.

BOB (CONT'D)
A ken the roads lass.

EXT FIELD AND COUNTRYSIDE. DAY

A broad built man dressed in camouflage clothes runs at full pelt downhill heading for the accident. He hurdles fences and dykes. He jumps over a dyke on to the road in full view of the accident. He draws a knife. He crouches down by a bush at the side of the road then heads towards the couple with a determined look behind a ski mask showing only one eye. Noises are heard from the Range Rover the children (Victoria 14 and Edward 16) inside are banging on the window screens shouting:

VICTORIA AND EDWARD

Behind You!

Mum and dad turn round to the children's command and are confronted by a masked man with a high powered rifle on his back clutching a very large combat knife in his right hand. He barges in between the couple and kneels down on one knee. He opens Jim's mouth and is about to insert the knife into his mouth when Rupert grabs his arm. Tam throws his arm out and elbows Rupert on the chin, lifting him up off the ground and landing him on the bonnet of his Range Rover.

RUPERT
To hell with this. Let's get out of here.

As the car drives away at speed, Tam places his knife into Jim's mouth and removes his tongue from the back of his throat. Jim instantly gasps for breath then is sick at the side of the road where he lies. Bob and Jo return in her car. They find Tam and Jim in the middle of the road; Tam supporting a shocked Jim.

BOB
Are ye a' right Jim?

JIM
What the hell happened? Where's Jess?

There is a silence to his question. Then Jim sees the body of Jess lying on the verge.

JO
Come on let's get you into the warmth of my surgery.

(MORE)

JO (CONT'D)
I'll call for an ambulance to
take you to hospital.

JIM
I'm nae goin tae hospital. Thirty
miles away? I'll be fine wi a cup
o' tea.

JO
I'm only qualified to work on
animals, Jim

JIM
Jist patch me up as ye would ony
beast.

Jo smiles at Jim then carefully collects Jess and places her in her car. They all drive down the long road to her surgery.

INT SURGERY DAY

JO
You'll possibly need an X ray.
But let me have a look.

Jo examines Jim.

JO (CONT'D)
A couple of stitches I can give
you for that gashed leg where the
bumper caught you.

She leads Jim over to the animal x Ray table. They stand back as the X ray is taken. As Jo awaits the film's development, Bob approaches Tam and puts his hand on his shoulder.

BOB
Tam, we wis telt ye were killed
in Afghanistan.

Tam does not reply. Instead he keels over and collapses on the floor of the clinic. Bob looks at Jo and Jim.

BOB (CONT'D)
There must be somethin' seriously
wrang wi him.

They place him on an operating table. Tam remains unconscious. They remove his ski mask. His head is heavily bandaged on the right side of his face. It is blood stained and dirty. Bob turns Tam over and finds blood stains on his back next to a hole in his shirt. They take his jacket and shirt off and see the bullet hole and wealds and lash marks on his back which is badly infected. Jo examines the wounds anxiously.

JO
He would be better off in
hospital.

BOB
He canna go tae hospital.

JO
Why ever not?

BOB
We've been telt he wis killed in
action but he has returned home,
very much alive.

JO
Not as alive as we would hope
for. What was he out there for?

BOB
Army. He was drilling bore holes
for water. Royal Engineers.

JO
So why is he supposed to be dead
then?

BOB
We don't know whit happened oot
there. That's fur sure. It may
have been the Authorities that
was tryin' tae kill him. We jist
don't know.

Jo operates on his back taking out the bullet from his
shoulder. She takes off his head bandage to find he is
missing his right eye where another bullet has entered and
left by the side of his head.

JO
We really must get him to
hospital.

JIM
We canna.

BOB
Jim's right. Leave him here jist
noo an do as much as ye can.

Jo takes Tam's temperature.

JO
It's 105 degrees. I must give him
penicillin. I can only hope he
won't react to it. It's meant for
animals, but it'll have to do.

BOB
Will that be OK?

JO
In the circumstances, it will as
I say, as long as he has no
reaction to penicillin.

Jo gives him the penicillin and makes Tam comfortable. He remains in deep sleep.

INT VILLAGE PUB NIGHT

Jock, (55) the owner, is serving behind the bar. Jo Jim and Bob enter. Bob orders some drinks.

JOCK
So whit have ye been daen the
night?

Jo, Jim and Bob talk at the same time, all saying different things. (GABBLED VOICES)

JO JIM & BOB
I've never had a day like it!

JIM
(Simultaneously) A thought I wis
a gooner.

BOB
An nothin' ever really happens
here. It wis amazin'.

Jock notices Jim's bandaged leg. Bob leans over the bar and in a quiet voice begins to explain to Jock how the accident occurred.

BOB (CONT'D)
I wis jist readin' ma paper when
this car pulled up. Jo, she said
her name was, ...an' here.... she
was, the Vet. Well, onyway...jist
as she started tae work.....

(Fade Out)

EXT OUTSIDE SECLUDED FARMHOUSE DAY

Camera focusses on the secluded farmhouse with the black range rover outside.

INT GUESTHOUSE LIVING ROOM DAY

An argument between husband and wife.

SUZANNA

We should have stopped to help that man.

RUPERT

With a crazy gunman with a dagger loose? Anyway the man is probably dead by now. We couldn't have done anything.

VICTORIA

But what about the dog, Daddy?

RUPERT

It's all your fault Susanna. If only you had read the map properly!

SUZANNA

I'm going to phone the Police.

She dials 999 on her mobile phone but there is no signal. Rupert, Victoria and Susanna try their individual mobile phones, walking around the living room, going to the window to get a signal.

RUPERT

God Almighty. Cut off from the real world with a madman loose!

Edward is wired to sound. He takes out an earpiece.

EDWARD

What's up?

SUZANNA

We can't get a signal.

EDWARD

What about the house phone?

They frantically look around the house for the telephone.

EDWARD (CONT'D)

Then why not use the phone box in the village?

INT VILLAGE PUB DAY

Noise of glasses, numerous conversations. Bob Jim and Jo are seated together, Jo rises.

JO
I'll go and check on Tam at the
surgery.

Bob and Jim nod their agreement and carry on drinking. Jo leaves the pub.

EXT VILLAGE PUB DAY

Jo is outside and walks behind her car. She stops. She hears a whimper. She opens the car door and comforts the dog.

JO (CONT'D)
Let me take you back to the
surgery my poor wee Jess.

Jo drives away and parks at the surgery. She carefully takes Jess in her arms and enters the surgery.

INT SURGERY DAY

Jo enters the surgery and places Jess on a table. She looks around but there is no sight of Tam. She examines Jess carefully. She prepares the dog for surgery.

EXT SURGERY EVE

The surgery is fully lit inside.

INT SURGERY EVE

Jo has been working for hours on Jess. The dog lies motionless in a coma. Jo tidies up swabs and medicines.

EXT VILLAGE PUB EVE

Jim and Bob leave the pub. They look around.

BOB
Christ! She's taken the car!

JIM
Look! There's yer neighbours'
pickup outside Jock's shop. Thank
God he wisna at the pub.

They go to George's house and knock on the door, George answers.

GEORGE
Hi there. What's the matter?

JIM
We've lost oor lift hame. Any
chance o' a favour?

GEORGE
Aye. Nae problem. Get in.

JIM
I'll get in the back. A canna
bend ma sore leg.

GEORGE
What hiv ye done tae it?

BOB
It's a long story.

The car drives off. After a mile it comes to a halt by Bob's land rover. George drops them off. They wave George goodbye.

BOB (CONT'D)
We've left the heifers in the
pens. I'd better move them.

Bob opens the gate and lets the heifers out. Then he returns to the land rover. Jim is already inside.

BOB (CONT'D)
Let's call it a day.

EXT COUNTRYSIDE EVE

Bob drives Jim to his cottage. The car stops. Jim carefully gets out.

BOB
Will ye be a'right then?

JIM
Aye. Aye a will.

INT JIM'S COTTAGE EVE

Jim opens the door reaches for a box of matches by the door and strikes a match and lights a candle. He carries the candle through to the kitchen. He pours himself a small glass of whisky and adds some water, He sits down by a dying fire and reminisces. He looks at the photo of his late wife on the mantelpiece.

JIM
It wis you first, Mary.

He looks down at an empty basket where Jess normally sleeps. He sips his drink.

JIM (CONT'D)
and now you, Jess.

He finishes his drink, wraps a blanket over himself, blows out the candle and goes to sleep in the chair.

INT JIM'S COTTAGE EARLY MORNING

Jim wakens slowly from his chair. He grimaces and holds his knee. He drags himself out of the chair and gasps in pain as he does. (GASPS) He moves towards the door where he grabs hold of a brush, turns it upside down and uses it as a crutch. He opens the door.

EXT JIM'S COURTYARD MORNING.

He crosses the yard to a small tractor with a transport box attached. He clumsily climbs on board and drives off to look to see signs of any lambing in the field. He stops in a field, turns round and sees Bob's land rover approach. Jim dismounts the tractor. Bob gets out and approaches Jim

BOB
 You can't walk wi a leg like that!

JIM
 'Ave niver missed checkin' the sheep in twenty years an' am no about tae give up noo.

Jim determinedly starts to walk off a few steps but his home-made crutch sinks into the soft earth and breaks. Jim falls to the ground rolling in agony. Bob follows and picks him up.

BOB
 C'mon lad. Let's git ye home.

JIM
 Bit whit about the ewes. They're out there burstin' tae lamb an there's nae one tae see over them.

BOB
 Aye, bit it'll nae be you in this state.

JIM
 Thirs nae one else.

Tam appears suddenly and walks by. He gestures that he'll take care of the ewes. He walks deeper into the field. Bob gets Jim into the land rover and takes him home.

EXT. JIM'S FARMHOUSE COURTYARD. DAY

As the land rover enters the courtyard Jo is waiting in the yard. Jo approached the land rover and Jim is leaning on the open window.

JO
How are you feeling today Jim?

JIM
A feel like av'e been rin over by
a range rover.

JO
Well, I've got a surprise for
you.

Jo walks over to her car, opens the rear door and Jess is seen lying on the back seat.

JIM
Jess!

Jess manages to wag her tail. Bob assists Jim into the house and Jo carries Jess into the house.

INT. JIM'S FARMHOUSE. DAY

Jo puts Jess down on the floor.

JIM
Oh, ma wee Jess! Yiv lost a leg!

Jess limps over to her favourite corner

JIM (CONT'D)
Bob, she'll nae be able tae work
ony mair.
We'll git Tam tae shoot her.

JO
No way! I've spent three hours in
surgery with Jess last night and
you want to put her down?

Bob and Jim look guiltily at each other.

JIM
Ok, ok Jo. Ok

JO
What is it with you lot since I
came here?
(MORE)

JO (CONT'D)

(she looks at Bob) We have a male chauvinist pig over here, (turns to Jim) a stubborn ungrateful one here who doesn't know when he's hurt and hell bent over murdering Jess, his best friend! And, not to mention the one eyed psychopath who takes pot shots at me in the middle of no-where.

A moment of silent contemplation then Jim speaks to Jo.

JIM

Would yi like a cuppa tea?

JO

Two sugars and no milk please.

BOB

What! No milk, remember I'm a dairy farmer.

JO

We can't all be perfect.

They are all seated drinking their tea. Bob and Jim are contrite.

BOB

Sorry if I offended you.

Jo smiles.

JIM

Thank you for saving Jess. And for looking after me.

They finish their tea.

JO

Lets have a look at that leg of yours.

Jo removes the old bandage, cleans the leg and ties a new bandage over it.

JIM

I'll need someone tae help me do the lambing. A' can't expect Tam tae dae it a' himsel.

BOB

I've got a plan.

JIM

What is it?

BOB
Niver mind. A've a plan a' richt.

INT. HOLIODAY CHALET DAY

Rupert goes to the window. He admires the view down the valley. He shouts enthusiastically to Suzanna.

RUPERT
Come and look at the view. It's
a much better day. The sun is
shining right up the glen.

Suzanna comes to view the scenery. Then notices her mobile phone. She checks to see if there is a message. Rupert checks his too.

RUPERT (CONT'D)
We should go down to the village
to see if they have heard
anything about the accident and
use the phone. Ok lets get the
kids up and then get off.

SUZANNA
We're on holiday remember Rupert.
Let them lie in a bit. It's
Easter for heaven's sake.

EXT BY OLD ROADSIDE TELEPHONE BOX DAY

Rupert pulls his range rover up by the old red telephone box. He gets out of the car and enters the kiosk. There is no 'phone in the kiosk. He gets back into his car and drives down to Jock's local shop/post office.

INT POST OFFICE SHOP DAY

Rupert enters. SALLY (43) is behind the counter.

SALLY
What can I do for you today sir?

RUPERT
I need to make a telephone call.

SALLY
Are you looking for a pay phone?

RUPERT
Yes.

SALLY

There's one in the Pub, but it's not open yet. You could try the garage.

RUPERT

Where's that?

SALLY

Jock's garage is along from the pub on the right.

RUPERT

What does Jock not have?

SALLY

Well he doesn't own the Police Station or the Church!

Rupert leaves, gets into his car and drives along to the garage. Jock is working underneath a car. Jock remains working under the car but is aware of approaching steps.

INT GARAGE DAY

JOCK

Hullo, can a do anythin' for ye?

RUPERT

Have you got a pay phone.

JOCK

Aye

RUPERT

Can I use it?

JOCK

It's not workin'. It broke last week and the BT havn't come tae fix it yet. Ah keep speakin tae someone in India. They say they are testin' the line.

RUPERT

Oh I see.

Jock pulls himself from under the car. And looks at the Range Rover.

JOCK

Oh that's one o' they new sports Range Rovers. Can I have a look?

Jock goes over to the car. He sees the family in it. He smiles at them He runs his hand along the bodywork.

He goes round the front of the car and finds a piece of the grill broken. He pulls out some grass from the damage.

JOCK (CONT'D)
I see yiv hit somethin'

RUPERT
Er....We hit a small deer on the road a few miles back.

JOCK
An was the deer...wearin' a jacket?

RUPERT
No, I...er...caught my jacket on it.

JOCK
Ok I see

RUPERT
What about the telephone?

JOCK
Awww the pub opens at six you'll get one in there then.

RUPERT
Will it be workin'?

JOCK
Aye, it works fine. We'll see you later then.

Rupert gets into his Range Rover and drives off. As he disappears Jock's garage telephone rings.

INT GARAGE DAY

Jock answers the telephone.

JOCK
Hullo?

BOB (V/O)
Hi Jock It's Bob.

JOCK
I wis jist aboot tae phone yi. Ye ken that Range Rover with the posh guy?

BOB
Aye, I do.

JOCK

He didn't let anythin' oot about the accident. Told me he hit a deer! He's cumin' back tae the pub at six to make a call. What shall wi dae?

BOB

We'll gie him a hospitality party waitin' for him. After a' he's on holiday isn't he? (Bob chuckles)

INT PUB EVEING

It's a busy scene with most of the locals sitting or standing by the bar. Rupert, his wife and family arrive. They walk in. As they do, they are met with a wall of silence. Rupert makes his way towards the telephone. Everyone's eyes follow him; their faces are long. Rupert cautiously lifts the receiver.

RUPERT

It's not easy making a call in this place. Anyway, (sarcastically to Jock) I thought you had not got the phone yet.

One old man at the bar turns to Rupert

OLD MAN

It wis the Scots who invented the telephone.

Rupert ignores them and continues with his telephone call. The pub starts talking again. Rupert replaces the hand set.

JOCK

Would yi like a drink mister? I didnae catch yer name?

RUPERT

Oh my name is Rupert Parker Smythe.

The pub reaction is one of smirks and a few laugh having heard his name. Rupert approaches the bar with Jock

JOCK

What will it be then?

RUPERT

A small whisky please?

Jock serves him and Jim comes over and turns to face Rupert. Rupert looks at him curiously.

RUPERT (CONT'D)

I think I know you. Seen you
somewhere before, I think.

JIM

So what do yi do fur a livin' Mr.
Parker-Smythe?

RUPERT

I work in the city.

JIM

An' what do yi do there?

RUPERT

I'm a Hedge Fund banker. And
what's your name may I ask?

JIM

Jim McKenzie. I live at Bengatton
Farm.

OLD MAN

He's the Last Shepherd.

RUPERT

The Last Shepherd! Why are you
called that?

JIM

Am the only one left in the glen
who still farms wi a dog an a
stick the auld way. So tell me,
how much does a banker earn?

RUPERT

Well my bonus was £3 million last
Christmas.

JIM

That's a lot o' money! (Pause) Do
you think if I locked ye up in a
shipping container wi yer £5
million, you could survive by
eat'n it Mr. Parker Smythe?

Rupert takes a long sip from his glass before replying

RUPERT

How do you mean?

JIM

Well what I'm sain' is if yi had
all that money an' nae food, then
really yi have nothin'.

RUPERT

I'd find a supermarket somewhere.

JIM

But that's no whur food comes
fae.

RUPERT

Its where we get ours. So where
do you think it comes from?

JIM

How much dae yi rely on a farmer?

RUPERT

Oh, not much these days. Dying
trade I'd say.

JIM

A lot mair than yi think Mr.
Parker Smythe. Look yer wearin a
pair o' leather shoes. Where did
they come fae?

RUPERT

A shoe shop of course.

JIM

Aye bit where did they git them
from? The leather comes from
cows, y'know. (Pause) Yer Woolly
socks come from the sheep on the
hills. The farmer gets up early
and brings the sheep in tae be
clipped; then we sell the fleece
but it does nae pay for the
clippen o them.

RUPERT

But that's not right

JIM

But that's the way it is. (Pause)
I see ye like a wee whisky.

RUPERT

Yes. Why not?

JIM

Aye but the farmer went out tae
plough the field then sow some
barley. Then he worries for six
months. Will the barley grow?
Will he get a good price fur it?
And you think you don't rely on
the farmer. I tell you, you
wouldn't enjoy your quality o'
life if thir wis nae farmers. Ye
see Mr. Parker Smythe, we're nae
tramps or vagrants.

Rupert suddenly realises who he has been speaking to. He turns to leave the pub. He notices a policeman behind his family. The Policeman approaches. Rupert looks nervous. He focusses on a fire door. He runs towards it at speed, he pushes the bar to open the door. A masked man faces him. Tam lifts his arm and strikes Rupert across the chest sending Rupert back through the fire door. He lands on his backside at the feet of Police Constable Sandy Dunn (30). PC Dunn reaches down with handcuffs while giving him his rights.

P.C DUNN

I am arresting you Rupert Parker-Smythe. You do not have to say anything now but if you do, it may be recorded and used in evidence at a later date.

RUPERT

This is ridiculous. What charges have you pinned on me?

P.C DUNN

Leaving the scene of an accident; not reporting an accident or assisting an injured person and of yes, resisting arrest.

PC Dunn escorts Rupert through the bar. His wife Suzanne tries to intervene.

SUZANNA

Please let him go. He's innocent.

P.C DUNN

Back off madam please. You look after your children. I'll look after your husband.

INT POLICE STATION DAY

PC Dunn brings Rupert into the station.

RUPERT

And what about the maniac with the gun?

P.C DUNN

What maniac would that be sir? I didn't see anyone.

RUPERT

I see you turn a blind eye officer. Then I'll make sure you'll be all right, if you know what I mean.

P.C DUNN
And how would that be then?

RUPERT
You know, money.

P.C DUNN
You trying to bribe me?

RUPERT
Just a few odd pounds. Nobody
will know.

P.C DUNN
I'll let on that I never heard
that. Now sir, your full name,
age and home address. You be
thinking about that while I take
you to your cell.

PC Dunn takes Rupert to his cell, pushes him inside and
locks the key.

RUPERT
What about £500?

P.C DUNN
No, no, No.

RUPERT
£2,000

P.C DUNN
NO, no

RUPERT
£5,000

P.C DUNN
A little deaf are ye Mr. Parker-
Smythe?

PC Dunn closes the cell door and opens the peek hole.

P.C DUNN (CONT'D)
You'll be at Court first thing
tomorrow morning.

EXT IN CAR DAY

Suzanna is driving home with the children in the back.

VICTORIA
What will happen to father?

SUZANNA

I don't know. We'll come to the
Police Station tomorrow morning.

INT POLICE CELL DAY

Rupert wakes. He looks rough and has not slept well. He goes over to the cell door and bangs repeatedly on it.

RUPERT

Let me out.

P.C DUNN

Yer breakfast will be ready in
half an hour. What do you take in
yer tea?

RUPERT

You can do a lot with £5,000.
It's a fair subsidy on your
salary.

P.C DUNN

Don't be silly. I can't be bought
Mr. Parker...um...Smythe. And any
more bribery taunts and you'll be
charged with that too.

PC Dunn brings a tray with his breakfast into the
interviewing room. He then releases Rupert from his cell
and leads him to the room for breakfast.

P.C DUNN (CONT'D)

There will be a hearing in the
village hall before the justices
of the peace.

RUPERT

My lawyer will be here at 10am.

P.C DUNN

That's fine. We'll wait till 10
then.

RUPERT

What will happen at the hearing?

P.C DUNN

Well, they will decide whether it
should be a Sheriff Court case or
not.

RUPERT

Why should they be involved?

P.C DUNN

It might give you a better chance
to clear your name.

Rupert tucks into his breakfast. (CUT TO)

EXT VILLAGE HALL 10AM DAY

PC Sandy Dunn escorts Rupert into the Village Hall. As they approach the building a smart executive saloon car pulls up. A disgruntled lawyer gets out of the car.

MARK SKELLING LLB (60)

Rupert Parker Smythe! Do you realise I've been driving for seven hours this morning to defend you? Make sure your next holiday is near an airport if you wish my services again!

The three men enter the hall.

INT VILLAGE HALL DAY

Mark Skelling is in animated whispered talk with Rupert to prevent PC Dunn hearing their conversation. They sit before a long wooden table. The Chairman of the Justices arrives along with two other justices. The Chairman is none other than Jock the bar man, who extends his hand.

JOCK JP

Please gentlemen, be seated.

They all sit down but Mark is quick to his feet.

MARK SKELLING LLB

These proceedings are a farce!

JOCK JP

I take it you represent Mr. Parker Smythe? Your name please.

MARK SKELLING LLB

Indeed I do. Mr. Mark Skelling LL.B. (Hons) Skelling and Skelling Solicitors, Farnham, Surrey.

JOCK JP

Let me remind you Mr. Skelling you are no longer in England. Scottish law differs, (pause) considerably. Today's proceedings are preliminary by nature. Sui Generis in nature you will recognise and understand.

Mr. Skelling sits down, folds his arms and huffs.

JOCK JP (CONT'D)
Mr. Rupert Parker Smythe. Please stand.

Jock reads from a prepared sheet of white paper.

JOCK JP (CONT'D)
It is alleged that you were involved in a hit and run accident; failing to report the said accident; resisting lawful arrest and finally, attempting to bribe a policeman, an officer of the law.

Viewed from over Jock's shoulder the sheet of paper is blank. Jock places it down flat on the table.

JOCK JP (CONT'D)
Serious allegations Mr. Parker-Smythe. Normally at this point we have to consider whether it is a case for the Sheriff Court or not. (Pause) However as you might find Mr. Skelling, Scots law is flexible,..... if not canny.

MARK SKELLING LLB
Canny?

JOCK JP
Aye canny Mr. Skelling.
Fortunate,that's canny.
(Pause)

Mr. Skelling looks puzzled.

JOCK JP (CONT'D)
You see I propose another solution.

Parker Smythe is perplexed and looks to his solicitor for reassurance. Meanwhile Mr. Skelling hunches his shoulders and opens his hands upwards.

JOCK JP (CONT'D)
The man you knocked down Mr. Parker Smythe can't do his lambing. But if you would to do his lambing for the next two weeks then these charges before you will be dropped.

Rupert and his solicitor huddle together.

MARK SKELLING LLB
 For God's sake take the deal. It
 will keep your record clean.

Rupert nods his agreement hesitatingly.

MARK SKELLING LLB (CONT'D)
 My client accepts the conditions
 on the understanding his charges
 will be wiped clean.

JOCK JP
 Ma wird's ma wird. Thou's get the
 saul o boot!

MARK SKELLING LLB
 Your meaning sir?

JOCK JP
 Burns, Mr Skelling. I put my soul
 into the bargain. Now, be off
 with ye. An count yer selves
 lucky.

The meeting ends. All rise. Jock leaves the hall. Mark
 Skelling turns to Rupert.

MARK SKELLING LLB
 Your bill will be in the post by
 the end of the week. Now the long
 drive home. Happy Easter, Mr
 Parker-Smyth.

EXT OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE HALL DAY.

Mark drives off at speed. Rupert approaches his Range Rover
 with the family inside.

INT RANGE ROVER DAY

Rupert gets into the drivers seat and turns to his wife.

RUPERT
 They dropped the charges. But
 only on the condition I spend the
 next two weeks lambing for the
 shepherd I knocked down.

SUZANNA
 That's wonderful darling.

Susanna leans over to kiss Rupert on the cheek.

SUZANNA (CONT'D)
 Treat it as a holiday. A new
 experience, away from telephones
 and big money deals. You might
 find it relaxing.

CHILDREN IN CAR
 Yea Dad. At least it's not
 prison!

They laugh. The car drives off.

EXT JIM'S COTTAGE DAY

Jo drives up to Jim's house. Gets out and knocks on the door.

JO
 It's Jo, the Vet. I've come to
 change the dressing.

As she knocks again, the door opens with a flourish. Jo is startled at first. She sees Tam standing there. She enters.

INT JIM'S COTTAGE DAY

Jo enters and as she passes Tam she says:

JO
 I want to change your dressings
 too.

She walks into the kitchen where she finds Jim stretched out asleep in front of the fire. Jim comes round bleary eyed.

JIM
 Ah it's you dear.

He pulls himself up in the chair.

JO
 I've come to change your
 dressing.

JIM
 Ok Jo.

Jo starts to unwind a bandage and glances at a wedding photo behind Jim. She smiles.

JO
 Are you married Jim?

JIM
 Er.....Aye.

JO
Where's your wife then?

JIM
No longer with me. She left me
last year.

JO
Oh, I'm sorry to hear that.

JIM
Aye. It's a shamebut It's
all right.

Jo asks sympathetically

JO
Will she be coming back?

JIM
No, she's no comin' back. She
canny.

Jo changes the bandage on his leg. Bob and Jock enter his
cottage.

JOCK
Good news Jim. Guess what we've
done? We've got yon city bloke to
dae yer lambing.

BOB
I'm goin' tae show him the ropes
for a couple o days.

JIM
Ye must be kiddin'. He'll nae ken
one end o a sheep fae the aither.
An he winnae ken if it wis
lambin' even if it came up an bit
him on the arse, he still
couldn't tell if it wis lambin'.

They all laugh.

BOB
We'd better be oan ur way. See ye
Jim

JOCK
Cherioo the noo.

JO
And on your way out, tell Tam
I'll be ready to change his
dressing in a minute.

JOCK
Tell Tam? We hav' nae seen him.

Jo looks at Jim.

JO
But he opened the door for me.

BOB
Naw, we didnae see him.

JO
Jim, I told Tam I'd change his
dressing. He needs it to be
changed.

JOCK
Tam's his aen man. You'll catch
up wi' him some time.

EXT JIM'S FARM DAY

Rupert approaches the yard at Bengatton in his black Range Rover with his family and wife inside. They get out and approach Jim, Bob, Jock and Jo who welcome him.

RUPERT
Present and correct sirs. Well,
what do you want us to do?

JOCK
So I see the whole family want to
get involved.

SUZANNA
It should be an educational
experience.

BOB
Aye educational and bloody hard
work too. You'll be comin' wi me
up on to the hill and I'll show
yi what tae dae. Bit first yer
nae gaun in they claes. Come on
let's get changed.

EXT FIELD AND COUNTRYSIDE DAY

All are now suitably clad and proceeding up a hill. Bob takes the lead and Rupert and his family follow on behind. They stop at a gate. Bob leans on it.

BOB
Noo, sheep are silly but no daft.
They are no alwis co-operative.

Bob turns and sets off up the hill. Meanwhile Suzanna and the children are bogged down in mud at the gate. Victoria slips headfirst into the mud, rising with a muddy face. Suzanna loses a welly and her balance.. Rupert struggles to keep p[ace with Bob and starts to become breathless.

BOB (CONT'D)
 Noo this is where the collies
 come in useful, ye see....

Bob turns round to see the carnage of the family by the gate and an exhausted, unfit Rupert.

BOB (CONT'D)
 Fur F...goodness sake, it's gonna
 be a long day.

Rupert catches up on Bob.

RUPERT
 So, where are the sheep?

BOB
 We're gonna find the sheep. They
 dinnae come tae us.

RUPERT
 But there's nothing here!

BOB
 We've jist started. There's an
 aither three miles tae walk.

RUPERT
 What! Another three miles?

BOB
 Aye, the Jail feels like a warm
 place noo. Nut so?

RUPERT
 Right then. Let's find the sheep.

RUPERT (CONT'D)
 Don't neglect the family. We'd
 better wait for them.

Rising up the hill Suzanne and her two children, covered in mud approach. They join the two men and take deep sighs of breath.

RUPERT (CONT'D)
 We've another three miles to go.
 Sorry.

The children gasp.

SUZANNA

Common then. We'll be the fittest family when we finish and get back to Surrey.

They proceed together. Bob points to a sheep which has just lambed. They approach it.

BOB

We don't hae tae dae onything tae this wan.

They walk another mile.

RUPERT

How much longer?

BOB

Until we get the job done. It no like walkin' on the pavements o' London.

The family nod in agreement.

RUPERT

So Bob, can I ask? What age are you?

BOB

What age do you think I am?

RUPERT

56 - 60?

BOB

72

RUPERT

You should be retired and have your feet up at the fire!

BOB

An why wid a' do that? It's no like being oot o' doors in the fresh air wi the skylark above.

Bob turns and looks at Rupert straight in the eyes.

BOB (CONT'D)

If I did nae hiv this, I'd hae nuthin' tae live fur.

The group have now returned full circle to the gate. Waiting at the pens are Jo, Jim and Tam with some two hundred sheep. They are trimming the sheep's feet. Bob and the Parker Smythe family watch Tam turning a sheep, trimming the sheep's feet.

EDWARD

Can I have a go?

Tam motions Edward over to him. He shows Edward how to clip the feet. Jo is working in a pen. She finds a ewe lambing. She turns to Suzanna.

JO

Would you like to lamb it?

Suzanna smiles and approaches. She rolls up her sleeves. Jo catches a ewe and shows Suzanna what to do.

JO (CONT'D)

We need two feet and a nose.

Jo puts her hand in the ewe and gets the other foot out.

JO (CONT'D)

The lamb will come out now.
Suzanna you can have a go at
delivering it.

Suzanna moves forward apprehensively and places her hand on the ewe's back end.

JO (CONT'D)

Woe.woe...you can't put your
hands inside the sheep with those
nails! You will cause damage to
her. You'll have to trim those
nails and get the things off too.

Tam approaches with foot trimmers in one hand. He grabs Suzanna's hand with the other. He Steps over her outstretched arm so that it protrudes between his legs and starts to trim her nails.

SUZANNA

My nails! Oh God, my nails.

She sees the nail trimmings gathering in the mud.

SUZANNA (CONT'D)

Just because you have no nails
you bastard!

Jo continues to lamb the ewe. Jim and his family arrive as Tam releases Suzanna's arm from his legs. The family get into their car and head back to their holiday home.

JIM

Well, that went well I canna say.
It's no yet five o'clock an'
they're away hame. We canna dae
the lambing wi naebody tae dae
it.

BOB
 Well I've work ti dae at hame.
 I've dun enough today, sorry Jim.
 I've got cattle tae feed.

Jim turns towards Tam.

JIM
 Whit can wi dae?

Tam shrugs his shoulders and holds his hands up.

JO
 It would be better if they were
 living on the farm with you.

JIM
 I canna feed them because I
 didnae hive ony money an' I canna
 go shoppin' cos o ma leg.

Tam holds one finger sky wards. He slings his rifle over his shoulder and starts to run up the hill and out of sight in the mist.

JO
 Jim, where's Tam going?

JIM
 I dinnae ken but he's up tae
 sumthin' an' a don't think I like
 it.

JO
 Right let me take you back to the
 house.

JIM
 We'll let the sheep oot first.

EXT JIM'S HOUSE DAY

Jo drives Jim back to his home. She helps him out of the car.

JO
 Now if you need me at any time,
 day or night, I'll come and help
 you.

Jim smiles at her kind thought.

JIM
 Thanks very much Jo.

Jim lingers as he gazes into Jo's smiling face. They have lingering eye contact.

EXT HOLIDAY HOME DAY

Rupert and family arrive at their holiday home. They get out of the car and approach the front door unaware of Tam on the other side of the garden hedge. As they enter the house, Tam's bobbing head breaks the line of the hedge but no one notices. The front door closes. The family are all inside. Tam jumps over the hedge and runs quickly and quietly towards a drainpipe at the corner of the building.

INT HOLIDAY HOME DAY

SUZANNA
(SHOUTS) Why did you not stop
that madman from cutting my
nails! (Cries)

EXT ON DRAINPIPE DAY

Tam puts his rifle down against the wall. He shimmies up the drainpipe glancing into the lounge as he does so.

INT LOUNGE OF HOLIDAY HOME DAY

Edward has his back to Tam and is engrossed in a hand held video game.

EXT DRAINPIPE DAY

Tam continues up the pipe.

INT BATHROOM HOLIDAY HOME DAY

Tam looks into the bathroom to see Victoria in the bathroom over the pan with her fingers in her mouth trying to be sick.

EXT DRAINPIPE DAY

Tam continues to the roof where he opens a Velux window on the roof and enters the attic.

INT HOLIDAY HOME ATTIC DAY

Tam makes a small hole in the floor. He bends down to look into it.

INT HOLIDAY HOME MAIN BEDROOM DAY

Tam sees a view of the bedroom in which Rupert and Susanna are arguing over her damaged nails. They leave the bedroom still arguing.

INT ATTIC HOLIDAY HOME DAY

Tam places his back against the header tank and his feet against a joist. He strains to push the tank. It starts to move; then it comes off the rafters and breaks through the attic floor into the bedroom. It goes through the bedroom floor into the living room. All hell breaks out.

RUPERT

(SHOUTS) Get out. All get out,
the house is falling down!

Rupert is first at the door with a torrent of water following him. Rupert opens the door. Edward is still sitting on the settee with his video game but open mouthed. Victoria runs down the stairs past the empty water tank and runs into her parents arms outside the front door. Edward follows soaking wet.

EXT HOLIDAY HOME DAY

The family enter the Range Rover and it drives off at speed towards the village. Tam comes out of the roof window and scarpers down the drainpipe. He picks up his rifle and walks off.

INT VILLAGE PUB DUSK

The family enter the pub.

JOCK

My God! What's happened?

RUPERT

The roof fell in. The water tank is in the living room! Water is running out of the door.

JOCK

Well, you can stay here if you want. I've a room upstairs but the kids will hae tae sleep on the flair. We'll hiv tae arrange a more permanent solution the morrow.

The children draw close to their mother. They look up at her. Edward is sucking his thumb.

INT VILLAGE PUB DAY

It's 6 a.m.

JOCK
(Shouts) Breakfast folks

The family come down slowly wiping sleep from their eyes. Rupert is first at the table. Before him is a steaming plate of porridge.

RUPERT
I've never had this before!

The rest of the family sit down at the breakfast table.

VICTORIA
Eugh.... what's this?

EDWARD
I'm Not eating THIS!

JIM
Good healthy porridge. Put some milk on it or sugar if ye must. Anyway, you'll be stayin' at Jim's for the rest of the sentence.

EXT DAMAGED GUEST HOUSE DAY

The family take from the damaged holiday home, their belongings, pack their car and set off to Jim's home.

EXT JIM'S HOUSE DAY

Bob arrives at Jim's Jim is at the door when Bob gets out of the car.

BOB
Yer havin' guests staying' wi yi.

JIM
Who?

BOB
It's the Parker - Smythes

JIM
Bit I hae nae food or money tae feed them, Ye ken that, Bob? But why are they comin anyway? They no happy whir they are?

BOB

Ah weel Jim. Tam paid them a visit last night an he pit the heeder tank through the roof inta the bedroom an' doon tae the lounge. The holiday home is a disaster area.

Jim smiles.

JIM

Och well, it might be better if they stay here ony way. They'll be closer tae the sheep. An I'll get work oot o' them . No just 9 tae 5 stuff.

BOB

Let's see how they manage 9-5 first. Tam's takin' care o' the food.

JIM

So whin are the comin' like?

BOB

Should be here in five minutes.

JIM

Oh Hell! The place needs a tidy up, the bedrooms are nae ready.

Bob laughs.

BOB

Don't worry Jim. Susanna and the kids have all day tae make the place spik and span.

EXT JIM'S HOUSE DRIVE DAY

The Range Rover slowly approaches Jim's house. It's a bumpy road. Half way up the drive, Tam appears walking on the right hand side of the car with his rifle on his back and six rabbits on his shoulder.

VICTORIA

Stop the car Daddy!

Victoria winds down her window. She shouts at Tam spitting in his face.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)

You murderer.

Tam wipes the spit from his face. The Range Rover pulls away and arrives at Jim's courtyard.

EXT JIM'S COURTYARD MORNING.

The Range Rover stops. Jim and Bob greet them as they get out of the car.

JIM
Welcome. Come on in. I'll show
yuz around.

INT JIM'S COTTAGE MORNING

Jim limps around with the family in toe. He shows them upstairs. He passes the first door and stops at the second door.

JIM
This is the bigger of the two
rooms.

Jim continues on to the third room.

JIM (CONT'D)
This is Victoria's room, the box
room.

Edward is growing increasingly concerned seeing no other door.

EDWARD
(Shouts) And where's my room?

Jim turns round to face Edward, He places his hand on his shoulder.

JIM
You will stay outside with Tam
in the Bothy.

Edward begins to cry then sob.

EDWARD
Why do I ...sob...sob...have
to...sob...sob stay outside with
...sob...that...sob...loser?

JIM
So you drew the short straw. But
if you watch what Tam does you
might learn something useful.
Some thin' ye might see only once
in a lifetime!

Edward stops sobbing. He shows some interest.

EDWARD
What's that going to be?

JIM
Don't bite the hand that feeds
ye.

EDWARD
What does that mean?

JIM
Just take ma word for it sonny.
Come on, come wi me.

Jim leaves them to settle into their rooms. He goes downstairs with Edward and goes to the front door. He points across the yard. Edward picks up his rucksack with an aggressive snatch and walks over towards the bothy.

Jim walks over to the kitchen looking in cupboards to find something to feed his guests. As he walks passed the window, he accidentally drops his stick. He bends down to pick it up and sees two skinned rabbits for the first time. Jim carries them over to the kitchen table then goes to the sink. There he finds another two skinned rabbits. Jim hears movement behind him. Its Tam with another two more rabbits he places in the sink.

Jim prepares the rabbits for dinner. Tam returns with a Tesco bag of mixed vegetables and stock cubes.

EXT JIM'S COURTYARD MORNING.

The family begin to assemble.

BOB
Come on Rupert. Its time tae round up the sheep.

RUPERT
Well actually, we've not settled
in yet. Still a bit of sorting
out to do this morning.

BOB
There's plenty time fur that the
night whin its dark.

RUPERT
Not these bloody sheep again!

BOB
Well ye did knock folk over on
the road, remember!

EXT FIELD AND COUNTRYSIDE DAY

They start to walk up the open field.

RUPERT
How many sheep are there Bob?

BOB
Ask Jim.

RUPERT
Well Jim. How many sheep do you have?

JIM
At the last count Jess an' I got 1,555.

Rupert stops in his track mouth open wide.

RUPERT
And how many acres have you got for that number?

JIM
10

RUPERT
That's not a lot.

JIM
10 square miles.

RUPERT
Well that IS a lot of acres.

JIM
That's 6480 to be precise.

They head towards a gate.

BOB
Come on let's be going. There could be sheep lambing an we're jist talking. Come on let's get up this hill.

Bob leads the way with the family following and falling behind. Bob finds a ewe in distress. She is trying to lamb, just a head is showing. Bob instructs the group.

BOB (CONT'D)
Come round. Surround it. Keep the sheep from fleeing.

The sheep gets up and is frightened. It scarpers through the cordon. The family fall over. But Bob catches the sheep with his crook. He grounds the ewe.

BOB (CONT'D)
Which one of you wants to lamb the ewe?

RUPERT
I'll have a go.

Rupert looks under the sheep's tail to find a head.

RUPERT (CONT'D)
I've found the head. So what do I
do now. Pull it out?

BOB
NO! Push its head back in an'
find its front legs.

RUPERT
I cant get her head back in.

BOB
Jist wait. Wait till she stops
pushing.

Rupert gets the head back in and tries to feel for the
front legs.

RUPERT
It's so tight in there. There's
no room to move.

BOB
Just use one finger. Try to hook
it under its knees and pull
forward.

RUPERT
Yes...yes...I think it's coming.
Yes I've got them. It's coming.

BOB
Gently now Rupert. Wait till
she's pushing. Only when she
pushes.

The lamb is born. Rupert has the broadest of smiles.

RUPERT
I've done it. Wonderful. What
now. Another?

BOB
Not yet. Come on bring the lamb
to the ewe's head. Let the Ewe
lick it. An before ye give yer
sel another pat oan the back, pit
yer hand in again tae make sure
thirs no ony mair.

Rupert does as instructed.

RUPERT
No. It just feels like a can of worms.

BOB
Fine. A good job.

The family pat Rupert on his back.

BOB (CONT'D)
Step away now. Let the Ewe take to the lamb.

The group move away from the lamb. They approach the top of the hill. They stop to take in the view.

RUPERT
Breathtaking.

BOB
Aye I niver tire o' it.

EDWARD
I'm getting hungry.

BOB
It'll soon be lunchtime. Let's get walking.

The break the skyline and see Jim's home appear on the other side. They speed up their pace.

INT JIM'S DINING ROOM TABLE DAY

The table is set for six places. Jim is serving a stew into large soup bowls.

BOB
Lunch time folks. Wash yer hands and come tae the table.

Exhausted and bedraggled, the family enter but begin smiling at the smell of a hot tasty meal.

VICTORIA
Hmmm...smells good.

Jim approaches with a tattie pot he puts in the middle of the table.

JIM
Help yer selves. You'll be hungry.

VICTORIA
What is it?

JIM
Casserole.

EDWARD
Oh great. I am starving!

Jim takes out of his Rayburn cooker a large casserole dish piping hot and places it on the table beside the tatties. As the serving spoons are placed in the tatties and casserole, Tam enters. He places his rifle up against the wall and takes his place at the table. Suzanna starts to serve her family. It is an awkward moment as Jim says grace.

JIM
Some hae meat and cannot eat.
Some cannot eat that want it:
But we have meat and we can eat,
Sae let the Lord be thankit.

Jim opens his eyes looks up.

JIM (CONT'D)
Let's get stuck in.

Servings are dished out. They start to eat.

RUPERT
This is one of the best Chicken
casserole dishes I've ever
tasted. Well done Chef!

All are in agreement. Jim looks at Bob. Bob takes a mouthful and looks at Jim. Before he gets a word out, Jim kicks Bob under the table. Tam, at the end of the table, shakes his head and places his finger on his closed lips. Jim deliberately drops his knife on the floor. Bob and Jim both go to pick it up. They whisper to each other under the table.

BOB
It's rabbit, no chicken.

JIM
They don't know that yet.

They resume their positions upright at the table. A moment later Jo arrives.

JIM (CONT'D)
Have ye had yer dinner lass?

JO
No. In fact I'm starving.

JIM

Sit down then and take a plate.
have some tatties and casserole.

JO

I certainly will.

Jo serves herself. Then sits down and starts to eat.

RUPERT

One of the best chicken
casseroles don't you think?

JO

A great casserole all right. It's
rabbit though, not chicken.

The family screw up their faces.

EDWARD

Euch...rabbit!

JIM

It tasted good when you thought
it was chicken. Just because it
was once a furry bunny does n't
mean we can't enjoy it.

BOB

Anyway, its time tae git back tae
work.

RUPERT

But we have only just finished
dinner.

BOB

Sheep don't stop for dinner. They
lamb at any time.

VICTORIA

Well I am going to the toilet.

Tam bangs his fist loudly on the table. Victoria frowns at
him. Tam signals by putting his fingers down his through
and feigning a wrenching sound.

SUZANNA

Whatever do you mean by that?

JIM

I think he is trying to tell you
Victoria is goan tae make herself
sick down the toilet.

VICTORIA

No I am not.

Suzanna is not convinced and escorts Victoria to the toilet.

INT JIM'S COTTAGE DAY

Jo is checking Jim's wounded leg. Then she kneels down to take Jess's temperature. It's up. She gives the dog an injection of penicillin.

JO
Do you still keep in touch with
your wife?

JIM
Naw, not fur a while noo. Where
she is, she can't contact me.

JO
There's a dance on Saturday
night, would you like to go?

JIM
I'll see how am feelin' on
Saturday. I've had a big day,
preparin' a meal fur Rupert an
his family.

Jo acknowledges his efforts with a smile and a nod.

EXT FIELD AND COUNTRYSIDE DAY.

The family still struggle to keep up with Bob in the field searching for ewes in distress.

BOB
I can only dae this till 3 pm. I
need tae go an see tae the
milkin'.

Bob hands the family four whistles on strings which he asks them to wear round their necks.

RUPERT
What are these for?

BOB
If the mist comes down suddenly,
ye gie them a blow. That keeps ye
the gither.

RUPERT
But how would we get back in such
conditions?

BOB
Yer Guardian Angel is lookin'
o'er ye all.

RUPERT
And who is that supposed to be?

BOB
Oh That's Tam.

RUPERT
But I can't see Tam.

BOB
Look. There he is, over there.

RUPERT
Where?

BOB
Over there passed those rocks.

RUPERT
I still can't see him.

Bob blows his whistle and Tam stands up in the distance.
Bob sets off home leaving the family on the hill.

INT JIM'S HOME DAY

It's 5 p.m. The family have returned to Jim's home. Jim is
looking in the cupboards for ideas for the evening meal.
The family flop onto chairs at the table.

VICTORIA
I can't take much more of this.
My legs are sore from all this
walking.

EDWARD
So are mine.

JIM
You've hardly started yet. Thurs
still anaither three hours tae go
today.

Rupert sighs.

RUPERT
I wish I had never knocked you
down, Jim

JIM

So dae I. An' we widnae hiv hud
a' this trouble trainin' ye tae
be shepherds. It take years tae
get used tae it, Rupert.

Rupert is reflective.

RUPERT

Remember in the bar Jim? What did
you mean when you said 'you can't
eat money?'

JIM

Well I havnae got ony money but
I'm still feedin' ye off the
land. That's where the food comes
fae.

RUPERT

I see what you mean. If I have
all my money and no food, then I
have nothing.

Tam enters the home and gestures as if he is a fish
swimming.

JIM

Are you going fishing Tam?

Tam smiles and nods his agreement.

JIM (CONT'D)

Edward, would you like tae go
fishing?

EDWARD

Yes, better than working with
sheep.

Tam leaves the house.

JIM

On ye go Edward. Follow Tam for
the fishin'.

EXT COUNTRYSIDE DAY

Tam and Edward walk until they come across a small burn.
Edward is a few steps behind Tam. Tam walks along the bank
of the burn slowly, looking for a pool.

EDWARD

Where's your rod? You can't catch
a fish without one.

Tam puts his hand into his body-warmer jacket. He brings out a plastic bag and gives it to Edward. Tam then kneels down and puts his hands in the water. He guddles out a small trout to Edward's amazement.

EDWARD (CONT'D)
Wow. That's wicked!

Tam continues to catch fish. After he has caught five fish, he stands up and gestures Edward back to Jim's home.

EDWARD (CONT'D)
That's fantastic. Let me carry them back.

Tam gives the bag of fish to Edward to take home. He begins to run home.

INT JIM'S HOME DAY

Jim and Rupert are talking at the table. Edward is first to enter the house.

EDWARD
Dad, you should of seen how Tam goes about fishing.

RUPERT
What do you mean son?

EDWARD
Well Dad, he puts his hands in the water, strokes the fish and flicks them out.

RUPERT
You're joking.

EDWARD
No Honestly. It's amazing. I saw him do it!

(CUT TO)

INT JIM'S DINING TABLE EVENING

A satisfied family sit down to a grilled trout evening meal. All are pleased with this meal.

INT JIM'S LOUNGE FIREPLACE EVE

As night falls, all are gathered round the glowing fire in the lounge.

RUPERT

So, how long have you been here Jim?

JIM

All my life. I was even born upstairs.

RUPERT

And the McKenzies of Bengatton?

JIM

About 125 years or so.

RUPERT

That's a long time.

JIM

Aye, it is. But I don't ken jist how much longer I'll be here.

RUPERT

Why's that?

JIM

Well, we've come through two foot an' mouth outbreaks last year and this last one hit us hard. Lambs were half the price they were the year before because there were no exports and Britain does nae eat lamb, so we couldn't sell any lambs to make a profit.

Susanna and Rupert are taking a keen interest in what Jim is saying.

JIM (CONT'D)

Now I owe the bank a lot o' money. I don't know how I'm goin to pay it back if I don't get a lot o lambs tae spring, so I'm relyin' on you tae take care o' ma flock.

The family reflect on what Jim had said. Susanna and Rupert are nodding in agreement. The children set off for bed. Edward and Tam leave together heading for the bothy. Susanna sees them leave then heads for bed with Rupert and Victoria.

EXT JIM'S COURTYARD MORNING.

Bob arrives in his old land rover. He gets out of his car and finds Jim at his doorstep.

BOB

I've pit the heifers in Friday's sale at the market for ye. I'll come an give you a hand on the morning o' the sale.

JIM

That's great Bob.

BOB

Before I forgit. I've brought you some milk.

JIM

That's brilliant. I wis gettin' low.

INT JIM'S HOME DAY

Jim goes back to his house and straight to the large pot of porridge on the stove. He gives it a stir.

JIM

(SHOUTS) Breakfast ready.

Slowly the family arrive down wiping sleep from their eyes. Jim is serving hot bowls of porridge as they suit down at the table. Jim pours milk on his porridge. The family follow his example. Rupert is first to start his porridge.

RUPERT

Oh no it's salty.

JIM

Aye That's the Scottish way to eat porridge. Pour more milk on it if ye want. That might help it fur ye.

Edward pours some milk into a cup and drinks it.

EDWARD

Which supermarket is it from? It's so creamy and tasty.

JIM

That's a secret.

RUPERT

So where do you get your milk from?

JIM

It came straight fae the coo this mornin'.

Edward and Victoria make large eyed expressions to each other. Then pour more milk on their porridge.

EXT COUNTRYSIDE DAY

The family are in the field searching for a pregnant ewe. Rupert and his family head over the hill. They find a dead sheep. Edward runs back to inform Jim.

JIM

Aye son. Where you have live stock, you have dead stock.

EDWARD

But what can we do|?

JIM

Ah tell ye, if its dead its dead. You Put it tae one side and carry on wi the live ones. The survival o the fittest. That's what it is.

Edward heads back to his family, head hung low. He approaches the carcass.

EDWARD

We have to carry on with the living ones, Jim says.

The family spread out looking for other distressed ewes. Time goes by. No other ewes are found. Clouds get heavier. Rain starts to fall. They shout to be heard in the rain

SUZANNA

Which way do we go now?

RUPERT

I thought you knew!

SUZANNA

No. I've been following you!

RUPERT

Lets stick together and blow our whistles.

The family sit on a large rock in the rain blowing their whistles. The look at their wristwatches, 5 mins, 10 mins, 15 mins, no response.

RUPERT (CONT'D)

Its no use. Let's start walking.

SUZANNA

But which way?

VICTORIA
(crying) We're lost.

EDWARD
We must wait for Tam. He'll find us. Remember what Bob said.

Rupert determined to get off the hill, starts walking away from the family. As he disappears, a figure appears from the mist. Rupert continues to walk. He does not see Tam arrive. Suzanna whistles to her husband while Tam approaches and places his hand on Susanna's shoulder. She gasps. The children are pleased to see Tam. Rupert returns cross.

RUPERT

Where the hell have you been?
We've been lost in this downpour,
blowing our whistles for ages!

SUZANNA
Rupert. Come on dear, don't be like that. Tam's here now, that's what matters.

Tam guides them off the field back to the farm.

INT FARMHOUSE DINING ROOM DAY

It's dinner time at the farm. Jim has set the table.

JIM
Dinners ready. You'll be hungry after a morning's work. How's the lambing going?

RUPERT
Bloody lambing. We were lost most of the morning while the rain got heavier. Waiting for Cyclops to turn up.

Jim places a full plate in front of Rupert.

JIM
Awe, its a funny thing the mist.. Nice tae be in the hoose though, for yer dinner.

EXT JIM'S FORECOURT DAY

A car pulls up outside Jim's home. Jo walks from the car straight into Jim's house.

INT JIM'S HOME DAY

Jo walks in soaking from head to toe.

JO
The taps fell off the sink at the back of the surgery; there's water running out the door. I need help.

JIM
You need a plumber lass.

JO
I need to find the stop cock.

Tam walks up behind her.

JIM
Looks like yiv found one.

Rupert cleans his plate.

RUPERT
I'll help as well.

JIM
No, you're doin' the lambin'.

RUPERT
We can't do lambing in this fog.

JIM
Let's all go down tae help then.

EXT SURGERY DAY

The water is flooding out of the back door. They find the stop cock but it does not respond to their turning.

JIM
Let's go outside an' find the main stop cock.

They go out of the back door and an over grown back garden faces them.

JIM (CONT'D)
Tam. You'll need tae dae yer stuff.

RUPERT
What stuff?

JIM
Watch him!

Tam pulls out a knife and cuts two pieces of wire from the garden fence. He bends them at 90 degrees.

RUPERT

What is he doing for goodness sake.

JIM

Just watch I tell ye.

Tam holds the wire in front of himself and starts to walk slowly across the garden. Half way across, the wires meet very quickly. Tam turns towards the onlookers and walks up to within two yards of the window. Tam starts to dig. With the heel of his boot, to the amazement of Tam, he uncovers a metal plate with the word 'water' written on it. Tam opens it up and turns the water off.

RUPERT

Quite amazing. Did you see that children? How does he do that?

Tam places the two wires in Rupert's hands and pushes him forward. Rupert walks but nothing happens. Tam walks up to Rupert, he pulls him back a bit, he then places one finger on his wrist and the wires rotate. Rupert drops the wires quickly.

RUPERT (CONT'D)

No that's not right. That's weird. What is this mumbo jumbo?

JIM

Some say its water dousing.

Jim limps back to the surgery to help Jo clear up. Jo with joy wraps her arms around Jim and gives him a big kiss and a cuddle. Jim is taken aback.

JIM (CONT'D)

(Flustered) I'll have tae git back tae work.

As Jim walks away, out of Jo's sight, he smiles and looks pleased with himself. The family get into the Range Rover leaving Jo to clear up. She waves them off.

EXT BOB'S COURTYARD DAY

The family are in the car. Jim is driving off.

JIM

Time to get round the ewes for the last time of the day.

A groan from the children and Rupert greets his remark.

EXT CATTLE MARKET DAY

Bob stands by the cattle in a pen. Jim arrives in the Range Rover with Rupert. Jim rolls down the car window.

BOB
Travellin' in style the day, Jim?

JIM
Aye, Bob I could git used tae this.

Jim gets out of the car and heads over to the pen. He places a brown envelope in Bob's land rover which is attached to a livestock trailer.

RUPERT
What's in the brown envelope?

JIM
It's their passports.

RUPERT
Which country are they heading for?

Bob and Jim look at each other and break into laughter.

RUPERT (CONT'D)
Seriously, what's the joke?

JIM
Well if a cow doesn't hiv a passport, she can't be sold or moved anywhere in the UK. Withoot it, it's worth nothin'.

RUPERT
Oh, I didn't know that.

JIM
Thir's a lot aboot farmin' you'll niver ken.

Bob and Jim load the cattle into a trailer. Jim then goes to his land rover and drives off. Rupert and his family follow in their car.

EXT CATTLE MARKET DAY

At the cattle market the cattle are led out on the loading bank and the cattle enter pens. Rupert parks and the family join Bob and Jim at the market. A crowd of people are at the ring waiting for the sale to start.

JIM

Have a seat. Oor cattle are no in
for a wee while. But don't make
ony unnecessary movements.

RUPERT

Why?

JIM

Cos I don't want tae go hame wi
mair cattle than I came wi.

RUPERT

How do you mean?

JIM

Well, scratch yir head, rub yir
nose, nod yir head or havin' eye
contact wi the auctioneer.

RUPERT

Oh I see. I've got you know. Do
you understand children?

More cows are sold with the auctioneer in full flow. Then
comes Jim's heifers. Jim moves up to stand by the
auctioneer. The auctioneer nods at Jim.

AUCTIONEER

Calf heifers fae Bengatton

The sale starts at £500 and the bidding increases to £600.
All the cattle are sold. Jim shakes the auctioneer's hand
and leaves. He sits down with Rupert and his family.

RUPERT

Well, how did it go?

JIM

Wasnae bad bit it could hae been
worse.

RUPERT

Was it a good price then?

JIM

I've probably made aboot £50 to
£60 a head.

RUPERT

Is that all?

JIM

Aye, that's the margin I've made
the day.

Rupert gasps. Then boasts.

RUPERT

I wouldn't get out of my bed in the morning to make that sort of money!

JIM

It's no all about makin' money. Hae a good look at the faces aroon' the ring.

Rupert has a look around the ring, studying the faces of the farmers.

RUPERT

They're all on the old side.

JIM

Aye, an' who will be here in ten years time tae get the food oan the table?

Jim looks into Rupert's eyes with a cold stare. Bob is standing behind Jim and Rupert.

BOB

That's why we call Jim, The Last Shepherd.

Rupert looks down at his feet in reflection. Then he looks upwards and turns to Jim.

RUPERT

Do you mean we could starve in ten years time?

JIM

Might be before ten years is up. The food is startin' tae come fae abroad the noo.

EDWARD

What can we do, then?

JIM

It's not up tae you or us. It's got tae come fae the Government but they are like the three wise monkeys!

Jim puts his hand in his pocket. He brings out some crunched up notes and starts to walk around the ring. He taps one man on the shoulder and gives him some money. He does this to four other man then limps back towards Rupert with his head held high and out of the cattle market. Rupert and his family follow.

EXT CATTLE MARKET FORECOURT DAY

Rupert runs after Jim and asks what he was doing around the ring.

JIM

I was givin' them a lucky penny.

RUPERT

What do you mean, a lucky penny?

Jim stops and turns to face Rupert and explains.

JIM

Well Rupert, its like this. You could take a heifer home. It could lose the calf. Become unwell, or it might die. There's no comeback, return of goods. So that's why I give them a lucky penny.

They get into the vehicles and head back to the farm at Bengatton.

EXT BENGATTON COURTYARD DAY

Bob gets out first and helps limping Jim out.

JIM (CONT'D)

Well Rupert. Time tae git back up the field an look fur the sheep.

Rupert this time has a spring in his step and is enthusiastic.

RUPERT

OK Family, let's get up there. Come on, let's go.

Jim and Bob look at one another surprised with arched eyebrows. Jim and Bob head up on to the hill after them.

JIM

(Whispers) Bob, over there, o'er the dyke. Look.

BOB

I see it. It's a big yin. Whirs tam when ye need him?

JIM

Whit do'ya mean?

BOB

We have nae had venison yet.

JIM

So?

They watch the deer on the horizon. The deer moves slightly towards their direction for a moment then the deer falls to the ground. It rolls on its back. An arm appears with a sharp knife round the deer's neck. A short struggle ensues. Tam stands up and drags the deer off the hill.

JIM (CONT'D)

Bloody hell. You don't see that every day.

BOB

No, but I've heard he's done that before. Gives a new meaning to deer stalking!

Rupert and his family approach.

RUPERT

What's wrong?

JIM

Nothin'.

Rupert scours the hillside and sees nothing.

RUPERT

I can't see anything. What were you looking at?

BOB

You could look all day but you still wouldn't see it.

Rupert shakes his head.

EXT JOCK'S GARAGE DAY

Jock is working at his garage. A car arrives in the village and pulls up outside the pub. Sergeant BILLY COOPER (38) (SAS) and Corporal GARY FLYNN (31)(SAS) walk over to Jock while some boys play street football. The ball strikes the visitors car and rolls into the garage. Jock picks up the ball and remonstrates with the boys.

JOCK

How many times have I told ye.
Din nae play football on the
street. Ye can go tae the field
o'er there.

The two strangers stand on either side of Jock, still holding the football.

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER
Are you Jock

JOCK
An' who wants tae know?

CORPORAL GARY FLYNN
It's about your friend Tom.

JOCK
I don't know anyone called Tom

CORPORAL GARY FLYNN
He was killed in Afghanistan over
three weeks ago.

JOCK
Oh ya mean Big Tam?

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER
Yes.

JOCK
We'd better go inside.

Jock opens the door from the garage into the pub. Before entering, he walks over to one of the football playing boys. He whispers into his ear, he kicks his bum playfully and throws the ball across the street to the other boy. The boys take off on their bikes, one going one way, the other going in the other direction. They pedal furiously. One boy stops at a gate. He puts his hand on a post and opens an orange sign on the field sign. He does this repeatedly. Meanwhile Jock takes the two men into the pub.

INT VILLAGE PUB DAY

JOCK
Would you like drink or a cuppa?

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER
Coffee's fine.

JOCK
Come through tae the kitchen,
then, an hae a seat.

He sits them down with their backs to the back door. He boils the kettle.

JOCK (CONT'D)
So who are ye?

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER
I am sergeant Billy Cooper and
this is Corporal Gary Flynn.

JOCK
Sugar an milk?

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER
Yes for both of us, two spoons of
sugar please.

Jock starts to add sugar to their mugs.

JOCK
Which regiment then?

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER
We're based at Hereford.

Jock's hand shakes. He spills some sugar. He adds some
more. He serves the two mugs.

JOCK
So what's this all about then?

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER
We were on the Afghan/Pakistani
border acting as observers on
Taliban movements when a convoy
of Humbies pulls up right below
us.

Jock raises his eyes to the story he is hearing.

CORPORAL GARY FLYNN
That was when the Americans got
out and started to walk towards a
group of hidden Taliban rebels on
a near by ridge. Then they
realised the man in front was
wearing a British uniform, with
Royal Engineer badges.

Jock's forehead is furrowed, his mouth slightly open in
amazement at what he hears. He stirs the mugs slowly.

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER
His face was covered in blood and
his eyes were swollen. His hands
were tied with cable ties. We
got straight on to the satellite
phone and through to HQ and asked
if any British personnel were
missing. I was put on hold but we
could not wait for them to get
back.

Jock serves the mugs to the soldiers and sits down.

CORPORAL GARY FLYNN
Thanks. We didn't have time to
hold.

(MORE)

CORPORAL GARY FLYNN (CONT'D)

The Taliban were about to strike.
I was looking through the scope
on my rifle and described the man
to Sergeant Cooper.

Flynn takes a sip of coffee.

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER

He reported the man was big,
holding his arms out with
something dangling from his
hands.

CORPORAL GARY FLYNN

The man fell over and the trooper
behind him was shot dead by a
Taliban sniper. The rest of the
Americans took cover except for
one. The British soldier got back
up onto his feet and then the
American shot him in the back
with his hand gun, much to our
horror.

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER

I started to shout down the
phone asking for fresh orders.

CORPORAL GARY FLYNN

The big man was still moving.
What happened next was
unbelievable.

Sergeant Cooper takes a mouthful of coffee.

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER

Tam, as you call him, got the
knife from the dead trooper and
cut himself free. He got up and
went for the Americans head on,
armed only with a knife. He got
so close that he could not be
shot at. He started hand to hand
combat killing them one by one,
stabbing and lashing out at them
under their body armour, lifting
some men off the ground as he
thrust forward. We gave up on the
phones and started to shoot at
the Americans.

CORPORAL GARY FLYNN

Then we got incoming American
reinforcements. Tam disappeared
behind a Humvee. The firing
stopped. Then we saw around ten
Americans pushing Tam to the
ground.

(MORE)

CORPORAL GARY FLYNN (CONT'D)

They lay on top of him, his head only being exposed. One came up and shot him in the head.

JOCK

Good God.

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER

We lost it, I can tell you. We gave them everything we had until we heard air support approaching. I got onto the phones and heard them say that they had lasers on the Taleban position. We also had lasers and painted them with it. Then they dropped the bombs. We waited. The bombs fell on the American troops.

CORPORAL GARY FLYNN

That was when we heard a cheer from the Teleban positions. We were sickened by what had taken place. We are sorry to bring this sad news to you about your friend. He was a very brave man.

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER

We would have liked to have known him. He was special, so very special.

A masked eye looks through the window. Jock notices it and shakes his head towards the window indicating No. The door handle starts to turn.

CORPORAL GARY FLYNN

We feel bad because we couldn't save your friend.

JOCK

That's all right boys. You can meet him now. He's standing right behind you.

The two men stand and turn round in astonishment.

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER

Jesus Christ!

CORPORAL GARY FLYNN

You're still alive!

Tam nods. Tam puts his blood stained knife from his clenched fist away in his leg pocket.

JOCK

Do you two want to spend the night here? Seems you have a lot to say to each other. Mind, he canna speak ony mair.

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER

Yes sir. That'll be magic. And we understand, it wont be easy.

The two men walk across the bar floor to the front door to gather their luggage. They open the door. A crowd of angry villagers and farmers have gathered. They brandish pitch forks, floor brushes, shot guns and rifles. Jock barges out in front of them.

EXT OUTSIDE PUB DAY

JOCK

No, they're friendlies. They're on our side.

Everyone leaves, getting into cars and walking away.

INT VILLAGE PUB DAY

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER

What the hell was that all about?

JOCK

Well it's like this. Back in Afghanistan Tam was drilling wells for the local villagers. One morning a small girl disappears. She couldn't be found anywhere. That was when Tam asked her mother for some clothing or a blanket of hers so he could find her. Tam was given the blanket by a bemused mother. He then took a necklace from around his neck and held it up. It hung swinging away from him. He followed it to an old well where they found the young girl at the bottom of it. She was not badly injured and the villagers were amazed at how Tam managed to find her. That was when they nick-named him The Angel.

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER

What a lovely story.

JOCK

Aye but some Americans in the Village got to know of the rescue and so they asked Tam if he could find Usama bin Laden. When Tam told them, NO, the Americans took him away and tortured him to persuade him to find bin Laden.

They gather their luggage and are led upstairs to their single rooms by Jock.

JOCK (CONT'D)

The only reason Tam did it was because they said that his village back home would be blown up by an exosert missile. That's why the villagers were up in arms. They thought you were Americans come to blow up the village!

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER

I'm glad to be on your side!

INT BENGATTON FARMHOURSRE EVE

Rupert and his family are seated at the dining table. Jim serves a plate of tatties on the table. He then serves some venison burgers. The family are eating with relish. Tam arrives and sits at the table. He serves himself tatties and venison burgers. Jo enters the room.

JO

Jim, are you going to the Ceilidh at the village hall?

JIM

Aye, after a get washed up here, we'll go tae the dance.

RUPERT

Can anyone go? Is it open to all?

JIM

Aye, of course. We can all go down.

Tam shakes his head. There is only one potato left on the serving dish.

JIM (CONT'D)

Who wants the last tattie?

Rupert with fork in hand goes to spear the tattie. He lifts his arm and thrusts it down onto the plate at the same time Tam picks up the last tattie with his hand. Rupert's fork sticks in the back of Tam's hand. Tam carries on as if nothing has happened.

JO

Tam. Do you not feel the fork in your hand?

Tam looks at Jo then at his hand. Rupert has a worried look on his face and is not sure whether to sit, run or retrieve the fork. He looks at Jo then Jim for some support. Tam pulls the fork from the back of his hand and wipes it on his sleeve. He then cuts the tattie in half, sticks the fork in one half and hands the fork back to Rupert still covered in blood.

RUPERT

I am sorry.

JIM

You'd better eat it or he'll be offended.

Rupert looks at his wife and children and slowly places the fork in his mouth and chews on the tattie with a sour expression on his face. The meal is finished. The plates are cleared. Jim places the plates in the sink.

SUZANNA

Victoria and I will wash up. Jim, you get ready for the dance.

Jim limps up the stairs.

RUPERT

I am sorry Tam. Are you all right?

Tam gives Rupert the OK sign with his thumb and forefinger.

Few minutes later Jim comes down and leaves with Jo.

JO

Jim, are you sure Tam is OK? After all he did not feel a fork stuck in his hand.

JIM

I don't really know. It's not good is it. Anyway, to the ceiligh.

They drive off.

INT VILLAGE HALL EVE

The Ceiligh is in full swing. Scottish country music can be heard down the street. The Ceilidh band plays at the bar end of the hall. 26 people are dancing in the body of the hall. Other villagers sit around the hall at side tables drinking and chatting. Jim and Jo head to the bar.

JIM

What will you have Jo?

JO

I'm still on call. And driving you home later, remember!

JIM

I think everyone's here. You'll no get ony calls.

Jim buys a couple of drinks and a girl carries the glasses over to a table where Jo is seated. Jim limps over to join her. They sit and listen to the music tapping their feet.

JO

Jim, do you fancy a dance then?
I'll be easy with you!

Jim takes a drink from his glass. He smiles at Jo.

JIM

Why not! Don't mind if I do.

Jim and Jo joins in the dance. Rupert and his family arrive. Rupert heads for the bar to order drinks. Rupert and family add a table to where Jo and Jim were sitting. Jo and Jim return to their tables.

RUPERT

That's funny music.

JIM

Scottish country dance music.
Unique to Scotland. You going back home tomorrow, isn't it?

RUPERT

I wish we could stay here forever
but we've got to get back to the
rat race, you know.

JIM

So you can earn some more money?

RUPERT

Don't start that again.

JIM

Well you will run these vagrants
over on the road.

RUPERT

No, no vagrants just a hard
working shepherd and his dog.

JIM

Well, just don't make a habit of
it then.

RUPERT

If we all did, we'd soon get
hungry.

JIM

Very quick.

Jo gets Jim up for another dance. The evening comes to an
end with a last dance. Jo and Jim share that and as the
last chord dies, Jim and Jo kiss. Jim has had a few
whiskeys and is a little unstable.

JO

Shall I run you home?

JIM

Aye, lass. That'll be fine.

As they leave the hall, Bob passes them.

BOB

Noo don't be dong onything I wid
nae be doin'

Bob laughs.

JIM

Oh Bob that could be quite a few
things.

Jim and Jo leave hand in hand

INT BENGATTON FARMHOURSRE EVE

Jo drops Jim off and sees him into the house.

JIM

Will you hae a coffee?

JO

Now Jim is that coffee or another
kind of coffee?

JIM

Jist coffee...a think

Jim fills the kettle.

JO
Oh you're a disappointment. I
was looking for both!

Jim puts the kettle on the Rayburn. Jo places her hand on Jim's hand which is on the kettle. She removes his hand and turns to face him in a clench. They kiss. They embrace.

JO (CONT'D)
Let's go to bed.

Jim takes the kettle off the boil smiles at Jo and follows her upstairs.

INT BEDROOM BENGATTON DAY

It is early morning and Jim and Jo are lying asleep in bed. Jim half wakens and is aware he not alone. He places his arm around Jo.

JIM
Ah Mary. I love ye.

Jo is awakened, She sits up in bed.

JO
My name is Jo not Mary.

Jo gets up and dresses. Jim wakens

JIM
Where are you going Jo?

JO
Oh you have remembered my name
now!

JIM
What do you mean?

JO
You called me Mary, don't you
remember?

JIM
Sorry Jo.

Jo walks out of the bedroom.

Jim sits up in bed and hears the front door slam shut. Jo's car drives away. Jim gets up, looks out of the window, puts on his dressing gown and goes down to the kitchen to make porridge.

INT BENGATTON FARMHOURSRE KITCHEN DAY

Rupert comes down in his dressing gown.

RUPERT

Good morning Jim. Did Jo stay here last night?

JIM

Good mornin'. Aye she did.

RUPERT

I've seen that coming for a while. I thought you two would hit it off.

JIM

How do you mean?

RUPERT

Have you never seen the way she looks at you? She's fancied you for a while.

Jim gives Rupert a dirty look as he stirs the porridge in the pot.

RUPERT (CONT'D)

I'll get dressed now and start to pack up.

The children come down and sit at the breakfast table. Jim serves them porridge.

VICTORIA

I'll not miss this every morning.

EDWARD

Nor me. Where's Tam Jim?

JIM

He will have been out on the hill since first light, Why?

EDWARD

Oh we want to ask him something.

JIM

Your parents can serve themselves. I'm going down to the village.

Jim leaves his house and sets off in his tractor.

EXT JOCK'S GARAGE DAY

The tractor stops by the garage. Jim meets Jock outside the garage.

JOCK

A good night last night. Did you enjoy it?

JIM

Aye I did. Have ye seen Jo the vet the day?

JOCK

Aye she wis here earlier. But she left on a call a wee while ago.

JIM

That's all right. I'll just leave the tractor here and walk down to the Church.

Jim sets off walking towards the church. Jo pulls up outside the clinic and walks to the garage.

JO

Morning Jock. Is that Jim's tractor here?

JOCK

Aye it is.

JO

Where is he?

JOCK

He said he was goin' tae walk doon tae the church to see Mary.

JO

Oh did he? Well I want to meet this Mary one.

Jo stomps off before an open mouthed Jock can say anything.

EXT CHURCHYARD DAY

Jo heads off walking smartly towards the Church. She goes through the church yard gate quietly approaching Jim and aware of him being in conversation. She creeps up behind him and listens.

JIM

I've met someone else. I really like her so I won't be visiting just so often. It would not be right. Would it?

Jo edges herself around the bush to see what Jim is looking towards but can only see a wall. Jo Walks up to him surprised that he is alone. Jim turns around surprised and delighted to see Jo.

JIM (CONT'D)

Hi

JO

Caught you!

JIM

What do you mean?

Jo moves closer to see Jim is with nobody but the name of Mary McKenzie is written on the headstone before him. She realises who Mary was. Jo is speechless and apologetic. She puts her arms around Jim.

JO

Jim, you did not tell me Mary was dead.

JIM

I know. I have not been able to let Mary go till you came into my life.

JO

What happened Jim?

JIM

She died in childbirth last year. They both lie in the same grave - in the same coffin.

JO

That will take a long time to get over.

JIM

Time is a great healer but you never forget the memories.

They slowly walk back out of the churchyard hand in hand and speed up along the road to the garage.

EXT JOCK'S GARAGE DAY

Jim and Jo arrive at the garage as Rupert arrives in his car. From the car window he shouts excitedly.

RUPERT

Have you seen Edward and Victoria? We haven't seen them since breakfast and have no idea where they have gone.

JIM

They will be out on the hill with
Tam

RUPERT

We saw Tam at a distance but he
was alone.

JIM

We'd better have a look for them.

The tractor and the Land Rover sets off back to Bengatton.

Light fades as a heavy dark cloud descends.

INT BENGATTON FARMHOURSRE DAY

The wind is increasing and the temperature is dropping.

JIM

Suzanna, check Victoris's room.
See if anything is missing.

Suzanna rushes to her room and then comes down.

SUZANNA

Victoria's jacket boots and
mobile are missing. They are
always next to her bed.

JIM

Quick, to Edwards room in the
bothy. Have a look there Rupert.

Rupert and Suzanna rush over to the bothy. Moments later
they return.

RUPERT

Same things missing in Edwards
room.

JIM

We've got a problem. Jo, go and
get Bob.

Jo heads off quickly in her car. Jim has a worried look on
his face.

RUPERT

What's up Jim. What are you
thinking?

JIM

The forecast was not good for
this afternoon. Snow on the hills
is expected wi' high winds.

Rupert twiddles the knob on the radio to get a weather forecast. Jim Gores over to the bothy to check on Tam's room.

INT BOTHY TAM'S ROOM DAY

Jim searches around Tam's dishevelled room.

JIM (CONT'D)
Oh shit! His rucksack's missing.

The first flickers of snow descend.

EXT BENGATTON FARMYARD DAY

Rupert and Jim meet in the middle of the yard. Snow is now falling.

RUPERT
The forecast isn't good at all.
Blizzards on the hills up to 100
miles per hour.

EXT VILLAGE DAY

Jo is seen advising Bob. Bob immediately sets off to the Police Station to inform Sandy.

INT POLICE STATION DAY

BOB
It's the kids, Victoria and
Edward, just vanished.

PC SANDY
The mountain rescue are already
out on another job but I'll radio
them to be vigilant.

Bob returns to the village pub. He bangs on the door.

INT VILLAGE PUB DAY

Jock is inside with the two SAS members Sergeant Cooper and Corporal Flynn.

BOB
I'm looking for volunteers. We've
got two kids missing up at Jim's
and he needs help.

Both SAS men step forward.

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER
We'll take out land rover.

BOB

I've got a stretcher if you can
take it,

CORPORAL GARY FLYNN

Certainly can.

The snow is falling steadily; the wind getting stronger.
Bob is driving Cooper, Flynn and Jo in the land rover.

INT BENGATTON FARMHOURSRE DAY

Jim is restraining Rupert.

JIM

If yi go oot oan they hills
you'll die.

RUPERT

But what about my kids?

JIM

We'll find them. But you must
stay here. I'll tell ye what a
think has happened.

They relax and suit around the table.

SUZANNA

What then?

JIM

Your son an daughter hiv asked
Tam where they can git a mobile
signal. Tam will hae pointed tae
the top o Benmagrochan Hill
because that's the highest point
around these pairts.

Rupert and Suzanna look at each other.

JIM (CONT'D)

I think tae that Tam is away tae
fin' them. Cos his rucksack's
missin' tae.

EXT BENMAGROCHAN EVE

Light is fading fast. Blizzard conditions exist. A lonely
figure is only just visible . Victoria is following the
light on her mobile phone to see where she is going when
suddenly a big arm grabs her around her waist and lifts her
up off the ground. Victoria gives a frightened yell but
soon realises it is Tam come to rescue her when she shines
her light into his masked face. Tam Puts her down and grabs
her by the hand. Victoria frozen and suffering from
hyperthermia follows.

A gust of wind blows Victoria off her feet but Tam picks her up. And carries her. Tam stops in a sheltered spot and starts to dig. Like a man possessed. Before long he has made a snow hole large enough for both of them. He puts Victoria in the hole and get in behind her.

VICTORIA

(Shouting) Find Edward!

Tam shakes his head. Victoria become tearful and insistent

VICTORIA (CONT'D)

Please find Edward, please .You
Must find him. He is up here
somewhere. (Cries)

Tam pulls out the necklace he wears around his neck. And hangs it up in front of Victoria. It bends towards her in a curve like a magnet was moving inside it. Tam then pulls out a doll. Victoria's doll.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)

That's my doll, Lucy!

Victoria grabs her doll and the motion of the necklace goes limp.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)

Oh, I see you need something of
Edwards?

Tam smiles at her.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)

I'm wearing his scarf!

She takes it from her neck and gives it to Tam. Victoria curls down in her snow hole as Tam sets out to search for Edward. Tam struggles in the whiteout conditions searching for Edward. Tam walks on a little further. He then turns back. He falls on his hands and knees and begins clawing at the snow. A hand appears, then an arm. He digs furiously. He checks for any vital sign of life on Edward's body then gathers him up over his shoulders and takes him towards the snow hole. He stumbles with his load. Tam is exhausted. He grabs Edward by the collar and drags him along using his knife as an aide. He drags Edward into the hole beside Victoria who is tired and sleepy. Tam shakes her. She wakens. He places Edward beside her.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)

You've found Edward. Oh Thank
you, Tam. Thanks.

Tam searches in his rucksack to his surprise he find an empty sleeping bag case. He looks out of the hole. The conditions are impossible.

He turns to look at the unconscious body of Edward lying in the hole and looks up at Victoria with a saddened expression. As he takes off his coat. He then wraps it around both Victoria and Edward,

VICTORIA (CONT'D)
But what about you, Tam?

Tam responds with the OK sign. As he lies down across their legs for the night.

INT FARMHOUSE LIVING ROOM DAY

Rupert, Suzanna and Jim are pacing the kitchen floor. Cooper and Flynn are seated by the range.

RUPERT
When are you going to find
Victoria and Edward?

Jim gives Rupert a stern look.

JIM
This is hard Rupert. But at the moment the weather is too severe. Just listen to that out there. You would be lucky to get 20 yards before the wind blew you over. Its no' a walk in Hyde Park. This is life or death and at the minute Rupert, I'm sorry tae say, we are lookin' at death!

(PAUSE)

RUPERT
I feel the same way. My heart says I want to go but my head tells me if I do I won't be coming back.

JO
Don't say that.

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER
No, he's dead right.. You can't see anything in a white out. That wind would cut through you like a knife.. It's even hard to breathe in, save alone climb a hill in search of two kids.

JIM
Don't forget Tam's up there lookin' fur them.
(MORE)

JIM (CONT'D)

If he finds them, he'll try to get them shelter and keep warm till help arrives. We are that help, so we must bide out the storm then act.

Jim walks over to a cabinet, opens the door of the cabinet, and puts a rucksack by his feet. He pulls out a heavy jacket and puts it on, He turns round and zips it up. Jo spots a mountain rescue badge on the lapel.

JO

You didn't tell me you were with the Mountain Rescue service.

JIM

I don't advertise it. I only need this in an emergency - when someone is missin'.

Jim takes a red vest from the cabinet and goes over to Jess in the corner. He puts her front leg in one of the harness straps and goes to slip the strap under her other front leg but realises it is not there. Jo grabs Jim by the arm and pulls him round.

JO

You can't be serious Jim. Taking Jess out in that storm, she'll not last 5 minutes. Remember she's hardly been out of the house since the accident. She'll die in the cold with you.

Jim looks fearful but adamant.

JIM

Don't you think I know that? But she's all I've got to find them.

Jo starts to cry and sits down at the table. Sergeant Cooper stands up.

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER

We'll come with you.

JIM

I'll need you two to carry the stretcher and casualty bag up the hill.

CORPORAL GARY FLYNN

We have 3 radios. 1 satellite phone in the land rover.

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER

Gary go and fetch them.

Corporal Flynn leaves the house to get the radios. As he goes out a blast of snow enters the house. Flynn returns with the equipment.

JIM

Good work. I'll take one radio; we'll leave one at the farm house and the other radio we'll need to keep in contact. Right, when the weather breaks, I'm goin' tae head up the ridge and Jess and me will start a sweep search of Benmagrochan until I find them and then I'll get on the radio. Corporal, you start about an hour later up the hill.

Corporal Flynn salutes Jim.

CORPORAL GARY FLYNN

Yes, sir.Sorry! Just a habit!

Rupert is standing beside Suzanna holding Suzanna's shoulders.

RUPERT

Thank you Jim.

JIM

I'm not doin' it fur your kids. I'm doin' it fur Tam because your kids will be dead unless Tam has found them.

Suzanna cries.

RUPERT

You're a heartless bastard saying that.

JIM

I'm sorry. But in cases like this you have live people and dead people. That's a'.

Some time passes, the wind has died down. It is getting lighter. Rupert and Suzanna have arms folded on the kitchen table supporting sleeping heads. Jo is asleep in an armchair by the farm.

EXT. SNOW COVERED FARM COURTYARD DAY

Jim slips quietly out of his farm house with Jess in his arms and is met by Cooper and Flynn. Bob joins them

BOB

It takes some guts tae go oot in
this. I wish I is comin' wi ye.

JIM

Sorry Bob, you've got the baby
sittin' job

Jim walks passed Bob with Jess still in his arms. Jim heads off into the snow and starts his ascent on Benmagrochan. He heads along a ridge where the snow is not so deep and places Jess down. Jim pulls his crook out of his rucksack and starts following his trusty Jess. They walk a few miles before Jess picks up a scent. Jess is tired and cold. She can only manage a whimper when indicating a possible contact. Jim 30 yards behind runs to Jess grabbing his thigh in pain. He finds a small hole and starts to push his way in. Jess lies down flat exhausted, her work done.

INT SNOW HOLE DAY

Jim is now in the snow hole and sees two figures wrapped up in Tam's jacket. One has a ski mask on. Jim shakes them.

JIM (CONT'D)

Tam. Wake up.

Jim goes over to Edward and places his fingers on his neck to see if he is alive. Jim goes over to Tam to feel his neck. Jim's eyes open in confusion as he pulls off the ski mask to find Victoria under it.

JIM (CONT'D)

Oh Christ!

Jim moves back and clears more snow revealing an arm wearing a T Shirt. Victoria wakens.

VICTORIA

Where's Tam?

Jim has a tear in his eye and a lump in his throat.

JIM

It's all right dear.

Jim clears snow away from his head and places his balaclava on Tam's head. He drags Tam's body out of the snow hole. When he gets out he notices Jess lying motionless on the snow nearby. He places his hand on her. She is dead. Jim fumbles for his radio.

JIM (CONT'D)

Jim one, Jim one to Cooper over.

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER

Cooper receiving Jim One, Over

INT. FARMHOUSE DAY

Bob listens in with Rupert and Suzanna as Sergeant Cooper takes the message.

V/O JIM

Two alive; one dead. Need immediate helicopter evacuation. Over.

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER

Received and Understood. Over and out.

Cooper then goes to the satellite phone.

INT SNOW HOLE DAY

Jim places a blanket over the sleeping children. Jim hears the radio crackling. He goes outside.

EXT. SNOW FIELD DAY

Jim holds the satellite phone to his ear.

JIM

Say again.

V/O SERGEANT BILLY COOPER

We've contacted a helicopter out of HMS Gannet. The 'copter is en route from Arran with a pregnant woman on board. They are diverting to rendez-vous and pick you up in approximately 10 minutes.

JIM

That's great but too late for some.

Jim looks at Jess and Tam laying motionless in the snow.

INT FARMHOUSE DINING ROOM DAY

Rupert and Suzanna are agitated.

RUPERT

Who's dead? Ask him whose dead. We need to know, Come on.

BOB

Jim, whose dead?

JIM V/O
 Nut any of the one's we thought.

BOB
 Tam?

JIM V/O
 Aye Bob. Tam's dead.

Bob slumps down in the chair drained from a sleepless night and at the loss of his friend. Suzanna and Rupert are ecstatic.

RUPERT
 The Kids are alive! Wonderful.

JIM V/O
 We're on the east ridge of Benmarochan 500 metres from the trig point. Where are you Cooper? over.

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER V/O
 Two miles from the summit but your friend is holding up.

JIM V/O
 Who

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER V/O
 Jo

JIM V/O
 What's she doin' there?

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER V/O
 She thought we needed some help.

JIM V/O
 He's comin. I see him now.

EXT SNOW FIELD DAY

The blades of the helicopter noise increases. Jim holds his phone.

HELICOPTER WINCHMAN V/O
 Rescue 1 here. We need your location. Over.

JIM
 500 metres due east of the trig point on Benmagrochan. Over.

HELICOPTER WINCHMAN V/O
 Received and understood. ETA 5 minutes. Stand by. Out.

JIM
I'll be ready. Out.

The helicopter lands 50 metres from the snow hole. The down force of blades blows snow everywhere. Jim raises his arm to protect his face. The winch man grabs his arm.

WINCHMAN
Where are the casualties?

Jim points to the snow hole. Victoria is dragged out and a blanket is wrapped round her. She manages to walk to the helicopter. Edward is placed on a stretcher and carried over to the helicopter. The winch man walks back to Tam with a jacket in his hand. He bends down and examines him for signs of life.

INT HELICOPTER DAY

Jim goes over to the helicopter and approaches Victoria.

JIM
What did Tam say to you?

Victoria shrugs her shoulders.

VICTORIA
Oh he did say he would be ok like this.

Victoria makes the OK sign with her thumb and first finger.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)
...when he put us in his jacket.

Jim turns to walk away.

VICTORIA (CONT'D)
He said to tell you there was a special offer at Tesco's two for the price of one.

EXT SNOW FIELD DAY

Jim pulls back as he and Victoria see the winch man make the sign of the Cross. He then makes a salute and takes Tam's jacket and puts it over his face tucking the arms under him. He gets up and runs over to the helicopter. Victoria realises Tam is dead and starts to cry.

VICTORIA
Oh no, no, no. Tam

The helicopter doors are closed. It rises and banks steeply heading towards Dumfries Infirmary.

Cooper and Flynn arrive by Jim's side to see the helicopter fade into the distance. Both men look at Jim as he kneels between Tam and Jess. They take the stretcher and casualty bag from their backs. As they assemble the stretcher, Jo arrives.

SERGEANT BILLY COOPER

What do you wish to do then?

JIM

We'll take Tam back tae the farm.

Tears roll down Jim's face. Flynn and Cooper roll the casualty bag out alongside Tam. Jo approaches Jim.

JO

Are you all right Jim.

JIM

NO. I've jist lost twa good friends.

JO

May I examine Tam before you put him in the casualty bag?

JIM

Aye.

Jo takes out her stethoscope from her pocket and runs her hand up the inside of Tam's T shirt. Several seconds elapse.

JO

(Surprised) He's still got a heart beat. Faint, but there. His breathing is very faint.

Jim takes out his radio phone.

JIM

Helicopter 1. Please return to pick up live casualty. Over.

HELICOPTER WINCHMAN V/O

Give me a minute. Over.

Jim waits tapping the phone against his leg.

HELICOPTER WINCHMAN V/O (CONT'D)

Negative Jim. Sorry. Insufficient fuel for return. Suggest you make alternative arrangements. Over.

JIM

Oh please return. Please. Over.

HELICOPTER V/O

Repeat Negative. No fuel. Over
and Out.

Cooper and Flynn have Tam in the casualty bag. Jo puts a tube down Tam's throat to aid his breathing by external manual breathing apparatus. Tam is then placed on the stretcher.

JIM

We'll take him back to the farm.

Tam telephones Bob.

JIM (CONT'D)

Bob, Tam is alive. Just alive but alive. We'll bring him down. Get the land rover ready. I'll run him to hospital.

BOB V/O

I'll get it ready.

Jim, Cooper, Flynn and Jo drag Tam off the hill.

JIM

Come on let's put your backs into it!

The two SAS men took at each other then start pulling harder. The phone rings.

JIM (CONT'D)

Yeah?

BOB V/O

The land rover is as dead as a duck.. No oil in the sump after last night's journey.

JIM

Plan B then.

BOB V/O

What's Plan B then?

JIM

We'll take the Range Rover . Bob take the front passenger seat out and the back seat.

INT FARMHOUSE LIVING ROOM DAY

Bob heads for the tool box in the corner.

BOB

Ok Jim. I'm on to it. Over.

Bob puts his mobile phone away.

RUPERT
What are you doing Bob?

BOB
We need to borrow your Range Rover.

RUPERT
Why?

BOB
The land rover has broken down and we need to take Tam to the hospital.

RUPERT
No way. You can't drive down the road anyway. It's blocked.

BOB
I don't think he's goin' tae drive down the road, it too deep.

RUPERT
You can say that again!

BOB
He's goin tae drive it along the ridge where the snow has been blown off.

RUPERT
You're kidding! No way is he taking my Range Rover.

Bob takes his tool box out to the yard.

EXT FARMYARD DAY

By the side of Rupert's Range Rover, Bob has removed the seats and places them on the snow in the yard. Bob walks round the corner of the farmhouse and sees the stretcher party approaching. He turns to see Rupert has come out of the farm house.

BOB
Here they come, Rupert. You can tell Jim's not getting your Range Rover.

He looks at Rupert with gritted teeth and a piercing stare. Rupert realises he has no choice. He shrugs his shoulders.

RUPERT
Very well.

The stretcher party arrive exhausted. They open the rear door of the Range Rover. And slide the stretcher into the space Bob has created. Tam's head is at the glove compartment. Bob looks in through the car window.

BOB

You sure what you're doing?

JIM

I'm goan tae drive this off the hill and down the glen on tae the back road.

BOB

That's suicide Jim!

JIM

I've got tae try. Remember he saved my life. Noo, I'm gaun tae save his. I'm returnin' the favour.

Bob hands Jim Tam's knife.

JIM (CONT'D)

What's that fur?

BOB

In case you need tae cut the seat belt. It might come in handy.

Bob inserts the knife in the CD slit.

JIM

An if ye want tae ken. Ma will and deeds fur the farm is in the top drawer o' the dresser.

Jo approaches Bob and Jim. A tear is in her eye.

JO

Jim, don't do it.

JIM

I hive tae try. It's his only hope.

EXT COUNTRY ROAD DAY

Jim shuts the window and sets off ploughing through the snow. Bob and both SAS men head down to the yard gate and lift it off its hinges to pull it out of the way as Jim hits speed. Jim takes the Range Rover on a roller coaster ride through snow, sometimes disappearing in the drifts. He then drives up to the ride to look in the distance at a yellow flashing light coming up the glen. It's Jock in his JCB ploughing the snow off the road.

Jim puts the range rover into gear and heads down a steep hill. Half way down Jim loses control. The vehicle gathers momentum and begins to go into a free fall rolling and tumbling as it goes. The Range rover lands on the road behind the JCB on its roof. Jock turns round to see the broken vehicle lying beside him. Jock gets out of his JCB and walks over to the Range Rover looking in the window. He sees Jim and the stretcher beside him. Jim's face is covered in blood as he hangs upside down in his seat. Jock gingerly puts his hand in to see if he is alive. As he does so, Jim recovers. He grabs Jock's arm.

JIM

Get the car back on tae its wheels.

JOCK

Right away Jim.

Jock reverses the JCB up to the range rover and puts the back legs down. He brings the back actor round to the range rover. He hooks a chain from the JCB to the Range Rover. He mounts the JCB and starts to lift the range rover on to its wheels successfully. Jock then heads back to Jim's door to get him out. Jim pulls Tam's knife from the CD player and cuts the air bag out of the steering wheel. He then cuts the seat belt off only to find he is trapped by the legs between the door and the central console. Jim turns and looks over to Jock.

JIM

Get the buggie started.

JOCK

I don't think the Range Rover is goin' anywhere Jim.

JIM

Do as I tell ye. Get the bastard started.

Jock goes to the front of the vehicle. He removes the bonnet which is hanging off and starts to work on the engine.

JOCK

We need a miracle tae git this started.

JIM

Why?

JOCK

Well, somewhere up that hill, lies yer battery!

JIM

Then git the battery fae the JCB,
quick.

JOCK

Good idea.

Jock dismantles the battery from the JCB and slides it into the range rover engine compartment. He wires it up. Jim starts up.

JOCK (CONT'D)

Wow, turn it off. It's rubbin'
somewhere.

Jock gets a metal bar and prises at the front grilling to ease the friction but water starts to run out of the engine compartment. Jim fires up the engine again.

JIM

Well done Jock. I'm movin' again.

Jim drives off but struggles to keep a straight line due to the car's damage. As he drives he attempts to put pressure on Tam's lungs to encourage his breathing. Jim is feeling cold and the quicker speed adds to his discomfort.

EXT MAIN ROAD DAY

Jim finally reaches the main road where there is more traffic. He enters the main road but his weaving driving is noticed by a patrolling police car. The police Car pulls along side.

TRAFFIC POLICEMAN

Pull over sir.

JIM

Officer, I can't stop sorry.
Brakes are fading.

POLICEMAN

Follow me then.

The Police car overtakes and with lights flashing Jim follows behind. They enter the town. Jim struggles to keep the car in a straight line. They approach a set of traffic lights. Jim clips one of the island bollards with the rear of the Range Rover taking the mounted rear wheel off the vehicle. Jim pushes a console button marked 'diff lock' and carries on busy streets with the front wheel on the opposite side off the ground. They approach a set of road works, just before the hospital entrance. The police car passes through the lights at the road works as a dumper pulls out between the police car and Jim. Jim takes evasive action and heads through a fence into the grounds of the hospital.

He goes through the hospital car park towards the casualty entrance. As he approaches he sees a fire engine standing by. Jim is exhausted. His eyes are beginning to close. The Range Rover ploughs head on into the fire engine. A fire breaks out but is soon put out. Jim is unconscious, lying over the top of Tam's body.

INT HOSPITAL WARD DAY

Jim is in bed. Jo is by his bedside. He looks over at Jo

JIM
Where am I?

JO
You are in hospital Jim.

JIM
What about Tam? Where's Tam?

JO
The last I heard he was fighting for his life. You should have seen them. Doctors and nurses running about trying to keep him alive. It looks bad Jim.

Jim sits up, then starts to slide out of bed.

JIM
I'm goin' tae see him.

JO
No, you stay in bed Jim.

A nurse approaches.

NURSE
Now, now Jim. Back into bed you go.

JIM
No. I'm goin' tae see Tam.

As Jim stands up, the room seems to be going round and round. He does not move and the nurse sits him on the bed.

NURSE
He's got concussion.

Bob walks into the ward.

BOB
You'd better come Jim. There's a problem wi Tam.

The nurse brings a wheel chair. Jim gets himself in it and Jo pushes it following Bob. In the corridor they meet Rupert and Suzanne at the ward treating Victoria and Edward. Rupert comes into the corridor.

RUPERT

Have you seen the mess of my Range Rover?

Jim gives him a cold stare.

JIM

Cars can be replaced. People can't. Tam's here fightin' fur his life. That man took the coat off his back to gie it to yir twa kids. Then he lay across them to give them his body warmth. So they would life. A sacrifice.

Rupert turns to look at Victoria who is crying but nods in agreement. Edward begins to waken up. His parents turn to him. Jim is wheeled forward. They meet doctors who wish to speak to Jim.

CONSULTANT

How long had Tam stopped breathing?

JIM

He wis dead. When I first got tae him thir wis no breathin' no heart beat.

CONSULTANT

Tam is brain dead. He's not going to make it. He had the lowest body temperature ever recorded.
(Pause)

CONSULTANT (CONT'D)

As his only known next of kin, you realise, it is only a machines which can keep him temporarily alive. Do we have your permission, to turn the machine off?

Jim has a tear in his eye. He looks at Bob and Jo for support. Bob nods his head and turns away. Jo looks at Jim with tears rolling down her cheeks.

JO

It's time to let him go.

Jim looks at the consultant and nods his agreement. The doctor goes over to the machine and turns it off. A steady beep, beep turns to a constant tone.

INT KITCHEN FARMHOUSE DAY

Jim has a white shirt on and looks into the mirror to see a cut and bruised face. He ties his black tie. Then takes his dark jacket from the chair and puts it on. He picks up his crook and opens the front door.

EXT FARMYARD DAY

Before him is his old tractor with a trailer on the back. Jim mounts the tractor and drives to the village.

EXT CHURCHYARD DAY

As he approaches the village, he passes cars, tractors and four wheeled motorbikes at the side of the road. He drives into the cemetery to be met by hundreds of mourners at the grave side. Jim drives the tractor and trailer up to the grave and stops. He walks with his crook and makes his way to the trailer where Bob is standing at the back. They pull out the pins on the side door of the trailer and lower it down gently to reveal the coffin. There are no flowers on the simple coffin but instead one clump of heather and soil and stones on the lid of the coffin. They gently pull the coffin over and out of the trailer on to the ground for the pall bearers to lift it. They are Bob and Jock at the back, Sandy and Geordie (43) Craig (Bob's neighbour) in the middle and Jim and Cooper at the front. They lift the coffin and approach the grave.

Jim stumbles in front of Rupert and his family. Rupert catches the coffin but Jim recovers.

JIM

Take your haunds off that coffin.
You're nae guid enough tae touch
that man's coffin.

The coffin is put down on top of the boards across the grave. The men take a step back and lower their heads. Sergeant Cooper and Corporal Flynn stand to attention. They present arms and fire two sharp volleys of gun fire. They come to attention, then stand at ease with their rifles by their sides. The minister steps forward to start the burial ceremony.

(PAN OUT) to

EXT HILLSIDE DAY

The countryside where sheep and lambs eat grass contentedly.

INT FARMHOUSE DAY

Jim is at home in working clothes. He hears a car pull up. Rupert gets out and knocks at the front kitchen door. Jim opens the door and stands in front of Rupert.

RUPERT

Would it be OK to come in?

Jim steps aside.

JIM

Aye, come in. You'd better sit doon. I've somethin tae tell ye an' you'll nae like whit I'm gaun tae say.

RUPERT

What ever now?

JIM

Ye see, Tam always hud a sleepin' bag in his ruck sack.

RUPERT

So.

JIM

Well, that day Tam went up tae the hill he hud his ruck sack but no sleepin' bag.

RUPERT

What are you trying to say?

JIM

Cooper and Flynn went tae look for it an found it on your son's bed.

Rupert puts his head on his hands.

RUPERT

But why did he go after them?

JIM

It's like this. He told them where they'd get a signal for their phone and when they didn't come back, Tam felt a responsibility an' took it oan him sel' tae go an find them before they died in the snow.

Jim points to Rupert with his finger.

JIM (CONT'D)

It should be you! There's a man lyin' six foot under in a grave because your children wanted tae make insignificant phone calls and texts. A heavy price tae pay don't ye think?

Rupert is shaking. He gets up to leave. He has heard enough from Jim.

JIM (CONT'D)

Rupert before ye go. Promise me one thing.

RUPERT

What's that?

JIM

Promise never tae tell yer son about Tam's sleepin' bag you gave him.

RUPERT

Why?

JIM

Because he is goin' tae have this hingin' o'er him fur the rest o' his life. So let's leave it jist between you and me. OK?

Rupert leaves the room and goes outside to his just purchased brand new Range Rover.

EXT FARMYARD DAY

Rupert looks back at Jim over the shining new bonnet, He gets in and drives off. Jim gives a final wave. The children open their respective windows and wave goodbye. As the car goes down the drive, it slows to let Jo pass in her car coming to see Jim. They wave to each other as the cars pass. Jo pulls up by Jim's front door.

JO

Is that them away?

JIM

Aye, and good riddance to them.

Jo gives Jim a hug.

JO

Don't say that, Jim. Anyway I've got a surprise for you.

Jim pulls himself away from Jo and looks at her in a curious way as he tries to imagine what she is taking about.

JIM
Whit have ye got there?

Jo lifts a border collie pup out of the back of her car. Jim is surprised and delighted as he takes the pup out of Jo's hands. He hold it up in front of him. It lifts his spirits tremendously.

JIM (CONT'D)
So whit's yer name wee fella?

JO
Your right, its a wee boy.

JIM
It'll be.... TAM then.

JO
Right I'll start making tea for the three of us this evening.

JIM
Have ye got ony rabbits in the back o' the car fur me tae skin?

JO
No, it's chicken this evening. Easy preparation.

JIM
Well then. I'm goin tae gie the wee fella his first walk on the hill. Come oan Tam. Let's go fur a wee walkie.

Jim picks up his crook, picks up Tam in his arms and sets off up the hill.

EXT OPEN FIELD DAY

On the hill he turns round to admire the view.

JIM
This is where you'll be working Tam.

He puts Tam down on the field. The mist is gathering at the top of the field. The pup give a yelp.

JIM (CONT'D)
What is it you've see, ma wee man?

Jim looks over his right shoulder. He sees a lone figure in the distance covered in mist. The outline gets closer. He sees a masked man walking up the hill. The figure stops and looks at Jim. Jim waves at the man. (It's an uncanny resemblance to Big Tam). He waves back just as Big Tam did. The figure turns and walks up the hill into the mist and disappears.

(PAN OUT)

Jim and the pup, wee Tam, start walking back down the hill.

ENDS.

(CONT'D)

(CONT'D)

(CONT'D)