

The Minute Man  
"Dark Days are Coming"  
Draft (V1)  
by  
Phil Reynolds

Your Name  
Your Address

Your phone number  
Your e-mail address

MALE VOICE (VO)  
There are 1440 minutes in one day.  
What would you do if you could have  
one more?

(FADE IN:)

EXT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

The rain falls hard. A car is parked a hundred yards or so  
away from the warehouse entrance.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Two suited men sit in the front of the car. SUIT 1 behind  
the steering wheel is a beast of a man whilst SUIT 2 sitting  
in the passenger seat is not exactly puny but is a way off  
his colleague in stature.

SUIT 2  
What the fuck are we doing here,  
have you heard the stories about  
this guy?

SUIT 1  
You don't believe all that shit do  
you?

Suit 2 slightly embarrassed looks out the window.

INT. WAREHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

A figure which can't quite be made clear (but assume is a  
woman due to the long blonde hair and her petite size) is  
bound to a chair in the middle of the warehouse.

Three men surround the figure. Each of them carry a semi-  
automatic machine gun.

INT. WAREHOUSE (DARKENED CORNER) - CONTINUOUS

A figure dressed appropriately in black steps out of the shadows just long enough to get a glimpse. The figure has a black balaclava on hiding their identity before merging back into the darkness.

CUT TO:

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

The suits are in the same position as before and look a little bored now.

Suit 2 who has been distracted by his phone double takes at something in front of the car. He slowly and carefully taps Suit 1 to get his attention.

Suit 1 looks ahead, his facial expression says it all as he straightens his posture and readies his hands on the steering wheel.

SUIT 2  
Do you see that?

SUIT 1  
Yeah, I see it.

POV: The balaclava'd figure from the warehouse stands in front of the car illuminated by the car headlights.

The suits look at one another not totally sure of their next move.

SUIT 1  
Are you ready?

SUIT 2  
(hard swallow)  
Yeah.

In between the suits from the darkness of the back seat of the car emerges MR GOLD, mid fifties - white hair. Has a hardened look about him that could tell a few tales.

Mr Gold stares out of the window. His eyes widen and his jaw drops slightly.

The suits too look gobsmacked as they stare.

POV: The headlights shine on until they reach the trees in the near distance. The balaclava'd figure has disappeared.

Mr Gold sits back in the rear seat. The suits remained shellshocked.

SUIT 1

Where the fuck did he go?

SUIT 2

I don't like this shit man, this is exactly the kind of stuff I was talking about. One minute he's there the next he has vanished and before you can do anything about it he has your bollocks in his hand.

MR GOLD (OS)

Find him!

SUIT 2

But sir...

MR GOLD (OS)

I said find him!

Suit 2 looks at suit 1 who signals at him to get out the car.

Suit 2 reluctantly opens the car door and exits.

EXT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

The rain lashing down. Suit 1 slowly walks towards the warehouse. He turns back to the car where suit 2 remains seated behind the steering wheel and has no intention of joining him. Breathing deeply, he reaches into his jacket and retrieves a pistol.

The warehouse draws nearer.

The door bursts open. The balaclava'd figure has the female from inside the warehouse over his shoulder.

Suit 1 panics, turns to the car for help but nothing.

The balaclava'd figure is running in the opposite direction.

Suit 1 raises his gun and fires - misses.

INT. CAR- CONTINUOUS

The gunshot jumps suit 2 who frantically tries to start the car but the keys are no longer in the ignition.

SUIT 2

What the...where's the keys?

He fumbles around in his pockets. Nothing.

MR GOLD (OS)

Get out and get him.

Suit 2 looks back to Mr Gold to argue the case then thinks again.

Suit 2 exits the car.

Mr Gold leans forward from his seat into the light. A stone cold look on his face.

CUT TO:

INT. WAREHOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

The door is open. Mr Gold enters the warehouse and stands in the doorway momentarily blocking any form of light coming in.

POV: Absolute carnage lies ahead of him. The three armed men are all on the floor.

Mr Gold slowly walks over to get a closer look.

One of the men has his neck broken. Mr Gold shows no emotion as he moves on the next one.

The next one looks as though he has been stabbed a number of times in the torso. Blood pours from underneath his body.

Mr Gold moves on.

The third one is alive (barely). He is holding his neck desperately trying to stop the blood from exiting. He is not doing a good job.

Next to the body on the floor is the set of missing car keys from the car caped in blood.

Mr Gold stands over him.

BLEEDING MAN

I didn't see him, he came from  
nowh...

BANG!!!

Mr Gold stands over him with his gun as the barrel weeps

with smoke.

EXT. WAREHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Mr Gold exits the warehouse, he looks considerably pissed off.

Suit 1 & suit 2 arrive back both out of breath.

SUIT 2

They got away, into the woods.

Mr Gold make this way back to the car.

MR GOLD

Another time maybe.

SUIT 1 & Suit 2 nervously look at one another before following.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

INT. CONVENIENT STORE - NIGHT

KATRINA, (20) attractive stands behind the counter. She serves an elderly man who is buying a magazine and is counting every single penny. Her long blonde hair partly covers her face which is not impressed at the current situation.[ Possible better description.]

Elsewhere in the store...the drinks aisle.

ISAAC, (19) lean built dressed like a skater boy and has the long brown hair to complete the stereotype stands in front of a whole array of beers.

Whilst looking for his tippie, he has one eye on Katrina behind the counter still serving the elderly man. He watches her closely as she tucks her hair behind her ears, he even likes the way her eyes clearly show how she wishes the bloke would finish counting his change and leave.

Isaac looks up the aisle where a man without any shame is fondling through the adult magazines even to the point of opening up the magazine to check out the centrefold.

Isaac grabs a pack of beers, looks at the price then at the money in his hand...he is short.

He watches for Katrina then back at the pervert man before

he packs the beers into his rucksack.

Isaac walks down the aisle towards Katrina.

She is still in the same position as when he last looked.

Isaac gets nearer and turns the corner where he looks a little closer.

POV: The elderly man looks as though he is frozen as he is in-between passing over some change to Katrina who too looks like a mannequin.

Isaac looks up the aisle at Pervert who also stands still with his tongue stuck out checking out the magazine.

What is going on?

Isaac looks confused and makes his way to the exit.

EXT. CONVENIENT STORE - CONTINUOUS

Isaac still not sure what is happening gets round the corner and looks back into the store through the window.

POV: Katrina now moving puts the change from the elderly man into the till relieved that the ordeal is done with. The pervert places the magazine back on the top shelf happy with what he has seen.

If Isaac was confused a moment ago then he certainly is now.

He walks off down the street.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

INT. COLLEGE CLASSROOM - DAY

Isaac sits at his desk clearly bored, stares out the window.

MR STANWAY late fifties, bald, dressed conventionally with a bright orange jumper stands in front of the blackboard addressing the class about "TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD". Mr Stanway catches the disinterest of Isaac.

MR STANWAY

Master Laws, would you care to join  
us?

Isaac oblivious to the classroom remains fixed on something

outside.

POV: A level below and Katrina stands by a tree laughing and joking with a few of her friends.

Isaac watches every move.

MR STANWAY (OS)  
We all wait in anticipation as to  
what is so interesting outside.

Laughter roars from the class.

Isaac returns back to the class unaware that he is the butt of the joke.

ISAAC  
Sorry Sir.

MR STANWAY  
Apology accepted, now if we can  
continue please.

Isaac looks around the class as everyone laughs at him.

INT. COLLEGE FOOD HALL - LATER

Isaac sits alone, head buried in a book.

FEMALE (OS)  
You owe me £5.50

Isaac looks up a little confused.

Katrina stands over him stern looking.

Isaac is lost for words becomes that 5 year old who couldn't ask Jennifer Richards out.

Katrina places her palm out.

KATRINA  
I know you stole the beer last  
night, I did a stock check when you  
left.

ISAAC  
I don't know what your talk...

KATRINA  
Don't bullshit me. I will go to the  
police.

Isaac reaches into his back pocket and reluctantly gives her £10.

KATRINA  
That'll do.

On her heels she turns and is up the corridor before Isaac can even process what is happening.

He smiles, slowly turns and returns to his book.

EXT. COLLEGE ENTRANCE - LATER

Another day done. Isaac stands by the road waiting to cross.

Further up the road he sees Katrina peck Adam Haynes (the school hunk) on the cheek - she gets in his car.

Not paying attention Isaac almost gets himself run over.

CUT TO:

EXT. MANSION - LATER

Isaac approaches some gates. He reaches a intercom and presses the buzzer. He looks on to the house which is an old victorian style with a huge drive way leading to the front.

INTERCOM  
Hello?

ISAAC  
Hi, it's Isaac.

The gates begin to open slowly.

INT. DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Mr Gold sits at the end of a long dining table appropriately sits under a self portrait of himself. The cigar smoke he has exhaled hangs like a cloud above his head.

Isaac enters the room.

A big smile appears on Mr Gold's face.

ISAAC  
Isaac! Good to see you boy, take a seat.

Isaac sits down at the opposite end of the table.

MR GOLD  
How was school today?

ISAAC  
College, was fine.

MR GOLD  
Good. Glad to hear it.

Mr Gold waves his hand gesturing at someone.

JOHNSON (36) A beast of a man, well groomed walks in wearing a suit.

JOHNSON  
Yes sir?

MR GOLD  
Take Isaac with you today to see Daltry. Show him how things work out when don't pay up.

ISAAC  
Excuse me sir, but...

MR GOLD  
Its time you started to learn how things work around here. I promised your Father I would look after you and thats exactly what I intend to do.

Isaac gives a concerning look.

MR GOLD (CONT'D)  
You are a young man Isaac. You need to be the kind of man that your Father would be proud of.

(A BEAT)  
Johnson will look after you, he's the best I have.

Isaac glances over at Johnson who is motionless.

CUT TO:

INT. CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Johnson is driving. Isaac is next to him in the passenger seat staring out of the window.

JOHNSON

Things are probably going to get nasty here, just so you know. He owes a lot of money and I would be very surprised if he can do anything about it today.

ISAAC

What will you do?

JOHNSON

What will WE do?

Isaac doesn't respond, instead he turns back to staring out of the window.

EXT. FLATS - MOMENTS LATER

The car pulls up.

Isaac and Johnson get out of the car and head towards the block of flats.

INT. LIFT - CONTINUOUS

The pair of them stand next to each other. Johnson towers next to Isaac who looks slightly uncomfortable.

JOHNSON

Nervous?

ISAAC

A little I guess.

JOHNSON

You'll be fine, if your anything like your old man then you will more than fine.

ISAAC

(SURPRISED)

You knew my Dad?

JOHNSON

Yeah, I worked with him on a few jobs. The best I have ever seen. He was a good man.

Isaac smiles.

INT. FLAT - CONTINUOUS

The front door bursts open from the force of Johnson's foot.

Isaac stands behind Johnson who charges forward.

DALTRY- mid thirties, long hair, skinny physique stands at the end of the corridor petrified as Johnson charges at him.

Johnson grabs Daltry and drags him into the front room and throws him onto a chair.

Isaac enters the front room cautiously.

Daltry in a panic attempts to speak.

Johnson comes in with a punch to Daltry's side almost knocking him from the chair. Daltry lets out a whimper.

JOHNSON

You know why I'm here!

DALTRY

(STRUGGLING)

I don't have anything, I can't pay  
right now...tomorrow I promise.

Johnson releases another punch to the opposite side this time.

Daltry lets out a cry, barely remains on the chair.

DALTRY

(BEGGING)

Please, no more. I can't pay  
anything today. Please, please.

Johnson clenches his fist.

SUDDENLY...A door bursts open, a war cry is heard as a man stands in the doorway to the left of Johnson and Daltry holding a FUCK OFF gun in his hand.

Isaac out of sight of the gun crazed man reacts and jumps on the man knocking him to the floor.

BANG!

Isaac impulsively punches him in the face. He is out cold.

Johnson looks down to check he hasn't been shot. Nothing.

Isaac jumps off the man still In shock about what has just happened.

JOHNSON

Oh fuck!

Isaac glances over at Johnson who stands over Daltry.

Daltry lays on the floor, half his face blown off.

CUT TO:

INT. MR GOLD'S MANSION - STUDY - DAY

Mr Gold sits behind his desk with a look of amusement as he listens to a story from one of his staff, BLAKE.

Blake sits on the opposite side of the desk and is dressed in a dark suit very similar to the ones worn by all of Mr Gold's staff except this particular suit is covered in blood as is his face.

BLAKE

...I swear boss I did not see a thing, one minute me and Joey are laughing and the next Joey's neck is sliced open and there is...

(Begins to cry)

Blood everywhere. All over my suit, it goes in my mouth... I tasted his goddamn blood for fucks sake.

Mr Gold leans forward in his chair and passes Blake a box of tissues.

Blake takes a handful of tissues and wipes his tears.

BLAKE (CONT'D)

(Slightly composed)

The next thing I know I have a knife round my throat. He whispers into my ear "Tell Mr Gold I have what he wants". I slowly turn round and he is gone, there is no one there.

Mr Gold remains expressionless.

Blake looks a little scared.

Mr Gold reaches into a drawer and pulls a gun, points and shoots Blake between the eyes.

Blake's head now rested on the back of the chair facing the ceiling.

Mr Gold swivels on his chair.

MR GOLD  
You did well Blakey, I received the  
message loud and clear.

INT. CAR - DAY

Isaac and Johnson are returning from the failed collection  
of Daltry's money.

ISAAC  
How many times did you work with my  
Dad?

JOHNSON  
Enough.

ISAAC  
You said "he was the best you've  
ever seen"?

JOHNSON  
No one collected money like your  
old man, he never got violent.  
Just seemed to walk in calmly and  
walk out with the money with no  
questions asked.  
(A smile appears)  
Never knew how he did it.

ISAAC  
Do you know what happened to my  
Dad?

JOHNSON  
No one does, there's a few crazy  
stories which I'm sure you've  
already heard but to be honest I  
think the only person who really  
knows is Mr Gold.

Isaac turns and stares out the car window.

INT. MR GOLDS MANSION - STUDY - DAY

Isaac and Johnson are sitting at the desk where the  
unfortunate Blake once sat although there is no trace of any  
wrongdoing.

MR GOLD  
So what your trying to tell me is

that you didn't collect the money  
that I sent you to get?

A BEAT

MR GOLD (CONT'D)

I asked you to take young Isaac  
here with you for the day thinking  
you could show him how things are  
done and you come back empty  
handed.

JOHNSON

No one was expecting another person  
hiding in the room with a fucking  
shotgun. If it wasn't for Isaac I  
wouldn't even be here now.

Mr Gold raises his eyebrows.

MR GOLD

Is that supposed to make me feel  
better?

The room goes silent.

Mr Gold stands from his chair and walks round the desk and  
sits on the corner in front of Isaac and Johnson.

Mr Gold reaches into his jacket and retrieves a wad of cash  
from it. He peels a few notes away and hands them to Isaac.

MR GOLD

Go and treat yourself son, you did  
well today.

Isaac stands and reluctantly takes the money. He turns to  
Johnson who looks a little nervous.

Isaac makes his way to the door keeping an eye on Mr Gold  
who takes the seat that Isaac was just in next to Johnson.

Isaac closes the door.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

EXT. PSYCHIATRIC CARE HOME - NIGHT

The Care home sits back from the main road and is situated  
behind a large metal gate.

Isaac approaches the gate and presses the security buzzer.

BUZZER

Hello?

ISAAC

Hi, its Isaac laws to see Paula.

The buzzer makes a strange sound and the gates slowly starts to open.

INT. PSYHCIATRIC CARE HOME - CONTINUOUS

Isaac is now greeted by a nurse at the reception.

NURSE TAYLOR

How are you today Isaac?

ISAAC

I'm fine. How is she?

Nurse Taylor begins to escort Isaac up a corridor.

NURSE TAYLOR

I'm afraid it's not been a good day today for Paula, she's settled now but she has struggled today. I'm not going to lie to you.

They approach a door on the corridor and Nurse Taylor unlocks it.

Isaac enters...

INT. ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The door closes behind Isaac.

Paula is laying in bed and is unaware of Isaac entering. She looks frail and although she looks in her late fifties you get the impression she is younger.

Isaac slowly approaches the bed and sits down next o her.

ISAAC

Hi Mum.

Isaac leans forward and gently touches her hand.

Paula responds to his touch and looks at him. She smiles before closing her eyes.

Isaac settles into his chair and retrieves a book from his bag and begins to read.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

A small family restaurant with half a dozen people in it.

The owner, AMANDO a small Italian man stands round a table of three people and is finishing off one of his many anecdotes.

AMANDO

...And the little boy grew up to be the mayor.

A roar of laughter from the guests at the table.

MALE VOICE (O.S.)

What happened to the girl?

Amanda turns around to the voice.

Johnson stands there now showing off a black eye next to KRAY who doesn't seem to happy.

Amanda instantly backs up against the table and looks nervous.

AMANDO

Gentleman, what can I do for you?

JOHNSON

I would like to know what happened to the girl?

AMANDO

(Struggling to speak)

Well...she moved away and never saw the boy again.

JOHNSON

That's a tragic story.

AMANDO

What do you want from me?

JOHNSON

I think we should take this out the back don't you. I think your guests have heard enough from you for one night.

The guest clearly know something is about to go down remain

silent and try to ignore the conversation.

EXT. RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

Amando is pinned up against the wall by Kray. Amando is out of breath and looks in a bad way. He has blood running from his nose.

Johnson stands a few feet away counting some cash.

JOHNSON

Don't make us come and do this again. Believe it or not I do not enjoy having to do this. I actually quite like you Amando.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

Johnson and Kray walk down the street. Johnson places the money in his jacket.

They get in the car.

JOHNSON

Fucking Italian prick, every month he makes us beat the shit out of him, it's almost as if he...

BANG!!!

Ray's head catapults forward as blood explodes onto the windscreen.

Johnson freezes.

MALE VOICE (O.C.)

Keep looking straight if you like your head on your shoulders. One sudden movement and you follow suit, do you hear me?

Johnson nods.

MALE VOICE (O.C.)

I see your pretty good at delivering messages. I've got one for you to pass on your boss. Tell him "the dark days are coming"

Johnson still shaking remains looking ahead.

JOHNSON  
Who should I say the message is  
from?

A BEAT

Johnson slowly turns around. There is no one there. The back door is wide open.

Johnson turns to look up the street but can see nothing.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

INT. CONVENIENT STORE - NIGHT

Katrina is standing behind the counter reading a magazine.

DING!

Katrina looks up to see who has entered the shop.

Isaac stands at the doorway.

Katrina gives Isaac a telling stare.

Isaac makes his way up the drinks aisle.

Katrina looks back at her magazine with one on Isaac.

Isaac grabs some beer and makes his way to the counter.

ISAAC  
Hi.

KATRINA  
Decided to pay this time hey?

DING!

Another customer enters the shop and stands in queue behind Isaac.

ISAAC  
I thought it best, yeah.

Katrina smiles. She reaches out to grab the money from Isaac.

Isaac hands her the note although she is not taking it, her hand remains reaching for the money but not grasping for it.

Isaac looks up at Katrina and she seems to have paused.

Isaac awkwardly laughs thinking it's a prank. He moves away from the counter and waves his hand in front of her face.

There is no response.

ISAAC

What the...?

Isaac turns around to the customer behind him who is also standing frozen.

Isaac laughs, he can't believe what is happening.

He looks up at the clock which has frozen on 23:59:59.

Isaac grabs the beer and goes to leave when something catches his eye.

The man behind him has his hand covering a gun in his trousers.

ISAAC

Son of a bitch!

Isaac gently removes the gun from the mans trousers.

Isaac is still trying to figure out what is happening.

The clock turns 00:00:00

The man raises his arm out and points at katrina.

MAN

Give me the money before...

He realise his hand is empty.

Katrina doesn't understand what is happening.

CONFUSION EVERYWHERE.

The man looks down at his trousers to find the gun.

CLICK!

Isaac has the gun pointed at the back of the man's head.

ISAAC

Is this what your looking for?

The man raises his hands above his head.

Katrina suddenly grasps what is happening and lets out a small scream.

ISAAC

You've got 5 seconds to get out of here before your brains are on the other side of the counter.

The man doesn't even have to think and is out the door.

DING!

Isaac drops the gun on the counter and takes a deep breath.

KATRINA

What just fucking happened?

ISAAC

I saw his gun when he cam behind me, I didn't want to panic you.

KATRINA

(Sarcastically)

Yeah, thanks for that.

Isaac looks up at the clock which reads 00:00:33.

ISAAC

The money for the beer is on the counter.

Isaac makes his way to the exit.

ISAAC

See you around.

DING!

TO BE CONTINUED...

FADE TO BLACK.

