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Ross Commons

Episode One

Gourmet

Emma a slight attractive woman in her late twenties with short brown hair is in bed with Noah a man of similar age. He has a balding hairline and is currently sporting a slight beard. She is currently mounting him in a double bed in a modest bedroom, the room is full of light

NOAH

Massage the scrotum baby

EMMA

Like this?

NOAH

Yeah, that's nice

EMMA

You like that?

NOAH

My semi on suggests i do. Maybe  
slide a finger in

EMMA

No

NOAH

Oh baby please. Just for a few  
minutes before i have to get up

EMMA

No

NOAH

Just the tip will suffice

An alarm goes off

NOAH [CONT'D]

What time does that make it?

Emma glances at the alarm clock which is on a bedside table

EMMA

Seven fifteen

NOAH

Shit i am not going to have enough  
time for a shower

EMMA

You will if you get up now

NOAH

But i need to climax. If you would  
just slide a finger in already

EMMA

No means no

NOAH

Two fingers?

EMMA

That's enough. Get out you  
disgusting boy

Emma forcefully kicks a naked Noah out of bed and he falls out on a pile of clothes which are lying next to the bed. From the pile of clothes he picks out a black pair of trousers and a green shirt. He gently shakes them out before putting on the trousers commando style. He then sprays his top half with body spray before putting on his shirt

cut to

INT. ROSS COMMONS BOOKMAKERS.

Noah is behind the counter reading the Racing Post in a typical bookmakers. There are currently two customers, one Chinese and one Caucasian in the shop both of whom are playing an FOBT, which are directly next to one another. The Chinese customer begins shaking the machine

CHINESE CUSTOMER

Fuck you, fuck you motherfucker.  
Fuck, fuck, mothers whore

Noah casually glances up from behind the counter as the Chinese customer begins to point and shout at the machine

CHINESE CUSTOMER.

Fuck you man. I will fuck your  
mothers mother

The other customer quickly prints out his ticket and approaches the counter with it

NOAH

Four hundred on that?

CUSTOMER

Thank you

NOAH

Just give me two seconds

CUSTOMER

That's fine, i am in no rush

Noah goes into the kitchen area and checks the safe, before returning to the counter area

NOAH

That will be two minutes

CUSTOMER

That's fine as i said there is no rush

The Chinese customer again starts shaking the machine, this time more forcefully

CUSTOMER.

He is a nutcase

NOAH

They do tend to find the door

The safe alarm begins beeping

NOAH.

I will just go get that for you

CUSTOMER

Thank you

Noah goes into the kitchen area and opens the safe. He is counting the customers winnings over the sink when loud arguing begins from outside. Noah returns to the counter area and the Chinese customer is in the face of the other customer

CUSTOMER.

All i am saying is you don't have to hit the machine. I know it is frustrating when you lose but there is no need to behave in that way

CHINESE CUSTOMER

You what? Fuck you man, you no work here, i no respect you. If you work here i respect you but

(MORE)

CHINESE CUSTOMER (CONT'D)  
you don't, so i don't. In fact you  
a nobody, i no respect you

NOAH  
Mate will you please just leave

The Chinese customer looks blankly at Noah and continues to berate the other customer

CHINESE CUSTOMER  
I lose four hundred pounds and  
gives it a gentle hit

He walks over to the FOBT and gently taps it

CHINESE CUSTOMER.  
And you get up in my grill and  
tell to calm down. Who are you to  
tell calm down? You no work here

CUSTOMER  
No i do not work here, but i am a  
customer too, and your erratic  
behaviour is making me  
uncomfortable

The Chinese customer leaps towards the other customer and begins throttling him. After a few seconds he scoffs and pushes him away. As he is leaving he kicks the FOBT by the shop door

CHINESE CUSTOMER  
Fuck

The Chinese customer exits the shop and Noah gets the attention of the other customer

NOAH  
Twenty, forty, sixty, eighty,  
one. Twenty, forty, sixty,  
eighty, two. Twenty, forty,  
sixty, eighty, three. Twenty,  
fourty, sixty, eighty, four  
hundred

After collecting his winnings the other customer leaves and the shop is empty

The starting credits roll

INT ROSS COMMONS BOOKMAKERS. Noah is putting up the form papers whilst Emma is reading Heat magazine on a round table. The shutters are down and the shop is empty

EMMA

Okay it should be open by now.  
What do you want?

NOAH

A bacon sarnie please babe

EMMA

Anything else?

NOAH

No. Thank you

Noah opens the shutters and Emma exits the shop. As Noah is walking back to the counter area a hoodied youth enters the shop and immediately goes on the FOBT by the door. Noah goes behind the counter and switches Daybreak on the TV

CUSTOMER

They must be rigged, just must be.  
It is impossible to finish next  
door so often

Noah turns up daybreak to drown out the sound of the customer moaning. Shortly after he storms out of the front door nearly knocking Emma over in the process

EMMA

Jesus, what was his problem?

NOAH

If i were to guess. I would say he  
is upset about the one hundred and  
twenty pound he just lost in that  
machine

EMMA

One hundred and twenty pounds! How  
is that even possible? I was only  
gone five minutes

NOAH

You can do nine grand an hour in  
those bad boys baby

EMMA

Nine grand an hour! How are they  
even legal?

NOAH

It used to be eighteen until the  
government clamped down on them

EMMA

Eighteen grand an hour! That is obscene

NOAH

You can blame the Labour government for that babe. Did you get brown sauce on mine?

EMMA

I did

NOAH

Good stuff

Noah gets two cans out of the mini fridge and joins Emma at the round table

EMMA

So who are you in with today?

NOAH

I am here on my jack jones until one. Then i am up the road with a woman called Agnes who i have never met, and then back down here for the evening shift with the big G.

Noah and Emma begin eating their breakfast baps

NOAH.

Yeah apparently seven hour contracts are the way forward

EMMA

So if i am in town this afternoon, you will be up the road

NOAH

I will

A very smartly dressed, silver haired man walks into the shop and waves at Noah

EMMA

Who is the silver fox?

NOAH

That's Greg. He is our V.I.P customer

EMMA

V.I.P customer?

NOAH

Yep

EMMA

What makes him so special then?

NOAH

Well he will put more money  
through that machine than i earn  
in a month by the time you leave.  
And in the eyes of Ed and Lamby  
that makes him special

EMMA

So what does his V.I.P status  
entitle him to then?

NOAH

So far we have stopped short of  
offering him girls. But we are  
encouraged to go get him lunch,  
pick up his laundry. That sort of  
thing

EMMA

We have to get you out of here

NOAH

Definitely

cut to

EXT. A BUSY HIGH STREET. Noah is walking up the high street, zig zagging in an obvious attempt to avoid the chuggers. He is outside Argos when Marvin, a small frail dirty looking character, suddenly walks in front of him. A massive pile of Argos catalogues dwarf Marvin

MARVIN

You working today Jonah? You want  
Argos book? One pound

Noah plugs in his earphones and casually walks on by until he reaches another Ross Commons branch

INT. A DIFFERENT ROSS COMMONS. The lay out is much the same, Jim a grey haired character with heavy bags under his eyes is behind the counter on the phone. A suited man is waiting impatiently at the counter area. Noah approaches the counter area where he is ignored by Jim. The shop has two other customers

JIMMY

They said you can have fifty on at fives and the rest at S.P. Did you want that?

CUSTOMER

No don't bother

JIMMY [ON PHONE]

No he didn't want that

The disgruntled customer storms off muttering under his breath. Jim gets up and lets Noah in

JIMMY.

Another satisfied customer. Just the way i like them

NOAH

Indeed

Noah and Jimmy are behind the counter when the toilet is heard flushing. Agnes, a middle aged rotund woman with short cropped red hair, joins them behind the counter

AGNES

I would give it five minutes if i were you

JIMMY

Agnes this is Noah, he will be steering the good ship through the choppy waters of the afternoon shift

AGNES

Alright sweet?

NOAH

Hi

JIMMY

Everything is right, i checked it just before you arrived. I have written what you need to do this afternoon in the diary, there is plenty for you to be getting on with

NOAH

Ok

Jim goes into the kitchen area and returns shortly after wearing his jacket. He leaves immediately

JIMMY

Enjoy

Jim leaves out the back door

AGNES

Will do sweet

NOAH

So how are you finding it up here,  
working with the Jim buddies?

AGNES

Yeah i love it me. Love the  
banter, love the job and Jimmy  
seems like a proper fella

NOAH

Right

AGNES

Yeah, been here a week now. I am  
just starting to pick up the lingo

NOAH

That's good then

AGNES

And i got a double up today an all

NOAH

On the horses?

AGNES

Aye and they both romped in an all

NOAH

Are you into your racing then?

AGNES

Nah, i just go by the names is  
all. You will soon learn that  
about me

A customer approaches Agnes till

DAVID

Can i have six to four on that  
please?

AGNES

Anything for you my sweetness

DAVID  
Hello, how are you today?

AGNES  
All the better for seeing you my  
sweet

DAVID  
Well i can't fault your taste

David pays for his bet and walks to the centre of the shop

AGNES [SHOUTING]  
Do you want a cappucino darling?

DAVID  
No thank you. I just had one  
across the road

AGNES [SHOUTING LOUDLY]  
Traitor, traitor

AGNES [CONT'D]  
That's David, i love him really

Noah offers a token smile

AGNES  
Is it okay if i nip cross road and  
pick up my winnings?

NOAH  
Yeah sure. Take your time

AGNES  
How much will i get on my bet? Do  
you know?

NOAH  
Do you know what prices they were?

AGNES  
Well Domination were nine over one  
and Bondage were seven over two  
and it were a pound each way  
double

NOAH  
About fifty two, fifty three  
pounds

Agnes performs a celebratory jig

AGNES

Happy days are here again

Agnes goes into the kitchen area and returns shortly after wearing a full length leather trenchcoat and Dr Dre style earphones

AGNES.

Okay sweet i shan't be long

As Agnes leaves the shop she can be heard singing rap music

cut to

Noah is behind the counter reading the racing post when Agnes returns

AGNES

Wakey wakey

NOAH

Oh sorry, i didn't see you there

Noah gets up and opens the door for Agnes

NOAH.

Did you pick up your winnings?

AGNES

Aye. it wasn't quite as much as you said. Fifty one pound seventy is what i got back. Still happy days

The radio station which Noah is listening to on the Television begins playing bed of roses by Bon Jovi

AGNES (CONT'D)

Oh i love this song, turn it up.  
Ooh Jon Bon could put me on a bed  
of roses any day of the week. Ooh  
yes please

Kevin a heavy set man in his late thirties, but who dresses a lot younger and has blonde tints in his hair approaches the counter. He is wearing three quarter length khaki trousers and a replica Liverpool football shirt

KEVIN

I was down the other shop looking  
for you

NOAH

Up here this afternoon Kev

KEVIN

I am on fire mate. Winner after  
winner at the moment. Just had a  
score on that last winner at  
Taunton across the road

NOAH

Good stuff Kev

KEVIN

I am just debating whether or not  
to do a balls deep lucky fifteen  
at Wolverhampton tonight

NOAH

That is your call Kev

KEVIN

How are you my darling? I don't  
believe i have had the pleasure of  
seeing your beautiful face before

AGNES

That's cos i am new. Started  
Monday

KEVIN

I am Kevin or big Kev to those in  
the inner circle

Agnes looks blankly at Kevin

KEVIN [CONT'D]

And what is your name?

Agnes points at her namebadge

KEVIN

Agnes, from Leeds?

AGNES

Ew no, take that back. I am a  
Bradford lass through and through  
me

KEVIN

Agnes from Bradford. Would you  
mind watching the shop, whilst me  
and Noah step out the back to talk  
a little business

AGNES

That's fine

KEVIN

Good girl

KEVIN [TO NOAH]

Have you got any cigarettes back there mate? I am fresh out

NOAH

I have

cut to

Noah and Kevin are outside the back door, they are surrounded by industrial sized waste bins. Kevin is smoking, Noah is not. It is dark and gently raining

KEVIN

Jesus mate who is the poison dwarf?

NOAH (CONT'D)

What Agnes?

KEVIN

Yeah, what a hob goblin. Do you ever get any lookers working for you?

NOAH

It has been a while

KEVIN

Cracking bit of stuff working across the road today. Ashley her name is, tight little body

NOAH

What Ash? You really think so?

KEVIN

Oh yeah mate, she is a cracking bit of stuff. You can tell she is filthy too, she has one of those Asian symbol tattoos right on the target area. You know i like that

NOAH

Sounds like you are suffering from bookies syndrome to me Kev

KEVIN

What?

NOAH

Basically you see a semi attractive female in an enviroment where there aren't many and you instantly upgrade her. It is the same as what Sky do with premiership footballers

KEVIN

Don't agree with that at all

NOAH

I am not having a go Kev. It is an easy trap to fall into

KEVIN

She is a proper filthbag mate. I am telling you

NOAH (CONT'D)

Any grand plans for tonight then Kev? Asides from watching Dunstall on ATR

KEVIN

Going to go home and have a gourmet. I have all the lotions prepared

NOAH

Babestation?

KEVIN

Internet mate

NOAH

Is the sperm guard locked in?

KEVIN

Will be mate, i put it in the dishwasher yesterday so it is all nice and clean

NOAH

Good stuff

KEVIN

Okay mate i am going to make a move, i need to get some baccy

NOAH

Are you not putting that bet on then?

KEVIN

I am going to have a think about  
it

Kevin stamps out his cigarette and heads back into the shop.  
Noah follows him shortly after. As Noah gets to the counter  
door Kevin is exiting the shop

NOAH [TO SELF]

One or more bets tonight,  
currently trading at the basement  
price on my tissue

Noah goes into the kitchen area and starts brushing his  
teeth. He is the middle of doing so when Agnes comes into  
the kitchen

AGNES

Kevin is back

NOAH

Already?

AGNES

Yep

NOAH

Tell him i will be two minutes

AGNES

He will be with you in two minutes  
Kevin. He is just brushing his  
teeth

Noah gargles some mouthwash and returns to the counter area

NOAH

Back already Kev?

KEVIN

Yeah i thought fuck it. In for a  
penny in for a pound

Kevin hands Noah a sixty pounds and a betting slip. Noah  
processes the bet before handing the slip to Kevin

KEVIN.

I need this mate

Kevin is walking towards the front door

AGNES [SHOUTS]

Good luck sweet

Kevin leaves and the shop is empty

cut to

Noah and Georgina, a tall relaxed mixed race woman with a pearly smile, are behind the counter. Noah is on his lap top and Georgina is watching the x factor. One customer is playing the FOBT by the door

GEORGINA

I really do despise Sharon

NOAH

That's perfectly understandable

GEORGINA

Urgh, i hate this guy. He is so feminine, someone should tell him he does have a penis

NOAH

I am sure Louis will at some stage

GEORGINA

I will go for a fag break while he is on

NOAH

You go for it

Georgina puts on her coat and goes out the back door. As she does a small elderly Chinese man comes in that way

NOAH.

Alright Bernard. Long time no see, where have you been?

BERNARD

No money

NOAH

You are missing the X factor Bern

BERNARD

X factor rubbish

Georgina returns looking flustered

GEORGINA

There is a guy passed out, out the back

NOAH

There is always a guy passed out,  
out the back. It is what out the  
back is for

GEORGINA

He looks in a pretty bad way

NOAH

Are you sure he isn't just  
sleeping?

GEORGINA

I don't think so. He is just lying  
there motionless, blocking the  
back entrance

NOAH

I will go check on him

Noah goes out the back door where the unresponsive man is  
blocking the back door. Noah hurdles over him and begins to  
gently kick him. He remains unresponsive, Noah hurdles back  
over him and goes behind the counter

NOAH.

He isn't moving. I think he may be  
dead

GEORGINA

Dead?

NOAH

I think so. He is certainly more  
dead than alive

GEORGINA

He can't be dead, don't say that.  
I will go wake him up

Georgina goes out the back

NOAH

You want a cup of tea Bernie?

BERNARD

No thank you

Georgina returns

GEORGINA

Okay so he isn't dead, but he is  
in a really bad state. I am going  
to phone an ambulance

NOAH

Okay

Bernie approaches the counter as Georgina goes into the kitchen area to make the call. Noah mutes the x factor

BERNARD

Seven to two

NOAH

You have already wrote it on there  
Bern

BERNARD

I know

Georgina returns

NOAH

What did they say?

GEORGINA

They are on their way

NOAH

Good. You sit down, do you want a  
coffee?

GEORGINA

Please

Noah uses the coffee machine and makes Georgina a coffee

NOAH

He has really messed up your  
viewing of the X factor hasn't he?

GEORGINA

I know how rude. What did i miss?

NOAH

Nothing much. Louis compared that  
camp dude to Marvin Gaye

GEORGINA

Shut up

NOAH

I tell a lie, what he actually  
said was that he combines the best  
elements of Stevie and Marvin

GEORGINA

He did not. You must be shitting  
me

NOAH

I shit you not. That is why i had  
to turn it down, it became too  
much of an insult

GEORGINA

I am going to have to watch it on  
plus one now

NOAH

Plus one?

GEORGINA

Yeah, but first i had better go  
outside and wait with him until  
they come

Georgina again goes out the back. Shortly after two  
paramedics, one male and one female, walk through the front  
door

MALE PARAMEDIC

We took a call from this address  
regarding a man who had passed out

NOAH

He is out the back there

Noah switches off the x factor and makes himself a cup of  
tea before returning to his till

GEORGINA

Thankfully he is alright, they  
have managed to bring him round  
and he is sitting up talking. He  
wants a cup of coffee, is that  
alright?

NOAH

Of course. Make sure you use the  
proper coffee though, not that  
shit we serve to the customers

Georgina makes the coffee

NOAH.

How did they wake him up so  
quickly? He was dead to the world,  
but five minutes ago

GEORGINA

They just gently cajoled him and spoke to him. Then he came round

NOAH

Did they use smelling salts?

GEORGINA

No

Georgina goes out the back with the cup of coffee. A lubricated customer walks through the front door and staggers up to the counter

LIAM

The five fifteen from Neuss. Who won?

Noah checks the result screen

NOAH

Our lollypop won, the favourite

LIAM

Where did Shirocco Spinner come?

NOAH

Out of the frame

LIAM

Still running you mean?

NOAH

Possibly, i didn't see the race

Liam staggers over to the form wall

LIAM [SHOUTS]

Where is Neuss anyway?

NOAH

Germany

LIAM [SHOUTS]

And where is Aqueduct? Is it under water?

NOAH

New York

LIAM

But is it under water?

NOAH

No

Georgina returns behind the counter as the male paramedic aids the stricken man through the shop

MAN

Thanks guys for phoning the ambo's. I really appreciate it, i didn't mean to pass out. I don't want to be a nuisance

NOAH

That's okay, just go careful in the future yeah

MAN

Oh i will, most certainly

NOAH

Is he going to be alright?

FEMALE PARAMEDIC

Until the next time

NOAH

Ah a regular of yours is he?

FEMALE PARAMEDIC

You could say that

NOAH

Annoying aren't they?

Once the paramedics leave the shop Georgina turns the x factor back on. Noah gets a black bag and begins to tidy the shop

cut to

EXT. A COUNCIL ESTATE AT NIGHT TIME. Noah is walking through the estate loudly singing the devil in disguise by Elvis. He arrives at a modest set of flats and enters

cut to

INT. EMMA AND NOAH'S LIVING ROOM

eMMA

You are home

NOAH (CONT'D)

I am

EMMA  
I missed you

NOAH  
I am glad to hear it babe

EMMA  
Good day at work?

NOAH  
So, so

EMMA  
How was the new girl?

NOAH  
Rotund

EMMA  
Really?

NOAH  
And northern. I really need a bath  
babe, could you heat up a kettle  
for me?

EMMA  
I can

NOAH  
Thank you baby

cut to

Noah is in the bath. Emma comes in and pours hot water from  
a kettle into the tub

EMMA  
How's that? Better

NOAH  
Much

Emma sits on the toilet

EMMA  
So tell me about the new girl then

NOAH  
Very Northern, very irritating,  
very chatty. She is one of those  
people who chats to the customers  
like she has known them for years.

(MORE)

NOAH (CONT'D)

She only started on Monday! I hate people like that

EMMA

I know you do babe, i know

Emma kneels down next to the bath tub and lathers up Noahs hair with shampoo

EMMA [CONT'D]

Did your mum get hold of you?

NOAH

Yeah she did, we went for lunch

EMMA

Was it nice?

NOAH

It was only a greggs in her car, but yeah it was okay

EMMA

Tilt your head back for me

Noah tilts his head back and Emma washes the shampoo out of his hair

cut to

EXT. THE ESTATE DURING DAY TIME. Noah is walking through the estate singing suspicious minds by Elvis when his phone rings

NOAH

Hello. [BEAT] Yeah alright Kev  
[BEAT] i am just on my way into  
work now [BEAT] Yeah no worries i  
should be in at about twelve  
thirty

cut to

Noah arrives at Ross Commons. A group of three Chinese children are playing on the step. Noah weaves his way past them and enters the shop. Kevin is waiting at the counter and a youthful looking Chinese woman is playing an FOBT. Noah approaches the counter area

KEVIN

Mate you are a lifesaver. I will square you up next week yeah

NOAH  
Whenever you have it mate

Noah goes behind the counter where Tracy a thirtysomething with curly brown hair is sitting by her till

TRACY  
Alright?

NOAH  
I am good, you?

TRACY  
I am fine. I do have some bad news though

NOAH  
Let me guess our student for the day has some important coursework that needs doing, and they can't make it in today

TRACY  
How did you know?

NOAH  
Call it a premonition

TRACY  
I have managed to get Agnes from up the road to come in, but she won't be in until four

NOAH  
Oh joy

TRACY  
The till is about seven pounds down

Tracy goes out to the kitchen area and returns wearing her coat

NOAH  
Okies i will try and make it up

TRACY  
Coolio, have a good one

NOAH  
You too

Tracy leaves out the back door and Kevin remains at the counter

KEVIN

Have you seen it outside? It is  
like an Olympic training camp out  
there

NOAH

I did notice

A man wearing a bus drivers uniform dashes up to the counter

BUS DRIVER

Any chance?

NOAH

Is that twenty?

BUS DRIVER

Yeah twenty

The bus driver clicks twenty pound coins out of his change  
tray on to the counter before going back into the centre of  
the shop to watch the race

NOAH

There is the reason they always  
have so little change on the  
buses. And the reason why so many  
of them get sacked for fraud

KEVIN

Any chance of a brew mate?

NOAH

Sure thing Kev

Noah begins making the tea and his back is turned to his  
till when the youthful looking Chinese woman approaches the  
counter. She begins knocking loudly on the counter top in an  
attempt to get his attention. Noah turns around

NOAH.

In a hurry?

ASIAN WOMAN

Yes

Noah takes her FOBT ticket and pays her out a wad of notes

NOAH

Three hundred on that

She snatches the money out of his hand and walks to the  
front door. She walks right past her three children who all  
scarper after her up the high street

KEVIN

I will take five to one on that  
mate

Kev hands over a twenty pound note and Noah processes his  
bet. A tall man who is scruffily dressed approaches the  
counter. He is carrying a supermarket bag for life

PAUL

How is business Noah?

NOAH

Booming as always Paul

PAUL

That's what i like to hear

NOAH

How are you?

PAUL

I will be a lot better if Swansea  
win today

NOAH

Who are they playing?

PAUL

Cardiff

NOAH

Had a chunk on have you?

PAUL

I'm on Solskjaer to be the first  
manager to go and i feel if they  
lose today that charman may act

KEVIN

You got much riding on it?

PAUL

About twelve grand

NOAH

Well i hope it works out for you

PAUL

Me too. Can i take a price on  
that?

Noah checks the system for the price

NOAH  
Eleven to four

PAUL  
Please

Paul hands over a large bundle of cash

NOAH  
This one a good thing is it?

PAUL  
Simply too big a price

NOAH  
Well good luck

PAUL  
Thank you, i will see you soon i  
am sure

NOAH  
The next time our odds compilers  
make a rick no doubt

PAUL  
Ha. You know me too well

Paul leaves

KEVIN  
Who is he?

NOAH  
Just some punter from Reading

KEVIN  
Reading? What is he doing down  
here then?

NOAH  
I don't think he can get on up  
there

KEVIN  
Does he win then?

NOAH  
He is definitely up overall. He is  
pretty much the only shrewd punter  
we get in here

KEVIN  
What did he back?

Noah inspects the ticket

NOAH  
Trap four in the eight twelve at  
Poole

KEVIN  
Dog racing! Fuck that, mugs game  
mate

NOAH  
Wouldn't surprise me to see it  
win. Will certainly go off shorter  
than eleven to four anyway

KEVIN  
I will tell you something, he  
don't half pen and ink. If he does  
win that twelve grand, he should  
invest in some Lynx Africa

The bus driver runs up to the counter again

BUS DRIVER  
Any chance?

NOAH  
For this race now?

BUS DRIVER (CONT'D)  
Yeah this one running

NOAH  
No, too late i am afraid

BUS DRIVER  
Too late?

NOAH  
Yes too late, they are halfway  
around already

BUS DRIVER  
But it is three miles

NOAH  
I don't care if it the Mongolian  
Derby. You are too late

The bus driver walks off muttering under his breath

KEVIN  
Okay i am off

NOAH  
Have a good one Kev

cut to

Noah and Agnes are behind the counter. Noah is on his laptop and Agnes is eating a Greggs pasty. There is one female customer playing on the FOBT. Noahs phone rings

NOAH.  
I just have to take this

AGNES  
Alright sweet

cut to

Noah is having an indistinct phone call out the back amongst the waste bins when the woman who was playing the FOBT walks past him. Noah continues on the phone before heading back into the shop. On arrival he notices the woman who walked past him is playing the FOBT she was on earlier. Noah goes behind the counter

NOAH [ANGRILY]  
Are you actually kidding me?

AGNES  
What? What is it? What's wrong?

NOAH  
Her down there, she just left. I saw her leave but five minutes ago

AGNES  
Aye i saw her leave

NOAH  
And now she is back

AGNES  
Maybe she went to bank, some of them do you know. Go to the bank and get more money out

NOAH  
There are no banks that way. No what has happened, is she has left. Then realised she cannot go five minutes without her fix and has looped around and come back through the front door.

NOAH [CONT'D]

You realise who we are don't you?

AGNES

Who?

NOAH

We are Brodie, Lamby is String and we are his fucking Brodie. Peddling this shit on the street corners all night, whilst he is at home with his ivory back scratcher

Agnes looks confused

AGNES

Shall i go give her a problem with gambling leaflet?

NOAH

What is the point? If she doesn't get her hit here. She will only get it somewhere else

AGNES

Are you watching owt?

NOAH

No, you put whatever you like on

AGNES

Cool. My fella just text me that my mate Jackie is on the one show

NOAH

Really. What is she on there for?

AGNES

I dunno

NOAH

She didn't mention it?

AGNES

No not said a word. An i was playing Farmville with her last night

Four youths come in and crowd around one FOBT. Agnes gets out of her seat

NOAH

It is okay they have shown ID

Youth one is playing the machine, youth two is behind him almost mounting him while youth three and four are a few feet behind

YOUTH ONE [LOUDLY]

Yes

YOUTH TWO [LOUDER]

Take it, take it all right now

YOUTH ONE

One more spin

YOUTH TWO

Don't risk it. That will pay for tonight

YOUTH ONE

I am doing it

The four youths start celebrating wildly

YOUTH ONE (CONT'D)

What did i tell you? I knew my luck was in tonight

YOUTH TWO

Withdraw it please

The four youths approach the counter and hand Noah the FOBT ticket

NOAH

Nineteen pounds?

YOUTH ONE

Would it be possible to get that in change please?

NOAH

What type of change?

YOUTH ONE

Pound coins if you have them. I have to split it evenly

NOAH

Nineteen pound coins?

YOUTH ONE

If you can

Nooh counts out nineteen pound coins and hands them to youth one. They collect their winnings and leave making a lot of hoopla. Shortly after the One show comes on

AGNES

Here we go. Excited

NOAH

What does she do for a living,  
your mate?

AGNES

She works for Asda in Huddersfield  
as a butcher

The One show comes on and Alex Jones announces that Jackie Collins is on the show

AGNES.

Jackie Collins, i thought he meant  
Jackie from back home. Wait till i  
see him tonight, getting me hopes  
up like that

NOAH

You not a fan of Jackie Collins  
then?

AGNES

No i love me Jackie to bits me. I  
have read all her books, her  
latest one is brill

NOAH

The one set on the cruise ship?

AGNES

Aye that's the one. Very sexual it  
is

NOAH

I can imagine

AGNES

I am just going to nip out front  
for a ciggie and give my fella a  
mouthful

NOAH

Go for it

Agnes is walking towards the front door when a youthful  
looking man enters the shop

AGNES

Can i see some I.D please?

YOUTH

I.D, I.D. Is that all you are programmed to say?

AGNES

I.D please

The youth produces his ID whilst huffing a puffing

YOUTH

Do me a favour will you. Look at my face, i do not expect to be asked for I.D again

Agnes

Thank you

Agnes casually walks out the front door and the youth goes to the table to fill out a football coupon. Shortly after Mick, a Shrek like character with numerous tattoos, arrives. He is wearing a hi viz jacket and bermuda shorts

NOAH

Alright Mick

MICK

Aiight

NOAH

You get here earlier and earlier Mick

MICK

Who is that woman out the front having a cigarette?

NOAH

That's Agnes. She works up the road, have you never met her?

MICK

That's the problem. I think i may have been with her a few years back, but i can't be sure

NOAH

Been with her?

MICK

You know slipped her a live one

NOAH

Tell me you didn't

MICK

I don't know. My memory is a bit foggy these days, but i think i may have, in the park back when i was working the doors

NOAH

Were there a few sexual encounters in the park, back in the day Mick?

MICK

Plenty mate, if those trees could talk. They would have a few tales about old Mickey boy, i will tell you

Agnes returns and goes behind the counter

NOAH

Agnes, this is Mick the cleaner

AGNES

Oh me and Michael don't need introducing. Do we darling?

MICK

We don't?

AGNES

Oh don't pretend you don't remember. You said i was the best you ever had

MICK

So it was you, i knew it was. I told you didn't i?

NOAH

You did Mick

AGNES

It was me alright

MICK

So when are we going for round two?

AGNES

I don't think my fella would like it much

MICK

He wouldn't have to know

NOAH

I doubt your wife would like it  
much either Mick

MICK

My wife knows the score, she knows  
i can't stay faithful. I just have  
too much spunk, ask her she knows.  
I filled her real good

NOAH

Have you got a cigarette i can  
borrow Mick?

MICK

I didn't know you smoked Noah

NOAH

Very rarely Mick, very rarely

MICK

They are in my coat pocket. Take  
one. There should be a zippo in  
there too

Noah goes into the kitchen and frantically looks through  
Micks hi viz jacket. After a little while searching he finds  
the cigarettes and a Betty Boo zippo lighter. All the time  
extraneous laughter can be heard from the shop floor. Having  
got the lighter and cigarettes Noah heads briskly towards  
the front door. He lights up and begins smoking on the front  
step of the shop. It is raining heavily. After a short  
period the youth comes out of the shop and Noah lets him by

YOUTH

I don't envy you working in there  
mate. I really don't

In the background Agnes can be seen girating for Mick behind  
the counter

cut to

EXT. THE ESTATE. It is pitch black and raining, Noah is  
walking through the estate in silence

End credits