

Something Special

By

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FADE IN:

EXT.SCHOOL GATES - DAY

DANNY BUCKLEY, a confused looking man in his late 20's ambles past the school gates. A JACK RUSSELL dog, FREDDIE, follows at his heel.

DANNY is dressed in a garish nylon sports jacket. Skin tight jeans and cheap training shoes.

Danny ties Freddie to a lamppost with a piece of string.

He bends down and kisses Freddie softly on the nose.

Danny straightens up. He shakes out his arms and legs. Performs a few stretches then takes up a sprinter's starting position at the side of the road.

He pauses as he listens to the sound of an ENGINE.

He waits.

As the CAR draws level he's off!

INT.CLASSROOM - DAY

An Art class in total chaos.

One or two kids are sketching, the rest are throwing lumps of clay at each other.

A FAT KID with a skinhead, JOEY MORGAN, has his back to the class and stares out of the window.

The teacher, MR FORBES, a bald, dead-eyed man in his fifties goes through the motions of trying to regain order.

MR FORBES

Morgan! On your seat. Now.

Joey ignores him.

JOEY

He's about to go again.

Some of the class shuffle over to the window.

EXT.SCHOOL GATES - DAY

Danny is back in his starting position.

Intense focus as he waits for the next car to approach.

INT.CLASSROOM - DAY

Mr Forbes has given up. He's back at his desk.

The kids are getting louder by the second.

KIDS

Go on mongo! Go spazzy.

EXT.SCHOOL GATES - DAY

Danny breathless as he struggles to keep up with a speeding van.

EXT.SCHOOL GATES - DAY

Joey and a couple of friends, MAGIC, lanky with long, greasy hair and BLIMP, glasses and a squint watch as Danny walks towards them.

JOEY

Danny boy. My man Dan. How's it going Dan the man?

Danny smiles.

DANNY

Good. Good. Good.

Danny pulls Freddie along.

JOEY

You been Training?

DANNY

Yeah. Y'know. The Olympics and that. Gotta' train.

Joey, Magic and Blimp snigger to themselves as they continue walking.

Joey bends down and strokes Freddie.

Freddie backs away and GROWLS.

(CONTINUED)



A half-eaten sandwich drops from it.

MOIRA puts her head down. She tries to force some tears out.

DANNY

You here Daniel. By yourself. I don't know how much longer I can take it.

Danny looks down at Freddie is panting at his feet.

Danny picks a sausage from his plate and launches it across the room.

Freddie jumps on it and devours it.

EXT.ESTATE - NIGHT

Joey, Magic and Blimp take it in turns hammering a football towards Danny.

Danny awkwardly thrusts out arms and legs in an attempt at goal-keeping.

Danny ducks as a BRICK crashes against the garage door.

Joey picks up a bottle and smashes it at Danny's feet.

Joey turns and runs away from a furious Danny.

JOEY

I don't believe it. The goalie is attacking the fans. Remarkable.

Danny jumps on Joey's back. He wrestles him to the ground.

Freddie, who had been quite happy sniffing piss on lamp posts YELPS as he bounds to his master's defence.

Joey manages to get on top of Danny and has his fist poised above Danny's face when Freddie sinks his teeth into Joey's leg.

Joey SCREAMS.

Freddie growls as he pulls at Joey's tracksuit bottoms.

Danny forces his way on top of Joey.

He sits on his chest. Knees pinning down his arms.

Danny strokes Freddie and calms him down.

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Magic and Blimp giggle as they get closer.

DANNY  
Bad dog. Bad dog.

Danny stands up.

Joey struggles to his feet. His face stained with snot and tears. His tracksuit bottoms ripped to shreds.

EXT.ESTATE - NIGHT

Danny at the side of the road that runs through the estate.

He's about to race a car...

He looks up.

Joey, Magic and Blimp are walking towards the lamp post where Freddie is tied.

Danny sprints towards them.

Danny kneels down and pulls Freddie close to him.

Danny stands up.

JOEY  
Sorry about the other night. I  
lost my temper. I get a bit scared  
when dogs go mental.

DANNY  
Freddie wouldn't hurt anybody.

Joey offers his hand.

JOEY  
Mates?

Danny grabs Joey's hand and shakes it.

Magic and Blimp snigger to themselves.

JOEY  
So Danny boy. Now we're mates  
again and everything...I can ask  
you for a favour.

Danny looks worried.

JOEY  
Just get some drink for us.

DANNY  
My mum didn't like it last time.

JOEY  
You're not scared are you?

DANNY  
I'm not scared of anybody.

JOEY  
I'll tell you a secret. It's for  
you. We're having a party for you.

Danny smiles. Then begins to giggle.

INT.DANNY'S FLAT - NIGHT

Joey takes a swig from a 2 litre bottle of cider.

JOEY stands up and looks around the room.

JOEY  
Got any sounds Dan the man?

Danny shakes his head.

Joey spots a collection of vinyl LP's in the corner.

He thumbs through them.

DANNY  
They were Dad's.

Joey pulls out QUEEN'S GREATEST HITS.

JOEY  
You like Queen Dan?

Danny nods nervously.

Joey pulls the record from the sleeve.

JOEY  
You do know he was a fag don't you  
Dan? A queer. A homo. A pervert.

Danny forces a laugh.

(CONTINUED)

JOEY  
It's not funny Dan.

Danny puts his hands in his pockets and stares at the floor.  
The DOOR BELL rings.

DANNY  
Oh no. Oh no. I'm in trouble.

JOEY  
It's not your mum Dan. More people  
for the party.

Magic opens the door.

AMBER and SARAH both fourteen and glammed up in tracksuits  
and nose rings enter the room.

Joey grabs Amber by the hand and pulls her towards him.

JOEY  
Amber. This is Danny. Danny,  
Amber.

Amber looks at Danny

AMBER  
I like your flat.

JOEY  
You'll look after Amber while we go  
the shop won't you Danny?

AMBER  
We'll be fine.

Sarah gets up from the sofa.

She winks at Amber as she leaves the room.

Amber looks worried.

INT.HALLWAY - NIGHT

Joey, Magic, Blimp and Sarah listening at the door.



INT.DANNY'S FLAT - NIGHT

Amber takes a deep breath. She blurts out...

AMBER  
I've been waiting for this.

Danny shuffles awkwardly.

AMBER  
I've liked you for ages. There's something special about you.

Danny has no idea what to say or do. He just stares at Amber.

Amber looks around the room.

AMBER  
Pull them down. Your jeans. Pull them down.

Danny laughs.

Amber tries to keep a straight face.

AMBER  
Pull them down.

DANNY  
Why?

AMBER  
Because I want you to.

Danny undoes the buckle on his belt.

He looks to Amber for reassurance.

AMBER  
Don't be shy.

Danny drops his jeans to the floor.

DANNY  
Ok?

Amber sighs.

AMBER  
And the rest. I won't bite.

Danny pulls his boxers down.

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INT.DANNY'S FLAT - NIGHT

Danny sprawled on the sofa. A packet of biscuits and a bottle of lemonade at his side.

A KNOCK at the door.

Danny springs up.

He listens for a moment.

The knocking continues.

Danny picks up a remote control and turns up the volume on the tv.

The knocking gets louder and louder.

Danny turns off the television and edges towards the front door.

INT.HALLWAY - NIGHT

Danny flips up the letterbox.

DANNY

Who is it?

Joey's eyes appear.

JOEY

Only us.

Danny reluctantly opens the door.

Joey, Magic and Blimp all smile at Danny.

Danny keeps one hand on the door.

Joey pulls his phone from his pocket.

JOEY

We've got something interesting to show you. You're famous.

Joey grins as he looks at the phone.

JOEY

Some of those comments!

(CONTINUED)

DANNY

I don't care.

Danny tries to close the door. It's blocked.

JOEY

So you wouldn't care if your mum saw this? But then again, she's seen every dick in town hasn't she?

DANNY

Leave me alone.

JOEY

What about the police? They can see it too?

Joey leans forwards. He stares into Danny's eyes.

JOEY

Fifty quid and it goes away. Fifty quid and you can have your life back.

Joey leans in closer. His nose touches Danny's.

JOEY

Do you know how old she was? Fourteen. You know what that makes you? You know what happens to freaks like you in prison? You get raped. By real men. Not skinny little freaks like you. Big huge fat bastards with big fuck off elephant dicks. Fifty quid mingo.

Joey removes his foot from the door.

The door slams shut.

Danny falls against it.

He can hear the giggling from the other side.

INT.DANNY'S FLAT - DAY

The letterbox opens. Sausages are shoved through and fall to the floor.

Freddie comes running.

EXT.ESTATE - DAY

Danny kicks a can as he trudges through the estate.

INT.DANNY'S FLAT - DAY

Danny opens the door carefully and pauses before he enters.

DANNY  
Freddie?

Danny looks around.

DANNY  
Freddie?

INT.KITCHEN - DAY

Danny takes a tin of dog from a cupboard.

DANNY  
Come on Freddie.

He opens the tin and empties it into a bowl.

DANNY  
Come on Freddie.

**DANNY'S POV:**

Freddie curled up on a blanket in a basket in the corner.

DANNY  
Come on lazy bones.

Danny approaches the dog.

He bends down.

He strokes Freddie.

DANNY  
Come on. Wake up.

Danny begins shaking the dog.

Eventually he realises...

He kisses Freddie gently on the nose and then lays down next to him.

Danny closes his eyes as he hugs the dead dog.

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Danny springs to his feet as a brick CRASHES through the window.

He stands in the middle of the room. No idea what to do.

Danny runs to the front door.

INT/EXT.DANNY'S FLAT - DAY

Danny stares out. Unsure what to say or do.

He closes the door.

INT.MOIRA'S HOUSE - DAY

Moira has her arms wrapped around Danny.

She strokes his head as he struggles to speak.

MOIRA

Slow down. Slow down. Mummy's here. It's ok.

Danny backs away.

Moira grabs him again and pulls him towards her.

MOIRA

Mummy's here. Mummy's here.

MOIRA strokes Danny's head.

MOIRA

Your room's upstairs. I haven't touched it.

She closes her eyes and strokes his head.

**FADE OUT**