THE TREASURE

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EXT. NEXT TO CK SUPERMARKET - DAY

JOE and ROSS are down on the grass, fighting. Next to them can be seen a hole. Joe is on top of Ross, wining the fight. Joe is strangling Ross.

JOE (V.O.)

That's me and my best friend earlier today, almost killing each other. Not over a girl, though it might have been your first though. Over something more important! MONEY!

INT. ROOM - DAY

From left to right, Joe, Ross and BEN on a couch, watching a game on the telly.

JOE (V.O.) That's us, a few days ago. Reds winning. Kuyt hattrick. Not good. Not good at all! I had 20 quid on the fucking Devils! Add that to my existing debt... and you get 2000 quid! 2 fucking thousand pounds exactly!

Joe is eating peanuts, Ben tomatoes. Ross nothing. Ben wears glasses.

JOE (V.O.) (CONT'D) This is me. Joe. No job, no girl, no perspectives. Massive betting addict, you already know that.

Joe spills some peanuts on him, Ross and on the couch.

ROSS Watch it mate! Those peanuts are swimming in oil! You know it's 2 pounds to do the laundry!

JOE

3 with the dryer.

ROSS

Only 2 for me. I never use the dryer. It destroys the fabric.

Ross is counting something with his lips.

JOE (V.O.)

This is my best mate Ross. Cheapest fucking Jew I have ever seen in my entire life. Lives on 50p a day. Never drinks, never goes out, never fucks.

ROSS

At the end of this three years as a student, because my decision of not using the dryer, I would have saved 2000 pounds.

JOE

Exactly the sum I'll owe after this stupid game ends.

BEN

(to JOE) I told you so many times to stop betting you dickhead. It's not good for your mental health.

JOE (V.O.)

That's my twin, geeky, annoying, eat-healthy, live-healthy, diehealthy brother. Everybody loves him. I hate his guts! In a fire, between him and a used condom, I'd save the condom.

JOE.

Fuck off! I'll find a solution. Don't worry, I won't ask our folks for help! They won't need to plunge into that Red Cross stupid donation.

ROSS Did you read about the Aber treasure?

BEN Treasure? Be serious mate!

Ross pulls out a map of Aber. They talk over it.

JOE (V.O.)

You're right, you normally get over finding the treasure dream before your 5th birthday. I know it's stupid! But when you're desperate... you would cling to anything. Joe and Ross have the map in their hands. They check it and count steps. Stop, check it again, go to left and count steps again.

Ross stops after counting the last two steps, on a patch of grass.

Joe has the map.

ROSS That should be it. What do you think?

They check the map again.

JOE Yeah... Looks like it.

ROSS (takes one more step) I think that's better.

JOE Why? How many did you count?

ROSS I don't know, I lost the count. But look here, it's exactly the same.

He shows Joe a spot on the map.

ROSS (CONT'D)

Call Ben.

JOE (V.O.) That's where we were supposed to

call Ben and let him know where he would join us. He was not so keen on the idea of finding the spot. Second, we didn't want to carry the shovels with us all the way.

INT. CWRT MAWR BAR - DAY

Ben and a GIRL.

JOE (V.O.) Of course he was not picking up. Our Romeo had better things to do... EXT. NEXT TO CWRT MAWR BLOCK G - DAY

JOE He's not picking up.

ROSS No shovels? Damn...

The two, after a moment of uncertainty, start digging with their hands.

ROSS (CONT'D) Fuck it! We have the treasure under our feet and we complain about the silly shovels?

After a few seconds Joe finds an old, dirty, wooden box. They take it out.

Joe gleams with happiness.

The same Ross.

Joe opens it.

Inside the box there's a note, written on a very old piece of paper. Joe takes it out and starts reading.

JOE

Who found this note, very lucky. This brings only good luck, that is the moon in very good settlement. Who will put a penny here and find the next morning ten times your penny. Must keep secret!

Joe looks at Ross in disbelief.

JOE (CONT'D) What the fuck mate? Somebody must be playing a prank on us...

ROSS

You reckon?

JOE I'm broke, but I'm not an idiot! Let's go.

ROSS I might try it... One pound... What if it's real? Ross puts one pound in the box and puts it back. Covers it back.

JOE (V.O) At first I didn't believe it. I mean... who would? But the box and note were looking so old... and the message, you know, the language... And the fact that Ross was so serious about it. He only talked about it the rest of the day.

EXT. NEXT TO CWRT MAWR BLOCK G - MORNING

Ross is digging again, this time with a twig. Gets the box out, opens it.

JOE (V.O.) Next day we woke up early. Went there, started digging again. The box was exactly how we've left it. But what do you know... Inside there were now 10 pounds!

ROSS Told you mate! Told you! (takes some coins) You see? The pounds!

Joe is speechless.

Ross is jumping of happiness. Joe gets an idea.

JOE You think it would work a second time?

ROSS Doesn't say it wouldn't.

JOE Yes... it doesn't.

Ross puts all the money in his pocket. Joe takes the box, picks the note and reads it again.

JOE (V.O.) At this point I was already trying to think where could I get some cash from. Big cash! It didn't say anything about a top limit... INT. ROOM - DAY

Ross talks to a friend, gets some money from him.

JOE (V.O.) I put my mind on 200. 200 in, 2000 the next day.

EXT. LIBRARY - DAY

Ross meets another friend and convinces him to lend him some money.

JOE (V.O.) First, I didn't want to get greedy. Second, that was the most I could squeeze of my mates on such a short notice.

EXT. NEXT TO CWRT MAWR BLOCK G - DAY

Joe puts some money into the box, the top bill has a small mark on it, puts the box back into the hole and covers it.

JOE (V.O.) There was no time to lose. You never know who else finds out about it, gets there before you and you have to wait another day after that.

EXT. NEXT TO CWRT MAWR BLOCK G - MORNING

Joe digs the box out, checks in, no money.

JOE (V.O.) I couldn't sleep all night. I was so anxious... And Ross was looking pretty tired himself. 2000 is big cash!

Joe is astonished.

JOE. What the fuck? Where's my fucking money?

Joe slams the box to the ground. He starts hitting it, jumping on it.

EXT. NEXT TO CK SUPERMARKET - DAY

Joe and Ross walk to CK.

JOE (V.O.) I was almost crying. Than something weird happened: Ross offered to buy drinks! That Jew blood sucker drinking. And what's more, paying for the drinks himself! Imagine that...

Ross stops next to the cash machine.

ROSS Are you OK to go in alone? I want to check my account.

JOE Didn't you check it yesterday?

Ross takes out of his wallet a 20 bills and gives it to Joe. Joe stares at the bill.

> ROSS You know better what to buy anyway...

Joe looks up to Ross. He jumps at his neck. They fight.

JOE (V.O.) I recognized my doodle in a sec. The leech had just shortened me of 200 of my fucking pounds over the night!

INT. NORMAL ROOM - DAY

Joe, Ross and Ben on couch, watching a game.

JOE (V.O.) Well... the good side it that at least this way I got all my money back.

Joe gets up, goes to the computer, logs on an Aber betting site and puts on a new live bet.

JOE Drogba to score from the spot... 1/11... 10 pounds on that one. Can't find a safer bet... On the computer screen, Joe watches the livetext. Drogba misses the kick.

JOE (CONT'D)
 (disillusioned)
Oh... come'on! Don't fuck me mate!

Ross receives a message. He takes out his phone and reads the message.

PHONE SCREEN Joe Thomas has just lost 10 pounds on our site. Congratulations! Due to your betagainst option you have been awarded a 5 pounds bonus. Your balance is now 845 pounds.