THE GIFT FROM GAZ

by

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FADE IN:

A large block of flats on the outskirts of Manchester. In one of the flats lives CARL.

INT. CARL'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

CARL (23) is seen getting dressed for his first night on duty as a new Security Guard.

He looks in the mirror at himself - his uniform looks cheap and starchy. He's not impressed.

CARL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

GAZ'S girlfriend SARAH (23) lies naked in Carl's bed.

A car horn sounds O/S

SARAH (guiltily) Quick, he might come up.

INT. STEVE'S CAR - NIGHT

Crap music booms out from the CD player.

STEVE (24) is sitting in the drivers seat honking his horn. GAZ and DAZ are in the back seats looking up at Carl's flat.

INT. CARLS BATHROOM - NIGHT

The car horn continues to sound.

Carl angrily slides open the bathroom window and gives the car the finger.

The car horn keeps sounding - and now for longer.

INT. STEVE'S CAR - NIGHT

GAZ Here we go, Bathroom lights off!

INT. CARLS BEDROOM - NIGHT

Carl quickly pulls on a pair of black loafers.

SARAH I can't keep doing this.

CARL Stop coming round then.

EXT. CARLS FLAT - NIGHT

Carl walks down towards Steve's Car.

STEVE (shouting through the window to Carl) You look a complete mong!

Carl opens the passenger door and gets in.

CARL (turning down Steve's radio) Least I've got a dick. Drive bitch.

STEVE'S CAR - NIGHT

The car heads out through the back streets. We can see the bright lights of the city in the distance.

DAZ £5.90, Fuck off, I wouldn't even get outta bed for that.

CARL 48 hours a week...

STEVE Dressed like a complete wanker!

CARL (looking at Steve) Who's wearing the silk shirt toss pot?

Steve runs his fingers over his silk shirt sleeves and jokingly licks his lips at Carl.

The car stops at traffic lights. An OLD MAN crosses in front of the car, walking an old three legged DOG.

Steve winds down his window and bleats loudly like a sheep.

STEVE Mmmmhhhaaaaarrrrrrr!!!

The old man anxiously tries to speed up.

Carl turns to look at Gaz in the back seat. Gaz raises his eyebrows and shakes his head.

The lights turn to green. Steve's car screeches off.

EXT. LARGE OFFICE BLOCK - NIGHT Carl leans in through the window of Steve's car.

> CARL Have a good night boy's.

STEVE We will, you wont.

DAZ (to Carl) Have a shit night! Die (as in Bye)

CARL (as in bye bye) Die die.

Steve's car drives off to the sounds of piss taking bleating sheep.

INT. LARGE OFFICE BLOCK, RECEPTION DESK - NIGHT

Carl is standing at the desk.

ERIC (52) – a nerdy looking, pot bellied Security Guard with white hair and a goatee beard sits, eyes glued to a monitor.

ERIC

Your late.

CARL I was told I start at eight.

ERIC (Seriously) The time sponsored by Accurist is 8:02PM. Carl's false smile stays on his face...but his eyes show his disdain.

INT. LARGE OFFICE BLOCK, CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Lift door's open revealing Eric and Carl. They exit.

Carl follows behind Eric on a tour of the building ...

ERIC 10 floors, 6 minutes per floor, so you should get it done in that hour...

CARL (bored senseless)

Үер...

Eric opens an office door and points to the kettle.

ERIC All kettles need to be turned off and unplugged at the wall. This basic rule also applies to all electrical appliances; FOR EXAMPLE, the photo copiers...

Carl looks out through a large glass window. The glow from the city at night shines in on him.

INT. THE NILE BAR - NIGHT

Drunken customers are rammed in like cattle. Steve, Gaz and Daz are at the bar. A group of GIRLS on a Hen night are near by.

The girls look over to the lads and laugh to each other.

The FAT BRIDE-TO-BE with an 'L' plate attached to her chest and a small tiara stumbles over to the lads.

> FAT BRIDE Oi! You gonna' buy me a drink.

The lads look at her, disgusted.

DAZ I'll get your fiance one.

Steve looks her up and down, and then across to the other girls on the Hen-do.

STEVE (putting his arm round the bride) I've got a proposal for ya.

The fat bride-to-be stares back at Steve gormlessly.

INT. LARGE OFFICE BLOCK, MEETING ROOM - NIGHT

Carl is stacking chairs with Eric.

ERIC Be you and me on New Years Eve too...

Carl carries on stacking chairs with gritted teeth.

ERIC (CONT'D) Don't worry, the Boss always gets us a bottle for midnight. Alcohol free of course.

Carl gets a text message. He opens his mobile.

Steve has sent a picture message: He is seen with his arms around two of the prettier girls on the Hen-do,who are in turn seen exposing ample cleavage.

"See what ya missing!" - reads the message.

ERIC (CONT'D) (pointing at the mobile) Off that - You've got a patrol to do.

Eric picks up some more chairs and adds them to a tall stack.

He turns away.

The stack slowly tips over. Just before it crashes to the floor...

INT. LARGE OFFICE BLOCK, CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Carl walks alone. He has a *router* in one hand and a radio in the other. He zaps the *router* at one of the *patrol points*.

He walks into the female toilets and checks the cubicles.

Carl receives a new text message:

Carl smiles to himself. He looks at his reflection in the mirror.

Eric is heard over the radio:

ERIC Your running behind schedule..!

Carl stares intently at himself for a moment.

ERIC (CONT'D) Are you reading me over? Radio check, radio check...

Beat.

Carl turns the radio off and places it in a sink.

He removes his security tie and lapels and throws them in a bin.

He undoes a couple of buttons on his shirt and messes his hair up a bit - the outfit will have to do.

INT. THE NILE BAR - NIGHT

Steve, Daz and Gaz are at a table. A few off the hen-do are sitting with them.

GIRL (disappointed) Postman?!

GAZ Keeps me fit I 'spose.

GIRL Dog ever bite ya?

GAZ (laughing) Yeah...all the time

Steve has the fat bride to be on his knee, and is talking to her chest when he receives a text message from Carl.

The phone vibrates in his pocket.

FAT BRIDE (feeling the vibration) Someone's got a text! Keep it ringing darlin'!

"Stella AND a packet of peanuts ya tight bastard!"

STEVE (smiling) Told ya he'd buckle!

The lads all cheer the news and raise their glasses in appreciation of Carl quitting his job.

EXT. QUIET SIDE ROAD, CASH MACHINE - NIGHT

Carl walks over to the cash machine. He gives a quick look over his shoulder - no ones there.

He types in his pin and hovers his fingers over the amount buttons.

CARL (sighing) Stuff it...

He chooses to withdraw £100.

The cash is dispensed.

Suddenly Carl's body is forced forward into the machine as he is kicked violently in the back.

He falls to the floor as his face and body is kicked, punched, and stamped on.

Hands quickly dart in and out of his pockets, taking his mobile phone and wallet.

INT. THE NILE BAR - NIGHT

Gaz is seen returning from the bar carrying two pints. He has a packet of peanuts in between his teeth for Carl.

DAZ

(jokingly) Just getting one for you and the quitter are ya?!

GAZ Name the last time you bought me a pint?

EXT. DARK ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

A DARK FIGURE stands over Carl as others continue to kick and punch him. The light from Carl's phone illuminates the persons face slightly as he is seen going through Carl's phone menu.

INT. THE NILE BAR - NIGHT

Steve's phone vibrates again in his pocket. This time its a phone call.

The fat bride-to-be attempts to give Steve a sexy look.

Steve looks at his mobile and then smiles at the 'bride'.

CARL is displayed on the screen. Steve answers the phone:

STEVE Pints goin' warm dickhead!

Manic screaming and laughter is heard...

VOICE Your mates at the bottom of Cross Street, <u>dying</u> for a pint!

Steve looks confused.

More hysterical laughter and screaming is heard.

VOICE (CONT'D) FUCKIN' WANKERS!!

The call ends.

Steve holds the phone away from him. It takes a moment for him to realise what has just been said.

EXT. CROSS STREET - NIGHT

Steve, Daz and Gaz run at speed down Cross Street.

They weave in and out amongst the Friday night revellers and numerous Taxi's.

They are frantically searching for Carl.

The hustle and bustle of Friday night obscures their view -Groups of lads are seen singing drunken football songs. Girls in short skirts huddle together, arms linked.

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Car horns seem louder and the cities lights brighter.

Gaz eventually spots Carl's crumpled body partially hidden across the street in some bushes.

GAZ (pointing) He's there!

Steve and Daz hear Gaz immediately and turn to where he's pointing.

Gaz bounds into the road. A car hits him full on at speed and hurls him into the air.

Silence: Time stops as his body hurtles heavy towards the ground, head first.

The sickening sound of skull impacting concrete is heard.

Two girls, leaving a burger bar, scream in shock as Gaz's body lands inches away from them...

CUT TO BLACK.

(LONG BEAT)

INT. A BUS - MORNING

A little girl is sat next to her mother. She keeps turning round in her seat and looking at the person sitting behind her.

Her mother keeps turning her back around to face forward, but the little girls attention is repeatedly drawn back.

More passengers get on the bus. Their eyes all clock him:

Carl sits alone. His face is one deep bruise. His cheek looks patchwork by the various stitching.

EXT. BUS STOP - MORNING

Carl limps off the bus. He is dressed in a black suit.

All eyes are on him as the bus pulls away.

EXT. CHURCH GRAVEYARD - MORNING

Mourners are seen at the grave side. GAZ'S MUM - a small plump woman is being comforted by Gaz's girlfriend Sarah.

Steve and Daz spot Carl approaching.

The rest of the mourners notice Carl.

Carl joins Steve and Daz: Tears well in their eyes.

The sound of Gaz's mUM and girlfriend crying fills the graveyard...

INT. GAZ'S MUMS HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Gaz's mum has prepared a small buffet. Mourners are perched in every available inch of the downstairs.

Carl is standing awkwardly in a corner. A few people look at him coldly.

EXT. GAZ'S MUMS GARDEN - AFTERNOON

Carl is smoking a cigarette. He inhales deeply.

Behind him, through the kitchen window, emotions are clearly seen from some of the mourners.

The odd finger is angrily pointed, aimed at Carl as he smokes, unaware of the rising animosity.

Carl brings the cigarette up to his mouth. It's almost finished.

He places a new cigarette in his mouth and uses the last one to light it. His hands shake.

A large middle aged MAN, dressed in a black suit steps out through the kitchen door, into the garden and lights a cigarette. He is clearly drunk.

A long beat.

MAN How ya feelin'?

CARL (awkwardly) Yeah,..not bad.

MAN

BASTARD.

Carl stands still.

The man steps in closer.

MAN (CONT'D) You BASTARD. Hope you feel guilt for the rest of your fuckin' life.

Beat.

The man goes back inside the house.

Carl just stands there in disbelief.

EXT. A TERRACED STREET - DAY

A long row of houses.

Daz is seen coming down a set of tall ladders. He is busy at work - window cleaning in the rain.

He picks up the ladders and quickly crosses the street to the next house on his round.

Within seconds he is up at a bedroom window - squeegee in hand.

A POSTMAN walks down the street towards the ladders. He's lost.

Daz notices him.

DAZ (shouting down) Fourteens the one set back a bit with the yellow door.

POSTMAN (surprised) Mind reader! Cheers.

DAZ I'm a mate...was a mate, of Gaz.

The postman stares up at Daz unknowingly.

DAZ (CONT'D) Postman who did this round before you!

POSTMAN (uninterested) Don't know him.

Daz twists back sharply on his ladder and gets back to work.

POSTMAN (CONT'D) Where's Clarksfield Road..? Daz bangs the squeegee against the window.

INT. CARLS BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

Carl is lying on his bed. His wardrobe doors are open, but there are no clothes inside.

Photos from various nights out are lying on his bed: Group shots of Gaz, Sarah, Carl, Daz and Steve are clearly seen.

The sound of the intercom buzzes loudly.

Carl ignores it.

The intercom continues to sound.

It eventually stops.

Carl closes his eyes.

There is a sudden knocking at his bedroom window.

Daz is at the window on his ladder, wet through.

DAZ Oi, John Merrick, open up!

INT. CHEAP GREASY SPOON CAFE - LATER

Carl and Daz sit amongst an array of old age pensioners in the cafe, sheltering from the rain.

Daz is eating a full English breakfast. Carl's breakfast lies untouched.

INT. CHEAP GREASY SPOON CAFE - LATER

Carl and Daz are still there.

Different people are at some tables, other tables are now empty.

Carl stares down at a cold mug of tea.

Daz stares at him. His mobile rings.

DAZ (answering the phone) Yeah, he's here. We're in Supergran's.

INT. CHEAP GREASY SPOON CAFE - LATER

An ancient old waitress brings 3 cups of tea over the lads' table.

STEVE (smiling) Thanks love.

The old waitress puts the tray down on the table; a lot of the tea is now swimming in the tray.

Steve, Daz and Carl watch her as she hobbles back to the kitchen.

STEVE (CONT'D) (to Carl) Where's all your stuff? CARL Sold it. STEVE Technics? CARL Yep. DAZ Plasma? CARL £500 DAZ (annoyed) Last time I sort you out a 50 inch. STEVE (to Carl) What you up to dickhead? CARL Goin' away. Long beat. Steve and Daz stare at Carl.

STEVE He was our mate too you know.

CARL Come with me then.

Beat

CARL (CONT'D) Gaz always talked about the road trip.

DAZ When he was pissed.

CARL He's dead now.

The lads stare at each other around the table.

Beat

DAZ What about my round?

CARL You hate your job.

STEVE What about Sarah?

CARL (guiltily) What about her? Gaz always said it was just a lads trip.

Rain falls heavily against the window of the Cafe.

The lads stare at each other; then at the rain hitting the window, then to each other...

CUT TO:

EXT. PERTH AIRPORT, AUSTRALIA. SIDE ROAD - DAY

Steve, Daz and Carl are walking in single file. They are all wearing rucksacks as they head out past a large sign reading 'Perth Airport'.

It is HOT.

Planes fly over head.

STEVE (sweating) Could at least 'av got a fuckin' bus! DAZ Your the one moaning you had deep vein thrombosis you cock.

STEVE

Might have!

CARL (shouting back) Exercise will do ya good then!

Carl is walking at the front looking at a free guide to Perth.

They carry on walking.

The sun beats down.

A large old estate car drives past them heading towards the airport.

The hippy looking DRIVER stares out at them as he drives past.

Steve stares back at him.

STEVE What's he fuckin' gawpin' at?

Daz keeps walking, but begins to bleat loudly like a sheep.

Steve joins in too.

They continue walking on.

Carl looks back up the road to them and notices the car turning around and heading back towards them.

> CARL He heard ya you knobs!

The car slows down to a crawl along side them.

The driver leans across into the passenger seat. An assortment of metal piercing's consume his face.

DRIVER Hey Guys...just arrived in Oz?

STEVE (cautiously) Might have.

DRIVER Do you want a car? The lads stare at him suspiciously.

DRIVER (CONT'D) My flight back to Finland leaves in 2 hours.

The lads just continue to stare in at him. The driver stares back and then laughs.

> DRIVER (CONT'D) Take it. I couldn't sell it so I was only going to leave it in the car park.

The lads look at each other.

CARL (to the driver) You serious?

DRIVER

Of course!

Beat

STEVE Can't give you any money.

The driver points to a small necklace hanging from the rear view mirror with the small head of an Elephant God on it.

DRIVER Then it is a gift from Ganesh.

Steve looks at Daz and Carl...

STEVE (smiling) Gift from Gaz more like.

INT. THE GIFT FROM GAZ - DAY

Steve is driving the 'Gift from Gaz' down Hay Street in Perth.

Carl and Daz are in the back relaxing on the drive.

STEVE 1969 Ford Falcon he said.

Daz stretches out happily.

DAZ This is just unreal. Carl stares out at life going by.

The sun shines brightly.

CARL Gaz would of loved this.

They drive along in silence.

Steve looks back at Daz and Carl through the rear view mirror.

The car heads out along Hay Street.

Young attractive people sit at outside Cafe tables, drinking coffee and reading papers.

An old man gets into his Ute and drives off.

A dog chases after the Ute. The Ute stops at traffic lights and the dog jumps up into the trailer.

INT. HAY STEET BACKPACKERS HOSTEL - LATER

The hostel is big. A large staircase spirals up the floors with landings leading off to various dormitory style bedrooms.

Steve, Daz and Carl finally make it with their rucksacks to the top floor.

STEVE (out of breath) Would have to be on the top floor.

Daz barges past towards the dormitory.

DAZ Hurry up. Not had a shit since Manchester!

Daz grabs the keys off Steve and unlocks the door.

The dormitory is quite small, with just two bunk beds and some small draws.

One of the top bunks is occupied. The PERSON is asleep, facing the wall.

Daz throws his rucksack on the other top bunk.

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DAZ (CONT'D) (to Steve and Carl) Bad luck, sleeping beauty's got the other one!

Daz heads off down the landing towards the toilet.

Steve and Carl throw their rucksacks on the bottom bunks.

Steve still has the car keys in his hand. He holds them up appreciatively at Carl.

STEVE Still can't believe that!

Carl smiles.

The sounds of Daz going to the toilet are clearly heard from the corridor.

The person asleep on the top bunk mutters angrily in Korean and covers his head with his quilt.

Steve and Carl look at each other. Both try not to laugh.

DAZ (O/S) There's no fuckin' bog roll!

Steve and Carl burst out laughing.

INT. DORMITORY ROOM - LATER

Steve and Carl are lying on their bunks.

Steve is talking on his mobile to his Mum.

STEVE I'll be getting charged as well Mum, so it's costing us both money...yeah he's fine....I will. I told her we'd email her. OK. And you. I will...Bye.

Steve hangs up.

STEVE (CONT'D) (to Carl) Family! Bet your glad you ain't got any.

Carl nods at Steve unconvincingly.

STEVE (CONT'D) Me mum said Sarah wants you to phone her when you can.

A large Lonely Planet Guide to Australia lands heavily on Carl's chest.

Daz walks into the dormitory.

DAZ

It's only last years. We'll have that...

CARL ...well hurt you idiot!

STEVE (to Daz) Where d'ya nab that from?

DAZ Got loads of them. TV room and everything.

Daz stands in between the two bunks. He raises his body weight in between the two bunks by gripping both bed ladders.

He goes up and down continually.

DAZ (CONT'D) Right. We need a plan of action.

INT. TV ROOM - AFTERNOON

The TV room is quite large. Odd chairs and an old settee face a large old television.

A few book shelves adorn the walls, along with posters advertising excursions and day trips along the coast.

A MIDDLE AGED MAN is asleep in one of the chairs.

Steve, Daz and Carl stand near the back wall. Above them, on the wall, is a large map of Australia.

Carl's finger traces along the Highway out of Perth heading east.

CARL See, Highway 94. Saw signs for that this morning.

Carl's finger continues following the route of the Highway along the map.

CARL (CONT'D) Look, it goes right by the coast here for ages...

The middle aged man who was asleep in the chair coughs.

STEVE (looking at names along the route) What's that say? Nulla...?

DAZ Nullabour, yeah.

MIDDLE AGED MAN (eyes shut) Nullabour Plain you pommy pricks.

The man gets up out of the chair and crosses over to the map.

MIDDLE AGED MAN (CONT'D) What the fuck you crossing the Nullabour for?

The lads look at him in surprise.

MIDDLE AGED MAN (CONT'D) There's nothing there mate.

Steve looks at the man annoyed.

STEVE We're gonna' work at farms on the way.

The man laughs into Steve's face.

MIDDLE AGED MAN Yeh, you do that. Work ya' arse's off for fifty bucks a day in the middle of fuckin' nowhere.

The middle aged man walks out of the TV room

MIDDLE AGED MAN (CONT'D) Pommie greenhorn pricks.

The lads watch as he leaves the TV room.

INT. 24 HOUR SUPERMARKET - NIGHT

The lads are walking around the supermarket aisles.

Carl pushes the trolley.

Steve heads off down another aisle.

DAZ

Pot Noodles!

Daz picks up a tray of them and puts them in the trolley.

CARL If we get them we're gonna' have to buy a Gas stove.

DAZ Buy a Gas stove then. Not eatin' cold beans.

Steve comes back with 3 sleeping bags.

STEVE (placing them in the trolley) They've got everything!

CARL Remember the budget.

STEVE Do ya wanna freeze ya tits off in the desert?

Carl looks at the mounting pile of provisions.

STEVE (CONT'D) When did you ever budget?

Steve throws the final rolled up sleeping bag at Carl's head.

INT. SUPERMARKET CHECKOUT - NIGHT

The provisions go along the belt towards the cashier.

The pretty CASHIER looks up from her till. She is shocked at the sight of Carl's facial injuries - still visible.

> CASHIER Jeez! (beat) I hope the other guy's worse off.

CARL What? (then realizing) oh, right, yeah.

The cashier scans through a travel Gas stove.

CASHIER You guys going camping? DAZ Road trip. THE road trip. CASHIER Ah, good on ya'. CARL Should of been four of us, but our mate ... STEVE (changing the subject) ... so if you wanna come, just say the word. The cashier smiles Daz and Carl silently start bagging up the goods. INT. DORMITORY ROOM - NIGHT Daz unlocks the door to the dormitory. The stranger occupying the top bunk still lies there sleeping. The lads walk in carrying their provisions. Steve sits heavily on his bed. STEVE We should of just put all this in the car. Carl starts putting the stuff under his bed. CARL If it got nicked, we'd be knackered. Daz is again raising himself up and down between the bunk beds, using the ladders. DAZ (looking down on the sleeping stranger) Not as knackered as him! Daz taps the sleeping man on the shoulder. DAZ (CONT'D) You alright me old china?

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The STRANGER turns to face them and opens his eyes startled.

STRANGER No China, me Korean!

The lads laugh. Daz looks embarrassed.

DAZ Yeah,..No, I wasn't meaning,...ah forget it.

Daz holds his hand out to shake hands.

DAZ (CONT'D)

I'm Daz.

The stranger smiles with a geeky looking grin, and shakes Daz's hand.

STRANGER Thankyou! My. Name. Is. Kim.

Daz and KIM continue shaking hands.

INT. DORMITORY ROOM - LATER

Steve, Daz and Carl are trying to fit all their provisions into their rucksacks.

Kim watches from his bunk.

STEVE Lets just leave now.

CARL We've paid for the night though.

DAZ Yeh, lets get in the Falcon and drive man!

Carl notices Kim watching him hungrily from his bunk as he packs away a six-pack of chocolate bars.

CARL Do you want one?

Kim nods politely.

Carl throws a chocolate bar up to Kim.

Kim opens it quickly and eats.

DAZ

You starving mate?

Kim goes quiet for a moment.

KIM Me no food for...

Kim holds up three fingers.

Daz looks at him concerned.

DAZ Not eaten for 3 days?

Kim nods excitedly.

KIM

Yes, yes! People..sleep..here..before you. Every...my..GONE.

DAZ

What?

Carl stands up.

CARL I think he's saying his stuff's been nicked.

DAZ (to Kim) Your. Belongings. Stolen.

KIM Yes! Yes! Stowen, Steal, Steal!

DAZ (to Kim) Shit brother, that's well bad.

Steve, Daz and Carl all stop what they're doing and look at Kim.

STEVE (to Kim) What ya gonna do?

Kim goes into his pillow and pulls out his passport.

KIM (shrugging his shoulders) Go back Korea.

Daz looks across to Steve and Carl.

Steve and Carl nod knowingly to Daz's look.

INT. THE GIFT FROM GAZ - NIGHT

The car heads out through the streets of Perth.

Daz is sitting in the back with Carl. He is already in his sleeping bag.

Steve is driving, with Kim up front in the passenger seat.

DAZ She said they're everywhere.

STEVE I can't see...ah...here we go.

A 'drive thru' off licence is just up ahead.

A large SKINHEAD and long goatee beard stands amongst large crates of beer and some fridges.

The car pulls into the drive thru.

STEVE (CONT'D) Only in Oz!

Steve winds down his window to talk.

STEVE (CONT'D)

Alright mate.

The skinhead just nods at him.

CARL Get whatever man.

DAZ

Beer Kim?

KIM (smiling profusely) No no no, thankyou, thankyou.

STEVE Any offers mate?

SKINHEAD Two crates of V.B for fifty.

Steve plays it cool.

STEVE Yeh ok, that sounds good.

The skinhead goes off to get the beer.

DAZ

Whats VD?

STEVE

Ask ya Mum.

The skinhead returns carrying 2 large crates of beer. 'V.B' is clearly seen written across the crate.

DAZ

(smiling at Steve)

Twat.

The skinhead opens the car boot and manages to squeeze the crates of beer in.

Daz looks out through the boot to the skinhead.

DAZ (CONT'D) (smiling politely) G'day mate.

The skinhead just stares at him, then slams down the boot.

INT. THE GIFT FROM GAZ - LATER

The city lights have been replaced by the dark night of the outback.

Kim is asleep. His head hangs at an awkward angle.

Daz and Carl are drinking beer as Steve drives along.

Steve's phone pokes out from the car's ashtray. He picks it up.

STEVE Great. No signal.

Daz struggles under his sleeping bag to get to his mobile. He finds it.

DAZ

Nor me.

Daz stares at Carl in mock shock.

DAZ (CONT'D) What if there's a serial killer out there watching us!

Carl looks at Daz - unimpressed.

DAZ (CONT'D) Just waiting for us to stop so he can bum ya to death.

Daz and Steve laugh to each other.

Carl quietly pushes down the lock on his door.

Steve turns off the cars headlights and drives along in darkness.

Carl panic's.

CARL Don't be a dickhead, dickhead!

Steve drives along blindly.

Daz laughs loudly.

CARL (CONT'D) (angrily) C'mon!

Steve eventually turns the headlights back on.

STEVE (through laughter) What's up with ya?

CARL Our mate died coz of some idiot in a car. (beat) Remember!

STEVE We're the only one's out here!

Carl swings forward into the gap between Steve and the sleeping Kim.

CARL (to Steve) Pack it in.

They drives along in an awkward silence.

Steve stares back through the rear view mirror at Daz.

Daz spots a road sign up ahead.

DAZ Here' are, what's this say?

The car pulls up near the road sign.

The distances of the closest towns are staggering.

DAZ (CONT'D) 203 kilometre's to Merredin! What's that in miles?

CARL Least a hundred.

Beat.

Daz looks at Steve.

DAZ What shall we do then?

Steve looks at Kim sleeping.

STEVE I wanna do what he's doin'.

Beat.

DAZ

I need a piss.

Daz looks at Carl.

DAZ (CONT'D) If I'm not back in sixty seconds...come save me!

Carl nods at Daz tiredly.

Daz gets out of the car and walks up under the road sign. The headlights act like a spotlight on him. Daz shouts back to the car.

> DAZ (CONT'D) Don't watch me piss you perverts.

Carl and Steve laugh.

Steve switches the headlights off.

The blackness of night fills out every inch.

Beat.

Steve turns the headlights back on. Daz in nowhere to be seen.

Carl looks out through the back window. The brake lights only illuminating a small amount of road.

STEVE Where is he? Beat.

Suddenly Daz pops up from beside Steve's drivers door and bangs on the window.

Steve involuntarily bangs back on the window.

STEVE (CONT'D)

Fuckin idiot.

Daz laughs heartily in at them.

DAZ

Come and have a look at this!

He walks away from the car.

DAZ (CONT'D) C'mon...and turn the lights off.

Kim wakes up from a deep sleep.

KIM (to Steve) A problem?

STEVE Don't think so.

EXT. SIDE OF THE ROAD - NIGHT

Steve uses the light from his phone as a torch as he, Carl and Kim walk over to Daz.

DAZ Right;.. now look up.

All four of them look up. The sky is just a bright blanket of stars.

It is an amazing sight.

They all stare up transfixed.

Beat.

KIM

Incredigle.

The lads laugh.

All four of the lads are asleep. Kim is lying, almost hidden under a pile of coats and jumpers.

The windows are steamed up.

EXT. THE GIFT FROM GAZ - CONTINUOUS

The morning light reveals where the car has stopped. The view is again breath taking: Miles upon miles of eucalyptus forest stretches as far as the eye can see.

A large road-train drives towards the car. It sounds its loud air horn annoyingly as it drives past.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

INT. THE GIFT FROM GAZ - AFTERNOON

Daz is now driving, with Carl in the front.

Steve sits in the back with Kim. Kim is showing photo's of his girlfriend to Steve on his phone.

Steve holds Kim's phone.

KIM Very beautiful.

STEVE (smiling) Not bad is she.

Steve holds Kim's phone out for Carl to see.

CARL Yeh,..beautiful. (to Steve) Still no signal then?

Carl looks out through the window at the forest wizzing by.

EXT. A ROADHOUSE - LATER

The roadhouse is quite small. Two Camels stand in a fenced field next to the car park.

Kim is feeding them apples.

Carl sits at a picnic table. He is watching Steve talk into a pay phone near by.

Daz eventually comes out of the toilet. He hands the young mother the key to the toilet. Its attached to a large wooden fob.

Daz spots Carl and runs over to him.

DAZ (to Carl) Don't fancy her chances.

The young mother quickly exits the toilet. Her daughter is crying.

She shouts over to Daz annoyed.

YOUNG MOTHER You should be ashamed of yourself!

She heads into the road house.

Steve is seen talking in the phone booth.

STEVE I've told him...alright I'll tell him.

Carl and Daz sit at the picnic table watching Kim feed the Camels.

One of the Camel bites a bit more than just the apple; Kim pulls his hand away quickly.

DAZ (about Kim) Funny little chap in' he.

CARL (laughing) Yeah, he's a good lad.

Steve joins them at the Picnic table.

STEVE (to Carl) Me mum still wants you to phone Sarah.

Carl looks awkward.

STEVE (CONT'D) Just phone her, what's up with ya'?

CARL Nothing. I'll phone her later.

DAZ C'mon man...Gaz was her boyfriend.

Carl turns on Daz.

CARL What's that s'posed to mean?!

Beat.

Daz puts his arm on Carl's shoulder.

DAZ She's hurting too mate.

Steve walks over to Kim and the Camels.

DAZ (CONT'D) We're all hurtin'.

Carl watches as Steve reaches his hand up to stroke the Camel.

DAZ (CONT'D) I'd phone her,...but she obviously wants to talk to you....go on, you always said she's like a sister to ya.

Carl looks at Daz.

CARL I'll phone her soon.

They both get up and walk over towards the Camels.

INT. THE GIFT FROM GAZ - EVENING

The car heads out along the highway. The forest is still thick at either side of the road.

Steve is again driving. Carl is up front with him.

Daz and Kim doze in the back.

Carl is looking at the scars on his face in the cars visor mirror.

CARL See, I think that must be from when I hit the cash machine. Steve shakes his head in sympathy.

Carl points to a scar.

CARL (CONT'D) That's quite a sharp looking cut.

Steve looks over at him.

STEVE (awkwardly) You could see before mate, its from one of their fucking foot prints.

Steve still looks at Carl.

STEVE (CONT'D) (angrily) Bastards.

A large Kangaroo jumps out into the road.

Steve and Carl barely have time to notice it before the car hits it head on.

Steve slams on the brakes; the Kangaroo hits heavily into the windscreen before being thrown forward into the road.

The force of the impact throws everyone forward.

Kim and Daz wake up in shock.

The car straddles both lanes of the road.

DAZ

What happened?!

The Kangaroo lies badly injured in the road in front of them.

It begins to cry out in pain. The cry is eerily similar to the bleating noise the lads make when taking the piss.

The lads stare out at it in shock.

The kangaroo tries to stand up. But its legs are clearly broken.

STEVE What do we do, what do we do?!

Carl opens his door to get out but this only makes the animal panic even more.

Carl gets back in the car.

Again the Kangaroo bleats out in pain.

Carl stares out at the dying Kangaroo. It's breathing is fast. It just lies there, staring back at them.

DAZ Just drive man!

Steve doesn't hear him.

DAZ (CONT'D) C'mon, lets go,..lets go.

Steve sits up and quickly starts the car.

The car manoeuvres slowly around the dying Kangaroo.

EXT. A LARGE RAIN-WATER TANK - NIGHT

The car is parked up off the highway under a large rain water tank awash with old graffiti.

Kim is again asleep in the car. The windscreen shows damage from where the Kangaroo hit.

Steve, Daz and Carl sit around a campfire nearby.

They are all drinking VB.

They stare into the fire.

STEVE There was nothing we could of done...just ran out into the road.

Carl looks across the flames at Steve.

CARL It wasn't anyone's fault.

Daz stands up and starts pacing around the fire.

DAZ Just lied there looking at us.

Steve covers his head with his hands.

Long beat.

Daz leans against the water tank. Next to him are some discarded aerosol cans. He picks one up. He sprays a little dot on the wall of the water tank.

Carl looks over to Steve concerned.

CARL There was nothing you could've done.

Daz begins to spray words onto the wall of the water tank:

Road trip 2009

He then sprays his name underneath.

Carl and Steve look across to Daz.

Daz throws the aerosol over to Carl.

Carl stands up and sprays his name under Daz's. He passes the can onto Steve.

STEVE is sprayed in big letters under **Carl**.

DAZ (to Carl) Go and wake up sleeping beauty.

Carl starts down towards the car.

STEVE Let him sleep, I'll do it.

Steve shakes the can. He sprays the name GAZ.

Carl and Daz look at him. They say nothing.

STEVE (CONT'D)

What?

Carl and Daz look at Gaz's name sprayed on the wall.

Steve looks at the wall. He realises what he's done.

STEVE (CONT'D) Fucked it up now haven't I.

He turns to face Carl and Daz. Steve starts to laugh. Then he begins to cry uncontrollably.

Tears well up in Carl and Daz's eyes.

Daz crosses over to Steve.

DAZ Come here you big pussy.

Daz hugs Steve tightly.
EXT. AROUND THE CAMP FIRE - LATER

Steve is still visibly upset.

Daz stands next to their names on the wall. He traces over Gaz's name with a twig.

DAZ He could be a miserable twat though...

Steve chuckles and nods his head in agreement.

STEVE Most loyal bloke I've ever met.

Carl stares into the embers of the fire.

STEVE (CONT'D) (to Carl) Phone Sarah when we get a signal...she should of come with us.

Carl can't make eye contact.

CARL I'll phone her.

EXT. THE GIFT FROM GAZ - CONTINUOUS

Kim wakes up from under the pile of coats. He looks worried for a moment until he spots the lads. Kim nods repeatedly and waves politely to them.

EXT. AROUND THE CAMP FIRE - CONTINUOUS

Daz waves back at Kim. He turns back to the wall and adds Kim's name to the list with the aerosol.

EXT. THE OUTBACK - NIGHT

The car drives along the highway. The headlights illuminate a roadsign reading 90 Mile Straight - Australia's longest straight Road.

Daz is seen driving.

EXT. THE OUTBACK - EARLY MORNING

The car is pulled over to the side of the road with the drivers door open. Steve runs across the road - doing his flies up as he gets to the car. He now gets in the drivers seat. The car drives off.

INT. THE GIFT FROM GAZ - MORNING Steve is driving along with Kim up front asleep. Daz is asleep. Carl is awake. He stares out through the window.

The forest has now been replaced by vast open plain's.

STEVE

That stinks!

Carl buries his nose into his sleeping bag.

Steve winds down his window.

STEVE (CONT'D)

Christ!

Carl laughs, still protected by his sleeping bag.

Daz wakes up due to the smell.

DAZ That's definitely Korean.

Daz winds down his window.

EXT. HIGHWAY 94 - CONTINUOUS

The largest sky ever seen fills the horizon.

The car heads up the highway, Daz and Steve's heads hang out through the windows.

INT. THE GIFT FROM GAZ - AFTERNOON

Daz is now driving. Kim is also in the front, eating a pot noodle for breakfast.

Steve and Carl are sleep.

Point' is clearly seen. EXT. THE BUNDA CLIFFS - LATER The car is pulled up at the edge of The Bunda cliffs. The tourist information point is deserted. The lads are the only people for miles around. The afternoon sun shines down. The view out over the ocean is beautiful. All four of them sit on the roof of the Ford Falcon and look out, down over the cliffs, to the ocean. Beat. DAZ It's incredigle in it Kimbo ... Kim sits eating some crisps. KIM Yes, yes. Incredigle. Carl and Steve smile at Daz. Kim looks out at the view. KIM (CONT'D) Thankyou... Kim looks at everyone. KIM (CONT'D) ... for your kindness. Beat Daz places his hand on Kim's shoulder affectionately. DAZ Pleasure mate. Daz jumps down and opens the boot to look for food. STEVE (to Daz) Whilst ya down there, make us a brew... DAZ Piss off.

A tourist sign reading 'The Bunda Cliffs - Whale Watching

Kim starts spitting crisps and points out towards the Ocean excitedly.

KIM Gwale! Gwale...GWALE!!

A large Humpback Whale's tail fans out of the water majestically.

Daz quickly jumps back up onto the roof. The rest of the lads also stand up.

All are transfixed in awe.

CARL

Take a picture quick!

Steve fumbles for his phone. Its switched off. He quickly turns it on.

A baby humpback whale is also clearly visible.

Daz points out at the spectacle.

DAZ

Look, look!!

Steve looks down at his mobile. He has received a video message.

Suddenly the large Humpback Whale breaches the water.

Daz, Carl and Kim scream out in joy at the sight. They jump about on the roof in sheer ecstasy at what they've just witnessed.

More screaming is now heard. Though these screams are clearly from someone in pain.

Steve stares transfixed at his mobile. The video message is from Carl's stolen phone. It is footage of him getting attacked the night of Gaz's death.

Daz, Kim and Carl now stare down at the footage on the phone.

Grainy images clearly show the violence from that night inflicted on Carl. The sound is awful.

Carl sits down on the roof and looks out at the ocean.

The Whales are still seen out at sea.

CARL

Delete it.

The video ends.

Steve looks at the phone in shock.

STEVE Could use it as evidence...

CARL (screaming) Delete it!!

Steve deletes the video from his phone.

EXT. THE BUNDA CLIFFS - LATER

Carl walks alone along the cliff tops.

Kim is seen lying on the roof, writing postcards.

Steve and Daz lean up against the car, drinking VB. They watch Carl walking alone.

From inside Steve's pocket, his phone is heard ringing.

DAZ (angrily) If its them, let me fuckin' have it!

Steve looks down at the phone. A picture of Sarah hugging Gaz is seen with **Sarah** displayed above it.

STEVE It's OK, it's Sarah.

Steve answers it.

STEVE (CONT'D) Hiya mate...

INT. SARAH'S CAR - MORNING.

Sarah sit's stuck in non moving traffic. Her wiper blades on her little mini go as fast as they can, but the Manchester rain still obscures her view. A sea of red brake lights shine in on her.

> STEVE (v/o) ...we've been meaning to call you.

Tears fall down Sarah's face.

SARAH (into phone) I need to speak to Carl.

STEVE (into phone) I know mate, but now's probably not the best time.

Sarah tries in vain to stop sobbing.

SARAH (into phone) I either talk to him or I tell you Steve.

Steve looks at Daz and runs two fingers down his eyes and then points at the phone - indicating that Sarah is crying.

Sarah stares out at the traffic.

STEVE (v/o)I've always said you can speak to me.

Daz looks at Steve guiltily. Steve's phone is now on loud speaker.

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{SARAH} \\ (\text{v/o}) \\ \text{At the other end of the world!} \end{array}$

STEVE (into phone) I know, we all feel really bad about that honestly..

SARAH (into phone) Yeah,...well I'm pregnant.

Steve and Daz look at each other. They smile slightly.

SARAH (CONT'D) (v/o) It's Carl's baby.

The news suddenly stun's them.

Sarah sits there, crying.

SARAH (CONT'D) (into phone) Everyone here knows, so now you do. She hangs up, crying. She throws her mobile into the passenger footwell.

EXT. THE BUNDA CLIFFS - CONTINUOUS

Carl looks out over the ocean. The sea looks calm.

STEVE

You deceiving CUNT!

Steve heads over angrily to Carl, closely followed by Daz.

STEVE (CONT'D) (screaming) How long had you been fuckin' her for eh?!

Carl looks at Steve in shock.

CARL

What?

Steve grabs Carl at his collars and pulls him forward into him.

STEVE You cunt! He died trying to help you..!!

Steve lifts Carl up of the ground in a rage and throws him to the floor.

Steve kicks Carl in the chest.

STEVE (CONT'D) I fuckin' hate ya!

Daz tries holding Steve back.

STEVE (CONT'D) Should of been you...

Daz still struggles trying to hold Steve back.

STEVE (CONT'D) ... You dead, not him!!

Carl starts crying.

STEVE (CONT'D) Fuck off!

CARL It wasn't meant to happen...

Steve kicks out again at Carl. Daz pulls him back, but he still manages to connect. Carl winces out in pain. DAZ (to Steve) That's enough! Carl curls up in a ball. He cries uncontrollably. Kim runs towards them from the car. Steve is full of emotion. His chest rises with pain. He leans down to Carl. STEVE (to Carl) I don't ever wanna see you again. Steve shakes Daz off him, and walks off along the cliffs. Kim runs over and kneels next to Carl. KIM Please, no no no...what is problem?! Daz stares down at Carl. DAZ You got her pregnant. Daz throws his phone down to Carl. DAZ (CONT'D) Try and talk to her. Daz walks off after Steve. CUT TO BLACK. (LONG BEAT) CUT TO: EXT. ADELAIDE AIRPORT - MORNING The car pulls into the car park. Daz is driving with Steve up front. Carl and Kim share the back seat. As soon as the car stops, Steve gets out and goes to the boot of the car

43.

He removes his rucksack and walks off into the terminal.

Daz takes the small necklace of Ganesh from the mirror and slips it in his pocket.

Carl, Kim and Daz get their gear from the boot of the car.

KIM Please may I have photo?

Daz and Carl lean up against the Falcon.

Kim takes their photo.

They all head towards the terminal.

Three newly arrived French backpackers sit on their rucksacks. They are looking at a car hire leaflet.

Daz walks over to them

DAZ

Do you want a car?

The French backpackers look at him.

Daz points over to the battered old Ford Falcon in the car park.

He holds out the car keys.

DAZ (CONT'D)

Take it.

The french lads look shocked.

DAZ (CONT'D) It's a gift from Gaz.

Daz, Kim and Carl walk into the terminal.

The french back packers are seen walking towards the car.

INT. THE BUSY AIRPORT TERMINAL - LATER

A large destination screen reads 'Flight Number 449ICN to SEOUL departing Gate 7'. Kim stands at the gate.

Steve, Daz and Carl are with him.

Steve shakes Kim's hand warmly.

STEVE Have a safe journey back mate.

Daz gives Kim a hug.

DAZ Give Mr's Kim a hug from me!

Kim laughs and pats Daz on the back.

Kim hugs Carl.

CARL It was a pleasure meeting you Kim.

Kim looks at Carl and smiles.

KIM (to Carl) After losing a cow, one repairs barn.

Kim nods politely, but pointedly at Carl.

The lads watch as Kim goes through the gate to his flight.

INT. MANCHESTER ARRIVALS LOUNGE - DAY

People wait eagerly at the barriers as loved ones come through the arrivals partition.

A little girl dips under the barrier and jumps up into the arms of an elderly relative.

More and more people pour out into the waiting arms of loved ones.

Finally the boys come into view. Steve pushes a trolley; Daz walks alongside him.

Carl walks behind them. He carries his rucksack on his back.

STEVE'S MUM shouts from behind the barriers. A beaming smile fills her face.

STEVE'S MUM (waving)

Steven!

She squeezes past people to get to him.

STEVE

Hiya Mum.

Steve's mum hugs her son tightly.

She smiles over to Daz and Carl.

Steve points at Carl.

STEVE (CONT'D) (to his Mum) He's not getting a lift.

His Mum looks over to Carl embarrassed.

STEVE (CONT'D) (to Carl) We're back, now fuck off!

Daz looks at Carl awkwardly for a moment. Then walks away and catches up with Steve and his Mum.

Carl stands alone amongst the throng of embracing happy families.

INT. MANCHESTER ARRIVALS LOUNGE - LATER

Carl sits alone at a table. A small cup of coffee from a vending machine sits on the table amongst a handful of loose change stacked up in denominations.

Carl sits there forlorn.

SARAH That's not gonna' get you far.

Carl looks up at Sarah.

Beat.

CARL How did you now I was here?

SARAH

Daz texted me.

Sarah sits down at the table opposite Daz.

SARAH (CONT'D) I'll have hot chocolate if your paying.

Carl looks down at the coins on the table, then up at Sarah.

EXT. BUS STOP - MORNING

It is a bright sunny morning A bus pulls into the bus stop. Carl gets off the bus. He carries a small bunch of flowers. He walks off up towards the Cemetery.

INT. GRAVEYARD - MOMENTS LATER Carl looks across the graveyard. He stops walking. Gaz's mum sits perched at Gaz's grave. Carl stands away at a distance. Carl leans against the wall of the graveyard. He breathes anxiously.

INT. GAZ'S GRAVESIDE. - CONTINUOUS
Gaz's mum sits at the graveside of her son.
She stares, deep in thought, at the headstone.

<u>Gareth Lloyd. Loving Son and Loyal Friend</u> is clearly seen written on the headstone.

Carl's shadow falls across the grave-side.

Gaz's mum looks up to see who's there.

Tears pour down Carl's face. His whole body is visibly shaking.

CARL

I'm so sorry Liz.

Gaz's Mum stands up. She looks at Carl.

She slaps him hard across the face.

Shocked by her own reaction, she immediately hugs Carl tightly.

They both sob into each others arms.

INT. THE NILE BAR - NIGHT

Daz and Steve stand at the bar.

The whole place is heaving with people out for a good night.

Daz and Steve drink in silence. They stare out into the crowd.

STEVE (to Daz) Goin' to the bog.

Steve walks off to the toilet.

A drunken group of lads barge up to the bar.

One of the group shouts over to the barmaid.

DRUNKEN LAD Oi! Three bottles of Corona...

The girl walks over to serve them

DRUNKEN LAD (CONT'D) And make sure they're fuckin' cold this time..!

Daz shakes his head to himself.

The barmaid searches the fridge for the coldest bottles.

The unmistakable sound of Carl getting attacked is again heard.

Daz tenses up. He looks over at the lads.

They all stare at the video message laughing.

DRUNKEN LAD 2 Did you get a boot in?

DRUNKEN LAD I was filmin' it ya cunt!

The girl returns with the 3 Corona's.

The drunken lad pays for the drinks.

Daz watches them as they walk over and join some other lads at a table.

Steve returns to the bar.

STEVE One more in here or are we movin' on? Daz ignores him.

DAZ (to the barmaid) Call the police.

The barmaid just stares at him.

STEVE What's up with ya.

DAZ (to the barmaid) Please, just call the police.

BARMAID What do you want me to say?

Daz watches as the drunken yob with the phone walks into the toilets.

DAZ Tell them its kicking off big time in the gents toilets.

STEVE What are you goin' on about?

CUT TO:

INT. GENTS TOILETS - MOMENTS LATER

The drunken lad stands at the urinals.

Daz just stands there watching him.

DRUNKEN LAD What are you lookin' at?

DAZ Just waitin' for you to finish so you don't piss all over me.

The drunken lad does up his fly.

DRUNKEN LAD What the fuck are you on about?

Daz grabs the lad by the throat.

DAZ Call it a gift from Gaz.

Daz head butts the lad squarely on the nose.

Blood gushes from the nose of the lad.

Daz still has hold of him.

DAZ (CONT'D) And I think you'll find that's my mates phone.

Daz lifts the drunken lad up off the floor and throws him through into the toilet cubicle.

The drunken lad lies unconscious across the toilet bowl.

Steve removes Carl's phone from the lads pocket.

The club's security team burst into the toilets. They grab Daz and restrain him.

Daz stares at his reflection in the toilet mirror.

His shirt is torn. The Ganesh necklace hangs around his neck.

CUT TO BLACK.

(LONG BEAT)

INT. SUPERGRANS CAFE - AFTERNOON

The old waitress hobbles over and puts down a tray of tea. Most of the tea from the four mugs now swims in the tray.

Carl and Sarah watch as the waitress hobbles back to the kitchen.

Steve and Daz walk into the Cafe.

Daz pushes a push-chair up to the table.

DAZ (laughing) He's still awake. Not havin' any of it!

They all look down at the baby and laugh.

FADE TO BLACK: CREDITS