

Young Guns  
TV Drama Serial

Episode One: No way back

by  
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FADE IN:

EXT. AFGHAN DESERT TRACK, NEAR KABUL - NIGHT

A United Nations military truck thunders out of the darkness; its big wheels bounce over the dunes towards the flashing torch lights in the distance.

Suddenly an infra-red target captures the truck in its sights, tracking the speeding vehicle until it pulls up by FIVE TALIBAN GUERILLAS emerging from a bombed out building.

BRITISH PARATROOPER (O.C.)  
(filtered)  
Five little piggies came to  
market. Pick your targets.

The AFGHAN ARMY SOLDIERS get out of the truck and greet the Taliban as if they were brothers, totally unaware of the camouflaged BRITISH PARATROOPERS moving through the rubble and undergrowth

The Afghan soldiers unload Kalashnikov rifles and boxes of ammunition. The TALIBAN CHIEFTAIN sees something else in the van, but slams the door and lights up the night sky with a few dozen rounds, which gets them all cheering and dropping their guard.

It's time to strike. The paratroopers are lethal with their shots, creating a kill zone which leaves no one standing apart from the AFGHAN ARMY LIEUTENANT. He moves away from the dead bodies with his hands up to greet the paratroopers.

CAPTAIN ADAM WARD (29), a wiry action man with a forgiving smile, moves through the smoke emanating from the bullet ridden carcasses.

AFGHAN LIEUTENANT  
(to Adam)  
He's in the back.

Two paratroopers jump into the truck and throw out a chained and gagged AFGHAN prisoner wearing Army combats and boots. Adam stamps on him and swings four British Army dog tags over his head.

ADAM  
(to lieutenant)  
Where did you find him?

AFGHAN LIEUTENANT  
Trying to buy enough gas for his  
motorbike trip to Yemen. His  
Talib scout didn't show.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ADAM  
My heart bleeds.

AFGHAN LIEUTENANT  
(points at dead Taliban)  
He was worth less than the  
bullets to them.

Adam cocks his pistol and aims it at the prisoner's heart.

ADAM  
(to prisoner; off dog  
tags)  
Where's your machine gun now,  
comrade?

But the Afghan lieutenant stops Adam.

AFGHAN LIEUTENANT  
My country. Let me do it.

Adam turns his back and lets the lieutenant send the  
prisoner to hell with two shots.

I/E. BRITISH ARMY HUMVEE / AFGHAN DESERT - NIGHT

Adam drives with CORPORAL TEL KANE (35), a faded jack the  
lad, sat next to him admiring the stack of guns piled up in  
the back with the other paratroopers.

TEL  
Time for me to fly home again.  
Everything set?

ADAM  
Two cases for that fat Kent  
gangster in Costa Brava and the  
rest we give to the shepherds  
protecting our crop.

Tel smirks and shakes his head.

TEL  
The shepherds? Why? We can't  
trust them.

ADAM  
You don't see the big picture. So  
shut up and do what you're told.

Tel goes to snap back but a look in the rear view mirror  
shows the other soldiers are with Adam, so he keeps his  
mouth shut.

EXT. AFGHAN BARN, NEAR OPIUM FIELDS - DAY

Goats climb down from the trees hanging over the rocky cliffs to feed on the grass, while AFGHAN TRIBESMEN with red sashes over their chests wait for Tel Kane to taste a heroin sample off a silver plate.

Tel likes it and signals for the tribesmen to put the heroin in the back of his jeep. Two paratroopers unload the Kalashnikovs and bullets from their humvee, but Tel stops them after the third box.

TEL

A change of plan.

EXT. AFGHAN VILLAGE - DAY

A British Army convoy of armoured personnel carriers blockades a 'bomb alley' near a Taliban friendly village. Adam shows the BOMB DETECTORS a map of where the improvised explosive devices are set.

The VILLAGE MEN sit at the mouth of the village, watching the bomb detectors move forward with their wands. British snipers cover them, ready to pull the trigger if they spot the villagers holding any kind of detonation device.

EXT. AFGHAN POPPY FIELDS - DAY

Adam leans against his humvee admiring the endless sea of red poppies. He is joined by the Afghan Army Lieutenant and the fierce drug lord GUL KUTHARZI (40s), a stocky ruffian with a red sash.

ADAM

Beautiful day.

Adam opens his laptop to access a secure banking transaction website. He taps in a password while the two other men check their palm computers.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Money received?

Kutharzi and the lieutenant nod. Kutharzi sticks a presidential election flag on Adam's jeep which reads "VOTE PRESIDENT GHAZI"

KUTHARZI

Let the war continue.

EXT. AFGHAN ROAD - DAY

Adam is driving along in his humvee when he sees up ahead some BRITISH PARATROOPERS helping some MERCENARIES with their broken down jeep. He pulls up and winds down the window to speak to them.

ADAM

You guys need any help?

CAPTAIN BOBBY MCCOIST (38), a Glaswegian paratrooper with "loves" "pussy" on his knuckles sidles up to him.

MCCOIST

(sarcastic)

You must know a good local mechanic, with all your connections?

(off Adam's look)

But I'm all out of blood money so I'll guess we'll have to push it.

Adam gives him the one finger salute and drives off, covering them in sand flying from his wheels.

EXT. CAMP HOPE AIRPORT, AFGHANISTAN - THREE DAYS LATER, DAY

A cocky Tel plays chicken with a cargo car, jumping out of the way, at the last moment. He lights up a fag and makes a call on his mobile.

TEL

(into phone)

Yo, it's me...You met with the Syrian?...Told you he'd be cool...Screw Adam, he doesn't care...Not like me...I'll look after you...I know, you don't want to hear it...Just think about it.

INT. CAMP HOPE AIRPORT - DAY

Tel struts towards the departure gate but there's something funny about the way the AIRPORT STAFF are looking at him. But before he can turn, he is grabbed by two MILITARY POLICE OFFICERS.

INT. CAMP HOPE AIRPORT CUSTOMS ROOM - DAY

Titanium boxes marked are flung open and in each box, Kalashnikov rifles and bullets, are poorly hidden under tank parts.

EXT. CAMP HOPE WATCHTOWER, AFGHANISTAN - DAY

Adam sits in a watchtower, soaking up the sun, admiring the sprawling military fortress that covers two square miles of the desert. The ladder shakes and he looks down to see one of his paratroopers waving him down.

INT. RAF BRIZE NORTON, UK - ONE WEEK LATER, DAY

Adam comes out of the airport and jokingly slams his rucksack into WILL STUART'S chest. Will is a 29-year-old city boy with a gym-tough physique.

ADAM

You need to work those stomach muscles, Willy.

Will jams the packed rucksack into the boot of his expensive sports car.

WILL (CONT'D)

Wasn't expecting to see you for another week.

ADAM

I didn't want to miss the funeral.

WILL

Or her birthday?

ADAM

Or her birthday.

EXT. ROAD TO WOOLWICH ARMY CEMETERY, UK - DAY

MARCHING SOLDIERS come up the street moves the CROWD OF MOURNERS close to tears. Four black hearses carrying fallen soldiers pass them on the one way road to the cemetery.

EXT. WOOLWICH ARMY CEMETERY - DAY

LIEUTENANT COLONEL DON WARD (51), an aging warrior whose thousand yard stare is fixed on the four headstones. The mourning families stand apart from the soldiers waiting to hear 'King Don' speak. He spots Adam and Will rushing to join them as he begins.

DON

I used to think men had sons so they could live their lives over again. But safe don't exist for us. Not this life or the next. We fight together. We die together. These boys lived that more than anyone. And they made their families proud.

They died because of the messed up war our government has us fighting. We look after our own because no one else will. Not the bloody suits who sent us out there. No one.

The greatest weapon in the Roman Empire was the army. This is our country and don't ever forget that. And like all families we look after the women who help it grow and the young ones we do this all for. We stay together. We stay victorious.

I/E. RECONNAISSANCE VAN / WOOLWICH ARMY CEMETERY - DAY

TWO SURVEILLANCE OFFICERS sit in their stuffy reconnaissance van and photograph the mourners leaving the cemetery. A polystyrene coffee cup drips on a creased and torn photo of ADAM WARD, which hangs out of a British Army intelligence report cursed with his name and number. The camera lens zooms in on Adam.

SURVEILLANCE OFFICER (O.S.)

(off Adam)

You won't escape forever, son.

Back to the road where Adam and Don move away from the crowd.

DON

Tel's got a gun smuggling charge with gossip to bargain with and we're not doing nothing?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ADAM

Tel's cool. He ain't going to say a word.

DON

That jellyhead up against some hotshot prosecutor? Guns that could link us to a lot of shit out there. Those guns were meant for the shepherds. Who told him to bring them back?

ADAM

No one, I don't know. The guns are clean. Even if it goes bad, he can't link anything to you.

DON

You don't know that. Customs are going to be all over our routes now.

ADAM

It's your masterplan I'm following. You're not the one out there.

Don storms over to Will's car parked at the side of the road and shakes it until the alarm goes off.

DON (CONT'D)

Tel broke the rules. It was your job to stop him. Now go see your wife.

Will accepts Don's shrugged apology for the car and the two men shake hands as they pass.

ADAM

(to Will)

I thought she'd be here.

Will wants to say "which one?", but says nothing.

INT. BRITISH ARMY HOSPITAL, UK - DAY

CAPTAIN KATY O'CONNOR, 29 today, feels uncomfortable in her white doctor's coat. The smell of flesh and urine seems worse today as she moves past the wards like a ghost, not even flinching at the sound of a MAD SOLDIER SCREAMING from his bunk.

INT. BRITISH ARMY HOSPITAL, DOCTORS' OFFICE - DAY

Birthday cards and photos of disabled or injured soldiers with their children cover Katy's desk, with messages like "I owe it all to you" and "Thanks for keeping me a Daddy". Katy pushes the cards aside, unable to connect with the sentimentality.

Past caring about her work, she clicks to her Hotmail account on screen, where she sighs at the sight of emails titled: "It's been too long", "Drink birthday girl?", "I need a doctor". She hits delete, not wanting to read them.

KATY

Losers.

The screen fills with a photo of Adam Ward in Camp Hope watchtower with "Adam loves Katy" penned on his chest.

KATY (CONT'D)

(touching the screen)

See you soon, baby.

FADE TO:

Darkness...Two beautiful red lips come through the haze of the flames to blow out the twenty-nine burning candles stuck in the melting cake of a British woman soldier.

Then it all goes black as we hear Adam's voice.

ADAM (O.C.)

Guess who?

Katy feels the hands over her eyes; she feels for the wedding ring and her lips curve into a smile. Adam removes his hands and spins her round the room to show her she's in a...

INT. LONDON BAR, EMPTY MEMBERS ROOM - NIGHT

...which is empty apart from Will.

KATY (CONT'D)

(to Will)

I thought no one was coming?

WILL

They're not. Surprise.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KATY  
(laughing)  
Thanks, Will.

Adam swing her away from Will, leaving him feeling isolated.

ADAM  
(to Katy)  
Will knows the owner. I didn't  
want to pretend tonight.

Will watches the two lovers embrace. He can't stand it and goes to leave.

ADAM  
(to Will)  
Hey, where you going? We have  
beers to drink.

KATY  
And a birthday to celebrate.

Later on...Adam brushes aside the conquered army of beer bottles. He skillfully flips up a knife and spins it round his fingers before slicing up the cake.

ADAM  
(to Will)  
You're going to love it out  
there. Just don't blame me if you  
get shot.

WILL  
I'm not getting shot.

KATY  
(off Adam)  
That's what someone else used to  
say.

Katy puts Adam's US army cavalry hat on his head and an unlit cigar in his mouth, making him act like Robert Duvall from Apocalypse Now.

ADAM  
I was saved by a beautiful angel  
and saw the light. Saw the truth  
behind the carnage. War is hell,  
son, but nothing else in the  
world comes close to the rush of  
the hunt.  
(hits chest)  
It's in all of us. We just get to  
live it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The boys bang their fists together then bounce off each other's chests as the adrenaline and alcohol brings out their comedy double act.

ADAM  
Get down and give me fifty, boy.

WILL  
Hell yeah.

Will hits the floor and starts doing clapping push-ups, but Adam puts his hand under Will's chest to show the gap.

ADAM  
You've been humping too many fat women, son.

Adam hits the floor and they put on a show for Katy.

ADAM (CONT'D)  
What are you?

WILL  
Para Reg.

ADAM  
Who do we hate?

WILL  
Navy boys.

ADAM  
(to Katy)  
We play here every night apart from Taliban Tuesday.

Katy lays across their backs and makes them carry on.

KATY  
We go out together. We come home together.

As Katy and Adam smooch his neck chain swings loose to show a heart shaped pendant made from shrapnel.

INT. KATY'S LOUNGE - DAY

The drums get louder as Phil Collins' "In The Air Tonight" beats against the walls of this half decorated lounge. Clothes hang over boxes and backpacking memorabilia spills over the naked floorboards.

A groaning WILL sits between the booming speakers, almost wishing for them to explode and send him to kingdom come.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He bangs the old style TV to watch a fuzzy news report of British squaddies fighting the invisible enemy in the Afghan desert, but looks away when "250 soldiers killed in action" flashes up on screen.

The drums hit a scratch to turn the music into torturous repetition. Will hits the off button, leaving him with no escape from the PASSIONATE SEX SESSION bursting through the ceiling. Each joyous moan kills him inside as his eyes fall on the army medic uniform hanging from the curtain rail.

INT. KATY'S BEDROOM - DAY

Rolling around in bed the lovers can barely breathe through the laughter as Adam holds Katy's head under his sweaty armpit, revealing his beloved "Wings of Honour" parachute regiment tattoo

They can't let go of each other and he slips a DIAMOND RING on her wedding finger. This stops them; for a moment it seems real but then she puts it on her finger of independence.

INT. KATY'S BATHROOM - DAY

Adam carries Katy into the shower, but gets a shock when she whacks on the tap to cover them in cold water. "Whaah!" he jumps out and slips across the floor like a dancing George Michael.

The pipes chug and bang and Katy finally gets her warm water. She waves goodbye then closes the shower door, but draws a heart with an arrow through it on the steamed up glass. Adam beats his heart in salute to her.

INT. KATY'S LOUNGE / STAIRS - DAY

Will is checking the FTSE Index on his iPhone when Adam charges in and grabs Will's car keys off the propped up table.

WILL  
(off keys)  
You're not driving my car.

Will runs into the banister, getting a great look at Katy coming out of the bathroom in a skimpy towel, humming "In The Air Tonight".

EXT. KATY'S STREET - MORNING

Will chases Adam round his sports car, desperate to get his keys back. They don't see the SPOTTY YOB riding on a BMX and Will crashes into him. The yob spits at Will and kicks the car. Adam and Will chase him.

WILL

Oi!

Will and Adam are damn fast and the SPEED BUMPS and ONCOMING CARS allow them to close in on their prey. The yob skids and crashes into a wall. Will grabs him and Adam, enraged by coming second, is about to explode.

YOB

(to Will)

Fuck off.

WILL

(to yob)

Why did you spit at me?

YOB

"Why did you spit at me?"

WILL

Shut up.

YOB

"Shu-

SMASH! Adam unleashes his fury with three more punches BAM BAM BAM. Will struggles to stop Adam then things get a lot worse when three more YOBS ride to the rescue.

A born fighter, Adam grabs an empty wine bottle from a bin, smashes it, and chases the fleeing yobs. Will follows but hopes to god they keep riding.

INT. BRITISH ARMY PRISON, VISITING ROOM - DAY

The so called family room where the books and toys are older than most of the PRISONERS. Tel stands against the barred windows watching the VISITORS come through the door.

He is about to leave when finally he sees ATHENA WARD (33), a sexy hairdresser pumped on strong coffee and anxiety pills. Athena shows him her cheek to kiss, which disappoints him.

ATHENA

You okay?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TEL

Don't worry about me. I don't know what happened, but I'm going to sort it. With my track record I can't get bail.

ATHENA

You got caught, Tel. Now I've got that Syrian psycho asking about his guns.

(upset)

He came to my shop, Tel. My shop.

Tel strokes her hand, but she withdraws it to wipe away her tears.

TEL

I'll talk to him. I'll sort it. Just don't tell Adam.

ATHENA

He's going to find out. Then what?

TEL

No one's going to hurt you. I'll get you that money. You just gotta trust me, Athena.

Tel kisses her on the lips, but all she can see are the barred windows and beefy guards blocking every door.

I/E. WILL'S CAR / ADAM & ATHENA WARD'S HOUSE - DAY

Will and Adam pull up outside a modest house in an army neighbourhood and see Athena's car parked on the driveway. Will is still stressed from the fight with the youths, so Adam stops him turning off the engine.

ADAM

She's finally home. You better keep driving. I don't want you catching her blast.

WILL

Scared she'll ask me too many questions?

ADAM

You don't understand.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WILL

No, you don't. I see her all the time. I see Katy all the time. I don't like being the liar in the middle, Adam.

ADAM

You're going to be in the middle of a lot worse-

WILL

I've been in combat. I know the drill.

ADAM

(mocking)

Iraq? You still had jet lag when you flew back.

WILL

I broke my bloody arm.

Will revs the engine, his hands shaking on the wheel and eyes full of anger.

ADAM

Look at you. All tensed up like a giant stiffy. No reaction. You can't be like that in The Stan. No let offs or second chances out there, mate.

WILL

I can handle myself.

ADAM

I know, that's why you're going to be in my squad. Right in the thick of it.

Will is too chuffed to speak. Adam pats him on the shoulder and gets out of the car, knowing he just made a big mistake.

INT. ADAM & ATHENA WARD'S HOUSE, HALLWAY / LOUNGE - DAY

Adam comes through the front door to find Athena preparing her hairdressing suitcase. She's too angry to look at him.

ATHENA

Nice of you to come home.

ADAM

I didn't want to sleep on a cold shoulder.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ATHENA  
Where did you sleep?

ADAM  
At Will's. We got smashed.

Athena drops the subject; she doesn't want to know the truth.

ATHENA  
Tel's wife's manic. She's going to be crying into his ear.

ADAM  
Tel's one of us. He's going to do what he's told.

ATHENA  
And if he doesn't? You like him enough to spend fifteen years with him?

ADAM  
I'm not going to do it.

ATHENA  
We don't have a choice. He's weak. He'll cut a deal, you know he will. You want your dad to find out it was us?

ADAM  
(turns in anger)  
Shut up about Dad. You never mention his name in any of this. Ever.

ATHENA  
(strong)  
You just watch your mouth.

ADAM  
I'm sorry.

Adam and Athena cuddle, but it's survival not love that keeps them together.

I/E. PARACHUTE REGIMENT CENTRE / WILL'S CAR - DAY

Will and Adam drive through the steel black gates and under the "HELP FOR HEROES DAY" banners to find YOUNG CADETS and VETERANS building a stage, preparing barbecues and blowing up a bouncy castle.

EXT. PARACHUTE REGIMENT CENTRE - DAY

One hell of a turnout with SOLDIERS, PARTNERS and FAMILIES enjoying the barbecue and drinks under the Help for Heroes banners. Adam and Athena glide through the crowd like love's young dream but even the prince and princess have to make way for 'King Don'.

Don gives £50 to the WAR WIDOWS selling POPPIES then pins the flowers to the YUMMY MUMMIES of the YOUNG CADETS who follow him. He jogs up to the stage like Rocky and signals the arrival of the young, triple amputee PRIVATE JEREMY COOPER.

DON  
(into mic.)  
Here's a boy with more than  
enough fight in him.

Jeremy, walking with crutches, shakes a charity bucket in the air to get everybody clapping.

DON (CONT'D)  
(into mic.)  
Young Jeremy's just popped the  
question and I bet my pension  
he'll be walking down the aisle  
on his shiny new legs come the  
wedding day.

JEREMY  
(to Don)  
I won't let you down, sir.

We see Katy waiting at the end of the PARALLEL BARS for Jeremy.

DON (CONT'D)  
(into mic.; off Katy)  
And who better to help him than  
our own emerald doc. Our guardian  
angel. Captain Katy O'Connor.

Jeremy stands at the other end of the bars and throws his crutches in the air.

JEREMY  
Good to be back, boys.

KATY  
(whispers to Jeremy)  
You can do it.

Jeremy takes a few good steps but then falls into Katy's arms.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KATY (CONT'D)  
It's okay, it's okay.

Will hates the sight of the laughing Jeremy, and wherever he looks are destroyed bodies in wheelchairs, burnt faces, missing limbs and survivors so wired from combat they're about to explode.

TIME CUT TO:

ATHENA and her HAIRDRESSERS have their clippers at the ready for the SQUADDIES who line up like sheep to get their combat cuts. Don sneaks up behind Athena to take control of her clippers and gives the squaddie in the chair a ragged Mohican.

DON  
(to squaddie)  
Now that's a haircut.

ATHENA  
(to Don; laughing)  
Get in the chair you.

Athena makes Don sit and the crowd cheers for "Grade Zero". While Athena is cutting Don's hair she spies a WAR WIDOW steal money from the charity buckets and hide it under her T-shirt, which is decorated with her deceased husband's smiling face.

ATHENA (CONT'D)  
(to Don)  
All done, soldier.

Don rubs Athena's tummy, making her blush.

DON  
When's my boy going to make you a mummy? Need another Ward in the Regiment.

ATHENA  
You better ask him. We're not talking.

Don nods "for sure" then tosses £20 in the thieving war widow's charity bucket. Athena dreads this woman's fate and has to turn away.

KATY rushes past Athena towards the smoke where Adam flips FRESH MEAT over the BURNING FLAMES. The two secret lovers feel like they're on enemy terrain and have to settle for loving glances and smiles, which only Will notices.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Later at the PUNCH BAG MACHINE some DRUNKEN SQUADDIES, riled by Will's 'Wings of Honour' tattoo, goad him into throwing a punch.

DRUNKEN SQUADDIE  
Come on City Boy, let's see what  
you got.

The drunken squaddie pushes Will towards the bag, so Will pushes him back. Will sees the top score is "550" and psyches himself up to throw the punch.

DRUNKEN SQUADDIE  
You going to punch it or hump it?  
Someone bend it over for the  
weekend warrior.

Will snaps and HITS the bag, feeling so hopeful, he watches the score bar rattle through the numbers then "480" fills the screen. The drunken squaddies stop laughing when Don and Adam turn up. Feeling strong, Will shoulder barges his way through the bullies.

ADAM  
(to Will)  
You might be TA but you wear the  
wings. You remember that.

INT. PARACHUTE REGIMENT CENTRE, BAR - DAY

Don, Adam and Will join their 'select family' - the PARATROOPERS who are a cut above everybody else and know it. Don whistles for the BARMAID to pour them all a shot of whisky, but she gives Don a glass of milk instead.

DON  
(to barmaid)  
Oi cheeky, I'm seeing your dad  
later.

Don raises his glass in a toast.

DON (CONT'D)  
To Will 'City Boy' Stuart. Para  
to the bone and bleeds my blood.

ALL  
To City Boy.

DON  
(joking)  
Hopefully he'll be in theatre  
long enough to get a suntan this  
time.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Everybody laughs. Will might be part of the 'family' but he still has to prove himself. His thunder is stolen by Athena who grabs the men's attention and flirts with the NEW GUYS to rub Adam's face in it.

Adam's phone beeps and he sees he has a text pic of 'pursed kissable lips' above the text 'Don't let her get you down'.

EXT. PARACHUTE REGIMENT CENTRE BALCONY / FIELD - EVENING

With the party over, Don and Will drink tea and look at the cadets and veterans dismantle the stage and tidy up the mess.

DON

You got any more info on Alamo Arms?

WILL

There's a lot of chatter that Alamo's stealing back its thunder. But ever since the FSA flexed their muscles on the square. It's all need to know, who's to know at the office.

DON

I understand, but it worked out okay last time, right?

Will nods "yes", happy that Don needs him. Then their view falls on Adam and Athena, hand in hand, strolling past the stage, where the 'Help for Heroes' flag falls to the ground.

INT. ADAM & ATHENA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Adam wakes up with a jolt, looking confused and disoriented. He pulls Athena's hair back to check she's asleep. Feeling he's being watched in the darkness, he slyly pulls out his dictaphone from under the headboard.

INT. ADAM & ATHENA'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

Adam sits on the toilet playing the dictaphone recording of him and Athena sleeping, then he finally hears something.

ADAM (O.C.)

(filtered; mumbled)

You can't trust...

Adam rewinds and listens again, determined to know if he gave anything away.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He snaps and throws the dictaphone on the floor. He searches for the tape and finds it on top of a book by the bath called "My lifelong quest for a baby".

He kicks the book, falls to his knees and moans through gritted teeth until Athena rushes in to comfort him. He gently fends her off, but can't stop looking at her belly. She takes his hand and rubs it over her stomach.

INT. BRITISH ARMY PRISON, SIGN IN DESK - DAY

Adam salutes the PRETTY CLERK, but his smile fades when he opens the register and sees Athena Ward has visited Tel Kane.

INT. BRITISH ARMY PRISON, INTERVIEW ROOM

A beefy red cap police guard TAFFY (25) knocks and shows in Adam. Tel's eyes are bloodshot and he looks high on something.

TEL  
(saluting)  
You're early, Captain.

ADAM  
Still easy to get drugs here then? Look at you. Dribbling jellyhead. It's not even eight o'clock.

TEL  
Good to see you too, Adam. Old buddy.

ADAM  
You want your wife to see you like this? It looks bad, Tel. Very bad.

TEL  
Does it? The jury sees a traumatised war hero. I play up to the judge and I'm shaving off seven years. I'll be out before the war's over.

ADAM  
There's not going to be no jury. No trial. You plead guilty and take the time. Keep your mouth shut.

(off Tel's funny look)  
Your fault. You weren't supposed to bring that many guns back.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ADAM(cont'd)

Now I owe that fat Costa wideboy  
money.

TEL

I know.

(a pause)

How's Athena? She feeling okay?

ADAM

(abrupt)

She's fine. Why?

Tel shrugs, too stoned to answer. Adam SLAPS him round the  
face.

ADAM

Wake up. Who messed up back  
there? How did they know about  
the guns?

TEL

Some of our people back in Stan.  
They're not happy with your way  
of doing things. Working with the  
towel heads and stuff. They think  
we're losing out on a lot of  
money. It ain't right, Adam.

ADAM

You?

TEL

Not me. Just people. But they  
have friends here...

(glances at Taffy  
through door pane)

You should've seen it coming with  
your high-handed attitude.  
Dishing out money like we're  
factory workers. They're tired of  
your buffer bullshit.

ADAM

(opens legal file)

I'll deal with them in good time.  
This is about you and what you're  
going to do. They've got you,  
Tel. That's it.

TEL

(closes the file)

These people in here, they know  
things. I don't want to do it,  
but they keep coming...I can't do  
this no more. They want you to  
make introductions to the right  
people. Let business happen.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ADAM

No! Our way is making progress out there. It ain't just about the drugs.

TEL

If it's so great then why the sideline? How happy your bosses going to be when they know you can't follow orders?

(desperate)

You want me to protect you? Then you try get me out first. I need to get out.

Adam sees Tel is a threat that needs to be silenced, but his cold eyes give nothing away. He leaves, but the way TAFFY begrudgingly moves aside spells trouble.

INT. LANDSBERG INVESTORS TOWER - DAY

Will feels so much more comfortable in his flash city boy suit but his paratrooper pedigree is what gives him the edge over the other CITY BOYS coming in like a herd in the morning rush.

Will slides his ID through the security gate but it flashes red - "no access". He waves it at the friendly Caribbean SECURITY GUARD.

WILL

This how they fire people these days?

SECURITY GUARD

(letting Will through)

Nah man, we thought you'd gone to war.

WILL

Soon. I still haven't heard your Caribbean war stories. The day you chased the mighty crabs back into the sea.

Will pats the laughing guard's wobbly belly then moves on to the lift bay where he nods 'thanks' at his LOYAL CITY BOYS for holding the lift, much to the unspoken annoyance of those outside of the magic circle.

INT. LANDSBERG INVESTORS, OVERSEAS TRADING OFFICE - DAY

An unguarded food trolley sits in the aisle. Will crawls up to it, ducking behind desks whenever the WAITRESS turns her head from her conversation with the SECRETARY. He grabs two bananas and a chocolate muffin and doubles it back to his desk.

He gives the chocolate muffin to his manager LUKE GOODWILL (32), a black intellectual with a long ponytail and Christian jewellery.

LUKE  
You do know that stuff's free?

WILL  
Free? No such thing, Luke.

LUKE  
(reciting)  
Apart from the air, sun, sea and  
my beautiful lay-de.

WILL  
(clapping)  
Amen brother. Need to hit your  
bible class before I go on my  
crusade.

Luke rolls his eyes and grabs his suit jacket from the stand.

LUKE  
Come on, the bosses want to give  
us a send off.

WILL  
(surprised)  
Us?

We see the empty desks and stressed faces of the EMPLOYEES who survived the cull.

INT. LANDSBERG INVESTORS, EXECUTIVE LOUNGE - DAY

Will sips his champagne and holds a juicy strawberry under the chocolate fountain, while Luke smiles at the BIG BOSSES.

LUKE  
 (to Adam; off  
 strawberry)  
 That's blacker than me. Eat the  
 damn thing and go play the  
 superstar hero.

WILL  
 What did you mean by "us"?

MR COBB (60s), a top level boss who likes to cut it with the younger guys, comes over to them.

MR COBB  
 Our own Bravo Two Zero. The pen  
 and the sword.

Mr Cobb smiles at Will's confusion.

MR COBB (CONT'D)  
 The deal came good. Alamo's going  
 to be supplying the British Army  
 with choppers and a load of  
 things that go bang. Setting up  
 businesses too. Trucking in  
 trucking out twenty four-seven.  
 Where there's peace and  
 confusion...

MR COBB  
 ...there's a chance to make a  
 quick buck.

LUKE  
 ...there's a chance to make a  
 quick buck.

MR COBB  
 (to Luke)  
 And the pen will be mightier than  
 the sword out there, our man in  
 Afghanistan.

LUKE  
 My wife has us almost living in  
 our church, praying I make it  
 back okay.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MR COBB

Maybe God and Muhammad can find peace? But on this mortal land I say if you can't beat them on the battlefield then give them jobs and pensions. Especially in election year.

WILL

We haven't lost yet.

MR COBB

No closer to winning either.

INT. LANDSBERG INVESTORS, TOILETS - DAY

Will and Luke chat while washing their hands.

WILL

You must be getting a tidy sum for this job?

LUKE

It's my reward. For my work on the insider trading scam last year.

Will keeps his cool.

LUKE (CONT'D)

(hinting)

They thought I missed one. I said they were wrong.

Luke holds open the door for Will, but Will gestures 'it's cool'. His hands shake under the running water.

INT. PARACHUTE REGIMENT CENTRE, DON'S OFFICE - DAY

Don throws darts at his 'Tony Blair dartboard', while Adam runs his wedding ring up and down his finger.

DON

(joking)

You heard the Taliban kidnapped Prince Harry? But they kept messing up the ransom note because they don't know who his father is either.

Adam misses the joke.

DON (CONT'D)

So what did Tel say?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ADAM

He was high as a kite. Major liability.

Don's next dart misses the board.

DON

I was in Sierra Leone with that prick; toe to toe with the West Side Boys.

(guilt passes)

He knows enough to get S.I.B sniffing. Get it done. Today.

ADAM

Today. So those Syrians still causing trouble over here? We need to go see the Turks.

DON

We do. No point shipping the stuff over if we don't own the yard.

ADAM

That Scottish git McCoist was making noises before I left, cosyng up with the mercenaries. I need to get back to the platoon house, shake things up.

DON

Don't do anything crazy. We don't know what we're up against yet. Raddy has my orders.

ADAM

(hurt)

You can give me your orders.

DON

Get your head right. Your wife's all over the place and now you've brought Will into your squad? He ain't made for this. You know that.

ADAM

(not listening)

My squad is my squad. And what's mine stays mine.

INT. BRITISH ARMY PRISON, VISITING ROOM - DAY

Taffy sits at the empty table and taps the table for Tel to sit down.

TAFFY

Athena ain't going to come. Maybe ten years ago. Not now. She should be sitting in the jail cell next to you. You know it. I know it. We're the only ones keeping the Syrians from your door. You remember that when your wife come visits you. Which pussy you going to protect?

INT. TEL KANE'S PRISON CELL - DAY

Tel lays on his bunk and calls a number on a mobile phone but his call gets cut off. He claws at the "Athena Goddess of War" tattoo which covers his heart.

INT. BRITISH ARMY HOSPITAL, COMMUNAL CHANGING ROOM - DAY

The steam of the showers cause a dry heat as Tel comes through the haze towards the lockers where the RESIDENT DRUG DEALER rustles something in his pocket to get his attention. They head round the back of the lockers, away from the cameras.

TEL

Give me a couple of wraps.

DRUG DEALER PRISONER

Forty quid.

TEL

Whatever.

The dealer seems nervous as he reaches for a blade from his waistband. Tel reads his eyes and blocks the thrust.

The dealer barges Tel into the lockers and cuts up his defending arm, while an ACCOMPLICE darts round the corner and wraps a wire round Tel's neck.

The dealer is about to deliver the fatal blow when TAFFY CRACKS him over the head with a baton.

Tel feels the wire go limp and falls on top of the unconscious accomplice, who was knocked out by another RED CAP GUARD.

INT. ATHENA'S HAIRDRESSERS - DAY

Adam, with gun at his side, looks through the blinds while Athena chain smokes to calm her nerves.

ADAM  
Syrian. Guns. Get talking.

ATHENA  
I've already told you. Why didn't  
you tell me you were going to  
kill him?

ADAM  
Answer my question.

ATHENA  
It was a no lose situation. A  
case of guns for a lot of cash.

ADAM  
And Tel met this...

ATHENA  
Balty Damascus. I only met him  
the once. He said he needed the  
guns for a turf war.

ADAM  
We don't deliver to our own door  
step and not to the bastards  
killing us.

ATHENA  
He's a gangster not a terrorist.  
It's a drugs thing.

ADAM  
He's the enemy. Here and over  
there.

ATHENA  
It was Tel's thing.

ADAM  
Stop saying that. Why were you  
doing business with Tel? Why?  
Why?  
(punches the wall;  
deadly serious)  
Did you tell him about Dad?

ATHENA  
No.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Adam won't let Athena touch him, he kicks a hairdressing chair spinning round its axis.

ATHENA (CONT'D)

What do you want me to do?

Adam can't bear to look at her, fearing she has been touched by another man.

INT. LANDSBERG INVESTORS, OVERSEAS TRADING OFFICE - DAY

Will and Luke tap away on their keyboards but keep looking up at the banks of monitors to check the share price index of the defence market - ALAMO ARMS remains middle of the pack at 226p.

INT. CITY GYM - DAY

Will pumps iron, pushing himself to the limit, desperate to look strong in front of the other CITY BOYS. Moments later, he's punching the bag, pretending it was the laughing squaddies from the other day, but no matter how hard he punches it he can't get the target score of 550.

INT. CITY GYM SAUNA - DAY

Will sits alone in the heat, his eyes have taken him to hell and inside he prays to be tough enough for combat.

EXT. RIVERSIDE PLAZA / COMMERCIAL BANK - DAY

Will is late coming back from lunch; he jogs over the bridge, loving how strong his legs feel, then he sees a FLABBY OLD BANKER stumble out of a bank with his cardboard box of belongings.

The box splits emptying his career memorabilia over the shiny silver paving, but the old guy just walks away from forty years of memories. Will watches him disappear down the tube station escalator then dials "Don" on his phone.

WILL

(into phone)

Hey, yeah it's good, Alamo got the deal for the British Army so get your wallet out daddio. I'll take my usual percentage...The news hasn't hit the gossip columns yet but it will soon. It's all good.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Will's pleasure soon fades, and he pockets his phone as if he wished he hadn't used it in the first place.

EXT. ALAMO ARMS BUILDING, BUSINESS PARK - DAY

ERIC FORBES, a 24/7 businessman in his forties, almost burns a hole in his £500 shoes as he heads towards a MOTORBIKE RIDER near the tea hut.

ERIC  
(annoyed)  
What?

The rider pulls off his helmet - it's DON WARD. He flicks Eric's staff pass which states he's an "Alamo Arms Overseas Sales Director".

DON  
So you're building more than just lorries and airplane parts now?

ERIC  
Affirmative. How's your thing in Afghanistan going?

Don slyly pats him down, checking for a wire.

ERIC (CONT'D)  
With the bugs we can produce these days, you wouldn't know it if I was.

DON  
Let's concentrate on what I want to know.

ERIC  
Business looks good for us, Don. That's all-

DON  
Only while the army stays there. We start waving the white flag then you can kiss goodbye to those untapped Afghan minerals you want so bad.

ERIC  
We can't go down that road.

DON  
Alamo only survived because of the money we pumped into it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ERIC

That's an over statement.

DON

My friends are already stocking up on shares for your big announcement. We're tied together, Eric.

ERIC

(anxious)

Don, we've just signed a deal with the government. We have a good bank behind us. We don't want any more of your drug money.

DON

It's chaos out there and you want to set up business without protection?

ERIC

We have protection.

DON

Not the protection I can offer you. You're going to be walking into a mafia style empire and you don't know how to play the game.

ERIC

We've read the NATO reports and government redevelopment strategies. We're not just providing weapons. We're going to build an economy out there.

DON

These politicians can't do what they need to do. I can.

Don uses a stick to draw a map of Afghanistan in the mud and uses 'Xs' and 'lines' to make his point.

DON (CONT'D)

We're mainly in the south, round here; bloody chaos. But we've started to make inroads with the drug lords. Have vital command points all round this bitch. The Taliban used to just come in from the mountains any time they want but we've started to block them off. Make safe corridors. We're hitting them where it hurts.

(pause)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DON(cont'd)

Give us the equipment we need and  
I'll protect and multiply your  
money.

Don fixes Eric with his stare.

DON (CONT'D)

I run a tight ship and no one  
gets out of line. Just give us  
what we need to fight a war.  
We're not dying for nothing.

Eric looks impressed but his poker face leaves Don  
wondering.

INT. BRITISH ARMY HOSPITAL, CORRIDOR - DAY

Katy comes round the corner to see a bandaged Tel Kane  
being escorted by Taffy to the Royal Military Police  
office. But then she spies Will wandering around and runs  
over to him.

KATY

I'm glad you made it.

WILL

(chuckling)

You're going to do it? No way.

INT. BRITISH ARMY HOSPITAL, TREATMENT ROOM - DAY

With a big smile on her face, Katy pulls the white curtain  
round the bed where a half naked Will has his bum pointing  
at her.

KATY

Why wouldn't you let the doctor  
check your prostate at training?

WILL

(giggling)

I did.

She barely touches his bottom but he's so sensitive that he  
twists and turns like he's being tickled with a thousand  
feathers.

KATY

It's important.

She tries again, but he can't lie still; almost breathless  
with laughter.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KATY (CONT'D)  
 (smile so wide it hurts)  
 I need to check your bum.

WILL  
 (choking on laughter)  
 Okay. Okay.

Will bites on a pillow, but they're both laughing so hard that neither can continue. Will wishes he could kiss her, but his loyalty to Adam stays strong.

EXT. PARACHUTE REGIMENT CENTRE - NIGHT

Under the floodlights, Don whistles for the four exhausted RECRUITS to keep carrying sandbags from one end of the field to the next. The weakest one drops the bag so Don charges over to him and pulls him by his ankles across the field.

DON  
 (to soldier)  
 You love speed so much?  
 (kicks him in bollocks)  
 Hold that gear stick.

Don whacks him with a sand bag until he starts crying.

DON (CONT'D)  
 (to soldier)  
 You nearly hit a kid! A kid!

Adam runs on to the field to push the other three soldiers away from Don. With all four back on course, Don nods for Adam to join him.

DON  
 This is the shit we're sending out to replace two para. Not in my day.  
 (calming down)  
 So we're taking our chances with Tel the Invincible. Let's hear what he has to say?

ADAM  
 He's under guard at the hospital. But we can still get to him.

DON  
 Leave it. Go after the next best thing. I want to know who he was working with. Time to cut off the talking heads.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Adam nods in agreement while Don stalks the four disgraced recruits, ready to pounce on one or all of them.

EXT. TEL KANE'S BUNGALOW, BACK GARDEN - NIGHT

The SECURITY LIGHT comes on showing the garden backs on to a railway. An ARMED ENFORCER comes out of the door ready for trouble.

A train THUNDERS past. The enforcer suddenly falls to the ground clutching his bleeding knee. A masked Adam comes out of the dark, kicks away the enforcers's gun and whacks him over the head.

INT. TEL KANE'S EN-SUITE BEDROOM - NIGHT

Adam sees the bed is empty but hears sobbing coming from behind the bathroom door. He holsters his gun then moments later the chubby hottie MARY KANE (35) comes out. She's too scared to scream.

ADAM  
Just listen.

Adam pushes her on the bed. She lunges for a small handgun under her pillow, but Adam jumps on her before she can use it.

MARY  
(sobbing)  
Athena said it would be okay. She said...Please...Adam.

Adam pulls up his mask and takes the gun.

ADAM  
Athena said what?

ATHENA  
Tel didn't want any part of it, but she kept waving her pussy in his face. This is all her fault.

ADAM  
(furious)  
Liar. You tell your prick husband that I'm coming to see him tomorrow and I better leave happy.

She closes her eyes and whimpers. Then she opens her eyes and sees that Adam has gone.

I/E. ADAM'S CAR / ARMY HOSPITAL CAR PARK - DAY

Adam buzzes with anger; his wedding ring lays on the passenger seat.

(ADAM'S IMAGINATION)

Athena stripping off

Athena and Tel making love on the lounge floor

Athena laughing as she kisses Tel

(END OF ADAM'S IMAGINATION)

INT. BRITISH ARMY HOSPITAL, INTERVIEW ROOM - DAY

Adam spins his cap round his fist and gives the evil eye to the smirking Tel on the other side of the table.

ADAM

How's your fat wife? I left some  
shit on her lawn to help the  
grass grow.

Adam follows Tel's glances to see Taffy through the door pane.

ADAM (CONT'D)

(off Taffy)

I'll gut him like a pig. You  
think you're safe, Tel? Do yer?

TEL

(still smirking)

Athena's been a busy girl.  
Setting up deals, name dropping,  
withholding cash. I was her  
little errand boy and she'll sing  
in court to save her sweet arse.  
Not like my fat wife.

ADAM

You try put me in a corner and  
I'll come out shooting. You tell  
your friends that.

TEL

I can put you in court or in a  
coffin. You come with us and  
we'll get the Syrians off your  
back. Either way I get a nice  
chunk of cash.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ADAM  
Your word means shit. In court.  
Out there. Nowhere.

TEL  
You threatened my wife.

ADAM  
And you wanted to hump mine.

TEL  
"Wanted to hump"? Did hump. Every  
night. Made her call me "Daddy".

Adam flips over the table - they stand toe to toe - Taffy  
rushes in and breaks it up.

ADAM  
(to Tel)  
I'm going to cut your head off.  
(to Taffy)  
I want to talk to the Syrian.

TAFFY  
Too late, captain. You're over,  
boy.

Adam feels trapped; in a flash he SLAMS his chair into  
Taffy's face, grabs his gun and KNOCKS him out. He KICKS  
Tel in the chest, shoves the gun into his back and forces  
him out of the room.

INT. BRITISH ARMY HOSPITAL, EMERGENCY STAIRWELL -  
CONTINUOUS

Adam and Tel hurry down the stairs, with Adam never moving  
the gun away from his back.

I/E. ADAM'S CAR / BRITISH ARMY HOSPITAL CAR PARK - DAY

Adam pushes Tel towards his car and constantly checks his  
perimeter. He gets a spare beret and army jacket out of his  
car and makes Tel put them on at gunpoint. Moments later  
they are driving to the SECURITY GATES where two YOUNG  
SOLDIERS salute and let them through.

I/E. ADAM'S CAR / ROAD - DAY

Adam drives while Tel, with his hands in plastic handcuffs,  
smokes a cigarette out of the window.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TEL

This ain't going to work, Adam.  
If I don't show up at court.

ADAM

You're not going to court.

Tel knows he's going to die; he wants to jump but they're moving too fast, so he sticks his LIT CIGARETTE in Adam's face then tries to crash the car.

Adam ELBOWS him and dodges an INCOMING CAR to stay on the road.

Tel hangs out of his open door, screaming as a BUS heads towards him.

Adam PULLS HIM back in, skids across the road and causes a MINI CRASH.

Adam SLAMS the door shut - smacks Tel - drives off like a bat out of hell.

INT. BRITISH ARMY HOSPITAL, REHABILITATION UNIT / CORRIDOR - DAY

JEREMY, the triple amputee, practises walking on his prosthetic legs. Katy sees him through the window and comes in the room.

KATY

You're going to make your bride a happy girl.

JEREMY

I don't know about that. We were talking the other night...She says she wants to stay with me, but...

KATY

But?

JEREMY

I was never that fussed about her like before all this, but now it's like all love and weddings. I just want to get back soldiering.

(shakes off the depression)

Enough about me. How's you and action man?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KATY

You and your memory. I only told  
you to keep you conscious.

Jeremy zips his mouth shut and smiles, but can't stay quiet  
for long.

JEREMY

And the other guy?  
(off her surprise)  
I heard it all. You thought I was  
out cold but the ears kept  
working.

Katy looks away, doesn't want to get too close or reveal  
too much to him.

INT. BRITISH ARMY HOSPITAL CORRIDOR / RMP OFFICE - DAY

Katy waves goodbye to Jeremy. Her ears prick up when she  
hears two RED CAP OFFICERS arguing in the police office.

RMP SENIOR OFFICER

I want to see Tel Kane now. S.I.B  
has new intel and wants to speak  
to him.

RMP JUNIOR OFFICER

I have everyone looking for him  
and Taffy. They must be  
somewhere.

The junior officer answers his ringing mobile and takes the  
quick call.

RMP JUNIOR OFFICER (CONT'D)

(to senior officer)  
Taffy is nowhere on site and  
hasn't checked his gun in.

RMP SENIOR OFFICER

And Kane?

RMP JUNIOR OFFICER

His DAO Captain Ward came to see  
him, but that was...

They slam the door to stop Katy from listening.

INT. ATHENA'S HAIRDRESSERS - DAY

A panicked Athena closes the shop. Adam pulls a beaten Tel through the beaded curtain doorway.

ADAM  
(to Athena)  
No kiss for your lover?

ATHENA  
What are you talking about?

Adam can't say it, so he just throws Tel to the floor instead.

TEL  
(to Athena)  
I didn't say anything. Don't listen to him.

Adam's trigger finger slides up and down his gun; Athena tries to calm him down.

Adam kicks Tel, but directs his venom at Athena.

ATHENA  
(to Adam)  
I didn't. I swear. I just led him on.

ADAM  
(to Athena)  
You think that's okay? It's not.

ATHENA  
(to Adam)  
I thought you were going to leave me.

ADAM  
Why?

Now Athena loses her voice.

TEL  
(to Athena)  
Don't listen to him. It's going to be okay.

Tel points at Athena's accounts log on the counter.

TEL (CONT'D)  
Get rid of your book. Your accounts. We messed up.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ATHENA  
(kicking Tel)  
Shut up.

ADAM  
(to Tel)  
Without me you're worth nothing  
to no one. Nothing.

Tel blows Athena a kiss and laughs when Adam turns the gun on him.

TEL (CONT'D)  
(daring Adam)  
Well go on then.

Adam smacks him with the gun and checks Athena's reaction to see if she cares.

EXT. ATHENA'S HAIRDRESSERS / BACK YARD - DAY

A snakeskin boot stamps on a lit cigarette and a Magnum handgun fills the screen as a MAN with two fingers missing puts in six bullets.

EXT. BRITISH ARMY HOSPITAL - DAY

Katy sits on the steps, talking on her phone, while two SPECIAL INVESTIGATION BRANCH DETECTIVES are greeted by the stressed junior red cap officer.

KATY  
(into phone)  
You okay? The red caps are going  
mental about Corporal Kane  
disappearing. They said you saw  
him last.

INT. ATHENA'S HAIRDRESSERS - DAY

Adam sits on the steps, cleaning his gun, knowing that Athena and Tel are listening to his conversation.

ADAM  
(into phone)  
Taffy's gone too?...Looks like I  
left before the party began. What  
else is happening?...Well the  
search parties can come and find  
me if they want...?

INTERCUT:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KATY  
(into phone)  
Can we hook up tonight?

ADAM  
Tonight could be difficult, but  
I'll do all I can.

KATY  
(into phone; joking)  
You cheating on me?...Lucky  
girl...Okay lover, I hope to see  
you tonight then. Thanks for  
letting Will join your team. I  
owe you.

ADAM  
(into phone)  
It's cool. He's my mate.

Athena storms out before Adam's even hung up.

ATHENA (O.C.)  
Got to get something from the  
car.

Tel spins round in a hairdresser's chair to annoy Adam.

TEL  
(goading)  
So you going to take me out and  
bury me?

ADAM  
Shut up.

As Tel spins round, he slyly grabs some sharp scissors and  
hides them under his shirt. Adam stops the chair with his  
boot, but then both men stop dead when two SYRIAN GANGSTERS  
come through the beady curtain with guns pointed at Athena.

ADAM  
Let her go.

SYRIAN GANGSTER  
(to Adam)  
Drop the gun.

BALTY DAMASCUS (40), a hairy Syrian sweating through his  
silk shirt, steps past his two henchmen and points his  
Magnum handgun at Adam's forehead.

BALTY  
(to Adam)  
Drop the gun.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Adam drops his gun. Balty pistol whips him to the floor, while his henchmen do over Tel.

Balty runs the gun down Athena's trembling cheeks and nods for a henchman to go outside.

BALTY (CONT'D)

(to Adam and Tel)

You have a lot of people looking for you. But I just want what I ordered. I can pick sides later.

ADAM

(to Balty)

We'll get the guns. Just let my wife go.

The henchman returns with a SUICIDE VEST decorated with grenades and the zip is the trigger. They carefully put it over Athena's head.

BALTY

Straight off the rack from Little Miss Palestine.

(to Adam)

She's not going nowhere.

Adam is helpless, terrified to go near Athena. Balty takes Adam's mobile phone and possessions then uses a new phone to capture Athena on video.

BALTY (CONT'D)

(to Adam)

You don't have my guns by dawn then you're going to be counting down with her. We're going to track you on this phone. You go anywhere we don't like then it's over.

(to Tel)

I couldn't find a vest to fit your wife.

Balty shoves the new phone in Adam's pocket and slaps Tel for giving him an evil look.

BALTY (CONT'D)

Going to the police will just waste your time and make your wives dead.

(to Adam)

Now give her a kiss.

Adam gently kisses the shivering Athena.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BALTY (CONT'D)  
 (off watch)  
 Tick tock.

The henchmen push Adam and Tel towards the back door.

I/E. ADAM'S CAR / ARMY WAREHOUSE PERIMETER - DAY

Adam cruises past the barb wire fencing surrounding the warehouse, while Tel rubs his forehead in utter despair.

TEL  
 How are we going to get the guns  
 out of there?

ADAM  
 I don't know.

TEL  
 Well I can't do it.

ADAM  
 Taffy can. He used to work at the  
 military court. He'll have the  
 papers for collecting evidence.

TEL  
 Taffy? He'll be in handcuffs,  
 crying his heart out by now.

ADAM  
 Just call him up.

TEL  
 What about back up? You don't  
 know who he's going to bring.

ADAM  
 Just call Taffy.

Adam grabs Will's dusty business card from his dashboard and thinks about phoning him.

INT. TRENDY CITY BAR - EVENING

It's a busy night with city boys and city girls warming up for a fun night. Will breaks away from his WORK CROWD when he sees Katy wander into the bar.

KATY  
 Good thing I know where this  
 place is. Your phone went  
 straight to voicemail.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Will sees his phone has no signal and gives her a glass of wine.

WILL  
Well here's to being second choice.

KATY  
You're never second choice.

INT. BALTY DAMASCUS'S DEN - EVENING

Athena sits dead still in her suicide vest. The boarded up windows, lack of air and MTV drum 'n' base channel make her torture even worse. Balty enters smoking a smelly fat cigar, making Athena petrified the smoke will ignite her vest.

BALTY  
Relax, I've blown up a lot of people. I know what I'm doing.

The two HENCHMEN who bring in a tray of food are dressed in Guantanamo Bay style orange jumpsuit bottoms and urban white T-shirts.

ATHENA  
What do you expect me to say?

BALTY  
Everything. Who does Adam work with out there, back here?

ATHENA  
He doesn't tell me.

Balty plays with Adam's mobile phone.

BALTY  
A lot of things he doesn't tell you.

Balty looks at a mobile photo of 'Katy's kissy lips' then compares them to Athena's.

BALTY (CONT'D)  
Don't look like your lips.

Balty puckers up and gently plays with the zip on Athena's suicide vest.

BALTY (CONT'D)  
I'm thinking I haven't got enough insurance on my sofa. Maybe he's going to leave you behind?  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BALTY(cont'd)

You better budge up. You're going  
to have company.

A terrified Athena sprints out of the room and her screams can be heard all down the hallway. A henchman soon brings her back to Balty.

BALTY (CONT'D)

You want to escape? Just pull the  
zipper and we're all free.

EXT. INDUSTRIAL SITE - NIGHT

Cutting through the mist of the night we see smoking chimneys, giant conveyor belts and cranes that could be the post-apocalyptic site of the Terminator wars. Down on the ground underneath a flashing amber light, Adam is in the phone box dialing the number on Will's business card. He keeps his eye on Tel searching the car boot as he waits for the call to connect.

WILL (O.C.)

(filtered)

Sorry I can't take your call.  
Leave a message.

Adam resists smashing the receiver.

ADAM

(into phone)

It's me, phone me back on this  
number within fifteen minutes, no  
later than that...I really need  
your help, don't let me  
down...fifteen minutes. Don't  
tell the old man. Don't tell no  
one.

Adam hangs up and sees Tel has armed himself with a tyre iron. Tel kisses his wings of honour tattoo and gets pumped.

TEL

(psyched)

Four tours and out, man. Come on.

Adam lifts his shirt to show a gun.

ADAM

I keep one hidden in the car.

They hear a car coming and moments later Taffy and another SHOOTER pull up in a parked van. They come out holding guns; they're on edge, could snap at any moment.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ADAM  
(to Taffy)  
Did you get the guns?

TAFFY  
(to Adam)  
My name's all over the radio. I had to smash through the gate. They've got choppers in the skies. I'm finished. Finished.

ADAM  
No you're not. We can all win here.

TAFFY  
How? That Syrian psycho's gone off the radar. We're over.

Adam sees Taffy and the shooter feel for their guns, so he reveals his to show them it will end badly.

ADAM  
Don't do it. Me and your bosses, we can sit down and discuss a deal. You get money and a one way ticket out of here. All I want are the guns.

Taffy and the shooter relax.

TAFFY  
So what's the plan then?

ADAM  
Just give me the guns.

TAFFY  
What? Money first.

ADAM  
I only have five grand. You're going to have to trust me. Let me call your boss and we'll sort it out.

Taffy and the shooter flinch again.

TAFFY  
(to Adam)  
Nice try.

TEL  
(to Taffy)  
Balty has our wives. We need those guns.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TAFFY

(to Tel)

I don't care about your bloody wives. We need the money first.

TEL

(to Taffy)

You'll get the money once we deliver the guns.

The SHOOTER cuffs Tel and knocks the tyre iron out of his hand.

SHOOTER

Money!

Tel pulls out the hairdresser scissors from under his shirt and rams them in the shooter's stomach, then grabs his gun.

TAFFY

(to Tel)

Bastard.

Taffy goes to shoot Tel but Adam KILLS him before he can fire.

Tel kills the shooter. Tel and Adam aim at one another.

ADAM

Goddammit. The police could be here any minute.

TEL

They were going to kill us.

ADAM

I should kill you.

TEL

Then who's going to back you up?

They lower their guns then open the van door to find a wooden crate with a British Border Control stamp on it.

INT. TRENDY CITY BAR - NIGHT

Will and Katy try to find space in the busy bar and end up next to three ESSEX BOYS who can't take their eyes off of Katy.

KATY

(to Essex boys)

Do you mind? You're making me uncomfortable.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ESSEX BOY RINGLEADER  
 (to Katy)  
 Don't be like that, girl.  
 (taps his lap)  
 Come take a seat.

WILL  
 She politely told you to sod off  
 so why don't you?

ESSEX BOY RINGLEADER  
 Look at the mouth on you, boy.

WILL  
 I'm not your boy.

Katy tries to calm the situation.

KATY  
 Put your willies away lads.

WILL  
 Yeah because we all know who's  
 the biggest dick here.

ESSEX BOY RINGLEADER  
 You what, mate?

WILL  
 You heard.

Will calms down when he sees that MR COBB and the other  
 BOSSES are watching.

WILL (CONT'D)  
 (to Essex boys)  
 Just back off. We're having a  
 nice evening and don't want no  
 trouble.

The three Essex boys circle Will but no one really wants a  
 fight.

ESSEX BOY RINGLEADER  
 Come on then.

Will pushes away the ringleader then gestures for calm.

WILL  
 Back off.

The ringleader pushes him back.

ESSEX BOY  
 You back off.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Will and the three boys push without properly fighting then the BOUNCERS come and break it up.

ESSEX BOY

Tosser.

WILL

I'm army you prick.

ESSEX BOY

Even bigger tosser then.

Katy leads Will away. Will goes over to his bosses at the bar, expecting to apologise.

MR COBB

(to Will)

I had money on you knocking him out. What happened?

All the bosses and his city boy worshippers wait for an answer, but Will is lost for words so Katy chips in.

KATY

It's called restraint. Why fight if you don't have to?

The city boys buy it completely and Will leaves with his hero status intact.

EXT. LONDON STREET - NIGHT

Will takes out his anger on a green wheelie bin, while Katy waits for him to calm down.

KATY

I think you won.

Will gives it another super kick and tumbles over into the trash strewn across the street.

KATY (CONT'D)

Must have got you with the leg sweep.

WILL

(to bin)

Guess so.

Katy helps Will up.

KATY

You heard from Adam?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Will pulls out his mobile and sees he has a message but, not recognising the number, he doesn't bother listening to Adam's plea for help.

WILL

Nah.

INT. PARACHUTE REGIMENT CENTRE, DON'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Don unloads a shotgun so the bullets fall on the floor. Eric Roberts of Alamo Arms picks up the cartridges and opens them to find bags of white powder.

DON

Relax, it's just baking soda.

Eric smiles as he looks at the map on the desk which details the military transport routes from Afghanistan.

DON (CONT'D)

You know it makes sense.

ERIC

Yes it's impressive, Don. But Landsberg shipped out their golden boy to oversee our thing in Stan. Luke Goodwill; he took all those scalps on that defence fraud case a few years back. He has a real nose for it. Now banks, police and the fraud office use him like Sherlock Holmes. One sniff and he's going to be after this like a crack addict.

Eric has to pace he's so stressed.

DON

I know someone who can track his every move. He's like a son to me. If Sherlock becomes a problem then we'll know about it and take action.

Eric tries to look tough but he doesn't like the vibes of Don's threat.

A KNOCK...a VETERAN SOLDIER beckons Don - it looks bad.

INT. BALTY DAMASCUS'S DEN - NIGHT

Balty photographs the crying Athena with Adam's phone, seemingly turned on by her terror of being stuck in a suicide vest.

BALTY  
The other girl will be here any  
minute now.

ATHENA  
What girl?

BALTY  
That's the choice for your  
husband to make.

ATHENA  
(off suicide vest)  
Just get this thing off me.  
Please, get this thing off me?  
Please?

Balty admires her legs and ample breasts then turns Athena's head towards the two HENCHMEN hanging in the hallway.

BALTY  
Three years in a cage. You want  
to see how I get my kicks?

Balty sits astride Athena, getting turned on as he starts to pull down her zip. The force of survival gives her the strength to push him off. She zips up her vest to the top.

BALTY (CONT'D)  
That's just the foreplay.

Balty takes off his shirt, revealing nasty burns and scars covering his body.

BALTY (CONT'D)  
Now I get my fun.

ATHENA  
(holding zip)  
You'll set it off. Don't.

Balty gets off on her sheer panic and savours the moment. He grabs Adam's phone to photograph her.

BALTY  
I'll send hubby a pic. Let him  
know we're having fun.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Balty's face turns to stone when he finds a photo of DON WARD.

BALTY  
(off Don's photo)  
I know this man. Why do you?

ATHENA  
What? He's Adam's dad.

BALTY  
Liar. He's CIA, yes? He's American. How do you know him?

ATHENA  
I swear to you.

BALTY  
His name?

ATHENA  
Don. He's Para like Adam.

BALTY  
Paratrooper? Living here? You lie.

Balty has to inflict pain or he's going to burst, but Athena is saved by Adam's phone RINGING.

BALTY  
(into phone)  
You got what I want?

Balty's henchmen gather round him to make sure he doesn't mess up the deal.

I/E. ADAM'S CAR / ATHENA'S HAIRDRESSERS - NIGHT

Adam talks on the phone while Tel keeps his eye out for anything suspicious.

ADAM  
(into phone)  
Yeah I got your stuff. Now put my wife on the phone.

INTERCUT:

BALTY  
(into phone)  
You don't tell me what to do. You understand?

Balty's tone concerns his henchmen.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ADAM  
 (into phone)  
 Okay. I just want to hear her  
 voice.

Balty is losing control; a henchman stops him from  
 responding to Adam.

HENCHMAN  
 (threatening; to Balty)  
 We just want the guns.

Balty pushes away the henchman.

BALTY  
 (into phone)  
 Meet me at the Torny Vale woods  
 car park in two hours. You can  
 see your wife then.

Balty hangs up in fury. He picks up his Magnum and then  
 gets lost in his own vengeance fantasy; totally oblivious  
 to his men's concern.

INT. PARACHUTE REGIMENT CENTRE, CHANGING ROOMS - NIGHT

Don has just showered; he has no army tattoos, nothing that  
 could make him memorable. He opens his locker to pull out  
 guns, night vision goggles and a bullet proof vest.

INT. TEL KANE'S BUNGALOW - NIGHT

Mary Kane's bloated corpse is spread out on the carpet but  
 the puddle of blood belongs to the dead SYRIAN GANGSTER  
 with a bullet hole through his head.

Don pulls out a mobile phone from the dead gangster's  
 pocket and reads the text "Tawny Vale Woods - Midnight".

INT. KATY'S HOUSE, LOUNGE - NIGHT

Will sits on the sofa clutching a glass of water. Katy  
 comes in with a duvet and pillow and almost falls over the  
 rolled up carpet.

KATY  
 This is the last hangover you're  
 going to have for six months.  
 Enjoy it.

Will admires Katy's natural beauty and fights his desire to  
 touch her.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WILL  
Adam's going to be depending on  
me out there.

KATY  
You get out there and you deal  
with it. You'll be fine.

WILL  
Don thinks I'm like my dad.  
Probably Adam too. The  
instructors kept asking me about  
it at exercise.

Katy pats him on the head and cuddles him. Will's phone  
falls out of his pocket; the voicemail symbol still shines  
on the screen.

EXT. TORNY VALE WOODS, MUDDY CAR PARK - NIGHT

Adam moves through the trees, like a natural warrior, with  
his gun at the ready. As he moves deeper into the woods, he  
realises that he's in someone's sights.

DON (O.S.)  
They're already waiting in the  
car park. Got all the fire  
channels covered.

All he can see is black sky and tall trees, but moments  
later a camouflaged Don emerges carrying a machine gun.

DON (CONT'D)  
You should have told me.

Adam bows his head in shame, but now's not the time.

ADAM  
You saw Athena?

DON  
She must be in the jeep. No way  
we can get her out.

ADAM  
Then we make the deal.

DON  
You make the swap and walk away.  
I don't want to see Tel again.

ADAM  
You won't.

Don heads off into the woods.

EXT. TAWNY VALE WOODS - NIGHT

Enclosed by trees and darkness, the battlefield has been set with Balty and his men guarding the perimeter from attack. Balty leans against his bulletproof 4x4 jeep, feeling cocky with his Magnum.

About two hundred metres away, an armed Adam and Tel, wearing protective vests, carry bags of Kalashnikovs and ammo to the middle of the battlefield. Both conscious they are outgunned, they don't make any sudden movements.

BALTY  
That's close enough.

ADAM  
Where's my wife?

BALTY  
(points at jeep)  
Safe for now.  
(to Tel)  
Yours died of a heart attack. Bad diet.

Adam stops Tel from raising his weapon.

ADAM  
(to Tel)  
He's lying.  
(to Balty)  
Let me see Athena.

BALTY  
Don't tell me what to do.

ADAM  
What's your problem? We've got your guns now give me my wife.

Adam and Balty both level their guns at each other. Tel backs Adam up but then some Syrian gangsters cock their shotguns and move in, so they back off.

BALTY  
My problem?  
(looks around trees)  
YOU HERE, PARATROOPER DON?

ADAM  
He's not here.

Balty pulls Athena out of the jeep and bites on the zip of her suicide vest, using her as a human shield.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BALTY  
If you say so.

Balty puts Athena's fingers on the trigger of his Magnum then makes her fire into the darkness, not far away from some of his gangsters.

BALTY (CONT'D)  
(to Athena)  
Loving the rush?

Balty kisses Athena's neck, knowing that Adam is watching.

BALTY (CONT'D)  
I've been dying to get her naked  
all night.

ADAM  
(Re. Don)  
He's not here.

BALTY  
(to Adam)  
More than one way to get an  
answer. That's what he used to  
say...he said a lot of things.

Balty stands behind Athena and starts to pull down her zip; he's not going to stop unless Don shows himself.

BALTY (CONT'D)  
No more chances.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

The whole field erupts in GUNFIRE.

Athena smashes her head into Balty's nose and he falls on top of her, desperately trying to undo the zip.

ATHENA  
(screams)  
ADAM!

Adam shoots two gangsters but then gets shot in the chest and goes down.

Tel covers him but gets BLASTED.

Don and his fellow soldiers start to move out of the darkness but are still outgunned.

Adam crawls towards Athena, watching her struggle, he pulls his sidearm from his leg holster and pops Balty in the chest - he lets go of Athena.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Not caring about the gunfire, Athena runs towards Adam - then sees her zip has come undone - it was all a ruse.

Athena stands and screams - she gets shot and goes down.

ADAM

No.

Adam jumps on top of Athena to cover her from the fire and sees blood coming from a bullet wound to her side.

As Balty struggles into his jeep he sees Don through the carnage and has a chance to fire, but his wound stops him from aiming.

Balty's driver speeds off towards the guns. Two Syrians pick up the guns and they escape, shooting their way through the field.

Don's bullets bounce off the bulletproof jeep as his surviving men move in.

DON

Pick up our people. Don't leave any talking targets.

Don fires a fatal shot into a wounded Syrian gangster without breaking stride then sees Adam fighting to keep Athena alive.

Adam holds a pad against Athena's wound and keeps her legs elevated to stem the blood flow.

DON

We got to go. Now.

Don picks up Athena and carries her over to two waiting vehicles. Adam's okay; his vest took the bullet. He picks up Tel's corpse and sees the "Athena - Goddess of War" tattoo on his chest.

I/E. DON'S ESCAPE VEHICLE / ROAD - NIGHT

Don drives fast but steady, keeping watch for police, while Adam treats Athena in the back seat. He injects her with morphine but she's losing too much blood.

ADAM

(to Athena)

Stay with me. You got to stay with me, baby. I'm so sorry.

(to Don)

We got to get her to a hospital.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DON

We'll take her back to the centre, I've got bloods. We'll get my doctor down. That's all we can do.

INT. KATY'S HALLWAY - NIGHT

Will comes out of the bathroom and hears Katy crying in her bedroom.

WILL

You okay?

He waits.

KATY

I'm fine.

Will hates walking away, but he does. He's walking down the stairs when Katy, looking sexy and vulnerable, stands at the stairwell.

KATY (CONT'D)

Why hasn't he phoned?

WILL

He must be busy.

KATY

With his tart wife?...Sorry.

WILL

I don't know why he won't leave her.

KATY

We're not ready for that yet.

WILL

Heart for one, dick for fun?

KATY

(smiling)  
Something like that. Git.

WILL

I'm sure he'll be round in the morning.

Katy waves goodnight and Will continues downstairs, but then he hears...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KATY  
That sofa ain't great to sleep  
on.

WILL  
Tell me about it. I'm drunk and  
it still kills me.

KATY  
My other bed isn't made yet...so  
I can build a Berlin Wall and  
we'll sleep in peace.

WILL  
Amen.

Will comes up the stairs, not knowing what to do or expect.

I/E. KATY'S BEDROOM / OUTSIDE - NIGHT

Will lies awake in bed and smiles at the row of cushions  
separating him from Katy. Katy is half awake, knowing he's  
smiling, she can't help but giggle.

KATY  
What?

WILL  
(off cushion wall)  
This your Catholic contraception  
method?

KATY  
It's keeping you at bay.

WILL  
Nah, that's loyalty.

KATY  
Wow, an officer and a gentleman.

WILL  
Just a gentleman.

Will goes head to toe with Katy and tickles her feet, which  
makes her cry with laughter. Then a KNOCK on the front  
door.

KATY  
You hear that?

WILL  
(lying)  
No.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Another KNOCK

KATY  
The hell?

WILL  
Just ignore it.

Then they hear.

ADAM (O.C.)  
Katy?

Katy jumps out of bed, lifts the curtain to see Don's vehicle outside.

KATY  
(to Will)  
Hide in the bathroom. Pretend you fell asleep on the toilet again.

Another KNOCK. Katy runs downstairs and opens the door to a panicked Adam.

ADAM  
Athena's been shot. She's in the car. She's dying. Please, you got to come.

Adam starts to drag her out of the door.

KATY  
I got to get my kit.

Katy runs upstairs and sees Will hiding round the corner.

INT. PARACHUTE REGIMENT CENTRE, MEDICAL ROOM - NIGHT

Katy operates on Athena, praying the blood packs, IV drip and oxygen keep pumping into her body because her heart rate is beeping towards cardiac arrest. Adam and Don burst through the door with a defibrillator, amazed Athena is still alive.

KATY  
(off defib)  
That one going to work?

DON  
It works.

The defibrillator hums in motion with the frenetic beeps of Athena's heart.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KATY

Hit it.

Don plants the paddles on Athena's chest to deliver a life saving jolt, but she's not safe yet. Katy pushes Adam's gloved hands towards Athena's gaping wound.

KATY (CONT'D)

Keep this open.

Katy pulls out some bullet shrapnel from the wound then starts to clean it for stitching.

KATY (CONT'D)

I need an x-ray to see if I got all the shrapnel out.

DON

I don't have one.

KATY

You should have taken her to a hospital.

DON

That wasn't an option.

Athena's heart hits a steady rhythm as Katy starts to sew up the wound.

KATY

We're pumping four units of o-neg into her. I think we got lucky with the exit wound. Now we just wait and see what happens.

ADAM

But she's going to be okay?

KATY

I don't make promises.

DON

You did a good-

KATY

I don't want to hear it.

(has to get out)

I need some air.

Katy grabs her stuff, brushes off Adam with a glare, and hurries out of the room. Adam goes to follow but Don holds him back.

DON

Can we trust her?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ADAM  
Just leave her alone.

DON  
(threatening)  
Something else you want to tell  
me about her?

They front each other up but Don steps aside to let Adam leave. With his son gone, he holds Athena's hand and strokes her wedding ring with his thumb. Then he kisses her on the forehead before daring to kiss her on the lips. He has to force himself to turn his back on her and go.

EXT. PARACHUTE REGIMENT CENTRE - NIGHT

Katy keeps turning away from Adam, not willing to face him.

ADAM  
Don't do this.

KATY  
Do what?

ADAM  
Athena got herself into trouble  
and...I didn't want to get you  
into this. I'd die for you, Katy.

Katy jams her hand over Adam's mouth.

KATY  
Just tell me you didn't do  
anything I can't live with and I  
won't breathe a word?

Katy removes her hand, but still has him fixed in her stare.

ADAM  
I swear.

They can't seem to kiss each other and Katy breaks free from his arms.

INT. KATY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Will throws a pillow across the room, kicks the door, cursing himself as Adam's voicemail plays out from his mobile phone.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ADAM (O.C.)  
 (filtered)  
 ...I really need your help, don't  
 let me down...fifteen minutes.  
 Don't tell the old man. Don't  
 tell no one.

Will throws the phone out of the door, hearing it crack  
 against the wall.

WILL  
 You idiot.

He crashes down on the bed, hating himself.

EXT. MILITARY AIRPORT, DEPARTURE LOUNGE - DAY

The place is full with soldiers and crying FAMILIES putting  
 on a show for the flock of JOURNALISTS tasked with  
 uncovering the plight of those left behind.

Will dumps his bloody heavy rucksack on the floor and  
 massages his shoulders as he waits for Adam to escape from  
 the YOUNG PARAS 'licking his arse'.

ADAM  
 No city chicks to wave you  
 goodbye?

WILL  
 None I want to write to.

ADAM  
 Forget 'em. You're going to love  
 it out there.  
 (slaps Will's Paras  
 insignia)  
 A flash of the wings and the  
 base bunnies will be legs akimbo.  
 The Camp Hope welcome bang.

WILL  
 Can't wait.  
 (playing innocent)  
 Athena okay? She don't usually  
 miss the fly off.

ADAM  
 Yeah, she'll be cool in a few  
 days. Just bad flu.

WILL  
 Look I know you said forget it,  
 but your message the other night.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ADAM  
(changing subject)  
We're going to be rat-a-tat-tat  
in the platoon house so get your  
sleep on the plane.

WILL  
Still no sign of Tel and his  
wife?

ADAM  
Nah.

EXT. MILITARY AIRPORT RUNWAY - DAY

The soldiers queue up to get into the waiting jumbo jet.  
Don hangs back from the crowd, smiling at the sight of an  
army plane landing on the runway. Adam comes up behind him,  
loving the sight too.

ADAM  
Thought we were laying off  
deliveries for a while?

DON  
We don't stop, we just change the  
way we do it. Because we're going  
to be under the spotlight now,  
Adam. You sort out the chaos over  
there and I'll hunt down that  
Syrian bastard before he destroys  
everything we worked for. No way  
back now.

ADAM  
And Will?

DON  
All in good time.

I/E. ARMY JUMBO JET - DAY

Will sits by the window, Katy in the middle, and Adam at  
the end of the row. The plane hits air speed and a look  
through the window shows there is now way back now.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END