

DO I AMUSE YOU?

An Original Screenplay with Comedy Sketches by

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BEGIN TITLES

**LIST OF SKETCHES** (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

- ACT I: Cultural Differences
- ACT II: Culture Shock
- ACT III: First Date Etiquette
- ACT IV: Lager Louts
- ACT V: Politicians Can't Be Trusted
- ACT VI: Road Rage
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- ACT VIII: Snobbery
- ACT IX: Teachers Don't Do It For The Money
- ACT X: Tourist Trap

END TITLES

BEGIN TITLES

**ACT I: CULTURAL DIFFERENCES**

END TITLES

FADE IN:

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

BERNIE (43) is an English expat who lives in the Netherlands with his wife SUE (48). Despite 15 years of life there under his belt, he cannot get used to those differences in culture between the British and the Dutch and neither can Sue.

BERNIE

How was your day dear?

SUE

Oh you know, the usual.  
Well there was something  
that got on my wick.

BERNIE

What was that my love?

SUE

Well it's my birthday  
today as you know.

BERNIE

Aha

SUE

So the boss made an  
announcement on my behalf  
to the whole office. Can  
you imagine?

BERNIE

The swine. I know how you  
value your privacy sweetie  
pie.

SUE

It's bad enough we  
need to spend our hard  
earned money on cakes for  
all and sundry.

BERNIE

At the pub we pay for  
friends' drinks, so we  
become poorer on our  
special day.

SUE

What's the sense in  
that? I defy anyone to  
have a rational  
explanation for this.

BERNIE

Hah. That's easy. There  
isn't one. I call it  
Dutch logic. It makes  
sense to them. Not us.

SUE

Like 'sprinter' trains.  
More like snail-paced.

BERNIE

Or when a baby's born you  
announce it to the world  
with the name on the window  
and a plastic stork.

SUE

They can be cruel too.  
When you turn fifty, you  
get presented with a  
giant blow up doll.

The happily married couple are on a roll and leave the  
kitchen as dinner is ready.

INT. DINING ROOM

BERNIE

Remind me to pull a  
sickie when I turn fifty.

SUE

We shouldn't grumble too  
much, but hey.

BERNIE

Yeh I need to get it off  
my chest sometimes. Only  
the other day I sent an  
email.

SUE  
(interrupts)  
To the bookstore was it  
darling?

BERNIE  
Yes dear that's right.  
Anyway. I didn't get a  
reply for 48hrs and no  
apology either.

SUE  
Must have made you see  
red cuteypie.

BERNIE  
Too right. She didn't  
answer one of my  
questions either.  
Crap customer service.

SUE  
That doesn't compare.  
Remember the  
confrontational cashier?

BERNIE  
How could I forget. She  
was a law unto herself.

SUE  
Yeh, as an introvert you  
know how I avoid  
confrontations like the  
plague.

BERNIE  
That you do sweet cheeks.

SUE  
I wanted to pay with a  
20 Euro note but she said  
I couldn't. I bit my lip  
and she could tell I was  
mad.

BERNIE  
She crossed the line.  
She didn't see if another  
colleague had change and  
she spoke out of turn.

SUE  
What a bitch.

BERNIE

(munches)

This is very tasty babe.

SUE

Glad you like it. Anyone would think we don't like living here what with all this carrying on.

BERNIE

We like the tolerance, the standard of living is high, windmills, canals, architecture and cheese.

SUE

Sometimes, we are a bit negative I feel.

BERNIE

I need to vent every now and again.

SUE

You mean every day. I know, I do it too.

BERNIE

Have you ever been invited over to a Dutch person's house?

SUE

Hmm. Let me think about that.

Five minutes later.

SUE (CONT'D)

I almost said yes, but that was somebody from Limburg. In the big cities they aren't very inviting.

BERNIE

I know exactly what you mean.

SUE

They're not all mean though.

BERNIE

You once told me the one  
cookie rule.

SUE

Some Australians I know  
went for tea at a  
Dutchie's place and were  
only offered 1. No joke.

Bernie finds this hilarious and has a fit of laughter. He almost spits out the food in his mouth.

BERNIE

They can't be that bad. If  
you threw a 5 cent piece  
in front of some Dutchies,  
they wouldn't run after it.

SUE

Don't make me laugh. You  
do know the origins of  
double Dutch, don't you?

BERNIE

What about go Dutch?

SUE

If we keep this up we'll  
need some Dutch courage  
to keep going.

Bernie roars with laughter.

BERNIE

Those are the best idioms  
with the word Dutch in  
them.

SUE

Language is an interesting  
area to explore.

BERNIE

Certainly. In Dutch you  
can be 'on school', while we  
would call the fire brigade.

SUE

You can call objects he or  
she. I love my car. He  
means everything to me.

BERNIE

We can sleep in, but  
they sleep out. Sleeping  
in has to do with death in  
Dutch.

SUE

See which way the wind blows  
in Dutch translates as  
watching cat out of the  
tree from a Dutch saying.

BERNIE

How bizarre.

SUE

Their word order is funny.  
I eat everyday apples. Or  
the time phrase goes at  
the front far more often.

BERNIE

As we're all warmed up, what  
about their good old  
directness?

SUE

Or is it rudeness?

BERNIE

Don't get me started. Ah  
well it's too late for that  
now.

SUE

Let me get the ball  
rolling. Please, please.

BERNIE

Be my guest.

SUE

Train conductors never  
apologise when they  
inconvenience their  
passengers via the tannoy.

BERNIE

Spot on. How about this  
one? It is not unusual for  
an email to go unanswered.



SUE  
(Froths at the mouth)  
When I say how are you?  
They say fine without  
saying how about you?

BERNIE  
(Competetively)  
I overheard a staff member  
make fun of my shopping  
bag to her colleague in  
Dutch. I speak it, don't I?

SUE  
What a rotten thing to do.  
There's nothing wrong with  
that purple reusable bag  
with funny handles.

BERNIE  
I know. What a cow.

SUE  
(Looks desperate)  
I've got it. When they  
say you understand? in  
a patronising way like  
you're a 5 year old.

BERNIE  
I mean how hard is it to  
say is that clear? in a  
friendly manner?

SUE  
Not hard at all. You tell  
them Bernie.

BERNIE  
I will cookie. Oh I can  
trump your outrageous  
experiences.

SUE  
Go on Bern. You gonna tell  
the Van Gogh museum yarn?

BERNIE  
You got it in one. So  
there we were near the  
lockers. I was taking off  
my jacket.

SUE

And that bitch came along  
with her hot coffee,  
knocked into you, mentioned  
Jesus' name.

BERNIE

That wasn't the worse part.  
her bloke called me a dick  
in his own language. Can  
you believe it?

SUE

I know sweetie. He was the  
dickhead. He didn't know  
you spoke Dutch.

BERNIE

Yeh, you should have seen  
his face when I told him I  
did. He's lucky I didn't  
escalate the situation.

SUE

I'm glad you didn't knock  
his lights out. Speaking  
of which, good night my  
love.

BERNIE

Nighty night.

FADE OUT

BEGIN TITLES

**ACT II: CULTURE SHOCK**

END TITLES

FADE IN:

INT. BULLET TRAIN CARRIAGE, OSAKA, JAPAN - DAY

VIC (25) and MICHELLE (24) are English travellers with wanderlust who like to notice elements of culture that are different from theirs. They are on a round the world trip. They don't like to be lost.

MICHELLE

Osaka station is like a maze.  
They could do with some signs.

VIC

We're lucky we got on in time.

It turns out they are on the wrong train. This is the fastest one that arrives fractionally earlier than the train they have tickets for. They are in the wrong seats so need to walk against the force of the train while it goes at 300KM.

MICHELLE

(A little nauseous)  
I've always wanted to go on  
a bullet train. Especially now  
we can sit down. That was  
intense. I almost had to barf.

VIC

You'll be fine. Look my drink  
isn't moving. It's totally  
streamlined. Amazing.

MICHELLE

My friend Cherie was in Japan  
and stayed with a Japanese  
family in Kunitachi, Tokyo.

VIC

She's the English teacher,  
isn't she?

MICHELLE

Yep. Apparently, she was told  
off by the lady of the house  
(MORE)

MICHELLE (CONT'D)  
for wearing the wrong  
slippers.

VIC  
Come again?

MICHELLE  
So you're not allowed to wear  
outdoor slippers indoors and  
vice versa.

VIC  
Damn. Get this. I just noticed  
if you want to speak on your  
phone, there is a designated  
area over there. Unbelievable.

MICHELLE  
As it should be. They are more  
civilised in this respect. Us  
westerners could learn from  
them.

The two travellers disembark at Kyoto station and then take  
the metro.

MICHELLE (CONT'D)  
Look, a carriage only for  
women. That's to protect them  
from being groped.

VIC  
Still some work to be done in  
this area I should imagine. Like  
when the conductor comes and  
crams everyone in like sardines.

MICHELLE  
You always make good points.

They arrive at their stop and are now in search of some sushi  
bento for a picnic lunch at a local 7-11 minimart.

VIC  
There are no bins  
anywhere. What the?

MICHELLE  
I saw a lady at the temple who  
lit a candle carefully, put  
a matchstick in a tissue and  
took it with her.

VIC

Well I never. I did see a small bin near a drinks machine. We'll keep a plastic bag for rubbish.

MICHELLE

Well I never. There's a geisha over there, but she looks really shy and is walking fast.

VIC

Just imagine every tourist with a camera wanting your picture.

MICHELLE

Makes sense. Let's go to the ramen restaurant.

VIC

There's a whopping queue but it'll be worth it. We order via that machine. Then, we'll be taken to modest seats.

MICHELLE

Is this for real?

VIC

Absolutely. Check this out. There's a bell you ring and they can serve you extra noodles and beer.

MICHELLE

(In awe)

I love Japan. One thing doesn't add up. After work salarymen and career women get rowdy and become noisy.

VIC

It's the alcohol silly. It's strange as they are usually so quiet and subdued.

MICHELLE

Perfectly illustrated in the breakfast room this morning.

VIC

Totally.

After another night in a hotel with a small double bed, the two fly to Delhi, India for the next leg of their trip.

EXT. TAJ MAL, AGRA - THREE DAYS LATER

MICHELLE

Wow this is the real deal.

VIC

I know and to think my mate  
Al doesn't even rate the  
Taj.

MICHELLE

Preposterous. What is he  
like?

VIC

I wish I knew. He's probably  
an alien from Mars.

MICHELLE

(Chuckles)

That would explain it. Or  
perhaps he has awful taste.

VIC

After this, we'll go to the  
mini taj.

The travellers take an autorickshaw and see a cow that drivers carefully avoid, as they're considered sacred animals. They also see an elephant on the road of all places, which makes a huge impression on them both.

MICHELLE

Oh my lord, what a sight.  
I have never seen anything  
like it.

VIC

Remember the monkeys we saw  
at the fort. One was as  
close as you are to me.  
Then, from the rooftops.

MICHELLE

We kind of respect each  
other from a distance. Still  
they're wild animals and can  
bite.

VIC

I remember that scoundrel  
who tormented a monkey to  
show off in front of his  
friends.

MICHELLE

He got his comeuppance that  
twerp.

VIC

Yep, he'll need a tetanus  
shot after that bite.

MICHELLE

Serves him right.

VIC

Humans can be so cruel.  
Though, monkeys can kick  
ass.

MICHELLE

Well, wouldn't you go ape  
if someone pestered you  
when you were carrying  
your baby?

VIC

Yeh - I'd go bananas.

They take the train to Khajuraho where the UNESCO world  
heritage site impresses with its unique bas reliefs depicting  
scenes from the kama sutra.

MICHELLE

Remarkable. It's somewhat  
incongruous though.

VIC

Come again dear?

MICHELLE

Statues depicting sexual  
acts in a country where you  
can't even see kissing in  
the cinema nowadays.

VIC

Right. I think it's a  
tremendous about turn.  
Back then, a bit of rumpy  
pumpy was OK.

MICHELLE

What happened in the  
meantime? People got shy?  
Too much inequality? It's  
beyond my understanding.

VIC

Well, if you repress, then  
this is what you get. The  
uneducated don't understand  
how to make love.

MICHELLE

Hopefully, they learn about  
the birds and bees. I think  
knowledge is power.

Next, they make their way to Amritsar via Delhi by train.

EXT. GOLDEN TEMPLE, AMRITSAR - DAY

Visitors must walk through water with their bare feet and  
both men and women have to cover their heads. Sounds of  
prayer can be heard via megaphone in a spiritual atmosphere.

VIC

I've never seen anything  
like this.

MICHELLE

I know. Amazing. They give  
free food to anybody who  
wants it, which is a rare  
occurrence these days.

VIC

I'll pass as food is passed  
from hand to hand and I  
prefer to be over cautious  
than get food poisoning.

MICHELLE

Yeh I know what you mean.

EXT. JALLIANWALA BAGH PARK, AMRITSAR

The scene of a terrible massacre at the hands of the British  
army in 1919 shcoks them both to the core; a powerful  
reminder of what human beings are capable of in the name of  
imperialism.



VIC  
This makes me embarrassed  
to be English.

MICHELLE  
You ane me both.

VIC  
(Wipes away tear)  
I want to apologise to  
whoever will listen for  
what my country did.

MICHELLE  
(Cries uncontrollably)

INT. SUBWAY RESTAURANT, AMRITSAR

While they have some fast food with a view of the street  
below, they notice a large crowd of Sikhs demonstrating  
against the government. They are not happy in the slightest.

MICHELLE  
I wonder what that's all about.

VIC  
I guess we'll never know.  
Let's wait until the crowd  
disperses before we leave.

MICHELLE  
Hey, did you know that in  
India you should never shake  
somebody's left hand?

VIC  
Why ever not?

MICHELLE  
Well, put it this way. They  
wipe their arse with their  
left.

VIC  
(Pukes up his lunch)

MICHELLE  
I'm so sorry. I should have  
waited til later.

VIC

It's OK. You can get me  
another submarine sandwich  
without any yucky remarks  
on the side please.

MICHELLE

OK. It's a deal.

The intrepid travellers finally leave and take the next  
flight to Morocco via Delhi, which is the final leg of their  
trip.

EXT. FIVE STAR HOTEL (FORMER PALACE), MARRAKESH - NIGHT

INT. FIVE STAR HOTEL (FORMER PALACE), MARRAKESH - NIGHT

The open roof with a view of the stars above and the  
cushioned sofas to plant their behinds on immediately  
tickle their fancy.

VIC

I could get used to this.  
Have you got the Lonely  
Planet guidebook on you?

MICHELLE

Always. What do you want  
to know?

VIC

Any tips to be aware of?

MICHELLE

Yes, never look lost.  
Don't ask random folk in  
the medina for directions.

VIC

Why not? Dare I ask.

MICHELLE

They will lead you to a  
shop and rip you off or  
demand a tip for their  
trouble.

VIC

That takes the mickey.

MICHELLE

Don't walk into mosques  
as they are off limits to  
us.

VIC

That I knew about.

MICHELLE

Call for prayer is 5  
times a day. Though, we  
are not near a minaret so  
we won't get woken up.

VIC

Can't say I'm sorry about  
that

MICHELLE

The main square is unlike  
any other in the world.

VIC

How so?

MICHELLE

I will show you.  
Come on.

EXT. DJEMAA EL FNA SQUARE, MARRAKESH - NIGHT

The pair descend upon the liveliest public square in the  
world. Meat and fish stalls compete to get new customers,  
juice vendors sell their wares with aplomb, acrobats perform,  
kids box, dentists pull teeth and there's the snake charmers.

VIC

Holy crap. This is  
nuts.

MICHELLE

Nuts are over there  
with the dates.

VIC

Very funny. I don't  
know where to look  
first. There's so  
much going on.

MICHELLE

Let's go up to that  
rooftop cafe for the  
best view.

VIC

Great idea.

They hear a drumbeat get faster from above as if all those in its vicinity are in a trance like the cobras under the spell of a flute. At a certain time, call for prayer takes over, and then the drum beat doesn't return and the vibe is calmer.

MICHELLE

Did you see that tourist  
in the medina show her  
cleavage?

VIC

Not that I was looking,  
but yes I did.

MICHELLE

That's very  
disrespectful.  
A different  
mindset altogether.

VIC

Yeh. There's somebody  
who didn't do her  
research beforehand.

MICHELLE

Yup. No excuse.

FADE OUT

BEGIN TITLES

ACT III: **FIRST DATE ETIQUETTE**

END TITLES

FADE IN:

DEL (17) is a lonely bachelor on a mission. He wants to meet a special woman who he can get together with. Asking out a colleague of sorts in the early days, or, later on, speed dating and internet dating await him.

INT. CUMBERLAND HOTEL, MARBLE ARCH, LONDON

Del works here once a year for the London coin fair. He assists his boss YANIV (55) sell banknotes and playing cards. KESIA (17), a receptionist, is a pretty, snobbish type who happens to go to a school round the corner from Del's.

DEL

Hi Kesia. How's it going?

KESIA

Not bad thanks. You?

DEL

(Plucks up the courage)  
Would you like to go out  
sometime?

Del is petrified and scared of rejection but he senses she likes him and goes for it.

KESIA

Sure why not? He's my  
number. Give me a call.

DEL

I will. See you.

Del's heart beats very fast and he is over the moon. He punches the air as soon as he is out of sight.

INT. CINEMA, GOLDERS SGREEN, LONDON - NIGHT

The two colleagues of sorts watch Loch Ness (1996), a seriously droll film, and Del is too nervous to make a move though he wants to make out with her. He freezes.

EXT. BUS STOP, GOLDERS GREEN, LONDON - LATER

DEL  
I really enjoyed myself.

KESIA  
Me too. Come here.

They smooch and smooch and this is Del's first kiss so he is in seventh heaven. Of course he has to spoil things when he utters the following magic words.

DEL  
Your bus is here.

KESIA  
Ta. Let's do this again soon.

DEL  
(Mimes a phone call)  
OK take care.

One week later on Saturday night they agree to meet again and this time every thing goes wrong from the get go. She wears more expensive clothes, and is not impressed by his attire or that he comes by train when she arrives by black cab.

EXT. HAMPSTEAD TUBE STATION - NIGHT

INT. MAXWELL'S HAMBURGER RESTAURANT, HAMPSTEAD

DEL  
I hope you aren't a vegetarian. There's a lot of meat on the menu.

KESIA  
Actually, I'm a veggie.

DEL  
Oops. Sorry. I hope you don't mind if I eat meat.

KESIA  
I do actually. If truth be told.

DEL  
So when would I be able to eat meat if we go out?

KESIA

This is not working.  
Let's eat as we're here.  
Then call it quits.

DEL

(Is upset)

OK. What are you going to  
have?

KESIA

The veggie burger. After  
that I'll have the  
Mississippi mud pie and then  
I'll call a cab.

DEL

(Dejected)

OK

Fast forward a few years and Del is now 27 and still lonely.  
He continues to search for a woman and signs up for a speed  
date.

EXT. WAXY O CONNOR'S IRISH PUB, SOHO - NIGHT

INT. WAXY O CONNOR'S IRISH PUB, SOHO

The premise is simple. Speed daters spend three minutes with  
each prospective love interest, they mark on a sheet of paper  
if they wish to stay in contact with these people or not and  
then those contact details will be shared soon after.

DEL

(Practices to himself)

Hi. What's your name?

CHARLOTTE (28), a weapons systems officer, MARISKA (25), a  
real estate officer, TRACY (26), a dancer, PHILIPPA (27), an  
environmental officer and DEBBIE (30), a mother of two, are  
now seated. It's time to begin. Del is on his second drink.

CHARLOTTE

Hiya, so what's your  
favourite food?

DEL

It has to be a thali.

CHARLOTTE

Eh. What's that?

DEL  
 (Unimpressed)  
 It's a bit like Indian tapas.

The bell rings after the three minutes are up. Del makes his way to the next table.

MARISKA  
 Hi Del. Do you remember me?  
 It's me Mariska, your  
 sister's friend.

DEL  
 Well I never. What's the  
 chance of that. How are  
 you?

MARISKA  
 Can't complain. Have you met  
 anyone nice yet? I haven't.

DEL  
 No. The first one came  
 across as a bit dim. Not a  
 great turnout tonight. Have  
 you done this before?

MARISKA  
 Nope. My mates talked me  
 into it. You'll meet them.  
 Time's up. Take care.

DEL  
 (Feels amused)  
 Likewise. Ciao.

TRACY  
 Hiya. You alright?

DEL  
 Good thanks. The funniest  
 thing - the last person  
 was my sister's friend.

TRACY  
 No way. Want to know  
 anything about me?

DEL  
 Sure why not. What do you  
 do?



TRACY

I'm a dancer. Burlesque mainly.

DEL

(Goes bright red)  
Really? What's it like?

TRACY

Well here in SOHO there's a bar called Stringfellows. I do private dances. You know.

DEL

Sounds a bit seedy if you ask me.

TRACY

(Draws attention to fake breasts)  
Well I didn't. You see these. I spent enough on them. So there.

DEL

(Baffled)  
Nice talking to you.

PHILIPPA

Hi. Was she for real?

DEL

Partly. Anyway, enjoying yourself?

PHILIPPA

Not really. Most guys I meet are only interested in one thing. What about you cowboy?

DEL

I am looking for a lady who respects me for who I am. What about you?

PHILIPPA

Now we're talking. I am into the environment. What do you do to save our planet?

DEL

Recycling and voting. I am going to vote for the green party in the next election.

PHILIPPA

I am impressed. The best so far. Oh and do you want kids someday?

DEL

(Shocked)

Hmm no comment. Thanks. see you.

DEBBIE

Hi. What do you think about equality?

DEL

That's the deepest question I've been asked all night.

DEBBIE

Come on. Don't beat around the bush. We only have three minutes.

DEL

Sorry.

DEBBIE

Apologising is a sign of weakness you know.

DEL

(Sarcastically)

Looks like the time is up. What a pity.

Speed-dating is like a kind of market-place for lonely souls or those lacking direction. It can be brutal, fun, frustrating, or, very rarely, can bear fruit.

INT. SHERLOCK HOLMES PUB, BAKER STREET - A WEEK LATER

PHILIPPA

Welcome to our first date.

DEL

Yeh I guess speed-dating  
sets you up beforehand so  
doesn't count.

PHILIPPA

So what are your hobbies?

DEL

Writing, photography,  
walking in nature and  
watching classic films.  
And you?

PHILIPPA

Live modelling, painting,  
listening to classic  
music and watching art  
movies.

DEL

What's live  
modelling like?

PHILIPPA

Oh I always like to go  
au natural. You'll see  
if you get to know me.

DEL

(Goes red as a beetroot)  
I see. So it's liberating  
then?

PHILIPPA

Oh yes. I can get you  
involved if you are  
interested.

DEL

(Changes the subject)  
Thanks but no thanks. I  
love paintings though.  
What are you into?

PHILIPPA

Nudes in particular.  
Any really.

DEL

(Gasps)  
Which art film directors  
do you like?

PHILIPPA

Peter Greenaway and  
Roberto Rossellini in  
particular. Pasolini  
too. You?

DEL

Pasolini is my favourite  
of the bunch as his  
films are raw and  
original.

PHILIPPA

Listen Del. I have to go  
and walk the dog. Let's  
meet up again soon. OK?

DEL

Cool. Sounds good. Will  
text you.

Life is not always so straightforward. It turns out that Del meets DUMI (30) through internet dating and although he likes Philippa, he and Dumi hit it off and he knows what he has to do. He writes an email to Philippa to call it off with her.

INT. NATIONAL FILM THEATRE BAR, SOUTHBANK

DUMI

So we finally meet.

DEL

I'm glad we have.

DUMI

Me too.

The conversation continues for five whole hours. The couple talk about their first meeting for years to come. Dumi mentions how she never forgets his smile and Del remembers her as being sweet and genuine.

FADE OUT

BEGIN TITLES  
 ACT IV: **LAGER LOUTS**

END TITLES

FADE IN:

A group of football hooligans cause mayhem wherever they go. LARRY (18), who needs to wash his mouth out with soap, RALPH (18), who is a tad more sane and TOBY (19), who's more of a follower, are not amused as they battle with the authorities.

INT. SCHIPHOL AIRPORT, AMSTERDAM

FLIGHT ATTENDANT  
 Sir, you need proof that  
 you've had 2 vaccines  
 against COVID-19.

TOBY  
 Fuck you. I paid my  
 ticket and now you're  
 taking the mick.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT  
 Sir, I must tell you to  
 refrain from using foul  
 language.

RALPH  
 Cummon. You look like  
 you haven't been fucked  
 in a lifetime.

Ralph's friends laugh themselves silly. They are clearly under the influence of alcohol and drugs after their stay in Amsterdam. A member of ground staff comes to try and bring order to proceedings.

MEMBER OF GROUND STAFF  
 Listen very carefully.  
 You have broken three  
 rules and will not be  
 allowed to fly today.

TOBY  
 Hold on. Can't we talk  
 about this? They just had  
 a bit too much to drink  
 last night. That's all.

MEMBER OF GROUND STAFF  
 Afraid not. It's too late  
 for that. Abusive  
 behaviour is never  
 tolerated for one.

LARRY  
 It's not my fault she's  
 such a cunt.

MEMBER OF GROUND STAFF  
 (Speaks into walkie)  
 talkie)  
 Get security down here  
 right away. I need 6 men.

All hell breaks loose as Larry, Toby and Ralph become incensed and take on the security personnel who come running and have handcuffs and batons on their persons. A fight ensues and the 9 men knock seven bells out of each other.

MEMBER OF GROUND STAFF (CONT'D)  
 Good riddance. Get out of  
 my sight you three. Thanks  
 lads. Good job.

INT. POLICE OFFICE, AIRPORT - FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER

The officer on duty raises his eyebrows, and, after he is briefed, he reads them the riot act.

POLICE OFFICER  
 You boys are in big  
 trouble. You're under  
 arrest for breaking  
 laws 101,102 and 103.

LARRY  
 What are you on about  
 dufus?

POLICE OFFICER  
 Watch your mouth sunshine  
 or you'll find yourself  
 in all kinds of trouble.

RALPH  
 Alright. In layman's terms  
 man.

POLICE OFFICER  
Abusing perssonel,  
assaultiing staff and  
insulting an officer.

TOBY  
OK guilty as charged.  
So what?

POLICE OFFICER  
You have a choice.  
Either you calm down  
and be nice or you'll  
be put in prison.

LARRY  
We'll be nice as pie  
officer. Sorry to  
have been such  
shitbags.

POLICE OFFICER  
(Tuts)  
You'll need to pay an  
on the spot fine and  
you're banned from flying  
for ten years.

The three chaps keep their traps shut, and, for once, do as they're told.

POLICE OFFICER (CONT'D)  
Get out of my sight.

Meanwhile another group of hooligans arrive in Amsterdam and are all psyched up. MO (22), an amateur boxer, JIMMY (23), a bit of a psycho, PHIL (24), a games teacher, and SI (23), a DJ from a rough housing estate enter the scene.

EXT. GRASSHOPPER COFFEESHOP, DAY

MO  
Come on lads. Let's get  
shitfaced.

PHIL  
You don't have to ask  
twice. Mash up.

The British lads are lightweights when it comes to dope and have big mouths. They are a nightmare to be around.

JIMMY

(Takes a drag from a  
reefer)  
Let's have some of that.

SI

Stop hogging that thing.  
Pass it over numbnuts.

JIMMY

Shut it cocksucker.  
Let me have my fair share.

Peaceful pacifist types who usually like to frequent this establishment gradually gravitate away from the loudmouths and roll their eyes in disbelief. They leave in droves. COFFEESHOP OWNER (59), a well-built type comes over.

COFFEESHOP OWNER

Listen guys. Thanks for coming but I need to close the doors early. Family emergency.

JIMMY

You will have an emergency in a minute. You're a stinking liar.

Coffeeshop owner has a look of impending doom written all over his mug. He thought he could rid of these nutters, but now he has a problem.

COFFEESHOP OWNER

Listen mate. Nobody speaks to me like that in my place. Tell you what, you take it up with these guys.

A group of Dutch football hooligans walk in at just the right moment.

SI

Here we go again.

The two sets of hooligans do not wait to vacate the premises much to coffeeshop owner's consternation. Expletives fill the air and fists fly in faces. So much for a peaceful place.



COFFEESHOP OWNER  
 (To British hooligans)  
 Bye bye now. Don't  
 hurry back.

Another bunch of hooligans terrorise a group of students. ROB (29), a hardened thug, RICH (30), a Chelsea headhunter, and ADAM (31), a total nutcase always find trouble wherever they go. BART (21), TRUDY (22) and RENE (22) are the students.

EXT. OUDEZIJDS VOORBURGWAL, RED LIGHT DISTRICT - DAY

RICH  
 Common common, let's  
 go cause some mayhem.

ADAM  
 I'm thirsty for blood.

ROB  
 Sounds right up my  
 alley. Let's do it.

Bart, Trudy and Rene walk home oblivious to who will cross their path. Bart has a black belt in Jeet Kun Do, Trudy has a sensational scream when needed, and Rene is a krav Maga instructor, who trains Dutch special forces soldiers.

ADAM  
 Tasty crumpet she is.

BART  
 If I were you, I'd turn  
 around and walk away.

RICH  
 Come on then you Dutch  
 dickwad.

ADAM  
 (Grabs her posteria)  
 Nice arse you've got.

Trudy screams so loudly that people from miles around stop and look.

RICH  
 What you gonna do about  
 it fuckface?

BART  
 Make you each apologise  
 to the lady.

ROB  
 (Laughs himself silly)  
 Bit full of himself ain't  
 he?

ADAM  
 Not half mate. He's asking  
 for a beating.

RICH  
 I'll tear you limb from  
 limb. Or a new arsehole.  
 Either way.

ADAM  
 Rich, you always had a way  
 with words bruv.

BART  
 I warn you. Any attempts  
 to beat me in a fight will  
 be a wasted effort.

ADAM  
 We'll see about that.  
 Sounds like you deserve a  
 a good pasting for being a  
 ponce.

The shit hits the fan and the hooligans are up shit creek  
 without a paddle. Adam swings at Bart, Rich tries to grope  
 Trudy, and, before they know what's hit them, Rene puts Adam  
 in a stranglehold and Bart kicks Rich in the groin.

ROB  
 What the fuck? We'd better  
 get out of here.

BART  
 One more thing before you  
 leave us. Apologise to the  
 lady one at a time.

ADAM  
 Very fancy moves. I guess  
 I'm sorry, for what it's  
 worth.

ROB  
 No offence luv.

RICH  
 My sincerest apologies.

RENE

He does have a way with words, doesn't he?. Right you can go now.

After being defeated in battle, this dejected but dangerous group of hooligans become more and more fed up with each other the more they drink. The other hooligans from the coffeeshop and the airport make an appearance too.

EXT. SLAINTE IRISH PUB, RED LIGHT DISTRICT - NIGHT

INT. SLAINTE IRISH PUB

ROB

I can't believe that sod.

ADAM

(Downs a pint)  
Screw it. We'll get our kicks. Mark my words.

RICH

We'll down a few and then there'll be blood.

Larry, Ralph and Toby from the airport sit at one table. They are in the mood for a ruck. Mo, Si, Jimmy and Phil from the coffeeshop are at another. The football match begins. Rob, Adam and Rich support Chelsea and the others support spurs.

SI

He's crap.

ADAM

Shut up fool.

RALPH

You looking for trouble?

RICH

What if we are? What you gonna do about it?

LARRY

Looks like you're outnumbered.

ROB  
Just how we like it.

At this point the landlord gets involved. He tries his utmost to move the hooligans outside as they clearly want to fight, but they haven't a decent bone in their bodies. What is about to ensue involves carnage both to the property and to them.

MO  
Who wants some?

RICH  
I'll carve my initials on  
your heart, you muppet.

TOBY  
Fuck it. We're on his  
side as we support spurs.  
You're history tosspot.

The landlord immediately calls the police and tries in vain to save his place from being destroyed. Toby gets knocked out, Si bleeds profusely from the head, Rob is critically injured, Rich has a broken collar bone.

ADAM  
(Looks maniacidal)  
I'm the only one of us  
left standing. I'll take  
you all on.

The police burst in and an ambulance waits outside. Beer glasses fly through the air. A policeman is knocked out cold in all the kerfuffle. Si kicks Adam in the solarplexus. All involved are arrested and the injured get medical attention.

LANDLORD  
Look at my beautiful  
pub. They've wrecked it.

POLICEWOMAN  
Sir I realise you are  
upset.

LANDLORD  
Upset? Are you having a  
laugh. This is my  
livelihood and it's  
ruined.

POLICEWOMAN  
I feel sorry for you.  
Everything will be fine.  
You'll see.

LANDLORD  
(Looks defeated)  
If you say so.

FADE OUT

BEGIN TITLES

ACT V: **POLITICIANS CAN'T BE TRUSTED**

END TITLES

FADE IN

EXT. HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT, WESTMINSTER, LONDON - DAY

INT. THE RED LION PUB, WESTMINSTER

Politicians discuss their busy workloads and have time for recreation or what is known as a working lunch. KEN (55), a veteran, CLIVE (50), a steady pair of hands, CINDY (48), an assertive lady and JOHN (59), a shy sort, are all present.

KEN

Listen I've only had two glasses of red. Nobody will notice.

CLIVE

Your alcoholism is hardly a secret now is it?

CINDY

Before I met you they were already calling you 'red Ken'. Or is that because you're a commie?

KEN

Seeing as you are dishing the dirt, what about your not so secret affair Cindy?

CINDY

How did you know about that?

JOHN

Even I knew about that.

KEN

Not laughing now are you? I had you followed if you must know. I was bored.

CINDY

You hired a private investigator? You shit.

CLIVE

Face it. None of us are saints. We meet together so we can compare our flaws and feel less guilty.

JOHN

What did I do wrong?

KEN

OK. You're the odd one out. You're just a good listener. That's all.

CINDY

I know for a fact that Clive has a few skeletons in his cupboard.

KEN

Oh you mean fiddling his expenses account? That's common knowledge.

CLIVE

(Chokes on his pint)  
I'll have you know, I'm an up and standing member of society. This is outrageous.

KEN

Pull the other one you old scoundrel. Your accountant did time at Wandsworth.

All those apart from Clive laugh themselves silly.

CLIVE

Don't pretend you are any better Kenneth. Taxpayers' money isn't safe when you're concerned.

JOHN

Really. Have you got any hard evidence to back up these accusations?

CLIVE

Quite so old chap. I have a recording where Ken boasts about his exploits abusing his position.

KEN

Libelous skullduggery. I'll have your guts for garters. You'd better give me that recording.

CLIVE

It was only last week when you were ordering your umpteenth glass of wine. I keep copies of course.

CINDY

Looks like he's got you where it hurts.

KEN

(To Clive)

OK you've got me. We'll have to call it stalemate. Watch your back you bastard.

JOHN

Ken's alcoholism and boasting, Cindy's affair and Clive and his expenses. What a fine bunch.

KEN

Now the truth about John is he's not such a saint after all. After a little digging I found something.

JOHN

Did you look in my school year book or something?

KEN

Or something. A police record no less.

JOHN

What did I do? Rob the crown jewels?



KEN

Nope. Sexual harassment in your first job. See John couldn't keep his hands to himself.

JOHN

(Repeats what he once said and looks bothered)  
OK OK, I confess. It was me who did it officer.

Apart from Ken, the others are gobsmacked. All are glued to their seats and look hungry for more as they wait to hear the juicy details about SHARON (17), a co-worker from his past.

JOHN (CONT'D)

I'll tell you what happened. I haven't thought about it in so long. I must have blocked it out.

CINDY

Are you a sex pest? Should I be worried?

CLIVE

Don't be silly. Let him speak.

KEN

Don't interrupt him. He needs to get this off his chest.

JOHN

There was a girl called Sharon and I liked her but I was young and inexperienced.

CINDY

So you shagged her?

KEN

Put a sock in it, will you?

JOHN

I'd heard that photocopy sex was hot stuff and decided to surprise her one afternoon.

CLIVE

You asked her to do it again  
and again? To make multiple  
copies or was it orgasms?

CINDY

Yes. You told her to wait  
while you finished. Making  
copies of course.

JOHN

(Becoming red faced)  
No no no. I grabbed her,  
lifted her up and put her  
down on the glass. The only  
thing I forgot to do was ask.

CLIVE

Did she scream? Or press the  
copy button perhaps?

JOHN

She was so shocked and taken  
by surprise that she screamed  
the house down.

CLIVE

What did you do?

JOHN

I froze right there and then.  
What was I supposed to do?

CINDY

And then?

JOHN

I hid in the toilet.

CINDY

That sounds rather cowardly.  
And after that?

JOHN

I was amazed to see a  
policeman waiting for me.  
I had to go to the police  
station for my sins.

KEN

Presumably, they charged you  
on the spot as you have a  
record.

JOHN

I had no excuse. I owned up to it. Sharon had pressed charges. I lost the job and got a criminal record.

The colleagues console John after he relives his previous transgression. Now they all have something in common, which is unscrupulous behaviour.

KEN

After today, I think we should all stick together. There's no point in bickering and being petty.

CLIVE

What are you driving at old timer?

KEN

Well we could do a job together like a bunch of professional thieves.

JOHN

(Feels emboldened)  
All for one and one for all.

KEN

Exactly. If we work together, the world is our oyster.

CINDY

What did you have in mind?

CLIVE

I know what we can do. Let's get diplomatic immunity to fool customs.

KEN

Right. We work together and make a list of certain goods. We will just walk through customs.

CINDY

We will synchronise our watches. I always wanted to say that.

JOHN  
It has to be a foolproof  
plan.

CINDY  
(Looks up suspiciously)  
Right. Let's make sure no  
one can hear us.

KEN  
Cindy, 10 ivory tusks.  
Myself, 20 sea horses.  
Clive, 1 tonne of tobacco  
and John, 1 gallon of rum.

The dirty politicians plan and scheme all evening until they have what they consider to be a half decent plan of action. Unfortunately for them, the diplomatic passes they get will bring about their downfall.

KEN (CONT'D)  
I know just the fella to  
get us our diplomatic  
id's. Leave it with me.

FADE IN

An hour later Ken meets BARRY (37), a counterfeit document specialist who is wanted by MI5 (THE UK'S DOMESTIC COUNTER INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY AGENCY)

EXT. OVERLOOKING THE THAMES, SOUTHBANK - NIGHT

BARRY  
Listen Ken. This is the  
last time. I have to watch  
my back.

KEN  
Right you are. Thanks for  
meeting me at such short  
notice.

BARRY  
(Hands Ken the docs)  
Think nothing of it. Here  
you go. Take care now.

EXT. HEATHROW AIRPORT - DAY

INT. CUSTOMS, CAPE TOWN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - THE NEXT DAY

The Special Investigations Officers notice something fishy about the dirty politicians' diplomatic passes.

CLIVE  
(To Ken)  
I don't like this one  
little bit.

KEN  
Shut up, will you?

CARMEN (27), a feisty, boisterous customs officer, SEM (21), a calm and polite officer and AYLA (23), a more aggressive officer, are all on call.

CARMEN  
Are you diplomats?

CLIVE  
Yes, that's right.

SEM  
You are in possession of  
counterfeit diplomatic  
documents. Would you like  
to comment at all?

JOHN  
Are you sure officer?

SEM  
Yes. We have a special  
counterfeit scan that can  
show up any  
irregularities.

AYLA  
We even know that this is  
the work of a renowned  
counterfeiter called  
Barry.

KEN  
What will happen to us?

SEM  
That depends. If you give  
up Barry's whereabouts,  
(MORE)

SEM (CONT'D)  
you may avoid prison  
time.

CARMEN  
If we count up all the  
items that need excise  
duty paid, you can split  
the costs between you.

SEM  
So, the fine will be  
£100,000 after tax.

CINDY  
(Attempts to flirt)  
Is there any room for  
negotiation?

CARMEN  
Afraid not. We need to  
treat all passengers  
equally.

KEN  
Can you at least keep  
our names out of the  
press?

SEM  
You can speak to the  
judge. He might  
take pity on you.

JOHN  
(Mutters to his crew)  
So much for foolproof.

FADE OUT

BEGIN TITLES

ACT VI: **ROAD RAGE**

END TITLES

FADE IN:

EXT. M25 MOTORWAY, KENT - DAY

BOB (34) is ordinarily a calm, pleasant, well-mannered type, but when something agitates him, he's can lose his head. GEOFF (51), who is something of a dark horse, has anger management problems and possibly a split personality.

BOB

(To himself)

I don't believe this.  
What kind of nonce would  
cut me up during rush  
hour? I'll show him.

BOB (CONT'D)

(To GEOFF)

What the bleeding  
heck are you doing?

GEOFF

Go to hell. What's it to  
to you?

BOB

You're taking the piss  
you cheeky sod. Think you  
own the road, do you?

GEOFF

I've wasted enough breath  
on you. Why don't you  
do one?

BOB

Me scram? You are asking  
for it. You're a twat  
old man.

GEOFF

(Looks incensed)

OK now you've ruffled my  
feathers, you little  
twerp. I'll tear you a  
new one.

BOB

(Looks petrified)  
Ehm. Well perhaps you're  
not such a bad fellow  
after all.

GEOFF

Nice try douchebag. I'm  
gonna teach you a lesson  
you won't forget.

Geoff forces Bob to stop on the hard shoulder, which is a prosecutable offence and is spotted by POLICEMAN (40), who does everything by the book only after he writes down the offence, which gives Geoff time to inflict some pain on Bob.

GEOFF (CONT'D)

(Throws a barrage of )  
punches)

Think you can insult me  
from the safety of your  
own vehicle, shithead?

BOB

(Tries to guard his face)  
I thought road rage  
was a harmless outpouring  
of feelings when you're  
frustrated by other drivers.

Policeman comes at the double and blows his whistle.

POLICEMAN

Hello, hello, hello. What  
have we got here then?

GEOFF

Let's see now. There's  
a potential offence as I  
made him stop on the hard  
shoulder and GBH officer.

POLICEMAN

Right you are. Wait a  
minute. How on earth do you  
know so much about the laws?

GEOFF

Don't you recognise me  
Constable?

POLICEMAN

Hmm. Come to think of it.  
Aren't you the Commissioner?



GEOFF

That's right. You know what you have to do now. Don't you? Seeing as we're in the same constabulary.

POLICEMAN

Interview both parties and then report it, but sir.

GEOFF

That's right son. I know what I did was wrong, but I'm not sorry. This chap rubbed me up the wrong way.

BOB

(Realises he can sue )  
Geoff)  
I can go first if nobody minds.

GEOFF

Spit it out then. You better tell it how it is shit for brains or I'll finish you off.

POLICEMAN

Sir. I have to ask you not to intimidate the victim. Go ahead. What exactly happened?

BOB

We exchanged a few words and then it got out of control.

POLICEMAN

You'll have to be more specific than that. What kind of words did you exchange?

GEOFF

I used derogatory language. You know, as you do when you're in the middle of road rage.

POLICEMAN

Sir. As you know. I am not paid to make educated  
(MORE)

POLICEMAN (CONT'D)  
guesses. What exactly was  
said?

BOB  
I have an excellent short  
term memory. I can tell  
you. Anyhow, wasn't I  
supposed to speak first?

Geoff goes into another rage and attacks Bob once more. This time, he knocks out one of his teeth. Policeman stops the altercation, and, embarrassingly, has to restrain his boss.

POLICEMAN  
Sir. I have no choice but  
to arrest you for grievous  
bodily harm.

GEOFF  
I'll have your badge for  
this you little shit.

Policeman handcuffs Geoff and warns him that if he intimidates the victim again, he will have to put him in the police car while he takes Bob's statement outside.

GEOFF (CONT'D)  
You'll be on the beat in  
the Falklands when I've  
finished with you.

POLICEMAN  
Sir. One final warning. If  
you persist in obstructing  
justice, you will be put  
inside the vehicle.

Geoff is quiet for the time being.

BOB  
You see who I was dealing  
with. Right so he called  
me all kinds of names.

POLICEMAN  
Like what? Out with it.

BOB  
If you must know, a  
twerp, a douchebag and  
violent threats too.

POLICEMAN  
Tell me more. Tell me  
more.

BOB  
That he'd tear me a new  
one.

POLICEMAN  
Excuse my ignorance, but  
I'm not familiar with  
this urban saying.

BOB  
It signals violent  
intent.

POLICEMAN  
What does it mean to the  
average Joe?

BOB  
Tear me a new asshole.  
Now you know. Are you  
satisfied?

POLICEMAN  
Right. Thank you for  
your honest testimony.

POLICEMAN (CONT'D)  
(Walks over to his vehicle)  
Anything to add sir?

GEOFF  
No. That just about  
covers all the verbal  
abuse.

POLICEMAN  
OK Bob, back to you.  
What else happened?

BOB  
His manoeuvre made me  
stop here when I know  
only extreme  
circumstances are allowed.

POLICEMAN  
Precisely. If you run  
out of oil, have a  
medical or mechanical  
emergency for instance.

BOB

I had nowhere to go as  
he blocked me off. You  
saw it yourself.

GEOFF

I am allowed to do so as  
a police officer. When  
in pursuit of a  
criminal.

POLICEMAN

Your lights were not on?

GEOFF

I was undercover. I can  
only disclose the  
details to those with  
clearance at HQ.

POLICEMAN

This is most unusual.  
OK sir, your statement  
will be taken back at  
HQ. Bob continue please.

BOB

He struck me twice. Once  
here and the other you  
saw in front of your  
very eyes.

POLICEMAN

Well well well then.  
Intimidating the victim  
will be added to  
insults and GBH.

BOB

What about cutting me up  
and forcing me to stop  
on the hard shoulder?  
I want a lawyer now.

POLICEMAN

You will have legal  
representation at HQ.  
You can call your lawyer  
from the car.

EXT. POLICE HQ, KENT

Policeman walks towards HQ with the Commissioner in handcuffs. Bob walks freely as they walk up the steps and into the building.

INT. POLICE HQ

A number of officers surround policeman and put him under arrest. They do not know of the Commissioner's crimes and side with him no matter what.

POLICEMAN

What are you doing? This man is under arrest.

GEOFF

(To his trusty colleagues)  
Put him in a cell. As for this man. His lawyer is on his way. See he is treated properly.

Meanwhile in an interrogation room, Bob meets with BRAM (52), a seasoned lawyer, who specialises in assault and battery and traffic offences.

BOB

Thanks for coming at such short notice.

BRAM

That's quite alright. All part of the service. Nasty bruise you have there.

BOB

Yup. And he knocked out a tooth. Listen, I think we are up against it.

BRAM

What's wrong?

BOB

The Commisssioner is a psycho. He made up a story that he followed me undercover for starters.

BRAM

I see. Anything else? I need to know everything that may help.

BOB

If that isn't enough, he locked up a copper for doing his job.

BRAM

Come again?

BOB

This cop had to arrest his boss as he saw him give me a beating.

BRAM

(Ponders the situation )  
Oh my. The level of corruption is really high.

BOB

Is there any way to sue him?

BRAM

If we prove beyond reasonable doubt that he is guilty of a criminal offence.

BOB

This guy humiliated me, battered me and the officer who rescued me is in peril.

BRAM

I may be able to help. I happen to know an influential judge round these parts.

BOB

Is he on the straight and narrow?

BRAM

Yes, he's the man we need on side. I'll give him a call right away.

JUDGE (62) is something of a mentor to Bram and even owes him a favour as Bram did the gardening for the Judge's family when they were on holiday in the Isle of Wight.

JUDGE

Hello, is that you  
Bram?

BRAM

So now you've been filled  
in. What should we do?

JUDGE

The independent police  
complaints commission  
{IPCC} will stop this  
nonsense.

True to his word, the IPCC thwarts Geoff and his cronies. Policeman gets out of jail, and, much to his delight, Bob receives a generous settlement for his troubles.

FADE OUT

BEGIN TITLES

ACT VII: **SILENT SECTION**

END TITLES

FADE IN

INT. 'SILENT SECTION', DUTCH INTERCITY TRAIN CARRIAGE - DAY

Silent sections are meant to be places where people can read or work in peace, where they can reflect and relax without being disturbed. Sometimes, they just don't work. ALEX (50), an avid reader and JO (22), a heavy metal fan, clash.

ALEX  
(Angered)  
Do you mind?

JO  
Shut up old man.

Jo turns up his music in protest as he believes in freedom of expression and clearly has a rebellious nature.

ALEX  
I don't believe this.  
Don't you have a shred  
of decency?

JO  
You're ruining my  
enjoyment of the music,  
you dork.

ALEX  
Perish the thought. You  
selfish prick.

JO  
(Petulantly)  
What was that? I couldn't  
hear over the music.

ALEX  
(Reticently)  
Ah forget it.



Jo has a smirk on his face Alex can see from the reflection on the window. CONDUCTOR (63) walks in to check tickets and Alex rubs his hands together. He wants to see justice served with his own eyes.

CONDUCTOR  
Tickets please.

The heavy metal music continues to play loudly without interruption. Although Jo has no shame, he is also not very observant as he does not notice the conductor is nearby.

CONDUCTOR (CONT'D)  
(To another passenger)  
Yes, thank you.

ALEX  
Are you aware that this  
is a silent section?

CONDUCTOR  
Why do you ask me that?  
We have to see your  
tickets, you know?

ALEX  
Yes, I know that. I mean  
that awful racket over  
there.

CONDUCTOR  
That's a matter of  
company policy. Many  
of my colleagues get  
attacked you see.

ALEX  
(Scratches head)  
I see. So you try and  
prevent that from  
happening.

CONDUCTOR  
Right. Damage limitation  
if you will.

PASSENGER (34) is scared of the hell raiser so does not scold him but the open conversation between Alex and Conductor bothers her, so she interjects.

PASSENGER  
Shoosh.

Both Conductor and Alex stop their discussion. Jo gets off the train and there is a collective sigh of relief. In comes RAMON (29), a tourist who does not realise he is in a silent section while he is on a face time call via loudspeaker.

ALEX

(To himself)

I don't believe this.  
So much for a bit of peace  
and quiet.

RAMON

Hey babe. What we having  
tonight for din dins? Mmm  
sounds lovely. Can you  
speak up? Bad connection.

PASSENGER

Excuse me. Could you speak  
somewhere else?

Ramon still does not understand that he should not speak on the telephone in this silent carriage. He assumes passenger is just crazy or something.

RAMON

Go away. Leave me alone.

PASSENGER

(Mutters under her  
breath)

Oh lord, give me strength.

PASSENGER (CONT'D)

OK buster, listen up. See  
that sign over there? It  
says silent as in hush.  
Get it?

RAMON

Oh, why didn't I see that  
before? I apologise for my  
behaviour. I will end the  
call right away.

Passenger shows her gratitude with a smile, and, as she walks back to her seat, Jo gives her a thumbs up.

Jo reads a few words from his poetry book before he notices a group of exuberant teenage school kids dare to enter this haven for quiet types. His feathers are ruffled as they disturb the peace once more in this supposedly safe space.

JO  
 (To the pubescents)  
 Can you be quiet?

RINGLEADER (16) is a gum-chewing show off with no thought for anyone else. STACY (17) is a premadonna who applies make up for the whole of the train journey and can be cruel to others and RITA (16) thinks society gives teens a raw deal.

RINGLEADER  
 We can be but that  
 wouldn't be much fun,  
 would it?

JO  
 What is wrong with the  
 world?

RITA  
 That's an easy one. Too  
 many deadlines, not  
 enough freedom. We  
 deserve to be heard.

JO  
 Look I don't want to get  
 into a deep discussion. I  
 just want peace of mind.  
 Do you understand me?

STACY  
 I think so. You are a  
 boring so and so without  
 a life. You're a loner  
 who'se sad and pathetic.

JO  
 No that's not it. You  
 should try and have a  
 little consideration for  
 others at the very least.

In walks VERA (43), Stacy's mother. She knows just what these brats are like and first assesses the scene. Then, she makes them all apologise to Jo, and, as if by magic, they all move to a non silent section.

JO (CONT'D)  
 (To himself)  
 Let's see if I can read  
 a whole page without  
 being interrupted.

Passenger disembarks at the next stop and now the carriage is almost completely empty. Only Jo and his poetry book remain. He inadvertently falls asleep and begins to dream.

FADE IN

DREAM SEQUENCE. INT. 'SILENT SECTION', BRITISH RAIL

Jo dreams of England, his country of birth. Though RUDE PASSENGER (38) disturbs him and makes him feel uneasy.

JO  
 Do you need to get off?

RUDE PASSENGER  
 Certainly looks like it.

Rude passenger departs and Jo loses his cool and tells his wife, who sits next to him, that this level of rudeness can lead to fisticuffs.

END OF DREAM SEQUENCE

Just at this point he wakes up and he is is back on familiar territory. He breathes a sigh of relief.

FADE OUT

BEGIN TITLES

ACT VIII: **SNOBBERY**

END TITLES

FADE IN

EXT. RITZ CARLTON NEW YORK HOTEL, CENTRAL PARK, NYC - MORNING

INT. RITZ-CARLTON HOTEL, CENTRAL PARK

EDWARD (51) and CLAUDIA (50) are a well-to do British couple who love to stay at this swanky hotel when they are in town. They are as snobbish a pair as you could meet. JUAN (35) is a waiter and the three of them become acquainted.

EDWARD

Darling. What will you  
have an an apperitif?

CLAUDIA

I will get the waiter's  
attention first. Yoohoo.

JUAN

Yes Madam. What can I get  
you?

CLAUDIA

A martini with a nice  
juicy olive.

JUAN

And for the gentleman?

EDWARD

I will have a vintage  
brandy. The most expensive  
you have dear boy.

JUAN

Certainly sir. Coming right  
up.

EDWARD

You know sugar, this has to  
be one of the most  
exquisite places in New  
York to come for a drink.

CLAUDIA

I don't doubt it  
sweetheart. Here  
come the drinks.

JUAN

Would you like a tab  
or pay right away?

EDWARD

What is this skulduggery?  
We always have a tab. I  
find this quite  
offensive.

CLAUDIA

Quite so. We come here  
often and have never been  
asked this hurtful  
question.

The waiter realises he has a couple of high maintenance snobs to deal with, and, in his own mind, prays they will have mercy on him.

JUAN

Terribly sorry. We value  
your custom. Please  
accept a complimentary  
drink each.

EDWARD

That's a very nice  
gesture. We gratefully  
accept. No harm done  
after all.

CLAUDIA

Rather. We are reasonable  
folk. Just wait until you  
get to know us.

JUAN

Here you are sir and  
madam. Another round of  
drinks on the house if  
you please.

EDWARD

Tell me Juan. Did you  
grow up here? Or are you  
from somewhere down  
south?

CLAUDIA

Good question dear. I am curious to know myself.

JUAN

Well, I am from Mexico. My parents brought me over when I was a little boy. I grew up in the big apple.

CLAUDIA

So you were born over there, but where do you live in New York?

EDWARD

Yes quite. Is it somewhere on the outskirts? I bet it takes you a good while to get to the Ritz-Carlton.

JUAN

I live in Queens in a poor neighbourhood. I share a very modest apartment with my wife and four kids.

EDWARD

I knew it. It's written all over your face. You're doomed to a life of poverty. How does it feel?

CLAUDIA

How fascinating. I never met someone in this situation. Yes, tell us more.

JUAN

(Feels irritated)

Well. Every penny counts. We share a room. Food stamps are a way of life. Oh and we rely on my tips.

CLAUDIA

Did you hear that darling? We'll give a tip. You really must visit the horse races one day.

EDWARD

Yonkers has a great track.  
Consider yourself lucky.  
That's a great tip  
from us to you.

Edward and Claudia leave the hotel to spread their particular brand of snobbery throughout the city.

EXT. HORSE DRAWN CARRIAGE, CENTRAL PARK - AFTERNOON

The COACHMAN (60) does not know what he has in store for him when he accepts his two new passengers. First, they become acquainted.

COACHMAN

Been here before guv?

EDWARD

Are you a fellow Brit by  
any chance?

CLAUDIA

His accent gives him  
away.

COACHMAN

Right you are. I've been  
Here for 20 years riding  
folks around. So have you  
or what?

EDWARD

Oh yes. We have been in  
all four seasons. We are  
known here.

CLAUDIA

Yes. We hob knob with all  
the most influential  
types. We cavort with  
the Manhattan gliteratti.

COACHMAN

(Yawns)

I've heard it all before.  
So you lot are important  
are you? What makes you  
so special then?



CLAUDIA

Well anybody who is  
anybody invites us to  
shindigs for one.

EDWARD

Yes, we're all the rage.  
It's all about keeping  
up appearances. Don't you  
see?

CLAUDIA

We're so desirable and  
fashionable, you can even  
name drop us. We give you  
our permission.

COACHMAN

I get it. You're the bees  
knees. I'll mention your  
names when I have nothing  
left to talk about.

The passengers get off near Trump Tower and scratch their  
heads as they ponder what the driver just said.

EXT. TRUMP TOWER, NYC

EDWARD

Shall we have a bite to  
eat sugarpop?

CLAUDIA

I'd love to. Feeling a bit  
peckish you see.

EDWARD

I know. Let's go to Nobu.  
Most ordinary folk need  
a reservation, but I know  
the general Manager.

CLAUDIA

Are you sure? He can just  
seat us, just like that?

EDWARD

Yes my little buttercup.  
Follow me. Don't fret.

EXT. NOBU DOWNTOWN, MANHATTAN - NIGHT

Edward and Claudia meet CLIVE (38), a heavyweight boxer, who is both aggressive and short tempered. GENERAL MANAGER (48), a loyal fellow, honours his agreement with his old friend.

GENERAL MANAGER  
Ed. My old chum. How  
the heck are you?

EDWARD  
Can't complain. May I  
present my angel. This  
is Claudia.

CLAUDIA  
(Holds her hand out to be  
kissed)  
Enchanté.

GENERAL MANAGER  
I always have a spare  
table ready for occasions  
like these.

EDWARD  
I knew you wouldn't let  
me down. Who heard of  
waiting in a line anyway?

Incensed, Clive has a bone to pick with this snobbish stranger who gets preferential treatment after he and his wife have been waiting patiently for forty minutes no less.

CLIVE  
You're asking for it, you  
fuckwit.

EDWARD  
Don't speak to me. You're  
a commoner.

CLAUDIA  
Be careful dear. This man  
could cause you some  
serious damage.

EDWARD  
I will try and reason  
with him my foxy lady.

CLIVE  
Listen man. You need to  
be taught some manners.

EDWARD

I'll have you know, I  
had eticate training and  
could run rings around  
you in how to behave.

Clive has had enough of Edward's boasting and lashes out with a left uppercut, which floors the snob. Edward has a bloody nose and looks rather concussed as he just about manages to get up from the floor.

CLAUDIA

Oh you beast. How could  
you hit a man half your  
size?

GENERAL MANAGER

(To Clive)

I'll have to ban you from  
the premises sir.

Clive strikes General Manager with a hit to the stomach and leaves in a huff with his other half.

INT. NOBU DOWNTOWN, MANHATTAN

EDWARD

I could do with a cold  
compress. Let's order  
though darling.

CLAUDIA

What are we going to do  
tomorrow love?

EDWARD

I'm sure I'll be out for  
the count. Can we decide  
in the morning my  
mermaid?

CLAUDIA

Sure. I don't see why  
not. Heres the waiter.

EDWARD

(In pain)

I'd like the urchin maki  
with umame beans.

CLAUDIA

I'll have the yakitori  
chicken heart, liver  
(MORE)

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)  
and sashimi. Keep the  
sake flowing.

FADE OUT

BEGIN TITLES

ACT IX: **TEACHERS DON'T DO IT FOR THE MONEY**

END TITLES

FADE IN

Teacher shortages are the most urgent issue that face politicians and threaten to collapse the Dutch government. Teachers are helpless and pawns in the game. MINISTER OF EDUCATION (44) is only interested in damage limitation.

EXT. MINISTRY OF EDUCATION HQ, THE HAGUE - DAY

INT. MINISTRY OF EDUCATION HQ, THE HAGUE

MINISTER OF EDUCATION (V.O)  
How can I shield the  
ministry from this  
nonsense?

In walks AGATHA (62), the head of the biggest teacher's union in the country. She has a bee in her bonnet and intends to get some answers for the appalling current state of affairs.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION (CONT'D)  
Do come in. I was just  
talking to myself.

AGATHA  
Minister. I need you to  
work with me so we can  
stop this from getting  
even more out of control.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION  
I have a TV interview at  
3, a photoshoot at 4 and  
I am visiting a secondary  
school at 5.

AGATHA  
Listen you self-righteous,  
pompous, narcissist.  
Forget about self  
promotion will you.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION  
I am all ears. You  
certainly don't mince  
words.

AGATHA  
I have watched you and  
your so called attempts to  
fix the teacher shortages  
problem.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION  
Are you going to smack my  
bottom?

AGATHA  
No, I'll leave that to  
the Minister President.  
You need to pay attention.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION  
What do you suggest I do  
then?

AGATHA  
(Points at a pen)  
Pick up that pen. You do  
know how to write notes,  
don't you?

MINISTER OF EDUCATION  
Ha. I should be able to  
manage that.

AGATHA  
Good. Now all you need to  
do is write down what I  
say. With me so far?

MINISTER OF EDUCATION  
OK OK. I understand.

AGATHA  
Right. Structural  
investment means long term  
results. Your kids and  
grandkids will benefit.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION  
So I shouldn't focus on  
our next term in power?

AGATHA

Precisely. Very good. I will give you a gold star if you keep this up.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION

(Looks gleeful)

I want my kids to have a future. I really need your help.

AGATHA

Here's what we'll do. First, give current teachers a substantial raise.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION

2% next year and then half a percent for 3 years?

AGATHA

Do you want there to be teachers in our schools, or not?

MINISTER OF EDUCATION

Usually, I just say that teachers will get more money and the media loves it.

AGATHA

Do you consider yourself a moral person?

MINISTER OF EDUCATION

I'm not sure I understand.

AGATHA

Ever heard of good and evil?

MINISTER OF EDUCATION

(Looks ashamed)  
Oh that.

AGATHA

There's still time. You can save yourself from eternal damnation. Hang in there.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION  
 (Looks troubled)  
 I don't want to go to  
 hell. I'll do whatever  
 you suggest.

AGATHA  
 Now you're talking my  
 language. We'll save your  
 soul yet. OK, first,  
 a 10% pay rise for them.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION  
 I will get crucified for  
 this in the chamber.

AGATHA  
 You'll be fine. Things  
 have never been as bad  
 as they are now. You do  
 want to keep your job.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION  
 (Sobs)  
 Alright. What's next?

AGATHA  
 1500 Euros as an incentive  
 for new teachers.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION  
 (Swallows a piece of gum)  
 Are you serious?

AGATHA  
 Deadly. Now third and  
 final action point. A  
 formal apology to all  
 teachers.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
 (Looks defeated)  
 I hate apologising, but  
 if you think it's  
 necessary.

AGATHA  
 (Takes a deep sigh)  
 An apology to all  
 teachers for woefully  
 inadequate standards of  
 education for years.



Minister of Education buries his face in his hands. He knows that change must happen, embraces the union boss and thanks her profusely, before he leaves the room.

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

Teachers have a hard time and are not shown appreciation, decent remuneration, and those who wish to start a career in the profession aren't given enough of an incentive to do so.

EXT. SECONDARY SCHOOL, LEIDEN, THE NETHERLANDS - DAY

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE, SECONDARY SCHOOL, LEIDEN

ELLEN (45) is an experienced teacher, PRINCIPAL (51) is the boss and COORDINATOR (46) is Ellen's line manager.

PRINCIPAL  
Come in.

ELLEN  
I'd like to discuss my  
salary please. I understand  
I can apply for the highest  
salary bracket.

The Dutch education system has a system whereby those who have enough experience to get paid more are not automatically given the right. They can apply for the privilege and favouritism can play a part as schools are given full reign.

PRINCIPAL  
Yes, all you need to do is  
write me a letter explaining  
why you think you're  
eligible.

Ellen sends such a letter and a meeting is set up with principal and INTERVIEWER (55), a colleague Ellen knows as a mean, unfair character.

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY

INTERVIEWER  
Welcome Ellen. How are you?

ELLEN

A little nervous. How about you?

INTERVIEWER

Fine thank you. Though Not at all nervous.

ELLEN

(Laughs nervously)  
Did you see my letter?

PRINCIPAL

Oh yes. It was very well written indeed. Thanks for making such clearly defined points.

INTERVIEWER

If I may, I notice you are receiving coaching. Can you give a concrete example of it's usefulness?

ELLEN

Why yes. I can pass on advice about how to deal with situations we need help to control.

INTERVIEWER

Would you be willing to give a presentation on the subject to maximise your potential?

ELLEN

I am not sure. I would need to think about it.

INTERVIEWER

Or how about a school wide initiative like a CLIL talk?

ELLEN

To be honest, I work very hard and need to take time for myself once a week. I have no more energy left.

Ellen receives word that her application for the highest pay bracket has been denied. She is very upset and feels dejected. She cries and discusses her woes with those she trusts the most both at school and at home.

INT. COORDINATOR'S OFFICE - 5 MINUTUES LATER

Coordinator is adept at delegating, he can be a good listener and appear sympathetic, but, when push comes to shove, he is more worried about his own job, so will not stick his neck out. Nevertheless, he is intelligent and can be encouraging.

COORDINATOR

Ellen. What's the matter?

ELLEN

(Looks dejected)

I just found out they decided against giving me what I deserve. I feel awful. What do I do now?

COORDINATOR

You are a great teacher. We need more like you.

ELLEN

It's nice of you to say, but it won't make this feeling of unpleasantness go away.

COORDINATOR

You can go and talk to the principal again. Then you can argue your case.

ELLEN

I will do just that.

Ellen makes the appointment and has her meeting, which is seen as an appeal. She makes very strong points but ultimately finds herself back to square one.

INT. COORDINATOR'S OFFICE - 2 MINUTES LATER

ELLEN

(Looks distraught)  
So she won't budge.

COORDINATOR

I'm sorry to hear it. Look if it was up to me.

ELLEN

It is what it is and I have to get used to it.

COORDINATOR  
Is there anything I can do?

ELLEN  
Unless you can wave a magic wand.

COORDINATOR  
I don't want to lose you as a member of my team.

ELLEN  
You have given me an idea. I don't feel wanted anymore so I will keep my eye on what's out there.

Coordinator looks helpless. On the one hand, he can't go against his boss as he values his own career too much. Though, on the other, he seems to have inadvertently put an idea in Ellen's mind that could see her gone for good.

ELLEN  
Now is the time to vent and you can just listen.

COORDINATOR  
My trap's shut for once.

ELLEN  
The kids here have no respect and the school backs them up.

COORDINATOR  
Amen.

ELLEN  
They sell them enrgy drinks and then have the gall to call themselves a healthy school.

COORDINATOR  
I feel your pain.

ELLEN  
The education system is a joke. We're at the mercy of people without experience teaching in schools.

COORDINATOR  
I hear you loud and clear.

ELLEN  
To top it off. They make  
us feel like shit and  
probably don't even  
realise.

COORDINATOR  
Or care.

ELLEN  
Exactly. Bureauractic  
penny pinchers. That's  
what they are.

COORDINATOR  
Are you glad you got that  
off your chest?

ELLEN  
Somewhat. Will you give me  
a Linkedin recommendation?

COORDINATOR  
Let me get back to you on  
that. Just don't do  
anything hasty. OK?

ELLEN  
I won't. I just want you  
to know how unhappy  
and unappreciated I feel.

COORDINATOR  
Go and get some alone  
time. Keep your chin up.

FADE OUT

CHRISSY (19) considers becoming a teacher. She does some research by asking JUNE (47), a friend of the family, for her advice, and looks at a relevant government website.

INT. JUNE'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

JUNE

Nice to see you again  
love. How's your mum?

CHRISSY

Fine thanks. She says hi.  
So you know I am  
considering becoming a  
teacher.

JUNE

Oh yes. You'd better  
be sure this is what you  
want. I stopped teaching  
last year, you know.

CHRISSY

I would love to teach, but  
why did you throw in the  
towel, dare I ask?

JUNE

Just between you and me,  
I didn't get any job  
satisfaction. I felt  
pretty empty really.

CHRISSY

(Scratches her head)  
Oh dear. I did see that  
they badly need new  
teachers.

JUNE

Yes my love. It's a  
sinking ship heading for  
disaster. Mark my words.

CHRISSY

Oh no. I don't think I  
want to be part of this  
madness. Sounds like I'd  
need my head checked.

END FLASHBACK.

BEGIN TITLES

CHAPTER X: **TOURIST TRAP**

END TITLES

FADE IN:

EXT. EL ZAOUA HOTEL, TANGIER, SOMEWHERE IN THE MEDINA - DAY

JANE (58) is a Tasmanian co-owner of this establishment along with HAKIM (47), a Moroccan co-owner at the very same place. BRETT (27) and CHARLOTTE (23) are Brits and get the same treatment all new guests are subjected to.

INT. SHARED BALCONY, EL ZAOUA HOTEL, TANGIER MEDINA

JANE

Welcome to EL Zaoua.  
Where are you from?

BRETT

We're from the UK. Are  
you Australian?

JANE

Yep. From Tasmania to be  
precise. So you're here  
for 5 nights. A good  
amount of time.

CHARLOTTE

We thought so. We read  
that you have some good  
recommendations.

JANE

Oh yeh. You won't be  
able to shut me up. I'm  
incorrigible.

BRETT

Do we need to pay now?

HAKIM

(Ears prick up)  
That's where I come in.  
I'm Hakim. I take your  
money and serve  
breakfast. Sound fair?

BRETT

Perfectly. Can I use my card?

HAKIM

Cash only mister.

JANE

It's on the website.  
Yeh it's too expensive  
to have a card machine.  
I sent you a mail too.

CHARLOTTE

We should have enough  
notes Brett.

BRETT

(Reluctantly hands it  
over)  
Here you go. We'll  
manage.

JANE

So what are your plans?

BRETT

1 full day in Tangier.  
Then two day trips.

CHARLOTTE

Yeh, we're particularly  
looking forward to  
seeing the blue city.

JANE

Oh you don't want to go  
there. It's super  
touristy and has lost  
all of its charm.

BRETT

(Looks dismayed)  
I went in 2002 and it  
was one of my favourite  
places in Morocco.

JANE

Have you been to Asilah?

BRETT

I went for half a day  
but wasn't impressed.



JANE

Oh no it is fantastic.  
It's like the blue city  
used to be 20 years  
ago.

HAKIM

You must go to Asilah  
tomorrow, the blue city  
the day after and then  
Tangier.

CHARLOTTE

May I ask why?

HAKIM

Get the taxi rides out  
of the way as you have  
to go to the outskirts.  
You will see.

Brett and Charlotte go their room to have a chat and settle  
in. They are not impressed by what they see.

CHARLOTTE

(Irate)

This room is super  
stuffy. That fan looks  
like it is 50 years old.  
No more 3 star dives OK?

BRETT

Sorry. There isn't much  
privacy it has to be  
said and you can smell  
cigarette smoke.

CHARLOTTE

They are very helpful.

BRETT

They're already getting  
on my nerves. Hope that  
doesn't continue for the  
next 5 days.

After they unpack their toiletries, it is time to go and find  
a place for dinner. They run into Jane on the way out.

JANE

How's it going? Got  
everything you need? Want  
the sheets changed every  
day?

CHARLOTTE  
Yes please.

BRETT  
Can we pick your brain  
for a sec?

JANE  
Sounds painful.

BRETT  
(Laughs)  
A harmless piece of  
advice if you would be  
so kind.

JANE  
Try me.

BRETT  
We'd like to have a  
tasty tajine in a place  
full of character.

CHARLOTTE  
And nearby.

JANE  
I know just the place.  
follow me. I'll just  
have a beer and then  
I'll let you be.

INT. EXPENSIVE YET ATMOSPHERIC MOROCCAN RESTAURANT - NIGHT

The restaurant owner welcomes Jane as if they are old friends with kisses on both cheeks. The place is almost empty apart from some traditional musicians.

JANE  
(Takes a swig of beer)  
I've been coming here  
for 15 years. That man  
is a real sweetie.

BRETT  
What should we try?

JANE  
The bastilla is to die  
for as a starter. Then,  
the lamb tajine with all  
the trimmings.

Brett and Charlotte are too polite to tell Jane they want some alone time. Unbelievably, The hotel co-owner stays for two beers and throughout the entire meal. She finally asks for her drinks to be put on the bill seperately.

CHARLOTTE

I can't believe she did that. I never would have dared.

BRETT

She gets commission as you saw. They gave her the drinks on the house.

CHARLOTTE

Let's stick to Trip Adviser next time.

BRETT

OK it wasn't cheap, but on the plus side it was very tasty food and the music was good.

CHARLOTTE

True. Let's try and get some sleep in that sauna of ours.

The intrepid travellers get lost on the way back, but are overjoyed that they don't have to talk to either of the overbearing co-owners before bed.

EXT. FES MEDINA - 10 DAYS LATER - DAY

BRETT

Lets go for walkies. Just the two of us.

CHARLOTTE

Okey dokey. Apparently, there are 9000 alleys in this medina. It's the biggest in the world.

BRETT

I know. Amazing huh. OK maybe we can find a nice place to eat. That looks like a square.

CHARLOTTE  
It's so hot and I don't  
feel my best.

After they realise they are completely lost and end up on the outskirts of town, they walk in the burning sun only to find a snackbar of sorts. Charlotte feels ill and can't eat.

BRETT  
We may need to get you  
a Doctor. Maybe sleep  
It off. I do hope you  
feel better.

EXT. 5 STAR HOTEL, FES MEDINA - THE NEXT MORNING

INT. BREAKFAST ROOM, 5 STAR HOTEL, FES MEDINA

The staff here do not always live up to the star rating the hotel is classed as, much to the annoyance of their guests. The CONCIERGE (19) is rather nonchalant for one.

BRETT  
Excuse me, my wife is  
feeling sick. She'll  
have a ginger tea and  
can we call a Doctor?

CONCIERGE  
Let's see how she feels  
after the tea first.

BRETT  
(Looks bemused)  
You OK with that darling.

CHARLOTTE  
Sure. That will be fine.

After breakfast, Charlotte feels sick and they call the Doctor. He takes a very long time to come, but gives her an injection in the backside. She also gets some medicine to help get over the stomach bug.

INT. CARPET SHOP, MEDINA - A DAY LATER

Brett and Charlotte are glad they decided to go on the tour of the medina after all. As going it alone does not reveal many of the curiosities and fascinating facts that would otherwise be missed. Still, there are downsides too.

CHARLOTTE  
 (Whispers in Brett's ear)  
 He won't shut up about  
 his stupid carpets. When  
 will this end?

60 YEAR OLD CARPET SHOP OWNER  
 We have the finest carpets  
 in all of Fes. Look at the  
 quality of these fine  
 specimens.

CHARLOTTE  
 They're beautiful.

CARPET SHOP OWNER  
 Quite so. You have good  
 taste my dear.

CHARLOTTE  
 (Looks revulsed)

CARPET SHOP OWNER  
 All carpets are guaranteed.  
 We use DHL and you can get  
 tax back.

CHARLOTTE  
 We haven't said we want any.

CARPET SHOP OWNER  
 We have a terrific large  
 one. I will show you.

BRETT  
 We don't have room for that  
 one in our apartment.

CARPET SHOP OWNER  
 We have a smaller one too.

BRETT  
 (Reaches breaking point)  
 We don't want to buy any  
 carpets. Not small or  
 large. We want to go now.

The carpet owner gives up after a 20 minute sales pitch that leaves both of the travellers completely exhausted and in need of fresh air. Even he has to sit down to rest.

FADE OUT

At a later stage of their summer holiday, Brett and Charlotte are trapped in 3 places. First in Lleida in Catalonia, then in a train from Bordeaux to Paris and finally in gay Paris itself. Although being 'trapped' in Paris is a pleasure.

INT. LLEIDA TRAIN STATION, CATALONIA, SPAIN

BRETT

There must be somewhere  
to leave our luggage.

CHARLOTTE

(Looks puzzled)  
You would think.

BRETT

There's a tourist office  
over there. They should  
be able to help.

Unfortunately, TOURIST OFFICER (42), a serious perhaps unempahetic person, seems unable to meet their expectations.

TOURIST OFFICER

There is nowhere to  
leave your bags.

BRETT

Couldn't we leave them  
here until you close at  
least?

TOURIST OFFICER

It's not allowed.

BRETT

(Sarcastically)  
Thanks. We'll manage.

CHARLOTTE

I can't believe this.  
It's 44 degrees outside  
and we have to lug our  
bags around with us.

BRETT

I know. Who ever heard  
of a train station and  
a tourist office with  
no left luggage facilities.

The annoyed travellers meander around aimlessly as they are significantly handicapped by carrying all their belongings with them in the scorching sun. They kill enough time and two cafes later, they try to catch the bus to Andorra.

CHARLOTTE

Where is this bus?

BRETT

I wish I knew.

CHARLOTTE

What time was it supposed to come?

BRETT

30 mins ago now.

15 minutes later and Brett tries to speak to somebody at the train station, but they revert him to the bus company, who doesn't pick up the phone. His last hope is to call the hotel in Andorra. RECEPTIONIST (20) answers much to his relief.

RECEPTIONIST

(In a friendly manner)

So your bus was due at  
Lleida station at 8pm and  
you say it didn't come.

BRETT

Yes, we don't know what to  
do. Sorry to bother you.

RECEPTIONIST

No problem sir. It's all  
part of the job. I will  
check on their website.

BRETT

(Covers phone)

This call is gonna cost a  
fortune.

CHARLOTTE

(Look irritated)

You're probably right.

RECEPTIONIST

Sir, there is no bus at  
8pm. The next is at 10.  
I suggest you wait and  
show them your ticket.

BRETT

Those amateurs. They changed the time of the bus but didn't notify me. What the hell?

CHARLOTTE

Crap customer service. That's what it is. It was a great idea to call the lady in Andorra.

BRETT

That depends on how much the call costs.

They catch the bus at 10pm and the driver apologises for the mix-up. They spend 2 nights in Andorra.

EXT. BORDEAUX TRAIN STATION - DAY

INT. BORDEAUX TRAIN STATION

They then make their way back to the Netherlands, where they leave by train. Though, the 2nd class compartment is uncomfortable and a number of delays have a knock on effect as, frustratingly, they miss their next train to Paris.

EXT. SNCF CUSTOMER SERVICE, GARE DE MONPARNASSE

BRETT

Hi, we've missed our train from Gare du Nord as the train from Bordeaux was delayed.

CUSTOMER SERVICE AGENT

We can put you up in a hotel, but you need to arrange it at Gare du Nord.

BRETT and Charlotte are cream crackered and fed up with poor customer service. They try at Gare du Nord but the desk is closed. They get no free hotel. They do somehow manage to get a free ticket on the 2nd class Thalys service to Rotterdam.



BRETT

We get to spend a night  
in Paris and almost had to  
leave in the morning. I think  
we should make the most of it.

CHARLOTTE

Amazing. Paris is the best  
place in the world to get  
stuck in for a day.

BRETT

When we get home, I will get in  
contact with the train company  
and see if I can get the hotel  
paid for.

CHARLOTTE

I'm so grateful for all you do  
planning our trips.

BRETT

My pleasure, my treasure. It's  
all part of the service.

Charlotte takes a shower while Brett plans the next day's  
activities with relish lounged out on the comfy double bed.

CHARLOTTE

My my, you have been busy.

BRETT

Listen to this, after breakfast  
we head over to Bois du  
Bologne for a walk in nature,  
then lunch in St Germain.

CHARLOTTE

Are we doing anything touristy?

BRETT

Well, a trip to the Orangerie  
to see Monet. Oh and a walk  
through the tuileries to the  
Place de la Concorde.

CHARLOTTE

Sounds better than being stuck  
in a carpet shop.

BRETT

Haha. Don't remind me. This is  
the life huh?

CHARLOTTE

I have to say I'm ready to  
go home after a month on the  
road, but you gotta love  
Paris.

BRETT

That you do. Love you. Good  
night.

CHARLOTTE

Nighty night. Love ya.

FADE OUT