

GRENADA

By

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**FADE IN:**

**INT. IGGY'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY**

Toy soldiers line a shelf. A GRENADIER leads a charge, arm raised, poised to throw a grenade.

A VOICE drifts from another room, tone harsh:

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)  
I just knew you'd let me down--

Books on electronics, radio schematics scattered on the floor. One titled: Clansman Portable Radio. An open catalogue shows a range of 12v batteries.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)  
How d'you think it makes me look? I  
promised them you were reliable...

IGGY, 12, mop haired, dressed in pajamas, perches on his bed. He rubs at his eyes, sleepy.

**LANDING**

Iggy pads barefoot down the hall.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)  
You think you can just breeze in  
and out of our lives. I've no word  
of where you are-- half the time I  
don't even know if you're alive!

He stops before a half-open door.

Inside, MARIE, early 40s, a shopworn soul, paces before a window, her back to the door, phone cradled to her ear.

MARIE  
I don't want excuses. The last  
useless bastard had his and I  
watched Mum put up with a lifetime  
of yours--

Iggy looks along the hall.

ANNIE, 7, peeks around her bedroom door with sleepy concern.

**ANNIE'S BEDROOM**

Annie raises her arms as Iggy helps snug a jumper into place over her school shirt.

Marie continues to argue in the background, her voice raised, words indistinct.

ANNIE

Will you do my hair?

IGGY

Where's your brush?

Annie thinks, points to the door.

**HALLWAY/MARIE'S BEDROOM**

Marie hunches on the bed, dabs away the tears. Her back is turned to the doorway, phone on the pillow behind her.

A hairbrush rests on a dresser. A ten-pound note beside it.

Iggy reaches in, grabs the brush. He steals a guilty look at Marie before swiping the money.

**EXT. STREET - DAY**

Iggy wheels his bike along the pavement, Annie beside him. Both wear school uniform. Annie chews on a slice of toast.

Ahead, CHILDREN filter through a set of school gates, cars pull to the curb to deposit others.

Iggy watches a FATHER wave his SON goodbye.

FOUR YOUTHS loiter in the entrance to an alleyway. SCULLY, 13, spots Iggy and alerts the others. They all look over.

Iggy's face clouds. He slows, wheels his bike around.

ANNIE

Are you coming?

IGGY

Gotta get something. I'll meet you after.

**EXT. HIGH-STREET - ELECTRONICS SHOP - DAY**

Iggy cycles into view. He stops, hops off the bike, leans it on a wall and slips inside.

**EXT. DISUSED TRAINING GROUND - PERIMETER - DAY**

Iggy stashes his bike in some scrub.

A faded sign fixed to a fence reads: PARFIELD MARSH, M.O.D. PROHIBITED AREA. CLOSED TO PUBLIC. Below, Iggy squeezes through a gap in the chain-link.

**EXT. DISUSED TRAINING GROUND - DAY**

Gutted shells of buildings. Cracked window panes. Tangles of ivy climb damp stained walls to sagging roofs.

**INT. STOREROOM/IGGY'S BASE - DAY**

A mouldering army recruitment poster threatens to slip from cracked plaster. A sheet of ply balanced on blocks makes up a table, a car tyre for a chair.

Iggy drags a sack from beneath a pile of debris.

A battered Clansman field radio stands on the table. Two wires trail from the rear...

...Iggy clamps the wires' other ends into place on a shiny 12v battery. He takes his time. This is his pride and joy.

He flicks the Clansman's main switch, raises the headset to his ear. Cycles through the frequency selectors one after another focused in anticipation...

A SHOUT in the distance.

Iggy looks up, frowns.

A burst of STATIC over the receiver pulls him back. He beams, success.

The CLANG of metal, raised VOICES.

Edging to a window Iggy peers out to see Scully's gang roving through the site in his direction.

He hurriedly disconnects the radio, stashes it beneath the debris pile.

Pack in hand he squeezes out through a hole in the rear.  
He doesn't see the wire trailing out from under the debris.

**EXT. DISUSED TRAINING GROUND - STOREROOM/IGGY'S BASE - DAY**

Iggy narrowly scrambles into an overgrown ditch as the gang moves into view behind him.

**EXT. OVERGROWN DITCH - DAY**

Iggy peeks through the foliage, watches them move through the buildings.

He settles in, no choice but to wait it out.

**MOMENTS LATER**

Iggy scrapes at the ground with a stick, restless. Scattered SHOUTS and LAUGHTER echo in the distance.

The stick catches against something. He brushes the dirt away to reveal a layer of rust.

He levers a small munitions box from the earth and works off the lid.

Inside, machine parts and a small cloth bundle. He takes out the bundle, unwraps the cloth to reveal a HAND GRENADE.

Iggy freezes in shock, barely registering the VOICES:

SCULLY (O.S.)  
Come on, he's not here!

YOUTH #2 (O.S.)  
Just gimme a sec'!

FOOTSTEPS close in...

Iggy's eyes dart from the lip of the ditch to the grenade.

FOOTSTEPS stop...PATTER of running water.

He watches a stream of urine trickle into the ditch, narrowly avoiding his feet...It stops.

FOOTSTEPS recede.

YOUTH #2 (O.S.)  
Oi, wait for us!

Iggy slips the grenade into the cloth.

He stuffs the box back into the hole, rakes a layer of dirt over the top and marks it with the stick.

**EXT. STREET - SCHOOL GATES - DAY**

Annie waits dutifully on the pavement. Iggy joins her, wheeling his bike past in silence.

ANNIE  
Where you been?

IGGY  
Got kept in.

ANNIE  
Give us a backie!

He pulls ahead, Annie catches up with him, tugs at his back-pack.

ANNIE  
Why you being a dick?

**INT. IGGY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT**

A fork skewers a chip on a dinner plate.

Marie sits opposite Iggy, watches him chomp it down.

MARIE  
How was school?

Iggy shrugs.

MARIE  
Did you go?

IGGY  
Yeah.

She wants to believe it.

IGGY  
(indignant)  
What?

She stands, collects their plates in frosty silence.

IGGY  
Will Grandad lose his job?

MARIE  
Don't know. Wouldn't be the first.  
It's not much to ask is it, turning  
up.

She cuts him a look, places the dishes in the sink before  
searching out an envelope from a shelf.

MARIE  
I want you to take this to him  
first thing.

IGGY  
What?

MARIE  
It's his work schedule. I've  
highlighted his shifts--

IGGY  
It's a Saturday! Why can't you give  
it him?

MARIE  
I'm on an early tomorrow.

IGGY  
You go that way!

MARIE  
I'm tired, Iggy. I'm not arguing.

She crosses to his school-bag, slips the envelope inside.

MARIE  
Don't stay up all night.

She exits the room leaving Iggy to brood.

## **LOUNGE**

Iggy sits on a sofa. The light from a T.V. playing off his  
face. It sounds like a war film: GUNFIRE, EXPLOSIONS.

**EXT. CANAL - TOWPATH - DAY**

A line of ducks paddle through murky water.

Iggy pedals his bike along the pathway.

He stops at a narrowboat. Paint flakes from the cabin. Curtains drawn. A name on the side reads: GALAHAD.

Iggy bangs on the roof. A MUFFLED response from inside.

**INT. THE GALAHAD - GALLEY - DAY**

Cramped and cluttered with junk. A dress shirt hangs from a rail. A badge pinned to the pocket reads: PALACE SECURITY.

BRYN, early 60s, unshaven, hard eyes set under a tattered fisherman's cap, fills a kettle and sets it on a hob.

BRYN

You want tea? There's no milk, well there is, but it's bad, so there isn't. So it's tea or water.

IGGY

What, like from the canal?

BRYN

That's strictly for washin'.

He sifts through cupboards, searches out some matches.

Iggy looks around, zeroes in on a framed photo of a NAVAL CLASS SHIP.

BRYN

Your Ma' working?

IGGY

Yeah.

BRYN

Where's your sister?

IGGY

Dad's.

BRYN

And you're not..?

IGGY  
He don't have the room.

BRYN  
He comes by though?

IGGY  
Sometimes. She just gives him a hard time. Don't like it when he's around.

BRYN  
It's doesn't. Not don't.

IGGY  
She doesn't like it.

BRIN  
There's a world of things your Ma' doesn't like.

Iggy crosses to the picture.

IGGY  
What's that?

BRYN  
What's it look like?

IGGY  
A battleship.

BRYN  
Round Table Class Landing Ship's what that is. What it was.

IGGY  
Was that the one you was on?

After a few failed strikes a match takes. Bryn stares at the flame a beat before lighting the hob.

BRYN  
What's your Ma' told you 'bout me?

Iggy wavers, not really knowing how to answer.

BRYN  
She send you down here on a recce, see if I was still here?

Iggy looks hurt. He pulls the envelope from his bag, drops it on the table.

IGGY  
Made me bring you this.

BRYN  
Postman an' all...

IGGY  
I was going this way anyway.

Iggy shoulders his pack, pauses at the exit.

IGGY  
Says you don't like people. You  
don't like work. You live on a boat  
so you can run away whenever you  
want, not have to bother with us.

With that he slips out the hatch.

**EXT. THE GALAHAD - STERN - DAY**

Bryn steps out, envelope in hand. He watches Iggy ride away, a twinge of shame in his eyes. The truth hurts.

**EXT. DISUSED TRAINING GROUND - DAY**

Iggy picks his way past the derelict buildings.

**INT. STOREROOM/IGGY'S BASE - DAY**

The poster litters the ground. Table overturned. Battery smashed. Wires trail from the Clansman's broken headset.

Iggy gathers up the radio piece-by-piece. Angry tears well in his eyes as he slips them into his pack.

Overseeing it all, a big smiley-face daubed on the wall.

**EXT. OVERGROWN DITCH - DAY**

Iggy stares at the stick marker, uncertain.

He opens the rusted tin, pauses...looks around.

He stuffs the wrapped grenade inside his backpack.

**EXT. CANAL - TOWPATH - DAY**

Iggy wheels his bike over a bridge. He reaches the pathway. Scully and co. loiter by a bench, blocking his path.

Too late to run. He keeps his head down. The Gang falls silent, parting as if to let Iggy through. At the last moment Scully snatches Iggy's pack from his shoulder.

SCULLY

You not heard of a phone?

Iggy drops his bike, spins for the pack. Scully dodges, tosses the bag to GRUB, 13, paunchy.

Grub takes a few steps back, shakes the bag, amused.

GRUB

It's in there, you can hear it clanking--

SCULLY

See if it floats!

IGGY

Gimme my bag!

GRUB

What d'you say?

Iggy tries to grab the bag, Grub tosses it over his head, Scully misses -- the bag lands with a THUMP. It rips.

Iggy loses it, charges Scully.

**AT THE GALAHAD**

Bryn steps onto the stern, drawn by the commotion. He spots Iggy scuffling with Scully.

**TOWPATH**

Iggy lies on the ground, Scully looms over him.

BRYN (O.S.)

(urgent)

Any you lads seen a dog?

Bryn appears behind them, a stick in one hand, saucepan in the other. A blanket wraps his arm from wrist to elbow.

All eyes shift to Bryn.

BRYN  
 Shepherd mix, little Rotty, touch  
 of Dane in the leg. He got free  
 again.

Bryn drums the stick against the pan. Holds out his arm,  
 presenting it for the 'dog' to bite.

BRYN  
 Stalin, it's me, it's a good boy.  
 (to the Gang)  
 Don't look him in the eye-- there's  
 no schools near here is there?

The Gang exchanges nervous glances.

BRYN  
 (mutters)  
 I can't go through that shit again.  
 Stalin!

Bryn SNAPS his jaw at Scully, imitating a dog.

BRYN  
 You see him, you don't do that, he  
 hates it.

Scully shrinks back, rattled.

YOUTHS #3 and #4 are already slipping away, not taking any  
 chances with this scruffy lunatic. Grub trades a look with  
 Scully, they quickly make to catch up.

BRYN  
 You see him, just jump in the  
 canal, he hates water. He's an  
 intolerant bastard. Stalin!

Iggy picks himself up, scuffed. His nose bleeds.

Bryn crosses to the torn bag, reaches down --

Iggy gets there first, defensive.

IGGY  
 I got it.

Bryn surveys the damage.

BRYN  
 Best not let your Ma' see you like  
 that.

**INT. THE GALAHAD - GALLEY - DAY**

Bryn rummages around in a cupboard.

Iggy sits, a handkerchief held to his nose. He spots the envelope in a rubbish bin.

BRYN  
Still bleeding?

IGGY  
I think it's stopped...I'd have sorted it.

BRYN  
Aye, you would.

IGGY  
I would, I'm not scared of them.

BRYN  
Nothing wrong with standing your ground. Your maths you want to work on. You have to know when to run.

IGGY  
Like you?

Bryn bristles, catches himself from turning.

BRYN  
Go on, get yourself cleaned up.  
Don't flush nothing, toilet's broke, you'll sink us.

Iggy slinks off to the bathroom.

Bryn finds what he's looking for -- a sewing kit.

He lifts the torn bag --

CLUNK.

He looks down to see a piece of broken headset trailing from its cord. He tilts, a faint smile finds his lips.

Piece by piece he pulls the broken radio from the bag, placing it on the table.

He delves in again, feels around...

...He freezes. The smile fades.

**BATHROOM**

Iggy towels his face. He steps out into the

**GALLEY**

Bryn, seated. The grenade set on the table before him.

Iggy stops cold, guilty as charged.

BRYN

L-two...good nick for its age. Know  
what that red band on the bottom  
means?

Iggy stares back in silence.

BRIN

Means that pin comes out it's over.  
You an' anyone in twenty feet.

IGGY

I-- I thought it were a dud.

BRYN

Thinking like that get you killed.

IGGY

Sorry.

BRYN

Coming home late's sorry. Bunking  
school's sorry. It's not for live  
ordnance...who gave it you?

IGGY

Found it.

BRYN

Where?

IGGY

Parfield.

BRYN

That where you found the radio?

Iggy nods.

BRYN

What were you gonna do with it?  
Blow up them lads?

IGGY

No!

BRYN

What then? Hawk it online as a novelty paperweight?

Iggy stands hunched in silence.

IGGY

I weren't gonna do nothing. Thought it were a dud, thought they'd find it, like they did the radio. Like they do everything...Am I gonna go to jail?

Bryn leans forward, hands clasped in thought.

**EXT. MEADOW - DAY**

Bryn carries the back-pack. Iggy follows at a good distance.

IGGY

How far is it?

BRYN

Doesn't sound like a safe distance to me.

**EXT. FOREST'S EDGE - DAY**

Bryn crouches at the base of a tree.

Iggy does the same -- at a safe distance.

BRYN

Just like I said, right?

Iggy nods.

**EXT. FOREST - DAY**

Bryn leads Iggy in a charge through the trees. They dodge and weave, pushing forward, tactical style.

Iggy comes to rest behind a fallen tree.

Bryn, flush from the run, takes up position twenty feet away. He peers out to see a rusting fridge in a clearing. He scans the perimeter, checking they're alone.

Iggy peeks over the log, frowns.

IGGY  
That a fridge?

BRYN  
Hotpoint T-three-seventy  
under-counter fridge-freezer.

IGGY  
How d'you know?

Bryn winces...don't ask. He unwraps the grenade.

IGGY  
What you doing?

BRYN  
Getting my taxes worth. I give the  
word you get down.

IGGY  
Can I watch?

BRYN  
You wanna watch, dig up a firework.

IGGY  
How long's it take?

BRYN  
Five second fuse, give take. That's  
if it doesn't go off in my face.

IGGY  
What if it does?

BRYN  
Your Ma' gets a boat. Ready?

Iggy thinks about it, nods.

Bryn pauses, thumbs the grenade's pin.

BRYN  
Don't be hard on her. She's been  
through it.

With that he slips out of sight towards the clearing.

Iggy listens to the CRUNCH of leaves, waiting...

Moments pass...Bryn scrambles over the log, drops down  
beside him. He pulls Iggy close, protective.

Iggy mouths the count: four, five, six...

A SHARP BANG!

Iggy flinches. Bryn tenses, for a moment he's somewhere else, another place and time. He buries it deep, shields Iggy as debris patters down around them.

The fridge door CLUNKS down a short distance away.

Silence.

Iggy giggles. Bryn fights a smile, slowly gives in, wheezing in amusement.

**EXT. MEADOW - DAY**

Iggy and Bryn traverse the landscape, side-by-side.

BRYN

Better you don't mention the you know what to your Ma'. She's got it in her head I'm irresponsible.

IGGY

I won't.

BRYN

An' no more playin' round Parfield.

**EXT. IGGY'S STREET - DAY**

Iggy and Bryn approach a semi-detached house. Iggy wheels his bike.

Marie opens the front door, sends Bryn a cold look.

BRYN

Bike trouble. Walked him home, eh.

IGGY

Puncture-- it just blew up.

Bryn tenses, unamused.

Marie eyes them, sensing the lie but accepting it.

MARIE

Tea's on the table...there's enough you want to join?

Iggy looks up at Bryn, hopeful. Bryn opens his coat to reveal the Palace Security name-tag pinned to his shirt.

BRYN

Nightshift. Have to be another day.

A faint smile passes between him and Marie. She nods.

MARIE

It's not getting any warmer.

She slips back inside.

BRYN

What d'you say we take a crack at that Clansman of yours? ...After school, an homework.

Iggy's face lights up.

BRYN

Go on.

Iggy turns to go--

BRYN

Hey--

Bryn presses something into his palm. Iggy knows what it is, grins.

**INT. IGGY'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY**

Iggy hurries in, tears up the stairs. Marie looks out from a side-room, watches after him with a smile.

**INT. IGGY'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY**

Iggy drops onto his bed. He opens his hand, stares at the contents...leans over to the shelf. He pulls back, studies his handiwork with a smile.

The toy Grenadier, positioned as before. The grenade's metal pin-loop dangles from its arm.

**FADE OUT**