

## ACT II

### **MUSIC 12: ENTR'ACTE**

#### **Scene 1 – Village Green**

*(Entr'acte music reveals COLIN, ROD and DENIS statues, stunned. DENIS and ROD have full pints, COLIN's is half empty and he has a wet bottom on his shirt. MARIE enters with a beer towel.)*

#### **MARIE**

There we are... there we are:

*(Gives it COLIN to wipe.)*

Bit of a shock, I know! I'd suggested '12 views of Yorkshire Bridges.' Not surprised you spilled your pint, me dropping that in the conversation. I sort of presumed your wives would've discussed doing a nude calendar beforehand but hey! As I know to my cost you can never be quite sure what your partner is up to! Anyway! Lovely chatting. Best get home.

*(They stand, stunned.)*

#### **COLIN**

Has your wife mentioned anything at all regarding / a...

#### **ROD**

Colin. Don't panic, ok? They're never gonna do a nude calendar.

#### **DENIS**

Oh cryin' out loud no. No.

#### **COLIN**

No. NO. God 'course they – no.

*(A beat of thought.)*

#### **COLIN**

I mean-

### **MUSIC 13: GIRLS (VILLAGE GREEN)**

JESS. MY JESS. THE THING THAT YOU HAVE TO...OK.

*(Breathes in.)*

YOU NEVER QUITE SEE HER UNDRESS.

IT'S IMPRESSIVE.

SHE'S THERE FULLY-CLOTHED

YOU POUR TEA, THEN LOOK UP

AND SHE'S THERE IN A NIGHTDRESS.

IT'S NOT THAT WE NEVER...

#### **DENIS & ROD**

No no.

**COLIN**

See each other in...  
(*Gestures loosely.*)

**ROD**

'In the -' er.. Right.

**DENIS**

**COLIN**  
SOME SITUATIONS, IT'S JUST..  
WE TEND TO DO NUDITY MORE  
ON A 'NEED TO KNOW' BASIS

**DENIS**

WELL CELIA -  
WHEN WE MET  
LONDON-DUSSELDORF  
AS AN AIR HOSTESS SHE WOULD REVEAL-

**COLIN**

(*Nods.*)  
Yes.

**DENIS**

NOT TOO MUCH.

**COLIN**

(*Shakes head.*)  
No.

**DENIS**

TO A MARK

**ROD**

Absolutely.

**DENIS**

THE SAME WAY THAT IN THE FILM 'JAWS'  
YOU NEVER SEE ALL OF THE SHARK.

(*Lost in a moment.*)  
AND NOW YOU FEAR THE GIRL WHO WALKED THROUGH LIFE  
LIKE SHE WAS WALKING THROUGH AN AIRPORT  
BROUGHT BACK UP HERE SHE SLIGHTLY...HIDES HER WORTH.  
SHOULD YOU EVER BRING AN ANGEL DOWN TO EARTH?

**ROD**

Look lads my wife, ok, she has these ideas one minute, next minute-  
(*Gestures 'evaporate'.*)  
Believe me, by tomorrow she'll be plannin' a charity sky dive. Come on, Den.

*(ROD and DENIS go off.)*

**COLIN**

AND MINE, WHO TAUGHT KIDS FOR FIFTY ODD YEARS  
TO BE WHAT THEY DREAMED THEY COULD BE  
DOES CROSSWORDS EACH NIGHT BY THE FIRE  
HER CLASS NOW, ALAS,

**DENIS (OFFSTAGE)**

*(Calls.)*  
Colin!

**COLIN**

- ONLY ME

**MUSIC 13A: DISMAYED DANNY**

*(DANNY wanders out, sits legs in river.)*

**DANNY**

'Can anyone see my nipp-'oh for gods' sake.

*(JENNY appears. She offers drink.)*

S'alright. I don't.

**JENNY**

Y've just seen y'r mum get her gongs out on a hill.

*(He still doesn't. 'Suit yourself.)*

Tell y' what though. Won't stop her telling you how you should behave. S'like mine. Havin' a car crash of a marriage doesn't stop her givin' relationship advice.

*(DANNY is drawn down to sit by her.)*

**DANNY**

Serious? D' your mum say that t' you an' all?

**MUSIC 14: PROTECT ME LESS**

**JENNY**

*(Swallowing 'er yeah')*  
Mg! First thing she said when we came down off the hill was-

**JENNY**  
Jennifer?

Jennifer?

**MARIE**