

SAY

WHAT YOU WANT

TO HEAR

PART 2: THE ENDGAME

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How are you feeling today? Is there anything that I can do for you?

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PLEASE indicate when you plan to change lane. PLEASE tell everyone by using your indicators which roundabout junction you are going to take.

=

I hope it doesn't take you too long to realise that you are not a victim of circumstances, but rather author of your own story.

=

James, yours is the opening line of the play.

PROLOGUE: SCARLETT IN SWYWTH-LAND

SFX: CUE SWYWTH MUSIC

SCARLETT: They're called swywths.

MIKE: SW-u-W-i-th!

ERIK: Sw-i-th!

MIKE: Shut up Erik.

SCARLETT: And they turn lives upside down.

MIKE: 'What is a swywth?' I hear you ask.

SCARLETT: They turned my life upside down.

MIKE: Swywths are those secret thoughts you usually keep to yourself – when you stare into the bathroom mirror in the morning or lie in bed last thing at night.

SCARLETT: 'how are you feeling today?'; 'you are the author of your own story'; every ship is a romantic object...'

ERIK: All you have to do is write down what it is you're thinking about, send it to us and then we'll say it for you. Say What You Want To Hear. SWYWTH!

SCARLETT: And so very quickly the swywths blew me Erik's way.

ERIK: I love you, just as you are - even when you're not being nice, I still love you.

SCARLETT: He melted my heart. My online heart, that is.

ERIK: She's real you know. It's not a game.

SCARLETT: They have magical powers, these swywths.
They push you around.

*MIKE: Yeah, well – a tenner says I meet Harrison Ford
before you get your girl.*

SCARLETT: They make you do things you wouldn't
otherwise do.

You'll see. Trust me. I know.



Say this to someone who you really dislike:

**'Go to hell. Go directly to hell.
Do not pass Go. Do not collect
two hundred pounds!**

=

**Computers are programmable but they don't
know what a chess player
really thinks.**

SCENE 1: ON A TRAIN FROM HULL TO LIVERPOOL

Erik is talking to Scarlett on the phone

- ERIK: So where are you now Scarlett?
- SCARLETT: I thought the whole point of the exercise was not to tell you anything – not my real name, not where I am.
- ERIK: You weren't down the docks in Hull that's all I know.
- SCARLETT: 'Go directly to Hull. Do not pass Go'
- ERIK: So why isn't this software working?
- SCARLETT: Computers, Erik, you can't trust them.
- ERIK: But when I put all *my* swywths into the computer it comes out right. It tells me I'm going to be in Liverpool.
- SCARLETT: You're always in Liverpool, Erik.
- ERIK: I've not even got to Manchester yet thanks to this bloody train. So why doesn't my prediction program work for you then?
- SCARLETT: This doesn't have to be a game of chess, Erik. Perhaps I should make it easy for you and just fly to Liverpool.
- ERIK: What and ruin my Sundays on the lovely TransPennine Express?

SCARLETT: Ah poor baby.

ERIK: If I get this to work we could afford to fly anywhere you want.

SCARLETT: It still all sounds a bit crazy to me. Most people don't know themselves where they're going to be next.

ERIK: Exactly! That's why it'd be useful. A computer program that can predict where you're going to be next. Who wouldn't want that?

SCARLETT: It feels like you're spying on people.

ERIK: No! I'm just trying to... find them. Or help them find themselves.

SCARLETT: You need to get back to Liverpool.

ERIK: And you need to get back to... Jorgen.

SCARLETT: Please Erik. Not that. When I'm talking to you I don't want to think about Jorgen. OK?

ERIK: Well, I don't particularly want to think about Liverpool



Sometimes people are too busy searching for happiness to spot that it's right on their doorstep waiting for them.

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So, why didn't you decide to descend the escalator sooner?

SCENE 2: THE BASEMENT OF MIKE & JEANNIE'S HOUSE

Mike is in his 'workshop', disembowelling a talking mermaid toy.

TOY: *[in a doll's voice] Hello I'm a mermaid.*

MIKE: Hello I'm Michael.

TOY: *I hope we can be friends for a long long time.*

MIKE: Oh you do, do you? Well let's see what happens if we take this out...

Mike fiddles.

TOY: *Life under the sea is so great.*

JEANNIE: *[from upstairs] Mike?! What are you doing down there?*

MIKE: Just mucking about.

Jeannie comes down into the basement

JEANNIE: Look I've seen that film 'The Stepfather'. I know what men do in basements. Good God. What have you done to Megan's mermaid?

MIKE: She said she didn't need it any more.

JEANNIE: She didn't mean you could perform major surgery on it. And what's that?

MIKE: It's a Darth Vader voice changer. I got it in New York. Listen. *[in the voice of Darth Vader]. 'The Force is strong with this one.'*

JEANNIE: What is wrong with you? Have you called Erik?

MIKE: No.

JEANNIE: You need to tell him about tomorrow. I don't want it to come as a surprise.

MIKE: [as Vader] *I will obey Master.*

JEANNIE: And where is he anyway?

MIKE: [as himself] It's Sunday. He'll be in Hull.

JEANNIE: Again?

MIKE: It's wherever the swywths take him, love. You know that. This week Hull. Last week Hull. the week before Hull..

JEANNIE: Someone ought to tell him his software isn't working.

MIKE: [as Vader again]: *'I find your lack of faith disturbing.'*

JEANNIE: It's not right the way that woman leads him on.

MIKE: Onto the rocks you mean.

JEANNIE: Eh?

MIKE: The rocks. [in a doll's voice] *'I'm a mermaid'.*

JEANNIE: Yeah well – you know what happens to men who mess with mermaids, don't you, Michael?

MIKE: What?

JEANNIE: They drown.



**I wish the world was flat and you'd fallen off
the edge rather than push me
to it!**

=

**I'm tired of playing cat and mouse, I want to
be caught already! I want to
hear him ask me; I want to
say yes for the rest of both
our lives.**

SCENE 3: A HOTEL ROOM IN NAPLES

***SCARLETT is seated at a desk tapping away at a laptop.
JURGEN comes in from the bathroom.***

JURGEN: Marina, who are you talking to?

SCARLETT: No-one. Just skyping some journalist.

JURGEN: Aren't you coming with me? 'See Naples and die!' don't they say?

SCARLETT: I've got a release to write.

JURGEN: It would be nice to have you on my arm. I can make all those young Italian men jealous.

SCARLETT: They come to see you, Jurgen. They love you.

JURGEN: Ach I'm just a silly old man.

SCARLETT: You're a legend and you know it.
Rummenigge'll be there.

JURGEN: It's like I'm married to him. Karl-Heinz is always trying to stand in front of me on the stage. Have you noticed that? Someone ought to have a word.

SCARLETT: Sylvie will look after you I'm sure. That's what an agent's paid for after all. Now go!

Jurgen comes closer for a goodbye kiss.

JURGEN: Now, before I go, how do I smell? It's the new scent they named after me. Jurgen Spruyer Cologne. You like it?

SCARLETT: It's very strong.

JURGEN: Like me.

SCARLETT: Yes, yes now go. You'll be late.

JURGEN: OK. Just don't fall off the edge of cyberspace,
Marina.

SCARLETT: Very funny. Now go!

Jurgen exits. Scarlett returns to her computer.

SCARLETT: [sighs]: Come and find me Erik. Soon.



**You joined the rat race only to be
disqualified after three false
starts. Do something else**

=

**Just because they are annoying doesn't
(always) mean that they are
wrong.**

=

**See the happy moron who doesn't give a
damn! I wish I was a moron -
my god I think I am!**

SCENE 4: MIKE & JEANNIE'S FRONT ROOM

Enter Jeannie noisily and in a rush.

JEANNIE: Sorry. Sorry I'm late. School run.

MIKE: No problem, love. Just finishing off the swywth doll. Listen:

Toy/Swywth: If I catch the eye of the boy on the train again, I'll just go up and say how I feel

JEANNIE: God help us. So have you told him?

MIKE: He's not here. He got stuck in Manchester.

JEANNIE: Don't tell me. His software said his girlfriend might be playing at Old Trafford. We'll ring him then.

ERIK: Don't you think it's a bit harsh to tell someone they've got to move out over the phone.

JEANNIE: A bit harsh? Look if we don't make a mortgage payment at the end this month we're all going to be moving out. I'm doing Erik a favour. He's getting notice.

MIKE: But he pays us rent every month.

JEANNIE: He does not. He just puts it against that twenty thousand pounds from his flat sale that we 'borrowed' – or rather you spent in America

MIKE: That's the rat race for you, Jeannie. I had to move fast and place an order.

JEANNIE: Oh aye and where exactly are these ten thousand talking Harrison Ford dolls you ordered. Jeez Mikey you are a moron sometimes. That Chinese guy must have seen you coming.

MIKE: You don't know that. He could still turn out to be genuine Far Eastern manufacturer.

JEANNIE: Yeah yeah and Harrison Ford is about to beat your door down to start swywthing for you. You're such a dreamer.



**It can't go on like this forever, something
has to give**

=

**You should do what your conscience says is
right not what he wants you
to do.**

SCENE 5: NAPLES AIRPORT

SFX: Airport departure lounge sounds. Scarlett tapping away on a laptop.

SCARLETT: ...so that's Naples done. Appearance money banked. Zurich next...

JURGEN: Good. They pay well in Switzerland.

SCARLETT: Rotterdam at the end of the week. I've booked the personal jet for that, so in between I thought I might make a quick trip to Liverpool...

JURGEN: *[immediately alert]* Liverpool? Why Liverpool?
[dismissively] I hate that team.

SCARLETT: *[tired]* Not everything is about football, Jurgen.

JURGEN: *[immediately suspicious]* What do you mean?
What do you know about Liverpool?

SCARLETT: I have some personal business there.

JURGEN: Well you can forget about that.

SCARLETT: I'm not expecting you to come with me.

JURGEN: And who will be paying for your flights? Don't be ridiculous. We always travel together.
[haughty] And I have no intention of going to Liverpool. It's bad enough passing through that terrible airport. Where they don't stock my aftershave, I might add. Or my swimwear line.

SCARLETT: You've never been to Liverpool?

JURGEN: We played them a couple of times at home.
Why this obsession with Liverpool all of a sudden?

SCARLETT: Why this folder on the laptop if you've never been to Liverpool?

JURGEN: What are you talking about?

Scarlett taps on the computer

SCARLETT: Here. On the desktop. The folder marked Liverpool. I tried opening it a few times but it's password protected.

JURGEN: Oh that's nothing. Something Sylvie put there, maybe.

SCARLETT: [sceptically] Sylvie. Your agent Sylvie?

JURGEN: [*firmly*] Marina, that Liverpool folder is strictly business. OK? Personal Jurgen Spruyer business.



It's all about the little things. The small moments of connection between the people we love that are so easy to pass by, but which are the most important part of the day.

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You are not the only one who feels that they don't know what they are doing. Most other people are just muddling through or bluffing.

==

That's a brilliant idea. You're on point on this one!

SCENE 6: IN THE BASEMENT

ERIK: So show me then.

Erik presses his doll and...

Toy/Swywth: Wouldn't it be great if mermaids really did exist?

MIKE: It's a swywth doll!

ERIK: A swywth doll?

MIKE: Yeah. Just download your swywths, put them in your doll and then press...

He presses the doll again and...

Toy/Swywth: Don't get wound up if they sit you next to someone who smells.

ERIK: And you made this?

MIKE: Well your mind's been on other things, mate.

ERIK: The prediction software you mean.

MIKE: Oh yeah that brilliant idea. Very 'on point'. No I mean Jurgen bloody Spruyer! How the hell did you work out he was involved?

ERIK: Oh yeah - well, she's let his first name slip a few times - and I already knew he'd been a footballer. So I googled 'Jurgen footballer' and there he was.

MIKE: He's legend mate. Three European cup winners medals. So now listen to this:

[sounding somewhere between Harrison Ford and Darth Vader]

'I'm after the man who tried to kill my wife'.

What do you think?

ERIK: Does Jeannie know you're trying to make a mermaid talk like Harrison Ford?

MIKE: Jeannie hasn't got my vision. This is going to make us millions

ERIK: Your vision's probably got highly attuned to this basement light. Like a loris or something.

MIKE: Oi! This stuff is huge in America. Talking dolls. There were even Indiana Jones ice lollies over there, mate. I'm telling you.

ERIK: What? Talking lollies? Is that what you spent my twenty thousand on?

MIKE: Alright mister 'one-way-ticket-to-hull'. We all have our own ways of dealing with setbacks.

Mine is to continue to innovate and earn us some money. Yours is to stalk Euro-WAGS on the internet.

Hey actually! Perhaps we could get Jurgen Spruyer to endorse a doll!

ERIK: I just want to find her.

MIKE: But that should be easy, shouldn't it?

ERIK: What do you mean?

MIKE: Isn't it obvious? [as Harrison Ford] '*Follow the footballer.*'

[as himself] They probably wheel him out at most European football matches. Where did your fancy woman say she'd been?

ERIK Helsinki, then Naples.

MIKE: There you go. Football fixtures I bet you. Go to the UEFA website and bob's your uncle - or rather Jurgen's your sweeper.



I'm fed up of reassuring my female friends that they are great, and that all their relationship problems are someone else's fault. The truth is it's usually their own fault.

Oh get on with it, I don't want to hear about the ins and outs of a ducks bottom.

SCENE 7: A CONFERENCE AUDITORIUM
IN ZURICH.

JURGEN: And what is it I'm putting my name to today, Sylvie?

SYLVIE: Jurgen Spruyer `s Krazy Soccer Circus.

JURGEN: How much are the Swiss paying?

SYLVIE: 50,000 euros.

JURGEN: Dear God for that I'd endorse a duck's bottom. Sylvie you are a great agent. But then again you do get ten per cent of everything.

SYLVIE: Not quite everything, darling. Now get on that stage.

Jurgen takes to a stage with music & applause

JURGEN: *Hello Zurich! Thank you Thank you. So you've heard of a crazy golf course, well now we have the crazy soccer course!*

We move away from the stage with Sylvie where Scarlett appears with laptop in hand.

SYLVIE: Oh hello Marina.

SCARLETT: Hello Sylvie. That suit looks nice. Blue is definitely your colour.

SYLVIE: As red is yours, darling. He's still very good, isn't he?

SCARLETT: For his age you mean?

SYLVIE: I'm sure you keep him young.

SCARLETT: Actually I need to talk to you about something.

SYLVIE: Me? What on earth would you want to talk to me about?

SCARLETT: Did you and Jurgen ever go to Liverpool?

SYLVIE: Liverpool? No I don't think so. He took me to London once. Wonderful!

SCARLETT: There's a folder on his laptop that's all. Marked Liverpool. Look.

SYLVIE: What's in it?

SCARLETT: It's password protected.

SYLVIE: How intriguing. He hates Liverpool.

SCARLETT: So you made the folder?

SYLVIE: I really can't remember darling. There was a point when he was opening and closing so many accounts it was hard to keep track.

SCARLETT: And you've no idea what's in there.

SYLVIE: It'll be money darling. It's always money with Jurgen. Money and secrets. Is that what interests you, darling?

SCARLETT: I'm just trying to tidy up you know.

SYLVIE: Oh you don't fool me Marina. Little girl in a gilded cage.

SFX: *Ring! Scarlett's phone goes off (on vibrate mode?)*

SYLVIE: Is that your phone making that noise? Aren't you going to answer it?

Scarlett answers the phone.

SCARLETT: Hello?

ERIK: Scarlett! It's me. It's Erik. I'm just about to take off.

SCARLETT: Erik?

ERIK: I'm on my way. To Zurich.

SCARLETT: Oh my God. How did you know I was here?

ERIK: Oh hell my nose is bleeding. I'll call you when I...

Phone cuts off. She puts down the phone.

SYLVIE: Marina are you OK?

SCARLETT: Oh yes. Sorry about that.

SYLVIE: A business call, was it, darling?



**Why is it that no matter how many I do,
there's always a vague worry
that I haven't peeled enough
potatoes?**

=

**You have the power to make people upset,
only because you make them
happy.**

=

**Please speak quickly I've just taken a
sleeping pill.**

SCENE 8: MIKE & JEANNIE'S BEDROOM

Mike & Jeannie are in bed.

- MIKE: Mind if I read in bed for bit, love?
- JEANNIE: Didn't have you down as a gossip mag reader
[snuggling in] So who is that?!
- MIKE: Well believe it or not that's Jurgen Spruyer,
Erik's footballer.
- JEANNIE: Is that a hair dye ad?
- MIKE: Sure is.
- JEANNIE: He's quite dishy. For his age I mean.
- MIKE: I bet he shifts a lot of hair dye. If only we had a
celebrity endorsement like that. We'd be flying,
you know?
- JEANNIE: Please Mikey. Not the 'H' word. I can tell you're
about to say it. It's driving me mad. You need
to think about something else. About you and
me, maybe. Doing things. Together.
- MIKE: Of course, love... but it's so hard to get it off
my mind, you know? Everywhere I look - there
he is.
- JEANNIE: Mike...
- MIKE: *[points at a page in the magazine]* No I mean -
there he is! In the magazine. See that? Biarritz
Film Festival. Harrison Ford. They've given him
a little medal of honour.

JEANNIE: OK. I give up. Pass the sleeping pills,
Casanova.

She turns her back on him

MIKE: I should be in Biarritz.

JEANNIE: Goodnight Michael!

MIKE: I bet if I put in all my swywths into Erik's
machine it'd say Biarritz.

Jeannie snaps

JEANNIE: No it wouldn't Michael. If we put all your
swywths into the machine it'd say Liverpool. In
fact it'd say 'Spare Room Liverpool'.



Say you really like a boy no I mean really like a boy and you think he might just like you to0 but you are both too shy to tell each other. Should you try to give him hints but what if he doesn't get those hints. I am so confused.

=

Can we have this conversation in the bedroom?

**SCENE 9: JURGEN'S HOTEL ROOM IN
ZURICH**

SCARLETT: I can't believe you're here.

ERIK: It's such a posh hotel. You've got matching dressing gowns.

SCARLETT: Nothing but the best for Jurgen.

ERIK: So your real name is Marina.

SCARLETT: And yours is?

ERIK: [*slightly surprised*] Erik!

SCARLETT: That's your real name?

ERIK: Yes! What did you think it'd be.

Scarlett laughs a little

SCARLETT: So what shall we do?

ERIK: I don't know. What would you normally do?
Raid the mini-bar?

SFX: RAT-TAT-TAT

A sudden big knock on the hotel room door

JURGEN: Hello? Hello? Marina?! Are you in there?

SCARLETT: Oh God. It's Jurgen!

JURGEN: Marina open this door. I have Sylvie with me.

SYLVIE: Hello sweetie!

SCARLETT: Bitch!

ERIK: Who?

JURGEN: Open this door.

SCARLETT: Okay okay.

She opens the door

JURGEN: What's going on in here? Who is this man?

SYLVIE: I told you something odd was going on, didn't I?

ERIK: Hello I'm Erik...

SCARLETT: He's... er... helping me with the computer.

SYLVIE: This is the man that was calling her. I'm sure of it.

JURGEN: You are English?

ERIK: Yes. That's right. From Liverpool.

JURGEN: Liverpool!? You come all the way from Liverpool to fix my computer?!

SCARLETT: The laptop is quite old, Jurgen. You know that.

JURGEN: Like me, you mean? [*cooly*] Very well. You, you will open up this laptop.

ERIK: What me?

JURGEN: Yes you. If this ancient laptop is broken then you will fix it. In fact you and I will sit down together and go through everything.

SYLVIE: I'd start with email if I were you.

SCARLETT: Sylvie, please...

JURGEN: That's actually a very good idea, Sylvie. Please
mister engineer from Liverpool. Proceed.



**Some people were made to own the toilets,
while others were made to
clean them.**

=

**I can't change the way you feel, but I can
put my arms around you.**

=

Just take the jammy dodgers.

SCENE 10: THE BASEMENT of MIKE & JEANNIE'S HOUSE

Enter Jeannie.

JEANNIE: Here's some more tea for you. And a couple of jammy dodgers.

She turns to go.

MIKE: Oh ta. Hey. Hey. Don't rush off. The kids are out. Erik's away in Zurich...

He grabs her

JEANNIE: I didn't say we needed to do it in the basement... Ouch!

Suddenly the swywth doll speaks:

Why does the BBC put on such trash?

MIKE: What the..? What was that?

JEANNIE: Sorry love I'm sitting on your mermaid.

The swywth doll speaks again

Sometimes I just want to die.

MIKE: Let me... get rid of that... Now where were we?

JEANNIE: Oh Mike. I'm not sure about this. Watch out... there's the teapot there too... the teapot!

SFX: A clatter of crockery, and fizz of liquid, an electrical bang

MIKE: What was that?

JEANNIE: The tea's gone all over the computer.

MIKE: That's Erik's machine! His prediction software!

JEANNIE: It's not broken is it?

MIKE: Well it wasn't exactly working before... oh that's interesting. Look at that.

JEANNIE: What?

MIKE: Well it's not saying Hull any more. Look.

JEANNIE: Rotterdam?! What's Erik doing in Rotterdam.

MIKE: He's not in Rotterdam, you mare. It's predicting he *will* be in Rotterdam.

JEANNIE: Perhaps you should call Erik and tell him.

MIKE: Yeah maybe. But then again...

JEANNIE: What love?

MIKE: Weren't we in the middle of something?



**If we knew each other's secrets we may not
be together. Keep some
secrets to yourself.**

=

**It's over. Yet it continuously feels like it isn't
and you just need that feeling
to disappear**

=

**We fear a hard reality muscling in on us; but
remember that reality is
something we create in our
shared imagination.**

=

I really, really wish you hadn't said that.

SCENE 11: IN A HOTEL LAUNDRY
CUPBOARD

Erik and Scarlett are squashed up close together.

ERIK: Well, this isn't quite how I imagined things would be...In a laundry cupboard in Zurich hiding from a German ex-international footballer...[pause] With you.

SCARLETT: With me.

ERIK: Now I know how Boris Becker must have felt.

SCARLETT: Shhh.

ERIK: I think he knows about us.

Scarlett giggles

ERIK: Do we really need to hide like this?

SCARLETT: It's just til he calms down. [pause] Anyway it's the laptop he's really worried about.

ERIK: The laptop?

SCARLETT: Secrets. Money secrets.

ERIK: Oh so it's not...

SCARLETT: Jealousy? Oh don't worry I'm sure he's jealous too. Now that he's read our emails.

ERIK: He was standing over me. I had to make it look like I was doing something.

SCARLETT: You hacked into my personal account.

ERIK: You heard him. He kept insisting it was his laptop.

SCARLETT: But I told you he never uses it. Not for years anyway.

ERIK: So those money secrets they're yours too?

SCARLETT: No. But they could be. Perhaps they should be.

ERIK: And what happens now?

SCARLETT: Well, once Jurgen's gone we open the door, walk out of this little box, and let our secret thoughts fly out and become reality.

I think the swywths have spoken, don't you?

SFX: RING! Erik's phone goes off.

ERIK: Damn it! I can't...

SCARLETT: Oh Erik!

Erik struggles to get at his phone and gets entangled with Scarlett.

ERIK: Sorry. I just need to... Oh bloody hell it's Mike.

Suddenly the cupboard door opens.

JURGEN: Aha! So I've found you. Curled up together.

Jurgen pulls Erik out of the cupboard lands him on his arse on the corridor floor.

SCARLETT: Stop it Jurgen! Leave him alone!

JURGEN: Do you think I'm a fool? Do you think I do not see who this man is?

SCARLETT: Stop it Jurgen. Remember who you are!

JURGEN: Liverpool. He is from Liverpool and comes for my laptop. I see what you are up to.

SCARLETT: Stop it, Jurgen!

Scarlett grabs Jurgen, pushes him away from Erik, pushed him against a wall.

JURGEN: I expected maybe you would leave me for a younger man sooner or later. But to steal from me. I won't let you do it.

SCARLETT: *[furious]* I can do what I like! This my life not yours. Do you understand, Jurgen? *This is *my* life!*

Stunned silence from the two men.

SCARLETT: You leave Erik alone. He's done nothing wrong.

JURGEN: What?

SCARLETT: He came here because he wanted to see me. That's all. He just wanted to see what would happen if we met in real life. To see if meeting face to face would change things. And do you know what, Jurgen? It has. It's changed everything. It may not feel like it has right now; but it has.

JURGEN: What are you talking about?

SCARLETT: I'm going to my room now.

JURGEN: Marina...

SCARLETT: No! Leave me alone.

ERIK: Scarlett?

SCARLETT: Both of you! Please. [*she moves off*] Let me go.



**I awoke in the dark and heard the night
catch its breath.**

=

**I skate to where the puck is going to be, not
where it has been.**

=

**Nothing really makes sense if you think
about it too much. The fact
anyone gets anything done is
quite astounding.**

SCENE 12: MIKE & JEANNIE'S BEDROOM

Jeannie is asleep. Mike rushes in.

MIKE: Wake up Jeannie! It's working! Wake up!

JEANNIE: [waking up] Oh God Mike can't you just go to sleep like normal men do? It's the middle of the night

MIKE: No not that! Well maybe that. Look I was reading the magazines again. Harrison Ford!

JEANNIE: That name is banned I tell you. Banned.

MIKE: No look! See? A lifetime achievement award in Deauville. And here a tribute to Polanski in Zurich. That medal in Biarritz. They're all film festivals – see?!

JEANNIE: Film festivals?

MIKE: So then I google Harrison Ford film festivals and -bingo! - a Zemeckis retrospective. Guess where?

JEANNIE: Hull?

MIKE: No! Don't you get it? It makes perfect sense. Eriks' machine. It says Rotterdam. Now here's the Rotterdam Film Festival! With Harrison Ford! It even here how he loves canal holidays!

JEANNIE: Right that's it. Spare room, Michael.

MIKE: Spare room? No, love it's Rotterdam or bust. I've already left a message for Erik. This is it

Jeannie. I'm back in motion. Like a puck on ice.
I've got my mojo back, baby!



Why can't people communicate more clearly and concisely? It's ambiguity that's the cause of most communication problems.

=

She doesn't know that you still have that gift wrapped up for her, does she?

=

Mark is calm and loving, Mark is calm and loving, Mark IS calm and loving

SCENE 13: THE HOTEL ROOM ZURICH

A knock on a hotel door. Jurgen opens it and in comes Sylvie.

JURGEN: Sylvie, at last. Come in. Something terrible has happened.

SYLVIE: What has been going on? The Swiss sports minister is downstairs waiting to meet you... My God! You've tied him up?!

ERIK: At last. Can you let me out of here please?

JURGEN: I didn't want him running off to the press. I read Marina's emails. They were plotting to steal the Liverpool money. I lost my mind.

SYLVIE: The Liverpool money?

ERIK: I said - can you let me out of here please?

JURGEN: A deposit box. In Liverpool. I never told you about it. I never told anyone.

SYLVIE: Oh Jurgen you fool. We've got to untie this man.

ERIK: That would be nice...

JURGEN: Just ten games that was all. In my whole career. Ten games pulling out of tackles. I wouldn't have even done it but the triads said they'd break my legs.

SYLVIE: No more Jurgen. Calm down. Not in front of this man.

ERIK: I don't want any trouble. If you just untie me, I'll go and find Scarlett and...

SFX: RRRRING! Erik's mobile goes off

SYLVIE: That is your phone?

SFX: RRING!

ERIK: Yes. Perhaps you ought to untie me now?

JURGEN: No!

SYLVIE: I'll deal with this. [she picks up] Hello?

MIKE: Erik! It's Mikey!

SYLVIE: Yes. Just a moment please. [to Jurgen] It's another accomplice. Someone called Markey. Or Mark?

ERIK: You mean Mike?! Let me speak to him.

SYLVIE: This is Sylvie Ackerman. Erik's a bit wrapped up at the moment. Do you have a message?

MIKE: A message?! Yeah sure. Er... Tell him I spilt tea on his computer...

SYLVIE: Is that a coded message?

MIKE: No! I just spilt tea on his computer and - God knows why - it made the program work. So can you tell him the good news: his setup in Liverpool is working! It's a triumph!

SYLVIE: The setup in Liverpool? You are calling from Liverpool?

MIKE: I'm off to the airport actually. Who did you say you were?

SYLVIE: Sylvie Ackerman. Jurgen Spruyer's agent.

MIKE: Oh right. Good! I've got the doll with me so maybe I could show...

SYLVIE: The 'doll' did you say?

MIKE: Yup it's a mermaid for now but...

SYLVIE: Mermaid? Is this code for Marina!?

MIKE: Yeah. OK. Marina. Look I'll call again from Rotterdam. Maybe Erik could head there too?

SYLVIE: And I suppose he should bring money.

MIKE: Oh so you've talked money already. Great. It's a twenty thousand. The same amount the Chinese guy wanted. Make sure he remembers that.

SYLVIE: Twenty thousand for the Chinese.

JURGEN: Mein Gott. It's the triads!

MIKE: Just say to Erik 'the swywths have spoken' and it's Rotterdam. He'll know what I mean.

SYLVIE: Oh I'm sure he will.

MIKE: OK. I need to catch a flight. Nice talking to you. Bye.

Mike hangs up.

SYLVIE: So the blackmailing begins. Your friend says the 'setup' in Liverpool is good and he thinks Jurgen can afford twenty thousand - to be delivered to Rotterdam.

ERIK: Mike said all that?

SYLVIE: Oh yes. They already know our itinerary it seems.

JURGEN: They do?

SYLVIE: Feyenoord, Jurgen. Your next football circus. In Rotterdam.

ERIK: I think there's been a mistake here. If you'd just untie...

SYLVIE: And the money being for your Chinese friends. That is a mistake too?

JURGEN: The triads. After all these years.

ERIK: I'm not sure you've got the right end of the stick here.

SYLVIE: One thing puzzles me, though. He said Marina was with him. But she's still in Zurich surely.

JURGEN: Don't worry. She's going nowhere. We always keep our passports together in my coat pocket. See?

ERIK: But... that's a British passport.

JURGEN: A Britische...?

ERIK: In fact that's... [*stunned*] that's *my* passport!
What are you doing with my passport?

JURGEN: [*equally stunned*] Ich verstehe nicht.

SYLVIE: [*a light dawning*] My God. She must have swapped the passports when you two were fighting. Oh she is clever.

JURGEN: But that's not possible. Marina is not like that.

ERIK: Scarlett wouldn't do that.

SYLVIA: Oh I think we are beginning to see that none of really know who 'Scarlett' is any more.



**My dear Rachel, I still love you - but I don't
know who you are anymore.**

=

**Remember that you're one of the lost now,
the forgotten.**

SCENE 14: THE FRONT DOOR OF MIKE & JEANNIE'S HOUSE

The doorbell rings. Jeannie answers the door.

SCARLETT: Excuse me. Hello?

JEANNIE: Hello?

SCARLETT: This is where you make 'say what you want to hear'?

JEANNIE: Yes that's right.

SCARLETT: I am Erik's friend? My name is Ma... my name is Scarlett?

JEANNIE: Oh look what the cat dragged in.

SCARLETT: I was looking for... Michael, is it?

JEANNIE: He's not here. He's gone to Holland.

SCARLETT: And is Erik...?

JEANNIE: Oh he's still in Zurich. Or was last time I heard.

SCARLETT: I'm sorry. I had to think on my feet. So I grabbed what I could...

JEANNIE: And now you're here.

SCARLETT: I don't have anywhere else to go.

JEANNIE: Well. You'd better come in . I'm Jeannie. Mike's wife. I just hope you haven't done anything stupid with those boys.



**You're a banqueting bunch of hypocrites,
who bore the pants of us
lower mortals everyday with
your benign stories of nothing
Slimy earthworms have had
more adventure than you**

=

**Most people are repetitions, mere extras in
the movie of life.**

SCENE 15: ROTTERDAM AIRPORT

SFX: **Sound of a plane landing, airport sounds, the arrivals gate.**

SYLVIE: Your nose is still bleeding Mister Stone. Jurgen give him your handkerchief.

ERIK: I'm sorry about this. It's the flying...

JURGEN: Please, try not to bleed on my monogram.

SYLVIE: Your friend is here? You see him?

MIKE: *[in the distance]* Erik! Erik mate!

ERIK: There he is.

They move towards Mike

MIKE: Hey mate! Erik in Rotterdam, as predicted by the software genius!

ERIK: Mike these people...

SYLVIE: Mister Ambler. I am Sylvie Ackerman. We spoke on the phone.

MIKE: ... and you're Jurgen Spruyer. A real honour to meet you, sir.

JURGEN: Let's get this over with.

SYLVIE: Here is a suitcase with 20 000 euros. And here is your friend's passport. We only detained him to be sure of a meeting.

MIKE: What's going on here Erik?

ERIK: Sorry Mike. I've just did what they said. I thought maybe Marina would be here.

MIKE: Marina?!

JURGEN: Marina doesn't care about you!

MIKE: *[thinking he understands]* Oh Marina! Actually I've got the doll here.

ERIK: No Mike I meant...

SYLVIE: So our little adventure is over. There will be no further mention of Liverpool or the Chinese.

MIKE: Ah, this is the money for the Chinese. I get it. So you *are* interested in the dolls. Great!

SYLVIE: This buys complete silence.

MIKE: Well, the whole point is they're talking dolls. I'll show you.

Mike gets out the doll

SYLVIE: What is this?

MIKE: You just press here, you see?

DOLL: It's not OK that she left you for him

JURGEN: Enough of this craziness! Come Sylvie. These worms have their money. Now we throw this laptop in the canal and get on with our lives.

ERIK: Hold on a minute. You can't do that.

JURGEN: I do what I like. I paid for it.

ERIK: But the laptop. That's Marina's.

JURGEN: This is my laptop. Everything of Marina's is mine. I repeat – I paid for it.

ERIK: But all her stuff's on there.

JURGEN: All of 'Scarlett's' email I think you mean. Good day.

ERIK: No you can't do that. Give that here.

A struggle ensues.

JURGEN: Was? No. Give me that computer!

Erik wrests the laptop free and runs off

ERIK: You're not having this. It's Marina's.

MIKE: Erik? Where are you going? Don't make a scene.

JURGEN: Come back here. He's got the laptop!

SYLVIE: Let him go, Jurgen.

MIKE: Erik. Come back!

SYLVIE: So Mister Ambler we are left to deal with you again.

MIKE: Right. So is any of this about swywth dolls? At all?



**Drink in the beauty of the earth, and see the
good in everyone**

=

**She looked at you and saw a wallet and a
sperm bank**

SCENE 16: MIKE & JEANNIE'S KITCHEN

Scarlett and Jeannie are eating a meal together

JEANNIE: Good morning. You slept for a long time. You must have been tired. Breakfast?

SCARLETT: I'm sorry. I should leave.

JEANNIE: And go where exactly.

SCARLETT: I need to find... I have no money. Jurgen will have cancelled all my credit cards by now.

JEANNIE: Blimey love you've really got your priorities mixed up. Credit cards are easy. Credit cards are ten-a-penny. A good man on the other hand... they're not all wallets and sperm banks. Here, take your pick.

Jeannie gets out her purse and reveals a stack of cards

SCARLETT: What is this?

JEANNIE: Credit cards! Seven of em. We've been living off them for months. Just don't tell Mike.

SCARLETT: I thought you were OK. I'm sorry.

JEANNIE: Blimey don't be. Look I knew when I married Mike I'd never be rich. But you know what? I didn't care. I just wanted him anyway. There's no reason to it.

SCARLETT: Are you trying to tell me something?

JEANNIE: I'd say that card's probably your best bet - although I did tell Erik I'd pay for his hotel In Rotterdam on that.

SCARLETT: Erik? Erik's in Rotterdam?

JEANNIE: Oh yeah he called. While you were asleep. And he said something about a laptop..?

SCARLETT: He has the laptop?

JEANNIE: Ooh look at your eyes light up now. Yes he's got the laptop. But what he really wants is you.

SCARLETT: I know.

JEANNIE: So if I tell you where he is and give you one of my credit cards here, what'll you do?

SCARLETT: I'll go to him.

JEANNIE: Ah but would you be going for the laptop or for him? That's the question.

SCARLETT: Is it so bad if I told you I wanted both?



**My glass is not half empty or half full, but
too small. Search the bar of
life for the biggest glass you
can find.**

**SCENE 17: AT FEYENOORD FOOTBALL
GROUND.**

***Mike is calling Erik's mobile. He gets straight
through to voicemail:***

ERIK: This is Erik. Please leave a message.

MIKE: Erik you need to call me. I'm at the Feyenoord
game with Jurgen. Executive box. Sweet!

A roar from the crowd

JURGEN: [off] You want another beer, Mike?

MIKE: Yeah great Jurgen. Get 'em in!

[to Erik] Look I don't know which hotel you're
hiding in but there's a great deal going down
here. Jurgen he's not a bad bloke as it goes. He
likes the doll! And he's even got movie business
connections.

*JURGEN: [off] Mike. Come and say hello to Karl
Heinz..*

MIKE: Yeah just coming!

[back to Erik] He was in Escape To Victory 3,
mate! He's met Hollywood A-listers. So call me
back soon. And don't do anything stupid with
that girlfriend of yours.



**Why do you think I'm joking when I say I
love you Kina? Are you afraid
the spell will break?**

=

**One day in summer, wear a swishy skirt, find
a field of grass, take off your
shoes and twirl, run, dance,
sing. this is happiness**

SCENE 18: IN A ROTTERDAM HOTEL

The tap-tap of Erik working on the laptop.

ERIK: It's nearly done.

SCARLETT: You've unlocked the files?

ERIK: Yes

She comes close leaning over Erik

SCARLETT [contd]: Show me.

SFX: A few more keyboard taps and clicks

ERIK: There.

SCARLETT: It's all there. Payments from... China ...
Account details. Access codes! We can just walk
in there and clean out the boxes!

ERIK: So... what happens now?

SCARLETT: You've rescued me Erik.

She kisses Erik

SCARLETT [contd]: I must pack.

She grabs her suitcase and throws it on the bed.

ERIK: You're going straight away?

Scarlett busies herself with packing.

SCARLETT: Back to Liverpool, yes. Obviously.

ERIK: Right now.

SCARLETT: Why wait?

ERIK: I thought maybe if Mike came with the passport we could...

SCARLETT: Erik we will have lots of time together I promise. Find a field of grass, take off your shoes and twirl, run, dance, sing. But first we need to finish this.

Scarlett continues to talk whilst packing

SCARLETT: [contd] Ah I can't begin to tell you how free I feel! The swywths, the money. It's fate!

ERIK: And us?

SCARLETT: Erik you are an amazing person.

ERIK: I am?

SCARLETT: Yes. Look where you are. In a cheap hotel in Rotterdam with a strange woman you hardly know – about to become my accomplice.

ERIK: [*enjoying the idea*] Well when you put it like that...

SCARLETT: And how did we get here? Because of you, Erik. Because of the swywths.

Abruptly Scarlett picks up her bag.

SCARLETT: So now I have to go.

ERIK: I'm coming with you.

SCARLETT: Passport Erik. You need to call Mike.

ERIK: But how do I know...?

SCARLETT: He's your best friend. He'll come. He loves you.

ERIK: I mean how do I know you're not going to just run off without me?

SCARLETT: You don't Erik. That's what makes us free.



I just lost the Game

=

**I am proud of you. I wish I were with you
physically rather than
watching over you from here.**

=

**I know that my silent treatment is so loud,
that it has almost certainly
deafened you.**

**SCENE 19: ON THE FERRY FROM
ROTTERDAM TO HULL**

SFX: *A big ferry horn, gulls crying etc*

ERIK: Thanks for coming to get me.

MIKE: Ah it talks! Finally. A talking Erik! Perhaps we can market that.

ERIK: I've been a mug, haven't I?

MIKE: Not at all. It's all part of the game. I'm just glad to have escaped basement level for a while.

ERIK: But why the ferry?

MIKE: Your software spoke. 'Go to Hull'

ERIK: Very funny.

MIKE: Actually... I promised Jurgen I'd take you there.

ERIK: Jurgen! how could you Erik?

MIKE: He's got some event at the football ground and he wanted to see you.

ERIK: You've stitched me up!

MIKE: Now don't panic. It's fine. He just wants to wrap things up. Come on Erik it's the least you can do after letting 'marine doll' run off with all his money.

They move down to the exit

ERIK: She's not coming back, is she?

MIKE: No. *[pause]* She stole Jeannie's wallet too, you know.

ERIK: She did what?

MIKE: Half-inched it while she was there. Took all the cards. I'm sorry Erik.

ERIK: Right. So I really was taken for a ride.

MIKE: Yes mate. But you've got to admit. It was one hell of a ride!



**When you are right about someone and
know you should be wrong -
that's when it hurts.**

=

You left me, now get out of my head.

SCENE 20: DOCKSIDE IN HULL

JURGEN: She is an amazing woman,

ERIK: So you've talked to her?

JURGEN: She knew my itinerary. I supposed she knew you would be arriving here too.

ERIK: She planned everything, you mean.

JURGEN: No. I don't think so. She's just... resourceful. but you would know that about her.

ERIK: Where is she, Jurgen?

JURGEN: I don't know. She offered me a deal. I leave her to start a new life, and she gives me back the laptop. Simple.

ERIK: And the money?

JURGEN: Ach I am happy for her to have the money. I never touched it. Sylvie said I should have spent it, but it was... dirty. Ah, here is Sylvie.

Enter Sylvie

SYLVIE: Jurgen where is your scarf? You'll catch your death.

JURGEN: Stop fussing woman. You will be heading home now, Erik? To Liv... that place.

ERIK: I suppose so.

SYLVIE: You should be happy. Your friend Michael has won the exclusive worldwide license for a talking Jurgen Spruyer doll.

ERIK: What?

JURGEN: It's a doll that predicts the results of soccer matches. Completely randomly you understand.

ERIK: You bought him. You bought Mike.

SYLVIE: It will be very popular. You'll make lots of money.

ERIK: I didn't do all this for money.

JURGEN: Go home. Erik. Be happy. I think perhaps you have had a lucky escape.

ERIK: No. That was my chance to escape. And now it's gone.



**Bitterness is like swallowing poison but
expecting someone else to
drop down dead.**

=

All will be well.

=

We've written off all your debts!

SCENE 21: MIKE AND JEANNIE'S FRONT ROOM

SFX: *Mike and Jeannie whoop and laugh. A champagne cork pops.*

MIKE: Here try it. I put in some teams.

JURGEN TOY: Norwich City Five. Ipswich Town Nil

JEANNIE: And that's a predicted result for Saturday?

MIKE: Yeah. Try another one.

JURGEN TOY: Liverpool 2 Hull City 2

ERIK: Hullo!?

Enter Erik

MIKE: Ah here he is! The king of the swywths. Come on in.

JEANNIE: Hello Erik love. Have a glass of champagne.

ERIK: What are we celebrating? As if I didn't know.

MIKE: What are we celebrating? What are we *not* celebrating? The swywths! The dolls! The whole bloody saga.

JEANNIE: And let's not forget Marina.

ERIK: Please let's not talk about her.

MIKE: Hasn't she told you? Hasn't she been in touch?

ERIK: No she has not been in touch.

JEANNIE: Oh Erik. She did an amazing thing. Those credit cards of mine. She paid them all off! The whole lot!

ERIK: Marina? But I thought she'd stolen them.

MIKE: No! She paid them all off. And look at this. She's put money in the business account too. Look.

Mike waves a piece of paper under Erik's nose

ERIK: Five hundred thou.... Are you kidding? So that's her good-bye note is it? Goodbye forever you suckers.

JEANNIE: No love. No. You've got the wrong end of the stick. That's not it at all. Michael, tell him you idiot.

ERIK: Tell me what?

MIKE: Oh yes silly me. Well, there was a swywth Erik. And... well... *[Mike gets serious for once]* I thought - Jeannie and I thought -I should read one out for you.

ERIK/JEANNIE: Not...

MIKE: No not as Harrsino Ford. So here goes [clears throat] *"Next year, Wembley. 21st of May. Next year. Stay patient while things die down. One more year. Then come to Wembley."*

ERIK: Come to Wembley?

JEANNIE: Hold on he's not finished.

MIKE: "Look for a woman [big pause] called Ruby."

Short silence while Erik takes it in

MIKE: So now will you have some champagne?

JEANNIE: She hasn't left you. She's telling you where she's going to be. Isn't that what you wanted to hear?

Cue outro music

SCENE 22: EPILOGUE

ANNOUNCER: Say What You Want to Here. We Record the
Voices Inside Your Head

The ability to suffer is important.

=

Next year, Wembley. 21st of May. Next year.

**Stay patient while things die
down. One more year. Then
come to Wembley. Look for a
woman called Ruby.**

SCARLETT: So you see? I was right. The swywths do have magical powers.

Believe me, I was never that kind of person before – switching passports, raiding bank accounts, running off with a man I'd met on the Internet.

It was the swywths that changed me. As they'll change you if you'll let them.

You should try it yourself. Think of those things you say to yourself – about who really want to be, about what you really want to do - and who you want to do them with. Then – say what you want to hear. See where it takes you.

Will it be Wembley perhaps?