

United Front

A full-length play

By Mélisa Annis

Melisa Annis
1-646-388-0710
Melisa.annis@gmail.com

CAST:

Kevin - A son

Corin - A father

Sheila - A government worker

Jay - A neighbor.

LOCATION:

England.

WHEN:

Present.

	Living room. Council flat.	*
	England. 2001.	*
1. MONDAY		*
	An aerobic exercise sequence is coming from the television, one of those shitty daytime workout segments.	* * *
	Kevin is doing a combination of star jumps and strange hip thrusts to the sounds of the motivational exercise talk from the TV.	* * *
	Panting on a chair is Jay, his long pale gangling arms hanging out of his vest. In each hand he has a can of Heinz beans as weights.	* * *
	KEVIN	*
My stitch is going to burst out of my side!		*
	Jay	*
Ten more seconds!		*
	(beat)	*
Fuck!		*
	She's enthusiastic...	*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
Fuuuuuuck!		*
	Jay pulls the cans of beans over the top of his head.	* *
	KEVIN	*
Five, four, three, two...		*
	Exhausted.	*
	Jay	*
[Fuck].		*

	KEVIN	*
[Fuck].		*
	They listen to the saccharin woman's daytime TV enthusiasm. She wants to do it all over again.	*
		*
	...	*
	...	*
Pass the...	Jay	*
		*
	KEVIN	*
Now?		*
	Jay	*
	(justifying)	*
I've got a stitch.		*
	Kevin throws him the tobacco pouch.	*
	Jay skins up.	*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
I want to look like that.		*
	Jay	*
You've already got the tits. [Joke].		*
	Kevin mutes the TV.	*
	...	*
	Jay	*
Whatever mate. You look alright to me.		*
	KEVIN	*
Thanks.		*
	Jay	*
Maybe you just don't have the body type to be like that... you know?		*

	KEVIN	*
Pass the -		*
	He does.	*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
I stink.		*
	Jay	*
Me too.		*
	He takes another drag then passes the joint back.	*
		*
	Jay	*
Gotta be at the job centre by twelve. New Deal meeting. Fuck new deal.		*
	He passes the joint.	*
		*
	KEVIN	*
What time you got to be there?		*
	Jay	*
Twelve.		*
	KEVIN	*
It's almost / twelve.		*
	Jay	*
Yeah I'd better go.		*
	KEVIN	*
You not gonna go home and shower first?		*
	Jay smells his own armpits.	*
		*
	Jay	*
Nah.		*
	Jay puts a shirt on.	*
		*
	He wants the joint. He gets it.	*

	Kevin fishes out a packet of crisps from underneath the sofa.	*
		*
Pass one over.	Jay	*
		*
	He chucks over a packet.	*
	...	*
Ja'see Big Brother last night?	JAY	*
		*
Fell asleep.	KEVIN	*
		*
Steve got kicked out.	JAY	*
		*
Now you spoiled it -	KEVIN	*
		*
You didn't see it -	JAY	*
		*
I could watch the repeat!	KEVIN	*
		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
You're gonna be late. If you're late they'll sanction you for a week.		*
		*
Fuck them!	JAY	*
		*
No, not fuck them Jay.	KEVIN	*
		*
Whatever. I better go.	JAY	*
		*
	He starts to go again.	*

	Jay	*
They started construction on the new building. They're gonna have doors like in Star Trek. Like *beep* pftshhh... Did you see how much they're selling them for?		*
	KEVIN	*
Don't really care.		*
	(beat)	*
How much?		*
	JAY	*
A fuck load.		*
	KEVIN	*
Jesus.		*
	JAY	*
We should get some beers and give F-block a send off. Wha-da-ya-think?		*
	KEVIN	*
It's gonna be weird looking out on a different view.		*
	Corin Enters	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Stinks in here.		*
	JAY	*
I'd better be off.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Where's he going?		*
	KEVIN	*
Job centre.		*
	Jay	*
New deal.		*
	...	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Where's the...		*
	Kevin points him to the tobacco pouch.	*

	SERGEANT CORIN	*
And the...		*
	JAY	*
Here.		*
	He hands Corin the lighter. Corin hands them off to Kevin.	*
	Jay goes to leave.	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
	(to Jay)	*
Hey.		*
	JAY	*
[What]? I've got to go.		*
	Kevin rolls a cigarette.	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Did you get the - ?		*
	Jay	*
Nah.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
I know you did, I saw you talking to that idiot Steve -		*
	JaY	*
No you didn't.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Hand them over. Come on.		*
	He takes out some pills.	*
	<u>KEVIN</u>	*
<u>I wish you wouldn't.</u>		*
	Jay	*
Ten quid for four.		*

	SERGEANT CORIN	*
You're joking.		*
	(to Kevin)	*
He's joking right?		*
	Jay	*
You're costing me a fortune. Aright... A fiver.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
You've got a nerve.		*
	(beat)	*
I'll give you a quid. Twenty five pence a piece.		*
	Jay	*
You're ripping me off.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Hey, who feeds you when your mothers had enough of you?		*
	Jay fishes out four pills...	*
	Jay	*
I'm gonna be late...		*
	Corin gets the pills.	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Give him a quid will you son?		*
	Kevin reaches into his pocket.	*
	Jay	*
	(he takes it)	*
See you later.		*
	Jay exits.	*
	...	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Is that -?		*
	KEVIN	*
There's a bit left -		*
	He passes his father the ashtray with the joint.	*

... *

SERGEANT CORIN *

This place is a fucking mess. I thought I told you to clean up. *

KEVIN *

I'll clean up in a bit. *

SERGEANT CORIN *

Too late now, Mr. Evans'll be here at one. *

KEVIN *

I will... *

SERGEANT CORIN *

Nah. We need to practice. *

Corin sits himself down. *

KEVIN *

You're not going to do the leg shakes are you? *

SERGEANT CORIN *

Might - *

KEVIN *

No frothing [at the mouth]. *

SERGEANT CORIN *

I'll see what the moment calls for. *

(re his feet) *

Come on. *

... *

KEVIN *

Don't know why we have to do this every fucking year. *

KEVIN *

[Whatever]. *

SERGEANT CORIN *

[Whatever]. *

KEVIN *

I hate it. Makes me feel like a prick. *

	SERGEANT CORIN	*
You are a prick.		*
	KEVIN	*
	(re Corins trousers)	*
Come on then.		*
	Corin sticks his naked feet out, Kevin rolls up the trouser leg.	*
	Kevin starts putting his fathers sock on -	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Watch my toenail.		*
	Kevin does.	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
	(re socks)	*
And...[the other one]		*
	KEVIN	*
Yup.		*
	Kevin puts both socks on his father.	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Good. Again.		*
	KEVIN	*
[Aw]		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
That did not look like you do it every day! Do it again.		*
	Kevin takes his fathers socks off.	*
	...	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Did you hear that banging last night?		*
	KEVIN	*
No.		*

Didn't sleep a wink.	SERGEANT CORIN	*
		*
I didn't hear anything.	KEVIN	*
		*
I heard it!	SERGEANT CORIN	*
		*
I'm not saying you didn't.	KEVIN	*
		*
Watch -	SERGEANT CORIN (re feet)	*
		*
Toe nail, I know.	KEVIN	*
		*
	...	*
Maybe it was them outside you heard.	KEVIN	*
		*
I know the difference between outside an upstairs.	SERGEANT CORIN	*
		*
I'm just saying -	KEVIN	*
		*
What you saying?	SERGEANT CORIN	*
		*
They put some heavy duty barriers up around F-block the past few days. Maybe that's what you heard.	KEVIN	*
		*
One more time.	SERGEANT CORIN	*
		*
	...	*
Jay said they've started construction on the new building already.	KEVIN	*
		*

	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Can't even wait for the dust to settle.		*
	KEVIN	*
Do you think it'll be dusty?		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
It's a controlled demolition Kevin, course it's gonna be -		*
	KEVIN	*
It'll be weird wont it. Not having F-block right there.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Watch!		*
	KEVIN	*
I am watching.		*
	Both socks are on again.	*
	He starts again.	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
They better not be trouble makers.		*
	KEVIN	*
Who?		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Those new tenants upstairs. Fucking immigrants I bet.		*
	KEVIN	*
There's / no one -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
I don't like it one bit. This was always a nice block. Always knew who your neighbors were.		*
	A knock on the door.	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Shit. He must be early.		*
	(re ashtray)	*
Take -		*
	Kevin hides the ashtray.	*

	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Shit!		*
	A knock on the door.	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Help me with -		*
	[Kevin helps Corin put an army jacket on. Kevin starts on the buttons].	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Leave it. Get the door.		*
	Kevin pulls the air freshener out and sprays.	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Get the door.		*
	(re the socks on his feet)	*
Shit.		*
	He pulls them off.	*
	Sheila	*
	(from off)	*
Hello?		*
	... Stop ...	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
	(whispering)	*
Who the fucks that?		*
	KEVIN	*
	(whispering)	*
I dunno.		*
	A knock.	*
	SHEILA	*
	(from off)	*
Hello?		*
	KEVIN	*
	(whispering)	*
Doesn't sound like Evans.		*

	SERGEANT CORIN	*
	(whispering)	*
Course it's not fucking Evans.		*
	KEVIN	*
	(whispering)	*
Maybe it's Jehovah's witness.		*
	SHEILA	*
Hello?		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Then tell them to fuck off.		*
	KEVIN	*
Aright.		*
	Kevin opens the door.	*
		*
	KEVIN	*
	(to Sheila)	*
Oh.		*
	Sheila a woman around the same age as Kevin, wearing a head scarf, she stands at the door.	*
		*
	SheILA	*
Hi.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
/ Always coming at the worst time.		*
	ShEILA	*
	(introduction)	*
Sheila.		*
	KEVIN	*
Yeah -		*
	ShEILA	*
I'm here from the benefits office -		*
	KEVIN	*
You are?		*

Pain in the ass.	SERGEANT CORIN	*
		*
I have an appointment.	SHEILA	*
		*
	Corin turns finally -	*
/ Hey!	SERGEANT CORIN	*
		*
No Pa'	KEVIN	*
		*
I -	ShEILA	*
		*
Come in -	KEVIN	*
		*
	She steps in.	*
	...	*
You must / be -	SHEILA	*
		*
Are you from upstairs?	SERGEANT CORIN (sees her)	*
		*
My / name is -	ShEILA	*
		*
I won't put up with that racket.	SERGEANT CORIN	*
		*
Pa -	KEVIN	*
		*
Mr -	SHEILA	*
		*
I'm sorry -	KEVIN	*
		*

My name is Sheila -	ShEILA	*
		*
I don't give / a -	SERGEANT CORIN	*
		*
Pa!	KEVIN	*
		*
I'm here from the benefits office!	ShEILA	*
		*
	...	*
	...	*
You should be expecting me. For the review.	SHEILA	*
		*
	...	*
I'm here to assess your benefits package.	ShEILA	*
		*
We were / expecting -	SERGEANT CORIN	*
		*
Can I take...?	KEVIN	*
		*
Yes.	SHEILA	*
		*
	She takes off her coat.	*
	He takes her coat.	*
Sit. Sit.	KEVIN	*
		*
	And he leaves with her coat.	*
	...	*
	...	*

	She sits.	*
	...	*
	...	*
Mr -	ShEILA	*
		*
Sergeant. Where's Evans?	SERGEANT CORIN	*
		*
He's not here.	SHEILA	*
		*
I can see that.	SERGEANT CORIN	*
		*
There's been a re-structuring.	ShEILA	*
		*
Shit.	SERGEANT CORIN	*
		*
If you wouldn't mind curbing you're language.	ShEILA	*
		*
	...	*
		*
You're early.	SERGEANT CORIN	*
		*
Yes. I was worried that I'd get lost - these towers they all look the same to me.	ShEILA	*
		*
Not from round here then?	SERGEANT CORIN	*
		*
Actually / I -	SHEILA	*
		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
	(calling)	*
Where's that lad? Kevin? Kev? Kevin!		*
		*
	Kevin stumbles in.	*

	KEVIN	*
	(to Sheila)	*
I put your coat on my bed.		*
	...	*
	...	*
	sheila	*
Mr -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Sergeant.		*
	ShEILA	*
Yes.		*
	...	*
	ShEILA	*
How are you?		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Surviving. Just. Considering.		*
	Sheila	*
You're feeling well?		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
[Feeling]?		*
	ShEILA	*
[Yes]. How are you feeling?		*
	...	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Nah. This isn't working for me. I want to see Evans.		*
	ShEILA	*
Councilor Evans is no longer employed / by the -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Why not?		*

ShEILA	*
I'm afraid I can't disclose that information.	*
(new subject)	*
I see by your file -	*
SERGEANT CORIN	*
I'm sitting right here - no need to look at a file.	*
...	*
ShEILA	*
So I'm here to talk about -	*
SERGEANT CORIN	*
I know why you're here.	*
...	*
SHEILA	*
You've been claiming disability since 1992.	*
SERGEANT CORIN	*
That's right.	*
ShEILA	*
Since your discharge / from -	*
SERGEANT CORIN	*
Proud desert rat.	*
ShEILA	*
Iraq?	*
SERGEANT CORIN	*
That's what I just said.	*
(pointed)	*
Didn't you see that in your file?	*
...	*
SheILA	*
As I'm sure you're aware, there have been some changes made to the benefits system at large. You will have received letters... Yes?	*
KEVIN	*
Yeah, we saw something.	*

	...	*
	SHEILA	*
	(to Corin)	*
	Then you understand the nature of this review... Lets start with your physical problems.	*
	The problems that prevent you from seeking employment.	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Kevin.		*
	Kevin runs down to his fathers feet.	*
	ShEILA	*
What are you / doing - ?		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
You want to see if I qualify. You're new. I understand. I'm a reasonable man.		*
	ShEILA	*
There's no need / to -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
You want to know about my problems...?		*
	He lifts his foot for Kevin, his leg shakes violently -	*
		*
	KEVIN	*
Pa' -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
See for yourself.		*
	ShEILA	*
This isn't... This is / not how we -		*
	Corin tries to reach down to put on a sock.	*
	Makes a show of not being able to do it. Kevin puts them on for him.	*
		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
It's just terrible. It's those tablets they gave us. Aches all over.		*
	(re nail)	*
Watch my -		*

	KEVIN	*
I'm watching.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
He has to do it all. Don't you son...		*
	KEVIN	*
/ Um...		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Tell her.		*
	KEVIN	*
Yeah. Yeah, I do everything for him.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Tell her all the things you have to do for me.		*
	KEVIN	*
I...		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
He dresses me, bathes me, cleans underneath my balls if I ask him nicely. Don't you son.		*
	KEVIN	*
Yeah, I clean underneath his balls.		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
I see.		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
There are some things I should explain to you -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
I know the drill.		*
	ShEILA	*
There is no / drill sir.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
I can't put my own socks on.		*

	SHEILA	*
/ It's not that -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
- And if I can't even do that...		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
There are new ways of assessing now. It's a new system.		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
I need to ask you to perform a few exercises for me. I'll show, you repeat.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
What am I a seal?		*
	SHEILA	*
It's very simple.		*
	...	*
	...	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Alright.		*
	Corin gets up.	*
	Kevin runs to his fathers aid as Corin struggles to stand.	*
	SHEILA	*
I'm sorry, but your father has to complete this assessment by himself.		*
	KEVIN	*
Oh.		*
	SHEILA	*
Perhaps it would be best if you - would you mind?		*
	KEVIN	*
Not at all -		*

	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Anything you need to say -		*
	SHEILA	*
I would prefer / to -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
I'm not ashamed to say anything in front of my son -		*
	SHEILA	*
I / realize -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Or do anything.		*
	SHEILA	*
You need to be assessed without the / help of a -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
He can stand over there.		*
	SHEILA	*
I would much prefer it... Would you give us some privacy?		*
	KEVIN	*
Yeah.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
He stays.		*
	SHEILA	*
	(takes a deep breath)	*
Are you telling me that you are mentally incapacitated?		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
No!		*
	SHEILA	*
So you <u>can</u> speak for yourself -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Of course / I can.		*
	SHEILA	*
Is your son your legal guardian? Your caregiver?		*

	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Yes. / Yes he is.		*
	SHEILA (to Kevin)	*
So then you've registered to the state, as a caregiver?		*
	KEVIN	*
Umm...		*
	SHEILA (hard on Kevin now)	*
Have you?		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
No he hasn't.		*
	SHEILA (to Kevin)	*
And why not?		*
	KEVIN	*
Because we can't afford it - they'd stop my benefit.		*
	She writes.	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
What are you writing? What is she writing?		*
	KEVIN	*
I won't help him at all, I won't say a word... I'll just stand here.		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
Please.		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
He can't assist you with anything. Including any questions I may have.		*
	Kevin steps away.	*
	...	*

	She stands.	*
	SHEILA	*
Please stand.		*
	Corin does.	*
	SHEILA	*
These are a few very simple...		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
Can you stretch out your arms, like this?		*
	He does.	*
	SHEILA	*
Good.		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
Now pull them in, like this...		*
	He does	*
	She writes.	*
	SHEILA	*
Can you open them wide?		*
	He does.	*
	SHEILA	*
Now bring the up, like this.		*
	He does.	*
	SHEILA	*
Can you clench your fist in that position?		*
	He does. He really does...	*
	SHEILA	*
And open them?		*

... *

SHEILA *

Can you open them please? *

He looks her dead in the eye. Opens them. *

SHEILA *

That's good. Now I want you to open and close your arms like this. *

She shows him. He does it. *

SHEILA *

Continue to repeat the action. *

He does. *

SHEILA *

You stopped seeing your designated support officer in 1996. *

He continues. *

SERGEANT CORIN *

He was an idiot. *

SHEILA *

You felt that the treatment was not satisfactory. *

(re movement) *

You can stop that now... *

SERGEANT CORIN *

Packy doctor didn't / know what the fuck he was talking about. *

KEVIN *

Oh god. *

SHEILA *

This will be your final warning on using colorful language in my presence. *

SERGEANT CORIN *

It's my house, I can say / whatever I want. *

SHEILA *

It's technically the councils house. *

	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Are you threatening me?		*
	SHEILA	*
Simply stating facts. You may sit.		*
	...	*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
I would like to inform you about a new program that the government is implementing. It's called Flexible New Deal -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Is it more money?		*
	SHEILA	*
An opportunity. Here is a brochure.		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
There are details here about the re-training programs. Once a week, you would go to the Job Centre to sign / on -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
What is this?		*
	SHEILA	*
You'd have an advisor assisting you -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
I'm not going to the fucking job centre. My money comes into my bank account, every week. Has done for nine years. My situation hasn't changed.		*
	SHEILA	*
We simply want to encourage you -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
I'm a vet!		*
	SHEILA	*
That was a long time ago.		*
	...	*

	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Are you taking me off disability?		*
	SHEILA	*
That's not my job. My job is to assess you and send in the information.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
You're a Dr?		*
	SHEILA	*
I'm not / a -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
[/ Fucking hell].		*
	SHEILA	*
In the event that your benefits are placed on hold -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Placed / on hold - ?		*
	SHEILA	*
I'm leaving you a form.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
I'm not filling out any form.		*
	SHEILA	*
It's not a difficult form and it's just in the event that your benefits...		*
(kinder now)		*
This is not difficult.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
You don't think I know what difficult is?		*
	SHEILA	*
I'm sure you'll find -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
I'm a soldier, I know what difficult is.		*
	SHEILA	*
Then this should be easy.		*
	...	*

	...	*
	She hands it over.	*
	...	*
	...	*
Take it.	SHEILA	*
	...	*
Do you see that Kevin?	SERGEANT CORIN	*
	KEVIN	*
I don't see anything / Pa -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
It slides all the way down her nose right to us. Where you from?		*
	SHEILA	*
I don't think that's relevant to your conversation.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
	(mocking)	*
"I don't think that's relevant / to our conversation."		*
	SHEILA	*
You should receive a letter with the decision in five to seven business days.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
What? That's it then?		*
	SHEILA	*
That's it.		*
	(beat)	*
I'd like my coat please.		*
	KEVIN	*
He doesn't mean / to be -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
<u>Shut your fucking mouth boy.</u>		*

	...	*
	SHEILA	*
My coat please...		*
	...	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
[Go].		*
	...	*
	Kevin goes to get her coat.	*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
There's quite a bit of construction going on around here.		*
	...	*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
There'll be quite a view once that tower comes down.		*
	...	*
	Kevin returns with her coat.	*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
I'll see myself out.		*
	She exits.	*
2. FIVE TO SEVEN BUSINESS DAYS LATER. 11.05 AM		*
	Kevin and Jay are standing over a box of trolls.	*
	Corin watches Bargain Hunt.	*
	JAY	*
Tracy wanted a tenner -		*

	KEVIN	*
Tenner?		*
	JAY	*
But I managed to get her down in price on account she needed to get out by this'avo.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Fucking sad.		*
	JAY	*
They said they'd blow up the block whether she was in there or not...		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Bastards.		*
	JAY	*
	(to Kevin)	*
There's some good shit in here.		*
	(re a troll to Corin)	*
What do you think?		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
It's ugly.		*
	JAY	*
It's a troll, it's supposed to be ugly. Look it's in a Hula skirt.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
There's a defect.		*
	JAY	*
Where?		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
He doesn't have a dick.		*
	Shows jay the skirt wearing Troll.	*
	JAY	*
Maybe he's a girl.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
He doesn't have a cunt either. How much are you gonna shift that crap for?		*
	JAY	*
Twenty quid I reckon, for the box.		*

	KEVIN	*
Who do you think will buy this?		*
	JAY	*
It'll be fine.		*
	(to Corin)	*
What are you watching?		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Bargain hunt.		*
	JAY	*
[Really?]		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
You should watch it, fucking learn something the two of you. So then you won't buy dickless troggs or whatever they're called.		*
	KEVIN	*
You really think we'll sell - ?		*
	JAY	*
We'll be fine.		*
	(beat)	*
What's for lunch?		*
	KEVIN	*
Buy your own / lunch.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
I'm not hungry.		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
How bout a Pot Noodle Pa? I've boiled the kettle.		*
	Corin cracks open a beer.	*
	KEVIN	*
You should eat...		*
	...	*
	Kevin goes to the kitchen.	*

	Jay fishes under the sofa for a packet of crisps.	*
	JAY	*
	(calling to Kevin)	*
Can I have some bread?		*
	...	*
	Kevin returns with a pot noodle.	*
	KEVIN	*
Here.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
I don't want it.		*
	KEVIN	*
It's your favorite -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
No it's not.		*
	Kevin sets it down.	*
	...	*
	Jay opens up the palm of his hand, there are a number of pills.	*
		*
	JAY	*
Pick and mix?		*
	KEVIN	*
What are they?		*
	JAY	*
They're super mellow.		*
	<u>KEVIN</u>	*
<u>I wish you wouldn't</u>		*
	Corin takes one.	*
	JAY	*
That'll be fifty pee.		*

	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Fuck off.		*
	JAY	*
Don't know why I bother coming round here. Kev, can I just have a piece of bread off you?		*
		*
	Kevin goes back into the kitchen.	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
What have you got that's you know... A bit stronger.		*
	JAY	*
Stronger how?		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
These idiots upstairs are keeping me up at night -		*
	JAY	*
They moved someone in?		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
I haven't slept in days.		*
	JAY	*
I thought they were moving people out, not in...		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Hell of a noise they're making. Just give me something to knock me out.		*
	...	*
	JAY	*
Then this is what you want.		*
	Takes out a big pill.	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
What's that?		*
	JAY	*
KAT.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
How much?		*

	JAY	*
Three quid.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
One.		*
	JAY	*
Two.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
One.		*
	JAY	*
One fifty.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
One.		*
	JAY	*
One and the pot noodle.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Deal.		*
	JAY	*
Deal.		*
	Corin fishes out a pound coin, hands it to Jay along with the pot noodle. Kevin enters.	*
		*
	KEVIN	*
What's going on?		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Nothing.		*
	He gives Jay the bread.	*
	KEVIN	*
You can pick out your own blue bits.		*
	JAY	*
Ta.		*
	Jay makes a make shift crisp sandwich.	*

	Kevin fishes out a magazine from the mail.	*
	CORIN	*
Did it come yet?		*
	KEVIN	*
Do you have to ask me everyday?		*
	CORIN	*
She said five to seven business days!		*
	KEVIN	*
Don't you think I'd tell you?		*
	...	*
	CORIN	*
It's like waiting for a hanging.		*
	JAY	*
You're like that Walter Raleigh bloke.		*
	CORIN	*
If you say so.		*
	JAY	*
He pissed off the queen. So she locked him in the tower. Then she chopped of his head. What? I do go to school sometimes.		*
	...	*
	JAY	*
Turn it up will you...?		*
	Corin struggles to turn up the volume.	*
	JAY	*
We're missing the [best bit...]		*
	...	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
	(to Jay)	*
I feel really fuzzy.		*

	JAY	*
Yeah.		*
	...	*
	...	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
	(smiling)	*
I think that little peach is fucking me up.		*
	JAY	*
	(smiling)	*
Yeah.		*
	They watch TV...	*
	Jay eats his crisp sandwich.	*
	The electricity goes off and they are plunged into the darkness.	*
		*
	KEVIN	*
Shit.		*
	Kevin rummages through his pockets.	*
	KEVIN	*
I just put a quid in there last night...		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
I don't have any money for the meter... Pa' you got some money...?		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Don't think so.		*
	Kevin rummages through his fathers pockets...	*
	Nothing...	*
	KEVIN	*
Jay?		*
	Jay attempts to rummage... Kevin takes over...	*

	JAY	*
Nah.		*
	...	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
<u>You two should go on this show.</u>		*
	There is no show.	*
	...	*
	Kevin takes the money and puts it in the meter.	*
	A second and everything comes back on.	*
	KEVIN	*
You can't have everything on all day Pa...		*
	...	*
	...	*
	He starts looking through the box.	*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
We can't sell these things Jay. You have to ask Tracy for our money back.		*
(beat)		*
This is not going to make us anything...		*
	Jay and Corin are stoned out on the sofa.	*
	KEVIN	*
Unbelievable.		*
	...	*
	Kevin returns to the sofa. Rummages through the mail now.	*
	...	*
	Finds a letter.	*

	KEVIN	*
Shit.		*
	...	*
	...	*
Fuck it.		*
	Kevin puts on his coat and leaves.	*
3. A NEW DEAL		*
	Job centre. Sterile and clean.	*
	Kevin enters.	*
	Kevin puts a letter on her desk.	*
	KEVIN	*
You refused his disability.		*
	SHEILA	*
Yes.		*
	KEVIN	*
Why?		*
	SHEILA	*
Sit.		*
	...	*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
You're father is able bodied enough to go down the job centre like everyone else.		*
	KEVIN	*
He's a vet.		*
	SHEILA	*
An able bodied veteran.		*
	KEVIN	*
He's G.W.S.		*

	SHEILA	*
What's / that?		*
	KEVIN	*
Gulf War Syndrome. He's syndromed.		*
	SHEILA	*
And how do you know that?		*
	KEVIN	*
I fucking live with him.		*
	SHEILA	*
Please don't swear -		*
	KEVIN	*
Jesus / Christ -		*
	SHEILA	*
Or raise your voice.		*
	...	*
	<u>SHEILA</u>	*
<u>Your father wasn't injured on duty Kevin.</u>		*
	<u>KEVIN</u>	*
<u>He's depressed.</u>		*
	<u>SHEILA</u>	*
<u>Not disabled. Besides your father has missed years of Army directed psycho therapy.</u>		*
	KEVIN	*
He's not crazy.		*
	SHEILA	*
And he's not syndromed. Not officially anyway.		*
	KEVIN	*
This is bull.		*
	SHEILA	*
He should have gone for his therapy / sessions -		*
	KEVIN	*
What? That was years ago.		*

	SHEILA	*
It's on his record - he's non compliant.		*
	KEVIN	*
He had to travel two hours to Manchester / to see them -		*
	SHEILA	*
Others have managed.		*
	KEVIN	*
He was a single dad. You know that!		*
	SHEILA	*
Please!		*
	He quiets down.	*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
So what is this?		*
	SHEILA	*
He doesn't fit the criteria / anymore.		*
	KEVIN	*
What have they changed or something?		*
	SHEILA	*
Yes.		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
You need to give him his disability.		*
	SHEILA	*
The guidelines -		*
	KEVIN	*
Fuck the guidelines.		*
	SHEILA	*
If you swear once more, I will have you removed.		*
	...	*

	...	*
	SHEILA	*
Is there any particular reason your father refuses to seek employment at the job centre?		*
	KEVIN	*
He doesn't like it there.		*
	SHEILA	*
Nobody likes it.		*
	...	*
	She moves from behind her desk, closer to him.	*
	SHEILA	*
[Kevin] -		*
	KEVIN	*
[What]?		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
He doesn't qualify.		*
	KEVIN	*
You saw him for ten minutes how would you know?		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
I can see he's not easy.		*
	KEVIN	*
He's fine.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Carers often get the brunt -		*
	KEVIN	*
I'm fine.		*
	...	*

KEVIN *
You need to reinstate / his - *

SHEILA *
Why? He can hold a box. He can move a crate. He can sweep a floor / fine. *

KEVIN *
What kind of job do you want him to have? *

SHEILA *
Any job. *

KEVIN *
Right. You're on some sort of point system aren't you. More you get off the dole the more money you make. *

SHEILA *
This is / silly - *

KEVIN *
I read the papers. I know all about your targets and shit -... I know all about it. *
Do you know what this means? If he loses his disability? *

SHEILA *
That's not our concern- *

KEVIN *
It's mine! *
If he doesn't get that money, we can't pay for the flat. *

SHEILA *
You have the right to appeal. *

KEVIN *
And how long is that going to take? *

SHEILA *
We are a little backlogged - *

KEVIN *
Are we talking a week? Two? *

SHEILA *
We are very backlogged. *

	KEVIN	*
Course you are!		*
	...	*
	...	*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
He needs stability.		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
I'm not trying to take that away -		*
	KEVIN	*
It's exactly what you're doing.		*
	SHEILA	*
It's once a week Kevin. Surely he can go down to sign on.		*
	KEVIN	*
He hasn't left the flat for almost a year.		*
	SHEILA	*
I can get him a psychiatric evaluation. He's obviously mentally / incapacitated.		*
	KEVIN	*
He won't allow it.		*
	SHEILA	*
He doesn't really have much choice.		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
Shit's gonna hit the fan with this Shells.		*
	SHEILA	*
[I haven't heard that for years].		*
	KEVIN	*
What?		*

Shells...	SHEILA	*
		*
Sorry.	KEVIN	*
		*
No, it's nice.	SHEILA	*
		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
I was surprised to see you at the flat.		*
	KEVIN	*
Yeah. If I'd known you were coming I'd've cleaned up.		*
	SHEILA	*
No need.		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
You look good.		*
	SHEILA	*
So do you.		*
	KEVIN	*
No I don't, I look like shit. You haven't changed much.		*
	SHEILA	*
No...		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
Here.		*
	KEVIN	*
What's this?		*
	She hands him a brochure.	*

SHEILA *
Details on New Deal. There are some classes in there, maybe you can suggest them to *
your dad. People of all ages and experience are taking these classes. *

KEVIN *
Didn't you hear / what I said? *

SHEILA *
Re-introduce him to people gently, socialize him bit by bit. *

KEVIN *
He's not a dog - He's my Dad! *

... *

KEVIN *
It's like you didn't even know me at the flat... *

SHEILA *
This is my job Kev. *

KEVIN *
And then saying no to my dad? *

SHEILA *
It's not personal. *

KEVIN *
This is / insane! *

SHEILA *
He's just like everyone else around here. *

KEVIN *
What does that mean? *

SHEILA *
You don't see what I see Kevin - on a daily basis. *

KEVIN *
No, you're right, I don't. I fucking live it! And I have to sit here and beg for twenty one *
quid. Twenty one quid that my Dad deserves! *

... *

	KEVIN	*
Is this your way of getting revenge?		*
	SHEILA	*
/ You're being stupid.		*
	KEVIN	*
Taking it out on the plebs / of Middlebury?		*
	SHEILA	*
Stop it.		*
	KEVIN	*
Letting the low lives have it.		*
	SHEILA	*
This is / crazy.		*
	KEVIN	*
Because someone wrote Paki cunt on your bag?		*
	SHEILA	*
At least I'm doing something with my life Kevin. At least I'm trying. That's more than I can say for you!		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
Yeah.		*
	...	*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
I can write the appeal for you.		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
That's the best I can do		*
	...	*

	SHEILA	*
	(re brochure)	*
Will you look at this for me?		*
	KEVIN	*
Me?		*
	...	*
	He opens up the brochure.	*
	SHEILA	*
Look at this computer course. It's animation..		*
	KEVIN	*
Shells -		*
	SHEILA	*
It's a good one.		*
	KEVIN	*
I -		*
	SHEILA	*
It's in Manchester, they can put you up on campus, they have scholarships for - for people in your financial situation.		*
	KEVIN	*
I'm not going back to school.		*
	SHEILA	*
Why not?		*
	KEVIN	*
Kids stuff.		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
You should have come back to school.		*
	KEVIN	*
Nah. I would have failed anyway.		*
	SHEILA	*
You know that's not true.		*

...

*

SHEILA

*

What happened to sticking up your middle finger at Middlebury Housing?

*

...

*

SHEILA

*

I can help you. There's nothing to be afraid of.

*

...

*

SHEILA

*

Do you remember that trip we took to Alton Towers in fifth form?

*

KEVIN

*

[Yeah].

*

SHEILA

*

And we went on that ride. Shit, what was it called?

*

KEVIN

*

Obli / vion.

*

SHEILA

*

Oblivion.

*

KEVIN

*

Yeah.

*

SHEILA

*

You were so scared.

*

KEVIN

*

Was not.

*

SHEILA

*

Were too. You squeezed my hand so hard. You squeezed it all the through the ride.

*

He flicks through the pages.

*

KEVIN

*

I wasn't holding your hand cos I was scared. You know what else I remember from that trip. You told Robert Marsh that I was scared, that I was holding your hand because I was scared, and he threw a cup of sprite on my jeans / and told everyone that I'd pissed myself. And you said nothing!

*

*

*

*

*

	SHEILA	*
Kevin -		*
	KEVIN	*
Do the right thing for once Sheila.		*
		*
	...	*
		*
	SHEILA	*
<u>I'll make some calls today.</u> That's the best I can do.		*
	KEVIN	*
You'll push through his appeal?		*
	SHEILA	*
It's not too late for you to do something for yourself Kevin. Take this home. Look it over.		*
		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
Ok.		*
	SHEILA	*
Ok?		*
	KEVIN	*
Ok... I'll take it home.		*
	SHEILA	*
Good.		*
		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
You'll try.		*
	SHEILA	*
I will.		*
		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
I'm glad you came over...		*

	SHEILA	*
Yeah.		*
	KEVIN	*
Thanks.		*
	...	*
		*
		*
4.		*
	Corin is in the living room. He's drunk, surrounded by cans of Fosters and packets of crisps.	*
		*
	It's raining out.	*
	...	*
	...	*
	...	*
	Finds a porno magazine. Checks it out...	*
	...	*
	...	*
	CORIN	*
Where are you...? Where are you...?		*
	...	*
	CORIN	*
Fucking beauty...		*
	...	*
	...	*
	Finds the page...	*

	CORIN	*
That's the one...		*
	...	*
	CORIN	*
	(to the mag)	*
Don't worry, I'm all yours...		*
	Puts on Lady in Red... Gets himself comfortable.	*
		*
	Sets his mood.	*
	...	*
	...	*
	...	*
	CORIN	*
Beauty... .. Fucking beauty...		*
	...	*
	CORIN	*
[Yeah]...		*
	...	*
	CORIN	*
[Come on]...Baby...		*
	He hears a noise from upstairs.	*
	...	*
	CORIN	*
You are a pretty little red head... yes you are...		*
	...	*
	...	*
	CORIN	*
It's just you and me... you and me sweetheart... Just you and me...		*

	...	*
	...	*
Come on...	CORIN	*
		*
	...	*
Come on...	CORIN	*
		*
	...	*
	...	*
FUCKING COME ON!	CORIN	*
		*
	...	*
	...	*
	He throws the magazine away.	*
SHIT!	CORIN	*
		*
Shit.	CORIN	*
		*
	...	*
	...	*
Shit.	CORIN	*
		*
	...	*
	...	*
	A beer.	*
[What's the fucking point]?	CORIN	*
		*

	...	*
	...	*
	Drinks the beer. Takes the KAT.	*
	...	*
	He turns off the CD.	*
	...	*
	...	*
	...	*
	...	*
	Kevin enters.	*
	KEVIN	*
I'm home.		*
	(beat)	*
What you doing?		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Listening to the rain.		*
	Kevin sees the magazine, puts it away.	*
	...	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Where have you been?		*
	KEVIN	*
For a walk.		*
	CORIN	*
All day?		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
Where's Jay?		*

	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Gone to get papers. Good thing <u>he</u> was here.		*
	...	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Tut tut tut tut tut - listen - tut tut tut tut tut...		*
	KEVIN	*
You're drunk.		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
I'm going to bed.		*
	CORIN	*
[Yeah, you do that].		*
	Corin knocks over a beer, and finds it quite amusing.	*
		*
	CORIN	*
Shit...		*
	KEVIN	*
I think you've had enough.		*
	CORIN	*
Twat.		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
Good night.		*
	...	*
	CORIN	*
What's wrong with you?		*
	KEVIN	*
I had a bad day.		*
	CORIN	*
On your walk?		*

Yeah, on my walk.	KEVIN	*
		*
Fucking spit it out.	CORIN	*
		*
They stopped your disability benefit.	KEVIN	*
		*
I knew it.	CORIN	*
		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
If you want to receive the same money, you'll have to go down the job centre.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
I can't do that.		*
	KEVIN	*
We may not have a choice.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
You think I should go down there don't you!		*
	KEVIN	*
That's not what I said.		*
	...	*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
You could go for a psychiatric evaluation -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Bet you'd love that.		*
	...	*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
I'm going to appeal it.		*

	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Not going down the job centre.		*
	KEVIN	*
I said, I'm appealing it. Fucking listen to me for once.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Hey! Don't speak to your father like that. Fucking ungrateful brat.		*
	KEVIN	*
I'm ungrateful.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
<u>Who picked you up when your mother left you? Huh? Who changed your bed every night after you pissed the sheets? I did. Not your mother. Not anyone else. Don't you forget that.</u>		*
	...	*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
Sorry.		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
We'll win an appeal...		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
And when has anyone is this house ever won anything?		*
	...	*
	...	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Fucking nerve all of 'em.		*
	<u>(re brochure)</u>	*
<u>What's that?</u>		*
	KEVIN	*
<u>Nothing... It's a thing from the job centre... A new deal thing -.</u>		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
<u>Fuck new deal.</u>		*

KEVIN *
Go to bed. *

SERGEANT CORIN *
You're the one who wants to go to bed. So fucking go. *

... *

CORIN *
I'll be happy to rot here alone. *

... *

KEVIN *
Sheila. Our social worker. She thinks she might help with the appeal. / Maybe... *

CORIN *
Sheila? *
(beat) *
Fuck her. You saw how she looked at us. How she looked at you... *

... *

SERGEANT CORIN *
Like you was nothing. Like you were shit on her shoe. *

KEVIN *
I'm getting you some water - *

SERGEANT CORIN *
That's all you are to them out there Kevin - just a piece of shit! *

... *

KEVIN *
I'm getting you some water! *

He goes into the kitchen. *

... *

... *

SERGEANT CORIN *
Fucking government with our balls in their hands. *

	...	*
	CORIN	*
Fuck!!!		*
	...	*
	Kevin returns with water.	*
	KEVIN	*
Here.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Fuck off.		*
	KEVIN	*
Drink.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
No.		*
	...	*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
Drink the water!		*
	...	*
	CORIN	*
I hope they do blow me the fuck up. Put us all out of our fucking misery.		*
	...	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
They moved the cavalry in this afternoon. There's enough dynamite on F-block to sink the whole estate.		*
	Corin laughs at the idea...	*
	...	*
	...	*
	Then...	*

	SERGEANT CORIN	*
She wants me down the job centre so that I leave the flat -		*
	KEVIN	*
No -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
She wants me out so that she can fucking take it -		*
	KEVIN	*
That's not / what's happening here -		*
	CORIN	*
And how the fuck would you know what's going on huh Kevin?		*
(beat)		*
Leave it!		*
	KEVIN	*
<u>Jesus! I don't have to deal with this, you know that right?..</u>		*
	<u>SERGEANT CORIN</u>	*
<u>And where would you go?</u>		*
	<u>KEVIN</u>	*
<u>Somewhere else...</u>		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Go on then!		*
	KEVIN	*
Yeah?		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Traitor.		*
	Jay enters.	*
	JAY	*
It's pouring down. Hi Kev.		*
	...	*
	...	*
	JAY	*
What's going on?		*

	SERGEANT CORIN	*
[I can smell it on you].		*
	KEVIN	*
Go home Jay.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Nah. Roll a smoke Jay.		*
	...	*
	JAY	*
Is everything alright?		*
	KEVIN	*
I said go home.		*
	...	*
	CORIN	*
Roll a smoke.		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
Give me -		*
	Jay hands him the papers.	*
	CORIN	*
I want him to do it.		*
	...	*
	Kevin rolls a cigarette.	*
	CORIN	*
I said -		*
	KEVIN	*
I heard what you said, but Jay is going home now, aren't you Jay.		*
	...	*
	JAY	*
Yeah... I better go...		*

	Corin holds Jay.	*
	CORIN	*
Roll me a cigarette will you Jay?		*
	...	*
	...	*
	JAY	*
Yeah.		*
	...	*
	...	*
	CORIN	*
Good boy.		*
	...	*
	...	*
	Jay's done.	*
	...	*
	CORIN	*
Thank you Jay. What would I do without you?		*
	...	*
	JAY	*
Can I / go now?		*
	KEVIN	*
Yeah. See you Jay...		*
	...	*
	...	*
	...	*
	CORIN	*
I'm going to bed.		*

	...	*
REVISION 04-04		*
	Next day.	*
	A knock on the door.	*
	He answers the door. Sheila is there.	*
	KEVIN	*
I'll get it.		*
	(beat)	*
What are you doing here?		*
	Sheila comes in.	*
	SHEILA	*
So.. I have two things.		*
	KEVIN	*
Ok.		*
	SHEILA	*
Your fathers benefit -		*
	KEVIN	*
Yeah.		*
	SHEILA	*
I put in a request to hold my assessment.		*
	KEVIN	*
[?]		*
	SHEILA	*
When they ask me why, I can tell them that I made a mistake- that the assessment needs to be done again. I can do that.		*
	KEVIN	*
What does that mean?		*

	SHEILA	*
We can reinstate his benefit for now and do another assessment in six months.		*
	KEVIN	*
Won't you get into trouble?		*
	SHEILA	*
I don't know.		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
Thank you.		*
	She hands him a letter.	*
	KEVIN	*
What's this?		*
	SHEILA	*
News number two.		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
Read it.		*
	He does...	*
	KEVIN	*
I don't -		*
	SHEILA	*
It's from Manchester Met -		*
	KEVIN	*
I / can see that.		*
	SHEILA	*
I emailed them as your social worker, I... They'll give you a placement -		*
	KEVIN	*
/ What?		*

	SHEILA	*
You'll be auditing to start, so that you can catch up, obviously you've missed a lot, but they'll let you audit... Then you can apply for your NVQ.		*
		*
	KEVIN	*
Who's going to pay for this, we can't afford it.		*
	SHEILA	*
We will as part of our retraining initiative.		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
Kevin?		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
Say something...		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
Term starts on the seventh -		*
	KEVIN	*
That's next week.		*
	SHEILA	*
Isn't that exciting!		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
Kevin?		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
Sorry... It's just so...		*
	SHEILA	*
It's an opportunity. An opportunity for you.		*
	(...)	*
I had to pull quite a few strings...		*

	KEVIN	*
You shouldn't have -		*
	SHEILA	*
You always wanted to go to Manchester Met -		*
	KEVIN	*
You remember?		*
	SHEILA	*
Of course I do. It's all you'd talk about...		*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
I thought you would want this?		*
	KEVIN	*
I do.. I just..		*
	...	*
	...	*
	SHEILA	*
You can do this. I know you can.		*
	KEVIN	*
What if I can't -		*
	SHEILA	*
You can! There is absolutely nothing stopping you.		*
	KEVIN	*
I don't know -		*
	SHEILA	*
You know this is normally people say "Wow, this is great, thank you, you're amazing Sheila."		*
	KEVIN	*
(playing)		*
Do this a lot do you? Save lives?		*
	SHEILA	*
No I don't. I'm doing it for you twit.		*

	She punches him playfully in the arm.	*
	Kevin cracks a smile.	*
Well look at that.	SHEILA	* *
	His smile grows.	*
I was getting worried that you'd become a totally miserable sod.	SHEILA	* *
Getting there.	KEVIN	* *
Yeah.	SHEILA	* *
	They share another smile.	*
Is that a yes?	SHEILA	* *
Yeah. Yeah. Yeah it's a yes.	KEVIN	* *
Come to my office -	SHEILA	* *
I do want this.	KEVIN	* *
Good.	SHEILA	* *
	...	*
So you'll come... This morning...? Nine?	SHEILA	* *
Nine?	KEVIN	* *

	SHEILA	*
Perfect. We'll call them together and get you enrolled.		*
	(beat)	*
Thank you.		*
	KEVIN	*
What for?		*
	SHEILA	*
I don't know.		*
	(beat)	*
I'm so proud of you.		*
	She touches his arm gently. He kisses her.	*
	SHEILA	*
Kevin. No - that's not what... That's not...		*
	(beat)	*
I'll see you in an hour yeah? To talk about the course...		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
Yeah.		*
	...	*
	She exits.	*
	...	*
	Corin enters eating from a makeshift bowl, Corn Flakes.	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Where's the...[tobacco]...?		*
	KEVIN	*
On the table...		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
And the -		*
	KEVIN	*
In the pack...		*

	Corin gets them.	*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
We have two pieces of news this morning...		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Right...		*
	KEVIN	*
They've accepted your appeal Pa.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
What?		*
	KEVIN	*
They've decided to extend your benefits for another six months -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Six!		*
	KEVIN	*
Following the six months -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Six!		*
	KEVIN	*
You will be assessed by a member of -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Here we go -		*
	KEVIN	*
This is good news Pa!		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
They'll put the money. Into my account. Like they do now.		*
	KEVIN	*
For the next six months.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Why can't they -		*

What did you used to say?	KEVIN	*
		*
I've said a lot of things...	SERGEANT CORIN	*
		*
Wars are won with small battles.	KEVIN	*
		*
	...	*
	...	*
Aren't you happy?	KEVIN	*
		*
<u>You did this?</u>	SERGEANT CORIN	*
		*
<u>Yeah... I made it happen.</u>	<u>KEVIN</u>	*
		*
	...	*
	...	*
<u>Well done.</u>	<u>SERGEANT CORIN</u>	*
		*
	...	*
Thanks.	KEVIN	*
		*
	Corin rolls a cigarette.	*
You look tired.	KEVIN	*
		*
Those people upstairs again!	SERGEANT CORIN	*
		*
Pa, there's no one up there.	KEVIN	*
		*

	SERGEANT CORIN	*
There's someone - it's like they're dragging a dead body around all night.		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
Here.		*
	Gives him the cigarette.	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
What's news number two?		*
	KEVIN	*
	(with excitement and trepidation)	*
Oh yeah. Umm - well...		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
When are they paying me?		*
	KEVIN	*
Usual day / I assume -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Will they backdate it?		*
	KEVIN	*
You haven't missed any payments... I should jump in the shower.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Where are you going?		*
	KEVIN	*
Job centre, I have an appointment.		*
	...	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Wait. What is news number two...?		*
	KEVIN	*
Don't you want milk?		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
They changed the milk to those plastic things, I can't get my fingers around the...		*

	KEVIN	*
You have to pull the tab.		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
I can't find the fucking tab.		*
	Kevin gets the milk	*
	...	*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
Here.		*
	He passes his father the milk.	*
	...	*
	Corin overshoots the cereal bowl accidentally.	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Fuck.		*
	Kevin goes to help clean up.	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
I can do it.		*
	...	*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
So, I got a... a letter today... I'll just read it... "We are pleased to invite you" -		*
	...	*
	Kevin watches his father as he tries to eat...	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
To what?		*
	...	*

	SERGEANT CORIN	*
What have we been invited to...?		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
Well, it's me - it's a letter to me -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
So what does it say? Well...		*
	...	*
	KEVIN	*
Well...		*
	...	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
It's always nice to be invited .		*
	KEVIN	*
Yeah, it is.		*
	Corin is struggling with the remote.	*
	...	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
Help me with the -		*
	Kevin takes the remote. Turns on the TV.	*
	...	*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
You gonna sit? Or you gonna shower?		*
	...	*
	Jay enters in a hurry.	*
	JAY	*
They're doing it. F-block is about to go down!		*
	...	*

	JAY	*
Do'you hear...?		*
	(beat)	*
I said -		*
	SERGEANT CORIN	*
We heard you Jay.		*
	JAY	*
Kevin?		*
	KEVIN	*
What?		*
	JAY	*
Wanna come watch?		*
	...	*
	JAY	*
Aright... So no one wants to watch the...?		*
	KEVIN	*
You can see it fine from here.		*
	JAY	*
Well it's no fun on my own.		*
	...	*
	JAY	*
Right.		*
	...	*
	Jay sits.	*
		*
	Kevin sits.	*
	Jay opens his palm...	*
	JAY	*
Pick and mix for the big event?		*

Yeah.	KEVIN	*
		*
	Kevin takes one... Discards the letter.	*
	...	*
	The detonation...	*
	Blackout...	*
	END OF PLAY	*