

"FRANCIS"

By

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Company: Python Light Studios

INT. WAITING ROOM / ROSEMARY HOTEL - AFTERNOON

SHOT OF CLOCK TICKING.

CUTTING TO : A brown office door with a label "Glenda" on it.

Behind the door are muffled angry voices.

GLEENDA SHIPTON (53) the pastry chef manager argues with JERRY ASHTON (25) about his behaviour during the interview.

GLEENDA SHIPTON

(Off Screen)

I have never seen such a rude and disgusting interviewee who smells of booze.

JERRY ASHTON

(Off Screen)

I was just being honest about the customer's rude behaviour.

GLEENDA SHIPTON

(Off Screen)

By insulting him over a steak!

JERRY ASHTON

(Off Screen)

He was complaining like a first-class bitch!

GLEENDA SHIPTON

(Off Screen)

Jerry, I don't think you're fit for this position.

JERRY ASHTON

(Off Screen)

Fine, I don't want to work in this shithole anyway!

The door opens, Glenda lets Jerry out of her office.

GLEENDA SHIPTON

Better not see you here again!

JERRY ASHTON

Fine, get yourself a life.

Glenda closes the door.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)
 (Whispers)
 Bitch.

Jerry walks away from the door.

He stops and then slouches on the wall, grabs a half Bottle of Scotch from his jacket.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)
 Damn this life.

He takes a swig of his scotch and stares into open space.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

AT THE ASHTON'S HOUSE, CANNING TOWN, EAST LONDON.

Zoey Ashton (25) is in the kitchen, making a pasta bake, cutting vegetables on a chopping board.

She stops cutting the vegetables...

...and spots a stray black cat entering the kitchen through the open window.

Zoey turns and smiles.

ZOEY ASHTON
 You hungry?

CUT.TO

Zoey gives the cat a bowl of milk.

The cat drinks the milk.

PAUSE.

The front door opens in the background.

ZOEY ASHTON (CONT'D)
 (sighs)
 My husband is home. I hope he hasn't
 messed up again.

Zoey walks off screen, leaving the cat to enjoy its milk.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

Jerry closes the front door and heads straight up the stairs.

Zoey meets him in the living room.

ZOEY ASHTON
Hey honey, how you doing?

JERRY ASHTON
I'm fine, love.

ZOEY ASHTON
I'm making a pasta bake for dinner.

Jerry continues walking up the stairs.

JERRY ASHTON
That's nice. I'm going to have a bath.

ZOEY ASHTON
How was the interview?

He stops halfway through the stairs and puts his head down.

ZOEY ASHTON (CONT'D)
Seriously again Jerry?

JERRY ASHTON
(Turns around)
Look, I'm still progressing.

ZOEY ASHTON
Jerry, you've been unemployed for eight months, you done like... God knows how many interviews you've had.

JERRY ASHTON
I said I'm working on it!

ZOEY ASHTON
No you are not, this is getting repetitive and getting us nowhere.

PAUSE.

JERRY ASHTON
I'm going to have a bath and I'm not in the mood for this argument!

Jerry resumes walking up the stairs, Zoey watches him leave.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

FORTY FIVE MINS LATER.

Jerry is sitting in the bedroom with a bathrobe on, drinking a different bottle of scotch.

He is looking firmly at a picture frame of himself and his younger brother FRANCIS as children.

He gives the picture a long stare and has a swig.

YOUNG FRANCIS (V.O.)

Jerry I couldn't think of a better brother and a best friend.

YOUNG JERRY (V.O.)

Francis, you will always be the best buddy I've ever had.

YOUNG FRANCIS (V.O.)

Our adventures will never end.

YOUNG JERRY (V.O.)

Never in a million years.

Jerry puts down the photo and stares at the window with the bottle still in his right hand.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE, FRONT ROOM - EVENING

Jerry is slouching on the armchair with his feet on the coffee table, eating a big bowl of crisps while watching a Gameshow on the TV.

Zoey is sitting on the couch, looking at a catalog for a dress for their first wedding anniversary.

Her eyes widen, she leans forward and finds the perfect dress.

ZOEY ASHTON

Jerry, I've found the perfect dress for our wedding anniversary. Have a look.

Zoey shows Jerry the catalog...

...he slowly turns and looks at Zoey with his mouthful of crisps and has slight look at the catalog. Showing no interest.

JERRY ASHTON
(mouthful)
Well, buy it then.

He resumes to the TV and continues eating crisps.

ZOEY ASHTON
Jerry, I didn't say I was going to buy it.

Jerry replies without looking at Zoey.

JERRY ASHTON
What do you want me to say?

ZOEY ASHTON
I wanted to know what you thought of the dress.

Jerry looks at the catalog again.

JERRY ASHTON
Yeah it's nice.

ZOEY ASHTON
Is that all you can say?

JERRY ASHTON
You asked for my opinion, and that is it.

Zoey stands up and throws the catalog on the floor.

ZOEY ASHTON
Jerry, our first wedding anniversary means a lot to me, and it can't happen if our whole living situation keeps up like this.

JERRY ASHTON
Zoey, I will sort it out.

ZOEY ASHTON
That's all you ever say, and it never gets done.

She walks away upset and slams the door. Jerry resumes

watching the TV and scoffing crisps.

CUT.TO

INT. SIMON DORAN'S OFFICE - MORNING

Inside the Carten Hotel, East London. Jerry is at another job interview for a Commis Chef position.

SIMON DORAN (39), the head chef, is sitting opposite Jerry at his desk, holding his CV.

JERRY ASHTON

I was a waiter at another hotel, to gain experience in kitchen and become a professional chef.

SIMON DORAN

Sounds like good experience, what else did you do as a waiter?

JERRY ASHTON

I cleaned the tables and the restaurant during closing times.

Simon nods his head and puts the CV down.

SIMON DORAN

You know, this could be a great opportunity for you to start...

Jerry takes out a bottle of scotch from his jacket and takes a swig.

SIMON DORAN (CONT'D)

...Oi, what the hell do you think you are doing?!

JERRY ASHTON

What does it look like I'm doing?

He takes another swig.

SIMON DORAN

No, not in my office!

JERRY ASHTON

I didn't see a 'Do Not Drink' sign on the door.

SIMON DORAN
 (ripping his CV)
 On second thought, you are not fit to
 work here.

JERRY ASHTON
 (Stops drinking)
 Oh, a change of tone. Nice one, man.

SIMON DORAN
 I need you to leave now!

Jerry stands up, walks away and exits the office.

JERRY ASHTON
 Fine, I don't even want to work at
 this bloody job anyway!

Simon tries to get back to his paperwork, Jerry re-enters the
 office.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)
 You know what you should do? get
 yourself a life, mate!

SIMON DORAN
 (OFF SCREEN)
 OUT!!!

Jerry runs out the door and avoids a cushion being thrown at
 him.

CUT.TO

INT. MRS KILMARTIN'S HOUSE / KITCHEN - MORNING

Zoey is with a customer trimming Mrs Kilmartin's hair. Mrs
 Kilmartin (75), a kind, feisty and cheerful lady.

ZOEY ASHTON
 There you are Mrs Kilmartin, all done.

She gets her mirror and shows it to Mrs Kilmartin, satisfied
 with her new hair cut.

MRS KILMARTIN
 Wow, good job as always Zoey. So
 talented you are.

ZOEY ASHTON
 Thank you. I appreciate your kind
 (MORE)

ZOEY ASHTON (CONT'D)
words. Do you mind if I clean my tools
in the sink?

MRS KILMARTIN
Of course darling.

Zoey goes over to the kitchen to wash her hairdressing tools.

Mrs Kilmartin gets up from her chair and grabs her purse to
pay Zoey.

She then walks over to Zoey.

MRS KILMARTIN (CONT'D)
How much do I owe you, love?

Zoey turns and hesitates.

ZOEY ASHTON
Ahh, my rates have gone up...

Mrs Kilmartin hands her the money a total of one hundred
pounds without hesitation.

ZOEY ASHTON (CONT'D)
One hundred pounds? That's too much.

MRS KILMARTIN
Oh stop it! You need that money more
than me!

Zoey nods her head.

ZOEY ASHTON
Thank you, I really appreciate that.

She continues cleaning her tools in the sink.

MRS KILMARTIN
I hope that husband of yours is
sorting his life out.

ZOEY ASHTON
He's trying his best.

MRS KILMARTIN
Well, I bloody hope so! I would give
him a right kick up the backside if he
was my grandchild.

Zoey laughs.

ZOEY ASHTON
That could work for me.

MRS KILMARTIN
And right now, you're doing all the
work for him and he's sitting on his
ass watching the tele all day. That's
not a way to carry on!

Zoey looks up.

CUT.TO

EXT. CANNING TOWN - AFTERNOON

Jerry walks home through Canning Town in Star Lane, a quiet
place in East London.

Still in a bad mood, he spots a bench and stops for a
moment...

PAUSE.

...and then walks over to the bench, carved with his and
Francis's name on it.

He slowly puts his hand on the names.

CUT.TO

FLASH BACK OF CHILDHOOD MEMORIES

YOUNG FRANCIS
Hey, Jerry what do you think of my art
work?

YOUNG JERRY
Whoa, Francis you did that?

YOUNG FRANCIS
Yeah, I made it for my best bro, to
keep it as a special memory.

YOUNG JERRY
I can't believe you did this.

Francis smiles at Jerry. The brothers both stare at each
other.

YOUNG FRANCIS
Let's never stop being buddies.

YOUNG JERRY
Never Francis. Never in a million
years.

DISSOLVE TO.

INT. ASHTON HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Jerry returns home and storms into the front room with a new shopping bag full of alcohol.

He grabs another photo frame from the shelf and takes one last look at it.

He throws the photo frame in the bin out of frustration. He walks over and sits on his armchair, turns on the TV, and opens a new bottle of scotch.

PAUSE.

The TV show goes on for a moment, Jerry takes a swig.

Suddenly, loud music starts playing upstairs.

Jerry turns off the TV and stands up from his armchair to investigate the noise. He then slowly walks up the stairs...

...the music gets louder and louder, while walking up the stairs.

He reaches the top and grabs an old bed pole for protection, in case it may be a burglar.

Jerry reaches the bedroom where the music is coming from, he quickly enters the room, preparing to defend himself.

JERRY ASHTON
I'll knock you out, you lousy thief!

Jerry's face is suddenly in shock.

He spots his deceased brother, Francis, in the bedroom.

Francis turns and spots Jerry in front of him.

FRANCIS
Oh hi Jerry.

Jerry screams.

Francis screams back.

Jerry starts to chase him around the room with the pole.

FRANCIS (CONT'D)
 Jerry I know this is strange, but
 maybe we can talk about this...

Jerry hits the draw with the pole.

FRANCIS (CONT'D)
 ...I guess not.

Francis runs out of the bedroom screaming, Jerry chases after him with the pole...

JERRY ASHTON
 COME HERE!!!

...they run down the stairs.

Francis runs to the kitchen.

Jerry slips in the process.

He instantly gets back up and continues chasing Francis.

Francis reaches the kitchen and tries to open the garden door but it's locked.

FRANCIS
 Come on man!

He turns and sees Jerry entering the kitchen.

FRANCIS (CONT'D)
 Jerry please listen!

JERRY ASHTON
 I'm not listening to you imposter!

FRANCIS
 Imposter?!

Jerry swings the pole and breaks a chair.

JERRY ASHTON
 Keep still!

Swings the second time.

Francis runs to a wall.

Jerry tries to hit him with the pole, but hesitates. He turns around and drops the pole.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)

(Turns to Francis)

Right now tell me this, are you really here?

FRANCIS

Yes.

JERRY ASHTON

Are you really my brother Francis?

FRANCIS

Of course.

JERRY ASHTON

Are you really dead?

FRANCIS

Yes, I am dead.

JERRY ASHTON

Are you a ghost?

PAUSE.

FRANCIS

Ahhh no.

Jerry slaps him in the face. Francis reacts to the pain.

FRANCIS (CONT'D)

Ow Jerry!

JERRY ASHTON

Sorry, I had to see if you are a ghost.

FRANCIS

Do I look like a ghost?

JERRY ASHTON

Well... no because you can feel pain.

FRANCIS

There you go.

JERRY ASHTON

(Shaking his hands)

Again, sorry for the slap, but if you are here and you are not a ghost, does this mean I'm hallucinating?

Francis stares hesitantly at Jerry.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)

Oh no, this makes matters even worse!

FRANCIS

Jerry calm down mate.

JERRY ASHTON

Why are you here?

FRANCIS

I came here to see how you are getting on.

JERRY ASHTON

Not great, because me and my wife are having troubles. Well, this is my fault.

FRANCIS

Why's that?

JERRY ASHTON

I'm an alcoholic.

FRANCIS

Why?

JERRY ASHTON

Because I was grieving for you.

PAUSE.

FRANCIS

I'm sorry Jerry.

Jerry's tone slowly changes.

JERRY ASHTON

Don't worry Francis, what matters is, is that you are here now.

FRANCIS
Well I'm glad to hear that.

JERRY ASHTON
But if I'm hallucinating, that means
Zoey may leave me.

FRANCIS
Oh don't worry about her, she will be
fine.

JERRY ASHTON
Seriously, I knew I need to stop
drinking.

FRANCIS
Jerry, your drinking is the reason why
I'm here.

JERRY ASHTON
Okay, but you still need to hide,
because Zoey will be suspicious.

FRANCIS
Suspicious about what?

JERRY ASHTON
If she sees me talking to you, she
will find out I'm mad.

FRANCIS
Point taken.

JERRY ASHTON
You could hide in the attic!

FRANCIS
Well... okay I'll do that.

PAUSE.

JERRY ASHTON
Great that's sorted.

Francis changes the subject

FRANCIS
So what shall we do?

JERRY ASHTON
Let me show you the house.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE, FRONT-ROOM - AFTERNOON

Jerry brings Francis into the Front-room to give him a little tour.

They explore. Francis sees picture frames of Jerry and Zoey on their wedding day and other mantlepices.

FRANCIS

Looks like you and Zoey haven't done much.

JERRY ASHTON

We only just got married and our first wedding anniversary is in a month.

FRANCIS

That makes sense.

Jerry takes out the picture frame he threw earlier out of the bin and shows it to Francis.

JERRY ASHTON

Do you remember this photo?

Jerry gives the photo to Francis.

Francis looks at it.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)

Mum took it, remember?

FRANCIS

I remember that.

JERRY ASHTON

As kids, we were inseparable and did things like, playing knock ginger at that old man's door and playing pranks on teachers.

Francis laughs.

FRANCIS

They never got old to me.

JERRY ASHTON

And that bench with our names that we carved-it's still there.

FRANCIS

No way!

Jerry nods his head.

FRANCIS (CONT'D)

That's amazing.

PAUSE.

JERRY ASHTON

Let me put on some music.

Jerry walks over to the CD player and puts on their favourite song on.

The song turns on with full volume, Francis gets excited and starts dancing.

FRANCIS

Oh yes, that song was my jam!

JERRY ASHTON

This was your favourite.

FRANCIS

You got it!

Francis continues dancing, Jerry stares at him with a smile.

FRANCIS (CONT'D)

You gonna dance, Jerry?

JERRY ASHTON

(Nods)

Okay.

Jerry starts joining the dance, showing some awkward moves.

FRANCIS

Yeah, Jerry, you got the moves buddy!

JERRY ASHTON

Well, obviously not.

The two brothers continue dancing like wild animals.

CUT TO

INTERCUT. ASHTON HOUSE / FRONT DOOR - AFTERNOON

Zoey's CAR drives in onscreen.

She steps out of the drivers seat and takes her HAIR DRESSING EQUIPMENT.

She closes the car door and walks to the house.

The brothers continue dancing in the front-room.

Zoey arrives at the front door and uses her keys to unlock.

Jerry hears the front door keys. He walks out the front room and sees Zoey's silhouette outside the front door.

JERRY ASHTON

Oh shit, it's Zoey!

He quickly grabs an umbrella to barricade the door. Zoey tries to open it, the door is stuck.

ZOEY ASHTON

Huh?

Jerry runs back to the front room to Francis and turns the music off.

FRANCIS

Oh come on I was still rocking here.

JERRY ASHTON

Zoey is back, I need to hide you in the attic.

FRANCIS

Oh no, not this already.

JERRY ASHTON

Don't worry, I'll spend time with you later.

Zoey hears Jerry's voice from outside.

ZOEY ASHTON

(OFF SCREEN)

Jerry, are you home?

Jerry takes Francis upstairs to the attic.

ZOEY ASHTON (CONT'D)
(OFF SCREEN)
Jerry, open the door!

They arrive upstairs to the attic. Jerry accidentally drops the ladder and makes a loud thud.

Zoey hears the ladder.

ZOEY ASHTON (CONT'D)
(Outside the house)
What was that?

Francis goes up the ladder to the attic.

Jerry quickly puts the ladder up and runs downstairs.

At the bottom, he grabs a screwdriver as a prop to make up a lie.

ZOEY ASHTON (CONT'D)
Jerry, open the damn door!

Jerry opens the door.

JERRY ASHTON
Hey.

ZOEY ASHTON
What took you so long?

JERRY ASHTON
Nothing, the door was jammed and I had to use this screwdriver to open it.

ZOEY ASHTON
And what was that noise? I heard a thud?

JERRY ASHTON
Yeah, it was the cat. He jumped on a kitchen chair and damaged it.

ZOEY ASHTON
We don't have a cat.

JERRY ASHTON
Zoey, you feed that black cat everyday.

PAUSE.

ZOEY ASHTON

Good point. Can I please come in?

Jerry lets Zoey in. She enters the house, turns around and looks at Jerry.

ZOEY ASHTON (CONT'D)

How was the job interview?

JERRY ASHTON

Ahhh... have a guest.

ZOEY ASHTON

(Sighs)

Why am I not surprised?

Zoey walks away and heads to the kitchen.

JERRY ASHTON

(Following Zoey)

Look, don't worry. I'm in a better mood now, I have a job interview tomorrow, and it will be better I promise.

Zoey stops at the kitchen and sees the broken chair with Jerry behind her.

They both spot the cat.

The cat meows, walking around the kitchen.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)

See I told you it was the cat.

Zoey walks over out of anger and grabs the cat.

ZOEY ASHTON

He is not coming back here.

She unlocks the back door, throws the cat out and closes the door.

Jerry walks up to her.

JERRY ASHTON

Look, how about tonight to make this up, I will cook for us.

ZOEY ASHTON

Are you sure?

JERRY ASHTON
Absolutely, you been working today and
I barely did anything.

ZOEY ASHTON
Jerry, I don't what to say.

JERRY ASHTON
No, it's fine. Just let me do the
cooking, and I have a surprise for
you.

ZOEY ASHTON
Jerry, what is going on? You seem
happier, and this morning you were as
moody as a bus driver.

JERRY ASHTON
Zoey, like I said, I'm fine.

Francis sings off screen. His singing is bad.

Jerry hears him, he looks and stares at the ceiling.

ZOEY ASHTON
Jerry, you okay?

JERRY ASHTON
Hun, just let me get started on the
cooking.

Jerry quickly closes the door quick in front of Zoey.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE, ATTIC - AFTERNOON

Francis continues singing. Jerry opens the attic door, and
reaches the top.

JERRY ASHTON
Francis?!

Francis stops singing.

FRANCIS
Jerry!

JERRY ASHTON
What the hell are you doing?

FRANCIS

Singing.

JERRY ASHTON

Cut it out-your singing is awful.

FRANCIS

Sorry, Mr. Critic Man. I was bored.

JERRY ASHTON

I understand. Look, I got to make dinner for my wife. Will you be okay for a while?

FRANCIS

Is there anything to do here?

Jerry walks over, and spots an old trunk.

JERRY ASHTON

Wait here.

Jerry finds Francis's old comics and a lantern and gives them to Francis.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)

Maybe these will come in handy.

FRANCIS

Wait, are these my comics?

JERRY ASHTON

Yes.

FRANCIS

And you kept them?

JERRY ASHTON

Anything that belongs to you, I've kept.

FRANCIS

This is so cool.

Jerry gives Francis the lantern.

JERRY ASHTON

And here is the lantern for you, cause its so dark in here.

FRANCIS
Thanks buddy.

JERRY ASHTON
Look, I got to go. I need prepare
dinner for my wife.

He gets up and walks down to the exit...

FRANCIS
Hey Jerry...

...he stops.

FRANCIS (CONT'D)
It's good to see you again.

Jerry smiles and climbs down the ladder.

DISSOLVE TO.

INT. ASHTON HOUSE, FRONT ROOM - EVENING

THREE HOURS LATER.

Zoey is in the living room watching the TV.

She looks at the door. All seems quiet at this moment.

PAUSE.

A knock is heard at the door. Zoey reacts and then turns off
the TV.

She then gets gets up from the armchair.

Jerry is outside waiting. Zoey answers the door.

ZOEW ASHTON
Jerry it's been three hours. What took
you long?

JERRY ASHTON
Come into the kitchen.

He walks off, Zoey follows him.

CUT. TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE, KITCHEN - EVENING

Zoey steps into the kitchen.

Surprised, She sees the kitchen with the dinner table decorated with CANDLES and ROSE PETALS all over.

Zoey looks shocked.

JERRY ASHTON
Surprise!

ZOEY ASHTON
What is all this?

JERRY ASHTON
Do you like it?

Zoey looks around.

ZOEY ASHTON
I don't know what to say. I'm
speechless.

JERRY ASHTON
I did this because I love you, and I
can't find a more beautiful person
than you.

Jerry kisses her forehead. He walks over to the table.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)
I made you your favourite-Thai Curry.

Zoey laughs nervously.

MOMENTS LATER

Jerry and Zoey are at the table eating their romantic meal.

ZOEY ASHTON
Oh my god this is so good.

JERRY ASHTON
Cooking is my passion.

ZOEY ASHTON
Of course, you do have a talent for
it.

JERRY ASHTON

Thank you.

Zoey smiles and resumes eating.

Her face suddenly changes and then stops eating.

She looks down at her plate.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)

(Looking at Zoey)

Darling, are you okay?

ZOEY ASHTON

No, I'am, it's just...

JERRY ASHTON

Yeah?

ZOEY ASHTON

Oh, never mind. Let's enjoy this night. I'm just happy that's all.

JERRY ASHTON

Okay, that's good. Please eat up.

Jerry resumes eating.

Zoey looks at him with a worried look.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE, ATTIC - MORNING

THE NEXT MORNING.

Francis sleeps on the wooden floor with a spare duvet and pillow next to his pile of comics.

The attic door opens and the ladder falls on the floor with a thud, waking Francis.

Jerry climbs the ladder.

JERRY ASHTON

Morning Francis.

FRANCIS

Hey Jerry.

JERRY ASHTON
Did you sleep alright? Must have been
uncomfortable sleeping on that hard
floor.

FRANCIS
Nah, it's fine. I don't even exist in
this world anymore.

JERRY ASHTON
(laughs slightly)
Makes sense.

FRANCIS
What's with the bloody suit?

JERRY ASHTON
I've got a job interview.

FRANCIS
A job interview?

JERRY ASHTON
Yes, I got fired from my previous job.

FRANCIS
What for?

JERRY ASHTON
I insulted a rude customer.

Francis jumps up.

FRANCIS
Whoa nice one man! At least the
customer got what he asked for.

JERRY ASHTON
Well, yes and no, you could say.

FRANCIS
Oh, don't worry. You'll will sort it.

JERRY ASHTON
I hope so.

FRANCIS
You will do it.

JERRY ASHTON
But... what if the manager asks me why
(MORE)

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)
I got sacked?

FRANCIS
Just tell a white lie.

PAUSE.

JERRY ASHTON
A lie? I can't just do that. What if they find out I'm lying.

FRANCIS
They won't, just show them how capable you really are.

JERRY ASHTON
Thanks, but they'll find out you know...

FRANCIS
(Interrupts)
Do you want the job or not?

JERRY ASHTON
(sighs)
Yes I do.

Francis pushes Jerry to encourage him.

FRANCIS
Then get out there and show that manager what you're made of!

JERRY ASHTON
Yeah alright, Francis, you don't need to push me.

FRANCIS
Just shut up and get out there!

Jerry walks out of the attic.

Francis stands and watches his brother leave.

CUT.TO

INT. THE ROSE PETEL HOTEL / JIM MADDEN'S OFFICE - MORNING

Posh Hotel in East London: THE ROSE PETEL.

Jerry waits in JIM MADDEN'S office to be interviewed for a sous chef position.

Jim Madden (37), a professional chef *with black hair and short beard*.

He enters his office with Jerry's CV.

JIM MADDEN

Good morning, Jerry Ashton right?

Jerry and Jim both shake hands.

JERRY ASHTON

Yes, I am.

JIM MADDEN

Nice to meet you.

JERRY ASHTON

Thank you.

Jim goes over to his desk and reads Jerry's CV.

JIM MADDEN

An experienced waiter?

JERRY ASHTON

Correct.

JIM MADDEN

It says you left the job eight months ago?

JERRY ASHTON

Yes, I did.

JIM MADDEN

Can you tell me why you left?

Jerry freezes...

FRANCIS (V.O.)

"Just tell a white lie"

...and resumes the conversation.

JERRY ASHTON

The reason is that my mum had to have surgery for cancer, and I had quit the job to be her full-time carer for

(MORE)

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)
eight months to look after her.

JIM MADDEN
I'm so sorry to hear that.

JERRY ASHTON
No, don't worry; she's cured now.

JIM MADDEN
That's great to hear.

JERRY ASHTON
I appreciate that.

PAUSE.

JIM MADDEN
Your resume also says that you love
cooking and you have ambitions to be a
chef. Is there anything you like to
cook in particular?

JERRY ASHTON
I like to cook anything - Indian,
Roast Dinners, Italian, and Greek
Food.

Jim becomes more interested.

JIM MADDEN
Sounds interesting... you know I think
this would be a good position for you.

Jerry's eyes widen.

CUT TO

EXT. CANNING TOWN - MORNING

Jerry jumps around the streets, celebrating his success of
his job offer.

Civilians stare at him in amusement.

JERRY ASHTON
I've got the job!

He approaches a HOMELESS MAN with a BOTTLE OF BEER, gives him
the news, and grabs his shoulders.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)
I've got the job!

Jerry walks away from him, happy, as the homeless man stares at him...

HOMELESS MAN
Glad someone's having a good day.

...and resumes swigging his beer.

CUT.TO

Jerry continues jumping around, then stops.

He spots a front door, walks up to it, quickly knocks, and runs off laughing - playing a game of knock down ginger.

The OLD MAN comes out the front door and sees Jerry running away.

OLD MAN
Oi, what the hell?

He comes out, opens the front-gate, and watches Jerry run into a distance.

OLD MAN (CONT'D)
Great, even adults act like kids these days.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE - MORNING

Jerry comes in through the front door and closes it behind him.

He stands and leans on the front door, breathing heavily and laughing...

JERRY ASHTON
Francis!

...and walks off screen.

CUT.TO

Jerry walks up the stairs...

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)
Francis...huh?

...and spots the attic open and ladder on the ground and sees the bedroom door opened.

He goes into the bedroom; it's slightly messy inside.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)
Francis where are you? What in the hell?!

Jerry stops.

Francis is wearing Zoey's wedding dress. Jerry stares at him in shock.

FRANCIS
(imitating Zoey)
Hello Jerry.

JERRY ASHTON
My wife's wedding dress!

He walks over firmly to Francis.

FRANCIS
You like?

JERRY ASHTON
No I don't!

FRANCIS
(Laughs)
No sense of humour, like old times.

JERRY ASHTON
(picking up the mess)
Is Zoey here?

FRANCIS
She went out, I saw her leave an hour after you went to your interview.

JERRY ASHTON
Just take off that dress!

FRANCIS
(sarcastic)
Sure, what ever you say.

Francis takes off the dress.

JERRY ASHTON

Where is the box for the dress?

Francis points to where the box is and hands the dress over.

Jerry walks over and grabs the box and folds the wedding dress.

FRANCIS

So how was the job interview?

Jerry puts the wedding dress box back in the wardrobe.

JERRY ASHTON

To tell you the truth... my job search is over.

FRANCIS

You mean you got it?!

Jerry nods.

FRANCIS (CONT'D)

YES!

Francis runs to Jerry and gives him a nudge on the head.

JERRY ASHTON

Okay calm down.

FRANCIS

Come on, you deserve it!

Francis lets go of Jerry.

JERRY ASHTON

(pants)

Well, since I am now employed, I think we need a celebration.

FRANCIS

Like what?

CUT TO

MOMENTS LATER

SERIES OF SHOTS - The brothers celebrating Jerry's employment.

Dancing around the house.

Playing with FAKE SWORDS.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / FRONT ROOM - AFTERNOON

The two brothers watch wrestling on TV, both slouching on their chairs and relaxing.

While watching the show, Jerry notices Francis is fading.

JERRY ASHTON

Francis?

FRANCIS

Yeah.

JERRY ASHTON

You're fading.

FRANCIS

Oh no.

JERRY ASHTON

What's going on?

FRANCIS

Remember when I said your drinking is the main reason you see me? You need to drink alcohol.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

Jerry rushes to the kitchen, heads to the fridge. He grabs a can of beer and rushes back to Francis.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / FRONT ROOM - AFTERNOON

He returns to the living room and sees Francis fading even more.

Jerry quickly chugs the can of beer.

Francis is no longer fading.

They both stare at each other.

Suddenly... Jerry and Francis hear Zoey's keys at the front door. Jerry quickly puts the same umbrella up to block the door.

ZOEY ASHTON
 (Off screen)
 "Oh come on not again. Jerry open the door!"

Jerry goes back to the front room.

JERRY ASHTON
 Francis, Zoey is back, I need you back in the attic.

Jerry guides Francis upstairs back to the attic. They reach the top of the stairs; with the attic hatch and ladder are already open.

Francis heads up the ladder.

SECONDS LATER: Jerry opens the front door.

ZOEY ASHTON
 (sighs)
 Are you ever gonna fix this door?

JERRY ASHTON
 I'm working on it.

She enters the house. Jerry closes the door.

Zoey spots the front room messy.

ZOEY ASHTON
 Jerry, what is this?

JERRY ASHTON
 Oh, I was celebrating with some friends and watching wrestling.

ZOEY ASHTON
 What were you celebrating?

JERRY ASHTON
 Well, I had a job interview and...
 I'VE GOT THE JOB!!

Zoey doesn't respond.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)
Why aren't you happy?

ZOEY ASHTON
No no no no, I am. It was just...
unexpectedly fast.

JERRY ASHTON
That's great. Well, let's get ready
I'm taking us out tonight.

Jerry kisses Zoey and gets himself ready to go out. Zoey remains standing.

CUT TO

INT. PUB - EVENING.

The pub is full with a LOT OF COUPLES chatting away and BARTENDERS serving drinks to other CUSTOMERS.

Zoey is at the bar all nicely dressed, she orders two drinks: TWO GLASSES OF REGULAR COCA COLA.

STUART a male bartender pours the coke into the glasses and gives them to Zoey.

STUART
Here you go Zoey.

ZOEY ASHTON
Thank you Stuart.

Zoey takes the glasses and walks over to Jerry.

He is sat at a table waiting for Zoey.

She arrives at the table and gives Jerry the drinks.

ZOEY ASHTON (CONT'D)
Here you are.

JERRY ASHTON
Thank you my darling.

Jerry and Zoey kiss each other on the cheek. She then sits down opposite him.

They both grab their coke glasses, Jerry raises his.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)

To us.

ZOEY ASHTON

(Raises her glass)

To us.

They both tap their glasses and both start drinking.

Zoey stops drinking and stares at Jerry. Still not convinced about his success.

CUT TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE, ATTIC - EVENING

Jerry is back in the attic with Francis and a few cans of beer.

The brothers play a game of Go Fish while Zoey is in bed.

They sit opposite each other, looking at their cards.

Francis looks at Jerry and asks for any cards.

FRANCIS

Hmmm, got any sevens?

JERRY ASHTON

Nope, go fish.

FRANCIS

You always win at this game!

JERRY ASHTON

That's right.

FRANCIS

You've beat me one hundred times. How do you do it?

JERRY ASHTON

Well, when I was a kid, I was always the Go Fish champion... only because you were crap at it.

FRANCIS

Ha ha ha, very funny, Jerry.

PAUSE.

JERRY ASHTON
Listen Francis, I want to say thank
you.

FRANCIS
What for?

JERRY ASHTON
If you hadn't come back into my life,
I probably wouldn't have gone straight
back up the ladder.

FRANCIS
How did I help?

JERRY ASHTON
My mood has changed; I've got a job,
and Zoey and I no longer have finance
issues. Now we have our anniversary
dinner to look forward too.

FRANCIS
Thats exciting.

JERRY ASHTON
Yeah, I'am, and we'll have families
coming that day.

PAUSE.

FRANCIS
Wait, is Mum going to be there?

JERRY ASHTON
Mum will be there.

FRANCIS
How is she feeling now?

JERRY ASHTON
She's still upset about you, trying to
cope, and still working at that nasty
pub at the Worlds End.

FRANCIS
She's been at the pub for the last
fifteenth years.

Jerry gets distracted shuffling his cards while Francis tries
to mix up the cards and gets caught cheating.

JERRY ASHTON
 Tell me about it. I've always hated
 that place... Oi, you little cheater!

FRANCIS
 (Laughs)
 That was my opportunity to win.

JERRY ASHTON
 This is why you are shite at this
 game.

FRANCIS
 (Laughs)
 I will find a way to beat you.

JERRY ASHTON
 I doubt it.

CUT.TO

EXT. ROSE PETAL HOTEL - MORNING

ESTABLISHING SHOT OF THE HOTEL.

CUT.TO

INT. ROSE PETAL HOTEL / LOCKER ROOM - MORNING

Jerry is in the men's locker room, putting his chef jacket
 on.

He grabs a chef's hat and starts to close the locker door.
 Francis appears behind the door.

FRANCIS
 Nice outfit.

JERRY ASHTON
 (screams slightly)
 Francis what the hell are you doing
 here?

FRANCIS
 I'm your dead brother I go anywhere
 with you.

JERRY ASHTON
 Yeah, but not right now, because this
 is my first day and I don't want to
 ruin this. So please stay here or go
 (MORE)

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)
back to the house.

FRANCIS
Sure, big bro.

JERRY ASHTON
Thank you.

Jerry walks to the door and leaves.

FRANCIS
Good luck Jerry.

CUT.TO

INT. ROSE PETAL HOTEL, KITCHEN - MORNING

Jim is at the kitchen working on a rota for his colleagues, changing the times with a pen.

Jerry enters the kitchen.

JIM MADDEN
Hello Jerry, it's good to see you.

JERRY ASHTON
(Shaking hands)
Good to see you Jim.

JIM MADDEN
How you feeling today?

JERRY ASHTON
Good and nervous.

Jim points Jerry to another chef, HARRY KENZEL (29).

JIM MADDEN
This is Harry, he's here to train you today and guide around the kitchen... will you be okay?

JERRY ASHTON
I will do good.

JIM MADDEN
Great, good luck Jerry.

Jerry walks to Harry to the counter, leaving Jim to resume his job.

HARRY KENZEL
Hello, good to meet you.

JERRY ASHTON
Hey there.

CUT.TO

EXT. LOCAL SHOP / EAST LONDON - AFTERNOON
ESTABLISHING SHOT of the LOCAL SHOP.

CUT.TO

INT. LOCAL SHOP / EAST LONDON - AFTERNOON

Zoey is at a local shop with her widowed and rich father, Val Willis (54), shopping for food in a trolley for the wedding anniversary.

ZOEY ASHTON
Thank you for your help Dad.

VAL WILLIS
No worries, sweetheart. Anything to help my little girl.

ZOEY ASHTON
I'm not your little girl anymore, I'm married now.

VAL WILLIS
Speaking of marriage, how is Jerry doing now?

ZOEY ASHTON
Better, actually. He's now working and much happier.

PAUSE.

VAL WILLIS
That's surprising.

ZOEY ASHTON
Surprisingly weird I'd say.

VAL WILLIS
What do you mean, weird?

ZOEY ASHTON

He changed in a flash. One day he was moody as a bus driver, and later he is happy as a clown.

Val changes the subject for a moment.

VAL WILLIS

Do you need paprika?

ZOEY ASHTON

Yes, I do.

Val puts the item in the trolley and gets back to the subject.

VAL WILLIS

To be honest, I think it's good thing. He's changed his ways and has a lot more respect for you.

ZOEY ASHTON

But people don't change in one day like this. Something must be up. I'm worried about him.

VAL WILLIS

I don't care if somethings is wrong with him. All I care about is you and your happiness.

Zoey stares at him with a surprising look, knowing he is not listening.

VAL WILLIS (CONT'D)

Have you got everything?

Zoey looks at the trolley checking all the items.

ZOEY ASHTON

Yes thats everything.

VAL WILLIS

Cool, items are on me, love.

They both walk off screen.

ZOEY ASHTON

Are you sure dad?

VAL WILLIS
Of course.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE - AFTERNOON

BACK AT THE ASHTON HOUSE.

Francis reaches the front room and walks past a mirror with no reflection.

He looks at the mirror and waves at it.

Francis laughs to himself.

He then walks off screen.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

Francis enters the kitchen, opens the fridge, and grabs a can of Coke.

FRANCIS
Ohhh, Coca Cola!

He opens the can, drinks the coke all in one go, and then smiles with his eyes closed.

The Coke goes right through him. He looks down and sees the spillage all over the floor.

FRANCIS (CONT'D)
Ahh, I couldn't taste anything anyway.

Francis throws the can away and walks off screen, leaving the non-existent mess behind.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / FRONT ROOM - AFTERNOON

Francis enters the living room and wanders around.

He then spots a memory book and grabs it off the shelf and opens it.

Inside, there are pictures of Jerry and Francis's childhood memories.

CUT.TO

INT. HOTEL / KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

Jerry reaches the end of his first shift.

He heads to the kitchen exit, Harry sends his goodbyes.

HARRY KENZEL

See you Jerry, good job on your first day.

JERRY ASHTON

Thanks Harry for all your help.

HARRY KENZEL

I'll see you tomorrow.

JERRY ASHTON

Yeah see you tomorrow.

Jerry leaves the reaches the entrance of the kitchen.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

Francis is sat on the armchair and laughs at the pictures, reflecting their childhood.

He then turns a page to see other pictures of Jerry and Zoey's wedding day, including himself looking depressed on the picture.

His face changes, from laughing too concerned.

While having his eyes clued at the picture, Francis hears keys at the front door.

FRANCIS

Jerry?

Francis goes off screen.

CUT.TO

INTERCUT. ASHTON HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Francis looks out and spots Zoey and Val entering the front door.

FRANCIS

Oh, it's Zoey. And who is that guy?

Zoey freezes and looks at Val.

VAL WILLIS

You alright?

ZOEY ASHTON

Funny, the door is fixed now, because twice I couldn't get in when Jerry was around.

VAL WILLIS

He must have fixed it.

ZOEY ASHTON

Maybe.

Zoey enters the house with the shopping. She then walks past Val.

They both walk past Francis without noticing him.

Francis watches them head to the kitchen.

CUT.TO

Zoey and Val enter the kitchen.

ZOEY ASHTON (CONT'D)

You didn't, have to carry everything.

VAL WILLIS

Don't worry, it's no problem.

Val slips and falls on the floor along with the bag of groceries.

ZOEY ASHTON

Dad, are you okay?

Val gets back up.

VAL WILLIS

What the hell did I just slip on?

CUT.TO

Francis watches Val and Zoey. He sees the spillage of Coke from a distance, even though it does not exist.

He then hides back in the Living Room.

CUT.TO

ZOEY ASHTON

I don't know I can't see anything.

VAL WILLIS

Weird the floor is very dry.

ZOEY ASHTON

You okay, though?

VAL WILLIS

Don't worry, I'm not hurt.

Val and Zoey place the shopping on the kitchen table and unpack items.

Jerry enters the house offscreen.

JERRY ASHTON (O.S.)

Zoey, are you home?

ZOEY ASHTON

We're in the kitchen, hun.

Jerry enters the kitchen with his chef uniform on. Zoey turns and spots him.

ZOEY ASHTON (CONT'D)

Wow you look so handsome.

JERRY ASHTON

And sexier.

ZOEY ASHTON

(walks over to Jerry)

Ohhh my cheeky husband.

Jerry and Zoey kiss with their arms around their necks, Val watches them with an unconvinced look.

VAL WILLIS

Well...it's good to see you again,
Jerry.

Jerry and Zoey stop hugging and both look at Val.

JERRY ASHTON

Hello Val.

VAL WILLIS
You look...good.

JERRY ASHTON
I'm better.

VAL WILLIS
(Nods slightly)
Yeah better than being a slob.

Zoey breaks the conversation.

ZOEY ASHTON
Jerry, I'm very proud of you, I do
agree, you look better

JERRY ASHTON
And I couldn't be happier.

ZOEY ASHTON
Still, I have my suspicions, and I
want you to know-if you have any
problems, you can tell me.

JERRY ASHTON
Don't worry, I'm not a slob like your
father just said.

Zoey stares at Jerry for a moment. Still not convinced about
his change.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)
I'm gonna go upstairs and shower. I
will see you later. Nice seeing you
again, Val.

Jerry walks off screen.

Val and Zoey watch him leave.

ZOEY ASHTON
You see, he's changed.

VAL WILLIS
I can see that.

ZOEY ASHTON
I need to get to the bottom of this no
matter what.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / ATTIC - AFTERNOON

Jerry enters the attic, trying to find Francis. He grabs a spare can of beer and starts looking around.

No sign of Francis.

JERRY ASHTON
Francis?

Francis appears behind.

FRANCIS
Hey.

JERRY ASHTON
Ahh you nearly made me piss myself.

FRANCIS
(Laughs)
Sorry.

JERRY ASHTON
(Panting)
Don't worry.

FRANCIS
How was you first day?

Jerry stops panting.

JERRY ASHTON
It was really great!

FRANCIS
Good for you bro! So since you are back, another game of cards?

JERRY ASHTON
Sure, let me get changed first.

Francis agrees.

Jerry goes down the ladder to get change.

CUT TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / KITCHEN - EVENING

ONE MONTH LATER

Jerry and Zoey are in the kitchen setting up the table for their first wedding anniversary.

The food is all cooked.

Candles are everywhere on the kitchen table.

They are both dressed up nicely, but stressed and working non stop.

ZOEY ASHTON

All set?

JERRY ASHTON

Yes, just these last six glasses.

Jerry puts the last six wine glasses on the table.

ZOEY ASHTON

Perfect.

They both have a moment staring at the table.

JERRY ASHTON

Look at this. This is the moment we have been waiting for.

ZOEY ASHTON

I never thought this day would come.

PAUSE.

JERRY ASHTON

Oh, I've got you something. Happy Anniversary.

Jerry reaches into his pocket and presents Zoey with a gift.

ZOEY ASHTON

Oh no, you didn't have to get me anything.

JERRY ASHTON

Just open it.

Zoey opens her gift. Inside is a new pair of scissors with her name on it.

ZOEY ASHTON

(laughs)

A new pair of scissors with my name.

(MORE)

ZOEY ASHTON (CONT'D)
Thank you Jerry.

She slowly looks at Jerry.

ZOEY ASHTON (CONT'D)
Well, I have a surprise for you
tonight.

JERRY ASHTON
What is it?

ZOEY ASHTON
One hint-it's upstairs in our room
tonight.

Jerry's eyes go wide.

The door rings in the background.

ZOEY ASHTON (CONT'D)
It's our family.

Zoey walks off to get the door. Jerry follows.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Zoey heads to the door, Jerry stops for a second.

JERRY ASHTON
I'm just gonna go upstairs, I'll be
five minutes.

ZOEY ASHTON
Go ahead.

Jerry heads upstairs to see Francis.

ZOEY ASHTON (CONT'D)
(OFF SCREEN)
Hi.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE, ATTIC - EVENING

Jerry enters the attic again, quietly pulling the ladder
down.

JERRY ASHTON
Francis, where are you? WOAH!

Francis taunts Jerry, showing his bare bottom with a smiley face drawn on it.

FRANCIS
(imitating)
Hey Jerry, come and give this face a kick in the ass!

Jerry walks up and kicks Francis's bottom.

FRANCIS (CONT'D)
Oi!

JERRY ASHTON
There, I kicked your ass. Now pull your trousers up.

Francis pulls his trousers up.

FRANCIS
(laughs)
I remembered winding up teachers doing this at school...

JERRY ASHTON
(interrupts)
Francis, I'm sorry to interrupt - you know today is our first wedding anniversary dinner?

Francis' face slowly falls.

FRANCIS
Wait, is Mum here?

JERRY ASHTON
Yes I think she is.

FRANCIS
Can I see her?

PAUSE.

Jerry looks around at the attic door, hearing the family's voices heard from the background.

JERRY ASHTON
Okay. But stay upstairs, okay?

Jerry leaves and walks down the ladder. Francis stands for a moment, overcome with emotion.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Jerry walks down the stairs. He spots his mother MARTHA ASHTON (53) in the living room, waiting for him.

MARTHA ASHTON

Jerry?

JERRY ASHTON

Mum?

MARTHA ASHTON

How are you? You look well!

JERRY ASHTON

Thank you Mum.

MARTHA ASHTON

I'm so proud that you have turned your life around.

JERRY ASHTON

(Laughs)

Take it easy.

Francis overhears Martha from upstairs...

MARTHA ASHTON

(OFF SCREEN)

Jerry, I still miss your father and Francis, it's been so hard without them. You're all I have left Jerry.

...and than emotionally walks off screen.

JERRY ASHTON

Look lets just join the others okay.

Jerry and Martha go off screen to join Zoey and Val.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / KITCHEN - EVENING

The whole family is gathered around for dinner.

Jerry stands up, picks up a wine glass, and taps it with a fork to get the family's attention.

JERRY ASHTON

Can I have everyone's attention please?

The family is now silent.

PAUSE.

Jerry starts to share his passionate speech.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)

Today is mine and Zoey's first wedding anniversary and I want to say thank you to everyone in this family for coming to this special evening and celebrating...

Jerry freezes, he can hear Francis' bad singing from upstairs. The whole family stare at him.

ZOEY ASHTON

Jerry, you okay?

JERRY ASHTON

(laughs)

Yes, I'm fine, just nervous, thats all.

Jerry resumes his speech.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)

My marriage to Zoey-my love, my wife, my best friend, and a special person I could not ask better for. Despite the difficult times we've had in the past for eight months-well, the difficult times I created-this special lady here has not given up on me. I want to say thank you for being there for me, for making me feel like I'm worth being your husband. Zoey, you are the love of my life, and I want to make everything special for you and continue this marriage for the rest of out lives....

Zoey smiles with delight.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)
 ...and I want to say thank you to Val
 for giving me your blessing to marry
 this beautiful woman.

VAL WILLIS
 My pleasure.

JERRY ASHTON
 Everyone, raise your glasses. To new
 adventures.

The family raises their glasses.

EVERYONE
 "To new adventures"!

MARTHA ASHTON
 Well said Jerry.

Jerry sits down.

The whole family starts eating.

Francis resumes singing again from upstairs. Jerry hears it.

The Family are still eating their food.

JERRY ASHTON
 Excuse me, I need to use the toilet.

Jerry leaves the kitchen with a glass of wine. Everyone
 stares at him.

MARTHA ASHTON
 Why did he take a glass of wine to the
 toilet?

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / BEDROOM - EVENING

Jerry heads up the stairs, enters the bedroom with his glass
 of wine, and spots Francis singing.

JERRY ASHTON
 Francis?

Francis continues singing.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)
Quit the singing please!

Francis stops singing, keeping his eyes off Jerry with his head down.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)
Francis, what's wrong?

FRANCIS
Nothing.

Jerry puts his wine glass down.

JERRY ASHTON
Hey you can talk to me.

FRANCIS
I just saw you and mum talking.

JERRY ASHTON
And?

FRANCIS
Seeing Mum upset like that has really... well, I don't know how to feel since I'm now dead.

JERRY ASHTON
(signs)
Francis, can we talk about this later?
I've got my anniversary to celebrate.

Francis quickly turns around and snaps at Jerry.

FRANCIS
This is all your fault!

JERRY ASHTON
What are you talking about?

FRANCIS
That I'm dead.

JERRY ASHTON
I'm sorry? How is this my fault?!

PAUSE.

FRANCIS
Ever since we were kids, we were
(MORE)

FRANCIS (CONT'D)

inseparable. We did lots things-
carving our names on that damn bench,
playing knockdown ginger, pulling
pranks, listening to our favourite
tunes-all that kind of stuff. But that
damn teacher at school said we have to
make friends, and since then, you made
friends and I was alone because I
missed our past times. And it got
worse when you married Zoey. I was all
alone without you, and I couldn't cope
being like this...and that's why I
killed myself.

JERRY ASHTON

(moves forward a little)

Wait a minture. You killed yourself
because I married Zoey?

FRANCIS

Yes.

PAUSE.

JERRY ASHTON

I have never heard anything so
pathetic in my life! My marriage was
in tatters because of my grief for
you. Do you know what Francis, I think
you are a waste of time and you should
be sleeping in your fucking grave!

Jerry turns around to walk away.

Francis picks up a TENNIS BALL and throws it at Jerry's head
out of anger.

Jerry slowly turns.

Francis's fists tense.

Jerry picks up a clock and throws it at Francis's face.
Francis is still standing, unfazed.

Francis lashes at Jerry and both get physical.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / KITCHEN - EVENING

The family is still in the kitchen, hearing loud thudding coming from upstairs.

VAL WILLIS
What's Jerry doing up there?

ZOEY ASHTON
I don't know.

The thudding gets louder. Zoey rushes out of her seat.

ZOEY ASHTON (CONT'D)
Stay here!

Zoey goes out of the kitchen to check on Jerry.

Val frowns.

VAL WILLIS
I don't like where this is going.

CUT TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / BEDROOM - EVENING

The fight is still going on.

Jerry and Francis are wrestling to the ground.

Zoey enters the room and spots Jerry fighting himself. Concerned, she runs and tries to stop the fight.

ZOEY ASHTON
Jerry what the hell are you doing?!

Jerry accidentally hits Zoey. She lands on the ground, but is not injured.

The fight stops. Jerry stops to check on Zoey.

JERRY ASHTON
ZOEY!

Francis watches, worried. Jerry helps Zoey off the ground.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)
Zoey, I am so sorry.

ZOEY ASHTON
It's okay, Jerry. I'm fine.

Val enters the bedroom.

VAL WILLIS
Zoey, what happened?

JERRY ASHTON
It was an accident. I didn't mean to
hit her.

VAL WILLIS
I'll take her downstairs

Val takes Zoey downstairs and leaves the bedroom.

Jerry looks down to the ground, shocked what has happened.

Francis tries to talk to Jerry.

FRANCIS
Jerry I'm so sorry. I didn't mean
that-I was upset that's all.

JERRY ASHTON
Enough, I'm going downstairs!

Jerry walks off screen.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / KITCHEN - EVENING

Val puts an ice pack on Zoey's face. Martha watches from the
background.

ZOEY ASHTON
I don't know what happened there?

VAL WILLIS
Whatever it was, I'm gonna kill him!

ZOEY ASHTON
No Dad, don't! I will deal with him.

Jerry enters the kitchen. Martha walks over to him.

MARTHA ASHTON
Jerry, are you okay?

JERRY ASHTON
I'm fine. Is she alright?

Val storms to Jerry.

VAL WILLIS
If you lay one hand on my daughter
again, I will...

JERRY ASHTON
(interrupts)
Stay the hell away from me, you moron!

VAL WILLIS
What did you say to me?

JERRY ASHTON
You heard me!

Martha interrupts.

MARTHA ASHTON
Oi, keep your face away from my son!

Val walks away in defeat.

JERRY ASHTON
Mum, I need to tell you all the truth.

CUT TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / LIVING ROOM - EVENING

The whole family is in the living room. Zoey still has the ice pack on her face.

ZOEY ASHTON
Jerry, what's going on?

PAUSE.

JERRY ASHTON
I'm not any better Zoey.

ZOEY ASHTON
Whats that supposed to mean?

JERRY ASHTON
I'm hallucinating.

Francis comes down and overhears the conversation behind the

door.

ZOEY ASHTON
You what?

JERRY ASHTON
(Repeats)
I'm hallucinating.

MARTHA ASHTON
But who are you seeing?

JERRY ASHTON
Francis... my brother Francis.

ZOEY ASHTON
How?

JERRY ASHTON
Alcohol.

Zoey leaves the front room, upset.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)
Zoey, where you going? Zoey!

Jerry walks after Zoey. Martha tries to stop him, but he resists.

MARTHA ASHTON
Jerry.

Martha and Val remain in the front room.

CUT TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / BEDROOM - EVENING

Zoey storms into the bedroom, grabs a suitcase, and prepares to pack.

Jerry enters the bedroom.

JERRY ASHTON
Zoey, please let me explain...

He sees Zoey packing.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)
What are you doing?

ZOEY ASHTON
I'm packing.

JERRY ASHTON
Where are you going?

ZOEY ASHTON
I'm leaving you Jerry.

Zoey walks to the drawer and grabs her clothes.

Jerry walks over and tries to stop her from leaving. Zoey grabs her clothes from Jerry.

JERRY ASHTON
No, you can't just do that!

ZOEY ASHTON
I'm sorry, but this is for the best.

JERRY ASHTON
Best for what?

ZOEY ASHTON
For us!

JERRY ASHTON
This is ridiculous, I open up to you
and all of a sudden you decide to
leave, thats it?

ZOEY ASHTON
No the point is you haven't changed!

JERRY ASHTON
I have changed!

Zoey stops packing.

ZOEY ASHTON
How? You told me before you stopped
drinking!

PAUSE.

JERRY ASHTON
Yes I lied about that and it was wrong
I admit. But I have a job now, I'm
supporting you. Isn't this helping?

ZOEY ASHTON

Not while you're seeing your brother
back from the dead-and your
alcoholism.

JERRY ASHTON

Zoey, things have been better because
of that.

ZOEY ASHTON

Yeah, what if your illness gets worse?
Did you not think about that?

PAUSE.

ZOEY ASHTON (CONT'D)

I've got to go, Jerry.

Zoey takes her suitcase and leaves the bedroom.

She walks past Francis.

Francis watches her leave. He walks over to the door and sees
Jerry looking depressed, sitting on the bed.

CUT.TO

EXT. ASHTON HOUSE / FRONT YARD - EVENING

Zoey enters her car and drives away. Her parents car follows
her.

CUT.TO.

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / ATTIC - EVENING

Francis returns to the attic, he sits at the end and
progresses the fight with Jerry.

DISSOLVE TOO.

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / BEDROOM - EVENING

Martha in the room with Jerry, supporting her son.

DISSOLVE TOO.

INT. ZOEY'S HOUSE / BEDROOM - MORNING

Zoey is in her bedroom. She is leaning by the window and has
tears sliding down her face.

DISSOLVE TOO.

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / LIVING ROOM - MORNING

A FEW DAYS LATER

Jerry is in the living room, sitting alone with tons of cans of beer.

There's a knock on the front door. Jerry goes and answers it-it's Martha.

JERRY ASHTON
Mum, what are you doing here?

MARTHA ASHTON
I came to see you.

JERRY ASHTON
Well, you saw me. Goodbye!

Jerry closes the door in front of Martha, but she pushes it back and enters the house.

MARTHA ASHTON
Jerry, don't close the door on me like that!

JERRY ASHTON
Well, I'm sorry Mum. I'm not in the mood for visitors right now!

Jerry enters the front room.

MARTHA ASHTON
Jerry!

Martha follows him.

She enters the front room, unhappy to see all the beer cans.

MARTHA ASHTON (CONT'D)
What the hell is this?

JERRY ASHTON
You know why all these cans of beer are here.

MARTHA ASHTON
Yeah, but it doesn't mean you need to make matters worse.

Martha picks up the remaining cans of the floor.

MARTHA ASHTON (CONT'D)
What about work?

JERRY ASHTON
Jim gave me a few days off.

MARTHA ASHTON
Well, let's just hope we get you
better before then.

Martha walks out of front room with the cans.

She then re-enters.

MARTHA ASHTON (CONT'D)
Jerry, please don't just sit there.
Come and help clean the house.

Jerry gets up from the sofa and starts helping to clean up
the house.

CUT TO

EXT. PUB - AFTERNOON

Zoey is sitting outside the pub, worried about Jerry.

Val arrives with two pints of Diet Coke.

VAL WILLIS
Here you are.

ZOEY ASHTON
Thank you.

Zoey sips on her drink.

Val sits opposite Zoey

VAL WILLIS
How are you feeling?

ZOEY ASHTON
Better.

PAUSE.

VAL WILLIS
Tell me the truth Zoey.

ZOEY ASHTON

No I'm not okay. There is your answer.

VAL WILLIS

I'm sorry for what you have been through.

ZOEY ASHTON

Dad, I'm in no mood to talk.

VAL WILLIS

Sure.

Val and Zoey sip their Diet Cokes...

...he then resumes talking.

VAL WILLIS (CONT'D)

Listen, Zoey, I think we need to discuss...

ZOEY ASHTON

(snaps)

Dad I said I didn't want to talk!

VAL WILLIS

Well, I want to explain something to help you.

ZOEY ASHTON

What is it?

VAL WILLIS

I want you to divorce Jerry.

ZOEY ASHTON

Are you serious? It's only been four days and already you are telling me to divorce him. How is this helping?

VAL WILLIS

He's no good for you. First he was an ungrateful slob, and now he is a deluded piss head.

ZOEY ASHTON

He's like this because his brother is dead.

VAL WILLIS

And I lost your mother. I did not end
(MORE)

VAL WILLIS (CONT'D)
up like Jerry.

PAUSE.

ZOEY ASHTON
Yes you did. You were an angry
entrepreneur, taking your problems out
on all of us. This is exactly how
Jerry was feeling.

PAUSE.

ZOEY ASHTON (CONT'D)
You're just scared of being alone, but
you always were.

Zoey stands up from her chair and walks away.

VAL WILLIS
Where are you going?

ZOEY ASHTON
Where do you think?!

Val remains seated, watching Zoey leave.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / FRONT ROOM - AFTERNOON

Jerry is helping his mum clean his house. Martha is the
cleaning the coffee table.

He dusts the shelf with CDs-Francis's favourite album-and has
a look at it.

FLASHBACKS OF HIS TIMES WITH FRANCIS.

Francis and Jerry dancing.

Watching the wrestling.

Playing Card Games.

Chasing around the house.

Playing with fake swords.

Francis telling him what to say about his interview.

Jerry working at his job as a chef.

BACK TO THE PRESENT

Jerry smiles at the CD.

Martha stops cleaning the coffee table.

MARTHA ASHTON
Are you okay, Jerry?

JERRY ASHTON
(turns around)
Mum, I'm gonna go upstairs for a bit.

MARTHA ASHTON
Of course.

Jerry exits the front room with the CD still in his hand.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE / BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

Francis is sitting on the bed, distraught from his broken relationship with Jerry.

Jerry slightly opens the door.

JERRY ASHTON
(from behind the door)
Francis, are you still here?

FRANCIS
Jerry?

...and then enters the bedroom.

JERRY ASHTON
Hey.

FRANCIS
What are you doing here?

JERRY ASHTON
I just want to talk to you.

FRANCIS
I thought you would hate me after what happened.

Jerry hands the CD to Francis.

JERRY ASHTON

I was just reflecting on our good times, and I don't want our argument to be the last thing between us.

PAUSE.

FRANCIS

Listen, Jerry, I want to tell you, the real reason I came to see you- it was to pay my respects for you and Zoey.

JERRY ASHTON

That's why you came back here?

Francis nods slightly.

JERRY ASHTON (CONT'D)

I appreciate it, but Zoey not here anymore. She doesn't love me anymore.

FRANCIS

Don't give up on her. She will come back. She never gave up on you when you drank, and she won't give up this time.

JERRY ASHTON

Good point, but it may take time.

FRANCIS

You will figure it out. I know you will.

Jerry and Francis have an emotional hug.

FRANCIS (CONT'D)

So what are you going to do?

JERRY ASHTON

I've just decided I'm going sober up and work hard getting Zoey back.

Francis starts to slowly fade...

FRANCIS

Oh wow.

JERRY ASHTON
Francis, you're fading again.

FRANCIS
Yes, since you said you were going to
sober up, I'm no longer a burden.

JERRY ASHTON
Francis, if I start drinking again,
will I still see you?

FRANCIS
Possibly, yes. But don't do it - it's
caused enough damage in your life.

Jerry watches Francis getting weaker. A tear slides down his
face.

JERRY ASHTON
Francis?!

FRANCIS
Take care buddy. I love you, Jerry.
look in your pocket!

Francis is now gone. Jerry stands there sobbing.

He checks his pocket. Out of nowhere, he sees a gold locket -
a late wedding present Francis has never given him. Inside is
a picture of him and Zoey at their wedding.

Jerry has a long look at it.

CUT.TO

INT. ASHTON HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Zoey enters the house through the front door.

ZOEY ASHTON
Hello?

Martha comes out and sees Zoey.

MARTHA ASHTON
Zoey?

ZOEY ASHTON
Where's Jerry?

MARTHA ASHTON
He's upstairs somewhere.

Zoey goes to the stairs.

ZOEY ASHTON
Jerry?!

Jerry hears Zoey's voice.

He runs out of the bedroom, heads down the stairs, and spots Zoey.

JERRY ASHTON
Zoey?

Jerry and Zoey stare at each other for a moment. She then walks up to him and gives him a hug.

Martha stares at them.

ZOEY ASHTON
Jerry, I'm so sorry.

Jerry lets go of Zoey.

JERRY ASHTON
Don't be. I'm sorry I hit you.

ZOEY ASHTON
It was an accident. It wasn't you that really did it.

PAUSE.

JERRY ASHTON
I'm going to sober up. Francis is gone. I will get better for us.

ZOEY ASHTON
I will be there for you.

Zoey and Jerry smile at each other.

Just then, the cat returns to the living room. Jerry and Zoey spot it.

JERRY ASHTON
I think you should give this cat another chance, because the mess was my fault in the first place.

ZOEY ASHTON
I can believe that.

Jerry, Zoey and Martha head to the kitchen to feed the cat some milk.

ZOEY ASHTON (CONT'D)
Are you hungry, little fellow?

JERRY ASHTON
Sorry for blaming you for my mess,
kitty cat.

Jerry closes the kitchen door.

FADE IN

The Screen goes black: FOUR MONTHS LATER.

FADE OUT

EXT. CANNING TOWN - AFTERNOON

Jerry now sober.

He and Zoey heads to the carved bench. He has flowers for Francis for his first death anniversary.

Zoey places her arm around Jerry.

ZOEY ASHTON
I remembered all the funny times he
gave us.

Jerry places the flowers by the bench.

JERRY ASHTON
The times we will never forget.

ZOEY ASHTON
They look really good.

Jerry and Zoey stare at the bench.

JERRY ASHTON
I have great news. I thought I'd tell
you here so Francis can hear it. I've
been promoted to assitant chef at the
hotel.

ZOEY ASHTON

Really?

JERRY ASHTON

Yeah, and its great money also.

ZOEY ASHTON

I'm so proud of you, come here.

Zoey kisses Jerry.

They both look at the bench.

ZOEY ASHTON (CONT'D)

Francis would definitely be proud.

PAUSE

JERRY ASHTON

We all miss you Francis.

ZOEY ASHTON

Well, since you got promoted, I thought we have a celebration in our bedroom tonight.

JERRY ASHTON

Wow, I'm looking forward to it already.

Zoey laughs.

They both walk away from the bench.

The camera tilts down to the bench with Francis's name on it.

END CREDITS ROLL on screen in front of the bench.

