

Kore
by
David W Hutchison

53/12 Viewcraig Gdns
Edinburgh
EH8 9UP
Info@davidhutchison.co.uk

FADE IN:

INT. MAIN OFFICE, BANK - DAY

Busy open plan office. A weary JESSIE ARTHUR, 50, lank dark hair, unfit, scrolls down a page of figures on a monitor. She clicks another screen. An image of a ginger cat comes up on a headline

CAT KILLER STRIKES AGAIN!

Jessie SIGHs. She clicks the screen off and rubs her forehead. She looks at the framed photo on her desk of her dead girlfriend Kore, 43, happy, cuddling their black and white cat Ina. Jessie smiles.

Suddenly a hand comes round the side of the monitor, wearing a grey finger puppet of a cat. The finger wiggles.

DOUGLAS (V.O.)

Miaow, miaow!

Colleague DOUGLAS AIRD, 45, gone to seed, pops up over the cubicle wall.

DOUGLAS

Felted it myself. I could show you how to make one?

JESSIE

What did you say?

Douglas gets up and walks round to Jessie.

DOUGLAS

I could show you how to make one.

Jessie swivels around in her chair.

JESSIE

Sorry. I'm still waiting on my new hearing aid. I can hear better on this side.

Douglas wiggles the finger puppet.

DOUGLAS

I said I could show you how to make one. Felted cat hair.

JESSIE

Not my thing really.

Douglas looks a bit upset.

JESSIE (CONT'D)
I mean it's very nice. I'm just not
good at crafting.

Douglas cheers up.

DOUGLAS
All from Tiger.

JESSIE
But Tiger's black?

DOUGLAS
Ah! You use the inner layer of fur.
His is grey.

Jessie clutches her forehead.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)
You okay?

JESSIE
Oh. It's just a headache.

DOUGLAS
You seem to be getting them a lot.

Jessie shrugs.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)
Coffee?

Jessie nods.

INT. KITCHEN, BANK - DAY

Small kitchen. Jessie sips coffee in a plain mug. Douglas clicks some sweeteners into his "My Cat Loves Me Best" coffee mug.

ALICE, 20's, squeezes past Jessie and opens the small fridge. She pulls out an empty carton of milk, shakes it, throws it in the bin.

ALICE
Someone's stolen my milk.

JESSIE
You can use some of mine. Bottom
shelf.

Alice looks in fridge again.

ALICE
Low fat? Naw.

Alice leaves the kitchen.

DOUGLAS

Charming!

Jessie shrugs.

JESSIE

Did you see the news? The cat
killer ... again!

Douglas nods his head.

DOUGLAS

I've still not let Tiger out of the
house. Despite his complaining.

JESSIE

You know what? I'm not a violent
person but if I found that cat
killer
(beat)
Who in the world would do something
like that to a poor wee pussycat?

Douglas shakes his head.

DOUGLAS

Are you still up for the gym later?

JESSIE

If you don't mind I'll give it a
miss. I'm going to ruin my flexi-
time and go home early.

DOUGLAS

No problem.

EXT. STREET, CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie walks up the street. A white van is parked at the gate
to her home.

EXT. 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Semi-detached Victorian villa with a messy garden. Two
REMOVAL MEN carry a huge painting of a dog in a clown suit,
down the path and out the gate.

Jessie challenges them at the gate.

JESSIE

Hey! What you doing with my stuff?

REMOVAL MAN1

What do you mean?

JESSIE
How did you get in my house?

REMOVAL MAN1
Your house?

REMOVAL MAN2
Ask the boss!

The man nods behind him.

JESSIE
Wait there!

The men shrug and put down the painting. They lean it against the van.

Jessie marches up the path as MILDRED NOBLE, 60, fake fur, heavy make-up, scarf, locks the front door.

JESSIE (CONT'D)
What are you doing!

MILDRED
Sorry, I'm in a hurry.

Mildred tries to push past but Jessie blocks her path.

JESSIE
Not so fast.

MILDRED
But I'm paying them by the hour.

JESSIE
Stealing a painting from my house.

MILDRED
It was Kore's. I made it for her twenty first and I want it back.

JESSIE
She always hated that painting.

Mildred gives Jessie a withering look.

MILDRED
That was low.

Jessie puts out her hand.

JESSIE
The keys!

MILDRED
Kore gave them to me! For emergencies.

Removal Man 1 comes up the path speaking into his mobile. He cuts his call.

REMOVAL MAN1

We need to get a move on. Next customer's complaining that we're late.

Mildred shoves past Jessie. She strides down the path.

MILDRED

Okay boys. That's all today.

Mildred opens the gate and GASPS!

EXT. STREET, CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

A dog lifts its leg against the painting. Piss flows down the clown dog's face.

MILDRED

Off! Off!

Mildred rushes out the gate and shoos the dog away. She whips her scarf off and cleans down the painting.

Jessie leans against the gate and smiles.

Mildred turns to the removal men.

MILDRED (CONT'D)

Well. What are you waiting for?

REMOVAL MAN1

I'm no putting that pish-covered thing in my clean van.

MILDRED

That painting's been exhibited at the Royal Society of Artists, I'll have you know.

REMOVAL MAN1

In that case madam I'm sure you won't mind parting with..

Removal Man 1 nods at Removal Man2

REMOVAL MAN 2

Another twenty quid should cover the inconvenience.

MILDRED

That's scandalous!

REMOVAL MAN 1

Oh well.

The men close the van doors.

MILDRED

Wait!

Mildred takes a note from her purse and thrusts it at them.

MILDRED (CONT'D)

Here!

Removal man 1 pockets the money. The men put the painting into the van and secure it to a rack.

MILDRED (CONT'D)

Careful!

The men close the doors.

They drive off.

JESSIE

My keys!

Jessie holds her hand out.

MILDRED

Not until I get my share back from the house. The hotel is on its last legs. I need that money!

JESSIE

You know I can't afford to do that.

MILDRED

Look I've invited you round for dinner so many times to talk about it. Like proper adults. I miss her too you know.

JESSIE

I was busy.

MILDRED

Sell the bloody house! Look I'll even let you have a room rent free in the hotel.

JESSIE

It's too far from my work. Anyway it was Kore that had the mortgage with me, not you.

MILDRED

Yes but I lent her the deposit. Sell it! You've got until the end of the week or I'm getting my lawyer on it.

Mildred walks off down the street, holding out at arm's length her pish-soaked scarf.

Jessie sighs. She goes through the gate and up the path towards the front door.

JESSIE
(at door)
You my friend are getting a new
lock!

INT. HALLWAY, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie unlocks the door and enters. She picks up a small parcel from the floor.

INT. KITCHEN, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Big kitchen looking onto a back green. Odd chairs surround an antique table. Empty hook and rectangular mark on the wall where the clown dog painting has been removed.

Jessie rubs the edge of the mark and frowns.

As Jessie puts the package on the table she calls out for her cat.

JESSIE
Puss, puss. Ina! Ina!

Jessie takes out her smart phone and looks up locksmiths. She dials a number.

JESSIE (CONT'D)
Hello? Yes. I need my locks
changed. How much would it cost?
Two doors... Yes. Forty Cambridge
Gardens... Jessie Arthur... Yes
Friday afternoon, fine.

Jessie rings off.

As she fills the kettle she calls out for the cat.

JESSIE (CONT'D)
Ina! Ina!

Jessie puts the kettle on. She bangs the treat cupboard door and looks up.

JESSIE (CONT'D)
Puss?

Jessie takes out a bag of cat treats and shakes it.

JESSIE (CONT'D)
Puss, puss. Ina!

INT. SITTING ROOM, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie looks behind the television.

JESSIE
Ina!

INT. BEDROOM, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie looks in the open wardrobe. She checks behind a curtain.

JESSIE
Puss, puss. Ina! Ina!

EXT. 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie searches the small garden.

JESSIE
Puss, puss. Ina!

EXT. STREET, CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie looks down the street.

JESSIE
Puss, puss. Ina!

INT. KITCHEN, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie sits down with her tea. She remembers the package and opens it up. It's her new hearing aid.

Delighted, Jessie tries it on. She frowns as she cannot hear anything. She adjusts the on/off switch. Nothing. She shakes it then replaces it. A CRACKLE then..

KORE (V.O.)
I wish that you..

Jessie tries to adjust the hearing aid and in doing so knocks her cup of tea over herself. The cup smashes onto the floor, just missing the hearing aid.

JESSIE
Christ!

Jessie pulls off her tea-stained shirt. She throws it in the washing machine. She pats down her arms with a dish towel.

She picks up the broken pieces of the cup and puts them in the bin.

She stares at the hearing aid lying on the floor. She picks it up and puts it on the table. It's wet.

Jessie mops the floor, while occasionally glancing at the hearing aid.

She sits down and holds up the hearing aid. She dabs it with a tissue. She puts it over her ear.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

Hello?

INT. KITCHEN, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - LATER

The hearing aid lies on the table. Jessie passes a hair dryer over it. Jessie switches off the hair dryer.

She puts the hearing aid to her ear.

JESSIE

Hello?

A CRACKLE.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

Hello?

KORE (V.O.)

It's me!

JESSIE

Who?

KORE (V.O.)

You know who! Me!

JESSIE

Me who?

KORE (V.O.)

Kore!

Jessie GASPS. She pulls off the hearing aid. She takes her asthma inhaler from her pocket and takes a draw on it.

INT. BATHROOM, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - LATER

Jessie splashes cold water on her face. She stares in the mirror. She rummages in a cupboard and pulls out some headache pills. She takes two. Stares at the mirror.

INT. KITCHEN, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - NIGHT

Jessie stares at the hearing aid lying on the kitchen table.
She picks it up and puts it over her ear.

KORE (V.O.)
Hello?

Jessie puts her fingers in her ears.

JESSIE
La,la,la,la,la,la.

She takes her fingers out of her ears.

KORE (V.O.)
Hello?

JESSIE
Kore's dead. Shit I'm talking to
myself. Am I going crazy?

KORE (V.O.)
I'm here darling.

JESSIE
It can't be you!

KORE (V.O.)
It is!

Jessie crosses the room and opens the blinds. Looks out the
window.

JESSIE
This is just some sick joke, isn't
it. One of these "You've Been
Framed" crap TV shows.

Jessie takes off the hearing aid and looks at it closely.

Jessie gives the hearing aid a shake. She replaces it behind
her ear.

JESSIE (CONT'D)
If you were Kore you'd know I don't
believe in the afterlife, ghosts,
all that rubbish.

KORE (V.O.)
Neither did I.

JESSIE
So you're telling me it's all true.
You're a ghost then?

KORE (V.O.)
I don't know what I am.

JESSIE
You do sound like her but you're not quite right.

KORE (V.O.)
You sound a bit strange to me too. Perhaps its the ether.

JESSIE
Ether?

KORE (V.O.)
I don't know. The stuff mediums talk through. I'm new to all this.

JESSIE
Okay prove to me that you're Kore.

KORE (V.O.)
How?

JESSIE
Tell me something that only she would know.

KORE (V.O.)
Okay let's see. Your favourite possession?

JESSIE
Okay?

KORE (V.O.)
The pink feather from Andy Bell's boa. You grabbed it off the stage at an Erasure concert.

JESSIE
Good try but I've told lots of people that story.

KORE (V.O.)
Well then, ask me something.

JESSIE
What prize did I win at school?

KORE (V.O.)
Primary or secondary?

JESSIE
Primary.

KORE (V.O.)
A book token for bible studies.

JESSIE
How did you know that!

KORE (V.O.)
You told me! Any child at your school that didn't win a prize were given one for bible studies so that they wouldn't feel left out.

JESSIE
I suppose you could have looked that up.

KORE (V.O.)
I didn't. Your mother was an atheist and was mortified at the prize giving.

JESSIE
Bloody hell! Honey, is it really you?

KORE (V.O.)
Yes darling.

Jessie bursts into tears.

She pulls herself together and wipes her eyes.

JESSIE
Where are you? Christ! I'm talking to myself!

KORE (V.O.)
Right beside you.

JESSIE
Where?

KORE (V.O.)
Slightly to your left and up a bit.

Jessie looks to the left and up.

JESSIE
Do you have wings?

KORE (V.O.)
No. Least I don't think so.

Kore LAUGHS.

JESSIE
Why can't I see you?

KORE (V.O.)
Don't know. Hold on.

JESSIE

What?

KORE (V.O.)

Did you feel anything?

JESSIE

No. What did you do.

KORE (V.O.)

I kissed you.

JESSIE

Oh.

Jessie wipes a tear from her eye.

KORE (V.O.)

Sorry.

JESSIE

No. I'm sorry. It's been shit without you. Your mother has been a right cow.

KORE (V.O.)

I know what she's been like but she's under pressure with the hotel. She's got a good heart.

JESSIE

Damn here I am talking to you and we're arguing about your mother again.

They both LAUGH.

KORE (V.O.)

Some things never change.

JESSIE

What happens now? Do you haunt me until I die too?

KORE (V.O.)

There's something I must do to move on.

JESSIE

Move on where?

KORE (V.O.)

I don't know. The next stage. Just a feeling.

JESSIE

So you've not met anyone that you can ask?

KORE (V.O.)
If you mean God, an angel? I've not
seen anything like that.

JESSIE
So what's it like, being dead?

KORE (V.O.)
Lonely. Frustrating. I couldn't
connect with you until now.

JESSIE
Well I can hear you now. Else I'm
going mad.

KORE (V.O.)
Perhaps we're both mad.

JESSIE
Hold on. Count to ten.

KORE (V.O.)
Why?

JESSIE
Just do it.

KORE (V.O.)
One, two, three...

Jessie removes the hearing aid. Jessie looks around the room.
She shakes her head. She replaces the hearing aid.

KORE (V.O.)
Nine, ten.

JESSIE
The hearing aid must boost the
signal.

Jessie shakes her head.

JESSIE (CONT'D)
Am I losing the plot? Please,
please tell me this isn't a prank.

KORE (V.O.)
Let's not go through that again.
I'm so happy that we can
communicate. I've got lots to tell
you.

JESSIE
Like what?

KORE (V.O.)
I can see things spreading out,
connected to you.

JESSIE

In what way.

KORE (V.O.)

There was a meeting at your bank last week. They're closing down your branch.

JESSIE

How did you find out? I thought you were beside me, on my left?

KORE (V.O.)

I drift off, sometimes. It's hard work trying to contact you all the time and I have a power nap.

JESSIE

You have power naps in the afterlife?

KORE (V.O.)

Well something like that. Anyway Croydon.

JESSIE

Croydon?

KORE (V.O.)

You'll be out of a job in two weeks unless you take a pay drop and move to Croydon.

JESSIE

Croydon?

KORE (V.O.)

Yes!

JESSIE

I don't want to move. Croyden! Ina would hate it. Oh! Can you find her for me? See if she's okay?

KORE (V.O.)

I'll try. I'll get back to you.

Jessie pours herself more tea.

EXT. GARDENS, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - NIGHT

Jessie stands in the doorway. She sweeps a torch across the garden.

JESSIE

Ina? Ina? Puss puss honey bunch?

Jessie shakes her head and shuts the door.

INT. KITCHEN, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - NIGHT

Jessie empties the dishwasher.

KORE (V.O.)

Hello?

Jessie bangs her head on a cupboard door.

JESSIE

Arrgh!

KORE (V.O.)

Sorry honey.

Jessie holds onto her head and flops down into a chair.

JESSIE

Any joy?

KORE (V.O.)

Everything's a bit misty. Often happens. Sorry. Anyway about the bank.

JESSIE

I'm not moving to Croydon!

KORE (V.O.)

I've got a solution. Not sure if you're going to go for it.

JESSIE

Try me.

KORE (V.O.)

Rob the bank.

JESSIE

What?

KORE (V.O.)

I'll help you. It'll be a cinch.

JESSIE

Yeah, like the time you took me to that roller disco. Even if I wanted to how could I do it. There are cameras everywhere.

KORE (V.O.)

Don't worry about the cameras. I've timed them.

JESSIE

Anyway how would I break in?

KORE (V.O.)

You'd never leave. You'd make it look like you've left the building. Stay overnight.

JESSIE

Where would I hide?

KORE (V.O.)

The women's toilets.

JESSIE

Lovely! I'd still need to get into the office and it would be locked up. I don't have a key.

KORE (V.O.)

I know where the cleaners keep the spare key.

JESSIE

What about the safe? I've only got part of the password.

KORE (V.O.)

We can get your boss's password.

JESSIE

No one writes their password down.

KORE (V.O.)

Cameron does. Top drawer of his desk.

JESSIE

He's so thick, come to think of it he probably does. You've really got it all worked out haven't you!

KORE

Remember how awful he was when I died? That hassle to get bereavement leave.

JESSIE

Yes. I had to go through my union. He's been awkward ever since.

KORE (V.O.)

And I know what my mother's been like. I want to make it up to you. Make sure that you're sorted.

JESSIE

Oh Kore! I've missed you so much.

Jessie has a wee cry.

KORE (V.O.)
Come on honey, chin up. I wish I
could give you a cuddle.

Jessie blows her nose.

JESSIE
I don't think I could be a
criminal.

KORE (V.O.)
Imagine what you could do with the
money. Pay off mother. Quit your
job. Remember we used to talk about
opening up pet therapy centre?

JESSIE
I know, I know, but I just don't
think I've got the bottle to do it.

KORE (V.O.)
If you won't do it for yourself, do
it for me then.

JESSIE
What do you mean?

KORE (V.O.)
I'm fed up hanging around in this
limbo thingy. I feel that helping
you to do this will set me free.

JESSIE
Free to do what?

KORE (V.O.)
I don't know. Move on to wherever
I'm meant to be.

JESSIE
Okay, okay I'll do it. Why the fuck
not. I'm listening to voices. I
could blame them!

KORE (V.O.)
Great! So you've opened the safe
and got the money. You put the key
back in the cleaner's cupboard then
settle down in the women's toilets.

JESSIE
Stay overnight? In the toilets?
Yeuk!

KORE (V.O.)

You can handle that! In the morning you'll clock back in. Pretend that you've just arrived. Stay cool when the robbery has been discovered.

JESSIE

Not sure how I'd do that.

KORE (V.O.)

I'll help you. You walk out with the money in your gym kit later.

JESSIE

That won't work! If there's been a robbery they're going to check my bag.

KORE

Okay. You tape the money around your waist.

JESSIE

Maybe.

KORE (V.O.)

Agreed?

Jessie rubs her forehead.

JESSIE

Yes. Sorry. My headache's come back. I need to go and lie down.

INT. BEDROOM, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie wakes up.

JESSIE

Kore?

Jessie listens out but no Kore. Jessie gets up.

INT. KITCHEN, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie eats a slice of toast as she checks the news on her mobile phone:

CAT KILLER STRIKES YET AGAIN!

Jessie shakes her head at a photograph of a black and white moggie. She goes to the front door and opens it. She calls out.

JESSIE

Ina!

INT. RECEPTION, BANK - DAY

This is the public area. A couple of open plan desks, currently unmanned, for the customers and to one side the reception desk. Jessie clocks in. The RECEPTIONIST, thin, pretty, stuck-up, is on the phone and sneers as Jessie walks past her.

INT. OFFICE, BANK - DAY

Jessie sits down at her desk. Douglas nods across at her.

INT. OFFICE, BANK - LATER

Jessie picks at a salad at her desk. Douglas comes up to her with a coffee.

JESSIE

Thanks.

DOUGLAS

You okay?

KORE (V.O.)

He's a creep.

JESSIE

What?

DOUGLAS

I asked if you were okay?

Jessie touches her hearing aid. It makes a BUZZING sound.

JESSIE

My new hearing aid's playing up.

KORE (V.O.)

Cheeky!

DOUGLAS

Ah.

JESSIE

I caught Kore's mother at the house yesterday. Removing stuff.

DOUGLAS

That's terrible.

JESSIE

What annoyed me most is that she let Ina out.

DOUGLAS

She didn't!

JESSIE

Yes. I've not found her since and that cat killer's struck again.

DOUGLAS

I saw that but that second cat, Conker I think its name was, was actually killed the week before.

JESSIE

Oh I didn't see that.

DOUGLAS

Anyway I'm not letting Tiger out. Even just in the garden. I...

Jessie's mobile RINGS.

JESSIE

Sorry. I'm expecting a call from the hospital.

Jessie takes out her mobile and answers it.

SECRETARY (V.O.)

Is that Miss Arthur?

JESSIE

Yes.

SECRETARY

It's the clinic here. We've had a cancellation. Can you come in for your scan at three p.m. tomorrow?

JESSIE

Yes sure.

SECRETARY

We'll see you tomorrow then. Bye.

JESSIE

Bye.

Jessie puts away the phone.

DOUGLAS

Good news?

JESSIE

I've got my scan tomorrow. Hopefully they can find out what's causing these headaches.

INT. OFFICE, BANK - LATER

Jessie glance at the clock on the wall. It's five p.m.
Douglas comes up to her.

DOUGLAS

Coming?

Jessie nods. She picks up her handbag and follows Douglas out
of the office.

INT. RECEPTION, BANK - DAY

Douglas flips his card at the clocking out barrier and passes
through. Jessie flips her card but stops at the barrier.

JESSIE

I forgot my gym kit. Just go. I'll
catch you later.

DOUGLAS

It's okay. I'll wait.

JESSIE

No seriously, just go!

Douglas shrugs. He walks off. Jessie looks across to the
reception. The receptionist is busy talking on the phone.

KORE (V.O.)

Now!

Jessie slips past without the receptionist noticing.

INT. OFFICE, BANK - DAY

Jessie stands at the entrance of the empty office.

The CCTV camera starts to sweep across the room.

KORE (V.O.)

Wait!

The camera sweep reaches the far end of the room.

KORE (V.O.)

Now!

Jessie goes up to her desk. She pulls out her gym bag from
under it. She looks up at the camera mounted on the wall
above.

KORE (V.O.)

Duck!

Jessie huddles under her desk.

KORE (V.O.)

Go!

Jessie gets up and rushes across the room towards the door. She tries to pull it open but it's stiff.

The camera sweeps back again.

KORE (V.O.)

Hide!

Jessie ducks down behind the photocopier machine.

The camera sweeps back again.

Jessie wipes sweat off her brow.

KORE (V.O.)

Now!

Jessie gets up and tries the door again.

The camera gets to the end of the sweep and makes its way back again.

KORE (V.O.)

Hurry!

JESSIE

I'm trying!

Jessie gives the door a hard push with her shoulder. It swings open and Jessie dashes into the corridor.

EXT. BANK - DAY

Douglas puts down his gym bag and leans against the wall. A couple of BANK EMPLOYEES come out of the entrance and walk past him.

INT. CORRIDOR, BANK - DAY

Long wide corridor. A large yucca tree in a pot is just past the door to the women's toilets. Jessie runs down the corridor and opens the door to the toilets.

INT. WOMEN'S TOILETS, BANK - DAY

Jessie doesn't dare turn on the lights. She uses the light on her mobile and scans the toilets. A row of three cubicles down one side and sinks on the other.

JESSIE

Don't know how long I can stand this!

KORE (V.O.)
You'll be fine. Relax!

Jessie goes to the end cubicle. She sits down on the pan lid. She pulls out her inhaler, gives it a shake and takes a puff.

She holds in her breath for five seconds and then lets it out. More relaxed now, she puts off her mobile light.

KORE (V.O.)
Not long now.

In the darkness the SUCKING sound of a vacuum cleaner comes closer down the corridor.

EXT. CORRIDOR, BANK - DAY

Cleaner AGNES, 40's vacuum cleans the corridor, coming closer to the toilets. The cable runs out. Agnes turns off the vacuum cleaner. She goes back up the corridor and unplugs the plug. She goes down the corridor, past the women's toilets and plugs the plug into another socket.

INT. WOMEN'S TOILETS, BANK - DAY

Jessie SNEEZES.

EXT. CORRIDOR, BANK - DAY

Agnes looks at the door of the women's toilets.

INT. WOMEN'S TOILETS - DAY

Jessie creeps up onto the seat pan. She puts out her mobile light. The sound of FOOTSTEPS come towards the main door. The door opens. Agnes switches on the main light.

Jessie stretches out and holds onto the door handle of the cubicle.

Agnes looks into the first cubicle. She looks into the second cubicle. She tries to turn the door handle of the third cubicle.

AGNES
Anyone in there?

There is a knock on the main door and cleaner CATH, 50, walks in, holding a bucket and a cloth.

CATH
Doing my job?

AGNES
Thought I heard something.

Agnes tries the door again.

AGNES (CONT'D)
The lock's stuck.

CATH
Not again!

Cath puts down the bucket and comes down the room.

CATH (CONT'D)
I'll do it!

Cath moves Agnes out of the way.

CATH (CONT'D)
Okay, okay.

Cath tries to turn the handle.

Jessie puts all of her force into stopping the handle turning.

CATH (CONT'D)
Yeah. It's bugged! Oh well. One toilet less to clean.

AGNES
We ought to check someone's not collapsed in there?

CATH
Okay, okay.

Cath got down on the floor and looked at the space under the door.

CATH (CONT'D)
Naw. There's no one there.

AGNES
I'd better get back to the Hoovering.

CATH
Okay. I'll give this the quick once over.

Agnes goes back out into the corridor and the sound of the vacuum cleaner starts up. Cath gives the sinks a quick wipe. Meanwhile Jessie holds onto the door handle with one hand and holds her hand over her nose with the other, trying not to sneeze.

Cath scrubs the first toilet and flushes it. Cath scrubs the second toilet. As she flushes it Jessie sneezes. Luckily Cath doesn't notice.

Cath turns out the light and leaves the room.

KORE (V.O.)
We should wait ten minutes to make
sure they've left.

JESSIE
Okay.

EXT. BANK - DAY

Douglas calls Jessie on his mobile.

INT. CUBICLE, WOMEN'S TOILETS, BANK - DAY

Jessie checks her mobile.

EXT. BANK - DAY

Douglas gets no answer on his mobile. He picks up his gym bag and walks round the side of the bank.

INT. WOMEN'S TOILET, BANK - DAY

Jessie pokes her head out of the corridor and looks up at the CCTV camera. She ducks back in the toilet.

KORE (V.O.)
Now!

Jessie rushes out of the toilet.

INT. CORRIDOR, BANK - DAY

Jessie runs down the corridor.

KORE (V.O.)
Duck!

Jessie tries to duck down and falls over.

JESSIE
Shit!

KORE (V.O.)
You need to get out of sight!

Jessie drags herself behind a large potted plant. Her right ankle really hurts and she rubs it.

KORE (V.O.)
You okay?

JESSIE
I've twisted it.

KORE (V.O.)
Can you walk?

JESSIE
I'll try.

KORE (V.O.)
Okay. Five, four, three, two, one.
Now!

Jessie hauls herself up and hobbles along the corridor slowly.

KORE (V.O.)
Hurry up. The camera's on its way
back!

EXT. BANK - DAY

Douglas looks in a window with a shocked look on his face. He smiles and puts his mobile against the window.

INT. CORRIDOR, BANK - NIGHT

Jessie pants as she tries to get her breath back.

JESSIE
Bloody ankle's killing me!

KORE (V.O.)
There's a camera around the next
corner. Twenty feet to the
cleaner's cupboard.

JESSIE
I don't know if I can make it.

KORE (V.O.)
There's a blind spot on the right
side from the floor to about one
foot high.

Jessie leans one arm against the wall as she hobbles to the corner. At the corner she gets down flat on the ground. She crawls around the corner on her elbows.

KORE (V.O.)
You're doing great. Keep at it.

Jessie drags herself to the cleaner's cupboard.

KORE (V.O.)
Wait...Now!

Jessie pulls herself up and twists the door handle. It's a bit stiff and shudders open. She pulls herself into the cupboard and tries to pull the door shut.

KORE (V.O.)
Hurry up!

INT. CLEANER'S CUPBOARD - NIGHT

Jessie tries to pull the door shut but something is stopping it closing. She switches on the light and notices that her skirt is caught in the door.

KORE (V.O.)
Jessie!

Jessie moves her skirt and pulls the door closed.

KORE (V.O.)
Hopefully you got it in time.

JESSIE
God I hope so.

Jessie looks on the wall. Bunches of keys hang off hooks on a strip of wood.

KORE (V.O.)
The third one along. With the red plastic.

Jessie grabs the key.

KORE (V.O.)
You ready?

JESSIE
As I'll ever be.

KORE (V.O.)
Go!

Jessie quickly moves out of the cupboard.

INT. CORRIDOR, BANK - DAY

Jessie clambers down the corridor, keeping the weight off her right ankle. She reaches the manager's office door which has a frosted glass panel set in the top half. She tries to put the key in the lock. She fumbles and drops it.

JESSIE
Shit!

The CCTV camera makes its swing back.

KORE (V.O.)
Jessie, come on!

Jessie bends down stiffly and grabs the keys. She unlocks the door and scrambles into the office.

INT. MANAGER'S OFFICE, BANK - NIGHT

Functional room with a desk and chairs, some shelves and a large safe in a corner. Weak light comes from a barred window high up.

Jessie pushes the door shut and the snib clicks.

Jessie flips the light on her mobile phone. She moves over to the desk and opens the top drawer. She rummages inside for anything with the password written on it but only finds a few pens and a rotten apple.

KORE (V.O.)
Try the next one down.

Jessie pulls the next drawer open. It's empty.

JESSIE
What now?

KORE (V.O.)
Try the top one again. I'm sure
it's in the top one.

Jessie pulls everything out of the drawer but can't find the password.

KORE (V.O.)
It should be there!

Jessie stares at the desk. She unclicks the drawer and pulls it out. She turns it over. A card with the password is attached to the underside of the drawer.

JESSIE
Yes!

Jessie peels the card off the drawer and hobbles over to the safe.

KORE (V.O.)
Have you got your password with
you?

JESSIE
I memorised it.

Jessie punches numbers into the pad on the front of the safe. She holds up the card and inputs the second part of the password. A CLICK and the safe door unlocks. Jessie pulls the door open. Inside are two bags. She sticks her hand into one and pulls out a wad of notes.

KORE (V.O.)

Great!

Jessie takes her gym bag from her shoulder and stuffs the money bags into it. She pushes the safe closed.

KORE (V.O.)

What's that?

Sound of FOOTSTEPS come down the corridor.

JESSIE

Christ!

Jessie crouches behind the desk.

Outline of a SECURITY GUARD. A torch light shines through the frosted pane of glass. Jessie holds her breath. The door handle rattles.

The FOOTSTEPS move off.

Jessie pulls out her inhaler, gives it a shake and takes a puff.

KORE (V.O.)

You're okay?

JESSIE

Give me a sec.

Jessie puts her inhaler in her pocket. She wipes her brow and heaves herself up against the desk. She doesn't notice when the inhaler falls from her pocket and under the desk.

She goes to the door.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

Is it clear?

KORE (V.O.)

Yes. Got for it!

Jessie takes the door off the snib and looks out into the corridor.

INT. CORRIDOR, BANK - NIGHT

Jessie quickly locks the door. She hobbles down the corridor and goes into the cleaner's cupboard.

INT. CLEANER'S CUPBOARD - NIGHT

Jessie pulls the door closed. She replaces the set of keys on the hook.

JESSIE
Clear?

KORE (V.O.)
Wait!

Jessie wipes her brow.

KORE (V.O.)
Go!

Jessie pulls the door open.

INT. CORRIDOR, BANK - NIGHT

Jessie creeps into the corridor.

JESSIE
Duck!

Jessie slides down the wall and twists onto her belly. She wriggles along the floor and around the corner.

KORE (V.O.)
Quick! The guard's on his way back.

Jessie doubles her efforts and wriggles as fast as she can towards the women's toilets. Jessie reaches up and pulls down on the door handle. She opens the door as the guard's FOOTSTEPS come closer.

INT. WOMEN'S TOILETS, BANK - NIGHT

Jessie pulls the door shut. She flicks on the light on her mobile phone. She settles down on the floor.

KORE (V.O.)
Aren't you going to count it?

JESSIE
Okay.

Jessie opens the gym bag and takes out the first money bag. She starts to count the money.

INT. WOMEN'S TOILETS, BANK - LATER

Jessie finishes counting the money from the second bag.

JESSIE

So that makes forty thousand and sixty five pounds all together.

KORE (V.O.)

That's enough to pay my mother off a bit and have a deposit towards setting up a cat rescue centre. Well done!

JESSIE

Thanks. I couldn't have done it without you.

KORE (V.O.)

Better set your alarm for seven a.m. just in case I can't wake you.

JESSIE

Will do.

Jessie sets her alarm. She takes out the towel and t-shirt from the bag. She puts the money bags into the gym bag. She puts it on the floor as a pillow. She spreads the towel and t-shirt over herself and settles down for a uncomfortable sleep on the floor. She turns off her mobile phone light.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

Night darling.

KORE (V.O.)

Night honey.

INT. WOMEN'S TOILETS - DAY

Jessie's mobile RINGS. Jessie stirs and turns the mobile light on.

JESSIE

Kore. You there?

KORE (V.O.)

Morning honey.

Jessie stretches, stiff from sleeping on the floor.

JESSIE

Morning. Oh my back!

Jessie rubs her back.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

We ready to go?

KORE (V.O.)

Yes.

Jessie opens the door and looks out.

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

Jessie runs down the corridor to the door of the main office.

INT. MAIN OFFICE, BANK - DAY

Jessie walks quickly down the aisle towards her desk. She stores the gym bag under her desk.

KORE (V.O.)

Duck!

Jessie quickly kneels down under her desk.

The CCTV camera sweeps past.

KORE (V.O.)

Okay!

Jessie crawls up. She dashes down the aisle to the door and opens the door slightly.

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

Jessie watches as the bank manager CAMERON COOPER, 40's, bald, marches down the corridor and past the main office. He heads around the corner.

KORE (V.O.)

Go!

Jessie quickly rushes out of the office and into the main corridor. She goes down the corridor and pops her head around the corner.

The receptionist is occupied, flirting, while signing off a parcel from a POSTMAN.

Jessie gets out her pass card and sneaks past unnoticed. She clocks in, on the machine at the entrance. The postman goes past her.

Jessie smiles at the receptionist as she passes. The receptionist sneers. Jessie shrugs, goes down the corridor and into the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN, BANK - DAY

Jessie makes a coffee. Douglas enters.

DOUGLAS

Hi. What happened to you? I waited for a while but you didn't show up?

JESSIE

Oh sorry. Asthma attack so I decided to skip the gym.

DOUGLAS

Are you okay? You look a bit rough.

KORE (V.O.)

What a cheek!

JESSIE

Yes I'm fine.

At that moment two POLICE OFFICERS walk past the open kitchen door.

DOUGLAS

What are they doing here?

Jessie shrugs.

KORE (V.O.)

And so it starts.

DOUGLAS

The bank's probably been robbed.

Douglas laughs. He notices Jessie's serious face.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)

Only joking. Lighten up!

Jessie frowns as she rummages in her pocket for her inhaler. She GASPS.

JESSIE

Where is it?

DOUGLAS

Where's what?

JESSIE

My inhaler. I can't find it!

DOUGLAS

Don't panic. It's probably on your desk.

Jessie rushes out of the kitchen.

INT. MAIN OFFICE, BANK - DAY

Jessie rushes down the aisle to her desk. She opens the drawer and looks for the inhaler but can't find it.

JESSIE
Can you see it?

KORE (V.O.)
No. Sorry. The cleaner's cupboard perhaps?

Jessie goes down the aisle and out of the office.

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

Jessie goes down the corridor and stops at the cleaner's cupboard.

KORE (V.O.)
All clear.

Jessie goes into the cupboard.

INT. CLEANER'S CUPBOARD - DAY

Jessie gets down and looks on the floor.

There is a CRACKLE and the tannoy system in the corridor comes on.

TANNOY (V.O.)
We have an incident and will be closed to the public today. Would all staff please remain at their desks until further notice. If you are not at your desk please make your way there now. Thank you.

JESSIE
Oh my god! I can't find it!

KORE (V.O.)
Calm down honey.

Jessie stands up and leans against the wall. She GASPS for air.

JESSIE
They're going to catch me!

KORE (V.O.)
Shhhh. Take a deep breath.

Jessie takes a deep breath.

KORE (V.O.)
Count to five.

Jessie nods.

KORE (V.O.)
And now let it out.

Jessie breathes out.

KORE (V.O.)
Better now?

Jessie nods.

KORE (V.O.)
If it's not here it must be in
Cameron's office.

JESSIE
Oh no!

Jessie GASPS.

KORE (V.O.)
Slow breaths.

Jessie tries to calm down.

KORE (V.O.)
We'll get through this, honey.

Jessie leaves the cupboard.

INT. MAIN OFFICE, BANK - DAY

There is a low murmur of voices as the bank staff discuss in whispers, surmising what is going on. Jessie sits at her desk and stares at a blank screen, unable to concentrate on anything. Douglas touches her shoulder.

DOUGLAS
Alice's been taking off for
questioning. What do you think's
happening?

JESSIE
I don't know. Perhaps they're doing
an audit or something?

DOUGLAS
No, it's something serious or the
police wouldn't be here.

The main door opens and Alice enters. She comes up to Douglas. Her face is flushed and sweaty.

ALICE
They want you next. Cooper's
office.

DOUGLAS
What's it about?

ALICE
Sorry. I've been told not to say.

Alice goes to her desk and gets her coat. She leaves the
room.

Douglas shrugs.

DOUGLAS
Well, I've got nothing to hide.

He straightens his tie and goes out the door.

KORE (V.O.)
I don't like him.

JESSIE
Douglas is okay. He's a cat lover.

KORE (V.O.)
Still don't like him.

Jessie opens a packet of tissues and mops her brow.

INT. MAIN OFFICE, BANK - LATER

Jessie is hunched over her desk, sleeping. Douglas shakes her
gently. Jessie comes too, dazed.

JESSIE
Wha..?

DOUGLAS
They want you in now.

JESSIE
What for?

Douglas looks around the room. Several people are staring at
him. He bends down and whispers into her ear.

DOUGLAS
(whispering)
There's been a break in.

Douglas stands up.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)
I've been given the afternoon off.
Catch you later.

Douglas puts on his coat and grabs his gym bag. Jessie gets up and follows him to the door.

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

Jessie wipes her forehead as she walks down the corridor with a slight limp.

KORE (V.O.)
Stay cool girl.

Jessie nods. She turns the corner and goes up to the manager's office. She knocks on the door.

CAMERON (V.O.)
Come in.

Jessie opens the door.

INT. MANAGER'S OFFICE - DAY

The two police officers stand behind manager Cameron. INSPECTOR LEBOIS, 40's, sits next to him. Cameron nods to the seat opposite as Jessie comes in.

CAMERON
Jessica Arthur, this is Inspector
Janice Lebois.

Jessie stumbles as she goes to sit down. She bends down to rub her ankle and notices her inhaler on the floor under the desk.

KORE (V.O.)
It's there!

Jessie sits up.

JESSIE
Sorry I twisted my ankle yesterday
and it's still a bit sore.

The inspector smiles at Jessie.

INSPECTOR LEBOIS
Good morning Miss Arthur or can I
call you Jessica?

JESSIE
Jessie, please!

Jessie puts out her foot under the desk. She edges it out to the right.

KORE (V.O.)
A few more inches to the right.

INSPECTOR LEBOIS

Well Jessie. The thing is, there has been an incident and we need to know everyone's whereabouts from yesterday evening up until this morning.

Jessie's foot touches the inhaler. She lifts her foot on top on the inhaler.

KORE (V.O.)

That's it!

JESSIE

An incident? Has anyone been hurt?

INSPECTOR LEBOIS

No, no one has been hurt.

Jessie slowly drags the inhaler back across the floor with her foot.

CAMERON

Just the reputation of the bank!

The inspector gives a "keep quiet" look to Cameron.

INSPECTOR LEBOIS

As I was saying no one has been hurt, however a sum of money has been stolen from the bank.

JESSIE

Oh, how much?

INSPECTOR LEBOIS

The amount isn't important. We are trying to find out how it was taken as there is no evidence of forced entry.

JESSIE

Arrgh!

Jessie bends down and pretends to rub her ankle. She picks up the inhaler and keeps it in her hand.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

You think it was an inside job?

Jessie GASPS. She takes a puff of the inhaler.

INSPECTOR LEBOIS

We're looking into all possibilities. Can you tell us your movements between leaving work yesterday and this morning.

JESSIE

Do you think I had something to do with it? I've worked here for over eight years!

INSPECTOR LEBOIS

Please don't take it personally. We're just trying to eliminate you from our enquiries.

Jessie wipes sweat off her brow.

JESSIE

Let's see. I usually go to the gym straight after work. Yesterday I wasn't feeling that great so I just went home. Went to bed early. That's it.

INSPECTOR LEBOIS

Can anyone collaborate on that?

JESSIE

No. It's just me and Ina. And she's gone missing.

INSPECTOR LEBOIS

Ina?

JESSIE

My cat. You know there's a cat killer on the loose. Have you caught them yet?

INSPECTOR LEBOIS

Sorry, that's not my department.

JESSIE

It should be. Someone that kills a poor innocent creature could go on to... god knows what.

KORE (V.O.)

Well said!

INSPECTOR LEBOIS

I note your concern. You can be assured that the relevant department will be doing everything that they can possible to catch the culprit.

JESSIE

I hope so.

The inspector looks down at her note pad and then back up at Jessie.

INSPECTOR LEBOIS

I think we're finished here. Could you send in ... Herman Green.

JESSIE

Yes of course. Sorry I couldn't be anymore help.

Jessie gets up.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

Cameron. I've got an appointment with the hospital this afternoon.

CAMERON

Take the rest of the day off but please don't mention our little interview to anyone.

Jessie smiles and nods. She goes to the door.

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

Jessie comes out of the manager's office and walks down the corridor. A FEMALE COLLEAGUE passes by.

KORE (V.O.)

She was rather nice.

JESSIE

One track mind.

The colleague stops and turns round.

FEMALE COLLEAGUE

What?

JESSIE

Nothing. Talking to myself.

The colleague gives Jessie a funny look, and walks off.

INT. MAIN OFFICE, BANK - DAY

Jessie goes up to a young man HERMAN GREEN.

JESSIE

The police want to see you in the manager's office.

HERMAN

What do they want with me? I'm an EU citizen. I'm here legally.

JESSIE

Just tell the truth and you'll be
okay.

Jessie goes to her desk. She puts on her coat. She picks up her gym kit and checks under the towel that the money bags are still there. Satisfied, she hauls the gym bag over her shoulder and heads to the door.

KORE (V.O.)

I hope you remembered the tape!

INT. CUBICLE, WOMEN'S TOILETS - DAY

The bag is on the toilet seat along with Jessie's jacket and jumper. She takes a few wads of notes from each bag and squeezes them down her cleavage. She smooths down the two money bags and secures them under her breasts with the tape. She pulls her jumper on. She gets out of the cubicle and crosses to the row of sinks. Looks at herself in the mirror sideways. She cups the bags under her breasts just as the door opens and a FEMALE COLLEAGUE enters. The woman gives Jessie a stare.

JESSIE

They're sagging a bit. I'm
wondering if I should get them
done?

The woman shrugs and goes into a cubicle.

INT. CORRIDOR, BANK - DAY

Two POLICE OFFICERS, a male and a female, stand guard at the door to reception. Jessie tries to act confident as she goes up to them.

MALE POLICE OFFICER

Could I see in your bag madam?

JESSIE

Sure officer.

Jessie hands over her bag. The male officer rummages through her bag. He hands it back to Jessie.

FEMALE POLICE OFFICER

I'll need to check your body.
Please stretch out your arms.

Jessie puts out her arms and tries to act calm. The officer pats her down.

KORE (V.O.)

Keep it together!

The officer nods.

FEMALE POLIC OFFICER
Okay. You can go.

Jessie smiles and goes through the door to reception.

INT. RECEPTION, BANK - DAY

Jessie passes reception. The receptionist is on the phone.

KORE (V.O.)
Nearly there!

As Jessie is about to clock out the receptionist puts the phone down and quickly gets up and shouts.

RECEPTIONIST
Hey! Wait!

KORE (V.O.)
Shit!

Jessie turns.

JESSIE
What is it?

KORE (V.O.)
Oh no!

The receptionist points to a pink towel, like its dog poo, on the floor.

RECEPTIONIST
Try not to leave your sweaty stuff around here.

JESSIE
Oh!

Kore LAUGHS as Jessie stuffs the towel into her bag.

Jessie clocks out of the building.

EXT. BANK - DAY

Jessie leans against the wall. She takes out her inhaler and gives it a shake. She takes a puff.

KORE (V.O.)
Well done. You did it!

EXT. 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie goes up the garden path. She looks around.

JESSIE

Ina? Ina?

Jessie unlocks the front door.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

Kore. Can you have a look for Ina?

KORE (V.O.)

Will do.

INT. CORRIDOR , 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie walks down the corridor.

INT. BEDROOM, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie goes into the bedroom. She throws the gym bag onto the bed. She takes off her jacket and jumper. She takes the wad of notes from her cleavage. She pulls off the tape. It sticks and hurts a bit.

JESSIE

Arrgh!

Jessie opens the wardrobe and clears a space in a corner. She puts the two money bags into the space. She shuts the wardrobe and leaves the room.

INT. BATHROOM, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie is in mid flow on the toilet.

KORE (V.O.)

Jessie.

Jessie stops peeing.

JESSIE

Can't it wait?

KORE (V.O.)

I was just going to say that there's no sign of Ina.

JESSIE

Keep looking.

KORE (V.O.)

(annoyed)

Fine.

Jessie starts to pee again.

EXT. 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie comes out of the house and locks the door. She walks down the path. She stops at the gate and turns back

JESSIE
Ina? Puss? Puss?

Jessie SIGHS and goes out the gate.

EXT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Jessie walks up to the entrance of the hospital.

INT. SCANNING ROOM - DAY

There is cylindrical scanning machine with a trolley attached to it on one side of the room . On the other there is a window looking into a small booth and a door. A NURSE takes the hearing aid from Jessie and places it on a tray on a stand. Jessie, in a revealing hospital gown, is helped by the nurse onto the trolley. The nurse positions Jessie's head into a cylinder.

NURSE
Please keep as still as possible.

The nurse opens the door of the small room.

INT. SCANNER **BOOTH** - DAY

The nurse presses a button and the trolley that Jessie lies on moves slowly into the scanner.

INT. SCANNING MACHINE - DAY

Jessie's eyes dart around. She GASPS. STATIC comes over an in-built speaker.

NURSE(V.O.)
Jessica, please keep your head still!

JESSIE
Sorry.

NURSE(V.O.)
Just try and relax.

Jessie shuts her eyes. She takes a deep breath, holds it and then lets it out slowly.

There is a BUZZING sound and the lights in the machine flicker. A circle of light travels down the length of the cylinder.

INT. SCANNER BOOTH - DAY

The nurse studies the monitor depicting the whole of Jessie's body. The nurse presses a button.

INT. SCANNING MACHINE - DAY

A circle of light travels down the cylinder.

INT. SCANNER **BOOTH** - DAY

The nurse clicks on the head area of Jessie's scanned body. The image zooms in to a detailed scan of Jessie's brain. There is a small dark patch on one side of the brain.

The nurse presses a button and the trolley slowly moves out of the scanner.

INT. SCANNING ROOM - DAY

The nurse enters as the trolley comes completely out of the scanner. The nurse helps Jessie off the trolley.

NURSE

There, that wasn't so bad was it?

JESSIE

No it was fine.

The nurse reaches over to pick up Jessie's hearing aid. She sneezes as she is about to hand it to Jessie.

The hearing aid falls on the floor.

NURSE

Oh sorry!

The nurse picks the hearing aid up. She wipes it with a tissue and hands it to Jessie.

Jessie puts it into her ear and adjusts it. A BUZZING sound. The nurse speaks into the ear that Jessie has the hearing aid in.

NURSE (CONT'D)

I hope that I haven't broken it?

Jessie shakes her head.

JESSIE
No it's fine.

NURSE
The doctor will analyse the results
and should get back to you in a few
days.

JESSIE
Thanks.

INT. CHANGING ROOM - DAY

Jessie pulls on her clothes.

JESSIE
(whispers)
Kore?

EXT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Jessie walks away from the hospital.

She stops.

JESSIE
Kore?

INT. BUS - DAY

Jessie stands in a packed bus. Everyone has headphones on and
looking at their mobile phones.

JESSIE
(whispers)
Kore?

A PASSENGER gives Jessie a funny look. Jessie takes out her
mobile and pretends to speak into it.

JESSIE (CONT'D)
Kore. You there?

The passenger looks away.

EXT. 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie opens the gate and walks up the path.

JESSIE
Kore? Ina?

Jessie SIGHS.

INT. BEDROOM, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie comes into the bedroom. She goes towards the wardrobe. The front door bell RINGS. Jessie goes out of the room.

INT. CORRIDOR , 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

She opens the front door to CHARLIE, an elderly man.

CHARLIE
Sorry I'm a bit early.

JESSIE
Sorry. Who are you?

CHARLIE
I'm the locksmith. You are Ms
Arthur?

JESSIE
Yes of course, sorry. I forgot.
Come in.

INT. CORRIDOR, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie points down the corridor.

JESSIE
The back door is through there in
the kitchen.

CHARLIE
It's the back and front door locks
that you were wanting done isn't
it? Do you need your window locks
done too?

JESSIE
Just the back and front door for
now please. How long will it take?

CHARLIE
An hour at most.

JESSIE
Can I leave you to it?

CHARLIE
Sure. I'll do the back door first.

INT. KITCHEN, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie irons shirts. Charlie comes in from the back door. He tries the key in the lock.

CHARLIE

That's the back door done. I'll go
and do the front.

JESSIE

Fine.

EXT. BACK GARDEN, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie brings out a laundry basket full of washing.

EXT. BACK GARDEN, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie has almost finished hanging out the washing. Charlie
comes round the side of the house.

CHARLIE

That's me finished.

JESSIE

If you wait in the kitchen I'll be
with you in a minute.

CHARLIE

Right you are.

Charlie goes into the house. Jessie pegs up an old pair of
big frilly flowery pants.

Jessie looks around to make sure that no one is in sight.

JESSIE

Kore?

She takes out the hearing aid, fiddles with the switch and
puts it back in.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

Kore?

Jessie SIGHS. She picks up the laundry basket and heads into
the house.

INT. KITCHEN, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Charlie leans on the table as he writes out the bill. Jessie
takes her purse from her coat draped over a chair.

CHARLIE

That's one hundred and forty pound,
including v.a.t.

JESSIE

Do you take visa?

CHARLIE
I'd prefer cash.

JESSIE
I don't ... wait. Hold on.

Jessie leaves the kitchen.

INT. BEDROOM, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie goes to the wardrobe and opens it. She searches in the bottom of the wardrobe. She frantically looks for the bags of money.

JESSIE
Kore! Where is it?

CHARLIE
Is there a problem?

Jessie looks up. Charlie stands in the doorway.

JESSIE
Were you in here?

CHARLIE
No. You told me not to do the window locks. Why?

JESSIE
My money's gone. I can't find it!

CHARLIE
It's no problem. Visa's fine.

JESSIE
You don't understand. The money's gone!

CHARLIE
We'll I'm sorry but I can't help you with that.

Jessie throws clothes out of the wardrobe onto the bed.

JESSIE
Kore! Help me! Kore where is it?

CHARLIE
Maybe you could do it online later. My bank details are on it.

The locksmith holds out the bill.

Jessie sits down on the bed. She looks up at Charlie and takes the bill.

JESSIE
Sorry. I'll do it now.

CHARLIE
Great.

JESSIE
I left my purse in the kitchen.

Jessie leaves the room, followed by Charlie.

INT. KITCHEN, 40 CAMBRIDGES GARDENS - DAY

Charlie puts his bag on the table. He rummages inside and takes out a portable visa machine. He hands it to Jessie. She puts in her card. He punches in the amount.

CHARLIE
One hundred and forty pounds.

Jessie nods. Charlie makes a point of looking away as she types in her pin number. The money is approved and a receipt prints out. Charlie hands her the receipt. He puts the visa machine back in his bag.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
Thanks. Would it be possible to use your loo?

JESSIE
Sure. Down the corridor and on the left.

Charlie goes out of the room.

Jessie stares at Charlie's bag lying on the table. She rushes to the bag and unzips it open. She pulls out a power tool and places it on the table. She pulls out a cloth sack which JINGLES. She shakes the contents out onto the table. It is a selection of keys. She gathers them up and puts back into the sack. She rummages again in the bag and pulls out a plastic box.

JESSIE (CONT'D)
Ah!

Jessie opens the box. A half-eaten cheese sandwich lies curled in the box.

CHARLIE
What the fuck are you doing!

Charlie barges into the kitchen. He grabs the box from Jessie. He snaps the lid shut and stuffs it into his bag.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
The bloomin' cheek of it!

He grabs the power tool off the table and shoves it into his bag. He zips up the bag.

JESSIE

Sorry. I had to know. It's a lot of money.

CHARLIE

Well that's not my fault!

Charlie turns to go. He stops and turns back. He pulls several sets of keys from his pocket and throws them on the table.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

The keys and spares. I'll see myself out!

Charlie marches out of the room.

Jessie sits down at the table and puts her head in her hands. In the background the front door SLAMS shut.

JESSIE

Kore!

Jessie SOBS.

She takes the hearing aid out, shakes it and puts it back in.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

Kore darling. You there?

The door bell RINGS. Jessie wipes her tears. She gets up.

INT. CORRIDOR, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie opens the front door. It's her neighbour ABDUL, 40.

JESSIE

Oh hi Abdul. What can I do for you?

ABDUL

Did your cat come back? I heard you calling for her this morning.

JESSIE

No. I'm so worried.

ABDUL

No wonder with that cat killer on the loose. I'm not letting Muezza out until that bad person is caught.

JESSIE

Yes I wouldn't have let Ina out either. Kore's mother did.

ABDUL

Ina was wailing at my door.

JESSIE

When?

ABDU

A couple of hours ago. I tried to get her to come in but Muezza chased her off.

Jessie hugged Abdul.

JESSIE

Oh but that's brilliant. A least the little bugger's alive!

ABDUL

Anyway I went to catch her and noticed that there was a woman at your house. I thought it strange as she went round the back. As if she was searching for something.

JESSIE

Who was she? Did you speak to her?

ABDUL

No but I think I've seen her before.

JESSIE

What did she look like?

ABDUL

I don't know really.

JESSIE

Come on! Black, white, tall short?

ABDUL

Black. Hair up in a fancy yellow scarf.

JESSIE

Wait a sec.

Jessie turns and takes a photo from the wall and hands it to Abdul.

The photograph is of Kore in a wheelchair with a pretty black woman in a yellow headscarf crouching down beside her. Both women are grinning.

ABDUL
Yes that's her!

JESSIE
That's Mary Jo. She was Kore's
nurse at the hospice. I wonder why
she came round here.

Abdul shrugs.

ABDUL
I hope your cat turns up safe and
well. As-salamu Alaikum.

JESSIE
Wa alaikum assalaam.

Jessie closes the door.

INT. KITCHEN, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie puts the framed photograph down on the table. She runs
her finger across Mary Jo's face.

JESSIE
You looked after Kore when she was
really losing it. All that
information you could get out of
her. It would be so easy.

She takes out her hearing aid and examines it.

JESSIE (CONT'D)
A wee transmitter in here? Trick me
into believing it was Kore?

Jessie opens a drawer and takes out a small knife. She sits
down and tries to prise open the hearing aid. The knife slips
and she cuts her thumb.

JESSIE (CONT'D)
Shit!

Jessie sucks her thumb.

INT. CORRIDOR, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie opens the door to the basement. She has a plaster on
her thumb.

INT. BASEMENT, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie switches the light on. She clambers down the wooden steps. Half way down she stands on a step and it gives way. Jessie goes flying.

JESSIE

Arrgh!

She manages to catch the banister which breaks her fall. She slowly goes down the rest of the steps.

Jessie rummages through boxes. She pulls out a tin.

She goes back up the steps. Half way up she puts down the tin. She pushes the loose step back into place. She picks up the tin and heads back up the steps.

INT. KITCHEN, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie sits at the table. She empties the tin's contents out on the table. Amongst sewing kits and buttons and old pairs of glasses she finds a small pack of screwdrivers. She takes the smallest one out.

She unscrews the hearing aid and pulls it apart.

She stares at the electronics. She shakes her head.

Jessie screws the hearing aid back together. She puts it back on.

JESSIE

Kore. Are you there?

Jessie SIGHS.

EXT. BUS-STOP, STREET - DAY

Jessie gets off the bus and walks down the street.

EXT. FAIR FIELDS HOSPICE - DAY

Slightly shabby Victorian mansion set in its own grounds. Jessie goes up to the front door, which is open. She walks in.

INT. HALL, FAIR FIELDS HOSPICE - DAY

Jessie goes through a set of glass doors and into the main hall. The place is done up like an old hunting lodge with plenty of bad taxidermy on the walls. She heads for the wide staircase and ascends.

At the top of the staircase on the landing a glass door with a security pad blocks further access. Jessie frowns as she tries to remember the code.

JESSIE

Kore?

Jessie shakes her head.

She smiles as she remembers where she kept a copy of the code. She checks her mobile. She types in the code. A CLICK and the door unlocks.

INT. CORRIDOR, FAIR FIELDS HOSPICE - DAY

Long wide corridor with rooms off each side. Jessie walks down the corridor. An OLD LADY bent over a zimmer frame shuffles towards her.

JESSIE

Excuse me. Where can I find Mary Jo? She's a carer.

OLD LADY

What's that dearie?

JESSIE

(LOUD)

Mary Jo. Where can I find her?

OLD LADY

No need to shout dearie. I'm not deaf. Mary Jo's an angel, so she is.

JESSIE

Where can I find her?

OLD LADY

Damn thing!

The old lady adjusts her hearing aid. It makes a high pitched SCREECH. A door opens and a CARER comes out. He smiles at Jessie.

CARER

Can I help you?

JESSIE

I'm looking for Mary Jo. She looked after my partner Kore last year.

CARER

Oh I remember Kore. Such a lovely person.

Jessie nods.

CARER (CONT'D)

Mary Jo has a room at the back.
Down that corridor and up the
stairs, first on the right. I'm not
sure if she's in at the moment
though.

JESSIE

It's just a card I wanted to drop
off for her.

CARER

I could pass it to her if you like?

JESSIE

Oh that's very kind of you but I'll
go just in case I catch her.

CARER

Okay. I'd better catch up with Mrs
Davis.

The carer rushes off down the corridor just as the old lady
disappears around the corner.

Jessie goes down the corridor and come to a steep set of
stairs.

She climbs the stairs. A stuffed stag's head seems to look
disapprovingly at her as she passes.

INT. CORRIDOR, TOP FLOOR, FAIR FIELDS HOSPICE - DAY

The first door on the right has a name tag.

"M J JAMES"

Jessie knocks on the door. She waits.

Jessie looks around. She tries the handle. The door opens.

INT. MARY JO'S ROOM - DAY

Cramped room, single bed, sink in a corner, wardrobe. Chest
of drawers with a TV set on it. Framed photograph on the wall
next to a cross. Jessie studies the photograph. Mary Jo much
younger with two older people, possibly her parents, outside
a small wooden house, palm trees and a sandy beach in the
background.

Jessie goes across to the wardrobe and opens it. It's full of
colourful clothes. She searches the bottom of the wardrobe
but only finds a couple of pairs of shoes.

She goes across to the dresser and searches through the drawers. She lifts up a pair of knickers with fluffy pink bunny rabbits printed on it. She shakes her head.

Suddenly the door handle turns and the door opens. MARY JO enters.

MARY JO

What in the Lord's name are you doing?

Jessie drops the knickers.

JESSIE

Someone saw you doing it.

MARY JO

Doing what?

JESSIE

Stealing the money!

MARY JO

What money? Are you crazy! Wait I recognise you. You're Kore's partner aren't you?

JESSIE

My neighbour saw you at my house and now the money's gone.

MARY JO

Yes I was at your house but I didn't steal any money.

JESSIE

Well what were you doing at my house then?

MARY JO

Visiting families of former residents. I was hoping to raise some money for the hospice. My job finishes next week as they're out of funds.

Suddenly there is a SCREECHING noise from Jessie's hearing aid.

KORE (V.O.)

Mary Jo's telling the truth.

JESSIE

Where were you?

MARY JO

I told you.

JESSIE
Not you. I'm talking to Kore.

MARY JO
Are you mad? Talking to Kore?

KORE (V.O.)
Say hi from me.

JESSIE
I'm so sorry Mary Jo. If Kore's speaking to me and you're here, it can't be a trick. Oh Kore I've missed you!

Jessie seems dazed. Mary Jo pats Jessie on the back.

MARY JO
I think you'd better sit down.

Mary Jo helps Jessie to sit down on the bed. She goes to the sink and fills a glass up with water. She brings it back to Jessie.

MARY JO (CONT'D)
Here.

Jessie takes a few gulps of water.

MARY JO (CONT'D)
Now let's begin again. Slowly.

JESSIE
It started a few days ago when I got my new hearing aid. I put it in and all of a sudden Kore started speaking to me through it.

Mary Jo nods and smiles.

JESSIE (CONT'D)
You don't believe me. I wouldn't believe me! But it's true. I can prove it! Ask me any question.

MARY JO
What do you mean?

JESSIE
Go on. Ask me something and Kore will tell me the answer.

MARY JO
Are you on medication?

Jessie shakes her head. She grabs Mary Jo's hand.

JESSIE

I'm an atheist and she got me to believe in the afterlife. Come on ask me.

MARY JO

Okay. Let's see. What's my gran's name?

KORE (V.O.)

Her gran's name is Esther.

JESSIE

Esther.

MARY JO

How did you know that?

JESSIE

I told you. Kore told me.

MARY JO

She could have told you when she was alive.

JESSIE

She didn't. Something else then.

MARY JO

I don't want to do this. Look just go and I'll forget about you breaking into my room.

KORE (V.O.)

Her first crush was Suzie.

JESSIE

Your first crush was Suzie.

MARY JO

How did you know that? I've never told anyone about that.

JESSIE

I told you. Kore.

KORE (V.O.)

Her favourite rum is Mount Gay

JESSIE

Mount Gay is your favourite rum.

MARY JO

Holy Jesus!

Mary Jo stands up. She looks around the room.

MARY JO (CONT'D)

Kore?

JESSIE

Only I can hear her. Through this.

She taps her hearing aid.

MARY JO

Let me try.

Jessie shrugs. She takes off her hearing aid and hands it to Mary Jo.

MARY JO (CONT'D)

How do I ...

Jessie helps to fit the hearing aid on Mary Jo.

MARY JO (CONT'D)

Kore? (beat) Kore?

Mary Jo shakes her head. She hands the hearing aid back. Jessie puts it on.

KORE (V.O.)

I was shouting out her name. I think it's only you that can hear me.

Jessie nods.

JESSIE

She said she was shouting at you. She doesn't know why you can't hear her.

MARY JO

This is incredible! I was brought up in a religious family but I never really believed in God. Is she an angel or a ghost? Can she speak to my mum?

KORE (V.O.)

I can't see anyone here.

JESSIE

She's by herself. In a sort of limbo. That's why we have to help her to move on.

MARY JO

But just to know that there is something. That's so wonderful!

JESSIE
I'd better tell you everything.
About the money too.

MARY JO
Okay. I'll make us a cuppa.

INT. MARY JO'S ROOM - LATER

Mary Jo takes Jessie's empty cup of tea and puts it in the sink.

MARY JO
Okay. You don't think that the
locksmith took the money. So who
else has access to your house.

JESSIE
Kore's mother has a key.

MARY JO
Would she steal the money?

KORE (V.O.)
I don't think my mother would have
done that.

JESSIE
Shh! Kore!

MARY JO
What's she saying?

JESSIE
Kore doesn't think her mother would
do that.

MARY JO
But she doesn't know for sure
right?

Jessie shrugs.

JESSIE
She's taken things from the house,
but only things that had belonged
to Kore. Mind you she's desperate
for money.

MARY JO
Why?

JESSIE
Her hotel business is failing. All
those air B&B's. She can't compete.

MARY JO
You should confront her anyway.

JESSIE
Really?

MARY JO
Yeah.

JESSIE
Yeah?

MARY JO
Yeah.

JESSIE
Fuck yeah. I'll go right now!

Jessie stands up.

KORE (V.O.)
Not when you're all riled up!

JESSIE
But maybe it's a bit late. I'll go
in the morning. Anyway I'd best get
home.

Jessie goes to the door.

MARY JO
Alright, let me know how you get
on.

JESSIE
Will do. Nice to meet you again.

INT. KITCHEN, 40 CAMBRIDGE GDNS - DAY

Jessie butters a slice of toast. The radio is playing MUSIC.

RADIO PRESENTER (V.O.)
And now the news. The so called cat
killer has struck again. This time
in the Southside. Police are making
enquiries but so far there have
been no clues. That has made four
killings in the space on one month.
And on to other news. The prime..

Jessie switches off the radio.

EXT. STREET , CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie sticks a poster up of Ina on the lamp post with the
title

"MISSING CAT"

She walks further down the street and round the corner. She comes across another cat poster on a lamp post. It is a much higher quality poster than Ina's, with the title

"CAT KILLER - REWARD"

She gets out her phone and takes a photograph of the poster. She sticks her own poster above it.

EXT. NOBLE HOTEL, FERRY RD - DAY

A large three storied house with a glasshouse extension and a large garden, set off the main road. A sign in the window

"VACANCIES"

Jessie rings the door bell. The curtain twitches and Mildred looks out.

Mildred opens the door.

MILDRED

Ah so you've come with the money.

JESSIE

Well not really. I wanted to tell you something important. Wonderful. A miracle but she needs your help.

MILDRED

She? Who? What are you talking about.

KORE (V.O.)

Hi mum! She won't hear me.

JESSIE

Kore! ... Kore can contact me. She's speaking to me now.

Mildred frowns and tries to slam the door shut but Jessie wedges her foot in the doorway.

KORE (V.O.)

Dad cheated on mum with an Avon lady. She came home early one day and caught them.

JESSIE

He did?

KORE (V.O.)

Yes.

JESSIE
I'll prove it to you. The Avon
lady.

MILDRED
How dare you!

Mildred kicks Jessie's foot out of the doorway and slams the door shut.

INT. CORRIDOR, NOBLE HOTEL, FERRY RD - DAY

Mildred leans against the door, crying.

Jessie shouts through the letter box.

JESSIE (V.O.)
Kore says she misses you, loves
you.

MILDRED
Just go!

INT. KITCHEN, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Jessie hands Mary Jo a cup of tea.

MARY JO
Have you got any sweetner?

JESSIE
That stuff gives you cancer.
There's sugar on the table.

MARY JO
I'll do without.

Jessie goes to her coat, hanging over the back of a chair and pulls out her cat poster.

JESSIE
This is mine for Ina.

She places her black and white cheap poster on the table.

JESSIE (CONT'D)
And this is one was already up.

She gets out her mobile phone and shows Mary Jo the colour poster.

Jessie zooms in and reads out the text.

JESSIE (CONT'D)
Reward. Five thousand pounds! For
the cat killer.

MARY JO
Who's paying that?

JESSIE
Just has an email address.

Jessie points to the cat.

JESSIE (CONT'D)
A tuxedo. Like my Ina.

MARY JO
What do you mean?

JESSIE
Black and white. Like a dress suit.

MARY JO
Oh I see!

JESSIE
Oh I hope she turns up safe!
I think we could catch this cat
killer.

MARY JO
I'm sure that the police are doing
their best.

JESSIE
If we catch them we'll split the
reward. It will keep Kore's mother
off my back for a while and help
the hospice to keep you employed
for a few more weeks.

MARY JO
I don't know.

JESSIE
I'm going to print up a map. You
could help by searching the details
of the victims.

Mary Jo stares at Jessie.

JESSIE (CONT'D)
Please!

Mary Jo nods.

JESSIE (CONT'D)
Oh thanks!

She hugs Mary Jo.

INT. KITCHEN, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - LATER

A large map of Edinburgh printed out on a wall. Pictures of the four different cats with their names printed below them are in a line down one side. Jessie hands Mary Jo a cup of tea.

JESSIE

So Molly was found on the
fourteenth of April, Queen Street
Gardens in the Newtown.

Jessie pins Molly, a white cat, to Queen Street Gardens.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

Duke on the twenty first. That was
in Leith.

Jessie pins Duke, a brown tabby, to Leith

JESSIE (CONT'D)

Casper on the twenty seventh in
Marchmont.

Jessie pins Casper, a ginger tom, to the Marchmont area.

Jessie takes a long sip of her tea.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

Then Conker was found yesterday
which was the fourth of May, in
Dumbiedykes.

Jessie picks up the photo of Conker, a black and white cat.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

Wait, Douglas said Conker had been
killed a week earlier.

Jessie pins the photo of Conker to the Dumbiedykes estate.

MARY JO

Who's Douglas?

JESSIE

A work colleague. Mad about cats.
Obsessed I'd say.

MARY JO

Can't you ask him to help?

JESSIE

Good idea. I'll ask him.

Jessie takes a photograph with her mobile phone of the cat killer map. She sends it along with a message to Douglas. She opens up a pack of sandwiches and offers one to Mary Jo.

MARY JO

Thanks.

JESSIE

Each was found with their neck broken and pumped full of sedative.

MARY JO

So it was definitely nothing like the Croydon cat killer which was proved to be a fox.

JESSIE

No. We have a calculating killer here.

KORE (V.O.)

Why the sedative?

JESSIE

Kore wonders why they used a sedative? It's as if the killer didn't want them to suffer.

MARY JO

More likely it was to do the deed quietly.

Jessie shudders.

JESSIE

Did you manage to get the owner's contact details?

MARY JO

I've got Molly, Duke's and Casper's. Can't find Conker's.

Jessie's mobile phone RINGS. She reads the message.

JESSIE

Douglas is busy this weekend but he says he'll help out after work on Monday.

MARY JO

You'd think that if he's so obsessed with cats, as you say, he'd be round in a shot.

Jessie shrugged.

INT. KITCHEN, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - LATER

Jessie is on the phone to Molly's owner MRS BIRD.

MRS BIRD (V.O.)
 ...yes anything I can do to catch
 them.

JESSIE
 So how old was Molly?

MRS BIRD(V.O.)
 Only a young cat. Just two years
 old.

JESSIE
 Ah. My own cat is the same age.
 Where did you get her?

MRS BIRD(V.O.)
 The cat and dog home in Seafield.

Mrs Bird SOBS.

INT. KITCHEN, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - LATER

Mary Jo is on the phone to Casper's owner MS DUVAL

MS DUVAL (V.O.)
 He was just a moggie but he was my
 moggie.

MARY JO
 Where did you get Casper from?

MS DUVAL (V.O.)
 That place down near Portobello.

MARY JO
 Seafield?

MS DUVAL (V.O.)
 Yes. That's it.

INT. KITCHEN, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - LATER

Mary Jo is on the phone to Duke's owner MR LOCKWOOD.

MARY JO
 So Duke was two?

MR LOCKWOOD (V.O.)
 Just. I made him a birthday box.
 Duke loved to sit in it next to me
 when I'm working on my computer.

MARY JO

Aww. By the way was it the cat and dog home in Seafield?

MR LOCKWOOD (V.O.)

That's the one.

MARY JO

Well thank you Mr Lockwood. You've been most helpful. If we find out anything we'll let you know.

MR LOCKWOOD (V.O.)

Yes I'd like to catch that evil bastard. Goodbye.

MARY JO

Bye.

Mary Jo looks across at Jessie.

MARY JO (CONT'D)

Did you hear that?

JESSIE

Three cats, all two years old, from the same cat and dog home. Is it just a coincidence?

Jessie and Mary Jo went to the wall and look at the photographs of the cats. All moggies.

MARY JO

I think we have to visit the cat and dog home.

EXT. CAT AND DOG HOME, SEAFIELD - DAY

1960's building at the end of a street of car showrooms.

Jessie and Mary Jo stand at the entrance.

KORE (V.O.)

I won't come with you. The animals can sense me and they'll just get upset. Good luck!

The women enter reception.

INT. RECEPTION - CAT AND DOG HOME - DAY

Jessie and Mary Jo walk up to the front desk. The ASSISTANT, a young man, looks up from a monitor.

ASSISTANT

Can I be of assistance?

JESSIE
We've come about the cat killer.

Jessie holds up the poster.

ASSISTANT
You press?

JESSIE
My cat's gone missing and I'm hoping she's not ended up like these.

Jessie passes the poster to the assistant.

ASSISTANT
Yes I hope not.

JESSIE
Can you help us?

ASSISTANT
I'll try my best.

JESSIE
Who's putting up the reward?

ASSISTANT
The owner of Conker I was told but I can't confirm it. It's really nothing to do with us once a pet has been housed.

KORE (V.O.)
Ah. So Conker came from here too!

JESSIE
What about these other cats?

The assistant stares at the monitor and types some keys.

ASSISTANT
Let me see. Conker, Casper, Molly and Duke. Yes they all came from the same litter. There were two others. Tiger and Mimi.

JESSIE
That's strange. Douglas's cat is called Tiger. Can you check if Douglas Aird is the owner?

ASSISTANT
I'm sorry I can't give out names of owners.

JESSIE

Please. It could help us track down the cat killer.

ASSISTANT

I'm really sorry but it's more than my job's worth. Is there anything else?

JESSIE

Where did all the cats come from originally.

The assistant looks at the screen.

ASSISTANT

Domestic short hair, Tutu McFadgen. Pregnant when she was dropped off here. Died after giving birth. The owner went to an old folks home. Sorry can't give the name.

JESSIE

Well thanks for your help anyway.

INT. BUS - DAY

Jessie sits next to Mary Jo.

JESSIE

I'm going to see Douglas and see if his Tiger is the same cat.

MARY JO

It's not much to go on.

JESSIE

I know but I have to try.

MARY JO

Right this is my stop. I'm sorry I can't come along with you it might be the only work I get for a while after next week.

Mary Jo gives Jessie a kiss on the cheek. Jessie is pleasantly surprised.

MARY JO (CONT'D)

Let me know how you get on.

KORE (V.O.)

She fancies you.

JESSIE

Don't be daft!

MARY JO

What?

JESSIE

Nothing. Bye for now.

Mary Jo gets off the bus. She waves to Jessie as the bus goes past.

KORE (V.O.)

Told you.

JESSIE

Shut up!

A PASSENGER in front of Jessie turns and gives her a stare.

Jessie shrugs. She looks out the window.

INT. BUS - LATER

Jessie gets up and presses the bell.

EXT. COMMISTON ROAD, MORNINGSIDE - DAY

Jessie walks down the street. She turns into the doorway of a block of red sandstone flats. She buzzes the bell marked "AIRD" ,just above one marked "MCFADGEN".

DOUGLAS (V.O.)

Yes?

JESSIE

It's me Jessie.

DOUGLAS

Oh what a surprise. Come on up!

The door lock BUZZES and Jessie pushes the door open.

INT. STAIRWAY - COMMISTON ROAD - DAY

Jessie clambers up the steps to the second floor. She reaches out to knock on Douglas's door but the door opens before she touches the knocker.

DOUGLAS

Come in, come in. You've not been round here for ages.

JESSIE

Not since I looked after Tiger when you were in Gran Canaria at Christmas.

INT. SITTING ROOM, DOUGLAS'S FLAT - DAY

Very neat room. Canvas prints of photographs of Tiger, a black moggie, adorn the walls. Various kitsch ornaments.

DOUGLAS

The kettle's on. Sit down.

Jessie settles down beside the bay window.

JESSIE

Where's Tiger?

DOUGLAS

I'm afraid he's not very well. He's hiding in his box in the kitchen.

JESSIE

Ahh. The poor wee scone.

DOUGLAS

The vet said he hasn't got long. The cancer came back.

JESSIE

Oh God! Sorry to hear that.

The kettle WHISTLES.

DOUGLAS

Two sugars and milk?

JESSIE

Yes thanks.

Douglas goes off to the kitchen. Jessie gets up and looks at the photographs of Tiger.

KORE (V.O.)

That man gives me the creeps!

JESSIE

Don't say that!

Douglas comes through with a tray with two cups of tea and a plate with a fruit cake and knife.

DOUGLAS

Don't say what?

JESSIE

Oh nothing. I was just talking to myself.

Douglas puts the tray down on a low table. Jessie goes to pick up a cup.

DOUGLAS

No! That's mine. It's got
sweeteners in it.

He hands the other cup to her.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)

Help yourself to cake.

JESSIE

I'm trying to cut down but..

Jessie cuts a large wedge of cake. She greedily scoffs it and
washes it down with tea.

DOUGLAS

So what you up to?

JESSIE

I'm looking for the cat killer.

DOUGLAS

Yes that's terrible.

JESSIE

Did you get Tiger from the cat and
dog home in Seafield?

DOUGLAS

Yes. Why?

JESSIE

All the cats killed so far came
from the same litter.

Jessie gets a note pad out.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

So that's Molly, Casper, Duke,
Conker. Conker's owner's put up a
reward, did you know that?

DOUGLAS

Yes I saw the poster.

Jessie looks in the note pad.

JESSIE

And Tiger and Mimi. So Tiger is
alive.

DOUGLAS

Just.

JESSIE

Sorry.

DOUGLAS
So that just leaves Mimi.

JESSIE
So it does. Oh!

Jessie's hearing aid SCREECHES. She grabs her head and drops her empty cup.

Douglas picks up Jessie's cup.

JESSIE (CONT'D)
Sorry.

KORE (V.O.)
Ina's original name was Mimi! I didn't like it so I changed it to Ina before I gave her to you.

Jessie finds that she can't move her limbs.

JESSIE
What's happening?

DOUGLAS
Something I put in your tea. I'm sorry but you're getting too close and I need to find Mimi or Ina as you call her.

JESSIE
You. It's you! How could you?

DOUGLAS
None of them suffered. I made sure of that.

KORE (V.O.)
Bastard!

JESSIE
But I thought you loved cats!

DOUGLAS
That's it! Tiger is dying and I can't bear to loose him.

Jessie tries to get up but falls back down.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)
The old lady Mrs McFadgen across the landing. I was on holiday when she had the stroke else I'd have looked after Tutu no bother. When I got back she was in an old folk's home.

(MORE)

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)

Tutu had died giving birth and the kittens were at the cat and dog home. I got the last one. Tiger.

KORE (V.O.)

And I got Mimi.

JESSIE

But why kill the others.

DOUGLAS

Mrs McFadgen told me in confidence that she'd won big on the lottery and that she'd set up a trust fund for her cat.

Douglas gets up and stands at the fireplace. Jessie slowly reaches out for the cake knife.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)

She died last month. If it's divided out by five cat owners there may not be enough. I've already spent your bank money.

Jessie grasps the cake knife. She slowly pulls it to herself.

JESSIE

I lent you my key when I was away on holiday and you were feeding Ina.

DOUGLAS

I didn't think you had it in you to rob the bank. I was quite impressed.
(beat)
Where's Ina?

Douglas comes closer towards Jessie. She tries to stab him with the knife but it slips from her fingers and clatters onto the floor.

Douglas shakes his head and tuts.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)

Jessie!

Douglas picks the knife up and puts it on the tray.

JESSIE

If you've got the bank money what else do you need?

DOUGLAS

Tiger's treatment's not working so I'm having clones made but they are expensive and its not like America.
(MORE)

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)

I have to get them smuggled in and that costs.

JESSIE

By why this over one cat.

DOUGLAS

He's my best friend. I don't want him to die. This way he'll always be with me.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)

If you tell me where she is I can give you the antidote. Otherwise the poison will kill you.

JESSIE

Damn you! She's in the basement.

Douglas gets up.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

Hey. What about the antidote?

DOUGLAS

Christ Jessie what do you think of me. I lied. You'll be right as rain when you wake up. Sore head though.

JESSIE

I'll tell the police.

DOUGLAS

If you do I'll show the police a photo of you I took through the window when you were meant to be clocked out of the bank.

Douglas leaves the room.

JESSIE

Bastard!

KORE (V.O.)

Bastard.

EXT. 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Ina sits in the sun on the window ledge of the front window. She sits up when she hears the gate CREAK. Douglas comes up the path towards her.

DOUGLAS

Here puss. Puss, puss.

Douglas reaches out to pick up the cat. Ina jumps down past him and rushes around the side of the house. Douglas runs after the cat. The back window is slightly open. The cat jumps up and squeezes under the window. The cat turns back and stares at Douglas.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)
Here, puss, puss!

Ina jumps off the sill and disappears out of sight.

Douglas pulls the window up. He clammers over the window sill.

INT. CORRIDOR, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Douglas creeps down the corridor.

DOUGLAS
Puss, puss. Where are you?

A MIAOW sound comes from around the corner. Douglas peeps around the corner. Ina stands at the half-opened door to the cellar.

Douglas slowly makes his way up to the cat.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)
Who's a bonnie pussycat.

Douglas reaches out to the cat. Ina nips through the door.

INT. CELLAR, 40 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

The cat rushes down the stairs. Douglas chases after her. His foot hits the loose step and he goes flying. His neck SNAPS as he hits the floor. After a short while Ina slowly moves forward. She licks Douglas on his cheek but there is no reaction. He's dead.

INT. SITTING ROOM, DOUGLAS'S FLAT - DAY

Tiger licks Jessie's hand as she lies sleeping in the armchair. Jessie wakes up.

JESSIE
Puss!

Jessie pats the cat as she rubs her head.

KORE (V.O.)
Ah, you're awake. Let's go.

EXT. CAMBRIDGE GARDENS - DAY

Flashing lights. A police car and an ambulance parked in the street. Two MEDICS carry a covered body on a stretcher into the ambulance. A POLICE OFFICER stops Jessie at the gate.

JESSIE

What's happened? I live here.

POLICE OFFICER

A man's body has been found in your basement. Look's like he tripped up on a loose step. Broke his neck.

JESSIE

Oh that's awful! I asked Douglas to feed my cat when I was away but I didn't realize until last night that he was ...

Jessie feels something at her feet. She looks down. It's Ina rubbing against her leg. She swoops down and picks the cat up.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

Oh Ina!

KORE (V.O.)

Ina!

POLICE OFFICER

Could you give me more details on this Douglas ...

Jessie's hearing aid SCREECHES. She drops the cat and clutches her head.

JESSIE

Arrgh!

INT. WARD - HOSPITAL - DAY

Jessie wakes up, head in bandages. Mary Jo holds her hand.

A NURSE checks Jessie's monitors.

MARY JO

Jessie?

Jessie squeezes Mary Jo's hand. She's weak.

JESSIE

What happened?

MARY JO

You don't remember?

JESSIE

They found Douglas and then my head.. It exploded.

MARY JO

You're in hospital. You've had a tumour removed from your brain. You're going to be fine.

JESSIE

Kore?

Jessie touches her ear. Mary Jo takes something wrapped up in a tissue from her handbag. She hands it to Jessie.

Jessie opens it up. It is the hearing aid. There is a dark patch on it.

MARY JO

I think it's burnt out.

Jessie puts it on.

JESSIE

Kore? (beat) Kore?

Jessie takes Mary Jo's hand.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

I think she's moved on.

Mary Jo kisses Jessie the lips.

MARY JO

We got the reward money and what's more I've had a talk with Mildred. We're going to convert her hotel into an old folk's home. One of those places that specializes in pet therapy. She want you to be the manager.

JESSIE

Wow. That's great. What about that old lady's money. Does it go to Tiger and Ina?

MARY JO

Sorry, Tiger passed away during your operation. Ina is fine though! But I'm afraid she's not going to make you rich.

JESSIE

What do you mean?

MARY JO

Mrs McFadgen winning big time at the lottery only meant she won a hundred pounds.

JESSIE

You prick Douglas. Oh God! Poor pussycats. But you're wrong.

MARY JO

How?

JESSIE

Ina does make my life rich.

INT. GLASSHOUSE NOBLE HOTEL, FERRY RD - DAY

Ina cleans herself on a cushion. Several RESIDENTS in wheelchairs sit at easels and paint the cat. Mildred goes past each person and smiles and nods.

EXT. NOBLE HOTEL, FERRY RD - DAY

Jessie is painting a cat on the top corner of the new sign:

"NOBLE HOUSE PET THERAPY CENTRE"

Mary Jo comes up to her with a cup of tea and gives her a kiss.

THE END