

DARIUS PAGE

EPISODE ONE - "BROKEN AND GLORIOUS"

by

Alex Skerratt

"DARIUS PAGE, EPISODE ONE - BROKEN AND GLORIOUS"

1 SC1. INT. MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK, STAIRWELL - NIGHT

STEWART FINNIGAN bursts through the car park's basement doorway and races up the stairs. He's grief-stricken, panicked, a haggard-looking 29 year-old.

Stewart continues upwards, past floor 2, floor 4, floor 6... he's heading for the roof.

As he runs, the distant sound of LILY's voice calling after him:

LILY (O.O.V)
Stewart! Stewart wait!

Cut to LILY SCOTT, a few floors below, trying to keep up.

Lily is strikingly beautiful but doesn't know it. A strong-headed girl in her mid twenties, she has long brown hair and an eclectic dress-sense, (trousers and trainers).

LILY (CONT'D)
Stewart!

Back to Stewart, still racing for his life.

CUT TO:

2 SC2. EXT. MULTI-STOREY, ROOF LEVEL - NIGHT

STEWART dashes through the door onto the roof. It's tipping rain, bleak, as he makes for the edge.

He's panting, his eyes glistening. Stewart flings his arms over the side of the roof and cries desperately.

LILY arrives moments later, haring over.

LILY
Stewart!

She stops, metres from him.

Pause.

LILY (CONT'D)
Don't.

Stewart just cries.

LILY (CONT'D)
You can come back with me now. We
can go back to the hospital.

STEWART
They'll get me LILY!

LILY
They won't, they won't!

Stewart cries harder.

LILY (CONT'D)
Stewart...

Stewart pulls a mobile from his pocket, stares at it, then
switches it off. Clutching it tightly, he pulls his arm
back...

LILY (CONT'D)
What are you doing?

STEWART
(Screaming) You won't KILL ME!!

Stewart's poised, ready to throw...

DARIUS (O.O.V)
Don't throw that phone!

Stewart and Lily bolt round and see DARIUS. He's in his
forties with long, straggly black hair and a beard, dressed
in smart dark clothes, incorporating a waistcoat and
jacket.

Stewart looks at this new arrival in horror.

STEWART
Oh God, it's you!

DARIUS
Stewart...

STEWART
Keep away!

DARIUS
(Stops) Just let me see the phone.

Silence. Just staring.

DARIUS (CONT'D)

Let me see the phone before you
throw it over the edge...

Decision made. Stewart turns and hurls the phone into the
night.

DARIUS (CONT'D)

(Running after it) No!

Cut to: the phone, hurtling through the air...

... Then falling to the pavement below, slow-mo, and
smashing into a thousand pieces.

Back to the roof:

DARIUS (CONT'D)

Well that's a pity.

STEWART

You won't get me!

DARIUS

Now Stewart...

STEWART

You won't get me!

Stewart clambers onto the edge of the building, preparing
to jump.

LILY

(Frantic) No stop him, oh God stop
him!

Darius steps back, his eyes fixed on Stewart's.

STEWART

Well go on then! Push me!

Darius is slowly edging towards the door, risking a quick
glance at his fob watch.

DARIUS

(Then back at Stewart) God bless
you.

A silent pause. Stewart jumps.

LILY

No!!

Lily runs to the side and peers over.

LILY (CONT'D)
(A tearful whisper) Oh God no,
please God no, no, no...

She turns back to Darius. Stares.

DARIUS
He was always going to die. I'm
sorry.

LILY
(Sobbing) Who are you?

A thunderous sound rips through the air. Darius looks up;
it's a noise he recognises. Hurriedly he makes for the door
to the stairwell.

LILY (CONT'D)
Please don't leave me here!
Please! Help me!

Darius dashes out of the exit.

Lily's left alone. The sound of thunder can be heard
rumbling in the distance.

Lily looks down to the ground where Stewart is now lying.

LILY
(Shouting down) Stewart!

Turning on her heel, Lily races across the car park towards
the door. She seizes the handle and pulls...

... only to find there's nothing on the other side. Just
white.

Lily stops in her tracks, astounded.

The thunderous roar grows louder, and suddenly whole
sections of the car park begin to blink from existence.

Lily looks on in horror as the world around her vanishes
until she's the only thing left.

Then she, too, begins to fade. Only a featureless white
void remains.

CUT TO:

3 SC3. INT. STEWART'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - NIGHT

A flash of white, fading to:

A dimly-lit kitchen, shadowy, the ambient colour always changing.

A cafetiere falls to the floor and smashes, slow-mo.

STEWART is backed up in the corner of the kitchen, a distance from the broken cafetiere. He's rigid, wide-eyed and scared.

He just watches the pile of broken glass as it bursts into flames.

Then - overlapping voices resonate throughout the room, deep but not 'horror movie trailer.'

VOICE

She'll kill you for this.

VOICE

Unless you kill yourself.

VOICE

Which you should.

VOICE

You should yeah.

VOICE

She said you'd die.

VOICE

Have you seen yourself?

VOICE

Falling, falling, falling...

The sound of a radio running through the frequencies, white noise, whining.

Stewart does not move.

A vague outline of a black cat runs through the burning cafetiere, and then in and out of the kitchen cupboards like a ghost passing through solid matter.

VOICE

Bleed.

VOICE

Burn.

VOICE

Bleed, burn, brawn, scorn, torn,
time, swine, die.

VOICE

Just one cut...

VOICE

...and you will be forgiven.

VOICE

Be forgiven and cut.

Stewart moves towards the broken glass on the floor and puts his hand into the flames.

The hand passes right through the fire as he takes a handful of glass and crushes it in his hand. Blood trickles through the gaps in his fingers.

VOICE

Three times...

VOICE

Three, three, three...

Stewart rises, breathing heavily, and throws the shards off his bloody palms.

Then he sees DARIUS at the kitchen door, just standing there, watching him.

DARIUS

(Calmly) Hello again.

STEWART

(Looks at his hands) I did what you told me!

DARIUS

I didn't tell you to do that.

STEWART

I did what you told me so why do you want to kill me?

DARIUS

I don't want to kill you.

As Stewart looks, flames start to burn around Darius' jacket, but the jacket does not burn up.

Darius looks, then turns back to Stewart.

DARIUS (CONT'D)

Ignore that. (Beat) For me.

A ringtone belts out - dee dee, dee dee! Relentlessly. On and on.

VOICE

Ooh the phone!

VOICE

The phone!

VOICE

The phone's all you deserve.

VOICE

You deserve the phone.

Stewart picks up his mobile off the side. It's flashing away at him crazily.

DARIUS

Can I take a look at that?

STEWART

They want to kill me as well.

DARIUS

Who do?

STEWART

Sandra said... falling, falling...

DARIUS

Sandra?

STEWART

The great height...

DARIUS

(Reaching out for the phone) Can I see that?

STEWART

(Tucking the phone into his chest)
It's mine.

DARIUS
I'm not going to take it, I just
want to see it.

STEWART
That's what you said last time and
you stole my car!

DARIUS
Now we both know that didn't
happen, Stewart. I don't drive,
remember? So can I see your phone?

Reluctantly, Stewart hands the phone to Darius.

DARIUS (CONT'D)
Thankyou.

VOICE
Traitor!

VOICE
Traitor, why did you show him?

VOICE
She'll kill you for this!

VOICE
She'll kill you three hundred and
thirty-three times!

DARIUS
(Looking at the phone but
referring to the voices) Don't
listen to them. They're not real.

Darius observes a text message on the handset.

DARIUS
(Thoughtfully) *This* on the other
hand...

The message: *Just send it and you won't die. Sandra.*

DARIUS (CONT'D)
(Handing the phone back) Thanks!
It's all yours.

VOICE
He lies.

VOICE
He's a liar.

DARIUS

Err, enough of that thankyou!
(Shaking Stewart's hand) Stewart,
you're an amazing fellow.

STEWART

Leave me alone.

DARIUS

If that's what you want...

The thunderous noise, like before.

Darius looks at his fob watch.

DARIUS (CONT'D)

You take care of yourself.

He turns and heads out of the kitchen door, as the world around Stewart starts to break up. Whole sections of the kitchen disappear leaving nothing but a white void.

Stewart looks around, terrified, as he fades away.

CUT TO:

4 SC4. INT. DARIUS' HOUSE, MACHINE ROOM - NIGHT

DARIUS enters the room via an internal door. Seen briefly behind him: Stewart's kitchen breaking up.

He closes the door, casually removes the fob watch from the pocket of his waistcoat, and hangs it on a hook by the doorframe.

As he moves across, the machine is revealed. Positioned to the left of the door, it's like a massive computer bank that runs the full length of the wall, an ad hoc mixture of 1950s TV screens and the latest HD plasmas.

Beneath the screens is a console that extends into the room. It is covered in hundreds of multi-coloured switches, and yet they are well-ordered, almost patterned, most of them labelled. Each knob clearly has a specific purpose.

The machine is humming away to itself; the screens look like they're working overtime! Lights on the console flash intermittently like a Wireless Router.

Darius manipulates a series of levers and the screens blink in response.

DARIUS

I think that's enough for today...
Powering down...

The machine closes down. The screens go out one by one, the humming stops, and the console stops flashing.

The rest of the room is very Victorian. A few moth-eaten but elegant leather armchairs, a pot plant, several dusty paintings on the walls. The boards are bare, whilst the walls are painted but bland. The room is moderately lit by a candles and ornate table lamps.

DARIUS (CONT'D)

(Calling into the house) Katie?

No answer. Darius heads for the other door.

CUT TO:

5 SC5. INT. DARIUS' HOUSE, HALLWAY - NIGHT

DARIUS wanders into the hallway, takes a quick glance to his left into the kitchen. The lights are off. Nobody about.

DARIUS

(Calling) Katie?

Then he sees a post-it note on the hall table, which he picks up and reads.

DARIUS (CONT'D)

(Reading aloud) 'Dad, gone to the pub with Dillan. See you down there, Katie.' (Screws the note up) You will.

Darius dashes upstairs.

CUT TO:

6 SC6. INT. DARIUS' HOUSE, LANDING - NIGHT

DARIUS reaches the top, heads straight through to -

CUT TO:

7 SC7. INT. DARIUS' HOUSE, STUDY - NIGHT

The study. A bit of a den, cosy and Victorian, shelves and shelves of books, a desk and fancy swivel chair, another armchair opposite this, then a laptop, stacks of papers...

...and a bed in the far corner. On it lies the dead body of STEWART FINNIGAN. He's wearing the same clothes he died in, except there's now an elaborate-looking headset on his cranium.

DARIUS enters quietly and wanders over to the bed, carefully removing the headset and placing it on the side.

DARIUS

All memories extracted. (Beat)
Thanks for that, old friend. We'll
get to the bottom of it soon.

He takes Stewart's hand, then closes his eyes.

DARIUS (CONT'D)

(Almost a whisper) Please take
care of him Father. Take care of
him please.

The eyes open again. Darius delicately rests Stewart's hand back on the bed and leaves.

CUT TO:

8 SC8. EXT. DARIUS' HOUSE, FRONT - NIGHT

DARIUS steps out of his house, locks the door, and heads down the path onto the street.

It's a very grand Victorian house on a street of similar properties. Looks like a very exclusive area.

CUT TO:

9 SC9. EXT. YORK

Montage of shots.

DARIUS makes his way through the historic streets of York. A warm atmosphere, lots of people out enjoying themselves.

CUT TO:

10 SC10. EXT. YORK, STREET BENEATH MULTI-STOREY - NIGHT
CONTINUOUS

DARIUS continues to walk, passing just below the multi-storey car park.

11 SC11. EXT. MULTI-STOREY, ROOF LEVEL - NIGHT CONTINUOUS

The same car park from earlier.

LILY is standing where STEWART was before he jumped. She too is slumped over the edge looking very depressed, obviously contemplating suicide.

And she's totally hammered. She swigs the last of a bottle of Gin and slumps back against the barrier.

As she does so, the bottle falls from her hand.

Close-up on the bottle in slow-mo: falling, falling, falling...

CUT TO:

12 SC12. EXT. YORK, STREET BENEATH MULTI-STOREY - NIGHT
CONTINUOUS

DARIUS is still walking.

The glass bottle falls from above and shatters right behind him, inches from his head.

Darius turns and looks.

Cut to the bottle in slow-mo, smashing on the pavement.

Immediately Darius looks up and spots LILY on the top level of the multi-storey, hanging over the side.

DARIUS
(Shouting up) Wait!

He scans for the door, sees it, and races through.

CUT TO:

13 SC13. EXT. MULTI-STOREY, ROOF LEVEL - NIGHT

DARIUS bursts onto the roof and runs over to LILY, who's still at the edge, intoxicated.

DARIUS

(Panting) Twice in one night on
this roof. In a way. Come on,
let's get you home.

LILY

(Drunkenly) Leave me alone.

DARIUS

How much have you had?

LILY

Just a... just...

DARIUS

Just a bottle?

Lily nods.

DARIUS (CONT'D)

(Looks down to the pavement below)
Smashing.

LILY

(Disinterested snigger) You're
funny.

DARIUS

I'm Darius, what's your-

LILY

I don't care who you are. Go away.

Lily falls against him, barely able to stand. As she does,
her office swipe card dangles from her belt. Darius catches
a quick glimpse.

DARIUS

(Reading) Lily Scott.

LILY

I'm fine. Go away.

DARIUS

I'm sorry but I can't do that.

LILY

I'm not... going to jump...

DARIUS

Then why are you up here?

LILY
You... wouldn't understand...

DARIUS
You'd be surprised. (Puts his arm
round her) Come on, it's freezing.
What do you say to a sobering pot
of coffee?

LILY
Haven't got any.

DARIUS
Well if we walk a bit maybe we'll
find some! Sound good?

They start to walk across the car park, Darius supporting Lily. Darius voice can be heard from a distance as he continues to talk:

DARIUS
(Far) Let's *not* do Betty's...

CUT TO:

14 SC14. INT. DARIUS' HOUSE, KITCHEN / HALLWAY INTERCUT - NIGHT

KATIE PAGE and DILLAN ROSE are tipsy and play-fighting in the kitchen.

KATIE is twenty-three with short dyed and spiky hair, multiple piercings and wacky make-up; very punk-chick / hippy. She's wearing baggy jeans and a jumper. Darius' daughter.

DILLAN is about the same age and quite rugged-looking with shaggy brown hair, stubble, and a slightly gormless look about him. Katie's boyfriend. He's a hoody and jeans guy.

The play-fighting leads to passionate kissing. Very over the top. Not romantic. More animal. They end up on the kitchen table.

Just as the front door in the hallway bursts open! This scares Katie and Dillan half to death, and they tumble inelegantly off the table into a heap on the floor.

CUT TO:

15 SC15. INT. DARIUS' HOUSE, HALLWAY - NIGHT

DARIUS enters the hallway carrying a semi-conscious LILY, who's slumped on his shoulder.

LILY
(Slurred) I... really... can't
wait... for this coffee...

DARIUS
Me neither. Who'd have thought
it'd only take an hour and a half
to get back! Let's sit you down...

He sets Lily down on the stairs.

DARIUS (CONT'D)
(Calling) Katie...!!

KATIE and DILLAN dash through from the kitchen, hurriedly trying to spruce themselves up and look chilled.

KATIE
Now then pa! What's up?

DARIUS
My friend here is going to need
your bed. Is that ok?

KATIE
What happened?

DARIUS
(Irritable) Just, just... agree
with me!

KATIE
Okay, well I suppose I can just
crash in Dillan's bed.

DILLAN
Then where will I go...?

Katie looks at him: *oh come on, you know where you're going!*

DILLAN (CONT'D)
(Eventually twigging) Oh yeah!

DARIUS
Err!

KATIE

Oh come on we won't get up to awt!

DARIUS

Even so...

KATIE

You're the one bringing... drunk people home...

DARIUS

She's a client!

KATIE

She's a pissed if you ask me.

DARIUS

Look, just... let's get her upstairs! Dillan get her arm, I'll get the other!

DILLAN

Wilco Mr D!

Darius and Dillan heave the comatose Lily up the stairs.

CUT TO:

16 SC16. INT. DARIUS' HOUSE, LANDING - NIGHT

DARIUS and DILLAN stumble to the top of the stairs carrying the intoxicated LILY, with KATIE just behind.

DILLAN

So is she the reason you weren't at the pub?

DARIUS

She's the reason.

DILLAN

Where'd you take her?

DARIUS

Multi-storey.

DILLAN

The cinema?

Darius shoves open the door to Katie's room and let's Dillan take her from there.

Darius takes a deep breath as he turns to his daughter, who puts her arm round over his shoulder.

DARIUS

Hello.

KATIE

(Jokingly) You don't have to bring back all the lost drunkards you know!

DARIUS

(Smiles) I know. But this lady's involved, she was Stewart's girlfriend.

KATIE

(Shocked) Did she push him??

DARIUS

No, he wasn't pushed after all. He jumped.

KATIE

Bloody hell, that's horrible.

DARIUS

Yeah.

Brief pause.

KATIE

Well don't stay up all night working on it.

DARIUS

I won't, don't worry.

Katie kisses him on the cheek and turns to go.

DARIUS

(Stopping her) Oh! Did Allan come for Stewart's body?

KATIE

Yeah bout half an hour ago. That was okay right?

DARIUS

Yeah, best place for him now, back at the crematorium.

KATIE

Aye. Night.

DARIUS

Sleep well.

Katie heads through to Dillan's room, just as Dillan is emerging from Katie's.

KATIE (O.O.V)

Eurgh, it stinks in here!

Darius just smiles, turns, and wanders back downstairs.

CUT TO:

17 SC17. INT. DARIUS' HOUSE, MACHINE ROOM - NIGHT

All is quiet and cosy as DARIUS enters, closing the door behind him.

He slips off his jacket and places it on the back of one of the armchairs.

Then, taking a decanter, he pours himself a scotch and sits, staring into space, deep in thought.

CUT TO:

18 SC18. INT. DARIUS' HOUSE, KATIE'S ROOM - DAY

It's organised chaos, multi-coloured, with CDs and magazines everywhere, tons of clothes hanging on the radiator and on the edges of shelves etc. The bright walls are layered with wacky posters.

The curtains are open, looking out over the roof-tops of York. A fresh new day.

LILY stirs in her bed. She's looking groggy, disoriented, her hair all over the place.

She nearly jumps out of her skin when she sees DARIUS standing over the bed, smiling.

DARIUS

Want some fresh air...?

CUT TO:

19 SC19. EXT. YORK MINSTER, DEAN'S PARK - DAY

DARIUS and LILY are walking casually. Lily's drinking water from a bottle.

LILY
I don't normally drink that much
by the way.

DARIUS
Don't worry, I'm not judging.
(Pause) How are you feeling?

LILY
Like shit.

DARIUS
Yeah?

LILY
Well my boyfriend's just committed
suicide, my stomach's gurgling...

DARIUS
Stewart was a lovely young man.

LILY
You knew him?

DARIUS
Yeah, very well, I've been his
counsellor these past few months.
Schizophrenic right?

LILY
Right. Drove him to...

Lily tails off. Takes a sip from her water. Quiet.

DARIUS
And worse for you, you had to
witness it...

LILY
For three years, yeah.

DARIUS
No I mean his death.

LILY
(Stunned) What?

DARIUS

You watched him die. (Beat) Didn't you?

LILY

How do you know that? (Pause) Who told you?

DARIUS

No one.

LILY

Were you there?

DARIUS

Sort of...

LILY

Well, if you aren't going to give me a straight answer...

Awkward silence. Darius is thinking.

DARIUS

Suppose... (Thinks) Imagine there was a door in the back of Stewart's mind. Imagine you could go through it and re-experience his memories, see things as he remembered them. Imagine you were actually there, walking through those thoughts like we're walking through this park. (Beat) And if such a door existed, and I went through it into the memory of his own death... I'd know you were also on that roof, pleading with him not to jump.

LILY

(Amazed and confused) What...?

DARIUS

He threw that phone over the side, because the phone wanted to kill him. And as he moved to jump, his last words to you... not "I love you"... but "Go on then, push me."

Lily just glowers at him, teary-eyed and shocked.

LILY

Oh God, how do you know all this?

They just look at one another.

LILY (CONT'D)

Are you psychic?

DARIUS

(Smiles) No.

LILY

Are you mad?

DARIUS

(Laughs) Probably!

LILY

Right...

Quiet.

DARIUS

That door's real, Lily. I stepped right through.

LILY

(Sceptically) You went through a door into my boyfriend's mind and watched him commit suicide?

DARIUS

Yes.

LILY

I don't think so!

DARIUS

I did!

LILY

You're sick!

DARIUS

I'm far from it!

LILY

(Pause) Can you prove it?

DARIUS

Yes. I can.

CUT TO:

20 SC20. DARIUS' HOUSE, MACHINE ROOM - DAY

The door to the machine room opens, and DARIUS and LILY are on the other side, Darius holding the knob for her.

DARIUS
(Gesturing for her to enter) After
you!

Lily enters, looking highly sceptical. She wanders across the room, taking in all the little details. She spots a book-marked Bible next to Darius' armchair, and a framed photo of a young woman.

Then she looks at the machine. She's not impressed.

LILY
Oh no. It's a joke isn't it?

DARIUS
(Almost offended) No!

LILY
But it's like the TV display at
Curry's!

Darius manipulates the switches on the control panel and the screens crackle to life.

DARIUS
Behind those screens is largest
computer hard drive in the world,
with over fifty halobytes of
storage space.

LILY
(Unimpressed) Oh great. Fifty
halobytes.

DARIUS
You said you wanted to see my
machine!

LILY
I did, and, yeah, it's... lovely,
but... I just wanna go home.

DARIUS
(Shrugs) Go if you like.

LILY
What?

DARIUS

Feel free. (Beat) *If* you don't want to know who really killed Stewart. Then that's fine.

LILY

Oh... don't do this...

DARIUS

(Sincerely) I really think I can help you. If you'll let me.

LILY

(Rubbing her face in her hands) I wouldn't know how to let you.

Darius rests his hand on her shoulder.

DARIUS

Hey. You're not alone.

The hands come down. She smiles at him.

DARIUS (CONT'D)

You want to carry on?

LILY

Might as well.

Darius pats her...

...then turns back to the machine. He hits a series of switches, and a list of memories appears on one of the screens - the HD plasma.

DARIUS (CONT'D)

Take a look. These are all memories on the hard drive. They're from all sorts of people, people I've met over the years and so forth. You select the one you want and... Ah yes, mustn't forget... (points)... that's the door I was talking about. Step through that and you're inside your chosen thought.

LILY

(Moving closer to the door)
Through this door...?

DARIUS

That's right.

Lily approaches the door with cautious curiosity. She slowly reaches for the handle, gives it a turn...

She wrenches the door open!

But there's only a blank wall on the other side.

DARIUS (CONT'D)

Of course, you've got to *load* the memory first! (Winks at her) Which I'm just doing...

Lily closes the door.

LILY

(Looking lost) And, err... so, how did you get all of these memories...?

DARIUS

Normally I just link the person's mind up to the machine and send the information to the hard drive.

LILY

Which is what you did with Stewart?

DARIUS

Yes.

LILY

Did he say you could?

DARIUS

(Looks at her sincerely) Yes.

Darius turns back, flicks a new switch on the console and unhooks the fob watch.

DARIUS (CONT'D)

We're almost ready.

LILY

Ready.

DARIUS

Yes, I'm going to show you a memory.

LILY

Okay...

She watches him for a moment; he's engrossed.

LILY (CONT'D)

Is there anything else I need to know?

DARIUS

Reams actually...

He lifts a huge, moth-eaten book off the console and shows it to her.

DARIUS (CONT'D)

Over one thousand pages worth of instructions! But it's quite heavy going, so...

Darius puts his hand on the knob of the machine's door.

DARIUS (CONT'D)

Are you ready?

LILY

I guess so.

He pulls open the door.

CUT TO:

21 SC21. INT. DINER - DAY

A bustling 1950's-style American diner.

DARIUS and LILY enter through the door from the Gents toilets. They get a couple of disgruntled looks from customers as they emerge.

LILY

(Amazed) This is *not* happening...!

DARIUS

Well technically it's not, no!
Good isn't it?

LILY

It's... it's... What is it?

DARIUS

(Notices customers) I wonder what *they're* staring at...

LILY

They're probably wondering what the two of us were doing in the Gents.

DARIUS

(Noticing the sign on the toilet door) Oh.

LILY

(Thinks) What were the two of us doing in the Gents?

DARIUS

(Smiles) It's the door. It's programmed to camouflage with the environment. So it looks different every time depending on the memory you're in.

LILY

So what's to stop any of these lot just strolling through into your house?

DARIUS

Well "these lot" are simply pieces of information. They couldn't manifest in our world.

LILY

Ahhhh, clever.

DARIUS

Now, this is one of my favourite memories. Do you see over there? (Nods across the canteen) Carol and Tony?

Lily looks.

CAROL and TONY are having dinner at a table by the window. They're in their sixties, and incredibly sweet. There's something youthful about them.

DARIUS

They've been seeing each other for years now, but Tony's been in Australia for the past six months.

LILY

How come?

DARIUS

His sister's dying of cancer. He went down over to look after her.

LILY

Couldn't his wife go with him?

DARIUS

No, she needed to stay. Too many commitments at the church.

LILY

Good that they're still together after six months...

DARIUS

Long time isn't it?

Darius looks from side to side, discretely, then leans towards Lily's ear.

DARIUS (CONT'D)

(Whispering) Tony's going to propose in a minute.

LILY

Really? Aw bless them!

DARIUS

(Looks at his watch) Not before the waitress drops the pot of coffee though...

LILY

Ey?

DARIUS

(Still looking at watch) Three... Two... One...

The YOUNG FEMALE WAITRESS at the other side of the diner stumbles and a tray of coffee crashes to the floor...

Cut to: close-up of the coffee pot and mugs shattering.

A moment of quiet in the restaurant. Then the noise levels start to slowly rise again.

The YOUNG FEMALE WAITRESS embarrassedly scrambles to clear the mess.

Back to Darius and Lily:

DARIUS
Well that's broken...

LILY
(Light laugh) It's just like
Groundhog Day!

DARIUS
Oh I do like that film...

LILY
It's genius!

Lily notices Darius replacing his fob watch.

LILY (CONT'D)
What's that?

DARIUS
Ah yes... (Pulls it back out to show her) I should have explained about the watch. It's part of the machine, perfectly synchronised to the loaded memory. The minute we arrived, it began counting down...

Darius flicks the watch open. Inside, a digital interface, something very *Star Trek*. The time shows three minutes thirty seconds, counting down.

DARIUS
See? We've got three and a half minutes until the memory ends.

LILY
What happens after that?

DARIUS
We have to leave! (He replaces the watch) But plenty of time yet. Plenty of time to watch a proposal!

Darius and Lily begin to edge closer to Carol and Tony's table; they've just started their meals.

CAROL
You said earlier you'd been thinking...?

TONY
Yes, yes... erm... lots of thinking, yes.

CAROL
Were you thinking about anything in particular?

TONY
Erm... Well you know, lots of things. Yeah.

Awkward silence.

CAROL
(Referring to her food) The steak's nice.

TONY
Yeah it looks nice. Mmmm.

CAROL
How's yours?

TONY
Fine, yeah. (Beat) Bit hot.

CAROL
Must be how they cooked it.

TONY
Pardon?

CAROL
(Louder) Must be how they cooked it.

TONY
Oh yeah, in... erm, by the...

CAROL
In the oven.

TONY
Oven, yeah.

Over this, Darius is hanging on their every word, staring intently, finding it all very emotional. Lily is trying hard to look as impressed as Darius, but instead appears a little baffled.

DARIUS

(Whispering to LILY excitedly) Any minute...

Back to the table:

TONY

Errm... so I'd been thinking...

CAROL

(Eyes still on food) Oh yes?

TONY

I mean we've been together for nearly seven years now...

CAROL

Yes.

TONY

And you know that I love you very deeply...

CAROL

Ah-ha.

TONY

Perhaps it was time we got married.

CAROL

(Still focused on eating) Oh that sounds a good idea.

TONY

Really?

CAROL

Yeah. Sounds fine to me.

TONY

That's... really nice.

CAROL

Can I buy that ring we saw earlier?

TONY
The blue one?

CAROL
Yes.

TONY
I don't see why not.

CAROL
Thanks. I'll pick it up tomorrow.

TONY
Okay then.

CAROL
Can I borrow your card?

TONY
Sure.

CAROL
I'll pay you back.

They carry on eating.

Darius looks at Lily as if he's about to burst into tears.

DARIUS
Oh my.

Lily looks dumbfounded.

LILY
(Laughing) That's crap!

DARIUS
Hmm?

LILY
That's not a proposal! They're
planning shopping!

DARIUS
Don't you think it's romantic
though?

LILY
No!

DARIUS
Oh. Each to their own...

The sound of thunder roars out. Darius pulls out his fob watch.

LILY
Did you hear that?

DARIUS
Yep, that's our cue to leave! Come on!

Darius marches Lily briskly back through the restaurant to the Gents toilets.

As Lily looks back, she sees the world slowly start to break up and fade away.

LILY
Sounded like thunder.

DARIUS
The memory's breaking up!

Darius opens the toilet door and steps through.

Lily continues to stare at the fading world. She almost looks sad as Tony and Carol slowly disappear.

DARIUS (O.O.V)
(From other side of Gents) You coming?

Beat. Then Lily follows.

CUT TO:

22 SC22. INT. DARIUS' HOUSE, MACHINE ROOM - DAY

LILY arrives in the machine room just behind DARIUS and closes the door.

Darius hurriedly hangs his fob watch back up and flicks a few switches on the console.

LILY
What was all that about?

DARIUS
Well like I said, he'd been away for six months-

LILY

No, I mean, why did we have to leave so quickly?

DARIUS

Errm... Well there is a small element of risk going inside the machine...

LILY

What.

Darius stops working and looks at her.

DARIUS

If we were still inside the machine when the memory shuts down...

LILY

Yes?

DARIUS

We'd be in big trouble. The door would disappear. The machine would convert us into memory data and we'd be trapped in the system.

LILY

Trapped, how do you mean?

DARIUS

We'd be converted into memory data. No more physical body. No coming back to the real world.

LILY

(Thinks) Really?!

DARIUS

I know it sounds crazy but I promise you the danger is very real.

LILY

How do you know? Has it ever happened?

DARIUS

Probably.

Lily watches him; not the sort of response she was expecting.

LILY
Another thing...

DARIUS
Is it another question?

LILY
Yes, I was just-

Darius lifts up the operation manual.

LILY (CONT'D)
Oh put that down!

He does, grinning.

LILY (CONT'D)
I was just wondering... didn't we change the memory just then?

DARIUS
How so?

LILY
Well... when that event was first remembered, by Carol, or Tony, or whoever... you and me weren't there.

DARIUS
No...

LILY
But we were there *just then!* So we changed the memory!

DARIUS
No we didn't.

LILY
(Beat) I don't get it.

DARIUS
(Sighs) It's only like playing back the same DVD you've watched time and time again. But you might watch it alone, or with a friend, or while chatting to someone. But

the DVD doesn't change, just everything around it!

LILY
Even if you talk to someone?

DARIUS
Even if you talk to someone.

LILY
Riiiiight... (Thinks) So... the memory will always... basically... be the same?

DARIUS
By jove, she's getting it!

LILY
I'm confused!

DARIUS
You'll get there. Take a look at this.

LILY
(Moving closer) What've you got?

Darius has brought up a fresh list of memories on the screen.

DARIUS
I've just done a little search on the name "Sandra", because she text Stewart before he died...

LILY
Sandra? There's nothing suspicious about her. If it's the same Sandra.

DARIUS
You know her?

LILY
The Sandra I know runs some kind of therapy group for people with schizophrenia.

DARIUS
Well if she does, I've never heard of it.

LILY
You're not schizophrenic.

DARIUS
Lily, I've been a mental health professional for nearly twenty years, I know all the therapy groups round here. They can't be legit. (Hits some buttons) So let's go and see what Stewart made of them. Got a nice little memory here, we can go take a look.

Lily's gone quiet. He looks at her.

DARIUS (CONT'D)
Only if you want to, that is. I realise it must be hard.

LILY
I'm fine. Do it.

DARIUS
(Thinks) Okay then...

He flicks a switch.

CUT TO:

23 SC23. EXT. SPIRITUALIST CHURCH - NIGHT

It's pouring rain and misty. People of all ages are slowly filtering inside the building, STEWART FINNIGAN among them.

DARIUS and LILY emerge from a shop door across the road.

LILY
(Looking up at the rain) You git.

DARIUS
It's only virtual rain.

Lily doesn't look impressed. Then she spots Stewart.

LILY
Oh my God! It's Stewart!

DARIUS
It's-!

But Lily's already run off towards him.

DARIUS (CONT'D)
 (Calling after her) It's not! Not
 really! Lily!

Lily catches up with her lover and throws her arms round him.

LILY
 Oh my God you're alive! I can't
 believe you're alive, you're
 alive!

STEWART
 Lily! What are you doing here?

LILY
 Oh I just... I just had to see
 you...

STEWART
 He didn't say you were coming.

LILY
 Who didn't?

STEWART
 Well... Jack...

LILY
 Jack who? (Kisses his cheek) Oh
 you're here, you're here! I love
 you! You know that I love you
 don't you?

STEWART
 (Coldly) Lily...

LILY
 (Absently) What!

Then she stops. Something's not right. Lily slackens her embrace as she becomes aware of someone standing next to her. She turns...

There's an old man in a suit. He's pasty-looking with no eyes, only skin. JACK.

Lily's startled. She stifles a scream, both hands cupped over her face as she backs away.

STEWART
 It's okay. It's okay, Lily.

LILY

(Scared and sad) That's your dad.
Oh my God, where are his eyes?

STEWART

He loves me Lily. He loves both of
us.

LILY

(Tearful) He's not real...

STEWART

But you can see him! You have the
gift!

LILY

It's not a gift! I know I can see
him but that's... that's...

STEWART

Look, come on in and meet Sandra.

LILY

Stewart, I...

STEWART

Please...

Lily looks again at Jack, and he fades away.

STEWART (CONT'D)

Come on...

Stewart takes Lily's hand and she reluctantly follows.

As the pair head for the church door, there are walking
shadows and voices all around, an unsettling hubbub.

Unnerved, Lily looks at all the moving shapes.

STEWART (CONT'D)

Some of them want to hurt me, but
some keep away. Don't talk to them
and we'll be safe.

They go inside, followed by the talking shadows.

Darius, who has been watching all of this from a distance,
moves closer to the building. He checks his fob watch.

CUT TO:

24

SC24. INT. SPIRITUALIST CHURCH, HALL - NIGHT

Most of the congregation are now seated, about fifty in all, watching SANDRA WHITE talk to them from the stage. She's the leader of the church, an older lady in her seventies with curly cream-coloured hair and huge round glasses. Quite fierce-looking.

LILY and STEWART creep in and take their seats as she speaks.

SANDRA

Now I'm a clairaudient medium, which means that basically I'm going to be working with sounds from the spirit world. And, because I receive a lot of information, a lot of *different* information from the spirits, at any one time, I'm not going to immediately say "this message is for you." Okay? I'm going to have to work with your loved ones, allow them to communicate their evidence, and as I relay this, I will need you to raise your hand if you think it connects to you in some way. Now there could be three or thirty-three of you "connecting" at any one time, so we have to work through the evidence until we can build a complete picture. (Beat) And already as I'm talking to you now, I'm being drawn towards this side of the room...

She gestures to her right, in the direction of Lily and Stewart.

SANDRA (CONT'D)

I've got an older gentleman with me here, and he keeps saying the name "Jack, Jack", now would that mean anything to anyone?

Stewart raises his hand.

SANDRA (CONT'D)

Ah, Stewart, thankyou. Yes Jack is with me, his name is Jack, yes, and he's telling me, "use the

money, use the money..." Okay?
Does that make sense?

STEWART

Yes.

SANDRA

And... Oh dear... Yes I'll tell him that. Okay, he wants me to warn you of something that might be cropping up in the future. Quite close actually. I'm seeing a great height, and I'm seeing darkness, and I'm seeing falling, falling, falling. Right? And Jack wants me to let you know that, this won't happen, okay? This won't happen, so long as you use the money. He keeps saying those words, *use the money, use the money*.

STEWART

Okay.

DARIUS enters quietly at the back, unnoticed. Dialogue continues as he wanders around the outskirts of the room:

SANDRA

Now, I'm getting the impression that... oh actually he's just told me. Yes, bless you, Jack was in fact your father before he passed over into the world of spirit. Okay? And he's very keen that you know how much he loved you, and that he's okay, and that he's watching over you. And he's telling me that you see him on occasion, is that right? And you sometimes hear strange noises and see things around the house? Right, well this is all him, okay? It's his way of letting you know that he's there and that he's watching over you...

Over this: Darius is looking at the various posters and signs blu-tacked to the wall. He comes to a large charity fundraiser-style thermometer, barely coloured in. It's headed: *Save Our Church*, with a target of £500,000.

Something clicks in Darius' mind. He smiles faintly, and nods to himself.

CUT TO:

25 SC25. INT. SPIRITUALIST CHURCH, HALL - NIGHT, LATER

It's the end of the service. People are filtering out, with SANDRA at the door smiling and shaking everyone's hands as they leave.

DARIUS pulls LILY out of the queue, unseen by STEWART, and takes her to one side.

DARIUS
(Furtively) Some therapy.

LILY
I had no idea he was coming here.
I thought it was like an
Alcoholics Anonymous thing.

Darius notices Stewart has reached Sandra - he's the last in the queue. Darius looks at Lily, nods towards her boyfriend; both watch as Sandra and Stewart interact:

SANDRA
(Big smile) Good to see you again,
Stewart.

STEWART
Thanks, yeah, good to see you.

SANDRA
Listen, don't worry about what
your father said, okay?

VOICE
What father said...

VOICE
Said...

VOICE
Falling...

VOICE

Falling...

Darius and Lily react as they too hear these voices.

SANDRA

I'll text you in the week to see how you're getting on.

STEWART

Yeah, sure.

SANDRA

I'm sure you won't get hurt if you follow your destiny. Remember, *you have the gift.*

STEWART

Yeah.

Sandra places her hand on his cheek.

SANDRA

God bless you.

The sound of thunder! Back to Darius and Lily:

DARIUS

(Grabbing Lily's arm) Got to go!

LILY

(Breaking free) Just... let me say goodbye!

DARIUS

We haven't got time for that, come on!

LILY

He's my boyfriend and he's dead and I love him and I'm going to say goodbye to him properly!

DARIUS

No, we're going!

Darius drags her out as the world starts to break up...

CUT TO:

26 SC26. EXT. SPIRITUALIST CHURCH - NIGHT

The thunder is louder than ever as DARIUS and LILY burst out of the church and dash for the shop door.

The street has almost completely disappeared, leaving great blotches of white. Only the shop door remains complete.

Darius reaches it first.

DARIUS
(Calling) Come on!

Lily catches up, and they go through.

CUT TO:

27 SC27. INT. DARIUS' HOUSE, MACHINE ROOM - DAY

KATIE is slumped on the armchair with a whisky, completely chilled.

The silence is broken by a sudden mechanical whirr, and DARIUS and LILY come crashing through the machine door.

KATIE
Oh, hey pa!

No reaction. The two of them struggle to get their breath back.

KATIE
Was wondering where you were. (To Lily) How you liking the machine?

Lily just stares daggers at Darius.

KATIE
What's up?

Darius turns from her, *still lots to do*, closes the machine's door, hangs up his watch, starts messing with switches.

Katie gets up and goes to Lily.

KATIE
What's the matter?

LILY
Nothing.

KATIE

Right. (To Darius) So! Where'd you go?

DARIUS

(No eye contact) We just went to see Stewart.

KATIE

(Taken aback) Wha- ... (Turns to Lily) Your boyfriend??

DARIUS

That's the one.

KATIE

(Still to Lily) Didn't he *just* commit suicide??

They both remain silent.

KATIE

Dad, what were you thinking?

DARIUS

(Typing into the machine)
Sandra...

KATIE

What?

DARIUS

Sandra, Sandra, Sandra...

KATIE

Who's Sandra?

DARIUS

That's it! Number 333 Chingford Park...

Darius turns from the machine to face the two girls.

DARIUS (CONT'D)

Stewart's schizophrenia was being exploited by this spiritualist church, a bunch of psychics telling him his hallucinations were real. They managed to convince him that he was going to die if he didn't "use the money."

KATIE

Use the money?

DARIUS

Sandra White ran this church.
(Heads for the door) And it's time
we paid her a visit.

KATIE

We?

Darius turns back and looks at the distraught Lily. He rethinks.

DARIUS

Well... *I*, then.

KATIE

Yeah...

DARIUS

(Beat) There's some sorbet in the
fridge.

He leaves. Katie looks at Lily.

KATIE

You smoke?

CUT TO:

28 SC28. EXT. SANDRA WHITE'S HOUSE - DAY

A row of tiny terraced houses.

DARIUS wanders over to number 333. He rings the bell and waits.

The door opens. SANDRA WHITE is on the other side.

DARIUS

Sandra White?

CUT TO:

29 SC29. INT. SANDRA WHITE'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY

The room is bedecked with wind-chimes and dream catchers,
lots of plants, candles, and coloured rocks.

DARIUS is leaning against the mantelpiece, contemplating, as SANDRA enters carrying a tray of tea.

SANRDA

Please, have a seat.

DARIUS

I'm fine thanks.

Sandra shrugs, *suit yourself*, and perches on the edge of the armchair.

SANDRA

How can I help you?

DARIUS

My name's Darius Page, I'm a therapist, I work locally. I've come to talk to you about one of my clients.

SANDRA

Right. Anyone I know?

DARIUS

You should do, yes. Stewart Finnigan.

SANDRA

Oh dear. Yes...

DARIUS

You know that he committed suicide a few days ago, jumping off a roof...?

SANDRA

I heard, yes. A tragic loss. I knew him quite well.

DARIUS

So I gather. Funny thing, really... He'd been getting these text messages on his phone. "Just send it and you won't die." Things like that. Ring any bells?

SANDRA

I'm afraid not.

DARIUS

"You will fall... fall, fall,
fall..." No?

SANDRA

No, I'm sorry I can't be of any
help there.

DARIUS

I was quoting you there, Miss
White. My problem, you see, is
that I also know you were sending
him text messages...

SANDRA

(Thinks) We... were in contact,
yes. I sent the occasional text.
Words of encouragement and so
forth.

DARIUS

Hmm. Words of encouragement to a
paranoid schizophrenic can
sometimes have the opposite
effect. (Pause) He didn't always
suffer, you know. He had a very
nice life up to the death of his
father, his immensely rich father,
an old gentleman called Jack. When
he died, the walls started to
close in on Stewart. He started
seeing things, hearing voices, a
text book case by all accounts.
But you weren't convinced that
these phenomena were a symptom of
any illness, were you?

SANDRA

Stewart was very gifted, he had
the ability to open his mind to
the spirit world. When he came to
us and told us what was happening,
we nurtured him, helped him...

DARIUS

Groomed him?

SANDRA

If you like.

DARIUS

Miss White, he was terribly ill.
Now I may not know everything
about Schizophrenia, but one thing
I do know is that it certainly
isn't a gateway to the afterlife.

SANDRA

(Pauses, takes this on board)
That's your personal viewpoint,
and I respect it.

DARIUS

No, please don't respect it,
because I can't possibly
reciprocate. Maybe I *could*, if I
wasn't of the opinion that you
sent Stewart Finnigan to his death
that night...

SANDRA

Excuse me?

Darius just looks at her.

SANDRA

What am I supposed to say to that?

DARIUS

Sorry, perhaps.

SANDRA

I can't apologise for something I
have no knowledge of!

DARIUS

I'll get you there. Your church
was in danger of closure, wasn't
it? The roof was in dire need of
repair, and you were in dire need
of capital.

SANDRA

Yes. And what has that got to do
with anything?

DARIUS

Stewart was donating money, very
reluctantly. His father had left
him a sizeable amount but it
wasn't exactly jackpot. And with
all these voices and death threats

from the other side, you managed to convince him that everything would be okay so long as he kept paying you the donations.

SANDRA

It is true, the church was a tremendous help to him! If we'd been closed down he'd have been cut off! We kept him sane!

DARIUS

(Beat) Trust me, you didn't.

CUT TO:

30 SC30. EXT. DARIUS' HOUSE, GARDEN - DAY

KATIE and LILY are perched on the doorstep, each smoking a cig.

LILY

Have you ever lost anyone?

KATIE

When I was little, yeah. Lost my mum.

LILY

How did you deal with it?

KATIE

You don't mate. Not really. Sorry I know that's a shit answer.

LILY

No, it sounds about right.

KATIE

You'll move past it though, it'll get easier.

LILY

Have you never wanted to use your machine to see her again?

KATIE

Lots of times, yeah.

LILY

Why didn't you?

Katie shrugs.

Quiet for a moment. Lily stubs out her cigarette and stands up.

LILY
Where's your loo?

KATIE
Top of the stairs, straight on.

LILY
Thanks.

Katie keeps smoking as Lily heads inside.

CUT TO:

31 SC31. INT. DARIUS' HOUSE, HALLWAY - DAY

LILY comes through from the kitchen into the hallway.

Stopping outside the machine room, she takes a quick look behind her, then to the front door. All's quiet. She creeps inside.

CUT TO:

32 SC32. INT. DARIUS' HOUSE, MACHINE ROOM - DAY

LILY sneaks in. The machine is quietly ticking away to itself. Discretely, Lily shuts the door and bolts it. Then, she wanders over to the console.

None of it makes sense to her. She looks at all the screens and dials, trying to take it all in.

Lily glances at the screen. Stewart's memories are still loaded and there's a long list displayed.

She dismisses this and decides to try the keyboard. She types in *Stewart 28th birthday* and the letters come up on the screen. When she hits 'Enter' the display changes to *Searching*. Few seconds later: *1 x Memory Found*. And a new list comes up, with just the one memory.

Lily looks down on the console. There's a series of switches with a label above them: *Load*. Carefully, she moves each one into place, and steps back.

The machine begins to whirr.

CUT TO:

33 SC33. INT. SANDRA WHITE'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY

SANDRA is now standing, squaring up top DARIUS, who's looking at her coldly.

SANDRA

(Firmly) I was given a prophecy. My spirit guide told me that Stewart would die if he didn't make the payments. Was I wrong to give him that information?

DARIUS

In my opinion, everything you do is wrong.

SANDRA

In what way?

DARIUS

You're not talking to the dead, Sandra. People don't pass over and inherit strange, angelic powers.

SANDRA

(Smiles) You've obviously no experience of the spirit world.

DARIUS

I've done my fair share of séances, thanks. It took me too long to realise what I was actually dealing with.

SANDRA

You think we're all crazy.

DARIUS

I don't think you're making it up. But you're being consumed by forces far greater than anything on this Earth.

SANDRA

Then... if that's the case... you had better leave.

DARIUS

I'm not-

SANDRA

That's not a request, Mr Page.
(Beat) Goodbye.

Darius looks at her.

A horribly tense silence.

Then he nods, and leaves.

Sandra wanders back into the room, thoughtfully. Heading towards the mirror, she stares at her own reflection.

SANDRA

Three... Three... Three...

CUT TO:

34 SC34. EXT. DARIUS' HOUSE, GARDEN - DAY

KATIE's still perched on the doorstep enjoying her cigarette, staring into space.

She hears the whirr of the machine inside, tries to ignore it, but it's persistent.

Curious, she heads inside.

CUT TO:

35 SC35. INT. DARIUS' HOUSE, MACHINE ROOM - DAY

The machine's now fired up.

LILY lifts the fob watch off its hook, and, with a deep breath, she opens the door to the memory and steps through.

CUT TO:

36 SC36. INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

LILY cautiously enters through the room's main door.

LILY

Stewart...?

STEWART emerges from the en suite in his bathrobe, drying his hair with a towel.

STEWART

Hey, it's my main girl!

Gives her a hug and a kiss.

STEWART
I thought you'd gone home.

LILY
Sorry...?

STEWART
You said you had to be up early tomorrow...

LILY
Yeah, I... I changed my mind.

STEWART
Well that's just fine...

Kisses her again, moves in close.

STEWART (CONT'D)
I had a great night tonight.

LILY
Oh, yeah, I did too. Happy birthday.

STEWART
Dad's still at the bar with Madge. That's some hardcore downing!

They giggle.

STEWART
(Touching her face) Hey. You okay?

LILY
(Smiling) Yeah.

CUT TO:

37 SC37. INT. DARIUS' HOUSE, HALLWAY - DAY

KATIE heads over to the machine room door with purpose, fag in hand. She tries the handle - won't budge.

KATIE
(Under her breath) Shit...!

Tugs with both hands. Definitely locked. She bangs with her fist.

KATIE

(Shouting) Oi! Dillan! That you in there!

DILLAN arrives at the bottom of the stairs in a baggy t-shirt and boxers, hair everywhere, half asleep.

DILLAN

What's happenin'.

KATIE

What are you doing?!

DILLAN

... You shouted me.

KATIE

Give me a hand, I can't open the door!

DILLAN

Maybe your dad's working in there...

KATIE

He's out! (Bangs again) Lily! Lily is that you! (More banging) Let us in! Oi!

CUT TO:

38 SC38. INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

LILY and STEWART are still hugging, Lily looking completely content.

STEWART

You've not hugged me like this in ages...!

Lily just enjoys the peace. She lifts up the watch and risks a glance at the display - *2 minutes*.

She sighs.

STEWART (CONT'D)

What's with the watch? Do you have to leave?

LILY

No. (Pause) No...

CUT TO:

39 SC39. INT. DARIUS' HOUSE, HALLWAY - DAY

DILLAN is now pulling on the door handle as KATIE looks on.

DILLAN
It's no good, it won't budge!

KATIE
That's 'cus you're pulling on it
you moron, let me try!

DARIUS enters through the front door and wanders over.

DILLAN
Mr D!

DARIUS
What's going on?

KATIE
We can't get into the room!

DARIUS
What? (Tries the handle, looks at
Dillan) What have you done??

DILLAN
Me?!

KATIE
He hasn't done anything, I think
Lily's in there!

DARIUS
Oh no! (Bangs) Lily! Lily open
this door!

KATIE
Maybe she can't hear you. If she's
gone into the machine...

DARIUS
You should never have let her out
of your sight!

KATIE
Oh yeah like I'm gunna go with her
to the toilet!

DILLAN

Hey what's the big deal, she'll
come out when she's ready...

DARIUS

If she's loaded up a memory, she
may never come out! That's her
dead boyfriend in there!

KATIE

(Realising) She'd never do it!

DARIUS

She would!

DILLAN

Do what?

DARIUS

Trap herself inside the machine!
If she hasn't left the memory by
the time it terminates-

KATIE

She'll get trapped!

DARIUS

With Stewart forever! In a manner
of speaking!

Darius desperately tries to shoulder the door in.

DARIUS (CONT'D)

Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaargh!

No good.

CUT TO:

40 SC40. INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

LILY and STEWART are still in the embrace. Lily looks at
the fob watch - *1 minute*.

Stewart kisses her and breaks away.

STEWART

I must get to bed.

LILY

Okay.

STEWART
It's only a single...

Tears are building in Lily's eyes.

LILY
I'm just gunna... you know...
(Wipes a tear) Oh God.

STEWART
What's up?

Lily takes a deep breath.

LILY
You died.

STEWART
Wh... What...?

CUT TO:

41 SC41. INT. DARIUS' HOUSE, HALLWAY - DAY

DARIUS starts frantically kicking at the door to the machine room.

CUT TO:

42 SC42. INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

An emotional LILY is still talking to STEWART.

LILY
You threw yourself off a roof. You left me!

STEWART
What? Are you okay?

LILY
I realised I couldn't live without you. So I won't.

She steps forward and takes hold of his hand.

Stewart stares at her, perplexed, as thunder begins to rumble. Then sections of the hotel room start to break away.

LILY (CONT'D)

This is it.

Pause.

Stewart just stares at her, confused. Lily stares back, defiant.

As the hotel door crashes open! Enter DARIUS!

DARIUS

Lily!

LILY

(Shouting above the thunder) I'm staying!

DARIUS

No you're not!

He tries to drag her by the arm but she resists.

LILY

Stewart!

Stewart fades away.

LILY (CONT'D)

Stewart!!

DARIUS

Now!

Darius hurls her out of the door just as it slams shut. It disappears. The room has gone.

CUT TO:

43 SC43. INT. DARIUS' HOUSE, MACHINE ROOM - DAY

DARIUS and LILY crash to the floor. Lily wastes no time. She scrambles right back up and rushes to the door, which she yanks open.

There's nothing but a plain wall on the other side.

LILY

No! No, no, no, no!

She bangs her fist on the paint work in desperation, then breaks down.

LILY
(Crying) No...

Darius rises. He spots KATIE and DILLAN watching him from the doorway, unsure what to say or do.

He turns from them and steps over to Lily. He rubs her back affectionately, then takes the fob watch from her.

Lily reacts to none of this. Just cries.

Darius puts the watch back on its hook and hits a series of switches on the console. A display jumps up: *Password Protected*.

Then he leaves. Not even making eye contact with Katie or Dillan.

Lily continues to cry.

CUT TO:

44 SC44. EXT. YORK, SOMEWHERE ON THE WATERFRONT - NIGHT

DARIUS is leaning, arms folded, against the bridge, staring out across the water, deep in thought.

KATIE wanders over to him, puts her arm over his shoulder, and gives him an affectionate squeeze.

KATIE
Now then.

DARIUS
(Still looking across the water)
That Lily, look what she'd have missed, how beautiful is all this!

KATIE
It's well nice.

DARIUS
I don't care how bad things seem, there's always a way out. You don't try and kill yourself, I'm sorry.

KATIE
Harsh.

DARIUS
You don't agree?

KATIE
I dunno, it's still harsh. Most
people want to end it when they
lose someone close to them,
(beat), don't they.

DARIUS
Yeah. (Pause) Still. (Beat) We're
made broken, like cracked vases.
Doesn't mean we can't hold
beautiful flowers, whether
schizophrenic or just depressed...
do something and flourish.

KATIE
Oof, too deep father, too deep.

DARIUS
You know I'm right!

KATIE
(Wide grin) Aye.

Pause.

DARIUS
Lily's gone has she?

KATIE
Think so.

DARIUS
God bless her.

Darius and Katie continue to look out into the night and
the glowing city.

FADE OUT.

THE END

