

1. SCENE - MONOLOGUE

1 MARTIN: (CLOSE - CONFESSIONAL) I should begin by saying that I love you, Claire. Very much. You're smart, funny, beautiful, and you can do the worst, and therefore simultaneously the best, impression of Simon Cowell I've ever heard. You know that saying, "It's not you, it's me"? It's true. When I first saw you, wow, it took all my courage just to talk to you.

2. SCENE - GYM**FX – TREADMILLS.**

2 MARTIN: (NERVOUS, OUT OF BREATH, RUNNING) Hi, I'm Martin.

3 CLAIRE: Alright?

4 MARTIN Do you fancy maybe getting a coffee afterwards? Or another beverage?

5 CLAIRE: (ALSO RUNNING) Seriously? You're asking a girl out on a treadmill? What if I want to run away? How does that work?

6 MARTIN: OK, I'm sorry! I'll just go and...

7 CLAIRE: I'm joking! Coffee would be nice. Thank you.

8 MARTIN: Really? Wow!

9 CLAIRE: Yeah. I'm Claire by the- DON'T STOP RUNNING!

F/X: MARTIN FALLS OFF THE BACK OF THE TREADMILL.

1 MARTIN: Ow!

3. SCENE – MONOLOGUE

2 MARTIN: (CLOSE) I remember our first kiss, by the Thames.

4. SCENE – WATERLOO BRIDGE

FX - TRAFFIC. DISTANT TRAINS.

3 MARTIN: *It's known as the Ladies' Bridge as it was built by women during the war.* Though the most interesting thing about Waterloo Bridge is...

4 MARTIN/CLAIRE: [KISSING – MARTIN IS TAKEN BY SURPRISE]

5 CLAIRE: Sorry, just had to do that. You were saying?

6 MARTIN: Nope, it's gone.

5. SCENE - MONOLOGUE

7 MARTIN: (CLOSE) And there was the first time we, y'know...

6. SCENE – MARTIN’S BEDROOM.

1 MARTIN/CLAIRE: [POST-COITAL LAUGHTER/BREATHING]

2 CLAIRE: Oh wow!

3 MARTIN: Yeah! Wow! Hey – I just remembered that thing about Waterloo Bridge.

4 CLAIRE: [LAUGHS] Well tell me then!

5 MARTIN: It’s actually the station that’s named after the bridge, not the other way around.

6 CLAIRE: [LAUGHS. MOCK SEXILY] Mmm. Tell me more facts about London bridges. (MORE LAUGHTER/KISSING)

7. SCENE – MONOLOGUE (2 LINES OF CLAIRE 7A)

7 MARTIN: (CLOSE) I was the happiest man alive. You were even going to move in with me. And then. Well... They say that when the Persians make their exquisite, ornate carpets they would always weave one minute flaw in, because only God could make something perfect. I guess I spotted a tiny misplaced knot of wool in you. You know how it is when you suddenly notice that someone has a verbal tic like they say “like” all the like time, like? Well, with you it was the phrase...

1 CLAIRE: When I lived in Peru.

2 MARTIN: (CLOSE) Let's listen to that again.

F/X: DICTAPHONE REWINDING.

3 CLAIRE: When I lived in Peru, I...

4 MARTIN: (CLOSE) And again.

F/X: DICTAPHONE REWINDING.

5 CLAIRE: When I lived in Peru, I so didn't feel...

6 MARTIN: (CLOSE) And again.

F/X: DICTAPHONE REWINDING.

7 CLAIRE: When I lived in Peru.

8 MARTIN: (CLOSE) Don't get me wrong – at first it was truly interesting to hear your stories about your year in Peru and see your photos of your year in Peru. And you did use to say...

9 CLAIRE: I wish you'd been there.

10 MARTIN: (CLOSE) But pretty soon it seemed as though everything could be linked to Peru.

8. SCENE - MARTIN'S FLAT.

1 MARTIN: There you go. Happy birthday.

2 CLAIRE: [GASP] I love it!

3 MARTIN: Really?

4 CLAIRE: Risky move buying a woman a dress, but seriously: excellent work! And it's the same colour as the traditional garments of the Incas.

5 MARTIN: Oh yes. So it is.

F/X: WIPE.

9. SCENE – SCOTTISH MOUNTAIN-SIDE

FX - BIRDS AND WIND NOISE.

1 CLAIRE: Loch Ness is so beautiful.

2 MARTIN: Yes. No sign of the monster I'm afraid.

3 CLAIRE: Mm – the mountains really remind me of the Andes.

4 MARTIN: [SLIGHTLY ANNOYED REACTION SOUND]

F/X: WIPE.

10. SCENE - RESTAURANT

**FX - DINERS CHATTING, CUTLERY AND GLASSES
CLINKING.**

5 CLAIRE: Mmm! This sea bass tastes like sudado. That's this fish dish we used to eat when I lived in Peru.

6 MARTIN: [SLIGHTLY ANNOYED REACTION SOUND]

F/X: WIPE.

11. SCENE - MONOLOGUE

1 MARTIN: (CLOSE) (MORE IRRITATED) And then it seemed that everything in the world could be divided into two. Things that were like things in Peru. And things that weren't like things in Peru. Both were equally worthy of comment.

12. SCENE – RESTAURANT 2

**FX - DINERS CHATTING, CUTLERY AND GLASSES
CLINKING.**

2 CLAIRE: This fish is so moist.

3 MARTIN: Yes, it's almost like it's spent its whole life underwater.

4 CLAIRE: [LAUGHING] Mmm. But it's cooked very differently from the fish we used to eat when I lived in Peru.

13.

SCENE - MONOLOGUE

1 MARTIN: (CLOSE) So why couldn't I just tell you? We were sensible, mature adults. But it's like when someone has a bit of food stuck on their face – you have to tell them immediately. If you wait till the coffees come round they'll know you've been staring at that piece of broccoli since the starters. And maybe it would have meant admitting that you weren't perfect. I mean, we even had the same second favourite type of jam. But I made it worse. I pulled at the thread. I'm not proud but I'd play a game with myself. You know Six Degrees of Separation – the theory that we're all linked to anyone in the world via just six people? I used to try to find the strangest subject that you could then link to Peru. I called it Six Degrees of Se-Peru-ation.

14.

SCENE - MARTIN'S FLAT

**FX - NEWSPAPER PAGES TURNING. SUNDAY
MORNING RADIO.**

- 1 CLAIRE: (A SERIES OF DISCONNECTED THOUGHTS AS SHE READS) "Scientists spent over a billion pounds on the world's largest particle accelerator"
- 2 MARTIN Step one.
- 3 CLAIRE Accelerator! I need to pick up my car from the garage.
- 4 MARTIN: Two.
- 5 CLAIRE: Natalya's says there's a garage revival night she wants to go to. She's so hip...
- 6 MARTIN: Three.
- 7 CLAIRE: According to my Gran there's a new drug for hip pain that's just finishing medical trials...
- 8 MARTIN: Four.
- 9 CLAIRE: But I wouldn't fancy being a human guinea pig like that...
- 10 MARTIN: Five.
- 11 CLAIRE: Do you know I once ate guinea pig when I lived in Peru?
- 12 MARTIN Jackpot.

**F/X: FRUIT MACHINE JACKPOT BELLS, SIRENS
AND PAYOUT.**

15. SCENE - MONOLOGUE

1 MARTIN: (CLOSE) And of course there were your friends from when you lived in Peru.

16. SCENE – PUB

2 CLAIRE: This is Simon and Natalya.

3 MARTIN: Hi. Hi.

4 NATALYA: (EARLY 30S, EXOTIC ACCENT) Hello, Martin.

5 SIMON: (EARLY 30S, CONDESCENDING TRAVEL BORE) Martin – it's good to meet you. So, have you travelled much?

6 MARTIN: Er, I went inter-railing once when I was a student.

7 NATALYA: Oh, trains are just the most wonderful way to explore a country. Do you remember that train we all took on the way to Machu Picchu?

8 CLAIRE: Oh yes.

9 NATALYA: It felt so special and humble to be sitting amongst peasant folk, simply taking their chickens to market.

- 1 CLAIRE: Those chickens! They never stopped, did they?
- 2 SIMON/NATALYA/CLAIRE: (LAUGHTER AND CHICKEN IMPRESSIONS)
- 3 MARTIN: (A BEAT LATER) (SLIGHTLY FORCED LAUGHTER)
- 4 SIMON: Yes, it was a shame that when we got there there were so many tourists.

17. SCENE - MONOLOGUE

- 5 MARTIN: (CLOSE) "To travel", of course, being one of those irregular verbs. "I am a traveller", "you are a tourist".

18. SCENE - PUB (16 CONTINUED).

- 6 SIMON: So, how far did your inter-railing take you, Martin?
- 7 MARTIN: Paris.
- 8 SIMON: Oh... Well, in the words of Paul Theroux, "I have seldom heard a train go by and not wished I was on it."
- 9 MARTIN: (LOW) Or preferably under it.
- 10 CLAIRE: What?
- 11 MARTIN: Just... nothing. I'll get some more drinks. Could be a long night.
- 12 SIMON: Now, who remembers those llamas?
- 13 SIMON/NATALYA/CLAIRE: (LAUGHTER/LLAMA IMPRESSIONS).

19.

SCENE - MONOLOGUE

1 MARTIN: (CLOSE) No wonder Captain Scott was so pissed off when he found Amundsen had beaten him to the South Pole. On the long walk back to his death Scott was probably picturing the dinner party the smug git would be giving back in Oslo: “Ja, of course everyone’s going to the South Pole these days...” I know, I know, this was my problem, Claire, not yours. I was just jealous. Insecure even – why would you want to be with me? You were even born abroad in Canada. Dual nationality meant you had two passports years before I even had one. Then while you were going off around the world with a backpack, I was going to Tesco in a hatchback. But I really didn’t want this to affect our relationship. If I could just focus on the rest of the carpet, not this misplaced thread – then I’d be ready for you to move in with me.

20.**SCENE - MARTIN'S FLAT.**

- 1 CLAIRE: I thought you wanted this, babe.
- 2 MARTIN: I do, but, are you sure?
- 3 CLAIRE: The London branch really wants me. But more than that I'm tired of schlepping down here, or making you go up to Manchester just to spend a weekend with me. I want to wake up every morning and see your face – all stubbly and drooling – but next to me. But only if you're ready.
- 4 MARTIN: I guess I still can't quite believe you want to be with me. Look at me: I'm un-ambitious.
- 5 CLAIRE: You're contented.
- 6 MARTIN: I'm un-travelled.
- 7 CLAIRE: You love home.
- 8 MARTIN: I'm a terrible lover.
- 9 CLAIRE: Yeah, that's true.
- 10 MARTIN Hey!
- 11 CLAIRE/MARTIN LAUGHTER

21. SCENE - MONOLOGUE

1 MARTIN: (CLOSE) I guess the differences between us could be highlighted by our respective attitudes to our careers.

22. SCENE – IT OFFICE

FX - TYPING, QUIET CONVERSATIONS, TELS.

F/X: DOOR KNOCK.

2 MARTIN: You wanted to see me, Julian?

3 JULIAN: (OLDER, AVUNCULAR) Ah yes, come in, Martin. Have a seat.

F/X: DOOR CLOSING. OFFICE NOISE NOW MUTED.

4 MARTIN: If it's about those bugs we'll have a new version out next week.

5 JULIAN: No, it's not that. As you're probably aware, there's been a downturn here at FSR. Like a lot of companies, to cut costs we're outsourcing our IT department overseas – in our case to Tanzania.

6 MARTIN: Oh. I'm kind of settled here in London.

7 JULIAN: No, I'm afraid we're making you redundant.

8 MARTIN: Redundant?

9 JULIAN: You've been here for ten years now, right?

1 MARTIN: Since I graduated.

2 JULIAN: So that means your pay-off would be around thirty thousand pounds. A lot of people view this kind of situation as an opportunity – to re-assess their lives, perhaps re-train to do something they really love.

3 MARTIN: But I love my job.

4 JULIAN: At your last appraisal you said you found it “dull and repetitive”, and that you felt “un-stretched and lacking any kind of a challenge”.

5 MARTIN: That’s what I loved.

23.

SCENE – MONOLOGUE

6 MARTIN: (CLOSE) So that was my career down the toilet. Whereas yours...

24. SCENE - MARTIN'S FLAT.

**F/X: CHAMPAGNE CORK POP. TWO GLASSES
POURED.**

1 MARTIN Congratulations!

2 CLAIRE: It's just an acting promotion while they reorganise after the redundancies. London said they'd wait for me, and because of the extra projects, I'll just – I'll get raise as soon as I get here.

3 MARTIN: That's brilliant news. But what about the stubble and drool every morning?

4 CLAIRE: It's only for a few months. Till then I guess we'll just have to make the most of these weekends. (THEY KISS)

Anyway, what was your work news?

5 MARTIN: Oh... Nothing really. Cheers.

F/X: GLASSES CHINK.

25. SCENE - MONOLOGUE

1 MARTIN: (CLOSE) I don't know why I didn't tell you. OK, I do know – it was just another example of your high-flyingness while I kind of chugged along. Anyway, I took Julian's advice. I re-assessed my life and I spent time doing something I really loved – having long lie-ins, watching daytime TV and playing video games in my dressing-gown.

26. SCENE - MARTIN'S FLAT.

F/X: VIDEO GAME BLEEPS, BANGS AND KEY CLICKS.

2 MARTIN: Yes! Haha! Gotcha!

F/X: MOBILE PHONE RING. ANSWERING BEEP.

3 MARTIN: Hello?

4 CLAIRE: (D) Hi, it's me. Are you at work?

5 MARTIN: Of course I'm at work.

6 CLAIRE: (D) What's that noise?

7 MARTIN: It's James. (TO "JAMES") Hey, James – what did I tell you about playing games in work hours?

F/X: TV SWITCHED OFF.

1 CLAIRE: (D) Anyway, listen – this weekend – London or Manchester?

2 MARTIN: Er, down here?

3 CLAIRE: (D) Fantastic. We can meet up with Simon and Natalya.

4 MARTIN: (UNENTHUSED) The Blah-lem Globetrotters.

5 CLAIRE: (D) Hey! Come on...

6 MARTIN: Sorry.

7 CLAIRE: (D) (LIKE THEY'RE DOING HIM A FAVOUR) Yeah, they said they'd show us their photos of Nepal.

8 MARTIN: T'rffic.

9 CLAIRE: (D) They said the Himalayas would really remind me of when I lived in Peru.

10 MARTIN: (TRYING TO HOLD IT TOGETHER) Peru... Yeah, I have to go now.

F/X: CALL END BEEP.

27.

SCENE - MONOLOGUE

1 MARTIN: (CLOSE) And then I just kind of flipped out. I felt like you all thought I was this Little Englander who hates foreign food and can't stand the heat and "no speaka da lingo", and the reason I was so annoyed was because it was true, OK? What is the point of spending a fortune going to loads of different places that all have a Starbucks now anyway, and then catching amoebic dysentery and getting robbed and being bitten by a llama, and then... I suddenly had this crazy idea to level the scores. Yeah? I would build my own globetrotting past. I would spend some of my redundancy money going somewhere exotic one week when you'd be in Manchester. And I would take loads of pictures – oh yeah, no just Photoshopping myself in front of Ayer's Rock – and put them in a fake ten-year-old photo album and write on it in massive bloody letters 'My Year Abroad'! So not only would I look well-travelled, but I'd also look like someone who hadn't then gone on and on about it for years. And then I'd take it out with us out to a restaurant and casually say, "Mmm. This fish is gorgeous. It's very much like the fish we used to eat when I lived in... when I lived in..."

28. SCENE - TRAVEL AGENT'S.

- 1 TRAVEL AGENT: (FEMALE, DEADPAN) So, you'd like to book a flight?
- 2 MARTIN: Yes.
- 3 TRAVEL AGENT: But you don't know where to?
- 4 MARTIN: No.
- 5 TRAVEL AGENT: Could you maybe pick a hemisphere?
- 6 MARTIN: OK, I want it to be somewhere exotic, like you'd say "Oh yes, I used to live in... wherever". Basically I'm looking for somewhere I can airily boast about having been to.
- 7 TRAVEL AGENT: Airily.
- 8 MARTIN: Flying out on Monday, back on Friday. Preferably no jet lag.
- 9 TRAVEL AGENT: There's this big place south of here called Africa.
- 10 MARTIN: Perfect! Africa!
- 11 TRAVEL AGENT: Nigeria? Ghana? Senegal? Tanzania? Uganda...?
- 12 MARTIN: Tanzania?! What is there to see in Tanzania?
- 13 TRAVEL AGENT: Safaris? That's like wild animals.
- 14 MARTIN: Good.
- 15 TRAVEL AGENT: Mount Kilimanjaro. That's a mountain.

1 MARTIN: Excellent. What about fish? Do they eat fish in Tanzania?

2 TRAVEL AGENT: It is by the sea.

3 MARTIN: In that case, I'll have a return to Tanzania please.

F/X: PRINTER, PAPER BEING TORN OFF.

29.

SCENE - MONOLOGUE

4 MARTIN: (CLOSE) There were a few practical details to be sorted out before I left. Visa – luckily my passport didn't have too long to run, so by the next time you might see it I'd have a new one without any incriminating stamps in it. Then vaccinations: typhoid, tetanus, diphtheria, yellow fever, polio, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, meningitis A, meningitis C, fondue set, cuddly toy... And I'd need another camera as otherwise any photos I took at the weekend with you would be interspersed with photos that were supposedly taken a decade previously. Oh yes, I really had thought of everything.

30. SCENE - CAMERA SHOP.**F/X: SHOP DOOR OPEN AND CLOSE (WITH BELL).**

1 TIM: (KEEN BUT A BIT GEEKY) Hi, Martin. What can I do for you this time? No, don't tell me. We've got the Nikon D700 back in stock – 51 point A.F. system. Or take a look at this – Canon EOS 70D – dual pixel CMOS sensor, 7 f.p.s. full res – feel how light it is [*SAID: NICK-on, EE-oss, SEE-moss*]

2 MARTIN: Yeah, I'm actually looking for something a bit more point-and-click.

3 TIM: Point and... click?

4 MARTIN: Yes, it's for... my niece.

5 TIM: What about this Olympus? Auto-focus, automatic flash, red-eye reduction.

6 MARTIN: Yeah, have you got anything without all that stuff on it?

F/X: RUMMAGING IN BOXES.

7 TIM: We've got one of these – Bulgarian import. Don't sell many, to be honest. They make all your photos look like they were taken ten years ago.

8 MARTIN: Perfect!

F/X: CAMERA CLICK.

31.

SCENE - MARTIN'S FLAT.**F/X: DRAWERS BEING OPENED AND CLOSED.**

1 MARTIN: OK, time to pack. Socks – four pairs. Pants – four pairs. T-shirts: Arctic Monkeys – too recent. Pulp – OK. The Streets – too recent. Radiohead's fourth album – just about OK. Coventry City replica shirt, City Link sponsors – too recent. Coventry City replica shirt, Subaru sponsors – correct era.

SCENE 31A**F/X: KEY IN DOOR. DOOR OPENING.**

2 CLAIRE: Hi babe!

**F/X: SUITCASE CATCHES BEING CLICKED SHUT
AND SUITCASE PUT BACK ON TOP OF WARDROBE.**

3 MARTIN: Hi! (KISS) You're early. Just, er... tidying up. Just...I wanted the place to be nice for you.

4 CLAIRE: I got you a present!

5 MARTIN: Oh, thank you.

F/X: PRESENT BEING UNWRAPPED

6 MARTIN: Waterloo Bridge! That is beautiful. Thank you. (KISS)

- 1 CLAIRE: I thought you could hang it in your – our bedroom. So when we wake up together here every morning it's the first thing we see. I felt bad about delaying moving in, but it's just a few more months.
- 2 MARTIN: Yeah. Wow...
- 3 CLAIRE: And did you know Waterloo Bridge (MOCK SEXILY) has got five arches, each spanning seventy-one metres...?
- 4 MARTIN/CLAIRE: Mmm! [LAUGHTER/KISSING]

32.**SCENE - MONOLOGUE**

- 1 MARTIN: (CLOSE) It was then that I started to have doubts. What the hell was I doing? So, I made a pact with myself. If you mentioned Peru at any point that weekend, I'd go. If not, I'd cancel everything and learn to live with myself. So, did you mention Peru? Did you heck. By Saturday night I'd lost count how many times I'd struck out on Se-Peru-ation, and by Sunday evening I was getting desperate.

33. SCENE - MARTIN'S FLAT.

1 MARTIN: I thought maybe we could go to that fish restaurant tonight.

2 CLAIRE: (TIRED) Can we just order pizza?

3 MARTIN: I know. Let's invite Simon and Natalya round.

4 CLAIRE: Let's just watch TV.

F/X: TV BEING SWITCHED ON.

5 ANNOUNCER: (TV) And now on BBC1, "Ski Sunday".

GRAMS: "SKI SUNDAY" THEME.

6 MARTIN: (GETTING DESPERATE) Wow – look at those mountains.
Remind you of anything?

7 CLAIRE: Are you all right?

34. SCENE – MONOLOGUE

8 MARTIN: (CLOSE) It was a sign, right? I should cancel. I hadn't wanted to go anyway. And then...

35. SCENE - MARTIN'S FLAT.

1 ANNOUNCER: (TV) And now on BBC1, in a change to the scheduled programme, "Are You Being Served?"

GRAMS: "ARE YOU BEING SERVED?" THEME.

2 CLAIRE: (ENTHUSIASTIC) Oh fantastic! I used to watch this all the time when I lived in Peru.

3 MARTIN Bingo.

4 CLAIRE John Inman would say, "Soy libre!" Now, what did Mrs. Slocombe call her pussy...

35A SCENE - MONOLOGUE

5 MARTIN: (CLOSE) So, thanks to Mrs Slocombe's pussy, I found myself on a plane to Dar es Salaam.

F/X: JET ENGINES FLYING OVER (L TO R).

36. SCENE - TANZANIAN STREET.

**FX - SOUNDSCAPE OF ABSOLUTE CHAOS –
CARS DRIVING, CAR HORNS HONKING, PEOPLE
SHOUTING, BEGGING, SELLING...**

1 MARTIN: Oh. My. God.

2 TANZANIAN #1: You buy my fruit?

3 MARTIN: What, I....

4 TANZANIAN #2: You change money. Best rate.

**F/X: HEAVY BREATHING, FAST HEARTBEAT, THE
STREET SOUNDS BECOME DISTORTED.**

5 MARTIN: No, I...

6 TANZANIAN #3: [*“Out of my way!” in Swahili*]

7 TANZANIAN #4: Water, sir? *You thirsty? Very hot!*

F/X: MOPED WHIZZING PAST.

8 MARTIN: Hey!

9 TANZANIAN #5: [*Begging for money in Swahili.*]

10 MARTIN: I... no sorry, I...I don't have any

11 TAXI DRIVER: Taxi, sir? Taxi?

1 MARTIN: Yes. Taxi! Taxi!

**F/X: CAR DOOR SLAM. OUTDOORS IS NOW
MUTED SOMEWHAT.**

2 TAXI DRIVER: Where you go, sir?

3 MARTIN: Where do I want to go?

37. SCENE - MONOLOGUE

4 MARTIN: (CLOSE) I realised I'd spent so long working out the details of how I would fool you that I'd neglected to think of what I would actually do when I got there.

38. SCENE - TAXI (SC 36 CONTINUED).

5 MARTIN: Um, a hotel?

6 TAXI DRIVER Yes, sir.

F/X: CAR DRIVES OFF.

39. SCENE - HOTEL ROOM – OPULENT SILENCE.**F/X: KEY CARD. DOOR OPENING OVER PLUSH
CARPET.**

1 JAFFARI: (TANZANIAN MALE, OK-ISH ENGLISH) Your room, sir.

2 MARTIN: Thank you.

3 JAFFARI: Air conditioning, minibar, telephone room service, laundry
service, satellite television.

**F/X: TV SWITCHED ON – INDISTINCT
BACKGROUND**

4 MARTIN: Thank you. Here...

5 JAFFARI: Thank you, sir. Heri yako heri yangu – your happiness is my
happiness.

6 MARTIN: Yeah, good luck with that.

7 ANNOUNCER: (TV) It's "Bargain Hunt".

GRAMS: START OF "BARGAIN HUNT" THEME.

40. SCENE - MONOLOGUE

1 MARTIN: (CLOSE) And yes, I saw the irony. Of course I did. I'd just flown five thousand miles to be somewhere exactly like home, only with more TV channels. But when I looked out of the window I'd never felt so alone. When you went to Peru, there was a ready-made network of other Brits to go exploring with. I'd have even welcomed Simon with open arms. Still, those photos weren't going to take themselves.

41. SCENE - TANZANIAN STREET.

FX - TRAFFIC, SHOUTING ETC.

2 MARTIN: OK, typical street scene with exotic fruit stall.

F/X: CAMERA CLICK.

42. SCENE - WATERFRONT. SEAGULLS, SHIP'S HORN.

3 MARTIN: Obligatory selfie against the city skyline, taking care to stand in front of the Benjamin William Mkapa Pension Tower built in the last decade.

F/X: CAMERA CLICK.

43. SCENE - TANZANIAN STREET MARKET.

1 MARTIN: Typical street scene with weird cooked food stall.

F/X: CAMERA CLICK.

2 MARTIN: Excuse me. What actually is this?

3 STALLHOLDER: (TANZANIAN MAN, POOR ENGLISH) Fried termite.

4 MARTIN: Er, and these?

5 STALLHOLDER: Goat's testicles.

6 MARTIN: Yeah, I might eat next door, actually.

44. SCENE - MCDONALD'S

**FX - BURGER FLIPPERS SCRAPING, FRIES
FRYING, FRY BASKETS RATTLING, ELECTRONIC
TILLS BEEPING.**

GRAMS: AMERICAN ROCK/POP.

7 BURGER MAN: (TANZANIAN MAN) You want fries with that?

8 MARTIN: Oh yes...

45. SCENE - MONOLOGUE

1 MARTIN: (CLOSE) And yes, the Big Mac gave me the trots. I was also royally ripped off for everything I bought and involved in an incident with a moped which led me to write to the editor of the Rough Guide to Tanzania, suggesting a correction to the “fact” that Tanzanians drive on the left, when Tanzanians actually drive on any part of the road, pavement or Englishmen’s feet they darn well choose. Tanzania was also way bigger than I thought, so I couldn’t do a safari or Mount Kilimanjaro that week – Dar es Salaam would have to do. I was, however, stoically ticking off the photo opportunities – just time for a few more on my last evening.

46. SCENE - TANZANIAN STREET.

2 MARTIN: (READING FROM GUIDE BOOK) “A must-see attraction is St Joseph’s Cathedral.” OK, yep, very nice. (TO LOCAL) Excuse me?

3 TANZANIAN #6: Yeah?

4 MARTIN: You take photo of me? Point and click?

5 TANZANIAN #6: OK.

(SCENE CONTINUES AT SC 50)

47. SCENE - MONOLOGUE

1 MARTIN: (CLOSE) The only thing that kept me going that week was thinking of that Tanzanian restaurant rumoured to be opening in Manchester in a few months' time.

F/X: HARP GLISSANDO.

48. SCENE – RESTAURANT

FX - DINERS CHATTING, CUTLERY AND GLASSES CLINKING.

2 MARTIN: (FANTASY: HAMMING IT UP) Mmm! This fish is gorgeous. It's very much like the fish I used to eat when I lived in Tanzania.

3 CLAIRE: (FANTASY: GOBSMACKED) You lived in Tanzania? But you've never mentioned it!

4 MARTIN: I suppose I didn't want to be banging on about it all the time.

5 CLAIRE: Wow! You're so well-travelled! And such a dark horse!

6 MARTIN: Yes, I suppose I am. Funnily enough I came across this old photo album the other day.

49. SCENE - MONOLOGUE

7 MARTIN: (CLOSE) But then I was snapped out of my daydream.

F/X: NEEDLE YANKED FROM RECORD.

50. SCENE - TANZANIAN STREET – CONT FROM SC 46

1 TANZANIAN #6: Ha! Loser! (RUNNING)

2 MARTIN: Hey! My camera! (RUNNING)

3 TANZANIAN #6: Smile!

F/X: CAMERA CLICK.

51. SCENE - MONOLOGUE

4 MARTIN: (CLOSE) I never stood a chance of catching him. So, all that effort and expense – and toilet paper, and nothing to show for it. My flight was first thing so I holed up in the hotel bar that evening. Travelling was not for me.

52.

SCENE - SWANKY HOTEL BAR.**FX - MUTED CONVERSATION, GLASSES****CHINKING, EASY-LISTENING PIANIST.**

1 JAFFARI: Your beer, sir.

2 MARTIN: Thanks. I need this. This week I've had my camera stolen, been run over and soiled myself. Cheers.

3 JAFFARI: You know, sir, we say "iza likizidi, kucha kunakaribia".
When it becomes darker, dawn is near.

4 MARTIN: (INTRIGUED) Yeah, we say something similar...

F/X: MOBILE PHONE RING. ANSWERING BEEP.

5 MARTIN: Sorry, I'd better... Hello?

6 CLAIRE: (D) Hi, it's me. Where are you?

7 MARTIN: Er, I'm down the pub. I really miss you, Claire.

8 CLAIRE: (D) What's the matter, babe? Are they overworking you?
Because I'll come right down there and...

9 MARTIN: No, no, really. Just been a long week.

10 CLAIRE: (D) Hey, can you hear a delay on this call?

11 MARTIN: Er, yeah – I must be in a reception dead spot or something.

12 CLAIRE: (D) OK. Listen, I was just ringing about the weekend...

F/X: TRAY OF DRINKS BEING DROPPED.

- 1 MARTIN: Aggh!
- 2 JAFFARI: I'm so sorry, sir. Very sorry.
- 3 MANAGER: *[Something angry in Swahili] You idiot – can't you do anything right?*
- 4 JAFFARI: *[Something apologetic in Swahili] I'm sorry, sir.*
- 5 MARTIN: I'll call you back, Claire. Quiz night's getting a bit tasty.

F/X: CALL END BEEP.

- 6 MANAGER: (TANZANIAN, VERY GOOD ENGLISH) I do apologise, sir. This employee won't be bothering you again.
- 7 MARTIN: Really, it was my fault. I wasn't looking and I stuck my leg out.
- 8 MANAGER: *[Something dismissive in Swahili] Get out! You're fired!*
- 9 JAFFARI: *[Something angry and rude in Swahili] Mama kuku. Kibuzi mwarika. Unatombwa na farasi.*
- 10 MARTIN: Where's he going?
- 11 MANAGER: He will not bother you again. Another beer on the house?
- 12 MARTIN: No. No.

F/X: MARTIN RUNNING. DOOR OPENING AND CLOSING.

52 A F/X: STREET SOUNDS.

1 MARTIN: Wait! Wait! That wasn't your fault.

2 JAFFARI: I spill drinks on you.

3 MARTIN: But I wasn't looking where I... Look, I can get your job back for you.

4 JAFFARI: I do not think so. I call the manager's mother a... chicken, and say he is a stupid goat and that a horse is, er, doing sex with him?

5 MARTIN/JAFFARI: [LAUGHTER]

6 MARTIN: That's pretty inventive.

7 JAFFARI: Besides, I was a terrible waiter. They were always warning me.

8 MARTIN: But I've heard unemployment's really high here.

9 JAFFARI: I know. But I must find something. I have two children and my wife died last year.

10 MARTIN: I'm so sorry. And I'm going on about having my camera stolen.

- 11 JAFFARI: I'm sorry you have a bad time in my country. I can show you good parts!
- 12 MARTIN: No, I'm going to the airport first thing.
- 1 JAFFARI: Then come back another time.
- 2 MARTIN: I don't think so.
- 3 JAFFARI: And you don't even have photos to show your friends.
- 4 MARTIN: No. [BEAT] I suppose I could try and take the photos again. Look, this might sound weird, but if I come back next week, can I stay with you? I can pay you what I was paying the hotel.
- 5 JAFFARI: You are a sex tourist?
- 6 MARTIN: No! No! I'm not even a sex traveller. Sorry – irregular verb joke.
- 7 JAFFARI: I live in two room shack. I have no air conditioning or satellite TV or European food.
- 8 MARTIN: Yeah. I think that's what I want. I'm Martin by the way.
- 9 JAFFARI: Jaffari. You are a very strange man. Why do you do this?
- 10 MARTIN: Well, when the Persians make their carpets, they always put in one tiny flaw...

F/X: JET ENGINES FLYING OVER (R TO L).

53.

SCENE - MARTIN'S FLAT.**F/X: KEY IN DOOR. DOOR OPENING.**

1 CLAIRE: Hi, babe.

2 MARTIN: Hi. (THEY KISS)

F/X: DOOR CLOSING.

3 CLAIRE: How was your week?

4 MARTIN: The usual. Only just got in.

5 CLAIRE: Hey... You look really... tanned.

6 MARTIN: Tanned!?

7 CLAIRE: Yeah. I know what you've been up to.

8 MARTIN: (WORRIED) You do?

9 CLAIRE: You've been on the sunbed at the gym, haven't you?

10 MARTIN: Er, yes. Caught me out.

11 CLAIRE: I guess we're all full of surprises. So, is this tan all over?

12 MARTIN: Why don't you take a look?

13 CLAIRE/MARTIN: (GIGGLES AND KISSES).

54.

SCENE - MONOLOGUE

1 MARTIN: (CLOSE) So, next Monday morning – back to Tanzania, armed with two bottles of factor fifty. Had to replace the camera first of course. I explained what an airhead my niece was, but the guy in the shop was still pretty surprised that someone had actually wanted to steal it. My second trip went a lot better...

F/X: JET ENGINES FLYING OVER (L TO R).

55.

SCENE - JAFFARI'S SHACK

**FX - TANZANIAN MUSIC ON RADIO. CHILDREN
PLAYING IN NEXT ROOM.**

2 JAFFARI: So, your room is all right?

3 MARTIN: It's great – are you sure you're all OK in the other room?

4 JAFFARI: Ujamaa haukusanyi, hugawia. A family that does not gather together will be divided.

5 MARTIN: Well, that's very kind of you, thank you. I better turn in now. Lot of photos to take tomorrow...

F/X: CAMERA CLICK.

56.

SCENE - TANZANIAN STREET SCENE.

1 JAFFARI: Now if you look this way – my favourite view in the whole city.

2 MARTIN: Wow. All the way down to the sea. I'd have never known to come up here.

F/X: CAMERA CLICK.

57.

SCENE - TANZANIAN STREET SCENE.

3 MARTIN: Mmm. That's delicious. What is it?

4 JAFFARI: Um, how do you say? Butter... butter...

5 MARTIN: It's cooked in butter?

6 JAFFARI: What turns into butterfly?

7 MARTIN: Caterpillar?

8 JAFFARI: Caterpillar!

9 MARTIN: Hmm. (TO SOMEONE ELSE). Excuse me? Two more caterpillars?

F/X: CAMERA CLICK.

58.

SCENE - OUTDOOR FOOTBALL MATCH.**FX -SCUFFING AND KICKING OF BALL.****CHILDREN'S SHOUTS.**

1 MARTIN: Oof! Off-side! Jaffari – tell them! Off-side!

2 JAFFARI: [LAUGHING. IN SWAHILI AND ENGLISH] *Children! Let him win! He is our guest! Let him win!*

3 MARTIN: [LAUGHING] Yeah, come on – whose ball is it anyway?

4 JAFFARI: I think whoever scored the hat-trick gets to keep the ball, so that would be my barefoot eight-year-old daughter.

5 MARTIN: Yeah, OK, fair point. Here you go.

F/X: THE GAME RESUMES WITH A KICK.

6 MARTIN/JAFFARI/CHILDREN: [LAUGHTER]

F/X: CAMERA CLICK.

59.

SCENE - JAFFARI'S SHACK**FX - TANZANIAN MUSIC ON RADIO.**

1 MARTIN: Mmm. That fish was delicious.

2 JAFFARI: Ashante. Thank you. You have taken some good photos this week?

3 MARTIN: Yeah, don't they look great?

**F/X: SERIES OF BEEPS AS HE SCROLLS
THROUGH.**

4 JAFFARI: Um. Yeah... Some of these are a little out of focus. And you know, now you can get cameras that get rid of red-eye.

5 MARTIN: Yeah, I know.

6 JAFFARI: Er, OK. And no one robs you, or runs over you this week? And you do not, er, soil yourself?

7 MARTIN: No, all fine on that front, thanks.

8 JAFFARI: I am so happy that you have had a good time here.

9 MARTIN: (SURPRISED AT HIMSELF) Yeah. Yeah, me too.

10 JAFFARI: But you have to go back home again soon, and there is so much you haven't seen. The wild animals. Mount Kilimanjaro. There's a real cornucopia of sights.

1 MARTIN: Cornucopia?

2 JAFFARI: It is really helping my English you being here – maybe that will make it easier for me to find a job. And the kids love having you around.

3 MARTIN: I guess I could do with some safari photos. Maybe I could come back again for just one more week? Same deal?

4 JAFFARI: Sure.

F/X: JET ENGINES FLYING OVER (R TO L).

60.

SCENE - MONOLOGUE

5 MARTIN: (CLOSE) And before I knew it, just one more week turned into just a few more weeks. I got into a new routine. Late Sunday afternoon I would wave you off on your way back to Manchester.

SCENE 60 - A

6 CLAIRE: Bye babe! (KISS)

7 MARTIN: Bye!

F/X: DOOR SLAM.

F/X: SUITCASE CLICKS.

SCENE 60 - B - MONOLOGUE

1 MARTIN: (CLOSE) Then grab my suitcase and hotfoot it to Heathrow for the 19:20 night flight, touching down 7am local time.

F/X: JET ENGINES FLYING OVER (L TO R).

2 MARTIN: (CLOSE) Like any commuter I had every stage of the journey timed down to the bare minimum. I spent Monday to Friday morning with Jaffari and his family, soaking up the real African life. Then back on the 08:45, landing 16:40, just in time to wait for you back at my flat.

F/X: JET ENGINES FLYING OVER (R TO L).

SCENE 60 – C

F/X: KEY IN DOOR.

3 CLAIRE: Hi babe!

4 MARTIN: (OUT OF BREATH) Hi! (KISS)

5 CLAIRE: Are you out of breath?

6 MARTIN: Just... excited to see you.

SCENE 60 - D MONOLOGUE

1 MARTIN: (CLOSE) And I took an old laptop over and brought fresh batteries each week, so as well as helping Jaffari with his English, I could teach him IT skills too – maybe even get him a job at my old firm in Tanzania.

F/X: JET FLYING OVER (L TO R).

61. SCENE - JAFFARI'S SHACK.

F/X: COMPUTER PING!

2 JAFFARI: My first email!

3 MARTIN: Cool.

4 JAFFARI: What is Viagra?

5 MARTIN: Ah...

62. SCENE - MONOLOGUE

6 MARTIN: (CLOSE) The weeks turned into months as I went through my redundancy money, seeing more of the country, including a safari in the Serengeti.

63. SCENE - ON SAFARI**FX - EXOTIC BIRD CRIES, INSECT NOISES.****F/X: FOOTSTEPS OCCASIONALLY SNAPPING TWIGS.**

1 MARTIN: I can't get over how beautiful your country is.

2 JAFFARI: Thank you. Me too.

3 MARTIN: And this is nothing like seeing animals in a zoo – you're really...

4 JAFFARI: Shh. We must be very quiet. He is very close.

F/X: V. TENTATIVE FOOTSTEPS TIPTOEING THRU UNDERGROWTH.**F/X: V. LOUD MOBILE PHONE RING. FUMBLING TO SILENCE IT.**

5 MARTIN: Shit.

F/X: ANIMAL CRIES OF ALARM. BIRDS' WINGS FLAP AS FLY AWAY.**F/X: FIERCE ROAR.**

6 MARTIN: Aaagh!

7 JAFFARI: Martin! Run!

F/X: PURSUIT THROUGH JUNGLE – FRANTIC FOOTSTEPS, TWIGS SNAPPING.**F/X: JET ENGINES FLYING OVER (R TO L).**

64. SCENE - MARTIN'S FLAT.

1 CLAIRE: Ugh! It doesn't look like a dog bite.

2 MARTIN: Great big brute he was.

3 CLAIRE: And this happened outside the newsagent's? And then it ate your mobile so I couldn't get in touch with you all week?

4 MARTIN: It's a jungle out there.

F/X: JET ENGINES FLYING OVER (L TO R).

65. SCENE - JAFFARI'S SHACK.

FX - TANZANIAN MUSIC ON RADIO.

5 JAFFARI: I'm sorry, but if you try to climb Mount Kilimanjaro in three days you will die of altitude sickness. It can't be done.

6 MARTIN: But who's going to believe that I spent a year here and I don't have a photo of myself at the summit?

7 JAFFARI: I could Photoshop something for you.

8 MARTIN: Maybe. I can't come out here much longer – Claire will be moving in soon.

- 1 JAFFARI: If you could stay here for a weekend that would give you just enough time.
- 2 MARTIN: But I see Claire at the weekends. And this one's special – our Waterloo Bridge anniversary.
- 3 JAFFARI: Aaah. But I'm sorry. You need to acclimatise slowly to your new surroundings as you go up. Get into equilibrium. It's like a relationship, no? If something's not balanced, you're going to have problems.
- 4 MARTIN: Ha. Yeah, I guess all this is me acclimatising to Claire moving in.
- 5 JAFFARI: We have a saying: Mtu ana kufanya nini mtu ana kufanya.
- 6 MARTIN: You have a saying for everything. Er, what is it: A man has to um...
- 7 JAFFARI: A man's gotta do what a man's gotta do.
- 8 MARTIN/JAFFARI: [LAUGHTER]
- 9 JAFFARI: John Wayne was big over here. But Martin, I think you need to climb this mountain.
- 10 MARTIN: Yeah, me too, but how? (GASP) I've gotta get to the airport.

66.

SCENE - DAR ES SALAAM AIRPORT**FX – PEOPLE MILLING AND CHATTING, TANNOY
ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

- 1 MARTIN: Hi. Martin Abbott, flying back to London.
- 2 CHECK-IN MAN: (TANZANIAN) No!
- 3 MARTIN: The photo's nine years old, but it's definitely me. Look.
- 4 CHECK-IN MAN: No!
- 5 MARTIN: But I packed my bags myself, no one asked me to carry anything on for them – I know you're really big on that.
- 6 CHECK-IN MAN: No! There is a security alert in the UK. The airspace is closed. No flights in, no flights out. Next!
- 7 MARTIN: But my girlfriend thinks I'm in Tesco's. What will I tell her – I got lost in the pasta sauces?

(SCENE CONTINUES INTO PHONE CALL ...)

SCENE 66A F/X: MOBILE PHONE RING. ANSWERING BEEP.

- 1 MARTIN: Hello?
- 2 CLAIRE: (D) (BUNGED UP) Hi, it's me.
- 3 MARTIN: Hi, honey.
- 4 CLAIRE: (D) I'm phoning about the weekend.
- 5 MARTIN: Yeah, look, about the weekend...
- 6 CLAIRE: (D) I can't make it. I've got the flu.
- 7 MARTIN: Oh that's great news!
- 8 CLAIRE: (D) What?!
- 9 MARTIN: For the makers of flu remedies. For you, less so.
- 10 CLAIRE: (D) Martin, are we OK? Do you even want to see me?
- 11 MARTIN: Of course! We're OK. We're more than OK. I just hope you
feel better soon.
- 12 CLAIRE: (D) Thanks. What will you do now you've got a free
weekend?
- 13 MARTIN: Dunno. I might go for a walk.

67.

SCENE - TOP OF MOUNT KILIMANJARO.**FX - WIND EFFECT.****F/X: SEVERAL SETS OF FOOTSTEPS ON ROCKS.**

- 1 MARTIN: (BREATHLESS) Wow! That view is amazing!
- 2 JAFFARI: Well, Mount Kilimanjaro is the highest mountain in Africa. The highest free-standing mountain in the world.
- 3 MARTIN: You were right. I did need to climb it. Thank you.
- 4 JAFFARI: You can go back to Claire now? Feel equal?
- 5 MARTIN: Yes. Yes I can. (TO SOMEONE ELSE) Excuse me?
- 6 STEWART: (30S, IRISH, VERY PLEASANT) Yes, mate.
- 7 MARTIN: Could you take our picture please? Just point and click.
- 8 STEWART: Yeah, sure.

F/X: CAMERA CLICK.

- 9 STEWART: So what do you reckon?
- 10 MARTIN: Well it beats Scotland hands down. No offence!
- 11 STEWART: I know what you mean. I had this girlfriend who was always going on and on about how great Africa was. Every other sentence began, "When I lived in Africa."

- 1 MARTIN: I can see why she's not your girlfriend any more.
- 2 STEWART: I know. This is the perfect place for a honeymoon, isn't it?
This is Jane.
- 3 JANE: (30S, IRISH, SIMILARLY PLEASANT) Hi. Nice to meet you.
- 4 MARTIN: (RECOVERING NEATLY) Congratulations! Lovely to meet
you both...

68. SCENE - INSIDE BUS ON BUMPY TRACK.

- 5 STEWART: You know, Martin, Jane and I should meet up with you and
Claire back home – tell her what she missed out here.
- 6 JAFFARI: Ooh, that does sound nice, doesn't it Martin?
- 7 MARTIN: (PANICKING) Yes, that could be a bit tricky.
- 8 STEWART: We're not far from you.
- 9 MARTIN: We're quite busy at the moment.
- 10 JANE: And we'd love to hear about when she lived in Peru.
- 11 MARTIN: Yeah, she doesn't really like to talk about that.

69. SCENE - MONOLOGUE

1 MARTIN: (CLOSE) But I was beginning to see that it's hard not to. When something's been part of your life, you want to share it, particularly if it's something as amazing as climbing the highest mountain in Africa. It was actually hard not to tell Simon and Natalya all about it.

F/X: JET ENGINES FLYING OVER (R TO L).

70. SCENE - MARTIN'S FLAT.

GRAMS: DINNER PARTY MUSIC.

F/X: PHOTO ALBUM PAGES TURNING.

2 NATALYA: Yet more pictures of elephants – these were hard at work.

3 SIMON: The Nepalese use them like we'd use a JCB.

4 MARTIN: (ENTHRALLED) Amazing! They're so lucky. You know, African elephants can't be trained like that. (COVERING HIMSELF) I read somewhere.

5 CLAIRE: (POINTEDLY) Are you all right, Martin?

6 NATALYA: And the mountains of course. So beautiful.

7 MARTIN: Oh wow! They remind me of Mount... mountains in your photos of Peru, Claire.

1 CLAIRE: (GETTING TETCHY) Martin, can you sort our guests out with some drinks please?

2 NATALYA: I'm sorry, this probably isn't very interesting for you, Martin.

3 CLAIRE: Yes, come on, let's eat.

4 MARTIN: No, no. These photos are amazing, Natalya. So much more than just snapshots of things you're ticking off in a guidebook. You've really caught the essence of the country. It's beautiful.

5 NATALYA: (TOUCHED) Thank you.

6 SIMON: Not all she caught – she spent the last three days staple-gunned to the lavatory.

7 NATALYA: Simon!

8 MARTIN: Well, as Paul Theroux said, "Travel is glamorous only in retrospect."

9 SIMON/NATALYA/MARTIN: (LAUGHTER).

10 CLAIRE: (VERY TETCHY) Ha. Yes, come on everybody – it's getting cold. Martin?

11 MARTIN: You'll have to show me the rest another time, Natalya. More wine?

(Simon and Natalya needed for beginning of next scene.)

71. SCENE - MARTIN'S FLAT (LATER).

1 SIMON/NATALYA: (AD LIB) Bye. Thank you.

2 MARTIN/CLAIRE: (AD LIB) Bye. See you soon. **F/X: DOOR CLOSE.**

SCENE 71A GRAMS: DINNER PARTY MUSIC STOPS ABRUPTLY.

3 CLAIRE: I know what's going on.

4 MARTIN: What?

5 CLAIRE: How I didn't work it out before, I don't know. I guess this is your last chance before I move in to go exploring...

6 MARTIN: What...

7 CLAIRE: Sample something exotic.

8 MARTIN: I...

9 CLAIRE: "That's amazing, Natalya." "Show me more, Natalya." You're having an affair.

10 MARTIN: What?

11 CLAIRE: You're suntanned and you've been working out again. And since when have you quoted Paul bloody Theroux?

12 MARTIN: I'm not having an affair.

- 1 CLAIRE: Then what the hell's going on?! I can never get hold of you in the week, then when I see you, you've got this weird contented aura. It's like you're somewhere else half the time!
- 2 MARTIN: Somewhere else? That's crazy!
- 3 CLAIRE: oh, is it?!
- 4 MARTIN: What am I doing? Jetting off to a foreign country at every opportunity? Maybe we're both just nervous about moving in together.
- 5 CLAIRE: Maybe. OK, it won't be long before I can move down – stop all this ridiculous travelling.
- 6 MARTIN: When you move in everything will be perfect.
- 7 CLAIRE: Promise?
- 8 MARTIN: I promise. (THEY KISS)
- 9 CLAIRE: As if you'd be going off anywhere. You think if you pass Dover you fall off the edge of the world. But I love that.
- 10 MARTIN: Listen, there's a new Tanzanian restaurant called Jambo's opening up in Manchester in a couple of weeks. Do you fancy going when we're next at yours?
- 11 CLAIRE: Tanzanian? Sounds good. Do they do fish?
- 12 MARTIN: I believe they do. **F/X: JET ENGINES FLY OVER (L TO R).**

72.

SCENE - JAFFARI'S SHACK.

- 1 JAFFARI: (EVEN BETTER ENGLISH) We will miss you so much, Martin. Having you here has been a most enriching experience.
- 2 MARTIN: And for me. I've had such a wonderful time. And you have all my old company details?
- 3 JAFFARI: I'll tell them I know you, give them my curriculum vitae...
- 4 MARTIN: You'll be fine – you're a natural.
- 5 JAFFARI: What will you do back in England?
- 6 MARTIN: Get a job again – not IT though. Maybe teaching – I like it.
- 7 JAFFARI: And with Claire?
- 8 MARTIN: It's going to be fine. And hey, I have presents for you two.

F/X: WRAPPING PAPER BEING TORN OPEN.

- 9 JAFFARI: Ah! You lucky kids – football kits! Coventry City – greatest team in Europe, right?
- 10 MARTIN: Um, yes... Jaffari, I've learned a lot of things whilst I've been travelling here, but I think the best one is a Swahili saying: Njia ni rafiki. On the road is where you meet friends.
- 11 JAFFARI: (OVERLAPPING) ... is where you meet friends.
- 12 MARTIN: I'll miss you. **F/X: HUGGING.**

73.

SCENE - MONOLOGUE

1 MARTIN: (CLOSE) So, I was heading home for good, ready to live with you. There was just one more piece of business to take care of at the opening night of Jambo's in Manchester. I wanted to show you my time in Tanzania because it was great. I wanted to share all the amazing things I did. And, OK, I did still want to see the look on your face just a little bit.

F/X: JET ENGINES FLYING OVER (R TO L).

74.

SCENE – RESTAURANT

**FX – DINERS CHATTING, CUTLERY AND
GLASSES CLINKING.**

SCENE 74A**F/X: WINE GLASSES CLINK. THEY START EATING.**

2 MARTIN: Mmm! This fish is gorgeous. It's very much like the fish I used to eat when I lived in Tanzania.

3 CLAIRE: You lived in Tanzania?

4 MARTIN: Yes, have I really never mentioned it? I suppose I didn't want to be banging on about it all the time. Though funnily enough I came across this old photo album the other day. Look – there's me on the top of Mount Kilimanjaro. There's Jaffari and his kids – I taught them so much about football.

- 1 CLAIRE: Wow, that's really- Mmm! You're right about this fish!
Actually it reminds me of the fish I used to eat when I lived in China.
- 2 MARTIN: (CHOKING) Ch-China?
- 3 CLAIRE: Yes, China.
- 4 MARTIN: You lived in China?
- 5 CLAIRE: Yeah, have I really never mentioned it? Weirdly I came across an old photo album the other day too. Look – there's me on the Great Wall. And those chickens! Now there's a funny story about those chickens! (LAUGHS)

SCENE 74B MONTAGE OF ECHO-EY FLASHBACKS:

- 6 CLAIRE: When I lived in China...Redundancies... It's only for a few months...
- 7 CLAIRE: (D) Can you hear a delay on this call?
- 8 CLAIRE: When I lived in China...
- 9 CLAIRE: (D) I'm phoning about the weekend.
- 10 CLAIRE: I guess we're all full of surprises.
- 11 CLAIRE: When I lived in China...
- 12 CLAIRE: (D) I can't make it. I got the flu.

1 CLAIRE: All this ridiculous travelling.

2 CLAIRE: When I lived in China, China, China, China...

SCENE 74 C BACK IN RESTAURANT. END OF ECHO EFFECT.

3 CLAIRE: Are you all right, Martin?

4 MARTIN: I think this fish is off. I'm going back to yours.

F/X: CHAIR PUSHED BACK. MARTIN LEAVES.

5 CLAIRE: Martin?

75.

SCENE - MONOLOGUE

6 MARTIN: (CLOSE) What... The... You'd been made redundant?! And you'd spent the money going to China every week?! No – who would do something crazy like that? I only thought that because I had. No, no, you'd done the China trip years ago like you'd said. You'd just never mentioned it. Because you don't mention stuff like that, do you?! I had to find out the truth. So I got up in the middle of the night...

76. **SCENE - CLAIRE'S FLAT.**

F/X: DRAWERS BEING QUIETLY OPENED AND RIFLED.

1 MARTIN: (WHISPERING TO SELF) No, nothing... nothing...

F/X: DOOR OPENS.

2 CLAIRE: (YAWNING) What are you doing?

3 MARTIN: I'm, um...

4 CLAIRE: Give me those! Why are you going through my things?

5 MARTIN: I... I wanted to check your passport to see if you'd been going to China every week.

6 CLAIRE: What?!

7 MARTIN: I know it sounds crazy, but I had this idea that instead of going to China years ago for one long trip you'd been made redundant and had been going every week for the past few months. I was checking to see if you'd got any stamps in your passport.

8 CLAIRE: OK, there you go. Issued five years ago. Anything?

F/X: FLIPPING THROUGH PAGES.

9 MARTIN: No.

1 CLAIRE: Happy now?

2 MARTIN: More than you will ever know. [HUG AND KISS] I love you.
I'm so sorry. That must have seemed a bit...

3 CLAIRE: It's OK. Just come back to bed.

4 MARTIN: Yeah, I... What's that?

5 CLAIRE: What?

F/X: SNATCHING.

6 MARTIN: Behind your... Give me that! Your Canadian passport!

7 CLAIRE: No! Don't look!

F/X: FLIPPING THROUGH PAGES.

8 MARTIN: China, China, China, China...

9 CLAIRE: Martin, I love you, and I love travelling, but you don't love travelling.

10 MARTIN: What do you mean?

11 CLAIRE: You get this look on your face every time I so much as mention when I lived in Peru.

12 MARTIN: I do not!

- 1 CLAIRE: And you sounded so content with everything, but I really needed to travel some more before I settled down. When I was offered the transfer to London I was also offered voluntary redundancy instead and I suddenly realised I could do one last big trip.
- 2 MARTIN: [AFFRONTED SOUND]
- 3 CLAIRE: I thought the kindest thing to do would be to commute there every week and then pretend I'd done it years ago.
- 4 MARTIN: [AFFRONTED SOUND]
- 5 CLAIRE: I know it sounds weird. (TEARFUL) But I did it because I love you. I know we're different, but I love that and I didn't want it to come between us.
- 6 MARTIN: It's OK. I've been doing the same thing.
- 7 CLAIRE: What?
- 8 MARTIN: Tanzania. It wasn't years ago. I've been going every week too.
- 9 CLAIRE: What?! No way!
- 10 MARTIN: There's my passport. Look.
- 11 CLAIRE: [GASP] Why?

- 1 MARTIN: I just felt like I needed to even the scores travel-wise. But if we ever did a long trip or lived abroad together, although I'd have the new experience, so would you. So instead of one-nil it would be two-one.
- 2 CLAIRE: You've been going to Tanzania every week?
- 3 MARTIN: Yes! And it was amazing! I was staying with this lovely guy called Jaffari and his two kids, and I climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, and ate caterpillars and got robbed and shat myself and it was just the most incredible experience.
- 4 CLAIRE: That's so great! Martin, I'm going to move in with you now, get a job in London. No more secrets. I'm ready to settle down. (TERRIBLE SIMON COWELL IMPRESSION) A million percent yes.
- 5 MARTIN: (BEAT, THEN LAUGHTER) What is Simon Cowell a Scouser now? Or from the West Country? Come here.
- 6 MARTIN/CLAIRE: (LAUGHTER/KISS)
- 7 CLAIRE: I think we're made for each other.
- 8 MARTIN: No one else would have us.
- 9 CLAIRE: I guess we're even in the whole having a secret life stakes.
- 10 MARTIN: I guess we are.
- 11 CLAIRE: And travelling-wise.

- 1 MARTIN: (NOT QUITE SO SURE) Ye-es. It's not about one-upmanship though, is it? I've done Tanzania. You've done Peru. And China.
- 2 CLAIRE: Yes. (JOKING) And I guess I was born in Canada, so that's North America done.
- 3 MARTIN: (GETTING TENSE) Uh-huh.
- 4 CLAIRE: And did that trip to the Sahara, so that's Africa ticked off.
- 5 MARTIN: Yep.
- 6 CLAIRE: And I went out to Australia for work last year.
- 7 MARTIN: (TRYING TO CONVINCING HIMSELF, BUT GETTING ANNOYED) True. But it's not about who's been to the most continents, is it? It's about the people you meet, the experiences you have, the way those things change you as a person. That's what travelling is about.
- 8 CLAIRE: You are so right. [BEAT] In fact that reminds me of a saying I heard when I lived in China...
- F/X: MARTIN GETS UP. FRONT DOOR OPENING.
MARTIN'S QUICK FOOTSTEPS AWAY.**
- 9 CLAIRE: Martin! Where are you going? Martin?

77.

SCENE - MONOLOGUE

1 MARTIN: (CLOSE) Where was I going? Well, I hope by now you're in my, or should I say "our" flat, looking at that picture of Waterloo Bridge and waiting for me. I'm almost there, Claire. But we're not even. It's so cold here. I sold my hatchback – that paid for the flights, the tent, the rest of the equipment. (CRACKING UP) Instead of looking at a beautiful carpet I'm just holding a pile of wool. I hope I can reweave it. I'm sorry, Claire. It's not you. It really is me. I'll be ready to live with you really soon. As my wise friend Jaffari said, I just need to acclimatise and get in balance again, and this is how.

F/X: ZIPS, THINGS BEING MOVED INSIDE A TENT.

2 MARTIN: I know it's childish, but I just had to go to a continent you that haven't. I needed to be able to look you in the eye and say, "Mmm! This penguin meat is gorgeous. It's very much like the penguin meat I used to eat when I walked solo to the South Pole."

F/X: TENT BEING UNZIPPED. WIND NOISE.

FOOTSTEPS IN SNOW FADING AWAY.

END.