

BELIEVE ME

By
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BELIEVE ME

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BELIEVE ME

For Peter James Bourne

BELIEVE ME

Believe Me was originally produced as a short play and performed at Victory Hall, Broadclyst, Devon UK before going on to Win ‘Best Original Script’ at the Exmouth One Act Play Festival, Exmouth, Devon, UK. Both productions featured the following cast:

Lisa.....	Bryony Vallis
Eddie.....	Andy Butler
DI Jenkins.....	David Snell
DS Williams.....	Sophie Luff

Believe Me had its second production at The Hen & Chickens Theatre, Islington, London, UK with the following cast:

Lisa.....	Charlotte Sisson
Eddie.....	Alex Lyne
DI Jenkins.....	Will Burren
DS Williams.....	Ellie Shields

Believe Me was then expanded to a full-length production and produced as a four-part audio drama on YouTube, featuring the following cast:

Lisa.....	Charlotte Sisson
Eddie.....	Alex Lyne
DI Jenkins.....	Kerry Frater
DS Williams.....	Ellie Shields
Amanda.....	Rachel Feeny-Williams

CAST: 3 Women & 2 Men

Lisa Fairchild	Late 20s, fiercely loyal to Eddie
Eddie Fairchild	30s, protector to his sister
DS Williams	30s, well-meaning police officer
DI Jenkins	40s/40s, angry and determined police officer
Amanda	Teens, Eddie’s former girlfriend

TIME: Modern day but no set year.

PLACE: London & Cornwall UK with the set divided into Lisa’s Living room, The Police Station, A phone box in Cornwall and an Empty Street at night.

BELIEVE ME

SCENE 1

The play opens with the sound of a busy street followed by police sirens slowly getting louder. As the sirens reach their crescendo the stage lights come up to 'dim' on the living room set. There is someone knocking on the door. After a moment LISA comes into the room putting a dressing gown on over a nightgown. The knocking on the door gets more frantic as she crosses the room to the door.

LISA. Alright! *(More knocking.)* I can bloody hear you! *(More knocking.)* I swear to God if this is some stupid joke I am not in the mood! *(More knocking. Lisa gets to the door. Shouting as she opens the door)* I WILL CALL THE POLICE! *(Lisa opens the door and reveals EDDIE standing in the doorway, appearing slightly dishevelled.)*

EDDIE. Is that the way you always answer your door?

LISA. *(Surprised/Confused)* Eddie!?

EDDIE. The one and only.

LISA. What the hell are you playing at?!

EDDIE. Well, that's a fine welcome for your big brother?! Aren't you going to invite me in?

LISA. Invite you in?! Eddie it's the middle of the night.

EDDIE. *(Glancing at his watch)* Actually it's more like morning now.

LISA. *(Warning tone)* Eddie...

EDDIE. We can have this conversation in the hallway if you want, I'm sure your neighbours won't mind.

LISA. *(Reaching forward and pulling him through the doorway)* Get in here! *(Eddie moves forward with Lisa's pull and walks past her as she closes and re-locks the door. Eddie turns to watch her as she does so. It is at this point the audience can see clearly; he has angry scratch marks on the side of his face.)*

EDDIE. Easy sis! I'm feeling slightly fragile.

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LISA. Eddie, you show up here in the middle of the night without so much as one word of an explanation! You are lucky I don't... *(she turns and notices his face)* Oh my god, what happened to your face?

EDDIE. *(Attempting to shrug her off)* It's nothing.

LISA. *(Attempting to move his face to get a better look)* Don't try that macho bollocks with me!

EDDIE. You should see the other guy.

LISA. Eddie this isn't funny. They look nasty.

EDDIE. *(Laughing while wincing in pain)* Well they feel a lot worse.

LISA. You sit down.

EDDIE. *(Saluting)* Yes Ma'am! *(Lisa gives him a withering look.)*
Sorry.

LISA. I'll get the first aid kit. *(Lisa goes to exit, pausing in the doorway.)* Coffee?

EDDIE. Don't suppose you have something stronger?

LISA. I don't really...

EDDIE. Come on sis, I've been through enough tonight. Don't make me face the explanation sober.

LISA. Well....

EDDIE. *(Making 'puppy dog eyes')* Please?!

LISA. *(Sighs before smiling)* I'll see what I can do.

(Lisa exits and there is the sound of her making drinks in the other room. Eddie takes off his coat revealing his top two shirt buttons are missing and the shirt has a bit of mud on it.)

LISA. *(Off)* So, are you going to tell me what happened?

EDDIE. Can I at least sit down before I get the interrogation?

LISA. *(Off)* Eddie, you come to my door in the middle of the night looking like you've been in a war. I at least have the right to know...

EDDIE. Ok...ok... *(Sitting down on the sofa, sighs)* I was mugged.

LISA. *(Off)* Mugged!

EDDIE. Yea... *(Lisa emerges from the kitchen carrying a small first aid kit in one hand and a glass with clear liquid in it in the other.)*

LISA. How?

EDDIE. What do you mean how? How do muggings usually go?

LISA. *(Sitting down and handing him the drink)* Eddie, you have never been afraid of a fight the entire time we've known each other.

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EDDIE. I know I... (*sniffs the contents of the glass*) What the hell is this?!

LISA. (*Taking antiseptic wipes out of the first aid kit*) White tequila.

EDDIE. You're kidding me! Where on earth did you get...

LISA. (*Moving to clean the cuts on his face*) Someone brought it round when I had my New Years Eve party.

EDDIE. (*Moving his face*) So this has been sat in your cupboard for eight months?!

LISA. (*Impatiently reaching up and grabbing his face*) Look! You know I don't drink so if you wish to continue complaining you can get out!

EDDIE. Ok, ok, point made... (*Takes another drink and visibly winces*) It's actually very nice. (*Lisa presses a wipe to one of the cuts.*)

EDDIE. Ow! What was that for?

LISA. For the sarcasm. (*Lisa cleans the cut for a few moments while Eddie continues to wince.*)

EDDIE. Ow! Am I being punished for something?

LISA. That depends on how the rest of this conversation goes. Eddie you've taken on guys three times your size before.

EDDIE. I know...

LISA. I mean you and dad...

EDDIE. (*Snapping*) I just said I know!

LISA. (*Sheepishly*) Sorry.

EDDIE. (*Sighing*) No I'm sorry. Coming here like this...putting you in this position.

LISA. Don't talk daft. You are my brother, and we are there for each other. No matter what.

EDDIE. (*Smiling*) No matter what. (*Silence for a few moments while Lisa continues to clean Eddie's face.*)

LISA. So, what happened?

EDDIE. I was coming home from the pub with Chris and I...

LISA. (*Cutting him off*) I always knew Chris was irresponsible. I mean leaving you to walk home in...

EDDIE. I've walked home a thousand times by myself sis, I didn't think I'd need a babysitter.

LISA. So, what actually happened?

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EDDIE. I'd just turned down my road when this guy came out of an alley. I didn't even notice him at first.

LISA. *(Disapproving)* No I'll bet. How many had you had?

EDDIE. I meant because it was dark, miss judgy!

LISA. You didn't answer my question.

EDDIE. I wasn't aware this was an interrogation.

LISA. Hey! You came to me for help remember?

EDDIE. It was two beers ok! Do you need to breathalyse me?

LISA. No, I just...*(sighs)* Sorry...go on...

EDDIE. Well, the next thing I know, I'm on the floor and he's gone, with my wallet.

LISA. Did you get a look at him?

EDDIE. *(Shrugs)* Not really.

LISA. *(Indicating his face)* What about your face?

EDDIE. I think either he hit me, or I hit something when I fell.

LISA. You think?

EDDIE. *(Snapping)* Look! I've just been mugged; I really could do without all the questions.

LISA. Well, the police are going to need a lot more information than 'I think',

EDDIE. I'm not going to the police.

LISA. What?! But you have to.

EDDIE. *(Firmly)* No I don't.

LISA. Eddie...

EDDIE. No! Don't 'Eddie' me in that tone of voice where you expect to get your own way. You know as well as I do that me going to the police is going to do absolutely nothing!

LISA. But you... *(Lisa pushes on a wound and Eddie flinches before getting to his feet.)*

EDDIE. *(Snapping)* Do you mind! That bloody hurts!

LISA. *(Getting up)* Well I'm sorry! You can either have them cleaned properly with a bit of pain or get them infected. It's up to you.

(The two stand and stare angrily at each other for a moment before Eddie sighs wearily.)

EDDIE. Look, I'm sorry. This whole thing has just got me on edge.

LISA. I can understand that.

EDDIE. I'll just go wash my face and then go, ok?

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LISA. Don't be silly, you'll stay here as long as you need to.

EDDIE. You sure?

LISA. Of course, I am sure. You're my brother and...well you were always there for me when I needed you.

EDDIE. *(Feigning modesty)* Ah it was nothing.

LISA. You know modesty doesn't suit you.

EDDIE. *(Smugly)* It's about the only thing that doesn't.

LISA. *(Laughing)* Go and wash your face...idiot!

EDDIE. Ok, I'm going. *(Eddie moves to exit and pauses.)* Lisa? *(Lisa looks over at him. He smiles)* Thanks. *(Eddie exits. Lisa puts down the wipes and moves over to his coat.)*

LISA. *(Calling to Eddie)* I think I have some spare clothes somewhere. These will need a wash.

EDDIE. *(Off, cagey)* Oh I'm sure it will be fine.

LISA. You're joking right?! Your shirt was filthy and your jacket needs...

EDDIE. *(Snapping)* Lisa I said just leave it! *(Lisa looks over at the door in a confused/concerned way.)*

LISA. *(Calling to Eddie)* If you say so. *(Lisa moves and lifts up Eddie's jacket and examines it, as though looking for damage. She frowns for a moment smelling it. She looks perplexed and then, on feeling something in the pocket she takes out Eddie's wallet. She looks down at it, with a confused/concerned look on her face as Eddie enters.)*

EDDIE. I really appreciate you... *(He stops on seeing Lisa with his jacket and wallet.)* I thought I said to leave it.

LISA. I wanted to make sure there was no damage to your jacket...maybe see if I could repair it if there was.

EDDIE. Lisa I...

LISA. *(Holding up the wallet and taking a few steps towards him)* So this...mugger, was he tall, short, black, white...or *(throws the wallet at Eddie)* Imaginary!

EDDIE. Lisa I can explain...

LISA. Get out!

EDDIE. But...

LISA. No! If you can't tell me the truth about what happened, then I don't want you here!

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EDDIE. Lisa please...

LISA. After everything we have been through together Eddie. All that crap from dad, and then the stuff with Amanda and now you decide you can't tell me the truth. How could you even...

EDDIE. *(Holding up his hands)* Ok...ok... *(Sighs)* Can I sit?

LISA. Are you going to tell me the truth this time?

EDDIE. I may need more to drink but...*(Sighs)* Yes... *(Lisa snatches up the glass from the table and exits. Eddie moves to the sofa and sits down. Lisa re-enters with another drink.)*

LISA. I take it...whatever this is, involves a woman? *(Lisa offers Eddie the drink)*

EDDIE. *(Taking the drink)* How did you...

LISA. *(Sitting down)* Eddie, how long have I known you?

EDDIE. Fair point.

LISA. Face it, when it comes to the fairer sex.

EDDIE. *(Scoffing)* Hmph! Fairer my arse!

LISA. When it comes to women you have blinders on, you can't see there's going to be trouble until it's too late.

EDDIE. I...*(sighs)* You really do know me, don't you?

LISA. That, and very few men I know walk around smelling of perfume.

EDDIE. You smelled my coat?

LISA. Eddie, you have just lied to me. I don't think you are in a position to take the moral high ground.

EDDIE. Ok, ok...you're right...

LISA. *(Impatiently)* Well?

EDDIE. Well... *(Eddie takes a sip of the drink)* I met her in the pub.

LISA. I thought you were out with Chris.

EDDIE. He left early, something about a presentation.

LISA. What was her name?

EDDIE. Why does that matter?

LISA. *(Imitating a mother's voice)* Edward Fairchild, you are not telling me you made amorous advances on a woman and didn't even know her name.

EDDIE. *(Snapping)* Claire ok! Her name was Claire.

LISA. So...then what?

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EDDIE. Well...she was gorgeous...we spent the whole night talking and I really liked her.

LISA. Thinking with one instrument, I'm sure.

EDDIE. Will you let me finish? (*Lisa goes quiet.*) So, after a while we decided to take a walk. She even mentioned going back to her place. So, we left and walked through the park.

LISA. At that time of night! Are you crazy!

EDDIE. I wasn't exactly thinking straight at the time! And besides, as you say, I can normally take care of myself. Or at least I thought I could.

LISA. So, then what?

EDDIE. Well, we got to this tree and she stops and leans in for a kiss. I kiss her and...

LISA. I don't need all the details.

EDDIE. I only wish there were more...

LISA. What do you mean?

EDDIE. The next thing I know, I had a fresh set of manicured nails across my face.

LISA. She attacked you!

EDDIE. She went completely crazy, she was screaming and lashing out at me.

LISA. So...did you...

EDDIE. No! I never laid a hand on her! I had to hold my hands up to defend myself.

LISA. You're sure you didn't do...

EDDIE. No! SHE kissed ME!

LISA. Ok, ok...So you just ran away?

EDDIE. (*Avoid her gaze*) Not quite...

LISA. (*Warning Tone*) Eddie...

EDDIE. I just wanted her to stop hitting me...so I pushed her.

LISA. You pushed her?

EDDIE. She must have lost her footing, because when I looked up...she was lying on the ground.

LISA. WHAT!

EDDIE. I didn't mean to hurt her...it was a complete accident.

LISA. So, you just left her there?!

EDDIE. No! I called an ambulance and then I left.

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LISA. You didn't wait to make sure she was ok?

EDDIE. Come on sis, I knew what they would think the second they saw her.

LISA. Eddie...

EDDIE. It would be just like last time. No one would care about my side of the story.

LISA. You don't know that.

EDDIE. With my history? I'd be back behind bars before I could blink.

LISA. But you could have...

EDDIE. (*Getting up*) No! Lisa, you don't understand. You know how hard I've worked to turn my life around.

LISA. (*Getting up and taking his hand*) Of course I do.

EDDIE. All the police would have seen is me and another unconscious girl and joined the dots all by themselves.

LISA. I suppose...

EDDIE. That's why you have to help me.

LISA. But what can I...

EDDIE. I just need to go somewhere and lie low for a bit, but for that I need money...

LISA. Eddie, you can't run from this.

EDDIE. Please Lisa! I can't let one accident with some crazed girl ruin my life, and you know it would.

LISA. I...

EDDIE. You have to believe me. I never wanted this to happen, but I can't change it now.

LISA. Well...

EDDIE. Help me Lisa...please...After everything we've been through.

LISA. But you...

EDDIE. After everything I've done.

LISA. Eddie.

EDDIE. (*Angrily*) I saved your life more than once and you know it!

LISA. I...

EDDIE. I could have died in that hospital!

LISA. I know...

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EDDIE. But I didn't care, all I thought at the time was 'she's my sister and she needs me'.

LISA. Eddie...

EDDIE. And after all of that you don't give a shit about me!

LISA. I do, it's just...

EDDIE. JUST WHAT LISA? JUST WHAT?

LISA. *(Crying)* Eddie please... *(There is a moment of tense silence before Eddie sighs and sits down beside her.)*

EDDIE. *(Softly)* Please Lisa...you know I'd do the same for you. *(Lisa holds Eddie's gaze for a moment before nodding.)*

LISA. Ok...

EDDIE. *(Hugging her)* Thank you so much.

LISA. You'll stay here until we can get you on a train. I'll call Aunt Doris and tell her you're coming for a visit.

EDDIE. *(In distaste)* Aunt Doris? But she smells of tobacco and cat pee.

LISA. *(Firmly)* Take it or leave it.

EDDIE. Ok, I'll take it. Believe me I'll take it.

LISA. *(Standing)* I'll see when the earliest train is.

EDDIE. Thank you so much for doing this Lisa, you have... *(There is a knock at the door, both stop and look at each other for a moment. Whispered)* Who the hell is that?

LISA. *(Whispered)* How should I know? *(There is another knock at the door)*

EDDIE. *(Whispered)* What do we do?

LISA. *(Whispered)* In the bedroom and keep quiet. *(Eddie moves exits and closes the door quietly. Lisa quickly exits with the first aid kit. There is another knock at the door. Off)* Alright! I'm coming! *(Lisa enters and walks over to the door before opening it. DS WILLIAMS is standing there in smart clothes and a long coat.)*

DS WILLIAMS. Ms Lisa Fairchild?

LISA. Yes, can I help you?

DS WILLIAMS. *(Showing Identification)* I'm DS Williams

LISA. Police?

DS WILLIAMS. I'm sorry it's so late but I was wondering if we could speak with you.

LISA. We?

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(DI JENKINS moves into the doorway behind DS Williams.)

DI JENKINS. Yes, we.

LISA. *(Angrily)* You!

DI JENKINS. Believe me Ms Fairchild, the thought of seeing you again didn't exactly fill me with joy either.

LISA. I know my rights; I don't have to let you in. So, you can piss off, the pair of you. *(Lisa goes to close the door and DI Jenkins puts his arm out stopping it.)*

DI JENKINS. Of course, you are no obligation to speak to us Ms Fairchild, is she DS Williams?

DS WILLIAMS. No Gov.

DI JENKINS. But of course, if you refuse to speak to us then that leads us to think you've got something to hide. Isn't that right DS Williams?

DS WILLIAMS. Couldn't be anything else Gov.

LISA. Screw you Jenkins!

DI JENKINS. And if we believed you had something to hide, then we'd have to wait out here while we called for backup and the official paperwork to search your home. All the while having very loud conversations for all your neighbours to hear.

LISA. Don't you...

DI JENKINS. Of course, we don't want to do that. We just wanted to have a nice little chat and then we'll be on our way. *(Pause)* It's up to you. *(Lisa stares angrily at DI Jenkins for a moment before sighing and taking a step back.)*

LISA. Fine. *(To DS Williams)* But I'm not talking to him.

DS WILLIAMS. I'm sure we can accommodate that, can't we gov?

DI JENKINS. *(Sarcasm)* Nothing would please me more.

(Lisa moves back to allow DI Jenkins and DS Williams to enter. DI Jenkins glances around as DS Williams moves to Lisa.)

DS WILLIAMS. Can we sit down Ms Fairchild?

LISA. Oh please, call me Lisa.

DI JENKINS. Well, Lisa...

LISA. *(Snapping)* I didn't mean you!

DI JENKINS. *(Holds up his hands and adds sarcastically)* Pardon my presumption...Ms Fairchild.

LISA. *(To DS Williams)* Can I make you a drink?

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DS WILLIAMS. (*Sitting down*) Oh we wouldn't want to put you out.

LISA. (*Sitting down*) I was actually up anyway.

DI JENKINS. A regular night owl then? (*Lisa looks up at him angrily.*)

LISA. Not usually, I just find sometimes if I can't sleep, I like to listen to the radio and...

DS WILLIAMS. (*Making a note*) The radio?

LISA. Yes, you probably heard it. It drives my neighbours barmy sometimes.

DI JENKINS. I can imagine. (*Spots the remains of Eddie's drink on the table.*) Does the drink relax you as well?

LISA. (*Briskly snatching up the drink and standing*) So I have a drink sometimes when I am stressed and can't sleep...It relaxes me.

DI JENKINS. Funny that.

LISA. Hardly.

DI JENKINS. Well, I remember from last time we met that you weren't a drinker at all, after that everything that happened with...

LISA. (*Firmly cutting across him*) Things change Detective.

DI JENKINS. So it seems.

LISA. (*Exiting with the glass*) Look! Did you actually come here for something? (*Enters*) Or was it just to make judgments about my night-time habits? Because if that's the case...

DS WILLIAMS. I actually needed to speak to you about your brother Ms Fairchild.

LISA. (*Sitting down*) Eddie? What about him?

DS WILLIAMS. Have you seen him recently?

LISA. No, not for a week or so now. Why?

DI JENKINS. (*Surprised*) Really?

LISA. (*Looking up at him through gritted teeth*) Yes, really.

DI JENKINS. Well, you'll pardon my surprise Ms Fairchild, but I find that hard to believe. Being as close as you and your brother are.

LISA. (*Firmly*) Were, like I said. Things change.

DS WILLIAMS. So, when did you last see your brother Lisa?

LISA. About a week ago. He did call me the other day, but I've not had a chance to get back to him.

DS WILLIAMS. (*Taking note*) I see.

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LISA. We've been distant of late. To be honest I can never be sure where he is.

DI JENKINS. That right?

LISA. *(Snapping)* Yes, it is!

DI JENKINS. *(Tutting)* Temper, Temper Ms Fairchild!

LISA. Look! What is this about? I've told you I've not seen Eddie. *(Looking at DI Jenkins)* Why are YOU here?

DI JENKINS. I am merely accompanying my colleague while she makes some routine enquiries Ms Fairchild.

LISA. Routine my arse!

DS WILLIAMS. Lisa...

LISA. *(To DS Williams)* Do you know about him? How he stitched my brother up and had him sent to prison for five years!

DI JENKINS. Pathetic sentence it was.

DS WILLIAMS. *(Warning)* Gov...

LISA. *(Standing up)* Eddie was an innocent kid and you painted him like some kind of monster!

DI JENKINS. He is a monster Ms Fairchild. Eddie is...

LISA. *(Firmly)* Edward, not Eddie. Only his friends call him Eddie.

DI JENKINS. Hard to believe he has many of those.

LISA. *(Starting to cry)* You believe what you want but Eddie is a good man and a good brother!

DS WILLIAMS. No one is doubting that Lisa...

DI JENKINS. You never could see past his halo, could you Lisa?

LISA. You don't know what you're talking about.

DI JENKINS. I mean, it's hardly surprising. After all, he protected you from your old man all those years.

LISA. So? My old man was a shit father, half the people in this block could say the same.

DI JENKINS. But those people didn't have a brother who was willing to do anything to protect them.

LISA. You don't know anything about it.

DI JENKINS. You must have felt you owed him so much when he took that knife that was meant for you.

DS WILLIAMS. *(Warning)* Gov...

DI JENKINS. How many years was he protecting you from everything your old man did?

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LISA. I don't want to talk about it.

DI JENKINS. Let's see now, your mum died when you were ten.

LISA. Stop it!

DI JENKINS. Then you and Eddie were placed into care...not until years after though, wasn't it?

LISA. *(Snapping)* Enough!

DI JENKINS. And after that...well you know what happened after that.

LISA. *(Getting to her feet)* How dare you...

DS WILLIAMS. *(Quickly getting to her feet)* Gov enough!
(There is a moment of tense silence.)

DS WILLIAMS. Actually Lisa, I will have a tea...if that's ok?
(Lisa stares angrily at DI Jenkins for a few moments more before turning from him to DS Williams.)

LISA. Milk and sugar?

DS WILLIAMS. Milk and two sugars, ta. *(Lisa turns and exits. DS Williams turns to DI Jenkins.)* Gov...

DI JENKINS. *(Firmly)* Don't.

DS WILLIAMS. You could go a bit easier on her Gov.

DI JENKINS. Like her brother went easy on Amanda Weston you mean!

DS WILLIAMS. Lisa isn't her brother Gov.

DI JENKINS. Williams, you weren't there back then but I knew the moment I set eyes on Eddie Fairchild that he was a brute and a monster. He used his sister's guilt his entire life to get her to cover for him.

DS WILLIAMS. But you don't know she's doing that now.

DI JENKINS. Eddie sat there during his trial, smirking all the way through. Smug prick knew he had an ace in his back pocket. No matter how Amanda battered was, his precious sister was going to just explain it all away.

DS WILLIAMS. Then why wasn't she arrested?

DI JENKINS. Don't be an idiot Williams! We couldn't prove she did anything, but she was happy to stand there in court and tell them how unstable Amanda was. How she was perfectly happy with Eddie until the money ran dry and only then did she started lashing out. Couple that with painting her brother as the saviour of her childhood and his

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first offence...*(Irritated sigh)* that prick should've been locked up until he was older than I am. *(DI Jenkins turns and walks over towards the door.)*

DS WILLIAMS. *(Standing)* Gov... *(DI Jenkins turns to look at her.)* This thing tonight, are you sure you don't just want it to be Eddie Fairchild?

DI JENKINS. *(Taking a step towards her)* What are you saying Williams?

DS WILLIAMS. Well, you've...always said it was shocking...the sentence he got.

DI JENKINS. *(Firmly)* Because it was!

DS WILLIAMS. So then...maybe that is...

DI JENKINS. *(Firmly)* No! I am telling you Williams, Eddie Fairchild is responsible for what happened to that girl tonight just as he's responsible for what happened to Amanda Weston back then.

DS WILLIAMS. But Gov...*(Lisa enters.)*

LISA. Oh, are you going? *(DS Williams turns to face her.)*

DS WILLIAMS. *(sitting down.)* Not quite.

DI JENKINS. Didn't think you'd get rid of us that easily? *(Lisa hands DS Williams her cup of tea and sits down herself with the other cup.)*

DS WILLIAMS. Thank you Lisa, it's much appreciated.

LISA. My mother used to say "you can either make tea properly or not at all".

DS WILLIAMS. She sounds like a wise woman.

LISA. She was...after she died it was just me and...

DI JENKINS. You and Eddie against the world?

LISA. *(Scowling at him)* You'd never understand it.

DI JENKINS. *(Going to a chair)* Oh I think I do. *(Pausing)* May I sit down?

LISA. *(Shrugging)* If you must.

DI JENKINS. *(Sitting and taking out a notebook)* I knew the second I set eyes on you and Eddie that you were as very close.

LISA. *(Shrugging)* No more so than other siblings.

DI JENKINS. You visited him every week that he was in prison, didn't you?

LISA. *(Firmly)* He's my brother, that's not a crime.

BELIEVE ME

DI JENKINS. Didn't it ever bother you?

LISA. What?

DI JENKINS. Going to visit him, all the while knowing he was a rapist.

LISA. *(Snapping)* That's not what happened!

DI JENKINS. That's what the courts decided.

LISA. The courts were wrong! They let your lot paint Eddie as this horrible villain.

DS WILLIAMS. And that's not what happened?

LISA. I told Eddie right at the beginning Amanda was bad news. She may have been young, but she knew what she was doing alright.

DS WILLIAMS. How so?

LISA. She was perfectly happy to string my brother along letting him buy her expensive gifts and take her out but when the money dried up that wasn't good enough.

DI JENKINS. So, in your mind, she deserved what she got?

LISA. *(Snapping)* She didn't 'get' anything. She told them...

DI JENKINS. No one believed she fell down the stairs Lisa.

LISA. Only because your lot put words in her mouth. She would never have said...

DI JENKINS. No, we know she would never have said anything. Eddie saw to that.

LISA. Eddie didn't do anything. Amanda was his girlfriend; Eddie was just a kid himself. He loved her!

DI JENKINS. His girlfriend?

LISA. Yes. They'd been together for months.

DI JENKINS. Last time I checked, boyfriends don't brutalise and beat the living daylight out the women they love, nearly killing them in the process.

LISA. *(Firmly)* Amanda fell down the stairs, she was drunk and it was...

DI JENKINS. An accident, I know...

LISA. Look! I've told you that I've not seen Eddie. Why are you here? What do you want? *(DS Williams puts down her tea and takes a picture out of her pocket and holds it out to her.)*

DS WILLIAMS. Do you know this woman? *(Lisa takes the picture and looks at it for a moment before handing it back.)*

BELIEVE ME

LISA. No, who is she?

DS WILLIAMS. Her name is Claire Daniels. She was found in the park a few hours ago.

LISA. What's that got to do with my brother?

DI JENKINS. She looks an awful lot like Amanda Weston, doesn't she?

LISA. Oh, I see what this is. *(Standing up)* You're not satisfied with fitting up Eddie last time!

DS WILLIAMS. Lisa that's not why...

LISA. So, every time you find some girl, you're going to come looking for Eddie?

DS WILLIAMS. He was the last person she was seen with, leaving a pub on *(Looks at notepad)* Leyland Road and heading for the park.

LISA. Well did she tell you he hurt her?

DS WILLIAMS. No...

LISA. Well, there you go. Now if you'll excuse me...

DS WILLIAMS. She's dead Lisa. *(Lisa stops and looks at her horrified for a moment.)*

LISA. *(Emotional)* Oh...How horrible for her family.

DI JENKINS. *(Scoffs)*What's this? Concern for one of your brother's victims.

LISA. She is not my brothers anything!

DI JENKINS. What happened Lisa? Can't stomach blaming a defenceless woman a second time.

LISA. Amanda attacked my brother!

DI JENKINS. I know, I know, she was a money-grubbing whore who took advantage of your poor brother.

LISA. Exactly. *(DI Jenkins takes multiple pictures out of the notebook and puts them on the coffee table as he speaks.)*

DI JENKINS. Three broken ribs, a dislocated knee, two broken fingers not to mention the endless cuts and bruises she had on her body.

LISA. *(Turning from the pictures)* Stop this!

DI JENKINS. Are you really going to sit there and tell me that Amanda Weston deserved to be raped and beaten like that?

LISA. *(Turning to look at him)* Eddie didn't...

BELIEVE ME

DI JENKINS. *(Standing)* Your brother is a monster, and you know it!

DS WILLIAMS. *(Standing)* Gov enough! *(DI Jenkins looks at DS Williams in tense silence for a moment before turning to Lisa.)*

DI JENKINS. Can I use your bathroom?

LISA. Eddie's not hiding behind the shower curtain if that's what you're looking for.

DS WILLIAMS. That's not what he means Lisa...please? *(Lisa looks at DS Williams and then DI Jenkins before shrugging and indicating the door.)*

LISA. Through there. *(DI Jenkins exits. DS Williams sits down again.)*

DS WILLIAMS. I'm sorry about all that. The Gov is...

LISA. A sanctimonious prick who's had it in for my brother ever since he set eyes on him.

DS WILLIAMS. I'm sure that's not...

LISA. True? Yes, it is. I saw the look in his eyes when they put Eddie in those cuffs. He looked down on people like us and Eddie was just another animal that needed to be caged.

DS WILLIAMS. People like us?

LISA. Don't play innocent. Mum was on benefits because she was ill, and dad drank most of that away. Eddie had been in fights at school and had gotten in a bit of trouble before.

DS WILLIAMS. What kind of trouble?

LISA. *(Firmly)* Nothing like that prick accused him of. It was just a bit of vandalism and fighting mostly, but it was for me.

DS WILLIAMS. For you?

LISA. Whenever we moved either with dad or after it was always a bad neighbourhood. Eddie knew he had to make sure the other lads feared him as fast as possible, so they would leave me alone.

DS WILLIAMS. So, what did he do?

LISA. He'd pick a fight with the biggest meanest kid he could find. One time he never came home so I had to go out and find him. *(Starts to cry)* He was broken and bleeding next to this unconscious kid, maybe twice his size. *(Looks up at DS Williams)* He did that for me.

DS WILLIAMS. I understand you want to protect your brother because he protected you but...

BELIEVE ME

LISA. (*Firmly*) I don't need to protect him because he didn't do anything!

DS WILLIAMS. Ok, but what happens if Eddie comes here?

LISA. What do you mean?

DS WILLIAMS. Will you tell him we're looking for him?

LISA. Of course, I will.

DS WILLIAMS. Because, if we find out later that he was here, and you helped him then you will be arrested and you will go to prison.

LISA. Eddie would never let that happen.

DS WILLIAMS. Oh really? You think your brother wouldn't let you rot to protect himself?

LISA. (*Firmly*) No I don't.

DS WILLIAMS. This is the same man who brutalised and attacked his girlfriend!

LISA. (*Snapping*) I told you; it wasn't like that!

DS WILLIAMS. Lisa I...(*DI Jenkins enters.*) Look...I'm sorry to bring Eddie into all of this but if he is innocent...

LISA. If?

DS WILLIAMS. You have to see how it looks.

LISA. All I see is you lot trying to make a case go away by pinning it on my brother, well I'm not going to let you!

DI JENKINS. All I want to do is get justice for this! (*DI Jenkins drops another picture on the coffee table. Lisa moves and looks down at the picture before recoiling in horror.*)

LISA. Oh my god! What is that?!

DI JENKINS. That is how we found Ms Daniels, after she'd been seen with your brother.

LISA. (*Standing moving away from DI Jenkins*) Stop it!

DI JENKINS. (*Following her*) She's been hit in the head with a rock and then stabbed fifteen times.

LISA. (*Turning to look at him*) What?!

DI JENKINS. And the last person seen with her, walking away from a pub was your brother.

LISA. Eddie wouldn't do this!

DS WILLIAMS. People heard shouting in the park a short time later

LISA. Well, she could have met someone else...

DI JENKINS. (*Snapping*) Are you really this dense?!

BELIEVE ME

DS WILLIAMS. (*Warning*) Gov...

DI JENKINS. No! I've had enough! (*Turning on Lisa and taking a step towards her*) A woman is dead, and you don't give a shit!

LISA. That's not true!

DI JENKINS. Then tell us where Eddie is.

LISA. I DON'T KNOW!

DI JENKINS. You know he did this.

LISA. No, he didn't!

DI JENKINS. Eddie wasn't going to take the chance at another girl being able to identify him, so he killed her.

LISA. (*Turning away from him*) I'm not listening to this!

DI JENKINS. She had plenty of defensive wounds you know. She put up a fight while she could.

DS WILLIAMS. (*Standing*) Gov don't...

DI JENKINS. Her nails got a piece of him. That will be enough. He won't be seeing freedom again for the rest of his life.

LISA. (*Turning to him, starting to cry*) No!

DI JENKINS. (*Moving towards her*) She was already dead after the blow with the rock you know? The stabbing...that was all for him.

LISA. Stop it!

DS WILLIAMS. (*Moving between DI Jenkins and Lisa*) Gov please... (*DI Jenkins pushes DS Williams aside and continues towards Lisa.*)

DI JENKINS. Maybe I'm looking at this all wrong. Maybe Eddie has been coming to you for help for years and this time he got sloppy.

LISA. No!

DI JENKINS. How many more girls has he done this to over the years? How many before Amanda but you got them to keep their mouth shut?

LISA. I didn't...

DS WILLIAMS. Gov!

DI JENKINS. Or maybe you won't see him for what he is until he comes after you.

LISA. (*Backing into the wall*) He wouldn't...

DI JENKINS. No? Eddie is a smart guy. How long before he realises you are the only person who knows about his crimes, and he decides to shut you up.

BELIEVE ME

LISA. Please... *(DI Jenkins reaches up and places his hands at Lisa's throat. DS Williams approaches DI Jenkins from behind.)*

DS WILLIAMS. *(Shouting)* Gov! Enough! *(DI Jenkins holds one hand up behind him, silences DS Williams as he holds the other at Lisa's throat, staring intensely into her eyes.)*

DI JENKINS. Do you think he will listen when you beg for your life? Do you think he will even care as he watches the life disappear from your eyes with his hands at your throat?

LISA. Don't... *(DI Jenkins lets go and Lisa moves away from him.)*

DI JENKINS. *(Watching her)* You know what he is Lisa! You know he is sick and there is a darkness inside him that is never going to go away.

LISA. Just go away!

DI JENKINS. You know that don't you? You know that for every moment he is out on the street he is closer to taking the life of another girl, just like Claire Daniels, because he knows that his baby sister will keep protecting him.

LISA. *(Moving over and starting to unlock the door)* Leave me alone!

DI JENKINS. *(Walking over towards her)* I will go when you answer my question. *(Lisa starts to open the door but DI Jenkins pushes it shut. Lisa turns round as DI Jenkins slams his hand against the upstage side of the door frame. Snapping)* WHERE IS YOUR BROTHER!?! *(There is a pause of silence before Lisa looks up slowly into DI Jenkins face, a stern expression on hers.)*

LISA. *(Firmly)* Even if I did know, I wouldn't tell you. *(Lisa reaches up and shoves DI Jenkins arm aside before storming past him.)*

DI JENKINS. *(Not looking at her)* You can't hide him forever Lisa. *(Lisa stops and turns to look at DI Jenkins's back.)*

LISA. If you had any proof my brother was here, you'd have torn the place apart already. Since you don't, I suggest you get the fuck out of my flat before I call the police...see what your superiors have to say. *(DI Jenkins turns to face her and takes an angry step forward. DS Williams moves into his path.)*

DS WILLIAMS. *(Firmly)* Gov! *(DI Jenkins stares angrily at DS Williams for a second before looking up at Lisa.)*

DI JENKINS. I will get him you know, and when I do, if I find you knew about it, I will be taking you down with him.

BELIEVE ME

LISA. *(Sarcastically)* I'm shaking in my shoes. *(Lisa and DI Jenkins stare at each other for a moment before he turns and storms out. DS Williams moves over to Lisa, taking a card out of her pocket.)*

DS WILLIAMS. If you do think of anything....

DI JENKINS. *(Shouting, Off)* WILLIAMS! *(DS Williams puts the card down before turning and leaving. Lisa follows her, closing and locking the door behind her once DS Williams has left. Lisa then leans on the door breathing in a panicked way. After a moment Eddie's peers out.)*

EDDIE. They gone?

LISA. *(Moving away from the door)* Yes, they've bloody gone!

EDDIE. I'm so sorry sis, I...

LISA. *(Interrupting)* Did you do that to her?

EDDIE. No! I swear, when I left her, she was unconscious but very much alive and un-stabbed.

LISA. I'm serious Eddie!

EDDIE. So am I! *(Walking over and taking his Lisa's hands)* Lisa, I swear to you on my life and mum's soul that I never hurt that girl intentionally. You know me, I wouldn't.

LISA. Then why does Jenkins think you did?

EDDIE. Oh, come on! Jenkins has had his sights on me for years, you know that!

LISA. And that's all it is?

EDDIE. *(Looking into Lisa's eyes)* Sis, please, after everything we've been through together, if you don't believe me, what hope have I got? *(There is a moment of silence before Lisa nods.)*

LISA. Ok.

EDDIE. Ok?

LISA. *(Moving over to the phone)* You've never lied to me Eddie, so yes, I believe you.

EDDIE. Who are you calling at this hour?

LISA. *(Taking up the phone)* Someone who owes me a favour and can get you out of here quietly.

EDDIE. Who?

LISA. Why does that matter?

EDDIE. You're packing me off with someone in the middle of the night, I at least have a right to know who.

BELIEVE ME

LISA. You really think after what you've put me through tonight, you have a right to know...

EDDIE. Ok...I'm sorry.

LISA. *(Sighing)* I'm calling Jack Lexton.

EDDIE. As in Jack Lexton, my mate from school?

LISA. Do you know any other?

EDDIE. I just...didn't know you guys were close.

LISA. We weren't, I mean he was way older than me at school but then...

EDDIE. What?

LISA. Well...after you went to prison, he contacted me. Asked how I was with everything and said if I ever needed to talk to someone or needed a favour, he'd be happy to help.

EDDIE. How come you never said anything about this when you came to visit me?

LISA. Truth be told, I wasn't sure how you'd feel about it. Your old school friend and your baby sister.

EDDIE. *(Shrugs)* I'm just glad you had someone looking out for you. I mean it wasn't like you slept together. *(Pause, slight panic)* It wasn't like that, was it?

LISA. Why so interested? If it doesn't bother you.

EDDIE. Well...it doesn't I just...

LISA. Not that it's any of your business but nothing happened between us. He told me early on that he already met the girl for him. He said you introduced them, actually.

EDDIE. *(Grinning)* Something like that.

LISA. *(Dialling a number)* Anyway, Jack can get you out of here before Jenkins has time to make a move.

EDDIE. What about Aunt Doris? *(Lisa looks at him and then walks over, smacking him upside the head.)* Ow! What was that for?

LISA. Don't be so dense! Jenkins was convinced you were here and if he sees anything that looks like you leave this building then you...

EDDIE. But they've gone.

LISA. And how long before he has people watching this place?

EDDIE. I...didn't think of that.

LISA. So, Jack gets you out quietly tonight and away from here until things calm down.

BELIEVE ME

EDDIE. But what if Jenkins comes back?

LISA. You let me deal with Jenkins.

EDDIE. But...

LISA. *(Holding up her hand to silence him)* Please Eddie, just trust me and let me do this for you. *(A moment of silence before Eddie nods.)*

EDDIE. Ok, you're the boss. *(Lisa takes up the phone and starts to dial as the lights fade.)*

SCENE 2

There is the sound of voices talking over the radio along with the round of a car pulling up and the slamming of a car door. After another moment there is the sound of an internal door opening and slamming and the light comes up on the police station. There is a desk with chairs on either side of it with a laptop and phone on the desk and files. DI Jenkins storms into the light and kicks out at the desk.

DI JENKINS. Damn it! *(DS Williams walks into the light behind DI Jenkins.)*

DS WILLIAMS. *(Cautiously)* Gov...

DI JENKINS. Not now Williams.

DS WILLIAMS. I'm sorry Gov but I need to say...

DI JENKINS. *(Snapping)* What Williams?! What is it you NEED to say?

DS WILLIAMS. I just think...you went a bit overboard.

DI JENKINS. *(Mocking Tone)* What did you want to do? Hold her hand?

DS WILLIAMS. No, of course not but I just think...

DI JENKINS. *(Dismissing her)* I was questioning a suspect Williams, nothing more.

DS WILLIAMS. I don't think...

DI JENKINS. That's the problem with the officers they recruit today. You do too much thinking. I know how to get information from a suspect.

DS WILLIAMS. But she's not suspected of anything Gov.

DI JENKINS. Withholding information, that's a crime.

BELIEVE ME

DS WILLIAMS. It still didn't justify you...

DI JENKINS. I scared her, she needed scaring. (*Moment of tense silence*)

DS WILLIAMS. Gov, I get that you have been doing this job a lot longer than me.

DI JENKINS. Only forty years, but who's counting.

DS WILLIAMS. You and I both know the way you treated that girl...

DI JENKINS. (*Laughing*) Girl! That's a laugh.

DS WILLIAMS. (*Confused*) Gov?

DI JENKINS. Lisa Fairchild is not some delicate flower you need to rescue from the big bad inspector. She's perfectly capable of taking care of herself.

DS WILLIAMS. That's as maybe Gov but if she reports what happened...

DI JENKINS. She won't.

DS WILLIAMS. How could you possibly know that?

DI JENKINS. Because I've known Eddie and Lisa Fairchild since they were removed from their home, just after Eddie took that knife for Lisa. They were bounced around foster homes for a few years, but Eddie always made sure they were together for as long as he could.

DS WILLIAMS. He protected her.

DI JENKINS. He used her Williams! He needed someone he knew would cover for him, and who better than the sister whose life he saved.

DS WILLIAMS. You really think she was hiding him?

DI JENKINS. I'd put money on it. Lisa knows where Eddie is or how to reach him, and I am going to make sure she doesn't make a move without me knowing about it.

DS WILLIAMS. If her brother is as smart as you say he is Gov, surely he'd think of that?

DI JENKINS. Maybe, but I doubt it. Eddie never had a friend in the world apart from his sister. She's the one he'd go to when he got in trouble.

DS WILLIAMS. If.

DI JENKINS. What?

DS WILLIAMS. If he got in trouble. We don't know he is responsible for...

BELIEVE ME

DI JENKINS. (*Snapping*) Of course we do!

DS WILLIAMS. She may have met someone else in the park after Eddie left her.

DI JENKINS. Whose side are you on?

DS WILLIAMS. I just want to make sure that things are done right, and we get justice for Claire Daniels Gov. That's all. (*DI Jenkins sighs and takes his wallet out of his pocket and takes out a picture before showing it to DS Williams.*)

DI JENKINS. Look at that.

DS WILLIAMS. Sweet girl. Your daughter?

DI JENKINS. Niece. I never really found the right woman to settle down with, but my brother has it all. The perfect picture of domesticity with his wife and daughter, little Alison.

DS WILLIAMS. Sounds like a nice life.

DI JENKINS. (*Sad sigh*) Yea... (*Shaking his head*) and that's what I think about when it comes to stuff like this.

DS WILLIAMS. Gov?

DI JENKINS. This world is full of animals like Eddie Fairchild. Men who would destroy the lives of girls like Alison...if given a chance.

DS WILLIAMS. Gov...we will get justice for Claire Daniels.

DI JENKINS. (*Firmly as he lowers the photo to the table*) I know we will, by making sure that Eddie Fairchild doesn't slip through our fingers again.

DS WILLIAMS. Again Gov?

DI JENKINS. (*Quickly correcting himself*) Oh come on Williams, five years for what he did to Amanda Weston.

DS WILLIAMS. I read about that case.

DI JENKINS. Yea, well I lived it. He sat there all the way through the trial with this stupid smug grin on his face, like he knew he was going to beat us.

DS WILLIAMS. But he didn't though.

DI JENKINS. You say that but even when he was found guilty and sentenced the prick still had that smug smile on his face, like it was exactly what he wanted.

DS WILLIAMS. Maybe he just wanted to get under your skin.

BELIEVE ME

DI JENKINS. Well, he knew how to do that right enough. *(Sighs)* I often think about how Amanda Weston could have just been another good kid if she'd never laid her eyes on Eddie Fairchild.

DS WILLIAMS. She was hardly an angel before she knew him Gov.

DI JENKINS. *(Firmly)* A bit of youthful defiance is hardly the same thing.

DS WILLIAMS. I suppose so.

DI JENKINS. Eddie was a poison to that girl, a drug I suppose. She said herself, she couldn't keep away from him no matter how bad she knew he was.

DS WILLIAMS. It's odd though.

DI JENKINS. What is?

DS WILLIAMS. That she refused to testify. I mean if a bloke put me in the hospital and...

DI JENKINS. She had a concussion, the doctor himself said she was unlikely to remember anything.

DS WILLIAMS. About the fall yea but...

DI JENKINS. *(Snapping)* What's your point Williams?!

DS WILLIAMS. Well, after everything Eddie put her through, she still refused to testify against him. If he hadn't confessed, then...

DI JENKINS. *(Sternly)* That poor girl was scared out of her mind.

DS WILLIAMS. I know Gov...

DI JENKINS. *(Moving towards DS Williams in a slightly threatening manner)* She was raped...

DS WILLIAMS. She never said so though, did she?

DI JENKINS. *(Snapping)* She didn't have to! That animal threw her down a flight of stairs!

DS WILLIAMS. That could have been an accident like Lisa said and that her brother and Amanda were...

DI JENKINS. *(Interrupting)* Don't give me that whole 'they were in a relationship and she loved him' crap! Eddie was a toxin that got into her life! *(Slamming his fist into the desk)* And you want to question how reliable she was as a witness?!

DS WILLIAMS. *(Jumping scared)* No Gov!

DI JENKINS. Five years was a pathetic sentence. You and I both know it.

DS WILLIAMS. *(Slightly apprehensive)* Yes Gov.

BELIEVE ME

DI JENKINS. So, this time I am going to make sure that the shit sticks to Eddie Fairchild and he goes to prison for the rest of his miserable life.

DS WILLIAMS. Right Gov. *(There is a moment of tense silence before DI Jenkins glances at DS Williams.)*

DI JENKINS. Make sure those surveillance teams are set. I want Lisa Fairchild's flat watched twenty-four hours a day until that rat of a brother of hers comes back to the nest.

DS WILLIAMS. Right Gov.

(DS Williams walks towards the edge of the light, pauses to glance at DI Jenkins for a moment in a concerned way and then leaves. DI Jenkins sighs and opening a drawer of the desk he takes out a bottle of whiskey. He opens it before putting down the cap and taking up the picture again. He sighs and puts the picture down again before taking a swig from the bottle of whiskey while looking out at the audience.)

DI JENKINS. I will get you, you little bastard.

(DI Jenkins takes another swig from the bottle of whiskey as the lights fade and the sound of 'city life' (sirens, crowds of people, heavy traffic) is heard.)

SCENE 3

The sounds of 'city life' fades to sounds of the country (seagulls, waves, and wind). This plays for a moment or two before the light comes up on the phone booth area and Lisa's flat. The phone starts to ring and after another few moments Eddie runs into the light and picks up the phone in the booth. Both he and Lisa are dressed different as a few days have passed.

EDDIE. *(Out of breath)* Hello?

LISA. What's wrong?

EDDIE. Nothing...I had to run down here.

LISA. Why?

EDDIE. Aunt Doris wouldn't let me leave until we finished our game of scrabble.

LISA. *(Laughing)* Did you manage to beat her this time?

BELIEVE ME

EDDIE. Not a chance, the woman is like a walking dictionary.
(The two laugh for a moment before going quiet.)

LISA. So, how's it going down there?

EDDIE. That depends.

LISA. On what?

EDDIE. On how honest you want me to be.

LISA. You've never lied to me Eddie.

EDDIE. That's true.

LISA. So?

EDDIE. I'm bored out of my mind!

LISA. *(Laughing)* Oh dear.

EDDIE. It's not funny! Every day is a montage of soaps, scrabble and scones.

LISA. Doesn't seem like a bad life.

EDDIE. You know I can't stay here forever right?

LISA. *(Sighing)* Eddie...

EDDIE. Lisa, I have very little money and no life.

LISA. And you going to prison is better?!

EDDIE. You don't know that will happen.

LISA. You seemed pretty damn sure of it when you turned up at my house in the middle of the night.

EDDIE. Well maybe...

LISA. No! Look I have had people watching my flat for...

EDDIE. What?!

LISA. Since the morning after you left, Jenkins must have set up the surveillance.

EDDIE. Prick!

LISA. Eddie, you knew he was never going to just let this go.

EDDIE. I know but...

LISA. And that is why you have to stay there, until things die down, ok? *(Moment of silence.)* Eddie?

EDDIE. *(Sighing)* Ok, I'll stay put.

LISA. Thank you.

EDDIE. I'm the one who should be thanking you.

LISA. Don't talk daft!

EDDIE. I mean it Lisa, when this is all over, I'm going to make it up to you. I'm so sorry for dragging you into my mess...again.

BELIEVE ME

LISA. You're my brother, we look out for each other, always have.

EDDIE. Even when I don't deserve it.

LISA. What are you talking about?

EDDIE. If I'd listened to you about Amanda, we wouldn't be in this mess. *(Lisa freezes and the light on her flat dims and the light comes up on AMANDA stumbling. Eddie moves out of the phone booth and over to Amanda who proceeds to lean drunkenly into him.)*

AMANDA. Come on baby, the night is still young. We can go and find a club.

EDDIE. 'Manda it's three in the morning, nowhere is open.

AMANDA. *(Moving back from him)* Well then, we can dance right here. *(Amanda throws her arms above her head and proceeds to dance drunkenly)* DANCE WITH ME EDDIE! *(Eddie storms over and pulls Amanda's hands down.)*

EDDIE. *(Angrily)* Will you stop?!

AMANDA. *(Leaning into him)* Aw Eddie Bear, I'm just having a little fun.

EDDIE. Well, it's not fun for me!

AMANDA. *(Flirting)* Well...maybe we could have *(hiccups)* other kinds of fun. *(She opens Eddie's coat and leans in to kiss him. Eddie turns his face away. Amanda takes a step back.)* What the hell is your problem?

EDDIE. It's nothing.

AMANDA. Doesn't seem like nothing.

EDDIE. Amanda, it's late, let's just go.

AMANDA. *(Moving into him putting her arms around him)* In a minute, I want a kiss first. *(Eddie reaches up and takes Amanda's arms and moves them off him.)*

EDDIE. I'm not in the mood.

AMANDA. Fine! *(Turning and walking away from him)* What bug crawled up your ass?

EDDIE. Maybe it's because I can't remember the last time you were sober.

AMANDA. *(Scoffing)* What are you, my father? *(Smiling and turning back and walking over to him, flirtatious tone)* Is that it huh.... daddy?

EDDIE. *(Pushing her back)* What the hell is wrong with you?

BELIEVE ME

AMANDA. Eddie, relax! I'm just having fun...you remember fun right?

EDDIE. I remember you never used to talk like that.

AMANDA. Well maybe I've changed.

EDDIE. Well maybe I'm not too fond of this new Amanda. (*A moment of tense silence.*)

AMANDA. That so?

EDDIE. Yea...that's so.

AMANDA. You know, you want to be careful how you talk to me.

EDDIE. (*closing his coat*) That right?

AMANDA. After all...I've not told my parents about us. (*Eddie stops and turns slowly to face her.*)

EDDIE. What do you mean?

AMANDA. You know exactly what I mean. (*pretending to cry*) I thought he was a nice guy and then he started buying he drinks and...

EDDIE. (*Firmly*) Amanda stop.

AMANDA. (*still pretending to cry*) And then he said he'd walk me home but we cut through this alley and then before I could stop him I was on the ground and he.... (*suddenly stops crying and smiles*) Convincing isn't it?

EDDIE. (*Snarling*) You bitch!

AMANDA. Careful Eddie, I've been sweet 'cause you've kept me sweet but you keep talking to me like that and well...who knows what I'll say to my parents...or the police. (*Eddie lashes out and slaps Amanda across the face. Amanda stares at him in shock for a moment before turning and running away.*)

EDDIE. (*Calling*) Amanda! Wait! (*Amanda exits and Eddie goes back to the phone booth and picks up the phone as the lights come back up on Lisa.*)

EDDIE. I should have known then that she was nothing but trouble.

LISA. Well Amanda is in the past now.

EDDIE. I wish she was.

LISA. What do you mean?

EDDIE. Oh come on Lisa! You know that's the reason Jenkins is so convinced I did this.

LISA. You think so?

EDDIE. I know so.

BELIEVE ME

LISA. Well...all the more reason for you to stay down there until the dust settles.

EDDIE. Fair point.

LISA. So, you promise me you will keep your head low until...

EDDIE. Alright! I promise to be a good boy and keep out of harm's way.

LISA. That's all I ask. I'll call you next week, ok?

EDDIE. It will be the highlight of my week...I guarantee it.

LISA. *(Laughing)* Take care Eddie.

EDDIE. You too. *(Lisa goes to move the phone from her ear.)* Lisa. *(Lisa brings the phone back to her ear.)*

LISA. Yes?

EDDIE. Love you.

LISA. Love you too. *(Both hang up the phone. There is the sound of thunder followed by rain as Eddie looks out of the phone booth.)*

EDDIE. Oh, that's just great. *(Eddie puts the hood up on his coat before running out of the phone booth and off stage. Lisa has been still during this but now turns and walks downstage glancing as though peering round a curtain out of a window as the lights fade.)*

SCENE 4

The sound of busy city life and police sirens are heard before the lights come up on the police station space. DS Williams is sat at the desk writing a report. After a few moments Jenkins comes storming in throwing a jacket down angrily as he does so. DS Williams looks up startled.

DI JENKINS. Where the fuck is he?!

DS WILLIAMS. Gov?

DI JENKINS. Two weeks we've had men on that flat and no one has come out but her.

DS WILLIAMS. Maybe they missed him?

DI JENKINS. Williams, I have put the best men I know on this, they didn't miss anything.

DS WILLIAMS. You got clearance for that?

BELIEVE ME

DI JENKINS. Williams, Eddie Fairchild is a cold-blooded killer. I didn't have time for bloody clearance!

DS WILLIAMS. But you...

DI JENKINS. Doesn't matter now anyway.

DS WILLIAMS. Why?

DI JENKINS. The chief called me in this morning. Said that Lisa's made an official complaint of harassment, so he's pulling the plug.

DS WILLIAMS. Oh.

DI JENKINS. Oh? The chief is allowing a vicious killer to get away, all because his sister has kicked up a fuss and all you can say is 'oh'.

DS WILLIAMS. Don't get me wrong Gov, I want to find out what happened to Ms Daniels...

DI JENKINS. Claire, her name was Claire!

DS WILLIAMS. But...

DI JENKINS. Using her surname doesn't distance you from any of this you know.

DS WILLIAMS. I know but...

DI JENKINS. Once you see something like that, it doesn't just go away.

DS WILLIAMS. Gov, I know.

DI JENKINS. Oh, do you? Do you really? Because I stood there in that hospital room and told Amanda Weston that Eddie would pay for what he did.

DS WILLIAMS. He went to prison.

DI JENKINS. (*Slamming his hand on the desk*) It was five years! He'd have got the same for bloody credit card fraud.

DS WILLIAMS. If she wouldn't testify Gov...

DI JENKINS. Oh, spare me the sentimental bollocks of there was nothing we could do. There is ALWAYS something we can do. Just like there is now.

DS WILLIAMS. I don't see how Gov, if the chief has pulled the plug.

DI JENKINS. We can watch that flat ourselves.

DS WILLIAMS. What? All night?

DI JENKINS. You got somewhere better to be?

DS WILLIAMS. Well, no but...

BELIEVE ME

DI JENKINS. You don't think your free time is worth giving up catching a killer?

DS WILLIAMS. I didn't say that Gov.

DI JENKINS. No, but it's what you were thinking.

DS WILLIAMS. That's not...

DI JENKINS. You think this case isn't worth your time.

DS WILLIAMS. Gov that's not fair, I care about this case just as much as you do.

DI JENKINS. Well?

DS WILLIAMS. *(Cautiously)* Gov, have you ever thought that the reason Eddie Fairchild hasn't been caught is...

DI JENKINS. *(Impatiently)* Spit it out Williams!

DS WILLIAMS. Is because he was never in that flat to start with.

DI JENKINS. No.

DS WILLIAMS. Gov, you said it yourself. You've had your best men on this for two weeks and they've not seen him leave.

DI JENKINS. Well...

DS WILLIAMS. And we spoke to her neighbours. None of them said they've seen Eddie near the flat in weeks.

DI JENKINS. She could have shut them up.

DS WILLIAMS. How? Lisa Fairchild is hardly the intimidating type Gov.

DI JENKINS. She could have paid them not to...

DS WILLIAMS. Gov, there's no way she's got enough to pay hush money to her neighbours.

DI JENKINS. What are you actually saying Williams?

DS WILLIAMS. That maybe Lisa was telling the truth that night we went to see her. Maybe she'd not seen her brother in weeks because they had a falling out or...

DI JENKINS. Eddie was his sister's bodyguard from the moment their mother died Williams. He fought back against their old man even though he was half his size. Christ, he took a knife for her!

DS WILLIAMS. So?

DI JENKINS. So, you're saying that she just forgot about all that?

DS WILLIAMS. *(Firmly, standing up)* I'm saying that you wanting Eddie Fairchild to be guilty doesn't make it so!

BELIEVE ME

DI JENKINS. Williams, we have DNA under Claire Daniel's fingernails that is a match to Eddie Fairchild.

DS WILLIAMS. And the pathologist said that the timeline doesn't tally.

DI JENKINS. He's just covering his own back so...

DS WILLIAMS. So, everyone is wrong or a liar except you?

DI JENKINS. *(Slowly as though struggling to stay calm)* I know that Eddie Fairchild killed Claire Daniels, just like I know he raped and beat Amanda Weston. *(DI Jenkins takes up his coat and starts to put it on.)*

DS WILLIAMS. Where are you going?

DI JENKINS. I'm going to have another word with his sister.

DS WILLIAMS. Gov you...

DI JENKINS. Look! That girl is hiding something about her brother and I am not going to let her cover up for him again. *(finishes putting on his coat.)* Now are you coming or not? *(DS Williams looks at him and sighs taking her coat off the back of the chair. DI Jenkins storms out of the light. DS Williams proceeds to put her coat on. Off)* Now Williams! *(DS Williams jumps again, quickly fastens up her coat and leaves as the light fades. Busy city sounds and sirens are heard again.)*

***THE PLAY IS NOT OVER!! TO FIND OUT HOW IT ENDS—
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