

The Last Chance Mommas

An original screenplay by

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FADE IN:

INT. CRUISE SHIP. BALLROOM. SOUTH COAST ENGLAND. NIGHT.

We see MACY JONES, (38), mixed-race, a tribute act singer performing on stage, glamorous in a sequined dress and feather boa. Tough, professional, Macy's ready wit and warm heart hides a wounded soul, a survivor who has absorbed all the hard knocks of life and Macy's been dealt plenty.

Macy sings to the cruise ship CLIENTELE. A HANDSOME DRUNK MAN (30's) and his DRUNKEN FRIEND (30'S) knock back champagne, sitting at a front table in their dinner jackets. They leer up at Macy as she struts around the stage, striking sexy poses as she sings 'BIG SPENDER' as sung by SHIRLEY BASSEY.

MACY

(singing)

*The minute you walked in the joint
I could see you were a man of
distinction
Good looking, so refined
Wouldn't you like to know what's
going on in my mind?*

Macy is going through the motions, on automatic, her eyes are dull under the heavy make up. She is lonely and in pain.

INT. BALLROOM. LATER.

MACY has changed her outfit and is now dressed as TINA TURNER, a huge wig on, as she belts out 'PRIVATE DANCER'.

MACY (CONT'D)

(singing)

*All the men come in these places
And the men are all the same
You don't look at their faces
And you don't ask their names
I'm your private dancer, a dancer
for money
Do what you want me to do!*

Macy looks over to STEVE the DRUMMER (40's), a huge, kindly man. He nods at her as the AUDIENCE CLAPS.

INT. CORRIDOR. CRUISE SHIP.

MACY walks down the ship's narrow corridor, STEVE her DRUMMER behind her as the HANDSOME DRUNK MAN, sweating now, a bottle of champagne in his hand, steps forward and grinning, leers at Macy as his DRUNKEN FRIEND watches, laughing.

HANDSOME DRUNK MAN
Hey there? Will you be my private
dancer, baby?

The handsome drunk man leans into Macy as she brushes past, but she stamps on his foot with her high heel as she passes. Steve grins at them both as he squeezes past, flattening them to the wall with his large girth.

DRUMMER
Don't mess with baby. Baby walks on
water!

The man and his drunken friend curse and watch them pass.

INT. CABIN. CRUISE SHIP. NIGHT (LATER)

MACY lies alone in her cabin, propped up on pillows on her bed. She watches a film on her laptop. The light flickers from the screen but Macy's eyes are blank.

She sighs hard, checks her mobile for text. Nothing. She yawns and turns over, clicking out the light. Macy tosses and turns. She can't settle.

EXT. DECK. CRUISE SHIP. SEA. NIGHT.

MACY leans on the ships railing pulling on her vape, clouds of smoke circling around her. STEVE the DRUMMER appears and smiling comes near. They nod as Macy stares out to sea. They both stare ahead. Macy sighs and smiles wearily.

MACY
We'd better stop meeting like this!

They both laugh gently, comfortable together.

STEVE
How long left on your contract?

MACY
Too long. Way too long!

STEVE
Not going home for the break?

Macy shakes her head and laughs slightly.

MACY
You should know me by now, mate.
This is home.

INT. DRESSING ROOM. EVENING. (DAYS LATER)

MACY sits at her dressing table and charges up her vape. A SHOWGIRL (30's), blonde, glamorous in a high Las Vegas-style feathered headdress, comes in and hands Macy a telegram.

SHOWGIRL
Message for Miss Macy Jones!

Macy opens the telegram and reading it, gasping. ANOTHER SHOW GIRL comes in as Macy SHRIEKS and jumps up.

MACY
She wants me?! My baby wants to see
me again, my baby girl?! Haven't
seen her for twenty two years!

The two showgirls laugh, rushing off as they hear the BAND (O.S.) Macy, shaking, stares at herself in the mirror.

MACY (CONT'D)
Hear that, mum? I'm a mum again!

PRE-LAP: A CHILD'S VOICE 'Mum? Mum?!'

BEGIN FLASHBACK

INT. KITCHEN. RYDE. ISLE OF WIGHT. DAY. 1982.

ON YOUNG MACY (10), lipstick and stage make up on, staring in horror at SHEENA (30's), a former punk rock guitarist, collapsed, drunk, an empty bottle of whisky in her hand.

YOUNG MACY
Mum?! The competition, mum! Get up,
mum! You need to drive me?! If I
win they said I could be on that tv
show 'Search for a Star'!

Sheena rubs her eyes, unable to move. She hiccups.

SHEENA
Think I'm seeing stars?!

YOUNG MACY
Miss Jameson said my voice is the
best on the island, mum, the best!

Sheena hiccups and passes out as young Macy glares at her. Macy rushes out and we hear a DOOR SLAM.

PRE-LAP: TINA TURNER'S song 'THE BEST'.

MACY (O.S.)
 (singing)
*You're simply the best
 Better than all the rest
 Better than anyone
 Anyone I've ever met*

END FLASHBACK.

INT. BALLROOM. CRUISE SHIP. NIGHT. (PRESENT DAY)

ON MACY - singing her heart out, elated by her recent news. Her performance as *TINA TURNER* is electric. A SMALL AUDIENCE, dressed for dinner, all watch.

MACY (CONT'D)
 (singing)
*I'm stuck on your heart
 I hang on every word you say
 Tear us apart Baby, I would rather
 be dead!*

The HANDSOME DRUNK MAN and his DRUNKEN FRIEND stare up in awe. They look humbled.

EXT. DECK. CRUISE SHIP. SOLENT ESTUARY. NIGHT (LATER)

MACY leans on the balustrade of the ship, staring over the twinkling lights of Ryde Harbour on the Isle of Wight.

MACY (CONT'D)
 (laughing)
 Bye, bye, Tina! We had a good run.
 You an' all, Shirley. We've ridden
 the waves together for many a year,
 ladies, but now we're done!

Macy pulls off her *TINA TURNER* wig and throws it into the sea. She shakes out her hair and laughs happily and breathes in as the lights of Ryde twinkle in the darkness.

MACY (CONT'D)
 I'm coming, baby girl. Momma's
 coming home!

EXT. PIER HEAD. FERRY TERMINAL. RYDE. DAY (DAY LATER)

MACY emerges from the ferry terminal looking lively. Seagulls SQUAWK as A FEW OTHER PASSENGERS mill around. TWO FERRY MEN tie up the FERRY with ropes. Macy wheels her suitcase behind her and walks down Ryde's pier. She clicks on her mobile.

MACY
 (on phone)
 Jules? It's me! Get the Mermaids
 gin in, babes, got big big news!

Macy keeps walking along the pier as a truck drives past and slows down. A BUILDER (40's), muscle-bound, handsome, tattooed, leans out, his BUILDER'S MATE (40's) next to him.

BUILDER
 Macy Jones? You're looking good,
 gal. Where did I go wrong?

MACY
 It was the truck, mate. Too
 hillbilly for me!

The builder and his builder's mate both laugh warmly and drive on, HONKING the HORN as they go. Macy laughs happily.

EXT. RECEPTION. SEAFRONT HOTEL. RYDE. DAY. (BIT LATER)

MACY wheels her suitcase into the hotel. She checks in at the desk as the RECEPTIONIST shows her the book to sign in.

INT. HOTEL BEDROOM. DAY. (MINUTES LATER)

MACY enters a bedroom and flops onto a huge bed, a seafront room. She snaps on her mobile and kicks off her shoes. Macy gets up and opens the windows and breathes in the sea air. She looks across Ryde's huge sandy beach.

FREDDIE (O.S.)
 All I want to do is fuck and I
 can't imagine ever stopping
 fucking.

INT. CHURCH. MEETING ROOM. DAY. (SAME TIME)

We are in the middle of a weekly meeting of Sexaholics Anonymous. A GROUP, mainly MEN, some WOMEN, are seated in a large circle of chairs. FREDDIE (39), handsome, dark curly hair, boyish, a music Producer is in full flow.

NEVIL (40's), a Doctor, short, bald, very smooth is there in support. Freddie is on a roll and smiles at them.

FREDDIE

We've all been fucking our brains out for years because fucking, let's face it, people, is bloody lovely. That's why we're all so addicted to it, isn't that right?

Freddie looks around the group, enjoying the attention. Some group members shuffle awkwardly in their seats. Others smile. Silence. Freddie laughs softly, holding his hands up.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

Ok, it's just me then? I'm clearly a die-hard sexaholic!

A PRETTY WOMAN (30's) looks over at Freddie and he grins at her as she shyly smiles back.

MEETING ROOM. DAY. (BIT LATER)

FREDDIE approaches NEVIL who is chatting to a MALE SEXAHOLIC (40's) and the PRETTY WOMAN as they hold their cups of tea. Freddie looks anxious.

FREDDIE

Is there a bar here, Nev? Tea's not cutting it, mate!

They all laugh as Nevil smiles proudly at them all.

NEVIL

I'm Freddie's support buddy!

Freddie shoots a look at the pretty woman.

FREDDIE

Step One, Nev? Admit powerlessness over lust. Difficult. In fact, impossible, mate! And Step Two? The 'higher power' thing? I'm a full blown atheist!

NEVIL

(warmly)

We're here for you, Freddie. Night and day. Just call me.

Freddie nods and grins over at the pretty woman who giggles.

FREDDIE

I might be busy nights?

INT. OLD PEOPLES HOME. SANDOWN SEAFRONT. DAY. (SAME TIME)

JULES (38), beautiful, calm, long dark hair, a Northerner, is seated in an armchair massaging on OLD WOMAN'S feet. Jules rubs in the cream, sighing deeply.

OLD WOMAN
A penny for them, dearie?

JULES
Silly really? Dreaming of being a
rock and roll star!

OLD WOMAN
You'd make a lovely rock and roll
star, dear! You just need some
black leather trousers, and one of
those thong things, g-wotnots?

The old woman rolls her eyes and they both laugh.

INT. WIND TURBINE FACTORY. EAST COWES. DAY. (SAME TIME)

CHARLY (39), Scottish, long blonde hair, warm, earthy, a pre-operative Trans female lies on a small trolley under a large wind turbine machine, her overalls covered in oil.

A MECHANIC (#1)(30's), grins at Charly, lying next to her under the machine. They adjust engine parts with their spanners. The mechanic grins warmly over at Charly.

MECHANIC (#1)
You're me first, Charly boy? Never
met a tranny before!

Charly grins and shrugs as she adjust a bolt with his spanner

CHARLY
Trans female, mate. Three months to
meh op, then Charly boy becomes
Charlene! Da-dum!

A large drop of oil lands on Charly's forehead as she groans and wheels herself from under the engine as the Mechanic laughs hard. Charly wipes the oil off her face as they both laugh. Charly throws the oily rag at the Mechanic.

EXT./INT. BASEMENT FLAT. RYDE. DAY. (BIT LATER)

MACY knocks on the door of a flat. RICH (40's), Birmingham born technical computer boffin, a former lorry driver and wheelchair user, opens the door. His face lights up.

RICH
 Macy Jones? Been what, bab? Fifteen
 years or more? You're looking good!
 Let's get that kettle on!

MACY
 Tea? Nothing a bit stronger, Rich?

RICH
 (laughing)
 It was always Mermaid on the rocks,
 with you, Mace? Twist of lime?

Rich welcomes her in and wheels across the living room.

BIT LATER. BASEMENT FLAT. DAY.

MACY and RICH sit with their drinks.

MACY
 Gutted to hear that, Rich! I hope
 they got the bastard?

RICH
 They did, bab, but the crash ended
 me lorry driving days with a bang.
 Still? Life moves on, eh?

MACY
 I'm looking for Jules. Where's she
 hiding, Rich?

Rich sighs deeply as he knocks back his beer.

RICH
 She's out night and day, Mace. Saw
 more of her when we were all in
 that pub band together!

Macy nods and looks from the living room through an open door
 into a decorated baby room. She notices a cot and a hanging
 mobile. Rich shrugs sadly, gulping hard.

RICH (CONT'D)
 You know Jules? She never gives up!

MACY
 'The girl most likely to succeed'
 from school, I remember. I'll go
 see her, Rich, sort things out.
 Don't worry.

Rich brightens, grateful as Macy stands up.

MACY (CONT'D)

Best place to hire a car, Rich?
Something classy with a bit of
poke. You know me!

Rich laughs fondly and nods.

EXT. PLAYGROUND. OVERLOOKING BEACH. RYDE. DAY. (SAME TIME)

FREDDIE sits on a bench in a playground overlooking Ryde beach. He waits for his daughter DULCIE. CELIA (30's), hard, botoxed, wealthy, Freddie's ex-wife, turns up holding Dulcie's hand and they walk over.

Dulcie (9) hugs Freddie and runs off to play as Celia sits down on the beach next to Freddie. She's very held back.

CELIA

Dulcie told me there was a young
woman at the house last week?

Freddie shrugs and puts his hands in the air.

CELIA (CONT'D)

Jesus, Freddie? You've not long got
your visiting rights back!

FREDDIE

I'm doing my Twelve Steps, Celia,
and I'm trying to be a better man,
I am!

Celia stares hard at him.

CELIA

If you relapse, Freddie, it's your
visiting rights over as I'm not
having Dulcie around your seedy
rock and roll lifestyle. It's grow
up time, Freddie, your last chance!

Celia gets up as Dulcie runs over to Freddie and jumps on his lap. They hug fiercely.

DULCIE

Love you, Daddy Doos!
Besty daddy in the world!

FREDDIE

Love you, Dulcie Doos! See you
Saturday? I'll get the raspberry
lollies in, ok, mate?

DULCIE
Can we watch 'Love Island', daddy?

Freddie shoots a sheepish glance at Celia who rolls her eyes.

FREDDIE
'Love Island?' Woah?! That's way
too grown-uppy for you, Dulcie!

DULCIE runs off as Freddie blinks hard. He bites his lip.

EXT. ROAD. ISLE OF WIGHT. DAY.

MACY drives along in her convertible hire car. She passes through country lanes, loud MUSIC on the sound system. She sings along - *ARETHA FRANKLIN*, 'I SAY A LITTLE PRAYER'. Macy's voice is deep and soulful. She sings more loudly, looking brighter, happier as she drives fast.

INT./EXT. OLD PEOPLES' HOME. SANDOWN SEAFRONT. DAY.

ON MACY - getting out of her red convertible and removing her shades, looking over.

ON JULES - looking through the glass window front, her jaw dropping. Jules jumps up, excited.

ON THE OLD WOMAN - eyes widening, seated in the background.

OLD WOMAN
One of those rock stars, dear? Bet
she wears one of those g-wotnots!

Jules gasps and laughs in surprise, running out.

EXT. SANDOWN PIER. DAY. (MINUTES LATER)

MACY and JULES walk down Sandown Pier, arm in arm, chatting. There are small amusement arcades and a merry-go-round and the dodgems, bumper cars. Jules smiles at Macy.

MACY
Me? A mum, Jules? A mum at last!

Macy laughs, excited. Jules suddenly gulps hard.

JULES
I'm thrilled for you, Mace, after
your rotten start in life. I'm
thrilled! I'd do anything to be a
mum!

(MORE)

JULES (CONT'D)

Three go's at IVF and it's cost us
thousands and now we're drowning in
debt!

They walk past the DODGEMS - Bumper cars. Jules sits down on
the wooden edge that surrounds the dodgems and Macy sits next
to her. The MERRY GO ROUND ride nearby says 'Closed.' Jules
shakes her head, suddenly tearful.

JULES (CONT'D)

Rich and I are stuck, like that
ride over there, going nowhere!

Jules bursts into tears as Macy puts her arm around her.

MACY

Hey, Jules? I'm here for you. I'm
back now, OK?

Macy hugs Jules hard. The DODGEMS MAN in his booth puts on
some music. *CHRISSIE HYNDE* singing 'BRASS IN POCKET'. Jules,
brightening, wipes her nose as Macy smiles keenly.

MACY (CONT'D)

Chrissie Hynde, your favorite,
Jules? Those 80's women, they had
real class, eh? Annie Lennox,
Debbie Harry? I wouldn't have got
off this island without them!

JULES

I loved Toyah as well!

MACY

Toyah was a bad-assed babe!
Remember our school Punk band,
'Vulpae Luna', Jules? What the
hell did that mean anyway?

JULES

Wolves of the Moon or something?
Thought we were dead clever!

They both laugh as Jules wipes her nose and brightens.

MACY

We did anything to get attention.
Anything to get the best looking
guys an' all.

JULES

You got Freddie Armstrong. Hottest
guy on the island and the richest!

MACY

Bah? That arrogant knob blew his last chance with me!

JULES

Best sex you said you'd ever had?

MACY

Yeah, but Freddie disappeared! Left me shivering on the sand under that boat on Ryde beach. Tossler!

Macy jumps up and plays air guitar. She's hiding the hurt and doing a convincing job. She strikes a Rock Star pose.

MACY (CONT'D)

I'm done with men, Jules. No one needs anyone. Macy Jones is a solo artiste!

Jules laughs and gets up. They sing *CHRISSIE HYNDE'S 'BRASS IN POCKET'* as it plays in the background.

MACY (CONT'D)

(singing)
Cause I'm going to make you see!

JULES

(singing)
*There's nobody else here
No one like me!*

MACY

(singing)
I'm special, so special!

MACY/JULES

(together)
*I gotta have some of your attention
Give to me!*

Macy and Jules dance around, playing air guitars as the amused DODGEMS MAN watches and gives the thumbs up, smiling.

DODGEMS MAN

(shouting over)
You girls having a ride? Shutting down so it's your last chance.

Macy and Jules laugh and jump into a separate bumper car each and drive around chasing each other, bumping into each other.

INT. FREDDIE'S ARCHITECT DESIGNED HOUSE. WOODS. RYDE. DAY.

FREDDIE, naked under a dressing gown, is in the lavish, open plan kitchen of his house. He looks out through the open doors to the jacuzzi on his terrace where an ATTRACTIVE WOMAN (20's) sitting in the bubbles, half naked, waits for him.

The DOORBELL goes and Freddie goes to open the door as a POSTMAN hands him a huge human-sized package. Freddie drags the package in and lays it on a bench.

He unwraps the package and reels back as the face of a silicone FEMALE SEX BOT is revealed - red lips, huge dark lashes. The SEX BOT blinks up at Freddie. FREDDIE SHRIEKS and jumps back. A NOTE falls out from CELIA, his ex-wife.

FREDDIE
(reading)
'This should help! Celia.' What?!
Fuck me?!

Freddie reels back in shock. The Sex Bot beats her lashes.

SEX BOT
I can do that big boy!

Freddie gasps and wraps up the SEX BOT, marching her to the cupboard where he shuts her in. The ATTRACTIVE WOMEN, outside in the jacuzzi shouts over.

ATTRACTIVE WOMAN
Freddie? Where's that cocktail?

FREDDIE
I'm coming, I'm coming!

We hear the SEX BOT from inside the kitchen cupboard.

SEX BOT (O.S.)
You're coming, big boy? Ooof! Wait
for me!

Freddie SHRIEKS, jumping backwards and runs off.

INT. FREDDIE'S BATHROOM. DAY. (MOMENTS LATER)

Freddie wipes his brow and quickly lays down a line of cocaine at the side of the sink. He sniffs it up and stares at himself in the bathroom mirror. He's starting to sweat and looks up, crossing himself.

FREDDIE

Step Two. Turn your life over to a Higher Power! I'm an atheist, Lord, as you probably know by now, but I could convert ... ?!

Freddie gulps very hard, hands clenched looking up.

EXT. MANSION HOUSE. LEAFY SUBURBS. RYDE. DAY

MACY and JULES stand on the gravel drive of a huge Tudor-style mansion in its own leafy grounds. They look over to a paddock and see SOPHIE (22), beautiful, immaculate, long groomed hair, riding a HORSE.

On MACY - eyes widening, pulling out a packet of cigarettes as Jules grabs them from her.

ON SOPHIE - riding her horse, flying over a jump and landing gracefully. Beauty in motion. Perfection.

ON MACY - shaking, overwhelmed. She turns to Jules.

MACY

Let's get the hell out of here?!

Jules shakes her head firmly and grabs Macy's arm and bangs the BRASS door knocker. NEVIL (whom we saw at Sexaholics Anonymous) opens the door and smiles warmly.

NEVIL

Hello there, ladies?

SUE, another Doctor (40's), tall, sophisticated, repressed, stands behind Nevil. Macy steps forward, very jittery.

MACY

Macy Jones. Remember me from the hospital ...?

NEVIL

Gosh? Of course we do, Macy! You don't look a day older. How have things been for you? Hear you're a singer - on a cruise ship?

MACY

I was but no more cruising for me. This babe is docked!

Sue raises an eyebrow as Macy, biting her lip, grins at Sue.

MACY (CONT'D)

Been a long time? Sue, wasn't it?

SUE

Strangely enough, it still is.

Nevil smiles at them ushering them in. He looks at Sue.

NEVIL

Shall I get the tea on, pumpkin?

Sue nods and walks ahead as Macy turns to Jules and makes a face. Jules stifles a giggle, shaking her head at Macy.

INT. LIVING ROOM. DAY. (MINUTES LATER)

NEVIL walks into the lavish drawing room carrying a large tray with tea cups and teapot as MACY and JULES sit perched on the edge of an antique chaise longue, SUE opposite them.

ON SOPHIE - walking in through the open French windows and shaking out her long hair, taking off her riding hat. Poised, Sophie looks at Macy, smiling politely.

ON MACY - her eyes widening as she runs over to hug her.

ON SUE - her eyes narrowing, breathing hard.

MACY

(gasping/jittery)

Sophie?! Oh, Sophie ...? Is it really you, babes? Ach, sorry, bet I stink of smoke? Only on the vape, mind you! You a doctor too?

Sophie smiles politely, but she's holding back.

SOPHIE

No, I'm a trainee vet. Or was!

Macy, trembling, laughing softly, comes close to Sophie

MACY

Wow? Sophie? Your eyes are still turquoise like the sea! How did I create someone so beautiful?

Macy smiles deeply at Sophie. Sue, tense, gets up.

SUE

(to Sophie)

Darling? It's not safe to ride. Not in your condition!

Sophie shrugs and rubs her stomach. She smiles at Macy.

SOPHIE

Mum and Dad are angry that I'm giving up my medical studies, but I'm determined to keep my baby.

ON MACY - reeling backwards.

MACY

Me a mum and a grand mum too? Wow?! Life doesn't get much better than that! Screw me sideways?!

Macy laughs as Nevil, Jules and Sophie laugh as Macy punches the air. Sue reels back in distaste.

EXT. GARDEN. MANSION HOUSE. DAY. (BIT LATER)

MACY and SOPHIE walk in the large manicured garden. SUE looks out through the open French windows. Macy is winging it, elaborating as she goes.

MACY

Both my parents were wiped out in a car crash. Happened so suddenly!

SOPHIE

That's very tough. So what about my dad? Where is he now?

Macy gulps a bit uneasy and smiles.

MACY

He's ...? He's in transition but he'll come soon. He will!

Sophie shrugs and walks ahead. Macy catches up.

MACY (CONT'D)

And you're pregnant? That's so brilliant! The baby's dad?

SOPHIE

He doesn't want to know. Typical drunken medic. I'm going it alone.

She shoots a look at Macy aware of effect of her words.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Just like you did, mum. You gave me up? Was I somehow not good enough?

MACY

You were perfect! Perfect in every way, Sophie! I wanted you to have the perfect life but I was sixteen with no support!

Macy breathes hard and comes close to Sophie and pulls out a silver locket. She opens it. A tiny lock of BABY SOPHIE'S hair. Macy gulps slowly as Sophie's eyes widen.

MACY (CONT'D)

I kept you with me, Sophie. Everywhere I sailed. Close to my heart. You and I have a second chance now and that's amazing!

Sophie gulps as tears fill her eyes. We sense her mind is also on something else. Something big.

ON SUE - her eyes widening as she storms out to the garden.

SUE

Finished your chin wag out there?
Tea and sandwiches waiting!

Sue goes back in as Sophie now brightens and looks at Macy.

SOPHIE

I've heard you're a singer, mum? I need a favour. A humongous favour so get ready!

Sophie slowly smiles as Macy's eyes widen. She nods eagerly.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

They tell me you're a rock chic?

MACY

Me? More of a soul sister! Punk/New Wave kind of vibe.

SOPHIE

Even better!

Sophie grins as Macy leans in intrigued. Macy rolls her eyes.

INT. FREDDIE'S KITCHEN. WOODS. RYDE. DAY. (SAME TIME)

ON FREDDIE - sitting at his kitchen table and munching on his cereal as LOUD MUSIC plays.

ON THE SEX BOT - sitting, propped up in a chair. Freddie stares at the SEX BOT who winks at him. Freddie's MOBILE RINGS. It's NEVIL. Freddie reads a text and reads aloud.

FREDDIE
 (reading)
*'Get in touch if you are
 struggling? Nev.'*

The sex bot smiles and beats her lashes. Her voice is sexy.

SEX BOT
 Struggling, big boy? I can help!

Freddie, reeling, breathes very hard. He's struggling.

FREDDIE
 (to himself)
 Step Three! Turn over one's life
 over to God as we understand him?
 Fuckerrama?! I could burn in Hell
 for this!

Freddie wrestles with this but suddenly grabs the SEX BOT putting her under his arm as he walks off.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)
 Once a sexaholic, always a sexaholic!

SEX BOT
 Once a sexaholic, always a sexaholic!

EXT. MANSION HOUSE. DRIVE. LEAFY SUBURBS. RYDE. DAY (LATER)

MACY grins and hugs SOPHIE hard. NEVIL hugs Macy and JULES. SUE walks away across the gravel drive and nods to Macy to come over. Macy walks over as Sue leans in hissing softly.

SUE
 The raw emotion that birth mothers
 and their children feel when they
 meet again can be overwhelming.
 I've seen it before as a Doctor,
 and it doesn't always end well!

Macy reels back, her eyes widening. She comes close to Sue.

MACY
 That walk I did down the hospital
 corridor, my warm baby girl in my
 arms, was the longest walk I've
 ever done.

(MORE)

MACY (CONT'D)

My legs turned to jelly and my heart was pumping but my head was saying 'Do it for your baby girl! Do it, Macy!' I couldn't give Sophie all the posh stuff you've given her, Sue, but Sophie and me are blood, so never forget that!

Sue reels back. Macy brightens, calling over to Jules.

MACY (CONT'D)

Hey, Jules? You and me are gonna be rock and roll stars!

Macy and Jules walk off, arm in arm, as Sophie goes into the house. Sue, her face darkening watches them go. Nevil smiles.

NEVIL

Nice people, eh, pumpkin?

SUE

'Nice people?' No, beetroot. Not nice people at all!

PRE-LAP: JULES SHRIEKING

EXT. WOODS. DAY (BIT LATER)

MACY and JULES walk through the wood. Macy beaming but Jules is freaking out, shaking her head.

JULES

You're kidding me?! I haven't played my guitar for years, Mace? Years! I'm as rusty as hell!

MACY and Jules stand in a path in the woods.

MACY

It's a charity competition, Rock Chix, Sophie's one of the organisers! She's supporting these mums with cancer with babies, bless her. I can finally do something for my girl! Please, Jules?

Jules rolls her eyes. She slowly nods and grins.

JULES

Gone for fifteen years, Macy Jones, and now you're dragging me back on stage?! Ach, OK!

(MORE)

JULES (CONT'D)

Better get me leather trousers on,
and if they don't fit, you're
buying me sexy designer ones!

MACY

Deal, Jules. I promise!

Macy laughs and hugs Jules fiercely. Jules suddenly sees something through the branches and staggers back.

JULES

(gasping)

No way? It isn't? Is it? Oh, my
god, Mace? It's Fab Five Freddie!

Macy sees FREDDIE, through the branches, naked in his jacuzzi with the SEX BOT, also naked propped up. Freddie is drinking champagne as LOUD MUSIC drifts out of his house.

ON MACY - pushing through the branches. She sees a DEAD RAT on the ground and picks it up by the tail as she shouts over.

MACY

Oi? Freddie Armstrong? Over here!

ON FREDDIE - looking over, puzzled.

ON MACY - pushing through the bracken, face grim, determined.

MACY (CONT'D)

A rat for a rat!

ON MACY - swinging the DEAD RAT by the tail.

ON FREDDIE - jumping up in the jacuzzi, hands cupping his private parts as the DEAD RAT lands in the jacuzzi.

SPLASH!

MACY (CONT'D)

Compliments of Macy Jones!

Macy turns round and runs as Jules watches, wide eyed.

JULES

Oh, my god, Mace? Look? That woman?
She's not alive!

ON MACY - spinning round, sees the naked SEX BOT.

ON FREDDIE - scuttling into his house, the towel falling off him, the SEX BOT under his arm. Macy gasps, stunned.

MACY

Never ...? What? The sicko?!

Macy and Jules run off through the woods, laughing.

MUSIC. Something like *MARTHA & THE MUFFINS - 'ECHO BEACH'*--

EXT. RYDE BEACH. DAY. (CONTINUOUS)

--MUSIC CONTINUES - MACY and JULES dance along RYDE'S huge open beach, empty apart from a few DOG WALKERS. They do their dance routine from school playing air guitars as THREE YOUNG GIRLS (10) run after them and join in the dance routine.

INT. WIND TURBINE FACTORY. EAST COWES. NEXT DAY. DAY.

We see CHARLY and a COUPLE OF MECHANICS, all in overalls, sipping at mugs of tea. MECHANIC (#1) and MECHANIC (#2) laugh warmly as Charly pulls out a small vial of estrogen and sniffs it quickly. She grins warmly at them.

MECHANIC (#1)

Your whanger and your testicles
will shrink? That right, Charly?

Charly nods and smiles putting the vial in her pocket.

MECHANIC (#2) (CONT'D)

Then it's the removal of yer bumpy
bits, that right, mate?

CHARLY

Aye! Meh tadger goes. At last!

MECHANIC (#1) grabs his crotch, moaning, eyes rolling.

ON MACY - standing on the other side of the factory floor. She looks stunning in her suit and shades. Charly gasps.

CHARLY (CONT'D)

Macy Jones? Feck meh?!

Macy and Charly rush together and hug fiercely. The MECHANICS lean on some machinery and stare admiringly over at Macy.

MECHANIC (#1)

(sighing hard)
Ooof? Why him?

MECHANIC (#2) (CONT'D)

Get it right, mate. Why 'her'?

They laugh softly--

EXT. WIND TURBINE FACTORY. DAY. (CONTINUOUS)

--MACY, giggling in disbelief, touches CHARLY'S long blonde hair. Charly grins at her.

MACY

Wow? My ex a woman? I'm reeling here, Charly! Reeling!

CHARLY

Been passing as a woman for nearly two years now, hen, waiting for meh op. But fifteen years? Where were yeh all that time, fannybaws? Floating around on the Solent?

MACY

After I gave up my baby, I was frozen. I had to sign her over completely, no visits allowed. Just didn't want to drag you in.

CHARLY

I'm here to be dragged in, always was! Ever since we were in that hell hole they called a care home.

MACY

We took some risks back then, eh, Charly?

CHARLY

Playing ma's and dah's we were, getting the practice in, not that I ever became a dah, eh, hen?

They both laugh softly. Macy grins nervously..

MACY

That's where you're wrong, Charly. You are a dah! We've got a baby girl. She's here, living on the island, Charly. She's posh, beautiful, dead smart, she's perfect unlike us two head-bangers!

Macy grins as Charly staggers backwards, gasping.

CHARLY

Me a dah? Never?! Yeh's kidding me reit, fannybaws?

Macy now grins and nods slowly. Charly implodes.

MACY

I'm putting a band together for this Rock Chix shindig. Sophie needs the dosh for her mums with cancer and you're the only one who can play! I need your help, babes?

CHARLY, still reeling, nods slowly, clutching he wall.

MACY (CONT'D)

Sophie's pregnant so you and me are Nana and Grandpa. I mean Nana and Nana, of course!

CHARLY

(reeling)
Nana ... and ... Nana?!

Charly starts to hyper ventilate. Mechanics (#1 & #2) come out, holding their mugs of tea. Their eyes widen.

MECHANIC (#2)

She's gets a bit excitable.
Hormones, I reckon?

CHARLY

Lads? I'm gonna be a ma? A Nana too!

MECHANIC (#2) splutters on his tea and burns his lips.

EXT. HOUSE. SIDE STREET. RYDE. DAY. (BIT LATER)

ON JULES - standing outside a house in a side street. She is heavily made up, a glittery basque under a fur coat. She slowly knocks on the door.

ON THE BROTHEL MADAME (50's) - tough, businesslike, opening the door. An ELDERLY MAN (60's) inside is waiting for Jules and he looks out eagerly.

ON JULES - shaking her head, horrified, running off.

EXT STREET. NEAR BROTHEL. DAY. (HOUR LATER)

ON JULES - still made up, stands outside the Brothel again and is about to ring the bell.

ON MACY - walking down the other side of the street. She sees Jules looking nervous, in her high heels.

MACY
 (shouting)
 Jules? What you up to?

THE BROTHEL MADAME pops her head out, smoking a cigarette. She looks furtive and hisses at Jules as Macy walks over.

MADAME
 Make your bleeding mind up! Could get done for this, my girls on the streets!

MACY
 Bah? This girl has just resigned!

The Brothel Madame SLAMS the door quickly as Macy grabs Jules's arm and drags her off. Jules is tearful.

JULES
 I wanted to get the dosh for another IVF go! I'm desperate to have a baby, Mace, desperate!

Macy stops and stares hard at Jules.

MACY
 I'll fund your next IVF go, Jules, but it's got to be your last as it's draining out your marriage!

JULES
 Oh, Macy?! You can't? Can you?!

Jules shrieks and hugs Macy as they suddenly see NEVIL, SOPHIE'S adoptive father, parking his large car in front of the brothel and quickly walking towards the brothel. He looks furtive. THE MADAME lets him in as Macy and Jules reel back.

JULES (CONT'D)
 Never? Sophie's dad!

MACY
 Not surprised shackled up with the Iron Lady? Getting his rocks off!

They laugh loudly as Macy grabs Jules's hand.

MACY (CONT'D)
 Come on, you. We need a plan for our band! Can anyone play on the island? I mean really play, Jules?

JULES
 Loads of talent on the island!

MACY

We need to win this mother fucker,
Jules. I'm on a last chance too!

They link arms happily as BRENDA (38), an old school friend,
crosses the road and towards them. She stops and stares.

BRENDA

Macy Jones? We were in year four
together. Brendan Snape. Remember?

MACY

Hell yes? Brenda!

JULES

We're putting a band together,
Bren, and we need girl musicians.
Put the word out if you can!

BRENDA

I loved your school band. 'Vulpae
Luna?' Never knew what the name
meant, mind?

MACY

Neither did we! Can't stop now,
Bren, we're women on a mission!

Macy and Jules walk off as Brenda watches them go. They sing
TOYAH'S - 'I WANNA BE FREE' as a PASSING CAR HOOTS - more OLD
SCHOOL FRIENDS. Macy and Jules wave over.

MACY/JULES

(singing)

*We're gonna turn this world
Upside down!
Turn suburbia
Inside out!
Going to walk the streets
Scream and shout!
Going to crawl through alleyways,
being very loud!*

INT. PUB. RYDE. NIGHT. (LATER)

MACY and JULES are in a pub watching CHARLY play in her BAND
with TWO OTHER MUSICIANS. A group of FOUR ROUGH WOMEN (38)
are there at a table, including STACEY STATTON (38), a large
mean-faced woman, the school bully, points over at Macy.

STACEY

Look whose floated back in? Macy
Jones? Finished cruising have ya?

ROUGH FRIEND (#1.)
 'Cruising, eh? Ha!

They laugh as Macy slowly gives them the one-fingered salute.

STACEY
 Hear your girl is on the island?
 Dead posh they say, unlike mud
 face!

STACEY and her rough woman friends laugh harshly as Macy,
 fuming, jumps up but Jules quickly pulls her back.

JULES
 Women on a mission remember!

Macy scowls at them as Charly and his BAND finish their set.
 Charly walks over with a pint in her hand. She's shaking.

CHARLY
 Panic attack! Two years of passing
 as a hen and it's turning meh head
 to mince?!

Charly laughs nervously as Macy squeezes her hand.

MACY
 You'll get there, mate, you will.

JULES
 Hey, Charly? We saw Freddie
 Armstrong yesterday! Outside his
 posh pad up near the Abbey. Mace
 threw a rat into this jacuzzi?!

Charly laughs and shakes his head as they rap together from
DEBBIE HARRY'S 'RAPTURE'

MACY/JULES/CHARLY
 (rapping together)
*Fab Five Freddie told me
 everybody's high
 DJ's spinnin' are savin' my mind!*

They collapse laughing.

CHARLY
 Flash Freddie is a big baws music
 producer? Why don't we ask him?

MACY
 Naaa! This is an all-girl band. We
 need a shit-hot female manager ...

EXT. RYDE PIER HEAD. RYDE. CONTINUOUS. EVENING.

ON SHEENA - (60's), Macy's mother, a bedraggled former Punk guitarist, drunkenly staggering down Ryde Pier towards town.

MACY (O.S.)

... a really together woman we can depend on. We need a rock!

Dyed red spiky hair, leather jacket held together with large safety pins, torn tights, Sheena totters on her high heels, dragging a bag of belongings behind her. She takes a hip flask out of her jacket, taking a swig. A TAXI passes and she waves it down but it doesn't stop.

SHEENA

(shouting)

Bah?! Island inbreds! Don't you know who I am? I'm (hic?) Sheena of Sheena & The Vaginas and I was kissed by Sting, yes, Sting! He was a bloody good snogger too!

EXT. MACY'S NEW FLAT. RYDE SEAFRONT. EVENING. (LATER)

ON MACY - her jaw slowly dropping as she opens her door.

ON SHEENA - standing there, swaying, grinning a bit drunk.

MACY

Look what the tide has washed up?
The dregs!

Sheena smiles warmly, revealing a rotten front tooth.

SHEENA

Word travels fast between the Island and Portsmouth. They threw me out of my flat, honey, a drugs gang!

MACY

Go crawl back into the drain you slithered up from, mum. You left me in hell, so go rot there!

Macy SLAMS the door hard. Sheena shrugs. She lays out her sleeping bag, blinking back a tear and takes a quick nip from her hip flask. She sits on her sleeping bag and softly sings from the song - '*SHEENA IS A PUNK ROCKER*' - *THE RAMONES*.

SHEENA
 (singing to herself)
Sheena is a punk rocker.
Sheena is a punk rocker!
Sheena is a punk rocker, now!

EXT./INT. MACY'S FLAT. RYDE SEAFRONT. NIGHT (LATER)

MACY looks out from her bedroom window and sees a huddled mass - SHEENA. It's cold outside.

EXT. MACY'S FLAT. NIGHT.

MACY shakes her head slowly. She tip-toes out carrying a duvet. She lays it over her SNORING mother. Macy runs back into her flat.

INT. MACY'S FLAT. RYDE SEAFRONT. DAY. (NEXT DAY)

MACY and JULES sit on cushions as SHEENA, sleeping bag wrapped around her, grandly lies across the chaise longue waving around a mug of tea. Macy's face is grim.

SHEENA
 (eyes rolling)
 They wanted me to be a 'farmer' and
 look after their marijuana crop. I
 was terrified, girls, terrified!

Sheena wipes away tears, hoping they are moved.

MACY
 A tragic life story, mum. Bit like
 mine after you dumped me at ten
 years old at the local kids home!
 'Gone to London to be a Punk star!'

SHEENA
 (eyes rolling)
 After 'The Vaginas' split, the
 Manager dumped me in Leicester
 Square, he'd promised to make me a
 solo star? I was duped, honey!

Macy puts her hands over her ears. Sheena gulps hard and looks at Jules, who nods over kindly. Sheena blinks at Jules.

SHEENA (CONT'D)
 I was a complete screw up as a a
 mother as I had no kind of mother
 myself, you see?

Jules nods, drawn in as Macy jumps up, grabbing her car keys.

EXT. SOCIAL SERVICES BUILDING. NEWPORT/ISLE OF WIGHT. DAY

MACY screeches in, in her open convertible, and parks in front of the building, SHEENA next to her, bags on her lap.

MACY

Your new home, mum. Social Services!
The very same place you dumped me!

Macy gets out of the car and walks round to Sheena's side and opens her door. Sheena slowly gets out, blinking very hard.

SHEENA

I did come back after I heard you
were pregnant, honey, I did! Six
years I waited but you'd sailed
off, Macy, and no one knew where?!

Macy is shocked and looks away. She softens slightly.

SHEENA (CONT'D)

Depression, drink, even Aspergers
set in. I told Sting about you?!

MACY

Sting?

SHEENA

I knew them all, honey! Rotten,
Toyah, Annie Lennox, a real poppet
she was. I know I'm a mess, baby
girl, but doesn't everyone deserve
a last chance?

Macy breathes hard. She suddenly marches back to the passenger door of her car, the roof still down. She opens the door and nods over to Sheena to get in and she walks round the car to get into the driver's seat.

MACY

OK, here's the deal, mum! Cut the
booze and no more 80's 'Vaginas'
bull crap either. My band comes
first and so does this concert and
you come way, way down the list.
You're on permanent probation!

Sheena flies into the open top car, legs akimbo. Macy glares at her. Sheena nods happily, eyes rolling as Macy roars off.

INT. CHURCH HALL. RYDE. DAY. (WEEK LATER)

MACY, JULES, CHARLY sit behind a long trestle table as FEMALE SINGERS and MUSICIANS come in as SHEENA, running around and getting in everyone's way, ushers them in.

A WILD-EYED HIPPY (60's) strums her guitar and sings from 'BLOWING IN THE WIND.' Her voice is shrill. It's painful.

WILD-EYED HIPPY
 (screeching/singing)
*How many seas must a white dove
 sail
 Before she sleeps in the sand?
 The answer, my friend, is blowin'
 in the wind
 The answer is blowin' in the wind!*

A LOUD FART. Sheena snorts loudly.

SHEENA
 Whoops? Just blowing in the wind!

Macy glares at Sheena as the wild-eyed hippy grins eagerly at them all. Jules gulps and smiles kindly.

JULES
 Sorry, love, but we're forming a
 punk band. Thanks so much!

The WILD-EYED HIPPY droops and walks out. Macy looks over at Jules as Jules grins and shrugs.

An ANGRY GOTH-PUNK (30's), tatooe'd from head to toe, strides in. She has a BULLDOG on a string. The ANGRY GOTH-PUNK grabs the mic and sings 'GOD SAVE THE QUEEN' by THE SEX PISTOLS. A unsettling, angry voice and Macy/Jules/Charly reel back.

ANGRY GOTH-PUNK
 (singing)
*God save the Queen!
 A facist regime!
 They made you a moron
 A potential H bomb!
 No future No future
 No future for you!*

SHEENA
 (giggling)
 Nor you, honey!

Macy glares over at Sheena as Sheena quickly looks pious. Macy smiles kindly at the Angry Goth-Punk.

MACY

That was great but forgot to mention? We're forming a blues band. Should have said!

ANGRY GOTH-PUNK

Knew you couldn't handle it? Old timers never can. Ha!

The ANGRY GOTH-PUNK storms out as Jules rolls her eyes.

INT. CHURCH HALL. RYDE. LATER. DAY

SHEENA comes in, very unsteady, slightly drunk now, with a tray of teas and puts it down in front of MACY and JULES.

TWO FEMALE TWINS (70's) walk in. ONE TWIN has an electric guitar. Jules smiles warmly at them.

TWIN (#1)

'My Way.' The Sid Vicious version. Know it, dearies?

JULES

Certainly do. Take it away, ladies!

They sing 'MY WAY', TWIN (#1) striding around with the microphone as TWIN (#2) thrashes her guitar.

TWINS

(singing)

And so?

The end is near

And so we face the final curtain!

Charly covers her ears, the guitar deafening as Macy and Jules sigh deeply.

INT. CHURCH HALL. RYDE. DAY. (LATER)

MONTAGE

- FEMALE SINGERS and MUSICIANS come in and out, SHEENA ushering them in as she darts out to the corridor to have a nip of whisky from her hip flask, spraying her mouth.

- A STRAIGHT-LACED GEOGRAPHY TEACHER (40's) on the banjo

- A CHOIR OF FIVE WOMEN (50's), straight-laced, singing acapella, hitting wrong notes as they go.

- A BAND OF SCHOOL GIRLS (in their 50's) dressed as *BRITNEY SPEARS* dance in unison, singing '*BABY ONE MORE TIME*'.

END MONTAGE

MACY paces around, stressed, looking at her phone and smoking a cigarette. Jules looks glum. Macy reads her phone.

MACY

(reading)

*'Hope rehearsals are going well,
Sophie'* Five weeks till the
competition and we're going
nowhere?! Help?! You said the
island was full of talent, Jules?

JULES

Maybe all the talent's left?

ANGEL (30), Afro-Caribbean, large, curvaceous, warm, pops her head around the door. Angel smiles keenly.

ANGEL

My mate said you were looking for
female musicians?

Angel walks in with her guitar and with her son, TEZ (8). Tez goes to sit down and takes out some paper and crayons.

ANGEL (CONT'D)

That's Tez and I'm Angel.

Angel strikes a chord on her acoustic guitar.

ANGEL (CONT'D)

Wrote this one when I was in
prison. Got a year for shoplifting
but I've got my act together now.
I'm here because of Tez and our
future. When you're bumping along
the bottom the only way is up!

Macy nods, impressed. Angel now strikes up on the guitar sings her own song '*BREAK OUT*' as Tez taps his fingers

ANGEL (CONT'D)

(singing)

*She's sitting quietly on the till
Wondering how she will
Get through every day?*

(MORE)

ANGEL (CONT'D)

*Weeks keep coming, weeks keep going
But this girl, whose dreams keep
flowing
Is knowing that she's going to
break out!*

Sheena snorts, swaying around now.

SHEENA

Prison break out, more like!

Sheena slips out of the room as Macy glares at her. Angel smiles at them all.

ANGEL

I get Tourettes when I'm over-
excited, you see, or overheat, but
don't worry, guys. I'm across it.

MACY

I was almost was a single mum
myself, Angel, and single mums need
support. You're good and you're in!

Angel yelps and does a little dance on the spot. Her Tourettes tic starts and she struggles.

ANGEL

Amazing ...! Amazing! F-f-f-f-f-f-f-
fu ...?! Fu-fu-fu-fu?

MACY/JULES/CHARLY

(together/politely)
Fuck?

EXT. PLAYGROUND. BEACH. RYDE. SAME TIME. DAY

ON FREDDIE - sitting on a bench watching DULCIE run around with OTHER CHILDREN. He checks his emails on his phone as Dulcie runs over and bounces onto Freddie's lap.

DULCIE

Daddy? Where is France? Mummy's
always talking about France!

FREDDIE reels back, thinking hard, and points across the sea.

FREDDIE

France is over there, Dulcie-Doos,
and the Isle of Wight is here.
France is a long, long way!

Dulcie now rushes off as Freddie's eyes narrow in concern.

INT. CHURCH HALL. RYDE. DAY. (LATER)

SUKI (20's), Chinese, privately educated, bright, energetic, spiky hair, as much boy as girl, stands grinning at them as CHARLY sets up the DRUM KIT. MACY, JULES, CHARLY, ANGEL all watch as SHEENA fusses around in the background.

SUKI

Been on a gap year. Four gap years actually. I'm non-binary and haven't told the folks back in Hong Kong. Wealthy business folk, so they wouldn't get it. I don't identify as a male or female and I believe that gender is a spectrum and I'm somewhere in the middle.

Macy and Jules nod impressed by Suki's honesty.

SUKI (CONT'D)

My years of sofa-surfing have been funded by the folks and I need this gig to show them what I can do. If you people don't object, could you call me 'they?'.

SHEENA, in the background, snorts a bit drunkenly.

SHEENA

'They?' Even my old mate Bowie, a gender-bender of the highest order, didn't call himself 'they'?

Macy glares at her mother. Macy smiles at Suki now.

MACY

Respect! Suki? Can they show we, I mean, show us what they can do?

Suki moves over to the drums. Suki's playing is amazing and Angel gasps, hiding her amazement. Macy jumps up and claps.

MACY (CONT'D)

We have a band! Rehearsals start tomorrow, people, and don't be late or I'll tear you limb from limb!

CHARLY

She'll do it too. Mad Dog Macy!

They all laugh as Sheena totters forward drunkenly

SHEENA

As your manager, I say we all need
a great (hic!) name. We're all
female and mothers ...

Sheena rolls her eyes at Charly and Suki

SHEENA (CONT'D)

Well, most of us, so how's about
Macy & The Mommas?

Macy jumps up and nods at Sheena to follow her. Sheena rolls her eyes at everyone and follows her out. Charly leans into Jules as Jules gets her oestrogen vial out and sniffs hard.

CHARLY

Macy & The Mommas? Not bad, eh?
We're all females?

JULES

(sighing deeply)
Just not all mommas yet!

Suki walks over to Angel who is sitting down in a Church pew next to Tez, who is drawing. Suki smiles warmly at Angel.

SUKI

How do you fit in, Angel?

Angel stares at Suki very guarded. Angel shrugs.

SUKI (CONT'D)

I like outsiders. Feel comfortable
with them.

ANGEL

We're from different worlds, mate.
My folks aren't rich business
folks, they're lowlife trash and
the only gap year I had was my lost
year in prison. Bet that freaks
'thee' or 'they' out!

Angel leaves with Tez as Suki shrugs and smiles.

PRE-LAP: SHEENA SHRIEKING.

INT. CORRIDOR. CHURCH HALL. DAY. (MOMENTS LATER)

SHEENA shrieks, standing in the corridor opposite Macy.

SHEENA

'Granny'?! I must tell the rest of
'The Vaginas' - if they're still
alive that is? We did a ton of coke
when we hung with The Pistols!

MACY

A great granny too as Sophie's
pregnant, so clean up your act and
fast, mum, as this is your very
last chance! You've broken all the
terms of your parole!

Sheena suddenly grips the wall, shaking.

SHEENA

Parole, oh no?! Heard in the pub, I
mean corner shop, your dad is
coming out on parole next week?!
He'll destroy the whole she-bang,
just like he did before, honey!

Macy breathes very hard as Sheena WAILS.

EXT. PRISON. NEWPORT. ISLE OF WIGHT. DAY. (NEXT DAY)

MACY gets out of her car and parks it. She lowers her shades
and looks over to the Prison.

INT. VISITORS AREA. PRISON. NEWPORT. DAY

Macy sits at a table in an empty room. The GUARD (40's)
brings in RAM JAM (60's), Macy's father. Ram Jam, Afro-
Caribbean, a Londoner, handsome, big, loud, arrogant. He
grins at Macy, swaggering over and sitting down opposite her.

RAM JAM

Hey? Macy, my little moocher? Where
ya been all my life, baby girl?

MACY

In a care home, dumped at the age
of ten after you got nicked and mum
vanished. I grew up fast, dad. I'm
nobody's baby girl!

Ram Jam laughs, holding up his hands as if shot.

RAM JAM

Voof? A fire cracker, eh? You're
looking smart, baby girl! Stacked
away the dosh on the ships, eh?

Macy pulls out an envelope full of cash and pushes it towards Ram Jam. His eyes widen. Macy glares at him.

MACY
Stay away, dad, and keep your
lowlife mates too! We're no longer
family. That's the deal, get it?

RAM JAM
Wow ...? Deal, ok!

Ram Jam opens the envelope as his eyes widen. Macy gets up. She nods at Ram Jam and leaves. Ram Jam smirks at the Guard.

RAM JAM (CONT'D)
My girl's a singer. Got it all from
her old dad!

Ram Jam goes out singing *TOM JONES' 'DELILAH'* his voice loud and booming. The Guard laughs warmly.

RAM JAM (CONT'D)
(singing)
*'My, my, my Delilah!
Why, why, why Delilah?
Forgive me, Delilah, I just
couldn't take any more!*

Ram Jam cracks up, patting his wadge of cash in his pocket.

INT. CHURCH HALL. RYDE. DAY. (DAYS LATER)

BEGIN MONTAGE

- Rehearsals are now in full swing.
- CHARLY, on lead guitar, teaches guitar riffs to JULES on bass guitar and ANGEL on rhythm guitar.
- MACY and ANGEL try out vocals. They harmonise well. Suki grins over at Angel as Angel looks away. We can see she is secretly watching Suki, an attraction emerging.
- CHARLY is sniffing his oestrogen vial as JULES goes to one corner to inject her arm with hormones.

END MONTAGE.

MACY claps her hands loudly.

MACY
Ok, people? Rock Chix warm up gig
this friday at The Hog's Arms!
(MORE)

MACY (CONT'D)

Let's get Rich in as techie, Jules,
and I'll cover his expenses.

JULES

Wow?! Thanks, Mace! He'll be made
up! Just like the old days!

EXT. GARAGE SHOWROOM. RYDE. DAY. (LATER)

MACY and CHARLY stare, wide-eyed, at a baby pink CONVERTIBLE SPORTS CAR. The SALESWOMAN comes out and hands Macy the keys and Macy and Charly get into the car. Charly, false eyelashes and a smart dress on, laughs as Macy grins as she drives--

INT/EXT. SPORTS CAR. ROAD. RYDE. DAY. (CONTINUOUS)

--MACY and CHARLY sit in a traffic jam as Macy, excited, fiddles around with the controls on the dash board.

CHARLY

Sophie might love this car, hen,
but is she going to love a dah with
a dick?

MACY

Sophie's cool but her Mum's harsh.
Face like a dog's bottom. The
family are minted!

CHARLY

Sophie's got three ma's? Bring it
on, fannybaws, bring it on. The
birthday party from hell!

Macy drives off fast as Charly rolls his eyes.

INT. DRAWING ROOM. MANSION HOUSE. DAY. (LATER)

CHARLY - gulping very nervously, drinking her tea, pushes back her long blonde hair. Charly sits squeezed between --

MACY AND SUE - sitting on one sofa facing NEVIL and SOPHIE on another. One of Charly's false eyelashes fall off into her tea cup. She curses and fishes it out.

CHARLY

(nervous/giggling)
Ach?! Feck meh? Oops? Sorry! What
am ah' like?!

Nevil laughs warmly but Sue raises an eyebrow.

NEVIL

How's life in the music business,
Macy?

MACY

The music business is dead sexist,
Nev. A girl needs a hide like a
rhinoceros to survive!

NEVIL

(smiling warmly)
And bet you've got a tough old
hide, eh, Macy?

Sophie stares over as Nevil splutters

NEVIL (CONT'D)

Sorry? It's a perfectly nice hide,
Macy, a lovely hide, I meant ...?!

Macy smiles and rolls her eyes as Sue jumps up irritated.

SUE

Let's focus on Sophie, shall we? It
is her birthday after all!

Sue lights the candles on the cake and takes it across the
room to Sophie. Sue suddenly beats back tears.

SUE (CONT'D)

Happy Birthday to our darling girl!
We've had such a rewarding journey
with you, darling. No one can take
those years away from us. No one!

SOPHIE

Mum? Please? It's just a birthday.
Don't over-dramatise.

Sophie now blows out the candles and she looks at Sue, Macy
and Charly all staring lovingly over at her. Sophie gulps.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

What can I say? To my three mums!

A LOUD RIP! - Charly's dress splits as she leans forward to
take a piece of cake. Her wig slips down over her eyes.

CHARLY

Ach? Not easy being a geezer bird!

Nevil chokes on his cake.

EXT. MANSION HOUSE. LEAFY SUBURBS. RYDE. DAY. (LATER)

They all stand on the huge gravel drive as MACY whisks off a cover sheet that is covering the BABY PINK CONVERTIBLE. Macy shakes the car keys and beaming, calls over at SOPHIE.

MACY

Da-daam! Happy Birthday, Sophie!
Sang a lot of songs for this
beauty. It's yours baby girl!

Sophie gasps and shakes her head as all stare at her.

SOPHIE

I ...? I can't? I may never use it,
mum? I'm sorry ...?!

Macy reels back, shaking her head.

MACY

What?! It's a present, Sophie?!
Please? Take the keys!

Sophie, tearful, rushes away into the house. Macy gasps in horror as Sue, triumphant, walks over. She leans in to Macy.

SUE

You can't buy your way out of the
guilt you feel for giving her up,
Macy. Life doesn't work like that!

Macy, reeling, is beating back tears. Sue indicates Charly.

SUE (CONT'D)

Is that really Sophie's dad?

Charly walks over to Macy, rolling his eyes.

CHARLY

Told yeh, hen? The Birthday party
from hell!

Macy, horrified, rushes towards the car and jumps in. Charly follows her and jumps in. Macy screeches off as ANOTHER CAR screeches into the drive and FREDDIE jumps out. Freddie goes into automatic Sexaholics Anonymous meetings mode.

FREDDIE

Hello there, people. I'm Freddie
and I'm a sexaholic.

Sue splutters as Nevil goes pale as Freddie bounces over.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)
Called you? I'm weakening, buddy!

SUE
'Buddy?'

Nevil rushes over to Freddie and bungles him into his car.

NEVIL
Please go, Freddie? Just go!

Freddie, confused, looks up at a window at Sophie who looks down at him. Shaking his head, Freddie steps back and then gets into his car and screeches off. Sue glares over at Nevil who gulps weakly.

NEVIL (CONT'D)
(nervous)
A ... golf buddy!

SUE
You don't play golf?

NEVIL
You're right, darling, but I could?

Sue's face darkens as Nevil's face crumbles.

EXT. ROAD. CAR. RYDE. DAY. (MOMENTS LATER)

Macy beats back tears as she grips the wheel, driving. She swerves quickly to miss a car. We hear a CAR HORN. Charly covers her eyes as Macy drives fast.

CHARLY
Jeez?! Pull over Macy - now!

Macy pulls over into a lay-by, her hands shaking.

MACY
Sophie didn't want my present? She gave it back, Charly?!

Macy collapses into Charly's arms, sobbing.

CHARLY
Hey? Come on now, hen? Us care home kids are tough, hides like Rhinos and weh don't bust easy!

Charly hugs Macy as she sniffs hard and blinks. Macy slowly brightens and looks deeply at Charly who twinkles at her.

CHARLY (CONT'D)

You could always lend meh the car, hen? Ah'm not into that gender-stereotype colour shite but ah'm about as pink as it gets!

MACY

You've always been there for me, Charly. Always. It's yours!

CHARLY

Dinnae talk mince?!? Mine?

MACY

Yours with knobs on, Charly.

CHARLY

That knobs on or knobs off?

They both suddenly laugh as Charly grabs Macy's hand.

CHARLY (CONT'D)

Sophie's a bonnie lass so keep fighting for her, and the wee barra as they're our blood, hen, nae the minted folk on knob hill, but ours!

Macy nods, breathes hard and grabs the steering wheel. She charges up the engine. They drive off. Charly shrieks.

PRE-LAP: LOUD ROCK MUSIC.

INT. THE HOG'S ARMS PUB. RYDE. EVENING. (DAYS LATER)

A BIG BANNER dangles over the stage: ROCK CHIX WARM UPS! A COMPERE, MALE (40's), in a ill-fitting glittery jacket walks on stage, smoothes back his greasy hair and talks into the microphone, smiling at the SMALL AUDIENCE who are gathered.

COMPERE

Ok, people, let's hear it for the island's favourites, that's the Dixie Darlings all the way from Newport, Isle of Wight!

ON THREE WOMEN (20's/30's) - a sister, a cousin, an aunt, in identical DOLLY PARTON-STYLE wigs and bright lipstick totter onto the stage on their high heels, guitars around their shoulders. The LEAD SINGER, DARLENE, (20's) gives a big cheesy smile as she breathes into the microphone.

ON MACY - standing in the wings with JULES, CHARLY, ANGEL, SUKI and SHEENA, as she mimics gagging to Jules who giggles.

ON DARLENE - her broad Isle of Wight accent mixing uneasily with her attempts at a Dolly-style Southern American twang

DARLENE

How y'arl doin, then, islanders?
Wanna hear lil' ol me sing ya a bit
of the ol' country music? We will
do our very best, ya hear?

ON SHEENA - secretly drinking from her hip flask, making sure Macy sees nothing. ANGEL looks at Sheena shaking her head, smiling slightly as Sheena, irritated, looks away.

ON THE DIXIE DARLINGS - striking up on guitar and singing *DOLLY PARTON'S 'JOLENE'*. Their broad Island accents mix uneasily with the song.

ON JULES - eyes widening, nudging Macy. They look out at STACEY STATTON and her THREE ROUGH FRIENDS, pushing their way to the front of the crowd, pints of beer in their hands.

DARLENE (CONT'D)

(singing)

*Jolene, Jolene, Jolene, Jolene
I'm begging of you please don't
take my man!*

The Dixie Darlings finish off and the CROWD WHOOP. The male compere comes out and claps his hands. He looks to the wings.

COMPERE

Now don't go away, islanders, as we
have another treat for you! A newly
formed band - not from around here,
called ...?

Angel steps forwards in the wings and shouts out.

ANGEL

I'm as much of an islander as you
are, mate. Born and bred!

COMPERE

Oof? That's telling me! Let's hear
it for Macy & The Mommas!

ON STACEY - and her ROUGH FRIENDS noticing MACY walk out from the wings. They nudge each other and laugh, knocking back their pints. Macy struts around bravely, grabs the mic.

MACY

We're the Mommas! Macy & The Mommas
- a name you won't forget easily!

STACEY

(shouting)

They're not islanders, they're
overners! The singer and the gender
bender weren't even born here!

ON CHARLY - thrashing her guitar, glaring at STACEY.

ON RICH - mixing the sound at a sound desk as MACY sings
ANNIE LENNOX'S 'SWEET DREAMS (ARE MADE OF THIS)'

MACY

(singing)

*Sweet dreams are made of this
Who am I to disagree?*

FREDDIE and NEVIL come in at the back of the pub. Freddie's
jaw drops as he sees Macy, her voice powerful. He reels back.

MACY (CONT'D)

(singing)

*I've travelled the world and the
seven seas
Everybody's looking for something!
Some of them want to use you
Some of them want to get used by
you
Some of them want to abuse you ...?*

Jules's electric guitar makes a LOUD SCREECH as she hits the
wrong note. Macy stops singing and frowns, distracted.

STACEY

Jules Diggins on guitar? The 'girl
most likely to' from school?

ROUGH GIRL (#1.)

Yeah! Most likely to sell her body!

ON RICH - shrinking back in horror.

ON JULES - staring in at Rich, shaking her head.

ON FREDDIE - shouting over the crowd towards the stage.

FREDDIE

(shouting)

Oi, Ladies? Respect! Keep playing
please, Mommas! It sounded good!

Macy looks over to see Freddie who waves and grins over at
her. She stares at him. Their eyes lock.

STACEY

Macy Jones? The girl who couldn't
even keep her own baby? Ha!

ROUGH FRIEND (#2.)

And Charly boy? Or is it
'Charlene'?!

STACY and her ROUGH FRIENDS laugh, breaking into 'JOLENE' by
DOLLY PARTON, mocking CHARLY, whose face darkens.

STACY/THREE ROUGH FRIENDS

(singing drunkenly)

*Charlene, Charlene, Charlene,
Charlene!*

*I'm begging of you please don't
take my man!*

ON MACY - jumping off the stage into the crowd and squaring
up to ROUGH FRIEND (#1.) CHARLY takes off his guitar running
to join Macy jumping off the stage and joining the fight.

ON JULES - climbing down off the stage, squeezing herself
between Macy and the ROUGH FRIEND (#1.) Stacy rushes in.

ON STACY - shoving Jules back so Jules staggers backwards
over a table and falls to the floor, bottles falling and
breaking around her. A LOUD CRASH!

ON MACY - horrified, charging at STACEY as ROUGH FRIEND (#2.)
throws a punch and hits Macy hard on her eyebrow.

ON CHARLY - his long blonde wig slipping as he squares up to
STACEY as she spins round to him. He rolls his eyes at her.

CHARLY

'Gender Bender'? Best shut yer
geggy or ah'll be givin' yeh a
Glasgeh kiss!

ON STACEY- reeling backwards, falling onto TWO of the DIXIE
DARLINGS who support her. She spits over at Charly.

ON ANGEL - jumping down from the stage to join in. One of the
DIXIE DARLINGS squares up to Angel, holding her fists up, but
Angel, laughing, flicks her out of the way. SUKI jumps down
and uses her DRUM STICKS to block blows, Kung Fu-style as the
Dixie Darling, unnerved, backs off quickly.

ON MACY'S - blood trickling down from her forehead as pints
of beer are poured over heads and tables knocked over. Stacey
charges up to Macy who punches her and she reels backwards.

NEVIL
 (shocked)
 Golly? Sophie's mother? Bar
 fighting?!

Freddie, amazed, grins as he watches Macy.

FREDDIE
 I know? Magnificent, eh?

Stacey curses and spits out a tooth at Macy.

STACY
 Me Crown? Cost me a bomb, mud face!

The MANAGER (50's), now wades in pulling them all apart.

MANAGER
 (shouting)
 Ok, girls? Cat fight over! Break it
 up, come on, now! Break it up!

Macy suddenly sees Freddie staring over at her. She gives Freddie an awkward wave and Freddie, grinning, waves back.

NEVIL
 (nervously)
 See you at group. Best skedaddle!

Nevil darts off as Macy collapses backwards.

ON RICH - looking over at Jules. He sadly wheels away.

ON JULES - shaking her head, beating back tears.

ON CHARLY - split lip, punching the air.

CHARLY
 Yowza! We saw off the beasties!

ANGEL
 Macy & The Mommas rule the waves!

Angel, Suki and Jules all cheer, battered and bruised, arms round each other. Suki grins at Angel who slowly grins back.

EXT. THE HOG'S ARMS. NIGHT. (LATER)

MACY, anxious, is vaping hard as a MEDIC patches up her eyebrow, an AMBULANCE in the background. A POLICEMAN (40's), comes up to Macy and STACEY who stands nearby being patched up.

POLICE

Going to have to book you both,
ladies. Causing an affray!

MACY

No, please? I don't want trouble?
Not now?!

Freddie strides over as STACEY, cursing, staggers off.
Freddie grins at Macy as the Policeman stands watching.

FREDDIE

Blow me down and shiver me timbers?
It's the mighty Macy Jones back on
the island and already stirring
things up?

Freddie now leads THE POLICEMAN to one side.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

Weren't we at school together?
Baldy Balding's geography class? We
sat at the back, remember, mate?

THE POLICEMAN nods and laughs warmly. They walk off as Macy
and Jules watch. Jules is breathless.

JULES

How rock and roll was that? But I'm
up shit creek with Rich?!

MACY

We're all up shit creek! Sophie
will hear and so will snooty Sue!

ON FREDDIE - grinning back at Macy, giving her the thumbs up.
Charges dropped! Jules nudges Macy. Macy, shocked, nods very
slowly, breathing hard.

INT/EXT. MACY'S RENTED FLAT. SEA FRONT. RYDE. DAY. (NEXT DAY)

RAM JAM and a well-meaning FEMALE SOCIAL WORKER (30's) walk
up to MACY who is getting out of her car outside her rented
flat and carrying in large supermarket bags.

SOCIAL WORKER

Hello there? Macy? Your dad wanted
to check in with you.

MACY

(terse)
He can check straight out!

The SOCIAL WORKER walks nearer, RAM JAM hovering behind her.

SOCIAL WORKER

Ram Jam told me he wasn't much of a father to you ...?

MACY

What's a father? Never had one, mate!

SOCIAL WORKER

Could you consider giving Ram Jam another chance, Macy?

Macy walks towards her flat, shaking her head.

MACY

No way. I gave him money!

SOCIAL WORKER

Ram Jam had some debts to pay. Just for a week or two from tomorrow?

MACY spins around, fuming.

MACY

Jeez? You people?! Ok! Mum's here, so he can have the shed. It's got power, but two weeks max!

Ram Jam wipes away a 'tear' in his eye and notices Macy's plaster on her eyebrow. He smiles warmly and steps forward.

RAM JAM

(sweetly)

Nasty looking wound that? Dab hand at first aid, baby girl. Can help?

SOCIAL WORKER

Lovely start, Ram Jam!

Macy groans and storms into the house as Ram Jam grins slyly and walks off with the SOCIAL WORKER.

INT. REHEARSAL ROOM. CHURCH HALL. RYDE. DAY. (NEXT DAY)

MACY is belting out the vocals with ANGEL on backing vocals and CHARLY plays lead guitar. JULES is more confident on bass now as SUKI whisks up a storm on drums.

SHEENA, is Wardrobe Mistress, getting in everyone's way, measuring them up for outfits, material and costumes flying everywhere. Macy struts around, singing from TOYAH'S 'I WANT TO BE FREE'.

MACY

(singing)

*I don't want to go to school
Don't want to be nobody's fool
I want to be me
I want to be me!
I don't want to be sweet and neat
I don't want someone living my life
for me
I want to be free!*

A GIANT REVERB - emits from Jules's guitar. They stop.

MACY (CONT'D)

Ach? What the going on, Jules?
Where's Rich?

JULES

Withdrawn from the band.

MACY

You're kidding me?! How the hell
can we mount the show without Rich?
Doesn't he need this job?!

JULES

You're not paying him, remember?
He's looking for work, Mace!

MACY

I'm paying for your IVF, remember?
It's a charity gig, none of us get
paid!

JULES

Easier for some, eh, Mace? Not all
of us are minted!

Macy and Jules glare at each other.

A LOUD KNOCK on the door.

RAM JAM, drunk, a beer bottle in hand, pops his head in,
followed by his TWO DRUNKEN MATES, rough locals (50's). He
grins broadly at them all.

RAM JAM

Hello, ladies? Come to show you how
it's all done. You need a pro!

Macy, horrified, freezes as Ram Jam passes Charly and winks.

RAM JAM (CONT'D)

Ooo? Whose a pretty lady boy?

Charly scowls as Ram Jam staggers up to the stage area and grabs the mic. His two drunken mates laugh loudly as Ram Jam booms out *PRINCE'S 'KISS'*, his voice still powerful.

RAM JAM (CONT'D)

(sings)

*You don't have to be beautiful
To turn me on
I just need your body, baby
From dusk to dawn!
You don't need experience
To turn me out
You just leave it all up to me
Gonna show you what it's all about!*

Ram Jam roars with laughter as his two drunken mates crease up. SHEENA comes in with a tray of teas and drops them.

CRASH!

Horrified at seeing Ram Jam, she rushes out.

INT. CORRIDOR. CHURCH HALL. DAY. (MOMENTS LATER)

ON SHEENA - trembling, wide-eyed with horror. She pulls out her hip flask and looks at it, blinking very hard. She knocks back the whisky, blinking back tears of shame.

INT. CHURCH HALL. REHEARSAL ROOM. DAY. (SAME TIME)

RAM JAM and his DRUNKEN MATES are doing some SKA/Reggae dance moves as MACY, horrified, explodes into the microphone, unaware it's still turned on. SUE and SOPHIE, strangely pale and drawn, enter the back of the hall - unseen by Macy.

MACY

(shouting into the mic)

Get the hell out of my rehearsals,
dad, and take your scummy jail
birds with you! Go, you fuck wits,
go on, just go!

Sophie shrinks back in shock as SHEENA comes back in, now drunk, in full tattered Punk attire. She totters up to Sophie and Sue with a tray, tea cups RATTILING loudly. Macy spins round and sees Sophie and gasps, shaking her head.

SHEENA

(to Sophie)

Hello, sweetie? I'm granny! Will
you ladies have some (hic?) Tea?

Sophie shakes her head as Ram Jam staggers up to them.

SHEENA (CONT'D)
And that rather grim specimen over
there is grand pops!

Ram Jam looms over Sophie and Sue who shrink back.

RAM JAM
Alright, ladies? Ooo? Posh totty?
We're going up in the world, Macy?

Sue pulls Sophie away and they rush out. Macy, horrified,
follows them.

MACY
Sophie? Hang on? Wait! Wait?!

EXT. TOP FLOOR. OPEN AIR CAR PARK. RYDE. DAY (MOMENTS LATER)

SOPHIE rushes towards her car in the empty car park as SUE
follows. Sophie, eyes blazing, jumps into the car, shouting
back at MACY who runs up to the car.

SOPHIE
I do have grand parents! They died
in a car crash you said, mum? You
lied!

Sophie slams the car door as Sue spins round to face Macy and
blocks her path. Sue holds up her hand.

SUE
Stop! Sophie's in a fragile state
and it's best for everyone if you
sever all ties with her after the
concert. We can't take you on,
Macy, nor your rag bag of a family.

Macy, reeling, spins round to look at SHEENA and RAM JAM,
both drunk, weaving around, grinning at her.

SUE (CONT'D)
You had your chance as a mother
when Sophie was born. There are no
second chances!

MACY
Look to your own family, misses!
You'll find your husband getting
his rocks off in the town brothel!

Sue reels back in horror and rushes to get in the car, slamming the door. Sophie, tearful, shakes her head at Macy as Macy watches them go. Macy, shaken, turns to face her parents, both swaying around drunkenly. They smile weakly.

MACY (CONT'D)

I could have kept my baby if either of you had ever been there for me? I could have made that TV audition too, something to show Sophie!

SHEENA

'Stars in Their Eyes', eh, honey?

MACY

I walked three miles down the road, and when I got to the audition, splattered in mud, and the stars had all been chosen! The name stuck - 'mud face' I had no one behind me, just two washed up musicians on the road to nowhere!

Ram Jam grins drunkenly and sings from *TALKING HEADS* 'ROAD TO NOWHERE' as Sheena, less drunk, looks pleadingly at Macy.

RAM JAM

(singing)

We're on the road to nowhere!

He breaks off and scratches his head, looking at Macy.

RAM JAM (CONT'D)

Hey? We're not that bad, are we?

SHEENA

Yes, we're bad! We're grim, you old fuck wit!

Sheena totters towards Macy as Ram Jam staggers off. Macy breaks down as Sheena opens her arms to hug her.

MACY

Oh, mum? Mum?! I've lost Sophie for the second time?! My last chance and I've just blown it?!

Sheena hugs Macy, trying hard to focus.

SHEENA

There are second chances! You (hic!) gave me one, didn't you?

MACY

I'm trying to be a mum, I so am,
but I've never been a mum before?!

SHEENA

Makes two of us, honey!

Sheena smiles sadly and wipes Macy's hair from her face. Macy now gulps hard and slowly stares up at Sheena

MACY

I ...? I haven't been that nice to
you, mum?

SHEENA

Bah? I've been worse and you were
just a kid. I might be a last
chance alko-pop, but I'm your mum
and I'm not going anywhere!

They hug hard, the big sky behind them the sun starting to set. Sheena blinks hard and hugs Macy. They both look up.

SHEENA (CONT'D)

We're not on the road to nowhere.
We've going somewhere, honey.
Somewhere!

INT. SUE'S MOVING CAR. LATER. EVENING.

SUE, reeling from the news about Nevil in the brothel, grips the steering wheel as she drives. She looks over at Sophie.

SOPHIE

Maybe I should stop lying, mum, and
tell people what's really going on?

Sue shakes her head and beats back tears as she drives.

INT. CONSULTING ROOM. HOSPITAL. DAY. LATER.

SOPHIE is being scanned by a FEMALE SONOGRAPHER (30's) as SUE watches, her face pale and drawn. Sue grips Sophie's hand.

INT. CHURCH HALL. EVENING. (LATER)

MACY is belting out the lyrics from ANNIE LENNOX'S 'WOULD I LIE TO YOU?' Macy looks intense, it's powerful. Jules and Charly nod over to each other. The Band are getting tight.

MACY

(singing)

*Would I lie to you?
 Would I lie to you, honey?
 Now, would I say something that
 wasn't true?
 I'm asking you, sugar
 Would I lie to you?*

INT. HOSPITAL. CONSULTATION ROOM. HOSPITAL. EVENING. (LATER)

SOPHIE and SUE sit anxiously, eyes, wide. The MALE ONTHOLOGIST (40's) sits opposite them looking at some scan photos. He gulps slightly.

ONTHOLOGIST

*Baby's growing well, that's
 something, eh, Sophie?*

SOPHIE, going pale, nods, breathing hard.

ONTHOLOGIST (CONT'D)

*The cancerous lump is still the
 same size, and doesn't appear to be
 changing, so no need to panic.*

Sophie breathes very hard as Sue grabs Sophie's hand.

INT. JULES AND RICH'S FLAT. RYDE. NIGHT. (LATER)

RICH lies in bed in his pyjamas as JULES comes in. She stares over at him nervously, but Rich looks away. Jules gulps hard.

JULES

*I lied to you about what I was up
 to, love, but I didn't go in that
 place. I promise, Rich! We needed
 the money and we need to pay Macy
 back for this IVF!*

Jules goes over to sit on the bed and injects herself with hormones as Rich sighs hard. He leans over across the bed and rubs her back gently. Jules lies back on the bed.

RICH

Last chance for two old rockers?

They both sigh deeply as Rich pulls Jules close and they hug.

EXT. PLAYGROUND. OVERLOOKING THE BEACH. RYDE. DAY. (NEXT DAY)

FREDDIE is sitting on a swing, staring at his mobile phone as DULCIE plays in the playground. A MOTHER (30's) with a CHILD (9) arrive and Freddie hands them Dulcie's overnight bag. They all walk off as Freddie flicks on his mobile.

FREDDIE

(on phone)

Celia? It's Freddie! France? What the fuck? Why? How? Ring me!

Freddie clicks off his phone and sees MACY walking along the beach below, smoking, deep in thought, the big plaster from the bar fight still over her eyebrow. Freddie jumps up.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

(shouting down)

Macy Jones? Hey? Come on up!

Macy looks up, very uneasy. She slowly walks up to the playground as Freddie, smiling, makes a sweeping gesture over the playground. He laughs as he bounces towards her.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

Welcome to my office, Miss Jones.
Do most of my deals up here!

Macy smiles politely and vapes as Freddie indicates the swings and they both go to sit on two separate swings.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

You OK? You look a bit down?

Macy shrugs uneasily as she smokes her cigarette.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

Life, eh? I could lose my baby girl
Dulcie to France? I wanted to put
down roots here for her.

Macy shrugs and smokes. She looks at him, very guarded.

MACY

Don't big shot music producers hire
big fuck off private planes to fly
them around everywhere?

FREDDIE

Sure, I did my share of long haul
flights to and fro to LA, but now
I'm happy to be back on the island.
(MORE)

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

Got my studio and I see Dulcie four times a week but that could change? My girl's my anchor.

Macy looks at him and softens. She gets it.

MACY

I could lose my girl too! I let rip with the mother and messed up. Story of my life. One fuck up after another.

FREDDIE

I've met the Iron Lady, but Sophie's as much yours as she is hers. You need to take baby steps.

Macy vapes hard, confused. She stares at him.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

One step after another after another. I'm on Step Five. I'm a recovering sexaholic. Grim, eh?

MACY

Ah ha? The Sex Doll? Perverted or what, mate?

FREDDIE

Plastic sex. She doesn't smell too good either? Kind of plasticky!

MACY

Bet the Sex doll doesn't answer back? That's not a woman. You've got it easy there, mate!

They look at each other and burst out laughing.

MACY (CONT'D)

My mates told me you were living the high life, Fab Five Freddie?

FREDDIE

I was constantly high, too many mini-bars, too many hotel rooms and yeah, too many women. I was filling holes, plugging the gaps.

MACY

(suddenly uneasy)
'Holes?' You've lost me there.

Macy turns away, smoking hard.

FREDDIE

You know, all those holes left over from our childhood, where we didn't get enough love.

Freddie laughs softly and Macy turns back and looks at him.

MACY

They didn't do love in the kids home. Does that make me holey?

FREDDIE

Praise the Lord! She's holy!

They laugh gently. Freddie leans in.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

I remember people were scared of you at school, always angry, eh?

MACY

Only one in our school who looked different. Had to fight off all the bullies, had no one in my corner!

Freddie's PHONE goes and jumping off his swing, Freddie takes the call, looking directly at Macy as he talks.

FREDDIE

(on phone)

Hi Sam! There's a band I've seen, Macy & The Mommas. All female and they're good! Yeah. Let's put some energy into them. Ok, great!

Macy reels back, shocked as Freddie clicks off his phone. He twinkles at her.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

You've got someone in your corner now!

Macy shakes her head, grinning in disbelief, unable to contain her excitement. She jumps off the swing and goes to jump on the wooden roundabout as Freddie follows her. He pushes her round so she spins round and round, laughing.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

Is it all tribute songs you do or do you write any of your own stuff?

MACY

People don't want to hear what's in my head, Freddie. It would scare the shit out of them!

FREDDIE

I don't scare easy, Miss Jones!

Freddie grabs the hand-rails, stopping the roundabout. He stares hard at her. She stares back. He gulps hard.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

I never forgot our night under that boat, Macy. We made love, it was great, but I didn't come back for you, playing Mr. Big again with some crazy teenage drugs deal? I missed the boat and away you sailed. Imagine if I had come back, Macy, just imagine?

Macy eyes widen. Freddie's phone suddenly PINGS and he lets go of the handles reading the text.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

Gottago! A recording contract to pick through. Look, let's see if we can make music together? Just don't beat me off if it goes wrong, ok?

Macy, shocked, nods as Freddie, grinning, walks backwards down the path to the beach. He shouts back up at her.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

Don't give up with that Iron Lady. You're the Mighty Macy Jones, and you take on all comers. Boof! Boof!

Freddie dances around shadow boxing and stumbles on a pebble as TWO DOG WALKERS stop and stare over at them. Macy laughs.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

That rat you chucked into me jacuzzi? Nearly nibbled off me bollocks?!

MACY

(laughing)

It was dead, mate, dead! The rat was dead!

ON TWO DOG WALKERS - watching, rolling their eyes.

ON MACY - nervously bites her lip, but her eyes are sparkling as she gives Freddie a little wave.

ON FREDDIE - whispering to himself as he looks up to her.

FREDDIE

Fuck me? Macy Jones is giving me another chance?

CHARLY (O.S.)

It's meh last chance! Can't carry on much longer, doctor!

INT. CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL. CONSULTING ROOM. DAY.

CHARLY is being interviewed by a grey-haired DOCTOR (MALE) 50's. Charly sits opposite the DOCTOR, looking anxious.

CHARLY

Ah'm desperate to get meh tadger chopped off, Doc, desperate!

DOCTOR

I understand that, Charly. You will need to think about storing your sperm in case you want to have children in the future.

CHARLY

Ah'll go for that. Although ah've got a child already. Bonnie lass, reit smart too!

The DOCTOR looks at his Computer screen.

DOCTOR

Ah? We've got a date. June fifteenth. Grab that I would.

CHARLY

June fifteenth? Oh, no?! No?! Ah'm fecked! Fecked?!

MACY (O.S.)

Fucked! We're completely fucked!!

INT. CHURCH HALL. RYDE. DAY. (DAY LATER)

MACY stares, aghast, at CHARLY. JULES, SUKI and ANGEL sit in the pew seats having a tea break. Angel's son TEZ is there.

CHARLY

If ah' don't grab this chance,
ah'll be stuck as a man for the
rest of meh life! Ah'm so sorry,
hen. Didnae want to let yeh down?!

Charly breaks down and runs out to the corridor.

MACY

The competition's saturday week?!

Jules takes control, pacing up and down herself, panicking.

JULES

OK, let's keep calm, people. Keep
very, very calm now. There must be
someone else, there must?!

Tez gets up from doing his drawing and tugs at Macy's sleeve.

INT. CORRIDOR. CHURCH HALL. DAY. (MOMENTS LATER)

TEZ points over at SHEENA who is picking away at a spare guitar. MACY, ANGEL, JULES and SUKI watch as Sheena plays *PROCVL HARUM'S 'A WHITER SHADE OF PALE'*. Macy, jaw dropping stares at Sheena who stares back.

ANGEL

She's fucking? She's f-f-fucking?
She's fucking ...?!

SUKI

Fantastic! Fucking fantastic!

EXT. SCHOOL PLAYGROUND. RYDE. DAY. (LATER)

SEVERAL CHILDREN (9/10 years) pour out of the Primary School and TEZ, grinning, walks over to ANGEL, a painting in his hand. SUKI is standing by the school gates with Angel.

TEZ

Mum? Can Suki come to tea? Suki
hasn't got a home!

SUKI grins over at Angel who smiles back.

ANGEL

Only if they like spaghetti hoops?

SUKI

Love spaghetti hoops! Hard to get
in Hong Kong.

ANGEL
And after tea, thee can leave.

SUKI
Hey? You mocking me, lady?

ANGEL quickly shakes her head.

ANGEL
No?! You're a tropical bird of
paradise that's flown over to this
island, Suki. We don't get too many
tropical birds over here and I'm in
total awe, mate, total awe, but I
can't get too excited or I'll ...?

SUKI
Combust?

Angel laughs and nods. Suki grins back at her.

EXT. BOARDWALK. RYDE BEACH. DAY. (NEXT DAY)

MACY and JULES walk along the boardwalk handing out flyers to
a FEW PASSERS BY. SHEENA, SUKI, ANGEL and TEZ walk behind,
selling tickets. Sheena waves flyers at people as they pass.

SHEENA
Roll up, roll up! Rock Chix charity
bash! Good cause, so get your
spondoolics out, islanders!

A YOUNG MAN (18) and his FEMALE FRIEND (18) giggle as they
read the flier. The young man leans into Sheena.

YOUNG MAN
This says 'Girl Bands?' Who are you
then, misses?

Sheena leans close to him, eyes rolling wildly.

SHEENA
(hissing)
The goddamned Queen of Punk, that's
who, buster!

The young man jumps back as Sheena marches on. Jules nudges
Macy. SOPHIE is there, seated on a bench. Macy gulps
nervously, approaching Sophie as Jules walks off. Sophie
looks pale and withdrawn. Macy sits down next to her.

MACY

(gently)

Hi Sophie. I felt ashamed of my rag
bag family but they're your family
too.

Sophie softens as Macy, blinking hard, smiles gently.

SOPHIE

They are my blood and blood counts.
They seem like real characters.

MACY

They're characters alright! Look,
I'll never lie to you again,
Sophie. I'm just so sorry, babes!

Sophie nods but, very uneasy, now jumps up.

SOPHIE

It's ok, mum. We've all told lies.
I need to tell you something.

MACY

Anything, Sophie, anything! I
really thought I'd lost you again?!

Sophie suddenly hugs Macy fiercely. Macy looks pleased but is
taken aback as FREDDIE waves and walks over towards them.

MACY (CONT'D)

Hey, Freddie? This is my girl,
Sophie! You two met before? The
island's a very small place!

Freddie stares quizzically at Sophie. Sophie shrugs politely.

MACY (CONT'D)

Freddie's going to coach us for the
competition. We're giving it
everything we've got, Sophie!

Freddie grins and nods. Sophie brightens, still distracted.

SOPHIE

Wow? That's brilliant! You're gonna
smash it, mum! Catch you later!

Sophie waves and rushes off as Macy grins at Freddie.

MACY

'Mum?' I love that! I said 'sorry,
and it worked. Baby steps, eh?

FREDDIE nods and comes nearer to her, smiling gently.

MACY (CONT'D)
Hadn't we better rally the troops?

FREDDIE
We need little warm up first!

They laugh and nuzzle as Freddie kisses her.

ROAR of a car engine. Freddie's car--

EXT. COUNTRY LANE. RYDE. DAY. CONTINUOUS.

--FREDDIE drives fast with MACY seated next to him, her shades on. She smiles over at him and grins with excitement.

INT. FREDDIE'S BARN/RECORDING STUDIO. WOODS. DAY. (LATER)

MACY and the rest of the MOMMAS are there - JULES, ANGEL, SUKI and SHEENA (looking more sober). FREDDIE sits with RICH, as engineer at the recording desk at the end of the barn. MACY steps forward, smiling broadly

MACY
Ok, Mommas! Four days till the competition so let's give it some real va-va-voom! Freddie's on our case so no bum notes or he'll be havin' ya! I taught him how to box!

They all laugh as Freddie grins and nods at them. SHEENA steps forward and clears her throat.

SHEENA
We're all on a bit of a last chance here, so much at stake. 'The Last Chance Mommas' or is that a bit gloomy?

FREDDIE
'The Last Chance Mommas?' Yup! More edgy, darker. Like it! If you girls impress me, we'll take a tour as you need to meet your public!

Sheena beams as Freddie puts his headphones on. Macy and the girls sing *ARETHA FRANKLIN'S 'R.E.S.P.E.C.T.'* which we hear over the Montage.

MACY
 (singing)
*What you want Baby,
 I got it
 What you need
 Do you know I got it?*

Freddie twinkles over at Macy and she grins back as Jules and Angel, singing backing vocals raise their eyes at each other.

MACY (CONT'D)
 (singing)
*Is for a little respect when you
 get home*

JULES/ANGEL
 (singing)
*Just a little bit)
 Hey baby, just a little bit
 when you get home*

MACY
 (singing)
Just a little bit, Mister

JULES/ANGEL/SUKI/SHEENA
 (singing)
Just a little bit!

BEGIN MONTAGE (SONG CONTINUES)

-FREDDIE looks at RICH in the recording booth - not good enough. He jumps up and waves his arms. Go again! Macy nods.

-SHEENA plays a wrong note and the REVERB SCREECHES as Freddie and Rich, in the recording booth roll their eyes.

-SUKI does a fierce drum roll - it's good! Thumbs up.

-MACY singing grins over at Freddie as Freddie nods proudly. Freddie stands up and gives the band a thumbs up and smiles.

- OPEN TOPPED BUS - a banner waving above them 'THE LAST CHANCE MOMMAS play ROCK CHIX!' As MACY, JULES, FREDDIE, SHEENA, SUKI and ANGEL wave down to the SHOPPERS who stop and stare as the bus winds its way down to the seafront.

END MONTAGE

INT. PUB. RYDE. DAY. (DAYS LATER)

RAM JAM and his TWO DRUNKEN MATES (50's), sit and mutter to each other over their pints.

RAM JAM

They're loaded, I'm telling ya!
Spencer Road crowd - staked it all
out!

DRUNKEN MATE (#1)

Like the old times, eh, Ram?

RAM JAM

Yeah, mate, but this time we don't
blow it as I'm not going back in.
My last go at being a bad lad this.
Got the masks and stuff? Your van?

Drunken mate (#1) grins and knocks back his pint. Ram Jam
knocks back his drink and thinks hard.

INT. BEDROOM JULES AND RICH'S FLAT. RYDE. DAY.

JULES holds up a pregnancy stick and waves it around as she
leaps around on the bed. RICH does a few wheelies in his
wheelchair as they WHOOP.

JULES

We've done it, love. We've bloody
done it! Woo? Woo?!

Rich grabs her hairbrush from a dressing table and sings into
it. FLY ME TO THE MOON. FRANK SINATRA.

RICH

(singing)

*Fly me to the moon
Let me play among the stars!
Let me see what spring is like
On Jupiter and Mars!*

INT. ANGEL'S KITCHEN. ANGEL'S FLAT. RYDE. DAY.

ANGEL and SUKI are kissing, breakfast plates in the
background. Angel giggles and indicates TEZ in the next room.

ANGEL

What will your folks in Hong Kong
think of us? You're slumming it!

SUKI

They've accepted I'm non-binary so
everything else is small fry!

ANGEL

Hey? You calling me small fry?

They laugh and kiss again as TEZ pops his head in. They leap
apart as Tez holds up his adult drumsticks.

TEZ

Suki gave me these, mum! When I
grow up, I wanna be the drummer for
the Last Chance Mommas!

INT. CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL. OPERATING THEATRE. DAY.

CHARLY, gowned up, on a drip, is wheeled through into the
Operating theatre, a SURGEON and TWO NURSES there waiting.
Charly, drowsy, grabs the surgeon's arm.

CHARLY

The Last Chance Mommas? A feckin'
great band! We're on today, ah
mean, they, I mean ...?

Charly collapses back as the surgeon smiles.

INT. 'ROCK CHIX COMPETITION.' BACKSTAGE DRESSING ROOM. FIELD.
NEXT DAY. DAY.

MACY stares in her mirror and puts a pirate's black eye patch
across one eye adding Goth Punk style make up to her outfit.
JULES is leaning into her mirror applying Punk-style make up
as ANGEL puts on a black top hat and grins at them. The
Mommas look dark, sexy, edgy, New Wave meets Punk.

Macy leans into Jules handing her a bag. Jules opens the bag
and shrieks. Leather trousers.

JULES

Dolce & what? The leather trousers?
I bloody love you, Macy Jones!

MACY

(laughing)
That's me cleaned out - been an
expensive month!

Jules leans into Macy, beaming, taking a big breath.

JULES

Thought you should know, Mace. I'll be playing for two today!

MACY

What?! You did it mate?! Wowza?!
I'm so proud! Jules is up the duff!

They all SHRIEK and WHOOP and gather round in a group hug.

MACY (CONT'D)

Ok, Mommas! First round of Rock Chix. A lot at stake here and only three of the four bands go through, but we're going to smash it, as we've got something the other bands haven't got, what's that Mommas?

MACY/JULES/ANGEL/SUKI/SHEENA

(shouting together)

Va Va Voom!

SHEENA, resplendent in a punk tartan mini skirt, wiggles her bum and they all laugh, nervous and excited.

SHEENA

Va Va Voom! If 'The Vaginas' could see me now?

EXT. STAGE. ROCK CHIX, FIRST ROUND. FIELD. DAY (BIT LATER)

ON MACY, JULES, SHEENA, ANGEL & SUKI in the wings watching THE DIXIE DARLINGS finish off their set. THE DIXIE DARLINGS sing *DOLLY PARTON'S 'I WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOU.'* It sucks.

THE DIXIE DARLINGS

(singing)

*And I will always love you!
I will always love you
Yes, always love yoooooooo!!!*

Sheena hisses to Suki who is standing next to her.

SHEENA

Holy Cow? Dolly Parton will be turning in her grave!

SUKI

Wow? Did you know Dolly?

SHEENA

Of course! I knew them all, Suki!

SUKI
But Dolly's not dead yet, Sheena?

SHEENA
(flustered)
Oh, well, maybe she should be!

Suki smiles wryly. FREDDIE is standing at the front of the crowd, next to his music executive friend SAM (30's). Macy, smiling, waves down at Freddie. He gives her the thumbs up.

FOUR STERN-LOOKING JUDGES - sitting in a panel facing the stage, the CROWD behind them. Another female band THE VANILLA GORILLAS in gorillas outfits stride onto the stage and strike up. PINK - '*LET'S GET THE PARTY STARTED!*'

THE VANILLA GORILLAS
(singing loudly)
*I'm comin' up so you better you
better get this party started!
I'm comin' up, so you better you
better get this party started!*

The Gorillas are good, a bit of a threat. Macy blinks hard, she's anxious. Macy scans the crowd looking for SOPHIE.

EXT. ANOTHER PART OF THE FIELD. DAY. (SAME TIME)

In the CROWD watching, NEVIL smiles weakly at SUE, who is still fuming about Nevil's 'brothel' news. Nevil jigs around a bit to the music as Sue rolls her eyes at his bad dancing.

NEVIL
Long time since we've been to a pop
festival, pumpkin? Rather jolly?

SUE
Brothels, prostitutes? And with
Sophie being so ill? You're a knob,
Nevil, a knob without redemption!

Sue, tearful, runs off through the CROWD as RAM JAM, looking over, drinking with his DRUNKEN MATES sees Sue and realises who Nevil is. Ram Jam swaggers over.

RAM JAM
Hey there, Diddy Daddy? I'm Macy's
real dad! The Grand Daddy of Soul!

Ram Jam gyrates his hips singing from JAMES BROWN'S '*GET UP OFFA THAT THING!*'

RAM JAM (CONT'D)
 (singing)
*Get up offa that thing
 And dance till you feel better!
 Get up off that thing
 And dance till you, sing it now!*

His two drunken mates laugh loudly as Sue looks back as she pushes through the CROWD. She gasps, shaking her head.

EXT. BEER TENT. CONCERT. FIELD. DAY. (BIT LATER)

NEVIL is at the bar, knocking back a couple of whiskies as FREDDIE and SAM, the music executive, walk over. Nevil is swaying around now, a bit drunk. Freddie looks concerned.

FREDDIE
 Hey, Nev? Step six? 'Be ready to have God remove all your defects.' You look a bit defected, mate?

NEVIL
 I'm a complete knob, Freddie! A knob (hic?) without redemption!

Freddie looks at Sam and rolling his eyes and he supports Nevil off through the crowd.

FREDDIE
 Keep my beer warm, Sam!

EXT. STAGE. ROCK CHIX, FIRST ROUND. DAY (BIT LATER)

THE VANILLA GORILLAS roughly push past MACY, JULES and SHEENA in the wings. SHEENA taps one of the GORILLAS on the shoulder. The GORILLA WOMAN (40's) pulls off her gorilla head, sweating and puffing, her face red. SHEENA grins wickedly at her and leans in, hoping to impress.

SHEENA
 Tell the other Gorillas we could share a doobrie. Real rock star stuff!

THE GORILLA WOMAN (#1) grins, eyes slowly widening.

GORILLA WOMAN (#1)
 You sure, granny? Isn't it time you were tucked up in bed with a warm glass of milk?

SHEENA's eyes flare as GORILLA WOMAN (#1) laughs harshly and walks off.

SHEENA

Ok, gorilla girl you wanna party?
Let's see what you're made of!

SHEENA rushes off after her. THE NITON NASTIES, heavy metal rock chics, long hair swinging over their faces, get ready to play. The COMPERE (FEMALE, 40's) glamorous in a long-flowing dress walks on stage.

COMPERE

(into the mic)

Hello, Isle of Wight! Hope you're
are enjoying the first round of
'Rock Chix'! All proceeds goes to
the chosen charities of our bands
and our third band today is the
Niton Nasties! Move over Alice
Cooper, get ready to rock!

The CROWD CHEER LOUDLY as MACY and JULES mutter to each other as one of the NITON NASTIES plays some ear-shattering guitar chords. Macy paces up and down, stretching, getting ready.

MACY

Getting pumped now, Jules. Tell me
when these head-bangers are done!

The NITON NASTIES finish as Macy stops, turning to Jules.

MACY (CONT'D)

We're on! Where Sophie? And where
the hell is my mum? Knew she was a
risk!

INT. SMALL DRESSING ROOM. BACKSTAGE. DAY (SAME TIME)

SHEENA is passing around a huge joint, sitting with the homely-looking mums - THE FOUR VANILLA GORILLAS (40's). Their head dresses off, some knitting, some texting in their gorilla suits.

SHEENA

Sid was a sweetie, actually. God
knows why they called him
'vicious'? So unfair! We shared a
puff or two backstage.

VANILLA GORILLA (#1) looks proudly at the others, giggling.

VANILLA GORILLA (#1)
Told you she knew all them celebs!
Pass that carrot then, Linda?

VANILLA GORILLIA (#2)
My Brian will go mad if he sees me
doing this? I've never done this
before and I feel all woozy!

VANILLA GORILLA (#3) takes a large puff of the joint.

VANILLA GORILLA (#3)
Makes a change from working on the
tills at Tesco's, eh, Shirl?

Sheena whisks out another joint, lights it and passes it
round. She's a little bit stoned herself.

SHEENA
There you go, gorillas! Howzatt?

VANILLA GORILLA (#4)
(puffing)
Bloody lovely, misses! Reckon you
stand a chance of then?

SHEENA
A chance of what, honey?

VANILLA GORILLA (#1)
A chance of winning!

THE VANILLA GORILLAS, all SHRIEK with laughter as Sheena,
clutching her stuff, scrambles up and rushes out.

EXT. STAGE. ROCK CHIX, FIRST ROUND. DAY. (MINUTES LATER)

ON MACY - anxiously getting ready to sing on stage as SHEENA
runs on through the wings, her hair dishevelled. She smiles
very weakly at Macy as Macy glares over at her. Macy leans
into her mic and sings PSYCHO KILLER - TALKING HEADS. She's
not singing at full throttle, scanning the crowd for SOPHIE.

ON SUKI'S CHINESE PARENTS (50's) - wealthy business people
from Honk Kong, bopping along to the music. They clap SUKI in
her drum intro as Macy keeps singing.

MACY

(singing)

*I can't seem to face up to the
facts
I'm tense and nervous and I can't
relax
I can't sleep 'cause my bed's on
fire
Don't touch me I'm a real live
wire!*

Jules calls over to Macy and points - Sophie! SOPHIE is in the private enclosure at the front with SUE and a FEMALE FRIEND holding up a banner 'GO, MOMMAS, GO!' Macy, relieved, waves down at Sophie as Sophie, grinning, waves up.

THE CROWD ROAR as Macy now springs into action, striding across the stage, grabbing the mic. Macy sings 'BRASS IN POCKET' by THE PRETENDERS as the band burst into action.

MACY (CONT'D)

(singing)

*Got brass in pocket
Got bottle
I'm gonna use it
Intention I feel inventive
Gonna make you, make you, make you
notice
I'm special, so special
I gotta have some of your attention
- give to me!*

ON FREDDIE - standing at the front with SAM, his business partner, a music executive. Freddie grins proudly at Sam as Sam nods, impressed.

ON SOPHIE - dancing, shouting over to her friend proudly.

SOPHIE

That's my mum! Isn't she amazing?!

ON SUE - staring over sadly at Sophie, beating back tears. THE MOMMAS now stop playing as Macy grabs the microphone.

MACY

Thank you, islanders! All the money we raise on the gate today will go towards the mother and baby unit up at the hospital, mums with cancer who really deserve a break. There's a young woman who is behind us Mommas and I'm very proud to say that she's my daughter! Sophie?

THE CROWD CHEER as a SPOTLIGHT shines down on SOPHIE. We see STACEY STATTON and her THREE ROUGH FRIENDS jeering near the front of the crowd, swigging back beers. STACEY shouts out loudly.

STACEY

Last Chance Mommas, ha?!

ROUGH FRIEND (#1)

Last chance losers, I reckon!

ROUGH FRIEND (#1) throws her beer can on the stage which lands at Macy's feet and hits her leg. Macy springs back as Sheena, horrified, runs to her microphone.

SHEENA

In the spirit of the great Iggy
Pop, I will demonstrate how we
crowd surfed back in the 80's!!!

ON SHEENA - running and leaping off the stage, falling spread-eagle in the CROWD, squashing STACEY and her THREE ROUGH FRIENDS who stagger backwards, falling over onto the JUDGE'S table, collapsing the table. The Judges jump up as Macy, horrified, reels back and covers her eyes.

MACY

Holy crap? That's us done!

The VANILLA GORILLAS stagger on stage after the DIXIE DARLINGS and the NITON NASTIES as they line up to hear the results. The VANILLA GORILLAS are very stoned, staggering around the set, falling over instruments.

ON THE JUDGES - looking horrified. They shake their heads. SECURITY GUARDS quickly run on and usher off the VANILLA GORILLAS as they wave at the crowd as they stagger off.

ON SHEENA - standing in the crowd, rubbing her head from her fall, eyes widening as she looks up at the stage.

ON MACY - clutching onto JULES'S hand as they wait for the results. THE COMPERE rushes on the stage and leans into the microphone.

COMPERE

Phew? Order is now restored! Only three can go through to the final round and as the Vanilla Gorillas are now disqualified so let's give some Isle of Wight love for the Niton Nasties, the Dixie Darlings and ...

ON MACY - her eyes widening.

COMPERE (CONT'D)
The Last Chance Mommas! Good luck,
ladies! See you all at the final!

ON MACY - jumping up and down as Jules and the rest of the MOMMAS gather round, punching the air. SOPHIE runs on stage from the wings and hugs Macy hard. SUE, her face pale, looks worried as she hangs back in the wings with SOPHIE'S FRIEND.

SOPHIE
How proud am I of you, mum? That
was incredible! Truly incredible?!

Macy, grinning hard, pulls Sophie very close to her.

MACY
(breathing hard)
I can't let you go now, Sophie.
You've seen the real me!

SOPHIE
(reeling)
What ...? I'm not going anywhere!

MACY and JULES, sweating hard, elated, grin over at her.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
Our share of the takings are at the
gate, two grand! The islanders have
been so generous! Please collect
those, mum, and drop off at the
hospital!

Macy nods as Sheena walks up, elated, holding a bottle.

SHEENA
The crowd loved me! Like the old
days when Sheena and the Vaginas
played the 100 club in '81. Might
be an old cockwomble but I've still
got it!

SOPHIE
You're a total legend, granny!
Sorry, I've got to go!

Sophie rushes off towards Sue in the wings as Macy shoots them a curious look. Sheena bites her lip nervously.

SHEENA

I know, honey? No more crowd
surfing but at least I flattened
those beastly caulkheads!

MACY

We'll always be overners, eh, mum?

Macy laughs in spite of herself, shaking her head.

MACY (CONT'D)

You did good, mum, but don't open
that bottle now?

SHEENA

Oh no, honey? It's for the girls!

Sheena rushes off as FREDDIE, beaming, runs out from the wings towards Macy as some TECHIES/ROADIES clear the stage. He hugs Macy hard, lifting her up from the floor, spinning her round and round. Macy laughs hard as they kiss.

FREDDIE

(grinning)

Do you have a manager, Miss Jones?

MACY

(giggling)

Have now!

They kiss hard as Jules and Rich, arm in arm, smile over.

EXT. CONCERT AREA. DAY. (SAME TIME)

SUKI'S CHINESE PARENTS nod politely at ANGEL, who looks very nervous. SUKI'S MOTHER bows to Angel. Angel bows back, as her Tourettes starts to kick in. She starts to sweat.

ANGEL

Great to meet you two, I'm ... I'm?
Fucking shitting?! Fuck! Oh,
fuuuuuuuuuuuuuck?!

Suki's mother and FATHER look confused as Suki steps in.

SUKI

It's a traditional island greeting!

Suki's father smiles and bows to Angel. The mother now proudly hands Suki an official-looking LETTER.

MOTHER

Suki get into Conservatoire. Hong
Kong's finest and very big honour!
Suki return to Hong Kong!

Suki quickly reads it and puts it in her pocket. She grabs
Angel's hand and rushes off.

SUKI

We'll see you folks later.

Angel looks quizzical as Suki leads her off across the field.
Suki checks a text from Macy and clicks on her mobile.

SUKI (CONT'D)

Macy? Ah, got to collect the ticket
money from the gate then we can go
meet your tribe!

Angel suddenly pulls away and stares hard at Suki.

ANGEL

My tribe are off island, Suki.
One's in prison and the other's in
prison too.

SUKI

I can handle that, Angel. Who gives
a damn about class or money?

ANGEL

People without class or money,
that's who! You've got a place at
your posh music conservatoire,
Suki, so fly away and take it!

Angel beats back tears and runs off through the CROWD as Suki
stands there shaking her head in disbelief.

INT. SOPHIE'S HOUSE. LEAFY SUBURBS. RYDE. EVENING. (LATER)

RAM JAM and his DRUNKEN MATE (#1) rifle around in the semi-
darkness. They bump around, wearing face masks and gloves. A
VAN is outside with DRUNKEN MATE (#2) at the steering wheel.

RAM JAM

Careful, mate!

DRUNKEN MATE (#1)

Getting a bit tangled up in this
bloody plant, Ram?

A CRASH!

The plant crashes over. NEVIL totters into the room in his pyjamas, still drunk. He flicks on the lights. Ram Jam and the drunken mate (#1) stare over. The room is devoid of all paintings and valuables. Nevil doesn't notice.

NEVIL

Hello, chaps! Golly? You've tidied up? Can I get you chaps a drink?

Ram Jam gasps as Nevil totters over to the drinks table and pours out some brandies from a decanter. Ram Jam slowly lifts off his baklava and gulps very hard. Nevil hands him a drink.

NEVIL (CONT'D)

Macy's Diddy Daddy? Or is that me?
Ah yes? The Grand Daddy of Soul!

Ram Jam looks through the open window at THE VAN, the engine on. Nevil breaks into song, gyrating his hips. *JAMES BROWN*.

NEVIL (CONT'D)

(singing)
Get offa, off that thing!
Dee deedo deedy da da?

Ram Jam breathes hard. He suddenly looks ashamed.

RAM JAM

I'm family, Diddy Daddy, and I'm a knob of the highest order.

NEVIL

Bingo? I'm a knob too. A knob without redemption!

Nevil clinks his glass with Ram Jam as Ram Jam suddenly shouts through the open window as drunken mate (#1) watches.

RAM JAM

(booming)
Lads? Bring it all back in! Every last piece! I'm a family man now!

Ram Jam knocks back his drink as Nevil happily pours him another. Drunken mate (#2) groaning, walks in struggling with a table as Drunken Mate (#1) helps him.

INT. HALL. SOPHIE'S HOUSE. EVENING. (LATER)

SUE walks in. She looks very weary and sighs deeply as she walks towards the living room.

INT. LIVING ROOM. EVENING. (MOMENTS LATER)

SUE SHRIEKS and staggers backwards as she sees NEVIL, swaying around and laughing as he drinks with RAM JAM. Nevil staggers towards her grinning drunkenly.

NEVIL
Hello, pumpkin? Some rather nice
chaps have tidied up for us.
They're family!

Ram Jam waves over weakly as Sue reels back.

EXT. GARDEN. FREDDIE'S HOUSE. EVENING. (LATER)

MACY and FREDDIE are in Freddie's JACUZZI, the bubbles around them, garden lights glowing, a bottle of champagne nearby.

MACY
(giggling)
I feel a bit like your sex doll,
last seen in this jacuzzi?

Freddie laughs and points through to the Kitchen where the SEX BOT is sitting, watching them. MACY laughs.

FREDDIE
Careful? She'll get jealous! You're
safe, Miss Jones. I'm celibate.
Three weeks. Zero lusting or sex.

Freddie grins and comes closer to Macy

FREDDIE (CONT'D)
Ok? Some lusting ...

Macy SHRIEKS as Freddie ducks under the bubbles.

MACY
Help? I can't swim!

FREDDIE
(emerging from bubbles)
I'll teach you!

THE SEX BOT blinks slowly and beats her lashes. She repeats STEP ONE that she has heard from Freddie.

SEX BOT
Step One. Admit we are powerless
over lust and that our lives have
become unmanageable.

INT. BEDROOM. FREDDIE'S HOUSE. EVENING. (BIT LATER)

Freddie and Macy are making love on Freddie's huge bed. Naked under the sheets, they roll over and over.

INT. DRESSING ROOM. TENT. FIELD. EVENING (SAME TIME)

SUKI, upset about Angel, clutches her drumsticks, grabbing her bag, rubbing tears from her eyes. Rushing off, she places THE ENVELOPE OF MONEY from the gate near SHEENA.

SUKI

Money from the gate. Keep it safe!

Suki, distressed, rushes out of the tent. Sheena, facing a big mirror, stares at the unopened bottle of whiskey. She breathes hard and slowly opens the bottle. She knocks back a drink staring at her reflection in disgust.

SHEENA

(hissing)

Last ... chance ... momma!

Sheena sees one of Macy's cigarettes and lights one up. She takes a puff, but coughs, putting down the cigarette which burns slowly in the ashtray and pours herself another drink.

INT. FREDDIE'S BEDROOM. NIGHT. (LATER)

MACY leaves a sleeping FREDDIE and climbs out of bed, wrapping a sheet around her. She looks happy and walks through into the kitchen.

INT. FREDDIE'S KITCHEN. NIGHT.

MACY opens the giant American fridge and gets out some milk. Macy pours herself some cereal. She suddenly spins round and sees the SEX BOT staring at her and she jumps back.

SEX BOT

Once a sexaholic, always a sexaholic!

Macy, shocked, stops in her tracks. She breathes hard.

INT. FREDIE'S BEDROOM. NIGHT. (MOMENTS LATER)

ON MACY - getting quietly back into bed. She is shaken, staring at FREDDIE sleeping. She breathes very hard.

INT. FREDDIE'S BEDROOM. MORNING. (NEXT DAY)

ON FREDDIE - waking up and seeing MACY, seated on the bed, dressed and looking at him. He grins and pulls her towards him but she sadly shakes her head.

MACY

A last chance momma and a
sexaholic? It would never work,
Freddie!

Freddie, taken aback, rolls over to her.

FREDDIE

Hey? This works! We've both got our
issues, babes, but that doesn't
have to define who we are, does it?

He grabs Macy fondly but she pulls away.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

Come here, Miss Jones, you gorgeous
crazy, mixed up lady ...!

Macy shakes her head pulling back as Freddie's eyes widen.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

Woah? You're about to sail off
again? You just don't understand
happy, Macy. This is what happy
feels like and it feels good.
Really good! C'mon? We really
blazed it up!

Macy shakes her head and grabbing her bag rushes out.

INT. KITCHEN. FREDDIE'S HOUSE. RYDE. NIGHT.

Freddie, beating back tears, staggers through to the kitchen, opens the fridge and pours himself a drink. Freddie sighs sadly and pours himself a drink as we hear something like *ETTA JAMES* on Freddie's SOUND SYSTEM.

SEX BOT

Let's blaze it up, big boy, let's
really blaze it up!

FREDDIE

Just shut the fuck up, will you?

SEX BOT

Fuck you, Freddie!

Freddie, shocked, reels back and swigs back another drink.

INT. TENT. FIELD. MORNING. (SAME TIME)

SHEENA, drunk, is passed out asleep. The half-smoked cigarette is fizzing on some paper near the MONEY in the LARGE PAPER ENVELOPE and it spreads over the dressing table. The ENVELOPE catches light. A FIRE starts but Sheena doesn't wake up.

FIRE!

EXT. TENT. FIELD. MORNING. DAY. (LATER)

MACY, JULES and RICH stand watching the FIRE BRIGADE, SEVERAL FIREMEN with hoses, put out the last little flames around the tent. SHEENA is stumbling around in the field, wrapped in a blanket, her face blackened from the fire as a MEDIC supports her. Macy runs across the empty field towards Sheena.

MACY

Mum? Oh, mum!? Are you OK?!

Sheena, shocked, nods slowly. Macy hugs Sheena very hard.

MACY (CONT'D)

The money from the gate? Suki said she would take care of it?

Sheena, blinking hard, shakes her head and stares at Macy.

ON MACY - dropping to her knees in the field.

INT. CONSULTING ROOM. CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL. DAY.

CHARLY, dressed as a woman, is there with the CONSULTANT (FEMALE, 40's) who sits behind a desk. She smiles at Charly.

CONSULTANT

Everything is healing up nicely, Charly. But the tests show that your sperm were never were active. The sperm storage can't work.

CHARLY

What? But ah've got a kid already? A bonnie lass who's ...? Not mine?

The CONSULTANT nods sadly as Charly goes pale.

INT. CONSULTING ROOM. MARRIAGE GUIDANCE. DAY. (LATER)

A MARRIAGE COUNSELLOR (FEMALE, 40's) clears her throat gently as she sits facing SUE and NEVIL who sit opposite her.

MARRIAGE COUNSELLOR
So to round up, you're a sexaholic
and the problems stem from there?
Is that right, Nevil?

Nevil nods glumly. He blinks hard over at Sue.

MARRIAGE COUNSELLOR
Sue? Not too happy about this?

Sue nods very quickly, her face grim.

MARRIAGE COUNSELLOR
OK, we've made a good start. I'll
see you both next week.

Nevil suddenly sits bolt upright, his eyes wild.

NEVIL
I'm a knob! A sexaholic who loves
the secrecy and danger of it all!
How will I ever change?

Sue gets up and rushes out, shocked. Nevil gulps sadly.

MARRIAGE COUNSELLOR
The session is over, Nevil.

NEVIL
Bit like my marriage?

INT. MACY'S FLAT. RYDE SEAFRONT. RYDE. DAY

MACY is pacing around, smoking, very anxious. JULES lies back on the chaise longue, pregnant and very weary.

MACY
Sophie will never forgive me?
Never! I've fucked up again!

Jules suddenly clutches her stomach and lurches up.

JULES
Mace? Think I'm gonna be ...?!

Jules rushes out and we hear loud GAGGING sounds--

INT. BATHROOM. DAY. (CONTINUOUS)

--JULES wipes her mouth as they sit down on the bathroom floor, leaning on the bath.

JULES
We will think of a way, Mace.
Sophie's strong, she can take the
truth, she can!

Macy, beating back tears, shakes her head. Jules grabs her hand and places it on her stomach as she breathes hard.

JULES (CONT'D)
Something moved? Feel? I'm not a
last chance momma anymore! My baby?

Macy and Jules sit leaning on the side of the bath as Macy rubs Jules's stomach.

SONOGRAPHER (O.S.)
Baby's looking good - there she is!

INT. HOSPITAL. NEWPORT. DAY (NEXT DAY)

A scanner is being rubbed over SOPHIE'S bare belly as SUE, pale, very anxious, grips Sophie's hand. Sophie is smiling bravely as a MALE SONOGRAPHER (30's) looks into the screen.

SOPHIE
Oh, wow? She's a she!

Sophie gasps as they see the BABY on the screen. The male sonographer narrows his eyes.

MALE SONOGRAPHER
Just a minute, please. I need to
get the Consultant.

The sonographer leaves the room. Sophie breathes hard. A CONSULTANT (FEMALE, 50's) comes back in with the sonographer. He sits down by the side of Sophie. He gulps gently.

CONSULTANT
Hello, Sophie. The biopsy results
last month showed a small growth
near the abdomen, but it's got
bigger and moved into the pelvis.

Sophie, alarmed, breathes hard and grips Sue's hand.

CONSULTANT (CONT'D)

It's stage three cancer. Decisions will need to be made about the baby, Sophie, as there are risks around this. But you'll fight this.

SUE

(fierce)

We will be warriors!

Sophie is pale but suddenly very calm.

SOPHIE

No chemo until my baby girl is out. That's one decision made!

Sue smiles proudly through her tears. The consultant nods.

INT. PRIVATE ROOM. HOSPITAL. DAY. (LATER)

MACY pops her head around a door, very nervously and sees SOPHIE propped up on a bed in a hospital gown.

SUE is sitting next to her, knitting, NEVIL nearby. Sue nods at Nevil as they see Macy and they leave.

ON MACY - sitting down on the bed, taking Sophie's hand.

MACY

Sophie? I've got to explain something ...?

Sophie gulps hard and stares at Macy.

SOPHIE

Be very brave, mum! I planned to fund raise money for pregnant mums with cancer and now it's my turn. Ironic, huh? Hodgkins Lymphoma.

Macy's jaw slowly drops open and she shakes her head.

MACY

(reeling)

'Hodgkin's' what? I don't like that name? Don't like that name one bit!

Macy shaking, pulling out a cigarette, going to light it but Sophie smiles gently, pointing to the NO SMOKING sign. Macy curses. Sophie smiles bravely through her tears.

SOPHIE

I'm having a baby girl, mum, and
we're going to love her like no
baby girl has ever been loved
before!

Macy gasps loudly, shocked and suddenly a bit manic. She jumps up and paces around. Sophie blinks hard at her.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

I know, mum? We're so unlucky?

Macy rushes over and shakes her head fiercely.

MACY

No, we're lucky, Sophie! Lucky we found each other again and lucky we liked each other. But we love each, love each other to bits, so we're very lucky. We're gonna take on this Hodgkins fucker and we're gonna win!

Macy, reeling, manic, punches the air as Sophie laughs softly. Sophie shakes her head fondly and laughs softly.

SOPHIE

I knew there was a reason I wanted you here, mum!

Macy dashes over to the bed. They hug fiercely.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR. EVENING. (LATER)

MACY, shattered, punch-drunk, staggers down the neon-lit hospital corridor, her face deathly pale, set in stone.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

INT. SIMILAR HOSPITAL CORRIDOR. EVENING. 2001.

We see YOUNG MACY (16) in her hospital gown, pale, walk down a similar neon-lit corridor, newborn BABY SOPHIE in her arms. Macy weaves around, unsteady, traumatised, walking to give her up. Macy staggers onwards, her face bleak.

END FLASHBACK

EXT. MANSION HOUSE. LEAFY SUBURBS. NIGHT. (PRESENT DAY)

The RAIN pours down mercilessly.

ON MACY - staggering through the woods, soaked, a bottle of whisky in one hand, onto the gravel drive outside Sophie's house. Macy knocks on the door, shouting up to the windows.

MACY
(shouting)
Oi? Sophie's parents? Come out,
will ya? Come down!

An upstairs window light clicks on.

INT. HALLWAY. MANSION HOUSE. MOMENTS LATER. NIGHT

SUE and NEVIL run downstairs. Nevil darts to look through a window and rolls his eyes as Sue bites her lip.

EXT. MANSION HOUSE. MOMENTS LATER.

NEVIL opens the door cautiously as the RAIN beats down. SUE looks over her shoulder as MACY, bedraggled, glares over taking a swig from the bottle.

MACY
You both knew my girl was ill for weeks and weeks and you both said nothing?! Nothing?! I'm Sophie's birth mum and she could have slipped away without me knowing?!

SUE
We are Sophie's parents, Macy! The ones who watched her ride her first pony, took her to Brownies and ..?!

Sue stops, breaking down as Nevil goes to comfort her.

MACY
Sophie is my blood, my blood! So don't ever, ever keep that kind of secret from me again!

Nevil nods quickly and closes the door as Macy, drenched, staggers through the woods, tears streaming down her face.

EXT. RYDE ESPLANADE, CHURCH. DAY. (NEXT DAY)

ON A PINK CONVERTIBLE - CHARLY, looking upbeat, drives down the Esplanade in full female attire, roof down, her suitcase behind her. Charly drives past the HOMELESS BUS parked up near a Church and sees RAM JAM, through a window, sitting on a bunk. Ram Jam comes out and smiles as Charly pulls over.

RAM JAM

Alright, mate? Painful having your dick off, I bet? Ooof?!

CHARLY

I'm not 'mate' anymore. More 'Mrs. Mate' these days. Call me Charlene!

Ram Jam nods quickly. Charly stares at him.

CHARLY (CONT'D)

Did Macy throw you out?

RAM JAM

I've been a dick all me life. Let 'em all down badly. I heard the news about Macy's girl? Gutted I am, gutted! Macy's up at the church. She's been there all night!

Charly drives on. Ram Jam calls out after him.

RAM JAM (CONT'D)

Tell Macy her dad was asking, will you, Charlene?

Charly nods smiles kindly and drives up the hill.

INT CHURCH HALL. DAY. (MINUTES LATER)

MACY is slumped in a Church pew. Charly rushes over and hugs Macy hard. Macy sobs into his arms.

CHARLY

I heard all the news! I'm here for yeh, hen, Charlene is back!

Macy slowly pulls back. Charly stares gently at her.

CHARLY (CONT'D)

Ah'm nae the dah! They said at the hospital that ah've been firing blanks all meh life. You're gonna have to tell Fab Five Freddie!

Macy shakes her head, eyes widening, horrified.

EXT. CHURCH. SAME TIME. DAY.

RAM JAM walks past the Church with a spade over his shoulder. CHARLY and MACY come running out of the church and jump into the pink convertible and drive off. Ram Jam, rolls his eyes and looks up, crossing himself.

RAM JAM

Never been much cop at this, mate?
But I'm praying now. Praying for us
all!

EXT. FREDDIE'S HOUSE. GARDEN. DAY. (MINUTES LATER)

CHARLY pulls up in the pink convertible and Macy gets out. She looks very shaky as Charly waves her quickly onwards.

MACY staggers towards FREDDIE'S house, nestling in the woods. She pushes back branches as she hears noises. Macy sees Freddie in his jacuzzi seated between TWO ATTRACTIVE WOMEN (20's). Macy reels back.

ON FREDDIE - laughing and drinking as MUSIC plays loudly as they clink champagne glasses. Freddie looks over and sees Macy. Their eyes meet as Macy, horrified, turns and runs off through the woods. Freddie stands up in the jacuzzi, breathing hard, the water rolling off him.

EXT/INT. CAR. MINUTES DAY. (LATER)

Charly is looking frenzied as she holds up Macy's phone.

CHARLY

The baby's coming, hen! Get in!

Macy, beating back tears, nods quickly and jumps into the passenger seat. Charly drives off quickly.

MACY

He's not a dad. It's still you,
Charly, still you, Charlene!

CHARLY

But I'm a mum now, remember? Ah'm
trading it in this little beauty
for Sophie's mums. You got me out
of a hole, I'm getting you out of a
hole. That's how we roll!

MACY eyes widen, impressed and relieved.

INT. SOPHIE'S ROOM. HOSPITAL. BIT LATER. DAY

MACY runs into the room, followed by CHARLY, as SUE spins round and holds up her finger to her lips. Macy reels back.

SUE

Shhhh? Baby's here. She's very tiny
and she's resting!

Macy, breathing hard, nods and walks past Sue and NEVIL towards SOPHIE who lies on a bed, pale, on a drip, smiling proudly as she clutches tiny BABY FLO in her arms.

SOPHIE

I did it, mum. Meet Flo! She came a bit early but here she is. Isn't she beautiful?

MACY

She's perfect, babes, so perfect!

Macy gasps and stares down at Baby Flo, gently kissing her head. CHARLY walks forward and blinks back tears, staring at Sophie and Baby Flo.

CHARLY

A reet bonnie bairn like her mah!
We made two grand more than we
thought at the gig, Sophie, so
that's five grand already for the
mums and their bairns!

SOPHIE

Wow? The money will do so much
here, Charly!

THE NURSE takes Baby Flo as Sue beats back tears and looks at Nevil as Charly walks over to them.

SUE

Will you go get everyone some tea,
please, beetroot?

NEVIL

Of course, pumpkin!

CHARLY

A dram of whisky would down a
treat? Just had meh banger chopped
off, meh baws, the whole caboodle!

Nevil splutters and rushes out as Charly leans in to Sue, his voice low.

CHARLY (CONT'D)

Thought ah' was the da, but ah'm
nae the dah. It's Freddie, a good
lad and sex-a-wotnot like you're
wee man!

Sue nods slowly, breathing hard and gets up as Macy now sits on Sophie's bed, blinking back tears.

Sophie takes Macy's hand and squeezes it hard as a NURSE comes to take Baby Flo to the Premature Unit. Macy kisses Baby Flo's head.

NURSE

You the grandma? We'll look after her, don't worry. She's a poppet!

Macy nods fiercely through her tears.

SOPHIE

We're lucky, remember, mum? Lucky!

INT. PREMATURE BABY UNIT. HOSPITAL. NIGHT. (LATER)

MACY, CHARLY, SUE and NEVIL stand there and stare through the glass window at BABY FLO in her crib, wires coming out of her. Nevil puts his arm around Sue's shoulders. Sue smiles gently at him, comforted.

The CONSULTANT (FEMALE, 50's) comes out of a room where Sophie is having her chemo. He looks gently at them all.

CONSULTANT

Who is the mother?

MACY/SUE

(together)

I am!

CONSULTANT

Ah yes? Of course. We will see how Sophie's body reacts but there are no guarantees with the cancer so wide spread. I'm sorry.

ON MACY - reeling back, staggering out of the room.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR. NIGHT. (MINUTES LATER)

JULES runs down the corridors towards MACY and sees her staggering along, shocked. Jules stops in her tracks as Macy now scans Jules's face as Jules slowly nods.

JULES

Freddie is Sophie's dad. It's only right, Mace!

MACY

I could lose my girl and you
invited that plonker back into our
lives? The Mommas are over, Jules,
and so are we!

Jules, reels back, blinking back tears as Macy staggers down
the corridor towards the Exit.

EXT. PIER. SEAFRONT. RYDE. NIGHT. (SAME TIME)

SHEENA is standing at the top of Pier, emptying a bottle over
the side. She throws the bottle into the sea. She now drags
her black bin bag of belongings towards the end of the long
wooden pier. She is heading towards the ferry.

INT. MACY'S FLAT. RYDE. NIGHT. (BIT LATER)

MACY comes into her flat and puts down her bag. She is
shattered. She picks up a handwritten note and reads.

MACY

(reading)

*'Who needs a screw up of a mum or a
granny from hell? Bye, honey!'*

EXT. RYDE PIER. NIGHT. (MINUTES LATER)

MACY runs down the long pier as a FERRY slowly pulls out at
the end, a couple of FERRY MEN throwing the ropes off the
Quay. Macy, horrified, runs over and calls out.

MACY

Mum? Mum? Come back? I need you
here ... mum?!

Macy collapses on the pier as the seagulls squawk. We hear
hear her sing *'WHY'* by ANNIE LENNOX.

MACY (O.S.) (CONT'D)

(singing)

*How many times do I have to try to
tell you
That I'm sorry for the things I've
done.*

INT. CHURCH HALL. RYDE. LATER. NIGHT

MACY sings, her face bleak, the Mommas' instruments all around her. The Church is dark, a single light shining on her through a glass pane.

MACY

(singing)

*But when I start to try to tell you
That's when you have to tell me
Hey, this kind of trouble's only
just begun
I tell myself too many times*

INT. TREATMENT ROOM. HOSPITAL. NIGHT. (HOURS LATER)

SOPHIE is sitting in a chair a chemotherapy fluid drip coming out of her arm. FREDDIE comes in and sits down next to her. ANOTHER YOUNG MUM (20's) sits near, a chemotherapy drip coming out of her.

MACY (O.S.)

(singing)

*Why don't you ever learn to keep
your big mouth shut?
That's why it hurts to bad to hear
the words
That keep falling from your mouth*

Sophie smiles gently at Freddie and he nods.

SOPHIE

(whispering)

You took your time, dad!

Freddie smiles and moves closer as Sophie takes his hand.

INT. ANGEL'S LIVING ROOM. ANGEL'S FLAT. RYDE. NIGHT

ANGEL stares, blank faced, at the flickering TV. TEZ cuddles up to his mother and plays with the drumsticks that SUKI gave him. Angel sighs and pushes down the drum sticks.

INT. JULES AND RICH'S BEDROOM. NIGHT (SAME TIME)

JULES and RICH lie on their bed. Jules is sheet white, wrapped in a sheet. Rich looks bleak. They have miscarried.

MACY (O.S.)
 (singing)
*Tell me
 Why? Why?*

Jules, eyes hollow, stares straight ahead. No tears.

EXT. PIER HEAD. RYDE. NIGHT. (SAME TIME)

MACY, face pale, leans on the iron railings on the pier and stares out to sea watching Ships sail past. Macy turns to walk back up the Pier. She's alone again.

INT. BALLROOM. HOTEL. SANDOWN SEAFRONT. WEEKS LATER. DAY

MACY is dressed in a *TINA TURNER* sequined dress, big wig on. She sings into the microphone to a half empty room of SEVERAL WHITE HAired PENSIONERS who play cards.

She looks bleak as an ELDERLY DRUMMER (60's) plays the shuffle on the drums. Macy sings, her eyes dull. 'WHAT'S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT?' *TINA TURNER.*

MACY
 (singing)
*What's love got to do with it?
 What's love, but a second hand
 emotion?
 What's love got to do, got to do
 with it?
 Who needs a heart when a heart can
 be broken?*

INT. CONSULTING ROOM. RELATE. DAY.

THE MARRIAGE COUNSELLOR clears her throat gently as SUE and NEVIL sit opposite her in arm chairs. They look pale and exhausted but somehow clearer.

MARRIAGE COUNSELLOR
 I'm glad you took time out for yourselves. You matter as parents for Sophie and for each other too.

Nevil looks at Sue and beats back tears. Sue suddenly grabs Nevil and pulls him towards her.

SUE
 Oh, come here, beetroot?! You're not perfect, but who is? We'll get through this, together!

NEVIL
We will, pumpkin, we will!

Nevil smiles, tears in his eyes, as they hug fiercely.

INT. OLD PEOPLES' HOME. SANDOWN SEAFRONT. DAY

JULES, dressed again in her Podiatrist uniform, is doing the feet of the OLD WOMAN we saw before. Jules looks glum.

OLD WOMAN
How's it going with your rock and
roll band, dearie?

Jules sighs deeply, reaching for more foot cream.

JULES
We came. We played. We folded!

EXT. PIER HEAD. RYDE. DAY

FREDDIE paces around, looking out to sea as a FERRY pulls in. A FEW PASSENGERS emerge from the Terminal. Freddie sees CELIA, his ex-wife, and DULCIE. Dulcie shouts and runs over to Freddie as Freddie opens his arms for her.

DULCIE
Daddy? Daddy!

FREDDIE
Dulcie-Doos? Give me a big squeeze.
Hey? Where's my prezzie from
France? No snails for me?

Dulcie pulls out a half-eaten bar of chocolate and hands it to Freddie. He laughs and takes it as Celia watches uneasily. Freddie slowly stands up and looks deeply at Celia.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)
When ...?

Celia nods sadly.

CELIA
Soon.

Freddie gulps and nods as a TAXI pulls up and Celia and Dulcie get in. Freddie waves as they pull off. A SEAGULL squawks and shits on Freddie's shoulder. He jumps back. TWO TEENAGE GIRLS (15) watch and giggle as Freddie groans.

EXT. SANDOWN PIER. DAY (BIT LATER)

JULES is eating a sandwich near the Dodgems/bumper cars, leaning on the rail overlooking the sea. MACY, still in her outfit under her coat, sees Jules and walks down the Pier towards her. Macy leans on the rail and pulls out her vape.

MACY

I heard your news, Jules. I was gutted for you both. Gutted!

Jules shrugs and sighs deeply, still staring ahead.

JULES

My last chance done and dusted! I'm doing every bit of overtime I can to pay you back, Mace.

MACY

No way, mate. You owe me nothing.

Jules nods, a bit relieved. She looks at Macy

JULES

How's Sophie, Mace? She will pull through, she will!

MACY

Sophie's hanging in there, bless her! We're all hanging in for Sophie. You were right about Freddie. Honesty is the only way. It's all we've got left.

Jules smiles fondly and blinks hard at Macy.

MACY (CONT'D)

God, I've missed you, Jules!

Macy grabs Jules, hugging her. Jules laughs.

JULES

Missed you too, Mace. And the Mommas. Miss it all!

Macy suddenly beats back tears, shaking her head.

MACY

Oh, Jules? I've only just got my girl back?! I can't lose her now!

JULES

Come on, Mace. We Mommas stand together. Let's get up there!

Jules tosses the remains of her sandwich to the SEAGULLS who squawk and pick at the remains as they run off quickly.

INT. MEETING ROOM. CHURCH. SEXAHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETING. DAY.

FREDDIE sits in a circle of chairs with SEVERAL OTHER SEXAHOLICS and NEVIL. They all listen to Freddie.

FREDDIE

I've had sex. And it was bloody lovely. Why? Because it was with the right woman. An amazing woman in fact. I'm getting what's good about being monogamous but now I've lost this amazing woman. Blown it! So it's back to Step One!

The OTHER SEXAHOLICS glumly speak as one. Almost a chant.

OTHER SEXAHOLICS

Admit we are powerless over addictive sexual behavior and that our lives have become unmanageable.

Freddie suddenly jumps up and paces around as they all watch.

FREDDIE

Maybe recovery is about us realising that life's not all about us? Step Thirteen? Life's not all about us self-centered fuckers so let's get our heads out of our self-centered arses and focus on other people. What do you all reckon?

A COUPLE OF SEXAHOLICS look shocked. Nevil gulps and nods as Freddie looks at him.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

C'mon, mate? Our daughter needs us!

A FEW SEXAHOLICS look confused as Nevil and Freddie leave.

INT. CANCER WARD. HOSPITAL. NEWPORT. DAY (LATER)

SOPHIE is sitting in a chair, a chemotherapy fluid drip coming out of her arm. FREDDIE rushes in and Sophie smiles gently at him as Freddie goes over to hug her gently. NEVIL pops his head around the door, holding a TEDDY BEAR.

NEVIL

I've bought Mr. Tiggy. Your good
lucky teddy, darling!

Sophie laughs softly and holds her arms out to Nevil.

SOPHIE

Come here, dad!

They hug as Nevil places MR. TIGGY next to Sophie.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

I hope you and mum have made up?

NEVIL

We're getting there, poppet. Well
on the way!

Sophie now smiles over at Freddie.

SOPHIE

I'm not letting you off the hook
either, dad? How are you and mum?

Freddie gulps hard as a NURSE (30's) comes in holding BABY FLO. The NURSE gently places Baby Flo in Sophie's arms. Sophie cuddles Baby Flo, feeding her with the bottle as Freddie and Nevil watch blinking back tears. Freddie suddenly jumps up, shaking his head.

FREDDIE

Fuck me, I'm sorry? I can't ...?

SOPHIE

Flo's bigger now, dad. Come look?
You've haven't held her yet.

Freddie, blinking back tears, darts out of the room.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR. DAY (MOMENTS LATER)

FREDDIE rushes down the corridor as MACY and JULES enter at the other end. Jules nods at Freddie and walks off quickly. Freddie and Macy stop and stare at each other.

Beat.

Freddie and Macy rush together and they hug fiercely.

FREDDIE

(breaking down)
I kissed her? I kissed the baby?!

Freddie sobs in Macy's arms as Macy hugs him hard. Freddie slowly pulls back, brightening slightly. They kiss again, beating back tears. Macy smiles at him through her tears.

MACY

We'll be ok, Freddie. We've got to be ok. For Sophie!

INT. SOPHIE'S ROOM. HOSPITAL. DAY. (A BIT LATER)

MACY sits at one side of SOPHIE'S bed as Sophie, propped up on pillows, sleeps, the chemo drip coming out of her arm.

FREDDIE sits on Macy's other side in a chair, asleep. On the other side of Sophie's bed, SUE sits in a chair asleep and NEVIL sleeps on Sue's far side, in a chair.

Macy tiptoes over to BABY FLO in her cot and gently picks her up. Baby Flo gurgles as Macy tiptoes out of the room.

EXT. WOODED AREA. NEAR HOSPITAL. DAY. (LATER)

MACY walks around in circles, cuddling BABY FLO and singing gently.

MACY

(singing)
*Hush little baby
 Don't you cry
 Momma's going to sing you a
 lullaby!*

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR. MINUTES LATER. DAY

SUE rushes into the corridor and stops and gasps as she sees MACY and BABY FLO coming in at the other end. Macy and Sue stare at each other. Macy slowly walks towards Sue and stops.

MACY

Flo's got your nose, but she's got my eyes. Hope she doesn't turn out to be a head-banger like me, eh?

Macy laughs gently as Sue gulps quickly.

SUE

Macy? Sophie was asking for Flo!

Sue holds out her arms for Baby Flo as Macy nods slowly. She hands over Baby Flo to Sue. Macy smiles wryly.

MACY

We're doing this again, eh, Sue?
Years and years later!

SUE

Don't? Please don't?!

MACY

I'm sorry. Look, us old girls need
to stay brave. For both our girls,
eh?

Sue nods very slowly and walks off. Sue turns round.

SUE

I've always admired your bravery,
Macy. Sophie gets that from you as
I've been scared all my life.
Pretty damned terrified, in fact.
I'm work in progress, let's say!

Macy smiles gently and nods as Sue walks off with Baby Flo.

EXT. SCHOOL PLAYGROUND. RYDE. DAY. (LATER)

ANGEL comes out of the school, holding TEZ'S school bag. Tez
points over to the school railings where SUKI stands waiting.
Tez runs over as Angel bites her lip and walks over. Suki
stares at Angel through the metal railings.

SUKI

We are from different tribes, and
there is a giant gap between us,
Angel, but ...?

Angel comes closer, breathing hard.

SUKI (CONT'D)

This tropical bird is nesting here!

Suki reaches through the railings for Angel's hand and pulls
Angel close. Angel grins happily but is suddenly worried.

ANGEL

Macy's daughter is really ill,
Suki. We have to do something!

Suki nods pulls out a CHEQUE and shows Angel. It's written to
St. Mary's Hospital, £5,000. Angel gasps.

SUKI

Howzatt? I told them about Sophie
and the folks dug deep.

(MORE)

SUKI (CONT'D)
Mum had cancer so she feels
strongly about it!

Angel's face lights up.

INT. SOPHIE'S ROOM. HOSPITAL. EVENING. (HOURS LATER)

NEVIL walks in with a camp bed to set up for SUE as MACY sets up her camp bed for herself by SOPHIE'S bed on the other side.

SUE
Not that one, Nevil? It's a child's
bed! Could I swap with you, Macy,
as I'm an awful lot taller?

Macy smiles and nods as Sue walks around, lying on the camp bed, shrieks as the bed suddenly collapses.

SUE (CONT'D)
Help? Beetroot? Help me?!

NEVIL
Coming, pumpkin, coming!

Sophie leans over from her bed, leaning down to Macy and they both giggle softly.

Beat.

Macy stares deeply at Sophie and Sophie smiles back.

INT. WIND TURBINE FACTORY. EAST COWES. ISLE OF WIGHT. SAME TIME. DAY

CHARLY and a COUPLE OF MECHANICS sip at mugs of tea, all wearing overalls. MECHANIC (#1) grins fondly at Charly.

MECHANIC (#1)
All hunky dory then, Charlene. A
fully fledged female now!

A CAR HORN from outside.

EXT. WIND TURBINE FACTORY. EAST COWES. DAY (SAME TIME)

RAM JAM is there leaning on CHARLY'S PINK CONVERTIBLE. He has shaved and looks spruced up. He holds the keys, smiling as CHARLY and the TWO MECHANICS (#1 & #2) emerge.

RAM JAM

Mace said to clean the brake fluids
and sort out the wires!

Charly smiles, touched. MECHANIC (#2) grins warmly.

MECHANIC (#2)

Your wires are all sorted now,
Charlene. You're ready to go!

Charly grins towards the car and gets in. They drive off as
MECHANIC (#1) and MECHANIC (#2) watch --

ON THE ROAD - CONTINUOUS

--CHARLY looks over at RAM JAM, who drives.

CHARLY

We's going to sell this mother,
Ram. Who wants a pink convertible,
anyway? For Sophie's fund!

RAM JAM

I know just the man who will buy
it. He's loaded!

RAM JAM nods. He is impressed. Charly smiles over at him.

EXT. RYDE PIER HEAD. DAY. (SAME TIME)

SHEENA comes walking out of the Pier Terminal and walks along
the Pier towards the town. She pulls a small pull-along
suitcase and looks cleaned up and clearer. A FEW SEAGULLS
squawk and Sheena raises an eyebrow as she passes.

SHEENA

Out of my way, island sky rats!
Momma's back in town!

Sheena strides towards town down the Pier.

INT. PUB. THE HOG'S ARMS. RYDE. DAY. (LATER)

CHARLY, JULES, RICH, ANGEL and SUKI all sit around a table,
beers in front of them. They all look glum.

JULES

Sophie's off the chemo now. It
could be weeks and now Mace has
gone missing? Not answering her
calls!

Angel nudges Suki and Suki pulls out the cheque.

SUKI

Five thousand pounds from the folks! We Mommas stick together, eh?

Angel puts her arm around Suki as they all CHEER.

JULES

Wow? With the two grand we made and Charly's three, this will really help! We just need to clinch the prize money from the Finals to build that new unit!

ANGEL

If we can find our lead singer?

SHEENA walks in, pulling her suitcase, and they all watch as she approaches the Bar. A BAR MAN (20's) smiles at her.

SHEENA

Soda with lime, please.

Sheena spins round and stares hard at Jules and the others.

SHEENA (CONT'D)

Can't a woman have a drink? Soda and tonic OK?

Sheena approaches the table with her drink as Jules hands her the cheque and grins, nodding at Suki

JULES

Suki was the hero of the hour and Charlene, sold her car. For Sophie's mums and babes!

Sheena shakes her head, relieved. She leans in to Jules.

SHEENA

(whispering)
It's bad, isn't it?

JULES

Bad as it gets, love. And we've lost Macy?

Sheena jumps up and nods at Charly.

SHEENA

Come on? I've got an idea?

Charly follows her out as Ram Jam waves over weakly.

CHARLY

He's helping do up meh house, bless him!

SHEENA

I'm glad to hear it, Charlene. You deserve some fun in your life if you can call that dip-stick fun?

Charly laughs as Sheena rolls her eyes at RAM JAM as they pass. She suddenly spins round to Jules, Angel and Suki.

SHEENA (CONT'D)

And you ugly pack of fuckwits, get practising! The Manager's back on the island, so let's get some decent music going up at the hospital. We've got a couple of extra Roadies, so go set it up!

Sheena walks off with Charly as Jules, Angel, Suki, Rich jump up excited as they all rush off with Ram Jam happily following them.

EXT. CULVER DOWN. DAY. (LATER)

Culver Down, a large grassy area of cliff that overlooks the sea and the island. CHARLY parks his car and SHEENA gets out.

ON MACY - standing near the edge of a cliff, looking out.

ON SHEENA - rushing over the hill. She sees Macy and walks up to her. Breathing very hard, she stands next to Macy, looking out to sea. Sheena looks out too.

SHEENA

(gently)

Culver Down? The island's favorite suicide spot. My brother drove his car off here when he was eighteen. No one knew why. Such a waste!

Macy suddenly looks at her, shocked. Sheena inhales deeply.

SHEENA (CONT'D)

I can smell the air now I'm no longer in a fog.

Macy turns to Sheena, tears rolling down her eyes.

MACY

How am I going to do this, mum?
Sophie's at the very edge and I've
got nothing to draw on!

SHEENA

Draw on the music, honey. Music
will pull you through. It always
does! We made Sophie a promise we
would win this gig so we must. The
final is in two days. There's still
time!

Macy wriggles around in agony. Sheena's not giving up.

SHEENA (CONT'D)

Or just bump along the bottom,
success always out of reach. Wrap
yourself in the warm familiar cloak
of failure. Feels cosy, eh? Success
can be a difficult, Macy, you have
to make tough choices, get up, get
knocked down, work harder than
you've ever done before, but one
thing's for sure...

Macy looks at Sheena, blinking hard.

SHEENA (CONT'D)

It's more enjoyable than failure
and believe me, this old Punk knows
blowing all her chances on booze.
You have a chance here, Macy, and
it could be your last?

MACY

(almost to herself)
Sophie put the baby first, herself
second, made life and death
choices. That really knocked me
out!

ON MACY - her eyes widening. She nods quickly and
brightening, walks back from the edge.

SHEENA

The Mommas are gathering, putting
their hands deep in their pocket.
Feel the force, give out the love
and do what you do best, honey.
Sing, sing!!

We hear CHARLY(O.S.) hoot the CAR HORN and they walk quickly
off across the grass, arm in arm.

INT. WARD. HOSPITAL. DAY (BIT LATER)

SOPHIE is there on her bed with FREDDIE in an armchair next to her. Sophie off the chemo and looking very pale and weak. Freddie leans in and helps her hold Baby Flo. MACY, followed by SHEENA, pops her head in and smiles nervously.

MACY

Some friends here to see you,
Sophie. A bunch of degenerate
musicians!

RAM JAM comes in with a wheelchair. He smiles gently at Sophie as SHEENA follows him in.

SOPHIE

(weakly)
Grandad? Nice ... to meet you.
You're part of ... my ... musical
heritage!

Ram Jam beams as Sophie smiles. SHEENA comes close to Sophie.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Granny? Did you really ... know ...
all those big names in the 80's?

Sheena laughs, nodding proudly.

SHEENA

I think I screwed Rotten or maybe
it was just a rotten screw? It was
the eighties, honey. All a bit of a
blur!

SOPHIE

But ... you were ... there!

Sheena stands up straight. She nods, suddenly proud of herself.

INT. CORRIDOR. HOSPITAL. MINUTES LATER. DAY

ON SHEENA - bossing them around quietly. JULES, CHARLY, SUKI, ANGEL, SHEENA are all ready to go on their guitars. RICH has rigged up the sound system and Suki grabs her drum sticks and FREDDIE is there, setting up the gear.

A FEW MUMS with cancer emerge into the corridor, some carrying BABIES or TODDLERS, others pulling mobile drip machines.

ON SOPHIE - being wheeled out by Ram Jam and parked in her wheelchair near A COUPLE OF DOCTORS and NURSES, all smiling. MACY stands in front of the Band and leans into the mic.

MACY

The Mommas have now gathered ten thousand pounds for the brand new unit where you can all spend precious time in comfort with your kids and when we nail the final of Rock Chix we will complete the fund!

RAM JAM steps forward quickly as CHARLY grins at him.

MACY (CONT'D)

Friends in Hong Kong helped us. We might be a small island but we are all connected. Feel the love!

Everyone CHEERS and claps as Sophie smiles weakly.

MACY (CONT'D)

We Mommas salute all you mums here today as you are the bravest bunch of mommas we've ever fucking met!

ALL LAUGH warmly as Macy grabs the microphone as Suki beats out RAPTURE - DEBBIE HARRY. Sophie smiles weakly, beaming.

MACY (CONT'D)

(singing)

*Toe to toe
Dancing very close
Barely breathing
Almost comatose
Wall to wall
People hypnotised
And they're stepping lightly
Hand each night in Rapture!*

Ram Jam does some 'body popping' as people laugh and CLAP. Freddie joins in, dancing badly, and Sophie laughs and beams.

MACY/JULES/ANGEL

(singing)

*Fab Five Freddie told me
everybody's high
DJ's spinnin' are saving' my mind
Flash is fast Flash is cool*

EXT. PIER HEAD. RYDE. LATER. DAY

FREDDIE, exhausted, drives very slowly over the speed bumps down the historic Pier. He looks very anxious. At the Ferry Terminal, Freddie jumps out of his car. DULCIE and CELIA are there with some suitcases. Celia walks towards him, holding Dulcie'S hand. Freddie blinks back tears.

FREDDIE

What? That's your ferry?

Dulcie comes up to Freddie, eyes wide.

DULCIE

Mummy said that Robert is a grade A plonker and she's not following a grade A plonker all the way to France. What's a 'grade A plonker', Daddy doos?

Freddie gasps hugging Dulcie. Celia grins ruefully at him.

CELIA

(warmly)

Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays
still OK, Freddie?

Freddie laughs gently and nods, wiping tears from his eyes.

INT. HOSPITAL. SOPHIE'S ROOM. DAY. (LATER)

MACY sits on SOPHIE'S bed, her face close to her. Sophie is now extremely weak. Macy leans in.

SOPHIE

(voice cracking)

You only ... sing other peoples'
songs? Write ... one for me!

MACY

(terrified)

Fuck me sideways? Me write a song?

Sophie nods as The CONSULTANT (MALE) pops his head in and nods for Macy to come to one side. Macy gasps.

CONSULTANT

Weeks or so now. Maybe days?

Macy jerks hard as if hit by a bullet. Sophie indicates for Macy to come near and whispers up to her.

SOPHIE
 No creepy ... head stones,
 remember! Bury me ... under a tree.
 I want to keep growing! Your ...
 song?

ON MACY - eyes widening. We hear her voice on the phone.

MACY (O.S.)
 (on phone)
 Freddie? Freddie help?!

INT. FREDDIE'S HOUSE. WOODS. RYDE. DAY. (SAME TIME)

FREDDIE, on his mobile to MACY (O.S.), sitting at the kitchen table with DULCIE. THE SEX BOT sits near them, an apron around her, a NURSE'S hat on her head as DULCIE feeds her.

FREDDIE
 (on phone/soothing)
 You've got the Mommas all around
 you, babe. Calm now, we can do
 this. You can do this! Calm!

Freddie clicks off the phone and paces around, manic.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)
 Fuckorama?!

DULCIE
 Daddy? Say sorry to Big Dolly!

FREDDIE
 (distracted)
 Sorry, Big Dolly!

Freddie grabs his mobile.

FREDIE
 (on phone)
 Sam? Need a favour - not much time!

EXT. MACY'S FLAT. RYDE. SEAFRONT. DAY. (BIT LATER)

SHEENA is giving directions to a REMOVAL VAN MAN with his TWO REMOVAL MEN who are moving something covered and large out of a big lorry parked outside Macy's flat. RAM JAM helps as Sheena opens the door and ushers them in.

INT. MACY'S FLAT. RYDE. MINUTES LATER. DAY

MACY walks into her living room and reels back. SHEENA grins at Macy as she sees a WHITE GRAND PIANO with a card on the top. Macy approaches the piano, opening the card. RAM JAM enters, wiping his brow, smiling over at her.

MACY
(reading)
*'Take baby steps. One after another
after. Love you! Fab Five Freddie.'*

Macy gasps, reeling, buoyed as Sheena nods.

SHEENA
Better get on, Tinker Bell! The
clock is ticking. All those piano
lessons I paid for? Get on!

MACY
I'm as rusty as fuck, mum, and you
only paid for three!

Macy now sits down at the piano, her fingers trembling.

RAM JAM
Think of the Big O, babe. He wrote
his *'Otis Sings Soul'* album in
twenty four hours!

Macy exhales and rolls her eyes as Sheena and Ram Jam leave. Macy taps out a few notes of *TRY A LITTLE TENDERNESS - OTIS READING*.

MACY
(singing)
*Oh, she may be weary
Them young girls they do get
wearyed
Wearing that same old miniskirt
dress
But when she gets weary
You try a little tenderness ...*

BEGIN MONTAGE

INT. CONSULTING ROOM. DOCTOR'S SURGERY. RYDE. DAY

A DOCTOR (FEMALE, 30's) pulls back a screen as RICH sits there watching. JULES sits up on the bed and gives Rich the thumbs up. Her pregnancy test is going well. They hug hard.

MACY (O.S.)
 (singing)
*I know she's waiting
 Just anticipating
 The thing that you'll never never
 possess
 No, No, No, No!*

EXT. PLAYGROUND. BEACH. RYDE. SAME TIME. DAY

FREDDIE is pacing around on his mobile as he waves over at DULCIE happily playing with TWO OTHER CHILDREN.

MACY (O.S.)
 (singing)
*But while she there waiting
 Try just a little bit of
 tenderness.
 Oh, she won't regret it
 No, no, them young girls they don't
 forget it ...*

Freddie catches Dulcie in his arms and swings her round and round. CELIA walks up and watches them, smiling.

EXT. RYDE BEACH. DAY.

ANGEL waves over at SUKI and TEZ who are doing cartwheels on the big beach.

MACY (O.S.)
 (singing)
*Try a little tenderness
 Yeah, yeah, yeah!*

INT. SOPHIE'S ROOM. HOSPITAL. DAY

SOPHIE is laying on her bed, very weak now. She stares down at BABY FLO as SUE gently bottle feeds her.

MACY (O.S.)
 (singing)
*You've got to
 Hold her, squeeze her
 Never leave her ...*

FREDDIE comes in and leads DULCIE by the hand. Dulcie goes up to Baby Flo and gently strokes her head, eyes wide.

MACY/ANGEL/JULES (O.S.)
 (singing)
*You've gotta hold her
 Don't squeeze her
 Never leave her ...*

INT. CHURCH HALL RYDE. NIGHT. (LATER)

MACY sings into her microphone the MOMMAS playing in the background as SHEENA watches proudly. FREDDIE slips in and watches by SHEENA'S side.

MACY/ANGEL/JULES
 (singing)
*You got got got to
 Try a little tenderness!*

Freddie nods over at Macy and smiles gently. She smiles back. The MOMMAS nod slowly at each other. They have come of age.

INT. MACY'S LIVING ROOM. NIGHT. (LATER)

SHEENA comes in with a tray of sandwiches and a drink and puts it down. MACY is exhausted, but still scribbling down her notes, the floor covered with discarded notes.

END MONTAGE

INT. MACY'S LIVING ROOM. DAY. (NEXT DAY)

MACY has fallen asleep at the piano as CHARLY, RAM JAM and SHEENA come in and stare over at her. Macy looks up.

MACY
 I've got the ending!

Ram Jam punches the air as Sheena comes in, her face drawn.

ON SHEENA - looking at Macy, beating back tears.

ON MACY - focused, together, nodding at Sheena.

INT. LARGE TENT. FIELD NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT. EVENING.

The ROCK CHIX FINAL. MACY, JULES, CHARLY, SHEENA (both on lead guitars, ANGEL and SUKI walk on. FREDDIE watches proudly from the wings.

The CROWD CHEER as Macy, in evening wear, professional, very focused, very professional walks slowly towards the mic. She breathes very hard.

MACY

This has been a long old journey
but I've finally come home. This is
a song we Mommas want to present,
our token of love to our children,
our grandchildren and to all of you
here tonight, generous, warm-
hearted islanders who have already
given so much to our charities. I
wrote this song myself, bit of a
risk, but don't they say 'life's
risky then you die?' Here goes. I'm
taking a risk. Hope you like it!

Macy looks at Freddie in the wings. Their eyes meet and he urges her on. The JUDGES are lined up at a table in the crowd and focus hard. The DIXIE DARLINGS and the NITON NASTIES watch from the wings. Macy sings '*BEGINNINGS*' (a song by BARBARA JANE MACKIE)

MACY (CONT'D)

(singing softly)

*I kept sailing around this big old
world
I stared out at the blue
I'd given you away, babe
But I'd not forgotten you!
When I found my blue eyed Angel
She saved my life right then
Into the sea all rivers flow and
back around again.*

MACY/ANGEL/JULES

(singing)

*There's only beginnings
Yes, beginnings
As we start breaking through to the
clouds
Baby, I'm with you
Yes, I'm with you
Holding your hand, standing proud!*

MACY

(singing)

*I'm not doing goodbyes
As we've only just met
So I'll travel with you
Sophie, don't you forget
What you mean
Oh, what you mean to me!*

ANGEL/JULES

(singing)

*What you mean to me
What you mean to me, oh yeah!*

The JUDGES, seated in a line at their table, eyes widening, all slowly nod at each other.

INT. SOPHIE'S ROOM. HOSPITAL. EVENING. (BIT LATER)

FREDDIE sits at one side of SOPHIE'S bed, holding her hand. She is now too weak to hold BABY FLO so SUE holds her as NEVIL stands close. Sophie nods weakly as JULES and ANGEL line up behind Macy. Macy sings 'BEGINNINGS' -

MACY/ANGEL/JULES

*Let it flow, let it flow
The river runs inside me
Love will flow love will flow
Through my heart!
Seeds we'll sew, yes we'll sew
A tree we'll grow and won't stop
growing
Love will flow, love will flo
From me to you and Flo!*

SOPHIE gasps as Freddie and Nevil blink back tears.

MACY

(singing)

*Let's grab this chance for us, my
babe
As we're off on our way
When the tide comes in and turns
again
Together we will stay!
Mother, daughter, baby
Just like the Holy Three
I'm coming with you, Sophie
We're heading to the sea!*

MACY/JULES/ANGEL

(singing)

*There's only beginnings
Yes beginnings
As we start breaking through to the
clouds
Baby I'm with you
Yes, I'm with you
Holding your hand, standing proud!*

(MORE)

MACY/JULES/ANGEL (CONT'D)

*Yes, we had our last chance
And we did our sweet dance
That was only the start
Mother-daughter romance
My baby girl I'm never leaving you!*

All go quiet. Macy gulps and stares at Sophie who stares back.

SOPHIE

(gasping)

Fuck ... me ... sideways?!

Everyone laughs gently as Sophie indicates for Macy and Freddie to come close. Everyone else leaves now.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

*Knew you could ... do it, mum! Look
after Flo, love her, for both of
us, ok?*

Macy nods fiercely, clutching Sophie's hand.

MACY

(through tears)

*I love you so, so much, Sophie! I'm
so glad I found my baby girl!!*

SOPHIE

Hang on? Didn't ... I ... find you?

Macy laughs gently as Sophie closes her eyes as Macy drops her head on the bed as Freddie puts his arm around her.

EXT. WOODLAND BURIAL GROUND. RYDE. DAY. (WEEKS LATER)

MACY and FREDDIE, SHEENA, SUE, ANGEL and SUKI, JULES gather around a tree which is being planted by TWO WOODLAND BURIAL MEN.

MACY/JULES/ANGEL (O.S.)

(singing)

*Now you know, yes, you know
The river flows, the sea is wide
We'll stand on the Pier
United side by side!
There's only beginnings
Yes beginnings
As we start breaking through to the
clouds.*

ON SOPHIE'S WOVEN COFFIN - covered with flowers, is carried up through the field by FREDDIE, RAM JAM, NEVIL, CHARLY and RICH. Macy clasps hands with Sue and Sheena as they watch.

INT. DRAWING ROOM. FUNERAL RECEPTION. LATER. DAY

The atmosphere is of a celebration. Flowers deck the house as GUESTS mingle. MACY smiles over to FREDDIE who smiles back as they stare over at a large photo of SOPHIE with BABY FLO.

SUE smiles over at Macy as she serves out food. NEVIL is passing round trays of drinks and passes by Macy, grinning, as Macy takes a glass.

NEVIL

The two mommas finally talking?
Golly? Sophie would be pleased!

Macy laughs gently as we see RAM JAM, in a smart suit, standing nervously near CHARLY.

ANGEL and SUKI help TEZ to some cakes from the buffet as Sue ruffles Tez'S head.

ANGEL

Brilliant reception! Really f-f-f-f-fucking ... oh?!

Sue twinkles at Angel.

SUE

Fucking brilliant? Thank you, Angel. Sophie wanted a celebration of life and she got it!

Ram Jam walks over to Nevil and shakes his hand. Nevil slaps Ram Jam on the back and grins.

NEVIL

Grand-Daddy Flash? Think you're technically now my step father!

RAM JAM

Can't keep up, mate, can't keep up!

CHARLY

(twinkling)
Yeh's both bad lads, that's for sure!

Nevil and Ram Jam laugh a bit sheepishly.

EXT. GARDEN. MANSION HOUSE. FUNERAL RECEPTION. LATER. DAY.

TEZ and DULCIE chase each other around the garden as JULES, heavily pregnant and RICH look glowing, arm in arm. CHARLY comes over to MACY and hugs her gently.

CHARLY

What a lass Sophie was. Ah feel
honoured to have known her. Ah've
got a family now and a man.

Macy nods gently as RAM JAM looks over. Macy splutters.

CHARLY (CONT'D)

Ram's like a dah and a ma to meh.
And a week bit more!

Ram Jam waves over at them. Charly grins back. Macy reels back, spluttering and laughing in disbelief.

MACY

Go for it, Charlene! Last chances
don't exist. There's only chances.
One after another after another.
Grab them when you can, eh?

Charly grins and walks off as FREDDIE comes over. They hug and kiss as SUE approaches, holding BABY FLO. NEVIL follows her with BABY FLO'S suitcase as Sue hands Macy Baby Flo. Macy's eyes widen.

SUE

It's your turn now, Macy. We've
done it once before but we want to
be happy hands off grandparents
now. We'll be regular visitors!

NEVIL

(laughing)
With plenty of unwanted medical
advice!

Macy gasps as Freddie's jaw drops. They stare at Baby Flo.

SUE

We're going cruising, Macy!

MACY

Good luck! My cruising days are
over!

NEVIL

Taking some 'us' time, eh, pumpkin?

SUE
Exactly, beetroot!

Sue and Nevil walk off as Macy starts shaking, clutching Baby Flo who gurgles. Freddie leans in as Macy beams.

MACY
My first time as a mum? Help? You
up for this, Freddie?

FREDDIE
Dab hand, mate. Done it before!

Dulcie rushes over and jumps into Freddie's arm as Macy now happily nuzzles Baby Flo, blinking back a tear. Freddie leans in to Macy.

INT. FREDDIE'S RECORDING STUDIO. WEEKS LATER. DAY

MACY, headphones on, get ready to sing 'BEGINNINGS' as ANGEL, SUKI, SHEENA, JULES and CHARLY play their instruments.

FREDDIE and SAM, the MUSIC EXECUTIVE, are in the producing booth laying down the track. Freddie gives Macy the thumbs up. She nods.

MACY
(singing)
There's only beginnings
Yes, beginnings ...

Jules takes off her guitar and shrieks. Waters broken!

JULES
I'm beginning! Wet meself?!

EXT. RYDE ESPLANADE. SEAFRONT. DAY. (MONTH LATER)

MACY and JULES emerge from Macy's flat, pushing BABY FLO and JULE'S BABY BOY in two strollers. They look happy - followed by FREDDIE, DULCIE on his shoulders, RAM JAM and CHARLY, SHEENA, RICH, ANGEL and SUKI, and TEZ carrying picnic bags.

FREDDIE and SHEENA catch up with MACY and JULES as they walk. Freddie grins over at them.

FREDDIE
UK Tour next month, Mommas, then
Europe so get yourselves fighting
fit. Plenty of baby sitters around!

MACY

No way? Wherever I go, Flo goes!

JULES

Flo's a rock chick like her mum was
and her glamorous granny, eh, Mace?

SHEENA

Hey? And glam great granny, people!

Macy, Jules and Freddie laugh and sing *THE RAMONES* 'SHEENA IS
A PUNK ROCKER'.

MACY/JULES/FREDDIE

(singing)

Sheena is a punk rocker!
Sheena is a punk rocker!
Sheena is a punk rocker! Now!

Sheena takes a bow as they all laugh. Jules and Macy walk on
ahead pushing their prams. Jules grins over at Macy.

JULES

You were wrong about one thing,
'Madame Solo' ...

Macy looks around at her extended family behind her.

MACY

Don't say it, Jules? Don't say it.
Everyone needs everyone!

They laugh and walk on.

EXT. SMALL STAGE AREA. HOSPITAL. NEWPORT. DAY

TOYAH and ANNIE LENNOX and CHRISSIE HYNDE play up front with
JULES, SHEENA, ANGEL, CHARLY and SUKI play along happily as
FREDDIE and RICH watch proudly on the mixing desk.

A SMALL CROWD dancing along to the music, outside the main
hospital, holding up banners: '*SUPPORT OUR HOSPITAL!*', '*SAVE
OUR NHS!*', '*WOMEN FOR CHANGE!*'. MACY and JULES sing with
TOYAH WILCOX as the others join in.

MACY/JULES/TOYAH

(singing)

I'm going to turn this world
Inside out!
Going to turn suburbia upside down!
Going to walk the streets
Scream and shout!

(MORE)

MACY/JULES/TOYAH (CONT'D)

*Going to crawl through alleyways,
being very loud!*

CHRISIE HYNDE strikes up a guitar riff from 'BRASS IN POCKET.' Macy and Jules sing along with CHRISIE.

MACY/CHRISIE/JULES

(singing)

*Got brass in pocket
Got bottle I'm gonna use it
Intention I feel inventive
Gonna make you, make you, make you
notice
'Cause I'm gonna make you see
There's nobody else here
No one like me
I'm special, so special
Gonna have some of your attention
Give to me!*

ANNIE LENNOX now moves forward and sings 'THERE MUST BE AN ANGEL' with Macy, the others on backing vocals.

ANNIE LENNOX/MACY

(singing)

*No one on earth could feel like
this
I'm thrown and overflown with bliss
There must be an angel
Playing with my heart
I walk into an empty room
And suddenly my heart goes boom
It's an orchestra of angels
And they're playing with my heart!*

MACY grins over to SHEENA and JULES who grin back at her.

FADE OUT.

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Song 'Beginnings', written & composed by Barbara Jane Mackie.
(Musical Arrangers - John Cameron & Steven Parker)

