

SCENE 1. EXT. JERRY'S CREAM CRUISE GRAVEL CAR PARK - DAY

SFX: THE VAN'S ENGINE FAILS TO TURN OVER SEVERAL TIMES AND SPUTTERS.

SFX: THE EXHAUST BACKFIRES IN A LOUD BANG WHICH BLENDS INTO A LOUD, RAPID HEARTBEAT.

NICK
Any luck yet?

SFX: HEARTBEAT SLOWS DOWN AND FADES OUT.

SOLDIER
No, sir.

SFX: THE VAN'S DOOR OPENS AND SHUTS.

SFX: SOLDIER'S FOOTSTEPS ON THE GRAVEL APPROACHING.

NICK
What've you done to her? You're the first person to have a problem with the training van. Not a great start!

SOLDIER
I can take a look at it, I know my way around an engine.

NICK
Right:

SFX: PAPER RUSTLES.

NICK (CONT'D)
"Mechanic: Royal Marines Commando"—you don't see a lot of one-line CVs. And you're staying at St. Anne's you said? They're still running that programme over there?

SOLDIER
Employment for Deployment.

NICK
And the job is, err, a requirement for remaining at the shelter, is it?

SOLDIER
Yes, sir.

NICK

Didn't want to be a mechanic no more?

SOLDIER

This was the only job opening left when I signed up.

NICK

Why'd you leave the army then?

SOLDIER

I was... medically discharged.

NICK

Medically discharged? You don't look hurt. I me'self would've done quite well in the army. In fact, being an ice-cream man is sort of like being in the armed forces. I'm second-in-command here at Jerry's Cream Cruise; and I've seen my fair share of action too. But, you work hard and rise through the ranks, and maybe one day you'll find yourself being promoted to regional manager by Jerry himself, as I'm about to be!

Silence.

NICK (CONT'D)

D'you ever kill any-

SOLDIER

I can take a look at the engine.

NICK

No no no, forget this old pile of junk!

SFX: NICK KICKS THE VAN IN A DEJECTED METALLIC CLANG.

NICK (CONT'D)

The fireworks are on at the beach tonight, and the sea-front is going to be packed with people gasping for a Mr. Whippy in this heat! We need to get a move on. Let's leave the training van for now...

SOLDIER

Packed with people?

NICK

...we're going to use one of the official Jerry's Cream Cruise vans instead. I'll ride along to supervise you and assess your customer service abilities and capabilities.

SFX: FOOTSTEPS RECEDE AS NICK WALKS ACROSS THE GRAVEL CAR PARK.

SOLDIER

We'll be together all day?

NICK

Affirmative, Soldier! And it's going to be a long one, so if you have someone to call to let them know not to wait up, best do it now. You can use the office.

SFX: FOOTSTEPS APPROACH AS SOLDIER FOLLOWS NICK ACROSS THE GRAVEL CAR PARK.

NICK (CONT'D)

Fair enough.

SFX: VAN DOORS OPENING.

SFX: NICK GRUNTS AS HE HEAVES HIMSELF IN.

SFX: VAN DOORS CLOSING.

SCENE 2. INT. JERRY'S CREAM CRUISE VAN/ EXT. GRAVEL CAR PARK - DAY

NICK

Right! So you have all of your van essentials: steering wheel, etc. Up here's the music. You switch here for songs...

SFX: ICE-CREAM VAN RENDITION OF 'TURKEY IN THE STRAW' (SONG 7).

NICK (CONT'D)

...and there's the volume.

SFX: VOLUME GOES UP AND DOWN.

NICK (CONT'D)
There's nine songs total, but
you're going to want to keep it on
Song 7.

SFX: SONG 7 SHUTS OFF.

NICK (CONT'D)
The back is where all of the action
happens.

SFX: NICK GRUNTS AND SHUFFLES AS HE ATTEMPTS TO NAVIGATE THE
NARROW VAN.

NICK (CONT'D)
It's a bit tight, as far as spaces
go. Mind the cooling pipe on the
ceiling here-

SFX: NICKS KNOCKS ON THE PIPE, CLANGING SOUND.

NICK (CONT'D)
Split me head open in the summer of
'02- no medical discharge for me
though, was there?

SFX: A MUSICAL CHIME PLAY AS NICK OPENS THE COOLER.

NICK (CONT'D)
The ice-creams are in the cooler.
You have to keep them nice and
cold, yeah? So don't use the A/C:
it drains the battery and then the
cooler will short-circuit.

SFX: THE SAME MUSICAL CHIME PLAYS IN A DIFFERENT KEY AS NICK
SLAMS THE COOLER SHUT.

NICK (CONT'D)
Other than that, just play the
song, cruise along the beautiful
English seafront, sell ice-cream,
bring back the money. You're good
to go.

SFX: SHUFFLING NOISES AS BOTH MEN RETURN TO THE FRONT OF THE
VAN WITH DIFFICULTY.

SFX: A SEATBELT CLICKS IN.

SOLDIER
What about the customers? Do I have
to chat to them?

NICK

Bah! Wouldn't waste the gift of the gab on this lot, they're not a refined enough clientele to appreciate the qualities of a good salesman.

SFX: ENGINE TURNS OVER.

NICK (CONT'D)

Which reminds me -and mind you this is Jerry's Cream Cruise's most important rule- Absolutely no free ice-cream!

SOLDIER

I underst-

NICK

You'll get these kids looking at you with puppy dog eyes: "Please, may I just have the Orange Calipo" and fail to present the funds necessary to complete the transaction. You'll be tempted to let it slide -trust me I was too when I first started out- but you have to tell them to: Bugger. Off!

SFX: NICK SLAMS THE WHEEL TO MAKE HIS POINT

NICK (CONT'D)

Jerry always says: "it's up to their parents to feed them, not us". He's absolutely right, and that's why he's the head and founder of the fifth largest ice-cream franchise in Lancashire. Do you understand?

SOLDIER

Yes, sir. No free ice-cream.

SFX: THE VAN PULLS OUT OF THE GRAVEL CAR PARK AS SONG 7 FADES OUT INTO THE DISTANCE.