

BOTH SIDES OF THE FOYLE

BY

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FADE IN

EXT. LONDONDERRY - DAY

The kerbstones on the pavement are painted red, white and blue, as are the lampposts. A black rendered wall carries the white painted slogan:

LONDONDERRY
WEST BANK LOYALISTS
STILL UNDER SIEGE
NO SURRENDER

Two hooded figures, BAZ (17)thrill-seeker and heartbreaker and Mark (17) mad as a box of frogs, run full-pelt past a wall mural of a skeleton soldier on horseback charging with a tattered Union flag on a pike.

Mark pirouettes athletically to hurl a green spray-can behind him with great force. The pair never stop running.

The spray-can flies past the angry faces of four SKINHEADS in determined pursuit of Baz.

The SKINHEAD LEADER (20s) glances behind at the can as it bounces into the gutter.

He turns back to Baz and Mark.

SKINHEAD LEADER
You're dead you Taig pricks!

They run through the arch of New Gate, under the old city walls and past St. Columb's Cathedral.

Baz and Mark glance over their shoulders and laugh.

They run along streets and up onto the old city walls.

The skinheads start to tire and, one by one, stop running. Only the Skinhead Leader is still pursuing.

Baz and Mark run down a grassy bank and across a busy road.

Cars BEEP their horns at them.

Baz stops in front of the Free Derry Memorial and turns triumphantly to face the Skinhead Leader.

He flourishes his middle fingers and dances around giving him the double bird.

Mark stands next to him making "Wanker" signs.

The Skinhead Leader glares at them from the far side of the busy road. He points and shouts

SKINHEAD LEADER
If I ever see youse again I'll
fucking kill you!

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - DAY

A photograph of Queen Elizabeth II looks down upon a row of ballet trophies sitting on a mantelpiece

Julie (17) restless, unhappy, unfulfilled, sits with her feet curled up on the sofa. She half watches Coronation Street on television as she idly doodles on an A4 pad.

Julie's father IAN (40s) moody, dictatorial, appears in the doorway. He is dressed in a dark suit with purple tie and sports a "No Surrender" pin badge.

He starts frantically lifting cushions and flinging them on the floor as he searches around the room.

He stands in front of the television and glares at Julie.

She looks up at him.

IAN
Where's my hat?

She shrugs and resumes her doodle.

JULIE
How should I know?

IAN
You'd better not sitting on it.

Julie glares up at him.

JULIE
I'm not sitting on it - for God's sake!

Ian shakes his head wistfully.

IAN
You know - you're just like your mother - a total pain in the arse!

He storms out of the room.

Julie mutters under her breath.

JULIE
Yeah? Well maybe I'll up and leave like she did too.

Ian re-enters, gripping a bowler hat.

IAN
You do your homework!

Julie rolls her eyes. She grasps the TV remote and angrily jabs the OFF button.

Satisfied, Ian leaves.

IAN O/S
That's me off then. Don't you
stay up too late!

JULIE
(mutters)
Yeah, whatever!

The door SLAMS and Julie switches the TV back on.

EXT. BOGSIDE - DAY

Baz and Mark, hands in pockets, strut along the street past a massive wall mural.

MARK
That was a great craic eh? D'you
see their stupid Proddy faces?

BAZ
You're a fecking nutter, do you
know that? Why in God's name do I
hang round with you?

MARK
Ah - you love me really! Besides
who else is gonna watch my back?

Mark grins and slaps Baz on the back.

A group of BOYS hang around on a street corner. They greet Baz as he passes.

BOYS
(various)
Hey! Baz! Howya!

BAZ
Alright there lads!

Mark goes up to one of the boys and smiles sarcastically.

MARK
You owe me twenty quid - you wee
gobshite!

Baz sighs and nods.

BAZ
Aye. He did it!

MARK
Come on - cough up!

INT. BAZ'S HOME - DAY

Baz opens the door into a tiny hallway and pushes past coats, shoes and a double buggy.

Standing in the living room doorway, with hands on hips, is his sister SINEAD (10) precocious, gobby, hard as nails. She wears a traditional Irish dancer's costume.

SINEAD
Where have you been you big
bollix?

Baz sneers and pushes past her.

SINEAD (CONT'D)
Hey!

VERONICA (late 30s) lonely, stressed, often teary, paces the living room with a mobile phone at her ear.

The room is strewn with laundry and children's toys.

A toddler's SCREAMS resonate from an adjacent bedroom.

Veronica glances at Baz but is distracted by the phone.

VERONICA
No! You listen! What part of
broken do you not understand?

Baz throws himself on the sofa and picks up the TV remote.

Veronica snatches it off him.

VERONICA (CONT'D)
Next week! Jesus Christ - it's
only Tuesday! I have four kids
here -and one of them's poorly!
Do you seriously expect us to go
six days without hot water?

Baz puts his feet on the coffee table and his hands behind his head.

Veronica swipes his feet off the table and glares at him.

VERONICA (CONT'D)

No! That's not gonna happen and I'll tell you for why. 'Cause if you don't send someone round to fix this boiler today - my three brothers and their friends are gonna come over and pay you a wee visit! Yeah!

Baz laughs.

Veronica slaps him round the head and glares at him.

She puts her finger to her lips.

VERONICA (CONT'D)

Yeah! You're damn right that's a threat! And I'm calling 'em right now!

Veronica switches the phone off and chucks it on the coffee table.

She sits in an armchair and blows out her cheeks.

VERONICA (CONT'D)

What an arse!

BAZ

You haven't any brothers!

VERONICA

I know that! But that wee prick doesn't!

The toddler's SCREAMS erupt again.

Veronica jumps up.

VERONICA

For the love of God! Will you not give me a minute's peace?

BAZ

Can I have the tellie remote now?

VERONICA

No - because you're taking Sinéad over to her dancing!

BAZ

But-

Veronica huffs and does the pleading eyes.

VERONICA

Barry, please! I've got the dinner to sort out and the wee ones to put to bed and this boiler..

She looks over at a pile of text books on the dinner table.

VERONICA (CONT'D)

And then, please God, I have a load of college work to do!

Baz raises his palms and gets up.

BAZ

Okay! Okay!

VERONICA

Thanks love. You're not such a bad lad really!

Veronica pinches Baz's cheek and laughs.

Baz fights her off.

BAZ

Argh! Get off me mammy!

INT. JULIE'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Julie sits on the work top. The microwave WHIRS behind her as she checks her mobile phone.

PHONE VOICE

You have - no - new messages.

She scrolls through the phone's address book until it gets to "MUM".

Her thumb hovers over the "CALL" button.

She sighs deeply.

She tosses the phone onto the work top.

The microwave PINGS.

Julie jumps down and opens it. She removes a plate of lasagne and examines it.

JULIE

(sarcastically)

Oh, yummy!

INT. GASYARD CENTRE - NIGHT

Inside a smart, modern hall with polishes wood floor,
IRISH DANCERS of various ages pack-up their kit.

Baz lounges in a chair near the door, looking bored.

Knots of GIRLS bimble past him and giggle.

Baz tries to play it cool as he nods to them.

BAZ
Graínne... Aisling... Mary... Nuala...

Sinéad bounces over to him.

SINÉAD
Baz! Watch this!

She dances a short routine in hard shoes.

The sound of Sinéad's taps echo around the room and
attract the attention of her teacher KAREN (late 20s) a
woman with many regrets but little bitterness.

She finishes tying her shoes and looks over at Sinéad.

She smiles as she grabs her bag

Sinéad finishes her routine.

Baz looks unimpressed.

KAREN
(laughs)
Sure, you're a great dancer
Sinéad - but it's time to go
home!

Karen steers Sinéad through the door.

SINÉAD
Bye Karen!

KAREN
Bye!

EXT. BOGSIDE BUS STOP - DAY

Julie, in school uniform, sits in the bus centre checking
her phone disinterestedly.

STEVE (18) a peacock with a prefect's badge, plonks
himself down next to her and makes her jump.

Julie's not impressed.

STEVE
Coming to the club tonight?

JULIE
No - I have practice.

STEVE
Can't you skip it? We're doing a
dance off.

JULIE
It's the last rehearsal before
the festival.

A bus pulls up.

JULIE
This is me...

STEVE
See you around!

Julie shrugs as she gets on the bus.

EXT. WATERSIDE THEATRE - DAY

Veronica rushes along the footpath with a double buggy.

She turns.

VERONICA
Shite! Come on Sinéad! We're
gonna be late!

Baz and Sinéad hurry behind her.

Karen beckons frantically from the foyer as they rush up
to the main doors.

They past a poster which reads:

DERRY / LONDONDERRY SHARED CITY
YOUTH PEACE FESTIVAL 2015

VERONICA
We're so sorry!

KAREN
Come on Sinéad! In there and get
changed. Were on in in ten!

Karen Veronica pushes Sinéad towards Karen and jerks her
head towards the auditorium.

VERONICA
Come on Barry, let's find a seat.

INT. WATERSIDE THEATRE - DAY

A young man on stage finishes a solo on the uilleann pipes. The audience CLAP appreciatively.

Baz and Veronica find a couple of seats on the end of a row.

COMPERE O/S
Next on stage please put your
hands together for the
Lisnagelvin Youth Dance Project!

The stage lights go down.

Enthusiastic APPLAUSE as seven DANCERS take to the stage.

The lights go up as a thumping TRANCE BEAT starts.

The dancers spring to life. Flips, leaps, summersaults and handstands punctuate a fast, polished, street dance routine.

The audience clap and swing to the beat.

The routine ends and the crowd CLAP, CHEER and WHISTLE.

VERONICA
They were good!

Baz scoffs.

BAZ
I can do better than that!

The dancers exit to be replaced by Karen's troupe of IRISH DANCERS, including Sinéad.

COMPERE O/S
Next, please welcome the Bogside
Community Irish Dancers!

Polite APPLAUSE as a HORNPIPE begins.

The dancers twist, twirl, rock and kick their legs.

Veronica looks at Baz, who yawns. She slaps his leg.

The routine finishes and the dancers bow.

Loud APPLAUSE as the dancers exit the stage.

Veronica beams at Baz.

VERONICA
Ooh - wasn't she great!

Baz nods.

BAZ
Yeah, they were really good mam!

Baz yawns again.

COMPERE O/S
Our next act is a young champion
ballet dancer from Tullyally.
Please welcome to the stage -
Julie Chappell!

Baz slumps in his seat.

BAZ
God! Ballet! Can't we go?

VERONICA
No! Wait till the end!

He closes his eyes.

Julie walks onto the stage to muted APPLAUSE.

She dances an elegant, short solo routine.

Baz opens his eyes and looks up at Julie. He can't take his eyes off her.

VERONICA
She's quite good.

BAZ
Eh?

Veronica looks at Baz and laughs quietly.

Baz's mouth is open.

INT. WATERSIDE THEATRE FOYER - DAY

Veronica gently rocks her buggy as Baz leans against the wall.

Julie rushes past him as she pulls her jacket from the bag on her shoulder.

Baz gazes at her as she passes, but she doesn't notice him.

Julie's mobile phone falls to the floor.

Baz spots it and picks it up.

He looks for Julie

BAZ
Oh, excuse me! You dropped-

Julie disappears into a crowd of people .

BAZ (CONT'D)
Your phone!

Baz dashes to find her.

He searches outside the theatre but gives up and returns to Veronica.

Veronica and Sinéad stand with arms folded and irate faces.

VERONICA
Where the Hell did you go?

BAZ
(vacantly)
Nowhere.

VERONICA
Let's be getting home.

Baz looks at Julie's phone in his hand.

EXT. LONGTOWER YOUTH CLUB - NIGHT

Baz holds the phone in his hand. He scrolls through the address book until he reaches "Home".

His thumb hesitates over the "call" button.

Mark shoulder barges him.

MARK
Go on then!

BAZ
Okay! Okay! Don't crowd me.

MARK
What you gonna say?

BAZ
I don't know!

Baz takes a deep breath and presses "call".

He puts the phone to his ear.

MARK
Is it ringing?

Baz puts his finger to his lips.

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Ian, in police uniform, sits in an armchair watching television.

The telephone RINGS.

Ian looks at the caller display - it reads Julie Mobile.

Ian mutes the television and picks up the phone.

IAN

Julie? Where the Hell are you?
I've been worried sick-

Ian looks at the phone.

IAN (CONT'D)

Julie? Are you there?

He puts the phone back on its cradle.

EXT. LONGTOWER YOUTH CLUB - NIGHT

A shocked looking Baz hangs up.

MARK

Well?

BAZ

It was a very angry sounding man.

MARK

Her dad?

Baz nods.

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

A key SCRAPES in the door lock.

Ian switches off the television and jumps up from the armchair

IAN

Julie?

JULIE O/S

Hey there dad.

IAN

Where have you been? Why didn't
you call back?

Julie enters, removing her coat.

JULIE
I lost my phone. Had to get a bus
home.

IAN
But... you just rang..

Julie throws her coat over the arm of a chair.

JULIE
No I didn't.

IAN
Coat!

Julie rolls her eyes and grabs her coat and huffs out.

Ian picks up the phone and jabs angrily at the buttons.

IAN (CONT'D)
Well, let's see what you have to
say for yourself.

Julie re-enters.

JULIE
I think I left it in the theatre-

IAN
Right! Whoever you are! That's my
daughter's phone and she wants it
back! So you take it to a police
station and hand it in before I
have it traced and come looking
for you!

Julie's jaw droops.

IAN (CONT'D)
What? Just leaving a message...

Julie rolls her.

JULIE
Don't you have to go to work?

Ian checks his watch.

IAN
Christ!

He pecks her on the cheek and rushes out.

IAN (CONT'D)
See you in the morning!

Julie rolls her eyes.

JULIE

Bye!

The front door SLAMS as Julie plonks down on the sofa.

She looks at the telephone.

She sighs, picks it up and presses redial.

JULIE (CONT'D)

Hi there. I'm Julie. Sorry about my dad - but I really need to get my phone back. Please give me a call. Thanks.

EXT. WATERSIDE THEATRE - DAY

Julie sits patiently on the grey steps outside the entrance.

VARIOUS PEOPLE come and go.

Julie checks her nails.

Someone blocks out her light. She looks up.

BAZ

Julie?

Julie stands up surprised.

They stare at each other.

An embarrassed Baz reaches into his pocket.

BAZ (CONT'D)

Here.

He holds out her phone.

Julie takes it and looks at it.

BAZ

You dropped it. I tried to find you but...

Julie checks new messages. There are none. She looks disappointed.

JULIE

I know.

BAZ

I... I didn't look at anything. Well - except for your home number. To call you I mean!

Julie puts the phone in her pocket.

JULIE
Thanks for bringing it back.

BAZ
Are you... okay? You look a wee
bit...

Julie smiles weakly, but her eyes are watery.

JULIE
I'm fine. Thanks again.

They stand in awkward silence.

BAZ
Well then! I'd best...

JULIE
Okay.

BAZ
Bye then.

JULIE
Bye.

Baz turns slowly and walks away.

He bites his lip in frustration and shakes his head.

Julie plays with her fingers then looks up.

JULIE
Wait!

Baz stops and turns.

JULIE
I... What's your name?

Baz smiles.

BAZ
It's Baz.

Julie snorts.

JULIE
Baz! What kind of a name is that?

BAZ
(defensively)
It's short for Barry...

Another embarrassed silence.

JULIE

Well, Barry - would you like to...
go for a... coffee or something?

Baz beams.

BAZ

I'd love to.

INT. CAFÉ - DAY

The café is dingy and all but empty.

Dried food cakes the table, making it tacky.

The WAITRESS casually slops their drinks onto the table
before resuming her seat behind the counter

Julie sips a latte.

Baz sits opposite cradling a mug of tea.

He casts his eye around the café then leans forward.

The waitress does a newspaper crossword.

BAZ

This's a bit of a shit hole!

JULIE

I know!

BAZ

You don't come here on a regular
basis, do you?

Julie leans forward and whispers.

JULIE

No! I've never been her before.

They snigger.

The waitress looks over angrily.

BAZ

Glad to hear that! (beat) I would
have brought the phone over to
your home you know?

Julie looks sad as she leans back and sighs.

JULIE

Yeah, well - my dad's funny about
me giving our address out. Can't
blame him really - he's in the
police.

Baz's mug stops half way to his mouth.

BAZ

Oh.

Julie laughs soullessly.

Baz takes a mouthful of tea.

JULIE

Don't worry. I think he's a total
prick!

Baz sprays tea from his mouth as bursts out laughing.

Julie laughs too and her face lights-up.

EXT. EBRINGTON BARRACKS - DAY

Baz and Julie sit in the old parade square and look out
over the River Foyle.

BAZ

So your dad's a policeman?

JULIE

Yeah. All his life!

BAZ

PSNI or RUC?

JULIE

RUC. He joined back in nineteen
ninety. Following in his father's
footsteps. Granddad was killed by
the INLA.

BAZ

What about your mum?

Julie hugs her legs and rocks gently.

JULIE

Mum went away. I don't see her
any more.

BAZ

What do you mean went away?

Julie places her cheek upon her knee and sighs.

JULIE

I don't want to talk about it -
you know?(beat) Anyway - tell me
about your family.

BAZ

Okay. So there's me and my sister
- she's ten. Then there's the
twins - they're two and a half.
And then there's mum.

JULIE

Where's your dad?

BAZ

He's dead.

JULIE

Oh my God!

She covers her mouth.

JULIE (CONT'D)

I'm so sorry.

Baz nods silently.

BAZ

It's okay, you know? He's been
gone nearly three years now. Hit
and run. Drunk driver

JULIE

That's horrible.

Baz points to the Peace Bridge.

BAZ

Have you been across it?

Julie shudders.

JULIE

I went on it when it opened, but
I couldn't go across.

BAZ

Why not?

JULIE

I hate bridges. They scare me.

Baz jumps up with a twinkle in his eye.

BAZ

Come on!

Baz grabs Julie's arm and yanks her to her feet.

JULIE

Don't think you're getting me
onto that thing!

BAZ
Trust me! You'll be fine!

Baz drags a resistant, but laughing Julie towards the bridge.

Julie places her hand across her face like a silent movie star hamming-up a dramatic scene.

JULIE
No! You can't make me!

She grabs a railing

JULIE (CONT'D)
Seriously now! No!

Baz takes both her hands in his own and walks backwards.

BAZ
You're perfectly safe with me.
Don't look down. Just look at me.

Julie relaxes. And walks stutteringly forward.

JULIE
I can't believe I'm doing this!
Oh God! I hate this!

BAZ
Don't look down! Look at me!
You're looking down! Don't!

JULIE
I can't help it! Oh my God! I can
see the frigging water!

They reach half way and plonk down laughing on a bench.

BAZ
There now! That wasn't too bad
now - was it?

Julie scoffs.

JULIE
We're only half way!

BAZ
Ah, yes - but the first half is
always the hard part!

Julie gives him a scornful look.

Baz jumps up and smirks.

BAZ
Watch this!

Baz climbs the railings. He pretends to lose his balance.

BAZ
Wooaah!

Julie jumps up in shock.

JULIE
What the Hell are you doing?

BAZ
Help!

She rushes over and grabs him.

He back-flips to jump down, beaming.

BAZ
Fooled you!

Julie smacks his arm

JULIE
Bastard!

BAZ
Yeah - but you're not scared now,
are you?

Julie looks around.

JULIE
No - I'm still scared.

Baz holds out his hand.

BAZ
Come on. I'll hold your hand.

Julie reluctantly takes his hand and staggers forward

EXT. CITY WALL - DAY

Baz and Julie stroll in the afternoon sunshine.

JULIE
Where are we going?

BAZ
Just up here.

He nods along the path.

JULIE
That was an impressive backflip
you did on the bridge. Are you a
gymnast or something?

Baz chuckles to himself.

BAZ

No! Not a gymnast as such, but I do fancy myself as a bit of a dancer, you know? I do street dance.

JULIE

They've got a really good street dance crew at the Lisnagelvin Leisure Centre. That's where I go to ballet. You might have seen them yesterday?

BAZ

Oh, aye. They were on a couple of acts before you.

JULIE

Maybe you should come along.

Baz shakes his head.

BAZ

I don't think that's a good idea.

JULIE

Why not?

They get to the base of the Walker Pillar.

Baz points over to the Bogside.

BAZ

'Cause I live over there.

Julie gasps.

JULIE

You're Catholic?

BAZ

Aye.

Julie looks betrayed. She turns and runs off.

Baz runs after her. He catches up with her and grabs her.

BAZ

Julie - please! Just listen to me for one minute. That's all I ask.

Julie takes a deep breath.

JULIE

One minute. That's all you get!

BAZ

Okay. Julie - I'm sorry I didn't tell you I was a Catholic. (beat) I... I really like you and I didn't... I didn't want anything to spoil it - we were getting along so well.

Julie shakes her head.

JULIE

Stop - please! I'm really sorry Baz. You're a very sweet lad - but... I can't be seen with a Catholic. (beat) I've got to go.

Julie turns sadly and walks off.

Baz stands and desperately watches her. He shouts.

BAZ

Julie! Wait! What about the bridge?

Julie mutters to herself.

JULIE

I guess I'll just have to cross it when I come to it.

She turns back and walks away.

EXT. ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL - DAY

EXT. BUS STOP - DAY#

INT. JULIA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

INT. LISNAGELVIN LEISURE CENTRE - NIGHT.