

ANGRY OLD MAN

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EXT. SUPERMARKET CARPARK - DAY

JIM (60s) walks towards his car - pushing a trolley full of shopping. He stops near the rear and opens the boot before he starts to load the bags in.

JIM's phone starts to ring. He reaches into his pocket and answers.

JIM
How did you know?! I've literally just finished.

KAREN (O.S.)
I'm watching you.

JIM
Now why wouldn't that surprise me?

KAREN (O.S.)
Did you get the fabric softener I asked for?

JIM
Was it on the list?

KAREN (O.S.)
Yes.

JIM
Then I got it.

KAREN (O.S.)
Was it on offer?

JIM
(mock frustrated)
No.

KAREN (O.S.)
How long are you going to be?

JIM
Fifteen minutes.

KAREN (O.S.)
And not a second longer, okay?
(sarcastic) I miss you terribly!

JIM
Oh, right, yeah, sure you do! How can you miss me when I've only been gone-

Suddenly, a car zooms past - making it impossible for JIM to finish the sentence. Someone from inside the car shouts *WANKER!!* and throws a takeaway cup full of liquid at him - hitting JIM on the shoulder, soaking him - we hear boisterous laughter coming from inside the car.

KAREN (O.S.)
...Jim?... Jim, what was that? Are you okay?

JIM stares at the car as it speeds across the carpark and towards the exit.

Title: ANGRY OLD MAN

INT. CAR - SOON AFTER

JIM is driving - desperately trying to find the car from earlier. He is clearly annoyed and his anger builds with each passing minute - he grips the steering wheel in frustration - we can see that he is still wet from the drink thrown at him.

JIM
(muttering to himself)
God, damn it! How fucking dare they. Fucking- bastards. Fucking bastards! Scum. That's what they are! How fucking dare they do that to me-

JIM stops at the traffic lights when suddenly the car he is looking for speeds past.

JIM (CONT'D)
(to himself)
Gotcha, you little bastards.

He waits for his light to turn green - it feels like an age.

JIM (CONT'D)
(to himself)
Come on! Come on!

The light goes green, and JIM speeds after them. He manages to keep up with the car - following it for sometime. JIM watches as the boys inside the car continue to cause havoc around town - shouting and throwing things. Their music blares loudly, which only annoys JIM further.

EXT. CAMERON'S HOUSE - SOMETIME LATER

The car pulls up outside CAMERON'S house - it's noticeably run down and in a rough part of town.

JIM keeps his distance and stops his car some way away. He watches as CAMERON gets out of the car and walks towards the house - the car speeds away.

CAMERON disappears inside the house.

JIM's phone starts ringing - he looks down to see that it's KAREN calling. Frustrated, he answers it.

JIM

What?

KAREN

(taken aback)

...Where are you?

JIM

I'm on my way!

KAREN

I just wanted to make sure everything was okay, that's all. It's been two hours since-

JIM

I'm fine! You don't need to keep checking up on me. I'm not a child.

KAREN

(worried)

I know... It's just... See you in a bit then, yeah?

JIM

Yeah, bye.

JIM hangs up the phone and his attention is immediately back on CAMERON's house. He takes a deep breath and gets out of the car.

CUT TO:

JIM knocks on the door. We hear commotion coming from inside.

The door opens. BARRY stares back at JIM.

BARRY

Yeah... What?

JIM

Umm, hello-

BARRY

I don't wanna buy anythin', so do one, yeah?

JIM
That's fine, I'm not selling.

BARRY
What ya' want then bruv?... Come
on, I ain't got all day!

JIM
The young man who just-

BARRY
(calling)
Cameron?... Cameron! Get your arse
down here now.

JIM
I'd like to talk to you about his
behaviour. I'm concerned that he-

BARRY tags a deep drag on a cigarette and puffs it in JIM's direction. Moments later, CAMERON comes stumbling down the stairs and stands behind BARRY.

CAMERON
Yeah?

BARRY
(to CAMERON)
Do you know this man?

CAMERON takes a look at JIM - recognising him from earlier.

CAMERON
...I've never seen this pedo before
in my life.

BARRY turns back towards JIM.

BARRY
Run along now then chief, I'm not
interested. Ta-dar!

BARRY smiles and then slams the door in JIM's face - who is now angrier more than ever - we just about see CAMERON beaming a smile at JIM before disappearing.

JIM grits his teeth - he wants to punch the door down.

INT. KITCHEN / DINING ROOM - LATER

JIM is sat at the dining room table staring down at an empty beer can in his hands. KAREN (60s) is in the background making dinner - their kitchen is noticeably clean and modern.

JIM finishes off the bottle of beer and then heads to the fridge for another.

KAREN
(surprised)
Already?

JIM ignores KAREN and opens it with an bottle-opener from the draw. He sits back down.

CUT TO:

JIM and KAREN are eating dinner in silence - JIM only plays with it, not managing to eat anything.

KAREN (CONT'D)
Are you going to tell me what's
wrong then or what?

JIM
(frustrated)
Today there was this... this
little... today, I was driving,
and...

JIM looks up at KAREN - he clinches his fists, but then lets go.

JIM (CONT'D)
...You wouldn't understand.

JIM pushes the plate away, gets up and leaves the kitchen - KAREN carries on eating.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

JIM lays awake - he checks the clock and it says 3:08am. He rolls onto his back and stares at the ceiling.

It's clear he is still angry and cannot let what happened go.

INT. JIM'S CAR / OUTSIDE CAMERON'S HOUSE - MORNING

JIM yawns and take a deep gulp from a coffee cup - he stares intently at CAMERON's house. Never taking his eye off it.

Eventually, the car from the day before pulls up outside - JIM shifts in his seat and puts his hand on the key which is already in the ignition.

CAMERON opens the front door and jogs towards the car - he immediately takes on a boisterous demeanour, shouting obscenities at the other two boys in the car.

CAMERON climbs in and music instantly starts blaring from inside - this gets JIM riled up, and he laughs in disbelief - he has anger in his eyes. He mutters to himself.

The car speeds away, and JIM immediately follows.

CUT TO:

MONTAGE: JIM follows the car for some time - watching them cruise around town.

His phone rings a couple of times, but he rejects the calls.

CUT TO:

EXT. PLAYGROUND - LATE EVENING

CAMERON and his two mates are messing around in a playground - JIM watches from a distance. We see them throwing cans at one another, and drinking from a small bottle of vodka. They're loud, and clearly drunk.

A JOGGER runs past them, and CAMERON sees this as an opportunity - JIM continues to watch the events unfold. CAMERON mocks the JOGGER, who eventually stops. The two other boys join CAMERON, and they start to intimidate and push the JOGGER - who pleads for them to stop.

CAMERON wants the JOGGER's phone - but he is reluctant to give it over. One of the other boys holds him back whilst CAMERON lands a gutter punch, which allows him to grab the phone.

JIM cannot take any more. He opens the car door and marches over - clenching his fists, ready to do something drastic.

CUT TO:

We are now with the boys CLOSE UP, and JIM appears from behind CAMERON and grabs him hard by the coat - the other two boys are taken aback and don't know what to do.

JIM
(threatening)
Do you think that's okay, do you?
How would you like it if I did it
to you?!

JIM immediately lands a hard right slap across CAMERON's face. He carries on punching him - uncontrollably.

BOY 1
Hey, man- stop!

BOY 2
Fuck!

BOY 1 pleads with JIM and tries to get him off CAMERON - but JIM pushes him away.

JIM
Get lost, now! The both of you.

BOY 1 and 2 both step back, but stay to watch - helpless.

The JOGGER stands up - shocked at what's just happened, he brushes himself down.

JIM (CONT'D)
(to CAMERON)
Now, you're going to apologise to this man, and give him his phone back!

CAMERON
Fuck you!

JIM lands another slap across his face.

JOGGER
Hey? You don't need to keep hitting him like that.

JIM looks at the JOGGER - confused.

JOGGER (CONT'D)
I mean, I appreciate you stepping in, but you're hurting him! You don't have to-

JIM
But he needs to be taught a lesson!

The JOGGER doesn't know what to say.

JIM (CONT'D)
...Whats wrong with you?! This piece of shit deserves everything that's coming to him.

JOGGER
Just go easy on him, yeah? I've got my phone, so I'll just go now.

The JOGGER picks up his phone and then walks away.

JIM
(to CAMERON)
Do you agree? Do you want me to go easy on you...

CAMERON can barely talk.

BOY 1
You've gone too far, mate.

BOY 2
What did he ever do to you?

JIM doesn't have an answer for them. He picks CAMERON up by the collar and drags him towards his car.

BOY 1
(calling)
Oi! Where are you taking him?

BOY 2
(to himself)
...Man! That was *mental*.

EXT. CAMERON'S HOUSE - SOMETIME LATER

The door swings open - JIM and CAMERON are stood there. They are met with a panicked face. CAMERON's mum, STACEY is stood there. JIM is surprised to see her and not BARRY.

JIM
Hello.

STACEY
(to CAMERON)
What's happened to you?
(to JIM)
What's going on?

JIM
Is this your son?

STACEY
Yes!

JIM lets go off CAMERON - who immediately falls into her arms and starts crying.

JIM
I had no choice but to intervene
with some of your son's activities
tonight.

STACEY
Intervene? - What activities?!

JIM
He was causing trouble and I put a
stop to it.

STACEY looks at CAMERON's face and then back at JIM.

STACEY
You did this?!

JIM
It was necessary, he was about to hurt-

STACEY
(to CAMERON)
Get inside, now!

STACEY drags CAMERON inside and half closes the door.

STACEY (CONT'D)
I don't know who you think you are, but you've got no right doing what you did! He's just a *child*!

JIM
Your son was about to hurt an innocent person!

STACEY
No- no, my son would never do that! He's a good lad!

JIM
(disbelief)
Someone needed to teach him a lesson! Clearly no one is doing it here at home-

STACEY
And who are you to decide, eh? You don't know me! You don't know my family, do you?! He's *my* son! Not yours!

STACEY slams the door in JIM's face.

He steps back - somewhat unsure whether what he did was the right thing. He has mixed feelings but convinces himself he did what was necessary.

INT. JIM'S HOUSE - LATER

JIM opens the front door and walks into a dark and quiet house. KAREN is obviously asleep. He closes the door and stands there for a moment.

He looks around the house - it's peaceful.

INT. JIM'S BEDROOM - LATER

JIM walks into the bedroom - KAREN is fast asleep. JIM lays down on his back and stares up at the ceiling.

He closes his eyes.

INT. JIM'S BEDROOM - MORNING

JIM is fast asleep and KAREN is no longer there.

There is a loud banging on the front door - which eventually wakes JIM.

INT. HALLWAY - SOON AFTER

JIM walks down the stairs - doing up his dressing gown. KAREN is talking to someone at the front door.

He turns and looks at her - tears in her eyes, she is shocked and clearly upset.

POLICE OFFICER
Are you James Mahoney?

The POLICE OFFICER flashes a badge at JIM.

KAREN
(panicked)
Jim, what have you done?

JIM
(to the POLICE OFFICER)
...yes, that's me.

POLICE OFFICER
Mr Mahoney, I am arresting you on suspicion of GBH and kidnapping, you do not have to say anything...

The POLICE OFFICER walks into the house and handcuffs JIM. JIM stares at KAREN, who in turn, doesn't know what to do.

The POLICE OFFICER takes JIM away.

THE END