

n^o ordinary man

by Jimmy Cunningham

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SCENE 1

INTERVIEW 1

MONDAY MORNING

Billard

We know you killed them girls Martin.

Tell us where they are?

There's a good fellow.

Let's be civilised about this.

Come on.

Do the right thing.

Martin

I never done the right thing in my whole life.

You're out of luck there.

Billard

Have you no heart?

A conscience maybe?

Martin

No heart. Not even a beating one.

I wouldn't know what a conscience is.

Billard

Well think about the missing girls families?

Their loss. Their agony.

The turmoil of not knowing where they are?

Martin

It's really not my problem. I can't help you.

As I keep telling you.

I did nothing. Nothing means nothing.

It all adds up to nothing.

Seriously.

You're barking up the wrong tree.

Billard

But you did do something.

Where did all the blood come from in that room?

The place is saturated in it.

What were you doing on the floor?

Martin

It's not my blood.

I told you.

Nothing happened.

You're just sniffing.

The only thing you'll get from me is the pong off my feet.

Billard

You're copping out Martin.

You're copping out.

Face up not face away.

Martin

I'm not going to let you stitch me up.

Anyway.

How do you know what type of blood it is?

Billard

The forensic scientists say it's human.

They tested the floor.

They're one hundred per cent certain.

Martin Well.
 They're wrong.
 It can't be human blood.

Billard And why can't it be human blood?

Martin Sure I'm the only human to have used that room.
 And it's not my blood on the floor.
 I didn't cut myself.
 I'm not a cutter.

Billard Martin.
 Do you think we're morons?
 Maybe you think we're clueless?

Martin I certainly don't think you're anything special
 Just too nosey for own good.

Billard Shame the devil Martin.
 Tell the truth.
 Cleanse you're soul.

Martin I've no soul.
 God took that away from me when I was young.
 You can't cleanse what you haven't got.

Billard You look bothered.

Whatever's on your mind we'll help you.

That's what we're here to do.

You believe me don't you?

Martin

Are you for real?

Now you must think I'm the moron?

A policeman never helps anyone but himself.

Billard

All that blood and you know nothing?

Martin

Nothing.

Not a jot.

Billard

In the name of God.

What were you going in the room?

Something bad happened there.

You know it.

We know it.

Martin

You're just a cop.

You've barely an education and yet you get the
chance to judge people.

Don't think that because you've a badge you're
at the winners table.

Not at this table you're not.

Pointing fingers.

Proud as punch.

Trying to make a man feel like dirt.

I bet you love your job?

Billard

My job is not of concern here.

But the job you did in that house is of concern.

Whatever you did.

It was dastardly.

Martin

Is it?

The only dastardly I know is your man Dick from
the cartoons.

Billard

Do you know what karma is Martin?

Martin

The only karma I know is karma chameleon.

Is that the karma you're talking about?

The one in the song by your man George
something.

Billard

You mean Boy George.

Martin

Yep. That's him.

Billard

Well I believe in karma.

It's a spiritual concept of cause and effect.

Put simply.

You're actions today will have consequences

tomorrow.

Martin That's sounds mumbo jumbo to me.
Are you sure you're not a religious freak?

Billard It's not mumbo jumbo.
I'm telling you.
Those bad deeds you've committed will be back
to haunt you Martin.
Own up.

Martin I did no wrong.
No wrong equals no karma.
Your words.

Billard For now Martin.
But karma.
She's persistent.
She'll wait for you no matter how long.

Martin Ah well.
I look forward to meeting her so.
The only woman I trust is the Virgin Mary.
My mother swore by her.

Billard Purge yourself Martin.
Fix things. Let the truth out.

I can sense it's on the tip of your tongue.

Martin

You'd swear I was a snake the way you were talking.

The last time I looked there was nothing on the tip of my tongue.

Billard

You might very well be a snake.

You're sneaky and sly aren't you?

Martin

You're fishing.

You're chancing your arm.

Your impatient.

Coppers chance their arms when they've got nothing.

Billard

We're nearly there.

I can see the truth is ready to come out of you.

Martin

You might need a doctor if you're seeing things.

I'm sure that's a medical condition.

You might even need an exorcism?

You should give God a shout.

Billard

We've got you Martin.

Bang to rights.

Start to face up to it.

You're a killer.

Martin

There you go again.

Just because you can't get your own way you
have to start filling in gaps.

All of a sudden I'm this.

Then I'm that.

The I'll be everything.

I'm not comfortable around you anymore.

I think I'll give my gob a rest.

Otherwise I'll be signing myself into a jail
cell.

At the rate you're going I'll be on the six o'clock news.

Billard

Ah come on now Martin.

Those type of things only happen in the
movies.

Look around the room.

There's cameras everywhere.

Martin

They're probably turned off.

Billard

I'm not going to let anything happen to you in
here.

You trust me?

Don't you?

Martin I've trust issues.
There's times I don't even trust myself.

Billard You're binging on psychobabble Martin.
It's natural to be anxious in a strange place.

Martin You said strange not me. I shouldn't be here.

Billard But you are.
We want to help you.
Even heal you if you let us?

Martin Heal me?
You'd swear I was a leper.
Talk about giving a man a bad name.

Billard You're copping out again.

Martin I'm not trusting you.
I'm not getting positive vibes.
There's something odd about a
policeman wearing a shirt and tie.
They just don't seem to match.
You're just trying to lean on a retard like me.

Billard

Ah Martin.

Don't get the hump.

Martin

Hump or no hump.

You're treating me like I'm a vampire.

What with all this so called blood in the house.

Look.

I don't know where the blood came from.

Maybe a ghost cut himself or it's old blood
from the builders.

I really can't help you.

Billard

Sorry Martin.

The scientists say the blood is recent.

At most two years old.

It's not animal blood.

It's not paint.

Those forensic fellows are very specific.

I'd trust them with my life.

Martin

Well they seem to be playing around with
mine.

For what it's worth I say they're wrong.

Wrong. Wrong. Wrong.

Typical.

Frame the goon.

I need a break.

The atmosphere in here is toxic.
You've sucked all the oxygen out.
I'm dizzy.

Billard Ok Martin.
Let's rest.

Martin What's the weather like outside?

Billard Cloudy with a hint of rain.

Martin Anyone ever tell you you're a natural
depressant?

Billard Never.

Martin Well. Take it as a compliment.

Interview 2

Scene 2

Monday afternoon

Billard

Now Martin. Are you ready to continue?

Martin

Sure as can be.

Billard

Let's go back over the statements you made to police regarding two of the missing girls Pauline Adams and Susan Pilkington.

You readily admit you were in their company before they vanished.

Martin

I was.

Billard

I just want to go over some things.

Martin

No problem. Shoot the ducks.

Billard

Do you remember how long it is has been since you reported your partner Pauline missing?

Martin

No. Not really.

I guess it was a while ago.

Years maybe.

Billard

Two years ago to be precise.

Martin That long. Time flies.
I find it hard to remember back to last week.

Billard Well let's get back to two years ago.

Martin I'll do my best.
But things have vanished out of my mind.
I cracked my head after falling down the stairs a couple of
months ago so I'm a little hazy.
Go easy on me.
I'm having problems in the memory department.

Billard That's OK.
We'll do our best to refresh things.
Let's say get things straightened.

Martin My old head may be a bit off.
But I'm not sure things need straightening.
I haven't anything new for you if that's what you're after.

Billard Well. Let's browse over what you said at the time.
It's all in your statement.
It was voluntary.

Martin Voluntary.
That's a new word for me.

Billard The night before Pauline vanished.
You said you were drinking in a city centre bar until 9 pm.
That's when you both got a taxi home.

Martin Yes. I can remember that bit.

Billard When you arrived home you put four-year-old Francine to
bed.
You then ended up having a row with Pauline over
cigarettes.
After the row you both went to bed.

Martin So far so good.

Billard The next morning you dropped Francine to school.
Then you went to city to collect your welfare payment.
You made your way straight home after you received your
money.

Martin Yes.

Billard When you got home you noticed the house was empty.
There was no sign of Pauline.

Martin The house was empty. Silent.
So quiet you'd hear a ghost fart.

Billard You checked your bedroom and found it to be tidy. The bed was made up.

Martin I'm fine with that.

Billard You were not unduly alarmed not to find Pauline at home as she often left for days without saying goodbye.

Martin Especially after a row.
She'd take the huffs and head off.
She's be petty like that of she didn't get her way.

Billard And since that day you never inquired further to police about her whereabouts.

Martin Never.
Never have.
Never will.

Billard Can you explain to me why you never have inquired?

Martin I just didn't.
She's really not my problem anymore.
She's probably off somewhere with some fella.
Pauline was like that.
For her the grass was always greener on the other side.

Billard

Always.

Martin

Always.

You only had to rattle your pocket and she'd be all over you like the chicken pox.

Billard

And you still don't have the interest to inquire?

Martin

It's not a sin not to care.

She is where she is.

I can't do anything about that that.

She's not my problem anymore.

Good luck to bad rubbish.

Billard

You've a very cold attitude to Pauline.

Why is that?

Martin

I'm entitled to my attitude.

She did me no favours.

We can all walk out the door.

Everything was too easy for her.

Billard

Does Francine ever ask about her mother?

Martin

Never ever.

I think she has forgotten her.

We've just got on it with it.

Myself and her royal highness.

We're very close.

Like peas in a pod.

Billard Have you ever discussed Pauline with her?

Martin No.

Billard Why?

Martin Pauline never said goodbye.

And we'll never say hello to her again.

I couldn't be simpler.

That's a no brainer.

Billard Have you anything to add to your statement?

Martin Only to say I'm more innocent today than I was two years ago.

Billard I want to ask you about Susan Pilkington.

She's another missing girl.

Martin I only know what I told you.

Billard She was last seen drinking with you in a city centre bar.

Martin
I only drank with her.
We talked a little bit.

Billard
About what?

Martin
Life and how crap life can be.

Billard
You said you left the bar at 10 pm and walked home
alone.

Martin
I sure did.

Billard
One of the regulars.
Mr Esmund Rigsby.
Told police he saw you get into a taxi with Susan at
10.30pm.
What have you got to say about that?

Martin
Well.
He's a complete liar.
He's got dementia.
He was that bad he used to forget what he ordered to
drink.
Dizzy Ezzy we called him.
I wouldn't rely on that fool.
He left the pub before I did.
I told police that.

The last I heard he was dead.

Billard

You're right about that.

He was beaten up on his way home six months ago.

Martin

Probably deserved it.

It was his mouth got him killed.

He couldn't close it.

I've no doubt he rubbed the wrong fellow up the wrong way.

Billard

Maybe. Maybe not.

But it was a beating meant to kill him.

He was an old man.

No threat to anyone.

Martin

He was a threat to someone.

Billard

Lets break.

Martin

What's the weather like outside?

Billard

Lousey.

Martin

I'm better off in here so.

Scene 3

Interview 3

Monday evening

Billard

Now Martin.

Are you ready to press forward?

Martin

Whatever you want.

What's on your mind?

Billard

Do you understand how we've got to this point?

Martin

Not really.

I feel like I'm a rabbit caught in the lights.

It's like I'm half way between tomorrow and yesterday.

All I know is that my Francine fell in the schoolyard and now you're accusing me of all sorts of things.

How long do I have to stay here answering questions?

Billard

Seven days.

Martin

Sure that's a week.

Billard

Are you sure you don't need a lawyer?

Martin

Nope. Don't trust them.

Them and policemen they're nature's parasites.

Specialists at sucking the good out of you.

Billard They didn't put you here.
You put yourself here. Fate intervened.
She couldn't watch you destroy any more lives.

Martin So why am I here?

Billard As you know Francine was brought to hospital after the fall in
the schoolyard.
She sustained a nasty gash on the side of her head.

Martin So I've heard.
Mind you I haven't seen this famous gash.
It sounds bad.
You'd think her father might get to see her first.

Billard When she was examined by the doctors.
Some things showed up.

Martin What things?

Billard The doctors say she had a skull fracture before the fall.
She also had extensive injuries to her left eye socket and
severe bruising on her back.
Coupled with that she had defensive type injuries to her arms.
As is protocol the hospital contacted the police and they
arrested you.

When we searched your house we unearthed more than we ever imagined.

Put simply Martin.

A child's fall in a playground has led us directly to a potential serial killer.

Am I going too quickly for you?

Martin

No you're fine.

A bit dramatic.

But saying I'm a serial killer?

You're having me on.

Billard

Things are becoming complicated Martin.

You're on the radar.

Suddenly all those missing girls don't seem to be missing anymore.

Martin

What's all that got to do with me?

Billard

Francine also had cigarette burns on her legs and two chipped teeth.

Those injuries weren't caused by a fall.

Are you the type of man who'd batter a child just for pleasure?

Martin

I'd never do that.

I don't know anything about any attack.

Billard

Attack is probably not the right word to use.

I'd call it a vicious aggravated assault.

Possibly attempted murder.

She's lucky to be alive.

You're in deep trouble buddy.

Martin

I never laid a hand on her.

I know nothing.

You're chancing your arm.

Billard

It's not just the assault on the child.

It's what we've found in the house.

It's a house of horrors.

It's beyond comprehension.

A world within a world.

An inferno of evil.

Martin

Whatever you found you planted.

Billard

You can't plant evil.

Martin

You're twisted.

I'm the patsy for your failings.

I'm being set up.

Billard

The scientists say the box room is like an abattoir.

There's so much blood it seeped through the floorboards.
They've discovered the blood of five people in that room.
Five females.

Then there's the blood in Francine's room.
You beat her to a pulp in her own bed.

Martin You're deluded.

Billard Then we found a letter.
Written by Francine.
Detailing terrible allegations.
Possibly linking you to those missing girls.
Imagine all that evidence in your house.
And what's worse.
We've only just begun.

Martin Pure imagination.
The letter is fiction.
Children and their stories.
Allegations, allegations, allegations.
That's all you have.
Let me see the letter?

Billard You'll get it in due course.

Martin You mean when you've had a chance to stitch me up.
So much for giving a fellow the benefit of the doubt.

Billard
It seems number 25 holds many secrets.
I'd say only the devil himself knows what went on there.

Martin
The devil you say.
I can't speak for him.
But as far as I'm concerned.
You've the wrong man in here.
I'm not sure there's anything I can help you with.

Billard
Come on Martin.
You can do better than that.
You'll soon be suffocating with the evidence.
Co-operate.
It's all you've left.

Martin
Where is all this leading?
Put your cards down.

Billard
An abused child.
A blood soaked room.
You're partner has vanished.
Another young mum was last seen with you.
All roads lead to Martin.

Martin
That's enough to get complicated.

You're making big jumps.

Evil Kenevil wouldn't jump that far.

I'm an innocent man.

I'm an open book.

Billard

You're a book we can't read.

We can't decipher it.

It's unrecognisable.

Martin

Charge me or release me.

Billard

Stop clowning.

Start to realise the gravity of the mess you're in.

Martin

Mess.

You're jumbling up everything.

Stop dumping your sorrows on me.

You're trying to make a sandcastle out of seaweed.

Billard

Francine's blood sample will match the ones in her room.

You'll go down for attempted murder.

She'll put you away.

Martin

Whatever.

I can't explain the blood and I didn't kill anyone.

How long am I going to be here?

Billard

Till the job is done.

You'll stay till the job is done.

Martin

I will say one thing.

I'm glad Pauline is gone.

Me and Francine we're better off without her.

Billard

That's quite a statement.

You'd swear she was a noose around your neck.

Martin

It is what it is.

Billard

Let's break.

Martin

What's the weather like outside?

Billard

Raining cats and dogs.

Martin
here.

And here's me thinking all the animals were in

Poor pussy.

Billard

Blood in the child

Scene 4

Interview 4

Tuesday morning

Martin

What's for breakfast today?

Billard

Twenty-five years to life if you're lucky.

Martin

Sure I'd do that lying on my back.

Billard

Ah Martin.

Come on.

You're just talking the talk.

Do you really think a fella like you could walk the walk?

Somehow I'm not sure.

Martin

I could if I had to.

Billard

Where has all this bravado come from?

Suddenly you're a hard man.

Mr Chirpy.

Dr. No Fear

There's a lot of serious stuff in front of you.

Martin

You can be jumpy when you want to be.

No Mr Slick.

Have you no sense of humour?

Billard

None.

Not a bit.

After what you've got up I'd be unwell to be happy.

Martin

Suit yourself.

I'm not as stressed as I was yesterday.

I wasn't used to the place.

I am now.

Billard

When did you start brutalising your daughter?

Knocking the living crap out of her so to speak?

Busting her face in.

Messing her up.

Martin

Jesus Christ.

That's a hell of a set of questions to start the day with.

Billard

The blood in her room.

It's hers.

One hundred per cent.

I'd say you're in deep trouble.

Martin

I'm only awake.

Gimme a chance to get my bearings.

I'm still dozey.

Billard

It's only time before we match the DNA from the box room.

Things will hit the roof then.

I'll not be able to help you.

Martin

DNA.

You mean you Don't kNow Anything.

Billard

Martin.

Would you ever stick your head in a bucket.

You're in denial.

Admit it?

Martin

Denial.

Isn't that a river in Africa?

Billard

All those injuries?

All those bruises?

What type of an animal fractures a child's skull and sends her to school?

Martin

I'm not a doctor.

Calling me an animal won't make things better.

You're making me out to be a house devil.

Billard

Aren't you the devil?

Martin

No.

I'm Martin Eugene Rigney.

And I've nothing to hide.

Billard You haven't denied you smashed her skull in.

Martin I am now.
I'm not a doctor.
How would I know she'd a busted skull.
It didn't happen in my house.

Billard You've got to face facts Martin.
You're in deep.
You're swimming with the big fish and you're drowning.

Martin You're wrong.
I'm breathing.
I'm still here.

Billard For now.
But you'll buckle.
That box room.
It'll be your undoing.

Martin That room is clean.
I'll vouch for that.

Billard I think you're sick.
A madman.

You're living in a parallel universe.

Martin

You're going hard at it today.

I wish I never woke up so early.

Billard

Well.

Pinch yourself.

Because you're awake and I'm right in front of you.

Martin

I wouldn't trust that DNA.

Them science fellas play all sorts of tricks with the stuff.

Billard

Juries convict with DNA.

It's bullet proof.

It's been tested in courts for decades.

Catch up Martin.

Martin

I never touched her.

I bet if I click my heels together I'll wake up back in my bed.

Billard

You can be with the fairies when you want to.

That warrant is for seven days.

We've only started.

We'll pull the place apart brick by brick.

Anything you've hidden we'll find.

Talk to me.

Martin I'm talking as best a retard can talk.

Billard You're caught in headlights Mr Rabbit.

Martin Back to calling me names.
Have you no class?
You're a stitch up merchant.

Billard Martin.
Has it not dawned on you.
People are never the same when they tangle with you.
In a way you remind me of the Greek gorgon Medusa.
Legend has it that anyone who looked at her face
turned to stone.
It seems to be one look from you and you're concrete.

Martin I'm no bogeyman. I'm no Donnie Darko.

Billard For the love of God.
Stop this charade.
For once in your life shame the devil.
Give these families their children back.

Martin They're not mine to give back.

Billard They were never yours in the first place.

Martin

I want a break.

I need a break.

What's the weather like outside?

Billard

Getting very sticky.

Martin

For who?

Scene 5

Interview 5

Tuesday afternoon

Martin

I want to see my Francine.

Billard

You won't be seeing her for a while.

Not until she's eighteen at least and can make her own mind up.

Martin

You can't do that.

Billard

Who said that?

You.

We can do what we want.

We already have.

Click your heels Dorothy.

Your little Francine is with the social services.

This is first time in her life the child has security.

You'll pay heavily for what you did to her.

Martin

Surely I can see her.

I've rights.

Billard

I've never heard of a panda that won a horse race.

Have you?

Martin

I own Francine.

She's mine.

Billard

You've a skewed view of love.

She's G.O.N.E

Look at the positives.

She's getting a chance at life.

Living with the cockroaches is bad for your health.

Martin

You're determined to rattle me.

You're dying to stitch me up.

Billard

The only people who'll be stitching you up will be
your new friends behind bars.

The armed robbers. The gangsters.

The hardened criminals.

Wait till they find out they've a child batterer on the wing.

That'll be fun.

Martin

You wouldn't tell them.

You couldn't.

It's against the law.

Billard

The law doesn't matter in there.

I can't help you inside.

You'd be fresh meat.

Once they get their hands on you.

Well.

It'll be you who'll need to be stitched back together again.

Martin

Your pure evil.

Billard

When you're behind bars you'll be dealing with men with
less refined ways.

Baser instincts so to speak.

That's how they deal with monsters.

Martin

Your chancing your arm.

Billard

We'll bring Francine to court.

Perch her on the stand.

Proper her up with cushions and tissues

She can tell the world her story.

What her precious daddy is like.

If that's what you want.

Martin

And you'd that to a child?

Billard

Yes.

If it ends this nightmare.

She's talking to the detectives.

From what I've heard it's ghosts and ghouls everywhere.

Martin

I really don't want her to go to court.

Court is no place for my Francine.

Billard

Child or no child.

Martin
I couldn't end up in jail.
I can't read or write.
Retards don't go to jail.
They go to special places.

Billard
There's only one special place for you.
And that's hell.

Martin
I'm going to complain to the police about all this.

Billard
Too much happened in that house.
Whatever you got up.
Whatever you did.
It was seismic.

Martin
That's my house.
You conned your way in.

Billard
That's the only decent thing you've done up to now.
You let us in there.
As well as everything else.
We've found five dogs buried in the garden.
Dozens of dead cats in the shed.
Dogs teeth scattered all over Francine's room.
An animal jawbone under her bed.
What planet have you been on?

Martin

This one.

I'm from this planet.

Billard

Martin.

We're so suspicious of you.

We've even had the meat in the freezer tested to see that it's not human.

For the love of God tell me you're not a cannibal.

Martin

I don't eat people.

I really don't.

Billard

If any of this ever gets out.

You'll never see the light of day.

Martin

The dogs and the cats kept dying.

I shouldn't have touched them.

I'm sorry.

Is that OK?

Billard

No Martin.

Sorry is not an acceptable word in here.

It's off the table.

Martin

My Francine will never go to court.

She loves me too much.

Billard

Even love has its limits.

She'll put you away.

Martin

I couldn't look her in the eye.

My own daughter programmed to destroy me.

You'll rot for this.

You're a filthy bunch.

Billard

It's you who has destroyed her.

If she has any sense she'll blind you just like

Odysseus blinded the Cyclopes.

Martin

They say love is blindness.

Billard

They also say a killer should hang.

Martin

What's the weather like outside.

Billard

The sun is splitting the stones.

Martin

I'm dark enough.

I don't need a tan.

Billard

Lets break.

Scene 6

Interview 6

Tuesday evening

Billard

Martin.

We're going to deal with the letter we found in Francine's room.

It was addressed to her teacher Anna Palmiron.

I've read it.

I'd call it an incendiary document.

Martin

The ramblings of a child most likely.

You couldn't take that type of stuff too seriously.

Children and their imaginations.

They'd run riot if you didn't check them.

You have to be very careful with them things.

Billard

God would have trouble keeping a dry eye after reading it.

Martin

Well I've plenty of tissues to help with his tears.

My Francine can hardly write.

She's never even written a letter to Santa.

The poor child can hardly spell.

All she does is colour in pictures.

I'm afraid Francine's got the family retard gene.

Billard

Come on Martin.

The last Dodo died a long time ago.

You'll have to do better than that.

Ms Palmiron has confirmed the writing is Francine's.
Francine says it's hers.
She even wrote some specimen words in the hospital.

Martin

It's a plant.
Poor Francine.
She must be brain damaged from the fall.
As for that Palmiron one.
She hates men.
She's a real dinosaur.
Ancient as hell.

Billard

You're with the fairies Martin if you believe that garbage.

Martin

There's no point in interviewing me so.
Your mind is made up.
You might as well lead me straight to jail.

Billard

Is that what you think?

Martin

I don't see that I've any other option.
I know my child.
She's a bit thick I tell you.

Billard

Well lets deal with the letter.
Are you an honest man?

Martin

Honestish.

Billard

Will you give me the courtesy of discussing its contents with you?

Martin

I don't see that I've any choice.

I'm a yes or no man.

I'll answer fairly.

If I can.

Maybe.

Billard

Francine says you used to lock her out of the kitchen to stop her getting food.

Is that correct?

Martin

Yes.

But I had no choice.

You'll have to take my word.

Francine could be a nightmare.

She kept feeding the damn dog cornflakes and giving the cats our milk.

What was I supposed to do?

She has a good soul.

A good heart.

But food is food.

I'd no option but to lock her out.

I'd do it again. It was the only way.

Billard Do you think your actions were cruel or even harsh?

Martin For heaven's sake man of course they were harsh.
But we were starving.
My money wasn't enough for the two of us.
You have to be cruel to be kind.
Every time I looked around the dog had something in his
gob.
I've no problem looking a judge in the eye and telling him
that I locked her out.
There's no shame in that.

Billard Francine says you locked her in the coal bunker.
Is that true?

Martin Yes.
She wouldn't do her homework.
Always looking at the telly.
One idiot in the family is enough.
I only locked her in it for five minutes.
It was enough though.
She always did her homework after that.
Well the colouring bits anyway.

Billard Locking your child in a dark filthy bunker.
That must have been traumatic?

Martin You mean therapeutic.

Billard Why did you slap Francine if she ever mentioned her mother's name?

Martin It was because Pauline hurt us.
She left us for someone else.
I had to blot her out of the child's mind.
It was the best way forward.
When she flew the nest we had to pick up the pieces.
Try it yourself sometime.
It's pretty hard.

Billard Francine says you made her burn everything belonging to Pauline in the fire.
Is that true?

Martin One hundred per cent true.
Clothes.
Pictures.
You name it.
It went up in smoke.
Good riddance to bad rubbish.

Billard Why did you leave Francine alone in the house for two days?

Martin

Well that's a lie if I ever heard one.

I was only gone for the night.

I left her with Lydia from across the street.

I forget her second name.

I told you Francine can exaggerate.

She has a flowery mind.

Be careful listening to her.

She's a wild one.

Billard

Where did you go that night?

Martin

Mind your own bloody business.

But if you must know I was with a friend.

Billard

Did you ever kick and or punch Francine in the face?

Martin

Yes.

When I was drunk.

But I only kicked her up the backside.

She hid the remote for the telly.

Another time I was drunk and lost the plot.

I gave her a slap on the jaw.

I'm sorry for that.

Her jaw was a bit mashed after it.

But she healed well.

That probably shouldn't have happened.

Billard

Probably?

Martin

Ok.

Shouldn't have happened.

Billard

Why did you kill her pets?

Martin

Animals can put a strain on a relationship.

Billard

Why did you bash the dogs head against the kitchen wall?

Martin

Listen.

The pets kept dying.

It wasn't me.

The cats and the dogs kept getting hit by cars.

All I did was bury them in the garden.

Billard

Did you bash Bonzo the dog's head against the wall?

Martin

Yes.

But he was already dead.

I was trying to get a message across to Francine.

Billard

What message?

Martin

The one that says that animals aren't humans.

Look after your human friends.

Pets don't last.

Sure a cat would eat you if you dropped dead in front of him.

I wanted Francine to understand that I was all that matters.

Billard

Did you ever give Francine a necklace made from the teeth of the black terrier called 'Django'?

Martin

Yes I did.

She loved that dog.

She cried for weeks when he died.

When he withered away I pulled the teeth out and made the necklace.

I'm not very good with my hands.

But I'll tell you no word of a lie.

I did a great job with that necklace.

Francine looked like Miss World with it on her.

Billard

Did you ever lock your daughter in her room for two days?

Martin

It was one day.

She wouldn't clean up after the pets.

Billard

Why did you eat 'Ernie' the hamster?

Martin

It was a bit of an Ozzy Ozbourne moment.

I did it to show Francine I was the boss.

It was a statement.

I needed to show here it was my way or no way.

Billard

Why did you poison 'Buddie Holly' the little budgie?

Martin

I didn't.

He dropped dead of a heart attack.

He used to get stressed out with the all the cats.

I told Francine to get rid of the them.

She knew Budgie wasn't able for the hassle.

It was her fault.

She must have made up the poison story.

Billard

Why did you swallow 'Elvis' the goldfish?

Martin

Now that was a pure accident.

I was doing a magic trick for Francine.

But I gagged and swallowed him.

He tasted vile.

Not one bit of fish has passed my lips since that night.

Billard

Did you poison the birds in the garden?

Martin

Yes.

Billard

Why?

Martin

I don't know the answer to that question.

One day I was bored.

Twenty birds died.

I put rat pellets in with the bread.

I killed mostly seagulls.

It was their own fault for being such gluttons.

It was just a prank.

I told her the birds got hit by lightning.

Billard

How do you think your actions against the animals
must have felt to a child?

Martin

I don't know.

I never remember what it was like to be a child.

Billard

Why did you lock Francine under the stairs?

Martin

She kept eating sweets.

I kept telling her sweets and teeth don't mix.

She got the message.

Her teeth are fine now.

Billard

Apart from the ones you chipped.

Martin

Another lie.

Delete. Fast forward.

Billard

Did you ever beat your daughter because she
lost your drinking money?

Martin

The drink was all I had.

When I've no drink I get cranky.

I shouldn't have hit her.

You can't take back a slap.

Can I have a break?

All this honesty is making me dizzy.

Billard

That's no problem Martin.

Martin

What's the weather like outside?

Billard

Who knows ?

I'm stuck with you.

Scene 7

Interview 7

Wednesday morning

Billard

Are you rested Martin?

Martin

As best I can be.

Given I'm the man doing all the talking.

I'm tired of answering all these questions.

Billard

You wouldn't be answering these questions if you didn't put yourself
in that position in the first place.

You can't expect to spend the rest of your life floating like a butterfly.

Martin

Well sting me like a bee.

Charge me or release me.

Billard

In time Martin.

In time.

I'm not finished with the letter.

Martin

That's no letter you're reading that's an indictment.

Billard

Indictment.

That's a big word for you.

Martin

I know what I know if you know what I mean.

Billard

Do you want to continue with the letter?

Martin I'm fine.
 Keep talking.
 The letter is so unlike Francine.

Billard Why?

Martin Sure that poor young one can't stitch two words together.
 If I knew she could talk that well I'd have put her on one of
 them TV shows.
 She's a right gob on her.

Billard Did you ever walk around the house dressed in women's clothes?

Martin Are you having a laugh?
 Seriously?

Billard Did you ever threaten to smash your daughter's skull with a spade
 when you were glammed up in a bra, knickers and stillettos?

Martin Lies.
 That's utter rubbish.
 This has to be a joke.

Billard Why did you sleep with dolls in your bed?
 Francine says you took her Barbie dolls and slept with them.
 To be precise she said you had five dolls in the bed.
 Is that true?

Martin False.
The child is ill.
Her mind needs mending.
She's flipped.
God love her.

Billard There's substance to her claim.
When we searched the house we found those dolls in your bed.

Martin You're having me on.
You put the dolls there.
I'm a grown man.
What would I want dolls for?

Billard You tell me.
We found them there.
Do you like playing with dolls?

Martin Even if I did like dolls what business is it of yours?

Billard I'm just trying to gauge the confusion in the mind of a child.
Like.
Why does my daddy play with dolls?
What is wrong with him?

Martin You're off your rocker copper.
The child has you wrapped around her finger.

Bigger the fool are you.

Even a man like yourself has got to start scratching his head with those lies?

It's off the wall stuff.

Billard Why did you turn off the radiator in her room in winter?

Martin Now that's just Francine feeling sorry for herself.

None of us had heat.

We were too poor to afford fuel.

We both lost out.

So we froze.

Billard Did you ever make Francine paint lipstick on your face?

Martin Never.

Billard Did you ever make her paint your nails red, blue and other colours?

Martin Never.

Billard Did you ever ask her to call you 'Miss Ribena' when you were glammed up?

Martin You're having a laugh.

I'm no Roger Galore.

I'm not buttered on both sides.

Billard Francine says the constant change between calling you daddy and 'Miss Ribena' left her confused.
Is she correct?

Martin She couldn't be confused because nothing happened.

Billard Did you ever tell Francine if she ever told anyone about your 'girly' side you'd chop her up and put her with the rest of the bodies just like Pauline and Susan?

Martin Holy calamity.
That's a stinker.
I would never say that to her.
Francine would never say them things.

Billard Well she did.
You'd better start talking Martin.
The letter paints a damning picture.
It's very believable given what we've found in the house.

Martin Well don't flatter yourself.
It's my word against hers.
It's not what you know it's what you can prove.
A bed full of dolls and few paint marks means nothing.

Billard

You're like an odious wizard.

You trapped your child in a dangerous dysfunctional world
and only you know the magic words to let her escape.

It's like a bizarre show in a freak circus.

You mentally tortured that child.

You left her so fragile she doesn't even know reality from
fiction.

Shame on you Martin Rigney.

You're a monster.

Martin

I'll take that as a compliment given everything else you've
accused me of.

Billard

As we stand you're in a major predicament.

Martin

Are we?

And what are you predicting?

Billard

It's like this.

If you don't start co-operating you'll have crossed the point of
no return.

You've already left redemption city.

Martin

No redemption for Martin.

That's a shame.

Billard

You can still get something out of all this.

Try to be civilised.

Martin

You're a real Mr Know It All.

You've everything figured out.

Pointing your pious finger in my face.

Judging me.

Condemning me.

Billard

What did you do with them girls?

Where are the bodies?

You know they're dead.

I know they're dead.

I've never been more convinced of it than I am now.

Martin

If I know nothing.

You know nothing.

We know nothing.

Billard

You let it slip to Francine.

Didn't you.

It all adds up.

The blood.

The room.

The freak show behind closed doors.

The cross dressing.

The mind games.

As God is my witness I'll make you pay for your crimes.

Martin

I'm not seeing what you're seeing.

You're back to your old tricks.

Trying to make Martin plus oddity equal to killer

You're trying to bully me.

No.

You're manipulating me.

Billard

Martin.

If you co-operate.

You might get a concession.

A chance.

Something.

If you keep going like this we still have all the time in the world
to eventually nail you.

We will grind you down.

We'll end up as old men.

Look in the mirror then break the glass.

Martin

Can I have a break?

Billard

Lets break.

Scene 8

Interview 8

Wednesday afternoon.

Martin

If I did talk about the things that happened to Francine.

What will happen to her?

Billard

She's safe.

The social workers are looking after her.

You'll not get much leeway with the case against Francine.

The case is proven.

In the end she'll probably get a new home and a new family.

It's the least she deserves after all this.

Martin

What if I tell you about other things?

New things.

The type of things that only I know.

What would happen to Francine then?

Billard

If it's what I think you know and what you did.

Well.

The child would need a new identity.

She shouldn't be ruined by your bad deeds.

Martin

Could you stop Francine ending up in court?

It's just I wouldn't want information about what happened to her ending up in court.

I wouldn't want people knowing things.

My business so to speak.

Billard Are you saying you couldn't face your daughter in a courtroom?

Martin Yes.

Billard Is it the shame Martin?

Martin No.

A courtroom is no place for her.

She'd get the jitters.

Could you stop her going to court?

Billard I suppose if you pleaded guilty to the assaults, the cruelty and
the neglect she wouldn't be needed to give evidence.

But you won't get that type of privilege unless you give up more
information about those girls.

Francine's case is lock tight.

We want the girls.

Martin I know some stuff.

Things that only I know.

But I'll need some guarantees.

Billard Sorry Martin.

We're not looking to trade just yet.

Martin Why did the billy goat cross the bridge?

Billard I don't see the relevance.

Martin Just answer the God damned question.

Billard He crossed the bridge to get to the other side.

Martin Wrong.

He crossed the bridge to get to the green grass on the other side.

Crossing the bridge for the sake of it wasn't an option.

This billy goat wanted to be fed.

He wasn't the adventurous type into scenic views.

You see Billard.

I'm that billy goat.

You show me the green grass and I'll show you everything you need to know.

But don't disappoint me.

I want green grass.

I'm not after the view.

Billard You're holding me to ransom.

You're telling the State it's your way or no way.

Martin I'm saying this billy goat is tired on this side of the bridge.

Maybe you might talk to the big guns up the ladder to see what the lie of the land is?

Billard You're fishing for a deal?

Martin

I just want green grass.

Plain and simple.

You need to chat to your friends.

This billy goat needs rest for the journey ahead.

I want to go back to my cell.

What's the weather like outside?

Billard

Fogey.

Martin

Turn on the lights so.

Scene 9

Interview 9

Thursday morning

Billard

A new day Martin.

I'm sorry it's taken so long.

I've spoken with my colleagues.

They won't budge until you co-operate further.

Martin

Co-operate further.

Sure what have I being doing for these past few days.

Only co-operating.

This is real ding dong King Kong.

Billard

They've told me the best way forward is a plea bargain.

Martin

So where will that get me?

I'm not seeing that green grass.

It's not too much to ask for.

That plea stuff sounds like I'm stuck in the mud.

Billard

A plea bargain is progress.

It's an admission by the State it needs your help.

Martin

That's the first time this country has given me anything other than my social welfare.

Billard

I'd grab something if I was you.

You're sinking fast.

We'll have the DNA back today.

And when it matches.

Well.

You might get to share a cell with a gorilla.

Martin

After all I've done for you people.

I've been fair.

I've moved mountains.

You're the very fellow who told me I'd get concessions.

Now you're selling me a panda.

Billard

A plea bargain is a concession.

It's a massive move by the State.

It's the 'Deal of deals.'

Tell us what you know?

Martin

I'll tell you what I know.

I know specific things.

Like where things began.

Like where things ended up.

And all those dozens of little things that go in between.

Billard

Don't be so cryptic Martin.

You won't be short changed.

We want a solution.

We need you.

We've all these missing girls and you're the lightning rod

that connects them.

Does the plea bargain bother you?

Martin

I'm not bothered by it.

I'm just wondering where all this ends.

Billard

It ends where you want it to end.

We can connect the dots.

If we have to.

Martin

Do me a favour.

Would you tell Francine I'm helping the police for her sake.

Billard

Not on your nelly.

Not a chance.

Co-operate for you.

Don't drag the child back into this.

You're a grown billy goat.

Your days of talking to Francine are over.

Until she's eighteen and can make her own mind up.

Tell me about them girls?

Martin

I guess everyone needs a marker.

A gravestone.

Something to say we were here.

That we passed through this place.

Those families.