

WHITE GOD

by Sergio Snyder

Characters:

Susie

Mike

Tom

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1 **SCENE 1 - THURSDAY EVENING**

As the play opens we see the living room of a 2 bedroom apartment which is shared by Tom, Susie and Mike.

It is early evening, Susie and Mike are watching TV on the sofa, they cuddle each other as they see the film

Enter Tom, he's been traveling in South America and brings with him a large rucksack, and a large tube containing a Rain stick, a traditional Mayan instrument to call rain by ancient Mayans. He is very animated and full of energy.

TOM

Hey guys!

He walks in and drops his bag at the entrance. Mike and Susie stand up to welcome him.

MIKE

Tom! My man! Welcome back

They shake hands.

SUSIE

Look at you! So tanned!

They shake hands.

TOM

Thanks guys, it's good to be back!

MIKE

How was the flight?

TOM

Great, long and packed, but great! I slept most of the way and then I watched a couple of films.

SUSIE

That's good, are you tired?

TOM

No, not at all, on the contrary! I stopped by the off licence and I got some "Adult" beverages to celebrate my return!

SUSIE

You what?

MIKE
Adult Beverages?

TOM
Yes, I got us some...

He goes to a plastic bag he brought with him.

TOM (CONT'D)
Baccardi, it's what they drink out there in South America, with coke. It's called "Cuba Libre"

MIKE
Cuba Libre?

TOM
Yes, an ironic name, it means Free Cuba!

SUSIE
Since when do you drink?

TOM
Oh, since I went to paradise!

He goes to the kitchen to get some glasses.

SUSIE
(to Mike)
What's going on?

MIKE
Not sure, but its weird...

Tom comes back with 3 glasses and some ice.

TOM
Right then my fellow flat mates, let's have a proper welcome back drink...

He starts to pour some Bracardi and coke. He stops.

TOM (CONT'D)
Lemons!

MIKE
Lemons?

TOM
Lemons, we need lemons, do we have any lemons?

SUSIE
I don't think we do?

Tom thinks...

TOM
Humm? Oh well, it will have to be without lemon!

He finishes pouring and gives each a glass.

TOM (CONT'D)
Salud!

Raising his glass.

TOM (CONT'D)
That's what you say in South America.

MIKE
Salud!

SUSIE
Salud!

TOM
Cheers!

They toast and drink, Tom gulps it in one go. Slams the glass down.

TOM (CONT'D)
Hoo-hoo!

MIKE
Take it easy fella, you've never drank before...

TOM
That was then my friend, this is now! I'm a changed man!

SUSIE
We can see that...

TOM
A new Tom, a new me! I've found life!

He pours himself another drink, heavy on the Brandy.

MIKE
Hey easy...

TOM
Come on Mike, get it down your neck and I'll pour you another one.

MIKE
I think one may be enough for me mate...

TOM
Really? Come on!

He drinks half of it in one go.

TOM (CONT'D)
Man I'm thirsty! It must have been that kebab I had on the way here.

SUSIE
You had a kebab?

TOM
Yes and it was nice!

MIKE
You've never had a kebab before in your life!

TOM
Told you, new man! Cheers!

He gulps the drink down. Mike and Susie look at each other not sure how to react to this. Tom pours another drink.

MIKE
When do you go back to work?

TOM
Well, not sure I'm going back to work...

SUSIE
You what?

TOM
I'm fed up with my job, I'm planning to change my life!

SUSIE
Change your life?

TOM
Yea! This is the new me, the new Tom that is free, wild and full of adventure!

MIKE
And how is the new Tom thinking he will pay the rent?

TOM
I have a plan...

MIKE
A plan?

TOM
Yes, I met this guy, from Mexico, really nice guy, loaded, he set me up and help me when I was there. It was a god sent I
(MORE)

TOM (CONT'D)

tell you, from day one we clicked and became really good friends, he showed me around, introduced me to his friends, and even paid a lot of stuff for me. Anyways he's coming to see me next week and we are looking at stating up our own business here, with his help of course...

SUSIE

What type of business?

TOM

He's into import and export, something like that...

MIKE

Import and export what?

TOM

I don't know, we haven't discussed the details.

MIKE

You have not talked about the details yet?

TOM

Nope.

MIKE

Well I suggest you don't quit your job until you know more about this "import/export" business your friend wants to set up.

TOM

Don't worry Mike, I tell you, it's going to change my life, I'm going to make loads of money, you'll see.

MIKE

Really? Well I hope you know what you're doing, It'll be amazing if you do...

SUSIE

Yes, and it's amazing that in just 2 weeks you built such a deep friendship with a total stranger who is coming over to see you to help you finance your new business venture...

TOM

I know, isn't it amazing, you'll love him when you meet him.

MIKE

I'm sure we will...

SUSIE

What's his name?

TOM

Ha, that's the other amazing thing, wait... Tomas!

SUSIE

Tomas?

TOM

Yea! Tomas, like me! Tomas in Spanish means Tom!

MIKE

Tomas in English also means Tom...

TOM

Ah, no that's Thomas, with a th this is Tomas without the h...

MIKE

Yea... Whatever.

TOM

Anyhow, he's coming over next week to start our business venture.

SUSIE

Tom, just be careful ok... It all sounds to good to be true.

TOM

Don't worry, he's a cool guy! Here is to making loads of money!

He gulps the drink down again.

TOM (CONT'D)

Ha!

He is going to pour another and Mike stops him.

MIKE

Are you ok mate?

TOM

Of course I'm ok! I'm great!

MIKE

May be you should take it easy with the drink...

TOM

Don't worry my friend, I've got plenty of practice while out there! I can drink you under the table!

MIKE

I'm sure you can, but just take it easy ok?

Tom stops and looks at him for a moment. There is a silence while Tom just stares at Mike.

TOM

(in a serious tone, very different than before, almost threatening)

Ok, no problem.

Awkward moment. Susie breaks the silence.

SUSIE

Anyhow, I was going to put the kettle on, does anyone want a cup of tea?

Mike moves away.

MIKE

That'll be nice, thanks Susie...

SUSIE

How about it Tom?

TOM

(looks at her and changes again to the hyper animated person)

Thanks love! I could murder a cup! Not had a good brew since I left!

SUSIE

Alright I'll get the kettle on...

She walks out. Mike goes to the sofa and sits looking at the TV. Tom looks at him from behind.

TOM

Are you not going to finish your Cuba Libre?

MIKE

(without looking at him)

No, thanks mate, it's nice but I've got to work tomorrow.

TOM

Ok, no problem...

He takes the glass and downs it. He slams the glass on the table.

TOM (CONT'D)

We have to keep Cuba Free!

He takes the bottle and coke and puts them in the bag. He then picks up his rucksack.

TOM (CONT'D)

Right mate, I'm just going to drop my stuff in my room. I'll be back...

MIKE

Sure...

He starts to walk away and then stops.

TOM

I really missed you guys, really, missed you...

Mike feels awkward about this.

MIKE

We did too mate...

He drops all his staff and goes and stands in front of Mike.

TOM

Come here you!

Mike is not sure how to react.

TOM (CONT'D)

Come on! Let's have a man hug!

MIKE

That's ok mate, it's not necessary...

TOM

Come on!

He extends his arms.

MIKE

Seriously, no need...

Tom shouts.

TOM

You can't leave your mate standing here with his arms outstretched!

Pause.

MIKE

Alright, take it easy...

Mike gets up and slowly gives Tom and hug who squeezes him as if he had not seen him in years.

TOM

I love man...

They stand there for a moment, hugging.

TOM (CONT'D)

I really love you man...

Enter Susie who sees this.

TOM (CONT'D)

I really, really love you man...

MIKE

Thanks, yes, very nice... Can you let go... Now!

They separate. Tom walks away and picks up his Rucksack and plastic bag and leaves the room. Mike and Susie look at each other.

SUSIE

What's going on?

MIKE

I don't know, but it's wired...

SUSIE

What's got into him?

MIKE

I think he's been drinking too much while on holidays!

SUSIE

He doesn't even like drinking.

MIKE

Well he seems to have developed a taste for it.

SUSIE

Do you think it's got anything to do anything with this guy he met?

MIKE

Could be.

SUSIE

He is acting very strange, he's not himself.

MIKE

Yea, something happened while out there, It's not normal. We need to find out.

SUSIE

But how do we find out?

MIKE

I don't know, we'll ask him.

SUSIE

What are you going to ask him? "Excuse me Tom, but you are acting a little weird, what did you do while in South America?"

MIKE

May be, why not? I don't know. Anyways, he may come down later and go back to normal.

SUSIE

I hope so, no offense but the man is gone bonkers! It's as if someone came and took the old Tom away and replaced him with this hyper, full of live, kind of weird guy...

MIKE

May be that's what happened...

SUSIE

What?

MIKE

Do you remember the film Face off?

SUSIE

No?

MIKE

Yes you do, is the one where the criminal steals the face of a policeman? They swap faces and this guys has to prove he is not the criminal in prison?

SUSIE

No...

MIKE

Anyways, may be this is like that, someone has swapped his face and this guys is not Tom!

SUSIE

And who is it then?

MIKE

Some sort of master criminal that has come over from South America to take over the country!

SUSIE

Really? I think you are the one that's had too much to drink!

MIKE

You never know...

SUSIE

And you watch too much TV!

Tom comes back in, he's changed and looks very suave in light cotton trousers and a colorful shirt.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

Wow, you look nice...

TOM

Thank's Susie.

MIKE
Where did you get that fancy dress from?

TOM
Present from my friend.

MIKE
Tomas?

TOM
Yep! He gave me a whole suitcase of new really cool cloths.

MIKE
I'm sure he did...

TOM
And he also gave me the coolest parting gift you have ever seen!

He goes to the tube he brought in and puts it on the table.

MIKE
It's not a gun is it?

TOM
No!

SUSIE
What is it?

Tom takes out the rain stick. Its a long beautiful bamboo hand craft and painted stick with a figure of a Mayan god at one end. When you move it, it makes a soothing sound of rain. Tom turns it upside to hear the noise.

SUSIE (CONT'D)
It's beautiful...

MIKE
What is it?

TOM
Palo de lluvia, Rain Stick to you and me.

They listen to it as he turns it again to listen to the noise.

SUSIE
It's very soothing...

TOM
It is indeed. The first time I heard it it was at Tomas house, and I fell in love with the sound...

He turns it again.

MIKE

So he gave it to you as a present?

TOM

Yep.

SUSIE

That's nice.

TOM

Yes, very nice... The Mayans use it to call upon their god for rain... You see this little fella here, he is the god of rain, he brings rain to his people. Whenever they were harvesting and their crops were drying, they would turn to their god with this sticks and he would bring them water...

They stand there for a moment. Tom turns it around again and listens. Silence. He turns it again and listens, Mike and Susie look at each other. He turns it again, Mike interrupts.

MIKE

Yes, very nice...

Tom ignores him and continues turning the stick to make the noise.

SUSIE

You want your cup of tea now?

He ignores her too.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

Tom?

He does not react, as if possessed by the noise of the stick.

MIKE

Tom? Mate? Can you hear me?

No reaction.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Tom!

Tom stops. Does not move as if he had been pulled from a dream and now looks angry.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Sorry mate, the noise was getting annoying...

SUSIE

Let's have some tea, shall we?

Tom puts the rain stick down and looks at Susie.

TOM

Thanks Susie. That would be nice...

They sit in the living room. There is a silence. They watch TV.

SUSIE

Did you get to see any TV while you were out there Tom?

Tom looks out as if spaced out.

TOM

Not really.

Pause. Susie and Mike look at each other.

MIKE

So apart from Tomas, did you meet anyone else? Any nice girls...

Tom stands up.

TOM

I'm going to be, I'm tired. Good night.

He walks out almost as if in a robotic way.

SUSIE

Good night...

He goes out.

MIKE

Man! This is wired! I'm telling you he's been possessed or something, it's not normal!

SUSIE

I know, it's giving me the willies!

Susie thinks.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

May be he has been possessed by the Mayans!

MIKE

Susie I was joking.

SUSIE

No, I'm being serious. Did you see the way he was tripping on the noise of that stick? They are still practicing black magic in some of these countries, may be this Tomas guy is into black magic and he has possessed his soul!

MIKE

Don't be ridiculous! It's not as if Tom had an exiting life! The guy is a nerd with hardly any friends! Why would they want his soul?

SUSIE

That's it! They are doing an experiment, with a nerd!

MIKE

That's stupid!

SUSIE

Call it what you want but I'm telling you, they've done something to him while out there...

Pause.

MIKE

(looking at Susie)

Do you really believe he has been possessed?

SUSIE

I once saw this program on telly about this stuff and they showed you how these people can take a human soul and possessed them with Black Magic and stuff.

MIKE

Why? What for?

SUSIE

(she thinks)

I don't know, I fell asleep before the end of the program. But it's true, it does exist...

They sit for a moment looking at the TV. Suddenly the Rain Stick falls to the ground, they jump.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

Bloody hell!

MIKE

Shit man! You see, that god listened to what you said and it's his way of warning you!

SUSIE

Shut up!

MIKE

He's coming to get you!

SUSIE
Stop it Mike!

MIKE
He will come and possess your soul too!

SUSIE
Stop it!

He jumps on her and tickles her. They look at each other.

SUSIE (CONT'D)
I'm all freaked out now.

MIKE
So am I...

They kiss.

MIKE (CONT'D)
I'll have to hold you very closed tonight I'm afraid...

SUSIE
Yes, you will have to...

They kiss and rub their bodies together.

MIKE
Let's go to bed...

They get up and walk towards the door. Susie stops and turns back, picks up the rain stick and puts it inside a cupboard.

SUSIE
Just in case the god decides to do anything...I'll sleep better if I know he's locked up!

They giggle and go out.

LIGHTS OUT.

2 SCENE 2 - LATE NIGHT THURSDAY

The stage is in semi-darkness and we see Tom seating on the sofa, his hands clasp together in front of him as he looks down to the floor. The Rain stick is standing in front of him propped against the table. In the background we hear Mike and Susie having sex.

They reach the climate and stop. Tom sits there motionless. After a few moments we see Susie come into the living room going towards the kitchen.

SUSIE

Tom?

He doesn't move or react.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

Tom? What are you doing?

Tom looks up, his expression of somberness.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

Are you ok?

He gets up and walks around towards Susie.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

What are you doing up?

TOM

Well, it isn't exactly peaceful and quite around here...

SUSIE

Oh, sorry Tom, I didn't realized...

TOM

That's ok. Was it good?

SUSIE

Sorry?

TOM

Was it good? Did you enjoy it?

SUSIE

I'm not going to answer that!

She starts to walk towards the kitchen.

TOM

Come on, at least share with me if good old Mike can cut it in bed.

SUSIE

(Stops and turns around)

That is none of your business!

TOM

You made it my business by sharing your moaning with me!

Susie does not say anything. She starts to walk away.

TOM (CONT'D)

I guess he isn't...

She stops and thinks, then turns around.

SUSIE

What's the matter with you?

TOM

Me?

SUSIE

Yes, you've changed?

TOM

I've not changed, still the good old me...

SUSIE

You've changed.

Pause.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

What happened in your trip?

Tom looks at Susie, he walks towards her and gets very closed which makes her uncomfortable. He gives her a smile.

TOM

May be being away has brought the true Tom out. You know Susie, you look good in this light...

She moves away. At this point we see Mike come in.

MIKE

What's going on?... Tom, what are you doing up?

SUSIE

He was just getting a glass of water...

TOM

Yes, a glass of water, it's a hot night...

Pause, Tom looks at Mike and smiles. Walks towards the door.

Night night...

TOM (CONT'D)

He walks out. Mike looks at Susie who looks a little shaken.

MIKE

Are you ok?

SUSIE

Yes, I'm fine.

MIKE

You don't look it.

SUSIE

I'm fine, go back to bed, I'll be there in a minute.

MIKE

What was that all about?

SUSIE

Nothing, he was just up and we got talking about his trip, that's all. Go back to bed, I'll be there in a minute.

MIKE

Ok.

Mike goes out. Susie stands there for a moment, shaken by what happened. She looks at the front and see the rain stick.

LIGHTS GO OUT.

3 SCENE 3 - FRIDAY MORNING

Next morning. Mike is at the table having breakfast, he is checking his phone. He puts it down and goes over to the sofa and picks up the remote and turns the TV on. He grabs his breakfast and brings it to the living room. He puts it down and then looks at the rain stick. He studies it for a moment. Susie walks in.

SUSIE

Put that down.

MIKE

It's quite nice actually...

SUSIE

Put it down.

Mike turns it and listened to the sound.

MIKE

I wonder what's inside?

SUSIE

Mike please put that thing down!

MIKE

Alright, take it easy!

He puts it to one side. He sits and watches TV and eats his breakfast. Susie pours some tea and sits at the table. After a moment Mike turns to Susie.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Are you not having breakfast?

SUSIE

I'm not hungry.

MIKE

Are you ok?

She doesn't answer. He gets up and sits at the table.

MIKE (CONT'D)

What's the matter?

SUSIE

I'm worried about Tom...

MIKE

What happened last night?

SUSIE

He is just behaving really weird.

MIKE

What did he do?

SUSIE

(pause, she thinks about what she is going to say.)

He heard us last night...

MIKE

You what?

SUSIE

He was up and hear us having sex.

MIKE

So? I'm sure he's heard us before.

SUSIE

He was here on the sofa when I came in.

MIKE

So what? we kept him up for a while.

SUSIE

It was they way he reacted...

MIKE

Was he pissed off?

SUSIE

Not exactly...

MIKE

Then what?

Pause. She looks at Mike.

SUSIE

He asked me if it was good... If I'd enjoyed it...

MIKE

(laughing)

Dirty little bugger!

SUSIE

Mike, don't you see it?

MIKE

What?

SUSIE

Tom would have never asked me that before. He would have never said those things.

MIKE

So he's changed, the guy probably got laid while on holidays and now he's coming out of his shell.

SUSIE

But his behavior has changed totally, you saw that when he came in yesterday.

MIKE

Look I admit the guys is different, and it was a little creepy to see him so changed, but may be that's just his new self. Many people go away on holidays and find themselves, he's found himself! Good for him.

SUSIE

It's more than that. You don't just change dramatically like that.

MIKE

I think you are over reacting.

SUSIE

I'm serious Mike, we should keep an eye on him...

MIKE

Really?

SUSIE

Yes.

Pause, Mike gets up and goes back to him breakfast.

MIKE

Ok, we'll keep an eye on him...

She sits there, looks at the rain stick.

LIGHTS GO OUT.

4 SCENE 4 - FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Late afternoon. Susie comes in back from work. She puts her bag down and takes her shoes off. She has some letters with her. Puts them on the table. She goes to the kitchen and gets a drink, comes back in and grabs the letters and sits on the sofa. Opens the letters and reads them. After a moment she sees the rain stick that has been placed next to the TV. She looks at it for a moment then gets up and gets close to it. She looks at it in detail.

Tom comes in. He is wearing his jeans and nothing else on. He walks in and see Susie. Slowly and without her noticing him, he approaches her and stands behind her. He looks at her body while she is looking at the rain stick.

TOM

It's a beautiful piece of art...

Susie jumps startled.

SUSIE

Tom.

TOM
It's beautiful isn't it?

She moves away.

SUSIE
Yes, very nice...

Tom looks at the rain stick.

TOM
It's more than just nice...

He turns to look at Susie.

TOM (CONT'D)
How was your day?

SUSIE
Good...

She looks away as he is not wearing a t-shirt.

SUSIE (CONT'D)
And yours?

TOM
Excellent! I had a very productive day.

SUSIE
Did you?

TOM
I sure did.

Pause. They look at each other.

SUSIE
Good.

TOM
Good.

She goes to the door and grabs her handbag and shoes.

SUSIE
Right, I'm going to my room...

TOM
You seem a little uneasy...

SUSIE
Me? No...

TOM
Is there anything bothering you?

SUSIE
No.

Tom looks at her.

SUSIE (CONT'D)
Well yes, actually...

She looks at him.

SUSIE (CONT'D)
You are not wearing at t-shirt.

Tom looks at his naked torso.

TOM
This bothers you?

SUSIE
Well, yes... A little...

TOM
I see... So I cannot walk around my own flat without a t-shirt?

SUSIE
Well, I just think that... In the house... It's not appropriate...

TOM
Why not?

SUSIE
Because...

TOM
You've seen men's chest before, surely?

SUSIE
Yes but it's different...

TOM
How?

SUSIE
They normally are... On the beach.

TOM
So it's ok for you to look at my chest on the beach but not at home?

SUSIE
(pause.)
Yes...

TOM
What about Mike?

SUSIE
Sorry?

TOM
Mike? Is it ok for you to see his chest at home as well as on the beach?

SUSIE
It's different.

TOM
How?

SUSIE
He's my boyfriend.

TOM
What if I was your boyfriend?

SUSIE
What?

TOM
If I was your boyfriend? Would it be ok for you to look at my chest at home as well as on the beach?

SUSIE
I'm not having this conversation with you...

TOM
It's just a question.

SUSIE
A stupid question.

TOM
What are you trying to say?

SUSIE
Nothing. I'm just saying...

TOM
Are you trying to say that it's stupid to think I could be your boyfriend?

SUSIE
No... What I'm saying is that you are not my boyfriend and that's why it's a stupid question.

TOM
But what if I was...

what he says and as she moves to get closer she knocks a lamp.

Tom turns around with the noise.

TOM

Susie?

She freezes not knowing what to do.

TOM (CONT'D)

Is that you?

He gets up and walks towards her.

TOM (CONT'D)

What are you doing up?

SUSIE

I couldn't sleep...

Pause. He looks at her intensely.

TOM

Were you spying on me?

SUSIE

No. I was going to the kitchen...

Pause.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

What are you doing up... So late?

TOM

I couldn't sleep.

Pause.

TOM (CONT'D)

It seems we both cannot sleep...

Pause.

SUSIE

You are naked...

TOM

It's hot.

SUSIE

Its freezing...

TOM

I'm hot.

SUSIE
You should cover up, I don't think its appropriate...

TOM
Like the beach...

SUSIE
Yes, like the beach...

Pause.

SUSIE (CONT'D)
I'm going to get a drink.

TOM
Sure.

SUSIE
I think you should cover up.

TOM
I will.

They look at each other. She walks out to the kitchen. Tom watches her go.

He then turns around and goes back to the living room. He picks up the rain stick and looks at it. He strokes it and then places it in front of him looking at the god figure on the top.

TOM (CONT'D)
Its only a matter of time... Its only a matter of time...

He then bends over as in pain, he drops down to the sofa and holds his stomach with one hand and the rain stick with the other. He moans in pain. He bends over in pain.

Susie walks in and see him.

SUSIE
Are you ok?

He moans in pain as he bends over on the floor.

SUSIE (CONT'D)
Tom, what's the matter?

She walks towards him. He shouts in pain.

Oh my god, are you ok?

SUSIE (CONT'D)

She goes down to see him, he looks up to her in pain.

Help me...

TOM

What's wrong?

SUSIE

Help me! Ahaaaa!

TOM

He bends over again in pain. Susie shouts for help.

Mike! Mike!

SUSIE

She turns around to Tom.

Just hold on Tom...

SUSIE (CONT'D)

She shouts again.

Mike, help!

SUSIE (CONT'D)

We see Mike come in, he's half asleep and is wearing his pajamas.

What's going on?

MIKE

There's something wrong with Tom, he's in pain.

SUSIE

What happened?

MIKE

I don't know, I came in and found him in pain...

SUSIE

Tom, what's the matter mate? Are you ok?

MIKE

Tom is now on the floor curled up. He holds onto the rain stick and his stomach.

SUSIE

I think it's his stomach, he seems to be in some sort of pain.

MIKE

Tom, what is it? Is it your stomach? Tom?

Suddenly Tom stretches and shouts in pain holding onto the rain stick with both hands.

MIKE (CONT'D)

What's the matter, talk to me...

Susie and Mike try to comfort him and calm him down.

MIKE (CONT'D)

There, take it easy mate, take it easy...

Tom comes down and starts to shiver as if cold.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Jesus, his boiling hot.

TOM

I'm freezing...

SUSIE

What shall we do?

MIKE

Get me some ice... Maybe we should put him in a cold bath...

SUSIE

I'll get some ice...

Susie goes out.

MIKE

Take it easy my friend, we'll get you sorted.

Mike looks at Tom, he is holding onto the rain stick.

LIGHTS GO OUT.

6 SCENE 6 - AN HOUR LATER

It's an hour later, Mike is sitting at the table, Susie comes in with a pot of tea.

MIKE

Thanks.

SUSIE

What time is it?

MIKE
Almost 4 am.
She sits and pours tea into the mugs.
They look at each other.

SUSIE
Do you think he's alright?

MIKE
I think so.
Pause. They drink tea.

SUSIE
May be we should call the doctor?

MIKE
I think he'll be ok. May be it was food poisoning or something?

SUSIE
May be...

MIKE
He can go to the doctor tomorrow.
Susie looks down.

MIKE (CONT'D)
Are you ok?
Pause, she hesitates to answer.

SUSIE
That was scary...

MIKE
Yea I know... But honestly, I think he's ok now.

SUSIE
Mike...
She stops, Mike looks at her.

MIKE
What?

SUSIE
Before Tom started shouting I ...

MIKE
What?

SUSIE
I couldn't sleep so I came to the kitchen to get a glass of water, when I walked into the room I saw Tom...

MIKE

And?

SUSIE

Well, he was kneeling down, in front of the table, with that thing in his hands.

MIKE

You mean the rain stick?

SUSIE

Yes, and he was acting as if he was possessed...

MIKE

Not that again...

SUSIE

I swear!

MIKE

Possessed?

SUSIE

Yes.

MIKE

How?

SUSIE

It's hard to describe, but I think there is something going on.

MIKE

But what? What do you mean? I've never seen anyone possessed before!

SUSIE

(she raises her voice.)

I don't know! All I know is that I don't like what I saw!

MIKE

But what did you see?

Pause, she stands up.

SUSIE

I came into the room and I saw him kneeling, he was saying something, I couldn't make up what he was saying, it was like a prayer of some sorts...

MIKE

Prayer?

SUSIE

Yes, like he was praying to the stick.

Mike looks confused.

MIKE

What was he praying?

SUSIE

I don't know, I couldn't hear him. I stood at the back of the room looking at him, he rocked back and forth, praying. I try to move closer to see what he was doing, it was dark, and I knocked the lamp.

MIKE

Did he hear you?

SUSIE

Of course he bloody did!

MIKE

What did he say?

SUSIE

Nothing, he just asked me what I was doing. I told him I couldn't sleep.

MIKE

Did you ask him what he was doing?

SUSIE

No! How could I?

MIKE

Simple, you say "Hey Tom, were you praying to your Mayan god?"

SUSIE

I'm being serious Mike!

MIKE

And so am I! Susie, our flat mate just had a weird fit in the middle of the night. If I found him in the living room half naked on his knees praying to a rain stick, I tell you I would want to know what he was doing!

SUSIE

It was freaky! I got scared!

MIKE

Then you should've call me!

Pause.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Look, I don't know what's going on with Tom, but if he is doing weird stuff, I want to know.

Pause. Mike goes to Susie and puts his arm around her.

SUSIE

I was really scared Mike. I'm telling you, there is something about that thing...

MIKE

Look, it's late, let's go to bed and tomorrow we'll talk to him about it.

SUSIE

Ok.

They walk towards the door. Susie stops.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

Mike, can we put that thing away, it really freaks me out.

MIKE

If it makes you feel better.

SUSIE

Please.

Mike takes the rain stick and puts it in the cupboard.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

Can we put it outside?

MIKE

Really?

SUSIE

Please, I can't get to be with that thing inside the house.

MIKE

What if someone takes it?

SUSIE

They won't, please!

MIKE

This is crazy!

SUSIE

Please!

MIKE

Ok...

Mike puts it outside the front door in the corridor. He closes the door and looks at Susie.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Better?

Thanks.

SUSIE

Come on.

MIKE

They go out. After a few seconds we hear the rain stick slide off the walk outside and fall onto the floor. They come back into the room.

You see!

SUSIE

Mike goes to the door and he opens it. The rain stick is on the floor.

MIKE

It just slide off the wall...

SUSIE

I'm telling you Mike, that thing is possessed!

MIKE

Don't be ridiculous!

SUSIE

It is!

MIKE

Mike picks it up.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

Don't bring it into the house!

MIKE

Alright, I'll leave it outside...

MIKE

He places it again against the wall.

SUSIE

Leave it laying down!

MIKE

Mike looks at Susie.

MIKE

Ok.

MIKE

He leaves it on the floor. He closes the door.

SUSIE

Lock it!

MIKE

He locks the door.

MIKE
Happy?

SUSIE
No!

MIKE
Come on, let's go to bed...

He grabs her hand and they walk out switching the lights off.

LIGHTS OUT.

7 SCENE 7 - SATURDAY MORNING

It's morning. As the lights come up we see the room as it was left by Mike and Susie except that the rain stick is in the living room, standing next to the TV. We see Susie come in, she is half a sleep.

She walks and picks up the dirty cups and tea pot from last night and goes out to the kitchen. Mike comes in, he is also half a sleep and goes out to the kitchen.

Susie comes back in, and as she does looks across the room and see the rain stick by the TV and screams. Mike comes in running.

MIKE
What!

SUSIE
The thing!

She points at the rain stick.

MIKE
Bloody hell!

SUSIE
I'm telling you Mike, that thing is possessed!

She starts to freak out and screaming. Mike tries to calm her down.

MIKE
Come down!

She comes down, hides behind Mike.

MIKE (CONT'D)

There's got to be a logical explanation...

SUSIE

Why is it back inside the house!

Pause. Susie looks terrified. Mike turns to look at her.

MIKE

Someone must have put it there...

SUSIE

Who!

MIKE

I don't know...

SUSIE

That freaking thing is possessed!

MIKE

Ok, I agree this is a little bit freaky but there's got to be a logical explanation...

SUSIE

The thing is a live!

MIKE

Stop it! That's ridiculous!

SUSIE

Then tell me how the fuck did it find it's way back inside the house!

MIKE

I don't know!

At this moment we hear the outside door being open and they both shout and jump. Tom comes in, he is wearing jeans and a t-shirt and looks normal, as if nothing had happened.

TOM

Morning...

He goes towards the kitchen, he has a bag with some shopping.

TOM (CONT'D)

I went to get some stuff for breakfast...

He goes out. Susie and Mike look at him as he disappears and then look at each other.

MIKE
What the fuck?

SUSIE
What's going on?

MIKE
Did you hear him go out?

SUSIE
No! I thought he would still be in bed.

MIKE
And he looks as fresh as a cucumber!

Tom comes back in.

TOM
Kettle just boiled, do you want a cup of tea?

Pause.

MIKE
Where have you been?

TOM
I just told you to the shops.

MIKE
When did you get up?

Tom looks at his watch.

TOM
About an hour ago. Why?

SUSIE
Are you feeling alright?

TOM
Sure, why?

MIKE
You don't remember what happened last night?

TOM
No? What happened?

MIKE
Are you serious?

TOM
Of course I'm serious.

Pause.

SUSIE

You don't remember anything at all?

TOM

I just told you, no.

MIKE

What do you remember?

TOM

What's this? The Spanish Inquisition?

MIKE

What do you remember?

TOM

What do you mean?

MIKE

About last night, what do you remember?

TOM

I don't know... If you are talking about last night, I went to bed, I watched some TV in my room and then fell asleep... That's all I remember.

MIKE

And after that?

TOM

After what?

MIKE

After falling asleep, what do you remember?

TOM

Is this a joke?

SUSIE

No Tom, what do you remember after that?

TOM

Not much more than what I've just told you...I was asleep.

SUSIE

Do you remember talking to me?

TOM

To you?

SUSIE

Yes, here in the living room?

TOM

No? I didn't talk to you in the living room last night, certainly not after I went to bed and I was asleep!

Pause. Mike and Susie look at Tom.

TOM (CONT'D)

What?

SUSIE

Do you not remember freaking out? In the middle of the room, with that thing in your hand?

She points at the rain stick.

TOM

No! And by the way, why was my rain stick out side in the corridor?

MIKE

(to Susie)

Well, that explains its mysterious reappearance in the living room!

TOM

What is going on?

Pause.

MIKE

Tom, mate, we need to talk...

TOM

About what?

MIKE

Let's sit down...

TOM

What's going on?

They sit in the living room.

Pause. Mike and Susie look at each other.

MIKE

Alright, you say you don't remember anything from last night?

TOM

I've already told you!

MIKE

Ok... Fine...

Pause, Mike looks at Susie.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Well, the thing is, last night you had a fit...

TOM
You what?

Susie jumps in.

SUSIE
A fit, I found you in the living room having a fit...

TOM
I don't remember that...

SUSIE
You did, and it was... Quite scary...

Pause.

TOM
Did you call an ambulance?

MIKE
No, we took you upstairs, gave you a cold bath and put you in bed...

Tom looks confused.

TOM
But... How?

Pause, Mike looks at Susie, they are not sure how to answer.

MIKE
We don't know...

TOM
Was I sleep walking?

Mike looks at Susie.

MIKE
Yes, I think that's what it was, you were sleep walking...

TOM
But how, I don't recall ever sleep walking?

SUSIE
I guess you've never been told you sleep walk so you wouldn't know it...

MIKE
Yes, I guess you sleep walk...

Pause, Tom thinks about this.

TOM
Ok, so I was sleep walking... But the fit? How did that come about?

MIKE

May be something you ate...

TOM

Ate? Like what?

MIKE

I don't know, something reacted in your body...

TOM

Like food poisoning?

MIKE

Yes, like food poisoning... You had stomach pains.

Pause.

TOM

Oh my god... I didn't... I didn't know I sleep walk and the fit... Thank god you were here!

MIKE

Yes, thank god...

Pause, Tom looks shocked.

TOM

Thanks guys.

MIKE

No worries... You may want to get it checked up...You know... The fit.

TOM

Yea, I will on Monday...

Pause.

TOM (CONT'D)

Wow! Weird way to start your Saturday!

SUSIE

It sure is...

TOM

You guys still want that cuppa?

MIKE

Sure.

SUSIE

Thanks.

Tom gets up.

TOM

Right, I'll go and make us a pot then.

He walks towards the kitchen and then stops, looks at them.

TOM (CONT'D)

Sleep walk? Man!

He goes out and immediately comes back in.

TOM (CONT'D)

You still haven't told me why my rain stick was outside?

Pause, they look at each other.

SUSIE

Well...

Pause.

TOM

Yes?

SUSIE

After you went to bed I started cleaning the flat, I must have accidentally put it outside when I was hoovering...

Tom looks confused.

TOM

Hum? I didn't hear you hoovering...

MIKE

Well, you don't even remember getting up and coming to the living room...

TOM

True, I must also be a heavy sleeper! I tell you this trip to South America really changed me!

MIKE

Yea, it really has...

TOM

Alright, but next time please be careful, that is a very precious object to me.

SUSIE

Sure...

Tom goes out. Mike looks at Susie.

MIKE

Well, I think that is the explanation.

SUSIE
To what?

MIKE
To last night.

SUSIE
What?

MIKE
Sleep walking, the guy sleep walks.

SUSIE
No, I don't buy that! I've seen people sleep walk and I'm telling you that was not sleep walk! And the fit? There is something else...

MIKE
You still think he is possessed?

SUSIE
Yes! You saw how he called that thing!

MIKE
How?

SUSIE
Precious!

MIKE starts to laugh.

SUSIE (CONT'D)
It's not funny!

MIKE
I'm sorry, it is! It sounds like something out of the Lord of the Rings movie! "come here my precious..."

MIKE
He laughs.

SUSIE
Right, I see you are not going to take this seriously...

SUSIE
She gets up.

MIKE
Oh come on Susie, it is funny.

SUSIE
She turns around.

SUSIE
It's not funny when you've see him in the living room praying in front of that thing... I saw him... I saw his eyes... It was not him... There was something horrible about him... He knew what he was doing...

MIKE
Mike gets up and goes to Susie.

MIKE

You heard the man, he doesn't remember a thing.

SUSIE

He could be lying!

MIKE

Why would he lie?

SUSIE

I don't know! May be its not him talking... We don't know who we saw last night.

MIKE

Are we back on the possessed thing?

SUSIE

Why won't you believe me!

Pause.

MIKE

Come on Susie, you know it's nonsense...

SUSIE

(shouts at Mike)

It's not nonsense! You don't know what I saw!

At this point we see Tom come back in with a tray with the tea.

TOM

What did you see?

MIKE

Nothing...

Susie turns away from Tom.

TOM

Come on, share the gossip with me...

MIKE

There's no gossip.

Tom places the tray on the table.

SUSIE

I'm going to my room...

She walks out. Tom looks at Mike.

TOM

Is she alright?

MIKE

Yea, I think she just had a bad night...

TOM

Because of me?

MIKE

No, I think she couldn't get back to sleep afterwards... she's just tired...

TOM

I see...

They sit and Tom pours tea.

TOM (CONT'D)

I hope she is not upset with me...

MIKE

Oh no, don't worry mate, you know women... Don't take it personal.

TOM

Ok.

Pause. Mike looks at Tom. They drink.

MIKE

So this rain stick of yours...

TOM

Yes?

MIKE

What is it again?

TOM

It's an ancient instrument use by the Mayans to call upon their god.

MIKE

I see... And what did they call him for?

TOM

Oh, mainly for rain, that's why it's call Rain stick, or Palo de Luvia, as they call it in Spanish.

MIKE

Yes, I see...

Pause.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Anything else?

MIKE

Where are you going?

TOM

My friend is arriving today, I'm going to pick him up at the airport...

MIKE

I thought he was coming on Monday.

TOM

He changed his plans, wants to be here today, he told me last night.

MIKE

Last night? When?

TOM

Last night, he call me on my phone...

MIKE

I see.

Tom gets up.

TOM

Before my "fit"...

Mike doesn't say anything.

TOM (CONT'D)

I'll grab my bag...

He walks to go out, Mike stops him.

MIKE

Where is he staying?

TOM

Oh, he's booked a hotel, he's got lots of dosh so he's splashing out on a 5 star hotel...

MIKE

Ah, so if he has so much money why doesn't he get someone to pick him up with a car?

TOM

He is... Me!

MIKE

You don't have a car.

TOM

I know, a limo is picking me up to take me to the airport to pick him, he's arranged the whole thing.

MIKE

A Limo?

TOM

Yea, it's cool, never been on one.

MIKE

What did you say he does for living?

TOM

Business, I told you, we are going to set up our own business here, he has tons of money and so will I by the time we are done.

MIKE

His money?

TOM

Sure... Whose money would it be?

MIKE

What's his name again?

TOM

Tomas.

MIKE

Tomas what?

Tom thinks.

TOM

Don't know, I just call him Tomas.

MIKE

You only know his first name?

TOM

Yes... Why?

MIKE

Does he know your full name?

TOM

Sure... I think he does.

MIKE

But you don't know his?

TOM

What's your point?

MIKE

Well, I just think... How much do you know about this guy?

TOM

What's this? He's my friend, he really looked after me when I was out there. He's done more for me in two weeks than anyone ever in my life!

Pause.

TOM (CONT'D)

He helped me change my life...

Tom looks intensely at Mike.

TOM (CONT'D)

I've got to go.

Tom walks out.

Mike sits there thinking.

LIGHTS OUT.

8 SCENE 8 - SATURDAY EVENING

It's late evening. Mike and Susie have just finished their dinner and are clearing the plates. Mike walks out to the kitchen with the plates. The phone rings, Susie answers it.

SUSIE

Hello? Oh hi mum... Good, how are you? Yea... Yea... Ok, I'll come and see you next Friday... No... I can't get the time off... I know but it's hard at the moment...

Mike walks back in.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

Alright... Sure, no worries, ok take care, I'll talk to you later...Bye...

She hangs up.

MIKE

Was that Tom?

SUSIE

No it was mum, she wanted to know if I was going to see her on Tuesday.

MIKE

Aha...

Mike thinks. Susie looks at him.

SUSIE

Are you still worried?

MIKE

I don't know what to think any more... I mean, he left this morning to see this guy and he's not even called...

SUSIE

Yea but may be he is just busy showing him around. Anyway why would he tell us if he was coming home for dinner or not? He's never done in the past...

Pause. Mike looks at Susie.

MIKE

I know this is going to sound weird after all that's happened but I think his change on behavior is connected to this guy...

SUSIE

What do you mean?

MIKE

After you left the room, we got talking about things and I asked him about this Tomas character... He didn't know his surname.

SUSIE

I don't follow?

MIKE

Think about it, if you met someone on holidays and you became very good friends, wouldn't you ask them their surname?

Susie thinks about this.

SUSIE

I don't know... I guess so...But what's weird about it?

MIKE

I just don't think anyone would travel across the world to visit someone you met on holidays, who doesn't even know your surname!

SUSIE

Ok, that may be so but I don't think it's as weird as what I saw last night.

MIKE

But that's what I mean, I think this guy is connected with what we saw last night!

SUSIE

How?

MIKE

I don't know... But I'm sure he is.

SUSIE

If this is true, are you saying he may be some sort of devil worshiper, or some sort of witch doctor?

MIKE

What? No, why would I think that?

SUSIE

Because whatever is happening with Tom is connected to that bloody thing!

She points at the rain stick.

MIKE

No! I think it is something else....

SUSIE

What?

Pause.

MIKE

This may sound crazy...

SUSIE

Nothing can sound more crazy than what we've seen!

MIKE

Well, this guys is a Mexican right? and has lots of money...

SUSIE

Yes...

MIKE

May be he is a drug dealer...

SUSIE

Drug dealer?

MIKE

Yes, think about it. Lots of money, pays for him, comes to see him, hires a limo, stays in a 5 stars hotel... There's got to be something doggy going on.

SUSIE

Mike, I hate to break it to you but you've just stereotyped a rich Mexican guy.

MIKE

Then how else do you explain his money?

SUSIE

Companies? Stock? Rich parents? He won the lottery? You don't have to sell drugs to be rich!

MIKE

Have you not seen on the telly the issues they have with Mexican Cartels and Mafia?

SUSIE

So all rich Mexicans are drug dealer?

MIKE

You are missing the point!

SUSIE

No I'm just trying to see how you would connect this reach "Mexican Cartel" with our flat mate having a freaky fit in the middle of our living room last night!

MIKE

So you still think you theory of the possessed "rain man god" it's a more logical explanation?

SUSIE

You don't know what I saw!

MIKE

You don't know what you're talking about!

SUSIE

Oh and you do?

MIKE

My explanation makes more sense than yours!

SUSIE

How? You don't know the guy is a drug dealer!

MIKE

And you don't know the stick is possessed!

Pause.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Look, all I'm saying is that it seems strange what is going on.

SUSIE

That much I know.

MIKE

I just want to know he's alright...

SUSIE

If you are so worried why don't you call him?

MIKE

I have... He didn't pick up.

SUSIE

May be he has no signal.

MIKE

May be.

Pause. Mike looks at his watch.

MIKE (CONT'D)

I've got to go and meet the guys in the pub... Are you sure you are ok if I go?

SUSIE

Yes, Mandy is picking me up at 9, it should be ok...

MIKE

Alright.

Mike goes and puts his coat on. Turns to see Susie.

MIKE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry about the rain man thing... I know you are freak out by it.

He goes and gives her a kiss.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Why don't you come and wait for Mandy at the pub?

SUSIE

I hate waiting at the pub, no offense, but that place it's a shit hole.

MIKE

Alright.

He goes to the door. She stops him.

SUSIE

Mike?

He turns around.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

Can I put that things outside until Mandy comes?

MIKE

What if Tom comes home before that?

SUSIE

He won't. And if he does I'll tell him I was hoovering.

MIKE

I don't know...

She looks at him as if to say to take

it out.

Please?

SUSIE

Alright!

MIKE

He goes and picks it up. Walks towards the door. As he does, he suddenly starts to shake and acts as if the stick is pushing him back and dragging him to put the stick back next to the TV. Susie sees this and screams. Mike stops and starts to laugh.

You fucking idiot!

SUSIE

I'm sorry honey, I couldn't resist!

MIKE

It's not funny you bastard! Take that thing out of the house now!

SUSIE

Laughing Mike places the rain stick in the corridor and comes back and tries to give Susie a kiss, she pushes him out of the way.

Come on babes, it was a joke.

MIKE

Not funny!

SUSIE

I'm sorry...

MIKE

He tries to give her a kiss. She eventually gives in.

Don't do it again!

SUSIE

Ok.

MIKE

He goes to the door, gives her a cheeky grin as he tries not to laugh.

Just go and close the door!

SUSIE

MIKE
Love you!

SUSIE
Love you.

Mike goes out and closes the door.
Susie stands there for a moment and
holds herself as if she has shivers.

LIGHTS GO DOWN.

9 SCENE 9 - AN HOUR LATER

Susie is on the sofa watching TV. She looks at her watch. After a few moments she goes and takes her mobile out of her handbag which was by the door with her coat. She sends a text. Goes back to the sofa and sits. After a few moments she gets a text back. Reads it.

SUSIE
Oh you are kidding me!

She types a text back. Waits. Text comes back.

SUSIE (CONT'D)
Come on!

She texts again. Waits. Texts comes back.

SUSIE (CONT'D)
I don't believe this!

She calls Mike.

SUSIE (CONT'D)
Mike? Can you hear me?... Can you hear me? It's really loud, can you go out?

She waits.

SUSIE (CONT'D)
That's better, where are you?... Oh... Mandy just text me she's not coming... I don't know some bull shit about her boyfriend... Will you be long?... Oh, ok... No I was just wondering what you were doing... I don't know... I'll see, I think she's out... No I'm ok, there is food in the fridge... I just didn't want to be alone... Oh don't worry babes, just when you can... I'm ok, seriously... Look if you can get home earlier fine, if not I'll just watch a movie... Fine... Yes as long as that stupid stick is outside I'm ok... No... he
(MORE)

SUSIE (CONT'D)

hasn't call either. I don't think he'll be coming home... Ok babes, take care... Yes I'm fine, thanks... Ok love you...

She hangs up. Looks at the phone. She goes to the door and takes her handbag and coat and places them in the cupboard. She goes and sits, looks at her phone. She dials a number.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

Oh hi Jenny, just checking if you are around... I guess not, or you are somewhere but don't have a signal or can't hear me... Anyhow if you get this message call me, I'm at home... Alright, take care...

She hangs up. Looks at the TV. Changes channels. She then looks again at her phone. She then gets up and goes to the door. Stops in front of it. For a moment stands there looking at the door. Slowly she grabs the knob and turns it, then opens the door and pips outside, sees the rain stick and closes the door and bolts it. Goes out to the kitchen and comes back in with a large knife. She runs to the sofa and sits, takes a blanket which is over the arm and covers herself. Puts the knife next to her. She flicks through channels and stops at something she likes. Looks at her phone again and then puts it down next to her and sits there watching the TV.

The lights flicker as if coming from the TV images.

LIGHTS OUT
SLOWLY.

10 SCENE 10 - A COUPLE OF HOURS LATER

The room is semi-lit and we see a light coming through the TV set, as if the image is blank.

Susie is on the sofa asleep with the blanket half covering her.

We see the door open, enter Tom, he carries the rain stick with him. He looks spaced out and walks slowly. He move towards Susie and stops behind her, looking down at her.

He hold the stick in his hand and slowly lifts it up and looks out. Then with the other hand he turns it upside down and the stick starts to make the rain noise. Susie wakes up. She turns and screams to the sight of Tom standing behind her.

She jumps up and moves backwards.

SUSIE

Fucking hell Tom! You scared the shit out of me!

He stands looking at her. Silence.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

Tom looks at her and turns the stick sideways to stop the noise. He looks at her.

TOM

I live here.

Silence.

TOM (CONT'D)

Why was my rain stick outside again?

Susie looks nervous, she is not sure what to say.

SUSIE

I...

Tom turns around and walks back to close the door, he locks it. Susie looks worried, she sees the knife on the sofa and grabs it and hides it behind her. He then walks back towards the sofa and the TV, Susie moves backwards. He then places the rain stick next to the TV. He stops and speaks not looking at her.

TOM

Why was my rain stick out side?

SUSIE

I...

Susie looks back to the door and realizes he locked it. She then moves slowly towards the table.

I put it outside... SUSIE (CONT'D)

Why? TOM

I was hoovering... SUSIE

Bull shit! Tom shouts.

Susie stops frozen. Tom turns around.

I want to know why you put my rain stick outside in the TOM (CONT'D)
corridor...

I didn't mean to... SUSIE

You didn't mean to what? TOM

Pause. Susie looks terrified.

I... SUSIE

What have you got against my rain stick? What? TOM

Almost in tears terrified... SUSIE

It scares me... SUSIE

Pause. Tom starts to laugh out loud.
Susie looks at him terrified.

It scares you? TOM

Yes, it freaks me out. SUSIE

He laughs again. Stops. Then he looks
at her intensely and walks slowly
towards her.

Why? TOM

SUSIE
(moving away from him.)
It just does...

TOM
In what sense?

SUSIE
I don't know...

TOM
Does it spook you out?

SUSIE
Kind of...

TOM
Does it give you nightmares?

SUSIE
Sort of...

TOM
Does it terrify you?

Susie does not answer. Tom stops walking.

TOM (CONT'D)
Do I scare you?

Pause.

TOM (CONT'D)
Do I scare you?

Susie looks terrified and does not know how to answer.

TOM (CONT'D)
(shouting)
Do I scare you?

SUSIE
No!

TOM
Do I spook you?

SUSIE
No...

TOM
Do I give you nightmares?

SUSIE

No...

He starts to walk again towards Susie. She walks backwards and trips with one of the chairs and drops the knife. Tom looks at the knife and then at Susie.

TOM

Do I freak you out...

He stands over the knife.

SUSIE

Stop it.

TOM
(looking at the knife)

What is this?

SUSIE

Please Tom stop it!

TOM

I thought you said I didn't scare you...

SUSIE

Tom! Please stop!

TOM

I thought I didn't spook you!

SUSIE

Tom!

TOM

Do I freak you out!?

Susie falls on the floor in terror.

SUSIE

Please! Stop!

She covers her head. Silence. We hear the door being open. Mike walks in. Susie jumps and runs to Mike.

MIKE

What's going on?

Susie holds onto Mike, crying.

TOM
(acting normal.)

Hi Tom, how was your evening?

MIKE
What's going on?

TOM
Nothing, Susie and I were talking...

MIKE
(to Susie.)
Susie, what's happened?

She looks at Mike.

MIKE (CONT'D)
Tom? What did you do to her?

TOM
What are you talking about?

MIKE
She is terrified!

TOM
We were just talking.

MIKE
Susie?

She looks at Tom.

TOM
Come on Susie, tell Mike what happened?

Pause.

MIKE
Susie, talk to me?

TOM
She can't mate, because nothing happened.

MIKE
Susie?

SUSIE
I was...

MIKE
Talk to me.

TOM
She was asleep on the sofa, I came in and found my rain stick outside, again, I asked her why it was outside and she told me some story about cleaning the flat, I didn't believe her and I ask for an explanation, that's all.

Susie?

MIKE

TOM

Look I have the right to keep my stuff in this apartment as much as you two and if she moves my stuff outside I have every right to know. I don't think I've done anything wrong here, have I?

Pause.

SUSIE

You scared me...

TOM

I scared you? How?

SUSIE

You did...

TOM

Like my rain stick?

SUSIE

You scared me! You scare the shit out of me! There is something wrong with you!

TOM

Something wrong with me? I think there is something wrong with you. I come home, my home, and I find my possessions in the corridor, don't you think I have the right to ask?

SUSIE

It's not just that...

TOM

What else Susie? How else I scare you? Do tell please?

MIKE

Look mate, I think things are getting out of control...

TOM

Out of control? How?

MIKE

Look since you came back you are acting kind of weird...

TOM

Weird? I am not the one putting your stuff in the street.

MIKE

I think we all need to come down and talk about this...

TOM

Love to mate but I'm on my way out. I only came back to pick up some stuff.

Tom starts to walk to his bedroom.
Mike stops him.

MIKE
Tom we need to talk about this.

TOM
Take your fucking hands off me...

Mike lets go. Tom looks intensely at
Mike.

TOM (CONT'D)
I'm not the one that has the issue here mate, it's your
girlfriend that seems to think my rain stick is possessed.

Pause.

TOM (CONT'D)
I'm going out again, when I come back I don't want to find my
stuff outside, understood?

Mike looks at Tom.

TOM (CONT'D)
UNDERSTOOD!

MIKE
Fine.

Tom walks out to his bedroom. Susie
starts to cry.

MIKE (CONT'D)
What happened?

SUSIE
He scared me!

MIKE
Did he threatened you?

SUSIE
No, he was just really freaky!

MIKE
But did he do something to you?

SUSIE
No! Because I didn't let him!

MIKE
Did he try anything?

SUSIE
He was walking towards me, he had that evil look in his eyes,
the one I saw the other night, he just kept walking towards
(MORE)

SUSIE (CONT'D)

me, asking me if I was scared, of the stick, of him. He then started to laugh like a mad man... It was really scary...

MIKE

Did he say anything else?

SUSIE

Like what?

MIKE

Did he threaten you?

SUSIE

No, but his intentions were not good, I can tell you as much.

Pause.

MIKE

Ok, look he's going out now, let's come down and talk about this later, Ok?

SUSIE

I don't want to stay here any more.

MIKE

Ok, we'll think what we are going to do once he's gone.

We see Tom come back in. He has a bag with him. He looks jumpy and he is sweating. He acts as normal as if nothing happened.

TOM

Hey guys, everything alright?

Susie and Mike look at each other.

TOM (CONT'D)

Are you guys going out or staying in?

MIKE

Are you ok?

TOM

Yea, cool. A bit hot but cool.

He starts to laugh in hysterics, Mike and Susie take a step back.

TOM (CONT'D)

That is funny! It doesn't make sense right? A bit hot but cool!

He laughs.

TOM (CONT'D)

It is bloody hot though!

MIKE

Tom, you are sweating, are you sure you are feeling ok?

TOM

Yea mate, better than ever! Top of the world! The best ever!
I can tell you, never felt better all my life!

MIKE

You don't look it...

TOM

But I do, feeling great! How about you? You guys look good
too! Bloody hot in here! Did you put the heating on?

MIKE

I think you should sit mate...

And as Mike says this, Tom screams in
pain, and bends over holding his
stomach.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Are you ok?

Mike and Susie look at him from a
distance not sure how to react.

Tom bends over in pain.

TOM

Ahg! Help me!

He fall on his knees and screams in
pain.

TOM (CONT'D)

Help me please!

He looks up to Mike and Susie with
his arms outstretched. They hesitate
to approach him. Tom bends down in
pain again.

TOM (CONT'D)

Please...

He falls on the floor and starts to
shake. Mike goes to him, touches him.

MIKE

Shit, he's boiling again!

SUSIE

Really?

MIKE

Yes, get me a wet towel with cold water.

Susie goes to the kitchen.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Hang on mate, hang on.

Tom looks up to see Mike.

TOM

Help me please... What is happening...

MIKE

Hang on mate, where does it hurt?

Tom bends over in pain.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Is it your stomach? What is it?

Susie walks back in with a wet towel.

SUSIE

Here.

Mike puts the towel on Tom forehead.

MIKE

Tom, where does it hurt?

TOM

Help me please...

MIKE

I think it's his stomach.

SUSIE

Why is he so hot? Why does he shake? What's happening to him Mike?

MIKE

I don't know but I think we need to call an ambulance.

SUSIE

I'll call them.

Susie gets up to get her phone.

MIKE

Hang on mate, we are getting help.

SUSIE

Hello? Emergency? Yes we need an ambulance, our flat mate is in pain... His stomach... No he is in terrible pain... And he has temperature... Really hot...

MIKE

Way above normal.

SUSIE

(talking to the phone)

Way above normal... I don't know, really hot...

Tom screams in pain.

TOM

Help me!

SUSIE

Yes, that was him, please hurry... Flat 3, 17 Sunnymead road... Yes, we put a cold towel on his head... Not sure let me ask...

To Mike.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

Is his body hot?

MIKE

Yes, boiling.

SUSIE

(to the phone)

Yes boiling... Yes I think so... He is in a lot of pain and sweating... Ok... Yes we did this last time... He had the same thing a couple of days ago... No we didn't because his temperature came down... Ok... We will... Please hurry with the ambulance... Thanks.

She hangs up.

MIKE

What did they say?

SUSIE

We should put him in a cold bath and keep the temperature down, like we did the other night.

MIKE

Come on mate, let's get you to the bath room...

He tries to pick him up.

TOM

It's very painful, please make it go away! I can't stand the pain any more!

MIKE

We will mate, don't worry, the ambulance it's on it's way..

Tom screams again.

TOM

I can't stand it any more! This pain! Please take it out!
Now!

MIKE

Hold on mate, we are getting you help...

TOM

Now! Take it out now!

SUSIE

What's he talking about?

MIKE

I don't know!

TOM

Now! Take it out now!

MIKE

Tom, come down, we are going to get you to the bath and the
ambul...

Suddenly Tom gets up and runs to the
knife which was on the floor. He
grabs it.

Mike and Susie look scared.

TOM

Take it out now!

MIKE

Take it easy mate! Give me the knife...

TOM

I can't stand it any more!

Tom lifts the knife up and shouts in
pain. Then stabs himself on the
stomach several times.

MIKE

No!

Tom continues to stab himself several
times as he falls onto the floor.

TOM

Take it out! Take it out! Take it out!

Mike goes to Tom and takes the knife

from his hand, he lays on the floor
in a pool of blood.

LIGHTS OUT.

11 **SCENE 11 - A FEW DAYS LATER**

The flat is empty and it's tidy. We
see Mike and Susie come in. They are
both dress in black.

TOM

Do you want a cup of tea?

SUSIE

Thanks.

Mike goes to the kitchen. Susie takes
her coat off and leave her bag in the
cupboard. She takes her phone and
checks it as she walks to the sofa.
Sits and puts the phone down and
looks at the rain stick standing by
the TV as before. She looks at it for
a moment.

She then stands up and walks towards
it. Looks at it and picks it up. She
holds it in both hands looking at the
figure of the god on the top.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

(to herself talking to the figure)

And there was me thinking it was you who had possessed Tom...

She looks at it and then gently turns
the stick around to make the noise.
She closes her eyes as she listens to
the sound of the stick. Enter Mike
with two cups. He puts them on the
coffee table and stands there looking
at Susie.

The noise stops. Susie is aware Mike
is there.

SUSIE (CONT'D)

You know how scared I was of this thing....

MIKE

I know.

SUSIE

And yet this was probably what gave him comfort...

MIKE
I know.

Susie swells up.

SUSIE
How stupid I was...

Mike goes to her.

MIKE
Come on Susie, you weren't to know...

She turns to Mike

SUSIE
Possessed? What was I thinking!

MIKE
Look, it was hard to know what was going on with Tom. His behavior changed so much we weren't to know he was on drugs.

SUSIE
That's the point Mike, we should've, we've know Tom for 3 years, it wasn't normal...

MIKE
I know, I guess we just didn't see the signs...

SUSIE
We got caught on my stupid superstitions! If I hadn't been so stupid thinking he was possessed by some sort of god, if only I listen to you... we could have helped him...

She brakes down. Mike comforts her.

MIKE
Susie, come on, we did what we could...

SUSIE
No we didn't!

Pause.

SUSIE (CONT'D)
He didn't die stabbing himself...The cocaine he was carrying inside him kill him... We should have taken him to hospital the first night...

Pause.

MIKE
I know... I know we should have and I feel just as guilty as you do, but honestly Susie, we couldn't have known he was a mule for this Tomas guy... How could we have known the drugs had burst inside his guts...

SUSIE

We could have saved his life...

Mike looks at Susie and gives her a hug, she cries.

MIKE

Come here, sit down and drink your tea...

They sit down. Susie picks up her cup and drinks. They both sit there looking at the rain stick.

SUSIE

I guess he was possessed... But not by a rain god, but by a white god...

We hear the noise of the rain stick as the lights fade out.

LIGHTS OUT.