

SHEENA. Emma, honey, what are you doing out of bed?

EMMA. I... I wanted to come down and tell you that... I'd like to try and climb the hill tomorrow. I know I said I didn't want to. But I was just scared. Because if I don't make it to the top, then it means... I'm not good enough. So I can't be... happy. But I've been thinking... maybe the way I try to make myself happy has gotten all twisted and... now it's making me miserable, but I keep doing it anyway, because I think if I stop, things will get even worse. But maybe I do need to stop now, and just... see what happens. So... even though I *really* want to get to the top... I think maybe... I don't *really* need to. And so if I don't, then it doesn't mean it'll be awful and terrible, but just a bit upsetting. And... I can handle that... (Beat.) What the fuck are you all doing?

Lights down.

FINISH

Scene Seven

Thirty minutes later.

EDITH enters and sits in a chair. She looks at the wreckage.

MATTHEW enters carrying his suitcase.

MATTHEW. Mum... is Adam...?

EDITH. Upstairs. With Sheena. Where's Carrie?

MATTHEW. She's calling a taxi. She told me if I didn't leave her alone, she'd stab me... I'm going to head off. I don't think I can face -

EDITH (remaining seated). Of course, darling, I understand. Drive carefully and let me know when you're home safe, won't you? You'll be all right. You've got your partnership to look forward to, haven't you? You'll be all right, won't you?

Rule 1 flickers: 'Rule 1: Matthew must sit to tell a lie'.

MATTHEW pulls out a chair as if he is about to sit, but then decides against it.

MATTHEW (remaining standing). I don't know if I will.

EDITH. Of course you will.

MATTHEW. I don't know what I feel any more.

EDITH. Just don't do anything rash. Promise me you won't do anything rash.

MATTHEW (sitting beside his mother). I promise.

Rule 1 is displayed to the audience: 'Rule 1: Matthew must sit to tell a lie'.

EDITH. That's my boy. You always were the reliable one. I don't know what I'd do without you.

MATTHEW (standing). Thanks, Mum.

EDITH. Say goodbye to Dad on your way out. Oh, and if he's fallen asleep, turn off the television.

MATTHEW kisses his mother and makes to leave. He pauses by the door.

MATTHEW. I love you, Mum.

EDITH. I love you, too, darling.

MATTHEW exits.

EDITH continues to stare into space.

CARRIE enters carrying her suitcase. She fetches her purse.

Carrie...

CARRIE. Is Matthew...?

EDITH. Gone.

CARRIE (sitting). I just wanted to say goodbye.--