

1. EXT WILLOW FARM PIGS, MONDAY, 9 A.M.

(PIGS, SOME HUNGRY, SOME HAPPY, BIRDS)

NEIL                   (TIPPING FEED IN TROUGH) We had a lovely day.

TOM                   (CONSTRAINED AND FEELING SICK) Good.

NEIL                   The steak was beautiful - and we sank two  
bottles of champagne! And wine on top...

TOM                   Wine too...

NEIL                   The way Christopher knocks it back... there's  
no sale or return with him around!

TOM                   Right.

NEIL                   Emma's face when she saw what we'd got her...  
it's the best £250 we ever spent.

TOM                   250...

NEIL                   Well, if you can't splash out on a 21<sup>st</sup>...  
(STOPS FEED TIPPING) Anyway, what did you do  
the weekend? Here's me going on...

TOM                   Oh, not much. Catching up, really. (HALF A  
BEAT) Neil -

NEIL                   We're getting low on feed again, Tom.

TOM                   Yes. Neil -

NEIL                   We'll be going back to our usual place will we, now you've straightened out that thing over the bill?

TOM                    (HARsher THAN HE MEANT TO BE) I doubt it.

NEIL                   (SCENTING TROUBLE) Why not?

TOM                    (IN AGONY) Neil. There's something I've got to tell you.

NEIL                   Yeah?

TOM                    Um. We're in a bit of trouble.

NEIL                   What sort of trouble?

TOM                    I'm afraid... (PAUSE) I'm afraid I've been delisted.

NEIL                   What?

TOM                    It's not immediate, it won't kick in till October. But when it does...

NEIL                   That's 80% of the business gone!

TOM                    Yeah. And so I might not be in a position to... god, this is (awful)... Neil, I'm sorry, I'm really, really sorry. But I might have to let you go.

NEIL                   Let me... are you saying I won't have a job?

TOM No! Of course I'm not! Not definitely! I'm working my - I'm trying everything I can to make up the sales. Find other outlets -

NEIL For 80%?

TOM There's time, I can do it. I've got some new orders already. But I thought it was only fair to warn --

NEIL (DANGEROUS) How long have you known?

TOM What?

NEIL How long?

TOM Only a week!

NEIL No. You knew well before.

TOM No, Tamsin only told me -

NEIL I'm not talking about Tamsin. You knew things were going wrong. You lied to me.

TOM No -

NEIL Oh yes you did! All your reassurances - 'no, everything's fine, Neil, just a temporary cash flow problem, Neil' - and all the time you knew things were on the skids!

TOM (WRETCHED) Neil, you've got to believe me -

NEIL

Give me one reason why should I believe a word you say ever again. I'm your Pig Production Manager, Tom - or supposed to be - we're supposed to be partners for heaven's sake. But when it comes to it, no, I'm just the hired hand, aren't I, services dispensed with. You've done nothing but lie to me and Susan for - (months)- (PULLS SELF UP SHORT) Oh my god! Susan! You'll be sacking her as well!