



"UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES"

Written by

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Key:

|   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
|  | CAMERA<br>MOVEMENT            |
|  | CHARACTER OR PROP<br>MOVEMENT |

*Note: Scene Titles in Teal are used for  
references in the Shooting Plan*

"UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES"

FADE IN:

INT. KITCHEN DINER - MID-MORNING (*Lazy Simon*)

SIMON is wearing a dressing gown and sits at a table eating cereal slowly. A copy of a technical essay lies in front of him, entitled "A 50W Laser for Less Than £100". Simon's elder sister AMANDA is doing the washing up. LS1



AMANDA

So how many jobs have you applied for this week? LS1

SIMON

Same as last week and the week before. LS1

AMANDA

University's a lot more expensive than you think. I'm still paying off my student loan. LS1

LS2



SIMON  
(pretending to be surprised)  
Oh, didn't you get a bursary,  
then?

LS2

AMANDA  
Well even if I had, I would  
still have spent my summer  
usefully. That lawn out there  
could do with a cut and your  
bike is still out of action.

LS3

INT. DOMESTIC GARAGE - DAY (*Laser Burning*)

Establishing shot of Garage

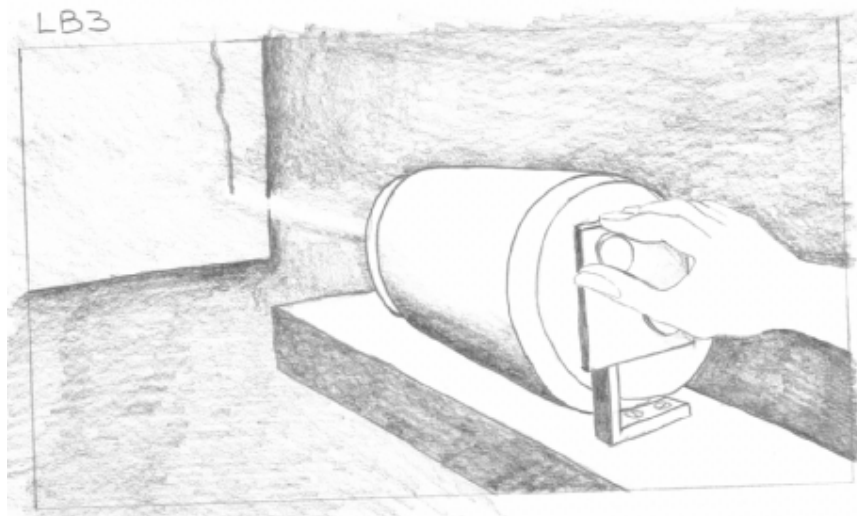
LB1



Simon adjusts a home-made piece of equipment on a workbench comprising a steel tube 3" in diameter bolted parallel to a plank of wood, lying horizontally. LB2



Each end of the tube is covered with a glass plate. He adjusts screws to bring these mirrors into alignment. A powerful beam of blue light is emitted from one end and from the gaps between the tube and the mirrors. The beam illuminates a bright spot on a sheet of white painted hardboard leaning against the wall. A small trail of smoke begins. Simon switches off the laser. LB3



Simon lays a finger on the spot slowly and then snatches it away quickly as it burns him. LB4



INT. KITCHEN DINER - LATER (*Chris Arrives*)

Amanda is still working in the kitchen. Simon is no longer there. There is a ring of the doorbell.



Amanda goes to answer it.



The caller is CHRIS, the same age as Simon but looking tougher and more worldly wise.



CHRIS  
Hi, Amanda, is Simon in? CA3

AMANDA  
Hi Chris. Yes, he's in the garage working on that Laser thing of yours. CA4

CHRIS  
He's working on my Laser? CA3

AMANDA

Well he's up to something.  
Try and talk some sense into  
him if you can.

CA4

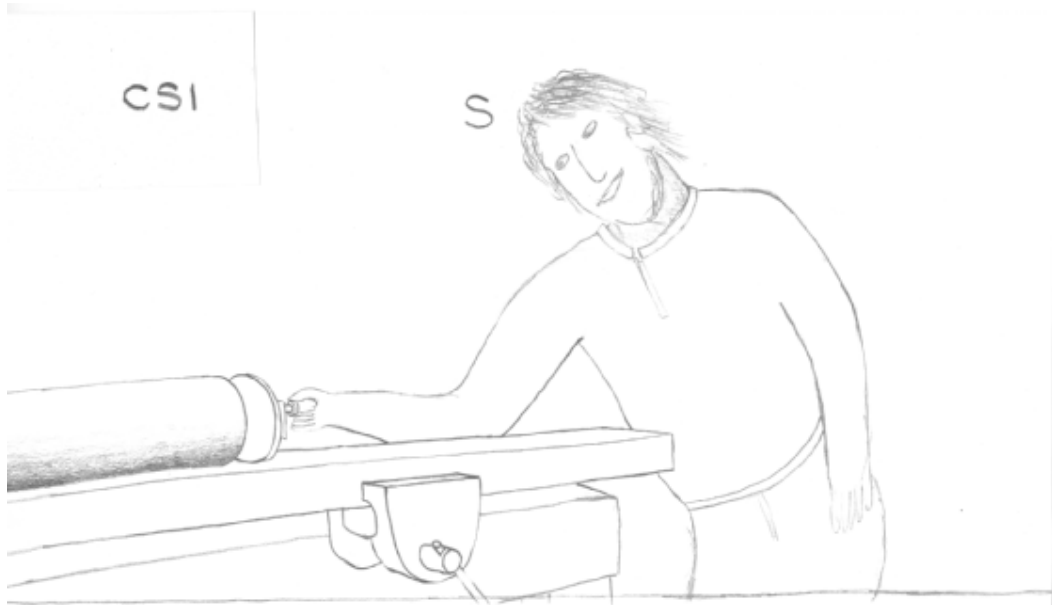
INT. DOMESTIC GARAGE - DAY (*Chris Confronts Simon*)

There is a HAMMERING on the garage door.

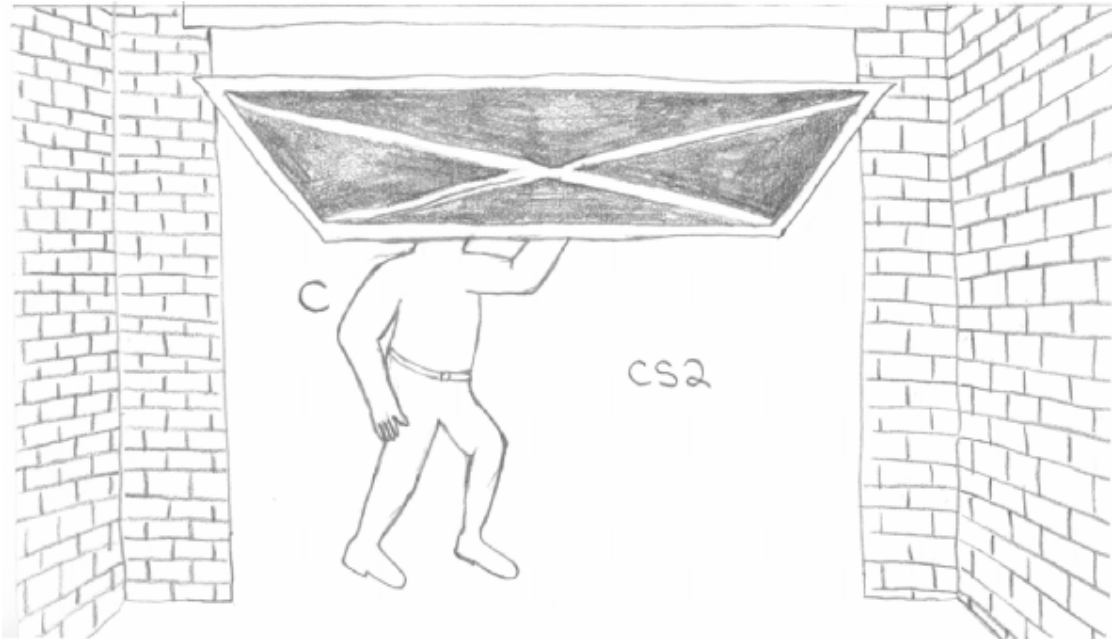
SIMON

It's open.

CS1



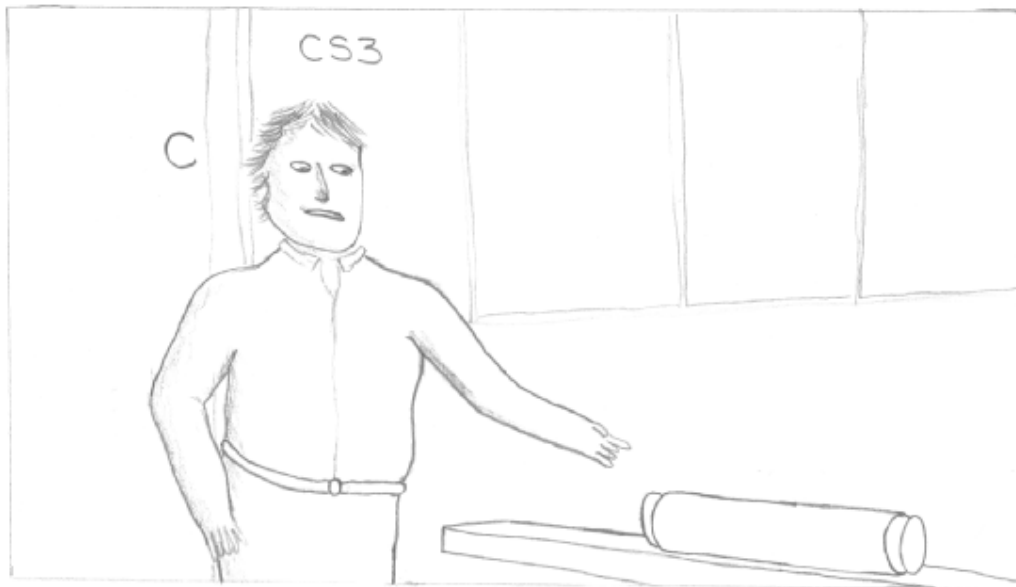
The garage door opens and CHRIS walks in.



SIMON (continuing)  
Hi Chris.

CS1

Chris walks up to the workbench at the back of the garage.  
When he sees the laser he looks angry.



CHRIS  
You idiot. I never said you  
could use my laser design to  
actually build one!

CS3

SIMON  
Our design.

CS1



Amanda hears the argument beginning and hurries out to the garage.



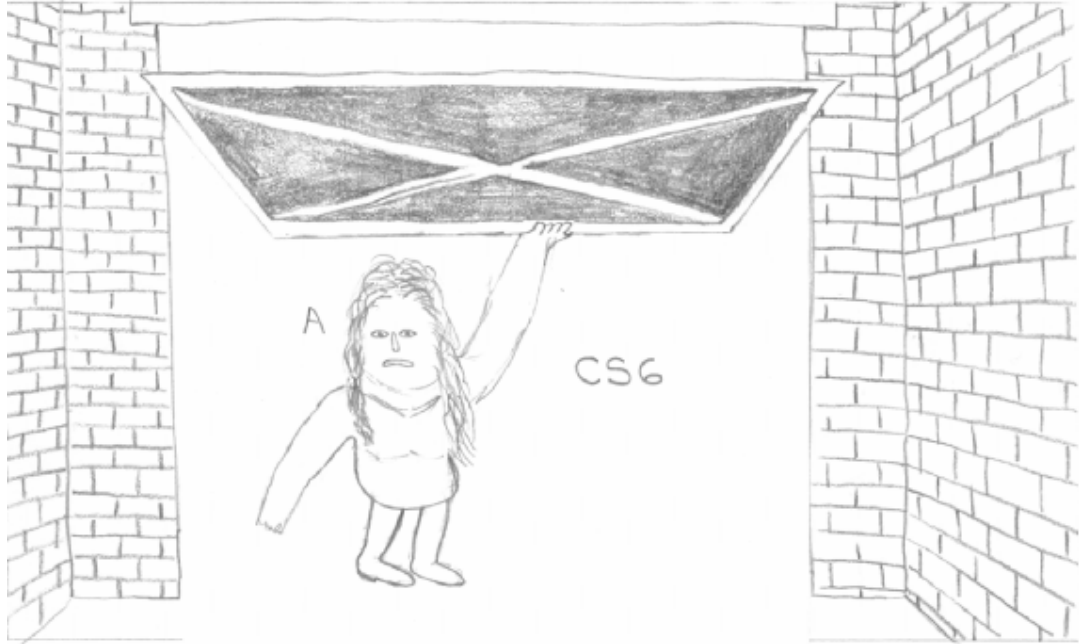
CHRIS

You didn't do any of this.  
You wouldn't even have passed  
GCSE physics if I hadn't done  
your coursework for you. You  
think you're so clever burning  
holes in the wall, but if you  
do get to Hatfield Poly or  
wherever you have applied to,  
I won't be there to help you.  
I'll give you a month before  
you drop out.

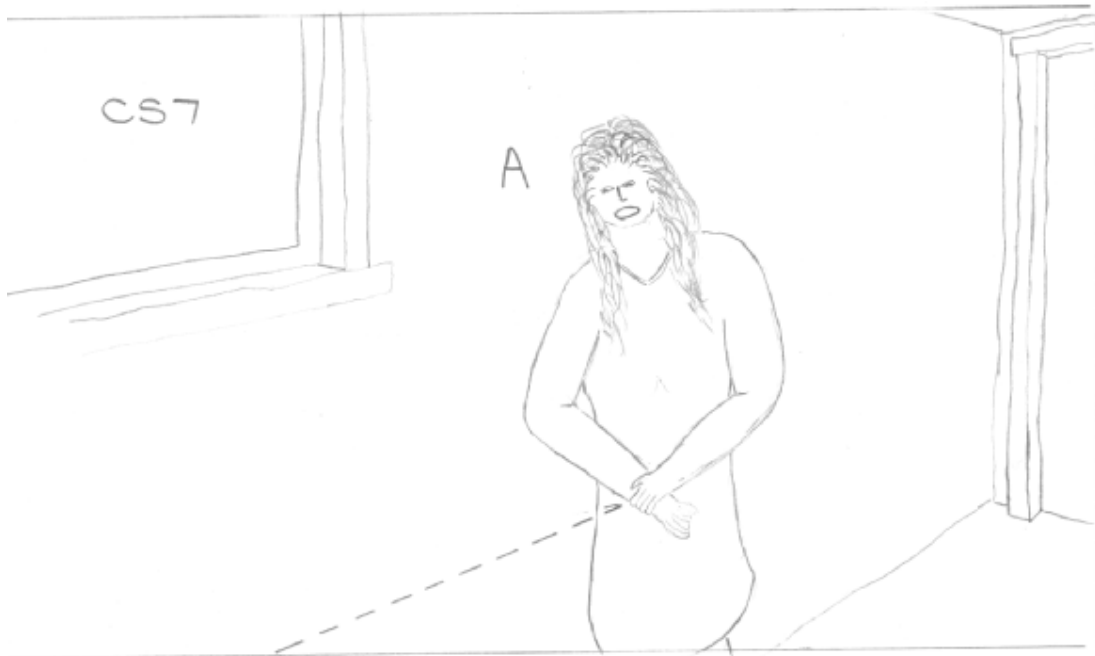
(pause)  
You had no right to make this.

CS1/3/5/6

Amanda opens the garage door.



Chris and Simon each make a grab for the laser. The laser fires and the beam catches Amanda on the arm. She pulls back and covers her arm with her hand.



Argh!

AMANDA

CS7

We see an expression of alarm on Simon's face.

CHRIS  
Amanda are you ok? CS3

Chris hurries over to her.

AMANDA  
You've burnt me! You boys are  
as bad as each other. Just  
leave me alone. CS7

Amanda runs back to the house.

CHRIS  
You're unbelievable. Don't  
you care what you've just done  
to your Sister? You could  
easily have really hurt her. CS3

SIMON  
I didn't mean to she just  
barged in. CS1

CHRIS  
You shouldn't be messing with  
any of this stuff. You've got  
no goggles, no proper casing,  
it's really dangerous. I wish  
I'd never given you my paper  
to proof read. CS3

Chris strides out, BANGING the garage door. Simon smirks.  
(CS1) He reaches up to a shelf and pulls down Chris's  
paper, the same one that he was reading at breakfast, tears  
it in half, and drops it in the recycling box.

EXT. BACK GARDEN AT SIMON'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON (*Shooting Down  
The Plane*)

See the pre-vis at: <http://www.youtube.com/v/k02FJV0d0hc>

It is hot and sunny with a cloudless sky. Simon has the  
laser which now has an optical sight. It is plugged into  
the mains by means of an extension lead from the garage.

He points it at various objects.

SIMON

(imitating the lasers in sci-fi movies)

Pew! Pew!

The DRONING of a light aircraft can be heard. Simon looks up and sees it overhead at 3000 feet. He squats down and looks through the eyepiece. Simon practices tracking the plane. The plane swings wildly across the cross-hairs in the viewfinder at first but then become more stable as he learns the technique. He presses the trigger. A pulse of bright blue light is emitted from the gaps between the covers, and a blue ray is emitted from the end of the unit up into the sky. At that instant, the DRONING of the light plane suddenly INCREASES IN PITCH as the engine races. Looking up, we see it lose control and spiral down to the ground. As it approaches ground level, we hear the SCREAMING NOISE caused by turbulence over the aerofoils as they reach their maximum design speed, and then a LOUD BANG as the plane impacts the ground and explodes.

Simon looks horrified and stares upwards, rooted to the spot.

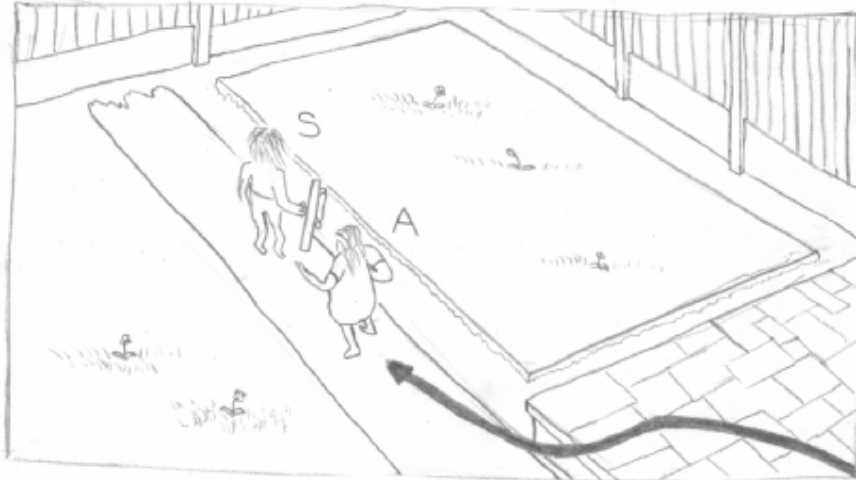
INT. KITCHEN - DAY (*Amanda Is A Witness*)

Amanda hears the bang and looks out of the window.



She sees the expression on Simon's face. She looks around at the nearby houses and gardens. But on a weekday afternoon, no-one is about. She hurries outside.

AIAW2



EXT. BACK GARDEN AT SIMON'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON (*Amanda Takes Charge*)

A large column of black smoke rises in the distance.

AMANDA

You muppet, what have you done?

(pause)

Give me one good reason why I shouldn't call the police right now.

ATC1



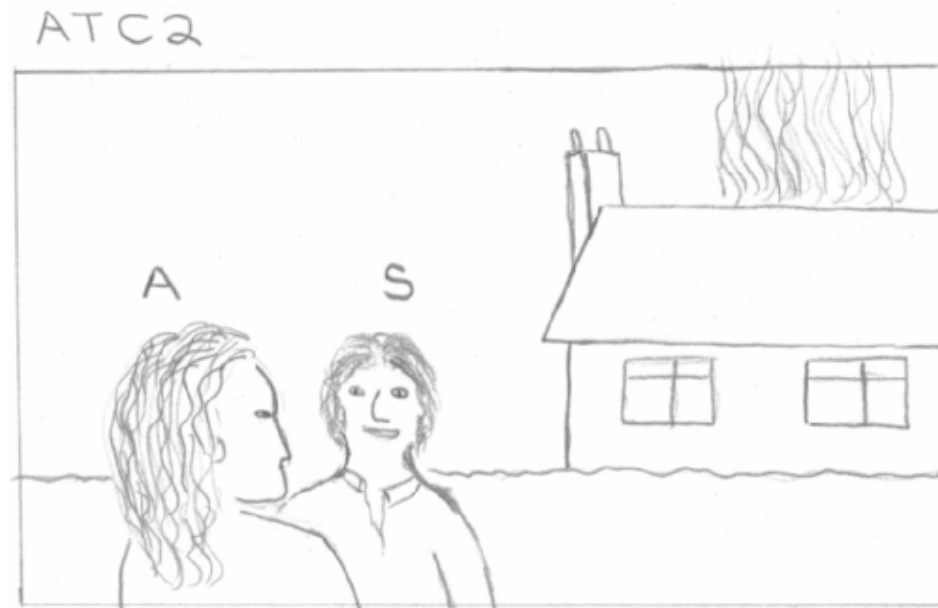
Simon is too shocked to reply. He looks on the point of breaking down in tears.

AMANDA (continuing)  
Look, perhaps that was nothing  
to do with you.

ATC1

Simon looks hopeful.

ATC2



AMANDA (CONTINUING)  
Ray guns are for comic books.  
I don't believe you did shoot  
it down. And even if you did,  
tell yourself that you didn't.  
(pause)

Now pack that laser away out  
of sight. And put it out of  
your mind. Concentrate on  
normal things, like mowing the  
lawn and fixing your bike -  
and getting a job!

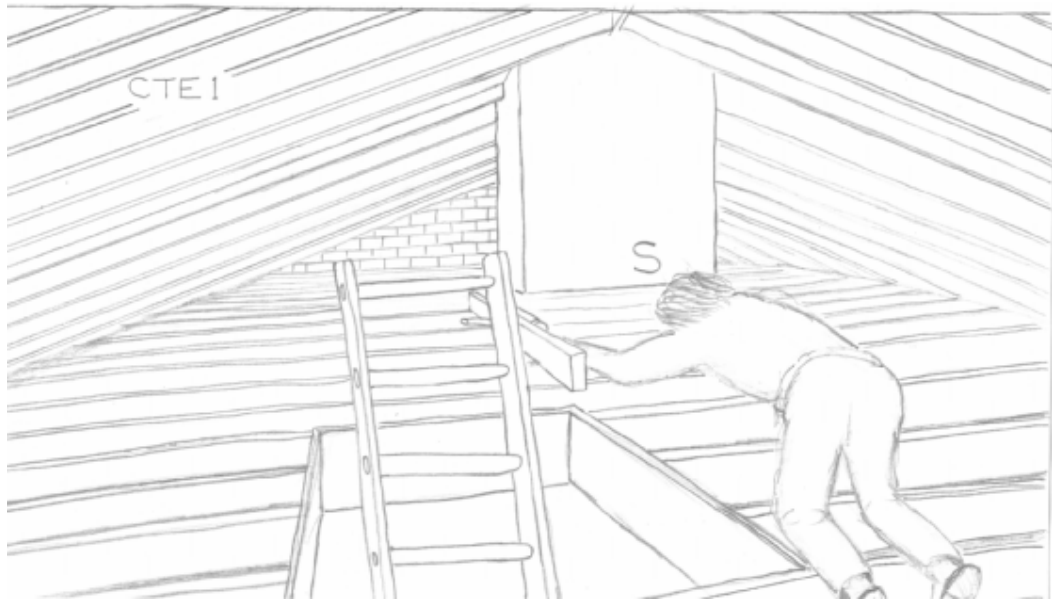
ATC1

After a few moments, he recovers his composure and unplugs the laser from the extension lead.

The distant sound of BELLS and SIRENS can be heard.

INT. LOFT ENTRY AT SIMON'S HOUSE - DAY (*Conceal The Evidence*)

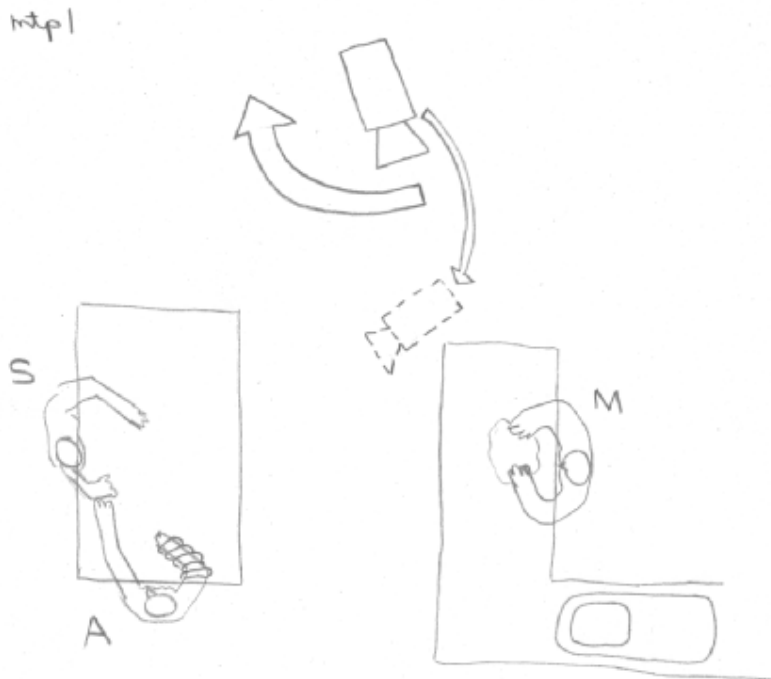
Simon takes the laser, wrapped in an old sheet, up into the loft and puts it in a far corner.



INT. DINING ROOM AT SIMON'S HOUSE - EVENING (*Meet The Parents*)

Simon and Amanda's MOTHER is preparing a meal. Simon and Amanda are sitting down. Amanda has bandaged her burnt arm.

MTP1



Amanda's FATHER walks in.

MTP2

mtp2



Simon and Amanda look at each other. MTP3

mtp3





mtp 4



FATHER  
I hear you have had some  
excitement today.

MTP4



MOTHER  
Amanda's burnt her arm.

MTP5

Father catches sight of Amanda's burn arm.

AMANDA  
Oh, it was silly, I jumped  
when that plane came down and  
caught it on the oven door.

MTP3

FATHER  
Oh dear. And Simon, where  
were you when it crashed? Not  
using power tools I hope? MTP4

AMANDA  
He was arguing with Chris. I  
thought they'd started  
fighting. MTP3

FATHER  
So did you see it crash? MTP4

SIMON  
No, but I heard the bang.  
When I looked out the smoke  
was just appearing. MTP3

FATHER  
Didn't you think of going to  
take a look? MTP4

SIMON  
Don't be daft! I heard the  
sirens. They wouldn't let  
anyone near. Getting in their  
way would be stupid. MTP3

FATHER  
My my! Mr Sensible! MTP4

INT. SIMON'S BEDROOM - EVENING (*Chris On The Mobile*)

Simon is googling the plane crash. His mobile phone RINGS.  
He looks at the display and hesitates before answering.

*This scene not storyboarded as shots will depend on location.*

SIMON  
Hi Chris.

CHRIS  
(filtered)  
What do you know about the  
plane crash?

SIMON  
(trying to sound nonchalant)  
Only what I've heard on the  
news.

CHRIS  
(filtered)  
Tell me Simon! Did you  
configure the laser in pulse  
mode? Was it your doing?

SIMON  
My laser can blister  
paintwork, not shoot planes  
out of the sky.

CHRIS  
(filtered)  
Your laser. I'll remember  
that.

EXT. PLANE CRASH SITE - DAY (*Crash Site Investigation*)

Air Accident Investigators make a painstaking search  
through the wreckage looking for clues.



INT. HALLWAY AT SIMON'S HOUSE - DAY (*Local Paper Scene*)

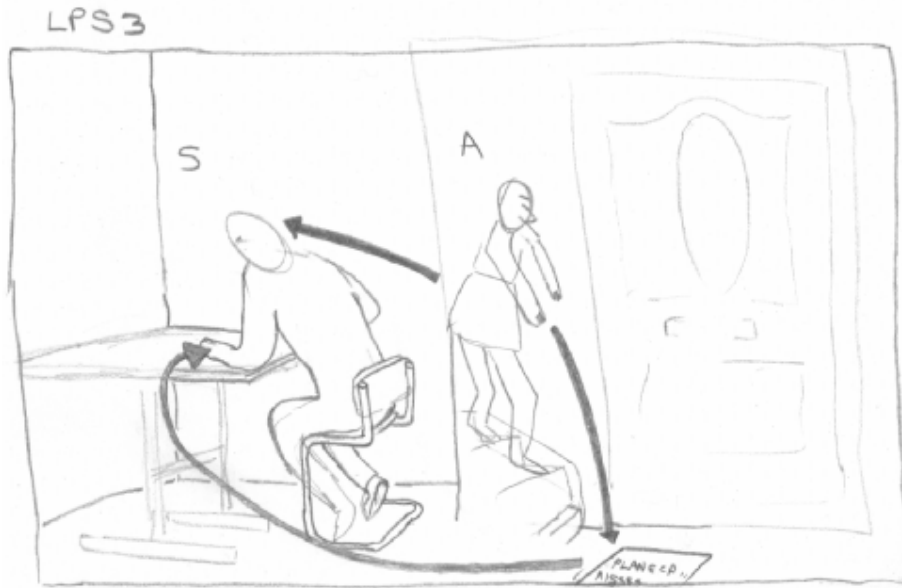
Simon is sitting at the dining room table. MUSIC can be heard from a radio tuned to a local station. The local paper drops onto the mat. Simon glances at it but ignores it.



We see the headline "Plane Crash Misses Shops".



Amanda walks downstairs and picks up the paper.



After recognising the headline, she puts it down in front of Simon.



AMANDA  
Don't you care?

SIMON  
About what?

AMANDA  
That plane crash! It could  
just as easily come down right  
on top of us.

SIMON

Well it didn't.

RADIO ANNOUNCER

(filtered)

In our local news, police now report that the light aircraft which crashed yesterday was believed to be piloted by two men wanted in connection with a raid on a jewelery store yesterday.

INT. AIR ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION BOARD - DAY (*AAIB Look At Wing*)

Office in the premises of the AAIB. Part of the spotlessly clean hanger in which aircraft are dismantled and inspected is visible. An enthusiastic young engineer is working at her desk. Her manager approaches.

MANAGER

Saw your email - "crazy" doesn't begin to describe it.

ENGINEER

Well, it might just be crazy enough to be true.

MANAGER

Are you sure the aileron was jammed?

ENGINEER

The cable was spot-welded to the airframe. It couldn't have been like that before loss of control.

MANAGER

Yes, but... lasers?

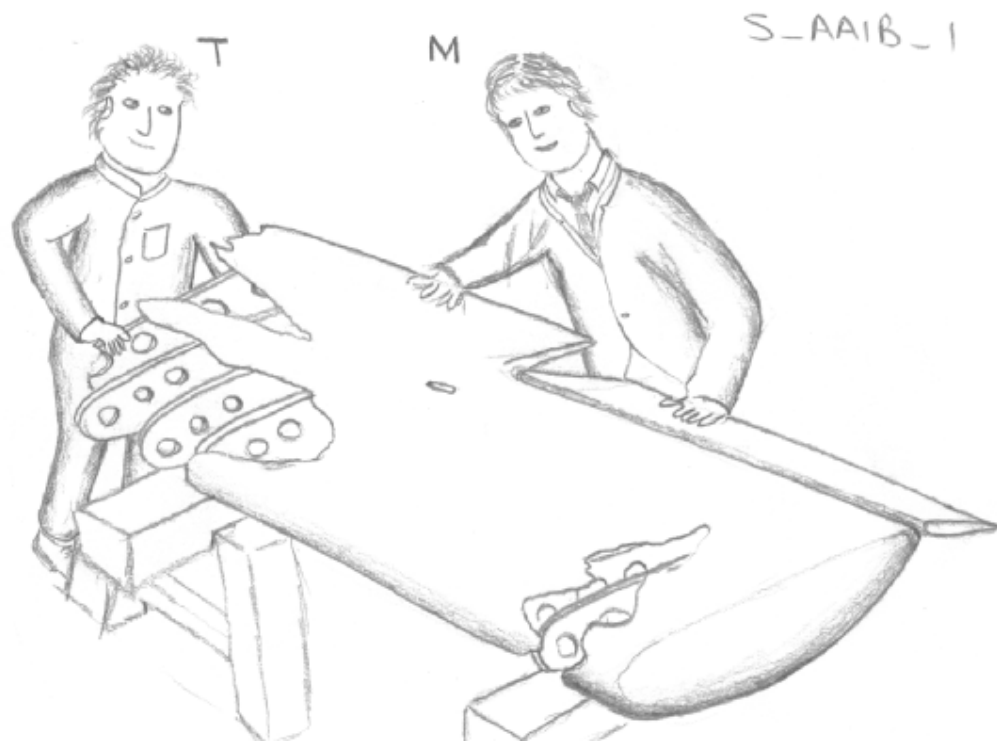
ENGINEER

The metal around the hole in the wing has been melted, but further away it hasn't. I don't know of anything else that could do that so fast. I could try to calculate where on the ground it came from, based on the aircrafts heading and the angle the ray entered the wing ...

MANAGER

No, leave this with me. But let me have a full report - just the facts.

Spotlessly clean aircraft hanger in which the crashed plane has been dismantled. A wing section lies upside down on tressels. A TECHNICIAN wearing overalls is examining it. A MANAGER wearing a suit is trying to move the aileron.



MANAGER

This aileron appears undamaged but it's frozen solid. Let's take a look at the cable.

AAIB\_1

The Technician tugs at a cable inside the wing.





TECHNICIAN

It wont move!

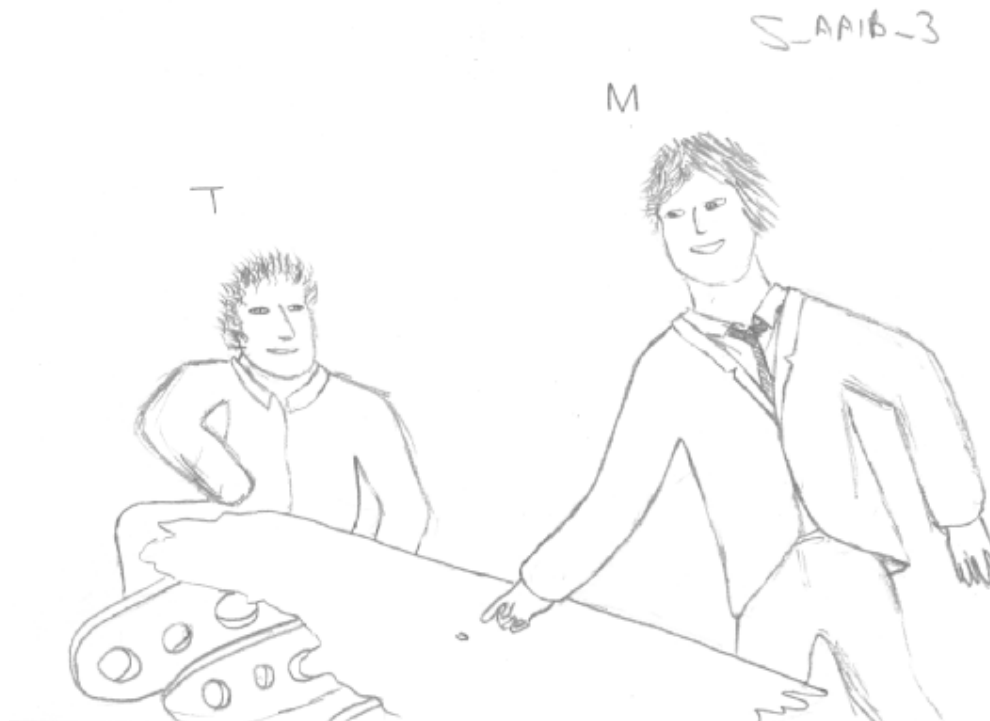
S\_AAIB\_2

He looks through a burnt hole in the undersurface of the wing.

TECHNICIAN (contiuing)

I can see where it's jammed!  
It seems to be spot welded to  
the airframe. It couldn't  
have been like that when the  
aircraft was flying.

S\_AAIB\_2



MANAGER

Through that hole? What could  
have done that?

S\_AAIB\_3

The Technician rubs his hand over the wings surface.



TECHNICIAN

Well the surrounding area is  
undamaged, so it wasn't

anything like a missile.

S\_AAIB\_4

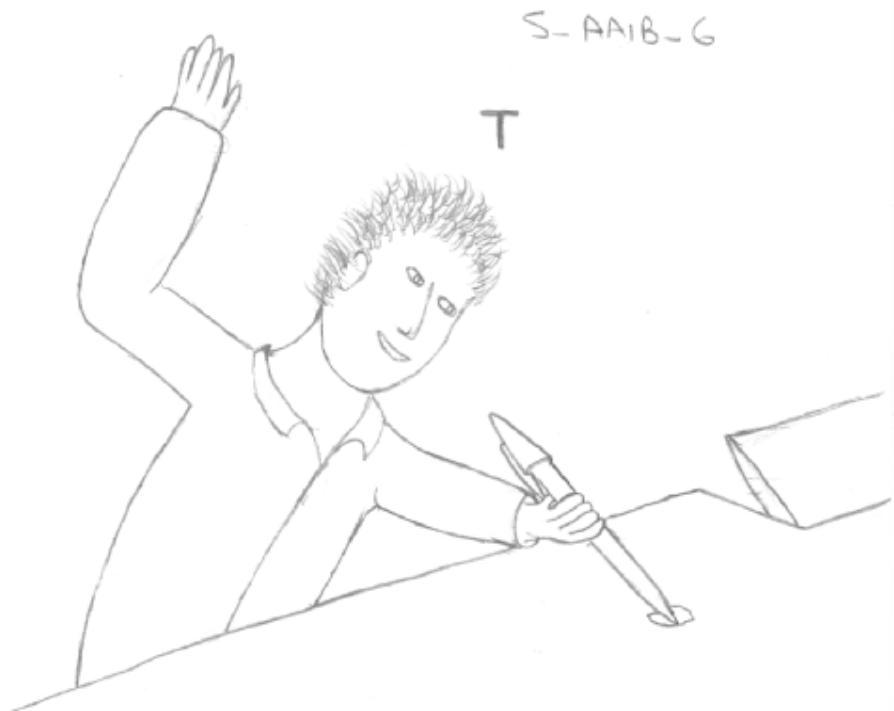


MANAGER

Oh, so the pilot had enemies who shot him down with a ray-gun? This isn't an episode of Captain Scarlet.

S\_AAIB\_5

Technician holds a ballpoint pen through the burn hole in the wing pointing at the weld on the cable.



TECHNICIAN  
I can't tell you, but based on the aircraft's heading and the angle that the ray entered the wing, we can estimate where on the ground it came from.

S\_AAIB\_6

INT. SIMON AND AMANDA'S HOUSE - DAY (*Simon Drunk*)

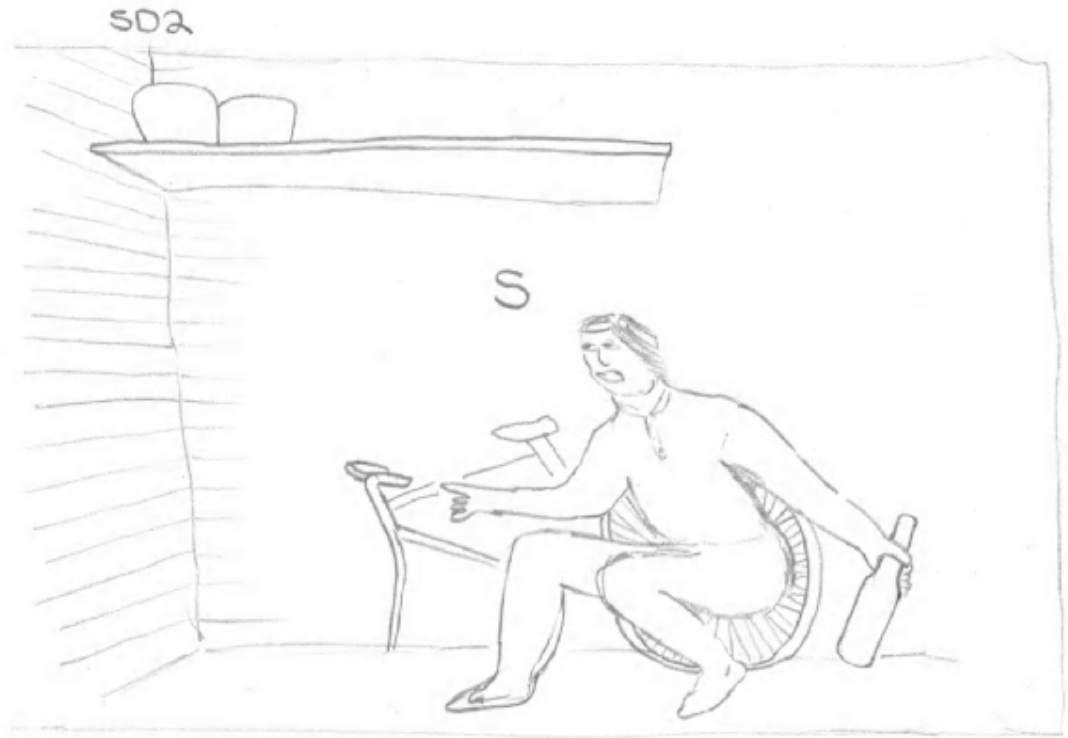
Amanda walks outside to peg out washing. She hears a SCUFFLING from the garden shed.



Looking inside, she sees Simon drinking whisky straight from the bottle.



... she sees Simon drinking whisky straight from ...  
Behind him is his bike, in pieces. Simon looks guilty and makes a futile attempt to hide the bottle.



She goes inside the shed and closes the door. Amanda holds out her hand for the bottle, as if to confiscate it.



Simon hands it over in resignation. She sits down beside him, at the same level.

SD5



She takes a swig of whisky and hands it back. Simon is shocked at the change in behaviour.

AMANDA

If they thought it was us,  
they'd have been here by now.

SD6

SD6



INT. KITCHEN DINER - EARLY MORNING (*Simon Goes To Work*)

Amanda is in her dressing gown, while Simon is getting ready to go to work. He is looking smart, wearing a casual

suit, and enjoying playing the part of the aggressive young business man.

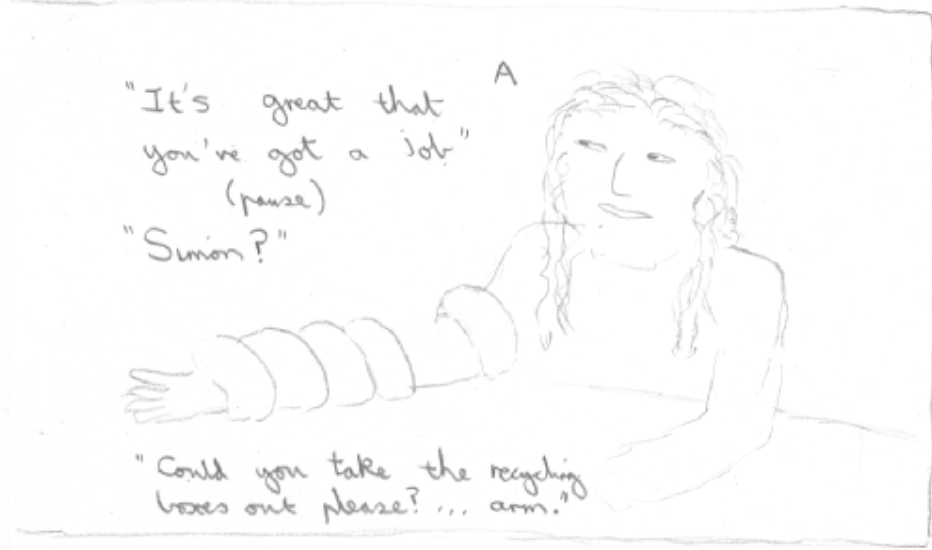


AMANDA  
Toast? SGTW1

SIMON  
No thanks, I'm a bit late for work. SGTW1



SGTW2



AMANDA

It's great that you've got a job.

(pause)

Simon?

SGTW2



SIMON

Yes?

SGTW3

AMANDA

Could you take the recycling boxes out please? I'm still

not supposed to use this arm.

SGTW2

SIMON

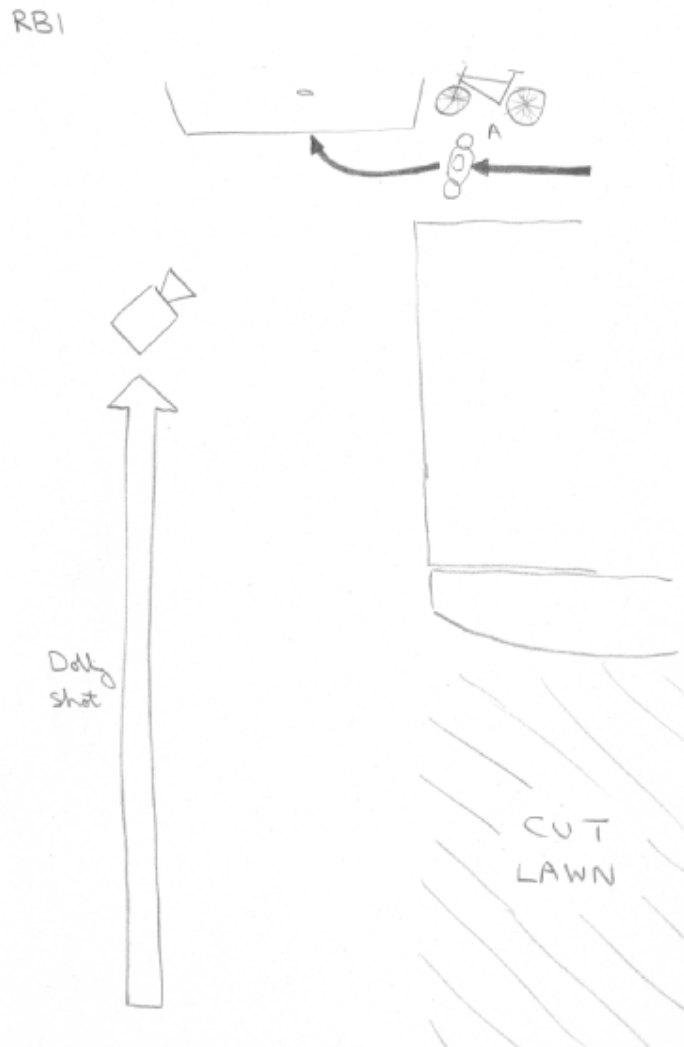
I'm in a bit of a rush. Let's  
leave that till next week.

SGTW3

Amanda looks appalled by his unfeeling attitude to her  
(SGTW2).

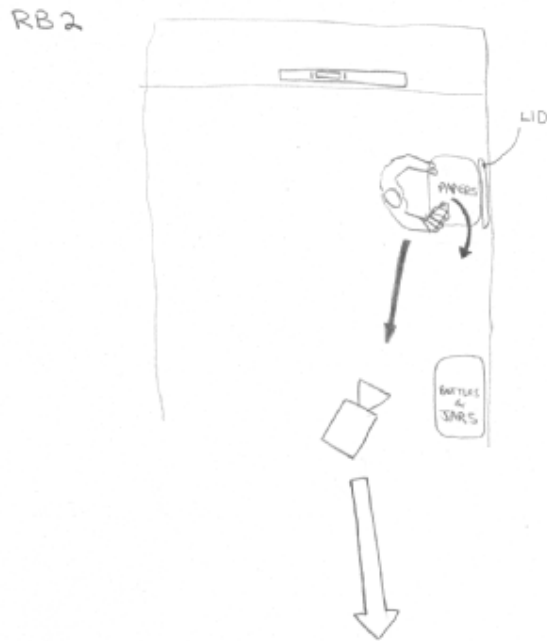
EXT. SIMON AND AMANDA'S HOUSE - DAY (*Recycling Boxes*)

Amanda goes to the garage to fetch the recycling boxes.  
The lawn has been cut, and Simon's bike is outside,  
assembled and complete.

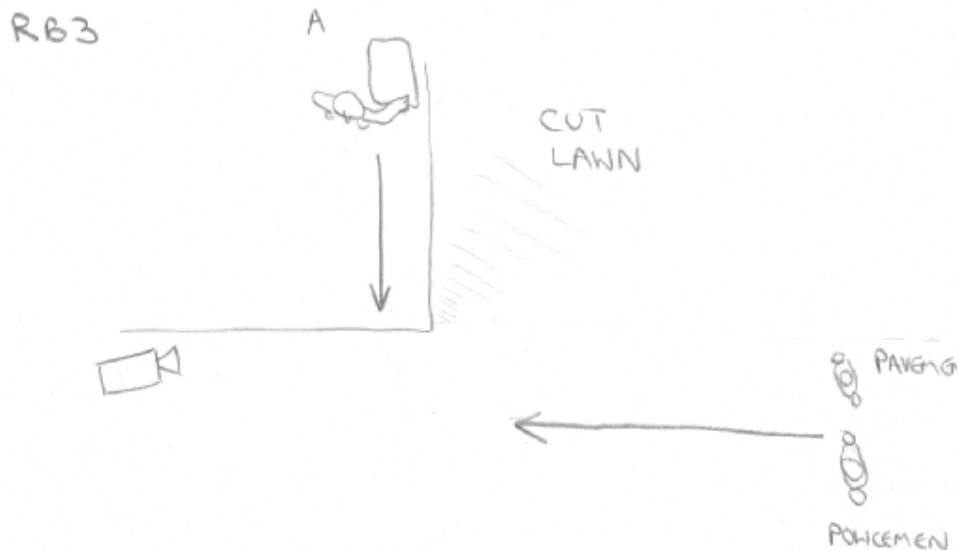


She finds the paper box too heavy to lift. She takes some

of the papers off the top and puts them beside the box, leaving the lid off as she will come back for the extra papers. She part carries and part drags the box to the end of the garage driveway.



We see two men in suits walk up the road. We can tell that they are policemen. Their eyes are taking in everything. Seeing Amanda, instead of going to the front door, they talk directly to her.



The man who speaks takes a warrant card from his jacket pocket and shows it to her.

RB4

LOW DOWN POV A



FIRST MAN

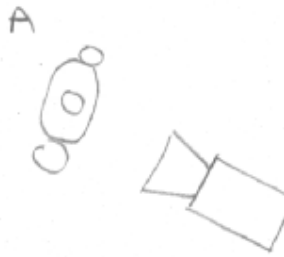
Good morning madam. We're police officers investigating the plane crash which occurred near here. Have you seen any suspicious activity in the area recently?

(pause)

A vehicle parked that you don't recognise, or people coming and going that you haven't seen before?

RB4

RB5



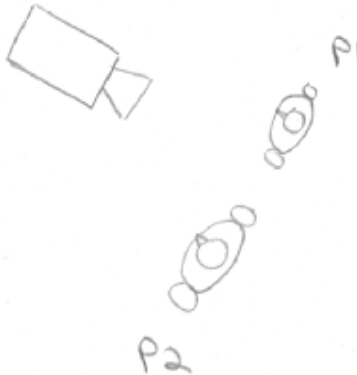
AMANDA

No, its always quiet round here, no trouble at all.

RB5

RB6

(Same as RB4 but not low down)

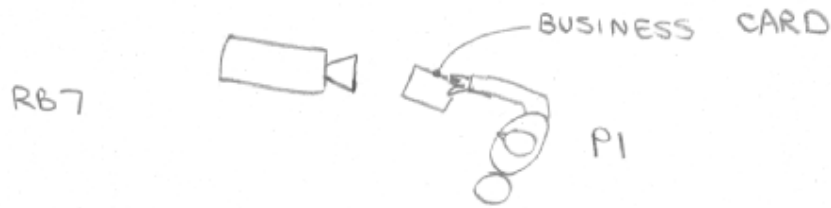


FIRST MAN

Well, if anything occurs to

you, perhaps you would give me  
a call.

RB6



He hands Amanda his business card.

RB7

AMANDA  
Of course.

RB5

RB8



The men walk off to the next house. They walk past the recycling boxes that Amanda left at the end of the garage driveway.

RB8



The first man just catches sight of something in the junk mail box. It is the top of Chris's paper.

RB10

CU

"smiles in recognition"



P1

The man picks it up and smiles in recognition.

RB10

The policemen walk back to Simon's house.

FADE OUT: