

Screenplay

EXT. FARM. EARLY MORNING

Sun rises over a sleepy Welsh farm. Chickens scratch for the early morning worms. Birds sing. There is an old farmhouse at the center of it. All is still

IN. BEDROOM OF FARMHOUSE. EARLY MORNING

Small, cozy, well lived-in room. A man is fast asleep in the bed. All is quiet, all is still. There is a sudden, urgent knocking at the wooden door. At the second or third knock, BRYN JONES stirs before crawling out of bed to answer the knocking. The door opens to reveal OWEN.

BRYN

(Weary)

Bloody hell, Owen, what's all the fuss about?

OWEN

(Panicked)

Mr Bryn, come quick, it's...it's Doris. She's gone!

BRYN

(Suddenly more alert)

What do you mean gone?

OWEN turns and leaves, BRYN grabs a dressing gown and flat cap and follows.

EXT. FARM. EARLY MORNING

OWEN and BRYN rush across a field to the fence.

OWEN

You see Mr Bryn, she's gone. I've looked everywhere. All the rest of the herd is here, I counted everyone. Apart from Doris.

BRYN wordlessly counts the herd then turns and strides off toward the barn, OWEN rushing to keep up.

INT. BARN. EARLY MORNING

BRYN frantically searches and looks around the barn. He stops at a particular pen which is signed "Doris". He crouches down to inspect a heap of dung.

(CONTINUED)

OWEN
What is it Mr Bryn?

BRYN
(to himself)
Wellco...

OWEN
Wellco?

BRYN
(Angry)
Wellco. German brand of bootmaker.

OWEN
(confused)
But nobody uses wellco, boss?

BRYN
Nobody 'round here Owen. That can only mean it was a German. And I can only think of one German would have any interest in our farm.

Bryn walks out of the barn and towards his car, Owen follows.

BRYN
Come now Owen, we've got some investigating to be doing.

As Bryn gets to the car, Owen pauses

OWEN
Bryn? Bryn? Don't you think you should get dressed first?

BRYN
(inpatient)

INT. PUB. MID-DAY
BRYN's car can be seen pulling up outside and BRYN and OWEN get out and walk into the pub.

ALAN THE BARMAN
G'morning Mr Bryn, Mr Owen, what'll it be? Pint of the dark?

Alan The Barman now gets a proper look at Bryn in his dressing gown

(CONTINUED)

ALAN THE BARMAN

(confused)

Came in a hurry did you Mr Bryn?

BRYN

If you would please Alan. And yes, I did. Truth is we've got a few questions about any...unusual customers you've had in here recently.

ALAN THE BARMAN

(weary)

Oh aye Mr Bryn?

BRYN

(to Alan and the patrons at the bar)

Well...firstly I'm sorry to tell you all that Doris has gone missing...

The men at the bar audibly and visibly recoil in shock

BRYN

I know, I know. And I also have reason to believe that it may have been a *German* individual...

Alan and the patrons exchange knowing looks

ALAN THE BARMAN

Funny you should mention that Mr Bryn, there were a couple of shady looking men in here just yesterday.

MAN AT THE BAR

Yeah, in fact they were asking about your farm, Mr Bryn. Well one of them seemed to be doing all the talking.

BRYN

(grim, resigned)

Hm. What did they look like?

ALAN THE BARMAN

I only got a good look at one of them, tall skinny fella he was. Blonde. Never seemed to open his mouth much when he spoke. Think Alice got a better look at the other guy.

(CONTINUED)

As ALAN talks, his daughter ALICE walks into this part of the bar as she's collecting empty glasses.

ALAN THE BARMAN
Tell 'em, Alice

ALICE
Oh, right weirdo he was. Didn't say anything just sort of...leared at me the whole time. Gave me the shivers he did.

BRYN
Seems to confirm my suspicions.
(To OWEN)
Karl Gruber

OWEN
(finishing BRYN's sentence)
...And Silent Hans.

ALAN THE BARMAN
(Looking at BRYN and OWEN blankly)
Well who the fuck they?

BRYN
Germany's finest sheep farmers. And Europe's second finest. Also Europe's worst losers, it would seem.
(Finishes his drink and gets up to leave)
Thank you fellas for all your help.

BRYN nods in thanks to the people in the bar, leaves with OWEN in tow.

EXT. PUB CAR-PARK. MID-DAY

BRYN and OWEN stand in the car park.

OWEN
So you think Gruber stole Doris?

BRYN
(Grimly)
Of course it was him. Why else would he be here and who else could have left the footprint? No, we can almost say for certain it was him, it's where he's taken our Doris and
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

BRYN (cont'd)

how we're to get her back is the problem.

BRYN sits on the bonnet of the car as the pair ponder the issue. A lorry drives past advertising the local livestock auction.

BRYN

Of course! He's taken her to the auction. Sell her off to a butcher, remove her from the competition. Come on Owen, no time to lose!

BRYN and OWEN jump into the car and drive away

EXT. CAR PARK OF THE LIVESTOCK AUCTION. AFTERNOON

BRYN's car pulls into the car-park and the pair quickly get out and run towards the big barn in which the auction itself is being held

INT. LIVESTOCK AUCTION HOUSE. AFTERNOON

BRYN and OWEN rush in and see DORIS up on the stage, being auctioned off. KARL GRUBER and SILENT HANS are also stood at the back of the auction hall. BRYN and OWEN approach the German's. Bidding continues throughout the conversation.

BRYN

Look here Gruber, we know what you've done. We're here to reclaim our Doris.

GRUBER

(Smug)

Bah, I'm afraid you're much too late Herr Jones. As you can see your precious Doris is being taking out of your hands

The auctioneer closes the bidding, selling Doris to a large butcher who gleefully takes to the stage to claim his prize.

GRUBER

I'll see you at the World Finals, Herr Jones.

Gruber strides away victoriously. Silent Hans lurches after him, throwing our heroes a smirk over his shoulder.

(CONTINUED)

OWEN

Look, there's Doris!

Through a door behind the auction stage DORIS can be seen being loaded onto the back of THE BUTCHER's truck

BRYN

(starting to move toward the stage door)

C'mon Owen!

EXT. CAR PARK OF THE LIVESTOCK AUCTION. AFTERNOON

The pair dash off but arrive too late to see the truck Doris is on being driven away. BRYN hurries towards an unattended tractor that has the keys on the seat. OWEN jumps on and they trundle off in pursuit of the truck. Owner of the tractor charges behind them yelling obscenities.

BRYN drives as quick as the tractor will allow down the small country lanes. See the trucker drives reactions as he notices the tractor following him in his rear-view mirror. BRYN sharply throws the tractor down a side-road.

OWEN

Where we going?

BRYN

Shortcut.

BRYN lunges back on to the main road, drawing alongside the truck, shocking the TRUCK DRIVER

BRYN

Take the wheel

BRYN shifts across out of his seat, clinging on to the edge of tractor. OWEN takes his place behind the steering wheel.

OWEN

What the hell are you doing?

BRYN

Gettin' my sheep back!

BRYN leaps from the tractor and lands in the back of the truck, next to Doris.

BRYN

There you are girl!

(CONTINUED)

BRYN forces the tailgate open. After pausing to try and judge the distance, he pushes Doris off the truck and into the bush, before leaping after her.

OWEN pulls the tractor over as the truck drives away

OWEN

B-Bryn?

BRYN slowly emerges from the bushes.

BRYN

Did she make it?

OWEN

I dunno, Mr Bryn

Doris then bleats and crawls out of the bush, apparently unhurt and oblivious to what's gone on. BRYN picks DORIS up, climbs back into the Tractor and they drive away.

As the credits role, we see newspaper articles reporting that Karl Gruber has been arrested for sheep-rustling.

THE END