

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 21st...
(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!