

Acorns

by

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EXT. PLAYGROUND - DAY

Four fourteen year olds are standing on the edge of a playground under an oak tree, hundreds of acorns on the floor.

They are standing in a small circle conspiring together. The camera slowly tracks in behind Tate who is calling the shots.

TATE

Nah not too many, just enough so
that it seems like any other day.

JACK

A few snaps will do.

ROSE

How's this one?

Jack opens his phone and sees a snapchat from Rose with her middle finger at him.

JACK

That's lovely, you gonna shove that
up Miss Sweeney's bum hole later
on?

ROSE

Fuck off.

JACK

I think she'd like that to be fair.
Being her favourite and all. The
biggest bum licker in the class.

TATE

Elliot?

ELLIOT

Yea I sent a bunch earlier.

TATE

Good.

ELLIOT

How delayed is it?

TATE

It's not, it's on time now, must
have caught some tailwind over the
Atlantic.

Tate examines a flight path using his phone.

JACK
So we're good to go?

TATE
Good to go, as soon as that bell
goes we know what to do. Few who
rule.

The four of them say "many who suffer" in unison.

JACK
When the scales won't balance?
They say "The sword will" together.

TATE
Lets fucking go.
Tate stamps on an acorn.

INT. HISTORY LESSON - DAY

MISS SWEENEY
So who do we think the most
important person in the last 150
years is? Any guesses?

TEEN 1
Hitler?

MISS SWEENEY
A good guess, but not Hitler.

TEEN 2
Bonnie Blue?

The class chuckles.

MISS SWEENEY
Not Bonnie Blue.

TATE
Lee Harvey Oswald.

MISS SWEENEY
Why?

TATE
He changed the president instantly
with one bullet. He saw that the
world was going in a particular
direction, and he single-handedly
took it in another one.

MISS SWEENEY
It's a good answer.

JACK (WHISPERS)
Bum licker.

MISS SWEENEY
But it's not the right one. Has
anyone heard of Gavrilo Princip?

The class look around and shake their heads.

MISS SWEENEY (CONT'D)
Without Princip there would be no
second world war, because without
him there would be no first world
war.

ROSE
What did he do?

MISS SWEENEY
He assassinated Franz Ferdinand
which sent the whole of Europe into
war.

TEEN 1
But Hitler killed millions of
people.

MISS SWEENEY
But Hitler was merely a domino in a
long line of dominoes that went
back to Princip. Without Princip,
no Hitler, no World War 2.

TATE
Couldn't you just say that about
the big bang?

MISS SWEENEY
Well yea but...

JACK
Isn't history basically just groups
of people from one place killing
groups of people from another place
over and over again.

MISS SWEENEY
Well there's more to it than that
but largely that's just human...

The bell rings, time slows down. The four of them exchange glances. They get up in sync like clockwork.

INT. SCHOOL LOCKERS - DAY

They all start films on their phones and then put them in their lockers.

EXT. PLAYGROUND - DAY

They walk together through the playground, they stand directly beneath a security camera.

Jack pulls out a slingshot and fires a rock at it. It smashes and they walk onto the field and towards the gate which goes into the woods.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

They are standing over a fire pit in the middle of the woods. It's covered in twigs and leaves which they pull off of it.

Tate then uncovers the plastic top which is protecting the package underneath.

He chucks them each their bags and they begin to undress, making sure to put their clothes in a separate plastic bag.

They place the plastic bags with their school bags into the fire pit and cover it back up.

They each pull out a radio pack with a single earpiece and fit them in place.

EXT. WOODLAND EXIT - DAY

They leave the woodlands all dressed in black with white trainers.

JACK

How we doing for time?

TATE

We've got 20 minutes, should be fine. Elliot go set up your gear, Jack go catch your bus, me and Rose will head to the target zone.

They turn their radio packs on and all go separate ways.

EXT. OUTSIDE MULTI STORY CAR PARK - DAY

Tate and Rose walk towards a giant car park.

EXT. BUS STOP - DAY

Jack puts a cap on, jumps on a bus and pays with cash.

EXT. OUTSIDE PUBLIC TOILET - DAY

Elliot walks towards the public toilet and looks around.

He turns on his drone and places it outside somewhere safe.

He goes inside.

INT. PUBLIC TOILET - DAY

Elliot goes in and locks the door.

He gets out his FPV headset and sets up a little station.

ELLIOT
I'm in position.

TATE
Copy that.

INT. MULTI STORY CAR PARK - DAY

Tate and Rose go inside the staircase and lock the door behind them. They begin walking up the huge flight of stairs.

There is a homeless man laying down with loads of blankets and cardboard around him.

Tate and Rose walk up to him.

THE ARCHITECT
Right on time.

TATE
Told you we would be.

He whips off the blanket to reveal parts of a sniper rifle, some binoculars and other religious paraphernalia. A bible, some incense etc.

Tate speaks into his mic.

TATE (CONT'D)
We're with The Architect.

Rose automatically starts putting the rifle together, twisting the silencer into place, locking other pieces into their position.

Once the gear is ready they begin the ascend together to the top floor.

Tate calls on the radio

TATE (CONT'D)
Eyes on yet Elliot?

ELLIOT
They're still on the plane right now.

TATE
Check.

INT. PUBLIC TOILET - DAY

We see Elliot controlling the drone from the Toilet.

EXT. AIRFIELD - DAY

We see a drone shot of a private Jet parked in an airfield with the doors shut.

INT. MULTI STORY CAR PARK - DAY

TATE
How you doing Jack?

INT. BUS - DAY

JACK
5 minutes.

INT. PUBLIC TOILET - DAY

ELLIOT
4 cars driving up to the plane now.

INT. MULTI STORY CAR PARK TOP - DAY

TATE
Obviously just keep an eye on the
number plate so we don't lose him
if they have a reshuffle.

INT. PUBLIC TOILET - DAY

ELLIOT
Yea, will do.

INT. MULTI STORY CAR PARK TOP - DAY

THE ARCHITECT
They will reshuffle.

EXT. AIRFIELD - DAY

Drone POV shot of hovering around the edge of the airfield. A few men get out of cars and look around ready to protect the target.

Finally the stairs on the private Jet descend and out comes "Arbor"

ELLIOT (O.S.)
Eyes on Arbor.

Arbor gets into the 2nd car at the back of the convoy.

TATE (O.S.)
Which car?

ELLIOT (O.S.)
Second to the rear, back left seat.

TATE (O.S.)
Number plate?

The drone zooms in on the number plate.

ELLIOT (O.S.)
EM71 XTS.

TATE (O.S.)
EM71 XTS?

ELLIOT (O.S.)
Check.

INT. MULTI STORY CAR PARK TOP - DAY

The three of them are at the top of the staircase praying together.

THE ARCHITECT
For thyne is the Kingdom, the power
and the glory, forever and ever,
Amen.

Everyone says Amen.

The Architect takes out a box from his huge jacket. He opens it and gives rose the bullet.

Rose loads it into the weapon.

THE ARCHITECT (CONT'D)
Time to cut out the tumour.

ELLIOT (O.S.)
They're on the move.

EXT. DRONE SHOT FOLLOWING CONVOY - DAY

TATE (O.S.)
How long?

ELLIOT (O.S.)
Not even 5 minutes.

TATE (O.S.)
You in position Jack?

EXT. BUS STOP - DAY

JACK
Yea, I'm in position.

TATE (O.S.)
Good luck with the count.

ROSE (O.S.)
Its only 800 metres, it doesn't
need to be perfect.

INT. PUBLIC TOILET - DAY

ELLIOT
3 minutes away. Oh shit...

TATE (O.S.)
What?

ELLIOT
They're shuffling.

EXT. DRONE SHOT FOLLOWING CONVOY - DAY

We see the four cars shuffling around changing spaces. They begin to set off again.

ELLIOT (O.S.)
Ok he's at the back now.

TATE (O.S.)
You sure?

ELLIOT (O.S.)
Yea.

TATE (O.S.)
What's the number plate?

ELLIOT (O.S.)
EM71 XTS.

TATE (O.S.)
Check.

JACK (O.S.)
Oh no.

TATE (O.S.)
What?

EXT. BUS STOP - DAY - RAIN

Jack is standing at the bus stop with his hand out feeling the rain.

JACK
It's just started raining Rose.

INT. MULTI STORY CAR PARK TOP - DAY

Rose puts her hand out, feels the rain and looks to the clouds.

THE ARCHITECT
Just add a small amount of up,
you'll be fine.

ROSE
I'm on it.

Rose turns a wheel slightly on her Sniper sight.

ELLIOT (O.S.)
2 minutes.

EXT. DRONE SHOT FOLLOWING CONVOY - DAY - RAIN

The 4 black cars pull onto the main road.

ELLIOT (O.S.)
Jack, you should be able to see
them soon.

JACK (O.S.)
Copy that.

INT. MULTI STORY CAR PARK TOP - DAY

Rose is aiming down her sights, The Architect is next to her
looking through his binoculars.

ROSE
Arbor spotted.

TATE
Final confirmation Elliot.

ELLIOT (O.S.)
Second to the back, back left seat,
EM71 XTS.

ROSE (WHISPERS)
Check.

TATE
Check.

JACK (O.S.)
Eyes on, 60 seconds.

The Architect looks to the sky at the rainclouds.

THE ARCHITECT
And the lord said, I will destroy
man whom I have created from the
face of the earth, both man and
beast, and the creeping thing, and
the fowls of the air, for it
repenteth me that I have made them.

JACK (O.S.)
30 seconds.

Rose is breathing intently, in through the nose, out through the mouth.

The Architect looks back down his binoculars.

THE ARCHITECT
Too long have the 1 percent gone
unchecked..

JACK (O.S.)
20.

THE ARCHITECT
Too long have they raped our planet
with impunity.

JACK (O.S.)
15.

THE ARCHITECT
When the scales wont balance.

Rose and Tate say "The sword will".

Jack starts counting 10 down to 0.

THE ARCHITECT (CONT'D)
In the name of the father, the son,
and the holy spirit, eradicate this
blight upon god's creation.

All goes completely silent.

JACK (O.S.)
0.

Rose pulls the trigger.

A shot of lightening in the sky as the rain pours down and we hear thunder.

THE ARCHITECT
Forgive this act of love, though
born of despair.

JACK (O.S.)
Arbor down, time to get out of
there.

TATE (O.S.)
Help us out Els.

ELLIOT (O.S.)
I'm on it.

INT. MULTI STORY CAR PARK STAIRCASE - DAY

The Architect, Tate and Rose are quickly moving down the stairwell.

ELLIOT (O.S.)
Use the same door you came in, it's
all clear that side right now.

TATE
Anyone onto us?

ELLIOT (O.S.)
Not yet its fucking pandemonium
down there.

TATE
Jack, we'll see you in the woods.

Nothing.

TATE (CONT'D)
Jack?

Rose and Tate look at each other.

ELLIOT (O.S.)
They're pointing towards the
window!

TATE
Shit.

The three of them pick up the pace.

ELLIOT (O.S.)
2 police cars coming your way.

TATE
How long?

ELLIOT (O.S.)
About 2 minutes, maybe less.

The three of get to the door at the bottom, Tate unlocks it.

TATE
Are we good Elliot?

EXT. DRONE SHOT OF CAR PARK - DAY - RAIN

Two police cars are driving towards the building.

ELLIOT

No no, wait there, when I tell you
go straight over the road and down
into the underpass.

TATE

Check.

INT. MULTI STORY CAR PARK STAIRCASE - DAY - RAIN

They wait on the other side of the door. They hear the sirens
go past and see the blue flashing lights coming through a
tiny window.

ELLIOT (O.S.)

Go now!

EXT. MULTISTORY CAR PARK - DAY - RAIN

They burst out of the door, cross the road and go down into
an underpass.

EXT. UNDERPASS - DAY - RAIN

Drone shot of the underpass they are inside of, police cars
circling the area.

INT. UNDERPASS - DAY - RAIN

TATE

Are we good?

ELLIOT (O.S.)

No you're surrounded right now,
just hold tight.

EXT. UNDERPASS - DAY - RAIN

Drone shot of the underpass surrounded by 4 police cars going
very slowly.

INT. PUBLIC TOILET - DAY - RAIN

A shot of Elliot's face with the FPV headset on.

ELLIOT
Ok, standby. Standby. You're clear,
go now!

INT. UNDERPASS - DAY - RAIN

They walk out of the underpass, cross a road, and go down some stairs which takes them to the canal.

EXT. CANAL - DAY - RAIN

There is a small boat tied up under the bridge. The Architect unties it, they all get in and the Architect begins rowing down the river.

TATE
Are we clear?

ELLIOT (O.S.)
You're clear, see you back at the
fire pit.

THE ARCHITECT
Well done team.

JACK (O.S.)
Elliot I need your help I'm
cornered!

The three of them look at one another.

INT. PUBLIC TOILET - DAY - RAIN

ELLIOT
Jack where are you?

Silence.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)
Jack where are...

INT. MACDONALDS TOILET - DAY

Jack is drenched standing inside one of the toilet cubicles.

JACK
I'm in the MacDonalds just next to
the airport, I think they're
following me.

INT. PUBLIC TOILET - DAY

ELLIOT
Give me 2 secs I'm flying over now.

JACK
What should I do?

TATE (O.S.)
Order some food on the self
checkout, try and blend in.

JACK
Ok.

INT. PUBLIC TOILET - DAY

Shot of Elliot's hands as he aggressively controls the drone.

EXT. MACDONALDS - DAY

Drone shot arriving at MacDonald's.

2 suited men appear to be running towards the front entrance.

INT. MACDONALDS SELF CHECKOUT - DAY

Jack is ordering food.

ELLIOT (O.S.)
2 men in suits coming towards the
front entrance, go out the back
now, don't run.

Jack walks out the back door.

EXT. FENCE - DAY - RAIN

JACK
Where now?

ELLIOT (O.S.)
Jump that fence and walk across the
field towards that massive oak
tree. Don't run.

JACK
Ok.

Jack looks around and then jumps the fence.

EXT. MACDONALDS - DAY - RAIN

Drone shot of MacDonalds, suddenly 2 men sprint out of the back of MacDonalds and jump the fence.

INT. PUBLIC TOILET - DAY - RAIN

Elliot's eyes go wide.

ELLIOT

Jack run!

EXT. FIELD - DAY - RAIN

Jack checks behind him and starts sprinting.

EXT. BOAT ON CANAL - DAY - RAIN

Rose and Tate look to the Architect for reassurance, he just keeps rowing.

EXT. FIELD - DAY - RAIN

Drone shot of the field, we see Jack running towards the oak tree, we see 2 men gaining on him from the other side of the field.

JACK (O.S.)

Help Elliot!

INT. PUBLIC TOILET - DAY

ECU of Elliot is looking around desperately searching for an escape.

EXT. BUS STOP #2 - DAY - RAIN

Drone shot of a Bus stopping three gardens away from the oak tree.

ELLIOT (O.S.)

Go past the oak tree, jump three fences, there's a bus, you can make it!

EXT. BOAT ON CANAL - DAY - RAIN

Tate and Rose are staring off into the distance, hoping their friend makes it.

EXT. 3 GARDENS - DAY - RAIN

Drone shot of Jack successfully jumping two fences.

On the third one his leg gets caught and he falls on the ground.

We see the men hop into his garden.

INT. PUBLIC TOILET - DAY

Elliot's eyes go wide.

ELLIOT
Jack! Get up! No!

EXT. BOAT ON CANAL - DAY - RAIN

Rose and Tate are breathing heavily expecting the worst.

The Architect rows stoically.

The sound of heavy breathing.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

INT. BUS - DAY

Close up of Jack's hands with two bloody knuckle dusters and the sound of heavy breathing.

Jack frowns and stares out of the window.

EXT. BOAT ON CANAL - DAY - RAIN

ELLIOT (O.S.)
Jack you're clear... fuck me, see
you at the fire pit. Out.

Rose looks to the sky and breaths a sigh of relief.

EXT. LAKE - DAY - RAIN

A drone lands in the middle of a lake, turns off, and sinks.

EXT. FIREPIT IN WOODS - DAY - RAIN

Eerie long droning music is all we hear.

The 5 of them stand equidistant around the fire as it engulfs the evidence.

Slow motion individual close ups of their faces as they process what they've done. They stare into the fire, rain pouring down.

Slow motion of them closing their eyes and reciting the lords prayer. Slow motion ECU of their mouths as they recite.

We hear them all say Amen together.

THE ARCHITECT
À Dieu vous commende.

The 4 of them say Adieu as the Architect bows slightly, puts his hood up on his robe and then slips away into the woods.

EXT. SCHOOL FIELD - DAY - HEAVY RAIN

We see a drone shot of the four of them walking across the field.

HELICOPTER PILOT
Hold on, who's that?

The camera zooms in on the four of them, Jack stops, looks at the helicopter, smiles and then gives it the middle finger.

INT. HELICOPTER - DAY - RAIN

The helicopter camera operator smiles and chuckles.

HELICOPTER PILOT
What?

HELICOPTER CAMERA OPERATOR
Just some school kids.

EXT. PLAYGROUND - DAY - RAIN

Slow motion shots of the kids walking back to school.

Slow motion shots of Acorns falling onto the playground and rain smashing into the floor.