

## INTO THE LIONS DEN (PILOT)

THE EVENTS YOU ARE ABOUT TO SEE ARE LOOSELY BASED ON A TRUE STORY, HOWEVER, CERTAIN PARTS HAVE BEEN DRAMATIZED AND CHANGED TO MAKE A MORE COMPELLING VIEWING EXPERIENCE AND STORY

Reference: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gbo\\_PXZaYTo&t=744s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gbo_PXZaYTo&t=744s)

1 INT. THE LONDON STADIUM, BREEZEWAY, LONDON - LATE AFTERNOON

A group of six men, three in their early 30s and one in their 40s and two in their early 20s, walk through the stadium breezeway confident and stealthy. They pass crowds of fans and stands of beer. The smell of sweat and grease filled the air as songs and cheers covered the entire breezeway with noise. We follow the group for a few minutes, as they weave in between the sea of West Ham shirts. The men are all wearing bulky jackets. They get to an entrance leading out to the seats.

40 YEAR OLD MAN

Come on lads.

(A beat)

This way.

(Ushering them to enter  
the section)

20'S MAN

What? In there? You crazy?

30'S MAN

(Opens up his jacket,  
revealing a 6 inch  
stiletto knife)

Don't worry lad. We watch each  
other's backs.

The young man nods.

40 YEAR OLD MAN

Come on. Let's go.

The group begins to walk up the entrance. The man in his 20's who spoke went to follow. He stopped half way up realizing the other man in his 20's wasn't following.

20'S MAN

You coming?

The other man in his 20's shakes his head no.

20'S MAN (CONT'D)

Ah fuck!

The man runs through the entrance chasing the other men.

2 Int. London Stadium, West Ham Section - Late Afternoon

As he enters, there is an explosion of noise and atmosphere. The game is fever pitch and the West Hams are singing their song.

WEST HAM FANS

(Overwhelmingly loud)

Like my dreams, They fade and die.  
Fortune's always hiding, I've  
looked everywhere, I'm forever  
blowing bubbles, pretty bubbles in  
the air!

There's a moment of quiet (a lol) in the West Ham song.

40 YEAR OLD MAN

Now lads.

The 40 year old man takes his coat off showing his Millwall Kit.

THE GROUP WE'VE BEEN FOLLOWING

(Extremely loud)

No one likes us! No one likes us!  
No one likes us! We don't care!

(A pause)

We are Millwall, super Millwall! We  
are Millwall from the Den!

WEST HAM FANS

Booo! Fuck You you fuckin Cunt! You  
know where you at big man? Keep  
singing and see what happens!  
(Throwing trash at them)

Finally a West Ham fan stands up. It's a big buff man. He rolls up his sleeves and starts to walk over to the group.

THE GROUP

No one likes us! We don't care!

(A pause)

We are Millwall, super Millwall! We  
are Millwall from the den.

The man gets a few yards away from the group and then starts running. He goes to swing at the man in his 20's. Right as he makes contact, the screen cuts to black.

3 TITLE SCREEN "INTO THE LIONS DEN" - LET EM COME BY ROY GREEN PLAYS

A year earlier...

4 INT. POLICE STATION, HALLWAY - DAY

The two men in their 20's from the previous scene are walking down a hallway in the police station in suits in slow motion.

There is a voiceover done by the first man in his 20's. (The one who got punched)

20'S MAN (VOICEOVER)  
That guy on the left, yeah that's me. My name's George Wright, I'm 22 and I'm a police officer.  
(A beat)  
My old man was a police officer so I figured why not.  
(A beat)  
I started off working in the Narcotics Unit.

5 EXT. OUTSIDE FRONT DOOR OF A BANDO (TRAP HOUSE)- NIGHT

George smashes open the front door and runs in with a squad behind him.

6 INT. INSIDE THE BANDO - NIGHT

A gunshot flies out of the darkness hitting the man behind George.

GEORGE  
Stop! Police!

The suspect keeps running and George shoots into the darkness.

SUSPECT  
Ahhh!

We hear a thud as he falls to the ground.

7 INT. POLICE STATION, HALLWAY - DAY

Still slow motion of them walking down the hallway.

20'S MAN (V.O.)  
No it wasn't like that.  
(A pause)  
It was more like this.

8 EXT. ON TOP OF AN ESTATE BUILDING - DAY

George and another cop are in playing clothes. George is peering through binoculars whilst his partner is eating a sandwich.

COP  
See anything?  
(Chewing, grabs a chip)

GEORGE  
Still no.  
(Sighing)

9 INT. POLICE STATION, HALLWAY - DAY

George and the other cop continue walking down the hallway.

GEORGE (V.O.)  
Well now I'm getting reassigned. To what you ask?  
(A pause)  
Your guess is as good as mine.

10 INT. POLICE STATION, OFFICE - DAY

George and the other cop enter the office.

POLICE CAPTAIN  
Ah Wright, Bell, take a seat.

George and Bell take a seat across the desk from the captain.

BELL  
Hello Captain.

Bell sat upright, eager. George slumped in his chair, feeling no specific need to impress.

CAPTAIN  
 Look I'll get right to the point.  
 The drug unit you two's been workin  
 in is being dissolved.  
 (Lets out a deep breath)  
 Our resources are going to be put  
 to other things.

BELL  
 What? What does that mean for us?

CAPTAIN  
 It means you're being reassigned.

GEORGE  
 Reassigned to what?

CAPTAIN  
 Well look who's decided to join us.

A moment of silence fell over the room as neither George nor  
 Bell responded.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)  
 (Coughs)  
 Well... Anyway. Football  
 hooliganism has run rampant across  
 the country and it's our job to do  
 the crack down on it.

George and Bell sit uninterested for the moment.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)  
 The job is simple really. You two  
 are going to go undercover as  
 Millwall football fans and  
 infiltrate their hooligan group.

BELL  
 What are we supposed to do once  
 we're in it?

CAPTAIN  
 Establish the hierarchy, gain  
 evidence and we'll make the arrests  
 at the end.

GEORGE  
 That's it?

CAPTAIN  
 More or less.  
 (A beat)  
 (MORE)

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)

I mean you'll get more details over the coming days, but that's all I have for you.

GEORGE

Why us?

CAPTAIN

Let's just say, you two fit the bill of a football hooligan. And you both being so young will allow you to get recruited to the group with less suspicion.

(A beat)

No one thinks a 21 year old is an undercover cop.

George and Bell nod.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)

Now go on. Get outta here.

George and Bell stand up and right before Bell opens the door, the captain speaks.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)

Remember, establish their hierarchy, it's the leaders we want... Not the foot soldiers.

The two nod and open the door, shutting it behind them. Leaving just the captain at his table alone for a moment, looking more worried than he let on during the meeting.

COMPILATION SCENE:

THE SCENE IS CONSTANTLY SHUFFLING BETWEEN PLACES.

11. George is always seen studying Millwall. The scene goes from his desk at work to his desk at home, to the library to the bus, to in his bed to on the toilet.

GEORGE (V.O.)

Over the next month, I studied.

(A beat)

Studied everything Millwall.

(A beat)

Once the month was over, I hated West Ham as much as any other Millwall fan. I'd kiss Neil Harris's boot if he'd let me.

(MORE)

GEORGE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

The Den might as well have been my home.

(A beat)

No one liked me, but I didn't care.

(A beat)

To the outside eye, I was your typical Millwall hooligan.

(A beat)

Unfortunately, I learned the hard way, that my partner Bell...

(A beat)

Had not...

12 Int. Car - Afternoon

George is driving while his partner is sitting next to him. George has a straight face and looks ready. Bell is eating a burger and fries very messily.

GEORGE (V.O.)

Our instructions weren't particularly clear.

(A beat)

They're essentially expecting us two, to go to a football club, join a group of people, all of whom are men, most have known each other their whole life and just turn up like "Hi I'm Arthur from Wandsworth, you don't know me but I love Millwall, let me join the group." Like... I got nothing to back it up. I had a fake business card made up, but I only got ten of them.

13 EXT. OUTSIDE POLICE STATION (IN MILLWALL) - AFTERNOON

George and Bell step out of the car, Bell wipes the crumbs off his shirt. They look up at the police station.

GEORGE

Well this is the place.

The two of them walk in together.

14 INT. INSIDE POLICE STATION - AFTERNOON

George and Bell step inside. They are greeted by a lady at the front desk.

LADY  
Hello, how can I help you?

GEORGE  
Yeah, we're with the unit in  
Wandsworth, we were told to report  
here.

LADY  
Okay. Let me check real quick.

The lady takes a second to look through something on the  
computer. George and Bell sit there helplessly.

LADY (CONT'D)  
Your badges.

GEORGE  
I'm sorry?

LADY  
Your badges I need to see them.

GEORGE  
Oh of course.

George and Bell each pull their badge out and set on the  
table in front of her.

LADY  
(Still looking at  
computer)  
Okay it looks like you weren't  
supposed to arrive until tomorrow.  
(She says like it's an  
issue but not really)

GEORGE  
We were told today.  
(Matching her energy, as  
if saying make it work)

The lady scans their badges real quick.

LADY  
Okay let me show you your office.  
(Said with a fake smile)

The lady leads George and Bell up the stairs to the first  
floor. She takes them down a hall and to a tiny, poorly lit  
office, probably the worst office in the building.



## 15. INT. POLICE BUILDING, OFFICE - AFTERNOON

LADY

Here you are.  
(Another fake smile)

She starts to walk back down the hall.

GEORGE

Wait. That's it?

LADY

That's all I got told to do.

She shrugs and continues walking. George and Bell look at their new shitty office.

GEORGE

Well... This is just great.

## 16. SIDEWALK, MILLWALL - DAY

George and Bell are walking down the sidewalk, George is smoking a cigarette.

BELL

You sure this is the best way?  
(Nervously)

GEORGE

Ah come on Theo, we got this.  
(Confidently)

George and Theo (Bell's first name) continue walking down the street talking (we can't hear them) as we follow them.

GEORGE (V.O.)

Well, that's it. No more George...  
You're looking at Arthur Wood from  
Wandsworth, I work for "Better  
Decorating." My plan was simple.

(A beat)

The unit basically gave us no  
direction or approach... So I had  
to take things into my own hands...

(A beat)

I figured if we eat lunch at the  
pub the hooligans hang at everyday  
for the entire summer leading up to  
the season.

(A beat)

Then when the games start, the bar  
tenders will vouch for us.

(MORE)

GEORGE (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
We'd look like we were supposed to  
be there.

George and Theo turn a corner and arrive at the pub. They  
look up to see a sign reading "The Den."

GEORGE  
Of course...  
(Opening the door)

THEO  
What?  
(Following after George)  
What is it?  
(George ignores him)

17 INT. INSIDE THE PUB - AFTERNOON

The two enter the pub, George looks confident, Theo less so.  
It's relatively empty, a couple people here and there, mostly  
older people having lunch alone.

GEORGE  
Hey, how are you?  
(Waving to the bartender)

George walks up the bar.

BARTENDER  
What can I get you?

GEORGE  
We'll each get a beer and uh, can  
we see a lunch menu?

The bartender nods. Hands him a lunch menu and pours the two  
beers. He isn't mean but he isn't friendly.

BARTENDER  
How come I've never seen you in  
here before?

Theo looks nervous.

GEORGE  
Ah we just moved here from  
Wandsworth.

BARTENDER  
Well, welcome.  
(sliding the beers to  
George)  
Let me know what you want.

GEORGE

Thanks.

(passing a beer to Theo)

George and Theo both take a seat at the pub and look over the menu. They talk a bit but we can't hear them.

GEORGE (V.O.)

And just like that we were in.

Compilation scene of them entering the bar, ordering/interacting with the bartenders more each time. They eat there daily. The interactions get friendlier and more personal every time. Goes from no talk at all to "how's the wife, how's business etc"

# 18. INT. INSIDE THE PUB - LUNCH TIME

George and Theo walk into the bar as usual.

SAME BARTENDER

Hey, Hey! Arthur, Nile, how are you guys doing?

ARTHUR (GEORGE)

Hey Henry, good, good. How's the wife?

HENRY

Ahh, still alive... Unfortunately.

(They both laugh)

Yeah we're on the third ring of marriage.

NILE (THEO)

The third?

HENRY

(Chuckles a bit)

You got the engagement ring, the wedding ring, and the suffering.

(They all start to laugh)

ARTHUR (GEORGE)

That's a good one. Hold on to that one.

HENRY

Yeah, one my pop use to say.

(A beat)

Anyway the usual?

ARTHUR (GEORGE)  
Nah, today I'm going fish n chips.

HENRY  
Oh switching it up I see. Special occasion?  
(Jokingly)  
You?  
(Turning to Theo)

NILE (THEO)  
Fuck it. I'll have the same.  
(Handing the menu back)

HENRY  
Coming right up.

Henry pours two beers for them and they walk over and take a seat.

Sped up film of them sitting together bored. They take sips of beer, a ticking clock plays in the background. Finally Henry arrives with their food.

HENRY (CONT'D)  
Here you lads are.  
(Setting the plates down in front of them)

NILE (THEO)  
Cheers.

ARTHUR (GEORGE)  
Finally.

HENRY  
(Chuckles a bit)  
Enjoy.

ARTHUR (GEORGE)  
Oh and two more beers please.

HENRY  
Coming right up.

Fast forward. George and Theo are sitting at the table, their dirty plates and 8 empty glasses line the table, suggesting they drank a good amount. Henry approaches the table.

HENRY (CONT'D)  
How was everything?  
(Grabbing their plates)

ARTHUR (GEORGE)  
My compliments to the chef.

HENRY  
(Chuckles)  
So you guys coming for opening day  
tomorrow? Millwall plays Coventry.

NILE (THEO)  
Uh...

ARTHUR (GEORGE)  
Of course. I never miss a game.

HENRY  
That's what I like to hear.  
(A beat)  
Two more beers on me lads.

Henry walks over to get the beers and Theo gives George a glance.

THEO  
We're going tomorrow?

GEORGE  
This is our chance. Come on... It's  
perfect.

Henry starts approaching with two of the beers.

HENRY  
Here you lads are.  
(Setting the beers down)  
Don't drink yet. I'm grabbing mine.

Henry returns to the bar to make one more beer. Theo looks at George again.

GEORGE  
We're going.  
(Firmly)

Theo reluctantly nods. Henry returns with his beer.

HENRY  
Okay. Cheers lads. To Millwall.

ALL  
To Millwall!

The three beers clink together ending the scene.

## 19. GEORGE'S HOME, DESK - NIGHT

George is sitting at his desk researching Millwall on his computer. A few more bottles of beer sat next to him.

GEORGE (V.O.)  
That night I studied harder than I  
ever had before. The clock struck 2  
AM. Time to go to bed.

George stands up, stumbling at first from the alcohol.

GEORGE (V.O.)  
I'm drunker than I thought.

He stumbled over to bed falling down on it.

GEORGE  
Uhhhhhh.  
(Groaning)

He pulled himself up to be in bed proper and loosely pulled a blanket over himself.

GEORGE (V.O.)  
When I tried to go to sleep,  
blurred highlights of the 2004 FA  
cup final filled my mind. I was  
ready for tomorrow.

## 20. SIDEWALK, DOWN THE STREET FROM THE BAR - NIGHT

George and Theo walk down the street each in a Millwall kit.

THEO  
So what's the plan?

GEORGE  
Tonight.... Let's just take it  
easy, try to not interact with  
anyone too much. Let's just watch  
and see how it all operates.

Theo nods his head.

THEO  
Okay.

The two approach the bar, but a bouncer is there.

ARTHUR (GEORGE)  
What's up?

BOUNCER

I ain't ever seen you before. Who  
the fuck are you lads?

Just then Henry (The bartender) comes outside to smoke a  
cigarette.

HENRY

Hey they're alright. They just  
moved here this summer.

BOUNCER

You know em?

HENRY

Yeah, yeah, they've been coming  
here every day for lunch.  
(He takes a big drag of  
his cigarette)  
I told them to come.

BOUNCER

If Henry vouches for you, you  
mus'be alright.

GEORGE AND THEO

Thanks.

(George nods to Henry)

HENRY

I'll see you guys in there, just  
give me a sec.  
(Holding up his cigarette)

George and Theo nod and head inside.

## 21. INT. INSIDE THE PUB, NIGHT

The pub is rowdy and full, the game just started and already  
half the people are hammered. They walk over and sit in a  
booth scanning the place.

THEO

Fuck they drunk already.

GEORGE

It's opening day Theo.  
(A beat)  
Of course they are.

THEO

Well, I think we need a beer to fit  
in. I'll go grab us some.

GEORGE

Thanks.

Theo stands up and walks over to the crowded bar. We take a moment and watch George scan the room. It switches back and forth from views of the bar to close ups of George's face. We see a group of men do a cheers and chug their beers, a big guy covered in sauce eating wings, women in Millwall kits acting a way you would never see when not in their kits. Henry approaches George.

HENRY

Ay, glad you could make it buddy.  
Sorry about the rough time getting  
in. Got a keep a tight ship you  
know.

(Taking a sip of his beer)

GEORGE

Yeah, I get it.

(A beat)

So... Sorry if this is obvious, but  
I just moved here. Is everyone in  
here a Millwall fan?

HENRY

I probably shouldn't tell you this,  
but I like you George.

(A beat)

We aren't just fans. We're  
Bushwackers. We back Millwall to  
the end.

Scene Pauses:

GEORGE (V.O.)

This was them. We were in the right  
place. I knew I had to act excited.

Scene unpauses:

GEORGE

Let's go!

HENRY

Yeah?

GEORGE

Yeah! I'm finally with people who  
give a fuck. Let's go Lions!

HENRY

Alright!



George and Henry dap each other up.

HENRY (CONT'D)  
Alright I gotta get back to work,  
it's crazy in here.

Henry stands up.

HENRY (CONT'D)  
I'll bring you a beer later on me.  
(He starts to walk away)  
If I can find you.

GEORGE  
Thanks Henry.  
(Nodding)

Theo comes with the beers.

THEO  
Here you go.  
(Sitting down)

GEORGE  
Thanks.

THEO  
Cheers.  
(A beat)  
To Millwall.

The two of them cheer and take a sip of their drink.

GEORGE  
Theo.

THEO  
Yeah?

GEORGE  
This is them.

THEO  
What?

GEORGE  
This is them...

THEO  
Who?

GEORGE  
The Bushwackers.

THEO

The who?

GEORGE

The Bushwackers.

(A beat)

Did you do any research?

(Shaking his head)

THEO

Just tell me in English.

(Taking a sip of his beer)

GEORGE

Not here.

(A beat)

Later.

(A beat)

I gotta take a leek.

George stands up and goes to the restroom. Theo stays sipping his beer.

22. INT. INSIDE THE PUB, BATHROOM - NIGHT

George walks up to a urinal.

23. INT. INSIDE THE PUB, BOOTH - NIGHT

Theo sips his drink and looks around the room.

24. INT. INSIDE THE PUB, BATHROOM - NIGHT

George is peeing.

25. INT. INSIDE THE PUB, BOOTH - NIGHT

Theo makes eye contact with a group of guys.

ONE GUY

Who the fuck are you mate?

Theo looks surprised and worried.

26. INT. INSIDE THE PUB, BATHROOM - NIGHT

George is still peeing.

27. INT. INSIDE THE PUB, BOOTH - NIGHT

The guys are up in Theo's face now.

ONE GUY  
Do you even support Millwall mate?  
(Aggressively)

THEO  
Of course I do.  
(Defensively)

28. INT. INSIDE THE PUB, BATHROOM - NIGHT

George is washing his hands now.

29. INT. INSIDE THE PUB, BOOTH - NIGHT

The guys are really up in Theo's face now.

ONE GUY  
You don't know shit about Millwall!  
How'd you even get in here?

30. INT. INSIDE THE PUB, BATHROOM - NIGHT

George is washing his face slowly. He cleans his hands with paper towels and exits the bathroom.

31. INT. INSIDE THE PUB - NIGHT

George walks out of the bathroom to a group of guys beating Theo up. George runs over.

GEORGE  
Hey, hey, hey! What are you doing?

ONE GUY  
Are you with him?

George nods. The guys instant start beating George too.

32. EXT. OUTSIDE THE BAR - NIGHT

George and Theo come flying out the front door and on to the pavement.

ONE GUY  
Fuck outta here!

The group walks back inside. George and Theo slowly move themselves into a seated position and look at each other.

GEORGE

What the fuck did you do?  
(Slowly)