

COME ON IN

Written by Jacob Hughes and Thomas James

EXT. LONDON SUBURBAN ROAD - AFTERNOON

PHIL, a skinny and scrawny 20 year old, stands outside a flat.

He wears glasses, along with a blue and white lanyard which reads *University of East Ham*.

He rings the door bell.

The door opens to reveal a woman in her mid 20s, dressed in jeans and a wooly jumper. This is JOSIE. She speaks in a friendly northern accent.

JOSIE

Hi, you must be Phil!

Phil is flustered. He finds Josie very attractive.

PHIL

Oh... hi, I came about the room viewing.

JOSIE

Oh great, how you doing? You alright?

Josie walks quickly to the stairs - still being friendly but eager for the tour not to go on for longer than it needs to be. She leaves the door open for Phil.

Phil stays stationary at the door-step.

Josie calls down from the stairs, realising that Phil has not followed her in.

JOSIE

Come on in then.

PHIL

Yes of course, of course, of course.

Josie watches this, in amusement as Phil hurries in.

INT. JOSIE'S HOUSE/SPARE BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Josie and Phil walk into an empty bedroom. The room is bare and contains only a bed and a wardrobe.

JOSIE

So this is the room. Rent is 600 a month with bills on top. This is a desk we've got... but you'd welcome to bring your own.

PHIL

Cool, cool.

Phil pulls out a notepad and begins to total up the costs. He writes *600 plus bills*.

Josie watches Phil closely, seeing that the notepad reads *University of East Ham*.

JOSIE
You a student then?

PHIL
Yeah I am, you?

JOSIE
(Laughs)
No, I'm 26. Ancient now... what do you study?

PHIL
Maths but its just my run-around...

JOSIE
(Smiling)
Your *run-around*?

PHIL
Yeah you know what I mean...

JOSIE
I do?

Phil is completely unsure how to respond to Josie, made uncomfortable by the silence.

Josie enjoys Phil's demeanour.

JOSIE
Where you living at the moment?

PHIL
Er... just Tooting. But, hoping to move somewhere a bit more trendy you know...

JOSIE
(Confused)
Trendy?

PHIL
Er, yeah

JOSIE
Is Tooting not trendy?

PHIL
Oh I dunno. Maybe just want something a bit more hip...

Josie looks confused, not really sure where Phil is going with this.

PHIL
Happening... Gucci perhaps?

Josie laughs.

JOSIE
That's funny.

Phil is surprised by this reaction, confused as it wasn't intended as a joke. He is quietly pleased with himself.

PHIL
What about you then?

Josie turns around on the stairs and looks at Phil.

JOSIE
What, where I live?

PHIL
Yeah

JOSIE
Well, I live here don't I?

Phil now watches Josie go into an empty room. He slaps himself on the face, mouthing *fuck!!*

INT. FRONT DOOR - A FEW MINUTES LATER

Phil and Josie now stand at the door together.

JOSIE
We're looking to get someone in ASAP really. When do you need a place?

PHIL
In about 2 weeks-ish...

JOSIE
Okay great, well just let me know. Sorry about the others not being here...
If you like the room, I'm sure we could all go to the pub or something.

PHIL
Yeah great! Can I get your number? -

Josie smiles back, eyes wide, taken back by this forward notion. Phil quickly changes his tone, realising what this seems like.

Phil quickly starts to salvage the situation.

PHIL
(Stuttering)
So, so that I can let you know... about the room? SpareRoom App doesn't work on my phone.

JOSIE
Yeah sure... give us your phone then?

Phil passes his phone over and watches Josie punch in her number. She hands it back to him.

JOSIE
You got anymore places to see?

CUT TO:

INT. OUTSIDE STEFANNO'S APARTMENT - ONE HOUR LATER

A long haired Italian man greets Phil at the door. He has a thick moustache, with the rest of his face just stubble.

A scarf is wrapped over his t-shirt. This is STEFANNO (32).

STEFANNO
Stefanno.

PHIL
Huh?

STEFANNO
I am Stefanno. You are here for house tour?

PHIL
Oh, yes...

Stefanno leans in and kisses Phil three times, alternating between the cheeks.

STEFANNO
(Beckoning to come in)
Welcome to my home. Come, come.

Phil walks into the lounge. He takes a scan around the flat. It's very bohemian with rugs pinned to the walls and pretentious art work (some of an erotic nature) all around.

Phil sees Stefanno opening up his cabinet of liquor.

STEFANNO
You want drink? We have Whisky, Cognac, Limoncello...

PHIL
Oh, well I wouldn't mind a wate-

Stefanno cuts him off and moves over to the lounge, a cognac in hand.

STEFANNO
So this is lounge, its very nice. Very comfortable. We sit here, we smoke weed, we talk about love. We talk about life.

Stefanno sits down on the coach and pats the sofa - indicating that Phil should now sit down.

STEFANNO
So, Neil?

PHIL

Phil.

STEFANNO

So, Phils. Tell me about yourself.

Phil is unsure what to say. Stefano stares at him, his pupils extremely wide.

PHIL

Oh, well I'm originally from the Isle of white, but I'm currently living in Tooting, but I want to live somewhere -

STEFANNO

No no no. Tell me something ABOUT YOURSELF. What are your hopes, what are you dreams?

PHIL

Oh, well... I like maths, I mean I study it.

Stefano slams the palms of his hands onto the desk in front of him.

STEFANNO

No!!! Dreams Neils, dreams!...

There is an awkward silence.

PHIL

Is it okay if I ask you a few questions?

Phil reaches into his bag and takes out his note pad again.

STEFANNO

(Sighing)

Okay. Go, go.

PHIL

So, was thinking it would be good to know how much roughly bills come to each month.

Stefano looks absently into the sky, before leaning in towards Phil.

Stefano

How do you like to make love?

PHIL

Er... what?

STEFANNO

Love, Neils. Tell me how you make love.

PHIL

Er... gently?

STEFANNO

I am like Tiger. Will you roar for me?

Phil gets up from his seat and manoeuvres himself to the front door. Stefano follows him.

PHIL

Really nice to meet you, I'll let you know about the room, okay?

STEFANNO

You going already?

PHIL

Sorry I've got another viewing to run to. Is it okay if I let you know?

STEFANNO

Okay, I have party I must get ready for.

Stefano stares at Phil, long and hard at the front door. He edges close to him and embraces him into a bear-like hug.

Phil stands still, not hugging back. His arms are left hanging in mid-air. This goes on for an uncomfortable stretch of time.

Stefano starts to smell him.

STEFANNO

(Whispering into his ear)

I like you Neils.

Phil edges out of the hug and starts trying to open the door to leave.

PHIL

(Walking out the door)

And you. I'll let you know soon!

EXT. OUTSIDE STEFANNO'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Phil takes a deep breath, relieved he is now outside. He feels his phone vibrate. It reads:

Really nice to meet you earlier. What you doing tomorrow? X

- JOSIE

Phil is surprised.

He takes out his phone and begins to try and text back. He experiments with a series of different greetings.

Hi there...

Hi...

Yo yo...

Hello...

Hey...

He nods to himself, settling for *Hey*.

Hey, nice to meet you too. Not really anything, wbu?

Phil lets out a deep exhale, walks to the bus stop to go to his next viewing.

EXT. LAURA'S FLAT - LATER THAT DAY/EVENING

Phil stands outside Laura's flat, in New Cross.

From the outside of the flat the sound of drum n bass reverberating can be heard.

Phil anxiously looks towards the door but sees that the front door is open. He creeps in before stumbling into Laura (22). He is clearly very drunk.

She wears a shirt and top - dressed for a house party.

LAURA
Can I help you?

PHIL
Um, I'm here for the room viewing?

LAURA
Oh my god... I completely forgot... Errrrr, we can do it quickly now if you'd like?

PHIL
Oh, no, no, I can do it another day -

LAURA
Don't be so silly, come on in.

Phil hesitantly enters into the flat.

INT. LAURA'S LOUNGE - EVENING

Phil walks into the flat's lounge. It is a room full of half a dozen people pre-drinking; on their way out for a night out.

The floor is messy - covered in empty bottles, drug paraphernalia and rizzlers.

LAURA (CONT'D)
(Shouting over the loud music)

I hope you don't mind, we have some friends over! So, this is the lounge.

Phil looks extremely uncomfortable. He turns to Laura, clearly not hearing what she had said.

Phil starts shouting back to Laura.

PHIL
What!?

LAURA
I said, this is the lounge!

PHIL
Oh!

LAURA
Got a TV and also a desk over there. You'd be welcome to use it by the way.

Phil looks over to the desk, watching two girls sniffing lines of coke off it.

PHIL
Oh... great!

LAURA
And when was it that you were thinking of moving in!?

PHIL
Sometime within the next couple of weeks. When do you need somebody by!?

LAURA
What?!

PHIL
When do you need somebody by?!

LAURA
Yeah, sounds good. Let me show you the kitchen!

Laura takes Phil's hand and leads him into the kitchen.

INT. LAURA'S KITCHEN - EVENING

Laura and Phil are in the kitchen together. Laura goes up to the cooker. It's very dirty and contains empty pots and pans, with food that has been left there for days.

LAURA
Can I get you a drink?

PHIL
I'm alright, thank you.

Phil's phone VIBRATES again. It's Josie.

Well, I got a friends birthday thing but I'm about in the morning if you fancied getting a coffee? X

- Josie

Phil goes to reply, before hearing a loud crash at the door coming from the hallway. Phil is startled as he hears the sound of an Italian man.

STEFANO (O.S)
Never fear, Stefano is here.

Phil looks worryingly towards Laura. Laura rolls her eyes.

LAURA
Fuck sake... (calling) Jenny, Jenny! He's back again...

PHIL
Um, do you have a bathroom I could use?

LAURA
What?

PHIL
Do you have a bathroom that I could use!?

LAURA
No, we use the sink.

Phil stares at Laura in disbelief.

After a few moments, Laura lets out an extremely ugly sounding laugh.

LAURA (CONT'D)
I'm only messing, it's just up the stairs and on the right.

PHIL
Right. Thank you.

INT. LAURA'S CORRIDOR - EVENING

Phil walks out of the kitchen, into the corridor, walking past the lounge.

He sees through the door that Stefano is violently dancing to drum n bass music with a blunt hanging out of his mouth.

Whilst Stefano is not looking, Phil quickly enters into the bathroom and closes the door behind him.

INT. LAURA'S BATHROOM - EVENING

Phil slumps down onto the toilet seat and lets out a large sigh.

He looks to his phone, to the same message that he got from Josie earlier.

Josie:

Well, I got a friends birthday thing but I'm about in the morning if you fancied getting a coffee? X

Phil, still very surprised by the text, gleefully decides to text back.

Phil:

Yeah okay. That would be nice :)

Phil sees that Josie is typing back, *already*.

Josie:

How about Hilly Fields for 11 AM? Xx

Phil:

Okay. See you there!

Phil hears a hand at the door.

STEFANNO (O.S)
Come on, what's taking so long?

PHIL
Oh... sorry, I'm just finishing up.

STEFANNO
Neils! Is that you?

PHIL
No. This is... (Deep voice) Derick.

STEFANNO
Neil, neil. You're not fooling me. Come on Neil, let me in.

Phil looks terrified, completely unsure what to do. He sees a window open above the sink.

He hears Stefano become angry.

STEFANNO (O.S)
Neils, come on now. Don't make me angry.

Stefanno starts beating the door down.

STEFANNO (O.S)
(More aggressive)
Neils, don't make me angry.

LAURA (O.S)
What the fuck do you think you're doing?

Phil can hear that the atmosphere of the party has changed. With the music now off, the party has become hostile - all can be heard is the sound of an Italian man beating the living daylights out of the door.

LAURA (O.S)

Seriously, what the fuck? Someone call the police.

Phil panics and climbs out the window.

EXT. BEHIND LAURA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Phil climbs through the window, into Laura's back-garden. In the distance, he hears the sound of police sirens approaching the house.

He runs into the night.

INT. PHIL'S BEDROOM - NEXT MORNING

Phil stirs in his bed, turning to his clock that reads 11:02 AM. He picks up his phone to see that he's got a text from Josie.

Hey, we still on for 11? I'll leave now x

- Josie

Phil panics, having completely forgot about this arrangement. He sends a text back,

Yes, all good. Sorry running late.

- Phil

Phil frantically gets changed, heads out the door and towards the bus stop to go and meet Josie.

EXT. HILLY FIELDS - 25 MINUTES LATER

Phil arrives at Hilly Fields. He looks at his reflection on his phone and attempts to fix his now extremely messy hair.

A message pops up from Josie.

I see you. To your right.

- Josie

Phil looks up to see Josie waving to him from the right hand-side from a park bench. He walks to her.

JOSIE

Heeeeey! I didn't know what you drink, so I ordered you a green tea, is that okay?

PHIL

Oh, yeah, of course. I love green tea

Phil tentatively sits down and takes a sip. This is clearly not his drink of choice.

JOSIE

How were all the viewings?

PHIL
(Sighs)
Eventful

JOSIE
Oh okay, well I won't ask...

Josie notices how Phil is not at ease - looking flustered.

JOSIE
Are you sure you're okay?

PHIL
I'm fine...

There is a pause. Phil decides to open up, his uptight facade finally drops.

PHIL
Can I ask you something?

JOSIE
Yeah sure.

PHIL
Do you think first impressions are important?

JOSIE
Um... no, not really. Why?

PHIL
I don't know. I just feel like with viewing flats everyone's putting on a certain persona. It's difficult to know who to trust. Like you, for example, seem very nice but I literally know nothing about you - yet here we are having a coffee ... (long pause) you did mean to text me right, not another person called Phil?

JOSIE
Yes, I meant to text you... I suppose what you're saying is true. What were you expecting from a first meet though?

This question stops Phil in his tracks.

PHIL
I don't... really know.

JOSIE
Well, what did you think of me?

PHIL
Very nice, I guess but again I just met you.

JOSIE

Well, why don't you get to know me then?

Phil relaxes and starts chatting away to Josie. They got along great. The
CAMERA PANS out.