

BLINDSIDED

by Simon Stephens

Final rehearsal draft 25.10.13

The Royal Exchange Theatre Company
St. Ann's Square
Manchester, M2 7DH
www.royalexchange.co.uk

Cathy Heyer
John Connolly
Susan Heyer
Ruthy Heyer
Siobhan Hennessey
Isaac Berg
Harry Connolly

Part One is set in Reddish, Stockport in the early Spring of 1979.
Part Two is set in Peel on the Isle of Man in early Spring 1997.

An interval might fall more happily between scenes eight and nine than between Parts One and Two.

The same actor who plays John Connolly should play Harry Connolly
The same actor who plays Susan Heyer in Part One should play Cathy Heyer in Part Two.

1.

John Connolly and Cathy Heyer. Outside the front of her house.

CATHY What are you doing?

What are you doing outside our house? Are you completely deaf or something?

JOHN No.

CATHY Why are you standing outside our house?

JOHN I'm delivering pamphlets.

CATHY You're doing what?

JOHN For the Conservative Party. Have you thought about who you're going to vote for in the next election?

CATHY Are you being serious?

JOHN Don't I look it?

CATHY You don't exactly look like a politician.

JOHN I'm not a politician.

CATHY You're not exactly dressed like a politician.

JOHN I'm not a politician. Can we count on your vote in the next election?

CATHY You look more like a psychopath than a politician.

JOHN Flipping heck. I'm not a psychopath either.

CATHY You look like a serial killer. You look really strange.

JOHN Thank you.

CATHY You don't talk like a politician either. A politician wouldn't say "Flipping heck" Not right to somebody's face. Why are you dressed like that?

JOHN Like what?

CATHY Like that. With your big coat?

JOHN It's cold.

CATHY But you're not dressed like somebody dressed for the cold you're dressed like somebody trying to look interesting. Is it cause you're an intellectual?

JOHN No. What?

CATHY Is it because you're all sad and gloomy?

JOHN Can we count on your vote in the next general election?

CATHY Aren't you a bit young to be in the Conservative Party?

JOHN Not anymore. Not nowadays. All sorts of people are in the Conservative Party nowadays.

CATHY Yeah. Mad people.

JOHN I'm probably going to go now.

CATHY I should know and all.

JOHN What do you mean?

CATHY You're John Connolly.

Pause.

CATHY You're John Connolly aren't you?

JOHN How do you know my name?

CATHY How do you think?

JOHN I've absolutely no idea.

CATHY I've watched you every day for the past three weeks.

 You live on Southcliffe Road off Reddish Road by the Golf Club. You only just came here. You're training to be an accountant. You're working for Jason Kirkby as his assistant. You come from Bradwell. In the Hope Valley. Which is dump. Believe me, if anybody knows whether or not you look sad and gloomy its me and you do so there you are. You better just live with it because it's actually the truth. I'm Cathy.

 Hi.