Amoursha Zairkesh Casting

DES BUTLER

INT. PUB - NIGHT

Ivan sits in the far corner of a pub having a coffee. Richard Milat drinks a beer. Richard's doing almost all of the talking as...

(MORE)

AT ANOTHER SPOT IN THE PUB -

A ways away, out of the Milats' line of sight, Paul Douglas and Des Butler talk over beers. Des' wife, LYNN, sits next to them. Des glances towards Richard in the far corner, hushed and worried:

DES BUTLER

...You were there, he said it: 'There're more bodies out there.' Why would he say that?

PAUL DOUGLAS

I don't know, mate, a lot of people are saying that--

DES BUTLER (O.S.)

--And the Germans. He said the Germans was still out there.

PAUL DOUGLAS

The papers are saying that too.

DES BUTLER

He said it months ago.

PAUL DOUGLAS

I know, I know.

DES BUTLER

(hushed) Miller the Killer - that's what we called him. I been shooting with him and his brothers. I went once. Never again. They're all nuts.

PAUL DOUGLAS

Mate... are you thinking of calling someone about him?

DES BUTLER

Fuuuck, four people are dead.

Beat. Paul looks down, then worried:

PAUL DOUGLAS

Miller told me once... some Italians was building a house across from him. One of them said something about his sister. Miller and his brothers — they went and kicked the shit out of those I-ties. He told me anyone dobs on him for any reason... he'll get `em. He'll surprise `em. If he's up for murder or something, he's going away for life — so what's the difference? That's what he said.

Des just stares at him. Lynn looks at Des.

LATER -

Back of the pub, late, Des is pretty drunk and Lynn sort of drunk as he puts a coin into the public phone box. The phone book is already open to a page:

LYNN BUTLER

It's the right thing to do.

DES BUTLER

I'm doing it! (punches the number) See?!

Sits, waits, then over the phone:

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)

Crimestoppers. Can we help you?

Panic. Des stares at the phone, then hushed:

DES BUTLER

Yeah...uh... this guy who used... to be at my work. He talked about ...them dead... backpackers.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)

Yes, sir. What did he say?

DES BUTLER

When he has a few cones he talks and talks and you can't shut him up, you know, he goes on and on--

Lynn realizes Des is the one blabbering on, hushed:

LYNN BUTLER

--Des!

He looks at his wife, gets it, stops, then:

DES BUTLER

--Yeah. He just... well, he said... there was more bodies out there. And this was before - way before they was found.-

Des Butler is as drunk as he sounds. Lynn shakes her head as she listens to him.

DES BUTLER (CONT'D)

--And his family. They're GUN CRAZY. They got enough for an army. I've seen the bloody things. I've been out shooting with them and fuuuck they... (what am I saying?!) ...I mean just shooting at trees and roos and not... He calls himself Paul Miller but his family calls him Richard and their last name is... Milat. So...

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)
And what's your name, sir?

DES BUTLER What? Uh... (beat, then Des hangs up)

LYNN BUTLER
What are you doing?
DES BUTLER
I'm not gonna leave my fucking name, that's what I'm NOT doing.