DC The Beginning
Episodes 1-8, new draft 26th April

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INT. TRAIN ZIPPING THROUGH NORFOLK COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

We see a missing person's poster in Joy's hand. It's HOPE, a friend of our story's hero, JOY AMICABLE.

JOY (V.O.)

I must find Hope. They say that nobody's seen her since she was helping the Fallen Angels.

We're on a train to Great Snoring, Norfolk. A young woman (Joy) in a trench coat and fedora hat.

Joy folds the missing person's poster and tucks it in her coat breast pocket.

She picks up her notebook and taps her pen on a note about Hope: 'Fallen Angels', 'H&H' - and, on the last row - 'parents?'

The lively villages pass by and the wind beating the lush green pastures gradually fades into a faceless glass-and-steel city, towering in the distance.

EXT. GRAND CENTRAL STATION - DAY

The train pulls up at the grand central station in Great Snoring. Detective Joy through the dispersing smoke, we encounter a horde of corporate looking apparatchiks.

JOY

The epidemic of missing people seem to bother no-one...

Missing people posters fly with the wind. Our figure pushes through the crowd, evading their eyes.

JOY (CONT'D)

And who are all these people anyway? Their gaze is intense, but I can't tell if they're happy or just lost.

As Joy walks through the crowd, an ominous SILHOUETTED FIGURE follows Joy with their gaze.

EXT. GREAT SNORING CITY CENTRE, MAIN STREET - DAY

Narrow city streets bustling with people. We lock on a down and out executive behind a cardboard sign: BUTTER ME UP.

We see the ominous silhouette behind Joy in a dark alley.







JOY

Yeah, something's strange is going on in the neighbourhood all right, but I can't put my finger on it. I smell a rat.

EPISODE 2

EXT. DESERTED ALLEY - MOMENTS LATER

Joy's notebook CU: Joy jots down a note about Hope

- Benedict's
- Milkshake Bar

She walks along a deserted alley.

JOY

The alley was fit for the living dead. I was curious.

As she turns the corner, Joy sees places she used to frequent with Hope, that are now derelict.

JOY (CONT'D)

'Benedict's Knick-knacks.' I have been to this shop.

She sees another familiar place (off-screen or Joy's reaction).

JOY (CONT'D)

Happy Cows Milkshake Bar.. Hope loved it there..

Joy passes a disoriented looking man, sitting against a brick wall with an advertising billboard on it: We build with Soul.

She holds him by the collar, staring into his vacant eyes.

JOY (CONT'D)

"Have you seen my friend Hope?...Hello - anybody in there?"

EXT. STREET CORNER GARDEN - CONTINUOUS

Through a nearby chain-link fence, Joy observes...

JOY

A slight, weary looking woman. Still smiling, while pulling the curtains. How strange...People are behaving in a most peculiar fashion. Hmm.







Below the windows, a sedated looking man digs in the garden.

JOY (CONT'D)

What's this? Pretty weird.

Joy is snapped out of the man's intense gaze...by a donation girl - it's Hope!

HOPE

Donation for the Fallen Angels, miss?

All the changing imagery of the once familiar city swirls around Joy's head...What can she believe in?

JOY

Hope? That's you, right?

What is going on..?

EPISODE 3

EXT. THE AMICABLES HOUSE - EVENING

Title card in a missing person style.

Outside Joy's suburban house in Great Snoring. Binmen are going through the family's rubbish, watched by a black stray cat. One of the binmen feeds the cat with scraps from the bin, while keeping an eye on the house. On the bin lorry we see a HH logo with "Hogwash Hygienist" text underneath it.

The other man sends a hand signal to a nearby car. Strangely, we hear a walkie-talkie voice directing the binmen.

BINMEN WALKIE-TALKIE

It's all clear. Collect all the dirt you can.

From the street, we can see Joy yawning and stretching, through the upstairs window of her father's study.

INT. JOSEPH'S STUDY - EVENING

A voice wakes up Joy, who has fallen asleep in her father's study:

HOPE

Donation for the Fallen Angels, miss?

INT. JOSEPH'S STUDY - EVENING

Joy bounces up, shaken from her reverie:





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