

CHLOE

No, it'd be really boring for Chris to play with me on my own.

TOM

Well it's really boring for him to play with me but he's a good sport. And anyway...you've got better legs than I've got. Chop-chop.

CHRIS

Don't be silly. I teach people who have never held a racket.

CHLOE

I'm so bad.

Tom turns, exits.

CHRIS

That's how you get better. Playing with a stronger player. Come on.

CHRIS

Okay.

They begin playing.

CUT TO:

EXT. HEDLEY ESTATE SWIMMING POOL TERRACE -- DAY

Chloe and Chris walk along the terrace.

CHLOE

Was I dreadful?

CHRIS

Not at all. You have a very unique style.

CHLOE

Yeah, it's called clumsy. How did you get to be so good, anyway? Tom says you played some of the greats.

CHRIS

For me, it was a way out of a poor existence. Caught the eye of a good coach. I don't know. It all came so easy at first.

CHLOE

Do you enjoy teaching?

CHRIS

Not really. I mean, it's okay for now but I'd cut my throat if I thought I had to do it forever. I'd like to do something with my life. You know, special. I'd like to make a contribution.

CHLOE

So you're a poor boy from Ireland come to London.

CHRIS

I love it. It's so exciting and alive. I've never seen so much art or theatre. Not that I've taken much advantage of it yet.

CHLOE

Well, look, if you'd like someone to show you around...I grew up in Belgravia, I'd be happy to take you to all the good places.

CHRIS

That'd be great. On one condition: I buy the tickets.

CHLOE

Oh dear, is that going to be an issue?

CHRIS

I'm afraid it is. I'm very old fashioned. But actually I did read something about the exhibition in the Saatchi Gallery.

CHLOE

That's perfect. It'd be my pleasure to take you.

CHRIS

You're very kind to offer this. Can I at least give you some free tennis lessons?

CHLOE

Okay, it's a deal. How about Wednesday for the Saatchi?

CHRIS
I can do that.

CHLOE
Shall we meet for lunch first?

CHRIS
It's a date. I'd better get ready.
Your guests will be arriving soon.

CHLOE
Yeah, yeah, of course. Go.

CHRIS
A sweaty tennis player's hardly
what they expect.

CUT TO:

EXT. HEDLEY ESTATE GROUNDS -- DAY

Guests mill about on the lawn.

CUT TO:

INT. HEDLEY ESTATE STAIRS -- CONTINUOUS

Chris enters, brushing off his suit jacket. He passes through a doorway and into the library, then down another corridor, and approaches a ping pong table.

NOLA (O.S.)
So -- who's my next victim? You?

CHRIS
I haven't played table tennis in
quite a while.

NOLA
Would you like to play for a
thousand pounds a game?

CHRIS
What did I walk into?

They play. Chris smashes the ping pong ball across the table.
He smiles.

NOLA
What did *I* walk into?