

BLANCMANGETOOTS

by

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First Draft

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BLANCMANGETOOTS

The action takes place on a housing estate in Sale, Greater Manchester, a little way in the future.

Sound is really important and builds up throughout the play in layers.

Ideally a short throw projector would be used for Twitter-feed and water FX - but this is not essential

This extract currently runs at 17 minutes.

STAGING

The action happens in three different playing areas, labeled in the stage directions as (1) (2) and (3)

There are various ways of making this work; promenade, lighting, different levels in a conventional end on space. This will depend on the tech and space available, and the directors vision

I imagine it with the audience sitting in the centre of the space in a rough triangle shape, with playing spaces on three sides around them: SR corner (1), SL corner (2), and (3) the auditorium.

Extra levels could be added by rostra on wheels, or in the auditorium the seating rake could be used

Scenes overlap and play simultaneously with the audience turning to face wherever the action is happening. This should feel a bit like the TV series 24 - but sillier.

THE REST OF THE PLAY

BLANCMANGETOOTS is the first part of a 3 act play, which ends when LILY is born in the front room of a Sale housing estate while her mother is being put under arrest.

Act 2 tells the story of Lily's sudden rise to fame as an unlikely prophet 'the Sale Messiah' with some unique ideas on how to change the world, while Act 3 deals with her swift and catastrophic fall, in the "End of Sale Messiah".

CAST

NINA - Manchester graffiti artist, 42, tough, wiry, any race

ALLY - Midwife, gentle, optimistic, 30s, any race.

DESI - Nina's daughter, nicely spoken, 23, mixed race

PC DAWES - obstinate, never off her phone, white Londoner

PC ROY - young, sympathetic, 20's, black

OFFICER RHODRI (middle aged, welsh, white) & FETAL LAWYER (a suit) - played by the same actor

MRS PEKE - dyed hair, plastic jewelry eccentric, elderly, any race

LILY (FETUS) - voice only. Talks like a 70 year old smoker, strong Manchester accent

ACT I

SCENE 1

(1) LIGHTS UP NINA'S FLAT

FAINT BLEEP OF A HEART MONITOR

NEWS PRESENTER
(V.O.)

And the Personhood bill has passed its final stages in the House of Lords today; from now on all unborn children from 6 weeks until birth on are deemed to have full citizenship rights under UK law...

FADE OUT

NINA

So this is how it was

(shut your eyes so you can see it better)

Saturday morning. Breakfasts over - kiddies screeching up and down the corridor - radio's playing Legacy - a balls being kicked up against the wall again and again and again and again

SFX FADE IN GRADUALLY

and I'm 9 months pregnant - 2 weeks overdue but its always like this - runs in the family. I'm 42 so I'm defined as a geriatric mother, but its my fourth so I know what I'm doing, well I bloody should do by now shouldn't I [CALLS] Go and kick that ball somewhere else!

Desi's down the shop getting cake.

A MOBILE STARTS RINGING CONTINUOUSLY

Got to have cake when you're having a baby, you need the energy see. Cake, tea, wine for after. Rosé's best. Something light. And Jamaica cake, there's a lot of energy in Jamaica cake, but it does stick to your teeth.

When that phone stops ringing I get my first contraction.

Wait for it.

MOBILE GIVES FINAL RING THEN STOPS

[CONTRACTION]

I remember that feeling - now I'm properly awake. In this family when they come they come quick. Start timing the gaps.

STOPWATCH SFX

And call Desi

SKYPE NOISE

LIGHTS UP ON (2)

DESI

[ON PHONE] it'll cost you double and then she'll tell you she's fully booked, I wouldn't bother if I was you...

ACT I

SCENE 2

(2) LOCAL SUPERMARKET, PERSONHOOD POSTERS ON THE WALL, SELF SERVICE TILLS, SPECIAL OFFERS, DISCOUNTS, ETC

DESI ON HER PHONE

NINA Desi its a Jamaica cake not the ingredients for a fuckin banquet so get your arse up here now. Excuse the language

DESI Mum? [TO OTHER CALLER] Hold on I think my mum's in labour [TO NINA] I'm getting you grapes. Seedless.

NINA Don't bother I hate grapes

(2) DESI CONTINUES WITH HER CALL AS SHE OPERATES SELF SERVICE TILL

DESI [ON PHONE] now she says she hates grapes she ate enough of them when we were in Spain [...] yeah I think that must be it

(1) NINA'S FLAT

NINA Why is she always giving me fruit? Mind you they do come in handy later though

CONTRACTION

That's the thing about that having a baby, once its started there's no stopping it, no timeout, no homey, none of that shit

SKYPE INCOMING CALL

Its Ally.

the midwife

ALL 3 SPACES ARE NOW ACTIVE -

(3) ALLY AT HOME ON HER LAPTOP

NINA Yes?

ALLY Any action?

NINA Only had two so far. But its the real thing. She's coming.

ALLY

On my way

(3) ALLY GETS HER KIT, LEAVES FLAT

(2) DESI PAYS FOR SHOPPING AT SELF
SERVICE TILL(1) NINA DRAGS OUT THE BIRTHING POOL
AND STARTS FILLING IT FROM A HOSE

RUNNING WATER (IMAGES AND SFX) IN (1)

NINA

C sections are compulsory at my age unless you have some sort of allergy. Told them I was allergic to being sliced open but that doesn't count apparently. I'm not interested in suing anyone I said, I just don't want major surgery without good reason. I'm on my own with a baby to look after, I cant be laid up for all that time. They just told me to turn up on the day with my nightie and toothbrush.

So I said yeah alright then and left

(2) DESI TEARS PERSONHOOD POSTER OFF
THE WALL, LEAVES THE SHOP

NEXT SCENE STARTS, DIALOGUE OVERLAPS

I didn't ask my boys to come. They would have done, but - them seeing my vagina up close doing its thing - it feels weird. I'm a feminist and all that and they know how to clean a toilet but

[CONTRACTION]

my fanny and I don't have to justify myself

ACT I

SCENE 3

(1) NINA STILL TALKING

(3) DESI WALKING ALONG CORRIDOR TO
NINA'S FLAT

DESI [ON PHONE] Yeah they already sent her one - whats it called CSO compulsory surgery order - but she didn't go [...] Basically she's committing a crime, police could turn up at any minute and arrest her [...] yeah she's still an urban regenerist that's graffiti artist to you and me [...] Well who does get maternity leave these days, mind you ever since Banksey got his CBE everyone wants something tasteful sprayed on their orifices [...] Offices. Call you later

ALLY APPROACHING FROM THE OTHER
DIRECTION

Hey. Police not on your tail then

ALLY Its not illegal yet, there's still a few loopholes

DESI Like

ALLY Like that condition where you die if you're exposed to sunlight -

DESI Being a vampire?

ALLY Solar urticaria its called. Allergy to anesthetic, agoraphobia, a few other things. And thank goodness for the loopholes because otherwise I wouldn't have a license

DESI That blonde twat. This is all his fault.

ALLY The father you mean

DESI No. Our so called prime minister - and that dickhead in the White House, his new bestie. I'd like to C section his arse

ALLY Keep focused. It'll be fine.

ALLY PULLS A RADIO OUT OF HER BAG

DESI What you doing?

ALLY Checking the police frequency...

RADIO (V.O.) *"Krispy Kremes are diabetes waiting to
happen...get me a pretzel will you and
I'll see you back in the vehicle"*

DESI You're such a pro

ALLY We're good.

THEY EXIT THE CORRIDOR

RUNNING WATER (IMAGES AND SFX) IN (3)

ACT I

SCENE 4

(1) NINA GETS INTO THE POOL

WATER FX/ IMAGES SURROUND AND ENVELOP
HER AND THE AUDIENCE.

ITS SOOTHING

NINA Its almost the same buzz as when I'm
working - a bit painful a bit annoying but
its all you can think about. And then
you're nearly there and you wonder - what
have I done? What have I made?

SHE LIES BACK IN THE WATER

Hello

You in there?

BEAT

LILY (V.O) Where else am I gonna be? Outside Budgeons
having a smoke?

NINA (TENDER) Just checking you're OK. I think
you're coming soon. You excited?

LILY (V.O) Sort of.

Wheres the door then

NINA Its more of a chute really - like a flume
in a Waterpark

LILY (V.O) Flume? Waterpark? Talk sense woman, I've
seen nowt but whats in here

NINA I thought we went while I was pregnant.

LILY (V.O) No. We were up a ladder most of the time
spraying that bloody stuff on the walls,
honestly, call that art

NINA Well when you're out we'll all go and
that's a promise - there's one in
Altringham, the boys love it. A flume's
like this long dark tunnel with water
coming down the sides, you slide along it,
then you shoot out the end - and Ally'll
catch you.

Cant wait to meet you, you sound like a
laugh

LILY (V.O) I am. I'm a cure me

NINA That's the kind of thing Nana Forbes used
to say. Hey you're not Nana Forbes
reincarnated are you? I'm not sure I'm up
for that

LILY (V.O) That drunken al' sack! Not bloody likely

NINA Hey. Don't talk about your nana like that

LILY (V.O) Sorry.

NINA It's alright. You're probably a bit
nervous aren't you?

LILY (V.O) No I'm not. Nerves of steel me

NINA Its OK to be scared you know. I'm a bit
jumpy myself

BEAT

LILY (V.O) If I get stuck will you tell me what I
have to do - cos I have no idea

NINA Yeah you do.

...

Here we go

[CONTRACTION]

WATER FX CUTS OUT SUDDENLY

ACT I

SCENE 5

(3) LIGHTS UP ON POLICE STATION

PC DAWES ON HER MOBILE, PC ROY AT THE
COMPUTER

DS RHODRI ENTERS

DS RHODRI Right then troops - Amendment 2's finally legal! Are we ready?

PC DAWES Yaaay! Go Personhood!

DS RHODRI PC Roy?

PC ROY Yes sir

DS RHODRI Nina Tiddsall, 42, single, fourth child overdue. Neighbour asked when she was going into hospital to have the baby and Ms Tidsall says (and I quote) I'd rather eat my own verrucas

PC DAWES That's it, we got her

DS RHODRI It's not exactly what you'd call hard evidence Dawes - though I agree its dodgy. Our job is to ensure the protection of the unborn child using every means possible - so what do we do?

PC DAWES Arrest her?

PC ROY Do some background checks, then reassess?

DS RHODRI First we follow it up, with boring, time consuming detailed police work -

PC DAWES But sir she's probably in a backstreet now, giving birth on a dirty rag while smoking crack from a pipe

DS RHODRI Doesn't matter, we follow procedure - family mobiles, digital assistants, credit cards, email, Facebook, not that anyone does that anymore

PC DAWES I do

DS RHODRI And what do we find? Birthing pool ordered from Aldi (bit niche for them isn't it) supermarket spend increase, suggestive phone calls to a registered midwife...

PC DAWES Probably operating without insurance

DET SUPT Well she will be after this. And here's
the clincher - we just pulled this off the
suspect's sons mobile

GETS HIS MOBILE OUT

DEXTER (V.O.) Mums waters just broke

TOMMO (V.O.) No shit

DS RHODRI Boom

PC DAWES I love watching you work sir.

PC ROY But that doesn't actually prove anything
does it?

PC DAWES Send it over to me sir I want to try
something

THEY TAP PHONES

I just got this new app, hold on a mo

SHE ADDS A BACKING TRACK, MIXES,
PRESSES PLAYS

BACKING TRACK STARTS

DEXTER (V.O.) Mums waters just broke

TOMMO (V.O.) No sh sh sh shit

*DS RHODRI (V.O.) To ensure the protection of the unborn
child using every means possible'*

TOMMO (V.O.) No sh sh sh shit

DS RHODRI Whats the app called? I'm getting it

PC DAWES Yo mix yo shit.

DS RHODRI That is absolutely brilliant.

DEXTER (V.O.) Mums waters just broke

TOMMO (V.O.) No sh sh sh shit

PC DAWES AND DS RHODRI START GROOVING

PC ROY What are you doing? That's evidence you're
dancing to!

Bloody college graduates - keep your eye
on him Dawes

PC DAWES

Yes sir

DS RHODRI EXITS

This is gonna be brilliant. I just
tweeted - look

[READS] Off to save the day under our
newest law #fetusrules #selfishmoms
@personhoodrocks

and here's the link -

DEXTER (V.O.)

Mums waters just broke

TOMMO (V.O.)

No sh sh sh shit

DS RHODRI (V.O.)

*To ensure the protection of the unborn
child using every means possible'*

TOMMO (V.O.)

No sh sh sh shit

SOUND OF THE 'LIKES' COMING IN

TWITTER FEED PROJECTED ON WALL

STOP MUM! THINK OF YOUR BABY!

SELFISH MIDDLE CLASS MOMMIES

#SICKOFIT #LOCKEMUP

WHAT WILL YOU TELL YOUR DISABLED
CHILD YOU SICK EVIL BITCH

PC ROY

I'm not sure that's what the police
twitter feed's actually meant for

PC DAWES

Course it is.

Oh my god its trending!

THEY EXIT

ACT I

SCENE 6

(3) ALLY & DESI HURRYING DOWN THE
CORRIDOR ON THEIR WAY TO NINA'S

(1) NINA IS IN THE POOL

AUDIENCE MEMBERS HOLD SIGNS SAYING
#PERSONHOODROCKS #BADMOMMY "CHILDREN
FIRST" "NEW LIVES MATTER"

ALLY [TO AUDIENCE] What are all these people
doing here

DESI [CHECKING TWITTER] Get to Parkhill Flats
now help stop the #badmommy - oh my god
its a Twitter storm

ALLY Ignore it

DESI Are you kidding [SHE STARTS TYPING]

TWITTER FEED SCROLLING DOWN THE WALL

A WOMAN'S RIGHT TO CHOOSE
#MYBODYMYCHOICE

GET OUT OF MY OVARIES MOTHERFUCKERS

HOW CAN YOU PUT YOUR CHILD AT RISK
#ITSNOTYOURLIFE #BADMOMMY

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE STATE HAS TO
SUPPORT YOUR CHILD #BADMOMMY

DESI [SHOUTS TO AUDIENCE] Have any of you
losers actually had a baby?

ALLY Don't Desi, you'll make it worse

SKYPE NOISE AS SHE CALLS NINA

Nina? OK?

NINA I'm good, we're both good.

ALLY No pushing yet, we'll be there in a minute

NINA Yeah yeah. Any trouble?

ALLY Nothing we cant handle, sit tight

NINA I'm not going anywhere [ENDS CALL]

LIGHTS STAY UP ON (1)

ALLY AND DESI IN CORRIDOR (3)

ALLY Time to call in Mrs Peke?

DESI Yup [TO DEMONSTRATORS] Go home you saddos.
Come on then, this one's hers

DESI AND ALLY KNOCK ON A DOOR, THEN
CALL THROUGH THE LETTERBOX

ALLY Mrs Peke! Are you there?

DESI Mrs Peke - its Nina's daughter, remember

THE DOOR OPENS SUDDENLY. AN OLD LADY
WITH JET BLACK HAIR AND FLUFFY
SLIPPERS COMES OUT PULLING A TROLLEY.

MRS PEKE Lets give your poor mum a break shall we

POLICE SIRENS, CAR PULLS UP

That'll be the fuzz!

DESI No one says fuzz any more Mrs Peke, its
obsolete

MRS PEKE Right then. That's told me. What about
'the pigs' is that any better

DESI No

ALLY They'll be coming up in the lift

MRS PEKE I'll go and head em off, you get
yourselves over to Nina's

DESI Nice one Mrs Peke, good luck

MRS PEKE GOES OFF SINGING

MRS PEKE *Diamonds are forever...they are all I need
to please me...*

DESI AND ALLY RUN TOWARDS NINA'S FLAT

ACT 1

SCENE 7

(1) NINA'S FLAT.

NINA Police are on their way, Mrs Peke's doing her best but she wont hold em for long, and there's a little hard edge of panic in me - just here - the baby's gonna come right now when I'm on my own. Everyone's right and I am a selfish bastard.

 [TO LILY] You OK in there?

LILY (V.O) I'm feeling it, on the edge, bring it on - I want to see the bright lights, get me out of here - its happening - its now the time is now

NINA You're so funny. We're gonna have a right laugh you and me

LILY (V.O) I want I want I want

NINA What d'you want

LILY (V.O) Everything. All the lot. Got no words for what I want -

NINA You got plenty, go on have a go

LILY (V.O) I want - I want

NINA Yes

LILY (V.O) Lazer beam cappuccino starbursts

NINA Like it

LILY (V.O) Cradley Heath black belt virgins, Venusian ghetto porridge, Sheffield Wednesday combat nuns

NINA You're amazing, you know that

LILY (V.O) The name's Lily

NINA Alright Lily, what else do you want

LILY (V.O) Electric fruitbats, guacamole carnival, wheelie bin outrage

NINA [TO AUDIENCE] And just like that, I knew she was ready

LILY (V.O) I want jelly monsoon frisbee wheels - now get me out of here

(3) DAWES & ROY GET OUT OF THE LIFT
MRS PEKE HURRIES TOWARDS THEM

PC DAWES TAKES A PHOTO OF THE VIEW,
AND POSTS IT

OUR BEAUTIFUL CITY #ILOVEMYJOB

PC ROY I don't think we should be doing this -

PC DAWES Why not? She's breaking the law and we need to stop her.

PC ROY Have you ever had a baby Dawes?

PC DAWES No have you? Bet the mum's got a nose ring and Chinese letters tattooed on her arse.

MRS PEKE IS REELING ALONG THE
CORRIDOR WITH HER SHOPPING TROLLEY

For fucks sake whats happening here

MRS PEKE [SINGS] *Diamonds are forever...*

PC ROY Hello there, what seems to be the problem

MRS PEKE [SINGS] *Hold one up and then caress it*

PC DAWES We aint got time for this Roy

MRS PEKE [SINGS] *Touch it, stroke it and undress it*

PC ROY APPROACHES MRS PEKE

PC DAWES Roy, no!

PC ROY Is there anything we can help you madam?

PC DAWES [USING MEGAPHONE] This is an emergency I repeat an emergency - stand aside and let us pass

MRS PEKE Excuse me

PC DAWES [USING MEGAPHONE] You will be dealt with shortly

MRS PEKE I'm looking for Daniel Craig, he's supposed to be meeting me here

PC ROY Would that be your son madam

PC DAWES [USING MEGAPHONE] Of course its not her son. He's that actor what used to play James Bond

MRS PEKE Not any more, these days he's 3 times Olympic gold medalist in the live pigeon shooting category. Six foot of pure honed muscle. He'll be here in a minute...

PC DAWES Just lock her in her flat, we can sort her out later

MRS PEKE STAGGERS OVER TO PC DAWES AND VOMITS VIOLENTLY

PC ROY Christ! Are you OK?

PC DAWES Not really. This stab vest was clean on this morning

PC ROY Not you. Her. Madam, do you have a medical condition we should know about?

MRS PEKE When he first qualified for the live bird event 'Field and Stream' described him as 'most promising marksman of his generation' in the same article he was quoted as saying "finally this is me"

PC ROY Is there anyone we can call?

MRS PEKE I've got his mobile right here

PC ROY Apart Daniel Craig

(3) A GUY IN A SUIT APPROACHES

PC DAWES Shit its the fecal lawyer

LAWYER I wonder if you can help me. I'm with the department for the rights of the unborn, is this (CHECKS PHONE) Nick Clegg walk?

PC DAWES That's correct, my names Constable Dawes

MRS PEKE [SINGING] *I don't need love - for what good will love do me*

PC DAWES We spoke on the phone earlier

LAWYER Is that vomit

PC DAWES Well yes, but I think we're all after the
 same person, Nina Tidsall /

MRS PEKE / Look I'm meeting Timothy Dalton at 5,
 he's a shoe-in for the rhythmic gymnastics

PC ROY Who?

PC DAWES Roy I'm ordering you to take her away! Me
 and him'll crack on to the flat, maybe I
 can get a wash up there or at least a wipe
 down

LAWYER I'd say that stab vest needs a dry clean

MRS PEKE I was on Britain's Got Bile you know -

PC ROY Come on love, lets get you home

(3) THEY HEAD OFF IN DIFFERENT
DIRECTIONS

(1) NINA'S FLAT

NINA Suddenly I'm in the zone, my body knows
 what its doing and all my doubts are gone.
 I've even got a moment to catch my breath,
 my minds floats - who's this little person
 going to be? Whats the world going to do
 to her?

LILY (V.O) Bored now. Get on with it will you

ACT I

SCENE 8

(1) NINA'S FLAT.

NINA Course what I should have asked is - whats she going to do to the world?

ALLY AND DESI ENTER, ALLY EXAMINES HER, WHILE DESI FEEDS HER CAKE

ALLY All good. You can start pushing now

NINA Thank fuck for that [BREATHING HARD]

DESI Boys not here? How come you called me and not them, that's a bit sexist int it

ALLY Leave her alone Des, let her concentrate

NINA [BREATHING] What boys?

DESI Your other kids - my half brothers - the terrible twosome - remember?

NINA [PANTING] Don't want - them - seeing my -
Arghhhh!

DESI You know I'm live streaming this don't you

NINA you're not - are you

ALLY Desi, not appropriate right now

NINA I'm gonna - slap you - when I'm done

DESI There's someone coming.

NINA She's called Lilly

DESI No I mean down the corridor, right now -
shit its the police

NINA Arghhhhh!

DESI They've got past Mrs Peke - quick lock the door

ALLY They cant move her now - its too late

NINA Arghhhh!!!!

BLACKOUT

ACT I

SCENE 9

(3) PC DAWES & LAWYER AT THE DOOR,
MRS PEKE ARRIVES OUT OF BREATH WITH
PC ROY CHASING AFTER HER

PC DAWES

This is the police. We have reason to believe a crime is taking place. Open the door or we'll be forced to break it down

MRS PEKE

There's no one there love, they're all out watching George Lazenby in the canoe slalom

PC DAWES THRUSTS HER OFF

PC DAWES

Ms Nina Tidsall open this door immediately. Right we're going in. Use extreme caution

[GUN AT THE READY] Lets do this!

SHE TAKES A SELFIE, THEN SHOVES THE DOOR OPEN AND ENTERS THE FLAT. PC ROY FOLLOWS RELUCTANTLY

(3) MRS PEKE & LAWYER WAIT OUTSIDE

MRS PEKE

Who are you then?

LAWYER

I'm a lawyer with the new government department - 'Department ensuring rights of the fetus and unborn child'

MRS PEKE

[BEAT] Derfuc?

LAWYER

Correct. We've only been officially open since this morning, but we've already saved lives - twins - born safely in hospital as a result of our intervention. Satisfied clients.

MRS PEKE

And the mum?

LAWYER

Oh she's fine. I mean she's in prison but she's fine

MRS PEKE

Derfuc.

LAWYER

[BEAT] That's right.

ACT I

SCENE 10

(1) NINA'S FLAT

NINA PUSHING, ALLY ENCOURAGING, DESI
IN A COMBAT POSITION AT THE DOOR

PC DAWES & PC ROY BURST IN

PC DAWES Ms Nina Tidsall?

PC ROY Sorry to bother you ma'am

PC DAWES You are under arrest on suspicion of
causing harm to your unborn child -

DESI Oi! Leave my mum alone!

PC DAWES You do not have to say anything, but
anything you do say

LILY (V.O) Pterodactyl fingers, harribo hamlet

PC ROY Dawes, she's nearly there

ALLY The baby's crowning, wait - wait Nina -
listen to my voice, breathe, look at me

PC DAWES But anything you do say

LILY (V.O) Vegan basketball

PC DAWES may be given in evidence and used against
you

LILY (V.O) Care home pasty

PC ROY Dawes! NOT NOW!

PC DAWES in a court of law

LILY (V.O) I see something, I see something, I see

ALLY Push! Harder!

LILY (V.O) Blancmangetoots for everyone!

NINA Argghhhh!!!

EVERYONE CROWDS ROUND NINA

LILY IS BORN

A MOMENT OF STILLNESS - THEN

DS RHODRI (V.O.) *To ensure the protection of the unborn child using every means possible'*

TOMMO (V.O.) *No sh sh sh shit*

PC DAWES [TURNING IT OFF] Sorry about that

SUDDENLY EVERYONE'S REACTING TO THE BABY. DESI'S CRYING, ROY'S HANDING OUT CAKE, MRS PEKE AND THE LAWYER ARE CLINKING GLASSES

NINA Lily. She's called Lily.

ALLY Welcome to the world Lily

A COUPLE BEATS OF CELEBRATION

PC DAWES [MEGAPHONE] Alright that's it you've had your fun, where's the fetal lawyer

LAWYER [PUTTING CAKE AND WINE DOWN] Over here!

PC DAWES Ms Nina Tidsall you are under arrest on suspicion of endangering the life of your unborn, I mean born, child

ALLY She's perfect, I've just done the checks

LAWYER [WIPING CRUMBS OFF HIS MOUTH] The fact remains my client's life was put at risk due to your actions Ms Tidsall

NINA Pass me those grapes Desi

PC DAWES Roy cuff her up

NINA CHUCKS THE GRAPES AT THE LAWYER

NINA [TO AUDIENCE] Told you they'd come in handy

PC ROY You're serious aren't you

PC DAWES Cuff her up and take her downstairs, the ambulance is waiting

PC ROY I'm not doing this - I quit

CHAOS

SOUNDS FADE AWAY INTO HEART MONITOR BEEPING, AS AT TOP OF SHOW

ACT I

SCENE 11

TWITTER FEED PROJECTED ON WALL,
TWEETS FOR AND AGAINST PERSONHOOD

NINA IS PUT ONTO A STRETCHER AND
CARRIED INTO CENTRE OF THE AUDIENCE -
WHICH BECOMES PLAYING SPACE (4)

THE CAST PUT ON SURGICAL SCRUBS,
MASKS ETC

BRIGHT OVERHEAD LIGHTING & EASY
LISTENING CLASSICAL MUSIC, SURGICAL
TEAM AT WORK

SURGEON Checks all good, a healthy little girl.

NURSE [PLACING BABY IN INCUBATOR] Funny little
thing int she, looks like an old person

THEY EXIT LEAVING NINA AND INCUBATOR

MACHINES BEEP PEACEFULLY

NINA [DROWSY] Lily - are you there?

LILY (V.O) [SOFT]...blancmangetoots for everyone

NINA The air con's humming, and there's that
sickly sweet smell you always get in
hospitals. I think its raining outside.
But she's here, she's out, and already I
know there's something different about
her.

But I don't care.

BEEPING CARRIES ON FOR A FEW BEATS

LILY (V.O) Now what?

BLACKOUT

END OF ACT ONE

EXTRACT FROM GUARDIAN ARTICLE:

When Laura Pemberton refused a C-section in Florida in 1996, she was taken into custody by a sheriff and state's attorney who showed up at her house. Her legs were strapped and she was forced to go to the hospital for surgery. Tellingly, she was given no representation but a lawyer was appointed to her fetus. When Pemberton sued for civil rights violations, the US district court in Florida ruled against her, saying that her rights were outweighed by the state's interest "in preserving the life of the unborn child".

Jessica Valenti May 2014