



Scripts.com

The Secret of Crickley Hall

By Joe Ahearne

Episode 1

SHOOTING SCRIPT

Pink Revisions

15/03/12

ii.

Copyright of BBC Drama Production

The sending of this script does not constitute an offer of a contract for any part herein.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 1.

1 EXT. CRICKLEY HALL - 1943 DAY 1 1

Six year old STEFAN runs from the big grey stone slab of Crickley Hall, more institutional than residential.

Children singing.

CHILDREN :

On the farm no poor rabbit Comes to harm because I grab it They jump and frolic whenever I go by They know I help 'em to dodge the rabbit pie!

A figure grabs him by the collar and lifts him off his feet.

Stefan kicks wildly in mid-air as he pivots to face his tormenter. Terrified that it might be:

AUGUSTUS CRIBBEN. We don't see his face yet.

CRIBBEN O.S.

You're mine.

Stefan screams.

2 INT. GABE'S BEDROOM - DAY 1 2

EVE wakes up with a start, next to her husband GABE, still sleeping. She gets out of bed. Present day London.

3 INT. CAM'S BEDROOM - DAY 1 3

Eve opens the door to her son's bedroom. CAM is the same age as the boy in her dream. He's sitting on the end of his bed, rubbing his eyes. She sits next to him.

EVE :

Me too. What was yours?

CAM :

I can't remember.

EVE :

Maybe it was my dream and you picked it up. Sorry.

CAM :

Why can't we have our own dreams?

EVE :

I know! Do you want some milk?

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 2.

Coffee.

CAM :

EVE :

You're not getting coffee.

CAM :

Really milky coffee.

4 EXT. GABE'S HOUSE - DAY 1 4

The bedroom light comes on.

5 INT. GABE'S BEDROOM - DAY 1 5

GABE turns over and reaches for Eve. Makes grumpy noises in his half-sleep.

6 INT. GABE'S KITCHEN - DAY 1 6

Eve is on her laptop in the kitchen, eating cereal.

There are several windows open on her screen showing a marking database. A pile of homework books next to it.

GABE :

Why, love?

EVE :

Oh I'm sorry. Go back to bed.

GABE :

Can't you just wing it?

EVE :

Never seen you wing it.

GABE :

It's a bit tricky with structural engineering. No-one dies if you skim a bit.

EVE :

You haven't met their parents.

Gabe hugs her and tries to lift her out of her chair.

GABE :

You're working too hard. Even for you.

EVE :

Let me get through open day and I'm yours for the weekend.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 3.

Gabe sees Cam playing with the dog Clyde.

EVE (cont'd)

I woke up so he woke up.

CAM :

We've got work.

GABE :

You know you don't have to copy everything your Mum does. He's going to be wrecked the whole day.

EVE :

You don't say!

INT. CAM'S BEDROOM - DAY 1 7

Gabe dumps Cam on his bed.

CAM :

Let's play bombs!

GABE :

What's bombs? I can't keep up.

Cam pulls Gabe over to his lego construction. It's a house.

Impressively constructed for a five year old.

GABE (cont'd)

That's a pretty solid job there my man.

You know where you get that from don't you.

Cam retrieves a bowling ball from under the bed and totters towards the lego house with it.

GABE (cont'd)

Oi monkey I've been looking for that.

Gabe watches bemused, winces.

GABE (cont'd)

You're going to drop that on your toe -

Gabe tries to intercept him but Cam waves him off,

determined. Cam drops the bowling ball on his lego house, exploding it utterly. Shouting:

CAM :

Bomb!

The multicolored bricks scattered over the carpet. Gabe nods, solemnly.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 4.

GABE :

Good game.

8 INT. LOREN'S BEDROOM - DAY 1 8

Gabe is trying to wake his eleven year old daughter LOREN.

GABE :

Last warning. Or I'm hitting you with the cold hands up the back of the neck and down the spine. Loren. Loren.

Loren grunts.

9 INT. CALLY'S BEDROOM - DAY 1 9

Gabe pulls the bedclothes from his four year old CALLY's bed.

CALLY :

No.

Cally turns over.

GABE :

Cally come on!

CALLY :

No!

10 INT. GABE'S KITCHEN - DAY 1 10

Eve is dressed for work. Cam asleep on the sofa. Clyde sniffing around.

GABE :

Dog's up.

EVE :

Well thanks for coordinating everything with such military precision.

GABE :

Go. I'll get everyone where they have to be.

EVE :

I'm walking away.

She kisses Gabe lightly. Scoops up Cam from the sofa.

EVE (cont'd)

Come on boy.

Eve's taking Cam out when he cries out.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 5.

CAM :

No! Daddy.

Eve turns back to allow Cam to claim his kiss from Gabe.

When Gabe separates, Cam reaches out to take his hand.

GABE :

He doesn't want to go.

EVE :

He's been saying for weeks he wants to spend the day with me.

GABE :

But when it comes down to it ...

CAM :

I love you Daddy.

GABE :

Do I love him?

CAM :

Say it!

EVE :

We're out of here.

Gabe mouths "I love you" to Cam. Cam reaches for Clyde.

CAM:

Bye.

Gabe is touched but a little unnerved. Cally stumbles into view behind him.

CALLY :

Where's breakfast?

GABE :

You want to help me look for it?

CALLY :

No.

11 INT. SCHOOL HALL - DAY 1

Eve meets parents at her school open day.

She keeps an eye on Cam who's in the corner creche with other little ones supervised by a teaching assistant.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 6.

DISSOLVE TO:

The end of a frantic day. Eve picks up Cam from the teaching assistant.

EVE :

I've lost the plot. I don't know what day of the week it is.

CAM :

Friday.

EVE :

Thank God.

TEACHING ASSISTANT

He's gorgeous. He's been no trouble at all.

She plays with his little finger.

EVE :

Have you been showing her your magic finger?

Close on the little finger of his left hand - shorter than the one on the right.

TEACHING ASSISTANT

I'd never have noticed. Is it rare?

Eve puts her hands next to his - same feature.

EVE :

My mother had it.

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Does it mean anything?

EVE :

Just that we're connected. We hear each other sometimes. Don't we?

CAM :

All the time.

EVE :

We tend to wake up at the same time.

TEACHING ASSISTANT

That must be ...

EVE :

Incredibly annoying.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 7.

TEACHING ASSISTANT

I was going to say reassuring.

EVE :

It is. Well darling are you happy you came? You made enough of a fuss about it.

What did you like best?

CAM :

I wanted to be with you.

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Oh God I want one so badly.

EVE :

That's how it starts.

12 EXT. GABE'S HOUSE - DAY 1 12

Eve parks outside their house.

13 INT. EVE'S CAR - DAY 1 13

Eve reaches for her homework pile on the back seat.

Slide!

CAM :

EVE :

You are not serious.

Please.

CAM :

Why?

EVE :

CAM :

I didn't go outside.

EVE :

You did go outside!

liar!

You are such a big

CAM :

I need fresh air.

Eve laughs, despite her exhaustion. She gets out his bluewoollen hat and pulls it over his ears.

EVE :

Okay here it is:

but not allthree. Do we have a deal?

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 8.

CAM :

Deal!

EVE :

Deal means you promise.

CAM :

Deal!

14

EXT. PLAYGROUND - DAY 1 14

A montage of Cam having his fun on slide, roundabout, swings and a few more besides with Eve supplying the momentum with the last of her energy.

CUT TO:

Eve watching Cam with love and deep exhaustion from a bench. He's still racing around, tireless. She's catching up with homework marking.

There are other mothers and children around.

CAM :

Look at me!

EVE :

I am looking. Five minutes.

Clouds pass.

Eve can't focus on the handwritten scrawl of her pupils.
Cam is standing on the highest part of the climbing frame
gazing at Eve.
Her eyelids are drooping.
Cam gazes at her intently. Whispering:

CAM :

Love you Mummy.
Even though Eve is too far away to hear she mumbles a
response.

EVE :

Love you more.
Eve closes her eyes for a moment.
THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 9.
15 EXT. CRICKLEY HALL - 1943 DAY 1 15
Stefan is carried screaming and kicking back to CrickleyHall. Cribben slams
the front door.
16
A distant cry.

CAM :

Mummy.
EXT. PLAYGROUND - DAY 1 16
Eve wakes up with a start.
Surely she's only been asleep for seconds.
But the playground is empty. No other mothers. No other children.
And no Cam.
Her marking lying on the grass. She wipes her mouth. Stands
up.

EVE :

Cam?
She looks around, confused.
Cam?
EVE (cont'd)
She runs into the centre of the playground. Just his bluewoollen hat on the
ground. She picks it up.
She runs to the adjacent path and looks both ways.
EVE (cont'd)
Cam!
Back into the park. Criss crossing. Scans the horizon desperately.
EVE (cont'd)

Please no.

She shrieks into the abyss.

EVE (cont'd)

CAM!!

17 EXT. PLAYGROUND - NIGHT 1 17

A full police search is underway where Cam was last seen.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 10.

Eve is sitting on the park bench with a WPC. Eve's gazing at the shortened little finger on her left hand.

GABE:

Eve.

Eve stands up as Gabe approaches her. He looks as numb as she is but hugs her tight.

EVE :

I fell asleep.

Gabe kisses her.

EVE (cont'd)

I fell asleep.

GABE :

Don't.

EVE :

Someone must have been watching us.

GABE :

He may have just wandered off.

EVE :

Someone must have seen something.

GABE :

They said we should go home.

Eve looks at him like he's insane.

EVE :

I'm not leaving here.

GABE :

Loren and Cally need you.

Eve is in torment.

GABE (cont'd)

I'll take over here.

EVE :

Will you?

GABE :

I'll stay.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 11.

EVE :

He might have hurt himself or ... fallen under something. I've covered every inch of the park but the streets ...

GABE :

I'll be here. Go and see the girls.

Eve absorbs a new horror.

EVE :

They're going to ask me what happened.

GABE :

It's not your fault.

EVE :

It is.

GABE :

It is not and don't tell them that.

Gabe hugs her again.

EVE :

Say we're going to find him.

GABE :

Of course we're going to find him. How can we not find him.

Eve nods. Fumbles for her keys. Gabe closes his hand round hers.

GABE (cont'd)

They're driving you.

Eve begins to move away.

GABE (cont'd)

Eve.

He hands her the marking. No reproach from him. But she feels a terrible judgment.

18 INT. CAM'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 1

Eve sits dazed among the scattered lego bricks in Cam's bedroom.

LOREN :

Mum.

Eve turns to her eldest daughter.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 12.

EVE :

Sweetheart try to sleep. Please.

LOREN :

I can't stop thinking about it. Why would he run away?

EVE :

We don't know what happened.

LOREN :

You were watching so there wasn't time for him to just wander off. Someone must have grabbed him.

Eve closes her eyes in despair.

EVE :

Loren please.

LOREN :

Is that what the police think?

EVE :

They're just looking. That's all they're doing right now.

CALLY :

Mummy.

Eve stands up.

EVE :

Oh no. No. We're not having a conference about this. There's nothing we can do and

we can't keep turning it over worrying ourselves sick. If you can't sleep let's watch TV or I'll read a book to you.

CALLY :

Why can't you just ask him?

Eve stops dead.

CALLY (cont'd)

You always say you can hear him. Just ask him.

Eve is shaking.

CALLY (cont'd)

Can't you hear him Mummy?

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 13.

Eve breaks down. Loren hurries to comfort her. Cally starts crying.

CALLY (cont'd)

Why can't you hear him?

19

EXT. PLAYGROUND - DAY 2 19

Eve returns to the playground at dawn. Gabe still there. Police dispersing. Eve searches Gabe's face. He shakes his head. They look across the barren dawn landscape.

GABE :

He's gone.

EVE :

No.

He holds her as we pull back and:

FADE TO BLACK.

20

EXT. GABE'S HOUSE - DAY 3 20

Eve returns from the shops laden with bags. Close on her face, she looks hollow.

Caption:

She notices something out of the corner of her eye and stops dead.

A lamp post with a missing cat poster.

She approaches it, astonished.

Underneath we can see another poster peeking out from the corners.

Eve furiously rips away at the missing cat poster.

Gradually Cam's faded photo is revealed underneath.
Someone has pasted a missing cat poster over her missing child.

She's crying as she uncovers her son's face.
She calls out to the surrounding houses.

EVE :

Who did this? Who could do this?

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 14.

She breaks into a run, leaving her shopping scattered over the pavement.

21 INT. GABE'S BEDROOM - DAY 3 21

Eve washes a pill down with a glass of water.

The door opens downstairs and she hears Loren and Cally.

LOREN O.S.

Mum someone said you dropped your shopping are you okay?

CALLY O.S.

The eggs are broken.

Eve forces herself up. She has to hold it together for them.

22 EXT. GABE'S HOUSE - DAY 3 22

Gabe returns home.

23 INT. GABE'S LIVING ROOM - DAY 3 23

Loren's doing her homework as Gabe enters. Without looking

up:

LOREN :

Cally's with her.

Gabe sits opposite Loren. Studies her as she concentrates.

GABE :

I need to ask you something.

Loren continues making notes.

GABE (cont'd)

How would you feel about moving?

Loren nods.

GABE (cont'd)

I don't mean permanently. But out of

London. Just for a couple of months. I don't want her here for the anniversary.

LOREN :

She'll never go.

GABE :

She might if it comes from you.

Loren looks up.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 15.

GABE (cont'd)

If you say you're finding it too hard.

You could say you can't concentrate. I know I'm asking a lot. I just don't think she'll get through this if we don't get away from here. And I don't think she'll go unless it comes from you.

Where?

LOREN :

GABE :

There's a project come up on the coast up North. I can ask for a temporary transfer.

LOREN :

What about school?

GABE :

They have schools. I know it's not great on you.

LOREN :

This is more important than school.

GABE :

I'll drive your friends up for weekends whatever it takes to make it easier.

LOREN :

I think it's a good idea.

GABE :

Thank you.

24 INT. GABE'S BEDROOM - DAY 3 24

Gabe opens the bedroom door to see Eve and Cally curled up together asleep. Eve is holding Cam's blue woollen hat.

Gabe turns away, stricken.

25 INT. CAM'S BEDROOM - DAY 3 25

The bedroom is tidied up but still very much Cam's.

Gabe reaches under the bed to retrieve the bowling ball.

He slides his fingers into the sockets.

Clyde tries to comfort him.

Gabe pushes him away, wretched.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 16.

He sits cross-legged on the carpet, cradling the bowlingball.

26

He forces himself not to submit to despair.

INT. GABE'S BEDROOM - DAY 3 26

27

Eve sleeps fitfully.

DREAM MONTAGE 27

Close-up images of:

The narrow dormitory window lashed by rain.

Battered orphans' shoes.

Pendulum from the grandfather clock.

Carbolic soap scrubbing an orphan's scalp.

Chalk on blackboard.

Cribben's eyes.

A boy screaming.

Pages turning on the punishment book.

Stefan Rosenbaum. Stefan Rosenbaum. Stefan Rosenbaum.

SWISH-THWACK

27A INT. GABE'S BEDROOM - DAY 3 27A

The sound of a cane wakes Eve. She looks around for Cam's blue hat. It's on the floor.

28 EXT. COUNTRY LANE - DAY 4 28

Gabe's car speeds along a country lane.

Caption:

CALLY O.S.

How far?

GABE O.S.

Ten minutes less than the last time you asked.

LOREN O.S.

Clyde's going to be sick.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 17.

They pass a sign.

CALLY O.S.

Devil's Cleave! Dad! It's called Devil's

Cleave! Is that like cleavage?

30 EXT. COUNTRY LANE - DAY 4 30

Gabe's car winds its way through narrow country lanes.

31 INT. GABE'S CAR - DAY 4 31

Through the windscreen, we see Crickley Hall loom up into view. More

institutional than residential. The house from
Eve's dream.

GABE :

Big enough for you?

LOREN :

It's a mansion.

CALLY :

It's a castle!

Eve is disturbed as she sees the house. She knows she's seen
it somewhere before. She notices Gabe watching for her reaction. He looks at
her with love and some trepidation.

Too much?

GABE :

EVE :

(SMILING)

Always.

She kisses him.

32 EXT. CRICKLEY HALL - DAY 4 32

Eve approaches the imposing grey slab of a building. Trying to figure out
where she's seen it before.

EVE :

Which way's the school?

GABE :

Two miles ... that way. There's a school
bus for the village they said they'll
make a stop.

(TO LOREN)

Hear that princess? You don't even have
to struggle down to the bus stop.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 18.

Gabe unlocks the front door.

GABE (cont'd)

Clyde! Come on! Stop sulking.

Eve looks back to the car and the open back door. The dog is watching them
gravely.

Gabe gets some treats from his pocket and shows them to Clyde. But Clyde
doesn't move.

GABE (cont'd)

You are sick.

Eve follows Clyde's gaze to the narrow top window in the house. An image from her dream she half-remembers.

33 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / DORMITORY - DAY 4 33

From the upstairs window, a view of Eve in the drive. Handheld as if the point of view of someone in the house.

34 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / ENTRANCE HALL - DAY 4 34

The girls charge up the open stairs which run past the big window. Eve follows Gabe towards a large drawing room in the austere space.

EVE :

Was this a family home?

GABE :

I don't know. It's not been rented in a while. I think they're pretty desperate. I got cleaners in.

EVE :

They've really gone to town. What is that smell - carbolic soap?

She remembers a flash image of carbolic soap scrubbing a young scalp.

35 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / DINING ROOM - DAY 4 35

Gabe opens a window in the dining room.

EVE :

Have the police got the landline here?

GABE :

He's got my office and the mobile. I'll give him this place too.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 19.

EVE:

People do remember things on anniversaries.

GABE :

If they do we're a phone call away.

Eve nods, trying not to be tearful. Being brave for him.

36 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / DRAWING ROOM - DAY 4 36

Eve places three photos on the mantelpiece above the fire now

burning in the grate. Loren and Cally together. A family group shot with Cam. The third photo - Cam alone. Eve looks at it solemnly.

EVE :

We love you baby.

As if in response, Eve hears a tapping sound from the entrance hall.

37 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / ENTRANCE HALL - DAY 4 37

Eve looks at the grandfather clock. The pendulum is stationary. The same pendulum from her dream. But she seems to hear it ticking. She looks closer.

Something moves on the stairs, startling her. She looks up the staircase but there's no-one there.

38 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / LANDING - DAY 4 38

From the landing, another pov shot from child's height looking at Eve through the bannisters. Someone is there.

39 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / LANDING - DAY 4 39

Eve peers at the bannisters. Although she can see nothing she senses someone.

Loren and Cally come down from the second floor back to their room on the first, breaking the moment.

EVE :

What's up there?

LOREN:

Junk room. It's the only place I can get a signal.

EVE :

What's my room like?

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 20.

CALLY :

We gave you the biggest one.

EVE :

You've been a couple of angels. Has Daddy put you on best behaviour?

CALLY :

He said I could have

LOREN :

We like it here.

40 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / CELLAR - DAY 4 40

Eve descends the stone steps into the cellar. Gabe is working on the boiler in the corner. She approaches the low circular wall round the well. It has a metal safety grille over it. She peers into the pit and hears the rushing sound of fast running water.

EVE :

That's what makes the house cold.

GABE :

No that'd be the dodgy boiler.

Eve tugs at the metal grille covering the well to verify it's well secured.

GABE (cont'd)

I've checked it but we'll ban them.

EVE :

Is that a generator?

GABE :

They get power cuts.

Eve nods, still looking around. Gabe studies her.

GABE (cont'd)

There's a B&B a few miles further out.

EVE :

No I'd rather it was just us. Good choice.

Gabe moves to the generator.

GABE :

Hot water's back on. I'm just going to check this out before it gets dark.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 21.

She watches him with love. He's in his element. Fixing things.

From far down in the well, a presence seems to wait.

41 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / KITCHEN - DAY 4 41

Loren is examining the old-fashioned basin and taps.

CALLY :

There's no dishwasher!

LOREN :

I'm going to teach you a new game. It's called washing up.

Loren finds a single cup lying in the sink and picks it up.

Mould dribbling out. She looks up and sees an elderly mangazing at her through the window. She gasps and drops thecup. It shatters on the stone tiles.

42 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / CELLAR - DAY 4 42

Eve is climbing the steps from the cellar as Cally calls.

CALLY :

Mummy!

EVE :

Stay up. You're not allowed down here.

CALLY :

There's a man!

43 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / KITCHEN - DAY 4 43

Eve enters the kitchen where the back door to the garden isopen. PERCY is helping Loren pick up the last pieces of thebroken cup.

LOREN *

It's all right he just gave me a fright.

PERCY :

That's the last thing I wanted to do Mrs. Caleigh. I'm sorry.

*

*

Percy steps forward to shake hands with Eve. *

PERCY (cont'd)

Percy Judd. I used to work in CrickleyHall.

*

*

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 22.

EVE :

Do you know anything about the generator?

PERCY :

That was after my time. The owner got fed *
up with cold dinners. Brought your *

candles? *

EVE :

We'll work it out. *

A pause. So why is he here?

PERCY :

You didn't fancy staying in town then.

EVE :

My husband's working up here for a couple of months. It's not a holiday.

CALLY :

He's an engineer.

EVE :

We're just here to keep him company. *

Percy's looking at the dog through the window.

EVE (cont'd)

Are dogs not allowed?

PERCY :

It'd be best if you keep him outside.

CALLY :

No!

EVE :

He's an indoor dog. Will the owners find out?

PERCY :

Not from me.

EVE :

You must have seen a lot of people come and go.

PERCY :

One or two.

EVE *

It doesn't feel like anyone's lived here *
for a while. *

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 23.

Percy glances at the girls. Doesn't want to speak in front of *
them. *

PERCY *

You keep your girls out of the cellar and *

I won't say anything about the dog. *

He places a scrap of paper with a phone number scrawled on it *
on the table.

PERCY (cont'd)

I hope you settle in. If you get any
problems, you call me.

He eyeballs her solemnly.

PERCY (cont'd)

Anytime.

He leaves with a last look over his shoulder at the girls.

Closes the door. Eve confronts Loren. Very firm.

EVE :

What have I told you.

LOREN :

He's a nice man.

EVE :

You don't know that

LOREN :

You were just downstairs

EVE :

It only takes a second -

Gabe enters, wiping oil from his hands. Eve stops herself,
getting too loud and heated.

CALLY :

There's a man who looks after the house.

Gabe gives Eve's arm a calming squeeze and kneels in front of
Loren.

GABE :

Show Mum your moves.

Loren makes a fist.

GABE (cont'd)

Where does the thumb go?

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 24.

Loren carefully slides her thumb out from inside the fingers to rest outside the curled fist.

GABE (cont'd)

Aiming for what part of the nose?

Loren places her fist at the bridge of Gabe's nose.

EVE :

Or:

Cally's looking out the window after Percy.

CALLY :

Does he know about Cam?

EVE :

No darling. Why?

CALLY :

He's sad.

44

EXT. CRICKLEY HALL - DAY 4 44

Percy stops and looks back at the house. He's on the edge of tears. On his pov of the house we dissolve back seventy years

to:

45

EXT. CRICKLEY HALL - 1943 DAY 3 45

On the outside not much has changed. On the doorstep is a young woman NANCY, dressed for an interview.

Watching her from the same spot as elderly Percy, is young Percy, seventeen.

46

INT. CRICKLEY HALL / ENTRANCE HALL - 1943 DAY 3 46

MAGDA, thirty-ish, answers the door.

Nancy is barely out of her teens. She keeps her right arm concealed and shakes Magda's hand with her left.

MAGDA :

How are things in London?

NANCY:

They've calmed down.

MAGDA :

They've bombed the best of it. You must be thrilled at the prospect of getting out.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 25.

Magda sees Nancy looking over her shoulder.

A six year old boy is peering through the bannisters on the landing, exactly where Eve sensed someone seventy years later. STEFAN is the boy from her dream.

MAGDA (cont'd)

Come down here young man.

Stefan trudges down the staircase.

MAGDA (cont'd)

This one's the worst. He came to us from Germany. He's run away four times. Where he thinks he can escape to I have no idea. We have to watch him like a hawk. Stefan arrives.

MAGDA (cont'd)

He knows very well where he's supposed to be. He doesn't seem to agree with our prayers. Isn't that right?

Nancy smiles supportively at Stefan.

NANCY :

What's your name?

MAGDA :

Stephen.

STEFAN :

Stefan Rosenbaum.

MAGDA :

Understands every word but refuses to speak it.

Nancy gets down to his level.

NANCY :

You shouldn't run away Stefan. It's very dangerous back in London. You're much safer here.

MAGDA :

There's no-one else who's going to look after you. Go on.

Nancy watches him trudge away.

MAGDA (cont'd)

Miss Linnet?

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 26.

47 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / MAGDA'S STUDY - 1943 DAY 3

Nancy sits in front of Magda in a formal interview situation. Magda enjoying her moment of power, studying Nancy's references minutely.

MAGDA :

You're an orphanage girl yourself. I suppose you believe that gives you a special insight into our charges.

NANCY :

I believe I understand what some of them are going through.

MAGDA :

This isn't the place for sentimentality. That won't do for these children. They need to learn respect for authority if they're going to amount to anything.

NANCY :

I believe in discipline.

Nancy glances at the empty chair beside Magda. She was expecting another interviewer.

MAGDA :

My brother sends his apologies. You've been told about his injury I'm sure. You don't have to pretend. People can't wait to gossip about misfortune. I'm sure you've had your fair share of that. Magda's looking at Nancy's right arm.

MAGDA (cont'd)

May I?

Nancy's reluctant.

MAGDA (cont'd)

I need to see the extent of your affliction if you're going to work for

us.

Nancy uncovers her withered arm.

MAGDA (cont'd)

Polio?

NANCY :

Smallpox.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 27.

MAGDA :

Do you have any use of it?

NANCY :

A little.

MAGDA :

Well I daresay there's no heavy lifting
required. There we are so you'll

understand the need for sensitivity in these matters that's a point greatly
in

your favour. Welcome aboard.

48 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / ENTRANCE HALL - 1943 DAY 3 48

Magda sees Nancy out. Magda looks at the grandfather clock and goes to it to
open it and stop the pendulum.

MAGDA :

This thing makes a terrible racket.

Nancy looks into Cribben's study where there seems to be a
shape working.

NANCY :

I was told Mr. Cribben is fully recovered.
Close on Magda. No he isn't.

MAGDA :

It's important you understand how much he
needs peace and quiet. He can't tolerate
chaotic behaviour of any kind.

NANCY :

I should hope I could provide order.

MAGDA :

I'm relying on it. I won't beat around

the bush Miss Linnet. My brother needs usto be on our very best form.

NANCY :

The children deserve nothing less.

Magda smiles thinly. She closes the door.

49 EXT. CRICKLEY HALL - 1943 DAY 3 49

Nancy stands outside Crickley Hall, gathering her thoughts.

PERCY :

Allow me Miss.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 28.

Percy reaches for her case. Nancy ignores him and picks it up with her good left arm.

NANCY :

There's nothing wrong with me.

PERCY :

Can't argue with that Miss.

She's shocked at the blatant flirtation.

PERCY (cont'd)

I tend the grounds Miss. Percy Judd at your service.

He offers his right hand but Nancy doesn't take it.

PERCY (cont'd)

Have you met his Lordship? You might want a stiff drink first.

NANCY :

I don't touch it I'm afraid.

Percy watches her stride off with her suitcase. He's impressed.

PERCY :

You let me know when that changes.

50 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / DORMITORY - 1943 DAY 3 50

Stefan sits trembling on the end of his bed. MAURICE, 14, the oldest of the orphans, summons him.

MAURICE :

Mr. Cribben wants to see you.

Stefan runs out of the dormitory.

51 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / LANDING - 1943 DAY 3 51

Stefan climbs into a cupboard on the first floor landing and

shuts the door. He peeks through the slats and sees a figure climbing the stairs. Maurice comes down from the second floor dormitory and points at the cupboard to the figure looming towards him. Stefan whispers the Jewish Shema prayer to himself.

STEFAN :

H.re Israel, der Ewige ist unser Gott,
der Ewige ist einzig. Gepriesen sei
Gottes ruhmreiche Herrschaft immer und
ewig.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 29.

52 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / LANDING - NIGHT 4 52

Dead of night in present day Crickley Hall. We move in on the landing cupboard now closed up. There's a tapping noise coming from inside. Gabe approaches, wearing his boxer shorts straight from bed, woken up by the noise. He opens the cupboard. Nothing inside. He sees some pipes running up along one corner. He touches them.

GABE :

AH!

EVE :

What is it?

GABE :

Hot! It's hot all right! I'll fix it
tomorrow.

EVE :

Is it going to bang all night?

LOREN :

Mum ...

Loren is at the door to her room, rubbing her eyes.

EVE :

Your Dad put the boiler on warp ten.
Gabe heads downstairs.

GABE :

Cold showers in the morning. I'm not the
one who'll be crying ...

Eve kisses Loren on the head.

EVE :

Go back to bed.

53 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / LOREN'S ROOM - NIGHT 4 53

Loren returns to her room. She gets into bed and a thump from upstairs dislodges dust from the ceiling onto her face.

LOREN :

(WHISPERS)

Mum. Mum!

54 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / LANDING - NIGHT 4 54

Eve comes back onto the landing to meet Loren.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 30.

LOREN :

(WHISPERING)

There's people upstairs!

Gabe's climbing the stairs towards them. Eve waves him to stop. She listens. Silence.

55 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / DORMITORY - NIGHT 4 55

Gabe turns on the light to reveal the large long room we recognize as the orphans' dormitory. No-one there.

GABE:

Might have been a rat, I heard one in the cellar.

Loren looks at him.

GABE (cont'd)

Squirrels. Cute rats.

Loren opens the cupboard door and there's nothing there. A box topples from a shelf with a clatter, making them all jump. They look at the contents. Toys and dolls. Nothing plastic. Old-fashioned and old. Eve picks up a spinning top. Rust obscuring the image of dancing children painted around the circumference.

Loren pulls back some dust sheets covering a line of rusted iron beds.

LOREN :

They must have had a big family.

56 EXT. CRICKLEY HALL - NIGHT 4 56

Crickley Hall nestles peacefully in the moonlit valley.

57 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / MAIN BEDROOM - NIGHT 4 57

Eve wakes up in the dark. She's crying. Short of breath. She looks around the room. Sits up, pulling herself together. She reaches under her pillow to hold the blue woollen hat to her cheek. She can hear Clyde howling. Gabe is not there.

58 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / ENTRANCE HALL - NIGHT 4 58

Eve descends the stairs. Clyde has stopped howling. Eve's feet step into puddles of water on the stairs. She looks up at the ceiling to see if she can spot the leak.

She reaches the foot of the stairs and sees the door to the cellar is open. Eve moves to shut the cellar door. Gabe appears from what used to be Cribben's study.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 31.

GABE :

Clyde's being a drama queen it's not that cold.

Eve sees Gabe's laptop open on the study table. There's a

website on it:

Have You Seen Our Son?

A photo of Cam. A phone number.

On the corner a counter of days missing: 361.

GABE (cont'd)

We got a couple of emails. I forwarded them on.

He looks more closely at her and wipes the tears from her cheek. No need to ask why.

EVE :

No it was a good one. I could smell him he was so close. He said he's not dead.

It's funny I feel closer to him here.

He holds her. Doesn't know what to say. He sees the puddles on the stone floor.

EVE (cont'd)

And all the way up the stairs.

GABE :

I didn't know it was raining. What were you doing in the cellar?

EVE :

I don't want Loren and Cally going down there will you make sure it's closed

after you.

GABE :

I did. Okay I will.

EVE :

What time's it now?

GABE :

Sunday. All day.

They go back upstairs together, his arm around her.

The cellar door swings open.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 32.

59 EXT. CRICKLEY HALL - 1943 DAY 4 59

Nancy rings the bell.

Maurice answers the door. Chewing with his mouth full.

MAURICE :

Morning Miss Linnet.

NANCY :

Good morning. You must be Maurice.

You're the oldest here aren't you?

MAURICE :

I'm kind of the prefect.

He doesn't seem too happy about it. A little hunted.

NANCY :

I look forward to teaching you Maurice.

She notices Maurice is barefoot.

60 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / ENTRANCE HALL - 1943 DAY 4 60

Nancy looks into the study as she passes. The curtains are open and no-one's in there.

MAGDA :

Every footstep carries in this place.

It's like an echo chamber. Would you mind?

Nancy looks across to see Magda in her socks.

Nancy takes her shoes off, nonplussed. She glances up and sees a figure cross the first floor landing.

MAGDA (cont'd)

You can meet him tomorrow. He has a

fierce migraine.

Nancy sees an open box by the door. It's full of new toys.

The same ones we saw fall out of the box in present day.

MAGDA (cont'd)

People keep dumping these on us.

Magda approaches to seal the box up.

MAGDA (cont'd)

Toys have to be earned. Like everything else.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 33.

61 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / CLASSROOM - 1943 DAY 4

Nancy is in the classroom in front of the eleven orphans.

She's writing on the blackboard:

EVACUATION.

NANCY :

Can anyone give me another word for
evacuation?

Maurice puts his hand up.

NANCY (cont'd)

Let's give someone else a chance. Susan?

SUSAN, 12, shakes her head, subdued.

NANCY (cont'd)

Brenda.

Brenda looks blank. Stefan puts his hand timidly up.

NANCY (cont'd)

Stefan.

STEFAN :

Entweichen.

NANCY :

Can you say that in English?

STEFAN :

Escape.

NANCY :

Well done. Can anyone think of any other
famous escapes in history?

MAURICE :

The Jews.

NANCY :

Maurice?

MAURICE :

The Jews are always escaping. That's how he knew the answer.

Nancy writes on the board: EXODUS.

NANCY :

This is another word for evacuation. Why did the Jews want to escape?

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 34.

MAURICE :

They must have been doing something wrong.

NANCY :

Stand up Maurice.

Maurice stands up, surprised.

NANCY (cont'd)

Would you like to explain that to the class.

MAURICE :

The Jews are always being chased out of one country or another. There must be a reason.

NANCY :

What would that be?

MAURICE :

They killed Christ.

NANCY :

Jesus was a Jew Maurice.

MAURICE :

He wasn't. He hated the Jews. He was always fighting with them.

NANCY :

Who told you this?

MAURICE :

The Bible.

NANCY :

Stefan is a Jew. Do you think Christ hates him? Do you think Christ hates anyone? Would you leave the class please.

I'll discuss this with you later.

Maurice leaves. Nancy is shaken.

NANCY (cont'd)

Stefan? It's not his fault. It's just what he's been taught. A lot of people believe terrible things but that doesn't make them true. You're safe here.

Stefan knows that's not true. Nancy shivers. Goes to the radiator.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 35.

NANCY (cont'd)

Is there no heating in this place?

SUSAN :

It makes too much noise Miss. For Mr. Cribben.

NANCY :

Well I hope you at least had a hot breakfast.

SUSAN :

We haven't had breakfast yet Miss.

Nancy is astonished.

SUSAN (cont'd)

You can't concentrate if your stomach's full.

The door opens:

MAGDA :

Miss Linnet.

Nancy realize she's being summoned.

NANCY :

Page fifteen. Susan would you read. And when I come back we'll discuss it.

Susan opens TS Eliot's Book of Practical Cats.

MAGDA :

Sit back down Maurice.

Maurice returns to his place, staring smugly at Nancy as she leaves.

62 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / MAGDA'S STUDY - 1943 DAY 4 62

Magda leads Nancy into her study.

MAGDA :

I hope I haven't made a mistake. I wasn't aware we employed you to indoctrinate children.

NANCY :

I think his parents have beaten me to it.

MAGDA :

Maurice has lived with us since he was two.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 36.

Nancy is silenced.

MAGDA (cont'd)

We are doing our utmost to take care of a Jewish boy. As is our Christian duty. But our charity does not extend to the Jewish leaders who provoked this war, this catastrophe which nearly killed my brother and destroyed his peace of mind. Is there any other aspect of our teaching you wish to challenge? Best we have this out now.

NANCY :

The children are cold and hungry.

MAGDA:

They can wear as many clothes as they like. It's you who are underdressed. And children learn fastest when they are motivated. Food is a reward not a right.

NANCY:

What has Maurice done to earn his reward?

He was stuffing himself when I arrived.

MAGDA:

Maurice Stafford has a medical condition. I should have thought you of all people would sympathize. When you return to class you will apologize to him and thank him for bringing this matter to me and not my brother. Or I can assure you you'd be on the next train back to London.

63 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / CLASSROOM - 1943 DAY 4 63

Nancy stands at her desk, gathering her thoughts. She looks up.

NANCY:

Maurice I'm sorry if I upset you. I know you're not to blame and I want to thank you for being so understanding. To make it up to you I want you to do a special job for me and you're excused from the next exercise. It's a job for a responsible boy. Would you fetch me a glass of this famous water from the well?

MAURICE :

Yes Miss.

Maurice gets up and leaves.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 37.

Once he's out of sight, Nancy opens her bag and takes out a couple of sandwiches. She cuts them up and distributes them as well as some sweets.

SUSAN :

What about your lunch Miss?

NANCY :

I had a huge breakfast.

64 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / CELLAR - 1943 DAY 4 64

Maurice climbs down the steep steps into the cellar where there's a well with a circular wall.

He lifts out a bucket from the black rushing sound and pours out a glass of water. He hears movement in the shadows.

CRIBBEN :

What are you doing here boy.

We don't see Cribben's face. But Maurice is terrified.

MAURICE :

It's for the new teacher Sir. She told me to.

CRIBBEN :

Am I to have no peace in any corner of this house.

MAURICE :

I'm sorry Sir.

CRIBBEN :

You want to keep your privileges.

MAURICE :

Yes Sir.

CRIBBEN :

Get back upstairs.

Maurice hurries back up, spilling water on the steps as he goes. We travel over to the well and down into the black roar of rushing water.

66 EXT. CRICKLEY HALL - DAY 5 66

We hear barking from inside Crickley Hall.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 38.

67 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / ENTRANCE HALL - DAY 5 67

We track in on the closed kitchen door and the barking inside.

68 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / KITCHEN - DAY 5 68

Clyde is on the other side of the kitchen door, barking at whatever's approaching.

69 EXT. BARNABY'S INN - DAY 5 69

Gabe, Eve and the girls get out of the car outside the local very traditional pub.

CALLY :

Mummy are you sad today?

Shut up.

LOREN :

Eve comes to attention. Smiles at Cally.

EVE :

Give me a reason not to be sad.

Cally looks around, thinks hard. Eve looking at her with love. Cally points at a newsagent's.

Sweets!

CALLY :

EVE :

I'm happy!

70 INT. BARNABY'S INN - DAY 5 70

The locals look up as they enter. Gabe whispers in a cod Northern accent:

GABE :

We don't like strangers round here.

Loren shushes him.

CUT TO:

Gabe getting the drinks at the bar.

LANDLORD :

Passing through?

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 39.

GABE :

I'm working here for a couple of months.

Staying up at Crickley Hall.

LANDLORD :

Big place that. You'll be rattling round in it.

GABE :

Why is it called Devil's Cleave? Not exactly touristy.

LANDLORD :

Ah well now. Centuries ago, the Devil himself tried to cut his way inland from the sea to flood all the villages hereabouts. First he took a bite out of the cliffs and that's how Hollow Bay came to be. They say after he took his first bite he tried to gnaw his way up to the moors but his teeth eventually got wore down to the gums and he couldn't get no

further. So he sloped off back to seaswearing his revenge one day. And he did,
but I'll leave that for another day.

GABE :

Perfect. Thanks.

He takes the drinks over to their table.

GABE (cont'd)

Cally I got a good one.

71 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / ENTRANCE HALL - DAY 5 71

The presence stops outside the kitchen door. Then moves forward through the closed door.

72 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / KITCHEN - DAY 5 72

Close on Clyde's paws tearing desperately at the back door.

There's blood.

73 EXT. CRICKLEY HALL / GARDEN - DAY 5 73

Clyde's barking stops abruptly. Now we hear louder and more frantic sounds as we withdraw from the house. High-pitched keening. An animal in terrible distress.

74 EXT. BARNABY'S INN - DAY 5 74

Cally gnaws on a stick of rock as they emerge from the sweetshop. Eve looks at the church opposite.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 40.

Can we?

EVE :

Gabe's not happy about churches.

Sure.

GABE :

75 INT. CHURCH - DAY 5 75

Eve and the girls light a candle for Cam near the front of the church. Gabe loiters at the back, fighting resentment. He scans the memorials on the wall. He finds a large plaque.

In memory of those orphans who drowned in the Great Flood of 1943.

76 EXT. CEMETERY - DAY 5 76

Gabe moves among the headstones. He looks down at a gravestone and sees the inscription and year of death - 1943.

He moves on a couple of paces and sees another with the same year. And another.

PERCY :

Mr. Caleigh?

Percy carries some weeding instruments. He nods towards Eve at the church

door with the reverend.

PERCY (cont'd)

I met your wife up at Crickley Hallyesterday. Percy Judd.

GABE :

You work here? *

PERCY :

I look after the orphans. *

Percy searches Gabe's face to see how much he knows. Gabe doesn't follow. Percy is relieved.

PERCY (cont'd)

You're settling in all right.

GABE :

Everything's great thanks. And we've got your number.

PERCY :

I hope you won't need it.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 41.

Gabe watches Percy head over to a corner of the cemetery where he kneels and begins tending the grave stones.

77 EXT. CHURCH - DAY 5 77

Gabe returns to the church entrance where Eve is with the vicar. Gabe indicates the headstones. *

GABE :

1943 was a bit of a bad year for you.

ANDREW :

The flood didn't reach the church thank God but yes. Sixty-eight people lost their lives.

How?

EVE :

ANDREW :

It was a flash flood. People were drowned in their sleep. He glances at Loren and Cally, both rapt.

GABE :

Don't mind them the gorier the better. Actually.

EVE :

Oh Mum!

LOREN :

ANDREW :

You can get a booklet in the newsagents.
Tells you all about it. *

EVE :

I'll pick one up tomorrow.

(MOUTHING)

When she's forgotten.

*

*

*

*

CALLY :

I won't forget!

*

*

EVE :

Was Percy here then?

*

*

ANDREW :

I wouldn't rely on what Percy says.

*

*

EVE :

He seems to know about Crickley Hall.

*

*

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 42.

ANDREW :

What do you want to know?

*

*

EVE :

Who lived there.

*

*

ANDREW :

It's just a house that never really worked. So are you churchgoers or just sightseeing?

*

*

*

GABE :

Sightseeing.

Andrew's eyes meet Gabe's. Gabe is radiating polite hostility.

GABE (cont'd)

God doesn't do anything for us I'm afraid.

ANDREW :

How can you say that with two beautiful girls.

Gabe's got an answer ready but:

EVE :

I'd love to come to a service.

ANDREW :

We'd love to have you.

78 EXT. CEMETERY - DAY 5 78

Percy looks up from where he's tending the graves as Reverend Andrew approaches.

*

*

REVEREND ANDREW

Let them be, Percy.

*

*

PERCY :

If I was staying there with young children I'd want to know.

*

*

*

REVEREND ANDREW

They don't need to share in our tragedy.

*

*

PERCY :

What do you know about it. You weren't even born.

*

*

*

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 43.

REVEREND ANDREW

I know it's not right to terrify young children.

*

*

*

PERCY :

That's why they should leave.

*

*

REVEREND ANDREW

If you want to keep attending these graves I'm going to have to insist you leave Crickley Hall alone. I hate to do this to you Percy but if you want to respect their memories, you have to let them go.

*

*

*

*

*

*

*

PERCY :

It's not me who won't let them go.

*

*

REVEREND ANDREW

You decide.

*

*

Andrew walks away and we track away to a single headstone overgrown and neglected.

Augustus Theophilus Cribben 1901 - 1943

*
*
*
*
*

79 EXT. CRICKLEY HALL / GARDEN - DAY 5 79 *

The kitchen door is open to the garden. Loren at the far end of the garden calling for Clyde. Gabe examining the doorlock.

GABE :

This wasn't broken when we left.

EVE :

He gave it a real hammering.
She sees the blood in the paw marks.

CALLY :

Mummy he wet the floor.
They look at the pool of urine on the kitchen floor.

EVE :

Maybe he is sick.

CALLY :

He was scared. *

EVE :

There's nothing to be scared of here.

*
*

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 44.

CALLY :

Percy's scared.

*
*

81 EXT. COUNTRY LANE - 1943 DAY 4 81

Percy on his bicycle careens down a country lane to catch up with Nancy.

PERCY :

You need a lift Miss?

NANCY :

I'm nearly there.

PERCY :

Let me take that.

She recoils.

NANCY :

I really can manage.

PERCY :

What have you got in there the familyjewels?

She cracks a smile. He grins: first base.

82 EXT. BARNABY INN - 1943 DAY 4 82

They ride in tandem to park outside the village pub andlodgings.

PERCY :

Crickley's not been lived in since before

I was born. I just keep it looking nicein case anyone's stupid enough to buy it.

NANCY :

What's wrong with it?

PERCY :

Chap who built it fancied himself anarchitect. He liked his fresh water so much he built it on a river. Turned it into a refrigerator. Speaking of whichhave you met Cribben?

NANCY :

He was indisposed. I'm sure we all have our off days.

Percy carries Nancy's case to the door.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 45.

PERCY :

Not me Miss. I'm not going to waste what time I have left moping around.

NANCY :

(LAUGHING)

What are you - all of seventeen?

She realizes.

NANCY (cont'd)

Oh. When are you being called up?

PERCY :

Couple of weeks. Make the most of me.

Nancy is silenced.

PERCY (cont'd)

You can come in with me in the morning if you don't mind starting at five-thirty.

NANCY :

Let's see how it goes.

PERCY :

Call it six tomorrow. Give you time to put your face on.

NANCY :

Are all country boys as cocky as you?

PERCY :

Can I call you Nancy then?

NANCY :

You may not. Goodnight Percy.

PERCY :

I'm glad those kids have got you to look out for them.

Percy looks into her eyes and takes her right hand. Her withered arm. At first she stiffens.

He lifts it gently and kisses her hand. She's surprised and touched.

Percy gets on his bicycle and speeds off to his house.

She feels reassured and hopeful.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 46.

83 EXT. VILLAGE - DAY 5 83

It's getting dark as Loren and Gabe walk through the village looking for Clyde.

GABE :

When he's hungry he'll go looking for people. You need to get your stuff ready for school. You've been great about

coming out here.

LOREN :

It's only a few weeks. Is it helping her?

GABE :

Yes. And it's helping me.

Loren looks around distracted.

GABE (cont'd)

We'll do the back road on the way home.

84A INT. SHED - DAY 84A

Locked away, Clyde paws at the door of a garden shed, whining.

86 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / CLASSROOM - 1943 DAY 5 86

The orphans hand in their classwork to Nancy on their way out. Stefan is the last in line. Nancy sees a mark on his hand.

NANCY :

What happened here Stefan?

Stefan doesn't answer.

SUSAN :

He fell over in the garden.

Nancy examines the mark. It's a long line across the palm of his hand. She takes his other hand. An identical mark.

Nancy is about to pursue the matter when she sees Maurice watching her from the door.

Nancy kisses Stefan's palm.

NANCY :

Be careful. Oh Susan can I delay you just a moment. I'd like you to prepare a reading for tomorrow.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 47.

CUT TO:

Nancy alone with Susan.

NANCY (cont'd)

You know how Maurice is Magda's eyes and ears? I'd like you to be mine. I'd like you to come to me with anything that frightens you. Anything you feel shouldn't be happening.

SUSAN :

Yes Miss.

NANCY :

Cribben uses a cane doesn't he.

SUSAN :

I don't know Miss.

NANCY :

You can tell me.

Susan says nothing.

NANCY (cont'd)

You know I'm on your side.

SUSAN :

You go home at night Miss.

NANCY :

I can still help you.

SUSAN :

And if I get sent back to London where
will you be then Miss?

NANCY :

Has someone threatened to send you back
to London?

SUSAN :

No Miss. No-one's threatened anything.

What reading do you want me to prepare?

87 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / ENTRANCE HALL - 1943 DAY 5

Nancy readies herself to leave Crickley Hall. She has her hat
and gloves. She sees all the orphans' shoes lined up at the
foot of the stairs.

She hesitates and looks into the darkened study. She looks
upstairs. No-one seems to be around.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 48.

The silent grandfather clock.

88 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / STUDY - 1943 DAY 5

Nancy enters the study. The curtains are drawn. She scans the
room. The heavy books on the shelves. Medals and trophies.

A framed slogan on the wall:
Train up a child in the way he should go
And when he is old he will not depart from it

PROVERBS 22:

She does a quick search and finds:
Cribben's cane.
She gives it a practice swipe through the air. She tries it
out on her withered hand.
Swish-thwack.
It leaves the same mark as on Stefan's.

CRIBBEN :

You need correction?
Nancy gasps and drops the cane.
Cribben in the doorway.

NANCY :

He's only six.

CRIBBEN :

Then we're just in time. For the others
it may be too late. I'm sorry we haven't
met.

NANCY :

Nancy Linnet.

CRIBBEN :

Augustus Cribben. My sister admires you
greatly.
Nancy can't hide her surprise. Cribben is amused.
CRIBBEN (cont'd)
She's that way with everyone she admires.
The more she expects of them.
THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 49.

NANCY :

She expects a great deal from children.

CRIBBEN :

Indeed we both do. Well observed. Someone
expected a great deal from you when you
were a child else you'd not turned out as

you have.

NANCY :

May I speak frankly Sir?

CRIBBEN :

My sister tells me you do little else.

NANCY :

You don't need to instill fear to get respect.

CRIBBEN :

It's clear you've never been in charge of children.

NANCY :

They behave impeccably in class.

CRIBBEN :

And why do you think that is.

Running footsteps can be heard upstairs. Cribben bellows.

CRIBBEN (cont'd)

DO YOU WANT ME TO COME UP?

The footsteps stop.

CRIBBEN (cont'd)

It's not pleasant Miss Linnet. But it is in the nature of children to rebel. It is our duty to meet them with consequence.

Good night.

Nancy walks nervously past him as he replaces the cane.

89 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / CELLAR - NIGHT 5 89

The rushing sound from the well increases intensity. The door to the cellar glides open.

90 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / ENTRANCE HALL - NIGHT 5 90

We track along pools of water towards the stairs.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 50.

91 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / CALLY'S ROOM - NIGHT 5 91

Cally is playing with a colouring book. She hears the sound of crying. She turns. It's coming from outside the room.

92 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / LANDING - NIGHT 5 92

Cally approaches the cupboard on the landing. The crying is coming from inside. She looks at the handle to the cupboard.

Her hand reaches out gingerly to open the cupboard.

SWISH-THWACK.

A fast blurring movement slicing down on Cally's hand.

93 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / KITCHEN - NIGHT 5 93

Eve hears Cally scream shrilly. She runs.

94 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / ENTRANCE HALL - NIGHT 5 94

Eve runs up the stairs two at a time.

95 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / LANDING - NIGHT 5 95

Cally is sitting on the landing in floods of tears, holding the palm of her hand.

EVE :

Oh what have you done to yourself!

CALLY :

He HIT me!

EVE :

Let me see.

There's no mark. Eve examines Cally's hand for splinters.

CALLY :

I wasn't being naughty why did he HIT me?

Who?

EVE :

The MAN!

CALLY :

EVE :

There was a man here?

CALLY :

He went down there!

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 51.

Cally points down the stairs.

EVE :

Cally I would have seen him. Did you fall asleep?

CALLY :

No I didn't!

Eve leads her downstairs.

EVE :

Let's go and get a biscuit and no more playing games by yourself okay?

CALLY :

I wasn't playing I was trying to help!

EVE :

Let's have another look for Clyde in the garden before we get ready for bed.

96 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / CLASSROOM - 1943 DAY 6 96

Nancy stands in front of the assembled orphans.

NANCY :

I've got a special treat for you today.

She takes out an antique Bible.

NANCY (cont'd)

The library has been kind enough to allow me to borrow a very old Bible for you all to look at. But I promised there wouldn't be any grubby paws so let me check before I pass it round.

The orphans present their hands palm up. Nancy scrutinizes each. There are no marks from Cribben's cane.

NANCY (cont'd)

Very good. You perform your ablutions admirably. I presume the water is cold.

She arrives at Stefan. He looks pale. She studies his hands carefully. He's wearing a long sleeved vest under his jacket which stops at his wrists. She releases his hands and Stefan rubs his arms.

MAURICE :

He's got flu Miss that's why he's wrapped up.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 52.

She looks evenly at Maurice. He's nervous.

NANCY :

Thank you Maurice.

Maurice brazens it out. Nancy looks back at Stefan.

SUSAN:

He'll be fine Miss. Really.

Nancy looks around the class. They're all terrified.

Nancy can't decide what to do. She looks back to Stefan. He looks down, utterly subdued. A single tear rolls out.

Nancy considers for some moments. Wrestling with her fears.

NANCY :

Maurice you're going to need to fetch Mr. Cribben for me. Would you do that please.

MAURICE :

He's not to be disturbed.

NANCY :

You'll get him right now or I'll kick you all the way up those stairs.

The class gasps in unison. Maurice gets up, reddening. Nancy lunges at him.

NANCY (cont'd)

MOVE!

Maurice runs out. Nancy sits beside Stefan.

NANCY (cont'd)

Take off your jacket please Stefan.

Stefan shakes his head.

SUSAN :

Don't Miss.

Nancy strokes Stefan's hair.

NANCY :

This has to stop. This is going to stop.

Nancy tries to take his jacket off. Stefan winces in pain.

NANCY (cont'd)

I'm sorry.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 53.

Nancy gets the jacket off but Magda's in the room before she can get any further, Maurice behind her, breathless.

MAGDA :

You're fired. Leave the premises immediately.

NANCY :

I'll speak to the organ grinder not the

monkey.

Magda is beyond astonished.

NANCY (cont'd)

Is it only children he likes to bully?

Where is he? Bring him.

Nancy pulls off Stefan's jumper and opens his shirt.

NANCY (cont'd)

I'm sorry darling.

Magda moves to stop her.

Nancy slaps Magda. Magda reels back, stunned.

NANCY (cont'd)

I'm not afraid of bullies.

Nancy peels off Stefan's vest.

Both arms and back are covered in livid bruises and welts.

NANCY (cont'd)

Oh dear God.

Magda hurries out to get Cribben.

NANCY (cont'd)

Everyone up. You're coming with me.

Quickly.

The children rise.

97 EXT. CRICKLEY HALL - 1943 DAY 6 97

Nancy leads the children out of Crickley Hall.

98 EXT. CRICKLEY HALL - DAY 6 98

The school bus is parked outside Crickley Hall. Eve is seeing Loren onto the bus. Cally is waving from the door. Loren waves back sleepily.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 54.

Once Eve's back is turned, Loren sees a girl on the bus Tina waving sarcastically then commenting to her friend and laughing. Loren gets on the bus, nervous.

99 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / KITCHEN - DAY 6

Eve joins Gabe in the kitchen with Cally. He's collecting his stuff.

CALLY :

What about Clyde?

GABE :

He's probably found a better offer by now.

CALLY :

No!

EVE :

He's going to look for him. Why do you think he's leaving this early.
Gabe kisses Cally.

GABE :

He never liked us. He only pretended.
First chance he got - whoosh!

CALLY :

Stop it!
And Gabe's off.

EVE :

I'm sure we're going to find him.

CALLY :

I think the man took him.

EVE :

What man?

CALLY :

The man who took Cam.
Eve strokes Cally's hair.

EVE :

We don't know if that's what happened.
Maybe Cam got lost and a nice woman is looking after him.
She can barely say it.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 55.

100 INT. SCHOOL CORRIDOR - DAY 6 100

Loren is by herself at break time, looking through her books as children play around her.

TINA :

Loren Caleigh.
Loren looks up at TINA and her two friends.
TINA (cont'd)
Is that how you say it?

LOREN :

Yes.

TINA:

My Nan works at Crickley Hall. How come you're on holiday if your brother's missing.

LOREN:

We're not on holiday. My Dad's working. I don't want to talk about it.

TINA:

Your Mum fell asleep when she was looking after him and that's how he went missing is that true?

LOREN :

It's none of your business.

TINA:

You should be with social services. Your Mum should be in prison.

Loren punches Tina just as Dad taught her right on the bridge of the nose. The flow of blood is impressive. Tina drops. Some boys watching from a distance break into applause.

101 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / DINING ROOM - DAY 6 101

Eve is in the dining room. She's cleaned the rust from the spinning top to reveal the brightly coloured dancing children. She uses a can from Gabe's tool box to squeeze a drop of oil into the innards.

She puts the top on the table and presses the ratchet. The top spins, emitting a high-pitched hum. Inside the hum Eve hears children's voices. She stares into the blur of motion, transfixed.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 56.

CHILD'S VOICE

Mummy.

Eve gasps.

EVE :

Cameron?

CHILD'S VOICE

I'm not dead Mummy.

EVE :

I know baby.

CHILD'S VOICE

It's dark.

Eve can't bear it.

EVE :

Just tell me where you are.

CHILD'S VOICE

I'm cold.

EVE :

Are you alone?

CHILD'S VOICE

I can see them.

EVE :

Who's with you?

CHILD'S VOICE

They're dead.

The top slows down. The voice becomes indistinct.

CHILD'S VOICE (cont'd)

They know where I am.

EVE :

Cam! Who knows? Cam!

The toy topples. The sounds are gone.

CALLY :

Mummy!

Eve moves out into the entrance hall, in shock.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 57.

102 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / ENTRANCE HALL - DAY 6 102

Cally is pointing at the window by the stairs. Eve sees a glimpse of an image as if a child ran across it.

CALLY :

They're playing!

Eve moves slowly up the stairs. She sees another figure run past the landing.

Then another figure runs up the stairs to the dormitory.

102A INT. DORMITORY - DAY 102A

Eve arrives at the dormitory landing and sees through the glass door glimpses of children running around and jumping up

and down on beds that are now in their previous place.

She reaches out to touch the door knob.

SWISH-THWACK.

Eve snatches her hand back. She looks back and the children are gone. Cally watching solemnly. Eve looks at her hand.

This time there's a welt.

CALLY :

He doesn't like the children.

EVE :

Who Cally?

CALLY :

Can't you smell him?

103 EXT. CRICKLEY HALL - 1943 DAY 6 103

Magda leads the orphans back into Crickley Hall, accompanied by a policeman and a nurse. They all look very friendly. A shared laugh. The nurse examines the bruise on Magda's face. Nancy watches from a distance, tearful as Percy joins her.

NANCY:

They said the other children did it. I don't know what's more monstrous.

PERCY:

They owned up Nancy. And Stefan said the same.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 58.

NANCY :

They're terrified! They are in fear of their lives! Who's going to look after them now?

PERCY :

You are.

Nancy looks at him.

PERCY (cont'd)

No running away. I want you here when I get back.

He kisses her for the first time.

105 INT. GABE'S CAR - DAY 6 105

Gabe's Range Rover pulls up outside Crickley Hall. Loren in

the passenger seat.

LOREN :

Do we have to tell her? I don't want her to hear what they said.

Gabe examines her bruised knuckles.

GABE :

Okay you did it playing hockey. I'm not condoning it.

LOREN :

You would've done the same thing.

GABE :

She's got problems. She's being brought up by her gran. Her dad walked and her mum dumped her.

LOREN :

I'm not surprised. And it's no reason for her to take it out on me. What she said was horrible.

GABE :

It's what people do when they're unhappy.

LOREN :

I'm not apologizing. If she says sorry I'll think about it.

GABE :

You are so like your mother it's scary.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 59.

106 EXT. CRICKLEY HALL - DAY 6 106

Eve leans down to Cally as Gabe and Loren approach.

EVE :

Now are you going to let me tell them in my own way or are you going to belt it out at the top of your voice.

CALLY :

Is it a secret?

EVE :

No it isn't a secret I just want to say
it in the right way.

Gabe and Loren arrive at the door. Gabe looks at Cally.

GABE :

What are you smirking about?

Cally looks up at Eve, bursting. Back to Gabe.

CALLY :

We've got ghosts!

107 EXT. CRICKLEY HALL - DAY 6 107

Loren calls into the darkness, scanning the trees with a
flashlight.

LOREN :

Clyde! ... Clyde!

108 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / MAIN BEDROOM - NIGHT 6 108

Gabe and Eve undress for bed. Gabe shuts the bedroom door.

EVE :

I'm not afraid of ghosts. You don't even
believe in ghosts

GABE :

The girls are scared.

EVE :

Cally's having the time of her life. A
ghost never hurt anyone.

GABE :

We are not staying in a house where they *
think there's dead children running *
around.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 60.

EVE :

I heard Cam's voice.

Gabe stares at her. Suppressed anger. Eve's unsurprised.

EVE (cont'd)

And that is why I didn't tell you.

GABE :

We don't get to grieve because you're in denial for a year and now he's not just dead he's a ghost

EVE :

He's not dead! He's alive and he's trying to reach me

GABE :

You.

EVE :

Please.

GABE :

You think I don't hear his voice?

EVE :

Gabe.

GABE :

I hear his voice.

EVE :

This is real. It's the house. Somehow he's able to reach me here where he couldn't before.

GABE :

We'll make the most of it cause we're going.

EVE :

You should be happy! Why aren't you happy! There's nothing to be afraid of!

109 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / BATHROOM - NIGHT 6

Loren is washing her bruised knuckles under the cold tap. Cally is emitting a stream of consciousness.

CALLY :

There's a man too and when they did something bad like steal a toy from the cupboard the man would whack them.

LOREN :

You're making that up.

CALLY :

Ask Mum. You better not do anything bad or he'll come and get you.

LOREN :

You first.

Loren sprays water at Cally who screams delightedly.

CALLY :

No! No! He's going to get you!

Close on their bare feet making noise as they run about.

110

INT. CRICKLEY HALL / CELLAR - NIGHT 6 110

View from the bottom of the well looking up. The ceiling of the cellar visible in the circle surrounded by blackness. The point of view rises, something leaving the well.

111 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / ENTRANCE HALL - NIGHT 6 111

Pools of water on the stone floor. And on the stairs.

112 INT. CRICKLEY HALL / MAIN BEDROOM - NIGHT 6 112

Gabe and Eve are in bed. Back to back. Eve gently clasps his hand. He returns the gesture.

EVE :

Did Loren say anything to you about school?

GABE :

No.

EVE :

You believe that story about her hand.

GABE :

Sounded plausible to me.

EVE :

Maybe she's being bullied.

GABE :

Loren can take care of herself.

THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL Ep 1 Pink Revisions 62.

113

INT. CRICKLEY HALL / LOREN'S ROOM - NIGHT 6

Loren is in bed, studying her bruised knuckles. She can't resist smiling at the memory. A little bit proud of herself. She reaches out to turn the bedside lamp off.

As the light snaps off the covers are torn from her bed, exposing her bare legs. She looks up into the dark figure towering over her.

Cribben is in her room. His arm raised holding his cane. Loren gasps, frozen. Whispers.

LOREN:

Daddy -

Cribben brings down the cane, savagely lashing at Loren.

SWISH-THWACK. On her scream:

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF EPISODE.