

REDGAUNTLET

A FILM SCRIPT

BY

MICHAEL BLACK

From the novel

by

Sir Walter Scott (1824)

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DRAFT ONE

Michael Black
4 Hulley Place
Macclesfield
Cheshire SK10 2PZ

01625 429490

mwilblack@aol.com

www.mwblack.co.uk
www.myspace.com/mwblack

EXT. DUSK. A young man, DARCIE LATIMER, is walking along the sand dunes of the SCOTTISH side of the SOLWAY FIRTH. He looks south to the LAKELAND hills of SKIDDAW and GLARAMARA. SLOW CELTIC MUSIC, reminiscent of a Sharon Corr violin solo. The SUN sets across the estuary at low tide.

CUT TO:

SCREEN ANNOUNCEMENT

SCOTLAND. THE SOLWAY FIRTH. 1765

CUT TO:

EXT. The sunset silhouettes DARCIE as he continues his walk along the sands.

CUT TO:

EXT. On the Firth itself. Low tide. A man, JOSHUA GEDDES, is bringing in his salmon nets. They teem with the catch. The salmon jump in the nets.

CUT TO:

EXT. DARCIE sees GEDDES from a distance and starts walking towards him.

DARCIE
A hoy there!

CUT TO:

EXT. Three men on horseback appear in the distance with pikes. They gallop towards the Firth. They are REDGAUNTLET, CRISTAL NIXON and TAM

CUT TO:

EXT. DARCIE reaches GEDDES and his nets

DARCIE
Darcie Latimer sir. You've a merry catch

GEDDES
Aye, the Lord Be Thanked

DARCIE walks round the nets

GEDDES

Steady sir, one more step and you'll be in England! And my trade is only legal in Scotland, and that be disputed!

CUT TO:

EXT. REDGAUNTLET, NIXON and TAM gallop past, pikes down to the water. They pursue the salmon jumping through the rivulets of the sands. They spear the salmon on their pikes as they go...

REDGAUNTLET

Got one!

TAM

Aye, there's two

NIXON

And three!

REDGAUNTLET

And four, and five!

The three men rear their horses round. REDGAUNTLET has three salmon on his pike, speared through their middles, TAM two, NIXON one.

REDGAUNTLET

(shouting)

Joshua Geddes! Ours be a more honest way with the sea than be yours sir! And more sport besides! The old ways are the best!

CUT TO:

EXT. At GEDDES'S nets

GEDDES

(shouting)

You thieving Jacobite!

CUT TO:

EXT. REDGAUNTLET'S party rides up to the nets

REDGAUNTLET

You treacherous Hanoverian. I'll destroy your salmon nets yet. A man should take from the sea only what he needs to eat himself. Your nets take too much. Your methods of

netting are destroying the livelihood of fifty poor
salmon fishing families on the Solway

GEDDES

I have the King's permission to trade

REDGAUNTLET

But not the King across the water

GEDDES

The Adventurer

REDGAUNTLET

The Pretender

GEDDES

The usurper

REDGAUNTLET

The Chevalier

GEDDES

The AntiChrist!

REDGAUNTLET

The true King across the water

GEDDES

You speak of only taking what you need to eat! But you're
full deep with the liquor smugglers! And I know it! I've
seen the *Jumping Jenny* head out to the Isle of Man. And
what does she come back with? Liquor and baccy. I'll be
damned before God if I'm wrong

REDGAUNTLET

The captain Nanty Ewart's a brave wee lad

GEDDES

He's a criminal

REDGAUNTLET

He's a true believer. Protestant!

GEDDES

Papist!

REDGAUNTLET

(to Darcie)

And where might you be going young bairn?

DARCIE

I'm on a walking tour. I am a lawyer sir escaping his training, and one in search of romance and adventure. I'll make Shepherd's Bush before night fall

REDGAUNTLET

You'll not sir. The tide will come in, and quick sands stand between you and the Bush. Jump on my horse

DARCIE

Good sir. I'll walk

REDGAUNTLET

There's nought between a foolish bairn and death hey lads? View things as they are young sir, and not through your teeming fancy

NIXON and TAM laugh. REDGAUNTLET and NIXON and TAM gallop off.

CUT TO:

EXT. DARCIE and GEDDES watch them go.

GEDDES

I'll not vouch for the Laird, but he speaks the truth young man. The Solway sands are treacherous

DARCIE

The sands hold no threat to me. I can see my path from here. Good evening to you sir!

DARCIE picks up his bag and walks off along the sands

CUT TO:

EXT. A hill overlooking the scene. A young woman on horseback, LILIAS, watches the scene on the Firth from above. She is brunette, of great beauty.

She sees GEDDES bringing in his nets, REDGAUNTLET, TAM and NIXON on horseback galloping towards her, and she sees DARCIE walking away along the sands.

Suddenly DARCIE disappears in quicksand..

LILIAS
(shouting, and pointing towards DARCIE)
Uncle!

CUT TO:

EXT. DARCIE sinking in the quicksands. He struggles in vain

CUT TO:

EXT. REDGAUNTLET galloping back along the sands. Throws DARCIE a rope and pulls him out of the sands.

REDGAUNTLET
Are you deaf? Or mad? Do you have a mind for the next world?

DARCIE
Good sir, I was lost in fascination. And I could have saved myself

REDGAUNTLET
Nonsense you foolish youth. You owe your life to me. Now jump on my horse before the evening cold chills your bones

DARCIE jumps onto the back of REDGAUNTLET'S horse, and then gallop away.

CUT TO:

EXT. GEDDES finishes hauling in his nets. Puts the nets on the back of his horse drawn wagon. Leads the horse and wagon away. They are silhouetted in the SUNSET that suddenly comes down across the Solway Firth.

CUT TO:

INT. EVENING. EDINBURGH. The offices of FAIRFORD AND SONS, LAWYERS.

Shot of the door sign.

JAMES, the office clerk, is polishing the sign on the office door. Young ALAN FAIRFORD is sitting at his desk, reading a letter. Old ALEXANDER FAIRFORD views him with irritation.

ALEXANDER
Well, Alan, your first day as a lawyer!

ALAN
Yes, father

ALEXANDER
What be that gathering your attention?

ALAN
A letter from Darcie. He's on a walking tour on the
Solway Firth

ALEXANDER
That boy has too much romantic blood in him. He's a
foolish youth. He goes to dancing houses, reads novels of
no consequence...

ALAN
Darcie is a lawyer by protest and a poet by practice.
With me it is the other way around. But you brought him
up here father. What of his parents?

ALEXANDER
I've told you before Alan. 'Tis a mystery lost in time.
Now pay attention to the case Alan. Geddes versus
Birrenswick. It's been going on for a good long year, and
it's a most profitable dispute for the firm

ALAN
Do I have to?

ALEXANDER
You'd rather be with Darcie on the Solway would you?

ALAN
In truth yes I would. Darcie is my best friend father.
And his walking tour must be a lonely business even if he
is too proud to say so

ALEXANDER
Darcie has independent means Alan. You do not. Now
winning this case for Mr. Geddes could make your name
young man, so pay attention...

CUT TO:

EXT. DUSK. The Solway. DARCIE on REDGAUNTLET'S horse.
They arrive at REDGAUNTLET'S abode.

CUT TO:

INT. LILIAS watches DARCIE and REDGAUNTLET arrive through the curtains. She closes them again.

CUT TO:

INT. DARCIE and REDGAUNTLET enter the house. REDGAUNTLET gives the salmon to LILIAS. DARCIE notices a picture of the POPE on the wall

DARCIE
The Bishop of Rome!

REDGAUNTLET
The Pope. Il Papa himself. This is the house of a true believer, so you will behave as one, and if you're not one, then you'll keep silent. Nixon, find the man some clothes and dry the ones on his body. And Lilies, bring him some broth

LILIAS
Yes uncle

NIXON eyes DARCIE suspiciously. NIXON gives DARCIE a blanket

LILIAS and DARCIE look at each other. DARCIE is amorous. LILIAS hands DARCIE some broth

DARCIE
I'm grateful, eternally grateful, madam, and but for this blanket, I'd make a bow

CUT TO:

INT. REDGAUNTLET in his changing room. There is a tartan kilt on the wall, a broadsword, and bagpipes. A lock of hair in a casket, which he fondles. He takes off his boots, puts the pike away. NIXON enters

NIXON
Shouldn't I take his sword?

EXT. REDGAUNTLET leaves the room for the stables. NIXON follows

NIXON
You'll not have him stay the night will you?

REDGAUNTLET
What else can I do in humanity's name?

NIXON

But you're the leader of the rebellion sir! What if he should discover us?

REDGAUNTLET

He's an innocent bairn. He'll cause us no problems

INT. LILIAS at the stove. DARCIÉ watches her gut the salmon

DARCIÉ

You like cooking?

Silence. LILIAS continues her task

DARCIÉ

A woman's place is by the stove!

LILIAS

I prefer wind in my hair on a horse sir. But I'll not starve for lack of skill. Will you retire?

DARCIÉ

Tell me. What do you know of the Rob Roy MacGregor and Sergeant Alan Mhor Cameron? What do you know of the Jacobites and the Highland banditti? I have heard they are strident creatures

LILIAS

You'd sooner raise the sheep in the Highlands to battle now than raise the men good sir. And the Jacobites are known only for their attachment to principle above their interest. They survive by passing round locks of the Pretender's hair, and celebrating the other lost trinkets of past rebellion. But the King is a German now, and that's a fact

DARCIÉ

You speak a brave phrase young lady. What of the Pretender? His name be banned from mention

LILIAS

What of it? I speak my mind by vocation

CUT TO:

INT. DARCIÉ'S clothes drying by the fire

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT. A candle illuminates. DARCIE asleep. NIXON steals into the room and rifle's DARCIE'S belongings. He finds a letter. Reads it. Exits

INT. SUNRISE. LILIAS opens the curtains. DARCIE enters, LILIAS puts a plate of salmon in front of him. She sits and reads

DARCIE
Poetry. You like poetry

LILIAS
I read widely sir. I read Muireadhach Albanach, the Mormael of Lennox. Have you read O'Dálaigh?

DARCIE
I write poetry myself. Perhaps I could read you some

LILIAS
Perhaps not. You have a sweetheart?

DARCIE
That's the weakness of my art. I have no Muse. I presume one so beautiful as you is sworn

LILIAS
In truth sir, I have as yet met no man of consequence

DARCIE
You seek a man of substance? When I am twenty five, I inherit my substance, and then I can live in England!

LILIAS
I seek the one I find

CUT TO:

INT. In the stables. NIXON and REDGAUNTLET

NIXON
His name is Darcie Latimer, Master, and he has connections in Edinburgh with the law firm of Fairford's

REDGAUNTLET
Why the devil didn't you tell me before? If Latimer is the man I think, then the cards are falling into my hands at last!

CUT TO:

INT. DARCIE and LILIAS. DARCIE carries his bag. LILIAS gives him provisions

DARCIE
I hope we will meet again

LILIAS
Where are you going?

DARCIE
I will continue my walking tour to Shepherd's Bush

LILIAS
And you'll take more good care amongst the sands I trust!

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY. EDINBURGH street scene. Hustle and bussle. Market traders etc. A man, HERRIES OF BIRRENSWICK, walks down a street to FAIRFORD AND SONS.

CUT TO:

INT. JAMES, in the office, asleep. Knock on the door. JAMES wakes up. HERRIES walks through the door, as ALEXANDER FAIRFORD enters the room

ALEXANDER
You've come about the case sir

HERRIES
No, I've come about Darcie Latimer

ALEXANDER
Darcie Latimer?

HERRIES
Yes

ALEXANDER
Come this way sir

ALEXANDER and HERRIES exit to ALEXANDER'S office. ALAN enters the office

JAMES
Herries of Birrenswick is here sir. But he says it's not about the case. It be about your friend Darcie!

ALAN

Darcie? What has Darcie to do with Herries? And "Herries of Birrenswick"? That's an old Jacobite family name isn't it? Are the Stuarts still so bold as to march into the offices of a law firm of Kirk and State?

JAMES

I'd rather not talk about the Jacobites sir. My grandfather fought in the '15 at Leith and was sent to America. My father fought for the Bonnie Prince in the '45, and we lost everything. Money, lands and title. Why d'you think I'm your clerk?

ALAN

Aye, 'tis a common story! But what is Herries doing here? And why doesn't my father send him to me? The case of Geddes versus Birrenswick is mine after all. Are you sure our opponent hasn't come to settle?

The door rings as it opens. Enter GREENMANTLE, a young brunette beautiful woman in green, with a green mantled hood over her head

GREENMANTLE

I am looking for Mr. Fairford. It concerns Darcie Latimer

ALAN

Then it concerns me

GREENMANTLE

He is in great danger. You must write to him to persuade him to return from the Solway

ALAN

I cannot leave Edinburgh. It is lawyer's business

GREENMANTLE

Then you're a fool. And in truth, I was expecting Mr. Fairford to be somewhat older

ALAN

Then you speak of my father

GREENMANTLE

Then if you won't heed my warnings, I will speak with him

GREENMANTLE sits down. ALAN admires her beauty. JAMES also, as his jaw drops. GREENMANTLE smiles at ALAN

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY. The Solway Firth. DARCIE with GEDDES at his salmon nets

GEDDES

I have no time for the Laird young man, he is most uncommon proud in both disposition and nature, but he saved your life the other night, and that's as God's my witness

DARCIE

What is the dispute between you? I have training as a lawyer...

GEDDES

Aye, I already have one of those, and at a pretty shilling as well. A lawyer you say?

DARCIE

Though in truth I prefer poetry, and walking the hills. The law would marry me to a desk

GEDDES

But you need money to survive sir. A lawyer can make plenty of that

DARCIE

Perhaps sir, you could offer me employment on your nets? I've a quick spirit of wit

GEDDES

You'll net salmon before you return to Edinburgh?

DARCIE

'Tis the very truth of it. And my walking tour carries not profit. I'll serve you sir until I am twenty five...

A young woman, SHARON, blonde and very beautiful, appears on horseback

SHARON

And what happens then? Do you find a fortune sir?

DARCIE

Well, I have been told my security will be assured

SHARON

Then father let him stay with us. We will educate him in the ways of the good Protestant Lord

DARCIE smiles at SHARON. SHARON smiles back. GEDDES assesses their communication

GEDDES

You seem a stout enough gentleman. Aye, stay with us. But would you fight the Laird if it came to it? For in truth, I fear he'll attack my nets with violence any day

DARCIE

Oh, sir, I would fight a good fight in defence of progress and profit

GEDDES

Well, then, young man, we have an agreement. Now, there's four nets in all, all pegged..

CUT TO:

INT. DAY. Edinburgh. Fairford and Sons. ALEXANDER and HERRIES

HERRIES

If you are the boy's guardian, then I demand to see the papers, and his birth certificate. His mother is dead you say, and his father too? What was their name?

ALEXANDER

Sir, this is most unusual, what are your proofs?

HERRIES

I insist on my demands sir. My proofs I will vouch for later

HERRIES pulls a pistol and points it at ALEXANDER

ALEXANDER

Steady sir. Be steady (offering HERRIES a drink). To the King

HERRIES

To the King across the water

HERRIES fires his gun at the ceiling, and takes a drink

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY. The Solway. DARCIE at the salmon nets. LILIAS watches on horseback from a hill.

EXT. LILIAS gallops down and spears a salmon from a rivulet

LILIAS

Hello Mr. Darcie. And Mr. Geddes. So. You are staying on the Solway?

DARCIE

Yes. Mr. Geddes has given me employment on his nets

LILIAS

So an Edinburgh trainee lawyer would spend his life upon the Estuary would he? Bound up in misty old tales of romantic valour. I would advise you to leave. You know not what awaits you

LILIAS gallops off

GEDDES

You know that girl?

DARCIE

Yes, her name is Liliias

GEDDES

She's the niece of that uncouth Papist the Laird. I've a mind for my own daughter you know...

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY. BLIND WILLIE, a blind fiddler, and LEXXIE, his wife, on the shores of the Solway. WILLIE is playing a Scottish jig, full of longing and desire. LEXXIE holds a fiddle but doesn't play. DARCIE hears them and approaches them

DARCIE

That's pretty music to find in a desolate place like this

LEXXIE

Blind Willie is the best fiddle player in the kingdom sir! And are you a man who'd be kind to poor folk?

LEXXIE holds out her hand. DARCIE gives her some money

WILLIE

I'm a fiddle player for all of Scotland, and a wee bit of England to boot. There's not a song or jig I can't improvise. Name me a tune sir

DARCIE
My Heart's In The Highlands!

BLIND WILLIE plays, LEXXIE starts singing

My heart's in the Highlands, my heart's not here
 My heart's in the Highlands, a-chasing the deer
 A-chasing the wild deer, and following the roe
 My heart's in the Highlands wherever I go

DARCIE joins in the singing

Farewell to the Highlands! Farewell to the North!
 The birthplace of valour, the cradle of worth!
 Wherever I wander, wherever I rove
 The hills of the Highlands forever I love

LEXXIE

You've a fine voice on you, I'll say so myself sir. We're playing at Joe Crackenthorp's Inn tonight sir. Would you join us?

DARCIE

I see you have two fiddles Willie. I could play myself

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT. The Solway. Silence. REDGAUNTLET and NIXON holding a lantern.

CUT TO:

EXT. The Solway Firth offshore. On board the *Jumping Jenny*. The Captain, NANTY EWART, holds a rope over board, and a man, FATHER BUONAVENTURE, descends it into a rowing boat. A hooded woman, the COUNTESS ALBERSTROF follows

CUT TO:

EXT. The rowing boat comes ashore.

REDGAUNTLET
 Father Buonaventure I presume

BUONAVENTURE

Redgauntlet. Or should I say Father Hugo. It is as well to maintain both our disguises. I am home at last

The COUNTESS ALBERSTROF gets off the rowing boat

REDGAUNTLET
And who might this be?

BUONAVENTURE
This be the Countess of Alberstrof

REDGAUNTLET
Then you bring a companion

BUONAVENTURE
She is most loyal, honest and true. She is my heart and
soul, and let that be no negotiation

CUT TO:

EXT. London. Shot of Buckingham Palace

CUT TO:

INT. KING GEORGE in his study, drinking red wine and
reading papers

CUT TO:

INT. GENERAL CAMPBELL walking down a corridor in the
palace, double doors opened by servants as he continues.

He goes through:

FIRST SET OF DOORS

SECOND SET OF DOORS

THIRD SET OF DOORS

He reaches the KING'S study. Knocks on the door. The
doors are opened..

CUT TO:

INT. ... by servants. The KING'S study

CAMPBELL
Your Majesty

KING
Yes, General Campbell

CAMPBELL

Your Majesty. I have intelligence that the Count of Alberstrof has landed

CUT TO:

INT. NIGHT. CRACKENTHORP'S INN. The Solway Firth. Dancing, drinking and general merriment. The Inn is full. DARCIE is buying drinks for BLIND WILLIE and LEXXIE.

INNKEEPER

That be a pound Scots

DARCIE

I have only a shilling sterling

INNKEEPER

That be good enough

SHARON is also at the Inn, talking with her father JOSHUA GEDDES. DARCIE watches her. She watches him back. NIXON too is at the Inn, watching DARCIE. There is a set of bagpipes on the wall, and a pair of crossed broadswords. Also a locket of hair in a casket.

DARCIE

Drink Willie. Drink Lexxie. And be merry! To King George!

BLIND WILLIE starts playing the fiddle. Various Scottish jigs. DARCIE dances with LEXXIE. Then...

DARCIE

Sharon! Will you have this dance with me!

SHARON

What be the music sir? I'll not dance to a rebel, Jacobite jig

DARCIE

Willie. Play something for the King

WILLIE

Which King be that?

DARCIE

King George!

LEXXIE

There's scarce a tune we know about him. To the Bonnie Prince!

BLIND WILLIE breaks into *Over The Sea To Skye*

DARCIE

Very well then. If you'll not dance with me, I'll play the fiddle myself! And more bottles here! I'll buy the whole Inn a drink if you'll dance the night

BLIND WILLIE and DARCIE start playing a variety of jigs

CUT TO:

INT. The Inn

GREENMANTLE enters the Inn, and assesses the scene.
Suspicious

CUT TO:

INT. The Inn

BLIND WILLIE and DARCIE continue to play. LEXXIE dances solo

NIXON

What's this? Our visitor assumes the guise of a fiddler? I'll warrant he's a spy

LEXXIE stops dancing. BLIND WILLIE stops playing

LEXXIE

Well, that was fun now. Willie, tell us all the tale of Sir Algernon Redgauntlet! Tell us a tale from the dead!

DARCIE

This sounds fascinating to mark. Please Willie, tell it!

CROWD

Yes, Willie, tell it etc.

BLIND WILLIE

Once upon a time, lost in the days of yore, lived the proud Sir Algernon Redgauntlet, the scourge of tyrants, loved by his people both. And young Steenie was proud to be his servant. But then one day, Sir Algernon premature passed away, on rent day at that, and Steenie, having paid his master rent, was left with no receipt for it.

Now John Redgauntlet was the son, a man as unlike his father as the English are unlike the Scots, and upon taking rank at Redgauntlet castle, he did his audit of his estate, and demanded a year's rent from young Steenie. But Steenie had no receipt! So John Redgauntlet threatens to deprive him of his home, not believing the rent had gone to Sir Algernon. So Steenie goes to Sir Algernon's grave and prays. And sure enough, Sir Algernon rises from the dead and gives him his receipt of rent! So back to John Redgauntlet goes Steenie, and hands over the document. But John is not impressed. "Where did you get this from?" he says, "for Sir Algernon is dead, and he cannot have given it to you". And so Steenie's protestations go in vain, and John Redgauntlet, being of avarice and malaforethought throws the receipt upon the fire, and demands Steenie's rent again!!!

ONE MAN IN CROWD

It be a sin against the Lord to burn a legal document. What happened next?

BLIND WILLIE

John Redgauntlet dropped dead, and that he did

ONE WOMAN IN CROWD

That it be so. But the Laird of the Lakes would not treat us in such a way, and that's a fact. It's that Geddes and his crew who spoil our livelihoods!

DARCIE

But Mr. Geddes employs me! He is a fine gentleman!

SILENCE

DARCIE

Willie, your tale disturbs the merriment! Can we not dance Sharon?

SHARON doesn't move. DARCIE, drunk, kisses her. She resists

SHARON

The time for your fiddle playing is past sir

DARCIE

Very well then! I'll play the pipes!

DARCIE picks the bagpipes off the wall and starts to play

DARCIE

(seeing GREENMANTLE)

And who might you be? And I'll not be rejected twice

DARCIE kisses GREENMANTLE. She resists

GREENMANTLE

Stop this stupidity! And I'll mark you never to kiss me like that again! You must leave sir! Go back to Edinburgh. This is no place for you

DARCIE

Come madam. Reveal yourself...

DARCIE tries to undo GREENMANTLE's hood. She resists

GREENMANTLE

I am your protector sir, despite your improprieties. Take my horse and go. And hide those bagpipes! Would you have the redcoats here?

NIXON watches DARCIE with intrigue

DARCIE

I have nothing to fear from them

GREENMANTLE

There are those here that do

DARCIE

I want to dance

GREENMANTLE

You are drunk sir! Go!

DARCIE

Your name, you hooded mystery

GREENMANTLE

Go sir! The night is over. The Inn is closed

EXT. NIGHT. Outside the Inn in darkness. DARCIE takes the horse, and drunkenly mounts it. NIXON and TAM emerge from the shadows

NIXON

Come on Tam. The young comcomb's going to be easy prey!

NIXON and TAM drag DARCIE off the horse. There is a fight. DARCIE is finally subdued

NIXON

You're a dead duck my spying friend!

CUT TO:

EXT. Outside the Inn. GREENMANTLE mounts another horse, and gallops off...

INT. DAY. Edinburgh. The Court

COURT OFFICIAL

The case of Geddes versus Birrenswick. Concerning the legality of Mr. Geddes' salmon nets on the Solway Firth. The younger Mr. Fairford acting for Mr. Geddes

In the gallery a LAWYER and ALEXANDER

LAWYER

The young man's first day as a lawyer

ALEXANDER

Aye

LAWYER

You must be a proud man Alexander

ALEXANDER

Aye

LAWYER

Look at him in his crimson and scarlet gowns

ALEXANDER

Aye

COURT OFFICIAL

May the disputations commence

ALAN

(standing, and referring to notes)

Mr. Geddes commenced his fishing business on the Solway in the Year of Our Lord 1763. Since that time by industry and hard work the business has profited, and Mr. Geddes pays a licence to King George for his catch, according to its quantity, regulated by the Provost of Dumfries.

LAWYER

He speaks well sir

ALEXANDER

Aye

ALAN

However, one Herries of Birrenswick disputes the legality of Mr. Geddes' business, claiming Stuart law is precedent, and that his rights to freely fish for salmon on the Solway are being abused by Mr. Geddes overfishing of the estuary...

ALAN looks down at his notes. Turns them over. Reads a note in a feminine hand

"Darcie is missing"

ALAN turns over more notes

"I think he has been kidnapped on the Solway"

ALAN turns over more notes

LAWYER

Has the young man lost his place?

ALEXANDER

He's well prepared

ALAN turns over more notes

"Please rescue him. Greenmantle"

ALAN turns over more notes

"Look at me"

ALAN looks up into the gallery. GREENMANTLE is sitting there. She looks back

ALAN leaves the court immediately

JUDGE

Young man. The court is in session. Where are you going?

ALEXANDER

What is the meaning of this?

JUDGE

Mr. Fairford. Can you explain?

ALEXANDER

(standing)

Perhaps a malady betrays him

JUDGE
Court adjourned!

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY. ALAN mounting his horse. Gallops off through the streets of Edinburgh. Knocks over several market stalls. General street mayhem

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT. The Solway. DARCIE bound hand and foot in the back of a horse drawn wagon crossing the estuary from Scotland to England. NIXON drives the wagon

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT. The Solway. A party of redcoats march on patrol...

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT. The Solway. The wagon

DARCIE

Stop in pity's name. I'm being battered to death

NIXON

Dead you'd already be but for the Laird. Cease your yelping

DARCIE

We're on the estuary surely. Where are we going?

NIXON

Use your whip Tam, there's an excise patrol up on the shore

TAM

The cart's sticking in the mud. The tide will turn soon and I don't like it

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT. The Solway. The patrol of redcoats. The wagon in the distance.

CAPTAIN

Fire!

The redcoats start firing with their muskets

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT. The Solway. The wagon

DARCIE
In the name of mercy. Let me loose

A bullet blows off NIXON's hat

NIXON
No man. 'Tis the horse we'll let loose. Here comes the
patrol and the tide too. There's no sense in us drowning
as well!

NIXON and TAM gallop off towards the Cumberland shore.
They meet REDGAUNTLET on the shores of England

NIXON
That's the end of our spying friend

REDGAUNTLET
And who be that?

NIXON
That's Darcie Latimer

REDGAUNTLET
Darcie! He's not a spy you fool! He's our saviour!

REDGAUNTLET gallops off into the estuary to save DARCIE.
The horse is knee deep in water...

Bullets fly around him

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT. The Solway. The wagon, sinking in the waves.
DARCIE coughing water

REDGAUNTLET arrives and frees DARCIE just in time. Hauls
him over the back of his horse

REDGAUNTLET
To save a man once from death is fortunate sir. To save
him twice stretches credulity

They gallop off towards Cumberland.

Silhouette of the LAKELAND hills of GLARAMARA and SKIDDAW

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT. The Solway. The redcoats stop firing...

CUT TO:

EXT. SUNRISE. The Solway. Scotland. GEDDES and SHARON bring in the salmon nets.

GEDDES

The young lawyer has not been with us for two days. I knew he'd be unreliable

SHARON

I fear for the worst father. Judge him not too harshly

INT. DAY. A Jacobite hideout. Picture of the POPE and lock of hair in a casket upon the wall. Upstairs, as is evident as DARCIE looks out of the window. Half lit room.

DARCIE

What is the meaning of this sir? First I am kidnapped by your jackanapes, then you save me from the waves, then I am locked up by you in a cell!

REDGAUNTLET

All will be revealed soon enough. Once you've gained your senses. At present you resemble an effeminate greenhouse plant grow in the hothouse for pleasure alone. I'll turn you into a wild and rebellious rose. As yet I will!

DARCIE

And what be the meaning of that?

REDGAUNTLET

I mean as I say

DARCIE

Well, you can't mean to kill me if you've saved me

REDGAUNTLET

Kill you young bairn? Never. Happy Birthday. You're in England now, and a free man

DARCIE

My mother vowed me never to set foot in England until I was twenty five. It was her dying wish

REDGAUNTLET

Aye, and twenty five you are. That vow was made so you'd avoid meeting me

DARCIE

You? But why?

REDGAUNTLET

I am Edward Redgauntlet, Darcie. It is a proud name I am proud to bear. May it always inspire fear in the Hanoverian usurper! Welcome to the rebellion!

DARCIE

The rebellion? What rebellion? Sir, I am a loyal subject of King George!

REDGAUNTLET laughs

REDGAUNTLET

Aye, but you'll come round. To King Charles Edward Stuart himself!

REDGAUNTLET exits, locking the door behind him

DARCIE

Stop sir! This is kidnap! And the penalties be most severe! The penalty is death!

DARCIE bangs on the locked door to no avail

CUT TO:

INT. DAY. The office of the PROVOST OF DUMFRIES. The PROVOST is drunk.

ALAN

I've come for news of Darcie Latimer, a young gentleman on a walking tour in these parts. I have word he's gone missing

PROVOST

And who might that be from?

ALAN

I'd rather not say

PROVOST

You'll have to sir if you want me to pursue the matter

ALAN

A young woman in green

PROVOST

Oh!

ALAN

Do you know of such a one?

PROVOST

No, no. No. But the morgues have been checked sir, and they're empty, so your friend is not dead

ALAN

He could have drowned. You wouldn't know yet

PROVOST

Darcie Latimer you say?

ALAN

(taking a bottle away from the Provost)

Do you know something sir?

PROVOST

There was an incident at Crackenthorp's Inn some nights ago. And there was a woman in green... Too much merriment brought the bagpipes out. A young man answered to your description

ALAN

Bagpipes? Sir, is there a rebellion a foot?

PROVOST

Go back to Edinburgh sir. There's always a rebellion around these parts. I fought myself in the '45 for liberty and property, I fought at Ecclesfechan, and lost £100 Scots doing it! The hills are full of Jacobites and redcoats both. It is most troublesome for me. The Jacobites dream of the old times sir, times of romance and honour. The redcoats defend the present times, times only of industry and commerce. But the Laird..

ALAN

Do you know a Herries of Birrenswick?

PROVOST

The Laird himself! Are you a Jacobite too?

ALAN

Upon my honour no. I am loyal to King George. But you I doubt sir

PROVOST

The King's the king sir. Each man to his own, and I never ask which one they mean

ALAN

You mean the Pretender is on these shores?

PROVOST

(trying to get the bottle back)

I mean I wouldn't know. And the redcoats of General Campbell would spy him out

CUT TO:

INT. The Jacobite hideout. DARCIE's cell. REDGAUNTLET unlocks the door and enters. He is wearing full Jacobite regalia, kilt, broadsword, sporran etc.

DARCIE

Kidnap is a capital offence sir

REDGAUNTLET

So is wearing the tartan and kilt sir. But I'll be damned to obey redcoat, Hanoverian, Protestant law

DARCIE

I demand my freedom!

REDGAUNTLET

You'll stay locked up until you stop your protestations young man. But happy birthday. You inherit a fortune today! And the Bonnie Prince needs it to oust that false King George of yours. So hand the fortune over to me, and you're a free man sir

DARCIE

What! You want my inheritance to impose Charles Stuart upon the people of England as monarch! I'd rather die

REDGAUNTLET

But not before you sign over the inheritance I trust

DARCIE

Sir, this rebellion of yours is doomed. You failed twenty years ago and you'll fail now

REDGAUNTLET

In '45 we marched as far south as Derby. With your money sir we'll march to London!

DARCIE

I demand to see Liliias!

REDGAUNTLET

You're in love with her you foolish youth. But she'll not help you you wee pup. She's a good girl and she's a true Stuart

INT. DAY. The office of the PROVOST

ALAN

You know something sir! Where is Darcie Latimer! And what has this Laird to do with it? Out with it sir, before I cuff you

PROVOST

They'd be in England by now young man, if the Laird has taken your friend. Not that I'd know. Or be interested. Or speculate. Or interfere. With the Laird I'm always careful. He has an uncommon temper. A Coriolanus of a man to boot! And you'll need a letter to cross the Solway with all the redcoats between you and Carlisle

ALAN

Then give me one

INT. The Jacobite hideout. DARCIE's cell.

REDGAUNTLET

Master Darcie, you are now one of the richest men in England! You mother saw to that before she died. But what do you know of your father?

DARCIE

I must admit, nothing sir

REDGAUNTLET

Your father fought with me in the '45 for Bonnie Prince Charlie against the redcoats! He fought at Perth and Prestonpans. We marched side by side to Derby sir! So you are more a Stuart than you know. It's just you've been brought up in the weakling ways of a Kirk worshipping Edinburgh lawyer

DARCIE

The law is not for me

REDGAUNTLET

Then join us! Your inheritance is enough to finance the whole rebellion! You will march side by side with Bonnie Prince Charlie himself

DARCIE

You mean the Pretender is in England? But sir, the plan is doomed. The Highlanders are gone now! The kilt and broadsword are banned!

REDGAUNTLET

Quite so, but there are still Jacobites in Cheshire and Wales. The plan is to take Carlisle with 500 men, crown the Bonnie Prince as King, and march south to London from there. The man you call King George will panic and flee to Hanover. And of course he'll gain no nourishment from his false religion! I never did understand how the Church of England became so attached to a German monarch. But then the English are duplicitous. The Scots are more honest

DARCIE

'Tis a mad scheme sir, and one I'll not be party to

REDGAUNTLET

Then you'll remained kidnapped until you change your mind. The rebellion needs your money sir, and we'll reward you with honour and mark

DARCIE

What happened to my father?

REDGAUNTLET

He fought bravely at Culloden and paid the price sir with his life. He fought sword to sword with the Butcher of Cumberland, as I fought with General Campbell. And it is General Campbell's redcoats that patrol these hills. I'll kill the man yet, as he wishes to kill me. (Pause)
Culloden was desperate sir. We should never have turned back at Derby, but the intelligence was mistaken. The redcoats were castrating the dead and dying! The English bastards! And then the broadsword was banned in the Highlands, and the kilt too. And English sheep replaced the people sir. It broke my heart to see so many brave Highlanders take the boats to America. There's more sheep now in the Highlands than honest men and women!

DARCIE

The Pretender. They say he's a womanising Frenchman

REDGAUNTLET

He's a man of God and true. Aye, should you meet him
you'd be sworn by his side sir

DARCIE

Then I shall

REDGAUNTLET

Then you'll support us? Darcie Latimer they call you do
they? You are the leader of the Redgauntlets now

REDGAUNTLET exits

EXT. NIGHT. GREENMANTLE below DARCIE's window. She throws
up a rope with a hook and it catches on one of the window
bars. She climbs up the rope

INT. The PROVOST's office. The PROVOST writes ALAN the
letter, and seals it

ALAN

I swear you're a Jacobite yourself sir! There's a
rebellion afoot, I swear, and you're either party to it,
or you're afraid of doing anything to stop it!

PROVOST

The King's the King sir. And I never ask which one folks
mean. This letter will get you across to England on the
boats. But the weather is not fair. It will be a rough
crossing

INT/EXT. DARCIE's cell, through the window to GREENMANTLE
outside

GREENMANTLE

Darcie!

DARCIE

And who might you be?

GREENMANTLE

I am Greenmantle. Has Redgauntlet explained everything?
That you are to lead the rebellion with the Bonnie
Prince? The man's impossible sir. The Divine Right of
Kings! When he talks of the Prince, he thinks he's
talking about a direct descendent of God!

DARCIE

I believe in the sovereignty of Parliament and Hanoverian
rule. I haven't wavered

GREENMANTLE

And yet I fear you might. Did Redgauntlet explain that your sister was kidnapped by the Stuarts sir? Or that you were brought up by your nanny to be a loyal Protestant?

DARCIE

I must confess no

GREENMANTLE

Then I cannot reveal myself to you sir. 'Tis a pity, but I see an ardour for me in your eyes which is most embarrassing

DARCIE

Greenmantle. You must explain your knowledge to me

GREENMANTLE

I cannot. There isn't time. Tell me. You know Alan Fairford?

DARCIE

In truth he is my staunchest friend. But how do you know him? Is he here too?

GREENMANTLE

Is he attached?

DARCIE

The man is single and most celibate

GREENMANTLE

Of good character?

DARCIE

Strong and true

GREENMANTLE

Then thank you sir, and good night

GREENMANTLE disappears. DARCIE tries the bars. No movement. Bangs on the door

DARCIE

Let me out! This is a most uncommon outrage

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT. ALAN and the PROVOST at Dumfries harbour. They meet NANTY EWART

PROVOST

This young man wants a boat to England Nanty

NANTY

For what purpose?

ALAN

The purpose is my own and none of your business

NANTY

It's my business if you're on my boat gud sir

PROVOST

(to NANTY)

I trust he'll not survive the journey

NANTY

(to the Provost)

There's many gone overboard Your Honour

NANTY

(to ALAN)

So. You want a boat young man?

ALAN

Yes, a boat to England. Carlisle. I have the necessary papers

NANTY

Let me see (looks at the PROVOST's letter). Well sir, we're in a for a rough crossing tonight, but there's room on the *Jumping Jenny* for three crowns

ALAN

Three crowns! Two at the most

NANTY

Three

ALAN boards the *Jumping Jenny*

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT. The sea. A storm. On board the *Jumping Jenny*. ALAN is sick over the side of the ship. NANTY laughing at him from the bridge

NANTY

You be an innocent bairn! Have you not sailed before? It's a most uncommon storm, but I've not lost a ship yet! Hey, hey! The *Jenny* might bob around, but she's as water worthy as a dolphin!

NANTY sings

God bless the King! God bless the Faith's defender!
 God bless - no harm in blessing the Pretender.
 Who that Pretender is, and who that King -
 God bless us all! - is quite another thing

EXT. NIGHT. The *Jumping Jenny*. Greenmantle emerges from behind the barrels of liquor. She is a stowaway

ALAN is sick over the side again. NANTY tries to push Alan overboard. Greenmantle stops him.

NANTY pulls his sword.

Sword fight.

GREENMANTLE'S sword punctures one of the liquor barrels. Liquor pours out..

NANTY tries to push ALAN overboard again

The boat's steering wheel cavorts around in the storm

ALAN passes out

GREENMANTLE finally subdues NANTY

NANTY

(fearful)

They sent me to Canada for the '45. If we fail this time, they'll transport me to the Indies. Please don't kill me

GREENMANTLE

(standing over him with her sword at his throat)
 I'll not kill you sir, for the boat needs its captain. But I could. And I've been wanting to say that to a man, if you be worthy of the name, all my life! (tasting the liquor from the punctured barrel) Oh, and by the way, this liquor is most uncommon sour

CUT TO:

EXT. DAWN. Carlisle harbour. NIXON and TAM await the arrival of the *Jumping Jenny*. ALAN is still draped over the side of the ship. Barrels of liquor are unloaded

NANTY

I know not who he is, Nixon. But he came through the usual channels

NIXON

He wasn't supposed to come through at all

LILIAS

(walking off the boat)

Good morning Nixon. I'll take your horse if you'll not object

LILIAS gallops off

ALAN

I am seeking the whereabouts of one Darcie Latimer. Can you direct me to the Sheriff? And I have a letter from the Provost of Dumfries for the Laird Redgauntlet

NIXON

Redgauntlet?

ALAN

Yes. Can you take me to him?

NIXON

(to TAM)

I don't like it Tam. What's happening at Carlisle is not for the eyes of strangers

ALAN

Well sir?

NIXON

Come this way sir

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY. Woods. The redcoats of GENERAL CAMPBELL, on horseback. They rendezvous with CATHERINA WILKINSHAW

CAMPBELL

What do you want for your information, madam?

CATHERINA

Immunity from prosecution, and an income for life

CAMPBELL

Then where are they?

CUT TO:

EXT. A courtyard near Carlisle. The Jacobites gather. Names are called out by REDGAUNTLET. They are all from Cheshire and Wales. Sir John Glendale, Sir Arthur Reedsmere, Sir Roger Tatton...

Other names are called out, that are missing. MacDonald, MacGregor, Monroe, McClymont...

CHESHIRE

Are there no Scots amongst us?

REDGAUNTLET

Wales and Cheshire are strong and true

WALES

But what of the Highlanders? Did you not muster their number?

The COUNTESS ALBERSTROF arrives on horseback

COUNTESS

Gentlemen. Greetings, and hospitality awaits you. Carlisle will soon be ours

CHESHIRE

And who might this be?

REDGAUNTLET

This be the Countess Alberstrof. The loyal companion of Charles Edward Stuart himself

WALES

He's brought a woman with him? Did he not come alone?

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY. NIXON with ALAN dismounting horses at Fairladies House. Two old ladies greet them

NIXON

This man has a letter for Redgauntlet. How goes Father Buonaventure?

OLD LADY ONE

His Eminence is well. We take good care of him, and he prays constantly!

OLD LADY TWO

So devout and pious in his faith. And he's more important than a Cardinal! (To ALAN) So, are you one of us young man. And what is your business here?

ALAN

I have good reason to believe that a friend of mine has been kidnapped in these parts. So I must speak with Redgauntlet

OLD LADY ONE

Oh, you must speak to the Father first!

CUT TO:

EXT. DUSK. GREENMANTLE at the fishing nets on the Solway. Meets SHARON

GREENMANTLE

Good day fair lady Geddes. Do you have news of Darcie Latimer?

SHARON

No, in truth I have not seen him since at the Inn

GREENMANTLE

He was most foolish there. With both of us

SHARON

Do you know his whereabouts?

GREENMANTLE

I may do. For a brace of fish and an honest agreement between us. But my heart belongs to another. You are in love with Darcie are you not?

SHARON

He is in love with Liliias I fear. I'll not say more

GREENMANTLE

She loves him not in that way

SHARON

You know Liliias?

GREENMANTLE

Oh, I know her well, and can vouch for her

CUT TO:

INT. Fairladies House. ALAN and FATHER BUONAVENTURE

ALAN

I believe my friend Darcie Latimer has been kidnapped

BUONAVENTURE

Give me that letter
(reads it casually)

ALAN

It is from the Provost of Dumfries sir, and doubtless insists on my friends release

BUONAVENTURE

But this is England sir, and Dumfries is in Scotland. The laws are different

FATHER BUONAVENTURE throws the letter on the fire. It burns

ALAN

You cannot do that sir! I am a lawyer, and know that though the laws of two kingdoms be different, they still have some common substance. I know of the Statue of 1703 against kidnap in Scotland, and I believe the law be equally severe south of the border. Both Scotland and England are of the Kingdom of King George, and I am a loyal subject, whilst you, unless it be some disguise for reasons I know not, are a Roman Catholic priest, and that is illegal too sir!

ALAN pulls out his sword

BUONAVENTURE

Put your weapon away sir! And spare me the Geneva sermon! My authority comes from God and Rome, and I am not frightened of some Hanoverian King drunkard. And your letter sir was addressed directly to the Laird Redgauntlet. It is he who must hold your friend Darcie, and the Provost must have known

ALAN

Then sir, you had no right to burn my correspondence

BUONAVENTURE

I had every right. There is nothing that concerns Redgauntlet that does not concern me

ALAN

Then take me to him

BUONAVENTURE

For what reason? There are more important matters to me than the 'kidnap' of your friend. Sir, the Laird Redgauntlet is most true to me. I am his confessor. I trust to his reasoning, and doubt that your friend will come to much harm

ALAN

Harm sir! He could be dead

BUONAVENTURE

In which case, it is already too late

ALAN

A Roman Catholic priest abroad in honest Cumberland? I'll report you to the redcoats sir, and you will hang

BUONAVENTURE

I doubt you on both counts. The doors are locked sir, and you cannot escape

The COUNTESS ALBERSTROF enters through a secret entrance disguised as a book case. Her breasts heave with passion

COUNTESS

Father. They are ready for you

BUONAVENTURE

Very well. Let the truth faith prevail over these lands, and Rome will be ascendant

FATHER BUONAVENTURE and the COUNTESS ALBERSTROF leave through the book case exit.

ALAN tries it, but cannot find a way through.

The two OLD LADIES creep up behind him, and smother his face with a handkerchief.

ALAN falls to the ground unconscious.

OLD LADY ONE lifts him off the ground.

OLD LADY TWO takes him on her shoulder, and they exit through the book case...

CUT TO:

INT. DUSK. The courtyard. The Jacobite gathering. All present in full regalia, bagpipes, tartan and broadswords

REDGAUNTLET

Gentlemen, loyal and true to the Catholic Stuart cause. May I introduce your leader and King, Charles Edward Stuart himself!

CHARLES

Gentlemen, I thank you. I have been twenty years away since Culloden, but we shall be avenged. We shall take Carlisle, and thence march to London!

CHESHIRE

But the country is swarming with redcoats your Majesty! Even to take Carlisle we need five hundred men, and I for one cannot vouch for more than one hundred and fifty

WALES

And who is this woman with you? I have travelled far to avoid the redcoat trap, and yet Cumberland is heaving with them. It was not necessary to bring your paramour your Majesty

CHARLES

She is the Countess Alberstrof, and she shall be my queen. She is loyal and true. And there is to be no parley between a true King and his subjects

REDGAUNTLET

Our numbers are small, but they shall grow as we travel. There is great discontent in the kingdom

WALES

And what about finance? Have you brought monies from Rome your Majesty?

REDGAUNTLET

Monies are secured gentlemen. I have the entire fortune of Darcie Latimer at my disposal!

CHESHIRE

Darcie Latimer! You mean your ward of court and nephew! The one you were supposed to kidnap twenty years ago!

REDGAUNTLET

Aye, the same. He escaped me all those years ago, but I have kidnapped him now. He's a pallid youth, but his fortune stands muster

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT. GREENMANTLE outside Fairladies House.
Assessing the upstairs windows from the garden. Climbs up
the drainpipe...

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT. SHARON arriving on horseback at Darcie's
hideout. Finds the window bars of DARCIE's cell. The
window is illuminated by candles. Throws a rope up.
Climbs up it...

CUT TO:

EXT. NIGHT. GREENMANTLE climbs through the window at
Fairladies into the room where ALAN was interviewed by
FATHER BUONAVENTURE. Immediately finds the book case. It
opens for her and she goes through

GREENMANTLE finds ALAN, asleep

GREENMANTLE

Wake up sir! There is no time to lose

ALAN

Who are you?

GREENMANTLE

I am Greenmantle. Come this way

ALAN

Greenmantle! Why?

GREENMANTLE

Why?

ALAN

Yes, why? I hardly know you

GREENMANTLE

Because I won't marry you if you don't!

CUT TO:

EXT. Night. SHARON at DARCIE's cell window

DARCIE

Sharon!

SHARON

Darcie! At last! Pull the bars sir, and follow me!

DARCIE tries to pull the bars. They don't budge

SHARON tries to pull the bars. They dislodge from the window frame immediately

SHARON
Kiss me

DARCIE
I love another

SHARON
I know. You love Liliias. But I don't mind. You love me too sir, and I'll not be denied

DARCIE kisses her, SHARON kisses him back passionately

CUT TO:

EXT. DAWN. The redcoat camp. Fires burning, troops polishing rifles and assembling

CUT TO:

EXT. Dawn. The redcoat campfires can be seen in the distance. GREENMANTLE with ALAN behind her on horseback, meets SHARON on horseback with DARCIE behind her

GREENMANTLE
Sharon. Safe and secure?

SHARON
Greenmantle. Safe and secure

ALAN
Darcie!

DARCIE
Alan!

ALAN
Darcie. This is the girl I love

GREENMANTLE takes her mantle off

DARCIE/SHARON
Liliias!

DARCIE
This is the girl I love!

ALAN

But Greenmantle is my fiancée

SHARON

And you are mine Darcie. As from this moment

LILIAS

I will let you love me Darcie, indeed I wish it. I am your sister. Now to work. (shouting) General Campbell!

A redcoat appears

LILIAS

Take me to General Campbell

CUT TO:

EXT. DAWN. The redcoat camp

LILIAS

General Campbell. Cease your attack on the courtyard, and I will guarantee you a peaceful dispersal. These men of old will fight to the death, but what be the sense in it? Their honour demands they fight, but yours demands the Hanoverian law. And I have travelled sir. I know these men of Cheshire and Wales, with their allegiances to a time of valour now long gone. I have drunk and supped with them and their like. I have sung songs with the Highland banditti. It would be better to be peaceable would it not?

CUT TO:

INT. DAWN. The courtyard

CHESHIRE

But why the woman with you your Majesty? There was no need...

CHARLES

She is loyal and true, and I'll not be crossed

NIXON

(to TAM)

This isn't going well, and it doesn't bode well for the likes of me

NIXON silently leaves

WALES

Where's he going on some errand of his own?

LILIAS, ALAN, SHARON and DARCIÉ arrive, assembled on horseback

LILIAS

Charles Edward Stuart you have been betrayed. The Countess Alberstrof is none other than Catherina Wilinshaw, a common strumpet! Her mother betrayed the cause in '45! Have you no memory!

REDGAUNTLET

Lilias! And Darcie too! Speak not like that to his Majesty

LILIAS

He isn't your Majesty Uncle. The King is King George, and the rebellion will fail. Charles Edward Stuart is simply the Pretender, and a Pretender forever. Give up your romantic dreams. If you were to succeed, you should never have turned back at Derby twenty years ago. London was panicking

DARCIE

I remain a true Hanoverian sir. And my fortune will not be yours

REDGAUNTLET

Then all is lost. I'll seek out General Campbell and die fighting

CUT TO:

EXT. DAWN. The redcoats on the march. GENERAL CAMPBELL and OFFICERS on horseback.

NIXON approaches

NIXON

General Campbell! I seek asylum. There is a rebellion afoot, and I know the whereabouts of the Pretender

GENERAL CAMPBELL

Seize this man. I don't admire traitors from either side. There's no intelligence from him I need

CUT TO:

INT. The courtyard

LILIAS

Do not fight Uncle. Hold your dignity and all is not lost for your or your King. But exile awaits you. Father Hugo

REDGAUNTLET

I'll not plead with a Campbell

DARCIE

Then plead with me sir. Our causes differ, but none would question your honour

REDGAUNTLET

I'll die as I have lived. By the sword

LILIAS

Uncle. The quality of valour is not hatred. A man may love a king and not hate those who love another king more

GENERAL CAMPBELL appears

REDGAUNTLET pulls his sword

GENERAL CAMPBELL

Edward Redgauntlet. We meet again. But this is not Culloden sir, and the day need not be bloody. Gentlemen. You are surrounded. But they'll be no consequences if you disperse peaceably

REDGAUNTLET

Who has betrayed me?

GENERAL CAMPBELL

Cristal Nixon. (to CHARLES) The King. Across the water

CHARLES

Who has betrayed me?

GENERAL CAMPBELL

The Countess Alberstrof. For an income I promised her, but I will not deliver if you agree to my terms

CHARLES

I should never have come here

GENERAL CAMPBELL

Kingship is in your blood sir. And soldiering is in mine. But there are times that call for more subtle arts. The *Jumping Jenny* awaits you at Carlisle harbour. Go into

exile and never return. And the Laird Redgauntlet. Go with him sir

REDGAUNTLET

Then I can live out my days with the man I love?

GENERAL CAMPBELL

You are pardoned by the hand of King George himself
(hands Redgauntlet a letter)

REDGAUNTLET

Darcie. The cause is lost. I see it now. But you're a brave lad. I pass my land and titles to you. Our allegiances differ, but you have the courage of our line

ALAN

(holding the hands together of SHARON and DARCIÉ)
To Lord and Lady Redgauntlet!

LILIAS

Goodbye Edward Redgauntlet. Goodbye Herries of Birrenswick, the Laird of the Solway Lakes. Goodbye Father Hugo. Goodbye Uncle. You kidnapped me from my mother many years ago, but I forgive you

REDGAUNTLET

(looking at ALAN)
And who might this be?

CUT TO:

EXT. London. The HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY. The gallows. The hanging of CRISTAL NIXON. A festive atmosphere, rotten fruit thrown at NIXON. Redcoats either side of him. The noose is round his neck. The HANGMAN in his mask. He pulls the rope on the hanging trapdoor.

NIXON drops.

General applause.

FIRST MAN IN CROWD

And now for the prize bitch herself

CATHERINA WILKINSHAW is brought to the gallows as well.
She struggles against the redcoats who bring her.

CATHERINA

You can't do this to me. You can't. I am the Countess
Albersrof herself, mistress of His Majesty Charles Edward
Stuart! I will appeal to the Prime Minister!

Rotten fruit is thrown.

WOMAN IN CROWD

So she's the Pretender's whore is she?

SECOND MAN IN CROWD

And she's probably the whore of Sir Robert Walpole as
well by the sounds of it!

WOMAN IN CROWD

A proper strumpet and I'll be damned!

More rotten fruit is thrown.

CATHERINA is led up the stairs to the gallows.

General applause. GENERAL CAMPBELL looks on impassive. He
personally puts the noose around her neck.

The HANGMAN in his mask. Pulls the rope

CATHERINA drops

CLOSE UP of her dead face and neck with the tightened
rope around it

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY. Carlisle harbour. NANTY EWART preparing the
Jumping Jenny as REDGAUNTLET and CHARLES EDWARD STUART
board it.

NANTY

Father Hugo. Father Buonaventure

NANTY sings

Over the water, and over the sea,
And over the water with Charlie.
Come weal, come woe, we'll gather and go,
And live and die with Charlie

NANTY pushes the boat off the harbour...

INT. DAY. Edinburgh. The court. The galleries are full.
Murmuring of the assembled...

JUDGE

Order. Order. I pronounce on the case of Geddes versus Birrenswick. The method of salmon fishing Mr. Geddes employs is legal on all of the Solway if Mr. Geddes continues to pay his licence to King George. But the ancient precedents of the Redgauntlets still apply in Scotland. I pronounce any one free to take salmon on the Scottish side provided they do so on horseback by pike. Thus will a tradition be upheld, and the honour of the Birrenswicks not be besmirched

ALAN

(standing)

It is a most wise verdict your Honour

JUDGE

Do you settle for it sir?

ALAN

I settle

ALEXANDER and LILIAS in the gallery

ALEXANDER

Well done son. Your first case won!

LILIAS

And now to the wedding

CUT TO:

EXT. DAY. Spring. It is sunny. A church. Edinburgh. JOSHUA GEDDES, ALEXANDER FAIRFORD, DARCIE and SHARON all present. Also BLIND WILLIE and LEXXIE, playing the traditional song *Haste To The Wedding*

LILIAS and ALAN exit the church in union

ALAN

Married at last!

LILIAS
Yes. Married

They kiss

Confetti is thrown

All round cheers

DARCIE
(to SHARON) And we will be married soon my sweet. (to ALAN) Alan, I am so proud to have you as a brother in law! And what an adventure we have all had. Liliias, Greenmantle, how can we thank you?

LILIAS
Call me Mrs. Fairford