

Part 3: Let's do it (option B)

Option B – arson

SCRIPT

DISCUSSION POINTS

SCENE 6b – Outside shop area	
SCOTT So what are we going to do?	Appearing to take the lead, but not.
CLEO Well, I've got babysitting tonight, so I'm off.	Taking decisive action.
TANYA See you in the morning then.	
NISHA Yeah, I'm off too. I've got a piano lesson. I've got my Grade Five next week. (ASHLEY mouths 'Grade Five' mockingly)	She waits for Cleo to take the lead, but she knew she had to get away from the start. Or might she have gone along with the group and missed piano if Cleo (or someone else) hadn't made the break? Psychological pressure of risk of exclusion from group and putting Nisha down.
CLEO (to TANYA) You coming, Tanya? Better than walking home on your own.	Cleo trying to help her friend.
ASHLEY Like there's a crazed axe murderer hiding in the dark waiting to chop you up into small pieces.	Now trying to put Tanya down.
NISHA Shut up, Ash.	

SCRIPT

DISCUSSION POINTS

TANYA Nice thought – thanks, Ash. No, I'll be all right Cleo, thanks.	Tanya might well now prefer to be with the girls – what excuse could she have used to get away?
CLEO Sure? (TANYA hesitates slightly) See you tomorrow then.	
ASHLEY Look at those two. They'll be holding hands next in case they get lost.	Mocking again.
SCOTT Let them go. (CLEO and NISHA walk away)	
SCENE 7b – Shop area (CLEO and NISHA are away from the rest of the group)	
NISHA At least we've got better things to do.	Would probably have liked to say this out loud to the group, but lacked the courage.
CLEO Hope they'll be all right.	Genuinely worried for the others – probably mainly Tanya. But doesn't do anything more to help – they've made their decision and she's made hers.
NISHA Have you really got babysitting?	
CLEO Tomorrow. Not tonight, though. I just wasn't going to get involved. You really got piano?	Reveals her strategy.

SCRIPT

DISCUSSION POINTS

NISHA Yes. I didn't want to say anything though.	Explains her reluctance – though is this sufficient reason not to get involved in something she knows is wrong? Even though people know how others behave, they can still have an effect on them.
SCOTT This is no fun.	
TANYA What's the point? Let's just go home.	She is a lone voice, but now has no influence and still doesn't feel able to leave on her own.
SCOTT I know what'll burn.	
ASHLEY What? (SCOTT gestures towards the rear of the shop, where they see the SHOPKEEPER pushing cardboard boxes into a skip)	
ASHLEY Nice one!	
SCENE 8b – Interior of shop (The SHOPKEEPER is now holding a small baby. He seems quite different – much more friendly)	
SHOPKEEPER I think when these two young ladies go we'll shut the shop early.	

SCRIPT

DISCUSSION POINTS

NISHA Aah, look!	
CLEO She's gorgeous. What's her name?	
SHOPKEEPER This is Macey.	
NISHA How old is she?	
SHOPKEEPER She's nine months. I'm looking after her while her mum's at the shops.	
NISHA Hello, Macey. Hello.	
SHOPKEEPER Hey, these aren't good for you, you know.	
NISHA Everything in moderation.	
SHOPKEEPER I should be trying to sell you more, not less. It's very quiet today. You know, I think I'll close up early because I think she needs a feed and a sleep. And if she doesn't, I do!	

SCRIPT

DISCUSSION POINTS

SCENE 9b – Exterior by skip at the rear of the shop	
TANYA You're sure this is safe?	
SCOTT Nothing happened at school. It's just a bigger bin, that's all. Lighter?	Flawed logic – is he trying to persuade the others, or does he really believe this? Also, he has no idea what is in the skip and whether it might contain highly flammable items. Vapours from things like flammable liquids can build up in a skip, perhaps trapped beneath other items and, on ignition with a lighter, can create an explosion.
ASHLEY Yep.	
SCOTT Go on, then.	
TANYA I'm just going to watch.	Is Tanya trying to distance herself from what is happening?
SCOTT Come on, someone will see us.	No thought about what they're doing – just carried away by the moment.
ASHLEY I can't get it lit.	
SCOTT Come on, Ash.	
ASHLEY It won't light.	

SCRIPT

DISCUSSION POINTS

<p>TANYA Oh, come on. Let's get this over with.</p> <p>(She takes the lighter and lights some paper in the bin. We hear the sound of an explosion)</p>	
<p>Scene concludes with CAPTIONS We see still images of each person over images of fire, and the sound of sirens and fire engine activity.</p>	
<p>SCOTT Convicted of manslaughter Sentenced to four years in a Young Offender Institution</p>	
<p>ASHLEY Convicted of manslaughter Sentenced to four years in a Young Offender Institution</p>	
<p>TANYA Severe facial burns Scarred for life Convicted of manslaughter Sentenced to four years in a Young Offender Institution</p>	Is it fair they all received the same sentences?
<p>ARTHUR PACKER (SHOPKEEPER) Severe burns</p>	
<p>MACEY PACKER Died</p>	