

# TOMINO

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FADE IN:

**INT. DUSTY CLASSROOM - DAY**

A trio of kids crowd around a well worn desk. The furniture and equipment in the class have all seen better days.

DARREN, 12, large buck teeth, resemblance to a large rodent is marked, holds forth.

DARREN

Yes, I know that they're for girls.

OLIVIA, 12, bespectacled and nerdy, pipes up.

OLIVIA

Oi!

DARREN

But not this poem.

LEE, 11, smaller and altogether more weasely, chips in.

LEE

Rubbish.

DARREN

No, gen, totally on point.

Darren's delivery holds conviction.

LEE

Really?

OLIVIA

Nah, just too lame.

DARREN

Gonna do it then?

Lee pauses, caught out.

LEE

Er...

OLIVIA

We could bet on it.

DARREN

To win what?

OLIVIA

Winner get's everyone's phone  
credit money?

The boy's bravado has waned, they fidget and avoid her gaze.

DARREN

Did ya miss the bit about dying?

LEE

Sounds like you could be a bit KFC.

OLIVIA

KFC?

LEE

Chicken.

DARREN

Sooo not.

He punches Lee in the arm, Lee skips away.

LEE

What happens then?

DARREN

What?

LEE

When you read Tomino's Hell, idiot.

DARREN

Er, you die, different ways, but  
always horrible, really horrible.

LEE

You don't know nowt.

DARREN

It's all over the internet.

OLIVIA

Gotta be true then.

Darren throws his hands up.

LEE

So, you gonna?

DARREN

No chance.

Lee makes to interrupt.

DARREN

And no, not cos I'm chicken, I just ain't stoopid.

OLIVIA

I'm gonna do it.

The boys turn on her, shock etched on their faces.

DARREN

True?

OLIVIA

Yep.

LEE

Awesome, me too.

Darren shakes his heads.

OLIVIA

So, we read it tomorrow, right here.

**INT. LEE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Lee sits on his bed, illuminated by the light from his laptop.

There's a desk at one end, film posters cover the walls and clothes litter the floor.

INSERT: laptop screen

www.google.com - Lee types Tomino into the search box, half of the results are Japanese. He clicks on one.

www.tomino.net - Screen is full of pictures of dead bodies, hanging victims, etc. Each labelled as a Tomino victim. Lee clicks on 'Translation'.

The poem, Tomino's Hell, fills the screen.

BACK TO SCENE

LEE

(reciting)

Elder sister vomits blood,  
younger sister's breathing fire

Lee pauses, checks round the room, nothing.

LEE

And the cute Tomino vomited jewels.

Lee scans through the other stanzas.

LEE

What utter rubbish.

**INT. OLIVIA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

The room is decorated in soft pastel shades, matching bedding, neat and tidy, everything in it's place.

Olivia sits at her desk, iPad on, flicks through web pages relating to Tomino.

She stops flicking and taps away on the screen.

Moments later her iPhone vibrates next to her.

She picks it up and smiles.

**EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - MORNING**

Lee opens his garden gate and walks towards the bus stop a hundred metres or so from his house.

Other people wait for the bus, he's not missed it today.

He approaches the stop, but something is wrong.

The people at the bus stop stare at him, wide eyed and open mouthed.

He takes out his ear phones.

A woman screams.

A man points to something behind him.

Lee turns.

The bus mounts the kerb, the driver collapsed over the wheel.

Lee's SCREAM is cut short by the impact.

**INT. DUSTY CLASSROOM - DAY**

The trio is one short, Lee is missing.

DARREN

He's bottled it.

OLIVIA

Doubt it, he wants to prove he's got bigger balls than you.

DARREN

He ain't though.

OLIVIA

Whatever.

DARREN

So, now what?

OLIVIA

I win --

DARREN

If you read it...

Darren stares at Olivia, wills her to withdraw from the field of battle.

OLIVIA

No worries.

DARREN

What?

OLIVIA

I'm doing it.

She grabs her bag and pulls out her phone.

DARREN

What the...

Olivia swipes the home screen.

DARREN

You aren't allowed that in school.

OLIVIA

Siri, read note one.

SIRI

Elder sister vomits blood,  
younger sister's breathing fire...

**EXT. SCHOOL PLAYGROUND - DAY**

Olivia and Darren sit on a concrete bench talking.

DARREN

I still think it was cheating.

OLIVIA

It was spoken out loud and I did it.

DARREN

I say Lee wins if he does it proper.

OLIVIA

I don't agree --

MISS ZERKOVSKI, 30, approaches, sombre expression on her sunken face.

MISS ZERKOVSKI

Hi kids.

OLIVIA

Hi Miss, something wrong?

Miss Zerkovski seems torn.

MISS ZERKOVSKI

There's been an accident.

OLIVIA

Who?

DARREN

What happened?

MISS ZERKOVSKI

I don't really know how to say this kids... but, Lee's dead.

DARREN

No!

No!

OLIVIA



MISS ZERKOVSKI

An accident, horrible, really  
horrible.

Miss Zerkovski looks sick, close to nausea.

The kids look at each other, wide eyed, shocked.

MISS ZERKOVSKI

Your parents are coming to collect  
you, can you follow me to the  
office please.

They start back after Miss Zerkovski.

Olivia pulls Darren back by the elbow, slows their pace.

OLIVIA

He didn't read it, did he?

DARREN

Nah, sure he --

OLIVIA

He might'a though.

DARREN

No, accident's all.

OLIVIA

Horrible, really horrible - that's  
what you said.

Darren shakes his head.

DARREN

What ya gonna do?

OLIVIA

Nothing.

DARREN

But you read it too.

OLIVIA  
Siri did it, not me.

DARREN  
Weren't Siri when you wanted to win  
the bet.

OLIVIA  
I didn't say it though, Siri did.

DARREN  
True, and she's not real, just a  
cloudy thingy.

They pick up their pace and catch up with Miss Zerkovski.

**INT. GIRL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Olivia sits on her bed, wipes tears from her eyes.

She picks up her phone and kneels down to plug it in.

SIRI  
Not just on some empty whim  
Is flesh pierced with blood-red  
pins:

OLIVIA  
Stop Siri, please.

SIRI  
They serve as hellish signposts  
for sweet little Tomino.

Olivia plugs the phone in.

A loose connection shorts, an arc of electricity shoots up  
Olivia's arm, wracks her body with spasms.

She falls to the floor, energy still courses through her,  
otherwise lifeless torso.

**INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

Olivia's Mum watches TV.

BUMP - from upstairs.

Mum glances up at the ceiling.

MUM

(voice raised)

Olivia, everything okay?

No answer.

Her phone buzzes in her handbag at the side of the sofa.

SIRI

(from within the bag)

His older sister vomited blood, his  
younger sister vomited fire...

**INT. DINNING ROOM - NIGHT**

Darren sits at the table with his parents, eating supper.

Three phone's buzz in unison.

SIRI/CORTANA/GOOGLE NOW

(in unison)

His older sister vomited blood, his  
younger sister vomited fire...

FADE OUT.

THE END