

# ÅNGSTRÖM

## Jason Hazeley & Joel Morris

Episode Two – “The Two Faces Of Benny From Abba”

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### CAST

Character.....Actor  
Character.....Actor  
Character.....Actor  
Character.....Actor

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Producer: Lyndsay Fenner

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REH/RECORD:        dates, time XXXX-XXXX  
STUDIO:             ADDRESS  
SMs:                 XXXX  
BA:                  NAME, 521 HWH        EXT: XXXXX  
                       DDI: 020 7765 XXXX  
TAPE:                XXXX                 PROG:    XXXX  
TX:                  R4 DAY/ MONTH/ YEAR/ TIME  
CHARGE:             XXXX

**SCENE 1**

1. **GRAMS** NARRATOR BED: SIGUR ROS / MAX RICHTER / MOGWAI
2. NARRATOR (SCANDI ACCENT) Angstrom. Adapted from the best-selling Angstrom Trilogy. By Martin English, writing as Bjorgen Swedenssonson. Chapter Two. "The Two Faces Of Benny From Abba".
3. **GRAMS** SWOOSH THUMP
4. NARRATOR Previously on Angstrom.
5. ANGSTROM There's been a murder. But we don't have a body. Who are you?
6. MINA I'm an investigative reporter.
7. ANGSTROM I don't need an investigative reporter. I need a body.
8. MINA Something connects a string of arcane murders you investigated in the 1990s with a corrupt deal done by councillor Birgid Lundstrom. Oh no! There's a bomb! In my car!
9. ANGSTROM How many more times! I don't need a bomb. I need a body.
10. MINA You've got one. Here. In my car. It's councillor Lundstrom.
11. ANGSTROM Don't let that body out of your sight. And don't let it explode.
12. **FX** EXPLOSION OF CAR

13. **GRAMS** BUILD MUSIC. REVEAL BY THE END OF THE NARRATION  
THAT THAT IT'S BEEN CROSSFADED TO 'EVE OF THE WAR'  
FROM JEFF WAYNE'S WAR OF THE WORLDS
14. NARRATOR No one would have believed in the last years of the 19th century that human affairs were being watched from the timeless worlds of space. One hundred and twenty years later, little has changed. But here at the fringe of Sweden, there are no aliens, only the trees which stand like wooden witnesses to man's inner rubbishness. Here it is cold as a tomb. And there is never enough herring in the sandwiches.
15. ANGSTROM Look at this sandwich.
16. MINA What?
17. ANGSTROM Sixty kroner. Hardly any herring at all.
18. MINA It's a jam sandwich.
19. ANGSTROM (DESPAIRING) This country.
20. NARRATOR The whiteness parted briefly to allow passage to the brown overcoat of Detective Inspector Knut Angstrom and the blue hair of young reporter Mina Oblong. Tiny figures in a pitiless landscape that had stopped caring, stopped calling, and if it ever texted, never ended the message with a kiss.
21. SOCO Excuse me. Sir. Madam. This is a crime scene. I'll need to see some identification.

22. ANGSTROM                      She's with me. Police.
23. MINA                              He's with me. Press.
24. ANGSTROM                      You sure you're ready for this?
25. MINA                              I've seen dead bodies before.
26. ANGSTROM                      Where?
27. MINA                              The Internet.
28. ANGSTROM                      Ha! You kids and your computers. They'll never replace the hot air balloon.
29. **GRAMS**                      **NARRATOR BED**
30. NARRATOR                      At the edge of the lake, in a small clump of trees, lay something horrible, frosted like a cake, but not one of the popular cakes. Battenberg perhaps. Or a flapjack.
31. **GRAMS**                      **BED OUT**
32. **FX**                              **CRUNCH OF BOOTS IN SNOW APPROACHING**
33. BOLS                              (APPROACHING) Well, well, well, well, well, well, well. Knut Angstrom. What are you doing here?
34. ANGSTROM                      Call me old fashioned but I thought murder was my job.
35. BOLS                              My worries exactly. Your voice was all over that bomb threat.
36. MINA                              I was with him. He never made that call.

37. ANSGTROM                   Someone wanted me to take the rap.
38. BOLS                         Rap is it now? You've been hanging out with this youngster too long.
39. ANGSTROM                 It's a sign we're getting too close.
40. BOLS                         Conspiracies is it now? You're not in Stockholm any more, Angstrom. We are a simple peninsular people, here, just snow and herring. Lots of herring.
41. ANGSTROM                 Ha! Tell that to the sandwich makers.
42. MINA                        So, is this the crime scene? Through here?
43. BOLS                         Crime scene? If you can call it that. It was hardly even worth stringing incident tape round it.
44. ANGSTROM                 Good... god. It's a mess. Who... did this?
45. BOLS                         Sergeant Lars Olson. Don't be so critical. It's neatly tied to the posts, and none of it's tangled.
46. ANGSTROM                 Not the tape. The body. Look at it!
47. MINA                        There's no... head. It's gone.
48. ANGSTROM                 And no neck. No shoulders.
49. MINA                        Where are the... legs?
50. ANGSTROM                 This is the biggest decapitation I've ever seen.
51. MINA                        (HORRIFIED) Just ... a pair of... feet.

52. ANGSTROM                    They've cut this poor wretch's head off... right down to the ankles!
53. BOLS                            Pfft! This could be anything. Someone could have gone swimming and... just left their feet here by the shore. To stop them getting wet.
54. ANGSTROM                    (ANGRY) You need your feet for swimming! They'd have drowned!
55. BOLS                            Making this a perfectly routine water accident. Now, if you don't mind, your friend is right. It is awfully cold. So, I'm going back to my nice warm office.
56. ANGSTROM                    You know you're blind.
57. BOLS                            What about my blind?
58. ANGSTROM                    Pull it up some time and take a look outside. Take a look at the real world. A world of crime.
59. BOLS                            Angstrom. You know I've got Town Hall on my back.
60. ANGSTROM                    Really?
61. BOLS                            It's a tattoo. The whole building, across my shoulders. That's how much I respect local authority. I've got no choice. I can't have a loose cannon in the police station.
62. ANGSTROM                    I was restoring it! A man's got to have a hobby! Once the varnish had dried, I was going to tighten it!
63. BOLS                            I want your badge.
64. ANGSTROM                    (CHILDISH) Get your own badge!

65. BOLS                                You're suspended from the case.
66. MINA                                But... there's a killer out there.
67. BOLS                                Is that what you want, you two? Death? Murder? To make your little lives mean something? If you'll forgive me, I need to get back to reality.
68. **FX**                                **FOOTSTEPS IN SNOW**
69. MINA                                So... we need to clear your name.
70. ANGSTROM                            I need to stare at a horizon for a bit. I've got one at home. Out the window.
71. SOCO                                Sorry, sir. I'm going to have to ask you to leave. This is a crime scene.
72. BOLS                                (OFF MIC, SHOUTING) No it's not!
73. ANGSTROM                            (TO SOCO) Don't worry, officer. We were just going.

**SCENE 2**

1. NARRATOR                      The case was a blizzard of dead ends. In the confusion, Angstrom was relieved to find that his apartment was exactly where he had left it.
2. **FX**                              **BIG BUNCH OF KEYS IN LOCK**
3. ANGSTROM                      OK. I have to warn you before you come in. It's not pretty. I live alone. I don't wash up. Sometimes I don't flush. There might be a couple of dead seabirds. Don't open any cupboards. Are you allergic to plate fungus at all?
4. **FX**                              **DOOR OPENS**
5. MINA                              It's OK. I've lived in squats. I don't need bourgeois comforts...  
[DOUBLE TAKES] Aaaargh!
6. ANGSTROM                      Don't frighten it. It'll go back in its hole if you stand still.
7. MINA                              It's got... five legs.
8. ANGSTROM                      Ah. It happens. Some of the spiders get big enough to breed with the mice. Shoo! Shoo!
9. **FX**                              **GUNSHOT**
10. ANGSTROM                      That got it. Come in. Come in. I'll find you the nearest thing to a chair.
11. MINA                              So what now?



12. ANGSTROM                    You heard the man. I've got no resources. No authority. It's just down to brooding out the window now.
13. MINA                         What if I told you I found this? At the lake, by the decapitated feet. It's another little wooden troll. Like at the first murder scene, and in your old case from the mid 1990s. Remember? The so-called Ash Lad. It's a message. Someone... wants you.
14. ANGSTROM                   Nobody wants me. I'm a stupid old man. Who hasn't even got a badge. [GRUNTS] Here you go. A chair.
15. MINA                         That's not a chair.
16. ANGSTROM                   It's a ride-on lawnmower. I bought loads of them in a fugue of grief in the previous episode. Now leave me. I need to brood.
17. **FX**                         **SOMEONE SITTING DOWN ON A RIDE-ON LAWNMOWER**
18. MINA                         (BEAT) Is that your wife, there. On the mantelpiece?
19. ANGSTROM                   No. She's dead. That's just a photograph. And she was less flat and went all the way down to the ground. Next to her, the large one in the gold frame... that's a picture of my duck.
20. MINA                         She's very beautiful.
21. ANGSTROM                   He. You can tell by the plumage. The male is more colourful.
22. MINA                         Your wife was beautiful. (BEAT) When was the last time you had a home-cooked meal?
23. ANGSTROM                   I had toast this morning.

24. MINA Toast.
25. ANGSTROM I found some old toast in the freezer. Must have been... Krista's.  
She made wonderful toast. I... don't really cook.
26. MINA Let me make you something. (BEAT) What was your favourite  
food as a child?
27. ANGSTROM Don't be stupid.
28. MINA A meal you liked.
29. ANGSTROM (BEAT) Fish circles. I liked fish circles. In bready bits.
30. MINA Let's have a look in your freezer.
31. **FX** FREEZER OPENS
32. MINA Just snow. Nothing but snow.
33. ANGSTROM What did you expect?
34. MINA You need a drink. And then we're going to clear your name.

**SCENE 3**

1. **GRAMS** 'THE DAY BEFORE YOU CAME' BY ABBA PLAYS ON A BAR'S JUKEBOX
2. NARRATOR Bar Funtimes on Jokkmokkvägen was half-empty. The other half was closed for a private function involving a two-way mirror and some chess grandmaster role-play.
3. ANGSTROM This is the fourteenth time you've put this song on.
4. MINA It's my favourite.
5. ANGSTROM Don't you like any other songs?
6. MINA Of course. But why would I play one I liked less than this, if this one's available? Your generation, old man. Always settling for second best.
7. ANGSTROM It's so incredibly bleak. You know, it's really cheering me up.
8. MINA Knut – what if that wasn't your voice on the phone message? What if it was just someone who sounded like you?
9. ANGSTROM How could you make someone sound like me? Nobody sounds like me.
10. BAR GIRL (ALSO PLAYED BY MATT) Your drinks, sir, madam. That will be four million krone.
11. ANGSTROM Thank you, Catharina. (TO MINA) Beautiful girl. Such a lovely voice.

12. MINA                                    Maybe it's possible to make someone sound like someone else.
13. ANGSTROM                            How? By squeezing them somewhere?
14. MINA                                    With technology. Recording equipment.
15. ANGSTROM                            Ha! You kids and your recording equipment. It'll never replace the doublet and hose.
16. MINA                                    Who do we know with a studio?
17. ANGSTROM                            (REALISING) Benny from ABBA.
18. MINA                                    Benny? From ABBA?
19. ANGSTROM                            Benny from ABBA. He lives in a big secluded place about fifty kilometres out of town. Let's pay him a visit.
20. **GRAMS**                            **OUT**

**SCENE 4**

1. **FX** INTERIOR OF MOVING CAR
2. MINA Why are we driving all this way when Bjorn from ABBA lives next door to that bar?
3. ANGSTROM Bjorn's no good. He doesn't have Benny's chops. He was only in the band for his looks.
4. MINA What?
5. ANGSTROM The record company wouldn't give them a contract unless they had someone in the band whose face looked roughly the same upside down as it does the right way up. There's always one.
6. MINA Ohhh... like Phil Collins?
7. ANGSTROM Exactly.
8. MINA Demis Roussos!
9. ANGSTROM You try getting signed as a one-man band without being more or less facially symmetrical about a horizontal plane. Here we are.
10. **FX** CAR PULLS TO A HALT
11. ANGSTROM That's Benny's place. At the top of that hill. The locals call it Benny Hill. He's a recluse. Nobody's seen him in years.
12. MINA Moby! He's another one.
13. ANGSTROM Yes. All right, Mina. That's probably enough for now.

14. MINA                                  Sorry.
15. ANGSTROM                              (BROODILY) If anyone knows how someone could make a fake me out of sound alone, it's Benny from ABBA.
16. FX                                      CAR MOVES OFF AGAIN
17. GRAMS                                 NARRATOR BED
18. NARRATOR                              Fame is a life sentence. When a person is a recognisable commodity, they are little better than a small supermarket or a ubiquitous yoghurt. And no-one wants to spend their twilight years as a secluded and ageing yoghurt. But rumour had it that Benny from Abba had withdrawn to the back of his glittering fridge, and slowly, quietly, gone sour.
19. GRAMS                                 OUT

**SCENE 5**1. **FX** FOOTSTEPS IN THE SNOW

2. **ANGSTROM** Right. We could find a storm drain, or shin up one of the walls and hope for the best with the razor wire.

3. **MINA** Or we could ring the entryphone at this door.

4. **FX** FOOTSTEPS STOP

5. **ANGSTROM** Or we could do that, yes. That's the sign of the greatest loneliness: having a door. Imagine craving company so badly you fit a door to your property. It's heartbreaking.

6. **FX** ENTRYPHONE CALL

7. **MINA** Let me talk to him.

8. **ANGSTROM** Absolutely not. He won't trust a woman. Not after Anni-Frid.

9. **BENNY** (D) (ABSURD MEXICAN ACCENT) Hello?

10. **ANGSTROM** Benny From ABBA?

11. **BENNY** (D) That is me. Yes. That is who I am. Benny. From Abba.

12. **MINA** Is that... really him?

13. **ANGSTROM** Benny. I need your help. And I thought you might be able to help.

14. **BENNY** (D) I see. So you want my help?

15. **ANGSTROM** Can you help? It might help if you helped.

16. BENNY (D) Help yourself, my friend.
17. FX **ENTRYPHONE BUZZ (DOOR UNLOCKING) AND DOOR BEING OPENED; ENTRYPHONE HANG-UP**
18. MINA Was that really Benny from Abba? He didn't sound like I expected.
19. ANGSTROM You didn't even live through ABBA. What do you know? You youngsters with your Skrillex and your pogs.



**SCENE 6**

1. **FX** INTERIOR ATMOS
2. BENNY Welcome... to Benny Hill.
3. ANGSTROM My name's Angstrom, with a little O over the A and a pair of tiny cartoon eyes over the O. This is Mina. No decorations on her name at all.
4. MINA Hello.
5. BENNY Let me show you around my little kingdom.
6. ANGSTROM I thought you were a recluse.
7. BENNY My reclusiveness has been exaggerated. You look cold and hungry. Would you like some burritos?
8. MINA I never knew you were quite... this... Mexican.
9. BENNY My non-Mexican-ness has also been exaggerated. Here – maybe you would like to beat this piñata with a club while I show you around...
10. **GRAMS** FADE IN BED – FADE OUT
11. NARRATOR The house of Benny From Abba echoed like an echo chamber as might have been used in one of his own impeccable musical productions, but if there was a chorus, it was only of tears.
12. **FX** THREE PAIRS OF QUIET FOOTSTEPS

13. BENNY                      This room is where I keep my awards.
14. ANGSTROM                It is a most impressive collection you have, Benny From Abba.
15. BENNY                      Well, I have had a long and successful career. You know, I first met Björn Ulvaeus in 1966, and the two started writing songs together, their first being “Isn’t It Easy To Say,” eventually recorded by the Hep Stars. And here... is the studio.
16. ANGSTROM                Ah. The main event.
17. MINA                        So what have you been doing since ABBA, Benny From ABBA?
18. BENNY                      Well, from the late 1980s I had been working on an idea for an epic Swedish language musical based on his affection for traditional folk music. My next project was Mamma Mia!, a musical built around 24 of ABBA’s songs. See main article: Mamma Mia.
19. MINA                        Your memory is impeccable.
20. ANGSTROM                We’re not here to reminisce. We’re here because we need your studio nous.
21. BENNY                      You’re in luck. I’ve just had my main studio nous restored – and there are two backup studio nouses in case that one goes wrong again.
22. ANGSTROM                Excellent. Excellent.
23. **FX**                        **STUDIO DOOR OPENING**

**SCENE 7**

1. **FX** STUDIO ATMOS
2. **ANGSTROM** Look at all this stuff. What does it all do?
3. **BENNY** Those things over there make things louder. These make things longer. And this big thing here makes things more complicated. It's very simple.
4. **ANGSTROM** Benny – From ABBA – could you record one voice and make it sound like someone else?
5. **BENNY** Simple. I'll show you. Let me set up a microphone in the live room.
6. **FX** STUDIO DOOR OPENING
7. **MINA** Are you sure we can trust him?
8. **ANGSTROM** He's a national icon. If we can't trust Benny From Abba, whom can we trust?

**SCENE 8**

1. **GRAMS** NARRATOR BED
2. NARRATOR                      Where Mina had misgivings, Angstrom had only anticipation. Even for a grizzled old murder-horse like himself, there are some places any Scandinavian would be nervous. And one of those places is in front of the microphone of Benny out of Abba.
3. **GRAMS** BED OUT
4. BENNY                            (TALKBACK D) OK, Angstrom. What is it you want to record?
5. ANGSTROM                      Just a phrase that someone left as an answerphone message.
6. BENNY                            (D) OK. In your own time.
7. ANGSTROM                      Yes. (CLEARS THROAT, LONG, TOO LONG, REALLY LONG)
8. BENNY                            (D) Red light is on. Whenever you're ready.
9. ANGSTROM                      (COUGH) That's got it. (BEAT) "There is an explosive device under the dashboard of your car." (BEAT) How was that? Can you make that sound like me? (BEAT) Are you in there? (BEAT) Benny? Speak to me.
10. BENNY                            (D) (AWED) That... was... so... beautiful.
11. ANGSTROM                      Really?
12. BENNY                            You have a glorious voice. Do you sing?
13. ANGSTROM                      Sing? No. Why would I sing? What are you talking about?

14. BENNY (D) To let out what is inside.
15. ANGSTROM But then it wouldn't... be inside.
16. BENNY (D) Would you sing something for me? It is not hard. You just have to release what is in your heart. (BEAT) All the time in the world. We are rolling. In your own time.
17. ANGSTROM Oh. (BEAT)
18. BENNY (D) No hurry. Let it out. Feel the release. All that pain.
19. ANGSTROM (LONG BEAT) Sorry. Do you mind if I use the... you know... the little... person's room?
20. BENNY (D) The sauna?
21. ANGSTROM Yes. The sauna. I meant to go before we left.
22. BENNY (D) Be my guest. Thirty-fifth door on the right.

**SCENE 9**

1. **GRAMS**                      **NARRATOR BED**
  
2. NARRATOR                      Angstrom wrapped himself in steam, hiding from he knew not what. Maybe himself. But somehow hoping he would be found.
  
3. **GRAMS**                      **BED OUT**
  
4. **GRAMS**                      **HISSING OF SAUNA COALS**
  
5. **FX**                              **DOOR OPENS LOUDLY**
  
6. MINA                              (CROSSLY) What are you doing?
  
7. ANGSTROM                      I had to come in here. I feel weird. Benny From Abba wants me to let out my inner pain. It feels... wrong... but it feels so... good.
  
8. MINA                              We're supposed to be investigating a murder. Maybe two.
  
9. ANGSTROM                      You're just jealous because I'm recording an album with Benny From ABBA.
  
10. MINA                              What! Was this your plan all along?
  
11. ANGSTROM                      This is basic police work, Mina. Can you name a single detective who managed to crack a case without recording an album with Benny From ABBA?
  
12. MINA                              Sherlock Holmes.
  
13. ANGSTROM                      Lucky first guess.
  
14. MINA                              Seal!

15. ANGSTROM Seal?
16. MINA Sorry, I'm still thinking about people who look the same with an upside-down face. Look – something's wrong here. Call it a hunch.
17. ANGSTROM First clues! Now hunches! You've probably only learned the word off some SuperHedgehog game on your internet!
18. MINA I'm telling you – there's something fishy in that studio.
19. ANGSTROM That's just the odour of men cooped up in a soundproof environment.
20. MINA I'm talking about Benny From Abba. Shouldn't he sound... Swedish? And not... so Mexican?
21. ANGSTROM You don't remember! You weren't even born! Hang on! What are you doing with your phone? Don't take a picture of me on the sauna.
22. MINA No I'm looking up Benny From ABBA. Here. Read it. With your own eyes.
23. ANGSTROM OK. OK. Wiki...pedia?
24. MINA All human information is there. It's one hundred per cent reliable.
25. ANGSTROM OK. (READING) 'Benny From ABBA – real name Göran Bror Benny From ABBA, born 16th December 1946, is a...' (SATISFIED PAUSE) Ha!
26. MINA What?

27. ANGSTROM 'Is a... Mexican musician, composer and member of the Swedish group ABBA...'
28. MINA Oh god. I was wrong. I was... wrong.
29. ANGSTROM Oh ye of little faith. See. You doubted one of our national heroes. That's what wrong with you kids of today. You've got your fidget spinners and your gourmet popcorn and your Minions backpacks, but you've got no sense of history.
30. MINA Where are you going?
31. ANGSTROM I'm boiling hot and I'm going back to my music.
32. **FX** **DOOR OPENING; FOOTSTEPS OFF**
33. MINA (SHOUTS) Fine! (FIRMLY, TO SELF) I don't need you. I can do this on my own.



**SCENE 10**

1. **FX** **TAXI ENGINE, INTERIOR**
2. NARRATOR                      The Taxi Cab that Mina ordered was battered, but it was warm.  
Like a fish supper.
3. **FX** **TAXI DOOR OPENS, SLAMS**
4. TAXI DRIVER                      Where to, sweetcake?
5. MINA                                I'm investigating a sinister conspiracy. I need information.
6. TAXI DRIVER                      You want the Regional Public Records Office And Research  
Library For Public Research And Library Records, but it's all one  
word in Swedish.
7. MINA                                Fast as you can.
8. TAXI DRIVER                      Ticketty-bonk, crispbread.
9. **FX** **INTO GEAR. GRAVEL. ENGINE UNDER**
10. MINA                                (TO HERSELF) Right, Mina. You're the detective now. You can do  
this. Prove them all wrong. The girls from kindergarten who said  
you were a freak. The teachers from school who said you were a  
freak. The ringmaster from that freakshow who said you were a  
freak. Let's show them all that you're not a weirdo just because  
you have fat, triangular hands.

**SCENE 11**

1. NARRATOR                      Meanwhile, back in Benny From Abba's studio, a miracle was about to occur. Sometimes the voice that has been stilled for too long is the loudest voice of all.
2. BENNY                           (D) Ready?
3. ANGSTROM                      Ready.
4. BENNY                           (D) From the top again. Remember. Reach down. Into your feelings. Tell me of your pain.
5. **GRAMS**                      **BURST OF SPANISH GUITAR. A SHITLOAD OF MEXICAN PERCUSSION**
6. ANGSTROM                      (SINGING) O-o-o--ooooh! Elvin! My duck! I miss you... so much...
7. **GRAMS**                      **STOPS**
8. ANGSTROM                      (CRYING) I'm sorry. I'm sorry. Something happened. I think one of my eyes has burst. Eurgh.
9. BENNY                           (D) Do not worry. It is just tears.
10. ANGSTROM                      No. That's impossible. You'll have to phone an ambulance. It's just an eye bursting. I imagine it happens all the time. To singers.
11. BENNY                           (D) Calm yourself. It is merely... (SINISTER) The power of music.

**SCENE 12**

1. **ATMOS** LIBRARY FOYER ECHO. MINA'S FOOTSTEPS.
2. NARRATOR           The aisles and rotostacks of the Njalsland Regional Public Records Office And Research Library For Public Research And Library Records but it's all one word in Swedish are haunted by history. Here, the dark secrets of our apparently bright and open country are hidden from prying eyes by layers of dust and boredom.
3. MINA                 Hello. I wonder can you help me? I'm trying to find out something about Councillor Birgit Lundstrom. I have completely lost faith in the Internet and need to look at some sinister documents under a low light.
4. LIBRARIAN           Good. Now, our sinister documents library is members only, which requires photo identification and two recent paper utility bills for a landline or something which you probably don't have, since you have blue hair. Also you will need to step through this metal scanner. Do you have any piercings?
5. MINA                 Bucketloads.
6. LIBRARIAN           You will need to remove them. Also scissors, knives, pens and long sticks. Also any pointed shoes, belts, or sharply creased trousers.
7. MINA                 OK. Right. Maybe I'll...

8. LIBRARIAN                      If your nails are sharp, I shall be happy to clip them, and place the hazardous clippings in a ziplock plastic bag. Would you like to buy a ziplock plastic bag to store your unacceptables?
9. MINA                              (BEAT) Do you have a café with a plug socket? I need to charge my phone.

**SCENE 13**

1. **ATMOS**                      **CAFE**
2. NARRATOR                      The café of the Njalsland Regional Public Records Office And Research Library For Public Research And Library Records but it's all one word in Swedish, is less haunted by history, but has excellent wifi and much cake.
3. MINA                              Oh my god. That's it. It was there. In plain sight. All along. Thank you, the Internet. (KISSES HER PHONE, LOUDLY) And thank you, cake.

**SCENE 14**

- |     |              |  |
|-----|--------------|--|
| 1.  | <b>ATMOS</b> | <b>OFFICE</b>  |
| 2.  | NARRATOR     | Mina Oblong banged her fat triangular hands hard on the cutting edge desk of her editor, Pilou Bremer. She had a story that needed to be told.   |
| 3.  | MINA         | Pilou. Look at this! I Googled conspiracies connected to councillor Lundstrom...   |
| 4.  | PILOU        | How many times, Mina? We don't do that sort of thing. You tell me you've got a cat video, I'm onboard. Someone falling off a wall, I'll buy it. New material from a reclusive Swedish musical celebrity, I'll bite your fat, triangular hands off. But this... |
| 5.  | MINA         | I followed a link from Lundstrom's official webpage to a link to a link to a link --   |
| 6.  | PILOU        | Mina, I'm a busy man...  |
| 7.  | MINA         | -- to a link to a link to a link to a link to an article, and ended up on the Wikipedia page for Benny from Abba.  |
| 8.  | PILOU        | (BEAT) (INTERESTED) Benny from Abba, you say?  |
| 9.  | MINA         | Look. The Wikipedia page says Benny is Mexican. But I found an interview with Mojo magazine from 1992 which mentions Benny's thick Scandinavian accent.  |
| 10. | PILOU        | O... K?  |

11. MINA I know a thick Scandinavian accent when I hear it. I've got one myself. How can a man have two accents?
12. PILOU (SIGH) I thought you were a computer hacker, Mina. It said so on your CV.
13. MINA I sold some shoes on eBay once.
14. PILOU The geeks and chip-heads down in the computer dungeon told me that it's possible to edit Wikipedia to say whatever you want.
15. MINA (SHOCKED) No!
16. PILOU Believe me, I'm as surprised as you are.
17. MINA Then someone's trying to trick us. And... oh my god... I think I know why. In the interview Benny mentions he had written a campaign song for Birgit Lundstrom's rival in the election.
18. PILOU Pfft. I cannot remember this song at all whatsoever.
19. MINA Exactly. It wasn't catchy. Imagine how much money must have changed hands to make Benny write a song that doesn't get stuck in your head. Money that connects Benny to these murders. We're looking at a political conspiracy that goes right to the top!
20. PILOU Oh, crime crime crime, Mina. You need to stop hanging around with that brooding detective.
21. MINA We're not... together any more. He's... working on something else.
22. PILOU Really? What?

23. MINA (SAD) A... new album with Benny from Abba.
24. PILOU (AFTER A PAUSE) OK, Mina. I want you to find out everything you can about this new material by Benny from ABBA.
25. MINA Really?
26. PILOU But all I can give you is a company credit card with a 450 million Kroner limit, a car and all the time you need.
27. MINA Thank you, Pilou.
28. PILOU (REALLY LOUDLY) Go!



**SCENE 15**

1. **FX**                                **GENTLE WINTER WIND**

2. NARRATOR                         Angstrom stepped out on to the hilltop house's brooding veranda  
for a much needed brood.

3. ANGSTROM                         Didn't I always promise you, my love, that one day I would turn  
away from death – that I'd embrace life? Well, I've found  
something, my darling – something that finally makes me want to  
live.

4. **FX**                                **DUCK QUACK**

5. ANGSTROM                         Actually, I wasn't talking to you, Elvin, my late duck. I was talking  
to my late wife, Krista.

6. **FX**                                **DUCK QUACK**

7. ANGSTROM                         That's very understanding of you. Krista, my darling –

8. KRISTA                              (ECHO) Yes, my love?

9. ANGSTROM                         Ah. There you are. Good. I've finally found something that makes  
me want to be alive.

10. KRISTA                            (ECHO) Then you must embrace it.

11. ANGSTROM                         I know. I must.

12. KRISTA                            (ECHO) Good. Then you don't need me any more. Bye.

13. ANGSTROM Krista? Krista? Where have you gone? What's happening? (A BEAT) Krista! Krista! Come back! I want to brood with you again.
14. **FX** CAR RUSHING UP AND SKIDDING TO A HALT, FOLLOWED BY A CRASH
15. ANGSTROM Krista? Is that you?
16. **FX** HURRIED FOOTSTEPS IN THE SNOW
17. MINA (OFF MIC) Angstrom!
18. ANGSTROM Mina? You've ruined your new car.
19. MINA It's not mine. I rented it on expenses. Pilou said I could smash it up if I wanted. Well, he didn't say exactly that. But listen! I went to the Regional Public Records Office And Research Library For Public Research And Library Records. Although it's all one word in Swedish.
20. ANGSTROM Ah! The old standby! You're learning fast.
21. MIN I went into the café there and looked something up on my phone.
22. ANGSTROM Oh, you youngsters and your bloody phones. They'll never replace Linear B, the primitive alphabet system of the Bronze Age. Now, I need to get back into the studio. I feel a song coming on.
23. MINA Angstrom. Don't take a step towards that studio. I'm warning you.
24. **FX** GUN BEING COCKED
25. ANGSTROM What? Where did you get the gun?

26. MINA Expenses. I went a bit crazy at the shopping precinct. I got two anoraks as well and some Lego. I mean it. Stop right there. I'm taking you back. Back to the real world.
27. ANGSTROM Don't you dare stop me recording this album with Benny From Abba!
28. MINA How many times! That's not Benny From ABBA.
29. ANGSTROM You think it's Björn? It can't be. His face doesn't work upside down.
30. MINA Angstrom. Wikipedia... was not... entirely correct...
31. ANGSTROM I thought you said that was impossible!
32. MINA I hacked into the edit history... using the 'look at edit history' button. Someone changed Benny's nationality to Mexican. Someone with the user name "Askenladen".
33. ANGSTROM The Ash Lad! My old enemy. (BEAT) Is he Mexican now?
34. BENNY OK. OK. Quite enough talking now. Stop right there, you two.
35. **FX** **GUN BEING COCKED**
36. ANGSTROM Benny From ABBA!
37. MINA And he's also got a gun!
38. ANGSTROM Well, three can play at that game!
39. **FX** **GUN BEING COCKED**

40. BENNY Put the weapon down, Angstrom. Come and listen to the new mixes. I have added more maracas and a bandoleon, which is a type of Mexican accordion.
41. MINA Don't you see? The real Benny from ABBA got on the wrong side of some powerful political forces. He's probably been bumped off and replaced with a Mexican counterpart.
42. ANGSTROM Do we still call them that?
43. MINA It's a classic move. It's known as the Mexican Stand-In.
44. ANGSTROM Are you saying the whole point of this sorry story was to reach a convoluted climax with a... Mexican Stand-In?
45. MINA Yes. It sounds terrible. But it seems to be true.
46. BENNY I'm warning you. I'm prepared to shoot, gringos. I am the real Benny From ABBA.
47. MINA Don't listen to him! It's all a trick! Maybe he's the Ash Lad! Maybe someone put him up to it! But he is not Benny from ABBA!
48. BENNY I am Benny From ABBA!
49. **FX** **GUNSHOT!**
50. ANGSTROM Which one of us was that?
51. BENNY It was me. I just shot my gun into the air!
52. ANGSTROM Oh my god. (BEAT) You are Mexican.

53. BENNY Put down your guns, and come back and finish this album.
54. MINA I know your plan, Mexican Benny From ABBA. You were trying to give Angstrom an outlet for his brooding – to rob him of his power.
55. ANGSTROM Yes! I couldn't hold on to Krista! I lost her! You bastard!
56. MINA You stop Angstrom brooding, you stop him getting to the truth.
57. ANGSTROM Mina. You did good today. I made a mistake. I underestimated you. I'll have to brood on that later...
58. BENNY (EXASPERATED) Will you come back inside and lay down a castanet track before I kill you both!
59. MINA (TEMPERATURE RISING) Stop pointing that gun at my friend!
60. **FX** **GUNSHOT, DAMPLY ECHOING IN THE SNOW**
61. MINA Angstrom!
62. ANGSTROM Mina!
63. MINA He's been shot.
64. ANGSTROM Mexican Benny From ABBA!
65. **FX** **BODY LANDING ON VERANDA**
66. ANGSTROM Mexican Benny From ABBA. Mexican Benny From ABBA! Speak to me!
67. BENNY (DYING) Thank you... for the music.

68. MINA He's dead. Who did this?
69. **FX** **SNIPER BULLET RICOCHETS**
70. ANGSTROM Get down! There's a sniper up in the hills. Stay low.
71. MINA We're on the top of the hill. There must be a sniper down in the valley.
72. ANGSTROM A sniper who can pinpoint someone from below? Shooting... through the hill! Incredible.
73. MINA Who are we dealing with here?
74. ANGSTROM (DRAMATICALLY) I don't know. The only thing I know... is that I don't know. And I'm beginning to doubt even that.
75. MINA Lets get out of here.
76. ANGSTROM You think you can get your car out of the wall?
77. **FX** **CAR DOORS OPEN. SHUT.**
78. MINA I'll do my best. And if I can't, I'll rent us a new one.
79. ANGSTROM Atta girl.
80. **FX** **CAR ENGINE GUNNED**
81. MINA Angstrom.
82. ANGSTROM Yes?
83. MINA Did you get any songs finished in there?

84. ANSGTROM                    No. And anyway, I don't think Mexican Benny From Abba was really much of a producer. It was very heavy on the Latin American percussion.
85. MINA                         I'll tell my editor you're remixing. We'll get weeks more of expenses before he cottons on...
86. ANGSTROM                 (LAUGHS) Do you know, I haven't a clue what's going on.
87. MINA                         Hey. Shall we stop and pick up some fish circles on the way?
88. ANGSTROM                 Well, why don't we just do that? Circular supper here we come...
89. **GRAMS**                    **NARRATOR BED**
90. NARRATOR                 Next time on Angstrom.
91. BABS WINDSOR             Awright, treacle! How yer diddling?
92. ANGSTROM                 Ah! Cockney Agnetha from Abba. We have a few questions to ask you...
93. BABS WINDSOR             Hahahahahaha! (PROPER LAUGH)
94. **GRAMS**                    **END SIG**