

CYCLONE

A story based on the career of Irish Boxer Barry McGuigan

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CYCLONE

Opening

(black screen)

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LAS VEGAS INT -BOXING DRESSING ROOM, DAY

1

An American commentator can be heard in voice-over calling the action on the two fighters in an upcoming boxing match. Fade in on BARRY MCGUIGAN, 25, a boxer, short & stocky with a soft Northern Irish accent. He is preparing for the bout in his dressing room and looks focused and is constantly moving. He shadow boxes, gets his tape checked by the opposition trainer as is customary, and moves around swiftly and with intent, working through the fight and tactics in his head. Also present in the room are his manager, BARNEY EASTWOOD, his coach EDDIE SHAW, his brother DERMOT MCGUIGAN and his wife SANDRA MCGUIGAN. They all look tense but prepared. Each contributes something of advice, hugs, fist bumps or slaps.

They are all there for Barry and are his closest team. Dermot exits to check Cruz's tape.

AMERICAN COMMENTATOR (V/O)

Hello and Welcome to Las Vegas.
Today the young Irish boxer,
Barry McGuigan is going toe to
toe with the Texan warrior Steve
Cruz here in the shadow of
Caesar's Palace. We are now just
five munites away from the
competitors entrance...

CUT TO:

INT.CRUZ DRESSING ROOM, DAY

2

Cruz preparing... He looks determined and sharp and shadow boxes. His team are also present. DERMOT enters and they go through the taping ritual in front of him. He seems happy and nods.

We can hear the tv commentary talking over this scene.

AMERICAN COMMENTATOR 1

McGuigan from Clones in
Mon-ag-han, Ireland is the
champion and favourite but Stevie
Cruz is a guy who has given
problems in the past so you never
can tell.

(CONTINUED)

AMERICAN COMMENTATOR 2

I don't know Jim, this heat is absolutely blistering, clocking in at 110' degrees at 2pm in the afternoon. It might not suit the little Irish man. Look at my pen, it's actually melting!

AMERICAN COMMENTATOR 1

You might be right there, Hunter, but I'm sure his team have prepared him well. One thing is for sure, the crowd will get what they paid for.

They both take off their headsets, one of them motions to the other at his pen. We see the plastic pen has melted onto the table.

CUT TO

INT DRESSING ROOM:

3

Dermot comes into Barry's dressing room.

DERMOT

Right, he's taped up grand.

BARRY

How's he looking?

DERMOT

Okay, nervous you know?

EASTWOOD

Right Barry, we want to set a good pace here. We're wary of the heat but still...

Barry nods and focuses more

SHAW

Keep your left up and smash him with it if he gives you half a step right wee you hear? Body, body, body, don't let him out of your sight. He'll be tricky but you can finish this early.

DERMOT

And all those combo's we worked on Bar, just keep on him.

Barry looks at all of them and just nods. He walks over to Sandra. She kisses him and exits

(CONTINUED)

SHAW

Right wee man, you ready for
this?

EASTWOOD

2pm in the afternoon...Christ
almighty, they're trying to kill
us.

DERMOT

(looking out of the door and
sensing the crowd)
Right Bar, he's heading down
now...good luck boyo.

Barry kneels and says the prayer he repeats before every
fight...

BARRY

'Angel of God my Guardian dear,
to whom God's love commits me
here. Ever this day be at my
side, to light and guard to rule
and guide. Amen.'

His team are ready and waiting, he walks through them to
applause and pats on the back and arse. He exits the doors
and the crowd explodes...

CUT TO

(BLACK SCREEN TITLES
MONAGHAN 1971)

EXT. DISUSED HALL, DAY

4

There are a bunch of young boys, aged from about 8 up to
12 running around and having fun. Their clothes indicate
the period to be the early seventies. They are up to the
typical tomfoolery of young boys. Wrestling eachother and
putting eachother in playful headlocks. One of them spots
this old building and peeks through the dirty window.

BOY 1

What are you looking at Barry?

BARRY

What's in here?

BOY 1

Aw you know we're not allowed in
there.

BOY 2

Why not? Ah come on I wanna see!

(CONTINUED)

Soon the group are pulling hard at the stubborn door hoping it will open back. After a few moments it finally gives way and the old room fills with sunlight. The boys filter in quickly. Soon they are looking all around them, investigating the area. BARRY looks the place up and down trying to find anything of interest.

BOY 2
Anyone see anything?

BOY 1
Naw nothing over here. Barry anything over near you?

BARRY
Hold on a second!

Barry turns around to the rest of the boys, holding up an ancient pair of boxing gloves. The boys smiles are as wide as you imagine.

BOY 1
Deadly! Give us a go!

BOY 2
Ah me first!

BARRY
One second alright!

Soon they are putting on one glove each and sparring each-other. Barry seems more into it than the other children, his eyes focused and arm full of piston like accuracy and power.

FADE TO:

INT, BOXING GYM, NIGHT

5

We see a young boy about 14 training hard in the ring. This is a slightly older BARRY. He is taking his advice well, as his coach shouts over the top rope.

COACH
Keep your left up Barry. Left up. Okay good. Good. Right that'll do for tonight young man.

BARRY
Ach can we not do a few more minutes no?

COACH
You'll ware yourself out Barry! Go on now, it's late. Time you got home.

(CONTINUED)

We see Barry and one of the other boys zipping up their tracksuit tops and putting their training bags over their shoulders.

CUT TO:

EXT, COUNTRY ROAD, NIGHT

6

Barry and his friend are on their bicycles heading home. it's very dark and Barry's bicycle light is flickering timidly.

BARRY

My light is nearly out!

FRIEND

At least you have one!

The two youngsters cycle on regardless. In the distance British soldiers stand on patrol. We focus in on them, looking bored.

SOLDIER 1

I'll be glad when this shift is over.

SOLDIER 2

Same here. That's the last time I cover for anyone.

Suddenly the soldier's attention is drawn to the mysterious flickering light coming towards them.

SOLDIER 1

What's that coming?

SOLDIER 2

What? I can't see.

SOLDIER 1

There now. Get ready.

The two soldiers bear down on their rifles, using the barricades as support. After a moment they realize who is on the bikes and relax a bit. seconds later Barry and his pal zoom past on their bicycles.

BARRY

Evening officers!

SOLDIER 1

Christ sake! You could've been shot. Get some lights on that bike!

(CONTINUED)

SOLDIER 2
Bloody kids.

The two soldiers look on as the bicycles pass them by, carefree.

CUT TO:

(Ulster Championships 1976)

INT. BOXING RING, NIGHT

7

There is a good atmosphere in the local gym. Two lads in the crowd look on in astonishment as BARRY takes his opponent apart.

MAN 1
Jesus he moves well for a young fella.

MAN 2
Aye that's Pat McGuigan's boy, only 15.

MAN 3
Ah sure everyone knows that!

MAN 1
(starts singing Euovision song)
One day, I started walking!

MAN 3
Haha give it a rest!

The master of ceremonies announces the winner

ANNOUNCER
The winner of this match. And the youngest ever Ulster Champion Barry McGuigan.

The crowd cheer in appreciation as the diminutive young boxer gratefully bows to them.

CUT TO:

EXT. BOXING RING, SAME

8

Barry gets interviewed from the local journalist.

BARRY
I just want to thank my coaches. I'm Over the moon. I only came here for the experience I never dreamt...

(CONTINUED)

(TITLE)

1978

A knock comes to the door. It is a young Sandra

SANDRA
Come on Barry. It's all the
fashion.

BARRY
I'm not sure about this now!

SANDRA
Ah come on!

BARRY
Jesus, anything for a quiet life.

Sandra spins him around in his chair and shows him the new perm she has given him.

BARRY
Hey not too bad!

SANDRA
I told ya!

CUT TO;

EXT. ULSTER HALL, NIGHT

9

We see a billboard outside the arena which shows a host of fights on. Barry is a bit lower on the billing, versus Kenny Bruce. We see a middle aged woman briskly walking into the main door.

INT. ULSTER HALL, SAME

10

The same woman gets to a small table acting as the box office. This is Barry's MOTHER

BOX OFFICE WORKER
Evening Mrs. McGeegan. No charge!

MOTHER
Oh thank you, very kind.

Mother McGuigan moves through to the arena and sees that she is late arriving to the fight. She gets there to see it is bedlam inside. This is a scene typical of the era. Also with it being local level boxing, it is shorn of the typical glamour you might expect. As she gets through the crowd she finally notices Barry in the ring. Both Barry and his opponent have different coloured singlets and the gloves appear massive on them.

(CONTINUED)

CUT TO;

INT, RING SAME.

11

Barry has his opponent in the ropes. He punches him on the head causing the opponent to lift his head quickly. Bruce rakes his teeth against Barry's nose. Blood everywhere. In the background the crowd realises the bad show of sportmanship by Bruce and jeers loudly.

CUT TO;

INT. MCGUIGAN'S HOUSE, NIGHT

12

Barry arrives in through the hall door, a large plaster just above his eye. He is greeted by his twin sisters Rachel And Rebecca. His mother is in the kitchen drinking tea.

BARRY

Hello?

REBECCA

Hi Bar! Heard you won,
congratulations.

RACHEL

Well done Barry!

BARRY

Thanks, where's Ma?

MOTHER

In here love.

We follow Barry through to the kitchen. In a second he sees his mother sitting by the table.

BARRY

Hi! Did you just get in?

MOTHER

Yeah...I eh left a bit earlier.

BARRY

Why didn't you wait?

MOTHER

Look at the state of you! Your
face is cut to bits

BARRY

Aw, that'll heal no bother.

(CONTINUED)

MOTHER

Well I'm not going to watch you again.

BARRY

Aw ma!

MOTHER

I'm serious now. If this is what you want then you have my blessing. But I can't be watching you get hurt like that.

BARRY

Okay.

Barry looks across to his mother and holds her hand. He smiles.

CUT TO;

INT. RING , NIGHT

13

(ULSTER V LEINSTER national championships)

Different to the first fight, this set up looks slightly more authoritative, with a host of judges and officials sitting at a long table ringside. A few of them have their heads down taking notes.

INT DRESSING ROOM, SAME

14

In the dressing room we see Barry dressed in a red singlet. He is getting his hands checked by the official.

OFFICIAL

You can't that tape on there, it's illegal.

BARRY

What? That's the way I always do it.

OFFICIAL

Well it's not allowed. Either take it off or forfeit.

BARRY

Right!

In a fit of anger, Barry rips not only the tape but all the bandages off.

(CONTINUED)

TRAINER

Barry, you can't go in like that.

BARRY

Says who?

TRAINER

You'll hurt yourself

BARRY

Just put the gloves on!

Barry goes out towards the ring in a bad mood.

INT, BOXING RING, SAME

15

We close up on Barry taking apart his opponent, hitting him hard.

CUT TO:

INT. DRESSING ROOM , SAME

16

Barry comes back victorious. A few of his teammates slap him on the back. Barry smiles but his hand is sore.

TRAINER

What's wrong with ye?

BARRY

I think I chipped a bone in my knuckle.

TRAINER

Feck sake Barry, I told ye that would happen! Christ almighty here give us a look.

Barry grimaces as his trainer pulls the glove off.

CUT TO:

(MOSCOW 1980)

Old footage of the iconic five rings on a white flag indicate we are at an Olympic event. Other images such as the Kremlin and people in fur coats indicate it's Moscow.

EXT. OLYMPIC STADIUM, DAY

17

We are right into a shot of the boxing arena. We can hear a commentator calling the action between McGuigan and a Zambian, Kabunda.

(CONTINUED)

COMMENTATOR

This has been a tight encounter.
I think McGuigan has done enough
though. He has been aggressive at
the right times, worked the ring
well. There goes the final bell.
Barry returns to his corner to
await the result.

After a few moments the referee calls both fighters into
the centre of the ring. After a moment he raises the hand
of Barry's opponent.

COMMENTATOR

And the winner is Kabunda! Barry
shakes the winners hand and heads
back to his corner. Well I have
to say I thought the young
Irishman was very unlucky there.
There is a lot of jeering in the
crowd too.

Barry heads back to his corner, head down at his chest.

COACH STOREY

I can't believe that son.

CUTMAN

Very harsh, you were robbed there
lad

BARRY

To hell with this amateur game.
I'm going pro.

The scene ends with Barry leaving the ring looking
despondent. We can overhear the commentator.

COMMENTATOR

Well it's disappointment for the
young man from Clones County
Monaghan. But I think he'll
bounce back.

CUT TO:

EXT. CLONES, DAY

18

Barry running hard on the roads. En route he passes a
graveyard and blesses himself He arrives back at the
family shop.

CUT TO;

EXT. MCGUIGAN'S GROCERY SHOP, DAY

19

Barry arrives to outside of the shop, looking sweaty but still full of energy. His mother is hanging up some flowers at the front of the shop.

BARRY

Where's Da?

MOTHER

In the back.

BARRY

Did he have anything with him?

MOTHER

I didn't see. Here hold on. You going to help out here first?

BARRY

Sorry ma! I will be back in a second.

Barry disappears into the house.

INT. MCGUIGAN FAMILY HOME, SAME

20

We see his older brother Dennis and father Pat sitting in the living room. Barry arrives in earnestly.

BARRY

Did you get it?

PAT MCGUIGAN

Jesus, not even a hello?

BARRY

I'm sorry dad. Glad you got home safe. But did you get it?

PAT

Here!

The father hands over a video cassette marked Sugar Ray Leonard/Marvin Haggler

Soon, Barry and his brother Dermot watching the video back. Together they start acting out the motions themselves, shadow boxing in the living room as their father looks on happily.

CUT TO:

INT. BOOKMAKERS OFFICE, DAY 21

The scene is typical of an old school bookies. Completely male oriented and a lot of cigarette smoke. Amidst the murmurs of radio commentary and newspaper pages adorning the walls, we see a man putting up odds on a blackboard. This is Barney Eastwood.

CUSTOMER
D'ya hear anythin' Barney?

EASTWOOD
Not a dickie bird
Charlie!(smiling)

CUSTOMER
Some help you are!

CUT TO:

INT. EASTWOOD'S OFFICE, SAME 22

Eastwood turns away and heads into his office. We see a number of paintings and other memento's on the wall. The most eye-catching of which is a large poster of a Belfast Boxing event from the mid 1960s. Eastwood sits at his desk with the newspaper in front of him.

CUT TO:

EXT. TRAFALGAR SQUARE, DAY 23

We get a typical early morning scene of pigeons and statues with Barry looking all around, taking it in. He sees a newspaper stand with the Daily Mail headline.

'Bobby Sands is Dead'

Barry walks along, a small street map in his hand and his holdall gym bag over his shoulder.

INT. LONDON UNDERGROUND, SAME 24

Barry runs his finger along the underground map

FADE TO:

INT. TERRY LAWLESS'S GYM LONDON, NIGHT 25

We are in the famous London boxing gym. Barry is sparring with a slightly older fighter. He is doing very well for himself and finishes strongly. The bell rings to signal the end of it. His opponent takes his gumshield out. This is ex world champ Jim Watt.

(CONTINUED)

WATT

Well done son, good work.

BARRY

Thank you for the opportunity
Mr.Watt!

TRAINER

Well done young man, not every
day you get to spar a world
champion. He nearly had you there
Jim!

WATT

I know!

Barry gets out of the ring feeling great about himself. He looks back in the ring and sees Watt about to start sparring with someone else.

One of the trainers comes over to Barry.

TRAINER

It was great to have you over
Barry. Pity it's not full time.

BARRY

I know yeah. Just wish i could
stay but it all costs money.

TRAINER

Plenty of money in London, even
for you Irish boys! Think about
it anyway, door is always open!

BARRY

Will do thanks!

Barry takes one final look around the gym.

FADE TO:

EXT. EASTWOOD'S HOUSE, NIGHT

26

We follow a beautiful 80s era Mercedes up a pebbled driveway towards a large house. Out steps Eastwood, complete with his briefcase.

CUT TO:

INT. EASTWOOD'S SITTING ROOM, NIGHT

27

Barney Eastwood is busying himself with his video machine. His wife, Frances is in the next room

FRANCES

Do you want any tea?

EASTWOOD

What's that? No, I'm grand thanks.

Eastwood has a recording of Barry McGuigan's fight against Ian McLeod. He watches on intensely, rubbing his chin thoughtfully. After a few moments he picks up his phone.

EASTWOOD

Hello Eddie, how are ye doin? Yes I am watching it here. Well I think we had better talk to this kid before someone else does!

CUT TO:

INT. CHIP SHOP, NIGHT

28

(DUBLIN 1981)

Barry and Sandra are working in a chip shop. It is a typical local chipper with the usual sprinkling of working class patrons coming in and out.

CUSTOMER

Just a fish and chips please love

SANDRA

(turns back) fish and chips please Barry!

BARRY

Yep, okay

Barry looks a busy man as he wraps up burgers and chips, and puts on more chips

CUT TO:

INT. BARRY'S AND SANDRA'S FLAT, NIGHT

29

They pair sit on the couch watching a small portable black and white TV. Barry looks bored. Sandra looks over towards him.

SANDRA

What's wrong with you?

(CONTINUED)

BARRY

I don't know how long more I can
do this love.

SANDRA

Something will come up soon
enough.

BARRY

But I can't even train properly
down here. Can't spar or
anything.

Sandra looks over at her man, feeling genuine sympathy for
him.

SANDRA

Sure I'll spar with you.

BARRY

No, come on.

SANDRA

I will!

BARRY

Hold on actually!

Barry hops up off the couch and disappears for a moment.

CUT TO;

EXT, BARRY & SANDRA'S FLAT, NIGHT

30

We can see through the sitting room window that Barry has
Sandra all wrapped up in a single bed mattress.

SANDRA

You sure this is going to work?

BARRY

Of course!

We see a silhouette of Barry punching away at Sandra as
both of them laugh

SANRDA

The things I do for you Barry
McGuigan!

CUT TO:

INT, PUB, DAY

31

A middle aged man in a tracksuit saunters up to the bar. The barman doesn't look too bothered either way. The customer's name is MULLIGAN.

MULLIGAN

Pint please Paddy. And a short one too while you're at it.

BARMAN

Any prospects up at the gym these days?

MULLIGAN

Ah a few. But they all want it on a plate these days. No respect you know?

BARMAN

I see. One o five when you're ready.

Mulligan pulls a pound note from his pocket.

CUT TO:

EXT. LOCAL GYM, NIGHT

32

Barry arrives at a gym looking ready to go. Unfortunately the doors are locked.

BARRY

For God's sake!

Barry turns around and storms back the way he came from.

EXT. PUB, SAME

33

Barry marches into the pub and sees the man he's looking for, his local trainer MULLIGAN.

MULLIGAN

Ah wee man, here will you have a drink?

BARRY

Why is the gym closed? We're supposed to be training tonight.

MULLIGAN

Ah sure I forgot all about it!

(CONTINUED)

BARRY

You did not! I've been reminding you the last three weeks I've a fight coming up. What chance do I have now?

CUT TO:

EXT. CLONES, SAME

34

Pat McGuigan is talking to a passer-by on the street. Barry comes past looking frustrated.

PAT

What's up with you?

Barry barely stops, just to say

BARRY

Aw nothin. Just sick of people not taking me seriously.

Before he keeps walking past

PAT

It won't always be like that son!

Pat looks on smiling.

CUT TO:

EXT. HOTEL CAR PARK, DAY

35

Barry's coach from the Olympics Storey, is sitting with Barry in his car.

BARRY

Who is this fella?

STOREY

This fella could be your big chance. So be polite, say please and thank you. And fix your collar!

BARRY

Haha okay!

INT. BALLYMACSCANLAN HOTEL, DAY

36

Barry is in a hotel dressed in a suit jacket and jumper underneath. An older man STOREY comes with another gentleman, Barney Eastwood.

(CONTINUED)

EASTWOOD

Well there he is now! Nice to meet you at last!

BARRY

Nice to meet you too sir. Sorry but what do I call you. Barney? BJ?

EASTWOOD

Well my friends call me Barney. But younger people Call me Mr. Eastwood. I think I'd prefer that.

BARRY

Okay then, Mr.Eastwood it is!

EASTWOOD

Good lad, take a seat there.

FADE TO:

INT, HOTEL, SAME

37

We pick up the conversation in mid flow. Eastwood is chatting away with Barry in a friendly manner.

EASTWOOD

Now I know what you need and I can get it for you. You'll get 100% from me. The best training facilities, sparring partners everything.

BARRY

That's great Mr.Eastwood

EASTWOOD

I have six sons already You'll become part of my family. The seventh son!

CUT TO;

INT, IMMACULATA BOXING GYM, BELFAST

38

Barry arrives in for the first time. Barney Eastwood introduces him to Eddie Shaw, his new coach.

EASTWOOD

This is Eddie. He'll look after you now. This is his gym so whatever you need ask him.

(CONTINUED)

BARRY

Thank you. Nice to meet you Mr Shaw.

SHAW

And you son. You ready to work hard?

BARRY

Yes sir!

CUT TO;

EXT, HORSE RACING GRANDSTAND, DAY

39

We follow the action from the vantage point of the crowd as a race nears completion. We then close up on Barney Eastwood with a set of binoculars smiling happily.

INT, HORSE RACING GRANDSTAND, DAY

40

There is a table reserved for Eastwood Bookmakers and we see a number of people chatting. Barney and his wife Frances are doing a bit of meeting and greeting when Barney seemingly spots someone he knows. The man heads over towards him, grabbing a glass of champagne as he walks. This is Humphries. He looks to be about the same age as Barney but a bit more slovenly.

HUMPHRIES

Ah Mr. Eastwood, always a pleasure.

EASTWOOD

And you Miles. How have you been? Still working hard?

HUMPHRIES

Oh you know the life of a roving reporter. The dirt won't dig itself up. You had a good day today then.

EASTWOOD

What? Oh this? No, well just a thank you to some of our staff. We like to keep them happy.

HUMPHRIES

Oh very good. (Pause) So a little wee bird tells me you're getting back in the fight game?

(CONTINUED)

EASTWOOD

Well you heard that now did you?

HUMPHRIES

Ooh now I have my sources. I was surprised now when I heard that. The game's moved on a fair bit in the last ten or fifteen years.

EASTWOOD

Well I was a very young man first time around.

HUMPHRIES

And there were a lot less sharks around then too do you not agree?

EASTWOOD

Well maybe so. But how many promoters do you know can say they put on a gala night of boxing with Ronnie and Reggie Kray?

HUMPHRIES

Haha when you put it like that! Well I hope it all goes well for you. Not that opinion counts for much but I think you'd be better saving your money, everybody in this town is either too broke or too mean to buy a ticket anymore. Just my view on it, no offence.

Humphries saunters away leaving Barney in his wake. Eastwood waits til he's out of shot to mutter something.

EASTWOOD

But you'll still drink my champagne!

FADE TO:

MONTAGE EARLY FIGHTS

INT. DALYMOUNT PARK PITCH, NIGHT

41

Barry has to wear plastic bags over his boots as the rain teems down on him.

BARRY

What's this for?

TRAINER

it's bucketing down outside. Want to keep your feet dry for the ring.

(CONTINUED)

Barry beats Selwin Bell,

CUT TO:

INT. LONDON RING, NIGHT

42

Barry's next fight is in a low key arena. He then beats Garry Lucas by stoppage in the 4th round.

CUT TO;

INT. DRESSING ROOM, NIGHT

43

CAPTION: Peter Eubank v McGuigan August 3rd 1981

Barry's coaches remind him that tonight's match has two minute rounds instead of the usual three.

STOREY

Now son. These are shorter rounds so you need to get your work done quickly. Don't wait around for this lad okay?

CUT TO:

INT, BOXING RING, SAME

44

We see Barry seemingly in control of the fight. But when it comes to the final decision he ends up losing to Peter Eubank controversially. Barry is clearly upset and the crowd howls its disapproval. Barney Eastwood cheers Barry up after the Eubank result.

PADDY

Fuck it, I knew those two minute rounds would do us. Shouldn't have agreed to it.

EASTWOOD

You'll get nights like that. Everybody knows you beat him. Listen to that crowd. Look at him, he knows it too. We'll bounce back.

CUT TO:

INT. IMMACULATA BOXING GYM, DAY

45

Barney Eastwood arrives in with another boxer beside him. He calls Barry over.

EASTWOOD

Someone for you to meet here
Barry.

BARRY

Hi!

EASTWOOD

This is Ken, he's going to help
you out for a while.

BARRY

Nice to meet you Ken

KEN

Alright Barry, how ye doin'?

EASTWOOD

I'll leave you two to get on with
it.

CUT TO:

INT. TRAINING RING, SAME

46

Ken Buchanan and Barry are dancing around on their sparring routine. Barry moves in and catches him low by accident.

KEN

Ooof!

BARRY

Shite, sorry are you alright Ken?

KEN

Yeah. Just be careful. I've got
enough of those from Roberto
Duran. Okay let's go again. One
two and over. You need to get
that right hand over quicker lad
okay?

BARRY

Okay.

KEN

Good, okay go again.

Ken is clearly working hard, ironing out any faults he sees in Barry's offence.

CUT TO:

EXT, COUNTRY ROAD, DAY

47

Ken and Barry are jogging along. Barry bursts on ahead. Ken keeps his pace steady. At the end of the run Barry is waiting at a wall, proud as punch.

KEN

What's with the sprinting?

BARRY

I like to run fast.

KEN

Well it's no good. You need to jog. That builds up the stamina, get used to those heavy legs.

BARRY

I see what you mean.

KEN

You ever have trouble making weight?

BARRY

No I'm usually a wee bit under actually.

KEN

Well it does no harm if you're a pound or two over a few days before hand. The nerves will burn off the rest. Come on let's head back.

The pair set off on a light jog again.

CUT TO:

EXT. GOLF COURSE, DAY

48

Barry's brother Dennis is at the tee box, holding a four iron. He swings the club with perfection, driving his ball down the fairway. In the background we see Barry coming over to say hello.

BARRY

Lovely shot.

DENNIS

Aye, not bad.

(CONTINUED)

BARRY

You out long?

DENNIS

Naw, about half an hour. Where were you?

BARRY

Training.

Dennis and Barry walk down the fairway.

DENNIS

Aw yeah. What's the new fella like?

BARRY

He's a slave driver is what he is! It'll be all worth it though.

DENNIS

Aye.

BARRY

You can still come in for sparring if you want?

DENNIS

Yeah? Ah I will alright. Keep me sharp.

We leave the scene as Dennis prepares to take another shot.

CUT TO;

INT. ROYAL ULSTER HALL 1982

49

Another of Eastwood's entourage PADDY BYRNE comes into the dressing room before the fight. He is carrying a small brown box.

PADDY

Here I meant to give you this earlier.

EASTWOOD

What's that?

PADDY

It's Jack Soloman's ring bell is what it is! Might bring us good luck.

(CONTINUED)

EASTWOOD

Great!

CUT TO:

INT, BOXING RING, SAME

50

Barry's next fight against Renard is tough, but the loyal fans get behind him. He goes down in the 7th from a punch but bounces back quickly. The ref doesn't even give him a count. Barry heads back to his corner.

In the audience we see Sandra sitting beside other members of the family. Sandra looks nervous but still manages to clap supportively.

SHAW

Do you trip?

NED

Na, he was caught.

SHAW

Well you got away with it. Now get back out there last round, finish strong!

Barry does what he's told. He goes at Renard with everything, getting the decision. The crowd shows it's appreciation by throwing some coins into the ring. Both Sandra and Barry's family cheer loudly.

CUT TO;

INT. GYM ,DAY

51

A young boxer GAVIN is putting up ap framed photo of another boxer. Barry sees him and is curious. There is a news bulletin on the radio but it's quite low.

BARRY

Who's that?

GAVIN

Lad by the name of Hutton. He used to train here. Got gunned down in Coleraine last week.

SHAW

Aye and it wasn't for nothing. I'd take that down before BARNEY gets here.

(CONTINUED)

GAVIN
What d'ya mean?

Gavin steps back to admire it.

SHAW
I'm serious!

Barney Eastwood comes into the gym looking like a happy man. The radio becomes more prominent.

REPORTER(VOICEOVER)
'And with last night's victory over the luckless Pizarro to follow the epic win over Renard all roads point to a rematch with Peter Eubank.'

Barney Eastwood comes into the gym as Barry works hard on the bag.

EASTWOOD
We have the rematch with Eubank.

BARRY
Aw that's great Mr. Eastwood. Thank you. I won't let you down this time.

EASTWOOD
I know you won't!

CUT TO:

EXT. BORDER CONTROL, DAY

52

Two British soldiers pull a car over to inspect it. The driver, a middle aged woman named MRS.MOONEY is clearly unhappy.

MRS.MOONEY
I can assure you I have no incendiary devices hidden in the vehicle.

SOLDIER 1
Okay madam, we'll be finished in a minute. It's just routine.

Mrs.Mooney looks at her watch and looks highly impatient.

MRS.MOONEY
I have an appointment I have to get to!

(CONTINUED)

SOLIDER 2

Okay Madam, that's all fine
thanks.

MRS.MOONEY

Thank you!

Mrs.Mooney gets back in the car and speeds away leaving
the soldiers smiling between themselves.

EXT. HAIRDRESSERS, DAY

53

Sandra is working away on Mrs. Mooney. The woman seems
like a very fussy type.

MRS.MOONEY

I don't know what they thought I
had in the bloody car.

SANDRA

Just sit still there Mrs. Mooney.
Who was asking about your car?

MRS.MOONEY

Who d'ya think? Those bloody jobs
worths on the border there.
Nothing better to do. If I was
living in England I'd be appalled
to see where my tax was going!

SANDRA

Ah sure they're doing their best.
Here now, nearly finished.

Sandra tilts her customer's chair up.

MRS.MOONEY

I tell ye love. You better hope
that boyfriend of yours takes you
away from all this when he
becomes rich and famous.

Sandra looks across at her colleague, rolling her eyes.

SANDRA

Sure it's grand around here Mrs.
Mooney!

MRS.MOONEY

Well if it were me I'd move.

CUT TO:

EXT. CINEMA, NIGHT

54

Sandra and Barry are outside the cinema waiting to go in a watch a film. The poster outside reads

'Outland' starring 'Sean Connery'

SANDRA

This supposed to be any good?

BARRY

I dunno! But it beats hanging around the house!

A nice BMW pulls up nearby. Sandra and Barry gaze at it admirably. Barry then turns back to Sandra.

BARRY

Just people showing off isn't it?

SANDRA

A bit of glamour is nice now and again! Not that you'd see much of it around here.

Barry senses something is up.

BARRY

You okay?

SANDRA

Grand!

BARRY

You still getting brainwashed by old biddies in that salon.

SANDRA

Who's brainwashing!

BARRY

I know what they do be like.

SANDRA

Well I don't be listening to them. Don't need them telling me what I want. I know what I want!

BARRY

Do ye now?

SANDRA

I do yeah!

Barry playfully goes cuddles her as they move up in the queue.

CUT TO:

INT. ULSTER HALL, NIGHT

55

We are back in the Ulster Hall and Barry is giving Eubank a right hammering. Eventually the ref stops it in the 8th.

EASTWOOD

Well done son!

BARRY

Do you think my eye will be alright by Friday?

EASTWOOD

What's Friday? Oh right yes. Of course!

CUT TO;

INT. CHURCH, DAY

56

We close up on a newly married couple. This is Barry and Sandra's big day. As friends and family look on happily.

SANDRA

I suppose you'll be wanting to train now on the honeymoon?

BARRY

As if I would!

CUT TO;

INT. SPANISH HOTEL ROOM, DAY

57

Sure enough we Barry running along the beach on his honeymoon as Sandra looks on happily. A waiter comes into the honeymoon suite with a large tray of breakfast foods.

WAITER

Your husband is not here?

SANDRA

He'll be here shortly. Thanks!

We see Sandra getting down to breakfast as Barry comes back into the room, sweaty and almost out of breath.

SANDRA

Jeepers Barry I thought you were going to take it easy?

BARRY

I'm sorry, it's force of habit. Here I'm done now for the day anyway?

(CONTINUED)

Barry gives her a peck on the cheeky and steals a grape.

SANDRA

Oi, have a shower first. The you
can eat.

BARRY

I don't want all that anyway.
Maybe some cereal.

SANDRA

Ah Barry, sure we're paying
enough for it!

Sandra happily chews on some sausage as Barry disappears
into the bathroom.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE, DAY

58

Barney Eastwood is at his desk, making a phone call. He is
as neat as always, tie pin, cufflinks the whole lot.

EASTWOOD

He was born in 1961. Clones. Yes
his wife is protestant and he's
catholic. Well he did fight for
Northern Ireland in the
commonwealth games. I understand.
Well you know we want Barry to
win the British title and
represent not only Ireland but
also the United Kingdom. From
your point of view it could look
very good too you know?

CUT TO:

INT. GROSVENOR HOTEL, NIGHT

59

We see a couple finding their seats at ringside. They are
dressed in standard evening wear, blending in nicely with
the other black-tied patrons.

The master of ceremonies introduces the fight to the
black-tie audience. It is a much more restrained crowd
than the Ulster Hall. Polite applause rather than
boisterous cheering. The match has begun and Barry is
working Ali really hard, battering him.

FADE TO:

INT, RING SAME.

60

We see a ring girl come in with her sign indicating Round 6 is going up shortly.

In the fifth we see Ali sitting in his corner.

YOUNG ALI
My jaw is aching.

ALI'S COACH
It's okay. Keep going.

CUT TO:

(A DOORBELL RINGS)

CUT TO:

INT. EASTWOOD'S HOUSE, DAY

61

(2006)

The decor and modernity of the house gives us a quick and clear indication this is pretty close to the present. We see Barney Eastwood looking out a window. He looks a little bit older than before, more wrinkles around the eyes. A moment later his wife FRANCES arrives into the sitting room.

FRANCES
It's Denis at the door

EASTWOOD
Fine yes. Frances signals for Denis to go into the sitting room.

This is DENIS O'HARA.

O'HARA
Morning Mr. Eastwood.

EASTWOOD
How are you Mr. O'Hara. Sleep well last night?

FRANCES
I was going to make some tea Denis, if you'd like some?

O'HARA
That'd be lovely thanks. Frances disappears into the kitchen

(CONTINUED)

O'HARA

Looks like rain out there again.

EASTWOOD

Aye, sure what can you do. Sit
down there sure.

Denis accepts the invitation and takes a seat. He has a
journalist's style leather bag with him and takes out his
dictaphone and journal.

EASTWOOD

So.

O'HARA

So!

EASTWOOD

Where did we leave off yesterday?

O'HARA

Um lets see. Oh yes, Young Ali?

EASTWOOD

Right.

The two men sit across from eachother in the comfortable
looking sitting room. The scene is perfect for an
interview.

CUT TO:

INT. BOXING RING, NIGHT

62

We are back in the action with Barry and Young Ali. The
coach sends Young Ali out again, much to the surprise of
Barry. McGuigan keeps up the punishment until finally Ali
collapses under the pressure. After the initial euphoria
the crowd senses Ali has a problem. There is a large crowd
gathered in the corner. Someone lifts Ali hand up to help
him wave and everybody relaxes. They leave the ring but
Barney looks back over his shoulder.

EASTWOOD

That boy is seriously hurt.

As Barry is led away from the ring by his team, he looks
back to see his opponent being lifted out of the ring on
white tablecloths.

CUT TO:

INT. BOOKMAKERS OFFICE, DAY 63

Eastwood sits at his desk signing documents when one of his staff arrive in with a newspaper.

The headline on the sports page reads

'YOUNG ALI STILL IN COMA FOLLOWING CYCLONE BATTLE'

CUT TO:

INT. CHURCH, DAY 64

We see Barry kneeling in the empty church, his rosary beads wrapped around his hands.

He leaves the church but doesn't notice the Mercedes in the distance

INT. CAR, SAME 65

We see Barney Eastwood sitting in his car. He opens the door and gets halfway out. He sees Barry's body language and thinks better of it. Barney sits back into the car.

FADE TO:

INT. MCGUIGAN'S FAMILY HOME, DAY 66

Barry is home in his house, He is staring out the kitchen window. His mother is doing some pots and pans by the sink. As he turns around he sees his dad coming in. Pat has a holdall bag and is carrying a sequined suit in his other hand. Barry's mother helps him.

PAT MCGUIGAN

Well son. What are you up to today?

BARRY

Hmmn? Oh I thoguht might go for a walk later. You off to a show?

PAT MCGUIGAN

Oh you're very observant. Isn't he very observant Katie?

Pat ruffles Barry's hair. Barry smiles happily

PAT MCGUIGAN

Sure you have to pay the bills dont ye?

CUT TO:

INT, MCGUIGANS SITTING ROOM, DAY

67

Barry has the phone receiver in his hand. He talks into it tentatively.

BARRY

Hello? Mr. Eastwood

EASTWOOD

How are you doing son?

BARRY

I'm okay.

EASTWOOD

You sure? I've been ringing the house constantly-

BARRY

I know. I know. I just need more time. I'm sorry.

EASTWOOD

That's okay.

BARRY

Have you heard anything?

EASTWOOD

He's still in the hospital alright. But that's not your fault. Barry, listen now. We have to start making plans. You haven't fought in three months and people are beginning to forget about you.

BARRY

I understand but...I just need more time.

EASTWOOD

Well look. You know you've got a great team behind you here. You'll get all the support you need. Can you let me know as soon as you can.

BARRY

Ok, yeah. Thanks.

Barry is on his couch. He looks tired and puts his head down for a nap. During this he has a few flashbacks of the fight with Ali. He wakes up in a cold sweat.

CUT TO;

EXT. SEASIDE, DAY

68

It's a family day out as Barry's parents and other family members enjoy the fun on the beach. Sandra (pregnant) hands out sandwiches from the picnic basket as Barry stands out near the water's edge. Dermot sees Sandra looking towards Barry.

DERMOT

Do you want me to talk to him?

SANDRA

(Smiles) No Dennis thanks.
Here you look after these,
I'll be back in a second.

Sandra heads down to the water's edge to give Barry a hug.

SANDRA

You not hungry at all?

BARRY

Ach I don't have much of an
appetite yet today.

SANDRA

Or yesterday.

BARRY

Did I do something wrong?

SANDRA

Barry. You have been moping about
for weeks in the house now. We
usually talk about what's going
wrong but when you're silent like
this it upsets me.

BARRY

I'm sorry... you wouldn't
understand.

Barry looks down at the sand.

SANDRA

Well I don't think you understand
either.

BARRY

What?

SANDRA

You didn't kill him.

BARRY

Just stop now.

Sandra pulls him around

(CONTINUED)

SANDRA
Listen to me.

BARRY
Sandra please.

SANDRA
You didn't.

BARRY
Sandra stop will ya!

SANDRA
It wasn't your fault Barry! And I know you think everyone is just saying what you need to hear but it's the truth.

BARRY
I see other lads my age. They've all been to college and they can't even get work. All I know is this. I'm paid to hurt people. It's not right.

SANDRA
Barry. If you start thinking like that you have no chance. You're a sportsman. End of story. Alright?

Sandra hopes for an answer but Barry still stares out towards the sea.

SANDRA
Whatever you decide I will support you. We're still young. You can do lots of other things. Not just boxing. Plenty of other things.

BARRY
Like what? I've put everything into this. I don't have a plan B!

SANDRA
Well then you have to go for it. All or nothing. This is a real opportunity but you have to really want it!

BARRY
I do want it!

SANDRA
Ok then!.

They hug and embrace down by the water.

CUT TO:

INT, HALLWAY, SAME

69

Dermot is dressed in his running shoes and tracksuit. He calls over to Barry's house and knocks on his front door.

DERMOT

You ready to get back to work?

BARRY

Yeah, let's do it.

Barry and Dermot go out on a jog and are soon back training in full swing.

CUT TO:

INT.PRESS CONFERENCE, DAY

70

Barney Eastwood speaks in front of the press. There are flashbulbs and lots of questions from the eager reporters but Eastwood retains his cool.

EASTWOOD

Look nothing has changed. My goal is to get Barry McGuigan to the top of the world of boxing. His next fight will be against Jimmy Duncan.

CUT TO;

EXT. ULSTER HALL,NIGHT

71

It is a wet night in Belfast and under the sea of umbrellas there is a large crowd growing impatiently outside the Ulster Hall. Stephen Eastwood tries to control the baying masses.

STEPHEN

If you can just give us a few more minutes there.

The crowd boos and jeers and eventually rush the door. Stephen and a few members of security are helpless and Stephen even suffers a nasty left hook.

CUT TO:

ET, RING, NIGHT

72

We see Pat and Barry's brother Dermot taking their seats at ringside.

PUNTER

There y'are now Pat! Stow your boat!

PAT

Ah jesus would you look? How'd they let you in?

PUNTER

Ah sure you know me! great to see you!

Punter shakes Pat's hand warmly, then looks towards Dermot.

PUNTER

Is that your other lad?

PAT

Aye, this is Dennis.

PUNTER

Nice to meet you young man

DERMOT

You too sir!

Dennis turns to Pat

DERMOT

Who is that?

PAT

Don't have a clue.

INT, RING , NIGHT

73

Barry fighting Duncan. He has him beaten well but won't put him away with a killer punch. While Barry hesitates Duncan nearly knock him out with a right hook. He returns to his corner.

SHAW

What was that?

BARRY

I have him, I have him no bother.

SHAW

I know what yer at. Don't ever bloody do that again!

(CONTINUED)

Barry does what he is told and beats Duncan down in the next round. In the audience Stephen Eastwood is still smarting from the punch and holds his cheek but manages a smile.

CUT TO:

INT. DRESSING ROOM AREA, NIGHT

74

We track down the corridor to include a shot of one boxer (Christie) stitching up another boxer's (Oliver) lip after a match they both have.

INT. DRESSING ROOM, SAME

75

Barney Eastwood sees Paddy is having a heated debate with Jimmy Duncan's crowd.

EASTWOOD

What's going on?

PADDY

Frank here reckons you owe him money.

FRANK WARREN

It's not what we agreed Barney.

EASTWOOD

What are you talking about? One thousand pound. For expenses.

FRANK WARREN

Well there were additional costs. And the thousand won't cover it.

EASTWOOD

Additional costs? That's your problem!

FRANK WARREN

Look Barney, we're both businessmen here.

EASTWOOD

Yeah?

FRANK WARREN

Well I'm not trying to rip you off. There were additional costs.

EASTWOOD

Ah here, look.

Barney goes into his wallet and pulls out some bank notes.

(CONTINUED)

EASTWOOD

Now. That's for you. And we're done.

FRANK WARREN

No need to be like that Barney mate!

EASTWOOD

You're a chancer Warren. I won't work with you again.

Barney goes into Barry's dressing room. He has a big smile on his face. Shaw is there alongside the other members of the team.

SHAW

What are you looking so happy about?

EASTWOOD

What d'ya mean? We're back Eddie! Good lad Barry, that's the first one out of the way. What did I tell you?

Barry reluctantly breaks a smile.

BARRY

You were right. Thanks Mr Eastwood.

EASTWOOD

We're back in the game! Good boy!

Barney Eastwood gives Barry a warm embrace. Barry looks relieved, more happier than he has been in months.

FADE TO:

INT. RING, NIGHT

76

NEXT FIGHT V HUGGINS.

Barry wins again and has his arm raised in victory.

CUT TO:

INT. DRESSING ROOM , NIGHT

77

Post fight interview Barry is in much better form, even making time to have a few laughs with journalists.

(CONTINUED)

BARRY

I went through my whole repertoire tonight. Can you spell that?!

The crowd of reporters laugh the insult off.

CUT TO:

INT. STUDIO, DAY

78

We are in a small radio studio where the DJ and Barry sit across from each-other.

INTERVIEWER

Now Barry, you are from Ireland. But you are fighting for the British title. You are catholic but your wife is protestant. What do you say to those who might ask you what you're true identity is?

BARRY

I fight in the name of peace. I don't want any hatred or violence attached to my matches. You can leave the fighting to me!

CUT TO:

EXT. FLAT COMPLEX, BELFAST

79

Barry having to go through heavily Nationalist area to get to his gym. The scene is of destitution. A few burnt out cars and tri-colours billowing in the breeze. He gets a few nice salutations along the way.

CHILD

Hey Barry!

Barry waves back appreciatively.

CUT TO:

INT. AWARDS CEREMONY, BELFAST

80

(DECEMBER 1982)

In a star-studded ceremony at the Belfast banquet Hall, McGuigan is announced as sportsman of the year and goes up to receive his award.

He smiles politely for the camera's but as soon as he is off stage his face turns to stone.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL ROOM, SAME

81

Barry sits in his hotel room, still dressed in his suit.
He is very upset and calls Ali's wife.

BARRY

Hello yes, this is Barry McGuigan
Yes really. Thanks for taking the
call. Look I don't expect that
you really want to speak to me
but I, I really just wanted to
offer my condolences. (pause) I
never wanted to hurt your
husband. Look, anything you need.
Anything at all. Just call me.
Okay, bye.

Barry wipes a tear from his face and gathers himself in
front of the mirror, ready to face the world again.

CUT TO:

INT. KING'S HALL, NIGHT

82

(PANPRASE 1983)

He beats Panprase to become the new British champion.
Barry's father is interviewed after the match.

REPORTER

Well pat you're of course no
stranger to all this bright
lights and glamour. What di you
make of all this then?

PAT MCGUIGAN

Aw we're very proud of our wee
boy. He's a credit to us. Very
proud so we are.

REPORTER

There seems to be no stopping his
momentum now. What do you think
his future holds?

PAT MCGUIGAN

I predict Barry will win the
world title in ther next two
years.

FADE TO:

INT. NAVAN PRESS CONFERENCE, DAY

83

Returns to Ireland and has a weigh in for his next fight with Meck in Navan, County Meath.

EASTWOOD

And just as an added bonus the weigh in for this fight will take place this Friday on the Late Late show on television. There y'are now!

CUT TO:

EXT, MARKET STREET, CLONES, DAY

84

Pat McGuigan is taking a stroll down the street. He is stopped by a few passers-by.

MAN 1

Howaya Pat. I hear Barry is fighting in Navan next week?

MAN 2

How are we gonna get down there?

PAT MCGUIGAN

Sure can't ye drive down? I'll even pay for your petrol!

CUT TO:

INT, LATE LATE SHOW STUDIO, NIGHT

85

The biggest entertainment show in Ireland is being broadcast. We open up on Gay announcing the weights of both Barry and his opponent. After this we go into the interview.

BYRNE

Now Barry I know you've been asked a hundred times but I have to ask you again. Do you consider yourself Irish or British?

BARRY

Well I'm proud of my background Gay you know I think everyone realizes that. But the difference in my sport is it's not a team sport and it's not about nationality. Amateurs fight for their country, professionals fight for money!

(CONTINUED)

CUT TO;

MONTAGE (1983 AMERICA)

Shots of America: The montage takes in his visit to the States where he gets real quality sparring. New York, spars with Vinnie Costello and Tony Santana. You can tell by the look on Barry's face that he is really taken with all the tall buildings and glamour of the USA.

CUT TO:

INT. CHICAGO GYM, DAY

86

Barney Eastwood is walking through a busy gym with Robert Mittelman. He is introduced to a friend.

MITTELMANN

Barney this is Bob Galloway. When he's not arresting hoodlums on the streets he is down here looking out for new prospects.

EASTWOOD

How do you do Bob?

GALLOWAY

Nice to meet you Mr. Eastwood. Mittelman here tells me you got a real fighter with you. Barry the Cyclone right?

EASTWOOD

Aye he's a good lad

GALLOWAY

Well I hope I can find some good guys to help you out.

CUT TO:

INT. GYM, SAME

87

Galloway leads Barney through the busy gym. We can see in the background there are many young lean looking boxers, no doubt looking for their shot at the big time.

GALLOWAY

I'm sure you know how important it is to pick the right guys for sparring. Last thing you need is some jumped up kid tryin' to make a name for himself.

(CONTINUED)

EASTWOOD

Right.

GALLOWAY

I always trust the Mexican boys. They're always needing work. And they don't take cheap shots. Just pay them good, they'll always come back.

CUT TO:

INT, BOXING GYM, DAY

88

We see Barry now in the midst of a tough sparring session. We hear American voices of encouragement from outside the ring. Finally a bell rings and Barry returns to his corner.

SANTANA

Barry you don't fight like a white man, you fight like a brother!

BARRY

Thanks!

CUT TO:

INT, PRESS CONFERENCE, DAY

89

The scene is very well stage, certainly more glamorous than the one in Navan County Meath. McGuigan takes it all in, looking around like some bewildered kid. Barney, Barry and a few others sit a few rows back from the top table. Goes to the Duran v Hagler press conference.

PADDY

Jesus they're all here today

EASTWOOD

Aye. Who's that big guy?

Barney points to a huge man taking up two chairs.

PADDY

That is Pepe Cordera. Biggest matchmaker in Puerto Rico. You want a match with anyone from there it goes through him.

Barney keeps an eye on Barry. He maybe sees he is impressed with the showbiz side of it.

(CONTINUED)

EASTWOOD

You see now son? This is what it's all about. The big time!

BARRY

Yes Mr. Eastwood. It's great!

FADE TO:

EXT, GOLF COURSE, DAY

90

We cut to a golf bunker and a close up of a ball. Soon Dermot McGuigan is chipping nicely onto the green.

BARRY

Ooh that's the shot.

Barry is back in Ireland and on the golf course with his brother Dermot. Dermot is concentrating as Barry tells him of his recent holiday in the states.

BARRY

You wouldn't believe the size of everything there.

DERMOT

Oh yeah?

BARRY

It's crazy. The streets in Chicago are twice as wide as Belfast, the cars are all massive. And the food in the restaurants, they give you way more on your plate.

DERMOT

Aye sure that must explain all the big arses over there.

BARRY

Haha maybe so! But it's a different way of life over there. You'd love it.

DERMOT

Sure they've no proper football or anything over there.

BARRY

Plenty of good courses for golf though.

Dermot then looks up towards the car park. There's a man waving back towards them.

(CONTINUED)

DERMOT
Who's that?

EXT, GOLF COURSE CAR PARK, SAME

91

The two brothers head over towards the man. He is standing beside a shiny new Alfa Romeo car with the Barry McGuigan name on the side window.

CAR SPONSOR
Hope you don't mind me
interrupting you Barry? I was
told I could find you here-

BARRY
No bother! What's that you have?

CAR SPONSOR
Well on behalf on Alfa Romeo
Ireland we are proud to present
you with the use of this vehicle.

BARRY
Are you serious?

CAR SPONSOR
Now these are fast little
buggers, so be careful.

BARRY
Aye, no bother. Jesus my name and
all on the side!

CUT TO:

EXT, COUNTRY ROAD, DAY

92

He takes delivery of a sponsored Alfa Romeo car and goes on a death-defying drive around the country roads. He even zooms past the Army checkpoint

SOLDIER
Fackin hell Barry!

CUT TO:

NEWSPAPER HEADLINE

'Big Time Boxing to Return to King's Hall!'

INT. KING'S HALL, BELFAST 93

Wins European title in King's hall at end of 83 vs Nati in Kings hall. After the match Barry does a quick interview in the ring.

REPORTER

Well Barry what's next? Surely you must be eyeing up a future World title fight?

BARRY

Well there's no point reaching for the ceiling, reach for the sky and you'll get the ceiling, reach for the ceiling and you'll get nowhere.

CUT TO:

INT. DRESSING ROOM, KING'S HALL, NIGHT 94

1984

Champ Chiteule

Next step is World class fighters like Champ Chiteule, January 84. On the walk out to the ring, Barney remembers something.

EASTWOOD

Fecking forgot the endswell.

Eastwood turns back to go to the dressing room as the others walk out to the arena.

CUT TO;

INT, RING, SAME. 95

The match is a dogged affair. Barry looks more tired than usual. Eastwood watches on nervously.

COMMENTATOR

You see McGuigan is trying to force his intensity on his opponent here-

EASTWOOD

Look at his feet, they're all wrong!

SHAW

He can't go back. Always on the front foot. Come on Barry!

(CONTINUED)

COMMENTATOR 2

He's definitely looking sharper since his return from America. A more polished fighter.

COMMENTATOR

But still Champ is giving him plenty to think about here.

SHAW

Off the ropes Barry, come on!

There are more warnings of low blows from the referee but eventually Barry gets on top again

CUT TO:

INT. GYM, DAY

96

McQuillar back in as advisor. He sits Barry down and tells him what he thinks of the last fight.

MCQUILLAR

Kid you overtrained for Chiteule. You gotta save something for the fight. Otherwise you won't get those arms up when it goes past the 8th.

CUT TO

INT. RING, NIGHT

97

Barry has beaten Cabo.

JOURNALIST

Are you now ready for the champion Pedrosa?

BARRY

Not yet!

INT. DRESSING ROOM, NIGHT

98

EUROPEAN TITLE. VS EGUIA.

Peace flag makes its debut. Mickey Duff starts an argument about the flag saying they should use the Union Jack.

DUFF

Where's the Union flag?

(CONTINUED)

TRAINER

Barry goes under this flag. The
peace flag

DUFF

Peace flag! You must be joking!

TRAINER

it's no joke. This is the flag we
use, or nothing at all!

CUT TO:

INT. MCGUIGAN'S GROCERY SHOP, DAY

99

Two very confused looking tourists enter the family shop
in Clones.

TOURIST 1

Excuse me. Is this the right
place to find Barry?

MOTHER

Well it is but he isn't here at
the minute. You can wait on for
him if you want?

CUT TO:

INT. SHOP. SAME

100

Barry returns to the shop, sweating after a heavy training
session.

MOTHER

Barry these young gentlemen are
looking to get their photo with
you

BARRY

Aye no bother!

MOTHER

Do you not want to wash up first?

BARRY

Naw sure they don't mind do ye?

TOURIST 1

Oh no, it's fine!

One of the tourists takes out their Polaroid camera to
take a photo.

INT, RING , NIGHT

101

Fight against DeVorce is tough, first match on American tv, CBS logo over the ring. Orzoco, a last minute replacement for Mayor.

COMMENTATOR

Orzoco, the last minute replacement for Mayor. It was said Mayor refused to come because of the political situation here in Northern Ireland...

Barry knocks him out.

CUT TO:

American Television special

We see the opening credits of an American programme

"Leave the fighting to McGuigan!"

INT. GYM, DAY

102

Barry going through some exercises as a voiceover accompanies the footage

AMERICAN BROADCASTER

(voiceover) Since coming on the scene in 1982, one man has almost single handedly brought peace to the little island he calls home. When his bouts take place people from both sides of the divide set their differences aside. Hostility takes a back seat as they leave the fighting to McGuigan!

CUT TO:

INT. RING, NIGHT

103

He then beats Ruan. In the post fight interview there is a huge media presence in the dressing room. Barney Eastwood is getting impatient.

CUT TO:

INT. DRESSING ROOM, NIGHT

104

The press are getting more interested in Barry's progress. They barely give him an opportunity to get washed up after his fight.

EASTWOOD

Barry. Get changed son, you'll catch yer death of cold.

BARRY

Okay, okay.

American media interest starts to come . More convincing victories follow. Then the biggest fight so far against La Porte.

INT, EASTWOOD'S HOME, DAY

105

Barry is watching television in Barney's living room. Eastwood's wife comes in with a tray of biscuits and tea.

EASTWOOD

He can't eat all those love. He's in training!

FRANCES

Aw sure how would I know that! Would you like a sandwich or something Barry?

BARRY

No thank you Mrs.Eastwood

Barney's son Stephen arrives in with a large package under his arm.

STEPHEN

Evening all. Look what I have here.

EASTWOOD

You got them?

STEPHEN

Yes. The rest are in the gym. Here take a look.

Stephen takes a large colourful boxing promo poster out of the packaging. It's advertising Barry's next fight with La Porte.

BARRY

That looks great!

(CONTINUED)

EASTWOOD

Aye, yes. Well done son.

Barney leaves the living room for a moment. Barry returns to his chair as Stephen looks on awkwardly before finally sitting down himself. An uneasy silence is eventually broken.

STEPHEN

What are you watching?

BARRY

Aw just getting the football scores. I think the A-Team is startin' in a minute.

STEPHEN

Oh very good.

CUT TO:

INT. GYM, DAY

106

Barry arrives into the gym and passes a poster on the wall that is advertising his next fight with LaPorte. He comes into the gym area and sees LaPorte. Barry sits down and takes his gear out of his bag. In the background he can hear LaPorte finishing off his sparring. He comes over to Barry.

LA PORTE

Hey Barry.

BARRY

Hey.

LA PORTE

I just want to say good luck for the fight

BARRY

Okay. Same to you Juan!

Barry smiles and they shake hands.

CUT TO;

INT. RING KING'S HALL, NIGHT

107

The atmosphere is raucous as Barry boxes brilliantly against LaPorte.

SHAW

He's looking good out there

(CONTINUED)

PADDY

Never better

Barry beats LaPorte in the 10th round. The ring announcer declares him the victor. Eastwood comes in and embraces Barry.

EASTWOOD

Brilliant son!

BARRY

Thank you, thanks for everything.

EASTWOOD

You're close now!

CUT TO:

INT. PANAMANIAN AIRPORT, DAY

108

Barney Eastwood travels to Panama to discuss terms with Pedrosa's manager, Del Rio

DEL RIO

You know Frank Warren is in town now. He wants to make a deal with me for your fighter.

EASTWOOD

That's not going to happen. Mickey Duff has as big a say in London as Warren.

DEL RIO

We shall see. My terms for the fight are as follows. A purse of 600,000. Plus my fighter gets an initial 75,000 up front and tax free.

EASTWOOD

We can do that.

DEL RIO

Also I want to take up the option on your fighter McGuigan should he win. That's two title defences.

EASTWOOD

That's not going to happen.

DEL RIO

Well it will cost you more to buy me out.

(CONTINUED)

EASTWOOD

Fine.

DEL RIO

You are putting a lot of faith in this little man. When are hoping to have the fight.

EASTWOOD

All being well I was hoping for the end of May. Depending on television.

DEL RIO

Of course.

EASTWOOD

We have a fight in Wembley in February. I would like you to come to that. Go over the final contracts.

CUT TO:

EXT, LONDON, NIGHT

109

GALLOUZE FEB 1985

Outside the Wembley arena we get highlights of the iconic shot of Frank Bruno holding Barry in his arms outside the building.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE, DAY

110

Stephen Eastwood is on the telephone with Eusebio Pedrosa's manager.

CUT TO:

INT. PEDROSA'S HOTEL ROOM, NIGHT

111

We see the hotel room is well decked out with flowers, gift bags and baskets of fruit as far as the eye can see. We also see Pedrosa's manager Del Rio holding the phone.

DEL RIO

This is an insult.

STEPHEN

What is?

(CONTINUED)

DEL RIO

My fighter has flown around the world to come see you people in London. He is then told he has to get a taxi to the stadium?

STEPHEN

There must be some mistake. I arranged for a car to pick you up.

DEL RIO

Mistake, mistake. You people are not gentlemen.

CUT TO:

INT, RING, SAME

112

European defence v Gallouze is a farce. There are people still coming through the turnstiles when McGuigan strikes the knockout blow. Fans who had been at the soccer match in Wembley stadium miss it! Pedrosa up next!

CUT TO;

EXT, WEST LONDON ROAD, NIGHT

113

Sandra and Barry are in a chauffeur driven vehicle driving along at night.

SANDRA

How's your arm? Still sore?

BARRY

Naw it's fine. How's your cheek?

SANDRA

My cheek?

BARRY

Looks sore, will I kiss it better for you?

SANDRA

Haha, very corny!

They share a good humoured kiss for a moment. As Barry turns back around he looks outside the car window and sees a figure walking along the path. The car gets a bit closer and he realizes it's his dad Pat. Pat appears to be turning into towards a nearby pub

(CONTINUED)

BARRY

Where's he off to? Sorry driver,
could you stop here for a minute?

SANDRA

What's up?

BARRY

It's daddy.

SANDRA

You sure? What would he be going
in there for?

BARRY

I don't know. Ah I'm just gonna
check on him.

SANDRA

Barry, maybe you should just
leave him be.

BARRY

I'm just gonna ask if he's okay.
Here go on up to the hotel. I
won't be long.

SANDRA

Okay.

Barry gets out and walk towards the pub.

INT. PUB, NIGHT

114

Pat is at the bar preparing to order himself a drink. We can hear the faint refrain of the BBC Sportsnight tune coming from the television speakers. Barry is in the background but with a few customers recognizing him, it's difficult to sneak up on his dad.

CUSTOMER

Hey Barry, well done!

BARRY

Oh cheers, thanks.

CUSTOMER 2

Good win tonight Barry!

BARRY

Thanks very much.

Barry tries to be as discreet as possible but Pat sees him coming.

(CONTINUED)

PAT MCGUIGAN

Well son. What brings you in here?

BARRY

Me? What are you doing in here?

PAT MCGUIGAN

Aw. Just had a bit of bad news today. Wanted to have a drink to settle me nerves.

BARRY

Are you sure?

Pat's whiskey arrives at the bar.

PAT MCGUIGAN

Son, it's one drink. Look I'll follow you up to the hotel. Go on, I'll be up after this. Go on.

Barry reluctantly moves away and out towards the exit.

INT. BARRY'S HOTEL ROOM, NIGHT

115

Barry himself is having an orange juice as Sandra prepares for bed. A knock comes to his door. It's his dad.

BARRY

It really was just one drink!

PAT MCGUIGAN

Aye, sure that's all I needed. Here I'll have a word with you now if you like.

BARRY

No bother. (To Sandra) I'll be back in a few minutes love.

INT, HOTEL, SAME

116

The pair have found a quiet spot near a window. Pat looks a bit frazzled. Barry looks on worriedly.

BARRY

How did it go in the States.

PAT MCGUIGAN

Aye fine, the usual you know. Same songs, same crowds, easy peezy.

Barry smiles.

(CONTINUED)

PAT MCGUIGAN

No I was in the hospital a few weeks ago. They ran some tests. I only got the results back yesterday so I did.

BARRY

What kind of tests?

PAT MCGUIGAN

They were checking my bloods. They said they found something. Looks like cancer they reckon.

BARRY

Are they sure? Can they get a second opinion or something?

PAT MCGUIGAN

Ah maybe so, maybe so.

(A brief pause)

PAT MCGUIGAN

They reckon two years.

BARRY

(shocked)

Two years?

PAT MCGUIGAN

I wish I was having you on. Believe me. But that's it. I'm on the clock now.

BARRY

Well I don't buy that. We'll get you checked out somewhere else. Sure doctors are always making mistakes. You're barely fifty for crying out loud!

PAT MCGUIGAN

Well, yeah. It's possible.

BARRY

Yes, yes. Don't worry.

The pair go silent. Almost realizing there isn't anything else to say.

PAT MCGUIGAN

I'm gonna head off to bed anyway.

(CONTINUED)

BARRY

Right yes, it's late alright.
Sure I'll talk to you in the
morning.

PAT MCGUIGAN

Aye, you will. Night son.

BARRY

Night Da.

CUT TO:

INT. HOLIDAY INN, DAY

117

Barney Eastwood is on hand to announce that Pedrosa v
McGuigan will go ahead.

REPORTER

And so the wait for Barry
McGuigan is almost over. June
16th Loftus Road London will see
him fight for the featherweight
championship against the
legendary Eusebio Pedrosa.

CUT TO

(JUNE 1985 PEDROSA)

The build up Barry's training routine. Food regime. The
sparring with the South Americans in Belfast. Barry
notices some of the sparring is tougher than before, even
injuring his arm. His father Pat, mentions this.

PAT MCGUIGAN

Now son. I don't want to tell you
what to do but you have to
careful with this sparring.

BARRY

I need it!

PAT MCGUIGAN

I know but don't overdo it. Them
lads don't have a world title to
go win, alright?

BARRY

Yeah. Okay, thanks da.

CUT TO;

INT. BARRY'S HOUSE, DAY

118

Sandra is doing some cleaning up in the house. The phone rings.

SANDRA

Hello?

Her face turns to anger

SANDRA

Look, who is this?

The expression on her face suggests the call is abusive. She puts the phone down in shock. After nearly collapsing into the kitchen chair she gathers her thoughts.

CUT TO:

EXT, LONDON, DAY

119

Barry and his entourage check in at the Holiday Inn. Soon he is back out training hard.

CUT TO:

EXT HYDE PARK, DAY

120

He runs in the park during the day getting the occasional wave from passers by.

CUT TO:

INT, HOTEL, NIGHT

121

After stretching and shadow boxing, he goes down to the empty kitchen and weighs himself on the giant kitchen scales, naked.

CUT TO;

THE WEIGH IN

INT. ODEON CINEMA, DAY

122

Barry makes his way to the weigh in. There is bedlam with the press as always. Del Rio sees an opportunity for his man. He gets Pedrosa weighed up quickly.

BOXING OFFICIAL

Eusebio Pedrosa. Nine stone. He is fine.

Eastwood protests.

(CONTINUED)

EASTWOOD

I want that checked again. Do you hear? That scales had not settled. Get him up again.

OFFICIAL

He is fine.

EASTWOOD

I want to make a formal protest now. I am not happy with the WBA inspector. We have lost the first round but will win the most important battle.

The crowd cheers happily

CUT TO:

EXT. LOFTUS ROAD, STADIUM, NIGHT

123

Barry arrives in a bus outside the stadium. He notices the QPR signage overhead as he crouches down.

CUT TO:

INT. STADIUM, NIGHT

124

There is hardly an empty seat in the house as the crowd prepare for the big fight.

CUT TO:

INT. DRESSING ROOM, SAME

125

Barry gets his hands taped up. In the corner Del Rio and Pedrosa's brother makes a complaint about the tape.

PEDROSA'S BROTHER

Tape, too much!

PADDY

Excuse me?

PEDROSA'S BROTHER

Too much tape. That's illegal.

SHAW

Wait now a second!

BARRY

Okay, okay, it's fine. Just do it again.

(CONTINUED)

The wraps must be done again. Barry tries to keep his cool.

CUT TO:

INT. STADIUM, SAME

126

The tv commentators describe the scene as one of the greatest nights in boxing history. It's all very complimentary of the wee man from Clones.

DES LYNAM

You really have to go back a long time since we've had such an atmosphere for a boxing contest here in Britain. Wonderful scenes.

Barry starts to make his way to the ring. It is bedlam. Eastwood walks in front of him at all times alongside his ringmen and cutman. It takes a long time to get to the ring.

Barry gets to the ring eventually. He is wearing a royal blue robe with gold/yellow trim. Pedrosa's trip to the ring is far quicker. He is wearing red. The entourages are still in the ring as the strains of the Panamanian national anthem play out. Then it is Pat McGuigan's turn for Danny boy.

He misses the first few lines because he can't hear the musical cue

PAT MCGUIGAN

...From glen to glen, and down the mountain side....

Barry looks a picture of concentration in his corner. He remains focused as the crowd sing along. The song ends and it's time for the action to begin. A leprechaun bounces around the ring happily as Eastwood looks on smiling.

The first rounds are very close.

Commentators suggest the fighters have split the first five between them with maybe McGuigan slightly on top. Barry goes back to his corner after Round 5.

He complains to his trainers about his arm. The fight resumes. It is close again in the 6th. In the 7th Pedrosa appears to be getting on top.

COMMENTATOR

McGuigan has been unable to find his range this round...

(CONTINUED)

Pedrosa rests for a moment before Barry catches him with a right and left, sending him into the ropes and to the floor. The crowd erupts.

COMMENTATOR

Oh he has now! The champion is down!

Barry steps away and the referee checks on Pedrosa. The champion is tough and beats the standing count.

CUT TO:

INT. MC GUIGAN HOUSE, SAME

127

Almost on cue a small fire has broken out in the basement of the McGuigan house in Clones. The family watches on at the television, oblivious to the potential fire hazard.

CUT TO;

INT, RING, SAME

128

Barry tries to stay on top of Pedrosa after the knockdown but the champion is tough and doesn't wilt. The next rounds are gruelling. Pedrosa's leg go to jelly in the 13th but still he stays up. The crowd are convinced Barry has it won. He still has to take a good few shots to get inside but the fans shout 'Champion Champion' in the final round.

The bell sounds for the last time and McGuigan is hoisted onto the shoulders of his entourage. The official word takes a few moments but confirms Barry as the new world champion. In the post match interview he is very careful to thank everyone involved in his success.

BARRY

I want to thank Mr Eastwood, who has backed me since day one. He has paid a lot of money to get the fight over here to London. I hope one day I can pay him back. I'd also like to dedicate this to the fighter who died fighting me back in 1982. I always wanted him to know that he didn't die in vain. He died fighting a world champion.

With that Barry bursts into tears. Back home the extended family look on delightedly.

CUT TO:

INT.DRESSING ROOM, NIGHT

129

Outside Barry's dressing room is bedlam but Barney manages to squeeze by.

EASTWOOD

Just one moment!

Eastwood sees Barry on the bench sitting happily. They lock eyes.

EASTWOOD

We've done it! You are some kid!
What a performance! The two
embrace for a minute before Paddy
comes in.

PADDY

I can't hold them back any
longer!

EASTWOOD

You ready?

BARRY

Yes! Bring them in!

The press stampede into the dressing room, their microphones and camera's all over Barry. He smiles happily as Sandra and Blain make their way through the crowd. Eastwood looks on. The crowd of reporters and other hangers on surround the new champion and his young family.

So many people talking at the same time drowning each other out. One man puts a camera in Blain's hand to play with. The child innocently holds it aloft as a photo is taken.

A very determined man bursts through the door. This is
RODDY CARR

CARR

Barry!

BARRY

Roddy!

The pair embrace

CARR

Congratulations, Barry. What a
night, you were brilliant!

BARRY

Thank you Roddy, thank you very
much.

(CONTINUED)

CARR

Look tonight is going to be crazy. But try to enjoy it. We'll chat again properly soon but I'm just delighted for you!

BARRY

Thank you, thanks very much.

Another informs Barry that there will be a press conference shortly.

BBC DIRECTOR

Barry when you're washed up here we need you upstairs in the players lounge for a press conference.

BARRY

No problem.

Sandra nudges him

SANDRA

Christ Barry, I've nothing else to wear.

BARRY

Don't worry about that!

Barry gives her a reassuring hug. He takes in the scene as best he can but it's clear he is shattered after the fight.

CUT TO:

EXT. CLONES, DAY

130

A huge parade is in full swing. Barry, his friends and family stand on the top deck of the bus waving happily to the massive crowd. There are a multitude of banners saying congratulations to Barry. The largest one crosses the entire street. 'WELCOME TO BARRY-TOWN!'

BARRY

Wow, this is crazy!

EASTWOOD

Wait til you see Belfast and Dublin!

PADDY

It's all downhill hereafter!

(CONTINUED)

BARRY

Yeah right!

CUT TO:

Television news footage of the the giant parades in Belfast & Dublin. The cities are packed with thousands of fans lining the streets.

REPORTER 1

Belfast today came to a standstill. The largest celebrations in this city since V.E Day as the young man from Clones, Barry McGuigan announced his arrival as World Champion

REPORTER 2

It was expected to draw a huge audience. But nobody could've expected how many. It is estimated close to a quarter of a million people came to Dublin City today. All there to greet a hero and world champion.

CUT TO:

EXT. CLONES, DAY

131

Barry and Sandra are being taken around the town in a helicopter. Far below on the ground, children jump up and down and wave excitedly.

PILOT

Want to get a closer look?

BARRY

Pardon me?

Without warning the pilot starts performing tricks, scaring the life out of Barry and Sandra.

CUT TO:

INT. MCGUIGAN FAMILY HOME, DAY

132

The house has been badly damaged by the fire from the night of the fight. Barry's mother and sisters show him around.

SISTER

Some of your stuff got burnt
Barry

(CONTINUED)

BARRY

What stuff?

SISTER

Some of your boxing stuff. Old trophies, videos, photo's. We couldn't get to them.

BARRY

Well the main thing is everyone is alright.

MOTHER

It was those bloody television lights. They overheated the fusebox.

Barry goes silent

SISTER

Well anyway you're home now. Wait til you see everyone!

CUT TO

MONTAGE

133

We see a number of different scenes that illustrate the knock on effects of McGuigan's title win. -His new endorsement deals with crisps, companies, mobile phone companies, Champion Milk etc. -Bags of fanmail coming through the letterbox. Barry riding around on a quad bike at the beach with some kids chasing him happily.

CUT TO:

INT. FAMILY'S NEW HOUSE, DAY

134

Barry's dad and brother show him the new gym in his garage.

DERMOT

Now it isn't much to look at but at least you've somewhere to go now when those camera's are chasing you around.

Barry spots the writing on the wall, painted(a little crudely) in black. ' WORK HARD, THINK FAST AND YOU WILL LAST'

BARRY

It's perfect. Thanks very much!

CUT TO:

INT. BARRY'S HOUSE, DAY

135

Barry and his brother walk back into the kitchen of the house. Sandra is running around trying to clean up. She is clearly stressed.

SANDRA

Why did you agree to this bloody interview? Could they not wait a few days?

BARRY

Sure what can I do?

SANDRA

Maybe Barney could've sorted something else out.

BARRY

Ah I know, but I never expected this.

The phone rings.

BARRY

Hello...sorry who's this? What? Ah no, there must be some mistake. Well okay fine.

hangs up

SANDRA

Who was that?

BARRY

Some journo from the News of the World. Says they received a death threat from the IRA. For me.

SANDRA

Not again.

BARRY

What?

SANDRA

Nothing.

BARRY

What's going on?

SANDRA

Ah look I didn't want to upset you-

(CONTINUED)

BARRY

What do you mean? What's happened?

SANDRA

There's been some phone calls. Look I just thought it was kids messing at first-

BARRY

Ah for Jesus sake love.

SANDRA

See I told you I didn't want to make a big deal of it.

Sandra turns away to cry. Barry looks frustrated for a moment before going to comfort her.

BARRY

Look, don't worry I'll sort it out okay?

CUT TO:

INT. GARDA STATION, DAY

136

We are in a typical Sergeant's office. A middle aged detective is chatting to Barry.

DETECTIVE

Now it's very not everyday we deal with things like this. All the same given the circumstances I think we should work something out for you.

CUT TO:

INT. GUN RANGE, DAY

137

The detective leads Barry through a firing range. He arrives at a firing booth and picks up a pistol to show Barry.

DETECTIVE

You ever use one of these?

BARRY

Of course not! Jesus!

DETECTIVE

Well it's pretty easy. See this? That's your safety catch. You should always have that down like

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DETECTIVE (cont'd)
so. Six rounds go in the chamber
like that. Want to have a go?

BARRY
Okay.

DETECTIVE
Right, well put these on first.

The detective hands Barry some ear protection first
and then Barry nervously picks up the gun. After a few
moments hesitation takes a few shots at the target.

DETECTIVE
That's it. You'll get used to it
after a bit of practice.

CUT TO:

INT. GYMNASIUM, DAY

138

A photographer is in taking shots of Barry in training.
Eddie Shaw is trying to train him but getting a bit
frustrated.

SHAW
Keep the right up and move, move,
good, good-

Eddie stops to look at the photographer.

SHAW
Are you nearly finished?

PHOTOGRAPHER
Sorry I-

BARRY
It's all alright Eddie. He's not
distracting me.

SHAW
You're too nice to say anyway.
But he's distracting me. Finish
up there with your camera.

Barry looks at the photographer

BARRY
Yeah, sorry. I've gotta keep at
it here. Talk to you later.

The photographer leaves.

(CONTINUED)

SHAW

Who was that.

BARRY

What? Aw just someone Roddy lined up for me. Doesn't matter, we can do it again.

EDDIE

I see.

CUT TO:

NEWS BULLETIN

REPORTER

Barry McGuigan's first defence of his world title has been confirmed. He will face Bernard Taylor in Belfast on September.

REPORTER

He's brash, he's cocky. And he's determined to knock the new king off his throne. This is Bernard Taylor.

Footage of Taylor training.

TAYLOR

I know I am better than him. I know I'll beat him. The world rankings had me ahead of him at the start of the year. Now I'm gonna prove to you all that I am better.

CUT TO:

INT. BARRY'S GYM, DAY

139

Eddie Shaw and Eastwood chat amongst themselves as Barry goes through his paces.

SHAW

So when are you flying out?

EASTWOOD

Soon as I can. He's not going to wait around.

SHAW

It's going to be a great deal if you can pull it off.

(CONTINUED)

EASTWOOD
Yep, fingers crossed anyway.

CUT TO:

INT, BOXING RING, NIGHT

140

McGuigan v Taylor 8th round Barry gets the upper hand and the bells saves Taylor. He goes back to his corner.

SHAW
Good round there son. But you gotta keep at him now. He had you on those first few rounds so you need to keep this up now-

Eastwood cuts him off. He sees Taylor's corner has raised the white towel. The referee has called it.

EASTWOOD
Hold on a second Eddie. He's not coming out. Good lad Barry. Good lad.

SHAW
Aye well done son.

The crowd erupts with joy as Barry's hand is raised in victory.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUN JUAN AIRPORT, DAY

141

Eastwood flies across the Atlantic to meet Pepe Cordera, manager of Gomez, the super featherweight champion.

CORDERA
So how does it feel? You are now a World Champion!

EASTWOOD
It's been an experience. But we have to keep moving forward. I think a fight with Gomez would be ideal for both of us.

CORDERA
Your McGuigan is happy to step up the weight class?

EASTWOOD
I think he'll go for it. When he hears about what I've planned, I'm sure there'll be no problem.

(CONTINUED)

CORDERA

I am happy to do business with you Mr. Eastwood. Your fighter will be a worthy opponent for mine. Gomez will fight Barry anywhere.

EASTWOOD

That's great. Well I think we've covered plenty here today. Thanks again for agreeing to meet with me.

CORDERA

I look forward to doing business with you.

CUT TO:

INT, RODDY CARR'S HOUSE, PRESENT DAY

142

The modern day television and other adornments give us a clue we are in the present. Carr is getting interviewed by a TV show.

CARR

So what's this called again?

INTERVIEWER

Sports heroes of the 80s

CARR

Ah I see. Well I liked Barry straight away. He was always willing. Always wanted to keep everyone happy.

INT. RESTAURANT, DAY

143

Roddy Carr is meeting with Barry in a fancy restaurant. He greets Barry like a long lost son, arms open as wide as possible.

CARR

Now Barry I don't need to tell you this is a short career. From what you said you don't intend to stick around forever.

BARRY

Well yes, I'm keen to-

CARR

Hold on a second.

Carr answers his massive mobile phone

(CONTINUED)

CARR

Hello? Yes? Not now John. Well I'm busy. That's right I have the world champion sitting right beside me! Okay chat later.

Hangs Up

CARR

Apologies there Barry!

BARRY

No problem.

CARR

Okay, so. I am going to say one word to you. America.

BARRY

America.

CARR

I know you love it there. And I think they'll love you too. The way they market things over there you could really clean up.

BARRY

I'd love to crack the States but I'm not sure what Mr. Eastwood has in mind for me.

CARR

Barry, I'm not a boxing promoter, but I am a businessman. However you're a grown man. I think you know what's best for you. But you are ready for this, this is your time!

BARRY

Well I am thinking about the future you know?

CARR

That's good Barry, you should. Okay answer me one thing. Barney, sorry Mr. Eastwood, he's always been honest with you right?

BARRY

As far as I know yes, he's always been good to me.

CARR

I know, your seventh son and all that! But you have made him a lot

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CARR (cont'd)
of money Barry. And it's
important you get your share.

BARRY
Well you know I've never wanted
for anything-

CARR
No, I'm not saying that. Look you
know as well as I do it's a short
career. I don't know what
Mr. Eastwood has lined up for you
next. Could be great, could be
the next big step. But if you're
still fighting in Belfast this
time next year, then. you know-

Roddy Carr leaves that sentence hanging.

CUT TO;

INT. BARRY'S HOUSE, NIGHT

144

Barry is dressed in a tank top and pyjama bottoms. He is yawning widely as he goes to answer the telephone.

BARRY
Mr Eastwood, it's pretty late.
You just get home?

EASTWOOD
I know. I'm sorry about that. But
I have good news for you. We
might have Gomez.

BARRY
Gomez, really? He is still at
super feather?

EASTWOOD
Yes. His manager wanted the fight
as early as December but-

BARRY
December, really?

EASTWOOD
It doesn't have to be December.
I'm thinking early in the new
year. Maybe you defend one more
time and then have a crack at his
Super-feather weight. Could be a
big one.

(CONTINUED)

BARRY

Yeah well..look can we talk about this again?

EASTWOOD

Is everything okay?

BARRY

Well yes, but it's nothin-

EASTWOOD

I just think this is a good move for us.

BARRY

I'm sure you know best Mr Eastwood.

EASTWOOD

Haven't steered you wrong so far have I?

BARRY

God no Mr. Eastwood, you've been very good, great actually. I'm just a wee bit tired. Being doing fan mail and other things all day you know?

EASTWOOD

Okay, well I'll not be in the gym til Thursday so I'll see you in a couple of days.

MCGUIGAN

Okay, thank you. Thanks, good night, Mr Eastwood.

CUT TO:

2006

INT. EASTWOOD'S HOUSE, DAY

145

We are again back in 2006 and the O'Hara/Eastwood interview.

O'HARA

Did you feel that was the beginning of the end?

Barney smiles.

EASTWOOD

A lot of people think it's so easy. You train a guy and he just becomes a great fighter. Barry

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

EASTWOOD (cont'd)
wasn't perfect you know. He had a very aggressive style and came right at you. There's a lot of boxer's who would lap that up. I had to make sure McGuigan avoided them. That's what you do as a manager. be it gaelic football or anything. You maximise what you have, you give your players or boxers the belief that they can beat anyone. It doesn't happen overnight. Maybe he forgot that.

O'HARA
Too many distractions maybe?

EASTWOOD
You know a lot of people say he changed after the title win. I reckon it was earlier. We were training a few months before Pedrosa and the media was getting heavier. It's the nature of it.

CUT TO:

INT. RODDY CARR'S HOUSE, DAY 146

We see Roddy talking in an interview

CARR
From wht I heard Cordera was a crook. I could sense that Barry didn't want to do business with him involved.

INT. IMMACULATA GYM, DAY 147

EASTWOOD (VOICEOVER)
All the local reporters were getting pushed out, the tabloids and the nationals were hanging around.

INT. RODDY CARR'S HOUSE, DAY 148

CARR
I know Eastwood used to tell Barry that he could fight for the next five years in Ireland and the UK. That they would've made a fortune. Well they would have been the first.

CUT TO:

INT. EASTWOOD HOUSE, DAY

149

O'HARA

After the Bernard Taylor fight you wanted him to move up a weight class?

EASTWOOD

Just for one fight though. Gomez was champion in super featherweight. He was on the way out. Should've been beaten twice in the previous two years but he had been given the decision. I thought Barry was perfect for him. Beat him and win his title. Or if he lost, at least it would've been to a heavier man. No shame in that.

O'HARA

But he didn't want that?

EASTWOOD

No, Sandra was pregnant at the time but I'm not sure that's the reason. The money thing was-

Eastwood stops himself

EASTWOOD

Look, he was determined to hit the States. He had this thing that he wanted to show his face in America. Defend his title and get the big pay days. It's not always that easy.

We focus in on Eastwood, his face full of lines of history, perhaps regret.

FADE TO;

INT. EASTWOOD HOUSE, EVENING

150

(1985)

We transition to Barney's face, this time looking younger. He is back again at his desk in 1985. The screen splits in two as Barney Eastwood prepares to call Barry. On one side of the screen we can see Eastwood slowly preparing himself a drink as he makes his way towards the phone. Simultaneously we see Barry looking through postcards at

(CONTINUED)

his kitchen table, drinking a glass of milk. The phone rings and Barry answers it after a few rings.

EASTWOOD

Well young man. I caught you at last.

BARRY

Mr. Eastwood, yeah sorry. It's been all go the last few days.

EASTWOOD

Well Eddie said you were still coming into the gym so that's the main thing.

BARRY

Aye, stay on top of things-

EASTWOOD

So have you given any more thought to Gomez?

BARRY

Gomez? Well yeah, no not really.

EASTWOOD

I think even if we don't get it before Christmas now, it's still on for New Year.

BARRY

I know yes, but just with herself pregnant again you know?

EASTWOOD

Ach I know sure there was always a baby coming in our house, that's life. Look it's not easy chatting on the phone all the time-

BARRY

I know, I know. We'll have to meet up properly.

CUT TO;

MONTAGE

151

CHRISTMAS 1985 -Barry annoyed at Dermot Morgan parody video

-Barry not eating his Christmas dinner because he is training.

-Winning the BBC sports personality of the year award.

(CONTINUED)

-freezing cold weather with snow. Barry goes to check on his sparring partners in their digs. They are Mexican and feeling the cold

CUT TO:

INT. EASTWOOD HOUSE, DAY

152

Barney checks his post. He has got a handwritten letter in the post from Barry McGuigan. He reads it. A brief scan illustrates the tone.

' while I am forever grateful for everything you have done for me I would like to get a more formal contract in place that explains the terms of my contract with you. ' I only ask for what is fair and I am sure you can appreciate that'.

Eastwood folds the letter over and walks off.

FADE TO:

INT EASTWOOD'S HOME, DAY

153

We are back in 2006 and the interview with O'Hara.

EASTWOOD

I could we were in trouble around then. Before that we had another fight in Dublin, which was another close call.

O'HARA

That was Cabrera?

EASTWOOD

Yes, Cabrera came in for Sosa. He nearly had Barry beaten. Everything was tense at this point. We had the press conference before that match.

CUT TO:

INT, PRESS CONFERENCE, DAY

154

The scene is set for the press conference in the RDS, Dublin. We see a whole host of new sponsors adorning the walls. Irish Permanent billboards feature prominently. There is a lot of shuffling and murmurs going on between the reporters.

(CONTINUED)

RDS REPRESENTATIVE

Well may I say it's great to finally World championship boxing back in Dublin. And a big thank you to a man who has done so much for the sport here in this country, Mr. Barney Eastwood.

The noise from flash bulbs and reporters chatting barely dissipates.

JOURNALIST 1

I heard McGuigan is thinking of doing a song for charity.

JOURNALIST 2

Really, with his da?

JOURNALIST 3

No Geldof I heard. They're meant to be good mates.

JOURNALIST 2

Ah he probably wants to give something back. You know how it is. Catholic guilt and all.

JOURNALIST 3

Never seemed to bother Eastwood.

JOURNALIST 1

I heard he's having his own troubles. Little bird told me he's broke and he's selling all his shops in Belfast.

JOURNALIST 2

Haha no chance. Bookies never let you know how much money they really have!

JOURNALIST 3

Well the rumour is this gravy train is grinding to a halt soon!

JOURNALIST 1

Why, what have you heard?

JOURNALIST 3

Ah you'll have to wait and see!

The sowing circle grinds to a halt as the press conference begins.

RDS REPRESENTATIVE

Well ladies and gentlemen I will now open the floor to questions. Yes, you in the red shirt?

(CONTINUED)

JOURNALIST

So can I call you Barney or
do prefer Mr.Eastwood?

EASTWOOD

Is that your only question?

Some of the other journalists laugh. We zoom across to see Barry give Eastwood a nervous smile during the interview. He seems to be enjoying the atmosphere.

EASTWOOD (VOICEOVER)

One guy suggested I was going to make seven hundred thousand for Barry fighting Cabrera. That was wrong.

O'HARA(V.O)

So after that?

CUT TO:

INT EASTWOOD'S HOME, DAY

155

EASTWOOD

Well I was already out of pocket because the contract with Gomez stated that Barry couldn't fight anyone after January. I had been trying to bring Barry around to the idea of Gomez for three months. He had never said no but it gradually became clear he wasn't the only one making his decisions.

O'HARA

Roddy Carr?

Eastwood gives O'Hara a knowing grin.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL BAR, NIGHT

156

Footage of Roddy Carr on a massive 80s style mobile phone, wheeling and dealing.

EASTWOOD (VOICEOVER)

Well the guy is a businessman and he had to advise Barry on what was best. I don't hold any grudge against him for that. So we moved on but things weren't really the same anymore.

(CONTINUED)

O'HARA

Okay. So that brings us up to
maybe February 1986. After that?

EASTWOOD

After that was Vegas-

MAY 1986

Montage of Barry traveling by lear jet with Thomas Hearn and Roberto Duran. They are doing a whistle stop tour to promote the Triple Bill event in Las Vegas. The jet has a croupier on board. She is blonde and Thomas Hearn is constantly flirting with her. Also at every event Duran whips out the skipping ropes and does his routine.

CUT TO:

INT. DESERT HOTEL, DAY

157

Barry is working out in a special area of the hotel when Eastwood walks in.

EASTWOOD

Hey.

SHAW

What's the story?

EASTWOOD

Bad news. It's Sosa, he's dropped
out again. Broken finger this
time.

BARRY

Are you serious? That's bloody
twice now!

Barry takes off his gloves in frustration. Barney watches him intently.

EASTWOOD

Look we'll figure it out.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL ROOM, DAY

158

There is a video playing on the television. It is recent boxing footage. Barney, Paddy and Eddie are going through Almanac's, magazines and other record books trying to find someone. Barry cuts a frustrated figure.

(CONTINUED)

PADDY
Esparragoza?

SHAW
He might know you too well. They sparred for four weeks together last year.

PADDY
Well he's a name. After that you're looking at either Rivera or Cruz.

EDDIE
Rivera?

EASTWOOD
I prefer Cruz. He got stopped in his last fight.

BARRY
Well whatever alright? Just get it sorted, I'm getting fed up with this.

Barry storms out of the hotel room.

PADDY
What's wrong with him?

SHAW
I don't know but he'd wanna relax. Not puttin' up with that shite for another three weeks.

CUT TO:

INT.GYM. DAY 159

Training and sparring hard. Barry gets knocked down during one of the spars and injures his ankle.

CUT TO:

INT. DOCTOR'S ROOM, DAY 160

A doctor comes into the room with a clipboard.

DOCTOR
Now Barry. You were very lucky. No break, not quite a sprain. But no sparring, at least for four days. More if you can manage it. Eastwood nods in agreement

(CONTINUED)

BARRY
Ok thank you.

CUT TO;

EXT. DESERT HOTEL, DAY 161

Barry is talking to Sandra. He appears agitated, biting at his nails.

SANDRA
Are you okay?

BARRY
I have a bad feeling about this.

SANDRA
What the ankle?

BARRY
Not just that. It's other things.

SANDRA
Well if you don't say something soon it will be too late.

BARRY
I know, I know.

INT, GYM, DAY 162

A group of boxing reporters observe Barry's training. One of them MCGOWAN doesn't look convinced.

MCGOWAN
I'm not sure about this kid.

REPORTER
You kiddin? He's gonna wipe the floor with Cruz.

MCGOWAN
Well he should. All the same he doesn't look the same guy as a year ago. I dunno, maybe I'm just stirring shit.

CUT TO:

VEGAS SPORTS NEWS BULLETIN A low-key American sports report talks up the Vegas Triple Bill.

REPORTER
There have been reports of large bets being laid for the rank
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

REPORTER (cont'd)
outsider Cruz but these haven't
been confirmed.

CUT TO:

NEWSPAPER HEADLINE FRIDAY JUNE 20th EASTWOOD: Barry
threatened to walk out on me!

THE VEGAS INCIDENT

INT, RING, DAY

163

Unusually for a world title fight, the contest is taking
place during the day. Worse yet, it is a boiling hot day
in Las Vegas. We see the likes of Eastwood and Shaw
rubbing their brows with handkerchiefs. In ring we see
Barry, in red up against Cruz in luminous green.

Cruz vs McGuigan,

We are the depths of round 14. McGuigan still attacking.
Finally the bell goes and the crowd applaud generously. In
a moment later we are at the two corners.

SHAW

That's great. Good man. We're
going well now. Going well.

But Barry has a faraway look in his eye. We can tell he has
suffered in this heat.

EASTWOOD

Take a bit more water son.

SHAW

Just sip it. Okay.

AMERICAN COMMENTATOR 1 (V/O)

And we're heading into the
fifteenth round here in Vegas.
McGuigan has to be nearly out of
gas now. His trainer is pinching
his ears to wake him up. This has
been an absolutely gruelling
contest so far. What an effort by
both the champion and the
contender.

IN the opposite corner Cruz is getting towelled down and
being told some ords of encouragement.

CRUZ'S TRAINER

You gotta keep going here. It's
close, It's close.

(CONTINUED)

We go to a wide shot of the arena. Then we hear the British Commentator Harry Carpenter

CARPENTER(V.0)

Well you could hear Cruz's trainers there telling him it's close. Personally I don't think it is close.

A pause

CARPENTER(V.0)

Everybody's standing as the come out for the last round. The whole crowd standing and applauding.

The crowd erupts again as the two men come together

CARPENTER(V.0)

The moment of truth. Three minutes!

Cruz is certainly now looking the fresher of the two, used to this stifling heat. We stay with the action which is now cagey and manic all at once. Barry goes for it, perhaps too bravely.

CARPENTER (V.0)

And the challenger comes back strong again. And this title might still yet change hands

AMERICAN COMMENTATOR 2 (V/O)

All the champion needs to do is stay up for this last round. But he won't retreat. And in he goes again. This is possibly the most exciting round of boxing this year.

From Barry's point of view it seems he can see the punches coming but is powerless to stop them. The audio catches breathing hard.

CARPENTER (V.0)

McGuigan has been down twice already. And is there going to be a third? There is! No! McGuigan holds on. And he had to hold on otherwise he would've fell down.

The action is relentless. McGuigan tries valiantly to resist the onslaught. But Cruz is finishing stronger.

CARPENTER (V.0)

So close to the finish and yet so close to defeat.

INT, MCGUIGANS SITTING ROOM, NIGHT 164

The family watch on in horror as the fight goes on. In the corner of the screen we see the clock indicates '1:33' remaining.

EXT,RING, DAY 165

Barry tries to fight through the exhaustion but Cruz finally catches him.

CARPENTER (V.O)
And he's got him!

AMERICAN COMMENTATOR (V/O)
Cruz has caught him. The Champion is down, the champion is down again. A standing eight count and he's getting back to his feet.

Barry gets back up but soon the pressure is back on.

CARPENTER (V.O)
It's all McGuigan can do to stand on his feet. He's out on his feet. And only the boxing brain is keeping him out of trouble now.

Cruz can taste victory. Barry gets tagged again but gets back to his feet.

INT, MCGUIGANS SITTING ROOM, NIGHT 166

Family members are in tears. This is horrifying. On the television screen, once again Barry stands up, bravely.

EXT. BOXING RING, SAME 167

Barry gets his arms up one last time. The referee checks him and they go again. Barry goes right into a clutch, holding on for dear life. But Cruz wont be denied.

CARPENTER (V.O)
If ever a bell was needed,
McGuigan needs it now.

Finally the bell goes and Barry heads back to his corner. He has almost totally zoned out at this point. He can't understand what his trainers are saying to him.

Moments later the judges score cards are been read out but Barry seems to know the game is up already.

(CONTINUED)

ANNOUNCER

...your winner and new World
Bantamweight Champion! Steve
Cruz!

The team surround Barry but he is almost too exhausted to stand on his own.

FADE TO:

AMBULANCE, DAY

168

Barry is taken to a downtown hospital. We still hear the American commentators in voiceover. These fade to interviews with Eastwood

EASTWOOD(V.O)

Well we are bitterly
dissappointed. The heat was very
hard to deal with but Barry never
gave up. He'll be back.

We see Barry in a wheelchair, covered in tin foil as Sandra talks to a nurse at reception.

NURSE

We just need you to fill in this
form first Miss. And we'll need a
credit card.

SANDRA

Can I not do it later. He needs
to be seen to now.

NURSE

We will look after him fine but
we just want to confirm some
details first-

Barry can just about hear this going on behind him. He looks a broken man.

CUT TO;

INT. MCGUIGAN'S GROCERY SHOP, DAY

169

Interviews with family at home indicate they are very unhappy Barry had to fight in the middle of the day in the searing heat. Feelings are strong in the village too.

CLONES MAN

Well it's a disgrace. They
should've postponed the fight til
later in the day.

(CONTINUED)

CLONES WOMAN

He was robbed. It was a disgrace.
And his manager has a lot to
answer for if you ask me!

CLONES MAN

Eastwood should have had a proper
deal in place. He let wee Barry
down. He's only small time
anyway, Barry can and will do
better.

((Newspaper Headline:))

"Did Eastwood bet against his own man in Vegas?"

-Rumours circulate that Eastwood might have somehow
benefitted from the defeat, possibly betting against his
own man.

-Another newspaper article states that McGuigan demands
details of contracts from Eastwood

CUT TO:

INT. EASTWOOD HOUSE, EVENING

170

O'Hara is putting away his equipment.

O'HARA

I'm sorry I can't stay any
longer. Same time Wednesday?
Barney? Frances notices that
Barney has zoned out.

FRANCES

He hates talking about this.
He'll be in a mood now all night.

EASTWOOD

Ah I will not!

O'HARA

Well I'll see you then-

FRANCES

It really broke his heart you
know. McGuigan basically lived
here for three years, that's the
crazy thing. We treated him
better than any of our sons.
Every fight he had, I couldn't- I
was hoping he wouldn't get hurt.
We had invested so much.

INT. COURTROOM. DAY

171

the Judge speaks.

JUDGE

After looking over the evidence provided to me my conclusion is similar to many on this island. That conclusion is one of sadness. Sadness that money could come between two great sporting colleagues. Be that as it may my judgement has been made based on the facts of this case. Mr Eastwood you will pay Mr McGuigan the money owed to him from the Las Vegas contest as agreed. Likewise for the management team of Barry McGuigan you will be obliged to pay the full amount agreed for rights to future contests.

1991

INT. CHANNEL 5 STUDIO, DAY

172

Barry is getting interviewed.

INTERVIEWER

So talk us through Vegas.

BARRY

I was heartbroken. I felt like such a failure. I put everything into it. I just feel that with the injury on my ankle plus the ear infection I was never 100% going into that fight.

INTERVIEWER

Do you feel your manager betrayed you?

BARRY

Yes, I honestly do.

CUT TO:

INT. EASTWOOD HOUSE, SAME

173

Barney Eastwood watches the Channel 5 documentary back.

(CONTINUED)

EASTWOOD
Fucking bastard!

CUT TO:

EXT. COURTROOM, DAY

174

McGuigan is interviewed after the verdict

BARRY
I am bitterly disappointed. I
don't feel justice has been
today. But I will move on. Life
goes on.

CUT TO:

INT EASTWOOD'S HOME, DAY

175

O'HARA
And you haven't seen Barry since?

EASTWOOD
Just once.

CUT TO;

INT. ARENA, NIGHT

176

Eastwood steps into an elevator and Barry is already standing there. They stand side by side but utter not a word to each other. The lift opens and Barry exits. He strolls confidently out to a commentator's gantry and puts on his headset.

CUT TO:

INT. CHANNEL 5 DOCUMENTARY, DAY

177

We see footage of Barry as a 24 year old standing high up on the Slieve mountains looking all around him.

BARRY
When I look back in years to come
I think I'll be satisfied with
what I achieved. Boxing will
always be part of me, who I am.
That'll never leave me.

CUT TO:

FINAL SHOT

178

(BLACK SCREEN WITH CAPTION)
 Today Barry McGuigan is a trainer
 and promoter. He trained Carl
 Frampton to a world title victory
 in 2014.

We see the present day Barry standing in the ring with his
 own champion Carl Frampton.

CAST OF CHARACTERS(ages are correct as of 1985)

Barry McGuigan.....Irish boxer in his mid 20s.

Sandra McGuigan....wife of Barry, his first & only
 love,mid 20s

Barney/B.J Eastwood....successful bookmaker and Irish
 Boxing promoter, mid 50s

Stephen Eastwood..son of Barney. Works as part of the
 promoting team.

Eddie Shaw....Barry's trainer for most of his professional
 career, mid 40s

Pat McGuigan....Barry's father, mid 50s

Dermot McGuigan....Barry's brother, mid 20s

Frank Warren....rival Boxing Promoter, early 40s

McQuillar....legendary American Boxing trainer, late 60s

Del Rio.....Eusebio Pedrosa's manager,mid 50s

Pedrosa.....Opponent for Barry's world title match, early
 30s

Pepe Cordero.....overweight man of 350lbs, manager of
 potential rival Gomez, late 40s

Roddy Carr, Talent agent from Dublin

O'Hara...biographer of Barney Eastwood