

## Twenty-seven Whicker's World

*The camera pans across Glencoe. The wind is whistling and climaxes with a great crashing chord, which introduces . . .*

CAPTION: 'NJORL'S SAGA'

'ICELAND 1126'

*The caption fades. Continue the pan until we pick up Icelandic gentleman. He unravels a scroll and starts to read.*

**Icelandic Gent** (MICHAEL) I Eric . . . um

*The camera pans away from him and picks up a man (Terry J) seated at the organ, his back to the camera. He is naked, and he looks identical to the way he did in that deceased classic of our time 'And now for something completely trivial'. He grins at the camera and plays a few chords. Quick cut to the announcer at his desk.*

**Announcer** (JOHN) And now . . .

*Quick cut to close up of 'It's' man.*

**It's Man** (MICHAEL) It's . . .

*Animated titles.*

**Voice** (JOHN) Monty Python's Flying Circus!

*Cut to a courtroom. Severe atmosphere.*

**Judge** (TERRY J) Michael Norman Randall, you have been found guilty of the murder of Arthur Reginald Webster, Charles Patrick Trumpington, Marcel Agnes Berstein, Lewis Anona Rudd, John Malcolm Kerr, Nigel Sinclair Robinson, Norman Arthur Potter, Felicity Jayne Stone, Jean-Paul Reynard, Rachel Shirley Donaldson, Stephen Jay Greenblatt, Karl-Heinz Muller, Belinda Anne Ventham, Juan-Carlos Fernandez, Thor Olaf Stensgaard, Lord Kimberrley of Pretoria, Lady Kimberley of Pretoria, The Right Honourable Nigel Warmsley Kimberley, Robert Henry Noonan and Felix James Bennett, on or about the morning of the 19th December 1972. Have you anything to say before I pass sentence?

**Randall** (ERIC) Yes, sir. I'm very sorry.

**Judge** Very sorry!

**Randall** Yes, sir. It was a very very bad thing to have done and I'm really very ashamed of myself. I can only say it won't happen again. To have murdered so many people in such a short space of time is really awful, and I really am very, very, *very* sorry that I did it, and also that I've taken up so much of the court's valuable time listening to the sordid details of these senseless killings of mine. I would particularly like to say, a very personal and sincere 'sorry' to you, m'lud, my lud for my *appalling* behaviour throughout this trial.

I'd also like to say sorry to the police, for putting them to so much trouble (*shot of three heavily bandaged exhausted-looking policemen behind him*) for the literally hours of work they've had to put in, collecting evidence and identifying corpses and so forth. You know I think sometimes we ought to realize the difficult and often dangerous work involved in tracking down violent criminals like myself and I'd just like them to know that their fine work is at least appreciated by me.

*The policemen look embarrassed.*

**First Policeman (GRAHAM)** No, no, we were only doing our job.

**Second Policeman** No, no, no, no.

**Randall** It's very good of you to say that, but I know what you've been through.

**First Policeman** No, no, we've had worse.

**Third Policeman** It was plain sailing apart from the arrest.

**Randall** I know and I'm grateful. I'd like to apologize too to the prosecuting counsel for dragging him in here morning after morning in such lovely weather.

**Counsel (JOHN)** Well, I would have had to come in anyway.

**Randall** Ah good, but what a presentation of a case!

**Counsel** Oh thank you.

**Randall** No, no, it's a privilege to watch you in action. I never had a chance.

**Counsel** Oh yes you did.

**Randall** Not after that summing up. Great.

**Counsel** Oh thank you. (*very chuffed*)

**Randall** And now I must come to the jury. What can I say. I've dragged you in here, day after day, keeping you away from your homes, your jobs, your loved ones, just to hear the private details of my petty atrocities.

**Foreman (MICHAEL)** No, no, it was very interesting.

**Randall** But you could have had a much nicer case.

**Foreman** No, no, murder's much more fun.

**First Juryman** Yes and so many of them.

**Second Juryman** Excellent.

**Third Juryman** We've had a terrific time. (*the jury applauds*)

**Randall** (*blows his nose, does a Dickie Attenborough*) I'm sorry, I'm very moved. And so, m'lud, it only remains for you to pass the most savage sentence on me that the law can provide.

**Judge** Well er . . . not necessarily.

**Randall** No, m'lud, the full penalty of the law is hardly sufficient, I insist I must be made an example of.

**Judge** Well yes and no. I mean society at large . . .

**Randall** Oh no, m'lud. Not with mass murder.

**Judge** But in this case, (*to court*) don't you think?

**Court** Yes, yes!

**Randall** Oh, come on, m'lud, you've got to give me life.

**Court** No, no, no, no.

**Randall** (*to court at large*) Well, ten years at least.

**Judge** Ten years!

**Court** Shame. Shame!

**Randall** Well five then. Be fair.

**Judge** No, no. I'm giving you three months.

**Randall** Oh no, that's *so* embarrassing. I won't hear of it. Give me six . . .  
please.

**Judge** Well, all right. Six months.

**Randall** Thank you, m'lud.

**Judge** But suspended.

**Randall** Oh no.

**Court** Hooray. (*they applaud*)

**Foreman** Three cheers for the defendant. Hip. Hip.

**Court** Hooray.

**Foreman** Hip. Hip.

**Court** Hooray.

**Foreman** Hip. Hip.

**Court** Hooray.

**All** For he's a jolly good fellow

For he's a jolly good fellow

For he's a jolly good fellow

**Voice** (*off*) Which nobody can deny.

ANIMATION: *manhunt inside a man.*

CAPTION: 'NJORL'S SAGA - PART II'

*Pan across a bleak landscape.*

**Voice Over** (JOHN) This little-known Icelandic saga, written by an unknown hand in the late thirteenth century, has remained undiscovered until today. Now it comes to your screens for the first time. Fresh from the leaves of Iceland's history. The terrible 'Njorl's Saga'.

*Cut to Viking.*

**Viking** (MICHAEL) It's not *that* terrible.

*Cut to landscape. The announcer appears in the corner of the shot.*

**Announcer** No, I meant *terribly violent*.

*Cut to Viking.*

**Viking** Oh yeah, yeah.

*A Viking hut. A Viking comes out and has great difficulty mounting his horse.*