

Home Front II

Episode 1

1st December 1914 Mrs Sylvia Graham

By Sarah Daniels

Cast

Sylvia	Deborah Findlay
Dorothea	Rachel Shelley
Esme	Katie Angelou
Gabriel	Michael Bertenshaw
Hilary	Craige Els
Isabel	Keely Beresford
Juliet	Lizzie Bourne
Nancy Ralph	Jane Whittenshaw

1 ISABEL: You must have been up at the crack of dawn, Mrs
2 Parker. No wonder your legs ache.

NANCY: A

1 SYLVIA:

2 ESME: Yes. Mam.

3 GABRIEL:

4 again.

5 **HE GOES.**

6 ISABEL: an find my

7 gloves.

8 **SHE GOES**

9 ESME:

10 SYLVIA: You need to just hold the fort, Esme.

11 ESME: You mean polish it?

12 SYLVIA: Polish it?

13 ESME: The fork?

14 SYLVIA:

15

16 ESME: Suppose someone calls?

17 SYLVIA: Take their card and ask them to come back another

18 day.

19 ESME: Not later today?

20 SYLVIA: No, today is just for us, for family.

21

1 **SCENE 2. EXT. HARBOUR. 2.30. PM.**

2 **SYLVIA, GABRIEL AND ISABEL ARE WAITING**
3 **AT THE HARBOUR.**

4 **FX: WAVES CRASHING, SEAGULLS SQUAWKING**

5 SYLVIA: And of course she keeps us waiting, today of all
6 days.

7 ISABEL: We are a bit early, Mother.

8 GABRIEL:

9 SYLVIA:

10 **FX THE SOUND OF A CAR HORN**

SYLVIA:

1 GABRIEL: Where is he?

2 SYLVIA: Patience.

3 **FX: THE MEN TAKE THE COFFIN FROM THE TRAIN**

4 **AND LIFT IT ONTO THEIR SHOULDERS AND**

5 **WALK TOWARDS THE FAMILY.**

6 GABRIEL: Steady, steady, easy does it.

7 ISABEL: There.

8 JULIET: Oh Freddie.

9 GABRIEL: My son.

10 ISABEL: Home at last.

11 SYLVIA: Gentlemen, please would you lower the coffin so I

12 can see the lid?

13 PALLBEARER: Yes, marm.

14 SYLVIA: Thank you.

15 PALLBEARER: Will that be all, marm?

16 SYLVIA: Yes. The carriage is waiting.

17 PALLBEARER: Very good, marm. Gentlemen.

18 **FX: THEY TAKE THE COFFIN OFF TO THE HORSE**

19 **DRAWN HEARSE.**

20 ISABEL: What were you doing, Mother?

21 SYLVIA: I had to make sure.

ISABEL: Of what?

1 SYLVIA: Yes.

2 **HILARY COMES UP TO THEM.**

3 HILARY: Councillor, Mrs Graham.

4 GABRIEL: Thank you so much, Hilary, for arranging everything.

HILARY:

1 GABRIEL:

2 Because if we put other young men off from joining

3 up and we lose the war as a consequence then

1 **SCENE 3. INT CHURCH. 3.00. PM**

2 **RALPH IS OUTSIDE THE CHURCH**

3 **FX THE HORSE DRAWN HEARSE - WITH THE**

4 **FAMILY FOLLOWING IN A HORSE DRAWN**

5 **CARRIAGE - ARRIVES.**

6 **(ORGAN MUSIC**

7 RALPH: (GOES TO GREET THE GRAHAMS) Councillor,
8 Mrs Graham, Isabel, and Juliet. Just to let you know
9 that Mrs Parker is already inside.

10 SYLVIA: Thank you, Mr Winwood.

11 RALPH: Would you like to go in before or after the coffin?

12 SYLVIA: I would like to walk behind Freddie, but my husband
and daughters would like to go in before.

1 **FX:** **PALLBEARERS CARRYING THE COFFIN FROM**
2 **THE CARRIAGE TO THE CHURCH GO**
3 **TOWARDS THE CHURCH DOOR.**
4 **DOROTHEA COMES UP BEHIND THEM.**
5 DOROTHEA: Good afternoon, Sylvia.
6 SYLVIA: Dorothea.
7 RALPH: Dorothea, whatever are you doing here?
8 DOROTHEA:
9 family, Ralph.
10 RALPH: But I told you this is for close family only.
11 DOROTHEA: A funeral is a public act in a public place.
12 **FX:** **ORGAN MUSIC STARTS UP (MENDELSSOHN?)**
13 SYLVIA: (TAKING A COUPLE OF STEPS BACK TOWARDS
14 THEM)
15 in would be now.
16 DOROTHEA: Thank you Sylvia.
17 **DOROTHEA GOES IN.**
18 **FX** **THE COFFIN FOLLOWS**
19 **RALPH AND SYLVIA GO IN**
20 **FX** **THE MUSIC SWELLS.**
21 **THEN THE DOOR IS SHUT**
22

1 **SCENE 4. EXT. GRAVESIDE. 3.45 PM**

2 **EVERYONE STANDING BY THE GRAVESIDE**

3 **AFTER THE SERVICE.**

4 **FX: HANDFULS OF EARTH THROWN ON TO COFFIN.**

5 SYLVIA: Rest in peace.

6 GABRIEL: Sleep well dear chap.

7 JULIET: Bye Fred

8 ISABEL: Darling brother.

9 GABRIEL: Thank you Ralph. You will come back and have

10 something to eat with us?

11 RALPH: -

12 GABRIEL: And Mrs Winwood of course.

13 RALPH: -

14 ISABEL: Are we ready, then?

15 SYLVIA:

16 on. Take Mrs P i

17 the house.

18 JULIET:

19 for you, Mother.

20 SYLVIA: Thank you but no.

21 GABRIEL:

22 RALPH: (CONCERNED, TO SYLVIA)

23 Mrs Graham.

24 ISABEL: No, need to worry about her, Ralph.

25 JULIET: (AS THEY GO) Tough as old boots.

- 1 anything now just so long as you were alive and not
- 2 as you are now, silent and cold.