

# Endland

*Tim Etchells*



SHEFFIELD - LONDON - NEW YORK

First published by And Other Stories  
Sheffield – London – New York  
[www.andotherstories.org](http://www.andotherstories.org)

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9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

ISBN 9781911508700  
eBook ISBN 9781911508717

Typesetter: Hewer Text UK Ltd, Edinburgh; Photograph: 'Robin Arthur in Forced Entertainment's Nightwalks' by Hugo Glendinning; Front Cover Design: Tim Etchells; Graphic Design: Steven Marsden; Printed and bound by TJ International, Padstow, Cornwall, UK.

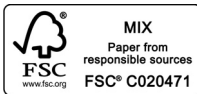
A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

And Other Stories is supported using public funding by Arts Council England.



Supported using public funding by

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*For my friends and fellow travellers at Forced Entertainment.*

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Kings, lords, liars, goal-hangers, killers, psychics and prostitutes,

Whether or not these stories bear any relation to life as it is actual lived in Endland (sic) is not my problem and good riddance to all those what prefer to read abt truly good, lucky and nice people – you won't like this crap at all.

Bear in mind it is not a book for idiots or time-wasters but many of them are wrote about in it. But let no one deny that it is a good laugh to hear about all the various kinds of mischief, curfews, wickedness, pixilation, indolence, rent fraud, roadblocks and general fcuking Hoopla! that went on in that place back (?) when Xmas really meant something.

For the rest – concerning the bad language, bad luck and low habits of the persons described or abt any dubious morals that remain implied or alleged in these tales – I make no apologies and, like the poets say, 'welcome to Endland' ©, all dates are approximate.

They replaced the lens in one (1) eye and I am waiting for them to do a operation on the other. Everything is fine. I am not an invalid.

Pax Americana,  
Death to unbelievers,



## About Lisa

*a small bad story in twelve good parts*

\*

The boss at DAVE'S TOPLESS CHIP SHOP is called Harry Stannington. The shop is just a franchise and the real Dave is more of a marketing proposition than a proper person. Harry Stannington is a pathetic lying police informant who's going to get his head kicked in and his tongue cut out, at least if you believe the graffiti which someone has sprayed up outside the shop.

\*

Harry fancies a new girl that works in the CHIP SHOP who is called Lisa. Harry keeps asking her out but for at least a month she says no.

Lisa is basically an unlucky misery guts with a hidden gift for brilliant ideas.

Putting her top back on after work one day she finally caves in and agrees to go out with H. Stannington.

\*

Lisa and H. Stannington go to the pictures. They have to walk thru something like a forest to get there only there seem to be cats stuck up in all the trees – yowling madly and miaowwing to get down.

*About Lisa*

When they get to the pictures Harry doesn't like the film but pretends he does. Lisa also doesn't like it but can't be bothered to pretend.

\*

It's one of those films where the plot was just a flimsy excuse put together to justify a procession of different sentimental conversations – at hospital bedsides, on dusky beaches, in empty offices and at tearful breakfast tables.

That night Lisa's sister gets murdered and Lisa blames herself – if she hadn't gone out it would never have happened etc.

\*

Each day for a week Lisa has to wear her dead sisters anorak and other clothes to reconstruct her last journey. Lisa gets to be on television. She likes acting and wonders about making a career out of it. The people from the TV station have her typecast as the dead girls' sister though and won't give her any other parts.

\*

Time passes and the relationship with Harry comes to a natural end and he sacks her from the CHIP SHOP.

There are no leads in the murder investigation except perhaps Mike Foreman who's arm is as thick as a porn stars penis (at least if you believe what the girls say) and who was occasionally having it off with Lisa's sister.

Mike hangs around in the Bull & Patriot Pub – everyone knows he's guilty but there's no evidence.

\*



*Endland*

Lisa has a dream where she wins the Eurovision Song Contest singing a song in Portuguese. Later on in the dream she is back with H. Stannington having sexual intercourse in the Chip Shop and he is imploring her:

“Speak Rwandan to me, speak Rwandan, I like it when you speak Rwandan . . .”

These kind of crazy dreams drive Lisa crazy.

\*

One day Lisa sees Mike Foreman going down a side alley and knowing that the law is an arsehole and that Foreman is a murderer she kills him dead, with no regret.

The gods (such as they are) are pretty angry abt this and Zeus, Tesco, Venus, Mr Stretchy, Penelope, Kali and all the rest are all having a big row and making various wagers abt what will happen next.

\*

The ways of the gods are mysterious tho. Lisa isn't struck by lightning or by a satellite falling out of the sky. Instead her whole life just starts to go bad.

To start she has panic attacks, and many many long nights of sleeplessness. Her room is burgled (twice times), flooded (also twice times) and burnt a bit in a fire that is something to do with a bad persistent electrical fault.

\*

Later (probably July) the automatic doors in all the buildings in the city seem to ignore her and no longer open anymore like they know she is no longer human or worse perhaps no longer a living thing of any kind.

*About Lisa*

Only by waiting for a stray dog to trigger the infra-red can Lisa get in anywhere.

\*

Lisa gets more bad luck. She gets a skin complaint and falls out with her mum. Her new job at The Institute For Physical Research doesn't last.

Before long Lisa can't even see her image on the CCTV screens in town and she knows she's disappearing and she understands quickly that this is the punishment the gods have meated out for her vengeance of her poor innocent sister.

\*

People in the street try to talk to Lisa and try to act like everything is OK, but machines and most animals ignore her.

Lisa changes her name by deed poll. She calls herself something more suited to her age, race, sex and occupation. She calls herself SILENCE.

And from that moment on she lives up to her name.