

"Happiness (or what the f***'s wrong with me)."

A 20 minute short film

by

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INT. FOURTH FLOOR LONDON FLAT. NIGHT.

Close up of MICHAEL ZEALEY standing in the window looking out over the nightscape of London. Twinkling street lights, tall buildings and the search light from a police helicopter.

The opening score from "Blade Runner" plays.

As the camera pulls back MICHAEL ZEALEY is revealed to be wearing nothing but a pair of pants. He is holding a nearly empty bottle of red wine.

MICHAEL ZEALEY (VO)
My name is Mike and although it
may not look like it, I am on a
mission...

He puts the wine bottle down, scratches his backside and lights a cigarette.

MICHAEL ZEALEY (VO)
...a mission of global significance.

A MONTAGE OF PERCEIVED HAPPINESS IMAGES.

Business people walking across Waterloo bridge in the morning rush hour. "Little Boxes" by Malvina Reynolds plays over the montage.

Young hip artists lounging in Hoxton Square.

A Beautiful woman with blonde hair blows bubbles

A toddler laughs as he's given a large white ice-cream cone.

A couple make love with tenderness.

An old Rastaman in a betting shop punches the air, looks at his slip and laughs.

A champagne cork pops

An old man paints a sea view.

A dad gently lets go of his child's bike as she nervously cycles without stabilizes.

Close up of a teenager girl laughing. With the camera locked-off, this image quickly changes to 7 different faces all laughing. The faces are of all different ages and ethnicities. The flickering images stop on the final face of Michael Zealey, he is not laughing. His face in a scowl.

He looks away from camera and we see behind him we are back in the original flat. Over his shoulder, people of a similar age are lounging around. Various friends.

Michael walks through them still in his pants, talking to camera.

MICHAEL ZEALEY
Happiness,,, I don't get it.

(beat)

I mean I really don't get it. Any.
Whether I was born without the
happiness gene I just don't know.
But it's always been this way.

A reveler reaches up and hands him what looks like a joint.
Michael pauses, looks down and refuses.

So I've decided to take a stand.
I refuse to accept this. I'm
going on a mission to discover
the ingredients of happiness and
hopefully in doing so, combine
those various ingredients to bake
a simple cake that will benefit
everyone.

CUT TO

A sumptuously decorated cake sits on a white picnic sheet
in a park. It starts to rain fiercely and moments later,
the icing is melting.

DEPRESSIVE LONDON IMAGES.

A series of images including, the London Underground at
rush hour. A busy office or call centre, Gray rainy London
streets.

MICHAEL ZEALEY (VO)
I've seen the future and it is
not orange, it's not even a dark
yellow. No, the future is gray.
I refuse to live without
happiness. I refuse to go to some
dead-end job to make just enough
money to pay for me to continue
to do that dead-end job. What's
it all leading to? Without
happiness it's pointless.

Herbie Hancock's "Watermelon Man" begins to play.

CUT TO

Michael in the flat. He looks to his left at the TV which
is on. In close up on the TV we see DOUG BONNER talking
to camera from his home in Prescott, Arizona.

Michael points at the TV Screen.

MICHAEL ZEALEY (VO)
It all started with this guy...
Doug. I couldn't sleep. Channel-
hoping, I saw him giving an
interview about how perfectly
happy he was out near the Grand
Canyon in Arizona. Reckons he's
always been happy and says it's
easy to be so.

Uncomfortable close up of Doug's nicotine-stained teeth
pixelated on the TV screen.

MICHAEL ZEALEY (VO)
Good for you Dougie. Teach me...
Save me...

Cut to stock images of the Grand Canyon.

MICHAEL ZEALEY (VO)
Yesterday morning I quit my job
and cashed in my savings. I've
got enough money for three weeks
to discover what this happiness
business is all about.

He holds up a plane ticket

Here I come Doug. Let's see what
you got for me. By the time I
reach you this film will be
complete and I'll either have a
conclusion of grand revelation,
or a conclusive death by Grand
Canyon. A bit melodramatic
perhaps, but for me it's simply
a realistic assessment of living
without happiness. I'm saving
time! I believe in an afterlife
as a next stage, so why hang
around kicking my heels in this
one, if I'm not enjoying it, just
for the sake of it? Harsh fact.

Image of jokey looking suicide bomber strapped with
obviously fake cartoon dynamite. He pulls a cord. Nothing
happens.

Paradise Now! So where to start
on this deeply scientific
exploration of happiness..? At
the beginnning I guess.

Frozen close up of Michael's smiling face over which the Documentary title appears

OPENING CREDITS. "HAPPINESS - OR, WHAT THE FUCK'S WRONG WITH ME?!"

EXT. A QUIET SUBURBAN STREET

Michael is walking down the road. He holds an appointment card in his hand.

MICHAEL ZEALEY (VO)

So, I went to the Doctor. I wanted to find out if it were possible to be born without the happiness gene...

A young trendy couple pass him on the pavement. They are brightly dressed, holding hands and laughing with each other. A picture of ease.

Michael stops as they pass and turns to camera, saying out loud.

He said no. I wasn't missing a happiness gene. I just wasn't happy!

Michael gives three dry sarcastic laughs. The camera zooms into his gaping mouth until the screen is black. The opening bars of 2001 Space Odyssey theme play to answer his final "Ha-Ha".

BASIC GRAPHIC OF THE SPINNING EARTH AGAINST THE BLACKNESS.

MICHAEL ZEALEY (VO)

Planet Earth... what a miserable fucking place. Even the bible says "Man has but a short time to live and it is full of pain. He cometh up like a flower and is cut down. Great. But it doesn't have to be this way.

CUT TO

Montage of images of different cultures.

Busy Tokyo streets.

Bustling Lagos Market.

Innuits catching a fish out of an ice hole.

MICHAEL ZEALEY (VO)

There are over 250 countries in our world, hosting thousands of different cultures, which in term contain billions of people, all of whom are unique and diverse in every respect - except one... They All strive to be happy. It one of the only factors that unites us all. But is there a common ground for happiness? What makes one person happy probably makes another angry. Do we even experience happiness in the same way and to the same degree?

More library stock images of our diverse world.

No one person can speak for the world, both Jesus and Hitler tried to and look what happened to them! No, I need feedback: Market research. Statistics.

CUT TO

Close up of computer screen reading "www.yugen.co.uk"

Two months isn't long to design and promote a global website, especially one with such a strange name. But Yugen is the Japanese word for that feeling of beautiful ache experienced when we look at a perfect snowflake or a sunset over a mountain. A special feeling not quite happiness, more of yearning to return to the divine. I figured it was a good enough universal word to use for the purpose, as most languages have these five letters in them.

Images of people logging onto their computer.

Close up images of the question page from yugen website.

The question was simple and translated into twelve different languages. "What makes you happy".

A stock image of the Grand Canyon.

(CONT'D)

I'm hoping the responses will
give me my salvation answer...

Close up of a light blue balloon floating away.

IMAGE OF A NEW BORN CHILD. ON SCREEN CAPTION READS "MY
NEPHEW"

MICHAEL ZEALEY

I watched my new born nephew cry
his first breath at the world and
wondered why all babies are born
crying? Why not laughing? Are our
brains wired to be naturally
"catastrophic" developed out of
millions of years of evolution
as a survival tactic. Is constant
happiness even achievable or am
I fighting design here?

INTERVIEW 1 WITH ANTHROPOLOGIST, APE SKULLS IN BACKGROUND.
(ALL THE SUBSEQUENT 11 INTERVIEWS WILL BE PUNCHY, NO MORE
THAN 2 MINUTES IN LENGTH AND FILMED WITH A LIGHT BLUE
BALLOON IN THE BACKGROUND AS THE RECURRING IMAGE SYSTEM.
WHERE APPROPRIATE,

Interview with Anthropologist discussing our caveman
brains and it's catastrophic wiring.

CUT TO

CLOSE UP OF MY NEPHEW LAUGHING AS A 1 YEAR OLD

MICHAEL ZEALEY

Is it part of our spiritual
journey to learn what makes us
happy, or are we born happy and
gradually unlearn it?

EXT. A SCHOOL PLAYGROUND.

Nine young children are in a school playground running
randomly. Each holds a coloured balloon filled with Helium.
On each balloon is written a letter. As they come together
in a line, we see it spells "Happiness". Each child sports
a wide, unselfconscious grin.

Michael enters from the left and talks to camera.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

Is happiness our natural
birthstate? Along the lines of
that old car bumper sticker...

Close up of the bumper sticker which reads:

(CONT'D)

"What a perfect day, now watch
some bastard spoil it?"

Michael walks up to the first balloon "H" and bursts it.
The child stops smiling and looks sad.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

...and as we develop, with each
passing negative event, we
gradually learn that life is not
fair, and beyond that, actually
a bit shitty.

He bursts a second, then third balloon, the children stop
smiling.

Joan is a child psychologist. If
anyone should know about our
natural state as infants it's her.

JOAN appears holding a light blue balloon and gives a very
brief explanation, discussing how we acquire or lose
happiness in the first seven years.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

So a new born child is the same
as an animal until it looks in
the mirror and realises that it
is looking at its own reflection.
This is called the moment of self
awareness. Perhaps this is the
moment that true happiness stops?
Is an animals natural state one
of bliss, only interrupted by the
need for food, sex and sleep?
Could it be that for all our
intellect, the closer we are to
an animal state the happier we
are? After all, there is only 0.6%
difference in our DNA between us
and Bonobo apes...

CUT TO

Typical wildlife image of male monkey sneaking up on
female monkey and giving it a quick piston-thrust.

...and they seem pretty happy.

INTERVIEW 2. WITH ANIMAL PSYCHOLOGIST.

Camera locked off.

INT. STARBUCKS COFFEE SHOP.

Michael Zealey sitting in Starbucks reading a copy of "Heat" Magazine.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

Well this is all very interesting but who gives a fuck about animal happiness. Time is ticking on and I'm still no closer to understanding the root causes of happiness. Time to get serious.

CUT TO

SPLIT SCREEN.

On the left hand side of the screen is EMMA a girl in her early 20's, working behind the counter in Greggs Bakery. On the right hand side of screen continues to be MICHAEL talking to camera.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

Maybe it is society itself which makes us unhappy. This is Emma.

Emma smiles to the camera and hands over a pasty to offscreen right, which is then taken by MICHAEL from Screen left.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

...thanks. Emma was taught at school to be as creative as possible, that she could do anything she wanted. That the world was hers for the taking... Why do we set our kids up for this fall, when most of them are destined for working lives of absolute humdrum horror. The first part of our lives we are told to be as expressive and active as possible, then we are told to conform, shut up and be as passive as possible to be accepted into a job we don't even want.

SCREEN LEFT. Emma rips off her "Greggs" hat and apron to reveal pinned up blonde hair and a sequined ball gown. She lets her hair down and moves in front of the counter. Unseen camera's start to flash.

SCREEN RIGHT. Michael holds up "Heat" Magazine. Emma is on the cover. The light bulbs continue to flash and SCREEN RIGHT is replaced with images of Brad Pitt /Angelina Jolie etc walking down red carpets.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

And the media are the most responsible pricks of all for our unhappiness. The never ending drip-drip bombardment of airbrushed success. We are constantly told we must be rich, famous, always wearing the right clothes and being seen in the right places, cosmetically good looking - a celebrity, if our lives are to have any value at all. As 99.9% of us can't afford to do this, don't have any discernable talent, and are ugly as fuck, once again we are setting ourselves up for deep unhappiness and a life-time of debt. What makes it cruelest of all, is the perception that it is achievable for everyday joe's like us.

Left screen split dissolves. Images of Z-list celebs like KERRY KATONA, JORDAN, BIG BROTHER HOUSEMATES are displayed.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

People can get all the material things they want by having no talent at all. Fame seems to be the instant happiness injection. But if that's true why are so many celebrities fucked in the head? Always in rehab. Is it because once they've actually achieved the impossible dream they find it to be empty - especially those who got their without any talent? I think we all kind of know this to be true. You can't run away from yourself, but you've got to be pretty insecure to begin with to want to be that famous.

INT. A MEETING ROOM / BOARDROOM.

MICHAEL is at a white board at the head of a table. Around the table are nine chairs, seated in each chair is an individual light blue balloon with a letter drawn on it spelling out Happiness. Each balloon represents a topic. In front of him are three darts which he plays with as he looks through a large selection of glossy magazines, spread-out over the table.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

So, reading a selection of Style magazines, our testaments for how to conduct ourselves in the twenty-first century, it becomes clear that there is a recurring theme. I've deduced the following must therefore be the key to happiness.

He puts down the darts and writes on the white board behind him as he speaks.

Fame. Money. Good Looks.

He underlines "Fame".

INTERVIEW 3 WITH FAMOUS CELEBRITY.

Interview with famous person asking if it makes them happy. (OF course it doesn't). Ask them what does. They will say **Family** relationships, Marriage, Kids.

EXT. A FAIRGROUND SHOOTING RANGE.

Michael is at a shooting stall. He holds an air rifle in his hand.

A child walks past camera with a light blue balloon.

From Michael's POV we can see that instead of a target or row of ducks, The Letters H A P P I N E S S are erected. The metallic letters look all bent out of shape as if hit by innumerable metal pellets at some point before.

Michael aims and shoots down the first letter "H".

INT. BOARDROOM CENTRAL LONDON

Back in the Boardroom. Michael picks up a dart and throws it, bursting the "H" balloon.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

You're Fired!

He reaches behind him and puts a line through "Fame", He then writes "Family" at the bottom of the growing list.

INTERVIEW 4 WITH RICH BUSINESSMAN.

Interview with rich businessman. He is not happy just because of money. What does make him happy then? **Job Satisfaction.**

INT. BOARDROOM CENTRAL LONDON

Boardroom. Michael picks up another dart bursting the "A" balloon.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

You're a lightweight. You're Fired!

He crosses out "Money" and writes "Job Satisfaction" on the white board, adding to the list of already crossed out ideas.

INTERVIEW 5 WITH SEXY MODEL.

Interview with ridiculously good looking model girl. Not happy. What does make her most happy? Being respected.

Respect.

EXT. A FOREST IN NORTH LONDON. SUNNY DAY.

Michael is walking through Old Redding Forest with a friend. They discuss the project saying that three weeks have passed already. Closer to Grand Canyon death. Is he really going to do it? Yes. But He's says still got three leads, family, job and respect.

INT. BOARDROOM CENTRAL LONDON

Boardroom. Michael paces up and down, surveying the remaining balloons. In his hand is a baseball bat and in a homage to "Untouchables" he creeps up behind the letter "P" balloon and clubs it till it bursts. He writes "Respect" on the white board and crosses out "Good Looks"

INTERVIEW 6. HOUSEWIFE. SURREY STYLE HOUSE.

Interview with Housewife. Yes, Family, marriage, kids all make her semi-happy, but most times she wants to kill them! **Religion** for her is what brings her the most happiness.

INT. BOARDROOM CENTRAL LONDON

Boardroom. A dart quickly bursts the second "P" balloon. He adds Religion to the descending list on the white board behind his desk and crosses out "Family".

INTERVIEW 7. SPECIAL NEEDS TEACHER. CLASSROOM.

Interview with Special Needs Teacher. Does she think Job Satisfaction is the key to happiness. Partly, the job makes her very happy, but she wanted to be artist, it was only through knowing herself and her limitations, through loving herself that she could let go of the artist dream and get happiness from her job. **Self-Awareness.**

INT. BOARDROOM CENTRAL LONDON

Boardroom. Michael bursts the balloon with his bare hands, crosses out "Job Satisfaction" and adds Self awareness to the bottom of the list.

INTERVIEW 8. GANGSTA IN HACKNEY LOCALE.

Interview with Afro-English Hoodie Gangster. No, respect doesn't make him happy because he never feels it's enough. Drugs, **Chemicals** do though.

Michael asks if he can borrow the gentleman's handgun. The Gangsta hands it over and Michael turns, aiming it at the same metal letters spelling HAPPINESS that we first saw at the fairground.

In close up on the letters he shoots down the next five letters. Leaving only the final two "SS" upright.

INT. MINISTRY OF SOUND / SPACE IBIZA CLUB.

Montage of scenes of clubbers getting off it on MDMA.

MICHAEL ZEALEY (VO)

Is it really that depressingly simple? Can happiness really just be bought as a chemical reaction. I remember reading about this surgical procedure where Doctors drill a small hole in your skull and you feel euphoric pleasure for ever more. If we really are just a series of chemical and electrical impulses, then why can't we just keep on taking a pill that allows us to feel good and fulfill our potential - like Richard Dreyfuss said about his experience of taking Lithium in an interview about Manic Depression. "I achieved so much that first year I started taking Lithium, but the doctor said to me "no, it wasn't the drug it was you - this is what it's like to live without fear!"

INTERVIEW 9. NEUROSURGEON. MAUDSELY HOSPITAL LONDON.

Interview with neuro-doctor who explains that we are just chemical impulses but also why it is bad to just take pills all the time. He also talks about our natural inbuilt drugs like Dopamine and Serotonin which are released through exercise.

CUT TO

Image of fat person walking down the street to Godzilla theme.

MICHAEL ZEALEY (VO)
 But, if exercise is part of the
 secret to happiness why do fat
 people always seem so happy
 compared to those skinny
 sourfaced models?

CUT TO

Clip from STAR TREK episode where "Captain Kirk" declines a pleasure drug saying humans "need their pain to drive them on".

INT. BOARDROOM CENTRAL LONDON

Boardroom. Nearly all the letter balloons are burst, with only the final two "S" remaining. On the board everything has now been crossed out with the exception of the final two: Self Awareness and Religion.

MICHAEL ZEALEY (TO CAMERA)
 Mind you. I don't really trust
 Doctors all that much, they seem
 to be in the pay of the
 Pharmacoms. In China, you used
 to pay your doctor for keeping
 you well, but in the West we pay
 our doctor only when we are ill.
 Lack of Happiness as caused by
 Depression, Anxiety, Stress is
 the Pharmacoms Holy Grail.

Image of a man, seen through a Perspex wall. He bangs his head, faster and faster against it.

MICHAEL ZEALEY (VO)
 We have created a fast-paced
 insane world and are now
 complaining that it is sending
 us insane. Like Der! Go figure!
 Maybe drugs aren't the answer.

INTERVIEW 10. SELF-HELP / LIFE COACH. SUITABLE FLOATY VENUE WITH LIGHT BLUE BALLOON IN THE BACKGROUND.

Interview with Self-Help Life Coach. Positive visualisation (Posivisual drop in too).

INT. BOARDROOM CENTRAL LONDON

Boardroom. Michael picks up the "S" balloon and opens the window. Rather than bursting it he lets it go. But something has become attached to the string and it quickly plummets down to the car park.

He looks back at the final lone balloon with "S" on it, then up at the white board. Only "Religion" remains uncrossed. Michael looks suspiciously up at the camera and then to his watch.

INTERVIEW 11. IMAM. FINSBURY PARK MOSQUE.

Interview with Imam. Asking where fear becomes religious practice, and where personal freedom is stopped having to pray five times a day. Does true happiness lie in worshipping God?

EXT. THE MALL CENTRAL LONDON.

Michael walks down the Mall, from Admiralty Arch towards Buckingham Palace. He talks to camera.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

Of course it occurred to me that I'm basing my conclusions on a very small number of people. HAPPINESS,
 (He counts them on his fingers)
 that makes nine to be exact. So, as I told you earlier, to increase my chances of success and to make the study as scientific as possible, I created the website yugen, open to everyone to briefly describe what makes them happy. Unbelievably and through the magic of the internet it has had two hundred thousand hits, from people across all five continents. It just reinforces what I believed at the start, that despite our totally different religions and ways of life, there is a common thread joining us all together - our communal humanity's need for happiness. Here are the findings.

CUT TO

GRAPHIC ILLUSTRATING THE COMMON THREADS OF RESPONSES.

Among the responses will be "Friends" and "Creating" something.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

Having good friends is no surprise, but I've got good friends and it's not enough, otherwise I wouldn't be on this investigation.

Shot of friends at a party.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

There's a great quote from Hannibal Lecktor which says "If one does what God does enough times then one will become as God is". Even the bible tells us that God made man in his own image. Whether that includes woman as well I'm not sure - unless God is a Haemaphrodite! But it would seem that most of us find happiness in doing what God does - creating.

Images of people painting, writing, conducting music.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

If we delve deeper into these responses on a country by country basis, we uncover some amazing facts. For example, people in Colombia are happiest...

DISSOLVE TO ANOTHER GRAPHIC SHOWING FOUR RANDOM COUNTRIES RESPONSES. (This will be decided from the genuine data at time of filming).

(BRIEF EXPOSITION
ON STATS)

I wondered if this was representative though, so I thought where better to find out than at the home of one of the happiest people in Britain.

CUT TO END OF MALL, CORNER OF BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

Michael is looking up at an upstairs window. He turns to camera.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

If anyone should be happy it's her. But on my budget there's not much chance of me finding out. So instead, I'm going to try and find some tourists from my target countries to see if happiness levels are country specific.

Three or four brief Vox Pops from tourists from the four target countries with something interesting to say.

At the end of the last Vox Pop, Michael reaches into his pocket and produces the airline ticket from before. He looks at it forlornly.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

That's it! Time's up. My two months are nearly spent. Just one last hope...

EXT. GALLUP, NEW MEXICO. (100 MILES FROM GRAND CANYON)

A car speeds along a dusty New Mexico road. In the distance can be seen Acoma Pueblo.

INT. HIRE CAR.

MICHAEL ZEALEY (TO CAMERA)

100 miles from the Grand Canyon, and two days before my time is up. I feel I'm getting closer to something here. I'm in New Mexico outside of a town called Gallup, a Native American trading post. I was always fascinated as a teenager by the books of Carlos Castaneda and his mysterious Native American mentor Don Juan, who taught him the secrets of the universe.

Out of the window, the majestic Acoma Pueblo table-top Mesa rises up out of the scrub.

Over there is Acoma Pueblo, or Sky City as it's sometimes called. The highest and oldest inhabited place in the western hemisphere. All this talk of Drugs and Religion got me to thinking, maybe to combine the two opens the door of happiness.

CUT TO

Library footage: Montage of images of Native American art and ceremonies.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

The Navajo Indians who live here, have ceremonies which combine the taking of certain sacred herbs such as Yage and Peyote to engender a state of heightened awareness which allows them to access other planes of consciousness. Perhaps this is what I'm looking for...

INTERVIEW 12. NAVAJO REPRESENTATIVE. TOP OF ACOMA, DUSK.

Stunningly shot interview with stunning revelations. He says that among other things "Belonging" is the key to happiness.

EXT. A ROADSIDE NEAR PRESCOTT, ARIZONA (50 MILES FROM GRAND CANYON)

MICHAEL ZEALEY

Belonging certainly struck a chord with me. I guess no-one wants to feel like an outsider. There's certainly a comfort knowing that you're not alone and that people share your beliefs.

CUT TO

Images of football supporters cheering.

CUT TO

Stock images of LA and London Gangs.

MICHAEL ZEALEY (VO)

The rise in gang culture also seems to be commensurate with the decline in the family and father figures. Gangs certainly offer a sense of belonging, which in turn offers a justification and grounding of the self.

CUT TO

Back to the roadside.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

I'm still skirting round the issue here, I'm rolling my arrow around the edges of the target and not nailing that bull. Happiness doesn't seem to lie exclusively in any one of these points. Perhaps a little bit of all of them in balanced proportions is the key.

(beat)

I'm outside of Prescott, a small wild west slice of Americana. It's about fifty miles due south of the Grand Canyon. Last night in a local bar, I finally tracked down Doug.

CUT TO

Image of Doug Bonner's nicotine stained teeth as seen through the TV screen in the opening scenes.

CUT TO

Image of me and Doug in a bar clinking glasses, looking drunk.

MICHAEL ZEALEY (VO)

Doug represents both the start and the end of my quest. His nonchalant line about being born happy, that I saw on some random late night TV show has been the catalyst for this little adventure. Over to you Bill. Truth or dare..!

INTERVIEW 13. DOUG BONNER,

The interview takes place in a Prescott bar, and it's obvious both Michael and Doug are a little the worse for wear. Doug stands by his original words. He is Happy and explains it is because he is OK with himself and has realistic expectations of his abilities and goals.

EXT. GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA.

Caption on screen reads: "NEXT DAY".

Michael is perched right on the edge of the Grand Canyon, he is holding a light blue balloon filled with helium. It flutters in the afternoon breeze.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

Well here I am D Day. Decision Day. What a ride it's been.

GRAND CANYON. ARIZONA.

It is now sunset and the surrounding Mars rocks have turned a dusky pink against the orange sky. MICHAEL ZEALEY is silhouetted against this backdrop.

MICHAEL ZEALEY

I've learnt that Happiness is not just one thing. It seems to be about a balance of six different things, all of which stem from a respect and deep love for oneself and the ability to give and receive love from others. Happiness comes from feeling good about yourself and this can only be achieved from within.

(MORE)

MICHAEL ZEALEY (CONT'D)

Sure, a good job, good friends, money, success, kids would seem to help, but sometimes they are just a distraction technique employed to avoid looking at the real problem. A short-term fix like retail therapy or chocolate. My findings show that if at the quiet centre of a person there isn't that little spark of light, of love, then all these external things are just empty adornments. Happiness lies in being yourself and loving that self. Inner Peace. That's what I've been missing all these years.

He holds up the light blue balloon.

But learning to love yourself.
Shit! That's just as hard as
trying to be happy isn't it?

He lets go the balloon and the camera follows it for as long as it can as it soars over this other world.

HORSELEG SWASTIKAS (SILVER JEWS) fades in over closing credits.

FADE OUT.