

# ***Children of Men***

Beat Sheet by  
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1. Over titles – news report of day 1000 of the siege of Seattle, army occupation of mosks, British borders closed for eight years, deportation of immigrants, and the lead story – the death of the youngest person on the planet, Baby Diego. A crowd watches the news in a coffee shop as Clive Owen enters, not caring about anything but buying his coffee and getting out. Outside the shop, the year is 2027, and the world looks like hell. As Owen stops to put alcohol in his coffee, a bomb explodes the coffee shop. “CHILDREN OF MEN” appears over black.
2. Owen passes through security at the “Department of Energy”, where he works. His co-workers are watching the news, mourning Diego’s death. News reports the eighteen years of infertility that has plagued the earth.
3. Aggravated, Owen asks his boss for the day off because he’s “more affected by Baby Diego’s death” than he realized. The boss takes a pill, lets him go.
4. On the train, the media bombardment continues, but now about how all the world has collapsed - displaying the war-torn great cities - all except Britain. Owen is de-sensitized by it all, deep in his thoughts, but quickly jarred out by angry people throwing things at the train from outside. As Owen exits the train, armed military stand outside cages containing immigrants. He enters a secure parking lot to meet his lovable, old, hippie friend, Jasper (Michael Caine).
5. Dead cows burning in a pasture as Owen and Caine drive through the countryside. Caine speculates that the coffee shopping bomb was perpetrated by a politician in trouble. A busload of illegal immigrants, “Fugees”, pass them, on their way to “Bexhill Immigration Camp”. Caine sympathizes with them. They arrive outside the woods that hide Caine’s home. They remove some disguising foliage, learning that Owen isn’t dating and that there are cults of “renouncers” and “repenters”, then drive through. Owen did nothing for his birthday – regular day – felt like shit, but at least the hangover gives him something to “feel”. Owen hints that he thinks about suicide?
6. Inside Caine’s, photos and awards that Caine was a famous political cartoonist, and his wife, a journalist who was tortured. She now doesn’t speak, only sits in a chair staring into space. Owen notices a picture of himself, his ex-wife (Julianne Moore), and their son.
7. Owen reads from the “Quietus” instructions – a suicide kit. Caine complains that the government hands these out and anti-depressants, yet the weed they’re smoking, is still illegal. Caine says most of his weed goes to the nearby Bexhill refugee camp, and his buyer, is an immigration cop. Caine tells a joke about “Human Project”. Owen says there is no such Human Project with facilities and secret locations. And even if they did discover the cure for fertility, it’s too late – the world’s gone to hell. Caine continues joke, revealing what the Human Project is – a bunch of world-class scientists trying to determine what caused the infertility - genetic experiments? gamma rays? pollution? A post-establishing shot of Jasper’s home, tucked away in the woods.

8. An establishing shot from inside Owen's apartment looking out through a window at the smog city and the dawn. An alarm wakes Owen and a commercial for Quietus comes on. Owen climbs - like a zombie - out of bed. Outside, someone painting over graffiti and more immigration police holding back Fugees as Owen passes with coffee in hand. Two masked men grab Owen at gunpoint, mask him, and throw him into a van, speeding off with him.
9. Owen learns he's in the hands of "The Fishes", who are at war with the British government until equal rights are granted to immigrants. A female voice tells the team to take off Owen's mask. Owen sees that the voice is his ex-wife, Julian (Julianne Moore). It's clear she's the leader, and Owen's told that the bombings aren't by The Fishes anymore, but rather, the government in order to spread fear. Owen says he's done with politics.
10. Owen and Moore walk in a warehouse outside the room. Moore needs Owen's help to get transit papers for a fugee - they haven't seen each other in twenty years. Moore thinks Owen can get the papers because his cousin works in the "Arch of the Arts". Owen refuses. Moore offers him money - says he needs it. He refuses. The team grabs and hoods him again.
11. In the van, The Fishes say not to tell on them, and they'll be watching him. They tell Owen if he changes his mind, to pin an ad they give him up on a board and they'll find him. They let him out, throwing change on the ground. He picks it up.
12. Owen rides in a Rolls Royce through the squalor. Repentors are on their knees in the streets. The Rolls enters through military-secured arches into a pristine elite area with parks, and across a guarded bridge into a government building. Inside, passing through a metal detector, and escorted into the Arc of the Arts interior. Michelangelo's David is standing ahead, its leg partly destroyed. Owen's cousin, minister of the arts, greets him with a hug.
13. Cousin's son is playing video games as they eat dinner, and he's not talking. Cousin yells at him to get his attention to take pills. Theo lies and tells cousin that he needs transit papers for his girlfriend's dying brother - papers to get to the coast in order to go see him. At a window overlooking the city, cousin offers him pills. Cousin says he'll see what he can do about papers. Owen asks him how his cousin keeps going - cousin says he just doesn't think about it.
14. Owen meets Luke at bar, tells him that he got the papers, but that he has to escort the Fugee according to the regulations. Says he wants more money to do this. Luke doesn't give definitive answer, exits. Owen takes picture and name of girl in envelope and puts it in his jacket.
15. At the dog race tracks. An old woman signals Owen to follow her. He does. Outside, Owen runs to catch the bus the lady got into. Inside the bus, the lady motions for Owen to go up to the second deck. Up there, Moore. Owen hands her the papers. We learn that their son died, so it's hard for her to look at Owen. Owen asks how she "got over it" so fast. She says he doesn't have monopoly on suffering.
16. They get off the bus, climb some stairs. Moore says she came to Owen because she trusts him. Owen asks what will happen with their relationship after this mission. She says she doesn't know. Moore says he came for the money. They pass through a tunnel, where Luke awaits them with Owen's money. Luke says

- they'll take drive them to the first checkpoint, and then he and Kee, the Fugee he's escorting, will be alone.
17. Inside the car, Owen meets Key and Miriam. They pass through the countryside. Owen and Moore flirt a little. Owen asks Kee what she did, Rob a train? Blow up a building? She calls him a drunk.
  18. A car on fire is heading down the hill on the right, and blocks their path. As they reverse out, a bunch of rebels come scrambling out of the woods throwing things at the car and beating on it. A motorcycle catches up – the Rider on the back pulls a gun out and shoots Moore in the throat. As the motorcycle comes to the side of the car to fire again, Owen throws his door open, knocking the Riders off the bike. Moore bleeds to death.
  19. Cops head from the other direction, one of them U-turns and pulls them over. Luke gets out and shoots the cops. Owen scolds him, and Luke pulls his gun on him and tells him to get back into car.
  20. In the woods, Miriam performs some kind of burial ritual on Moore's bloody body. Owen walks off, swigs his whiskey, starts to light a smoke, crumbles to the ground crying. Luke's car arrives and tells them to come on.
  21. Riding in the rain at night down a curvy road. Silence in the car as they mourn Moore. They pass onto a road leading to a Fish-armed country house. The Fishes are meeting here to vote for a new leader. Owen asks for a lift back to London. They tell him it's too dangerous now – they'll bring him back in the morning. Luke orders a Fish to help Owen clean up. Luke says not to block their car in – it needs to be jump-started. The dogs like Owen, they don't normally like anyone.
  22. Cleaned up in the bathroom, Owen swigs, and notices a picture of Moore and his son? Owen exits the bathroom to find fishes having meeting. Armed guy follows Owen outside – he's in charge of watching Owen.
  23. Miriam approaches and says Kee would like a word with Owen. We see Luke being ordained the new Fish Leader. Owen inside the barn alone with Kee. Moore told Kee that if anything goes wrong, to only trust Owen – that he'll help her get to "The Tomorrow" – a boat. Owen isn't going to help, but then she takes her top off, revealing to Owen that she's pregnant. Owen is stunned, "Jesus Christ". Luke storms in, tells him everyone's ready inside, tells Owen now he knows "what's at stake" (the first pregnancy in eighteen years).
  24. In the meeting room, a TV news report about death of Fish terrorist leader (Moore's) death. The others are called armed and dangerous terrorists – who escaped – after killing two cops. There's surveillance evidence that will reveal the identities of all involved, including Owen. Luke says they've all agreed to deliver Kee to the Human Project, but now they must re-evaluate. Miriam objects – that they should move forward with original plan. Another argues they'll never make it now that the police are looking for her. Owen says to make it public. Another says she's wanted, and that the government will never acknowledge the first human birth from a wanted fugee. Key doesn't want to give up her baby – wants to go to Human Project. Luke says they need to stay here for safety – Kee says it could take months to get back in touch with Human Project. Kee asks Owen what he thinks. Owen says she needs proper care. Kee says she'll have her baby here.

25. Owen lies in bed awake. A motorcycle engine alerts him to go to the window. He spots the two Bikers - and the beat up cycle - that shot Moore, and Luke is there. Owen exits his room, goes downstairs to eavesdrop. One of them asks for first aid for hurt rider on back, and says to hide the motorcycle. Owen learns that Moore's murder was a set-up by Luke and co. They talk about how the "Uprising" will fail if they're suspected for killing Julian. As long as they have the baby, they're Uprising is assured. Biker is pissed off Owen injured his cousin (the rider on back) – wants to kill Owen. Luke says they'll do that in the morning.
26. Owen sneaks into Key and Miriam's bedroom, and tells them that Luke killed Moore, wants her baby, and plans on killing him. They have to leave. Miriam fights him – Key says she's going with Owen – Miriam can stay if she wants.
27. The three sneak outside, past some men talking about how the bike rider isn't going to make it. Owen dismantles the car that could chase them, and then they get into Luke's car. It doesn't start. Owen rolls it away as others chase, Luke commands them not to shoot, as Owen and Miriam jump-start it, and the three ultimately escape as the Fish chase on foot. Owen says he knows a safe place for them.
28. They ride through the country, and end up at Jasper's (Michael Caine's forrest house). Jasper isn't moving, Owen thinks he's used the Quietus, but he was only sleeping. Caine meets the pregnant Kee. They have dinner, talking about The Tomorrow, a hospital ship disguised as a fishing boat, which will take them to the Human Project, their sanctuary. They won't make it in time to catch the boat tonight. But it will be at Bexhill in two nights.
29. Owen lost his shoes, so he borrows some flip-flops. He watches Miriam doing some Tai Chi or something outside. Kee says she's eight months pregnant, and doesn't know who the father is because she's a prostitute. Kee says she's going to name the baby "Froli". Owen says she can't call the first baby in years Froli. Caine has a plan to get into Bexhill to catch boat – to get them selves "arrested" by Caine's immigration officer – who buys weed from Caine.
30. Owen walks dog, returns to overhear Caine talking about Faith vs. Chance – and how they relate to Owen and Moore. They met because of their political faith, and that kept them together. But by chance, their son was born – their faith put into practice. And how by chance, the flu killed their son. Thus, Theo's faith lost out to chance, so why bother if life is going to make the choices.
31. Establishing morning outside of Caine's forrest home. The alarm is going off. On his security monitor, they see that the fish have arrived at the perimeter. Owen leads them all to the car – Caine tells them to follow map to old school, wait for Sid, give him a package, and to call him a "fascist pig". Caine says he and his wife aren't coming. That terrifies Owen. Caine says they must stay to stall them, and that he has talked his way out of worse. Owen, Kee, and Miriam escape in the car.
32. Jasper goes inside and uses the Quietus kit on his wife, then greets Luke and co. outside as they arrive. Some go inside and find their plan to go to Bexhill. Luke commands Jasper to tell them when Owen, Kee, and Miriam left. Jasper makes a joke of it, not giving him anything. Owen stops car on a hill a safe distance from Jasper's, and watches as Luke shoots and kills Jasper. Infuriated, Owen tells

- Miriam to explain the “reason for that” – she says it’s all part of the bigger plan. He commands Miriam and Kee to get back in the car, and they drive off.
33. Mourning, they drive through a polluted countryside. The next shot is of their car parked outside the ruined school, and Owen sleeping inside of it. He wakes to find Kee and Miriam gone, and exits the car to go inside the abandoned school. A loud sound, and then a deer runs by. In a classroom, Miriam relates her experience as a mid-wife nurse when all the miscarriages started happening, and the pregnancies began dwindling to a stop. They watch Kee gently swinging outside. A cop alarm sounds. They call Kee to join them to leave.
  34. Outside, a police unit with a loudspeaker tells them to stop and for Owen to raise his hands. Owen calls the Officer, Sid, a fascist pig – who acts angry and pretends that he’s going to beat Owen. Owen gives him the bag. Syd tells him to enter his vehicle with a smile.
  35. Inside the vehicle, Kee begins having minor contractions. Syd asks what’s up – they say she’s sick. Syd says he doesn’t care why they want to get in.
  36. Syd brings them to a bus yard that will bring them into Bexhill. Syd tells them once they get inside to meet Marika by a statue of a soldier, who will help them with accommodation for tonight. Syd tells them to put on their sad “Fugee Faces”, then begins treating them like such. Syd leads them to the bus, and they enter with all the real Fugees.
  37. The Bus brings them through the gates of the Bexhill Refugee Camp. Heading deeper inside, Miriam whispers they’re to meet the boat at Sunset tomorrow. Owen learns that no one has ever actually talked to Human Project, only Moore has received messages. Thus, with Moore dead, Luke has no way of stopping the boat from arriving. Kee’s contractions are getting worse. Miriam helps her breathe. Miriam says this isn’t normal – her contractions shouldn’t be this frequent.
  38. The bus enters Zone G, a deep gate where chaos reigns. A lot of screaming, hooding, cages. Kee’s water has broken. A guard throws Miriam out as she tries to protect the panting Kee. Owen saves the day by telling the guard that the water is piss. Thus, the guard retreats, and Owen holds Kee – now that Miriam is gone.
  39. They exit the bus under military control, shedding their belongings, Owen gets his watch stolen by an official as they enter the caged walkway. On the other side, are all the fugees hustling them. Pictures of lost people on the side of the statue, where they meet Marika.
  40. Marika brings them on her motorized kart through burning slums, and up into a building without electricity. All the while, Kee’s contractions getting worse. Marika brings them to their room, Owen tells Marika and her dog to get out. They do.
  41. Owen is clueless as he helps deliver Kee’s baby girl.
  42. The next morning, Owen and Kee are woken by Syd banging on the door. Kee hides the baby. Syd says the whole city is going to hell outside. That the fishes used a bomb to get inside, and that the army is going to blow the hell out of the city. Marika’s dog gives smells the baby, and starts barking. Syd discovers the baby, shocked. Marika tells Owen and Kee not to trust Syd. He pulls his gun out and shoots the floor to shut her up.

43. Syd holds Owen and Kee at gunpoint as he escorts them out, telling them that he saw that they're wanted on the news, and that he knows the Fishes are looking for them – that they're "first class" commodities. Marika knocks Syd down, Owen fights with Syd, and gets Kee and himself free for a moment. Syd follows shooting. Owen waits outside the building with a car battery and knocks Syd unconscious with it as he exits.
44. As Kee, Marika, and Owen race away, there's protests in the streets and gunfire. War. Owen tells Marika to lead them to a boat. As she does, they're forced to push through the angry mob of protestors. Marika brings them to a bank vault and the people on the other side let them in because of the baby miracle.
45. Inside the vault, they have temporary safe haven as an old lady feeds them, and Marika plays with the baby. Kee says she's now thinking about the name "Bazooka" for her baby. Owen says he was getting used to "Froli". Kee says Froli is a man's name. An old man says they have a boat for them, in one hour they go. Asks if the human project is real. Owen says it better be.
46. Battle rages outside as Owen rolls Kee in a wheelchair, and Marika and her dog are escorted out of the bank building by a new guide, wielding an automatic weapon. As they race ahead, they are stopped by The Fishes, Luke telling the new guide to drop his gun as the others storm Owen, Kee and co. The Bike Driver slams Owen in the stomach for killing his 19 year-old cousin. Luke commands him not to kill Owen. Luke goes to Kee and tries to warm up to her, rubbing the baby, telling her that she'll be safe now that he has the child. She spits in his face. Luke says that the battle going on around them is The Uprising – and they haven't even seen the baby yet. They kidnap Kee, separating her from Owen and co. Luke commands the Bike Driver to kill them once he's got Kee far enough away not to see.
47. Driver kills the New Guide, and just as he's about to shoot Marika, then Owen, the military fires at them, forcing them to take cover. Owen and Marika make their escape during this distraction, caught in the crossfire. Owen separates from Marika to find Kee, but the Biker races back toward him, firing. Owen ducks in a bus under heavy fire. Luke commands the Fish to retreat into a building as tanks approach. As a tank fires on the building, Owen races inside to get Kee from Luke and co.
48. The building is a squalor of death, destruction, and dismemberment. Owen climbs upstairs, within close range of The Fishes as they try to fight off the military – Biker is shot and killed. Owen continues upward, following the sound of the crying baby. He finds Kee and Baby against a wall, Luke a few feet away against another – shooting back at the military. Owen grabs Kee and races out with her as Luke fires at them, but is quickly blown away by a tank blast.
49. In awe of the baby, reaching out to touch her, bowing their heads, on their knees, people fill the halls as Owen leads Kee and the crying baby out of the building. Other Fishes let them pass. The Military is about to shoot them, but cease fire – equally in awe by the baby as they exit the building. A safe distance from the building, the battle resumes, as Owen, Kee, and Baby escape into a quiet street.

50. Marika meets them there, leads them into Bexhill Water and Authority, where a small row-boat is. Owen, Kee, and Baby paddle off, Marika choosing to stay behind. Owen paddles further and further out into the ocean in dense fog.
51. They come to a buoy. Kee fears they're too late. Fighter jets fly above, dropping bombs back at Bexhill. Bleeding badly, Owen reveals that he was shot in the battle. The baby stops crying – Kee says she's going to name her baby Dillon, After Owen's departed son. Grinning, Theo hunches over into death. Kee spots something through the dense fog, The Tomorrow boat, headed to pick Kee and the baby up – they're safe now. CHILDREN OF MEN