

Beat Analysis HW: By Esayas Cohn

The Postman

Scene 4

Act 2

Description of the mood and feeling (shift) of only one character per line in the scene

**Casper Scene 4 PG 20**

SCENE 4

Artillery  
barrage continues.

Busy  
mess  
facility, 5pm. ANTHONY, CASPER and

ALFRED  
perch on a bench eating small bowls of  
Shepherd's pie. CASPER wolfs down his dinner  
whilst  
ALFRED plays with his food, worried.

CASPER

This  
is  
so  
good.

ANTHONY

Slow  
it  
down  
Casper, You'll give yourself a stomach

ache.

ALFRED

Let  
him  
enjoy  
his dinner, Ant.

ANTHONY

Blink  
and  
you'll miss it, aye Freddy?

ALFRED  
forces a smile.

CASPER

This  
was  
worth  
the wait.

ALFRED

A  
simple  
dish  
back home is a luxury here. How does that  
work?

ALFRED  
looks down at his small bowl, he's not  
hungry.

ANTHONY

Something  
wrong  
with your food mate?

ALFRED

I've  
lost  
my  
appetite.

ALFRED  
hands the bowl over to ANTHONY.

ANTHONY  
scrapes the left overs into his bowl at  
lightening speed.

ALFRED  
smiles from the side of his mouth.

CASPER

Let's  
have  
a  
spoonful?

ANTHONY

Here  
you  
go.  
21.

ANTHONY  
slaps more into Casper's bowl.

CASPER

Cheers.  
What's  
the matter Freddy?

ALFRED

I'm  
not  
feeling  
too good is all.

CASPER

Do  
you  
want  
some shortbread? Maybe that will make you  
  
feel  
better?

ALFRED

No  
it's  
OK  
mate, you enjoy them.

ALFRED  
scans the room looking at the faces of the  
  
men,  
until -

SGT.  
MILLS  
(O.S)

Attention!

Men  
jump  
to their feet, standing at attention.

MILLS  
enters with PRYER directly behind.

LT.  
PRYER

As  
you  
were.

The  
MEN  
stand at ease.

LT.  
PRYER

Good  
afternoon  
Gentleman. I trust that dinner is up to  
scratch?

ALL

Yes  
sir!

LT.  
PRYER

Good.  
Men,

I  
have some good news. At exactly midnight  
tonight  
the  
artillery barrage will come to an end.

After  
bombarding the German position for numerous hours

I  
can  
safely  
say that there will not be a single soul

left  
alive.  
Battalion has devised an offensive strategy

for  
us  
to  
attack the lines. After breakfast we are to

prepare  
ourselves and charge the enemy position, this

will  
be  
at  
o  
eight hundred hours tomorrow morning. We

are  
to  
eliminate all enemy strong holds, if there are

any  
left

and  
take no prisoners. This should be a walk  
  
in  
the  
park  
chaps. I might even acquire a walking stick  
  
to  
cross  
for  
the occasion.

The  
MEN  
laugh.  
22.

LT.  
PRYER

Casualties  
are  
expected to be low with little or no  
  
resistance.

So  
show no fear Gentlemen. Good luck and  
  
god  
save  
the  
king.

ALL  
God  
save  
the  
king!

The  
MEN  
cheer.

PRYER  
turns to MILLS

LT.  
PRYER

Carry  
on  
Sergeant.

SGT.  
MILLS

Sir.

PRYER  
leaves.

The  
mess  
quiets down. Men chat amongst one  
another.

MILLS  
not  
wanting to break morale steps forward  
to

address  
the men.

SGT.  
MILLS



Quiet  
down  
men.

They  
face  
him.

SGT.  
MILLS

Make  
sure  
you  
fill yourselves up lads and get a good

nights  
kip.  
Prepare your gear and clean out your

weapons.  
If  
you  
are lacking in equipment come and see

me  
at  
my  
quarters. Tonight, write to your families and

loved  
ones,  
assure them that when you return home that

you  
will  
hold  
them dearly. For those of you that are

religious,  
pray  
for those who aren't, for peace on  
  
earth  
and  
goodwill to all men. Dismissed.

MILLS  
leaves.