Handbagged Content Information

**Includes themes of racism, offensive language, depictions of violence, references to terrorism, homophobia, and dementia.**

SCENE 4

* Early on in the scene, the character of Dennis Thatcher makes a racist remark, saying: “I knew Rhodesia very well from my days at Burmah Oil. And if the blackies got in the whole place would go down the bloody pug-hole. And with it, a great hairball of British interests and British trade.
* Later on, Dennis Thatcher uses a racial slur: “What do you think those fuzzy-wuzzies are up to?”

SCENE 5

* Throughout scene 5 there are references to IRA terror attacks. Firstly, the death of politician Airey Nieve: “Mrs Thatcher had lost her friend and mentor Airey Neave in an IRA bomb blast.”
* Secondly, there is reference to the Warrenpoint massacre: “the IRA murdered eighteen of Our Boys at Warrenpoint in a serious ambush.”
* There are references to the assassination of Louis Mountbatten, including the deaths of two children aged 14 and 15: “The explosion was violent in the extreme. It was heard across the bay over two miles away.”

SCENE 6

* A description of the attempted assassination of Ronald Reagan: “A crazy man called John Hinkley, was obsessed with a teenage actor called Jodie Foster…and he thought he would please her somehow, if he shot my husband. He let off six bullets.” – “It stopped in his lung, an inch away from his heart.”

SCENE 7

* Reference is made to the Brixton riots, which were provoked by systemic racism and police brutality: “Massive civil unrest boiled over into insurrections against systemic racism and soaring unemployment.”
* There is a fleeting reference to the IRA hunger strikers.

SCENE 8

* Throughout this scene there are references to people dying in the Falklands War: “I was stricken at our losses. They caused me acute distress. I wrote personally to the families of all the men who died.”
* Towards the end of the scene, there is a reference to Enoch Powell’s ‘Rivers of blood’ speech: “His Rivers of blood’ speech galvanised the Far Right and dramatically increased racially motivated attacks.”

SCENE 9

* Throughout this scene there are descriptions of violence relating to the 1984-85 miners’ strike: “We’ve had riot shields, we’ve had riot gear, we’ve had police on horseback charging into our people; we’ve had people hit with truncheons and people kicked to the ground.”

SCENE 10

* A description of the homophobic piece of legislation, Section 28: “An Orwellian piece of homophobic legislation in the face of people dying from AIDS. Educating children about homosexuality was outlawed. They called same sex couples ‘pretended family relationships.’”

SCENE 11

* A description of the Brighton bombing- the attempted IRA assassination attempt against Margaret Thatcher: “The noise. Windows blown to smithereens…It was like an earthquake…but the lights stayed on…in the corridor people were thrown against the walls. The bathroom gone in a cloud of dust…one always images that one will be plunged into darkness at a moment like that. But the lights stayed on…there were five dead. Others with terrible injuries. Four floors of the hotel had collapsed.”
* A description of the assassination of Indira Gandhi: “One of them discharged three rounds into her abdomen. And then his accomplice opened fire on her as she lay on the ground.”

SCENE 14

* A description of police brutally supressing a riot: “By three o’clock, the police had corralled us into Trafalgar Square. How to turn citizens into a mob? Charge at them on horses. Drive through them in riot van at hight speed. Fear makes you defend yourself; it is incendiary. Demonstrators become rioters and, on that day, the act of protest was made criminal.”

SCENE 15

* A reference to dementia: “One doesn’t die of dementia, Ma’am. It is not a fatal condition. One dies of something else. One lives with dementia.”