

SIMPLE PEOPLE

Script by **Artūras Raila** (2008), after the video *Under the Flag* (2000)

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INTRO

CHARACTER 3: Sure... Sure, let's say, this sign of ours. So if what we say is too far off the mark then we won't be honouring it...

CHARACTERS 4 AND 5: Yeah... Yeah... Yeah...

CHARACTER 3: ... and we have to realise: If this isn't here (*turns towards the flag*) then we can say whatever we want.

CHARACTERS 2 AND 5: (*laughter, in agreement*)

CHARACTER 1: But I'm so big and the others small like little fleas. Look... Maybe because I'm in front.

(CHARACTER 5 *waves his hand in front of the camera while looking at its little screen*)

THE POSTER

CHARACTER 4: Thanking for the votes he gained, that's very simple...

CHARACTER 4: ... because it's the right thing, and people understand that, that everything is simple and right, without any lies or promises. We ourselves should aim for that, like Haider's party.

QUARTET IN THE STREET

CHARACTER 1: People are so confused in our country.

CHARACTER 4: ... Well, our people take the accordion to the street...

CHARACTER 1: ... no, but anyway, look, they're all calm... about their future...

CHARACTER 4: You mean, calm about what?

CHARACTER 1: Because they are secure about their future.

(CHARACTER 2 and CHARACTER 5 *open their mouths to say something, but CHARACTER 4 interrupts them*)

CHARACTER 4: They weren't secure. They weren't secure, and that's why they voted for... (*turns towards CHARACTER 1*) the nationalist party. It means they weren't secure. They wanted everything to be more secure, even more secure. More secure and even better.

THE COLUMN IN THE SQUARE

CHARACTER 1: Also a city of the sun...

CHARACTER 4: Like our city, Šiauliai... Linz is also like that.

THE LITTLE TOURIST TRAIN

CHARACTER 4: I don't get it! Just go to your China and live there!

SAUSAGES ON THE GRILL

CHARACTER 4: Looks tasty.

CHARACTER 2: Fast and cheap.

MCDONALDS

CHARACTER 1: Again McDonalds.

CHARACTERS 2 AND 4: ... MacDonaldz...

CHARACTER 4: (*Looks at CHARACTER 1*) But we said we'd open *Cepelinas* fast food joints...

CHARACTER 1: ... that we'd cook *Vėdarai*...

CHARACTER 4: That we'd sell potato sausages and meat-and-potatoes patties... Lithuanian food.

CHARACTER 1: *Kugeliai!*

CHARACTER 1: Hey, *Kugelis*, come here!

(*All, except CHARACTER 3, laugh.*)

CHARACTER 1: With narrow little eyes.

CHARACTER 4: Ah, narrow little eyes! (*pats CHARACTER 5, who is enjoying this most, on the shoulder; CHARACTER 3 also begins to smile.*)

CLOTHES' SHOP WINDOW

CHARACTER 1: October?

CHARACTER 4: November.

CHARACTER 1: October maybe.

CHARACTER 4: October.

HIGHWAY

CHARACTER 5: That building is impressive. So simple.

CHARACTER 3: Yep.

CHARACTER: If it's impressively simple, just think how simple Hitler would have been.

(CHARACTER 5 *nods twice*; CHARACTER 2 *keeps chewing his lip*.)

CYCLISTS

CHARACTER 3: The cyclists understand that the line is there for a reason, because that's the order that must be there. So for the mind everything is clear and simple then.

CHARACTER 1: Yes... There is order.

(CHARACTER 1 *and* CHARACTER 2 *nod*.)

CHARACTER 4: (To CHARACTER 1) And it's not fighting logic.

CHARACTER 1: (To CHARACTER 4) There is order in the mind.

THE DOG BY THE MIRROR

CHARACTER 5: But who needs that mirror down there?

CHARACTER 1: The dog!

CHARACTER 4: For the dog to look at.

CHARACTER 2: To see itself.

CHARACTER 5: But they're selling jewellery, not dogs...

CLOGS

CHARACTER 4: Nice clogs. Really looks like...

CHARACTER 1: But it's ours, our kind of shoe.

(CHARACTER 1 *and* CHARACTER 3 *look at each other*; CHARACTER 3 *nods*.)

CHARACTER 4: But the whole shape and those patterns, they're not Lithuanian...

CHARACTER 1: But why clogs? Because we were once Prussian, right?

CHARACTER 4: We weren't Prussian, we were Lithuanian.

(CHARACTER 3 *says something inaudible*.)

CHARACTER 2: We were Lithuanian, maybe.

CHARACTER 4: The Prussians were Lithuanian.

CHARACTER 2: I don't know about that.

THE STUFFED OWL

CHARACTER 4: I heard this very good radio programme. The Curonians were Lithuanian, they really plundered the whole of Scandinavia...
(Speaks directly to CHARACTER 1; CHARACTER 1 tilts his head.)
 And the Crusaders never made it up the Nemunas river. Not the Crusaders, not the Scandinavians.

CHARACTER 2: The Vikings, you mean.

CHARACTER 4: Yeah.

SHEEP BEHIND A FENCE

CHARACTER 4: *(Waving his finger.)* I guess they're being protected.

CHARACTER 5: An animal, maybe?...

CHARACTER 4: From what?... From the Russians?...

(The door opens and CHARACTER 6 appears. CHARACTER 6, CHARACTER 1, CHARACTER 3 salute each other, one by one.)

CHARACTER 6: Oh, hi!... Hey there...

THE GUEST HOUSE

CHARACTER 4: ... so that sentence on the house says something like 'Lithuania for the Lithuanians', only in German.

THE PUB

CHARACTER 1: See, but the walls are so thick!

CHARACTER 4: A bar like a bunker.

CHARACTER 3: Yeah.

PANEL WITH PORTRAITS

CHARACTER 1: Oh! Self-assured!

CHARACTER 4: Yeah, great. All Germans, all good people.

DRINKERS

CHARACTER 4: Well, well... He's tired. Tired.

CHARACTER 5: Locals.

A WOMAN SHOWING PHOTOGRAPHS OF TWO BROTHERS

CHARACTER 2: In one way or another, they all went to war and didn't come back. So there were many of them.

THE OWNER APPEARING IN THE DOORWAY

CHARACTER 4: Her husband? But so simple, very simple... Our Johnny.

CHARACTER 5: So this is their bar then?

A WOMAN TALKING TO A CHILD

CHARACTER 2: So how old are these songs now?

CHARACTER 5: Quite old, maybe...

SCULPTED LANDSCAPE

CHARACTER 4: Is this a park?

CHARACTER 1: Nice dwarfs!

CHARACTER 4: What's that one for?

CHARACTER 5: This I can understand!

CHARACTER 4: But it should make a big impression on the children, a big impression...

CHARACTER 1: For sure.

CHARACTER 4: And not just on children.

CHARACTER 5: I wouldn't mind looking at such things myself.

CHARACTER 2: Nice.

THE TRAM

CHARACTER 5: Just one wire on that tram? So one phase is enough, or what?

CHARACTER 4: But the Russians have two... because they have a lot of metal.

(CHARACTER 2 *laughs*.)

CHARACTER 4: But the Germans have one.

CHARACTER 5: Copper, anyway.

THE DRIVER RETURNING TO HIS BOOTH

CHARACTER 2: Look! He's calm. Changing the wire, going to sit on the other side and then...

CHARACTER 5: ... it's full throttle downhill, to collect more pocket money.

CHARACTER 4: He'll be fine collecting that money, just look: so white and beautiful.

THE FACTORY

CHARACTER 2: Strategic objects... Military industry.

CHARACTER 1: ... but who knows, really?

THE FACTORY (CONTINUED)

CHARACTER 4: **Shacks... Shacks and ruins** here... And there as well...

THE ADVERTISING STAND

CHARACTER 2: With a helmet.

CHARACTER 4: This is good.

CHARACTER 1: Voting for Haider again.

CHARACTER 5: Oh, this one with a helmet... is greeting Haider.

CHARACTER 1: ... as he should.

CHARACTER 3: And... this means that he's good for his word. A man of honour.

CHARACTER 4: Yeah, that's right. Strong and self-assured. Without any...

CHARACTER 4: ... so that there can be no doubt. If he says so, then that's how it is, not otherwise.

THE HANGING DUMMY

CHARACTER 4: What's this now? What's he doing here?

CHARACTER 2: ... still just learning.

A WOMAN IN FRONT OF A MONITOR

CHARACTER 2: That's how it should be... You study... just sitting in front of a computer and it tells you everything.

CHARACTER 5: No, I guess she's... using the Internet.

CHARACTER 4: No, no... she's studying.

CHARACTER 2: ... studying, being a student.

CHARACTER 4: ... same thing as reading a book.

CHARACTER 2: ... same thing as going to class, only there they don't have to go to class.

CHARACTER 5: ... there they study in front of a computer.

CHARACTER 2: Yeah.

CHARACTER 3: This, I think, is a future perspective.

ANIMATION

CHARACTER 1: The music is so cosmic...

THE VIDEO ROOM

CHARACTER 2: ... this is my favourite... I think...

A WOMAN ON A MONITOR

CHARACTER 2: Now, this I like...

CHARACTER 4: Mhmm... Touching the TV set with your hand... Look... and it's cleaned from the other side. Jut touch it and it's cleaned.

CHARACTER 5: But there are many good things here... I don't really get it.

CHARACTER 4: Good, good, this is all right.

THE TRANSSEXUAL

CHARACTER 2: Oh! Faggots! Faggots!

CHARACTER 5: What's this now?!

CHARACTER 2: Gays, gays...

CHARACTER 5: Get out of here...

CHARACTER 2: Look how he's going to parade himself now.

CHARACTER 4: Like a real rooster.

CHARACTER 6: So where did he film those things?

CHARACTER 4: In Germany... In Austria?

CHARACTER 2: In Austria.

CHARACTER 5: But how did he do that to his hair, so that they got so stuck on top of his head?... An earring in his tongue...

CHARACTER 4: I think these people should be concentrated in one place and...

CHARACTER 5: They should be living on a reservation.

CHARACTER 4: People should be educated through work, because work, only work...

CHARACTER 6: In England there's a new law. Gays, everything, in the army...

CHARACTER 3: Here too. They did it as well.

CHARACTER 6: Chaos, they made...

CHARACTER 1: ... Well, the Jews, on purpose. So there are no more men, no more women. So that no one understands what.

CHARACTER 6: Damn, if I had to lead a group into battle...

CHARACTER 1: ... cosmopolitans, faggots...

CHARACTER 6: ... and now they can make love in the trenches...

CHARACTER 1: ... lesbians, look, all kinds of faggots...

THE VIDEO GOES ON

CHARACTER 5: So what kind of man is he? Is he a man?

CHARACTER 4: Well, that's what they call him.

CHARACTER 2: Well, maybe he doesn't want women, maybe he wants to be a woman himself, that's not the point. But he's a man.

CHARACTER 5: A healthy man?

CHARACTER 1: The FBI, the FBI. Clever invention by them.

CHARACTER 5: Wait, I don't get it... Making them work in factories...

CHARACTER 6: ... but there are... draining swamps, digging for peat... Why factories? Those jobs are too good. Stop this nonsense. Look... peat bogs all around – let them dig. It's good in the summer.

CHARACTER 4: No, they should also dig for peat.

CHARACTER 1: Or for garbage... In the garbage dump...

CHARACTER 6: Yeah, raking garbage...

CHARACTER 2: Sorting it.

CHARACTER 6: In Smetona's times that's what they did in hard-labour prisons: digging for peat. Fourteen hours a day...

CHARACTER 3: The Austrians won't know what a hard-labour prison is.

CHARACTER 6: No, for sure not.

CHARACTER 4: Oh yes they will...

CHARACTER 3: They won't know Smetona's times. They won't know who Smetona was.

CHARACTER 1: But the Jews will give money on purpose. The more perverse, the more money.

CHARACTER 6: I saw this on TV, I saw a parade, gays were marching in the street...

CHARACTER 4: (To CHARACTER 1) ... well, I don't know about the Jews. I just know we're probably not going to catch them all, half of them will run away, but...

CHARACTER 5: (To CHARACTER 4) Just one?

CHARACTER 4: No, maybe three or something.

CHARACTER 1: And that's just them, these...

CHARACTER 6: No, let the Austrians themselves... We're in charge here, what's that to do with the Austrians?

CHARACTER 2: ... that's uninteresting, there's nothing more to say.

CHARACTER 1: Let's move on.

THE FUN FAIR

CHARACTER 4: Americanism! Because America wants to conquer the whole of Europe.

CHARACTER 6: The whole world, not just Europe.

CHARACTER 1: ... no. The whole world.

CHARACTER 3: The whole world.

CHARACTER 4: ... but Europe is the main thing strategically. They look at Europe first of all.

THE FUN FAIR AGAIN

CHARACTER 4: No, we don't have such fun fairs here...

CHARACTER 2: ... no, far from it. There is some devil's wheel somewhere in the park.

CHARACTER 5: No, not in the park. No, they come and go.

CHARACTER 4: Better look at Austria. In Austria everything is good, everything is beautiful.

THE BEER TENT

CHARACTER 2: The Emperor's beer. So... we'll make our own Emperor's beer. And give it a name of our own.

A WAITRESS WITH A TRAY OF BEER GLASSES

CHARACTER 5: But look at her carrying, she's got several kilos on those hands. Put on more, and it's five kilos.

CHARACTER 6: In the Dainava restaurant I carried eight tonnes alone with one hand.

CHARACTER 4: You?

CHARACTER 6: ... the waiters.

CHARACTER 1: That was my work.

CHARACTER 6: It's calculated, between eight and twelve tonnes. Depending on the evening.

CHARACTER 1: With two metal trays. (*Demonstrates.*) Like this.

CHARACTER 6: Wow!

CHARACTER 1: Like a big factory it was.

NEWSPAPER WITH A CENSORED PHOTOGRAPH

CHARACTER 4: Someone could have staged some kind of provocation with this photograph in the newspaper, that's what I think.

CHARACTER 2: No, maybe this is just some idea from the journalists. Just an idea, I mean. The provocation here is that picture... If you want pictures for a provocation you can get them from anywhere.

CHARACTER 4: ... See, it depends on the angle. He could be facing this way, he could be facing the other way. Some people will see this as art, others will take it seriously... You know how it is.

ANOTHER NEWSPAPER WITH AN EMPTY SPACE FOR A PHOTOGRAPH

CHARACTER 5: The picture is gone, somehow...

CHARACTER 4: There's no picture in the newspaper.

CHARACTER 3: Haider's picture is gone.

CHARACTER 5: I can see that.

(*Pause.*)

CHARACTER 6: Jörg Haider...

CHARACTER 1: ... it means he's different... Very different!

CHARACTER 4: Because he's a strong man.

A MAN WITH A NEWSPAPER

CHARACTER 2: Oh, look!... A little Jew.

CHARACTER 4: So the Jews are here...

CHARACTER 2: Yeah... Reading, looking already... Laughing already...

THE NEWSPAPER

CHARACTER 2: Pinocchio?

CHARACTER 6: ... there in the newspaper they're calling Haider Pinocchio.

CHARACTER 1: Hey, Pinocchio!

THE SAME IMAGE, WITH THE READER

CHARACTER 2: Hey, look!...

CHARACTER 4: A little Jew!

CHARACTER 5: ... Hey, Yid, do you have a lot of money?

PEOPLE IN THE STREET

CHARACTER 6: An internationalist!

CHARACTER 2: A negro!

CHARACTER 1: A little nigger!

CHARACTER 2: Look, the negro is looking...

CHARACTER 1: ... the negro should be digging for coal...

CHARACTER 4: Yeah, coal!

(All laugh.)

CHARACTER 6: No, he can't do coal, you won't find him there, he'll hide among the coal. He'd better dig for peat. Or work in a tyre factory.

CHARACTER 5: Hey, he should work in a garbage dump. Recycling stuff.

CHARACTER 1: Kalmanowicz will sell him again, just like the other basketball players.

THE MUSICIAN

CHARACTER 2: Some Cuban sitting there and hammering at the jars.

CHARACTER 4: We'd have him become part of the work collective, to play during breaks, at lunchtime.

CHARACTER 6: While the working people are resting...

CHARACTER 3: ... and he wouldn't be playing for these lazy ones in the street.

A WOMAN GIVES THE MUSICIAN SOME MONEY

CHARACTER 1: Oh, someone is already giving.

CHARACTER 5: How come you're so good now? Having a good life?

PASSERS-BY

CHARACTER 5: This one is also into art.

A GIRL

CHARACTER 5: But I haven't seen any nice girls.

CHARACTER 2: Maybe they don't have any.

CHARACTER 5: ... no!... no, seriously...

CHARACTER 4: Well... You should know that only Lithuania has nice girls.

CHARACTER 5: ... yeah, just look at these ones over there...

THE SAME SCENE CONTINUES

CHARACTER 3: Well, that's it, really. We shouldn't think that they are Gods walking on Earth.

CHARACTER 4: Yes! We don't see any difference.

CHARACTER 3: ... and when we ourselves feel that we're the same... and even better than them, well, then we can start living like they, and even better than them...

CHARACTER 4: So we won't have any complexes...

CHARACTER 3: No.

CHARACTER 4: ... because that's how complexes are made: look, they're like that, and we're like this... That's already a complex right away. And who needs that? (*Pause.*)

CHARACTER 4: Right. ... we have to look into the camera.

FILMED FROM A MICROBUS

CHARACTER 2: We're back!

CHARACTER 2: Look, Russian music...

CHARACTER 4: The hut, the shack... is there a difference? ... Like it was there and like here.

CHARACTER 2: But something's wrong, no?

CHARACTER 5: Why, they're in a microbus here, no?

CHARACTER 2: Yeah, yeah, fifty cents.

CHARACTER 5: I was thinking, fifty cents... I was thinking, it should be more in Austria...

THE MICROBUS STOPS

CHARACTER 3: If people don't see the difference between Lithuania and Russia they're right, if everything here is the same as there.